



We Will Remember Them

Mervin Pimenta, Maurice Lambden & Alan Turvey – *Old Basing & District*

Our sincere condolences to family and friends

National News

Branch Web Sites

If you are responsible for looking after your branch RBL website, please read the following. The membership IT officer has been informed that due to how big a leap the new version of Umbraco is, all passwords had to be reset.

The new link to the Umbraco site is: <http://counties.britishlegion.org.uk/umbraco>

Please update your favourites/bookmarks in your browser.

You therefore have a few options:

1. Use the **forgotten password link** on the login page. This will send instructions to the registered email address. If you do not receive an email please try one of the other options.
2. **Email or private message me** from an Office 365 account and I will reset the password for you. I will send the details only to an Office 365 account cc'ing in the chairman/secretary and MSO account.
3. **Request a password reset** through your MSO.

If Branch webmaster have any problems, they should contact Tom Shepard via the Yammer system on the MAP.

County News

Hampshire County Conference 2019

The conference is being held at the Jubilee Hall, Bishops Waltham on Saturday 19th January from 10.30 am.

The Agenda and reports for Conference have been sent by post to all branch secretaries, for the attention of ALL Branch members.

Included are
the Nominations,
the proposed Hampshire County Plan 2019-2022,
the County Awards,
Conference Standing Orders,
details of lunch arrangements.

There are 7 vacancies for County Committee members and the County Committee are very keen to fill all of them.

We are privileged to have the National Chairman, Terry Whittles attending conference and talking to us.

The Branch delegate will represent the views of the Branch members at conference, when the elections are held and during debate on any motion or Royal Charter amendment. Branches who do not comply with Rule 1 of the Royal Charter (Voting Branches) cannot be represented by a branch delegate at either County or Annual Conference next year.

The County Committee encourages visitors (as well as delegates) to attend conference to hear what goes on and learn more about the Legion in Hampshire.

As last year, during the lunch break from approx. noon, for an hour and a half, the members of the County Committee will be holding information desks to exchange ideas on
Training,
Recruiting,
Social Media,
Branch Community Support
General items.

Please come along and air your views so that we may improve our support to the branches in Hampshire.

These above documents may be accessed by all Branch officials on MAP on the Hampshire page in the County Shared Documents in the County Conference 2019 folder.

Conference Committee - Secretary

Draw Prizes

Branches attending the Conference are requested to donate a small prize for the draw, which is held to defray the Conference expenses.

Branch News

Eastleigh, Chandler`s Ford & District

The Branch will be holding “The Diane James Christmas Experience” at the Eastleigh Working Men`s Club on Monday 10th December at 7pm, entry is free. A Vera Lynn style concert to round off the year, with a Christmas raffle, American supper and good old Royal British Legion Cheer.

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The Diane James Christmas Experience

Eastleigh Working Men's Club

Monday 10th December 2018

at 7:00pm

A Vera Lynn style concert to round off the year.

Christmas Raffle

American Supper

Good old Royal British Legion Christmas Cheer,

All Welcome, Bring a Friend! Or Two or Three.....

Merry Christmas!

The following photographs were taken at the Hampshire Fire & Rescue HQ, Remembrance Service that took place on Friday 9th November.

Many workers at Eastleigh Fire and Rescue Headquarters left their desks to join members of the Eastleigh, Chandler's Ford and District branch of the British Legion to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. Despite the rain the two-minute silence was observed.



Bordon & District

The local community came together to create their own version of the “Silent Soldier” this year for the Centennial Anniversary of the end of World War One. Local schools created the black shadow versions, while master blacksmith and former REME soldier and instructor created two statues for the Towns War Memorial, all material and time were given free of charge, and they have now become part of the towns walk of Remembrance.





Old Basing & District

IT WASN'T just the centenary of the end of the First World War on Sunday, but it was also a milestone birthday for a man in Old Basing. Harold Askey was born in Hucknall, Nottinghamshire, at 11.11am on November 11, 1918 - 11 minutes after the Armistice began - and celebrated his 100th birthday on Sunday. Being born in 1918 meant that Harold was of the age to see the Second World War, in which he took part in as a member of the engineering battalion, taking part in the Sicily landings, and was involved in troop activity in Greece. Harold was joined by his wife of 59 years Jean, 90, and his friends at the Ivy Club in Old Basing on Wednesday, 7 November for a party to celebrate his momentous birthday. There, he had a cake with candles spelling out '100' and a card signed by the rest of the members of the club. Sue Wilson, chair of the Ivy Club and the organiser of the party, said: "It was a resounding happy birthday for John, who enjoyed seeing the cake and the card. He really loved it, and was absolutely thrilled to blow out the candles. "He chatted to everyone who was there and had a great time."

On Harold's his actual birthday, he had an open house at Oakfields in Lychpit where the pair live after moving to the area two years ago to be nearer to their son.



Penny Bourne created a very special rich fruit Remembrance cake, with special WW1 commemorations. The cake was put up for auction, with the money being donated to the Poppy Appeal. The cake made £100 which was very fitting for the theme of nature of the event.



Penny handing the cake over to Matthew Larcome, who's £100 winning bid won the centennial cake.

Brockenhurst

The centenary anniversary of the World War 1 Armistice was appropriately remembered by the people of Brockenhurst. Village life 100 years ago was dominated by the presence of No.1 New Zealand General Hospital on the Tile Barn Hill but the main emphasis for this commemoration was on the 79 villagers who lost their lives during or just after the war. However flowers were also laid on the graves in our War Graves Cemetery of the 2 New Zealanders who died on 11 November 1916.

In the Armistice Debate in the House of Commons on 6 November New Forest East MP Dr Julian Lewis stated that he had attended the "outstanding commemoration concert" held in Brockenhurst on the previous Saturday. This memorable and moving evening set the tone for our Remembrance. The village was by then discretely dressed with Poppies on lamp posts, 'Silent Soldiers' and shop window displays in Brookley Road and static and street poppy collections were in full swing.

St Saviour's Church was packed for the Remembrance Service on Armistice Sunday. In his address the Rev'd Francis Cumberlege quoted from his grandfather's diary, vividly describing the horrors of a day in the WW1 trenches. The Roll of Honour was spoken by 5 Brockenhurst College Army Cadets.

The sun was shining by the time the Parade formed up to march to the War Memorial. As it turned from The Rise into Sway Road it became apparent that there were a record number of people awaiting this act of Commemoration. They were joined by a couple of donkeys who gave loud voice as if on cue. Fleeting thoughts of “Lions being led by Donkeys” crossed the mind but were soon subsumed by the better thought that they were perhaps reminding us of the eight million horses who were killed on the Western Front. After the Exhortation, Last Post and Two Minute Silence many wreaths were laid at the base of the Memorial and small crosses placed in the memorial garden by the uniformed youth groups present. The successful completion of the Parish Council’s project to freshen up the War Memorial and Garden was self-evident. Jubilee Brass then accompanied the hymn “O God our help in ages past” and the National Anthem before the Parade reformed to march back to St Saviour’s Church.

As we disbursed the Bells rang out from St Nicholas Church tower. The recent collapse of a section of the ceiling had put this in jeopardy but fortunately a survey had determined that it was safe to proceed. This made a celebratory conclusion to our Commemoration.

Contacts. For further information please contact:-
 Mike Matthews - Branch Chairman & Publicity Officer - 01590 624033
 Clare Church - Branch Secretary - 01590 673145



Poppy Appeal News

2017/8 Totals:

National:	£47,368,129-35
Hampshire North:	£797,644-06
Hampshire South:	£903,420-85
2018/19 Totals: (as at 23/11/18)	
Hampshire North:	£217,257-26
Hampshire South:	£257,384-85

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

New dates will be confirmed in the new year

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.

Reginal Standard Bearers Competition

Following discussions with the Membership Council Representative for Somerset & Wiltshire please be advised that the Regional Standard Bearers Competition will be held on Saturday the 16th February 2019.

The event will be held at The Michael Herbert Hall, South Street, Wilton, Near Salisbury, SP2 0JS.

The Michael Herbert Hall is close to Salisbury on the A30 and there is ample free parking on site

Details of timings and catering arrangements for the day will be sent in December 2018.



CHRISTMAS MINCE PIE AND COFFEE GET TOGETHER

**CALLING ALL SERVING, VETERANS
AND THEIR FAMILIES TO JOIN US AT :**

**THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POP IN
104 ABOVE BAR STREET,
SOUTHAMPTON,
SO14 7DT**

GAMES AND BOOKS ALSO AVAILABLE

WHEN : 14TH DECEMBER 2018

TIME : 11AM - 3PM

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU!

Lovedean & Horndean Branch.

Well Done and Thank You, Sir Geoffrey.

In April 2008 the Lovedean and Horndean Branch President sadly passed away and therefore, a new Branch President was required by the Branch. The 'ideal' candidate living in the Lovedean and Horndean area was approached and he proudly accepted the post. Hence, **Vice Admiral Sir Geoffrey Dalton KCB** became the Branch President of our Branch. What made him the 'ideal' candidate? From 1993 to 1997 Sir Geoffrey was the National President of the Royal British Legion and recited the Exhortation and Kohima Epitaph during the Festival of Remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall. To carry out that duty in front of the Royal Family, a packed Royal Albert Hall and with millions of people watching on TV was a great honour for him. Therefore, to carry out the same duty on Remembrance Day and other similar events in our local area, on behalf of our Branch, was still very important but less stressful. In addition, Sir Geoffrey's Wife Jane was the Poppy Appeal Organiser for the Horndean area and Sir Geoffrey took an active part helping her. Also, Jane was proud to be the Branch President of the Lovedean and District RBL (Women's Section), so they had matching posts.



Cdr. G. Dalton CO of HMS Relentless 1966.

Sir Geoffrey at the Horndean War Memorial 2015.

Over the ten years Sir Geoffrey has been in Office as our Branch President he has set a very high standard for us to follow and was always involved with collecting for the Poppy Appeal. He even attended our Branch Meetings in the earlier years of his Presidency on his Triumph motor bike, to show us he was still young at heart. Therefore, the activities of the RBL Riders Branch also interested him.



Certificate Presentation November 2018.

However, having completed the ten years of service as our Branch President the Branch Committee considered that it was time for Sir Geoffrey to have a well-earned rest from his duties. At our November 2018 Branch Meeting our Branch Chairman, Lorraine, proudly presented Sir Geoffrey with a framed '**Branch Certificate of Appreciation**' to say a very big 'Thank You' for the effort that he put in. Not just for our Branch but for what he did for the RBL in general when he was the National President. 'Thank You', Sir Geoffrey, from all of the Lovedean and Horndean Branch Officers and Members. Enjoy your retirement.

NAME AFTER NAME.
By Charles Wylie 29 Oct 2018.

Picture the scene at the graveyards of war:
The flower of nations, the rich and the poor,
Are named side by side in an endless array,
Who'll never more rise at the break of the day.

The War Graves Commission preserves for us all
The names of the Fallen for us to recall
On walls of the monuments - countless and sad -
Surrounded by headstones for husband or dad.

Vast greed and sheer arrogance motivate some
(Sycophant-bolstered to depths we can't plumb)
To launch a mad conquest of parts of the world,
Releasing their fury with foul flags unfurled.

Twice in a century Germany tried
To master the world - but that was denied.
Thousands and thousands of wasted young lives
Were spent for our freedom: thank God it survives.

Name after name after name after name:
Sombre the message they sadly proclaim.
Line after line after line after line:
Death by the thousands they sadly define.

Names of the heroes who fought in a war
That saw such a slaughter as never before.
Names of the missing: headstones of the dead,
Proclaim a grim message from young men who bled.

Name after name after name after name,
Sending a thought that is ever the same.
"We don't want to fight but we will if we must,
To save for our children a world that is just."

Name after name after name after name.
Name after name after name.
Name after name after name after name.
Name after name after name.

Name after name after name after name.
Name after name after name.
Name after name after name after name.
Name after name after name.....

smashwords.com. Search charles+wylie

© Charles Wylie

Note. Twelve of our family were pilgrims to the monuments and cemeteries of World War One last week - four days of shocking encounter with the folly and waste of war, vividly highlighted by an historian friend. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission brought tears to my eyes just to see how meticulously each edge of grass was trimmed, for they tend well over a thousand cemeteries. I am grateful to have had the chance to thank two French gardeners. If you can bring yourself to multiply name after name by hundreds of thousands you may begin to appreciate the stupidity of war

Reproduced with thanks to and with the kind permission of Charles Wylie

Events Diary

2018

December

1st – Band of Her Majesty`s Royal Marines
Yvonne Arnaud Theatre. Guildford

Box Office: 01483 440 000

www.yvonne-arnauld.co.uk

1st & 2nd – Treasurers Course

Area Office Southampton

Hampshire.cto@rbl.community

8th & 9th – Branch Management Course

Area Office Southampton

Hampshire.cto@rbl.community

10th – The Diane James Christmas Experience

Eastleigh Working Men`s Club @ 7pm

Free Entry

15th – The Harmonium Singers – 7.30pm

St Mary`s Church, Andover

Tickets £10 (At the door) or £8 in advance

2019

January

5th & 6th – Branch Treasurers Course

Old Basing RBL Club

Hampshire.cto@rbl.community

12th & 13th Branch Management Course

Old Basing RBL Club

Hampshire.cto@rbl.community

19th – County Conference

Jubilee Hall, Bishops Waltham

Starting at 10:30, please arrive by 10am.

Please if you have any events in the pipeline then contact the Hampshire Link Newsletter and we can advertise the event for you.

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.hampshirerbl

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 28th of the month

ALL LEGION INQUIRIES

(including Welfare requests)

Should be directed to the national call centre

0808 802 8080

County Personnel

Patron	<i>Lt Gen Sir Mark Mans KCB CBE DL</i>
President	<i>Col Andrew King</i>
Chairman	<i>Tim Russell</i>
Vice-Chairman	<i>Robert Bartlett</i>
Treasurer	<i>Brian C N Soffe</i>
MSO	<i>Christopher Bolton</i>
Membership Council Rep	<i>Gerry Nunn</i>
Area Manager SW	<i>Craig Spence</i>
Training Officer	<i>Mike Davis</i>
Branch Support – North	<i>Jacki Gatfield</i>
Branch Support - South	<i>Andy Knight</i>
Youth Officer	<i>Vacant</i>
Committee Member	<i>Brian Mansi</i>
CFR – Manager SW	<i>Claire Peppiatt</i>
CFR – Hampshire North	<i>Jim Parker</i>
CFR – Hampshire South	<i>Sarah Ferris</i>
PAO Coordinator – North	<i>Jacki Gatfield</i>
PAO Coordinator – South	<i>Pat Prior BEM QVRM</i>
Communications Support	<i>Avril Mitchell</i>
Hampshire Link	<i>Darron Back</i>