Chairman's Report 2025/26

Updated and re-issued for Annual Parish Meeting 12 May 2026

It is my privilege to present this report outlining the branch's key activities and achievements over the past 12 months.

Commemorative Events

- **Remembrance 2025**
  The Branch organised and successfully delivered in partnership with St Marys Church, both Remembrance Sunday and Remembrance Day. Events were attended by veterans, villagers and representatives from the village school.

- **VE Day 2025**
  VE Day was marked with a dignified service at the village memorial, attended by members of the community, veterans, and local representatives. The event was conducted with due solemnity and respect.

- **VJ Day 2025**
  Commemorations were extended into a successful three-day programme:

  1. The VJ Stories Evening, held on the eve of VJ Day, featured personal accounts and historical reflections. It was exceptionally well received and drew strong community engagement.

  2. VJ Day itself was observed with a formal service at the memorial, with notable participation from veterans and representatives of the Far East campaign.

  3. The weekend concluded with representatives from the Branch attending the Sunday Bring-and-Share Tea Party, which further fostered community spirit.

Community Engagement and Fundraising

- **Village Fete 2025**
  The branch played an active role with the President and Chairman opening the village fête while accompanied by an Ex-Guards Piper. The branch hosted an RBL stall to attract new members and aid fundraising. The event was both a social success and a significant fundraising effort.

- **Village Golf Day 2025**
  A further contribution was made through a collection organised by Dudley Brewer at a village golf day. We extend our thanks for his initiative and commitment.

Administration

- **RBL Community web page:** We have updated our information on the village website.

In closing, I wish to thank all members, volunteers, and supporters for their continued dedication, with added mention to our poppy volunteers. The branch remains committed to honouring the memory of those who served and supporting the Armed Forces community.

Spencer Summons
Brach Chairperson, Kirtlington, Royal British Legion