



1st January 2018

Registered Charity Number 219279

We Will Remember Them

D Wood, C Alborough, N Humphrey – Eastleigh

C James – Copythorne & District

S Kennedy - Farnborough

Our sincere condolences to family and friends

Secretaries – The Hampshire Link is for ALL County Members, so please ensure this newsletter gets the widest distribution within your Branch.

County News

Annual Branch Committee Return

The Annual Branch Committee Return; MS1, is to be completed and returned to the Area Office by the end of December, to ensure your Branch is compliant with RBL & Charity regulations. Remember if your MS1 is not returned to the Area office it will affect your ability to send a delegate to the County Conference, and could affect your chances of being given permission to attend GP90.

So please ensure your MS1 is completed on the NEW form that has been sent to you, or download a copy from

<http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/membership/already-a-member/membership-documents/>, also

remember your Standard Bearer is to complete and sign the MS1/B – Standard Bearer Physical Fitness.

Branch News

Aldershot

The annual Poppy Appeal reached new heights in Aldershot this year with a final total of £46,114.90, which is fantastic in itself, we also presented a 30-year collectors brooch to Rose Cousens, and 20-year badge to Lew Trinder.



Aldershot Branch has been very busy socially this year, with visits to Gravesend RNA, Hayling

Island RBL Skittles against RNA and darts versus PRA.

The Branch Standard was paraded at many events within the county, in particular at the Wellington Centre (Poppy Launch) and Tesco Aldershot (Remembrance Day). And at the Rushmoor Band Concert at the Holy Trinity Church.

The Standard along with others representing the community paraded prior to the afternoon match at Aldershot Town Football Club, and the minutes silence was perfectly observed.



Petersfield

The Petersfield Branch held its annual Christmas Dinner at “The Half Moon”, Sheet, Petersfield to celebrate a record Poppy Collection of £30,033 and rising.



I have been informed that the Chairman is not asleep, but is in reality “talking”.

Bordon & District

The Branch had the great honour of hosting a very special event for a Branch member.

WO1 (ASM) Richard Packer (Rtd) was invested as a Chevalier de L'Ordre National de la Legion d'Honneur on Tuesday 5th December by Honorary French Consul Captain Francois Jean.

In attendance was the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, Nigel Atkinson, Hampshire County Chairman, Tim Russell, Mayor of Bordon & Whitehill, Colin Leech, Richard's sons John & Bill, along with members of the Bordon & District Branch RBL, Bordon REME Association and Alton RAF Association.

In June 2014, the 70th Anniversary of D-Day, the French President Francois Hollande announced that the distinction would be awarded to all British Veterans who fought for the liberation of France in WW2, to be eligible personnel must have taken part in military operations in the country between 1944 and 1945.

Richard joined the liberation of France, 5 days after D-Day as part of 220Bty 112 Field Regt RA, and took part in the 26th June unsuccessful attacks on Carpiquet Airfield around Hill 112.

On the 10th July direct attack on Hill 112 supporting 5 Dorset Regt & 7 Hants, whilst advancing on a motorbike, Richard was caught in an explosion and badly burnt, after treatment at Regimental First Aid, Richard was medically evacuated back to the UK for further treatment. Richard went on to recover, but was to take no further part in the war, instead transferred to REME, then only a fledgling Corps, and served in Gibraltar, Italy, Palestine, Fallingbommel before leaving the Army after 37 years in 1974, but continued as instructor Weapons at SEME Bordon.

The evening was all about Richard, as the Branch relinquished its usual meeting to celebrate one of the town's Veterans, and a great time was had by all.





L-R Tim Russell (RBL County Chairman), Bill Packer (Son), Colin Leech (mayor Bordon & Whitehill), Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, Richard Packer, Capt. Francois Jean (French Consul), John Packer (Son), Maj Bill Jordon (Rtd)

The family would like to thank Major Bill Jordon (Rtd) for all his efforts in ensuring Richard received this long overdue Honour.

Standard Bearers

Training

The 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 into the training of Standard Bearers, not just from the RBL, but other uniformed organisations as well, so please come along and support him.

Training takes place the 2nd Sunday of the month at the Pavilion in the Park, 1 Kingfisher Road, SO50 9LH, and 2nd Monday at the Drill Hall, Lymington, SO41 3RU.

There is scope for training to be carried out at other locations, so if you are interested in arranging a training night please contact Steve at stevemo@stevemo.plus.com

Notes

The Editor would like to wish everyone a very happy new year, and if you have a Branch Member who needs recognition, or a Branch event to promote or even a story that you feel would be of interest to the other Branches and Members of the County.

Recipe

Turkey Burgers & Sweet Potato Chips

Ingredients:

Slaw:

- 3 Tbsp Fresh lime juice
- 1 Tbsp Red wine vinegar
- 1 Tbsp Honey
- Salt & Pepper to taste
- 8oz Savoy cabbage (thinly sliced)
- 1 Granny smith apple (cut into matchsticks)
- 1 Jalapeno (seeded & thinly sliced) *

Sweet Potato Chips:

- 4 Large sweet potatoes (sliced into chips)
- 1 Tsp Smoked paprika
- 125ml Mayonnaise
- 1 Tbsp Fresh lemon juice

Burgers:

- 1 Tbsp Chilli paste*
- 1 Tbsp Soy Sauce
- 1 Tbsp Fresh ginger
- ½ Small onion (finely chopped)
- 450g Turkey ground
- 2 Tsp Oil for frying
- 4 Burger buns split and lightly toasted.
- *optional ingredients

Direction:

1. Preheat oven to 200C
2. In bowl. Whisk (Slaw) Lime juice, red wine vinegar, honey and pinch of salt & Pepper. Add cabbage & apple and toss to coat. Set aside, tossing occasionally, until ready to serve.
3. Line a large rimmed baking sheet with foil and spread sweet potato chips out over it (may require 2 sheets). Bake until warm about 5 minutes. Sprinkle with Paprika, and return to oven to cook fully, tossing occasionally.
4. Whisk mayonnaise & Lemon juice in a bowl (makes the dipping sauce for chips)
5. In large bowl, whisk chilli paste, soy sauce & Ginger, stir in onion and then turkey. Mix to combine completely.
6. Divide patty mixture into 4, ¾ inch thick burgers.
7. Grill or fry burgers until fully cooked 7-8 minutes per side under grill (4-5 min per side in pan)
8. To serve spread bun with Mayonnaise, add burger & slaw. Serve with sweet potato chips and mayonnaise on the side.

FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE

11.11.2018
100 YEARS ON



@sotonremembers
FOR MORE INFO

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



Mayflower
Theatre

Events Diary

2018

January

7th – Aldershot Branch Standard Dedication
St Augustine's Church
Aldershot

Aldershotrbl@hotmail.com

20th – County Conference – 1030hrs
Jubilee Hall
Bishops Waltham

October

27th – Poppy Appeal Launch
Poppy Appeal period lasts until **11th** November

November

11th – Remembrance Parades
Various locations around the county.
Remember this is the 100th Anniversary, and
Branches are asked to inform the Area Office of
any and all Remembrance services being held in
the County.

11th – Hampshire Festival of Remembrance
Mayflower Theatre, Southampton
Show starts at 19:00hrs and lasts about 2hrs
Tickets £22.00 – Available now
Box Office: 02380 711811
Mayflower.org.uk

*Please if you have any events in the pipeline then
contact the Hampshire Link Newsletter so that we
can advertise the event for you.*

County Websites

RBL Website:

www.BritishLegion.org.uk

County Website:

<http://counties.britishlegion.org.uk/counties/hampshire>

Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/groups/hantscountyrbl/

Poppy Appeal

www.facebook.com.poppy.hamsphirerbl

Contact us

It's your newsletter!!!

If anyone has any articles that they would like
published in the Newsletter then please contact the
editor at:

HampshireLink@outlook.com

Or

Editor – Hampshire Link
15 Champney Close
Whitehill, Bordon
Hampshire
GU35 9DX

(Please ensure correct postage is paid)

By the 26th of the month

Almost anything will be considered for inclusion
from jokes to tips, remarkable personal
achievements and Branch events.
Even relevant adverts will be considered

ALL LEGION INQUIRIES
(including Welfare requests)

Should be directed to the national call centre

0808 802 8080

County Personnel

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Patron | <i>Lt Gen Sir Mark Mans KCB CBE DL</i> |
| President | <i>Col Andrew King</i> |
| Chairman | <i>Tim Russell</i> |
| Vice-Chairman | <i>Vacant</i> |
| Treasurer | <i>Brian C N Soffe</i> |
| MSO | <i>Christopher Bolton</i> |
| Membership Council Rep | <i>Paul Harris QGM</i> |
| Area Manager SW | <i>Jim France</i> |
| CFR – Manager SW | <i>Claire Peppiatt</i> |
| CFR – North | <i>Jim Parker</i> |
| CFR - South | <i>Sarah Ferris</i> |
| PAO Coordinator – North | <i>Jacki Gatfield</i> |
| PAO Coordinator – South | <i>Pat Prior MBE</i> |