



'Y' SERVICES  
(GARATS HAY)



June 2020

## ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS CENTENARY

### CENTENARY OF THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS



1920



2020

Congratulations to all our many Royal Corps of Signals members, past and present on the centenary of your Corps. On the 28th June 1920, a Royal Warrant was signed by the Secretary of State for War, the Right Honourable Winston S Churchill, giving the sovereign's approval for the formation of a 'Corps of Signals'. Six weeks later, on the 5th August 1920, His Majesty the King conferred the title 'Royal Corps of Signals'. A new Corps was born within the British Army.

Here's a special bonus message for our Spec Op members.

Activate any link in this newsletter by pressing Ctrl and mouse click to play:

[https://morsecode.world/m/eJyFkYENwCAIBGNZwXEY1xEcUAMPPE2TqIHRkwd8ZM499A69ky1q1h5LNNoSZryDS8of-QyDtsG7Wz-2YVc\\_NsJCHKIGKsTEt1Amd1HTsWHO0SoxbKXlqdmAaqCHWAUMSKLDwl-xmlF9d8\\_wRJ2dAC9QYqc](https://morsecode.world/m/eJyFkYENwCAIBGNZwXEY1xEcUAMPPE2TqIHRkwd8ZM499A69ky1q1h5LNNoSZryDS8of-QyDtsG7Wz-2YVc_NsJCHKIGKsTEt1Amd1HTsWHO0SoxbKXlqdmAaqCHWAUMSKLDwl-xmlF9d8_wRJ2dAC9QYqc)

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**2. Name the Champagne – Results**

You may recall a single item email sent out on 19 May 2020 asking for ideas to name a champagne being specially produced and bottled for the RBL Centenary 2021. The Legion Marketing Department has announced the results of the poll: In total there were 175 responses. [Clearly a topic of huge interest]!

Centurion/Centennial	21.71%
In Victory	20.57%
Champ de Fleurs	8.57%
Cuvée Guerin	1.14%
Reveille	22.29%
Others	25.71%.

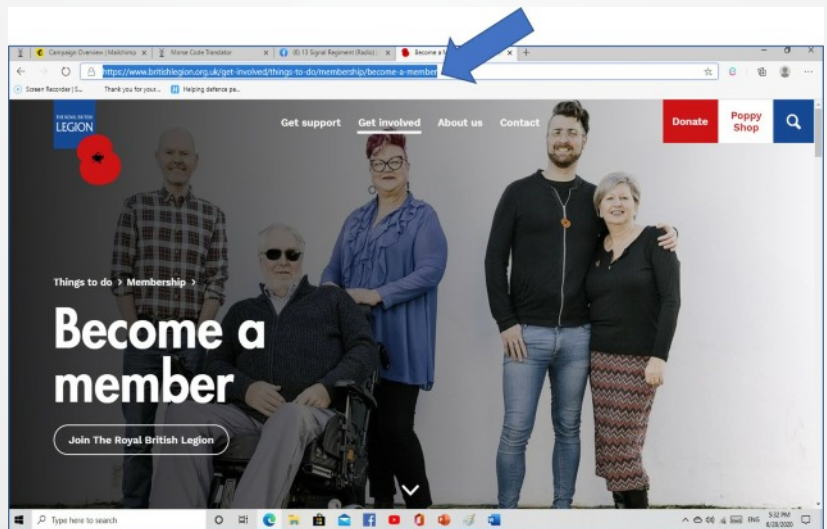


There were a lot of 'other' suggestions about the name as well as some other product suggestions of interest to the marketing team.



**3. Membership**

Our series of riveting facts and figures about our Branch membership ended with the last issue of this Newsletter but our Branch Membership Secretary, Peter Derrick advises that our membership numbers now stand at around 440. Not an exact figure as people leave and join and the total varies



**Membership - Internal Recruiting.**

A long term aim of the Branch is to increase its membership and we frequently post recruiting messages on Facebook (which have resulted in several new sign ups) and encourage all our members please to spread the word that new members are always welcome. Members may not be aware that it is not a requirement to have served in the armed forces in order to be eligible to join and support the work of the RBL. This means that spouses and offspring and friends of current members can also become members. We know that some spouses and a small number of children of members have already joined this Legion Branch and play an active role in its activities. So, if you can you might like to encourage your nearest and dearest as well as your offspring to consider joining the Legion. New members can sign up online at

<https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/things-to-do/membership/become-a-member>





#### 4. Remembrance Special Circular 2020: Covid19 Update from Haig House

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are continually reviewing our event schedule and to ensure better clarity on the situation in November, the Legion will communicate its plans for this year's Remembrance Weekend in early Autumn.

Any changes or updates in the meantime will be communicated via our website and membership communication channels.

Thank you for your continued patience while we navigate new ways of working in these unprecedented times.



#### Festival of Remembrance Membership Ticketing

The Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance is planned to be held in the Royal Albert Hall, London on Saturday 7 November 2020 with performances at 2.00pm and 7.00pm.

The Legion will communicate its full plans for this year's Festival of Remembrance in early Autumn.



#### Standard Bearers

Branch Standard Bearers, including those from overseas, who wish to participate in the Muster at the Festival, should express their interest to their Membership Support Officer.

Standard bearers should note that further details on this year's Festival of Remembrance will be made available in early Autumn.



## 5. Easy Fundraising

We now have 73 supporters and have raised over £1700 since the Branch registered with the scheme. Grateful thanks are extended to all those who have signed up and complete their online purchases via 'easyfundraising'

No apologies for letting you know once again that RBL Y Services (Garats HaY) Branch is registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself!

These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. It's completely FREE and only takes a moment.

You can find our easyfundraising page at

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rblyservices/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_content=gs-e1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/rblyservices/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=gs-e1)

The screenshot shows the easyfundraising website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for 'Search', 'Promote my cause', and 'Account'. The main content area features a dark blue background with the text 'Raise donations wherever you shop online - it's free!' and 'Turn your everyday online shopping into FREE donations - join now it takes 2 minutes'. Below this, it states 'Over £31m raised for good causes through easyfundraising'. A white box on the right displays the 'Support RBL Y Services (Garats HaY) Branch' with a total raised of £1,708.09 and 73 supporters. A 'Support' button is visible at the bottom left of the page.



Keep in touch every day via our Facebook group 'RBL Y Services'  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1253401141501009>





## 6. History Project

Branch Secretary John Swann recently received a request for help from a Dr David Abrutat who is working on an oral history of the Y Services. His request, reproduced here is self explanatory and if you are interested please contact David direct.



### Editorial note:

Contributions to this monthly Branch Newsletter are always welcome on any topics members think will be of general interest. We aim to provide uplifting stories and attempt not to duplicate messages already sent from RBL HQ. Copy should be sent by email to the editor Jim McDermott at [jim.mcdermott77@ntlworld.com](mailto:jim.mcdermott77@ntlworld.com) Preferred format is MS Word and any photos, cartoons or pictures can be submitted in JPEG format.

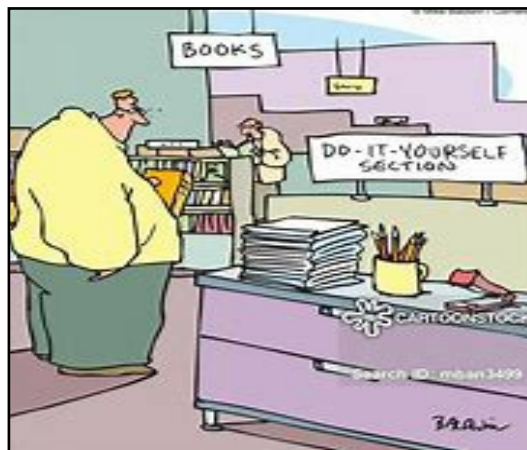
Dear Members of the RBL Y Services Branch,

The contribution of the military Y Services to our National SIGINT effort has often gone unrecognized. I have recently taken on the role as the Departmental Historian at GCHQ and have long been passionate about our social history and in the last two years we've instigated an oral history programme. I am also ex-services and wanted to work closely with the Y Organization RBL branch to help record personal recollections and experiences to help better collate the history of the organization and its sites. Once we are out of lockdown restrictions it would be great to meet some of the Branch members.

If any members would be willing to contribute, I can be contacted at Email [david81418@gchq.gov.uk](mailto:david81418@gchq.gov.uk) or Mobile 07469 377743.

Regards

Dr David Abrutat'



### Technical stuff

This newsletter is originated in MS Word.. Type-set in Serif PagePlusx9 and compiled as a PDF. Using Adobe Acrobat, the PDF is hyperlinked as a button in MailChimp and distributed to all our 400 plus members with an email address Primary layout and hyperlinks are for PCs



## 7. Recipes for the Branch Recipe Book

Following a request in the May issue we have received a number of suggestions some of which are not printable but thank you to those who did contribute.

More recipe ideas please for Karen's suggested Branch Recipe Book to Karen at: [karenliz.brutnell@gmail.com](mailto:karenliz.brutnell@gmail.com)

### Corn Beef – Several Ways.

- Corn beef on its own – Open the tin and eat it.
- Corn beef with beans – open the corn beef tin, open the tin of beans and eat cold or heat the beans.
- Corn beef fritters – Place the corn beef tin in the fridge for an hour. Open the corn beef tin. Slice the corned beef. Dip slices in a batter mix. Deep fry. Serve with beans, chips, fried egg and optional slices of bread and butter (other spreads are available)
- Corn beef salad – Slices of corned beef served with lettuce, tomatoes, celery, cucumber etc (healthy option)
- Corn beef hash (Serves: 4) The recipe for this has been held over for the July issue.

### My Corn Beef Story

Once upon a time during a long weekend at Garats Hay in the late 1960s I was part of the guard/fire picquet. Most sensible folk had gone home. The 'supper' had been collected from the cook-house and consisted of two tins of corn beef, a loaf of bread, butter and a tray of salad. The orderly office visited, it was raining and he was wearing a long raincoat with large pockets. He had a mooch around, in an orderly officer sort of way, then departed. Later, when it was time to make up the sandwiches the tins of corned beef could not be found despite a thorough search of the guard room, armoury and surrounds (there being no Telly to watch and you can only play cards for so long). Fingers were pointed, accusations made, abuse hurled. Such excitement. The orderly officer was informed. He returned to the guard room, hands thrust deeply into his large raincoat pockets, and listened intently to the tale of the missing tins and the steps taken to recover the missing items. He inspected the guard-room and the sleeping area, the armoury and the fire hydrant on the front porch and departed. It was still raining. A few minutes later, a cry came from the sleeping area; the tins of corned beef had been found on one of the beds; how had we missed them? What magic had the orderly officer (a bull necked WO2 who spent a lot of time in the gym) conjured up? The mystery was never solved but we enjoyed the corned beef.



**Jim McDermott**

### No flour Peanut Butter biscuits (or Cookies)

This is a really easy recipe and was discovered at the height of the Covid19 lockdown when there was no flour (or even toilet rolls) to be had. The recipe is by Milli Taylor (a chef) and was spotted in The Sunday Times magazine:

#### Ingredients

- 1 medium egg
- 100g castor sugar
- 200g peanut butter
- 30g chopped chocolate (optional)



#### Method

- Heat oven to 180C (200c non fan)
- Beat the egg and sugar in a bowl
- Add the peanut butter and beat until the mixture thickens.
- Add the chocolate (if required)
- Shape into balls about 30g each and press flat with a fork dipped in
- Sugar so it doesn't stick
- Bake for 14 minutes on baking parchment.
- Leave to cool before moving to a cooling rack
- And then straight into your mouth. Yum!