

APPROVAL FOR MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT EVENTS/VISITS

Involving travel abroad / individual costs exceeding £500 / aggregate costs for more than one member of £1,000

Name of Member(s) travelling:

John Aldridge (Chairman)

Name of officers also attending (if any)
(to allow the Committee to make a full
assessment of ECC representation)

None

Details of the visit/event (incl. dates):

To represent Essex at the memorial to the Essex Regiment / Essex Yeomanry at the memorial at Monchy-Le-Preux, France.

See attached summary of the background the memorial and the order of service / wreath laying on behalf of ECC.

Date Saturday 21st May 2016

Estimated cost of the visit:

£0

Purpose of the visit and anticipated value to the County Council:

The ceremony will be conducted by the Mayor of Monchy-Le-Preux and will be accompanied by the Préfet of the Pas de Calais and the Sénateur of the region. The memorial service will include among the guests, the Lord Lieutenant, Lord Petre and representatives of the Essex Regiment, the Essex Yeomanry and the Royal Anglian Regiment who will all participate in the laying of wreaths.

The presence of the Chairman will represent the people of Essex

It is understood that Essex media are invited to record the event.

Comments of the Chief Executive

Comments of the Section 151 Officer



11.00am Wreath laying at town's memorial

Welcome

M Zéchel

Mayor of Monchy-le-Preux

Madame F Buccio

Prefect of Pas-de-Calais

Response

Dr AE Bailey

Grandson of a survivor of the battle

Unveiling of Essex Memorial

Baron Petre, Lord Lieutenant of Essex

Laying of wreaths

Baron Petre, Lord Lieutenant of Essex

Prefect?

Colonel C Thomas, TD, DL, Essex Regiment

Colonel SP Foakes, TD, DL, Essex Yeomanry

Major RC Gould (Ret'd), Late Pompadours, Royal Anglian Regiment

Chair, Essex County Council (TBC?)

Others

Last Post: Andy Smerdon

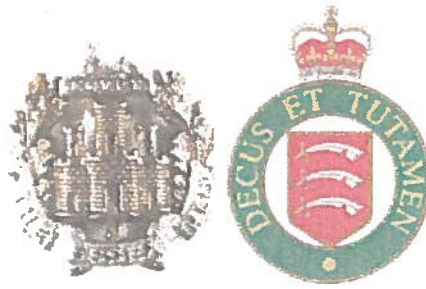
One minute silence

Reveille: Ian Hook

Sonnerie aux morts?

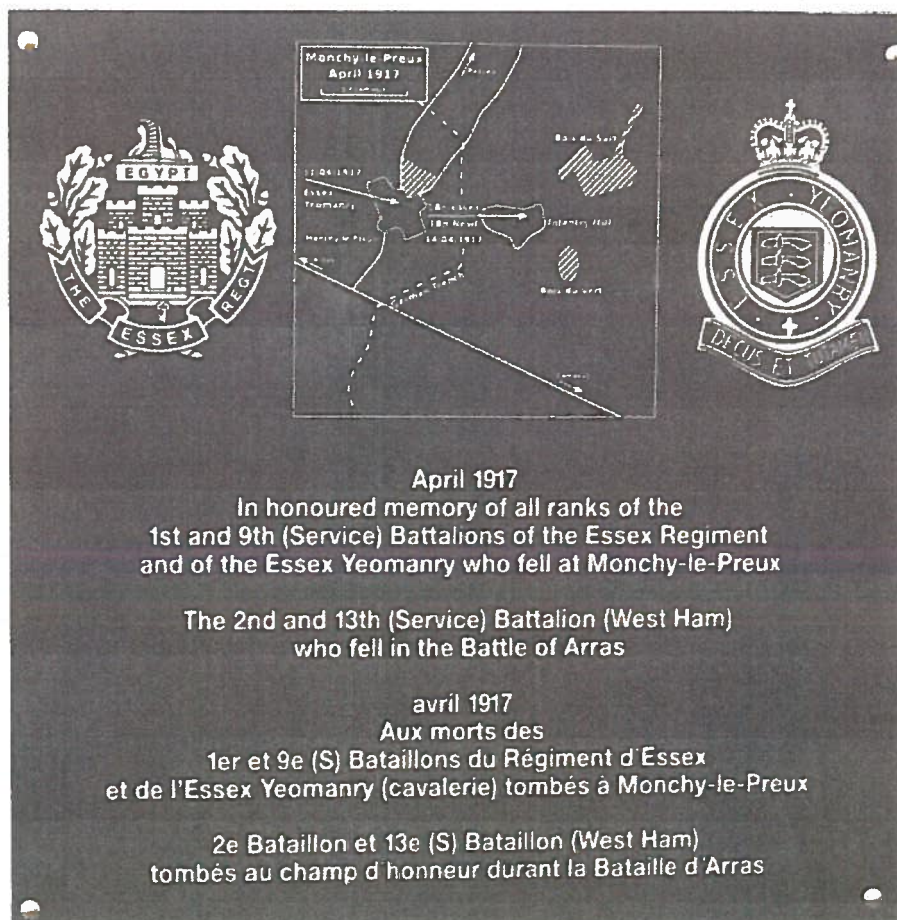
Ode of Remembrance (English and French)

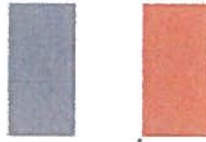
Official party thanks the Flag bearers



**L'inauguration d'une stèle [pièrre?] [commémorative] dédiée
aux Régiment d'Essex
et de l'Essex Yeomanry
le 21 mai 2016, 11h
à Monchy-le-Preux 62118 (62582?)**

**The inauguration of a commemorative stone dedicated
to the Essex Regiment
and the Essex Yeomanry
21 May 2016, 11.00am
at Monchy-le-Preux 62118 (62582?)**





11h Dépôt de gerbes au monument aux morts

Bienvenue

M Zéchel

Maire de Monchy le Preux

Préfet?

Dr A E Bailey

Petit-fils d'un survivant de la bataille

Dévoilement du monument commémoratif d'Essex

Baron Petre, Lord Lieutenant d'Essex

Dépôt de gerbes:

Baron Petre, Lord Lieutenant d'Essex

Prefét (ici?)

Colonel C Thomas, TD, DL, Régiment d'Essex

Colonel SP Foakes, TD, DL, Yeomanry d'Essex

Major RC Gould (Ret'd), Fin Pompadours, Royal Anglian Regiment

Président, Conseil d'Essex (TBC?)

Les Autres

Dernier message: Andy Smerdon

Une minute de silence

Réveil: Ian Hook

Sonnerie Aux Morts ?

Ode de souvenir (en Anglais et Francais)

La délégation officielle salue les porteurs de drapeaux

The Monchy Memorial Appeal is grateful to the following for their generous donations towards this memorial:

**Ted Bailey
John Batchelor
Ron Batty
Alain Chissel
Wendy Cummin
Andrew Duff
Tony Elder
Essex Regiment
Essex Yeomanry Association
Graham Ferris
Martin Gebel
James Godlonton
Dick Gould
John Greenleaf
Richard Greenleaf
Ken Hay
John Honney
Keith Hopson
Ron Howe
Dennis Jackson
Dave Mason
Tony Maxwell
Mike Randall
Pete Randall
Clive Ridley
Fred Roskilly
Royal Anglian Regiment
Barrie Sears
Dave Staines
10th Essex Regiment Living History Group
Bob Villa
Ann Warren
Pete Woffindin (Canada)**

Also many thanks for invaluable contributions to:

**Michel Zéchel, Mayor, Monchy-le-Preux
Ian Hook, Keeper, Essex Regiment Museum
Colonel Stephen Foakes, Regimental President, Essex Yeomanry
Simon Godly, British-French Intermediary and Translator
John Reeve, Reeve Memorials, Stonemason
Richard Triolo, Systematic Logistics International, Transport**

ESSEX REGIMENT AND YEOMANRY MEMORIAL AT MONCHY-LE-PREUX

On 14 April 1917, 1st Battalion Essex Regiment, with the Newfoundlanders, attacked Infantry Hill east of Monchy-le-Preux recently taken back from the enemy. Initial success was met with a simultaneous counter-attack by the 3rd Bavarians, considered to be one of their crack units, practically wiping out the Essex who lost 17 officers and 644 men. Both allied units suffered so many casualties, most from the Essex, that a temporary battalion had to be formed, named the '1st Newfounddessex', comprising only 400 men.

There were further engagements in and around Monchy and also in May 1917 with 12 others Killed-in-Action (K-I-A) and 45 Wounded (W) as a result of heavy enemy shelling on the town.

Other Essex Battalions were also in the vicinity during this larger Arras engagement. The 2nd Battalion were in action on 9 April losing 78 men while the 9th lost 163 men. Also engaged were the Essex Yeomanry, as part of a mounted division, who bravely attacked Monchy in a snowstorm, galloping into the village but met heavy fire and lost 135 men, 29 K-I-A, and most of their horses. Machine Gunner Lance-Corporal Harold Mugford doggedly defended the position under severe enemy pressure although severely wounded in both legs, subsequently amputated. He was awarded the Victoria Cross and survived the war with distinction.

Following the successful dedication of a specific Essex Regiment Memorial at Beaumont-Hamel, Somme, on 24 May 2014, I felt there should be an equivalent at Monchy. This is particularly relevant in this centenary period as many unknown Essex soldiers are buried without a proper memorial on Infantry Hill because it was fought over back and forth throughout 1917.

There is a large Newfoundland Caribou standing on the remains of a German strongpoint overlooking the village centre but nothing parallel in memory of the Essex Regiment or Yeomanry. An appeal was launched in October 2014 and within the year enthusiastic donations totalled over £1,800. The local Mayor was equally enthusiastic and the granite memorial stone, with map and French translation, arrived in France on 11 December.

I am pleased to say that we are now in a position to inaugurate and commemorate the memorial in memory of the brave Essex Battalions and the Essex Yeomanry who gave their all in the Battle of Monchy-le-Preux, well in time for the 100th anniversary. The date of the ceremony is Saturday 21 May 2016 at 11.00 hours.

Ted Bailey, Grandson of a survivor: info@tedbailey.co.uk

January 2016

Monchy Memorial: Tasks

TASK	DECISION	OUTCOME
FRANCE		
Date of Commemoration	Saturday 21 May at 11.00	Confirmed
Correct address: Mayor Madame le Préfet? Madame le Sénateur?	}Awaiting reply to email 29/2 }	Monsieur le Maire
Any other worthies?	Awaiting reply to email 29/2	
Will there be a reception?	Likely	
French priest to dedicate?	Not unless they supply	
Draft Programme:	Planning Mtg 9/2 at ERM	Ongoing
BRITAIN		
Guest of Honour	Baron Petre, Lord Lieut of Essex	Yes
Col Stephen Foakes	Accompanying & Essex Yeomanry	Yes & Liaising
Col Charles Thomas	Essex Regiment	Yes
Bob Villa, Ex-Mayor?	Circulated	?
Chelmsford Mayor Elect (May)	Website contact 2 Feb	Not attending
Essex CC Chair Cllr John Aldridge	Phone call 9 March	Yes
10 th Essex Regiment Living History Group	Will march round/assemble in square, present arms, salute, lay wreath etc	Yes
ADVERTISING		
BBC Essex Radio	Emailed Dave Monk	?
Southend Radio	Contacted website 4 Feb	?
Garrison Radio	Contacted website 4 Feb	?
Phoenix Radio, Brentwood		?
BBC	Letter Robert Hall, BBC, 3 Feb	?
Newsquest	Circulation email	?
Essex Chronicle	Circulation email	?
Essex Standard		?
CEREMONY		
Le Maire	Brief welcome	Yes
Madame le Préfet?	Speech?	Yes but brief!
Dr Ted Bailey	Response & brief explanation	Yes
Unveiling of flags	Lord Lieutenant (Colonel Foakes?)	Yes
Where to put Sonnerie Au Morts?	Awaiting information	
Order of wreaths:	Lord Petre - Essex Madame Prefect-Pas de Calais Colonel Thomas-Essex Regiment Colonel Foakes-Essex Yeomanry Major Gould (Ret'd) -R Anglian Chair Essex CC Others in trios: TBD?	1 2 3 4 5 6
Last Post	Andy Smerdon in EY uniform	Yes
Reveille	Ian Hook (1914 Bugle)	Yes
Regimental Collects?		No
Thank all present inc. Flag bearers		Yes

