



Devon County Newsletter

Summer 2007

Diary Dates:

Train Trip
Buckfastleigh - Totnes
Tue 12 June 2007

County Rally
Lymestone
Sun 24 June 2007

Standard Bearer
Competition
Sun 21 October 2007

Poppy Appeal Launch
HMS Raleigh
Fri 26 October 2007

Devon County Festival
of Remembrance
Thu 8 November 2007

County Conference
Sat 12 January 2008

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is with regret that we announce the deaths of:

Mr R Brooks of the Stoke Gabriel Branch
Dr D Fairrie of the Uffcume Branch
Mr D Jones of the Uffcume Branch
Mr H Pearce of the Manaton Branch
Mr R Pinwell of the Chagford Branch
Mr J Ponsford of the Uffculme Branch
Mr J Ryan of the Sidbury & Sidford Branch

We are grateful for their devoted service and their efforts on behalf of the Royal British Legion and extend our deepest sympathies to their families.

BRANCH FUNDS — A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Following the recent proposal from the Board of Trustees for Branches to deposit excess funds centrally, I made representation to the National Chairman on behalf of Devon County, indicating that although we approved of the scheme in principle, we disagreed with the proposed procedures and the proposed level of funding that Branches could hold. We expressed the view that the scheme was sending out entirely the wrong message to our volunteers and was an additional bureaucratic burden on our Branch officers. More importantly, we took the view that the scheme would be seen as an intrusion into Branch business and could also be seen that the Board of Trustees had lost confidence in the Branch officers. At the National Conference the issue was also raised as a Motion of Urgency and Conference agreed the initiative should be suspended.

I have now been assured that prior to further details of any similar schemes being published, our comments, together with the views of other counties will be taken into consideration and there will be proper consultation with the Membership.

DEVON COUNTY WEB SITE

Devon County now has its own Web Site. The Site will provide members and the public access to local information about our regional activities. There are a number of information pages including; Branch Details, Club Details, County Officers, Women's Section and Welfare. There are also links to other organisations and this newsletter can be viewed and downloaded from the site. For more information visit:

<http://rbldevon.co.uk>

DEVON COUNTY FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE THURSDAY 8 November 2007

Devon County Royal British Legion will hold its annual Festival of Remembrance in the Great Hall, University of Exeter, on Thursday 8 November 2007 at 7:30pm.

It is hoped that all Devon Branches of the Royal British Legion and Women's Sections will be represented and Branches are invited to send their Standard to take part in the Muster.

Tickets for the Festival will be available from the address shown below at £6.00 each for members and £8.00 each for non-members. Standard Bearers parading with their Branch Standard may attend free of charge. Please contact Mrs Sue Stevens at the address below and indicate if your Standard Bearer will attend and the number of tickets required (balcony and main hall). Tickets will be issued on a "first come - first served" basis.

The closing date for postal applications will be **30 September 2007**.
Except for seats for disabled persons, seats cannot be reserved at the time of booking.
Any remaining tickets will be available on the night at a price of £8.00 each.

Remittances should be made payable to "RBL Devon County" and sent to:

RBL County Festival
Ticket Office
c/o 20, Canal Hill
Tiverton. EX16 4HT

Payment with order and please enclose a **Stamped Addressed Envelope** for the return of tickets. Please note envelope should be the smaller B5/DL size and orders in excess of 45 tickets will require two envelopes.

Standard Bearers will be required to assemble in the Lower Examination Hall inside the Main Entrance by 7.00pm

THE DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT

The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment have kindly donated to the County a recently published book giving the regimental history from 1958 to 2007. The book tells the story, largely in photographic form, of the many and varied achievements of all parts of the Regimental Family during forty eight momentous years.

The book can be purchased through the Regimental Secretary;
Don Jellard 01395 273704
aregtsec@supanet.com

COUNTY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday 27 July 2007 - Holsworthy Golf Course

Team and Individual Competitions

For further information contact the County Sports Officer Martin Heslip

07791 074170

Golf_56@hotmail.co.uk

County Field Officer's Notes

WELFARE

Caseworker Annual Updating: Following the course at Crownhill on Sat 09 Jun the last remaining course for this year will be in Exeter on Sat 06 Oct. Those who have not yet confirmed their attendance are reminded to do so, please, sooner rather than later.

Volunteer Welfare Caseworker Training Course: Our next training course is scheduled for 16 - 17 Feb 08. All nominations should be submitted to the CFO please. Our requirement lies mainly in Plymouth and Torbay. Most other areas do not need additional caseworkers.

Specialist Welfare Caseworker Training Course: There is not a course scheduled at this juncture. We will schedule a course when we have enough contenders.

New Cases. 81 new cases in May !

FUNDRAISING

Poppy Appeal 2006 Yet again we (You !) have raised a record amount:

- 2006: County: £630,586 * National: £25.9m
- 2005: County: £626,782 National: £24.7m

*Our previous total included a cheque for £20k from one person. This year's total is therefore even more impressive. Huge congratulations and thanks to all involved in this FANTASTIC result.

Poppy Appeal Launch 2007 Still scheduled for Fri 26 Oct at HMS Raleigh, Torpoint. Breaking with tradition we will join forces with Cornwall RBL to hold a colourful Launch at HMS Raleigh, incorporating as many Branch Standards as possible (please), RN trainee recruits, the RM band, and (hopefully) local TV attendance.

Poppy Appeal Organiser Briefings 2007:

Scheduled for 1900 hrs:

Wed 12 Sep, in North Devon,
location tbc.

Wed 19 Sep, in West Devon,
Baylis Suite, Tamar Science Park,
Plymouth.

Wed 26 Sep, in East Devon:
Victorian Suite, Devon Hotel,
Exeter.



Devon Member Walks 1000 miles for the Poppy Appeal

Jane Allen from Landsdown in Devon plans to walk over a 1000 miles in aid of the Poppy Appeal.

Supported by her husband who is driving a donated Motor Home, Jane started her walk on 13 April 2007.

Having just crossed the Yorkshire/Lancashire border, she plans to be nearer home by July.

Details of her walk as she approaches Devon will be publish in our local newspapers and you can follow her progress at:
www.bmycharity.co/V2/jogle

Please support Jane when she gets to Devon.

**THE ROYAL
BRITISH LEGION
DEVON COUNTY**

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Exeter
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Fax: 01392 273444
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<http://rbldevon.co.uk>

**REMEMBRANCE
VISITS**

Remembrance visits to
cemeteries off the
beaten track, both
home and abroad can be
arranged or
advice given by:
Dr D Wolfe
01409 281454
derek.wolfe@virgin.net

**NORTH TAWTON
85th ANNI VERSARY
SUNDAY
8 JUL 07 10.30
OPEN AIR SERVICE
AND PARADE OF
STANDARDS**

**ALL BRANCHES ARE
REQUESTED TO SEND
THEIR STANDARDS
FURTHER
INFORMATION
FROM
MR D BALE
01395 273065**

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



County Secretary's Column

Festival of Remembrance - The Royal Albert Hall - 10 November 2007

Branches will have received notification of the procedure for the allocation of tickets for the evening performance of the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall. Members wishing to attend should now apply through their Branch Secretary. Branch Secretaries should apply to the County Office with a covering payment of £10 per ticket (cheques made payable to Devon County RBL) no later than 14 September 2007.

Cenotaph Parade and Service - Whitehall - 11 November 2007

Members wishing to attend the parade in Whitehall should apply to the County Secretary by 31 August 2007. 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.

Membership Application Forms

The current version of the Membership Form is MS4/06a which can be obtained from Supply Line on 01622 795815. Membership applications on any other type of form now have to be returned to the Branch Secretary because the Data Input Centre will not accept any other version of the form. The main reason for the change of form is the requirement to comply with the Data Protection Act. Recent changes in the Data Protection Act, has meant that legally the only acceptable version of the MS4 is the latest version - MS4/06a.

Gazebo Bookings

The county's gazebo remains at the County Office, available to be booked.

COUNTY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

County Committee Meetings will be held in the Alphington RBL Club on:
Saturdays: 16 Jun 07, 29 Sep 07 and 1 Dec 07 at 1000 hours.
To allow transparency of County business and to provide Branches an open forum, the County Meetings are now open to all members and Branches are Encouraged to send a representative.

NATIONAL TRAINING COURSES

Vacancies exist for the following courses:

Qualified Panel Members Course	6-8 Jul 07	Bracknell
County Conference Committee Course	7-9 Sep 07	Bracknell
Independent Examiners Course	12-14 Oct 07	Bracknell
Branch Treasurers Course	23-25 Nov 07	Leeds
Branch Management Course	7-9 Dec 07	Bracknell

Members wishing to attend any of the above courses are asked to contact the County Training Officer, J Vanderwolfe 01297 34444 for more information and application forms.

Devon County Web Site: <http://rbldevon.co.uk>