



Patron: Her Majesty The Queen



# LEGION LINCS

[www.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/lincolnshire](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/lincolnshire)

Newsletter of

## THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Lincolnshire County

### Autumn 2012

Edition 4/2012

### County Festival of Remembrance 2012



*The Muster*

Our County Festival of Remembrance on Sunday, 4 November at RAF Cranwell began as always with the Muster of County and Branch Standards, and representatives of RAF Cranwell and Digby, Sea Scouts of T/s Beavers, Immingham, the CCF, ACF and the ATC, Poppy Sellers, the Salvation Army, and finally John Cuthbert and James Anderson from the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. Tony Goodwin, County Chairman, welcomed everyone and paid tribute to the Cadets of RAF Cranwell for all their hard work in looking after us and getting the hall ready. He said that we were there to honour not only the generations of two World Wars but also now our children's generation. We all knew of families, of fathers, sons, mothers, daughters who had been affected by recent conflicts, of losses and of others who have returned sorely

wounded. We would remember their sacrifices today.

The Legion had a proud record of service of helping those who have suffered or are suffering as a result of service in the Armed Forces. The Legion's welfare work was as valid today as it was in 1921. Our Service personnel were under pressure as never before. Their families too were under pressure. The Legion would continue to help wherever and whenever it could. We will not fail. He called on us all to rededicate ourselves.

He then introduced the Band of RAF Waddington, all volunteers and amateurs, who played the

'Thunderbirds' theme, 'Out of Africa' 'A Bridge too Far' and a medley of other tunes. Tony Goodwin remarked that it was time again to play the 'Posthorn Gallop'! He next introduced the Cranwell Amateur Theatrical Society and Youth Theatre who, led by Peggy Reading, gave a most moving performance of poetry and songs (*see separate article overleaf*).

The County Chaplain, the Rev Canon J. Thorold, led the Service. He said that it was important that, as we bought or sold or wore a poppy, we should be spiritually aware that Christ's presence is infused into every facet of existence, not just those that suit us. He dwells in both the dark places as well as in the light.

The Festival closed with a cascade of poppies falling on the Muster on the platform and the *National Anthem*



*The audience rise for 'O God, our help in Ages past'*



*The wreath laid by the County Chairman*

### Celebrations in Order

Celebrations are in order as Legion members Des and Rene Curtis approach their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on December 27<sup>th</sup>.

Des and Rene whose home is at Gosberton Risegate are members of both the Surfleet and Pinchbeck Branches of the Legion. Des is the Standard Bearer at Surfleet and they both travel regularly to events throughout the County. Together they work hard for the Legion and are often to be found running a tombola stall in support of Branch fundraising.

Their friends and colleagues in both Branches wish them everycongratulation for this special occasion and hope that they will continue to have many more happy years together in the future.



### Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

Safeguarding the welfare, interests and memory of those who are serving or who have served in H. M. Armed Forces  
Registered Charity No: 219279

## CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

My first duty as I write this Foreword is to say THANK YOU to each and everyone who contributed in any way towards our recent Poppy Collection. That includes all the collectors and their supporters, all the Cadet Forces, Scout and Girl Guide units, shopkeepers, publicans and not least all the contributors. Initial results of the local collections are promising but somewhat mixed. Most areas are pretty close to last year's totals but the odd one or two are a little less. In view of the National economic turndown this is not surprising but what is encouraging is the determination of many Branches to make up any shortfall during the rest of the year.

To that end I, as County Chairman, will encourage the County Committee to do whatever we can to support Branches in their fundraising efforts during the coming year. I believe that it would be helpful and encouraging for our Poppy Organisers and Collectors if we could hold a County seminar or, if necessary, a number of regional seminars, to make sure that all the latest information and advice is available to them. It is not possible to arrange for everyone to attend the Poppy Conference at Warwick so, soon after that event, we must bring the information to the County; I will work with the County Poppy Appeal Co ordinator (John Hathaway) and the Community Fundraiser (Jo Ticehurst) to make that happen.

All Branches should by now have held their Annual General meeting, elected their Branch officers and consolidated their Branch accounts. Please make sure that the information is passed to the County Secretary before 31<sup>st</sup> December to ensure that you are eligible to send a delegate to both the County Annual Conference and the National Conference.

Our Annual County Conference is on 12<sup>th</sup> January at Horncastle. It is encouraging that we have 8 nominations for election to the 4 vacancies on the County Committee. This level of interest promises well for the future and shows that our members do care about the way the County is managed. This level of competition is welcome and good for our community.

During the next couple of weeks I hope that you all find time to relax from your Legion duties and spend some time with your families. Christmas seems to arrive more quickly with each passing year, so please take the time to enjoy it with those close to you.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Kind regards,

Tony Goodwin  
County Chairman

## C.A.T.S



*CATS Seniors reciting 'Actors Waitin', a poem to all Forces serving everywhere*

One of the highlights of this year's Festival of Remembrance at RAF Cranwell was the performance by C.A.T.S – the Cranwell Amateur Theatrical Society and Youth Theatre. Our next edition will carry a more full profile of C.A.T.S. and its activities so it will be sufficient to say now that members are made up of serving personnel and their dependants, retired servicemen & women, MOD employees working on the RAF stations in the area, their dependants, and people from the local community.

However we were privileged to enjoy a wonderful performance by CATS members at the County Festival of Remembrance at RAF Cranwell on 4 November. It was a salute to our Forces past and present, a recital of war poetry and songs of exquisite pathos, so poignant and

sublime, the very essence of Remembrance. One of the highlights was 'The Click of the Gate' by May Hill, from Chapel St Leonard (*See the September/October 2009 edition of Legionlincs for a review of her book*). Another was the poem 'The Wind on the Downs' by Marian Allen about a girl remembering her fiancé who was killed in action in 1917 and refusing to believe that he did not die and still lives, laughs, seek adventure 'some other place'. C.A.T.S. are currently heavily engaged in panto, *Aladdin* at the Whittle Hall, Cranwell.

C.A.T.S. deserve our support and I hope to publish a fuller picture of their activities in the next edition of this journal



*Peggy Reading joins the CATS seniors and juniors for their finale*

## Lincolnshire – A Winning Team



**Lincolnshire Bomber Command Memorial Office, Manor Farm, Holbeach Hurn, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE12 8LR**

[www.lincsbombercommandmemorial.com](http://www.lincsbombercommandmemorial.com)

During WW2 25,000 aircrew from Bomber Command, flying from Lincolnshire, died. To mark their sacrifice, a memorial will be erected on the top of Canwick Hill, in Lincoln. The site overlooks Lincoln Cathedral which was a major landmark for crews leaving Lincolnshire and as a navigation point for those lucky enough to return. 46% of all Bomber Command's casualties were based in Lincolnshire.

The project is being led by the Lord-Lieutenant of Lincolnshire with support from all sectors of the community including the Bomber Command Association, Local Councils, County Council, Lincolnshire Lancaster Association, Aviation Heritage Lincolnshire, active RAF stations in the county and elsewhere, Lincoln Cathedral and the University of Lincoln. Many other individuals and organisations have also pledged their support. The Lincolnshire Bomber Command Memorial Trustees are:

- Mr Tony Worth, Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire
- Lord Taylor of Holbeach CBE
- The Lady Sarah McCorquodale
- Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach KCB CBE FRAeS
- Professor Mary Stuart, Vice Chancellor Lincoln University

The formal launch will take place in May 2013, around the 70th anniversary of the famous Dambusters' raid which left from Lincolnshire in May 1943 as part of Bomber Command. It is planned to have the memorial completed by May 2015 to mark the 70th anniversary of the official ending of hostilities in World War 2.



Command, the planes in which they flew, individual acts of heroism and details about the RAF stations that played host to the Command. We would be delighted to include any of your key facts which you can send to us via [memories@lincsbombercommandmemorial.com](mailto:memories@lincsbombercommandmemorial.com) marked Fact File. "Your Memories" is a new section of the web site and for those who have memories of the Command we would welcome your participation. To upload your stories please send them to: [memories@lincsbombercommandmemorial.com](mailto:memories@lincsbombercommandmemorial.com)

## JustGiving™

Your donations are essential to helping us achieve our goal of building the Lincolnshire Bomber Command Memorial.

### NEWSLETTER

Please take the time to sign up for our E-Mail Newsletter. Keep up to date with all the latest information regarding the memorial

The LBCM web site now boasts an on-line Media Centre where a wide range of resources, including archive footage, stories, photos and links to a number of relevant sites the Centre, provides all the tools needed to cover this exciting project.

In addition visitors to the site will now find a Fact File which the Trust will continually update to include many of the lesser known facts about the

### LBCM Schools Competition

The LBCM Trust is set to launch a brand new competition working with all the schools in Lincolnshire. There are different competition levels aimed at the three curriculum Key Stages which have been developed by the Trust working in partnership with Lincolnshire Education Business Partnership.

The lucky winners of each of the Key Stages will be invited to RAF Scampton on May 16th 2013 Dambusters' Anniversary and will get the opportunity to have their photo taken in the BBMF Lancaster Bomber and will then receive a framed copy of the photograph.

## Saturday, 27 October 2012 - 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of El Alamein

Some five months ago I was asked by the Peterborough Branch of the Royal Artillery Association if I was interested in attending the above celebrations, namely a Service at Westminster Abbey. This has always been an ambition for both my wife and myself. So, imagine our delight when 2 weeks before the actual Service we received our invitations from the MoD to attend the same celebration Service. I actually thought I had received my call up papers again. Ha Ha.

### The Day Itself

On a typical autumn morning we traveled down to London courtesy of Capital Rail to arrive at the Abbey for 1400hrs. We were greeted by members of the Household Cavalry and shown to our reserved seats close to the choir stalls. The Service was attended by over 500 people.

The Service itself was magnificent, set out in the same area as the last Royal Wedding. What a feeling. I must now make this observation – in all my years of attending church services all over the world, we were both taken aback by the sheer brilliance of the singing of the Choir. The singing was totally professional, not only in English but also in German.

After the Service we all attended a buffet supplied by the Royal British Legion. It was a pleasure to be in company with some of the top brass of the Armed Forces. Conversation was brilliant and many memories were unfolded.

### To sum up

A really remarkable day out and one that will never be forgotten. It also shows how very professional the British Armed Forces are at such events.



*Veterans pay respect to the 4000 men who died during the 14 day battle*

S.N.Ironmonger

Vice Chairman, Bourne Branch RBL

## **Stamford's children observe the Silence**

The wreaths and flowers at the Stamford War Memorial made a brave sight in the damp, grey gloom of the Monday after Remembrance Sunday. Then, suddenly, the day lit up when 50 or so moppets from Malcolm Sargent School in bright yellow hivy jackets arrived, followed by a dozen youngsters from Wilds School, led by their teacher and Stamford Branch Youth Member, Darren Rawnsley.



*Three wreaths made by the children of Malcolm Sargent School*



*Darren watches as the children sing their hearts out*

Darren welcomed everyone, Shaun Arthur said the Exhortation, Darren read a poem of Remembrance, all the children sang a song 'Wear a poppy today', and Steve Bonde recited the 'Kohima' with a description of the battle it came from. Finally children from both schools laid wreaths which they had made themselves. It was such a simple little ceremony but the faces of the children showed that it meant so much to them to share with the grown-ups in remembering the brave men and women who had given *their today for our tomorrow*

## **Grantham tell the Beavers about the Poppy**

Grantham Branch were the first, several years ago, to affiliate with a children's group, the 1<sup>st</sup> Ancaster Beavers. Since then, and for the fourth year running, Grantham's Barry Turner and his colleagues have been invited to give a talk to them on the Legion and in particular the Poppy Appeal and Remembrance.

They try to do something a little different each time and, this year, the Beavers split into two teams, dismantled



some Poppies and created two Poppy montages from the paper petals. Throughout this activity they told the Beavers the story of the Poppy and the importance of Remembrance and answered 101 questions from the Beavers including – did you cut out all the paper Poppies!

It is so encouraging that young people show an interest and support us. The Beavers are also so proud to wear their affiliation badge and they have also incorporated a Poppy on their uniform.

## Wainfleet work closely with their local school



A school with a strong connection with their local RBL Branch is the Magdalen Church of England/Methodist Primary School, Wainfleet. Over the last few years they have built a good relationship with the members of the Branch especially in November and during Remembrance time.



*Pupils and school staff joined Royal British Legion members on 11 November to lay a wreath at the town cemetery gates at the Remembrance Service.*

On 9 November this year they held their Remembrance Service in their own school Community Garden. The whole school (200 children) was joined by parents, local ministers and members of Wainfleet Branch to pay respects to those who served and lost their lives in past wars.

During the Service pupils laid a wreath and two crosses upon our Cross formed in the school garden. One of their infant teachers played the Last Post before the children observed their Two Minute Silence followed by prayers.



*Earlier Year 5 pupils had held a poetry competition on thoughts of Remembrance. Following the Service Wainfleet Branch members presented winners of the competition with an annual trophy donated by their members. Certificates were also presented to the whole class during a school celebration worship at a later date.*

## Kirton Boys visit Ypres

On 15, 16, and 17 September, Ian Turner, a Kirton Parish Councillor and leading member of Kirton's Poppy Appeal team, led our group of seven Kirton boys to the Ypres area to lay a wreath at Tyne Cot Cemetery to the men of the Lincolnshire Regiment who fell there in the Great War but have no known graves. The boys from Kirton were: Ian and Patrick Turner, Peter Booth, Richard Crampton, Daniel and Brian Roberts, and John Fitzgerald. The whole weekend was charged with emotion and the phrase most heard from the lips of all was 'What a dreadful waste of young lives'. Ian reports 'The first stop was the East Lincolnshire Cottage cemetery built around the ruins of Rosendale Chateau. This is one of the largest on the Salient, containing graves from both conflicts. We found one grave, of a 16 year old Canadian lad, very moving. What must it have been like to have traveled all that way to end your days in the mud and horror of this war? Today the cemetery is in a beautiful setting and cared for with great attention. The evening was spent in Ypres and we all gathered at the main gate for the 'Last Post'. Looking around you could not see a dry eye; men and women of all ages had tissues in their hands mopping up tears during the minute's silence.

*Early on the Sunday, we made our way to Tyne Cot where we laid our wreath to the dead of the Lincolnshire Regiment. The photograph shows Patrick and Ian Turner laying the wreath. I personally felt very honoured to have this opportunity to make this small gesture of gratitude to the brave fallen. We then visited Hill 62, a rather well preserved area of trenches, which give the group some idea of what it must have been like for the men at the front. Thankfully we did not have to experience being shelled. We stopped briefly at Vancouver Corner, a memorial to the Canadians who stood their ground during one of the first gas attacks of WWI.*

*We next felt it important to pay our respects at the German Cemetery at Langemark, with its black gravestones and brooding statues of three German*



*The German Cemetery at Langemark*

*soldiers. It was a fitting reminder of the sacrifice of both sides. Essex Farm was our last visit of the day and we felt it fitting to read 'In Flanders Field' by John Macrae. The casualty station in which he worked is still there today. On our final day, we moved south to the Berkshire Cemetery, with its two stone lions guarding its entrance. In the spring the graveyard is enhanced by the blossom of cherry trees. From here we departed on our journey home, more educated and grateful of the sacrifice made by so many that we may enjoy our freedoms of today.'*



*Patrick and Ian Turner laying the wreath.*

## Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

## County Poppy Appeal Launch 2012

About halfway through the event, as the rain thundered down on to the hangar roof, Tony Goodwin, our County Chairman, commented on how much benefit we had gained when the County moved the launch of its Poppy Appeal to the Lincs Aviation Heritage Centre at East Kirkby several years ago. But it is not just a question of staying dry; the sight of so many Branch and other Standards on parade beneath the wings of the Lancaster bomber, *Just Jane*, the collection of so much memorabilia of the station's wartime role, and the large number of Branch and County Legion members and their guests all made for a stirring and memorable launch of the Lincolnshire Poppy Appeal 2012.

The County President, Brigadier Reeves, emphasized that the aim of the Launch was threefold – to thank all the 113 organisers and hundreds of collectors who had put in such a magnificent effort to raise a record total of £802,089 in Lincolnshire last year; to inspire us all to even greater efforts this year to break that record; and to make clear that these funds help people of all ages, increasingly young people scarred by recent and ongoing conflict.



*Some of the Branch and other Standards on parade.*



*East Midlands members of the Legion's Riders' Branch also took part*

He said that, with 9.5 million potential beneficiaries, the Poppy Appeal funds 50% of the Legion's welfare spending, the rest being made up by corporate funding, bequests, and other fund-raising activities. We could be proud that Lincolnshire, with probably the busiest welfare team currently handling 600 cases, was among the most efficient and effective counties and had been awarded the Maurice Cup for the second time in three years. It was a difficult task but he hoped that we would remain a 'beacon county' and, with the country coming out of recession, that he could set a target for the County to raise £850,000 in the coming Poppy Appeal.

The County Chairman also paid handsome tribute to the members, without whom, we could not raise such large sums. But he stressed that we must keep in mind that the Legion poppy also stands for

*remembrance and camaraderie.*

Our guests of honour this year were Lt Col Julian Pemberton-Pigott, and his RSM, WO1 Nathan Champion, of 5 Regiment, Royal Logistical Corps (RLC), Grantham. He spoke of the honour and privilege of being invited to launch the County Poppy Appeal. He said that the RLC was evolving in its structures with many more changes to come. They were responsible for many specialist functions from distribution to pioneering works, to postal activities etc. Its TA elements were today just as important and involved in these activities as they were during WWI, and making the same sacrifices.

The Legion poppy was the symbol of this sacrifice and the funding it raised brought

### County Poppy Appeal Awards

The County President presented the annual County Poppy trophies during the annual County Poppy Appeal Launch at East Kirkby on 27 October. The winners were:

**Sheppard Trophy** – Healing & District Branch (PAO Mrs M. Wilson) for an increase of 41% in their Poppy Appeal;

**Gill Rymer Cup** – Wrangle & District Branch (PAO Mrs C. Wright) for an increase of 54% in its Poppy Appeal

**Stella Willing Award** – Mrs Reid of Leadenham for an increase of 87%

Mr Tony Worth, Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire presented

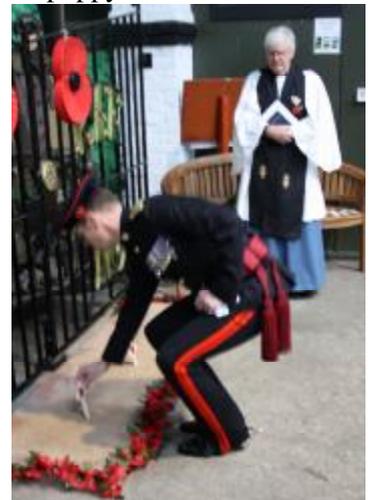
**The Lord Lieutenant's Poppy Appeal Trophy for Uniformed Cadet Units** to –

- Winners 2071 (Stamford) Squadron ATC
- Runners up 1237 (North Hykeham) Squadron ATC

much needed help, through the careful, considerate management of the Legion, to both the serving and ex-service

communities. He believed that he could do no better, in launching the appeal, than by making the first formal donation. He wished us all good weather during the appeal.

He then led the Lord Lieutenant, County President, Women's Section President, County officials, and Cpl Wilcox of Stamford ATC, in placing crosses in the Garden of Remembrance in the hangar.



*Lt Col Pemberton-Pigott placing his cross in the Garden of Remembrance*

## Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

## Director-General's Message on the Poppy Appeal and Remembrance

Dear All,

Our public profile, the reputation of, and public confidence in, The Legion is enormously important to our future success in being able to respond to the welfare needs of our beneficiary community. It is with that in mind that I congratulate everyone involved in the herculean fundraising and public relations effort throughout the country during the last few weeks and the preparation for it. Of course, we are fundraising throughout the year but the Remembrance period is the most intense period of activity and vital to our success.

I know there were numerous events throughout the country and would be the first to acknowledge that, apart from the national launch of the Poppy Appeal, the Festival of Remembrance and the Cenotaph Ceremony, I witness little of the organisation of these events but I know that it is the commitment, dedication and tireless hard work of a great many people that produces the many magnificent events.

'Thank you' are such inadequate words to express the depth of gratitude for your awesome contribution but they are sincerely meant and are wholeheartedly endorsed by the National Officers, particularly our new National President who was hugely impressed.

The Legion is changing – for the better – and I am in absolutely no doubt that we are increasingly achieving the public, donor and beneficiary impact we are all striving for though there is still a long way to go.

Thank you!

Chris



*The team of distributors outside Scholes Funeral Directors, the gentleman in the middle is Charlie Louth, Scholes Stamford Branch Manager.*

is now all done and dusted in less than one hour, thanks to Scholes' sense of civic contribution.

### R.J.Scholes help the Poppy Appeal

The task of distributing the poppy Appeal boxes down Stamford High Street has been made a lot easier in recent years, thanks to the help of R.J.Scholes, Funeral Directors.

Each year the Branch pile up their smartest limo with their made-up boxes and, as the car drives very slowly along the High Street, Branch volunteers peel off to left and right delivering the boxes to the shops, banks, and other outlets.

A job which used to take hours



### Boston Poppy Run

The annual Boston Poppy Run has run every year since 2003, raising some £14000 for the Poppy Appeal, and they all turned out again this year on 11 November 2012. All the runners are sponsored and many are still collecting from their sponsors, but the B&DAC will present a cheque to the Branch at their Christmas Fayre on Sunday, 16 December.

Mr Peter Arnott of the Boston & District Athletics Club (B&DAC) first approached Boston & District Branch in 2003 with the idea of a 'Boston Poppy Run' on Remembrance Sunday. Peter is ex-Army and has trained "throwing" athletes, including several who have represented Great Britain in the Olympics. The Branch was a bit uncomfortable about the idea of being linked to an athletics event on Remembrance Sunday but Peter explained that the athletes would be running in a race or training on Remembrance Sunday as part of their preparation for the forthcoming "road-race" and the "cross-country" seasons in the athletic calendar. With the Branch's support Peter and the B&ADC called on some of his friends to get the event up and running and (soon to be Dame) 'Tanni' Grey-Thompson, our great Para-Olympian medal winner, came along with her family and they came again in 2004.

The Run has continued each year and set the original format for many similar events which now raise thousands of pounds for The Poppy Appeal each year. This year the event also had a fun run and Carys, Tanni and Ian's daughter, ran her first race aged eighteen-months.

Peter and the B&DAC look forward to their tenth anniversary Run in 2013. Entry forms are available from the Boston Target office or from

[www.bostonanddistrictac.com](http://www.bostonanddistrictac.com)



### Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

## Woodhall Spa Quiz

The Woodhall Spa & District Branch organized a Quiz in the Stixwold Village Hall on 26 October, to raise funds for the Village Hall. Bill Radley organized the event; Steve Hall was the Quiz Master. Seven teams took part, including the branch *Tippex* team - Norman Wigglesworth, Ray & Ann Pickup and Heidi Pickup.

After three rounds of questions, followed by a buffet and a further 3 rounds, Bill Radley's team, *The Booby Prize*, emerged as the winners with a total of 79 marks, followed by *Tippex* on 78½. The Branch Chairman John Egleton who was on the "Ardvarc Team" came seventh, but they were a team of 3 players and did badly on the sports questions. Bill Radley thanked everyone who attended and Branch Members for their support of the at the event.



## Laceby Poppy Awards



A Remembrance Service was held in Laceby RBL Headquarters on 11 November 2012 and afterwards Branch Chairman, Richard Hewitt, presented Poppy Awards to:- Martin Cartwright (15yrs), Shirley Cartwright (10yrs), Karin Lund (15yrs), Joan Blanford, Denise Underwood and Val Grundy (10yrs). Joan who is the Church Organist has played at many of our services and also received a special Poppy Brooch.

## Woodhall Spa Guides help the Poppy Appeal



Woodhall Spa & District POA, Nina Gaunt, braved the weather on Saturday, 3 November to meet her village Poppy Sellers. This year Nina also enjoyed the help of the Woodhall Spa Girl Guides with the street collection in the village. This is the first time the Guides have helped with the Poppy Appeal and, afterwards, they told Nina that they had enjoyed it and would be only too willing to do it again next year.

## PAT & PETER CONCERTS

Pat n Pete are pleased to announce the results from this years concerts at Wainfleet. With increasing costs while keeping the ticket prices at just £6.00, they raised a superb amount totalling £1362. 83.

Pat n Pete would like to thank all those who made this possible, ladies doing the teas, on raffle tickets, door tickets, and our members from Holbeach on the tombola, all who gave prizes, donations and those who sponsored them, including the help from the Co-op. and of course the acts, coz without them no show!!!

**CONCERTS IN 2013** at 'The Coronation Hall', Wainfleet-all-Saints, Near Skegness, Lincs.

**Jan 6<sup>th</sup>**:- 'COUNTRY COMPANY', *Their special retirement concert for us... Come and say goodbye to our friends who have helped to raise a lot of money for the 'Legion', and will be greatly missed. Ours is their last concert in Lincolnshire*

**DOORS OPEN 1-00PM FOR 2-00PM SHOW START**

Please book NOW by phoning Peter on 01754-880040.

**May 11<sup>th</sup>**:- 'SKEGNESS SILVER BAND', return of this popular band.

**Jun 22<sup>nd</sup>**:- 'MORGAN REEVES', another chance to hear this superb vocalist from North Wales.

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>**:- 'DARREN BUSBY', 128 club awards, 3<sup>rd</sup> yr top male vocalist, Lincolnshire's own country singer, in demand nationally, don't miss him.

**Sept 14<sup>th</sup>**: 'JIM RYDER & ADAM JAMES', Cowboy Jim returns again with son Adam. Just listen to that guitar !!

**DOORS OPEN 6-00 pm for 7-30pm show start.**

**Tickets:- Still only £6.00p From Peteer on 01754-880040.**

Teas and snacks available before show and at interval. All profits to:- 'The Royal British Legion', Wainfleet Branch.

## Sibsey Lancaster Memorial Trust

The Sibsey Lancaster Memorial Trust are having a 70 year service at East Kirkby Aviation Centre on Tuesday, 29 January 2013 at 2.30pm.

There will be a parade of Standards and all are welcome to attend.

Head of Poppy

Appeal

## Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

Safeguarding the welfare, interests and memory of those who are serving or who have served in H. M. Armed Forces  
Registered Charity No: 219279

## Mablethorpe Dreams

DREAMS came true for Mablethorpe Branch during the recent Poppy Appeal.

The *Dreams Bar* in Trusthorpe organised a 1940s Night in support of the Mablethorpe's Poppy Appeal. The evening included a singer and everyone was encouraged to come along in 1940s dress. Mark Redden, Mablethorpe PAO reports that the evening was a fantastic success, everyone enjoyed themselves and, at the end of the evening Sue, who runs *Dreams Bar*, presented Mark with a cheque for £200. He in turn presented her with a Branch Certificate of Appreciation for all their willing help in any way they can.



*Dreams Bar* are hosting a 'Psychic Night' on 8 December and all ticket sales will again go to the Poppy Appeal. Mark says that 'it is thanks to such wonderful local businesses in Mablethorpe, Sutton on Sea and Theddlethorpe that the Poppy Appeal is flourishing.'



## Gingerbread Man

A lady in Lincoln wrote to Jo Ticehurst on 11 November to say that, as she enjoyed baking, she had decided to make some Gingerbread Soldiers, complete with poppies, to sell and raise money for the Poppy Appeal. She sold them to work colleagues and church members; one was also requested from an ex-Army friend of her husband and duly posted to Wiltshire. People had been more than happy to pay a minimum of £1.00, with some even paying more. She enclosed a cheque for £64.00 for Poppy Appeal 2012.

She made 54 Gingerbread Soldiers in total, supply was unable to keep up in the end with demand; but requests have already been

made for next year. This perhaps is a venture which Branches might wish to consider as these Gingerbread Soldiers really are very popular. Jo has promised to give out the recipe in the New Year



Grace wants a cuddle

## Stamford Poppy Appeal Stars

The stars of the Stamford High Street Poppy Appeal this year were again the two 'volunteers' from the 104 Military Working Dogs Support Unit at St George's Barracks. Dingo and Grace were an enormous success when, with their handlers, Cpl King and L/Cpl Glading, they attracted large crowds to their mobile display unit. The result was a total of over £1500 collected for the Poppy Appeal. Brilliant!

In October Grace took L/Cpl Glading to Buckingham Palace where she received the Dickon Medal (the animal VC) on behalf of Theo. Theo is the dog which died earlier this year a week after his handler was killed in Afghanistan.

Both dogs are still in training but expect to be deployed to Afghanistan early next year



## Poppy Appeal Golf

The Lincolnshire RBL Seniors Poppy Golf Competition 2012 held its final round of the tournament again on the Hodgkin Course at the National Golf Centre at Woodhall Spa Golf Club on Friday, 9 November. Sixteen clubs took part and the finalists represented those clubs which had raised the most money during the earlier rounds - Laceby Manor, Pottergate, Waltham Windmill, and Welton Manor.

The day was overcast with a slight breeze but otherwise weather conditions were good. Mike Briggs from Laceby Manor won on the day with 36 Stableford points, with the runner up being Roy Smith from Welton Manor with 29. There were several count backs and even a count back again to confirm the results. All in all, everyone appeared to enjoy their Hodgkin experience and, although there was a bit of 'hit and miss', there were mainly smiles all round!

As ever, an outstanding day with £4,465.88 being raised for the Poppy Appeal.



No 2 Group with Mike Briggs and Roy Smith

## Lincolnshire – A Winning Team

## Lincolnshire WS Annual County Conference 2012



The Womens Section held their annual conference at Tattershall on 17 November 2012. The Chairwoman, Brenda Pocklington, opened the Conference by welcoming everyone followed by Cllr Martin Foster, Mayor of Coningsby, who gave a short speech and welcomed everyone to Tattershall. Bobbie Mumby-Croft has joined the committee as its new secretary. All wish her well, and she will soon be busy chasing all those R+Ps and the Green forms

The WS County President, Caroline Ticehurst, gave a comprehensive address, commenting on the comradeship amongst the members and how everyone was having to work harder to achieve the success of past years. She also mentioned that the Queen's Jubilee and the success of the Olympic Games had helped with a general feel good

factor throughout the Nation. The committee was praised for all their hard work and commitment.

Mrs Pocklington, in her address, asked everyone to keep up the good work and keep entering the competitions; she also noted the lack of Standard Bearers present and hoped more would enter the Standard Bearers' competition next year. She was also pleased to be invited to the 'mens' County meetings.

Treasurer Jean Stringer reported that the Purse had raised £28,000, of which nearly £26,000 was sent to the benevolent fund; she was pleased with the imagination and wide variety of ways in which the Purse funds are raised. County costs had increased slightly this year but this had been partially offset by cuts, mainly by using email instead of postage. The accounts were duly accepted.

The High Sheriff of Lincoln then talked on the history of his appointment, and Mrs Frances Parker, Manager of 'Poppy Calls', gave an insight into the success of the "Poppy Calls" scheme and how it is continually expanding to help more people. Following demand from people struggling to find a reputable contractor they can trust, ex-Service people, who would not normally qualify for 'Poppy Calls', may in future pay for work carried out. Mrs Parker stressed that this would in no way detract from the service offered to anyone not paying for the service. Tony Goodwin, the "men's" County Chairman gave a short address on the links between the two County Sections and how we need to change slowly but surely and just keep things moving forward. He also mentioned that he will keep all informed as much as he can.

Margaret Earley, the Lincs representative on the national committee, presented the cups and awards, (well done to all the winners), this was followed by the raffle and a vote of thanks by Grace Knighthall. The meeting was closed and tea and biscuits were served to end a successful meeting.



*Flight Lieutenant Rachel Smith from RAF Coningsby spoke about her life in the RAF, including time in Bosnia as a reporter, and of the number of women in the Services today and the variety of posts they hold. Rachel is soon to retire from Service life and she said what a great help the Legion's "Be a Boss" scheme had been in getting her a start in civilian life.*

## 'ALL ABOARD' THE NEW ALDERSON HOUSE MINI-BUS



*Guests enjoying a trip out*

Alderson House in Bridlington has taken delivery of its brand new minibuss. Many Legion Branches, together with the general public, volunteers and staff have been raising funds throughout the last few years towards the £49,500 cost. The Mercedes Sprinter minibuss seats 16 people plus the driver and is wheelchair accessible using an automatic tail-lift system. Fitted with extra comfort coach seats the bus also has a climate control system, automatic side door, reversing camera and luxury interior trim details.

Helen Birkbeck, Manager of Alderson House said 'Having this new bus will make a real difference to the service we offer our guests whilst out on excursions. Our old mini-buss did not seat enough people, especially when we had to remove seats to accommodate wheelchair users. The coach seats were also uncomfortable for long journeys and it had no climate control.' She thanked everyone who had had a part in raising this amazing sum of money to enable them to make this purchase'. Guests have already enjoyed trips out to various places of interest in the area and Mac the driver reports that they all say that the journey has been most comfortable plus it 'drives like a dream!'



*The HAC fundraising committee members with the new minibuss*

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## Shipmates ahoy - again!

The last, *Summer*, edition of this newsletter carried an appeal for new members to join the Boston Branch of the Royal Naval Association (RNA). Their Chairlady and Secretary, Diana Walker, tells me sadly that she has had no response. Surely there must be some spare matelots in Boston, with its long maritime traditions, who would find comradeship and a friendly welcome in the Boston RNA. Failing which, are there no ex-Army people who could join to add some tone to the establishment?

Please respond to:

Diana Walker, Tel: 01205 821440  
RNA Boston Secretary, [diana.walker@blacksluiceidb.gov.uk](mailto:diana.walker@blacksluiceidb.gov.uk)  
Black Sluice IDB, Station Road, Fax: 01205 820671  
Swineshead, BOSTON, PE20 3PW [www.blacksluiceidb.gov.uk](http://www.blacksluiceidb.gov.uk)

## Medal Mounting Service

Tim Pidoux, currently serving at RAF Wittering, provides a medal court mounting service to personnel at the unit as well as the wider Service and local Police Forces and Ambulance Service. He does this both as a hobby and, while he is still serving, to raise funds for charities that support the military. He has so far donated £5000.

He charges £4.00 per medal (full and miniature), and can supply medal ribbons for all current medals being issued as well as a comprehensive range of WWI and WWII ribbons. He can also supply all current miniature medals as well as a large number of WWI and WWII medals. Turn around time is usually 7 days, although that stretches to about 4 weeks at Remembrance time. Full size medals, if posted, should be sent by recorded delivery to 10 Ward Close, Bury, Huntingdon, PE26 2QS; Tim always returns them that way. He also always quotes the final cost before his customers commit. He prefers cash payment but cheques, if using the post, should be made payable to T PIDOUX.

For further information please contact Tim at [tfpcourtmounting.worldpress.com](http://tfpcourtmounting.worldpress.com) which also has a website link.

## Help to come home

Jim Ward, aged 55, served in Northern Ireland in the 1970s and now receives a MOD War Disablement Pension and is no longer able to work. After he left the Army he and his wife moved to Australia but are now homesick and would like to move back, especially to the North Kesteven area.

They have enough funds to buy a house and car and get settled in but are not sure whether they could then manage on his War Pension and other allowances alone.

They have asked if any individual Legion members would care to contact them – on [onh28@hotmail.com](mailto:onh28@hotmail.com) – to give them advice on living standards, sources of financial help, veterans' help, and general lifestyle. Jim would especially welcome talking to a member who could discuss his psychological problems, arising from his military service, and how to handle them in the UK.

They have no family or friends here whom they could ask. We would be grateful Branches could enquire if they have any members who would be interested in helping him out.

## Future National Conference

### Venues/Dates

2013	Llandudno	Sat 18 – Sun 19 May
2014	Torquay	Sat 17 – Sun 18 May
2015	Southport	Sat 16 – Sun 17 May
2016	Eastbourne	Sat 21 – Sun 22 May
2017	TBA	Sat 20 – Sun 21 May

## Found - Militaria Research

A bag full of scanned militaria research relating to Victoria Barracks in Cork, Ireland has been found outside West Deeping on the B1175 (old A16 between Stamford and Market Deeping). This looks like too much serious work simply to have been dumped.

The Police are not interested. Is anyone else – if so, please contact Brian Marsden on 01778 342153.

## Discounted Christmas Stamps

Whoever you write to, every penny counts, especially over the festive period. If any member receives Pension Credit, Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit or Unemployability Supplement, they can buy up to 36 stamps in either books of 6 or 12 at Christmas 2011 prices.

- **The offer is available from 6 November until Christmas Eve (24 December)**
- **Stamps can be purchased from any Post Office**

If a member needs to speak to someone about the offer, they can contact Royal Mail Customer Services on 08456 016 248

## Ordering Promotional Items

The Legion produces a range of promotional items which Branches can buy to support their various promotional activities. These items include fashion pens (16p each), pencils (16p), fridge magnets, (12p), rulers (24p), Paper stickers (1p), 'bug-eyed rascals' (16p) and plastic keyrings (19p).

If your Branch would like to purchase any of these items, you can download an order form from the County Secretary. A cheque for the total amount, made payable to *The Royal British Legion*, should accompany the order which should be submitted to our RPMO by Friday, 18 January 2013. His address is :

Mr John Lee BEM  
RPMO (Midlands & Wales)  
The Royal British Legion  
Mill House, 245 Burton Road  
LINCOLN, LN1 3UB

## WORLD WAR I CENTENARY TO BRING NATION TOGETHER, SAYS LEGION

The Royal British Legion welcomes Prime Minister David Cameron's announcement of support for World War I centenary observations, saying the anniversary "will bring the nation together as one in Remembrance."

Chris Simpkins, the Legion's Director General, said:

"The tragic events of 1914-1918 have left a deep imprint on the fabric of the nation. As the Custodian of Remembrance, the Legion will ensure that the centenary will be observed across the UK – the costs of sacrifice and the lessons learned in this dreadful conflict must not be forgotten."

Mr Simpkins said it was fitting that central government would provide support for national and international commemorations, while leaving it up to voluntary membership organisations such as The Royal British Legion to decide on local observances. "The losses of World War I were felt in every town and village across the UK, as demonstrated by the monuments found in nearly every village green or churchyard," he said. "It is right and proper that the centenary has a strong local flavour. We will be working alongside partner organisations to ensure that the events of a century ago, and their enduring relevance for today, are not forgotten."

"Remembrance connects what has gone before with what lies ahead – if we learn by remembering, we can shape a better future," said Mr Simpkins.

"We saw the UK come together in the unforgettable summer of 2012 through the joyous national celebrations of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games," he added. "We believe that November 2014 will bring the nation together once again, perhaps to a more solemn purpose, but one no less unifying."

### Legion Clothing

The last issue of LegionLincs gave the prices of the Legion clothing available through Wainfleet Branch. Two items are shown here. The prices, again, are:

- T' Shirts..... £ 6.50p
- Polo Shirts..... £ 10.50p
- Sweatshirts..... £ 13.50p
- Pilot Shirts..... £ 12.50p Long or short sleeved.
- Oxford Shirts..... £ 13.00p Long or short Sleeved
- Arctic style Fleece..£ 16.50p

Please order from Peter Nicholas at 01754 880040 or on [peternicholas007@btinternet.com](mailto:peternicholas007@btinternet.com)

Above prices do not include postage, to be charged as paid by Peter Nicholas. I am still trying to get a photograph of Peter on the catwalk.



Polo Shirt



Arctic-style Fleece

### Reminder

Notwithstanding the change of financial year for Branches and Counties, Branches are reminded that they must submit their Branch accounts and MS1s to the County Secretary by 31 December at the latest.

### A call of help!!!

Has any Branch got any spare RBL 2012 diaries? A Wainfleet member wants, indeed preferably three. Please let Pete Nicholas know (01754 880040) know if you can help.

### A snapshot of Kirton & District Branch activities

In August Kirton & District Branch was pleased to support their village church of St. Peter and St. Paul in fund-raising, organised by Mrs Mary Chambers, to restore the roof. The theme was *Kirton Past and Present*, so the Branch and the Kirton Women's Section made a display table, focussing on a village WWI hero, Sergeant Jackson, VC and the other sons of Kirton who are named on the village War Memorial. It also showed how the Branch and the Women's Section had played an active role in village life. The stand was manned though the day by Branch members, including Branch Chairman, Ken Huskisson, and Mrs J Hogson, a leading member of the Women's Section who has been with the Branch from its formation in 1948. The fund-raising event raised £630, thanks to everyone's hard work.

Kirton Branch was formed in the early 1920's as a sub-Branch of the Boston & District Branch, but in 1943 it was established as a Branch in its own right. The Woman Section was established in 1948.

The Kirton PAO, Roland Reece, reports that their Poppy Appeal for 2011, ending on 30 September 2012, raised £3541.97. To date the 2012 appeal has raised £3114.31 so they are well on target to exceed last year's sum. More donations are still expected as well as a charity fun fishing match to be held on 1 June

## ***COUNTY CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2013***

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>VENUE</b>
12 January	Annual Meeting of County Conference	Horncastle
26 January	<i>County Welfare Committee Meeting</i>	Wellingore
26 January	<i>County Committee Meeting</i>	Wellingore
27 January	<b>Standard Bearers School</b>	Crowland
17 March	<b>Standard Bearers School</b>	Louth
27 April	<i>County Welfare Committee Meeting</i>	Wellingore
27 April	<i>County Committee Meeting</i>	Wellingore
5 May	<b>Annual County Service of Rededication</b>	Saxilby
18/19 May	Annual Conference	Llandudno
1/2 June	Deeping Show	Deeping
23 June	<b>Standard Bearers School</b>	Crowland
29 June	Armed Forces Day	Countrywide
6/7 July	Waddington International Air Show	RAF Waddington
13 July	<i>County Welfare Committee Meeting</i>	Wellingore
13 July	<i>County Committee Meeting</i>	Wellingore
14 July	Spilsby Show	Spilsby
27/28 July	Heckington Show	Heckington
15 September	County Standard Bearer Competition	Horncastle
21/22 September	County Chairman's Seminar	Staverton
22 September	<b>Standard Bearers School – AGM</b>	Louth
28 September	Branch Chairmen/Secretaries' Seminar	TBD
5 October	<i>County Welfare Committee Meeting</i>	Wellingore
5 October	<i>County Committee Meeting</i>	Wellingore
6 October	<b>Service in the Field</b>	Sibsey
20 October	Presidents' Fund Raising Lunch	Woodhall Spa
26 October	Poppy Appeal Launch	East Kirkby
3 November	<b>Festival of Remembrance</b>	Cranwell
8 November	Poppy Golf	Woodall Spa
9 November	<b>Festival of Remembrance</b>	Royal Albert Hall
10 November	<b>Remembrance Sunday</b>	Countrywide
11 November	<b>Armistice Day</b>	Countywide
7 December	<i>County Committee Meeting</i>	Wellingore
11 January 2014	Annual Meeting of County Conference	Horncastle

**NB: This calendar of events is subject to amendment depending upon National events etc.**

## **WE WILL REMEMBER THEM**

Mr John Lawrence, Long Sutton	Mr J W Loveley, Boston & District
Mrs Margaret Clark, Barnack & District	Mr Tom Clifton, Waltham & District
Mr Cyril Boyden, Sleaford & District	Mr N A Storr, Wainfleet & District
Mrs Gladys Riley, Woodhall Spa & District	Mrs Ann Millard, Wainfleet & District
Mr Charlie Lake, Wainfleet & District	Mr George Whitaker, Washingborough & District
Mrs Doris Jibb, Stamford	Mr S G Cook, Heckington
Mr F E Smith, Heckington	Mr L J Wright, Heckington
Mr A Lavery, Louth & District	Mrs C Hedley, Sleaford & District
Mr Hugh K Plunkett, Waltham & District	Mr Frank Turton, Stamford
Mr H F Ward, City of Lincoln	Mr Rex Cooke-Barnes, Spilsby & District
Mr P J Bevan, Long Sutton	Mr R Towler, Horncastle & District
Mr Eric Thompson, Stamford	Mr Ivan Evans, Donington & Quadring
Mr J M T Frohock, Surfleet	Mr J W Whelpton, Gainsborough & District
	Mr Ronald Sargent, Wellingore, Navenby & District
	Mr L A J Wakefield, Langtoft, The Deepings & District

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Safeguarding the welfare, interests and memory of those who are serving or who have served in H. M. Armed Forces  
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