



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Stamford Branch Formed 7 June 1922

www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/stamford
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ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
Registered charity number: 219279

Branch Newsletter – April 2025

Welcome to the April edition of the Stamford RBL newsletter. Our last newsletter was in January, I hope you have not missed this too much, but it's been a reasonably quiet start to the year.

February Games Night

Who said playing games can be boring, certainly not those that attended the games night in February. With a vast arrangement of different games on offer, it proved an entertaining evening with lots of fun and laughter.

If you have not visited the monthly branch socials, it's well worth popping down as you don't know what you're missing until you see for yourself!



On **Monday 17th March** the branch said a fond farewell to Peter Stevenson, who has served as the branch Padre.

Peter has worked to promote the work of remembrance and the RBL within the local community, especially with local youths. I know he will be greatly missed by the branch members, who took comfort in his reassuring presence at the social events and ceremonial events. Peter was presented with some gifts on behalf of all the branch members. We very much wish Peter the very best with his retirement.



Anyone for a Painting?

We were thrilled when Graham Cooke offered to attend the March social night and provide a talk on paintings and relive some of his RAF anecdotes. A truly informative evening and an impressive display of talent in the beautiful paintings. Graham kindly donated a painting (of Burghley Park) to Peter, which I know will be greatly cherished as a reminder to his time in Stamford.



Members Birthday

Please join me in sending our best wishes to those that celebrate a birthday between February and April:

February

Mark Cooper
Renford Darlington
Alison Freeman
David Lack
Nigel Stott

March

Trevor Battle
Harry Bell
Kevin Boyden
Paul Crowley
Alexandra Ellis
Lorraine Johnson
James Kudlinski
Mervin Punthen
James Rimmington
Philip Scrannage
James Snelling
Geoffrey Steele
Danielle Tetheron
Peter Thompson
Andrew Thompson
Michael Turner
Peter Wharam
Kevin Williams
Mark Wright

April

Eileen Bullimore
Robert Carratt
Keith Evans
David Fishburn
Clive Green
Jenny Green
Andrew Headley
Julie Holton
Michael Longstaff
Simon Meade
Frances Rae



Armed Forces Day 2025

Saturday 28th June sees the Country commemorate the Armed Forces with Armed Forces Day. Stamford RBL will be hosting a stand in Stamford High Street to showcase the work of the Armed Forces and the RBL.

If you can spare time to join us on our stand, you would be most welcome.

Did you visit the Longest Yarn?

80 scenes to include the build-up in England, the horrors on the Landing Beaches and the bloody inland battles. Created with guidance from historians, retained by the project, to be historically accurate, each scene has been selected by the creator to depict the story of this momentous day in history, each scene unique and made with care.

With some of the scenes dedicated and depicting actual WW2 veterans that were in the theatre of war here in Normandy on 6th June.



Stamford's New Royal British Legion Branch Gazebo

Around a year ago the branch committee agreed to purchase a commercial style branded gazebo for the branch to use at events. This has now arrived and has been checked and deemed ready for use. You will see this 4.5m x 3m gazebo at the Stamford Recreation Ground VE Event on Saturday 10th May.



VE DAY 80 Years

There are many VE 80 commemorative events happening in and around Stamford, we have provided some of the events supported by the branch below.

The official VE 80 badges are available from the branch at a cost of £5 each. These will be available at all the events detailed below. All money from the sale of these badges will go towards the Poppy Appeal.



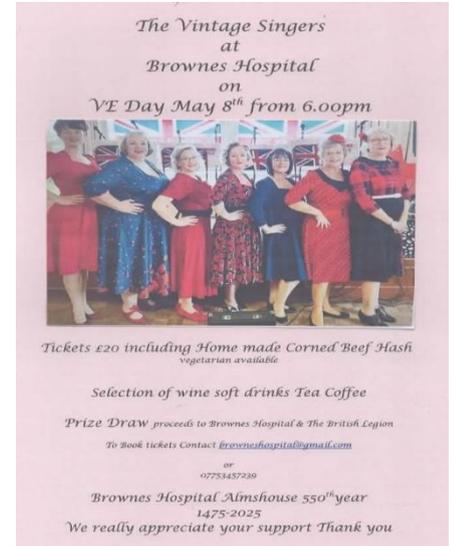
Thursday 8 May – 12pm till 2pm Stamford Hospital Lunchtime Commemoration

North West Anglia Healthcare are hosting charity stands at all of their 3 hospitals on Thursday 8th May between 12pm and 2pm. There will be a cake stall with the RBL providing a presence with RBL materials, VE/VJ Badges. All donations made on the day will be donated to the RBL.

Thursday 8 May – from 6pm Browne Hospital VE Commemorations

A celebration of VE 80 complete with corned beef hash! Entertainment is provided by the vintage singers. Refreshments available. There will be a prize draw, with a share of the profits being donated to the RBL.

Tickets available from browneshospital@gmail.com and cost £20



Thursday 8 May – from 8pm Stamford Recreation Ground – Town VE Commemorations

Stamford Town Council are hosting VE Commemorations on the evening of Thursday 8th May. The programme for the evening is as below:

- 8pm – Mayors Welcome
- 8.15pm – Stamford Brass
- 8.45pm – Drum Head Service (Royal British Legion)
- 9:05pm – Poet Laurette
- 9.15pm – National Address
- 9.30pm – Lord Lieutenant Lighting of the Beacon
- 9.30pm – I vow to Thee my Country

It would be great to see as many veterans and serving members as possible to support this event.



Saturday 10 May – from 3pm (2.30pm Battle of Britain Flight) Stamford Recreation Ground - Town VE Commemorations

Stamford Town Council are hosting a VE Day Celebration on Stamford Recreation Ground from 3pm till 9.30pm. There will be a big band concert, vintage singers, marquee for dancing, fun fair, historical reenactments and the Royal British Legion Bottle Stall! There is no ceremonial aspect to this event.

The branch will have their new gazebo in use and will have a number of RBL items available for a donation. They will also be holding a Bottle Stall Tombola (3 tickets for £1). With 154 branch members, if each member donated 1 bottle, we would have sufficient to raise much money. Donation to Sue Wade who can be contacted on 07729 785 779 or suewade10@gmail.com. Donations can be anything from a bottle of alcohol to a bottle of shampoo or tomato ketchup!

