



## THE SAPPER CHARITY

#16 - April 2025

Welcome to the April edition of the REA newsletter.

As the days lengthen and the weather improves, many of us are looking forward to getting outdoors and making the most of it. This month, we're turning our focus to the power of giving - through action. Whether it's something rewarding, exciting, or simply a fun new challenge, activity-based fundraising is a great way to support others while boosting your own wellbeing.

**Why not take the leap?**

### The Power of Giving - How Fundraising Fuels Wellbeing.

Fundraising is more than just collecting donations - it's about taking action, building community, and creating meaningful impact. This month, we shine a spotlight on how REA members can actively contribute to the work of The Sapper Charity through activity-based fundraising. Whether it's a trek, a swim, a cycle, or even a skydive, these challenges are an incredible way to support the Royal Engineers Association (REA) while experiencing the personal rewards that come from doing something for a good cause.

In 2024 alone, the REA distributed £760,000 to support members of the Sapper family in need. These funds provided essential assistance to serving and former Royal Engineers, as well as their families, ensuring that no member of the Sapper family faces hardship alone.

Participating in charitable activities doesn't just benefit the recipients; it also offers significant advantages to the donors and volunteers. Engaging in fundraising and volunteering has been linked to improved mental and physical health. Studies have shown that such activities can lead to greater self-esteem, life satisfaction, and a sense of purpose. Moreover, volunteering has been associated with reduced stress levels, depression, and anxiety, while boosting overall health and satisfaction with life.

The REA offers numerous opportunities for members to get involved in fundraising activities that not only support the Sapper family but also promote personal wellbeing. Events like the Snowdon at Night Trek, Ben Nevis at Night Trek, and the Jurassic Coast Trek provide challenging yet rewarding experiences.

# Get involved!



**Take part | Make a difference.**

For those seeking unique adventures, options like the Everest Base Camp Trek or the Vietnam to Cambodia Cycle are available. These events are more than just physical challenges; they are journeys that foster camaraderie, resilience, and a profound sense of achievement.

By participating in these events, you're not only raising vital funds for those in need but also embarking on a path that enhances your own wellbeing. The act of giving, whether through time, effort, or resources, creates a ripple effect of positivity that benefits everyone involved.

### Join Us in Making a Difference

As we progress through 2025 and beyond, consider taking part in one of the REA's fundraising events. Whether you're trekking through scenic landscapes, cycling across countries, or creating your own unique challenge, your involvement makes a tangible difference. Together, we can uphold the spirit of benevolence and continue to support the Sapper family while enriching our own lives.

### No need to worry about going it alone

The REA's fundraising team is on hand with resources, promotional support, and creative ideas to help participants smash their fundraising goals - there are plenty of ways to rally support.

For more information on upcoming events and how to get involved, visit the REA's official website or contact your local branch.

The membership survey is still open.  
Don't miss this opportunity to shape the future of the REA - The Sapper Charity.

**Take the survey**



**Keep up to date with the latest events**

Sign up by going to:

<https://www.sappercom.com>



# Sapper News

## 39 Engr Regt.



39 Engineer Regiment's CO decided to have CO's PT with a view! The 8 mile route on the Moray coast involved sun, sea and sweat...a tad more scenic than the Fens of Waterbeach.

## 23 Para Engr Regt - Drone Course



As ever the Corps is keeping up with developments on the battlefield as such members of 23 Para Engr Regiment recently completed their drone course.

## Sappers in Belize



The Beavers of 48 Field Squadron have been beavering away on a construction tour in Belize - tasks included range road upgrade, bridge demolition (sorry no photos) and of course adventure training.

## Corps Boxing.



Corps Boxing Championships were held in Chatham in March. If you want to watch all of the bouts [click here](#) - it even comes with commentary.

## 28 Engr Regt.



28 Engr Regt who are the Army's Counter-CBRN (the new term for NBC) have been working with the Home Office and constabularies up and down the country.

## Upcoming Events

1st May 2025  
**Royal Hospital Chelsea Visit**

3rd May 2025  
**Army v Navy**

10th May 2025  
**FA Cup 150th Celebrations**

11th May 2025  
**Sapper Sunday**  
Royal Hospital Chelsea

17th May 2025  
**Army v RAF**  
Gloucester

6th – 9th June 2025  
**Gibraltar Weekend and AGM**

28th June 2025  
**Armed Forces Weekend**

30th June 2025  
**Sapper Games**

19th - 21st September 2025  
**Corps Memorial Weekend**

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

## RHC Governors Parade



This formal parade will feature the Chelsea Pensioners on parade in full ceremonial dress, inspected by the Governor of the Royal Hospital Chelsea, General Sir Adrian Bradshaw KCB OBE DL.

Following the parade there is the option for Regimental Associations and their guests to join the Chelsea Pensioners for a curry lunch in the Chelsea Pensioners' Club dining room. This will be priced at £15 per person and can be paid for using card or cash on the day, please indicate if you wish to attend the lunch when booking your tickets so that we can ensure sufficient levels of catering and seating is available on the day.

The Sapper Charity has been allocated 24 tickets for the Governor's Review. To book your tickets go to:

<https://chelsea-pensioners.co.uk/governorsreview>

Your Access Code is **RB84B1**.

## Have your say!

You still have time to contribute to the membership survey. We've had a great response so far but we would still like to hear from more of you.

The survey can be accessed from the 4th of April via this link: **membership survey**

If you have already completed the survey - Thank you! If not, please take a few minutes to share your thoughts and help shape the future of your association.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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!*

## Sappers Restore History at REM



In March and April, REA members rolled up their sleeves at the Royal Engineers Museum, Chatham, for a hands-on restoration of a Bailey bridge and Churchill bridge layer tank. The weekend blended elbow grease with esprit de corps as veterans and serving Sappers worked side by side. More than paint was applied—pride and camaraderie were restored too. The success of the event has already sparked interest in future activities, reinforcing the REA's vital role in preserving Corps history and community spirit.

## REA - Annual General Meeting

This years Annual General Meeting will be taking place in Gibraltar as part of a weekend of events on Saturday 7th June at 1200hrs local, 1100hrs UK. As always, members are welcome to attend and for those of you unable to attend in person, you will be able to attend via a live link where you will also have the opportunity to put questions to the President and CEO. Further details will be made available to those registering for the event via the following link: **Register here**

## FA Cup 150 | 10th of May 1400 - 1800

### Festival of Football

Commemorating the Corps of Royal Engineers' historic FA Cup Final win 150 years ago.



### Join Us for a Day of Celebration and History!

Mark your calendars for an unforgettable day as we commemorate this historic victory with a military open day packed with excitement! Enjoy interactive displays, football-themed activities, and a variety of food and drink vendors to keep the whole family entertained.

Highlights Include:

- A thrilling display by the Parachute Regiment **Red Devils**.
- Special appearances by **Terry Butcher, Des Walker, Al Murray**, and the **FA Cup Trophy**.
- Engaging entertainment for all ages.

The event is open to the public and free of charge.

To find out more and book your free tickets **click here**

## Newsletter direct to your inbox

Use the QR code or this [link](#) to sign-up.

