



We Will Remember Them

Mr J Martin – *Sutton Scotney*
Brigadier (Rtd) D Green – *Headley & District*
Captain I S MacGillivray - *Hambledon*

Our sincere condolences to family and friends

National News

Poppy Milestone – Thank You

I thought I'd share with you the fabulous news that the overall total for the 2018 Poppy Appeal has today exceeded £50m! Of course, the number will continue to rise over the coming months which is even better but passing this landmark is worthy of celebrating.

To remind us all of the scale of the 2018 Appeal:
We distributed:

7 million pins
7 million gold leaf poppies
33 million paper poppies
27,000 school packs
86,000 event poppies
130,000 wreaths
200,000 additional collection tins and seals

It was an enormous effort and this tremendous achievement is the culmination of the great efforts from teams across fundraising, the organisation and of course our Membership and volunteers. Every team, department, County and Branch has played their part and through brilliant collaboration we have collectively taken the Appeal to another level and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved for their contribution.

Building on this success, we will continue to collaborate to ensure that we continue to maximise the Appeal that is so important to our organisation, and the armed forces community. Can I ask that you please on my thanks to your Branches and Members; all should be proud of this great achievement.

Claire Rowcliffe

Director of Fundraising

Office of National Statistics

The Office of National Statistics is looking for volunteers to take part in a on-off survey, the poster attached to the link gives the full details but they are interested in speaking to individuals that fall into who are/have.

- Currently Serving in the Armed Forces (regular or reserve)
- Previously served in the Armed Forces (regular or reserves)
- Completed National Service
- Live on an Armed Forces base
- Live with someone who fits the above criteria.

Interviews take place in Newport, South Wales or Titchfield, Hampshire; whichever is most convenient.

If interested contact DCM@ons.gov.uk or tel 01633 355881.

County News

Training Update

Here with an update of training held and planned for Hampshire in 2019.

Unfortunately, the two Recruitment Advisor courses planned for the end of April had to be cancelled due to there being only one delegate for the course in the north and none for the course in the south. This is very disappointing as we know that there are a large number of branches who do not have a trained recruitment advisor and, although the decrease in member numbers in Hampshire is less than the national figures, never the less membership is decreasing and none of us are getting any younger.

The Independent Examiners course on 11-12th May at the Area Office Southampton was a big success with the course fully subscribed although only a minority of the delegates were from Hampshire.

The next planned course arranged with national trainer support is a Branch Treasurer course on 7th-8th September at the Area Office in Southampton. This is the last Branch Treasurer course we will be holding this year so any current or prospective branch treasurers who require this course should pencil in the dates and send an application to me without delay.

Following on from the successful Independent Examiners course we held in May we have been offered dates for another course provisionally 16th-17th November. It is critical that we increase the number of IE's within the county so it is imperative that this course is also a success. Please be informed that it is a requirement that delegates have previously attended a RBL Branch Treasurer course. The IE course ends in a written exam which delegates shall pass in order to perform duties as an IE. Again, if you are interested in attending this course then please contact me at Hampshire.cto@rbl.community.

It is my intention over the next few months to hold a series of one day Branch Management courses throughout the county. This course is suitable for all current and prospective branch committee members. In order to help me to decide the best locations for these courses and to avoid the disappointment of me planning courses that are then cancelled, I would ask all branches that are interested in this course to contact me with an idea of prospective numbers.

Finally, I would remind branches of my offer to hold MAP's and Office 365 workshops for branch officer and committee members in individual branches. I have held a number of these workshops the feedback being that they have proved very useful. If your branch is interested in this then please contact me at Hampshire.cto@rbl.community.

Mike Davis

Hampshire CTO

Branch News

Petersfield

Petersfield Branch recently visited Ypres and the Somme battlefields – the visit included the laying of wreaths and poppy crosses at Veurne, Zeebrugge, Oosterverne, Thiepval and Pozieres in memory of: Fus M Fell, Pte J Cooper, F/O O Kelly, Pte T Bradley, Gnr J Boxall, Pte C Edwards, Bdr G Flack, Pte H Norris, Pte J Gard, Pte F Hudson, Pte H Provens and Pte H West. We met up with the family of Fusilier Fell at Veurne, where we held a Memorial Service and laid a wreath. The following day we were joined by Konrad, who provided a wealth of information as our guide, during our visit to the various WW1 sites, which included Wessex Farm Cemetery, where Major John McCrae was inspired to write his poem – “In Flanders Fields”.

Later we visited a Welsh memorial, Tyne Cot and Langemark German Cemetery. After which we visited the memorial cemetery to the Zeebrugge Raid and laid a wreath. Following this we passed through the Somme and Vimy Ridge, stopping at Australian and Canadian memorials. This was followed by a visit to Thiepval – memorial to 72,337 “unknown graves”. At Lochnagar Crater – location of a underground explosion that destroyed enemy lines – there was a group photo.



Petersfield RBL & Friends at Lochnagar crater

En route for home – at Nieuwpoort – we glimpsed the statue of Belgian King Albert I and after a brief stop to celebrate driver Jamie's birthday we were on our way to the Channel Tunnel and onwards to Petersfield.



Tyne Cot



Fell family, Margaret & Jell Williams, Fus M Fell

Dinner night



On April 25th Petersfield RBL had another successful dinner in the Half Moon at Sheet. Lots of fun, food and drink - copious raffle prizes, speeches and dubious jokes!

Old Basing & District

The Old Basing Branch are holding a Cream Tea & Cake sale on Saturday 8th June at The Jack Morris Hall, from 2pm until 4pm. Admission is £4.00 and will have a number of stalls in attendance. All profits to the RBL Poppy Appeal.



Old Basing & District Royal British Legion
Crown Lane, Old Basing, RG24 7DN
Charity No: 219279

Cream Tea & Cake Sale



Saturday 8th June

The Jack Morris Hall

From 2.00pm till 4.00 pm

Books and other stalls tbc

Admission £4.00 includes Cream Tea

All profits to the Poppy Appeal

Totton, Eling & District

The Totton Area Poppy Appeal covers Ashurst, Eling and Totton and since October we have raised almost £29,000 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. We keep fundraising throughout the year and always welcome new Volunteers. We will be busy over the next few months running several events leading up to the Annual Poppy Appeal when we collect daily from Saturday 26th October until Monday 11th November.

We hold a monthly Community Drop-in to which everyone is welcome. The last one was on Thursday 30th May from 10am to Midday in the Totton and Eling Community Centre and continues on the last Thursday of each month. Each month we have a group of regulars who attend for a cup of tea and a chat and we always welcome new visitors. It is held with members of the Totton Area Men's Shed and other local organisations and we can signpost people to other local events which may interest them.

Weather permitting, we also have the Poppy Appeal stall at the Car Boot Sale in the Totton Memorial Car Park on the first Sunday of each month. The next 2 are on Sunday 2nd June and Sunday 7th July from 10am to midday. Please come along and grab a bargain. Tea/coffee and bacon sandwiches etc. are usually available to purchase and if the sun is shining it is a great chance to chat with other Veterans and Poppy Appeal supporters. If you have anything to donate that we can sell at Car Boot Sales to raise funds for the Poppy Appeal please ring Susan Compton on 023 8087 3143.

To mark the 75th Anniversary of D-Day and the start of the Allied Invasion of Normandy, the Totton Area Poppy Appeal Team are holding an informal D-Day Commemoration in the Totton and Eling Community Centre on Saturday 8th June from 2pm to 4pm to which everyone is welcome. We will have films and information about the D-Day invasion and will finish the afternoon with a singalong of 1940's songs. Refreshments will be available.

Thank you for supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. To Volunteer to help at Totton Area Poppy Appeal Events or for more information please follow our Facebook page Totton Area RBL Poppy Appeal, email poppy@compark.co.uk or ring Susan Compton – Joint Poppy Appeal Organiser on 023 8087 3143.

Kingsclere

Progress continues in our village branch with a number of successes to report since our last article for The Link.

The “one page” biographies that have been produced by our Branch Secretary, which have been attached to a number of our Link articles have been collated into a book, covering some 250 years of village military history and are proving very popular.

Our Easter Fete was a success despite the weather and in addition to the All Year Poppy Fund raising, a further £1000 was raised which will be donated to the Hampshire RBL Welfare Funds once our accounts have been ratified.

We intent to support with great enthusiasm the D Day 75 ride, which will pass through Kingsclere on the 22nd June and a number of events and attraction are planned in addition to the drive past itself. The local school are various Guiding and Scouting Associations are all being involved in what will be a once in a lifetime event.

Brunch Club continues to be successful on the first Saturday of the month, with a wide range of people now regularly attending; this has had a significant impact on our increased membership and I would recommend any small branch give Brunch Club a try as a social and recruitment opportunity.

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.

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.

Eastleigh	Lymington	Fleet
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
<i>14:00</i>	<i>19:30</i>	<i>19:00</i>
<i>9th June</i>	<i>10th June</i>	<i>12th June</i>
<i>21st July</i>	<i>15th July</i>	<i>17th July</i>
<i>N/A</i>	<i>12th Aug</i>	<i>14th Aug</i>
<i>8th Sept</i>	<i>9th Sept</i>	<i>11th Sept</i>
<i>20th Oct</i>	<i>14th Oct</i>	<i>16th Oct</i>

Each session is an hour long

Poppy Appeal News

PAO Seminar

This year’s PAO Seminar will take place on Friday 28th 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 3rd June if you would like to attend: Email: 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

Sports

Golf

To mark the annual event of Armed Forces Day, Old Basing RBL is hosting a **Poppy Fund** golf day.

We are going to Sherfield Oaks G.C. (between Basingstoke and Reading) who will assist us with the arrangements to ensure not only will you have a great day out, but also the Poppy Appeal will benefit from all funds raised. The date for your diary is **Monday June 24th**

The cost is very similar to past years being £43 per person (£172 per team of 4) and this will include coffee and bacon roll, your green fee and a meal afterwards, plus a contribution to prizes and donation to the Poppy Appeal.

Cost to members of Sherfield Oaks is £23.50. Entry form and full detail are attached to the Newsletter.

Notices

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

D-Day 75 – Portsmouth - 5th – 9th 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 board 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](#).

Harmonium Singers

A summer concert by local chamber choir The Harmonium Singers will celebrate in song the beauty of nature, while raising much needed funds for Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance (HIOWAA). The music and readings will focus on the beauty of the earth, sea and sky in a programme ranging widely from a renaissance motet to a sea shanty. Several of the songs have been arranged for the choir specially for this performance.

Armed Forces Day – 2019

The City of Southampton will be holding its Armed Forces Day on Sunday 30th June 10:00 – 18:00



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 or Tel: 07881 811619 or you can make contact through the Hampshire Link at hampshirelink@outlook.com.

A Warrior of the Great War

Commander Rob Scott RN, the Secretary of Droxford & District Branch has produced a highly detailed and interesting article about Lieutenant-Colonel Dick Worrall DSO MC, which I have attached to this month's Newsletter.

I would like to thank Rob for submitting the piece to the link and giving permission for it to be published.

HELP!



We are hoping that there might be some amazingly talented, **and kind** knitters out there who would donate some knitted or crocheted poppies for a project we are working on?

Can be as big or small as you like, with leaf / without leaf – all will get used

If you could help out, could you please send to:

Newton Newton Flags Ltd
The Bishop Tozer's Chapel
Middlemarsh Road
Burgh-le-Marsh
Lincolnshire
PE24 5AD

Please add note of who you are in with the poppies so we can give you a shout out of thanks online



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

75th Anniversary of D Day landings

This year on June 6th, we commemorate the 75th 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 8th and 9th 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 8th 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

June

1st & 2nd – Lepe into history

www.hants.gov.uk/lepe

Exbury, Southampton, SO14 1AD

5th -9th – D-Day 75

www.visitportsmouth.co.uk/d-day-75

8th & 9th – Sponsored Walk

Old Basing RBL Club (75 Miles)

Oldbasing.treasurer@rbl.community

8th – Cream Tea & Cake Sale

Old Basing Branch

The Jack Morris Hall

1400 – 1600

8th – D-Day Commemoration

Totton & Eling Community Centre

1400 - 1600

21st – Totton & Eling Branch Dinner

AFC Totton Clubhouse

Tickets £20 each

Legionsec.totton@gmail.com

22nd – Military Vehicle Commemorative Convoy

Southwick Park – Lasham Air field – Greenham

Common

See attached “D-Day Vehicle Parade”

22nd – Armed Forces Day

Newport Quay, IoW

24th – AFD Gold day

Sherfield Oaks Golf Club

Contact 07900 648675 or 07920 84095

28th – PAO Seminar – 1030hrs

Southwick & Widley D-Day Memorial Hall

PO17 6ED

Email: eparker@britishlegion.org.uk

30th – Armed Forces Day - Southampton

Guildhall Square – Southampton

Form up at Holyrood Church for 10:00

July

14th – Poppy Quest Portsmouth

Guildhall Square

£16 Entry Fee

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

10th – Newmarket Race Day

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

Newmarket Racetrack, Suffolk

County Websites

RBL Website:

www.BritishLegion.org.uk

County Website:

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

Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/groups/hantscountyrbl/

Facebook - Email

Hampshire.web@rbl.community

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)

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>