

The Newsletter of Hampshire County 104 Above Bar Street Southampton Hampshire SO14 7DT



1st Aug 2018

Registered Charity Number 219279

We Will Remember Them

Mr David Harrison – Winchester (Secretary)

Our sincere condolences to family and friends

Secretaries – The Hampshire Link is for ALL County Members, so please ensure this newsletter gets the widest distribution within your Branch.

National News

Royal Charter – Have Your Say

Membership Administration, Governance & Compliance want to obtain feedback and guidance from members on changes that the Legion is considering for the Royal charter.

We would like to encourage members to take part online at:

https://britishlegion.citizenspace.com/membership/royal-charter-have-your-say

If you have any questions, you can email RoyalCharter@britishlegion.org.uk or phone the Membership team on 0203 207 2269

Festival of Remembrance – 2018

As many of you are now aware the system for obtaining tickets to the FoR has changed this year due to changes in Data Protection Laws. Individuals will now have to contact the Royal Albert Hall on a dedicated number or website to obtain their tickets instead of through Branches. Tickets went on sale on 23rd July at 9am Telephone: 020 7087 7929

Web: https://festivalofremembrance.seetickets.com
Prices range from £10-£30 depending on the performance & location of seats, all booking fees will be covered by the RBL, each person will be restricted to TWO tickets each, and you will need to supply Branch number, Membership Number, Telephone number, Address and DoB for members attending – full details are in this months "Legion" magazine. Unsold tickets go to the public in October.

County News

Hampshire County Welfare Fund

Dear Members

You will see regular calls from me to your Branches asking for donations to the County Welfare Fund.

Since its implementation in 2002 each County actively asks Branches to donate surplus funds into its respective County Welfare Fund. In Hampshire, this is an earmarked fund for

Welfare cases in Hampshire.

Only cases in this County benefit from the funds in our County Welfare Fund and because this is an earmarked fund, it cannot be used for anything else.

The need for regular donations increases every year as cases are becoming more complex and need multiple agencies to support each case.

For the avoidance of doubt as to the importance of these regular requests, I have some statistics for you to consider:

Since October 2014 there have been 961 Welfare requests for funding that have come through your County Committee, this has totalled £482,346.

For the same period, we have only been able to contribute £169,299 towards to these cases.

I cannot stress how important regular donations to the County Welfare fund is.

The surplus Branch funds you donate will **only** go to cases in Hampshire, these are people in **your** community, vulnerable, and in need of our help. Please raise this at your next Branch meeting, the County Welfare Fund is vital, and if in doubt, please call on me and my Committee to visit your Branch to talk to all your members and officers.

Tim Russell

Hampshire County Chairman

County Conference Motions

It is an important part of our democracy that Branches can table motions to amend or change parts of the Royal Charter or Membership Handbook.

This is also an important route to make representations to the Board of Trustees to consider changes relevant to their remit or ask the Royal British Legion to lobby Parliament, the MOD, CWGC or other bodies on any discrepancies you may have identified. To ensure that your Charter Motions, Motions and other representations have the best possible chance of success it is essential that they are well constructed.

Your County Committee are here to help and advise you on how best to frame your entries and it is important that you talk to you Branch and Committee as early as possible.

I look forward to reviewing your entries in due course

Tim Russell

Hampshire County Chairman

County Training

My name is Mike Davis and as of March 2018 I have been co-opted onto the Hampshire County Committee as County Training Officer (CTO). Since then I have been trying to assess the training needs within the county with mixed success. However, I have identified that there is an immediate requirement for both Branch Management and Branch Treasurer courses. To that aim I have already arranged two Branch Treasurer courses and applied for two Branch Management courses which I am awaiting confirmation from Membership Training. The Branch Treasurer courses are to be held over the weekend of 1st and 2nd December 2018 in the Area Office in Southampton and 5th and 6th January 2019 in Farnbourgh RBL Club. Candidates can submit application forms for these courses to me. I will let the membership know of the dates for the Branch Management courses as soon as I have confirmation. Further to the more general training organised by me there is also the more specialist training arranged through other. For all Branch Community Support related training members

should contact Committee Vice-Chairman at

Hampshire.vicechairman@rbl.community or

through the Area Office on 0808 802 8080. For all training related to Recruiting Officer members

should contact Principal Recruiting Officer at Hampshire.cro@rbl.community . Finally, for all training relating to Standard Bearers and Parade Marshals members should contact County Parade Marshal at stevemo@stevemo.plus.com. It is my intention, as soon as possible, to develop training capabilities within the county to enable us to run our own training thus making things a whole lot simpler and enable all branches within the county to have sufficient trained branch officers to cover all eventualities and provide a good example to other counties as to how we function as a county. With this thought in mind I will be pushing for more Branch Treasurer courses so we are able to have a core group of trained personnel who can then go on to become Independent Examiners (IE) and take the pressure off of the County Treasurer who is currently the only IE we have.

Should members have any questions or requests

for training then please contact me at

Hampshire.cto@rbl.community

MAP & Office 365

Following the implementation of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) in May all Branches should be considering how they protect the data of their members as failure to comply with GDPR can result in reputation damage to the RBL and financial penalties. One way to ensure that Branch Officers do not fall foul of these regulations is by using the Membership Administration Portal (MAP). This portal is a quick way to access membership listings, communicate with other Branch officials and store files. The Membership Administration Portal (MAP) also ensures smooth transition from retiring Branch officers and those succeeding them as the e-mails issued relate to the role and not individual persons thus enabling the new officers to follow any e-mail trails and discussions held relating to them.

E-mails and log in details are available from the Membership Support Officer (MSO) Chris Bolton at Cbolton@britishlegion.org.uk or by ringing the Area Office on 0808 802 8080. Once the log-in details are obtained the lay-out of the MAP is simple with a large amount of information available relating to a wide range of topics including quick start guides of how to navigate the portal as well as application forms for a number of membership related areas.

Branch Officers has strongly encouraged to embrace this important development. If any branch should experience difficulties when accessing and implementing this portal then they should contact the MSO or me at Hampshire.cto@rbl.community. I am willing to visit branches to provide support by giving briefings on the use of MAP's and the associate software.

Mike Davis

Hampshire CTO.

Branch Websites

The Legion offers free websites to all branches. If your branch would like to take up this offer, please download our `Branches website request` form from

www.britishlegion.or.uk/membership/branchesand-counties/branches/ and send your completed form to webmaster@britishlegion.or.uk or contact the webmaster for more information.

Branch News

Kingsclere

The branch continues to expand its footprint in Kingsclere with a number of new, potential members showing interest in our activities and plans for the rest of the year.



We continue to lay a wreath on the village memorial prior to our monthly meeting to remember the men from the village who gave their lives in that same month during World War 1; this has gained significant attention across the village with the local community leaning in to lay their own flowers as an act of remembrance.

Kingsclere War Memorial, St Mary's Church

Eight members of the branch visited Southsea on the 14th July, touring the D Day museum and D Day Tapestries, Southsea Castle and the Royal Navy War Memorial. Blessed by



good weather the trip was enjoyed by all and plans to have more away days are being scoped.

Kingsclere RBL Branch Members Away Day to Southsea

Permission has been given by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to erect a sign within the churchyard of St Mary's, informing visitors that we have currently 4 war graves in the churchyard. This number will increase to 5 headstones once the stone for Pte Cramp, London Regiment is erected in the coming months; Pte Cramp was evacuated from France to the Kingsclere Rehabilitation Hospital but sadly died of his wounds.

The Crown pub is hosting their first ever "bike night" on the 31st July commencing at 7pm. Attendance from the Hampshire Police Bikers and their Safe Ride Team along with representation from the Hampshire RBL Riders is expected along with local bikers. Our branch will have representation with a Poppy Appeal Stall, Tombola and "dunk for an apple" stall. Proceeds from the event will be split between the RBL and a local charity aiding disabled bikers. All are most welcome!

Winchester

It with great sadness to inform the County that Mr David Harrison, Winchester Branch Secretary and former County Committee member passed away 27h July 2018. The County would like to express its condolences to his wife Ruth.

Alton Legion's Legends

Alton RBL Club have a Legion's Legends event running throughout the year. It is a free social group for ex-service personnel and people with an interest in the Military. An opportunity to chat, share stories and memories in a safe and supportive environment. There is plenty of free parking and refreshments will be available. Carers are requested to stay. It takes place on the second Thursday of each month from 2:30pm at the RBL Club, Anstey Park.

The next events are 9th Aug, 13th Sep & 11th Oct, for more information please contact Sarah, Dementia Advisor on 07827 317650 or Pat, RBL on 07771 790228.

Tea Dance/Pub Games

Do you wanna dance? A mix of ball room and social dance, guided by Alton dance teacher Paul O'Brien, in a relaxed session, when you don't

fancy a dance you can play darts/pool/other pub games.

From 1:30-3:30pm 4th Thursday of the month at the Alton RBL Club Anstey Park. Supported by PaulOB1 Dance School of Alton & members of the RBL.

Next events are 23rd Aug & 27th Sep, for more details contact Karen, Dementia Champion on 07922 022321 or email

dementia_friends@btinternet.com

Alton RBL Club, Anstey Park, Anstey Road, Alton, GU34 2RL

Bordon & District

The Bordon & District Branch's Poppy Appeal attended the inaugural Town's Summer Sundae, 40's themed event on the 22nd July. The weather was hot, with a slight breeze so it



was decided not to put up a gazebo, so everyone could get around the stall easily. Whilst the footfall on a Sunday afternoon was a bit low, a number of people visited the stall to enquire about helping the Appeal or joining the Branch, so we are looking forward to some new members joining us in the future especially as the town is being regenerated and expanded beyond belief.

The Town's local Theatre Group, Phoenix Players, are putting on a centenary celebration of the end of the Great War with songs and poems of the time on 14th, 15th, 21st & 22nd September at 7:30pm at the Phoenix Theatre & Arts Centre and have invited the Poppy Appeal along to raise funds and have also invited members of the Branch to take part in the event. A raffle will also be held at each show, with the profits split between the Poppy Appeal & The Players. For tickets or more information contact the Phoenix on 01420 472664 or online at www.phoenixarts.co.uk or contact the RBL Branch secretary at bordondistrict.secretary@rbl.community

The Branch is joining forces with RAFA, Bordon & District REME Association, Café 1759 and Mustangs (Coffee Pot) to launch the Town's inaugural Armed Forces & Veterans Breakfast Club (AFVBC) on Tuesday 7th August at 9:30am.

The AFVBC are an international collection of exforces that meet regularly to keep the Veterans and families in contact with each other and help advise those in need where they can go to get help, the meetings have no subscriptions or joining costs, you just buy what breakfast you would like and then sit and chat. The organisers of the Bordon AFVBC will chat to any and all Forces members that tun up to see how we can build on this new venture for the expanding town. We will be meeting at Café 1759, Chieftain House, Challenger Place, Bordon, GU35 0FP, so if you are in the area on the 7th Aug pop in and say hi.

More details about AFVBC can be found at their website www.AFVBC.net

Old Basing

On Saturday 21st July Old Basing Royal British Legion held a Beer Festival, fundraising for the RBL and the Poppy Appeal.

Local breweries Andwell's, Bond Brews, Triple FFF and LongDog brought some of their finest

ales and we had some great ciders from Mr Whitehead's based in Alton and our Social Club team ran a very popular Gin bar and a Prosecco bar.

surviving the heat!



Local companies Bramley Bakery and Simple Franks were on-site supplying hot and cold savoury food and Victoria's Cake House based in Winchester brought her delicious cakes for sale. We designed a limited-edition beer glass which was extremely popular.

Our branch treasurer seconded his daughter to make us a brilliant Beer Keg cake for our raffle the best bit being that it was actually two tiers, therefore two raffle prizes!

For the children we had a bouncy castle and face-painter and we were supported again this year by local DJ Stephen from Osprey Roadshow, who provided excellent music all day - he plays records for a really nice traditional sound, all styles from the fifties up to present day.

The Old Basing Corps of Drums performed during the afternoon - they must be congratulated on

Thanks to the glorious weather we had a very long

and successful day and raised a large amount of money too! This is the second year we have held this event and it seems as though it will become a regular fixture.



Brockenhurst

Brockenhurst College Cadets Affiliation

As part of their annual Passing-out Parade on Thursday 21 June an Agreement of Affiliation was signed between the College Army Cadet Force Detachment Commander (Lieutenant Lisa Hillman) and the Brockenhurst RBL Branch Chairman (Captain Mike Matthews RN). For a number of years the Cadets have supported the Branch by helping at the two main annual events held in the Village: Remembrance in November and the ANZAC Commemoration in April. Affiliation recognises this relationship and formalises it.



On a beautiful summer evening the Passing-out Platoon were inspected before marching past smartly. They and their families then adjourned into the adjacent Sports Hall. A team of the graduating Cadets gave an account of their busy year of most worthwhile activities. Prize-giving followed with a number of shields and cups being presented by uniformed representatives of the Armed Forces and Community Services. The Affiliation Agreement was signed just before the presentation of the Normandy Veterans' Trophy.

At the start of the next academic year both sides will meet to agree joint activities. Major Michael Robjohn will lead for the Branch. The major event planned in Brockenhurst to mark the end of WW1 will be a "1914-1918 Commemorative Concert" – an evening of music, songs and readings featuring

the national award-winning Michelmersh Silver Band – on Saturday 3 November in the Village Hall. Hopefully some of the Cadets will enjoy becoming involved.

For further information please contact Mike Matthews, Branch Chairman at mandmat@tiscali.co.uk
Totton & Eling

The Totton and Eling Town Council fully support the Men's Shed project and we hope that the Totton Men's Shed will be of benefit to Veterans and Serving Personnel as well as members of the local community and will involve "Shedders" in local projects as well as helping them to learn new skills. The next Totton men's shed meeting is on Thursday 16th August at 7pm in Totton and Eling Community Centre and everyone is welcome to come along. To find out more about the Totton Men's shed please email Chris Compton on shed@compark.co.uk

On Sunday 22nd July Branch members attended the Netley Marsh Steam & Craft Show and helped with the RBL stall. This was a joint venture with the Riders, Fawley and Copythorne Branches and



we hope to carry out future joint activities. We also were lucky enough to have the Poppy Bike at the stall which attracted great interest. More details of the poppy bike are on Facebook "Poppy Bike" page. Thank you to everyone who helped during one of the hottest weekends of the year.

The Totton and Eling Community Drop-in is now listed in the Directory of the Association of ex-Service Drop-in Centres (ASDIC). ASDIC links veterans' DropIns together across the country. Drop-ins offer a variety of welfare and mental health support to the ex-military community and their families, and ASDIC helps them to enhance the service they can provide and make them more accessible. It also helps organisations supporting the Drop-ins to deliver their services more effectively and make the most of their resources. For more details please visit https://www.asdic.org.uk/member-directory/

The next Totton drop-in will be on Thursday 23rd August 10am to midday in the Totton and Eling

Community Centre. There will be free refreshments and everyone is welcome to come along and find out more about the Totton Area Poppy Appeal and other local activities. For more information please ring Susan Compton on 023 8087 3143 or email poppy@compark.co.uk

Fleet, Crookham & District

Saturday 8th September we will be holding a very special evening presentation on a former resident of Church Crookham, Maj Gen Dudley Johnson VC, CB, DSO & Bar, MC. On 8th September his grandson, Lt Col (Ret'd) Andrew Larpent OBE will be giving a presentation to the Branch, open to all with proceeds going to The Poppy Appeal and The VC & GC Association.

On 4th November 1918, Lieutenant Colonel Johnson, commanding the 2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment, led the attack on a lock on the Sambre Canal, France for which he was awarded the VC. Between the wars he held a number of instruction and staff posts before being appointed Commanding Officer of 2nd Bn North Staffordshire Regiment in 1928. He became Commander of 12th (Secunderbad) Infantry Brigade in 1933 and General Officer Commanding 4th Division from 1938 to 1940. He was replaced as divisional commander after Dunkirk and made GOC of Aldershot Command later on in 1940 before becoming Inspector of Infantry in 1941. He retired in 1944 and was Colonel of the South Wales Borderers from 1944 to 1949.

After retiring to Church Crookham in 1944, he held many local positions including Chairman of Fleet Urban District Council and Church Warden of Christ Church, Church Crookham. Buried in the church yard of Christ Church his grave will be refurbished by his family and rededicated on Sunday 11th November, 100 years almost to the day of his VC action.

The Life of Major General Dudley Johnson VC CB DSO* MC

Saturday 8th September, 7.30pm

Church Crookham Community Centre Boyce Road Crookham Park Church Crookham GU52 8AQ To book your seat please call Tim Burt (Branch Secretary), 01252 613802.

Poppy Appeal News

National total £45,904,962-20 Hampshire County £1,636,834-88 North £772,388-39 South £864,446-49

Standard Bearers

Training

The County Parade Marshal, Steve Forward, would like to invite all Standard Bearers to partake in training sessions to ensure that they are kept current.

Training takes place at

Eastleigh – Pavilion in the Park, 1 Kingfisher Road, Eastleigh **SO50 9LH**

Lymington – Lymington Drill Hall, Bath Road, Lymington, **SO41 3RU**

Fleet – Old NAAFI Building, Quetta Park, Church Crookham, Fleet, **GU52 8TG**

Training runs from March through to October inclusive, and all Standard Bearers are urged to take training courses as beginners or long serving to enhance their position as the Legion's presence in the community.

Eastleigh:	Lymington:	Fleet:
1400hrs	1930hrs	1900hrs
Aug 12 th	Aug 13 th	Aug 15 th
Sep 2 nd	Sep 10 th	Sep 12 th
Oct 7 th	Oct 8 th	Oct 10 th

The Parade Marshall, Steve Forward can be contacted on 023 8069 3028, or

stevemo@stevemo.plus.com or Deputy Parade Marshall, Dave Graham on 01425 623102 or davidkarengraham1@yahoo.co.uk for more information.

Steve and Dave put a lot of effort into training Standard Bearers so please come along and give them your support and ensure you are showing the Legion, and your Branch in the best possible light. Training and Drills have changes over time, so come along and ensure you are kept current. GP90 Standard Bearers should attend at least ONE training session prior to departure, to ensure they are up to date with procedure.

More Standard Bearers are required to sign up to support the Hampshire County Festival of Remembrance on 11th November 2018, at the Mayflower Theatre in Southampton, if you are available and would like to take part please contact the Area Office, The Hampshire Link or contact the CFR`s, Sarah & Jim.

Notices

RBLI's Wall of Honour

crucial support and assistance.

I am writing to call upon your support with our WW1 centenary commemoration project at the Royal British Legion Village, Aylesford, Kent. https://www.rbli.co.uk/wallofhonour

In this year, we are remembering those who have served with a unique project; RBLI's Wall of **Honour.** The Wall of Honour will be a timeless feature erected in RBLI's beautiful historic garden and gives participants the unique opportunity to have their name, or the name of a family member, friend or loved one, engraved onto a commemorative plaque for a donation of £100 – all of which will go directly to veterans who need

We are pleased to say we have already had an overwhelming response to the Wall of Honour project, with some heart-warming & incredible stories behind the people who are participating. The memorial will be unveiled at the Armistice Day Service of Remembrance on the Royal British Legion Village, with a special event for donors and supporters in the Garden of Honour.

If you feel that your RBL branch would be able to support us with social media posts, spots in newsletters or magazines, emails to members or leaflets in branch, we would be thrilled to hear from you!

Rachel Park **Fundraising RBLI**

Personality of the Month

Mr David Edwin Lloyd - Petersfield Branch



David served with the RAF as an Air Communication Technician, enlisting as a Boy Entrant Air Wireless Mechanic in 1957 at RAF Cosford. He served at RAF Seletar – Singapore, RAF Gan – Maldives, RAF Nicosia – United Nations Force in Cyprus, Lusaka – Zambian Air Force, RAF Wildenrath, RAF Gutersloh – Germany, RAF Luqa - Malta, RAF Salalah -Sultan of Oman's Air Force, RAF Goose Bay –

Canada, Belize, Northern Ireland and Rhodesia – Commonwealth Monitoring Team. Home postings include RAF stations Wyton, Thorney Island, Yatesbury, Binbrrok, Leuchars, Odiham, Waddington & Marham.

David left the RAF in 1982 and after obtaining a Civil Aviation Licence at Brunel Technical College went on to work in Zimbabwe (Airwork), Saudi Arabia (British Aerospace), United Arab Emirates (Airwork) and RAF Valley (Anglesey). David spent his last six-year working life with Petersfield based 'Compassion in World farming', which later moved to Godalming.

Now retired, David occupies most of his time as Archivist for the RAF Seletar Association and Secretary for the Petersfield Branch RBL.



UN Cyprus, GSM (NI & Dhofar Clasp), Gulf War, LSGSM(RAF) Rhodesia, Oman GSM, Oman Victory, Zimbabwe Independence, Pingat Jasa Malasia

Hampshire Link Newsletter

This is a reminder that the Hampshire Link Newsletter is for the benefit of the entire County Membership and is here to promote YOUR Branch, as well as provide some additional reminders from Haig House & the Area Office. If you have any articles that you believe would be of interest to the County Members then please send them to me at the address at the end of the Newsletter.

Promotion of events & after-action reports, special person you want to congratulate, visit's to special locations or anniversaries that have an important meaning to your Branch will ALL be considered, as well as other articles.

Newsletter Attachments:

Aylesford – Wall of Honour Kingsclere Poster – 2nd Lt Henry J Love Kingsclere Poster – The Crown Inn Totton - Presentation

Events Diary

2018

August

9th – Legion`s Legends

Alton RBL Club Tel: 07827 317650

11th – National Event of Poppy race Day

Newmarket Races

01638 675500 Option 4.

23rd – Tea Dance/Pub Games

Alton RBL Club Tel: 07922 022321

Email: dementia Friends@btinternet.com

September

8th – Life of Maj Gen D Johnson VC CB DSO MC Church Crookham Community Centre, GU52 8AQ

Tel: 012852 613802

9th - Earl Mountbatten Memorial Service

Romsey Abbey

Reply through Branch secretary

Returns Form attached to Link Newsletter

14th,15th,21st & 22nd – At the Bugle Call They Came

Phoenix Theatre & Arts Centre

Tel: 01420 472664

Web: www.phoenixarts.co.uk

October

21st -Great South Run

Southsea, Portsmouth

Details TBC

25th – County Poppy Launch

Farnborough, North Hampshire

Details TBC

27th – Uniformed Collection – "Thank You"

Westquay, Southampton

Details TBC

27th – Poppy Appeal Launch

Poppy Appeal period 28th October to 11th

November (depending on area)

November

11th – Hampshire Festival of Remembrance

Mayflower Theatre, Southampton

Show starts at 19:00hrs and lasts about 2hrs

Tickets £22.00 – Available now (Selling fast)

Box Office: 02380 711811

Mayflower.org.uk

County Websites

RBL Website:

www.BritishLegion.org.uk

County Website:

http://counties.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/hampshire

Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/groups/hantscountyrbl/

Poppy Appeal

www.facebook.com.poppy.hamsphirerbl

Contact us

It's your newsletter!!!

If anyone has any articles that they would like published in the Newsletter then please contact the editor at:

HampshireLink@outlook.com

Or

Editor – Hampshire Link 15 Champney Close Whitehill, Bordon Hampshire GU35 9DX

(Please ensure correct postage is paid)

By the 26th of the month

ALL LEGION INQUIRIES

(including Welfare requests)

Should be directed to the national call centre

0808 802 8080

County Personnel

Patron Lt Gen Sir Mark Mans KCB

 $CBE\ DL$

President Col Andrew King
Chairman Tim Russell
Vice-Chairman Bob Bartlett
Treasurer Brian C N Soffe

MSO Christopher Bolton

Darron Back

Membership Council Rep Gerry Nunn Area Manager SW Jim France

Training Officer Mike Davis
Branch Support - North
Branch Support - South
Vouth Officer Vacant

Youth Officer Vacant

Committee Member
CFR – Manager SW
CFR – Hampshire North
CFR – Hampshire South
PAO Coordinator – North
PAO Coordinator – South
Communications Support

Communications Support

Communication – South
Communications Support

CFR – Hampshire South
Jim Parker
Sarah Ferris
Jacki Gatfield
Pat Prior MBE
Avril Mitchell

Hampshire Link

8