

Editor's Notes

As we approach the National Conference very shortly, it may be time to look forward and plan your branch and committee meetings around the submission timelines for key returns such as accounts and MS1.

An updated County Finance Guide for 2025 will be issued soon.



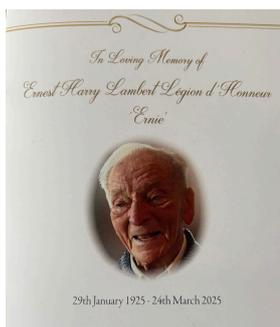
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County Chair's Message

"As we move on from our local and national commemorations of VE Day 80, two major county ceremonies loom onto the horizon - Armed Forces Day parade for the County in Kettering on June 8th, coupled this year with the 3rd Battalion Royal Anglian Regiment exercising their freedom of the former Borough of Kettering, and Post 45 Ceremony at Towcester Road CWCG cemetery when all who have fallen in the service of our nation since 1945 are remembered in a moving ceremony. Can I urge all branches to try to send representatives and their Branch Standard to each of these events.

In Memorium



Ernie Lambert, who was a member of RBL Desborough Branch for 47 years and passed away on 24th March 2025 aged 100 years.

Happy Birthday - 102!!!



**Corporal Eric Page
No. 14532174
served with REME 8 Anti-Aircraft
Coastal Defence, Naunsall Forts
(Thames)
(RBL Desborough)**

Editor's Contact: Northamptonshire.Secretary@rbl.community

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL THE LATEST INFORMATION

[HTTPS://COUNTIES.BRITISHLEGION.ORG.UK/COUNTIES/NORTHAMPTONSHIRE/](https://counties.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/northamptonshire/)

TRAINING NEWS

All RBL training (except for Standard Bearers) is available on the Discover Portal which everyone can register on and then book those courses which are mandatory or they wish to do. Some are on-line only whilst others might need you to attend face-to-face.

The following are currently available:

- **Safeguarding Adults (mandatory for all BCS staff)**
- **Data Protection (mandatory for all County and Branch Officers)**
- **Branch Management (mandatory for all new branch officers)**
- **County Management (mandatory for all County officers)**
- **County Training Officer**
- **County Recruiting Officer**
- **Branch Recruiting Advisor**
- **Branch Treasurer (mandatory for all new treasurers)**
- **LOMAS (recommended for all new users)**
- **Independent Examiner (mandatory prior to registration with MEO)**
- **Secretaries Course (Branch and County)**
- **Branch Community Support (BCS) - New Supporter (mandatory)**
- **BCS Coordinator (mandatory for all Coordinators)**
- **BCS Refresher (to be completed every two years by all BCS staff)**
- **Informal Resolution**
- **Outlook Navigation**
- **Membership Administration Portal (MAP) Logging In**

The next Branch Management (Parts 2 and 3) sessions for Northamptonshire branches will be held via MS Teams on Saturday 12th July, 13th September and 15th November 2025

For further details including Course Prospectus, guidance on how to register and book on Discover, please visit the Training for Branches page of our website at <https://counties.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/northamptonshire/training-for-branches/>

Standard Bearer Training

Training will take place on the following dates:

**Tuesday 10th June
and Thursday 19th June 2025**

Training takes place at the Army Reserve Forces Centre Drill Hall, Clare Street, Northampton from 19.00 to 20.30hrs. Any queries please contact the County Parade Marshal Northamptonshire.ViceChairman@rbl.community.



Anyone interested in being a Standard Bearer or Parade Marshal, please come along to one of our sessions.

Any queries about branch training please contact Northamptonshire.CTO@rbl.community



Your County Committee

Full details of the County Committee are available on the County website.



The next County Committee meeting will take place on Wednesday 21st May 2025.

Diary Notes

Fri to Sun 16th-18th May 2025 - RBL National Conference (Harrogate)

Wed 21st May 2025 - County Committee Meeting (MS Teams)

Sunday 8th June 2025 - Kettering Armed Forces Day Parade

Saturday 28th June 2025 - Rushden Armed Forces Day

Sunday 29th June 2025 - Post 1945 Memorial Service at Towcester Rd Cemetery

30th June 2025 - End of Branch Accounting Year

Friday 15th August 2025 - VJ Day 80

Central News May 2025

The latest issue of Central News which was issued to Counties and branches contained a number of items which branches need to be aware of and take action as necessary as follows:

- RBL.community account rollout.
- Annual Conference Information.
- Festival of Remembrance Ticketing.
- New Branch and County Toolkits.
- Register for Internet Banking.

Please be aware that Central News is only sent out to branches with rbl.community accounts - if you don't have them yet, please refer to the article on Page 2 of this Newsletter.

Branch News

RBL Northampton



'Unknown Tommy' silhouettes added to town centre garden

Two silhouettes of fallen soldiers have been installed in a section of St Katherine's Gardens dedicated to the Royal British Legion as part of Northampton's VE Day commemorations.

RBL Raunds & District



Raunds Civic Awards 2025

The Mayor's Award – presented to Nick Fall.
The citation included *"Nick's unwavering dedication to Raunds and his work with the Raunds & District Royal British Legion exemplify true community spirit."*

RBL Finedon, Irthlingborough & District



VE Day 80



Pat Cutting at the grave of Sir Winston Churchill to commemorate 80th Holger Dansk on 4th May 2025

RBL Rushden & District

VE Day 80



Please see Rushden's latest Branch Newsletter on their RBL website available via this [LINK](#)



Jake and Lynne Baker (on right) at the Westminster Abbey VE Day 80 service

ARMED FORCES DAY
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT
ARMED FORCES DAY
RUSHDEN
Saturday 28th June 2025
Parade Starts 1pm
Alfred Lord Tennyson School,
Playground, John Street NN10 9NL
At the Station from Middy-Late
Station Approach Rushden NN10 0AW
Stalls & Displays in the Goods Shed, B.B.M.F Flypast*
Train Rides. Bar & Buffet Carriage Open.

Contacts: Jake Baker afdrushden@hotmail.com Tel: 07525 441267
RHTS (Rushden Station) Tel: 0300 3023 150 secretary@rhts.co.uk

Armed Forces Day Rushden is organised and run by Rushden & District Veterans Group (RDVG) in collaboration with Rushden Historical Transport Society and Rushden Town Council. The RDVG is supported by members of Rushden and District Royal Naval Association, Royal British Legion, Royal Air Force Association and the Northants Veterans Breakfast Club. (*Subject to availability)

RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL **ARMY** **Rushden & District Veterans Group**