

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



Registered Charity Number 219279

We Will Remember Them

To all those we lost this month

Our sincere condolences to family and friends

National News

Parades

As many Branches celebrate or plan their centenary and some work on Remembrance events, we wanted to reiterate the Legion's policy about road closures for parades. The Legion does NOT own or insure road closures (known as Temporary Traffic Management Orders or TTMOs). That is because the law relating to the safe deployment and removal of a TTMO is complex and should be left to local authorities or the police, who are the experts.

The policy is set by the Board of Trustees and reads as follows:

• Remembrance events should, wherever possible, be organised by a Civic Authority. All aspects of an event that is organised by a Civic Authority should remain the responsibility of that Civic Authority. Temporary Traffic Management Orders ("TTMOs") may only be organised and deployed by the Civic Authority and on no account should RBL staff or volunteers be deployed to manage traffic;

• Where RBL must be the Event organiser (because the Civic Authorities refuse) RBL may take this role but **there can be no street Parade**, **no road closure and, therefore, no need for a TTMO** unless this aspect of the event is owned by a Civic Authority. Whilst the branch can be involved in determining a Parade route, it should not itself contract with a third party and may not take responsibility for the design, planning and deployment of a TTMO; and

• On the day of the Parade, RBL and its volunteers must not engage in the deployment, management or removal of any TTMO. This

includes, for example, placing barriers, directing traffic or driving vehicles that are involved in the TTMO.

This policy is not new but we want to bring it to your attention as the result of a serious road traffic accident at the 2018 Remembrance event, which resulted in a multi-million-pound personal injury claim against the Legion. We must do all we can to ensure such accident does not happen again. Any branch organising a TTMO (or takes to the road without one) is uninsured for that parade. Many Remembrance events now take place without an on-road Parade. As local authorities continue to seek ways to cut costs it is likely the proportion of "static" events will only increase. There may also be a need for branches to merge Parades with other branches. No branch may extend the Legion's Public Liability cover vicariously to a civic authority or other third party. The Branch CAN share the Legion's PL certificate on request. The latest insurance certificates are available on MAP.

Public Policy Team are writing to all local authorities as they did before, to remind them of their civic duty.

Data Protection Guidance

Sending personal information to the wrong person is the most common cause of personal data breeches in the RBL Organisation. These human errors can have serious consequences.

Who are you sending the email to?

• Your RBL.community email address has been provided as an official secure account for you to conduct Membership business.

• Ensure the recipients need or allowed to receive the information you are sending. Think twice before responding to a group email or copying others in.

• Confirm the name and email address of the recipient are correct. Double check the address spelling before sending.

• Be aware that your auto-complete address list may give you similar options so you may accidently select the incorrect email.

• If you are sending an email to multiple recipients, use the blind copy facility (BCC) so that recipients are unable to see other email addresses, therefore avoiding a data protection breech.

What are you including in the mail?

• Try to keep personal information in the email to an absolute minimum. It is safer to put the information in a separate document, password protect it and then attach it to your email.

• Only send what you need. When emailing, it may be convenient to forward an email instead of starting a new one. If everyone you are emailing does not need to see all the chain of emails you are sending, send separate emails.

• If possible, mark the email as confidential to warn the recipient that they should open it in a secure environment.

• Let the recipient(s) know that they should only keep it for as long as it is needed. Are you sending personal or sensitive information?

• Unless you are sure the address is correct and current, confirm it with the individual before sending any correspondence containing sensitive information (e.g. by calling them).

• If you have to send personal information to an external recipient, contain it within a password protected file and attach it to the email.

• Remember to use a different password from your other passwords because you will have to share this when you send the file.

• Do not send the password in the same email as the attachment. Either send it in a separate email or, preferably, call the recipient on the telephone to give them the password. What to do if you send an email containing personal data to the wrong person?

• If you have emailed the wrong person, contact them immediately. Ideally, you will be able to pick up the phone and speak directly to the person you have incorrectly emailed. If you can, inform them of your error and apologise.

Ask them to delete the email from their inbox and deleted items folder and to confirm with you when they have done this.

• If you cannot get hold of the person by phone, send them a separate email explaining what has happened. Ask the person to delete the email completely, and to confirm with you when they have done this.

Report the matter to the RBL Data Protection Team by

emailing <u>dataprotection@britishlegion.org.uk</u>. Do this as soon as possible.

As an organisation, we only have 72 hours to assess the incident and, if necessary, to notify the regulator.

Please do not sit on it. Report it to us.

• When you report a suspected breach to the RBL Data Protection Team, it is important to tell us:

• Whose personal data may have been breached,

• Who received the data,

• What types of data were included and how much of it,

• When the incident occurred, and

• What steps have you taken to contain the breach.

Following your report, the RBL Data Protection Team will review the details of the incident and provide advice. The Data Protection Officer will assess the risk of the incident and will decide whether it is necessary to notify the regulator or inform the person whose data has been breached. **Do not take these actions yourself.** If you have any questions or concerns about your use of personal data, speak with your MSO or email Membership IT Support in the first instance. If you still have questions,

contact <u>dataprotection@britishlegion.org.uk</u> for further support.

County News

Administrative Notice – Hampshire Groups

Pleased be advised that the next Group Meeting via Microsoft Office Teams will be held on Saturday 16th October between 10:00 and 12:00hrs.

This is a change to the original date of the 25th of September and my apologies, but it was unavoidable.

A calendar invitation will be sent out to you nearer the time so you can log on and participate. As before, the structure will be informal but will follow an Agenda which will be sent out in due course including the minutes to the previous meeting if you have not already received them.

Please Note: If you have any detailed questions, send them to me as soon as possible. this will allow time to give you the fullest possible answers on the day.

Mr Tim Russell Hampshire County Chairman

County Conference

The Hampshire County Conference will take online via Microsoft Teams on Saturday 15th January. Details for the Conference have been sent to Branch Secretaries, and any that have not received their packs should contact the MSO

Branch News

Totton

The Totton Poppy Appeal Team are looking for volunteers to help with this year's poppy appeal in Totton. We start on Saturday 30th October until Remembrance Sunday 14th November. We will collect in ASDA Totton and other locations and if you are able to spare an hour or two to help collect please contact Susan on 023 8087 3143 or email poppy@compark.co.uk for more details.

Yateley & Hawley

Yateley & Hawley will be holding a Remembrance Concert (see poster attached) at Yateley School Main Hall at 7.30pm, music supplied by the Army Medical Services Band. Please contact 07770 628082 for more information and tickets.

Yateley

The Branch was pleased to hold it's annual Poppy Appeal Collector Awards & Garden Party on Sunday 12th September, in Fleet. Normally held on the last Saturday in June to coincide with Armed Forces Day, the party was cancelled in 2020 and this year whilst unable to be held on Armed Forces Day was wisely rescheduled for the September date. The party also served to mark the Centenary of The Royal British Legion and also the foundation of the Branch too on 24th June 1921.

As usual the garden party was held in a marquee at the home of Branch Chairman, Air Commodore Bill & Judy Tyack's home and ably supported by their grandchildren running the garden bar. Blessed by fine late summer weather, over 70 guests attended the party and enjoyed a delicious cheese and wine buffet before the awards. Presented by Ranil Javawardena MP (North East Hampshire), some 27 Poppy Appeal collectors received certificates of appreciation and badges for 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of collecting. Of particular note was the 30 year long service medal presented to both Colonel John and Barbara Coombes of Church Crookham.



It was a pleasure to return to normal, see so many of our members, collectors and supporters from Fleet, Crookham and nearby and all keen to once again offer their time to collect for The Poppy Appeal in 2021.



Poppy Appeal

This year, as we mark 100 years of the Royal British Legion, we celebrate the return of our Poppy Appeal collectors in local communities. The Poppy Appeal Organisers have been sent a new handbook and Pre-Appeal planning pack for 2021 containing all the information they need, including key dates, key public messages, ordering stock, collecting and banking money, and statement of account forms. If you are a PAO please ensure you read this document carefully. If you are a branch official or committee member, please check if your PAO received their copy of the pack, and if they haven't – please ask them to contact their Relationship Manager.

We would like to share with you some of the important information included in the pack.

Our key messaging to members of the public will focus around three main messages:

• Poppy Appeal collectors are back in the community

As Covid-19 restrictions ease, our collectors are back out in their communities to raise vital funds for the RBL's Poppy Appeal. Our collectors have been at the heart of the Poppy Appeal in local communities for over 100 years and as we mark the RBL centenary we are celebrating their contribution. Find your local collector to donate to, because every poppy counts, and your contribution will make a real difference to the lives of the Armed Forces community who have given so much for their country.

• **100 years of the Poppy and Remembrance** Since it was first worn as an act of Remembrance just over 100 years ago, the poppy has become an enduring symbol of support for our Armed Forces, past and present, and every poppy counts. For 100 years Remembrance has been part of the fabric of society, reminding us of our shared history and today it continues to unite people across all backgrounds, communities, and generations. Throughout history the British Armed Forces have defended freedom and democracy, join us in our 100th year to remember their service and sacrifice

• Every Poppy Counts

Every poppy counts, which is why getting our Poppy Appeal collectors back out in local communities is so important. Your support is as vital as ever as the impact of Covid-19 continues to leave some members of the Armed Forces community in urgent need of our help. There are many ways you can take part and support the RBL's Poppy Appeal visit rbl.org.uk to find out more.

Covid –19 Updates

We are planning for a 'Business as Usual' Poppy Appeal as current government guidance indicates this to be the most likely scenario.

If further restrictions are put in place ahead of the appeal, we may need to ask you to cease house-to house collecting or to collect using a table to hold the collection receptacles, as we did for Poppy Appeal 2020. PPE and signage will be made available for PAOs to order should it be required. In the unlikely case that we go into a lockdown, we may have to cease collecting completely. We will continue to follow and respond to government advice and that of the Fundraising Regulator and will inform PAOs immediately if changes are required for collections.

Should we be unable to run the appeal as planned, we will ensure there are other ways to deliver poppies and key messages in your community.

RBL Brand

This year, as the RBL transitions to a new brand identity, we ask everyone to use old stock before ordering new materials in support of our "no waste" approach. This means there may be a mix of both old brand and new brand materials, and this is fine.

Key dates

Thursday 28th October - National Launch Thursday 28th October to Saturday 13th November:

- House to House/Static Collections
- Street Collections

Thursday 11th November - Armistice Day Sunday 14th November - Remembrance Sunday.

Notices

The RBL Centenary Concert, Salisbury

Attached to the Link is a poster for the Centenary Concert at Salisbury on 16th October, by the Central Band of the RBL, and ask if any Standard Bearer would like to assist.

If any Standard Bearer would like to partake, free entry, additional guest seat & £25 Travelling expenses, they should contact John Underhill MBE MCIM direct at <u>j.underhill@doccombe.com</u> for mor information.

National Veterans Training Academy



The Forces Remap Training Academy will be established to deliver a national veterans training program that supports vulnerable and homeless veterans from the UK Armed Services. This will be achieved by way of training and provision of the equipment to manufacture all of the components for a complete timber house. I have been told that it is needed and certainly opens up routes into several lines of industry and employment for our homeless veterans and veterans that have been in the prison system. This one-of-a-kind project will be called The Forces Remap Training Academy and will be based in Dorset and open to any person that has served in the Armed Services.

The position that we find ourselves in at the moment is that we require one more person to act as a trustee alongside myself and another who has kindly agreed to become a trustee. Forces Remap will be set up as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and upon request, the governing document is available for anybody to see. We were wondering if you have any contacts who would be interested in becoming a trustee to help oversee this project that could transform the lives of our veterans. Once we have found one more trustee and obtained a registered number we can start to raise approximately £3,000,000 to build and equip the Academy. We are also seeking patrons and ambassadors for the charity once it is set up.

The course on offer will give not only the training but through the exercise of building their own property using the self-build group method will give the veterans important extended experience so vital in obtaining employment. A combination of Covid 19 and Brexit has meant that tradespeople have become in very short supply. This has put a severe strain on the construction industry especially. The UK construction workforce is an aging one, with over 20% of tradespeople being over fifty and 15% being in their sixties. The problem was a simple one, as these electricians, builders, carpenters, and plumbers retire, the same percentage of young people were not entering these professions. Since the pandemic, 18% of Brits have found employment within a trade sector to pick up additional work or to commence a new career path. This could breathe life into the industry.

Anybody that is looking to change their career path will be faced with another problem. An employer will only pay an adult rate of pay for anybody that has experience or specialist skills to offer. If anybody enters a new industry without experience or specialist skills, they would have to accept a trainee's rate of pay and this would be significantly below what is needed to live. In short somebody like a veteran with specialist skills gained whilst serving and also skills gained from the course would stand head and shoulders above anybody entering through the existing routes of further education.

To make this a success for the veteran we would need and would welcome any form of help from an area of the military or industry. For a long time, I have viewed veterans support like a wheel with the veteran being the hub of the wheel. The outer rim of the wheel represents the various organizations and charities and the spokes or the wheel the process of delivering the help to the veteran.

If you would like more information about this project and organisation, then please contact Malcolm Whitehead at forcesremapacademy@outlook.com



Yateley and Hawley Branch

Army Medical Services Band





REMEMBRANCE CONCERT

Friday 12th November 2021. Yateley School Main Hall 7.30pm

Music provided by the 30 - strong Army Medical Services Band

Cost - Adults £10.00 RBL Members £8.00. Children (u/19) £5.00

> Phone 07770 628082 for tickets and more details

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.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)

ALL LEGION INOUIRIES (including Welfare requests) Should be directed to the national call centre

0808 802 8080

County Personnel

President County Life Vice-President Maj DF Covill MBE DCM County Vice President Vice-Chairman Robert Bartlett Membership Council Rep Area Manager SW Training Officer Recruitment Officer Branch Support – North Branch Support - South Youth Officer Chair - Conference Committee CFR – Manager SW CFR – Hampshire North CFR – Hampshire South & IoW PAO Coordinator - North Jacki Gatfield PAO Coordinator - South Pat Prior BEM QVRM Communications Support Avril Mitchell Hampshire Link Darron Back

Patron

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