

Dear Sir /Madam

I write to introduce the militias of Anglia

I know the town of Wem very well as my mother has lived there for several decades, she still resides in the town having been Councillor and Mayor and I visited as early as one week ago,

I note with interest that the last time the ECWS held an event in Wem was 1988. My group, The Militias of Anglia are in a position to be able to revisit and hold a living history encampment and display in the town. I would like to talk to the Town Council and probably County organisers with regards to this.

I also know and am on familiar terms with the ex Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire Sir Algernon Heber Percy and would be interested in talking to him about having an event held in his estate grounds. It might be possible that we are able to link up the two events if not over the same period, then certainly within the same month as we have a large contingent that live within the West Midlands area and Cheshire. If this is something that you would like to explore further, have an event or anniversary that we could be a part of, then I ask that you reply to me at this address or contact me at your leisure. In the meantime I look forward to your reply and remain yours, sincerely.

#### Clerks Note

As Bowensfield and Recreation Ground fall under the responsibility of WSSA this this letter was also considered by trustees of WSSA who have invited the correspondent to attend the November meeting.

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Further information received following email discussions

Thank you for your kind reply and your intended help in bringing this to the attention of several bodies, that's always appreciated and half the battle.

My first thought would be to hold the event in the sports central as there would be crowd protection by way of the barriers. Facilities the re- enactors could use and the bar which the re-enactors could enjoy.

This would offer the re-enactors and all the equipment safety and security. Another benefit would be controllable numbers wise for gated tickets that could be sold in advance.

In addition to the above any field attached to a pub perhaps would be needed for the plastic tented population again offering security and use of facilities. The recreation ground is too open and not possible to be secured after the public have left. (Safety and security of property is paramount given the nature of what we do).

With regards to cost. We work on an average of £30 per re-enactor this puts a comfortable rounded figure on the clients expectations.

Eg. >10 re-enactors 300, >20= 600, >30=900.

(Any amount of bodies above 49 becomes an additional insurance cost) Then the cost of black powder and the use of a licensed registered powder master . Minimum of 300.

If cannon are required then that is at 150 per gun and powder naturally increases ( no extra charges are made for musketeers )

There is an additional charge for day 2 of 300 and no more as we are already in situ .

We ask whatever the venue for a sound system/ PA, portaloos or access to facilities, firewood for cooking and social raised fires for the evenings, in return we offer an interesting display of artisans showcasing their skills, an exciting display of soldiers demonstrating their arms including musket fire .

A fully staffed encampment by re-enactors in Period correct dress for the entire day. Each day.

A quiz for children as they visit each stall able to experience hands on education.

A parade through the local environment and a tailored event to suit any clients needs

Should a skirmish be required this will depend on sufficient numbers.

A chance to fire a cannon as a prize draw.

Cavalry can be provided at additional cost for the larger events

We can approach this 3 ways . We can hang a price on the event and sell it to the client. The client then takes the gate.

We can work with the client on a 50 - 50 basis and share the profits , or we can be self funding take the gate and offer the client a %

We have a shop that comes with a booking that sells wooden swords and Shields. Flags for crowd support and various historical toys. This is used to fund our charity

Beyond that the client is free to insert any concessions around the event.

All insurance, and documentation. Is available and sent to clients for approval in advance of events.

I hope i have given you what you asked for, If you have any further questions, queries or concerns please feel free to contact me

We have staged a slightly smaller event at Wisbech Castle this year. 30 + no battle Within their grounds and on their lawns. Leaving no rubbish, no scorched grass or damage to the flower beds.

We have been part of the Thriplow Daffodil Festival in Cambridgeshire for many years and work with heritage societies, Museums and other centres of learning as well as public displays. Our membership( now 328. Is made up from the English Civil War Society, The Sealed Knot Re-enactment Society, and the Worcester Re-enactors Society all seasoned re- enactors.

As such, we take as much care of our surroundings as we do our portrayals, mindful of the Historic Buildings we get to enjoy and 'play' in. All raised fires are minimised to essential cooking and maintained for evenings enjoyment. We fastidiously ensure that sand is laid under the pit and logs are placed upon that. With no fires being left unattended and extinguished before bed.

The kitchen fire sits some 3ft above ground and is suspended in a framework.

(Other methods have included peeling back the turf and watering the fire site before replacing. Though not usually recommended for sports pitches )

We have performed at multi period events such as Stonham Barns Suffolk and you can read some testimonials on our website [www.militiasofanglia.co.uk](http://www.militiasofanglia.co.uk)