

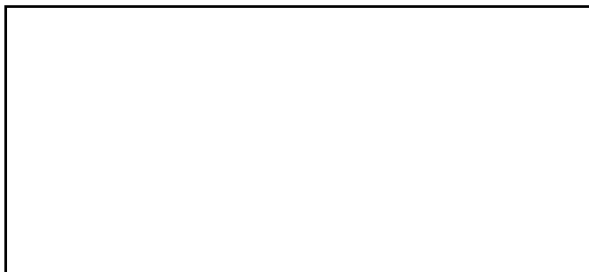


In Touch, Too



Founded in 1923

Reg.. Charity No 219279



The Market Harborough Branch Bimonthly News Sheet

Issue 17

April, 2000

Lest we Forget

It is with deep regret that we have to report the death in her 86th year of Eileen Louise Russell. A Legion member for many years, she will be remembered by longer serving members of the Branch. Her military service was in the ATS in which she became a WO2.

A funeral Service was held at her Church, St. Dionysius, where she was honoured by the presence of the Branch Standard

New Members

It is, of course, very sad to learn of the death of a fellow member but by the very nature of the Legion, for the next several years obituary notices will become more frequent.

What is encouraging, however, is that in this Branch, there has been a steady flow of new people joining us. So at the April branch meeting it was pleasing to welcome new member, George Gowing, to witness the presentation of Membership Badges to Carolie Windsor, David Grove and Bertie Thorold, and to hear that two other applications have been received.

News that ours is a good branch to belong to is spreading but all of us can

Birthday Dinner

A group of 20 members and guests met at the Bull's Head at Clipston for an informal evening meal on 24th March.



The event was just 77 years and 4 days after our founders met "in the Small Assembly Roomsto form a Branch of the Legion in Market Harborough" but it has to be said that nobody thought to raise a toast to their memory. Judging by the general buzz of light-hearted chat and despite comments about uncooked roast potatoes, we all seemed to be enjoying the present and not reflecting on the distant past.

On the other hand I am sure the 1923 meeting was more concerned with their present than the distant future. But had they seen us they would surely have approved how we have kept their ideal of comradeship.

Winchester Outing

The Production Department of *In Touch* has asked me to pass on their apologies for the mix-up over dates in the March Issue. The trip is definitely on Saturday, 20th May.

Through the hard work of the Social Committee, nearly all the seats on the coach have been taken and as a result it has been possible to reduce the price to £6 for Members and guests and to £8 for others. Payment is due at the branch meeting on 10th May or earlier by post to Bob England at 83 Cromwell Crescent, MH, LE16 9JW. Ring Bob on M H 464288 with any queries.

As I discovered when I came across its web site on the Internet, the correct name of the Museum, at which a stop will be made on the outward journey, is the Museum of Army Flying. It is located at the Army Air Corps base

April Lunch

Rather a disappointing turn-out but the 12 people who did attend had a good meal at *The Langton Arms* in Church Langton. Don't be discouraged, Bob, numbers are bound to fluctuate. Success should be measured by how much those who do go enjoy themselves.

In Touch, Too is written and produced by Branch Vice Chairman, Tom Ashmore
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Your comments and suggestions are wel-

Millennium Update

The Branch application for a Local Millennium Project Grant has been successful and £200 has been received from Harborough District Council. A generous donation has been received to cover the cost of producing the four volumes of the Book of Remembrance. The cost of the timber for the crosses as well as the machining has been met by Stan & Richard Snow. It is hoped more funds can be obtained to cover the other costs of a quite ambitious series of events during the Branch's Millennium Festival Week.

Meanwhile work continues and progress will be reviewed and plans developed at a meeting of the Branch Millennium Committee under Tom Jeacock on 27th April. (See Diary).

Coffee Morning

10th June Harborough Theatre.

Just to remind you that helpers and contributions for the Tombola, Cake & "For Sale" Stalls & the Raffle will again be needed, so please answer the call at the May meeting or the May issue of *In*

A Day on the Canal

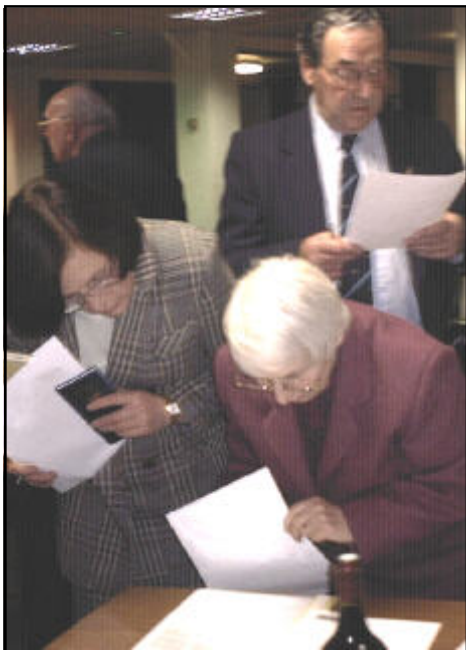
Those who took the trip which Tony Johnson skippered two years ago had a wonderful time and some have requested a voyage this year. Bob England has made a provisional date of Wednesday, 14th June but needs to know how many members and guests wish to take part. Please ring him ASAP on MH 464288.

Coach Trip to Duxford

A coach has already been booked for a visit to the Imperial War Museum at Duxford. The fare will be £7 but the cost of admission will probably depend on numbers. Call Bob England on MH 464288 if you have not already said you wish to go.

Proposed Community Building

The Branch has been represented at discussions led by CVS (Council for Voluntary Services) aimed at providing a Community Building for various local voluntary groups. It has now become apparent that our needs for accommodation for meetings, storage or as a HQ are incompatible with what other groups require and we have relinquished our interest. However we remain a Member of CVS.



A study in concentration

Members trying to unravel the clues in the Birthday Competition at the March Branch meeting.

This & the photo overleaf were taken on a Digital Camera and printed via the compu-

Medals

Another fascinating talk by Mr George Gamble on 12th April was enjoyed by an exceptionally well attended gathering. On this occasion he gave a brief description and background of the medals he had on display and then related stories about two particular medals and their recipients. Based on his extensive research he had us enthralled as he told us about Sgt. Johnson VC, his family and his service in WW1 until he was killed in 1918. Not only were we shown the medal, but also the Prayer Book given to Johnson as a small child and the Bible given to him after his award, both signed by the Vicar of his village church.

The warmth of the applause showed how much Mr Gambel's talk had been appreciated.

What on Earth is ICT?

It's short for another set of buzz-words - Information Communication Technology - but is really about modern ways communicating with each other as groups or as individuals. Our Web site is an example of communicating information about the branch through the use of modern technology. You may not know how it works but because it is being used and talked about in the branch, it is becoming accepted as a another way of keeping in touch.

Incidentally, the site now has had nearly 1600 hits, a recent "visitor" being a member of the Tokyo Branch of RBL!

DIARY

26th Apr.	Branch Committee Meeting
27th Apr.	Millennium Committee- 730pm Conservative Club
10th May	Branch Meeting + Talk by CFO + Buffet
20th May**	Coach trip to Winchester & Museum of Army Flying (See note overleaf)
31st May	Branch Committee Meeting
10th June*	Coffee Morning - Harborough Theatre
14th June**	Canal Trip/ picnic- details in May <i>In Touch</i>
14th June	Branch Meeting + event to be announced
24th June	Branch hosts County Half Year Conference
15th July*	Coach outing to Duxford
23rd Sep**	5 day visit to Normandy.

* See Box on this page for details

**Ring Bob England (MH 464288)