

[View the PDF](#)

Problems viewing? [Click to view online](#)

Commemorating VE Day and VJ Day 80 years on



Commemorating VE and VJ Day

This year marks 80 years since Victory in Europe (8th May 1945) and Victory over Japan (15th August 1945). Veterans will be at the heart of national and local events, honouring their service and sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy today. If you are a veteran of the Second World War or have a connection – across the UK, Commonwealth and Allied nations – we'd love to know your story and involve you in commemorative events.

Help us ensure these stories are remembered for generations to come.

[Register your interest](#)



Annual Conference 2025

This May, join fellow members for an exciting Annual Conference weekend in Harrogate. Watch or take part in the motions debate, hear from guest speakers, and learn how we are planning for the future.

You can meet a range of exhibitors, celebrate the National Awards and, for in person attendees, enjoy an evening of entertainment with the Humberside Police Concert Band.

Conference is open to everyone in person and online. Registration closes March 30th (in person) and April 22nd (online attendance).

[Register online](#)



Fundraising opportunities for 2025

Have you made any New Year's resolutions to be more active or give yourself a new challenge? If so, one of RBL's fundraising events could be just what you're looking for.

Netherlands Liberation Trail: 2nd – 6th May

Poppy Hike: 18th May

Poppy Rides: 29th June and 6th July

Pedal to Paris: 4th – 8th September

Survival Challenge: 27th September – 1st October

[Find out more](#)



Our role in the Armed Forces Commissioner Bill

Angela Kitching, Director of Campaigns, Policy and Research (CPR), has recently represented RBL at [a Parliamentary review](#) of an important law establishing an Armed Forces Commissioner, with broader powers to support the Armed Forces community and their families. Angela explained how the exciting new role could better address issues in the community such as finding housing, and stressed how strong partnerships with devolved administrations, metro mayors, local authorities, and NHS services are key to the role's success. The Bill is moving through Parliament and RBL will make sure our recommendations are heard and considered.

[Watch the Parliamentary review recording](#)



Understanding gambling and its impact on veterans

Swansea University is conducting a study to understand gambling patterns and their impact on veterans. They are interested in speaking with veterans who have been discharged since 2010 who have gambled, especially those who have faced or are currently facing gambling-related challenges. If you are willing to take part, you'll join a one-to-one 45-60 minute Zoom interview and receive a £20 Amazon voucher as a thank-you. By sharing your experience or encouraging others to take part you'll help improve understanding and make a difference for others.

[Book your interview](#)



Lurgan and Brownlow branch recognises veteran's service

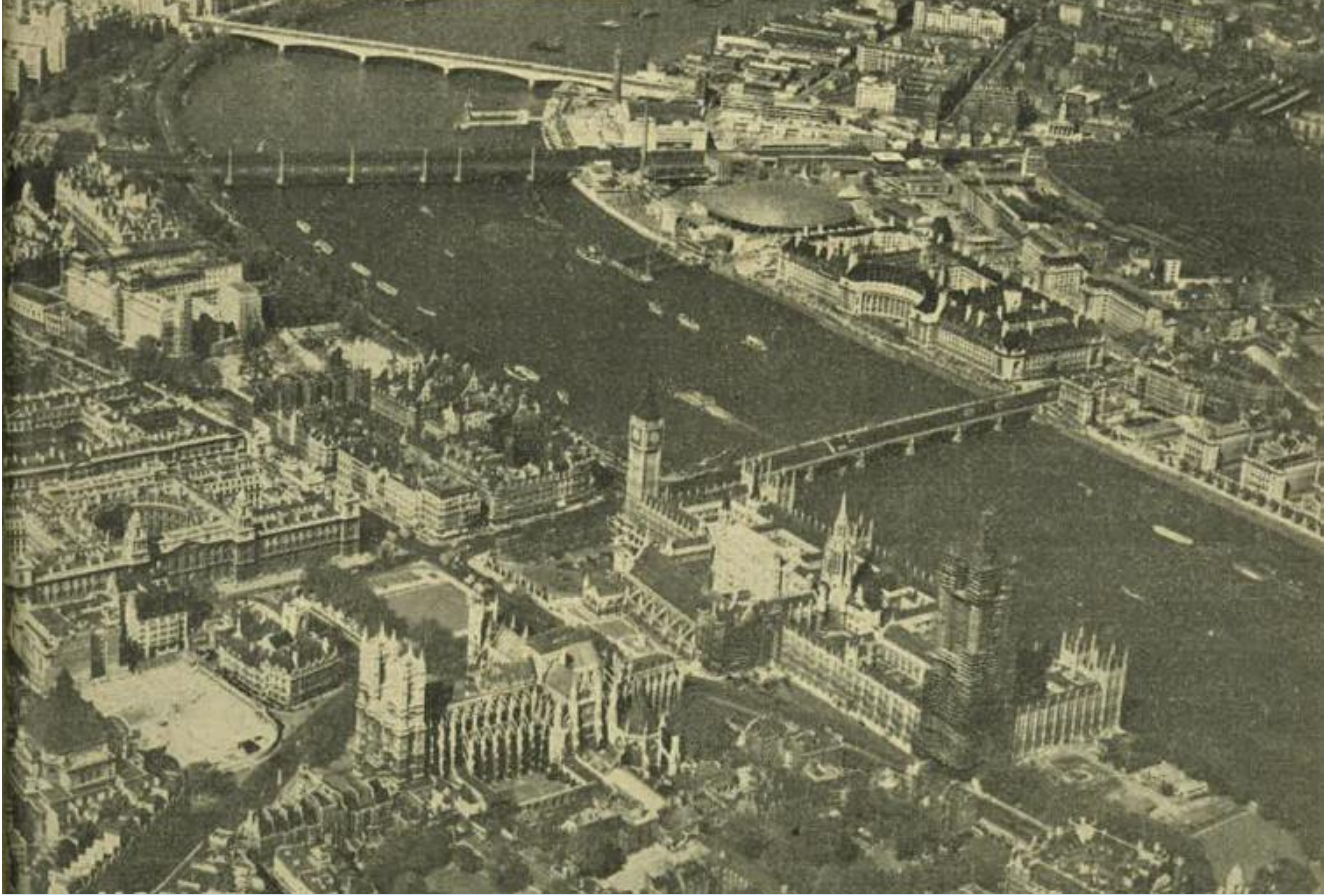
Branch members were joined by Armagh City, Banbridge, and Craigavon Borough Council, the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, and family members in a ceremony to remember Field Marshal Sir John Dill.

Born in Lurgan, Co Armagh in 1881, John was commissioned into the 1st Battalion The Leinster Regiment, saw action in the 2nd Boer War, the First World War (when he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order), and the Second World War where he commanded the 1st British Corps in France. He went on to be Chief of the Imperial General Staff. He is remembered for his role as the head of the British Joint Chiefs of Staff mission to Washington when he was the senior British representative on the Combined British and US Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, and Winston Churchill's personal military representative in Washington.

His funeral was held on Wednesday 8th November 1944 in Washington National Cathedral with this ceremony at Lurgan War Memorial remembering his remarkable achievements and service 80 years on.



Going back in time



From the Royal British Legion Magazine January 1957

Business as usual at our Taxi School

Pupils learning their London the hard way - on bicycles due to petrol rationing. They had to know thousands of streets, alleys, courts and squares to pass the New Scotland Yard examination, and then cycle hundreds of miles to complete their year's training. This was part of RBL's '[Supporting Veterans Into Work](#)' scheme.

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 you want to update your contact details, email our Membership Services team MembershipServices@britishlegion.org.uk

Quick links

[Membership](#)

[Get support](#)

[Poppy Shop](#)

Contact

Royal British Legion
Haig House
199 Borough High Street
London SE1 1AA

MembershipServices@britishlegion.org.uk



Copyright © 2025 Royal British Legion. All rights reserved.

Royal British Legion, Haig House, 199 Borough High Street, London SE1 1AA | Registered Charity No 219279

The Royal British Legion is the UK's leading Service charity. We provide practical care, advice and support to serving members of the Armed Forces, veterans of all ages and their families.

We value your feedback, [please tell us how we did](#).

If you do not wish to receive any further information by e-mail of selected products and services from the Royal British Legion you can [unsubscribe here](#).