



# ROYAL MILITARY POLICE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



**November 2025**

**President: Brigadier Sarah Pringle - Smith**

**Chair: Bob Potts**

**Vice Chair: Sean Taylor**

**Secretary: Peter Vorberg**

**Treasurer: Taff Pickering**

## Newsletter

This is your newsletter. I can only include what you send me, so please send a short narrative and photographs of any interesting or even boring events. This newsletter goes out to members who may not use social media, so it is the ideal way to show them what the Association is up to. **Can I ask that if you are submitting photographs, please include names if possible.**

## Photographs.

All of the photographs in this Newsletter and more are available to view by branch and function on the RMPA website. [www.rmpa.org.uk](http://www.rmpa.org.uk). The website is full of up-to-date information relating to all RMPA matters. If you have any problems accessing the site, please myself or Peter.

## I Military Police Brigade.

We proudly welcomed 40 new JNCOs into the Royal Military Police after successfully completing their Initial Military Course at DSPS.

Warrant cards were presented by Colonel Stuart Allen MBE ADC, AGC Corps Colonel, and the new JNCOs were officially welcomed into the RMP family by the Provost Sergeant Major and IP Dave "Scouse" Godwin. A fantastic achievement and the start of an exciting journey — the future is theirs to shape. On behalf of the RMPA welcome.



Something for all of our new members to aspire to achieve. The sky is the limit; we all started from the same position.

## **Selection of The Next Provost Sergeant-Major**

The Provost Marshal (Army) is delighted to announce the selection of Warrant Officer Class 1 (RSM) Christy Ellis, currently serving as Regimental Sergeant-Major at the Defence School of Policing and Security, as the 8th — and first female — Provost Sergeant-Major, in succession of Warrant Officer Class 1 (Pro SM) James Radcliffe .

The Provost Sergeant-Major is the Senior Soldier and a key member of the Provost Marshal's staff, representing soldier-related issues across the chain of command and championing the voice of our people.

A huge congratulations to WO1 Ellis, who will take up the appointment in mid-2026 — a fantastic and historic achievement.



WO1 (RSM) Ellis. AGC, RMP.

## **RMP / MPS Memorial Service Westminster Abbey.**

On Saturday 08 November 2025, the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey played host to the annual Royal Military Police and Military Provost Staff remembrance event, which was extremely well attended by our serving cohort, both Regular and Reserve, the veteran community and friends and family alike. The service, which was exceptionally delivered and as poignant as ever, allowed the Provost branch to formally reflect and pay tribute to fallen colleagues from the World Wars and all conflicts since. Following the service some members reconvened at the nearby Westminster Arms for refreshments and lamp swinging.



## **Adjutant Generals Corps.**

The Corps HQ joined serving personnel and veterans of our antecedent associations at the Field of Remembrance in the grounds of Westminster Abbey on 08 Nov 25.

HM the Queen enjoyed a light-hearted joke about her red beret with the Corps Sgt Maj as she surveyed the 229 plots which commemorate all those who have lost their lives in the Armed Forces. The AGC

Association plot contains the names of 228 soldiers and officers from all 7 cap badges who have died in service since the formation of the Corps in 1992.

Our thoughts were especially with the families, friends, and comrades of those we have tragically lost this year.

We will remember them.

Animo et Fide



### **Selection Of The Next Corps Sergeant Major.**

We are delighted to announce that Warrant Officer Class 1 (Pro SM) James Radcliffe AGC(RMP) was informed of his selection as the next Corps Sergeant Major.

WO1 (Pro SM) Radcliffe will succeed WO1 (Corps SM) C Hastings, taking up the appointment next Spring as the Corps' Senior Soldier.

A huge congratulations to WO1 Radcliffe, a fantastic and thoroughly deserved achievement.

I have not included a picture of James, we all know who he is and pass on our congratulations on being selected for this post.

## **Donations to the Association in Memory of or in Tribute to.**

Often, We are approached by undertakers and families alike about how and to whom people may donate in memory of or tribute to a deceased former Corps member.

Our stock answer has been up until today – that the funeral director should gather in donations in our name and submit either a cheque or Bacs payment to us. As of now any such request to any branch or official can be answered by sharing the link to the Much-Loved online tribute and donation service by following this link [www.muchloved.com](http://www.muchloved.com)

Now we are registered anyone may go to that site and donate in our name assured that donations will come straight to us, and appropriate Gift Aid will be processed by HMRC direct.

Our charity is now registered, and any individual or funeral director may process donations to us.

## **RMP Journal**

The RMP Journal is published three times a year (April, August, and December) and is packed with a diverse range of interesting articles. A full-colour publication, it is available in print form and online. However, I am amazed how few former RMP subscribe to the Journal - less than 450 from a potential readership of 20K - when it only costs £15 per year (and even less if one subscribes to the on-line version.) The RMP Journal keeps everyone up to date and lets people know of forthcoming regimental and Association events too and if more took it, then they would certainly be far better informed. If you wish to subscribe for a print edition, email Clare Kelly-White at [pa@rhqrmp.org](mailto:pa@rhqrmp.org)

## **Obituary Notices.**

Obituary notices may be submitted for inclusion in the RMP Journal, for those who have passed away of any rank - and not just officers. The determining factor being quite simply those who have someone that is prepared to take the time and trouble to write such a personal notice which must be detailed, accurate and have the approval of the family of the deceased, ideally with photograph. Stuart McLean the editor of the RMP Journal makes the following comment. "I have received no obituary notices from the friends and family of former non-commissioned ranks. I wish to make it clear that I would welcome such notices and would include them in the Journal - but I don't receive any. I know that there is a misconception that Obituaries are only for Officers, but I would like it known that this is not the case for the RMP Journal. If you take the time to write it, I will print it.

## **Contact The Trustees.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>E mail</b>	<b>Branch</b>
Bob Potts	Chair	<a href="mailto:potts8@me.com">potts8@me.com</a> <a href="mailto:chair@rmpa.org.uk">chair@rmpa.org.uk</a>	Derby Tel. 07931 723206
Sean Taylor	Vice Chair	<a href="mailto:seanetaylor3130@gmail.com">seanetaylor3130@gmail.com</a> . <a href="mailto:vice.chair@rmpa.org.uk">vice.chair@rmpa.org.uk</a>	London
Peter Vorberg	Secretary	<a href="mailto:secretary@rmpa.org.uk">secretary@rmpa.org.uk</a>	London
Taff Pickering	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:rmpatreasurer7@gmail.com">rmpatreasurer7@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:treasurer@rmpa.org.uk">treasurer@rmpa.org.uk</a>	SIB
Jimmy Walker	Trustee	<a href="mailto:Jimmywalk86@hotmail.co.uk">Jimmywalk86@hotmail.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:trustee.NI@rmpa.org.uk">trustee.NI@rmpa.org.uk</a>	NI
Steve McManus	Trustee	<a href="mailto:bluebear21@btinternet.com">bluebear21@btinternet.com</a> <a href="mailto:trustee.wales@rmpa.org.uk">trustee.wales@rmpa.org.uk</a>	Wales
Stuart Reilly	Trustee	<a href="mailto:Stuart.reilly@rmpa.org.uk">Stuart.reilly@rmpa.org.uk</a>	Solent

Irene Furlong	Trustee	<a href="mailto:I_furlong2005@hotmail.com">I_furlong2005@hotmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:trustee.scotland@rmpa.org.uk">trustee.scotland@rmpa.org.uk</a>	Scotland
John Alecock	Senior Serving Rep	Via the National Secretary.	

## **RMPA Diary of Forthcoming Events that may be of interest. 2025 /2026.**

If you are Hosting or organising an event that you wish to add please send details to Bob Potts.

<b>Date / Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Further Information</b>
<b>2025</b>			
05 Dec 25	NI Branch Lunch	Lisburn	<a href="mailto:Jimmywalk86@hotmail.co.uk">Jimmywalk86@hotmail.co.uk</a> . Secretary.NorthernIreland@RMPA.org.uk
07 Dec 25	West Yorkshire Xmas Lunch	Guide Post Hotel, Bradford	Secretary.WestYorkshire@RMPA.org.uk
12 Dec 25	Cheshire & North Wales Xmas Lunch	Chester Golf Club	<a href="mailto:gowoodall35@gmail.com">gowoodall35@gmail.com</a> .
17 Dec 25	Salisbury Plain Branch Xmas Lunch	Salisbury	<a href="mailto:editrmpj@tiscali.co.uk">editrmpj@tiscali.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:johnbaber@hotmail.co.uk">johnbaber@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<b>2026</b>			
10 Jan 26	Trustees Meeting	UJC London	Bob Potts Peter Vorberg
17 Jan 26	Birmingham Branch Post Christmas Lunch	Birmingham	<a href="mailto:Trevor.bassett@btopenworld.com">Trevor.bassett@btopenworld.com</a> . Details from Trevor.
Feb 26	Tower Of London Parade	Tower Of London	<b>This event is to be cancelled.</b>
07 Mar 26	WRAC Provost Reunion Dinner	Cambridge	Jacjun3@aol.com
24 – 26 Apr 26	RMPA AGM and Reunion	Cardiff.	<a href="mailto:Secretary.southwales@rmpa.org.uk">Secretary.southwales@rmpa.org.uk</a> . Full details on Op Order attached.
30 May 26	SIB Dinner	Holiday Inn. Rugby	<a href="mailto:secretary@rmpasib.co.uk">secretary@rmpasib.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:entertainments@rmpasib.co.uk">entertainments@rmpasib.co.uk</a>
11 Jun 26	80 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	Southwick Park	Details to follow soon. Date TBC
Jun / Jul 26	West Yorkshire Dinner	Bradford	Date TBC
Jul 26	AGC Memorial Parade	NMA	RHQ AGC
Aug 26	Cyprus Veterans	NMA	This event is under review.
Sep 26	Hull & East Riding Dinner Night	Hull	
Sep 26	NIVA Parade	NMA	
Nov 26	Remembrance Parades	London	

### **Salisbury Plain Branch Christmas Lunch.**

The Salisbury Plain Branch Christmas Luncheon is to be held in the White Hart Hotel at 1230hrs on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. The cost is to be £35 per person for the 3-course lunch and £30 per person for the 2-course lunch.

If you wish to attend this event would you please contact, John Baber or Stuart McLean by **28<sup>th</sup> November** This can be done by email on [editrmpj@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:editrmpj@tiscali.co.uk) or [johnbaber@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:johnbaber@hotmail.co.uk) .As usual they will be holding a Branch Fund Raising raffle for which they ask that you bring a crisp £10 note with you to enter and a suitable raffle prize !

## **RMPA SIB Branch Dinner – Saturday 30th May 2026.**

**From Donna Longhurst MBE. Entertainments Member RMPA SIB Branch.** On behalf of the President and Committee I have the pleasure to advise you that the annual RMPA SIB Branch dinner will take place on Saturday 30th May 2026.

Returning to the Holiday Inn Hotel Rugby – Northampton, M1, Junction 18, Crick, NN6 7XR where there is ample free parking and Ev chargers at the hotel.

It has been confirmed that Brig Kris Rotchell, Provost Marshall Serious Crime will be our guest of honour.

As agreed at the 2025 AGM there has been a slight increase to the meal cost and as ever there has been an inevitable rise in price for the accommodation. These costs still provide value for money and include full breakfast, VAT and use of the leisure facilities, a swimming pool with sauna and a small cardio-vascular fitness room. The rates will be as follows:

Three courses, including port will be £37.00. however, there is a £3.50 supplement should you desire a cheese platter, rather than dessert (Total £40.50).

Standard Double room on the Friday 29th May is £95.00 per room including breakfast.

Standard Double room on Saturday 30th May is at £102.00 per room including breakfast.

Additionally, 10% discount will be offered on all bar prices on the Saturday night for all members attending the dinner and 20% discount on pre-ordered wines (pre-order the afternoon prior to the event as any wine ordered at the dinner will be at normal price).

Your hotel room booking can be made either via this Booking link which is now live.

Or by calling Central Reservations on 00800 80 80 0800. Please quote RM1. The hotel can be contacted directly via 0333 3209 349.

Whilst your credit card details will be taken to secure the booking, no deposit will be required for the room reservation, as individual accounts are to be settled by the members at check out. Cancelling your reservation before 4:00 pm on Friday 29 May 2026 will result in no charge.

Early booking is advisable. Any rooms booked after the 17 Apr 26 will be charged at the hotels rate and not the agreed rate for this event.

To book for the dinner, please complete the attached menu options choice and return it to me, preferably electronically to the following email address [entertainments@rmpasib.co.uk](mailto:entertainments@rmpasib.co.uk) by Friday 8th May 2025 or alternately via the address shown at the head of this letter. I will send confirmation that your menu choices have been received. If you do not receive an acknowledgement from me within 7 days of sending choices, please contact the secretary [secretary@rmpasib.co.uk](mailto:secretary@rmpasib.co.uk). In the event of a cancellation, money paid for meals will be returned, provided I am advised by Fri 1 May 26.

Payment by bank transfer is preferred. You can do this on-line, via telephone or in person at your own bank. Use the following ref: surname-dinner26.

Proof of monetary transfer to be provided with menu choices please.

HSBC Bank

Account name: RMPA – SIB Branch

Sort Code: 40-36-15

Account no: 32248190.

On the day, an 'Events' notice will be published on the 'A' frame located in the foyer areas. The AGM will commence at 1500hrs in the Stanford Suite.

The evening function will be 1800hrs for an 1845hrs start. The function will be held in the Albany Suite Function Room. Dress: Dinner Jacket / Mess Dress or Lounge Suit, Miniature Medals may be worn or alternatively Full Medals.

There will be a raffle, and any donation of raffle prizes would be appreciated. There will also be a DJ & music after the dinner for frivolity and dancing.

I trust this letter has all the information you require, however should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me by email at [entertainments@rmpasib.co.uk](mailto:entertainments@rmpasib.co.uk), or by telephone on 07894 409999. I look forward to seeing you there.

The annual dinner of 2025 was well supported, enjoyed by all and it was lovely to have some new members attend. The President and Committee hope that the 2026 dinner will be given the same support.

Finally, I am always happy to receive any thoughts/suggestions/feedback, please do feel free to approach/contact me. Any suggestion will be considered and put to the committee and indeed discussed at the AGM.

### **Just because I like the Pictures.**



### **National Memorial Arboretum**

Are you still looking for somewhere to enjoy a Christmas lunch with your friends, family, colleagues, or fellow club members?

Join us any day from 1 – 21 December for a delicious two-course festive lunch in our Founders Room, set within our award-winning Remembrance Centre. We'll welcome you with a glass of prosecco and offer tea, coffee, and mince pies afterwards.

Why not get your group organised and book a festive event to look forward to? Our Christmas lunches are available for groups of 10+, cost £34.95 per person and advance booking is essential. To find out more and to book, please talk to our groups team on 01283 244 896.

### **Free Guided Talks.**

It is said that on Christmas Eve 1914, during the First World War, British soldiers heard German personnel singing carols and messages were shouted between the opposite trenches.

The following day, Christmas Day, in some areas along the Western Front, groups of British and German soldiers met on no man's land and exchanged cigarettes and gifts and took photographs. Some reports tell of an impromptu game of football being played.

Whilst the truce was not observed everywhere along the Western Front, the event allowed many to recover and bury their dead, whilst others repaired their trenches.

Join us for a free talk at 11.30am on 6, 7, 13, 14, 20 and 21 December at the Christmas Truce Memorial to hear more about this fascinating moment in history, and the memorial that remembers it.

### **Dedication of the LGBT+ Memorial.**

On 27 Oct, we welcomed His Majesty The King to the Arboretum for the dedication of 'An Opened Letter', the UK's first permanent memorial to LGBT+ members of the Armed Forces, past and present.

The dedication marks 25 years since the ban on lesbian, gay and bisexual military personnel was lifted and the design of 'An Opened Letter' depicts the impact of the ban which saw thousands dismissed, forced out, and discriminated against.

The sculpture shaped as an opened letter represents personal letters used to discredit and incriminate people. In some instances, the evidence of letters resulted in prosecution and imprisonment. Past and present LGBTQ+ personnel contributed words to show the shift from pain and shame to pride and honour.

'An Opened Letter' was created by the Norfolk-based Abraxas Academy artist collective, developed by LGBT+ military charity [Fighting with Pride](#) and funded by the Office for Veterans' Affairs in the Ministry of Defence.

The King was joined at the dedication by Minister for Veterans and People, Louise Sandher-Jones, and around 300 LGBT+ service personnel, veterans, and members of the Armed Forces community.



## **NI Branch.**

### **Tanky Walker reminds us.**

For the fourth-year running, RMPA NI have been given the honour of supplying Wreath Escorts to the President of Ireland, Michael D Higgins, and the President of the RBL Ireland, at a Remembrance Service in St Patricks Cathedral, Dublin. Sean Archer & Graham Chipperfield were the escorts.

We could never imagine this occurring years ago, but it just goes to show how times have changed. A great accolade for the Branch and also the Association.



Sean Archer.



Graham Chipperfield.



Andy Field.

Members, wives, and widows of the branch attended the Annual Service of Remembrance at the Memorial Garden, Palace Bks, Holywood on 2nd November. A wreath was placed on the RMP/RMPA Op Banner Stone and a Poppy Cross on the Iraq 6 Stone. Later Committee members paid their respects and laid a Poppy Cross at the graves of departed members.

Commonwealth RMP War Graves were also visited and respects paid in Banbridge, Dundonald Cemetery & Knockbreda Parish Cemetery, a Poppy Cross was placed on each.



OP Banner Memorial Stone. Well done NI Branch who once again do things in style and with dignity.



L-R Alan Officer, Paul Jones, Jim Walker, Graeme Woodcock & Tanky Walker

Each year the RMPA NI Branch Standard and a few members travel to a different part of the Province on Remembrance Sunday to highlight the presence of the Association here. We have found that on occasions we pick up a few new members who did not know of our presence. We also receive a large number of requests from RBL to attend in their areas. This year at the invitation of Cookstown, Co Tyrone RBL, we attended their service. Should any Branch member like us to parade in their particular area with them, then please let the Branch Secretary know. Other members paraded at different locations around the Province, on the Mainland and abroad.



Eileen Walker, Tanky Walker, Graeme Woodcock, Ray Spence, Alan Officer, Paul Jones, Alison Woodcock.

During Remembrance week, RMPA NI Standard Bearer, Ray Spence met up with 2 of the RMP Cadets at a concert in Lisburn Civic Centre.



## **Branch Contacts.**

If you would like details on becoming an area contact or resurrecting a branch, please contact myself or Peter, the National Secretary

### **Contact list, New Standard Branch email addresses.**

3 Shires	Andrew Wayland	Chairman.3Shires@RMPA.org.uk
Birmingham Central	Trevor Bassett	Secretary.BirminghamCentral@RMPA.org.uk
Cheshire And North Wales	Tom Jones	Secretary.CheshireAndNorthWales@RMPA.org.uk
Colchester & East Anglia	Dave Howard	Secretary.Colchester@RMPA.org.uk
Coventry And Warwickshire	Julian Grubb	Chairman.CoventryAndWarwickshire@RMPA.org.uk
Close Protection Branch	Marcus Turnbull	<u>Secretary.CloseProtection@RMPA.Org.UK</u>
Derby	Kathryn Potts	Secretary.Derby@RMPA.org.uk
East Sussex	Derek Mead	Chairman.EastSussex@RMPA.org.uk
Hertfordshire And Essex	Ernest Large	Chairman.HertfordshireAndEssex@RMPA.org.uk
Hull And East Riding	Pete Watson	Secretary.HullAndEastRiding@RMPA.org.uk
Isle Of Wight	John Dugdale	Chairman.IsleOfWight@RMPA.org.uk
Kent	Jonathon Webb	Secretary.Kent@RMPA.org.uk
London	Sean Taylor	Secretary.London@RMPA.org.uk
Manchester	Gary Joynes	Secretary.Manchester@RMPA.org.uk
Mounted Troop	Sandy Low	Chairman. Mounted Troop@RMPA.org.uk
MPLMC	Bris Lightower	Secretary.MPLMC@RMPA.org.uk
North America	Bill Drummond	Chairman.NorthAmerica@RMPA.org.uk
North East	Bob Hodgson	Chairman.NorthEast@RMPA.org.uk
Northern Ireland	Jimmy Walker	Secretary.NorthernIreland@RMPA.org.uk
North Hampshire & Surrey	Chris Martin	Chairman.NorthHampshireandSurrey@RMPA.org.uk
Salisbury Plain	John Baber	Secretary.SalisburyPlain@RMPA.org.uk
Scotland	Andy Robertson	Secretary.Scotland@RMPA.org.uk
Special Investigation Branch	Phil Ellis	Secretary.SIB@RMPA.org.uk
Solent	Bob Eggelton	Secretary.Solent@RMPA.org.uk
South Wales	Kath Jennings	Secretary.SouthWales@RMPA.org.uk
Taunton	Stewart Leach	Secretary.Taunton@RMPA.org.uk
Western Australia	Matt Edmunds	Secretary.WesternAustralia@RMPA.org.uk
West Sussex	Bill Watkins	Secretary.WestSussex@RMPA.org.uk
West Yorkshire	James Nylan	Secretary.WestYorkshire@RMPA.org.uk
Republic of Ireland	Ollie Doyle	Secretary.ROI@RMPA.org.uk

## HQ PM(A) IIA newsletter

The Chair of the Independent Inquiry relating to Afghanistan, Lord Justice Haddon-Cave, has shared a 2025 progress update which is available to read on the [Inquiry website](#) and there is also a video summary available to watch on [YouTube](#).

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the SO2 Witness Manager and the remainder of the RMP Inquiry Team at this address should you have any queries that you wish to discuss.

[ARMYPM-IIAGroupmailbox@mod.gov.uk](mailto:ARMYPM-IIAGroupmailbox@mod.gov.uk)

## Annual Reunion Weekend and Drumhead Service, 24-26 April 2026 – Cardiff.

The South Wales Branch are hosting next year's Annual Reunion in Cardiff. It is also the 80th Anniversary of the forming of the Association. There will be a Gala Dinner night with the maximum seating capacity of 220 ... places are going quickly. This is a chance to enjoy the company of old friends right on your doorstep, it won't get any easier than this. For further details email (Steve McManus) [trustee.wales@mpa.org.uk](mailto:trustee.wales@mpa.org.uk)



## London Branch.

### **Remembrance Sunday - St Paul's Cathedral & The London Troops Memorial.**

Sean Taylor, Vice Chair of the Association. A poignant and deeply moving morning in the heart of the City. The day began with a service of remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral; the great dome filled with reflection and quiet pride. From there, with the band of the HAC & Standards leading through the heart of the City, we gathered at the London Troops Memorial for the wreath-laying ceremony, led by the newly installed Lady Mayor of London, watched on by the assembled Livery Company Masters, members of the Honourable Artillery Company Regiment, military units representing London and a good number of RMP veterans.

I was honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of both the RMPA and City Veterans, representing those who served and continue to serve. While the City of Westminster hosted the nation at the Cenotaph Parade, in the City of London we paid our own solemn respects – a quieter, but no less heartfelt tribute.

*(Not many people realise that London is actually made up of three cities – the City of London, the City of Westminster, and the City of Southwark – each with its own proud history, identity, and role in remembrance).*

After the ceremony, we formed up and marched past the Mansion House, where the Lady Mayor took the salute, before proceeding to a Mansion House civic curry lunch - a fitting conclusion to a morning of dignity, reflection, and fellowship.

It was humbling to stand alongside so many veterans, civic leaders, and serving members of the Armed Forces. The turnout was exceptional, the spirit enduring.

An honour and a privilege to take part. *At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them.*



Sean Taylor at The London Troops Memorial.

## West Yorkshire.

### **Historical Guided tour of of York**

On Saturday 15 November, thanks to Karl Helmut-Parkin and his friend Frazer, members and friends of the West Yorkshire Branch RMPA were given the opportunity to “Piggy Back” Frazer’s very enlightening, interesting, and entertaining Historical Tour (Approx 2 hours) arranged by Karl for visiting HKSMC (RMP). Photographs taken by Sam Jackson of the tour and of course afterwards at a social in the popular Masons Arms appear on the West Yorkshire Branch Facebook page. Thank you, Karl, and Frazer, for a great day out. At the end of the tour a collection of £70 was gathered for Frazer, which he declined and wanted donated to a Charity of our choice. Thank you Frazer our Central Benevolent Fund will be the benefit.



### **Graham Lenton. British Columbia.**

Graham sends greetings to all members of the RMPA both serving and retired. The photograph was taken at their field of Crosses, Memorial Avenue, Qualicum Beach , British Columbia, 11 November 2025.



### **National Chair Recruitment Process**

As you are all aware the Association needs to look to recruit a replacement for myself, I am due to stand down as the National Chair next year in accordance with the Rules of the Association. Historically the potential applicants were recruited from the existing Trustees, however all members of the Association are able to apply for the role. The Trustees have looked at the recruitment process and have put some additional structure to it, which is outlined in the attached document.

We have provided key information on what the role entails so that applicants hopefully have a better understanding of the requirements of the post and the level of commitment needed from them to fulfil the role.

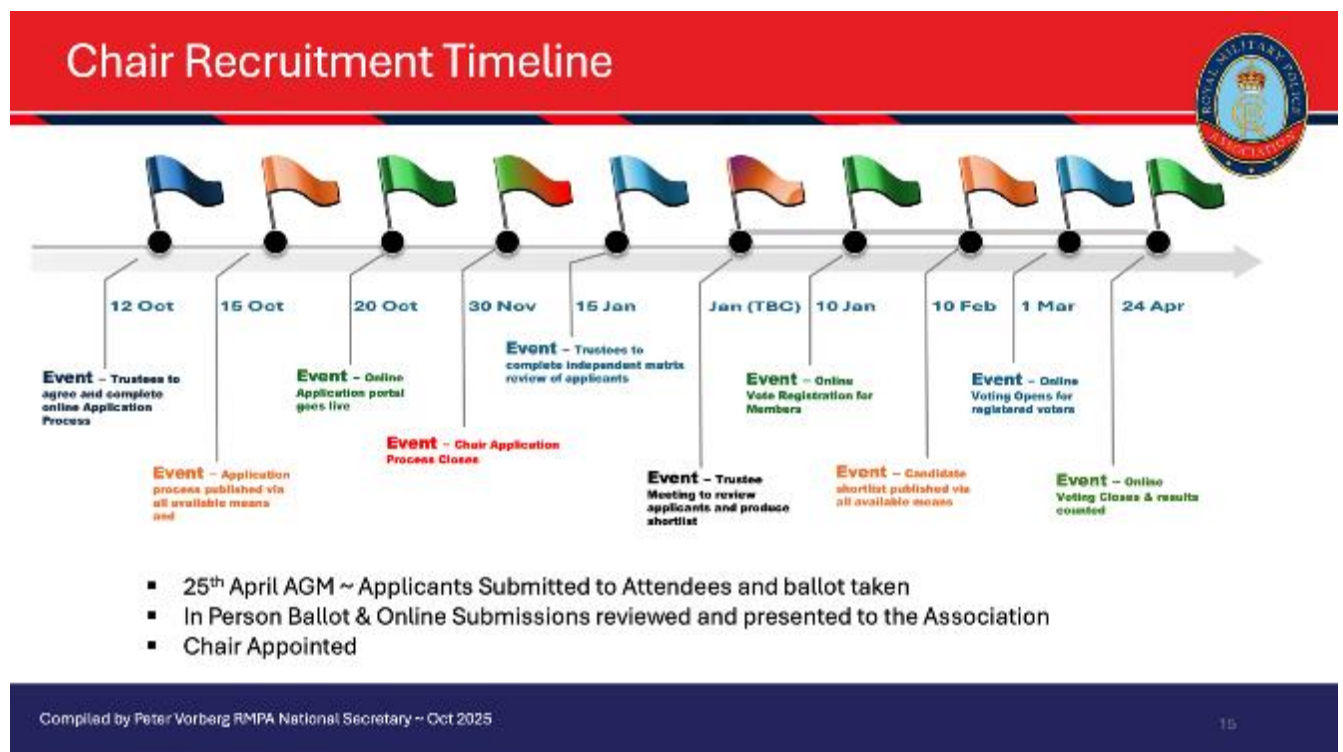
By opening up the application process to the wider community, we may have more applicants, and the Trustees will be responsible for selecting those that we feel best suited to the role to put forward to the Association as prospective candidates.

For the first time, Association members will be able to vote online for their chosen nominee, and we will initiate a voter registration process in the new year to validate users for the online ballot. Members attending the AGM will be able to vote there (only one vote per person) and the result of the combined ballots will be announced at the AGM inline, with the Association Rules.

Applicants will have to be appointed as a Trustee of the Association, with voting also taking place during the AGM. The Chair appointment will be for a period of three years and the Trustee eight.

The national secretary as put additional information on our website on a hidden link, which also contains the Chair Recruitment Process document and additional links. The recruitment timeline is included in the document, which we will endeavour to maintain where possible.

<https://rmpa.org.uk/rmpa-national-chair-recruitment-process/> I would be grateful if you can cascade the information out to all Members at the earliest opportunity and if anyone has any questions, they can contact the National Secretary or the Vice Chair.



### **WRAC Provost Reunion Dinner.**

The reunion dinner 2026 is to be held at the Cambridge Belfry Hotel and Spa, on 07 Mar 26. Further details from June Jackson. [Jacjun3@aol.com](mailto:Jacjun3@aol.com) all are welcome to attend more details in due course.

### **Birmingham Branch Lunch.**

Birmingham Central Branch RMPA will be having their annual luncheon on Saturday 17th January 2026, at the Plough and Harrow Best Western Hotel, Hagley Road Birmingham B16 8LS. The timings are 1300 for seated at 1330 hours.

Members of the RMPA are welcome to join us. This also includes ex RMP both regular and reservists. Should anyone wish to attend please contact Trevor Bassett at [trevor.bassett@icloud.com](mailto:trevor.bassett@icloud.com) for further

information and copy of the menu. The cost for the meal is £29.50 each and accommodation at the hotel is £95.00 for a double room with breakfast.  
Dress will be Blazer and Tie and the lady's equivalent.

### **Cheshire and North Wales.**

George Woodhall on behalf of Cheshire and North Wales Branch passes on their seasons greetings and invites all members to attend their Christmas Lunch.

Dear All,

Christmas is just around the corner, from today just 38 days and an early breakfast!

I have arranged a table for our Branch Christmas Lunch at the Chester Golf Club on Friday 12th December 2025, 12. 30 for 13. 00 hours.

To refresh your memory the Golf club postcode is CH4 8AR. The choice of lunch will be from the menu of the day.

If you and your guests wish to attend, please let me know by Monday midday, prior to our branch lunch. The costs for branch members, thanks to Ken our Treasurer, will be 50% of the actual menu cost. Your Guests will be the Menu cost. Please pay Ken by cheque on the day. Guests are most welcome.

I hope you will make a special effort to attend; it is some considerable time since we all sat and dined as a branch, and it would be lovely to see you and your guests among the photographs of those attending in our Corps Journal.

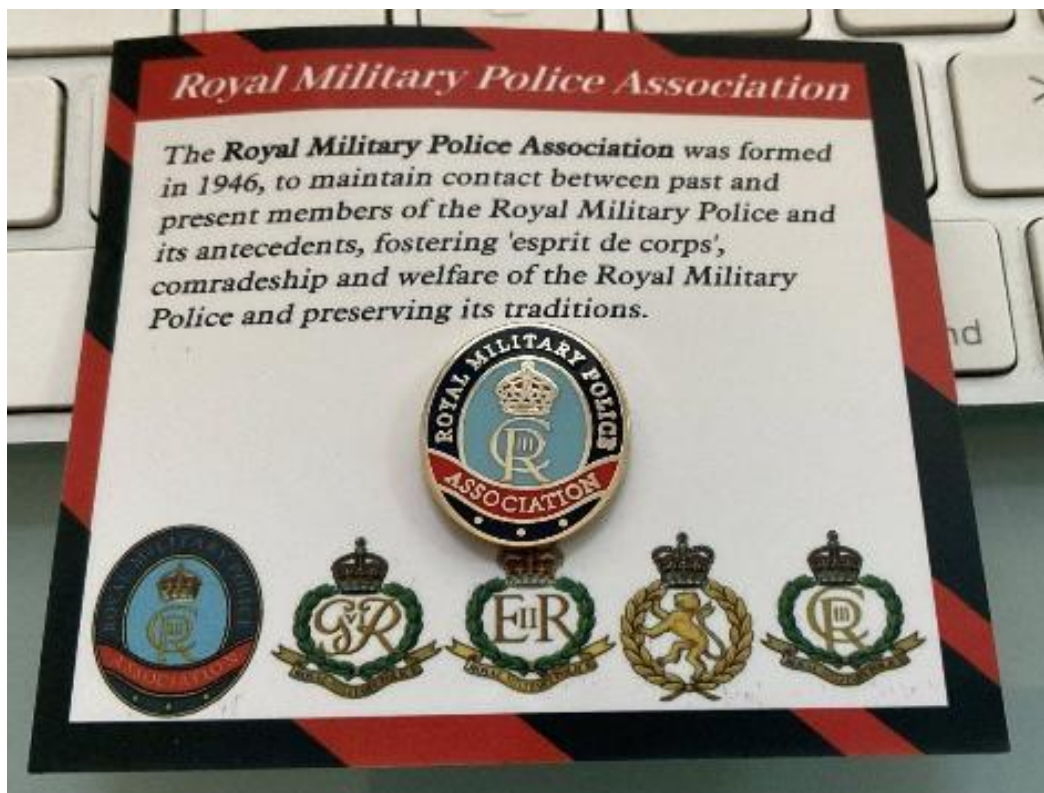
I look forward to hearing from you, and I wish each of you and yours, A Merry Christmas and A Happy and Peaceful New Year 2026.

As Ever.

George.

### **RMPA Pins**

Our new RMPA Pins have just arrived and are on sale via the RMPA Website. They will be sold for £4.50 plus P&P. [www.rmpa.org.uk](http://www.rmpa.org.uk)



## **Mike Hewitt passes on the following information.**

### **Remembrance At County – Mayo Peace Park & Memorial Wall, Castlebar ( Republic of Ireland)**

On Saturday 1 November 2025, Mike Hewitt (RMPA) reports that he had the Privilege and Honour to place a Poppy Cross in Memory of: Patrick Jennings and James Curran, both from the Castlebar area. who sacrificed their lives fighting for the Armed Forces of the UK and Ireland in WW1, while in Service of the of the Military Foot Police.

It was in October 2008 that after much hard work, by the residents of the County – Mayo area that the Peace Park and Memorial Wall were officially opened by the then ROI President. Mary McAleese.

At that time, Mike was Secretary and Standard Bearer for the RMPA NI Branch and a strong cooperation between the RMPA and the Republic of Ireland had already been reached. The invitation for the RMPA to attend, came from both the Organising Committee Chairman, Mr Michael Feeney, and the Personal Assistant of the President (Mary McAleese), on her behalf.

Mike, and his Late Wife Phyllis attended as the Representatives of the RMPA NI Branch and the RMPA on a National Level. A very warm and friendly welcome was made by the people of Mayo towards them, and the ceremony was seen as a further step within the Building Bridges Project, initiated by the President herself, to bring together the Military and the People of the ROI, to recognise the heroism and sacrifice made by those who answered the call to fight and retain the freedom of us all.

It was while at the National Day of Commemoration in Dublin earlier this year, a reconnection was made between Mike Hewitt and Michael Feeney and the conversation of making an attendance came up. So, plans were made and a suitable Poppy Cross was made by Mike to lay at the foot of the Memorial Wall with Members of the Committee and local people.

Castlebar (before partition in 1921), was a very large British Military Garrison, and the Coastal Town of Westport was a Naval Base, hence in 1914 many men and woman became involved with WW1.



Ron Howko, Diarmud Murray, Mike Hewitt, Capt (Rtd) Donal Buckley, Stephen McLaughlan

## **Colchester and East Anglia Branch RMPA.**

On Wednesday 5th November the Branch held its annual Fish and Chip night, in the Cpls Club 156 Pro Coy RMP. There was approximately 60 people in attendance including branch and unit members. The cost of the evening was borne by branch funds.



On Friday 7 November members of the Branch attended a small service of Remembrance in the Memorial Garden at Goojerat Barracks in memory of the RMP6. Brian Chenier paraded the Branch Standard; Dave Howard laid a Poppy Wreath on behalf of the Branch Ernie Watson also attended. Earlier that morning Mike Hewitt and Iain Martin paid their own respects to the RMP6 by laying a Poppy Wreath. They were unable to attend the service as they were travelling to London in preparation to attend the Cenotaph on Sunday. There was a good turnout for the Remembrance Sunday Parade in Colchester where it was good to see at least 9 Red Caps on parade both Branch members and prospective Branch Members. Once again Brian Chenier paraded the Branch Standard.



## **Adjutant Generals Corps**

A Message from the Corps Colonel on International Men's Day

Today, 19 November, we proudly join the global celebration of International Men's Day, honouring the positive contributions men make to the world, their families, and their communities.

This year's theme, "Celebrating Men and Boys," inspires us to shine a light on positive role models and raise awareness of men's wellbeing. It also reminds us of the vital role men play in teaching the boys in their lives – whether brothers, sons, nephews, or neighbours – the values, character, and responsibilities of being a man.

By leading with integrity and working together, men and women can create a fairer, safer society where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

To all the men in the AGC, remember that true strength lies in honesty, vulnerability, and connection – not in silence. Reaching out for help is a sign of courage, not weakness. Whether it's a friend, colleague, or professional, support is always available. We are stronger together.

Thank you for your dedication, leadership, and the positive impact you have on those around you. Let's continue to inspire, support, and celebrate one another.



### **AGC Association Launch of New Website.**

The AGC Association are excited to announce the launch of the new AGC Association website on 27 Nov 25.

The new platform is designed to keep our community connected, informed, and engaged.

What's new?

Latest news and updates.

Events and networking opportunities.

Resources for AGC members.

Please share this announcement , Spread the word, and explore the new AGC hub after 27 November at 12:00 PM.

### **From the Pro SM**

Today, on International Men's Day, we recognise the positive contribution that men make to our families, our teams, and to Defence. This year's theme, 'Celebrating Men and Boys,' is a reminder that who we are outside the uniform shapes the way we lead inside it.

Being a dad myself, I know the pressures of trying to meet the demands of service while being fully present at home. Many of us juggle that same balance, and we don't always get it right. What matters is that we keep striving to be the kind of men our families — and our teams — can rely on.

In light of the conversations happening across Defence about standards, culture, and how we treat one another, today is also about the responsibility we carry as role models. The way we speak, act, and look out for our people directly affects trust, cohesion, and ultimately operational effectiveness. Positive masculinity isn't about being perfect — it's about showing respect, integrity, humility, and stepping in when something isn't right.

If you're struggling, or notice a mate who is, reach out. Strength is asking for help when you need it and offering it when someone else does.

As your Provost Sergeant Major, it's a privilege to serve alongside men who show resilience, professionalism, and decency every day. Take a moment to reflect on the impact you make in your families and in the organisation — and keep being the example others can look to.



### **Rob Bywaters.**

Asked that the following information be published in the Newsletter, I have accepted his request as a reminder to all that the RMP museum is always on the look out for interesting artifacts and in remembrance of a well-liked colleague.

Dear all.

As Chairman for the Royal British Legion Branch in Weston-super-Mare, I was absolutely lost for words when I noticed the Provost Marshall's Golden Whistle of LCpl Coffey LM. which was placed on the table, before our AGM which was held on the 19th of November 2025. The Branch Community Coordinator, Robin Potter RN relayed that he had been given this by a member of the Coffey family, now located in the Weston-super-Mare area whilst he was visiting some of the RBL Beneficiaries in the local area.

As a RMP Veteran myself I was in awe of this achievement and was shocked that the family now wished to part with such a recognizable award for a member of their family. However, it's not my place to question the family and respect their wishes, but I decided to make some enquiries of my own. I have requested via the Branch Community Support Officer if Lorraine's PM's Gold Whistle and

Chain would like to be donated to the Corps Museum, which they said they “Would be absolutely delighted” and I have subsequently requested an official letter from them with this request.



Squad 9102. A clearer photograph is available on the RMPA website.

It is always difficult to write about people you have never met, but after reaching out to the RMP Veteran family, this is what I know, and I would like to take the time to thank to everyone that responded to my question on Facebook on the RMP – The Redcaps Reunited Group for their memories of Lorraine.

On a personal note, I didn't know or ever met or served with Lorraine, as I was in Chichester Training Depot around 18 months beforehand, but felt duty bound to get as much information as I could about one of my Redcap comrades who passed away around 25 years ago, as these items are very rare indeed and here are my findings on such a wonderful, loyal and clearly a devoted Corps individual. I have managed to gather the following testimonials from various RMP Veterans who served with Lorraine.

WO804879 Lance Corporal Lorraine M. Coffey, Royal Military Police, Recipient of Provost Marhsall's Gold Whistle & Chain for Training Squad 9102.

Testimonials from RMP Colleagues

**Stewart Spackman** - “I was Lorraine's squad Sgt at Chichester. 9104 was a large squad and had to be split into two for certain phases of training I cannot recall the exact number of how many passed off but it would have been +40. It was a mix of direct entries, VTs and females who joined after the basic first 10 weeks. The gold whistle was rightly awarded to Lorraine as she was outstanding in all phases of the training and considering the number of recruits in the squad this was an excellent achievement.

**Mark Fletcher** - “What a great NCO, full of character, zest for life brilliant lady, sadly taken too young. Served with her at 101 Pro Coy JHQ”

**Ted Turner** – “Lovely lady Loz, much missed bless her.

**Andrew Brown** Lorraine was a star. Fitter than most of the blokes, partied hard,worked harder. Lovely, lovely lady.

**Mà Nàc** An outstanding NCO who was going places. Life cut way too short.

**David Smith** I was in the same squad 9104 and then served in JHQ with Lorraine aka Loz, great girl.

**Brian Barnes** Loz was one of my Police Post NCO's in JHQ where I was the RSM. She was a very efficient young lady and a pleasure to know. She was also well respected by the units in her patch.”

**Michelle Patterson** Lorraine was in the Squad above me in Chi she was an inspirational, a fellow sister to look up to and give respect where it was due.”

**Amanda Wood** Great lady, served with her on my first posting at JHQ, she was at the Police Post.

Richard J O'Brien - “She was at 175 when I was in NI lovely lady and a sad loss.

I would also like to thank Lorraine's family for the Gold Whistle & Chain, Peter Vorberg for sending Lorraine's Corps Journal entries and everyone else who took time to reflect and remember the impact that Lorraine had on their lives.

'Exemplo Ducemus'

**Rob Bywaters**

## Manchester Branch.

If you are visiting Manchester on Tuesday 2 December, why not drop in on the Manchester Branch RMPA meeting. Circus Tavern, Portland Street, Manchester, M1 4GX. drinks food raffle and best of all friendship All are welcome.

## Chelsea Pensioners Old Comrades Website.

Mike Carr reminds us all. Members are reminded of and invited to check out the "Old Comrades" website which is run from the Royal Hospital Chelsea as part of its outreach programme.

It's been in full swing a few weeks now and is striving to ensure that veterans don't feel alone out there - especially during the forthcoming festive season.

It has a livestream on a Wednesday afternoon (usually 1400hrs - 1515hrs) which is worth tuning in to for a trip down memory lane, and a listen to various guests recounting tales of their service days.

## How to connect

Looking to reconnect with fellow veterans? Here's how to use Old Comrades.

Created by the Royal Hospital Chelsea, it's a space where veterans can find one another, share experiences and keep those enduring bonds of friendship alive. Whether you're hoping to catch up with familiar faces or simply be part of a community that understands service life, Old Comrades makes it easy to reach out and reconnect.

As Remembrance approaches, many take time to reflect on the people and moments that shaped their lives in uniform. Old Comrades offers a way to honour those connections every day, by keeping conversations going and ensuring no one who has served feels alone.

Join the community and discover more at: <https://loom.ly/0F8HXdo> . (Press control and click to follow the link.)

## Looking to reconnect with fellow veterans? Here's how to use 'Old Comrades'

### 1 Get started

Visit [oldcomrades.com](http://oldcomrades.com) or download the app and submit a short join request- it only takes a few minutes.



### 2 Explore & connect

Explore the community, join conversations, and discover groups that match your interests.



- Find Veterans events in your area
- Join the Chelsea Pensioners livestream
- Join the gardening group
- & much more

### 3 Share & reconnect

Catch up with old friends, make new connections, and share your experiences in a safe, welcoming space.



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