

**THE ROYAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION**

PATRON: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

Brompton Barracks CHATHAM, Kent ME4 4UG

President: Gen Sir Kevin O'Donoghue KCB CBE  
Chief Royal Engineer

Chairman: Major General J D Moore-Bick CBE

Controller: Lieutenant Colonel R McLennan Medway (01634) 822982

Deputy Controller: Lieutenant Colonel N A Jordan Medway (01634) 822407

See Distribution 12 March 2009

**HQ CIRCULAR NO 132**

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**ITEM 1 - AWARD OF THE BADGE OF MERIT**

1. At their meeting in London on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2009, the Management Committee approved the award of the Badge of Merit to the following members:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>Group</b>
Mr M J Barry MM	Cambridge Branch	East Anglia Gp
Lt Col (Retd) D Holloway	Medway Branch	South East Gp
Mr T Linley	Leeds Branch	North East Gp
Mr L E Simpson	Hull & Distr	North East Gp
Mr R Cushion	Andover & Winchester Branch	South West Gp
Maj (Retd) P H Webster	Bournemouth & Distr Branch	South West Gp

**ITEM 2 - AGM NOTIFICATION**

2. This year the Annual General Meeting of the Association is to be held at the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2009, commencing at 1600 hours.

3. The attention of Groups and Branches is drawn to Rules 11.01 to 11.40, which govern the procedure at the Annual General Meeting.

4. The REA Form for notifying the names and addresses of Branch Delegates and details of travel expenses claimed will be issued with the next HQ Circular.

### **ITEM 3 - ANNUAL DINNER**

5. This year the Annual Dinner of the Association is to be held at the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2009, following the Annual General Meeting. Reception will be at 1800 hours for 1830 hours with the bar opening at 1730 hours. Branches and members are encouraged to support this very enjoyable annual event.

6. Dress for gentlemen will be lounge suits or blazer and flannels with Corps tie; dress for ladies will be short dresses.

7. Subject to prices charged by the Club, it is hoped that tickets for the event will remain at £18.00 per head.

8. An application form for tickets will be issued with the next HQ Circular. Closing date for bookings will be 25 September 2009.

### **ITEM 4 - SAPPER SUNDAY, THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA**

9. SAPPER SUNDAY will take place on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at The Royal Hospital Chelsea. This is the day after the REA AGM and Annual Dinner and a good turnout from REA Members in London and from around the country is expected. A curry lunch will be provided. Members are encouraged to attend this event, meet the RE In-Pensioners and swap stories over a few pints and a curry. Branches are requested to give this event the very widest publicity. If you are attending, please advise the Deputy Controller REA so that he can monitor numbers for catering.

### **ITEM 5 - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

10. Remembrance Sunday will be on Sunday 08<sup>th</sup> November 2009. Branches requiring tickets for the Remembrance Sunday Parade at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, London, are to apply, in writing, to HQ REA stating the number of tickets required.

11. The Royal British Legion has requested that bids are only made through Regimental Association Headquarters and not direct to them. Bids are requested by **31<sup>st</sup> July 2009** to enable a consolidated bid to be submitted during August.

### **ITEM 6 - NATIONAL STANDARD BEARERS COMPETITION**

12. The National Standard Bearers' Competition is to be held at Brompton Barracks, Chatham, during the Veterans/Corps Memorial Weekend as part of the main IRSME event on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2008 between 1400 and 1600 hrs.

13. All Groups are encouraged to enter the competition, particularly as entrants for the competition may claim travelling and reasonable overnight expenses.

14. Groups and Branches are reminded that:

- a. Competitors must be REA members and members of the REA branch for which they carry the Standard.



- b. Participation is limited to winners of the Group Competition or person nominated by the Group Director where no competition takes place.
- c. Only one Standard Bearer from each group can take part in the National Competition.
- d. The current National Standard Bearer does not get automatic entry to the National Competition. The criteria at 14.b above apply.

#### **ITEM 7 - VETERANS' WEEKENDS**

- 15. The Veterans' Weekend at Ripon is to be held over the weekend 15 - 17 May 2009.
- 16. The Veterans' Weekend at Minley is to be held over the weekend 19 - 21 June 2009.
- 17. The Veterans' Weekend at Chatham is to be held over the weekend 18 - 20 September 2009.

#### **ITEM 8 - REA SPRING REUNION MILL RYTHE HOLIDAY VILLAGE**

18. The REA Spring Reunion will take place at Mill Rythe Holiday Village, Hayling Island over the period 08 -15 May 2009. This is a top quality event that offers not only superb value for money, but also the opportunity to renew old acquaintances, make new ones and have a thoroughly good time. All the hard work has been done for you, all you need to do is attend and enjoy yourself. There may still be some vacancies for this event and Branches are urged to give this event priority advertising. Enquiries should be addressed to the Chairman, National Organiser and Secretary at the following address:

MrKCoward  
66 Selangor Avenue  
Emsworth  
Hampshire  
PO10 7LT

#### **ITEM 9 - GROUP AND BRANCH OFFICIALS CONTACT LIST**

19. In order that an up-to-date Contact List can be compiled, printed and distributed by mid 2009, branch secretaries are requested to complete and return the enclosed REA Form 4 (Branch Officials) **by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009**. The Form has been revised to include the title and known name of branch officials. Branches are requested to ensure this new information is included. Branches failing to return REA Form 4 will not have their details published in the 2009 Group and Branch Officials Contact List.

#### **ITEM 10 - STANDARD BEARERS EXPENSES**

20. REA Form 3 to enable Branch Standard Bearers to reclaim travelling expenses for attending a National Event has been amended. With effect January 2009, branch Standard Bearers are permitted to claim travel expenses for each National Event they attend. A copy of Form 3 is enclosed for branch use and should be photocopied as required. A copy of REA Form 3 is also available on the REA website.

#### **ITEM 11 - ONLINE CORPS MEMORIAL BOOK**

21. On behalf of the Corps, the Royal Engineers Association has commissioned an online Corps Memorial Book (CMB) that will allow dedications to be made for all members of the



Corps who have passed away. The CMB went live on Tuesday 10 March. The CMB can be viewed by following this link: <http://www.reahq.org.uk/index.php/in-memoriam>

22. The CMB also has a facility to add former members of the Corps who have passed away. This can be done by completing an online form which, after submission, will be vetted by HQ REA then published. The online form can be accessed by following the link below: <http://www.friendsandrelations.com/partners/royalengineers/html/add-person.php>

23. As is often the case upon the death of a serving or former Sapper, HQ REA receives donations in the form of cheques; this is normally at the request of the family of the deceased when a donation is preferred instead of flowers at the funeral. There is now the opportunity to make that donation online. All donations will be used to support those in need. To make a donation please follow the link below:

<http://www.friendsandrelations.com/partners/royalengineers/html/display.php>

24. Branches may use the online Form or continue to use Form 8 when notifying HQ REA of the death of Branch members.

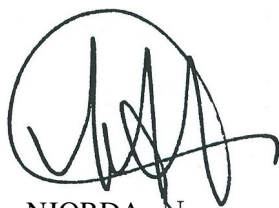
25. A more widespread launch of the CMB will take place over the coming weeks with special emphasis on the serving Corps.

#### **ITEM 12 - BRITISH CYPRUS MEMORIAL TRUST**

26. The Cttee of the British Cyprus Memorial Trust have written to HQ REA asking REA branches to support the British Cyprus Memorial to honour the memory of the 371 British servicemen who died on active service during the Cyprus Emergency 1955 - 1959. Twenty nine of those who died were members of the Corps of Royal Engineers. The Trust has also requested help in tracing relatives of the 29 Royal Engineers killed so that they will know that their loved ones have not been forgotten. Full details of the Memorial and the request for support and information are enclosed with this Circular. Branch Secretaries are requested to broadcast the information as widely as possible.

#### **ITEM 13 - CHATHAM VETERANS WEEKEND**

27. The 2009 Chatham Veterans and Corps Memorial Weekend will take place over the weekend 18 - 20 September. There is a full programme over the weekend starting with a reception and REA Band night on the Friday in the W9s' & Sgts' Mess and ending with the RSME Open Day on the afternoon on the Sunday. A calling notice for the event is included with this Circular and Branch Secretaries are requested to bring this information to the attention of all their members. **NOTE. Attendance returns must be received at Training Wing, 1 RSME Regt by 01 July 2009.**



NJORDA N  
Lt Col  
Deputy Controller



Enclosures:

1. REA Form 4 - Branch Information Sheets (Branch Secretaries only)
2. REA Form 3 - Standard Bearers Expenses (Branch Secretaries only)
3. British Cyprus Memorial Trust (Branch Secretaries only)
4. Calling Notice - Corps Memorial Weekend - Chatham 2009

Distribution:

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



# BRITISH CYPRUS MEMORIAL TRUST

26 YORK STREET, LONDON W1 U 6PZ

email: [info@britishcyprusmemorial.org](mailto:info@britishcyprusmemorial.org) web: [www.britishcyprusmemorial.org](http://www.britishcyprusmemorial.org)

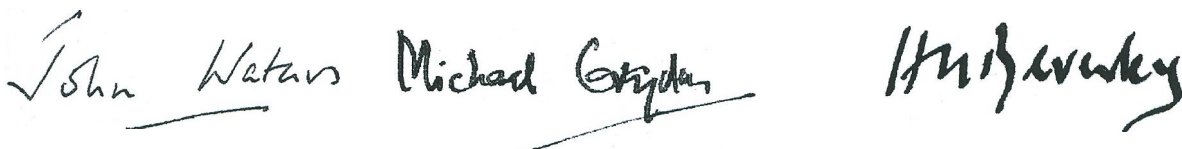
Dear Chairman,

We are writing to ask for your branch's support for the British Cyprus Memorial to honour the memory of the 371 British servicemen who died on active service during the Cyprus Emergency 1955-1959 and to mark the 50th anniversary this year of the ending of that Emergency. The enclosed leaflet will tell you about that, and you can also find full details on our website [www.britishcyprusmemorial.org](http://www.britishcyprusmemorial.org) which also gives the complete roll-call of those whose names will be inscribed on the memorial- including the 29 members of the Royal Engineers listed on the attached sheet.

As you will note, the appeal fund for this double memorial- the granite memorial in the old British cemetery in Kyrenia and the Roll of Honour Memorial Book in the British garrison church near the British military cemetery at Wayne's Keep where almost all the dead remain buried - has been set at £200,000. We would be very glad therefore to have both your support for this 50th anniversary memorial which not least remembers and honours those men on the roll-call whose memory holds special significance to your own Association. We are also anxious to trace relatives of the 29 Royal Engineers killed so that they will know that their loved ones have not been forgotten, and if your branches are able to help us on this, it would be much appreciated.

The intention is to have the memorial in place and unveiled on Remembrance Day 2009 - November 8. We hope very much that you will agree with us that this is a very worthy endeavour, and that we can count on your support and your help in meeting our fund target in good time. We will be very grateful for all you can do.

With best wishes



General Sir John Waters    Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon    Lieutenant General Sir Henry Beverley

General Sir John Waters, Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon, Lieutenant General Sir Henry Beverley,  
the Earl of Chester, Lord Glentoran, Lord Maginnis, Michael Stephen

THE BRITISH CYPRUS MEMORIAL TRUST LIMITED IS REGISTERED IN ENGLAND. COMPANY No.6 579784



# Roll: Royal Engineers

Name	Rank	Date of death	Age
Alan ALDERSON	LCpl	November 9 1955	19
John BROWN	Sapper	October 3 1956	21
Joseph Arthur CASTLE	WO1	September 20 1957	33
George Ronald CAUNT	Sapper	October 13 1955	21
John DUFFY	Sgt	January 16 1959	26
George GAHAGAN	Sapper	February 14 1957	21
John Keith GIBSON	Sapper	February 1 1957	19
Philip George HATCH OBE	Col	June 7 1955	45
George Leonard HOBBS	W02	May 28 1956	39
Edward Fisher HODGSON	Sapper	May 11 1957	20
Vernon John Back HOLBROOK	Sapper	June 3 1955	22
John David HOLLELY	Sapper	June 12 1956	19
Edward HOLLIS	Sapper	September 14 1955	19
Arnold BEM LONGFORD	Sgt	August 4 1957	49
William James LONGMAN	Sapper	September 4 1957	20
Raymond Vincent MARCHANT	Sapper	June 12 1956	19
Robert Peter MELSON	Sapper	November 24 1955	25
Graham James MORGAN	Sapper	June 12 1956	19
James Brian MORUM	LCpl	December 15 1955	20
Peter Harold PERCIVAL	Sapper	November 26 1955	21
Murray Sinclair PETERSON	Cpl	June 5 1958	20
Geoffrey PONSONBY	Sapper	October 16 1956	24
Leslie Clifford PULMAN	Sgt	July 20 1958	26
John Frederick Lawrence RUST	W02	May 28 1956	33
Duncan Fred SCHOLES	Cpl	November 30 1957	19
Daniel Victor SHEPPARD	Sapper	December 5 1956	20
James George Eustace SHIPMAN	Sgt	November 24 1955	30
Richard Geoffrey SMITH	LCpl	May 26 1955	20
Edward Peter SMITH	Sgt	November 3 1956	27

*LEST WE FORGET.* The British Cyprus Memorial Trust