



Website <https://branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/rushden/>

## RUSHDEN BRANCH NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2025

### THANK YOU, POPPY APPEAL VOLUNTEERS

The Poppy Appeal Organising Team, consisting of the Poppy Appeal Organiser Ruth Miller and her husband Steve Miller, have amassed a great army of volunteers; they wish to take this opportunity in thanking everybody who has stepped or will be stepping forward to help raise funds for the Poppy Appeal 2025. **The launch was hugely successful; in excess of £10,000 has already been raised** due to such generous donations. These pictures were taken in the early stages of the launch:



**Left:** The Poppy Appeal is launched with Poppy Appeal Organiser Ruth Miller at Rushden Lakes with RAF Veteran Craig Stevens who gives up a fortnight of his time to manage the RBL Trailer and sell poppies and RBL Poppy Merchandise. **Right:** Steve Miller is with his sister Bren Martin at Waitrose, Rushden.

### RBL WELFARE AND SUPPORT SERVICES

**DO YOU NEED ANY HELP, OR DO YOU KNOW A VETERAN OR RBL MEMBER WHO NEEDS HELP? IF SO, PLEASE CALL OUR BRANCH COMMUNITY SUPPORTER, PAUL MCKAY ON 07305 837099 OR VIA EMAIL (SEE THE LIST OF WHO'S WHO ON PAGE 10). YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT THE BRANCH COMMUNITY COORDINATOR, PETER ARMSTRONG ON 07498 243683. HIS EMAIL ADDRESS IS ALSO AT WHO'S WHO? REMEMBER, THE RBL IS HERE FOR YOU. IF THEY CAN'T HELP, THEY'LL GET YOU HELP. PLEASE BEAR IN MIND THAT EVERY SITUATION IS DIFFERENT.**

**RBL HELPLINE – 0808 802 8080 - CALL 8am to 8pm 7 DAYS A WEEK**



**Left:** By kind permission of the Rushden Lakes Management Team, local Vintage Vehicles charity Troops, Trucks & Stores have kindly offered to place a few of their vehicles alongside or near the RBL Trailer, which will hopefully draw in more interest and thus support of the Poppy Appeal.

**Right:** Branch President David Hawker and Branch Member Fiona McKay at Waitrose, Rushden.



**Poppy Appeal Volunteer  
Craig Stevens meets  
Fiona Montague, daughter of  
WW2 D-Day Bomb Aimer  
Flt Lt Dennis Parrish DFC**

By a remarkable fate of coincidence, Fiona (pictured on the left with Craig) happened to have seen the RBL Trailer at Rushden Lakes and popped over and met Craig. She started talking about her father, his involvement in WW2 and how he eventually went blind but was very well supported by the then charity St Dunstan's (now known as Blind Veterans UK).

Some members, especially those who are also members of the local RAF Association, may have heard at one of their meetings within the past 12 months the famous BBC broadcast from Air Commodore William Helmore's eyewitness account of the D-Day landings on 6<sup>th</sup> June 1944, which he recorded from a Mitchell Bomber; he was an observer on the Mitchell, whilst Fiona's Dad was the Bomb Aimer. Flt Lt Dennis Parrish was so successful in what he did, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC). The 5 minutes 9 seconds recording is at this link here and it's fascinating!

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=b69c0a2bb3&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1847241809807895489&th=19a2b8a38fd96bc1&view=att&disp=safe&realattid=8CF44F68-510C-46DD-850F-7ECBD35A49CF&zw>

This recording was played at Flt Lt Dennis Parrish's funeral, and he received the Legion d'Honneur a few weeks before he passed away. Also attached is how this incredible WW2 veteran survived on a lifeboat for 8 days; same person but with incredible military skills! See| The Northern Echo <https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/15810503.bishop-auckland-world-war-two-veteran-survived-lifeboat-8-days-ship-torpedoed-dies-aged-95/>



Date	Time	Altitude Type and No.	Phase	Event	Remarks (including number of bombs, stores, personnel, etc.)
1.5.45	12.30	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	W. F. T.
2.5.45	14.45	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	DUNKERQUE, DUNKERQUE, ESSEN.
3.5.45	15.45	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	W. F. T.
3.5.45	20.10	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	THE LEVEL, JACK SIMPSON, REECE.
4.5.45	15.50	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	W. F. T.
4.5.45	32.00	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	W. F. T.
7.5.45	14.50	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	W. F. T.
8.5.45	12.50	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	W. F. T.
9.5.45	11.10	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	W. F. T.
10.5.45	09.50	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	W. F. T.
10.5.45	11.55	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	W. F. T.
11.5.45	15.55	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	W. F. T.
12.5.45	15.35	MEASURTO 998	FL PETTIE	NAVIGATOR	W. F. T.
14.5	5.20	MEASURTO 998	FL MANSFIELD	GN OPERATOR	W. F. T.
		SUMMARY		DAY	DAY
		FOR MAY 1945		21.00	1.25
		FOR NO 303W.		35.50	5.15
					1 1/2

Pictured is Flt Lt Dennis Parrish DFC and his is logbook entry for the Dutch D Day. His first logbook with entries on D Day France was lost due to the torpedo incident mentioned in the Northern Echo article.

Members interest can be widened further by watching this 42-minute interview at RAF Hendon Museum here [https://1drv.ms/v/s!AIPTY3emfePRg4ZRA9g1CkEoUqZw\\_A](https://1drv.ms/v/s!AIPTY3emfePRg4ZRA9g1CkEoUqZw_A) Thank you Fiona! 😊

**ON YOUR STREET RBL** – have a look at this one-minute video and send it to friends and family. Click here [https://youtu.be/Ju26Rux2h7A?si=Ij6E5KsEC8\\_c5Ijy](https://youtu.be/Ju26Rux2h7A?si=Ij6E5KsEC8_c5Ijy)

### A KEY MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR MEMBERSHIP NINA L VILLA BEM

As we approach the Remembrance period, we would like to reaffirm RBL's position as a non-partisan organisation and therefore the importance of our neutrality.

We ask for your support to ensure the Poppy Appeal, the poppy, and remembrance activity are not used as a platform to express political views. The poppy is a symbol of Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future, worn to honour the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces community. It belongs to no political, religious or ideological group, and we will not allow its use in support of any political agenda.

We have seen in previous years that the poppy can be misused for reasons outside of its core purpose, and as we enter a period of heightened activity, we encourage everyone representing the RBL to be vigilant. There was a recent example in Faversham, Kent, where individuals who were not known to organisers or the RBL volunteer representatives attending a local event, used the occasion to express political views and were conflated with our group. The local team did a great job of managing the situation, but it demonstrated how easily this can happen.

In addition, we've recently had a few enquiries about the flag-raising activity occurring in communities across the UK and we would like you to be aware of our position. The Royal British Legion is not affiliated with any flag-raising groups. We respect the right of individuals to display their national flag and express their views within the law, however there is no connection between these activities and the Royal British Legion or the Poppy Appeal.

We thank you for your ongoing support in protecting the meaning of the poppy and ensuring this important symbol of Remembrance is not used for politically motivated activity during a critical time for the charity.

## **A PERSONAL AND COMMUNITY TRIBUTE: REFLECTING ON THE LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND REMEMBRANCE FESTIVAL 2025 by Branch Vice Chair Paul McKay**

The East Midlands community in large numbers gathered for a profoundly moving Leicestershire and Rutland RBL Festival of Remembrance on Saturday, 18th October 2025. The historic De Montfort Hall in Leicester was the cultural beacon for the show providing a dignified backdrop for an evening of poignant reflection and heartfelt tribute to our armed forces, past and present.

This year's ceremony held special significance as it marked the 80th anniversary of VJ Day, bringing the often-overlooked stories of the Far East campaign to the forefront of our collective memory.

### **A Ceremony of Standards and Service**

The event opened with a solemn and respectful Entry of the Standards, with Representative Standard Bearers from various military associations and charities marching alongside the proud RBL Branch Standard Bearers and of the Cadet Forces. This powerful visual manifestation of service and tradition set a reverent tone for the evening.

The musical programme was a stirring journey through British heritage, featuring performances from local school choirs and the Enderby Brass Band. The band's rendition of Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance, culminating in the heartfelt singing of Land of Hope and Glory, swelled with patriotic pride within the Hall. A delightful change of pace was provided by Anne Marie Marlow's touching tribute to the iconic Gracie Fields, offering a nostalgic and melodic interlude. The cultural fabric of the area was beautifully acknowledged with a vibrant showcase of Indian dance, a performance that highlighted the diversity and unity of the community – it was brilliant.

The heart of the service was the Drumhead Act of Remembrance, where a symbolic altar of drums served as the focal point for a period of quiet reflection and honouring of the fallen.

### **A Personal Duty of Remembrance**

In a particularly powerful segment, the duty of remembrance took on a very personal dimension. Paul McKay, Vice Chairman of the Rushden RBL Branch, had the profound honour of reading authentic letters from veterans who had been imprisoned in the notorious Changi Prison, Singapore, following the fall of the fortress in February 1942.

He was joined in this duty by co-speaker Sam Keen, Treasurer of RBL Thurmaston Branch. Together, their voices gave life to these harrowing historical accounts, connecting the audience directly to the brutal realities of captivity and the resilience of the Far East Prisoners of War.

"For me," reflected Paul afterwards to the local media, "it was a deeply humbling experience to give voice to these brave men. Speaking their words in front of the community was a powerful reminder of why we, as an RBL family, must continue to tell these stories to ensure their ordeals are never forgotten."

### **A Patriotic and Fitting Finale**

The ceremony drew to a close with a very patriotic and emotional march-off. As the standards and colours departed the Hall, they did so to the uplifting music of the Enderby Brass Band, providing a rousing and hopeful conclusion to an evening of solemn tribute.

The 2025 Festival successfully wove together personal testimony, community solidarity, and diverse artistic tribute, ensuring the legacy of all who served was honoured with the dignity and respect they deserve. It was a real pleasure for Rushden to have been invited across county borders to participate in the festival and demonstrate 'esprit de corps' that is the Royal British Legion. We will remember them. *First photo Paul McKay, others accredited to Visual Elevation.*



The splendid De Monfort Hall starts filling up



The Enderby Brass Band



Anne Marie's tribute to Dame Gracie Fields and Indian Dance, showcasing the cultural fabric of the area



Sam Keen, Treasurer, RBL Thurmaston Branch and Paul McKay, Vice Chair RBL Rushden Branch



Drumhead Act of Remembrance and our youth and possibly the next generation of HM Armed Forces

## WHAT'S ON IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE TIDE?

**5<sup>th</sup> November** – 1045 hours at Rushden War Memorial. **Schools Garden of Remembrance** led by Schools Liaison Lynne Baker and Branch Padre Major Pauline Cook Salvation Army. The Mayor of Rushden Town will be in attendance. Branch members and Veterans are welcome to attend but are required to give their names to either Lynne or Jake for health and safety and safeguarding reasons. Refreshments will be available afterwards in St Mary's Church Hall.

**8<sup>th</sup> November - AFC Rushden & Diamonds Remembrance Match** versus Loughborough Students in the Northern Premier League - Midlands Division on their home grounds at Hayden Road, Rushden. Kick-off as usual at 1500hrs. The Club has kindly invited RBL Rushden Branch and serving Regular and Reservist personnel, Veterans and Sea, Army and Air Cadets to join them in their brief Remembrance Match Day ceremony commencing at 1440 hrs. RNA, RAFA and Cadets' Standards will be present, less that of the RBL Rushden Branch Standard, which was one of the few branch standards throughout the UK selected to join the Standards at the RBL Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall that day. (This is a great honour to our Branch and particularly Mark Taberner-Stokes who is our Branch Standard Bearer). The mini parade will be led by OC 858 Sqn RAFAC, Flt Lt Colin Harmer RAFAC. Everybody, less the Standards will slowly march out on to the pitch centre circle at 1430 hrs. Entry charge will be free, subject to production of MOD Form 90, Veteran's ID Card, current RBL Members Card or some documentary evidence proving you are a Veteran. £1 or more donations will be much appreciated - though not compulsory - and if we all buy at least one free drink, the costs will have been evened out. This year's Remembrance Match Day Ceremony with Standards, The Exhortation and a Bugler promise to be a special occasion as we join AFC Rushden & Diamonds in remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Serving Regulars, Reservists, Veterans and RBL Rushden Branch Members are asked to contact Jake Baker via email to [Rushden.Chairman@rbl.community](mailto:Rushden.Chairman@rbl.community) or text to **07525 441267** or @ Northants Breakfast Club by close of play 5th November 2025 if the wish to attend.

**9<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade** - For the past few years it has been the responsibility of Rushden Town Council (RTC) to organise Remembrance Day Services as has been the case throughout the country for all local district, town and city councils. Many councils ask the Royal British Legion or individuals to support them, especially the parade side of life, if that is what the local council wish. Once again, the RTC has elected to start and close the parade outside Rushden Hall, in Rushden Hall Park. Timings to note:

1015 hrs – Parade forms up – mobility chair/scooter users are most welcome  
1035 hrs – Parade marches off  
1045 hrs – Parade arrives at Rushden War Memorial  
1050 hrs – A Service of Remembrance and Commitment  
1059 hrs – The Last Post  
1100 hrs – Two Minutes' Silence  
1102 hrs – Reveille  
1103 hrs – Laying of Wreaths  
1115 hrs (approx.) – An Act of Commitment  
1125 hrs (approx.) – The National Anthem  
1130 hrs (approx.) – Parade marches off to Rushden Hall Park

The Church Service will continue at St Mary's Church, where will be made very welcome. Once the parade has fallen out people will be leaving for the pubs, home or wherever. Please give a thought to **The Athletic Club, on Newton Road, Rushden, who have kindly offered to provide food for Veterans, RBL members, serving military personnel and their families and from 1430 hrs until 1700 hrs, a well-known Singer of Vintage Songs called *May Blossom, Vintage Songbird*.** Check her out here <https://www.facebook.com/mayblossomvintagesongbird>

There is a long historical connection between The Athletic Club and the RBL, which many of us were totally unaware of until recently and it would be good to continue this connection. Providing such kind hospitality on Remembrance Sunday to the military community is very thoughtful, so let's show our appreciation in numbers.

**11<sup>th</sup> November** - Rushden Academy is hosting an **Armistice Day Service of Remembrance** on Tuesday 11th November 2025 at their Academy, at Hayway, Rushden, NN10 6AG. They have kindly invited us to attend; light refreshments afterwards will include meeting some of the students, who will be proudly wearing their Sea, Army or Air Cadets and other Youth Organisations' uniforms to mark the day. Wearing Blazer/Jacket or Equivalent for Ladies, Beret and Medals are encouraged.

We need to arrive by around 1020 hours to allow for security, checking-in, etc. Numbers are limited due to the need to digitally check everybody in and then walk to the playground 100 metres away, in good steady time for the Service to commence at around 1050 hours, which is in keeping with class times.

If anybody wishes to attend, please contact Jake Baker on **07525 441267** via SMS text or WhatsApp only or email him at [Rushden.Chairman@rbl.community](mailto:Rushden.Chairman@rbl.community) by midday Saturday 8th November 2025.

Jake will be attending Breakfast Club meets up to and including Saturday 8th November, so this should be a good time to contact him if not before.

### **17<sup>TH</sup> November 2025 - BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The 21-day Calling Notice has been sent to all members for the Annual General Meeting which will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025, **the third Monday of November 2025**. Members are asked to note this date in their diary. It is hoped that as many members as possible can attend; this is also a great opportunity to be updated, learn what we will be doing in 2026, increase the number of Committee Members and openly discuss our future in 5 years' time and where members see the Branch going.

**RBL HELPLINE – 0808 802 8080 - CALL 8am to 8pm 7 DAYS A WEEK**

## **RUSHDEN BRANCH ROYAL BRITISH LEGION “Poppy Appeal”**



**7.30pm on TUESDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**  
**Conservative Club, High Street South, Rushden**

*Teams of four required for a quiz evening including buffet*

£5 per person

Please come along & support our annual RBL Quiz Night.



## **RUSHDEN TOWN CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH ON – SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

Volunteers are still sought to help run the RBL Stall for the town's Christmas Lights Switch On. The event runs from midday to 1630 hours when the lights are switched on. We will need to set up from 1000 hours. If any member can give a hand to help set up or run the stall for an hour or so, please contact a member of the Committee at the AGM or call Jake Baker on **07525 441267**. Transport from and back to your home can be arranged if required.

## **BRANCH CHRISTMAS SOCIAL – 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025**

This Christmas event is not too far away, and the Committee wishes to make the catering side of the event a greater success than it has been before. To do that, they will need to know who is coming and whether there are any special dietary requirements, such as gluten free, vegan, nut allergies, etc. Thanks for those members who have already put their names down on the list; it will be made available for members to put their names down to attend and state whether there is any dietary requirement. It will be available at the AGM on 17<sup>th</sup> November. Please be sure to put your name down if you wish to attend, making note of your dietary needs.

## **WHAT ELSE IS GOING ON IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS?**

**Second Monday of every month except March, June, September and December – Branch Monthly Meeting** at the Athletic Club commencing 7.30pm. 8th December is our next Branch Social, with a Christmas theme of course. Bingo, Quiz, Cornhole, Music, Food and a Raffle will be held. **Raffle prizes are required, and members are asked to bring them in at the AGM (17<sup>th</sup> November) if at all possible.**

**The next Branch Monthly Meeting is not until 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026**, which will be followed by Paul Barwick talking about "*The White Mouse (Nancy Wake)*", a nurse and journalist who joined the French Resistance and was a WW2 SOE operative.

**Fourth Tuesday of every month – 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025.** The Community Social & Craft Group meet at the Rushden Athletic Club on Newton Road, between 1pm and 3pm. RAFA Members Free. Guests £3/entry or £20 per year. This is open to any RBL Rushden Branch Member. For more information contact Carol on **07922 141589** or [carol.easton12@gmail.com](mailto:carol.easton12@gmail.com) Next meet after this month's is on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

**Every Wednesday & Saturday Morning – 9am start.** Northants Breakfast Club (**NBC**) dine at The Needle and Awl. All Veterans are welcome. Families are invited to join on the last Saturday of each month, namely 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025 and 27<sup>th</sup> December.

**First Thursday of every month – 6<sup>th</sup> November: 10am to 12.30pm – Friends of the Legion** meet at The Athletic Club, Newton Road, Rushden. Pop along for a cuppa and a chat any time between 10am and 12.30pm. The next after this month's meet is on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

**Second Thursday of every month – 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025 - 9am start - NGH Breakfast Club** at Northampton General Hospital, Cliftonville, Northampton, NN1 5BD. **Eat Street** is the hospital restaurant on the main corridor through the hospital opposite the Chapel. The Breakfast Club is open to **all veterans (staff, patients and public)**. Attendees to purchase their own breakfast and drinks. The next **NGH Breakfast Club** meet after this month's is on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

**Last Friday of every month – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025 – 9am start – KGH Breakfast Club** Kettering General Hospital, Rothwell Road, Kettering, NN16 8UZ. The Basement Brassiere is located on the lower ground floor of the main hospital building. The Breakfast Club is open

to **all veterans (staff, patients and public)**. Attendees to purchase their own breakfast and drinks. The next **KGH Breakfast Club** meet after this month's is on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

## **WANTED FOR BRANCH FUNDRAISING**

Gifts for children and adults for Tombola prizes for the Rushden Christmas Lights Switch-On (29<sup>th</sup> November 2025) are required to be donated. Suggestions are good quality soft toys, games and stationery items; any items for adults such as new books, smellies, unwanted new items, etc. All donations can be received at our AGM on 17<sup>th</sup> November; if unable to do so, please contact Jake Baker on **0725 441267** to arrange for collection.

## **BURNS NIGHT – 24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026**

There is going to be another Burns Night at The Masonic Hall, Wellingborough Road, Rushden, on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2026, 7pm for 7.30pm and so another great opportunity to enjoy Scottish Poetry, Bagpipes and good, clean and jovial fun. The cost will be £33 a head; this event is open to the public and will be advertised accordingly. The Committee will need to know who is coming and whether there are any special dietary requirements, such as gluten free, vegan, nut allergies, etc. Thanks for those members who have already put their names down on the list; it will be made available for members at the AGM on 17<sup>th</sup> November and at the December Branch Social Evening on 8<sup>th</sup> December. Spread the word, tell your friends and family who must be over 18 years of age. Please be sure to put your name down if you wish to attend, making note of your dietary needs. There will be a Raffle on the night, and all proceeds will go to the Mayor of Rushden's Charities 2025-2026 and they are RUSH 2The DEN and Rushden & District Community Charity. Don't miss out on what promises to be a great night out!

## **OUTCOME OF MOTIONS PUT FORWARD AT RBL ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025**

The Board of Trustees wish to update the Royal British Legion members of the actions that have been taken on the Motions carried at Annual Conference held on Saturday 17 May 2025. The link is here: [RBL ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025 OUTCOME OF MOTIONS PUT FORWARD - Search](#) Please note the foot of each page should read [Patron: HM King Charles III](#), not 111 🇬🇧

## **INVICTUS 2027**

The RBL will be taking Team UK – 60 competitors – to compete at the Invictus Games 2027 in Birmingham at a cost of £26,500 per competitor. We have received notice that if branches would like to support a beneficiary to take part in the Invictus Games, Birmingham, a briefing pack will be sent out in the coming weeks providing details on how branches and counties can get involved, what the request for support will be and the financial processes involved. If any member is interested in pursuing this matter further, please get in touch with Jake Baker on **07525 441267** or email him at [Rushden.Chairman@rbl.community](mailto:Rushden.Chairman@rbl.community)

## **REMEMBERING BOSNIA**

In December, RBL will remember the 30th anniversary of the end of the Bosnian War, and the crucial contribution of British Armed Forces in the international efforts to secure and maintain peace. The international forces suffered hundreds of military and civilian casualties in the security operations. Tragically, British forces lost 59 military personnel, and many dozens were seriously injured.

The RBL is hosting a Ceremony of Remembrance at the National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire, on Sunday 14 December 2025 to remember the lives lost in the war in Bosnia and the extraordinary service and sacrifices of the men and women of the Armed Forces. All personnel who served with British Armed Forces in the UN and NATO missions in Bosnia since 1992, and/or their families, are invited to come together for an afternoon of reflection and comradeship. The RBL concludes by saying, click here [Find out more or register on our website](#)

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## OK READERS, YOU'VE BEEN PATIENT - TIME FOR A BIT OF HUMOUR!! 🗣️



My neighbour just banged on the wall at 4:20am, can you believe that? Lucky I was still up playing music.

He banged and shouted, "Can we have a little respect please?"

So I shouted back, "I'm not a big Aretha Franklin fan, but ok this one's for you".

My wife said she had a bag full of used clothes she wanted to donate. I said, "Why not just throw them in the trash? It'd be much easier."

She replied, "But I'd rather give them to some poor, starving person who could really use them."

I said, "Sweetheart, anyone who can fit into your clothes sure isn't starving."

The doctor said that in about 6 months, my left eye socket and fractured jaw will be as good as new.

Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!  
How does Moses make tea? Hebrews it.  
England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool  
I tried to catch some fog, but I mist it  
They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a Typo.  
I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.  
Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.  
I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid, but he says he can stop any time.  
I stayed up all night to see where the sun went, and then it dawned on me.  
This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.  
When chemists die, they barium.

### WHO'S WHO IN OUR BRANCH?

President - David Hawker: via [rushden.secretary@rbl.community](mailto:rushden.secretary@rbl.community)  
Chair/Media Rep: Jake Baker [rushden.chairman@rbl.community](mailto:rushden.chairman@rbl.community) 07525 441267  
Vice Chair – Paul McKay: [rushden.vicechairman@rbl.community](mailto:rushden.vicechairman@rbl.community) 07305 837099  
Secretary – Lynne Baker: [rushden.secretary@rbl.community](mailto:rushden.secretary@rbl.community)  
Treasurer – Janet Flowers: [rushden.treasurer@rbl.community](mailto:rushden.treasurer@rbl.community)  
Committee Member – Heather Phillip: via [rushden.secretary@rbl.community](mailto:rushden.secretary@rbl.community)  
Committee Member – Sally Morton: via [rushden.secretary@rbl.community](mailto:rushden.secretary@rbl.community)  
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**BCS & BCC – Paul McKay:** [rushden.bcc2@rbl.community](mailto:rushden.bcc2@rbl.community) or [rushden.vicechairman@rbl.community](mailto:rushden.vicechairman@rbl.community)  
also [PMcKay.BCS@rbl.community](mailto:PMcKay.BCS@rbl.community) You can also call him on 07305 837099  
Poppy Appeal Organiser – Ruth Miller: [poppyappealrushden@gmail.com](mailto:poppyappealrushden@gmail.com)  
Standard Bearer - Mark Taberner-Stokes: via [rushden.secretary@rbl.community](mailto:rushden.secretary@rbl.community)

### LOOKING AHEAD – with details to follow next month

RBL Northamptonshire County Conference at Northampton - 10<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
RBL Annual Conference at Brighton 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – options of going by train as a group for Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2026 are being considered.  
Rushden Armed Forces Day 2026 – 27<sup>th</sup> June 2026  
Rushden Remembrance Sunday Parade & Service 2026 – 8 November 2026