**The Royal British Legion – Cenotaph Parade Event Information**

On Sunday 11 November, the National Service of Remembrance will be held at the Cenotaph on Whitehall, London.

Starting at 11am, the service will commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women involved in the two World Wars and later conflicts.

This year, with Remembrance Sunday falling on the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, we expect a greater number of people to want to view the ceremony. There will also be an additional event, the Nation’s Thank You procession taking place immediately after The Royal British Legion parade.

**Attending and taking part**

* 08:00: Whitehall opens to the public. The public are advised to arrive early to secure a good view, as space is limited. Please allow time to clear the police security procedures and you are advised not to bring suitcases or large bags.
* 09:00: Royal British Legion (RBL) detachments form up on Horse Guards Parade and in Whitehall.
* 10:00: All detachments march out from Wellington Barracks.
* 11:00: Two minutes silence marked by the firing of guns from King’s Troop on Horse Guards Parade. Cenotaph Service commences.
* 11:25: Cenotaph Service concludes and Royal British Legion detachments disperse past the Cenotaph.
* 12:30: The Nation’s Thank You procession commences
* 13:30: The Nation’s Thank You procession ends

**Spectating**

Only ticket holders will be allowed onto Horse Guards Parade and Whitehall. Any member of the public may watch the National Service of Remembrance, RBL Veterans’ parade and the people’s procession from Whitehall, on a “first come, first served” basis. More details of how to spectate can be found on the [DCMS website](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/remembrance-sunday-2018-find-out-how-you-can-join-the-commemorations-on-sunday-11-november).

**Wreaths**
As part of the event, participants may bring wreaths with them to be laid at the Cenotaph. We ask that participants bring only traditional artificial wreaths. Due to the security precautions around the event, fresh flowers or other tributes will not be allowed into the assembly area. Due to the large number of participants, participants will not be able to lay their wreaths at the Cenotaph directly, but will be able to pass them to a dedicated wreath laying team as they approach the Cenotaph.

**Security**

Due to heightened security measures the Metropolitan Police will need to conduct individual security checks on all participants.

Ticket holders will need to bring with them photographic ID for access to Horse Guards Parade via the manned Police entry points on the day.

If ticket holders do not have access to photographic ID, they may bring with them 2 utility bills (proof of address).

Please see below a list of suitable forms of ID that will be accepted on the day.

**Proof of Identity:**

* Passport
* Photo Driving Licence

**Proof of Address:**

* Bank, Building Society or Credit Union statement (we do not accept statements printed off the internet)
* Current UK non photo driving licence (only if it is not been used as your proof of identification)
* Utility Bill/Utility Statement or Certificate/Letter from a supplier of utilities dated within the last 3 months
* Local authority tax bill/council tax bill for current year
* HM Revenue & Customs (Inland Revenue) tax document
* Benefits or pensions notification letter confirming the right to benefit (only if it has not been used as your proof of identification)

**Proof of Identity for Under 18s only:**

* UK Birth Certificate (under 18s only)
* National Insurance Card (under 18s only)
* Medical Card/Certificate (under 18s only)

**Dress Code**

Participants are advised to speak with their Association and dress as per their ex-Service Association instruction and dress code.

**Dispersal of the Veterans’ Parade**

The Nation’s Thank You procession will allow 10,000 members of the public, selected by random ballot, to join a procession past the Cenotaph, to pay their respects and help express the nations thanks to the generation that served, and those that never returned.

You should be aware that this will impact upon the dispersal of the Veterans’ Parade. **Veterans will not be able to disperse onto Whitehall afterwards**, as the Nation’s Thank You will be making their way down Whitehall. The gates will be closed. Therefore dispersal can only be west, into St. James’ Park.

The Nation’s Thank You procession, which will follow the Veterans’ Parade, will be departing from The Mall, therefore it is likely to also delay the time that veterans can return to their vehicles on North Horse Ride. Crossing points will be staffed. Finally, the vehicle entrance route may change from Marlborough Road but further information will be sent out regarding this in the next email you will receive. Due to these changes we advise associations to allow additional time to travel in and out of London on Remembrance Sunday. Rest assured that we are working closely with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport to ensure a safe and comfortable day for you.

If you have any queries regarding the Cenotaph Parade please contact the Commemorative Events Team by email at cenotaph@britishlegion.org.uk

**Taxi Service for Veterans**

London’s taxis are once again providing a **FREE TAXI** service, operating from **08:00 to 10:00** from various locations with a return for all those going to and from the Remembrance Day Ceremony.

The following points have already been identified as hub pick ups

* Union Jack Club
* Victory Services Club
* Kings Cross (main line)
* Liverpool Street
* Paddington (main line)
* Fenchurch Street
* London Bridge
* Victoria (main line)
* Victoria Coach Station
* Waterloo (main line)
* Euston
* Marylebone

Please note that Poppy Cabs will rank alongside the working rank which is used for all passengers. You should look out for the Poppy Cab logo.

If you have any further questions please Mike Hughes by e-mail (use header **Remembrance Sunday 2018**) to mike@mikehughes.org.uk send an SMS message to **07973 430022** or on Twitter @PoppyCabs