HEADLINES

June 22 – President's Newsletter Welcome

Greetings everyone and welcome to our latest newsletter, I hope this finds you all COVID free and enjoying your freedom at long last. It's been a terrible time over the last 2 and a bit year, I'm sure that most of us have been affected by the pandemic in some way. I can only hope that, however you have suffered your lives are now returning to some sort of normality and that we never have to live through something similar again.

Sadly, we continue to lose our comrades, I guess this is inevitable but it's still devastating for those who are close to them. The committee are dedicated to ensuring that when one of our own passes it doesn't go un-noticed. So, firstly a plea to you all, if you know of a fellow Recovery Mechanic who has passed or approaching "end of life" please contact us. We can then arrange to have a standard bearer at the funeral if a family wishes it and will appeal for someone to write a few words that we can publish in our regular newsletters. They don't have to be a member of this branch, if they are a Recovery Mechanic that's good enough, which brings me to my second point.

Recently the committee were questioned as to why the standard was being paraded at the funeral of a Recovery Mechanic who wasn't a member of the branch? The answer to that is simple. As serving or veterans, regulars, or reservists we are all members of the REME Association by default. Some choose not to join a specific branch, others, like you do so. Branch membership is only a name on a list, as a Recovery Mechanic you belong to a very special family, you will always belong to that family and that family will forever look out for you. This branch is run by Recovery Mechanics for Recovery Mechanics, just because your name is not on a list does that make you less of a Recovery Mechanic? Of course not, we are here for all Recovery Mechanics, therefore we will continue to parade our standard at the request of the family at any past or present Recovery Mechanics funeral, branch member or not. I hope this clears up any misunderstandings and that you agree with the views of the committee on this issue. If you do have objections, then you are very welcome to put those feelings to the committee and perhaps volunteer as a committee member yourself so you can change them.

Finally, and on that subject, we have a number of committee members who have given over 4 years dedicated service to you all, through the RBL committee and now the Association. They have done sterling work on your behalf, but they feel their time is now up and are ready to pass the baton over to a willing volunteer. So, we are seeking volunteers for the committee. The posts are very important to the smooth running of the branch and therefore our current incumbents will not retire until suitable replacements can be found, they deserve their retirement. They have worked tirelessly for you for over 4 years so, please if you can spare an hour a week at most and you feel you can contribute to this family don't be shy, please, please step up and help.

Thank you all and have a great summer.

John

OBITUARIES – RECOVERY MECHANIC

We have again suffered loss of Recovery Mechanic Colleagues over the last few months. The following 4 colleagues have recently passed:

George Bagshaw
Terry Stock
Liam Smith
Chris Ayers

George Bagshaw.
Script by Mick Higgins former Warrant Officer Recovery Mechanic
Tribute to the late George Bagshaw former Staff Sergeant Recovery Mechanic

This is a tribute to George who was my very good friend and Brother-in-Law.

I first met George after coming out of SEME training in 1971 and I was posted to 4 Armd. Wksp. in Detmold, Germany. Being wet behind the ears, George took me under his wing and showed me the ropes i.e. 'The Halfway House' guest house, where he introduced me to Herforder Pils, the guest house was only 2oo metres from Hobart Barracks in Detmold and it was very popular with 4 Armd Wksp personnel.

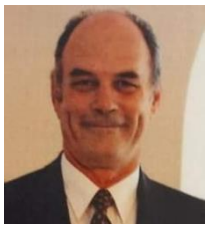
During my time in Detmold, I was writing to my girlfriend, now my wife Sue, who got her sister Ann writing to George, to cut a long story short Ann became George's wife and they had two boys, Richard and David who have grown up to be a credit to them both.

George enlisted into the REME in May 1969 and served for 22 years leaving the Army in May 1991, during this time over various postings George made friends with lots of people who knew him to have a wicked sense of humour and he would enjoy taking the mickey out of them and the majority of them would make sure they returned the favour.

George sadly passed away on the 24th of January this year, in hospital after complications with COVID. George's funeral took place on the 28th of February 2022 at St Edward's Church in Leek, Staffs and was well attended by family, friends and ex comrades who made sure that the REME Recovery Mechanics Standard was present, which was very much appreciated.

George was very well liked by all, and he will be very sadly missed especially by myself and his family.

Arte et Marte



Chris Ayres
Script by Kev Boulton – Stand Down Chris, your duty is done.

Yet again we have said cheerio to one of our Old and Bold.

Ex WO1 Chris Ayres, gone way before his time, he was very much respected and will be very much missed by family and friends alike. Below is how his family described him in the funeral service:

"Our Chris"

What can we say about our Chris?
In this poem of simple rhyme
A fit and active man he was
Very generous helpful and kind

He was born in "Munster" Germany
To Grace and Fred, a first son
Kevin and Sandra followed
Completing the family album

Happy memories he shared with Kevin
Climbing trees on the Ambrosden site
Their hair going blond in Egypt and
Saying the monkeys on Gibraltar bite

They travelled around in the Army
Fred being a Captain at this stage
Never knowing anything different
Chris joined up at a very young age

Together with the boys in REME
He could repair a Chieftain tank
Very clever and practical with his hands
and instigating the occasional prank

Cyprus, Hong Kong, and Northern Ireland
Were just some of the tours he undertook
Maintaining any vehicle
After reading the "whole" manual book

He was always proud of his attachment
For a few months with the SAS
Teaching the lads "Bomb disposal"
Great patience and courage possessed

He had a strong sense of duty
Always punctual with clothes neatly pressed
Reliable and very observant with
Great loyalty he was also blessed.

He excelled at Orienteering
And loved the Rugby game
Tug of War and Parachuting
After which his knees were never the same

Memories of Susie on a quad bike
And Carl target shooting down the farm
Jodie and Mia playing "horseshoes"
Checking none of them came to harm

In "civvy street" he drove lorries
Big Arctics he liked the best
Transporting food around Prestatyn to
Moving MOD stores east or west

His red Kawasaki motor bike
Was once his pride and joy
Encouraging Andy to "rev" the throttle
And ride a PWee 50 as a boy.

Chris enjoyed buying things on EBAY
He would never buy just one
Cluttering the house to overflowing
was for Vee really not much fun

He was known as Grumpy Grandad
Loving marmite and lemon drizzle cake
He looked forward to his veteran meetings
With "Ford" being his preferred car make

His love of dogs was never questioned
Whether Alsatian or Black Lab
Sharing his food almost daily
Max thought this was really "FAB"

So dear Chris we will always "love you"
In our hearts you will always remain
Life will go on without you
But it will never be the same.

ARTE et MARTE

Terry Stock

Script by the Family & Jonathan Pugh

This year, on February 10th, our friend Terry Stock passed away. Soldiers that knew Terry or "Damage" knew him as a whirlwind of a soldier who was always great fun to be around, with never a dull moment to be found.
Terry had a work hard, play harder attitude, and he could be guaranteed to be at the centre of any shenanigans that may be afoot.
His Sergeant at the time, John Fulton, has stated that Terry was the best craftsman he ever had and for me he was the best roommate.
Those who knew Terry a little better, like his roommates, also knew of a kind, animal loving, knowledgeable and nature loving gentleman, who would often, without warning, shout out the name of the passing wildlife or flora and fauna.
As a roommate he was great fun, causing mayhem at every opportunity, yet this was always balanced with a let's get it sorted attitude when the chips were down, and a room inspection was imminent.
In his role as a recovery mechanic, I think you will all agree that Terry was a Typical Recy Mech, accepting each task with alacrity, seeing each job through to the end, ready for the next task in hand and making new friends each day, as all great soldiers do.
On leaving the Army, Terry met the love of his life, Debra and lived in a village called Northam near Westward Ho! They had a cat named Elsie and many nieces and nephews, with a favourite niece being called Daisy.
Terry loved walking, kayaking and his garden and house, with a sea view. Terry adored wife Debra and everything about his life with her.
Whilst having a chat with Debra at his funeral, she spoke of a gentle, romantic man and how she felt adored every day since the day she had met Terry.

The love for Terry could not be hidden at his funeral, this must have been a great comfort to his dad Bern, Mum Lavinia, and sister Nicky where it was obvious to all there that Terry played a big part in the lives of all present, just like he played a big part in all the soldiers' lives that he had met in his army days.

If you're ever in the area, pop into the Kingsley Inn, Northam, mention Terry's name and I'm sure you will be told a few stories of the soldier that we knew as DAMAGE.

Terry Stock 6th July 1969 - 10th February 2022 .

ARTE et MARTE

Liam Smith

Script by Bryan Cronie, RIP Liam

Liam passed away earlier this year, clearly taken far too early.

It has been extremely difficult to trace anyone with sufficient knowledge of Liam to write a proper eulogy, below is what could be gathered from REME websites that gives some of Liams history.

He was a REME member and a Recovery Mechanic from 2007 to 2013. He belonged to the Northeast, and it is believed Gosforth was his hometown. After his service Liam spent a short while working as a Recovery Mechanic before going on to truck driving, he drove HGVs for several Transport companies in the Northeast area, it is believed that prior to his passing, Liam was driving for a company known as Fresh Freight.

We hope that people who knew Liam will find comfort in visiting his profile page on Facebook to remember and celebrate his life.

ARTE et MARTE

COMMITTEE NEWS

Membership & Funding: Bob Fullbrook

It's time for me to hand over my role on the committee so we are looking for a volunteer to take over, is that you? I have served on the committee since February 2018 and its time for new blood.

What do I Do?

My role on the committee is the Point of contact for all those applying to join the branch and ensuring they are eligible to join the branch.

To give current members a point of contact I run the recymechbranch@gmail.com Email address.

I maintain and update the Branch membership list and ensure that General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) rules are adhered to. Only 2 members of the branch have access to the personal information you supplied on joining, the Membership Secretary and the Chairman.

How much Time Do I spend Doing my Role?

Like everything in life it's a juggling act and our time is precious, on average an hour a week is more than enough time to cover all my duties. I also attend the quarterly Committee meeting (these are done virtually in the evenings on Teams or Zoom)

If you would like to volunteer, please contact the branch, I will be available to assist anyone who is selected to ensure that the hand over is seamless.

Joining REME Connect

REME Connect is the Association Web site and going forward you will have to be a member of the website to get REME tickets for the Army vs Navy and to apply for a ticket to march as a branch member at the London Cenotaph. You don't have to be a member of REME Connect to be a branch Member, but we highly recommend you join, it costs nothing.

You can do this by accessing the link below then click 'Join', leave your details and GDPR permissions and you will receive a login. REME Connect is now the 'go to' comms focus for RHQ REME so please do 'connect' without delay as without a login you are likely to miss out!

https://remeconnect.org/

Whitehall Cenotaph 2022

Thank you to all those that have applied to march at the Whitehall cenotaph on the 13 November 2022. Your names have been submitted to Association HQ and we are awaiting confirmation of acceptance and ticket issue.

You would have received an email from the branch confirming you application has been submitted to the Association (all names submitted below)

Robert Fullbrook, Matthew lambert, Alastair McKinlay, Paul Merry, Alexander MacDonald, Frank Goodall, Paul Farrell, Robert Issott, Frederick Hodson, Andy Tidbury, Christopher Zeil, Bryan Cronie, John Kennedy, Glenn Sutherland, Roland Oakley, David Thomson, John Potts

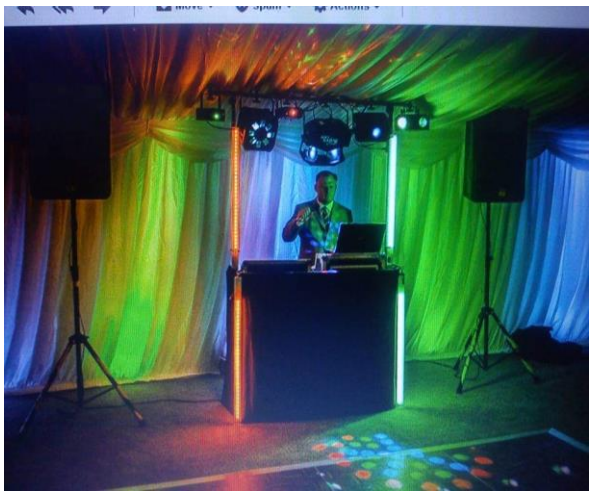
Secretary: Chris Zeil

As you all know we are holding our first get together as a Branch of the REME Association. This is in the form of a Ball, The Bow Shackle Ball and will be held on Saturday 10th September 2022 at The Cedar Court Hotel, Mayo Ave, Rooley Ln, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD5 8HW.This is an update on the event.
We have secured a professional photographer. Who is a veteran himself (not REME), he will be taking individual couple/group photos for those that want one on arrival at the Rowan suite before the evening meal, to be paid for on the night and received on the night? He will also be taking photos during the evening, and these will be freely available from the Committee after the event.

Our special guest for the evening is the Corps Colonel IJ (Jason) Phillips ADC CEng FIMechE and his good lady wife Samantha. The evening is a sit down three-course meal.

The entertainment during the evening is a Disco presented by Andy Zeil and the live music by Pete Binns, Motown & Soul meets Elvis. There will also be a raffle and auction during the evening.
For those that have not already booked a place for this great event. There are still spaces and rooms available for the event.
The evening will be £45.00 per person and rooms are available at £67.00 for a single and £77 for a double. This is per night with breakfast.

A deposit of £20.00 per person is required ASAP for the evening meal and entertainment. Room bookings must be made direct to the hotel on 01274 406606, option 1 and quote code REM100922.



Veterans Member: Steve Robertshaw

As you know the Bow Shackle ball will be upon us this Autumn, but did you know the reason we chose that date was to coincide with the Veterans Parade at Eden camp the next day?

Eden camp is about an hour's drive from The Cedar Court hotel towards Malton, I will be publishing more Info as and when, but you can see the Initial advertisement on our Facebook site under Events.

On your behalf I have been in contact with Eden camp to let them know we as a branch will be attending with our Standard, no numbers yet of course as it's a bit too early but if you fancy it give me a shout and I'll put your name down. As I said, early days but numbers would be nice.

Oh, by the way the NAAFI bar on site is excellent, just saying!

Changing the subject slightly I have noticed there are more and more small charities starting up looking after veterans' welfare and I am really pleased the way things are going, as you know I am a big supporter of Sporting Force and the various Veterans Hubs from around the country. Hull4hero's seems to have lots of things going on. We travel down from Newton Aycliffe each Wednesday to team up with them along with BLESMA and various other local Veterans Associations at the Combat Café kindly hosted by Leeds United football at Elland Road.

Please support these Veteran's get togethers if you can It's an ideal opportunity to meet up over a bacon banjo and a cup of tea.

Serving Member: Dave Harcus – Welcome by the Scribe

Those of you who are sharp eyed would have seen on our webpage that we have a new Serving Member on our Committee. We welcome Dave Harcus, who we are sure will do a great job representing all serving members of the Branch. Dave very kindly volunteered to fill the gap left by Ross Mellon, who had to withdraw due to operational commitments, welcome aboard Dave and at the same time a big thank you to Ross for his hard work and efforts during his time on the committee and Stay Safe – The Scribe

Reservist Member: Mark O'mahony.

Quarterly Social Gathering – Use of 103Bn.

On the reservist front it's been a little quiet the last quarter, the main effort has been on establishing a firm relationship with the RFCA and 103Bn REME based in Northampton where the intention due to its central location is to hold a quarterly purely social 'gathering' for anyone interested.

Firming up this relationship the RFCA agreed to reduce the usual hire charge of the 103Bn facilities for the weekend down to £150.00. The 'so what' of this, the cost would have to be subsidised by those attending.

With the good will and offers to support the event with bar staff and admin support, (stock hand overs etc.) by 103Bn reservists and regular staff the committee estimated approx. 30 people would be required to attend to make the event worthwhile. Unfortunately, less than 10 persons declared an interest to attend. There has been a very kind request made to the RFCA by the QM 103Bn due to our status to cancel the hire charge as 103 Bn REME would like to support the REME Association in every way possible, this has yet to be confirmed. Further due to insurance, the use of car parking space for motor homes and caravans will not be permitted which obviously increases the financial burden for anyone attending.

Therefore, the decision has been made to postpone this mid-June event and explore other opportunities to hold a similar event later in the year if the members have an appetite for one. In the event that we do get positive outcome, could those of you who have an appetite for such a gathering please make it known by submitting an email declaring your interest to our normal email address: recymechbranch@gmail.com

We hope to have a more positive update for you by the time the next newsletter.

FORTH COMING EVENTS

This year's REME Regimental Sunday will take place at the Royal Hospital Chelsea (RHC) on 10 Jul 22., an event well worthy of attendance.

The format for the day is subject to confirmation but will resemble the following:

- 1030hrs – Arrive RHC
- 1100hrs – Pensioners, Standards, Association members and soldiers Parade and Inspection by Col REME and Corps ASM.
- 1130hrs – Church Service
- 1230hrs – Pensioners Bar for curry and drinks
- 1500hrs – Depart Chelsea

It is hoped that a good number of Branch Standards will be available to attend in order to add to the spectacle of the day. Chris Zeil will be representing our Branch as Standard Bearer, why not go along and give him your support.

Every member of the REME Association is invited to attend with a guest. This can be either as a spectator or parade participant.

Those wishing to attend should indicate attendance to our normal email address immediately at recymechbranch@gmail.com to enable registration.

WO,s & SNCO,s Recovery Reunion will be held at Lyneham over the period 15 – 17 July 2022.

Yorkshire Wartime Experience will be held at East Bierley, Bradford over the period 12 – 14 August 2022.

The Bow Shackle Ball will be held at Clarion Ceder Court Hotel, Bradford on Saturday 10th September 2022.

Eden Camp Modern History Theme Museum Parade will be held at Malton , North Yorkshire on Sunday 11th September 2022.

REME Annual Service of Remembrance will be held at the National Memorial Arboretum, Croxall Road, Alrewas, Staffordshire, DE13 7AR, on 29 September 2022, beginning at 1045am.

Annual Service of Remembrance will be held at the Cenotaph, London on Sunday 13th November 2022.

OTHER DATES FOR THE DIARY

There are no other confirmed dates for any events, however the committee are looking into the possibility of a get together in the period approaching Christmas, it is thought early December 2022. The venue would be 103 Bn, REME facilities in Clare Street, Northampton. (Where a pint of the Black Stuff can cost as little as £1.50) To allow such a venture to go ahead we require numbers of who might be interested, to make it really worthwhile we would hope to get the attention of 20 to 30 members. So, if you are interested in a Sandbag and

Lamp Swinging session can you please make it known by sending an email to our Branch email at, recymechbranch@gmail.com.

Another area of potential currently being explored is possibility of a trip across the water to Normandy to visit the Graveyards of our Fallen. This would be in 2023, again to make it worthwhile we require numbers. This could be an opportunity to make it a family occasion, a weekend away, plus, I am sure many of you have long thought about visiting these beautiful places. If interested, please send an email to our Branch email at, recymechbranch@gmail.com, stating the number likely to be in your party?

MEMBERSHIP SUBMISSIONS

Recovery in Canada – By Steve Robertshaw

Sometime in early 1981 on a battlegroup on the plains of BATUS training area I was a full screw ARV commander, my tank T48A was as you can see the ARV attached to D sqn fitters' section. We were following D sqn on a live firing exercise when I got a call from HQ, the range safety staff, to attend a bog in as I was the closest recovery vehicle. They were panicking a bit as the battlegroup were heading our way and live firing on any hard target.

My orders were to drive up to the casualty and asses if it could be recovered in the next hour and a half or I would have to evacuate the crew and leg it before both my tank and the casualty were targeted.

So, it turned out the casualty, an infantry FV432 was only a couple of clicks away so we drove over for a look see. When I got there my heart sunk, they had only attempted to drive through a dry lakebed rather than go around the lake shore on hard standing.

The dry lake turned into mud at the middle and the 43' had lost traction and was stuck, the bad news was it was a big lake they were in the middle of and out of reach of my winch rope.

Consultation time, I explained over the air to both my Zero and the range safety that I could recover it but they weren't going to like what I proposed to do, which was drive as far as I could into the lake till my winch rope reached, I would then pull the 43' out of the mud and once he was out use him and T48 as anchors so I could self-recover. Well, there was some serious flapping going on the radio and I could see by the time a decision was made it would be too late so in between calls I drove in anyway and got on with it.

At this point range safety had a helicopter hovering overhead to evacuate the crew in case I ballsed the recovery up. Happily, the 432 pulled straight out and with him reversing and locking one track he slingshot out to the edge of the lake. I then hooked our 434 and their 432 together and using them as an anchor self-recovered out of the mud.

By now the net was going nuts and we could hear the tanks shooting over the ridge so throwing all the tackle on top of my ARV we legged it to safety, needless to say I received beers and much thanks from the Infantry and a huge bollocking from range safety, and a well done from the CO.

All in a day's work though it was squeaky bum time for a while!

Missing Medals & Honesty – by Matthew Lambert

On the 19/04/22 I received a very confusing email, it came from Mrs Dawn Cainey, the Corps Digital Manager, who also covers the Corps Social Media channels. She informed me that my medals had been found and were in the possession of a Bill Fitzgerald. My reaction to this was of surprise, shock, and confusion, as I was not aware that I had lost my medals. Then the old grey matter started to kick in, I could recall that I had lost them in 2010 as I was leaving the Army in Thorney Island and that I had been very disappointed as I had to purchase replicas.

I was given Bill's phone number and he explained a relative of his worked in the Sergeants Mess bar, (there's a shock ha!) they had found them and placed them in the lost and found box, the family member then had decided to take the box to a charity as a while had passed without anyone coming forward to claim the medals, however the box somehow ended up in their attic. (Long story).

The family moved up north and the medals went with them, as you've already guessed by now the family member gave them too Bill who contacted REME. I am really happy that people went to the trouble of getting the medals back to me and I thank everyone for their time and efforts, there are still many good and honest people around. Even though I had replicas it never felt the same as when wearing the originals.

Joining the Committee – By Dave Harcus

Due to Ross Mellon deploying on Op's he needed to be replaced as the serving member on the committee. I'm sure we would all like to thank him for his dedication and hard work.

So why did I volunteer?

I have several reasons but the main one is a sense of duty. I've served as a Recovery Mechanic now for over 30 years both reserves and regular service. Many members of the association have served with me and given me help and advice whenever I've needed it. So, I feel the need to pay back to those individuals and to the wider trade. Our trade is a very proud one and there is no such thing as an Ex Recy-Mech, we are banded by a brotherhood that the rest of our Corps is extremely jealous of. Our brotherhood has been demonstrated and proven many times with the creation of the Recy Mechs memorial, the extremely generous donations to Stu Carmichael's Fund for his fight against MND and the amazing donations to the family of Mark Wilson after his sad passing (RIP Mark) to mention just a few. I have always been a proud Recy Mech and always will be, I've always done my upmost to promote our trade in a positive light often to the detriment of my annual reports 😊.

So how can I help you?

The way I see this role is as a link man between the association and the serving members. I understand certain frustrations of our serving members and I am keen to give them a voice if they don't feel able to ask for help or raise certain issues, if any of our serving members need the associations help, know of other members who need help, or simply have ideas for the good and benefit of the Branch (Events, fund raising, merchandise Etc). please spread the word and get our brothers (& Sisters) to join the branch and support it, you never know when you will need its help.

Help me to help you.

I am honoured to sit on the committee in this role and look forward to representing our serving members and promote this branch of the REME Association to the wider Recovery Mechanic Community.

Worthiest Cause – By Bryan Cronie

No introduction is required to the above, one of the most unique and I believe treasured initiatives within the Recovery Mechanic Family, a monument that will be preserved for evermore. As the photograph shows the name boards are filling up faster than we would like to see. After an initial phase of restoration, it is now time for phase 2, the provision of additional name boards and of course to allow this to happen there is a cost attached. To build three new walls and fit two plaque plates the sum of £1626 is required. Yes, again more expenditure in a time when many may be finding it extremely difficult to have spare cash around. However, we are all of the very resourceful Recovery Mechanic trade, we could always find that few bob when nearing pay day to go to the NAAFI for a pint. In modern day terms a pint amounts to around a fiver, if each member donated the cost of a pint, it would just about cover those costs. If you are in the position to give up a pint for the worthiest cause, please go to: https://www.gofundme.com/f/recovery-training-wing-memorial-wall?utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link_all&utm_source=cutomer and donate what you can afford please.

USEFUL TELEPHONE & EMAIL CONTACTS

REME Connect Tel: 01249 894507
REME Association Tel : 01249 894524 / 01249894507
Royal British Legion Tel: 0808 802 8080
Service of Remembrance (R Albert Hall) Tel: 02070877929 SSAFA Tel:0800 731 4880
Combat Stress Tel:0800 138 1619 PTSD ptsd.org.uk
Help for Heroes helpforheroes.org.uk
Service of Remembrance (R Albert Hall) festivalofremembrance.seetickets.com
REME Association Recovery Mechanic Branch recymechbranch@gmail.com
Additional numbers and email addresses can be found on our Facebook Page under the tab "Files". For the "Techier" amongst you it is now possible to go directly to some websites using QR Codes. Below you will find 9 QR Codes that may be useful.

ASSISTANCE

Assistance for the Branch Membership will always be close at hand, we are all in this together, and here to help. In the event of any member experiencing difficult times, they must not hesitate to contact the branch. If we as a group cannot assist with a situation, we certainly know where help may be available.

Anyone wishing to make contact, for whatever reason, please do so by using the branch email address: "recymechbranch@gmail.com"

AND FINALLY

This Newsletter is a little late, our intention was to produce a Newsletter every 3 months, but unfortunately that has slipped, like everything else in our beautiful country, I am going to blame Covid19, Russia and the cost of living.

Seriously, one of the reasons that causes delay is lack of material. We always attempted to give the membership an insight into what we as a committee are doing, but it should not stop there. It is your Newsletter, a platform to share memories, keep in contact, share ideas, share stories of yesteryear etc.

As one of the elder generations of Recovery Mechanics, who has listened to many, many weird and wonderful stories, of the great deeds done by the humble Recy. Mech, in the NAAFI, Screws Mess, WO & Sgts Mess, Reunions, Recovery Camps, Rugby Matches and even at the Cenotaph, yet when it comes to an article for the Newsletter or an opportunity to get your story recorded for life in providing your adventures (good, bad or otherwise) to John Sibley who has volunteered to create a book of all these great deeds so that they can be preserved and passed to future generations of the trade, all goes very quiet, surely we don't need "Beer" to make us talk, we have all proved this, simply by being a Recovery Mechanic, you could never have done your job without a very good vocabulary. (Won't publish what might have been in it). So come on folks, put your shyness aside and start committing all those heroic deeds to paper and email them to the Branch email address at, recymechbranch@gmail.com..

An area of assistance required is during the unfortunate circumstances of the loss of a colleague. We really want to notify all our members when we learn of a member passing, our communication channels for this are generally, someone notifies us, we pick it up from other REME websites, word of mouth when others talk about such, so we ask you, should you hear of a member passing, please let us know. Furthermore, and the more difficult part is finding an individual that is willing to write a eulogy that can be published within our Newsletters. So, again folks, if you happen to have known someone well that has passed, please do not be shy, feel free to write a eulogy in remembrance of them. Where more than 1 submission is received, we will edit them to obtain the best points, which will then be published in the Branch Newsletter, listing the names of the people who submitted them.

As a committee we have been reviewing the Branch Rules and found that we were lacking any rules on membership of our Facebook Account. New Rules have now been put in place giving the various conditions of membership. They can be found and viewed on our Facebook Account page under the tab "Files".

And Finally, Finally, a big thank you to our committee members for all their efforts and particularly those who have served the committee over several terms. To the membership who are attending one or more the forthcoming events, enjoy, have a great time, save some photographs, and submit for publication, along with your story, in Newsletter Edition 7.

Bryan