



1st August 2019

Registered Charity Number 219279

We Will Remember Them

Mrs S Musgrove – *Earl Mountbatten Memorial Branch*

Mr D Brooks – *Petersfield Branch*

Our sincere condolences to family and friends

County News

Hampshire County Conference

The annual meeting of the Hampshire Conference of Branches will be held at the Jubilee Hall, Bishops Waltham on Saturday 18th January 2020 from 10.30am

Branches wishing to have motions debated at Annual Conference next May :

MUST have their motion debated and approved at the preceding County Conference.

The closing date for acceptance of motions by the Conference Committee is Friday 15th November 2019.

Written motions must be presented in the format laid down in Standing Orders ie:

1) the motion 2) a reason for the motion 3) the effect if passed 4) the main argument

This is to ensure that other branches understand the motion and its effect.

Notice of Conference and the relevant documents will be sent out to all branches at the beginning of September.

County Conference Committee

County Welfare Fund

We are starting a new year with nothing in the Fund. To enable us to follow the Aims and Objects of our charity we need to receive funds from Branches and Clubs to “assist those in need in the Forces Community”

Many branches are holding funds far in excess of the amounts needed for running their branch and should be passing on these amounts to Poppy Appeal or to Hampshire County Welfare Fund. Please make out our cheques to “RBL Hampshire County Committee” and continue to support the work of the Royal British Legion here in Hampshire.

County Treasurer

Branches Group Meeting

The newly formed Branch Groups will start meeting from August this year.

The North Hampshire Group will hold its initial meeting on 10th August 2019, 1300hrs-1500hrs at the Old Basing RBL Hall, Crown Lane, RG24 7DN. County Committee members will be in attendance to offer advice on training, recruitment, and its open to all members of the Hampshire Branches.

County Training

Calling all Branch Treasurers, past, present and future. The next Branch Treasurer course will be held on 7th-8th September at the Area Office in Southampton. This is the last Branch Treasurer course we will be holding this year so any current or prospective branch treasurers who require this course should pencil in the dates and send an application to me without delay. There is a maximum number of delegates who can attend this course so please do not delay. This course is offered to all branches nationally as it is run with support of national trainers, so it will be first come, first served.

Following on from the successful Independent Examiners course we held in May we have been offered dates for another course 16th-17th November. It is critical that we increase the number of IE's within the county so it is imperative that this course is also a success. Please be informed that it is a requirement that delegates have previously attended a RBL Branch Treasurer course. The IE course ends in a written exam which delegates shall pass in order to perform duties as an IE. Again, if you are interested in attending this course then please contact me at Hampshire.cto@rbl.community.

As previously announced, it is my intention over the next few months to hold a series of one day Branch Management courses throughout the county. This course is suitable for all current and prospective branch committee members. In order to help me to decide the best locations for these courses and to avoid the disappointment of me planning courses that are then cancelled, I would ask all branches that are interested in this course to contact me with an idea of prospective numbers.

Finally, I would remind branches of my offer to hold MAP's and Office 365 workshops for branch officer and committee members in individual branches. I have held a number of these workshops the feed-back being that they have proved very useful. If your branch is interested in this then please contact me at Hampshire.cto@rbl.community.

Branch News

Riders Branch

Any branches who are holding a fundraising or recruiting event and would like support from the Riders Branch, please contact Richard Skilton, Hampshire Riders Branch
Rep hampshire@riders-mail.com or
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/146792658761053/>

Southampton

In a previous edition we gave details of General Eisenhower being made an honorary member of the Southampton Branch in 1944. Following this the Branch received a number of offers to take the membership into safekeeping. Hampshire County Council among many were interested in placing it their archives but a week before the D-Day celebrations we received a request from Southwick House asking if they could display the membership certificate if only on a temporary basis. A couple of us were invited to visit the house at which time we were given a short tour and were pleasantly pleased and surprised to see so much memorabilia from the wartime period so well maintained and preserved.

We were shown General Eisenhower's and General Montgomery's rooms which have remained as they were with numerous photos and other items on permanent display. It was decided this would be a very apt and wonderful location to display the membership certificate on a permanent

basis in what was General Eisenhower's personal room.

It has now been presented to Southwick House with the Branch retaining a copy. This ensures the certificate will be preserved for future generations to view and appreciate a little bit of history of the RBL. A group of us hope to be able to visit the house later in the year and see the certificate on display and enjoy a tour of the house and learn much more of its history.

Woolston

The Woolston Branch recently restarted and have a fully commercial kitchen fitted and started to implement plans for a Veterans Breakfast Club, that has already started to pay dividends as past members are making their way back to the club. They have a memorial garden for members to remember lost ones.

The group raised £2000 through the London Marathon for the Poppy Appeal, and are looking forward to the new Poppy Appeal period, where they hope for assistance from the local community.

Bordon & District

Cheryl and Samantha Back took part in the recent Poppy Quest Portsmouth raising funds for the Poppy Appeal. They both received the completion medal, and the bonus coin for raising over £100 each.



Kingsclere

After a busy start to the year, your local branch of the RBL is starting to prepare for the November events surrounding Remembrance in November. To make this year's Act of Remembrance as special as last year's, your support is crucial, so

please put the date in your diary and come out and support if you can.

Our monthly Brunch Club which is held on the first Saturday of the month at 11am at The Crown continues to go from strength to strength and is open to all of our community, so come along and have a great breakfast, meet the members of the branch and see what we do.

We plan to donate £1000 in September to the Hampshire RBL Welfare Fund; the first time we have been in a position to do so. This fund directly supports local Service Personnel, Veterans and their families who are in dire need. This has been possible due to the generosity of the villagers at our recent events; this is what the RBL is about and for your continued support we thank you all.

Our village branch continues to grow steadily in numbers and in our planned events and socials, so why not come along to a meeting which we hold every first Tuesday of the month in The Crown, starting at 7pm or join us for Brunch! This is a great way to support our community!

If you have any questions, please contact me on either my RBL email, Kingsclere.Chairman@RBL.Community or via 01635 628004.

Lyndhurst & District

The Lyndhurst and District Branch are holding a Band concert on Sunday 8th September at the Lyndhurst Community Centre from 3pm. Tickets are £12, including a cream tea, from the Community Centre, and the Working Men`s Club. See the attached poster for more details.

Totton Area

Thank you to everyone who has helped us raise £29,596 for the Poppy Appeal so far this year, our events over the next few months will be Sunday 18th August 10am to midday Car Boot Sale in Memorial Car Park

Community Drop-in Thursday 29th August in Totton and Eling Community Centre from 10am to midday. Everyone is welcome and there are free refreshments.

Sunday 1st September 10am to midday Car Boot Sale in Memorial Car Park

Ashurst Fete on Saturday 7th September 12 to 4pm

Community Drop in on Thursday 26th September and then the last Thursday of the month Sunday 6th October 10am to midday Car Boot Sale in Memorial Car Park

We will be collecting daily from Saturday 26th October to Saturday 9th November in ASDA Totton and elsewhere. If you are able to help collect for the Poppy Appeal in Totton, Ashurst or Eling please email poppy@compark.co.uk or ring 023 8087 3143 or come along to one of our events.

Branch President

The Totton and Eling Branch of the Royal British Legion are looking for a new Branch President to be appointed at the Annual General Meeting to be held in December this year.

The current Incumbent, Rodney Hawkins J.P., has announced his intention to relinquish the office after nine years as President. He is also resigning from the Chairmanship of the combined Town Council and Legion members Remembrance Day Committee, who organise the Parade and Ceremonial on both Remembrance and Armistice Days. He has been associated with the organisation of these Parades for the past twenty two years and, at the age of Eighty Three has been advised to reduce his commitments.

The duties of a Branch President include acting as a focal point on ceremonial and social occasions, and one must have the ability to communicate with people and, in general, to represent the British Legion at official functions.

The President is expected to Chair the Branch Annual General Meeting, although it is not an executive office.

The President is also a member of the Remembrance Day Committee and as such is required to liaise with the representatives of the Town Council.

Although the position is open to all applicants, priority may be given to those who have served in the Armed Forces.

Applicants for this position can contact rodney.hawkins@ntlworld.com or by telephone on 023-80865000. Their details will be passed to the Branch Committee, who have the ultimate authority in this matter, and will make their selection at a Committee Meeting prior to the A.G.M.

Standard Bearers

Training

The County Parade Marshal, Steve Forward, would like to invite all Standard Bearers to partake in training sessions to ensure that they are kept current.

Training takes place at

Eastleigh – Pavilion in the Park, 1 Kingfisher Road, Eastleigh **SO50 9LH**

Lymington – Lymington Drill Hall, Bath Road, Lymington, **SO41 3RU**

Fleet – Old NAAFI Building, Quetta Park, Church Crookham, Fleet, **GU52 8TG**

Training runs from March through to October inclusive, and all Standard Bearers are urged to take training courses as beginners or long serving to enhance their position as the Legion's presence in the community.

The Parade Marshall, Steve Forward can be contacted on 023 8069 3028, or stevemo@stevemo.plus.com or Deputy Parade Marshall, Dave Graham on 01425 623102 or davidkarengraham1@yahoo.co.uk for more information.

Eastleigh	Lymington	Fleet
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
<i>14:00</i>	<i>19:30</i>	<i>19:00</i>
<i>N/A</i>	<i>12th Aug</i>	<i>14th Aug</i>
<i>8th Sept</i>	<i>9th Sept</i>	<i>11th Sept</i>
<i>20th Oct</i>	<i>14th Oct</i>	<i>16th Oct</i>

Each session is an hour long

Notices

Festival of Remembrance

At the last Annual Conference, Motion 4 called on us to return to the ticketing system of previous years. It has to be noted that the process applied in 2018 was brought about by new legislation out of our control, namely GDPR and the understandable need to heighten security advised by the Metropolitan Police. On behalf of Members, the Membership Council (MC) asked that the ticketing process be re-evaluated in the light of these new requirements which we have to enforce. The MC additionally requested exploring the fairness of the new system in terms of distribution of tickets to more Members and making sure we maximise the seating capacity of the Royal Albert Hall.

We are pleased to report that the 2018 ticketing process resulted in fewer empty seats at either performance than ever before. At a meeting last week, having reviewed and challenged the process and the improvements proposed for this year, the MC is content that the list of changes proposed here will solve many of the problems Members faced last year and so reduce disappointment and dissatisfaction. The MC will of course continue to review the ticketing system after this year if the issues outlined are not resolved.

Membership Ticketing

The Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance will be held in the Royal Albert Hall, London on Saturday 9 November 2019 with performances at 2.00pm and 7.00pm.

We have amended the ticketing process and members will be able to buy tickets on a first-come-first served basis, in an exclusive Member sale, buying tickets directly from the ticket agent. Full details can be found on the attached Circular.

Concert

The Astor Big Band at the Haymarket on Sunday 13th October

The Astor Big Band Presents

The Glenn Miller Story

- The story of Glenn Miller from his first band to his disappearance on a flight to France on Dec 14th 1944
- Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Blue
- Hits of Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, the Andrew Sisters and music from Chess, Les Misérables and West Side Story as Miller would have performed them

ANVIL ARTS

Sun 13 Oct, 7.30pm
The Haymarket
01256 844244 | anvilarts.org.uk

All of Astor Big Bands profits plus a collection made at this performance will be donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Events Diary

2019

August

10th – Newmarket Race Day
Tickets £19-60, £13-30 with £3.00 donation TRBL
Newmarket Racetrack, Suffolk
Tel: 01638 675500 option 4
Quote: RBL19 for members prices
<https://www.thejockeyclub.co.uk/newmarket/events-tickets/royal-british-legion-day/>

10th – North Hampshire Group Meeting
Old Basing RBL Hall, RG24 7DN
1pm-3pm

14th – Op Banner Commemoration
National Memorial Arboretum
<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/op-banner-50/>

September

8th – Brass Band Concert – 3pm
Tickets 312-00 (inc Cream Tea)
Lyndhurst Community Centre

October

13th – Astor Big Band – 7.30pm
Haymarket - Basingstoke
26th – Poppy Appeal launch

November

9th – Festival of Remembrance
Royal Albert Hall
10th – Remembrance Sunday
11th – Armistice Day

2020

January

18th – County Conference – 10.30am
Bishops Waltham

Please if you have any events in the pipeline then contact the Hampshire Link Newsletter and we can advertise the event for you.

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.HampshireRBL

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>
Chairman	<i>Tim Russell</i>
Vice-Chairman	<i>Robert Bartlett</i>
Treasurer	<i>Brian C N Soffe</i>
MSO	<i>Christopher Bolton</i>
Membership Council Rep	<i>Gerry Nunn</i>
Area Manager SW	<i>Craig Spence</i>
Training Officer	<i>Mike Davis</i>
Recruitment Officer	<i>Pat Prior BEM, QVRM</i>
Branch Support – North	<i>Jacki Gatfield</i>
Branch Support - South	<i>Andy Knight</i>
Youth Officer	<i>Vacant</i>
Committee Member	<i>Brian Mansi</i>
CFR – Manager SW	<i>Claire Peppiatt</i>
CFR – Hampshire North	<i>Jim Parker</i>
CFR – Hampshire South	<i>Sarah Ferris</i>
PAO Coordinator – North	<i>Jacki Gatfield</i>
PAO Coordinator – South	<i>Pat Prior BEM QVRM</i>
Communications Support	<i>Avril Mitchell</i>
Hampshire Link	<i>Darron Back</i>