



## The Royal British Legion Chatburn and District Branch

President: vacant  
Chairman: vacant  
Treasurer: Col Phil Naylor 01200 441352  
Secretary: Mrs Mandy Brennan 01200 441551  
Membership Mr Eric Foulger 01200 425052  
Poppy Appeal Organiser: mandy.brennan273@gmail.com

Autumn/Winter 2019

Dear Members and Friends

The Poppy Appeal is underway as the country remembers and commemorates the start of WW2, and those whose lives were affected by war and subsequent conflicts. With help from friends I've delivered over 60 collecting boxes to local businesses and schools, and wreaths to local representatives. Please let me know if any businesses within our area require a box of poppies. Chatburn and District Branch will be attending the Remembrance Service in Grindleton this year. Due to various factors we will meet by the Pavilion car park at 10am to parade across to St Ambrose Church at 10.15, for the service commencing at 10.30am. There should be enough parking in the Pavilion car park. Coffee is being served after church.

This will be the last year we meet as a Branch for a Remembrance Service. I am sorry to close the Branch on my watch but times have changed, members don't want to attend meetings, we have no quorum for committee and no need for Branch funds locally as the good work and veteran support is funded centrally. I haven't made plans to hold an AGM this year. If you would like to take over the running of the Branch please let me know, otherwise the Standard will be laid up in Chatburn Church and I will be notifying County. It isn't the end of the road though, as we discussed at the 2018 AGM, we can merge with Clitheroe and perhaps help to develop and utilise the Royal British Legion Club as a vital hub and meeting place for veterans across the Ribble Valley.

I will continue to raise funds for the Poppy Appeal, last year we raised £8639.22. Thank you for your help and support.

Stella Brunskill the Mayor of Ribble Valley Borough Council invited Denis and me to a fund raising event in support of Veterans in Communities (VIC). This is a charity the Royal British Legion works with and is an East Lancashire based Armed Forces charity that works across Rossendale, Pendle, Burnley, Hyndburn, Ribble, Heywood, Middleton and Rochdale. VIC supports those who have served in any of the branches of the armed forces, emergency services and their families who have or are having difficulties with returning to 'Civvy Street'. They offer a range of activities which are run by veterans or retired members of the emergency services. The range of activities include; walking, horticulture, allotments, social trips, helping the local community with small projects, training opportunities, outreach in local areas, art groups, craft groups, and a Singing Group. Contact them on 01706 833180.

I did apply for a military band again for a Remembrance concert, following the success of the concert last year, but inadvertently put 1st December 2019 on my application. We have duly been allocated the Band of the Yorkshire Regiment and we will be holding a concert in St Mary Magdalene's church Clitheroe between 3-5pm on Sunday 1st December which coincides with Advent rather than Remembrance. I am very grateful and relieved that St Mary's has been able to accommodate us with this change of plan. The church will be decorated for Advent and this concert will be A Salute to Christmas in aid of the Poppy Appeal. Refreshments will be served in the interval and tickets will be available soon from St Mary's Centre: adults £8 under 16's £5. Please bring everyone you know, especially those who have never experienced the thrill of a Military Band sound. This will be a joyous occasion.

We still have Representatives in all our villages, and you can contact me, a village representative or a committee member if anyone would like a visit or some help. On behalf of the remaining committee thank you for your support over the years it has been an honour to represent the Branch. I hope you have a happy healthy year end.

Very best wishes

**Mandy Brennan**

### Committee Representatives for the Villages

Rimington/Downham	Phil Naylor 441352
Chatburn	Gary Scott
Sawley/Bolton by Bowland	Kate Sims 441347
Grindleton	Mandy Brennan 441551
Clitheroe	Eric Foulger 425052
West Bradford/ Waddington	Denise Willett 427240