



LEGION LINCS

www.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/lincolnshire



Newsletter of THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Lincolnshire County

Summer 2013

Edition 4/2013

War hero Cliff celebrates 100th birthday in style

It was chaotic, manic and wonderful. Stamford Branch member Cliff Shepherd held court to his myriad admirers and friends at Hillary Court sheltered housing on Tuesday, 2 July – his 100th birthday. There he was, proudly clutching his birthday card from Her Majesty, surrounded by ladies, and two dozen or more Legion members, the Town Mayor and Mayoress, and family and friends. He also received 120 cards from his well-wishers and received a bouquet of flowers from South Kesteven District Council.



Members of Stamford Branch formed a Guard of Honour, with their Standard, while the Branch President and Chairman presented Cliff with life membership of the Branch and a Branch wall plaque. Then they all joined in with three hearty cheers and 'For he's a jolly good fellow'.

He was called up in 1940 and trained as a ground gunner in the RAF regiment, eventually reaching the rank of Warrant Officer. He took part in the Normandy landings and served in France, Belgium and Germany. He was mentioned in despatches in 1944 when his gun crew, defending what is now Brussels Airport during the Battle of the Bulge, shot down five enemy aircraft during one attack. He says 'The silly blighters (or words to that effect) just came straight at us, one after the other'.

After the war he went back to the Co-op and was made a branch manager; worked as a bus driver in Leeds, becoming an inspector; and was then an ambulance driver in Yorkshire, a role that included delivering babies. He finally became a Divisional Superintendent in the St John Ambulance Brigade. He is now also a member of Trinity Methodist Church, Barn Hill.



They do not make them like Cliff anymore. Perhaps they never did; he is a one-off, always on parade bright and shiny, does his bit for the Poppy Appeal, and is a shining example to us all. Congratulations, Cliff, and best wishes from all of us.

Cliff blew out the candles– only 16, not 100 because of possible fire hazard – on his cake with one big puff. We then enjoyed pieces of cake, a buffet, a champagne toast, entertainment from young guitarist Bob Cliffe and a sing-along to wartime songs. Cliff was in his element talking to one and all and said: "It was a really smashing party." Finally Cliff settled in to regale us all with stories from his long, rich and varied life, until Thelma, his daughter, stepped in or we would be there still. She said afterwards "Dad was thrilled and said it was absolutely fabulous, he couldn't have had a better time."

Born on July 2, 1913, in Laycock, Yorkshire, Cliff left school at 14 to work bagging up flour for the Leeds Co-op in Otley. He then moved to the butchery department at the Burley branch in Wharfedale, delivering meat to customers on his bicycle.



On 11 July, 3 Sqn, RAF Regt invited Cliff to RAF Wittering. He was shown around by Flt Lt Tim Taylor who was amazed at his accuracy on the base's shooting range. He said: "He's a remarkable man; one hundred years old and can still shoot accurately. He's a credit to the RAF and his Regiment." Mr Shepherd said: "It's been just wonderful, I enjoyed every minute."

CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

It would be easy to think that nothing much has happened since our last issue of Legion Lincs because there have been no earth shattering or headline grabbing events. However our Branches and members have been working away quietly, organising their own functions which invariably are a source of fundraising and support for the Poppy Appeal. The amount of work involved is a credit to our Membership and should be more readily appreciated by those in positions of authority.

All Branch Secretaries should have received a copy of a booklet entitled **Resolutions – Action Taken**. This details the actions taken by the Board of Trustees (BoT) in response to the Motions debated and voted on at the Annual Conference. In some cases the BoT have decided not to support the membership who may have voted in favour of a particular motion. This was the case with the motion proposed by the Stamford Branch concerning Administration. Despite an overwhelming majority at Conference in favour of the Motion the BoT considered that they could not support it and an explanation of the reasons why not is given. I urge all Branches and members to read and discuss this document and consider whether the subject requires further debate at our County Conference in January. Perhaps a differently worded Motion is all that is required.

Now is the time when we start to look forward to our regular County events. The Standard Bearer's Competition at Horncastle, the Poppy Launch at East Kirkby, the Festival of Remembrance at Cranwell. All these events need your support and it is one way that we the members can show that, despite all the changes

within some parts of the Legion at present, we can and will continue to remember and support the traditions of which we are rightly proud.

The location of a new County Office has still not been decided but whilst the search continues it is Service as usual from Wellingore. As soon as I have any positive news it will be distributed to Branches at the earliest opportunity. I strongly recommend that all Branches try to attend the Branch Chairmen and Secretaries Seminar at Donington in September. This will enable me to spread the information given to me at the County Chairman's Seminar the previous week.

Finally may I thank you all for your patience and fortitude at this difficult and uncertain time. It is difficult not to be able to give positive information but rest assured that I am in the same position as you all. The encouraging thing that I have become aware of is that when I visit a Branch the members are going about their usual business, doing what needs to be done and not being too bothered about what might be in the future. That is the key to our strength, the membership working in small units but coming together when we need to. If we carry on doing just that we will continue to be successful. Thank you all.

Kind regards,

Tony Goodwin
County Chairman

Raising the Flag

Like many other Branches, Stamford Branch 'Raised the Flag' on 24 June at their Town Hall to celebrate the beginning of Armed Forces Week. Branch members formed up with Standards in front of the Town Hall with civil and military dignitaries. A bugler played the Last Post, and they observed two minutes silence while the flag was run up the pole. The Chaplain and Mayor said a few words, and then they dismissed.

This is of course not a Legion event - it belongs to the civic authority and the military. But Stamford Branch, and their Town Hall, both believe that this is sending out the wrong message. We observe Remembrance in November. Raising the Flag should be a celebration and thanksgiving for the courage, loyalty, and skills of our Armed Forces as well as their sacrifices - a joyful event, perhaps. But they are at a loss at what to do which is more appropriate.

Haig House cannot find any protocol for this event. They suggest that many celebrations seem to take the form of parades, family days and covenant signings. The latter may be appropriate as a one-off, but the first two examples do not seem truly appropriate.

What do other Lincolnshire Branches do? Could you share any ideas with the Editor which he can pass on to other Branches.

Fred Panton OBE 6 March 1931- 9 June 2013

Fred Panton, who set up Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre at East Kirkby near Spilsby, has died aged 82. Fred passed away suddenly on the evening of June 9 surrounded by his family. In 1988 he and brother Harold opened the centre as a tribute to Bomber Command and their brother Christopher who was killed in a raid over Nuremburg on March 30/31, 1944.

The centrepiece of the exhibition is *Just Jane*, the Lancaster which was bought after it was spotted for sale in a newspaper. The brothers have been trying to restore *Just Jane*, to airworthy condition to make it one of only three still capable of flying. A renewed appeal to get it flying was launched last year and during the recent commemorations for the Dambusters raid, Fred had said he hoped to see *Just Jane* in the air by the end of the year.

In a statement his family said: "Very few people have shown the drive and determination in life that Fred has to achieve his aims in creating a memorial to his brother, Chris, and remembering Bomber Command. As a family we are incredibly proud of what he has done and we will make it our lives work to continue his."

On Saturday 13 July a great assembly of family members, work colleagues, representative members of many national and local organisations and friends of the Panton family gathered at the Aviation Centre at East Kirkby for a Memorial Service and to pay tribute to Fred Panton.

The tribute took the form of a Memorial Service led by Rev (Wg Cdr) Kevin Hart RAF Senior Chaplain assisted by Rev Canon John Thorold, Royal British Legion County Chaplain. At the very beginning it was stressed that the Panton family wished the event to be a Celebration of the Life of Fred Panton and everyone took this message to heart. This was reinforced when the congregation was joined by the Lancaster *Just Jane* which taxied up to the open hangar doors and completed the "family".

Members of the family recalled the early life of Fred and included several amusing anecdotes and stories. There was much laughter and enjoyment of those stories which brought out the true character of Fred and the affection with which he was held by all who knew him. Everyone paid their own tribute in the quiet period of prayer and our Royal British Legion Standards added dignity to the occasion.

The Royal British Legion has lost a true friend and supporter but his memory will live on whenever we visit East Kirkby and I am sure that Fred will be there somewhere.



The Memorial in its new setting

Williamson Cliff Memorial, Stamford

After ten years the Williamson Cliff Memorial in Stamford has finally been re-erected and re-dedicated.

The Memorial was erected shortly after WWII by Williamson Cliff, Stamford specialist brickmakers, to commemorate the memory of their employees who died on military service during WWII, and to record the names of those who served and returned.

It was brutally bulldozed in 2003 when the old brickworks were demolished to make way for new housing. A team, led by Barbara & Don Parker, who live close by and are related to two of the names on the memorial, incredibly scavenged the bricks and pieced them together again, like a jig saw, in their garage.

And there it stayed as lack of finance prevented any possible restoration. Finally however Stamford Cllr Max Sawyer led a project, with strong practical support by the Engineering Dept of New College Stamford, to re-erect the memorial by the main entrance to Stamford Cemetery. It is now standing on a new surround with a leaded roof and the pieces that were too damaged to be repaired have been replaced.

On 18 June we all gathered for the rededication ceremony – members of Stamford and Barnack Branches, our Standards and those of the Royal Lincolns Regt, the Anglians, cadets etc, together with senior officers and NCOs from RAF Wittering, the Royal Artillery and the Royal Anglian Regiment.

The ceremony began with a flypast by two Austers and a Tiger Moth, flown by members of Barnack RBL, readings by Cllr Sawyer and Stamford Mayor, Brian Sumner, and hymns. A cadet from Stamford School CCF read first the names of those on the memorial who gave their lives, followed by the laying of wreaths, the Exhortation, Last Post, Silence, Reveille and Kohima. He then read the names of those who returned to the company after the War, and the ceremony ended with *Jerusalem* and the *Act of Commitment*.

Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

National Annual Conference

The last edition of *LegionLincs* set out the results of this year's National Conference at Llandudno. Branches have now received the booklet on the action taken by the Board of Trustees on the various Motions. Details can also be seen on the Legion website at <http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/membership/resources/annual-conference>.

The rejection of Charter Motion 1 by 56% – a much-needed revision of the Royal Charter – has been referred to the Governance Committee to consider by October its impact on the Membership Council and efforts to simplify the Charter. The Board of Trustees are also reviewing the conduct of National Conference and the quality of debate. There is no mention of the proposed change to Charter Rule 14 to remove the power of Conference to reject any future Charter Motions proposed by the Trustees.

Charter Motion 2 – for girls between 12 and 16 to be eligible to be a Youth member of the Women's Section - will be implemented.

Charter Motion 3 – to give Annual Conference a more meaningful role in the governance of the Legion – was carried by 86%. The Board of Trustees state that an attempt to define matters of administration would be fraught with difficulty and have rejected the result.

The Board of Trustees have accepted Charter Motion 4 to clarify the anomaly of Branches raising funds on behalf of other charities.

The Board of Trustees have not supported Charter Motion 5, to include both words 'commemoration' and 'remembrance' in Article 3(e) because they believe this could possibly lead some Branches into spending charitable monies on graves and memorials which, they also believe, is the statutory responsibility of local authorities.

The Board of Trustees have accepted the following Motions:

- No 1 – to protect the pension entitlements of Service personnel subject to compulsory redundancy;
- No 2 - to try to ensure that the Legion receives better media coverage of its work.

They did not accept the following Motions:

No 6 - to give one year's free Legion membership to Service personnel on discharge from H.M.Forces – because it would be unaffordable at current rates of annual membership fee and that a category of 'military membership' is being introduced to all serving military personnel. They will however talk to the Regimental Associations about marketing this plan more effectively.

No 9 - to ask HM Government to strike a medal in recognition of Bomber Command during WWII – on the grounds that there is now no realistic prospect that the Government would consider a further review of this issue now that a Bomber Command Clasp has been issued.

No 10 - to urge the CWGC to provide the same level of service standards to war graves in the UK as they do abroad – on the grounds that the care of such graves in the UK is much more difficult than in the CWGC- managed sites overseas and that to expect the same standard of excellence is unrealistic.

Conference Photographs

Photographs of the Conference, including the debates, the Parade and Service, and other activities can be viewed in the 'client area' of <http://www.williams-photography.co.uk/>, using the code *llandudno*. They can be downloaded at williamsphoto@me.com detailing the identification number of each photo you require. Prints cost £5 for one print, including postage, and £10 for three including postage.

Centenarians Wanted

Waddell Media is a TV production company currently developing an idea for BBC 2 based on the lives of British people who have reached the age of 100. They are looking at a number of stories which reflect life in our society through the past decades. In the same way the very successful 7 Up did this through the eyes of the young, they are hoping to have a similar tone and style in this one off documentary.

They are looking across a range of backgrounds, from sports professionals to medical experts to war veterans who can all tell their own story. They will use their personal testimonies as the spine and weave archive and additional interviews alongside to reflect how things used to be and how they have changed in Britain.

If Branches have anyone who would be interested in taking part, could they please contact Proinsias Ó Coinn at:

Waddell Media, Tel: 02890 427646
7-12 St Helen's Business Park, E: proinsias@waddellmedia.com
Holywood, Co. Down, N. Ireland, BT18 9HQ8

Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

Launch of the Lincolnshire Bomber Command Memorial



The Spire of Names

The official launch of the Lincolnshire Bomber Command Memorial Appeal took place on 30 and 31 May at the Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre with an audience of over 350 guests including Bomber Command veterans. The events featured the unveiling of the winning design, The Spire of Names by Flight Engineer Sgt Syd Marshall, veteran of Bomber Command.

Also present were the the Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, Tony Worth and the new Vice Chief of Defence Staff and Appeal Trustee, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach.

The Memorial is an important project both to the Command and to the county. It will pay tribute to the 25,611 aircrew as listed in the Cathedral of Lincoln's Rolls of Honour, who came from the UK, the Commonwealth and the rest of the world, based at one of Lincolnshire's 27 Bomber Command stations, who lost their lives in WWII.

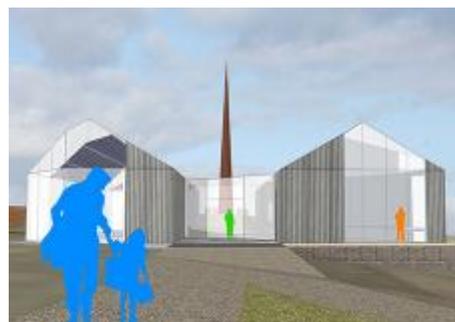
The Memorial will incorporate two peace gardens. One of which will stand testament to each of the 27 Bomber Command bases in Lincolnshire during the war. This will feature soil taken from each of the stations in which a memorial tree will be planted with a stone marker bearing the station's name and insignia. Alongside this the International Peace Garden, with sculptures from each of the countries involved in Bomber Command, will pay tribute to the sacrifice made by those nations and serve as a reminder of that although based in Lincolnshire this Memorial will act as a truly international celebration of Bomber Command.

Bomber Command Memorial Interpretation Centre

The Memorial includes an Interpretation Centre in which the collective story of Bomber Command will be displayed. It will include a tribute to those crew members who were lucky enough to survive, the ground crews whose essential work kept the aircraft flying, the aircraft and engine manufacturers and an understanding of the effect of the campaign on the civilian population in Germany and at home, and the humanitarian missions flown over Holland in 1945 saving thousands from starvation as part of Operation Manna. There will be educational facilities including a dedicated school's worker enabling school classes to learn about the Command's contribution to the war effort.

It will incorporate a 35 seat learning centre with an educational co-ordinator, to link with schools across the country and to enthuse and educate future generations on not only the activity of the Command but specifically on the people that served. There will be a café and shop as well as extensive exhibition areas. These exhibitions will focus on interactive and digital formats and will incorporate video and oral histories.

The organisers need our help to put them in contact with any veterans from the Command who would be interested in becoming involved in the project by telling their stories and memories of the time they served and what they have done since. Please send any contacts to info@bombercommandmemorial.com



LBCM out and about

The LBCM Exhibition has a busy touring schedule:

- 3 August East Kirkby Air Show
- 25-27 August Cadwell British Super Bike Championship
- 27/28 August Heckington Show
- 7-8 September Duxford Airshow
- 28 September Lincolnshire Lancaster Association's Members day at RAF Coningsby.

October Parish tour, including Bracebridge Heath and Canwick and any other parishes in the county interested in hosting the tour. For more details of any of the above events and to apply for tickets please contact nicky@lincsbombercommandmemorial.com

They will also host a small number of fundraising gala dinners and auctions starting in November; 11th November, Dining Room A, House of Commons
13th December, Burghley House
May 2014, Doubletree by Hilton, Lincoln

Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

Poppy Fora



Grimsby listen attentively

Not Flora, but Fora (or Forums). Jo Ticehurst, our Community Fund Raiser, has been holding a series of Poppy Fora around the county, at Donington, Lincoln, Skegness, Grimsby, and Stamford. PAOs and Poppy Appeal volunteers (not necessarily Legion members) from the area were invited to a review of the Legion's fund raising activities and how we spend the monies which we raise. Her aim is to reach a new generation of PAOs to fill a number of gaps which have arisen and will arise in the near future. She emphasised the importance of trying to find a replacement before an incumbent PAO steps down; she can help with advertising in the various media.

Jo gives a fascinating review of welfare activities funded by the Legion, eg the Battleback Centre, but also some of the lesser known - the Nomad Trust, Blind Veterans UK, the Medicinema, the Blast Injuries Clinic etc. She also touched upon some of the lesser known fundraising and publicity activities – Honour Walks, Poppy Packs, Z cards, embroidered Poppy badges etc, and an offer by Sainsburys to allow us (or a youth group acting for us) to pack bags for the Poppy Appeal on 2 and 3 November this year.

Finally, she regretted the lack of coordination and information exchange with other fundraising groups and said there was now a good opportunity to engage a free and frank discussion with some of these groups for better collaboration.



Stamford vigorously debate

Mablethorpe cheer hero Jamie's 60 yard Marathon



Jamie Bishop is an ex-Marine but he suffered a terrible stroke 9 years ago, leaving him badly disabled. Normally he struggles to walk 20 yards and uses a wheelchair to get about. But Jamie caught wind of Christian Nock who is walking the coastline of Britain in aid of Help for Heroes and this inspired him to set himself a goal of walking 60 yards with Christian when he reached Mablethorpe.

Jamie got people to sponsor him and with the help of his wife, Maureen, he trained for weeks to achieve this and he raised a fantastic £416.00 This was a massive achievement for him and half the town turned out to cheer him on; indeed Christian was quite forgotten as Jamie stole his limelight. Jamie & Maureen continue to organise events and raise funds for the Poppy Appeal.



The Military get in a round for Mablethorpe's Poppy Appeal



Pete Rogers and Alan Brookes, with Branch PAO, Mark Reddin, and George Prideaux, Standard Bearer and Branch Treasurer. After receiving their Certificate of Appreciation in 2012.

REME Staff Sergeant Pete Rogers and Warrant Officer Class II Alan Brookes of the ROC, both based in Nottingham, have again helped to raise Mablethorpe's Poppy Appeal. Last year they raised £215 when they played in a golf tournament at Woodthorpe Hall with one set of clubs against the clock. They repeated their feat again this year when, on Armed Forces Day, they smashed their set time of 1hr 10mins by a whole 6 minutes. The total amount raised for the Poppy Appeal by everyone, including the Golf Challenge, was over £1500. Glenda Fern and Graham Dodson also organised a fun day and 1940s evening with the event which contributes



Armed Forces Day 2013: Pete Rogers and Alan Brookes with Branch Chairman, Col Sweeney (red beret), Mark and Jane Reddin, and Graham Dodson, in the red t-shirt

even more to the sum of monies raised at Woodthorpe that day.

Lincolnshire – A Winning

Woodhall Spa Coffee Morning

The Woodhall Spa & District Branch held a Coffee morning on Saturday, 29 June at St Peters Church Hall. Both Committee and Branch Members manned stalls - Nina Gaunt (PAO) ran the Tombola, Ann and Heidi Pickup worked the Surprize Parcel, Bob and Rosemary Ballard manned the Books & Jigsaws stall, and Steve Hall ran the Raffle.



Committee member, Ann Pickup, lends a hand

Norman Wigglesworth and John Egleton (Chairman) set up and Kitchen and other Members also helped out, serving refreshments and setting up the seating area.. The Branch Vice President Malcom Gregory and his wife came along to support the event as did a number of Branch Members.

Nina thanked everyone for their help at the Event and also those who had donated prizes. The event raised a total of £163.76 for the Branch Poppy Appeal, including £35.36 on the door, £31 on the raffle, £31.40 at the Surprize Parcel, £11 on Books & Jigsaws, The Branch would again like to thank Nina for organising the 5th Coffee Morning that has raised money for the Branches Annual Poppy Appeal.



Nina on her Tombola stall

Pinchbeck Carnival, 8 June

Pinchbeck Women's Section had a Tombola stall at the Pinchbeck Carnival on 8 June, the stall was decorated for the carnival theme of "numbers" and although the weather was not brilliant they raised a total of £161.00 towards their Purse presentation.

The Branch also had a display/recruiting area next to the stall and whilst no new members were signed on the day there were several enquiries and interest in work being carried out by the Legion.



RAF Scampton Visit



Stamford Chairman being John

Fourteen members of Stamford Branch enjoyed a fascinating, if somewhat chaotic visit to RAF Scampton on 5 June. Getting through the gate could have been easier and timings were a bit relaxed. But it was worth it. WO Steve Shirley's RAF Firefighting Museum has been assembled over 30 years and is now a fantastic collection of models, clothing, helmets, badges, posters, drawings, and trophies. Did you know that Stamford Fire Station won the Lincolnshire trophy five years running from 1924? They then moved on to the Heritage Centre which celebrates and commemorates the history of RAF Scampton since 1916 and of course the exploits of the Dambusters, and the Red Arrows. Again fascinating – and humbling.

The tour guides were very friendly, encyclopaedic in their knowledge, and generous with innumerable cups of tea and coffee, and access to the heavily subsidised Mess for lunch.



Admiring a model of the Lancaster

Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

Safeguarding the welfare, interests and memory of those who are serving or who have served in H. M. Armed Forces
Registered Charity No: 219279

Ian Mowat: Arctic Star holder



Stamford Branch webmaster, Amber Stokes, interviewing Ian

Stamford Member, Dr Ian Mowat, has received the newly-issued Arctic Star, in recognition of his service as a merchant seaman on the WWII Arctic convoys.

He was the on-board radio and telegraph signals operator and on one occasion, aged just 22, was responsible for navigating a convoy into safety in Murmansk purely by radio during conditions of zero visual navigation.

Ian also served on the Atlantic and Mediterranean convoys. He used to play the violin and even took it to sea. He remembers there was only one female officer in the British Merchant Navy. One time he played his violin in his cabin and she joined him in some Scottish dancing! That is one of his fondest memories

He also remembers that, during a convoy, their number one hull was full of aviation fluid. They docked at Algiers, and then he could hear a roar and there were three planes with torpedoes on their bellies, coming straight at them. They had a net up and so the torpedoes were caught in the net. They were very lucky that the torpedoes didn't penetrate the net, but the raid went on all night. They did not know whether to leave, because of all the fuel on board, or whether to stop there. But in the end they decided it was safe enough, so they went down to the saloon and played darts!

After the War Ian served as a GP in England and then as Chief Medical Officer in Turks & Caicos, and the Solomon Islands. Full details of Ian's full and searching interview can be found on the Stamford Branch website.

Joyce Burton Schools Trophy



Joyce Burton with four of the winners, Zara, Lucy, Amber & Riley

Both Malcolm Sargent and St Gilbert's schools in Stamford again presented strong entries for this year's Joyce Burton Schools Trophy. This year the children's task was to produce a collage of their faces using whatever medium they wished. As ever, the standard of imagination was excellent with many contenders for the top spot. Eventually Stamford Branch decided, after much deliberation, that the winner this year was Riley Kendle, pictured here, of Year 2, Malcolm Sargent School. Well done to Riley and to the schools and all who



Riley Kendle

took part and especial thanks to Stamford Branch Youth & Schools Member, Darren Rawnsley for the idea and for organising it all.

The Grimsby Telegraph offers £250,000

The Grimsby Telegraph has joined forces with Big Lottery Fund to award £250,000 of Lottery good-cause cash to community projects across Grimsby, Cleethorpes, Immingham, Louth and surrounding villages. The BIG Grimsby Telegraph £250,000 Bonanza will be rolled out over the next few weeks and is aimed at encouraging communities to think about how funding could benefit their area and bring real improvements to the lives of local people. Telegraph readers will vote to help decide which projects will get the cash.

Grants of between £10,000 and £30,000 will be available.

Pinchbeck honours its volunteers

Pinchbeck Branch presented two Branch certificates of appreciation for services to the Branch. The first was presented on 6 July to Craig Tulip who has been a Branch member since 1988. In that time he has served on the County Committee and for many years collected for the Poppy Appeal, planned the Remembrance Parade and wrote the monthly report for the local village magazine - all on top of helping with local event fundraising.



Tom Verity and his pupils

The other certificate was received by Headmaster, Mr Tom Verity, and two Year 6 pupils on behalf of the Pinchbeck East C of E Primary School for their help and participation in Remembrance Parades and associated work with the Branch.



Craig Tulip receives his Certificate

Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

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Registered Charity No: 219279

Military Kids Super Group

The Legion and Decca Records have launched a nationwide search for the stars of the future – among the families of the Armed Forces. Online auditions are beginning now to find a military kids super-group, set to become the chart-topping voice of this year's Poppy Appeal, the last before British Forces begin their pull out of Afghanistan.

Winners of the competition – open to all 9 -16 year olds with a brother, sister or parent currently serving in the Forces – will be given the chance to perform in front of HM The Queen and a television audience of over six million people at this year's Festival of Remembrance. In addition the new group will record a single which will be this year's official Poppy Appeal anthem. First auditions will be via YouTube and contestants should visit www.poppyappealsingle2013.co.uk for information on how to apply. The performances which catch the eye of the judges will be invited to a second audition in London.



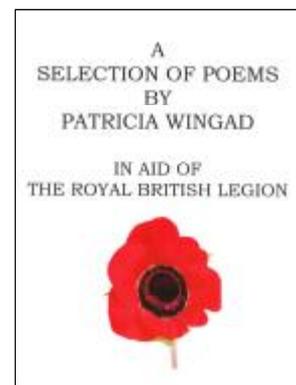
Poetry for the Poppy Appeal



Mrs Trish Wingad is a very talented poet who has been writing and selling poems to raise funds for the Royal British Legion for many years.

She has now written a further sixteen truly delightful poems. They address a myriad of subjects from loss of a loved one, homelessness, childhood memories of sunny Skeggy, eating too many fish and chips, a visit to the dentist, and the determination of an amputee Afghanistan veteran to *move on and greet each day*.

Trish has privately printed 200 copies at her own expense. She has sold 140 so far and a further 100 are being printed. Copies, at £3 each, can be obtained from Trish direct, on 01533 500136, or from Jo Ticehurst, our CFR, who has 50 copies



Armed Forces Day

Is there a hero in your family?

Armed Forces Day is an opportunity to raise public awareness of the contribution made to our country by those who serve and who have served in the Armed Forces and also gives the nation an opportunity to show your support to all the men and women who make up the Armed Forces.

I'M SUPPORTING ARMED FORCES DAY
ALL ARMED FORCES
Thank you to all our brave servicemen and women. They've all a job to do for our friends and family, not to all our brave forces.
A. S. BIRD

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To place a special greeting, either visit www.thisislincoln.co.uk (the cost will be from £3 online) or by telephone on 0844 406 0285 or at our Front Reception.

Lincolnshire Echo | Target Series | Retford Times

Booking Deadline
Target Series | I am on Monday 24th June
Lincolnshire Echo | I am on Tuesday 25th June
Retford Times | I am on Tuesday 25th June

All monies raised by the placing of Armed Forces Day greeting messages in the announcement pages of the Lincolnshire Echo, Target Series and Retford Times will be donated to The Poppy Appeal.

GOSBERTON ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
75th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT
with
BANOVALUM BRASS BAND
on
Saturday 21st
September at 7pm
in
Quadring Church Hall
Main Road, Quadring PE11 4PW

Tickets £6 from: Gene 840519 or 750491, Debbie 841585, or Ian 840694.

Donation of prizes welcome for raffle.

All proceeds go to The Royal British Legion, Gosberton

Nomad Trust

The Spring 2012 edition of LegionLincs reported that the Legion Central Grants Committee had granted £25000 to the Nomad Trust which had recently opened in Sheridan House in Lincoln. The Trust offers accommodation to up to 10 ex-Service personnel as they rebuild their lives.



One of the success stories from the project is a chap called Mark Jude who, after seven years in H.M. Forces, found himself homeless in London in 2012. He then joined the Nomad Trust and recently staged an exhibition of 45 of his paintings in Lincoln Cathedral.

Healing Poppy Picnic

Healing Branch RBL invite everyone to a **POPPY PICNIC** at Healing Legion field, Oak Road, Healing on **Sunday, 4 August** from 2.00pm onwards. All welcome, bring a friend, or bring the family, bring your Branch members, bring your own chairs blankets, food etc. A bar will be open. They hope to see a lot of people support the **POPPY APPEAL**.

Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

Key Membership Administration dates

Branch Membership Secretaries should note the following key dates coming up over the next few weeks:

- **From close of play 22nd July – 31 October** - no members can be transferred between Branches/Clubs on Pro2000 (Membership Database) during this period. This allows time for members to pay for their new membership card prior to transferring to a new Branch/Club
- **From midday on 25th July until 1 August** - No editing can be done to the live records in Pro2000 (Membership Database) during this time.
- **1st week in September** - annual renewal membership cards will start to leave the mailing house (further information about the distribution of cash cards to Branches will follow in about 2 weeks)
- **2nd October** – collection of annual renewal membership fees for DD payers

Branches should continue to pass change of status information to the County Secretary in the normal way during this period.

Branch Account Forms

Your Branch Treasurer should have received the Branch Accounts/Receipt & Payments Form in the post. If they would like an electronic copy they should contact the County Secretary

COMPUTER TOWER FOR SALE

Windows XP Professional program.
Service pack 3
Processor AMD ATHON 3200+.
Ram 1-87GB.
Hard Disk 80GB.

Located at Wainfleet. What offers?...
Phone 01754-880040

Legion Facebook Account Hacked

The Legion's 'Maximum Respect for the British Armed Forces in support of the RBL' Facebook account has been hacked. Please disregard any posts and if you have 'liked' this page, please 'unlike' it and only follow our official Facebook account, Poppy Legion. Please spread the word.

County Welfare

The following County Welfare staff have been recruited and, subject to HR clearance, will be offered contracts to cover the following posts.

- Mark Jackson, Case Officer, North Lincolnshire.
- Brian Nugent, Advice & Information Officer, North Lincolnshire.
- Stephen Hart, Case Officer, South Lincolnshire.
- Barry Turner, Advice & Information Officer, South Lincolnshire.

Welfare expenditure figures for Lincolnshire for the period 1 October 2012 to 10 July 2013 are as follows:

Total spend within Lincolnshire: 469,628 (previously £351,397 – an increase of £118,231 since 15 April 2013)
Total contributions received: £206,794
Total TRBL spend: £262,834

Categories of large spend	Spend as at - £		Increase of £
	15.4.13	10.7.13	
Mobility including EPVs	90,391	115,700	25,309
Riser/Recliner & Electric Beds	84,349	110,698	26,349
Household Goods - Brown/White	42,865	70,539	27,674
Housing - damages & arrears; deposits & charges; removal expenses; rent; repairs & maintenance	53,344	68,994	15,650
Training	18,118	22,533	4,415
Debt (priority)	10,515	20,807	10,292
Debt (bankruptcy)	10,045	13,720	3,675
Funerals	-	13,135	-
Essential Food & Groceries	6,711	9,455	2,744

RBL Poppy Calls Service

Branches may be interested in the unsolicited comments, below, of a Stamford Branch member who recently enjoyed the service of a Legion Poppy Calls handyman:

I thought readers would like to know of our experience with the service offered by the British Legion covering low level maintenance/repairs. We have previously had an incident wherein "handymen" services were procured to find we were overcharged for shoddy workmanship. Not wishing for a repeat performance and through a chance conversation with our local Branch Secretary who suggested that we contacted British Legion Handyman Service. A call was made to their offices and the work required was established as within their remit. Within a week I was contacted by the Service and a date made for the handyman to call. This amiable gentleman called today, around 10 am, having driven from Grimsby and began work immediately on the repairs. This involved removing two wooden garage doors, dealing with the rotten base, undercoat and repainting the touched up work to match the rest of the doors before rehanging them correctly. There were other repairs required in the house which he did efficiently without wasting time and helpful with enquiries relating to building issues. Being a rather hot day, I did not object to mugs of tea as they did not deter him from carrying out the work efficiently and correctly. The handyman is an experienced electrician and confirmed that putting up two security lights could be carried out. I had requested this and advised that it was down to the expert to confirm whether this could be done. Consequently another visit together is on the agenda. .

But that's not all – the entire service, including the next visit, security lights and equipment is free. Anyone over 75 (check) is entitled to a free service. Naturally, we cannot take advantage of the Legion's generosity and a cheque is in the post, covering, we hope, some of the costs.

Thoroughly recommended to anyone who wishes to use this service.

COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2013

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
19 Aug	County Management Board Meeting	Wellingore
21/22 September	County Chairman's Seminar	Staverton
22 September	Standard Bearers School – AGM	Louth
28 September	Branch Chairmen/Secretaries' Seminar	Donington & Quadring
29 September	County Standard Bearer Competition	Horncastle
5 October	County Welfare Committee Meeting	Wellingore
5 October	County Committee Meeting	Wellingore
6 October	Service in the Field	Sibsey
13 October	Presidents' Fund Raising Lunch	Woodhall Spa
26 October	Poppy Appeal Launch	East Kirkby
3 November	Festival of Remembrance	Cranwell
8 November	Poppy Golf	Woodall Spa
9 November	Festival of Remembrance	Royal Albert Hall
10 November	Remembrance Sunday	Countrywide
11 November	Armistice Day	Countywide
7 December	County Committee Meeting	Wellingore
11 January 2014	Annual Meeting of County Conference	Horncastle

NB: This calendar of events is subject to amendment depending upon National events etc. Calendar

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Mr E F Beck, Holbeach	Mr Gordon Matthew, Sleaford & District
Mrs Shirley Beresford, Stamford	Mr J. Marshall, Tealby & Market Rasen
Mr Reginald Woolls, Long Sutton	Mr R Joyce, Donington & Quadring
Mr B Burn, City of Lincoln	Mr James Congreve, Long Sutton
Mr C. Birkett, Wainfleet & District	Mr P Rudd, Coningsby, Tattershall & District
Mr B. Brumpton, Tealby, Market Rasen	Mr Michael Bills, Gedney Drove End and Dawsmere
Mrs I Rust, Wainfleet & District	Mr W H Wood, Billingham & District
Mr Idris Jones, Bourne & District	Mr N P Padley, Laceby & District

Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

Safeguarding the welfare, interests and memory of those who are serving or who have served in H. M. Armed Forces
Registered Charity No: 219279

Alderson House Summer Fayre

This year Bridlington Town Council, Bridlington Royal British Legion Branch and Alderson House collaborated to celebrate Armed Forces Day and Alderson House Summer Fayre, and what a day it turned out to be.

Bridlington Branch and RBL Club laid on a host of activities during the morning and provided a buffet and refreshments for the Standard Bearers and others who took part in the march from the RBL Club in Hilderthorpe Road.

The march was headed by the Beverly Pipe Band and Standards from around the region, including a Royal Navy Standard carried by Mr G



Green from Grimsby. The march took them past the Memorial and the Spa, and on to Alderson House where the Salute was taken by The Lord Lieutenant of East Yorkshire Susan Cunliffe-Lister, RBL County Manager for Yorkshire Mr Chris Cunningham and the Chairman of the House Amenities Committee Mr Richard Hewitt.

The weather was bright and sunny which reflected the mood of the people attending, especially over 100 Legion members from Laceby and Huddersfield RBL Branches; the support by these members is greatly appreciated by all at Alderson House and those who enjoy their holidays at the hotel.

As something different we had Maggot racing and Ferret racing, yes folks they were real maggots and ferrets! The raffle and tombola was a big draw, and so many people had given prizes, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their donations and their support.

The six week summer period sees the arrival of the families of the serving troops. The staff at the hotel are all ready for the younger generation with trips on the Pirate Boat, after they have made their appropriate hats etc, a visit to Flamingo Land and a host of other places. Of course the perfect beach is just across the road, and Anna will have plenty of games for them to join in.

Alderson House is a great destination whether it's spring, summer or winter, I have heard visitors say what a lovely time they have had and when asked how it can be improved they say "it can't be improved, the staff, the food everything is wonderful", but of course it takes funds raised by the House Amenities Committee (HAC) that enables Alderson House to provide the extras that makes the holidays that bit more special. If you would like to make a donation to Alderson House, why not organise an event, have a race night, a coffee morning, what ever you do so many people will appreciate it?

The photographs on the day were taken by our amateur photographer Mr J Mank who really took his role to heart, and has produced a large collage of the day which is to be hung at Alderson House.

To make any donations towards the HAC fund please contact Helen Birkbeck Manager at Alderson House
Tel 01262 408010



Richard Hewitt with Susan Cunliffe-Lister, Christopher Cunningham BEM and Helen Birkbeck.

Rededication of Wrangle & District

A Service of Rededication of **Wrangle & District** Branch, and the Presentation of a 75 year pennant, will take place on Sunday, 4 August. This solemn event will take place at 3.00pm at St Mary & St Nicholas Church.

All Standard Bearers and Members of other Branches are cordially invited to attend the ceremony. Members are invited to gather at 2.00pm at the village hall, opposite the Church. Standards are asked to be at the Church by 2.15pm; there will be a room set aside to get changed. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Village Hall.

It would be helpful if Members could let Frank Byrne (Tel: 01205 359976) know if they are coming.

Swinging on the Range

The RAF Air Force College Swing Wing Band have raised about £1000 for the Royal British Legion. They did this with an evening concert of Big Band and Swing music at the Sudbrook Moor Golf Club on 20 July.

Distribution of *LegionLincs*

The next edition of *LegionLincs* will issue at the end of September. Could every Branch please try to send me something, however little, on their activities during this period - by about 15/16 September.

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Steve Bonde
Editor, **LEGION Lincs**