



The Royal British Legion



Market Harborough

In Touch

Issue 171

December 2012

The monthly newsletter (founded 1996) of the Market Harborough Branch
(BR0106) of the Royal British Legion.



**'Shoulder to Shoulder
With All Who Serve'**



**Next Monthly Branch Meeting
Wednesday
9 January**

Function Room, Conservative Club, Fairfield Rd, Market Harborough
7-30pm

Branch News

John McDonald BEM

The Chairman reported that branch member John McDonald, (92) a resident at Peaker Park passed away peacefully on 11 December.

In Touch Editor Resigns

The In Touch editor announced his resignation at the Branch Meeting held on 13 December.

He explained he had received a telephone call from a member saying several members were complaining the In Touch was 'rubbish, they never read it but just threw it away'. This was soon followed by an e-mail from another member referring to that telephone call and saying 'this feeling exists much more widely - and for some - regrettably it will have created a loss of interest in the Branch and may be part of the malaise seen in decline in numbers attending meetings, monthly lunches, branch functions and getting Poppy volunteers'.

Faced with these comments the Editor felt that he must resign.

The new editor will be George Seward with Tom Ashmore in a supporting research role.

The past editor wished them well hoping that they are able to reverse the perceived Branch malaise.

Anniversary Dinner - 22 March

Arrangements were well in hand for this event at the Golf Club. Music will be provided by David Hawke. Bookings through Pat Middleton, Tickets are £12-50 and cheques should be made payable to Market Harborough Golf Club.

February Coffee Morning

It was suggested that this coffee morning should be used to raise funds in aid of another organisation. Suggestions were The Ghurkhas, On Course Foundation or Air Ambulance.

A vote will be taken at the next Branch meeting, please let the Secretary have any other suggestions before the meeting.

Poppy Appeal

Sgt Pippa Ball from the ATC presented cheques totalling £234 to the Poppy Appeal. This was money raised by the cadets during the year.

The POA reported that £21,000 had been raised to date for the Appeal.

The band concert had raised £466.

Mince Pie & Quiz

After the meeting a Christmas Quiz was run by Tom Ashmore followed by refreshments

Malaise or Not?

Following on from the comment mentioned in the e-mail to the outgoing editor (see Branch news) I feel that as Branch Chairman I should respond.

There have been several appeals both at meetings and through In Touch for members to help in the

Welfare

If you are aware of any one who qualifies for, and who may benefit from, the Royal British Legion welfare services please contact

Betty Ramsay
01858 434923

running of the Branch. In my opinion those volunteers who have stepped forward are doing a sterling job as are the members who work tirelessly behind the scenes.

However if you feel that there is a 'malaise' in the Branch then please take this opportunity to raise your concerns with the Committee and if possible what you think can be done to reverse this decline.

Perhaps there may be some members who feel the Branch is doing 'ok' and obviously your views are just as important.

This is YOUR Branch and it will benefit nobody if you just grumble amongst yourselves.

The Committee will listen and act, as it always does, in what it believes is the best interests of the Branch.



The MOD have reported no soldiers killed in Afghanistan since the last news letter

Peace on Earth



Tuesday 8th January Late Christmas Lunch

Reservation before 1 Jan to Pat Middleton 01858 445827 with menu choice. Cancellations after 7 Jan will be charged for.

Starter

*Chicken liver pate, dressed leaves, chutney & rustic bread
Melon slices, wine infused berries & fruit sorbet*

Vegetable broth & crusty bread

Main

*Turkey with trimmings
Baked white fillet of fish, mash potato, dill, wine & prawn sauce
Butterfly Supreme of chicken, roast potatoes, leek & smoked bacon sauce*

Quorn Sheppard's pie, vegetable gravy, roast potatoes

All served with vegetables

Sweet

*Carrot Cake with cream
Christmas pudding, brandy sauce
Roulade, with fruits & ice creams
Fresh fruit salad with cream
Coffee and mints*

*£12-50 - pay on the day
Meet in the bar at noon*

What's Going On?

Forthcoming Events

- Jan 5 County Conference
Loughborough. 2pm
- Jan 8 The 'Christmas' lunch
at the Angel
- Jan 9 Branch meeting fol
lowed by a film show
- Mar 22 Annual Dinner at the
Golf Club. Celebrating
our 90th anniversary.
Bookings to Pat Mid
dleton, 7 Howard Way,
Market Harborough,
LE16 9LD. Tel: 01858
445827, email:

Merry Christmas To All

I wish all members of the branch a very Happy Christmas and may the New year bring you what you desire.

Whilst we celebrate please spare a thought for those people who, for what ever reason, feel unable to join the festive celebrations and those who are spending Christmas alone or homeless.

Our thoughts are very much with the armed forces and their families at this special time of year.
John Standish - Chairman

Branch Contacts

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Secretary
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Poppy Appeal
Dave Pryor
01858 540431

Wreaths
Post Vacant

Standard Bearer
Hilary Brazil
c/o 01858 434923

Monthly Lunches
Les Moore
01858 463112

Editor - *In Touch*
George Seward
Tom Ashmore
Contact details next month

Next Committee 3 January

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