



“THE JENDIT”

All the clips!

THE CREWKERNE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



SUMMER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the summer edition of the Jendit, and what a summer it has been so far! The weather has been exceptionally warm but this has definitely been a bonus to us with fetes etc. As expected at this time of year, the Branch have been extremely busy fundraising as well as raising local awareness to the Legion cause and we are already starting to see the fruits of our labour. As we go to print, our Branch membership stands at a fantastic 75 and that we believe is all down to members getting out there, attending the various events around Crewkerne and talking to the general public about the work we do, so well done to all who have helped make it such a prosperous season.

Legion Night

Since the last Jendit we have held 2 more Legion Nights and they are proving to be very popular, as each time the events are increasingly well attended not just by Branch members but also by our friends from the Somerset Legion Riders, so we intend to keep them running and the date for the next one will be Saturday 22nd September.

Legion social afternoon

An event that we have been running in conjunction with Legion Night are our Social Afternoons and these too have proved to be very popular with many of our retired members as they are held in the afternoon (normally on a Thursday) in the Sports Bar at the GRC. Our next one will



be Thursday September 20th. Please feel free to come on down and join in the activities we would love to get you to meet as many of members as possible. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Sandie, Tony and for organising these events and to Peggy and Helena for helping.

Henhayes Fete

On the 9TH June the Town Council held a fete on the Henhayes playing field and they kindly invited us to lead it in memory of the end of WW1. It was decided that we should start the fete with a parade and a minute silence, we were very pleased to be joined by members of the Legion Riders, The Mayor and Deputy Mayor, Town Criers Association, Army Cadets, Cubs, Brownies, Rainbows, Beavers and members of the Fire and Rescue Service and also the PCSO's from Avon and Somerset Constabulary. The whole day proved a great success and the Committee would like to send a huge thank you to the Council for allowing us to take part but also for the very generous donation of a beautiful wood carving created by Rob Beckinsale. On display at the fete, were many wonderful pieces of art work by the pupils from St. Bart's School and also a magnificent "Curtain of Poppies" by the pupils of Ashland's School. The final figure raised by the Branch at the Henhayes fete was a fantastic £225.28.

In conjunction with the fete we also held a WW1 Odd Object competition where in various shop windows around the town odd objects referring to the war were strategically placed for competitors to spot, and we are pleased to announce that the winners were The Brownies so well done to them and also thank you to all who took part.

Severalls Memorial Garden

As this year is the centenary of the end of WW1 the Committee have taken it upon themselves to give the War Memorial at Severalls a bit of a "makeover" so a number of us went up armed with various tools and



The Parade with a minutes silence to start the fete.



Some of the lovely art work provided by local children.



The beautiful wood carving by Rob Beckinsale.



commenced with a good clean up and weeding, and then in conjunction with Crewkerne in Bloom and with permission from SSDC, we then dug some small flower beds, planted some flowers, and cut the grass in the immediate area around the Memorial. The overall result has proved very popular with local residents and we would like to thank members of the Crewkerne Gardening club for their assistance and advice and also to Kylie Jackson and members and friends who have donated plants and time to the project. We intend this to be a long term, progressive project over the coming years, so if anyone would like to help in future with this please contact the Secretary with any suggestions.



The newly planted flower beds at Severalls

St. Nazaire Raid talk by Peter Lush

On the 15th June one of our members, Geoff Carr, arranged for author and Historian Peter Lush, to come to the GRC to do a talk on the famous St. Nazaire Raid of WW2. The event was exceptionally well attended by members and non-members alike and we would like to thank Geoff for arranging the event and Peter for giving up his own time to come down and give the talk we would also like to thank Sue and Sarah at the GRC for laying on the lovely Ploughman's supper. All in all, a very enjoyable and interesting evening and proceeds of £150 went to the Branch funds.

Military Gathering at the Haselbury Mill

On the 17th June we were invited to join our friends from the Military Gathering group at their annual get together at the Haselbury Mill. This is our second year attending this event and again it proved to be a good fund raising event. Thanks to Pete and Rita Brown for keeping us in touch with the club, Roy Galina for inviting us and Trevor Crease for donating items of military equipment to sell on the stall and of course all who attended and helped out. We raised another great figure of £108.39.

Dubbs at the Mill

As we reported in the last Jendit the VW owners club (The Scumpy Dubbers) chose us as their charity for this year's show at the Haselbury Mill and they have now had their final count and presented our PAO Bob King with a cheque for £4000, which is a big boost



Branch members with the VW owners club



to this year's Poppy Appeal. A huge thank you must go to all of the Scrumpy Dubbers.

Weymouth Veteran's Day Parade

On the 24th June we all set off on our "annual pilgrimage" to Weymouth Veteran's Day. We had 2 minibuses so we had a good show in the parade on behalf of the Crewkerne Branch. As has been the theme this year, it was another very hot day but that did not deter many from marching. On completion of the parade we then went to the Pavilion for lunch and some light entertainment followed by a game of bingo organised by Alice the Secretary. We would like to thank Brian and Sam for driving the buses and also Alice for organising the lunches and bingo. We look forward to next year's parade.



Legion Standards lead the Parade.

St Bartholomews' School Fete

The following week we attended St Bart's School fete and this was another very warm day so we were all very glad to be in the shade of the trees. It was a lovely afternoon and again we displayed the fantastic pictures by the children to commemorate the end of WW1. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the FSA and Mrs Coward (The Head Teacher) for allowing us to attend and have a stall. On completion we raised £47.

Crewkerne Hospital Fete

On the 6th July a number of the Branch attended the Crewkerne Hospital Fete which has also become a regular event on our calendar. Once again it was another very hot day but very worthwhile in the end, so thanks to all those that helped out. The final figure raised was £56.20.

Poppy Appeal

Although it is still only early August and before we know it Remembrance time will be upon us, so with this in mind our PAO (Bob King) has been pushing a recruitment drive for help with the Poppy Appeal collecting. If you think you could spare us a couple of hours of your time during Remembrance period, to do some collecting please give Bob a call or contact the Secretary on the e-mail below and we will most definitely sign you up.

Branch Donations following the sponsored walk in March

Members may remember back in March we held a sponsored walk in aid of Dunkirk Memorial House, Somerset Legion House and the Admiral

Nurses. Well we finally collected all the money in and raised a staggering £1225.28p which has been split 3 ways and the cheques were presented to the mentioned charities. Thank you to those who sponsored and those who took part.

Annual General Meeting

Well it is that time of year again where we are required to announce the date of this year's AGM and the Committee have agreed for the 13th Oct 2018 for this event. It will commence at 1100 hrs in the GRC and all members are encouraged to attend. If you would like to join the Committee please put your nomination to the Secretary no later than the 6th October. We have one Executive vacancy and that is the President's post, following Dave Lawrence's retirement earlier this year. However, there is no limit to the number of Committee members we can have. If you would like to put yourself forward for either post or you would like to nominate someone for the President's post, please put your nomination forward to the Secretary no later than the 6th October. Also if you have any issue you would like to be included on the agenda for AGM, again please send it to the Secretary no later than 6th October. **The next Branch meeting will be Saturday 15th September 11:00 at the GRC.**

New Minibus for Dunkirk Memorial House

Members may remember that we donated quite a large sum of money towards DMH's new minibus. They have now taken delivery of the bus and two of our members Rita and Viv attended a Thank you Day at Dunkirk Memorial House where they blessed the bus in a short service followed by a cream tea.



Rita and Viv next to the new Minibus.

Carers Week at Dunkirk Memorial House

On Wednesday 13th June Dunkirk House held a Carers Thank You event during Carers Week. Tony and Sandie Smith from the Crewkerne Branch attended along with another member, Pam Tuck. They all enjoyed the afternoon and Pam said that Saul, from the Admiral Nurses was really supportive.

100 years of the Royal Air Force

On Friday 22nd June, the Henhayes Centre held an event to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Royal Air Force. A number of items of memorabilia were on display and one of our members, Paul Bradly, gave a talk on his life in the RAF. He then



showed a couple of videos, one about the V-Bomber Force, of which Paul served in as a Navigator on the Avro Vulcans, and the second video was 100 years of the RAF narrated by Martin Lewis. Following this event the Henhayes Centre very kindly donated £50 to the Crewkerne Branch RBL.

Forthcoming Event at Severalls

Saturday 1st September at Severalls, we will be hosting an event as a WW1 Thank You to the Fallen. This will include a mini parade at 11:00 and Revd. Huntley will be blessing the carving at its new home, followed by a Tea Party on the Green. The invitation is to the general public especially the community of Severalls, so please come along and join us.

The Branch Committee is as follows

- PresidentVacant
- ChairmanAntony Samuel
- Vice ChairmanDennis Holland
- Secretary.....Alice Samuel
- TreasurerVivien Green
- Deputy Treasurer.....Terry Austin
- Committee.....Sue Phinn
- Committee.....Brian Forster
- Committee.....Peter Brown
- Committee.....Rita Brown
- Committee.....Denis Bowman
- Committee.....Tony Smith
- Committee.....Sandie Smith
- Committee.....Robert King
- Committee.....John Davies
- Poppy Appeal Officer...Robert King
- Standard Bearer.....Andrew Watts
- Membership Sec.....Alice Samuel
- BCS RepSandie Smith
- BCS Sec.....Alice Samuel
- BCS Treasurer..... Vivien Green

