



## We Will Remember Them

**John Wilkins & Robin Whitehorn – *Copythorne & District***

*Our sincere condolences to family and friends*

### National News

The 2018 Poppy Run series is now live and I wanted to make sure that our staff and members have the necessary information about this year's runs, how to sign up, and where to go if you need further information.

The start time is 11am for all venues as follows:

**Leeds** - Temple Newsam 27<sup>th</sup> October  
**Cardiff** - Bute Park 27<sup>th</sup> October  
**London** - Victoria Park 27<sup>th</sup> October  
**Milton Keynes** - Willen Lake 28<sup>th</sup> October  
**Manchester** - Heaton Park 28<sup>th</sup> October  
**Bristol** - Ashton Court 28<sup>th</sup> October  
**Durham** - Aykley Recreational Ground 3<sup>rd</sup> November  
**Birmingham** - Sutton Park 3<sup>rd</sup> November  
**Southampton** - Southampton Common 4<sup>th</sup> November  
**Nottingham** - Woolaton Park 4<sup>th</sup> November

The Poppy Run series will take place across the country on the weekends of 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> November, it's a 5KM fun run for men and women, and of course families. To enter please visit <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/poppy-run/>

We always need volunteers at our events so if you want to help then please call our supporter care team on 0333 011 4500 to sign up.

Finally, if you need any more information about the Poppy Run series, or our other mass events then please contact the team via email [events@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:events@britishlegion.org.uk)

### County News

#### County Vice-Chairman

In accordance with the County Handbook, Part 2, Section 2.1.1.1 para 3.8 – Mr Robert Bartlett is duly elected to the position of County Vice-Chairman.

#### Branch Annual General Meetings

The Membership Support Officer (MSO) is asking Branches to send him details, once confirmed, of the date, time & location of your Branch AGM. The County Committee is hoping to attend as many AGM's in the County as possible, to give Branches to give feedback on the Legion & County. This will help formulate the County Plan going forward.

#### County Conference 2019

This is to give advanced notice that the County Conference will take place on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January at Jubilee Hall, Bishops Waltham, starting at 10.30am.

Branch secretaries will be receiving Notice of Conference together with:

Application forms for:

*Branch Delegate, Motions & Charter Motions to Conference.*

Nomination form for:

*County Committee (7 vacancies)  
County Conference Committee for 1 year  
National Conference Committee for 3 years  
Place of County Conference 2021*

Forms for:

*Shaw or Caper Cup  
Howard Memorial Cup  
County President's Shield  
Business Affiliation Shield  
Poppy Appeal Cup*

Notice of Conference and the requisite forms can be accessed by Branch Officials on MAP on the Hampshire Page in County Shared Documents/County Conference2019/Forms A-I

Note:

TR Russell, GS Brown, Ms AD Mitchell, BCN Soffe, Mrs PM Prior BEM QVRM & B Mansi are serving members of the County Committee and may NOT be nominated at Conference 2019.

## Branch News

### Eastleigh, Chandlers Ford & District



RBL EASTLEIGH, CHANDLERS FORD & DISTRICT

## *Festival of Remembrance*

100 years ago the war ended, and a new world began.  
The generation who gave so much during the war  
fought for more than just victory.  
They fought for a better world and shaped how we live

They fought for a better world and shaped how we live

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Tickets £11 - Doors Open 2pm  
BOX OFFICE: 023 8065 2333 |  
www.thepointeastleigh.co.uk

Music by HMS Collingwood RN Volunteer Band  
And Portsmouth Military Wives

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE CONDUCTED BY  
IAN MacFARLANE - BOYATT WOOD

**TICKETS ON SALE NOW**

The Eastleigh, Chandlers Ford & District will be holding it's "Festival of Remembrance" on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> November, at The Point Eastleigh, SO50 9DE.

Music by HMS Collingwood RN Volunteer band and the Portsmouth Military Wife`s Choir.

Remembrance service conducted by Ian MacFarlane – Boyatt Wood

Tickets £11.00, doors open at 2pm. Box office: 023 8065 2333, www.thepointeastleigh.co.uk

### Copythorne & District

Back by popular demand: Purbeck Big Band returns to Copythorne for another night of big band favourites.

On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2018, Copythorne Parish Hall will once again be filled with the sounds of

big band favourites at a concert in aid of Copythorne British Legion.

The 17-piece big band and guest singers will entertain with music from the 30s, 40s and 50s, with golden memories from artists such as Glenn Miller, the Ted Heath Big Band, Stan Kenton and Benny Goodman, along with timeless vocal hits from musicians including Frank Sinatra and Ella Fitzgerald.

Following a highly successful concert earlier this year, the Purbeck Big Band are looking forward to returning to Copythorne for the event that starts at 7.30 pm. Tickets are £8.00 each and are available by ringing 023 8081 2504 or 023 8081 4732, or subject to availability, on the door. For more information, please email [purbeckbb@btinternet.com](mailto:purbeckbb@btinternet.com).

Refreshments will be available during the evening and there is free parking at the venue in Pollards Moor Road, Copythorne, Southampton SO40 2NZ.

Copythorne Royal British is one of the most active rural branches in Hampshire and with excellent support from collectors, local schools and businesses, has raised the immense sum of approximately £28,000 towards the National Poppy Appeal since October 2017. The branch welcomes new members - you do not have to have been in the Services. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday evening of each month at the Royal British Legion Hall in Cadnam.

Purbeck Big Band In 1969 a group of musicians in the Purbeck area of Dorset got together to perform their favourite Big Band Swing, with the full classic 17-piece big band line up of 5 saxes, 8 brass and 4 rhythm. Since then the band has accumulated a library of approximately 1,000 numbers and is able to perform anything from a full Big Band Swing Concert to a ballroom dance evening. The band has helped raise thousands of pounds for local and national charities over the years.

Copythorne & District Branch will be visiting the newly refurbished Royal Air Force Museum, Hendon, London on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October, leaving the Parish hall at 8.30am. the fare to attend is £14.00, if interested then please contact the Copythorne Branch.

### Church Crookham

**8<sup>th</sup> September 2018.** Very close to the Centenary of the award of the Victoria Cross to the then Lt

Col Johnson, Fleet, Crookham & District Branch unveiled a commemorative road sign to recognise the long-time Church Crookham resident, Major General Dudley Graham Johnson VC CB DSO\* MC (1884 – 1975).

Dudley Johnson served with the Wiltshire Regiment in the Second Boer War. He transferred to the South Wales Borderers upon graduating from the Royal Military College, Sandhurst in 1903. He was 34 years old, and an acting lieutenant colonel commanding 2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment during the First World War when his brave action at the Sambre Canal, France took place for which he was awarded the VC.

Citation for Victoria Cross - Lt Col D G Johnson, Commanding Officer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment.

*"On 4 November 1918 at Sambre Canal, France, the 2nd Infantry Brigade, of which the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment formed part, was ordered to cross by the lock south of Catillon. The position was strong and the assaulting and bridging parties were halted on arrival at the waterway 100 yards from the canal by a heavy barrage. At this point Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson arrived and personally led an assault but heavy fire again broke up the attack. He reorganized the assaulting and bridging parties and this time effected a crossing but the success of this dangerous operation was entirely due to his splendid leadership."*

Maj Gen Johnson became GOC of the 4th Division from 1938 to 1940 and was evacuated with his men from Dunkirk in June 1940. Later in 1940, he was appointed GOC Aldershot Command before becoming Inspector of Infantry in 1941. He retired to Church Crookham in 1944. Maj Gen Johnson was post-war Chairman of Fleet Urban District Council (1948-50), County President and Branch President of the Royal British Legion, Church Warden of Christ Church, Church Crookham and many other civic posts. He is buried in the churchyard of Christ Church with his wife Marjorie, who died in 1950. Johnson

Way and Dudley Court in Church Crookham were named after him.

For the unveiling we were pleased to host the general's grandson, Lt Col (Ret'd) Andrew Larpent and granddaughter, Mrs Marianne West. The sign was unveiled by Andrew Larpent and Chairman of Hart District Council, Cllr Wendy Makepeace-Brown. The general's family and the Branch would like to thank Hart District Council for the manufacture and installation of the signs at Johnson Way, Church Crookham.

We hope the many people who pass by the signs at both ends of Johnson Way will stop and read about this brave soldier, public servant and distinguished gentleman who once lived where they do today and is buried nearby.



*Unveiling the sign. Left to Right - Grandson of Maj Gen Dudley Johnson, Lt Col (Ret'd) Andrew Larpent and Chairman of Hart District, Cllr Wendy Makepeace-Brown (Photo - Micheal Carrington, AFFCC)*



*Commemorating Maj Gen Johnson VC. Left to Right - Branch Chairman Air Cdre (Ret'd) Bill Tyack, grandson Lt Col (Ret'd) Andrew Larpent, granddaughter Marianne West, Chairman of Hart District, Cllr Wendy Makepeace-Brown and Standard Bearer, Tim Burt (Photo - Micheal Carrington, AFFCC)*

## Earl Mountbatten Memorial Branch

EMMB, Tree at the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA).

Many RBL Members will have read the 'Stories from the National Memorial Arboretum' (NMA) article in the September 2018 edition of the 'Legion' magazine. However, did you know that the Earl Mountbatten Memorial Branch (EMMB) in Hampshire County planted a tree in Memory of the Late Earl back in 2002, shortly after the NMA was opened? Sadly, the first tree, an Oak, failed to grow and likewise the second tree, a Rowan, also failed. After that a 'Honey Locust, Sunburst' was planted in the same spot and is thriving. The location of the EMMB Memorial Tree at the NMA is in the Far East Walk area. The Tree and its Plaque can be found by standing on the path of the Far East Walk with the entrance to the Far East Prisoner Of War wooden Museum Hut on your left. Then walk forward as far as you can to the Burma Star Association Memorial. The EMMB Tree and Plaque can now be found on the bank on your right-hand side. We are sure that the Late Earl would be proud to have his Memorial Tree in that area of the NMA with its many links with the Far East. That part of the NMA has changed considerably since the initial tree planting in 2002 as the trees in the area have started to grow.

The attached photos show what the Plaque looks like and Memorial Tree looked like in August 2018.



When the Armed Forces Memorial was added to the NMA then the name of Earl Mountbatten was also added to the 'wall' of that Memorial in the centre.

## Old Basing

The Old Basing Branch are holding a "Bake Off" competition on the 28<sup>th</sup> October, starting at 1pm at the Old Basing RBL, Crown Lane, RG24 7DN.

A selection of different categories are available to enter, must enter minimum of 2, under 16's can enter one or more of the stated categories.

The public will be able to cast votes on the day, with ½ the votes from the public, the other ½ from the judges. All cakes will be sold at the end of the day to raise money for the Poppy Appeal.

For more information, see the flyer attached, or contact [oldbasing.web@rbl.community](mailto:oldbasing.web@rbl.community)

## Droxford & District

GP90 Parade – Menin Gate – August 2018

I have taken a short passage from Droxford Branch Secretary's GP90 report to his Branch, which I will attach to the link Next month for all to read.

"It was claimed that the largest number of standards ever paraded were at the Menin Gate that day and it certainly looked impressive. Sheer numbers, however, prevented a good view of the 100 days ceremony itself, other than via large CCTV screens. HM's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Belgium led the readings and she was followed by General Richards, the Chairman of the RBL and representatives from various Commonwealth embassies, the German Embassy and the Mayor of Ypres. The National Chaplain of the RBL led the prayers and the Archbishop of York gave a reading. After the Exhortation, the Last Post and Reveille were sounded by the Ypres fire brigade, and wreaths were laid including those from the 1,100 or so RBL branches represented. The Droxford & District branch wreath included a short verse written by a member of the branch following an in-house competition. This read as follows:

The legions of the present send the legions of the  
past

A message of remembrance that will for ever last:

A message of assurance that while the flag of  
freedom waves,

You will never be forgotten, and honoured are  
your graves.

With respect and admiration from members of  
Droxford and District Royal British Legion  
(formerly Comrades of the Great War)

The parade then reformed and marched back through Ypres where we enjoyed some well-earned beer and listened to the Royal Marines band, the Central Band of the RBL and the London Welsh Male Voice Choir. This also provided another opportunity to admire the architecture of Ypres which, like Arras and numerous other Belgium and French towns, had been recreated following the devastation of the Great War.”



## Poppy Appeal News

National total £47,107,057-31  
 Hampshire County £1,684,984-37  
 North £790,386-18  
 South £894,557-19

## 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.

<b>Eastleigh:</b>	<b>Lymington:</b>	<b>Fleet:</b>
1400hrs	1930hrs	1900hrs
Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	Oct 8 <sup>th</sup>	Oct 10 <sup>th</sup>

The Parade Marshal, Steve Forward can be contacted on 023 8069 3028, or [stevemo@stevemo.plus.com](mailto:stevemo@stevemo.plus.com) or Deputy Parade Marshal, Dave Graham on 01425 623102 or [davidkarengraham1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto: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

### Hampshire Festival of Remembrance

More Standard Bearers are required to sign up to support the Hampshire County Festival of Remembrance on 11<sup>th</sup> 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, the CFR’s, Sarah & Jim, or the CRO, Pat Prior MBE.

### Show – Too Much to Bear

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November at the Willis Museum, Basingstoke, Tickets £5.00pp, with shows at 11:00, 12:00, 14:00 & 15:00.

The show is called *Too Much to Bear* and has been part funded by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. It is an interactive audio performance, which means everyone wears headphones, about my exploration of my great grandfathers’ experiences as a stretcher bearer during WW1 and how that affected his mental health. The aim of the performance and the aim of my organisation, Fluid Motion is to help raise awareness of mental health through performance and open up the conversation.

See the attached flyer for more information.

## Events Diary

### 2018

#### October

**5<sup>th</sup>** Bramley & District Dinner Night  
Sherborne St John Village Hall  
£26.00 PP

*See flyer for more details*

**5<sup>th</sup>** – Medical Services During the Great War  
Sutton Scotney & District  
Victoria Hall, SO21 3GX – 1930hrs  
Entry £3.00

**6<sup>th</sup>** – Band Concert – Purbeck Big Band  
Copythorne Parish Hall  
Start 19:30hrs, Admission £8.00

**17<sup>th</sup>** – RAF Museum Visit  
Leaving Copythorne Parish Hall @ 08:30hrs  
Fare £14.00

**25<sup>th</sup>** – County Poppy Launch  
Farnborough, North Hampshire  
Details TBC

**27<sup>th</sup>** – Uniformed Collection – “Thank You”  
Westquay, Southampton  
Details TBC

**27<sup>th</sup>** – Poppy Appeal Launch  
Poppy Appeal period **28<sup>th</sup>** October to **11<sup>th</sup>**  
November (depending on area)

#### November

**10<sup>th</sup>** – Too Much to Bear  
Willis Museum, Basingstoke  
Tickets £5.00 pp  
11:00 | 12:00 | 14:00 | 15:00  
[www.eventbrite.com/too-much-to-bear-tickets-49374600760](http://www.eventbrite.com/too-much-to-bear-tickets-49374600760)

**11<sup>th</sup>** – 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

#### December

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Treasurers Course  
Area Office Southampton  
[Hampshire.cto@rbl.community](mailto:Hampshire.cto@rbl.community)

*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](http://www.BritishLegion.org.uk)

County Website:

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

Facebook Page

[www.facebook.com/groups/hantscountyrbl/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/hantscountyrbl/)

Poppy Appeal

[www.facebook.com.poppy.hampshirerbl](http://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](mailto:HampshireLink@outlook.com)

Or

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

*(Please ensure correct postage is paid)*

By the 28th 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>Robert 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 BEM QVRM</i>
Communications Support	<i>Avril Mitchell</i>
Hampshire Link	<i>Darron Back</i>