

# Falklands 40

Dear Gurkha Association

## Falklands 40

In 2022 we mark the 40th anniversary of the end of the Falklands Conflict. The Royal British Legion will be commemorating this important milestone with a special event held at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire on Tuesday 14th June. Falklands 40 will recognise the service of the 30,000 sailors, marines, soldiers, airmen and merchant mariners who served in the Falklands Conflict, along with the many civilians who supported the war effort and remember the sacrifice of those 255 British personnel who lost their lives.

In the afternoon, the Royal British Legion will hold a special, commemorative event centred around the Armed Forces Memorial. This will feature veteran testimonies from key moments in the conflict as well as the Act of Remembrance.

On the morning of the event there will be an opportunity for unit associations to conduct intimate commemorations at their respective memorials within the Arboretum.

### **Attendees/Eligibility**

The Falklands 40 Commemorative Event is open to veterans of the Falklands Conflict and their spouses/partners, as well as members of civilian organisations that supported the Task Force. We will also be inviting representatives from the bereaved families; for more information, please see below.

#### Registration

All applicants will need to register to attend through their respective Ex-Service Associations. We respectfully request that participating Associations promote the event details and importantly, validate that all respective applicants did indeed serve during the Conflict.

If you, the addressee, are not the appropriate point of contact (POC) for your association, please send the correct name and contact details to <a href="mailto:falklands@britishlegion.org.uk">falklands@britishlegion.org.uk</a> so that we can ensure all further communications are sent to the appropriate POC.

#### **Registration Process**

The association POC will be contacted in early February with a link to the RBL Accreditation Portal. All relevant names should then be entered onto the portal, in a similar method to that applied for the annual Cenotaph Dispersal. We ask that all names are submitted before the registration window closes in late April.

E-tickets will be issued to individuals closer to the event.

## **Stories from the Conflict**

As part of our commemorative activity, we plan to share content on our channels from April onwards, culminating in coverage of the 40th anniversary event at the National Memorial Arboretum in June. In addition to this, we are looking for people willing to share their stories in a range of broadcast, print and online media outlets. The RBL's Press Office would be grateful if association POCs could help identify association members who would be willing to share their stories from the conflict. A PR outreach document is attached to this email with more details.

## **Bereaved Families**

The names of 255 British personnel who lost their lives in the Falklands Conflict are inscribed on the Armed Forces Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum. The RBL intent is to appropriately host two representatives of each Bereaved Family to attend the Falklands 40 Commemorative Event. Associations are kindly requested to share the relevant contact details with the RBL as soon as possible via <a href="mailto:falklands@britishlegion.org.uk">falklands@britishlegion.org.uk</a> so that the relevant arrangements can be made.

## Event details (for points of contact to send to their association members)

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The RBL's Falklands 40 is set to be a very special occasion, commemorating the conflict that ended 40 years ago.

Veterans of the Falklands Conflict, their families and participating civilian organisations are invited to attend the event of the 14th of June at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. All those wishing to attend must register through their appropriate association. Registration will open in early February and if you wish to attend please email your association lead.

Doors will open at the NMA from 0900 with the central Act of Remembrance Service taking place at 1330. Further details will be sent out in early February.

#### Click here for the FAQs

If you have any questions about the event or the accreditation process, please do not hesitate to email the event team at <a href="mailto:falklands@britishlegion.org.uk">falklands@britishlegion.org.uk</a>

Best wishes,

The Commemorative Events Team