

Gulf War Veterans March

To London for the March of Gulf War Veterans to the Cenotaph to lay a wreath and raise awareness of the conditions. As

readers will know Gulf War Syndrome, or Gulf War Illness affected [The Last of the Light Brigade](#)



Across Trafalgar Square and the statue of Admiral Lord Nelson looking down.



Into Whitehall, past Horseguards (acknowledging the Guardsmen on duty) and the Women's Memorial, stopping at Downing Street and into the middle of the road to the Cenotaph.



Dave Fender laid a wreath and we observed two minutes silence.



Dave then made a brief speech. He thanked us all for attending. Numbers were down for this march due to the illness of veterans who intended to come, and who had come previously. They are not getting any younger or fitter. He spoke of his own experience; that when his regiment was deployed to the

Gulf he signed on for a further three years as he didn't want to let his friends down. While at Camp Blackadder the call went out for driver volunteers. This was to work with the War Grave Commission and was the most traumatic task he had ever undertaken.

25 years on the veterans are still struggling down a hard road. He has had two strokes and only last month yet another seizure from which his son-in-law had to resuscitate him followed by a stay in hospital. Illness affects their families and they know of several families whose children have health problems which they believe are a result of their father's service. They lost 47 British personnel across all three services in the Gulf, but many more have died since, of illnesses men of their age would not anticipate. But they will soldier on. It isn't compensation that they are asking for, nice as that would be, but proper medical care and research.

Journalists from Rex Features and xxx also covered the event from Whitehall,