

## Become a Royal British Legion Branch Community Supporter today

Join us in supporting the Armed Forces community





Social isolation and loneliness do not discriminate. They can affect anyone: whether you are young or old, living in the remotest countryside or the busiest towns. The impact on mental and physical health can be profound.

Our experience of working with the Armed Forces community tells us that this group is at least as susceptible to loneliness as the UK population, and the transient lifestyle of the military and an ageing population can exacerbate this.

Through home or hospital visits, or by being a telephone buddy, you can help. Your support could become a lifeline to someone.

## What is Branch Community Support (BCS)?

Branch Community Support is a network of RBL members who provide company to those living with social isolation and loneliness.

**Telephone Buddies:** a regular phone call with someone in the community which can improve wellbeing.

Home & Hospital Visits: the opportunity to talk, to support someone, to provide companionship and help our beneficiaries be part of the community again.

Our BCS Supporters are compassionate, flexible, creative, and dedicated members who reinforce the valuable work of branches by reaching the most isolated veterans and their families.





## How it works

- Beneficiaries can reach out to our dedicated Contact Centre, who will support them to connect with their local Membership Team.
- Our BCS Supporters receive training and are matched to a beneficiary who we feel will be a good fit.
- Our local and central teams will be with Branch Community supporters every step of the way. We are here to help the supporter and beneficiary during the matching.
- Our BCS Supporters will be required to use basic computer skills to complete their online training and to tell us how their calls or visits are going.

If this sounds like something you're interested in, get in touch with your local Membership team to start the process, or email us directly at membershipservices@ britishlegion.org.uk to find out more.



The Royal British Legion supports those who serve in the Armed Forces, veterans and their families. We are at the heart of a national network that supports our Armed Forces community through thick and thin – ensuring their unique contribution is never forgotten.

We've been here since 1921.

And we'll be here as long as you need us.

rbl.org.uk