



promoting professional dialogue, recognising technical achievement

Royal Signals High-level Awards

14 Jan 25

Colonel (Retired) Joe Cooper
Director Royal Signals Institution

RSI Purpose



THE ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION



Charter and Regulations

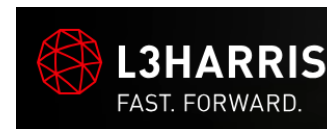
“... to promote debate, maintain strong **professional links** between the Royal Corps of Signals, industry, professional bodies and other relevant areas of Defence, in order to **foster the professional well-being** of the Corps and to **contribute to the development** of the delivery of Information and Communications Services and cyber and electromagnetic operations within Defence and Security.”

[Policy Directive 156 \(Version 3\)](#)

RSI Charter, 2022 Revise

The Institution

- Debating issues concerned with the development of the Corps within a Defence context, in consultation with the Master of Signals
- Fostering professional development
- Recognition of personnel who have made a significant contribution to enhancing the reputation of the Corps
- Publicising significant Corps achievements
- Maintaining professional and social links with Industry, Professional Bodies and other relevant areas of Defence



The Awards – RSIN 017/24



ROYAL SIGNALS INFORMATION NOTE

ROYAL SIGNALS INFORMATION NOTES CONTAIN INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE RELEVANT TO ALL PERSONNEL, BOTH SERVICE AND CIVILIAN. THEY SHOULD BE DISSEMINATED AS WIDELY AND AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

Serial No 017/24

Source: Director RSI

Date: 2 Dec 24

Released by: HQ R SIGNALS

FAO: Signal formation commanders, unit commanders, MS staff and R SIGNALS leads in Staff or Joint/Defence Environments.

ROYAL SIGNALS HIGH-LEVEL AWARDS 2025

Headlines:

- Corps high-level award nominations required **by 1 Apr 25**.
- High-level awards are the Princess Mary Medal, RSI Silver Medal, Master of Signals Award, RSI Medal for Adventurous Endeavour, and the Master of Signals Commendation.

Reference:

A. [R SIGNALS Policy Directive 157, Edition 11 – Oct 22](#).

Aim

1. This RSIN formally calls for applications for submissions for Royal Signals high-level awards **by 1 Apr 25**.

R SIGNALS POLICY DIRECTIVE 157

AWARDS AND PRIZES

EDITION 11 – October 2022

This Policy Directive provides governance policy and eligibility criteria relating to: prizes and awards, comprising those sponsored and funded by the Royal Signals Institution (RSI), the Royal Corps of Signals (R SIGNALS), and bodies external to the Corps. It includes the rules and eligibility for each and the relevant nomination and notification processes.

Issued under the authority of: **Colonel R SIGNALS**

Owner & Author: **Director RSI**

Previous Instruction: This Policy Directive supersedes the previous Policy Directive 157 (Edition 10). Any queries on content should be directed to the Owner.

Major changes from Edition 10 are: prize adjustment to accommodate training modernisation; the inclusion of awards and prizes by external bodies; alignment of annual submission dates; aligning monetary prizes to those who donate to the Corps Charity; and, clarity of the responsibilities of sponsors, decision makers and notification authorities.

Introduction

1. A modernising Army demands evermore technical mastery from its digital and electromagnetic professionals, the R SIGNALS. Linked with this is increasing opportunity to formally recognise achievement and attainment. Foremost, recognition remains through the RSI Council's Prizes¹ and Awards² and those (Corps) awards and prizes which are funded and administered by the RSI and HQ R SIGNALS. Externally, awards and prizes sponsored by governmental, industry and national professional bodies present an opportunity to recognise, validate and celebrate the achievements of the Corps' people.

Aim

2. The aim of this Policy Directive is to describe the awards and prizes, comprising those sponsored and funded by the RSI, HQ R SIGNALS and bodies external to the Corps. It includes the rules and eligibility, and the nomination and notification process.

Focus on High-level Awards

1. **The Princess Mary Medal (PMM).** A rare honour given to mark an individual achievement, contribution or service of the highest order that is considered to have enhanced greatly the performance, reputation or status of R SIGNALS. It may only be presented to a *serving or recently retired member of the Corps who is a Full Member of the Institution*. This can be for exceptional service over a period, or for particularly distinguished conduct or service in an operational theatre. Nominations may be forthcoming at any level from within the Chain of Command or initiated by the Corps Committee.

2. **The RSI Silver Medal.** Ordinarily 2-3 awarded per year to mark the attainment of an outstanding *individual professional achievement in the Corps or a prolonged period of dedicated service to R SIGNALS*. The latter can be in recognition of service whilst 'active' or after Colour service. This award may also be made for individual conduct or achievement in an operational theatre, where such conduct does not match the standard of the PMM. In addition, those attaining an exemplary standard on a higher level professional course may be considered for the award.

3. **The Master of Signals Award.** Presented annually to 3-4 recipients as formal recognition of a special contribution or service to the Corps made by an individual and, *in extremis*, to a team or corporate body which cannot be properly accommodated by either the PMM or RSI Silver Medal. The very nature of this award makes the setting of firm criteria difficult. Nevertheless, the Master of Signals Award shall be considered a rare and prestigious award and due account of this must be taken in the considerations of a nomination by the originator and by those processing the nomination. The Award is open to individuals outside the Corps, military or civilian, who have contributed significantly to the Corps' performance, status or reputation.

4. **The RSI Medal for Adventurous Endeavour.** The Endeavour Medal is to recognise an outstanding achievement or service by one or two members of the serving Corps each year arising from exploration, expeditions, adventurous endeavour and in extreme sport. It shall only be awarded when a sufficiently meritorious case arises to an individual and not to a group or to an individual in the name of a group.

5. **The Master of Signals Commendation.** With c30 presented annually, the Master's Commendation is a formal recognition of a valuable service or attainment which enhances the reputation of the Corps, through leadership, professional accomplishment, or individual achievement, particularly but not necessarily in an operational environment. The award is open to those outside the Corps whose achievements have directly benefitted the Corps or enhanced its reputation.

The Princess Mary Medal:

- Identify and then focus on how the nominee's contribution or service has enhanced the performance, status and/or the reputation of the Corps.
- If the nomination is a result of exceptional service over a period or for distinguished conduct or service in an operational theatre, provide the details.

RSI Silver Medal

- Be precise about period the citation covers; briefly describe the unclassified details of a specific deployment or operation if appropriate.
- Provide brief details of the professional achievement, service delivered, the innovation displayed, or the standard achieved on a higher professional course.
- Where relevant, describe the net result of the nominee's actions especially the direct (and/or indirect) benefit to the Corps in terms of status, reputation or performance.

Master of Signals Award *In the case of a civilian nominee, provide full names and company details*

- Provide brief details of the special contribution or service made by the nominee to the Corps.
- Include any relevant factors or circumstances supporting this nomination such as delivering exceptional service within or beyond that contracted for etc.
- Where relevant, describe the net result of the nominee's actions especially the direct (and/or indirect) benefit to the Corps in terms of status, reputation or performance.

The RSI Medal for Adventurous Endeavour

- State the area to which the nomination refers (exploration, expeditions, extreme sports or adventurous endeavour) and provide brief detail, including dates, of the contributing activity/ies.
- Include relevant, specific factors that support the case (i.e. degree of risk involved, any unique or unusual factors, special awards or recognition gained from elsewhere, the number and quality of beneficiaries because of the nominee's actions etc).
- Summarise the net results of the nominee's actions and any direct/indirect benefits to the Corps.

Master of Signals Commendation: Citations can be submitted at any time, written succinctly yet avoiding language that may not be understood fully in the future. Each citation should; set the conditions against which the individual was working; describe their action; explain what their actions enabled; and highlight how the achievement has enhanced the reputation of the Corps or wider military.

Princess Mary Medal



**THE PRINCESS MARY MEDAL was first awarded in 1966 to
Major General A.C. Fuller CBE and
Major General RFH Nalder CB OBE**

Major General Fuller received the award in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the art of signalling when holding a number of Scientific Appointments and in particular for his invention of the 'Fullerphone', an equipment which provided the secure transmission of messages, during the First World War and which was still in use at the outbreak of the Second World War.

Major General Nalder received the award for his conspicuous contribution to the knowledge of history of signalling and of the development and work of the Royal Corps of Signals, in particular for his authorship of 'British Army Signals in the Second World War' which was published in 1953 and 'The Royal Corps of Signals' which was published in 1958.

Timing and Process

- Corps High-level Awards timings:
 - **1 Apr 25: Deadline for unit/individual submissions to Director RSI**
 - Apr – May 25: Selection panel(s)
 - Mid-Jun 25: Outcome promulgated
 - 13 Nov 25: Royal Signals Institution Dinner and Awards Ceremony
- Process
 - The Corps submits award citations direct to Director RSI (Official Sensitive – Personal)
 - RSI Council Awards Panel convene and score all awards by category
 - Result ratified by the Master of Signals (brief prepared by Director RSI)
 - Formal promulgation

Timing and Process

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE PERSONNEL (when completed)

Appendix 1 to
Annex A to
R SIGNALS PD 157 Edn 11

THE ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION HIGH LEVEL AWARDS

Name of Award:

Number, Rank, Initials and Name of Individual:

Nominating Unit:

Period Covered by Citation:

Award Citation

(Maximum length – one A4 page)

Sensitive Appointments

- MAB, SIGINT and other sensitive operations
- **Submit!**
- Sanitised award citation required but notify of Director RSI that you have a sensitive case(s)
- Arrangements will made to review submissions separately with appropriately cleared staff in HQ R SIGNALS
- **Ensure fair and consistent representation**

RSI Dinner and Awards

- The RSI Dinner and Awards Ceremony
 - **13 Nov 25 – The Dorchester, Park Lane, London**
 - Award winners and a guest will be invited to attend
 - Awards presented by the Master of Signals
 - Black tie and attended by Defence-wide guests
 - Up to 400 people expected



10 Sig Regt – Masters Award (Team) 2024

Worshipful Company of Engineers

- 31 Jan 25 - Submit to Director RSI
- 3 Feb 25 (COB) – Submit to WCOE Clerk
- April 25 – WCOE review award submissions
- 3 Jun 24 – Awards dinner Goldsmiths' Hall, London
- **Submit to WCOE through RSI**



THE WORSHIPFUL
COMPANY OF ENGINEERS
Incorporated by Royal Charter 2004

1983-2023
40
Making City Connections for 40 years

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Awards



Capt Olivia Flaherty
Army Engineer of the Year
2024
(Defence Cyber Marvel 3)

The award criteria can be found on the Worshipful Company's website [here](#) and have been included below. Units should place the greatest emphasis on engineering when selecting candidates:

The Army Engineer officer of the Year 2025

Scope: Awarded to an Army Officer who has a professional engineering registration and who best applied professional engineering judgement or technical innovation to contribute to the maintenance of military capability or effectiveness. Competed for by the Company's affiliated Corps: The Corps of Royal Engineers, the Royal Corps of Signals and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

Eligibility: An Army Officer of any rank, regular or reserve who is a professionally registered engineer.

Award: Medal.

Success Criteria: Demonstration of achievement of significant success through the application of professional engineering judgement or technical innovation to contribute to the maintenance of military capability or effectiveness.

The Army Engineer Soldier of the Year 2025

Scope: Awarded to an Army Soldier who has a professional engineering registration and who best applied professional engineering judgement or technical innovation to contribute to the maintenance of military capability or effectiveness. Competed for by the Company's affiliated Corps: the Corps of Royal Engineers, the Royal Corps of Signals and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

Eligibility: An Army Soldier, of any rank, regular or reserve who has a professional engineering registration.

Award: Medal.

Success Criteria: Demonstration of achievement of significant success through the application of professional engineering judgement or technical innovation to contribute to the maintenance of military capability or effectiveness.

Worshipful Company of Information Technologist



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‘Through’ Award. Annually the WCIT recognises a soldier, non-commissioned officer or warrant officer who has made an exceptional contribution to the provision of information services on operations, in support of operations or in supporting the training of others preparing for operations, while displaying conspicuous levels of innovation and determination. A selection for this award will be made from the submissions for the Corps’ high-level award submission. **No additional citation is necessary**

The RSI Council will select a suitable candidate from wider high-level submissions



SSgt Graham Loney
10 Sig Regt
Al Minad Air Base

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGISTS “THROUGH” AWARD 2024



'Through' by Francis Martin 1915

'Through' by Francis Martin 1915. Francis Martin enlisted in the Royal Engineers Signal Service in March 1915 servicing in France with a Cable Section until 1917. On his return to England, he painted 'Through' which made an immediate impact upon all ranks of the Signals Service. The painting of commitment and personal sacrifice captures the essence of this award.

The Worshipful Company of Information Technologists adopted "Through" as an award title in 2012. They are one of the livery companies of the City of London. The company was granted livery status by the Court of Aldermen on 7 January 1992, becoming the 100th livery company in order of precedence. The company is affiliated with the Royal Corps of Signals.

The 'Through' Award is presented to a soldier, non-commissioned officer or warrant officer from the Royal Corps of Signals who has made an exceptional contribution to the provision of information services on operations, in support of operations or in supporting the training of others preparing for operations, while displaying conspicuous levels of innovation and determination. This year's award was presented to WO2 Graham Loney during the Worshipful Company of Information Technologists Summer Banquet at the Mansion House, London on 10th July 2024.



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Worshipful Company of
Information Technologist
Summer Banquet – Mansion
House, City of London
17 Jul 25

Professional Engineering Institutions

The Churchill Medal is the premier award presented by the Professional Engineering Institutions for Defence engineering achievement.

The award is presented to an individual or small team (the majority of whom are serving members of the Ministry of Defence Whole Force personnel or were serving at the time) for 'achievement in Engineering and Technical Advancement in support of the development and use of capability and innovation to support Military Operations/Readiness' - during the period 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2025

DIN to follow in March(?). Units can submit direct but the RSI Council also identify candidates

Awards Dinner in November 2025



Congratulations to the 2024 winner of the Churchill Medal!

HMS Vanguard Reactor Repair Support Team

Warrant Officer 1 MESM Daniel Foster, Submarine Flotilla, Royal Navy, and Commander Adam Glover, In Service Submarines, Submarine Delivery Agency, have been jointly awarded the 2024 Churchill Medal for their leadership and technical expertise on the reactor repair to HMS Vanguard whilst deployed overseas.

2024 ceremony

The 2024 event took place on Thursday, 14 November in the stunning Maxwell Library at IET London: Savoy Place. Over 100 guests joined us to celebrate our finalists and network with high-ranking MOD Personnel, representatives from our sponsors, staff from other PEIs, members of the Defence Committee and Defence Steering Groups, and other Defence VIPs.

FLICKR ALBUM

Churchill Medal Dinner 2024

[View photos taken from the 2024 dinner.](#)





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Royal Signals Apprentices Awards 2025

Lt Col Naveed Muhammad
SO1 Apprentices, HQ R SIGNALS

Apprenticeships Awards

- Royal Signals Apprentice of the Year: 19 Jun 25 (Blandford)
- Army Apprenticeship Awards: 04 Jun 25 (RMAS)
- Multicultural Apprenticeship Awards: XX Nov 25 (Birmingham – Pers Pol lead)
- Pers Pol currently consolidating application forms for various Awards iot streamline application process.

Apprenticeships Awards

- Royal Signals Apprentice of the Year (RSAOTY)
- Timelines
 - Early Feb 25 – RSIN (will include copy of application form)
 - Early May 25 – Scoring Board (Dir RSI, CAL, Corps SM, Corps Appointments, Service Provider).
 - Awards ceremony takes place immediately after Corps Conference on 19 Jun
- Applications against each apprenticeship and:
 - Apprentice of the year (BAE Systems)
 - Unit Apprenticeships Champion of the Year (TCP)
 - Apprenticeships Champion Unit (General Dynamics Mission Systems)
- Each Award has a sponsor
- Winners will be your nominations for the Army Awards

Role	Standard	Sponsor
• Network Engineer	<u>Level 4 Network Engineer</u>	C3IA Solutions Ltd
• Information Services Engineer		The Worshipful Company of Information Technologists
• Electronic Warfare and Signals Intelligence	<u>Level 3 Data Technician</u>	Pulse Power & Measurement Ltd
• Communications Infrastructure Engineer	<u>Level 3 Network Cable Installer</u>	Inmarsat
• Power Engineer	<u>Level 3 Maintenance and Operations Engineering Technician</u>	Pulse Power & Measurement (power Division)
• Supply Chain Operative	<u>Level 2 Supply Chain and Warehouse Operative</u>	The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport

Apprenticeships Awards

- Army Apprenticeships Awards (AAA)
- Awaiting timelines
- Application form will be near identical (if not the same!) to the RSAOTY Awards.
- Awards ceremony at RMAS on 04 Jun 25

Apprenticeships Awards

- Multicultural Apprenticeships Awards (MCAA)
- External initiative
- Army sponsorship led by Pers Pol
- Application needs to be crafted carefully – no military speak!
- R Signals had 2 apprentices shortlisted in 2024
- Timelines tbc by Feb 25 but Awards expected late Oct/early Nov

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

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The Institution of
Engineering and Technology

Maj Neil Donaghy
OC 233 (GCN) Sig Sqn

- Institution of Engineering and Technology
- **Timing:** For submission to the Institute of Engineering & Technology **by [?] May 25**
- Annually, the IET recognises three awards categories of relevance to the Corps:
 - The Engineering and Technician Apprentice Award (self and sponsored nominations for those in at least Year 2 or their apprenticeship and those recently completing one)
 - The Engineering and Technology Technician Award (for professionally registered - Eng Tech, Elec Eng Tech or ICT Tech)
 - The Armed Forces Technician (serving personnel)
- **The RSI does not facilitate or endorse entries; however, it will identify potential worthy nominees from citations received for Corps awards. Units are encouraged to submit other nominations directly to the IET but inform the RSI**
- Look out for instruction from the IET

Drafting nominations for IET Awards

- Different to military award write ups
- Focus on engineering impact to the organisation, use specifics
- Draw out the nominee's technical ability
- Include their contribution to engineering either through prof dev or ambassadorial activity
- Be direct, use metrics, focus on a single project if possible

2024 Feedback

- R SIGNALS nominees did not score highly across the apprentice awards
- Winners had v strong technical projects (EV Conversion for example)
- Enhancing the engineering profession is scored highly

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A professional body and a professional activity
Celebrate the successes of our talented people