



(Kilmington Branch)

NEWSLETTER- OCTOBER 2008

Legion Membership

Membership renewal becomes due on 1 Oct 08, the cost remaining at £11. These subscriptions pay for the whole administration of the RBL including poppy and wreath production and the employment of disabled ex-Service personnel. "Shepherds" will shortly be delivering the Membership Cards to those who do not pay by Direct Debit together with an informative letter from Peter Cleminson, the RBL National Chairman. Members are encouraged to take the opportunity to pay by Direct Debit next year which cuts costs and gets the money to where its needed sooner; all you have to do is fill in the form on the letter carrying your card.

Poppy Appeal – 2008

The Poppy Appeal collections will take place between Saturday 25 Oct and Saturday 8 Nov. There will be a Coffee Morning for the collectors at The Cider Orchard on 14 Oct. The Branch raised £3,533 for the Poppy Appeal last year, £1,189 coming from the house to house collections. Can we do even better this year?

Poppy Day Launch and Race Day

The Devon County Poppy Launch and Race Day will take place at Exeter Race Course on Tues 21 Oct. Gates open at 12 Noon and the Band of the Royal Corps of Signals will perform at 1.00 pm with a parade of RBL Standards. Races will take place from 14.10 – 17.10 hours. Discounted tickets for RBL members will be on sale at £11, £2 of which will be donated to the Poppy Appeal. It should be a great day out for those interested.

Devon County Festival of Remembrance

As there has not been sufficient interest shown to warrant a coach for this event on Thursday 6 Nov, 12 seats have been reserved on the Axminster Branch coach for pick up outside the Old Inn at 18.15 hours at a cost of £11 including the coach. Please contact the Chairman to book the remaining few places.

Remembrancetide Arrangements

The arrangements remain much as outlined in the August Newsletter except that the Rev'd Lincoln Jones, our Branch Chaplain, will give the Address at the Remembrance Sunday Service in the Baptist Chapel at 09.45 hours on 9 Nov (our new Vicar, the Rev'd Alistair McCollum, will not be Inducted until Monday 10 Nov). If you wish to attend the lunch at the Otter Inn, Weston following the War Memorial ceremony, please book quickly with the Treasurer as 21 of the 29 places have already been booked; the cost is £12 including gratuities and the coach. Don't forget the 90th Anniversary of Armistice Day on Tuesday 11 Nov at 11.00 hours with coffee afterwards in the Pavilion.

Operational Honours List

Captain David Dutton, whose promotion was announced in the August Newsletter has been made an OBE in recognition of his services as Personal Adviser to the Head of the Iraqi Navy. He is presently completing the RN Senior Commander's Course before assuming his duties as Captain of HMS Cumberland in Jan 09. Ted Dutton has been asked to convey congratulations from the Branch.

Obituaries

Andy McKerrell, well known behind the bar in the New Inn, died suddenly on 9 Sep 08 at the age of only 53. While he had not renewed his membership of the British Legion, he had served in the RAMC and a Poppy Wreath with condolences was sent to his widow June. Members of the Branch present at the annual BBQ on 25 Jul 08 will probably remember Patricia Cumming, wife of the RBL Devon County Chairman, who enjoyed the evening; sadly, only three weeks later, she died suddenly. The Chairman sent condolences on behalf of all members which Brian Cumming much appreciated.

Annual Lecture - 17 Oct

Don't forget the Annual Lecture in the Village Hall on Friday 17 Oct at 19.30 hours by Lt Col Guy Lavender entitled "Beijing Olympics and Prospects for London 2012". Refreshments will be served in the interval with the opportunity to ask questions afterwards.

Branch AGM

The Branch AGM will be held on Monday 3 Nov at 10.00 hours in the skittle alley of the New Inn. All Members are encouraged to attend to elect the Committee for the following year and to air their views and ask any questions.

Colyton Branch Annual Dinner

The Chairman of the Colyton Branch, Charles Munro-Faure, has extended a warm invitation to any of our members to attend their annual Dinner in the Colyford Memorial Hall on Friday 7 Nov at 1900 hours. Cost of the three course meal with vegetarian option is £16 and own wine can be taken as there is no bar. The guest speaker will be Brian Cumming, Devon County Chairman. Please contact Charles direct if interested.

Autumn Coffee Morning

The Autumn Coffee morning will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 22 Nov at 1030 hours. Please support the event with items for the cake, plant, book, gift and nearly new stalls and the draw. All proceeds will go to the Poppy Appeal.

Branch Committee Minute Book

When Joyce Double was clearing out her loft, assisted by her son and other Friars from Hillfield Priory, the first Kilmington Branch Minute book was discovered containing some very interesting historical information from 25 Mar 25 (the first meeting) up to 20 Oct 47. Our Secretary has agreed to research it together with our other Minute books and produce a document summarising the Branch's history.

Members News

Harry Price has now moved to the Silverleigh Residential Home in Axminster where he is happy to be closer to friends and his GP. Visitors are welcome and/or a wave at his window would be appreciated.

Monthly "Get Togethers"

The next gatherings will be on Friday 3 Oct in the New Inn and Friday 7 Nov in the Old Inn both starting at 18.00 hours. Please join us on a buy your own principle.

(B W LAVENDER)
Chairman
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