



Reg.. Charity No 219279

# In Touch, Too



Founded in 1923

## The Market Harborough Branch Bimonthly News Sheet

Issue 22

February, 2001

### *Lest we Forget*

*It is with deep regret that we report the death on 28th January of our fellow member Frank Gardner at the age of 77. He will be remembered by his contemporary Harborians as a large man with a generous and witty nature and as an exceptionally keen gardener. He was the cousin of his famous namesake Jack Gardner. In WW2 he served in the Royal Engineers and was amongst the early Normandy landings. We extend our sincere sympathy to his widow and to his large family.*

*The Standard was carried at his funeral at which other branch members were also present.*

*Although a long-time member of the Legion who did not attend meetings, Frank had a high regard for the Branch and has bequeathed a generous legacy. The Chairman has written a letter of appreciation to Mrs Gardner and family.*

### **Standard Bearers' News**

Each year the County Standard Bearers' Association hold a Re-dedication Service and Parade hosted by one of the Branches. At the Branch meeting on 14th February it was agreed that the verbal invitation to come to Market Harborough in 2002 should be confirmed in writing.

### **14th February Branch Meeting- Highlights**

**New Members.** Mrs. Marlyn Cook, Mr. Colin Hammersley and Mr. Stephen Simpson were warmly welcomed to the Branch. Mrs Norman was presented with her Membership badge.

**Cottage Hospital War Memorial.** This is unusual in that it records the names of all those from the then Urban District who served in the Great War. A small cross is inscribed against the name of each man who lost his life. With the probable redevelopment of the hospital site, the Branch should adopt an active role in ensuring that the Memorial is suitably preserved. A sub-committee of six members has been set up to propose what representations the Branch should make to the Hospital authorities.

**Welfare.** In presenting his report, John Liddell referred to letters of thanks from those who had received Christmas gifts. He read out a letter from the widow of Lt. Col. Potter expressing her appreciation of the messages of sympathy from the Branch and for the presence of the Standard at the funeral. Several recent requests for help and advice on Pension & War Pension claims were being dealt with. John stressed the importance of becoming aware of any ex-Service persons or their dependents who were in need of assistance (financial or otherwise). Each of us should be the "**Eyes and Ears**" for the Branch welfare activity and should inform any member of the Welfare team of those in need. We should publicise the scheme (which ends in 2002) which allows a war widow a first time visit to her husband's grave at only 1/8th of the cost.

**Social Events.** In the absence of the Social Secretary, John Cox referred to those events which have so far been arranged. Clipboards were circulated for members to sign up for the Skittles evening, Birthday Dinner and the Coffee Morning. (You are still in time to add your name for any of these - see the notices overleaf).

**Treasurer,** George Fleming reported that a generous donation had been received in memory of the late Frank Gardner (see Obituary this page). It was agreed that half should be allocated to the **In Touch** & half to the Benevolent/Trust accounts.

**Training Courses.** John Liddell will be attending a welfare course on 2nd & 3rd March (Call him on MH 465003 if you would like him to try for a place for you), and Secretary, Betty West is booked on the Branch Management Course at Leeds in July. It is hoped someone will attend the Branch Treasurers' Course in September - we really do need a Deputy Treasurer!

**Valentine Roses.** An inspiration by Chairman, Con Halsall and a donation by Sam Shutt led to a mini-ceremony of presenting each lady member present with a red rose.

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

## Birthday Dinner

Friday, **16**th March

Note corrected date!!

**AT THE BULL'S HEAD, CLIPSTON  
7 FOR 7.30PM**

### Menu

#### Starters

- Home-made cream of mushroom soup with crusty bread.
- Prawn Cocktail bound in a Marie Rose Sauce.
- Paté with warm toast & salad garnish.

#### Mains

- Roast sirloin of English beef served with Yorkshire pudding & rich pan gravy.
  - Poached fillet of salmon with an English parsley sauce.
  - Pan-fried breast of chicken in a wild mushroom, white wine and cream sauce.
  - Home-made vegetable crumble.
- All served with seasonal vegetables, new and roast potatoes.

#### Sweets

- Rich sherry trifle
- Blackforest gateaux
- Bread and butter pudding

#### Coffee & mints

Price £10 inclusive of a £1 donation to the Poppy Appeal.

Choose from the menu and pay on the night, but **book ASAP** by ringing Andrew Marriott (MH434805). The pub will be notified on 12th March of the number booked after which full payment is due even if you are unable to attend.

## FRIDAY, 2ND MARCH



### LONG ALLEY SKITTLES

**THE RAILWAY INN, KIBWORTH**

Call John Cox MH 434983 to Book

## Coffee Morning

Harborough Theatre

This is an urgent appeal for helpers and contributions for the Tombola, Cake & "For Sale" Stalls & the Raffle.

Thank you if you volunteered at the Branch Meeting. If not & can help on the day or have any items you can provide, please ring Andrew Marriott (MH434805) or John Cox (MH434983) ASAP. John needs items for the Tombola not later than Thursday evening.

**LET'S MAKE IT A GREAT SUCCESS!!**

### Poppy Appeal Latest

What is likely to be the last cheque for the 2000/2001 collection year, has just been sent to HQ. It brings the Branch total to the magnificent sum of **£13,158.81.**

### Transport a Problem?

If you want to attend any of the social events but can't get there,  
or  
if you can offer a lift,  
please call  
Andrew Marriott or John Cox  
Car sharing can sometimes be arranged.

### Goodbye, In Touch, Too

The March Issue of **In Touch** will be No. 30. For nearly five years it has appeared in the same format of three A4 sheets tri-folded and printed as 18 mini pages, in alternate months. This single A4 news sheet was started to bridge this two month gap. In future there will be only one newsletter, **In Touch** with Bob England as Editor & myself responsible for production. It will be published monthly, in the existing style but normally with 12 mini pages on two A4 sheets giving about the same annual content. It will link

# DIARY

24th Feb.*	Coffee Morning - Harborough Theatre
28th Feb.	Branch Committee Meeting
2nd Mar.*	Long Alley Skittles, The Railway Inn, Kibworth
14th Mar.	Branch Meeting + "Pedal to Paris, 2000" by Andrew Marriott, our intrepid cyclist.
16th Mar.*	Birthday Dinner- The Bull's Head, Clipston
10th Apr.	Branch Lunch - Venue to be announced
11th Apr.	Branch Meeting + Buffet
25th Apr.	Branch Committee Meeting
	Other Dates to keep free! Details later
12th Jun.	Branch Lunch - Venue to be announced
13th Jun.	Branch Meeting + Another talk on Medals by George Gamble
18th Jun.	Visit to Duxford**
7th Jul.	RBL 80th Anniversary open air concert at Beaumanor Hall, Woodhouse. (organised by Quorn branch)
4th Aug.	Poppy Race Day - Newmarket**
12th Oct.	Annual Dinner

For other events- **Watch this Space-** e.g.  
Visit to Poppy Factory &/or the Legion Village in May?  
A day on the Canal- a repeat of previous popular events- July?

The Social Committee will try to arrange other events and outings for which there is sufficient interest e.g.  
Concerts by the Royal Marines or Grimethorpe Colliery Bands  
Iron Bridge & Blists Hill Museum  
Bridgenorth Black Country Museum  
Shrewsbury Flower Show.....  
Please tell John Cox MH 434983 or Andrew Marriott if you would join any of these visits /events or if you have other suggestions.

\* See Box on this page for details

\*\*Ring Andrew Marriott MH 434805