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YOUR BRANCH COMMITTEE

<i>Chairman</i>	Victoria Whiteman
<i>Vice-Chairman</i>	Tabatha Squires
<i>President</i>	Clive Sanders
<i>Secretary</i>	Cath Morrison
<i>Treasurer</i>	Philip White
<i>Recruiting Adviser</i>	Darren Squires
<i>Events Organiser</i>	Darren Squires
<i>Standard Bearer</i>	Craig Paul
<i>Welfare</i>	Ruth Paul
<i>Remembrance Parade Marshall</i>	Warren Whiteman
<i>Committee Members</i>	Terry Hackling Brian Kirkby Jim Noble
<i>Poppy Appeal Organiser</i>	Maryanne Adams

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

14th	Chard Carnival (Promoting the Branch)
19th	John Gudge Live (with money going to The Poppy Appeal) 2030 The Choughs
28th	Poppy Appeal 2017 Launch 1100 Chard Guildhall

NOVEMBER

11th	Armistice Day 2 minute silence outside Chard Guildhall
12th	Remembrance Parade Leaves Chard Guildhall 1040 to go to St. Marys Church
12th	Remembrance Day Meal 1300 The Conservative Club, Chard
19th	RBL Quiz night 1900 The Conservative Club, Chard

DECEMBER

10th	Branch Christmas Dinner 1300 The Conservative Club, Chard
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JANUARY

6th	Somerset County Conference 2018
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Please keep an eye on your emails and on the Facebook page for updates to events.

PUZZLE PAGE



Autumn Word Search



Y M V R A L N S E Z A Y N H Q
P J I C E O E N U I L V C A Y
X S O G S B I A P O S M H Y E
B R I A R H O O V C K A C R L
N O E R S A C T A E R L B I L
N S N N C U T R C V S L E D O
E W U F N L E I E O E A A E W
K S O R I C E S O P R B U E E
A Q O R R R T R I N A T T E G
R C B O B F E R R X U O I G N
R E W O L F N U S I T O F A A
N O V E M B E R X Y U F U I R
S E P T E M B E R S M Q L L O
N I K P M U P E H I N D S O N
E L P P A S C E N I C O R F Z

ACORN	APPLE	AUTUMN
BEAUTIFUL	BONFIRE	BROWN
CORNUCOPIA	CRISP	FOLIAGE
FOOTBALL	HARVEST	HAYRIDE
LEAVES	MIGRATION	NOVEMBER
OCTOBER	ORANGE	PUMPKIN
RAKE	RIPE	SCARECROW
SCENIC	SEASON	SEPTEMBER
SQUIRREL	SUNFLOWER	SUNSHINE
YELLOW		

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders' fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders' fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high,
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders' Fields.



HISTORY OF THE POPPY

During the First World War (1914—1918) much of the fighting took place in Western Europe. Previously beautiful countryside was basted, bombed and fought over, again and again. The landscape swiftly turned to fields of mud: bleak and barren scenes where little or nothing could grow.

Bright red Flanders poppies (Papaver rhoeas) however, were delicate but resilient flowers and grew in there thousands, flourishing even in the middle of chaos and destruction. In early May 1915, shortly after losing a friend in Ypres, a Canadian doctor, Lt Col John McCrae was inspired by the sight of poppies to write a now famous poem called 'In Flanders Fields'.

McCrae's poem inspired an American academic, Moina Michael, to make and sell red silk poppies which were brought to England by a French woman, Anna Guerin. The (Royal) British Legion, formed in 1921, ordered 9 million of these poppies and sold them on 11th November that year. The poppies sold out almost immediately and that first ever 'Poppy Appeal' raised over £106,000; a considerable amount of money at the time. This was used to help WW1 veterans with employment and housing.

Branch AGM 14th November 2017 @ 1930

Conservative Club, Chard

This years AGM will be held in The Conservative Club, Chard and there will be several roles that will be required to be filled. We are looking for a Branch Secretary, Branch Treasurer, Branch Standard Bearer and Branch Welfare Officer. We would also like to hear from any members who would like to join the committee.

If you would like to fill one of these roles, please contact Victoria Whiteman on 07771 565005 or 01460 65591.

The Royal British Legion Pub Quiz

17th November 2017, Conservative Club, Chard

As art of a new fundraising initiative by The Royal British Legion, Chard Branch will be holding a Pub Quiz at the Conservative Club, Chard. Doors will open at 1900 for a start time of 1930. Teams of 4-6 will be required to register for £10 a team. Small prizes will be available for the winners.



OTHER NEWS

Chard Poppy Appeal 2017 Launch

This years Poppy Appeal launch will take place on 28th October, outside the Guildhall in Chard at 11am.

If you would be able to assist in collecting for the Poppy Appeal over the two weeks following the launch, please contact Maryanne Adams on 07513 393427

Remembrance Day Meal at The Conservative Club, Chard.

12th November 2017 - 1300hrs

We would like members of the Branch, and their families and friends to join us for a meal after the church service.

£6.95 - 1 Course £10.00 - 2 courses

If you would like to join us, please contact Victoria Whiteman on 07771 565005

Closing date for numbers 31st October 2017

Chard Branch Christmas Lunch, Conservative Club

10th December 2017 - 1300hrs

To celebrate Christmas with our members and families, we would like you to join us for a Christmas meal.

£12.95 - 2 courses £14.95 - 3 Courses

If you would like to join us, please contact Victoria Whiteman on 07771 565005

Closing date for numbers 30th November 2017

The following year, Major George Howson set up the Poppy Factory to employ disabled ex-Servicemen. Today, the factory and the Legion's warehouse in Aylesford produces millions of poppies each year.

The demand for poppies in England was so high that few were reaching Scotland. Earl Haig's wife established the 'Lady Haig Poppy Factory' in Edinburgh in 1926 to produce poppies exclusively for Scotland. Over 5 million Scottish Poppies (which have four petals and no leaf, unlike poppies in the rest of the UK) are still made by hand by disabled ex-Servicemen at Lady Haig's Poppy Factory each year and distributed by our sister charity Poppy Scotland.



GREAT PILGRIMAGE 90



Sunday 5 August 2018—Thursday 9 August 2018

Great Pilgrimage 90 (GP90) will be the Legion's biggest membership event in our history. A tour to WW1 battlefields and cemeteries will mark 90 years since the Great Pilgrimage.

A decade after the end of WW1, veterans and war widows visited the battlefields of the Somme and Ypres before marching to the Menin Gate in Ypres on 8 August 1928.

On 8 August 2018, two representatives from every branch and county will carry their standards along the same route in Ypres to the Menin Gate, representing an entire generation that served while defending their country.

Chard Party in the Park



On 23rd July, we were invited to attend the Chard Party in the Park, Jocelyn Park.

Unfortunately, the weather was not kind to the event, but this did not stop some committee members setting up our new gazebo and promoting the branch to the public in attendance.

The gazebo stood out loud and proud, and we had several people come up and speak to us, and some were very interested in joining.