



Devon County Newsletter



Spring 2011

Diary Dates:

Devon County Show
21-23 May 11

Train Trip
Buckfastleigh
14 Jun 10

90th Anniversary
Parade Plymouth Hoe
25 Jun 11

County Poppy Party
Plymouth Hoe
26 Jun 11

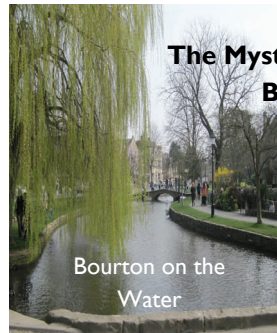
90th Anniversary
Concert Exeter
Cathedral
17 Sep 11

County Festival Of
Remembrance Exeter
University
10 Nov 11

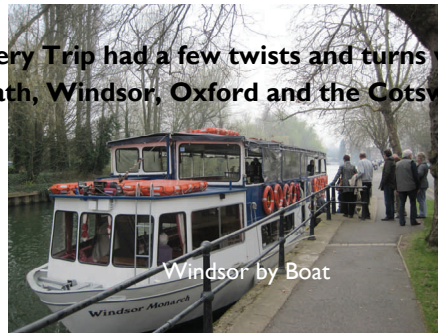
Carol Concert
St Andrews Plymouth
10 Dec 11

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Bourton on the
Water



Windsor by Boat



Windsor

The Mystery Trip had a few twists and turns with visits to Bath, Windsor, Oxford and the Cotswolds

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN

What a difference a month (or 2) makes! Our last newsletter came out as the snows of last year were still fresh in our minds. Since then we have had a warm dry spring and summer is almost upon us.

The 90th has started very well with a number of events already in the bag. Many, many more are in the diary and the summer will be packed with a wide variety of events to celebrate our birthday. At my last count there were 65 events for the 90th in the diary. Well done to you all for that hard work and the excellent response to the target of 90 events for 90 years of helping our heroes. If your branch has not yet committed to a 90th event, it is not too late. I know some branches struggle with a small number of, dare I say it, ageing volunteers and other commitments, but we are not 90 every year and this birthday is a bit special. So please consider putting on some form of event even if it is only a coffee morning in the village hall.

As I said, the summer programme is full and exciting. I hope you will all enjoy it and that we get good support for each other's events and for the County led events. More details of the latter are in this newsletter. Let's hope for a gloriously sunny summer during which we can celebrate this excellent organisation with a lot of fun and comradeship! I look forward to seeing you at lots of 90th themed events.

R Howard-Williams



THE BIGGEST POPPY PARTY
IN THE COUNTY
PLYMOUTH HOE

SUNDAY 26 JUNE 2011

Free entertainment for all the family



DEVON COUNTY WEB SITE

<http://rbldevon.co.uk>

90th Anniversary Media Contacts

Here in Devon, some sixty events are being planned to celebrate the Royal British Legion's 90th birthday. They range from garden parties to beer festivals to village fetes and a multitude of other activities involving everyone, young and old, throughout the length and breadth of the county.

These events are being staged in villages and towns between now and December culminating in the Carol Concert at St Andrew's Church, Plymouth on 10 December. By the end of this year, therefore, the public will be more aware of the Legion's existence and more importantly, the Legion's magnificent welfare work for the Armed Forces.

As it will no doubt be appreciated, it is essential for all these events to attract as much publicity as possible for the local communities involved. Consequently, it is highly recommended that local branches organizing or involved in these events make every effort to contact their local media outlets (newspapers, radio, magazines, etc).

Please contact the County Public Relations Officer, who is more than happy to give advice or useful information in order to optimize media coverage and achieve that all-important publicity for a successful celebratory event.

Peter Williams

Broadclyst Community College remember Harry Patch and raise £350 for our Poppy Appeal



Sidbury and Sidford Branch 90th Anniversary Pitchfork Lecture

Sidbury and Sidford Branch hosted Air Commodore Pitchfork in March raising £1500 from a lecture attended by over 50 people.



Christine Gribble receives Certificate of Appreciation for raising over £20k in Garage Sales over the last 20 years

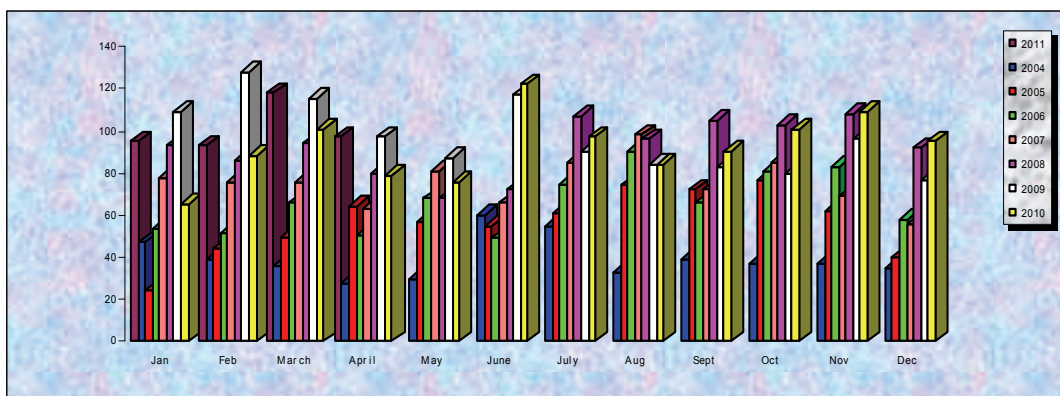


The Puffin Seekers from East Devon aim to raise £900 for our 90th Anniversary

Brilliant Autobiographies

Member may be interested in a new local business that ghosts writes life stories:
www.brilliantautobiographies.co.uk for more information

Welfare Cases: We have had a very busy start to the year, with 403 news cases received from January - April inclusive. This is 21% more than 2010's figures, with 70 more cases.



Volunteer Caseworker Training: We trained a further 15 Volunteer Caseworkers at our Annual Training Course on the w/e of 19-20 Feb. We are now very well placed with caseworkers in most areas.

Agency Caseworker Training: We held an Agency Caseworker Training Course on 21 Apr, attended by 9 'friends and colleagues' whose work within Devon's 'welfare industry' brings them into regular contact with those in the Service family who are in need. We are especially pleased to announce that one of these new RBL Agency Caseworkers is former Royal Marine (triple amputee) Mark Ormrod, who now works full time as a Welfare Officer for the RM Association, based at Hasler Company, within HMS Drake. Mark will now ensure that those 'damaged' RMs that he comes across, are helped where possible and relevant, by RBL.

Caseworker Updating: We updated 16 Agency and Volunteer Caseworkers at Barnstaple CAB on Saturday 7th May. The remaining courses are scheduled as follows:

Sat 04 Jun: Crownhill

Wed 17 Aug: Exeter

Sat 08 Oct: Exeter

Caseworker Management System (CMS): Training for the computerised Form A began with the 7th May Update Course, during the pm session. This will be replicated on the remaining scheduled courses, as detailed above.

The Future for Devon RBL Welfare: We await details of HQ RBL's plan for our future structure, and method of operation. In the meantime we continue to operate in the way that we have always done, all out for the benefit of those who have Served, who are in genuine need.



Armed Forces Day Plymouth Saturday 25 June 2011 10am-5.30pm

RBL Devon will have major static display on Plymouth Hoe
Exhibitions and displays throughout the day



90th Anniversary Parade with RM Band Beating Retreat
All Standards Bearers most welcome to parade
Further details from the County Office or SBLO

DEVON COUNTY FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE

The 2011 Devon County Festival of Remembrance
will be held in the Great Hall Exeter University
on the 10 November 2011 at 7pm

Tickets available from Mrs Stevens 20 Canal Hill Tiverton EX16 4HT

**THE ROYAL
BRITISH LEGION
DEVON COUNTY**

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EX2 8TS

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devon@britishlegion.org

County Secretary's Column

Festival of Remembrance - The Royal Albert Hall - 12 November 2011

Individuals wishing to attend the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall should apply through their Branch Secretary or to the County Office with a covering payment of £10 per ticket (cheques made payable to Devon County RBL) no later than 19 August 2011.

Cenotaph Parade and Service - Whitehall - 13 November 2011

Members wishing to attend the parade in Whitehall should apply to the County Secretary by 19 August 2011. Members are reminded of the physical demands of standing in Whitehall for at least an hour and then marching a distance of at least 1½ miles, possibly in inclement weather.

Branch Training

The County Training Officer and County Secretary will arrange a Training Days for Branches on an as required basis. Any Branch that requires information about; The Charter, Procedures and Accounting returns who feel they may like the benefit of some informal training are asked to contact the County Secretary.

Legion Appointments

Branches are reminded that on election, all County and Branch Officers, together with members of Branch and County Committees are automatically Managing Trustees of their County and Branch, however they shall be ineligible to hold office if they have:

- Been found guilty of fraud, dishonesty or deception, unless the conviction is spent.
- Previously been removed from trusteeship of a charity by a court or the Charities Commissioners.
- Previously been disqualified as a Company Director
- Been declared Bankrupt and has not been discharged.

90th ANNIVERSARY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday 12 August 2011

Holsworthy Golf Course

Team and Individual Competitions

For further information

contact the County Sports Officer Martin

Heslip

07790 084327 or golf.56@live.co.uk



THE ROYAL
BRITISH
LEGION



County Committee Meetings

County Committee Meetings will be held in the County Office on:
Saturdays: 4 Jun 11, 1 Oct 11 and 26 Nov 11 at 1030 hours.

To allow transparency of County business and to provide Branches an open forum, the County Meetings are open to all members and Branches are encouraged to send a representative.