



NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM – 2012

The Royal Artillery Service of Remembrance took place at the National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire on Saturday 7 July. While the rest of the country was apparently experiencing heavy rain and thunder storms, for us the clouds parted and the service was held in glorious sunshine.



With an estimated 550 to 600 people attending, this event is certainly attracting a growing number of people year on year, not only from the association but also from across the serving regiment. In addition, this year we attracted 60 new members who follow the RAA on Facebook.

Following the church service we gathered in the Royal Artillery Memorial Garden for a wreath laying service led by Maj Gen Bruce Brealey, Representative Colonel Commandant and Maj Gen John Milne, Controller Royal Regiment of Artillery while the Regimental Colonel Roddy Lee, laid a wreath alongside a veteran and a cadet. The RASM, WO1 Pete Armstrong, recited the Act of Remembrance.



Musical support was once again provided by the Lancashire Artillery Band from 103 Regiment that not only played throughout the service but also provided the many visitors with a superb open air concert during lunch.

A strong contingent from Lowestoft Detachment ACF turned out to support to the event and along with veterans, serving soldiers, friends and relatives emphasised the “past, present and future” elements to the Gunner Family vision.



Events on this scale would not be possible without support and our special thanks must go to the RASM; the RABSM, WO2 Leon Young and all the serving regiments' representatives. The Lancashire Artillery Band, all RAA branches that attended and of course, our very own Standard Bearers who turned out so immaculate adding yet more dignity and flair to a wonderful day.