

THE ROYAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Brompton Barracks CHATHAM, Kent ME4 4UG

President:	Lt Gen Sir Mark Mans KCB CBE DL	Chief Royal Engineer
Chairman:	Major General A S Dickinson CBE	
Controller:	Lieutenant Colonel N A Jordan	Medway (01634) 822982
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See Distribution

01 March 2017

HQ CIRCULAR NO 156

Item Index:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Award of the Badge of Merit 2017 | 7. Veterans' Weekends |
| 2. AGM Notification | 8. Group & Branch Official's Contact List |
| 3. Annual Dinner | 9. Diary of Events 2017 |
| 4. Sapper Sunday | 10. Founders Day Royal Hospital Chelsea |
| 5. Remembrance Sunday | 11. REA Facebook presence |
| 6. National Standard Bearers' Competition | 12. Sapper Magazine Articles |



ITEM 1 – AWARD OF THE BADGE OF MERIT 2017

1. At their meeting on 24th January 2017, the Management Committee of the REA took great pleasure in approving the award of the prestigious Badge of Merit to the following members:

Name	Branch	Group
Mr David Barter	Dover Branch	South East Group
Mr Mick Dobson	Junior Leaders Regt Branch	South East Group
Mr Chris Woodford	Maidstone Branch	South East Group
Mr George Elliott	Swindon Branch	South West Group
Mr Anthony Franklin	Newton Abbot & Distr Branch	South West Group
Mr Mick Pascoe	Dundee Branch	Scotland & NI Group

2. In addition to those listed above, the following member was awarded the Badge of Merit as a result of a recommendation by the Chairman REA, Maj Gen A S Dickinson CBE.

a. Maj (Retd) Barrie Wilks Eastbourne Branch South East Group

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

ITEM 2 - AGM NOTIFICATION

4. The 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Association is to be held at the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF on **Saturday 14th October 2017**, commencing at 1600 hours.
5. The attention of Groups and Branches is drawn to Rules 11.01 to 11.40, which govern the procedures at the Annual General Meeting.
6. The REA Forms for notifying the names and addresses of Branch Delegates and for claiming travel expenses will be issued with the next HQ Circular.

ITEM 3 – REA ANNUAL DINNER



7. The 2017 Annual Dinner of the Association is to be held at the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF on **Saturday 14th October 2017**, following the Annual General Meeting. Reception will be at 1800 hours for 1830 hours with the bar opening at 1730 hours. Branches and members are encouraged to support this very enjoyable annual event.
8. Dress for gentlemen will be lounge suits or blazer and flannels with Corps tie; ladies should dress appropriately.
9. The ticket price is retained at £22. This represents extremely good value for a 4 course meal with entertainment at a top quality venue in Central London.
10. An application Form for tickets will be issued with the next HQ Circular. Closing date for bookings will be **03 October 2017**.

ITEM 4 – SAPPER SUNDAY, THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA

11. Sapper Sunday will take place on **Sunday 15th October 2017** at The Royal Hospital Chelsea. This is the day after the REA AGM and Annual Dinner and a good turnout from REA Members in London and from around the country is expected. Members are encouraged to attend this event, meet RE In-Pensioners and swap stories over a few pints. Branches are requested to give this event the very widest publicity. A Curry Buffet for limited numbers will be available. It is not necessary to advise HQ REA of your attendance at this event.

ITEM 5 - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

12. Remembrance Sunday will be on **Sunday 12th November 2017**. Branches and individuals requiring tickets for the Remembrance Sunday Parade at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, London, are to apply, in writing or by email (membershiptypist@rhqre.co.uk), to HQ REA stating the number of tickets required. In order to cater for the enhanced security situation, the process of applying for tickets was changed in 2016. It is expected that the same process will be adopted this year and applicants need to be aware that extra information will be requested by HQ REA.
13. Before requesting tickets, Branches and individuals are reminded that tickets issued by HQ REA are for those intending to march with the REA contingent. Those wishing to march with other groups are to bid for tickets from those groups. **Only ex-servicemen & women are permitted to march in the REA contingent.**
14. As with last year, carers who are not ex-services will not be permitted to take part in the march past but will be hosted by the Royal British Legion on Horse Guards Parade. Volunteer carers will be drawn from those eligible to march to assist disabled veterans.

15. The Royal British Legion will only accept bids submitted through Regimental Association Headquarters and not direct to them by individuals. Bids are requested by **24th July 2017** to enable a consolidated bid to be submitted during August.

ITEM 6 – NATIONAL STANDARD BEARERS COMPETITION



16. The National Standard Bearers' Competition is to be held at Brompton Barracks, Chatham during the Veterans/Corps Memorial Weekend on Saturday **16th September 2017**. When published, the exact timings will be in the Calling Notice on the REA website –

www.reahq.org.uk

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

18. Groups and Branches are reminded that:

- a. Competitors must be REA members and members of the REA Branch for which they carry the Standard.
- b. Participation is limited to winners of Group Competitions or the person nominated by the Group Director where no competition takes place.
- c. Only one Standard Bearer from each Group can take part in the National Competition.
- d. The current National Standard Bearer does not gain automatic entry to the National Competition. The criteria at 15.b above apply.

ITEM 7 – VETERANS' WEEKENDS

19. The Veterans' Weekend at Chilwell is to be held over the weekend **23rd – 25th June 2017**. The Calling Notice can be found on the REA website – www.reahq.org.uk

20. The Veterans' Weekend at Minley is to be held over the weekend **28th – 30th July 2017**. When published, the Calling Notice can be found on the REA website – www.reahq.org.uk

21. The Corps Memorial Weekend at Chatham is to be held over the weekend **15th – 17th September 2017**. When published, the Calling Notice can be found on the REA website – www.reahq.org.uk

ITEM 8 - GROUP AND BRANCH OFFICIALS CONTACT LIST

22. In order that an up-to-date Contact List can be compiled, printed and distributed by mid-2017, Branch Secretaries are requested to complete and return the enclosed REA Form 4 (Branch Officials) **by 26th May 2017**. Branches failing to return REA Form 4 will not have their up-to-date details published in the 2017 Group and Branch Officials Contact List.

ITEM 9 – DIARY OF EVENTS 2017

23. 2017 Diary. Events of interest for 2017 have been notified to HQ REA.

03 June	Trooping the Colour - Major General's Review
08 June	Royal Hospital Chelsea Founder's Day Parade
10 June	Trooping the Colour – Colonel's Review
14 & 15 June	Beating Retreat, London
17 June	Queen's Birthday Parade
23 – 25 June	Chilwell Weekend*
28 – 30 July	Minley Weekend*
15 - 17 September	Corps Memorial Weekend*
14 October	REA AGM and Annual Dinner *
15 October	Sapper Sunday at Royal Hospital Chelsea
09 November	Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey
12 November	Remembrance Sunday

*National Events

ITEM 10 – FOUNDER'S DAY - ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA



event of the number of tickets available being fewer than that requested, HQ REA will distribute the tickets as fairly as possible. The Governor's Review, which is open to the public, will be held on Tuesday 6th June 2017. Tickets are not required to attend the Governor's Review.

24. Founder's Day 2017 will be held on Thursday 8th June 2017, attendance is by invitation only. Individuals wishing to attend the event should apply for tickets in writing to HQ REA. Because of the strict security arrangement that must be in place for such a high profile event, bids are to include the name, address and telephone number of each person wishing to attend. Bids must reach this HQ by 24th March 2017. In the

ITEM 11 – REA FACEBOOK PRESENCE



25. The REA has had a presence on Facebook for over six years. The presence is developing well and many subscribers have found it a useful information provider. Please visit the page at: www.facebook.com/pages/Royal-Engineers-Association/175905092455207 or just search for 'Royal Engineers Association'. If you like it, please click 'Like it'. HQ REA will also publish notices on the Facebook page; just send your request to the Deputy Controller.

ITEM 12 – SAPPER MAGAZINE ARTICLES

26. HQ REA is always ready to receive Branch articles for inclusion in The Sapper. Articles do not have to be long, just interesting, informative and in date. It is thoroughly recommended that articles be accompanied by photographs. Why not bring attention to your Branch by submitting an article?

27. REA Branch articles for The Sapper must be sent direct to the Deputy Controller and not to The Sapper Editor. To ensure digital picture quality is maintained, digital photos should be sent as attachments to emails, and not embedded into Word documents.

{Original Signed}

N JORDAN
Lt Col (Retd)
Controller

Enclosures:

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

Distribution:

Council Members
Management Committee Members
Group Directors
Deputy Group Directors
Group Secretaries
Branch Secretaries

BRANCH INFORMATION SHEET

BRANCH :DATED:.....

1. DETAILS OF BRANCH OFFICIALS

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

2. DETAILS OF BRANCH MEETINGS

a. Location of meetings

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

c. Time of start of meetings

d. Average attendance at meetings

3. STANDARD BEARER DETAILS

a. Title

Surname

Initials

b. Known Name

c. Address

d. Telephone No.