

Editor's Notes

Hello friends and colleagues.

Welcome to the 4th edition of the County Newsletter.

Please don't forget this is publication for all branches so please send in copies of your social calendar and details/photos of any event which you would like to share with other branches - in Word format please with pictures attached.

All submissions please to:

Northamptonshire.minutingsecretary@rbl.community

Fraud Awareness

Branches should be aware that there was a recent serious incident that occurred where funds were transferred to a scam from TRBL branch funds.

Emails have been sent to branch officials requesting funds be transferred to them using staff work signatures and TRB logo.

There are called "phishing" designed to trick people into a scam.

Usually the originating email is incorrect in some way or the destination bank account wrong.

No member of TRBL staff will ever request that funds are transferred into a non TRBL account. If in doubt always contact

Servicedesk@britishlegion.org.uk

before making any such transactions.



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County Chairman's Notes

by Ian Byrnes

Now that the pandemic is retreating over the horizon for most of us, we can finally turn our attention to the following celebrations and commemorations:

This year's ANZAC Day Parade and Ceremony at Towcester Road Cemetery, Northampton is on 23rd April - 13.45 for 14.00 ceremony. Why? Because many ANZAC troops wounded on the battlefields of Flanders were evacuated to the Military Hospital at St Crispin's in Northampton and those who died of their wounds are buried at Towcester Road Cemetery.

The Post 45 Ceremony on Sunday 25th June at the same location 10.45 for 11.00, where all those service personnel from our county who have made ultimate sacrifice since 1945 are remembered, ending with our nation's highest award to James Ashworth VC.

Saturday 15th April will see the Centenary celebration service at St Giles Church in Desborough for Desborough Branch. The parade to the church will assemble in the Market Square at 14.30 for the service to commence at 15.00.

All are welcome at all three events.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL THE LATEST INFORMATION

[HTTPS://COUNTIES.BRITISHLEGION.ORG.UK/COUNTIES/NORTHAMPTONSHIRE/](https://counties.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/northamptonshire/)

County Committee Meeting

The Committee met on 16th March 2023, at which the following was discussed/agreed:

- Faith Cosgrove was co-opted as a new Committee Member.
- All branches are encouraged to attend the Desborough Branch Centenary event on 15th April 2023 (see poster on Page 4).
- A letter will be sent to all compliant branches regarding National Conference and the Royal Charter motions.
- Bill Rose was thanked for all his hard work as County Vice-Chairman.
- It was agreed that the County would contribute £3,250 towards the cost of welfare work delivered by the National Welfare Team to beneficiaries in Northamptonshire.
- Following the formation of 2 new branches and the loss of 2 others in the County a boundary review is being undertaken by the County Chair on behalf of the County Committee which approved the first draft at this meeting..

Training Opportunities

Standard Bearers Training

11th April
9th May



Training takes place at the Army Reserve Forces
Centre Drill Hall, Clare Street, Northampton
from 19.00 to 20.30hrs

Branch Training

Branch courses are available for booking as follows:

- Saturday 15th April 2023 - 09.30 to 13.00 - Office 365 and MAP (Northampton)
- Saturday 29th April 2023 - 09.30 to 13.00 - Office 365 and MAP (Northampton)
- Tuesday 9th May 2023 - 19.00 to 20.30 - Standard Bearer Training (Northampton)
- Saturday 13th May 2023 - 09.30 to 15.30 - Branch Management (location tbc)

Please book your places by going to the [Training Page](#) on the County website

Meeting Dates - April

01 Apr - Corby Branch Meeting
03 Apr - Rushden Branch Meeting
03 Apr - Byfield Branch Meeting
03 Apr - Finedon Branch Meeting
03 Apr - Oundle Branch Meeting
03 Apr - Roade Branch Meeting
04 Apr - Brackley branch Meeting
04 Apr - Kettering Branch Meeting
05 Apr - Northampton Branch Meeting
11 Apr - Towcester Branch Meeting
12 Apr - Raunds Branch Meeting
13 Apr - Desborough Branch Meeting
17 Apr - Thrapston Branch Meeting
18 Apr - Greens Norton Branch Meeting
24 Apr - Finedon Branch Meeting
27 Apr - Daventry Branch Meeting

NOTE - all dates are taken from branch TRBL websites where available - is yours up-to-date?

Membership Town Hall

The next Town Hall event, where you can listen to the latest updates from the National Chair and senior staff plus the opportunity to pose questions live on-line, will take place on **Tuesday 25th April 2023**. Full details will be released shortly



County Committee

President	Col John Royle MBE DL
Chairman/Training Officer/AFC Officer	Ian Byrnes
Vice Chairman/ Recruitment Officer	Phil Blanchard
Armed Forces Covenant Officer	Bill Rose
Treasurer/ Youth Officer	Tyler Jeffs
CCSC/Parade Marshal	Nick Fall
Publicity Officer	Phil York
Club Liaison Officer	Robbie Paice
Minutes Secretary	Steve Thatcher
Committee Members:	Irene Blanchard Faith Cosgrove Pat Cutting Mike Nichol Bill Rose

County Standard Bearers

County Standard Bearer	Chris Barlow
Deputy Standard Bearer	Adam Brooks

Other County Officials

Community Fundraiser	Giles Coleman
Membership	Tom Coen
Engagement Officer	

County Office

The County Office is located at the Army Reserve Forces Centre, Clare Street, Northampton NN1 3JQ and is open every Tuesday from 10.00 to 14.00 hrs.

Telephone: 01604 630966

(Answerphone available out of office hours)



Editor's Contact: Northamptonshire.MinutingSecretary@rbl.community

Branch Centenaries 2023

12 Apr - Desborough
20 Jun - Burton Latimer



County War Memorial Competition

Full details of this year's competition will shortly be available on the County website. In the meantime, branches are asked to liaise with their local authority to encourage participation.



Cost of Living Support

If you know a beneficiary who is struggling with essential costs such as energy, utilities and sudden expenses they cannot afford, they may be eligible for support through the new TRBL new and expanded Cost of Living Grants.

Full details of the eligibility criteria and application process is available through the main TRBL website at:

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-support/financial-and-employment-support/finance/grants/cost-of-living-grants>

BRANCH NEWS

Is your Branch planning a
Coronation event?



Please send in details for inclusion in the next
County Newsletter to:

Northamptonshire.MinutingSecretary@rbl.community



Desborough Branch
1923 Centenary 2023
Coffee Morning
Heritage Centre
Station Road, Desborough
Saturday 8th April
10am - 12 Noon

Tea, coffee and hot cross buns!
Raffle, cakes and various stalls to
browse

Fire Safety Advice and Royal British
Legion information.

Shoulder To Shoulder With All Who Serve.
Registered Charity Number: 219279



ARMED FORCES DAY
RUSHDEN
Saturday 24th June 2023

**Parade, Stalls, Displays,
Entertainment**

Times and Places to Follow

If you would like to Parade or display
at the event please register your interest

Contacts:

Paul Mills: afdrushden@hotmail.com
Tel: 07815 790602

RHTS (Rushden Station).
Tel: 0300 3023 150. secretary@rhts.co.uk

In association with
Rushden Town Council,
Rushden Royal Naval Association,
Rushden Historical Transport Society



Desborough Branch
1923 Centenary 2023
Church Service
St. Giles Church, Desborough
Saturday 15th April
3 - 4pm
Followed by
refreshments in the
Community Centre.

Shoulder To Shoulder With All Who Serve.
Registered Charity Number: 219279



**RBL BYFIELD AND DISTRICT
GUESS THE NUMBER OF POPPIES**



£1 DONATION FOR EACH GUESS

To commemorate King Charles III being Head of the British Armed Forces and in honour of his coronation.

All proceeds will be given across to the RBL Poppy Appeal which provides such valuable support and aid to its Armed Forces community.

Results will be drawn over the coronation weekend.

Poppies in a Jar

The Byfield & District Branch will be going along to local events / clubs and trying to collect as many entries / donations as possible. If you want to take part please contact the Branch (contact email address on Breakfast Club poster above)



**ARMED FORCES & VETERANS MONTHLY
BREAKFAST**

Join us for the inaugural breakfast
Saturday 24 June 2023 from 10 am to 12 noon

At The Cross Tree, Byfield

Tea/Coffee and a Bap - £5

To book email cubittbob@yahoo.co.uk

(Or you can just turn up. Assistance in getting there can be arranged)

Meet, Greet and Eat

