

From: Brigadier (Retired) Peter Gilbert QVRM TD DL VR



County President for Kent
South East Area Office (Kent)
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Aylesford
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4th November 2024

Dear Supporter

Please forgive the impersonal nature of this letter and please do not doubt my sincerity as I seek to include as many as I possibly can in a message of thanks to everyone who supported the Rochester Cathedral Festival of Remembrance on Saturday.

I want to express my thanks to all those who planned and organised the event, who backed it financially, who took part and performed or facilitated it in any way. And on their behalf thank you to all who attended as guests and audience, making it so worthwhile. Massive thanks too for all your support to the charities.

I must say that I was bowled over by its success. I found the music both moving and inspiring and felt that the band, the choirs and the soloists produced a performance of quite exceptional quality.

The usual role for relatively "senior" officers is to receive the salute or spectate, so it was an extraordinary privilege for me to join the parade with the standards of The Royal British Legion, serving members of the Regular Army and Army and Royal Air Force Reserve, cadets from the Combined, Royal Marines, Army and Air Cadet Forces and our group of military veterans. I hope you all found the muster and service of Remembrance as poignant and memorable as I did.

All of us have cause to be grateful for the sacrifice over the years of members of our Armed Forces and those of our allies and it was especially important to have with us the Canterbury for Ukraine Ladies Choir, members and supporters of which have close relatives engaged today in the front line of the fight for the rights and freedoms we all too often take for granted in the West.

For all those who serve and have served, our duty is to protect their legacy. Their legacy is our freedom. Let us never forget!

With very best wishes,
Peter