



We Will Remember Them

Mr Sid Slatter – *County Vice-President, Ringwood & EMMB*

Our sincere condolences to family and friends

General Election 2019

Branches and Clubs affiliated to the Royal British Legion are reminded that their premises are politically neutral during Election periods, and therefore, whilst premises can be used as polling stations, no RBL affiliated premises should invite or allow any political campaigning of ANY political party to take place.

The RBL produces a manifesto that they send to all political parties outlining their own requests and mandates that they hope the future government will take on board, and a copy of the General Election manifesto and Campaign Guidance notes are attached to the Hampshire Link Newsletter.

National News

General Data Protection Regulations

GDPR has been in place for over a year and so it is important that we all remember to make sure that personal data, particularly publicly available data is kept up to date.

We have recently received complaints regarding out of date personal information or personal information that should no longer be on some branch websites. For example, this could be an ex committee officer or someone who has since deceased. This can be classed as a data breach and if we are made aware then it will be passed on to our Data Protection Officer as required by law.

Please remember that it is the responsibility of each Branch or County to maintain and keep up to date their branch website including if you have set up your own.

Any data breaches you are made aware of need to be rectified as soon as possible and reported to our Data Protection Officer:

dataprotection@britishlegion.org.uk

You will find our GDPR supporting documents in the Membership Resources area here: <https://trbl.sharepoint.com/sites/MembershipResources/SitePages/GDPR-and-Data-Protection.aspx> where you will also find our Membership Retention Schedule that informs you how long different types of personal data can be held for. If you have any queries regarding Branch websites please send an email to Membership.ITSupport@rbl.community. I also encourage any of you that use Yammer to join the Webmasters group where you will find a supportive group of other branch webmasters.

Tom Shepherd

Membership IT Systems Manager

County News

Sid Slatter – County Vice-President

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Sid Slatter, County Vice President.

Sid joined Ringwood Branch in 1980, becoming Branch Chairman in 1983, a position he held until 2001 when he became Branch President until standing as Vice-President from 2017 until his passing.

Sid was an active member of Branch and County sitting on both the South West Sector and County Committees twice between 1988 and 1998 and as County Vice President from 1998 till the end.

His long and devoted service to the Legion saw Sid awarded the County certificate in 1989, Gold Badge in 1995 and Life Membership in 2000.

Sid's Funeral will take place at Ringwood Parish Church, Market Square, Ringwood at 11:00hrs on Tuesday 3rd December

Tim Russell,

Hampshire County Chairman

Hampshire County Conference

The Annual meeting of the Hampshire County Conference is being held at Jubilee Hall, Bishops Waltham on Saturday 18th January 2020 from 10.30am until 2pm.

The Agenda and County Reports have been sent by post to all Branch Secretaries, for the attention of ALL Branch members.

Included are nominations for County Committee, the Proposed County Plan, County Awards and Standing Orders.

The Branch Delegate will represent the views of the Branch Members at Conference.

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 in 2020. (Must have returned Branch Accounts and MS1's by the required dates to be able to vote.)

The County Committee encourages any member of a branch to attend as a visitor to hear what goes on and to learn more about the Legion in Hampshire.

We have to vacate the hall at 2pm so the lunch break will be 40 minutes, when the County Committee will be available to answer questions from any member. Please attend and air your views so that we may improve our support for the branches in Hampshire.

Those requiring lunches should ensure that they book their meal through their branch delegate before 6th January.

The above documents may be accessed by Branch officials on MAP on the Hampshire page in the [County Shared Documents](#) in the County Conference 2020 folder.

Draw Prizes Branches attending conference are requested to donate small prizes for the draw, which will be held to offset costs of conference

Branch News

Eastleigh, Chandler`s Ford & District

The Eastleigh Library in the Swan Centre have allowed the local branch to decorate the internal window each year to raise awareness of the Poppy Appeal, and hopefully draw in new Branch Members. This year the Minute Secretary was given the task and Marina`s two grand-daughters had a fun filled time with decorating the window, which has been done brilliantly, so well done to the pair of them.



The Branch and local community turned out for the Eastleigh and Chandler`s Ford Remembrance Sunday parade on the 10th November this year, the weather was good for the parade and a large crowd attended the Service.



The Branch also held a Festival Of Remembrance on the 3rd November to Remember all the Fallen.



Basingstoke & Overton



Sunday 3 November was the 100th anniversary of the Dedication of the War Memorial in Overton village. On 2 Nov 1919 a Dedication Service was held, attended by many villagers, WW1 veterans and the Bishop of Winchester.

The details of the Service, together with the script of the Bishop's speech, have been preserved. Consequently, Heritage Overton decided to hold a Commemoration Service, using the words that were spoken 100 years ago.



The villagers gathered at 2.30 on Sunday 3 November, which was 100 years to the day. The Rector said prayers and then read out the Bishop's original speech of 1919. As in 1919 two wreaths were laid, one by a representative of the Sunday School Children, and one by an Army Cadet representing the WW1 veterans who laid the original wreath.

No 4 Platoon (Overton) Army Cadet Force paraded, together with the Scouts. The Standard of Basingstoke, Overton and District RBL was carried by Geoff Davies, and the Basingstoke RAFA Standard was carried by Pip Iles. Afterwards some of the villagers attended Overton Memorial Institute for refreshments and to view the Memorial Plaque listing the names of those who died in WW1.

Overall, a moving and worthy commemoration of an important event of 100 years ago, and a practical demonstration that we will remember them.

Petersfield

The Annual Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day Parades took place in Petersfield once again this year, with kind weather and a good turn out by the local community.



The Petersfield Poppy Appeal currently stands at £36,500, with hopefully more to come,



David & Kristina Lloyd at Waitrose



Chairman Clive & Anna Lewis at Tesco

Hook

On the 30th October 2019, a service was held in St John the Evangelist Church in Hook, Hampshire to Lay-Up the Branch Standard of Hook Royal British Legion.



The Branch is believed to have closed sometime in the 1970's. The Standard was found and handed in to Old Basing Branch earlier this year. Avril Mitchell duly contacted Rev Marion De Quidt, rector of the Church to offer the Standard to them – an offer which she was delighted to accept - and plans were made to carry out the ceremony.



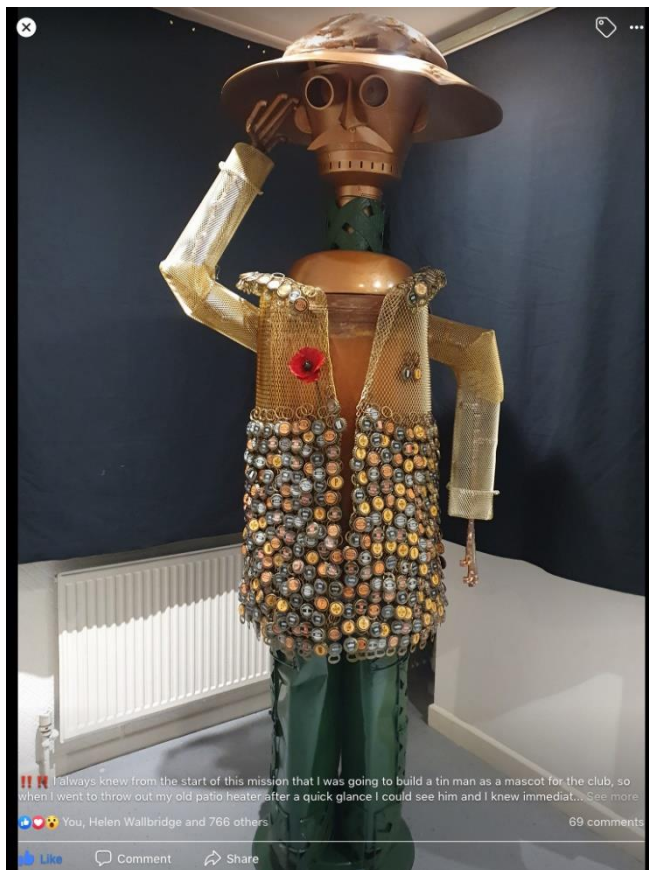
Old Basing Standard bearer, Ian Preston carried the standard escorted by Old Basing Branch Secretary John Essery and Old Basing Women's Section President Tammy Lake. County Chairman and Old Basing PAO Tim Russell carried out the dedication of the Standard and Buglers from the Old Basing Corps of Drums played Last Post. A number of members of Old Basing Branch joined parishioners of the Church to attend the service to Lay-Up the Standard which will be hung in the Chancel for posterity.

Woolston (The Tinnners)

Sarah Martin has breathed fresh air into the Woolston Branch, affectionally known as "The Tinnners", saving it from closure last year, and is trying to raise funds and awareness to ensure that the Branch can continue to grow.

Her latest fund raising initiative is Dougie the tin Soldier, who has been named after Douglas Coffin, a WW2 tankie, who after being shelled

was blown out of his tank, but still went back to rescue his friends and comrades, his bravery acts as a reminder of the spirit of Merry Wood and all the people that live there.



There are over 500 names and initials on his jacket and if you would like to sponsor one of the badge then please contact the Woolston Branch @ srmcando@gmail.com for more information. Once all the badges have been allocated, they will be fixed permanently to Dougie who will then continue to take pride of place guarding the home of the Woolston Branch

Milford on sea

Knitting two Remembrance Poppies, one each for herself and daughter Violet led to a lot more knitting for Milford mum Kirsty Long. On being told of the significance of the Remembrance Poppy from her mum, Violet had the idea that maybe more Poppies could be made and donations requested for 'The War Men' as she touchingly described them. After much knitting, about sixty Poppies were produced, and In addition to advertising them on Facebook and taking orders, the Poppies were also available in Village News in Milford on Sea, where proprietor Mark and his customers are always very supportive of the Poppy Appeal.

Purple versions of the poppies, which commemorate the horses and other animals which died in war service were also available. Violet's idea has resulted in an extra £176 in donations for this year's Poppy Appeal in Milford on Sea, so a big 'well done' and thank you is due to Violet and mum Kirsty. Violet is currently learning to knit, in time for next year's Poppy Appeal !

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.

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.

Eastleigh	Lymington	Fleet
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
<i>14:00</i>	<i>19:30</i>	<i>19:00</i>

Dates to be confirmed for 2020 soon

Poppy Appeal

2019 Poppy Appeal

Poppy Appeal Organisers are reminded of their legal obligations to ensure that returns are back to the Poppy Village by the 1st December 2019, for all the donations that have currently been banked. You must ensure the returns are completed on time even if you have outstanding donations still to be banked, these outstanding donations should then be included in your supplementary return,

which should be at the Poppy Village by the 30th September 2020.

The RBL will be fined each PAO who fails to send in their December return by the Charity commission, and last year this was over £30k. This money could have been put towards supporting the Appeal's aims, and is very easily remedied by PAO's ensuring they complete and send in their returns.

Notices

Looking Forward to 2020

As this year's Poppy Appeal and Remembrance activities come to an end, we're looking forward to what 2020 has in store for us. We're honoured to be hosting events for 75th anniversaries of both VE Day and VJ Day. Find out more about how we're commemorating these important anniversaries: VE Day 75

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/.../remembrance-ev.../ve-day-75>. VJ Day 75

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/.../remembrance-ev.../vj-day-75>

Attachments

2019 Campaign Guidance Booklet
 Questions and Answers for Members
 RBL General Election Manifesto
 RBL Strategic Review

Merry 
Christmas



Events Diary

2019

November

1st & 8th – Branch Management Course

Old Basing RBL Club

7th & 14th – Branch Management Course

Area Office Southampton

23rd – Michelmersh Silver Band – 7.30pm

Romsey Abbey

Tel: 01794 512987

2020

January

18th – County Conference of Branches– 10.30am

Jubilee Hall, Bishops Waltham

19th – Branch Management Course

Aldershot RBL Club

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/

Facebook - Email

Hampshire.web@rbl.community

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)

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>Ges Brown</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>
Recruitment Officer	<i>Pat Prior BEM, QVRM</i>
Branch Support – North	<i>Jacki Gatfield</i>
Branch Support - South	<i>Andy Knight</i>
Youth Officer	<i>Vacant</i>
Committee Members	<i>Brian Mansi & Brian Soffe</i>
CFR – Manager SW	<i>Claire Peppiatt</i>
CFR – Hampshire North	<i>Sarah Farris</i>
CFR – Hampshire South	<i>Vacant</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>