

# In Touch

The monthly newsletter founded in 1996

## The Royal British Legion

Registered Charity No. 219279



Shoulder to Shoulder with all who Serve

## Market Harborough Branch

Founded in 1923

**91**

Years of Caring



**2014: WWI  
Centenary Year**



See Page 6

With thanks to Prime Life Ltd, parent company of Peaker Park Care Village Market Harborough, for printing this issue.

**Issue 193  
October 2014**

**Next Monthly Branch Meeting  
7.30 pm Wednesday 8 November  
Committee 2 November**

**Function Room, Conservative Club,  
Fairfield Rd. Market Harborough**

## **Branch News**

### **September Branch Meeting**

The Chairman expressed his thanks to those members who had given their support and to the organisers the WWI Commemoration events. New members of the Committee were needed but so far no nominations had been received. Peaker Park had been thanked for the successful joint event last month. Helpers and items for the stalls were needed at the Poppy Appeal coffee morning. Donations in lieu of flowers had been received and the sponsorship of the Ramsay Walkers Poppy walk had produced £200. A few members and the Standard bearers had attended the Poppy Race Day at Newmarket.

**Poppy Appeal Street collectors and volunteers to man market stall needed from 25 Sept. to 8 Oct.**

### **After meeting Event**

A team game, organised by Tom Ashmore, was in two parts in which the Searchers had to find the pictures from which Inserts had been printed, whilst the Readers had to answer questions based on words and phrases in the copies of the March 2014 In Touch which they had been given. The winners generously donated their gifts to the Poppy Appeal coffee morning.

### **RAFA Events**

Several RBL members showed their support by attending the Coffee Morning on 20 September and the Battle of Britain Service at Little Bowden Church the following day.

### **Leicester Grammar School, Great Glen**

Following the contact made by the Chairman and Secretary some months ago, an invitation has been received for branch members to attend a talk, Myths of the First World War, by Professor Mark Connolly of Kent University on 8 October. Although the invitation was received too late to be mentioned at the branch meeting or to include in In Touch, it is hoped that useful contact with the school will be maintained possibly with a talk about their visits to the War Graves.

### **Arboretum visit**

Several branch members joined the outing organised by our RNA friends. Of particular interest to ex-Leicestershire Regiment soldier, Phil Thomas was the new 'Tigers' memorial.

### **Coffee Morning**

Army, St John Ambulance and Sea Cadets manned stalls and with branch members helped at the event to raise £276 for the Poppy Appeal.

#### **Cover Photo**

The badge of the Royal Norfolk Regiment 'The Vikings' now reduced to form the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment

## Remember This?

	<h1>In Touch, Too</h1>	<p>Over <b>75</b> Years of </p>
Reg. Char. No 219079	<p>The Market Harborough Branch Bimonthly News Sheet</p>	
Issue 14		October, 1999

### More Cups for Market Harborough Branch!!



At the recent County Standard Bearers Association Competition, George Fleming was placed second overall and also received the award for "Best Turnout". Congratulations, George! You have given us all yet another reason to be proud of our Branch.

Achievement of second place means that George will be the Deputy County Standard Bearer and so will carry the County Standard at ceremonies where the Queen's Colour is present (and carried by the County S.B.).

### *Battle of Britain Service*

It was encouraging to see from the size of the congregation that the debt we all owe to "The Few" is not forgotten. The Branch was well represented by our Standard Bearer and several other members. For our Chairman, Mrs Constance Halsall and husband, Bernard it was a particularly memorable occasion because their son, Group Captain Martin Halsall took the salute as the parade marched past after the service. I am sure he will have been impressed by the smartness of those in the parade especially the ATC cadets led by their band.

### *Beer and Skittles*

It is unlikely that any of the nine of us who went to the Railway Inn, Kibworth on 17th September, will be selected to play in the Long Alley Skittles League (is there one?) but lack of skill did not prevent us having a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Please can we have another session soon? I'm not keen on the mushy peas but I could develop a liking for faggots - would more of them improve my aim with those curious lumps of wood you hurl at the skittles which seem so very far away.







Issued by the Ministry of Information on behalf of  
the War Office and the Ministry of Home Security

## STAY WHERE YOU ARE

If this island is invaded by sea or air everyone who is not under orders must stay where he or she is. This is not simply advice: it is an order from the Government, and you must obey it just as soldiers obey their orders. Your order is "Stay Put", but remember that this does not apply until invasion comes.

### Why must I stay put?

Because in France, Holland and Belgium, the Germans were helped

by the people who took flight before them. Great crowds of refugees blocked all roads. The soldiers who could have defended them could not get at the enemy. The enemy used the refugees as a human shield. These refugees were got out on to the roads by rumour and false orders. Do not be caught out in this way. Do not take any notice of any story telling what the enemy has done or



where he is. Do not take orders except from the Military, the Police, the Home Guard (L.D.V.) and the A.R.P. authorities or wardens.

### What will happen to me if I don't stay put?

If you do not stay put you will stand a very good chance of being killed. The enemy may machine-gun you from the air in order to increase panic, or you may run into enemy forces which have landed behind you. An official German message was captured in Belgium which ran 'Watch for civilian refugees on the roads. Harass them as much as possible.'

Our soldiers will be hurrying to drive back the invader and will not be able to stop and help you.

On the contrary, they will have to turn you off the roads so that they can get at the enemy. You will not have reached safety and you will have done just what the enemy wanted you to do.

### How shall I prepare to stay put?

Make ready your air-raid shelter; if you have no shelter prepare one. Advice can be obtained from your local Air Raid Warden or in "Your

Home as an Air-raid Shelter", the Government booklet which tells you how to prepare a shelter in your house.

### How can I help?

You can help by setting a good example to others. Civilians who try to join in the fight are more likely to get in the way than to help. The defeat of an enemy attack is the task of the armed forces which include the Home Guard, so if you wish to fight enrol in the Home Guard. For those who cannot join there are many ways

in which the Military and Home Guard may need your help in their



preparations. Find out what you can do to help in any local defence work that is going on, and be ready to turn your hand to anything if asked by the Military or Home Guard to do so.

If you are responsible for the safety of a factory or some other important building, get in touch with the nearest military authority. You will then be told how your defence should fit in with the military organisation and plans.

### What shall I do if the Invader comes my way?

If fighting by organised forces is going on in your district and you have no special duties elsewhere, go to your shelter and stay there till the battle is past. Do not attempt to join in the fight. Behave as if an air-raid were going on. The enemy will seldom turn aside to attack separate houses. But if small parties are going about threatening persons and property in an area not under enemy control and come your way, you have the right of every man and woman to do what

you can to protect yourself, your family and your home.

#### Stay put.

It's easy to say. When the time

comes it may be hard to do. But you have got to do it; and in doing it you will be fighting Britain's battle as bravely as a soldier

*The heading is copied and the text transcribed from a Government leaflet issued following the German invasion of Belgium, Holland and France. The contemporary photographs, found on the Internet, have been inserted here to emphasise 'Why must I stay put'.*

*Editor*



## ***A Massacre of British Soldiers in 1940***

During the retreat of British and French forces towards Dunkirk, detached Companies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Royal Norfolk and Royal Scots Regiments were ordered to try to slow down the German advance to buy time to evacuate troops from the beaches.

After heavy fighting against an SS unit, the Norfolk's C and HQ Companies were forced to withdraw to their headquarters at a farm near Le Paradis where they were informed by radio that they were isolated and could not receive assistance. They fought on until they ran out of ammunition and the 99 survivors who were ordered by their commander to surrender, came out under a white flag. Although disarmed and with the majority wounded they were marched down the road to a barn, where they were fired on by two of the SS unit machine gunners until all had fallen.

Two soldiers survived, initially hidden under the dead bodies of their comrades and then helped by the farm's owner until they were taken prisoner by a Wehrmacht infantry unit. After the War, their evidence succeeded in the SS unit commander, Fritz Knochlein, being convicted of a War Crime and sentenced to death.

*The above is from a document prepared for a Dinner of 1st Battalion Royal Anglian Regiment, successor to the Royal Norfolks*

## ***Miscellany***

### **October WWI Snippets 1914**

Colour photographic process invented by Eastman Kodak.

### **1915**

Women allowed be bus and tram conductors.

### **1916**

First birth control clinic in USA opens.

### **1917**

Convicted spy Mati Hari is executed.

### **1918**

First UK oil well inaugurated at Hardstoft, Derbyshire

### **Other Octobers**

1st 1870–The Post office the half-penny stamp.

3rd 1906–S.O.S. Established as an international distress signal.

6th 1769–Captain Cook discovered New Zealand.

10th 1886–Dinner Jacket first worn.

14th 1926–Winnie-the-Pooh by A. A. Milne first published.

21st 1805–Battle of Trafalgar.

25th 1854– Charge of the Light Brigade



## Legion News

### BIGGEST TRANSFORMATION IN LEGION'S HISTORY BRINGS HELP TO THE HIGH STREET

The Royal British Legion has undergone the biggest transformation in its 93 year history resulting in a complete change of how the charity delivers its frontline support services.

After three years of development and restructure the Legion is opening Pop In advice and information centres on high streets in major towns and cities across the UK, which will be supported by a network of hundreds of community outreach hubs.

No other charity has a presence of this nature on the UK's high street, where members of the Armed Forces and the general public can 'pop in', as easily as going to the shops, for advice and information on the charity's support and community services.

We will be opening a hub in the Harborough District Council's Symington Building on Mondays, starting on the 13th October by appointment or pop-into our outreach sessions for free help and advice on 2nd and 4th Monday of each month between 2pm and 4.30pm. We look forward to seeing you !

To contact us call Tel: 0808 802 8080  
[www.britishlegion.org.uk](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk)

We are grateful for this article by Susan Grogan who will be at the MH sessions.

## LUNCH AT THE ANGEL



for good food and good company

**4 NOVEMBER** MEET IN THE  
BAR AT NOON

### MENU

Trio of 100% pork sausages on mash potato with rich onion gravy (gf)

Two Salmon, sweet potato & coriander fishcakes with fries & tartare sauce

Chunky beef & ale stew served with mash potato topped with herb scone (can be gf)

Roast loin of pork with roast potatoes, stuffing, Yorkshire pudding & gravy (can be gf)

All served with a selection of vegetables

- - - - -

Fresh fruit salad with fruity sorbet (gf) (v)

Vanilla cheesecake topped with compote of cherries & mini jug of cream (v) (gf)

Warm lemon drizzled sponge with a mini jug of cream (v)

- - - - -

Fresh tea or coffee with chocolate mints

£8.50 - pay on the day

To book, ring Les Moore (01858 463112) before 25 October. To cancel ring **The Angel** (01858 462702) before 10 am on the day or you will be charged

## What's Going On?

### Forthcoming Events

- 25 Oct De Montfort Hall Festival of Remembrance. £15 @ box office
- 25 Oct Poppy Appeal Launch - I am on The Square
- 7 Nov Visit to Royal Hospital Chelsea
- 8 Nov Swing Night & buffet 7.30 pm Welland Park Assembly Room . Tickets £15 from 07872 436647 or sbseventsuk@yahoo.co.uk
- 9 Nov Remembrance Sunday Parade and Services
- 11 Nov Armistice Day wreath laying at Memorial Gardens Gate
- 15 Nov Remembrance Concert - 7.45pm Baptist Church £7
- 10 Dec Branch meeting & Quiz

#### Welfare

If you are aware of any one who qualifies for, and may benefit from the Legion welfare services please contact Betty Ramsay on 01858 434923

#### RBL Helpline

is open to everyone, 8am - 8pm, 7 days a week on Freephone 0800 802 8080 for advice and support for serving & ex- service people and dependents.

#### In Touch Next Month

WWI Armistice, Centenary Snippets, 'Remember this?', News, etc.

### Branch Contacts

#### Chairman

Rev. John Morley 01858 419714  
revjmorley@talktalk.net

#### Vice Chairman

Brian Thomas 01858 431119  
b.thomas1934@gmail.com

#### Secretary, Welfare & Youth

Betty Ramsay 01858 434923  
betty.ramsay@hotmail.co.uk

#### Treasurer & Membership

##### Secretary

Myra Grewcock 01858 419517  
myragrewcock@supanet.com  
8 Holdenby Close, MH. LE16 8JE

#### Poppy Appeal

Dave Prior 01858 540431  
Office - 6 Fairfield Road MH LE16 9QQ  
01858433492 paoteam.rbl@btinternet.com

#### Standard Bearer

Hilary Brazil c/o 01858 434923

#### Monthly Lunches

Les Moore 01858 463112

#### In Touch - Editor

Tom Ashmore 01858 433108  
tashmore@ukvet.net  
9 The Pastures, MH . LE16 9EA

#### Branch Website

www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/  
market-harborough

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