**REPORT FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ON 3 APRIL 2023**

2022 proved to be yet another exceptionally busy year for the Museum which is a voluntary funded Charitable Trust.

**VISITORS**

* The Museum is normally open to the public every weekend between Easter and Remembrance Sunday. We also opened for the WDC Heritage Open Days in September 2022.
* We marked the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of El Alamein with a Guest Speaker and an Exhibition in the Ballroom on 29 October 2022 which was well attended.
* 2,832 people signed our Visitors Book in 2022 (121 days) compared with 1,420 (108 days) in 2021, there being no overseas visitors in 2021 thanks to the pandemic.
* We continue to offer private viewings and group bookings throughout the year; attracting interest from those undertaking family history research.
* We responded to 120 research enquiries in 2022 compared with 200 in the previous year.
* We are currently the 12th top attraction out of ‘80 Best Things to Do in Trip Advisor Warwick’*.*
* In 2022 we had 1,776 visitors to our museum website from across the globe. We are continuing to modernise the website to provide far more interaction especially the History Pages.
* Our Museum Facebook Group (with 321 members) continues to attract considerable interest by way of digital story telling with supporting images.

**NEW ADDITIONS INCLUDE**

* Queen’s South Africa medal with 4 clasps named 306 Pte. E. READING 5th COY. IMP. YEO, with correspondence from Royal Household dated 3 Feb 1903 enclosing a cheque to pay for an artificial leg with a silver plate inscribed presented by Her Majesty Queen ALEXANDRA to Trooper READING.
* Warwickshire Yeomanry Levee Dress Uniform and hat box belonging to Major, The Hon. D.F. LEIGH (1880-1908) later worn by The Earl Bective; a WW2 WKY Officer and then by Major Stanley Birch TD when he commanded The Warwickshire Yeomanry Ceremonial Mounted Troop in the 1960’s.

**THE NEW SEASON**

* We look forward to working with the other two Regimental Museums in Warwick from April 2023 onwards.
* The Museum reopens for the 2023 season on the 7 April.

**THANK YOU**

* The Museum Trustees place on record their grateful thanks to the Warwick Town Council for all the assistance received during the year**.**