



Registered Charity 219279

KENT COUNTY NEWS

TRBL South East Area Office (Kent)
Royal British Legion Village
Aylesford, Kent ME20 7NL

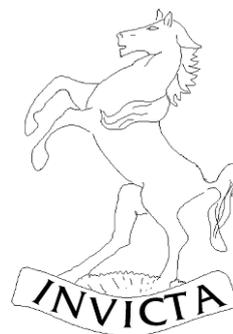
Membership Support Officer

Mobile - 07551 138414

e-mail – nward@britishlegion.org.uk

Welfare & Fundraising

via Contact Centre - 0808 802 8080



County website: www.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/kent

May 2018

BRANCH SECRETARIES: PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ITEMS IN THIS MONTHLY CIRCULAR SHOULD FORM PART OF THE REPORT TO YOUR BRANCH COMMITTEE

COUNTY VICE- CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

April seems to have raced by and I am glad to say that the warmer temperatures have started to appear. I did not expect to find myself writing the Newsletter introduction on behalf of the Chairman, but Richard is recovering from major surgery at the Brompton Hospital in London. I am sure you will join me in wishing him a speedy and successful recovery, in the hope that he will be joining us again soon. The message from Richard is 'business as usual' delivered by a very capable team in his absence.

The County extends a very warm welcome to Nikki our new MSO, who has been in post a matter of days. We are extremely lucky to have secured an outstanding individual with a very good working knowledge of the Royal British Legion. Already, I consider Nikki very capable and professional and I expect all members to offer their full support and understanding to assist her in settling in. As the MSO, Nikki is your primary point of contact at County and acts as liaison with the Royal British Legion regionally and nationally.

The Zeebrugge 100 Memorial at St James' cemetery, in Dover Town Centre and in Deal was very successful. The National Chairman attended, as did the National Standard. The County were well represented by the standards paraded and it was very nice to see local Branch members attending the cemetery and present for the parade through Dover Town Centre. Dover White Cliffs Branch members assisted the Town Council making up the bulk of the Marshals at the event, which was televised by BBC South East.

It is heartening to see the County well represented at GP90, congratulations to all Branches sending representatives. Thank you to Geoff Lees for continuing the Standard Bearer training in support of the event.

Branch Community Support is thriving in the County with Cherrie Harris continuing her excellent work in visiting branches and presenting the Royal British Legion in such a spirited way. As a charity, we have a responsibility to demonstrate the positive impact we are having in our local community and

the sterling voluntary work you all carry out at Branch level. I strongly encourage those Branches that have not yet signed up to book a presentation and get involved.

In finishing, I hope that the County Chairman will be fully recovered and contributing these notes for your next Newsletter.

Jonathan Webb
County Vice-Chairman

MEMBERSHIP

All members whose renewal fell due on 1st October 2017 and who did not renew were lapsed with effect from 6th April. This affected 668 members in Kent, although some may have already re-joined. In Kent, we currently have 7279 members with 70 full Branches, 1 sub-branch and 12 clubs. There are 13 Life members and 44 youth members.

COUNTY COMMITTEE

With reference to the County Conference in February issue, the Committee has agreed that Mrs Caye Gould of the Ashford Branch, should be co-opted on, as an additional member

MEET THE TEAM DAY

The Membership Department in Haig House have decided to run a similar event to our 'Meet the Team' day that we held last year in Capel Morris, Aylesford. This is in the planning stages but they are looking for early September and at present are sourcing a venue somewhere central to our three Counties. This will be your opportunity to participate in the Membership Roadshow with the Membership Team and raise any queries that you may have. With this in mind, it has been decided not to run our own local event in Aylesford, which was scheduled for June. More news will follow when I have it.

GP90 UPDATE

We have had a couple of contacts regarding obtaining Wreaths and Scrolls for GP90. I hope the following information is of use:

Scrolls – this is being led by Ceremonial Working Group and although an initial email was sent instructing Branches to order them, there has been further discussion and the process is on hold for the moment. Further info will be sent out as soon as we get it.

Wreaths –The Poppy factory have agreed to extend wreath ordering until COB Fri 18th May. Everything is in place with Aylesford, there is no 'letter of invitation' required.

GDPR UPDATE

The following has been received from the Membership Department, Head Office:

As you will no doubt be aware the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) come into force on 25th May this year. The Membership Department has been working hard to ensure that all of our process are compliant and that we are in a good position to support you and your branches. More detailed information will be distributed very soon, but I wanted to reassure you that we are taking action and give you an overview of the progress we have made.

- We have amended the paragraph about data protection in the Handbook.
- We have created a Members Retention Schedule and added it to the Handbook
- We have amended the MS1 and MS1A form
- We have created Membership Terms & Conditions – to be published at the beginning of May
- We are amending all the forms where we collect personal data to include a statement about data protection and how the data will be used

- We have amended the membership application form – currently in production by our supplier, they will be distributed as soon as they are ready. The old form will become obsolete on 24th May, so branches must ensure they use the new one from 25th May
- We are preparing a GDPR information pack which will be sent to branches at the end of April.
- A copy of the pack will also be distributed to Clubs to encourage them to follow the same data protection principles
- We will produce a FAQ document and publish it on Office 365

We have also added in four new columns to the end of the Current Branch Members report available to branches in MAP.

- **Opt in Email** - "Yes" indicates that a member has opted in to be contact by email.
- **Permission List** - This lists all the communication channels that a member has opted in for.
- **Opt Out Post** - By default all members are set to opt in for post. This will still be the case with GDPR. If they have specified that they do not wish to be contacted by post it will say "Yes"
- **Suppression list** - This lists all the communication channels, relevant to Membership, that the member has opted out of.
 - **3rd party opt out** - We won't provide member contact information t to 3rd party organisations we think the member would be interested in.
 - **No Telephone call** - We won't call the member by telephone.
 - **Opt out associated post/phone** - same as 3rd party opt out.
 - **Opt out associated companies** - same as 3rd party opt out.
 - **Opt out associated email** - same as 3rd party opt out.
 - **No Legion Magazine** - We will not send the member the Legion Magazine.

NEWS RE OUR YOUTH AND CADETS IN KENT

- We have exciting news to share with you! We are currently awaiting the delivery of a brand new County Youth Standard, which we hope will be with us in about six weeks. As a result, the search is on for the proud bearer for 2019. In order to gain this privilege, it is necessary for all potential candidates to attend training, followed by the County Standard Bearer competition, which is due to take place on 7th October 2018. If you know of a potential youth standard-bearer and would like your branch to have the honour of having introduced that young person, please make contact with either one of us as below.
- Ann Austen County Ceremonial co-ordinator 01227 731385 or email to annjaneausten@yahoo.co.uk
- Susan Foster County Youth Officer 01303 862779 or email to susanfoster61@btinternet.com

Youth news

On 29th April at County standard-bearer training at Aylesford, Acting County Chairman Richard Cast was delighted to present a youth membership badge to Kent's newest youth member. Callum (16) began his Legion experience as an affiliated cadet but now proudly carries a standard as a full Legion member and will be attending GP90 as representative for the Elham Valley Branch, with his mother as wreath layer. Callum is our 45th youth member in the County – I wonder who will be the 50th?



Affiliation badges have been reduced in cost so that now they are only 50p each. Please order in the normal way ie a cheque made payable to the Royal British Legion posted to Laura Marshall, Membership Governance Co-ordinator at Haig House. Do not forget to name the youth organisation who will be receiving them.

Susan Foster County Youth Officer 01303 862779 or email to susanfoster61@btinternet.com

BIRCHINGTON BRANCH

Birchington Branch joined the Birchington Parish Council on Monday 12th March to raise the flag for Commonwealth Day. The event was led by the Chairman of the Parish Council who read the citation from the Commonwealth Office and the flag was raised by our Chairman, Max. This was followed by light refreshments hosted by the Parish Council Chairman and his wife.



Poppy Appeal Get Together

On Thursday the 19th of April the Branch held their annual Poppy Appeal Get Together at the Swanley War Memorial Institute, known locally as Five Wents Hextable. This function was arranged to say "Thank You" to all the volunteers, over 90 of which were at the function, who help us during the Poppy Appeal also to present Certificates of Appreciation and Awards for those who had carried this work.

We were pleased to have Lady Colgrain, Deputy Lieutenant of Kent, to carry out the presentation, also at the event was Cllr Laurence Ball, Mayor of Swanley.

Included in those at the evening were representatives of the three Cadet Forces, who collect for us every year, all of whom are affiliated to the branch.

The event was organised by our Poppy Appeal Organiser, Mrs Jackie Allen, who has been in that post for 28 years

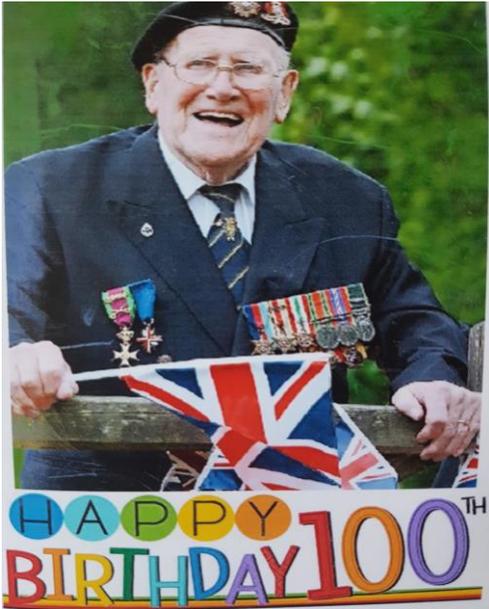
The photograph below shows the cadet representatives, together with the principal guests, Branch Officers and our Poppy Appeal Organiser.



Harry Chapman
Secretary
Swanley, Crockenhill and Hextable Branch.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY

Henry('Harry') Garrett Life Vice President.



"Harry Garrett joined the Territorial Army (Royal Artillery, 61st Anti Tank Regiment) with his brother Kenny in Brixton in 1938 and is a veteran of Dunkirk and El Alamein. The Royal British Legion has in the past assisted Harry in getting a mobility scooter, enabling him to get out and promote his independence. Harry has since raised more than £60,000 for the Poppy Appeal and was still collecting at the age of 98.

He said: "Kenny and I were brought up in children's homes. My brother was under five at the time and he was sent down to Devon while I stayed at a home in London. I was in homes until I was 16 and I didn't see my brother for four years but we got back together. Although he came back with a West Country accent!

"I said to Kenny, War's coming, I think we should join up so we went to the TA unit in Brixton and joined up in 1938..

Harry was deeply affected by the massacre of 97 British Prisoners of War at Le Paradis where the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Norfolks, along with the 8th Lancashire Fusiliers had been holding the Allied line in order to give the rest of the British Expeditionary Force time to evacuate from Dunkirk. He said: "There were only two survivors. The local people buried the bodies of our British soldiers. All the Dunkirk veterans every year used to go to France and Belgium to pay their respects. We used to take sweets for the children there."

On behalf of the Kent County, we would all like to wish Harry a very Happy Birthday and hope you enjoyed your celebrations

ISLE OF THANET FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE

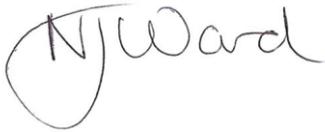
This year's event will take place Friday November 2nd. This year has been a busy one for the Legion and 11th November sees the 100th Anniversary of the end of WW1. I would like to see a full audience to support this event. I have requested the Band of the Brigade of The Gurkha's and I am awaiting confirmation. I am hoping for the National Chairmen and his wife to attend, along with the National Standard. An order form is attached to the back of this edition of County News and I will update our MSO with further information as I have it

Aussie Walker

Newsletter

Please can I request that if you wish an article to be considered for the County News, it is sent to the MSO three working days before the end of each month.

Regards to you all

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "N Ward". The letter "N" is written in a large, stylized, cursive font, with a loop that extends downwards and to the left. The name "Ward" is written in a smaller, more standard cursive script to the right of the "N".

Membership Support Officer

Email: nward@britishlegion.org.uk



LEST WE FORGET

Notification has been received that the following members have passed on:

Mrs Monica Scotton	Brabourne and Smeeth
Mr Robert Lock	Sidcup and Footscray
Mr Guy Wall	Whitstable
Mr John Taylor	Benenden
K C Ambrose	Birchington
J R Henderson	Downs
A R Rothwell	Dymchurch & District
Malcolm Care	Lenham & Harrietsham
J N Lawrence	Margate
D Worthington	Chartham



Our deepest sympathies go to their families and friends



KENT COUNTY DIARY OF EVENTS

MAY

Sun	13th	Poppy Walk – Whitstable
Tues	22 nd -24 th	IE course- Capel Morris
Sat	19th - 20th	Annual Conference - Belfast

JUNE

Sun	3rd	Standard Bearer Training - Capel Morris Centre (10 am)
Sat	9th - 10th	County Conference Committee Course - Capel Morris Centre
Thu	14th	Meet The Team Day - Capel Morris Centre
Sat	23rd	Dover Armed Forces Day
Sat	30th	Armed Forces Day - Great Lines, Gillingham *

JULY

Sun	1 st	Battle of Britain 78 th Anniversary, Capel-Le-Ferne (13.30)
Fri	6th - 8th	Kent County Show - County Showground, Detling *
Sat	7th	Recruiting Advisor Course - Capel Morris Centre
Sat	13th - 15th	Battles for Victory - Ellington Park, Ramsgate *
Sat	14th	Hythe Armed Forces Day Parade - High Street (10.15)
Sun	15th	Standard Bearer Training - Capel Morris Centre (10 am)
Sun	22nd	Step Short Parade - Folkestone
Tue	24th-28th	War & Peace Revival - The Hop Farm, Beltring *

AUGUST

Sun	5th - 9th	GP90 Tour - Ypres Salient and The Somme
Wed	8th	GP90 Tour - March to Menin Gate, Ypres
Sat	18th - 19th	Headcorn Combined Ops Military Vehicle & Air Show *
Sat	25th - 27th	Military Odyssey - County Showground, Detling *
Sun	26th	Standard Bearer Training – venue TBC
Thu	30th	Pedal to Paris - Greenwich to Dover stage

SEPTEMBER

Sat	15th - 16th	Branch Treasurer Course - Capel Morris Centre
Sat	15th - 16th	Salute to the '40s - Chatham Historic Dockyard *
Sun	23rd	Centenary Drumhead Service - County Cricket Ground, Canterbury (3 pm)
Sun	30th	Standard Bearer Training – venue TBC

OCTOBER

Sun	7th	County Standard Bearer Competition - Ditton (tbc)
Wed	?	Poppy Launch - County Hall, Maidstone
Sat	3rd	County Poppy Lunch - Brompton Barracks
Sun	21st	Standard Bearer Training – venue TBC
Sat	27th	Recruiting Advisor Course - Capel Morris Centre

NOVEMBER

Fri	2nd	Thanet Festival of Remembrance - Winter Gardens, Margate
Fri	9th	Dover Festival of Remembrance - Pencester Gardens
Sat	10th	Festival of Remembrance - Royal Albert Hall
Sun	11th	Remembrance Sunday & Armistice Day
Sat	17th	Oriana Singers Concert on behalf of TRBL - Tunbridge Wells

DECEMBER

Sun	2nd	Standard Bearer Training – venue TBC
Sat	15th	Carol Service - Capel Morris Centre (2.30 pm)

JANUARY 2019

Sat	19th	County Conference - Headcorn Village Hall (1 pm)
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* County Recruiting Trailer

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION

POPPY APPEAL

Patron : Her Majesty The Queen



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
ISLE OF THANET
FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE
WINTER GARDENS MARGATE
7-15 pm FRIDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2018

BAND TO BE CONFIRMED

PARADE OF STANDARDS AND SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

ADDRESS BY NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

SING ALONG WITH KAZ

ON WITH THE DANCE

ALL SEATS RESERVED

Applications to

From April to July

A.Walker MBE
46 Hertford Road
Margate Kent
CT9 3SH
Tel: 01843 224805
austinwalker@live.co.uk

July onwards

Box Office
Winter Gardens
Margate
Tel: 01843 296111

ISL OF THANET FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE 2018

PLEASE FORWARD No.Table Seats @ £8.50 each
No.Balcony Seats @£7.50 each
No.Rear Seats @£6.50 each

BLOCK CAPITALS

Name
Branch/Organisation.....
Address
.....

Wheelchair facilities (limited) YES/NO
Branch Standard Attending YES/NO
Women's Section Standard YES/NO
Other Standards attending (please name) YES/NO

REMITTANCE AND SAE WITH YOUR ORDER PLEASE. SEATS ARE NOT RESERVED UNTIL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED. CHEQUES AND PO'S PAYABLE TO THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION.



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