

THE ROYAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Brompton Barracks CHATHAM, Kent ME4 4UG

President: Major General A S Dickinson CBE

Chairman: Brigadier (Retd) Andy Craig OBE

CEO: Mr K Kirk

Operations Manager: Major I L George

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See Distribution

01 March 2022

HQ CIRCULAR NO 171

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ITEM 1 – AWARD OF THE BADGE OF MERIT 2022

1. At their meeting on the 13th January 2022, the Management Committee of the REA took great pleasure in approving the award of the prestigious Badge of Merit to the following members:

Ser	Nomination	Branch	Group
1	Mr Chris Beaumont	Thanet and District	South East
2	Mr Bob Beer	Cyprus	HQ & Overseas
3	Mr Ray Ellis	Junior Leaders	South East
4	Mr John Ettles	HQ REA	HQ & Overseas
5	Mr Jason Farnell	Medway	South East
6	Mr Eric Hargreaves	Potteries	North West
7	Mr Brian Henderson	Monmouth	South Wales
8	Mr Allister Honeyman	Lanarkshire	NI & Scotland
9	Mr Ron Macgregor MBE	Dundee	NI & Scotland
10	Mr John Stanley	Cannock	South Midlands
11	Mr Kevin Street	Long Marston	South Midlands

2. Their commitment to the Association and their comrades was remarkable and worthy of recognition through the award. HQ REA sends its congratulations to all those awarded the Badge of Merit. Well done!

ITEM 2 - AGM NOTIFICATION

3. The 2022 Annual General Meeting of the Association is to be held in the Victory Services Cub and on Zoom on **Saturday 8th October 2022**, commencing at 1600 hours.

4. The attention of Groups and Branches is drawn to Rules 11.01 to 11.40, which govern the procedures at the Annual General Meeting.

5. More information on this meeting will be promulgated nearer the time.

ITEM 3 – REA ANNUAL DINNER



6. The 2022 Annual Dinner of the Association is to be held at the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF on **Saturday 8th October 2022**, following the Annual General Meeting. Reception will be at 1800 hours for 1830 hours with the bar opening at 1730 hours. Branches and Members are encouraged to support this very enjoyable annual event.

7. Dress for gentlemen will be lounge suits or blazer and flannels with Corps tie; ladies should dress appropriately.

8. The ticket price will be £25. This represents good value for a 4 course meal with entertainment at a top quality venue in Central London.

9. This year the application form will be made available electronically on the REA website. Payment for the event will also be processed electronically through BAC's. Information and links will be in the next HQ Circular. Closing date for bookings will be **26 September 2022**

ITEM 4 – SAPPER SUNDAY, THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA

10. Sapper Sunday will take place on **Sunday 9th October 2022** at The Royal Hospital Chelsea. This is the day after the REA AGM and Annual Dinner and a good turnout from REA members in London and from around the country is expected. Members are encouraged to attend this event, meet RE In-Pensioners and swap stories over a few pints. Branches are requested to give this event the very widest publicity. A curry buffet for limited numbers will be available. It is not necessary to advise HQ REA of your attendance at this event.

ITEM 5 - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

11. Remembrance Sunday will be on **Sunday 13th November 2022**. Branches and individuals requiring tickets for the Remembrance Sunday Parade at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, London, are to apply, in writing or by email (**membershiptypistREA@rhqre.co.uk**), to HQ REA stating the number of tickets required. In order to cater for the enhanced security situation, it is expected that the same process will be adopted this year and applicants need to be aware that extra information will be requested by HQ REA.

12. Before requesting tickets, Branches and individuals are reminded that tickets issued by HQ REA are for those intending to march with the REA contingent. Those wishing to march with other groups are to bid for tickets from those groups. **Only RE ex-servicemen & women are permitted to march in the REA contingent.**

13. The Royal British Legion will only accept bids submitted through Regimental Association Headquarters and not direct to them by individuals. Bids are requested by **24th June 2022** to enable a consolidated bid to be submitted thereafter.

ITEM 6 – NATIONAL STANDARD BEARERS COMPETITION



14. The National Standard Bearers' Competition is due to be held at Brompton Barracks, Chatham during the Veterans/Corps Memorial Weekend on **Saturday 17th September 2022**. When published, the exact timings will be in the Calling Notice on the REA website – www.reahq.org.uk

15. All Groups are encouraged to enter the competition, particularly as entrants for the competition may claim travelling and reasonable overnight expenses.

16. Groups and Branches are reminded that:

- a. Competitors must be REA members and members of the REA Branch for which they carry the Standard.
- b. Participation is limited to winners of Group competitions or the person nominated by the Group Director where no competition takes place.
- c. Only one Standard Bearer from each Group can take part in the National Competition.
- d. The current National Standard Bearer does not gain automatic entry to the National Competition. The criteria at 15.b above apply.
- e. If Groups and Branches require assistance with any Standard Bearers' training then please contact the Captain of Standards Mr Rick Tootle.

ITEM 7 – VETERANS' WEEKENDS

17. The Veterans Weekend at Gibraltar is to be held over the weekend **20th to 23rd May 2022**. All the information for this event is on the REA website REA website – www.reahq.org.uk

18. Due to various reasons the Veterans' Weekend's at Chilwell and Minley will not happen this year.

19. The Corps Memorial Weekend at Chatham is to be held over the weekend **16th – 18th September 2022**. When published, the Calling Notice can be found on the REA website – www.reahq.org.uk

ITEM 8 - GROUP AND BRANCH OFFICIALS CONTACT LIST

20. Branch Secretaries are requested to complete and return the enclosed REA Form 4 (Branch Officials) **by 21st May 2022** and send to membershipREA@rhqre.co.uk Branches failing to return REA Form 4 will not have their up-to-date details on the HQ REA database and the REA website.

ITEM 9 – DIARY OF EVENTS 2022

21. 2022 Diary. Events of interest for 2022 have been notified to HQ REA.

26 March	Army v RAF Rugby Kingsholm Gloucester
30 April	Army v Navy Rugby Twickenham
20-23 May	Gibraltar Weekend*
09 June	The Royal Hospital Chelsea Founders Day Parade
16 - 18 September	Corps Memorial Weekend*
08 October	REA AGM and Annual Dinner *

09 October Sapper Sunday at Royal Hospital Chelsea
10 November Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey
13 November Remembrance Sunday

*National Events

ITEM 10 – FOUNDER’S DAY - ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA



22. Founder’s Day 2022 will be held on **Thursday 9th June 2022, attendance is by invitation only.** Individuals wishing to attend the event should apply for tickets in writing or email to HQ REA. Because of the strict security arrangement that must be in place for such a high profile event, bids are to include the full name, address and telephone number of each person wishing to attend. Bids must reach this HQ by 26th

March 2022 to membershiptypistREA@rhgre.co.uk

In the event of the number of tickets available being fewer than that requested, HQ REA will distribute the tickets as fairly as possible. The Governor’s Review, which is open to the public, will be held on Tuesday 7th June 2022. Tickets are not required to attend the Governor’s Review.

ITEM 11 – SAPPER MAGAZINE ARTICLES

23. HQ REA is always ready to receive Branch articles for inclusion in The Sapper. **Articles should not exceed 350 words and must be interesting, informative and in date.** It is thoroughly recommended that articles be accompanied by photographs. Why not bring attention to your Branch by submitting an article?

24. REA Branch articles for The Sapper must be sent direct to the Operations Manager and not to the Sapper Editor. Articles must be in **Word Document form, attached to an email and not embedded into the email.** To ensure digital picture quality is maintained, digital photos should be sent as attachments to emails, and not embedded into Word documents. Photo attachments must be in **JPEG format ONLY. Branches must send articles in plenty of time for that edition of The Sapper magazine and not at the last minute. Otherwise the article will have to wait for the next edition. Articles must be sent to HQ REA and not direct to The Sapper Magazine.**

ITEM 12 – NOTIFICATIONS OF DEATH

25. Branches are reminded that if a Branch member passes away the Membership Typist at HQ REA must be informed at the earliest opportunity by using Form 8. membershiptypistREA@rhgre.co.uk

HQ REA will not accept notifications of death via the telephone.

ITEM 13 – 40th Anniversary of the Falklands Conflict

26. **Falklands 40** In 2022 we mark the 40th anniversary of the end of the Falklands Conflict. The Royal British Legion will be commemorating this important milestone with a special event held at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire on Tuesday 14th June. Falklands 40 will recognise the service of the 30,000 sailors, marines, soldiers, airmen and merchant mariners who served in the Falklands Conflict, along with the many civilians who supported the war effort and remember the sacrifice of those 255 British personnel who lost their lives.

In the afternoon, the Royal British Legion will hold a special, commemorative event centred on the Armed Forces Memorial. This will feature veteran testimonies from key moments in the conflict as well as the Act of Remembrance.

On the morning of the event there will be an opportunity for unit associations to conduct intimate commemorations at their respective memorials within the Arboretum.

As part of the commemorative activity the TRBL is looking for willing people to share their stories from the conflict.

Anyone wishing to attend the event or share their stories please contact membershiptypistREA@rhgre.co.uk

The National Memorial Arboretum will be open to the public on 14th June with tickets available to pre-book nearer the time for those wishing to observe the event and pay their respects on this day who are not eligible to attend the RBL hosted event. More information on how to pre-book tickets will be available on the National Memorial Arboretum's website at the end of March 2022.

{Original Signed}

IL GEORGE
Maj (Retd)
Operations Manager

Enclosures:

1. REA Form 4 – Branch Information Sheets (Branch Secretary use only)

Distribution:

Board of Trustees
Management Committee Members
Group Directors
Deputy Group Directors
Group Secretaries
Branch Secretaries

REA FORM 4

BRANCH INFORMATION SHEET

BRANCH : DATED:.....

1. DETAILS OF BRANCH OFFICIALS

Appointment, Name & Service No.	Address & Post Code	Contact Details
<p><u>Honorary Secretary</u></p> <p>Title Surname Initials</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>Known Name Army No:</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p>		<p>Tel:</p> <p>Email:</p>
<p><u>Honorary Treasurer</u></p> <p>Title Surname Initials</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>Known Name Army No:</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p>		<p>Tel:</p> <p>Email:</p>
<p><u>Chairman</u></p> <p>Title Surname Initials</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>Known Name Army No:</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p>		<p>Tel:</p> <p>Email:</p>
<p><u>President</u></p> <p>Title Surname Initials</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>Known Name Army No:</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p>		<p>Tel:</p> <p>Email:</p>

Appointment, Name & Service No.	Address & Post Code	Contact Details
<p><u>Standard Bearer</u></p> <p>Title Surname Initials</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p> <p>Known Name Army No:</p> <p><input type="text"/> <input type="text"/></p>		<p>Tel:</p> <p>Email:</p>

2. DETAILS OF BRANCH MEETINGS

a. Location of meetings

b. Day of meeting (ie 1st Mon of month)

c. Time of start of meetings

d. Average attendance at meetings

