

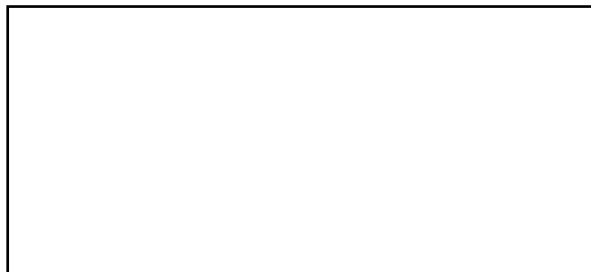


# In Touch, Too



Founded in 1923

Reg.. Charity No 219279



## The Market Harborough Branch Bimonthly News Sheet

Issue 19

August, 2000

### July Branch Meeting

Membership numbers continue to increase and we welcomed another new member, Mrs Bertha Monk who brings our numbers up to 107.

The Chairman welcomed Betty West back to her Secretary's seat after her recent illness & thanked Mary Symons for taking the minutes at the previous meeting. She also reported on her visit to Liverpool for the 80th Anniversary of the formation of the WRNS & of her ascent of the Liver building (no, she did not abseil down the outside!!). Con ended her "Chairman's Report" by reading two moving poems written by schoolchildren on the theme of Remembrance. It is hoped they can be used in our Millennium project.

It was reported that following his talk at the Half-year Conference, Mr George Gamble had been asked by five other Branches to speak at their meetings. Charles Freer, you started something when you first made contact with George!!

The Buffet after the business part of the evening seemed to be successful but it is to be hoped that the promise of "eats" was not the only reason for the excellent attendance, at 40 members present, a record?

### Millennium Update

Following George Fleming's presentation at the June Branch Meeting, he, Tom Jeacock & I were invited by Market Harborough Rotary to speak at their meeting on 24th July. This generated a good deal of interest and some useful suggestions.

Caroline Windsor has now joined the Research Team and is trying to solve some of the WW2 mysteries. Meanwhile, production of 4 of the 5 volumes which comprise "A Book of Remembrance" is well advanced.

Many of the details of the week have now been settled and a programme of events is given overleaf.

### Training Hard



Andrew Marriott sets off from Greenwich with the other entrants for "Pedal to Paris 2000" on Thursday, 7th September. Despite a knee injury a few weeks ago, he's sure he'll be at the Arc de Triomphe with the others on the 10th. Support him with your sponsorship. Ring him on

### Annual General Meeting

For the past several years the AGM has replaced the normal November Branch Meeting but this year due to our Millennium Week, the AGM will be in October (the 11th).

The most important item on the Agenda is the election of Branch Officers and Committee Members. These are the people who run your Branch and it is up to you to choose those who will do so most effectively. This is how you can help to ensure the future success of the Branch. Put yourself forward if you can contribute ideas, time, energy & a determination to make a good branch even better.

A nomination form & supporting notes are included with this newsletter. All members are entitled to make nominations but only those who attend the AGM may vote.

[www.mktharbrorblukvet](http://www.mktharbrorblukvet)

Mark Hudson reports that the Branch Web site now has had over 1900 hits (visits). One of the most recent led to a long e-mail letter from Australia which by a remarkable coincidence came from the brother-in-law of the RAAF pilot of the Lancaster which crashed at Foxton on 9th April, 1945, killing all seven crew members. For the full story see the next

**In Touch, Too** is written and produced by Branch Vice Chairman, Tom Ashmore  
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**Your comments and suggestions are welcome**

### **Millennium Week**

**6-12 November.**

#### **The of Garden of Remembrance**

Monday 6th. Opening Ceremonies :-  
7.30pm ACF Northants. Band play  
in Parish Church,

then at

8.15pm March to the Memorial  
Gardens for Official

Opening, Act  
of Dedication, Wreath  
Laying and "Sunset".

Each evening Tuesday to Friday at  
4pm Sunset Ceremony.

#### **The Book of Remembrance**

Wednesday, 8th - Presentation  
at the Branch Meeting (at the nor-  
mal venue) to which guests  
will be invited.

#### **The Concert**

Saturday, 11th 7.30pm

The Harborough Band play at the  
**Coffee Morning**

This is an early reminder that on  
28th October helpers and contribu-  
tions for the Tombola, Cake & "For  
Sale" Stalls & the Raffle will again  
be needed. This is a particularly im-  
portant fund-raising event as all pro-  
ceeds are for the Poppy Appeal.  
Another reminder next month!

#### **Another Canal Trip**

Member Alec Taylor and a friend  
have kindly offered to take up to  
10 members and guests on their  
motor cruiser for a day on the ca-  
nal from North Kilworth to the top  
of Foxton Locks.

Take your own picnic or use a pub  
(the most accessible is the one at  
the bottom lock at Foxton but the  
*Black Horse* is just up the lane.)

The proposed date is Tuesday, 19th  
September and the cost £6 per  
head. If you wish to take part  
please ring Bob England ASAP on  
MH 464288.

**First come. First served !!**

### **RAFA Quiz Night**

As part of their fund-raising effort  
for Wings Week, our RAFA friends  
are holding another Quiz night at the  
White Horse, Nelson Street on 11th  
September. Those who joined them  
last year will remember what fun it  
was. Can we field prize winning  
teams this time? Ring Betty West  
MH 434923 if you are going.

### **Beer and Skittles**

Yes, it's definitely on! Since Bob  
England's dire warning that it might  
fold through lack of support, several  
more names have been added to the  
list. If you did not sign up but wish  
to attend ring Bob on MH464288 to  
see if there is still a place. Meet at  
7.30pm, Friday, 25th August at the  
Old Crown, Fleckney.

This picture & caption is from the Web site pro-  
duced by the late Barry Summers, who had kindly  
given the Branch permission to use his material.



Market Harborough, 6th. August 1914, the Territorials mobilised on the Square. The photograph looks up the High Street towards Leicester and shows the spire of St. Dionysius Church. On the extreme right are the premises of Shindler & Douglas, drapers. Mr. F.G. Shindler compiled and maintained the 'Roll of Honour' for the town and neighbouring villages throughout the war.

### **Tables for 24, Please**

This could well have been what Bob England said when he confirmed the booking for the Branch Lunch at the Wheel & Compass on 8th August. Far from being cancelled because of lack of support, the occasion was probably the best attended yet. And the food was good, too! So was the weather and the convivial atmosphere. Social Committee, keep up the good work and pleasemake sure these get-togethers stay on the calendar.

## **DIARY**

25th Aug**	Beer & Skittles - Old Crown, Fleckney
30th Aug.	Branch Committee Meeting - 7.30pm
3rd Sep.	5 day visit to Normandy.
11th Sep.*	RAFA Quiz Night - 7.30pm White Horse
13th Sep.	Branch Meeting + Social event - 7.30 pm
17th Sep.	Battle of Britain Service - 10.45am
19th Sep.**	Canal Trip/ picnic- see notice this page
27th Sep.	Branch Committee Meeting
11th Oct.	<b>Branch AGM</b> - see notice overleaf
13th Oct.**	Annual Dinner- M H Golf Club - details later
25th Oct.	Branch Committee Meeting
28th Oct.*	Coffee Morning - Harborough Theatre - in aid of Poppy Appeal
	Poppy Appeal Collections start
6-12 Nov.*	Millennium Week

\* See Box on this page for details

\*\*Ring Bob England (MH 464288)