## STATEMENT BY:

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - SWINDON BRANCH

"Stay safe & remember at home"

## **REMEMBRANCE EVENTS 2020**

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the Swindon Branch of the Royal British Legion confirms with deep regret that there will be no formal Remembrance Day parade or church service held at the Swindon Town cenotaph in Regents Street, on Remembrance Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020. It remains entirely a matter for individuals if they wish to lay a personal poppy wreath or cross.

For the first time there will be no service/ex-services or cadets march past taking place, or RBL/other organisations standards carried or on display, so please do not gather in the usual places as nothing is going to happen. There will be no Royal British Legion presence at the Cenotaph on that day or on Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Nov at 1100. Again, it remains entirely a matter for individuals if they wish to lay a personal poppy wreath or crosses on that day.

Despite commemoration events being cancelled this year, members of the public are still requested to observe a 2 minute silence at 1100 on Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Nov.

The Garden of Remembrance at the Cenotaph will be open from Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Oct for the public to lay crosses & wreaths in the 2 weeks leading up to Remembrance Sunday. There will be no formal opening ceremony of the Garden of Remembrance as per previous years.

With events being cancelled this year, Swindon Royal British Legion has decided to produce & publish a short video film depicting key moments and events 75 years ago. The video is dedicated to all those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in all conflicts in recent times. The video will be published on youtube under the title of "Swindon Remembers 2020" Please see Facebook RBL Swindon for further information.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

There will be no formal poppy appeal in Swindon this year due to the Coronavirus epidemic and also because the Swindon Royal British Legion has no premises to operate from since the Pop in Centre closed last Dec.

If members of the public want to buy poppies, we are led to believe that some of the major supermarkets in Swindon will acquire stock direct from the RBL. You can also order your own direct from the RBL website.

If anyone wants to order wreaths this year, these can be ordered from the Swindon Poppy Appeal Organiser emailing: <a href="mailto:april.porter@sky.com">april.porter@sky.com</a> or tel: 01793 618748

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Swindon Branch Committee

