

ARMISTICE AND ARMED FORCES COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME

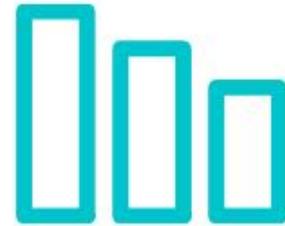


**ARMED FORCES
COVENANT
FUND TRUST**



ARMISTICE AND ARMED FORCES COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME

**2,773 awards across
the United Kingdom**



**982 awards had a
particular focus on young
people**

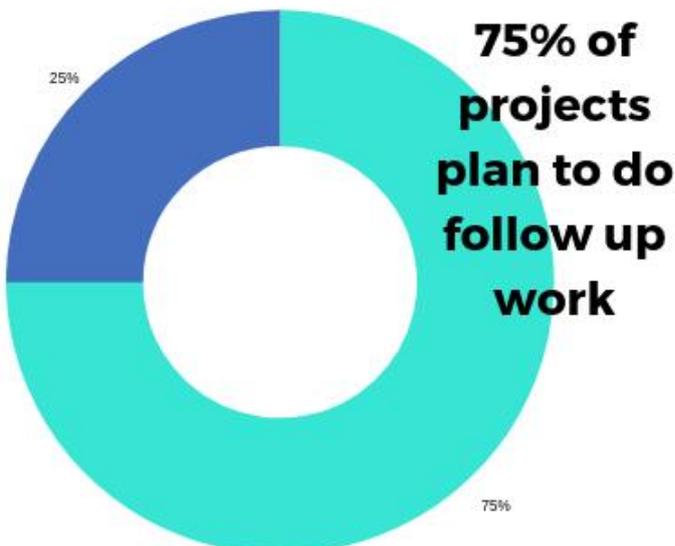
69%

of projects said that the events
brought communities
together more than they were
expecting



260 people
attended each
event

this is the median average



**Projects had to
hold a
community event
as part of their
award**

This programme aimed to help foster good relationships between Armed Forces and Civilian communities.

We are delighted at the reach and impact of this grant programme, which was able to make 2,773 awards across the country. This was the first programme that we have delivered in full at the Armed Forces Covenant Trust;

The communities that took part in the projects we supported told us that they strongly felt that their events had helped local communities to think about the Armed Forces today, and 75% of award holders are intending on doing more projects in future.

Projects helped to bring people together by thinking about local heritage, and it is heartening how much intergenerational work was carried out through events supported by this programme.



Melloney Poole

Chief Executive, Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust

“For myself, as a co-organiser, although having been a long time service dependent as both a child and wife, I was extremely heartened and very impressed by the enthusiasm of the children from the local school.”



Nettlestone and Seaview Community Partnership, Isle of Wight

This programme aimed to bring communities together, to think about the Armistice, and importantly, to think about Armed Forces Communities today.

In 2018, communities across the United Kingdom were thinking about the centenary of the end of World War One and how they can commemorate and bring people together. Through this award scheme we helped communities to access silhouettes that brought to mind those who went to war and did not return. These silhouettes helped to bring a communities together through events, to remember, and to think about the Armed Forces Community today.

Awards were made to community organisation who needed help to obtain silhouettes. As part of the award, the recipient organisation needed to hold a self-funded event to bring the local community together. By providing in kind support, the programme was able to reach organisations that would not be eligible for support under the popular Armed Forces Covenant Local Grants Programme. This included community organisations that did not hold a charitable registration.

The types of organisations that could access support through the programme was deliberately drawn wide. Eligible organisations included charities, schools, places of worship, Armed Forces Units and a wide range of Community Organisations that held a constitution, or governing document.

2,773 organisations received support through this programme. 537 of these awards went to organisations which would not have been eligible to apply to other grant programmes available through the Covenant Fund. This group of community organisations included Places of Worship and community buildings that did not have a charitable registration, and a small number of pubs.

The largest group of organisations supported were charities, with 789 organisations receiving support. Faith groups, civic and community charities and Armed Forces charities were the largest groups of charities that received awards

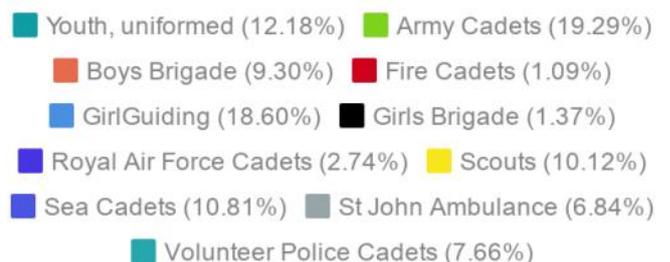
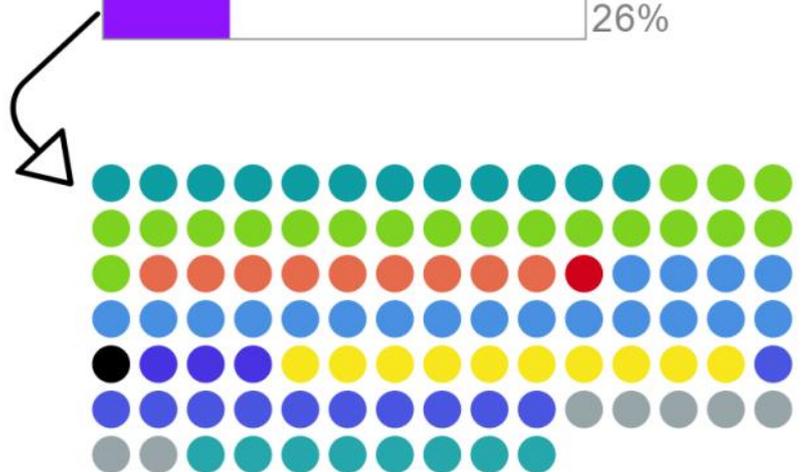
731 awards went to uniformed youth organisations through a dedicated round in which the Youth United Foundation supported uniformed youth organisations to apply.

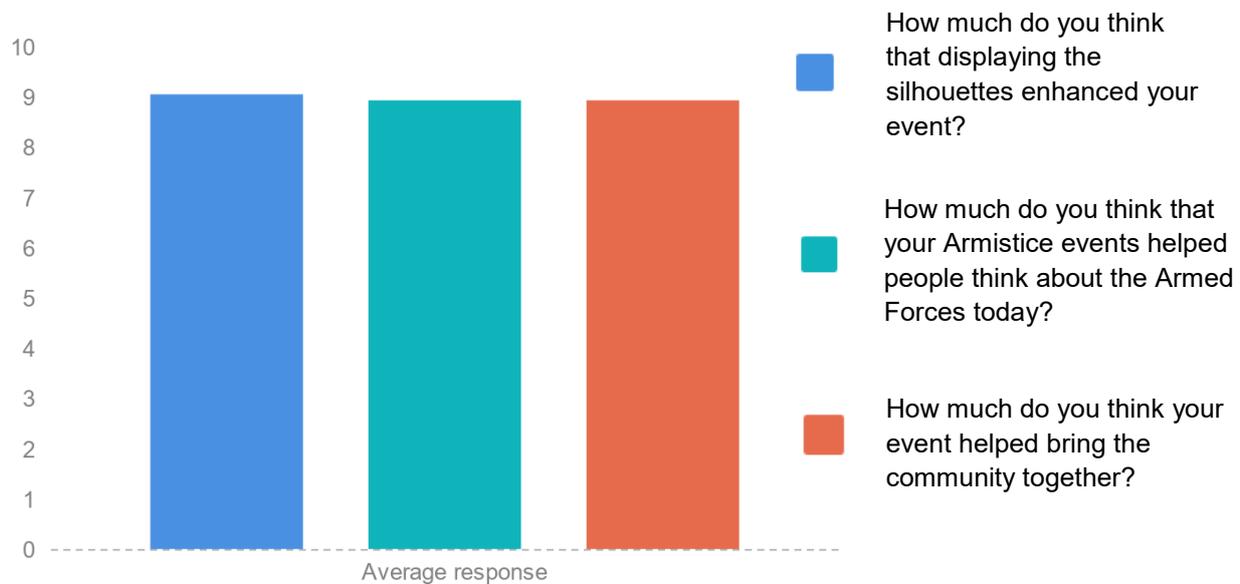
69%

of projects said that the events brought communities together **more than they were expecting**

2,773

Organisations received an award





Projects were asked to think about the difference that their events had, and mark on a scale of 10. There was an average score of 9.05 out of 10, when asked to consider the impact that the silhouettes had on their events. A number of projects reported that the silhouettes had provided a focus, and a talking point that was used as a tool to encourage wider community participation. Projects were also asked to consider the extent to which their events helped people to think about the Armed Forces Community today. This scored an average of 8.93; with many projects reporting intergenerational engagement between children and veterans, or other forms engagement between Armed Forces and civilian communities.

Thinking about the Armed Forces today

"We made plaques to go on the silhouettes of all the names of people who died in the Brampton area during World War 1 and then did assemblies linking to names of pupils in school. We had representatives from the British Legion, RAF Spadeadam and cadets to talk about people in the forces today"

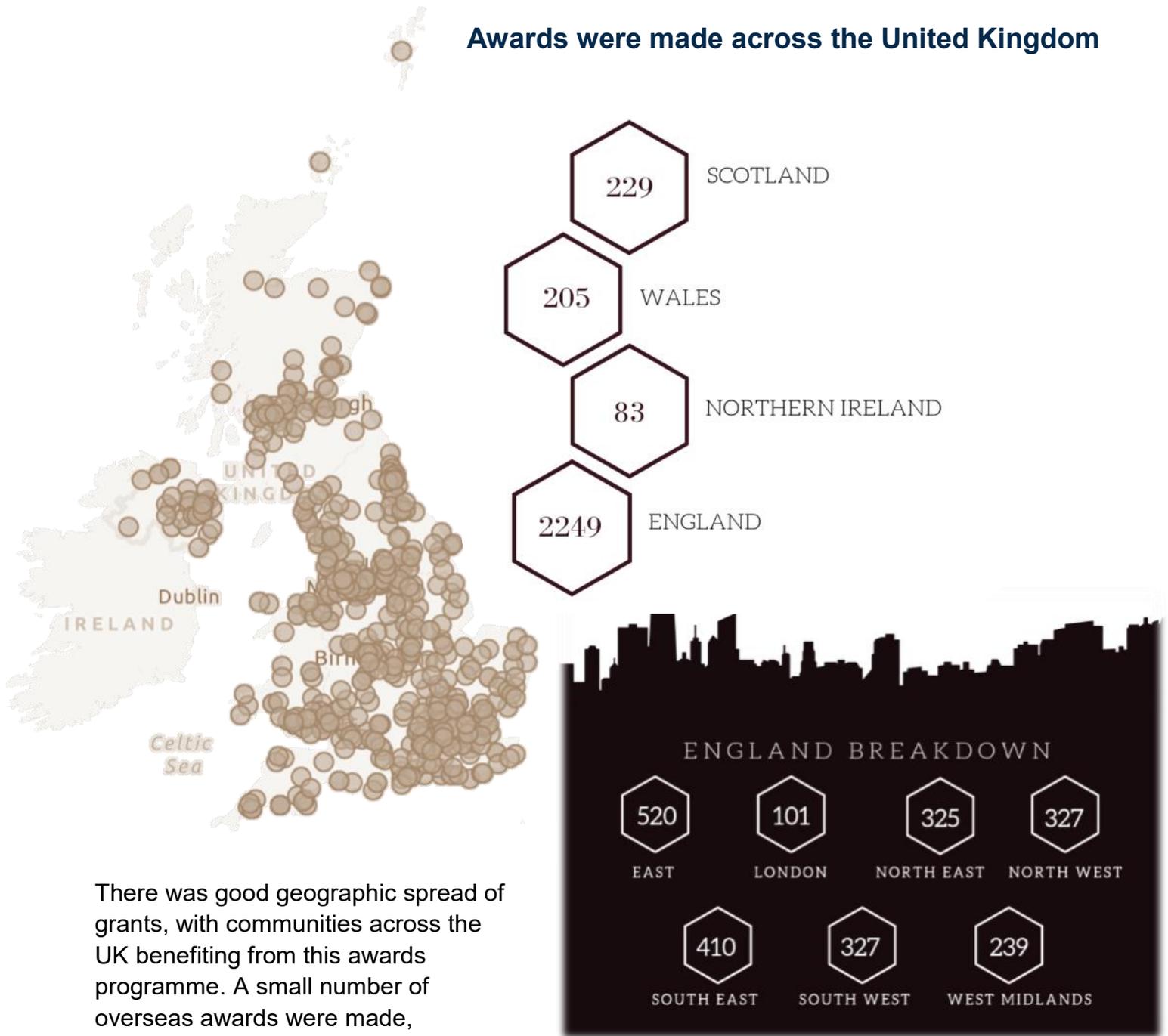
"It highlighted not only the centenary of Armistice but made people think about the work the armed forces have done today and especially in the past in relation to the troubles in Northern Ireland as there were a number of Ulster Defence Regiment soldiers killed at that time. The event honoured all local soldiers from the Magherafelt District.."

"There were many young people and veterans from more recent wars in all the pubs where we displayed silhouettes"

The question regarding the extent to which the events brought communities together also scored highly, with an average score of 8.93. Projects reported that this was higher than expected, with 69% of projects stating that this community engagement was greater than they were expecting, and only 1% stating that it was less than they were expecting. Some projects reported larger attendance at events than they were anticipating.

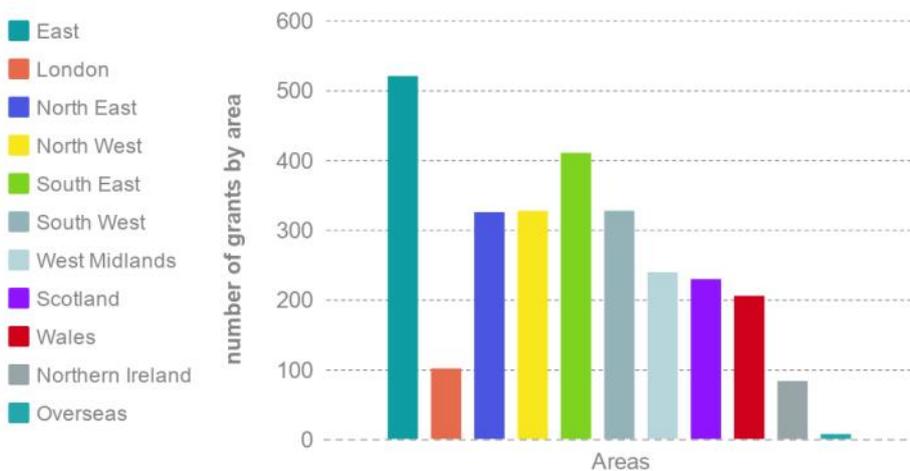
Many community projects sought to involve a range of local organisations in their events such as schools, faith communities, veterans organisations and wider community groups and organisations.

Awards were made across the United Kingdom



There was good geographic spread of grants, with communities across the UK benefiting from this awards programme. A small number of overseas awards were made, generally to British Armed Forces Bases.

Grants across the United Kingdom



"The turn out was double what we might have expected."

Holding a community event formed part of the award agreement. Projects were asked to estimate the number of people in their community which attended their events, as a number of organisations delivered a series of events within their communities, with the silhouettes moving between schools, places of worship and community venues, sometimes being placed in outdoor spaces. For some projects, the silhouettes were a catalyst, as they gave a focus to arrange a community event around. For others, the silhouettes supported work that they had been planning and developing for some time, but provided a mechanism to engage with wider audiences.

Across the projects, the silhouettes were on display at an average of 5.6 locations, but the median number of locations was 2. This is consistent with the profile of the projects. Smaller projects with smaller audiences were more likely to have an event at one venue, though a number held week long periods of activity, incorporating a display period with a community event offering refreshments and a focus for people to come together.

In terms of estimated attendance a wide range of local events were supported from small to large. A very small number of projects reported an audience of more than 10,000. The average audience was 5,487, but the median audience was 260. When projects with an audience of over 10,000 were removed from the data, the average audience was 524.

The perception of engagement among projects which had less than 1,000 attendees was still high, with an average score of 8.87 of 10 when asked to think about the impact that project.

75% of projects indicated that they plan to do more community projects in future. When asked about the types of follow up work they will do, most plan future events using the silhouettes to encourage wider community participation in remembrance activities; but a significant proportion are planning local history projects and projects to reach isolated members of their local communities. Developing better links with local schools as a result of the project was also a common theme.

Will there be any follow up work that you will do as a result of your project?



Yes (75.20%) No (24.80%)

"Several strands of work: The local history society will update its booklet on the names on the War Memorial to include new information and the names from Little Chesterford. The information gained has been added to the village website and also uploaded to central databases such as 'Every Life Remembered' and the IWM 'Lives of the First World War'. The community choir which was formed for this event (only) is going to continue and has its next booking already. Not Carnegie Hall, but the village old folks' Christmas Lunch"

"We will be visiting the local barracks with the Scout Group and have also been inspired to hold some more events with our silhouettes, to show them to our local community and to try and engage with more ex members of the armed forces."

"The event was organised by exclusively senior members of the community. The meetings we had to do this presented a great opportunity as a social occasion for several members who live alone. We have decided as a group to continue meeting"

2249

Projects supported in England

"The impact made from the Silhouettes was enormous, very thought provoking and memorable, a lot of people sat beside them for private reflection and prayer and the Silhouettes sat with us during our Remembrance services and music event, leaving lasting memories and pulled the community together."

St Marys Church, Sherburn Village, Durham

Sr Bartholomew's Primary School, Wotton Bassett, Wiltshire

The school asked for support for their Royal Wootton Bassett - Never Forgotten project. They wanted to do this as the importance of the work of the armed forces is viewed with great respect in the town of Royal Wootton Bassett.

They told us that their community show real respect, caring and admiration for the armed forces. They truly care about the families left behind after lives are lost and our remembrance services are always particularly heartfelt and meaningful because of the personal links their children have. They brought the community together once again and invited the local service men and women to a remembrance service on the 9th of November.

They have discovered through their project and related research that 46 lives were lost in their small town and so each year they will be challenging the pupils to demonstrate 46 acts of kindness in their local community.

There was a renewed sense of our commitment to supporting our Service families alongside fostering integration between civil and military within our village.

Village in Hampshire



An intergenerational project in Gloucester





Remembering in Kilmington, Devon

"The silhouettes were a great talking point and helped visitors to bridge the gap between 'then' and 'now'. One little boy (whose father is a soldier) called them 'My daddy' which was poignant and helped him to connect the lives lost in WW1 with the role soldiers play today.."

Aldershot Military Museum

Our events were held in a community resource centre and were open for our members, other organisations, veterans and the general public to attend. We held one event within our mental health peer support group which has previously supported veterans. Having veterans present made a huge difference to those who attended. The events were a great platform for those who had family members who didn't return home from the last war and more recent armed conflict to speak about them and remember them.

Project in Coventry



Schoolchildren in Lincolnshire

For the fallen, but not forgotten Project, Peterborough

Street Party, Rotherham Market



205

Projects supported in Wales

"Our events not only focused on the soldiers of the past World Wars but also the soldiers of today who have sacrificed so much. We were lucky enough to have numerous veterans both young and old present at our events including the British Legion Bikers, numerous British Legion divisions and individual soldiers. Their presence helped the community understand the work undertaken today by the armed forces. During these events it was also brought to the attention of the public about Paul Fryer who was killed on maneuvers in Ireland in the 70's and who would be in his late 50's today and living in our village and who's name is on our local war memorial.

1st Pontywaun Scout Group

Mochdre, Conwy

The Remembrance Day Service at Mochdre Church was very well attended with 110 people in Church and the same number attending the splendid afternoon tea afterwards in Mochdre Old School

There were various people from the community in the congregation who had been in the forces (including several who had served in the RAF and also the Army). The Fallen were well commemorated by present day family members. One family from Ireland, whose roots are in Mochdre, and who have recently found their ancestor's war grave in France, had actually travelled over from Ireland especially to attend the event.

A room had been set aside at Mochdre Old School for memorabilia. This included historical information about each of the community's Fallen and included photos, uniforms, medals, etc provided by members of the community to represent both World Wars. This proved to be of great interest, with many lingering to read, digest, connect with each other and respectfully remember



Cake at a community event in Crick, Wrexham





Thornhill Primary School performance at the Welsh Royal College of Music and Drama, Cardiff; with silhouettes in the audience

“The events brought in people from the village who are not usually involved in village activities. There was excellent feedback”

Llanfairfechan Town Council



Event at Brecon War Memorial Hospital

The event brought together different generations and we had a fantastic afternoon. We held a 'forget me not' tea with volunteers from the community helping to make the cakes.

Project in Bridgend

Young People in Llandrindod Wells



229

Projects supported in Scotland



Royal British Legion Scotland Dalbeattie Branch

The project placed two silhouettes in each of the towns churches in the run up to remembrance Sunday, proving to be a great talking point for both clergy and congregations. The silhouettes proved to be very popular, prompting numerous compliments such as “spooky”; “feels like someone is there”; “makes you think”

A WW1 100 concert was held in the school campus where four silhouettes were placed, the event was attended by local dignitaries, parents and representatives of local organisations. The concert was the culmination of months of planning and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. It was found that the silhouettes looked better at an angle rather than straight on, the edges acting like a prism reflecting light and colours. The culmination of their remembrance was held at the war memorial at 11:00 on Sunday the 11th where marquees had been erected to accommodate hundreds of townsfolk for the wreath laying and service.



Elgin, Moray



Candlelit event at Fort William

"We had a series of events the highlight of the week was our celebration on the Friday. Our local community choir sang World War 1 and 2 songs and led us in some community singing which was really good fun. It was a good opportunity for veterans and school children to mix and people were really impressed and moved by the silhouettes. The 24 hour vigil was very moving - and the Remembrance Service was greatly enhanced by the presence of the silhouettes. Lots of people through the week brought memorabilia, and shared memories or stories from loved ones."

Eyemouth, Scotland

Thank you very much for the silhouettes; they enhanced our displays immensely and became a talking point as the optical illusion was not lost on the community, young and old. We plan on using them for many years to come to mark Armistice and Remembrance Sunday.



We brought together veterans and civilians from the end of October until late November Young and old had many questions. Younger veterans were also quite adept at relating how warfare had changed and what our Armed Forces do today.

A Coastguard at an event on Islay



83

Projects supported in Northern Ireland



Our event helped to highlight the importance of Remembrance and the 20 young men from our local village who fell in the Great War. It showed these were just normal people living ordinary lives who answered the call to join up and left behind their families and community and sadly never returned.

This is no different to today and I believe our event helped with the attendance of serving members of the Armed Forces highlighted that now in 2018 just as in 1918, behind the uniform the brave men and women of our Armed Forces are normal people from our communities.

They and their families grew up and live in our towns and villages, attend our schools and churches, shop in our local stores - they are part of the community and deserve our respect in their role defending our Country and helping those in need both at home and around the World.

Events went very well. We read out a list of nearly 200, of our dead soldiers from WW1 in our Branch area and invited the audience to look at the silhouettes as the names were read. we had many people in the audience in tears as the silhouettes were so effective.

The exhibition in Coleraine Town Hall which ran from Saturday 3rd November to Friday 9th November was visited by over 1000 people, from Coleraine and throughout Northern Ireland, as well as further afield.

Kesh Community Hall, Northern Ireland – The Great War Exhibition at which two education talks centred around the silhouettes took place

Each talk had 150 intergenerational participants





St Michael's Church, Enniskillen

731

awards to uniformed youth groups
through a dedicated round



Through the main round there were the
following awards

205 awards to
places of education

25 awards to
community groups
focussing on
young people

21 awards to other
organisations
supporting young
people

In total

982

awards went to organisations that were
directly focused on young people

Many other projects had strong
intergenerational components, bringing
together people of all ages from across
their communities

The Fire Cadets set up a 'memorial garden' installation within the main atrium of London Fire Brigade headquarters for the whole week running up to the 11th Nov. It was created to resemble the trenches and the silhouettes were the soldiers who were also firefighters that lost their lives in WW1. The aim of the installation was to offer staff and friends and family the opportunity to remember those (especially firefighters turned soldiers) that gave their lives.



The silhouettes were used as part of the local Remembrance Day parade. They were placed in the Church and around the village along the route of the parade, including the cenotaph, community centre, local shops and a house. The Guides asked the community for their views on where they should be placed via a village social media group and had a lot of responses from the community

"The link between past service and those serving today was helped by the shape of the silhouette being pretty timeless. The transparency provides opportunity to mentally add colour and time as well as personal connection."

Wouldham All Saints school

31,400

Young people from uniformed youth organisations took part in projects delivered under the Uniformed Youth Awards Round



The main theme we noticed was the intergenerational dialogue between families telling their own stories. Many of the children hadn't heard of national service. It was great to see so many ancillary, retired and cadets also come to the exhibition event and represent all sections of the armed forces and talk about their experiences today on an informal level. Our theme of 'We Will Remember Them' really seemed to bring the community together to think about the armed forces both past and present.



How we supported award holders

A video was produced to help give organisations information on how to use their silhouettes effectively. The video received 893 views

Award holders received regular updates giving them resources to help them manage their awards. This included event planning information, a publicity toolkit and information on the Armed Forces Covenant. The programme was designed to be as light touch as possible to enable community organisations to be able to access support.

Armistice and Armed Forces Communities programme



Video: How to use your silhouettes

Armistice and Armed Forces Communities Programme
Telling people about your award

We made awards through this programme to **bring communities together to remember** and to think about the **Armed Forces today**

You need to hold an event as part of your award. **Promoting your event can help more people to get involved**

Our Publicity factsheet has ideas, including a **template press release** that you can adapt, and photography consent forms

The Publicity factsheet also tells you how to **use the logo**. It's important that you understand how to do this

TELL US YOUR STORIES
 About how your projects are bringing people together to remember; and think about the Armed Forces today

Posters, leaflets and posting in local facebook groups can be great ways to tell people about your event

Twitter is also a great place to share photos and information. Tag us @armedfund

ARMED FORCES COVENANT FUND TRUST
 remember@coventfund.org.uk

Examples of resources to support applicants and award holders

Involving the Armed Forces Community in your events

The Armed Forces Community is a term that refers to people who are currently serving in the Armed Forces, their families (particularly partners, spouses and children); and veterans.

Veterans can be a range of ages; and includes younger veterans. The Armed Forces Community also includes those serving as reservists and cadets.

Think about how you could involve veterans of all ages, Armed Forces families, local bases, reservist bases or cadet groups in your project

If you have a base in your local area, contact the base, or work with local schools. The Local Covenant Partnership in your area may also be able to help. Contact your local Authority for more information

All organisations that received an award received information on the Armed Forces Covenant

“By being a part of the Armistice and Armed Forces Communities Programme; you are helping to improve and build better understanding and stronger relationships between civilian and military communities in your local area.

The awards that we make under this programme can act as a starting point to support better engagement. As you meet people through your event you may share ideas or identify local needs where you can work together to provide better support to the Armed Forces Community in your local area. We very much hope that your event is a success; and supports people to come together to think about both the Armistice; and Armed Forces Communities today. “



The organisations we worked with

This programme was only possible due to the involvement of two organisations, There But Not There and the Youth United Foundation

There But Not There was a project by the charity **Remembered** where silhouettes were installed by thousands of communities around the UK. What started as an installation of 51 seated silhouettes in a church in Penshurst became an international collaboration in remembrance and commemoration of those who died in the First World War.



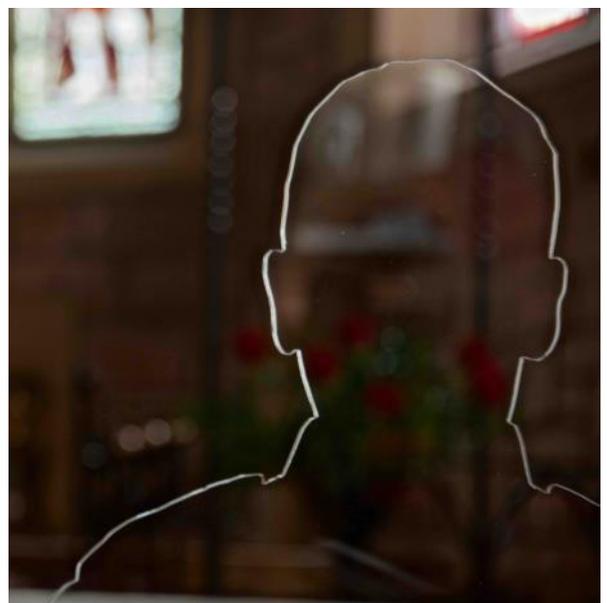
Their aims were to **Commemorate** those who died in the First World War through installations of silhouettes and Tommies wherever there is a Roll of Honour; **Educate** all generations, particularly today's younger generation, born nearly 100 years after the outbreak of WW1, to understand what led to the deaths of 888,246 British and Commonwealth service personnel; and to help **Heal** today's veterans suffering from the mental and physical wounds of their service.

Find out more about their work at www.therebutnotthere.org.uk

The **Youth United Foundation** aims to ensure that every young person, regardless of background or location, has the opportunity to become a member of a uniformed youth group.

Uniformed youth organisations offer young people a plethora of skills and experiences, laying the building blocks for young people to overcome a number of barriers in order to be the best that they can be.

Find out more about their work at www.yuf.org.uk



About us

The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust manages the grant programmes funded by the Covenant Fund.

We also run wider funding programmes that support the Armed Forces Community.

You can find out more about our work at www.covenantfund.org.uk



**ARMED FORCES
COVENANT
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Contact us

enquiries@covenantfund.org.uk

www.covenantfund.org.uk

Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust

Chairman: Helen Helliwell; Chief Executive: Melloney Poole

The Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust Limited (CRN 11185188) acting as the trustee of the Armed Forces Covenant Fund (CC 1177627)

Registered Address: 7 Hatherley Street London; SW1P 2QT