

## **Bob Cotter**

### **Secretary – The Armourers' Association**

I was born in Trowbridge, Wiltshire in 1951, the son of a soldier and spent all my childhood moving to such places as Germany, Ireland, Malaya and UK.

I joined the Army Apprentice College Carlisle in April 1967 for a two-year apprenticeship as an Armourer. I completed my Artificer course in 1979 and finally left the service in 1991 as a WO1 (ASM). I served with a wide range of units, infantry, Royal Engineers, Royal Artillery, Cavalry and of course Armoured, Command and District Workshops. These units took me to some varied places, such as Bahrain, Sharjah, Belize, Cyprus, Gibraltar, Kenya, Germany, Ireland and UK. I even spent a short stint in Lebanon after Arafat was kicked out of Beirut.

On leaving the Army, I worked with a number of companies and found my niche as an Integrated Logistic Support Engineer/Manager, working for the likes of Thales, Smiths Detection and General Dynamics UK.

In 2009, Chris decided to give up the post of Secretary and I volunteered to take it on as it looked like a good challenge, enabling me to do my bit for the Association. I'm still here, so things must be going OK.

In October of 2015 I decided enough was enough and took early retirement and now spend my time messing about with my camera, planning some exotic holidays and of course doing my secretary thing.