



THE SAPPER CHARITY

## THE UBIQUE SAPPERS

Because life gets in the way many thousands of Sappers are unable to maintain, regain or reinstate their Sapper connection through the REAs local branch network. So, we've created the Ubique Sappers. The Ubique Sappers provides the option to stay connected with the Corps, the Sapper Charity and the Sapper Family with less commitment. By becoming an Ubique Sapper you have:

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#### Flexible Involvement

Perfect for those with busy schedules or who live far from branch locations. Stay informed and connected on your own terms, with no obligations.

#### Know how to get help

With the new membership card you'll know how and who to contact if you, or someone you know in the Sapper Family needs help.

#### Sappercom & Newsletter

Gain access to SapperCom and stay up to date on Sapper Charity events and news such as Sapper Games involvement, vehicle restoration, reunions and more.

You'll also receive the monthly newsletter.

#### No Fees, No Meetings, No commitment

There's no need to pay monthly subs or attend branch meetings. You meet up with your Sapper mates when and where you want to.....which you probably do already but as an Ubique Sapper you'll stay informed on your terms with the newsletter and SapperCom.

So if you're serving or have served in the Corps, become a Ubique Sapper with zero obligations!

Follow the QR Code or click the <u>link</u>





## ROYAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION



### THE SAPPER CHARITY

## **NEWSLETTER #12 DEC 2024**

"Lifelong support to the Sapper family"

#### Dear Sapper,

Well it's been 12 month's since the Sapper Charity newsletter started and more by accident than design the newsletter acts as an imperfect record the previous 12 months activity. So, to close the year a few words on what has been a roller coaster 366 days. 80th commemorations for D-Day, Monte Cassino and much more saw RE members travel to preserve and remember the Corps forebearers. A shift in venue of the Corps Memorial Weekend saw the great and the good of the Corps and association converge on Chatham. To everyone involved who travelled, took part helped out - thank you. Particular mentions to Jim Speckman Team Ijzendijke (Fred, Anton et al) for the 80<sup>th</sup> lizendijke commemorations. George Cowie for the Amazon Bridge commemorations, Rick Tootle as Captain of Standards. Steve Craddock who raised £8,000 (and counting) for the Sapper Charity and Steve Cleator for going the extra mile in preserving Corps History in Normandy. Thank you all and here's looking forward to 2025! Ed



# How to get help - Video The SAPPER CHARITY ROYAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION THE SAPPER CHARITY Getting Help

This year the Sapper Chairty has assisted 350+ members of the Sapper Family. With an estimated 96,000 Sapper Veteran's we think that there are many more Sapper Family members who might need support. So to reach those Sapper Family members in need we created a video that explains the process. Please click here and share.



Support a Sapper when you do your Christmas shopping online at no extra cost to you! Every sign up to <a href="mailto:easyfundraising.org.uk">easyfundraising.org.uk</a> until 4<sup>th</sup> December the REA will get an extra £1

#### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY



Korean War Veteran Bill Steel complete with his GR VI Corps Cap badge, Bradford upon Avon.

The Fenland Sappers on Parade in March, Cambs with members of 42 Engr Regt (Geo).





RE Apprentices forming up on Horse Guards Parade before the marching past the Cenotaph on Whitehall



Anna-Linda, Mike and Clive after creating the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey



Plymouth branch rehydrating after putting in some serious yards on the parade.

To take part in local Remembrance parades contact your <u>local branch</u> or use <u>SapperCom</u> to corral sappers in your area.



Wakefield members just before the parade in the town centre.

#### **REA Events & News**

#### **EVENTS 2025**

18<sup>th</sup> January 2025
East Anglia Sappers Gathering
Carver Barracks
Book here

26<sup>th</sup> January 2025 John Chard VC Lunch Taunton

Find out more - SapperCom

8-9<sup>th</sup> February 2025 Birmingham Military Tattoo Find out more - SapperCom

28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025 Vehicle Painting

Find out more - SapperCom

4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Apr 2025
RE Postal & Courier Service Reunion
York Fairfield Manor Hotel
Find out more on SapperCom

3<sup>rd</sup> May 2025 Army v Navy

Find out more - SapperCom

10<sup>th</sup> May 2025 FA Cup 150<sup>th</sup> Celebrations Details tbc

> 11<sup>th</sup> May 2025 Sapper Sunday

Royal Hospital Chelsea - Details after management Committee Meeting

18<sup>th</sup> May 2025 Army v RAF

Find out more - SapperCom

6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 Gibraltar Weekend

Find out more - here

28<sup>th</sup> June 2025 Armed Forces Weekend

19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> September 2025 Dove Cup, AGM, Annual Dinner, Freedom Parade Details tbc Remembering Sappers Westminster Abbey Field of Remembrance



Every year around a small patch of grass outside of Westminster Abbey is loaned to the Corps to who've remember those passed operations. Many other Regimental Associations take part in the same commemoration resulting in the Field of Remembrance. For 2025's Field of Remembrance the Sapper Charity invites you as members of the Sapper Family to remember your mates and comrades who passed whilst in the service Corps Field of the at the Remembrance. The Sapper Charity will then inscribe a cross with the details and place it in the Field of Remembrance. To have a sapper remembered please submit details - here.

#### **NEW MEMBERSHIP CARD**

A regular question which has been asked is "what is the point in the membership card?" and to be honest we couldn't really answer. So, we've listened and redesigned the card, giving it a purpose. The new card contains all the details for Sapper Family members to access help and to contact the Sapper Charity. This way support can be enacted quicker.

## SAPPERS NETW\$RK

Are you or is someone you know looking for a change of career or a new role? If yes, have a look at Sappers Network – loads of career opportunities at the click of a button – <u>Sappers Network</u>.

#### Offers and News

## **SAPPER**



Keep up to date with the latest news and events – sign up to:

www.sappercom.com

#### FREE WILL WRITING SERVICE



The Sapper Charity has teamed up with Farewill to offer REA members a free will writing service with the option to leave a legacy to the Sapper Charity. Farewill already partner with Cancer Research UK, the British Heart Foundation and many other charities. To find out more click <a href="here">here</a>.

#### **REA MEMBERS OFFER**



Trinity travel insurance offers for REA members.

To find out more go to: TRINITY



How to become a Chelsea Pensioner click - here.



Visit - www.sappershop.com

#### Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Clubs



If for whatever reason you're unable to make a branch meeting or Sapper get together have a look to find your nearest Breakfast Club. Put simply; you turn up, have breakfast, chat to likeminded veterans or servicemen and women and go home. You are very likely to bump into a Sapper or two. To find your closest Breakfast Club go to - AFVBC.

#### **Useful Links and PoC**

REA Email address - info@reahq.org.uk
REA Website - https://www.reahq.org.uk/
Sapper Mag' articles - info@reahq.org.uk
Sappers Network - Sappers Network
RE Museum Website - https://www.re-museum.co.uk/

Veterans Railcard - <a href="https://www.veterans-railcard.co.uk/">https://www.veterans-railcard.co.uk/</a>

Royal Engineers Historical Society - REHS



#### THE SAPPER CHARITY

#### **BRANCHES**

#### Click on the links to find out more....

#### **HQ** and Overseas

Ubique Sappers (Formerly HQ) Bulawayo Cyprus Gibraltar Jersev Middle East (Gulf))

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#### **London Group**

Central London Peckham Sappers in the City (Social) West London

#### South East Group

Blue Light (Nat Branch) Football (Nat Branch) Gravesend & District Junior Leaders (Nat Branch) Medway Plant Branch (Nat Branch) Radio (Nat Branch) Sapper Rugby

Swimming and Waterpolo (Nat)

Thanet & District

#### Southern Group

Brighton Eastbourne Invicta Sappers (Social) Maidstone **Tunbridge Wells** 

#### Central Southern Group

Communications (Nat Branch) Diving (Nat Branch) Isle Of Wight Minlev Reading & West Berks Solent & District

#### South West Central Group

Armoured Engrs (Nat Branch) Bath **Bridgwater & District** 

Bristol Swindon **Taunton** 

White Horse Sappers (Social)

Nat Branch = National Branch

#### South West Southern Group

Andover & Winchester Bournemouth & District Postal & Courier (Nat Branch) Weymouth

#### South-West Group

Commando Engrs (Nat Branch) Newton Abbot Plymouth Truro-Cornwall

#### South Wales Group

Cardiff Chepstow Malvern & District Monmouth Newport and Cwmbran Pembrokeshire & District

#### South Midlands Group

Swansea

Birmingham Cannock Gloucester & District Leicester Lichfield & Tamworth

Stratford upon Avon & District

Stafford Walsall Wolverhampton

#### East Anglian Group

**Bedford** Bomb Disposal (Nat Branch) Cambridge Colchester Cycling (Nat Branch) Fenland Sappers

Lowestoft & District Peterborough

#### **National Group**

Mil Survey (Geo) (Nat Branch) Airborne Engrs (Nat Branch) Riggies (Nat Branch) Boxing (Nat Branch)

#### North East Group

Bridlington Hartlepool **Hull & District** Newcastle & District Scarborough Whitby & District West Cumberland

#### Eastern Group

Amphibious Engrs (Nat Branch) Bradford Leeds Ripon & District Wakefield

#### North West Group

Birkenhead Blackpool Chester Crewe Manchester **Potteries** Lancashire (formally Preston) St Helens Warrington

#### North Midlands Group

Chesterfield Derby & District Doncaster Sappers Social Club Doncaster Sappers-South Yorkshire Nottingham Sheffield

#### NI & Scotland Group

Aberdeen Dundee Edinburgh Fife Forth Valley Glasgow & West Of Scotland Highlands & Islands Lanarkshire Riders (Nat Branch)

Northern Ireland

Paisley