



The Royal British Legion and The Livery Community

Impact Report 2025



Thank You For Your Vital Support

The Royal British Legion is proud to work alongside the Livery community, whose longstanding commitment to remembrance, service and civic responsibility continues to make a meaningful difference to the lives of the Armed Forces community.

On behalf of everyone we support, we would like to offer our sincere thanks to the Livery Companies and the Livery Committee for your generosity, leadership and visible engagement throughout the year. Whether through participation in key moments of remembrance, volunteering during London Poppy Day, or the provision of vital charitable funding, your support has helped ensure that veterans and their families are not left to face hardship alone.

This report reflects the collective impact of your support in 2025, from the City coming together in remembrance, to the practical difference your generosity makes every day for those who have served. It is a testament to what can be achieved when shared values are put into action.

Livery in Action - London Poppy Day

Through the Livery community's collective involvement, from moments of remembrance to practical fundraising, the support has ensured that veterans and their families are never left to face hardship alone.

Together with all London Poppy Day volunteers, the Livery community helped raise £1.4 million during London Poppy Day. Your presence across the capital, selling poppies and engaging with the public, demonstrated the strength of the City coming together in support of remembrance.

A very special thank you to Robert Hughes-Penny, Alderman & Sherriff and Fiona Knight, Master of the Guild of Investment Managers for galvanising the Livery community into volunteering this year. Freeman from the likes of Needlemakers, Wax Chandlers, Drapers, Investment Managers, Chartered Secretaries, Tin Plate Workers, Fruiterers, Musicians, GWD, Basket Makers, Bankers, Engineers, Solicitors, Insurers, GSWD, Carmen, Cooks, Basketmakers, Lightmongers, among others, could be seen throughout City landmarks, selling poppies to the general public in places such as Mansion House, Monument, St Pauls Station and Leadenhall Market.

Alongside London Poppy Day itself, a number of other events across the City helped to mark this important moment of national remembrance. Notably, the Drapers' Company hosted an Armed Forces Engagement Conference on the same day, bringing together representatives from across the Armed Forces and service charity sectors. Together, these activities reflected the shared spirit of reflection, respect and engagement that characterised remembrance across the City.



Standing Together in Remembrance

We were honoured to be invited by the Livery Committee to take part in the City and Livery Garden of Remembrance, which brought together representatives from across the Livery Companies, the Armed Forces community and the wider City to honour service and sacrifice.

The occasion reflected the shared values of the Livery Companies and the Armed Forces community, including remembrance, service and unity, and demonstrated the City's continued commitment to recognising those who have served, past and present. We are grateful to the Livery Committee for their leadership in bringing this moment of collective reflection together and for welcoming the Royal British Legion to take part.



Your Impact: Supporting the Armed Forces Community in 2025

The Royal British Legion exists to ensure that no member of the Armed Forces community faces hardship alone. We are unable to continue this vital work without the generosity and commitment of supporters such as the Livery community.

Every day, lives begin to unravel, sometimes slowly, sometimes suddenly. Injury, trauma, bereavement, financial pressure or caring responsibilities can push veterans and their families to breaking point. Thanks to your support, we are able to step in early, respond quickly, and provide joined-up help that prevents crisis from becoming catastrophe.

In 2023/24, the Royal British Legion responded to 128,268 requests for help, which is an average of 351 calls every day. Behind each call was a real person or family in distress.

Your support helps sustain a holistic network of services, including:


- RBL Caseworkers, providing personalised support and advocacy
- Benefits, Debt and Money Advice, helping families stabilise their finances
- Advocacy and Complex Needs services, supporting veterans facing homelessness, addiction or multiple challenges
- Independent Living Advice, enabling people to remain safely at home
- Recovery programmes, including the Battle Back Centre and Recovery Through the Arts
- Care homes and dementia services, including specialist Admiral Nurses

This breadth of support allows us to respond flexibly, recognising that hardship rarely comes in isolation.

Our impact is both wide-reaching and deeply personal:

- 22,682 grants were distributed, totalling £12.3 million
- 1,109 individuals and families were supported through our Advocacy and Complex Needs services, with around 90% facing multiple, overlapping challenges
- £9.8 million was secured through debt and benefits advice, helping families stabilise their finances
- 1,548 families living with dementia were supported by RBL Admiral Nurses
- 87% of beneficiaries said they would recommend the Royal British Legion, and 91% said their needs were met

Together, these outcomes reflect the strength of a holistic model — one that recognises hardship rarely comes in isolation.



“It all started
when I survived
the Falklands.”

For Colin Waite, Royal Marines Veteran. After serving in the Falklands, Colin Waite, Royal Marines Veteran, lost close friends and narrowly survived life-threatening incidents. The psychological toll of survival followed him into civilian life, where PTSD, relationship breakdown and loss of purpose took hold.

With support from the Royal British Legion, Colin received practical help to make his home safe and manageable, alongside reassurance that he was not facing his challenges alone. Today, he is a passionate advocate for the Legion and living proof that, however suffering starts, the right support can help stop it.

Thank You to Our Supporters

We are deeply grateful to the many Livery Companies who have supported The Royal British Legion with donations and grants in 2025, including:

The Livery Committee

The Worshipful Company of Barbers

The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London

The Worshipful Company of Armourers and Brasiers

Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths

Worshipful Company of Needlemakers

Worshipful Company of Broderers

The Worshipful Company of Clockmakers

The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers

The Salters Company

The Worshipful Company of Farmers

The City of London Solicitors' Company

The Worshipful Company of Arbitrators

Tobacco Pipe Makers & Tobacco Trade Benevolent Fund

The Worshipful Company of Tax Advisers

The Worshipful Company of Builders' Merchants

The Worshipful Company of World Traders

With sincere thanks, we look forward to continuing this important work together.