

## **THE INSTITUTION OF ROYAL ENGINEERS**

**Introduction.** The Institution of Royal Engineers was established in 1875. In 1923 it was granted its Royal Charter by King George V.

**Objects.** The present objects of the Institution are to promote and advance the science of military engineering and to promote the military efficiency of the Corps of Royal Engineers. In pursuit of these objects the Institution provides a forum for debate through its sponsorship of joint professional meetings; the publication of articles in its Journal; the maintenance of a Museum and Library for the Corps' heritage and archive collection; and the administration of prize funds, a memorials fund and a scholarship fund. The Institution is an affiliated member of the Engineering Council.

**Membership.** There are several categories of membership:

- a. Membership of the Institution is open to serving and retired officers, warrant officers, senior non-commissioned officers and junior non-commissioned officers both regular and TA, of the Corps of Royal Engineers, and to those who hold or have held a commission in the engineer arm of the land forces of Commonwealth countries and such other friendly nations as the Council of the Institution shall determine.
- b. Honorary Members are elected by the Council, which is a personal honour and is not conferred on the holder of an office as such. Officers of the Royal Engineers are not eligible for election as Honorary Members.
- c. Associate Membership is open to all officers who qualify as full Members, except for serving or retired regular commissioned officers, and to such officers as the Council may from time to time decide who should be eligible and agreed at an AGM. All serving and retired warrant officers, senior NCOs and corporals, both regular and TA, are eligible to be elected Associate Members.
- d. All requests for membership, including recommendations for Honorary Membership, should be referred to the Secretary (address and telephone number below).

**Organisation.** In addition to the Council, there are four standing committees, which oversee the activities of the Institution:

- a. The Members Services Committee.
- b. The Finance and Assurance Committee.
- c. The Professional Registration Committee.
- d. The Museum Library Archive Committee.

The members of the Council, who are the trustees of the Institution, also provide the majority of the members of the standing committees. Meetings of each committee are held twice a year. The names, and appointments where applicable, of members of the committees are to be found in the RE List.

**Activities.** The four principal activities for which the Institution has responsibility are:

- a. **The Museum and Library.**
  - (1) The Museum is located in the Ravelin building on the edge of Brompton Barracks.
  - (2) The Library is located in the Headquarters RSME main building in Brompton Barracks.

- b. **Publications.** The Institution publishes the Royal Engineers Journal three times a year, the Supplement to the Journal (frequently referred to as the 'Pickaxe') every two months, and the RE List annually. The Sapper magazine shares the same desktop publishing equipment as the Institution's publications and the Institution Secretary is editor in chief of all of them.
- c. **Funds.** The Institution administers the RE Kitchener Scholarship Fund, the Memorials Fund and a number of prize funds.
- d. **Joint Professional Meetings.** The Institution sponsors joint professional meetings and promotes links with other professional institutions.

**Institution Secretariat.** The Institution is privately financed by members subscriptions, and is a charitable organisation. Its premises, in the Ravelin (Museum) building, are funded by the MOD. Four privately paid staff (one part time) are employed on publications. The Institution Secretary co-ordinates all the Institutions affairs and acts as its chief executive. Any requests for assistance should be referred to him in writing or by telephone.

Secretary  
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**Cost:**

Gift Aid may cover subscriptions, and this is of immense benefit to us: the Taxman provides us with a very significant additional income, at no extra expense to the individual.