



## We Will Remember Them

To all those that have attended their final parade.

*Our sincere condolences to family and friends*

### National News

#### Fundraising

The Royal British Legion has been operating a very successful face-to-face fundraising campaign from private sites since 2009. This method of fundraising secures new supporters for the charity who give on a regular monthly basis by Direct Debit.

We thought you might like to know a bit more about how the campaign works and we'd also like to tell you about an additional way in which we will be updating you about where the promotional sites for this campaign will be located each week.

#### **About the campaign**

This method of fundraising is a very effective way to promote the cause and two popular ways to support via the weekly lottery or a regular giving subscription. It is expected to bring in over 29,000 new supporters this year, who over the next 5 years will give over £7m (with many continuing to give for much longer).

The campaign involves a small team of fundraisers from three carefully selected partner agencies. Each fundraiser undertakes thorough training about the Legion's services, the lottery and regular giving, how to represent the Legion's values and the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Practice. We provide them with reference and promotional materials.

The sites are booked in advance for 2-5 days with retail businesses that have chosen to allow charity use of their space, at high footfall events like air shows, county shows or exhibitions.

#### **Keeping everyone informed**

The process for reviewing and feeding back on proposed sites is cascaded to branches in the relevant areas, via Community Fundraisers, Membership Council, Area Managers, County Chairman and Membership Support Officers.

Branches and Counties are given the opportunity to review the site list and feedback about any concerns or any cross-over with local fundraising or Membership representation at these sites at any time during the campaign period. If there is other Legion representation at an event for example, we can often find a way of working well together using the same space.

Every Friday we circulate the list of confirmed sites for the following week via email to MSOs, Community Fundraisers, the Membership Council and County Chairmen. We are also posting the confirmed site list on the Membership Office365 portal so that you have instant access to this information. The list can be accessed in the Membership Resources area, in the Fundraising folder.

Thank you so much for your continued support with this important fundraising campaign.

*Karolina Brzeska*

Membership Operations

### County News

#### County PR Handout

I have attached the County PR Handout again this month, as it was sent as an additional email last month. With luck the whole of Hampshire should now have access to this document, and it should have or it is intended to discuss its contents with as many Branch members as possible.

### Branch News

#### Yateley & Hawley

Yateley will have its normal May Fayre on VE Day.

This is organised by Yateley Lions and this year in conjunction with the RBL Branch we will be encouraging all, but especially children, to wear their parents, grandparents, great-grandparents

medals on the right-hand side of their chest and parade behind the corps of drums around the all the stalls.

The event starts at 10 am but the parade will be approximately 1430 hours.

We, the local branch, will have our normal stall which is our main fundraiser for branch funds in the year.

### Copythorne & District

The Copythorne & District RBL Branch in conjunction with The Hyde Band (Renowned 1<sup>st</sup> Section Brass Band) will be in concert on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2020 at the Copythorne Parish Hall. Tickets are £10, and can be obtained from Bartley Post Office or Committee members. (See attached Poster for more details)

### Sutton Scotney

At the presentation of awards made by the Hampshire County area of the Royal British Legion, a new award for 2019 was the Business Affiliation Shield. The winner is the company judged to have made the most significant contribution to the Poppy Appeal in the previous year.

Sutton Scotney branch nominated Road Chef – A34 Services, for their contribution in raising over £2,000 at their outlets on the local service area. This amount was more than 21% of the total amount raised in the nearby villages On Tuesday this week (25<sup>th</sup> February) officers from the Branch visited the Services and Malcolm Brown, the Poppy Appeal Organiser presented a certificate to Mr Sayed Faghiri the site director from Road Chef. In thanking Mr Brown, Mr Faghiri said “I look forward to welcoming you back later this year and we will try to raise even more this year.”



Presentation to Road Chef – A34 Services. From L to R Connor Smith, Charlotte Hurst, Tyler Draper, Sayed Faghiri, Malcolm Brown, Philip Keating and Iain Henderson.

### Liss

The Liss British Legion held a very successful Burns Night Supper for 60 paying guests in our newly decorated Main Hall.

The Piper Paul Boness piped in the members and guests and then the haggis along with our local chef Mr. Ian Franklin who is a member of the club.



The meal was excellent and the piper played during the meal and also took requests. The menu for the event consisted of; Roast Beef, Kale, Tatties and Neeps plus of course Haggis Sweet was Artic Roll with Scottish Raspberries Pus a tot of Scotch

Whisky for everyone.

The raffle bought in sufficient funds to pay the piper and we all know he who pays the piper calls the tune.

Club members including the Chairman served the meals and collected the used dishes in what was a complete team effort by the members.

Liss British Legion Club would like to thank all members who helped with the event and our sponsors, the local Liss luncheon Club for plates and pans and the Local council for the loan of tables.

A big thank you to everybody for their support.

### Bordon & District

The Bordon Branch has been very busy lately helping the local community organise the town's VE75 events, from what was going to be a small Service of Remembrance, it has, and continues, to get bigger every meeting.

- 8<sup>th</sup> May – Service of Remembrance (3pm)
- 9<sup>th</sup> May – 1940's Street Party (Noon-4.30pm)
- 10<sup>th</sup> May – Church Services (10am)
- 10<sup>th</sup> May – Planting of VE75 Oak (Noon)
- 10<sup>th</sup> May – 1940's Tea Dance (2pm – 4.30pm)
- 13<sup>th</sup> May – I Shan't be Home for Dinner – Show at the Phoenix Theatre.

These events are still being worked upon, and the Branch are ensuring that the entire Community will have the chance to

Remember/Celebrate/Reflect on this very special event. The Branch will be taking part or attending every event over the VE75 weekend, raising awareness of about the RBL in general, and also helping to raise awareness of our small Branch.

## Petersfield

Petersfield has announced plans to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day. On 8<sup>th</sup> May a short Service of Remembrance will be held in the Square from 2.45pm, with a bugler playing “Last Post” and “Reveille” from the St Peter’s Church Tower, and a piper in the tower will play “Battles O’er” and VE75 Years at 2.55pm.

St Peter’s Church will be having a cream tea at 3.15 to have “The Nation’s Toast” to the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War Veterans.

St Peter’s Church Bells will then join the Nation in “*Ringing for Peace in Europe*” at 7pm.

## 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](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.

### Eastleigh

*Sunday*

*14:00*

8<sup>th</sup> Mar

19<sup>th</sup> Apr

10<sup>th</sup> May

### Lymington

*Monday*

*19:30*

9<sup>th</sup> Mar

20<sup>th</sup> Apr

11<sup>th</sup> May

### Fleet

*Wednesday*

*19:00*

Currently on

hold at the

moment.

14<sup>th</sup> Jun

12<sup>th</sup> Jul

9<sup>th</sup> Aug

13<sup>th</sup> Sep

15<sup>th</sup> Jun

13<sup>th</sup> Jul

10<sup>th</sup> Aug

14<sup>th</sup> Sep

The Standard Bearers Competition will take place on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Oct, at the Pavilion in the Park, Eastleigh, for more information please contact Steve or Graham

## Poppy Appeal

### Community Fund Raiser

Claire Smith has been recruited to take over the position of CFR for Hampshire (South) & Isle of Wight.

*“For the past 18 months I have been working for YoungDementia UK, a national charity dedicated to supporting people living with young onset dementia. I was responsible for setting up community fundraising, events and volunteering programmes as their National Community and Events Fundraising manager. Before that, I worked for Dreams Come True Charity, in which I started in events and community fundraising, looking after mass participation events such as London Marathon then working with 3rd party event companies to offer new opportunities like the Arctic Trek to corporate partners. 6 months in to the role I became the Volunteer Community Manager where I set up the fundraising volunteer programme across the UK from 2014-2018.”*

I know you will make Claire welcome and will allow her time to settle in and learn all about The Royal British Legion (only 99 years’ worth). Claire is running the London Marathon for The Royal British Legion this year too, if anyone would like to sponsor her.

### Poppy Quest – Portsmouth

We would like as many people to sign up for this as we can, they can register through this link.

Sarah Ferris (CFR-North) would be interested in hearing from members that are taking part in the Poppy Quest, also from others that have taken part in the past to get their feelings about the Poppy Quest.

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/things-to-do/events/poppy-quest-portsmouth>

### Poppy Appeal Organisers Seminar

The PAO Seminar is being booked for Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2020. At a location to be revealed soon.

All PAO's and Deputies, as well as anyone interested in becoming a PAO is welcome to attend. Further details will be published as they become available.

### Poppy Appeal Organisers (PAO)

The CFR (N) has a number of locations that are in need of PAO's, if you have family or friends that would like to help this very worthy cause then please get in contact with Sarah at [SFerris@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:SFerris@britishlegion.org.uk), a copy of the PAO Role description is attached to this months Link.

SBM27 – Colden Common

SBA09 – Burghclere

SBB25 – Worldham

SBF01 – Crondall

SBM21 – West Meon

SBM03 - Cheriton

SBA18 – Whitchurch

If you are looking for assistance with in your own area then please contact Sarah (CFR(N)) or Claire (CFR(S)) who help you as much as they can.

### A Hampshire Celebration

#### VE Day 75

This event will take place at the O2 Guildhall, Southampton on Sat 9<sup>th</sup> May 2020. It has been produced by the Hampshire Poppy Appeal, and will orchestrated & Conducted by Alex Pope. This is the Main event for Hampshire County, and will be alongside a number of other events that will be announced soon by Southampton City Council.

### Notices

#### Milford

Bournemouth Male Voice Choir have been in existence for over 100 years and over that time have sung for enjoyment but with the added bonus of raising money for good causes.

At a recent concert they reached the amazing milestone of having raised over £100.000 during the last four years alone, from performing around 95 concerts.

They sing mainly in Hampshire and Dorset but do make occasional forays on tour most recently to France and the Cotswolds.

If you haven't heard the BMVC you are in for a treat since they sing a huge range of music from classical and sacred, to contemporary and new world music and also songs by modern artists such as Billy Joel, Queen and Snow Patrol.

### Touring Show

“The Man Who Left is Not the Man Who Came Home” This is a new play commissioned by the FARNHAM Maltings about the life of a military wife and the challenges she and all the family face because of deployment. Composer is Ben Mason and I am certain it will be a really interesting performance. It opens this week at The Maltings in FARNHAM and is touring. This is a very poignant show that dovetails very nicely with Legions message of remembrance, so please if you get the chance to go along to the show please do so.

### Treasurer's Awareness Training

Fawley & District Branch are planning a Treasurers Awareness training Session on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March with the Hampshire CTO, Mike Davis at Fawley RBL, SO45 1XD. If your interested in sending any delegates then please contact either Fawley Branch or the CTO, just so they have an idea on who is interested.

### ATS Veterans

The Search is on by the Women's Royal Army Corps Association, to find veterans who served with the Auxiliary Territorial Service. Over 300,000 ladies served in the ATS in WW2, in 2020, the world celebrates 75 years since VE & VJ Day, the WRAC Association, which supports all women who've served in the British Army, would like to find the oldest ATS Veteran. Do you have a friend, neighbour or relative who may have served in the ATS?

Let the WRAC Association know at

<https://findourats.org/>

Please spread the message with local organisations, so that the ATS can celebrate and commemorate in style.

### Help Required

We need your help to reach members of the WW2 generation who we're inviting to attend our special commemorative events marking VE and VJ Day. We're running ballots for members of this remarkable generation to be at the centre of VE Day 75 events in London from 8-10 May, and for military and civilians who were involved in conflict in the Far East to attend a VJ Day 75 event at the National Memorial Arboretum, or to return to India, Singapore, Myanmar (Burma) and Thailand. Find out more about the events and enter the ballot for VE day <https://bit.ly/36v0FzH> and VJ Day <https://bit.ly/3aRQetl> now.



## *Unmentioned in Despatches*

Some of them never come home to fanfares,  
they dump their kit-bags down at the door,  
kiss their wives and let their children  
wrestle them down to the kitchen floor,  
switch the telly on, pour out a whiskey,  
search for the local football score.

Some of them skip the quayside welcome,  
dodge the bunting and cannonade,  
make their landfall in silent harbours,  
nod to the coastguard, but evade  
the searchlight of public scrutiny  
like those engaged in the smuggling trade.

Some of them land at lonely airfields  
far removed from the celebration,  
hang their flying gear in a locker,  
cadge a lift to the railway station,  
make for home and take for granted  
the short-lived thanks of a grateful nation.

Some of them miss the royal salute,  
the victory parade along the Mall,  
the fly-past, the ships in formation passing  
the cheering crowds on the harbour wall.  
Remembered only by friends and relatives,  
some of them never come home at all.



*Poet: Peter Wyton*



Old Basing Women's Section Royal British Legion  
**Jack Morris Hall, Crown Lane,  
Old Basing, RG24 7DN**

Charity 219279



# **JUMBLE SALE**

**28<sup>th</sup> March 2:00pm – 4:00pm**

**Lots of nearly-new items for sale,  
Come along and grab a bargain!**

Entrance 50p

Refreshments available

Donations of good quality items gratefully accepted from 9.00am on the day



**Old Basing & District Royal British Legion**

The Women's Section & The Branch

# CREAM TEA

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

**In the Jack Morris Hall**

**Crown Lane, Old Basing, RG24 7DN**

**From 2.00pm till 4.00 pm**

**Admission £4.00 includes Cream Tea**



Donations of baked goods to sell would be very welcome

All proceeds to the Poppy Appeal

Charity No: 219279



**CELEBRATION of VE-DAY  
in Aid of the Poppy Appeal  
on Friday May 8th (Bank Holiday)  
in the Empire Hall**

**Please make a note in your diary!**

**All day event including Music, Stalls,  
Entertainers, Songs and 1940s  
themed evening event.**

**More information will become  
available soon.**

# The man who left is not the man who came home

a new play by Kevin Dyer

presented by Farnham Maltings

*'We started it - pancakes, breakfast the next morning, wedding, holidays, lie-ins on a Sunday, two beautiful girls - and when you get back, we'll finish it. I love you.'*

Alongside Chloé's future hopes come imminent challenges. Because being married to the military means facing deployment. Behind closed doors there's tenderness and humour, but as the day of Ashley's departure comes ever closer, anxiety and confrontations multiply.

*The Man Who Left is Not the Man Who Came Home* is the product of over a hundred one-to-one interviews with soldiers and their wives - where secrets, regrets and experiences have been shared for the first time. A story of resilience, of hope, of change - and what it's like when the man you love is going to war and might not come back.

Kevin Dyer's new play, performed by **Stephanie Greer** and **Sam C Wilson** with **Sam Trussler**, a military wife, is followed by an open conversation about the themes of the play, and the country we live in.

Cast

**Stephanie Greer**  
**Sam C. Wilson**  
with **Sam Trussler**

Writer and Director  
**Kevin Dyer**

Designer  
**David Haworth**

Composer  
**Ben Mason**

Company Manager  
**Kate Bosomworth**

**Age recommend: 14+**  
Contains strong language and scenes that some audience members may find upsetting. Consult venue websites for more information.

**Running time:**  
90 minutes, including an open conversation.

## ON TOUR

26 Feb 2020  
Farnham Maltings  
farnhammaltings.com  
01252 745444

27 Feb  
The Kenton Theatre,  
Henley on Thames  
kentontheatre.co.uk  
01491 525050

28 Feb  
The Old Town Hall,  
Hemel Hempstead  
oldtownhall.co.uk  
01442 228091

29 Feb  
Dugdale, Enfield  
dugdalecentre.co.uk  
020 8807 6680

3 Mar  
Bathway Theatre,  
Woolwich  
greenwichtheatre.org.uk

4 Mar  
Phoenix Theatre  
and Arts Centre, Bordon  
phoenixarts.co.uk  
01420 472664

5 Mar  
West End Centre,  
Aldershot  
westendcentre.co.uk  
01252 330040

6 Mar  
Ropetackle Arts Centre,  
Shoreham-by-Sea  
ropetacklecentre.co.uk  
01273 464440

7 Mar  
Spring Arts and Heritage  
Centre, Havant  
thespring.co.uk  
02392 472700

10 Mar  
Swan Theatre, Worcester  
worcesterlive.co.uk  
01905 611427

11 Mar  
Norden Farm Centre  
for the Arts,  
Maidenhead  
norden.farm  
01628 788997

12 Mar  
The Garage, Norwich  
thegarage.org.uk  
01603 283382

14 Mar  
Helmsley Arts Centre  
helmsleyarts.co.uk  
01439 771700

18 Mar  
Hanger Farm Arts Centre,  
Southampton  
hangerfarm.co.uk  
02380 667683

19 Mar  
Ashcroft Arts Centre,  
Fareham  
ashcroft.org.uk  
01329 223100

20 Mar  
Bridport Arts Centre  
bridport-arts.com  
01308 424204

24 Mar  
Portsmouth  
Guildhall Studio  
portsmouthguildhall.org.uk  
0844 847 2362

26 Mar  
South Holland  
Centre, Spalding  
southhollandcentre.co.uk  
01775 764777

27 Mar  
The Core Theatre,  
Solihull  
thecoretheatresolihull.co.uk  
0121 704 6962

VE Day 75 Anniversary Event



# I SHAN'T BE HOME TO DINNER



Actress Freda Falconer's BBC Radio 4  
Saturday Night Theatre play  
was one of the remarkably few  
successful war plays written by a  
woman, and is based on the  
true story of her life on an  
RAF airbase.

*"Human, humorous and moving" The Stage*

Wednesday 13 May - 7.30pm

Tickets £10.00

Service Personnel/Veterans/Cadets £8.00

**Adapted as a rehearsed reading  
by Freda's granddaughter,  
actress and writer  
Elizabeth Blake.**

**Directed by Rob Allerston,  
Phoenix Theatre Director**

The Phoenix Theatre & Arts Centre,  
Station Road, Bordon, GU35 0LR  
[www.phoenixarts.co.uk](http://www.phoenixarts.co.uk) 01420 472664



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## Events Diary

**2020**

### **March**

**2<sup>nd</sup>** – Spring Quiz

Totton Conservative Club

See Poster for details

**4<sup>th</sup>** – The Man Who Left is Not the Man Who Came Home

[www.phoenixarts.co.uk/event/the-man-who-left/](http://www.phoenixarts.co.uk/event/the-man-who-left/)

**7<sup>th</sup>** – Cream Tea

Jack Morris Hall, Crown Lane

Old Basing & District Branch

**9<sup>th</sup>** – Hampshire VE Day 75

O2 Guildhall, Southampton

**15<sup>th</sup>** – Concert Band Workshop

Frimley Community Centre

Email: [workshop@farnboroughconcertband.org](mailto:workshop@farnboroughconcertband.org)

*Booking essential*

**28<sup>th</sup>** – Jumble Sale

Jack Morris Hall, Crown lane

Old Basing Women`s Section

### **April**

**3<sup>rd</sup>** – Spring Quiz

Ringwood & District

Ringwood Conservative Club

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

### **May**

**8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>** - VE75 Commemorations

**8<sup>th</sup>** – VE-Day Celebrations

Totton & Eling

See poster for details

**13<sup>th</sup>** – I Shan`t be Home for Dinner

Phoenix Theatre, Bordon

*See the attached Press release for more details*

### **July**

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

Canoe Lake, Clarence Esplanade, PO4 9RG

### **August**

**15<sup>th</sup>** – VJ75 Commemorations

*Please if you have any events in the pipeline then contact the Hampshire Link Newsletter and 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/)

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>Ges Brown</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 Members	<i>Brian Mansi &amp; Brian Soffe</i>
CFR – Manager SW	<i>Claire Peppiatt</i>
CFR – Hampshire North	<i>Sarah Farris</i>
CFR – Hampshire South	<i>Claire Smith</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>