

THE ROYAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION

PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Brompton Barracks CHATHAM, Kent ME4 4UG

President: Lt General Sir Mark Mans KCB CBE DL - Chief Royal Engineer

Chairman: Major General A S Dickinson CBE

Controller: Lieutenant Colonel N A Jordan

Assistant Controller: Post Vacant

See Distribution

10 November 2017

HQ CIRCULAR NO 158

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ITEM 1 - RESULT OF THE 2017 NATIONAL STANDARD BEARER'S COMPETITION



1. In contrast to last years' weather, the National Standard Bearer's Competition this year enjoyed fine autumn conditions. There were just five Branch Standard Bearers in this year's event and HQ REA would like to thank all those that took part for their support and for helping to ensure the continued viability of the event.

2. Each year the drill and bearing seems to get better and better and as usual it was a difficult competition to judge. The judges, all military staff, said that the competitors were of an extremely high standard, but as they say, there can only be one winner. The order of merit was:

Winner – Mr Rick Tootle – Glasgow Branch - Scotland & NI Group
Runner-up – Mr Dave Hadfield – Derby Branch – North Midlands Group

Other Standard Bearer Competitors:

Mr Paul Stockwell – Weymouth Branch – South West Group
Mr Brian Simm – Cambridge Branch - East Anglian Group
Mr Nigel Blyth - Wakefield Branch-North East Group

3. Congratulations to all that took part, but particular congratulations go to Rick Tootle who becomes the REA National Standard Bearer again for the next twelve months. Groups Secretaries are urged to promote inter-branch Standard Bearer competitions in order to select a Bearer to represent their Group at the annual National Standard Bearers competition.

ITEM 2 - GROUP AND BRANCH ANNUAL FINANCIAL SUMMARY

4. Group HQs and Branches are reminded to submit to HQ REA by 31st January annually, a signed copy of their scrutinised Annual Financial Summary declaring: Income, expenditure, assets and liabilities as at 31st December 2017. All Branch Treasurers will shortly receive the necessary documentation needed to complete the Summary.
5. Branch Chairmen have also been sent a letter from the Controller urging their support to ensure that the Summaries are submitted in an accurate and timely fashion. Although the Summaries are required by 31st January, Branch Treasurers are requested to make every effort to submit them to HQ REA by mid-January. This will allow time for each Summary to be checked and, if incorrect, to be discussed with the Branch Treasurer.
6. Branch Secretaries are requested to confirm with their Treasurers that they have received the Branch Annual Financial Summary. **In order to maintain consistency and ensure legibility, Groups and Branches are required to use the Summary sheet distributed by HQ REA and not to create their own form. Please, please, do not use a self made form, if you do, it will be returned to you as invalid.**

ITEM 3 - PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE

7. The Corps Treasurer has authorised the renewal of the Corps Insurance Policy through Wilson's, our previous insurer. The new policy became effective on 23rd October 2017. *A copy of the policy schedule is enclosed with this Circular.* Your attention is drawn to the caveats in Section 9 - Public and Products Liability. Branches and Groups, or the nominated event organiser, should check with the insurer that the current public liability cover extends to events that they may decide to organise.

ITEM 4 – BRANCH ANNUAL REPORTS 2017

8. In accordance with Rule 17.22, Branch Annual Reports for the year 2017, as at 31st December, are to be completed and returned to HQ REA by end February 2018. Three copies of REA FORM 1 are enclosed with this Circular for Branch Secretaries. These are to be completed and distributed as follows:

- a. One Copy to: HQ REA
- b. One Copy to: Group Secretary (***Do not send this copy to HQ REA***)
- c. One Copy: Branch records

ITEM 5 - ANNUAL MEMBERS SUBSCRIPTIONS 2017

9. Branch Treasurers are reminded that subscriptions received from **REA Annual Members** of the Branch during 2017 are to be forwarded to HQ REA by 1st February 2018. Two copies of REA FORM 2 are enclosed with this Circular. Completed copies are to be distributed as follows:
 - a. One copy, accompanied by the subscriptions due, to be sent to HQ REA
 - b. One copy to be retained in Branch records.
10. *The form is to be returned to HQ REA, suitably annotated, even if the Branch has no Annual Members.*
11. Branch Treasurers are requested to ensure that the Annual Members details, Army Number, Rank, Name and Initials are accurate.

12. Branch Officials will be aware of the amount of work involved in maintaining the records for *Annual Members*. The effort required at HQ REA to process all Branch Annual Members is particularly resource intensive and Branches are requested to urge their Annual Members to consider transferring to Life Membership. In most cases there will be a small sum to pay for conversion and staff at HQ REA can advise individual cases of the cost involved.

13. Branch Secretaries and Treasurers are requested to note that Annual Membership is the same as Full Membership. Unless a Branch member is a Life Member or an Associate Member, then an annual membership fee is payable to HQ REA. If a Branch is in any doubt as to the status of its members, the Secretary should request an up-to-date Branch membership spreadsheet from HQ REA.

ITEM 6 – FORECAST OF EVENTS 2018

14. The following events of interest for 2018 have been notified to HQ REA:

26 May	Trooping the Colour - Major General's Review
07 June	Royal Hospital Chelsea Founder's Day Parade
02 June	Trooping the Colour – Colonel's Review
06 & 07 June	Beating Retreat, London
09 June	Queen's Birthday Parade
22 – 24 June	Chilwell Weekend*
27 – 29 July	Minley Weekend*
14 - 16 September	Corps Memorial Weekend*
13 October	REA AGM and Annual Dinner *
14 October	Sapper Sunday at Royal Hospital Chelsea
08 November	Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey
11 November	Remembrance Sunday

*National Events

ITEM 7 – TROOPING THE COLOUR – 1ST BATTALION COLDSTREAM GUARDS



15. The Major General's Review will take place on 26th May 2018 and the Colonel's Review will take place on 2nd June 2018.

16. There is a change in the way applications for tickets to attend these events are to be made. All applications to attend must be made online by visiting the Household Division website <http://www.householddivision.org.uk/trooping-the-colour>

17. Entry tickets to attend the Major Generals Review will now cost £5, and a ticket to attend the Colonels Review will cost £10. Tickets for both Reviews are released for sale in January. Applications for Trooping the Colour are to be made between January and February only. You are requested not to send applications to HQ REA.

18. The Queen's Birthday Parade will take place on 9th June 2018. As with the Major Generals Review and the Colonels Review, applications to attend the Queen's Birthday Parade must be made online. The cost of a ticket is £35 and allocation is by ballot. You are requested not to send applications to HQ REA.

ITEM 8 – ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA, FOUNDER’S DAY PARADE



the public, will be held on Tuesday 5th June 2018. Tickets are not required to attend the Governor’s Review.

19. Founder’s Day 2018 will be held on Thursday 7th June 2018, 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 full name, address and telephone number of each person wishing to attend. Bids must reach this HQ by 15th March 2018. In the 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

ITEM 9 – ASSISTANT CONTROLLER POST

20. The Assistant Controller post at HQ REA in Chatham has again become vacant. The job has been widely advertised and the job vacancy notice is attached for your information.

{Original Signed}

N JORDAN
Lt Col (Retd)
Controller

Enclosures:

1. Current Insurance Policy
2. REA Form 1 Annual Report (3x copies to Branches only)
3. REA Form 2 Annual Subscriptions (2 x copies to Branches only)
4. Assistant Controller Job Vacancy

Distribution:

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