



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

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1 June 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 25<sup>th</sup> of each month to the Secretary at [secretary@prahq.com](mailto:secretary@prahq.com)

### Topics:

- A. Important Note to Branch Treasurers
- B. British Airborne Pilgrimages 2018
- C. Hardwick Hall 2018
- D. Royal British Legion – LIBOR Funded Trips
- E. Charity Commission News
- F. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)
- G. Insurance Renewal/Affiliation Fees
- H. Regimental Charity Collections and Donations
- I. Welfare Process

### Events

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

### A. Important Note to Branch Treasurers

As previously stated the old PRA bank account has now closed and we now use Holts Bank. Can I please ask all Branch Treasurers to ensure that they cancel all Direct Debits (DD) or Standing Orders (SO) to the old account and set up new payments using the new bank details. It is also important that any cheque sent to RHQ for payment or donation is correctly titled with the account name. The new bank details are as follows:

Account Name: The Parachute Regimental Association  
Bank Name: Holts

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 214015

### RHQ Disclaimer.

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Account Number: 19954846  
Sort Code: 16 – 19 – 26

All cheques should be made payable to: The Parachute Regimental Association and should have the Branch name written clearly on the back.

### **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](mailto: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. Hardwick Hall 2018**

This year's Hardwick Hall Commemoration took place on Sun 13 May 18. The event was formed around a 4 PARA training and heritage weekend, which saw them learning the early history of the Regiment through various stands and displays. This, coordinated with some intensive drill lessons and practice made for a great occasion. Maj Gen G P Hill CBE took the salute on the day from a parade formed of two guards of 4 PARA and their Colour Party, one from the PRA, nine Branch Standards and the RLC Band. The event was a great success and thanks must go to Mick Wattam and his team for pulling it together along with Major Curt Vines.



### **D. 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.

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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.

#### **E. 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>

#### **F. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**

The new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) came into force on 25 May 2018. The RHQ Privacy Notice has been published on the website, along with a personal Information Update Form. A hard copy of both will be included for all those that receive this newsletter in the post. In time, an email version of the update form will be available, making it very simple to ensure that we have the correct information for all our members. The new regulations set out clear direction on how we should be managing the information we hold on our members and clearly defining how we will store and use it. Each Branch must comply with the policy and ensure that they are protecting the information they hold. A Branch version of the Privacy Notice is now available online, as well as some handy Do's & Don'ts. The Branch version can be adapted to suit your Branch and provide adequate information for present and future members. If you have any questions please contact the RHQ Data Protection Advisor Lisa Stapleton on Tel: 01206 8170786 or by email: [dpa@supportourparas.org](mailto:dpa@supportourparas.org)

#### **G. 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.

#### **H. 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, the smallest of the Charities, is constantly looking for ways of raising funds and rely directly on the support from the Branches. We work directly with the other Regimental Charities as a point of contact for Airborne Veterans seeking assistance. Your support to the Regimental Charities is vital to the direct support of Airborne Veterans now and in the future.

#### **I. 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 RBL caseworker. They will complete Form 'A' which is then submitted to the Regimental Welfare Team. They

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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**

**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**

74<sup>th</sup> 2018 21-23 Sep

75<sup>th</sup> 2019 20-22 Sep

**L. Diary Dates**

5-7 Jun 18	Normandy Commemorations	Normandy, France
17 Jun 18	Falklands Service	Pangbourne College
23 Jun 18	Regimental Commemoration Day PRA AGM	National Memorial Arboretum
6-8 Jul 18	ABF Weekend	Aldershot
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
8 Sep 18	Para2 Club Dinner	Stoke Rochford

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16 Sep 18	Chilbolton Memorial Service	Chilbolton, Hants
21-23 Sep 18	Arnhem Commemorations	Arnhem, Netherlands

**Details of all these events and others are available on the Web Page at**  
[www.theparachuteregimentalassociation.com](http://www.theparachuteregimentalassociation.com)

*Paul Raison*

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# HARDWICK HALL 2018



General Hill takes the salute



The Wreath laying party



The Parachute Regimental Association Standard Bearers on Parade

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