



“THE JENDIT”

All the clips!

THE CREWKERNE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



WINTER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Happy New Year to all our members and welcome to the winter edition of our quarterly newsletter, The Jendit. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and that the New Year brings you all good health.

Farewell Eric

It is with great sadness that we must announce the passing of our dear friend Eric Osborne. Eric, AKA John, has been a member of the Branch for many years and has always supported the Branch at both committee meetings and their outdoor events such as fetes and shows. Eric would often display his many matchstick models and horse brasses and always raised a good sum of money for his efforts.



Our friend Eric.

Eric worked for many years at Cronites, but something we will always remember him for is that he would regularly remind us that as a young man in 1956, he served with the Durham Light Infantry in Suez, something that Eric was rightly proud of. Unfortunately, the British



Government were not so proud, and they refused to recognise the services of so many British Servicemen in Suez and it was only quite recently that Eric and his comrades finally received a medal for their services in Egypt.

Eric had suffered poor health for the last few months and passed away in the early hours of Thursday 21st December. He was cremated at Yeovil Crematorium on Thursday the 4th January,

where a good number of Branch members attended along with Standard and Union Flag Bearers and Robert King as Legion Coffin Escort. Our thoughts go out to his family at this sad time. God bless you Eric, You were very special to us all.



Eric as a young man in the 1950's.

Christmas Tree Competition

On a happier note, as some of you may already be aware, the Branch came joint first in the St Bartholomew's Church Christmas tree competition. It would appear that we were matched into first place by the Friends of Crewkerne Station, but it is certainly the first time we have won this prestigious competition for many years, if at all? So well done to all who were involved and a special thank you must go to all the ladies who knitted so many beautiful decorations for the tree.



Pride of place, the Legion Xmas tree in the Church.

Christmas Fayre at the GRC

Another Christmas event that we participated in was the Christmas Fayre at the George Reynolds Centre. This was the first time we have taken part in this event and it was lovely to see so many people there and to hear the Children singing carols. All in all it proved to be quite a good fund raiser of £95.45.



County Conference

On Saturday the 6th January, six members of the Branch attended County Conference at Writhlington School near Radstock. As usual there were a number of guest speakers at the Conference and all who attended said that they found it most informative. To complete the event, a number of Branches received annual awards including Crewkerne who won the Barnes cup for 'efficiency' for the third year running. The last and most special award was a new Trophy for 'Volunteer of the Year' and the first person to receive this new award was our very own Terry Austin, so well done Terry you most definitely deserve it for all your hard work.



Conference goes proudly hold the Barnes Cup for a third year.

Sponsored walk

On Saturday 24th March, the Branch will be holding a sponsored walk. It will be approximately 6 miles starting at the War Memorial in Severalls at 10:00hrs, heading out to Seaborough and Misterton and finishing at the George Reynolds Centre for approximately 12:00 – 13:00. If you would like to take part, sponsor forms can be aquired from the Secretary at the E-mail below. For those that feel they can't do the sponsored walk, but would like to support us, please come along to the Coffee Morning 11:00 onwards held at the GRC to greet the walkers home.

MacCready Sheild

Following our affiliation with Crewkerne Army Cadets, the Committee decided that they must maintain the momentum and establish a good solid link with the Cadets. To do this they intend to create a new annual award for "Best Cadet". The criteria for this award is still being discussed with the Cadet and the Branch. However, it is the Branches' intention to call the award the MacCready Sheild after the late Patrick MacCready, one of the eldest members who passed away last year. The Branch propose awarding the sheild every Remembrance Sunday after the church service.



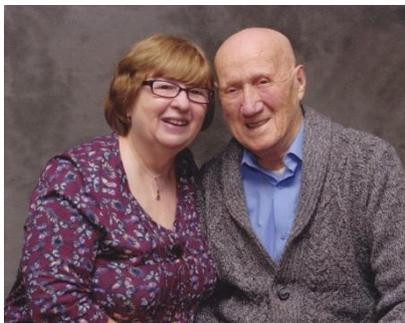
Trip to the National Arboretum

The Branch is organising a trip to the National Arboretum in Staffordshire. The trip will take place on the 5th and 6th May and we will be staying overnight. Prices are £30 for the return minibus trip and £85 per room at the Lichfield Holiday Inn Express, which includes parking, Wi-Fi and breakfast. Places are very limited so it is a first come first served basis. If you are interested please contact the Secretary as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Christmas Lunch

As has been the case for a number of years now, the Branch is planning to have its out of season Christmas lunch on 14th April at the Coach and Horses public house in South Perrott. Again places are limited so if you would like to come along please contact the Secretary and book your place.

Somerset Legion House



Ron and Pam enjoyed a wonderful stay at Somerset Legion House

In December two of our members – Pam and Ron enjoyed a fabulous stay at Somerset Legion House in Weston Super Mare. It was beautifully decorated for the festive season and when they arrived they were shown to their very spacious twin room. They had two comfy chairs to enjoy the sea view and an excellent wet room, plus a small fridge and tea and coffee making facilities. The meals were

served in the dining room where they met up with the other residents. The food was varied and exceptionally good, especially the deserts with plenty of choice. They had a trip to Cadbury Garden Centre and wanted to mention the kindness shown to them by the mini bus driver. They also had the chance to do some pottery, painting and have their photos taken. The staff were friendly, helpful and great fun. There was entertainment



Tony and Sandie enjoyed mince pies and mulled wine before handing over the cheque



most evenings and on one of the days they put on a pantomime serving choc ices in the interval.

On the Wednesday morning, a group of local school children came to sing Christmas carols followed by a fabulous Christmas dinner. Everywhere was wheel chair friendly and a walk along the promenade was an ideal way to get into town.

This break was just what Pam and Ron needed, they really enjoyed meeting the other residents and being looked after by the staff. They would highly recommend this to any other members in need of a break.

Tony and Sandie Smith went to the annual mince pie and mulled wine afternoon at Somerset Legion House where they presented a cheque on behalf of the Branch. Sandie said, "It was a lovely afternoon. We were entertained by an excellent singer and we received a very warm welcome".

Dubs at the Mill

We have recently been approached by the Regional Poppy Appeal Officer and have been asked if we, as a Branch, could attend the annual Volkswagen owners club (DUBS) meet at the Haselbury Mill. This event has been held at the Mill for a number of years now and is always very well attended. The members of the club always fundraise for a charity of their choice and this year because it is the Centenary of WW1, they have decided that the RBL will be the chosen charity. Obviously we have jumped at the chance to attend and I urge you all to come along and visit the show over the weekend of the 27th to 29th April – VW festival. I am sure there will be something of interest at the show for most, but remember it is a great fund raising opportunity for us at the Branch and the Poppy Appeal. Please look on the Haselbury Mill website for further details. Contact details: www.haselburymill.co.uk





All new Crewkerne Legion Club

Following discussions with Committee members and a number of Branch members something a lot of you would like to see is the return of a proper Club. Sadly, in this day and age Legion Club houses are a non-starter, firstly due to Charity commission constraints and of course the financial implications would make it impossible for us to start a new club like the one we had in the past. However, we have decided that the next best option is to start running monthly social events at the George Reynolds Centre (GRC). It has been proposed that we will start with a Legion Social Afternoon, where there will be an opportunity for members to come down to the GRC have a cup of Tea/Coffee and some lovely cakes made by some of our fantastic bakers and you can sit and have a chat with other members. We propose holding the first of these afternoons on Thursday 1st March at 2pm until 4pm and then on Saturday the 3rd March, in conjunction with this, we intend to hold Legion club night in the GRC where there will be an opportunity to attend something with the feel of an old fashioned Legion club, Dominos, Cards, Bingo, Quiz and perhaps Skittles, this will also be a good chance to come down and meet other Legion members and "Spin some Dits". It will start at about 6pm in the back bar of the GRC and will go on until 11ish. If it proves successful we may even increase the regularity of the meets, so please come on down and join us and support the cause we really do hope to see you all at these events.

CREWKERNE RBL



TO COME AND
JOIN US FOR
LEGION NIGHT

Dates to remember:

- Haselbury Mill 40's Night – Saturday 3rd February 2018.
- Legion Social afternoon Thurs. 1st March 1400-1600 GRC.
- Legion Club Night Sat. 3rd March 1800 onwards.
- Sponsored Walk – Saturday 24th March 2018.
- Dubs at the Mill – April 27th – 29th.
- Military Gathering – 17th June 2018.
- Weymouth Parade – 24th June.
- Misterton Fete – 24th June.



The Branch Committee is as follows:

- PresidentDavid Lawrence
- ChairmanAntony Samuel
- Vice ChairmanDennis Holland
- Secretary..... Alice Samuel
- TreasurerVivien Green
- Deputy Treasurer...Terry Austin
- Committee.....Sue Phinn
- Committee.....Brian Forster
- Committee.....Peter Brown
- Committee.....Rita Brown
- Committee.....Denis Bowman
- Committee.....Tony Smith
- Committee.....Sandie Smith
- Committee.....Robert King
- Committee.....John Davies
- Standard Bearer....Andrew Watts
- Membership Sec....Alice Samuel
- Welfare Officer.....Sandie Smith
- Welfare Sec.....Alice Samuel
- Welfare Treasurer...Vivien Green

