



The World War Two Living History Association



Thank you for your interest in the World War Two Living History Association (LHA). This document is intended to give an introduction to us and what we can offer you, and your event. If you've not already done so, please have a look at our website – www.ww2lha.co.uk

The LHA is Europe's oldest and foremost living history group covering the 1939 to 1945 period of history. We have a proven track record of over 33 years in organising, co-ordinating and staging living history presentations for a wide number of different clients including, most recently:

- English Heritage
- National Trust
- Her Majesty's Royal Armouries
- EventPlan Limited
- The Tank Museum, Bovington
- The Liverpool Military Show
- Shrivenham Defence Academy

We are widely recognised by event organisers in the UK as being the market leaders in offering accurate and high quality living history presentations to the public as well as co-ordinating spectacular arena based battle displays involving the use of vehicles, pyrotechnics and firearms.

The LHA is effectively a 'one stop shop' – we will arrange and co-ordinate all aspects of the historical element of your event. You will only deal with one person who will be fully aware of your requirements. We can attend your site and advise on the best location for the LHA to operate from.

Health and safety is of paramount importance and all our activities are fully monitored and risk assessed. Our members undergo thorough training to ensure they are aware of the inherent risks to others and themselves.

We are a 'not for profit' organisation and we annually support many different charities. Over the years we have donated and helped to raise many tens of thousands of pounds for organisations such as:

- British Limbless Ex-Service Man's Association
- Cancer Research
- Normandy Veteran's Association
- Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen and Families Association Forces Help
- South Staffordshire Regimental Museum
- Royal British Legion

We are fully covered by third party public liability insurance for £5 million.

flexible options for your event needs

We offer representations from the United States, Great Britain, France and Germany. The representations are of regular line infantry, airborne troops and rear line services, such as medical and communications. The French representation is new to our services, and is an accurate interpretation of the Resistance in the Pas de Calais area prior to D-Day.

We feel it is important to stress that the German representations are strictly of the Wehrmacht and no political or SS groups are used – this particular element is approached in a very sensitive and non-political way. Members will openly accept (if the topic arises) that the Wehrmacht were not squeaky clean and inflicted suffering on innocent civilians.

When displaying, we are a flexible organisation and able to adapt easily to the venue – be it an open field, woodland or inside buildings.

Our main aims are education and entertainment; we do not claim that our displays are 100% accurate – we are providing a snapshot of how things may have been based on documents, photographs and interviews with veterans. Rather than seeing a number of items displayed in cases, as one may do in a museum, visitors can see the items in an authentic setting; and in some cases still working.

We are one of the few groups who openly invite members of the public into our tents so they can look closely at the equipment and allow them to try and use a field telephone or look through original instructional books.

For our members, it allows them to pass on their enthusiasm, interest and knowledge to other interested people, as well as giving them an insight of what life may have been like for the soldier. It also allows them to meet like minded people, with whom they can exchange and discuss ideas. For some, they enjoy the research, others enjoy physically restoring or manufacturing items for our display – but we all enjoy sharing our common interest with others

Each display we offer is individually tailored to meet your requirements. We will make best use of the site with regards the location of the living history interpretation area and the arena thus ensuring that the visitors to your event see the displays in an authentic setting, rather than backing onto a car park! The set out of the arena is important, primarily for safety reasons, but also for aesthetic ones – we aim to incorporate as many natural features as possible and make full use of them in the scenario. If the site has a specific historical context, we can work this into the overall event scenario.

If you need to have your event organised from scratch we can recommend a number of independent organisers we have worked with over the years, who can help with all aspects of event management.



We can work with any budget, though some resources such as vehicles, automatic firearms and pyrotechnics do have a higher cost. Please contact us and we will arrange a bespoke quote for you.

During the day, the living history is open for your visitors to walk around and enjoy. Our members are knowledgeable on their subjects and are happy to engage and interact with the public, explaining how items were used or worn and in most cases allow them to handle them (the exceptions are items which are high value or fragile, bladed/sharply pointed and all firearms/ordnance). We can organise short presentations on uniforms, equipment, vehicles and armaments.

arena displays for your event needs

We have the resources and logistics to organise anything from small skirmishes to large scale battles. These bring an action packed and dramatic highlight to any event timetable. Typically they last between 15 and 20 minutes and can include a number of different elements, depending on budget.

In addition, we can also offer smaller arena displays such as firepower demonstrations, where the public can see original weapons being fired with an explanation about the development and use of it. This can last around 45 minutes and builds up from bolt action rifles to belt fed light machines guns and can also include a simulation of mortars and anti tank weapons, if space permits.

Our pyrotechnics team have many years of experience in the safe use of explosives and the creation of special effects. We normally use off the shelf charges but we also have the necessary licences and expertise to manufacture bespoke charges to suit your event site.

We always ensure that all legalities regarding the handling, storage and use of firearms are met. For semi and fully automatic firearms, we have a Home Office approved armourer we have worked closely with for over 20 years. If this is a service you wish to use, there are certain logistical and legal requirements – we can advise on these from the outset.





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