The Royal British Legion
Warton and District Branch BR 3332

Newsletter No 4
Welcome to this the fourth edition of the Warton and District Branch newsletter. Our aim is to keep you up to date with the Branch, its meetings and activities.
Branch Meetings are held every 3rd Monday of the month at 7:30pm.
Warton Club
Austrey Road
Warton
Staffordshire B79 0HW
Please come along and meet us, have your say in Branch activities and a drink and chat in the bar afterwards.

November 2011

November was a very busy time for our Poppy Appeal Organiser/Secretary Mr Eddie Peat MBE for as well as organising the Poppy appeal and all the parades and services that we attend for remembrance. He visited several schools and scout groups etc to give talks on the role of the Poppy Factory and the significance of remembrance.

Warton School assembly 09:00 Tuesday 1st November, assisted by Terry Casey as Standard Bearer
Warton Pre School Nursery 10:30 Thursday 3rd November
Newton Regis School 09:00 Monday 7th November
Wood End Scout Group 19:00 Wednesday 9th November, assisted by Terry Casey as Standard Bearer
Orton on the Hill, Children’s Church Club 15:00 Sunday 21st November, assisted by Terry Casey as Standard Bearer, Mr Alf Webber JP and Mrs Christine Casey.
Eddie and Terry at Austrey C.E. Primary School. 09:00 Wednesday 9th November. Some of the children wrote us poems for remembrance, which are shown below, unfortunately not all of them scanned very well. So I have typed some of them out as written as their efforts deserve some recognition.
Remembrance is...

A quite time, where we Gather together, It doesn’t matter, Whatever the Weather. A quite time, Where We, Gather around, Where nobody makes, A single sound.

We must remember... We must not forget.

Remembrance
Rows of poppies, Everybody fights, Must stop soon, Eleventh of November, My sister’s birthday, Bringing back memories, Remembering my family, And the country, Now war is gone.

Celebrations start,
Everybody is happy.
by mathilda Ford.

Flanders Field
Where we fall
The good wind blows,
As we lie the poppies Grow
Now we remember
The eleventh of November
We are on the remembrance side.
We wear our Poppys with pride.
And we remember those who died
By Samuel Harrison Age 8

The word of the poem to the left do not scan very well, bit are printed as written, below.

Remembrance
Remembrance is good
Remembrance is sad
It remind us of the war That we just had
Remembrance is happy
Remembrance is Glad
It remind us of the People that we just had
Remembrance is quite
Remembrance is loud
The people who died
The soldiers have just found
Some dates your Diary:-

**Tuesday 31st January 2012**

Atherstone RBL are hosting a quiz night at the Conservative and Unionist Club, Long Street, Atherstone. 7.00pm for a 7:30pm start.

**Friday 17th February 2012**

Atherstone RBL are hosting a skittles night at the Conservative and Unionist Club, Long Street, Atherstone. 7.00pm for a 7:30pm start.

**National Memorial Arboretum**

**Date:** 09 January 2012 to 29 February 2012

Sgt Maj Douglas Farthing MBE is no ordinary artist. His art records war and the effects of war. The landscape, people, soldiers and their equipment - the emotions and reality of life. His exhibition entitled '2 Years 2 Wars' was the culmination of two journeys recorded in travelling war diaries covering Iraq and the North West frontier, on the Afghan and Pakistan border.

Often painting in searing temperatures his studio can be a trench, a rooftop or a hillside. He works quickly to capture moments in time from Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Time:** 9am to 5pm.

**Venue:** Visitor Centre.

**Admission:** Free, but donations appreciated.

**Information:** [www.mandolsgallery.co.uk](http://www.mandolsgallery.co.uk)

**Saturday 3rd March 2012**

Shipston on Stour Branch The Royal British Legion

A Concert by Shipston Town Band to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the Royal British Legion Commencing 7.30pm in the Townsend Hall.

Admission by ticket £7.00, available from Richard Adams-01608 662328, Tim Walker-01608 663759, Mike Dobbin-01608 664636.
**Friday 16th March 2012**
Atherstone Branch RBL are now also taking bookings for a trip to Church End Brewery on Friday March 16th @ £9 per person to include a cold buffet. If anyone would like to book a place please contact Patrick Godfrey-Young 02476 394563 direct.

**Sunday 22nd April 2012**
Warwickshire County RBL Luncheon, Windsor Suite, Royal Court Hotel, Keresley, Coventry 12 noon for 12.30pm. Guest speaker the RBL’s Programme Manager for the MOD Personnel Recovery Capability. For tickets contact your Branch Secretary.

**Sunday 8th July 2012**
Warwickshire County RBL Annual Parade & Service. To be held at Coleshill, further details to follow.

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**Help For Heroes**

**The Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes**
The Royal British Legion and Help for Heroes (H4H) do different things as charities supporting the Armed Forces. Help for Heroes is a fundraising and grant-making organisation, concentrating primarily on raising funds for building projects.

The Legion has a wider remit and is the first port of call for a wide range of help for the entire Armed Forces Family. We care and campaign for all those currently serving and their dependants, as well as veterans - today and for the rest of their lives. The Legion is the guardian of the Military Covenant and our campaigning activity has recently focused on persuading the Government to write into law the principles of the Military Covenant. This is vital to honour the unique nature of Service and ensure that no disadvantage is experienced as a result of it by Armed Forces personnel and their families.

Welfare is at the heart of the Legion. We spend nearly £1.4 million a week delivering health and welfare support to members of the Armed Forces, veterans and their families - including benefits, legal and careers advice; care in residential homes; help in the home for veterans; and free holidays for the children of Armed Forces personnel and carers. In 2010 we responded to over 160,000 calls for help. We have provided financial assistance to more than 16,000 Service personnel and recent veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan operations. We are there for our beneficiaries whenever they need us at life's critical events.

We have represented one-third of all the appeals for higher compensation payments arising from injuries suffered in Afghanistan. Our campaigning won compensation worth over £40 million for our most seriously injured heroes and those ill as a result of Service. We help rehabilitate the physically injured and to train and resettle others into civilian life. We provide direct support to Service widows and other dependants. Our members are a vital force within the Legion; H4H is not a membership organisation. We are also actively recruiting new supporters using social media such as Facebook, Legion Live and Twitter. The success of our message is borne out nationally by the huge support for our fundraising, which has seen record Poppy Appeals year on year. The Legion now has more followers across social media than any other charity.
The Legion actively partners with other charities - particularly those in the same sector and especially on the delivery of welfare services to those most in need. For example, working with the RAF Benevolent Fund and Citizens Advice Bureaux we provide the highly successful Benefits & Money Advice Service which helped over 8,000 beneficiaries with unmanageable debt last year.

Naturally, given our huge remit, we would want our members’ branches to concentrate on raising funds for the Legion’s work, including through the Poppy Appeal. While our constitution does not permit County and Branch formations to donate funds raised for the Legion to other charities, we are a major grant giving charity, providing grants to such as Combat Stress and St Dunstan’s for specialist welfare services. We have worked successfully with H4H in the past on national fundraising projects, with both charities benefiting from the additional income generated and the high level of public support for the Armed Forces. The Legion and H4H are currently partnering with the MoD in the Army Recovery Capability programme to help wounded, injured and sick Service personnel recover and either return to duty or move successfully into civilian life. We have committed to investing up to £50 million in this programme - the largest single donation in the Legion’s 90-year history. This includes £20m for four Personnel Recovery Centres in the UK: H4H is funding the physical building of these centres; we are funding their operating costs for the next ten years. In addition, the Legion is funding the creation and operation of The Royal British Legion Battle Back Centre which will use adaptive sports and adventurous training to help Service personnel recover. This Centre is due to open in September 2011

HOW TO ASK FOR HELP
If you know someone who needs welfare assistance from the Legion, call Legionline on 08457 725 725 or visit www.britishlegion.org.uk

Please pass this newsletter on to anyone you believe may be interested in the work of The Royal British Legion.

If you have received this newsletter from someone else but like a copy sent to you personally please contact me, if you would like to receive this newsletter as a PDF attachment to an e-mail, please e-mail Terry Casey as below

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