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COLLABORATIVE WORKING FOR GREATER IMPACT

Branches join forces with local organisations
to support their communities



DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS TO BENEFIT THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY



SUPPORTING THE VETERANS' FORGE WHEN NEEDED THE MOST

The Dorset County and local Branches have been promoting the Veterans' Forge, a local programme that offers blacksmithing courses to veterans to develop their skills and encourage a positive mental attitude, since its beginning. When in November 2018, there was a break-in and tools were stolen, the County donated £2500 to ensure that the tools are replaced and veterans continue to benefit from this project.



PROMOTING LOCAL INITIATIVES THAT BENEFIT THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY

Since becoming Chairman of the Eastbourne Branch, David Whatley and his team have been supporting local projects that benefit the Armed Forces community, including the local Veterans' Breakfast Club and the Blue Van project both set up by Steve Scudder, another member. More members getting actively involved, has led to increased funds and being awarded the Dacre Tankard for growing their membership.

[Read the story >](#)



WORKING WITH THE LOCAL SCOUTS AND SCHOOLS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

Aiming to keep the younger generation engaged, the Byfield & District Branch are working closely with the local Scout Group and schools. This includes inviting the Scouts to take part in Remembrance activities but their collaboration goes beyond the month of November as the branch are organising events in partnership with the Scouts throughout the year and are supporting their expeditions.

[Read the story >](#)



Photo credit: © IWM (IND 7046)

[Read the story >](#)



PRESERVING THE LOCAL WW1 HERITAGE FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

Brian Ives, the Shotley, Er Barton & District Branch Chairman along with other Branch members volunteered to support a CWGC project aiming to digitise WW1 stories and objects to be added to an online database that could be accessed by the public. Through this project the Branch can reach more people in their community and increase visibility of the branch as well as preserve the local heritage.

[Read the story >](#)

DISRUPTING THE ENEMY

As we are approaching the 80th anniversary of the beginning of the Second World War, we remember all those who fought in WW2 and those who served at Imphal and Kohima. A Special Operations Force known as the 'Chindits' went behind enemy lines in Burma to disrupt enemy supplies and communications. These teams, created by commander Orde Wingate, were made up of specially trained British, Indian and African forces.

[Find out more >](#)

Did you know that...

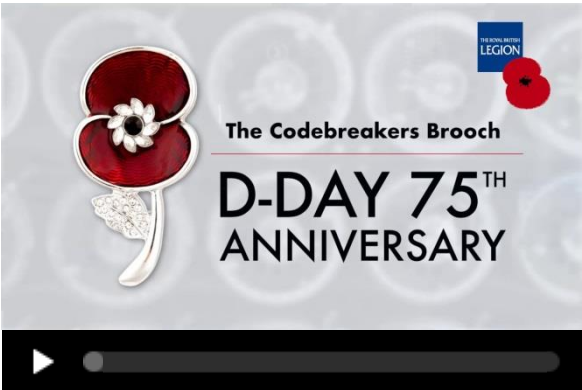


Megan became a carer for her partner Joe, an ex-service man, at just 25. Megan is still coming to terms with the challenges they are facing. But thanks to the Legion and the Invictus Games, the [couple have found a vital support network](#).



We are excited to launch a partnership with Girlguiding with a co-branded [cloth badge and a metal pin badge](#). All profits from the sales of these collaborative products will benefit the Legion services and Girlguiding members.

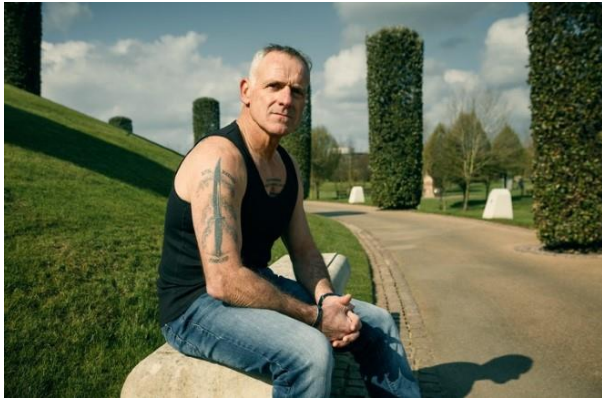
Celebrating the incredible work of the Signal Intelligence Service



Inspired by the rotors of the Enigma machines from which Allied cryptologists successfully decrypted a vast number of enemy messages during WW2, the Poppy Shop's Codebreakers brooch is an extraordinary tribute to the work of those in signal intelligence. Each elegant brooch comes with a certificate to remember one of the 13,000 men and women on the Bletchley Park Roll of Honour and is presented in a keepsake box.

[Shop the Codebreakers brooch >](#)

Use the discount code **MEMBER15** to get 15% off



TRIBUTE INK AT THE NMA FROM 13 SEPTEMBER - 1 DECEMBER 2019

Tribute Ink is a photography exhibition and immersive online experience that looks at tattoos in the Armed Forces, and how they have become central to Remembrance and commemoration. The exhibition will showcase the tattoos of the men and women of our Armed Forces and the unique stories behind them. Get involved with the project by submitting your tattoos and telling us what they mean to you.

[Find out more >](#)



HELPING THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY TO BUILD CONNECTIONS

After 14 years of service Matt was diagnosed with PTSD. Following his diagnosis he discovered the Legion's Bravo 22 arts programme which helps the Armed Forces community transition into civilian life. Matt, who credits his involvement with Bravo 22 as a turning point in his life, would recommend to anyone to reach out for support and get involved with similar projects.

[Find out more >](#)



JOIN US FOR POPPY RUN 2019

Our 5k runs are taking place at 10 locations across the country during October and November. Choose to run, jog or walk the course – the event is open to all ages and abilities, including four legged friends. With 'My



RUN FOR TEAM LEGION

Are you, or someone you know, a mid range runner? You can take part in a half marathon such as the [Great South Run](#) and the [London Landmarks Half Marathon](#) and help us raise funds for the Armed Forces community. If you

Poppy Run' there is also the option to run 5k in your own time, on your own route, and still raise funds to power veterans' recovery.

[Find out more and sign up >](#)

know someone who is up for a bigger challenge why not ask them to apply for a charity place in the [Virgin Money London Marathon](#).

[Find out more >](#)



CONCERT BY THE CENTRAL BAND OF THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION ON 12 OCTOBER

Join us for a concert at Southwark Cathedral in London and help us raise funds for the Legion. Director of Music Capt. David Cole OBE and the ever-popular Central Band will be showcasing the absolute best of what they can do ranging from big show numbers and music from the films through to jazz and uplifting marches so book your tickets from £10-£35 to enjoy the spectacle.

[Find out more and book tickets >](#)

Going back in time

From The Royal British Legion Magazine September, 1928

Remembering the Great Pilgrimage and Great Pilgrimage 90 - The Archbishop delivering his memorial address to the pilgrims of 1928.



THE ARCHBISHOP DELIVERING HIS MEMORIAL ADDRESS TO THE PILGRIMS.

This month's poll



Which of the following partnerships do you think would benefit your local Armed Forces community?

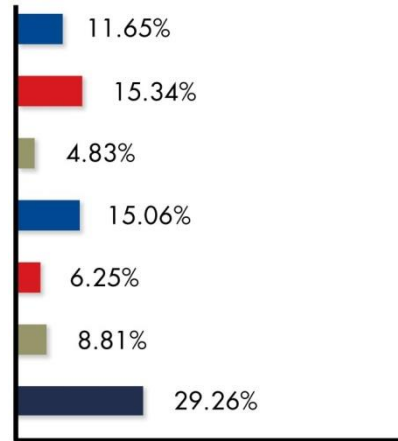
1. Partnering with youth organisations
2. Working with the local council
3. Collaborating with other local Armed Forces organisations/projects
4. Working with other groups or charities not necessarily Armed Forces focused
5. Working with local businesses to sponsor branch activities
6. Other

[Take part in the poll >](#)

Last month's poll

How did you decide to join the Legion as a member? (Top results below)

1. A family member talked to me about the Legion membership - 11.65%
2. A friend/colleague introduced me to the Legion - 15.34%
3. Members of a branch, I did not know before, informed me about the Legion membership at an event/ gathering/ activity - 4.83%
4. It was through a military briefing that I found out about the Legion membership - 15.06%
5. I found out online including from the website or social media - 6.25%
6. A member of a Legion Club informed me and I joined as a member to join the club - 8.81%
7. Other - 29.26%



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 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 MembershipServices@britishlegion.org.uk

Best wishes,

Dimitra Nikolakopoulou
Membership Communications Officer
membershipcomms@britishlegion.org.uk

FOLLOW THE LEGION



QUICK LINKS

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