

The Royal Air Force Regiment's
**ANNUAL CORPS MEMORIAL
COMMEMORATION SERVICE 2021**
AT THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM, ALREWAS, STAFFORDSHIRE

The RAF Regiment's Annual Corps Memorial Commemoration Service (ACMCS) – an Act of Remembrance - will take place in the RAF Regiment's Corps Memorial Garden (CMG) at the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) on

Armed Forces' Day Saturday 26th June 2021

From 12:45 – c.13:45

BACKGROUND

Sadly, the RAF has withdrawn from all major public engagements until mid-July to preserve its fighting capabilities and to mitigate any Covid19 infection risk to the general public. As such, the annual Parading of **The Queen's Colour for the RAF Regiment** and a contingent of **Trainee Gunners** from Training Wing at RAF Honington, will not now take place. It is, however, expected that a number of Standards of the relevant RAF Regiment Associations will be paraded.

OVERVIEW

The ACMCS21 will retain the key features of the traditional Service where possible. A new feature, which should become an annual one in the future, is the reading of the **Honour Roll** that reflects those who have had a Corps Memorial Stone laid in the CMG since its inception. This will also dedicate, formally, all those Stones officially within the CMG and give the relevant families and friends, where possible, the opportunity to commemorate the individuals concerned.

COVID19 CAVEATS: *The formal event remains subject to HM Govt's Covid19 Pathway, that sees all restrictions on such gatherings and social distancing ending on the 21st June. However, **TEST & TRACE** at the NMA is likely to continue into the future. Clearly, the nature of the global pandemic means that we cannot assume the Govt's plan will be sustained and, therefore, while planning will proceed on this basis, those intending to participate should be prepared for last-minute changes, curtailment or even cancellation of the programme in accordance with the prevailing HMG Covid19-related regulations. Attendees are advised not to enter into any contracts for travel or accommodation that cannot be changed or that would attract punitive cancellation charges, as the CMG Exco will not accept any liability for the consequences of any such cancellation or changes. Please plan accordingly.*

PROGRAMME

The outline Programme will be:

- 12:45 Assemble at the CMG
- 12:55 March-on The Standards
- From 13:00 *The Exhortation*
Memorial Stones Dedication
Honour Roll Recitation
RAF Regiment Collect
Wreath Laying
The Last Post
2-Minutes Silence
Reveille
Kohima Epitaph
The National Anthem
- 13:30 Closing Address
- March-off The Standards
- 13:45 Dispersal

HOW TO GET THERE

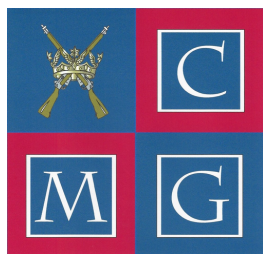
The NMA is near Alrewas in Staffordshire; the address is Croxhall Road, Burton-on-Trent, DR13 7AR [*SatNav = DR13 7AR*]. Armed Forces' Day is always one of the busiest on the NMA Calendar and visitors should be prepared for delays in access and parking. Subject to the Covid19 requirements in place, the pre-booking on-line of parking spaces may well still be required and visitors are strongly advised to check the NMA Website - which may be found at <https://www.thenma.org.uk/> - routinely and prior to travelling to the event, to identify any changes to the requirements.

FINDING THE CORPS MEMORIAL GARDEN

The CMG is to the end and on the left of **Giffard Avenue**, near to the Far East Prisoners of War (FEPOW) building. Attendees are encouraged to take advantage of the day and to view as many NMA Memorials and Commemorative facilities as they can. A Road Train operates from near to the Visitors' Centre on Giffard Avenue; tickets are obtainable available from the Visitors' Centre. Mobility scooters are also available on site although they would need to be pre-booked on-line.

IN THE EVENT OF CANCELLATION

Should the event need to be cancelled or curtailed, suitable announcements will be made on the main Assocs' websites and on RAF Regiment social media pages, where this Flyer would have been obtained.



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Act of Remembrance – Order of Service

- **Assemble in the CMG (12:45)**

Please leave the main and Corps Memorial pathways completely clear, give priority on the benches to those with a greater need and maintain social-distancing if required.
- **Standards March-On (12:55)**

National and Branch Standards of the RAF Regiment Associations.
- **The Exhortation (13:00)**

*“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.” (All) We will remember them.”*
- **Memorial Stones Dedication**

To those commemorated with the placement of a Corps Memorial Stone since the Corps Memorial’s inception in 2001.
- **Honour Roll Recitation**

The Names of those Commemorated will be recited.
- **RAF Regiment Collect**

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth, whose son Jesus Christ showed us the path of duty, we beseech thee to bless all who serve, or have served, in the Royal Air Force Regiment. Help us to do our duty with courage and dedication. Of thy goodness be our strength in times of danger, watch over our loved ones when we are separated, and make us a sure defence to those we serve. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. (All) Amen.
- **Wreath Laying**

Wreaths will be laid by the Commandant General RAF Regiment and the Chairmen of the Executive Council of the CMG, the RAF Regiment Association and the Association of RAF Regiment WOs & SNCOs.
- **The Last Post**
- **2-Minutes Silence**
- **Reveille**
- **Kohima Epitaph:**

*“When you go home, tell them of us and say,
For your tomorrow, we gave our today.”*
- **The National Anthem**

First Verse only
- **Closing Address**
- **Standards March-Off to
The RAF Regiment March**

‘Holyrood’ – Composer: Kenneth J Alford (1912).
- **Dispersal**

Have a safe journey to wherever you may be travelling.

Note: Circumstances – such as changes to the Covid19 regulations or adverse weather conditions - may result in changes, curtailment or cancellation of the event at little or no notice. The organisers regret that they cannot accept responsibility for the consequences of any such actions taken. Please plan your attendance accordingly.