

ESS Prepares Afternoon Tea for Stonehaven War Memorial Rededication

3 years ago



The Energy, Government & Infrastructure sector of ESS, part of Compass Group UK & Ireland, catered for 150 guests at the Stonehaven War Memorial rededication over the weekend.

100 years on from the unveiling of the memorial on 20th May 1923, the Stonehaven branch of the Royal British Legion Scotland (RBLs) recreated the original ceremony at the site on Black Hill which commemorates those lost in the First World War.

Military organisations, veterans, dignitaries, community groups, local businesses, members of the public and descendants of those who fought joined the procession led by 100 pipers from Stonehaven Market Square up to the memorial.

The rededication ceremony included recitals, a reading of 'The Memorial' poem composed by Professor John G McKendrick of Stonehaven for the unveiling in 1923, a hymn sung by the Mackie Academy choir and the unveiling of a commemorative plaque. Ian Dallas wrote a lament 'The Black Hill – 100 Years' to mark the occasion.

Guests then returned to a marquee in Market Square where members of the ESS team had prepared an afternoon tea of sandwiches, quiches, savoury snacks and a selection of cakes and drinks.

Pam Gerrard, Legion Scotland Stonehaven branch treasurer and event co-ordinator, commented:

"The Stonehaven War Memorial has reverently stood guard over the town for 100 years. Exposed to the elements, it still stands strong and has been a constant during times of unprecedented change. On Remembrance Sunday we gather at the steps of the memorial to remember the fallen and to pay our respects. Our rededication ceremony brought people together to reflect and to give thanks."

Sandra McLennan, Memorial event committee, commented:

“Thank you to ESS for generously providing afternoon tea for our guests. It was very important to RBLs that we honour and commemorate 100 years of the Stonehaven War Memorial on the anniversary of the 1923 unveiling. We are delighted that ESS wished to support and be part of this memorable day in the town’s history.”

Ronnie Kelman, Managing Director – ESS Energy, Government & Infrastructure, added:

“It was a privilege to support the rededication of the Stonehaven War Memorial which is such an important landmark in the area. We were honoured to serve the event guests after the procession and ceremony, and it was a great opportunity to bring together our office teams and site-based colleagues with members of the local community. Thank you to everyone who played their part in making the day so special.”