



The Royal British Legion Stamford Branch



Formed 7 June 1922

Websites: <http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/stamford>
<http://www.facebook.com/RBLStamford>
www.twitter.com/Stamford_RBL

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 – July 2015



Mayor's Civic Parade & Service

'Very well done!' to everyone who turned out for this year's Civic Parade and Service for the new Mayor, Cllr Susan Sandall on 14 June. There were at least 20 of our members, either marching in the Parade or waiting to join us at All Saints' Church – a huge improvement over last year's poor showing. Cllr Sandall was so pleased that, in her address from the Town Hall steps, she pointedly thanked us, and the military and the ATC cadets, for our turnout, demonstrating our support for the civic community...



Photo courtesy of RAF Wittering

Armed Forces Week

... and we also had an excellent turn-out of members for the annual raising of the Armed Forces Day flag on 22 June. There were indeed enough of us to form a proper line-up in front of the Town Hall to salute as the flag was raised – just like the old days! Well done, everyone!

Branch General Meetings



Millstone Grit

Some thirty of us enjoyed a really excellent evening of superb entertainment at our monthly General Meeting on 17 June. Our guests were 'Millstone Grit', a group of local men who get together to sing an eclectic mix of sea shanties, love songs, humorous and sad songs, or whatever takes their fancy. They describe themselves as the 'oldest boy band' in the country with most of their back catalogue of songs 'still on 78s'. Their rendition of 'Yes, we have no Chihuahuas' was most moving!

It was a good evening all round, also raising £44 in the raffle towards the cost of the minibus, thanks to all those who brought prizes and, of course bought, tickets.

Quiz

The next Branch General Meeting will be on Wednesday, 15 July in the Borderville Sports Centre and will consist of a Quiz prepared and delivered by Yours Truly. So, come along and see how well you can do against Army Intelligence!!

Festival of Remembrance 2015

The RBL Festival of Remembrance will take place at the Royal Albert Hall, London on Saturday, 7 November 2015 at 2pm and 7pm. From 1 July Legion members can obtain tickets for the **afternoon performance**, using the usual plastic cards, by:

- telephoning the box office direct on 0207 589 8212;
- visiting the website www.royalalberthall.com. Once logged on, enter 16475 when prompted.
- postal application direct to the *Box Office, Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London, SW7 2AP*. You should clearly print on the letterhead details of the Stamford Branch title, address and your Membership number. Applications will be dealt with in strict order of receipt.

The ticket prices for the **afternoon** performance are:

<i>Grand Tier Boxes (seating 12) and Loggia Boxes (seating 8)</i>	£30 per seat
<i>Second Tier Boxes (seating 5) and Stalls</i>	£25 per seat
<i>Circle (Centre)</i>	£18 per seat
<i>Circle (Side)</i>	£15 per seat

Cheques should be payable to: *The Royal Albert Hall*. They also accept plastic. There is a booking fee of 2% of the total value plus £2.50 per ticket.

Evening performance (for Legion Members only) tickets are free but a nominal charge of £10 each will be made. Members can obtain up to 2 tickets strictly for their own use **through the Branch Secretary**. No Branch will receive more than 4 tickets. Applications will be dealt with on a 'first come' first served' basis and there is a deadline of 10 August, so the sooner you contact Pat Savory the better. Members who have not previously attended the Festival will be given priority. Cheques should be payable to *The Royal British Legion, Lincolnshire County*. Members of the Legion attending either performance of the Festival of Remembrance are requested to wear the Legion Badge, tie and decorations.

Cenotaph Ceremony and March Past 2014

The traditional Service of Remembrance will be held on Sunday, 8 November 2015 at the Cenotaph, London. Following the Service there will be the usual March Past. This will be in two elements, namely ex-Service contingents assembling on Horse Guards, and a non ex-Service contingent mustering in Whitehall. **There is no provision for serving personnel to participate in the March Past.**

All participants must possess a ticket:

- Ex-Service men and women should apply through their regimental, Service or campaign association.
- Any Legion Member (ex-Service or non ex-Service) may apply to our County Secretary to join the Legion contingent, which will be allocated no more than 100 tickets.

Application forms for tickets are available from the Membership Support Officer (*formerly County Secretary*) at the end of June and must be returned to him by **Friday, 21 August** at the latest.

COMING EVENTS

Sat, 18 July	Tixover Grange Care Home Summer Festival, 10.30 to 4.00 pm
Fri, 24 July	RAF Wittering Families Day
Sun, 16 Aug	VJ Day
Sun, 20 Sept	Battle of Britain Service & Parade
Thurs, 3 Dec	Concert by the Band of the Parachute Regiment, Stamford Boys School

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

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

NEXT BRANCH SOCIALS

1930 hrs, Wednesday, 15 July – Borderville Sports Centre



WALK-IN WELFARE WORKSHOPS

RAF Wittering – Tuesday/Wednesday, 14/July
Kendrew Barracks – Tuesday/Wednesday, 21/22 July
St George's Barracks – Thursday, 25 July

In brief...

Wittering Families Day

A reminder that if you want a delay-free entry to RAF Wittering on their Families Day on 24 July, ask Pat Savory (01780 755208) to pre-register you and your car with the Guardroom. They need to know your car (make, registration and colour) and personal (driver and passenger names) to ensure an easier transit through the gates.

Branch outing - update

The saga of registering our new minibus continues. It is a real paperchase, being referred from one authority to another. You would think that a vehicle has never been re-registered before in this country. Watch this space! Meanwhile do ring Pat Savory (01780 755208) to register your interest and for the latest position.

Cycling Sportive update

The Peterborough 5x5 Challenge group, which raised £5000 for the Branch Poppy Appeal with a Family Fun Run last November are holding a Cycling Sportive on Sunday, 12 July. They hope to raise another £4000 for our Poppy Appeal.

The cycling will be four different rides with distances of 50, 70, and 100 miles. They will start at 7.00am at Bourne Grammar School and take in Stamford, Oundle, Kimbolton, Sawtry, Wansford, and the Bythams (not the exact route). Peter Wharam has very generously offered to take a couple of members in his car – just ring him on 01780 753735.

Thank you

David Young has asked me to publish his appreciation of the kind services of Shaun Arthur who drove David and friends to the Trooping of the Colour and back on 13 June.

VJ Day

We are looking at organising a service at the War Memorial on Sunday, 16 Aug to commemorate the 70th anniversary of VJ Day. We are commemorating this day, rather than VE Day, as our local Regiment, the Royal Lincolnshire, saw more action in the Far East than they did in Europe during WWII.