



# The Royal British Legion Stamford Branch

Formed 7 June 1922

Websites: <http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/stamford>  
<http://www.facebook.com/RBLStamford>  
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Affiliated with : 2 Squadron (Stamford Detachment), Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force, 2005  
: 2071 (Stamford) Squadron, Air Training Corps, 2007  
Twinned with Isle of Bute Branch, Royal British Legion Scotland, 2009

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## Newsletter – May 2013

### Our new home

Stamford AFC have come to our rescue after we were made homeless by the closure of the Cummins Club. Thanks to the Daniels, we are moving to the Clubroom at Wothorpe (Kettering) Road (A43). We shall meet there on their third Wednesday of each month, starting at 7.30 for 8.00pm sharp. We had to change the evening from our usual (heretofore) Tuesday because Tuesdays belong to lots of sweaty footballers enjoying their match nights. We shall instead have Wednesday evenings to ourselves, including the bar and the whole of their car park. The photograph shows the Club Room which also comes equipped with a bar, kitchens, toilets of course, and sound equipment if we ever want to mount a concert. It can easily seat up to 100 of us.



Our Chairman, John Copeland, says, "We are extremely thrilled that Stamford AFC have kindly come forward and offered us the use of their club. We have very particular requirements which meant we've really struggled to find another venue. We're also looking forward to building links with a whole new part of the community, especially the younger generation as they are the future of our branch - plus a lot of our members go to all the games, so it's absolutely perfect for us."

Guy Walton, Daniels' Director, said "We are pleased to support an organisation which is committed to supporting those who have served, or are serving, in the Armed Forces. Long term, we will be able to offer facilities at the new ground to the Legion."

Our first meeting there will be on **Wednesday**, 15 May, at 7.30 for 8.00pm sharp, when we (I) shall be mounting a quiz? So, come along, bring a friend, and let us see if we really can get a 100 or more in there and let us have a really MEGA-MAMMOTH quiz. Exceptionally, this time we shall charge £2 a head entry. This is, as I shall explain on the night, to pay for a very special event which I know you will all support.

### A triumph of technology and initiative

It is worth recording the circumstances under which Stamford AFC approached us with their offer to take us poor homeless waifs in. Amber Stokes, our young lady who is valiantly dragging us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by opening up our website, Facebook and Twitter pages on-line, had the initiative to tell the world of our plight on our Twitter page. This was spotted by Guy Walton of Stamford Daniels, who then approached her with his generous offer – and we now have a home. Well done, Amber, and isn't modern technology wonderful!



### Branch Newsletter

Several members have now confessed that they have e-mail and some others have volunteered to print copies of the newsletter for their neighbours. This means that our print requirement is now down to under 80 copies a month.

Can we do more? There must still be some members who have e-mail and are not letting on. Can they please let us know? And would you print four or five copies for your neighbours or friends. If we can get our print need right down to where we can do it all in house, we shall not need to increase our Branch membership subs next October.

### Branch Market Stall

The success of our market stall last January has encouraged us to hold another one in Stamford market on Friday, 22 August. This is a great opportunity for you to spring clean out all your high quality rubbish – unwanted presents, books, die-cast models of trains, aircraft and vehicles, pictures and picture frames, the mother-in-law, mirrors, household and kitchen goods, CDs and DVDs (but not videos), scarves, ties, clothing, handbags (RAF and ladies'), purses, ornaments, clocks, unusual items, sweets, jigsaws, games, computer games etc. Please make sure that each item is in good condition and sellable. Sorry, no electrical goods and no large items like furniture. All items can be collected. Please contact Brian & Pat Savory on 01780 755208.

## Sausage & Mash



Well over 40 of us, including teachers and children from Wilds Lodge School, enjoyed another delicious heap of sausage & mash at Ketton Sports Club on 23 April. The occasion was of course our annual St George's Day celebration on 23 April and was, as one of Wilds' pupils remarked, 'better than school dinners'! We all gave Joyce and John, our hosts, a big round of

applause for all their efforts, and thanks also go to Pat Savory and John & Beryl Ingham for collating the names and collecting the cash, to Roy & Marian for raising £72 in the raffle, and to those who brought prizes. A special mention also goes to David Young who bought raffle tickets for each of the Wilds' boys, enabling them to win all the alcohol!, and to Bob Cox who promptly auctioned each raffle prize he won. Brilliant!

## Mayoring Sunday

This year's Civic Parade and Service for the inauguration of our new Mayor, Cllr Brian Sumner, will take place on Sunday, 12 May. The Parade will form up in front of the Town Hall at 10.40am to march off at 10.50am for Trinity Methodist Church for the Service. Afterwards the Parade will return to the Town Hall for a General Salute, and for liquid refreshment.

Could we ask as many Members as possible to join us to honour our new Mayor and show off our Branch to our best effect. Medals, berets and shiny shoes!

## New Members' Evenings/Any Questions?

We have organised New Members' Evenings for some 5 years now but the response, when we invite our latest recruits to their special evening, is declining. Last January, only three of eight new members invited were able to reply and only another three were able to attend. Is it worth continuing? Please let me know.

We do not have too much difficulty in 'persuading' four members to be our *Any Questions?* panel but getting members to give us questions is like pulling teeth. We agreed to hold another *Any Questions* this July. But your panel can answer only those questions which you put to them. If, like last January, you don't have any questions, there will be no *Any Questions*. It is up to you. Please, let me have your questions – beforehand, not on the night itself - and I shall organise a panel. No questions will mean no '*Any Questions*'.

## Jennie Spencer

I regret to report that we have lost another Member, Mrs Jennie Spencer, who passed away on 18 April. Her funeral will be at Peterborough Crematorium on Thursday 2nd May at 11.30am. Jennie was very well known in the Deepings area where she was a district nurse for many years.

**We will remember her.**

## COMING EVENTS

Sun, 12 May Mayor's Parade & Service, Trinity Methodist Church  
Sat, 8 June Stibbington Band Concert, Sacrewell Farm  
Sat, 15 June Poppy Appeal Band Concert, Sacrewell  
27 – 29 July Festival of the Forties, Peterborough  
17 – 22 Sept Branch visit to Eindhoven & Arnhem

## NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

1900 hrs, Wednesday, 8 May, Clare Close Community Room

## NEXT BRANCH SOCIAL

2000 hrs, Wednesday, 15 May, Quiz, Stamford AFC Clubroom

## In brief...



### School Vouchers

Last autumn many of you very kindly saved Morrisons' vouchers which we gave to several Stamford schools – gaining us much goodwill.

Sainsburys are now issuing similar vouchers which schools can then exchange for sports equipment etc. These will be issued until 22 May. Could members please collect these vouchers so that we can present them to the Wilds Lodge School (where Darren Rawnsley teaches)?



### Bogus Poppy Products

A number of Poppy branded products are being sold via the web site [www.sportingkicks.co.uk](http://www.sportingkicks.co.uk). These include badges bearing images of TRBL's Poppy emblem; These products are not produced by, with the consent of, under the authority of, or on behalf of TRBL, nor are they in conformity with any type approved by the Legion.

We have been asked not to support this company



### Missing Person

A lady in Canada is trying to find her long-lost sister and brother of her Grandmother, Mary M<sup>c</sup>Morrow Williamson, who passed away in East Elloe in 2002. Did any member know of her, or of her brother John Donachie? If, so, please contact me.



### Branch Calendar

Two months ago this newsletter asked members to help John & Beryl Ingham to create a Branch calendar for 2014. We needed photos and brief details of 50 of us when we were in the Mob. The April edition carried a reminder. So far 8 have come forward.

Which is it – sad or pathetic that so few of us are prepared to do even so little to help with such a worthwhile project? This calendar would really raise our profile in the town and also raise much needed funds for our work.

Come on, you lot, especially you ladies with military service! Give John & Beryl a ring now – 755207

## Tuesday is now Wednesday

**The Committee will meet next on Wednesday, 8 May, in Clare Close.**

This is to give us time to prepare whatever is necessary for the Quiz Night on 15 May. We can also consider then what night to meet in the future.



**Steve Bonde, Editor**  
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