



# EAST MIDLANDS UPDATE



## RFCA colleagues commemorate World War One

Two colleagues from East Midlands RFCA volunteered to take part in a national World War One event in Nottingham in September.

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd) Simon Worsley, Deputy Chief Executive at East Midlands RFCA, and Lieutenant Lynne Holland, an adult volunteer with Nottinghamshire Army Cadet Force (ACF) volunteered at the BBC World War One At Home Live Event outside of their everyday roles to commemorate the Great War and its effect on Nottingham.

Speaking ahead of the event, Simon Worsley said: "I am proud to commemorate such an important event both as a retired member of the Armed Forces and through my role at the RFCA where I work with others to encourage them to volunteer."

To find out more about the World War One at Home Live Events visit [bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk)



Simon and Lynne

## Chief Executive's note:

The struggle to obtain funding to replace the dilapidated temporary facilities that the members of Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland ACF have tolerated with much forbearance as their training centre finally ended in October.

The new Yardley Chase facility represents the outcome of many months of effort by our Estates Team, DIO and our contractors. It was opened on time and to budget, and represents a significant increase in the standard and range of facilities available to the ACF; it also illustrates dramatically the investment being made in the youth of this country.



Group Captain (Rtd)  
Nick Sharpe

When the centre is not being used for its primary purpose we intend to make it available to other youth and community groups, to get as much return as possible from our investment. Another equally important series of events has occurred more recently with the presentation of Silver Awards to a number of employers throughout the region who have been active in their support of the Reserve Forces. These awards reflect not just an understanding of the support that employers provide to their Reservist employees, but a desire by the Armed Forces to engage in dialogue with employers; the intent is to determine new ways in which Reserve service can benefit not just the Reservist, but their employers as well. In closing I would like to thank you for your support in 2014 and wish you all a very happy Christmas. I look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year.

## New £7.2 million Cadet Training Centre now open in Northamptonshire

80 guests joined over 100 young people and adult volunteers from the Combined Cadet Force, Sea Cadets, Army Cadet Force (ACF) and Air Training Corps to see a new £7.2 million Cadet Training Centre be officially opened in Northamptonshire on Saturday 25 October 2014.

Yardley Chase Cadet Training Centre, on Denton Road, Horton, Northamptonshire, has been built over 13-months replacing a number of former Second World War buildings that had been used by Army Cadets for many years.

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The new centre, which can be used by up to 180 Cadets and 45 adult volunteers at one time, was opened by the Army's Major General Robert Nitsch CBE, General Officer Commanding Support Command.

The new training facility is set to be used primarily by Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and Rutland Army Cadet Force (LNR ACF) although other Cadet and youth organisations, community-based projects and local businesses will be able to hire the facility.

The official opening event included guests having the opportunity to see and get involved with a variety of Cadet-based activities both inside and outside the new training centre, as well as having a chance to view the new accommodation area.

Group Captain Nick Sharpe (Rtd), Chief Executive of East Midlands Reserve Forces and Cadets Association (RFCA), said: "The opening event was a real success with guests commenting on the variety of facilities available within the new training centre. The new facility includes a training hall, class rooms, office spaces, an indoor range and accommodation for the Cadets and their adult volunteers.

"I know many of the Cadets and adult volunteers from LNR ACF are looking forward to using the centre for the first time." This building project was made possible thanks to funding from the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) who have also overseen the buildings development from start to finish by providing a Senior Requirements Manager.



## For hire

Alternative  
**VENUES**

A number of Army Reserve facilities are available for hire in the East Midlands for meetings, training sessions or even car parking. Please call to discuss your requirements. For more details email [em-officeav@rfca.mod.uk](mailto:em-officeav@rfca.mod.uk), call 0115 9248617 or visit [www.alternativevenues.org](http://www.alternativevenues.org)

## Awarding East Midlands Employers



Employers from Leicestershire and Rutland with their awards

A number of East Midlands employers from both the public and private sector have received a certificate for supporting Defence personnel. The MOD received over 500 nominations for silver awards across the UK and 85 have been awarded to employers locally.

Presentation events have taken place in Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Northamptonshire from November to December.





## East Midlands RFCA is getting a new website

The New Year often means a fresh start for many people, but 2015 will see East Midlands RFCA launch our new website.

Web-viewers will still be able to find the website by visiting [www.eastmidlandsrfa.co.uk](http://www.eastmidlandsrfa.co.uk) and will be able to view a variety of new and exciting content.

The new site will contain a range of video content including 'talking heads' and footage from other projects around our region, as well as a photo gallery showcasing images from local Reserve and Cadet units and employer events.

There will be an interactive map allowing visitors to find a unit of their choice or an event in their area, which will be present throughout the site.

Becky Derbyshire, Head of Communications at East Midlands RFCA, said: "We are looking forward to launching the new site. More details of the exact launch date will be available via our social media after the Christmas break.

"I have taken the time to research what our web-visitors want to see online and discussed at length the way that site should be presented. I am delighted with the up-to-date design and believe the site should be easy to use throughout a users online journey."

## West Bridgford Joint Cadet Training Centre to open in 2015

Work is progressing on a new £1 million joint Cadet Training Centre in Nottinghamshire.

The centre, that is based off Wilford Lane in West Bridgford, includes a training hall, lecture room and two store rooms.

The new facility will be used by young people and adult volunteers from both the Army Cadet Force (ACF) and Air Training Corps (ATC).

An official opening event is set to take place early in 2015.



## Fair funding model for Cadet units in schools

All school-based Cadet units will have their infrastructure and running costs funded by the Government, the Defence Secretary has announced.

Following a consultation into future funding of the Combined Cadet Forces, the Defence Secretary has decided to maintain the existing funding model and also to apply it to schools setting up new units under the Cadet Expansion Programme. Ministers considered carefully the consultation responses and have decided that the Ministry of Defence will fund both Adult Volunteer remuneration and the Contingent Grant, and will not introduce a charge for running costs.

This will create a fair and equitable model between new and legacy schools and help bring the benefits of Cadets to as many young people as possible.

