

The Royal British Legion

Caring and campaigning for the serving and ex-Service community



Warsop, Meden Vale, & District Branch

NEWSLETTER

branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/warsop



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Welcome to the March 2016 newsletter.

Launch of Drop In

The drop-in was launched on the 4th March at The Town Hall.

Thanks to those members that took the time to attend, including the Edwinstowe contingent.

Chairman of Nottinghamshire County Council, Councillor Sybil Fielding officially opened the drop-in.



We were really pleased to welcome two beneficiaries that were seeking assistance.

Our wonderful Advice & Information Officer, Sue Nettleship was on hand to offer advice - Thanks Sue!

We also signed up two new members on the morning.

The drop-in will be open on the 1st Friday of each month from 10 am to 12 noon.

Drop in and have a cuppa with us next month. You would be foolish not to!!

February meeting

Nick Rhodes spoke about the new project with AgeUK where they will manage requests for visits by our beneficiaries. For me, a real positive of the scheme will be if some younger beneficiaries get involved

as planned.

Free Social Event

7.30pm till 12 midnight

18th March 2016

Entertainment, including live artist and disco.

Demonstration by military working dogs

Huge raffle prizes

Clipstone Social Club, NG21 9AL

Victory!

Message from Laura Pett, RBL Campaigns Manager. Mesothelioma Campaign Victory On the 16th December 2015 the MOD changed the rules to allow veterans diagnosed with mesothelioma on or after that date the choice between receiving a one-off, tax-free lump sum payment or a traditional War Disablement Pension, which is paid in regular instalments. This change is set to benefit thousands of veter-

ans, particularly ex-naval personnel, for decades to come.

It is with much pleasure that I write today to inform you that, following sustained pressure from the Legion, the Government has now also agreed to extend eligibility for the lump sum payment to those diagnosed before that date. Around 60 veterans were previously denied access to the new £140,000 lump sum compensation payment on account of the date of their diagnosis.

The Legion had originally asked the MOD to consider offering lump sums compensation to veterans diagnosed with the asbestos-related cancer to correct the financial disadvantage faced by some veterans when compared to their civilian counterparts. Commodore Rhod Palmer, a third-generation Royal Navy sailor who was diagnosed with mesothelioma in April 2015 and had stood to miss out on the new payment, said:

"No amount of money will ever compensate sufferers and their families for a preventable death. However, it is a real break-

through that the Government will treat all current and future sufferers of mesothelioma exposed to asbestos during their service under comparable terms as civilians. This payment allows patients with mesothelioma to make arrangements to maximise their quality of life during this terminal illness and to support the family that they leave behind. The Royal British Legion has campaigned resolutely on the behalf of military personnel who developed mesothelioma and I offer my sincere gratitude for its support."

Anyone looking to find out more about the new compensation award should contact Veterans UK. This has been a hard-fought campaign, which the Legion began back in 2013. To see the campaign finally reach this stage will provide a huge sense of relief for dozens of proud servicemen and their families, and we should all be proud to have fought this important battle on their behalf.

Birthday Greetings

Birthday wishes go to the following mem-

bers;

Tom Barlow
Kate Beaumont
Susan Dennis
Frazier Faultner
Judy Gordon
Barbara Lubieniecki
Jason McNally
David Pugh
Carol Sneath

A very happy birthday to you all.

New Members

A big welcome to Lisa Guy and Richard Newton.

We look forward to getting to know you.

Diary

14th March - meeting. Fresh from his visit to The Falkland Islands, Col. David Sneath tells us all about it.

18th March - Social evening at Clipstone Social Club. 7.30pm (Free entry)

1st April - Drop in, Warsop Town Hall

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Monday the 14th March.

Meetings commence at 7.30pm at The Ex-Servicemen's Club, Carr Lane.

All are welcome to attend.

Pete