



Hampshire Link

The Newsletter of Hampshire County
104 Above Bar Street
Southampton
Hampshire
SO14 7DT



June 2016 Edition

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Mr Roy “Dickie” Dykes – Whitchurch
Mr Robrt Martin - Kingsclere

Our Sincere Condolences to Family and Friends

National News

Director General

On 23rd May 2016 following a rigorous selection process the RBL has announced that the Director of Fundraising, Charles Bryne, as the next Director General.

Charles joined the Legion in October 2012 as the Director of Fundraising and has been instrumental in increasing fundraising income during 2014/15 by 16% year on year and in launching the ‘Live On’ brand expression at the 2014 Poppy Appeal. Charles will bring a wealth of third sector and commercial experience to the role having previously held positions of Head of High Level Giving and Corporate Events at Macmillan, and in commercial and retail management roles at BAA (Terminal 5), World Duty Free, Allders International and Oddbins

On his new appointment Charles said: “I know the great range of work The Royal British Legion undertakes across the country and throughout the year, and I am deeply honoured, very proud and very excited to accept the role of Director General. The responsibilities are enormous and so too are the opportunities to ensure we honour and uphold that fundamental, moral contract we have with those who serve or have served on our behalf.

“In my work with the Legion I am driven by two things; the constant inspiration we are given by the men and women we support and the obligations of stewardship which we take on as custodians of Remembrance and members of the Legion.

“The Legion is made of many parts - branches, members, volunteers and staff - and there are many other organisations which also support those who serve or have served. Our great aim must be to work together to make it as easy as possible for those who so deserve it to receive the support they need.”

Charles will officially start his new role as of 1 August 2016, allowing for a full and thorough handover of responsibilities from the current Director General, Chris Simpkins. Chris announced his resignation in January 2016 following nine years at the organisation in which time he successfully led the long overdue modernisation and transformation of the Legion.

Commenting on his successor’s appointment Chris said: “Charles has played a key role in the organisation as a member of my executive team, and in his role as Director of Fundraising he and his team have produced outstanding year on year improvements. In turn, this has provided the Legion with the ability to deliver outstanding services to our beneficiaries.

“It’s always great to be able to promote from within your own team, and I’m tremendously proud to see Charles rise to the Director General position. I am confident that the Legion will be in very safe hands.”

Royal British Legion`s new campaign

The RBL together with Poppy Scotland have launched a major new campaign calling on the Government and Parliament to ensure that the next UK Census in 2021 includes questions about the Armed Forces Community.

Councils, MPs and the general public are being encouraged to support the campaign and get involved. The campaign has the backing of many other military charities as wells as academic and research institutions that particularly work in this field. More information can be found at the Legion Website:

<http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/campaign/count-them-in/>

Hampshire County News

County Chairman

The nominations for the position of Hampshire County Chairman closed on the 12th May and only one nomination was received, and as per rules laid down in the Membership Handbook, Mr **Simon Goldby** of the Gosport & Alverstoke Branch has been duly elected. Simon will officially take over the roll at the next County Committee meeting to be held at the Farnborough Council Offices on Wed 22nd June 2016 and will run through to the Jan 2020 County Conference, when he will be eligible for further election.

Branches were requested to send nil nominations to the County MSO so that the County Committee could ensure that information was getting out to all the Branches, out of all the Branches in Hampshire ONLY 14 Branches responded, this is very disappointing as it looks like Branches may not be receiving the information that is coming out of the Area Office, so please ensure that information held by the MSO is correct regarding Email addresses.

Membership Support Officer

Hi everyone,

I'd like to take this quick opportunity to introduce myself briefly to you all.

I have recently been appointed as the Membership Support Officer for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight counties. I am new to the Royal British Legion in a professional sense; but I do have a good knowledge and understanding of the organisation; its purpose, relevance and importance. I am currently in the midst of my induction and recognise that I have much to learn. I hope to get up to speed regarding the Legion, the counties and my role quickly; but please bear with me in the short term as I do so.

My professional background is mainly in sport. I have worked in various roles over the past 15 years to increase and support the development of opportunities for people to play sport more regularly. At the heart of this are always the people themselves; and I view my new role with the Royal British Legion as being exactly the same.

Chris

Hampshire would like to welcome Chris as the new Membership Support Officer, Chris can be contacted by email at CBolton@britishlegion.org.uk

County Welfare Fund

The Hampshire County Welfare Fund has been going a long time and has helped a great number of people in Hampshire. With the help of the Branches in Hampshire we shall help many more.

13 Branches have donated this year to date and given a sum of £26,263

Branch Committees – Please give thought to contributing to the County Welfare Fund.

To date we have helped 153 cases in Hampshire with sums totalling £19,599 and will assist with another £21,000 in May.

We DO need YOUR help to continue this rewarding work.

Annual Accounts

Treasurers are reminded that the R&P Forms for this year`s accounts are due to be completed on 30th June, and must be back to the MSO by Sept 30th, failure to have the accounts in on time will mean the Branch will NOT be able to send a delegate to the County Conference.

Branch News

Petersfield – Berlin Visit

Petersfield RBL recently returned from a visit to Berlin – March 13th/20th. Our itinerary was the Mohne Dam, Becklingen War Cemetery, Belsen, Brandenburg Gate, Reichstag, Checkpoint Charlie, the Wall, Olympic Stadium, Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, RAF Gatow, the Allied Museum and various Russian memorials.



At Becklingen, after a short service, wreaths were laid for Lance Sergeant A E Spiers MM, Major P J Colverson and Cpl G B Davidson.



Of particular interest in Berlin, was Checkpoint Charlie, as one of our members – John Salmon – produced a photo that he had taken in 1969 when he was stationed in Berlin, of himself and his wife Cynthia and we were able to reproduce the event.

The trip was organised by Jeff Williams who had formerly been stationed at RAF Gatow and West Germany: the visit was attended by 18 Petersfield Branch members and friends.

Bordon & District

The Bordon & District Branch have a busy month ahead as we have been invited to have the Poppy stand at the Phoenix Theatre & Arts Centre for the Queen`s Birthday Celebrations on the 12th June. There will be Royal themed party games, bouncy royal castles and much more FREE events going on, in the evening will be a BBQ and mini beer festival.

The 25th June brings all the big events in Bordon under one roof – or sky as we`re in a field – as the 999 Emergency Services Day, Armed Forces Day and Bordon Fete have been amalgamated into one event this year, called the [Whitehill & Bordon Festival](#) the Poppy Stand and County Team will be in attendance, so come along and support us al.

Then on July 3rd we are holding a Service of Remembrance in the old Prince Philip Barracks in Bordon to commemorate the Battle of the Somme and remember [Lt Col Tom Adlam VC](#) who is buried in St Mathews Church in Blackmoor, were the Branch holds its annual Sunday Service of Remembrance.

Milford on sea

At 0730 hrs on the 1st July 1916, The Battle of the Somme began. On the first day, 20,000 Servicemen died and a further 40,000 were wounded. The battle lasted until 18th November that year, a total of 141 days. Amongst those who died were many from The New Forest, Milford on Sea and the Old Lymington Borough.

A Service of Remembrance will be held at 0730 hrs, Friday 1st July,2016 to pay tribute to all who laid down their lives. This will take place on the Village Green Milford on Sea where a wreath will be laid, which in due course will be taken to the War Memorial Hospital and placed on the boards listing all the men of the village who served in the Great War and did not return.

Prior to the Service of Remembrance a Vigil will be observed on the Village Green from 0600 hrs. when those present can reflect on the price paid for our freedom.

You are invited to join in this Service officiated by Cannon Rev. Ray Hubble and to take part in the Vigil.

Totton & Eling

The Totton and Eling Branch of the Royal British Legion will be taking part in several local fetes and events during the summer. On Saturday 25th June Garage Youth Centre members and Totton and Eling Branch members will join together for a “bag packing” session in Asda Totton.

On Saturday 11th June there will be an information stall at the Totton Churches Family Fun Day held in Totton. There will also be Totton and Eling RBL branch stalls at the Totton Carnival held on Saturday 18th June and at the Marchwood fete on Saturday 2nd July from noon to 4.30pm.

If you are attending any of these events please come along and say hello. We are always grateful for help at any event especially to set up and take down the stall. If you would like more information please contact the Branch Secretary Susan Compton on 023 8087 3143 or email susan@compark.co.uk

Poppy Appeal

Great South Run

This year’s Great South Run takes place at Southsea, Hampshire on the 23rd October.

For a registration fee of £20.00 and minimum of £70.00 sponsorship you will receive a guaranteed RBL place, a fee T-Shirt and a running vest.

For more information contact the CFR Clare: cpeppiat@britishlegion.org or Tel: 02380 477274

Sutton Scotney

On the 2nd May, Philip Keating and members of the Sutton Scotney Branch held their Grand Draw at Popham Airfield, prizes included flight in a light aircraft, Complimentary stay for 2 at Norton Park and flight in micro-light



plus a painting donated by Sally Mackness. The Branch raised in excess of £500 and were supported by the Riders Branch and CFR Clare Pepiatt.

Ringwood

Ringwood recently had a Cream Tea to award various establishments and members their Poppy Awards. The awards were presented by the Town Mayor of Ringwood, Cllr. Michael Thierry. The Branch has raised £35,608.03, with a £10k donation from the Branch itself, a special mention must go to the Ringwood Surplus Store as they provide a Poppy Shop in Ringwood.



Listed below are the recipients of Poppy Awards:

Name	Award (Years)	Name	Award (Years)
Colin Bent	25	Alida Jones	5
Rosemary Bonner	5 & 10	Sally Larsson	5
Roy Bonner	5 & 10	Celia Marker	15
Lynne Brown	30	Jossie Musslewhite	5 & 10
Barbara Collin	5	Anne Osborne	20 & 25
Diana Cracknell	5 & 10	Eric Pidgley	5 & 10
Roy Crozier	20 & 25	Elisabeth Purvis	10 & 15
Roly Errington	5, 10, 15, 20, 25 & 30	John Stinson	5 & 10
Evelyn Ferrett	5	David Wretham	25
Maureen Wretham	25		

Certificates of appreciation were handed out to Heather & Ray of Co-Operative Funeralcare, Angela & Donna of Ringwood Fabrics and Jill & Margaret of Ringwood School.

The Cream Tea was attended by the Town Mayor, Deputy Town Mayor, Clare Peppiatt (CFR) and Norman Brown County Poppy Appeal Co-Ordinator.

Events Diary

Date	Title	Location	Cost	Contact
11 June	Family Fun Day	Totton & Eling		023 8087 3143 susan@compark.co.uk
12 June	The Queen's Birthday	Numerous events throughout the County		
15 June	The Jutland Concert	Barbican Hall, London	£12.00- £35.00	0207 638 8891 Barbican.org.uk
16 June	The Hampshire Regt at the Somme	Physic Garden, Petersfield	£5.00	Flora Twort Gallery 01730 262601
18 June	Totton Carnival	Totton & Eling		023 8087 3143 susan@compark.co.uk
20 June	Armed Forces Day Golf Comp	Sherfield Course, nr Basingstoke		rbourne@glenair.co.uk
25 June	Armed Forces Day	Numerous events throughout the County		
2 July	Marchwood Fete	Totton & Eling		023 8087 3143 susan@compark.co.uk
4 Sept	EMMB Service	Romsey Abbey		melvyncole54@yahoo.co.uk

9 Sept	Old Basing Golf Comp	Sherfield Course, nr Basingstoke		rbourne@glenair.co.uk
23 Oct	Great South Run	Southsea, Hampshire	£20 +Sponsorship	cpeppiat@britishlegion.org.uk 02380 477274
29 Oct	Poppy Launch	Princess Mead, Farnborough		dmoore@britishlegion.org.uk
11 Nov	Remembrance Day			
13 Nov	Remembrance Sunday			

Petersfield Museum Talk

The Hampshire Regiment at the Somme – 16th June

The Hampshire Regiment lost a total of 1,334 men killed while fighting in the Somme Campaign in 1916, with the 1st Battalion having 26 Officers and 559 soldiers killed, wounded or missing on the first day alone. Nick Saunders, volunteer at the Hampshire Regiment Museum and military historian, will talk about the battalions of the Hampshire Regiment who fought in that infamous battle.

Standard Bearers

On Parade



On Sunday 1st May 8 Standards were paraded for the HMS Sheffield Reunion in Portsmouth, including the Men`s & Women`s Section Standards from Portsmouth South. It was the first parade of the new HMS Exeter Standard. This was the 34th Anniversary of the sinking of HMS

Sheffield on 4th May 1982 in the Falklands, and is an annual service that takes place in Portsmouth.

The Parade was also attended by the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth and former HMS Sheffield D80 surviving ships Company.



Training

Our County Parade Marshal, Steve Forward, would like to invite all Standard Bearers to partake in training sessions to ensure that they are kept current, Steve puts a lot of his own time in helping any Standard Bearers from all groups, not just the RBL.

The Annual Hampshire County Standard Bearers Competition takes place on Sunday October 9th at Jubilee Hall in Bishops Waltham, and Standard Bearers have to have attended at least one training session within the past 12 months to be allowed to enter.

Training takes place at the following locations and at the times specified:

Pavilion on the Park, Eastleigh, 1400hrs
Sundays
Jun 12 – Aug 14 – Sep 11

TA Hall, Bath Road, Lymington 1930hrs
Mondays
Jun 13 – Jul 11 – Aug 15 – Sep 12

Contact Us

If you are organising or have organised an event, function or interesting activity that you wish to inform other Branches and RBL Members about, or if you have a special person in your Branch who deserves recognition, please contact the Hampshire Link. Simply send the information to the e-mail address below.

hampshirelink@outlook.com

Please ensure that if you enclose any photographs or pictures that you have the permission of the copyright holder for them to be reproduced.

All other inquires should be directed to the National Helpline.

0808 802 8080

Don't forget the I am always looking for ways to improve the County Newsletter, so if you have any ideas or recommendations then please contact the editor at the email address above.