WAR WIDOW’S PREPARE FOR REMEMBRANCE

For four days from Thursday 6th November to Sunday 9th November members of the War Widows’ Association of Great Britain will complete a full list of Remembrance engagements.

On Thursday 6th November Trustees and members will attend the Official Opening of the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey. From there eight Trustees including the Chairman and Secretary will travel to the Tower of London to help with the planting of the poppies in ‘Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red’ installation.

On Friday 7th November the Trustees hold their Committee meeting at 9.30am in 199 Borough High Street, London, when they will finalise arrangements for the War Widows’ Association Annual Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph in Whitehall. They will also prioritise action related to their current Campaign ‘The Wrong Time to Die’ aimed at ensuring all War Widows are treated equally and able to retain their War Widows Pension for life.

On Saturday 8th November members of the War Widows’ Association will begin to gather in Westminster Central Hall from 10.30am in preparation for their Annual Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph in Whitehall which will start at 12.30pm. This year will have a slightly different format in that Trustees and members will, before the Act of Remembrance, hand a letter to the Prime Minister. The Letter will call upon the Prime Minister to take immediate action to put right a despicable injustice and ensure equality for all War Widows; because of a change in legislation a small group of War Widows (4,000 approx) are unable to retain their War Widows Pension for life; essentially because they were widowed at ‘the Wrong Time’.

The War Widows’ Association believes this to be discriminatory, outdated and against everything that the Armed Forces Covenant stands for; we believe that it is now time for the Prime Minister and his Government to be big enough to admit this mistake, smart enough to learn from it and strong enough to correct this wrong.

1 we are unable to confirm at this time whether our Patron His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will be in attendance.
On **Sunday 9th November** many Trustees and members will return to Whitehall for the National Service of Remembrance before making their journey home to all parts of the United Kingdom.

The War Widows’ Association Chairman Mrs Irene Wills, BEM; will be in attendance at all events,

### Notes to Editors:

1. The [War Widows’ Association](http://www.warwidows.org.uk) (WWA) was founded in 1971.

2. The War Widows’ Association Service is held each year on the Saturday immediately preceding the Sunday National Service of Remembrance.


4. The achievements of the War Widows’ Association to date can be accessed at [www.warwidows.org.uk](http://www.warwidows.org.uk).

5. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is Patron of the War Widows’ Association and the President is Baroness Fookes DBE DL.

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