

THE SOLDIERS' GAME

THE MAGAZINE OF THE ARMY FA

Issue 17 - August 2018

Games of Remembrance

Thursday 8th November

British Army vs German Armed Forces



ARMY
FOOTBALL



Women's Game

Kick Off 12pm at
Notts County FC

Men's Game

Kick Off 7pm at
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Games of Remembrance 2018



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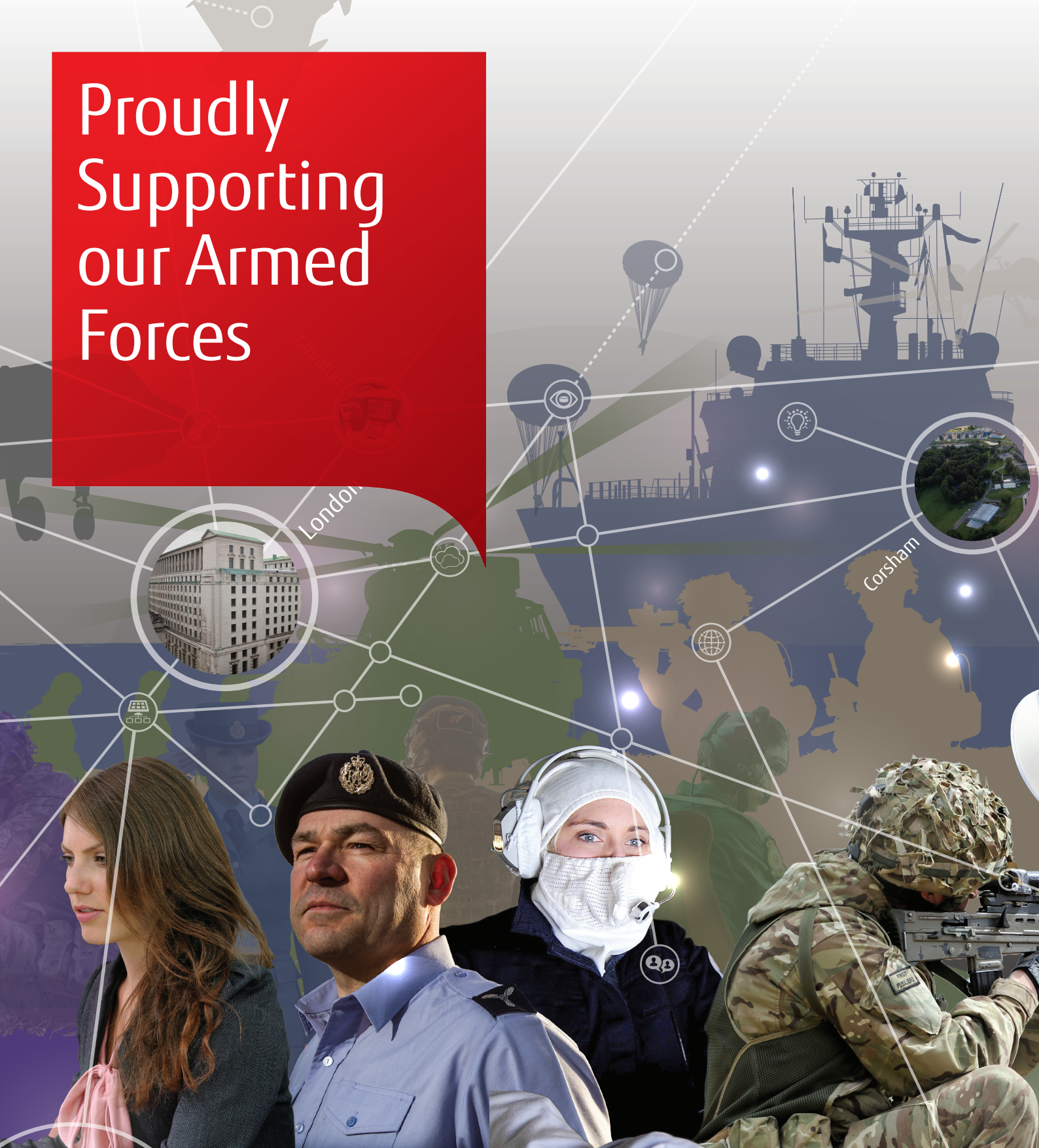


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Welcome

It has been another busy and successful year as we continue to strive to develop Football across the Army. This edition of The Soldiers' Game provides details of so many of the comprehensive achievements from Army Football over the past season.

The new 2018/19 season promises to be an extremely busy, but beneficial "campaign". I make no apologies for highlighting the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War. Just under 300 professional footballers (from the 40 or so professional clubs that existed) joined up and were killed in the Great War, several 1000s joined up and fought, and tens of 1000s of amateur players and fans joined up, fought and died – some in what were known as Football Battalions. Players like Captain Walter Tull from the Middlesex Regiment who played for Tottenham and Northampton Town, for example. On the home front, women not only played a crucial role supporting the war effort but also replaced men's football to keep the game alive and raised money for the casualties of war. At that time women's games attracted 40,000 spectators and it is fabulous to see the women's game now starting to attract increasing levels of support again.

To mark this special year, Army Football are organising an ambitious commemoration project; likely to be the Army's largest outside of London. The project is called the Greatest Games of Remembrance. Working with our partners, the Woodland Trust, Royal British Legion, Never Such Innocence and National Football Museum, the event centres around a commemoration match day which will see the British Army (men and women) play the German Armed Forces in Nottingham on Thu 8 Nov 18. I have recently written to the chain of command to ask them for their support; to create a video tribute to the footballer/soldiers who may have joined their units in the First World War or who come from the teams that their soldiers support. The England team did their video at St George's Park prior to departing for the World Cup and planted trees at St George's Park as part of the For Club and Country initiative with the National Football Museum.

The National Game is the Soldiers' Game. That is why Football is the most participatory sport in the Army; regular, reserve, men and women, all cap-badges and hundreds of units. We strive for success at the very highest levels of Army sport but we are equally driven by the need to make football accessible to all, safe, efficiently delivered, and contributing to the needs of the Army by developing your soldiers, maintaining morale, improving the opportunity for as many as possible, contributing to overseas engagement and supporting civil engagement. Football is also a gatekeeper to many people, networks, conversations and opportunities that other parts of the Army cannot easily reach; it is a powerful community engagement tool.

All that said, recognising our volunteers better is my number one message this year. As with all extra-curricular activities in the Army we utterly rely on volunteers to help make things happen. I am determined that those who volunteer to enable sport in the Army are recognised appropriately – whether trustees, organisers, managers, coaches, officials or players. I also conclude by thanking our valued sponsors, and, indeed, to our permanent football staff in Aldershot under the guidance of Billy Thomson.

Enjoy the season.

Mitch Mitchell
Chairman of Army Football.

REME Corps Football Club

A challenging season for REME with a number of experienced players departing and then attempting to maintain consistency in team selection against the Corps' wide variety of commitments. Of note, Cpl Jason Silver, an Army striker, was posted to a phase one training regiment, thus limiting his time afforded to Corps football. This was having a profound impact on results with REME scraping the odd goal and not being able to kill games off. It was therefore no surprise that we found ourselves languishing near the foot of the table. The scene was set for a tough relegation battle in the Massey run-in, which would be decided in the final game of the Quadrangular Tournament.

Once again, player availability was an unwanted influence and resulted in 17-year-old Cfn Bryn Beanage being propelled into team. From the off he stood out, with his quick feet posing real problems for the opposition. Without

doubt he will be a future star within the Corps and hopefully beyond.

The first game of the Quads was against an already relegated Royal Artillery side who had suffered a very disappointing season. What should have been a comfortable win for REME saw the Gunners one up at the turn, despite REME dominating possession. Frustrations abounded when REME had a goal disallowed with ten minutes to go and a requirement to gain 4 points from a tournament with strong Sapper and Signaller teams. The twist in the tale came in the 80th minute, when an opposition defender was sin binned and REME turned up the pressure equalising in the 89th minute. The climax was in the 93rd minute when a rash challenge resulted in the Gunner keeper bringing down striker Cpl Isaac Sands and another sin binning. LCpl Gav Meacham stepped up and effortlessly hit the back of the net; a crucial goal.

a stunning 20-yard volley, made it 2-0 after 20 minutes. By half time the Signals had pulled one back.

The second half started as the first left off with REME soaking up pressure before counter attacking at speed resulting in a second from an exuberant Crawford, which was immediately countered with a Signals goal. With 15 minutes remaining, the advancing Signals keeper fouled Meacham in the penalty area. Up stepped Crawford to claim his hat-trick which he did after his initial shot was saved. The game finished 4-2. Aside from the scorers an all-round team effort was rounded with spectacular performances. LCpl Josh Clegg, LCpl Connor Brown, and Cpl Joe Crossley worked superbly as a back four soaking up attacks whilst protecting the ever-reliable gloveman Cfn Ben Elphick. The industrious holding midfield partnership of Cpl Matt Hubble and Sgt Phil Lucas were phenomenal, breaking up the Signals play. The attacking influence of LCpl Gav Meacham, Cfn Sean Thomson and the surprise inclusion of Cfn Luke Haslam were clear.



Sgt Dec Shuttleworth skippering the Corps team against the Royal Engineers

With a 5 goal difference advantage over the Air Corps in the league, REME required one point from the remaining two games. The second game on Wednesday against the Quad favourites the Royal Engineers saw another change in the team line-up. REME conceded in the first minute. Despite constant pressure and a twenty-five yarder from Cfn Sean Thomson rattling the bar, REME were unable to get a result. Survival was now down to getting a point from the last game.

The final fixture of the Quads and the season pitched REME against the Royal Signals, who came into the game after

a convincing 4-1 win against the Royal Artillery. The scene was set with General Boyne present to witness the fixture named in his honour and present the trophy. The Signals had emphatically beaten REME 7-1 at Stafford earlier in the season. Requiring a draw to stay up – the pressure was on in this season defining fixture. From the off, REME stuck to the game plan and forced the Signals to either play or pass into wide areas. Notable performances from Cfn Adam Crawford whose incredible work-rate confounded the UK Armed Forces Centre half pairing he was up against. Crawford scored the first and Dec Shuttleworth, with



Cpl Joe Crossley (centre) and Sgt Phil Lucas (right) celebrating



Sgt Dec Shuttleworth retaining the Boyne trophy after beating the Royal Signals 4-2

A hard fought season came good in the end with REME avoiding the drop. To finish second in the Quads was a massive achievement given the disappointing Massey League position.

REME Ladies

A tough season for the REME ladies team has had its high points. The challenge of navigating the season without a number of established players has given many, old and new, the chance to shine. Of particular note were Lauren Purling and Emily Murphy, whose exceptional performances throughout their first seasons had a hugely positive effect on the team.

With little luck in the Women's Inter Corps League, the triumph was reaching the final of the John Edwards Inter Corps Cup. An epic semi-final against the AGC at Aldershot Military stadium saw extra time and penalties. Both teams put in a valiant effort but grit, determination and cool heads gave REME the edge. The ladies gave their all in the final, again at the Aldershot Military Stadium but sadly lost 2-0 to an exceptional RLC team. Col Edwards, we vow to bring your trophy back to its home next year!



Cfn Lauren Purling leaping for a header against the RLC in the John Edwards Cup Final



A proud moment for the REME ladies as they stand to attention during the national anthem at Aldershot Military stadium for the John Edwards Cup Final



A special mention must go out to LCpl Jemma Dinning, REME, Army and Tri service striker. She has had a phenomenal season; she was voted Army Women's Players Player and managers player – what an achievement.

REME Ladies team will continue to strive forward into next season, building upon a strong team that has shown great spirit. We look forward to watching our new players develop and also to welcoming yet more fresh players to the team.



LCpl Jemma Dinning on the ball Sgt Ness Watson has been a force to reckon with throughout the season Defender LCpl Chelsey Snead has held everything together at the back this season

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Football in the Army Reserve

- Season Review by Major Steve Clout

The Season opened for the Army Reserve with the Challenge Cup winners 154 Regt RLC playing 1 Yorks in the Super Cup. The fixture, that sees the Army Reserve Unit Champions play the Army Champions, is in fifth year and the Army Reserve was yet to get its first win. This season was not to change that statistic with 1 Yorks getting an emphatic eight - nil victory.

The Army Reserve Challenge Cup entries have been growing over the last five years and this season we had a full draw with 32 units entering a team. The first round matches kicked off in September with the holders falling at the first hurdle. They were narrowly beaten by 6 SCOTS would go on to reach the final in April. Their opponent would be 152 (North Irish) Regt RLC in what was their fourth year in succession and the seventh time in eight years. The previous three years they had lost but 2018 was to be their year. They came out of the starting blocks determined to win and despite a valiant challenge from 6 SCOTS, 152 Regt RLC got their hands on the trophy.

This season has seen the Army Reserve Women's Team become a Representative

Team rather than a development squad, the focus has been to reduce the size of the squad, concentrate on developing a specific playing style, and become a more professional outfit. In addition fixtures were scheduled against a higher level of opposition in order to test the side, but also allow them to play at the right standard. This has without a doubt been an overall success with some outstanding performances, playing 7 games over the season winning 4 and losing 3. Highlights have seen the team challenge a number of the Corps sides this year, with success against the RLC in Aldershot in early February which saw a fantastic hat-trick from Pte Lauren Daley during the 7-1 win. A hard fought 3-0 win in March against the AMS when the team was invited to play in a charity match in aid of a former player

and in April the RE invited the side down to Chatham where the team ran out 2-0 winners. The training camp in Aldershot/ Berlin this year allowed the team to further develop playing against some very good sides, all of which highlighted areas within the side to move forward with. A very close game in Aldershot against Alton Ladies, fitness proving to be the difference saw the team start with a 5-2 win. Berlin was very different, the team needed to dig deep, defence was very much the focus against FC International and SV Blau Weiss BerolinaMitte, both of who ran out 4-0 winners. The season ended with participation in the Armed Forces day match against Llandudno Ladies who are currently playing in the Welsh Premier League.



Army Reserves

The men's season was hit by teams pulling out of fixtures, the weather and player availability. Although the team did strengthen with some new players at the trials the season really did not get started until May when they flew out to Cyprus. There they enjoyed four challenging fixtures interspersed with training and recovery sessions. Having played and trained in the Cyprus heat the team were able to adapt to the sunshine in Llandudno where they played the Welsh Premier League Team as part of the towns Armed Forces celebrations.

The Infantry added an Army Reserve 11-A-Side knockout competition this season which was won by 4 LANCS. In the summer 4 LANCS had won the AR 6's held in Grantham, made it to the semi-final of the AR Challenge but went one better by getting victory in the Infantry Cup which was played the same day as the Regular Final. The Infantry also won the inaugural Army Reserve Corps Championship. Seven Corps teams entered the competition that was held over a weekend in March.

We are currently looking forward to the Army Reserve 6's with 20 means teams and four Women's teams looking to challenge for their respective competition that will be held over an August weekend in Grantham. And then we are off again for another season.

If you would like more details about football in the Army reserve please email Major Steve Clout at resfootball@ascb.uk.com.



THE ROYAL ENGINEER ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB



The Royal Engineer Association Football Club (RE AFC) was formed in 1863 and dominated the early years of the FA Challenge Cup, eventually winning the coveted trophy in 1875. Today the club is still going strong and has three main teams; Mens, Ladies and Veterans who all operate under a 'one club' concept. The RE AFC's objective remains to further increase the number playing 'The Soldiers' Game' (now at 621 soldiers and officers) and build an organisation within which representative teams can dominate inter-corps competitions. A big thanks must be directed towards Mid Kent College and TQ who as our Club sponsors play a large part in enabling this to happen.

Men

It has quite simply been a fantastic year. Our men's team won every trophy in-sight and has without doubt been the best team in the Army this year. An absolute clean sweep of six trophies including the Inter-Corps version of 'the treble'. The performance of the squad has been nothing short of magnificent. Resounding victories at crucial times saw the players' confidence rise and their ability to step-up their play to overwhelm opposition has resulted in 55 goals scored in a clean sweep and football of really impressive quality on a near consistent basis. That doesn't happen without having gifted coaches and our Corps is blessed in having SSgt Keith Stubbs (now a UEFA B qualified coach) and WO2 Al Brown getting

the best out of our players. A very flattering score-line in extra time against a spirited and well organised AGC saw the Woolwich Cup retained in the Chatham Trophy Cabinet. This silverware was closely followed by the Vickers Trophy (v. R SIGNALS), the Phillips Trophy (v. REME), the Vickers Trophy (v. RA), the Quadrangular Cup and finally the coveted Massey League Division One Trophy; getting ahead of the impressive Royal Logistic team has been no mean feat. The season also saw the inclusion of several players into the Army and three into the UK Armed Forces Representative team (3RSME Regt's LCpl Cairney & Spr Stoneman and 101 Engr Regt's Spr Atkinson). Ten further players were awarded full Colours.



Cpl Craig Stevenson and Spr Sam Atkinson in black tie receiving trophies from Journalist Paddy Barclay at the Army FA Annual Awards Dinner



Men's team after the Quads with all six trophies

Ladies

Our Ladies team has had its best season ever and when you consider that the Ladies set-up is only four years old, reaching the semi-final of their Cup competition and finishing fourth in the league is a significant achievement. The Ladies team coach, Cpl Matt Kenny (26 Engr Regt) has worked wonders for the Ladies because after their first win against the Royal Artillery in January, they did not lose a game for the rest of the season! We know his award for 'Contribution to Corps Sport' made by the Chief Royal Engineer at the Sapper Games was for more than getting them winning but Cpl Kenny's recognition is richly deserved! The team has gone from strength to strength and they now have a robust depth to the squad which is essential for when people can not be released for matches. The season has also seen some outstanding individual performances, most notably LCpl Derbyshire for setting a goals scored record and for also for winning both Manager's and Players' Player of the Year, and for Spr Weston getting selected for the Ladies UK Armed Forces team. Four players were awarded Corps Colours, including the first female Officer (Capt Ruth Breslin, 22 Engr Regt) and first female Reservist (LCpl Sarah Abraham, 75 Engr Regt). We have CAMUS and the AAC as part of club and so it was great to see our goalkeeper Musn Cat Christie be awarded Corps Colours. Fittingly, the final award of Colours went to our captain and leader, LCpl Annalise Ryan, 33 Engr Regt.



Veterans

Two cancellations of fixtures (against the Police and Fire Service) saw the Veterans team eager for a game which was played on the traditional RE AFC Reunion FA Cup Final Day. A result saw the visitors "Upton Park Football Club" raise the Generation Cup for the 3rd successive time. The match is always played in good spirits and is greatly valued by both clubs. The fixture also marked the farewell to our long standing RE AFC President, Colonel Andy Phillips who captained the Sappers for the final time as a serving Officer. After 32 years with the RE AFC as Guard of Honour on the Corps' No1 Pitch it was a fitting way to bid farewell to a mainstay of football in the Corps Though still in the discussion phase there is a plan to establish a small group of "Serving Veteran Teams" which would allow several games to be played over a season.

Regimental

The popularity and quality of Regimental football is also fantastic to see. Three inter-unit competitions took place this year and a different unit won each tournament. Pre-season saw 32 Engr Regt win the Sapper Sixes. We use this event to spot developing talent and eight new players represented the Men's Corps team this season as a result (Spr Redmund Cockburn, 26 Engr Regt being the star breakthrough player of the year). If we can develop your potential, you'll get a Corps shirt on your back – it's that simple. Every unit (Regular and Reserve) entered the Sapper Cup for the first time in many years and 1RSME Regt came out victorious in a tough match against 101 Engr Regt (EOD). At the end of the season, in glorious Scottish sunshine, 21 Engr Regt won the football at the Sapper Games in Kinloss. In addition, 3RSME Regt flew the Sapper flag in the Army Cup reaching the final but were sadly defeated 2-1 by a strong 1YORKS side. The days of a single unit housing all of our footballing talent are long gone. The quality of football in the Corps at unit level is truly impressive.



1RSME Regt – Sapper Cup Winners

Overseas Tour to Florida

The culmination of the season was a joint club tour for both the Men's and Ladies teams to the United States of America. Each side was due to play three games however our tour coincided with a tropical storm that reduced games to two for each team. The ambitious tour was a resounding success, recognised by the Army FA who have invited the RE AFC to the Army FA

Seminar to explain our methodology and [quote the Vice Chairman of the Army FA] "best practice in the Army" one club ethos. All 44 participants performed brilliantly over the four games and displayed excellent dedication and focus. Most rewarding for the coaches and management was the success of joint training and the simple desire to get on and learn and play well. The participating personnel consisted of male and female officers, regular male and female soldiers and reserve male and female soldiers; one Army, one club. Touring costs money and so a huge thank you to the Army Sports Control Board and the Corps Sports Control Board for your

contributions that enabled us to make our #onecluboneconcept work.

Preparations are already underway for the 2018/19 season with the RE Sixes competition being held on Wed 12 Sept 18. With the continued support of our units and hard work from our players we are very optimistic about what next season will bring!

If you want to get involved, more information on RE AFC can be obtained from the Club Secretary: Maj Chloe Plimmer-Sayce RE (chloe.plimmer692@mod.gov.uk)



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ARMY AWARDS 2018

Deputy Chief of the General Staff, Lieutenant General Nick Pope welcomed the gathering where a host of presentations were made celebrating The Soldiers' Game. Legendary former England and Tottenham Hotspur defender Gary Mabbutt MBE was the special guest. We were also delighted to welcome respected journalist Patrick Barclay, Major General Shaun Burley (Director, ASCB), Aldershot Town FC Chairman Shahid Azeem, Daniel Routt (National Football Museum), Air Cdre Simon Harper OBE MA (Chairman of UK Armed Forces) and German Defence Attache' Colonel Jorg Rutten. Chairman Major General "Mitch" Mitchell MBE provided a review of a busy season of Army Football added to a "State of the Nation" speech moving forwards. The evening concluded with Secretary Major Billy Thomson conducting interviews and questions with Gary Mabbutt and FA Premier League match official WO2 Andy Halliday, himself just awarded an MBE too.

The following presentations/announcements were also made:

TEAM AWARDS

Inter Services Men/Women/U23
presented by DCGS

Constantinople Cup - Army Men Head

Coach : WO1 Simon "Dinger" Bell (RLC)

Williamson Trophy - Army Women Head

Coach: WO2 Mags McAteer (AAC)

Under 23 Inter Services - Army U23 Head

Coach : Capt Paul Dale (RAMC)

Army FA 1966 Womens Commemorative
Cup: 29 Regt RLC



Massey Div 1/Woolwich Cup:
ROYAL ENGINEERS - Spr Atkinson



Womens Inter Corps League/Edwards Cup :
RLC- Sgt Tracy Montgomery

AWARDS DINNER

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Women Player of the Season: LCpl Jemma Dinning

Women Reserve Player of the Season: LCpl Lou Anderson

Dobsons Trophy Referee Award : Sgt Si Thorburn (Royal Signals) WO2 Brian Slinn (REME)

Crusaders Top Scorer (West London Veterans League): Capt Jamie Lynch



Army Officers Football



Maj Andy Campbell receiving the Liverpool Ramblers Easter Tournament Boot Trophy on behalf of the Army Crusaders winning team - Apr 18

Army Crusaders is the Army Officer Corps' representative football team. Formed in 1922 it consists of a First Team and a Veterans (Over 35s) Team. Both teams remain alive and well, continuing to thrive.

Successes this season include a mixed First and Veterans team winning the annual Liverpool Easter Tournament which consists of 2 full games played on Good Friday and Easter Saturday with the eventual winners being those who score the most goals; thus encouraging attacking football

The tournament is hosted by Liverpool Ramblers who have a long history and appeared in the very first FA Cup. Army Crusaders have been ever present for the 63 years this tournament has been held, last winning in 2007 so this was a long overdue repeat victory.

Army Crusaders traditionally play Ramblers in the first game of the tournament and this year were boosted by a younger attendance than usual with a number of recent RMAS Graduates turning out. This made a huge difference and the first game was won 7-1 meaning a 3-0 win in the second would provide overall victory. This was achieved in a nervy second game against much stronger opposition and the Boot Trophy was awarded as shown in the below picture.

A prior success for the Veterans started the

season off well – winning the triangular AGC / RAF ICARUS / Army Crusaders tournament in September at Aldershot. The first game was a 1-1 draw with ICARUS but the second was a resounding 7-2 win against AGC. This was after being runaway winners of the West London Veterans League (WLVFL) Division One and promotion to the Premiership; where we maintained mid table mediocrity this season. Capt Jamie Lynch was awarded the League Top Scorer with 14 goals.

The First Team had mixed fortunes this season; unbeaten before Christmas but tailing off mainly due to inability to raise a side, often due to short notice withdrawals. There was however, the opportunity for a premier event with a game versus Price Waterhouse Cooper (PWC) who had recently won the Industry Cup. This took place at the less than salubrious Wormwood Scrubs ground but resulted in a well earned 3-1 win

Going forward the aim is for the First Team to go back to its roots by reaching out to UOTCs in order to energise the fixture list. This would also adhere to the Raison D'être of Crusaders to publicise the Club and offer recruiting opportunities.

Looking ahead a Crusaders mixed team plan to once again play the UK Parliamentary FC in a Game of Truce in support of ABF – The

Soldiers Charity. This will replicate the game of 2015 played at London's Burton Court in front of a less than partisan local schools crowd.

This is also Army Crusaders' year to conduct an Overseas Tour and this will take place late September / early October in USA with games against USMC, LAPD and a BAFTA XI in Los Angeles with a 4th game against local opponents to be played in Las Vegas.

A vote of thanks must go to the retiring Brigadier Steve Vickery who has stepped down as President of Army Crusaders. The new President is former Chairman Colonel Colin Francis with Colonel Dave Jones stepping into the Chairman's role. The First Team Manager is Major Ali Beard whilst the Secretary and Veterans Team Manager remains Major Andy Campbell should anyone wish to engage / enrol with Army Officer's Football?

Major Andy Campbell

Secretary Army Crusaders FC

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SEMINAR



The purpose of the seminar was to provide over 60 delegates an overview of the current status of Army Football, its aims and intentions moving forward with a particular focus on recognising volunteer work.

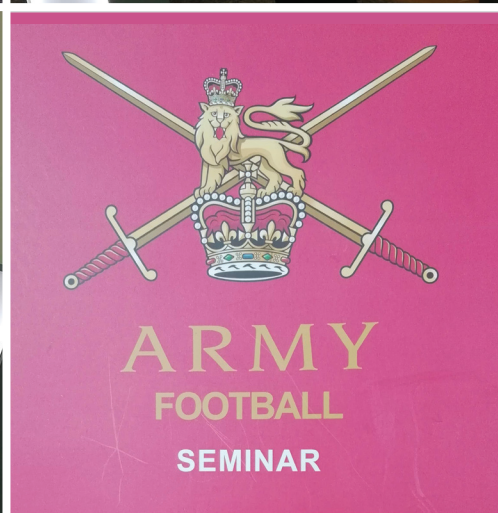
Chairman Major General Mitch Mitchell commenced proceedings with an opening address. This was followed by Vice Chairman Colonel Richard Hayhurst and Secretary Major Billy Thomson.

A focus on participation featured presentations on Men, Women and Reserve football from Trustees Colonel Colin Francis, Colonel Ash Boreham and Colonel Dave Jones. Kick It Out Professional Players Engagement Manager Paul Mortimer provided an enlightening presentation on the constant battle with equality and diversity within the game.

Former European Cup winner and Nottingham Forest legend John McGovern was our guest for the day too and presented medals at the Men and Women Cup Finals in the afternoon.

Special emphasis was also provided for the forthcoming Games of Remembrance matches being played on Thursday 8 November in nearby Nottingham.

The occasion was deemed successful and we are grateful to our hosts at St Georges Park for helping it a productive occasion.





ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES FOOTBALL

Army Medical Services Football continues to gather momentum and steadily improve. The 2017/18 season saw the AMS Corps side compete in Division 2 of the Massey Trophy and run out eventual winners of the

inaugural Defence Medical Inter Services 11 a side competition. At unit level teams from across the AMS competed in the 11 a side Harwood Cup competition and the Irvine Cup 6 a side competition.

A relatively new coaching and administrative team continue to make steady improvements to the AMS set up and there's a real optimism about the future of AMS football. That said, new members to the enabling team are always welcome and anybody reading this article who feel they could add value in an administrative, coaching or enabling capacity should contact any of the current team listed at the end of the article.

The AMS team will play home fixtures at Lichfield City for the 2018/ 19 season. This exciting development offers excellent opportunities for the squad, in terms of the first class facilities, and increases links between the Army and the Lichfield community – home of the Defence Medical Services. The brand new 4G pitch at Lichfield City is superb and suites the style of play that the AMS coaching team are working hard to develop.



Cpl Ryan Booth enjoying the 4G surface at Lichfield city FC



5 AMR & 4AMR line up before the Harwood Cup Final 2018

ARMY MEDICAL

5 Armd Med Regt ran out eventual 4-1 winners to lift the trophy for the 7th time in 8 seasons. Lt Col Mike Taylor, CO 5 Armd Med Regt, was on hand to proudly present the trophy to team captain LCpl Steve McDonald.

This season 16 Teams entered the Irvine Cup 6 a side competition held in Catterick. In what proved to be a fantastic day, and a real festival of football, the team from 1 Military

Working Dogs ran out 1-0 winners in the final against 16 Med Regt. Pte Aaron Clarke and LCpl Anthony Wood caught the eye for the MWD side.

The AMS football team secured further bragging rights for the Army as they took the honours in the inaugural Defence Medical Inter-Services Championship. The AMS beat their RAF counterparts 3-0, with

goals from Pte Jacob Halls, Pte Craig Conn and LCpl Anthony Wood, before securing overall victory with a 1-0 win against the RN – Pte Ethan Zimmermann with the only goal of the game. It is now hoped that the tournament will become a regular fixture.



Preparations are already underway for the 2018/19 season with AMS trials planned for the week commencing 17 Sep 2018. With continued unit support and player availability the AMS football team have a bright future and optimistically look forward to competing at all levels of 'the soldier's game'.

INFORMATION ON AMS FOOTBALL CAN BE OBTAINED FROM:

Chairman – Lt Col Paul Jackson QARANC

Secretary – Capt Andy Hiley RAMC

Manager – Capt Nige Bamford RAMC

Coaching Team – Capt Matt Spruce RAMC & Sgt Levi Scarlett RAMC

Team Captain – Sgt Johnathan Goode RAMC

Vice-Captain – Cpl Ryan Booth RAMC



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**RSFA and Inverness
Caledonian Thistle FC**



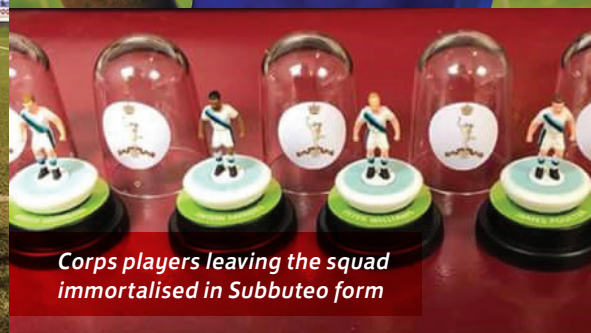
**Royal Signals Army
Womens Players**



**Army FA players celebrating
3rd Inter services in a row**



**LCpl Lewis Bentley
Locker Magazine**



**Corps players leaving the squad
immortalised in Subbuteo form**

ROYAL SIGNALS FOOTBALL

The 2017/18 season has been one of mixed fortunes and emotions for our three representative teams.

The Royal Signals Reserve team has been rejuvenated thanks to the tireless efforts of SSgt Dave Tuck and SSgt Jamie Gill, who have now developed a strong squad with a fantastic team ethic that hope to challenge for honours soon. The team could not be better equipped now the SSgt Tuck has successfully completed his UEFA B coaching qualification and has also recently received an Army Sgt Majors award for his quality work as part of the Army FA Roadshow.

The Female team under the guidance of Sgt Steve Durham continue to progress at a good rate. The squad continues to provide the Army women's side with quality individuals, as Sgt Sarah Jaffe, Cpl Mandy Kidd, LCpl Micah Taylor and Sig Adele Murray were ever presents as they went on to successfully win the Inter - services for 2018. They look forward to embarking on an exciting pre - season in the Highlands, linking up with Stoke City Ladies which will only benefit the squad to ensure they can fulfil the potential to be a hugely successful side in the forthcoming

season. Sgt Durham was also a recipient of an Army Sgt Majors award for his contribution to the Army FA Roadshow.

The Male Representative team have had a rollercoaster season. After an arduous pre season in Inverness which included the squad competing in a highland games, wild camping, boxing, a battlefield tour, the ethos and team spirit of the squad was at a high. The highlight of the week in Scotland was without doubt the friendly against 2015 Scottish Cup winners Inverness Caledonian Thistle. Their manager was really impressed with the standard of our players and it also allowed head coach WO2 Barry Rizza to compete against the team he played for at youth level, and also for LCpl Anton Mendez to come up against his cousin.

The squad for the majority of the season played some outstanding football and were in a strong position to capture some much sought after silverware. Unfortunately the team faltered towards the end of the season, combined with a disastrous Quadrangular Trophy tournament any chance of a title slipped away.

Individually there have been a lot of successes. Cpl Rob Farkins, LCpl Ryan Paddock, LCpl Peter Williams and Sig Luke Noble successfully defended the Kentish Cup for the Combined Services. They also achieved a hat trick of Interservices football titles by lifting the trophy again this year. LCpl's Anthony Deans, Lewis Bentley and Jack May were also part of the interservices success with Cpl Rob Farkins showing tremendous leadership captaining both sides to victory. LCpl Bentley was also recently picked as cover star for the Locker Magazine July edition which focused on the RSFA and the opportunities for playing football whilst serving in the Army.

The Male Representative team are now in an important period of recruitment and transition. They have lost some key players within the squad for next season as they move on to a new venture as civilians. With the coaching staff putting on a positive and enjoyable football development week which looks to unearth and nurture hidden talent within the Corps, they look forward to getting back on track to play the quality football they are more than capable of.

GUNNER MAGAZINE –

Royal Artillery Football Club Tour 2017

SSgt Johnson

On the 11th September 17 the Royal Artillery Football Club prepared itself for the first ever combined male and female Gunner football tour to Toronto, Canada.

The aim of the tour was to provide an opportunity for all players, both men and women, to come together prior to the start of the new season for some high-quality training and matches. The club wanted to develop the individual fitness and team's skills of all taking part whilst encouraging new players to develop their abilities whilst conducting Defence Engagement.

An early flight to Toronto got the tour underway with the 8 hour flight and 5 hour time difference leading to a mid-afternoon same day arrival. The first evening was set aside to recover from jet lag and see what Toronto had to offer. Day two started with a light training session in the local Moss Park area prior to the first match against the Toronto Police Soccer Club that evening.

The weather was a baking 28 degrees at kick-off for the women at the Cherry Beach 3G facilities. Despite end to end action, and with both teams evenly matched, the Police ran away with a 2-1 win. It appeared that the change in time zones played heavily on the legs of the Gunner Women's Team. There were however many positives to take away from the game with Gnr Dolman (4 RA) scoring a fantastic goal and Gnr McAuley (12 RA) being named as player of the match. The men's team did not seem to notice the heat, nor did they seem affected by the flight, cruising to a 6-1 win, with LBdr Lewis (7 Para RHA) scoring an impressive hat trick. Toronto Police then set the bar for post-match hosting with a thoroughly enjoyable evening in a local restaurant.

Following the quick first match, 3 days were then allocated to recovery, training and preparations on the 3G facilities at Regents Park and the local swimming pool. Many of the points picked up in the first match were rectified on the training



ground before the teams then enjoyed the city's local attractions, including a baseball match between the Toronto Bluejays and Minnesota.

During this time the Club also visited 7th Toronto Regiment who are the local Royal Canadian Artillery Reserve Regiment. The day was spent receiving welcome briefs and playing potted sports such as football, hockey, dodge ball and tug of war. Both teams were evenly matched but the Gunners came away winners in the football and tug of war. A draw was given for the dodge ball but 7th Toronto Regiment really came into their own for the hockey, wiping the floor with the Gunners! We were also honoured to receive an address from Brigadier General James Selbie, Colonel Commandant of the Royal Canadian Artillery, who made a special trip from Ottawa to the Reserve Centre to welcome us.

The following day the second of our three matches took place against Aurora Soccer Club. The women's team saw another exciting match of end to end football, but frustratingly neither side could break the deadlock and the match ended in a 0-0 draw, with Gnr Brown (3 RHA) being named as player of the match. The men then stepped up with another cracking victory which

included yet another hat trick from LBdr Lewis and a comprehensive 5-1 victory to the Gunners. LBdr Silliker was named man of the match and was presented with an Aurora soccer club training jacket. Once again we were hosted spectacularly well by the club, even receiving a visit from Aurora's Mayor Mr Geoff Dawe who took the time to speak to the players.

After a well-deserved night off in Toronto the Club then moved south to Niagara home of the magnificent Falls for the final three days of the tour. While justifiably famous for the Falls the area has much more to offer, from the quaint Old Niagara to the lively Clifton Hill area. The final training sessions took place in intense humidity before the final match against Burlington Soccer League representative side. Fortunately the late kick off meant a significant drop in temperature which played into the Gunners hands. The women showed further improvement in performance with a well-deserved 4-1 win. Two goals apiece from Gnr Bullock (19 RA) and Gnr McAuley (12 RA) meant a comfortable final 30 minutes with Capt Lower (1 RHA) narrowly winning player of the match. The men's team rounded off a superb tour with yet another high scoring game, winning 6-1; another hat trick from LBdr Lewis took his tour goal scoring tally to 10 in 3 matches.

The final day of the tour was set aside for a visit to the highly impressive Niagara Falls before the club made its way back to the UK.

Every member of the Royal Artillery Football Club had a fantastic time in Canada and achieved all of the sporting, engagement and cultural aims of the tour. The Club is particularly grateful to the Army Sports Lottery Fund and the Royal Artillery for funding the event.



REFEREEING IN THE ARMY

- 283 Registered Officials
- 72 attended basic courses in Aldershot, Catterick and Grantham
 - Successful Academy and Development Group
 - 8 promoted to Level 4
 - 23 promoted from Levels 7 /6 and 6/5
- WO2 (QMSI) Andy Halliday (RAPTC) reaches 300 matches in The FA Premier League
 - Annual Awards Evening at RMA Sandhurst and RAFA Training Day in Aldershot
 - Dobsons Trophy (Most significant contribution to Army Football during the season)
- Shared: UK North Sgt Si Thorburn (Royal Signals) UK Midlands WO2 Bri Slinn (Reme)
 - Le Breton Trophy (Newcomer to show most potential and commitment)
- Shared: UK South Capt Dicky Halloran (Infantry) UK North Cpl Tom Maher (Rlc)
- Outstanding Outgoing Members of Army Refereeing Ssgt Dec Ford (Reme)- Service with distinction since 1995. Football League official. Army Committee member for 13 Years. Refereed 2006 Army



CUP FINAL

Wo1 (Rsm) Mark Hounsell (Rlc)- Dobsons winner in 2015 and referee since 2007.

Wo2 Andy Moore (Agc) Excellent contribution to UK North and Dobsons winner in 2014

Capt Martyn Day (Agc)- Qualified in 1979. Three spells on committee and Army FA Cup Final referee in 1995

Cpl Phil Trask (Rlc) 25 years outstanding service to Army FA Referees

- Outgoing Chairman

Chairman Lt Col Pete Conn (Re) retires as Chairman and Army Trustee having served committee since 2005 and Chairman since 2012. Refereed Cup Final in 2015.

FA Premier League Referee Martin Atkinson made the Presentation.

Lt Col Pete Conn (RE) officially handed over the Army Referees Chairmanship to **Lt Gary Connolly (REME)** on 30th August 2018 at the Referees' Executive Committee meeting in Aldershot. An excellent Chairman of six years and Executive member for 13 years. Thank you Pete for everything you have contributed to Army football and welcome to Gary as incoming Chairman for the next two years.



WOMEN RETAIN UNBEATEN EIGHT YEAR INTER SERVICES RECORD

Army Women retained an Inter Services unbeaten record that stretches back to 2010 with successive victories within a week. Coming from behind in their opening match versus Royal Navy at the Aldershot Military Stadium two goals in three early second half minutes made the difference. The opening goal was scored by Shannon Weston (RE) on 54 minutes before Kelly Aldridge (REME) scored from the penalty spot three minutes later. Victory confirmed the annual Knight Trophy.

This was followed up with a 2-1 win versus RAF at The New Saints FC in Oswestry. Cpl Olivia Dixon AGC (SPS) gave the Army the lead on 54 minutes before the hosts levelled midway through the second half. However with nine minutes remaining Sgt Zoe Stewart AGC (SPS) netted a long range free kick to secure the Williamson Trophy and Chatterton Cup.

Honours for LCpl Jemma Dinning (REME) voted Army Women Managers Player of the Season and Players' Player of the Season presented by Army Women Chairman Colonel Alison Curnow after Inter Services success in Oswestry and a successful 2017/18 season..





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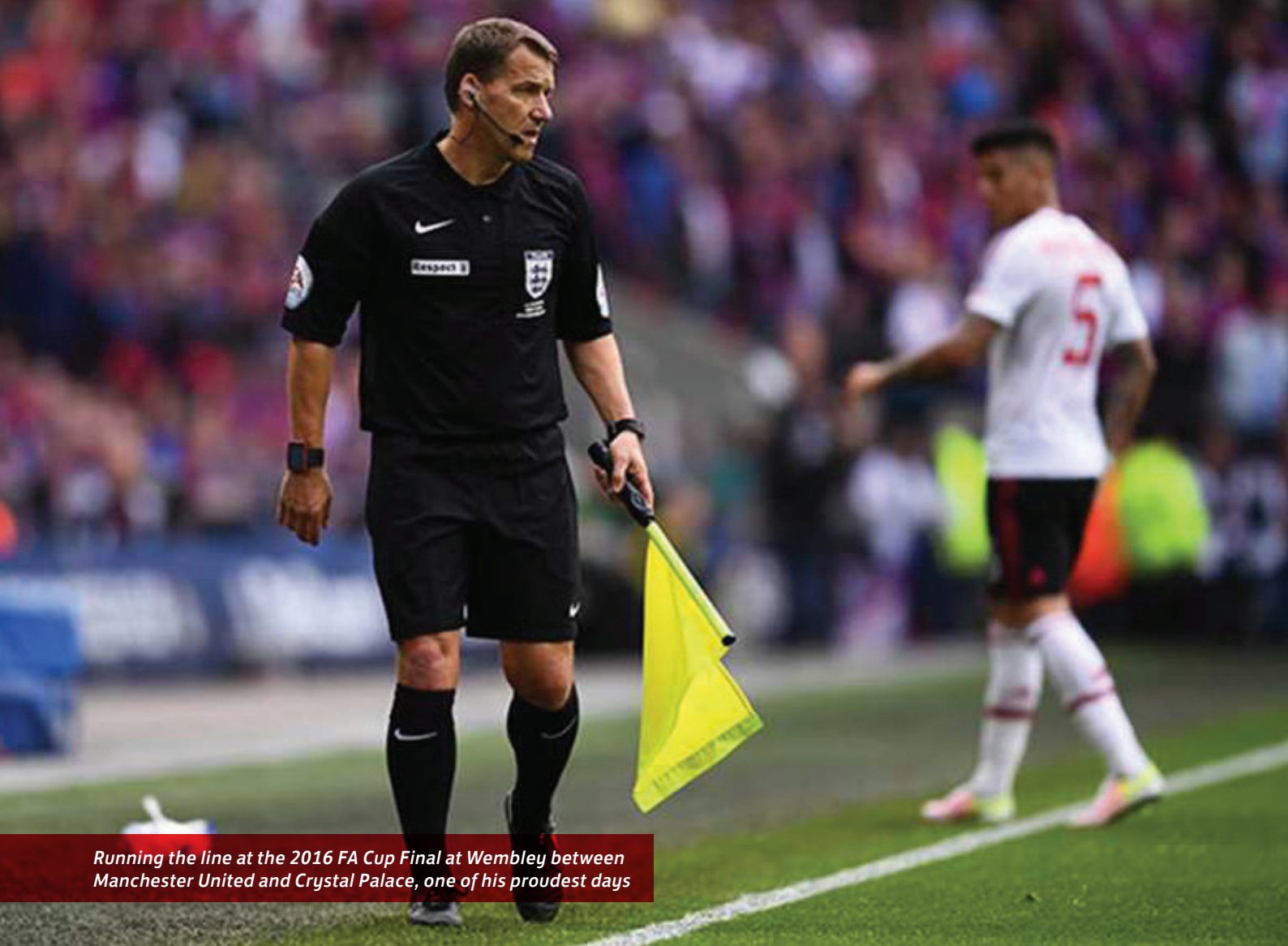
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Running the line at the 2016 FA Cup Final at Wembley between Manchester United and Crystal Palace, one of his proudest days

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO ANDY HALLIDAY

'Exceptional' WO2 Andy Halliday (RAPTC) has been awarded the MBE.

He has excelled throughout a long and illustrious career in the Royal Army Physical Training Corps, coaching and officiating in many sports, particularly football.

He is the only member of the Armed Forces to reach Level 0 status and officiate as a referee and referee's assistant in professional Premiership, FA Cup and European matches, including the FA Cup Final in 2015 between Manchester United and Crystal Palace. He has run the line in the Premier League for 13 seasons clocking up a total of 313 matches.

Andy said: "I was absolutely speechless, and that's not like me, when I was told about the honour, but extremely touched when I thought about all the people who have helped me throughout both my football and Army career."

Andy's citation states: "An outstanding ambassador for the Armed Forces, he has reached the foremost level in a high-profile pursuit, whilst maintaining exceptional standards of performance as a soldier."



RAPTC



RAPTC FC Squad

The Royal Army Physical Training Corps Football Club's (RAPTC FC) season was a tale of two halves, we started the season with a home fixture against the Royal Armoured Corps (the eventual Massey Trophy League 2 Champions) and was defeated 3 nil. We then went on to record a further three defeats (including a Quarter Final Woolwich Cup defeat to the Royal Signals) leaving it impossible to win the league and subsequently gain promotion to the top tier of Corps football. The second half of our season saw a complete turnaround; we went unbeaten in our last four fixtures, something the RAPTC FC hasn't achieved since January 2012.

Our league statistics: Played 8, Won 3, Drew 1, Lost 4, Goal difference 0, Points 10 - finishing in third position.

The 4th of May 2018 saw 14 members of the squad (including our President Lt Col (MAA) Rich Gilbey and Chairman Capt (MAA) Lee Davison) attend the annual RAPTC Sports Awards Dinner, held at the Aldershot Garrison Warrant Officers' & Sergeants' Mess and was hosted by the RAPTC Sports Management Board. During the evening, many awards were presented and included; the Player of the Season award that was given to SSgt

(SSI) Rob Chudley (Figure 2), the Most Improved Player was SSgt (SSI) Mike Culkin, with the Busby Trophy going to WO2 (QMSI) Jay Essam. As well as this, the Chairman also presented 50th Appearance Caps to SSgt (SSI) Luke Spires and SSgt (SSI) Charlie Charles. The RAPTC Sports Management Board also recognizes a number of Corps personnel and their contribution to Corps sport by awarding them 'Colours', this year WO2 (QMSI) Rob Guyton and SSgt (SSI) Charlie Charles received theirs.

During this year's Massey Trophy Annual General Meeting, the RAPTC FC were presented with the Fair Play Award, a considerable achievement as we were at the bottom of the table last season.

The RAPTC FC now looks ahead to our 2018/19 Pre-season Overseas Sports Visit to Gibraltar, the RAPTC Annual Reunion and new player additions that will bolster the talent we have already.



For more information and RAPTC FC updates, search for 'Royal Army Physical Training Corps Football Club' on Facebook.



RAPTC FC 2017/18 Player of the Year, SSgt Rob Chudley

ARMY FA SOUTHERN LEAGUE



AFA_UK_South_6s-O

1. INTRODUCTION

The Army FA Southern League season runs in line with the Army FA's Forecast of Events to encompass both a regional league and Major & Minor Units Knockout Cup Competition.

2. BACKGROUND

The league and cup competitions are contested between Units that fall under the UK South Regional Points of Commands¹ structure encompassing both Major and Minor Units. This allows a competitive approach whilst reducing the T&S burden.

3. The 2017/18 season ran from 4 Sep 17 through to the 30 Apr 18. The league included 70 teams whilst the Knockout Cup had a total of 63 teams². The Regional Six-A-Side Competition saw 22 male teams enter with 4 qualifying for the Army Six-A-Side Competition.

4. LEAGUE

The Army FA Southern League Structure comprised of 7 divisions, this was to standardise the division size³ and also include LONDIST teams. The league was then split into 3 sub-regions⁴. The breakdown of the divisions was:

- a. Central Premier - 7 teams.
- b. Central Division 1 - 9 teams.
- c. Western Premier - 9 teams.
- d. Western Division 1 - 10 teams.
- e. Western Division 2 - 9 teams.
- f. Western Division 3 - 10 teams.
- g. Eastern Premier - 8 teams.

5. The divisions ran themselves; Units arranged fixtures and booked referees for all their matches through the Regional Referees' Secretary. We had, on occasions fixtures that couldn't be facilitated by an appointed referee, however locally sourced and qualified referees were used at the acknowledgment of the Referees' Secretary. This ensured both teams could still play the fixture and encouraged the 'Sport for All' message.
6. All eight divisions saw a huge amount of competitiveness and all matches were played in the correct spirit and to a high standard. The respective division winners' were:

- a. Central Premier - 3 RSME.
- b. Central Division 1 - ATR W.
- c. Western Premier - 1 YORKS.

d. Western Division 1 - 19 RA.

e. Western Division 2 - 4 REME.

f. Western Division 3 - 11 Sigs B.

g. Eastern Premier - 1 RSME.

7. The Western Premier Division saw 1 YORKS secure the league title to accompany their success with winning the Army Challenge Cup Major Units 2-1 against 3 RSME, yet another successful season for the Battalion. As 1 YORKS won the Premier League it was 19 RA came out as Western Division 1 Champions. The second and third divisions of the Western Region were won by 4 REME and 11 Sigs B side respectively. In the Central Divisions, the premier league was won by the 3 RSME who finished runners up in the Army Challenge Cup Major Units. The Central Division 1 League was secured by ATR W who finished up runners up in the Army Challenge Cup Minor Units losing to ARMCCN in the final. The inaugural Eastern Division (that was made up of LONDIST teams and teams in the Kent area) was won by 1 RSME Regt who have retained the title for yet another season.
8. Six-A-Side Competition. The 2017/18 season culminated in the Six-A-Side competition that was held on Queen's Avenue, Aldershot on 9 May 18. 22 male teams entered with 4 qualifying for the Army Six-A-Side Competition, these where:

- a. Winners - 1 RIFLES.
- b. Runners-up - 5 REME
- c. Unit League Champions - 3 RSME.
- d. Unit League Runners Up - ATR W



AFA_UK_South_6s-O

¹ 1st Artillery Brigade and HQ South West / 11 Infantry Brigade and HQ South East.

² 45 Major Units and 18 Minor Units.

³ To no more than 10 teams.

⁴ Western, Central and Eastern

⁵ The Knockout Cup Competition ran alongside the league.

9. This competition was a fitting way to end an extremely successful season.

10. Knockout Cup. The Army FA Southern League Knockout Cup was in 2 parts; Major and Minor Units. Units competed against one another throughout the season⁵ culminating in the finals that were held on 11 Apr 18 at the Aldershot Military Stadium.

11. Minor Unit Final. The Minor Unit final was played between 47 Regt RA and ATR W. This was a return fixture after ATR W defeated 47 RA in the Army Challenge Cup Minor Units semi-final. This time 47 Regt RA became victorious by putting in an extremely professional performance, with the final result finishing 2-1.

12. Major Unit Final. The Major Unit Final saw 1 YORKS face 11 SIGS. Albeit a weakened 11 SIGS side, they still put in a sterling first half performance. 1 YORKS began to dominate, starting to gain significant advantage and eventually ran out as comfortable winners, with the final score being 5-0. Congratulations to 1 YORKS.

13. Unit League Champions. The identification of the Army Unit League Champions was to ensure each region had a representative team to go forward and challenge against other regions to earn the prestige title of Army Unit League Champions. Within the UK South region it was decided that the Winners of the Western Premier Division, winners of the Central Premier Division, winners of the Eastern Premier Division and the highest league points scoring team in the other divisions would enter a semi-final and final to overall determine the UK South Unit League Champions. The competition comprised of 1 YORKS, 3 RSME, 1 RSME and ATR W. After one fiercely fought semi-final between 1 YORKS and 3 RSME, the final comprised of 3 RSME and ATR W. 3 RSME after recovering from the Army Challenge Cup Major Units final disappointment and defeating 1 YORKS



AFA UK South Minor Units Final-O



AFA UK South Minor Units Final Winners-O



AFA UK South Unit League Champions-O

in the Unit League Champions semi-final, quickly dominated the first half scoring 3 goals in 15 mins. Unfortunately ATR W who put in a gutsy performance was no match for the in form 3 RSME. 3 RSME ran out deservedly 5-1 winners and will go forward as the UK South representative side to compete in the Army Unit League Champions semi-final in Jun 18.

14. CONCLUSION

Football is a fantastic sport, the best in my opinion and fosters many attributes required to be an effective and professional soldier.

15. This season saw many changes to the structure that forced Club Secretaries to 'jump on board' or get left behind, to which they did with no fuss or complaint. These changes were made with the clubs' best interest at heart and proved to be worthwhile. The addition of Full Time allowed a more coherent way of viewing the divisions but more importantly it allowed clubs the freedom to access information and administer their clubs in a more effective way.

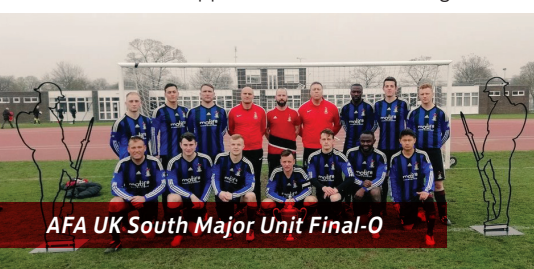
16. This was my second season as secretary I would like to all the football club secretaries hard work throughout the season. The season showed a new structure with regards to fixtures, providing clubs with timelines to complete fixtures by. This had some relative success as many clubs met the timelines and others due to unit commitments found it a little bit more difficult. Overall there were lots of positives for the season. Even with constant unit commitments it has shown that football is still promoted and holds high regard across the region and long may this continue. I would also like to personally thank the Chairman Lt Col Pete Conn and the Army FA without his hard work, dedication and support these seasons would not be the success they are.

17. I will close in wishing all clubs the very best in future seasons and to urge them to ensure that football remains the 'Soldiers' Game'.

K EMMERSON

SSgt (SSI)

Army FA Southern League Secretary



AFA UK South Major Unit Final-O



AFA UK South Major Unit Final Winners-O

⁵The Knockout Cup Competition ran alongside the league.

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Army Men's Senior Team Season Review

Development Week - Gibraltar

September 2017 saw the Army senior team land in Gibraltar for an intense development week. Head Coach WO1 Simon Bell decided to leave a host of the senior players at home in order to give a chance to 14 new players who had been scouted from the previous season. The week consisted of daily training and two highly competitive fixtures. Bruno's Magpies provided the perfect opening game for the new additions; a very physical side who moved the ball quickly. After a shaky start the Army Senior's ran out 5-1 winners with yet another hat-trick from Cpl Callum Wilkinson RLC. Next up were the Lincoln Red Imps who had in their last season gave Celtic a run for their money in the Champions League preliminary rounds. After 45 minutes the game was locked at 0 - 0 with the Army struggling to keep up with the clever movement of a very well drilled side. The Army scored in the 67th minute with a fantastic team goal that was converted by LCpl Adam Wakely RIFLES but they just couldn't hold out for the win. Lincoln equalised in added time so it was honours even at the final whistle.

The Sothorn Counties saw the Army draw the Amateur Football Alliance (AFA) who they had beaten in the final the previous season. The game saw the Army go 1 - 0 ahead with a penalty from Cpl Callum Wilkinson on the hour, but this was short lived as the AFA hit back immediately with a stunning strike from the edge of the box. The game was minutes' away from going to extra time when Cpl Rob Farkins R SIGNALS popped up at the back post to head home the winner from a fierce in-swinging corner.

Late November and in wet and cold conditions the Army travelled to Evo-Stick league 1 side Kidsgrove Athletic to battle it out under the lights. After a strong start the Army took the lead with LCpl Adam Wakely slotting the ball home from a tight angle. Kidsgrove equalised immediately when the ball was lost in midfield. After the break the Army were down to 10 men but their strong "never give in" attitude and continuous hard work saw them score two goals in succession running out 3 - 1 winners with goals from LCpl Dan Stoneman RE and a brace from LCpl Adam Wakely.

After travelling 3 hours and spending a further 7 hours clearing the snow from the

pitch at MOD Stafford the Army entertained another Evo-Stick league 1 side; Leek Town FC turned up with a full strength squad and set about their business quickly. The visitors went 1 - 0 up and things didn't look good for the Army as players continued to look tired and make simple mistakes. After a quick reshuffle and some stern words, the Army got back into the game. The game was wide open after an hour and both teams decided to go for it. Eventually the game finished 3 - 3 LCpl Dan Stoneman with all 3. Overall, the Head Coach, WO1 Simon Bell was very happy with the teams' work ethic and the level of performance, after what had been a tough day.

Into January and Christmas had come and gone with no new injury concerns; the Army travelled to Daventry Town FC to play HM Prison Service, which was always going to be a physical game, played with passion and desire. After losing last year the Army team were keen to put the record straight, conditions, however, did not suit the system the Army wanted to play. A scrappy game with no real quality through the thirds but a hard fought battle and a desire to win saw

skipper Cpl Rob Farkins head home from close range in the 74th minute to secure the win for the Army.

February signalled the start of the Inter Service preparation, with the Army finding success in the rearranged fixture on 11 Feb against the Army Reserves at Stafford. The Head Coach selected a strong side with a view to using as many of his 23 man squad as he could, in order to get some perspective before the Inter Service Campaign. A 7-2 win against a depleted Reserve team proved to be a productive exercise.

Inter Service Cup 2018

Preparation for the Inter Service Cup took place at Stafford with a short sojourn to the FA School of Excellence at St Georges Park, Burton. 30 players and staff gathered on the 4th of March and spent the next few days working through the plan to secure the Constantinople Cup for a 3rd successive season. The results from every other match now paled into insignificance, this is all that matters.

Army v Navy



Cpl Callum Wilkinson scores the penalty

The Inter-Services kicked off with the opening game against the Royal Navy at Aldershot Town FC on 7 Mar 18. A buoyant Army side started confidently but were dealt a blow when a moment's confusion allowed the Navy to go ahead with a poached effort from inside the box. The Army, unbowed, pressed hard and earned the opportunity to equalise when a wayward defensive tackle brought an Army quick break to an end, resulting in a clear penalty. Cpl Callum Wilkinson swept home the spot kick with confidence.

The Navy sprang back into action, quickly forcing a corner and, once again, some sloppy defending allowed a free header inside the box which found its way into the net. The Army needed something different and, having recognised the issues in the middle of the park, the Head Coach changed the

system mid-way through the first half, this brought immediate success as Wilko broke quickly and laid the ball off for Sig Luke Noble to bury in the Navy net. Shortly before half time another change of possession allowed the Army to Break again and LCpl Adam Wakely finished off a great inter-change of passes to send the Army in at 3-2.



LCpl Wakely scores from range

MENS SENIOR

The second half saw much needed Army dominance in both possession and territory and in the 66th minute LCpl Wakely proved his quality again with a well finished curling shot into the corner of the net. Spr Sam Atkinson then smashed one in from range before Luke Noble grabbed a second with on the rebound from his own strike. Wakely wrapped things up for the Army with his hat-trick finish from a couple of yards out. The Navy grabbed a late consolation goal, but the Mercury Cup was firmly in the hands of the Army Skipper when the final whistle blew. Army 7 Navy 3.

RAF v Army

Just a week later the Army travelled to Shrewsbury to meet the RAF at their adopted home ground, Shrewsbury Town FC. The RAF started well and early signs were that the Army would be in for a tough evening. 10 minutes into the game a tough challenge from LCpl Ryan Paddock R SIGNALS, was judged to be a foul by the referee and the RAF had their first real opportunity. They took it, a great strike from the edge of the box saw the RAF go 1-0 up, game on! The response was swift, with Sig Luke Noble showing his pace and storming into the box to smash one off the post, Wilkinson was quickest to react and

volleyed in from 10 yards, 1-1. 10 minutes on and the RAF had a stroke of luck as the referee judged that the Army skipper had pulled the RAF Centre Forward to the floor inside the box. The cheers of the RAF crowd were quickly silenced as LCpl Luke Cairney RE threw himself across his goal to pull off an outstanding save, which ultimately changed the game. The next break for the Army saw Wakely ghost past his defender and square the ball for Wilkinson to collect his second with another good finish. The game had barely restarted when Noble showed his pace once again, outstripping the recovering defenders to finish with some style. 3-1 to the Army at the break.

The second half became a war of attrition, the RAF huffed and puffed but couldn't break down an Army side now brimming with confidence and despite their best effort the tie was sealed with only minutes to go when LCpl Sean Woolley RLC broke down the right and placed an inch perfect cross on the head of the late runner, LCpl Pete Williams R SIGNALS, who nodded home inside the 6 yard box. The Final whistle went and a jubilant Army side celebrated their 3rd Constantinople Cup in a row.

11 goals for and four against in both fixtures, worthy winners.

The Army Team had also entered the Aldershot Senior Cup and after waiting 5 months to play our 2nd round fixture we tore our way through Godalming Town, Fleet Town and Eversley/California, which put us into the Final; however, a fixture clash on the projected date meant we had to withdraw from the Competition.

That said it was another fantastic Season, resulting in the Army picking up The Mercury Cup (Navy), the Carrington Cup (RAF), the Southern Counties Championship and the Constantinople Cup (Inter Service Cup)



Cpl Rob Farkins
receives the Trophy

County FA



Mission

- Maintain male and female participation and provide the type of football to meet the requirements of the playing customers.
- To have the Facilities, Referees, Coaches and Volunteers of a sufficient quality and quantity to effectively run Army Football and offer support to other FA Counties.
- For Football to have a highly effective medium by which the Army engages with the community at large (including the FA, Counties FA and the wider football community)

Vision

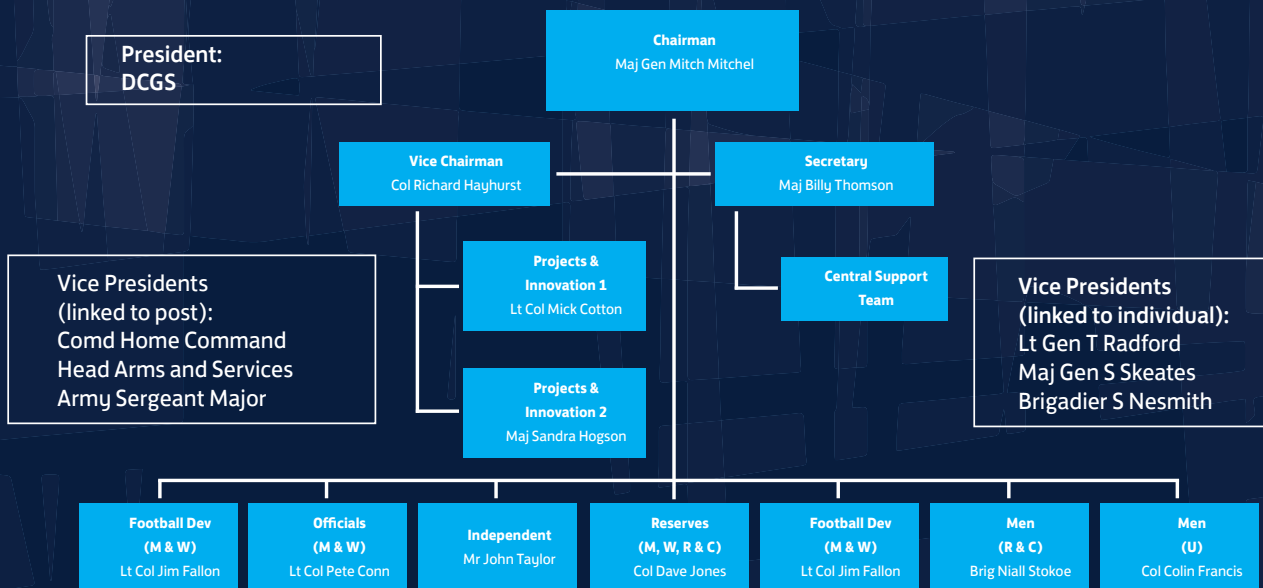
Army Football has two mutually supporting and interwoven primary visions:

- To be a highly respected County supporting the FA achieve its National Strategy
- To be the most effectively run, thriving Army Sport, enhancing the Army's reputation nationally

To deliver the aims Army Football must:

- Support the FA in the delivery of their strategic objectives
- Maintain and strive to improve football participation
- Develop a football based community engagement plan which will deliver unprecedented mutual benefit to the community, other Counties FA and the Army
- Make a significant contribution in generating the Army's operational effectiveness

Governance Structure



Key:
M - Men
W - Women
R - Representative
C - Corps
U - Unit

Notes:

1. The Trustee for Women's Football will initially be responsible for R, C and U.
2. The Independent Trustee will have a focus on developing women's football.

Business Plan

“TO DELIVER A WELL RUN FOOTBALL COUNTY AND THE BEST RUN SPORT IN THE ARMY. MEETING THE FA GOALS BY DELIVERING THE NATION’S GAME AS THE SOLDIERS’ GAME TO MEET THE ARMY AIMS ”

1. HIGH QUALITY INTRODUCTION TO FOOTBALL

- Maintain league structure and cup tournaments
- Maintain numbers of affiliated teams
- Maintain Army reserve representative teams
- Maintain Army veterans inter service tournaments
- Maintain mentoring scheme for coach development at unit and Corp Level
- Increase SSG and recreational football opportunities
- Increase Female participation
- Continue to develop Headquarters Football tournament (over 30's)



ARMY
FOOTBALL

2. EMBRACE ALL FORMATS ENGAGE ALL PARTNERS

- Deliver training, playing and coaching opportunities for BAME groups in the Army
- Increase numbers of affiliated Ghurkha teams
- Increase in SSG and Flexi football opportunities within Ghurkha Regiment
- To support football related community based programmes linked to military personnel nationally and regionally

3. DEVELOP CLUBS AND LEAGUES

- Increase number of adult CS clubs
- Develop realistic player pathways for both men and women
- Continue to develop the Army FA annual Seminar at St Georges Park

4. RECRUIT DEVELOP AND SUPPORT THE WORKFORCE

- Identify and train coaches, managers, mentors and enablers regionally to meet the requirements of the high quality introduction to football directive
- Recognise and reward volunteers through our military command structure
- Increase the number of female and BAME referees
- Ensure inclusivity that reflects the Army demographics and needs
- Maintain the support of the most senior members of the Army board to assist achieving our goals
- Maintain Tutor workforce
- Adopt new Trustee structure

5. DEVELOP SUSTAINABLE FOOTBALL FACILITIES

- Army FA does not own its own facilities
- Liaise with management companies and government agencies
- Monitor the standard of facilities and address any problems and difficulties
- Satisfy our needs in regards to quantity and quality of pitches provided for formal and informal participation
- Identify areas that are providing and sharing facility's with other
- FA Counties

6. MODERNISE AND INNOVATE YEAR 2

- Effective and fully inclusive Board of Trustees
- Run an efficient County FA and maintain Football as the participation sport of choice in the Army
- Secure and stabilise financial position
- Army FA will continue to invest £80k on football provisions



Exploiting information advantage.


TeamArmy
FUNDING ARMY SPORT

Leonardo's EZPRR enables the commander's intent of 'make better use of what we have' by providing secure, integrated, tactical command, control and communications in the dismounted close combat fight.

Leonardo's communication systems provide high bandwidth sharing of information to ground, air and maritime users throughout the modern digital battlespace to provide Information Advantage.

Leonardo is proud to support the Army Football Association.

2018 ARMY FA COURSE DATES

DATE	TIME	COURSE	LOCATION	COST £
10/09/18 & 11/09/18		Referee	Aldershot	£80
12/09/18 & 13/09/18		Referee	Grantham	£80
08/10/18 - 10/10/18	0800-1600	FA Level 1 in Coaching Goalkeepers	Aldershot FDC/3G	£120
15/10/18 - 19/10/18	0800-1600	FA Level 1 in Coaching Football	Aldershot FDC/3G	£150
12/11/18 - 15/11/18		Referee	Catterick	£80
	0800-1700	FA Level 2 in Coaching Football - Block 1	Aldershot FDC/3G	£125

2019 ARMY FA COURSE DATES

DATE	TIME	COURSE	LOCATION	COST £
09/01/19 - 11/01/09	0800-1600	FA Level 2 in Coaching Goalkeepers	Aldershot FDC/3G	£150
14/01/19 - 17/01/19	0800-1700	Referee	Aldershot FDC/3G	£80
23/01/19 - 25/01/19	0800-1600	FA Level 2 in Coaching Football - Block 2	Aldershot FDC/3G	£100
28/01/19 - 01/02/19	0800-1600	FA Level 1 in Coaching Football	Aldershot FDC/3G	£150
04/03/19 - 06/03/19	0800-1600	FA Level 2 in Coaching Football - Block 3	Aldershot FDC/3G	£100
11/03/19 - 14/03/19	0800-1600	FA Level 2 in Coaching Football - Block 1	Aldershot FDC/3G	£125
18/03/19 - 21/03/19		Referee	Midlands	£80
08/04/19 - 10/04/19	0800-1600	FA Level 1 in Coaching Goalkeepers	Aldershot FDC/3G	£120
07/05/19 - 09/05/19	0800-1600	FA Level 2 in Coaching Football - Block 2	Aldershot FDC/3G	£100
20/05/19 - 24/05/19	0800-1600	FA Level 1 in Coaching Football	Aldershot FDC/3G	£150
17/06/19 - 19/06/19	0800-1600	FA Level 2 in Coaching Goalkeepers	Aldershot FDC/3G	£150
01/07/19 - 03/07/19	0800-1600	FA Level 2 in Coaching Football - Block 3	Aldershot FDC/3G	£100

REMEMBERING THE GREATER GAME

FOR CLUB & COUNTRY

VIDEO TRIBUTE GUIDE



Watch the following videos:

www.forclubandcountry.org.uk to learn about First World War football.
Get inspired by the Army FA Women's tribute.
Pay attention to how they have created their tribute:
www.forclubandcountry.org.uk/womens-corps

Choose a player

Visit www.forclubandcountry.org.uk/roll-of-honour and
www.footballandthefirstworldwar.org and
www.footballandthefirstworldwar.org/womens-football-first-world-war
Pick a footballer who joined up and either died or survived, or a woman who supported the war effort and became a footballer.



Create and film your tribute

Use the template included to create your tribute which you can read out. If possible find an image of the footballer/soldier from one of the above websites to hold for the video or carry a football instead. Wear your football kit and/or wear the scarf associated to the team the person played for. Find a suitable back drop such as a local war memorial or your club house or perhaps visit a local museum with a trench system.

Post and share your tribute

Post your tribute on our Twitter page:
@GofR2018 with the hashtags
#gamesofremembrance #forclubandcountry
#footballremembers
or on our Facebook page at
www.facebook.com/Games-of-Remembrance-2018-1014862498695788/



WWW.FORCLUBANDCOUNTRY.ORG.UK

The Woodland Trust is a charity registered in England and Wales (No. 294344)

Games of Remembrance

Thursday 8th November

British Army vs German Armed Forces



ARMY
FOOTBALL



Women's Game

Kick Off 12pm at
Notts County FC

Men's Game

Kick Off 7pm at
Nottingham Forest FC

Tickets and Info:

- @ gamesofremembrance2018@gmail.com
- @GofR2018
- f Games of Remembrance 2018



Nottingham
City Council



Nottinghamshire
County Council



Find Out More:

- @NeverSuch
- forclubandcountry.org.uk
- @PoppyLegion
- #thankyou100
- #Gamesofremembrance
- #FirstWorldWar



BUILDING BRIDGES:

Manchester United Experience Army Life

Pre-season training is often a time to forget for footballers, dominated by high-intensity sessions designed to get players back to a high level of fitness quickly.

Not so for the professionals of Manchester United Women's Team. Reformed after a long absence, the Red Devils took on the challenge of the British Army just days before they played a historic fixture against local North West rivals - Liverpool.

In an event designed to build team cohesion and communication, the team visited Fulwood Barracks in Preston where they met their Army counterparts.

The Army Women's Football Team hosted a variety of challenges designed to test their own players just as much as their guests.

Leadership events such as a gun run – adapted to include an oil barrel, two large tires and a log for the gun – were accompanied by the challenge of extracting equipment from a cordoned off area before an assault course awaited both teams.

As the challenges got underway it did not take long for the professional nature of all the footballers to shine through as Corporal Nikki O'Donnell from the Army Women's Football Team and Royal Military Police explained:

"The characteristics of both sides were very similar, team comradery comes on different levels and we can boost team cohesion through other avenues other than just football."

As well as providing physical and mental challenges, the day was also a chance for both teams to gain an appreciation of each other's daily routine.

The side from Manchester was given the opportunity to learn about the everyday life of the Army soldiers' - while also experiencing how they integrate football with the Operational needs of the service.

As for the Army players, they had the challenge of adapting their leadership skills



to fit the needs of professional footballers while still keeping an eye on the overall aim of the tasks at hand

STAFF AND PLAYERS OF THE ARMY WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM

The Army Women's Football Team get their season underway in mid-October with a Southern Counties Cup match against Middlesex.

They will be hoping their fortunes match that of Manchester United, who started their campaign with a one-nil win against Liverpool in the FA Women's League Cup.





ARMY
SPORTS LOTTERY



A Sporting Chance



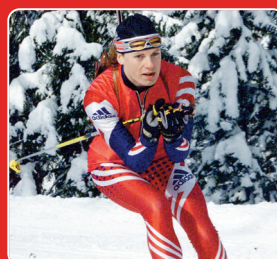
Can I join?

Membership of the Army Sports Lottery (ASL) is open to all members of the Regular Army; payment is deducted at source by JPA.

All members of the Army Reserve are eligible to join; payment is made in advance by cheque or online via WorldPay.

Military Support Force/Retired Officers/Retired Other Ranks who are ex-Army, whether working or retired are eligible. Payment is as for the Army Reserve.

To apply, complete and return JS Form JPA E015, available through your local Gymnasium, Unit Admin Office or our Website.



Benefits

Every ASL ticket is entered into a weekly prize draw with the opportunity of winning weekly cash prizes totalling **£25K**. In July and December a Super Draw is held when all prizes are doubled.

Annually, **£1.35M** is distributed in Prize Money. In addition, members can benefit through grants for Overseas Sports Tours, Sports Official / Coaching Courses, International Competitors Grants and Winter Sports Activities.

CONTACT US

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ARMY



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