

LONG WALK HOME 100 veterans to walk 100 miles from Ypres to London to mark First World War anniversary

The Long Walk Home has been organised by military charity Haig Housing Trust and will end on Remembrance Sunday

By Mark Hodge

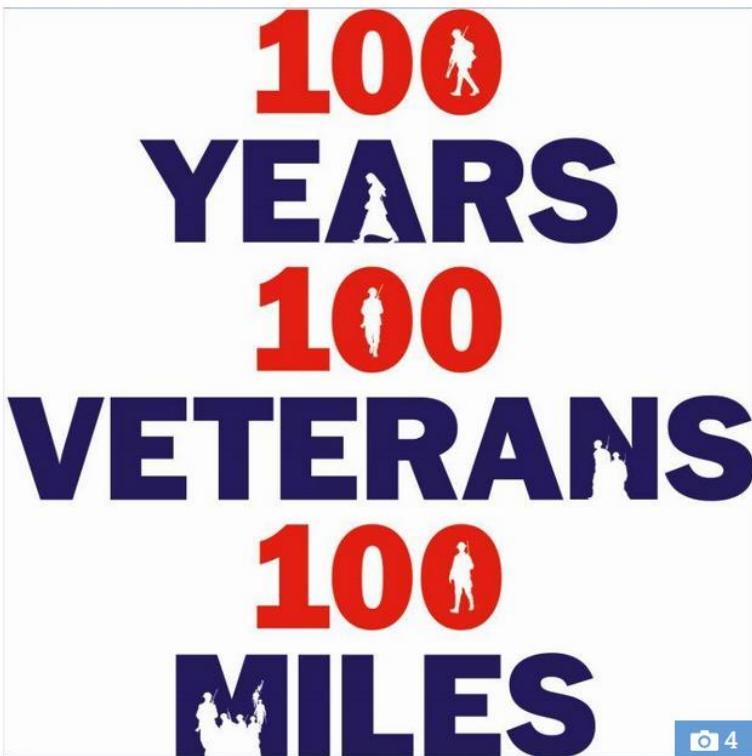
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ONE hundred brave veterans will walk 100 miles from Belgium to London's Cenotaph to mark a century since the end of the First World War.

Dubbed The Long Walk Home, the event has been organised by military charity Haig Housing Trust and will poignantly end on Remembrance Sunday on November 11.



A hundred veterans will mark a century since the Great War ended by walking 100 miles from Belgium to London

Haig Housing was one of the organisers of the Poppies at The Tower installation in 2014, which marked the 100th anniversary of the start of the conflict, which raised millions for Veterans charities.

The Long Walk Home has been planned as a mark of respect to those who died in the Great War and will raise funds for the charity.

Each of the walkers will be taken to Ypres in Belgium – scene of three major battles in the conflict – where they will begin their journey home.

Over the next four days they will walk over a hundred miles to the Belgian coast and then from Dover to London.



Military graves in Ypres in Belgium where the Long Walk Home will begin



Haig Housing was behind the Poppies at The Tower installation in 2014



HAIG HOUSING

Chief Executive of Haig Housing James Richardson with actor Ross Kemp

Along the UK route, the people of Kent are going to be asked to host the brave Veteran walkers overnight in a show of the 'Dunkirk spirit.'

Formed in 2008, the charity provides housing assistance to brave military veterans.

The organisation is named after Great War hero Field Marshal Earl Haig who commanded British forces during the infamous Battle of the Somme and in the brutal Third Battle of Ypres.

Chief Executive of Haig Housing, Brigadier James Richardson MBE said: "Haig Housing Trust started its life to meet the needs of Veterans returning from the Great War.

"Prime Minister Lloyd George campaigned to build homes fit for heroes and ever since Haig has striven to do just that.

"The Long Walk Home recognises the great sacrifice given by so many in that war and its pilgrimage to walk the route from Flanders to the Cenotaph to take part in the National Act of Remembrance by today's Veterans will be a poignant commemoration.

"We hope that the public and in particular the people of Kent give support and encouragement to this event."



Events mark World War One Centenary