



THE NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2020

BR0753



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*Royal British Legion
The Henley & Peppard Branch
wish you all a very
Happy Christmas*



Dates for your Diary

We are sorry to advise that we are currently no closer to resuming our normal operations than we were in the Autumn. Your Committee is actively pursuing different ways of engaging with our Membership during this time. **So, come the day we are free to meet in person, luncheon meetings will resume on the 3rd Monday of the month, unless otherwise advised.**

Venue – The Christ Church Centre
Talk 11.30 (please be seated by 11.20) Lunch 12 for 12.30

Please book for lunch by the Thursday before by email to Helen Walsh on helentwalsh2014@gmail.com or 01491 638885

Meeting & Talks 2021

Sara Abey, our Speaker Coordinator, has been working on setting up interesting talks for 2021 and would appreciate your involvement, so if you have any suggestions or ideas for a speaker, or even an appropriate lunchtime entertainment, please email Sara Abey on: henley@saraabey.com

Committee Changes

At the Branch AGM in October, the Meeting very reluctantly accepted John Green's resignation as Chairman of the Henley and Peppard Branch of the Royal British Legion. During his time the branch's membership has increased considerably, from approximately 70 members to a current position of 121. His enthusiasm and drive are ceaseless. But it is his unobtrusive deeds which are remarkable. If a member of our branch is in distress it is John Green who will visit him or her and see that help is provided and is maintained.

He is a tireless fundraiser, on behalf of the Royal British Legion. During the five years of his chairmanship the branch has raised over £200,000. Much of this has been due to his drive, enthusiasm and leadership. Being blessed with good health many of these fund-raising activities are physical. At a stately age he continued to take part in the four-day Nijmegen March over 200 kilometres in Holland. He has climbed Mount Kilimanjaro and trekked in Nepal, and most recently in 2019 joined Rebecca Stephens - the first woman to Climb Everest and the first British women to climb the 7 highest peaks in 7 continents - on her trek in Ethiopia's Simien Highlands, all to raise money for the Poppy Appeal. Over recent years he himself has raised more than £15,000. In 2018 he was awarded the Henley Town Medal for his charitable activities.

We are pleased to let you know that John will continue on the Committee as our President, and to make his retirement possible, the Committee appointed Anne Evans as Branch Chairman, Lt Col (Retd) Peter Blaker moved to become our Patron and the rest of the committee stays in post:

Vice Chairman Lt Col (Retd) Nicholas H Launders - Secretary Helen Walsh - Treasurer Martin Goodier - Membership Secretary Mollie Jeffrey - Speaker Coordinator Sara Abey - Committee Members Stan Ainsley & Brig. Malcolm Page MBE

Poppy Appeal Launch



A very different Poppy Appeal Launch this year, but despite the restrictions we went ahead and sold the first poppy to the Mayor, Councillor Ken Arlett by a rather unusual method to his amusement. People in the square and passers by were very generous and now that the shops are open the poppy tins will be collected and counted. Donations to the Poppy Appeal can still be made via this link here

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/ways-to-give/donate>

Memorial Sunday

A huge thank you on behalf of the RBL Henley Branch, to the Mayor of Henley, Councillor Ken Arlett, and the Mayor's Chaplain Fr Jeremy Tayler, and especially not forgetting everyone at the Town Hall for their hard work in putting together such a meaningful and well organised Remembrance Sunday ceremony.



It was particularly gratifying to see our members and community out in numbers too, not wishing to miss marking with gratitude such an important date and all it stands for, wonderfully distanced and taking the opportunity to donate to the Poppy Appeal.

Henley Army Cadet Appointment as Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet for Oxfordshire



Cadet Company Serjeant Major (CSM) Tallulah Scott from Henley Detachment has been appointed as the Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet for Oxfordshire.

The Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet is arguably one of the most respectable and outstanding roles to achieve within the Army Cadet Force (ACF). The role of the Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet is to accompany the Lord-Lieutenant when they attend local community events & ceremonies, as well as representing the Cadet Forces & Public Speaking.

A number of cadets were nominated for this role, along with a citation, from which Oxfordshire ACF Cadet Commandant, Colonel Peterson decided that Cadet CSM Scott should receive this appointment. The Lord-Lieutenant may have only one cadet from each of the cadet services (Combined Cadet Force, Royal Air Force Air Cadets, Sea Cadets & ACF) to which Cadet CSM Scott is now Oxfordshire Army Cadet Force Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet.

2nd Lieutenant Mel Haynes, Henley Detachment Commander said "Cadet CSM Scott has been in the ACF for over four years and is one of the county's most senior cadets. She is an outstanding leader and has been a valuable asset to the company during this year's lockdown; assisting and teaching on virtual parade nights. She will be a great asset and link to the communities alongside the Lord-Lieutenant and we can't wait to see what else she achieves."

Cadet William O'Hagan setting up his campsite - 'Glastonberet'



Inside the standard syllabus training, The Cadets from Nivelles Company were involved in a 'camp out' this Autumn. The Company Commander, Major Wayne Thrussell came up with the idea for a virtual camp out event, named "Glastonberet". Cadets had a weekend to set up an outdoor shelter and cook their own dinner. The Cadets then sent in their photos, to be in with a chance of winning vouchers for The Cadet Kit Shop. The ACF offers a variety of challenging and varied training to the cadets. Expedition is just one of ten subjects that the Cadets can get involved with developing resilience and independence among other skills.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Over Autumn the Army Cadets have been very busy, continuously participating in different virtual events whilst also volunteering to better themselves as well as the community around them, all through social media and Zoom.

Cadets from Henley Army Cadet Force (ACF) have achieved 27 section passes for the DofE Award. This is made up of 10 volunteering, 8 skill and 9 physicals passes. As well as the individual passes, 7 Cadets have achieved the Certificate of Achievement 2020. This certificate is awarded to individuals who have completed three sections of their awards, although been unable to complete an expedition, due to COVID-19.

A huge congratulation must go to Cadet James Ferguson, Cadet Luke Stevens, Lance Corporal Natasha Bryant, Lance Corporal Patrycja Gwiazda, Lance Corporal Amelia Jacob and Lance Corporal Ceejay King for putting in amazing effort and unwavering commitment to the Duke of Edinburgh Award.



Last year, four Henley Cadets received their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award
CSjt Poolan,
Sjt Smyth, CSjt Fielder,
Sjt Korsunova

Henley Sea Cadets

Henley Unit under Commanding Officer Lt Cdr (SSC) Andy Grainge RNR are currently recruiting for a February intake in 2021

At Henley-On-Thames we aim to give young people an experience that will help them grow into the person they want to be in a safe and friendly environment. Through various activities and adventures, we learn teamwork, respect, loyalty, self-confidence, commitment, self-discipline, honesty and how to be the best version of ourselves.

SEA CADETS HENLEY



Age 12-17

SEA CADETS



Age 13-17

ROYAL MARINES CADETS



Age 10-11

JUNIOR SEA CADETS

Adventure – Catering – Climbing – Ceremonial – Engineering – Fieldcraft – First Aid – Fun – Leadership
 Mountain Biking – Navigation – Paddlesports – Powerboating – Rowing – Sailing – Seamanship – Skill At Arms

Register NOW for our February 2021 intake

<https://www.sea-cadets.org/henley/get-in-touch>

Follow us on social media @HenleySCC

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Recruiting ADULT VOLUNTEERS



Uniformed Instructor

Includes:
 Senior Rates
 Warrant Officers
 Officers

These CFAV's wear the uniform of the RN or RM.

Inspire young people through adventure and fun!

If you have:

- A flair for enthusiasm
- A passion for a life afloat
- A motivation to see young people succeed

Then we want to hear from you!

All levels of experience welcomed, full training provided



Non-instructional (Trustees & UA)

Includes:
 UMT members
 Unit Assistants

These CFAV's do not instruct or wear a uniform.

Help launch young people for life today!

As a charity, our trustees are vital for ensuring our instructors can deliver the best cadet experience. Bring skills in fundraising, organisation and facility management – or even just your time and a willingness to learn – and you can be part of our Unit Management Team.

Be involved TODAY

<https://www.sea-cadets.org/henley/get-in-touch>

Must be aged 18+

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