



## THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY AWARDS POLICY 2023

In January each year the County presents a number of Awards at the County Conference to acknowledge the contribution and achievements which branches and/or individuals make towards the work of the Legion in Northamptonshire.

There are also a number of National Awards that are presented at the Legion's National Conference held in May each year. These include cups and shields for recruiting and membership, and also for progress and efficiency.

These awards are the way that County and National committees acknowledge the achievements of branches and individual members, who through hard work and commitment, have made a significant contribution to the work of the Royal British Legion.

As a county we are very keen to nominate branches and/or individuals for National Awards, but in order to do so we need the relevant information.

As well as helping the County Committee decide which branches/individuals deserve a county award, these nominations also assist us in deciding whether to nominate any branches and/or individuals for National or Regional Awards. For this reason, we would encourage all branches to complete and submit the relevant forms.

Some branches may not be aware of the awards process and the criteria for making an award.

**Step 1 - Branch Award.** Every branch is able to award a branch certificate to an individual who in their opinion has done something exceptional for the branch. The issuing of such an award should be included in the branch meeting minutes. These awards can be presented at any time.

**Step 2 – County Award.** Once a member has a branch certificate, they may then be nominated for a County Certificate of Appreciation. This will be considered by the County Committee and, if awarded, minuted as such and presented at the County Annual Conference.

**Step 3 – National Award.** Once a member has been awarded a County Certificate, they may be nominated for a National Award i.e. Gold Badge, National Life Membership and National Certificate of Appreciation (awarded in that order).

In addition, there is also an East Midlands Membership Council (MC) Representative award – please see below.

## COUNTY AWARDS

Below are the awards made by County along with the criteria to be evidenced on the Application or Nomination Form:

### COUNTY BRANCH AWARD

#### **The Bill Rose Memorial Cup**

This is awarded to the branch judged to have been the most effective and improved during the previous year. This will be a branch that has been extremely active in the community, maintaining a high profile through social media and running events to benefit both the branch and the Poppy Appeal. They will be a fully compliant branch who demonstrates that they actively follow the rules contained in the Royal Charter and the Membership Management Handbook and maintain a good working relationship with the County Committee.

### COUNTY AWARDS TO AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER

**County Certificate of Appreciation.** Awarded to an individual in recognition of their contribution or service to the County, or to their branch over an extended period.

**The County Chairman's Award.** Awarded to the outstanding County or branch member who has promoted the cause of the Royal British Legion, its beneficiaries and members during the last 12 months (October 2022 to September 2023). They will be a member of a compliant branch and active in several areas of the County/branch during the year covered by the award.

### OTHER COUNTY AWARDS

**War Memorial Trophy.** Winning External War Memorial awarded to any locality with a Town Council.

**War Memorial Trophy.** Winning Internal War Memorial for town or village.

**Brian Walker Shield.** Donated in Memory of Brian Walker as a War Memorial Competition Trophy to the winning village, to prevent them being overshadowed by the larger towns.

**Maxwell Challenge Cup.** Awarded to the winner of the County Standard Bearer Competition.

**N. B. Wiffin Trophy.** Awarded to the runner-up in the County Standard Bearer Competition.

## **Poppy Appeal Awards (arranged by collaboration with the County Committee/Poppy Appeal Manager)**

**Albert Franklin Cup.** Awarded to the CFR managed larger towns and PAO districts of the County for increase in £ per head of population raised for Poppy Appeal.

**Cromwell Cup.** Awarded to the traditionally smaller FRA (Fundraising Assistant) managed districts. These smaller districts are £10k or under and traditionally stay at that figure due to the geographical areas they cover.

**Poppy Appeal Certificate of Appreciation.** Awarded to the best overall PAO and Team.

### **How to Apply for County Awards**

To put your branch forward for consideration for the County Branch Award, or to nominate an individual member for consideration for one of the County Individual Awards above, please complete the attached County Awards Form and submit:

By email: [Northamptonshire.MinutingSecretary@rbl.community](mailto:Northamptonshire.MinutingSecretary@rbl.community) by **8<sup>th</sup> December 2023**.

## **REGIONAL AWARD**

**South East Midlands Membership Council (MC) Representative Award.** Awarded by the South East Midlands Regional MC Representative to a member/members or branch/branches that the County Committee feels are worthy of this award.

The County Committee will submit a citation for each member or branch with details of how and why the award should be given to the individual member or branch.

The closing date for all submissions to the South East Midlands MC Representative is **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023**.

## **NATIONAL AWARDS**

**There are specific criteria which must be met for a National Awards. These are included in the Membership Management Handbook - they will not be awarded just because a person has both a Branch and County Certificate or Award.**

Any branch considering applying for a National Award should, first of all, check the Membership Management Handbook (September 2023) and the guidance contained on the Application for Meritorious Service Form (available on MAP – Membership Forms).

Further advice may also be sought from the County office.

**THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**  
**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY AWARDS**  
**Branch Award**

*This form is to be completed by the Branch and returned to the County Minutes Secretary  
by no later than 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023*

Name of Branch: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch Code: BR \_\_\_\_\_

Award to be considered for: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP FIGURES**

Year	Members at Year End 30 <sup>th</sup> September
2021	
2022	
2023	

**POPPY APPEAL**

Year	Total Income at Year End 30 <sup>th</sup> September
2020	
2021	
2022	

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

At what intervals are branch meetings held:  
Monthly / Quarterly / Other

If other:

Average attendance at meeting:

Does the Branch have an up-to-date Legion webpage?	YES / NO
Does the Branch use MAP and Microsoft 365?	YES / NO
Is the Branch Signed up to and providing Branch Community Support?	YES / NO
Did the Branch send a delegate to County Conference 2022?	YES / NO

If applying for the Branch Award please use this section to provide more information on your Branch activities which met the award criteria and the period concerned (Please continue on a separate sheet if required).

**CITATION:**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Branch Chairman)

**THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**  
**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY AWARDS**  
**Individual Award**

*This form is to be completed by the Branch and returned to the County Minutes Secretary,  
by no later than 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023*

Please use this section when nominating an individual member for an award. Provide more information on their activities over the period shown in the award criteria. (Please continue on a separate sheet if required).

**Name of Branch:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Branch Code: (BR)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of individual member being nominated:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Award individual member is being nominated for:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITATION:**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (Branch Appointment)