



## Branch News

*“To bring together and inform Legion members, volunteers and supporters of our work and activities”*

### Getting to know ....

**Brigadier Peter Maggs CBE – Support Officer,  
Dulverton Branch - RBL**



Peter left school and entered the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst in 1970. He was commissioned into the Royal Corps of Transport and in the early years of his career he carried out a number of tours of duty in Northern Ireland and Germany as well as with the UN in Cyprus; he also ran a mountain training centre in Scotland for a year, and served with the Brigade of Gurkhas for three years in Brunei, Hong Kong and Nepal. In 1990, following a year teaching at the British Army Staff College, he was seconded to the Australian Army equivalent for two years before returning to Germany to command the 1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Division Transport Regiment.

In 1994, Peter was appointed to the MOD, first as Colonel of the Army's discipline policy and casework branch, and then after promotion to Brigadier in 1998, he held several Director level appointments, which involved visits to service headquarters worldwide, including to those deployed on operations in Bosnia and Kosovo. Finally, he assumed the joint roles of Service Director and Chief Executive of the British Forces Post Office in late 2002, which included responsibility for support to operations worldwide, particularly to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Peter retired from the Army in 2006 to become the Business Development Director of an executive recruitment firm in London, and two years later, he was appointed Chief Executive of a charity covering the West Midlands which provided transport support to adults and children who suffer with mobility problems.

Having retired for a second time, he moved to Brushford from Oxfordshire with his wife Caroline in July 2016.

We are very proud to welcome him to his new voluntary role of Support Officer here at Dulverton and District Branch. If you should have any issues please do get in touch with him direct on 01398 323523.



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## CALLING ALL EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL AND DEPENDANTS!



### First Monthly Coffee Morning for Service Veterans

On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August, Dulverton and District Branch held its first monthly coffee morning for Service Veterans in the Dulverton Library. There was a good turnout for the first occasion including two members of the County Committee in addition to the County Advice and Information Office, Julie Welch, who was able to carry out some private consultations.

Following the success of the first event, we plan to hold a coffee morning **on the first Tuesday of each month between 10.30am and 12.00 midday**. Julie Welch has agreed to be a regular attendee, so that Service Veterans can obtain advice and information concerning any personal issues with which the RBL might be able to assist.

Free coffee, tea, cakes and biscuits will be available at **the next coffee morning will be held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October at the Dulverton Library between 10.30am and 12.00 midday**. There will be a warm welcome for ex-service personnel of any age who want advice or support, or simply wish to have a chat with like-minded people!

Peter Maggs  
01398 323523

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## MORE COFFEE TO TALK POPPIES.....

Our annual Poppy Coffee Morning this year is on 30<sup>th</sup> September in the Town Hall from 9.30am – 1pm and you are all most welcome to attend.

As usual, Eric will be recruiting volunteer poppy collectors on the day but everyone is welcome!



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## Dates for 2017 Remembrance Services

**Armistice Day Service – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 10.45am**  
at Dulverton War Memorial

**Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10.40am**  
at All Saints Church, Dulverton; St Mary's Church, Brompton Regis; St Nicholas Church Brushford; and St John the Baptist, Skilgate.



## The Royal British Legion

Dulverton and District Branch BR2485  
Registered Charity No. 219279 President Maj. H V Gilpin Chairman Mr P Donnelly

# BRANCH AGM

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
at 7.00pm

in the Congregational Church Hall,  
Dulverton

**ALL WELCOME**

**Guest speaker:**  
**Robert McDonald – RBL County Chairman**

**Please call Sue on 07969243887 or Peter on 01398323523**  
**to arrange transport**

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### **Mrs Peggy Lavis**

*It is with sadness that we have to mention that Peggy Lavis passed away peacefully on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 after a short illness, aged 93 years. Peggy was one of the RBL dedicated volunteers, collecting for the Poppy appeal for some 20 years in Brompton Regis and district. In 2016 she was honoured locally by the branch with a long service award.*

*The collection at her funeral was donated to Dulverton Branch RBL. Thank you.*

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### **Interesting.....**

#### **12 million letters were delivered to the front every week during WWI**

Astonishingly, it only took two days for a letter from Britain to reach the front in France. The journey began at a purpose-built sorting depot in Regent's Park before being shipped to the trenches. By the end of the war, two billion letters and 114 million parcels had had been delivered.

Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/0/26936615>



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***WANTED... 2018 is the Centenary for the end of WWI. We are currently planning how best we can acknowledge this event. Your ideas, suggestions and help are required - please do get in touch!***

***Oops!*** Apologies to Sandy Takel at Hanover for the mistake in her name in our last Issue.

***Quick update!*** Since its purchase last February, the inflatable cushion at Hanover (the branch contributed to the fund) has been used a further 11 times!



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### **JOIN US.....**

Please contact any member of the branch for an application form if you want to join us. It costs only £18 per year to join (with £1 being retained and spent here in Dulverton, the remaining amount goes to Head Office.)

**Remember** – you don't have to of served in the forces to be a member and all are welcome to attend the meetings!