

# Oxted & District Branch Newsletter

## March 2026



### Chairman's Update

Wednesday 25th February saw the first '*meet your Branch Committee*' session. I enjoyed meeting so many of you and hearing your thoughts about what is going on with your Branch and Club. In the next newsletter I'll let you know the date for another session.

February also saw the first of our Oxted Branch Talks. My thanks to Laura Hayworth, County Parade Marshall and Oxted Women's Section Branch Secretary, for giving such an engaging and informative talk on Colditz. Seats were limited, so if you would have liked to come but couldn't, please let me know and I can ask Laura to repeat the talk.

### March Highlights (scroll down for more details on each event):

- A number of your Veterans are participating in the **Great Tommy Sleep Out** on Friday 13th.
- Oxted Branch Talks **Scam Awareness**, on Tuesday 24th. Learn how to protect yourself and your loved ones.
- Join our Escape & Enigma Squad to solve a **Mile High Murder** on Friday 27th.
- The first of our new Games Groups will be our **Canasta Circle** on Monday 30th.

We will send newsletters frequently enough to keep you informed and involved, but without clogging your inboxes. Any feedback on the format or content of this newsletter would be gratefully received - please email me directly.

**Rob Cogan**

Chairman, Oxted & District Branch, Royal British Legion

[Oxted.Chairman@rbl.community](mailto:Oxted.Chairman@rbl.community)

Call/text: 07423 573899

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Follow us on our [Facebook](#) page and keep an eye on our [website](#) for events, support services and ways to get involved.

Thank you to those who have responded to our general questionnaire, but if you haven't yet, you can still shape events and activities by completing the questionnaire at [this link](#).

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## Remembrance - The Gulf War

Saturday 28 February marked 35 years since the conclusion of the Gulf War, which saw the largest use of British troops in a single deployment since the Second World War. 53,000 UK Armed Forces Personnel deployed, of whom 47 members lost their lives.

On Sunday 1 March, the Branch laid a wreath at Oxted War Memorial to commemorate all those who served, and honour those who did not return home.

See our [Facebook](#) post - We Will Remember Them.



## The Great Tommy Sleep Out

No frills. No luxury. Just a sleeping bag and whatever the weather may bring.

Brave a night out in solidarity with the thousands of Veterans who have to sleep rough every night. On Friday March 13, some of Oxted's Veterans and Branch Committee Members will be swapping the comfort of their beds for one night under the stars at 42 Church Lane, raising funds for this great cause. Every pound donated will go directly to helping provide safe homes, mental health support, employment opportunities, and a community for veterans to support each other.

The Branch Team Just Giving page (click [here](#)) is already active, so you can join the team there, or simply make a donation.

You can also take part in any location (including your own back garden) and on any date of your choice. Contact [oxted.web@rbl.community](mailto:oxted.web@rbl.community) to find out how.

This isn't just a fundraiser - it's a statement that: in Oxted, we don't leave our Veterans behind.



## Oxted Branch Talks

Scam Awareness: [How to spot a scam, prevent it and report it.](#)

Presented by Peter Quinn on **Tuesday 24 March** at 8pm. This scam awareness session will help you recognize red flags and the tactics most commonly used by scammers, along with practical prevention methods and how to report scams quickly to protect yourself and others.

Email [oxted.events@rbl.community](mailto:oxted.events@rbl.community) or contact 07423 573899 to reserve your seat.

Doors open from 7.30pm for an 8pm start.



## Oxted Branch Talks

in conjunction with Buckinghamshire & Surrey Trading Standards

# Scam Awareness

presented by Peter Quinn

**Tuesday 24 March at 8pm**

- Tactics most commonly used by scammers
- Practical prevention methods
- Reporting scams to protect yourself and others.

Seats are limited, booking required:

Email [oxted.events@rbl.community](mailto:oxted.events@rbl.community)

Call/text 07423 573899

 Mil&V Hub, 42 Church Lane, Oxted RH8 9LB



## What's On

In line with the Oxted & District Branch Plan for 2026, we are continuing our roll-out of activities in the Mil&V.

These activities are an invitation for you to come to the Club to enjoy one of your existing pastimes, or try something completely new. They're also great opportunities to meet other like-minded people and connect with your fellow members.

The activities are scheduled monthly but we can accommodate more dates. If you would like to join in, but need a different day or time, please email: [oxted.events@rbl.community](mailto:oxted.events@rbl.community) or contact us on 07423 573899.

We start the first of our regular Games Groups this month with **Canasta**. More new groups will start in April.

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*Love a game of cards? You'll love our Canasta Circle. Whether you are a seasoned player, a bit rusty, or never played before, all are warmly welcome. Join us on the last Monday of every month.*

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Oxted & District Branch

## GAMES GROUPS

Love a game of cards?  
You'll love our

### Canasta Circle

Monday 30 March  
at 2 pm

For experienced, rusty, or brand new players.  
Join us on the last Monday of every month.

Email [oxted.events@rbl.community](mailto:oxted.events@rbl.community) or  
call/text 07423 573899 for info.

 Mil&V Hub, 42 Church Lane, Oxted RH8 9LB

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### *THE ESCAPE AND ENIGMA SQUAD*

*TAP HERE FOR YOUR NEXT CLUE*

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Do you enjoy a murder mystery? Love sleuthing? Fancy yourself as an Elizabeth, Ron, Ibrahim or Joyce? The Oxted Escape & Enigma Squad is your opportunity to join our very own equivalent of the Thursday Murder Club! Our investigation room only holds 8 detectives, so book your seat before it's gone! See flyer for more details and how to book.



Oxted & District Branch



## MURDER MYSTERY GAME NIGHT

FRIDAY 27th MARCH @ 7.30pm

Murder on an overnight transatlantic flight.  
50 pieces of evidence, 6 suspects, but only 1 killer.

Who had the motive, the means, and the opportunity?

Have you got what it takes to crack the case?

Maximum 8 detectives. Want to join the squad?

**Email** [oxted.events@rbl.community](mailto:oxted.events@rbl.community)

**Call/text** 07423 573899

 Mil&V Hub, 42 Church Lane, Oxted RH8 9LB

### Coming Soon

- **Midweek Matinee: Wednesday 8th April.** Calling all film buffs.
- **Dissectology Demons: Friday 10th April.** Come and join a group of fellow jigsaw puzzlers.
- **Rack Attack Scrabble Society: Thursday 16th April.** Dust off your dictionaries!
- **Chess Club: Thursday 16th April.** Strategy and tactics on the battlefield.

- **Around the World** in 80 (maybe 8) Wines - with a relevant twist. **Friday 22nd May.** Email [oxted.events@rbl.community](mailto:oxted.events@rbl.community) or contact us on 07423 573899 to register your interest.
- **Next Oxted Branch Talk: Victoria Crosses** - bravery and sacrifice.
- **In the pipeline:** Bridge Bunch, Whist Wizards and Cribbage Club, Mahjong Masters, Trivial Pursuiters, Book Swap, Technology Help.



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*If there are any book clubs already up and running within our membership which would like to use the Mil&V for meetings, please email us at [oxted.events@rbl.community](mailto:oxted.events@rbl.community).*

*Likewise, if you would like to set up a book club and need some help, just let us know. This is a great opportunity for like-minded bookworms to get together and share their passion for literature.*

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## Dates for your Diary

**Military & Veterans Meet Up** - first Wednesday of the month, 7.30pm

Join us for friendly beers, banter and a few dits at our monthly Military Meet Up!

Next one is on Wednesday 1st April in the Mil&V Veterans Hub, 42 Church Lane, Oxted RH8 9LB.

**Veterans' Breakfast Club** - third Tuesday of the month, 10.30am

Friendship and fantastic fry-ups at our monthly Veterans Breakfast Club!

Next one is on Tuesday 17th March at the Skyline Café, 35 Station Rd East, Oxted RH8 0BD.

**Oxted Branch Talks: Scam Awareness** - Tuesday 24 March, 8.00pm

How to spot a scam, prevent it and report it, presented by Peter Quinn. Protect yourself from online, email, phone, text, postal and doorstep scams.

Email [oxted.events@rbl.community](mailto:oxted.events@rbl.community) or call/text 07423 573899 to reserve your seat.

Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start.

### **Escape and Enigma Squad** - Friday 27 March, 7.30pm

Put your sleuthing skills to the test. Have you got what it takes to solve the **Mile High Murder**? Join the squad by emailing [oxted.events@rbl.community](mailto:oxted.events@rbl.community) or contact us on 07423 573899.

### **Canasta Circle** - Monday 30 March, 2.00pm

All are welcome. Just drop in, or email [oxted.events@rbl.community](mailto:oxted.events@rbl.community) or call/text 07423 573899 for information.

## Previous Announcements

**RBL Annual Conference.** Registration is now open for the Annual Conference, 8-10 May in Brighton. All members are welcome to attend, in person or online. Find out more and register to attend on the [Annual Conference webpage](#). In-person attendance closes 23rd March and virtual attendance closes 6th April.