



CENTRAL BUREAU INTELLIGENCE CORPS ASSOCIATION

June 2010

Publicity Officer: Helen Kenny, 27/1-13 Mackenzie St, Lavender Bay NSW 2060 Tel: 02 9954 0940

PRESIDENT'S PAR

Anzac Day 2010

On Anzac Eve, Norm Allen, Gordon Gibson, Joy Grace, Frank Hughes, Jacqui Keeling, Di Parker and Bill Rogers were the C.B.I.C.A members who joined with our A.I.A comrades in the Wreath Laying Ceremony in Martin Place. Unfortunately the Pittwater House Catafalque Party was absent on this occasion but a lone piper deputized and the skirl of the bagpipes replaced the notes of the bugle at the Cenotaph. Once again the A.I.A Chaplain, Reverend Dr John Bunyan delivered the address and Brian Buckley recited the ode. Our thanks to them and also to the intrepid lone piper.

A few gentle showers on the Anzac Day March failed to dampen our spirits and our stalwart banner bearers, Rob and Ian led us safely around.

No fewer than fifty eight members, relatives and friends (certainly a record for recent years) sat down to our Reunion Luncheon in the very pleasant surroundings of the "Windows" room at the Marriott. Needless to say a good time was had by all.

Government Code and Cipher School Commemorative Badges

For C.B.I.C.A members this was a special Anzac Day as we were proudly wearing for the first time those splendid Commemorative Badges inscribed with the simple but eloquent words "We Also Served". There had been a proposal that the badges should be presented personally on Anzac Day by the British High Commissioner Baroness Amos but unfortunately other engagements had made it impossible for her to attend our Reunion. We had, however, just before Anzac Day, received a very

gracious letter from the Baroness which was read out at the Reunion Luncheon and is printed here for the benefit of those who were unable to attend.

Letters of appreciation have been sent to Baroness Amos, Mr Iain Lobban CB, Director Government

Communications Headquarters (U.K.) and to Marg Larkin Assistant Secretary Executive, Defence

Signals Directorate with special thanks to Mr Rob Foot for his unfailing co-operation and courtesy in dealing with our applications for the badge.

Note: Any member who applied for a badge and did not receive it is invited to contact Mr Robin Foot, Department of Defence, Locked Bag 5076, Kingston, ACT 2604 (phone (02) 6265 0574).

Australian Service Medal 1945-75 with Clasp S.W.PACIFIC

This medal is awarded for participation in military activities in the Philippine Islands from 3 September 1945 to 24 November 1946 for a period of thirty days. It was publicised in a Newsletter as far back as 2002 but some of us have just become aware of it. Applications are available from me but should go to:

Directorate of Honours and Awards
Department of Defence
P.O. Box 7952
Canberra BC ACT 2610
Phone: 1800 111 321

I have recently received the following letter. I feel that the question raised is one for individual choice so if you wish to express your views you should answer the letter personally.

Memorial to honour all those who worked at Bletchley Park or its outstations during World War II

HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Foreign Secretary announced at the Bletchley Park commemorative badge ceremony on 9 October 2009 that "It is right that we have a site for a public memorial and we will work with GCHQ to find the right place for that".

Two locations - the National Memorial Arboretum and Bletchley Park itself - are being considered as a possible location for the memorial and GCHQ is keen to gather your views. Whilst we appreciate that some people may favour London, we have been advised that there is little or no chance of securing a location in London for the foreseeable future. In addition, those who worked at Bletchley Park and its outstations during WWII are already commemorated in London in the Intelligence Services plaque located in the South Cloister of Westminster Abbey, the dedication of which was attended by HM The Queen on 14 October 2009.

GCHQ recognises that a memorial must be freely accessible wherever it is located, and this can be achieved at both Bletchley Park and the National Memorial Arboretum. You will be familiar already with Bletchley Park and more information on the Arboretum can be found at www.thenma.org.uk

Please let us have your views by writing to:

Press Office, GCHQ, Room A3a, Hubble Road,
Cheltenham GL51 0EX,

Or email: pressoffice@gchq.gsi.gov.uk

Unfortunately we will not be able to respond to individual letters but your views are important to us.

Many Thanks

Gordon Gibson
President
67/1-9 Yardley Ave
WAITARA NSW 2077
Phone (02) 9487-3029
Email sueg@optusnet.com.au

I commence my report with a newsletter that appeared earlier this year in a Melbourne suburban newspaper detailing Alan Fookes outstanding contribution to Legacy over the last 50 years. What magnificent service, one we all must congratulate.

Alan and I were with 6WU at San Miguel and with 10 others left for home on 15th September 1945, from Clark Field in a RAAF B24 Liberator. That airplane had engine trouble at Darwin, so after a few days we were flown to Sydney in a replacement B24 and landed at Mascot Sydney airport about the end of September 1945.

After a day or two I reported to Bradfield Park recruitment camp and was advised I had no need to return to Brisbane and was discharged. After a few days' leave I returned to my former employer and back to accounting studies.

At the recent Anzac Day reunion I mention the following:

Best Wishes came from the Most Rev Don Robinson, Eric Webb and Vic Lederer who at 95 ½ is not marching but otherwise well.

In Nursing Homes

Ken Brown, Joy Linnane, Peg Teague.

Health Problems

Les Perkins, Gordon Gibson (Pt Macquarie), Ken Tresize, Ron Tabley, Alan Fookes, Jean Robertson, Gordon Swinney, and of course Helen Kenny who managed to attend the reunion but then found she had a crack in her lower spine – is now just home after three more weeks in hospital.

Actually I think we all have some medical problems or other – heart, bones etc.

Jean Robertson of Toowoomba tells us TV Channel 7 Brisbane has a program "John Sleuter's Flash Back". Just before Anzac Day he gave some details of code breakers, had a photo of 21 Henry Street, details of the machines in the garage, told of the "girls" who worked the machines and spoke to Mac Jamieson who showed the badge from the UK. Nancy Goldsteen also appeared.

Let us hope all on the sick list are overcoming various problems.

Bruce Bentwitch,
Hon. Treasurer,
7 Holly Street
CASTLE COVE NSW 2069
(02) 9417-1427

HON. SECRETARY'S PAR

At 7.30am our taxi cavalcade left for the city; drizzly rain all the way. Following march marshal's instructions we were all ready to go at 9.30, so not much socializing. With our lovely banner-bearers Rob and Ian, and Gordon leading, we were off by 9.45. Marchers (E & OE) were Norm Allen, Col Brackley, Kath Burns, Judy Carson, Joyce Grace, Lou Harris, Frank Hughes, Jacqui Keeling, Brian Lovett, Roy Perry, Doug Pyle, Bill Rogers, and in the wagon David Hansen, Noni Benn, Les McClean and Joy Granger. Enormous and enthusiastic crowds under umbrellas, with children in wet weather gear waving flags – so cheering.

Drenched to skin (no roof over we 3) on arrival at Hyde Park Judy, Noni and I repaired to Helen's very welcoming room at the Marriott to dry off. Stoics walked to the Wentworth for revival.

A really splendid roll-up for the lunch in the lovely Windows Room – Noni Benn, Bruce Bentwitch, Col and Mark Brackley, Kath Burns, Keith, Joan and Diane Carolan, Judy Carson, Madge Chidgey, Don Dunn, Gordon and Sue Gibson with Chris and Katy Denis, Joy Granger, David and Noeline Hansen, Alisa Hale, with Lyndall Gladstone, Lou and Joan Harris, Frank Hughes and Eileen Hazzard, Jacqui Keeling, Helen Kenny and Margaret Snodgrass, Alan and Pam Langdon, Pam Leonard and Jan Kirk, Rob Moore, Margaret McCafferty with Marg (Jnr) and John Clannon, Les McClean with David, Janette, Sandra Bullon, Leslie and Jeanette Lavender, Ruth McDonald with Camilla Sharidan, Alan and Katie Norton with Aidan, Di Parker, Roy Perry with Ellen, Steven, Craig and Gail Dillon, Doug and Nell Pyle, Bill and Jan Rogers.

President Gordon welcomed all, and especially Helen Kenny, then read personal letter from

Baroness Amos (British High Commissioner) re the Commemorative Badge; glad to note that all members present were wearing it.

Treasurer Bruce passed on all messages (reported separately) he had received with subs and cheques for luncheon.

Secretary has been in touch with Stan and Maureen Baylis (not able to be with us this day) and we send heartfelt wishes for Maureen for return to health. A delightful letter came from Gordon Swinney's family, saying how much they have enjoyed coming to the Anzac lunch with him. Sadly not able to join us now but is well cared for, with family keeping him up to scratch with scrabble, etc. Our good wishes to Gordon and family.

Following the address by Alan Langdon, we proceeded to demolish the excellent buffet. Catering staff attentive and courteous.

During a break in dining Gordon up-dated position re Unit History reading letter sent to Chris Clark and his response. We wait on.

To complete a very enjoyable day and send us on our way the Australian Army Cadet Band dropped in with a rousing collection of music so well known to us.

Joy Granger
WarVets 2/5 Endeavour Drive
NARRABEEN 2101
(02) 9981 2397

AT THE MARRIOTT

On Anzac Eve I booked into the Marriott, knowing I wouldn't be able to make the Cenotaph ceremony. Found that Joy Grace and Jacqui Keeling had also booked in there.

The room was spacious, with big windows facing the War Memorial in Sydney's Hyde Park.

Hippy Helen (no flowerchild) who'd spent some time in hospital, was treating herself. Diana (Matthews) Parker, an old friend, was up from Melbourne. She joined me for dinner after the Anzac Eve Service, A long long talk. She left. The evening was fine. Anzac Day not so. Rain fell.

I watched the march on TV, missing the CB banner. The march was long.

Time passed. Then there were knocks on my door. In came sopping wet marchers/chariot riders. Joy Granger, Noni Benn, Judy Carson and her friend.

“Is there a hair dryer, an iron, an ironing board?” they asked. Out came these implements. Quickly the soaked ones dried themselves off, and soon looked ready for inspection – and lunch.

It was good, as usual. Saw many old friends and was grateful to Sue Gibson who fetched my meal from the buffet, saving me from pushing my wheeler along in the queue.

Grateful too to Joy Grace, who is a meticulous Newsletter filer, and brought me much needed copies, also to Bruce Bentwitch who produced the last Newsletter. Luncheon wound up when the band came marching in, giving us a fine brassy finale.

Best wishes to all, and may we meet again.
H.K.

The Badge

Over 250 people in Australia received the handsome gold and blue badge from GCHQ, (pictured in last December's Newsletter.)

The badge, gold, and centred with blue, was rimmed with the words “GC & CS – Bletchley Park and its outstations 1939-1945.

On the reverse, it read “We also served.”

It came in a satin line box lettered: “By appointment to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II – medallist – Worcestershire medal specialists, Bronsgrove.

Two letters accompanied each badge. One was from the (then) British Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Gordon Brown, P.M. saying: “The Government wishes to express to you its deepest gratitude for the vital service you performed in World War II. The second letter from GCHQ's Director Iain Lobban.

IAIN LOBBAN CB
The Director, GCHQ



Iain Lobban was appointed GCHQ's Director in late July 2008. He is responsible directly to the Foreign Secretary for the management of GCHQ including control of operations in the UK and abroad, and through the Cabinet Secretary for the effective and economical management of the resources allocated to the department. He is a member of the Joint Intelligence Committee.

GCHQ has two missions: Signals Intelligence (Sigint) and Information Assurance (IA) GCHQ's functions are applied in support of national security, of the prevention and detection of serious crime and of economic wellbeing.

BLETCHLEY PARK

Unbelievably it is 70 years since 1940 – the year of Dunkirk, the Battle of Britain, the time when Hitler was over-running Europe.

This is part two of Peter Wescombe's talk on “Bletchley Park and the Allied Intelligence Network”, held at the Powerhouse Museum back in 2002.

In this segment, he tells of the invention of the Enigma machine, and spans the time from 1919 to Pearl Harbour. (This is an edited version of his illustrated lecture).

The first photograph showed a late model 4-rotor Enigma – “the brute that caused us a lot of trouble early in the War.” said Mr Wescombe, a former British diplomat and a founding member of the Bletchley Park Trust.

In 1919 a German, Arthur Scherbius, invented the three rotor machine for use in ciphering commercial messages. It was called Geherim Schriber, and was

mounted on a cast-iron typewriter frame – “One of the old Imperials for those of us old enough to remember.” It was patented but was not of much use. Then, in 1926 the German Army, looking for a machine to replace hand ciphers, modified it. By 1936 the Luftwaffe and German Navy took it over. It became the universal armed forces cipher machine – the tactical machine.

It had a typewriter keyboard. On the front was a Shteker board - a scrambler for the keyboard's output. This then went into rotors which scribed it again. Eventually it came onto a keyboard with translucent letters. This was the encrypted text.

In 1932 the Poles became concerned about what the Germans were up to. They put three of their very brilliant mathematicians onto it. One chap in particular, called Marian Rejewski was responsible for the actual breaking of the Enigma cipher. He did a brilliant, brilliant job. Even today it is not an easy machine. If you encrypt one message on an Enigma today I will ask anyone with a high powered computer how they are getting on in 18 months time. The French helped him a bit but didn't say anything about it because they were worried about what the British and French would do if Germany declared war.

In July 1939, the Germans had taken Czechoslovakia, and threatened Poland. That's when the French and Brits said to the Germans: “You move against Poland – we declare war on you.” With that, the Poles said: “You know you have been trying to break Enigma for all these years and got nowhere, well, in 1932 we actually did it. Would you like to know how it was done?” We said, “Oh, yes please.” So they called us over to Poland, gave us an Enigma machine and told us the way to break it. But the Germans had increased the number of rotors from 3 to 5. Now, which of the three of the five were in use and which sequence are they in? Also, the wiring in these rotors is very complicated and the Poles didn't have sufficient staff to do the massive mathematics required, so they gave the information to us in Poland in 1939 and said, “Look, we can't break this key now, but this is the way it used to be broken. All you have to do is find out how those other two rotors fit and you are home and dry”.

So, they started up. What was the problem? That was a problem. Every Enigma key was given to a different circuit, so you didn't have one Enigma key for the Army, one for the Airforce, one for the Navy. They had separate keys for Navy U-boats Atlantic, U-boats Baltic, U-boats Mediterranean, U-boats around the Indian Ocean and so forth. All separate keys and you had to get into the Atlantic key. It was Britain's only means of survival because they were using Enigma to hammer our convoys. They had already broken our convoy code,

(we didn't know it) and using the Enigma knowing where our convoys were, they were taking out 46% of our ships. We were really in trouble and so the problem was which one of those keys is the key for today, because at midnight, all bets are off and you start all over again.

A machine called “Bombe” was invented by Alan Turing and the chap called Gordon Welchman. That reduced the old hand-operated cipher system of actually breaking into the cipher by mathematics to a machine system which instead of two weeks to break one day's key, they were down to about 5 hours, if you could break the key and it all depended on the quality of the intercept.

Now, in August 1939, the next thing that happened very quickly was that we decided to set up a team purely for Enigma. Photo shows this is the old stable yard at Bletchley in 1883. In that end building there, still standing, is where the Enigma team moved in. Chap called John Jeffries a brilliant mathematician and another chap called Gordon Welchman, and a young 27 year old Alan Turing introduced by Gordon Welchman with other moved into here. Using the information they got from the Poles, they then started to work on Enigma and it was so well done, that by Christmas 1939 Turing, the youngest, was told, “Hard luck my lad, you've had your Christmas lunch this year, pop over to Paris.” When the Germans invaded Poland, the Polish team split into two, half went to Paris and half came to us. Turing went to Paris and said, “Look, this is how far we've got” and the French and the Poles said, “Look this is how far we've got.” On the 7th January, 1940, the very first Enigma key was broken of the War, called Code Red. It was the German Airforce general cipher key used by the whole of the Airforce for general administrative purposes, but the naughty lads also used it for high quality operational stuff which saved our bacon at Dunkirk and the Battle of Britain.

The Navy side had to split up. The Navy Enigma was a far more difficult proposition to break and so the convoys were being hammered. This Hut 8, still standing, where they worked on the German Naval Enigma. Turing, Hugh O'Donnell Alexander, a Chess Grandmaster and Shaun Wiley headed the teams. They worked a 24-hour shift from midnight to 9.00am to 4.00pm, 4.00 till midnight. They got into the Naval Cipher, but it took a long, long job and they were able to tell the Admiralty that (a) the Germans had broken our cipher and knew where the ships were; and (b) this is where the U-boats were, and so that's really what saved us. In November 1941, England was practically within 6 weeks of surrender because the Germans had put so many ships down, we were running short of food and fuel.

Dunkirk of course was another major problem as was the Battle of Britain. On this we downed 146 enemy aircraft and lost 20. There was another side to the Battle of Britain in which Bletchley was involved. Hugh Dowding, Controller Fighter Command, had one major question to answer every single day and that was simply: Can we outlast the Germans? We've got 628 fighters left from the French fighting, they have got two and a half thousand. Can we knock them down faster than they can knock ours down? This is where Bletchley Park came in.

At Dunkirk, it came in very quickly because the Germans were homing aircraft onto our defences, onto refugees streaming down the road and machine-gunning them out of the way to get their troops through, but they had to be told where to go. These aircraft and the people on the ground telling them where to go, sent the map reference in Code Red which we had broken. So, every time this map referenced popped out in Hut 6 still standing today, it was taken out and we knew where that German unit was. So, when you think the Germans invaded France on May 9th, 1940 and only 8 days later, Vice Admiral Ramsay at Dover was told, "Start planning Operation Dynamo for the relief of our troops out of Calais and Dunkirk, we've lost the Battle of France". We knew in 8 days because this Hut told them so. Built in 1939, occupied in January 1940. Hut 6 did the breaking here, German Airforce here, German Army ciphers were broken in there, Enigma there because the German Army and Airforce worked together, so if you broke the German Airforce cipher, you knew what the Army was up to and vice versa. From Hut 6 here, they go to Hut 3, translated, analysed and straight down to Dowding or straight down to Dover for Ramsay or to the Admiralty, whoever needed these messages.

As the War progressed, a certain gentleman called Benito Mussolini decided that we had had it and he was going to declare War with us, which he did in September 1940. At the same time, he had ideas of an Empire. If Hitler could do it, so could he. So, in 1940 in late October, he moved his troops from Italy down to Greece and his troops in Libya he moved across to Egypt, but the British forces in Egypt chased his troops all the way back to Libya and the Greeks chased them all back to Italy.

To do the chasing back, the British then put aircraft in Greece and in Crete. Hitler was utterly furious, he hadn't been told and, of course, these British aircraft are now in reach of Ploesti in Romania, Hitler's main source of oil for the whole of the War. So, his oil reserves, or his oil supplies could have been flattened in the early days of the War because of dear old Benito Mussolini, so, of course, that is where the Germans came in.

When they did it was decided in fact that we had to extend our intelligence net. This is the beginning of The Allied Network. We used the undersea cable of Cable and Wireless from Bletchley Park to London, then to Porthcurnow (near Land's End), then the undersea cable to Gibraltar and then there was a station going through to Malta. From Malta, the cable goes down the other side of Cairo and down the Sinai, so it could not be used into Cairo.

So, there was a radio station here in Malta. It established contact links with Cairo and then with Jerusalem here because we had a British Intelligence force out there. The problem was now, were the Germans going to come down or were the Germans going to nip through the Bosphorus and come down through to get behind the Suez Canal. We set up a place in Jerusalem to watch this. Baghdad had been occupied by the RAF since 1937 as an intercept site. Sarafad occupied by the Army as intercept site and, of course, Malta and Alexandria occupied by the Navy, but they wouldn't talk to each other. "No, no, no" said the Navy. "We don't want Army and Airforce intelligence, we're Navy at sea, what use is it to us?" The Army said, "Oh, well, the Army, oh yes, we keep our intelligence to ourselves." The RAF said, "Well, we might share it with you, but on the other hand, we are not too worried." Suddenly, when the Italians start chasing us around in the Mediterranean and all activity comes round here, when the Germans start down here, there is a requirement for an awful lot of linguists and an awful lot of cryptographers or cryptologists to break the cipher.

So, they come to Bletchley Park and say, "Please sir, can we have some more linguists and more cryptologists?" So, Bletchley Park said, "Yes, sure, providing you all get together in Cairo and work together, then we will provide you with some. If you don't, we haven't got enough to give you all separate ones" so that is where the Middle East Combined Bureau came together in Cairo where all the three services worked together, together with Bletchley Park. So, intercepts were coming in from these stations by radio to Malta, up the cable here, into Bletchley Park.

Bletchley Park was initially breaking the Enigma messages and then sending the decrypted traffic back to here to whoever needed it. Cairo again or out to the British Headquarters in the Western Desert. In order to do that, of course, you don't sent it out raw. Once you have decrypted the message, you paraphrase it so it doesn't look like the original and you then cipher it twice, so if they break the first of it, they have got to go through the whole thing again to get that message and this information was pouring backwards and forwards all the way down here and the intelligence we got using

Code Red. When it came to the Battle of Crete, actually here, we broke every single German Airforce message. We knew precisely what they were up to, but we didn't have the troops. General Freyberg VC, the New Zealander, did a brilliant job and the German paratroops came in and they were absolutely slaughtered. From that day on, after the Battle of Crete, the Germans never used paratroops again, so, with minimum forces and maximum intelligence, we stopped them. But of course, they just poured in and poured in, there was nothing we do about it, but it showed the value of intelligence, it really did.

Let's get to a group of people called the interceptors. The whole of the Intelligence Networking Communications depends upon one group of people. These are the people who sit with headphones or, as we used to call them, a pair of cans clapped on your ears listening to the faint whispers of enemy transmissions. The whispers of Morse, and later Japanese Katakana. But these Morse transmissions and later on, the semi automatic transmissions using a 5 unit code called Boudot were the whole basis of Intelligence Network in decryption. Without the interceptors, everything else fails. They use these machines, this is the HRO receiver, these are the standard ones throughout the world. There were probably something like 35,000 around Australia alone on the intercept site and these are the ones which intercepted the Morse transmissions of the enemy, and were fed in their millions into networks.

Around Bletchley Park, there were 14 stations, there were stations all up the coast. A lot of them sent stuff by despatch rider. In June 1941 the Germans move into Russia and we knew all the details of it. We'd broken all these ciphers. In Baghdad and in Jerusalem and in Surafan you could actually pick up the German transmissions as they moved across Russia, so we knew what was going on.

End of Part 2, Part 3 Follows

VALE

Condolences to the family of Professor John Laird, who died in Canberra in April. He had a most distinguished career, which we hope to mention in the next Newsletter.

Also condolences to our secretary Joy Granger whose brother John died after a long illness. My wishes to all Cbers.

Helen Kenny

LETTER FROM BARONESS AMOS

Dear Mr Gibson

I wanted to take this opportunity to offer my congratulations to the members of your association on the award of commemorative badges to you by GCHQ in recognition of your service in the Central Bureau during the Second World War.

The very wide range of people to whom these badges have been awarded is a reminder of just how large and diverse the wartime SIGINT organisations were. I am particularly pleased that the UK Government is able to publicly acknowledge the remarkable contribution to the Allied victory which was made by SIGINT personnel in Australia.

I am also struck by the extent to which the Central Bureau's legacy has endured. DSD and GCHQ were, of course, built on the foundations laid by the wartime organisations, a process in which many of your members will have participated after the War. The two agencies have always enjoyed a close partnership, which has endured now for over 60 years, and has been an important element of the wider Anglo-Australian security partnership throughout that time.

Today, the two agencies are working more closely together than at any time in recent decades, dealing with the range of security threats that our two countries face. I know that staff in both organisations continue to draw very real inspiration from the example of their wartime predecessors, and I hope that you and your members will feel justly proud of that fact.

Please convey my congratulations and best wishes to the members of your association.

Signed
Yours sincerely
Valerie Amos

(BARONES AMOS)

The Right Honourable
The Baroness Amos
PC



British High Commissioner to Australia

Valerie Ann Amos, Baroness Amos, PC, (born 13 March 1954) was made a Labour life peer in 1997 and served as Leader of the House of Lords and Lord President of the Council. In May 2003, she was appointed Secretary of State for International Development. She is the first black woman to sit in the Cabinet of the United Kingdom.

The National Memorial Arboretum

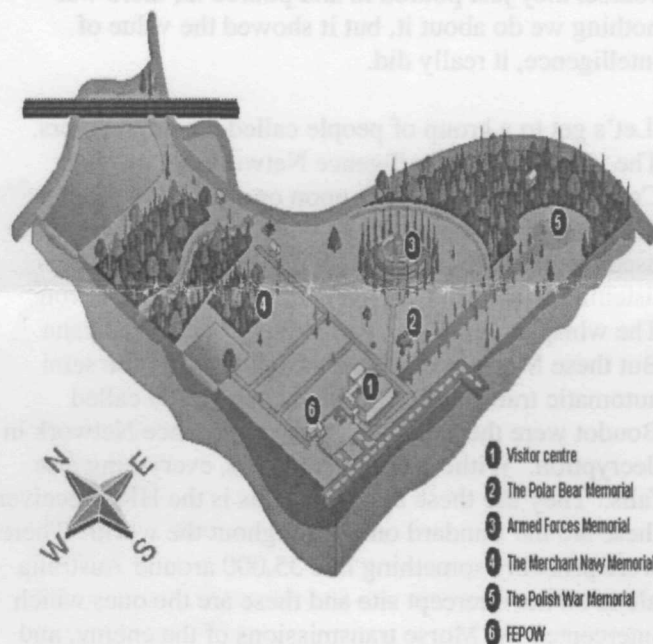
The Arboretum is situated in the centre of England on Croxall Road, Alrewas in Staffordshire. It is easy to reach from any part of the country and is close to all the Midlands motorways.

The National Memorial Arboretum is the UK's year-round centre of Remembrance, a living and lasting memorial to commemorate and celebrate:

- Those who have given their lives in the service of their country,
- All who have served and those who have suffered as a result of conflict,
- Others who for specific or appropriate reasons are commemorated on the site.

The Arboretum is a unique haven of peace, contemplation and hope for the future. It consists of 150 acres of wooded parkland within the National Forest in Staffordshire where visitors can both enjoy and learn about the trees and their surroundings, and reflect upon their special symbolism.

Around 300,000 visitors per year, including Service personnel, veterans, students of all ages, groups and individuals attend over 200 special events held here each year. The Act of Remembrance, including a Silence, is observed daily in the Millennium Chapel.



Overseas travel and home renovations are to blame for the delay in getting this newsletter out.

Les & Eunice

PS Maroons 3 Blues 0