

We Will Remember Them

To all those we lost this month

Our sincere condolences to family and friends

Important Notice

The Area Office is now **CLOSED**,
for Branches wishing to send County
Welfare Donations, please ensure
they are sent to:

Hampshire Treasurer
12 Cedar Place
Bransgore
Christchurch
BH23 8BX

If you wish to use BACS the details are:

Sort Code: **20 79 25**

Account Number: **10442690**

Account Name: **Royal British Legion Hants
County Committee**

For all Branch Accounts, Audits etc, please use the
Treasurer's address above, for all other details
contact the County Chairman @
Hampshire.Chairman@rbl.community

Lymington RBL Club Incident

On Friday 22nd October, an incident occurred
outside the Lymington RBL Club, this resulted in
the tragic loss of one member and the
hospitalisation of two members. While there is
much local press coverage and speculation over
the circumstances around this tragedy, it is
important that we allow Hampshire Constabulary
to investigate and I ask all Legion members to
turn our thoughts to those members, their family
and the branch who have been affected by this
directly.

Hampshire County Committee and the Area Team
will help to support the branch and its members
where ever possible and understand that calling

the contact centre may cause issues, to that end we
have a direct point of contact within the area
operations welfare team via the team leader.
If you, a friend or loved one feel they need
support as a result of this tragedy please feel free
to contact either the Lymington Branch Chairman
or myself so that we may put you in contact with
area operations.

My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this
sad time.

Tim Russell

Hampshire County Chairman

National News

Remembrance Advice

With November fast approaching, the
Remembrance team at Haig House wanted to
bring you into our plans with respect to our
Centenary and Remembrance 2021.

Please find attached the latest Remembrance
Advisory regarding the RBL's Centenary and
Remembrance planning, including information on
the Festival of Remembrance and the RBL
Centenary brochure.

County News

Training

We have finally been given the go ahead to hold
face to face training. With this in mind I am
planning to hold a number of one day Branch
Management and one day Branch Treasurer
courses at the beginning of 2022. I would ask that
all branches evaluate what their requirements are
with respect to these courses and let me know as
soon as possible what they require. If you feel that
the entire Branch committee would benefit from
either of these courses then we can consider

holding a branch specific course if there are sufficient candidates. Given how long it is since we held any training in Hampshire, I am out of touch with what locations are still available (Area office in Southampton is closed for example) so if you feel that you have a suitable location that you are willing to provide for training then please let me know. Once I have a better understanding of what training is required and where, then I will compile a list of courses and locations. Please remember that I only have one pair of hands so there are physical limitations of what I can achieve and be advised that I will do my utmost to try to catch up with the backlog of training required throughout the county.

Mike Davis

Hampshire CTO

Hampshire.cto@rbl.community

County Conference

The Hampshire County Conference will take online via Microsoft Teams on Saturday 15th January. Details for the Conference have been sent to Branch Secretaries, and any that have not received their packs should contact the MSO

Branch News

Fleet, Crookham & District

My apologies, but this article was sent out last month under an incorrect Branch name – and therefore has been republished credited to the correct Branch.

The Branch was pleased to hold its annual Poppy Appeal Collector Awards & Garden Party on Sunday 12th September, in Fleet. Normally held on the last Saturday in June to coincide with Armed Forces Day, the party was cancelled in 2020 and this year whilst unable to be held on Armed Forces Day was wisely rescheduled for the September date. The party also served to mark the Centenary of The Royal British Legion and also the foundation of the Branch too on 24th June 1921.

As usual the garden party was held in a marquee at the home of Branch Chairman, Air Commodore Bill & Judy Tyack's home and ably supported by their grandchildren running the garden bar. Blessed by fine late summer weather, over 70 guests attended the party and enjoyed a delicious cheese and wine buffet before the awards. Presented by Ranil Jayawardena MP (North East Hampshire), some 27 Poppy Appeal

collectors received certificates of appreciation and badges for 5, 10, 15 and 20 years of collecting. Of particular note was the 30 year long service medal presented to both Colonel John and Barbara Coombes of Church Crookham.



It was a pleasure to return to normal, see so many of our members, collectors and supporters from Fleet, Crookham and nearby and all keen to once again offer their time to collect for The Poppy Appeal in 2021.



The belated 2020 Pedal to Paris took place during 2-5 September 2021. Simon Mattison signed-up for the ride along with his dad, Fleet, Crookham and District branch member Major Ian Mattison RE. But sadly, Simon had to complete the ride alone, Ian died suddenly in June 2020 whilst training for the ride. Simon carried on in memory of his father and completed the unforgettable 4-day ride. – the full Article is attached

Petersfield

Petersfield held its Poppy Appeal launch dinner on 14th October, and “Wilf bear” made his first appearance at a Branch event. The Poppy Appeal was represented by youngest members, Chris Paige and Emma Lloyd, niece of the Petersfield Branch Secretary.

A great night was had by all, and the Branch are looking forward to the Poppy Appeal – 30th October to 13th November.



Poppy Appeal

The 2021 Poppy Appeal is now in full swing and Branches are reminded that they are to adhere to Local & National restrictions, as well as any restriction placed upon them by the establishments they are using.

Hampshire Festival of Remembrance

To celebrate the end of the 100th anniversary of the Royal British Legion, the ***Festival of Remembrance*** concert which was due to be performed on Sunday 7 November has been postponed and will now be performed on Sunday 1 May 2022 as ***Hampshire Royal British Legion's Centenary Festival***.

With community at the heart, local musicians & performers will join forces for an evening of wonderful music and commemoration. All ticketholders have been contacted via email and tickets moved to the new performance date in 2022.

Tickets for Hampshire Royal British Legion's Centenary Festival (Sunday 1 May 2022) are on sale at mayflower.org.uk or 02380 711811.

We know that this will be disappointing news, however we feel this is the right decision in the current climate. We explored all options on call today with the mayflower and a postponement felt the best and most sensible solution. On a brighter note, we have secured a new date in May, as we are still in our centenary year, we thought we can celebrate the end of the 100th anniversary and also mark & commemorate the Falklands Anniversary. I'm going to contact all performers and parties/guests this evening before the statement is released tomorrow. Let me know your thoughts,

Clair Smith

CFR Hampshire (S) & The Isle of Wight

Notices

MS1

Attached to the Link is the updated MS1's for Branches that have yet carried out their returns to the MSO.

Branches that have already submitted their MS1 are NOT required to resubmit with this form.

Branches are reminded that to stay compliant with Charity rules MS1's must be returned to the MSO by the 31st December each year, failure to be compliant will result in Branches not being able to send delegates to the County Conference or the National Conference and voting on matters that affect the membership.

Public Liability Insurance

Attached to the Link this month is a copy of the RBL Public Liability Insurance form as a number of Branches have requested the information.

Please note that the MSO can not comment on the contents of the documents as he is not qualified to provide guidance or advice on insurance matters.

If you require any advice either contact the National contact centre on 0808 802 8080 or the County Chairman who may be able to provide direction to the correct department at Haig House who will be able to comment.

RBL Counselling

We've talked a lot about the issues facing the Armed Forces community lately due to events in Afghanistan. And the RBL has not sat idle. Behind the scenes the team have been working hard to respond to the growing needs of those effected - particularly in mental wellbeing. The result is a free counselling service provided

through our Contact Centre, which aims to meet a gap in service provision, and is geared up to answer the specific needs of the thousands effected.

From September the RBL's counselling service has been delivered by our specialist and qualified teams at Connect Assist, providing invaluable support to our community. Counselling appointments are by telephone or video call and the type of counselling and number of sessions is assessed on an individual basis, based on the circumstances and need of the individual. This includes one off session focusing on things like the 'grief journey', to solution-focused brief therapy and more long-term integrative counselling. Connect Assist's nine trained counsellors will be delivering this service.

While we aren't publicising this service widely due to capacity constraints, we know that many of you may already be in contact with people who could benefit from this service; veterans or serving people who served in Afghanistan, or their families. If so, you should refer the individual to the Contact Centre in the first instance. If you would like any more information on this service speak to Ian Towers - itowers@britishlegion.org.uk

Female Veterans

We've been contacted by a female veteran Andreana Glendinning, who is now a doctoral researcher in the Institute of Employment Research at the University of Warwick. She is looking for female veterans to interview as part of her PhD thesis.

If you are a woman who served in the Royal Navy, Army or Royal Air Force you can take part. If you know any women who served and might be interested in taking part please share this email with them.

The research is focused on your experiences during your transition to civilian life and your work life experiences since leaving the UK Armed Forces. The researcher is interested in finding out how you make decisions regarding your work life, what your experiences of transition from military to civilian life were, your experiences of work in civilian life and how you measure success in the civilian world.

If you would like more information about the research, or you have any questions please contact the researcher at

andreana.glendinning@warwick.ac.uk

If you would like to take part please follow the link below and complete the questionnaire.

<https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/ier/people/phdstudents/andreanaglendinning/screeningsurvey/>

University of Bristol

We've been contacted by some researchers from the University of Bristol who are working on a project focused on military families. Please see information below and please share this with any of your members you think might be interested.

They are looking for current/retired military personnel and families to share memories and photos of military home life. They want to show its diversity and importance to military life; a perspective that is so far mostly absent from the public conversation and from the historical record.

They are interested in military homes in all shapes and sizes and associated with military service from any era and connected to any branch or rank. They are looking for people who would be willing to help by:

- Donating images of their lounges/living rooms
- Offering to be interviewed about their experience of a military home
- Welcome our award-winning photographer into their home to produce beautiful photographs (all Covid precautions will be taken; they will receive digital copies of the photographs)

If you are interested in taking part please get in touch by emailing btwh-project@bristol.ac.uk

For more information, please visit

<https://milhome.blogs.bristol.ac.uk>

Branch Websites

Branches are requested to look at their Branch Websites and update the information contained, as it could be the 1st point of contact for new members wishing to join.

Armed Forces Covenant - Decade

Virtual launch of the Royal British Legion and

PoppyScotland's new report:

THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT: REFLECTIONS ON A DECADE OF THE NATION'S PROMISE

2 November | 12:00 – 13:00

This November, it will have been ten years since the Armed Forces Covenant was first enshrined in UK legislation. Having campaigned for the Covenant to be included in the Armed Forces Act 2011, and having championed its observance across society ever since, the Royal British Legion and its sister charity, PoppyScotland, will mark this significant anniversary with the launch of an independent report reflecting on the Covenant's impact on the wellbeing of serving personnel, veterans, and their families.

Our report celebrates the advancements in outcomes, understanding, funding and services for the Armed Forces community over the past decade, which have been overseen by government at all levels, as well as businesses and voluntary organisations. The report also makes recommendations for further strengthening delivery of the Covenant where appropriate, ensuring that it remains fit for purpose into the next decade.

We will be launching our report virtually on the 2 November, between 12:00 and 13:00, from the RBL's Head Office in London. We are delighted to be joined by a panel of experts from across society and the UK, who will draw on their own insight and experience of working with the Covenant and the Armed Forces community to reflect on some of the key themes of our report.

You can view the panel discussion and report launch via the following link:

<https://www.rblarmedforcescovenant.com/>.

The event is free to view, and you are welcome to share the link with others who you feel may be interested. The launch will be recorded and available to view later, should you be unable to attend the live stream.

Charles Byrne

Director General
Royal British Legion

Editor - Retiring

I have been editing and producing the Hampshire Link, the County Newsletter, since May 2016, and it is now time to hand the job over to new blood.

I have enjoyed immensely producing the Newsletter on behalf of the County Committee, and reading the many and varied stories that I have received from so many Branches within Hampshire and beyond – so thank you for that.

I will produce one more Newsletter at the beginning of December, when I hope to be able to inform you of the new Editor.

The email address for the Hampshire Link will not be changing as I will be passing it onto the new editor in the new year, so please continue to use HampshireLink@Outlook.com to send your articles in.

Many thanks again to everybody that has contributed to the Link over the pass 5+ years and hope you all continue to support the new Editor.



Attachments:

Calling Notice for Participants

MS1 - March 2021

Organisation of Remembrance Parades

Pedal to Paris 2020+1

RBL Remembrance Advisory Notice

The RBL Liability Insurance

**Yateley
and
Hawley
Branch**

**Army
Medical
Services
Band**



REMEMBRANCE CONCERT

Friday 12th November 2021.

Yateley School Main Hall

7.30pm

**Music provided by the 30 - strong
Army Medical Services Band**

Cost - Adults £10.00

RBL Members £8.00. Children (u/19) £5.00

***Phone 07770 628082 for
tickets and more details***

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.HamsphireRBL

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>	
County Life Vice-President	<i>Maj DF Covill MBE DCM</i>	
County Vice President	<i>Brian CN Soffe</i>	
	<i>Robert G Knight</i>	
Chairman	<i>Tim Russell</i>	Hampshire.Chairman@RBL.Community
Vice-Chairman	<i>Robert Bartlett</i>	Hampshire.vicechairman@rbl.community
Treasurer	<i>Ges Brown</i>	Hampshire.treasurer@rbl.community
MSO	<i>Paul Bunce</i>	pbunce@britishlegion.org.uk
Membership Council Rep	<i>Gerry Nunn</i>	
Area Manager SW	<i>Craig Spence</i>	
Training Officer	<i>Mike Davis</i>	Hampshire.CTO@RBL.Community
Recruitment Officer	<i>Andy Knight</i>	Hampshire.CRO@rbl.community
Branch Support – North	<i>Jacki Gatfield</i>	
Branch Support - South	<i>Andy Knight</i>	
Youth Officer	<i>Steve Slack</i>	Hampshire.CYO@rbl.community
Chair - Conference Committee	<i>Brian Mansi</i>	Ringwood.chairman@rbl.community
CFR – Manager SW	<i>Claire Peppiatt</i>	
CFR – Hampshire North	<i>Nicola Lawrence</i>	NLawrence@britishlegion.org.uk
CFR – Hampshire South & IoW	<i>Claire Smith</i>	Csmith4@britishlegion.org.uk
PAO Coordinator – North	<i>Jacki Gatfield</i>	
PAO Coordinator – South	<i>Pat Prior BEM QVRM</i>	
Communications Support	<i>Avril Mitchell</i>	Hampshire.Web@RBL.Community
Hampshire Link	<i>Darron Back</i>	HampshireLink@outlook.com