

BAKEWELL BRANCH RBL CENTENARY SATURDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER



This year, 2021 marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Royal British Legion. On the 15th May 1921, on a wet and dreary Sunday morning, a small number of ex-servicemen walked to the new Cenotaph war memorial in Whitehall, London.

As Big Ben struck 0900, 4 men, representing different societies that had been rivals for the 3 years since the ending of hostilities of WW1, laid a wreath at the base of the new Cenotaph war memorial. On that wreath were the badges of the 4 organisations that would officially amalgamate to form the new British Legion (Later becoming the Royal British Legion)

By Christmas 1921, the ranks of the British Legion had swelled to include 2,500 branches across the U.K and overseas.

These were the groups around which the armed forces community rallied after the 1st World War and they made change happen; fundraising during the Poppy Appeal provided welfare locally, and this became the foundations for what has become the largest Armed Forces charity.

Bakewells own British Legion was founded in November 1921 and this year marks our centenary year. We cannot commemorate the day in November as we have our annual Remembrance Parade and Poppy appeals to occupy our time. This year, on **Saturday 11th September, we will commemorate our founding, in an event to be held on the Rutland Recreation Ground in Bakewell. Commencing from 09:00 and with a short service at 10:00**

Parking (paid): a) A6 Agricultural Business Centre b) A619 Smiths Island and c) in the town centre.
Children's Entertainment, Activities, Local Bands, Military Bands
Food and Drinks Marquees, Vintage and Veteran Vehicles, Choral Challenge
from local Churches, Activities for the young and old alike. Motorcycles
10am, Service with Canon Tony and Standard Bearers and Wreath laying. All welcome.

At 12midday, **Mr Charles Hanson (of Bargain Hunt, Antiques Road show etc)** will be with us, with colleagues, doing valuations so **bring along an item** for Mr Hanson to evaluate. At approx 2pm, Mr Hanson will hold a short auction and this will include tickets for a Bargain Hunt programme.

Further information from Mark or Sharon at the Bakewell Pet Supplies on Water Street, or from the Bakewell Poppy Shop (in the Granby Arcade) or email the branch chairman/Standard Bearer, Andy Howard, for more details, andyhhoward@hotmail.com or any committee member.