



STEP UP!

The STEP SHORT NEWSLETTER

100 Years Ago.....

STEP SHORT Registered Charity No. 1143305

July 2015

Note from the Editor. Apologies for the late appearance of the 2nd newsletter of the year. This has been due to the editor spending much of 2015 overseas.

Armed Forces Day on the Leas.

Step Short had a good day on the Leas for the 2015 Armed forces day on Saturday 25th June. £90 was donated, many leaflets distributed and some potential new members were spoken to. Thanks to Ann Berry, Heather De Souza and Rita Lee who ran things on the day.



Annual March of Remembrance.— 2nd August 2015.

A reminder that the March starts at the Grand Hotel on the Leas at 11.00 am on the 2nd. Please gather at the starting point to form up from 10.30 onwards. Please remember to register with Step Short if you wish to join the March.

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Editor—John Bailey
Contributors:- John Bailey, Ann Berry, Carl Plummer and Paul Emden.

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30,000th Last Post at the Menin Gate

To commemorate the 30,000th last post being played at the Menin Gate in Ypres on the 9th July 2015, Step Short organised a parallel playing of the last Post at the same time at the Folkestone Memorial Arch. The last post has been played every evening at the Menin Gate from the 1920's. It is intended that the Last Post will be played for every soldier named on the memorial all 54,896 of them, so the ceremony will continue for some years to come.



The representatives of the British Legion remember their old comrades and those that went before.



Bugler on the day was Bryan Walker who sounded the last post at the Memorial Arch. Parade Commander was Major Phil Lineham (in photo with fireman Mike Scott-Smith). Step Short will provide a bugler to play the last post every Sunday evening from the 2nd August through to Remembrance Sunday the 8th November under the Arch.

AWARD for the Lend Lease Arch Builders in 2015!

On the 21st April the team from Lend Lease were given an award for the construction of the Memorial Arch in Folkestone during the summer of 2014. During the progress of the work all members of Step Short who visited the site were very impressed by the attention to detail, the care for the safety of site visitors and the respect paid to memory of the troops who transited through Folkestone in WW1.



In this photo Ann Berry and Paul Emdem can be seen with the Lend Lease team at the award presentation.

The Step Short Boot fair was held at Radnor park on Sunday the 21st of June.

The fair was well attended and a total of just over £1100.00 was raised for Step Short, Many thanks to those who supported the event either as marshals, stall holders or buyers! Lots of work was put in by the Events Committee on the day to make this happen.

Tea at the Mole Cafe? A dream or a reality? The harbour mole is being refurbished and it is possible that the original Mole Cafe from 1914 can be temporarily recreated in August.

Dates for the Diary

Sunday 2nd August 2015—Step Short March from the Grand Hotel to the Arch and then to the Harbour. Assemble at the Grand Hotel at 10.30 for the 11.00 am start.



Regular Events .

On Sundays at 7.00pm a bugler will play the last post at the Arch from the 2nd of August through to Remembrance Sunday on the 8th November 2015.

Wreath Laying on ANZAC Day 25th April 2015



Wreaths were laid at the Memorial Arch on the Leas to commemorate the soldiers who fought and died on the Gallipoli peninsula in 1915 and 1916. Between the landings on 25th April 1915 and the evacuation on the 8th January 1916, The British Army lost 34,072 dead, France 9700, Australia 8709, New Zealand 2721, India 1350 and Canada 49. Approximately 56000 Turkish Troops died. For such a small geographic area and period, the casualties were very high, especially so for new nations like Australia and New Zealand. Photos show Chairman Damian Collins MP giving a speech and Geoff Tolson laying a wreath on behalf of Step Short.

The Hub - Our Home.



The Hub is located in the Car Park at the Harbour end of Tontine Street , Folkestone. On arrival at the Hub you will be greeted by one of our volunteers who man the centre daily. There are information boards about the project, our museum area plus items for sale, including first day covers signed by Dame Vera Lynn and Lord Howard. There are 4 computer terminals where the Mole Cafe books can be researched (member only) as well as facilities for search your family history.

If you would like to volunteer a little of your time for the Step Short Hub, please contact Ann Berry on 01303 278644.

The Hub is open every day between April and September, but opening times vary upon volunteer availability.—Carl Plummer