



From the Secretary – Maj (Retd) PA Raison



THE PARACHUTE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Patron: HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, KG, KT, PC, GCB, AK, QSO, ADC

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS
THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT
MERVILLE BARRACKS
CIRCULAR ROAD SOUTH
COLCHESTER
ESSEX
CO2 7UT

TEL: 01206 817073

MIL: 94660 7073

Email: secretary@prahq.com

www.theparachuteregimentalassociation.com

1 May 2018

Regional and Branch Secretaries

Please see below the monthly news from RHQ PARA. If you have anything you would like to promote in this please send submissions by the 25th of each month to the Secretary at secretary@prahq.com

Topics:

- A. WW2 Airborne Veterans
- B. British Airborne Pilgrimages 2018
- C. Royal British Legion – LIBOR Funded Trips
- D. Charity Commission News
- E. Branch Charity Guide Extracts
- F. Insurance Renewal/Affiliation Fees
- G. Regimental Charity Collections and Donations
- H. Welfare Process
- I. Congratulations

Events

- J. Pass Out Parades
- K. Future Commemoration Dates 2018/2019
- L. Diary Dates

A. WW2 Airborne Veterans

A short version of the newsletter this month, mainly due to a very busy forecast of events. Later in this newsletter you will a number of requests to identify our WW2 Veterans in order to allow them to revisit the place they fought. If you are aware of any Airborne Veteran who wishes to go and would benefit from this assistance, please let us know at the earliest opportunity. The Airborne Forces Security Fund and other charities have kindly agreed the cost for all Veterans, spouse/partners and carers. The carer can be anyone who is capable of looking after them during the trip.

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 214015

RHQ Disclaimer.

The Office of the Secretary of The Parachute Regimental Association is required to publish a disclaimer concerning any article or idea passed to branches by way of this letter. This letter provides a conduit between the branches to allow ideas, articles and topics to be viewed and discussed by the branches. Although these ideas, articles and topics appear in this newsletter it does not necessarily reflect the view of this office.

B. British Airborne Pilgrimages 2018

Tours International are the preferred supplier of Airborne Commemoration Pilgrimages for RHQ PARA and will be providing Pilgrimage Tours in 2018 to the Anniversaries for the Battles of Normandy and Arnhem.

Free places are available for Airborne Veterans and Widows of WW2 Veterans returning to the theatre in which they fought. This is very kindly funded by the Airborne Forces Security Fund. The following combinations qualify for the places:

Veteran and Spouse	- 2 people
Veteran and Carer	- 2 people
Veteran, Spouse and Carer	- 3 people
Widow(er) and Carer	- 2 people.

Those who qualify and are travelling with Tours International will receive the subsidy through the Tour Operator. Tours International can be contacted on: 01892 515825 or resv@tours-international.com

Those travelling independently, through other travel companies or veteran organisations will be required to claim the subsidy through RHQ PARA. Please contact Admin or the Secretary for further details and the application form. These forms are also available on the website.

C. Royal British Legion – LIBOR Funded Trips

The Royal British Legion is on a mission to take all surviving WW2 veterans back to where they served.

The Royal British Legion wants to take all surviving veterans of the Second World War on a free Remembrance tour to where they served during their time in the Armed Forces.

Tours will take place throughout 2018 and will give WW2 veterans the chance to meet up with fellow veterans and pay their respects at battlefield sites, cemeteries and memorials. The Treasury is enabling these free tours to be funded by Libor fines, and will enable the veterans to return with a family member and carer.

Philip Hammond, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said: "I'm delighted that we can continue to support those who want to return with The Royal British Legion to the countries where they served. We have committed over £5 million of Libor funds to help those who fought for our freedom to return to pay their respects and safeguard the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice."

No national database exists of WW2 veterans who are still alive today, so the Legion is asking the public to help us make sure every surviving veteran can take part. If you're a grandchild, neighbour or carer and know someone who fought in WW2, please tell them about this opportunity and encourage them to sign up!

For more information please contact Arena Travel: <http://www.arenatravel.com/our-holidays/remembrance-travel/libor-tours-of-remembrance> or call them on 01473 660800.

D. Charity Commission News

The Charity Commission News is a quarterly newsletter, which provides essential information for charity trustees and their advisers. This is vital reading for any trustee within the Branches and provides a wealth of information on new ways in which to boost charity funds for organizations of all sizes. Further details can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/charity-commission-news>

E. Branch Charity Guide Extracts

The BIG rule – Keep to the Objects

When the PRA was set up as a registered charity the Trustees decided on the three charitable activities that the charity will undertake.

This effectively means that when a donor gives funds to the charity they are doing so on the assumption that it will be spent on the charity incurring expenditure to undertake the activities that it was set up to do.

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 214015

RHQ Disclaimer.

The Office of the Secretary of The Parachute Regimental Association is required to publish a disclaimer concerning any article or idea passed to branches by way of this letter. This letter provides a conduit between the branches to allow ideas, articles and topics to be viewed and discussed by the branches. Although these ideas, articles and topics appear in this newsletter it does not necessarily reflect the view of this office.

To spend income received on expenditure which is outside of the remit of the three charitable activities is to mislead the donor and the general public, and this is unacceptable.

Even if expenditure is spent on a worthy cause, if it is outside of the objects of the charity then charitable funds would have been spent against the wishes of the donors. For donors give to the charity as they would like to support their cause – aka the charity's objects.

It is important to note that Charity Trustees can be personally liable if they are not seen to operate within the objects.

Rules for Raising Funds

Rule 1 – Make it clear who you are representing

By far the most obvious rule, ensure that you have the PRA's name and branding clearly visible for all to see and identify. **ALWAYS** have the charity's registered number on printed materials.

Rule 2 – Make it clear what you are raising funds for

If you are raising funds for the PRA in general, then just ensure that you have followed Rule 1. However, if you are fundraising for something specific on behalf of the PRA, then make sure that this information is clear for donors to see. For example, raising funds for a new commemorative statue.

There are many principles to bear in mind when fundraising, but by far the most important is that of honesty. No matter who you are or what you are fundraising for, you need to be as upfront and honest with donors as possible.

Remember that money has to be used as intended by donors. If you raise money for a specific purpose, you have to use the money for this purpose.

Rule 3 – Only use a PRA bank account

NEVER bank funds into your personal account or any non-PRA bank account. If you do you will be putting yourself in a very unsavoury position.

The Branch Charity Guide is there to help you. It is available in all Branches and online

F. Insurance Renewal/Affiliation Fees

The policy for the renewal of the annual PRA Insurance has now been completed and is effective from 23 April 2018. There are still a large number of Branches that have yet to pay their annual affiliation fee of £50. The Certificate of Insurance will NOT be issued to any Branch that has not paid. Payment can be made by cheque payable to: The Parachute Regimental Association or by BACS transfer to: Sort Code 16-19- 26, Acct No 19954846. Please ensure you use your Branch name as a payment reference so that we can track payments. The new certificate will be sent individually to those Branches that have paid.

G. Regimental Charity Collections and Donations

The Association Charity is extremely grateful for all donations received. All members actively involved in coordinating fundraising events and street collections for Branches do a tremendous amount of work in this area. The Parachute Regimental Association, Support our PARAs and Airborne Forces Security Fund charities work directly with organisations such as SSAFA and the RBL, who are mainly there as a point of contact for Airborne Veterans seeking assistance and as such do not provide funding for individual requirements. Your support to the Regimental Charities is vital to the direct support of Airborne Veterans now and in the future.

H. Welfare Process

The Regimental Welfare team at RHQ PARA is here to assist any member of the Parachute Regiment or Airborne Forces in need. The process is designed to ensure transparency and provide an audit trail for any assistance given, which is a lawful requirement. The first part of the process must be initiated by a SSAFA or

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 214015

RHQ Disclaimer.

The Office of the Secretary of The Parachute Regimental Association is required to publish a disclaimer concerning any article or idea passed to branches by way of this letter. This letter provides a conduit between the branches to allow ideas, articles and topics to be viewed and discussed by the branches. Although these ideas, articles and topics appear in this newsletter it does not necessarily reflect the view of this office.

RBL caseworker. They will complete Form 'A' which is then submitted to the Regimental Welfare Team. They will then allocate funds from the Regimental Charities as required. The following numbers are very useful and should be used if you do not know your local SSAFA or RBL office number:

SSAFA Helpline: 0800 731 4880

RBL Helpline: 0808 802 8080

Any Branch that requires assistance from the Regimental Welfare Team can call them on: 01206 817102 or see the website for details.

Unofficial Welfare Officers acting without the authority of a Branch or RHQ will not be tolerated

I. Congratulations

On the 26 April 2018 at the annual rewards day on the birthday of the King the Netherlands, Mr Jaap Van Genderen was presented with Ridder in de Orde van Oranje Nassau. The order is a chivalric order open to "everyone who has earned special merits for society". These are people who deserve appreciation and recognition from society for the special way in which they have carried out their activities.

Jaap was awarded the medal for his volunteer work, including the work for the Airborne Forces Security Fund (AFSF) and various other organisations. He also rescued an old lady who fell at the railway crossing and he got to her clear just before the train passed.

Jaap does an enormous amount of work on behalf of our Veterans through the AFSF and RHQ PARA.

EVENTS

The events calendar on the website is being constantly updated. Here is a selection of forthcoming events:

J. Pass out Parades (POP)

The next Pass Out Parades are as follows:

798 Breville Platoon	Friday 29 June 18
799 Athens Platoon	Friday 3 August 18
800 Normandy Platoon	Friday 19 October 18
801 Tamera Platoon	Friday 16 November 18
802 Arnhem	Friday 14 December 18

The parades take place at Helles Barracks, Catterick. Please ensure that you make contact with ITC Catterick prior to attending as cancellations do occur with minimum notice given.

K. Commemoration Dates for 2018/2019

For planning purposes please note the future dates for Commemorations:

Normandy

2018 5-7 Jun

Arnhem

74th 2018 21-23 Sep

75th 2019 20-22 Sep

L. Diary Dates

5 May 18 4 PARA Reunion Lincoln

Les Ratcliffe: 07711 853103

Dave Macaulay: 07731 824247

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 214015

RHQ Disclaimer.

The Office of the Secretary of The Parachute Regimental Association is required to publish a disclaimer concerning any article or idea passed to branches by way of this letter. This letter provides a conduit between the branches to allow ideas, articles and topics to be viewed and discussed by the branches. Although these ideas, articles and topics appear in this newsletter it does not necessarily reflect the view of this office.

13 May 18	Memorial Service	Hardwick Hall, Chesterfield
This is a major Regimental event that will be attended by the wider Regimental family. Why not come along, support the day and see the Red Devils Freefall Team on parade.		
20 May 18	PARAs 10	Colchester
17 Jun 18	Falklands	Pangbourne College
23 Jun 18	Regimental Commemoration Day PRA AGM	National Memorial Arboretum
6 Jul 18	WO & Sgts Mess Past and Present	Aldershot
7 Jul 18	ABF South	Whale Island, Portsmouth
14 Jul 18	ABF North	Eden Camp, North Yorkshire

**Details of all these events and others are available on the Web Page at
www.theparachuteregimentalassociation.com**

Paul Raison

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 214015

RHQ Disclaimer.

The Office of the Secretary of The Parachute Regimental Association is required to publish a disclaimer concerning any article or idea passed to branches by way of this letter. This letter provides a conduit between the branches to allow ideas, articles and topics to be viewed and discussed by the branches. Although these ideas, articles and topics appear in this newsletter it does not necessarily reflect the view of this office.