



*Aldershot Branch, The Royal Signals Association*

# *News Sheet*

*June 2020*

## **Let's Start with the Good News**

There has been plenty of bad news around in recent days but the difficult circumstances in the country in the last four months has brought out the best in many people at national and local level. We have all gone out in our roads to clap the NHS front line workers and what about the former Captain Tom, now Sir Colonel Tom (unless he has been promoted again)?. The latest individual to make the headlines is Marcus Rashford, a modest and well-motivated international footballer who has put himself out to help others. Well done all of them and also Well Done as usual the Armed Forces for their great work behind the scenes.

## **Branch History**

We have our own bit of good news to tell you about. In this Centenary year of the Corps and our Branch we have made the effort to bring our Branch History up-to-date. It is now on the website and it makes a good read because the last years to which you have all contributed have really been highly successful. In part this has been because of the excellent programme of events such as attendance at band concerts at Kneller Hall organised by our late Treasurer Peter Sharpe who sadly passed away at the end of last year. To read the History go to: <https://royalsignals.org/rsa/aldershot-rsa/> and click on "Branch History."



## **Our Programme**

After a wonderful start to this year's programme with the Commemorative Service in January and a morning talk in February, followed by publication of the Spring Newsletter, we had no option but to send out our e-mail on 3<sup>rd</sup> March to inform everyone that we were suspending all future events until further notice.

Ever since then we have been keeping up with Government Briefings and hoping that we would be able to start up again. Sadly, we believe that, despite the much better news in recent days, the situation is still too fluid to be able to plan social events in the near future. Restaurants and pubs may re-open from 4<sup>th</sup> July if all the criteria are met, and we shall review our situation then. We are very much hoping that we shall then be able to go firm on:

- **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October Outing to the Amberley Museum.**
- **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November Morning Talk on the WASBIES (Women's Auxiliaries Burma).**

We have decided not to go ahead with a Centenary Dinner in September this year because of the on-going uncertainties and the possibility we would not muster enough attendees. We need at least 50 to make a success of that.

## In Memoriam

We record with great sadness the passing in April of our good member and friend, Tom Lynch. We express our sincere sympathies to Kath and all family members.

As this goes to print, we also join the whole nation in mourning the death of the Forces Sweetheart, Dame Vera Lynn.

## Your Committee

It is almost needless to say that the committee has kept up with its work in recent months. Indeed, it has met more frequently than normal, albeit, only in cyberspace. That has been due to the technical wizardry of Keith Hall who has set up fortnightly Zoom meetings.

## Other Documentation

One of the things the committee has busied itself with during the period of Lock Down has been the updating of our documentation starting as already mentioned with the Branch History.

**Personal Data.** The next item has been our Policy on the Safeguarding of Personal Data. This is not the most gripping of documents but it is essential for us to uphold the Law. It has been brought up-to-date and is on our website. Go to <https://royalsignals.org/rsa/aldershot-rsa/> and click on "Policy for Safeguarding Personal Data." We do not recommend it for bedtime reading but if any of your contact details have changed please let us know as indicated there.

**Branch Rules.** A few items in our Branch Rules needed minor revision and so that also has been done in Edition 2. You can see the draft on our website. Go to <https://royalsignals.org/rsa/aldershot-rsa/> and click on Branch Rules.

This document will need your approval at our next AGM whenever we are able to hold one. The strongest possibility at present is in connection with the Morning Talk in November.

## From the Archives

While researching the Branch History we came across this photograph. Are you able to identify the site and the occasion? See below for the answers.



## Parish Notices

Parishes have had a thin time this year and so there may not have been many Parish Magazines, but in the past they have been a rich source unintentional humour.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?"  
Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

**That Picture was taken in 2008 at an event called "Music on Fire" staged at Sandhurst with excellent music and amazing graphics projected onto the face of the Old College Building.**