



In Touch, Too

The Market Harborough Branch Bi-monthly News Sheet

Issue 1

August 1997

MORE IN TOUCH!

As the existing News-letter comes out at two monthly intervals, and Branch meetings are held and County & HQ Circulars are received monthly, some items of news or information are out of date when *In Touch* is published. Even those attending meetings are not kept up to date because the Circulars often arrive too late to be referred to. In any case, for many people, information is best imparted in writing rather than verbally.

Because *In Touch* has proved to be so popular it will be retained in its present form and frequency and will continue to carry relevant and current news and information. In alternate months it is proposed to produce a simple News-sheet in a form such as this experimental issue.

Whether it really is a practical proposition to produce this additional publication will depend on how much time can be devoted to it, the willingness of volunteers to distribute it,

Advert

how useful members think it is and its nett cost. It would need to include some advertising to help pay for it.

FROM HQ

In keeping with other attempts to create a more modern, progressive image for the RBL, the old General Circular has been replaced with a more readable and visually attractive document called *Legionletter*. As before some of its contents are reminders or instructions to Branch officers whilst others are of more direct relevance to all members.

“*Pause to Remember*”, the Legion’s entry in the round the world yacht race, arrived home safely on 16th July, coming 10th overall after an exciting finish to the 3000 mile leg from Boston. She and four other yachts crossed the line within 9 minutes of each other!

Betty & Tom Jeacock had seen the boat in New Zealand and a message of congratulation and best wishes had been sent by the Branch to skipper & crew when en route to Boston (In Touch, May, p4).

Golden Wedding. If you were married on the same day as HM The Queen, 20th November, 1947 would you consider lending a photograph to the *Legion* magazine? If so please send it to the Editor, Sandra Pruski, 48 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5JY, who will return it safely.

SupplyLines, the new mail order arm of the RBL referred to in the recent issue of *Legion* magazine, have produced Christmas and general catalogues free copies of which are available if you call 01622 717202 or 718477.

Adding of Names to War Memorials. Local authorities should be encouraged to add to War Memorials the names of those killed in subsequent conflicts or names omitted in error. If you know of such cases, please inform Branch Secretary, Dick Fulford, on MH 431515.

FROM COUNTY

Senior members of the Royal British Legion and Gulf Veterans met the Minister for the Armed Forces on 14th July 1997 to be briefed on the Government’s plans to address the problem of **Gulf War illnesses**. Additional funding for research of £2.25m. is to be provided, and the panel that will oversee the enhanced research programme will include Dr. Norman Jones, an advisor to

The Royal British Legion and Gulf War Veterans. The Legion believes the Government is to be congratulated on its positive approach since it came into office, which leads the Veterans & the ex-Service Community to believe that these difficult problems are now to be addressed fairly and with compassion.

FROM COUNTY continued

MUSIC FOR A ROYAL OCCASION, the concert to celebrate the Golden Wedding of Her Majesty The Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh organized by Quorn Branch was a great success. A crowd of over 1,000 including the 140 couples who also were married in 1947, gathered on the lawns of Beaumanor Hall, Woodhouse on Sunday evening, 20th July to enjoy the Central Band of the Royal British Legion, a parade of Standards and a spectacular fireworks finale to the strains of the 1812 Overture followed by the march-off of Standards to the familiar march "The British Legion".

Over £4,000 was raised to be divided between the 1997 Poppy Appeal, The Royal Naval Benevolent Trust, The Army Benevolent Fund and the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund.

Northern Region are holding a **Rally** in Spa Royal Hall, Bridlington on 26, 27, 28th September 1997. A service, parade, band concert and dancing will be included in the programme, for further details please contact:- Northern Regional Organiser, 5 Blenheim Terrace, Leeds. LS2 9JD, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

BRANCH AFFAIRS

August Branch Meeting

Mrs Sybil Cramp and Mr Gary Farnsworth, had joined the Branch as Associate Members, bringing the total strength to 89.

Mrs B. Jeacock was welcomed back after her accident

Finance.The meeting approved the transfer of part of the Trust/Welfare Fund to a HQ account yielding a higher rate of interest.

An **account** of the Ceremonies on 8th June had been sent to the Editor of *Legion* magazine under the heading "A First for Market Harborough?" Special mention was made of the "twinning" with the Toledo Post of the American Legion and a picture was included. It remains to be seen whether space will be found to give us a mention.

One of the two Albums which form a **pictorial record** of the 8th June ceremonies, had been sent to Toledo where it was much appreciated and the subject of many compliments.

The **video** of the June 8th Ceremonies was shown after the meeting.

Reminders

Branch meeting, Thursday, 10th September, 8pm, Ground Floor Function room, Conservative Club building.

Dance at the Conservative Club on 12th September. 8pm to midnight. For tickets ring David Hawke (MH 431426) who has organised the event in aid of Branch Funds. David would like to hear from anyone who would help with the preparation of refreshments.

Battle of Britain Sunday is the **21st September.** Please support our RAFA friends at the Service and with the collections on the two previous days. Ring their Secretary, Jim Lloyd on MH 463174 if you can help.

Advert

Royal British Legion National Bowls finals were held on 25th July at Melton Mowbray.

Mr & Mrs P T Ashmore
9 The Pastures
If you play Bowls please contact Bernard Halsall on MH 465314 with a view to forming a Branch team.

**Market Harborough
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The Royal British Legion is a registered charity No.219279.