

## Chairman's Report – January 2018

Well that's another year gone and although the year started slowly and we had to suffer still more legislation I was concerned that we were on track for another year with no profit but thankfully because of the due diligence and hard work from all the staff and of course you the members and users of the Club you have managed to turn a £27k deficit into just over a £10k surplus which is no mean feat in this day and age.

We continue to promote the Club for ex-service and community use and the place is widely used by many organisations and groups. The ex-service Breakfast Club which meets the first Sunday of every month at 11.00am is still going strong thanks to Chris Collins. The Men's Shed should have phase one up and working around mid February and the River Dee Radio is still going strong. We also now run a book sale on the first Saturday of every month which was inherited from the Lions Club when they disbanded and alongside that we run a car boot sale from April to September.

The committee continue to do a great job and have my sincere thanks for all the hard work they put in. I would also like to give a special thank you to all who helped with the poppy collection period. This year we collected £10,000, down £1,000 from last year but according to Poppy Scotland that looks to be the trend all over Scotland. Our thanks also to the Pipe Band for the excellent work they continue to do to help us celebrate and remember events. That said the last four years have been extremely busy with commemoration and remembrance events but 2018 is going to be the busiest of all. The events shown below are being organised by Headquarters but as an Area or a Branch we would like to put an event on to commemorate the end of WW1 in our neck of the woods so anyone who has any ideas and is happy to roll their sleeves up and get involved please let us know. The following is the proposed planned events by Headquarters for 2018.

- Battle of May Commemoration - 31 January 2018 – Anstruther, Fife
- RAF 100 in April
- ANZAC Day Service - 25 April 2018 – Scottish National War Memorial, Edinburgh Castle
- ISLAY 100 - 4 May 2018 – American Monument, Mull of Oa & Port Ellon, Islay
- Scottish American Memorial Day - 29 May 2018 – 'The Call' Memorial Statue, Edinburgh
- Founder's Day - 17 June 2018 – Dryburgh Abbey, near Melrose
- The Capital's Armed Forces Day - 30 June 2018 – City Centre, Edinburgh
- KOREA 65 - 27 July 2018 – Scottish Korean War Memorial, near Bathgate
- Far Far From Ypres Productions - from August – 11th November 2018
- RBL Great Pilgrimage 90 (1928) - 5 – 9 August 2018 – Main event in Menin Gate 8th August
- Remembrance Sunday and Armistice 100 2018
- Loss of HMY IoLaire - 1st January 2019

I will close on my usual note by conveying a huge vote of thanks to you the members for your continued support for without you we wouldn't have a Branch and Club so my sincere thanks to you all and I hope that 2018 is a happy, healthy and prosperous year for you all and your families.

Alistair Black