

In Touch

The monthly newsletter founded in 1996

The Royal British Legion

Registered Charity No. 219279



LIVE ON

To the memory of the fallen and the future of the living



Market Harborough Branch

Founded in 1923

Centenary Year of 1915



The author
wore a cap
badge like
this. See p4

Next Monthly Branch Meeting
7.30 pm Wednesday 11 November
Committee 5 November

Issue 205
October 2015

Function Room, Conservative Club,
Fairfield Rd. Market Harborough

Branch News

September Branch Meeting

Recently transferred Legion member Stewart Harrison was welcomed to the Branch. As there was no August meeting the Minutes tabled were of July. Information reported included that there was now hope that a new County Office would be located in the centre of Leicester. Councillor John Everett had been appointed local District 'Forces Champion'. 34 people attended the September Lunch but were split between two dining rooms and forthcoming events (included on page 8). The final Poppy Appeal total would be over £32,000. Membership was 157. In Touch Editor and his prospective successor had discussed what needed to be done to ensure a satisfactory hand-over.

In Memorium

David Hawke, a long time member of the Branch, died in August aged 77. He was well known as 'DJ Dave' for providing the music for many functions in this area including our Anniversary Dinners. He used to arrange coach outings to raise charitable funds from which the Poppy Appeal benefited. The very large congregation at his funeral service showed that he will be widely missed

Poppy Appeal Awards



Andrew Carpenter lines up the 7 of the 9 recipients



Roger Brown 40 years Award



David French 10 years Award

Cover Photo

Queen's Regiment Badge as selected from the many images available on Google.

Remember These ?

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?

You are invited

by Husbands Bosworth Branch to their Annual Dinner on 19th November at Kilworth Springs Golf Club. Details & Tickets @ £11.50 from Neil Greenfield on 01858 880719 or write to 15a High Street, Husbands Bosworth, Lutterworth, Leics. LE17 6LJ.

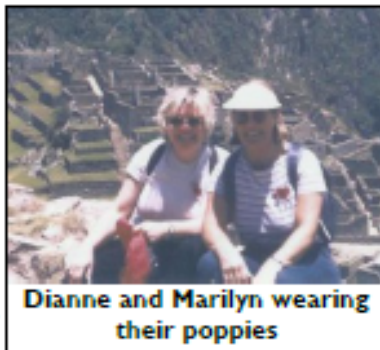
If you intend to attend, please tell John Cox (MH 434983). Given sufficient numbers transport might be arranged.

These extracts from In Touch, Too, which was published in alternate months when In Touch appeared bi-monthly, are from October 1999.

Poppies in Peru

Diane Chester wrote to *Travelsphere News* from Portland in Dorset after her trip with the company to Peru accompanied by her friend Marilyn Barry from Tunbridge Wells. Her delightful story is reproduced here with permission.

Armistice Day 2003 certainly was memorable. It was the day we had all been waiting for - our visit to Machu Picchu - and it was Remembrance Sunday. I persuaded everyone to wear a poppy, which I had purchased in England.



Dianne and Marilyn wearing their poppies

The train pulled out of Cusco and hooted three times on the dot of 0600 hrs, which coincidentally was exactly 1100 hrs in United Kingdom time. I don't know whether it was the fact that we were all realising a dream, or whether some were thinking of those who had given their lives that we might have the freedom to take such holidays, but a natural silence seemed to fall upon our group. Later, however, the mood once again lightened and a magical day was had by all.

From In Touch #97 October 2006

My 17 years in the Army

by Colin Budden

I joined the army in August 1975 as a junior soldier and served with the 2nd Battalion the Queens Regiment. The Queens Regiment is England's oldest Infantry Regiment of the line (2nd of Foot).

The Queens regiment were part of the Queens division which included the Royal Anglian Regiment and the Regiment of Royal Fusiliers. When I left the army in 1992 the Queens Regiment merged with the Hampshire Regiment to form the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.

My training in 1975 took place at Bassingbourn Barracks in Cambridgeshire and once completion of adult training I was then posted to Kiwi Barracks in Bulford, Wiltshire, where in WWI



N Z troops carved this 420ft high emblem.

We then moved to Gibraltar for a 2 year posting. There I was part of the Convent Guard to the Governor of Gibraltar, taking part in the regular Monday morning Changing of the guard parade. We also had guard duty at Four Corners Guardroom

which was the border with Spain which at that time was closed. One of my duties involved being a Dekker marine radar operator watching over to Spain and



ensuring that no-one tried to break across from each side. I also completed a Snipers course at the time. In 1979 we were posted back to Colchester and from there we had active servic postings to Northern Ireland, Cyprus (with the UN Peace Keeping Force) and various training exercises in Germany.

I passed the NCO Cadre while in Colchester and gained my first stripe, Lance Corporal Budden. We did a tour of Northern Ireland in Armagh. Another course which came up was the Junior Brecon course in Wales. I passed this with flying colours and was promoted very quickly to Full Corporal on the back of my course report.

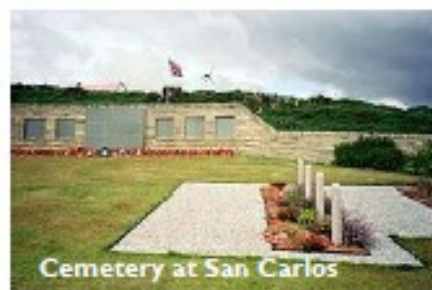
I then decided that I wanted to fulfil my dream of teaching new recruits basic training which included Weapons instructing. I therefore had to

complete the Skill at Arms Course down in Warminster and from there was posted to Bassingbourn Barracks

Bassingbourn barracks was established, on the site of the former RAF airfield, in January 1970, as the new Depot for the Queen's Division.

to train the new recruits. I trained 4 platoons before being posted back to the 2nd Battalion who were then based in Oakington Barracks Cambridgeshire. It was from there that I did the Drill Instructors course down in Pirbright which I passed. We also had an exercise in Canada.

From Oakington we did an active service tour in the Falkland Islands not long after the conflict and were based at Kelly's Garden, near San Carlos Bay as a quick reaction force. My next course was Senior Brecon



which I completed prior to moving to Minden in Germany. I was promoted to Sergeant and my next move was to a mainly office job for 2½ years at the Chatham Recruiting office where all three services had offices.

It was then back to Minden followed by after another tour in the Falkland Islands and a second exercise deployment in Canada. Next we were posted to Canterbury in Kent where one of my duties on a Tuesday was to visit Canterbury Cathedral



and perform the duty of turning the pages of a Book of Remembrance that has the names of all those (local) servicemen & women who lost their lives. This still happens today.

The above photo, taken from a Cathedral publication, records that on 21st July 2014 Sid Pullman, celebrated his 90th birthday by turning a page in the one of the Books of Remembrance Sid also turned a page over 70 years previously during WW2 while he was serving in the band of the Buffs.

Editor

My last tour was a return to Northern Ireland, stationed at Dungannon .

I left the army on the 9th September 1992 when the army re-shaped itself to what it is today. My medals awarded were: GSM N Ireland, UN Cyprus & LSGC (Long Service & Good Conduct Medal).

Gibraltar

Gibraltar is a British Overseas Territory with an area of 6.7 km² (2.6 sq mi) and a population of about 30,000. An Anglo-Dutch force captured Gibraltar from Spain in 1704 and was subsequently ceded to Britain "in perpetuity" under the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713.



Coat of arms

The sovereignty of Gibraltar is a major point of contention in Anglo-Spanish relations as

Spain asserts a claim to the territory. Gibraltarians overwhelmingly rejected proposals for Spanish sovereignty in a 1967 referendum and again in 2002. Under the Gibraltar constitution of



Flag

2006, Gibraltar governs its own affairs, though some powers, such as defence and foreign relations, remain the responsibility of the British Government. It was an important base for the Royal Navy; today its economy is based largely on tourism, online gambling, financial services, and shipping

Text and images from Wikipedia

Miscellany

October 1915 News Items

- 8th Russia opens offensive in Bulgaria.
- 12th UK breaks off relations with Bulgaria.
- 16th Allies begin blockade of Bulgarian ports.
- 21st British and French land at Salonica to support Serbia.
- 28th King George V hurt in a fall from his horse inspecting troops in France.
- 29th 10,000 at memorial Service for Nurse Edith Cavell
- 31st 1.5 million Jews in Russia reported starving



Exam Questions

Anne Bashore, our member in the USA, sent a list from tests given in Springdale, Arkansas to 16 year old students. Here are three of them.

- Q. Name the four seasons.
A. Salt, pepper, mustard, vinegar.
- Q. How is dew formed?
A. The sun shines down on the leaves and makes them perspire.
- Q. How can you delay milk going sour?
A. Keep it in the cow.

Battle of Britain Service

Standard Bearer, Hilary Brazil, and several other members represented the Branch at St Nicholas Church, Little Bowden on 20th September.

St. Luke's Hospital

At a meeting with the leader of Harborough District Council and local MP Sir Edward Garnier, NHS Property Services was pleased to report that plans to develop the new hospital in Leicester Road should see initial work on site by the end of November.

This is an extract from an email from NHS Property Services on 21 September to Susan Grogan, RBL A&I Officer, who send it to the Branch for information.

Poetry Reading

As requested last year there will be another reading after the next Branch meeting. Please let Betty Ramsay or Tom Ashmore know ASAP a poem you would like included and if you would be willing to read it or something selected for you

Coffee Morning

It was good to see the Army cadets on duty in the kitchen again and to hear how the detachment is being built up again. The Air, Sea and St John cadets manned the stalls and some Branch members were there as helpers or visitors.

LUNCH

AT THE ANGEL



for good food and good company

3 NOVEMBER *MEET IN THE
BAR AT NOON*

MENU

Roast Shoulder of British pork
w/ Yorkshire pudding, roast
potatoes & gravy (can be gf)

Slow cooked beef & ale casserole
w/roast potatoes & herb scone

Chunky of salmon held in a rich
white wine, dill & prawn sauce (gf)
(v)

*All served with a selection of
vegetables*

-!-!-!-!-

Fresh fruit salad w/ cream (gf) (v)

Jam roly poly & creamy custard (v)

Vanilla cheesecake topped w/
mandarins & clotted cream ice
cream

-!-!-!-!-

Tea or Coffee and Mints
£ 9.25 Pay on the Day

To book, contact Kathie Morley,
email kathiemorley@talktalk.net, or
phone 01858 419714
To cancel, ring **The Angel** (01858
462702) before 10 am on the day or
you will be charged

What's Going On?

Forthcoming Events

- 17 Oct Sea Cadets Coffee Morning @ Theatre
- 24 Oct Poppy Appeal Launch @ 10.30 am on The Square
- 31 Oct Festival of Remembrance @ De Montfort Hall
- 5 Nov Fireworks 5.40 @ Peaker Park
- 7 Nov Swing Night @ Welland Park
- 8 Nov Remembrance Sunday Parade & Service
- 11 Nov Armistice Day events in Welland Park & on The Square
- 11 Nov Branch meeting + Poetry Reading
- 14 Nov Remembrance Band Concert 7.30pm @ Baptist Church

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 0808 802 8080 for advice and support for serving & ex- service people and dependents.

In Touch Next Month

Lt Col 'Mad Jack' Churchill, 'Miscellany, Remember This?', News, etc.

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Branch Website

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

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