



The Corps of Drums Society

Registered Charity No. 1073106

Newsletter – April 2019



Committee Contact Information

Listed below are the current positions held within the Society, I have also added the relevant email addresses, so if there are specific Areas of concern or information required it will reach the correct person and therefore can be answered in a timely manner

Chairman:	Roger Davenport	Chairman@corpsofdrums.com
Hon. Secretary:	David Lear MBE	Secretary@corpsofdrums.com
Hon. Treasurer:	Graham (Jake) Thackery	Treasurer@corpsofdrums.com
Drum Major:	John Richardson	Drum.Major@corpsofdrums.com
Music & Training:	Peter Foss	Music.training@corpsofdrums.com
Training and Development:	Ian Pattinson	Training.development@corpsofdrums.com
Picture archivist:	David Lear MBE	Archivist@corpsofdrums.com

Other Officers

Editor, Drummers Call:	Geoff Fairfax MBE	Editor@corpsofdrums.com
Northern Ireland Rep	William Mullen	Sales@ernemusicsupplies.com
Australian Rep	Martin Hartley	hartleymartin@hotmail.com
Regular Army Liaison	Senior DMaj Simon Towe	

NOTICE – Yorkshire (N & W) ACF

I am the Training Major for Yorkshire (N&W) Army Cadet Force and am looking to recruit a Music Officer for the County. I am hoping that you may know someone who lives in or near the Yorkshire region who would be interested in helping us.

The post holder will be appointed to County HQ strength in York but our 2 music centres are currently located in Leeds and Pontefract although we are looking to expand to having more units across the County.

The Leeds unit is a Corps of Drums parading on Wednesday evenings and the Pontefract unit that

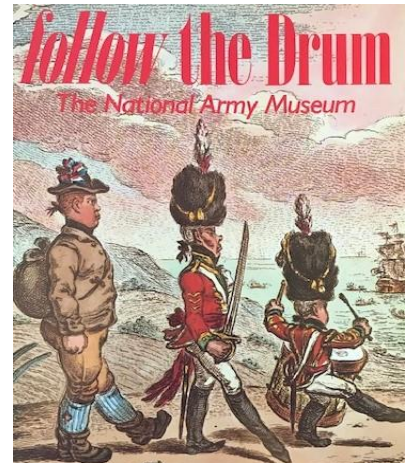
parades on Monday evenings used to be a bugle band but we are in the process of expanding them to being a band with a broader range of instruments.

The post holder would be responsible for developing and promoting music within the ACF in line with our music syllabus, encouraging and supporting cadets to learn their instruments, musical theory as well as arranging and encouraging attendance at public performances.

For more information please contact Ian Lomas on tmyacf@armymail.mod.uk

Secretary's / Archivists article of the month

With the vast library of photos and literature, I will be adding an article in the newsletter each month, the one for this month is from the "Follow the Drum"



follow the Drum

These are to Authorize you by beat of Drum or otherwise to Raise Volunteers for a Regiment of Foot under Your Command for Our Service.

Order for Raising a Regiment of Foot under Colonel Luke Lillingstone, April 1705 (now the 1st Bn Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's))¹.

What is a Drum?

A drum is a hollow cylinder or hemisphere of wood or metal, over the open ends of which are stretched vellum or plastic membranes, called 'heads'. These, when struck by a stick or beater, produce a clear and resonant note. With the exception of kettledrums (or orchestral tympani), the Army's drums are of indefinite pitch. Technology has offered different means of tensioning the heads and a variety of materials for construction, but has failed to alter the principles whereby the distinctive sound is produced.

Follow the Drum

An army that does not rely on conscription is continually in search of recruits to 'volunteer' to serve King and country. It was customary, therefore, from the 1660s until the late nineteenth century, for recruiting parties to tour the shires 'beating up' on the drum to attract the attention of likely lads. Once set up outside an alehouse, these parties would attempt, by fair means or foul, to persuade the local men to accept the 'King's shilling', which was a crude contract of enlistment in the Army.

The brightly-dressed soldiers and richly emblazoned drum contrasted vividly with the drabness of rural or industrial Britain, offering a taste of adventure and glamour to impressionable youngsters. Contemporary cartoons lampoon the simple yokel, the wily recruiting sergeant and the carefree young drummer.

Once recruits had been obtained, the party would continue on its way with the drummer beating. Thus men enlisting were said to *follow the drum*.

The Drum Major

It is probable that the function of the drum major, but not the appointment, has existed as long as there have been drummers. Originally, his role was that of senior drummer on parade, beating his own drum rather than leading with his familiar staff. Because each drummer paraded with his company, it was not until the 'band of musick' came into being that he was always required to march in front.

As a result of putting down his sticks to take up a staff, the drum major needed a distinctive cross-belt, as described in a military treatise of 1786; '... the Loops on the Drum-major's Belt to be entirely on the left Side, as he should make a Cross of it with his Sword Belt, and carry his sticks constantly in the Loops, as a Badge of Office when on Duty', and the sticks '... should be of Ebony tipt with Silver, it being part of the Foppery to be allowed in his Appointments, for no other purpose, but merely shew.'¹²

References to the office of drum major appear as early as the 1590s, but the rank does not appear on regimental establishments of the early seventeenth century. During the Commonwealth, a particularly low period for the art of drumming, the appointment seems to have been lost. At the Restoration, only the Foot Guards, and later the Royal Artillery, appear to have had official blessing for a drum major. The marching regiments seem to have gone without an official drum major until 1810, although one existed in practice, when an extra sergeant was allowed to hold that position. Hitherto, the senior was always shown in returns in the Grenadier Company among the drummer and fifers with the suffix 'D.M.'. Between 1881 and 1928 the time-honoured title was abolished in favour of 'sergeant drummer' although the holder continued to enjoy the dress and privileges of a staff sergeant.

Corps of Drums AGM

The proposed date for this year's AGM will be during the lord Mayors show rehearsal at Cottesmore on Saturday 26th October

Corps of Drums Society Ties

The Chairman has taken delivery of 50 ties, these are the correct shade of red as opposed to the previous orange colour on (the red ones with alternate crown and fleur-de-lys diagonal stripes). The price for the ties is £13.50 and £3.50 for P &P. if anyone is interested in purchasing a Society Tie, please email the Chairman Direct on the email above

Drummer Call – Editors notes

The DC Editor (Geoff Fairfax) has requested that if there are articles that you would like to have included in the drummers Call magazine, then please send to the Editors email address, Also could you ensure that if you have Photos to go with the article could these be sent separately and not with the photos embedded in the word document.

Lord Mayor's Show 2019

The Music list for the LMS 2019 (Playlist order to be finalised)

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| • Killaloe | Flutes with Bugle Intro & Bell Lyres |
| • The Adjutant | Flutes |
| • Heraldry | Bugles |
| • Retreat Marches | Flute |
| • Legs Eleven | Flutes |
| • Bugle Bells | Bugles |
| • Mud Cabin | Flutes & Bell Lyres |
| • Hazelmere | Flutes with bell-lyres in the trio |
| • Mechanised Infantry | Bugles & bell lyres |
| • Galanthia | Flutes |
| • Jelalabad | Bugles & Bell Lyres |
| • Children's Love | Flutes with Bell Lyres in the Trio (Designated March) |

The complete QR Code Booklet for all the above Music is now complete and has been emailed to the regular groups who take part in the LMS. if there are any other members who wish to take part in this year's LMS and would like these codes please email the secretary@corpsofdrums.com

You can either view the Music through QR code reader or directly from Apple iPhone camera. All the videos are private and only accessed through the QR. This is to protect ourselves and not have loads of random searches and comments left on our videos.

Corps of Drums Society Music Meetings 2019

The dates for Music meetings and the LMS Practice dates and locations are as follows:

- Saturday 11th May – 10:00 – 16:00 - South West London ACF HQ, 27 St Johns Hill, London, SW11 1TT (The centre is opposite Clapham Junction Train Station). There is Car parking at this location.
- Saturday 26th October – 10:00 – 16:00 – Kendrew Barracks, Cottesmore, LE15 7BL - LMS Full Rehearsal

The Ken Wynne Legacy

There are currently no further updates from the information recorded in the previous month's newsletters, updates as and when will be communicated within the newsletters.

To clarify our purpose, the book will be based on the photos in the Society's and members archives. It is not intended to be a history of drum and fife music or to cover foreign practices. It will mainly comprise photos of British Army Corps of Drums / Bugle Platoons post 1860 but can include appropriate Commonwealth/Empire and non-service photos.

10th Leicester (1st SYSTON) Scout & Guide Band COD

Events and practices for 2019 – TFO

For any further information on practice dates and events please email Pam Hales on the following email address

pamhales@btinternet.com

Yorkshire Corps of Drums (YCOD) - Music Practices / Engagements 2019

Events and practices for 2019 -

- WW11 Weekend Pickering Saturday 12th October 2019
- Remembrance Sunday Goole Sunday 10th November 2019

Please email Peter Garthwaite on the email below. Practices are held at Harewood Barracks, Regent Street, Leeds LS7 1AT

p.garthwaite@ntlworld.com

Cinque Ports (Rifle Volunteers) Corps of Drums - Music Practices / Engagements 2019

Events and practices for 2019

- Saturday June 1st Queens Woodland Trust Memorial Service – Dorking
- Saturday June 29th Armed Forces Day – Islington
- Saturday Aug 17th Rye County Show
- Sunday Sept 29th Pearly Kings & Queens – London Guild Hall

The Practices are held at The Scout Hut, Mint Walk Warlingham, CR6 9SA – 10:00 – 15:30 for further Information please email either geoff.fairfax@talktalk.net or secretary@corpsofdrums.com

We are always looking for new members, again if you are interested in brushing up on your drumming skills, come along, you do as much or as little as you want to do.

Guards Division Corps of Drums Association - Music Practices / Engagements 2019

- Sunday May 19th Grenadier Guards Remembrance Day – Wellington Bks
- Sunday June 23rd Weymouth Veterans Day
- Sunday July 21st Music Practice – Windsor SL4 5EY
- Sunday September 8th Music Practice – Windsor SL4 5EY
- Sunday October 13th Music Practice – Windsor SL4 5EY
- Sunday November 10th Chippenham RBL Remembrance Sunday

For further information on any of the above please email Jamie Wallis (Hon Secretary) on the email below

Secretary@gdcoda.org

The Yorkshire Volunteers Corps of Drums

Events and practices for 2019 - TFO

Practice nights are the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at Standridge Community Centre, Wakefield, West Yorkshire.

For further information on joining the YVCOD, please contact David Barlow on the following email

Dtb33@btinternet.com

Staffordshire Corps of Drums

The Staffordshire Corps of Drums are recruiting Flute Players/drummers (including Tenor Drummers) and Bell Lyre players.

The Corps meets on Monday evenings 7-9 pm and occasional Sunday training days. we are located at the Stafford & Rugeley Sea Cadet Centre, River Way, Stafford. ST16 3TH.

We have a busy 2019 and therefore need to recruit more members in order that we can carry out our Public Duties.

For further information please contact Major (Retd) David J Keates MBE on 01902 850536 or Email davidjkeates@hotmail.co.uk

The Fusilier Association Corps of Drums (London)

The FACOD meet on Saturdays, with practices planned for the following dates

Start times are 1030 coffee tea 1100 breakdown into lessons and admin, finish at 1530 at 213 Balham High Road, London, SW17 7BQ

Names for security reasons need to be given before attendance, anyone interested please email Colin Ashton on colin@polishspecialities.com

Cheshire Drums and Bugles

The CD&B have recently joined the society, once I receive information on any engagements or practice dates, I will enter to the newsletter.

Anyone interested please email Robert Richardson on robbodrummer@hotmail.com

Request from Staff Drum Major Paul Blakelock – ASC Catterick

Paul Blakelock over the past 3 years has raised over £5000,00 for various charities including the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF) and is completing several events from October 2018 till September 2019 will be participating in a number of events with the aim to raise money for “Cancer Research UK”.

The Corps of Drums Society has given £50.00 to Paul, if anyone else wishes to support Paul in these events then please contact him, either on Paul.blakelock410@mod.gov.uk Or email through Facebook

Picture Archives - Update

If anyone has Photos that they would like to add to the archives, please email them to Archivist@corpsofdrums.com

Facebook

To obtain feedback for new members I have asked all those requesting to join to answer 3 drums related questions, which will hopefully get new members to join the CODS and more importantly to give those new members information of Active Corps within the area they live.

Could I ask all that if you are getting friends to join that they answer the 3 questions, these are intended to ensure that those joining the fb page have an interest or are wishing to participate within the drumming world.

David Lear MBE - 410 St Richards Road, Great Mongeham, Deal, KENT CT14 9LH