



THE RLC ASSOCIATION TRUST IMPACT REPORT 2022

How The Royal Logistic Corps Charity has supported the Corps family over the last 12 months



FOREWORD

MASTER GENERAL OF LOGISTICS



Major General (Retired) Simon Hutchings OBE

On behalf of your Trustees, it gives me great pleasure to share with you the RLC Association Trust Annual Report. When I came into role as your MGL one of my stated aims was to create greater levels of transparency and accountability between the RLC Association Trust's worthy deeds and the membership of the charity. This report, the first for a while, and our AGM are but two ways to realise that intent. As such I commend the report to you. Please take the time to read it. It sets out clearly what we have achieved, on your behalf, how we have gone about our tasks and, importantly, what impact and effect it has had. I hope you'll agree that there is much we should feel proud of – for without the help and support provided by the charity, through the disbursement of our investments - we would collectively, serving or veteran, be a lot poorer. We would also not benefit from exciting – yet healthy subsidised – opportunities.

Those who support the One Day's Pay Scheme contribution have bought the best through-life insurance policy, with all the associated added benefits you'll ever find. Those that have not really should. To coin a phrase – you 'need to be in it, to win it.' I truly believe that.

So what of the future? We will be making some necessary changes to the RLC Association Trust next year, most important of which will be a change of form and title to become the **RLC Charity**. Along with that will come a refresh of the Trustees' composition, creating greater diversity and breadth to our make-up. More briefings will be provided for you all on the rationale for change. Finally, subject to the Trustees' agreement, our financial strategy next year will be focused upon growing our investment portfolio and targeting more of our disbursements towards worthy causes, especially focusing on the on-going cost of living crisis.

Please engage the Trustees with your feedback. To help, we've created a new multiuser email address, where you can direct your thoughts and comments. You should have confidence that the RLC Charity is there to serve you all, addressing and solving whatever challenges you face, now or in the future. We will also never lose sight of the need to preserve the proud heritage of The RLC and its Forming Corps. Your support is vital to the work we do.

We Sustain

The RLC Association Trust

The regimental activities of The RLC are funded through private (non-public) funds held within "The RLC Charity", The RLC Association Trust (Registered Charity No 1024036). These charitable funds comprise of contributions from serving members of The RLC via the Day's Pay Scheme (DPS) as well as investments providing income and growth.

The Master General of Logistics as the titular Head of Corps chairs the Trust Fund supported by a board of Trustees representing the serving Corps, RLC Veteran community and four predecessor Corps (RCT, RAOC, RPC and ACC). The Forming Corps donated the Trust's initial capital which having been invested has been the Corp's financial underpinning for the last 30 years.

The objects of the Trust are the promotion of the efficiency of The Royal Logistic Corps, support to fraternity and the relief of need for eligible personnel.

Annual Report 2022 (Abridged)
The Trustees remain confident that the objectives of the Trust, namely, welfare and benevolence support for its past and present members and the efficiency of the Corps, are being met. Additionally, that the plans for the Trust are sound and well placed to meet the current and future needs of The RLC. The Trust activities, wherever possible, include public benefit and community engagement.

The key challenges are to maintain income levels to support the full range of Trust responsibilities against a continuing backdrop of a

reducing military strength and income from the DPS which for 2022 totalled **£1.086M**.

All of the Trust's investments are held in the Armed Forces Charities Growth & Income Fund; the investment performance has been affected by world markets and the war in Ukraine and following a sizeable loss in value has shown signs of recovery; meeting fully the ability to fund the Corps objectives in 2022 and beyond. Despite the planned reductions in the size of the Corps, the Trust's funds remain sufficient to support without detriment to Corps efficiency and those in need. Expenditure is being well managed with the combined value, as at 31 Dec 22, of the investments within the Trust being **£40.1M**.

Heritage and Public Benefit

The RLC Association Trust's Heritage Committee controls and manages the Corps' expenditure on upkeep of its heritage. The areas it is responsible for include an annual grant to the RLC Museum; the funding of RLC and Forming Corps publications; Professional Development; The RLC Coaching Board and Heritage Property. In 2022 total expenditure was **£207K**.

Where your money was spent:

- RLC Museum is a registered charity in its own right and received a grant of **£100K** towards its running costs.
- In 2022 publications expenditure – print, production and mailing of four editions of *The Sustainer*, 10 Forming Corps newsletters, plus other Corps publications such as The RLC One Day's pay information leaflet – cost **£92K**
- Expenditure on Professional Development includes The RLC Foundation Review, Personal Professional Development Grants of up to **£500** per person for degree courses, **£625** per attendee of the Comms Spec PG Cert course and Defence Logistics training course prizes. In 2022 expenditure totalled **£17.5K**



- The RLC Coaching Board received a grant of **£11.5K** towards the maintenance and upkeep of its fleet of historic horse-drawn vehicles.
- Expenditure on Heritage and Corps property totalled **£37.5K**. This money went towards the upkeep of The RLC and Forming Corps 'Logistics Grove' at The National Memorial Arboretum; locally maintained memorials such as the RAOC Boer War memorial, the RAOC and RLC war memorial, the RAOC three guns memorial. Historic property maintenance was carried out on the Skinner's Horse and Cairo tables. These important items of historic property represent some of the most significant points in the history of The British Army and The United Kingdom.
- Other historic items of Corps property such as cannons, the grandfather clock, paintings and silver are controlled and maintained on behalf of The RLC and Forming Corps utilising funds allocated by the Heritage Committee.
- The RLC Heritage Committee also seeks to provide support and engagement to commemorative events and activities as identified and recommended by our serving and veteran communities.



Income & Expenditure



£1.086m
Day's Pay Scheme



£2.114m
Investments



£2.6m
Total Expenditure

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has benefitted the Corps family
over the last 12 months

Heritage & Public Benefit

£100k
Museum

£22.8k
RLC bands

£50k
Corps Open Day

£37k

To fund the maintenance of the
Logistics Grove at the national Memorial
Arboretum, several war memorials and
historic items of property

£11.5k

RLC Horse-drawn heritage



Benevolence

£100k

Grant to Army
Benevolent Fund

£638k

1,012 grants to
those in need



£15k Three death in
Service grants

£54k 97 medical
discharge grants
(average grant £561)

£28k

Paid to 60 RLC soldiers
from the Commonwealth on
compassionate leave to help
with in country expenses

Who We Support



11,000

Regular
Officers & Soldiers

4,000

Reserve
Officers & Soldiers

4,139

RLC Association
Members

13,995

Members of the
Forming Corps Associations
across 80 branches



General Expenditure

£288k
Corps
Activities

£50k
Corps
Open Day

£10k
Military Skills
Competition

Regimental Assistance

£42k
Recruiting

£92k
Journals/
publications

£17.5k
Professional
Development

£36.1k
Unit grants

Sport & AT

£499k
Total

£429k
Sport

£70k
AT

37 Army Recognised Major Sports currently supported

Last year 1785
Regular and
Reservist
personnel
represented
The RLC at Inter
Corps level

New sports
recently set up
include e-Sports
/ Karting /
Surfing and
Wakeboarding

RLC Day's Pay
Scheme funding
provided
c£466k funding
to support all
Corps Sporting

Funding support
is provided to
our most talented
athletes who
are Day's Pay
Scheme
members

Army Sport
provides an
annual grant of
c£50k
per annum to
fund the Annual
Sports Awards





Benevolence and The RLC Family

"The RLC Benevolence Committee exists to offer a 'hand up' to those in the RLC family who may find themselves in need.

"The need is significant. Every year we help around a 1,000 people and we spend close to **£1 million**.

"Let me give you a flavour of where some of that money went in 2022:

"Paying grants where serving soldiers die off duty (**£15K**) or who are medically discharged from the Service (**£54K**); Grants to Commonwealth soldiers called home for compassionate reasons (**£28K**) and to help them with expenses; Putting food in the fridge, paying utility bills and phone bills for veterans and soldiers struggling to make ends meet (**£10K**); Assisting veterans with care home fees (**£20K**), mobility aids (**£65K**), white goods and carpets (**£100K**); Alcohol rehabilitation for serving and veterans (**£10K**); Helping a family when their house burned down uninsured; Purchasing a specialist bike to aid recovery of a soldier with a C4 spinal injury; House refurbishment to facilitate access from somebody who had become injured on operations; Funding counselling for those affected by trauma.

"With the current cost of living crisis we have dug deeper, given COs funds (**£92K** in 2022) to target unit welfare needs, provided a holiday respite scheme for soldiers families who otherwise wouldn't get a break (**£25K**) and helped refurbish some welfare flats in London.

"For veterans we have engaged with the Veterans Charity to act as our agents to fix immediate needs for any of our struggling veterans. <https://www.veteranscharity.org.uk>

"If you are serving, please ensure you are a

member of the DPS and, if your mate is in need, signpost them to the Welfare Officer. If you are a veteran and you are in need or see a mate in need then connect with us through the RHQ or the Veterans Charity or through SSAFA or the RBL."

Brig Chris Murray CBE Chair of The RLC Benevolence Committee.

Queens Regulations obliges the Fund to spend 50% of the basic Day's Pay Scheme income on benevolence. In 2022 direct grants totalling **£638K** were made by The RLC Benevolent Fund. It also made a **£100K** grant to the ABF.

While the number of cases files received in 2022 was much lower than usual, at 1,000 cases, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the forecast for 2023 increased the numbers to 1,700 cases. Applications for grants covered a broad range of needs and all bids were assessed on a case-by-case basis. Sadly, some were not considered for a grant because they were not members of the DPS. An immediate grant of £5K was made to the NOK of three DPS members who died in service. The RLC made 97 medical discharge grants in 2022 to a value of **£54.4K**.

Benevolence is about people and there are many examples of how the fund has helped. Here are just two. A JNCO had an unexpected bereavement back home in Fiji and was then hit with the unexpected financial costs. Thanks to the DPS the Corps gave him a sum of money which helped him get home to lay his mother to rest. Another young RLC Soldier from the Commonwealth, learned of the sudden death of his brother. The RLC Benevolent Fund sponsored a request to another charity, to cover his flight costs. It also made a grant to support his in-country expenses.

Sport, AT, Corps and General Expenditure

Sport and Adventurous Training

37 Army recognised major sports from angling to winter sports are currently supported at Corps Level by the RLC Association Trust. In 2022 the Trust funded sport to the sum of **£429K**, which equates to roughly 40% of the total DPS income generated in 2022.

A total of 1,785 Regular and Reservist personnel were recorded as representing The RLC at Inter Corps level sport, across 40 separate sporting disciplines. This figure can be further broken down as 1,287 males and 498 females and 1,648 Regular and 137 Reservist personnel.

All Corps sports are open to Regular and Reservist personnel. The Assistant Regimental Secretary can provide specific contacts for respective sports. New sports recently set up include e-Sports/Karting/ Surfing and Wakeboarding. New sports are always welcomed by the Central Sports Committee following appropriate due diligence in setting up.

Individuals who contribute to The RLC Days Pay Scheme also become entitled to funding support to offset personal contributions related to participating in Overseas Sports Tours and Adventurous Training (AT) activities and expeditions. The Central Sports Committee make consideration for widest benefit when making their funding allocation decisions. The Corps continues to be a major player at Inter Corps competition level across the majority of sports supported.

In 2022 The Trust awarded **£70K** to fund the Corps' AT which includes the Corps AT lodge at Lower Gillerthwaite Field Centre in the Lake District.

Army Sport also provides an annual grant of **£50k** per annum which is primarily utilised in provisioning an Annual Sports Awards Ceremony which was attended by 350 all ranks across The RLC in 2022.



Corps expenditure and unit grants

In 2022 overall Corps expenditure amounted to **£568.5K**. This money pays for a vast range of activities that help build and maintain Esprit de Corps and benefit units and the Corps more generally. Some examples of areas supported include: Unit Grants, The RLC Corps of Drums, the HQ Officers' Mess, the Central Sergeants' Mess, Corps Recruiting, Corps Open Day, Nijmegen March participation, the Pace Stick Competition, the RLC Calendar, MGL Coins, Medal Pillows, The Military Skills Competition, Stable Belt and Rank Slide provision, Catering Competition Supplies, Photographic Competition Prizes, Unit Citations.

General expenditure and operating costs

Every charitable organisation has operating costs and the RLC Association Trust is no different. While some staffing requirements are met thanks to an MOD gift in kind in the form of established Civil Service roles, the remainder of the civilian staff who work for the Trust are directly employed by it. The Trust is also required to contribute to the cost of the MOD office space it occupies and like all other businesses operating costs also include: depreciation, insurance, postage, stationary, travel, IT costs, bank charges, plus repairs and maintenance. In 2022 operating costs amounted to **£320.7K**.

