Membership E-newsletter - July 2021

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Members vital to the RBL's work since 1921

Supporting the Armed Forces community and championing Remembrance in the last 100 years





Branches supporting the Armed Forces community in the UK and abroad



Stockton on Tees Branch – Helping the community for 100 years

The Stockton on Tees Branch was formed in 1921 and throughout the last 100 years has supported and has received support from generations of people in some cases members of the same family. Members today continue to help their community by raising funds with local organisations assisting them while they also provided support to those vulnerable during the pandemic and organised a school competition to celebrate RBL100.



Jersey RBL – An overseas Branch formed in 1922

The Branch was founded by the Jersey men who fought in WWI but it was the German occupation during WWII that has left its mark on the Island with the Branch now raising money to support elderly veterans. In 1935 the Branch's successful Festival of Remembrance was featured in the Legion magazine and current Members are planning to hold a festival next year to celebrate the Branch's centenary.



Centenary Reward & Recognition page launched

To celebrate RBL100 we've launched the Centenary Reward & Recognition page that includes some of the incredible members, staff, partners and volunteers who have supported the RBL over the years. We want to thank everyone who submitted a nomination and congratulate all our nominees. Click the button below to read the stories of those featured including members.



Our latest update about the One Legion strategy

Thank you to all those who joined our virtual town halls on 13 July. During these events the National Vice-Chairman, Director General and other Directors provided updates on the proposals outlined in the previous town halls including the changes to the Executive Board, regional offices and Pop-in centres. If you weren't able to participate in the live event, click the button below to access the recording.

Read the stories



100 years of supporting veterans into work





Celebrating South Asian Heritage Month

After WWI, the British Legion Unity Relief Fund was formed making loans available for new businesses and helping people find employment. After WWII there were schemes to give people training in specialist trades with one of the beneficiaries being the late Sean Connery. Today we continue to help people in the Armed Forces community by providing grants for training or equipment for a new job.

Find out more



Summer Proms at the Arboretum

The Band of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, accompanied by guest soprano Emily Haig, will take centre stage at this year's Summer Proms at the National Memorial Arboretum. With a programme featuring a repertoire of traditional proms favourites, the event will finish with a firework finale. Tickets are available to purchase now for performances on Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 August.

Book your tickets

To celebrate South Asian Heritage Month (18th Jul – 17th Aug) the RBL has assembled 20 stories, and commissioned the attached illustrations, to highlight 100 years of service and sacrifice from men and women of South Asian origin and descent, who have served as part of Britain's Armed Forces or in those of our Commonwealth Allies. Visit the SAHM website to explore and share the stories.

Find out more



Teaching Remembrance

As we mark RBL100, we explore the past, present and future of Remembrance. Alongside assemblies we are introducing a range of new resources including book clubs and school projects. Designed for use in school and at home, students can explore 100 years of Remembrance, learn how traditional practices have evolved and consider how Remembrance will look in the future.

Find out more

Did you know that...



Tickets for the evening performance of the 2021 <u>Festival of Remembrance</u> will go on sale on 14 September and for the afternoon performance on 21 September. More information to come closer to the time of the event.



In this video you'll see some of the members, volunteers, staff and partners that have been at the heart of what the RBL does in the last century and will continue to do so for the next 100 years.



Join our 2022 Pedal to Ypres event

During this three day trip you'll have the opportunity to visit battlefields, cemeteries and memorials along the route before finishing at the Menin Gate. Our expert team will look after you and our dedicated historian will accompany the group and share stories of the incredible sacrifices made by all those who fought in both World Wars. By joining this ride, you'll raise funds to help us provide support and services to the Armed Forces community.



Deramores RBL100 design competition

Our partners Deramores run a centenary design competition that ends on 31 July, asking for entries of poppy-inspired square drawings that could feature in their new crafting kit product: the 100 Years Blanket for knit and crochet. The winners will be selected by Deramores' expert designers, and will receive a £20 Deramores gift voucher. The new kits will go on sale in September as part of our <u>partnership collection</u>.

Find out more

Going back in time



From the Royal British Legion Magazine June 1952

Women's Section Conference: The Princess Royal enters the Albert Hall. Her Royal Highness is accompanied by Dame Regina Evans (Chairman), the Mayor of Westminster, Sir Ian Fraser and Sir Richard Howard- Vyse President and Chairman of the British Legion.

This month's poll

Members have been supporting all aspects of the RBL's work since 1921. What would you consider as the most important impact that Members have made over the years?

- 1. Offering comradeship
- 2. Helping beneficiaries locally
- 3. Raising funds
- 4. Championing Remembrance
- 5. Raising awareness of the RBL's work
- 6. Other

Take part in the poll

Last month's poll

Are you planning to hold an event/activity during the summer to celebrate RBL100?

122 Participants

1	Yes, I am helping my Branch plan an activity or event	45.90%	1
2	Yes, I am organising a personal activity including fundraising	13.11%	2
3	No, the pandemic still prevents us from holding events	31.97%	3
4	No, I don't have time or don't want to get involved for other reasons	7.38%	4
5	Other	19.67%	5

Encourage others to join

Our members play a vital role in ensuring that the Royal British Legion can continue to provide support to the Armed Forces community as well as upholding the importance of Remembrance. Share this email with others you think might be interested in Legion membership.



If you have any questions about the e-newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact me. If you have questions about your membership card or want to change your home or email address please contact our Membership Services team <u>MembershipServices@britishlegion.org.uk</u>

Best wishes,

Dimitra Nikolakopoulou

Membership Communications Officer membershipcomms@britishlegion.org.uk

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Contact

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