

Staffordshire Regiment Museum

Friends Newsletter Issue 1 2020



A few words from our chairman

Welcome to the first newsletter of new decade. I note that this one stretches to fourteen pages, and seems to make a “bumper issue” the norm. To my mind this is evidence of how our museum and its work has grown in recent years, with ever more events and activities warranting coverage. All thanks to a relatively small number of dedicated volunteers, and tiny team of staff led by our dedicated museum director.

Like many of you I enjoy visiting a broad range of military museums and always cast a critical eye over the visitor package they provide. Whilst our museum is small by comparison to some, with a relatively tiny budget, I am proud that we hold our own on a value for money basis and think that we can offer a unique hands on visitor experience. All suitably evidenced by our recent inclusion in trip advisors list of the top 10 things to do in Staffordshire.

Much of this is thanks to our outstanding volunteers and friends, I am often surprised by the broad spectrum of skills they possess. These range from maintaining military vehicles on a shoe string budget, providing quality educational visits, displaying a detailed knowledge of all things Staffords, producing first class publicity material, putting on concert parties, giving pyrotechnic displays, construction, landscaping, and handling stage quality sound and video, as well as much more.

They all do the museum and the heritage of the Staffordshire Regiments Proud.

Nick Williams

Key Museum dates for you diary, spring and summer 2020

*1st April Friends AGM 6.30pm all
welcome.*

*13th April Easter Museum
Discovery Day*

*13th and 14th June 40's WW2
Weekend*

12th July Car Boot and Militaria sale

*5th August Summer Museum
Discovery Day*

*9th August Knot Car Club Classic
Car Show.*

*26th August Late Summer Museum
Discovery Day*

*4th September A Bridge Too Far,
outdoor cinema event*

Scooters return

The Warwickshire Scooter Alliance again used the museum as a base, and kick off point for their Ride out to the National Arboretum in October 2019. The museum throbbed to the sound of perky petrol engines, as hundreds of two wheeled machines descended on the site on a bright autumnal morning. Members of the friends group and museum staff gave the riders a warm welcome which included trench tours and the WVS canteen was pressed into service to help provide all present with hot drinks.

The WSA committee presented the museum team with of substantial £1000 donation in thanks for hosting the event before setting off in convoy for the NMA. Friends photographer, Terry Fidgeon, recorded the hoard as they left the site in a cloud of two stroke smoke. The convoy was this year escorted by an Airborne forces jeep to help mark Arnhem 75.

Museum event coordinator Steve Hemming said, *we were pleased to host the scooter event for a second year, the WSA took a little more time on site and I think the members enjoyed the welcome we gave them. On behalf of the museum, I would like to thank the group for the*

generous donation they gave us, and we look forwards to seeing them all again in 2020.

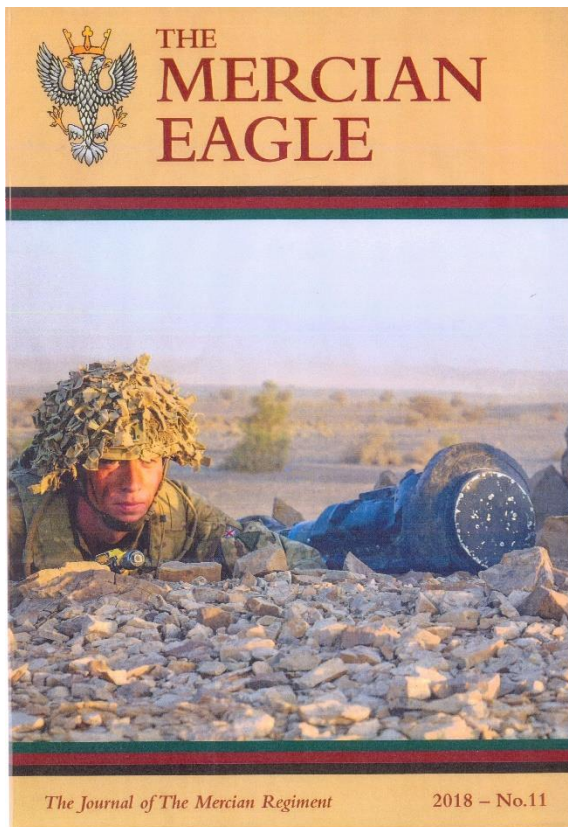
The Warwickshire Scooter Alliance



SRM in glossy print

Following recent news of the Mercian Regiment's decision to make our site its lead museum and the reporting in our last issue of the interest in the SRM from national history magazine Britain At War, we thought it would be appropriate to acknowledge the ongoing work being done by our Director Danielle Crozier to have the museum featured in other specialist publications.

On this occasion it was a full feature in a publication closer to home, namely the Mercian Eagle.



Issue number 11 of the Mercian's own magazine contained a full colour feature on the museum itself. This included news of the visit to our site of Deborah II the WW1 tank replica. There are also items on regimental reunions, and a report on the Lichfield branch of the Staffordshire Regiment Association.



The Mercian Eagle is published by Crest Publications on behalf of the Mercian Regiment, and is edited by Sam Phillips, who is based at the Regimental HQ. Back copies can be viewed in the museum's collection.

Ohh how it rained

After the forced postponement of our summer cinema night, the weather again turned nasty during another of our showpiece outdoor events. This time heavy rain fell during the Night in the Trenches event, which was held over remembrance weekend in November.



On seeing the gloomy weather forecasts, the team worked hard to build extra cover for reenactors and visitors alike before the rain set in just as the afternoon and evening event got underway. Reenactors from as far afield as Merseyside turned out to populate the trenches representing soldiers from the British, French and US armies, as well as Germans and Austrians of the central powers.

The museum team put in a mammoth effort, staffing the WW2 WVS canteen providing hot drinks, greeting visitors, leading a sing along, providing tour guides, and much more from early hours though to 11pm.



Visitors enjoyed an extended tour of our living western front trench, and all were given a real insight into the life of a front line WW1 soldier. The rain did however force a scaling down of the battle scenes and pyrotechnic display due to health and safety concerns.



Event coordinator Steve Hemming said *"What a great effort by so many of our friends and volunteers, a special thanks has to go out to all those dedicated reenactors who spent the whole day out in the trench network exposed to the cold and rain. Despite all the challenges the event was a great success, but we will review the day and look to make things even better for next year."*



They are our Grandads

Our museum has recently played a role in bringing together the families of two veterans who served together during WW2. Museum visitor Adrian Andrews, Grandson of L/Cpl James Kitchener Heath 'A' Coy, 5th South Staffordshire Regiment, takes up the moving story.



L-R: Adrian, Eunice, Nick, John P, Jan, John C

The Staffordshire Regiment Museum 19th October 2019.

10th August 1944 – River Orne, Normandy

The Battle for Normandy is nearing its bloody conclusion as German forces are forced into an easterly retreat. Men of the 59th (Staffordshire) Division are engaged in bitter fighting on both banks of the River Orne. 176 Brigade have forced a crossing and are in a desperate struggle to hold a fragile bridgehead, repelling determined enemy counter-attacks launched from the Fôret de Grimbosq. To the south, 177 Brigade are fighting to control the successive ridges of high ground that are a feature of the terrain that leads to the section of the river that overlooks the Norman town of Thury Harcourt.

It is 10th August and a soldier of 'C' Company of the 5th Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment lies injured in front of the Company position close to the river bank in the area of the small settlement of Fresnay. Company Commander, Major Bernard Pearson, accompanied by his Batman, Private Percy Clews and a stretcher bearer approach the stricken soldier in an effort to bring him in. They get close to the casualty when the stretcher bearer steps on a shrapnel mine, one of several that the retreating enemy have callously placed around the wounded man. The blast injures the stretcher bearer and the Major and kills Private Clews instantly.

29th August 1944 – Abergavenny, Wales

'My Dear Mrs Clews' wrote Major Pearson from the Monmouthshire hospital in which he was recovering from the wounds that he had received on 10th August, 'You have no doubt been wondering why I have taken so long to write, and offer not only my sympathy, but those of the whole Company at the loss of your Husband, my Batman.

I was hit by the same mine, and I have only just heard officially that Percy was killed, as I had feared. It isn't an easy story to tell, Mrs Clews, and I am sure you don't want to know all the full details.

I found it necessary to lead a patrol with stretcher bearers to recover one of my boys who had been wounded sometime before, and who was in need of treatment. Percy would not think of leaving me behind.

We found the man but the Germans had surrounded him with shrapnel mines, I presume they realised that we would try to recover him. A stretcher bearer, after giving aid, trod on a mine which exploded, causing the death of your husband and wounding two of us.

I had the lives of the others to consider so I ordered them back whilst I tried to give Percy some help, but poor lad, he had gone – without pain and without knowing what had happened. He looked very peaceful, his job well done. I had him recovered the same day and he was given a Military funeral, although I regret that I was not present, being on my way to hospital'.

Major Pearson went on to describe his own relationship with his diligent orderly 'Between an Officer and his Batman there develops a spirit of comradeship far above expression by words – we thought such a lot of each other, and I have grieved for him very much indeed. He was killed giving help to his comrades and myself, and all of the Company have missed him so much. His determination to make sure that I was not left unprotected at any time caused him to be killed'.

The Officer drew the heart-rending letter to a close with the words 'With best wishes for the future, and rest assured that your Husband will not be forgotten by-

Yours sincerely,

B. Pearson. Major.'

Thus it was that Annie Clews joined an ever increasing number of young war widows facing an uncertain future for herself and her son, John, just two-years old at the time of his Father's death.

1st July 2019 – Bayeux Military Cemetery, Normandy

A small group of people gather around plot XXIII. D. 6. For here lies 4923121 Private Percy Clews of the South Staffordshire Regiment. In the unrelenting high temperatures of a record breaking heatwave over the Continent we, as Anglo-French representatives of the 59th (Staffordshire) Division Association, paused for reflection around the weathered Portland headstone. John Clews, accompanied by his wife Jan, took up

position behind the grave and he related the circumstances of his Father's death as gleaned from Major Pearson's letter to his Mother sent 75 years ago.

19th October 2019 – The Staffordshire Regiment Museum, Whittington Barracks, Staffordshire

The relatives of three late veterans of the 5th South Staffordshire Regiment sit in the 'Colonel Butler' room within the Museum, each somewhat bewildered as to the circumstances that brought them there....

Upon returning from Normandy in July I posted a picture of John's tribute to his Father, along with a photograph of Private Clews himself on the Museum's Facebook page. The photographs were accompanied with the outline story and the text of the letter of condolence sent to Percy Clews' widow. 24 hours later I looked back at the post and amongst the anticipated 'crying' and 'heart' emojis that are part and parcel of the social media world was a rather excited message from one Nick Parry, which informed me that he was the Grandson of Major Bernard Pearson, author of the quoted letter and the man with Private Clews at the moment he was killed! A rapid correspondence followed from which a plan was hatched to bring the two families together in a meeting at the Museum.

A date was set and arrangements made to meet.

Participating in this most poignant of reunions was Major Pearson's son, also named John, daughter Eunice, along with Percy's son and daughter-in-law, John and Jan. Nick and myself as instigators looked on, both very pleased indeed with the outcome so far. Over tea and coffee, memories were shared and photographs compared. It came as some surprise to John and Eunice that their Father and the Clews family had met previously, Major Pearson having maintained a correspondence with Percy's widow and then later with John himself.

John Pearson had a couple of surprises in store for John Clews. Out of a bag beside the table he produced his Father's canvas bedroll which John duly opened up to reveal the owners details 'Major B. Pearson, S. Stafford R.'. In re-rolling the canvas and looping the now musty leather straps through rusted buckles, John

was performing the often repeated task of his Father, as maintaining Major Pearson's personal kit would have been one of his responsibilities as Batman. The relevance of John's task was not lost among those seated around the table and I believe that some tears were shed.



John Clews opens up Major Pearson's wartime bedroll.

In addition, Major Pearson's modified 38" Webley revolver (now an exhibit in the Museum) was handed around the table. This weapon also links the two soldiers. In a letter to the Museum in which he passed the gun over for 'safe custody' he recounted a moment in time during the fighting to take the fortified village of Noyers Bocage, a bloody snapshot of the Normandy experience. On 18th July 1944, the Major was passing through some damaged buildings when, alerted by a noise in the rubble, he turned to see a German soldier bearing down on him with fixed bayonet. The blade passed through the Major's leg. As the German exerted his effort to withdraw the bayonet, in a 'kill or be killed' instant, he fired the Webley hitting the enemy soldier fatally in the chest. On seeing their comrade lying dead, three further soldiers emerged from the interior to surrender and were escorted back to Battalion HQ under the watchful eye of Percy. Major Pearson noted further in

the letter that whilst the killing of the soldier was in no way a matter in which to take pride, the subsequent recovery of a machine gun and ammunition from the position made it clear that this action in all probability saved the lives of many men in 'C' Company. Once again, at a time of great danger, Percy was at Major Pearson's side.

The family were at great pains to assure John and Jan that the name and character of Percy Clews was well known to all in the Pearson household. He was described as 'the best Batman I ever had' having been personally selected rather than allocated to the post. So the story goes, Percy was chosen in an attempt to keep him out of trouble, which tended to follow him around..... nothing too serious you understand, just uniform violations and such like. In the new role Percy proved himself to be highly adept, capable of conjuring up a brew within moments of Major Pearson calling a halt.

After the war, Bernard Pearson remained in the Army in the capacity of Recruitment Officer and Chaplin. In 1987 he returned to Normandy for the first time in 43 years, where within Bayeux Military Cemetery he conducted a service at the graveside of his fallen Batman. This act evidenced the sincerity of his words to Annie Clews written in August 1944, 'rest assured that your Husband will not be forgotten'. His expressed feelings for his killed Batman and friend were in no respect platitudes intended for the comfort of a grieving widow.

With stories now shared, thoughts turned to food, but the day had yet one more surprise to serve up to John and Jan. At some point in the late '80's Major Pearson and the Clews family lost contact and as such they had no information concerning Bernard's passing in 1998 at the age of 86. It then came as a bolt out of the blue to learn that he lies in the Churchyard of St Giles in Whittington, the very village in which John grew up and where he still lives with Jan. Lunch could wait another half hour as we paid an unplanned visit to St. Giles. Whilst there I took a photograph of John at the grave in a deliberate attempt to mirror the 1987 photograph of Major Pearson at the grave of Percy Clews.



Major Bernard Pearson at the grave of Private Percy Clews in 1987, Bayeux Military Cemetery



John Clews at the grave of Major Bernard Pearson on 19th October 2019, Whittington.

At the end of an excellent meal, all were in agreement that this had been a very special day indeed and something that should be repeated in the not too distant future. For my part I am just content to have been the catalyst that kick-started the efforts that culminated in this poignant yet happy gathering.



Left: Private Percy Clews (18th September 1912 – 10th August 1944)

Right: Major Bernard Pearson (10th February 1912 – 25th March 1998).

It only remains for me to thank Nick, John, Eunice, John and Jan for their part in such a meaningful event. Thanks are also due to the staff of the Museum for their hospitality as well as their interest in this small detail within the long and illustrious history of the South Staffordshire Regiment.

Adrian Andrews

(Grandson of L/Cpl James Kitchener Heath 'A' Coy, 5th South Staffordshire Regiment (1914-1995))

October 2019.



Our Staffordshire Knot



The knot can be seen on a 4-foot-high carved Anglo-Saxon cross in a churchyard in Stoke-upon-Trent, giving its name as the Staffordshire Knot and also on a seventh-century Anglo-Saxon object from the Staffordshire hoard. This strongly suggests it pre-dates the Norman and medieval period, being probably either a heraldic symbol of early Mercia or a Celtic Christian symbol brought to Staffordshire by missionary monks from Lindisfarne.

The earliest known appearance of the knot in association with the Stafford family was on the 15th-century seal of Lady Joan de Stafford, Lady Wake (daughter of Hugh de Stafford, 2nd Earl of Stafford), who adapted the Wake knot for her use.

It's a wartime Christmas

The last public event held by the museum in 2019, was a special Christmas themed event held on the second Saturday in December. This was the second time that this event had been held, which grew out of the traditional Carols in the trenches.

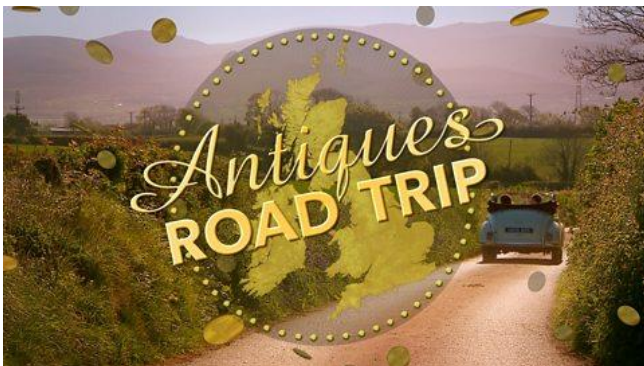
The main museum gallery was brought to life by the home guard, musicians, a recreation of a 1940's front parlor at Christmas complete with Christmas dinner, period games and children's entertainment.

The winter weather was kind and the visitors were treated to various displays put on around the museum site. These included a 1914 Christmas truce reenactment, Christmas time during the Blitz, and the defusing of an unexploded bomb, complete with a controlled explosion courtesy of the museum's pyrotechnics team. Santa even paid a visit, distributing gifts to visitors young and old.



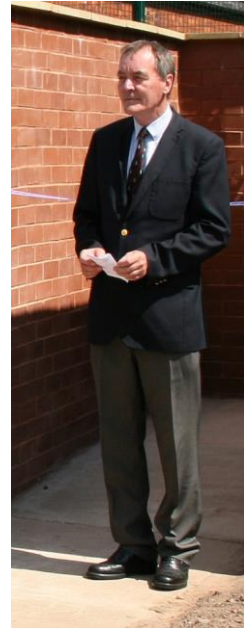
The SRM on the BBC

The museum started 2020 in fine style with an appearance on one of day time TV's staples, namely the BBC's Antiques Road Trip. The popular programme, which takes teams of experts on tours around the UK looking for bargains, featured our museum and the regiments links to Lichfield in an episode that was aired on Wednesday 8th January.



Regimental mascot Watchman and his handler Greg Hedges appeared in the item, and the museum was ably represented by museum friend

and volunteer Major (Retd) Jim Massey. He was interviewed in the Coltman trench about the regiment and the museum by the TV crew, and demonstrated his outstanding knowledge of all things Staffords. The feature can still be found on BBC's I player system, series 20 episode 3.



Regiments at VE and VJ Days

With 2020 seeing 75 years since the end of WW2, Jim Massey has also been looking at where in the world our local regiments were in the closing months of hostilities. Although primarily factual, his research gives us a snap shot of the hugely complicated situation the countries armed forces were dealing with during the closing stages of the war.

We tend to look back on history from a perspective of knowing what came next. But as can be seen, our regiments were scattered across the world, engaged in home defense, policing the empire, preparing for peace as well as a protracted battle to defeat enemies who seemed intent on fighting on no matter what the consequences.

We thank Jim for his endeavors in compiling such an exhaustive list.

Staffordshire Regiment Battalions WW2

Locations on VE and VJ Days in 1945

South Staffordshire Regiment:-

1st Battalion

Central Provinces India

Withdrawn from Burma autumn 1944, after the Second Chindit Campaign, all fit men were transferred to 16 PARA.

2nd Battalion

Woodhall Spa Lincolnshire.

After Arnhem (September 1944), the Part of 1st Airborne Division battalion was rested and became operational again on 1 April 1945. On 10 May 1945 they flew into Norway and remained there until August.

Four Territorial battalions were disbanded in Normandy in 1944, their parent locations are shown below. The 5th and 6th South Staffords were reformed after WW2.

5th Battalion Walsall

1st /6th Battalion Wolverhampton

2 /6th Battalion Wolverhampton

7th Battalion Walsall

Second Line Battalions

10th Battalion

Home

Became 183 Field Regiment (Royal Artillery) in 1942.

11th Battalion

Egypt

Garrison Duty

12th Battalion

UK

Became 91 Anti-Aircraft Regiment in 1941.

13th Battalion

UK

Became 104 Anti-Aircraft Regiment in 1941.

14th Battalion

Norfolk

Converted to Royal Artillery in 1942.

15th Battalion

Faroes Islands

Garrison Duty

North Staffordshire Regiment:-

1st Battalion

Ranchi, India

Withdrawn from Burma in 1943 after the Arakan Campaign.

2nd Battalion

Palestine

In February 1945 the Battalion were part of 1st Division and the entire Division were sent to Palestine from Italy.

Note: One Territorial battalion was disbanded in 1944 in Normandy. 6 North Staffords were reformed after WW2.

6th Battalion Burton-upon-Trent

Second Line Battalions

5th Battalion

Converted to Anti-Aircraft Regiment very early in the war.

7th Battalion

Orkney & Shetland Isles

8th Battalion

UK

Converted to Royal Artillery in 1941.

9th Battalion

UK

Converted to Royal Artillery in 1942.

And by comparison the Locations in 1944

South Staffordshire Regiment:-

1st Battalion

Burma

Took part in the Second Chindit Campaign for 6 months (March – September 1944).

2nd Battalion

Woodhall Spa Lincolnshire

Took part in the Battle of Arnhem 1st Airborne Division (September 1944).

5th Battalion

59th Division

Fought in Normandy July – August 1944

1st/6th Battalion

59 Division

As above

2nd/6th Battalion

59 Division

As above

7th Battalion

59 Division

As above.

Notes:

1 & 2 South Staffords were regular battalions
5, 1/6, 2/6 South Staffords were Territorials
7 South Staffords was a wartime battalion, albeit the best one that the Regiment formed in WW2 and which fought well in Normandy.

In August 1944, the British Army was desperate for infantry manpower, as every division was understrength, following the hard fighting in Normandy. Eventually, they disbanded the junior division, which was 59 Division and the officers and soldiers were ordered to join other divisions, which was disappointing for the soldiers and officers concerned.

North Staffordshire Regiment:-

1st Battalion

Ranchi, India

The Indian Army could not trust conscript battalions to keep the peace in India, so the job was given to regular battalions. This was hugely disappointing for the 1st North Staffords.

2nd Battalion

Italy

This battalion fought well at Anzio.

6th Battalion

59th Division

Fought in Normandy July – August 1944

Notes:

1 & 2 North Staffords were regular battalions.
6 North Staffords was a Territorial Battalion.

In August 1944, the British Army was desperate for infantry manpower, as every division was understrength, following the hard fighting in Normandy. Eventually, they disbanded the junior division, which was 59 Division and the officers and soldiers were ordered to join other divisions.

However, 6 South Stafford battalions fought and 2 North Stafford battalions were in action in 1944. A grand total of 8 battalions was high and reflects well on the County of Staffordshire.

Know who you are working with

In this issue we learn more about Danielle Crozier. Yes, you will all know Danni as our museum director and so we have approached this item differently this time, with Danni responding to a series of questions intended to give you a behind the scenes perspective on how she views her time with us.



Have you always had an interest in military history?

I have always had a passion for all forms of history really, but social history is perhaps my most favourite type. I love discovering and learning about how people lived, worked and survived and how different events and impacts had an impact upon that. So before coming to the museum I wouldn't say I had a strong interest in military history- it was just one part which I studied. Although I have always been around it having a father who was very passionate about World War two history and in particular the RAFs contribution.

Since working at the museum though I would say military interest has massively taken over. Military personnel, their families and the societies they lived and worked in through the ages have made such a difference in many good and bad ways, I feel it is an important part of our heritage which should be preserved and told and is perhaps one of the least popular.

What led to you working at the SRM?

I started here as a volunteer in 2011 when I was on Maternity leave with Alfie. I was lucky to have a helpful mother in law who willingly looked after him two days a week so I could get out of the house. As I had already done my Museum Management qualification I then moved in and replaced the then Curator when she left.

What was your most memorable time at the museum?

I have so many favourite moments from my time here, but below are a few of real personal ones.

I was extremely honoured when Mr Les Bellingham donated the Museum all of the items relating

to Gareth Bellingham who was sadly killed in action in Afghanistan. It was special both because it was the first real full scale museum display I had ever produced. Most of all though I was humbled by the amount of trust Les and his wife Kim Bellingham, had put in me to look after his memory.

Camp Fisher was special also- as that was the first big project that I saw through from beginning to end, in terms of securing funding, design of the playground and then installation and completion. It was special for me to be able to say that both Ian and Gareth have something here now to represent them.

But there have been so many more. The Op Reflect trench activities with the Army Cadets in the Trench, taking the 8 Victoria crosses to Lichfield Cathedral for Armistice 100, or the two Arnhem VCs to the Hartenstein or visiting the 100 year old daughter of Brig General L Wyatt. It's the personal moments which I enjoy the most. The times when I can ensure that the service given by all Stafford's is at some point and in some way remembered and honoured.

What has been the biggest challenge to date in your time as museum director?

The pace of things I would argue is always the biggest challenge, apart from the obvious one of funding. There are so many different stakeholders and invested parties with military heritage that moving forwards and bringing everyone together takes time and patience.

How would you like to see the museum develop in the years to come?

I would like to see the replacement of the education facilities with an adaptable space included within the design so that we can look at previous generations through new means and I would like to see a purpose built collection store on site so that we can better care for our collections which is the primary aim of the Trust.

How have you found working in an organisation so reliant on its volunteers?

Obviously it can be difficult at times- a volunteer workforce is not as reliable in some aspects as a paid force, because it comes in peaks and lows.

However having managed around 80 volunteers here and around 80 members of staff in my previous employment there is one major difference. Volunteers already have huge levels of motivation and passion and they want to be there and be part of the Museum family. So you are often all pushing the same way in terms of objectives and aims. This I wouldn't say is always the case with paid staff.

Museum motor pool update

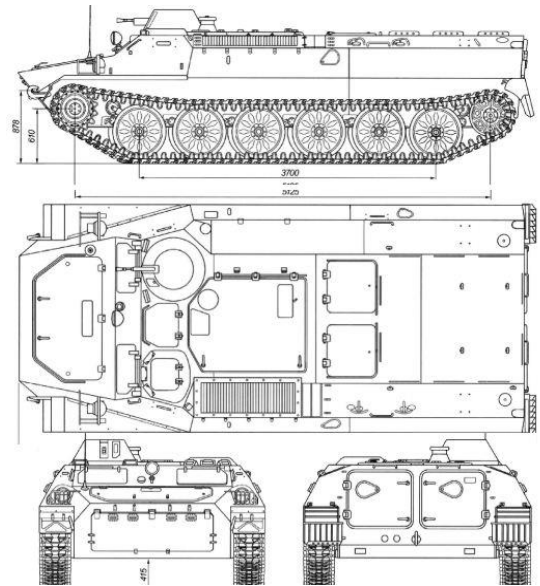
Friends vehicle lead Don Higham has spent the winter months steadily improving the museum's display vehicles. Here he gives us an update on the progress he has made on improving the vehicles that give visitors their first impression of the SRM. Don's work is largely funded by the friends, but any offers of support or hands on help is always welcome.

The Ferret and the WW2 Carrier are now ready for the coming season. The recently acquired vacuum cleaner proving it's worth.

Over Christmas I was able to make a replica grenade discharger for the carrier, to fit on the bracket that has always been there. It looks the part, and will be something else for the kids and big kids to play with (*Minus the grenade says our museum director*). Often wondered what went on that bracket. Thanks to Bob Stephens who provided the barrel and a drawing of the finished article. Also at the recent military sale at Stoneleigh, I found a periscope gun sight for the Ferret and it fits perfectly. Brand new, packed in 1963 and still in it's wrappings for £45 didn't think that was too bad.



Work now is largely concentrated on the inside of the Russian/Iraqi Carrier. Removal of accumulated sand and rubbish was the first task (*which filled three buckets, and the live cartridges were another story*) and then came the job of freeing the various hatches and gun ports. I am pleased to say at the time of writing this has been largely accomplished, the gun ports are now all free and the hatches half done and moving. The front ones were the biggest pain but with the use of various penetrating oils (*which started before Christmas*) and the use of appropriate levers and a few choice words, enough movement was achieved for me to be able to get a car jack under them. The interior painting has now commenced and when done will look quite smart. The back will be done first, as that is what the visitors see first.



Regarding the front drivers and gunner's compartment, we have a problem in that in the little revolving turret, the periscope/ gun site is missing. If we had it, I could make a replica gun (*Rob has already provided the barrel*) similar to the one which has been fitted to the Ferret. If anyone has any idea what has happened to the gun sight we would be pleased to know. Where we could acquire another one from I haven't a clue. Presumably the gun site was removed at the same time as the gun itself.

As the fore court vehicles are kept outside, painting is an ongoing task and can only be carried out when the weather is favourable. However the paint has been ordered and can commence on suitable days in the Spring, so help with that would be much appreciated.



**YOUR MUSEUM
NEEDS YOU!**

Tempted to become a volunteer at the Staffordshire Regiment Museum, or to join the friends group?

There are so many ways to get involved, and your skills are sure to be of use no matter what they are. You can put in as much time and commitment into the museum as you want, as they say every little helps. Clearly a lot of work is done on site at Whittington, but it's also possible to do research, administration, and promotional work remotely or from home.

If you want to volunteer or just talk about options pop into the museum or contact-
Steve Hemming Museum Attendant on Attendant@staffordshireregimentmuseum.com
Or Juliet Davies Friends Secretary on FriendsSecretary@Yahoo.com

