

CONTACTS PAGE

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07970 891432.

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01905 453997

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01905 641527

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01905 621051

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County News

*The newsletter of
Worcestershire
County.*

Welcome to this issue of County News, the newsletter of Worcestershire Royal British Legion. It is hoped to produce four newsletters per year with the intention of spreading news items, publicising events and passing on information for all of the branches within Worcestershire. This will work along side the work of our County Press Officer, Alan Kelly, to ensure that events in this area are publicised as much as possible, and that the general profile of The Royal British Legion is raised within the county.

To be a success, we need your support! We need to know of any event you are organising, with as much forward notice as possible. We then need a short write up after the event, plus a few images if possible. These can be e-mailed to Alan, or posted. At the same time, if you have a contact at your local paper, pass the details on to Alan, and we may be able to get more coverage. It is hoped that over the coming months you will see branch activities featured in local papers and possibly on local radio. With over fifty branches in the county, there must be so much happening that other branches, and the public, do not know about. We have the means to change this, so please do pass on any information to Alan.

Together, we can make this publication a valuable source of information for our branches, and also publicise the Royal British Legion in Worcestershire..



WELFARE UPDATE

Last year the number of new enquires was down by around 30%. This reduced the number of visits by caseworks to an average of one visit per working day.

The only way we can increase this number is by making sure all those that are eligible for our help know who to contact. This is down to all of us. The Branch or County Official, caseworkers, visitors and ALL members.

We are all responsible for making sure the public know who we are and what we can do. The work of the legion crosses into many areas, fundraising, remembrance, membership and welfare. We should all work together so that everyone knows about us and if they need help where they can get it.

'It is amazing how much people get done if they do not worry about who gets the credit'

Please do not rely on what you think you know about welfare, many things have changed over the last 12 months and it is usually better to ask for the up to date information.

So contact the Welfare Team if you have any questions or know of anyone that has asked for help or would like anyone to come and talk at your branch meetings or to any other clubs and societies you belong too.

YOUR WELFARE TEAM



Annette – County Manager

Contact details: - asummers@britishlegion.org.uk or 01905 621934

Katie – County Managers Assistant

Contact details: - khumphries@britishlegion.org.uk or 01905 621051

COUNTY PRESS OFFICER

As the new County Press Officer, I am looking for news of any events you are staging, either before hand, or afterwards, with a few pictures. I will endeavour to get the event publicised in your local paper and in this newsletter. Together we can enlarge this publication, and make it a valuable source of news and information for the county.

Worcestershire County Press Officer.

Alan Kelly.

E-mail: alan@alkel.co.uk.

Telephone: 0121 445 2574.

'OH WHAT A NIGHT!'

Worcester Musical Theatre Company

presents

'Oh What A Night!'

At

The Swan Theatre, Worcester

Friday 11th to Saturday 19th November 2011

The 2011 Poppy Appeal has been given a fantastic opportunity by Worcester Musical Theatre Company. They wish to support us with the funds collected from the nightly raffle held during their show in November. Worcester Musical Theatre Company is the new name for what was Midlands Musical Theatre Group who have performed for over 30 years at Malvern to packed audiences, some of you may have been to their shows. This year they have moved to The Swan Theatre in Worcester and hence the change of name.

The shows are full of great music, family comedy and high energy dance and this year will be hosted by 'BBC Hereford and Worcester's' Tony Fisher to give a feel good show for all ages. They will also feature a special section 'We Will Remember Them' in a tribute to the work of The Royal British Legion in it's 90th year and with their opening night on 11th November this will be a truly special part of a fantastic show.

Tickets are available to be booked now by telephone to guarantee your seat. Please call Gill Saunders on 01905 354063

Please show your support by making sure your branch promotes this to all members and friends. Flyers are also available at the County Office.

THREE COUNTIES SHOW 17TH- 19TH JUNE 2011

Special OFFER for members of the Royal British Legion

Buy two adult tickets and get two children tickets FREE.

The Region's Largest Agricultural Show offering excellent entertainment for all the family and showcasing the best of British food, farming and rural life.

Exclusive Offer – Book today and KIDS GO FREE!!!!!!!

Do you want a fun day out in the Worcestershire countryside with family and friends? Do you like to see magnificent animals, rural crafts and even a bit of stick making? Or maybe some food sampling from the finest producers washed down with a cool glass of cider? Or how about watching a stunt motorcycle team jump over a lorry? Well its all happening at the Three Counties Show.

Call 01684 584924 and quote BL to receive your free tickets.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 7 May. Lejog cycle ride passing through the county. Help needed at Newlands, Malvern to hand out water. Contact County HQ.
- 15 May. Evensong at Worcester Cathedral. 4 pm start.
Contact County HQ.
- 20—22 National Annual Conference Telford.
May.
- 4 June. Tea party in Kidderminster Town Hall for those members over the age of 90.
3 pm start. Contact County HQ.
- 11 June. Party In the Park. Saunders Park, Kidderminster Road, Bromsgrove.
Contact Bromsgrove Branch.
- 11/ 12 Fete / open day at Oldbury club premises in Windsor Road, 11:00 to 16:00
June. Contact Olbury Branch.
- 17/ 18 Three Counties Show, Malvern Show Ground See article for special offer.
June. Contact County HQ
- 2 July. County Rally, The Meadow, Catshill, Bromsgrove, followed by musical event and family afternoon. It is requested that branches attend with their standards.

Contact Lickey End Branch or County HQ.
- 14 August. Wythall Carnival. Contact Wythall & District Branch.
- 27/28/29 Pershore Plumb Festival. Contact Pershore Branch.
August.
- 29 October. Poppy Appeal Launch. The Guildhall, Worcester. Contact County HQ.
- During September there will be a sponsored 90 mile walk, as part of 90 for 90. More details in the next edition.

VETERANS BADGE

This badge may be worn by those who qualify. It may be worn by Standard Bearers and Parade Marshals on all occasions except Standard Bearers' Competitions. The Ceremonial Handbook has been amended to include this information.

TRAINING

As County Training Officer, I am proposing to arrange a couple of one day training sessions across the county this summer. These will concentrate on branch related issues.

I will also arrange to run Branch Management Course in this area, in conjunction with HQ. These courses are really essential for those new in branch committee positions. There are also places available on other training courses, so please do contact me for more details, or to be added to the training list.

Dale Carter.
Worcestershire County Training Officer.
grengdsassworcs@hotmail.co.uk
01527 832649

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING

I want to take this opportunity to say Thank you for all your dedication and hard work not just during the Poppy Appeal but for your fundraising activities throughout this, the 90th. Anniversary year. I have met and worked with a number of Poppy Appeal Organisers now and been very impressed with the ideas and activities you have to keep those vital funds coming in. Ideas such as approaching the businesses near you for Charity of the Year, Payroll giving and Corporate Partnerships have been very successful

In the coming months I will invite the PAOs to some group meetings around the County to share their ideas with others. This will also give me the opportunity to get to know more of you. The one subject that keeps coming up is the need for more volunteer Poppy People, and with this in mind I will be recruiting new volunteers to help PAOs and increase fundraising throughout the summer. I **will** need your help with this. Please contact me to discuss this further and to discuss your fundraising ideas with me.

I am looking for branches to proactively approach shops/businesses for an all year round collecting tin and take ownership for looking after it. I would like anyone who can take this on to document which business would be interested, where they are and who the contact would be. I can then order the collection tins and place them if the member can visit to empty the tin periodically. I would like to place the box myself as I can then possibly develop the business to provide more of a relationship such as Charity of the year etc.

Nick Martin – Community Fundraiser
PO Box 845
Worcester
WR1 9DE
nmartin@britishlegion.org.uk or Tel: 07721 432 921

COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

Guernsey Philatelic Bureau are advertising a new issue of stamps to commemorate the 90th Anniversary of the RBL. Have a look at their website.

<http://www.guernseystamps.com/new-issues/guernsey-new-issues/90th-anniversary-of-the-royal-british-legion/>

INTER SERVICES TWENTY 20 CRICKET

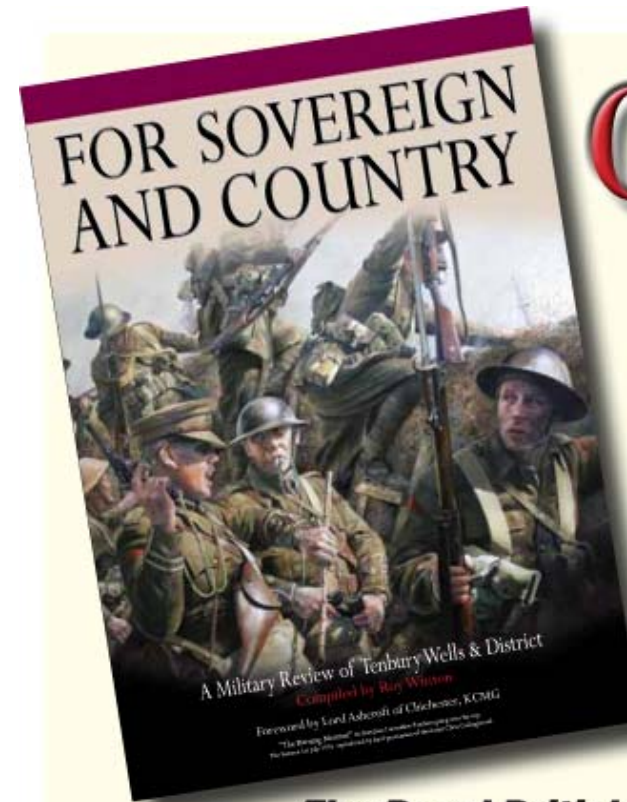
For the third year running the Inter Services Twenty 20 Cricket will be showcased at Lords Cricket Ground, on Tuesday 28th June 2011. Gates open at 0900hrs and the first of three matches starts at 1000hrs.



If you have never been to Lords, the home of English Cricket, then this is a golden opportunity to visit the world famous arena, have a great day out and show your support for our Armed Forces of today. Your support will also enable us to put The Royal British Legion and the Membership back on the map and show Serving and Ex-service men and women, and the general public that we are an organisation they would be proud to join.

Please inform your respective RPMO of your plans so that we can meet you at the entrance to the ground and point you in the right direction. This is a great day out for all the family, don't miss it!

NEW PUBLICATION



On Sale
Now
£30

All profits from
the sale of this book
will be donated to

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

Countless books have been written on the events and battles of the two World Wars – but there is always room for another good one. In *For Sovereign and Country*, Roy Winton sets out to record the details of the war dead from his own British Legion area. It has been a noble and painstaking task and it has resulted in an apparent discovery too – of a town not normally associated with the military but that has a history going back to Napoleonic times.

In the 21st century, the demands of charities supporting our fighting forces increases and I join the author in thanking the sponsors for contributing to the publishing costs of this book. This has allowed the profits to go to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal which, in 2009, spent more than £1 million each week carrying out valuable work among the serving and ex-service community.

Part of the forward, by Lord Ashcroft of Chichester, KCMG

Roy is Tenbury Wells Branch Treasurer. Copies of the book can be obtained from Roy on 01584 810372, Books, Books, Books in Teme Street, Tenbury Wells or the TW Tourist Information Office.