



# Mitcham Branch Newsletter

Summer 2023

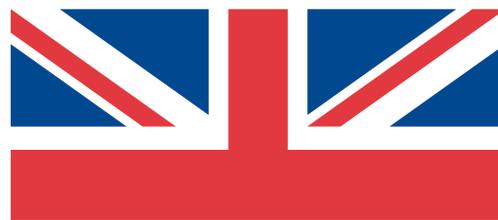
## Chairman's message



Welcome to another issue of our RBL Mitcham Newsletter, we hope you'll find this a useful resource for updates on services, club developments and staff appointments in one document.

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**ARMED FORCES DAY**  
**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT**

**It's Back, So Come & See Us**

**The Mitcham Carnival**

**25th June 2023**

**10:30am — 5:00pm**

Armed Forces Day in the United Kingdom is an annual event celebrated in late June to commemorate the service of men and women in the British Armed Forces, this year we celebrate Armed Forces Day on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

Veterans' Day was first observed in 2006. Although an official event, it is not a public holiday in the UK, we hope that one day it will be. Armed Forces Day is a chance to show your support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community: from currently serving troops to Service families, Veterans and Cadets.

Armed Forces Day takes place on the last Saturday each June. Armed Forces Day celebrations begin on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023, when the Armed Forces Day flag is raised on buildings and famous landmarks around the country.

Reserves Day will be on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023 and will also provide an opportunity for the country to recognise our Reserve Forces.

Your support for the Armed Forces provides a much-valued morale boost for the troops and their families. You can find out more on what they are doing at home and around the world by visiting the official websites of the Royal Navy, British Army and Royal Air Force.

The public show their support for the Armed Forces on Armed Forces Day, but did you know the Armed Forces Covenant outlines how the Government, businesses and communities support Armed Forces personnel past and present throughout the year.

The UK Armed Forces defend the UK and its interests. They are busy working around the world, promoting peace, delivering aid, tackling drug smugglers, providing security, and fighting terrorism.

**Veterans** - A veteran is anyone who has served in the HM Armed Forces at any time (including National Servicemen, Regulars and Reserves). Armed Forces Day celebrates their continued role within the military community.

**Reserve** - Reservists give up their spare time to serve in the Reserve Forces, balancing their civilian life with a military career to ensure that should their country require them, they would be ready to serve.

**Cadets** - The Cadet Forces (Sea Cadets, Army Cadets, Air Cadets and the Combined Cadet Force) currently support over 130,000 young people in more than 3,000 locations across the UK. Cadets learn life and career building skills as well as gaining vocational qualifications.

Our Armed Forces couldn't do their job without the incredible support of their family and friends.

Although Armed Forces Day is not a charitable event, the Armed Forces have the support of several UK charities and many local events will offer opportunities to support them,.

So this year lets support our Armed Forces, find an event near you or visit [www.armedforcesday.org.uk](http://www.armedforcesday.org.uk) and show your support.

## Changes for the Better

RBL Mitcham Branch has been given a new lease of life and is going through a few changes and introductions since the appointment of the new Branch Secretary, with many more to follow. The changes will affect some more than others, but everybody will stand to benefit from these changes and start to enjoy a club that is for the people of Mitcham.

The changes or introductions so far are:

**Newsletter** - this was the first introduction, a local branch newsletter to all the current members of RBL Mitcham, as well as delivered to local areas such as Mitcham Library to be produced quarterly with up to date news, local events, club events or anything that a member would want to pass onto other members, in our eyes a great way to get the message to all our RBL Mitcham members.

**Birthday Card** - Again, another small but effective introduction. This was introduced as a way to acknowledge our members for their continued support of RBL Mitcham as well as the RBL in general, a small gesture on your Birthday goes a long way



**Business Cards** - these have been issued to all Committee Members, it was seen that although there is a committee at RBL Mitcham, it was just a way to make things official when we would introduce ourselves.

The changes don't just stop with the above, there are many more in the pipeline, everybody will benefit going forward, so please bear with us as we go through this process.



## Coronation Cake, anyone

Our RBL Committee Member, Christine Kelly at the Coronation Celebrations held at AGE UK, Mitcham

## Fancy a game of Bingo

Your RBL Mitcham Branch has weekly Bingo event every week for RBL Members and Poppy Club Members, just turn up at the Poppy Club on a Thursday lunchtime ready for eyes down at 2:00pm and have a play, lots of cash prizes to be won, there's even a rolling cash amount to be one, as well as raffle prizes

So come down, get yourself a drink, join in the fun, its always a great

## Let RBL Mitcham Know your

RBL Mitcham Branch has launched a Feedback Survey Questionnaire, where all members of the branch can have there say on how they feel, what can be improved or what you would like to see at your RBL Club. This will be a 25 question survey, and completely anonymous,

Now is your chance to tell us what you think, without this, RBL Mitcham will not be able to make improvements for the future, for your enjoyment or for the next generation, so when you get the survey, don't discard it, fill it in, send it back in the pre-paid envelope, it couldn't be simpler.

## RBL Mitcham Committee Members

Chairman – Allan Barley

Vice-Chair – Ian Munn

Treasurer – Gary Baker

Secretary – Paul Picano

Membership – Christine Kelly

Standard Bearer – David Barley

Committee Member – Paul Smith

Committee Member—Joan Henry

## Fancy a drink at the Poppy Club

RBL Mitcham has some great news for its Members.

After a successful meeting with the lease holder, RBL Mitcham can now confirm that all RBL Members can now purchase drinks at the Poppy club at 15p higher per drink than a Poppy Club member.

You DONT need to be a Poppy Club Member to enjoy a drink at RBL Mitcham.

How it works:

Go to the Poppy Club and show your RBL Membership card at the door,

Sign in at the bar counter,

When ordering a drink, show your RBL card at the bar to the bar staff,

Order your drink,

They will have a function setup on the till system for RBL Members.

RBL Members will pay the higher price to compensate for a Poppy Club Membership, but if you want the cheaper drink, then you'll have to join as a member of the Poppy Club.

The start date will be 1st July 2023.

## Dates for your Diary

24<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Armed Forces Day

25<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Mitcham Carnival

11<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Armistice Day

12<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Remembrance Day

10<sup>th</sup> December 2023

RBL Mitcham Annual AGM