



# Royal Observer Corps Association

Patron: Her Majesty the Queen

**SNIPPETS**

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9<sup>th</sup> August 2019

To: Group Secretaries  
Newsletter Editors

Copy to: Area Reps  
Web Editor

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## News & Information for your members

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**THE 30<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL REUNION 4<sup>TH</sup> TO 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2019**

**BOOKING DEADLINE 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2019**

**Full details and a booking form available from your Group Secretary and  
may be downloaded from [www.rocatwentytwelve.org](http://www.rocatwentytwelve.org)**

Deposit cheques payable to: **The ROC Association**, all booking forms & cheques to John Sharpe. The balance paid to the Hotel on arrival.

**Free Parking at the hotel, the train Station is across the road from the hotel**

Help us to have another successful weekend, there's still time book by 31<sup>st</sup>

August last minute late bookings will **NOT** be accepted.

**~ DO NOT DELAY DO IT NOW ~**

GROUP STANDARDS ARE INVITED TO BE DISPLAYED DURING THE SATURDAY MORNING MEETING & AT THE GALA DINNER. PLEASE BRING A SUITABLE WEIGHTED STAND.

**A COACH EXCURSION TO DERBYSHIRE DALES LEAVES THE HOTEL AT 1300  
SATURDAY AFTERNOON**

**TO BOOK SEATS SEND £10 PER SEAT TO JOHN SHARPE.**

**CHEQUES PAYABLE TO THE ROC ASSOCIATION**

If you have already sent your weekend booking to avoid disappointment please send payment for coach seats to John Sharpe - the coach is filling fast.

### **Annual Delegates Meeting on Saturday morning 5<sup>th</sup> October**

If you are unable to attend speak to your Group Committee/ Area Reps on any aspect of ROC Association business you wish to be discussed at the ADM.

**The ROC Benevolent Fund** ~ The Chairman recently spoke to Paul Hughesdon. The Chairman recalled the excellent presentation given at the 2017 ADM by Air Cdre Paul Hughesdon Director Welfare & Policy RAFBF. Paul was most concerned to learn of the member's lack of news, donation acknowledgments, and communication from the RAF Benevolent Fund which now administers our Fund. Paul guaranteed he or one of his team would attend the ADM each year to give latest update on our fund. If you have specific questions you wish to raise about the ROC Benevolent Fund tell your Delegate or Group Secretary.

Whilst on the subject of the ROC Benevolent Fund a reminder of how and who to contact in respect of help now available for anyone you know in need. How to access the information and if you have questions or require information:

1. The first contact is always your Group's ROCA Benevolent Fund Liaison - Officer - **the ROCBFLO** - every Group should have one.
2. The single point of contact for ROCBF/RAFBF questions is John Sharpe.
3. All requests for assistance to be sent to RAFBF access on their web link.
4. **All donations payable to the ROCBF** send direct to the RAFBF address.
5. All RAFBF contacts address phone number Web links are always published in ROCA newsletters Snippets and on the ROCA Web Site.

**ROCA Web Site ~ All Members Group Secretaries, Editors** will you please regularly browse the web site for the latest news and information. Continue to pass on all news and events to all members especially those without access to the internet. Mick or Keith Arnold who assists with maintaining the site welcomes your photos, news and dates to promote your local events. We need your feedback on any aspect of the web pages with suggestions for changes to maintain it as a relevant living communication tool for members.

Newsletters are available on the member's pages some fascinating and great articles and personal recollections of ROC times. **There are links to outside museums/organisations** that you will find a useful source and help when planning visits. If you know of other links that are relevant to members tell Keith.

**Social Media / Facebook** ~ are favourite tools for many members to keep in touch and share information. Please be mindful as with all publications including newsletters personal views may not always reflect either National Policy or current information. If you need to know anything about ROCA issues/policy the **first point** of enquiry is your Group or Area Representative.

**Arboretum Seaborne Memorial** ~ Jenny Major has this in hand and will update us on the current position at the ADM.

**Veryan Bunkers Open Days 2019** ~ last one of the season **Sunday 22 September** 1100 to 1230hrs and 1330 to 1500hrs. Booking is essential contact Lawrence Holmes, email or phone 01872 289234.

Lawrence's article in the National Trust Magazine summer edition page 71 'Why I Volunteer' generated much interest and bookings for his Post Open Days. Lawrence made full use of this excellent opportunity to publicise Veryan Post and the ROC generally.

**Heritage** ~ Edwina's latest report enclosed together with news from Paddy Malone and Cheryl Stewart. Latest update on our Web Site is photographs and Edwina's report on the display at this year's Salisbury National Armed Forces Day. John Shere's interview with Wiltshire Times Reporter may be read on <https://www.wiltshiretimes.co.uk/news/17741474.salisbury-armed-forces-day-event-in-pictures/>

**Royal International Ait Tattoo** ~ the weekend weather was no different than what we have experienced this summer. Friday a washout with umbrellas the order of the day and very limited flying. Saturday dawned with clear blue skies very hot and the terrific flying display to match. The highlight was the anniversary tribute to British Airways - flypast salute with the Red Arrows.

In the Vintage Village the National Display drew a number of visitors and ex ROC. The ROCM Winchester provided all the display items and equipment made possible through our joint ROCA/ROCM closer partnership working. This saved the ROCA Heritage Fund van hire costs and the team volunteer's time and logistical challenges. Thanks to the volunteers who set up on the Thursday and the equipment each day. Sue Quinton 3 Group, Peter Owen and David Peace 8 Group, Bryan Butler, Chris Trish Alex Shire 12 Group, Gary June Crook, Neville Cullingford 14 Group.



#### ROCA National Events and Ceremonies

Dates for your 2019 diary further dates will be published as events are finalised.

Full up to the minute details available at [www.rocatwentytwelve.org](http://www.rocatwentytwelve.org), for specific heritage related items see [www.roc-heritage.co.uk](http://www.roc-heritage.co.uk).

**14<sup>th</sup> September Saturday.** Battle of Britain Open Day Bentley Priory

**15<sup>th</sup> September Sunday.** Battle of Britain Service Westminster Abbey

**15<sup>th</sup> September Sunday.** Special Battle of Britain Open Day RAF Uxbridge Museum

**4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> October** ~ ROCA 30<sup>th</sup> National Annual Reunion & ADM ~ Palace Hotel Buxton

**7<sup>th</sup> November Thursday.** Field of Remembrance Westminster - Scottish Area

**10<sup>th</sup> November Sunday.** Remembrance Parade Cenotaph

**Area Reps Committee Meeting** ~ the next scheduled issue of snippets will follow the Area Reps meeting to be held 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019.



**REMEMBER!** [www.rafbf.org](http://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](http://www.rafbf.org) OR CONTACT RAF BENEVOLENT FUND ON 020 7307 3352 or 07825