



Isle of Wight Link



May 2015

BRANCH SECRETARIES - PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ITEMS IN THIS NEWSLETTER SHOULD FORM PART OF YOUR REPORT

70th Anniversary VE Day Beacon Lighting event

Friday 8th May 2015



On the evening of Friday 8th of May, the Legion Riders will be hosting the Island's part of the national Beacon Ceremony to commemorate the 70th anniversary of VE Day.

Anyone who would like to join the event will be most welcome. The muster will be at the far end of Culver Down, facing towards Portsmouth at 9pm. The event itself will start around 9:15pm. There will be a bugle call followed by the reading of a tribute and then the lighting of the beacon.

For more information please contact:-

Peter Atkinson

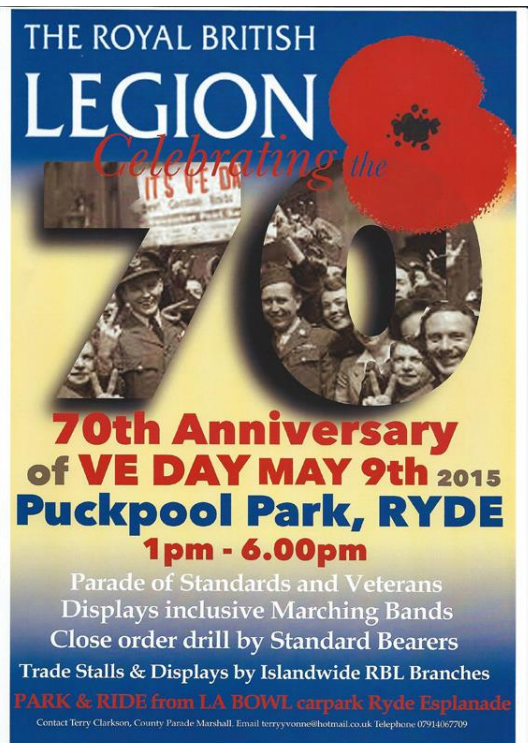
Royal British Legion Riders (Isle of Wight)

Email: petera@chalegreen.demon.co.uk

Mob: 07736 805701 (evenings)



PLEASE COME ALONG AND JOIN IN!!



VE 70 Puckpool Park

9th May 2015

1pm

Earlier this year, as part of the preparations for our VE 70 event being held on 9th May, design students at the Isle of Wight College were invited to take part in a competition to design a poster for the event.

The ten entries received were judged by the County Chairman, County Vice-Chairman and County Parade Marshal. The winning design is pictured above.

All of the posters were of a very high standard and it was not easy task to pick the winning design. A selection of the entries will be on display at Puckpool on 9th May.



Cheryl Bailey-Clarke, Kayleigh McLaughlin and Matt Barber from IW College with Andy Pound, County Chairman, Karen Gibson, County Vice-Chairman and Peter Atkinson with a selection of the entries.



VE70 Wet Weather Programme

for

9th May 2015

In the event that the weather prevents us from being able to hold the event outside an alternative wet weather programme will be take place at :-

All Saints Church, Queens Road, Ryde.

The timings are as before if you could arrive at the church for 12:30 pm you will be escorted to your seat prior to the arrival of the Lord Lieutenant. It is anticipated that the event will conclude about 3:00pm.

Parking at the church is limited but our guests of honour will have priority. There are public car parks in Green Street and Garfield Road, a short walk from the church.

If in doubt about where the event is being held on the day please listen to Isle of Wight Radio as we will do our best to have any changes broadcast by them.

For more information please contact Terry Clarkson

terryvonne@hotmail.co.uk 01983 856695 mob 07914067709

**NATIONAL and
AREA NEWS AND
EVENTS**

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

The new Membership Application form to be used for all new members is now available.

When you print the MS4 form it will be split over two double sided pages, the main MS4 will be on page 1 and 2, the section (direct debit guarantee/data protection info) to be retained by the new member will be on page 3 and 4.

Completed MS4s should be sent to our new membership application processing team at Novacroft at the following address:-

**RBL Membership Applications and Payments,
PO Box 1402,
9 The Lakes,
Northampton, NN1 9EX.**

Please **do not** send forms to Stephanie Harris.

Unfortunately forms cannot be processed by the team until the new database and associated membership processes go live. It is hoped this will be by mid / end of May. Notification will be sent out by Stephanie once the system is live.

Hard copies of the form will hopefully be available to order in a few weeks and again Stephanie has promised to let us know as soon as it is available.

Just to confirm from previous email correspondence that the **old MS4/12 and MS4/13 cannot be accepted** due to the direct debit mandate now being invalid.

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RYDE IN BLOOM 2015



Launch of the Schools Gardening Project, Ryde in Bloom

Following on from the success of the 'RYDE REMEMBERS' schools gardening project in 2014 involving the local primary schools in Ryde and the Ryde RBL Branch, Ryde Town Council have once again invited the branch Chairman Mr Ivor Millard and the Branch Poppy Appeal Organiser Mr Bob Douglas to act as judges to the schools gardening project for the 2015 Ryde in Bloom competition.

This year the schools have been set a project around the theme 'Dig for Victory' to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end

of WW2. The children can create a vegetable garden, or a flower garden or a mix of both. The children have also been given a set of 10 questions to prime their interest and promote research into that era. The project was launched at Ryde Town Council Offices with some school children, Councillors and Ivor and Bob present.

The judging will take place in July.

Terry Clarkson

The following has been received from Jim Howkins, RMP Association.

One of our members former Corporal Jeff 'Sammy' Gantschuk is embarking on a charity cycle ride on the 13th of April from Fairaid Head near John O' Groats, to the Isle of Wight in order to raise money for the Service Charities BLESMA and Combat Stress. During his ride Jeff will be unsupported except for essential supplies and camping equipment which he will tow behind his bike on a trailer. He will also have a mobile phone and GPS system.

Throughout his journey Jeff is hoping that local RMPA Branches may be able to help smooth his way by offering him a place to charge up his mobile, a wash and brush up or even accommodation overnight. The Defence College of Police and Guarding at Southwick Park have promised accommodation as have several other branches and Service establishments along the way.

The trip is expected to take Jeff three to four weeks. For more information please contact Jim Howkins IW 613784



- VE70 Buffet & Dance -

1st May 2015

Regrettably this event has been cancelled due to lack of support.



Funeral Service held for John Debenham

A service was held at the Crematorium, Isle of Wight, on Tuesday 7th April 2015, for a Royal British Legion Seaview & Nettlestone member, John Debenham.

At the request of the family, Seaview & Nettlestone Standard paraded by Keith Bradford and Bembridge Standard paraded by Jim Howkins, represented the branch.

For more Seaview & Nettlestone Branch, news, events and photos please visit:
<http://branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/seaview>

Keith Bradford
Vice Chairman and Standard Bearer
Seaview & Nettlestone Branch

Congratulations

to our County Parade Marshal, Terry Clarkson, who has successfully completed the Parade Marshals course at Haig House, gaining an 'A' Grade pass.

We will remember them

- Mr Brian Swift – Shanklin
- Mr. A. Joyce – Newport & Carisbrooke
- Mr J Debenham, Seaview & Nettlestone
- Mrs A Froude, Seaview & Nettlestone
- Mr J Tait, Ventnor
- Mr Ray Lancaster MBE Past National Parade Marshal, Berkshire.

Our sincere condolences to the family and friends.



Seaview & Nettlestone RBL Branch will be holding a flag raising for Armed Forces Day on Tuesday 23rd June 2015 at 13.45hrs in the garden of St. Peter's Church, Seaview. All members and standard bearers are invited.

Following the flag raising, there will be a short service in the Church, then refreshments will be served in the Church Hall.

For more information please contact Janet Foreman, Branch Chairmen IW 617377 or e-mail janet.seaviewiow@virgin.net

Cowes RBL Branch will be holding a parade on Sunday 28th June to mark Armed Forces Day. The muster will be at 13:30hrs at St Marys Road Car park, to march off at 14:00hrs. The parade will make its way to Cowes Bandstand on the seafront for a short service.

If you would like to attend but do not feel able to join the parade, please assemble at the Bandstand on Cowes Parade by 14:00hrs.

For further details please contact Mr D. Jones on 01983 568194 (after 18:00hrs)

RGBW Back Badge Service



On Sunday 22nd March, 2015, the RGBW Regimental Association held their annual Back Badge Service at Northwood Church. The Standard of the RGBW IW Branch was on parade together with branch Standards from Newport & Carisbrooke, Ryde, Seaview & Nettlestone, Cowes, Bembridge and Ventnor, Royal Naval Association, Royal Artillery Association, RAFA, Hampshire Old Comrades Association and the IW Fire & Rescue Service.

Mr. Reg Hunt, RBL Deputy County Parade Marshal acted as Parade Marshal and the service was conducted by Rev Roger Whatley, RGBW Branch Chaplain.

DATES to remember:-

***4th May - ORP BLYSKAWICA – Cowes
Bandstand 2pm***

***8th May – VE70 Beacon Lighting-
Culver Down 9pm***

***9th May – VE 70 County RBL event
Puckpool Park 1pm***

***16th May – Band Concert – St. Mary's
Church, Brighstone***

***5th June – Branch Chairmen/Vice-
Chairmen Meeting, Brighstone
6.30pm***

***13th June – RBL IW County Committee
Meeting 10.30am***

***23rd June – AFD Flag Raising Seaview
& Nettlestone 1.45pm***

28th June – Parade Cowes to mark AFD

**ALL LEGION ENQUIRIES
(including Welfare Requests)**

SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE CONTACT CENTRE ON

0808 8028080

Membership Support Officer – Mrs Stephanie Harris

104 Above Bar Street, Southampton,
Hampshire, SO14 7DT

E-mail: sharris@britishlegion.org.uk

Website: www.britishlegion.org.uk

Registered Charity number 219279

Newsletter Enclosures:-

Membership Application Form

VE70 Poster – 9th May 2015

IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER !!!

If anyone has any articles they would like to be considered for publication in the monthly newsletter that would be of interest members please e-mail the newsletter editor at rbliwcounty@outlook.com

Or send to: 2 Hope Mead, Langbridge, Newchurch, IW, PO36 0NP by the 20th of each month.

We are looking for anything from jokes to poems, or hints and tips to remarkable personal achievements and Branch events. Or even adverts!

Everything will be considered.