The Hampshire Link

The Newsletter of RBL Hampshire County
Hampshire & IOW

Registered Charity Number 219279

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We will remember them

Remembering Frank Connolly who passed recently. He was the former Chairman and Deputy President of the Basingstoke, Overton and District branch. To all whom we have lost this month. Our sincere condolences to family and friends.

Our mission is to safeguard the welfare, interests,and memory of those who are serving or who have served in the Armed Forces

County correspondence can be addressed to Hampshire & IOW MSO, PO Box 317, Southampton. SO45 9BS

THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE UKRAINE WAR

The ongoing conflict in Ukraine has reached its first anniversary and continues. The first shots in the conflict were fired in 2014 when Russia annexed the Crimea and the Donbas region of south eastern Ukraine. Perhaps this should actually be seen as the beginning of the war. The current war; where we recognise the first anniversary of the latest stage has resulted in some of the fiercest conventional conflict since the end of World War Two. Cities such as Mariupol and many other towns have been largely destroyed and only shells of buildings remain.

Thousands of people have been killed and the Ukrainian armed forces have suffered heavy losses. However, the Russians have suffered many more. The sad reality is that none of this conflict or the losses to the Ukrainian population; its infrastructure and the armed forces needed to take place. There was no need to use force to invade a sovereign and independent country and while there are differences in ideology and outlook people should have learned by now that war is not necessarily the solution. That being said, the war is ongoing and it has now developed into a situation where good and bad is taking place and there is a need for countries and people to chose the side of justice and right.

Why mention this in our newsletter? There are many connections to the Ukraine for us. There are reflections and reminiscences of past World Wars. There is the humanitarian aspect and there is the aspect of standing for what is right and just. There is the indirect connection of ex soldiers and some British civilian volunteering to legally serve with the Ukrainian army. How do we support such veterans? Should we support those veterans if they need help on return to their home? I personally think we have a moral obligation to assist all military veterans who are British citizens. That is the very idea of the formation of the Legion but that is a personal opinion! DW

BRANCH NEWS ARTICLES WANTED

The lifeblood of Hampshire Link is the sharing of branch activities and news. It is also a place to share memories and to remember. There are a small number of dedicated contributors and I say a very big thank you to them for everything they do to support our newsletter. Any contribution, picture, story or news is most welcome. They all illustrate the valuable work of the RBL as a whole and perpetuate the spirit of support and remembrance.

We have a Hampshire County website and equally the webmaster also needs support in the form of contributions. The email addresses of both the Hampshire Link and the Website is on the last page. Please support us.

This month we have received a great article from Pete Cox, the Hon. Sec. Lovedean and Horndean Branch RBL. This is exactly what is required. May I take the opportunity to encourage all our branches to spread the word and send in any news or articles they may have. We would love to hear from you and to share the good work and the local news of the involvement of our members. DW

World War Two poster from the Imperial War Museum

Battle Honours

Battle honours are awarded by the Sovereign or president of a country to recognise the presence and contribution of a regiment or corps at a particular battle. They represent the honour, spirit and heritage of the regiments that carry them and they are therefore treated with respect and reverence.

This is a British and Empire custom and continues today in many of these countries. The term "battle" is used in the most general form as often the conflict developed and became a series of campaigns and wars. Once awarded, the regiment is entitled to display the name of emblem representing the battle honour on their Colours or elsewhere, depending on their traditions. The Colonel of the regiment recommended the award and the Sovereign granted it.

The battle honour is a distinction that indicates that the regiment participated in fierce fighting at that battle against a worthy foe. It recognises participation and honour. Not all regiments display their battle honours on their Colours. As an example the King's Royal Rifle Corps and the Rifle Brigade display their battle honours on their cap badges. (See examples). The Royal Artillery do not have battle honours except for one - Ubique (Latin for everywhere). The Royal Artillery consider that their guns are their Colours and therefore treat them with the greatest respect and protect them in combat at all costs. In view of this custom there was a requirement to review the situation and eventually 66 batteries were awarded Honour Titles.

The conditions for the award of a battle honour were relatively simplistic. The battle had to have been a victory. The battle did not take place during a civil war. The majority of the members of the regiment had to have been present and had to have fought well to defeat the enemy. These conditions have changed slightly. The majority of the regiment still need to have participated but the winning of the battle is not necessarily considered, whereas losses are. An example is the battle honour Dunkirk for World War Two. It was awarded to participating regiments and corps who successfully withdrew from the operation while undergoing great casualties as a result of enemy actions. Some wars (such as the Crimean War of 1852) saw the award of only four battle honours (including Sebastopol for the siege of that city for a considerable period where British soldiers suffered very heavy casualties).

In 1920 a Battle Nomenclature Committee was formed to evaluate the fighting during World War One and to categorise Battles, Actions and Miscellaneous Incidents. It also determined rules defining participation and granting of Battle Honours to Headquarters, and Sub Units of regiments. Regiments have a say in how their Battle Honours are displayed. Some regiments display the name on their regimental cap badge and try to fit as many as possible onto the badge. Examples are of the Kings Royal Rifle Corps and the Rifle Brigade. Other regiments display only one Battle Honour on their cap badge such as the Somerset Light Infantry (Jellalabad) and the Gloucestershire Regiment (Egypt). The Gloucestershire Regiment also display an emblem on their cap badge; that of the Sphinx, also relating to their service in Egypt.

All regiments display their Battle Honours on their Regimental Colours. They appear in the form of an embroidered word or emblem or both in some cases. DW

THE RIFLE BRIGADE

Badge worn 1890s - 1910
Main battle honour displayed under the Crown - Waterloo. Only 4 are displayed on the the wreath. The rest on the arms of the cross.

Badge worn 1910 - 1937
Main battle honour displayed under the Crown - Waterloo. 14 are displayed on the wreath and the rest on the arms of the cross.

Badge worn 1937 - 1956
Main battle honour displayed under the Crown - Waterloo. 14 still displayed on the wreath but changes have been made. The rest are on the arms of the cross. Regt name on badge has changed.

Badge worn 1956 - 1958
Main battle honour displayed under the Crown - Waterloo. None are now displayed on the wreath and the rest are on the arms of the cross. An additional battle honour has been inserted below the cross instead of the regt name.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT

Badge worn 1890s - 1959
Only one main battle honour displayed on top of the badge on plinth below battle honour emblem - the Sphinx.

SOMERSET LIGHT INFANTRY

Badge worn 1890s - 1959
Only one main battle honour displayed on top of the badge.

A Son of Hampshire

Colonel Gervase Francis Newport Tinley, CB (1909), CMG, MiD, Queen's Sudan Medal 1896-1898; Coronation Medal 1902; Delhi Durbar Medal 1903; Khedive's Sudan Medal 1896-1908, Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur, Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur, Croix de Guerre (14.07.1917). Mentioned in despatches, Colonel Tinley was praised in 'The London Gazette' in 1887 as 'a very good cavalry officer, who has on every occasion done well in the field'.

Son of Major General Robert Newport Tinley of Tower Hill House, Kingsclere. Born Grahamstown, Cape of Good Hope, Cape Colony, South Africa 1856. Educated Victoria College, St Helier, Jersey.
Died Marseilles, France, 18 February 1918, aged 60.
Buried at Mazargues War Cemetery, Bouches-du-Rhone, France, reference: IV. A. 1.

Obtained his commission at Sandhurst. Joined the army in 1875. Served with the 83rd (County of Dublin) Regiment of Foot. In 1877 he transferred to the Indian Army, promoted to Captain in 1887, Major in 1896, Lieutenant-Colonel in 1902, and Colonel in 1905. He served in the 1st Bombay Lancers during the Zhob Valley Expedition on the North West Frontier; Burma (wounded and horse shot from under him); Egypt on the Dongola Expedition. In Burma from 1885 to 1889. In 1887 he led a detachment against a gang of dacoits and, after skirmishing, routed the enemy.

On the Indian Army General List. Formerly Commanding Officer 31st Duke of Connaught's Own Lancers. Colonel Tinley was serving as the Base Commandant in Marseilles at the time of his death. He had the responsibility of ensuring that all military personnel were accommodated and fed. He was also responsible for their transport to the Western Front than entailed the planning and arrangement of trains and movement of the troops to the Front.

Colonel Tinley was the representative Indian Army Officer at Queen Victoria's funeral and was in Command of the Indian Cavalry Contingent at the Coronation of King Edward VII. He served as Assistant Adjutant General (A.A.D.) in India between 1905-1908. He died suddenly at Marseilles, while still on active service, 18th February, 1918.

Marseilles was a vital base for British troops deploying from the United Kingdom to France via the Mediterranean Sea and then travelling north to the Western Front. Marseilles was also the Base for the Indian Troops in France during the 1914-18 war and throughout the War the Royal Navy, the Merchant Navy, British troops and Labour units worked in the port or passed through it. There are four military cemeteries in the city. St. Pierre Cemetery is situated to the east and is where the bodies of Hindu soldiers and labourers were cremated between 1914 to 1916. Le Canet Old and New Cemetery are situated to the North of the city and were used to bury Indian soldiers and Indian, Egyptian and Chinese labourers. Mazargues cemetery is situated to the south east of the city.

Colonel Tinley's name appears on the Memorial at Kingsclere. DW

Colonel Gervase F.N. Tinley, CB CMG MiD

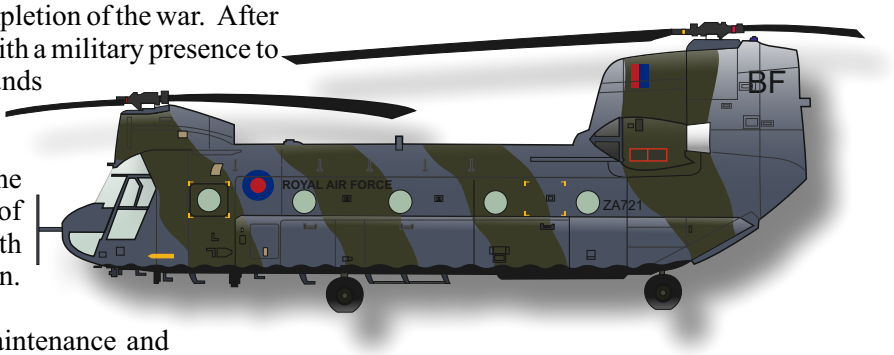
Queens Sudan Medal 1896, Coronation Medal 1902, Delhi Durbar Medal 1903, Legion d'Honneur France 1917, Khedives Sudan Medal.

1914 - 1918 War Medal and the Victory medal for service in World War One

The duty of an advance guard does not consist in advancing or retiring, but in maneuvering. An advance guard should consist of picked troops, and the general officers, officers and men should be selected for their respective capabilities and knowledge. An ill trained unit is only an embarrassment to an advance guard.
Napoleon I 1831

The loss of Chinook ZA 721 Falklands 27th February 1987

Last year the nation remembered those lost during the Falklands conflict on the 40th Anniversary of the completion of the war. After June 1982 'Fortress Falklands' was set up with a military presence to deter Argentina from trying to invade the Islands again. However, since June 1982 several members of the armed forces have lost their lives in effective peacetime whilst maintaining the garrison. One such situation was the loss of Chinook ZA 721 which crashed on the 27th February 1987 with the sad loss of seven young men.



Chinook ZA 721 had been undergoing some maintenance and structural repairs in the hangar at Mount Pleasant airfield on the Falklands. After such maintenance an Air Test is required to ensure that the aircraft is operating correctly before it is allowed to resuming its normal duties. To monitor the vibration levels and the engine operation of the aircraft during the Air Test, four ground crew members were on board the aircraft to operate the specialist equipment. Sadly, shortly after 'take off' the aircraft developed a fault with the flying controls and the pilots were unable maintain control and the aircraft crashed killing all on board instantly. All seven young men were normally based at RAF Odiham but were on a 6 month detachment to the Falklands.

The names, as they appear on the Support Helicopter Memorial located at RAF Odiham.

The names as they appear on the 1987 section of 'The Wall' at the National Memorial Arboretum.

The two Pilots were Flt. Lt's Anthony Moffat and Stephen Newman. The Crewman was Sgt. Andy Johns. The four ground crew members were Chief Technician Dave Chitty, who was a specialist in helicopter vibration analysis. Assisting him to operate the special equipment were Cpl's Jerry Marshall and Pete Whitwell. Operating the engine test equipment was Cpl. Karl Minshall. What should have been a routine Test Flight to ensure the aircraft was safe for others to fly in ended in tragedy for the seven young RAF men, 8,000 miles away from their loved ones. A very sad day for all at RAF Odiham at that time and ever since.

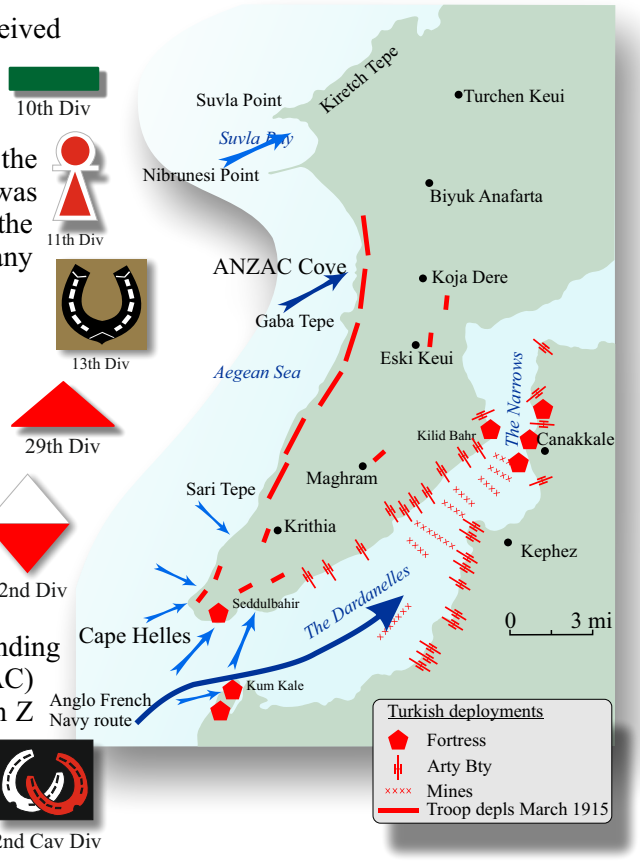
Just some of those who have lost their lives in the Falklands just doing their jobs since the 'Fortress Falklands' was set up in 1982.
“We will remember them”. Also former Chinook Airframe Instructor who taught Dave, Andy, Jerry and Pete.

Article by Pete Cox, Hon. Sec. Lovedean and Horndean Branch RBL

The Memorial at Hartley Wintney; in Remembrance of the Fallen

The Gallipoli Campaign February 1915 – January 1916

The Gallipoli campaign was seen as an indirect approach to the perceived stalemate on the Western Front. The Allied strategy to attack Germany's ally, Turkey and its hoped-for subsequent defeat would allow a route by sea to open up the supply of Russian forces who were pro the Allies, through the Mediterranean Sea. The campaign was the idea of the then First Lord of the Admiralty, Winston Churchill. There was some resistance to the plan from senior army officers who believed that the war could be directly won on the Western Front, threatening Germany directly.



The campaign was planned as follows -

Stage 1. The conduct of an Anglo-French naval operation to drive through the Dardanelles narrows via the Mediterranean Sea to threaten Turkey. The first attempt failed.

Stage 2. This stage required the landing of British forces and a small number of French troops on the Gallipoli peninsular and then advance on the Turkish capital of Constantinople (Istanbul) to capture it. The Turks were aware of this and reinforces their garrisons on the coast.

Phase 1. 25th April 1916. British troops were transported by sea and landed at five points on the southern tip of the Helles Peninsular. The landing points were named S, V, W, X and Y beaches. A second force (ANZAC) landed at Gaba Tepe approximately 12 miles west of these positions on Z beach. The ANZAC forces landed at the incorrect place and were required to scale cliffs to deploy inland. This became known as ANZAC Cove.

Phase 2. The Allied forces were ordered to deploy inland. The British forces on Y beach were unopposed, but the rest on S, V, W and X beaches came under heavy fire and the Turkish forces put up great resistance. On the 26th April the Turkish forces withdrew inland and took up positions south of the town of Krithia. The Allied forces made contact with Turkish troops on the 28th April and suffered 3000 casualties in the battle. No further advances could be made.

Phase 3. 6th – 8th May. The second battle for Krithia took place. British forces advanced 800 yards during the day and suffered more casualties. The third battle for the town took place on the 6th June. It resulted in no further progress and many more casualties. The attack on objectives Achi Baba and Chunuk Bair failed.

Phase 4. The Turks counter attacked along the front. The Allies began to run low on artillery ammunition and other supplies. More Allied troops were landed to try and support the forces under attack but this was also unsuccessful.

FORCES DEPLOYED AS AT AUGUST 1915

United Kingdom Mediterranean Expeditionary Force (General Sir Ian Hamilton)
VIII Corps (Lieutenant General Sir Francis Davies)
29th Division
42nd (East Lancashire) Division
52nd (Lowland) Division
Royal Naval Division
IX Corps (Lieutenant General Frederick Stopford)
10th (Irish) Division
11th (Northern) Division
13th (Western) Division
2nd Mounted Division
Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (Lieutenant General William Birdwood)
Australian 1st Division
Australian 2nd Division
New Zealand and Australian Division
France Oriental Expeditionary Corps (General Maurice Bailloud)
1st Division
2nd Division
Naval forces
British - 49 vessels. Six were sunk by the enemy

Stage 3. Withdrawal. The withdrawal plan was drawn up by General Ian Hamilton. Troops were landed on the west coast behind the main Turkish lines while the forces on Helles launched a diversionary attack. The ANZACs were to break out at ANZAC Cove and link up with the troops landing at Suvla Bay from the 6th to 10th August. The diversionary attack was successful but the ANZACs were unable to break through the Turkish lines. The landings at Suvla Bay went well but failed to move inland to take advantage of their position.

The Turkish forces advanced causing more Allied casualties. General Hamilton was relieved of his command and was replaced by General Monro. General Monro inspected thew positions on the ground on the 28th and immediately ordered a total withdrawal of all forces based on his findings that the position was untenable.The Suvla Bay and ANZAC forces withdrew first. This force consisted of 105,000 men, 5000 animals and 300 artillery guns and withdrew under cover of darkness between the 10th and 20th December. Their deception plan and noise control were exceptional and in total, only three casualties were suffered. 100,000 Turkish forces were completely unaware of the withdrawal.The troops at Helles withdrew in late December and was completed on the 9th January 1916. 35000 men and 3700 animals were successfully withdrawn.

Casualties for the campaign. The total Allied casualties amounted to 276,000. Turkish losses amounted to 250,000 DW

Other News

Forthcoming Standard Bearer Training

Hampshire Standard Bearer Training 2023

	EASTLEIGH Pavilion on the Park 1 Kingfisher Drive, Eastleigh, SO50 9LH		ASH Ash Manor School Manor Rd, Ash, Aldershot GU12 6QH	
Please arrive ten minutes before training starts to prepare yourself and your Standard.				
January	No Training		Tuesday 10th	19:00 - 20:00
February	Sunday 12th	14:00 - 15:00	Tuesday 7th	19:00 - 20:00
March	Sunday 12th	14:00 - 15:00	Tuesday 7th	19:00 - 20:00
April	Sunday 9th	14:00 - 15:00	Tuesday 18th	19:00 - 20:00
May	Sunday 14th	14:00 - 15:00	Tuesday 9th	19:00 - 20:00
June	Sunday 11th	14:00 - 15:00	Tuesday 6th	19:00 - 20:00
July	Sunday 9th	14:00 - 15:00	Tuesday 11th	19:00 - 20:00
August	Sunday 13th	14:00 - 15:00	Tuesday 15th	19:00 - 20:00
September	Sunday 10th	14:00 - 15:00	Tuesday 12th	19:00 - 20:00
October	Sunday 8th	14:00 - 15:00	Tuesday 17th	19:00 - 20:00
November	Sunday 5th	14:00 - 15:00	Tuesday 7th	19:00 - 20:00
December	No Training		No Training	

Please note: All Standard Bearer must attend two training sessions a year, and be physically fit enough to carry the Standard, as agreed when they signed the yearly MS1 Form.

Hampshire Parade Marshal: David Graham
E: Hampshire.ParadeMarshal@rbl.community M: 07597 455112

As per RBL regulations all Standard Bearers must undergo two training sessions per year. This is so that Standard Bearers are compliant with health and safety as well as fitness requirements.

Know the Medal - Pingat Jasa Malaysia (PJM)

Malaya gained its independence in August 1957. The emergency in that country saw many members of the British and Commonwealth forces deployed there under the auspices of the Anglo Malayan Defence Agreement to safeguard Malaya's sovereignty. In appreciation the Malayan government awarded this medal to all those who served in the country and distinguished themselves while serving

David Lloyd.

Inter Branch Quiz Night

The Totton and Eling Branch of the Royal British Legion are holding an inter branch quiz night on 17th March 2023. The quiz starts at 19h00 for 19h30 and teams of six need to pay £1-00 per team member, participating

It is being held at the Totton Conservative Club, Congleton Suite. If you would like to participate please contact francescaprior.rbl@gmail.com

Southampton Branch new phone number

Please be advised that the Southampton Branch & Club have a new contact telephone number. It is 023 80224536.

Archie Parsons
Southampton Branch Br1899

Join up and be part of the team

County Websites

RBL Website:
www.BritishLegion.org.uk

County Website:
http://counties.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/hampshire

Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/groups/hantscountyrbl/

Facebook - Email
Hampshire.web@rbl.community

Poppy Appeal
www.facebook.com.poppy.HamsphireRBL

Contact us
It`s your newsletter!!!
If anyone has any articles that they would like published in the Newsletter then please contact the editor with any information or articles by the 20th of the month at:
HampshireLinkDW@yahoo.com

ALL LEGION INQUIRIES
(including Welfare requests)
Should be directed to the national call centre
0808 802 8080

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County Vice President Brian C.N. Soffe
County Vice President Robert G Knight
Chairman Tim Russell Hampshire.Chairman@rbl.community
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Errors and Omissions Excepted