

14:28 (0 minutes ago)

**Year ending 31 October 2025**

**The Newton Mearns and District Branch of**

**The Royal British Legion Scotland**

**BRANCH ACCOUNTS**

**Charity No: SC 028986**

**Trustees' Annual Report**

**Year ended 31 October 2025**

**Reference and Administrative information**

**Charity Name**     The Newton Mearns & District Branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland

**Charity Registration No**     SC 028986

**Contact Address**             Mr C Stringer

[22 Sunnyside Drive](#)

[Clarkston](#)

[G76 7PU](#)

**Trustees**

Charles Stringer- Chairman/Secretary appointed 11 May 2017

Leslie Clark - Vice-chairman appointed 11th May 2017

Murdo Mackenzie - Treasurer 11th May 2017

George Stewart - Welfare Officer 16th Jan 2023

**Bankers**                     Bank of [Scotland](#)

[244 Ayr Road](#)

[Newton Mearns](#)

Glasgow

G77 5AA

**Investment Manager** Evelyn

[47 Bothwell Street](#)

[Glasgow](#)

[G2 7ER](#)

**Chairman's Report:**

Fellow Legionnaires,

Welcome to this AGM of 2025 I do hope you and yours are well and coping with the new challenges.

In the Best Kept War Memorial Competition 2025 our Newton Mearns War Memorial gained a Highly Commended Award this was due a joint effort from Carol and her team at Eastwood Council Parks and Gardens and committee members especially George Stewart.

Remembrance 2024 saw the branch thankfully parade and take part in the march to the Cenotaph with a small turn out including a large contingent from Scouts but was a worthy tribute to the fallen. Salute was taken by Depute Lord Lieutenant Rev A Sorensen, service lead by Padre Lt Col A Bennett.

I would like to thank the Branch Executive for their support over the last year and especially our Welfare Officer and Treasurer for their excellent contribution to our Branch. They have put in a lot of work behind the scenes that have benefitted the branch members.

Membership numbers are a major concern. If you are able, please continue to be a supportive member of the branch while reaching out to others to join the legion. With our age profile and membership numbers, the branch must recruit if it is to continue.

Keep well and hope to see you soon at branch meetings and events.

Regards,

Charles Stringer

Chairman

11 December 2025

## **Structure, Governance and Management**

### **Governing Document**

The Branch is established under Rule 16 of the Constitution of the Royal British Legion Scotland (30th January, 2017. Updated: 25th November, 2025.) (the Constitution) and is subject to the control and direction of Glasgow, Ayr, Dumfries and Galloway area (GADG Area) acting under the delegated authority of the National Executive Committee located at the National Headquarters of the Royal British Legion Scotland (the Legion).

### **Recruitment and Appointment of Trustees**

All Officers for the ensuing year (Rule 16.10) are elected from the members of the Branch at the Annual General Meeting. All Officers retire from their elected position at the following Annual General Meeting and are eligible for re-election

### **Organisational Structure**

The Branch is administered by a Branch Committee (Rule 16.5) consisting of the Officers and such additional members as the Branch may consider necessary.

The duty of the Committee is to exercise a controlling oversight over the affairs of the Branch and to carry out any direction given to it by the Branch. In addition to the Annual General Meeting, the Branch shall meet at least three times a year to transact business; one item of business shall be a report by the Treasurer on the state of the Branch fund

### **Risk Management**

The current trustees have identified the major risks to which the charity is exposed due in no small part to the reduced number of members following the closure of the Club in August 2008. The principal risks facing the charity relate to ensuring sufficient interest from a committed nucleus of members to ensure the safeguarding of the charity's financial assets

and organising sufficient interest on an annual basis in response to the objectives of the charity, namely remembrance and benevolence

### **Objectives and Activities**

The Branch exists to further the aims and objects of the Legion as laid down in Rule 3 of the Constitution, which are principally to foster comradeship, remembrance and welfare amongst members of the ex-Service community in Scotland.

### **Membership**

Ordinary		Associate		Life	
2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
20	16	0	4	0	0

### **Welfare**

During the period under review, branch members continued their practice of visiting elderly house-bound members of the branch. The Committee welcomes news of members of the Ex-Service community who might enjoy a visit from a member of the Committee.

### **Financial Review**

During the period under review branch receipts and payments amounted to £33681 (2024: £59363) and £5047 (2024: £4039) respectively, resulting in an increase for the year of £28634 (2024: £55324)

Due to the small number of branch members branch activity has focused on Remembrance, a Christmas Lunch and a Summer activity (this year Waverly trip). Additional details of receipts and payments are to be found in the Notes on page 8 of this annual report

### **Trustee Remuneration**

The Trustees did not receive any remuneration during the year. Trustees were reimbursed for expenses as documented and approved by the members

### **Investment policy and Returns**

In June 2015, following the sale of the former branch premises, the branch invested £400,000 with Smith and Williamson, an investment manager based in London and with offices in Glasgow. It has been agreed with the investment managers that available funds will be invested in a diversified mix of bonds and equities with a view to maintaining a low level

of volatility and providing sufficient income to cover the expected annual costs of branch activities.

Investments are made in a diversified range of bonds, equities and specialist alternative investments aimed at maintaining a low level of volatility with a view to providing both the opportunity for capital growth and a regular income sufficient to support an acceptable level of annual expenditure by the branch

These funds are now invested with Evelyn Partners in Glasgow, as at 31 October 2025, the total value of the portfolio stood at £459763 (2024: £426082).

The increase in the value of the portfolio by some £33681 over the 12 month reporting period may at first glance appear very good but is effected in part by the decision of the trustees to liquidate £250000 to purchase a property in Newton Mearns for occupation by a veteran family, due to high property value in area this has still to be completed. Investments are always affected by world events and will be subject to fluctuations.

**Signed on behalf of the Trustees**

Charles Stringer – C