



Police Remembrance Trust

Patron: His Majesty The King

Newsletter - April 2025

Booking system is now open for #NPMD25

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#NPMD25

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We are delighted to announce that the booking system is now open to register for National Police Memorial Day 2025, and which will take place on Sunday 28th September in Coventry Cathedral. Please note that the service of remembrance is open to anyone who would like to attend. Therefore, do feel free to share the link with family, friends and colleagues.

We are encouraging people to book as early as possible as due to the location this year, it is within a reasonable driving distance for many. We have already been informed that some of our friends at the National Association for Retired Police Officers (NARPO) are organising a coach or two.

There will be overflow venues in the vicinity that can accommodate members of the congregation when the Cathedral reaches capacity. The service will be streamed on large screens in the overflow venues. To manage this, we urge you to register to attend asap.

[You can register via this link.](#)

Last years' service and what it meant National Police Chaplain, Matthew Hopley

Last years' service in Glasgow was the first one as National Police Chaplain for the Reverend Matthew Hopley. We asked him to share what it meant to him to be there to lead the service.

National Police Memorial Day service is one of the few occasions where all of UK policing stands side by side in honour of those who have given their all to protect and serve in our Nations. Last September's service provoked many thoughts and emotions for me as I led the service. I experienced an enormous sense of pride witnessing the dignity and honour shown by all present from various ranks of policing to the invited dignitaries. At the heart of the service is the loved ones of each officer who has died, and they will always be at the centre of the memorial service as it is they who have lost the most. Directly after last years' service, I was privileged to spend time with the families of officers who have recently died. They shared their appreciation for the way in which UK policing wrap around one another as a family, and I couldn't agree more and as we head towards this years' service. So, this year as we gather as a family of forces, may I encourage each Chief Constable to also consider how you will locally mark NPMD during the following week. I look forward to welcoming each of you as we come together in honour and remembrance at Coventry Cathedral.



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Sunday 28 September in Coventry - make a day of it!

We have plenty planned for the full day on Sunday, with lots to see before and after the service.

The space outside the Cathedral is pedestrianised and adjacent to the University within which we are hosting the post service reception.

Have a bite to eat

There is a selection of eateries on the University grounds for you to have a late breakfast or early lunch before the service.

Historic police vehicle display

There will be historic police vehicles on display outside the Cathedral, along with other historic police memorabilia throughout the years.

Force standards will be on display whilst you take it all in whilst listening to music from the West Midlands Police Band.

Planning your attendance at NPMD

Car parking

There is plenty of car parking space in the grounds of the University's multi-story car park.

For coach parties

There is plenty capacity for coaches to park in designated ground less than half a mile from the Cathedral. Coaches can drop off immediately outside the Cathedral.

Luggage storage

There will be cloakroom facilities within the University where you will also be able to leave any luggage you may have with you.



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Coventry Cathedral

The city and cathedral share a history of conflict just as, today, they share a determination to build justice and peace, by healing wounds and learning to live with difference.

Founded with a Saxon nunnery circa AD 700, Coventry has endured conflict with King Canute (whose army destroyed the nunnery), Henry II (whose army largely destroyed Coventry Castle), Henry VIII (whose Reformation saw the destruction of the first cathedral), Charles I (Coventry was a parliamentary stronghold) and, in 1940, with Hitler's Luftwaffe.

Coventry has had three cathedral's spanning nearly 1,000 years - when you visit you are able to walk through the bombed cathedral as well as the new cathedral. They stand side by side in unity as a reflection of the reality of destruction but also of rebuilding.

The ruins and the new cathedral, with its chapels and use of perspective and light, make possible numerous journeys of transformation from darkness to light, assisted by the insights offered by the many permanent artworks. Its story and purpose are embodied in the buildings you will find there.

[You can read more on Coventry Cathedral's website, and book a guided tour.](#)

Visitor information

Coventry's Visitor Information team can provide the very best in local knowledge, history and recommendations on how to make the most of your stay in Coventry, including advice on accommodation.

[You can read more on the Visitor Information website.](#)



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In memory of Carol Gunn

It is with great sadness that we learned of the passing of Carol Gunn. We at the Police Remembrance Trust mourn Carol's untimely death and join our sadness and sympathies with her family and friends as we extend our love to Denis especially in these difficult days.

Denis and Carol Gunn have both been involved in the Police Remembrance Trust for a number of years, Denis as a Trustee and Carol as a committed and involved supporter both of Denis in his role and to the Trust more generally.

Carol will be remembered as a quiet positive influence for good towards all she encountered. Her unassuming, accepting, non judgmental, thoughtful manner brought encouragement to all she met.



The Nole Remagen Award

For the fifth year running, the PRT was proud to present the Nole Remagen Award to the top performing student on the National Protection Officer course. David Wilbraham, chair of the Trust, presented the award on Friday 14 March at Tulliallen Castle.

The award is in memory of Special Agent Nole Remagen, who died during a presidential visit to Scotland. The US Secret Service attend and the Remagen family are always keen to know who the recipient is - this year it was an officer from Police Scotland.



A stark reminder of the reality of policing

Police officers face significant risks every day, often dealing with violence, trauma, and life-threatening situations with little public recognition of their struggles.

If you haven't seen it already, the Scottish Police Federation has produced an impactful film, entitled 'Relentless' to show that the physical and emotional toll of policing is far greater than many realise. It aims to shift public perception and raise awareness of the sacrifices officers make to keep communities safe.

[You can watch it here - please support by sharing far and wide.](#)



To donate to the charity, please scan the QR code -
we are grateful for any support you are able to give.



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