

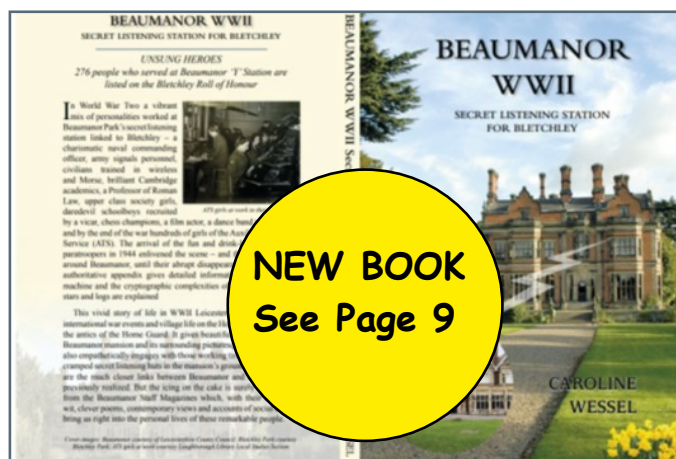
Remembrance Sunday 2022

St. Mary in the Elms.
Woodhouse,
Leicestershire
See page 2



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**REMEMBRANCE SERVICE
ST MARY-IN-THE-ELMS CHURCH, WOODHOUSE,
LEICESTERSHIRE, LE12 8UZ SUNDAY 13th NOVEMBER
2022**

The annual Remembrance Day Service will take place at St Mary-in-the-Elms Church, Woodhouse, Leicestershire on Sunday 13th November 2022, commencing at 1045 hours. During the service a collection will be taken for the Poppy Appeal.

Our Branch Standard will be on parade along with the Royal Signals Association Loughborough Branch Standard. After the service there will be a short parade at the village war memorial for the laying of wreaths.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided in the village hall at the conclusion. A donation box will be placed by the door and donations will be welcome to defray the cost of these refreshments, the hire of the hall and the service from the Ladies of Woodhouse.

Personnel attending are advised to arrive by 1030 hours latest, as the Church is always very well attended on this occasion. Parking is across from the church on the village hall grounds. Please DO NOT PARK outside the church entrance, as this is reserved for disabled personnel.

The event is being ably organised as in previous years by Bob White and if you are attending please let Bob know via robertwhite400@btinternet.com so numbers can be notified in advance.

Lunch is available at Longcliffe Golf Club after the service and refreshments. Timings 1300 to 1330 hours. The cost per head is £18.00 approximately for a 3 course meal. If you wish to avail yourself of this, please let Bob White know by **1st November 2022** latest. However, if you book but fail to turn up you will still be charged. *[Editor's note: This notice sent to all members on 17 Oct 22]*



2022 Branch AGM Calling Notice

The AGM 2022 Calling Notice below was first sent to all members with an email address on 17 Oct 22 and is repeated here as a reminder.

The 2022 Annual General Meeting of The Royal British Legion "Y" Services Branch will be held at the Greenfields Sports & Social Club, Holt Drive, Loughborough LE11 3HZ, on Saturday 12th November 2022, commencing at 2.00 pm.

All members are welcome to attend. Although not required for attendance, please let the Branch Secretary know if you are planning to attend as this will allow advance planning for the seating required. Please email John Swann on ysecurities.secretary@rbl.community.



The Branch AGM will be followed by a short talk about her new book *Beaumanor - Secret Listening Station for Bletchley*, by the author. (see page 10).

Our AGM will also be graced by the presence of our Branch Membership Services Officer (MSO) Rachel Wilkins from RBL HQ, Haig House. Rachel is our link to Haig House and fields any questions we may have on all questions to do with the Legion. Rachel will be observing our AGM and hopes to be able to meet and speak to members.

REMEMBRANCE WEEKEND DINNER**QUORN GRANGE HOTEL, QUORN, LEICESTERSHIRE**

On Saturday 12th of November 2022, the Saturday of Remembrance Weekend, the Branch will be holding its traditional dinner in a Loughborough area hotel. On this occasion the venue will be the Quorn Grange hotel. A separate dining room has been reserved for our party and we still have 10 places available. Your Branch committee would be delighted to see some of those members who live in the local area attend this event.

The price will be £30 per head. This will not include drinks, but will include the following excellent menu choices.

Should anyone wish to join us at this dinner in Quorn, they should email their meal menu to dennis.weir1@ntlworld.com by **1 November 2022**. Payment can be made on the night of the dinner.

Why not join us? You will certainly be among old friends.

RBL Y Services Branch Dinner***QUORN GRANGE HOTEL***

*88 Wood Lane, Loughborough, LE12 8DB,
£30.00 per person*

Starters

Golden vegetable broth, garlic & herb croutons (V).....A

Smoked salmon & spinach roulade, watercress, salmon caviar.....B

Oak smoked bacon & thyme risotto, parmesan crisp.....C

Sweet potato scone, baby spinach, poached hens egg, hollandaise (V)..D

Mains

Marinated pork cutlets in honey & mustard, pomme anna, calvados au lait..A

Leg of lamb, savoy, leek & mint, lamb jus with red currant..B

Salmon fillet, bean & chorizo broth, samphire, lemon balm...C

Twice baked stilton soufflé, grape, fig & rocket, apple vinagerette (V)..D

Served with vegetables & potatoes

Desserts

Strawberry cream parfait, white chocolate & mint crisp (V)....A

Tiramisu, tia maria caramel, mascapone ice cream (V)....B

Cherry & almond frangipane, amaretto (V).....C

Passion fruit crème brulee, apricot & coconut cookies (V).....D

Choice of teas or coffee

FINAL REMINDER**THERE'S STILL
TIME TO RESERVE
SEATS AT THE
TABLE**

Branch Chairman's Message.

Dear Branch Members,

Thank you to everyone who contributed their interesting memories of Her Late Majesty the Queen; these were well received by our readership. We approach Remembrance Sunday once again and details of the annual service in Woodhouse are in this issue. It is appreciated that not everyone will be able to attend this event but I am sure that you will all in some way pause to remember lost comrades wherever you are.

We take advantage of the fact that many members gather in the Loughborough area for the Remembrance service and hold our Branch AGM the same weekend. If you are in the area please do make the effort to attend, contribute to Branch business and most importantly enjoy the company of old comrades (there is a bar) and details of our 2022 AGM can be found in this issue.

*Regards to all
Jim McDermott, Branch Chairman*

**Membership
currently stands at
443**

**A warm Branch welcome to
recent new members
Lt Cdr Kevin Browne RN
David Low**



Our Branch Standard Out and About

Our Standard Bearer, Dave Lawrence will be parading the Branch Standard on the 29 Oct 22 at the Leicester City Poppy Match and will take part in the local Festival of Remembrance on the evening of the same day.

**Find the Branch Website
online at**

<https://garatshay.org.uk/>

Contributions to the monthly Branch Newsletter are always welcome on any topics members think will be of general interest. We aim to provide uplifting stories and attempt not to duplicate messages already sent from RBL HQ. Copy should be sent by email. to the editor Jim McDermott at jim.mcdermott77@ntlworld.com

Preferred format is unformatted MS Word and any photos, cartoons or pictures should be submitted separately as JPEGs.

VACANCIES ON THE BRANCH COMMITTEE (REPEAT)

There are still two vacancies on the Branch committee. Qualifications: be a paid-up Branch member; possess a keenness to help the Branch move forward and have an abundance of new ideas (or some) for recruiting and fundraising. The Branch Committee meets four times a year (including at least once via Zoom) and maintains contact otherwise mainly via email. If you are interested in joining the committee or want to find out more, please contact Branch Secretary John Swann by email on: yservices.secretary@rbl.community

2023 Branch Wall Calendar

The 2023 Branch Wall Calendar (A4, 12 pages and a front cover) will be on sale from 12 November 2022 and copies will be available at the AGM. The theme for 2023 is Armed Forces Sigint hats and badges. Price: £5.00 plus £1.50 if posted. All profits to the Poppy Appeal. This is a limited edition print run with just 50 copies being produced.

Orders for despatch by surface mail to:

jim.mcdermott77@ntlworld.com

Orders will be sent on receipt of payment via BACS:
Account No: 47985060
Sort Code: 30-65-85
Reference: Your Name/Calendar



Latest Stats

Planning to do your Christmas present shopping online? - Please consider doing it via 'easyfundraising' and earn FREE donations for the Branch Poppy Appeal.

Here is our oft repeated message about a really easy way to contribute funds to the Poppy Appeal. We are registered as RBL Y Services (Garats HaY) Branch with #easyfundraising, which means over 6,000 shops and sites will now donate to us for FREE every time you use #easyfundraising to shop with them.

RBL Y Services (Garats HaY) Branch

See how much we have raised since we started raising funds via easyfundraising



Donations total

£2,512.31

(As at 27/10/22)

Last 30 Days

£67.25

Supporters

94

Cut and paste this link to get started:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rblyservices/>

These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us – it's completely FREE and doesn't take long.

This item was found online during an unrelated Google search and thought worthy of inclusion in this newsletter for our discerning readership.

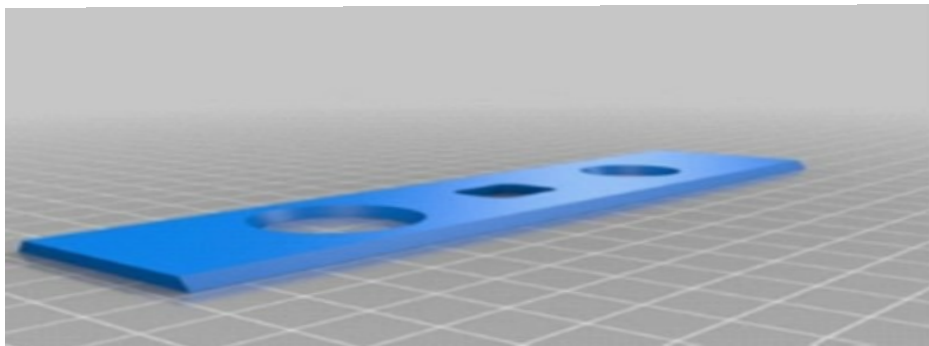
The GUHOR Stick!

GUHOR Stick? What the heck is a GUHOR Stick Well, as some of you may know, I spent the first half of my career in the Army MI business, primarily as a SIGINTer. Since the Army in its infinite wisdom decided to dismantle and then stovepipe its IW capability over the past 25 years, I feel it's important to revisit the history of the SIGINT business as it is recreated in the form of Cyber Electro Magnetic Activities, or CEMA.

The GUHOR Stick is one of the most important tools ever invented for the traffic analyst (TA). Solutions to the most intricate communications networks often began with this simple device.

No self-respecting TA was ever without one close at hand. Like the six-shooter of the old West, the analyst kept it at his or her side, always ready to draw- circles, boxes, and lines.

The GUHOR Stick, in its most recent and best-known iteration, is merely a 6 by 1 and a half inches clear plastic template. Its prime purpose is to facilitate the drawing of communications diagrams, although its secondary uses are endless. It comes equipped with a large circle at one end to draw control terminals, a smaller circle at the other end for outstations, and a small rectangle in the centre for communications relays and collective (CQ) calls. The straight edges are used to connect these stations and show communications paths. With this tool, a #2 pencil (with extra erasers), some graph paper, and several pencils of various colours, the analyst of old was fully prepared to face any communications adversary. .../overleaf



GUHOR Stick! But where did this strange name come from? Putting my analytical skills to work, I set out to research the issue. To my surprise, there was a higher than expected number of individuals who had heard the name. Most were seasoned veterans from a mixture of professions, including linguists, reporters, managers, executives, and, naturally, traffic analysts. But there was more than a little discussion about what this device was and where its name originated.

The early returns were mixed, however. I was still searching for the definitive word. It was at this point when I began to get responses from members of a Communications Analysis Association (CAA) interest group. A number of seasoned veterans recounted their GUHOR experiences and, in a number of colourful responses, gave me what I believe to be the true scoop.

GUHOR Sticks as traffic analysis tools have been around for decades. Some CAA respondents remembered seeing or using them in one form or another from at least the early 1960s. Even so, a couple of questions remain unanswered. Who invented it? Why was it given this curious name? Someone out there knows. If you can solve the mystery, we (Station HYPO) are ready to hear a good story.

All this discussion about GUHOR Sticks may be moot. These devices are few and far between these days. The GUHOR Stick does not have a federal stock number. They were made in batches at NSA by special order; however, they are fast becoming collector items. With the advent software, many analysts are using computer graphics to diagram their targets. The traditional circles and lines on paper are becoming passé. Most GUHOR Sticks that are found are being employed for many a sundry task-not for crafting the intricate networks of old, but for drawing nondescript lines and symbols unrelated to the trade of traffic analysis.

Those on field duty in the Pacific used a similar device which they called a "pooka-maker." Pooka is a Hawaiian word for "hole."

Source: NSA CRYTPOLOG July, 1994 (MDR Case #54778)

[Editorial comment: I believe 'Guhor' in radio comms means "I can hear absolutely nothing"]

Beaumanor - Secret Listening Station for Bletchley

by Caroline Wessels

What better way to spend lockdown year than meticulously researching and writing up the story of Beaumanor when during WWII it was the principal secret listening station for Bletchley. This work has been my greatest pleasure and joy. Let me tell you a little about it:

During WWII a vibrant mix of personalities worked at Beaumanor Park's wireless intercept station - a charismatic Naval Commanding Officer, Army Signals personnel, civilians trained in wireless and Morse, brilliant Cambridge academics, a Professor of Roman Law, upper class society girls, daredevil schoolboys recruited by a Vicar, a film actor, a chess champion, a dance band trombonist - and by the end of the war more than a thousand girls of the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS). The arrival of the fun and drink-loving American paratroopers in 1944 enlivened the scene - and the romantic life - around Beaumanor, until their abrupt disappearance on D-Day. Also revealed are the much closer links between Beaumanor and Bletchley than previously realized.

However, as well as following the principal international events of the war, you can also enjoy the vivid stories of village life on the Home Front around Quorn, Woodhouse and Woodhouse Eaves - including first-hand accounts of the antics of the Home Guard. And there are some beautiful descriptions of the interior of the Beaumanor mansion itself and the surrounding picturesque countryside of Charnwood. But the icing on the cake is surely the excerpts from the Beaumanor Staff Magazines which, with their satire and wit, clever poems, contemporary views and accounts of social life, add humour and fun to this gripping narrative.

I have been very fortunate in acquiring a detailed description of the technical workings of the Enigma machine from one of the country's top experts, that appears as a separate Appendix; and Col. Robert Martin has graciously agreed to write the Foreword, (when you will find out about his mother's secret connection, sshh!),

The book is on sale at Beaumanor Hall itself if you are visiting and also from Clarendon Books, who can take an order by phone or email with credit/debit card details:

Clarendon Books
 144 Clarendon Park Road,
 Leicester LE2 3AE
 email clarendonbooks@aol.com
 tel. no. 0116 270 1856

Caroline Wessel

£12.00

