



We Will Remember Them

Mr J Salmon – *Petersfield* : Mr D Boxall – *Milford on Sea*
Maj D Watson – *Hartley Wintney* : Mr D Whitlock – *Hambledon*
Mr C Young – *Southampton* : Mr G Gunn – *The Wallops*
Mr J Morris – *Brockenhurst*

Our sincere condolences to family and friends

National News

Following the Membership Forum at this year's National Conference, a number of complaints were made to the LCC against Mr Colin Kemp, Elected Trustee and elected National Vice Chairman. There was also significant negative comment across social media channels about his behaviour in relation to some delegates and his handling of the Forum.

The Board of Trustees took these complaints extremely seriously and convened an Investigations Panel to investigate the complaints and to hear from all parties.

This Investigations Panel found that the complaints were indeed justified.

The Board subsequently met last week to discuss the findings of the Panel and agreed with them.

The Board of Trustees upholds the values and behaviours of The Royal British Legion as sacrosanct and holds itself to account for the highest standards of behaviour.

Following discussion at the Board of Trustees and a conversation with Mr Kemp, he tendered his resignation from the Board and therefore as National Vice Chairman, which the Board accepted.

The Board wishes to thank Mr Kemp for his many years of service to the Legion and its beneficiaries. He has confirmed that he will continue to support the Charity and its objectives as a Member.

The Board will discuss the issue of the National Vice Chairman vacancy at its September meeting.

National Chairman

County News

Branches Group Meeting

The North Hampshire Group meeting took place at the Old Basing RBL Club on 10th August and

was attended by a good number of Branches to hear from County Committee members. The Committee were on hand to listen to Branches on the problems they face, but also to pass on information from various sources on what is available to help Branches. It was agreed that the Group session was a great success, but needed to be tweaked a bit to ensure plenty of time was given over that an open Q&A session at the end.

Further Group meetings are planned for:
Hayling Island (PO11 9ES) Sunday 1st September
Romsey (SO51 8DE) Saturday 21st September
Southampton (SO14 3HB) Saturday 28th September

Any branch that wishes to attend should put their names forward to the County Chairman, so the committee have an idea of numbers attending. It is requested that if you have detailed questions that you forward them prior to the meeting, to the County Chairman, so the fullest answers can be given.

Please try to ensure that a member of your Branch attends at least one of the group sessions as it will ensure they have access to the most up to date contacts, and also know how and who to contact with queries.

At the Group Meetings the County Chairman will be discussing Project 23, a University of Southampton Business Innovation Program on how to tackle the problems with recruitment with the younger generations. The full report will be released to Branches after the Group meetings, but Branches are recommended to attend the Group meetings to get the County Chairman's personal ideas and understanding, after taking to the Project team, and hopefully help branches tackle the current slow uptake in new members.

Training

Unfortunately, the Branch Treasurer course to be held on 7th-8th September at the Area Office in Southampton has had to be cancelled due to lack of delegates. This is very surprising as I am aware that there are a large number of Branch Treasurers who need this course. Going forward a one-day Branch Treasurers workshop has been developed and I will endeavour to run this workshop throughout the county in the New Year.

Following on from the feedback at the group meeting at Old Basing, I have arranged a series of one day Branch Management courses. These will be held on 1st and 8th December in Old Basing and 7th and 14th December at the Area Office in Southampton. This course is suitable for all current and prospective branch committee members. This will be a full day starting at 09:00 and ending late afternoon. Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. There will be a limited number of places on these courses so I would encourage those who wish to attend to submit an application as soon as possible.

Depending on take up of this course we will be running more in the New Year.

I would remind you that 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. If you are interested in attending this course then please contact me at Hampshire.cto@rbl.community.

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 .

Mike Davis

Hampshire CTO

Hampshire County Conference

The Hampshire County Conference of Branches takes place at Jubilee Hall, Bishops Waltham on Saturday 18th January 2020 starting at 1030hrs.

Branch Secretaries will soon be receiving the Notice of Conference with application forms for:

- Branch Delegate(s)
- Motions & Charter Motions for Conference
- County Committee (8 Vacancies)
- County Conference Committee (1 year)
- National Conference Committee (3 years)
- Place of Conference 2022

The application forms for County Awards:

- Shaw or Capper Cup
- Howard Memorial Cup
- County President's Shield
- Business Affiliation Shield
- Poppy Organiser's Cup
- Poppy Appeal Cup

Please read the nomination forms and if you believe a Branch or individual meets the standard then use the forms and nominate, if the Branch/Individual is not nominated they cannot win and receive the recognition they deserve.

The following will also be awarded but no nominations required.

- Stockdale Membership Cup
- Folley Membership Cup
- Buckingham Shield
- Wells Rose Bowl
- PAO's Cup

Please note that due to the age and fragility of the cup, they will now be kept in storage, and all winners and runners' ups will receive certificates.

This Notice and requisite forms can be accessed by Branch officials on MAP (Office 365) on the Hampshire page in County Shared Documents/County Conference/Forms A-I

Note:

Mr TR Russell, Mr R Bartlett, Mrs PM Prior BEN QVRM, Mr B Mansi, Mr MJ Davis & Mr A Knight are serving members of the Hampshire County Committee who may NOT be nominated for Conference 2020.

Branch News

Kingsclere

As are many local branches, after a busy start to the year we are now catching breath before starting to plan and prepare for Remembrance weekend where we are hoping to carry forward the support shown from the village in 2018.

Before that we have a number of other activities. Our monthly Brunch Club continues to go from strength to strength, bringing in new members and a great deal of interest in what we are doing and planning.

We plan to lay a small memorial stone to remember Sgt Jim Beasant, 13th (Lancashire) Battalion, Parachute Regiment who dropped into France on D Day and fought through the war in numerous campaigns. Jim was also the Branch President for a long period. Jim sadly passed away in January this year.

Our new CWGC headstone remembering Pte Leonard Cramp will be dedicated in October, as part of our Remembrance activities.

A key theme on our branch plan is to provide support to the wider village community including the Guides, Scouts, Parish Council and school; a number of our branch put on a display for the village school in July as part of their WW2 themed project. A pop up museum of “show and tell” items were put out and a great day was had by all.



Kingsclere RBL supporting the Kingsclere School WW2 Project

Copythorne

The Copythorne Branch are hosting a Band Concert on Saturday 5th October 2019 at the Copythorne parish Hall, Pollards Moor Road, Copythorne, SO40 2NZ.

Music to the Purbeck Big Band, tickets only £8.00
Contact Ginge Kinley 023 8081 4732 or oy Farmers 023 8081 2504 for more information and book your tickets.

Petersfield

Petersfield RBL held their summer dinner at the Half Moon in Sheet on Thursday 29th August, where they remembered their fallen comrade Mr John Salmon.



Mr John Salmon

The funeral of John took place at the Oaks Crematorium, Havent on 30th August. John was a Borneo Veteran and had postings in West Germany, Berlin and Longmoor.

The Branch remembered John at the Annual Summer Dinner the evening before.

Bramley & District

The practice of carrying **colours** or **standards**, both to act as a rallying point for troops and to mark the location of the commander, is thought to have originated in Ancient Egypt some 5,000 years ago. Due to the advent of modern weapons, and subsequent changes in tactics, Standards are no longer carried into battle, but continue to be used at events of formal character. They are never capriciously destroyed – when too old to use they are replaced and then laid-up in museums,



religious buildings and other places of significance.

Most military and veterans' organisations have a Standard, the Bramley Branch Standard is 50 years old and is rather heavy, it was becoming a burden for our Standard Bearer, Tony Evans, who is 80. Furthermore, the Branch has now merged with the former Branches at Sherborne St John and Stratfield Saye to become Bramley and District. It was agreed, therefore, that the Branch should acquire a new Standard which, made of modern lighter materials, would be less of a burden for Tony. As well as the basic Standard, we also needed a new pole and new tassels and it needed to bear the GP90 annotation to show that the Standard with Tony had participated last year in the 90th anniversary of the Great Pilgrimage of 1929 when eleven thousand veterans and war widows made a great pilgrimage to the battlefields of the Somme and Ypres before marching to the Menin Gate in Ypres.

The total cost of the standard including the pole, VAT and delivery was £678.00. Donations from members and the Bramley Parish Council covered £506.00 of this with Branch funds making up the balance.

As part of the Morning Service at St James Church on Sunday 21st July the Branch Standard Bearer, Tony Evans, committed the old Standard to the Rev'd John Lenton as the incumbent of the Parish of Bramley for safe keeping in the holy church of St James for evermore. Then Tony presented the new Standard to the Minister who unfurled the Standard and blessed it before placing it on the Communion Table. At the end of the service, Tony received the newly blessed Standard back from the Minister and marched to the back of the church. Our new Standard is now ready for use. The photo shows the old Bramley Standard (on the left) and the new Bramley & District Standard (on the right).



Bramley & District Branch are holding their Annual Dinner on Friday 4th October 2019. It will

take place in Sherborne St John Village Hall (RG24 9HR) starting at 7pm for 7.30pm. The Price is £27.00 per person that will include a drink on arrival, 3 course meal and coffee with full table service. There will be a Raffle, Auction and Bar. Our Guest speaker will be His Honour Judge Peter Clarke QC. *Non-Members will be very welcome. - Please see attached poster for contact details.*

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>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

Competition

The Annual County Standard Bearers Competition takes place at Jubilee hall, Bishops Waltham on Sunday 13th October 2019 at 11am.

Branches are urged to Standard Bearers to take part in the event as the winners will progress to the South Western Reginal Competition, and up to the National Competition if the win. The winner and runner up both receive certificates at County Conference in January.

Poppy Appeal

Are you ready for some great news?? The Poppy Appeal in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight has raised over £2 million and we have now hit £2,038,180.88!! Fantastic news, time to say THANK YOU and a celebration dance from our Poppy mascot!



Notices

Hampshire Link Newsletter

The Hampshire Link Newsletter is published for the benefit of all Members of the Legion in Hampshire, so please ensure that it is given the widest possible distribution to the membership within your Branches and sub-Branches.

The Hampshire Link would like to hear from Branches that have events in the pipeline, and/or that have taken place, so that we can advertise them to other Branches, as it may give Branches more ideas on promoting not only the Branch but the RBL as a whole, and may lead to improved membership.

Office of Veterans Affairs

It was announced on the 29th July 2019, that the Prime Minister has appointed Oliver Dowden as Minister representing Veterans in Cabinet during a visit to a military base in Scotland.

Oliver Dowden will work closely with Johnny Mercer who has been appointed Minister for Defence People and Veterans. That role will now

be a joint Ministry of Defence and Cabinet Office position, in order to allow the Minister to direct the work of the new Office for Veterans' Affairs. The two ministers will share responsibility for veterans' affairs.

This is the first time that veterans' affairs will be overseen by dedicated ministers in the Cabinet Office to ensure the whole of government pulls together to deliver the life-long support our veterans deserve.

The newly created Office for Veterans' Affairs inside the Cabinet Office will be staffed by officials from the Cabinet Office and Ministry of Defence (and others as necessary). The best experts from across Whitehall will now be working together in the Cabinet Office hub on an holistic approach to veterans' affairs.

The Office will work with departments to coordinate and drive government policy on veterans' welfare, spanning mental and physical health, education and employment. The head of the Office for Veterans' Affairs will report jointly to both Ministers.

For the full press release and comments from Ben Wallace – Defence Secretary, Oliver Dowden – Minister for the Cabinet Office and Jonny Mercer – Minister for Defence People and Veterans visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pm-creates-new-office-for-veterans-affairs-to-provide-lifelong-support-to-military-personnel?fbclid=IwAR3T4uNKw1o20OceJwTtvYnKN61tObPPJTERhqqXMmC2CwzclWh3VCwboMI>

Building Community Connections

If you follow Legion social media or have looked at the website recently you will have hopefully noticed our recent campaign launched surrounding our increased offer (BCS being part of this) to help the AF community to build connections and provide support interventions for those experiencing loneliness or are socially isolated.

The following links provide wider insight:

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/stories/community-connections>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FQdykxJGKJc>



ALDERSHOT AND DISTRICT
CIVIL SERVICE PENSIONERS ALLIANCE
GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
FARNBOROUGH
THURSDAY SEPT 5TH AT 2.30 PM

At our September meeting we are delighted to welcome Eugenie Brooks presenting her illustrated talk entitled The War Graves Commission.

She is a member of both the Royal British Legion and the Guild of Battlefield Guides. Before her career in the Police Force she worked at the HQ of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and so is familiar with their work and expertise. Eugenie is a vibrant speaker who also leads tours of the Battlefields and Brookwood Cemetery.

We are extending invites to The Farnborough Royal British Legion and any-one interested in Military History who would like to attend.

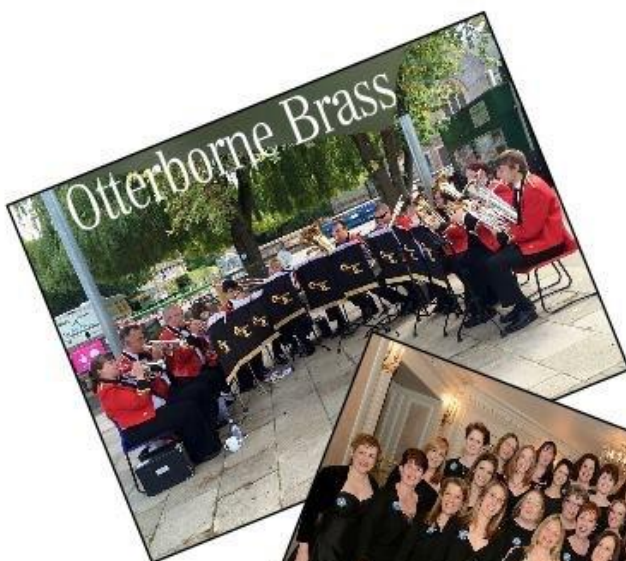
Entrance only £2, including refreshments.



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Eastleigh, Chandlers Ford & District Branch

Festival of Remembrance & Celebration of the



75th

ANNIVERSARY

D-DAY AND BATTLE
OF NORMANDY

thepoint

EASTLEIGH

BOX OFFICE: 023 8065 2333

www.thepointeastleigh.co.uk

Sunday 3rd November 2019

Doors Open 2:30pm

Tickets £11

Performance Starts 3pm

Events Diary

2019

September

5th – CSPA Meeting – 2.30pm

Farnborough RBL Club

Entrance £2.00 (on the door)

8th – Brass Band Concert – 3pm

Tickets 312-00 (inc Cream Tea)

Lyndhurst Community Centre

October

5th – Band Concert

Copythorne Parish Hall

Pollards Moor Road, SO40 2NZ

Tickets £8.00

023 8081 4732/023 8081 2504

13th – Astor Big Band – 7.30pm

Haymarket – Basingstoke

13th – County Standard Bearers Competition

Jubilee Hall, Bishops Waltham

14th – 18th – Lifeworks

RBL Pop In Centre

Southampton

See attached Poster

18th – SE Reginal Gala Dinner

Crowne Plaza, Felbridge

West Sussex

Black Tie event

26th – Poppy Appeal launch

November

9th – Festival of Remembrance

Royal Albert Hall

10th – Remembrance Sunday

11th – Armistice Day

November

1st & 8th – Branch Management Course

Old Basing RBL Club

7th & 14th – Branch Management Course

Area Office Southampton

2020

January

18th – County Conference – 10.30am

Jubilee Hall, 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>Ges Brown</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 Members	<i>Brian Mansi & Brian Soffe</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>