

## **Op Banner 50 FAQs**

### **Who is eligible to apply to attend the event?**

Recipients of the General Service Medal (Northern Ireland) and those who served in a civilian service in support of Operation Banner are eligible to apply to attend the event with a guest.

Two representatives from families of British Armed Forces and Civilian service personnel killed as a result of operations in Northern Ireland or paramilitary actions in other countries will be eligible and welcome to register their interest in attending the event.

### **How will eligibility for ex-serving individuals be verified? Will I need to produce proof of service?**

To attend, individuals must have been awarded the GSM (NI)

Basic details of service will be required upon application to provide an additional level of eligibility. Details of service will be shared with your relevant Corps, Regimental or Service Association you served with in Northern Ireland. A full privacy notice will be available for agreement before submission of details via the accreditation site.

### **I am currently serving and hold the GSM (NI). Can I attend?**

If you are still serving and hold the GSM (NI) you are eligible to attend.

Please note that currently serving personnel wishing to attend the Op Banner commemorations, have permission to do so in uniform. However, this would not be a duty day, so serving personnel would be required to take a day's leave and fund their own travel if they wished to participate.

### **Will representatives of civilian and emergency services including An Garda Siochana be eligible to attend? (eg ROI Civilian Services)**

Yes. During The Troubles, there was significant cooperation between HMG & ROI security forces. It is appropriate therefore that cooperation is reflected in this ceremony. Those on duty during The Troubles will therefore be eligible to attend.

Details of service will be shared with your relevant Civilian Service you served with in Northern Ireland. A full privacy notice will be available for agreement before submission of details via the accreditation site.

### **How will the two representatives from families of British Armed Forces and civilian service personnel killed as a result of operations in Northern Ireland or paramilitary actions in other countries be selected?**

The Legion will work with the appropriate agencies including Widows Associations to enable their attendance. Sadly, whilst it is recognised that additional members of individual bereaved families may wish to attend, the primary audience for the ceremony will be those that served during the military operation and attendance priority will reflect that.

Your details will be shared with your relevant War Widows Association. A full privacy notice will be available for agreement before submission of details via the accreditation site.

### **Carer and Assistance**

You will be able to confirm your carer's attendance by adding their details on the registration form. Please note this will **not** be in addition to your guest.

### **Accessibility and Mobility**

Please note that the National Memorial Arboretum only have limited number of scooters and we ask therefore to make your own arrangements regarding mobility support, scooters and wheelchairs. Please be assured steps will be taken to ensure the venue is accessible

### **GDPR**

At The Royal British Legion we take your privacy seriously and we will only use the information you have provided on this form to process your accreditation for the Op Banner 50 event.

We will use the contact details you have provided in order for us to issue you your electronic entrance ticket via email. Please ensure your email is correct.

As part of the accreditation and security process, we will share your personal information with the below:

- *Serving and Ex Serving*

Your relevant corps, regimental or service association you served with in Northern Ireland

- *Civilian Service*

Your retired Civilian Service Association you served with in Northern Ireland

- *Bereaved Families*

The War Widows Association

We will hold your personal data for 1 month after the event OR until you withdraw your consent. If you would like to withdraw your consent for the processing of your personal information, please contact [opbanner@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:opbanner@britishlegion.org.uk).

We promise to keep your personal information safe and secure. A full privacy notice will be available for agreement before submission of details via the accreditation site.

### **What is the dress code?**

Day Dress with medals or Lounge Suit with medals

**Will the venue be closed to the general public?**

Yes, the Arboretum will be closed to visitors all day on Wednesday 14 August. Only people with an electronic entrance ticket to the Op banner 50 event can enter the site.

Further information about this closure is available on the [National Memorial Arboretum website](#).