

The Royal British Legion

Caring and campaigning for the serving and ex-Service community



*Warsop, Meden Vale & District
Branch*

NEWSLETTER



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Welcome to the September 2011 Newsletter.

Wootton Bassett

A number of members and friends were privileged to travel to Wootton Bassett in Wiltshire on Thursday the 18th August for the repatriation of Lt. Dan Clack of 1st Battalion The Rifles. This was the very last repatriation through Wootton Bassett which is to become Royal Wootton Bassett later this year. Repatriations ceased to fly into RAF Lyneham on the 31st August.

With only a few days notice of the repatriation hurried plans were put in place to hire a coach.

Ken Hunter, our standard Bearer represented us at the road side and

ours was the standard which had travelled furthest to be there!

Lieutenant Clack was killed while leading a ten-man patrol into the village of Dactran to speak to the local nationals and discuss a shura due to take place the next day. Approximately 150 metres from the front gate his patrol was struck by an improvised explosive device, killing him and injuring five other members of his patrol. Lieutenant

Daniel John Clack deployed to Afghanistan in April 2011 with C Company, 1st Battalion The Rifles (1 RIFLES), in command of 8 Platoon. He commanded Checkpoint Shaparak in the district of Nahr-e Saraj (South), Helmand province, Afghanistan. Born on 25 March 1987 in North London, Lieutenant Clack preceded his military career by studying at Exeter University before working for a short while in Switzerland driving for a ski chalet company, exercising his passions for skiing and adventure. He joined the Army in May 2009, and commissioned from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst into The Rifles in April



2010, serving as 8 Platoon Commander since his arrival. A keen sportsman, on the way he represented both the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and the battalion at rugby.

Lieutenant Clack had become immensely popular with his Riflemen, to whom he showed great empathy and loyalty. He was known as a man of integrity, and driven by doing the right thing; this attitude had forged a strong platoon and an impressive reputation - in a relatively short period of time he had become hugely popular across the battalion. Lieutenant Clack leaves behind a loving family: his mother Sue, father Martin, brother James and fiancée Amy Tinley. Thousands paid tribute to a fallen hero on a historic occasion.

Birthday Greetings

September birthday wishes go to the following members;

Brian McAleer
Wayne Drennon
Mike Trinder
Audrey Waby

David Street
Sandra Dunne
Peter Birchenall
Andrew Priest
Jane Carnell

A very happy birthday to you all.

Mansfield Branch 90th Anniversary celebration.

The names I have for this event are;

Pete & Elaine
Geoff & Eira
Brian & Freda
Tom & Marion
Doreen & Bill

It is on *Sunday 9th October 2011*. The cost is £15 a head.

Poppy Appeal

Plans are underway for this years Poppy Appeal. We need all hands on deck if we are to get anywhere near last years total. Please give me a ring if you can do just one hour in either NISA or Morrisons.

We are booked into Morrisons for two weeks from the 31st October.

If you know of any organisations who want a wreath for Remembrance, please ask them to ring me

to confirm one has been ordered for them.

The Mansfield Mayor has been invited to our Poppy Launch at the Police Band Concert at Warsop Church on the 29th October.

Tickets are now available so please sell some to make it a success.

New Members

We welcome new members, Jane Carnell and John Freeman to the Branch this month.

Welcome to you both!

Diary Dates

October

3rd - AGM

10th - at Mansfield Bellamy, talk on the Vulcan

29th - Notts Police Band Concert, Warsop Church in aid of Poppy Appeal

November

26th - Branch Christmas Meal, South Forest

Next Meeting

Monday September 12th - Doors open 7.30pm.

Pete