



We Will Remember Them

**Mike Clark – Hayling (President & PAO), Thomas Hicks – Farnborough
Fred Holton – Alton (PAO), William Lloyd – Bramley
Mr J H Quinn – Lee on Solent**

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

Membership Application Form

The following has been sent to the Link for distribution to ALL membership secretaries:
“We are still receiving a high number (about 60-80 per week) of the old Membership application forms, and due to GDPR (Data Protection) our payments team are unable to process them. As such these applications remain incomplete whilst we try to contact each member to get the missing information (contact preferences) without this we are unable to process the applications. Please make sure that all old versions of the Membership Application Form have been destroyed and only the current version is being used.

The current version is sized A4 and has the Live On logo in the top right-hand corner.

Thank you for your assistance.”

The Membership Services Team

Festival of Remembrance 2018

“The Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance will be held in the Royal Albert Hall, London on Saturday 10 November 2018 with performances at 2.00pm and 7.00pm. Recent changes in Data Protection laws and increased security measures have meant a review of the process for obtaining tickets to attend the Festival of Remembrance was necessary. This is timely, because it has given us an opportunity to act on feedback from the Membership by changing to a fairer and more straightforward system of obtaining tickets. Under the new system, Members will be able to buy tickets on a

first-come-first served basis, in an exclusive Member sale, buying tickets directly from the ticket agent.

There is also a new pricing structure for the purchase of tickets, which now allows members to select their own seating and pay accordingly, meaning a fairer allocation of seating within the Royal Albert Hall. There will be no additional booking fees for Members and administrative costs for the process will be covered by the Legion.

Exact details of the application procedure will be released in the Legion Magazine, e-Newsletter and Yammer in July.”

Attached to the Link are the FAQ`s and final circular which should be circulated throughout the Membership.

County News

Hampshire County Welfare Fund

There are still Branches in Hampshire holding onto large sums of money in their GPF funds, that are not using them for the Welfare work that they are vital for. Branches should only be holding enough funds in GPF to cover 6 months' worth of working capital, so please, please, please send any large sums of money you are holding, unless for a major project, to the Area Office for the county welfare Fund. If you have a need to hold onto a large sum of money, for a major project, please make the Area Office or County Chairman aware, as they will be chasing Branches to release excessive funds.

July 17 – September 18

Nationally – 1,761 cases totalling £956,992.31
Hampshire – 79 Cases totalling £51,284

These requests cover the following areas:

Brown & White Goods

Crisis

Debt

Funeral Costs

Housing

Mobility

Training

The need is constant and is ever increasing, so please if your Branch is holding fund that you are not using please send them to the County Welfare Fund where the money can be put to good to assist the Armed Forces, their Families and Veterans. If you have any Questions about the Welfare fund then please contact the Area Office.

County Conference Motions

It is an important part of our democracy that Branches can table motions to amend or change parts of the Royal Charter or Membership Handbook.

This is also an important route to make representations to the Board of Trustees to consider changes relevant to their remit or ask the Royal British Legion to lobby Parliament, the MOD, CWGC or other bodies on any discrepancies you may have identified.

To ensure that your Charter Motions, Motions and other representations have the best possible chance of success it is essential that they are well constructed.

Your County Committee are here to help and advise you on how best to frame your entries and it is important that you talk to you Branch and Committee as early as possible.

I look forward to reviewing your entries in due course

Hampshire County Chairman

Tim Russell

Branch News

Petersfield

David Lloyd and Dick Brooks took a trip down Memory Lane to Singapore in April/May 2018. Picked up at the Carlton Hotel by Mick Saunders, of the British High Commission, on April 27th we met up with 230 Squadron personnel at Kranji and after laying a poppy cross in memory of AC1 Ernest Finn, the visit continued with a summary of the Battle of Singapore by Sqdn Ldr Nick Monahan

, a report on Wg Cdr Nicholson – the only RAF VC of the Battle of Britain – he died in May 2nd 1945 and is buried at Kranji. The laying of a wreath was by Flt Lt Austin-Carroll of 230 Squadron – during which the Exhortation and the Kohima Epitaph were recited.



The party then went to Seletar Airport where we were hosted by Airport staff and SAF personnel and enjoyed a trip round the Airport, culminating in a visit to the RAF Seletar Cairn.



Then it was off to Tiger Brewery; copious quantities of Tiger, oriental snacks, various interviews and a meeting up with 81 Squadron Veterans – intent on drinking the Brewery dry!



After that we adjourned to the home of Colonel Luckham, British High Commission, Defence Attache, for a BBQ and a sort of fancy dress party. On May 2nd at the Carlton Hotel, I met with Ginger Tiah of the Seletar Hills Residents Association and France Goh of the Singapore National Archives – handing over a book to Ginger and some more archives to France. We chatted about the archives and the difficulty with aligning the material. Dick spent most of his time trying to retrace nearly 60 years of his personal history; visiting Johore Bahru, Raffles Hotel, Orchard Road, Bugis Steet and reacquainting his taste for Tiger in Chijmes. May 5th it was all over and we set off for Changi and the flight home.

David Lloyd RAFSA part time Archivist

Attached to the Link is a story about his Seletar 1960/62 tour, if you would like to ask David any questions then please contact the Petersfield Secretary or go through HampshireLink@Outlook.com



Petersfield Branch celebrating the Armed Forces Day Flag Raising

Petersfield War Memorial Re-dedication ceremony took place on Tuesday June 26. There was a fair gathering, with Churchers College Band, ATC, CCF and various other organisations and dignitaries as well as members of the RBL. The Rev Will Hughes conducted the service; The Last Post and Reveille were blown and the Exhortation and Kohima Epitaph were read.



Earl Mountbatten Memorial

The Annual EMMB Memorial Service will take place on Sunday 9th September at Romsey Abbey, attached to the Link is the return that Secretaries are asked to return, so that catering can be sorted, which need to be back to the Treasurer by 31st August.

Fleet, Crookham & District

4(Fleet & Crookham) Troop and 8(Gibraltar Barracks) Troop, Army Cadet Force were on parade to mark their Affiliation with the Fleet, Crookham and District Branch of the Royal British Legion. In front of parents and MP Ranil

Jayawardena, some 30 cadets paraded at their Quetta Park headquarters and were reviewed by the Legion's Branch President, Brigadier Dickie Haldenby.

Brig Haldenby congratulated the cadets on their drill, turn-out and commitment, commenting later *'the ACF are a great help to the Branch during The Poppy Appeal and parade at our two Remembrance Sunday events. Branch affiliation enables members to work with youth organisations on fundraising projects and promotes mutual community support, a great way for Legion branches to strike a chord with the younger generation.'*

Accompanied by Mr Jayawardena, Brig Haldenby presented Affiliation Badges to the cadets and later presented the Certificate of Affiliation to the Cadets' Company Commander, Major Tim Hope. Maj Hope welcomed the Affiliation and the link it provides to the local Legion Branch. He also thanked the cadets' parents for support of their youngsters to pursue Cadet activities in the evenings and weekends saying *'the Army Cadet Force gives young people great opportunities to try new activities, feel more confident, make new friends and get a head start on their future.'*



Cadets on parade at Quetta Park HQ (Photo: David Fisher)



Cadet Commander Maj Tim Hope receives Affiliation Certificate from Branch President Brig Dickie Haldenby (Photo: David Fisher)

Bordon & District

The Bordon & District Branch Paraded at the Forest Community Centre on Monday 25th June, along with the Bordon Branch REME Association, Cadets, Town Councillors & Members of the public to raise the Flag for Armed Forces Day.

The Town Mayor an Bordon & District Branch Chairman spoke about the importance of recognising Armed Forces Day and all the work that the current serving and Veterans do for the Country.

Local Pre-school, infants, junior and Senior schools all sent pupils to attend the Flag Raising, on a very hot and sunny morning. The children were invited to speak to the Veterans on parade about their own experiences, which many did.

The Poppy Appeal was present at the showing of "The Darkest Hour" being shown at the Phoenix Theatre & Arts Centre to help raise money for the Appeal, and also raise awareness of the RBL Branch.

The Branch Poppy Appeal was invited to take part in the local Heritage Society's event at the village hall to showcase the local commitment to the First World War, a "Tommy" was created out of Poppies for display, and will be popping up at events throughout the Town, to show its respect for all those that fell during the War,



Kingsclere

The strength of our small branch continues to grow, with several new members joining us since our last article and a surge of activity has taken place on our Facebook page ("Kingsclere Royal British Legion"), with plans for our events for the rest of the year firming up nicely.

We recently laid wreaths to commemorate VE and



D Day at the village memorial. In addition, we are laying a wreath each month to remember those

from the village who were killed in action during WW1 in that specific month. On Tuesday, 05th June, we laid the months wreath and read out the names of four soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice. This wreath laying will continue out to December.

Kingsclere World War 1 Memorial

In late May we held an event in The Crown pub to raise money for the branch by auctioning 6 limited edition tankards which were supplied by the Landlord, commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Dambuster Raids.

An amazing £450 was raised and our thanks go out to all those who supported the event, especially to Nigel and Suzanne of The Crown.



Plans are also developing to place a memorial in remembrance of Lt Cdr Darren Chapman; a village born man who was sadly killed in action in Iraq in 2006. We have been in contact with his family, who are very keen that we place a suitable memorial in the heart of the village to remember Darren.

Members of the branch supported the village School Fete on the 15th June with a Royal British Legion stand complete with our new tombola tumbler which has been made by a member of the branch.

Plans are underway for a visit to the recently refurbished D Day museum at Southsea sometime in July; pictures and details will follow.

After some digging around, we have identified that 7 men from the village were recruited and fought with the Kings Dragoon Guard (now the 1st, Queens Dragoon Guards) at the battle of Waterloo. Six of the 7 were killed in action on the 18th June 1815, with the 7th dying of wounds at a later date. We are in touch with the 1st QDG historical branch and hope to glean some additional information related to these men. The KDG's were recruited across the nation, so having 7 in its ranks from such a small community is a revelation in itself. As a branch and in cooperation with the Kingsclere Heritage Society, we plan to investigate other periods including Korea, the Boar Wars and the wider Napoleonic campaigns

Poppy Appeal News

National total £45,103,270-98, with Hampshire County £1,605,136-91 - North £758,524-01 & Hampshire South £846,709-90

PAO Seminar

Jim & Sarah the County Fundraisers welcomed about 30 PAO's from across the County to Alton RBL Club to give them an update on the new lines of Poppy Merchandise that is available for events throughout the year.

Jim & Sarah covered the reasons for raising money for the RBL as it spends about £10k every hour supporting our beneficiaries, with the likes of Poppy Holidays, Seaside Holidays, Dementia Care, Battle-Back Centre (Lilleshall), Blast injury Centre (Imperial Collage London) and the care homes that are exclusively for Veterans and dependants.

Several examples of where, how and who the Poppy Appeal have helped were given, including how a veteran had his car and house adapted due to his conditions.

If you would like to be considered for a Poppy Break then please contact the CFR's or National Number to see if you qualify for a free Haven Holiday.

Caseworkers

Pat Prior – Senior Caseworker, explained how the Area office has the authority to help beneficiaries up to £500 with brown & white goods which are classed as simple cases, but for the more complex cases are able to bring together various agencies including other charities, local services and our own experts to help out. The Benefits, Debts & Money Advice (BDMA) are able to take complex financial problems and help the beneficiary get their life back on track, by working with local councils & national utility companies to bring debt under control and manageable.

When a serviceperson divorces, the ex-spouse is accepted as a dependant under the rules of the RBL, until such time they enter a new relationship, and therefore are able to access the full RBL welfare services.

The RBL tries not to be a quick fix system, but endeavours to help the beneficiary in long term by offering training courses, to improve the life of the beneficiary for the long term.

There have been various media reports that Charities are sitting on a load of money and not

helping get the homeless of the street, the RBL takes homeless veterans very seriously and offer them all assistance to get of the street and into shelter, but it must be realised that some of the homeless do not want help, and the RBL can not force them to take assistance, but it is always available when required.

There is a major requirement for Caseworkers in Hampshire, so if you would like more information about joining the team and helping the Veterans, serving personnel & their dependants then please, please, please contact Pat Prior at the Area Office, via the National number **0808 802 8080** or by contacting the Community Fundraisers.

Thank You Campaign

Sarah went on to explain the Thank You Campaign and how it is a community lead campaign to say thank you, not only to the front-line fighters, but also those that remained behind to help keep the Country running which includes the Land Army, ship builders, dock workers, Home Guard and reservists.

Hampshire have agreed to support the campaign by dedicating their 4-day game against Yorkshire in August to the RBL & Thank You, showing how cricketers went to the front line and didn't return. The Victorious Festival in Southsea have also agreed to join the Thank You campaign

<https://www.victoriousfestival.co.uk/>

Information and material is available on the RBL website

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

Or just type in **rbl.org.uk/thankyou** and you will be forwarded to the correct page.

Admiral Nurses

Admiral Nurses provide specialist help to the Carers of Veterans who are suffering from Dementia.

There are 7 Teams nationally, with 4 Nurses covering Hampshire (Excluding City of Southampton) who are part of the care Homes, Breaks & Recovery directorate of the RBL.

They are Qualified Dementia care specialists, who work to provide the support need to the carers and help with the social side of the Carers life, as they find their circle of friends condensing, they are able to provide an interface with other services to provide the help and support needed.

There are currently 800k people recorded with dementia, with it expected to be over 1 million by 2021. The team provide individual advice to each

carer as there are currently over 100 different types of dementia, depending where the brain is affected, and therefore the work is hard, but rewarding.

Dementia normally develops in the over 65's, and at least 1/3 of those over 65 will have some form of dementia, with 2/3 of those expected to be female.

Admiral nurses will get involved at any point from Diagnosis, living-with or end of life and possibly death, depending on the needs of the carer, as dementia may be controlled with the use of medication, dependant on the area affected. If you are caring for a Veteran with dementia, or a Veteran caring for a dependant with Dementia and would like to speak to Admiral Nurses the contact number is Shelha Philpott – Admiral Nurse Administrator – 023820025787

Poppy Appeal 2018/19

It must be made aware to ALL PAO's that Poppy Collection tins must have the Poppy Appeal sticker with the "Fundraiser Logo" on every tin, including the All-Year-Round ones. The cardboard and cortex boxes must also have the Fundraiser Logo on them, and various sizes can be ordered through PAO's from Aylesford.

It is against Charity Commission rules to NOT to have these Fundraiser logo's correctly displayed on Collection Tins and Poppy Trays.

Aylesford are asking PAO's to return damaged and old collection tins back to them so they can be recycled, and request that you contact either CFR's or Aylesford Direct to make arrangements with Parcel Force.



Statement of Accounts

PAO's are reminded that Statement of Accounts MUST be returned to Aylesford by the 1st December 2018 with the amount that has been BANKED to comply with Charity Commission Law, failure to comply with this COULD result in major problems for the Poppy Appeal in the future.

Jim & Sarah would like to thank Alton RBL Club for hosting the Seminar.

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**

Lymington – Lymington Drill Hall, Bath Road, Lymington, **SO41 3RU**

Fleet – Old NAAFI Building, Quetta Park, Church Crookham, Fleet, **GU52 8TG**

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:
1400hrs	1930hrs	1900hrs
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. GP90 Standard Bearers should attend at least ONE training session prior to departure, to ensure they are up to date with procedure.

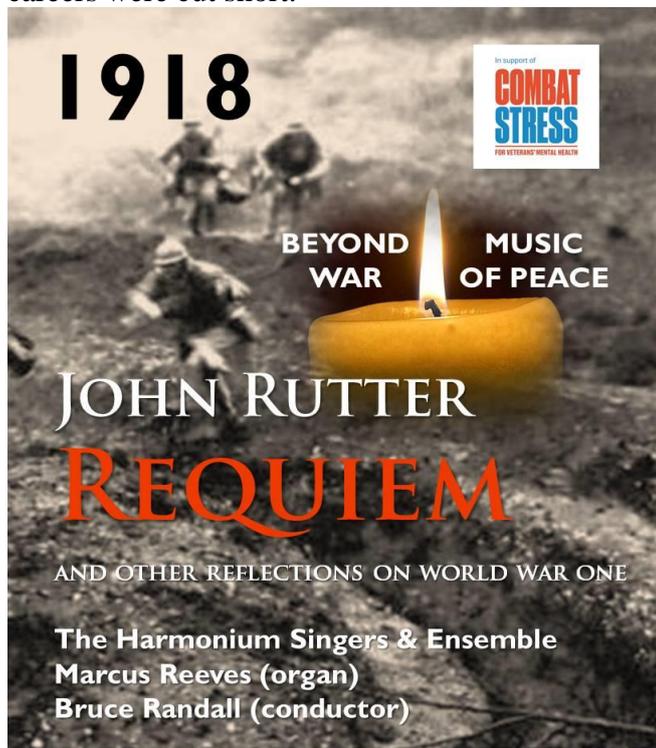
More Standard Bearers are required to sign up to support the Hampshire County Festival of Remembrance on 11th November 2018, at the Mayflower Theatre in Southampton, if you are available and would like to take part please contact the Area Office, The Hampshire Link or contact the County Fund Raisers.

Notices

Choir Marks WW1 Centenary

A local chamber choir is commemorating the end of World War 1 a hundred years ago with a reflection in words and music at St Mary's Church, Andover on Saturday 14th July. The Harmonium Singers are well known for their thoughtful programmes of smaller-scale choral music often combined with powerful words. 'Beyond War, Music of Peace' will be no exception and promises to be a moving experience.

The main work in the programme will be John Rutter's *Requiem*, accompanied by a small, high-quality instrumental ensemble. Other music will feature music by composers directly affected by the war, either as active participants, or influencers of that generation and those influenced by them. Hence there will be music by Stanford, Parry (who died in 1918), lesser known composers like Edgar Bainton and Patrick Hadley, and inevitably some unfamiliar names whose careers were cut short.



St Mary's Church, Andover
Saturday, 14 July 2018 at 7.30pm
In support of Combat Stress
Tickets (incl. glass of wine) £12 at door, or £10 from
Newbury Building Society, The Lights and choir members
www.harmoniumsingers.org.uk



The choir's own fundraising means that the costs of putting on the concert have largely been met already. Ticket money will therefore go to the military charity Combat Stress.

The choir's musical director Bruce Randall explains: 'In 2014 we marked the centenary of the start of the Great War with the Fauré Requiem, and other music interspersed with words from the trenches. Four years on we have a rather different angle, looking at the lives of affected composers, and a different Requiem. It should be a very thought-provoking and memorable event for the town. And we believe it will be a fitting commemoration in this military area, while directly benefiting military personnel in need.'

The performance begins at 7.30pm in the inspiring setting of St Mary's Church, Andover. Tickets are £10 in advance from Newbury Building Society, The Lights and choir members, or £12 at the door.

Further information:

Veronica Bacon

01264 771285

www.harmoniumsingers.org.uk

Membership Forum Booklet

Attached to the Newsletter is Membership Forum Booklet that will be made available at Annual Conference 2018.

It contains a full list of the Members of the Membership Council, and their roles, how the annual membership fee is broken down, and various questions from Branches for the Membership Council to answer.

The MC will be going mobile for 3 events in 2018, so if your available to go along or want some questions answered, then keep an eye out in the Legion Magazine.

Please ensure the booklet is given the widest distribution with your Branch please.

Newsletter Attachments:

Earl Mountbatten Memorial Branch Return

FoR 2018 FAQ's for Special Circular

FoR 2018 Special Circular

Membership Forum Booklet

Seletar Story – Petersfield Branch

Soldiers Poem – Cheryl Costello-Forshey

Totton & Eling Community Drop-In

Events Diary

2018

July

1st – Armed Forces Day – 11am
West Marlands Road, Southampton
afdsouthampton@gmail.com

7th – The Angel & The Fallen Concert – 19:30hrs
Salisbury Cathedral
Box Office: 01725 215799

7th – RNAS Yeovilton International Air Day
See Poster

14th – Combat Stress Concert
St Mary`s Church, Andover
Veronica Bacon
01264 771285
www.harmoniumsingers.org.uk

August

11th – National Event of Poppy race Day
Newmarket Races
01638 675500 Option 4.

September

9th - Earl Mountbatten Memorial Service
Romsey Abbey
Reply through Branch secretary
Returns Form attached to Link Newsletter

October

21st -Great South Run
Southsea, Portsmouth
Details TBC

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

27th – Uniformed Collection – “Thank You”
Westquay, Southampton
Details TBC

27th – Poppy Appeal Launch
Poppy Appeal period **27th** October to **11th**
November

November

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

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

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>Bob Bartlett</i>
Treasurer	<i>Brian C N Soffe</i>
MSO	<i>Christopher Bolton</i>
Membership Council Rep	<i>Gerry Nunn</i>
Area Manager SW	<i>Jim France</i>
Training Officer	<i>Mike Davis</i>
Branch Support – North	<i>Jacki Gatfield</i>
Branch Support - South	<i>Andy Knight</i>
Youth Officer	<i>Vacant</i>
Committee Member	<i>Brian Mansi</i>
CFR – Manager SW	<i>Claire Peppiatt</i>
CFR – Hampshire North	<i>Jim Parker</i>
CFR – Hampshire South	<i>Sarah Ferris</i>
PAO Coordinator – North	<i>Jacki Gatfield</i>
PAO Coordinator – South	<i>Pat Prior MBE</i>
Communications Support	<i>Avril Mitchell</i>
Hampshire Link	<i>Darron Back</i>