

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2012

At last year's AGM I stated that we had made a good start with the revived branch. In fact it was so good that at the county RBL conference in January we were awarded not one but two cups for our endeavours. I also said that we would have to work hard in the coming year to keep up to the standard we had set. After hearing of our activities from the President I do not think any other than that we have exceeded expectations. Camborne and the surrounding district can be under no delusion that the Camborne branch is very much alive and kicking. In fact on several occasions the county has remarked on our professionalism when staging events. High praise indeed. All our events have been well supported by the public and committee. There are several reasons for this - namely the enthusiasm and hard work of our secretary, Ian Thompson. In his endeavours he has had the full support of a committee working together. So well done everyone. Publicity is another reason that we are in the public eye and for this we must thank our president Vince Young. Hardly a week goes by without some mention or photographs in the local press. In the county news magazine instead of the usual one paragraph we have succeeded in filling two pages. (what would they do without us ???!!!)

Another land mark of the year was that we now have a home here in Blaythorne - the Holman's sports and social club. I am sure that both our organizations will benefit from this move. We are also affiliated with the Camborne Chamber of Commerce and maintain our links with the Air Training Corps, Army Cadets, Police Cadets, Camborne School and the Round Table. Following the Roscroghan ceremony we have established an excellent relationship with RAF Portreath. Your Officers attended Remembrance Ceremonies at Carn Brea, Illogan and Portreath and here I venture to say that without our guidance and support the Portreath event would not have taken place. We have again offered our support for next year. Another first for Camborne and the RBL was the broadcasting of our Remembrance Day parade by Radio Cornwall which I understand was well received. The Rev. Mike Firbank worked with the officers to produce a new order of service which again was well received. Mike has been a great supporter of the branch as well as our padre. I am now the RBL rep on the civilian committee of 147 sqdn ATC - further cementation of our links with the youth organizations.

We now have a full compliment of officers now that John Hayes and John Holmes have taken the the offices of Membership Sec. and Welfare Officer. I have left the mention of our Poppy Collection until last. Now doubt Pam Thompson will eventually reveal how much was raised in due course !! However, I do know that the Poppy Shop was again a great success due to the tireless efforts of Pam and Ian and all those who helped them. Thanks also to John Stoneman for the use of his property .

My grateful thanks to everyone involved and to all the members of the committee for their dedication and hard work throughout the year.

The future: Hopefully everyone will again rally around and work as a team. We must aim to increase our membership especially with younger members to enable the branch to continue. It should be incumbent on all of us to recruit and not just leave it to John. Now that we have a full compliment of officers should we increase our numbers on the general committee by two or three to take the pressure off Malcolm, Reg and Eddy (although he is our chief sales executive!!) ?? as we need to raise funds for our branch. Thanks to the two Johns for their car boot sales etc. In previous years the branch organized a Christmas Concert with the Camborne Town band with all the proceeds going to the band. I would like to think that his event could be revived . It would also show that we support other organizations in the town. In conclusion I would like to thank John Gumm for not only being vice chairman but also for the hard work he put into making our social event last week such an enjoyable and successful evening.

Ted Williams (Chairman)

To the future. Hopefully everyone will rally round as before and work as a team.