



# Harleston Branch Monthly News sheet

## Proud Harleston Remembers !

**November 2024**

### Committee:

Chairman:	John Graham
Vice Chairman:	Sean Fairfield
Secretary:	Rosie Riches
Treasurer:	Steve Cox
Standard Bearer:	Chris Lown
Alternate Standard Bearer:	Steve Berger
Poppy Appeal Organiser:	Mandy Carter
Stores:	Tim Baldry



As Remembrance Day approaches and the town flags fly,  
 The veterans and townsfolk don't wait idly by,  
 This small town with veterans so very few,  
 is full of proud citizens with hearts that are true,  
 This market town of Harleston is full of pride,  
 As the townsfolk wear poppies whilst in full stride,

The lampposts they carry the names of the fallen men,  
 Whilst on the memorial their names are remembered once again,  
 The collection boxes will be found in every shop,  
 These boxes will be filled with the pennies to the top,  
 Brownes' the butcher will have the wreaths fully on display,  
 The window proudly shows all that pass by this way,

The old veterans and the young cadets, they'll brave the rain,  
 To stand and sell poppies this year once again,  
 So, stop by and chat and spend a while,  
 The old and the young will give you a smile,  
 They'll put on your poppy, pin it to your chest,  
 And your donation they will invest,

The crowds will gather when Remembrance Day has come,  
 Medals will shine in the cold Autumn sun,  
 The Veterans, the Serving and the Cadets will form the parade,  
 And the whole of the town wreath's will be laid,  
 And as the last wreath is laid and the "Last Post "is done,  
 This proud little town will remember as one,

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old,  
 Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,  
 At the going down of the sun and in the morning,  
 we will remember them!



Polo shirt £15  
Cap £10

The primary aim of the monthly Newsheet is to keep the branch members informed of RBL news and social events throughout the year. All inputs to:

Harleston.Secretary@RBL.Community

## Welcome address from the Chairman:



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Harleston RBL Branch members for your faith in voting me in as your Chairman. I extend my heartfelt thanks for the large turnout to the Branch AGM, thus ensuring a successful transition to the new committee.

The new committee had its first meeting on Monday evening and enjoyed a packed agenda which included lots of planning for our upcoming Poppy selling, with the support of the Cadet force. The Remembrance Day Service was planned and finalised. Future events were planned and will be listed in the new Branch Newsletter, all ideas from the Branch members are very welcomed.

I would like to give a vote of thanks to the outgoing Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and committee members for all their hard work and commitment to the Branch during their term in office and to all members for their support in continuing to attend our Branch meetings. It is reassuring to see returning Branch members and especially the new members. I'm sure that you all join me in looking forward to a bright and healthy future for Harleston RBL Branch.

**John Graham**  
**Branch Chairman**

## Watch and Shoot



RBL member Geoff Roy organised a very successful day at High Lodge Leisure Ltd, Halesworth, Suffolk. The deal he negotiated involved a lunch menu and 50 clays. The members who took part thoroughly enjoyed Geoff's excellent instruction and knowledge. He gave the use of his guns and discounted the cost of the cartridges. The next shoot is organised for Wednesday 20th November. A lunch shoot with 50 clays & 50 cartridges. Geoff will provide the guns, instruction, safety. Cost will be £50 and includes the lunch. Some of the costs will go to Waveney Valley Rivers Trust (Geoff's Chosen charity). If you are interested in taking part please forward an email to the Harleston Secretary ([Harleston.Secretary@RBL.Community](mailto:Harleston.Secretary@RBL.Community)).



## Remembrance 2024



This year kicks off with Branch members selling poppies in the market place and around town. The main effort will be carried out jointly with both the Branch

members and the Harleston Army Cadet force. The cadets and some of the Branch members will represent the town at the football ground for the home game on the 2nd November. Poppies will be sold on 2nd, 6th & 9th Nov. (all branch members are welcome).

## Parade:

Branch members are to meet at the market place at 10:00 to

partake in a glass of port prior to forming up. All will form up by 10:20 and will march off at 10:30. Both the Masonic Rooms and the Swan Hotel have a Sunday Roast organised. Names to either by 6th November.



## Standard Bearer Practice



New member Steve Berger took part in Standard bearer training at Wymondham. Steve took on the responsibility as the alternate Standard Bearer for the branch. The need to have this position filled was highlighted with the recent injury to the current Standard Bearer, Chris Lown.

Chris was hit by a car whilst in training for his long distance charity walk. This rendered him incapable of carry out his duties and representing the former Branch President Bert Herrington, on his final journey. On the day of the funeral Sean Fairfield stepped up and received on the spot training at the Waveney Valley Crematorium. The job of the standard bearer is not only for the Remembrance parade, but also when called upon to see Veterans and RBL members off on their final journeys. It is with great respect that Steve

took on the role as alternate Standard Bearer. Steve is a former Blues & Royals of the Household cavalry and is an ideal candidate for the role. Good on you Steve for stepping up.



## Presentation of the WWI tablecloth print to Harleston ACF



The unique piece of WWI history recently discovered in Harleston, a three-foot square linen tablecloth, signed by many soldiers who stayed at the two Red Cross hospitals in the town between

1914-1918. It was placed in the care of Terry Pegg of the Harleston RBL. This important piece of history is now on display in the Harleston Memorial hall. A Print of the tablecloth was provided to the family, but was returned to the care of Terry and the RBL, after discussion with Terry it was agreed that the importance of this piece of history of the tablecloth should be given over to the

Harleston ACF. On 2nd October four members of the RBL presented the print to Sgt Kaitlyn Aldous and Harleston ACF, for future generations to understand the sacrifices of past generations



## Bert Herrington



Albert Arthur (Bert) Herrington died peacefully on Saturday 17th August 2024, aged 90. Bert had various roles within Harleston RBL including

President, Secretary, Treasurer, Poppy Appeal Organiser.

Bert completed his National Service in the RAF. On 3rd September Bert went on his final journey, Branch members attended and a standard bearer was provided. RIP Bert and condolences to his family

## Christmas gathering

The Christmas gathering will be on 6th December. This will be a time to relax and celebrate the start of the Christmas festivities. There will be "Proper" purchased raffle prizes, and a prize for the best Christmas jumper. Also we will have a bring a dish / pot luck as the buffet. "Fingers crossed" that we don't all bring the mince pies. Come along, have fun and enjoy what the committee has laid on for you!



## FUTURE EVENTS

The list of events will grow with inputs from all Branch members. Please pass on to the secretary any events that you would like to see listed .



### Veteran's Breakfast club

The Veteran's Breakfast / Brunch club meets on every second Saturday each month. (After the RBL Friday meeting). The Swan hotel hosts these meetings under the guidance of the Landlord Mr Robin Twigge. All Veterans, Widows and dependants are very welcome.

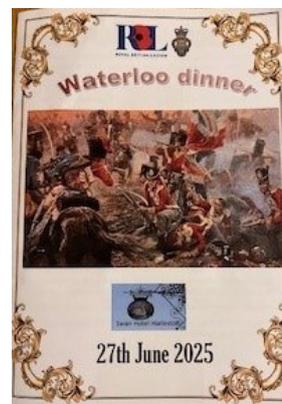


### Beer Festival 20-22/06/2025

Branch members enjoyed the discounted benefits of the Harleston beer festival, which coincided with the Armed forces weekend and both the RBL and Roundtable ensured it was well supported. 20-22 June 2025 is the next festival date.



### Waterloo Dinner 27/06/2025



Dinner and evening entertainment is planned for 27th June 2025 at the Swan hotel.

## December 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					30 Nov Xmas market/Lights	1
2	3	4	5	6 Christmas RBL gathering	7 Veterans' Brunch	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					