



THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION PARIS BRANCH

NEWSLETTER – July 2017

As I write, the lengthy summer holiday period is getting underway. For me this means fewer cars on the road, more available parking spaces, and fewer queues in the shops! For the fortunate ones with “maisons secondaires”, it’s an opportunity to enjoy a complete change of scenery, to adopt a more relaxed lifestyle, and the opportunity to catch-up with family and friends.

Soon after sending you my last newsletter we held our Branch Meeting (to which all members were invited) at which we updated those who were able to attend on our activities and finances. It was an excellent meeting. I think those who participated would agree that it was well worth the effort they had made to be there.

As I wrote in my previous newsletter, Branch meetings give you (i.e. individual members) the opportunity to hear what the Branch is doing and what the Committee is planning for the future. The Committee wants to hear from you, your thoughts, your ideas on the activities of The Royal British Legion, Paris Branch.

After the Branch Meeting held in May we had a Wine Tasting event. It was very well presented by Paul Tracy of Fine Wine World, and was a most enjoyable experience.

In June there was another presentation, this time at the British Embassy. Doc McKerr shared with us some of the many challenging experiences he’d had when he undertook a gruelling and challenging 1025 mile trek in 74 days, of “The Great Himalaya Trail”.

Due to there being a lack of numbers, the scheduled lunch in June was cancelled. In July, however, we were 14 for lunch. These lunches are open to all, and the price is very reasonable for Paris! As you would expect, there will be no Club Lunch in July or August. The date of the September lunch will be notified to members in due course.

Many, many congratulations to Jacques Riols who received the insignia de chevalier dans l’ordre National de la Légion d’Honneur at a ceremony held on June 17th at Marly-le-Roi.

Unhappily the Branch has had to say farewell, God speed, to our RBL Chaplain, Revd Canon Alyson Lamb, who is returning to England in August, to take up a new living in Northumberland. She will be replaced as The Royal British Legion Chaplain for the Paris Branch by Revd Canon Matthew Harrison. Matthew is Chaplain of Saint George’s Anglican Church, Paris.

Forthcoming Events:

4th August: Ravivage de la Flamme at the Arc de Triomphe. All members are most welcome to attend this ceremony. It begins at 6.30pm (It’s a good idea to arrive before 6pm as the security arrangements are time consuming.) After the ceremony we will be hosting a reception at the Clubhouse, to which you are invited.

3rd September: The Pedal to Paris Bicycle Rally ends. The cyclists reach the Arc de Triomphe at around 3.30pm. Please come along and support them! Again, it’s a good idea to arrive early.

Finally, on behalf of the Committee I wish everyone a pleasant and enjoyable summer wherever you are and to wherever you travel to.

David Bean
Chairman