

Greater London District Newsletter

June 2013



We will remember them

Armed Forces Day – 29 June



ARMED FORCES DAY
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

This year the Government has bestowed the honour of hosting the National AFD event to Nottingham. All over the country events are being held to tie in with Armed Forces Day over this week. Keep ahead with what's going on, buy an AFD flag, find an event near you, or claim a free sticker from the official website:-

<http://www.armedforcesday.org.uk/>

Or follow the AFD Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/armedforcesday>

Enfield Borough Armed Forces Celebration 30 June, 11:45 - 13:00

The Enfield branch of the Royal British Legion will parade through Enfield Town, supported by local cadet and youth groups, to celebrate the UK's Armed Forces and their families, veterans and cadets. Veterans and serving members of the Armed Forces are very welcome to join the parade which will muster at Chase Side Primary School (Trinity Street, Enfield, EN2 6NS) at 11:00, with a march off time of 11:45. Members of the public are invited to watch the parade

which is expected to arrive at the Civic Centre at 12:00. The parade will march through Enfield Town to the Council Civic Centre on Silver Street (EN1 3ES), where a short ceremony will take place with the raising of the Armed Forces Day Flag. The parade will resume and march back to the Headquarters of the Royal British Legion on Holtwhites Hill (EN2 6NS) where refreshments will be served.

AFD Islington – 29 June Islington Veterans Association hosts Picnic on the Green.

Islington Green Upper Street London N1,
11:00 - 17:00

Come along with a picnic and meet Islington Veterans and Cadets.

There will be stalls, fun and games for all the family.



Southwark to mark Armed Forces Day 30 June

A message to the Armed Forces from the Representative Deputy Lieutenant for Southwark, the Worshipful Mayor of Southwark, and the Deputy Leader of Southwark Council.

'Please accept this personal invitation to be part of our celebrations in Southwark. We are arranging this event as a public display of our deep appreciation of all that the Armed Forces contribute to the life of our nation and the world, as well as by way of highlighting Southwark's proud

connections with various military units past and present.

We will begin the day with a military parade, led by marching bands, to the Imperial War Museum. This promises to be the largest such parade Southwark has seen since the end of the WWII and will be followed by a 'Ceremony of Remembrance and Recognition' in the grounds of the war museum where we will honour a number of military units or regiments with one of the highest accolades we can bestow - the Freedom of Southwark.

There will also be an afternoon programme of entertainment, static military displays, and refreshments. As a priority we would like military units located in the borough to be part of this historic parade and ceremony, as well as those not currently located within our boundaries but with long established links to Southwark.

We are also inviting representatives of other uniformed groups including the Royal British Legion, various Cadet Units, St John's Ambulance Brigade, Boys Brigade, Scouts, and Guides, and your families are of course welcome to join us too. We are also calling on the people of Southwark to add their support by lining the parade route which will be widely advertised in good time.

Armed Forces Day 2013 will be an opportunity for all of us in Southwark to publicly express our gratitude for the service of so many good men and women past and present and to declare our continuing support for all that you do to ensure the safety of our nation and the preservation of democracy at home and abroad.

The Representative Deputy Lieutenant for Southwark, Mrs Jenny Bianco

The Worship 'Mayor of Southwark, Councillor Althea Smith'.

The Deputy Leader of Southwark Council, Councillor Ian Wingfield



Armed Forces Day Flag Raising at City Hall: Monday 24 June 2013

Members are invited to join the London City Hall Armed Forces Day Flag Raising Ceremony on Monday 24th June. The Mayor of London has a slot approx noon -2.30pm dependent on when the military band performs followed by a 45 minute tea/coffee/biscuits reception in the City Hall Map Room. If you would like to attend please confirm by Lieran Stubbings email: Lieran.Stubbings@london.gov.uk or telephone 020 7983 4937.

All RBL members welcome subject to advance place booking.

Covenant Signings

The Covenant is designed to reflect the bond between a local community and the armed forces. It complements the national Armed Forces Covenant, which outlines the obligation that exists between the UK, the Government and the Armed Forces. The Community Covenant is intended to encourage local people to support military personnel in their area and build awareness of the issues which affect those in the Forces and their families. It is also recognition of the sacrifices and challenges faced by those who join up. One of the challenges in communities can be integrating service families into the community, and the Community Covenant pledges support and encouragement for events that will benefit the whole area and those who live in it.



Lewisham signing

The last three months have seen the signings of Local Authority Community Covenants in

- Lewisham – 12 March
- Bromley – 24th April
- Southwark 25th April
- Bexley 10th May

Colonel Hugh Bodington commented: "We are tremendously grateful for the support now being given to our Armed Forces. Military life can put a lot of strain on our soldiers and families - support from local communities is really important.

Colonel Hugh Bodington has signed the majority of the all the London Community covenants.

WWI Centenary

On Behalf of the Director General

Dear Colleagues:

Many of you are being asked about The Royal British Legion's activities linked to the WWI Centenary Commemorations from 2014 – 2018.

I therefore felt it appropriate to set out in broad terms what we will be doing at national level and to give you background information on our overall strategy.

Within the organisation, I will hold overall responsibility for the WWI Centenary activities, supported by Robert Lee, Assistant Director of Marketing.

The Government is taking the lead on national activities and the Prime Minister has announced a £50million commitment to support the Centenary, including special focus on local activities and delivering a cultural and educational legacy for young people.

The Legion is determined that the tone will be one of commemoration, not celebration; and that Centenary activities will be available to all and kept free of partisan or sectarian bias.

The Legion is therefore working closely with the Prime Minister's Special Representative on the Centenary, Dr Andrew Murrison; various other Ministers and Government Departments; and stakeholders such as The Imperial War Museum, The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, and the National Archives. We are linking closely to activities being co-ordinated in Scotland, Wales and Ireland.



In terms of national initiatives, I have created a Legion WWI Centenary Working Group including the parent charity, the National Memorial Arboretum and Poppyscotland.

This group will meet regularly to evaluate external project and partnership proposals and its priority will be to select projects that support our own beneficiaries, Members, and our charitable pillars, in particular Comradeship and Remembrance.

We have a range of national projects already committed, and the Board of Trustees will shortly be considering the development of the new Visitor's Centre at the National Memorial Arboretum (our own centre of Remembrance), exciting plans for Remembrance Travel and special WWI resources for schools produced as part of the Legion's learning programme.

I will be looking to the regions and local branches to support our national initiatives and to develop their own ideas for involvement in the WWI Centenary commemorations.

The Heritage Lottery Fund has committed substantial funding to support Centenary projects

at national, regional and local levels and we encourage you to access these.

Right you will find a listing of the key dates identified by the Government during the Centenary period, reflecting timings of planned national and international events and activities.

Please note these dates do not reflect official Legion activity but are ones you should be aware of as particular milestones in the Centenary journey.

Also listed are links to the HLF website where you will find comprehensive guidance and support for applying for funds for your projects.

Please use your own judgement as to whether a project or activity is relevant and appropriate and let us know if you think it could have national impact, so that we can support and promote accordingly.

Kind regards,

Chris Simpkins,

Director General

Links to Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to apply for funding for local WWI Centenary Projects:

If you have projects and proposals linked to the WWI Centenary and need to apply for funding, the best route is to talk to the HLF. Type these links into your web browser for details.

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/whatwefund/FirstWorldWar/Pages/FirstWorldWar.aspx>

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/whatwefund/FirstWorldWar/Pages/FAQs.aspx>

http://www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/whatwefund/FirstWorldWar/Documents/Remembering_FWW_leaflet.pdf

Robert Lee MCIPR

Assistant Director

Marketing and Communications

Key dates forming the basis of Government-led commemorations:

1. **4 August 2014:** National services to mark 100th Anniversary of Britain declaring war on Germany
2. **25 April 2015:** Events to mark commencement of Battle of Gallipoli
3. **1 July 2016:** Events to mark the first day of the Battle of the Somme
4. **31 May - 01 June 2016 :** Events to mark the naval Battle of Jutland
5. **June - November 2017:** Events to mark the Battle of Passchendaele (The Third Battle of Ypres)
6. **08 August - 11 November 2018:** The last 100 days from the commencement of the Battle of Amiens to the Armistice on 11 November will be a period of national commemoration.

Also, while not a part of the official Government agenda, we are likely to see significant activity surrounding:

7. **24-25 December 2014:** Christmas truce football matches in Flanders

Branches holding WWI Centenary events should notify the GLD Committee via the District Secretary 020 3207 2484 to allow for co-ordination and avoidance of concurrent dates/events being held.

Jack cornwell Parade – East Ham 2 June

Almost every year since 1948 to mark the death of John, known as Jack, Cornwell who was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross at the age of 16 for gallantry in the face of the enemy this Parade has been held in the East Ham area of London.

Jack Cornwell died on 2 June 1916 after he was injured at the gun of HMS Chester during the

Battle of Jutland. Although the entire gun crew was dead or wounded, Jack remained standing at his post for more than 15 minutes until the ship retired from action. This will be the 97th anniversary of the day he died.



Golders Green Victoria Cross Plaque - Sunday 7 April 2013.



Parade Timings

- All participants of parade to arrive at Cadet centre, Vicarage Road, [E6 6AB](#) 1100hrs.
- Cadet centre (Vicarage Lane) to be available from 1000hrs.
- Parade to form up 1120hrs.
- March off 1130hrs
- Arrive at St Mary's Magdalene Church 1140hrs
1 Norman Road , East Ham, London, E6 6HN

Service to begin at 1245 hrs.

- Service duration to be approx. 40 minutes, +/- 5 minutes (1230hrs).
- Wreath lying at St Mary's (15 minutes).
- Form up 1245hrs.
- Return to Cadet Centre and dismiss 1315hrs.
- Move to Conservative club for refreshments.

Expected to be in attendance:-

- Stephen Timms M.P
- The Deputy Mayor of Newham
- John Barber -Deputy Lieutenant London Borough Newham
- Cadets from Army, Navy RAF
- Royal Navy Association
- Royal Navy Reserve
- District Officials

Sunday the 7th April 2013 was the day the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Committee and the management and staff of the Golders Green Crematorium had been working towards for over 2 years. The objective was to provide a plaque to the 14 Victoria Cross recipients who were cremated at the Golders Green Crematorium.

Following a number of meetings with the management and visits to Golders Green, the plaque design, and where it would be sited were agreed. Three companies were then approached to submit prices for the plaque, and again after a discussion with Viv O'Grady (the senior manager on site) Mr Neil Luxton was selected and he agreed to produce the plaque to the specifications required.

A rehearsal for the 7th April was organised 2 weeks previously, and this took place in the snow and bitterly cold winds, but none the less it was a great success. The Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, Mr Martin Russell input into the proceedings and his attendance was greatly appreciated.

The 7th April arrived, a bright sunny though cold day, with committee members arriving early in the morning to help set up for the 2.00pm service.

The committee had a preview of the plaque before it was covered over for the service and unveiling, and all were delighted at what they had seen.

At 12.00 noon the Royal British Legion Standards began to arrive, and they were duly instructed by Mr Reg Burton the District's Parade Marshal on the proceedings for the coming service. At 1.00pm there was a steady flow of invited guests, which included the Chief Military Advisors to the Australian High Commission, and the Indian High Commission, the Mayor of Barnet, and 20 members of the Victoria Cross recipient's families. There was also representation from the police force, other local dignitaries and 3 Chelsea Pensioners.

The parade set off at 1.50pm with 21 Royal British Legion standard bearers, members of all of the local cadet forces and their officers and the Chelsea Pensioners.

The service began with a poem called the Victoria Cross by Mr Steven Hill, this was followed by the Committee Chairman's opening speech, and followed by the Deputy Lord Lieutenants Mr Martin Russell's speech.

The reverend Rex Morton continued with the multi denominational service, which was appreciated by all, also within the service, The Homage by Mr. Chris Stewart, and the Kohima by Mr Geoff Allen.

It was a very moving occasion, with some of the VC families having travelled from Ireland especially for the day.

After the service tea/coffee and biscuits were served, all so grateful that the fair weather held.



LOMAS – Branch Treasurers Financial Management System

The LOMAS User Group met on 18th April to discuss the roll out strategy for the next phase. Almost 400 Branches came forward to fill the available 250 slots. The Group agreed to prioritise branches in accordance with a number of criteria, including size, complexity of transactions, assets, property and location.

Additionally, all Branches that are in the National Branches or Overseas Districts will be included in the August rollout due to their size and the complexity of currency conversion.



For those branches not selected to be part of the August roll out, there will be a further roll out in January 2014. THE GLD branches brave enough to take on this major change, taking the GLD forward and going live in August and January are as follows:-

- Elm Park
- Manor Park
- Twickenham
- West Wickham

Well done

Unfortunately those wishing to take up training now will not be able to until 2014.

Branch accounts

The Finance Department is in the process of reviewing the branch accounts guide and plan to send out the branch accounts packs in the first week of June 2013.

Riders and Harrow Branch working together

Event at the Ace Café - 26 May 2013

Around 1,000 motor cycles are expected to show at the Legion's Riders Branch (RBLR) annual meet at the famous Ace Café in NW London, raising awareness and funds for the Legion. The Riders Branch have invited the GLD membership to attend this exciting and fun event on 26th May 2013 at the Ace Café for a day of live music (2 bands), award ceremony for the Motor Cycle Competitions, raffles, stalls, comradeship and much more. The Riders in conjunction with the Harrow Branch work together to make this one of the annual highlights of the RBL calendar year. So grab your leathers, biker boots, Sons of Anarchy T- Shirt or any other fitting fun costume you fancy wearing and get on down to the Ace Café.



Event 2012

Not to be missed

The Ace Cafe London is a famous transport cafe in Stonebridge, North West London - it is a notable venue in motorcycle culture which originally operated from 1938 until 1969, then re-opened on the original site in 1997.

10.00am - Ace Corner, N Circular Rd, London, Stonebridge NW10 7UD

Join The Ride of Respect -16 June



This year 'The Ride of Respect' will see up to 10,000 motorbikes taking part in a ride through Carterton and Brize Norton to pay their respects to the Service men and women killed in Service and to thank the towns for their care of them and their families.

Now in its fourth year, the Ride of Respect 2013 is on **Sunday 16 June** from 9am to midday and will raise vital funds for the Legion.

The main riders will gather at Dalton Barracks in Oxfordshire and will set off in groups of 500 every 15 minutes on an AA marked route.

Registration is a minimum of £10 donation per rider/pillion, register online at <https://donations.britishlegion.org.uk/rideofrespect/paymentwizard.aspx?seq=NEOXXXXXX>

If you're planning to participate and would like some official Legion merchandise to wear on the day, visit the Poppy Shop online - www.poppysshop.org.uk.

For more information about the Ride of Respect, please email Graham Akins or call on 020 3207 2270.

Wimbledon Invitation – 27 June



The Ladies and Staff of Queen Alexandra's Court Wimbledon SW19 7DE, would like to invite you to a celebration of **ARMED FORCES DAY** on Thursday

27th June 2013, 11.30 – 2.30 pm.

Entertainment and refreshments will be provided; please be advised that there is limited parking.

Please RSVP to email:

RHOWD_QAC@ssafa.org.uk, on or before Friday 31st May with your request to attend.

London Marathon – 22 April 2013

It was a bumper year for The Royal British Legion at this year's London Marathon, with **76 runners raising over £100,000** in support of the charity's vital work for the Armed Forces, past and present and their families.

The Legion's runners pounded the gruelling course on a sunny Sunday, with some choosing to take on the 26.2 mile challenge in costume, including video game character Luigi from Super Mario Brothers and a Legion staff member in military kit.



Head office Staff member, Nichola Rowlands

A large crowd of supporters provided a much-needed morale boost at the charity's cheering station at 13 miles, and were treated to the sight of inspirational Olympian Mo Farah finishing his half marathon at the same spot.

Many of the Legion's runners have a strong connection with the Armed Forces, including

veterans and those currently serving, with two runners having just recently returned from Afghanistan.

The Legion was proud to have military wife, Claire Rae Williams, running. Claire's husband Daniel is currently out serving with 40 Commando Royal Marines in Afghanistan.

On completing the marathon, Claire said: "I have spoken to my husband and he knows how hard I have trained while having to look after our three young children, so he is really proud of me. He was the angel on my shoulder, encouraging me on throughout.

"It was so important for me to run for the Legion, as the charity arranged for me and the children to have a beach holiday in Weymouth the last time Daniel was away on a tour. It was great to have a break, as the children had so many activities to keep them entertained. We've also had support from their Benefits and Money Advice team when we moved home.

"The Legion has been amazing, so this was my opportunity to give something back."

Another runner, David Bonsall, was injured while training with the Royal Marines and was medically discharged in 2003. He said: "Doctors told me I would never run again without unbearable pain. I wanted to prove them wrong and with training I got through the marathon. I was so emotional at the end that I cried, and to have done it for the Legion was a brilliant feeling."

Runners and supporters had sweeping views over London from the post marathon reception venue on Victoria Embankment, which was a good vantage point to see the 25 mile mark below. Runners received massages and refreshments to help them recover.

Charles Byrne, the Legion's National Director of Fundraising said: "There's a fantastic buzz and excitement during the London Marathon, and it is truly humbling to see so many people undertaking this tremendous challenge for good causes.

"We're so grateful to our runners for their commitment, energy and determination to train

and fundraise in support the Legion's work for the Armed Forces community. Their donations will make a big difference to those in need."

District Chairman's Message

Hello again to you all. I am now settling in to the chairman's role and finding it challenging but exciting. The best part of the job so far has been in meeting so many new people.

I have been to visit a number of branches, not always for the right reasons, but I am pleased to see that the dedication and enthusiasm for the Legion is alive and well in the London area. Over the coming months I hope to visit many more branches so that I can meet some of your teams that I know are working so hard on behalf of our beneficiaries.



Along with the Area Manager, Ryan Allain, I have also been a signatory to some of the London Borough Armed Forces Covenant signings. As you know The Community Covenant scheme was announced by the Government in May 2011 as part of the wider Armed Forces Covenant package of support.

To date over 20 London Boroughs have signed up to the covenants with others scheduled for the coming months. If your borough hasn't signed up yet, please use what influence you can to move them along. The covenants are an important part of the support to all who serve our country and will ensure that they are treated fairly when they return to civilian life.

What's next for the District?

The Pathway for Growth programme continues to be rolled out and a search is on for a suitable office for the District's permanent home. Although the District is not included in the initial tranche of walk in centres, this programme will eventually reach London and volunteers will be needed to ensure their success. Please think about what you might be able to do to help.

We will also becoming more engaged with the military within the London area. The military are the source of future members and beneficiaries so we need to engage with them to raise our profile as the main provider the charitable welfare to the service community. We can help them and they can help us; a real win-win situation.

And lastly we have the Comradeship initiative. This is not as you might expect a bunch of old men reliving their younger days over a pint and a pie in the club. It is about wider comradeship in the whole of the service community. A good example is the Plymouth based HMS Heroes, whereby the children of servicemen & women have become involved with their local branch and are helping out with the poppy appeal and other initiatives. We in London need to learn from this to create our own novel ways of cementing comradeship.

Well, that's all from me for now. Till the next time, stay safe and smiling.

Brian

Alan Ronaldson – LIFE Membership Award



On 28th April at Chingford Branch an Award Ceremony was held for Alan Ronaldson to be presented with a LIFE Membership Award. John Farmer the National Chairman presented Alan the Award on the same night the Chingford branch were hosting an awards night for the Poppy Appeal. John Farmer and Stan Bonner, Chair of the Chingford Branch seem more surprised than Alan. *Congratulations Alan*

Update from The London Fundraising Team

Poppy Appeal Collections History Report (as of 08/05/2013)

	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013
All	36,059,363.32	39,417,086.8	34,836,808.32
London Total	3,686,725.32	4,113,740.43	3,874,302.00

Community Fundraising Manager London & South East

Graham Ferris 0207 863 3349
GFerris@britishlegion.org.uk

Community Fundraiser North East

Sharon Bonner 0208 524 8373
SBonner@britishlegion.org.uk

Community Fundraiser North West

Deborah Armantrading 07500 918 682
DArmantrading@britishlegion.org.uk

Community Fundraiser Central London

Juliet Armitage 0207 863 3270
JARmitage@britishlegion.org.uk

Community Fundraiser South East

Area currently covered by Fundraising Assistant
Samuel Milcoy

Community Fundraiser South West

Area currently covered by Fundraising Assistant
Samuel Milcoy

Administration Assistant

Natthaphon Phatara 0207 863 3348
NPhatara@britishlegion.org.uk

Fundraising Assistant

Samuel Milcoy 0207 863 3247
SMilcoy@britishlegion.org.uk

Central London Volunteer Thank You Party

A great time was had by all at the Thank You Party for the volunteers from the CFR Central London Team. Around 85 of our loyal supporters enjoyed the get-together which was held at Haig House on Monday, 29th April.

As usual, there were many of our regular volunteers but it was great to see the new faces of all those who had joined the team in 2012.

John Farmer, the National Chairman was kindly in attendance and presented a number of Long Service Awards plus Special Recognition Certificates, including 35 Year Bars for both Mr Frank Finn and Mr Keith Ball. In turn, the Central London team presented John Farmer with a clock in recognition of his unfaltering support over the years.



One of the main events of the evening was the opportunity to acknowledge the work carried out by 20 Transport Squadron RLC in support of the Poppy Appeal. Major Phil Ritchie and Sgt Leigh Kemp were on hand to receive the gift of a clock; presented on behalf of the Central London Appeal by Area Manager Ryan Allain, the Award recognised the long-standing assistance the Appeal has received from the Squadron. As usual, the raffle became an event in itself! Some great prizes were donated and a total of £264 was raised for the Appeal.

Poppy Appeal Organiser Gaps

There are currently a number Poppy Appeal Organiser gaps across London. If you or someone you know would like to be considered for any of these roles in any of the following areas please contact the relevant Community Fundraiser. The Poppy Appeal Organiser gaps include:-

North East

Bethnal Green, Hornsey, Islington, Lower Holloway, North West Ham and Tottenham

North West

Cricklewood, Harlesden & District, Hayes & Harlington, High Barnet, Kenton, North Finchley and Southall

South East

Addiscombe & Shirley, Bellingham, Croydon, Hayes (Kent) and Woolwich & Plumstead

South West

Brixton & Stockwell, Chelsea, Cranford, Gunnersbury, Hammersmith & Shepherds Bush, Hampton, Herne Hill, Hersham and Streatham North & Streatham South

Overground and Underground Permits

Going forward all London Overground, Underground and DLR permits are to be applied for centrally via the London Fundraising team. Please do not apply for any permits yourself, if you do require a station permit please contact Natthaphon Phatara Tel: 020 7863 3348.

Income Allocation

All money that is collected for the Poppy Appeal is to be allocated to the area within which it has been collected. For example all money raised within Mayfair St James will be allocated to Mayfair St James.

Volunteering

As the Appeal draws closer and closer our need for volunteers becomes greater. During the Appeal there will be a number of volunteer opportunities with the London Fundraising team. These include being an Office Volunteer, being part of our Support Squad for Mass collections, being part of our Counting Team or even being a Collector. Each of these roles are vitally important to the Poppy Appeal being a success, so if you are interested in helping with any of these roles please contact Natthaphon Phatara. Other volunteering opportunities that arise throughout the year will be advertised on our Facebook page



<https://www.facebook.com/london.appeal> so keep checking it for updates.

Calling all GLD members in the SE area of London

A vacancy has arisen on the Greater London District Committee. The GLD Committee at a meeting on 11 May decided due to an absence of representation for the SE area of London they would recruit specifically from the SE branches of the GLD. Any member from this area that would like to be member of the GLD Committee should submit a CV no longer than 2 pages long by 21st June to the District Secretary, Sarah Stephenson, via email or post (details back page of newsletter), outlining their credentials.

While this post would be a co-option appointment the member would have voting rights on decision making on the Committee. With a co-option the process differs from a full election in that you do not need the branch approval to apply. The post would last until the next AGM in January 2014.

In the CV please include your name, membership number and which branch you belong to.

Things to consider including are details such as:-

- Relevant professional experience and qualifications.
- Relevant other experience (career history)
- Legion specific experience (management, welfare, fundraising)
- Financial, commercial or property management experience
- Experience in relevant legal matters
- A personal statement outlining what the candidate would bring to the position and would hope to achieve.

Note – Ideally candidates should have an email address for Committee correspondence and communications.

2.1.2 COUNTY/DISTRICT STRUCTURE 2.12 Management Handbook Extract

If a vacancy occurs for any other position in the County/District Committee, the Committee may appoint a suitable member of a Branch within the County/District as a temporary replacement until the next Annual Meeting or Special Meeting of the

County/District Conference, when a fresh election shall be held for the rest of its term.

No canvassing, either direct or indirect, shall be permitted.

The GLD committee's next meeting is on 13 July at which they will vote on their preferred choice of candidate.

Safeway Standard Bearer - Obituary

NOEL COBBE 1924 – 2013



The Safeway Branch is very sad to have lost their Standard Bearer of many years. Noel Cobbe was born in Ireland the eldest of seven children, and on coming to England joined the Irish Guards and was remained one for 27 years. He was a groom at Knightsbridge Barracks looking after and preparing horses for state occasions. He and his wife had 3 children. On returning to the UK after two and a half years in Germany Noel worked at the Guards Brigade Polo Club as Head Groundsman. After retiring on health grounds, Noel worked for Securicor, then Safeway as a Security Guard where he remained until retirement.

Noel will be sadly missed by family, friends, members of the Safeway RBL and ex-Safeway colleagues.

Standard Bearers Training

Unfortunately due to The Royal Star & Garter Homes in Richmond relocating the District is currently without a practice hall. The District Ceremonial officers are in the process of investigating new training premises that will not incur any unreasonable costs, are central to London for travel arrangements and have the required head height to accommodate the Standard at full ceremonial height. Once identified the GLD branches will be informed.

Branch Management Course 2 & 3 November 2013

If any member of your Branch Committee wishes to attend the Branch Management Course please complete the training form available from your Branch Committee and send to the District Training Officer (DTO), Rob Richier to: 318 Higham Hill Road, Walthamstow, LONDON, E17 5RG for authorisation and processing.

The 2 day course will get you up to speed with changes in Governance and Compliance regulations in accordance with the Royal Charter for Membership and the efficient running of a Branch and all it's associated administration.

The next Branch Management Course is scheduled for 2nd & 3rd November 2013 and will be held at RBL Head Office in Haig House, Borough High Street, SE1 1AA. **Spaces are limited so book in early.**

National Conference - Wales

Branch Delegates

This year the GLD had 29 delegates registering to attend Annual Conference. The GLD supported the Chingford Branch Motion presented for Conference.

Motion:-

'This Conference requests that the Board of Trustees urges the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to provide the same level of service standards to UK based War Graves as they do for those overseas.'



LONDON REMEMBERS PARADE & SERVICE

22 September 2013, 2.00pm

**Service and Sunset Ceremony, incorporating the
Greater London District Annual Parade**

**Massed Standards of The Royal British Legion; Legion
Women's Section; RNA; ARMY; RAFA Associations;
Cadet Forces; The Gurkhas; Chelsea Pensioners and**

**The Royal British Legion
Surbiton Youth Marching Band**

**Parade to form up at 2.00pm ready to move off at 2.15pm for a church service, it will
then return via Richmond Town Centre back to the car park,
nearby Richmond Branch.**



**All Greater London branch members are welcome to attend the Parade.
The Royal British Legion, Richmond, Fergusson Hall, Park Lane, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 2RA**

Greater London District Committee

District Chairman: Brian Hargrave

Vice Chair: Steve Newson

Treasurer: Joanne Stevens

Phil Beckinsale

Penny Bell-Wright DRO (West)

Bryan Binning

Stan Bonner PAC (East)

Irene Brockey

Robert Cantwell

Griff Griffin

Ray Harris

Jim Lowther

Syed Mahmood

Reginald Pinney DRO (East)

Robert Richier DTO

Jack Weedon

By Appointment

Standard Bearer: Michael Foster

Ceremonial Officer: Stan Heath

Parade Marshal: Reg Burton

Janet Salter RBL WS, Metropolitan Central Committee Rep

District Secretary: Sarah Stephenson sstephenson@britishlegion.org.uk

Tel 020 3207 2484,

Haig House, 199 Borough High Street, London SE1 1AA

Website: <http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/greater-london>