

Cornwall Legion News

Friday, October 26th Paul Goodall's sponsored wheelchair ride at HMS Raleigh. Details on page 4.

September 2007



"Service - not Self"

Tuesday, November 13th Public Relations and Media evening at China Fleet Club, Saltash 7.30pm

TO ALL OUR READERS

We introduce our last edition in black and white as the finance to make colour editions possible is now available. This, of course gives us the opportunity to expand the scope of the production and include some quality photographs and thereby add interest to our readers. There will be no let up in the much needed input from our Branches and Clubs and Poppy Appeal developments will continue to feature prominently. We will open the new format with the Remembrance edition, which is very appropriate

Please keep your news coming in !

Ed.

POEMS FOR REMEMBRANCE

As our next edition will be the Remembrance edition we would like to include one or two poems appropriate to the occasion. Please let me have any that you think may be of interest as these have proved to be popular in past years and would meet this request. Send them to :R E Coad, 2 Porth Way, Newquay TR7 3LP. Many thanks Ed.

FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE TICKETS

There are a limited number of tickets available for the Festival of Remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall this year and application can be made now to the County Secretary. The closing date will be October 5th and allocation will be on a "first come, first served" basis.

DONATIONS RECEIVED

County acknowledges with sincerest thanks the donations received recently. These are from St Cleer with £300, Truro £ 3,000, Wadebridge £200 and Saltash £50 all for the Welfare Fund, and also Wadebridge £50 and Saltash £50 for the General Fund.

THE BROKEN COVENANT CAMPAIGN

The National Chairman is asking all members to get behind the Legion's new Campaign on behalf of all those who have served this country in the Armed Forces. It is demanding greater priority on War Pensions, a speed up of treatment given to injured service people without the need to fight the MOD for compensation payments. Detailed information appears on website www.brokencovenant.co.uk and members and other supporters can sign up there.

COPY FOR NEXT EDITION

May I please have your copy for the November edition by Friday October 19th at the latest to ensure that your information is included.

DIARY DATES

Sunday, September 9th County Golf Competition at Newquay

Tuesday, September 11th Dedication of Memorial to John Ross at Tintagel Church at 7pm.

Wednesday, September 12th Branch and Club Chairmen's meeting Truro RBL 7.0pm

Saturday, September 15th Branch Treasurer's Course at Truro

Friday, October 26th Poppy Appeal launch at HMS Raleigh

Saturday, October 6th Branch Management Course at Tideford

Saturday, October 13th County Committee at Newquay

Friday October 26th Poppy Appeal launch at HMS Raleigh

Members can also write to their MP, or to Patrick Leavy, Head of Public Affairs, (the Broken Covenant Campaign), Royal British Legion, Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JY. A form to indicate support is printed in the Autumn edition of "The Legion MEMBERSHIP

The latest membership figure for Cornwall is 9,373. With the new Legion year rapidly approaching we MUST work to bring this figure over 10,000. While present forms for membership can be used a new Form MS4/07 will then come into use. The National Affiliation will be increased by 50p.

POPPY APPEAL 2007

Supplies of poppies are now arriving at Branches and it is now time to direct our thinking to the appeal.

Last year Cornwall's total exceeded £300,000 for the first time and clearly we cannot rest on our laurels. An appeal is only as good as those who organise it and members must get behind their organisers if we are to have the results we need. Regrettably our forces are engaged in conflicts at this time and the need for our support is therefore focussed on that fact.

Please contact your PAO and offer your help. However much or little time you have to help will be very much appreciated. If we can achieve this we will maintain our figure and give a positive meaning to our promise that **"We will remember them"**

BRANCH NEWS

SALTASH

Saltash has been busy. Pity about the weather! July 23rd saw the Saltash Annual Regatta on the front under the bridge. Saltash RBL stall was erected very early by our Chairman and Secretary and cakes, raffle and tombola were set up. The order of the day was waterproofs as the weather was really wet and the tented stall was really appreciated by the volunteers manning it, £70 was raised for Branch Funds.

Quite a few enquiries about membership and Veterans Badges were made and overall it was a good PR if not as much money raised as hoped.

On May 5th at the Saltash May Fair our stall was set up in Fore Street. Some money was raised for the Branch. On this occasion the members wore shorts as it was so hot!

A Poppy Appeal Concert will be held at the

Wesley Methodist Church Hall, Saltash on Saturday October 27th to launch the Poppy Appeal. Further information from Geraldine on 01752 840633.

WELFARE

In his first report as CFO, Keith Naylor, stated that last month's Welfare disbursements totalled £122,000 with £70,000 being almonised. 270 cases were processed.



BUDE & STRATTON

The Branch held its monthly meeting at the Burn View HQ. The Chairman welcomed members attending and reported on the results of the new opening times. The Branch has been successful in recruiting a number of new members in past weeks. The Branch attended the Holsworthy and Stratton Show on August 23rd and formed a sub committee to organise an exhibit and promote future events and welcomed friends from both Devon and Cornwall'

Geoffrey W Harrison

STITHIANS AND PERRANWELL STATION

Stithians and Perranwell Station Branches joined forces with the aid of the RBL mini marquee and help from the County Committee in LIC exercise. This was very successful and an enjoyable day was had by all especially as the show was blessed with a rare dry day. The interest shown by the public was very encouraging and a number of new members were recruited. A Grand Raffle was also held with prizes donated by local firms and Mr Les Burge, Chairman of Gwennap Branch. We thank them all very much. The lucky winning tickets were drawn by Emma Stevenson, our acting County Secretary and the total raised was £1,000 for the Poppy Appeal

Mick Tatnall, Chairman, Stithians Branch

PENZANCE BRANCH

Organised by Branch Chairman Michael Scunthorpe-Wright the Veterans Day observance proved to be a success even though being forced indoors in St John's Hall by adverse weather conditions. The observance opened with a service conducted by padres Michael Hersant and Harry Bourne after which standards were presented to both the Penzance Army and Sea Cadets. Prayers from the Atlantic Conveyor, sunk in the Falklands conflict were read by Rev Bourne and CPO Glen Manning, who then broke the Union Flag which had the Falklands Flag furled inside. A number of Veterans Badges were presented including one to the Mayor of Penzance and among those attending were Lady Mary Holborow, Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall and Lord St Levan. There were performances by Newlyn Male Voice Choir, Humphrey Davy School and the Cornish Highland Pipers and the event closed with the Sunset ceremony by Sea Cadets from TS Grenville.

PADSTOW

The Branch reported a successful Coffee Morning for the benefit of Padstow Sea Cadets which realised £330.56, and an enjoyable Social Evening with the McMelody Singers, both held on June 4th. A Coach Tour held on July 7th was organised by Alan Veek and was also a great success. Their next events will be a trip to Bude with lunch at the Falcon Inn on Wed. September 12th and a Coffee Morning on the following day, September 13th.

OBITUARY

The Branch records with regret the death of Jack Martyn who joined the Territorial Army in 1939, served in Plymouth during the blitz, was posted to Singapore in 1942 but diverted to Burma where he remained as one of the "forgotten army" until after VJ Day. Condolences are extended to his widow and family.

BOCONNOC - REFLECTIONS

Now that the County Festival of Commemoration has passed there has been time for reflection and comment, and it is good to know that most of it was favourable, appreciative and complimentary. Firstly, sincere thanks go to all those involved in its planning and execution as this involved a lot of

hard and dedicated work. While clearly lessons have been learned, those who attended had a good time and many comments in support of this have come in. The attendance was good with 800 members taking part in the March Past. With a Royal presence security was a priority and this was clearly achieved. We can build on this experience for future County Rallies.

LEGION IN THE COMMUNITY

We believe that many if not all of our Branches and Clubs enjoy good relations with local authorities and other organisations in our areas. However, we are all encouraged to further these ties to the common good of our communities as a whole and there are funds available where this can be promoted even further. We would like to hear from Branches putting on events with this co-operation in mind, firstly to encourage one another and, more importantly, to demonstrate that the Legion has a very important role to play in community relations. Please share your experiences through the "Legion News". Ed.

OPENING OF NEW COUNTY OFFICES

The interim Director General, Frances Done, visited our County office on Monday, June 18th to officially open the County's new office suite at 66 Lemon Street, Truro. To accommodate the expanding work and staff the new suite occupies two floors of a Georgian listed building in the business quarter of Truro. The opening was attended by representatives from joint welfare stakeholders, civic dignitaries and members of the County Committee to mark the occasion, at which refreshments were provided, and the Director unveiled a plaque to mark the occasion.

Frances Done congratulated the County on its continuing success in promoting partnerships among SSAFA, local CABs, and District Councils in providing the best possible service to the Ex-Service community in need. She also bade farewell to the outgoing CFO, wing Commander Brook Blackford who was heading for a well earned retirement after 14 years in the post and welcomed his successor Lieutenant Commander Keith Naylor who is swapping his County Secretary's post for that of CFO.

JANE ALLEN'S WALK

On Friday 13th July (unlucky for those without umbrellas) at a and windswept Lands End, Commander Jane Allen RNR completed a 1000 mile, 13 week gruelling sponsored walk for the RBL Poppy Appeal, raising over £6000. Jane set out on her odyssey on April 13th with her husband as her roadie and back up to tend the blisters ! travelling down the length of Great Britain and making contact with numerous Legion Branches en route, Jane successfully completed her marathon walk at 1215 and was met by a crowd of well wishers. These included colleagues from the RNR, local Legion Branches, RBL County President Group Captain Simon Coy and County Chairman Mr Roy Barratt who formally welcomed Jane and thanked her on behalf of the Legion for all her efforts. Prior to her walk she completed a six month deployment to Baghdad, Iraq. If you would like to sponsor Jane Allen for this magnificent effort please send your donation to Poppy Appeal (JOGLE), The RBL Village, Aylesford, Kent ME20 7NX. Cheques should be made payable to "The Royal British Legion". On Jane's behalf "Thank you".

Keith Naylor CFO

PAUL GOODALL'S SPONSORED WHEELCHAIR RIDE

This will take place at HMS Raleigh (by kind permission of the Commodore). Paul is a double amputee and had an accident in 1967 while serving in the Royal Navy and has had a number of operations since. He hopes to cycle ten miles and raise £12,000 divided between the RBL and BLESMA (British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association). We have been asked to help with sponsorship and forms can be obtained by email pgoodall3@toucansurf.com or phoning 01752 814248.

DEATH OF FORMER COUNTY SECRETARY

It was with regret that we learned of the death of Mr Maurice Trudgian, a former County Secretary and Legion stalwart at the age of 85. He was a member of Truro Branch. There was a large attendance at the funeral in Kenwyn Church with a number of Standards present with a large representation from Truro Branch and Club, The County Committee was represented by Vice President Bob Davidson. We extend our condolences to his widow and family.

VETERAN'S BADGES

Veterans Minister Mr Derek Twigg MP has announced that those who served up to December 31st 1994 are now eligible to have a Veterans Badge. Details are available by calling 0800 169 22 77.

DEATH OF LADY FALMOUTH

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Viscountess Falmouth OBE DL earlier this month. She will be long remembered for her support during the years when Lord Falmouth was County President and when she served as President of the Women's Section. The funeral service took place in Truro Cathedral on Tuesday August 7th when people from all aspects of Cornwall were present in an almost full Cathedral. The service was most impressive and the Bishop of Truro underlined the many interests she held in the affairs of the County. We County representatives were County President Simon Coy, County Chairman Roy Barratt and County Vice-Presidents Hilary Trant and Ron Coad and Women's Section President Mrs R Coy, County Chairman Mrs B Morrison and County Secretary Mrs M Harris.

We extend our condolences to Lord Falmouth and his family at this sad time.

CORNWALL WOMEN'S SECTION NEWS ROYAL GARDEN PARTY

July 19th was a very proud day for our County Secretary, Margaret Harris when she attended the Queen's Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, In addition to Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh, the Royal Party included Princess Anne, the Duke of Kent, Princess Alexandra and finally the Duke of York to whom Margaret was introduced and conversed with. The Queen was wearing a blue coat with matching hat and stood close enough for Margaret to see her sparkling blue eyes and happy smiling face. The weather stayed dry for the occasion and the 8,000 invited guests enjoyed afternoon tea in the Marquee with the Royal Horse Guards Band playing

PENZANCE

The ladies of Penzance have been holding Coffee Mornings with "Bring and Buy" in the Day Room of Chirgwin Court. The June event raised £66.00 and they are hopeful that the August event will be equally successful.

NEWQUAY

On the last Friday in May the ladies held a Quiz Night in the Club. The evening raised £75.00 for the Women's Section but an added bonus is that the Club now holds quizzes every Friday evening and these have been well supported. On Saturday August 4th the sun was shining brightly for our Annual Garden Party held at the home of Committee Member Mrs Pam Tall. The event included Cream Teas, Prize Bingo, Tombola, Bookstall, Bric a Brac stall and a Raffle. The event was well supported and enjoyed by all, particularly by Mrs Janet Divall, Treasurer when the proceeds totalled £160.00.

LADY FALMOUTH

Lady Falmouth was our County President for many years until the end of 2005 when she stood down because of ill health. She was a wonderful lady, respected by all who knew her, and will be greatly missed. The Women's Section extends its deepest sympathy to Lord Falmouth and the family. A report of the funeral service is given aside.
Beverley
Carpenter, Publicity Officer.

**Published and Printed by the Royal British Legion -
Cornwall County, 66 Lemon Street, Truro TR1 2PN**