



## **Royal Guernsey Light Infantry Commemoration**

**Programme of Events  
29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

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6	27 Oct 2017	Chris Oliver		Updates

## **1. Introduction**

The Royal Guernsey Light Infantry departed Guernsey on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1917 for active service in France during the First World War. To mark this hundredth anniversary the charitable trust, a number of private agencies and government bodies are working together to produce a series of commemorative and celebratory events. This document provides context as a time line for all the activities and participants and is designed to inform the stakeholders and place detailed activities in context. It is an iterative document with version control. Participants will be dressed in Uniform, Court Dress or Lounge suits with medals and decorations.

## **2. Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

### **16:00 Desktop Briefing**

A desktop briefing will take place at the Mairie for representatives of all the invited French participants in the parade and commemoration, presenting the opportunity to meet the organising team, receive a copy of the itinerary and understand the order of the service. This will be hosted by CO & JM.

## **3. Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

### **Guernsey Official Party**

Guernsey Official Party:

- His Excellency Sir Ian Corder KBE, CB (private travel arrangements)
- The Bailiff, Sir Richard Collas
- Chief of Staff to His Excellency, Major Marco Ciotti (private travel arrangements)
- External Relations Minister – Deputy Jonathan Le Tocq
- Education, Culture and Sport Representative – Minister Paul Le Pelley
- The Dean of Guernsey – The Very Revered Tim Barker
- Chief Executive States of Guernsey – Paul Whitfield

French Official Party

- French Military Senior Officer [General]
- French Deputie
- Prefet du Nord
- Sous-Prefet du Nord
- Mairie de Masnieres
- Representatives of the Mairie

### **14:00 Mairie, Masnieres**

Assemble at the Mairie in Masnieres, greeting by M. Francis Noblecourt, following which there will be a briefing of the following days memorial events including a walk to Les Rue Vertes and demonstration of the positions for the commemoration. This will be given by Chris Oliver & Colin Vaudin.

### **15:00 Mairie, Masnieres.**

There will then be a conducted walking tour of Masnieres and Les Rue Vertes site and new memorial hosted by Chris Oliver & Jean-Marie Labre. The purpose of this is to understand the history of the battle.

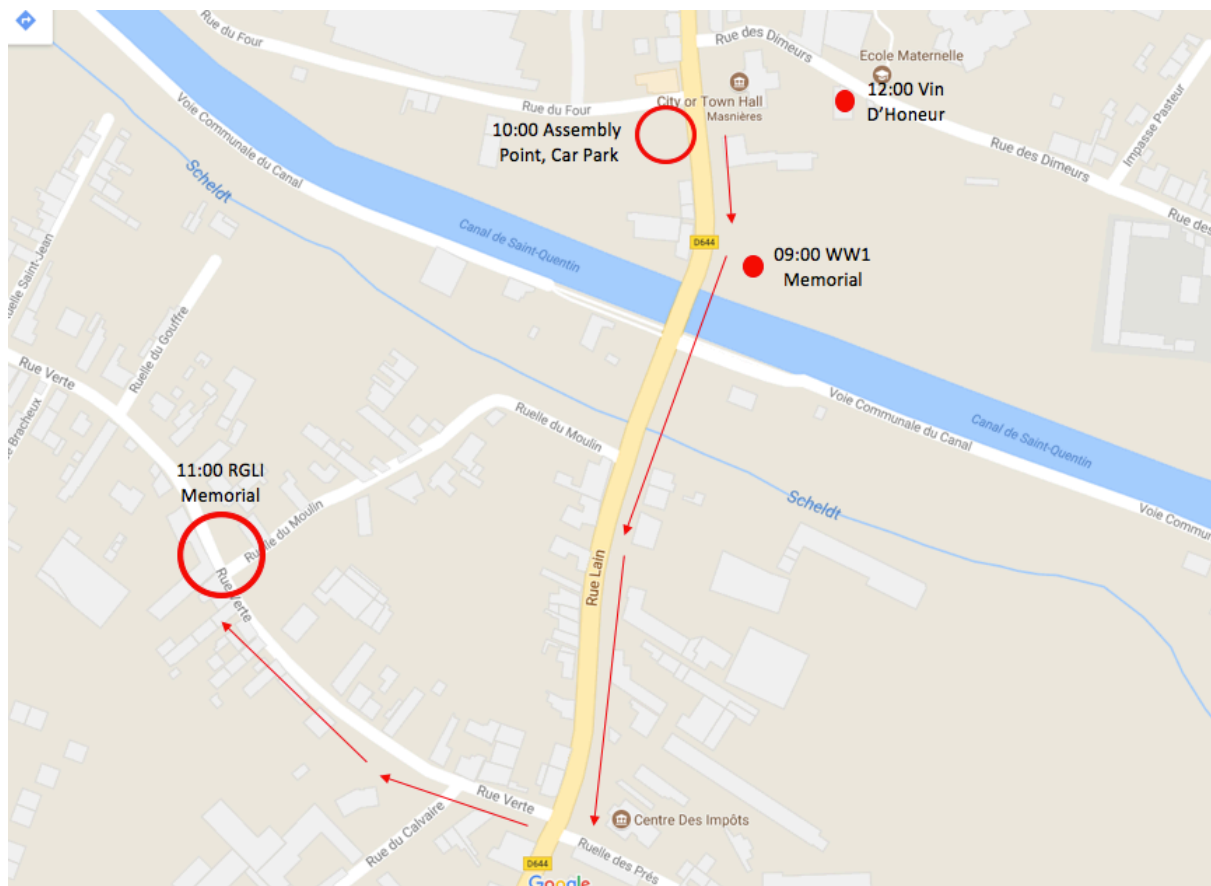
## **4. Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

### **09:00 Masnieres World War One Memorial**

Assemble at Mairie then by walk to the Masnieres World War One memorial and the informal and private placement of a wreath by His Excellency Sir Ian Corder and Bailiff Sir Richard Collas on behalf of Guernsey. Playing of the last post by PWRR bugler followed by a two-minute silence. Playing of call to arms by PWRR Bugler and dismissal. The party will return to the Mairie where coffee will be available.

### **09:30 RGLI Commemorative Parade Assembly**

Assembly of the parade elements at the main car park opposite the Mairie. The Parade Commander and Two Parade Sgt Major's will have marked out forming up area.



Elements of the parade and order of march as follows:

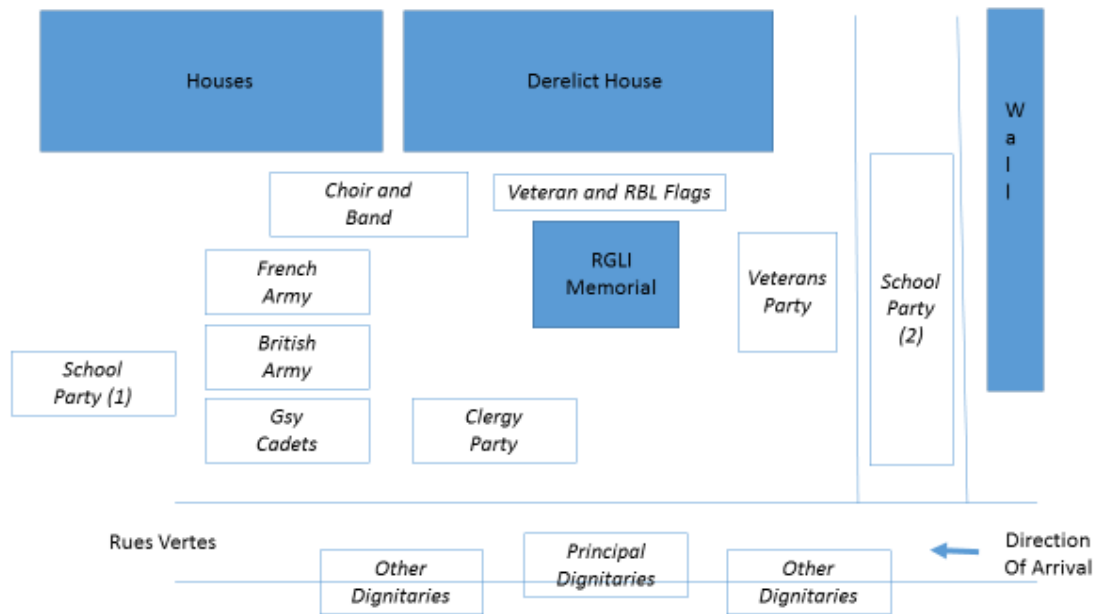
- Parade Commander – Lt Col (Retd) CM Vaudin
- French Band (will assemble at the memorial only)
- French Choir (will assemble at the memorial only)
- French Army (12 men)
- British Army Princess of Wales Royal Regiment (12 men / Bugler) Col W Harber.
- Official Party – The Bailiff, Prefet, Sous-Prefet, Mairie, Guernsey Politicians & Civil Servants. (His Excellency and principal French dignitary will be driven by vehicle)
- Parade Sgt Major
- Veterans Flag Parties (French Veterans and Royal British Legions – Guernsey & Sark)
- Veterans (French and British/ Guernsey)
- EPIDE Cadets
- Guernsey Army Cadet Force
- Parade Sgt Major
- Local School Children from three schools

#### **10:15 RGLI Commemorative Parade Departure**

The National Gendarmerie will close the main roads during the whole of the parade. The parade will move off in line of order under the instruction of the parade commander and sgt major's, proceeding over the bridge and turning right into Les Rue Vertes.

#### **10:30 RGLI Parade Arrival**

On the arrival of the parade at Les Rue Vertes the parade commander will halt the parade and the two parade Sgt Major's will disperse the groups into positions shown below.



### 10:45 Departure of Principal Dignitaries

The principle dignitaries will depart from the Mairie by vehicle to Les Rues Vertes (via the Ruette du Moulin), dismount and be escorted to their positions, which are under cover, by the parade commander.

### 11:00 Drum Head Order of Service

Conducted by the Very Rev, Dean of Guernsey & Abbe Henri Braq. Orders of service will be provided by the town of Masnieres in French for all participants.

- The Welcome  
*by The Very Reverend Dean of Guernsey, Tim Barker and Abbe Henri Braq*
- First Hymn [to be advised]  
*to be played by French Band*
- The Bidding Prayer
- Address by His Excellency Vice Admiral Sir Ian Corder KBE
- Response from the principal French dignitary
- The Dedication of the Memorial
- Laying of Wreaths  
*with assistance from Guernsey & EPIDE cadets*
- Last Post and Two Minute Silence followed by Call to Arms
- Second Hymn  
*to be played by French Band*
- The final prayers, commendation and blessing
- Band plays 'God Save The Queen' followed by 'The Marseillaise'

There then follows an inspection of the parade by the following dignitaries, during which time the choir will sing.

*[Note: two inspecting officers per section and escort (one French and one Guernsey)].*

- French & British Military, Veteran Flags  
His Excellency + Principal French dignitary [General or Deputie] + Parade Commander
  - Veterans Groups  
Minister Jonathan Le Tocq + Deputie or Sous-Prefet + RGLI CT Chairman
  - EPIDE, Guernsey cadets and school children (East)  
The Bailiff + Prefet + Parade Sgt Major
  - School children (West) – Minister Paul Le Pelley + Francis Noblecourt + Parade Sgt Major
- Permission to Dismiss the Parade – His Excellency & Parade Commander

### **11:30 Departure of Official Party (Principal Dignitaries)**

Departure of the official party by vehicle (via the Ruelle du Moulin) to Vin d'Honneur reception at Salle M. Verin

### **11.35 Laying of Wreaths**

The parade commander will invite all other parties to come forwards who wish to lay wreaths, whilst the French band will play.

*[Note: That anyone wishing to lay a wreath at this time should contact [chris@lesemrais.com](mailto:chris@lesemrais.com) in advance of the event]*

### **11:45 Departure of Parade**

Reformation of the parade by the parade commander and the march off to return to car park, this is a reverse route. Order given for dismissal.

### **12:00 Vin d'Honneur**

Vin d'Honneur hosted by the French authorities at the Salle M. Verin for all participants of the parade and the local commune. Speech by FN and response by The Bailiff, Sir Richard Collas

### **13:00 Event Ends**