

DEDICATION OF PLAQUE AND TREE COMMEMORATING WOMEN OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE AND ROYAL AUXILIARY AIR FORCE

On Monday 5th October a small group of members of the Association of Women Royal Air Force Officers visited the National Arboretum at Alrewas near Burton on Trent to take part in the dedication of a tree and plaque in recognition of the WRAF and WRAuxAF.

On our arrival we attended a short service in the chapel at the Arboretum and then having had a bite of lunch made our way to the site of the tree and plaque.

Ms Janine Scothern carried out a short dedication service by the tree and spoke about the comradeship in the WRAF and WRAuxAF that we are all familiar with. The Chairman of AWRAFO Cynthia Fowler also spoke of her pleasure that we now have this symbol of recognition for all women in the RAF both past and present.



The Plaque in front of the tree



Rosemary Underwood, Gill Smith, Ronnie Dunn, Rosie Hall, Cynthia Fowler, Carolyn Browning, Ann Corbitt and Janine Scothern standing by the tree and plaque.

After our short ceremony many of us took time to visit the amazing Armed Forces Memorial on which are engraved all the names of those members of the armed forces who have given their lives in service of our country since the two World Wars. Names of women who have died in recent conflicts are to be seen on the panels. We all found it very emotional to walk around the area and see the growing number of names.

Anyone who wishes to go to the Arboretum and this is thoroughly recommended then you can find more detail on their website www.thenma.org.uk