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Date: 21 February 2019

#### ROYAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION GIBRALTAR WEEKEND 2019 FRIDAY 17 MAY – MONDAY 20 MAY 2019 ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION

1. **Introduction**. The Royal Engineers Association (REA) Gibraltar Weekend will be held in Gibraltar between Fri 17 and Mon 20 May 19. The event will be organised by the members of the Gibraltar REA Branch and serving Sappers on the Rock. We are pleased confirm this year's event is being fully supported by REA HQ and are very thankful for the kind financial sponsorship given.

Once again, the Tours have been extracted from the core weekend activities to provide a slightly more relaxed programme and will be presented as a stand-alone event on Monday – this reduces the impact of events over the weekend and offers a more manageable and comfortable experience for our guests.

We have also introduced changes where possible, based on the feedback received from previous years.

2. **Location.** The scheduled events will take place in various locations throughout Gibraltar and these are identified in the attached *Event Programme*. This document also includes a site plan showing the locations of key landmarks/facilities and the events. Copies of the coordinating information for the Weekend will be issued during the Meet n Greet function.

#### 3. Event Format.

a. **Meet and Greet.** A Meet and Greet function will be held on the afternoon of Fri 17 May 19 in the JPDU, Gun Wharf. The event will include food; entertainment and the REA Gibraltar Branch raffle. This is an informal function to welcome all our friends, both old and new and is likely to run into the early evening. Dress will be casual.

Please confirm your menu choices on the return proforma attached (at Appendix A).

b. **Boat Trip.** As part of the Meet n Greet Function, we will run a number of boat trips around the Bay of Gibraltar using the Rigid Hulled Inflatable Boats (RHIBs) held in JPDU. The trips will be run from at the start of the function on a rolling basis. We hope to get most people though and would ask that guests are available when called forward and help us by attending only once. Anyone under the influence of alcohol will not be allowed on board. All equipment will be provided. The trip is expected to last around 15 minutes.

- c. **Corps Presentation.** On Sat 18 May, The Corps Colonel Royal Engineers (Colonel Matthew Quare MBE ADC) and the Corps RSM (WO1 (CSM) Steve Webster) will present a Corps Overview and Key Corps/Army Issues, focusing on Veterans. This will be held in the Garrison Library. Dress will be as per the parade, enabling guests to go directly to the parade after they have had some lunch.
- d. **Parade and March Past.** On Sat 18 May, there will be a March through Main Street from Grand Casemates Square to Bomb House Lane, with the Salute taken at the Piazza. Dress will be REA/Corps blazer, REA/Corps tie, beret, shiny shoes and medals for REA attendees, and No2 Dress for serving members. Branch Standards will be on parade. The parade will be slightly later than previous years, commencing at 1400hrs. You are requested to be in Casemates no later than 1330hrs.
- e. **Sapper Photograph.** Straight after the parade, there will be a photograph for all REA members and marching contingents. All are requested to congregate by The Sapper Statue directly after the parade.
- f. **Post-Parade Refreshments.** There will be an opportunity to take some refreshment straight after the parade; we are currently trying to negotiate a Mayoral Reception and so details will be published in due course.
- g. **Gala Dinner Dance.** A formal Dinner Dance will be held in Grand Battery House (just above Casemates Square) on the evening of Sat 18 May. The evening will include arrival drinks; a waiter-served five-course meal with wine; entertainment; an RE/REA/Gibraltar display and a <u>free bar</u>. And not forgetting of course the infamous Gibraltar Branch raffle! Dress will be lounge suits or blazer for gentlemen and appropriate for the ladies; serving members will wear Mess Dress.

This year, we hope to bring you another special surprize during the evening.

- h. **Church Service.** A Church Service will be held in Kings Chapel on Sun 19 May at 1030hrs. The Command Padre will lead a multi-denomination service of thanksgiving for the RE. REA Branch Standards are most welcome. Dress will be as per the parade with suit/blazers for Serving Members. There will also be an invitation by the Padre to join him for refreshments and some home-made cake after the service.
- i. **Farewell Function.** We will hold an informal social gathering to bid farewell to friends on Sun 19 May in The Police Club, HM Naval Base. Hot and cold food will be provided. This event will start mid-afternoon and run through into the evening, with a casual dress code. We may even run a couple of games of Gibraltar bingo!

This concludes the REA Weekend events. Please refer to the Events Programme attached.

- 4. **Tours.** This year, we will be providing two discrete and stand-alone tour options on Mon 20 May. Dress for the Tours will be casual with comfortable walking shoes:
  - a. **Northern Defences Tour**. There will be a tour of the Northern Defences. The tour will take around 1 -1.5 hours and will be a leisurely walk along reasonably flat ground. Guests are requested to meet at the Moorish Castle at 1000hrs guest are advised to get a taxi or bus to the start of the tour.
  - b. **Tunnel Tour**. The tunnel tour will be undertaken in the afternoon and will take around 1 -1.5 hours (depending on the amount of questions!). The Tour itself will be a leisurely walk along reasonably flat ground, although the tunnels in some areas are quite

dark. Guests are to requested meet outside the Old Casino on Europa Road (by the south-bound bus stop) at 1400hrs.

5. **Costs.** Members of the Gibraltar Branch have worked hard to ensure that costs for the REA Gibraltar Weekend are once again kept to a minimum, and we have secured some sponsorship from local companies to offset the cost of the Weekend. The very kind grant offered by REAHQ has also provided some vital financial support for the 2019 event, and so despite increasing numbers and rising venue and function costs, we have been able to maintain last year's price.

For all nine events, we have been able to keep the cost for attending the Weekend to £75 per head. This is a single payment that will cover all venues; staff; food and entrainment costs for all nine events over the three-day period.

For those attending, each Tour will be £5 per head.

This year, due to the increasing cost of deposit payments to secure venues, you are respectfully requested to make payment in full <u>no later than 01 Apr 19</u>. Payment can be made:

a. **By Cheque**. Cheques should be made payable to "Gibraltar Central Fund" and include "REA 2019 and the full name of guests" on the back of the cheque. Payment should be sent to the REA Gibraltar Secretary at the following address:

Jack Noble 3D Rulander Vineyards Gibraltar GX11 1AA

b. **By Bank Transfer**. Bank Transfers can be made to:

Bank: Gibraltar National Bank, Ince's House, 310 Main Street, Gibraltar

Sort Code: 60-83-14 Account: 01256001 Account Name: Jack Noble

IBAN: GI75GIBK000000125600001

BIC: GIBKGIGI

You <u>must</u> include "REA 2019 and your full name" as the bank transfer reference – failure to do so may prevent us from tracking your payment.

#### c. Cost Summary.

Attendance to the 2019 Weekend: £75 per head Northern Defences Tour: £5 per head Tunnel Tour: £5 per head

6. **Attendance.** There has been a significant level of interest for this year's event already and we are hoping to improve on last year's attendance figures of circa 170, along with 7 Standards and representation from over 15 branches. To finalise our preparations, we would be grateful for your earliest confirmation of attendance, ideally no later than 01 Apr 19. Please complete the attached attendance proforma, or simply provide this information in an email if this is more convenient for you, along with your payment to the Branch Secretary, Jack Noble – contact details above. Your very earliest response is appreciated.

7. **Travel from UK and Overseas.** Guests are to make their own arrangements for travel to and from Gibraltar. British Airways and Easyjet fly into Gibraltar from **Gatwick**, **Heathrow**, **Manchester**, and **Bristol**.

The international airports of **Jerez** and **Malaga** are within an hour's drive of Gibraltar; both Malaga and Jerez are served from most UK airports. Both have car hire facilities, although we can arrange taxi/coach from these locations to Gibraltar if required – this will attract a cost to those travelling payable at the time of the journey.

- 8. **Accommodation.** Unfortunately, there is no military accommodation available for the REA Weekend, therefore use of local hotels or staying with friends is recommended. Further details are provided at Appendix B.
- 9. **Medical.** Guests are to ensure they have appropriate Medical and Travel Insurance arranged before travelling. All guests should ensure that their travel and medical cover is not affected by any BREXIT-related implications. Unless prevented by BREXIT, UK Citizens are able to use the services at St Bernard's Hospital when in possession of an E111 European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). Access to medical services will be denied otherwise. An EHIC can be obtained online at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/european-health-insurance-card">https://www.gov.uk/european-health-insurance-card</a> or <a href="https://www.e111.org.uk/">https://www.e111.org.uk/</a> or by calling 0845 6062030. Please ensure adequate personal arrangements are in place for family notification.
- 10. **Finance.** Gibraltar's currency is pounds sterling and it also has its own Gibraltar notes and coins please note that these cannot be used or exchanged in the UK upon your return so please feel free to get rid of any remaining 'Gibraltar' currency during the raffle at the Farewell Function. Gibraltar has both NatWest and Leeds Building Society. NatWest cashpoints will issue UK pounds sterling. Most retail outlets and hotels will accept credit and debit cards and cash (UK pounds sterling; Gibraltar pounds or Euros). Please note that Euros are required for Spain.
- 11. **Welfare.** The event organisers will be able to offer advice on welfare matters but guests must treat the Weekend as you would when travelling abroad anywhere else in the world and make the necessary arrangements for any known welfare matters.

#### 12. Other Information.

**Lapel Pins**. We have commissioned a commemorative 'lapel pin' showing the 1772 Sapper and adorned with 2019 REA Gibraltar Weekend – the 2019 pin will be a different colour to last year's pin (reference image shown below).



This limited-edition pin will be available for purchase at a very reasonable £3.50 – why not add to your annual pin collection?

**Additional Information**. Additional information will be published on the REA HQ website; the REA Gibraltar Facebook page and directly via email. For any other queries at this stage, please contact:

Contact	Name	Email	Landline	Mobile
Secretary	Mr Jack Noble	jack.noble@ramboll.co.uk	+350 200 51987	+350 58008085
Chairman	WO2 Paul Studdart	Phillip.Studdart905@mod.gov.uk	+350 200 55260	+350 58009744
Treasurer	Mr Richard Tomlinson	richard.tomlinson@ramboll.co.uk	+350 200 51987	+350 54028355

On behalf of all 'Sappers on the Rock', we very much look forward to your company to celebrate our friendship and heritage with Gibraltar and its people.

Warmest REgards

Jack Noble Secretary

REA Gibraltar Branch

for Chairman

#### **Enclosures:**

Appendix 1 – Attendance Proforma

Appendix 2 – Accommodation

Appendix 2 – Event Programme

#### Distribution:

#### External:

RE HQ - Corps Col 4

RE HQ - Corps RSM 4

REA HQ - Controller REA 4

REA HQ - Assistant Controller REA 4

REA Branch Secretaries 4

**REA HQ Website** 

REA Gibraltar Facebook Page

#### Internal:

DIO SD OS-PJOB3a Gib FM (Andrews, Simon Maj RE) 4

DIOSDOS-PJOB3dGibProgPerf (Linares, John Maj RE) 4

DIOSDOS-PJOB3a3aGibSME (Studdart, Phil WO2) 49

DIOSDOS-PJOB3a2GibFM (Wagner, Lee SSgt) <sup>4</sup>

REA Gibraltar Branch Members 4

## APPENDIX 1 – ATTENDANCE PROFORMA

Please complete the proforma below and return no later than 01 April 2019 to Jack Noble:

By Email – <u>jack.noble@ramboll.co.uk</u>

By post – Jack Noble

3D Rulander Vineyards Gibraltar GX11 1AA

### ATTENDANCE PROFORMA REA Weekend 2019

\*please complete the yellow sections

Date:	Fri 17 – Sun 19 May 19
Price per head:	£75

Name:	
REA Branch:	
REA Standard to Gib Weekend:	Yes / No

Mon 20 May				
£5	£5			

Title	Christian Name	Surname	Meet n Greet	*Meet n Greet Menu Choice*	Boat Trip	Corps Update Presentation	March	Post-parade Refreshments	Gala Dinner Dance	Church Service	Farewell Function	Northern	Defences Tour	Tunnel Tour	Remarks (Dietary requirements; mobility requirements etc)
Mr	Jack	Noble	1	А	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		0	Vegetarian only - wheelchair user
Mrs	Kathy	Noble	1	В	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0		1	No onions or fish
		Total													

\*Meet N Greet Menu Choice:

A: Chicken Curry

B: Vegetable Curry

C: Chicken (in sauce) and Chips

#### **APPENDIX 2 - ACCOMMODATION**

You have several accommodation options:

- a. MYGIBRALTAR
- b. AIRBNB
- c. Hotel
- d. Hostel

#### **MYGIBRALTAR**

A very useful and economic approach to arranging your visit (both flight and/or hotel) is MYGIBRALTAR at <a href="http://www.mygibraltar.co.uk">http://www.mygibraltar.co.uk</a> – we would recommend trying this initially.

#### **AIRBNB**

Another useful mechanism for sourcing private accommodation (rather than hotel) is via AIRBNB at https://www.airbnb.co.uk/

#### **HOTEL**

If you prefer a hotel stay, local hotels include:

Hotel	Telephone	Web
Holiday Inn Express (Gibraltar)	+350 20067890	www.hiexpress.com
Bristol Hotel (Gibraltar)	+350 20076800	www.bristolhotel.gi
Caleta Hotel (Gibraltar)	+350 20076501	www.caletahotel.com
Cannon Hotel (Gibraltar)	+350 20051711	www.cannonhotel.gi
O'Callaghan Eliott Hotel (Gibraltar)	+350 20070500	www.eliotthotel.com
Rock Hotel (Gibraltar)	+350 20073000	www.rockhotelgibraltar.com
Sunborn Hotel (Gibraltar)	+350 20016000	www.sunborngibraltar.com
Ohtels Campo de Gibraltar (Spain)	+34 956 178213	www.ohtelscampodegibraltar.es

Hotels are constantly busy and so spaces are generally in demand; we suggest that you identify and book accommodation as early as possible.

#### **HOSTEL**

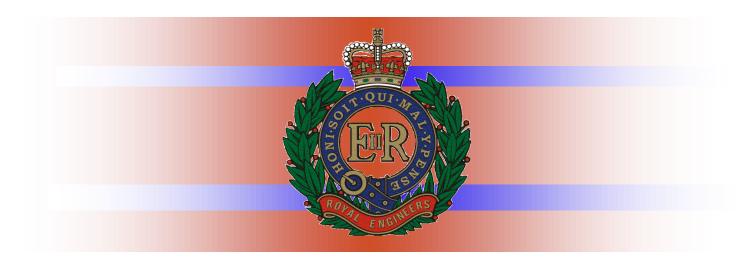
If you prefer a more basic and economical stay, local hostels include:

Hotel	Telephone	Web
Hostal Carlos 1 (Spain)	+34 956 762135	www.hostalcarlos.es
Hostal Carlos 2 (Spain)	+34 956 761303	www.hostalcarlos.es
La Campana Hostal (Spain)	+34 956 173058	www.hostalcampana.es

## <u>APPENDIX 3 – EVENT PROGRAMME</u>

# Royal Engineers Association Gibraltar Weekend Friday 17 – Monday 20 May 2019

hosted by the REA Gibraltar Branch



# **Event Programme**

## GIBRALTAR BRANCH ROYAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION GIBRALTAR WEEKEND PROGRAMME FRIDAY 17 – SUNDAY 19 MAY 2019

Ser	Date/ Time	Event	Location/Meeting Point	Dress Code	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
1	Fri 17 May 1400hrs – 1900hrs	Meet and Greet	JPDU Adventure Training Centre, HMNB [Map Location 1]	Casual	Entertainment: Entertainment: tbc Raffle Auction  Refreshments: (guests to purchase) Soft drinks Alcoholic drinks  Food: (pls pre-order food choices) Food Option A: - Chicken Curry - Rice - Naan Bread - Poppadum - Onion Bahji  Food Option B: - Vegetable Curry - Rice - Naan Bread - Poppadum - Onion Bahji  Food Option C: - Chicken (in sauce) and Chips

Ser	Date/ Time	Event	Location/Meeting Point	Dress Code	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
2	Fri 17 May From 1430hrs	Boat Trips	JPDU Adventure Training Centre, HMNB [Map Location 2]	Casual	Boat trips will start around 1430hrs and will take approximately 15 minutes. We hope to have 3 x RHIBs running.  Equipment (life preservers etc) will be provided.  Anyone under the influence of alcohol will not be allowed onto the RHIB.
3	Sat 19 May 1100hrs – 1215hrs	Corps Update and Presentation on Key Corps/Army Issues	Garrison Library [Map Location 3]	REA Blazer REA/Corps Tie Beret Medals (highly polished)	Dress will be as per the Parade to prevent any rush to our guests between serial 3 and 4.  The presentation will finish around 1215hrs, which will give all guests a break of 1 hour 15 mins to rest/get some lunch etc.  The presentation will be delivered by the Corps Colonel Royal Engineers (Colonel Matthew Quare MBE ADC) and the Corps RSM (WO1 (CSM) Steve Webster).

Ser	Date/ Time	Event	Location/Meeting Point	Dress Code	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
4	Sat 19 May 1330hrs – 1430hrs	REA March up Main Street	Grand Casemates Square [Map Location 4]	REA Blazer REA/Corps Tie Beret Medals (highly polished) Branch Standards	1330hrs Form up in Grand Casemates Square  1400hrs – 1415hrs March through Main Street
5	1415hrs	Salute	The Piazza [Map Location 5]	As above	The salute will be taken by Her Worship the Mayor, Ms Kaiane Aldorino. Kaiane is a Gibraltarian politician and former Miss World (2009).
6	1420hrs	Sapper Photograph	Sapper Statue [Map Location 6]	As above	All REA members are asked to congregate at the Sapper Statue adjacent to Marks & Spencer straight after the March.

Ser	Date/ Time	Event	Location/Meeting Point	Dress Code	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
7	1430hrs – 1530hrs	Post-Parade Refreshments	Location to be confirmed	As per March	
8	Guests are requested to arrive PROMPTLY 1915 - 1930hrs  VIP arrival 1945-2000hrs  Seated 2015hrs	Gala Dinner	Grand Battery House [Map Location 8]	Lounge Suit or Blazer NO MEDALS  Appropriate attire for the ladies/guests	Entertainment: Entertainment: music/disco (tbc). There will also be a special surprise on the night (3)  - Raffle - Auction - Sapper Presentation Boards  Refreshments: 1930 – 2000hrs: Free Arrival Drinks  2015 to 2215hrs: ½ bottle of Wine per person and Water with Meal (other drinks to be purchased by guests)  2215hrs to 0215hrs: Free bar (beer; lager; wine; house spirits; soft drinks are free – any further drinks to be purchased by guests)  Food: Waiter-served 5-course meal: - Prawn and Salmon Cocktail - Beef Fillet, Sautéed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables or Vegetarian Option - Cheese and Biscuits - Glass of Port - Freshly Brewed Tea/Coffee

Ser	Date/ Time	Event	Location/Meeting Point	Dress Code	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
9	<u>Sun 19 May</u> 1030hrs – 1200hrs	Church Service	King's Chapel [Map Location 9]	REA Blazer; REA or Corps Tie; Beret; Medals Branch Standards	1030hrs: Church Service dedicated to the Royal Engineers Branch Standards are welcomed  1130hrs: Retire to the Cloisters/Music Room for refreshments and cakes with the Padre
10	<u>Sun 19 May</u> 1500hrs – 2000hrs	Farewell Function	The Police Club, HMNB, Dockyard Road [Map Location 10]	Casual	Entertainment: - "Zulu" or "REA presentation" on the big screen - Raffle/Bingo/Auction (tbc)  Refreshments: Soft and Alcoholic Drinks (guests to purchase)  Food: Hot and Cold Buffet (paella; chicken dish; buffet food etc)

# NORTHERN DEFENCES/TUNNEL TOURS MONDAY 20 MAY 2019

Ser	Date/ Time	Event	Location/Meeting Point	Dress Code	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
11	Mon 20 May 1000hrs	Northern Defences Tour	Moorish Castle [Map Location 11]	Casual Comfortable footwear	Over the centuries, Gibraltar's successive occupants, Moors, Spaniards and the British built an increasingly complex set of fortifications around, on top of and incorporating the Rock's natural features. The North Front Defences, still following the course laid out by the Moors in the 11th century, are still substantially intact. A significant portion of the original Spanish and Moorish walls can still be seen from the Grand Battery. Pedestrians can still walk over the wooden drawbridge over the North Front ditch to pass through the Landport Gate into the city. The Moorish Tower of Homage continues to stand above the Grand Battery on the lower slopes of the Rock.  The Northern Defences are perhaps the best illustration of this, and because of their very location. They comprise of the King's Lines, Queen's Lines and Prince's Lines. They have been described by John Harris of the Royal Institute of British Architects as being "capable of providing one of the great architectural experiences in the western world the atmosphere of the Great Siege is vivid and evocative in the extreme." I could not agree more.  The tour should take approximately 1.5 hours.

Ser	Date/ Time	Event	Location/Meeting Point	Dress Code	Remarks
12	Mon 20 May 1400hrs	Tunnel Tour Great North Road	Old Casino, Europa Road [Map Location 12]	Casual Comfortable footwear	During World War II the British military constructed an underground bombproof city for 16,000 troops with enough supplies to last sixteen months, entirely within the Rock of Gibraltar. Facilities included a telephone exchange, a generating station, a water desalination plant, a hospital, a frozen food store, a bakery, ammunition magazines, etc. The road was built within a tunnel started when 180 Tunneling Company Royal Engineers was created in 1940. The following year 180 Company was joined by 170 and 178 Companies.  The tunnel starts at Maida Vale behind the old Casino at Europa Road and travels north behind the Rock Hotel to Brigade Headquarters and Doncaster Adit. At this point the road forks into several other minor tunnels dug to house kitchens and an ammunition magazine. The entrance to Wilson's Cave is also located here having been discovered while carrying out blasting the rock during the magazine's construction. The 60 feet (18 m) wide road continues north where it joins the Raglan Battery Shelter. The tunnel would allow military lorries to travel within the Rock. The Great North Road ends at the now abandoned Calpe Hole Generating station however, the tunnel system continues all the way to the north face of Gibraltar where the World War II tunnels join the Galleries dug out during the latter part of the 18th century, now known as the Great Siege Tunnels.  The tour is a slow walk along a flat route and will take 1.5 – 2 hours.  Guests are requested to meet by the bus stop south of the old Casino building on Europa Road.

#### **REA CONTACT LIST**

Ser	Contact	Name	Email	Landline	Mobile
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
1	Secretary	Mr Jack Noble	jack.noble@ramboll.co.uk	+350 200 43252	+350 58008085
2	Treasurer	Mr Richard Tomlinson	richard.tomlinson@ramboll.co.uk	+350 200 51987	+350 54028355
3	Chairman	WO2 Phil Studdart	Phillip.Studdart905@mod.gov.uk	+350 200 55260	+350 58009744



