



# The Royal British Legion Stamford Branch

Formed 7 June 1922

Websites: <http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/stamford>  
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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 – April 2014

### Volunteers

I wonder how many readers have got beyond this V word. But the fact is that the Legion stands or falls on the efforts of V.....S.

We have just held, on 25 March, our first walk-in welfare workshop at Kendrew Barracks during which we were asked to help with welfare problems of two servicemen.. We now do 2 days a month at RAF Wittering, 2 days at Kendrew Barracks, and 1 day at St George's Barracks. Our Welfare Team is small and perfectly-formed but we would welcome regular, reliable support. No training is needed as you can soon pick it up from us. Give us a day or two a month and we will give you a very satisfying activity which is also fun, gets you to meet today's generation of servicemen and women, and really does recapture that old barrack-room repartee and riposte. And you saw in last month's newsletter the kind of events we get invited to.



*The Welfare Team meet members of 2 Anglians at their first welfare workshop at Kendrew Barracks.*

Area HQ are also recruiting in three v..... (that V word again!) categories – information, visitor, and ‘ambassador’. These involve giving advice and information to beneficiaries and the public, visiting members and others just like you in hospital and at home, and speaking about the Legion to schools and other community groups. The administration has promised proper support and supervision. These are of course the roles which a few of us already fill on an *ad hoc* basis with the mobile display unit, the walk-in welfare workshops, and in the schools each November. And, as we state time after time, v.....ing brings considerable benefits to you – pride in supporting the Legion, satisfaction in helping others with a problem, and entry into a whole different world and activities. Please give me a ring, 757041, if you want to join our select group.

### Branch General Meeting

Our thanks go to Malcolm Biron for a fascinating talk at our General Meeting on 19 March. He took us through the Battle of Trafalgar and the genius of Nelson in his strategy of annihilating the French and Spanish fleets instead of merely defeating them to fight another day, and of his innovative new tactics which achieved exactly that. Malcolm has set the bar high; would any other member like to give us a talk on his experiences, hobbies, interests etc?

### Market Stall

Our thanks as always to our teeny-weeny team who turned out again on 7 March to help run the Branch market stall. After a bit of a soggy start, the weather cheered up and by 3.00pm we were basking in beautiful spring sunshine. We took £116.53 which all goes to running our various activities and events. Our thanks also to Brian & Pat Savory for organising the stall and doing much of the humping of boxes, to everyone who contributed items for sale and, of course, to those who bought them.

### Sausage & Mash

We shall again pay our annual tribute to St George, the Patron Saint of Sausages, with another Sausage & Mash get-together on **Wednesday, 23 April**. Ketton Sports Club no longer offer this delicacy so, this year, we shall be the guests of the **Club Room at Stamford AFC** – our usual monthly venue. Industrial quantities of steaming plates of sausage, mash, peas and gravy will be served up some time after 8.00pm for the modest cost of **£7 a head**. Please book your place **NOW** with Pat Savory - 755208.

## Summer Days Out

Last month, we invited members to tell us which of several options they would like us to organise a day out. Two responses have flooded in. 232 members are still deciding.

In response, the day trip will, as suggested, be on 28 May to the BBMF at RAF Coningsby and to the several memorials and attractions at Woodhall Spa. The cost will be about £15 a head and there are 51 seats still available. Responses please to Pat Savory (01780755208 or [patricia.savory@talktalk.net](mailto:patricia.savory@talktalk.net)).

## Service-related hearing problems

The Legion's Public Affairs and Public Policy team want to hear from members who think that their hearing has been damaged by their Service in the UK Armed Forces. Many have already been in contact, in response to an article in October's Legion Magazine

The team have now produced an online survey, and would be very grateful if members could spend a few minutes filling it out, or pass it onto someone who has Service-related hearing loss or ringing in their ears.

Answers will remain completely confidential, and will just be analysed alongside other respondents' answers (e.g. to identify patterns and trends). Members will be able to provide their contact details at the end, but they do not have to identify themselves if they do not want to. The results will inform the Legion's political campaigning work.

## Rogue Poppy Appeal Collectors

We have received reports that two smartly dressed ladies, purporting to be from the Legion, have been collecting cash in the Langtoft and Deepings area. When challenged they have no identification. There are genuine Legion collectors operating in our area, collecting for the Poppy Appeal Lottery, but they wear appropriate branded Legion clothing and carry identification. If someone knocks on your door and you are not sure about them, give me a ring. I have the names and ID details of the genuine collectors.



Want a medal? Join the North Korean Army!

## NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

1900 hrs, Wednesday, 9 April, Clare Close Community Room

## NEXT BRANCH SOCIAL

2000 hrs, Wednesday, 23 April, Stamford AFC Club Room (*Sausage & Mash!*)

## WALK-IN WELFARE WORKSHOPS

RAF Wittering.- Tuesday/Wednesday, 15/16 April  
Kendrew Barracks - Tuesday/Wednesday, 22/23 April  
St George's Barracks – Thursday, 24 April



Steve Bonde, Editor

## In brief...

### Joyce Burton

Thanks to everyone who attended the funeral of Joyce Burton on 18 March. She would have been so touched that so many of her friends came to pay their respects, not only at the Church but also at the Crematorium and afterwards at Blackstones Social Club. Susan, her daughter, and other family members who were also there, were much moved by the splendid Guard of Honour and are grateful for such a generous response from Branch members and others of her friends.

### Branch Website

Amber Stokes has created a new page on the Branch website on our plans to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War. Our website is now looking good and has a number of really good features and interviews with some of our more interesting members. See just a few of the things we get up to – visit our website now (details at the top of this newsletter).

### Printer Inks

We have received, for onward sale for Branch funds, the following computer printer ink cartridges:

- 2 x Morrisons Colour cartridge C24
- 1 x Morrisons Black cartridge C24B
- 2 x JR Universal Inkjet Colour Refills
- 1 x iColor cartridge NC-00021 C.M.Y.

All are still sealed in their original wrapping and are compatible with Canon BJC 2000/4000/5000 printers and equivalent. Please let me know – 757041 – if you are interested.

### Poppy Concert

The Central Band of the RAF will play a Poppy Concert for Oakham RBL on Saturday, 18 October. The concert will take place in the Uppingham School Memorial Hall and, apart from the Poppy, the concert will also include a commemoration of the centenary of WWI. Further details to come when available.

### Charity Golf

The Legion and SSAFA are teaming up with Market Rasen Golf Club for a Forces Charities Open AM/AM golf tournament on Saturday, 11 October. Entry fees are £120 per team of four or £30 each in male/female combinations. These include Halfway House refreshments and two course meal. I have application forms.