

Press Release

Date: 23rd June 2021

Isle of Man Post Honours Royal British Legion to Mark 100th Anniversary



*Phil Glover, Carl Underwood, Dawn Quinney, Steve Rodan OBE, James Fenton,
Dougie Porter, Ray Ferguson, Gary Hardman*

Isle of Man Post Office (IOMPO) is delighted to present this stamp issue celebrating 100 years of the Royal British Legion (RBL), the UK's largest charity dedicated to supporting the needs of the Armed Forces, past and present and their families. On our Island, the RBL serves a vital role at the heart of our community, with 10 branches and clubs across the Island.

Formed in the aftermath of the First World War to fight the rights of those who had given so much and come back to so little, the RBL's work has left a deep-rooted legacy for generations to come and it remains dedicated to its mission of creating better futures for all those who serve with the British Armed Forces.

Helpline: (01624) 664664
Email: customer.services@iompost.com

iompost.com

Press Release

Well known for its annual Poppy Appeal, the RBL champions Remembrance and campaigns on behalf of current and former members of the British Armed Forces and their families. Today, the RBL has around 2500 branches across the UK and around the world with more than 235,000 members worldwide.

Ray Ferguson, Chairman Royal British Legion IOM said: *“Isle of Man County Royal British Legion is delighted to have joined with Isle of Man Post Office in the creation of a series of stamps celebrating our centenary. Each stamp represents a key value that has sustained our organisation throughout the past 100 years. Our purpose and commitment remains unchanged since our formation on 15th May 1921 when our beneficiaries needed care after the First World War. Today the needs of the Armed Forces Community are changing, but we still ensure that the support and services they require are available. Our RBL motto of ‘Service not Self’ remains the core driver for our members here on the Isle of Man and across the world wherever RBL Branches exist. We extend our thanks to IOMPO for sharing in our Centenary with the issue of these wonderful stamps that perfectly illustrate the ethos of the Royal British Legion.”*

Sgt Ben Poku has been a volunteer case worker at the RBL for over 13 years, providing essential support for ex-Servicemen and women, and their families. Originally from Ghana, Ben Poku has served in the Army for almost 21 years, first as a Gunner in The Royal Horse Artillery before training to be a nurse with Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps. He is now based at Catterick Garrison and has been working within the local NHS during Covid-19.

Sgt Ben Poku, RBL Volunteer Case Worker, said: *“It’s a real privilege to feature on these special edition stamps to mark the RBL’s Centenary, as we celebrate the charity’s proud heritage and the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces. I love my Volunteering role, it’s very rewarding to see first-hand the impact the work of the charity has on the people it helps. The money raised from the sales of these stamps will help us continue to provide life-long support to the Armed Forces Community, in what is a very poignant year for us.”*

Maxine Cannon, General Manager Isle of Man Stamps & Coins, said: *“We are thankful to the Royal British Legion and the RBL Isle of Man branch for their assistance in producing this landmark issue. This collection is dedicated to all service men and women and all those involved with the Royal British Legion. Their work and support is truly appreciated.”*

The stamps have been designed by Glazier Design in London and will be issued on 26th June 2021. They will be available as Set, Sheet Set, Presentation Pack (limited to 2000), First Day Cover (limited to 3000), an Imperforate Printers Pane and a First Day Cover signed by local veteran James Fenton (limited to 100). For more information visit www.iompost.com/rbl100.

-ENDS-

Press Release

Technical Details

Text: Ray Ferguson, Royal British Legion IOM Branch President and Clemmie Hill, Royal British Legion Marketing Manager

Design: Glazier Design

Printer: Lowe Martin

Process: Offset Lithography

Colours: 4 + 1 PMS Colour and Red Phosphor Taggant

Paper: 110gms PVA gummed

Perforations: 13 per 2cms

Stamp Size: 40mm x 40mm

Format: Sheets of 24

Date of Issue: 26th June 2021

NOTES TO EDITOR

- For images of the stamps, please visit [here](#).
- Attachment 1: Phil Glover, Carl Underwood, Dawn Quinney, Steve Rodan OBE, James Fenton, Ray Ferguson, Gary Hardman (Standard Bearers in the back: Helen Smith & Dougie Porter)
- Attachment 2: Set
- Attachment 3: Press Release Word Document
- **About the Royal British Legion:** The Royal British Legion (RBL) is the UK's largest charity dedicated to supporting the needs of the Armed Forces community, past and present and their families. The RBL is the champion of Remembrance and safeguards the Armed Forces Covenant. It is well known for the annual Poppy Appeal and its emblem the red poppy. For further information, visit rbl.org.uk.
- Facebook: www.facebook.com/OfficialPoppyLegion
- Twitter: [@PoppyLegion](https://twitter.com/PoppyLegion)
- Registered Charity Number: 219279
- **About local veteran James Fenton (featured on ROW stamp):** James Fenton served as a gunner and then as a bombardier with the Royal Artillery in Burma. He is also author of the book 'The Forgotten Army', a book based on extracts of hundreds of letters he sent home to his parents in Lancashire, while serving with the 178 Field Regiment Royal Artillery in India, Burma and Malaysia.
- **About Flt Lt Samuel Randle (featured on EU stamp):** Sam Randle, who is a previous IOMPO employee, has graduated from RAF College Cranwell and is currently based at RAF Benson as a trainee helicopter pilot.
- Get the latest Isle of Man Stamps and Coins news at www.facebook.com/IsleofManStampsandCoins
- Keep up-to-date with the latest news on Twitter: [@IOMstampscoins](https://twitter.com/IOMstampscoins)

Press Release

Issued by Nicole Livingston, PR, Communication and Social Media Executive, Isle of Man Post Office
Tel: 01624 698 471 Email: nicole.livingston@iompost.com

Sales & Marketing

Phone: +44 (0)1624 698 437
Mobile: +44 (0)7624 497 248
Email – Maxine Cannon
maxine.cannon@iompost.com

Customer Services

Phone: +44 (0)1624 698 430
Fax: +44 (0)1624 698 434
Email: stamps@iompost.com

www.iomstamps.com

Office hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm GMT