



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Stamford Branch

Formed 7 June 1922

www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/stamford
stamford.secretary@rbl.community



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Registered charity number: 219279

Branch Newsletter – October 2024

Welcome to the October edition of the branch Newsletter.

Branch AGM

On Monday 7th October the branch held its annual AGM at Blackstone Sport & Social club.

The general turn out from branch members matched that from previous years, which was around 20% of the overall branch membership.

Our branch president opened the meeting with his opening address, providing an overview of the branches activities and thanking all the branch members and committee for all their work.

Following the opening address, the branch chairman provided an overview of branch activities and the work of the committee. He thanked the whole branch membership for their support. Thanks, were also passed to those that had stood as committee members, particularly those that have stood down over the past year or will not be continuing into the new branch year.

The branch treasurer provided an overview of the accounts. Over the past year the branch funds had increased by £2,184.78. The branch remained in a financially strong position.

The evening then proceeded to appoint the branch committee for a 3-year term. There were a number of nominations for the committee appointment and after a vote for the chairman the following individuals were appointed:

Chairman: Shaun Arthur

Vice Chairman: Tony Francis

Secretary: Matt Wade

Treasurer: Alison Fruin

Committee members: Julie Holton, Sue Wade, Terry Meader

Our outgoing chair passed over the jewel of office to Shaun, which is captured above.



Members Birthday

Please join me in sending our best wishes to those that celebrated a birthday in October:

Daniel Alcock

Robert Briggs

Neil Bromage

Kenneth Checkett

Ian Gray

Anita Hassall

William O`Driscoll

Tony Rawlinson

Ian Roberts

Nick Sanders

Bettina Stockman

Sue Wade

Hugh Witherington

Pasing of Eddie Flawn

I regret to inform you that our member, Eddie Flawn, has sadly passed away in Peterborough Hospital. He had been progressively ill for the last couple of years and went into hospital about a month ago.

Eddie was a stalwart member of the Branch since 2008 when he and Cecille moved to Britain from Zimbabwe. He never failed to turn up, even after falling ill, for any parade or Guard of Honour. Eddie helped with the Poppy Appeal at Waitrose every year and was always on Parade in the Town.

Eddie's funeral will be at **Marholm at 1100hrs on Friday, 1 November**. The family have asked if we will be able to mount a Guard of Honour.

I'm hoping that as many branch members can attend as possible to honour Eddie. We will remember them.

Band Concert

Did you attend the Waterloo Band & Bugles of the 7th Rifles?

Feedback from the charity concert has been fantastic. In total we managed to sell around 130 tickets for the event, meaning we more than covered our expenses.

The event raised a total of £925.00 for the Stamford branch.



Thanks go to Lynne, who did a fantastic job navigating the standard down the centre aisle, avoiding the overhead lights. To Sue and Julie for providing refreshments to the band. To the committee for their support and to the Stamford Corn Exchange Theatre. Our biggest thanks go to the band of the Waterloo Band & Bugles.

We may have the opportunity to host a similar event in 2025 and committee willing, further details will be announced nearer the time.

Do we have your contact details?

All of your communication details are provided by membership services, extracted from your membership application form.

Recently it appears that some of the information that the branch receives is not up to date, many with missing contact details, such as e-mail addresses. E-mails are the preferred method of communication as they enable timely contact and reduce postage costs.

In order to maintain effective and timely communication is you have an e-mail address please email stamford.secretary@rbl.community so we can check your records and ensure they are correct.

Talk of Interest

Tommy's Charity Talks return: Thursday November 7th. Edith Weston Village Hall 7pm. Tickets £10 from Edith Weston Village Store

Inside the Cold War

A fascinating evening is in store with Air Commodore Ed Jarron talking about his 30 year life as a "Cold Warrior". Ed was a Vulcan nuclear bomber pilot, Assistant Air Attache in the British Embassy in Moscow and held senior roles in the development and maintenance of Britain's nuclear deterrent.

In an uncertain world we can reflect on the Cold War period and what is happening in today's conflicts.

To book contact 07909 661649

Are you a Blackstone Member?

The branch are hosted at Blackstone Sport & Social Club, did you know that you can join as a member of the club?

Membership has the benefit of receiving discounts on any drink purchased. Membership costs £12

RBL Youth Membership

Did you know that the RBL offers FREE youth membership?

If you're between 12 and 18 your able to join and get the benefits of belonging to a national charity whilst sharing the experience of Legion membership with younger people. It open to ALL youth groups not just those with a military affiliation.

Poppy Appeal

Its that time of the year when we think about remembrance and the RBL poppy appeal. Jim and Peter have been working hard to get all the collecting boxes ready for the appeal. If you can support the appeal in any way, please contact Jim who may be able to allocate you a job.... many hands make light work!

Jim can be contacted at: jimmycjackson@hotmail.com

For those who have been allocated a collection role, Jim has sent out the following:

Ladies and Gents

Thank you for your eagerness to help once again at the supermarkets this year. There are just some points to remember.

If you are helping at Waitrose then please book your care and yourself in at customer services. Please book yourself in at Sainsburys also.

Instructions on how to use the card reader will be on the stall. Peter and I will demonstrate to the first shift, and they will pass the information on to you.

There will be no suggested prices for items on the stall this year, everything is a donation although we would like £3 for 2024 badges if possible.

Gift Aid this year can be given through the card readers but the information can be printed off the card reader as we are not allowed to take the customers details on the supermarket's premises. We may get a problem once more wit the card readers at Morrisons but we will have to persevere. Total last year £6,496.

There are toilets in all three supermarkets but only the drink option at Morrisons and Waitrose. I will be talking with Kim the Store Manager as regards to a drink from the staff canteen at Sainsburys. Please let the customers approach you as we are not allowed to approach them.

I have to get supermarket signatures now, when the money boxes or buckets are handed over at the end of the day at Sainsburys and Morrisons. There will be a bucket at Morrisons stall and this will last all day and will be handed over by Clive Green at the end of the day. Peter will hand the money boxes over at Sainsburys at the end of the day.

There will be some items that we will run out of as I am limited to the amount of stock I am allowed. We look forward to another excellent Poppy Appeal and my thanks once again to you all.

Jim

MERRY Christmas DINNER

RBL Branch Christmas Ball
Wednesday 18th December
Danish Invader, Stamford
19:00hrs for 19:30hrs sit down
Price includes 3 course meal, port, crackers and entertainment.
Smart dress required; miniatures may be worn.

Interested in attending?
Darren Rawnsley on 07806 228 494
e-mail: dbrawnsley@gmail.com

£20

Prawn Cocktail
Chefs Soup
Pate
xxx
Turkey or Beef,
Seasoned Vegetables
xxx
Christmas Pudding
Cheesecake
Cheese & Biscuits
Vegetarian and Vegan options also available.

Remembrance

It would be great to see as many of you as possible attending the remembrance events this year. Please find the details of these below.

Friday 1st November

The Garden of Remembrance will receive a dedication on Friday 1st November at 11am at the Stamford War Memorial, Broad Street. Members attending are asked to be at the location before 10:45am. A short service will be held to dedicate the garden for remembrance.

Sunday 10th November – Remembrance Parade

The Annual Service of Remembrance and Laying of Wreaths will take place at the War Memorial, Broad Street, Stamford. Branch members are requested to be in Star Lane by 10:30hrs.

10.30hrs

The Stamford Brass Band, Standard Bearers, Ex Services Detachment, Military Detachments, Cadets Detachments, will assemble in Order of March in Star Lane and St Paul Street, Under the Command of The Royal British Legion Parade Marshal.

The Parade must not Step off before 10.50hrs, Non-Ex Service Personnel unable to March will be asked to go independently to the War Memorial.

10.40hrs to 10.45hrs

The Royal British Legion Parade Marshal will form up Standard Bearers, Ex Service Detachment. The Military Detachments, and Cadet Detachments will already be formed up.

10.50hrs

The Royal British Legion Parade Marshal will Step Off the Standard Bearers and Ex Service Detachment. The Military and Cadets Detachments will Step off when Commanders orders to Step off.

10.55hrs

The Lord Lieutenant (or his Deputy) the Mayor, Military representatives, past Mayors, Mayoresses, and the Civic Party will be assembled on the terrace of Brown's Hospital. The Bugler will take post on the steps, Wreath Bearers from the Mayor and Military Detachments will take post to the left of the War Memorial ready to hand over Wreaths to the Mayor and Military Detachments Commander's.

10.56hrs

The Parade Commander will call the parade to Attention as the Lord Lieutenant (or his Deputy) the Mayor in the centre of the terrace will then leave the terrace. The Royal British Legion Chairman and the Mayor Chaplain in front of the War Memorial facing the Ex-Service Detachment.

10.58hrs

Parade Commander will bring the parade to Attention. Introductory Prayer by Mayors Chaplain then the Chairman of the Royal British Legion will say the Exhortation. Then the Bugler will sound the Last Post.

11.00 hrs

The Two Minute Silence will begin at the end of the Last Post.

On the first note of Last Post the Standard Bearers will dip the standards and on the first note of the Reveille the Standards will be raised to the carry. The Chairman of the Royal British Legion will say the Kohima

The Poppy wreaths will be laid in a set order.

Hymn`s this year are:

O God Our Help In Ages Past

I Vow To Thee My Country

During the blessing the Standard Bearers will bring the Standards into the carry. After the Blessing, The Parade Commander will bring the parade to Attention for the National Anthem which Stamford Brass Band will play.

The parade will leave the area, marching towards the chip shop then right wheel back towards the memorial for the march past and salute. The parade will be dismissed in Star Lane.

Monday 11th November – Armistice Day

There will be a short service, and two-minute silence held at the Stamford War Memorial at 11am. Any branch members attending are requested to be at the memorial by 10:45hrs. Local schools have been invited to participate again this year and the Town Mayor will be in attendance.

Branch Events

Our website is kept updated with all branch events; the address is at the top of the newsletter. However, for ease please see below the activities currently planned:

Monday 21st October - `Bingo Night` - Blackstone Sport & Social club, 7.30pm

Saturday 26th October – Lincolnshire Poppy Appeal Launch – Aviation Heritage Centre, 11am

Friday 1st November - Dedication to Garden of Remembrance – War Memorial, Broad Street, 10:45am

Sunday 10th November - `Armistice/ Remembrance Day` - War Memorial, Broad Street, 10:30am

Monday 11th November - `Armistice/ Remembrance Day` - War Memorial, Broad Street, 10:45am

Monday 18th November – TBC (guest speaker) - Blackstone Sport & Social club, 7.30pm

Friday 22nd November till 15th December– Christmas Tree Festival, St John Church, Stamford

Wednesday 18th December - `Christmas Ball` - The Danish Invader, 7pm for 7.30pm start

2025

Saturday 25th January – County Conference – Horncastle, 11:30am

Monday 20th January – Arts & Crafts Night - Blackstone Sport & Social club, 7.30pm

Thursday 8th May – 80th VE Day Commemorations – Stamford, TBC

Friday 15th August – 80th VJ Day Commemorations – Stamford, TBC

Remember: these events are provided for your enjoyment and an opportunity to socialise with people from similar backgrounds and interests. It's up to you, the branch membership, to support these evenings and make them into the success they are. It's your branch and eh committee that are keen to hear your views. Social events provide an opportunity to do this in a supportive manner.