

The Royal British Legion
Henley on Thames and Peppard Branch



AGM Minutes of Meeting held at Christ Church Centre
Monday 17 December 2018

Present	Apologies	Absent
John Green – Chairman Lt Col N Launders - Vice Chairman Martin Goodier – Treasurer Anne Evans – Events, Newsletter, Website Lt Col G P Blaker - President Brig Malcolm Page – Patron	Mollie Jeffrey – Membership Sec Stan Ainsley	Annie Arscott

Bullet points:

- **Chairman's Report**

At the AGM Chairman reviewed the salient events of the year:

- Mollie Jeffrey's Sky Dive in aid of the RBL Poppy Appeal.
- His attendance at the Ypres Pilgrimage G90 where John carried the Branch Standard, which now includes the word 'Ypres 2018' in commemoration of the event. John was accompanied by his grandson, who wore his great-grandfather's medals.
- The proprietors of the Black Horse Pub, Martin and Margaret Morgan, received a Certificate of Appreciation for their fund raising at a special event. John was present with the Branch Standard and the last post was sounded.
- Poppy Appeal launch on 27 October – Annie Arscott, PP Organiser reported for the year ending September 2018 that around £26,000 was raised.
- The Great War Memorial - A very fitting, lasting memorial to 310 Henley servicemen who lost their lives in WW1 was unveiled at Townlands Memorial Hospital by Oxfordshire's Lord-Lieutenant Tim Stevenson after four years of research by Mike & Lesley Willoughby from the Henley 'Lest We Forget' project in time for the WW1 Armistice centenary.
- An 'Armistice' Tree was planted by the residents of Northfield End Common in commemoration of the end of WW1 in the presence of Rev Jeremy Taylor, John Green RBL Standard, Brig Malcolm Page, RBL President of the local branch, and the Town Mayor.
- An event at the Kenton theatre 'O What a lovely War' - Henley Town Council, Gillotts School and the Come and Sing Company presented an afternoon of poetry, music and theatre in honour of the fallen, and in aid of the Poppy Appeal.
- Poppy Appeal Concert on 10 November given by Aliquando Choir in aid of the RBL Poppy Appeal raised £9,300. Anne Evans was presented with a Certificate awarded to the Aliquando Choir in appreciation.
- Memorial Sunday 11 November – the community came together in record numbers to pay homage to the fallen. The Service was taken by Rev Jeremy Taylor, and 3 vintage aircraft plus 2 helicopters flew over the Town during the Memorial Service
- Beacons were lit nationwide at 7pm on Remembrance Sunday 11 November – Henley's beacon was lit in Makin's Field Henley in the presence of the Town Mayor and the branch standard was carried by John Green. A Beacon was also lit in Peppard.
- Malcolm Page was thanked for producing an excellent Newsletter
- Anne Evans was thanked for arranging lunchtime speakers during the course of the year, and for taking the Minutes of the monthly meetings in Colin Davies' absence.

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Treasure's Report – Martin Goodier presented accounts for the year ending October 2018

Bank movement

BALANCE **2207.31**

INCOME

Lunch receipts 20 August	550.00
Bar donations 20 August	51.00
COIF Dividend	132.31
Subscriptions (G. Ovey x 2)	40.00
Donations	16.00
Lunch receipts 17 September	200.00

TOTAL **989.31**

EXPENDITURE

Bugler, November 2017	60.00
Lunches 20 August	464.00
Committee meeting / Room hire 20 August	74.44
Lunches 17 September	152.00
Room hire	54.86
Frame for certificate	6.99
Postage	3.95
TOTAL	816.24

BALANCE at 15 October 2018 **2380.38**

Martin Goodier

Accounts – Martin was thanked for his clear accounts - Ian Page proposed acceptance of the accounts and was seconded by Geoff Luckett

Poppy Appeal – The launch took place on Saturday 27 October in the town square. Anne Arcscott, the local poppy appeal organiser reported that around £26000 had been collected up to Poppy Appeal 'end of year' September 2018.

NB - It was suggested from the floor that door to door collections should perhaps start on the Thursday before which is the official date of the poppy appeal period, as door to door is more lucrative. Further suggested that Gift Aid forms should be made available. **NB** - A Letter of Appreciation to be sent to Sam Brown for her continued support she and her band give to the Poppy Appeal Launch each year.

Membership – Mollie Jeffrey reported that Membership stands at 110 in total for Henley and Peppard. Her efforts to secure a Radio Berkshire interview failed this year. Suggestions were made to make contact with Mike Read, radio presenter, who lives in Henley. Membership drive during the Armed Services Week to open an event to ex- service men and women, and the young.

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Committee Changes

- Brigadier Malcolm Page stepped down from his position as President and was elected Patron.
- Lt Col G P Blaker stepped down from his position as Patron and was elected President
- New Committee members Helen Walsh (Branch Secretary) and Carlo Sisi .

Proposed by Sandra Moon and seconded by Mary Hunter.

Accepted as a true record of the AGM 2018
John Green – Chairman

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