



DEVON COUNTY BULLETIN

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Branch Secretaries
Branch Treasurers

Contents

RBL HQ News

1. Reminder re the Organisation of Local Remembrance Services and Parades
2. Important information for Branch Treasurers using LOMAS
3. MAP Membership Report Issues
4. Two New Apps Available on MAP
5. New Legion Links Project Launched – Message from the Project Officer

Devon County News

6. New MSO Arrangements
 7. Brixton Chairman Completes His Wing Walk
 8. Queen's Birthday Honours for Devon Standard Bearer
 9. Devon 100 - In This Week
 10. County/Branch Centenary Events Diary
 11. County Training Diary
-

RBL HQ News

1. **Reminder re the Organisation of Local Remembrance Services and Parades – Message from the Head of Membership Administration, Governance and Compliance**

Dear All

Members present at the Annual Conference 2021 requested a reminder of the below message to be sent to all branches.

Local Remembrance services and parades are civic functions that are attended and supported by The Royal British Legion, and whilst we welcome branches being consulted and assisting organisers, the Legion is not responsible for, nor takes decisions regarding the delivery of these events.

Local authorities across the whole of the United Kingdom remain responsible for setting the parameters of an appropriate ceremony marking Remembrance events in accordance with the Covid-19 restrictions relevant to that location.

We want to encourage our branches and members to continue supporting local Remembrance services and parades that follow government guidelines and until all restrictions are lifted - only where social distancing measures can be fully adhered to. RBL branches and members (including Standard Bearers) as well as affiliated organisations intending to participate in Remembrance commemorations must be supportive of and fully compliant with the direction issued by their relevant Local Authority.

The RBL position regarding parades remains as in previous years: **unless managed by local authorities, Legion members must not organise parades which require branches to run Temporary Traffic Management Orders (TTMOs) and nor may they provide insurance cover for someone else's TTMO.**

Magdalena de Lima Santos

Head of Membership Administration, Governance and Compliance

2. Important Information for Branch Treasurers Using LOMAS

2.1. LOMAS Server Change

A change to the LOMAS server will be taking place on Monday 21 June, in order to go live on the new system at 0900hrs on Tuesday 22 June.

The original server files will be duplicated late on Sunday night (20th June), to then be transferred over to the new cloud server.

Please could all LOMAS users note that **the system will therefore not be available for use from 2200hrs on Sunday 20th June until 0900hrs on Tuesday 22nd June.**

The old link to LOMAS will be re-directed to the new system, so you can still access in the same way. However, a new link will be provided to all users in due course.

If you do experience any issues in accessing or using LOMAS on Tuesday 22nd June, please email the LOMAS helpdesk - LOMAShelpdesk@britishlegion.org.uk

2.2. LOMAS and Small Branch Returns

Branches using LOMAS that qualify for the small branch return should still use LOMAS to submit your returns.

The Small Branch Return must include a bank statement dated 30th June and the completed Authority to Disclose Form, but you did not require an independent examination, providing you meet the Small Branch criteria as outlined in the

Branch Return Guide. (All Year End documentation was sent out to all branch treasurers by email on 14th June 2021).

3. MAP Membership Report Issues

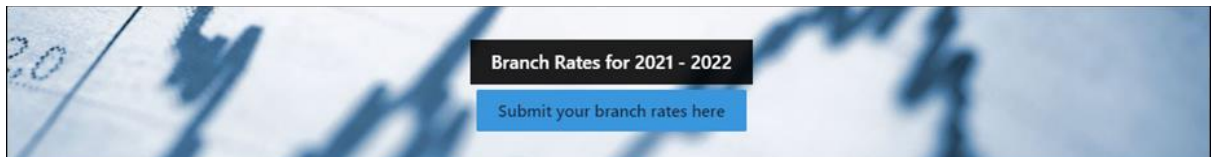
There are currently some ongoing issues with the generation of the membership reports that are available to all branches in MAP. The Membership IT team are continuing to work to resolve this problem.

If you find that your reports are not available and you require an up-to-date report, please contact me or your new MSO.

4. Two New Apps Available on MAP – Message from Membership IT

This is a reminder that there are now two new apps available on MAP. You will find links to them both on the MAP homepage.

Branch Rates



This app can be used to submit your **Branch Rates for the coming year**. This is a lot easier and faster than emailing or writing into the Membership Services team and only needs to be done once per year.

You will be able to update your Joining and Admin rates using this app.

If you have any queries regarding your branch rates please contact the Membership Services team: membershipservices@britishlegion.org.uk

Local Training Booking App



This app can be used to **book onto a local course in your county/district** that is being run by your County Training Officer. You can also book on behalf of other members.

When you click the link on the MAP homepage you will be taken to the Membership Training Calendar and from there you can either watch a demo video, or open up the app.

If you have any training queries please contact the Membership Training team:
Membershiptraining@britishlegion.org.uk

If you have any technical queries/issues regarding any apps that are on the system please contact the Membership IT Support team:
Membership.ITSupport@rbl.community

5. New Legion Links Project Launched – Message from the Project Officer

Hello

I just wanted to get in touch with you all to let you know about our new project, **Legion Links**.

In short, the Legion Links project intends to create a national network of social groups offering support to carers in the Armed Forces community. The programme aims to help Armed Forces carers feel less lonely and isolated because of their caring role, by supporting them to develop interests, friendships, and engage more with their communities.

Each group will be coordinated by two newly created volunteer roles, **Support Group Facilitators** and **Support Group Administrators**.

I am currently in the process of locating venues for our first ten support groups launching between August – October 2021. At the moment we have two confirmed locations, the **National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire** and the **Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shropshire**.

We now have a [Legion Links](#) page on the main RBL website, as well as having our volunteer roles listed on the main [volunteer page](#). I have also begun listing our volunteer roles on local and national recruitment sites, at the moment Charity Job is the only live listing ([Support Group Administrator](#) and [Support Group Facilitator](#)).

I'm particularly interested in working with RBL branches on this project, both as potential locations for our groups and as a source of potential volunteers.

Please find attached a copy of our Project Brief, which will provide you with a more detailed overview of the project. I've also attached a copy of the volunteer role descriptions, location guide and application form.

We are really keen to hear from members who may be interested in the roles - please do register your interest at: LegionLinks@britishlegion.org.uk

If you have any questions or would like more information, please do get in touch. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kirsty Gates

Legion Links Project Officer
[kgates@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:k gates@britishlegion.org.uk)

Attachments: Project Brief; Volunteer Role Descriptions; Location Guide; Application Form

Devon County News

6. New MSO Arrangements

I am pleased to confirm that, following my retirement from the RBL next week my colleague, Martin Pelling (MSO Cornwall) will be covering the MSO role for Devon on an interim basis.

Martin will commence covering the role **from Thursday 24th June** and can be contacted as follows:

Email: MPelling@britishlegion.org.uk

Telephone: 07458 090254

Address: Royal British Legion, 174 Armada Way, PLYMOUTH, Devon, PL1 1LB

Please note that it will not be possible for me to respond to any emails sent to my email address after close of play on Wednesday 23rd June.

7. A Reminder of the Year End Treasurer's Clinics

As we approach the end of the branch financial year on 30th June the County will once again be holding clinics for Branch Treasurers (hopefully face to face) during August and September.

The clinics are designed to offer Branch Treasurers the opportunity to bring along their branch accounts for either further assistance or final checking by the County Treasurer and County Chairman prior to submission. The County Treasurer, Brian Barlow, will also be providing independent examinations for those branches that would like him to carry out their IE.

The clinics will take place as follows:

Saturday 14 th August 1000hrs – 1630hrs	Memorial Hall, Sampford Peverell
Saturday 21 st August 1000hrs – 1630hrs	RBL Club, Newton Abbot
Saturday 11 th September 1000hrs – 1630hrs	Plymouth City Centre – venue to be confirmed

To book onto a clinic please email the County Treasurer on Devon.Treasurer@rbl.community indicating which date you wish to attend and he will allocate you a specific time.

8. Brixton Chairman Completes His Wing Walk – Message from the County Chairman



On Monday 14th June 2021, Reg Wilkinson, the Chairman of Brixton Branch, Royal British Legion took to the skies over Dunkeswell, Devon and performed a Wing Walk.

At 84 years young this was no mean feat. Watching Reg climb up the aircraft and onto the top wing was incredible. He climbed with ease, as nimble as a monkey, like the nickname he shares with his Redcap brotherhood.

Currently Reg has raised around £1500.00 for the Brixton Poppy Appeal.

Reg is already planning his next adventure and has vowed to Wing Walk whilst performing a Loop the Loop!

Well done Reg!

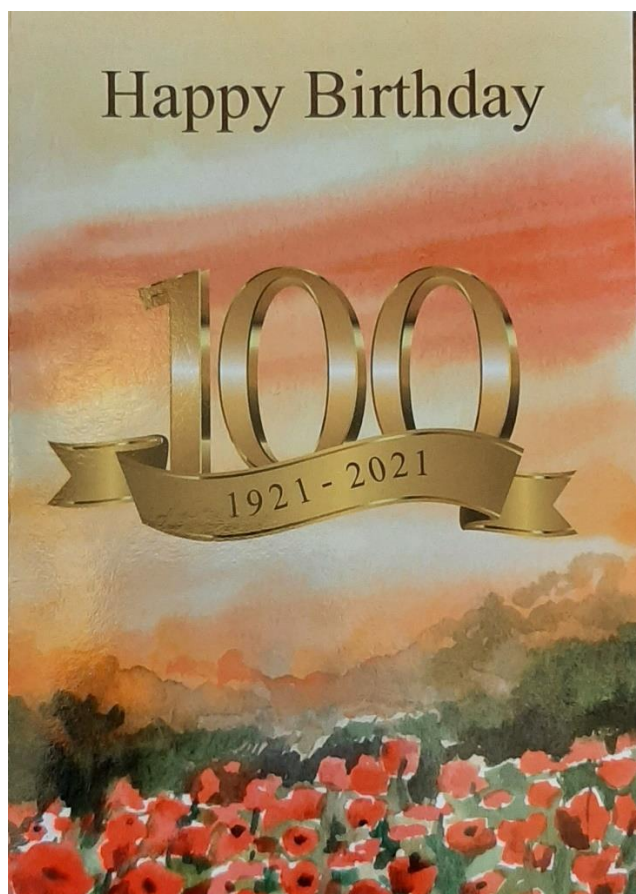
Kevin Jeffery
County Chairman

9. Queen's Birthday Honours for Devon Standard Bearer

Our Mid Torridge Branch has advised us that Luke Francis who is the Branch Standard Bearer has been awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) in the recent Queen's Birthday Honours, in recognition of his work running Bude Post Office and for his service to the local community.

Our congratulations to Luke!

10. Devon 100 – In this Week



To:

Paignton Branch
Formed 20th June 2021

Branches no longer in existence:

Bridestowe formed 14th June 2021

South Brent formed 17th June 2021

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

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

11. County/Branch Centenary Events Diary

Please do 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>
20 th June	Paignton	100 th Birthday Celebration, 1200 - 1600hrs, outside Paignton Branch office and new garden areas. Contact: Paignton Branch Secretary on Paignton.Secretary@rbl.community

15 th July	Beer	<p>Afternoon Cream Tea, Bovey House, Beer. A free event for Beer members to celebrate their 100 years.</p> <p>Contact: Branch Secretary, Carole Arnold on beer.memsecretary@rbl.community</p>
17 th July	Axminster	<p>Procession through the town with a band of pipers arriving at the War memorial at 1045. This will be followed by a short service and followed by a community picnic from mid-day onwards.</p> <p>Contact: Branch Secretary, Jacqueline Symes on Axminster.Secretary@rbl.community</p>
17 th July	North Tawton	<p>RBL 100 Years Celebration Coffee Morning, North Tawton</p> <p>Contact Jill Whiteley, Branch Secretary on jillstevejackdaws@gmail.com</p>
24 th July	Kilminster	<p>RBL Centenary celebration family-oriented BBQ at the Kilminster Village Hall and field behind. Contact: Stafford Seward, Branch Chairman or Jean Falconer, Branch Secretary.</p>
24 th July	Sidmouth	<p>Sidmouth Branch Centenary Event – an exhibition in the town with input from the local community. Further details tbc.</p> <p>Contact: Branch Secretary, Megan Bellfield on m.bellfield80@gmail.com</p>
11 th August	Torquay	<p>Annual Service at Corbyn Head Torquay Home Guard Memorial</p> <p>Contact: Ena Pethick, Branch Event Co-ordinator on ena@enapethick.plus.com</p>
25 th September	Dartmoor	<p>Centenary Concert at Southernhay Church, Exeter with a military band. Commencing 1900hrs.</p> <p>Contact: Branch Chairman, Carole Arnold on Dartmoor.Chairman@rbl.community</p>
30 th October	Yealm	<p>Centenary Concert, Holy Cross Church, Newton Ferrers with military band and choir.</p> <p>Contact: Branch Secretary, Alan Gorczyca on for.alan@icloud.com</p>

6 th November	Dawlish	Dawlish 100 th Celebrations at Cofton Holiday Park. Contact: Alex Fewings, Branch Chairman on alecfewings@yahoo.com
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 December	Yealm	Charity Dinner and Auction, Yealm Yacht Club, Newton Ferrers. Contact: Branch Secretary, Alan Gorczyca on for.alan@icloud.com

11. County Training Diary

BCS Awareness and Induction Training

Saturday 19 th June	BCS Awareness
Saturday 3 rd July	BCS Induction (1)
Saturday 17 th July	BCS Induction (2)

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

Online MAP Training

Monday 21 st June	1500 – 1630
Friday 2 nd July	1400 – 1530
Wednesday 14 th July	1600 – 1730
Saturday 7 th August	1300 – 1430
Tuesday 24 th August	1800 – 1930
Thursday 9 th September	1100 – 1230

Saturday 18 th September	1630 – 1800
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Online Branch Management Training

Tuesday 20 th & Wednesday 21 st July	1730 - 2000
Friday 20 th & Saturday 21 st August	1530 – 1700
Thursday 23 rd & Friday 24 th September	1100 - 1330

To book on any of the above courses, please email either Devon.CTO@rbl.community or Devon.Vicechairman@rbl.community

Adrienne Long

Membership Support Officer Devon

Telephone: 07918 562976

Email: along@britishlegion.org.uk

Address: The Royal British Legion, PO Box 101, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 1DL