

From: [Neil Jordan](#)
Subject: Chilwell Weekend - Thefts from the Mess
Date: 14 June 2016 11:57:10

For the attention of all REA Branches and their members –
Particularly those that attended the REA Chilwell Weekend Dinner

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I attended the REA Chilwell Weekend Dinner in the WOs' and Sgts' Mess on Saturday night. It was a most excellent evening in great company and I know from speaking to many of you during the evening that you too had a most enjoyable time. It was clear that an enormous amount of work went into the planning and execution of the event and we were most privileged to enjoy the facilities of the Mess. It was therefore most upsetting to be contacted by WO1 (RSM) Steve Webster the RSM at 170 (Infra Sp) Engr Gp with some very sad news. In his email to me he says:

'...unfortunately, some REA members behaved inappropriately during the function resulting in the theft of 16 x port glasses and 3 x engraved crystal water jugs; the cost of these items is £140. A fellow WO gripped a REA member who, after the toasts, cleaned his port glass with a napkin and placed it in his jacket stating '*the site is closing, they don't need it*'. Unfortunately I was not made aware of this issue during the meal, as I would have escorted that individual off site immediately. Considering the efforts of all members of the unit in the production of the Weekend and this event, I am extremely disappointed and feel deeply let down by those minority REA members that have behaved in this manner. What options are available to me regarding the recovery of £140 for Mess property that has been stolen? Can REA funds provide support? '

I am appalled that some members of the REA have acted in such a disgraceful manner. It is a kick in the teeth to all members of 170 (Infra Sp) Engr Gp who expended so much time and effort in producing a National Event that we should all have been proud to support. Additionally, the action of a few has severely damaged the reputation of the REA in the eyes of the serving Corps, the result is that the organisers of other National REA events will be very cautious about the level of service provided and will need to consider how to fund the cost replacing stolen items. There is also the possibility that I will have to divert REA funds to cover the cost of the stolen items and I am really not happy about that.

I am sure there will be those amongst you who will know who the culprits are. I urge you to speak to these people and tell them they should return the items to the Mess without delay; nothing more will then be said. If this approach does not produce a result then I will encourage whistle blowing...

I would like a speedy resolution to this most unfortunate situation and the co-operation of all Group and Branch Officials and members is sought. Please distribute this email as widely as possible amongst your membership.

Regards
Neil

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PLEASE NOTE THAT WITH EFFECT FROM MID
MAY 2016 HQ REA WILL BE TEMPORARILY
RELOCATED TO: BR003, WOOD STREET,
BROMPTON BARRACKS, CHATHAM, KENT, ME4
4UG.

EMAIL ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS
REMAIN THE SAME.