

Can you help us support local veterans?

We are helping several veterans at the moment, but we need more volunteers to join us as telephone befrienders and home/hospital visitors. Full training is provided.

If you feel you could help and spare a couple of hours, please contact **Kerry** on **07748212501**.



Coach Trips 2026



Below you can find details of our planned trips for 2026. Everyone is welcome, but if you join the branch, you get cheaper tickets!

The weekend of 08-10 May
RBL Annual Conference, Brighton

Saturday 06 June
Bletchley Park and Gardens

Saturday 08 August
Portsmouth Royal Navy Museum

Sunday 06 December
Fleet Air Arm Museum & Exeter Christmas Market

For more information or to reserve your seat, please contact **Ian Campbell** on **07950104450** or visit **www.StapleHillrbl.org.uk/events**



Volunteer Spotlight

Jodie Hawkins



This quarter, we're proud to shine a spotlight on Jodie Hawkins. As our Branch Secretary, Jodie plays a vital role on the committee. In a previous role, Jodie helped us establish and grow our Branch Community Support service. Her dedication goes far beyond this and she's a real driving force in bringing people together and making sure our members feel supported.

Jodie's connection to the Royal British Legion is deeply personal. She was first introduced to the Legion through her Nan, who served as the standard bearer for the Women's Section many years ago. It's very much a family tradition, Jodie's Dad, (Paul) is the branch standard bearer, and her Mum (Lynn) plays an important role on the committee, always making sure everyone is well fed and taken care of during meetings and events.

Through her tireless commitment and genuine care, Jodie embodies the spirit of the Legion. Her efforts help keep our branch strong and welcoming, and we're incredibly grateful for all she does.

Want to be like Jodie? Join us as a volunteer today.



Useful Numbers

Branch Chair
Ian Campbell 07950104450

To join the branch
0800 307 7773

Branch Membership Queries
Hazel Sperrings 07717326302

National RBL Support (8am-8pm)
0800 802 8080

Branch Community Support
Kerry Weaver 07748212501

Coach Trips
Ian Campbell 07950104450

2026
MAY-AUG



STAPLE HILL & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



Covering Bromley Heath, Downend, Emersons Green, Fishponds, Frenchay, Lyde Green, Mangotsfield and Staple Hill



Welcome to our Community Newsletter!

As we settle into 2026, it's been fantastic to see so many members actively involved in

branch activities. Recently, we enjoyed a visit to the National Memorial Arboretum, a place that never fails to move and inspire us.

We also had the opportunity to attend the Royal British Legion Annual Conference in Brighton, where we connected with fellow branches and gained fresh ideas to bring back to our community and shared all of the good work we do in and around our area.

Our presence was strong at the Leighton ANZAC Service once again, where members gathered in

force to pay their respects. Also, we were proud to support the Parish Council Expo, engaging with local residents and sharing what we do as a branch.

Recently, we marked the 15th anniversary of the end of the Iraq War (Operation Telic), and we joined with the community at a service in Page Park remembering those who served and sacrificed. A big thank you to our friends at the Salvation Army for leading us in reflection.

Looking ahead, we're excited for South Gloucestershire Armed Forces Day at Page Park on June 20th, an annual highlight in our calendar and a great chance for the community to come together. Along with this, we have a number of upcoming trips and

events planned, all detailed in this newsletter and on our website.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our members and volunteers for their continued support. Your dedication is at the heart of everything we do, and it's what allows us to honour our veterans and support those currently serving. Here's to a busy and rewarding year ahead with plenty of opportunities to get involved.

Ian Campbell - Branch Chair

Ian



We meet on the first Friday of the month at the Page Community Association at 7:30pm

www.StapleHillrbl.org.uk

StapleHillrbl@gmail.com

StapleHillrbl.org.uk

07950104450



StapleHillRBL

A Memorable Visit to the Memorial Arboretum

We had such a wonderful time on our recent visit to the National Memorial Arboretum. The weather was absolutely glorious; blue skies and sunshine all day, which made the experience even better. It wasn't long before you could spot more than a few of us enjoying ice creams as we strolled around, soaking up the atmosphere.

The Arboretum never fails to move us. Every year we visit, it touches our hearts in a way that's hard to put into words. Walking through the peaceful grounds, surrounded by so many meaningful memorials, reminds us of the incredible sacrifices made by so many. It's a place for reflection, but also for connection, and it always leaves us feeling humbled and inspired.



ANZAC 2026

Our members once again attended the Leighterton ANZAC Service in full force, showing our collective respect.

A big thank you to Paul for proudly carrying the standard, Revd Leigh for leading the service, and heartfelt appreciation to all our members who turned out to support this important occasion. Your presence truly honours those we remember.



Community Gathers to Remember 15 Years Since Iraq War's End

This month, we marked an important milestone, the 15th anniversary of the end of the Iraq War, known to many as Operation Telic. To honour this significant moment, we came together with the community in Page Park for a remembrance service.

The service was beautifully led by the Salvation Army and their band, whose music helped set a respectful and reflective tone throughout the event.

We want to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who joined us, whether you came to remember, pay your respects, or simply stand in solidarity. A special and heartfelt gratitude goes to the veterans and serving members

of the Armed Forces who attended, your service and sacrifice are deeply appreciated, and having you with us made the day even more meaningful.



Gathering together in Page Park reminded us that though the conflict ended 15 years ago, the impacts and memories endure. Our community's commitment to remembering those who served is as strong as ever.

Thank you to all who joined us.

Trip to Portsmouth

Join us for an engaging day out to Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, a unique destination that brings centuries of naval history to life. Set within the heart of Britain's maritime heritage, the dockyard offers an unforgettable experience for visitors of all ages.

Home to some of the most famous ships and exhibits in naval history, the dockyard provides a fascinating glimpse into the lives, stories, and achievements of those who served at sea.

£18 for members // £23 for non-members

Please note: This price is for coach travel only. Entry to the Dockyards must be booked separately online in advance.

Book at www.staplehillrbl.org.uk/events



COMMUNITY OPEN NIGHT

Friday at 7:30pm.
Page Community Association

01

Pop along and see what we are about.
Buffet & raffle tickets available on the night-
Everyone is welcome!



GUEST SPEAKER 'DAVID ADDIS' WITH CURRY

Friday at 7:30pm.
Page Community Association

05

Raffle tickets available on the night
Everyone is welcome - booking via the website.



QUIZ NIGHT

Friday at 7:30pm.
Page Community Association

03

£2pp with CASH PRIZES!
Buffet & raffle tickets available on the night-
Everyone is welcome!



GUEST SPEAKER WITH FISH & CHIPS

Friday at 7:30pm.
Page Community Association

07

Raffle tickets available on the night
Everyone is welcome - booking via the website.

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY

Why should you join our branch?

- We are one of the largest branches in the local area
- Throughout the year we organise quizzes, guest speakers, meals and socials!
- We support the Armed Forces, veterans and their families locally
- Our popular coach trips take place throughout the year

But to do all of the above, we need you to join us.

So, what are you waiting for?
Pop along to one of our socials,
or call Hazel on 07717326302.



Proud supporters of
South Glos Armed Forces Day

BRANCH BREAKFAST

The branch meets at the Lamb Inn, Mangotsfield to chat, have a laugh and enjoy a tasty English breakfast!

Everyone is welcome to join us.

Only £7pp - Includes a cooked breakfast and unlimited tea and coffee

Saturday 06 June 10am

Saturday 04 July 10am

Saturday 01 August 10am

If you have served in the Armed Forces or are a spouse/widow(er) of someone who has and you can't afford the breakfast, we may be able to help.

Call Lynn on 07919151866
to book your place!

