



Royal Observer Corps Association

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen

SNIPPETS

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13th February 2023

News & Information for All Members

We remember all those who are no longer with us. It is with sadness that I notify you of the death of Ann Greig wife of Norman Greig and George Armatage 23 Group Durham. Our condolences and thoughts are with Terry Armatage and Ann's family at this sad time.

The Web-Site ~ For those who have access have you checked out the official ROCA web site recently. If you have you will see the new home page with quick links to specific subjects. On the members pages you can choose to subscribe to an update email that will let you know when new items entered. Thanks to Martin Benson the Web Editor for his upgrade let him know what you think and keep him up to date with relevant information, events, and photos to share. The members link to the National and Group organisation gives you the latest contact detail for a committee member a quick source to find a contact.

Parades National Committee Headdress Policy ~ Following the majority decision at the ADM to accept 14 Group's proposal that those who did not serve in the ROC do not wear the ROC badge the National Committee has amended the policy to the following instruction:

'Ex-ROC wear the beret and ROC badge; ex-Associates do not wear the ROC badge. Ex-Associates wear appropriate headgear with no badge. National and Group Standard Bearers representing the Association will wear the ROC beret and badge.'

Guidance on suitable headgear ideally a beret of the same colour as the ROC beret. Those who served in the forces may of course wear their service cap and badge.

St Clement Danes Service 16th April 2023 to commemorate the formation of the RAF ~ This year the National Standard Bearer is Terry Giles. Vice Chairman Dave Arnott and I will be representing you at the Service.

National Arboretum Gathering ~ Saturday 13th May – This year will be more of an informal gathering with no specific service. Many of you arrive at the Arboretum during the morning. Those who wish to gather in the courtyard beside the Chapel from 11am and bring or buy your own refreshments picnic. At 1300 all assemble in the Grove where the National and Group Standards will march down the Grove to the Memorials. The Chairman will make a short address followed by the laying of Remembrance Crosses at the Memorial and Seaborne Memorial. Please will **all Groups Standards** be there by 1300 ready to march. If you do not have a Bearer, please bring a base to enable it to stand by the Memorial.

The Affiliation Fee ~ The capitation fee has remained at £2 for several years. The annual fee pays for the website, Public Liability Insurance, liaison and organising participation in National events, postage, and the most important role of preservation and all the work of the National Heritage team. The Committee is also mindful of the additional costs that will arise as we prepare for the 100th anniversary celebrations. All these costs for the benefit of members increase year on year. A resolution will be put to the ADM in October to increase the fee effective from 1st January 2024 based on the membership at 31/12/2023. The National Committee resolution will be issued to all Groups after the June 17th Committee meeting.

National Reunion Friday 13th to Sunday 15th October 2023 – Prince of Wales Hotel Southport Liverpool. Final details, options and booking forms will be available from March.

Heritage Reports – Reports from Edwina, Paddy’s for 31 Group and Cheryl for Arbroath and Scotland ~ All available on the website if you do not have access to the web ask your Group Secretaries for copies. Our grateful thanks to all these volunteers for their time and amazing work they do to promote and preserve our heritage.
John Sharpe visited Frank Alexander’s Museum recently and recommends a visit, if you can, to see his recreation of an exact replica of the monitoring room and wartime post.

Sunday 11th June 2023 – ROCA Heritage Display at RAF Cosford weekend air show. Held at RAF Cosford Airfield (not at Cosford Museum site)
All invited to support and visit the air show and National ROC display.

Veryan Post Open days 2023 ~ dates are on the web site.

Newhaven Fort WW11 Exhibition – Open for visitors check with Paul Norris for times.

ROC Display Boscombe Down Aircraft Collection Old Sarum (BDAC) the ROCM ROC Museum Display alongside the unique collection of Aircraft is open every day. Visit on a Friday and you may meet volunteers who are ex-ROC. The plaque that was on the original plinth at the Grove will shortly be a permanent exhibit on the display.

Saturday 1st July 2023 – ROC Open day there will be special exhibitions and presentations.

Area Reps Committee Meeting ~ the next scheduled issue of snippets will follow Area Reps meeting to be held 17th June 2023.



R E M E M B E R! www.rafbf.org

The **Royal Observer Corps Benevolent Fund** is still there for those that are in need.

It may not be you, but it could be someone that you know

Visit www.rafbf.org/help or contact RAF Benevolent Fund on 0800 169 2942

Parades Ceremonies Events known to date.

Dates for your 2023 diary further dates will be published as you let us know what is happening locally or nationally.

Full up to the minute details available at www.rocattwentytwelve.org, for specific heritage related items see www.roc-heritage.co.uk

6th May Saturday. Coronation of HM King Charles 111.

13th May Saturday. National Arboretum Gathering - Meet & Greet & Remembrance.

11th June Sunday. ROCA Heritage Display RAF Cosford Air Show.

24th June Saturday. National Armed Forces Day Falmouth

14th to 16th July Friday to Sunday. RIAT Fairford and the ROCA Heritage Display

16th September Saturday. Bentley Priory Battle of Britain & ROCA Heritage Display

13th to 15th October. National Reunion the Prince of Wales Hotel Southport Liverpool