



Royal Signals Association Annual General Meeting

Saturday 18th March 2023
Virtual



AGENDA
THE 78th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION
VIRTUAL
18 MARCH 2023

ITEM 1 – INTRODUCTION

Annex

1. Minute's Silence to Remember Fallen Comrades.
2. Chair's Opening Remarks.

ITEM 2 – 77TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

3. To approve the minutes of the 77th RSA AGM held on 12 March 2022.
4. Actions Arising.

A

ITEM 3 – HEADQUARTERS REPORTS

5. Chair's Update (verbal).
6. General Secretary's Report.
7. General Secretary's Financial Update.
8. Outcome 2022 Royal Signals Association – Welfare and Donations & Veterans.
9. Assistant General Secretary's Report.
10. Administrative Officer's Report.
11. Corps Update.

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ITEM 4 – MATTERS ARISING

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 12. | Area Rep 5 Resignation / Appointment | Gen Sec |
| 13. | Areas of Responsibility | Gen Sec |
| 14. | Awards | Admin Offr |

ITEM 5 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15. Any Other Business.
16. Date of the next Annual General Meeting as **Sat 16 Mar 24.**



HEADQUARTERS ROYAL SIGNALS

Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 8RH

Telephone: (01258) 482130 / 0300 1632 365

Military Network: (4371) 2130

E-Mail: rsa@royalsignals.org



Reference: 04.17.01 - AGM

See Distribution

Date: 01 April 2022

MINUTES OF THE 77th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION AT THE VICTORY SERVICES CLUB, LONDON 12th MARCH 2022

Present:	Maj Gen D McDowall CBE	Chairman RSA
	Col MC Brookes ADC (Virtual)	Corps Col
	Col (Retd) D A Craft (Virtual)	Gen Sec
	Col SA Smith (Virtual)	Corps Col Res
	Lt Col (Retd) S M Lockwood (Virtual)	Asst Gen Sec
	WO1(Corps SM) R M Scarcliff	Corps SM
	WO1 (RSM) P Steele	3 Div Sig Regt & Corps SM Des
	Mr K Bates	Area 1 S
	Mr I Scrivin	Area 1 N
	Mr R Taylor	Area 2
	Mr T Holyoake	Area 3
	Mr R Williams	Area 5
	Mr R Jephcote	Area Rep Scotland
	Mr M Nevill	Area Rep NI
	Mr G Phillips	Area Rep Wales
	Mrs L Sizeland	RSC Grants Co-ordinator
	RSA Branch Secretaries	
	Mrs T Muers	Admin Offr / Secretary

Apologies:	Dr D Swifthook	Area 4
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In attendance:	WO1 (RSM) L Cleghorn	
	WO2 (RQMS) S Cleghorn	
	SSgt C Larkins	
	Mr A Duffield	Cyberjag

Discussion / Decisions / Actions

Item 1: Introduction

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the AGM and spoke about how great it was to see everyone in person again after the cancellations due to COVID. He welcomed Mrs Linda Sizeland and Mrs Tracey Muers to their first AGM and thanked the Corps SM for his contributions over the past two years, noting that this would be his last AGM. He thanked the Area Reps for their ongoing efforts for the association and to all members and Chelsea Pensioners who had travelled to the AGM. He finished by highlighting the commitment of the Master of Signals to supporting the Association. Her engagement had been superb, and she continued to look for opportunities to engage.

Item 2: Minutes from Previous Meeting.

1. The minutes from the 76th AGM were unanimously agreed as an accurate record.
2. Actions arising: One action closed – Formal end of the Centenary Fund payments to branches as date for applications had passed. All other actions would be addressed as part of the meeting.

Item 3: Chairman's Report.

1. The Chairman opened his report saying he was delighted to be able to attend events and visit the branches after a year of disruption. He voiced his gratitude towards the branches and their efforts during the difficult times and recognizes the burden the committees are faced with.
2. He spoke about his enjoyment in attending the Corps Memorial Service and being able to be a part of the Cenotaph Contingent, as well as the unveiling of the Bedford Centenary Plaque. He spoke about the upcoming events he plans to attend and welcomes invitations for events this year.

Item 4: General Secretary's Report.

1. The General Secretary commenced his report by stating a lot of the items were relating to work done in conjunction with the Central Committee and they would be addressed over the course of the meeting.
2. **Key Events:** Eden Camp and Corps Weekend would be discussed in greater detail during the AGM. One omission from the list – Annual Officer's 3Rs Dinner to be held in Stafford on Thursday 12 May. This was previously held in London. Anyone wishing to attend can do so via the Corps Website royalsignals.org.
3. **RSA Membership Fees** – Central Committee agreed that the requirement for membership fees from eligible applicants will be scrapped. The income from this fee was minimal and the decision recognised that anyone who wished to join the Association should be encouraged to do so free of charge. The change is effected immediately but does not affect any branch arrangements regarding subscriptions. **Action: Corps HQ CLOSED**
4. **Tenures of CCM** – The General Secretary recognised that some of the Area Reps had held tenure for long periods of time. The branches must engage with the Area Reps to ensure there are replacements if and when required.

- a. Area 4 Rep Don Swifthook is standing down. The nomination is Glyn Marsh. The CCM has pre-approved the nomination. If anyone in the AGM has a reason why this nomination should not be approved, they were to raise the issue in the next week. If no issues are raised the nomination will be approved and the Area Reps will be instructed to commence their handover/takeover.

Item 5: General Secretary's Financial Report.

1. Strategic Review of Charity / RSA – Structure had been in place for 12 years and the review was instigated in 2021 by the board trustees to ensure best practice. The review was being led by Maj Gen Stokoe. RSA was represented fully in the review. The review to date had concluded that there were no major structural changes required. The review would be presented to the RSTL board in September and if needed the RSA would be briefed fully.
2. Benevolence – 40% reduction in benevolence grants in the last two years. This had been experienced by most Corps/Regimental charities and it was not a case of the RSC declining applications. Every case was being met but there had been a huge reduction in cases submitted. The RSA community was encouraged to promote the support the Charity could provide for people who needed assistance and to actively engage with vulnerable members to ensure assistance was not required. **Action: All Branches CLOSED BAU**

Item 6: Assistant General Secretary's Benevolence Report.

1. Introduction to Mrs Linda Sizeland, Grants Co-ordinator who had supported over 5000 members of the Corps over 15 years and had been awarded the Master of Signals award in November last in recognition of her selfless endeavours.
2. The Assistant General Secretary talked about the possible reasons for the downturn in the grant applications – fitter association members and the decline of the National Service contingent. Reminder that the help was available and must be utilised if needed.
3. Biggest draw on benevolence was debt, household, and housing. Last year we received £85,000 from the ABF which assisted 90 people.
4. The Grants Co-Ordinator answered a question on whether the SSAFA / RBL caseworkers, who were initially unable to work from home during the pandemic, affected the downturn on grant applications. The General Secretary confirmed that there was currently no backlog with SSAFA.
5. The Grants Co-ordinator also confirmed that the RSC works together with other charities to increase the grant amount when the need was greater than what the RSC could provide in a single instance.
6. Brig Hargreaves asked if the RSA should encourage people to contact the Grants Co-ordinator in the first instance to apply for grants and then prompt the other agencies into sending out the paperwork? **Action: Corps HQ to investigate CLOSED.**

(Secretary's afternote: Discussed with RSA. HQs will not actively encourage but will assist anyone who enquires about grants.)

Item 7: Administrative Officer's Report.

1. The Administrative Officer introduced herself to the meeting.
2. Events – Current open event bookings were Founders Day, Falklands NMA Event and we would shortly be opening the booking process for Corps Weekend.
3. She encouraged the branches to use the electronic booking system and directed anyone who had problems with the registration process to contact the Events Clerk who could help with the process.
4. Branch information – She confirmed that she was in the process of collating current branch information and encouraged branches to use generic branch email addresses instead of personal email addresses to protect personal information.
5. The Chairman addressed the issues that branches had encountered using new technology and reiterated that there was initial training provided but there may be a need for refresher training.
Action: Corps HQ to investigate CLOSED

Item 8: Corps Update.

1. **Col M Brookes (Corps Col)** introduced a letter from the Minister for Defence Personnel and Veterans encouraging veterans to support the war in Ukraine in the form of charitable donations and not to travel to Ukraine to become directly involved in the conflict.
2. He also discussed the 75th Anniversary Parade of the Army College in Harrogate and a potential theme of Royal Signals ex Apprentices participating in the celebration.
3. The Corps was very busy supporting small operations at home and abroad.
4. Integrated Review update: Included in minutes (but not to be put on social media). Any questions to be channelled through the General Secretary/Assistant Secretary.
5. **Col SA Smith (Corps Col Res)** Reserves were recruiting healthily, and the backlog of training was moving steadily.
6. The Reserves had critical warfighting roles, and additionally an emerging role in primacy for UK resilience activity and were being trained appropriately for each task.
7. Col Smith spoke about the potential relationship between the Reserve Regiments and the RSA, and initiating partnerships between Reserve units and branches, with a view to active recruitment for the RSA. He encouraged branches to get in touch with the Corps HQ to facilitate a connection with the Reserve units. **Action: All Branches CLOSED BAU**
8. **WO1 R Scarcliff (Corps SM)** introduced a presentation on modern day soldiering and how service leavers could fit into the RSA when they leave.
 - a. SSgt C Larkins – Recruiting and training.
 - b. WO1 (RSM) P Steele (Corps SM Des) – 3 Signal Regt presentation and the possibility of connecting RSA with local regiments.
 - c. WO2 (RQMS) S Cleghorn - How the military had changed over the years for female soldiers.
 - d. Cpl A Flitcroft – Op Newcombe (Mali) presentation.

- e. WO1 (RSM) L Cleghorn, 216 Signal Squadron – Op Pitting presentation.
- f. WO1 (Corps SM) R Scarcliff concluded the update by speaking about the honour of representing the RSA over the previous two years.

Item 9: Corps Weekend Update.

- 1. The Assistant General Secretary spoke about the accommodation issues for Corps Weekend. Accommodation would be extremely limited and, he encouraged members to book locally if they would like to attend. He also confirmed that options to support RSA members attending would continue.
- 2. He gave a summary of the itinerary for the weekend and the events taking place.

Item 10: Eden Camp Update.

- 1. Ian Scrivin (Area 1 North Rep) – Eden Camp Parade would take place on Sunday 15th May.
 - a. 2 Signal Regiment assisting, and the Riders Branch would be in attendance.
 - b. There would be standard bearer training.
 - c. He recommended attendees do not bring their own food, rather purchase it at Eden Camp as this would help offset the costs of running the event.
 - d. Presentations may be available on the day, if required contact I Scrivin.
- 2. The Chairman presented an Honour Award to Ian Scrivin in recognition of outstanding service to the association.

Item 11: Awards and Standard Bearers Badges.

- 1. The General Secretary stated that the Central Committee had been working very hard to modernise the RSA Awards, clarify the statements where there has been doubt or confusion in the past, and to update the awards to better reflect members commitment to the association to encourage members to remain engaged.
- 2. The Central Committee unanimously agreed to adopt the statements in the General Secretary's report at paragraph 8. In Summary:
 - a. Definition of "Active Service"
 - b. Introduction of 40-year and 60-year certificates.
 - c. Revocation of 75-year badge, replaced by a 70-year badge.
 - d. Guidance to support Honour Awards.
 - e. Amendment to signing off awards applications.

The AGM endorsed the changes unanimously.

3. Standard Bearers badges – The Central Committee confirmed that the Standards Bearers badges were now official and could be worn and if wanted, noting that many had already purchased the badge. Corps Headquarters would meet 50% of the cost of the badge for anyone who wished to purchase one as a thank you to the Standard Bearers who do fantastic work for the Association.

Item 12: Website Update.

1. The General Secretary reiterated the importance of using the website and encouraged the branches who were not currently using the website to utilise it as it was now the main focal point for Association information. **Action: All Branches CLOSED BAU**
2. An additional training package would become available for branches who were struggling to use the site. **Action: Corps HQ to investigate CLOSED**

(Secretary's afternote: "How To" videos have been produced and available from RSA AO)

3. Adam Duffield (Cyberjag) presented the award for the Best Branch Website to Aldershot Branch which was received by Col (Retd) Jim Blake.
4. Runners up were, 2nd Place – Salisbury, 3rd Place – Darlington.

Item 13: PD 155 Update.

1. The General Secretary confirmed that all decisions taken by the Central Committee Meeting and approved at the AGM would be reflected in PD 155 later in the week and published on the website. **Action: Gen Sec CLOSED**

Item 14: Any Other Business.

1. The Chairman officially thanked Don Swifthook (Area 4 Rep) for his service to Area 4, and the Corps SM who would be moving on after his 2-year posting, confirming that he had done some fantastic work in bridging the gap between the retired and the serving communities.
2. IP Brian Rolfe (Royal Hospital Chelsea) presented the Chairman with a photograph of his last visit to the hospital.
3. John "Benny" Hill (Riders Branch) commented that the Riders branch were available to help with funerals, birthdays or hospital visits and encouraged the other branches to contact them if required. **Action: All Branches CLOSED BAU**

Item 15: Date of next meeting.

1. The Chairman confirmed the date of the next Annual General Meeting which would be held on Saturday 18th March 2023 at the Victory Services Club.
2. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and said he looked forward to seeing as many members as possible at Corps Weekend and closed the AGM at 13:05.

{Original Signed}

T C Muers
Admin Officer
Royal Signals Association

Enclosures:

1. Chairman's Report
2. General Secretary's Report
3. RSC Report
4. RSA AO Report
5. Integrated Review Update
6. PD 155 Revised

Distribution:

Area Representatives
Central Committee Members
Secretaries of Branches and Affiliations

Information:

Royal Signals Website & Social Media Platforms



**Headquarters Royal Signals
Griffin House, Blandford Camp,
BLANDFORD FORUM, Dorset DT11 8RH**



Telephone: 01258 48 2081 Military Network: 94371 2081
Fax: 01258 48 2084 Fax: 94371 2084
E-Mail: david.craft464@mod.gov.uk

Reference: 04-17-03

All RSA Central Committee Members
All RSA AGM Representatives

Date: 2 Mar 23

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE 78th RSA AGM – 18 Mar 23

INTRODUCTION

1. It has been a busy year. The continued relaxing of COVID restrictions has started to feel like we are now in the 'new norm' for the Association. Events and gatherings continue to increase in number and the HQ team's roadshow in Jul 22 was considered to be a useful and worthwhile way to reconnect to our branches and members, with broadly positive feedback all-round. It was certainly a very useful exercise for me and one which we are hoping to repeat again in 2023.

2. The Central Committee has continued to drive Association matters on your behalf; developing policy and updating current working practices to better support you all. The Rules of the Royal Signals Association, PD 155, remain the authoritative document in this regard and it has been updated with more information to hopefully make it an even more useful document for you all. Clearly, the changes made have focussed on clarifying detail as changed to rules/policy requires this AGM to agree them. As ever, the document can be found on our website (www.royalsignals.org).

3. Yet again, this report will continue to follow the format of updating you on issues where required and highlighting those areas that we will have the opportunity to discuss at the AGM.

RSTL STRATEGIC REVIEW

4. The RSTL Board completed a Strategic Review of the charity's governance, policies and processes on 30 Sep 22. The review was conducted by Maj Gen John Stokoe and, whilst the Review confirmed that there were no major issues with the running of the charity, the Board agreed all 15 recommendations made, which were all aimed at improving efficiency and effectiveness. Importantly, there was an acknowledgement that support to the Association and to benevolence, which remained the preeminent priority for financial support, was confirmed. Funding would continue to be made available to Signallers and their families who may be in need wherever they were.

POLICY DIRECTIVE 155 – THE ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

5. I alluded to updates to PD 155 earlier and I thought that it was probably worth just confirming what those updates related to, for your ease of reference:

- a. **Area Rep Roles and Responsibilities.** Greater clarity has hopefully been brought to the role and responsibilities of being an Area Rep, which are now reflected within the PD. The key tasks agreed by all have been split down into 'must, should, could' across the tenure

of an Area Rep. We have also updated and published the expenses that this post can claim; the aim being that support should cover the cost of conducting the task, which was not always the case previously.

b. **Support to Branch Standard Bearers.** Following on from that, greater clarity has also been included for the expenses that our Standard Bearers can claim for. They continue to go above and beyond to support the Association and hopefully the clarification of expenses will help them in continuing to do so.

c. **Implementing the changes agreed at the 77th AGM.** Finally, the PD has also been updated with the decisions from the AGM last year which related to awards (with the introduction of the 40 and 60 year awards), badges and the abolishment of membership fees.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION EVENTS DURING 2023

6. As a very quick update, these are the key 'National' events over the next 6 months:

a. **Officers 3Rs Dinner Night – 11 May 23.** This annual event will be held once again in Stafford Officers' Mess and is open to all Corps officers, serving and retired.

b. **Eden Camp – 21 May 23.** Delivered, as ever, by the RSA North Area Rep.

c. **Officers 3Rs Cocktail Party – 15 Jun 23.** The second annual 3Rs Cocktail Party will be held in Blandford in the evening of Thu 15 Jun 23, following the Corps Conference.

d. **Corps Weekend – 16-18 Jun 23.** This year's Corps Weekend will focus more on the 'original' RSA Reunion format with welcome drinks in the WOs & Sgts Mess, Princess Royal Day Parade and events on the Elizabeth Fields. Whilst accommodation will be tight within the Garrison, we are looking to put on transport to the key surrounding areas to allow for accommodation to be booked externally.

e. **Corps Memorial - National Memorial Arboretum – 2 Sep 23.**

7. All information/updates will be posted on our RSA webpage (www.royalsignals.org) and those key events towards the end of the year will also be included there.

SINGLE CAP BADGE ASSOCIATIONS NETWORK (SCAN)

8. There has been an excellent initiative to set up a closer working relationship between the Single Cap Badge Associations with the aim of:

- Enabling mutual support in order to assist the improvement of each member association's membership offer, and to improve member participation through the exchange of information, ideas and best practice;
- Identifying common opportunities and challenges better tackled together;
- Acting as a communication bridge between the MOD and the Office for Veterans Affairs (OVA) and our communities.

9. SCAN has met twice already and has had presentations/updates from the Minister for Veterans Affairs (Johnny Mercer), the OVA, Cobseo and the ABF, amongst many others. The forum is starting to really drive best practice across all Associations. The RSA team are fully engaged and taking forward many of the themes. Some subjects covered at the last meeting were an update on the OVA strategic plan to make UK the best place for Veterans to live; an update from Cobseo on the

cost of living crisis and how it is affecting the military charities sector; and an update from ASDIC (who run the military 'drop in' centres).

NEW MEMBER OF STAFF

10. I am delighted to report that Sarah Harler joined the HQ RSA team on a part time basis, working 3 days per week in support of Tracey Muers. Sarah has already made a huge impact on the administrative support to the Association and has started to clear the substantial backlog in areas such as memberships and messaging. Sarah will join us at the AGM and I'm sure you will all join me in welcoming her to the team.

SUMMARY

11. There is a lot going on and I thank you all for remaining engaged to promote comradeship across the Association. The HQ team will continue to engage with you all and we are hoping to get out again this year to meet as many as we can on the roadshow. We will push all information to you through our website; so, stay connected.

Certa Cito

{Signed on MODNet}

DA CRAFT
Colonel (Retired)
General Secretary
The Royal Signals Association



**Headquarters Royal Signals
Griffin House, Blandford Camp,
BLANDFORD FORUM, Dorset DT11 8RH**



Telephone: 01258 48 2081 Military Network: 94371 2081
Fax: 01258 48 2084 Fax: 94371 2084
E-Mail: david.craft464@mod.gov.uk

Reference: 04-17-03

All RSA Central Committee Members
All RSA AGM Representatives

Date: 10 Mar 23

**GENERAL SECRETARY'S FINANCIAL UPDATE TO THE RSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING –
18 MARCH 2023**

INTRODUCTION

1. This short financial report has been compiled to aid wider briefings within the RSA community. At this time of year, we audit the previous year's budget, establish the indicative budget for this year and then look further ahead in the forecast of outturn columns. This report is, therefore, designed to be read with the attached budget sheets.
2. Under the Charity restructuring which took place 11 years ago now, this money is held as part of The Royal Signals Charity (RSC) and constitutes part of the wider Corps finances. RSA input to the RSC is represented through the RSA Chair, who is both a Trustee of the charity and the deputy Controller of the RSTL Board; your interests are, therefore, well represented.
3. There are 2 elements to the budget and these are extracts from the full RSC Outcome 2022 report:
 - a. The Welfare Fund.
 - b. The Donations & Veterans.
4. In both, we need to focus on the first 4 columns of figures which are, left to right:
 - a. The Outcome 2021 which shows what we received and spent that year – purely as a comparison.
 - b. The Budget 2022 which shows what we thought we were going to receive and spend last year.
 - c. The Outcome 2022 which is what we actually spent and received last year and reflects the figures provided to our auditors.
 - d. The Budget 2023 which shows the financial targets set for this year.

The remaining columns are budget forecasts out to 2026 but these will be amended over time so they will not be covered in any detail in this report.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION – BENEVOLENCE/WELFARE

5. The following points should be noted:

a. **Expenditure.**

(1) **Benevolence Grants.** The last financial year ran from 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2022 and you can see that we spent **£256,162** in that period on **353** individual cases. (Note that there are the normal end of year discrepancies between the Grants Co-ordinator and Corps Accountant's figures caused by sums carried over at the end of the year.) This spend was substantially up on 2021, which had remained very subdued following the COVID period. But even after this substantial 30% increase, we are still not back to the pre-pandemic levels of benevolent support. Looking forward, we have again assumed a spend of £340,000 in the 2023 budget. This is due to the expectation of an increase in requests driven by the cost-of-living crisis and the expected bow-wave from the pandemic years. However, **there is no cap on benevolence** should demand rise even further; so, this figure is purely for budgeting purposes.

(2) **Grants.** The remaining grants are, once again broken down into the main areas. The annual grant to the ABF remains at **£35,000** in 2022. This money enables the ABF to pick up various requests which the RSC might otherwise have to cover. The ABF actually gave **£55,166** supporting 56 Signallers in need. The rest of the 'expenditure entries' are, hopefully, self-explanatory.

(3) **Total Grants.** The total grant outcome for 2022 was **£292,754**, which is a total **increase** on 2021 of circa 20%.

b. **Income.**

(1) **Subscriptions.** The subscriptions from "One Day's Pay" giving remain the main direct income for our benevolence. In 2022 we received **£255,441** which, as mandated by QRs, represents 50% of a day's pay income from the serving Corps. I am delighted to report that this figure is yet again slightly higher than was reported last year and is a result of our continued efforts to sell the benefits of the One Day's Pay Scheme to our serving Corps. However, despite this, the increase in benevolence spend meant that **£37,313** was transferred from the Veterans Fund to cover the benevolence bill.

(2) **Donations.** You will see from the RSA Veterans sheet that we had a total income of **£74,716** from various donations and **£534** from legacies throughout the year. I am delighted to report that support from our Branches and support for the Royal Signals Charity Lottery has increased substantially in 2022. You all have my sincere thanks for the fund-raising efforts shown by many Branches and please look to support the lottery!

6. **Support Costs.** Support costs represent the overall cost of employing the RSC grant co-ordinator, general expenses specific to Welfare and shared costs (such as IT support) split between all elements of the charity. These totalled **£74,837** in 2022.

7. **Benevolence/Welfare Conclusion.** Our overall 2022 expenditure on welfare was **£367,591**.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION – DONATIONS & VETERANS

8. The following should be noted:

a. **Income/Losses.** Unfortunately, the war in Ukraine and the subsequent impact on the world's economies has affected our investments. As at Dec 22, these Investment losses were **£605,497**, which has clearly had a substantial impact on our overall 'income'. 2022 was the opposite of 2021 which saw an 'Investment Gain' of **£535,778**. However, I am very pleased to report that 2023 has seen a slight bounce back already and we remain closely engaged with our Investment Advisers to ensure that we are as reactive to the current situation as we can be.

b. **Expenditure.** Despite this disappointing result, I am delighted to report that the total expenditure in 2022 was **£122,041**; up nearly 50% on 2021, reflecting an increase in activity levels as COVID restrictions continued to remain very low.

CONCLUSION

9. The overall result for 2022 was a transfer of **£673,756** from capital which was dominated by the substantial investment losses described earlier. The financial picture will likely continue to remain volatile throughout 2023 and this is reflected in the continued cautious forecast investment figures in 2023 and beyond.

{Original Signed}

DA CRAFT
Col (Retd)
Corps Sec & RSA Gen Sec

Attachment:

1. Outcome 2022 Royal Signals Association – Welfare and Donations & Veterans.

Outcome 2022
Welfare

	OUTCOME 2021	BUDGET 2022		OUTCOME 2022		BUDGETS 2023	2024	2025	2026
Grant Expenditure									
Benevolence Grants	196,779	340,000	1	256,162	1	340,000	345,000	350,000	355,000
Grants,etc									
Army Benevolent Fnd	35,000	35,000		35,000		35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000
Central Committee	7,250	7,500		-		7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
Other	-	500		-		500	500	500	500
Funeral Expenses	2,244	1,000		92		1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Unit - Death in Service grants	4,500	3,000		1,500		3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Total Welfare Grants	245,773	387,000		292,754		387,000	392,000	397,000	402,000
Income									
Corps Subscriptions									
50% of a day's pay	252,150	255,998	2	255,441	2	259,192	259,619	264,674	269,830
Veterans Fund	(6,377)	131,002		37,313		127,808	132,381	132,326	132,170
	245,773	387,000		292,754		387,000	392,000	397,000	402,000
Support Costs									
Welfare Grants Officer	39,257	40,830		43,268		44,720	48,740	51,180	55,790
General expenses	38	1,000		-		1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Shared Costs	30,807	31,532		31,569		33,398	35,076	36,239	38,333
Welfare Support Costs	70,102	73,362		74,837		79,118	84,816	88,419	95,123
funded by Donations & Veterans									
Total Expenditure	315,875	460,362		367,591		466,118	476,816	485,419	497,123

NOTES

- 1** Benevolence Grants in 2020 and 2021 were unusually low due to Covid19 restrictions and problems with the communications software.
They are expected to increase in 2022 and later budgets; no actual "cap" is enforced.
- 2** Standard - 50% of a day's pay, in accordance with QR 5.613a

Outcome 2022
Donations and Veterans

	OUTCOME 2021	BUDGET 2022	OUTCOME 2022	BUDGETS 2023	2024	2025	2026
Income							
Donations							
Life Subscriptions	-		-				
Individuals	40,884		37,084				
Lottery	2		6,886				
Branches	5,069		8,074				
Units	4,105		2,352				
Wristband & other sales	-		-				
Just Giving + web sources	29,601		20,320				
	<u>79,661</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>74,716</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>
Legacies	1,350	30,000	534	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Routine Income	81,011	90,000	75,250	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
Transfer to Corps Fund	(40,506)	(45,000)	(37,625)	(45,000)	(45,000)	(45,000)	(45,000)
Legacies to "RSA"	5,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	123,215	135,509	128,307	124,219	126,115	126,473	126,842
Invest. Gains/(Losses)	535,778	85,822	(605,497)	78,576	74,407	72,891	71,203
	<u>704,499</u>	<u>266,331</u>	<u>(439,565)</u>	<u>247,795</u>	<u>245,522</u>	<u>244,364</u>	<u>243,045</u>
Expenditure							
Corps Weekend	2,356	12,000	17,556	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Morale & Efficiency 50%	(1,178)	(6,000)	(8,778)	(12,500)	(12,500)	(12,500)	(12,500)
Memorials & Events				-	-	-	-
NMA Memorial	10,058	6,000	10,056	14,500	14,500	14,500	14,500
Morale & Efficiency 50%	(5,029)	(4,000)	(5,028)	(7,250)	(7,250)	(7,250)	(7,250)
Other	-	-	695	700	700	700	700
Branch Support	-	-	-	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Centenary Branch Events	3,600	1,000	400	-	-	-	-
AGM & other meetings	-	-	12,384	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000
Friends & Relations	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
Support Costs							
RSA Secretary	23,355	32,300	37,041	34,600	36,400	39,700	41,700
Insurance	1,163	1,350	1,163	1,215	1,275	1,335	1,395
Travel & General expenses	4,547	22,000	12,660	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Shared Costs	41,076	42,043	42,092	44,530	46,768	48,318	51,110
	<u>81,748</u>	<u>108,493</u>	<u>122,041</u>	<u>125,595</u>	<u>129,693</u>	<u>134,603</u>	<u>139,455</u>
Centenary Items	3,600	1,000	400				
Surplus / (Deficit)	<u>622,751</u>	<u>157,838</u>	<u>(561,606)</u>	<u>122,200</u>	<u>115,829</u>	<u>109,761</u>	<u>103,590</u>
Welfare Grants	(6,377)	131,002	37,313	127,808	132,381	132,326	132,170
Welfare Support Costs	70,102	73,362	74,837	79,118	84,816	88,419	95,123
	<u>63,725</u>	<u>204,364</u>	<u>112,150</u>	<u>206,926</u>	<u>217,197</u>	<u>220,744</u>	<u>227,293</u>
Balance to/(from) Capital	<u>559,026</u>	<u>(46,526)</u>	<u>(673,756)</u>	<u>(84,727)</u>	<u>(101,368)</u>	<u>(110,983)</u>	<u>(123,703)</u>

NOTES

- 1 In 2020 and onwards 50% of Donation and Legacy Income will, by default, be credited to the Corps Fund. Grants could be made from this fund to support Welfare, if needed.
- 2 Reunion and Memorial Events have widened into Corps events (no longer mostly Veterans) and so costs are now shared.



Assistant General Secretary's Report

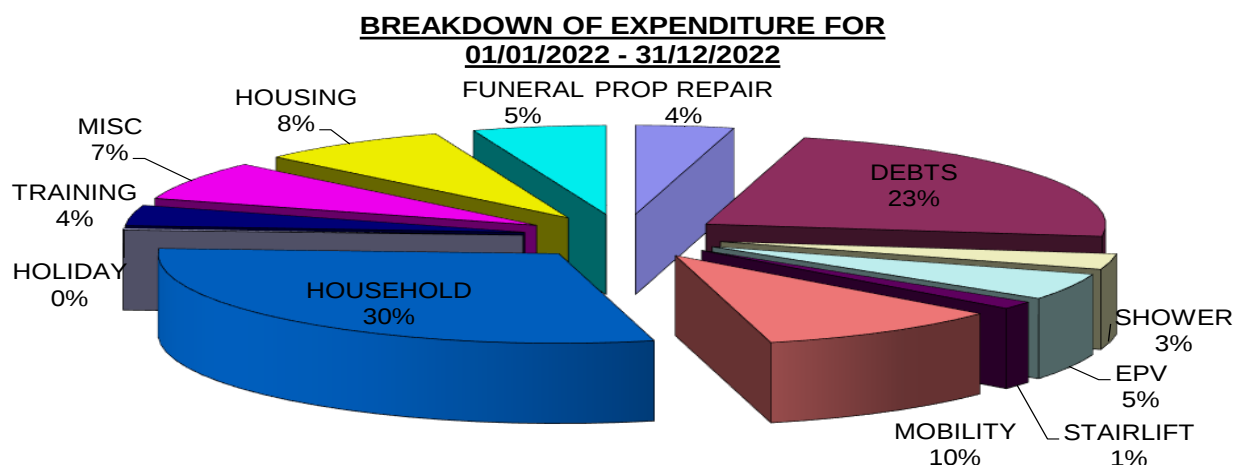
Royal Signals Association Annual General Meeting

18th March 2023

1. **SUMMARY OF ROYAL SIGNALS CHARITY (RSC) BENEVOLENCE GRANTS 1ST JAN – 31ST DEC 2022:**

MONTH	TOTAL IN £'s OF GRANTS AWARDED	NO. OF GRANTS AWARDED	NO. OF GRANTS TO NEW CASES	NO. OF REPEAT GRANTS	AGED 65+	SERVING CORPS	RETIRED
JANUARY	£20,637.74	31	14	17	11	3	28
FEBRUARY	£16,133.00	27	7	20	12	4	23
MARCH	£26,352.26	34	18	16	6	5	29
APRIL	£25,332.64	33	16	17	11	1	32
MAY	£17,822.55	26	12	14	7	4	24
JUNE	£22,128.72	23	9	14	7	2	21
JULY	£19,968.30	33	10	23	7	3	30
AUGUST	£16,450.61	26	10	16	11	0	26
SEPTEMBER	£25,933.48	32	14	18	12	2	30
OCTOBER	£20,598.90	36	19	17	19	3	33
NOVEMBER	£26,551.33	30	10	20	9	4	26
DECEMBER *	£18,901.82	22	13	9	2	4	18
TOTAL	£236,212.45	353	152	201	114	50	320
Comparative period 2021	£253,108.13	376	170	206	121	32	344

* Does not include Xmas gifts



1. The above figures relate to 2022 with a comparison to 2021. There were 353 grants awarded during the period 1st January 2022 and 31st December 2022. 152 of these were first time applicants, including 38 serving corps personnel. A further 201 grants were awarded to people who had received assistance on previous occasions, including 12 still serving members.

2. **Death in Service.** When a serving soldier passes away RSC makes an immediate grant of £1,500 to the Unit so that they may assist the family with the expenses of the funeral, for example, the wake or additional transport requirements.

3. **Army Benevolent Fund (ABF) – The Soldiers Charity.** RSC gave the ABF a grant of £35,000 in 2022 which they use to give out donations to military charities on our behalf. In addition, they use this grant to be able to support us with contributions towards applications which require almonisation and the provision of Annuities and contributions towards fees for nursing/care homes. Between January to December 2022 – **ABF** assisted with **56** individual grants totalling **£55,166**.
4. **Christmas Gifts.** **£1,725** was awarded as **69** individual Christmas gifts of £25 per beneficiary, **19** gifts (**£475**) were sent to residents in hospitals or homes specifically set up to care for veterans. In addition, 64 cards were sent to veterans/members believed to be on their own or vulnerable during the Festive period.
5. **RSA Road Show.** After the success of last year's Road Show, RHQ RSA will be conducting the 2023 Road Show over the period 23 – 27 Oct. The itinerary for the Road Show will be attached to the minutes of the meeting as they were only ratified by the CCM yesterday.

Steve

S M LOCKWOOD
Lt Col (Retd)



HEADQUARTERS ROYAL SIGNALS

Blandford Camp, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 8RH

Telephone: (0300) 1632365 / (01258) 482014
Military Network: (4371) 2014
E-Mail: Tracey.muers101@mod.gov.uk



RSA Central Committee Members

Reference: 04.17.01

Date: 3 Mar 2022

Admin Officers Report to the 78th RSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) – 18th March 2023

Introduction

1. Since I reported last year at the AGM things have become relatively more manageable in the Admin Office due to the impact Sarah has made on assisting with the workload. This has meant we are completing tasks that have been neglected before her appointment. You will find over the next few months we are trying to implement new processes to develop the Association which will be beneficial to our members, such as the Signallers Network the General Secretary detailed in his report.

Delivery

2. Over the previous year, we have arranged the representation of 880 of our members at events including Corps Weekend, Founders Day, Falklands 40th Anniversary Commemorations and the Corps Annual Service of Remembrance at the National Memorial Arboretum. The last event of the year was the Cenotaph Parade in November, and 50 of our members were in attendance in London to march on Remembrance Sunday. The start of the new year brings the planning and implementation of the years upcoming events, and we are looking forward to another Road Show at the back end of the year. Sarah has been busy processing the huge backlog of memberships and to date has processed nearly 300. Sadly, in the last year the deaths of approximately 250 members have been reported to us with around $\frac{3}{4}$ of those receiving some support from the Admin Office.

Information Update

3. Branches to Affiliations – Since the last meeting where we introduced the opportunity for struggling branches to be redefined as Affiliations, seven branches have requested this change to avoid closure. They are; Berwick, Cardiff, Chesterfield, Derby, Guernsey, Hartlepool and West Wales.

4. Branch Members – As stated above, Sarah has been processing the backlog of new memberships. In April, we will be sending all branches their updated membership lists and will highlight any new members we have recently processed. I would be grateful if you take this opportunity to engage with your new members via email and invite them to visit your branches, if they have not already engaged directly.

5. Corps Memorial Book – As previously reported, the company which provided our online Memorial Book was suspended after the passing of the Director. We have been unable to contact them since this happened and believe that the company may not be operating. This means that we are no longer able to use this facility. Entries made prior to October 2022 are still available to view

but we cannot add new entries. The “Last Post” on our website is still available for the reporting of our passed members and we ask you to use this until we source an alternative.

6. RSA Branded Clothing - I am very excited to announce that we have collaborated with Tailored Branding to produce an RSA clothing line. You can view and purchase items from this range directly at <https://tailoredbranding.shop/Royal-Signals/Royal-Signals-Association>. 10 percent of all proceeds go directly to the Royal Signals Charity.

7. Social Media - We have created two official Royal Signals Association social media accounts to progress the Association into the digital age. These pages will provide content coming directly from the Admin Office in HQ R SIGNALS and will concentrate solely on official content. If you would like something highlighted on either page, please contact us via email.

These pages can be accessed by searching the profile names below:

Facebook – Royal Signals Association

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088445995174>

Instagram - @RoyalSignalsAssociation

<https://instagram.com/royalsignalsassociation?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

8. Website Assistance – We have commissioned our website facilitators, Cyberjag to produce several short videos which will assist branches in administering their areas of the website. The videos demonstrate how to change branch information, upload photographs, and create events and blog posts. If you would like access to these videos, please email me for the links.

Events

8. I am happy to confirm that we have secured some accommodation for Corps Weekend this year. Bed spaces will be allocated primarily to members who travel the furthest distance to Blandford Camp in the first instance, and then anyone else in the second instance. The caravan and camping site will be available to all, regardless of distance travelled. If you wish to book a bed space or a caravan or camping plot, please do so via the Members Area of the website (royalsignals.org).

Veterans ID Card Update

9. The latest update surrounding the issue of backdated Veterans ID cards was given to us by the Minister of Veterans Affairs, Johnny Mercer, in January at the last Single Capbadge Association Network (SCAN) day. The delay in issuing the cards is due to verification of service problems. This system has to be digitised to incorporate all the different sources that were previously used to verify service. Once this has been completed, they will start the roll out. They envisage this will happen in early 2024.

Tracey

T Muers
Royal Signals Association
Admin Officer