

The Royal Corps of Signals



The Association and Retired
Officers' Newsletter
March 2014

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the Association and Retired Officers' Newsletter for 2014. You may not have been expecting to receive this publication, but what we have done this year is combine the RSA and Retired Officers Newsletters into a single publication.

There was an incredible amount of duplication, so common sense prevailed and, in an effort to save a few trees, you will only receive this publication this year.

Details for the Officers Dinner Club, including return proformas, are at the back of the magazine.

THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS

ASSOCIATION AND RETIRED OFFICERS' NEWSLETTER 2014

CONTENTS	Page
HQ Contact Details	2
Report by the Corps Colonel	3
Corps Sporting Achievements 2012	4
Royal Signals Association Chairmans Report	7
Royal Signals Association Legal Status	8
RSA Awards	9
RSA Admin Officers Report	10
Reports from the RSA Branches and Associations	12
Last Post	25
RSA Reunion Weekend 2013	26
Welfare Report	28
Corps Benevolence	29
Report from the Royal Signals Museum	30
Forecast of Corps Events for 2014	31
Details of Forthcoming Officers' Dinners and Luncheons	31
Proforma for Attendance at Officers' Dinners and Luncheons	35 onwards

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REPORT BY THE CORPS COLONEL

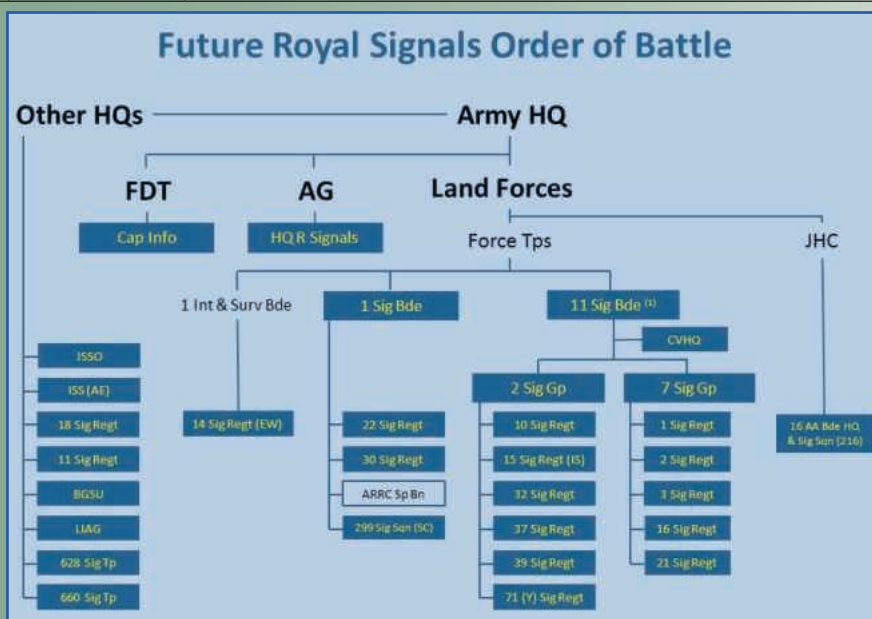
As I write I am conscious that the Corps continues to have some 300+ soldiers deployed in Afghanistan from 10 Sig Regt, 14 Sig Regt (EW), 15 Sig Regt (IS), 18 Sig Regt, 21 Sig Regt, 30 Sig Regt and 7 Armd Bde HQ and Sig Sqn (207). We remain immensely proud of their achievements and quite rightly our thoughts should be with them, and their families.

The last year has seen the start of a period of significant change for the Corps and the Army. I am pleased to report that we are well positioned to grapple with these challenges. Most notably work on the future structure of the Corps has continued apace over the last year, and we now have a clear vision of our future Reserve Structure complimenting the announcement made in Army 2020 last year. While a good deal of additional work is still required, we now know that our Reserves will be made up of 4 regiments plus our specialists in the Land Information Assurance and Land Information Communication Services Groups. The Regiments have now joined 10 and 15 Sig Regts in the newly formed 2 Signal Group as part of 11 Signal Brigade.

The detail of our future reserve structure is shown below together with a complete “wiring diagram” of our future ORBAT. This includes the soon to be formed 7th Signal Group:



32 Sig Regt	Glasgow	52 Sp Sqn – Glasgow, 40 Sig Sqn – Belfast/Londonderry 51 Sig Sqn – Edinburgh/East Kilbride, 2 Sig Sqn – Dundee/Aberdeen (LFFB)
37 Sig Regt	Redditch	54 Sp Sqn – Redditch, 33 Sig Sqn – Liverpool/Manchester 50 Sig Sqn – Darlington/Leeds, 48 Sig Sqn – Birmingham/Coventry, 64 Sig Sqn – Sheffield/Nottingham
39 Sig Regt	Bristol	43 Sig Sqn – Bristol/Bath, 53 Sig Sqn – Cardiff/Gloucester, 94 Sig Sqn – Windsor
71(Y) Sig Regt	Bexleyheath London	265 Sig Sqn – Bexleyheath, 68 Sig Sqn – Lincolns Inn/Whipps Cross 47 Sig Sqn – Uxbridge/Coulsdon, 36 Sig Sqn – Colchester/Chelmsford
Land Information Assurance Group	Corsham	This unit became a federated unit within the Joint Cyber Unit (Reserve) on 1 Aug 13
Land Information Communication Services Group	Corsham	This unit was re-subordinated into 15 Sig Regt (IS) as at 1 Apr 13



Personnel

We are also facing considerable personnel challenges as we move towards our future structures, not least the recruiting of both Regular and Reserve. A major contributing factor to the difficult recruiting environment is undoubtedly the Army's continuing redundancy programme and just over 400 soldiers from R SIGNALS and QGS were selected for Tranche 3 redundancy last summer. No further redundancies are required, and our focus is now very much on recruiting and retaining both our regulars and our reserves. That said I am pleased to report that despite the difficult recruiting environment, the quality of the young men and women joining the Corps remains at an all time high and we will work hard to maintain this through 2014.

You will also be aware of the recent announcement regarding the future of Army Music. For the Corps Band it will mean a significant change, and they will leave Blandford for a new location in the West Midlands in 2014. In the short term this will mean some loss of capability as the reorganisation takes place, but from a cap badge perspective, the longer term outcome of our own band, located within the Corps' future Centre of Gravity, under command of 11 Signal Brigade is strongly endorsed and will reap huge benefits.

Sport

Once again the Corps has excelled in its sporting endeavours and as I write we are the Inter Corps champions in Orienteering, Golf, Football, Snow Boarding, Ladies Basketball, Water Polo, Canoe Sprinting and Open Water Swimming. Across the Corps sport and adventurous training continue to play a huge part in building our first class team ethos, and I am sure you will join me in congratulating all our sports men and women for all of their outstanding achievements.

Looking Ahead

While restructuring will doubtless continue to be the drumbeat, in the short term I am confident that we are well placed to deal with these and the future challenges of contingency. As ever our officers and soldiers continue to perform exceptionally, be it on operations, in barracks, on the sports field or on adventurous training. We have every right to be particularly proud of their achievements and look forward with anticipation to 2014.

CORPS SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS 2013

- by WO1 (CRSM) Mark Mc Mullen

The Corps' team sports have remained highly competitive throughout 2013 with weekly reports being received of their success, in particular the Royal Signals Orienteering team who wiped the board at the Inter-Corps Champions by taking all the silver home, and then the Royal Signals Badminton team who were awarded runners up at the Inter-Corps Championships after narrowly missing out on pole position during an intensely close competition. However, a special mention must go to the Corps Basketball team (Male and Female) and Corps Swimming / Water Polo team which have been extremely well supported by both the players and are each set to achieve some outstanding results throughout 2014. Team sports have also been actively encouraged and supported throughout the year to attend overseas tours. 2013 has seen teams visit places such as the French Alps, Antigua, Cyprus, Northern Europe and shortly the West Indies.

Outstanding individual successes have also been high on the 2013 agenda with awards and recognition being given to individuals such as **LCpl Robinson** (Army Squash Champion), **Cpl Looker** (3rd Place in Army Snowboarding), **Maj Guest** (Army Cycling Champion), **Maj Jeffery** (Army Cycling Captain), **SSgt Morris** (Army Cross Country Champion), **Cpl Storey** and **Cpl Dand** (GB Parachuting) and **Sig Kitching** (Inter-Services Swim Champion).

Reports from some of the individual Corps Team Sports Secretaries;

KAYAKING / CANOE

From the outset the 2013 has been a busy year within Corps Marathon paddling. 14 Signal Regiment (EW) submitted a squad to compete in the Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race. This was a shrewd move and R SIGNALS Canoe Club (RSCC) resources were put into the mix to help bring this endeavour every success. RSCC retained the Waterside Series Services Trophy with a different crew from last year, and two R SIGNALS crews successfully completed the very eventful Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race in what was the coldest on record with a 40% drop out rate. As predicted at the last Sports Board meeting the Royal Engineers have attempted to re-establish their prior dominance on the



back of restarting their annual 3 months long Devizes to Westminster (DW) training camp. The sprint/marathon training camp and championship again took place in Bradford upon Avon, building on last year's successful format. This ultimately led to four new paddlers representing the Corps in the Army Championships. A further three personnel were invited to attend the Inter-Services championships as part of the Army Canoe Union development squad.

CLAY TARGET SHOOTING

R SIGNALS soldiers and officers now have a greater opportunity to participate in what has become the fastest growing non-contact sport in the Army. Clay Target Shooting in the R SIGNALS has grown considerably over the last few years under the support of the Army Target Shooting Club (ATSC). The Corps have 3 of its own fully established shooting grounds with another being built in Colerne with 21 Signal Regiment. Along with numerous other Army grounds, the sport is becoming ever more popular within the Corps and across the Army.

R SIGNALS soldiers are initially introduced to the sport during Phase 2 Training at Blandford. 'Sport for All' sees around fifteen Phase 2 soldiers shoot on a Wednesday afternoon with qualified Clay Pigeon Shooting Association (CPSA) instructors.

A number of R SIGNALS shooters are in the Army team, competing in the Armed Forces and Emergency Services League Events, achieving excellent scores at some of the best civilian shooting grounds in the country. In 2013 the Corps sent three individuals to attend the Army Clay Target Shooting tour to South Africa. The year saw many successes for the Corps; R SIGNALS came 3rd in the Army Inter-Corps Championships; Blandford Garrison came 2nd in the Army Unit Championships and there were many individual victories throughout the season with strong potential for 2014.

CROSS COUNTRY

R SIGNALS soldiers and officers have various opportunities to participate in cross country throughout the year. There are the Regional Command Leagues, Regional Command Championships, Corps Championships, Army Championships, Inter-Corps Championships and the very best in the Army go to the Inter-Service Championships. The season runs from October through March and is one of the most highly contested sports in the Army.

The Corps runs two training camps per year in the Lake District (Exercise KESWICK RUNNER). The first camp run in November is open to all abilities and soldiers are taught the fundamentals of running in a relaxed environment. There has been a fantastic programme developed over the years and it is extremely well supported by instructors from the RAPTC.

The second camp is generally run sometime in January/February and caters for the more advanced runners. It is designed to prepare athletes for the Inter-Corps Championships, which the Corps has had a successful history in, fielding junior, senior, female and veteran teams.

RUGBY

The R SIGNALS Rugby Club encompasses all facets of Rugby from across the Corps, including Rugby Union (Male and Female, 7s and 10s) and Rugby League. The Committee has been restructured in order to reflect this wide remit and now represents a solid foundation from which we will look to spread participation across the Corps and build for future success.

Rugby is the Army's premier collision sport and has a wide and very strong following from the grass roots through to international representation. At the Corps level rugby has grown in strength and quality and the Royal Corps of Signals has continued to compete at the highest levels in both codes with an increasing number of players representing the Army and Combined Services. In recent years there has been a constant battle with heavy operational commitments, the associated need for extensive specialist training, and training support for operations and contingency, alongside a reduction of our numbers in line with Army restructuring. Against this backdrop, unit level rugby has suffered and we are now rebuilding through 3 key Inter Unit competitions: the Hall Cup, which is a structured league played after the Army Inter Unit Competitions; the 10s Festival (The Collins Cup) which is played at the start of the season and the 7s Festival in the Summer. We also now have 8 units who enter the Army Championship and Community Cup Competitions with a view to building towards entering a unit into the Premiership once operational commitments allow.



SQUASH

R SIGNALS squash is very strong at the moment with players representing Army squash at all levels. In the last 5 years the Corps has won the Army Inter Corps Championships, produced 2 Army Individual Champions, Army Under 25 Champions and now an Army Novice Champion. The Corps represent the Army team, not only at first team level but also at Under 25 and Veteran. Players have been selected for Army squash tours to South Africa, Australia, Switzerland, Gibraltar, Cyprus



and Hong Kong. The R SIGNALS has had its own tour in Gibraltar with a mixed team of strong players but also two novice players, one of whom has gone on to become Army Novice Champion. The Corps Championships is held in November (venue varies from year to year) usually with an excellent turnout depending on operational commitments. The competition caters for the accomplished player, the novice player and the more senior player with various age category events.

SNOWBOARDING

Snowboarding is one of the fastest growing winter sports in the Army and this year the Royal Signals has trained more people than any other cap badge. Of all the winter sports, this is probably the one that is most attractive to the younger members of our Corps, both soldiers and officers alike. It is probably the easiest winter sport to pick up, with novices quickly gaining their feet and tackling the more challenging conditions faster than their brethren sporting more traditional 'planks'.



Snowboarding has a very trendy, but also very tough and physically demanding appeal, and our soldiers see it as a sport that is easily accessible to everyone. In 2013, over 120 members of the Corps, from Signaller to Lt Col participated in Ex MERCURY SNOWRIDER, easily matching skiing in popularity and next year we aim to train even more. With so many joining in, both novices as well as seasoned veterans, we are already competing at Army level, in both male and female categories and the Corps Team are the current Army Snowboarding Champions.

BASKETBALL

Basketball is one of the world's most popular and widely viewed sports and in recent years has seen a significant growth in popularity within the Corps. The quality of basketball played across the Army and within the Corps continues to develop with more competitions and training sessions played each year. Recent successes have seen the Corps retain the Female Champions title and we have seen a significant increase in the number of Corps personnel representing the Army and Combined Services.



The Army Inter Corps Competition is held annually (1st/2nd week Nov). The Corps takes two male teams and a female team to the competition. The Corps squad prepare for this event the week preceding the competition.

FOOTBALL

The R SIGNALS Football Association has been an integral participant in Inter-Corps football from the onset and has been continuously linked with the Quadrangular tournament since its inauguration over 40 years ago. Despite its position as one of the major Corps sides, triumph in the Quadrangular Tournament was limited to 3 successes in the competition in 1970 and 2001. Following a near miss in 2001 there was a sense that the Royal Signals were on the verge of something special. The past decade has seen spectacular success, and the Royal Signals Football Team has put in a strong



performance in both the Quadrangular tournament and the Massey Trophy on a consistent basis. The Corps went on to win 5 Quads in a row (2003-2007), a feat that almost matched the REME's 6-in-a-row in the early years of the competition (1969-1975). Likewise in the Inter-Corps League (Massey Trophy); having not won its first title until 2002-2003 the R SIGNALS have subsequently gone on to win 7 league titles and now have more championship wins to their name than any other Corps, having first equalled and then surpassed the Sappers' total of 5. A recent gap of 2 seasons without a league title was ended in 2013 as the Corps clinched the title on the last day of the season following on from a spectacular 10th triumph in the

Quadrangular Tournament.

ATHLETICS

The Corps has had 8 individuals selected to represent the Army through the season at competitions v Loughborough University and the Police. Seven individuals have been selected for the next Inter-Services Championships.

In the upcoming year there will be training camps and sessions being held at Blandford Camp and Bath University.



ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It seems only 5 minutes since I became Chairman of the Association at the Annual General Meeting, but in truth nearly a year has flown. Where has the time gone? It seems to have been a year dominated by the weather – a glorious summer followed by rain, rain and yet more rain. My heart goes out to those who have been affected by the flooding whilst being grateful that none of our major RSA events have been disrupted. I knew there was a good reason Blandford Camp was built on the top of a hill!

Within the Corps and wider Army, it has continued to be a time of change. The drawdown from Afghanistan is well under way and we are most thankful that, at the time of writing, no members of the Corps have been killed in action in the last year. Another drawdown is also well in train with our final pull-out from Germany due later in the decade. This will leave a largely UK-based Army, focussed on capability, rather than a specific operation or threat. This will be a very different Army from the one in which most members served. The future shape of the Territorial Army (now renamed the Army Reserve) has also been announced, sadly seeing the loss of yet another Regimental Headquarters, with the demise of 38th (Strategic Communications) Signal Regiment. One thing that will remain constant, however, will be our people. I am certain that you would all recognise in the current and next generation of signallers the same characteristics (and characters) with whom you served.



The Blandford Reunion followed its traditional pattern and I am most grateful to all those in HQ Royal Signals, Blandford Garrison and 11th Signal Regiment who made it such a success. From this summer the Reunion will lead into a week of Corps activities in Blandford, including the Morrison Cup. So if you'd like to extend your stay in Dorset, there will be much to see and enjoy. We hope in 2015 to bring together on the same day the Princess Royal Day Parade of serving personnel with the Veterans' March Past, but more of that once the RSMs have worked out how to do it!

The Rededication Service of the Corps Memorial in the National Memorial Arboretum goes from strength to strength with record numbers attending in 2013. My thanks to 37th Signal Regiment and the South Staffordshire Branch for bearing the brunt of the organisation once again. Some of you will have noticed that there are one or two problems with the Memorial itself. Somehow rust stains had mysteriously appeared on a non-ferrous statue; the manufacturer has now investigated, accepted responsibility and is putting right at their own expense. We're also investigating the stone on which the plinth stands, as it simply does not seem to be up to the extremely wet conditions and poor on-site drainage (see my earlier comments on the weather).

Another event which is going from strength to strength is Project Noel, centred upon a Service of Lessons and Carols in the splendid surroundings of Liverpool Anglican Cathedral. With the sad demise after 25 years of the London Service, this is now our only Association-wide Carol Service and I do encourage you to experience its unique atmosphere in 2014. Meanwhile we continue to reach out to all members, in whatever way best suits their needs. The Facebook community is now by a long, long way our largest "branch", we have a "flashmob" meeting regularly in York and we're in discussion to affiliate the Linked-In Community "Jimmy in Business" to the Association. I hope that this diverse approach will draw the Corps family closer together with something for everyone.

Finally may I thank everyone in RHQ for their help and support during my first year as Chairman. General Robert Baxter has been a tower of strength as our President and I wish him and Gwynedd all joy and happiness as he retires as Master. I equally welcome General Nick Pope to his new role and look forward to working with him and Jo. Colonel Graham Norton and Amanda have been brilliant ambassadors for the Corps and his commitment to uniting serving and retired members has been second-to-none (dare I suggest more so than many SO-in-C(A) managed). The Corps RSM, Mark McMullen, may have had a baptism of fire judging the Standard Bearers' competition at his first Reunion weekend, but has since proved to be an inspirational leader and just the right man for the job; I wish him and Rosie well on his well-earned commissioning and welcome WO1 Luke as his successor. Closer to home, many of you will be aware that our Regimental Secretary, Terry Canham, has been seriously ill this winter. He is now (touch wood) recovering well and I am sure I speak for us all in wishing him a full and speedy return to full health. This of course has increased the burden on both our Assistant Regimental Secretary, Mark Tivey, and our Admin Officer, Caroline Addison. I owe a huge debt of gratitude to them and everyone else for keeping the Association in such good health.

I wish all members a successful 2014 and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at one event or another.



Royal Signals Association Legal Status

A note by Brigadier (Retd) David Hargreaves, Chairman

Introduction

At the 2013 AGM the General Secretary described the background to the disconnected relationship, in modern legal terms, between the RSA and the main financial and charitable arm of the Corps, the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund. The issue goes back a long way – as far as 1982 to be exact. Over the last couple of years, we have restructured the Benevolent Fund under its corporate trustee, the Royal Signals Trustee Ltd. We now need to tackle the legal status of the Association.

The Problem

In 1982 the then Central Committee established the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund (RSBF) by a trust deed and made the entirely sensible decision to transfer all the Association's funds to the newly established RSBF. In 1997 the Charity Commission made a fully regulating scheme which replaced the trust deed. The RSBF, rather than the RSA, is thus responsible for the payment of grants to meet the welfare needs of members of the Corps (whether serving or retired) and to foster comradeship and morale within the Corps through the subsidy of activities and events, such as the Reunion Weekend. For financial purposes, the RSA and RSBF have in effect been run for the last 30 years as though they were a single organisation, with any funds received by the RSA being immediately transferred to the RSBF.

Unfortunately, we have been advised that this approach does not comply with modern Charity Law. As the RSA is a membership organisation with a charitable intent, the law would now recognise it as an independent, unregistered charity. This brings a whole range of issues with it, such as the Central Committee assuming the duties, responsibilities and liabilities of Trustees of the Charity, and the necessity of maintaining and auditing separate accounts. This would drastically increase the workload on our small team in Blandford and increase costs. It is not therefore a route down which I would willingly take us.

The Options

We have therefore been forced to consider a number of options for restructuring the RSA. These have included:

- Formally registering and operating the RSA as a separate charity;
- Disbanding the current RSA and re-forming it as a membership organisation within the RSBF;
- Winding up the RSBF and reverting to a structure not dissimilar to the pre-1982 model; and
- Merging the RSA and RSBF. RSTL would be the Corporate Trustee of the "merged" charities.

We have measured each of the options against five main criteria:

- To be fully compliant with current charity law.
- To protect welfare funds within the RSBF model, including any future income from legacies.
- To protect the RSA Central Committee from Trustee Liability.
- To retain the existing membership, area and branch structures.
- To minimise changes to the membership, so that the transition takes place without impact on RSA affairs and without increasing the administrative burden of running the Association.

The Proposal

Against these criteria, there is a clear favourite: to merge the charities by what is known as a "cy prés" scheme. However, to achieve this we will need to make some changes to our current rules as well as gaining the agreement and consent of the Charity Commissioners. The two most significant changes we will need to make are:

- The Charitable Object. In order to merge, both the RSA and RSBF must have the same charitable purpose or object. This does not require any radical changes, but it will require some paraphrasing of the current objects of both the Association and the RSBF. It is proposed that in future our object should be:



- a. To promote and maintain the efficiency and morale of the Royal Corps of Signals.
- b. To prevent poverty and relieve conditions of need, hardship and distress of Signallers and their families and dependants and the families and dependants of deceased Signallers.

[Within this proposal, "Signallers" is defined as past and present members of the Corps, of the Indian Signal Corps before the partition of India in 1947, past members of the Signal Service Royal Engineers and past members of the ATS, WAC(I) and WRAC who served in communications appointments with the Corps. It also includes officers and soldiers of Queen's Gurkha Signals, except for welfare grants covered by the Gurkha Welfare Trust,]

- Role and Powers of the Membership. The Membership will continue to act as the "ears" of the merged charities in identifying past and present members of the Corps in need of welfare support. Within the new structure, the Membership will also continue to vote on the election of a Central Committee, which will act as a sounding board for all matters of concern to the members. These include the organisation of, and attendance at, memorial services, reunions and other Corps events. The Central Committee will not, however, be trustees. That role will be taken by RSTL, as the merged charity's Corporate Trustee. The Membership will not vote on the appointment of Directors of RSTL, which will remain the responsibility of the Master of Signals and the Corps' Financial Controller.

Conclusion

I realise that change can be uncomfortable and unsettling, but I am convinced that the above proposal represents the best way to take the Association forward, both legally and sustainably. Once the changes have been put in place, there should be little discernible impact upon the day-to-day operation of the RSA or to you as its members. I will be delighted to answer any questions you may have at the Association's AGM next month. In particular, I would welcome your views on the proposed change to the objects clause, the membership proposal and the merger itself. I would of course also be pleased to receive your thoughts in writing or by e-mail, especially if you are unable to attend the AGM yourself.

RSA AWARDS

Congratulations to the recipients of the following RSA Awards presented during 2013:

Honour Membership (for outstanding service to the RSA over many years)

William Davies – Cardiff
Lt Col Bob Peak - Poole

Chris Endean - Aldershot
Robert Sheridan - Bedford

Stuart Key – Hull

50 Year Badge (In recognition of 50 years combined service: Regular, TA, NS and active support to an RSA Branch)

David Arnot – Birmingham
Dante Brenni - Birmingham
Ronald Gordon – Newcastle
Norman Hyland - Spennymoor
Royston Mallabone - Southport & Dist
Cliff RoystonWebb - Derby
Bob White - Darlington

Gordon Baker - Cardiff
Chris Dennis TD – Liverpool
Dick Grange - Middlesbrough
Lt Col Jan Jasiok – Glasgow
Bill McNamara - Glasgow
Peter Smith – Loughborough

Robert Birse – Derby
Daniel Egan - Leeds
George Hedge – Birmingham
Alan Landsborough - Derby
Thomas Neal – Loughborough
George Suffler - Liverpool



ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

ADMIN OFFICERS REPORT

Welcome to the 2014 Association Newsletter. You will have noticed that this year it takes a slightly different format and is intended for both Association members and retired officers. I hope that you will enjoy reading about some of the activities in which Branch members have taken part during 2013. An update on the current position with regard to the Rules of the Association written by the Chairman is published in this newsletter. This will be a topic for discussion at the AGM on 15 March in the Victory Services Club. All members of the Association are cordially invited to attend. The meeting will be held in the Carisbrooke Hall, the Victory Services Club, 63-79 Seymour St, London W2 2HF on Sat 15 Mar 14. Assemble for coffee from 0930hrs, meeting to begin at 1030.

During the year I have been fortunate enough to have been invited to visit five Branches, Aldershot, Norfolk, Catterick, Bristol and Tayside & Fife. I have enjoyed meeting their members and take this opportunity to thank them again for their excellent hospitality to my husband and me.

I hope that the report and photographs from the 2013 Reunion which took place, as usual, in June at Blandford Camp will inspire you to attend this year; dates for your diary are 21/22 June. The paperwork to attend will be available to download from the website towards the end of March/April. <http://royalsignalsassociation.co.uk/WebSite/index.php/reunion> or by application to me. There will be displays from current units as well as the White Helmets team for 2014. The Beverley Ex-Boys Association members will be leading the march past of veterans as they have decided to close their Association in September 2014. If you have a presence on Facebook, you can find us if you search for Royal Signals Association. This is a closed group and you need to send a request to be added. Currently there are 7,958 members. Maybe you will find someone whom you have lost contact ... why not try?



Apr 13 - Jan 14 Membership



The Association membership is growing and in the ten months since the last Newsletter there have been 1,213 new members and 350 replacement cards sent to existing members. Of the new members, 650 were enrolled from the retired Corps, 476 while undergoing Phase II training and 87 while serving. If you would like a new card, or replacement lapel badge, do contact me. The cards are ordered at the end of each calendar month and are despatched around the 11th of the following month.

During December the UK Premier of the film *The Railwayman* was held in Leicester Square. This was our first opportunity to see this wonderful cinematic depiction of the book written by Eric Lomax based on his experience as a prisoner of the Japanese on the Burma Railway and the subsequent impact this had on his life. The film is a really moving experience which I can wholeheartedly recommend you go and see. Mrs Lomax visited the Museum at Blandford in January and opened a new exhibit which contains items which previously belonged to her husband. If you are visiting the Museum, do look out for it! The photograph shows her in front of the display holding a book which belonged to her late husband.

(photo courtesy of Jane Norman, Blackmore Vale Magazine)



Just before writing this report, I had the privilege of attending the 40th Anniversary of the M62 Bombing Memorial Service at Hartshead Moor Services. This was a very moving service. The photograph shows the memorial to those who lost their lives on 4 Feb 74. If you visit the service area, the memorial is situated on the right hand side of the main services building.



You will find the 2014 Programme of Events further into the Newsletter. The White Helmets confirmed display programme for 2014 can be found at http://whitehelmets.co.uk/?page_id=76

Opening Of The Field Of Remembrance & Cenotaph Parade

Recent official events in the calendar were, on 7 Nov 13 the Opening of the Field of Remembrance by **HRH The Duke of Edinburgh** and **HRH Prince Henry of Wales**. The RSA was as usual well represented and the first two photographs show **Mr Frank Underhill**, our representative at the front of the plot, showing his grandfather's original First World War poppy to the Duke of Edinburgh and to HRH Prince Henry of Wales. The third photograph shows **Mr Underhill**, **Maj Tivey** and **I/P Les Perrier**.



If you would like a chance to attend the opening ceremony (next year on 6 Nov 14) please email me (admin@royalsignalsassociation.co.uk) and I will add your name to the list which is held in RHQ. A ballot for tickets will take place should there be less tickets allocated than applicants.



The culmination of Remembrance Sunday for many people is the Cenotaph Parade and Wreath Laying. This year the Royal Signals Association contingent was again ably organized by **Jim Gwinell** (my thanks to **Jim** for his time and trouble in doing this for us) and included two members of RHQ staff. The photograph shows Mr Benn, oops no sorry, **Maj (Retd) Mark Tivey** and **Maj (Retd) John Fradley** both looking very smart before the contingent formed up on Horseguards Parade. Again, if you would like to take part next year (9 Nov 14) contact me so that your name can be included on the list for tickets.



Don't forget to look at the Association website, where you can find current information about events and links to other pages you may find of interest. Please also let us know if you change any of your personal contact details to help us keep in touch



REPORTS FROM THE BRANCHES

Aldershot Branch

Our programme of events for 2013 ran to schedule and provided good companionship and entertainment for our membership. Highlights included the trip to the National Trust Stourhead estate on a lovely day in June, two excellent morning talks and, of course, our Annual Quiz Night in the Garrison which brought together members of the serving and retired Corps, including our good friends from neighbouring Association Branches. From the picture one can almost hear the clunking and grinding of the young and old brains at work. We are grateful to the OC and members of 251 Signal Squadron for their help in organising that event and also for the subsequent visit to them in barracks to learn more about their role and equipment. At our autumn lunch we were very pleased to welcome *Wire* editor **Keith Pritchard** as our guest of honour and grateful for the update on Corps affairs he gave us.



2014 certainly came in like a lion but, undismayed by storms pounding the west coast or flood waters spreading across southern England, we are looking forward to another good year ahead. Our programme includes visits to the Historic Dockyard at Portsmouth to see the new Mary Rose museum in June, and to the Inns of Court in London for a conducted tour and lunch in September. This year's first talk will be given by a 5th generation auctioneer, who will provide an amusing insight into auctioneering over the years; the second by one of our associate members, **John Glanfield**, on a long forgotten PoW at Guildford which he has discovered and researched. Lunches will take place in April and November at the Camberley Heath Golf Club where excellent meals are guaranteed. For those who prefer the more informal setting of the rustically sited Bat & Ball hostelry in Farnham, there will be pub lunches in July and December. Readers will no doubt note from this that Aldershot Branch marches on its stomach.

The detail of our programme for the whole year is available on our page of the Association website. Retired members of the Corps living in Surrey or Hampshire and members from other Branches are most welcome to attend any of our events. Please contact **Neville Lyons** at neville.lyons@btinternet.com for more information.

For any potential new members wishing to join us, you can now find us on Facebook! To find us, in the Facebook Search box enter Aldershot Branch Royal Signals Association. We look forward to hearing from you.

Bath and District Branch

The Bath and District Branch has about 130 members and covers a large area. The Branch Committee is **Howard Ham**, President; **Mike Macklin**, Chairman; **Arthur Threlfall-Searson**; Treasurer; **Bob Vale**, Visiting Officer; **Dick Hemming** and **Steve Farrow**, Secretary. We are particularly fortunate to have the support of 21 Signal Regiment. We held three lunches at Colerne in 2013 and these are always popular events. These included a Spring lunch in March, a lunch after our AGM in October and an excellent Christmas celebration in December, attended by 27 members. These were all organised by **Steve Farrow**, our Secretary, and **Maj Carl Budding** from 21 Signal Regiment, to whom we are very grateful.

At the end of August **Mike Macklin**, who is one of the Mayor of Bath's Honorary Guides, led a group of 12 members around the site of the Civil War battle of Lansdown. We had a most enjoyable country walk in fine weather. The plan had been to have lunch afterwards at a local pub, but this closed at short notice (not because of our impending visit!) and so we repaired to **Mike's** house where we were joined by 6 more Branch members. **Mike** has also taken a group from 21 Signal Regiment on a short tour of the city.



On Remembrance Sunday **Harry Hemming** laid the wreath in Bath at the cenotaph and **Alun Stewart**, our Standard Bearer, attended this and the afternoon parade in Bath.



Bedford Branch

During the year we have held various events which included our Annual Dinner in March 2013 at Bedford and County Golf Club. This was attended by 48 members and guests including the Chairman RSA, **Brig David Hargreaves**. The evening was very much enjoyed by everyone.

In June we attended the Armed Forces Week Flag Raising Day in the Borough Hall followed by the NMA Cycle Ride and Memorial Service in July. The Bedford Standard was one of 8 on parade at the Corps Memorial. We had a very interesting visit and have made a note of the date for next year. On 4 July members of the Branch were invited to Corps Day at Chicksands. This celebration of the birth of the Intelligence Corps began with a fun 'It's a Knock Out' competition between different squads and included plenty for the families and children who live on the camp.

September saw the Church Parade at the Royal Hospital Chelsea on the 1st. This service was attended by members of other London Branches as well. We paraded in the quadrangle with the In-pensioners and then marched into Church for the service. The West London Branch Standard was paraded into Church. There then followed a delicious curry lunch which was very much appreciated.

Colonel Brian Prophet Trophy 2013. Confirmation was received from **Maj E Isaac** (ACF) for this year's recipient was a Cadet from the Cranfield Detachment again, **Cpl Crowther**. The presentation was on the 9th October 2103 at Cranfield ACC, attended by our Chairman **Den** and five committee members.

The Colonel Brian Prophet Trophy is presented annually to the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Army Cadet Force, "Most Outstanding Cadet Signaller" who has successfully completed the 'Cadet Signaller Course' in Signalling Skills over the previous 12 months. In addition to the Trophy, each successful cadet is also given a salver inscribed with their name commemorating the award.

Maj Isaac continues his support and interest, making sure we are contacted for this important Branch connection with the local ACC whose members proudly wear our Corps cap badge.

The Branch Standard was carried at a service of Remembrance at the beginning of November at the mass grave of Highlanders in Bedford Cemetery. It was again paraded this time by one of the Army Cadets, **AC Cpl Roberto Marino**, at the Remembrance Day Parade on Remembrance Sunday with the Branch wreath being laid by **Ian Slatter**.

In December, at the North End Working Men's Club, the annual Branch draw took place. This popular event made for a good evening which was enjoyed by all who attended. A full list of prizewinners is available from the Branch. We are looking forward to a full programme of events for 2014.



Birmingham Branch

24 members, plus a group of 20 friends, enjoyed our Annual Away Weekend in April to Weston-super-Mare, organised as usual, by **Mrs Vi Cannadine** (Associate Life Member). **Vi** is one of our WW2 veterans, having served in the WRNS.

Our Charity Committee under **Paul Sowsbery** have again been busy this year. In June they held a motorised Treasure Hunt around Warwickshire from a base at Melbicks Garden Centre. As 2 teams had equal points a playoff was needed after the delicious lunch to decide the winning team. A total of £230 was raised in support of SSAFA as well as a great day out. After a series of quiz nights at the monthly meetings to fund the prizes for the big night on November 10, another "Snail Racing" evening was held in the Army Reserve Centre of 48 (City of Birmingham) Signal Squadron (V) which proved very successful. Members of 16 Signal Regiment, in UK on a recruiting drive, turned up to support and enjoy the entertainment. **Maj. Steve Cherry**, OC 48 (City of Birmingham) Signal Squadron (V) presented a Birmingham City Football Club shirt (No 48 of course) signed by the team to be raffled on the evening, which helped swell the total by £86. Over the evening a total of £458 was raised for the RSBF.

At the Branch Christmas Dinner, held at the Tally Ho Club (W Midlands Police Sports and Social Club), **Col (Retd) Brian Foxon OBE TD** presented 50 Year Awards to **Dave Arnot** (Standard Bearer), **Dante Brenni** (Subscription Secretary) and **George Hedge** (Chairman & Secretary). All three served with **Col Brian** at 35 (South Midlands) Signal Regiment (V), in which he was both Commanding Officer and Honorary Colonel.



The occasion also marked the retirement of **Catherine Harris** (another 50 Year Badge holder) as Treasurer. **Catherine** has been in this role (in conjunction with her late husband **Stanley**) for over 25 years. **Maj. Ivan Thomas** is taking over this post in January.



Catherine Harris thanked by George Hedge (Chairman)



L-R: George Hedge, Dave Arnot, Col Brian Foxon OBE TD and Dante Brenni

Blackpool Branch



Our AGM took place on 14 January. **Michael** took over as Chair and ran the meeting like clockwork. The existing committee were re-elected for the next 12 months. The meeting was then handed over to our newly elected committee and our monthly meeting took place. It was all rather slick as we were about to celebrate **Matthew Japps' 100th** birthday. The ladies (associate members) laid up the buffet in the bar area whilst our meetings took place. Thank you **Dorothy, Carol** and **Pat** for your hard work. **Matthew** was presented with a picture with an inscribed plaque from the Branch, a Corps tie, beret and badge from the RSA HQ.



Events: This year will see us visiting locations of interest such as the Arboretum and taking part in the 100 year celebrations. We are also busy raising funds for the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund to show our appreciation for their help in the purchase of our Branch Standard.

Welcome: Finally if you are visiting Blackpool and would like to see if the Branch has anything on during your visit we would love to see you. Just email us on rsablackpool@yahoo.co.uk We have a whole range of experiences here, from signalmen to captains, and all different trades. Our youngest member is 23-years-old. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month at the Wainwright Club on Hornby Road, Blackpool.

Bristol Branch

The Bristol Branch had a successful year in 2013. We managed to recruit four new Life Members, two from contacts received from **Caroline** at RHQ, one from a chance encounter with our member, **Steve Jenkins**, at Weston-super-Mare and one old friend, **Frank Dawson**, the former Chief Clerk of 37 Signal Regiment, who had worked at Horfield with **Jayne Tuck** and **Kerri Hill** and had remained in contact with them since he left 37 Regiment on its relocation to Redditch in 1992. Although he lives in Plymouth, **Frank** and his wife **Mavis** had managed to attend four meetings and socials during 2013. Likewise, another new member, **Alan Skells** and his wife **Evelyne**, had attended two social events in Bristol, even though they live in Barnstaple, Devon.

Balanced with this, one Life Member decided not to renew his membership and has been transferred to the RHQ list. We have also "lost" two Associate Members. We now have forty Life Members and three Associate Members, of which about twenty are regular attendees. We shall continue to try and recruit more during 2014.

Our main social events during 2013 were again the hugely popular Summer Cheese and Wine Party and the Annual Dinner in October, where we were fortunate enough to be joined by guests **Caroline Addison** and her husband, **Doc**. We also



held a skittles evening at a local club in April and we are now planning a Supper Night at Horfield ARC in the Spring. Our friends, the REME Association – Bristol Branch, again kindly invited us to their New Year Raffle Night and Buffet in January and their Annual Barbecue in July. They in turn joined us for our Cheese and Wine Party in August.

The AGM in London in March was attended by our Chairman, **Chick Cheetham**, Secretary, **Jayne Tuck** and long standing member, **Jim Chamberlain**. Several of our members also attended the Annual Reunion at Blandford in June.

Around twenty of our members/partners attended the Remembrance Day curry lunch at Horfield at the kind invitation of our host unit, 39th (Skinners) Signal Regiment. The PSAO requested a small, voluntary, donation of £1.00 per meal which our members gladly supported. This helped to raise more than £100.00 towards the Poppy Appeal, which was a great result! Several of our Branch members helped out as poppy sellers in 2013, under the command of the local RBL “Chief Poppy Seller”, our very own **Mr Jim Chamberlain**. Well done, **Jim**, and to everyone else who helped!

The year ended with another social gathering, on 15th December, for the 80th Birthday Party of our member, **Mr John Palmer**. Happy Birthday, **John**, and here’s to many more!



Cornwall Branch

Down here in Cornwall we are still reasonably active. We hold a bi-monthly meeting on the third Saturday of the month in the old RBL, now called the Kurnow Club. It is right next door to Truro Cathedral. We also have alternate meetings where we meet up for a pub lunch in a venue selected by one of our members. The staff at one of our large stores, Trago Mills, have been presented with a Corps plaque from the Branch in appreciation for allowing the us to collect at the store for the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund for 2 days each year. Over the years we have raised over £10,000 for the fund.

We now look forward to our AGM, when it has been proposed that **Brig (Retd) Andy Bristow** take over as our President from **John Field**. We thank **John** for all the sterling work he has done for the Branch. He has the distinction of having served in all three posts on the Branch committee.

This year we will again be having our Christmas lunch at the Penventon Hotel Redruth, a venue that has become a favourite of our members. We are always looking for new members, so if there are any ex Corps members reading this who live in Cornwall more information can be obtained from our Secretary, **Terry Winsor** on tcw830@btinternet.com



Trago Mills manager, Gary Whitelock, being presented with the plaque by President, John Field, (left) and Chairman, Vic Prees (right)



East London Branch

We have tried this year to do a few things differently in a bid to improve attendance and participation. Our Annual Dinner & Dance held in April was held in a local Golf Club as opposed to the Ilford Army Reserve Centre. Although the original aim was to make this a simpler event to organise and encourage more members to attend, as it turned out, the numbers attending were down on previous years.

In contrast to this, the AGM at the end of April had a bumper turnout of 38. **Maj (Retd) Paul Burton** stepped down as Chairman after 12 eventful years, handing over to **Neill Keen** whose first duty was to thank **Paul** and make a presentation of four cut glass goblets. **Reggie Cullumbine** joined the committee, taking on the position of Vice Chairman.

Early in June, a group of our members joined a trip organised by Woodbridge RBL and headed off for the battlefields of the Arnhem area. Although there were some very sobering moments, a good time was had by all. Our thanks go to organiser **Pattie Smith** who kept us busy on the coach trip there and back with a variety of quizzes.

In June we changed our format and held a Games Evening and Fish & Chip Supper. Our Treasurer, **Mick O'Brien** organised carpet bowls, quizzes, raffles and horse racing. The 30 members who attended all took part in a variety of games and a good evening was had by all.

To mark Armed Forces Day, about a dozen of our members formed up outside Ilford Town Hall for the parade led by The Honourable Artillery Company Band (who helped us to keep in step!). Afterwards, all the participants were invited into the Town Hall for refreshments.

At the end of October, the Supper Disco Dance was held in the Ilford Army Reserve Centre. This was a lively evening with over 70 guests attending, (virtually everybody ending up on the Dance Floor). As is our tradition, the proceedings finished the closing ceremony, the Standard being paraded by **Dave Coles**.

Sadly, our long time member, **Les Wood** died at the end of October and his Funeral on 7 November was very well supported by friends and family. Our Standard Bearer, **Roy Bilby**, led the coffin though a Branch members' guard of honour into the packed chapel.

Les, who had attended many Remembrance Day Parades at the Cenotaph was again in our thoughts when Branch members paraded at the Newbury Park War Memorial a few days later. After the parade, we were treated to an excellent Curry Lunch at Ilford Army Reserve Centre by 217 Field Squadron RE.

Following the success of the games night earlier in the year, 40 of us were joined by 7 In-pensioners from Chelsea Hospital and enjoyed a fantastic evening with lots of socialising and a fitting way to end our meetings calendar for the year. To round our year off, on 7 December 40 members, families and friends went to Earls Court for the British Military Tournament, where certainly in our eyes, the White Helmets stole the show.

Lincoln Branch

The Lincoln Branch has added a few new members over the last year or so, due mainly to the efforts of our Secretary, **David Hambidge**. He has sent numerous letters to former members of the Corps living in the Lincoln area who for one reason or another had not considered joining us prior to receiving the letter.

The Branch has a close relationship with Lincoln Branch, Parachute Regiment Association; we meet at the same venue and attend each other's social activities such as Annual Dinners, Luncheons, and Buffet Evenings. We are now trying to arrange a joint rededication service for our Branch standards. All this has brought new life into both Branches and of course new friendships. We will continue to expand our joint social activities with them throughout 2014.

Our Branch President, **Maj (Rtd) Derek Wood**, arranged a Branch visit to the Lincoln Guildhall, which is housed in a 16th century building and incorporates a stone arch known as the 'Stone Bow'. The Guildhall is in the centre of Lincoln and is where Lincoln City Council still holds its meetings. As well as a tour of the building and a presentation on the history of the Guildhall, we were privileged to be taken on a visit to the City



The Lincoln Dinner



Vault where all the silver and very precious items are held. Previous visitors to the Stone Bow have included HM King George V and Queen Mary, HM Queen Elizabeth II and Lady Diana, The Princess of Wales. One of the more interesting items is the sword presented to the City of Lincoln by King Richard I when he visited to view the local copy of Magna Carta. The sword is carried by the Mayor's Officer ahead of the Mayor at all formal functions. An old black and white photograph shows the sword being carried by the then Mayor's Officer, during the visit by HM King George V and Queen Mary to the City of Lincoln, and was taken on the steps of the Guildhall (Stone Bow). Tradition is that whenever the reigning monarch visits the City, the Mayor's Officer holds the sword flat across both palms of his hands in front of the monarch, who then touches the sword. Joe takes great pride in the fact that on Her Majesty's last visit to the City of Lincoln he had that very honour, thus he will be forever recorded as having done so in the City records.



Queen Mary at Stone Bow

In conclusion, the fact that we the Lincoln Branch continue to flourish (albeit that we are much smaller than some other Branches), is a tribute to the fact that we have a strong committee and thanks must go to all concerned. Namely: President, **Maj (Retd) Derek Wood MBE**, Chairman, **John Hudson**, Vice Chairman, **John Plaskitt**, Secretary, **David Hambidge**, Treasurer, **Jim Banks**, Standard Bearer, **Ben Revell** and our Entertainments Committee, **Eddy Mulhall** and **John Hudson**.

If this item from Lincoln has kindled any interest from other Branches who would like to visit Lincoln, then we would be pleased to assist in arranging a tour of the Guildhall for you.

Liverpool Branch

2013 has been a momentous year for the Liverpool Branch. We have gone from strength to strength, literally, our membership now stands at 108 with more wanting to join us. This is as a result of many things; the most important being the fact that we have active members, especially committee members, such as our Chairman, **Bob Taylor** and our Secretary, **Tony Mullin**, who have made contacts with those ex-members of the Corps who live in the local area

Our links with our local Army Reserve Signal Squadron, 33 Signal Squadron, could not be better and are improving all the time. Their support and encouragement throughout the year has been second to none and we enjoy first rate facilities for our regular monthly meeting and events.

Over the year we lost 5 of our long standing members, **Aussie Graves**, **Ron Jones**, **Alan Heritage**, **George Brownie** and **Col Ken Maxwell-Brown**. We will sadly miss all of them.

On a brighter note, we were very pleased to see two members, **George Suffler** and **Chris Dennis**, awarded their 50 year Badges and Certificates. We have also recently appointed an Honorary Chaplain to our Branch and we welcome **Revd John Williams**, the ex Chaplain of 33 Signal Regiment(V). We are also fortunate to have as a member of the Branch, the High Sheriff of Merseyside, Deputy Lord Lieutenant and Honorary Colonel of 33 Signal Squadron, **Ian Meadows**.

The Royal Signals Reunion saw the Branch well represented with 16 members travelling down to Blandford. The Branch Standard Bearer was awarded with the 75 Year Pennant to fly with the Standard as the Branch has been in existence since 1929.

Remembrance Day at St Georges Hall Liverpool was well attended by our members this year and we marched off with our Standard proudly leading us.

Throughout the year, due to our excellent entertainments team, **Alan**, **Karen** and **Graham**, we have had a number of very successful events including a visit to the NMA, a Bavarian Evening (which continued into the small hours), along with games and quizzes which culminated in the highlight of the our year, the Christmas Function. This was attended by over 110 members, friends and guests who sat down to the excellent meal with entertainment to match. The Chairman of the Royal Signals Association, **Brig David Hargreaves**, was our Guest of Honour.



Loughborough Branch

President
Chairman
Vice Chairman
Secretary/Treasurer

Andy Riddell
Gerry Kane
Chuck Speed
Bob White

Our annual dinner and dance was held at The Carillon Rooms in Loughborough, and over 50 members made the evening of 7 December 2013 go with a swing. From 1900 to midnight it just goes to show that we old soldiers and their ladies can still put on a party. Judging by the dancing, many could put the younger ones to a test.



Members gather prior to sitting down to dinner

The event was also an opportunity to make two very special presentations. Two stalwarts of the Branch, **Pete Smith** and **Tom Neal**, were presented with their 50 Year Badge, Certificate and letter. The presentation was to be undertaken by our President, **Andy Riddell**, but unfortunately he could not attend due to illness. Thankfully, our ever-ready Chairman, **Gerry Kane** stepped in to perform the honours.



Pete Smith receives his 50 Year Badge from the Chairman



Bob White (Secretary) and Andy Riddell (President) at the Corps Memorial – NMA



Tom Neal receives his 50 Year Badge from the Chairman

We now look forward to 2014. We have a popular Branch that will always welcome new members. Our meeting venue of The Beacon Pub in Loughborough provides good facilities. If you are down our way, please join us. The meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month, (except June, July and August), and you can be assured of a warm welcome.

Middlesbrough Branch

Middlesbrough Branch - Our Standard Bearer

Middlesbrough Branch is very lucky to have as Standard Bearer, **Mick Little**. **Mick** joined the Army in 1966 as an Apprentice. After training he served in various units until he left in September 1977. He then joined 34 (N) Sig Regt (V) the following day where he served in Lima Tp until it was disbanded. He transferred to 22 Coy RAOC and when it was disbanded he joined 118 Fd Sqn RE, finally leaving the Army on 30 Jun 99 with a total service of 3 years boy service, 9 years with the Colours and 22 years TA service, a total of 34 years. **Mick** joined the Royal Signals Association in 1995 and attended meetings when his work allowed him. He became relief Standard Bearer in 2001 and took over as the Branch Standard Bearer in 2003. Over the years his commitment to the job has grown as shown by the fact that in 2005 the Standard was paraded twice, but in 2013 it was taken to 23 different events in the local area. Thank you **Mick!**

If you are in the Middlesbrough area and would like to come and join us, we would be delighted to see you.



Newark & Mansfield Branch

Branch member, **Ray Vasper** (ex-RSM at 8 Sig Regt, Catterick) is shown in the photograph presenting the pace stick passed onto him in 1972 at his dining in. Today it is on display in RHQ 11 Sig Regt and shows the name of each RSM into whose care it was entrusted.



Newcastle Branch

The presentation of **Ron Gordon's** 50 Year Badge and framed certificate was made by our President **Chrissie Meikle**. 1948 saw the start of **Ron's** service career and he remains today a committed and valuable member of our Branch, **Ron** also serves on the joint service bi-monthly committee as our representative. Well done **Ron**, long may it continue.



L - R: Guy Turnbull S/B Derek Thorpe and Harry Duncan

Three of our Newcastle Branch members travelled to Belgium to visit war grave cemeteries after our reunion in June, with the highlight taking the salute at the Menin Gate, Ypres Salient in Flanders.



Members of the Newcastle Branch when they recently visited their local cinema for a showing of the Railwayman.

Darlington Branch

Another busy year with 6 social functions held. In January we held a Burns Supper night, followed by three cabaret/buffet nights in Mar, May and July, a black tie ladies dinner night in October and a Christmas cabaret night in early December. In addition we attended the Middlesbrough Branch get-together in May and the Hartlepool Branch Gathering of the Clans in August. Members reported that they had a very enjoyable time at both Branches and our thanks go to the organisers.

Our Branch Standard was on parade at the Darlington Mayors' Armed Forces Church Service on 23 June followed by the Councils' "Raise the Flag" ceremony for Armed Forces Day on 24 June. We also took the Standard to the Eden Camp All Services Remembrance Parade on Sun 8 September. After the parade a short hop into Whitby for Fish & Chips was enjoyed by all.

As always, we thank 50 Sig Sqn for supporting the Branch throughout the year, allowing us use of the TA Centre for our social functions and Branch meetings.

Our one regret is that we are unable to attract new members, in particular those who indicate to RHQ that they wish to join Darlington Branch, but never respond to invites to attend the Branch. Notwithstanding that, we have a very active membership of 70+ and are looking forward to a similar jam packed 2014.



Poole Branch

President **Lt Col (Retd) Bob Peake BEM**
 Chairman **Mr Barrie Walker**
 Secretary **Mr Ray Williams**

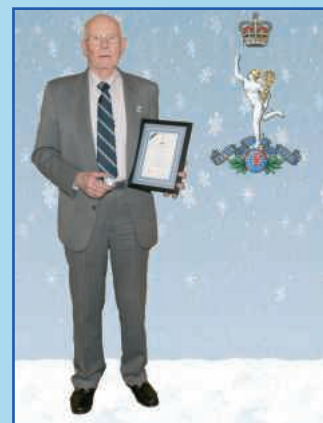
The Poole Branch continues to be successful and our monthly meetings have an average attendance of over 30 members which are held at the RBL Club Broadstone. After the admin details are dealt with we have a very enjoyable social evening with various activities such as quizzes and darts. Over the last year we have also had several very entertaining Skittles Nights at the nearby RBL Club at Corfe Mullen where the highlight of the meal was a slice of one of **Betty Williams'** famous homemade cakes!



The Branch Christmas Dinner

Bob Peake BEM was presented with his very deserved Honour Membership.

In June we travelled up to London to see the Trooping of the Colour rehearsal with HRH Prince Charles taking the salute. We were lucky enough to have an excellent viewing position in the stands and were really impressed with the pomp and ceremony of the event. September sees our annual Sunday Lunch at the Elstead Hotel Bournemouth which is an enjoyable meal among many friends. The highlight of the year is our Christmas Dinner held at the Queens Hotel in Bournemouth. This year, 53 members and guests attended. Our President, **Lt Col (Retd)**



Bob Peake with his Honour Membership

Sadly during 2013 we lost three of our stalwart members. Firstly in March, **Donald 'Nick' Nichols** passed away after a long battle with cancer aged 81. Secondly, in September after a very short illness **John Hyde** died aged 82, and then at Christmas, without warning, **Graham Watkins** died at the very early age of 71. They will all be sadly missed.

We have just been informed that the founder of the Poole Branch **Jimmy Logan** sadly died on 4 February and a full obituary will be published in the next issue of the Wire. Our heartfelt condolences go to Eve and the rest of their family.

Salisbury Branch

The Salisbury Branch has continued to flourish with membership increasing for the third successive year. Recent new members include **Dick** and **Wenche Smith**, **Nigel** and **Linda Cullen**, **Andy** and **June Harkins** and **Geoff Willman**. With increased numbers new members now have a good chance of finding old acquaintances amongst the existing membership helping them to feel they are amongst friends as soon as they arrive.

The informal Spring Sunday lunch held at the local Grasmere Hotel was well attended and enjoyed by everyone. The main social event of the year however was the Autumn Lunch when some forty members and their guests attended the Legacy Rose and Crown Hotel at Harnham in early November. **Marilyn Offord**, the Branch Social Member, had created a theme for the lunch based on the 60th Anniversary of the Queen's Coronation. In addition to decorating the room and tables in a patriotic and regal way she produced a display based on the Coronation year of 1953 which included original photographs and memorabilia from the time including photographs of some of the members themselves, many of whom were children at the time, and a display of sweets which she had found to be still available from local shops 60 years later. Guest of honour, **Maj Gen (Retd) John Stokoe**, updated those present on the activities of the serving Corps. The raffle raised £191 for the Royal British Legion.



The year ended with the presentation by Branch Chairman **Dick Offord** of an edited edition of the history of the Salisbury Branch to the membership which he had taken several weeks to compile from fading records going back to the 1950s.



South London Branch

Being on the fringe of London's great attractions the Branch has innumerable opportunities for visits such as Chelsea Hospital for lunch, the Tower of London for the Ceremony of the Keys and Trooping the Colour. One for the more nerveless was a visit to The Shard from which local trains look like models and we had a different perspective on St Paul's. On top of that the Branch has enjoyed dinners and lunches in their adopted home - the Croydon Bowling Club.



Chester Branch

Our year Started off with the AGM on Thursday 17 January 2013 followed later in the month by our Annual Dinner on the 27th. We held Sunday Lunches in April, on the 28th and again in October on the 27th. At all these functions we held raffles with the proceeds being sent to the Benevolent Fund. Branch member **Harry Beesley** represented us at Project Noel in Liverpool and read one of the lessons. We have a vibrant committee for 2014 and are looking forward to the coming year.

3 Div Sigs Reunion Club



"3 DIV SIGNALS – THE 70's"



The 5th Annual Reunion is to be held in the Pear Tree Country Hotel, Smite, Worcester over the weekend 16 - 18 May 2014

The Reunion is open to anyone who served in 3 Airportable Division HQ & Signal Regiment, (Strategic Reserve), in Bulford in the early 1970's - 1977 or in 3 Armoured Division HQ & Signal Regiment, in Söest between 1977 – 1980-ish! Why not join Forces with us? Let's drag up a Sandbag, swing the lamp, and catch up!

"First parade" (*at the bar!*) & "Check in" during the afternoon/evening of Friday 16th May. Dismissal Parade (*at the bar!*) and Check out at lunch time, Sunday 18 May

Rough costs are:

Bed and Breakfast Room rates, per night
Room (Single Occupancy) £ 60
Room (Double occupancy) £ 70
Twin Bedroom (Double occupancy) £ 70

With a "not so formal" private dinner held on the Saturday!
At £ 20 (maybe £ 25) per person. (Buy your own booze!)

For booking and/or further information, contact: by e-mail:
Pete Line pmline@aol.com (Primary contact) or phone: **Ginge Doak** 07850 020981 (Alternate contact)



Airborne Signals Association



Airborne Signals Old Comrades' Association

The Airborne Signals OCA has a membership drawn from the Royal Signals Officers and Soldiers who served in 216 Parachute Signal Squadron, from 1948. More information about the unit, which is said by many to be *"the finest Field Squadron the Royal Corps of Signals ever produced"*, can be seen at www.216parasigs.org.uk.

The 2014 OCA Reunion is to be held in Barnsley, S Yorks, over the weekend 13 - 15 June.
Costs: Dinner £27.50 per head, accommodation from £25 ph per night. Full details for accommodation & timings at the Reunion are available on the website; see newsletters.

For details about membership of the OCA, contact Ray Duffy on 01904-690515.

Any former officer or soldier of Royal Signals, who has passed 'P' Coy, has qualified as a British military parachutist, and has served in an Airborne Unit, is eligible for membership, at no cost. The person upon whom eligibility is based must have satisfied all three criteria to qualify.

The 2014 Caythorpe Reunion is planned for the weekend 5 - 7 September.

Costs: last year the Dinner cost £25 ph, accommodation £15 ph per night; this year may be similar. For further advice and bookings contact **Capt Kent Oliver**, MTO, 216 (Para) Sig Sqn, on 01206-815527, or the Unit Welfare Office on 01206-815505.

56 Div (City of London) OCA

The OCA has enjoyed another year culminating in hosting the RSA Chairman at our annual dinner at the Union Jack Club in November.



Air Formation Signals Association

Act of Remembrance at Glossop The AFSA newsletter gave details about six members of 2 AFS who perished when *HMT Lancastria* was sunk off St Nazaire on 17 June 1940. To our surprise these six young men all came from Glossop and we eventually discovered that they had originally enlisted in 2nd North Midland Corps Signals (TA) at Glossop and were members of 14 Line Section, which was later transferred to 2 AFS. Those members of the section that survived rejoined 2 AFS at Harrogate and were then transferred to Western Command Signals. This tragic story was unearthed by **Philip Tice**, a member of the AFSA and also a member of 2 AFS who left St Nazaire on another ship on the day following the disaster.

Provided sufficient members of our association express interest, we propose that on Friday 25 April 2014 we will walk/march from the hotel to arrive at the War Memorial at 10.50am; take part in the Act of Remembrance including singing 'For Those in Peril on the Sea', reading the names of the six men who perished and then a two minute silence and laying a wreath. On Friday evening, following a buffet dinner, we will be entertained by **Miss Emma James**. Full details are published in the AFSA Newsletter.

For those who will be visiting the National Memorial Arboretum, in 2009 a DVD showing all 23 Corps related memorials was produced. Whilst things have changed at the NMA since then, it is still a useful guide for groups considering a visit. Copies are available from the AFSA price £5.00 plus £1.00 post & packing. Application to: pat.soward@btinternet.com



Beverley Ex-Boys Association

Beverley Boys Last Parade

The ex-boy soldiers of No 6 Boys Training Regiment, based at Victoria Barracks Beverley between 1949 and 1955, formed an association which has held a reunion annually for many years (a significant number of them have been held at Beverley). This association will hold its last Parade and Reunion in Beverley in late September 2014. It has been decided to close the Association this year because of the advancing age of the members which is making travel difficult and reducing those able to attend. The final celebrations will consist of a dinner with a senior Army Officer as speaker, the sounding of the Last Post at the Beverley Memorial Gardens and a short Parade to a Church Service.

A Morrison's Supermarket now stands where the old Barracks once stood and a small display can be found within the store. To keep the name alive, a block at Blandford was also named "Beverley" after No 6 Boys Training Regiment. Anyone who served with the Beverley Boys Regiment is invited to attend this last parade and dinner. Please contact **John Wardle** on 01246 590573 or email via john.wardle2011@btinternet.com. John would also like to hear from you if you have memories of the boys or have photographs or memories you would like to share.

Birgelen Veterans Association

- by Jeff Jephcote

The 13th annual reunion of the Birgelen Veterans Association was held at the Cavendish Hotel in Torquay over the weekend 3– 7 Oct 12. Yet again it was a tremendous success; this was down to the 43 members who attended the Saturday night Gala dinner and of course the committee. This year saw the end of an era for **Fred Searle** and **Cyril Harding** who were two of the founder members of the Birgelen Veterans. Both have served on the committee as officer bearers for the past 13 Years.

Our new officer bearers, Chairman **Keith Clarke** and Secretary/Treasurer **Mick Morby** are now working towards the 14th annual reunion which will be at the Cavendish Hotel Torquay on 26 – 29 Sep 14. You can check out our website and become a member, www.birgelenvets.org



Fred Searle and Cyril Harding

Northern Ireland Veterans Association

Northern Ireland Veterans' Association Service of Remembrance National Memorial Arboretum 11.30am Saturday 20th September 2014

The Northern Ireland Veterans' Association Service of Remembrance 2014 will be held at 1130hrs Sat 20 Sep 14 at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, Staffordshire.

The service will commemorate and remember all those who lost their lives in service of the Crown as a result of the conflict in N. Ireland. It will be followed by a parade down to the Ulster Ash Grove for the laying of wreaths. Following the laying of the wreaths, there will be a 15 minute pause before the parade forms up for the return march to the visitor centre during which the guest of honour will take the salute. The NIVA looks forward to welcoming you to their annual memorial service.

The service is open to all and we have been asked to parade our Standards, alongside other Regimental/Corps Associations. Branches of the RSA are asked to let the Admin Officer (admin@royalsignalsassociation.co.uk) know if their Standard will be present along with the total number of their members by 1 Aug 14.



Souda Bay Armistice Memorial

On Sunday the 10 November at 1100 hrs the Armistice service at Souda Bay Crete began. The weather was 26° with clear sky and brilliant sunshine. The Souda Bay cemetery was in perfect condition as always; kept in that way by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Team.



We paid tribute to the 1,500 soldiers that are buried overlooking Souda Bay Harbour. This year saw the largest number of people seen for some years. There were over 25 wreaths laid by representatives from The United States, the Greek Armed Services, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand and Canada along with most United Kingdom Units.

Cardiff Branch

Our AGM in February confirmed the appointment of our Chairman, Selwyn Williams (3 years in post), and Secretary Bill Davies (33 years in post). Further into the year, representatives of the Branch went to the AGM and our Chairman attended the Reunion. In June we invited members from West Wales to join us at the presentation of Honour Membership to our Branch Secretary. Then in September we invited a SNCO from 53 Sig Sqn (V) to talk to us about the communications provided for the Olympic Games; this was a very interesting talk and gave us a good insight into modern ways of communicating. Our Annual Branch Dinner took place at the Earl Haigh Club in Whitchurch in November. Forty members and guests enjoyed a lovely meal and social gathering.

While we look forward to 2104 and hope to attract more members to our meetings, held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month, we look back sadly and remember three members of the Branch who died during the year: Graham Richards, Paul Magee and Noel Egerton. We will miss them all.

Scarborough Branch

The Scarborough Branch meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Duchess pub in the town. We have an average of 18 members who regularly attend and miss those who used to come from the Radio Station CSOS. During the year we have enjoyed some well-attended social activities and are glad that the restaurant at the Duchess is so good! At each meeting we have a charity collection to help raise funds for local families with children who need special equipment. In May we were happy to be able to give £150 to one family to help their son to walk. In November, the annual Night before the Colours was held at Scarborough Spa, followed shortly after by the Remembrance Service. Our Standard was paraded by **Keith Parsons** and **Teresa Jewell** laid the wreath.



LAST POST

SSgt MJ Abson	??-May-13	Sgt CW Gordon	23-Feb-13	Sig JR Parker	13-Oct-13
LCpl S Allen	??-Oct-13	SSgt RA Graves	19-Jan-13	Lt GH Paton	10-Apr-13
Cpl WJ Anderson	20-Sep-13	GS Greaney	28-Jan-13	Cpl JA Peacey	26-Feb-13
A Ariffin	??-Apr-13	WO2 B Greatorex	20-Mar-13	RN Perry	12-Dec-13
WO2 J Armstrong	20-Jul-13	Cpl HP Greaves	30-Sep-13	Maj D Petchey	10-Jun-13
FA Barnes	01-Jan-13	Maj JC Green	14-Feb-13	Cpl NE Pick	19-Mar-13
Lt Col FG Barnes	??-??-??	Sig RC Grinyer	07-Jan-13	Cpl TW Place	29-Jun-13
WO2 V Barry	25-Apr-13	Sig NO Guya	01-Feb-13	M Pond	27-Feb-13
Sig RV Baughan	03-Nov-13	WO2 K Halliwell	14-Jan-13	Sig F Powell	15-Sep-13
Cpl AD Bell	04-Jul-13	Sig R Hannah	08-Mar-13	Sig LG Powell	12-May-13
SSgt DJ Belshaw	26-Mar-13	Pte DE Hargreaves	07-Sep-13	Sgt C Pritchard	06-Dec-13
Sgt J Berry	02-Nov-13	Cpl JR Harper	07-Jan-13	Sig P Quinn	01-Oct-13
LCpl R Bestford	09-Sep-13	SSgt JL Harrison	20-Nov-13	Sig GR Richards	17-Jan-13
Cpl CD Binnington	02-Dec-13	LCpl W Hatfield	??-Apr-13	Sgt MW Rippon	09-Sep-13
Brig JB Birkett OBE	30-Jul-13	Sgt JA Hayden	04-Apr-13	LCpl GT Roberts	05-Feb-13
Maj P Blackburn	02-Sep-13	Sgt P Hayes	26-Jan-13	Sig W Robinson	30-Nov-13
Cpl GH Boardman	17-May-13	Sig ET Hearldon	05-Feb-13	Sig TM Rogan	??-Sep-13
Sig HS Bohea	28-Mar-13	Sig JJR Helles	01-Feb-13	Sig JF Rollins	24-Feb-13
Maj ET Bolt	29-Nov-13	Sgt AJ Heritage	27-Feb-13	WO2 PJ Roscoe	07-Jan-13
Sig EJ Bond	15-Feb-13	Sig WJ Hulse	03-Apr-13	Sig EH Ross	19-Jan-13
LCpl JM Bonney	24-Jan-13	LCpl SA Hunt	13-Jul-13	SSgt DJ Ross	??-Feb-13
LCpl JW Booth	23-Oct-13	Cpl NW Hutchings	??-??-13	Lt Col H Rothwell	26-Jul-13
SSgt JE Bradford	09-Feb-13	Sgt JH Hyde	27-Sep-13	WO2 RA Rankin	06-Dec-13
LCpl MJ Bradford	05-Feb-13	Maj JB Ivison	24-Aug-13	Capt CA Rye	26-Nov-13
Sig FE Brewer	03-Feb-13	Sig HMM Jarvie	??-??-??	Sig P Sanders	08-Mar-13
Lt Col B Brewis	27-May-13	Pte MA Jones	16-Apr-13	Capt C Schwartz	06-Mar-13
Col DH Briggs	07-May-13	WO2 RJ Jones	02-Oct-13	Sgt AE Scott	06-Feb-13
Sig DG Broad	14-Sep-13	Sgt BE Keating	27-Feb-13	Sgt AJ Sewell	11-Jul-13
Sig GM Brownie	13-Sep-13	Sgt AGL Kennard	07-Nov-13	SSg E Sharp	09-Sep-13
Brig RH Borthwick	31-Oct-13	Cpl GL Key	04-Mar-13	Sgt MD Shaw	25-Jan-13
Sgt E Buchanan	31-Mar-13	Sig WGJ Kidson	14-Sep-13	Maj RJ Sheldon	10-Jul-13
LCpl M Burgess	06-Sep-13	Sgt MG Kilvington	12-Jul-13	SSgt D Shrivies	21-Jun-13
Cpl DM Butler	24-Nov-13	Sig TE Kitchener	27-Nov-13	Capt MS Skeet	01-Oct-13
Sig RS Butler	18-Feb-13	LCpl SL Knight	30-May-13	Sig M Skinner	04-Feb-13
Maj PL Bye	04-Aug-13	Sgt WR Lambert	12-Nov-13	Maj I Sleightholm	14-Aug-13
WO2 R Cairns	??-Oct-13	LCpl DH Latham	16-Nov-13	Maj KN Smartt	09-Feb-13
Sgt FK Campbell	07-Feb-13	Maj RG Knight	17-Jul-13	Cpl MP Smart	28-Sep-13
Cpl D Carman	13-Jul-13	Sig KC Lane	23-Mar-13	Sig DA Smith	18-Nov-13
Capt RC Carnegie	26-Jan-13	Col WN Lang	??-??-??	Sgt DJ Smith	21-Mar-13
Sig FH Chappell	??-May-13	Sgt W Lawrence	12-Feb-13	LC Smith	??-Mar-13
Cpl CEG Chinchin	23-Jan-13	LCpl T Lawson	??-Oct-13	Cpl JM Smith	??-Aug-13
Cpl G Clarke	22-Jan-13	Sig H Lee	??-Mar-13	Sig CG Spencer	10-Aug-13
Maj LP Clayton	12-Jul-13	Sgt EW Lerigo	27-Jun-13	LCpl DK Springham	24-Jan-13
WO2 P Cooper	12-Oct-13	SSgt LM Lodge	30-Apr-13	Capt PL Stark	16-Aug-13
Sgt FC Corr	29-Jan-13	Sgt ACT Lewis	11-Mar-13	Cpl MJ Taylor	26-Jan-13
Cpl RF Cox	19-Aug-13	LCpl PD Magee	04-Aug-13	WO2 DM Taylor	06-Aug-13
SSgt AJ Crabbe	15-Jan-13	SSgt RT Mallabone OBE	24-Apr-13	WO2 MW Teague	08-Jun-13
Sig NT Cross	14-Aug-13	Lt Col VH Martin MC	20-May-13	WO1 JC Tepielow	08-May-13
Sig JS Crowther	12-Mar-13	Sig JG Mason	15-Jan-13	Sig WE Thomas	18-Feb-13
LCpl SP Currie	06-Aug-13	Maj PH Massie	20-Jan-13	LCpl JE Thompson	26-Oct-13
JH Day	04-Jun-13	Col K Maxwell-Brown	25-May-13	WO2 RI Thurbon	13-Nov-13
Col AH Dennis	26-Feb-13	Sig R McKay	24-Apr-13	WO2 MJ Tivenan	24-Nov-13
Cpl P Dews	05-Jun-13	Capt KM McKee	??-Jan-13	Sig MF Treharne	??-Oct-13
WO2 BFJ Dobson	24-Nov-13	Maj JL McKellar	07-May-13	Sig S Trowell	19-Aug-13
Sgt PW Doherty	??-Nov-13	H McQuoid	??-Sep-13	Maj MA Truran	10-Nov-13
Sgt GD Donaldson	14-May-13	Sig SP Memmott	28-Nov-13	Cpl R Turaga	23-Jul-13
Capt JCA Dove	09-Apr-13	Capt C Meredith	22-Nov-13	Maj TPF Unwin	07-Nov-13
Sig FS Dowler	06-Apr-13	WO2 G Miller	09-Jun-13	Lt Col P Valder	03-Jun-13
WO2 MG Eady	21-Nov-13	Lt Col J Mills MBE	13-Oct-13	Sig PM Vass	16-Feb-13
Sgt TGN Egerton	02-Aug-13	Sgt PJ Mosley	02-Feb-13	Cpl M Vijaynand	04-Aug-13
Capt DO Fairlie MBE	16-Jan-13	WO2 FP Moulton	25-Mar-13	Sgt AL Wain	15-Feb-13
Sig K Finnerty	25-Jun-13	Sig J Mountford	23-May-13	Cpl JW Wakefield	17-Sep-13
SSgt KW Flint	04-Aug-13	SSgt AB Mullins	01-Jul-13	Capt P Walls	14-Apr-13
Maj MJ Ford	01-Dec-13	Sgt AC Munroe	10-Jul-13	Maj RA Warren	04-Apr-13
Sig J Foster	30-Mar-13	Sig DJ Murphy	07-Sep-13	Sig DBW Wheatley	12-Aug-13
Maj JT Fowler	03-May-13	SSgt DAW Nichols	14-Mar-13	Capt PJ Whitehead	03-Jan-13
Sgt P Fox-Roberts	09-Sep-13	Sgt BC Ogden	07-Dec-13	Lt RH Williams	06-Jul-13
WO1 K Froggatt	01-May-13	CG Ogilvie	09-Jan-13	BL Wingate	12-Jul-13
Sig AP Frost	28-Jun-13	WO2 S Owen	27-Mar-13	Sig LF Winter	30-Jan-13
Maj JG Geary	05-Sep-13	Cpl LC Owens MM	04-May-13	Sgt L Wood	27-Oct-13
LCpl P Glendinning	02-Aug-13	LCpl GWC Packer	01-Jun-13	Cpl BE Young	02-Sep-13
Lt Col KL Goldie-Morrison	26-Oct-13	EC Parfitt	15-Jul-13	Capt VT Zimmer	22-May-13





Around 650 members and their guests along with four 'In Pensioners' from the Royal Hospital Chelsea attended the 2013 Royal Signals Association Reunion. All of those attending made the annual pilgrimage to Blandford for this year's reunion and despite rather unseasonably cold weather, which threatened and indeed produced rain at times, spent a very enjoyable weekend renewing old acquaintances and making some new ones.

The RHQ organizing team for this year was headed up by **Maj (Retd) Mark Tivey**, Asst Regt Sec. Our sincere thanks go to everyone in Blandford Garrison who provided us with superb support throughout, their time, professionalism and expertise are once again hugely appreciated. We would also like to publicly thank **Mr Dave Lancaster** for the Vintage Vehicle display; **Mr Terry Inman** for organizing the Christchurch Cruisers Motorcycle Group, **Mr Tony Helm** for bringing along his display of Warsaw Pact Radio Equipment; **Mr Jim Heck** from the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society and **Mr Richard Hardy** for organizing the attendance of the Pimpernel Beagles. Finally a big thank you

RSA Reunion - 2

must go to 11 (Royal School of Signals) Signal Regiment for an outstanding Princes Royal Day Parade (PRD) and for their manpower support to the whole Reunion.

We hope that the eight static displays from current units were enjoyed by everyone who visited them. This is the first year that we have been able to add these displays to the programme and our very grateful thanks go to those serving members of the Corps who supported us by bringing examples of their contemporary equipment and photographs from their recent deployments along for us to see (as well as explaining exactly what we were looking at!).

We are eagerly anticipating keeping these arena displays as an integral part of our Saturday programme for future years.

Lt Gen R Baxter CBE, The Master of Signals, inspected those members of 11 (RSS) Sig Regt who were on the PRD parade and then the Corps RSM, **WO1 Mark McMullan**, conducted the Standard Bearers' Preliminary Competition. He was assisted by **WO1 (RSM) Matt Derby**, **WO1 (GSM) Kent Oliver**, **Mr Barry Moody** from Scarborough Branch and **Mr John Mumford** from Reading Branch. The final took place as part of the afternoon activities. This year the winner was **Bill McNamara** from Glasgow Branch, with **Bill May** from Edinburgh Branch second and **Ben Revell** from Lincoln Branch third. Our





thanks go to the Standard Bearers who took part in the competition and to all Branch Standard Bearers for their enthusiasm and for supporting the RSA by taking on this important role. The Master of Signals made two presentations; firstly to the Standard Bearer prize winners and secondly a 75 Year pennant to **Mr Graham Christian**, the Standard Bearer from the Liverpool Branch, to mark the 75th anniversary since the formation of the Branch. This pennant will now be flown from the Branch Standard.

During the afternoon there was a wonderful programme of music provided by The Band of the Brigade of Gurkhas, followed by The Corps Northern Band, The Royal Signals Pipes and Drums, and then the Royal Signals Motorcycle Display Team 'The White Helmets'. The Vintage Vehicles and Christchurch Cruisers drive past marked the end of this programme of events, and as we have come to expect, each provided us with varied and wide-ranging entertainment. The afternoon was closed by The Sunset Retreat Ceremony which was a fitting end to the official displays.

2/23 June 2013

- by Caroline Addison

During the evening, the greatly anticipated social gathering in the 11 (RSS) Sig Regt WOs' and Sgts Mess was again possible courtesy of the Presiding Member, **WO1 (RSM) Matt Derby**, who allowed us to use his Mess as the backdrop for many tales of derring-do! The hospitality of the Mess Members and Staff couldn't be faulted and added greatly to our enjoyment.

The final official event of the weekend, The Drumhead Service, began on Sunday morning at 1030 hrs on Hawke Square. The RSA Honorary Chaplain, the **Rev Peter Clemett** and The Padre of 11 (RSS) Sig Regt, **The Rev Stephen Lodwicke**, conducted the service. **Mr Dave Walker BEM** from the Dorset Branch turned the page of the Book of Remembrance. The collection during the service raised £500. In addition Liverpool Branch formally presented the Chairman with a cheque for £1200 for the RSBF. The money came from a donation by Branch Member, Grand Master RW, **Bro Peter Connolly**.

Following the service, members were invited by the Corps RSM to form up for the march past on the square. The contingent was made up of: RSA Standard Bearers; ex-National Servicemen; Colonels Commandant, led by the Chairman RSA; Retired Officers; In-Pensioners from the Royal Hospital Chelsea; RSA Members and EPV users at the rear. The Master of Signals took the salute, bringing to an end the 2013 RSA Reunion.



WELFARE

As with the beginning of every New Year we all of us reminisce over the previous twelve months and judge whether they have been better or worse than before. Like me I'm sure you welcomed in 2014 with a desire for it to be kind to you and your loved ones and a promise that your Resolutions would make it past the second week of January! 2013 was a hard financial year for many with a freeze on wages and cuts in benefits. It never fails to amaze and sadden me how many people have to resort to charitable agencies to be able to pay for heating or food, something we would not expect to see in this day and age. Unfortunately, the continuing squeeze on our finances this year will be difficult for many, causing distress and concern. If you are aware of a former or present Signaller and their dependants who are in conditions of need, hardship or distress please remind them of our existence. All information on eligibility, types of assistance available and contact details can be found on the excellent RSA web-site: www.royalsignalsassociation.co.uk Basically initial contact should be made with SSAFA or the Royal British Legion (RBL) who then in turn will forward an application to the RSA Welfare for financial assistance.



We rely heavily on the casework carried out by SSAFA and the RBL to provide all the relevant information upon which decisions can be made. If necessary we liaise with the ABF – The Soldiers Charity, The Officers' Association, the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League, Combat Stress, Veterans Agency and many more.

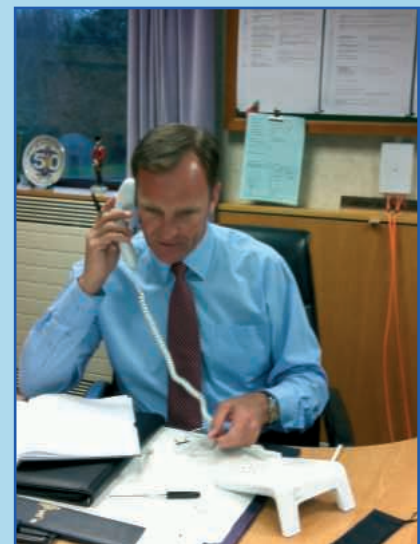
2013 saw a major overhaul of procedures within the RBL which has filtered down to us. Unfortunately we have seen a reduction in applications from the RBL which has resulted in a decrease of £100k in our grants compared to 2012. It is hoped that these back-logged cases will eventually make their way to us and we will be back to our usual level soon.

All applications are judged on their merits, but in all cases the question of *need* is the most significant factor. Timing is a very important factor when dealing with cases of need as we endeavour to deal with applications as quickly as possible. It is amazing how one grant at the right time can really make a difference to the quality of someone's life and their future. Grants are not made to individuals direct but through the sponsoring welfare organisation.

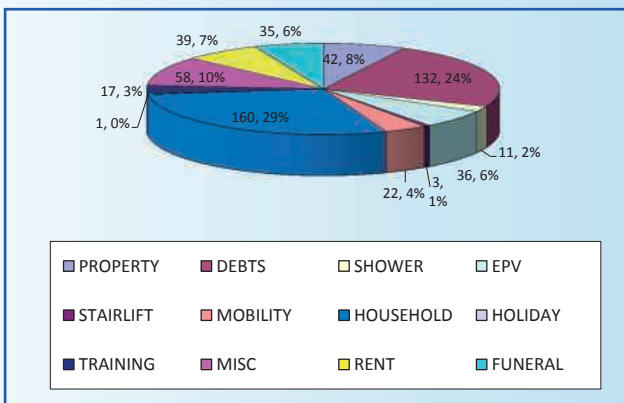
All cases for £600 and below are considered on a daily basis by our Assistant Regimental Secretary, **Maj (Retd) Mark Tivey**. Over the past twelve months the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund (regular and major grants) provided £293,994.60 of assistance to 556 applicants. These grants have been instrumental in providing 36 electric scooters, 3 stair lifts and 11 level access showers. There are numerous other types of assistance requested such as help with priority bills (rent or utilities), clothing, emergency house repairs etc.

Assistance over £601 up to the maximum of £1,200 is considered at the Major Grants Meetings (MG). The MG meetings take place once a month. Each meeting is attended by me (**Linda**) the Welfare Secretary, a Retired Officer, a serving Field Officer and a JNCO. The Retired Officer is selected from a list of nine volunteer

Chairmen who kindly give up their time once or twice a year to lead a meeting. Each attendee has the task of considering the applications and deciding the level of assistance they feel appropriate. We usually have an average of 12 cases per meeting although it has been known to reach over 20 in busier periods. Our average spend (using the figures from Jan 2013 – Dec 2013) is £9,473 per meeting.



*Assistant Regimental Secretary
Major Mark Tivey*



Breakdown of requests for 01/01/13 - 31/12/13



CORPS BENEVOLENCE (WELFARE)



Impatient people like me normally read the first line of each article and then decide whether to stay with it or move on, that's the challenge for those who write; getting the attention of the reader. Like most of our readers, I'm a Retired Officer, if no one reads this then I will find myself slightly more retired than I would wish to be, so please show me some leniency and spare me a couple of minutes!

Most of us who have been commissioned have usually squared away our domestic practises and although we might feel the pinch as everyone else does these days, we can usually afford the basics and make things happen when some financial muscle is required. I find storing all my coin change in a big bag and then taking it to the bank when I'm short works for me. For some this is not the case, they hit a brick wall and can go no further due to an

absence of any meaningful income – this is where Corps Benevolence plays a part.

I am by nature unsympathetic. I am a man of the 70s, when I'm lost I'll never ask for directions, when I'm hurt I don't whimper, I don't cry when watching TV and when life takes a turn for the worst I deal with it in my own sweet way. I previously held the view that only children's charities were worthy of support and pretty much ignored the rest with the exception of "Adopt a Leopard" as I had this notion that walking down Blandford high street on a Thursday night with your own wild cat might be a gas. Anyway, that's all pretty much changed now and in the next paragraph I'll tell you why.

I now market Royal Signals Benevolence and in order to understand what it is I'm selling I have to engage with the people who have been helped through the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund (RSBF), this is a game changer. My layers of abstraction are peeled away as I speak to individuals who find themselves in hopeless places without the chance of getting out, parents who are desperately trying to do the best for their kids, and widows who potentially face a future of poverty. All these people have one thing in common; they are incredibly appreciative of the help given to them by our Corps. If you have paid in or are still paying in then please feel good about yourself.

I previously implied that I didn't need any help; well I'm going to prove myself wrong and ask for it now. I need just 60 short seconds of your time. I want you please to think of ways that you might be able to support Royal Signals Benevolence. Do you own your own business and want to become a sponsor or can you corporately fundraise? Could you make a donation, initiate your own fundraiser or would you be prepared to leave a legacy behind when you pass on? If you've got to the end of your minute and want to develop your ideas, then please speak to me; **Herbie Herbert** at R SIGNALS marketing on 01258 482819 or better still drop me an email at "marketing@royalsignals.com", just in case I'm out walking the leopard!



The Royal Signals Association
and
The Royal Signals Benevolent Fund

Swift and Sure Help for Signallers in Need

Royal Signals Association – 'phone 01258 482090 or e-mail admin@royalsignalsassociation.co.uk

Your Legacy can help us

Did you ever benefit from a welfare grant from Corps Funds or maybe one of your mates received help with a welfare problem where the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund stepped in to help him or her in their time of need? There has been a long-standing saying that the "Corps looks after its own" and Royal Signals has a proud history of care for its people, supported by the one day's pay scheme and generous donations from serving and retired Signallers.

.... help others in their time of need

That work continues today and every year we help hundreds of those who have fallen on hard times whether it be a serving Signaller who has been injured on operations, the families of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, members of the Corps who need help with specialist medical care for their children or veterans who need help in maintaining their mobility and independence.

We don't distinguish between Regular and TA, National Service, ex-ATS or WRAC who served with the Corps, officer or soldier and their dependants; any case brought to us will be considered with expert support from SSAFA, The Royal British Legion and the Army Benevolent Fund. We will help whenever we can ... and you can help too, by leaving a legacy in your will. Its simple to do and can make all the difference to someone who has worn the same capbadge and who may not have been as lucky as you. If you would like to make a difference, please contact the Association who will tell you how to leave a legacy so that others from the Corps might benefit from your generosity.



REPORT FROM THE ROYAL SIGNALS MUSEUM

More Than Just a Museum of Rusting Radios

- by Nick Kendall-Carpenter

The Royal Signals Museum is much more than a Museum of Rusting Radios as it has unkindly been called. Displaying equipment is an important part of our role as the Showcase of Corps Heritage and Ethos, but just as important are the stories of the men and women who used the equipment. Over the last year we are grateful to have been given or lent by family and friends medals, documents and memorabilia of some awe inspiring people. This has enabled us to tell some incredible stories. Amongst many kind donations and loans relating to the Second World War we have received items that allow us to tell stories of the following members of the Corps:



Major General Anthony Deane-Drummond was the second-in-command of a commando force which made a failed raid on southern Italy. He was captured by enemy forces, escaped from captivity, was recaptured, escaped again and eventually made his way back to England sixteen months after the raid. He later served with airborne forces and was captured at Arnhem, but successfully escaped for a third time. After the War he commanded 22 SAS Regiment in Malaya and Oman and held a number of staff positions, later commanding a division in BAOR before retiring.



Captain Eric Lomax was captured by the Japanese with the fall of Singapore and endured three and a half horrific years as a prisoner of war. His harrowing account of his experiences as a prisoner and as a veteran coming to terms with post traumatic stress disorder are captured in his book *The Railwayman* and in the film by the same name.



Captain Kenneth McKee served with the Second Army from D Day all the way through to Berlin. He was one of the first non-Russian troops into Berlin and acquired an amazing collection of Nazi artefacts. He was subsequently involved in setting up communications for the Potsdam Peace Conference.



Maj Gen Sir Roland Penney served as Signal Officer-in-Chief in the Middle East from 1941, as General Officer Commanding 1st Infantry Division from 1943 (taking part in the Anzio landings) and as Director of Military Intelligence at Headquarters Supreme Allied Command South East Asia from 1944 until the end of the war.



Major John Stanfield served in India and then with the S.O.E. in China. When the 47 Divisions of the Japanese Army in China officially surrendered to the Chinese Army he signed the surrender documents for the British Army.



Major General Victor Westropp served in France in the First World War, in the Punjab and Palestine between the Wars, as a Brigadier in General Eisenhower's HQ in Algiers and as Deputy Adjutant General in India under General Auchinlech. He was appointed President of the International Ravensbruck Concentration Camp Trial in Hamburg from December 1946 to 1947. Of the 16 prisoners in the Dock, he sentenced 11 to hanging and 4 to long imprisonment. One prisoner died during the trial.

Over the past few years the Museum has managed to fill in many of the gaps in its collection and the volunteers have worked tirelessly sorting, photographing and interpreting the many thousands of objects that we own. We are, however, still missing some key communications devices that played significant parts in the evolution of the Corps. For example we have only one component of the WAVELL system and only one piece of ECM equipment from OP BANNER. We are also desperate for photographs and stories from the early phases of the Corps' involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan.

If you are able to join the enthusiastic band of Museum volunteers or have some equipment, memorabilia, photographs or documents squirrelled away you think may be of interest to the Museum then please call 01258 482267 and let me know.



FORECAST OF HQ R SIGNALS SPONSORED EVENTS 2014

March

6	Corps Guest Night	Blandford	Ast Regt Sec - Maj (Retd) M S Tivey
14	RSA Central Committee Meeting	London	Regt Sec - Col (Retd) Canham
15	RSA AGM	London	Regt Sec - Col (Retd) Canham
25	WCIT Dinner	Blandford	C2 WLD HQ R SIGNALS - Mr Dave Barlow
26	WCIT Employment Panel	Blandford	C2 WLD HQ R SIGNALS - Mr Dave Barlow

April

23-24	Corps Spring Golf Meet	Blandford	HQ R SIGNALS - Keith Pritchard
26	Opening Show	Blandford	SO3 RSMDT - Capt Richard Carr

May

3	Army v Navy Rugby	Twickenham	
13	Corps Council Meeting	London	Regt Sec - Col (Retd) Canham
13	Corps Dinner Night	London	Ast Regt Sec - Maj (Retd) M S Tivey

June

21-22	RSA Reunion Weekend	Blandford	Regt Sec - Col (Retd) Canham
21	Colonels Commandant Dinner	Blandford	Ast Regt Sec - Maj (Retd) M S Tivey
21	Princess Royal Day Parade	Blandford	Adjt 11 Sig Regt - Capt Blair Addison
23-27	Corps Week (inc Morrison Cup)	Blandford	Corps Adjutant - Capt Robin Foster
27	CAGE	Blandford	Corps Colonel
28	Armed Forces Day		
29	Corps Luncheon	Blandford	Ast Regt Sec - Maj (Retd) M S Tivey

July

10	RSI Lecture & Dinner	London	RSI Secretary - Lt Col (Retd) Nigel Harrison
14-17	Corps Clay Tgt Shooting Champs	Colerne	FofS DES ISS - WO1 (FofS) Blezard
29	Corps Cycle to NMA then Service	Stafford (NMA)	Service - RSM 37SR Cycle - QM 37SR

September

3-4	Corps Autumn Golf Meet	Blandford	HQ R SIGNALS - Keith Pritchard
7	Corps Luncheon in the North	Catterick	Ast Regt Sec - Maj (Retd) M S Tivey
20	QG SIGNALS Comd Gp / Birthday Parade & QGSA Dinner	Bramcote	Adjt QG SIGNALS - Capt Ganesh Gurung

October

1	R SIGNALS Trustees Ltd Board Meeting	Blandford	Regt Sec - Col (Retd) Canham
2	Corps Guest Dinner Night	Blandford	Ast Regt Sec - Maj (Retd) M S Tivey
2	QG SIGNALS Dashain (Kalaratri) celebration	Bramcote	Adjt QG SIGNALS - Capt Ganesh Gurung
30	RSA Central Committee Meeting	London	Regt Sec - Col (Retd) Canham
31	Scottish Dinner Night	Glasgow	Adjt 32 Sig Regt - Capt Chris Anderson

November

6	Field of Remembrance Service (RSA)	London	RSA HQ R SIGNALS - Caroline Addison
20	Corps Council Meeting	London	Regt Sec - Col (Retd) Canham
20	RSI Lecture & Dinner	London	RSI Secretary - Lt Col (Retd) Nigel Harrison
29	Liverpool Carol Service	Liverpool	Ast Regt Sec - Maj (Retd) M S Tivey



ROYAL SIGNALS DINNER CLUB

CORPS DINNER IN LONDON 2014

1. The Corps London Dinner in 2014 will be held at the Savoy Hotel on Tuesday 13th May 2014 at 1900 hours for 1930 hours.
2. **Attendance.** All Royal Signals Officers, Regular or Reserve, serving or retired or former WRAC officers who served with the Corps are eligible to attend.
3. **Cost.** (Includes pre-dinner drinks and wine at the table):
 - a. For officers who subscribe to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund - £70.00
 - b. For officers who do not subscribe to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund - £130.00
4. **Dress.** Black Tie. Decorations or medals are not worn.
5. **Seating.** At round tables each with 10 places. Everyone attending will be allocated to a table but not to a specific place. The table plan/allocation will be described in an attendance list that will be handed to officers as they arrive. The Ballroom allows a maximum of 400 (40 x 10) guests to attend.
6. Units or individuals may reserve complete tables (see the note on Bids from Units below) or a particular number of places at a table. In an attempt to minimise confusion organisers are requested to ensure that officers nominated to sit at their table are aware of the arrangements and the detail passed to HQ R SIGNALS. Bids from individuals are, of course, also welcome.
7. **Bids from Units.** Major units will initially be allocated one table of 10 places and minor units 3 places. However units are encouraged to bid for more places which will be held on a reserve basis until the closing date. In recent years virtually all those wishing to attend have been able to do so and typically major units have been successful in their bids for two tables.
8. **Attendance Returns.** Please complete the accompanying proforma and send it to HQ Royal SIGNALS by post together with a cheque or cheques made payable to 'The Royal Signals Benevolent Fund'. Please ensure that contact details of organisers and individuals are clearly entered in full on the return, including the rank and initials for those who are retired. This is in order to ascertain the correct charge to be applied.
9. **Application Date.** Please note that applications to attend the dinner together with the appropriate payment must be received at HQ R SIGNALS (FAO the Dinner Club Secretary, Corps London Dinner) by 18th April 2014.
10. **Wrist Bands.** 2014 'Savoy Wrist Bands' (in place of tickets) will be issued by RHQ on receipt of an attendance proforma and payment. These will be distributed at least 14 days prior to the dinner and must be shown upon arrival at the venue, attendee names will also be checked upon arrival.
11. **Refunds.** Payment for the dinner will only be refunded if non-attendance is notified before 18th April 2014.



ROYAL SIGNALS DINNER CLUB

CORPS LUNCHEON IN BLANDFORD - 2014

1. The 2014 luncheon will be held in the Headquarters Mess, Blandford Camp on Sunday 29th June 2014 at 1200 hours for 1230 hours.
2. **Attendance:**
 - a. All Royal Signals Officers, Regular or Territorial, serving or retired or former WRAC Officers who served with the Corps are eligible to attend. In addition, spouses and adult sons and daughters may also attend.
 - b. The luncheon in Blandford, like the luncheon in Catterick, is an occasion when officers' widows are entertained as guests of the Corps and they are entitled to be accompanied by a companion or an adult son or daughter.
3. **Cost:**
 - a. For officers who subscribe to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund, their spouses and adult sons and daughters the cost is £13.50 each.
 - b. For officers who do not subscribe to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund the cost to them, their spouses and adult sons and daughters is £27.00 each.
 - c. Widows and those accompanying them are guests of the Corps.
4. **Dress.** Lounge Suit.
5. **Seating:**
 - a. Everyone attending will be allocated to a table but not to a specific place. The table plan/allocation will be described in an attendance list which will be handed to everyone as they arrive.
 - b. Individuals may:
 - (1) Say with whom they wish to sit.
 - (2) Reserve a complete table in their name; table sizes are 10 or 16 places.
 - c. Officers specifically asking to sit with others must inform those concerned as soon as possible that they will be sitting together. If they are not told they may make their own arrangements.
 - d. Officers reserving tables must fill all places and must inform as soon as possible those they intend inviting to sit at the table.
 - e. Officers who are invited to sit with others and at specific tables must still confirm their attendance by individually completing a proforma and submitting it to RHQ together with their cheque.
6. **Proformas.** Everyone planning to attend must complete the accompanying attendance proforma and send it to HQ Royal Signals together with cheques made payable to 'The Royal Signals Benevolent Fund'. Receipt of payment and seating requirements will be acknowledged by HQ R Signal by letter. **Please submit proforma by Fri 13th June 2014.**



ROYAL SIGNALS DINNER CLUB

ANNUAL CORPS LUNCHEON IN THE NORTH - 2014

1. The luncheon will be held in the Infantry Officers' Mess (old Headquarters Mess), Vimy Lines, Catterick on Sunday 07th September 2014 at 1200 hours for 1300 hours. This year the event will be significant as it is the 20th Anniversary of the Corps departure from Catterick as its home.
2. **Attendance:**
 - a. All Royal Signals Officers, Regular or Territorial, serving or retired or former WRAC Officers who served with the Corps are eligible to attend. In addition, spouses and adult sons and daughters may also attend.
 - b. The Luncheon in Catterick, like the luncheon in Blandford, is an occasion when officers' widows are entertained as guests of the Corps and they are entitled to be accompanied by a companion or an adult son or daughter.
3. **Cost.** This includes pre-lunch drinks and wine at the table:
 - a. For officers who subscribe to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund, their spouses and adult sons and daughters the subsidised cost is £13.50 each.
 - b. For officers who do not subscribe to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund, the cost to them, their spouses and adult sons and daughters is £27.00 each.
 - c. widows and those accompanying them are guests of the Corps.
4. **Dress.** Lounge Suit.
5. **Seating:**
 - a. Everyone attending will be allocated to a table but not to a specific place. The table plan/allocation will be described in an attendance list that will be handed to everyone as they arrive.
 - b. Individuals may:
 - (1) Say with whom they wish to sit.
 - (2) Reserve a complete table for 10 in their name.
 - c. Officers specifically asking to sit with others must inform those concerned as soon as possible that they will be sitting together. If they are not told they may make their own arrangements or be invited to sit elsewhere.
 - d. Officers reserving tables must fill all places and must inform as soon as possible those they intend inviting to sit at the table.
 - e. All seating requirements and the names of those sitting at reserved tables must be forwarded to HQ Royal Signals as soon as arrangements have been confirmed.
 - f. Officers who are invited to sit with others and at specific tables must still confirm their attendance by individually completing a proforma and submitting it to HQ Royal Signals together with their cheque.
6. **Proformas.** Everyone planning to attend must complete the accompanying attendance proforma and send it to HQ Royal Signals together with cheques made payable to 'The Royal Signals Benevolent Fund'. Please submit proforma by Friday 08th August 2014.



To: Dinner Club Secretary
Corps London Dinner
HQ Royal Signals
Griffin House
Blandford Camp
Dorset
DT11 8RH

CORPS DINNER IN LONDON – 13 MAY 2014

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS.

UNIT/INDIVIDUAL BID:

1. I wish to attend the dinner on 13 May 2014:

Regt No Rank Initials Name

Unit

Address for tickets

.....

E Mail

Postcode Telephone Number

2. I wish to reserve place(s) at a table. The names and Regimental Numbers of officers filling the places, including myself, are as follows and I have informed them accordingly:

Number Rank Name of all those attending:

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.....
.....
.....

3. Number Rank Name of Reserves:

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.....

4. Individual Returns: Please indicate below if you have a preference of whom you wish to sit with. We will endeavour to accommodate you accordingly.

5. Special dietary requirements for the following personnel:

Name.....Dietary requirement:.....

Name.....Dietary requirement:.....

6. I enclose a cheque made payable to 'The Royal Signals Benevolent Fund' for £

Date

Signature





To: Corps Luncheon Secretary
HQ Royal Signals
Blandford Camp
Dorset
DT11 8RH

CORPS LUNCHEON IN BLANDFORD – 29 JUNE 2014

1. I wish to attend the luncheon on Sunday 29 June 2014:

Rank Initials Name Decorations

Known As Address for tickets

.....

Postcode Telephone Number

2. a. I wish to reserve place(s) at a table. The names, forename and surname of those filling the places, including myself, are:*

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b. I wish to reserve a table for either 8, 10, or 16. The names of those filling the places, including myself, are:*

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.....

c. I have been invited to sit with

3. I enclose a cheque made payable to 'The Royal Signals Benevolent Fund' for £ *

4. If you will require a car pass for entry to Blandford Camp, please list your vehicle details here:

Make & Model:

Colour:

Registration Number:

Date

Signature

* Tickets will not be issued until payment has been received.





To: Corps Luncheon Secretary
RHQ Royal Signals
Blandford Camp
Dorset
DT11 8RH

CORPS LUNCHEON IN CATTERICK

SUNDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2014

1. I wish to attend the luncheon on 7 September 2014:

Rank Initials Name Decorations

Known As Address

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Postcode Telephone Number

2. a. I wish to reserve place(s) at a table. The names of those filling the places, including myself, are:*

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b. I wish to reserve a table of 10 places. The names of those filling the places, including myself, are:*

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c. I wish to attend the luncheon and have been invited to sit with

3. I enclose a cheque made payable to 'The Royal Signals Benevolent Fund' for £

4. If you require a car pass for entry to Vimy Lines, please list your vehicle details here:

Make & Model: Colour: Registration Number:

Date Signature

* Officers nominated here must complete attendance proformas also.





ROYAL SIGNALS DINNER CLUB

CORPS DINNER IN SCOTLAND - 2014

1. The dinner will be held at the Western Club, 32 Royal Exchange Square, Glasgow on Friday 31 October 2014 at 1900 hours for 1930 hours.
2. Attendance. All Royal Signals Officers, Regular or Territorial, serving or retired or former WRAC Officers who served with the Corps are eligible to attend.
3. Cost. This includes pre-dinner drinks and wine at the table:
 - a. For officers who subscribe to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund the subsidised cost is £39 each.
 - b. For officers who do not subscribe to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund the cost is £78 each.
4. Dress. Highland Evening Wear or Black Tie. Decorations or medals are not worn.
5. Tickets. Applications should be made on the accompanying proforma and sent to Captain M Eastman, Quartermaster, 21 Jardine Street, Glasgow, G20 6JU.

.....

To: Captain M Eastman R SIGNALS
Quartermaster
32 Signal Regiment (Volunteers)
21 Jardine Street
GLASGOW
G20 6JU

CORPS DINNER IN SCOTLAND – 31 OCTOBER 2014

I wish to attend the Corps Dinner in Scotland on Friday 31 October 2014.

Rank Initials Name Decorations

Please send me tickets.

Address for tickets

.....

Postcode Tel No

I enclose a cheque payable to 'The Royal Signals Benevolent Fund' for £

Date Signature



March 2014