

**News release**

13th May 2014

**Military Expert to Discuss Origins of First World War**

One of Britain’s foremost military historians and defence experts Brigadier Allan Mallinson will be entertaining guests at Andrew & Co Solicitors’ first annual lunch on Thursday (15th May).

The invite-only event at Hemswell Court in Hemswell Cliff has been organised to mark the centenary year of the First World War which started on 4th August 1914.

“I’m delighted to be speaking at this year’s Andrew & Co lunch,” said Allan. “During my talk I’ll be discussing the origins of WW1, asking what it is that we’re actually remembering, and looking at the reasons why the war went so disastrously wrong for the British army in the opening battles.”

A former infantry and cavalry officer, Allan spent 35 years in the British Army and left in 2004 to write full-time. He is the author of the popular Matthew Hervey series of historical novels, and of Light Dragoons – a history of four regiments of British cavalry (one of which he commanded).

He also contributes to the BBC’s Today programme and regularly writes reviews for The Times, The Spectator and The Literary Review.

In 2009 his book ‘The Making of the British Army’ was named by Jeremy Paxman as one of his books of the year and his latest book ‘1914: Fight the Good Fight’ was chosen by Simon Heffer (Daily Mail) as one of his books of the year.

Andrew & Co’s Chief Executive Simon Smith said it’s an honour to have a guest speaker of Allan’s calibre.

“I’ve heard Allan talk at a number of events in the past and he’s a charismatic and extremely knowledgeable speaker who manages to bring history to life,” said Simon.

“As an accomplished author Allan is a brilliant storyteller who captivates his audience by examining key events in British military history and combining this with his own experience of serving in the British Army and commanding the 13th/18th Royal Hussars.

“I thought it would be very apt to invite him to our lunch given that it’s the centenary year of WW1 and Lincolnshire’s strong military heritage and I look forward to welcoming our clients, staff and partners to what promises to be a very entertaining event.”

**Ends**

**Journalists and photographers are welcome to attend the lunch on Thursday 15th May at 12.30pm. To confirm your attendance or arrange an interview with Allan Mallinson please contact Kate Strawson on 01522 528540.**

**Notes to Editors**

* Andrew & Co LLP is one of the longest established independent law firms in the East Midlands, having been set up in 1832.
* It offers a comprehensive range of legal services to private individuals and businesses across a wide range of sectors including renewable energy, agriculture, personal injury, conveyancing, charity and non-for-profit, family and employment law.
* Andrew & Co has 60 staff based at its offices in on Nettleham Road in Lincoln and Kirkgate in Newark.

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