

# Harvest/Remembrance

## national memorial arboretum

### AIM

To provide some material about the National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire, that might be useful for Remembrance.

### Let me tell you

Barry and Angela Kerr, from Waverley URC Huddersfield, visited the National Memorial Arboretum in October 2009. They write:

'We were advised to get there early to attend the short memorial service in the Millennium Chapel of Peace and Forgiveness which is a central part of the sight. Every day of the year at 10.45 am a short memorial service takes place.

After then visiting other parts of the 150 acres site, at 2pm we made our way back to the Chapel where Barry, as an armed forces veteran, received a certificate and lapel badge. We then set off to find the memorial to the RAF Boy Entrants and the tree which he had donated along with fellow veterans.

Every memorial is unique and fascinating using every kind of material imaginable. Anyone, particularly those with any connection with the armed forces, should make a visit to this spiritually uplifting and very special place which is emerging as a world-renowned centre for remembrance. We came away very impressed and moved by the visit and with the strong need to return again at another time of year to see its growth.'

### INTRODUCTION

The National Memorial Arboretum is near Alrewas, Lichfield in the National Forest of Staffordshire. Officially opened in May 2001 it includes over 50,000 trees. There are many different memorials all across the 150 acres site. The Millennium Chapel is said to be the only place in the world where a two minute silent act of remembrance is kept daily.

Why not plan a visit to the National Memorial Arboretum yourself, either as an individual, family, small or large group? A leaflet about educational visits can be downloaded here:  
<http://www.thenma.org.uk/media/53626/nmaeduleaflet.pdf>

You will find a lot more information on their website at [www.thenma.org.uk](http://www.thenma.org.uk). There is a programme of events throughout the year, full disabled access and much more.



### Planning a memorial or a remembrance event

You may want to plan a local memorial or a specific remembrance event. There are various organisations that can help you like <http://www.remembrancereseminars.org.uk/>

This group exists to promote an understanding of the whole public and private need for memorials and remembrance. Their website lists other resources that can help.

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## Prayer

In the heat of memory we recall  
that for every victory  
there is a loss;  
that for every ceasefire  
there is a sniper;  
that for every liberation  
there is a prison;  
that for every peace agreement  
there is continued conflict;  
if not above our skies,  
if not in our waters,  
if not in these islands,  
if not on our doorsteps,  
then in some forgotten field.

We will remember them.

*[Janet Lees]*

## EVALUATION

Please try to answer these questions for yourself and for others who will use this material:

1. What was the most helpful thing?
2. What was the least helpful thing?
3. What would you like to try now?

## THE NEXT STEP

If you want more seasonal items please revisit the website. Remember that new items for Evangelism Year will be available soon.

## Acknowledgements

Thanks to Barry and Angela Kerr for help in preparing this material.

## HOW TO FEEDBACK TO VISION4LIFE?

If you wish to offer any feedback – brickbats and bouquets are equally welcome! – you can

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do so in various ways.

You can email the Vision4Life steering group about general or website V4L issues via the website or at [admin@vision4life.org.uk](mailto:admin@vision4life.org.uk)

If you have comments and particularly contributions to the prayer year, you can email the V4L prayer year coordinator via [prayer@vision4life.org.uk](mailto:prayer@vision4life.org.uk)

If you want to make contributions or ask questions about other V4L years you can email:

Year 3 – Transformed for Evangelism: [evangelism@vision4life.org.uk](mailto:evangelism@vision4life.org.uk)