



What is Remembrance?

Remembrance honours those who serve to defend our democratic freedoms and way of life.

We unite across faiths, cultures and backgrounds to remember the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces community from Britain and the Commonwealth. We will remember them.

- We remember the sacrifice of the Armed Forces community from Britain and the Commonwealth.
- We pay tribute to the special contribution of families and of the emergency services.
- We acknowledge innocent civilians who have lost their lives in conflict and acts of terrorism.

Remembrance does not glorify war and its symbol, the red poppy, is a sign of both Remembrance and hope for a peaceful future.

Wearing a poppy is never compulsory but is greatly appreciated by those who it is intended to support.

When and how you choose to wear a poppy is a reflection of your individual experiences and personal memories.



Remembrance unites people of all faiths, cultures, and backgrounds but it is also deeply personal.

It could mean wearing a poppy in November, before Remembrance Sunday. It could mean joining with others in your community on a commemorative anniversary. Or it could mean taking a moment on your own to pause and reflect.



Everyone is free to remember in their own way, or to choose not to remember at all.

Fields of Remembrance

The Tributes planted in Fields of Remembrance each carry a personal message to someone who lost their life in Service for our country.

Every year the Royal British Legion (RBL) take great care and attention in planting thousands of personal Tributes made by members of the public throughout the UK. They start receiving Tributes for our Fields of Remembrance in September, with the Fields opening in October and November.

Visiting the Fields of Remembrance

Each November, the RBL welcome members of the public from across the UK, to join them and honour the memory of loved ones who we have sadly lost, serving in our Armed Forces.

The Fields of Remembrance are officially opened with a special Remembrance service where we honour the two-minute silence at 11am. A bugler plays the Last Post and the Exhortation is read.



Belfast



Cardiff



Saltwell Park



Lydiard Park



National Memorial Arboretum



Westminster Abbey

Different Colour Poppies

Remembrance Day is the National Day of Memorial to remember and honour all service men and women who fought in the First World War, following/recent wars and the ongoing plight of veterans.

On the eleventh day of the eleventh month at 11am, the nation stops for one minute of silence to commemorate when the armistice was signed between the Allies and Germany that brought the end of WW1.

Wearing a poppy on this day has become a popular tribute tradition that was originally inspired by the fields of poppies that grew where many of the battles were fought.

There has been a rise of different coloured poppies; including white, black, and purple. Each of the four different coloured choices represents a different charity/cause within the sub-genre of paying respects.



The RED poppy



The red poppy is the most famous symbol used to commemorate those who sacrificed their lives in World War One and the wars that followed. The red poppy represents remembrance and hope and is connected to the Royal British Legion – a charity created by veterans of World War One.

The WHITE poppy

The white poppy pays tribute to those who died in conflict, but emphasises an ultimate commitment to achieving peace and challenging the way we look at war.

This one is the hallmark of the Peace Pledge Union.





The **PURPLE** poppy

The purple poppy also known as the “Animal poppy” is a memorial tribute remembering the service and sacrifices of all animals, great and small, that subsequently lost their lives in service; as well as honouring and recognising animals within the armed forces who

bravely serve and work the frontline today.

The **BLACK** poppy

It is most commonly associated with the commemoration of black, African and Caribbean communities’ contribution to the war effort – as servicemen and servicewomen, and as civilians.



In 2022

In 2022 the RBL are remembering and commemorating military and civilian service.

Service, the act of defending and protecting the nation's democratic freedoms and way of life, is rarely without cost for those who serve. Physical, mental or emotional injury or trauma; the absence of time with family; or the pressures and dangers that come from serving, highlight why the Remembrance of service is so important.

This year the RBL are exploring the concept of Service through a variety of anniversaries and events including the **40th anniversary of the Falklands Conflict** and the **78th anniversary of D-Day**, as well as **Commonwealth Day**, **South Asian Heritage Month** and **Black History Month**.





Military and civilian service

From veterans of the Falklands War to those in our emergency services who have worked to protect us throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the RBL commemorate the service of all those in military and civilian services.



The Commonwealth

Men and women from the Commonwealth have served, and continue to serve throughout our Armed Forces and civilian services. The RBL will remember their service throughout our commemorations.

The Commonwealth

The Royal British Legion is committed to remembering the millions from the Commonwealth who have served alongside the British Armed Forces since the First World War, defending the freedoms and ways of life we enjoy today.

Many of Britain's most vibrant communities are of Commonwealth descent, their ancestors having fought for Britain during the Second World War and before.

Armed Forces today

The Armed Forces continue to play a vital role in Britain today, at home and overseas. From peacekeeping and disaster relief, to helping in the fight against COVID-19 the RBL will remember the contribution of those serving in the Armed Forces.

