The Newsletter of Hampshire County
104 Above Bar Street
Southampton
Hampshire
SO14 7DT

1st May 2018

Registered Charity Number 219279

We Will Remember Them

Freda Melbourne – *Kingsclere*
Robert Wappett - *Fawley*
William Gladden – *Hambledon*
Mr J Beard – *Liphook*
Malcolm Pillar & Ricky Morris - *Southampton*

Our sincere condolences to family and friends

***Secretaries** – The Hampshire Link is for ALL County Members, so please ensure this newsletter gets the widest distribution within your Branch.*

National News

General Data Protection Regulations

As you will no doubt be aware the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) come into force on 25th May this year.

The Membership Department has been working hard to ensure that all of our processes are compliant and that we are in a good position to support you and your branches. More detailed information will be distributed very soon, but I wanted to reassure you that we are taking action and give you an overview of the progress we have made.

- We have amended the paragraph about data protection in the Handbook.
- We have created a Members Retention Schedule and added it to the Handbook
- We have amended the MS1 and MS1A form
- We have created Membership Terms & Conditions – to be published at the beginning of May
- We are amending all the forms where we collect personal data to include a statement about data protection and how the data will be used
- We have amended the membership application form – currently in production by our supplier, they will be distributed as soon as they are ready. The old form will become obsolete on 24th May, so branches must ensure they use the new one from 25th May
- We are preparing a GDPR information pack which will be sent to branches at the end of April.
- A copy of the pack will also be distributed to Clubs to encourage them to follow the same data protection principles
- We will produce a FAQ document and publish it on Office 365

County News

Hampshire County Welfare Fund

There are still Branches in Hampshire holding onto large sums of money in their GPF funds, that are not using them for the Welfare work that they are vital for. Branches should only be holding enough funds in GPF to cover 6 months' worth of working capital, so please, please, please send any large sums of money you are holding, unless for a major project, to the Area Office for the county welfare Fund. If you have a need to hold onto a large sum of money, for a major project, please make the Area Office or County Chairman aware, as they will be chasing Branches to release excessive funds.

Branch News

Eastleigh

A new addition to Eastleigh town centre`s war memorial will honour people who lived in Eastleigh and lost their lives in two World Wars. The names of the 277-local people provided by the Royal British Legion will be engraved on a pair of granite monoliths that will take their place alongside The Angel of

Mons on The Leigh Recreation Ground. It comes, after the Town Bosses granted £47,000 towards the project last year in a bid to improve the memorial in time for the Centenary of The First World war as well as create better access for those who attend the annual ceremony. They have also granted £10,000 towards a family for The Centennial Commemorations, they said they would like to deliver cross generational activities that will also bring increased footfall to the Town Centre. The project is still at an early stage and further details are expected to be released this year.

Hayling Island

The Hayling Island Branch held a 100th Birthday Party for the RAF on the 1st April 2018 in the Legion Club.
Organised by Jack Tarr (Membership secretary for the branch) the party was free to attend for anyone who wanted to come.
The Dave Baker project provided the entertainment which was enjoyed by around 60 attendees.

The Branch will also be attending the Local Donkey Derby on Saturday 26th May, in the Legion Field next to the club house.
The Donkey Derby is a charity fund raising event to help people on Hayling Island that need help and is run by the Hayling Lions Club. The RBL Hayling Branch will be present with an information tent hoping to enlist more members to the Legion - answers questions and with a side stall or two (Splat the Rat and Play Your Cards Right) hope to raise some funds as well. Add to this the Donkeys and some Donkey racing together with other side stalls it is an enjoyable afternoon for all the family.

Totton & Ealing

Please see the attached article from the Totton & Ealing Branch to see the journey made by Chris & Susan to various World War One War Memorials including the Menin Gate. It also includes a short piece on GP90, and the Totton Memorial Poppies.

Petersfield

Yet another excuse to get rid of unwanted Christmas presents and surplus bottles of wine - eat. drink and be merry.

Members of the Petersfield RBL at their Spring Branch Dinner in the Half Moon Sheet. The Chairman recounted the previous successful year, the Treasurer gave the Loyal Toast and David Lodrick a Toast to the Ladies - reminding us of those we cherish the most. After a sumptuous meal a very successful raffle was held and we all looked forward to the next event.

Kingsclere

Our first event of the year was held in the centre of the village on The Crown Pub green on Saturday the 7th April. The weather was kind to us with the rain keeping off all afternoon and a great day was had by all with fantastic support from the village. The fete was visited by the Major of Basingstoke and Dean and the Hampshire RBL Bikers who put on a great display as always. The Corps of Drums from the Old Basing RBL provided the musical entertainment and as always, they were superb and well received. Planning is now underway for our next event, which will be an RBL stand and display at the village fun run in late June.

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The RBL Hampshire Riders with Old Basing Corps of Drums and WW2 Willis Jeep at the Kingsclere RBL Open Day

Bargain hunting at the Kingsclere RBL Open Day

Working with the War Graves Commission, it has been identified that there is a World War 1 casualty buried in St Mary's churchyard in an unmarked plot. It is believed that the solider died of wounds during his convalescence in the village during the conflict; the Kingsclere House was converted into a convalescence hospital for the majority of the war. It is hoped that working with the War Graves Commission, an appropriate headstone can be erected and the correct level of recognition can be given to this solider.
At the time of writing, plans are well underway for members of the branch to visit Fort Nelson on the 28th April to view the ceramic poppy display and to undertake a tour of the fort. Further trips are being considered for the rest of the year.
At our April monthly meeting, we were visited by 3 members of the Old Basing branch. This was a great opportunity to meet our neighbouring branch Chair and Vice Chairman / Parade Marshall and to swap and share ideas in addition to discussing how we can collaborate better on events and other activities.

Sadly, we lost one of our branch members in late March; Freda Grace Melbourne, who passed away on the 22nd March 18 at the age of 91 following a short illness. Members of the branch attended Freda's funeral on behalf of the wider RBL family.

Brockenhurst ANZAC Sunday

The annual Commemoration Service for the 94 ANZACs who lie buried in the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery in St Nicholas Churchyard, Brockenhurst took place at 3pm on Sunday 22 April on a warm and sunny afternoon. The Vicar, the Revd. Neil Smart, conducted the Service and the New Zealand High Commissioner, Sir Jerry Mateparae, was the principal Guest. It was also a day out for a visiting New Zealand Parliamentary delegation of 4 Members led by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Trevor Mallard. The New Zealand Defence Adviser, Brigadier Chris Parsons, attended and the Australian Defence Force was represented by Flt Lt Brendan Lickerman RAAF. Dr Stuart Davis, General Counsel, represented the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Local MP, Dr Julian Lewis, was also present.

The New Zealand Bell in St Nicholas Church Tower was tolled 94 times while members of the Village Guides, Scouts, Brownies, Cubs and Beavers were inspected before the Service began. Jubilee Brass provided the music for this with the New Zealand National Anthem being sung twice: the second time in Maori led by 8-year-old Amy currently living in the county. She and the other two young Kiwis present stood by the graves of the three soldiers chosen by the Vicar for his address. All had died in the adjacent No.1 New Zealand General Hospital during 1918.

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A sizeable number of those who had attended the service adjourned to the Tile Barn Centre for Tea organised by the Royal British Legion who, on behalf of the Parish Council, had orchestrated the rest of the events of the day. Framed pictures of the Hospital Memorial Window in St Nicholas Church were presented by the RBL Branch Chairman to the four main guests. In response the Parliamentary delegates expressed their thanks with a short Maori song - a lovely novelty!

Captain Mike Matthews, the Branch Chairman, commented that "it had been a wonderful commemoration with its unique blend of solemn remembrance and friendly rapport on all sides. We were honoured to have such strong Parliamentary representation from New Zealand and they do genuinely appreciate the way in which we keep the memory of the ANZACs alive in Brockenhurst. The photograph of Paige (aged 9) communing with a gravestone seems to capture what this annual event is all about!"

Lovedean & Horndean

The Bomber Command Memorial, Lincoln.

Having noted the opening of the Bomber Command Memorial Centre near Lincoln on the News I naturally wondered if the name of my late Cousin was on the Memorial. He was a Bomb Aimer on Lancaster's and sadly lost his life over Germany on 23rd April 1944 and is buried in Hanover War Cemetery.

Therefore, on my computer I looked up **'Bomber Command Memorial, Lincoln'** and from that linked into the **'International Bomber Command Centre'** website. I then clicked onto **'History and Archives'** and then the **'Losses Database'**.

Then I put in his **'surname and initials'** and then up popped some basic details. From this I then clicked onto his name and many more details became visible with a lot of information that I did not know including the Serial Number of the aircraft that he lost his life in. The names of the other Crew Members were also indicated and I was able to find out about them in a similar fashion.

To find out even more I put the Serial Number of the Lancaster into Goggle and found out even more information.

Therefore, if one of your relatives was one of the **57,861** who lost their lives serving on Bomber Command during WW2 then try and trace them as I did an you might find out many things that you did not know. You can also make a donation in their Memory if you wish.

Pete Cox

Hon. Sec. Lovedean and Horndean Branch RBL.

Poppy Appeal News

Poppy Trademark

We are asking you all to take note of any instances of fundraising activities using our Poppy Logo or other TRBL branding materials.

Our name, corporate logo and poppy are all legally protected trademarks and should not be used without permission. We have a duty as representatives of The Royal British Legion to make sure they are used correctly to the benefit of the organisation. They are at the core of the Legion's most valuable assets and have both an emotional and commercial value that we must protect in the long-term. We can all support and strengthen the brand by understanding and respecting its value and importance and making sure only those entitled to using it are doing so, in the correct way.

The Royal British Legion will take action against companies or individuals who are deemed to infringing its trademark by commercially benefiting from it.

Any person(s) or organisations wishing to raise funds for The Royal British Legion or The Poppy Appeal are to be encouraged to do so in the correct way - which may in some instances mean applying to us for a commercial partnership agreement. Using our branding to fundraise for any other purpose is an infringement of our rights. Please call the contact centre on 0800 802 8080 regarding licensed use of our property or to report any infringements.

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Poppy Walk

Alton have arranged a Poppy Walk on Sun 20th may starting from the Alton RBL Club, 8.30 for 9.00 start.
There are 5 and 10 mile walks, it will start across the adjacent rugby field and continue along local fields, footpaths and roads. There is food available at the end (…donations to the Poppy Box please) A laminated map will be supplied. Sponsor forms from the Alton Club, Antsey Park or contact Pat on 07771 790888

Iron Butt

Ritchie Cunningham is taking part in a 1000-mile motorbike ride called "Saddlesore",on 16th June 18, on behalf of the Royal British Legion, which is to be completed in under 24hrs, he is starting in Leeds and going anti-clockwise around Scotland, with a stop in Wick. He is covering all his own expenses, so 100% of money donated goes to the RBL. If you would like to support Ritchie on this epic adventure then please visit his "Just Giving" page and pledge a donation.
https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rblriders-graemecunningham

Old Basing

Old Basing will be holding a Plant Sale and Coffee morning on 12th May and the Old Basing RBL & Social Club, with all proceeds being donated to the RBL Poppy Appeal, so why not pop along for a coffee and a plant for the garden to support the Branch.

Standard Bearers

Training

The County Parade Marshal, Steve Forward, would like to invite all Standard Bearers to partake in training sessions to ensure that they are kept current.
Training takes place at
Eastleigh – Pavilion in the Park, 1 Kingfisher Road, Eastleigh **SO50 9LH**
Lymington – Lymington Drill Hall, Bath Road, Lymington, **SO41 3RU**
Fleet – Old NAAFI Building, Quetta Park, Church Crookham, Fleet, **GU52 8TG**
Training runs from March through to October inclusive, and all Standard Bearers are urged to take training courses as beginners or long serving to enhance their position as the Legion`s presence in the community.

Eastleigh:	**Lymington:**	**Fleet:**
1400hrs	*1930hrs*	*1900hrs*
May 13th	May 14th	May 9th
Jun 10th	Jun 11th	Jun 13th
Jul 8th	Jul 9th	Jul 11th
Aug 12th	Aug 13th	Aug 15th
Sep 2nd	Sep 10th	Sep 12th
Oct 7th	Oct 8th	Oct 10th

The Parade Marshall, Steve Forward can be contacted on 023 8069 3028, or stevemo@stevemo.plus.com or Deputy Parade Marshall, Dave Graham on 01425 623102 or davidkarengraham1@yahoo.co.uk for more information.
Steve and Dave put a lot of effort into training Standard Bearers so please come along and give them your support and ensure you are showing the Legion, and your Branch in the best possible light. Training and Drills have changes over time, so come along and ensure you are kept current.

Poppy Day Race

The National Event of Poppy Race Day is to be held at Newmarket Races, (July course) on Saturday August 11th 2018.
STANDARD BEARERS – we would very much like as many standard bearers to attend as possible. The parade is quite long through to the course and down the course and back through the stands for Inspection. The Leiston RBL band will lead the parade. Arrival by 12noon. You will get free admission (for Bearers only), tea and coffee supplied and then free to enjoy races after about 2.30pm.
Please book in with myself via any means as below
ADMISSION TICKETS - If you wish to attend the race day as a spectator, the prices are: Premier - £18 (reduced from £27) and Grandstand & Paddock £12 (reduced from £18) with a £3 donation to RBL on every ticket sold. Please quote Code RBL18 to get the discounted price. The number to ring is **01638 675500, option 4.** You can also book online with the same code http://newmarket.thejockeyclub.co.uk/events-tickets/whats-on/summer-saturday-august-2
First race is 1.55, last race at 5.20
All proceeds to Poppy Appeal

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Poppy T-Shirts

Sarah Ferris CFR(S) has been working with a Gosport based company "Inverted Turtle" who have designed some great t-shirts for this centenary year. Please can you have a look, and seriously consider buying a/some t-shirts from this brilliant company. £1 goes to The Tusk trust, with the 100% of the remaining profit to the RBL Poppy Appeal.
https://www.inverted-turtle.com/collections/poppy

Women`s
(White & Navy)

Men`s
(Black)

Notices

The Angel & The Fallen

This is a concert commemorating the centenary of the First World War, presented by Alistair Stewart, and featuring The Band of The Scots Guards, with Laura Wright, English Youth ballet, St John Singers, the Cathedral Junior & Youth Choirs.
It takes place at Salisbury Cathedral on Saturday 7th July from 19:30hrs, tickets from £15 for more information telephone the box office on 01725 512799 or https://www.cathedralconcerts.co.uk/
Branch Standard representation is requested, with Standard Bearers receiving a free entry to the concert, with partner. The concert is being performed in aid of the RBL Poppy Appeal.

Golf Pairs 2018

The Hampshire RBL County Pairs tournament returns to The Army Club, Aldershot on Monday 14th May for the 2018 event so come on Branches, please join in!
This golf course, one of the finest in North Hampshire is close to the home of the British Army and hosts many events for serving personnel. It is situated close to Farnborough airport but is easily accessible from the M3 and Blackwater valley main routes. It presents a good challenge with its 6300 yd par 71 features which run through gently sloping low level woodland. We have secured the military-rate due to our RBL association so we have an excellent value day again at £45.00 per person (£180 per four) which includes coffee and bacon sandwich on arrival, 18 holes of golf and ham egg and chips to follow plus a contribution to the prizes. We will also be holding a raffle for the Poppy Appeal. See the attached entry form for more details. Closing date for applications is Friday 4th May.

Remembrance Travel

Royal British Legion is on a mission to find all surviving WWII veterans. The Treasury is enabling a series of free-of-charge* tours for WWII veterans to return to where they served to pay their respects to their fallen comrades. The tours are being funded by LIBOR fines, and will enable a WWII veteran to return with a family member and carer.

A call for help!

There is no database of veterans from WWII who are still alive today so the Royal British Legion is calling upon the general public to spread the word and ensure every surviving veteran gets the chance to go back one last time.
Nichola Rowlands-Smith, says: "We need you! We know how great the British public can be, and we're relying on everyone to help us spread the word to find every single living WWII veteran. There's no database, so if you're a grandchild, neighbour or carer and know someone who fought in WWII please tell them about these amazing tours."
For WWII veterans wishing to benefit from this tour, they need to apply via Remembrance Travel's tour operator, Arena Travel on 01473 660800, or visit http://www.arenatravel.com/…/rem…/libor-tours-of-remembrance.

Spam Emails

A number of Branches have been receiving emails from Ms Jacquie O`Grady, supposedly working on behalf of the Blakeney Cley & District Branch.

Please beware that this is SPAM email, she is neither working for the Branch nor is she a member of the RBL, you are are requested to notify the MSO if you receive an email from her, and DO NOT respond to it.

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Events Diary

2018

May

12th – Plant Sale & Coffee Morning – 10:00hrs
Old Basing RBL & Social Club
20th – Poppy Walk – 08:30hrs
Alton RBL Club
Pat – 07771 790228

June

14th – Golf Pairs – 09:30hrs
The Army Club, Aldershot

June

9th – City of Southampton Orchestra – 19:30hrs
The Anvil, Basingstoke
Tickets: £27, £23, £15
www.anvilarts.org.uk
9th – War Requiem – 19:30hrs
Winchester Cathedral
Tickets £20, £28, £35, Under 18`s & Students £8
www.tickets.winchester-cathedral.org.uk
10th – Poppy Walk – Southampton
Details TBC
23rd – War Requiem – 19:30hrs
Tewkesbury Abbey
Tickets £20, £28, £35, Under 18`s & Students £8
www.burfordsingers.org.uk

July

7th – The Angel & The Fallen Concert – 19:30hrs
Salisbury Cathedral
Box Office: 01725 215799
7th – RNAS Yeovilton International Air Day
See attached poster for details

August

11th – National Event of Poppy race Day
Newmarket Races
01638 675500 Option 4.

October

21st -Great South Run
Portsmouth
Details TBC
25th – County Poppy Launch
Farnborough, North Hampshire
Details TBC
26th – Uniformed Collection
Westquay, Southampton

County Websites

RBL Website:
www.BritishLegion.org.uk
County Website:
http://counties.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/hampshire
Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/groups/hantscountyrbl/
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 at:

HampshireLink@outlook.com

Or

Editor – Hampshire Link
15 Champney Close
Whitehill, Bordon
Hampshire
GU35 9DX
(Please ensure correct postage is paid)
By the 26th of the month

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

County Personnel

Patron	*Lt Gen Sir Mark Mans KCB CBE DL*
President	*Col Andrew King*
Chairman	*Tim Russell*
Vice-Chairman	*Bob Bartlett*
Treasurer	*Brian C N Soffe*
MSO	*Christopher Bolton*
Membership Council Rep	*Gerry Nunn*
Area Manager SW	*Jim France*
Training Officer	*Mike Davis*
Branch Support – North	*Jacki Gatfield*
Branch Support - South	*Andy Knight*
Youth Officer	*Vacant*
Committee Member	*Brian Mansi*
CFR – Manager SW	*Claire Peppiatt*
CFR – Hampshire North	*Jim Parker*
CFR – Hampshire South	*Sarah Ferris*
PAO Coordinator – North	*Jacki Gatfield*
PAO Coordinator – South	*Pat Prior MBE*
Communications Support	*Avril Mitchell*
Hampshire Link	*Darron Back*

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