



We Will Remember Them

Mr William Price (1915-2018) – Milford on Sea

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.*

National News

Poppy Walks

A number of Poppy Walks have been organised by the Active Network, taking people on walks through the towns of the County to raise money for the Poppy Appeal, Southampton has been chosen to host an event.

Adults are charged £15, Children (7-17) £7.50 for more information go to

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/treks-and-walks/poppy-walk/>

Office 365 – Passwords

All members of the RBL who currently use Office 365, should now be aware that the Password Expiry Date has now been activated and you will be asked to change your password every 90 days, this will bring us into compliance with the new GDPR (General data Protection Act) that comes in this year. A PDF file explaining the password policy is attached.

County News

Hampshire County Welfare Fund

The County Committee are pleased to announce that a further sum of £5005 has been almonised from the County Welfare Fund (CWF) to aid and assist 50 cases in Hampshire, this however, leave the CWF with a ZERO balance.

The Committee would urge all Branches and Clubs to contribute to the CWF and help those of the forces community who are in need.

Requests for help (almonisation) from the CWF is made every three months from Central Grants

Team at head office, who supply a list of those requiring funding to close out a case.

The CWF can only make a contribution if Branches and Clubs support the fund and we are in urgent need of your Branch's contribution. Many Branches are holding funds, which should be used to support the aims and objectives of the Royal British Legion.

Branch News

Southampton

The Southampton Branch had another successful Poppy Appeal in 2017 and at present the total raised stands at £73,000 with more to come from cruise ship collections. Last year the Branch raised £86,000 and are optimistic that this figure will be surpassed.

Thank you to the small band of loyal volunteers who work so hard every year delivering, collecting or counting the tins when they are returned. The Branch had an excellent start to the appeal period with a Poppy launch in the West Quay shopping complex which raised £3,500 on the day. The West Quay management are wonderful supporters of the Poppy Appeal allowing collectors on site for two weeks as do the Marlands Centre.

Sainsbury's, Tesco and Asda Stores in the branch area also give great support and we should give a special thanks to one of the lady collectors Marion Jenkins who has collected almost £8,000 per year over the past three years on her own over a two-week period in the Sainsbury's Portswood store. After sixteen years at the helm the Poppy Organiser has decided to step down. The Branch is looking for a replacement, anybody interested in taking over please get in touch with the Branch Secretary on 023 80227862. Anybody else who may be able to help in delivering or collecting will also be made most welcome.

New Milton

In December the branch held its AGM/Social Evening at the Memorial Centre, when all current committee members were re-elected. Local resident Rainer Preis presented Chairman Ron Back with a large painting depicting "Decaying Poppies" symbolizing the loss of so many servicemen in WW1 and WW2. It was specially commissioned by him to be produced by a prominent German artist, and will be hung in the Centre's main hall. German-born Rainer is very actively involved with the German War Graves Commission and gave a short presentation on the work it undertakes. Due to extensive research, every year some 30,000-war dead are still discovered and brought "home" for reburial in well-kept cemeteries. In Germany there is no equivalent of the British Legion or Remembrance Day, but each November a special non-military, non-religious ceremony takes place in Hamburg in remembrance of civilians as well as service personnel who suffered because of war. The Commission receives no Government aid and is self-supporting, their motto being "Friendship Across the Graves".

Whilst it was not possible at this stage to give a final figure raised for the Poppy Appeal as money still had to come in, slightly less than £20,000 has been recorded so far. This includes the sum of £1,888.70 raised by local resident Linda Pilgrim from the sale of 636 of her handmade, crocheted poppies through branches of Nationwide. A great achievement for which she was congratulated.

Attending the meeting was Paul Harris, Membership Council representative, who gave an update on HQ activities, restructuring, projects to assist local branches and encourage membership, particularly the younger generation.

Totton & Eling

Poppy Appeal drop-in sessions

The first drop-in session run by members of the Totton and Eling Branch took place at the Totton and Eling Community Centre during the morning of Thursday 25th January.

The drop-in sessions have been set up to explain about the Poppy Appeal and how the funds are used, and to signpost visitors to RBL services and those of other local organisations e.g. Citizens Advice, Exercise Classes. Free refreshments are provided and it is a chance to meet other Veterans and supporters of the RBL.

Several people attended during the morning including Branch members, and representatives from local GP surgeries and other local organisations.

It was a good opportunity to meet other people and discuss services available such as exercises classes and ceramic poppy workshops.

Two further sessions are planned for Thursday 22nd February and Thursday 22nd March from 10am to 12.00 in the Totton and Eling Community Centre, postcode SO40 3AP. We plan to hold regular sessions throughout the year.

For more information about the drop-in sessions or the Royal British Legion please contact Susan Compton, Joint Poppy Appeal Organiser on 023 8087 3143 or email poppy@compark.co.uk



In October 2015, Testwood sports college surprised the local community by planting over 600 ceramic poppies on the roundabout in the centre of Totton. Tidal Arts and Crafts will be repeating the marvellous display of poppies to mark 100 years since the end WW1 in November 2018.

All are welcome to join in one of the ceramic classes to come and make a poppy and be part of this beautiful art installation. Totton Poppies by the community - for the Community.

Tidal Arts and crafts are running workshops throughout 2018 and hope to make 800 ceramic poppies which will be placed on the Totton roundabout in October 2018. These workshops are suitable for adults and children age 7+ and additional workshops will be run during the year for younger children.

Please come and support this project. Workshops are taking place at Testwood School in Totton and other venues and details are available from Tidal Arts and Crafts Email Tidalacm@gmail.com or phone 07946 799043 or on their Facebook page Totton Poppies.

Copythorne & District

The Members of Copythorne & District Branch wish to thank the people of Copythorne Parish for their very generous support of the Annual Poppy Appeal, and all those Volunteers who spent many hours collecting.

The amount collected, to date, is £25,187.91 and counting. For a village of approximately 3,000 this is a truly amazing figure.

Poppy Appeal

The November Poppy Appeal has been a great success, with the exception of the Technical Hitch at the Poppy Village, of which a letter has been sent to all PAO's.

North Hampshire - £627,380.90

South Hampshire - £615,366.39

Isle of Wight - £105,667.17

The Poppy Village is still waiting for some PAO's to submit their accounts, please ensure if your one of these you get accounts returned ASAP, as this could affect our collections in the future.

There is a coffee morning for PAO's at the Southampton Pop-In-Centre on Wednesday 28th March, an opportunity for PAO's to meet and discuss ideas for this year's Appeal, Jim & Sarah (CFR's) along with the Area Manager and other members of the team will be hand to give updates and answer questions.

If you would like to attend then please contact Jim at eparker@britishlegion.org.uk by 1st March

A full list of Poppy Fundraising events can be found at <https://indd.adobe.com/view/3c3fdace-f446-402a-9bfd-9b2bc737cac0>

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.

Training takes place at Eastleigh, Pavilion in the Park, 1 Kingfisher Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9LH on Sundays at 1400hrs, Lymington, Drill Hall, Bath Road, Lymington S041 3RU on Mondays at 1030hrs, and in the Fleet Area (Venue TBA) on Wednesdays at 1900hrs.

Training runs from March through to October inclusive, and all Standard Bearers are urged to take training courses as beginners or long serving to enhance their position as the Legion's presence in the community.

Eastleigh:	Lymington:	Fleet:
Mar 11 th	Mar 12 th	Mar 14 th
Apr 8 th	Apr 9 th	Apr 11 th
May 6 th	May 14 th	May 16 th
Jun 10 th	Jun 11 th	Jun 13 th
Jul 8 th	Jul 9 th	Jul 11 th
Aug 12 th	Aug 13 th	Aug 15 th
Sep 2 nd	Sep 10 th	Sep 12 th
Oct 7 th	Oct 8 th	Oct 10 th

The Parade Marshall, Steve Forward can be contacted on 023 8069 3028, or stevemo@stevemo.plus.com or Deputy Parade Marshall, Dave Graham on 01425 623102 or davidkarengraham1@yahoo.co.uk for more information.

Steve and Dave put a lot of effort into training Standard Bearers so please come along and give them your support and ensure you are showing the Legion, and your Branch in the best possible light. Training and Drills have changes over time, so come along and ensure you are kept current.

Notices

Survey

The RBL is asking its members to take part in an Audience Survey, conducted by SurveyMonkey, to inform HQ about the development of a new website, if you would like to take part the survey can be found at

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TRBL-website> and takes about 5 minutes to complete.

WW1 Centenary

The Legion is marking the Centenary of the First World War (2014-2018) with commemorations in the UK and republic of Ireland with a focus on remembrance, education and legacy.

There a number of activities that communities can get involved in and more details about each can be found

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/remembrance/ww1-centenary/>

Remembrance Travel

Royal British Legion is on a mission to find all surviving WWII veterans. The Treasury is enabling a series of free-of-charge* tours for WWII veterans to return to where they served to pay their respects to their fallen comrades. The tours are being funded by LIBOR fines, and will enable a WWII veteran to return with a family member and carer.

The Rt. Hon, The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Phillip Hammond, said: "I had the privilege of meeting veterans last year, and I'm delighted that we can continue to support those who want to return with the Royal British Legion to the countries where they served.

"We have committed over £5 million of Libor funds to help those who fought for our freedom, to return to pay their respects and safeguard the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice."

A call for help!

There is no database of veterans from WWII who are still alive today so the Royal British Legion is calling upon the general public to spread the word and ensure every surviving veteran gets the chance to go back one last time.

Nichola Rowlands-Smith, says: "We need you! We know how great the British public can be, and we're relying on everyone to help us spread the word to find every single living WWII veteran. There's no database, so if you're a grandchild, neighbour or carer and know someone who fought in WWII please tell them about these amazing tours."

For WWII veterans wishing to benefit from this tour, they need to apply via Remembrance Travel's tour operator, Arena Travel on 01473 660800, or visit

<http://www.arenatravel.com/.../rem.../libor-tours-of-remembrance>. Remembrance Travel will also be offering group travel opportunities for WWII veteran associations too.

Never Such Innocence – Creative writing

As part of our Thank-You movement for the centenary commemorations, The Royal British Legion and Never Such Innocence are holding a nationwide competition for schools and young people.

Never Such Innocence are organising a nationwide competition inviting schools and

young people to share a message of Remembrance and hope.

We are encouraging young people to pay tribute to the generation of the First World War by saying *Thank You* through a creative expression of appreciation and gratitude. The competition invites children and young people to submit poetry, art and songs inspired by the events of 1914-18.

Entries inspired by the theme of *Thank You* could feature at Legion events such as the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall in 2018.

The competition is free to enter and the deadline for entries is 16 March 2018.

Please visit the website below for more information.

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/remembrance/wl1-centenary/thank-you/never-such-innocence-creative-competition/#.Wl3NcphGwvM.facebook>

Please pass this along to your local schools and youth organisations so that we can get as many involved as possible.

Silent Soldier

RBL Hampshire & Isle of Wight are running a Silent Soldier campaign through-out the year, companies, businesses, churches, local authorities, private individuals and other well know establishments are being contacted to purchase a Silent Soldier and place them ready to commemorate the end of WW1.

The Silent Soldier can be fixed to buildings and walls and will appear as troops did between 1914-1918 when returning home silently.

If you are interested then please contact CFR(S) Sarah Ferris sferris@britishlegion.org.uk or CFR(N) Jim Parker eparker@britishlegion.org.uk

"When the soldiers got back to England they were given a railway ticket to their home station. From there they were on their own, and would be seen across the country, walking back home, down the roads and across the fields returning to their families."

The RBL is keen to show that all those that gave their lives fighting in "The Great War" are not forgotten, so if you know of any organisation that would be willing to take part please contact either Sarah or Jim for further details.

Found Medal

A WW1 1914-1915 Star awarded to T4-070948 Driver Frank Pinnells, Army Service Corps, has been found in a box of odds and ends.

It is believed that Frank probably married Mabel Savage (1897-1952) in 1919 and they had 5 children.

Frank was born in 1892 and came from Froyle in Alton, and as far as information is available, he survived the war, and died in Alton in 1973. If any family member would like the medal they should contact David Bowman davidklbowman@aol.com who would love to return the medal to the family.

War Requiem

Benjamin Britten's war Requiem will be performed at Winchester Cathedral on 9th June starting at 7.30pm, and Tewkesbury Abbey on 23rd June. For more details contact the Burford Singers at www.burfordsingers.org.uk or www.englisharts.org

Tickets for the Winchester Cathedral cost £35, £28, £20 under 18's £8.

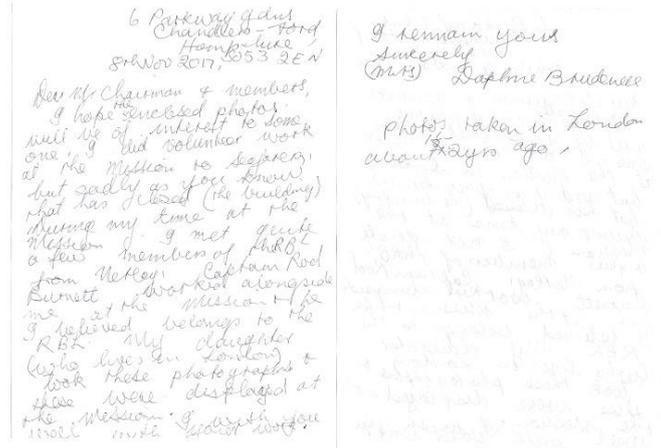
Free ticket is available for a carer accompanying a paying disabled person.

Mementos

The following photographs have been sent to the Area Office, and show a number of pictures from Remembrance Events from London.



The following Letter was enclosed with the Photos:



If anyone can throw any light onto these mementoes, could you please contact the Editor, so I can give some context for the pictures.

Recipe

Lemon Meringue Tops

Ingredients:

- 25g Cornflower
- 300ml Skimmed milk
- 100g Caster sugar
- 25g Low fat spread
- Grated rind & juice of 2 lemons
- 2 Eggs - Separated

Recipe:

1. Blend cornflower with cold milk.
2. Heat in saucepan, stirring continuously until thickens, boils and smooth.
3. Add 50g sugar, low fat spread, lemon rind & juice, continue to stir until thick and smooth.
4. Cool slightly, then stir in egg yolks.
5. Divide mixture into 4 ramekin dishes.
6. Whisk egg whites until stiff.
7. Fold in remaining sugar, leaving 1 Tbsp till for end.
8. Divide the meringue into 4 and pile over lemon mixture in the ramekin dishes.
9. Sprinkle remaining sugar over meringue.
10. Bake in oven at 150°C for 20-30 min, until golden.
11. Can be served hot or cold

If wanted, use a sweet pastry flan case to transform this recipe into Lemon meringue pie.

FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE

11.11.2018
100 YEARS ON



@sotonremembers
FOR MORE INFO

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



Mayflower
Theatre

Events Diary

2018

March

28th – Coffee Morning
Poppy Appeal Organisers
Southampton Pop-In-Centre

June

9th – War Requiem – 19:30hrs
Winchester Cathedral
Tickets £20, £28, £35, Under 18`s & Students £8
www.tickets.winchester-cathedral.org.uk

10th – Poppy Walk – Southampton
Details TBC

23rd – War Requiem – 19:30hrs
Tewkesbury Abbey
Tickets £20, £28, £35, Under 18`s & Students £8
www.burfordsingers.org.uk

October

21st -Great South Run
Portsmouth
Details TBC

25th – County Poppy Launch
Farnborough, North Hampshire
Details TBC

26th – Uniformed Collection
Westquay, Southampton
Details TBC

27th – Poppy Appeal Launch
Poppy Appeal period **27th** to **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 (Selling fast)
Box Office: 02380 711811
Mayflower.org.uk

*Please if you have any events in the pipeline then
contact the Editor of 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.hampshirerbl

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>