

The Conductor Newsletter



Chairman's Message



Wishing everyone a happy start to 2026! I hope you all had a relaxing and joyful festive break.

Look Forward

Last year was filled with memorable moments, exciting initiatives, and a tremendous sense of community, and 2026 is already shaping up to be even better. There is so much to look forward to, including the possible introduction of the **Conductor Cup** for the best overall RLC Logistician at the annual RLC Awards Ceremony, the **Corps Parchment Ceremony**, the much-loved **Conductor Reunion Dinner and AGM Weekend**, and many other events that bring us together.

Let's Stay Connected!

Staying connected remains at the heart of what we do. Our **WhatsApp group**, **Membermojo**, and the monthly **GMQs** (Guild Members' Questions) sessions continue to be the quickest and most popular ways to share information and maintain open, two-way communication. I encourage everyone to make full use of these channels whenever you

have a question, need information, or simply want to share a thought, they are there to support you.

Changes to the Newsletter

We've also refreshed the way we share news by moving the Guild Newsletter from a bi-monthly schedule to a seasonal one. This allows us to create more thoughtful, engaging editions that capture richer updates, celebrate member achievements, and reflect the natural rhythm of Guild life. Each issue will offer a more meaningful snapshot of what we've accomplished and what lies ahead, something to truly look forward to.

Keeping on the right side of the law

Towards the end of last year, we asked members to take a moment to check and update their details on Membermojo and to complete the Guild's General Data Protection form if they hadn't already. It's a quick but important step that helps us stay in touch, communicate more easily, and look after your information properly. A big thank you to everyone who has already done this, your support really does make a difference. If you haven't had a chance yet, you'll find all the details on page 4.

Finally

We remain fully committed to organising events and activities for the benefit of our members and to continuing our fundraising efforts through **Easyfundraising**, **Utility Warehouse**, and the monthly **Guild Lottery**. These initiatives are vital in helping us support the Guild and its future.

Above all, your involvement and support are what make everything possible. Here's to an inspiring, engaging, and action-packed 2026, together!

Guild Calendar 2026

To make sure you don't miss out, why not grab your diary today and pop the dates in?

January

- 01 – Deadline, Annual Membership Renewal Date (New)
- 03 - Guild Lottery Draw
- 05 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online

February

- 02 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online
- 07 - Guild Lottery Draw

March

- 02 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online
- 07 - Guild Lottery Draw
- 15 - Deadline, Newsletter Submissions (New)

April

- 01 - Spring Newsletter Out (New)
- 04 - Guild Lottery Draw
- 06 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online
- 12 - RLC Church Sunday
- 24 - All Ranks RLC Association Lunch (New)

May

- 02 - Guild Lottery Draw
- 04 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online
- 29 - Corps Parchment Ceremony, Worthy Down
- 29 - Conductor Reunion Dinner Night, Mess Worthy Down.
- 30 - Visit/Activity TBC

June

- 01 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online
- 06 - Guild Lottery Draw
- 15 - Deadline, Newsletter Submissions (New)
- 26 - The RLC Officers' Club London Lunch.

July

- 01 - Summer Newsletter Out (New)
- 04 - Guild Lottery Draw
- 06 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online
- 14 - Pilgrimage John Buckley VC, London.

August

- 01 - Guild Lottery Draw
- 03 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online

September

- 05 - Guild Lottery Draw
- 07 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online
- 15 - Deadline, Newsletter Submissions (New)

October

- 01 - Autumn Newsletter Out (New)
- 03 - Guild Lottery Draw
- 05 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online

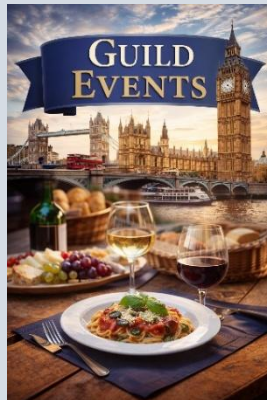
November

- 02 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online
- 07 - Guild Lottery Draw
- 08 - Cenotaph Parade and Lunch

December

- 05 - Guild Lottery Draw
- 07 - GMC Meeting / GMQs, Online
- 15 - Deadline, Newsletter Submissions (New)

Events to look forward to in 2026



We've got a fantastic lineup of events coming your way this year, plenty of chances to get involved, catch up with friends, and enjoy some special moments together!

GMQs (Guild Members Questions) Online

Join us for our first GMQs of the year on 05 January 2026! It's a relaxed chance to reconnect, share updates, and enjoy some good company. Everyone's welcome, bring your ideas and enthusiasm 🙌 [GMQ Form](#). A Teams link for this session will go out to all members in the next few days.

29-30 May 26 Parchment Weekend in Worthy Down

One of our most popular weekends is back! Whether you're a seasoned hand or brand new to it, Parchment Weekend is always full of creativity, learning, and laughs. Mark your calendar—this is one you won't want to miss. Return to go out to members in February.

AGM Weekend

Our Annual General Meeting Weekend will be held in the Autumn, and it's the perfect time to look back on the year, celebrate our achievements, and plan for what's ahead. There'll be plenty of time for socialising too! Return to go out to members in April.

14 July 26 Visit to John Buckley VC Grave in Tower Hamlets, London

We will make a respectful visit to the grave of **John Buckley VC**, honouring the remarkable soldier awarded the **Victoria Cross** for the Defence of the Delhi Magazine at Meerut, India, on **11 May 1857**. To confirm your interest, 🙌 [14 Jul 26 - Visit to the grave of Conductor John Buckley VC – Fill in form](#)

Support the Guild – Make a Difference While Saving Money

There's an old saying: **"A fool and his money are soon parted."** But our members are anything but fools! They're smart, thoughtful, and committed and that's why we want to show just how much value our fundraising schemes can bring.

Why Support Our Fundraising Schemes?

Fundraising is a big part of what keeps our Guild running smoothly and helps us continue offering great experiences for everyone. The money we raise goes straight into the essentials, things like event costs and general running of the Guild.

Working together on fundraising also helps us **keep membership fees and event costs down**, making it easier for everyone to get involved without worrying about rising expenses. It even gives us room to grow—whether that means better use of technology, new activities, or more opportunities for members to take part.

Put simply, fundraising helps us stay affordable, improve what we offer, and keep our Guild the welcoming, vibrant community we all enjoy. Every pound raised makes a real difference, supporting our events, services, and outreach. And as a bonus, by joining in you might even benefit personally through savings, rewards, or prize opportunities!

The proof is in the pudding!

You can only judge the quality or success of something by trying it or seeing the results, not by theory or appearances. The real test of something is how well it works in practice.

Our fundraising schemes have already proven to work in previous years, thanks to our members and the support of family and friends.

Fundraising Benefits for Member in 2025

Those participating either saved on utilities, enjoyed rewards, winning cash prizes or a combination of all three. These schemes help keep annual subscription fees at **£30**, plus members and partners events fees down, saving **£138** each.

- **£58 each** at the 2025 Parchment Weekend
- **£80 each** at the AGM Weekend

Guild Lottery Syndicate

- 14 Players raised: **£1,185**
- Member winnings: **£503**

How to Join

- Step 1: [Click Here](#) to fill online registration form.
 Step 2: Pay your subscription and you're in the next draw!
 Step 3: Watch for results and updates in the Guild newsletter and WhatsApp groups.

Utility Warehouse

- Mike Coyle expected to save **£100 a month** on Gas, Electric, Mobile, Broadband and Landline.
- Dave Patterson saved **£2,975** with the **UW Cashback Card**
- Total donations received: **£235**

Find out more or [Get a Quote](#) or call **0333 777 3 212**.
 Lines are open 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 4.30pm on Saturdays **and quote our ID: B61182**.

Easyfundraising - Each purchase earns a free donation for the Guild! **£253** received in donations in 2025 at no cost to members.

How to Join

- Step 1: [Sign Up to Easyfundraising](#)
 Step 2: Choose Conductors' Guild, The Royal Logistic Corps as your cause.
 Step 3: Shop online with over 8,000 retailers — from Amazon to M&S, John Lewis, Argos, and more.

The BIG Question - How much does it cost to join all three schemes?

Lottery: £5 per ball, per month

Utility Warehouse: £0

Easyfundraising: £0

Membermojo – Smarter Membership Management Starts Here!

CLUB MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE



In our last edition, we invited all members to take a moment to check that their details on **Membermojo** are up to date. If you haven't had the chance to do this yet, no worries at all — it's easy to catch up 😊

To help, here's a **simple step-by-step guide** to signing in to the Guild's Membermojo:

🔑 How to Sign in to the Guild's Membermojo

1. Visit the Guild's Membermojo page

Go to the Guild's Membermojo link, usually:

👉 <https://membermojo.co.uk/conductorsguild>

2. Click "Sign in"

You'll find this in the top-right corner of the page.

3. Enter your email address

- Use the email address registered with the Guild.
 - No password needed unless you've already set one
- If you don't have a password, simply choose **"Sign in without password"**

4. Check your email

- Membermojo will send you a sign-in link.
- Click the link in the email and you'll be taken straight to your member profile

5. Once you're signed in, you can:

- Review and update your contact details
- Access Guild announcements and documents

💡 Helpful tips

- Bookmark the page for quick and easy access next time
- If the email doesn't appear, check your spam or junk folder
- Still having trouble? Our **Membership Secretary** will be happy to help

Thank you for taking a few moments to keep your details up to date — it really helps the Guild stay connected with you.

General Data Protection (GDP): The Law We Must follow



Completing the Guild GDP form is quick and straightforward. Simply take a moment to read the Guild Data Protection Policy below, then fill in the form, it won't take long at all 😊

Guild General Data Protection Policy

Introduction

In May 2018, new GDP regulations came into effect concerning the personal data of members, non-members, and their partners held by the Conductors Guild (The Guild) of the RLCA. This data is maintained on application forms and is stored securely, being accessed only by the GMC on password-protected computers. The information is used solely for purposes related to membership, event and fundraising promotions, query resolution, and accounting.

Consent

In line with the GDPR Act 2018, members are asked to read complete the Guild GDPR consent form. The Guild will only contact members who have provided a signed consent form

👉 [Complete the Guild General Data Protection Form](#)

Data We Hold

- **Personal Details:** Full Name, Given Names, Alias, Post Nominals, Partner's Name, and Date of Birth.
- **Contact Details:** Residential Address, Home Phone Number, Mobile Number, Email Address.
- **Service Details:** Service History, Trade, Discharge/Retirement Date, Rank at Retirement.
- **Subscription Details:** Membership Number, Renewal Dates (with members' consent), Bank and Card Account Information for payments made to the Guild via Direct Debit or Standing Order.

Data Protection

The Guild uses trusted third-party services, such as the RLC Website and the RLC WhatsApp group, to help promote its work. We never share members' details for any third party's own use, and all such services operate under agreements that protect members' information and ensure it is used only for Guild communications.

The Guild may advertise fundraising activities in the Guild Newsletter and on the Conductor's website and via WhatsApp

Groups. We may also contact members directly to promote events and activities. Occasionally, we will inform members directly of the work the Guild is engaged in or has completed.

The Guild will only use personal data to manage your membership and related membership benefits. The Guild only holds personal data that members have provided in their membership application or have subsequently updated.

The Guild has an open access social media presence on the Internet via Facebook, and Blog. Data and information submitted via third-party social media are protected by regulations covering such platforms. If there is established evidence that personal data has been illicitly taken from those platforms, the Guild's presence will be discontinued.

Communication Preference

We will communicate with members via phone, email, letter, text, and WhatsApp groups.

Data Control

The Guild has appointed Mike Coyle as the Guild Data Controller. The Data Controller is primarily responsible for:

- a. Ensuring effective and efficient management and security of personal data.
- b. Determining the need and method of processing personal data (in any format),
- c. Processing of data, for example: Gathering statistics, updating information, normally
- d. undertaken by the Membership Secretary.

Rights Of Guild Members (GM)

Under the new Regulations, GMs have individual rights to:

- a. Enquire what data the Guild holds and its accuracy.
- b. Be informed of any data security breach.
- c. Have your data erased if your membership ceases.

Note: Members may request information regarding their data or modify their contact preferences at any time by reaching out to the Guild Secretary.

Guild Committees 2026

The Guild Management Committee (GMC) is responsible for the overall governance, administration, and strategic direction of the Guild. The committee ensures that the Guild operates effectively, transparently, and in line with its constitution, values, and objectives. Key responsibilities include planning and implementing activities, managing finances and resources, overseeing membership matters, coordinating events and programs, and representing the Guild in internal and external engagements. The committee also facilitates communication among members, resolves issues or conflicts, and works to promote participation, growth, and sustainability of the Guild.

Malcom Wood CBE	President
Dave Patterson	Chairman/Treasurer/Fundraising
Gordon Webster	Vice-Chairman
Steve Swales	Secretary
Martin Foulds	Serving Conductor Rep
Mike Coyle	Media Outlets/Merchandise/Data Control
Colin Slade	Member without Portfolio
Mike Hillyard	Member without Portfolio
Simon Nock	Member without Portfolio

The Guild Events Sub Committee (GEC) is responsible for planning, organizing, and delivering engaging events and activities for Guild members. The committee coordinates logistics, manages event timelines and budgets, liaises with vendors and stakeholders, and ensures events run smoothly and safely. Its role also includes promoting events, encouraging member participation, and evaluating outcomes to improve future activities, all while supporting the Guild's goals and fostering a strong sense of community.

Dave Patterson	Chairman
Steve Swales	Secretary
Daz Garwood	Hospitality
Mike Hillyard	Transport

☀️ Join the Guild Leadership Team! ☀️
Are you passionate about making a difference and being part of an active, vibrant community? The Guild is inviting enthusiastic members to join the Guild Management Team or the Guild Events Sub-Committee!

Member News Roundup



We're excited to introduce a new section called 'Member News Roundup'

It's a friendly space where members can share little snippets from their lives—holiday plans, family updates, funny bellyaches, “our town in the news,” veteran-related topics, hobbies and interests, the most useless Christmas presents, and just about anything else worth a smile.

We especially welcome contributions from anyone with a connection to Conductor, and we can't wait to hear what you've been up to. Please send your submissions to the Guild Secretary (full contact details are at the bottom of page 1) by **15 March 2026**. There's plenty of time to get involved, and we very much look forward to hearing from you.



We're delighted to begin the year with an enlightening article on *Executor*, written by Bob Le Vaillant JP.

Are you the executor of a will? If so, beware, it is not as straightforward as you think. For me, responsibility triggered when my ex died 350 miles away. While divorced for almost forty years, she still trusted me to sort out her wishes. I was a Corporal when we married. She was a Sergeant in the Women's Royal Army Corps. I refused to wear uniform, not wanting wedding photos of my new wife outranking me!

So, a tortuous journey to the northwest coast, via Southeastern and Avanti. Staying for a week in a gloriously rundown Victorian Hotel near the seafront. Meetings with the lawyer, funeral director, florist, printer, estate agent, and vicar. Sorry, not vicar, it is 'Father,' and this father was Icelandic, far from home too. My ex-was Roman Catholic. She wanted a Requiem Mass, then cremation, and burial later, at another church, of her ashes. All unfamiliar territory. But everything was finally sorted. The funeral arranged by me. The rest – flat clearance, property sale, distribution of assets and eventual setting up of a grandchild's trust - by the solicitor acting as my attorney.

There were surviving relatives nearby. Shadowy siblings and their offspring, none of whom seemed to get on with each other. One or two emerged, clearly suspicious of a soft southern Protestant turning up to take on responsibilities to which they weren't invited. Funerals can bring out the worst in people, rather than bring families together. My reception was, to say the least, frosty. A few came to the church and the crem, contributing nothing to any arrangements. They refused to join us at the wake. I laid on a buffet for twenty. In the event, there were only ten of us. The hotel staff enjoyed all the spare sausage rolls and sandwiches!

For a couple of days, the hotel was overrun by a hundred or so RASC/RCT/RLC revelers, attending, I think, a Transport & Movements Regimental Reunion. Spotting my Conductor tie, I was instantly befriended, even offered an invitation to their dinner. Sadly, that evening I was booked to concoct bidding prayers with the holy Icelander. Then there was the Funeral Director's top hat. Worn jauntily by Beryl*, a comely young

woman with a twinkle in her eye and who I thought deserved a hug when we were delivered back to the hotel in her limousine. In embracing her, I sent the hat flying. But it made everyone laugh, including my daughter and her family, Beryl herself, and the driver.

A four-women gaggle/contingent/bevy of elderly members of the WRAC Association, resplendent in lovat green blazers and berets, turned up to bid farewell to their comrade. Two were in church, two at the crematorium, standing to attention and smartly saluting the hearse as we got there. I was suddenly back - better not say 'in the bosom of' - a military family. A few tears as the curtains closed to the fitting strains of the WRAC Regimental Slow March, Greensleeves (now hijacked by the Royal Logistic Corps) <https://youtu.be/tlsbxz4c-zQ?si=S0pXnJ8tUHtkTymh>

So, duty done. Five Conductor pins distributed. One to a jolly RLC lady Lieutenant Colonel from Andover, four to our WRAC comrades from Merseyside. Beryl? I bet she had never been kissed by a Conductor. Certainly not at the funeral which she was directing. And the departed? Rest in Peace Jeannie (nee Moffitt).

*Not her real name



Fallen Member



**Former Conductor,
Major Tom Davies**

**National Service
GSC & RASC
1947 – 1949**

**Regular Service
RASC & RAOC
1949 – 1983**

In the summer of 2005,
Brigadier (Retired) Clive
Elderton OBE late RLC, very

kindly spent time with Tom, listening to his memories and stories. Over four enjoyable hours, Tom shared his remarkable experiences, which were recorded on tape and later passed to the RLC Museum for safekeeping.

The extract below (from September 2005 Newsletter) describes Tom's visit to the RLC Museum, where he personally handed over his framed Conductor Parchment along with several other treasured items.

OUR VERY OWN MAJOR TOM



L to R Tess Manders, Tom Davies and Simon Walmsley

After a smooth journey on my first trip in a fully electric car I arrived well in time for my first official welcome to this lovely new museum, placed conveniently just outside the Worthy Down Barracks which replaced the old RASC site. By coincidence it was also my base for my last four years as OC RAOC Accommodation Service Unit before leaving to take up my ten years as a Retired Officer in HQ London District.

I was welcomed in the Museum by the Archivist, Miss Tess Manders and Museum Manager Maj (Retd) Simon Walmsley. Tess produced my Army story [Paper Soldier 1947-1994] together with a Memory Stick which held a four hour interview with Brigadier Elderton taken in my house, arranged by branch Chairman Dave Patterson.

I now handed my gifts for the Museum to Tess. First, my glass framed Conductor Certificate. Second, a unique special folder and security pass given when I was selected to be part of the Media Support Team, when Her Majesty The Queen visited Singapore and inspected the ANZUK Force in 1972. We had a good chat with welcome refreshments. The photo was taken on my departure outside the Museum front door.

Tom's story: A life Remembered

[Paper Soldier & His Family 1947 - 1994](#)

POSTINGS

UK, Dorset Regt/RASC Trg Bn	May 1947- Dec 1947
Far East, GHQ FARELF	Feb 1948- Nov 1950
UK, Water Tpt Coy/HQ E Command	Dec 1950- Jan 1953
Germany, HQ 1 (BR) Corps	Jan 1953 -Aug 1956
UK, HQ 2 (BR) Corps	Aug 1956- Oct 1956
Cyprus	Oct 1956 -Nov 1956
Egypt	Nov 1956 -Dec 1956
UK, War Office	Dec 1956- Sep 1960
Germany, HQ BAOR	Sep 1960- Jan 1962
Cyprus, HQ Cyprus District	Feb 1962- Feb 1965
UK, MOD	Feb 1965 - Jun 1966
Germany, HQ BAOR	Jun 1966 - Jul 1970
Singapore, HQ S'pore Base	Aug 1970- Nov 1972
UK, COD Donnington	Nov 1972- Sep 1974
Singapore, Bk Office RAOC S'pore	Sep 1974- Feb 1976
Germany, Verden	Mar 1976- Mar 1979
UK, Winchester	Apr 1979- Oct 1983
UK, HQ London District (RO2)	Oct 1983 -Feb 1994

Members Service History

In the November 2025 Newsletter, we asked members to complete their [Member Service History form](#)

This is especially important for posterity, as well as for those researching family and military history.

~oOo~