

Give the Gift of Membership...

Gift membership of the NMA Friends is the perfect present! Just complete the form below and your Friend will be sent a membership pack including their own copy of the latest magazine, membership card and welcome letter.

Application for Membership

Donor's details (Please use block capitals)

Title:	Surname:
Forename(s):	
Address:	
Postcode:	
Tel:	Email:

Recipient details (Gift membership only)

Title:	Surname:
Forename(s):	
Address:	
Postcode:	
Tel:	Email:

Payment method:

Cash £ (Please state amount)

Cheque (Payable to The National Memorial Arboretum)

Credit Card (Please complete form below)

Name of card holder (as it appears on card):

Amount to be paid: £

Type of card:

Card number:

Valid from: / Valid to: /

Issue no. (Switch/Maestro only):

Security code (last three digits on signature strip):

Signature:

Date:

Membership categories:

- NMA Friend - £10 annually
- NMA Friend (concession)* - £8 annually
- NMA Young Friend - £8 annually
- NMA Family (2 adults & up to 3 children) £15 annually
- NMA Friend (Gold) - £10 monthly (£120 annually)
- NMA Corporate Friend†

£ Membership amount

£ **Additional donation to the NMA**

£ Total donated

* The NMA Friend Concession is available to all those aged over 60 or under 16. The Young Friend membership is tailored for those under 16 and will include information about events and activities for this age group.

† Please contact the Friends Membership Team directly for information about the Corporate Friend level of membership.



The Memo

Issue 1 August 2009
www.thenma.org.uk

The latest news and views from the National Memorial Arboretum Friends

Welcome to the first issue of your members' magazine

Inside this issue

Meet the Team

Around the Arboretum

Memorial Focus

Wildlife Focus

Events Calendar

The NMA Shop Update

Their names will live for evermore...



Welcome

Hello, and welcome to the first issue of *The Memo* the quarterly magazine for the NMA Friends.

Keeping you up-to-date with all that's happening at the Arboretum, *The Memo* will also focus on specific memorials, areas of arboricultural interest, and wildlife – giving you a detailed insight into all that's on-site.

In this first issue we introduce you to the NMA Friends Committee, and present the newest memorial on site – the REME (Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers) Memorial and Bridge – an elegant memorial of Portland Stone that mirrors the curve of the Armed Forces Memorial, and was dedicated by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh on 9th July.

There's also the first taste of regular features such as *Wildlife Focus* with our resident expert Richard Thorpe, the *Friends Update*, quarterly *Events Calendar* and *NMA Shop Update*.

And don't forget the *Puzzle Page* where you can test your knowledge of the Arboretum...

I hope you enjoy *The Memo* and would love to hear your thoughts, ideas and any suggestions for future issues.

Thank you for your support.

Emma

Emma Jhita
(Marketing & Fundraising Manager)

National Memorial Arboretum Friends magazine, first edition.



In this edition of The Memo...

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Why the NMA needs your support...

As an NMA Friend your support is vital, but we need lots more people just like you to become Friends. Not only do Friends get involved and actively support the Arboretum but your membership donation, and money raised at events and through outreach activities, helps the Arboretum to provide this unique environment dedicated to remembrance and recognition of sacrifice.

- **A £10 donation will enable the Arboretum to put a botanic label on a tree**
- **£20 means we can care for a tree for a year**
- **£50 allows us to safeguard a 2m² Skylark nesting area for a year**

Please let your family, friends and colleagues know all about this unique place in the heart of the country. More information can be found online at www.thenma.org.uk



NATIONAL
MEMORIAL
ARBORETUM

FRIENDS

The Memo - August Edition

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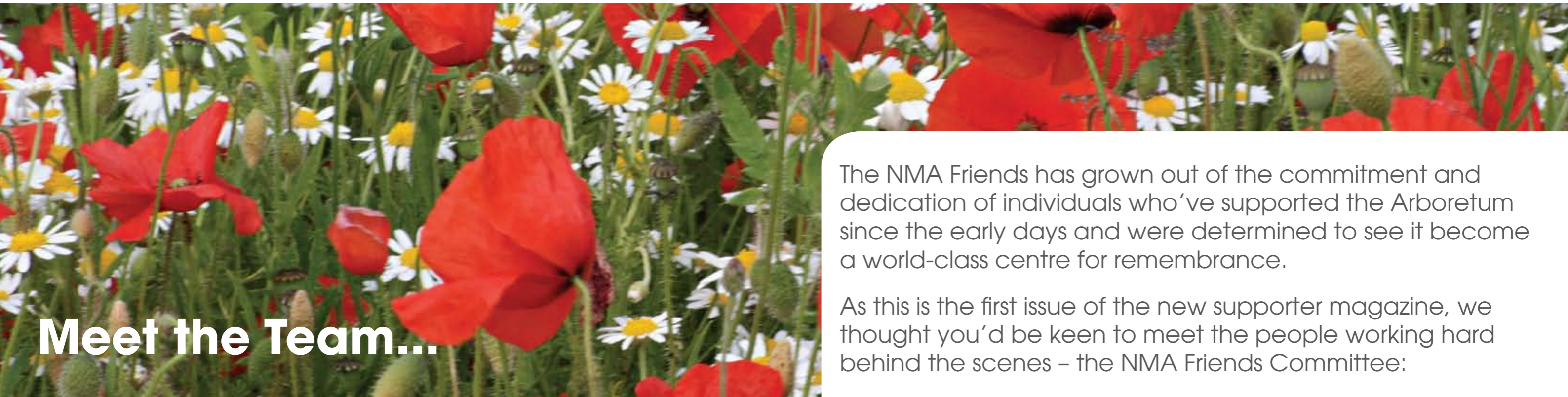
How to join?

Contact:
Friends Membership Team
National Memorial Arboretum
Croxall Road, Alrewas, Staffordshire DE13 7AR

Phone: **01283 792333**
Email: friends@thenma.org.uk
Web: www.thenma.org.uk



Their names will live for evermore...



Meet the Team...

The NMA Friends has grown out of the commitment and dedication of individuals who've supported the Arboretum since the early days and were determined to see it become a world-class centre for remembrance.

As this is the first issue of the new supporter magazine, we thought you'd be keen to meet the people working hard behind the scenes – the NMA Friends Committee:



Barbara Wain
I became a Friend when my Mother died, and planted a tree to her and to my Father who had been lost at sea on HMS Hermes. I was so impressed with the site and with the ethos that this would be 'a place of tranquillity and reflection for all'. As a volunteer I find this is so true. I spread the word that if you cannot be a volunteer then please become a Friend.

No matter how often you visit or how far away you live, you can follow and enjoy the future of this wonderful place.



David Faul
I am very excited about the future of the NMA Friends, and foresee the development of an extensive network of Friends stretching out across the country and, indeed, across the world. I envisage this network binding together all of us who share the passionate belief that the Arboretum must be supported in every way possible so that present and future generations can ensure that 'Their names will live forever more...'

With Friends around the world organising similar events to those we have here, and then sharing them with each other via the magazine and the web, there is a very realistic future for a world-wide 'community' working together to support the Arboretum.



David Millington
Over the years my involvement and enthusiasm for the NMA has grown and it all started after joining the Friends following my first visit. I am hoping involvement in the NMA Friends will enable me to pass on that enthusiasm and love of the NMA to others resulting in them, and their friends and family, joining the ever increasing membership, making the Friends not only a national, but also an international group.



Derek Van Arkadie
I retired in 1992 as an Inspector of Taxes having served mainly in Central London. My wife and I moved from London to Alrewas in 1998 and shortly after, attended a Friends meeting at which the sculptor Andy de Comyn spoke about his plans for the Shot At Dawn Memorial. We both then became involved at the Arboretum doing whatever was needed.

I have spent most of my time as a Guide around what was initially a rather desolate site, and is now the national Centre for Remembrance celebrating life with the maturing trees and developing wildlife, truly a living growing memorial.



Lawrie Walford
In my role on the NMA Friends Committee I have been asked to continue with the distribution of publicity for future events at the NMA, to be published in local parish newsletters each month. If you have a Parish Magazine or community newsletter and would like to include information about NMA events, please contact me by email, and I will be happy to provide information. lawriew@globalnet.co.uk



Richard Thorpe
We are presented with a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness of the NMA and substantially increase the number of NMA Friends. In particular I welcome the Young Friends as they will form the next generation to carry the Arboretum forward.

The opportunities for fundraising are tremendous and will give a boost to the future of the NMA. An idea that I am keen to pursue is an annual sponsored walk called Walk to the Wall.

As the Arboretum's Volunteer Wildlife Co-ordinator I am excited by the continuing success of our Wildlife Watch Group, going from strength to strength, and by the continuing development of new habitats such as the wildflower meadows and new wildlife information boards.



Steve Reeves
I have recently retired from business having run my own landscape company for some thirty years, prior to that I worked in Local Government, and I have served on many committees helping to raise funds and organise varied social events. I have been a volunteer at the NMA for just twelve months and when the opportunity arose to help serve the Friends how could I resist? The chance to help develop such a wonderful world class Centre for Remembrance and to be part of its growth is just too exciting an opportunity to miss. I look forward to encouraging others to join in.

If you belong to an organisation and would like a visiting speaker to give a talk about the Arboretum, please contact the NMA on 01283 792333.

Their names will live for evermore...

Around the Arboretum...



- KEY**
- A** VISITOR CENTRE
 - B** CHAPEL
 - C** TOILETS
 - D** CAR PARK
 - E** FEPOW BUILDING
 - F** ARMED FORCES MEMORIAL



At 150 acres, and with over 150 memorials, there is a lot to take in at the NMA. In this feature we will focus on different areas of the Arboretum, providing a fresh insight and helping you plan what to see on your next visit:

Shelter - Let's look at birds!

A visit to the Shelter near Millennium Avenue can be an excellent wildlife experience especially in the autumn, winter and spring months if you have a pair of binoculars with you. On the list of the many birds you will see are blue tits, coal tits, great tits, long tailed tits, chaffinches, greenfinches, goldfinches, and you'll often see a pheasant scratching around for seeds as well!

To all of you - please remember to feed your garden birds at home - they will love you for it!

RNLI Memorial

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) is the charity that provides a 24-hour lifesaving service around the UK and Republic of Ireland. Landscaped as a pebble, shingle and sand beach, the memorial sits on the bank of the River Tame. Trees in one corner represent a mother and her children looking anxiously out to sea, with the dramatic figure of a 19th century lifeboat man sculpted by Andrew Fitchett representing all those who have served.

Knick-Knacks

The Arboretum's very own charity shop, Knick-Knacks sells good quality treasures including books, toys, ceramics, pictures, games and puzzles, together with many collectible items. We like to think we're giving unwanted treasures a new home!

Relying on good-quality donations from supporters, prices are kept reasonable. There's something for everyone at Knick-Knacks.

Open most days of the week, thanks to the work of dedicated volunteers, Knick-Knacks can be found at the end of the temporary entrance tunnel, across from the coffee hut.

The Beat

The Police Memorial Avenue (The Beat) stretches for 300 meters from the NMA's Visitor Centre and is planted with a chestnut tree for every Police Force in the UK. Horse chestnut trees were chosen because the first Policemen (known as 'peelers' or 'bobbies') carried truncheons made from the wood. Established by the Police Mutual Assurance Society in 1997, The Beat hosts the annual COPS (Care of Police Survivors) Remembrance Event. This recently took place over the weekend of 25/26 July and saw over 500 attendees, including many senior Police Officers and police survivors and their families, and over 100 Blue Knights, the Police motorbike group, who rode from all over the country to join the event.

Visit www.thenma.org.uk for a full list of memorials on-site.



Their names will live for evermore...

Memorial Focus...

Each issue we'll introduce you to the newest memorial on site. In early July, HRH The Duke of Edinburgh attended the dedication of a new memorial and bridge to the 'craftsmen of the army'.

REME Memorial and Bridge

Prince Philip has been the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers' (REME) Colonel in Chief for 40 years, and joined veterans and current members of the Corps at the dedication event hosted by Colonel Commandant Major General Michael Huntley CB.

The new memorial is built of Portland Stone and was designed by sculptor Alan Micklethwaite. The organic curve complements and reflects the Armed Forces Memorial, upon whose walls the names of many REME soldiers are engraved.



Wildlife Focus...

The Arboretum's resident wildlife expert Richard Thorpe will update you each issue on the seasonal changes, and what you can expect to see on your next visit.

Summer months - The Children's Wood

What a gorgeous display of wildflowers we have had this summer along the riverside part of this wood. Poppies, Cornflowers, Corn Marigolds, Corn Cockles and Daisies have helped to create a wonderful colour

experience. There are some new wildlife signs here as well to enhance the area and to demonstrate the rich diversity of wildlife to be found. Fantastic willow sculptures abound - from a Tank, through to Harry the Hedgehog and a shoal of fish. There will also be a new bird feeder in this

area. If you look at the River Tame especially in summer you will see Common Terns flying. Apparently we have the best colony of Terns in the Midlands according to the RSPB.

So, if you go down to the woods today you'll be sure of a big surprise!



Friends Update...

The NMA Friends are an active bunch, and over the past few months have put in an appearance at a variety of local and national shows and events:



Royal British Legion Conference, 16th & 17th May

The Arboretum had an information stand and sold stock to visitors.



Working Weekends, Every first weekend of the month

The NMA Friends and Volunteers get to work on various jobs around the Arboretum.



Alrewas Show, 18th July

Another Friends stand, this time at the local agricultural show in Alrewas - kindly sponsored by Lafarge.



Lichfield Bower Parade, 25th May

The NMA Friends entered an original float, and although not winning a prize this year, managed to spread the word and collect plenty of donations!



Walk for Heroes, 11th July

The NMA's information stand at the finishing line of this fundraising event encouraged participants to visit the Arboretum.



Kings Bromley Show, 25th July

Representing the Friends and the NMA at this horticultural and craft show, the NMA stand attracted numerous new Friends and visitors to the Arboretum.

Organise an Event in your Area

Gather together friends and family, or involve your local group or association and organise an event to increase membership of the Friends! For leaflets, posters and other information please contact the Friends Membership Team on 01283 792333 or email friends@thenma.org.uk

Join us on Facebook and Twitter

These online groups are an ideal way to keep up to date with all the latest news, so look us up and join in today!

twitter facebook

Their names will live for evermore...

NMA Events Calendar...

Take a look at the wide range of exciting events taking place over the next few months, including those with a special Friends focus:

Thursday 27th August Evening Bat Walk

This exciting event is open to all ages. Sensible footwear and clothing advised - a torch may be useful.

Led by: Richard Thorpe, NMA Volunteer Wildlife Co-ordinator
Time: 7pm for 7.30pm start (finishes after dark)
Venue: NMA (meet in the car park)
Cost: Donation to the Arboretum
Contact: 01283 792333 to book (limited to 20 places)

* FRIENDS EVENT *

Thursday 27th August Wine tasting evening

A unique opportunity to be guided on how to taste and select wines to suit your palate.

Led by: Mr David Leese, Experienced Sommelier and wine lecturer
Time: 7.30 - 9pm
Venue: NMA, Conference Room
Cost: £15.00 per person (over 18s only)
Contact: 01283 792333 / friends@thenma.org.uk to book (limited to 40 places)

Saturday 19th September Wildlife Watch Group

Activities and walks for children and young persons aged 7 to 14

Led by: Richard Thorpe, NMA Volunteer Wildlife Co-ordinator
Time: 2 - 4 pm
Venue: NMA, Visitor Centre and on site
Cost: £1.00 per child
Contact: 01283 799857 / lbarkas@thenma.org.uk to book (places limited)

Saturday 10th October Ride to the Wall

A stunning sight - motorcyclists participate in a mass ride to the Arboretum to pay their respects at the Armed Forces Memorial and raise funds for its upkeep.

Time: 11.30am arrival for 1.30pm service
Venue: NMA, Millennium Avenue and Armed Forces Memorial
Other information: Registration essential - available via website
Contact: Martin Dickinson 0774 0871983 / martinpdickinson@aol.com (booking essential)
Website: www.rttw.org

Saturday 17th October Wildlife Watch Group

Activities and walks for children and young persons aged 7 to 14 .

Led by: Richard Thorpe, NMA Volunteer Wildlife Co-ordinator
Time: 2 - 4 pm
Venue: NMA, Visitor Centre and on site
Cost: £1.00 per child
Contact: 01283 799857 / lbarkas@thenma.org.uk to book (places limited)

Wednesday 11th November Armistice Day

A Service of Remembrance will be held on the Armed Forces Memorial, paying tribute to all who have lost their lives in service of the country.

Time: 11am Service
Venue: NMA
Contact: 01283 792333 / info@thenma.org.uk to register your interest in attending

For a full list of events taking place at the Arboretum, please visit www.thenma.org.uk



Puzzle Page...

Test your knowledge of the Arboretum with these fun, and sometimes challenging puzzles:

Spot the Difference

There are 5 differences, can you spot them all?



Word Search

See if you can find all 17 hidden words!

l	u	i	w	r	d	r	a	f	f	i	g	f	g
m	l	i	e	v	p	o	r	a	o	i	r	s	
u	a	o	l	m	i	n	a	t	l	u	s	u	a
i	y	a	p	e	w	v	n	d	r	e	m	a	i
n	o	r	q	m	e	y	e	o	m	a	n	r	y
n	r	t	w	b	l	b	e	r	l	i	n	t	m
e	o	a	i	r	t	s	a	c	n	a	l	i	i
l	a	m	s	a	w	i	l	l	o	w	s	l	l
l	d	u	e	n	g	i	n	e	e	r	s	l	s
i	p	s	l	c	m	c	m	r	p	h	y	e	d
m	e	h	g	e	l	x	f	p	n	a	b	r	n
t	a	e	b	e	h	t	d	n	c	o	h	y	a
i	c	a	l	o	l	u	n	i	b	v	g	c	s
e	e	r	m	e	m	o	r	i	a	l	a	r	c

Artillery
Engineers
Millennium
RoadPeace
Sultan
Willows

Berlin
Lancastria
Royal
Sumatra
Yeomanry
Chapel

Giffard
Memorial
Remembrance
Sands
TheBeat

NMA Shop Update...



Featuring new products and items from the award nominated NMA Gift Shop:

These stunning hares are part of the Frith sculpture collection and are designed and sculpted in clay exclusively for you. Available from the award-nominated NMA Gift Shop, prices start at £21.99. Please contact us on **01283 799862** or email **info@thenma.org.uk**