



## We Will Remember Them

*To all those that we have lost*

*Our sincere condolences to family and friends*

### National News

#### National Elections

National Chairman:

**Una Cleminson BEN TD** - 195 Votes – Elected

Rod Bedford – 194 Votes

Denise Edgar – 74 Votes

National Vice Chairman:

**Colin Kemp** – 96 Votes – Elected\*

Joe Falzon OSJ BEM – 96 Votes

Tony Goodwin – 91 Votes

Denise Edgar – 86 Votes

John Morrison – 75 Votes

Syed Mahmood – 26 Votes

\*confirmed by recount and drawing of lots

Board of Trustees:

**Anny Reid OBE** – 250 Votes – Elected

**David Whimpenny** – 176 Votes – Elected

**Paul Harris** – 160 Votes – Elected

Lynda Atkins – 152 Votes

Tony Goodwin – 127 Votes

John Morrison – 119 Votes

Helen Owen – 102 Votes

Michael Alderson – 101

Syed Mahmood – 75 Votes

Phil Davis – 62 Votes

#### Office 365 IT Support

Tom Shepard the Membership IT & Systems Officer has updated the contact details for IT Assistance to

[membership.itsupport@rbl.community](mailto:membership.itsupport@rbl.community) which is aimed at Branches & Counties, if you have any queries regarding Branch Sites, County Sites, Membership area of RBL Website or Umbraca then please use the new contact email.

### Branch News

#### Sutton Scotney

The Sutton Scotney Branch of the RBL have acquired a Red Arrows T-Shirt that has been signed by the current 9 pilots of the 2019 aerobatics team – the Branch is selling the T-Shirt on E-Bay on behalf of the Poppy Appeal and the link <https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/293065140617> gives more details. The opening bid is £14.99 which was the original cost, and the Branch members are covering the cost of postage to anywhere in the world.

If you are interested in owning this special signed T-Shirt please go to the link above and make a bid, the auction will close on the 6<sup>th</sup> May.

#### Liphook

Colonel (Rtrd) Stuart Tootal DSO OBE, has kindly agreed to return to Liphook and talk about an elite unit of British paratroopers who were sent on a daring and highly risky behind-the-lines mission, which was deemed vital to the success of D-Day.

Dropped ahead of the main Allied invasion, 9 PARA were tasked with destroying an impregnable German gun battery. If they failed, thousands of British troops landing on the beaches were expected to die. Only twenty per cent of the unit made it to the objective and half of them were killed or wounded during the attack.

The talk will take place at Liphook Village Hall (4 Headley Road, GU30 7NP) on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 starting at 19:45hrs, tickets are £5.00 and can be purchased from Liphook Travel, to book tickets or for more information contact [info@liphookrbl.org](mailto:info@liphookrbl.org) or check our website [www.liphookrbl.org](http://www.liphookrbl.org).

## Totton & Eling

Due to circumstances beyond our control the Coach Trip to the National Memorial Arboretum planned for 30<sup>th</sup> May and the Combined Branch Fun afternoon planned for 19<sup>th</sup> May have both been cancelled.

However, a dinner/dance planned for Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 1900 for 1930 at the AFC Totton Clubhouse is still going ahead. Tickets are £20 each for a two-course meal with wine. There are only 80 tickets available so if you would like to attend or would like more information get in touch with the Secretary on 07446 780367 or [legionsec.totton@gmail.com](mailto:legionsec.totton@gmail.com)

## Kingsclere

The Kingsclere Branch RBL held an Easter Fete at the Crown Public House in the village at the weekend to help raise funds for the Poppy Appeal. The weather held up nicely and a number of events including the human fruit machine went down very well. Various military vehicles and models were on display for all to see.



## 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

*Sunday*

*14:00*

*12<sup>th</sup> May*

*9<sup>th</sup> June*

*21<sup>st</sup> July*

*N/A*

*8<sup>th</sup> Sept*

*20<sup>th</sup> Oct*

#### Lymington

*Monday*

*19:30*

*13<sup>th</sup> May*

*10<sup>th</sup> June*

*15<sup>th</sup> July*

*12<sup>th</sup> Aug*

*9<sup>th</sup> Sept*

*14<sup>th</sup> Oct*

#### Fleet

*Wednesday*

*19:00*

*15<sup>th</sup> May*

*12<sup>th</sup> June*

*17<sup>th</sup> July*

*14<sup>th</sup> Aug*

*11<sup>th</sup> Sept*

*16<sup>th</sup> Oct*

*Each session is an hour long*

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

## Poppy Appeal News

### PAO Seminar

This year's PAO Seminar will take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June, at the Southwick & Widley D-Day Memorial Hall, Priory Road, Southwick, Fareham, PO17 6EB

Please arrive no earlier than 10am, for a 10:30 start, and hoping to finish around 2.30pm, refreshments and lunch will be provided, if you have specific dietary requirements then please let CFR (N) know.

Please could PAO's & deputies please contact CFR (N) by 3<sup>rd</sup> June if you would like to attend: Email: [eparker@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:eparker@britishlegion.org.uk)

## Poppy Quest Portsmouth

Poppy Quest Portsmouth is the perfect way to discover the past and present of this historic city. The 10km sponsored walk is suitable for all ages and abilities. You can walk solo, with your dog or with family and friends - it's completely up to you.

On setting off from the Guildhall Square, you'll be armed with a map to navigate our trail and a set of questions to answer en route which will get you to explore the city's rich history. For the kids, we'll give them a stamp collection card so when they get to each question spot, they'll be encouraged to speak to one of our volunteers to find out more and receive their stamp reward. If you're walking on your own, you can meet up with fellow solo walkers at our Meet Up point at the start. It's a great opportunity to make new friends and get your heads together to take on this unique challenge.

We're asking each adult to fundraise £50, if there are any children in your team, we've also got some fun ways for them to get involved in the fundraising. If you reach £100 in sponsorship, you'll also receive a special prize for you or your team. The vital funds you raise will mean we're able to support veterans and their families

Costs:

Registration costs £16 for adults, and children under 18 can enter for free. All participants will receive:

- A finisher's reward to celebrate your achievement
- A Royal British Legion t-shirt
- A special gift for participants who raise over £100 (1 per £100 if in a team)
- A map and quiz to help you find the hidden gems in your city
- Full support prior to the walk, including fundraising pack and preparation ideas
- Soft drinks, sweets and snacks to replenish you before and after the walk
- Meet and greet our Poppy Mascot
- Entertainment at the Event Village

Your registration cost covers your place in the event and we encourage our participants to raise a minimum of £50 which will go directly towards supporting our Armed Forces community and their families.

More information can be found at

[www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/poppy-quest-portsmouth](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/poppy-quest-portsmouth)

## Notices

### Newmarket Race Day

Newmarket Suffolk RBL Raceday Saturday 10 August

Ticket prices: £19.60 for Premier (reduced from £28). £13.30 for Grandstand and Paddock (reduced from £19) £3 donation to the Legion for every ticket sold.

Number to call - 01638 675500 option 4

Code to quote: RBL19 for Members prices

On sale from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019 via Newmarket Races only

<https://www.thejockeyclub.co.uk/newmarket/even-ts-tickets/royal-british-legion-day/>

Parade of Standards with Leiston RBL Band.

Please contact Sandra Bromley MSO Suffolk to book in – details as below. Free admission for standard bearers only. By end of July please

### Lepe Into History

Explore Lepe's fascinating history over one fun-packed weekend.

Parade & Big Band, Period Music, Theatre Show, Exhibitions, Display and lots more.

(Charges apply for parking and some activities)

The event takes over the weekend 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> June at Lepe, Exbury, Southampton SO14 1AD.

More information can be found at

[www.hants.gov.uk/lepe](http://www.hants.gov.uk/lepe) (Poster attached to the Newsletter)

### County Facebook

Due to inappropriate posts and comments to the County Facebook page, by people that are NOT part of Hampshire RBL, the County Social Media Rep, has restricted access to the Facebook page to those people that are members of Hampshire RBL.

To ensure that only the County Membership have access, please answer the 3 questions that are asked, and Avril will be more than happy to grant access. This is to ensure only appropriate postings that are a benefit to the RBL Membership in the County are published.

If you are having problems, or would like to speak to the Social Media Rep, then contact Avril at

[Hampshire.Web@RBL.Community](mailto:Hampshire.Web@RBL.Community)

### Armed Forces Day – 2019

Armed Forces Day this year falls on the 29<sup>th</sup> June, more details about the Hampshire Day will be published as soon as details released.

The IoW Armed Forces Day will take place at Newport Quay on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019.

There will be a number of events taking place locally during the week 22<sup>nd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> June, so please go along and show your support.

### **D-Day 75 – Portsmouth - 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> June**

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings, a host of special events will take place across the UK and France. The Ministry of Defence has announced one of the biggest mobilisations of the UK Armed Forces in recent years, including over 4,000 personnel, 11 Royal Navy vessels and multiple aircraft, including Spitfire.

Portsmouth, where much of the landing force sailed from in 1944, will be the focal point of the UK commemorations and will host the UK national event on 5 June. Portsmouth City Council is also planning a series of events over five days to reflect the area's unique role in one of the largest and well-known military operations ever. The main commemorative event on 5 June will include a flypast of 26 RAF aircraft. Later, the city will wave off around 300 veterans, as they set sail for France, where there will be events along the Normandy beaches.

Portsmouth will also host a Royal Collection Trust exhibition across the five-day commemorations, and screenings to show the events over in Normandy live. The first Portsmouth Revival Festival, celebrating the food, music, dancing and vehicles of the time, will also take place. Portsmouth's activity will culminate in a Sunset Concert for Heroes, with acts including the Military Wives Choir and the D-Day Darlings. Before sunset on the 5 June, MV Boudicca, a specially-chartered ship for 300 Normandy veterans (procured by funds from The Royal British Legion and a LIBOR grant from HM Treasury) will transport veterans across the channel to Normandy. It will be escorted by a Royal Navy vessel, representing the famous crossing 75 years before.

The ship will accommodate the veterans for the duration of their visit to Normandy and is being provided to the veterans at no cost. Any veterans that have not yet come forward are urged to get in touch with the Royal British Legion as there is still time to book a place aboard MV Boudicca for the journey to Normandy.

The key events will include an inauguration at the site of the Normandy Memorial Trust's British

Normandy Memorial and The Royal British Legion's services at Bayeux Cathedral and Bayeux Cemetery. The commemorations will conclude with an evening of music and entertainment beside the beaches in Arromanches. Around 2000 current serving personnel will offer support to veterans both in the UK and in France, while also taking part in the various ceremonial events.

David Williams Chief Executive Portsmouth City Council said: "The scale of D-Day 75 is unprecedented with Portsmouth at the heart of commemorations on 5 June. The city will provide the back drop for the armed forces to mark this historic occasion and, most importantly, to pay tribute to veterans and their comrades and reflect on lessons learned."

Portsmouth City Council is on the lookout for volunteers to help the D-Day 75 events run smoothly. To find out what's available and get in touch, take a look at [The D-Day Story website's volunteering page](#).

This event

### **Meridian Concert Wind Band**

The Meridian Concert Wind Band are based in the Southampton area, and are keen to set up a concert with a Royal British Branch somewhere in the Hampshire Area – a Remembrance Concert on or around Remembrance Sunday (Preferably the Saturday or Sunday)

The Meridian Concert Wind Band are a high quality 45-50 piece wind band with a wide repertoire with an ex-Royal Marines Bandmaster. If you are interested in helping set up a concert with the Meridian Concert Wind Band, then please contact Richard Taylor at [richardtaylor741@btinternet.com](mailto:richardtaylor741@btinternet.com) or Tel: 07881 811619 or you can make contact through the Hampshire Link at [hampshirelink@outlook.com](mailto:hampshirelink@outlook.com).

### **Hampshire link Newsletter**

Could Branches please spread the word that the Hampshire County Newsletter the "Hampshire Link" is here for all members of Hampshire RBL to see.

If you have any articles, event or notices that you would like to be advertised then contact the editor, Darron, at [hampshirelink@outlook.com](mailto:hampshirelink@outlook.com) preferably by the 26<sup>th</sup> of the month (to allow the newsletter to be laid out).

The editor tries to send the Link to as many Branches as possible so please spread the word.



TO THE MEMORY OF THE FALLEN AND THE FUTURE OF THE LIVING  
The Royal British Legion provides lifelong support for the Armed Forces community - serving men and women, veterans, and their families

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D Day landings

This year on June 6<sup>th</sup>, we commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the D-Day landings at Normandy. To mark this event, it is planned to hold a sponsored walk over the weekend of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The walk will start from Old Basing RBL and will be a distance of 75 miles, done in 3 laps of a 25-mile course. The walk can be completed as an individual or as a team, but the aim is to complete the 75 miles in one go.

The planned start time on the 8<sup>th</sup> will be 9am, and the end time will be whenever you manage to finish on Sunday. The walk will also include through the night walking.

If you are interested, please can you let any member of the committee or Branch know. The monies collected will go towards the Royal British Legion, Lord Haig Poppy Appeal for 2019.

If you are unable to participate as a walker, you can also support us by donating as much as you can. There will be a tin on the bar for your donations to be collected.

However, you support us, it will be greatly appreciated by all. Many thanks.



Charity Number 219279



## Events Diary

**2019**

### **May**

**13<sup>th</sup>** – Golf Pairs

The Army Club – Aldershot

Rick Bourne – County Golf Secretary

07900 648675

**31<sup>st</sup>** – D-Day 75 Commemoration Talk

Liphook Village Hall @ 19:45hrs

£5.00 per person

[Info@liphookrbl.org](mailto:Info@liphookrbl.org)

[www.liphookrbl.org](http://www.liphookrbl.org)

### **June**

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Lepe into history

[www.hants.gov.uk/lepe](http://www.hants.gov.uk/lepe)

Exbury, Southampton, SO14 1AD

**5<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup>** – D-Day 75

[www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/d-day-75](http://www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/d-day-75)

**8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>** – Sponsored Walk

Old Basing RBL Club (75 Miles)

[Oldbasing.treasurer@rbl.community](mailto:Oldbasing.treasurer@rbl.community)

**21<sup>st</sup>** – Totton & Eling Branch Dinner

AFC Totton Clubhouse

Tickets £20 each

[Legionsec.totton@gmail.com](mailto:Legionsec.totton@gmail.com)

**22<sup>nd</sup>** – Military Vehicle Commemorative Convoy

Southwick Park – Lasham Air field – Greenham

Common

See attached “D-Day Vehicle Parade”

**22<sup>nd</sup>** – Armed Forces Day

Newport Quay, IoW

**28<sup>th</sup>** – PAO Seminar – 1030hrs

Southwick & Widley D-Day Memorial Hall

PO17 6ED

Email: [eparker@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:eparker@britishlegion.org.uk)

**29<sup>th</sup>** – Armed Forces Day

### **July**

**14<sup>th</sup>** – Poppy Quest Portsmouth

Guildhall Square

£16 Entry Fee

[events@royalbritishlegion.org.uk](mailto:events@royalbritishlegion.org.uk)

[www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/poppy-quest-portsmouth)

[involved/fundraise/poppy-quest-portsmouth](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/poppy-quest-portsmouth)

### **August**

**10<sup>th</sup>** – Newmarket Race Day

Tickets £19-60, £13-30 with £3.00 donation TRBL

Newmarket Racetrack, Suffolk

Tel: 01638 675500 option 4

## 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/)

Facebook - Email

[Hampshire.web@rbl.community](mailto:Hampshire.web@rbl.community)

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)

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>Craig Spence</i>
Training Officer	<i>Mike Davis</i>
Recruitment Officer	<i>Pat Prior BEM, QVRM</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>