



NOVEMBER 2025

Ex YEOMAN CYCLONE 2
CATERAN YOMP 2025

ROYAL ARTILLERY CARP
GROUP CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

GUNNER

#FINDandSTRIKE

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Guidance on Submissions

We welcome articles and pictures on all Regimental matters these articles must be submitted through the chain of command, in accordance with the Gunner content framework.

Articles must be written in Microsoft Word. Photographs must be original JPEGs; at the highest resolution; (not embedded in the article).

When using abbreviations in an article, please write the abbreviation in full, followed by the abbreviation in brackets.

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GUNNER



NOVEMBER 2025

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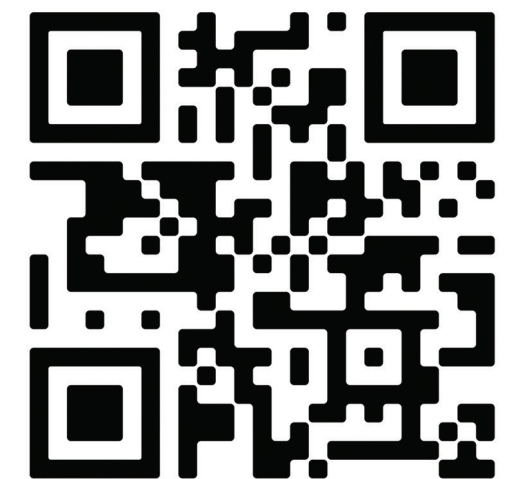
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Lieutenant General Mike Elviss CB MBE
Master Gunner St James's Park

It is a tremendous privilege to write to you for the first time in my capacity as Master Gunner St James's Park, the custodian of our proud heritage and a witness to the evolving character of the Royal Regiment at a time of profound transformation. I commissioned into the Royal Regiment in 1995, served as a junior officer in 29th Commando Regiment Royal Artillery, commanded batteries in 26th Regiment Royal Artillery and 3rd Regiment Royal Horse Artillery, and commanded 1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery. I have also been fortunate to have Gunners under command as the Brigade Commander of 20th Armoured Brigade and as General Officer Commanding 3rd (United Kingdom) Division. The same is true of my current post, Commander Field Army, and in my former guise as the Regimental Colonel Commandant. I know our Regiment well.

Accordingly, I am well placed to confirm that the Gunners remain at the heart of the Army's operational capability and our way of fighting. 'Find and Strike' sits at the core of our profession. The past year has seen the Regiment navigate a complex landscape: strategic uncertainty abroad, fiscal constraints at home, and the ever-accelerating pace and democratisation of technological change. Yet, in the face of these pressures, our soldiers have demonstrated the resilience and professionalism that have come to define the Gunners. Our operational commitments remain extensive. Gunners continue to be deployed in support of NATO and UK interests around the world. The Regiment continues to provide people and expertise that are indispensable to joint operations.

That all said, the character of warfare is changing, and so must we. I believe we are on the right track.

The integration of targeting, air defence, long-range precision fires, UAS, and digital fire control is no longer aspirational, it is essential. The introduction of AJAX and the next generation artillery systems of MFP, MLRS (M270 A2), TAI PAN and SKYSABRE, to name but a few, mark a

significant leap forward. These systems will allow us to find, fix and finish targets at greater distances with unprecedented accuracy, but they also require new skills, new thinking, and a new culture of innovation. The Royal Artillery has always been a forward-looking arm, embracing art and science. Today, our challenge is to ensure that every Gunner, from the newest recruit to the most senior commander, is equipped not only with the tools of modern warfare but with the mindset to exploit them fully. And that mindset extends beyond exploiting equipment, it is the mindset that prepares us for fighting wars, the inexorable desire to win.

At the heart of our Regiment remain our people, both serving and retired. In times of change, our common identity bonds us together. The Royal Regiment of Artillery starts as a collection of batteries – but it is also a family, bound by shared history and common purpose. Our battle honour, Ubique – "Everywhere" – is not just a reflection of our global deployments, but of our enduring presence on every battlefield of the British Army. I remain fiercely proud of having earned the right to be called a Gunner. I know you are too. That identity lasts a lifetime; 'Once a Gunner always a Gunner' manifests itself in our vibrant Royal Artillery Association and through the amazing work our charities do to support our serving and veteran communities.

The next decade will test us. Strategic competition is intensifying, and the character of conflict is evolving. We must be ready, not just to fight, but to lead others. We must be in the vanguard of innovation, and the standard-bearers of professionalism. Your service, be that in the past or in the present matters. Let us meet the coming challenges with the courage, and the clarity of thought and action which typifies our fine Regiment. Ubique.

ROYAL ARTILLERY GOLD CUP

Sandown Park Thursday 19th February 2026



AN AFTERNOON OF QUALITY JUMP RACING

The Royal Artillery Gold Cup, first run in 1862 and one of the oldest events in the horseracing calendar and a flagship day for the Gunners. Regiments will again be setting up co-located focal points, within a dedicated Gunner area, in the Surrey Hall, which forms part of the main concourse on the ground floor. This venue puts the Regiment very much at the centre of the day, with immediate access to the racecourse and bookies on one side and to the Parade rings and the Winner Enclosure on the other. It also makes a range of catering outlets more easily available, with convenient bars and food outlets, providing greater choice and the opportunity to have a drink and meet with friends.

General Admission Royal Artillery Package - £36

Discounted to £24 using code: RAPACK26

Includes admission and wristband for selected discounted food and drinks

General admission tickets (no wristband) - £22

Discounted to £14 using code UBIQUE26

Wristbands will be available to purchase on the day @£12

We can also provide a Veterans Hospitality Experience which includes lunch at £55 PP
Please book directly with the Hospitality team on 01372 477747, quoting code UBIQUE26

Purchase tickets by
scanning the QR Code

Tickets can be booked online here

<https://www.thejockeyclub.co.uk/sandown/events-tickets/royal-artillery-gold-cup-day/>



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Exercise YEOMAN CYCLONE 2 - 19 Sep - 5 Oct 25



Regimental photograph

106th (Yeomanry) Regiment Royal Artillery have just completed their annual Regimental exercise to the stunning coastal environment of Pembrokeshire and Sennybridge; an extremely successful and exciting two weeks of technical and tactical training.

The exercise began at Castlemartin Camp, where the opening days were dedicated to integration and essential refresher training. Activities such as radio familiarisation and GPMG instruction ensured that all personnel were fully prepared and confident for the challenges ahead. This strong start set the tone for what would be a dynamic and rewarding deployment.

The Regiment then moved to the Air Defence Range Manorbier, the only mainland UK location authorised for the launch of the High Velocity Missile (HVM) in its anti-aircraft role.

Here, soldiers operated as a fully functional Air Defence Battery, tackling complex live-play scenarios that tested their command, control and tactical execution. Junior officers simultaneously progressed through the JOLP 2 course, further enhancing leadership capability within the unit. Soldiers had the opportunity to develop their specialist roles operating in the Fire Control Centre, Strike, and the Battery Air Defence Centre, gaining invaluable hands-on experience in target engagement and command system operations.

Physical fitness and team spirit were prioritised throughout the deployment. Regimental PT, gym sessions and potted sports ensured all those involved were maintaining or challenging their fitness levels. Morale was kept high during a series of sub-unit and mess events and these activities strengthened bonds across



the Regiment, ensuring a cohesive and motivated team.

The second week saw the Regiment move to Sennybridge for the field-training phase, which combined dispersed Air Defence operations across challenging terrain with an infantry-focused component. This TRADEWIND phase provided an incredible opportunity to test and develop patrolling, fieldcraft and tactical movement.

The field phase began with firing units and supporting assets deploying to defensive AD positions around a central drop zone, simulating an operational insertion of Air Defence forces. Under the capable leadership of 2Lt Narasimhan and Lt Habashi, the activity ran smoothly and effectively, despite the physical challenges posed by the rugged Brecon terrain. Each firing unit demonstrated impressive skill in constructing dug in field defences and maintaining concealment, successfully countering simulated threats such as persistent overhead reconnaissance by unmanned systems.

The infantry focused phase was equally dynamic and rewarding. Initially led by

Lt Marshall, a platoon executed an anti-personnel ambush to disrupt hostile reconnaissance attempting to access a key supply route. This scenario, reflective of contemporary operating environments, provided personnel with valuable tactical experience rarely practised within an Air Defence unit. Further serials, including reconnaissance and clearance patrols, offered additional opportunities to hone skills, with a mass-casualty scenario embedded into the clearance patrol testing command and medical responses under pressure.

The phase culminated in a platoon attack on an enemy-held compound, led by Lt Cheetham. This tested urban combat skills and the ability to operate cohesively under simulated enemy fire, showcasing the Regiment's adaptability and agility.

Exercise YEOMAN CYCLONE was a resounding success, significantly enhancing operational readiness, leadership capability and collective effectiveness across 106th (Yeomanry) Regiment Royal Artillery.

by Lieutenant Ryan Marshall RA
457
FCC Tp Comd
106th (Yeomanry) Regt RA



Sgt Magar charging down the bayonet range



CYCLONE Sub-Unit Training Period



Members of G Bty live firing on Lydd ranges

From May through to July 7 Para RHA undertook its annual ringfenced 10-week CYLONE training period. This was initiated with sub-unit level training packages. All five sub-units comprising F, G, H, I and N Batteries planned and deployed on their own packages to develop and refine their abilities to move, shoot, communicate and medicate. This culminated in the TL DELTA exercise, Ex CYPHER STRIKE at the beginning of July, which brought together all elements of the Recce Strike Group to validate the Regiment, which will be covered in a dedicated article.

All the sub-units grasped the opportunity of dedicated ringfenced training time with both hands and planned a multitude of training events. All Batteries attended ranges covering off the mandatory shoots in addition to LFTT

shoots utilising the urban ranges at Lydd and Hythe. H Bty built upon this and conducted a Clay Pigeon shoot to trial using shotguns to counter aerial threats. N Bty, in their mounted role, completed a Platform Weapons Operators course to qualify all members on the HMG and refine their manoeuvre SOIs in Brecon. The urban training facility in Merville Barracks was also utilised to train SP in the clearance of buildings, a key skill to hone in the contemporary environment regarding urban deployments. The Batteries also refamiliarised themselves on Heli Handling skills with the support of RAF Chinooks from RAF Odiham. The Regimental Command Posts, namely the Brigade Joint Fires Cell and Fire Direction Centre, were also exercised to develop their deployment TTPs and execute functions.



The CYCLONE event proved to be an intense period for the Regiment but hugely enjoyed by all, owing to the enhanced time and resources allocated to not only develop individual skills but also the respective teams.

by Captain Charlie Watson RA
Adjutant
7th Parachute Regiment Royal Horse Artillery



Chinook Casevac drills



15th October 2025



Master Gunner St James's Park awards LBdr Handy the JNCO Goschen Medal



Master Gunner St James's Park awards Capt Gough the Lefroy Medal



Master Gunner St James's Park awards Sgt Reginal Kwamie the Learner of the Year Award



Master Gunner St James's Park awards Sgt Rawlings the SNCO Goschen Medal



Regimental Colonel congratulates award winners



Awards group photo



Master Gunner St James's Park awards Maj Mortimer the Lefroy Medal



Master Gunner St James's Park awards Capt Fearn the NAA Medal



Master Gunner St James's Park awards Nana Kyei Baffour the Dependant Learning Award



Resilience in Action: A Regimental Day of Reflection, Inspiration and Strength



Regimental Resilience Day, Newcome Hall, The Royal School of Artillery

The Vision Behind the Day

The event was the brainchild of WO2 Wayne Byles, Unit Welfare Warrant Officer (UWWO), 47th Regiment Royal Artillery. Held at Newcome Hall, The Royal School of Artillery (RSA), the day was designed to explore resilience not just as a concept, but as a lived experience. It brought together mental health professionals and inspirational speakers to share insights and stories that would resonate across the regiment.

Setting the Scene

WO2 Katie Strickland and Captain Charlie Millar, Mental Health Practitioners from the Department of Community Mental Health (DCMH), opened the day with a powerful presentation. They discussed resilience holistically, emphasising team cohesion, leadership, morale, and the ability to self-report as essential components of

operational resilience. Their insights into trauma, legacy abuse, and coping strategies, including sleep, emotional regulation, and imagery arousal, set a thoughtful and practical tone for the day.

Understanding Resilience in Real Terms

Rather than focusing on rigid categories, the event explored resilience as a whole-person concept, touching every part of life, both in and out of uniform. Discussions ranged from physical endurance and mental agility to emotional regulation and the importance of strong social bonds. These ideas were brought to life through real stories that highlighted the power of connection, honesty, and perseverance.

Voices of Experience

Major Jennifer Stephenson RA shared her journey as a member of the Ice Maidens and the All-Arms Commando Course. She spoke candidly about moments of vulnerability,



during Arctic preparations, and the silent support of her teammates. She emphasised self-awareness, the ability to talk to others, and the power of imagery arousal, echoing DCMH's sentiments. Big Phil Champion, former 22 SAS and bestselling author, recounted Operation Barras and reflected on the importance of positive role models, stating 'you cannot be what you cannot see.' He warned that one is only ever two bad decisions away from losing everything, underscoring the need for grounded leadership and resilience. Melvyn Downes, also former 22 SAS, shared his journey from facing racial harassment to becoming one of the first British-born Black men in the SAS. He spoke about the influence of David Stirling and his father Sammy Downes, highlighting values such as the unrelenting pursuit of excellence, self-discipline, classlessness, humility, and humour, all of which shaped his resilience.

A Shared Commitment

The day concluded with a formal dinner in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, attended by senior NCOs and officers. This shared experience reinforced regimental unity and mutual respect, strengthening the bonds that underpin operational effectiveness.

Looking Ahead

Regimental Resilience Day was more than a one-off event, it was a catalyst for cultural change. It opened conversations, challenged assumptions, and reminded us that even the strongest among us need support. The overwhelmingly positive response from across the regiment makes one thing clear: this is a tradition worth continuing. By investing in the resilience of our people, we invest in the strength of our regiment.

by Lieutenant Colonel D S Joyce RA
Commanding Officer
47th Regiment Royal Artillery



Captain Charlie Millar, Department of Community Mental Health



Sergeant Major Colin Thackery, a Chelsea Pensioner who won Britain's Got Talent in 2019, was made an MBE for services to charitable fundraising



Colin Thackery holding his MBE at the awards ceremony at Windsor Castle

Colin Thackery, a Korean War veteran and Ambassador for The War Horse Memorial, has been awarded an MBE in the King's Birthday Honours.

The 95-year-old Chelsea Pensioner found fame later in life after winning television show Britain's Got Talent in 2019. He has given 79 years of service to the UK since joining the British Army at the age of 15 and has shown an extraordinary commitment to charitable work, before and since his time in the limelight.

Growing up in Camden during the Blitz, Colin joined the Army in 1946 and was a soldier for nearly 25 years, seeing active service in Malaya and Korea. He has formed a particular bond with the Republic of

Korea. Colin was invited to return by the Korean Government in 2023 to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice where he took part in a number of commemorative events, including singing in front of the President and other dignitaries.

Following the death of his wife Joan, Colin became a Chelsea Pensioner in 2017 and has been involved in supportive work of the British Army and related Remembrance activities up and down the country.

A passionate philanthropist, Colin is an Ambassador for the Dame Vera Lynn Children's Charity and The War Horse Memorial. He has also been heavily involved in supporting charities such as The Royal British Legion, The Royal Hospital



Chelsea, SSAFA (the Armed Forces charity, formerly Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen's Families Association), The Royal Artillery Association and Blesma (The Limbless Veterans) for many decades.

Prior to moving to Chelsea, he volunteered his time to support many local charities across Norfolk where he lived for 46 years. He remains committed to fundraising and regularly performs at and attends charitable events.

Speaking after hearing the news of his award, Colin said: "I am deeply honoured and grateful to His Majesty the King to receive the MBE and thoroughly look forward to the opportunity to attend Buckingham Palace later in the year for what will be a proud occasion for my family and me. I am proud of the work I have been able to do in support of our country, and will continue to do everything I can to help those less fortunate than I."





The final parade of WO2 William Ernest Stobbs



WO1 Peter Kinsey at the ash scattering ceremony

On the 3rd of September 2025, 14 Regiment Royal Artillery had the privilege of hosting the family of WO2 William Earnest Stobbs; a World War II veteran who sadly passed away earlier this year.

WO2 Stobbs served with the Royal Artillery during and in the years following World War II. Having been a Sherwood Forrester at the commencement of hostilities, Mr Stobbs battalion was one of many that was hastily re-rolled to form Gunner units to meet the need at the time. Mr Stobbs went on to serve with both a Searchlight and Light Anti-Aircraft unit throughout the war and saw service in Malaysia and Korea in the years following it. Mr Stobbs recalled to his family many happy memories of his time spent training on various courses and exercising at Larkhill hence his final wish that his ashes be scattered there.



Attendees to honour a Gunner veteran

Padre Grafton took a small service at the Garrison church that was attended by Sgt Maj Stobbs Wife, Stepdaughter, Maj Paddy Magill, WO1 (RSM) Peter Kinsey and Sgt Matthew Pullen. During the service the Regimental Sergeant Major scattered the ashes of Mr Stobbs and afterwards the family was presented with a favoured picture of Sgt Maj Stobbs from during his service.

When possible, the Royal Regiment will always find the time to honour fellow Gunners, past and present with events like this. Once a Gunner always a Gunner!

by Sgt Matthew Pullen
14th Regiment Royal Artillery



Exercise CAMBRIAN PATROL 2025



Members of Cambrian Patrol winning team in action

The team has secured a Gold Medal at CAMBRIAN PATROL 2025 - winning the first ever Gold in the history of The King's Gurkha Artillery Regiment.

The team's outstanding performance, achieving the highest overall score among the British Army team is a testament to their elite training, exceptional leadership and unwavering professionalism. Their determination, winning mentality and indomitable Gurkha spirit were the key aspects of their excellence as they endured more than 65 kilometres across the challenging terrain of Wales.

The patrol was commanded by Sgt Paribartan Rai, Seconded by Bdr Hikmat Pun Magar and included LBdr Pawan, Gnr

Shiu Narayan, Gnr Sudeep, Gnr Milan, Gnr RajKar Singh and Gnr Asbin, with the team managed by Sgt Umesh Limbu.

A huge congratulations to the entire team for their hard work, dedication and outstanding performances - a true reflection of Gunnery excellence and Gurkha spirit.

Jai RA - Jai KGA!

by Capt Arunhang Nembang
14th Regiment Royal Artillery
RTO
King's Gurkha Artillery



Junior Gunners still sparkling after 40 years!



As you were! Back row, left to right, JGnr Horler, JGnr Worthington, JGnr Rawcliffe, JGnr Eason, JGnr Hothersall, JGnr Williams, JGnr Davies and (a guest) Recruit Loweth Front row JGnr Magill, No 1 WO2 Piper and Tp Comd Connelly

Junior Leaders Regiment Royal Artillery Oct 1985 intake reunion – 25 Oct 2025

The Junior Leaders Regiment Royal Artillery was preceded by the Boys' Battery and closed its doors to new intakes back in 1993. During the existence of these two institutions, they developed and mustered thousands of the enlisted senior leaders of the Royal Regiment. A brief history is as follows:

The Boys Battery, Royal Artillery

- 1922: Established at Woolwich to train boys aged 15–17 for future service in the Royal Artillery.
- 1939–1945 (WWII): Continued operations during the war, supplying trained junior soldiers.
- 1950s: Relocated to Bradbury Lines, Hereford, and later to Rhyll, North Wales.

- 1959: Disbanded as part of Army restructuring; its role, in recognition of the advantages that the longer training pipeline gave soldiers over their adult entry counterparts, transitioned to the newly formed Junior Leaders Regiment.

Junior Leaders Regiment Royal Artillery (JLR RA)

- 1959: Formed at Bradbury Lines, Hereford, to train junior soldiers for leadership roles in the Royal Artillery.
- 1963: Moved to Gamecock Barracks, Bramcote, near Nuneaton, Warwickshire.
- 1963–1993: Operated from Bramcote, offering a comprehensive programme of military, academic, and physical training. During this time, the training pipeline halved from two to one year, removing the longer trade courses such as Survey and



Meteorology but still qualified the Junior Leaders as Signallers, Gunners and Drivers.

- 1993: The last Junior Soldiers completed their training and were mustered out from Gamecock Barracks, marking the final closure of the Regiment.

On 25th October 2025, a number of the October 1985 Intake gathered at Larkhill to mark the occasion of the 40th Anniversary since walking through the gates of Bramcote on 22nd October 1985. The reunion brought together a mixed bunch of both Junior Soldiers, a Troop No 1 and even a Troop Commander from that intake. Testimony to fulfilling the mandate set in 1959, the small gathering included Gunners who went on to be a Late Entry Lt Col, 3 Late Entry Majors and 7 Sergeants Major.

The event was held in the Central Sergeants' Mess at Larkhill by kind permission of the Regimental Sergeant Major 14 Regiment Royal Artillery, Mr Kinsey; the Sodexo Mess Staff laid a beautifully decorated table

to add to the splendour of the occasion and the support of Aspire Transport Services helped set the conditions for a great night.

Mess traditions were upheld at table and Gunners' Grace was delivered before dining, to the amusement of many who hadn't heard the words in decades and a first for many was a toast to "The King! Our Captain General."

After introductions and a fabulous meal, the party repaired to the Mess Bar and the years melted away as they always do with military reunions and we were soon chattering again like 16 year olds, recalling the cold climes and long marches endured but mostly the fun of the adventure and the mark it had made on all of our lives. It was as though that slow march to behind the wall and the throwing our service caps into the air at the end of our muster parade had perhaps been earlier that day.....only Junior Leaders will understand the reference, find one and ask them.



As you were! Back row, left to right, JGnr Horler, JGnr Worthington, JGnr Rawcliffe, Recruit Loweth (a guest), JGnr Davies. Front row JGnr Eason, JGnr Magill, Sgt Tp No 1 Piper, WO2 Tp Comd Connelly, JGnr Williams, JGnr Hothersall



Cateran Yomp 2025



(Left to right) Capt Beeby RA, Capt Bowler RA, Cpl Andrew and SSgt Naylor at the starting area of the Cateran YOMP 2025

Over the period of 7–8 June 2025, a determined team from 4th Regiment Royal Artillery took part in the Cateran Yomp, a gruelling 54-mile endurance challenge across the rugged terrain of the Scottish Highlands. The event, hosted by the ABF Soldiers' Charity, is one of the toughest of its kind and is designed to test both physical and mental resilience in a team environment.

Representing the Regiment were four personnel: Capt Bowler and Capt Beeby (Royal Artillery), SSgt Naylor (AGC SPS), event coordinator, and Cpl Andrew (AGC SPS). The team undertook the Gold route, completing the full 54 miles within 24 hours to earn the prestigious Military Gold Distinction Award—a feat reserved for serving soldiers who complete the course in teams of four or more.

The Cateran Yomp is structured into three stages: Bronze (22 miles), Silver (36.5 miles), and Gold (54 miles), all to be completed within a 24-hour window. The route winds through the foothills of the Cairngorm Mountains, demanding exceptional endurance, teamwork, and determination from all participants.

Throughout the event, the team demonstrated unwavering drive and cohesion, pushing through fatigue and challenging conditions to cross the finish line together. Their success was supported by two dedicated logistics staff, Gnr Taylor and Gnr Cusworth, who provided vital assistance and encouragement throughout the challenge.

This event served as a powerful opportunity to develop and showcase the values of resilience, teamwork,



and leadership—qualities essential to effort, making it a valuable experience for operational effectiveness in the Armed all involved. Forces. The Cateran Yomp not only tested the limits of individual endurance but also reinforced the strength of collective

by SSgt Charles Naylor
FSA
4th Regiment Royal Artillery



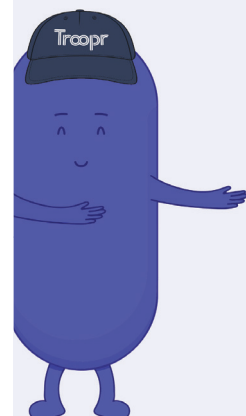
The 4RA Cateran YOMP 2025 Team in high spirits after completing the event



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troopr.co.uk



CALLING ALL ROYAL ARTILLERY FOOTBALLERS

ROYAL ARTILLERY FOOTBALL CLUB

RAFC Men and Women's team are looking to increase their squads for the 2025/25 season

POC Men's Team - WO1 Jimmy Richardson James.Richardson240@mod.gov.uk

Men's open Training session - Wed 17 Sep, Shrapnel Park, Larkhill, 1330 – 1630hrs

POC Ladies Team – SSgt Daryl Howard Daryl.Howard993@mod.gov.uk

SCAN the QR code to register your interest to play RA Football



2025/26 Men's Fixtures

AGC (H) 19 Sept

AAC (A) 21 Nov

AGC (H) 8 Dec (Cup)

Int Corps (A) 23 Jan

RAPTC (A) 16 Apr

RAMS (H) 8 May

Ladies Fixtures to follow

UBIQUE

The Gunners' Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ
 who dost everywhere
 lead Thy people in
 the way of righteousness,
 vouchsafe so to lead
 the Royal Regiment of
 Artillery that wherever
 we serve, on land sea
 or in the air, we may
 win the glory of doing
 Thy will

Amen



Royal Artillery Afghanistan Veterans

The Royal Artillery Afghanistan Veterans is a community for members and veterans of the Royal Artillery. The aim of the community is to create a support network that unites those who served in Afghanistan. It offers a space for camaraderie, shared experiences, and mutual support, helping veterans stay connected while honouring the service and sacrifices of Royal Artillery personnel.

Contact:

Abraham.day706@mod.gov.uk
Richard.davies557@mod.gov.uk
 Royal Artillery Association





Clay Pigeon Shooting Success



The team. From left to right, Capt G Kershaw-Houghton, Sgt J Fobbester, Bdr P Tomkinson and LBdr C Daly

32nd Regiment Royal Artillery were recently crowned Inter Unit Champions at the Headquarters Southwest Clay Target Shooting competition on 4 June 25. The event consisted of a 50 bird English Sporting layout across eight stands and aimed to promote clay target shooting at the grass roots level.

The 32RA team faced stiff competition, with over 90 shooters from 22 Regiments, including members of the British Army Clay Target Team. After a challenging day of shooting, the 32RA team won by a commanding 20 clay lead over 22 Engineer Regiment in second place and 21 Signal Regiment in third.

LBdr Daly won the High Gun, with the top score of the day of 44/50, gaining recognition from the Army team and Deputy Commander HQSW. "I am very happy to come away with High Gun, with some serious competition at the top end. The day was very efficiently run by the 21 Signal Regiment SSI and pitched at the right level for both novices and experienced shots, offering something for all." LBdr C Daly.

Equally commendable were the performances of Sgt Fobbester and Bdr Tomkinson, having shot for less than six and nine months respectively. "After picking a shotgun up for the first time on a Wednesday afternoon sports parade, both Sgt Fobbester and Bdr Tomkinson shot incredibly well. To coach the 32RA team and to take two shooters from novices to winning a major inter-unit competition in such a short space of time is one of my proudest achievements in the sport." Capt G Kershaw-Houghton.

Clay Target shooting is one of the foundations for operational shooting, especially in applying the principles of shooting at moving targets. It equally has direct applications in modern conflicts, such as Ukraine, with shotguns repeatedly seen used as an effective tool for all arms air defence against Uncrewed Aircraft System (UAS). Should anybody from the Larkhill Garrison be interested in clay target shooting, reach out to Capt G Kershaw-Houghton, 32RA Regt Ops Officer.

by Captain G W Kershaw-Houghton RA
Regimental Operations Officer
32nd Regiment Royal Artillery





A Battle of Skill, Strategy and Grit



Royal Artillery Carp group members

The Royal Artillery Carp Group (RACG) 2025 Championships exploded into action on the morning of 21 July, as nine determined pairs of anglers descended upon the legendary Brasenose Two (B2) lake at Linear Fisheries. With rods prepped, spirits high, and the promise of glory in the air, this wasn't just a fishing trip, it was the culmination of a season's worth of training, camaraderie, and competitive fire.

The event kicked off at 0730 with arrivals and registration, followed by a strategic walk around the lake. The draw was soon complete, and at 1100 sharp "RODS IN" was called! the match was officially underway.

The weather wasted no time in making its presence felt. Thunderstorms and torrential rain battered the lake, turning the opening hours into a gritty test of endurance. But the anglers were undeterred, remained focused, all with an eye for the massive trophy.

SSgt Ronnie Smith struck first, landing a 21lb mirror carp, though the real hero of the moment was Capt Jimmy Cain, who proved his military swim test ability by taking a dip to free the fish that had become snagged in weed. Unfortunately, the carp didn't count toward Smith's final tally (as he caught five bigger throughout the competition), but the moment captured the spirit of the competition: selflessness, grit, and a touch of madness.

As the skies calmed on day two, the competition intensified. Overcast conditions and intermittent sunshine provided a more stable backdrop, but the lake's complex underwater terrain kept everyone on their toes. Weed beds and depth variations demanded precision in bait placement and rig setup this was no place for guesswork.

SSgt Will Barr, facing a blank, switched tactics and was rewarded with an impressive



personal best: a stunning 26.4lb carp. Every pair managed to land fish, a testament to the skill and adaptability of the group.

Going into the closing morning, the competition was the closest it had ever been. The competition format uses the 'five biggest' rule, with nearly all of the pairs having all caught five fish or more, it was now competing to better the pairs smallest fish to increase weight – attempting to knock off 25lb for bigger fish provided a somewhat crazy prospect.

As the clock struck 1000 on 23 July and with the call "RODS OUT!" the lake fell silent. The final weigh-in was a tense affair, with mere ounces separating the top contenders.

1st Place: Capt Jimmy Cain RA & Capt Chris Parry RA

2nd Place: Bdr James Rimmer & WO2 Ryan Zites

3rd Place: SSgt Ian Smith & WO2 Aaron Harper



1st Place on the left Capt Chris Parry RA on the right Capt Jimmy Cain RA

The award for Biggest Carp went to Capt Jimmy Cain RA, who landed a jaw-dropping 34.14lb mirror carp securing victory for the second consecutive year along with his partner Capt Chris Parry RA, this is the

first time the trophy has been retained by the same pairing. Capt Jimmy Cain RA also has taken the individual lead for a number of times winning the competition with his name featuring an impressive five times! Give us all a chance will you.....

With the championships wrapped up, selected members of the RACG now prepare to represent the Royal Artillery at the upcoming Inter Corps Carp Championships (ICCC) and potentially the Tri-Service event. The stakes are higher, the competition fiercer but the RA anglers are ready.

The RACG is open to all serving regular and reserve personnel, welcoming anglers of all skill levels. Whether you're chasing PBs or just want to learn the ropes, this is your chance to be part of something special.

For those looking to get involved and improve their angling abilities, represent the RA through Carp Fishing and interested in joining the RACG, then reach out to Bdr Chris Evans via Email at Christopher.evans215@mod.gov.uk. You can also find the group on Facebook (RA CARPERS) or follow them on Instagram (@RA.Carpers).

Tight lines and good luck to all our anglers heading into the next challenge. The RA Carp Group isn't just about fishing, it's about forging bonds, pushing limits, and representing the Royal Artillery with pride.

by SSgt Ronnie Smith
13 Battery
19th Regiment Royal Artillery



RA Basketball



19th Regiment Royal Artillery Inter Unit Basketball Championship Winners 2025

Royal Artillery Basketball has moved from strength to strength over recent years and the Gunner coaching staff were on the look out for rising talent at this year's Royal Artillery Championships which forms a contributory sport to the Victor Ludorum and Victor Ludorix competition.

Tempo and increasing commitments have consistently impacted the ability for Regiments to support sporting events, especially those that lack facilities, coaching staff, and numbers. Basketball is a Tier 2 sport that persistently faces recruitment challenges due to key players and coaching staff being deployed, yet as a cap badge we have had increasing success at Corps level with our women's team securing a 100%-win record last season and promoting to Div 1. The men's team won all league

matches and topped the league 2 standings. Unfortunately, they were narrowly defeated in the Final 4 competition by the RAC. The 2026 competition will be fierce, and we continue to develop and compete at the highest levels. Due to the continued support from our committee and the funding provided by the Royal Artillery Charities, we will look to undertake an overseas tour in 2026, the first for RA Basketball.

Victor Ludorum and Victor Ludorix Competition

This year's competition provided some superb matches where rivalries were reaffirmed, disqualifications handed out, and those that sought revenge were rewarded.

During the men's competition group stages there were some tight games and displays of dominance from rivalries of old.



Last years winners, 14 RA accompanied by 1 RHA progressed from Group A. In Group B, favourites 19 RA were joined by 7 Para RHA who proceeded to the knockout stage.

Men's Knockout Stage – Setting Up a Finals Rematch

In the first semi-final, 14 RA overpowered 7 Para RHA 40–22 to secure their place in the final. 19 RA showcased their offensive firepower in the second semi-final, dominating 1 RHA 56–17, setting up a highly anticipated rematch of last year's final, where 14 RA had lifted the trophy.

Men's Final – 19th Regiment RA get their revenge

The men's final was all about redemption for 19 RA. Determined to avenge last year's loss, they delivered a commanding performance, defeating defending champions 14 RA 54–31. The result crowned 19 RA as men's champions and completed their perfect tournament run.

Women's Championship – 19th Regiment RA take the title

Unfortunately, this year only saw two women's teams enter for all the reasons already highlighted. However, that did not deter from the level of commitment shown by the long-standing rivalry of 19 RA and 1 RHA in what was a thrilling final.

19 RA proved the team to beat, defeating 1 RHA 27–14 in their opening game. The final saw a spirited 1 RHA comeback, but 19 RA held on to win 21–18 and claim the Championship.

This year's Championship saw 19th Regiment Royal Artillery rise to the occasion, dethroning last year's winners and proving themselves the new standard-bearers for Royal Artillery Basketball.

If anyone is interested in getting involved in RA Basketball, please contact the Secretary SSgt QGI K Gallacher at kelly.gallacher611@mod.gov.uk to express your interest, all standards welcome.

by Captain Len Sanders RA
Regimental Signals Officer
13 Battery
19th Regiment Royal Artillery



The Royal Artillery Sergeant Major (RASM) Lightfoot presents the Royal Artillery Basketball Inter Unit Championship Trophies



Redemption for 19th Regiment RA defeating 14th Regiment RA in the Finals



19th Regiment RA v 1 RHA Women's Championship Finals 21-18



St Barbara's Day - 7th December 2025

This year the Regiment will be celebrating St Barbara's Day on 7 December 2025 at the Royal Garrison Church of St Alban with St Barbara, Larkhill. Outline timings for the Service are as follows:

1000 Standard Bearers must arrive at the Church to receive a briefing.

1040 Congregation to be seated.

1100 Service begins.

After the Service, lunch will be served in the Royal Artillery Mess, places are limited (booking is required).

For anyone wishing to attend, please contact: cas.thoburn603@mod.gov.uk



Standard Bearers' & RHC In-Pensioners

Scottish Region

The Scottish Region held their Annual Summer Meeting on Saturday 23rd August in Edinburgh hosted by West Lothian Branch. Sixty-four members and guests including Royal Artillery Association Secretary Maj (Retd) Dickie Davies and his wife Julie met at the Army Reserve Centre, Colinton Edinburgh. The morning started by remembering those members who had died in the last year. Following the meeting Dickie Davies presented Branch

Committee Members with their Bronze and Silver Pins. The Catherine Cockwell Memorial Medal is the highest award in the Scottish Region and this year was awarded to Nicholla Brunt.

A short dedication service was then conducted of the new West Lothian Branch Standard which was proudly paraded by their Standard Bearer Dougie Crabbe.

Following a hot lunch the Branches and Guests had an afternoon of socialising fundraising and an inter Branch Games with Tayside Branch winning the new inter branch games trophy.



Scottish Region Annual Summer Meeting

Major General Sir Christopher Teesdale VC KCMG CB

A special thanks to David Victors, Matt Cole and James Haden and the VC Trust who recently refurbished the grave of Major General Sir Christopher Charles Teesdale VC KCMG CB. On 29th September; local dignitaries, RHQ RA, RAA, veterans and families attended a Rededication Service in St Mary Magdalene Churchyard, South Bersted, near Bognor Regis.

The day was even more commemorative; on 29th September 1855, Lieutenant Teesdale aged 22, awarded the Victoria



Cross at the Battle of Kars. Teesdale was wounded at the Battle of Kars, taken prisoner and held in Russia until he was released in 1856. He was decorated with the Victoria Cross by Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle on 21st November 1857.



Grave of Maj Gen Sir Christopher Charles Teesdale VC KCMG CB



James Haden, Matt Cole & David Victors

Aigburth-Merseyside Branch

On Tuesday 26th August members of the Aigburth-Merseyside Branch welcomed the Royal Artillery Association Secretary, Maj (Retd) Dickie Davies and his wife Julie to their August Branch meeting, 29 members of the Branch came together to host their guests.

The Branch meetings take place courtesy of our hosts, 208 Bty 103 Regt RA at the Army Reserve Centre in Aigburth, Dickie needed no introduction to the ARC as he served with 103 Regt RA as the RSM. The evening commenced with SSgt (BQMS) Alan Shacklady inviting Dickie to their mock pistol range before the Branch Meeting. At the meeting, Chairman Gordon Steward welcomed Branch Committee Members from St Helens and Widnes Associations and Dickie presented Harry Heatley a Silver RAA Committee Pin and Peter Brandwood a Bronze RAA Committee Pin.



Maj (Retd) Dickie Davies and Mr Harry Heatley



North Germany Branch Celebrate 30 Years!

The RAA in Germany celebrated its 30th Anniversary on 27 Sep 25, in Celle Immelmann Kaserne.

The occasion was celebrated with a formal dinner, speeches, presentations, meet & greet with light entertainment. The celebrations were very well attended by both North & Veterans Germany Branches. VIPs and local dignitaries; including the RASM, Lt Col M Lawrence, Maj R Clark, Maj J Tippet (Co-Founder) and Celle's Bürgermeisterin Iris Fiss.

Special thanks must be given to both Branch Committees and Members in particular, Lee Renshaw & Rupert Richards, with outstanding service from the casino's joint mess staff.

To summarise, an all-round effort, making the celebrations a very special and unforgettable occasion.



North Germany Branch Members & Guests

JLRRA

Over the weekend 2nd – 5th October the Royal Artillery Old Boys and JLRRA Association came together for their 35th Annual Gathering.

This was their second gathering since formally becoming affiliated to the Royal Artillery Association in 2024. This year saw the return to Coventry having held the event in Bosworth for the last couple of years, 98 members came together for a weekend of comradeship, pride, and reflection.

Once again, the committee produced a fantastic weekend of socialising, entertainment, and a wonderful Gala Dinner. The weekend also provided the opportunity for their AGM to take place, and it was reassuring to see engaged and enthusiastic attendance.

The event also provided the opportunity to issue RAA Committee Service Awards to Committee members – Silver Pin Awards were presented to Jim Taylor, President and David Dufall, Chairman of the Branch. Ted Mackenzie received a Gold Pin Award from the Royal Artillery Regimental Secretary, Colonel Paul Bates and this was the perfect opportunity to formally present Ted with a RAA Certificate of Merit which he was awarded at the RA Assembly in May, but unfortunately Ted was unable to attend, these awards were not only for Ted's commitment to the JLRRA but also his regional and branch work with Biggleswade Branch. Warmest Congratulations Ted.

A perfect weekend, brilliantly organised and well attended, the significance about this reunion is...it isn't about how long or how successful an individuals' career was but simply where we all started and there is something in that, that makes the whole gathering so very special.



If you are an ex-RA Boy or Junior Leader, please do seek out their website and I encourage you to become a member. It was also great this year as several groups used the event for their own significant reunion 40/50/60 year gatherings, and if you have a similar anniversary coming up, please do consider getting in touch with the committee team, they would love to hear from you.

Find out more information from carla.brawn100@mod.gov.uk or through your chain of command.

1st Battery RA (The Blazers), 14th Regiment RA

On Wednesday 30th July 1st Battery gathered to celebrate its birthday, a proud lineage that traces back to the original formation of the Battery in 1779.

Thanks to the generous support of the Royal Artillery Association, our soldiers enjoyed a well-earned day of adventure and connection. The morning began with a lively game of Touch rugby which fostered a healthy competitiveness which was followed by a relaxed brunch in the Battery lines. We then travelled to Basingstoke via coach, where two thrilling escape rooms tested our teamwork and grit, the day ended with a hearty smorgasbord dinner at The Duck and Tiddle, allowing us to unwind after a busy day of activities.

We are deeply grateful to the Royal Artillery Association for making this memorable day possible. Their continued support strengthens the bonds that keep our traditions alive.



Col P R Bates & Mr Ted MacKenzie

RAA Battery Grants

One of the charitable objects of the Association is to promote comradeship, fostering esprit de corps and preserving traditions. Each year the Association makes funds available to Batteries in the form of annual grants to help fund Battery events, improve conditions for members of the Battery and their dependants.



1st Bty RA personnel



GUNNER LOTTERY JOIN TODAY

CASH PRIZES UP TO

£25,000

Supporting those who serve
Supporting those who served



For every £1 entry, at least
50p goes directly to royal
artillery charities



#FINDandSTRIKE ONE FAMILY - ROYAL ARTILLERY CHARITIES



RACF SUPPORT TO THE REGIMENTAL FAMILY

The RACF to date has provided 462 Gunners help with household goods, bereavement costs, annual grants and other essential items. The RACF has provided £391K in help this year alone. Can we help you or someone you know? Reach out to us so we can help our Gunner family. Unfortunately we cannot help with needs such as private medical or legal fees.

The team is here to help and we can be contacted by email: RARHQ-RACF_WELFARE-MAILBOX@mod.gov.uk, or via our website RA Charitable Fund Application - RA Association (thegunners.org.uk). We aim to respond in 3 working days. We can signpost you and discuss the next step to help. Our office number is 01980 634309 or 0303 379 4560 if you would like to speak to someone or leave a message. If you are serving pop in and see your UWO for help or advice.

Alternatively call SSAFA on 0800 731 4880, the Royal British Legion on 0808 802 8080 to get a case up to us.

Thank You's

Please convey my sincere thanks to all those involved in providing me with a new mobility scooter, together you have prevented a year that was turning out to be a "Annus Horribilious" as out late Queen stated and transformed it into something special. You have made a Veteran very happy and given me my independence back which has reduced the amount of stress that I was suffering, once again THANK YOU. Gnr Veteran

I am deeply grateful for the financial support you have provided. Your generosity will play a crucial role in helping me achieve one of my personal goals this year and that is obtaining British citizenship before December. I am sincerely thankful for your assistance and will always appreciate your support.

REGIMENTAL CHRISTMAS CARDS ORDER FORM 2025

A



Foiled RA Badge
£13.50 per pack of 10
incl p&p*
140x102mm
With Best Wishes for
Christmas and the New Year

C



The Royal Artillery War Memorial in Winter
£9.50 per pack of 10
incl p&p*
105x148mm
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Christmas and the New Year

B



The Regimental Family
£9.50 per pack of 10
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105x148mm
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D



RA Coat of Arms with Ribbon
£15.00 per pack of 10
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171x127mm
With Best Wishes for
Christmas and the New Year

Name and address:

Tel No:

Quantity required:

A	
B	
C	
D	
Total:	

*Please contact the RAA for additional overseas postage. Payment to **Royal Artillery Association** BACS Account 00181906 Sort Code 30 99 88 or send UK Sterling cheque to: Royal Artillery Association, Artillery House, Artillery Centre, RA Barracks, Larkhill, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 8QT. All proceeds raised are in aid of the Royal Artillery Association. For enquiries please email fay.chapman107@mod.gov.uk



Date	Event	Location
2025		
06 Nov	Field of Remembrance	Westminster Abbey
09 Nov	RA Ceremony of Remembrance	Hyde Park Corner
14 Nov	HM The King's Official Birthday Salute	London (KTRHA)
26 Nov	RA Board of Management	Larkhill
27 Nov	Sports Awards Dinner	Larkhill
05 Dec	YOs' Dining In	Larkhill
07 Dec	St Barbara's Day	Larkhill Garrison Church
11 Dec	Master Gunner's Committee	Larkhill
2026		
23-25 Feb	WO1 Convention	Larkhill
19 Mar	RA Boxing Final	Larkhill
20 Mar	Gunner 26 Conference	Larkhill
20 Mar	Spring Dinner	Larkhill
12 Apr	Gunner Sunday	Royal Hospital Chelsea
15-17 May	Royal Artillery Assemble	Blackpool
04 Jul	NMA Service	NMA



LAST POST

Notification of Death:
Harry Slater 08 July 2025
Sgt Wayne Mallon 27 July 2025
Robert Anthony Homans 22 August 2025
Sgt Melvyn Ives September 2025
Henry Hinton September 2025
Gnr Paul Jones September 2025
Paul Booth September 2025
Bruce McMillan 6 October 2025

COLLINGS - William James Collings RA MBE died peacefully on 20th September 2025 aged 85. Much loved husband of Jenny, father of Sarah and Clare. Proud Grandfather of 5.

DAVIES - Colonel Frederic Nicolas John Davies (late RA) LVO JP DL of Liphook, Hampshire died peacefully on 17th September 2025 aged 86. Beloved husband of the late Caroline. Father to Fiona and Richard, Victoria and James.

Subscription Price List

To addresses in the UK and BFPO:
The Gunner - £24
The Journal of the Royal Artillery - £10
The Gunner and The Journal of the Royal Artillery - £34

To addresses in Europe:
The Gunner - £39
The Journal of the Royal Artillery - £14
The Gunner and The Journal of the Royal Artillery - £53

To addresses in the rest of the world:
The Gunner - £49
The Journal of the Royal Artillery - £17
The Gunner and The Journal of the Royal Artillery - £66

SPACKMAN - Robert Anthony (Tony), Col RA Retd. Died peacefully on 16th October, aged 94. Beloved husband of Caryl, father of Giles and Gabrielle, and grandfather of Alexander, Arthur ,Alfred, Atticus, Edward and Florence.

RA Historical Society
2025/26 Programme

Date and Timings	Event	Subject	Lecturer/ Lead	Bookings Close
Wednesday 19 November 1930 hrs	Webinar	Lessons learnt: Constructing the 1914 British Expeditionary Force	Dr Spencer Jones RA Regimental Historian	Friday 14 November
Wednesday 21 January 2026 1930 hrs	Webinar	Panic in London: Gothas, Bombs and Rockets in Two World Wars.	Dr Linda Parker Author & Secretary British Modern Military History Society	Sunday 18 January
Wednesday 25 February 2026 1930 hrs	Webinar	The Brassington Animations Part 2 12.5in RML Gun 1885 12in Siege Howitzer 1918	Mr Rob Brassington Animation Designer	Sunday 22 February

These events are open to all Gunners. To register please email Lt Col Clayton, RAHS Secretary: richard.clayton312@gmail.com by the dates shown

All Gunners are eligible to join the Society. Please contact the Secretary for details.



Lieutenant Colonel (Retd) John Hoskins MBE 1938-2025



Lieutenant Colonel John Hoskins MBE, a distinguished officer of the Royal Artillery and later a respected business leader in the defence industry, died on 3 August 2025, aged 87. He was a man of energy, vision and dedication whose career bridged both military service and international enterprise.

John began his Army career as a Gunner in 1953 before commissioning into the Royal Artillery in May 1967. He completed the Gunnery Staff Course in 1970, forging friendships with overseas students that he maintained throughout his life. He went on to command a battery in 32 Light Regiment and later served as an Instructor in Gunnery, his expertise and enthusiasm earning him a place on the prestigious United States Command and Staff Course at Fort Leavenworth.

On returning to the UK, John was appointed to the Defence Sales Organisation, where he championed British artillery

products across the globe. Over the course of his service, he held a wide range of regimental and staff appointments at home and overseas, known throughout for his professionalism, leadership and unwavering commitment to the Army. His achievements were recognised with the award of the MBE, an honour he accepted with his characteristic modesty. After retiring from the Army, John applied the same qualities of discipline, insight and determination to business. He first worked in senior roles across the defence industry before joining Hall & Watts as a Sales Executive, where his drive and expertise soon marked him out as a natural leader. After gaining further experience elsewhere, he later returned to Hall & Watts, working his way up to become Managing Director and ultimately one of the company's owners. Under his leadership, the company became an internationally respected supplier to armed forces worldwide. He oversaw the acquisition of allied companies and the establishment of global offices - achievements that reflected the connections, values and determination that had shaped him as a young

man and throughout his Army service. His leadership and deep knowledge of artillery were instrumental in forging lasting partnerships and securing the company's reputation for excellence. He was also a proud Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers, reflecting his lifelong commitment to supporting innovation, education and community in his field.

Beyond his professional achievements, John will be remembered for his warmth, generosity and humour. He inspired those who worked with him, whether in uniform or in business, and his presence left a lasting impression on colleagues, friends and family alike.

Above all, John was devoted to his family, who were always his greatest source of pride. He is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren who will remember him with deep love and gratitude. He leaves behind a legacy of service, leadership and devotion that will be deeply missed but long cherished by all who had the privilege of knowing him.



The Royal Regiment wishes to congratulate the following:

KVRM

Colonel (Retd) Alex Forbes

In recognition of a decades service to the Royal Artillery Regiment. Reflects work as Deputy Commander Reserves of 1st DRS Brigade. During which time Col (Retd) Forbes commanded the Corps artillery, 1st MN FAB and also stepped up for the Head of Profession as Joint Military Commander Guns on Op GOLDEN ORB when he was on Ex WARFIGHTER.

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29

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HOME, TELL
THEM OF US AND
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TOMORROW WE
GAVE OUR DAY

WE WILL
REMEMBER
THEM



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7th Parachute Regiment Royal Horse Artillery



All former Airborne Gunner and 7 RHA Officers

We are looking to reconnect with as many past officers that may have lost contact with the community

Please follow the QR code and fill out your details if you are currently not part of the Airborne Gunner and 7 RHA past Officers mailing list. Or alternatively get in touch via 7RHA-AGRDMailbox.mod.gov.uk

Or search Airborne Gunner Reunion Dinner on LinkedIn

It would be great to see as many past members as possible at the 65th Airborne Gunner and 7 RHA Reunion Dinner





INFORMATION

BESPOKE WALKING STICKS

Mr David Roberts - King's Troop RHA Veteran who suffers with PTSD and has done for many years has been making bespoke walking sticks to assist with his symptoms. David has made them for fellow service Veterans and also many celebrities including Philip Schofield, Sir Michael Palin, Martin Clunes and Bear Grylls. If you would be interested in owning your own personalised stick - please contact David on Tel 01646 279716, or email droberts8641@gmail.com or visit <http://bespokesticks.art>

REUNIONS

1 RHA REUNION DINNER
14 NOV 25

The 73rd 1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery Officers' Mess Reunion Dinner will be held at the Royal Artillery Mess, Larkhill on Friday 14th November 2025. Would any former officer of the Regiment who wishes to attend and who has not received details of the dinner please contact the Dinner Secretary, Major R D Wills RHA on Robert.Wills814@mod.gov.uk

YOUNG OFFICERS' BRANCH
CENTENARY DINNER

The first of a long series of young officers courses assembled at the School of Artillery on 2nd February 1926 under the command of Maj Wyndham Greene DSO MC, assisted by Maj Ambrose Pratt MC. To celebrate

100 years of the establishment of the first Young Officers' Course, a Centenary Dinner supported by the MGSJP will be held in the RA Mess, Larkhill on **20th February 2026**. The event is open to all former Chief Instructors, Senior Instructors, Adjutants, IGs, MGs, SMIGs, QGIs and civilian staff that have worked within the YOs' Branch. If you are interested in attending, please submit your initial interest by completing your details using the QR code below or emailing WO1 (MG) Mostert on adele.mostert559@mod.gov.uk by COP 28 Nov 25. The RAI have kindly offset the ticket price by 50%. The ticket cost to attend is £30pp. Information will be emailed to all attendees once final numbers are in to confirm your attendance.

1 RHA REUNION DINNER
14 NOV 25

The 73rd 1 RHA Officers' Mess Reunion Dinner will be held at the Royal Artillery Mess, Larkhill on Fri 14 Nov 25. Any former officer of the Regt who wishes to attend please contact Maj RD Wills RHA robert.wills814@mod.gov.uk

THE 36TH REUNION OF THE
ROYAL ARTILLERY BOYS
AND JUNIOR LEADERS'
ASSOCIATION

The 36th reunion of The Royal Artillery Boys and Junior Leaders' Association will take place at the Holiday Inn Coventry M6 Junction 2, over the weekend of 2-4th October 2026. Full details and booking form will be published in the January 2026 edition of "Trumpeter", or by contacting the Secretary, Ted McKenzie by email only on exboysra.tm@gmail.com

40TH FIELD REGIMENT
ROYAL ARTILLERY OFFICERS'
GULF REUNION DINNER
27 FEB 26

The final reunion dinner for officers who served in 40th Field Regiment

during the Gulf War will be held in the RA Mess on Friday 27th February 2026 to mark the 35th anniversary of the liberation of Kuwait. Maj Gen Patrick Cordingley will be attending as our guest. This is also open to all 40th Regiment Gulf veterans who have subsequently been commissioned. Please contact Colonel Julian Lyne-Pirkis for details via julianlynepirkis@gmail.com

RA CEREMONY OF
REMEMBRANCE

The annual Royal Artillery Ceremony of Remembrance will take place on 9 November 2025 at the Royal Artillery Memorial, Hyde Park Corner. The event is open to all to attend and reserved seating is available. Please note that this is a free event, however seating is limited and will be issued on a first come first served basis. All attendees are required to be seated by 10.30am at the latest and are advised to dress accordingly for the weather as this is an open air event. All retired members of the regiment who attend are invited at the end of the Ceremony to join the march past. Those wishing to participate are asked to form up at Wellington Arch at 11.25am. Any queries are to be directed to Mrs Carla Brawn email: Carla.Brawn100@mod.gov.uk or via telephone 0300 155 6172.



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DO YOU NEED OUR HELP?



Since its inception in 2010, the Aaron Lewis Foundation, fuelled by the spirit of volunteerism, has dedicated itself to uplifting the lives of serving personnel, veterans, Regiments and Service Associations across the UK.

Our mission is propelled by a simple yet profound promise: to leave no one behind. From essential equipment to life-enhancing resources, we've answered the call of those in need, transforming lives one project at a time. Whether it's aiding with mobility through wheelchairs, enhancing training with hand weights, or empowering through education with 1st Aid courses, we adapt to the unique needs of our heroes, often collaborating with fellow charities to fulfil our commitment.

Are you, or someone you know, in need of support?

The Aaron Lewis Foundation is ready to help, guided by a few key principles:

- We assist serving personnel, veterans, or initiatives that directly benefit them, such as equipment for sports teams or community projects.
- Our assistance focuses on providing physical items that have an immediate impact on recipients' lives, as opposed to a pool of funds.
- We prioritise requests that address needs not met by MOD or statutory provisions, including match-funding request.

To explore how we might support you or your cause, please contact us at info@aaronlewisfoundation.org.uk for an application form.

About the Aaron Lewis Foundation

Lieutenant Aaron Lewis, of 29 Commando Regiment Royal Artillery, was killed in action in Afghanistan on December 15th, 2008. He was just 26 and on his first operational deployment.

Aaron wanted to make a difference in the world, bringing help to those in need. It was that belief which gave him the courage, hope and enthusiasm to deploy to Afghanistan.

Two years after his death, the Aaron Lewis Foundation was established by his family and friends to continue to make a difference in his memory. With unity and teamwork at its core, Aaron's family, friends and former service colleagues work together to raise funds for causes close to Aaron's heart, providing access to sport and wellbeing for all, while at the same time furthering his legacy.

'Unity-Honour-Heart'

Looking for something different?

We are continuously looking for physically and mentally robust volunteers from the Tri-Services to become Special Observers.

To join us, volunteers must successfully complete the Surveillance and Reconnaissance Patrols Course (SRPC).

For those that are successful we guarantee a unique, challenging and rewarding career like no other in the regular army.

If you want to work with like-minded individuals, conduct high quality training and deploy across the globe; then look no further.

Contact us: 4/73 (Sphinx) Special Observation Post Battery
Email: 5RA-473Bty-Ops-Team@mod.gov.uk Tel: 07773 978878

SRPC PATHWAY

FTX (Summative) 2 weeks

LFTT 1 week

Rural Operations 2 weeks

Urban Operations 2 weeks

SOP and Tactics Training 2 weeks

Medical & Communications 1 week

Aptitude 3 weeks

Qualification

Loading Process

- Email us.
- Read our DIN.
- Send Annex A to APC.
- Attend our preparation course.
- Begin SRPC (course roadmap above).

STA PATROLS

"The British Army's only Long Range, Surveillance and Target Acquisition (STA) Patrols, providing specialist **Surveillance, Reconnaissance** and **Joint Effects** in the high-threat environment"

ARMY
BE THE BEST

Plenty are capable, fewer are willing.
ARE YOU WILLING?

REGIMENTAL CHRISTMAS CARDS ORDER FORM 2025

A

Foiled RA Badge
 £13.50 per pack of 10
 incl p&p*
 140x102mm

With Best Wishes for
Christmas and the New Year

C

The Royal Artillery War Memorial in Winter
 £9.50 per pack of 10
 incl p&p*
 105x148mm

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Christmas and the New Year

B

The Regimental Family
 £9.50 per pack of 10
 incl p&p*
 105x148mm

With Best Wishes for
Christmas and the New Year

D

RA Coat of Arms with Ribbon
 £15.00 per pack of 10
 incl p&p*
 171x127mm

With Best Wishes for
Christmas and the New Year

Name and address:

Tel No:

Quantity required:

A	
B	
C	
D	

Total:

*Please contact the RAA for additional overseas postage. Payment to **Royal Artillery Association** BACS Account 00181906 Sort Code 30 99 88 or send UK Sterling cheque to: Royal Artillery Association, Artillery House, Artillery Centre, RA Barracks, Larkhill, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 8QT. All proceeds raised are in aid of the Royal Artillery Association. For enquiries please email fay.chapman107@mod.gov.uk

BREMONT ROYAL ARTILLERY WATCH

The Bremont S301 Royal Artillery timepiece is exclusively available to past and present personnel of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, and is limited to 100 pieces.

A portion of all proceeds will go to the RA Charitable Fund.

For more information contact: military@bremont.com

BREMONT
CHRONOMETERS

TESTED BEYOND ENDURANCE



adlyys
in Brigâd
(aru)

Frîgåd (Cymro) yw
iad y Fyddia a
sh a'r gyma

Gold Medal for The King's Gurkha Artillery (KGA) in Ex CAMBRIAN PATROL (CP) 2025