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# Remembering D-Day

Commemorating the 80th  
anniversary of the Normandy Landings



## Commemorating the sacrifice of our Armed Forces Community



80th Anniversary of D-Day

RBL will be marking the 80th anniversary of D-Day with events in Normandy, as well as national and community events. The D-Day landings were the largest amphibious operation in history, which marked the beginning of the liberation of France and Western Europe. If you are a veteran, family member or carer, please register your interest using the link below. The deadline for submissions is 31 August.

[Register your interest](#)



LGBTQ veterans independent review

The Prime Minister has apologised for the treatment of LGBT veterans, following the publication of an independent review into the military's pre-2000 ban on LGBT personnel. RBL supported LGBT veterans to feed into the review and submitted our own evidence of the appalling treatment of many service people whose lives were affected by the ban. [Read Director General Charles Byrne's official statement.](#)

[Join the LGBTQ+ Branch](#)



## Show us your Remembrance-themed artwork and poetry

Legion magazine is looking for Remembrance-themed artwork or poetry to include in the October issue. We want to showcase drawings, paintings or crafts that have a special meaning to you. It can be something that your child or grandchild made for you to mark Remembrance or something they did at school, or a short poem about service that you wrote. Maybe a knitted creation or craft that's related to Remembrance? Take a picture of it on a smartphone and email a high-resolution image to [membersmag@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:membersmag@britishlegion.org.uk) by 31st August. Include the name of the person who created it and a couple of sentences about what it means to you, plus your name and the branch you are a member of. We look forward to seeing your creations!

**Send us your artwork**



### The Gift in Wills team is reaching out to Members and branches

The Gift in Wills team is reaching out to members and branches in Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside and Northern Ireland to ask for your help during this year's Poppy Appeal. We're looking for members to champion Gift in Wills within their branch and communities to signpost to our free, no obligation, will-writing service. You do not need to have used the service to take part and can still take part even if you've got a will. [Register your interest](#) to join a face-to-face



### Remembering former National Chairman Peter Cleminson CBE

We remember former National Chairman Peter Cleminson CBE, who recently passed away. Peter made a huge contribution to Legion life over many years, significantly from 2007 to 2010 when he served as National Chairman. In more recent years he was also the number one supporter to his wife, Una Cleminson, during her own time as RBL Vice Chairman and then Chairman. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.



or online information session about Gift in Wills and we'll send you a resources pack, to help promote it.

**Register today**



### Charles Byrne to step down as Director General

Charles Byrne is stepping down as Director General of the RBL. Charles will remain in post until the end of November, seeing us through both this year's Poppy Appeal and Remembrancetide. The search for the next Director General is now underway, with the aim of identifying and appointing Charles' successor before he leaves. Ten years is a huge commitment from anyone to an organisation, especially given the relentless daily pressures of its leadership, and Charles will therefore go on to his next venture with our thanks, respect and very best wishes.

*"My family and I wish to thank you all for your kind messages. The support we have received has been overwhelming from our Legion family". - Una Cleminson*



### MPs rate us as one of top three campaigning charities

We've recently joined the Not For Profit (NFP) Charity Parliamentary Monitor - a regular survey that asks MPs and peers for their views on the effectiveness of charity campaigning. We scored 80% on our effectiveness score, which put us in third place after Macmillan and Cancer Research UK. Our scores from Labour and Conservative MPs were very similar, demonstrating our cross-party scoring for effectiveness and 51% of MPs are aware of our cost-of-living grants. We were also commended on our 'vital service to veterans'. Find out more in the latest [Impact Report](#).



## Push your limits with the castaway survival challenge

Could you survive five days in the wilderness? Challenge yourself with [The Royal British Legion Survival Challenge](#) in September 2024. Learn the skills needed to survive off-grid from our military survival experts and put your new skills to the test, with fun challenges and much more.

[RBL Survival Challenge](#)

## RBL commemorates South Asian Heritage Month

The RBL Remembrance Team was delighted to contribute to South Asian Heritage Month this year. The team shared the story of Ghulam Hussain, who served in Burma during the Second World War, and a unique act of Remembrance by Fiona Smith, who honoured Noor Inayat Khan.

[Find out more](#)



## New Teaching Remembrance resources for 2023

The Teaching Remembrance Programme has launched a new range of exciting resources to help children take part in Remembrance this year. Designed for children aged four-14 and featuring photography, film, case studies and interactive tasks, these free materials range from book clubs and poetry workshops to a live-streamed Remembrance assembly. Made up of lesson plans, bitesized activities and assemblies to support teachers and parents they are linked to the National Curriculum and provide support and challenge. Explore and download the resources for free below.

[Explore the Resources](#)



## Remembering the Korean War - 70 years on

On 27 July 2023, 70 years since the signing of the armistice that brought about an end to military operations in Korea, we were joined by veterans, their descendants and bereaved family members for a special service of Remembrance at Horse Guards Parade in London. An expo featuring, among others, stands from the MoD, Korean Embassy and regimental museums was open to the public, sharing our messaging of 'Remembrance for All'. You can [watch highlights of the service here](#). Ron Yardley served on HMS Belfast during the conflict. [See his story here](#).

[Watch the highlights](#)



## RBL calls for an end to unjust benefits system

Since launching [Credit their Service](#) at the beginning of last month, many of you have written to us to tell us about your own experiences with your military compensation being treated as income, or to let us know that you support the campaign. If you haven't already, will you [click here](#) to ask your MP to #CreditTheirService? Thank you to all of you who have already written to their MP and forwarded your response to [campaigns@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@britishlegion.org.uk). Together, we can Credit the Service of our Armed Forces community.

[Find out more](#)



## Are you a working-age veteran with a hearing impairment?

We're working on a new research project with University of Chester Westminster Centre for Veterans' Research, [looking at the impact of hearing impairment among working-age veterans in the UK](#). Hearing damage is one of the less visible but most common injuries sustained as a outcome of military service. If you're a veteran aged 16-67 with a hearing impairment, including tinnitus and hyperacusis, we invite you to complete our survey. If you have any questions or want to request a paper version of the survey, please email [gabrielle.andrews@chester.ac.uk](mailto:gabrielle.andrews@chester.ac.uk).

[Take the survey](#)

Going back in time





### From the Royal British Legion Magazine August 1973

Brighouse (West Riding) Branch Boys band leading the Legion Standard Bearers at the opening of Kipling Court, a housing project in Bradford.

#### This month's poll

Did you serve during wartime?

1. Yes
2. No
3. I have close family members/friends who served during a conflict
4. I worked as a civilian employee supporting the Armed Forces during a conflict
5. Other

[Take the poll](#)

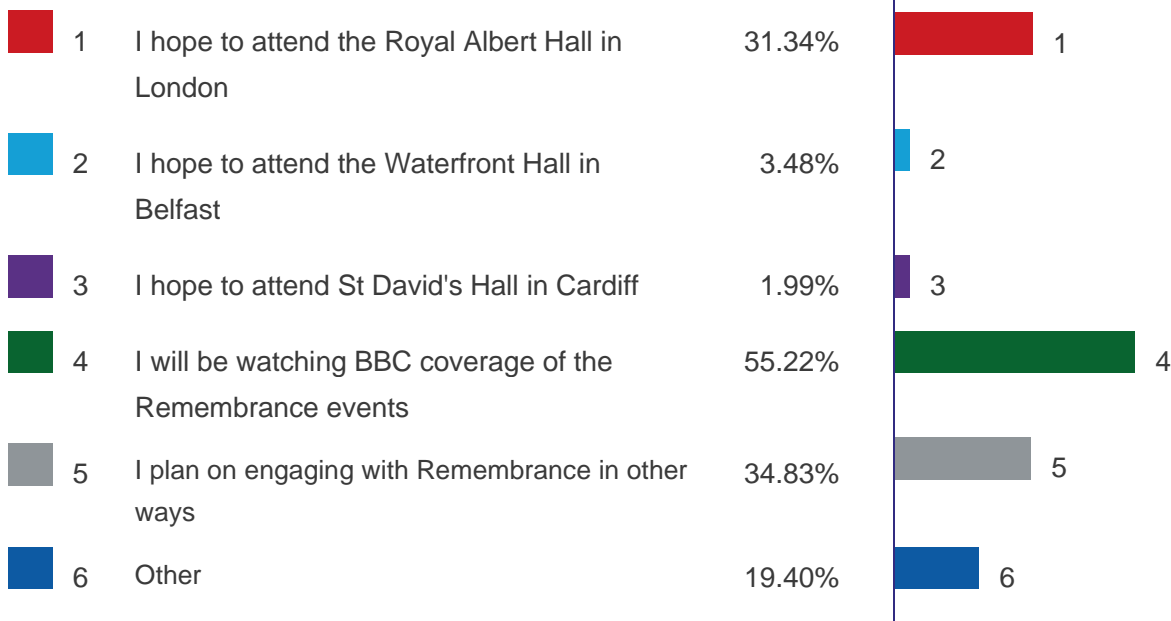
#### Last month's poll

How do you plan to engage with the Festival of Remembrance events in 2023?

402 Participants

%

Graph



## 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.

[Join now](#)

If you have any questions about your membership or want to update your contact details, please email our Membership Services team [MembershipServices@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:MembershipServices@britishlegion.org.uk)

Best wishes,

**Pete Wylie**

Communications Channel Manager

[internalcommunications@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:internalcommunications@britishlegion.org.uk)

## Quick links

[Membership](#)

[Get support](#)

[Poppy Shop](#)

## Contact

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