



DEVON COUNTY BULLETIN

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Branch Secretaries & Membership Secretaries
Branch Treasurers
Branch Community Support

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Devon County News

1. Guidance on resuming Legion activities

At the recent membership townhall, the Director General announced that it was now time for the Legion to start opening back up. From the branches point of view, this is safe, socially distanced meetings where we can begin to conduct our branch business face to face and once again invite our members to our branch meetings.

The announcement created a fair bit of discussion and quite a few emails were exchanged regarding membership support officers meeting face to face with Legion members. Suffice to say, the plan is that branches can contact the MSO and request a meeting, it

will be the MSO in consultation with the Area Manager who decides how that meeting takes place.

I am sure as we resume normal practices, meetings will become easier, for now, please bear in mind that not all staff/volunteer meetings will return to face to face immediately.

That said, members are encouraged to resume branch activities but are advised to ensure any meeting is in line with local guidelines and that social distancing is maintained and face coverings / hand sanitiser is available.

Indeed, only this week I received notification of a branch meeting where a large room has been selected, face coverings and sanitiser confirmed as available, and the committee have asked those attending to take a lateral flow test beforehand.

2. Treasurers End of Year Clinic

The first treasurer's clinic is on the **14th of August at Sampford Peverell**, don't forget to reserve your place.

Saturday 14 th August 1000hrs – 1630hrs	Memorial Hall, Sampford Peverell
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To book onto a clinic please email the County Treasurer and he will allocate you a specific time.

- Devon.Treasurer@rbl.community

3. Meet the New Devon County Treasurer – Peter Fear



After leaving school I worked for about 4 years, for a firm of Auctioneers and Valuers in Glastonbury.

In 1970, I joined the Somerset and Bath Constabulary (later to become the Avon and Somerset Constabulary). Posting - first Taunton as a uniformed and then Wellington and in 1983 Taunton Criminal Investigation Department as a Detective Constable, a position I held until I retired from the Police in 2000.

Following a brief spell as a Housing Benefits Fraud investigator I joined a Parcel Delivery Company called ANC, (who were subsequently acquired by FEDEX) as a Special Investigator retiring in 2017.

My late father Jim Fear was a former member and chairman of Sampford Peverell and Uplowman Branch of the RBL and when, through ill health he was unable to attend meetings anymore, I joined the Legion in February 2011. I am currently the Branch Secretary and have been so for the last 4 years. I have no military service.

When invited to become the Devon Treasurer I wondered whether I was suited to the role, but I will do everything I can to perform the functions to Brian's high standards and ensure that nothing will change.

4. County Training Diary

Online MAP Training

Saturday 7 th August	1300 – 1430
Tuesday 24 th August	1800 – 1930
Thursday 9 th September	1100 – 1230
Saturday 18 th September	1630 – 1800

Online Branch Management Training

Friday 20 th & Saturday 21 st August	1530 – 1700
Thursday 23 rd & Friday 24 th September	1100 - 1330

BCS Awareness and Induction Training (*Subject to Change)

Saturday 4 th September*	BCS Awareness
Saturday 18 th September	BCS Induction (1)
Saturday 9 th October	BCS Induction (2)

To book on any of the above courses, please email either Devon.CTO@rbl.community or Devon.Vicechairman@rbl.community or go to the Local Training Booking App on the Membership Administration Portal.

Branch News

5. Sidmouth Branch

On Saturday 24th July 2021, Sidmouth Branch held a community event to celebrate the centenary of the branch. A coffee morning was arranged and a display of branch memorabilia.

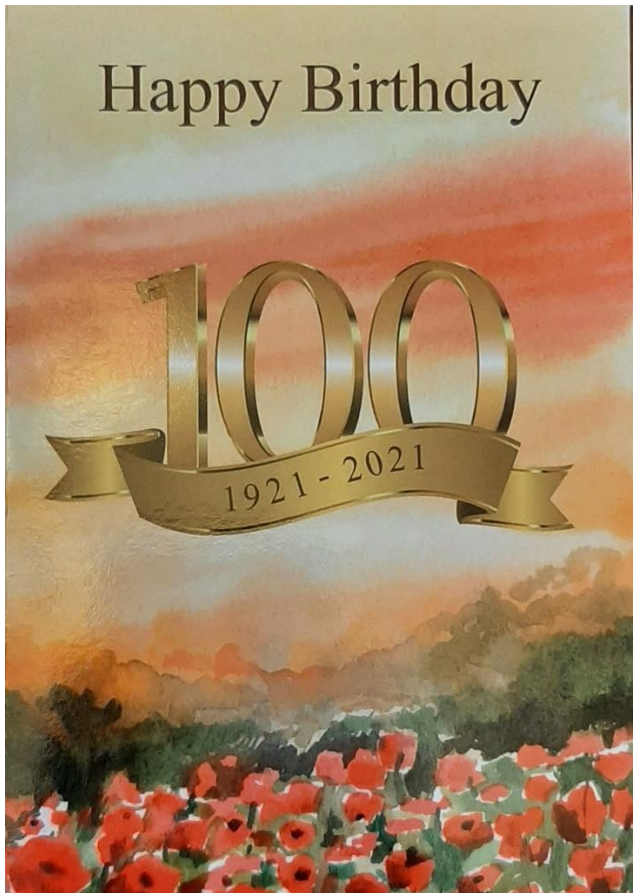
It was the first time the branch had come together properly for some time and some interesting stories were exchanged. A new member put in an appearance and was keen to get involved.



6. Brixham Branch Member celebrates his 105th Birthday
Congratulations Mr Fred Bates on this your 105th year!



7. Devon 100 – In this Week



To:

Branches longer in existence:

Bampton & District
Formed 19th July 1921

For more information about our county's branch 100th birthdays visit the Devon Royal British Legion 100 Facebook page

<https://facebook.com/devon.royalbritishlegion100/>

8. Events Diary

Please send details of your branch's centenary plans and events so that we can share with all our branches and members. (Please include the date, time, a brief description of your event and contact details).

Details of any new events are shaded in blue.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Branch</i>	<i>Event</i>
11 th August	Torquay	Annual Service at Corbyn Head Torquay Home Guard National Memorial to mark the 77 th Anniversary of the gun site tragedy which saw six killed and five injured. Contact: Ena Pethick, Branch Event Co-ordinator on ena@enapethick.plus.com

11 th August	Torquay	Following the Home Guard Service there will be a Centenary Event to mark the 100 th Anniversary of Torquay branch to celebrate its achievements. After the event, refreshments will be provided at the Livermead House Hotel.
15 th August	Paignton	VJ Day Commemoration Event Burma Star Garden, Cliff Road, Paignton Form Up: 11:30 Ceremony: 12:00
15 th August	Tiverton	VJ Day Commemoration Event Burma Star Garden, Phoenix Lane, Tiverton
4 th September	Starcross	The Grand Opening of the Starcross (Devon) Royal British Legion Club In addition to the reopening of the club an event will take place celebrating the centenary of the Legion. For details of the event: Contact: devon.chairman@rbl.community for more details.
9 th September	Beer	Afternoon Cream Tea, Bovey House, Beer. A free event for Beer members to celebrate their 100 years. Contact: Branch Secretary, Carole Arnold on beer.memsecretary@rbl.community
11 th September	Sidbury	Sidbury & Sidford Branch Coffee Morning at the Sidbury Village Hall. Doors open 10:30.
25 th September	Dartmoor	Centenary Concert at Southernhay Church, Exeter with a military band. Commencing 1900hrs. Contact: Branch Chairman, Carole Arnold on Dartmoor.Chairman@rbl.community
1 st October	Newton Abbot & Paignton	Centenary Gala Dinner at the Livermead House Hotel, Torquay.
30 th October	Yealm	Centenary Concert, Holy Cross Church, Newton Ferrers with military band and choir. Contact: Branch Secretary, Alan Gorczyca on for.alan@icloud.com
30 th October	Sidford	Sidbury & Sidford Branch Coffee Morning at the Sidford Social Hall. Doors open 10:30.

6 th November	Dawlish	Dawlish 100 th Celebrations at Cofton Holiday Park. Contact: Alec Fewings, Branch Chairman on alecfewings@yahoo.com
6 th November	Newton Poppleford	Sidbury & Sidford Branch Coffee Morning at the Newton Poppleford Hall. Doors open 10:30.
21 st November	Devon County	Devon County Centenary Event at the Guildhall, Plymouth. (Afternoon event). Contact: Devon County Chairman on Devon.Chairman@rbl.community
27 th November	Plymouth Crownhill	Centenary Dance Contact: Branch Chairman, Dave Carnell on dave.carnell@yahoo.co.uk
4 th December	Yealm	Charity Dinner and Auction, Yealm Yacht Club, Newton Ferrers. Contact: Branch Secretary, Alan Gorczyca on for.alan@icloud.com
12 th December	Paignton	Christmas Carol Service. 4pm Palace Avenue Gardens, Paignton Contact: Branch Secretary Paignton.secretary@rbl.community

RBL HQ News

9. Face to Face Private Site / Venue Fundraising in Devon

Branches are advised that the following sites will be used for TRBL Regular Giving & Poppy Lottery Private Site Campaigns during the week commencing Monday 26th July 2021:

- **The Broadway Shopping Centre, Plymouth**

10. National Training Update

Following the launch of the online Branch Treasurers Course in May 2021, feedback was received which identified the need to refine some of the areas of the learning experience. Consequently, the decision has been taken to postpone these modules with immediate effect to ensure the content can be revised to better meet the expectations of Branch Treasurers.

The planned roll out of courses following the updates to the treasurer's course are as follows:

Course	Launch Date	Notes
Branch Treasurer	Early August 2021	Updated Modules
IE Refresher	Early August 2021	New Course
LOMAS	End of august 2021	Delayed for IE Refresher
IE Course	End of August 2021	
County Training Officer	October 2021	
CYOCOUNTY Youth Officer	Removed	To Be Confirmed

11. Membership E-Newsletter

Please find attached the Membership E-Newsletter for July 2021.

Attachment: Membership E-Newsletter

Kevin

Kevin Jeffery

Devon County Chairman

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