

National Secretary's Report

Overview

Our Association's activities continue to make a strong and positive impression across the Corps and the wider RAF Regiment family. A quick glance through our magazine shows just how active we've been — from Australia, France, Belgium, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and beyond, you've all delivered with dedication and spirit.

Beyond our own network, we've strengthened ties with serving personnel, the Band of Brothers, and the RAF Museum Cosford, among others. Our participation in key events such as the MARNE Barracks and St Anne's Church Catterick rededication service, CMG NMA celebrations, and the Battle of Britain service at Westminster Abbey remains strong.

New initiatives, such as the recent TG Graduation parades, highlight our continued growth and adaptability. The Association stands as a living testament to the comradeship and enduring bonds of the RAF Regiment family.

Strategic Plan

This year, the Trustees have dedicated significant time and effort to reviewing our long-term direction and sustainability. A key focus has been our declining membership — a challenge we are addressing head-on.

We've identified the need for closer engagement with serving members and are building stronger links with the Corps Warrant Officer, whose support, including providing a KCS bearer party for Alan Perry's funeral, has already been invaluable.

We're also exploring better ways to connect with service leavers, retain existing members, and modernise our systems. Plans are underway to implement an integrated accounting platform and improve how we communicate with members across all levels of the Association.

Engagement

Interest and participation remain high, with many of our key events — including the Cenotaph Parade, Tower of London, NMA, and Catterick gatherings — regularly oversubscribed.

While much of this activity has been coordinated at National Management Committee (NMC) level, my goal is to extend engagement opportunities to our branches, particularly in Northern Ireland and Scotland. The Riders branch is an excellent example of this.

Our presence within P1 Ceremonial has been firmly established, and invitations to wider RAF and military events are now becoming the norm — further promoting comradeship among our members and supporters.

Volunteers & Supporters

None of what we achieve would be possible without the tireless dedication of our volunteers and supporters. You continually go above and beyond, and your efforts ensure the success of every event and initiative. On behalf of the Association, please accept my sincere thanks for all you do.

That said, we always need more hands. If you're willing to take on local event coordination — in areas such as Catterick, London, or Blackpool — please come and have a quiet word at the bar. Your support, in any capacity, makes a real difference.

Finally

Buster Maul is running the Snowdonia mountain marathon in place of Steve Coupe with money raised going to Cancer Research I propose a donation of £100

To all members and supporters who have assisted me throughout the past year — thank you. Your dedication keeps our Association strong and our bonds unbroken.

Per Ardua.

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M.J. Ashe MBE GCGI

National Secretary