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Remembrance and service

Delivering the greatest benefit we can to the people we serve



Annual Conference 2023



Inside the hall



The Parade

Annual Conference 2023 saw almost 500 delegates and visitors in sunny Torquay, with many also attending online. It was an eventful three days in which we said goodbye to the retiring National President, Lieutenant General James Bashall and welcomed his successor, Vice Admiral Sir Clive Johnstone. Each day saw a guest speaker, James Heappey, Minister of State for the Armed Forces on Saturday and Professor Gavin Oxburgh on Sunday, both sharing their expertise on the serving and veteran community.

The sun was shining for the Sunday morning parade which made for an impressive and moving display. With our brilliant Standard Bearers once again taking centre stage, we are so grateful and proud of the way they have represented the RBL in the last year. With the Charging of the Standards, the Closing Ceremony was led by The Right Reverend, Robert Atwell, Bishop of Exeter, and Annual Conference was completed for another year. We look forward to welcoming everyone to Newport next year!

THE CORONATION OF THEIR MAJESTIES
KING CHARLES III
AND QUEEN CAMILLA



THE OFFICIAL ALBUM
Recorded at Westminster Abbey, 6th May 2023

**Buy the official Coronation album –
and help boost RBL funds**

You can buy the official album of the Coronation of King Charles and Queen Camilla. Recorded at Westminster Abbey on 6th May, all the music and spoken word from this great global event is available on a double CD album. We are especially honoured that proceeds from the album will be shared between RBL and Age UK.

[Buy the Official Album](#) from Decca, [Amazon Music](#), or [HMV](#).

Buy the Official Album



**Festival of Remembrance -
Membership Ticketing**



**Remembering Korea - 70 years on from
1953**

The Royal British Legion [Festival of Remembrance](#) will be held in the Royal Albert Hall, London on Saturday 11 November 2023 with performances at 2pm and 7pm. Evening tickets will go on sale for members to purchase on Tuesday 25 July. Afternoon tickets will go on sale to members on Tuesday 1 August. More information on booking your tickets will be available for members on the RBL website in due course.

Buy your tickets here

2023 marks 70 years since the signing of the armistice that ended military operations during the Korean War. 60,000 service personnel from across Britain and the Commonwealth saw action during the conflict, with 1,100 losing their lives. RBL will be marking this important milestone in an often-forgotten war with a [special service of remembrance](#) at Horse Guards Parade on Thursday 27 July from 11am.

Find out more



Remembering National Service

On Tuesday 16 May, we marked 60 years since the end of National Service with a special event at the [National Memorial Arboretum](#). We looked back to celebrate their experiences and sacrifices, and also reviewed the lasting impact of this era on British society. Thank you to all those who attended the event and joined us in remembering the service and sacrifice of the National Service generation. If you couldn't make it, or would like to learn more, you can [navigate virtually through the anniversary exhibition](#).

[Explore the exhibition](#)



FESTIVAL OF DISCOVERY 2023



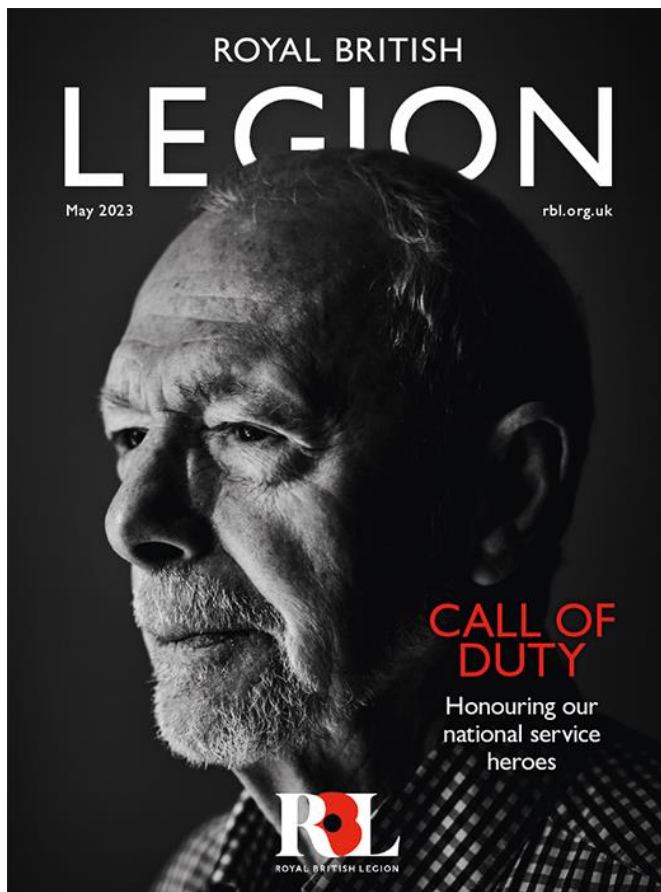
SATURDAY 29 JULY - WEDNESDAY 9TH AUGUST
ONLINE VIA ZOOM

Try something new with Bravo 22

This July/August, Bravo 22 will be holding their third Festival of Discovery. There will be six online taster sessions exploring different arts opportunities including street-art, contemporary movement, spoken word poetry, sustainable art, a radio play and even a scratch night at the end. [Bravo 22](#) is a recovery and wellbeing through the arts programme and is available to the Armed Forces Community.

No experience needed – just the enthusiasm to try something new!

[Find out more](#)



Read the RBL Magazine

The May issue of Legion Magazine is now available. In addition to previewing both the coronation of HM the King and the Royal British Legion's Annual Conference, we also hear from Jason Coward as he reflects on his first year as National Chair. In addition, seven veterans give us their memories of National Service and, 75 years after the arrival of HMT Empire Windrush, we remember those Caribbean men and women who helped to rebuild Britain after the Second World War.

[Read your RBL Magazine](#)



Run as little or as often as you want in our June Fundraiser

Feeling inspired to start running? Join us to Run 26 Miles in June - that's the distance of a marathon over the course of a month! Run as little or as often as you want. [Sign up today for your FREE t-shirt](#) There's no minimum fundraising target but runners also get a Poppy run medal if they raise over £150! So put on your trainers, share your challenge with friends and family and start running, in our summer fundraiser.

[Sign up today](#)



Have you been disadvantaged due to receiving military compensation?

Armed Forces compensation is often considered an income source when benefit rates are calculated, whilst civil compensation is not. RBL are campaigning to fix this. But we need your help. If you or someone you know has applied for any benefits while receiving Armed Forces compensation of any kind, please get in touch with us. [Sharing your experience](#) will help us to end this unfair treatment of the Armed Forces community.

[Contact us here](#)

Did you know that...

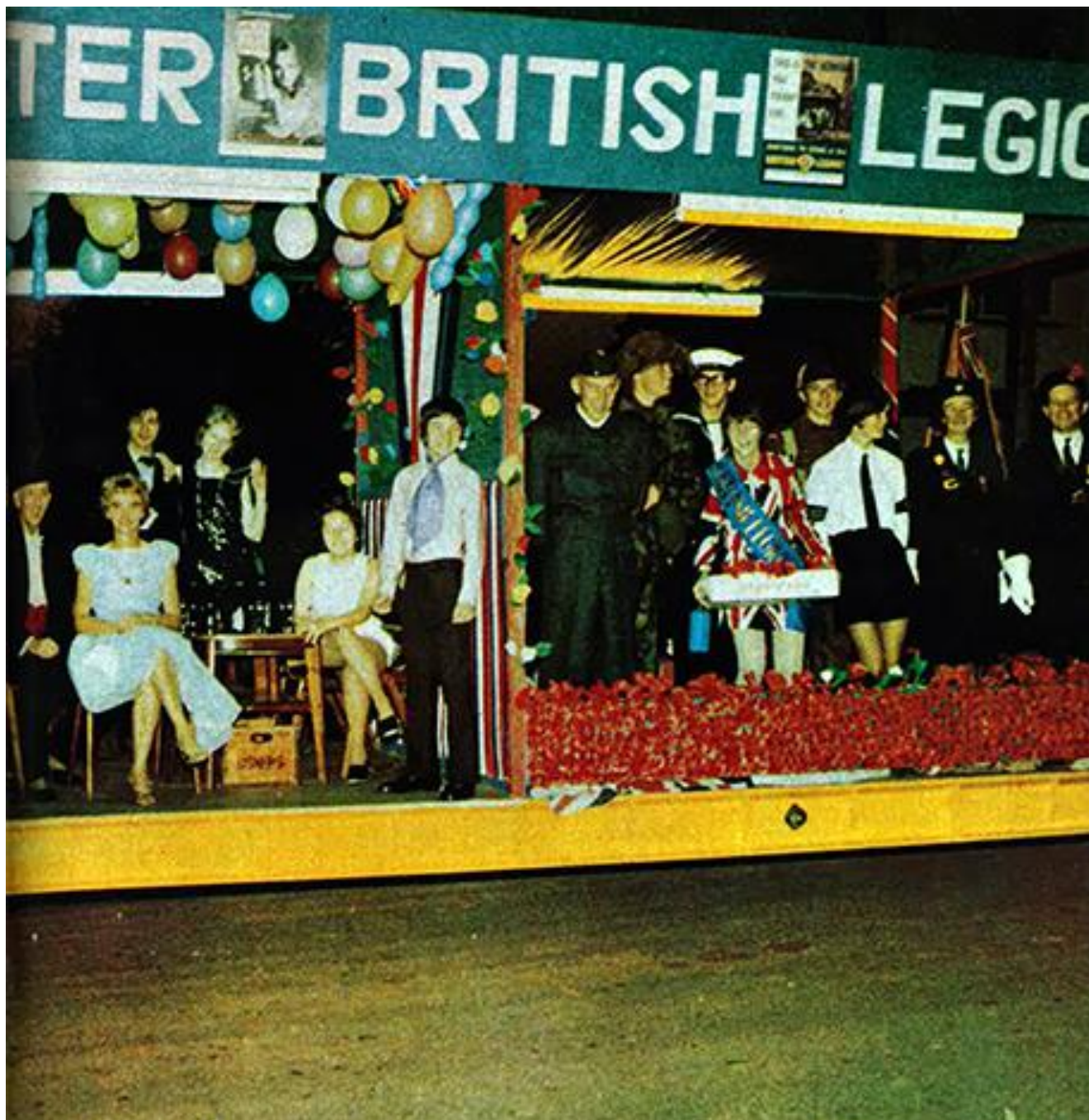


On Saturday 22 April 2023, Dromore Branch of The Royal British Legion hosted a Charity Concert to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III. Guests included the National Vice-Chair and Trustee, Ms Lynda Atkins; the Vice-Chair of the Membership Council, Ms Patsy Wilkinson; the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of County Down, Mr Duncan McCausland and, most importantly, Mr Jim Gibson. He is a very young 100-year-old and a World War Two Veteran who served in the Royal Navy. The Branch raised the princely sum of £4000, which was divided between the Poppy Appeal and Branch Funds.



Anne-Marie Cobley (second from left) was among 100 RBL Standard Bearers who formed a Guard of Honour in Parliament Square as part of the Coronation Procession on Saturday 6 May. She is the third generation in her family to be involved with RBL. She said: "It was such a huge honour and privilege to be there. It's really hard to put into words how I felt. "The best part was seeing all the Royal Family going past. We were the first people to see the newly crowned King and Queen. "It's something I'll never forget. I've got two young granddaughters, so they can look back at this moment in history and say their nanny was there."

Going back in time



From the Royal British Legion Magazine May 1971

Exeter Branch celebrates 50 years of RBL with a float featuring branch, club and Poppy Appeal activities at the local carnival.

This month's poll

Tell us how you marked the occasion of HM King Charles III and Queen Camilla's Coronation

1. I attended the Coronation Concert at Windsor Castle
2. I watched the Coronation service at home with family
3. I watched the Coronation service/Concert at an RBL Branch
4. I celebrated at a local street party
5. I attended the Coronation Big Lunch

6. I attended the Big Help Out
7. Other

[Take the poll](#)

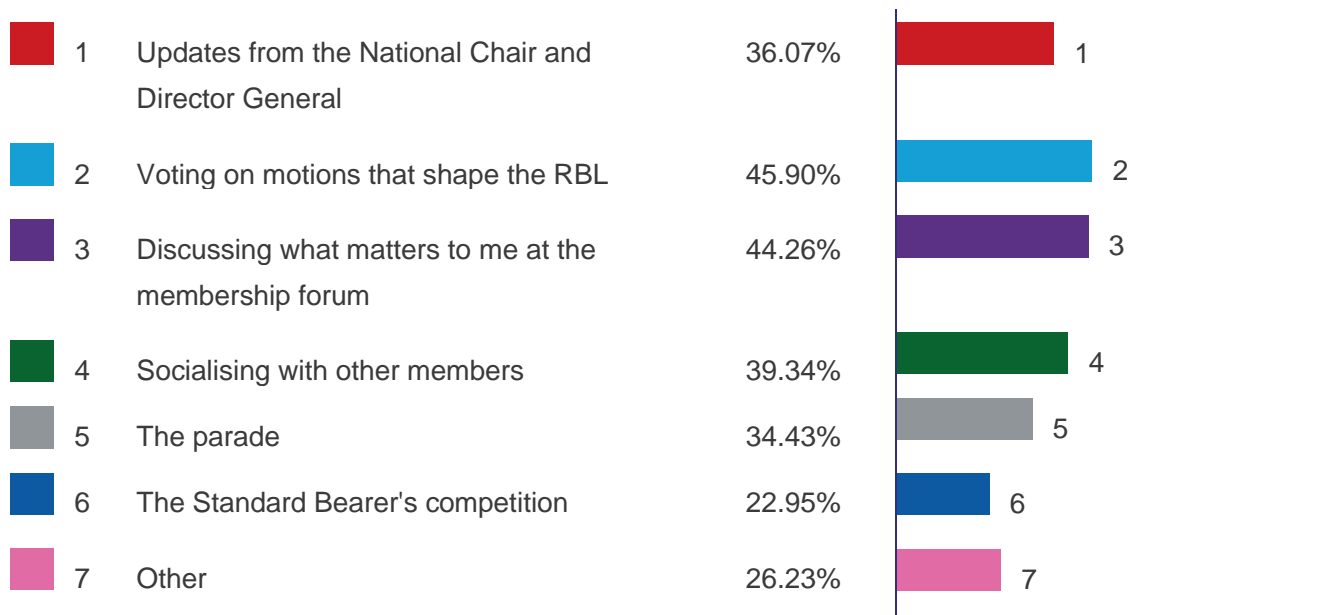
Last month's poll

What are you looking forward to at the Annual Conference in Torquay?

61 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

Best wishes,

Pete Wylie

Communications Channel Manager

Quick links

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Contact

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