

**ROYAL BRITISH LEGION (KILMINGTON BRANCH) AUTUMN/WINTER NEWSLETTER 2019**



Greetings from your RBL Committee, we hope this finds you well and preparing for the Christmas festivities. It is incredible where the time goes and I frequently question myself as to what I have achieved, or more importantly, spent my time doing!! Then I am joyfully reminded of all the splendid times we have spent with friends and neighbours; evenings, days out, holidays, wonderful dinners, the list is endless, but yet again it highlighted how lucky we are to be in a little area of East Devon filled with villages called Kilmington, Shute, Whitford and Dalwood.. Anyway, enough of my ramblings, I am sure most of you will only be too aware of everything that we have been doing. Since our last update we have managed a couple of important events; November marked remembrance and once again many braved the cold and the wet to honour all those who gave their lives for our country, both Military and Civilian. Our Poppy Appeal concluded on 11th November and raised an incredible £4037; my thanks to Peter & Louise Wood for organising the event and all those who gave their time to visit people at home, provide venues for our collection tins, and last

but not least, all of you who gave so generously. On Sunday 10th November, over 200 people attended the Remembrance service in the Beacon led by the branch Padre Darrell Holmes and many more joined us at the War Memorial for the Act of remembrance. Wreaths were laid by Roger Lovegrove on behalf of the RBL, Ben Trott on behalf of the Parish Council, Cdr Stafford Seward OBE RN Rtd on behalf of the Royal Navy, Lance Corporal Alex Hill on behalf of the Army, Flight Lieutenant Lauren Kerslake on behalf of the RAF and PCSO Chris Bolsover on behalf of the police. Wreaths were also laid on behalf of the Scouts and Guides. In addition a number of personal tributes were laid by the public, in particular children. Afterwards a great number returned to the Beacon to enjoy coffee, tea and biscuits; our sincere thanks to the Beacon for their very warm hospitality. After the service, over 60 members of the branch ventured to Haselbury Mill for a very welcome lunch. In the evening the New Inn at Kilmington was packed for the Quiz on behalf of the Poppy appeal, which raised an incredible £315; our thanks to Clive Garner for a very entertaining evening (I should add, although we did not win, the RBL team did not disgrace itself ). On Monday 11th November, a number of members assembled at the Cricket Pavilion to witness the 2 minute silence marked by the firing of maroons; I would just like to confirm, there is nothing wrong with your hearing, the first maroon did not function, therefore you will only have heard the second marking the end of the silence!! We are now approaching our last couple events of the year



**The Royal British Legion**

**Christmas  
Coffee Morning**

Christmas Goodies, Cards & Gifts,  
Tombola, Sweets, Raffle, Cakes

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

**Kilmington Village Hall**

**10.30am to 12.00 noon**

Entrance & Tea/Coffee & Mince Pie £1.50  
Entrance & Mulled Wine & Mince Pie £2.50

LIVE ON

and hope to welcome you all on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November to our autumn coffee morning 'A taste of Christmas'. This year we will be providing lots of festive goodies, ranging from cakes, plants and decorations to the opportunity of purchasing a 'rooted 6' Christmas tree in our silent auction! Of course there will also be tea, coffee, hot chocolate and mulled wine for the more adventurous!! Finally, please don't forget to join us for our last monthly get together at the New Inn on Friday 6th December.

On to other news; first and foremost our membership currently stands at 127, which is a slight increase and certainly bucks the National trend, however, we are actively seeking more members to join our cause. Please remember you don't have to be, or have been a serving member of the Armed Forces to join, we welcome everyone.

Of course, our monthly get togethers continue in rotation at the New Inn, Old Inn and Tuckers Arms, Dalwood on the first Friday of each month; so please come and join us for a jovial pint, glass of wine or just a good chat!

Below are the important dates for your 2020 diaries, where once again we hope to provide you all with

an entertaining year of special events.

Last but not least may I take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and thank you all again for your incredible support.

2020 dates for your Diary:

Saturday, 4th April - Spring coffee morning.

Friday, 8th May - VE Day 75th anniversary dinner/dance.

June – DTBC Annual outing?

Friday, 3rd July – Annual Family BBQ

Saturday, 15th August - VJ Day.

September – County trip to France DTBC (NEW)

Friday, 2nd October - AGM.

Saturday, 24th October – Trafalgar Night Dinner (NEW)

Sunday, 8th November – Remembrance Sunday

Wednesday, 11th November – Maroons at the Cricket Pavilion

Cdr Staff Seward OBE RN Rtd  
Chairman RBL Kilmington Branch