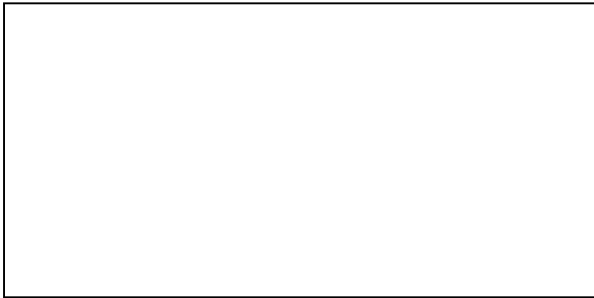




*Photo Shy?*

So, please do take



## The Market Harborough Branch Bi-monthly News Sheet

Issue 4

February, 1998

It was disappointing that the 14th January meeting was not better attended, despite the appeal in December's *In Touch, Too* for a good turn out for the Branch photograph. Are our members too shy to have their pictures taken?

### ***Chairman Improperly Dressed***

The Jewel of Office presented at that meeting and featured in the picture in the Harborough Mail was not in evidence at the February meeting and I was censured for the omission! In future a fine will be levied if I am "improperly dressed" but I shall insist that the same rule applies to Peter Wilson now that he has received his President's Jewel! For the benefit of those who were not at either of the meetings, I should explain that these symbols of Legion office were purchased as a result of an anonymous donation.

### ***New-style Meeting***

The February Meeting was noteworthy apart from matters of dress. It started at the new earlier time of 7.30pm and a less formal seating arrangement was used. Branch business was covered quite quickly, most items having been dealt with in committee two weeks previously. Thus the main part of

the evening was devoted to Tony Johnson's fascinating talk of his experiences as a prisoner of war after being shot down over Germany and his eventual successful solo escape in 1944. Thank you Tony for an enthralling tale of courage so well, yet so modestly, told.

Judging by the willingness of members to stay and chat after the talk, I feel that this new-style meeting was a success. Let us hope the March meeting is, too.

### ***The Next Meeting***

Note that Branch Meetings are held on the Second Wednesday of each month and start at 7.30pm. We hope that you will be with us on 11th March, for a light hearted Quiz evening with Connie Halsall asking the questions.

### ***.....And the next.....?***

What kind of meetings do members want? We need to know why at a typical meeting, less than a third of our number are present. Why are the other two thirds not there and how many of these would have come if circumstances had been different? The purpose of the accompanying **Questionnaire** is to help your Committee meet the wishes of members more fully.

the trouble to complete and return it. We are happy to work hard on your behalf so please help us to help you!

### ***Membership Matters***

We welcome as **new members**: Mark Hudson, an ex-Navy man, transferred from Lee-on-Solent; Mr E Salisbury & Barry Thorpe, both transferred from Clipston branch; RSM Dave Harrauld, who will strengthen our link with the Army Cadet Force.

Unfortunately, four members chose not to renew their subscriptions and so their membership has lapsed. Of course, we will be very happy to welcome them back if they wish to re-join.

The **membership directory** requested at the AGM, has now been produced and contains names addresses and phone numbers of members on the register on 10th February, except those who wished to be excluded. It accompanies this newsletter and if you don't lose it, should help you make contact with your fellow members.

### ***Oops!***

I've dropped a clanger on the posters for the Band Concert & will buy a drink for the first to tell me what it is (not you Marion!)

## 75th Anniversary Year Update

### Exhibition

Opens in the Harborough Museum on **19th March**. If you can lend photographs, newspaper cuttings or anything relating to the activities of the Branch or to any of its members please ring Tom Jeacock (MH 466829)

## 75th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

By

### THE HARBOROUGH BAND

7.30 p.m. Saturday, 21st March

Baptist Church, Market Harborough

**Tickets £3.50**

from R. D. Jeacock & Sons, 30 Coventry Road  
(For tickets by post, send a s.a.e. & cheque to  
Tom Jeacock, 21 Gardiner St., Market Harborough,  
LE16 9QN).

This event is kindly sponsored by Cleco Limited and is  
in aid of Local Branch Funds

Please publicise the concert. Posters, in glorious  
"Technicolor", from Tom Jeacock

## 75TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

FRIDAY 3RD APRIL 1998 at 7 for 7.30pm.

At the Wellington Suite, Market Harborough  
(entrance from the Car Park in Dodderidge Road)

### MENU

HALF CROWN OF MELON WITH CITRUS FRUITS.



ROLLED FILLET OF PLAICE ST. CLEMENTS  
WITH A WHITE WINE AND MUSHROOM SAUCE.



CRYSTAL LIME SORBET.



LAMB STEAK COOKED WITH HONEY AND MINT SAUCE.

NEW POTATOES, SMALL SQUARE SAUTÉ POTATOES,  
BROCCOLI, FRESH CARROTS WITH SWEDES.



ASSORTED SWEETS WITH FRESH CREAM.



CHEESE AND BISCUITS WITH CELERY & GRAPES.



COFFEE AND AFTER DINNER MINTS.

Ticket Price £12.50

Special diets (e.g. for vegetarians, or those who only eat  
fish on Fridays) can be catered for if we are advised  
when applying for tickets.

Tickets from Tom Jeacock. Send s.a.e.  
with £5 each deposit or pay in full if  
preferred, ASAP.

## Edinburgh Tattoo

This 3-day coach  
trip has booked  
well, but Tom  
Jeacock may be able  
to get a few more  
seats.

### Visit to Holland

The Normandy Vets.  
trip was fully taken  
up by their own  
members but an  
alternative is being  
sought. More details  
later.

### Visit to Berlin

A trip in 1999 is on  
the cards. Details  
later but let Tom  
know if you would  
be interested.

### Millennium visit to Dunkirk

Jock Stuart (MH  
431850) has details  
of a Special  
occasion being  
planned by the  
Dunkirk Veterans'  
Association in June  
2000.

### Other Outings

Are being  
considered. Watch  
out for details  
in **Touch** and in  
**In Touch, Too.**

### February Lunch

Prompted by the  
success of the lunch  
in December,  
another one was  
held on 19<sup>th</sup>  
February, this time at

*The Countryman*, Great Bowden.  
Arranged by Tony Johnson, it was  
voted a very enjoyable occasion  
and one which should be repeated,  
possibly becoming a regular  
branch activity. In future, to give  
more people an opportunity to  
attend, details will be announced in  
the Newsletters as well as at meetings.

### Ghurka Band Concert

John Cox has details of this event to  
be held at the Dergate Theatre,  
Northampton, on Sunday, 7th June.  
Ring him on MH 434983 if you would  
be interested in attending. Given  
sufficient numbers, transport might be  
arranged.

### News from HQ

The latest *LegionLetter* sets out the  
rules for eligibility of **Merchant  
Seamen** for Ordinary membership of  
the RBL, over which there has been  
misunderstanding in the past.  
Secretary Andrew Marriott (MH  
434805) has the details.

I now have a copy of the Official  
Statement made in the name of the  
RBL, following the apology made by  
the Japanese Prime Minister for the  
suffering caused to POW's. In an  
accompanying letter, I have been given  
the assurance that the RBL still  
supports the efforts being made by the  
FEPOW Association to secure  
compensation.

At the invitation of the Japanese  
government, the RBL is leading a  
delegation of ex-Service organisations  
visiting Japan on 1st March.

Ring me if you would like a copy of  
this correspondence.

### In Touch

Editor, Dick Fulford  
(MH 431515) awaits your news,  
views or stories for future issues.

**In Touch, Too** is written and produced by  
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