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MEMBERS TAKING THE LEGION FORWARD

How our Members are making a
difference in their communities



BRANCH OFFICERS SUPPORTING THEIR BRANCHES AND COMMUNITIES



TAMZIN SPENCER – HOW A BRANCH CHAIRMAN IS TAKING HER BRANCH FORWARD

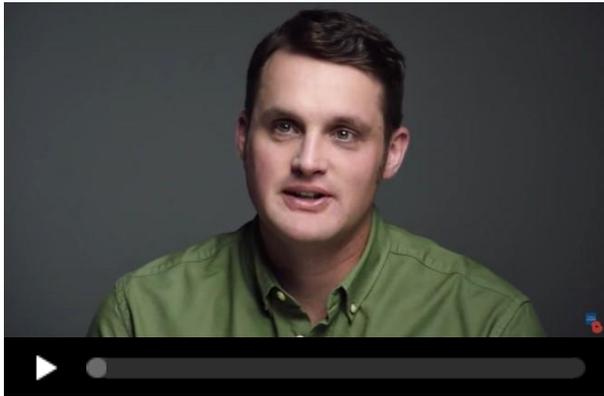
Tamzin Spencer is a young woman who is serving as the Chairman of the Creswell Branch and is one of the many active members who are supporting the Legion and their communities. As the Chairman and with help from her fellow members, Tamzin has managed to organise engaging events, has opened a local touchpoint for members of the Armed Forces community in need and has recruited new members keeping her Branch open.



TRACEY DOYLE – HOW A MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY IS SUPPORTING HER BRANCH AND THE LEGION

Tracey Doyle is the Membership Secretary of the Penryn Branch and has been a member of the Legion for the last 17 years. Being an active member of her community, Tracey plays a vital part in recruiting and welcoming new members while she also supports fundraising activities during the Poppy Appeal. In her current position, Tracey uses social media to keep all members engaged and inform them about upcoming events and Branch activities.

[Read the story >](#)



THEY STILL GO - REBUILDING LIFE AFTER SERVICE

“I couldn’t have coped without having that simple contact and knowing the Legion was there.” Liam, a Legion member, joined the Army in 2002 and he was deployed to Iraq in 2005 and then Afghanistan in 2007. In 2014 Liam was medically discharged and he struggled to adapt to civilian life. It was after being visited by local Legion support staff that he got the support he needed.

[Find out more >](#)



MARKING 20 YEARS SINCE THE LIFTING OF THE LGBT MILITARY BAN

20 years ago the UK Government lifted the ban on gay and bisexual people serving in the

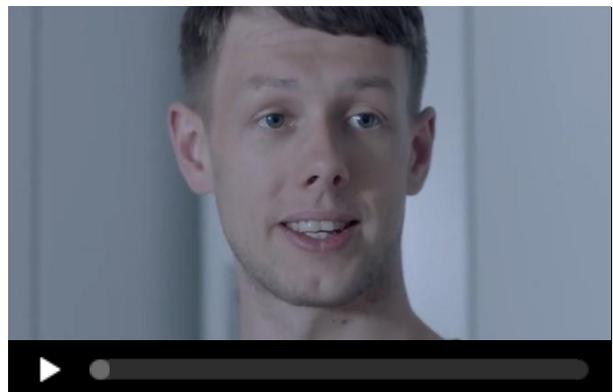
[Read the story >](#)



HOW THE LEGION SUPPORTS THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNITY

We all need help to get through the challenges life throws at us. For those struggling with mental and physical injuries after serving their country, it can be particularly tough. In 2019 we helped ex-serving personnel battle back from injury and mental scars to open new doors through our rehabilitation programmes. In 2020 we'll continue to do so, because our work is ongoing.

[Find out more >](#)



HELPING PEOPLE TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN LIFE

Leaving the Armed Forces can throw up lots of challenges. That's why we provide a range of

Armed Forces. Veteran and member of the LGBTQ+ & Allies Branch, Kate Green reflects on her time in the Royal Military Police where part of her job was to do the very thing she feared most; investigate those suspected of hiding their sexuality from the Army.

[Find out more >](#)

support to help people make a smooth transition to civvy street. Whether you need help with debt and support through grant applications or need advice on how to put your skills to good use to find the best job for you, the Legion is here to help you.

[Find out more >](#)

Did you know that...



The Legion featured in an episode of the BBC 2's Great British Railway Journeys filmed at the Poppy Appeal HQ in Aylesford. In this episode Michael Portillo visited the Aylesford factory and learned about the very beginnings of the Legion and the Poppy Appeal.



In 2020 the Legion will be working with the Jo Cox Foundation encouraging Branches to bring your community together by supporting or organising a local event as part of the Great Get Together. Keep an eye out for the Legion magazine that will include more information.



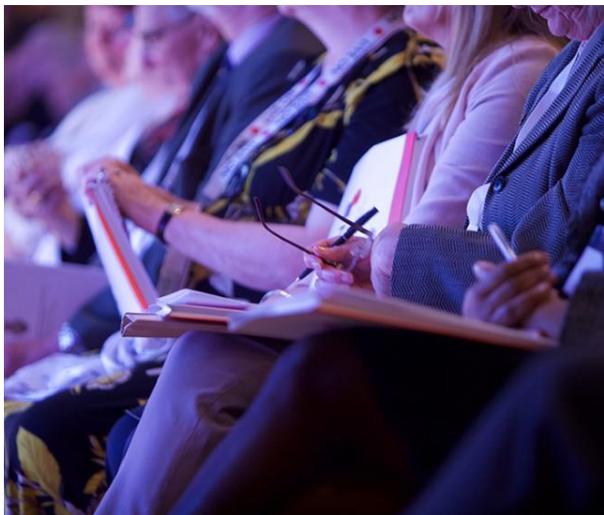
[TRIBUTE INK EXHIBITION ON TOUR](#)



[TAKE PART IN THE WESTERN FRONT TREK](#)

Tattoos tell powerful stories. On Friday 31 Jan, our Tribute Ink exhibition is beginning its national tour at the National Army Museum. Visit it there until 17 April 2020 to discover the compelling stories of comradeship, bravery, sacrifice and Remembrance behind tattoos in our Armed Forces today. Get involved in Tribute Ink by visiting the exhibition or by sharing your own tribute story.

[Find out more >](#)



NEW ROYAL CHARTER AND MEMBERSHIP MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK

After receiving feedback from Members about the Royal Charter and the Membership Handbook, we've worked with Members to review and modernise them. As a result, we are pleased to introduce the new Royal Charter and new Membership Management Handbook. You will find the [Royal Charter on our website](#). The Membership Management Handbook is available to all Branch Officers on [Office 365](#)

[Find out more >](#)

Take part in the Western Front Trek this September, to remember the incredible sacrifices made by all those who fought in WWI and help us raise funds to support today's Armed Forces community. This trek provides a unique perspective as our dedicated historian adds insight and engaging stories as we walk between the prominent battle-sites, before finishing at the iconic Menin Gate in Ypres.

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



NEED TO ATTEND A LEGION TRAINING COURSE IN 2020?

Are you a newly elected Branch Officer in need of training or have you been in your position for a while and need to refresh your knowledge? Attend one of our training courses delivered by our experienced trainers to enrich your skills and network with other Branch Officers. Contact your County Training Officer or Membership Support Officer to find out more about training opportunities in your area.

[Find out more >](#)

How have military life and service changed?

We are looking for older and younger veterans or members of the Armed Forces currently serving who want to share their experiences. We'd like to find younger veterans or someone currently serving and older veterans and ask them the same questions to see the differences in military life and service as the years go by. If you are a Legion member who has served or currently serving and would like to take part, please send an email to Membershipcomms@britishlegion.org.uk with your name, branch and information about your service.

Going back in time

From The Royal British Legion Magazine June, 1967

'H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester graciously opened Galanos House, the Legion's newest Country Home, on May 2nd.'



H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester
at Galanos House

This month's poll



What is the biggest challenge preventing you from taking up a leadership role in your Branch?

1. I don't have enough time
2. I don't think I have the skills or experience
3. I am not an active member of the Branch
4. I don't want to take that responsibility
5. Other

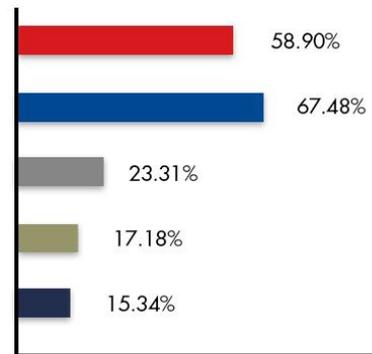
Take part in the poll >

Last month's poll

Which of the following would you like to see more included in upcoming e-newsletters?

163 Participants

- 1. More stories or photos from branch events/activities - 58.90%**
- 2. More information and stories about how the Legion, including branches, helps the Armed Forces community - 67.48%**
- 3. More information about Remembrance - 23.31%**
- 4. More opportunities to submit content - 17.18%**
- 5. Other - 15.34%**



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

Membership

Get support

Poppy Shop

CONTACT US

The Royal British Legion, 199 Borough High St
London SE1 1AA.

membershipcomms@britishlegion.org.uk

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