



ARTILLERY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER NO 2

NOV 98

ARTILLERY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION

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FOREWORD

**Major General Mike Shellard, CBE
President of the Association**

I am delighted to have been asked to contribute to the second edition of the Newsletter - and even more pleased to have been invited to take on the onerous task of President.

Actually, when Colonel Joe Falzon approached me on this, he assured me there would be nothing to do - and being basically idle, that seemed just right for me!

When the Association dined together at Woolwich on 7th March this year, I was lucky enough to be invited, and it was a splendid evening. Everyone had stories to tell and old friends to meet, and even I found nearly a dozen old comrades from various previous tours.

Next year's event, on 6th March, will be every bit as good, I'm sure; and I hope there may be even more of you able to attend.

I look forward to seeing you there - best wishes.

Mike Shellard

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

I am thankful for our new President, and indeed for the Secretary, to restrict my contribution to this Newsletters to just a few lines! I suspect General Mike Shellard has always known I lack original thought, whilst Mark Testi just decided to hog the bulk of the space available for his rhetoric.

It is amazing that in such a short space of time we have achieved so much already. Our membership list is fast approaching the 100 milestone, we have launched our new Association tie, and planning for the next Reunion & Association Dinner is going well. But more importantly, the flow of correspondence, telephone calls, e-mails, and faxes have now picked up momentum and our family and network of contacts is growing.

Finally, I wish to register a special thank you to General Mike Shellard for agreeing to become the President of our Association and to Ted Morgan for volunteering to take on the Welfare Secretary role.

Looking forward to seeing you all on the 6th March.

With every best wish

Joe Falzon

THE ARTILLERY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE

- Chairman:** Lieutenant Colonel J F Falzon BEM RA
Commanding Officer
Andover Support Unit
Monxton Road
ANDOVER
Hants SP11 8HT

Telephone: (01264) 382560
- Treasurer:** Captain P Corker AGC (SPS)
Regimental Administrative Officer
32 Regiment Royal Artillery
Roberts Barracks
Larkhill
SALISBURY
Wilts SP4 8QU

Telephone: (01980) 675568
- Secretary:** Warrant Officer Class One R M Testi AGC (SPS)
Headquarters Adjutant General's Corps Centre
Gould House
Worthy Down
WINCHESTER
Hants SO21 2RG

Telephone: (01962) 887648
- Reunion
Secretary** Warrant Officer Class One J M Charlton LSL/RA
Army Families Advice Bureau
Headquarters Land Command
Erskine Barracks
SALISBURY
Wilts SP2 0AG

Telephone: (01722) 436461

Regional Secretaries:

Scotland/)
Wales/)
North West/)
North/)
Midlands)

No volunteers to date

East

Mr C J Berry (Chris)
17 Antelope Avenue
Grays Thurrock
Essex
RM16 6QT

Telephone: (01375) 390790

London and the South

Mr S T Truslove (Steve)
Winterburn Cottage
70 London Road
Stone
DARTFORD
Kent
DA2 6AN

Telephone: (01322) 220041

West

Warrant Officer Class One J M Charlton LSL/RA (Mel)
Address as above

Germany

Warrant Officer Class One (SSM) D A Riley AGC (SPS) (Des)
Staff & Personnel Support Branch
Headquarters 4th Armoured Brigade
British Forces Post Office 36

Telephone: Osnabruck Military Extension 2246

Welfare Secretary

Mr E Morgan (Ted)
123 Reginald Road South
Chaddesden
DERBY
DE21 6NJ

Telephone: Office (01332) 345702
Home (01332) 678418

SECRETARY'S NOTES

1. **Introduction.** Since the formation of the Association I have been heard in company to mutter the words "Take my advice, never volunteer to be the Secretary of an Association". Despite my occasional 'gnashing of teeth' due to the inevitable highs and lows setting up of an Association like ours, us committee types can smile a bit more these days. I stop short of saying we can see light at the end of the tunnel only because it has been switched off as a cost savings measure! Perhaps I should leave comedy alone and stick to gnashing my teeth with Association business. You will therefore have to wait until the Reunion for my favourite Bill Clinton joke and the dyslexic Miss Lewinsky.

2. **The Story so far.** Since Mel Charlton stood up in the Mess at Woolwich on the 7th of March and delivered the famous 'call to arms' and the Newsletter going out in May, I have received 85 applications for membership of the Artillery Clerks' Association. A list of current members can be found on page 6. With Maj Gen Mike Shellard kindly agreeing to be Honorary President that makes 86. I have received many letters and telephone calls asking for more information so much so that I needed to produce another 20 copies of the original Newsletter. It has been an enormous privilege and pleasure for me to correspond and speak with many of you and help in any way I could - I hope it continues. *One cautionary note here though, The Data Protection Act forbids me from giving out addresses and telephone numbers without consent. If you want to pass messages to other members and you don't have their contact details then please pass them to me and I will forward them on.* If I have referred to you incorrectly on the member's list then please let me know how you wish to be known as.

3. **The Tie Saga.** When I mentioned highs and lows earlier on, the tie saga (and it was a saga), you can probably guess, does not fall into the 'high' category. Those of you who ordered ties have been fully appraised of the situation and I will not dwell on this subject. For the benefit of those that may be thinking of buying one, the good news is that a new supplier has been found and has produced an excellent prototype. Ties will be ready for despatch in the next few weeks from Des Riley and the application form can be found on page 8. At £10.00 each they are a silk/polyester mix and really do look super - far higher quality than the original supplier could come up with.

4. **Association Membership.** As I said earlier we now have 85 signed up members and up until recently applications were arriving almost weekly. They seem to have dried up over the last couple of weeks but I feel confident that this Newsletter will spark more interest. To top the hundred mark by the time of the Dinner is our target and we are well on course to achieve that. Some of you have been busy seeking out old 'ACs' and I am very grateful to you for that. Please keep up the good work. Those of you who have not yet taken the plunge and want to join need wait no longer. An application form can be found on page 9. Hurry up and get it in the post today. RAA life membership certificates should be with you shortly as they now have our up to date list of members. I enclose membership cards, which for ACs should be fairly self-explanatory (Branch is Artillery Clerks' Association), and don't forget to affix a photograph before you stick it down.

5. **Regional/Welfare Secretaries.** The good news is that so far we have had volunteers for East, West, London and the South and a Welfare Secretary - thank you all for volunteering. The not so good news is that we still need volunteers for Scotland, Wales, North, North West and Midlands. If you feel you can help then please do get in touch. I know that some of you approached me at the last Dinner and said you would be happy to help but I have heard nothing from you since. It may well have been a case of the 'beer talking' so I will be writing to those of you who I can remember to jog your memory. Ted Morgan very graciously accepted the mantle of Welfare Secretary for which the Committee is particularly grateful. With Ted's ongoing association with SSAFA, it gives the Association a most useful asset, so please don't hesitate in contacting him if you are in need of help.

6. **Arrangements for the Reunion Dinner**. As you will probably know by now the date for the Dinner has been set for Saturday 6th March at the RA Mess, Woolwich and the booking proforma is on page 7. The outline programme is as follows:

1800 hrs	AGM in Eyre's Lounge (Bar open)
1900 hrs	Photograph (TBC)
1930 - 2000 hrs	Dinner
2300 hrs approx	Bar open until late

No real surprises apart from the AGM perhaps which we would like as many of you as possible to attend. It is the member's chance to 'grill' the Committee face to face, an opportunity which I am sure some of you would not want to miss. Mel Charlton has written to the Director of Music of the RA Band to see if some musical accompaniment can be provided, including that old favourite the post horn. The Mess at Woolwich has a seating capacity of 120 and we do not expect to exceed that. Accommodation may be tight and early returns would be appreciated so that the bed situation can be looked at. You will note the deadline of **6 Jan 99** for returns to be with Mel - please don't be late. The Dinner has been costed at £30.00 per head this year and is based on last year's adjusted costs. What you may not be aware of is that the RASM has agreed once again to count our Dinner as one of his official functions thereby saving us £1000.00. Needless to say it is excellent value in this day and age of contractorised catering. Those regions with secretaries may be in a position to co-ordinate transport for those that need it. Please don't hesitate in contacting them. Whilst we can give no guarantees, it should at least be possible for some people to car share thereby keeping your costs to a minimum.

7. **Other Business**.

a. **Remembrance Day**. I recently received an RAA newsletter outlining arrangements for Remembrance Day. Unfortunately it is too late to do anything on a Branch scale but it certainly warrants consideration for future years - you may wish to comment at the AGM.

b. **St Barbara's Day**. A St Barbara's Day service will be held at the Garrison Church, Woolwich at 1100 hrs on Sunday 6th December. It would be nice if our Association was represented. There will be a March Past after the Service on the Front Parade with the RA Band in attendance. After the parade a three course meal will be provided in the Regimental Restaurant at a cost of £8.00 per head. I will be contacting Steve Truslove, Regional Secretary for London and the South to ask if he would co-ordinate our attendance. Those members from the London area, and I know there are a few of you close to Woolwich, may wish to go along. If you do decide to go then please contact Steve but time is short. Please let him know and get your cheques to him by **16 Nov** at the latest.

c. **Standards & Bearers**. The Committee is actively looking at obtaining its own Standard and this will take some time. When we do have our own Standard we will need a Bearer. Please don't send me 'recent photographs' of you on the beach in Majorca, but those of the tall and strapping variety please bear it in mind for the future.

d. **The Royal Artillery Sunset Ceremony Video**. I watched this on television back in June and thought it was marvellous. The RAA have brought it out on video which you can order for the price of £13.50 (incl p & p). An order form can be found on page 11.

Mark Testi

ARTILLERY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION
BRANCH MEMBERS AS AT 31ST OCTOBER 1998

In alphabetical order

Ches Allen	Dick Ancliffe	Brian Bailey
Chris Berry	Graham Brown	Phil Buckingham
Martin Butler	Charles Camies	Walter Carney
Mel Charlton	Ian Constantine	Paul Corker
Bob Cowan	Kev Crump	Jim Cussell
Roy Deal	John Dewberry	Jim Doran
Joe Falzon	Jim Findlay	Ron Flemmings
Terry Foster	Chris Freeman	Eric Frost
Walter Gaines	Martin Geddes	Ted Hall
'H' Hammond	Steve Hawke	Phil Headford
William Henry	Martin Hester	Paddy Hope
Vic Holdaway	Mick Hutchinson	Geoff Hyatt
Geoff Janik	Bill Johnson	Mick Johnston
Andy Jones	Fred Jones	Brian Leadbetter
Russ Lee	Ray Lewis	Bob Lewney
Alan Lowthian	Leo Lyall	George McKinnell
James McNamara	Dave Manchester	Tim Matthews
Tresh Matthews	Martin Meek	Ted Morgan
Bill Morland	Andy Moss	Dennis Norris
Nick Perkovic	Eddie Platts	Steve Prowse
Derek Ralphs	Neil Ridout	Des Riley
Brian Rose	Alex Ross	Arthur Rowell
Alan Sawdon	Vince Scott	Steve Seymour
Sid Siddall	Tony Skinner	Mike Shellard
Phil Spencer	Trevor Spurr	Dave Stotan
Andy Sykes	John Taylor	Mark Testi
Steve Truslove	Pat Verdon	William Wallace
Dick Walmsley	Ron Waterfield	Duggie Waterhouse
Andy West	Chris Wood	Yogi Yeowell

**ARTILLERY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION AND 65th REUNION DINNER
BOOKING PROFORMA
SATURDAY 6TH MARCH 1999**

I WISH TO / DO NOT WISH TO / CANNOT attend the Dinner.

Rank/Status _____ or Rank on discharge _____

Name, Initial(s) & Decorations _____

Known Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

Contact Tel/Fax _____

A cheque for £30.00 to cover the cost of the Dinner is enclosed.

Accommodation required (tick for each night) Offrs please book own accn in RA Mess.

Fri 5 Mar _____ Sat 6 Mar _____ Sun 7 Mar _____

Additional Meals (tick as required)(less offrs)

Evening Meal Fri 5 Mar _____ Brunch Sat 6 Mar _____ Breakfast Sun 7 Mar _____

Special food requirements (Sat Dinner only) _____

If you are unable to attend, please annotate overleaf any message or greeting that you wish to have read out at the Dinner.

Please forward the completed form, with a £30.00 cheque, to the Reunion Secretary by the closing date of 6th January 1999 at the latest:

WO1 J M Charlton LSL/RA
Artillery Clerks' Association
c/o Army Families Advice Bureau
HQ Land Command
Wilton
Wilts SP2 0AG

Work telephone 01722-436461 or Mil 733-2461
Fax 01722-436307 or Mil 733-2307
Home telephone and fax 01980-620074

THIS DINNER IS CONFIRMED AS 1930 FOR 2000, HOWEVER THERE WILL BE A PHOTOGRAPH AND AN ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BEFOREHAND

From: _____

To:

WO1 (SSM) D A Riley AGC (SPS)
Headquarters
4th Armoured Brigade
British Forces Post Office 36

Dear Des,

ARTILLERY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION TIE

1. Please rush me _____ (qty) Artillery Clerks' Association Tie/Ties* @ £10.00 each while stocks last.
2. My cheque for £_____ made payable to the 'ARTILLERY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION' is enclosed.

Signed

Date

**APPLICATION FORM FOR MEMBERSHIP OF
THE ARTILLERY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION BRANCH
OF THE ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION**

To:

WO1 (SSM) R M Testi AGC (SPS)
Headquarters Adjutant General's Corps Centre
Gould House
Worthy Down
WINCHESTER
Hants SO21 2RG

PART 1 - APPLICATION

1. I hereby request membership of the Artillery Clerks' Association Branch of the Royal Artillery Association. I agree to abide by the Charter and the decisions made by the committee on behalf of the Association.
2. I agree to pay an initial joining fee of £5.00 and thereafter an annual membership fee of £5.00 payable to the treasurer by 31st January.
3. I enclose my cheque for £5.00 made payable to 'THE ARTILLERY CLERKS' ASSOCIATION' in respect of my joining fee.
4. My personal details are:

Surname..... Initials..... Known as.....

Title/Rank (Serving/Ex) Decorations/Post Nominals

Address..... Home Telephone

..... Work Telephone

..... Fax

..... E-Mail

DOB Spouse's Name

Signed Date

PART 2 - SPONSORSHIP PROPOSAL

***1. Serving or Retired Former Clerks in the Royal Artillery**

I certify the applicant is a serving (or retired) member of the Adjutant General's Corps (Staff and Personnel Support) in the rank (or former rank) of sergeant or above. He served as a clerk in the Royal Artillery in the rank of Gunner to Bombardier prior to transfer. He is duly proposed and I recommend him wholeheartedly to the Association.

OR

***2. Honorary Member**

I certify the applicant meets the criteria laid down in the Charter for honorary membership. He/She is duly proposed and we recommend him/her wholeheartedly to the Association. *I attach a separate letter explaining the details of this special case for consideration by the Committee.

Proposed by:

Name:

Signature:

* Delete where not applicable

FIREPOWER AND MUSIC

ROYAL ARTILLERY SUNSET CEREMONY

VIDEO

Thank you for your enquiry about the Royal Artillery Sunset Ceremony Video. We are pleased to tell you that it is now available from the Royal Artillery Institution. It has been licensed from the BBC, and is a copy of the BBC programme broadcast on 11 June, including the commentary, plus additional footage after the closing credits showing the Massed Bands marching up Horse Guards Road towards The Mall. The total running time is approximately 70 minutes. The video comes in a professionally produced cover and with a copy of the Commemorative Programme.

The price is £12, plus £1.50 for postage and packing.

Please complete the form attached, and send it with your cheque for £13.50, payable to 'The Royal Artillery Institution', to:

Mrs S Carpenter
Royal Artillery Institution
Artillery House
Royal Artillery Barracks
Woolwich
London
SE18 4BH

Please allow 21 days for delivery. Copies of the video are also available from the Royal Artillery Association Shop. For enquiries about multiple orders, overseas orders and North American format (NTSC), please telephone 0181 781 3733 or write to the above address enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope.

*Profits from the sales of the video will be donated to
the Royal Artillery Charitable Fund.*

FIREPOWER AND MUSIC

ROYAL ARTILLERY SUNSET CEREMONY

VIDEO ORDER FORM

Please complete clearly in block letters.

Rank/Title: _____ Initials: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime telephone number: _____

Please send me _____ copies of the Royal Artillery Sunset Ceremony Video @ £13.50 each (including £1.50 for postage and packing per video).

I enclose a cheque made payable to 'The Royal Artillery Institution'.

For enquiries about multiple orders, overseas orders and North American format (NTSC), please telephone: 0181 781 3733.

