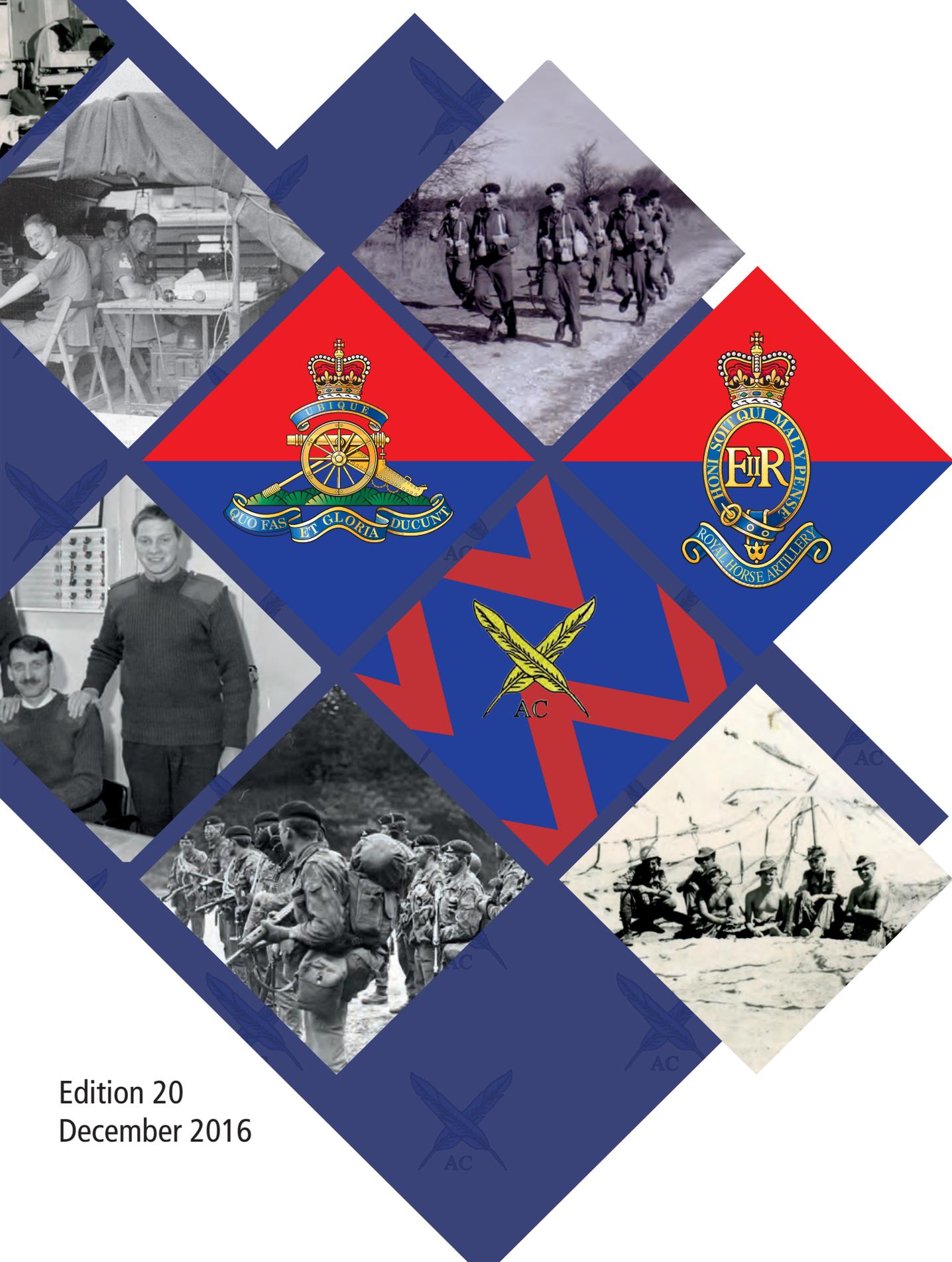


The Crossed Quills

The Magazine of the Artillery Clerks' Association



Edition 20
December 2016



The Royal Artillery Association

Forecast of Events



2017

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 17 February | Royal Artillery Gold Cup | Sandown Park |
| TBC | RAA NEC Meeting | Larkhill |
| 29 April (TBC) | Gunner Sunday RHC* | Royal Hospital Chelsea |
| 19 - 22 May | RA Assembly* | Blackpool |
| 20 May | NEC Meeting | Blackpool |
| 24 June | Armed Forces Day | Local & National Events |
| 1 July | RA Service of Remembrance* | NMA, Alrewas, Staffordshire |
| 9 August | RAA Grand Draw | Larkhill |
| 7 - 8 October | RAA Folkestone Assembly* | Folkestone |
| 7 October | RAA NEC Meeting | Folkestone |
| 9 November | Field of Remembrance | Westminster Abbey |
| 12 November | RA Ceremony of Remembrance | Hyde Park Corner |
| 3 December | St Barbara's Day Service and Lunch* | Larkhill |

Events marked * will attract transport subsidy for branches travelling by mini bus or coach

Foreword by Association President - Lt Gen Richard Nugee CBE



It is with the greatest pleasure and honour to have been asked by General Freddie and Joe Falzon to become your Honorary President, and I am delighted that I will have the chance to meet

many of you, and affirm friendships long since made. It is a particular pleasure as it would have made my father proud, as for his national service he was an Artillery Clerk at HQ FARELF in 1946, in Singapore, as clerk to the Commander in Chief. I think it is probably a relief to all that he did not stay in the Regular Army after that (he joined the TA in the Intelligence Corps) but his time in Singapore as a clerk meant a huge amount to him, and undoubtedly helped him in his future career.

This has been a year of celebration and commemoration, the likes of which the Royal Artillery has not seen for a very long time. Not only have we celebrated the Captain General's 90th Birthday, but she joined many of us at Larkhill for the Royal Regiment's 300th birthday. It was the most splendid affair, unrivalled by any other Arm or Service and I for one will never forget the sight of the King's Troop first firing on the top of the ridge the salute for the arrival of Her Majesty, and then galloping past in Review, followed by the Regiment's modern equipments (all going at the same speed as the horses!). I know that Brig Simon Humphrey was delighted to come to the Annual Dinner and present the Captain General's Baton, after its trip around the world. On the Saturday before the RA Ceremony of Remembrance, the Lord Mayor's Show is making a special effort to commemorate the Gunners; and on St Barbara's Day, 4th December, the new title for the Larkhill Garrison Church (The Royal Garrison Church of Larkhill), mirroring the title of Royal bestowed on the Woolwich Church by the Queen's grandfather, will be commemorated.

But on a more sombre note this year also saw the commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme. On a brief trip to France this summer my wife and I followed a couple of the trails between Cemeteries laid out by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Seeing the graves of Gunners (and many, many others) from Lt Col to Gunner or Driver brought

home the full effect of that great war, and the relative peace we have lived through in contrast.

That peace was no more evident than for all of us who served in Germany in the Cold War and beyond, and it was with some sadness that we closed the British Kiel Yacht Club at the end of August, after 71 years of great sailing amongst the Danish Islands, with all their attractions (particularly as a subaltern!), where the Gunners played a very large part.

I thought I might give a brief view from my current role as Chief of Defence People, responsible for all Defence personnel policy for all 3 Services and the Civil Service. We are living through turbulent times, but I have a remit to deliver a new accommodation model, encouraging all our people to buy their own house, but also looking at ways of improving the quality of where people live, possibly by living out in the local community where appropriate. I am also looking at seeing if we can create a genuine continuum of service between regular and reserve, where there is flexibility for the regular to work less than full time, and the reserve to work full time, with as similar terms and conditions of service as possible. And at the same time we are looking at how we can increase the skills of the whole workforce, perhaps by making more use of our links with industry.

But enough of that. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at the next Association Dinner at Larkhill on Saturday 10th June 2017 as part of the Reunion Weekend. Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

83rd Artillery Clerks' Association Reunion and Dinner Saturday 10th June 2017

The 83rd Artillery Clerks' Association Reunion and Dinner will take place at the Royal Artillery Central Sergeant's Mess, Larkhill on Saturday 10th June 2017. Further details can be found by visiting our website at www.artyclerkassn.org or on the calling letter which is enclosed with this edition of 'The Crossed Quills'.

Report by Association Chairman - Lt Col Joe Falzon OSJ BEM



For this editorial I would like to introduce you to the three C's – **Celebration, Confidence** and **Challenge**. We have many things to **celebrate** as an Association. These should give us the **confidence** to meet the **challenges** that face us.

The most important thing to **celebrate** is each other and who we are. We are the

Artillery Clerks' Association; I never cease to be amazed at the warmth and friendship that I have personally experienced since I was persuaded by Mel Charlton to become Chairman. We should never underestimate the breadth of knowledge and experience our Members offer to each other and to those in the wider landscape, both serving and retired. We are an amazing Association and we should never forget it.

Secondly we need to **celebrate** our Committee and our Members who are the heart of our Association. Each Member is unique with his own character and dynamism; a diversity that makes our Association strong and relevant. We all enjoy the support of our fantastic Committee - we should **celebrate** Andy who, in spite of his busy day job, keeps our communication channels open and active. We should **celebrate** the Crossed

Quills, our website and Face Book page. Most of all we should **celebrate** the way our relationship with each other has matured in over the years but especially in recent times.

All of these achievements give us a solid foundation on which to move forward with **confidence**. So what about the third "C", the **challenges**?

I think the first **challenge** is to continue to be ourselves – to remain different but to work together and embrace change, to accept the **challenge** to live out the ideals of the Association, encapsulated in the core values of the Royal Artillery – to be responsive, committed, resourceful and to act with respect, dignity, compassion and integrity. Play your full part in the **challenge** of bringing about harmony in the world, starting with your neighbourhood, in spite of legacy issues and of promoting international peace and security.

In conclusion, what I am really saying is – our Association is precious. Nurture and look after it and it will flourish. We truly are as relevant as we were when we were first formed in March 1998.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of your own magazine.

With every best wish

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Falzon". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Report by Association Secretary - Andy Tibble MVO MSM (former WO1(SSM))



Once again this has been yet again another very busy year which has passed by so quickly since the production of the last edition of 'The Crossed Quills'. The Association has been actively represented by our Standard Bearer, Andrew Jones at various events throughout the UK during the last 12 months. Further details can

be read later on in the magazine. On behalf of the Committee and members I would once again like to thank Andrew for his commitment in representing the

Association at so many venues throughout the year. We had a most excellent Reunion Dinner which was held at the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Central Mess, Larkhill on Saturday 18th June 2016 under the auspices of Maj Ian Constantine RHA. The Association was proud to welcome Brigadier Simon Humphrey OBE (Director Combat Support Capability Directorate) as our Guest of Honour, Colonel Richard Collinge OBE (Regimental Colonel) and WO1 (RASM) David Heath (Royal Artillery Sergeant Major) as our guest. A full report on the Dinner by our Reunion Secretary can be read later in the magazine. On behalf of those members who attended, I would like to say a big thank you to Ian for all of the hard work that he put into this dinner, making this a most memorable evening and a

most enjoyable weekend. This was Ian's last reunion dinner as Reunion Secretary as he now hands over the reigns to Roy Deal. I would just like to thank Ian for his commitment and dedication in delivering excellent Reunions over the past couple of years. Further details regarding the 83rd Artillery Clerks' Association and Reunion Dinner at Larkhill on Saturday 10th June 2017 is enclosed with your copy of 'The Crossed Quills' and details regarding the Germany Reunion in 2017 will be sent out in due course. Thank you also to Mr Albert Rhoades for supplying photographs from the Reunion weekend for this edition of 'The Crossed Quills'.

All Area Secretary's were asked to engage with all members of the Association who currently live within their areas of responsibility. The aim of this exercise was to re-engage with our members and also to encourage them to attend future dinners or at least to get some feedback from them as to why they are no longer participating. The Committee can then address these issues in order to improve attendance levels. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our Area Secretary's for their continued support over the past year.

Congratulations to WO Hauke Michelson who was awarded the Bundeswehr Verdienstkreuz in Gold for his outstanding services to the German Army over the last 40 years. This is equivalent to the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM).

Congratulations also to WO2(SQMS) Snowy Snowden and WO2 (SQMS) Alf Alvin who were both selected for promotion to WO1 (SSM) during the FY 2016/2017.

Sadly I have to also report of the death of one our Artillery Clerks who has sadly passed away since the last report:

Former WO1 (SMAC) John Dixon who passed away in January 2015. The Association was informed of this from his wife on the 4th February 2016.

The 83rd Artillery Clerks' Reunion will take place over the weekend of the 9th, 10th and 11th June 2017 at Larkhill. Further details will be forwarded to all members by our Reunion Secretary shortly. This is the only opportunity for all members of the Artillery Clerks' Association to meet up over a weekend in the UK and therefore, it would be good to seek the support of all members in supporting this event each year. Should any members have any concern regarding transportation to/from the reunion, this should be included on your Reunion return when sending them back to Ian, so that we can contact you directly to possibly provide any assistance where possible, such as car sharing or even arranging for a group of members to travel by mini bus

to the event. I can appreciate that this might be slightly more difficult for those travelling from Germany to the UK. If you wish to attend, however, have transport issues, then you should speak to Ron Holmes or myself as soon as possible as we may be able to come up with a possible solution to ensure that you are able to attend. Our Germany Reunion Secretary, Ron Holmes organises/coordinates an excellent Reunion Weekend in Germany every year and it would be really good to see those Artillery Clerks' who live in Germany supporting this event especially if you can't make it to the UK dinner each year. Further details will follow in due course.

Once again 'Crossed Quills' continues to grow in size! I would like to take this opportunity in thanking those Association members who have contributed to this edition by forwarding articles and photographs for inclusion into this edition. Donations for this year's magazine have been received from the Committee members, Mr Andrew Jones, Lt Col Vic Holdaway and Steve Seymour. Many thanks for your contribution. Issue 21 of the Crossed Quills is due to be published by the end of December 2017. I would be most grateful if you could all look through your individual archives to see if you have something of interest, old photographs that you would like to be published in next years' edition. These articles, with photographs should reach me by no later than Friday 1st September 2017. Please remember to forward all articles in typed script where possible, including a CD-ROM with the articles on, along with any original photographs that you may have. The photographs will be returned back to you once they have been scanned onto the system.

Our current membership stands at 211. There are currently 165 Potential New members on the Wanted List who were Artillery Clerks', but have not yet joined the Association. I am sure that there are Potential Members on the Wanted List that you know of their whereabouts. I would ask all Members of the Association to make a consolidated effort this year to try and encourage them to join the Association. Recruiting has currently slowed down and I urge you all to try and motivate either a formerly appointed Artillery Clerk or former Junior Rank Clerk's in the Gunners who has subsequently been promoted to Sgt or above within the AGC. A copy of the Application for Membership is enclosed within this edition of the Crossed Quills. Further copies can be obtained from the Secretary. I recently wrote to all Area Secretary's regarding the importance of making and keeping in contact with those members within their areas of responsibility as well as encouraging them to see if they could trace those members on the wanted list down for possible recruitment into the Association. I have since received some feedback from some Area Secretary's in response to letters that they have sent to members in their areas.

Thank you to those of you have replied. For those of you who have not come back to me, grateful if you could do so as soon as possible please.

The following former Artillery Clerks joined the Association during 2015:

Former WO2 (QMS(AC)) Alex Taylor who joined on 30th April 2016. Alex lives in Reading.

Unfortunately, I have lost contact with the following members who have moved and have failed to notify me of their new forwarding addresses:

Alan Hill, Brian Bayliss, Steve Paton, Phillip Buckingham, Dave Smith, Chris Wood, H Hammond, Neil Ridout, Mel Turpie, Ian Williams, G Williams, Budgie Burgess, Ritchie Syme, Alan Foot, Lawrence Collingwood, Dave Larcombe and Steve Hawke

If anyone is in touch with those members listed above, grateful if you could ask them to make contact me or if you have contact details for them, grateful if you could let me have them so that I can re-establish contact with them.

Due to membership being spread over the Globe and not having in my possession everyone's e-mail address (or up to date one) may I please ask you all to make a point of reading the Notice Board on the Association Website www.artyclerkassn.org. There is no other way I can get details of promotions, deaths, etc. to you in a timely fashion. In return may I please ask you to keep me up to date with any news, promotions, deaths, award of medals, change of address including e-mail, etc..

Mr Stephen Read (Historical Secretary) gave those members present at the AGM at Larkhill an update on the progress that had been made in drawing up the Artillery Clerks' Roll which showed all of those individual Artillery HQs, Regiments and units where members have served which would include details of Chief Clerks, Assistant Chief Clerks going all the way down, in time, to Battery Clerks. I am glad to say that a lot of additional information has been obtained from members. Those members who have information to pass on or wish to gain access to the Roll should contact Steve as per the details in Cross Quills or by emailing Steve at: ArtyClkProject@gmail.com. Can I please urge all members to forward to Stephen any information; photographs that you may have that you believe would be of historical interest. The Association are also on Facebook where a lot of daily communications goes on. Can I urge you to visit both sites on a regular basis please? On behalf of us all, I would like to thank Stephen for the time that he has put into this on-going project.

I would like to take this opportunity in thanking Mr David Stotan for all of his dedication and hard work and commitment over the years as our webmaster. David has decided to step down as Webmaster and has handed over the reign to Leo Lyall with immediate effect. This will be ratified at the next AGM on Saturday 10th June 2017.

I would like to take this opportunity in wishing every member a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. Please remember those members and families who are ill at home and to those members of the Association who are deployed on military operations during the festive season. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

See you at Larkhill, if not sooner.
Ubique.



Assistant Secretary's Report by Roy Deal MBE (former WO1(SSM))



New ties have now been received and are available for £20 each we have ordered a silk version which is good quality for the price. I only have 2 sets of cuff links/tie pins remaining for £28.50 each set.

My focus will be in ensuring the Reunion Dinner on Saturday 10th June 2017

will be up to its usual high standards, but always willing to sell stock and meet up with fellow AC's when treading the civil service corridors.

Artillery Clerks' Association Ties

The Association tie is of a silk/polyester Gunner zig zag design depicting the crossed quills and the 'AC' in gold. Please send a cheque to the value of £20.00 made payable to The Artillery Clerks' Association to:

Mr Roy Deal MBE,
34 Birchwood Drive,
Durrington,
Salisbury,
Wiltshire SP4 8ER.



Association Committee 2016 - 2017

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Honorary President | Lt Gen Richard Nugee CBE |
| Chairman | Lt Col Joe Falzon OSJ BEM |
| Secretary | Andy Tibble MVO MSM - former WO1(SSM) |
| Assistant Secretary | Roy Deal MBE - former WO1(SSM) |
| Reunion Secretary | Roy Deal MBE - former WO1 (SSM) |
| Treasurer | Maj (Retd) Paul Corker |
| Standard Bearer | Andrew Jones - former Sgt(AC)) |
| Association Padre | Rev Dennis Brett - former WO2(QMS(AC)) |
| Welfare Secretary | Dennis Norris - former WO2(QMS(AC)) |
| Webmaster | Leo Lyall - former SSgt |
| Historical Secretary | Stephen Read - former WO2(QMS(AC)) |

Regional Secretaries

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| North | Brian Morgan – former WO2(QMS(AC)) |
| North West | Dennis Norris – former WO2(QMS(AC)) |
| Midlands | Steve Callaghan – former WO2(QMS(AC)) |
| East | Maj (Retd) Dave Cussell |
| South | WO1 (SSM) Paddy Butler |
| West | Roy Deal MBE – former WO1(SSM) |
| London Area | Andrew Jones – former Sgt(AC) |
| Scotland | WO2 (SQMS) Tam Millsip |
| Wales | The Secretary |
| Northern Ireland | The Secretary |
| Germany | Mr Ron Holmes MSM former WO1(SSM) |
| Rest of the World | The Secretary |

Contact with Area Secretaries

The duties of Area Secretaries referred to as Regional Representatives in the Association Charter are as follows:

- The Recruitment of new members.
- Maintaining an area membership list.
- Coordinating travel to Reunions and other Association activities

Area Secretaries should also be keeping an active eye on the health and well being of members

in their area of responsibility and report anything untoward to the Secretary, Andy Tibble.

All members are encouraged to establish contact and ‘touch base’ with their Area Secretary as follows:

The North West -

Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester and Cheshire. Contact Dennis Norris at dn001k3794@blueyonder.co.uk

The North – Durham, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, Cleveland, North, West and South Yorkshire and Humberside. Contact Brian Morgan at morgan_45@hotmail.co.uk

The Midlands –

Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, West Midlands, Leicestershire, Hereford and Worcestershire and Warwickshire. Contact Steve Callaghan at artyclerk1@btconnect.com

The East – Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Essex, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk. Contact Dave Cussell at dave.cussell@gmail.com

The South – Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Surrey, West Sussex, East Sussex and Kent. Contact WO1 (SSM) Paddy Butler at paddy.vysk@gmail.com

The West – Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Avon and Wiltshire. Contact Roy Deal MBE at roydeal@hotmail.com

The London Area.

Contact Andrew Jones at ajones@bradfordswissport.com

Scotland. Contact Tam Millsip at 1UKXX-G1-SPS-PATWO-Stirling@mod.uk

Germany. Contact Ron Holmes at ronandkadja@aol.com

Wales/N Ireland & Rest of the World.

Contact the Association Secretary, Andy Tibble at andytibble@btinternet.com.

Treasurer's Report by Major (Retd) Paul Corker



General

Well another year in civilian life!! I do believe that after 3 years I have settled down. A new and extremely rewarding job, moved home and settled down in Southport but most importantly 2016 saw me get married to Julia and I have enjoyed every minute of our new life together. Larkhill was a good event this year and from a personal point

of view it was sad to see General Freddy leave us. I met General Freddy when I was 16 in Junior Leaders and it has been a good friendship that has lasted with many a fond memory. Again it was great to meet many of you in Larkhill this year and I am unable to remember 2 years in a row where Dave Cussell and myself have behaved!! Although it has been a steady year for the Association, larger than expected bills from the reunion has cleared the 'reunion fund'. The committee continues to work hard along to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Association. I thank Joe, Andy and Ian who have produced another fine year for all. The discussions at the AGM on Saturday 18th June 2016 were conducted in a grown-up manner and resulted in some reward for those who support the Association

year on year. The financial support to the dinner in 2017 may add to the numbers this year – I hope so. Could I ask all to check their bank statements before January 2017 and where necessary, please change your annual subscription to £10. Long-term debtors are still a problem area and I will work hard to ensure that the list continues to decrease. I need to engage strongly with HMRC to ensure they pay us our outstanding revenue regarding 'Gift Aid'. Your support is encouraging and for this I thank all members. The fund is 'fit for purpose' but I promise to take all necessary action to make it far more financially sustainable..

Main Action Areas

The following is highlighted for members:

- Outstanding Subscriptions - £2,050 (this is for all members).
- Mandate - 38 Members not paying by Direct Mandate
- Gift Aid - 33 Members failed to completed Declaration Form

Statement of Account – 31st August 2016

| ASSETS | | LIABILITIES | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Current Bank Account | £ 1,680.26 | Function | £0:00 |
| Deposit Account | £ 2,001:81 | | |
| Shop Stock | £ 88:00 | | |
| Total Assets (A) | £ 3,770:07 | Total Liabilities (B) | £0:00 |
| AVAILABLE CASH (A – B) | £ 3,770:07 | | |

Summary

The fund is financially strong however, there are issues I need to address, Gift Aid from the HMRC, outstanding subscriptions and converting those members who are still paying £5 annual subscriptions.

All invoices for the 2016 reunion have been settled and although the fund reads a zero balance, the main account is strong enough to support future events. My hope is that 2017 shows a healthier fund capable of supporting the needs of the members and the reunion for those who make the time and effort to attend.

The Queens' Review Thursday 26th May 2016 - RA 300 Knighton Down, Larkhill by Andrew Jones (former Sgt (AC))



I was very honoured and privileged to represent the Royal Artillery Clerks' Association as the Standard Bearer at the Queen's Review on Thursday 26 May 2016 at RA 300.

This was a long day, I only finished work at 2200 hours the night before at Heathrow Airport. I was up early the following morning on a warm, sunny day for the drive from London to Larkhill. After working my way around the M25 and joining the M3, I started to pick up the road signs for Salisbury, just like the good old days of driving back to the barracks on a Sunday evening.

I arrived early at Larkhill at 0930 hours, and was allocated a parking place, right by the Knighton Down Arena, I was only 50 meters from the main entrance and not far to walk, perks of the job I think of being standard bearer!

The Queens Review was from 1130 hours, the Queen our Captain General conducted a mounted review of the regiment before taking to the dias for a regimental driver past. On completion of the formal aspect of the review the Queen our Captain General visited formal displays and demonstrations of the regiments current capabilities and heritage.

As the Royal Artillery Standard Bearer, we had to form in to a line on either side of the road, for the Queen our Captain General as she was leaving the dias area revue. This was a magnificent site as she drove past with all the Royal Artillery Standards on display.

After the parade, the day was a little more relaxed, a large Royal Artillery tented village was set up on



Mr John Lindley, Mr Andrew Jones (Standard Bearer) & Lt Col Russ Lee at the RA 300

Knighton Down to show all things "gunner" this included military displays, interactive stands, sports competitions, a charity auction, children's entertainment, food and bars in a purpose built St Barbara square adjacent to Knighton Down.

This was a great a day, and long day, and most of all an enjoyable day.



Lt Col Russ Lee with Ken (Chelsea Pensioner) at Gunner Sunday at the Royal Chelsea Hospital on Sunday 24th April 2016.



Mr Andrew Jones parading the Artillery Clerks' Association Standard at the Royal Chelsea Hospital on Sunday 24th April 2016



Mr John Lindley, Mr Andrew Jones (Standard Bearer) and Lt Col Russ Lee at Gunner Sunday at the Royal Chelsea Hospital on Sunday 24th April 2016

Welfare Secretary's Report by Dennis Norris (former WO2 (QMS(AC))



As Welfare Secretary I am pleased to report that all welfare cases ongoing are currently at a satisfactory state with individuals receiving the appropriate support of the Association. As always, a reminder that the committee will consider all calls for welfare support for any Association Member submitted to myself or any

other committee member – contact details are available on the website and in Crossed Quills and if you are more social media savvy, you can also make contact through the Facebook group.

About us



What we do

Veterans UK administers the armed forces pension schemes and compensation payments for those injured or bereaved through service.

We also provide welfare support for veterans of any age, and their families through the Veterans Welfare Service and the Veterans UK helpline: 0808 1914 2 18.

Who we are

Veterans UK is part of the Ministry of Defence (MOD). We help ex-service personnel get appropriate support from government, local authorities, independent bodies and the charity sector.

Our responsibilities

We are responsible for:

Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS)

You can claim under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) for an illness or injury that was caused as a result of service on or after 6 April 2005. You do not need to have left the armed forces before claiming.

War Disablement Pension

Assessment, award, payment and maintenance of war pensions, related allowances and other payments for those disabled or bereaved through service before 5 April 2005.

Armed Forces Pensions

Assessment, award, payment and maintenance of all pensions relating to service in the armed forces. This includes the armed forces pension schemes and reserve forces pension scheme.

Veterans Welfare Service (VWS)

Provides support to all veterans, their families and dependants. The Veterans Welfare Service focuses on providing assistance where a change in circumstances may have resulted in a welfare need. One to one advice is provided by phone or home visit when needed.

It also provides support to enable the seamless transition from service to civilian life, assist bereaved families or respond to life events that present welfare needs. It achieves this by facilitating access to all appropriate services.

VWS caseworkers offer one to one professional help and guidance by telephone, or if needed, during a home visit.

Under Veterans UK, the VWS works in partnerships with the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force, ex-service charities, statutory and non-statutory bodies, local community service providers and the Veterans Advisory and Pensions Committees to deliver a quality welfare service that promotes independence, maintains dignity and provides continuous support through life.

Contact

The VWS has 4 Veterans Welfare Centres, providing advice and support across the UK.

Centurion (London, SE and SW England)

Tel 02392 702232

Email: veterans-uk-vws-south@mod.uk

Kidderminster (South and Central Wales, Midlands and East England)

Tel 01562 825527

Email: veterans-uk-vws-wales-mid@mod.uk

Norcross VWC (NW England, Yorkshire and Humber, North Wales and IOM)

Tel 01253 333494

Email: veterans-uk-vws-north@mod.uk

Glasgow (Scotland, NE England, NI and ROI)

Tel 0141 2242709

Email: veterans-uk-vws-scot-ni@mod.uk

Veterans UK helpline

Our helpline staff offer specific advice on war disablement pension and armed forces compensation scheme claims. The helpline also offers advice on other issues including benefits, pensions, loans and grants, emergency accommodation, finding a job, retraining, health issues, welfare concerns, service records and medals.

We also have up to date information on central/local government and ex service organisations, and other voluntary groups.

Contact us

Veterans UK
Tomlinson House
Norcross
Thornton Cleveleys
FY5 3WP

Email veterans-uk@mod.uk

Freephone (UK only): 0808 1914 2 18

Telephone (overseas): +44 1253 866 043

7:30am to 6:30pm Monday to Thursday

7:30am to 5:00pm Friday

When the helpline is closed, callers will be given the option to be routed to Combat Stress or The Samaritans 24hr helpline.

ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND (ABF) The Soldiers Charity

Why does The Soldiers' Charity exist?

We are The Soldiers' Charity. We give lifetime support to serving and retired soldiers and their families. They risk so much for us, but for them, it's just doing their job. In return, we provide financial assistance when they are in real need. That's what we've been here to offer for 70 years.

The grants we give break down into seven broad areas. You can read about each of these here.

Annuities: to help supplement the incomes of older veterans or their widows living alone on basic pensions.

Care home fees: modest top-up grants to help with the cost for older veterans or their widows, where local authority grants are insufficient.



Bursaries: to help with education and training and include: Funding for training colleges that help retrain soldiers with disabilities and training course fees and essential equipment for individual soldiers Support for ex-soldiers taking higher education courses to start on new careers after leaving the Army. Help with funding for continuing education for the children of soldiers who have died or been severely disabled in service.

Holiday schemes: for families under stress. Each year, more than 200 families benefit from short breaks at Pontins and Warner holiday resorts. An annual grant to the Guild of St Helena allows service children with special needs to have a holiday.

Special Funds: We administer special funds to assist soldiers who have been injured while on active service in Northern Ireland, The Falklands Campaign or The Gulf War. Dependants of those killed in these campaigns may also qualify for help from the funds. The George Purse Trust provides grants to those who live in South Wales and are in need of respite care.

General Needs: Grants can be made for a wide variety of purposes, as long as there is a clear need which cannot be met from other sources e.g. statutory grants and benefits, local funds etc. One in five of these grants are made towards mobility aids e.g. wheelchairs, stair-lifts, special beds etc.

Current Operations Fund: Launched in 2007 by the ABF the Current Operations Fund supports soldiers injured or families of those killed as a result of their Service during the current operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Fund was set up as a direct response to the mounting numbers of serving soldiers and their families in great need who require immediate help. The grants cover everything from retraining a disabled soldier for a new career to providing holiday funds for a war widow and her children.

Webmaster's Report by Leon (Leo) Lyall (former SSgt)



- HOME
- ASSOCIATION
- CROSSED QUILLS
- MESSAGE BOARD
- SILENT QUILLS
- STANDARD
- REUNION
- HISTORY
- SHOP



Template by W3.CSS

Dave Stotan has finally handed over the Artillery Clerks' website for a refresh. I think Dave has been a sterling webmaster over the years and he will always be the "father" of our site. I volunteered my web experience to take over the running of the website as for three and half years before I finished my career in the Army I was the Adjutant Generals' Web webmaster. As I did with the AG Web, my ideas are for basic functionality and simplicity and I want the new web to be understandable and easy to follow.

New Webmaster, New Web

October sees the launch of the new Association website. The web has a new structure but has incorporated much of the already available data so that it can be accessed and viewed. The new web starts with a new front page showing a military style splash banner and the original marquee ticker still runs across this page. The website is resizable and will (or should) render to the size of other mobile devices such as notepads, handhelds and mobile smartphones. The menu to the left hand side of the screen shows the site structure and is constant throughout but will have the working of the area you are working in highlighted in blue.

The Crossed Quills badge at the top left of the menu can be clicked any place in the web for quick access to the "Home" page. Extra items to the menu structure are a link to our Facebook site (this is not a straight link and you will be prompted for security access by Facebook) and a webmaster email link.

Constant throughout the website, added to the footer of each page, is a navigation to external links that I thought associated and may be helpful to members.



The Association link in the menu provides a page set out to show the Association Committee, Area Secretaries,

The Association Charter and the RA Forecast of Events for the Year. These various pages are reachable from the sub-menu navigation spread under the banner splash.

The Crossed Quills link provides a webpage showing previous editions of the annual Crossed Quills publication. The layout shows each edition front page which when you mouse-over will highlight. Click to access the document which will open in a new window. A link to the Association Message Board has been provided on the menu but this is an external link and will open in a separate window.



The area of the website for members to provide condolences to members who have passed away has been updated and given a revamp to make it easier to read and follow. Each passed member has their own separate section within the page with all related condolence remarks.

Further Enhancements

At the website launch in October the overhaul was not complete and the following links in the menu were yet to be completed:

- History: this is to incorporate the forms for the Historical Secretary's Family Tree;
- Standard Bearer: tracking the activities of our Standard;
- Reunion: pages concerning the Reunion Dinners with forms and details;
- Shop: details for purchasing Association ties and cufflinks;

Member Involvement

The Association website is an evolving entity, like a work of art, and can always be improved. added to,

and amended. Keep the Associating Secretary and Webmaster informed accordingly where you feel there is room for improvement and where you'd like articles or pages added.

Future Ideas

A few future ideas are e-shots to all members and developing e-commerce through the website to enable orders for goods and making online payments. Your views and ideas for these ideas are appreciate.

The Association Committee and Webmaster hope you like the new web.

Historical Secretary's Report by Stephen Read (former WO1 (SMAC))



If members have any items of historical interest to the Association can they please make contact with me through the association website or via my email address of: ArtyClkProject@gmail.com

In addition to documents (e.g. Artillery Clerk location lists, promotion board results or magazine articles referencing

Artillery Clerks etc) I am also interested in photos showing ACs during their military service and anecdotes about service life. If members are willing to provide me with any material I will ensure that it is well looked after, a copy taken and then the original returned to the owner. If photos or anecdotes are provided can members please indicate whether they are content for them to be shared with other members through the medium of Google Drive.

AC's Family Tree

Any member that has yet to provide me with details of their service or who wish to be given access to the AC's family tree archive can they please contact me at the email address above or, if email is not possible, my postal address of: 22 Canada Rise, Market Lavington, Devizes, Wiltshire, SN10 4AD

South Area Secretary Report 2016 by WO1 (SSM) Paddy Butler



Just a quick update up on what I have been up to as Association representative for the South of England. Part of my role as the regional representative for the South of England is to act as a conduit for the Association Committee and if any Association Members are in need of any kind of assistance, or if I become aware of any members in the South requiring

help, support or assistance then I would make contact with the Committee or other relevant agencies to alert them and put in place any support that may be required.

I would like to take this opportunity to reach out to the Members of the Association that live in the South and ask you to please confirm your details with me. This will ensure that we hold your correct details so please email me your details or even just make contact with me via my email.

It is my intention to hold a function outside of the dinner in our area next year, if there is enough interest in having one. I know this is an area that I failed at this year, as Andy Tibble keeps reminding me. I am keen for this to happen as I will be leaving the Army in April 2018 and as of writing I'm unsure as to what area I will belong to in 2018. If I remain in the South I will continue to be your Secretary. If you have other ideas then please send them to me and I will forward them on to all members to gauge appetite for the event. It is not my intention to hound people via e-mail, just trying to provide a comrade event for interested parties.

Unfortunately I was unable to attend the 2016 Reunion due to work commitments as I'm still serving. However I have a leave pass for the 2017 Reunion, so I look forward to seeing as many of the membership there as possible.

2016 was an interesting year for me as I was asked to sit on the Army Recruiting and Training Division's, New Year's Honours List Board in the capacity of Command Sergeant Major. One of the other Board members was Brigadier Nick Fitzgerald, former Adjutant of 12 Regiment during Op Granby and CO of 32 Regiment from 2004 – 2007. He asked me to convey his best wishes to all former Artillery Clerks that he had the pleasure of serving with. He quoted that "service has

never been the same since the demise of the "Artillery Clerk" trade".

In early 2017 my organisation, Headquarters, Defence College of Logistics, Policing and Administration will be moving from Deepcut in Camberley to the new location at MOD Worthy Down. A place that I'm sure brings back fond memories to all members that conducted their clerical training there.

It now just leaves me to wish All Members of the Association to have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you either at a local Function or the Annual Reunion.

My Best Regards to You All, *Ubique*

North West Area Secretary Report 2016 by Dennis Norris (former WO2 (QMS(AC)))

May 2016 saw the Treasurer (Paul Corker), Ken, an ex colleague of Paul's and his 'Best Man' and myself get together at Lytham St Anne's Old Links golf course on a wet and very windy Friday to battle the elements in a competitive game of golf. The first five holes were played in a typical North West links wind with the rain coming in sideways from the Irish Sea making scoring using the agreed stableford format difficult. From hole six onwards, the rain relented and, although the wind remained brisk, the sun was shining by the back nine making it an enjoyable game overall. After showering and changing and a quick visit to the 19th hole, where we were delighted to find 'Wobbly Warsteiner' on tap, we all made our way into Blackpool to meet up with friends of Paul at a Hotel to continue the 'Stag Weekend'.

After a couple of pints and an early night on the Friday night (that is what I told my wife) I had to leave the party to return home to get ready for a pre arranged golf weekend with my work society in Shropshire. I left Paul Corker in the safe hands of his best man and his brother who joined the stag on the Saturday morning. I last saw them all heading towards the nearest Weatherspoon's for 'breakfast'.

Two weeks later, Dorothy and I were guests at the wedding of Julia and Paul at the Royal Clifton Hotel in Southport. I did manage to snap a couple of pictures for evidence of the occasion and upload to the Crossed Quills Facebook site, before starting the celebrations. There were a number of military and ex military guests at the wedding and the festivities lasted well in to the early hours with the breakfast tables

reminiscent of some Sunday mornings post the Artillery Clerks' Reunion Dinners. We bid farewell to Julia and Paul Corker as they headed to the airport to travel to Thailand for their honeymoon.

The 87th Artillery Clerks' Reunion Dinner took place at Larkhill some 6 weeks later on Saturday 18th June and most of the usual North West stalwarts attended. Unfortunately, Willie Wallace, one of the North West Regulars was unable to attend this year, but we hope to see him at the next reunion. Paul Corker and I also met up a week later to continue the reunion over a game at Shaw hill Golf Club in Chorley where we played in an invitation competition followed by a meal with wives at the club where the breakfast TV presenter Kate Garroway was present with her family having a party. The meal was followed by a visit to the bright lights of Chorley and some of the local watering holes and ended with us drinking port at my residence before retiring just before the sunrise. After a diary check, we have made plans for a similar event in August playing golf in Southport and then going to Liverpool for a meal and a night out in the Cavern Club.

Although the North West is usually well represented at the reunion dinners, it would always be great to see more individuals and if anyone would like to attend, but are having difficulties with transport, please feel free to make contact with myself through the website to discuss how we can help as an Association.

North Area Secretary Report 2016 by Brian Morgan (former WO2)

Dear Fellow Artillery Clerks,

Just a quick catch up on what I have been up to as Association representative for the North of England. Part of my role as the regional representative for the North of England is to act as a conduit for the Association Committee and if any Association Members are in need of any kind of assistance or if I become aware of any members in the North requiring help, support or assistance then I would make contact with the Committee or other relevant agencies to alert them and put in place any support that may be required. When I assumed responsibility for the Association Members in the North of England I was handed a list of names and addresses throughout the North of England, this list has reduced to 27 members and although I send out a newsletter once or twice a year I have only ever received a response from two individuals Ron Flemming who lives in Leeds and due to age and failing eye sight does not attend the Association Dinner & Reunion in

Larkhill. He did however, suggest having a reunion in Leeds or York (any offers to organise Ian Grant?). Paddy Ennis very kindly responds each time he receives one of my short newsletters, he is still active and in reasonable health. Unfortunately, his wife had a heart attack some years ago and he does not like to leave her on her own which is why he does not attend the Annual Reunion & Dinner in Larkhill. Dick Jevons very kindly advised me at the Dinner in Larkhill this year but was no longer in York having moved down south, fortunately his previous Unit forwarded the letter to him, so as discussed at the AGM it may be prudent to check that we have correct address and contact details for all members of the Association. I enjoyed a splendid weekend in the company of brother Artillery Clerks in the Sergeants Mess at Larkhill in June when we said farewell to Gen Sir Freddie Viggers (CO 3 RHA when I assumed my first appointment as Chief Clerk) and welcomed Gen Richard Nugee who was Adjutant 3 RHA during my time as the Chief. It was especially nice that Mark Testi was able to make the Reunion all the way from Australia. It has been a busy year for me as well as my responsibility as Association Area Representative I am also Secretary for a group of former Airborne Gunners in the North East and North Yorkshire updating details on our Facebook group page and organising get to together in and around the North East with numbers attending varying between 20 – 45 we were fortunate to have Ben Parkinson MBE join us at one event in Stockton-On-Tees where the Mayor, local Councillors, representatives of the Royal British Legion, press and even the local TV news with pieces appearing on the local news. I have actively whenever possible been raising money for various service charities including the Army Benevolent Fund, The Parachute Regiment Charity, Pilgrim Bandits and in March I took part in the Commando Speed March in Fort William. This event is only open to serving or ex service personnel and requires teams or individuals to run from Spean Bridge to Achnacarry House in the Highlands in boots and combats carrying 36lbs Bergen's. The aim is to complete the 7 mile very hilly course in under 1 hour. I managed to get to the finish in just under 1 hour 20 mins and raised over £900 for the Pilgrim Bandits Charity. In May I joined a group called the Purple Warriors Dragon Boat Club, which has been set up by a former Gunner officer to assist injured and impaired serving and former service personnel through Dragon boat racing. Nigel Bedford (ex 29 Cdo & 7th Para RHA) and I served together and he asked if I could assist with a taster event being held in Stockton-On-Tees, I have somehow qualified to be a paddler in the crew due to some of the injuries I have sustained during my army service and found myself racing with some outstanding and inspirational young serving and ex service personnel at the London Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival the weekend after our Reunion and although we didn't win any prizes on our first outing

as a club we certainly won a lot of admiration with a number of amputee's and severely injured individuals in the Purple warriors Boat. At the time of writing I am heading to London for a training weekend with the Purple Warriors ahead of the British Dragon Boat Association Finals in Nottingham over the weekend of 24/25 Sep where hopefully we will give a good account of ourselves in competition. I helped organise a small gathering for the ex 7 Para RHA group in Durham at the beginning of August which again saw a good turnout even from people who lives outside of the North East and North Yorkshire area. I have taken part in the Paras' 10 an event described as the toughest endurance event available wearing boots and combats and carrying a Bergen weighing 35lbs completing the P Company 10 miler course each year for the last three years raising money for various charities. On the 4 Sep 16 I once again put myself through a great deal of pain and effort to complete the course in just over 2 hours 35 mins, my legs are still aching almost three weeks later. Over the weekend 9-11 Sep 16 I attended the 3 RHA Past and Present Members Association Annual Reunion and Dinner where the serving and past members of the Regiment said farewell to Gen Sir Freddie Viggers who was standing down as President of the Association. So as the summer slips away and the dark nights start to arrive I wish you all well and look forward to meeting up with you all again in the coming year. **Ubique**

East Area Secretary Report 2016 by Major Dave Cussell



I would like to take this opportunity to reach out to the Members of the Association that live in the Area East and ask you to please confirm your details with me, as I sent out an email and only received a reply from Joe Phelps.

This means that we may not hold your correct details so please email me your details or even just make contact with me via my email address dcussell@gmail.com.

It is my intention to hold a function outside of the dinner in our area next year, if there is enough interest in having one. Should you have other ideas then please send them to me and I can forward them on to all and see what the reaction is. If you are worried that I will bombard you with emails that is not my intention.

Hope that All Members of the Association have a Wonderful Christmas and New Year and I look forward to seeing you either at a local Function or the Annual Reunion.

My Best Regards to You All, Dave

The new Artillery Clerks' Association Website

<http://www.artyclerkassn.org/>

The AC badge is a click to the Home page.

The new Artillery Clerks' Association Website has incorporated much of the original information from the original website.

A new, simple, layout is designed to assist members to easily locate required information quickly and easily.

A new search facility is ever present on the navigation pane, along with a link to the external Association Facebook page, "Crossed Quills".

Some pages incorporate links to more detailed subject information

Please send anything for inclusion on the website to artyclerks.webmaster@gmail.com

The Association Tie is of a silk/polyester Gunner zig zag design depicting crossed quills. Please send a cheque for the value of £13.00 made payable to 'The Artillery Clerks' Association' to Mr Roy Deal MBE, 34 Birchwood Drive, Durrington, Salisbury, Wiltshire, Wiltshire, SP4 7JL.

Reunion Dinner Details - UK
Reunion Dinner Details - Germany

Home for Veterans SSAFA Union Jack Club Victory Services Club The Royal British Legion Help for Heroes

SEARCH

site search by freefind

Facebook W

HOME
ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP
CHARTER
AREA SECRETARIES
FORECAST OF EVENTS
CROSSED QUILLS
MESSAGE BOARD
SILENT QUILLS
STANDARD
REUNION
HISTORY
SHOP

ASSOCIATED LINKS

The Royal Artillery Association World Veterans Federation British Veterans UK Service Personnel & Veterans Agency

Home for Veterans SSAFA Union Jack Club Victory Services Club The Royal British Legion Help for Heroes

es Federation ABF - The Soldiers Charity Veterans Aid

AREA SECRETARIES FORECAST OF EVENTS CROSSED QUILLS MESSAGE BOARD

Association Tie £13.00

ASSOCIATED LINKS

The Royal Artillery Association Home for Veterans SSAFA Union Jack Club Victory Services Club The Royal British Legion Help for Heroes

Artillery Clerks' Association Charter

General

1. The Association, entitled the "Artillery Clerks' Association" was formed at Woolwich on Saturday 7th March 1998. This Charter is being adopted to guide its activities. The Charter may be changed at any time by the Committee to reflect the wishes of the Association members.
2. The Aim and Object of the Artillery Clerks' Association is to promote comradeship amongst its members, both serving and retired and to provide a focal point for all members of the Association. The Association is essentially an old comrades association of former Artillery Clerks, either serving or retired.
3. The Artillery Clerks' Association is affiliated to and is a Branch of the Royal Artillery Association (RAA). All members of the Royal Artillery Association will be granted life membership of the RAA on acceptance.

Eligibility

4. **Full Members.** Full membership of the Association is open to any former Artillery Clerk in the rank range from Sergeant to Warrant Officer Class 1, either serving or retired. Membership may also be granted, with the recommendation of a former Artillery Clerk or member of the Association, to clerks who served in the Royal Artillery in the rank range from Gunner to Bombardier, and have subsequently been promoted to Sergeant in the Adjutant General's Corps.
5. **Honorary Membership.** Honorary Membership of the Association is specially designed to cover the widows and relatives of deceased Artillery Clerks. Other special cases of honorary membership will be considered on merit by the Committee and voted upon by the Committee and voted upon by the members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Honorary members may not vote on matters voted upon at the AGM.
6. **Authorization.** Membership of the Association may be sought by anyone under these rules. In the event of there being some doubt regarding application, the Artillery Clerks' Association Committee will arbitrate. The Association Committee has the right to refuse any application for membership, or cancel any existing membership, for example, for disciplinary reasons.

Purpose

7. The specific purpose of the Association is to provide:
 - a. A focal point for comradeship, largely through periodic reunion of:
 - (1) A formal Annual Reunion Dinner.
 - (2) An informal Dinner to be held at a frequency and location to be decided by the Committee, to include wives, girlfriends and widows.
 - (3) A very limited welfare service. This essentially means that the Artillery Clerks' Association, in promoting contacts between members, provides a network through which help can be given to any member. The focus for this activity within the Association is the Secretary.

Organisation

8. The affairs of the Artillery Clerks' Association will be overseen by the Artillery Clerks' Association Committee. The Committee will meet at intervals decided upon by the Chairman, and will comprise of:
 - a. President (Honorary).
 - b. Chairman.

c. Secretary. Responsibilities cover:

- (1) Association Membership.
- (2) Correspondence.
- (3) Providing a focus for the Association's welfare work and links to the RAA.
- (4) Production of a periodic newsletter.
- (5) Coordinating the activities of the Area Representatives.

d. Treasurer. Responsibilities cover:

- (1) Maintenance of a bank account entitled the "Artillery Clerks' Association".
- (2) Accounting for all the finances of the Artillery Clerks' Association.
- (3) Presenting a Statement of Account to the Committee (as and when required) and annually at the AGM

e. Regional Representatives. Responsibilities cover:

- (1) The recruitment of new members.
- (2) Maintaining an area membership list.
- (3) Coordinating travel to Reunions and other Association activities.

Areas covered are:

- (1) Northern Ireland.
- (2) Scotland.
- (3) Wales.
- (4) The North West consisting of Cumbria, Lancashire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester and Cheshire.
- (5) The North consisting of Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, Durham, Cleveland, North, West and South Yorkshire and Humberside.
- (6) The Midlands consisting of Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, West Midlands, Leicestershire, Hereford and Worcestershire and Warwickshire.
- (7) The East consisting of Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Essex, Northamptonshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.
- (8) London Area
- (9) The South consisting of Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Surrey, West Sussex, East Sussex and Kent.
- (10) The West consisting of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Avon and Wiltshire.
- (11) Germany.
- (12) The Rest of the World.

9. Additional members of the Committee may be appointed by the Chairman as required, for example, Reunion Secretary and Assistant Secretary.

Fees

10. Membership fees are to be determined by the Committee. There is to be a fee to join the Association and the annual renewal fee.

11. Fees are to cover the costs of administration, including telephone calls, postage and stationery.

12. Reunions are to be self-financing, that is, those attending are to meet the full cost of all activities of the Reunion.

Artillery Clerks Association - Members list as at 31st December 2016

| | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Sparky Allen | Jim Findlay | Tim Mathews | Tony Skinner |
| Dave Allen | Ron Flemmings | Tresh Matthews | Bob Smith |
| Alf Alvin | Graham Flint | Ken May | Dave Smith |
| Richard Ancliffe | Alan Foot | Tommy McCarthy | Brian Smith |
| Al Artley | Foxy Fox | John McDermott | Snowy Snowdon |
| Alan Ashcroft | Peter Gauci | George McLachlan | Phil Spencer |
| Robbie Astiot | Martin Geddes | James McNamara | Mark Spring |
| Brian Bailey | Ian Grant | Martin Meek | Trevor Spurr |
| Pip Bailey | Mick Grenham | Tony Meek | Will Stirman |
| Derek Baldry | Ian Groom | Eddie Mills | David Stotan |
| Brian Bassett | John Haddock | Tam Millsip | Dave Straw |
| Brian Baylis | Colin Haine | Hauke Michelson | Andy Sykes |
| Taff Bellis | Ted Hall | Brian Morgan | Ritchie Syme |
| Chris Berry | Dave Hamilton | Bill Morland | Alex Taylor |
| Jon Bevan | Graham Hampton | Ian Morris | John Taylor |
| Martin Birch | Gary Harland | Andy Moss | Mark Testi |
| Dave Boulton | Adrian Harrison | Tony Mott | Mark Thorington |
| Peter Bradburn | Chris Harvey | George Mould | Charlie Thompson |
| Denis Brett | Steve Hawke | Paul Mudd | Andy Tibble |
| Graham Brown | Phil Hayes | Richard Nichol | Gordon Timmis |
| David Brown | Phil Headford | Dennis Norris | Trig Tregower |
| Phil Buckingham | Martin Hedges | Tony Nuttall | Frank Trimby |
| Titch Buckley | Marty Hester | Andy O'Neill | Steve Truslove |
| Budgie Burgess | Alan Hill | Pete Oxley | Mel Turpie |
| Martin Butler | Geordie Himlin | Steve Paton | Dave Tyler |
| Paddy Butler | Joe Hoggins | Jim Peggie | Gary Tyson |
| Steve Callaghan | Vic Holdaway | Roy Penhallurick | Dave Vesty |
| Iain Campbell | Ron Holmes | Nick Perkovic | Freddie Viggers |
| Walter Carney | Paddy Hope | Paul Perry | William Wallace |
| Rob Clarke | Richard Horner | Joe Phelps | Dick Walmsley |
| Lawrence Collingwood | Stu Hunt | Alan Phillips | Daz Ward |
| Tony Coombes | Mick Hutchinson | Dennis Phillipson | Ken Ward |
| Ian Constantine | Geoff Hyatt | Chris Piper | Ron Waterfield |
| Paul Corker | Geoff Janik | Eddie Platts | Andy West |
| Stan Cornwell | Dick Jeavons | Jim Pottle | Ronnie Whelan |
| Mike Cottrell | Bill Johnson | Garry Prottey | Geoff Whitby |
| Bob Cowan | Mick Johnston | Steve Prowse | Wills Williams |
| Dennis Crawford | Andrew Jones | Derek Ralphs | Jeff Williams |
| Kev Crump | Ted Jones | Steve Read | Ian Williams |
| Peter Currie | Derek Kelsey | John Reynolds | Mick Williams |
| Dave Cussell | Clive Knaggs | Howard Richardson | Alan Witts |
| Colin Davidson | Ralph Lalabalavu | Neil Ridout | Chris Wood |
| Paul Davies | John Lane | Des Riley | Al Wood |
| Steve Davies | Dave Larcombe | Jim Roast | Woody Woodford |
| Roy Deal | Russ Lee | Brian Rose | Robert Worley |
| Pete Deverall | Ray Lewis | Arthur Rowell | Den Wright |
| John Dewberry | John Lindley | Ken Russell | Bill Young |
| Ray Dickinson | Harry Lomax | Alan Sawdon | |
| Jim Doran | Alan Lowthian | Vince Scott | Membership stands at 211 |
| Paddy Ennis | Leon Lyall | Steve Seymour | |
| Roger Essex | Peter Lynch | Mike Shellard | |
| Sid Evans | Dave Manchester | Chris Shuter | |
| Ted Fairbrass | Adam Martin | Sid Siddall | |
| Joe Falzon | Tony Martin | Dougie Silver | |

WANTED for membership of the Association

John Adams
Ron Allen
Peter Allwright
Jimmy Anderson
Ron Anson
Dave Askham
Robbie Astick
Bob Barber
Gary Barker
Baz Barry
Ron Baynes
James Bond
Dave Boswell
Adrian Boxall
Ron Bristo
Dave Brookes
Alan Broomhead
Tom Browne
Dave Burfitt
Paul Buxton
Tom Carmichael
Stuart Carnegie
Fred Carroll
Jeff Carter
Mick Carter
Les Carton
Merv Chadwick
Chris Chamberlain
Bill Charlsworth
Dick Cliffe
M Collinge
Andy Collins
S Cornwell
Fred Cullingford
Alan Cosgrove
Sandy Cran
Keith Creswell
Harold Deacon
John DeMaria
Pat DeMaria
Jim Diamond
Derek Donovan
P Drury
Mick Dunn
Dave Dunn
Mel Durrant
Roger Escott
Karl Ezard
Steve Edgeley
Paul Evans
Paul Fairbank

TH Fairweather
Vic Ferguson
PE Field
Clif Fields
Dick Finch
Dave Fisher
Keith Garbett
Derek Gauci
Les Gillard
Chris Gluning
Paul Green
Mike Greening
John Haddow
CJ Hamley
Bob Hagen
Brian Harrington
Terry Hart
Ted Harvey
Adrian Hawker
Bill Heaven
Andy Holder
John Hopkins
Mick Hopkins
Steve Hoyle
Eric Hubbard
Pete Hubbard
Derek Hughes
Tony Hunt
Tab Hunter
Jim Hutch
Pete Hutchinson
Brian Hyland
Alan Jeffery
Chris Jones
Steve Jones
Bob Kindness
Jack Knott
Steve Jukes
Kev Keast
Trevor Kemish
Dick Kibble
Alan King
Roy Kinsley
Dave Langstaff
Steve Lee
Mark Lindsay-Smith
Derick Lund
Mick Lynch
C McCusker
Steve McKenna
Alistair McKenzie

Maurice Metcalfe
Eric Miller
Ken Moore
Pete Murphy
John Nicholas
Bill Ogilvie
Gil O'Mallo
John Osman
Dave Parkinson
Bill Pattison
Ken Peacock
Duncan Pettit
Peter Petts
Clem Pooke
Nick Powell
John Pratt
Len Price
Mick Price
Fred Pulfer
Mick Regan
Ron Reid
Graham Roberts
Dave Robertson
P Robinson
Tom Rooney
Jim Rostron
Dick Scatcherd
Mick Scaife
Dave Scott
Syd Simpson
Martin Smith
Alex Stelfox
Colin Stephenson
Bill Tasker
Jock Stewart
Joe Stockhill
Trevor Stokes
Dave Stoneham
Paul Stratton
Roy Swann
Bernie Swift
Derek Taylor
Tom Taylor
Graham Telford
Bob Thompson
Harry Thompson
Frank Thorne
Jimmy Treanor
Dave Townley
John Turner
Harry Waldron

RVM Walker
Bob Walkinshaw
Nigel Waring
LS Warren
Kev Watkins
Fred Westwell
Chalky White
Chris Williams
TC Williams
Tony Wilson
Brian Wolstenholme
Malcolm Wynn

165 Potential New
Members

Plus any member of the
AGC(SPS) who served in
the Gunners as a clerk and
has subsequently been
promoted to Sgt or above.

WE NEED

YOU

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Central Sgts' Mess Larkhill, Saturday 18th June 2016

Opening Remarks by the Chairman

The Chairman opened the AGM by welcoming everyone to Larkhill and the Central Royal Artillery Sergeants' Mess, and extended a special warm welcome to the overseas visitors. He mentioned that for various reasons there were a number of notable absentees this year. He hoped that everyone would enjoy the evening and that it sets the foundation for the newcomers to want to attend future reunions.

The Chairman pointed out that there was quite a long Agenda to get through, and then went on to urge everyone to contribute as much as possible to all debates.

Apologies for Absence

There were 21 apologies for absence, the majority of which were listed in the Reunion Dinner Menu Card.

Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 13th June 2015

The Chairman said that the Minutes had been circulated in advance via Crossed Quills (Issue 19) and that it was not intended to read them at the meeting.

A proposal by Richard Horner and seconded Dave Cussell to confirm that the Minutes were a true and accurate record was CARRIED Unanimously.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 13th June 2015

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 13th June 2015.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman once again thanked everyone present for supporting the Reunion weekend. He said that it was a great pleasure to see that the attendance list is similar to last year, especially as everyone is busy these days; some have recently moved house, others have travelled long distances, one of two are recovering from illness, at least one has recently got married and a few have recently retired.

The Chairman went on to say that the evening also had some elements of sadness – as absent friends will be remembered in addition to saying farewell and

thank you to the Honorary President General Sir Freddie Viggers and to Ian Constantine. Both have given much of their spare time for the good and benefit of the Association. He went on to say that Richard Nugee, the new Honorary President, was recently promoted to Lieutenant General and appointed as the next Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff (People) and that he was also awarded the US Legion of Merit on 18 March 2016 for services in Afghanistan. He also said that he was pleased that Roy Deal, who was not able to attend due to a prior private engagement, had come forward to take over as our new Reunion Secretary.

The Chairman thanked all the Committee Members for the huge amount of work they do throughout the year. He said that the combined contribution of Andy Tibble, Ian Constantine and Paul Corker is immeasurable. The Association would not be able to thrive and succeed without these three dedicated individuals, ably supported by Dennis Norris, Andrew Jones and Steve Read.

The Chairman once again thanked everyone for their continued support.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary, Andy Tibble MVO MSM made the following comments:

Membership

The membership of The Artillery Clerks' Association currently stands at 210. Last year the total stood at 210.

New Members

Former WO2 (QMS (AC)) Alex Taylor who joined the Association on 30th April 2016. Alex lives in Reading.

Deaths

Former WO1 (SMAC) John Dixon passed away in January 2015. The Association was informed of this from his wife on the 4th February 2016.

Honours & Awards.

WO Hauke Michelsen who was awarded the Bundeswehr Verdienstkreuz in Gold for his outstanding services to the German Army over the last 40 years. This is equivalent to the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM).

Promotions.

WO2 (SQMS) Snowy Snowden was selected for promotion to WO1 (SSM) during the FY 2016/2017

Membership – Wanted List.

The Secretary explained that there are currently 168 potential members listed on "The Wanted List" who were former 'Artillery Clerks.' He urged everyone to look through the list which was published in the recent 'Crossed Quills' to see if they recognise anyone who might be living nearby, and then to try to encourage them to join the Association.

Change in personal details

The Secretary asked to be kept informed of any changes of rank, address, telephone numbers, email addresses, awards etc, etc. All members present were asked to send their current email addresses to the Secretary.

Crossed Quills

Items for Crossed Quills Issue No 20 are to be forwarded to the Secretary by Thursday 1st September 2016. The Secretary urged members to put pen to paper and to send in articles that they would like published along with any photographs that they may have. All photographs would be returned as soon as possible on receipt.

Recruitment

Attention of all Members was drawn to the importance of recruiting new members.

Standard Bearer

The Secretary informed those present that our Standard Bearer, Andrew Jones had been very busy over the past 12 months representing the Association at the following events:

6th December 2015 – St Barbara's Day Service, Larkhill

24th April 2016 – Gunner Sunday (Royal Hospital Chelsea)

Due to attend:

24th June 2016 – Armed Forces Day

13th November 2016 – RA Service of Remembrance at Hyde Park Corner.

4th December 2016 – St Barbara's Day Service, Larkhill

Area Secretary's

The Secretary mentioned to those present that all Area Secretary's had been asked to engage with all members of the Association who currently live within their areas of responsibility. The aim of this exercise is to re-engage with our members and also to encourage them to attend future dinners or at least to get some feedback from them as to why they are no longer participating. The Committee can then address these issues in order to improve attendance levels.

The Secretary went on to thank all of the Area Secretary's for their continued support over the past year.

St Barbara's Day Service

St Barbara's Day Service will be held at Larkhill in the Church of St Alban the Martyr on Sunday 4th December 2016. The Service will be followed by lunch in the Sgts' Mess. Further details will follow in due course, however, all members, especially those living close to Larkhill were encouraged to attend. The Secretary urged anyone who was considering attending to inform him as soon as possible so that he could reserve places at the Service and in the WO's & Sgt's Mess for lunch afterwards. He pointed out that availability for lunch is always very limited.

Assistant Secretary's Report

The Secretary, in the absence of the Assistant Secretary, Roy Deal MBE, informed those present that those members wishing to place an order for ties or cuff links should contact him direct on either roydeal@hotmail.co.uk or Roy.deal288@mod.uk

Stock held

Ties: 23 ties at £20.00 each.

Cuff links/lapel pins – 3 on hand at £28.50 each

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Paul Corker, made the following comments: (*see next page*)

LIQUIDITY STATE AS AT SATURDAY 18th JUNE 2016

| ASSETS | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Cash | £ 00.00 |
| Current Bank Balance | £ 4262.27 |
| Deposit Bank Balance | £ 2002.56 |
| Shop Stock | £ 558.74 |
| | |
| TOTAL ASSETS (A) | £ 6823.57 |
| | |
| LIABILITIES | |
| Function | £ 2642.50 |
| | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES (B) | £ 2642.50 |
| | |
| AVAILABLE CASH (A-B) | £ 4181.07 |

He particularly emphasised that:

Subscriptions. Non-payment: up to year 2015 was £520.00 and for 2016 is £565.00. For 2015, 68 members paid only £5:00. This total is dropping as members change their direct debits. Total debtors are £2,060.00.

Mandate. 38 members are not paying by the Standing Order Mandate. Members are continuously encouraged to subscribe by this method.

Gift Aid. The Fund has received a total of £2,374:81 from the Inland Revenue. There are 33 members who are yet to join the gift aid scheme. Annual income is approximately £150:00. HMRC have not paid us since 2013. Our take continues to be £1.25 for every £5 individuals contribute. For the Association to claim our Gift Aid those members must complete the declarations. The Treasurer urged 33 members to complete a Gift Aid declaration. The Treasurer said that he has submitted our refund to the period of 2016.

Suspensions. In accordance with the Association's policy on suspension, the Treasurer has written to all members who have not paid their subscriptions for a period of 3 years. There are currently 45 members shown as 'suspended'.

Treasurer's Updates. All members are reminded of their subscriptions within the Crossed Quills and at the AGM. They are also invited to join the mandate system and gift aid.

Debtors. Subscriptions are £10 annually and should be paid on or close to 1 January. The sum of £2060.00 as of today. There are only 28 members who have not paid their 2016 subscriptions. As directed the Treasurer has

issued a letter to members requesting their payment. To date 3 members have decided to terminate their membership.

Mandate. The Treasurer urged all members to pay by mandate as this would ease and simplify the administration burden.

2015 Income and Expenditure Report (As at 31st December 2015) submitted to the RAA)

A copy of the report which was submitted to the RAA, signed by the Chairman and Secretary was available at the AGM for members to examine. In summary, the declared end state was:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Income | £1363.55 |
| Expenditure | £ 839.75 |
| GPF | £+523.80 Excess of income over expenditure |

Insurance. The insurance for the fund is valid until 31 Mar 17 It is placed with Towergate Wilsons. The cost this year was £324.84. This includes personal accident cover for the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Reunion Secretary, Standard Bearer and Regional Secretaries.

Shop. There are 23 Association Ties in stock @ £20.00 each. There are 3 sets of cuff links and lapel pins @ £28:50 each.

RAA Draw Tickets. Annually we support the RAA Draw by purchasing tickets. Each member has been allocated a ticket with the remainder held by the Association.

Dennis Norris proposed and Bill Young seconded that the `Treasurer's Report is accepted. This proposal was put to the vote and CARRIED unanimously.

Welfare Secretary's Report.

The Welfare Secretary, Dennis Norris informed those present that all on-going welfare cases were currently at a satisfactory state with individuals receiving the appropriate support from the Association. He pointed out that the Committee would consider all calls for welfare support for any Association Member in need submitted to himself or any other Committee member – contact details are available on the website, in Crossed Quills and through the Facebook group.

Historical Secretary's Report.

The Historical Secretary, Mr Stephen Read made the following comments:

Artillery Clerks' Service History. He thanked all Members who have returned their Service History sheets sent out with the last edition of the Crossed Quills. The service history now covers 505 Artillery Clerks in 136 units and 96 locations. He encouraged the remaining Members who have yet to return their history sheets to do so as soon as they are able.

Artillery Clerks' Historical Archive. Despite investigations by the Chairman, Secretary and the Historical Secretary it has proved difficult so far to locate any archive of historical information relating to the Artillery Clerks, A fresh start was therefore needed. He urged all Members who have any documents or items of historical interest to the Association, or know where such items can be located, to get in contact with him.

Anecdotes. At last year's meeting Steve Read proposed that it would be interesting to compile a record of the funny and strange stories that Members have of their service as Artillery Clerks. To date he had not received any such anecdotes. Once again he urges all Members to pass on any anecdotes of their experience in service to him.

Those members who had information to pass on or wished to gain access to the Roll should contact him as per the details in Cross Quills or by emailing him at: ArtyClkProject@gmail.com

Germany Secretary's Report.

The Secretary, in the absence of the Germany Secretary, Ron Holmes MSM informed those present that there were no plans to hold a reunion in Germany in the autumn of 2016. It is planned that the next reunion will take place in the autumn of 2017. Details will follow in due course. The Secretary went onto inform those present that the Sennelager Mess will close down in the next 2 – 3 years and then accommodation will become an issue.

Reunion Secretary's Report

The Reunion Secretary, Ian Constantine, gave a comprehensive briefing on the format of the Reunion Dinner and the evening.

Election or re-election of Committee

The Secretary stated the following elections or re-elections are as follows:

Election of Honorary President - Lt Gen R E Nugee CBE
vice Lt Gen Sir F R Viggers KCB CMG MBE DL

Election of Reunion Secretary - Mr Roy Deal MBE
Vice: Maj Ian Constantine RHA

Election of Area Secretary Scotland (WO2 Tam Millsip)
Vice: Mr Andy Tibble MVO MSM

Election or Re-election of the Committee for 2016/2017

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Chairman | Lt Col (Retd) Joe Falzon OSJ BEM |
| Secretary | Mr Andy Tibble MVO MSM |
| Assistant Secretary | Mr Roy Deal MBE |
| Treasurer | Maj (Retd) Paul Corker |
| Reunion Secretary | Mr Roy Deal MBE |
| Welfare Secretary | Mr Dennis Norris |
| Historical Secretary | Mr Stephen Read |
| Webmaster | Mr David Stotan |

Dave Cussell proposed and Marty Hester seconded this proposal. The proposal was put to the vote and was CARRIED unanimously.

Any other Business

Richard Horner asked the Committee if any thought had been given regarding the location of future reunions. The Chairman informed those present that the Committee had been looking at the format of future Reunions away from the military environment at Larkhill. The Committee had come to the conclusion it would be possible to run a formal dinner at slightly a higher cost that we currently pay. In general the cost of accommodation and cash bar would be significantly much higher. The Chairman went on to say that the Committee would continue to look into alternative options and would welcome any details, along with a breakdown of costs, from Members who attend other Reunions etc.

It was agreed that a survey would be carried out, probably linked to the next edition of Crossed Quills, to produce fresh evidence from the membership on the preferences touching on future formats, locations of the Reunion weekend, including the dinner. It is hoped that the findings will be incorporated into a report to be presented at the next AGM.

The Treasurer invited those present that a proposal from the floor be made to transfer the sum of £1000.00 from GPF to the Function Fund which will reduce the cost of the 2017 reunion Dinner whether it be held at Larkhill or another venue.

Ian Constantine proposed and Richard Horner seconded this proposal. The proposal was put to the vote and was CARRIED unanimously.

Date of Next Meeting

The next AGM will take place at Larkhill on Saturday 10th June 2017.

82nd Artillery Clerks' Reunion and Association Dinner

Saturday 18th June 2016 - Royal Artillery Sergeants' Mess, Larkhill

In time honoured tradition, the 82nd Artillery Clerks' Reunion gathered in Larkhill on Friday 17 June 2016 to start the weekend. Turnout was again excellent with some 20 members (the usual suspects) making the effort. The night was, as ever, tremendous fun and I encourage all members to make the effort to start the weekend properly.

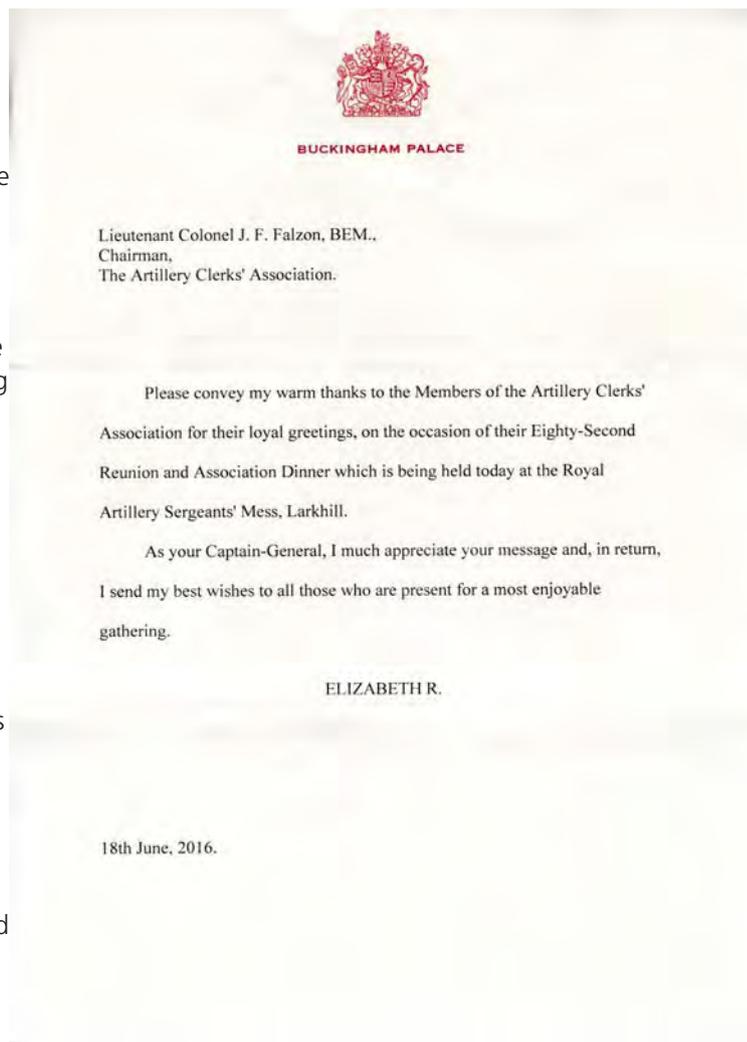
The Reunion activities started at 1700 hours on Saturday 19 June with the Annual General Meeting, followed immediately by the formal photograph to mark the event. After a short wait in position, members were pleased to see General Freddie, our outgoing Honorary President finally turn up (never late – just badly briefed!); we were joined by the Guest of Honour Brigadier Simon Humphrey, Director Combat Support Capability Directorate, our new Honorary President Lieutenant General Richard Nugee, the Regimental Colonel, Colonel Richard Collinge and the Royal Artillery Sergeant Major, WO1 Heath. Following Pre-Dinner Drinks attendees made their way to the Dining Room, taking their seats to accompaniment of the Sandhurst Silver Band Brass Quintet, on a return gig after their excellent support last year. Dinner was as ever a superb fare and our thanks go again to Head Chef Sam Lynch and the Mess Staff under Mess Manager Zoe Soane. The meal was made more entertaining by a request from our Chairman for the Guests to move around during each course to allow them to meet as many Members of the Association as possible. As the moves went, more or less, without incident and everyone ended up in the correct position for the Loyal Toast the plan and briefing by the Reunion Secretary was clearly successful! Our time at the table was capped by an excellent speech from the Guest of Honour, who clearly had some fond memories of Artillery Clerks.

The evening finished in the traditional manner with beer, banter and more beer. Despite Army HQ inflicting its new alcohol policy and the bar closing at midnight, this didn't impact on our enjoyment; with age comes wisdom and most of us can no longer manage to drink until dawn (without writing off the rest of the week anyway). It was pleasing to see the Guests making the most of the occasion, particularly the RASM who stayed on much later than he planned!

This was my last Dinner as Reunion Secretary, next year will be my final Reunion in Mess Kit, after that I will be joining the Black Tie Brigade! I'd like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who has assisted me

over my tenure; the Mess Staff in both Woolwich and Larkhill as well as the stalwarts of the committee. I'll finish with my usual plea to support the Association and particularly Roy Deal as our new Reunion Secretary. I hope to see you all Saturday 10th June 2017, when I can enjoy more than one glass of wine with Dinner!

Ubique Ian



83rd Artillery Clerks' Association Reunion and Dinner Saturday 10th June 2017

The 83rd Artillery Clerks' Association Reunion and Dinner will take place at the Royal Artillery Central Sergeant's Mess, Larkhill on Saturday 10th June 2017. Further details can be found by visiting our website at www.artyclerkassn.org or on the calling letter which is enclosed with this edition of 'The Crossed Quills'.



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1. Brig Simon Humphrey (Guest of Honour) signing the Guest Book.
2. Col Richard Collinge (Guest) signing the Guest book.
3. Mr Andy Tibble (Secretary), Brig Simon Humphrey (Guest of Honour) and Maj Ian Constantine (Reunion Secretary)
4. Brig Simon Humphrey (Guest of Honour) addressing the Artillery Clerks' Association Reunion dinner



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5. Maj Richard Jeavons, Lt Col Russ Lee, Lt Gen Richard Nugee (Honorary President) , Lt Col Joe Falzon (Chairman), Lt Gen Freddie Viggers (Honorary President), Lt Col Richard Horner and Maj Dave Cussell
 6. Left: Mr Clive Nuttall, WO2(SQMS) Steve Beard, Mr John Lindley and Mr Des Riley
 Right: Mr Mick Grenham, Mr Joe Phelps and Mr Stephen Read
 7. Left: Mr Mick Johnston, Mr Marty Hester, Mr Steve Seymour and Mr Mick Hutchinson
 Right: Mr Bill Young, Mr Mick Grenham , Mr Dennis Norris, WO2 Chris Norris, Mr Geoff Hyatt and Mr Peter Gauci
 8. Mr Clive Nutall and Mr Dave Allen
 9. Lt Col Joe Falzon (Chairman) presenting a painting by Lt Col Richard Horner to Lt Gen Freddie Viggers on relinquishing his appointment as Honorary President to Lt Gen Richard Nugee



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10. Mr Stephen Read, Mr Joe Phelps and Mr Mick Grenham

11. Lt Col Joe Falzon (Chairman and Lt Gen Richard Nugee (Honorary President)

12. Lt Gen Richard Nugee (Honorary President), Lt Col Joe Falzon (Chairman), Maj Ian Constantine (Reunion Secretary), Mr Andrew Jones (Standard Bearer) and Mr Andy Tibble (Secretary) looking at the Captain General's Baton to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of the Royal Artillery

13. Rear: Mr Andrew Jones (Standard Bearer), Mr Andy Tibble (Secretary), Maj Ian Constantine (Reunion Secretary), Mr Stephen Read (Historical Secretary)

Front: Lt Gen Richard Nugee (Honorary President), Lt Col Joe Falzon (Chairman), Lt Gen Freddie Viggers (Honorary President) and Maj Paul Corker (Treasurer)



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18

14. Mr Dave Allen, Mr Graham Brown, Lt Col Joe Falzon (Chairman), Mr Joe Phelps and Mr Clive Nuttall
 15. Mr Richie Nichol, Mr John Lindley, Maj Paul Corker (Treasurer), WO1 Mark Testi and Mr Des Riley
 16. WO1(RASM) Dave Heath (Guest), Mr Mick Johnston and Mrs Mary Johnston, inset; Maj Ian Constantine (Reunion Secretary) and Mr Brian Morgan
 17. WO2 (SQMS) Colin Haine, WO2 (SQMS) Steve Beard and Mr Steve Callaghan
 18. Mr Bill Young, Mr Andy Tibble (Secretary) and Maj Dave Cussell with the Captain General's Baton

The Little Blue Book by Lt Col Vic Holdaway

My daughter, whilst rummaging in the attic, unearthed a small, hard-backed blue book with red lettering on the cover. Gold dust! The title is 'Royal Artillery Standing Orders and Instructions. WO Code No 11058. Issued by Her Majesty's Stationery Office 1955@ Price 5s 0d net. Inside was an Erratum! Within its 96 pages is enough material to keep the Editor of Crossed Quills busy for years.

The book reveals a lost world and having decided not to start at page 1 and plough on to page 96 I now find myself making extracts starting at Page 1.

PART I GENERAL SECTION I ORGANISATION

1. The Regiment is organised into the following categories:-
 - (a) Field Branch Artillery – all RHA, mountain, light, field, medium, heavy and super-heavy regiments. This term also includes the following units which are designed to assist the above units in performing their tasks:-
 - Locating Regiments
 - Locating Batteries
 - Movement Light batteries
 - Counter Bombardment Staff Troops
 - Calibration Troops
 - Amphibious Observation Regiments and Batteries.
 - (b) Coast Artillery - Artillery units, however equipped, whose primary role it to engage or assist in the engagement of enemy ships or small battle units.
 - (c) Anti-Aircraft Artillery – all Artillery units, whether equipped with guns, searchlights or other devices, whose primary role is to engage or assist in the engagement of enemy aircraft.
 - (d) Airborne Artillery – All Artillery units of the categories in sub-paras (a) and (c) above which form an organic part of an airborne formation.
2. The term "Field Army Artillery" denotes artillery of any category designed to operate with an army in the Field.

SECTION XI THE TRAINING BRIGADE ROYAL ARTILLERY

43. 18th Training Brigade, Royal Artillery, with Headquarters at Oswestry, is responsible for the reception of and allotments of training recommendations to all regular and national service entrants to the Royal Artillery.

44. It is responsible for all basic training with the exception of those men posted from Selection Regiments to the Coast Artillery Training Centre. It consists of:-

- 17 (Field) Training Regiment RA
- 31 (Driver) Training Regiment RA
- 38 (Signal) Training Regiment RA
- 55 (AA) Training Regiment RA
- 64 (Field) Training Regiment RA
- 67 Selection Regiment RA
- 68 Selection Regiment RA
- The Boys Regiment RA

45. Trainees (except Boys) will normally remain two weeks in a Selection Regiment and eight weeks in a Training Regiment. The distribution and allocation of trainees after training is laid down from time to time by the War Office (AG6).

46. Continuation Training for a further six weeks is given to selected personnel and to certain drafts for units in the Far East.

47. The discharge of trainees and the relegation to Primary Education and Development Centres are governed by the rules laid down by War Office letters from time to time.

48. The Commander, 18th Training Brigade is permitted to retain trainees to replace wastage within establishment, with the proviso that not more than fifteen ex-boys may be held at one time.

SECTION XIII RECORD OFFICE – ROYAL ARTILLERY

57. The officer i/c R.A. Records is responsible for:-

- (a) The regimental administration of personnel of the Royal Artillery, excluding officers.

- (b) The custody and maintenance of the records of Other Ranks – Regular, National Service, Territorial Army and all Reservists.
- (c) Posting, drafting and promotion. Regulation of the strength of units. Supply of statistical information. Maintenance and control of the foreign service roster. Tradesmen and specialists.
- (d) Enlistments, extensions, Re-engagements and Continuance in the Service.
- (e) Record of Service.
- (f) Discharge and Casualties.
- (g) Administration and pre-posting of Reservists.

18 Training Brigade

Birch lines
Park Hall Camp
Oswestry, Salop

RA Clerks School

Depot RA
Woolwich
London S.E. 18

The above extracts give a flavour of what the book contains. Of the establishments in paragraphs 60 and 62 only the School of Artillery remains. I have not as yet found any reference to Artillery Clerks, only the RA Clerks School.

58. In the larger overseas theatres, certain duties in connection with the Administration of Other Ranks are carried out by the Officer i/c Field Records.

59. Records Instructions and Information Letters are issued to assist units in the correct documentation procedure required to comply with official regulations, Army Council Instructions and such War Office letters etc as may be issued from time to time.

60. The address of the Officer i/c R.A. Records is:-

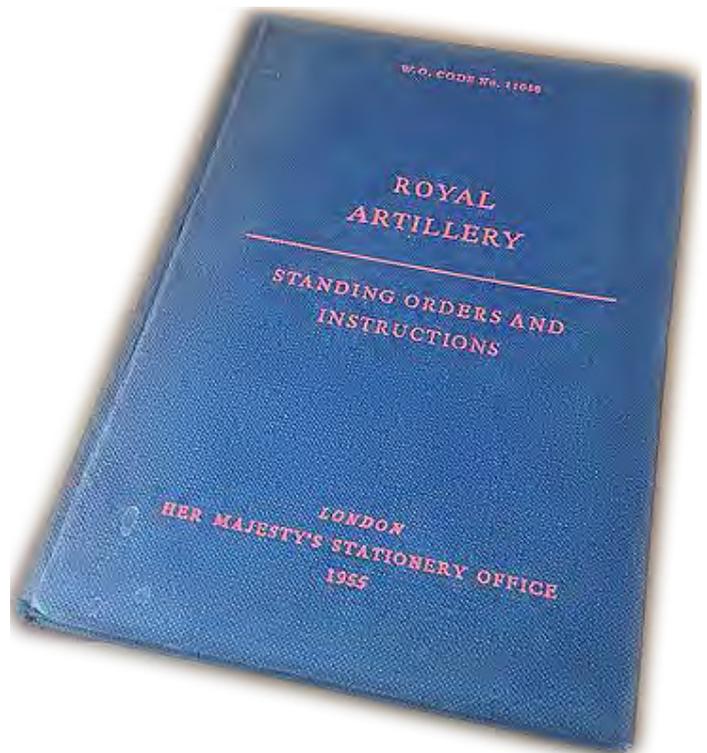
RA RECORDS
FOOTS CRAY
SIDCUP, KENT

(Telephone: Foots Cray 2291) to whom enquiries should be addressed. Visits from representatives of R.A. Formations and Units are welcomed.

SECTION IV ARTILLERY SCHOOLS AND TRAINING ESTABLISHMENTS

62. Officers and other ranks of the Royal Artillery are trained at the following R.A. schools and establishments:-

| Establishment | Address |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| School of Artillery | Larkhill, Salisbury Plain Wilts |
| Coast Artillery Training Centre | The Royal Citadel Plymouth |
| School of Anti-Aircraft Artillery | Manorbier, Nr Tenby Pembrokeshire |



“The Clarendon Way” Challenge: A 24 mile route attempted by the Chairman in aid of the World Veterans Federation - Joe Falzon Chairman

On Saturday 11 June 2016, I completed a 24 mile sponsored walk with all donations going towards the World Veterans Federation. I would like to thank all fellow Association Members were able to support me to reach my objective of raising at least Euro 1000.



The prospects were not promising – overnight rain had turned into a protracted drizzle and everywhere was wet. But, undeterred and full of positive thoughts, our small party of 4 walkers set off from Old Sarum Castle (Salisbury) exactly as planned at 6.30am. I was joined by Graham Brown (former Captain RA and leader and guide for the day - he had the maps!), David Morehead (former CID Officer with the Met) and his son George, with Phil Jones (former RAF officer) providing the logistic support.

It is true to say that, apart from George, none of us are made for running marathons any more. That does not mean, however, that we can't all get out into the great outdoors and push ourselves for a good cause with a challenging walk.

In no time at all we are out of Salisbury, ambling through the hamlet of Ford, and on our way to Winterslow – our first checkpoint. This brought us to the well known walking route across Wiltshire and Hampshire known as the Clarendon Way. For the most part, the Clarendon Way (24 Miles from Salisbury to Winchester) follows the same path as the Monarch's Way, a much longer walk of 615 miles from Worcester to Brighton, used by Charles II to escape to France following his defeat at the Battle of Worcester by Oliver Cromwell in 1651.

Unlike Charles we had nowhere to hide. We settled down to enjoy the splendid variety of beautiful and majestic scenery along the way, ranging from the water meadows of the valleys with their charming villages through woodland - ancient as well as modern - to downlands with far-ranging views. Some of the paths were easy, but mostly they were on challenging terrain. Although wet underfoot, at least it had stopped raining before we even realised it.

There are over 100,000 war memorials in the United Kingdom – with over 5,000 in the counties of Wiltshire and Hampshire alone. Conscious that we are approaching the centenary of the Battle of the Somme on 1 July, we made it a point along the route to pay our respects at the memorials in Winterslow, Broughton, Kings Somborne and Winchester (which is quite a magnificent memorial in the Cathedral Close – the centre of the City).



Poppies, such an emotive symbol here in the United Kingdom, were in abundance in the beautiful countryside. Rather like the fields of Flanders in the First World War, these red poppies, delicate but resilient flowers, grow in their thousands, flourishing in cornfields and hedgerows. No wonder Lt. Col. John McRae was inspired in 1915 by the sight of the poppies to write the now famous poem “In Flanders Field”.

Our walk from one beautiful Cathedral City to another was one of the best things I have ever done. We got to the famous West Gate of the city of Winchester at exactly 4.30pm – the whole journey took 10 hours including three brief stops. By my calculation we had actually walked 22 miles – but who's counting! I am fortunate live in an amazingly varied country, with scenery like no other and a network of footpaths to enjoy it to the full. If you get the chance, just do it.



Unlike other, more solitary pursuits, a walk offers opportunities to talk with your fellow trekkers and support each other. This walking event brought a unique sense of camaraderie and friendship as our small group joined together for one common cause. It was a brilliant day.

Thank you all for your support.
Joe Falzon
Chairman

The informative years from Gnr to Bdr, just a few pictures from Clive Nuttall which span the period from 1965 to 1978; locations are Mansergh Barracks Gutersloh, 5 Field Regiment and 40 Field Regiment and Fort George. You will also see a very young General Freddie hard at work in the Gasworks during our trip over the water in 1975



RHQ 5 Fd Regt Myself (holding MML or QRs) with Bdr Ken May but do not know who the other person is. Ken was posted as Sgt to 22 Regt on the Dormund strip, (Clive went to one of the Sgts Mess do's and won a prize on the raffle; not bad for a Bdr!)



5 Fd Regt Mansergh Barracks NAAFI with clerks, RHQ typist and RSMs daughter.



5 Fd Regt Trauen Camp - Bdr Tony (Ginge) Coombes Bty CC P(The Dragon Troop) resting after a hard day on the flatbed duplicator !



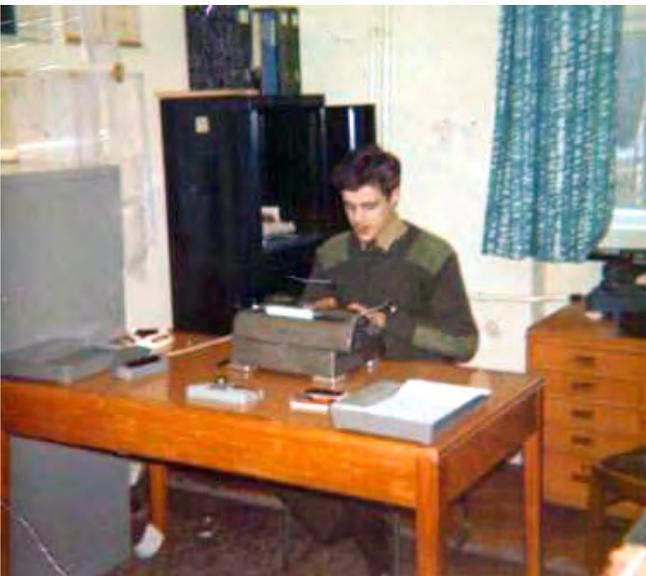
RHQ 40 Fd Regt - Dave Robertson and Chris Andrews.



RHQ 40 Fd Regt - Dave Dunn and Brian Sprake.



RHQ 40 Fd Regt - Movement Clerk with Dave Dunn and Chief Howells in the background.



RHQ 40 Fd Regt - Geoff Burns on the computer !!



RHQ 40 Fd Regt - Discipline Clerk say no more.



RHQ 40 Fd Regt - Lt Peter Vincent (RIP) AAdj't (not sure if he was an AC at some stage) !!



40 Fd Regt 1973 On the way over the water, Ken Snoding, Dave Robertson and myself.



Bertha the 40 Fd Regt RHQ Gin Palace with me relaxing.



Lt Freddie Viggers 38(Seringapatam)Battery hard at work in NI.



40 Fd Regt 1973 Fort George with Chris Andrews and a chap called Jablonski (Jab)



40 Fd Regt 1973 Fort George with pending trays.



38 Bty Clerk getting a gong from Brigadier Bill Winder (RIP)

A Cold War Moment by former WO2 (QMS(AC)) Steve Seymour

I had recently become a clerk, after previously being qualified as a surveyor, signaller, driver. The Regiment at that time was 39 Med Regt, stationed at Dempsey Barracks, Paderborn. As a qualified driver I was given the job of driving the BSM on the orbat.

The picture shows me, one of many cold war soldiers on practice camp guarding a position with a pick axe helve.



I do recall what is not seen in this picture, namely an ammo dump for 90 plus rounds of 200 pound, 8 inch shells, and I was supposed to fend off anyone, should they deem to wish to take them away. Would not have had much chance against a few Russian T62s. Rather than me as I had just endured the task of putting them there, with the help of others, namely LBdr Boris Caunt, SSgt Docherty (commonly known as Blackjack). SSgt Docherty was a very large, obese guy.

These were the days of cold water and oil stoves at Trauen camp, where Practice Camp was to be held. C45s, A41s, Weather Graphs, TOT of 8 hours for Nuclear fire plans and NSI!

The Regiment consisted of 2 x 109 batteries, 132 and 176, as well as 1 x 8 inch battery. H Heavy Bty (Ramseys Troop).

The Guns were loaded at Seenelager sidings and transported to Trauen by train, where the ammo also arrived.

Blackjack, Boris and Spider (me), arrived with BSM McLachlan to unload the shells onto a Stalwart (NO DROPS in those days).

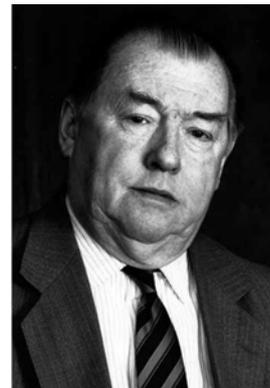
The Stalwart did have a crane and jib, but it was not possible to lift shells direct to the train, so it was a case of 200 lbs on your shoulder, stumble a few steps and place the shell on the back of the stalwart!

I was the skinniest in the pack, and BSM did not do this sort of thing, so it was Boris, Blackjack and I to unload 94 shells.

I do recall managing carrying about 20 and sweating, and becoming even skinnier, whereas Blackjack carried double the amount! It did not seem to have the same effect on him! Boris did like a drink in the NAAFI, and therefore did not feel the pain.

Compared with these days of touch screen, digital etc., it seems light years away.

Now you know why I am holding that pick axe helve in such a proud position. I know my beret is not befitting of a soldier, but I probably had not noticed it was not sitting properly after unloading all those shells!



Silent Quills – Mr Denis Rollo

Those of us who knew Denis Rollo were shocked and saddened to learn of his death earlier this year, aged 87. His service to the Royal Regiment extended over 65 years; he leaves an immeasurable legacy as a prolific historian, researcher and author, winner of the Napier Award (1973), the Lefroy Gold Medal (1984), the RA Medal (1994) and the Alfred Burne Memorial Award (1978, 1990, 1992 and 1999).

As a friend to our Association he took time to write a short history of The Artillery Clerks. He will be highly missed by all who knew him and held him in the high respect he deserved, not least by his widow, Nancy and their twenty great-grandchildren.

Joe

The Royal British Legion



LIVE ON

TO THE MEMORY OF THE FALLEN AND THE FUTURE OF THE LIVING

The Royal British Legion provides lifelong support for the Armed Forces community - serving men and women, veterans, and their families

GET SUPPORT



AND FAMILIES



VETERANS AND FAMILIES

Provides lifelong support for members of the Royal Navy, British Army, Royal Air Force and their families. We want to make sure that our beneficiaries are able to live in comfort and with dignity.



Home > Community > Calendar

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

There are lots of events throughout the year including commemorative and Remembrance events, fundraising activities and those that are just plain fun.

Search calendar Category Date



Christmas Celebration
Monday, 5 December 2016
Start the festive season with the Legion's annual Christmas celebration concert at London's great O2 Arena.



Sunday, 23 April 2017
Virgin Money London Marathon 2017

Sunday, 29 April 2017
Baberck Trophy Army v Navy rugby match

Thursday, 29 June 2017
London to Ipswich



Sunday, 20 July 2017
Prudential RideLondon

Thursday, 21 August 2017
Pedal to Paris

Saturday, 2 September 2017
Pedal to Paris 24 hours



CAMPAIGN



CARE HOMES

DEMENTIA CARE

ADMIRAL NURSES



BREAK CENTRES

VETERANS MEDICAL FUNDS

FINANCES



HOUSEHOLD ADAPTATION

CARE PHONES

HANDY VAN

The Royal British Legion supports serving members of the Armed Forces, veterans and their families.

If you need help, call our Contact Centre helpline on **0808 802 8080** from **8am to 8pm, 7 days a week** (calls are free from UK landlines and main mobile networks) for all enquiries.

From overseas: **+44 (0)20 3376 8080** (full rate)

Or send us an email at **info@britishlegion.org.uk**.

The Royal British Legion's Head Office and postal address is:
199 Borough High Street
London SE1 1AA

82nd Artillery Clerks' Reunion and Association Dinner
 Royal Artillery Warrant & Officers' & Sergeant's Mess, Royal Artillery Barracks, Larkhill
 Saturday 18th June 2016



4th Row – Mr SP Callaghan, Mr DA Riley

3rd Row – WO2 (SQMS) CP Haine, Mr GO Hyatt, Mr RJ Nichol, Mr D Norris, WO1 RM Testi MSM, Mr J Lindley, Mr M Hester, Mr J Phelps, Mr SV Read, WO2 (SQMS) SM Beard
 2nd Row – Mr AJ Jones (Standard Bearer), Mr WM Young, Maj (Retd) DJ Cussell, Mr P Gauci, Lt Col Russ Lee MBE, Mr MI Grenham, Mr DG Allen, Maj (Retd) D Crawford BEM,
 Mr C Nuttall, Mr G Brown, Mr B Morgan, Maj (Retd) R Andliffe BEM, Mr SR Seymour, Mr JM Hutchinson

Front Row – WO1 (RASM) David Heath, Lt Gen RE Nugee CBE (Honorary President), Mr AM Tibble MVO MSM (Secretary), Brigadier SL Humphrey OBE (Guest of Honour),
 Lt Col (Retd) JF Falzon OSJ BEM (Chairman), Lt Col (Retd) RH Horner MBE, Maj IF Constantine RHA, Colonel Richard Collinge OBE, Maj (Retd) P Corker (Treasurer), Mr M Johnston

