

“THE JENDIT”

All the clips!

THE CREWKERNE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



WINTER 2017 NEWSLETTER

Dear Members,

Welcome to the second edition of our quarterly newsletter “The Jendit” and may we take this opportunity to wish you all a belated, Happy New Year. We must also graciously send our most sincere congratulations to our Patron, Her Majesty the Queen on her Sapphire Jubilee. May she Reign for many years to come.

Well throughout the last couple of months, the branch and committee have been quite busy. Firstly in December, a small group of us helped in the town with the Christmas lighting up and a special mention must go to our Secretary Alice, who once again filled the roll as Santa’s little helper.

Straight after the New Year, it was time for the Annual County Conference, this was held at Writhlington School in Radstock. Crewkerne sent four members to the conference and it proved to be a good chance to catch up with old friends from other branches from around the County. It was also very informative with special guest speaker, Terry Whittle, the National Chairman of the Royal British Legion. Terry stated that, the two main things that must be maintained by us all will be;



Branch Committee Members proudly receive the Barnes Cup for the second year running.

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Support- He strongly approves of thinking of the beneficiaries first and how they should be supported.

Remembrance- this must be maintained to remember the fallen and to continue to commemorate, he also stated that education is the way forward and it is essential we have links with schools and youth groups.

Also announced at the conference, were the final figures for 2015/16 Poppy Appeal and they are as follows; the overall national figure was £45,603,731.43 of which Somerset and Bristol raised £1,407,631.70 of which the Crewkerne Poppy Appeal raised £9120.12.

As usual at the conference just before closing, the annual awards were presented and as many of you will be aware, Crewkerne Branch were awarded the Barnes Cup for 'efficiency' for the second year running, so it just goes to show we must be doing something right here in Crewkerne.

Each year after our Branch AGM and annual audit, the committee sit down and decide where branch funds should be spent and this year it was decided that the branch would make three donations to worthy causes supported by the RBL. It was decided that in addition to a number of donations made over the last year or so to the Poppy Appeal, we would also donate £250 to Somerset Legion House in Weston- Super-Mare, £250 to the Admiral Nursing Service and £500 to the Dunkirk Memorial House Minibus Appeal.

January was also a good opportunity for us to go around and thank the various organisations that supported us with the Remembrance Parades in November, so several members of the committee took it in turns to visit the Scouts, Cubs, Brownies and Beavers to present the attendees with a small "Poppy Patch" to stitch on their uniforms. Well done to all who took part and hopefully even more will attend next year.



The Vice-Chairman and Secretary visit Crewkerne Brownies and the Secretary and Chairman visit Crewkerne Scouts to present them with their Poppy Patches.



Looking to the future, Den Holland our Vice Chairman, is taking bookings for our annual out of season Christmas Charity Lunch. This is planned for Saturday the 8th April and the venue for this event will be determined by numbers, but if we decide to hold it at an out of town venue, then the community bus transport will be supplied at a minimal, additional charge. This event is something we have been doing for the last few years and it has proved very popular with members and has also been a good fund raising event, so if you would like to join us for the lunch you can book your place by contacting the Chairman (Sam) on 01460 279865. We usually have a raffle at this event so if you have anything you would like to donate to the raffle all donations will be gratefully received. The deadline date for putting your name forward for the meal will be March 5th, we apologise for the short notice but our diary seems to be filling up fast and we have very few dates left available already, but we look forward to hearing from you.

On the 18th June (Father's day), the branch will be attending the annual Armed Forces Veterans Day Parade in Weymouth. Again, this is an event that the branch has attended for a good many years now, and it is most certainly one of the highlights in our calendar. It is a great day of entertainment, marching bands, Vintage and Military Vehicles of all types, WW2 re-enactments and much more. There is no obligation for you to march with us on the day but, if you feel you would like to then get your Sunday best on and fall in with the Legion (Medals and Regimental Headgear optional). So if you would like to join us for a trip to the seaside, please contact the Chairman (Sam) on 01460 279865 and reserve your seats, the bus normally departs Crewkerne at about 0830 and arrives back in Crewkerne for about 1900, but hurry because places are limited and it is first come first served. Alternatively, you may wish to make your own way there and meet us on the prom adjacent to the old pier. Again, we look forward to hearing from you and joining us maybe for lunch.



Standard Bearers lead the Legion along Weymouth seafront at the annual Veterans Day Parade.



The Crewkerne branch committee members list:

- PresidentDavid Lawrence
- ChairmanAntony Samuel
- Vice ChairmanDennis Holland
- Secretary Alice Samuel
- TreasurerJo Lyons
- Deputy Treasurer...Terry Austin
- Committee.....Sue Phinn
- Committee.....Brian Forster
- Committee.....Peter Brown
- Committee.....Rita Brown
- Standard Bearer.....Andrew Watts
- Membership Sec....Alice Samuel
- Welfare Officer.....Dennis Holland
- Welfare Sec.....Alice Samuel
- Welfare Treasurer...Jo Lyons