



## Kicking off with sport in the community

**Above:** Graham Cartledge at his Declaration with the Lord-Lieutenant, Sir John Peace, and Nicky Weston, High Sheriff 2013-14, at St Andrew's Church, Caunton

**Right:** HMS *Sherwood's* rededication parade with HRH Prince Michael of Kent taking the salute

**Opposite page:** Nottingham 'City of Football': The co-ordinated group for the city-wide venture to win the bid from Sport England

WHEN I was chosen as High Sheriff one of my personal motivations was to have as much positive impact in my short time in office as possible; I wanted to pursue a mission to focus my year which ultimately played to my passions and strengths.

As an avid sports fan and businessman, I have often wondered how these two areas could be combined to serve a better purpose – and so my mission this year as High Sheriff has become 'Sport in the Community'.

In April we launched this initiative at my High Sheriff's kick-off event, a Sport in the Community Breakfast Meeting, which brought together local business leaders and charitable organisations. Using sport as a medium, the focus is to reach people in need of additional support. The event was a great success and has encouraged discussion and collaboration on how we can help the county better.

♦ **Graham Cartledge CBE**  
High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire 2014-15



### Sport in the Community Mission – City of Football Bid

Shortly after the launch a significant opportunity arose to use the title of High Sheriff for a great sporting cause. Sport England launched a competition to find the inaugural 'City of Football' for 2015. The application required each city to show a united front, bringing together sometimes rival clubs in a joint effort to achieve the goal of raising awareness and participation in football, and helping with health initiatives and increased activity for youths.

Having seen the great work that Notts County and Nottingham Forest already do in the county, I wholeheartedly supported the bid knowing, if they were to win, their dedicated efforts would only be expanded and allow more people to be influenced positively by their programmes.

I was absolutely delighted when Nottingham was announced as the City of Football for 2015 after being shortlisted against Manchester and Portsmouth; it was a great day for the area and an honour to have been involved in the process.



Wreath laying at the Menin Gate, Ypres, Belgium

### First World War centenary – charity match

OVER THE August Bank Holiday weekend, I was in Belgium commemorating the centenary of the First World War with representatives from Newark in Nottinghamshire and Newark's German twin town of Emmendingen.

Along with Newark's Mayor, Tom Bickley, and Emmendingen's Vice-Mayor, Joachim Saar, I had the privilege to lay a commemorative wreath at the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing in Ypres, Belgium.

Close to 700 people attended the wreath-laying ceremony, while buglers played 'The Last Post', which to this day is played every evening at the Gate to

honour those lost during the Great War.

A highlight of the weekend was a charity football match in memory of the Christmas Day Truce Match played in 1914. The original match was an impromptu kick-around between German and British troops in no-man's-land which came about during a ceasefire called for the holiday.

Newark Town FC's Under 21s Team and FC Emmendingen 03 replayed the famous match in a friendly game. While Newark unfortunately didn't come out on top this year, we congratulate Emmendingen on their 4-1 win. Well done, lads!