



The Royal British Legion

Dulverton and District Branch BR2485

Registered Charity No. 219279 President: Maj. H. V. Gilpin Chairman: Mr. P. Donnelly

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Branch News

"To bring together and inform Legion members, volunteers and supporters of our work and activities"

The Royal British Legion provides lifelong support for the Armed Forces Community – serving men and women, veterans and their families.

The Dulverton Branch plays its part by keeping in touch with local people who may need our help, with the important activity of raising funds during our Poppy Appeal and organising and participating in the Remembrance Services. My team and I are honoured to fulfil this task.

Peter Donnelly
Branch Chairman



Dulverton District Poppy Appeal Record Amount for 2016

We would like to acknowledge the outstanding support from the public, volunteers, businesses and local school children during this year's Poppy Appeal.

A magnificent sum of £5297 was raised and is the highest collected in recent years - £673 more than last year!

It will help the Legion to continue with its benevolent work supporting both present and past service men and women.



Thank you Dulverton and District for your help and generosity.



2016 Remembrance Services in Dulverton

On 11th November the Branch led a well supported Armistice Remembrance Service at the Dulverton War Memorial where crosses dedicated to the Somme and the Jutland conflicts 100 years ago were honoured along with wreaths for WWI, WWII, HMS Dulverton and recent conflicts. Two children from Dulverton School laid a special wreath of remembrance.

For the first time in a number of years, the Last Post heralding the 2 minutes silence was broadcast in Dulverton's Fore Street, which was observed by traders and shoppers alike.

On Sunday 13th November the church memorial service at All Saints was supported by a large congregation and further wreaths were laid.



The Church was decorated by locally made, hand-knitted woollen poppies courtesy of local ladies.



Branch Honours – local poppy volunteers

Dulverton and District Branch wanted to formally recognise and thank long service Poppy Appeal Volunteers for their dedication over the years.

Earlier in the summer, a lunch was organised which included invited members of West Somerset and Dulverton Town Councils, Senior British Legion personnel and local Veteran Harold Skipper.

Peter Donnelly praised the continued dedication of volunteers who continue to be generous with their time in the lead up to Remembrance.



From left to right Back Row: Peter Donnelly (Chairman), Jane Rees, Mandy Etheridge, Kip Gilpin (Branch President),
Front Row: Terry Wilson, Audrey Coldrick, Alan Wilson, Hazel Chilcott and Audrey Walker.



Dulverton Veteran's recent Légion d'Honneur Award



Local resident and Legion member Harold Skipper was thrilled to receive the Légion d'Honneur - France's top accolade. The French Government have given the award to surviving veterans in recognition of their role in the county's liberation over 70 years ago.



Harold was 19 when he went ashore at Normandy four days after D Day with the 10th Survey Regiment, Royal Artillery in support of the Guards Armoured Division.

"I remember all the details, all we saw when we landed. Its something you don't forget," he said.

Veteran Harold, who received the Europe Star campaign medals, lays wreaths each year at Dulverton on behalf of the RBL branch.

Courtesy of West Somerset Free Press

Branch coffee and cake morning

Each year the Branch holds a small social event, to raise the profile of the Legion and to meet our members, volunteers and supporters. Some 50 supporters popped in on the day - probably encouraged by the impressive Gulf War vehicle that was on display under the Town Hall steps – courtesy of Chris Church – or the delicious homemade cakes donated by Mortimer's Tea Rooms! A good day was had and we made over £200 for local funds!

A date for your 2017 diary

Saturday 30th September – do please come and join us for a chat and a cuppa!



Branch 2016 AGM

The 2016 AGM was held on 21st November when the election of President, Chairman, Officers and Committee Members took place.

The following officers were proposed and accepted: President - Kip Gilpin, Chairman - Peter Donnelly, Vice Chairman – John McDonald, Branch Secretary – Sue Cottrell, Treasurer - Robin Foster-Brown, Poppy Appeal Organiser – Eric Hunt. Committee Members - Peter Maggs, Jan Ross, Frank Pimm and Chris Nelder.



LIVE ON

TO THE MEMORY OF THE FALLEN
AND THE FUTURE OF THE LIVING



There is a new generation of veterans that need our support.

Along with British Legion branches throughout the country we are seeking ex-servicemen and women and their families who may need help. It could be to help overcome loneliness or isolation, or help with hospital visits, friend sitting or finding out information.

If you or know someone in our area that would benefit, please do get in touch. If we can't help locally, we can call on the resources of our Headquarters.

Do please feel free to contact me in the first instance for a confidential, informal chat or contact the Legion direct on 08088028080.

Sue Cottrell
Dulverton Branch Sec
Tel 07969243887

