

The REME Charity Your Charity

IMPACT REPORT 2019

Scribes: Ms Rachael Murphy, Deputy Corps Secretary and Colonel Mike Bullard MBE, Trustee



In these difficult and uncertain times, The REME Charity stands ready to help the REME Family. Our farsighted forbears founded our charity in the aftermath of a devastating war – a war we remember this year especially. They might not have foreseen the ghastly impact of COVID-19 but they were wise indeed in laying the foundations which allow us, today, to be confident of our ability to help.

I am writing this in August. I can only wonder what the situation will be when you read it in October! I can be sure, though, that The REME Charity has been working quietly and efficiently throughout the months of the epidemic. Our Chief Executive, Lieutenant Colonel Mike Tizard, and our dedicated staff, whose work is at the heart of the charity, have not missed a beat. They, with the Trustees, are ready to reach out, with a hand up and a determination to help, to those in need.

This year the Trustees have focused on the themes of impact and connection. We are committed to making the greatest possible impact, as cost effectively as possible, by connecting as widely as possible with the REME Family. The REME Association, which is part of the charity, is at the heart of this. We are expanding its networks and we will be investing in ways of making it relevant, accessible and useful to you, its members. Please look at <https://remeconnect.org/> now.

Thank you to all of you who contribute so generously to the charity. Your support is vital. I can assure you that it is never taken for granted. The Trustees will make your generosity work as best it possibly can for the REME Family. We might well face unprecedented demands for help but we stand ready to respond in the spirit of our founders.

Major General Stephen Andrews CBE, Chairman of Trustees, The REME Charity

Why do we need The REME Charity?

We need The REME Charity because the needs and ambitions of the REME Family go beyond the bounds of the resources and policies of the Army and the MOD. This is a traditional charitable purpose in the United Kingdom, enshrined in the law as 'promoting the efficiency of the Armed Forces'. The REME Charity, which is independent of the military authorities, meets those needs and ambitions through its three objects. They cover everything we do; and the law requires us to ensure that everything we do is indeed covered by them. Here they are, in our formal language of governance:

- 1 To promote the efficiency of REME and to foster its esprit de corps;
- 2 To relieve either generally or individual necessitous persons being members or former members of REME or their dependants
- 3 To support charitable purposes for the benefit of beneficiaries

If you would like to check out the legal details, they are at www.remecharity.org and on the Charity Commission website (www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission). Search for The REME Charity, Registered Charity No 1165868. The charity incorporates The Central Charitable Trust and The REME Benevolent Fund; it governs the REME Museum, which is also a registered charity, No 272740.

Connect  Support  REMEMber

www.remecharity.org

Registered Charity Number: 1165868



What does that mean?

Our objects are broad and wide ranging. They enable us to support a very wide range of activities:

- Making grants to past and present members of the Corps and their families who are in need
- Making direct grants to support Corps and unit activities
- Providing vital funds for the REME Sports Association and REME Adventurous Training
- Funding REME Publications, including The Craftsman Magazine, Association Newsletter, a REME Calendar and a REME Journal
- Supporting the operation of the REME Museum (registered charity 272740).
- Enhancing the Home of our Corps by supporting the REME Band, the Princess Marina Officers' Mess and the Corps Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess

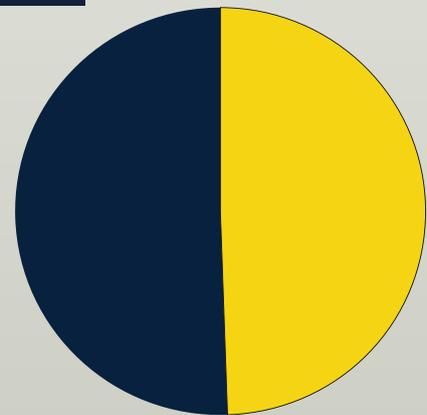
These are among the many other worthwhile causes which help to enhance the life of the Corps and its people.



The Annual Recovery Mechanic Reunion raised money for The REME Charity

Where does the money come from?

Almost half of the Charity's income is donated by serving members of the Corps through the Day's Pay Scheme. Significant additional income is generated by the Charity's investment portfolio which is professionally managed and kept under the close scrutiny of the Finance and Investment Committee. The Charity also gratefully receives donations and legacies from past members of the Corps. The Army and the MOD support the Charity's effective operation by helping with administrative costs and providing offices.



The above graph represents income and expenditure in 2019. Income (blue) was over £1.6million. Expenditure (yellow) amounted to just under £1.6million, resulting in a small surplus of just over £20k.

How do we help?

Benevolence



The Trustees of The REME Charity consider benevolence to be their highest priority and funds will always be available for those in real need. Casework is managed on our behalf by SSAFA and the Royal British Legion. The REME Charity believes in the dignity and usefulness of a hand-up rather than a hand-out. Cases are assessed by our highly experienced team and immediate payments can be made if necessary. All serving and retired members of the Corps and their immediate family are entitled to apply for assistance should they require it. The REME Charity spent £278,743 on Benevolence Grants in 2019. These grants support members of the REME Family for various needs such as compassionate flights, mobility aids, help with nursing home fees and immediate need grants. In every case we carefully balance a request against an assessment of need.

REME Benevolence is about more than the financial help it offers. It also provides emotional and welfare support for members of the REME Family. The Benevolent Fund spent £2,604 providing mental health training to over 50 serving personnel in 2019. This training ensures personnel throughout the Corps are trained in Mental Health First Aid and are able to help others when needed. The provision of this training will continue in 2020.

A Hand Up, Not a Hand Out

Income: £1,606,895

- REME Association and Craftsman - £10,253
- REME Institution - £35,425
- Sponsorship - £100,575
- Other Donations - £153,427
- GIA - £170,443
- Investments - £387,314
- Days Pay - £749,458

424
benevolence cases
were supported in
the year, averaging
35 cases per
month.

Expenditure: £1,586,302

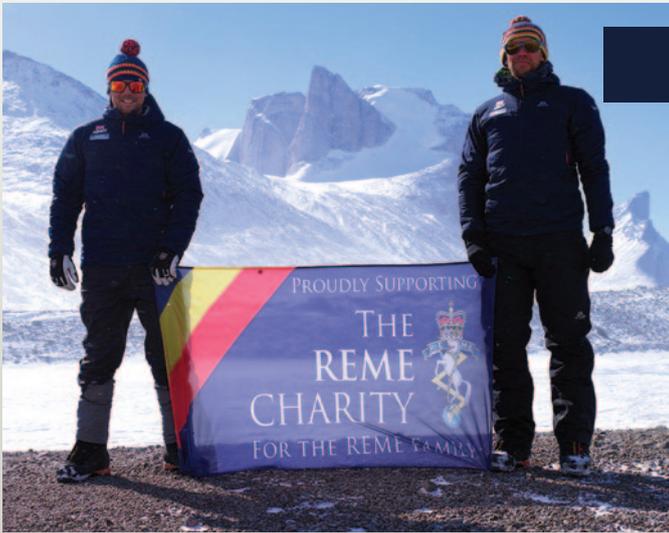
- Other - £197,802
- Lyneham Funding - £19,931
- Espirt de Corps - £253,145
- Staff Costs - £128,708
- Col REME Discretion - £59,042
- REME Museum - £30,679
- Publications - £100,679
- Adventurous Training - £56,867
- Sport - £460,706
- Benevolence - £278,743

New
auditors, local to
MOD Lyneham,
were appointed for
the accounts by
the Trustees.

I would like to thank The REME Charity for their ve
and it will be a major benefit to my mum. Thank y

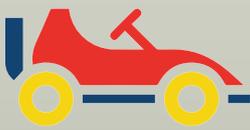


Sports and Adventurous Training



Ssgt Doyle and Lt Col Denton on Ex ARCTIC MOUNTAINEER

The REME Sports Association provided grants of £460,706 in support of 36 different sports in 2019. These grants allow for maximum participation by serving Officers and Soldiers and enable the best to compete at the very highest level of sports. We also provided grants of £56,867 to support adventurous training activities throughout the year; this grant enabled 1,884 Officers and Soldiers to attend Exercise Supreme Glacier. Sports and Adventurous Training is considered a key part of military life. This funding enables our service personnel to face the challenges and dangers associated with military service by developing and maintaining teamwork, skills, fitness, confidence, character, spirit and morale. This is one particular area where The REME Charity goes well beyond what can be funded by the Army and MOD.



£460,706 was provided to support REME Sport throughout 2019/2020

Publications

The REME Charity provided £100,679 to support the publication of the Craftsman Magazine in 2019. Some 4500 copies of the magazine are produced monthly and distributed free to all Regular and Reserve units, and to all members of the REME Institution. The Craftsman is one of the only monthly Corps or Regimental magazine in the British Army and continues to be well received by all. During 2020 REME Connect will relaunch and it is expected that the Craftsman Magazine will be available digitally in due course.

very generous support. We are extremely grateful
you so much.

Anonymous

*Members of RHQ REME and The REME Association
visited Volkswagen HQ in Wolfsburg, Germany*



Discretionary Grants

The Trustees of The REME Charity delegate some funding through the chain of command as they recognise this is often the best place to identify where and how the charity can quickly and effectively help its beneficiaries. These funds are not prescriptive and can be spent on a wide variety of activities.

During 2019, £59,042 was spent on discretionary grants to support the welfare of individuals and units.



The Trustees of The REME Charity provided every new recruit with a free of charge REME Stable Belt, welcoming them to the Corps and the REME Family. This will be an ongoing commitment at the cost £20k per year.

The REME Museum



The Ruined Factory: REME and the Volkswagen Story

Whilst the REME Museum is an independent charity, it is governed, managed and supported by The REME Charity. In 2019 The REME Charity provided support of £30,679 for the operating costs of the Museum. During this year the Museum provided £12,865 worth of support to members of the REME Family, including free of charge facilities, research enquiries and free entrance to the Museum.

Within the year the REME Museum welcomed 951 school pupils to education workshops, dealt with 495 research enquiries and added 421 items to its extensive collection. The staff of the Museum welcomed just under 12,500 visitors and generated an income of £51,535 from admissions, corporate hire and research enquiries.

In 2019 the Museum hosted two temporary exhibitions: 'Women in REME' and the touring exhibition titled 'Training Ground for War', highlighting the vital role sport plays in developing skills for military service. Additionally, the Museum celebrated the 70th Anniversary of Major Ivan Hirst and the British Army handing back of the Volkswagen factory to the German state in 1949.

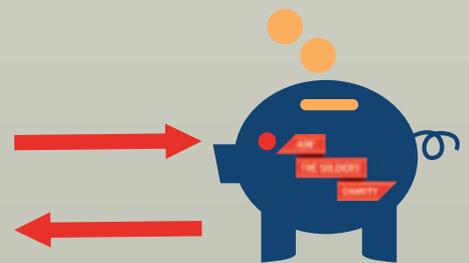
This included an exhibition entitled 'The Ruined Factory: REME and the Volkswagen Story', and included a series of lectures from Dr Ulrika Gurtzmann, the archivist of the VW factory.

The REME Museum continues to build its reputation as an outstanding modern military Museum and for the second consecutive year received the 'Hidden Gem' accolade from Visit England.

How do we work?

The purpose of The REME Charity is to support the REME Family in all respects, but it is not part of the Corps of REME. It is an independent body, not under the authority of the Army or MOD, governed by a diverse body of Trustees drawn from serving and retired members of the Corps and others with different, non-military, professional backgrounds. Every one of the Trustees has been selected for their knowledge, experience and professional qualifications. The REME Charity has a very close working relationship with the Confederation of Service Charities (COBSEO) and other national Service charities, including: SSAFA, The Royal British Legion and The ABF: The Soldiers' Charity.

In 2019 The ABF: The Soldiers' Charity donated £190,000 to REME Veterans, Soldiers and their families. In recognition of this help The REME Charity makes a substantial donation every year to The ABF: The Soldiers' Charity. Last year we gave £85,000.



In 2019, ABF: SC donated £190,000 to the REME Family. We donated £85,00 in recognition of this help.

I would like to thank you for your very kind contribution to the funeral costs of my late wife. This has been a very hard time for the family after her sudden passing and you have helped to ease the pain by your generous help.

Mr M Bixley

Did you know...

... The average benevolence grant in 2019 was £456.



... In 2019 The REME Charity was awarded the Bronze Award from the Armed Forces Employee Recognition Scheme.



... One in eight benevolence cases was paid to a serving member of the Corps.

... In 2019 the Headquarters Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess members increased their charitable contributions to the Charity from 100% of a Day's pay to 120% of a Day's pay; the additional 20% going towards supporting charitable activities in the Mess. This will take place in 2020.



... The main investment portfolio had a 16% increase in value over the year.

How can you help?

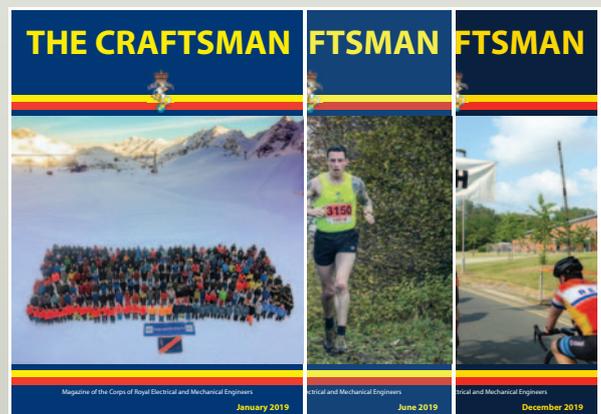
1. Whenever you think of undertaking charitable fundraising activity or want to donate money, please consider making The REME Charity your charity of choice, with ABF: The Soldiers' Charity very close to it.
2. Know your charity and help us to spread the word; connect The REME Charity to the whole of the REME Family and get help to where it is needed most.
3. If you are not already enrolled, join the 'Day's Pay Scheme' **today!**

And don't forget to wear our logo knowing that you are helping the REME Family.

Many, many thanks for your donations. We now have a stair lift and a wet room, which has made a big difference to our lives. Again, many thanks; I do not know what we would have done without you. *Mr and Mrs S Lemon*



... The REME Charity supported 30 separate esprit-de-corps events in the year.



... New printers were appointed for the production of the Craftsman Magazine. The company is local to MOD Lyneham.

It might surprise you to know that around 10% of Regular and Reserve members of the Corps are not in the Day's Pay Scheme. Please join the generous majority – your RAO has the forms.

Contacts

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