



Welcome to the February edition of the REA newsletter.

This month we look forward to the 150th anniversary of the Royal Engineers winning the FA Cup. Yes, you read that right! The Corps not only took part in the first ever FA Cup Final; it went on to win the trophy in 1875.

To commemorate this we will be holding a series of events in May culminating in a rematch with Old Etonians on May 10th.

Keep an eye on the REA website, SapperCom and our social media channels for regular updates.



The power of Community and Networking

We all recognise the importance of networking and being part of a strong community. The opportunity to meet like-minded individuals, rekindle old friendships, and form new ones is invaluable. By supporting each other and our local areas through various social events and outings, we continue to uphold the spirit of camaraderie that defines us.

With over 28,000 members and 112 branches across the UK and abroad, the Royal Engineers Association remains at the heart of a thriving network of Sappers, family, and friends. Alongside our well-established physical branches, we now have a rapidly growing social branch structure, including the newly formed Ubique Branch, maintained by HQ.

Why Join a Social Branch?

Social branches offer a fantastic way to stay connected in a more relaxed and informal setting. Unlike traditional branches, they require only a point of contact or secretary to keep members informed of meetings and events. They are perfect for those who want to maintain their ties to the REA while enjoying the flexibility to arrange outings and gatherings that suit their lifestyles. These events often extend to family and friends, making them a great way to strengthen connections beyond service life.

Social branches are an ideal solution for those who may not live near a traditional branch but still want to be part of the REA network. Whether meeting up for a coffee, attending military and memorial events, or organising family-friendly outings, these branches foster a sense of belonging and shared history.

Social branches also provide a crucial support network for members adjusting to life after service, offering advice, friendship, and a place to share experiences with those who truly understand.

A Growing Network for Everyone

The success of the social branch model lies in its adaptability. Some groups may focus on specific interests, while others may simply offer regular meet-ups for members to catch up and reminisce. The Ubique Branch, for example, has already begun forming connections among members from across different regions, providing a virtual space to share updates and arrange in-person gatherings where possible.

We encourage all members—whether long-standing or newly joined—to consider getting involved. If there isn't a social branch in your area, why not start one? All it takes is one or two motivated individuals to act as a point of contact and keep fellow members informed. REA HQ is here to support and guide those looking to establish a new group.

Get Involved!

The Royal Engineers Association thrives because of its members. Whether through traditional branches, social branches, or online engagement, staying connected ensures that the values of service, camaraderie, and support continue for generations to come. If you're interested in joining a social branch or setting one up in your area, get in touch today!

Email: membership@reahq.org.uk

Keep up to date with the latest events

Sapper.com is the secure online community platform for REA members. Details of events, forums and news updates are all available on the platform. Sign up by going to: <https://www.sappercom.com>



Membership Benefits

As a valued member you can also access additional benefits delivered by trusted partners.



We are affiliated to Trinity Insurance, where you will get exclusive offers if you are an REA member. If you are veteran or still serving you can get quotes for all kinds of Insurance, from travel to life and even for insuring your kit and its contents. If you would like a quote or more information, please **click here**.



The Sapper Charity has teamed up with Farewill to offer REA members a free will writing service with the option to leave a legacy to the Sapper Charity. Farewill already partner with Cancer Research UK, the British Heart Foundation and many other charities. To find out more **click here**.



Did you know that whenever you buy anything online from your weekly shop to your annual holiday, you could be raising free donations for the Sapper Charity with easyfundraising?

There are over 8,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation – including eBay, Argos, John Lewis & Partners, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S. The best part is, it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds.

Thank you!

Get Noticed

If you want your unit news to feature in this newsletter, send us the link to your social media **info@reahq.org.uk** and we'll share it. It's that easy.

Get pictures and your event published! HQ REA can advertise it. Send to **info@reahq.org.uk** (excludes branch meetings)

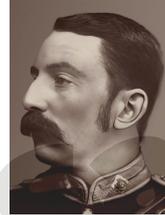


Want to donate to the Sapper Charity? Use our Enthuse page **here** or the donate button on our **website**.

Thank you!

Membership Card

Have you seen the new membership card, it not only shows your membership details, the reverse side gives you lots of useful information to save you time when seeking help or support or just to get in touch with us here at HQ.



Name: J Chard

Number: 12345678

LIFE MEMBER

If found return to:
HQ Royal Engineers Association
Brompton Barracks
Chatham Kent ME4 4UG



THE SAPPER CHARITY

Benevolence including finance support

The Sapper Charity assesses and distributes benevolence through SSAFA and RBL case workers to find out more:
www.reahq.org.uk/benevolence

Soldiers Sailors Airmen Families Association
Phone: 0800 250 6780
Website: www.ssafa.org.uk

Royal British Legion
Phone: 0808 802 8080
Website: www.britishlegion.org.uk

REA HQ
Phone: +44 (0)1634 847005
Email: info@reahq.org.uk

Membership
www.reahq.org.uk/membership

Sappers Network
www.reahq.org.uk/jobs

Bereavement
www.reahq.org.uk/bereavement

Fundraising
www.reahq.org.uk/fundraising

Upcoming Events

28th - 30th March 2025

Vehicle Painting

RE Museum

4th - 6th Apr 2025

RE Postal & Courier Service Reunion

York Fairfield Manor Hotel

3rd May 2025

Army v Navy

10th May 2025

FA Cup 150th Celebrations

Details tbc

11th May 2025

Sapper Sunday

Royal Hospital Chelsea

18th May 2025

Army v RAF

6th - 9th June 2025

Gibraltar Weekend

28th June 2025

Armed Forces Weekend

Keep up to date with all events on **SapperCom**

Newsletter direct to your inbox

Use the QR code or this **link** to sign-up.

