

# ROYAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION



## THE SAPPER CHARITY

# NEWSLETTER #4 APR ISSUE

*Bringing you news and events from across the Corps and Sapper Family*

Dear Sapper,

Spring has sprung and so has Corps activity! The Corps rugby team did a double over the Royal Artillery (page 4) and the Corps finest fought it out at the Corps Boxing Championships (page 4). In wider news the [InstRE](#) are releasing the latest volume of Sapper History (page 2) and the [Corps Museum's](#) events are well underway (page 4). Further ahead the [Sapper Games](#), hosted by 39 Engr Regt, will take place during the first week of July. There will be opportunities for REA members to take part as competitors and assist as race marshals and judges. Finally, an ask; **Branch Secretaries** please forward this newsletter on to your members and where possible get them to sign up to receive future editions straight to their mailbox (QR code on page 3). **Ed**



Thanks to WO1 Bob Dunford (APTC) who ran a clay pigeon shoot at Gibraltar Barracks. In doing so Bob raised a whopping £1900 for the Sapper Charity!

## JustGiving™



The Sappers down in Bovington have decided to run 86 miles in memory of WO2 Rab McAvoy who, whilst serving at Bovington, sadly passed away in 2019. The course over the Jurassic Coast provides eye watering elevation and breath taking views. To support the Bovington Sappers go to - [Just Giving](#) To find out more about the route click - [here](#).

### NEW BRANCH FORMED

We are pleased to announce the formation of the REA Rugby Union Branch. It's a national branch which means membership is open to those with an interest in rugby i.e. you do not need to have represented the Corps at Rugby.

To sign up go to:

<https://www.reahq.org.uk/membership/>

# RUGBY REPLICA SHIRT

AVAILABLE TO BUY ONLINE NOW AT

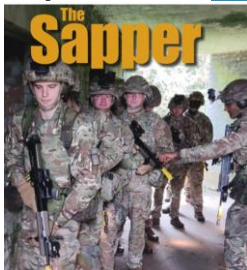


**The Sapper Shop**  
Supporting The Sapper Family



ROYAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION  
THE SAPPER CLUB

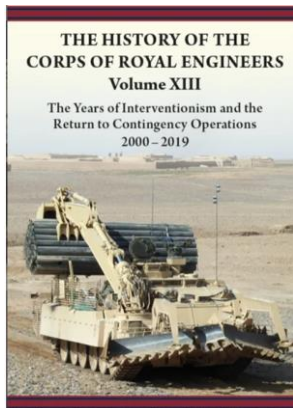
SAPPER MAGAZINE – Available online from 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 - [here](#)



## PRIZE DRAW!

### Corps History Volume XIII

Win a signed copy of Volume XIII of Corps History for £2!



April sees the launch of Volume XIII of Corps History and we're giving away a signed copy by Editor in Chief Major General Mungo Melvin. Click [here](#) to enter!

If you can't wait or are looking for that perfect Sapper gift - visit the [Sapper Shop](#).

## REA EVENTS

To advertise your branch event to more members – [CLICK HERE](#)

**80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Monte Cassino, Italy**  
12 -13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – [Registration closes 10<sup>th</sup> April](#)

**East Anglia Group Gathering – Carver Barracks**  
1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 – [Register here.](#)

**South Eastern Group Dinner**  
20<sup>th</sup> April 2024  
WOs and Sgts Mess, Brompton Barracks  
[g.doughty109@btinternet.com](mailto:g.doughty109@btinternet.com)

**Ripon Weekend and Freedom Parade**  
7,8,9<sup>th</sup> June 2024  
Contact: [riponreasec@gmail.com](mailto:riponreasec@gmail.com)

**Corps Memorial Weekend, AGM, Annual Dinner** Brompton Barracks 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> Sep 2024  
Application process – tbc

**80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Armd Engrs, Ijzenidijke, Holland** 18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 2024 –  
Contact: [jim.speckman@btinternet.com](mailto:jim.speckman@btinternet.com)

## KEEP UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST EVENTS

# SAPPER



Sappercom.com is the online password protected REA community platform. Details of events, forums and news updates are all available on the platform. Sign up by going to: <http://www.sappercom.com>

**If you would like to unsubscribe to the newsletter, please contact** [info@reahq.org.uk](mailto:info@reahq.org.uk)

# LINKS, EXCLUSIVE OFFERS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

For branch details & meeting times – [click here](#)

ROYAL  
ENGINEERS  
ASSOCIATION



THE SAPPER CHARITY

## EAST ANGLIA GROUP – DEPUTY GROUP DIRECTOR

We're looking for a volunteer to assist the Group Director (CO 33 Engr Regt) with REA activity in the East Anglia area. If interested, contact: [info@reahq.org.uk](mailto:info@reahq.org.uk)

We Have Ways  
of Making  
You Talk



If you like a bit of history and you're looking for something to listen to, you may be interested in the "[We Have Ways](#)" podcast. The podast from Al Murray and James Holland talks exclusively about the Second World War and regularly mentions the Sappers.

NEWSLETTER DIRECT TO  
YOUR INBOX!



If you'd like to receive this newsletter direct to your email account simply scan the QR code and complete the form. We won't use your details for anything else.

## Useful Corps Links

[REA Website](#)

[RE Museum Website](#)

[Institution of Royal Engineers](#)

[Royal Engineers Historical Society](#)

[RE CPD](#)

## Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Clubs



If for whatever reason you're unable to make a [branch meeting](#) or Sapper get together, take a look at the Breakfast Clubs. Put simply; you turn up, have breakfast, chat to likeminded veterans, servicemen and women and go home. You are very likely to bump into a Sapper or two. To find your closest Breakfast Club go to - [AFVBC](#).

## REA MEMBERS OFFER



Civil Service Sports Council.

All REA members are eligible to join the CSSC, membership benefits include free admission to UK attractions. Details can be [here](#).



The Armed Forces Pension Society are the Armed Forces pension experts. Take a look: - [AFPS](#)

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THE SAPPER CHARITY

**VACANCY - PRESIDENT ISLE OF WIGHT BRANCH.** If you have a soft spot for the Isle of Wight and have links to the RYC get in touch with the Branch Secretary: Tim Holland  
[iowbranchreasec@gmail.com](mailto:iowbranchreasec@gmail.com)

# SAPPERS NETWORK

Are you or is someone you know looking for a change of career or a new role? If yes, have a look at Sappers Network – loads of career opportunities at the click of a button – [Sappers Network](#).

## REA MEMBERS OFFER



TRINITY

Trinity travel insurance offers for REA members. To find out more go to: [Sappercom.com](http://Sappercom.com).

# CORPS NEWS AND MUSEUM EVENTS

## 28 Engr Regt Brush up on CBRN Recce



March provided a good time for [28 Engr Regt \(CBRN\)](#) to hone CBRN recce skills. For those not aware CBRN = NBC and 28 Engr Regt - the Army's specialist CBRN Regt.



The Corps boxing Championships took place on 21<sup>st</sup> Mar 2024. To watch the night in full go to [Corps Boxing](#)

## DOUBLE DEMOLITION OF THE GUNNERS



In the space of two weeks the Corps team played the Gunners twice, won twice and retained the title of Corps Champions and the Drake Jones Trophy. To watch highlights go to:

[Jones – Drake Trophy  
Corps Finals](#)

## 39 ENGR REGT GO COMMANDO



Men and women from 39 Engr Regt completed a 6.7 mile route from Speanbridge train station to Achnacarry House while carrying 36lbs. This was the original route that was undertaken by Commando's at the start of training during WWII.

**ROYAL ENGINEERS  
MUSEUM  
WHAT'S ON 2024**  
[www.re-museum.co.uk](http://www.re-museum.co.uk)  
Registered Charity: 295173

If you are looking for a venue to hold a meeting, dinner night or conference have a look at the Corps Museum: [www.re-museum.co.uk/venue-hire/](http://www.re-museum.co.uk/venue-hire/)



To keep up to date with all our events just scan the QR code here:



Or visit [www.re-museum.co.uk/whats-on/](http://www.re-museum.co.uk/whats-on/)

**BUILD  
DEMOLISH  
DEFUSE**

Explore our Easter Corps Event including:

- Displays from serving Snipers
- Exclusive Ammunition Tours
- Armoured Vehicles & Equipment
- Living History
- Talks
- Firing Rangefind and much more...

**6th-7th April 2024**



### Concrete Castles - Exhibition 16th January - 22 December

A contemporary art exhibition exploring the 'Concrete Castles', the forgotten pillboxes scattered across Britain's coastlines. The exhibition rediscovers these Second World War defence structures, hastily built in 1940 under the threat of German invasion, many of which now lie forgotten and crumbling into the landscape.