



## POPPY STORY

THE symbol of the poppy has become even more poignant to author Anne Middleton since becoming part of an Army family. To help children to understand its significance, she wrote a story – *Piggy and Woof and the Poppy*.

It's been made into a booklet small enough to fit in your pocket and will be sold by Royal British Legion poppy vendors in the Wiltshire area.

With 1 Royal Horse Artillery covering printing costs, it means that all proceeds will go to RBL.

"We ran a competition in the infants' school where I am 'writer in residence' to find illustrations for the booklet," said Anne.

"In my storytelling sessions I emphasise the fact that we are not just remembering those in the past, but we are also saying thank you to military personnel and families who are currently serving.

"These children are making sacrifices that they have no control over.

"Having to say goodbye to friends when they move house, start a new school or the pain they feel when a parent goes away are big deals for a young child."

For more information about Anne's work or to buy the booklet, visit [www.facebook.com/piggyandwoof](http://www.facebook.com/piggyandwoof)



CHARITY

# The power of art

**ARTIST** Caroline de Peyrecave's creation **WARpaint** is a project which aims to raise vital funds for four charities that support serving personnel and veterans who are living with the life-changing effects of war.

By utilising the therapeutic power of art, many of those sitting for Caroline have a chance to reflect on what has happened to them and how they are living their lives today.

Caroline is particularly focusing on the positive side of what her sitters are doing now in their day-to-day lives.

Mark Harding, from 1st Battalion, The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, explained: "I feel very honoured to have Caroline paint my portrait and hope it inspires other injured soldiers.

"Afghanistan was our war, now our injuries are our war and as soldiers we never lay down to

a fight."

The funds will be raised through the corporate leasing of 15 life size portraits of sailors, soldiers and aircrew, representing conflicts that the UK has been involved in since the Second World War.

The four Service charities benefitting from the project are Combat Stress, Walking with the Wounded, Oswald Stoll Foundation and Lt Dougie Dalzell MC Memorial Trust.

Darren Swift, who served in Northern Ireland, added: "I believe that **WARpaint** is going to be a fantastic opportunity for members of the public to view and experience the unique images created by Caroline, enabling them to have a glimpse into the lives of members of HM Forces who have been injured in conflict."

For more details, visit [www.warpaintexhibition.com](http://www.warpaintexhibition.com)