



RBL Y SERVICES (GARATS HAY) BRANCH Newsletter No 2/2016.

[Originally sent as an email message to all members on 2 May 2016]

Many thanks to all who responded to the mass mailer sent to all branch members on 30 March 2016. We have been able to update our training records and the membership database. You will also have received an email from the branch membership secretary, Peter Derrick (email address)

yservices.memsecretary@rbl.community

which is his regular trawl of members to ensure that contact details are correct and up to date.

This newsletter provides a branch news update

Item 1.

POPPY APPEAL FUNDRAISING

The easyfundraising scheme described in the last newsletter has attracted a very pleasing result with some 36 members already signed up. Of course you probably don't buy stuff online every day of the week but many of the 36 have been actively buying goods via the easyfundraising portal:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rblyservices/>

In the one month since the scheme was set up the branch has raised donations to

the tune of £28.82 towards the Poppy Appeal . So easyfundraising is proving to be a great (and easy) way for members to contribute to the charitable work of the RBL. Well done to all concerned; if we can get even more members using the easyfundraising scheme we could be raising considerable sums every month. If you are a regular online buyer or just purchase items now and again, please do so via easyfundraising then the Poppy Appeal will benefit from your efforts.

To register and get involved go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rblyservices/>

However, as was pointed out in the last newsletter you can still raise funds by:

Yomping across the Sahara Desert

Cycling across Europe

Swimming the Channel

Pounding the streets of Lincoln

And any number of other painful, time consuming but fantastic, if you can do them, activities.

To keep the branch visible in the Lincoln 10K, branch member,WO1 Gill Bennett RNR, donned her trainers and raised raised 50 pounds by shaking a bucket at the crowds lining the route of the Lincoln 10km on Sunday 17 April. An outstanding solo effort considering that Gill was running just a few days after returning from a Falklands tour – Well done her!

Stop Press – the £50 raised by Gill has now increased to £150.00 thanks to a very generous donation by one of our members in appreciation of Gill's efforts.

Item 2.

BRANCH MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Members will be interested to know that our branch is well represented within the RBL hierarchy.

At the National conference in May 2016 branch member, Terry Whittles, will step up from National Vice Chairman to the important job of RBL National Chairman.

Branch member, Dave Street, who was recently awarded an RBL Gold Badge for his services to the Legion, is chairman of the National Branches District Committee – see full story on the branch website <http://garatshay.org.uk/>

In recent national officers' elections our own Lt Col Dave Whimpenny was elected to the RBL Board of Trustees and long serving member John Clarke sits on the RBL Membership Council.

Following the retirement of Tom Neal from the post of Branch Standard Bearer, your branch committee has appointed Peter Gilbert as our new Standard Bearer with Dave Lawrence standing in when needed as Deputy Standard Bearer.

Item 3.

REMEMBRANCE

The branch standard will be on parade throughout the year. Our Secretary, Martin Foster, and Standard Bearer, Pete Gilbert, attended the annual ANZAC Commemorative Service at the Commonwealth Military Cemetery, Cannock Chase on 24 April 2016.

Item 4.

SUMMER GATHERING

A reminder that this year's Branch Summer Gathering will take place at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford, Cambridgeshire on Saturday 23rd July – see full details on the branch website <http://garatshay.org.uk/>

