

LONDON
REMEMBERS
WW1

ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA
SATURDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER



“We want to commemorate the valiant actions of those brave men and women from London at home and abroad in the First World War.”

Colonel Hugh Purcell (Chief Executive GL RFCA)

On Saturday 1 September 2018, GL RFCA marked 'the beginning of the end' of the First World War with a parade, Drumhead Service and youth and community event at the Royal Hospital Chelsea.

Over 200 uniformed personnel from The Band of Royal Yeomanry, HMS PRESIDENT, HMS WILDFIRE, RMR London, The Royal Yeomanry, The Pipes and Drums of the London Scottish, The London Regiment, 600 (City of London) Squadron RAuxAF and the FANY accompanied the Chelsea Pensioners as they exercised their freedom of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. 253 Provost Company RMP assisted the Metropolitan Police with security for the parade route along The Kings Road.

As the parade formed up in the Royal Hospital's Figure Court, those marching joined over 900 invited guests for a Drumhead Service to commemorate the actions of the London Divisions during the final Hundred Days Offensive of the First World War. The Service was taken by Lord Richard Chartres, former Bishop of London, assisted by Reverend Jonathan Jennings.

Following the service, guests made their way across the road to Burton Court where over 500 members of London's uniformed youth organisations were ready to display their skills in a youth and community event.

The youth groups were joined by Livery Companies, civic dignitaries and charities such as the Royal British Legion and Never Such Innocence. Guests and members of the general public were able to visit a series of stands, watch arena displays and view WW1 related videos on a big screen.

The three stages of the day highlighted the intergenerational importance of WW1 commemorations as youth groups interacted with the Chelsea Pensioners, businesses and members of the local community.







“Today we’ve seen a wonderful number of youth organisations in uniform interacting with the Chelsea Pensioners. Seeing how together they’ve talked about their history and experiences has been truly amazing.”

Lieutenant Commander Richard Davies (HMS PRESIDENT)