



# NEWSLETTER

## RECOVERY MECHANIC BRANCH

### REME ASSOCIATION



## WELCOME TO ALL

Welcome to the First Edition Newsletter of the recently formed Recovery Mechanics Branch of REME Association. Most of you shall already be aware of the branch formation through the various REME media outlets on FaceBook and of course the Craftsman magazine. The Branch was officially formed on the 1 October 2020, in the church at the home of REME, MOD Lyneham, in Wiltshire. This date also coincided with an incredibly significant day in the history of our Corp, REME becoming 78 years old. This 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the Newsletter shall concentrate mainly on the formation, the set-up and future branch plans.

## THE FORMATION

During a short service delivered by the Garrison Chaplin Revd Stephen Lodwick, the standard which will represent the newly formed branch was blessed, resulting in the creation of the first Trade Branch to be formed within REME Association, another example of the boys leading from the rear as usual. Due to the current situation we all face with the Covid 19 virus numbers at the service were limited to six people, therefore no normal Recy Mech celebrations were able to be performed, not one yellow handbag could be seen anywhere. Below is a photograph taken after the ceremony showing committee members with Lt Col Mike Tizard (left) and Padre Stephen.



Everyone is very much aware that regardless of trade we are all life members of REME Association, however, our endeavour to form our own trade branch has been very well received by the Association who provided endless support to us, and continue to do so, we are very grateful for all their assistance.

To mark the occasion of the formation of the branch a new pin badge depicting the trade has been designed, everyone will be gifted the badge as they become members of the branch, so if you are not already a member please use the following email address to register your interest and intentions to join "[recymechbranch@gmail.com](mailto:recymechbranch@gmail.com)".

So, what are you waiting for, get cracking on your membership today – **IT IS FREE?**





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### THE PIN

Below is a photograph of the new pin badge, I am sure you will all agree, it is a particularly good representation of the Recovery Mechanic.



### THE STANDARD

The Recovery Mechanic Standard looks awesome, it was kindly provided and donated to the branch by REME Association. The Standard will be available for ceremonial occasions and funerals where requested.

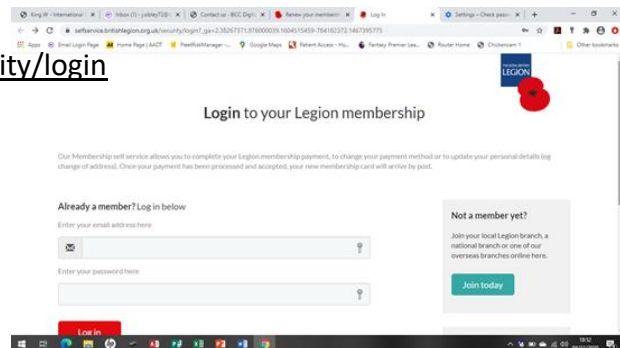


## THE MEMBERSHIP

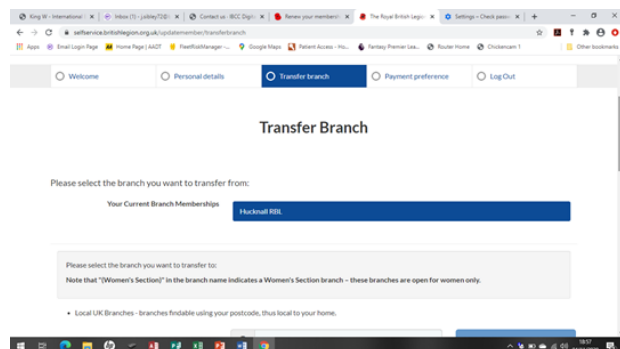
Membership of the branch is open to all who are serving or have served as a Recovery Mechanic in REME and as with the REME Association the membership includes family. We also have a number of members that supported the Recy Mech branch of the RBL who were not either a Recy Mech or indeed REME, we thank them for their continued support, they have been invited to join the branch and they are most welcome. One month on from the formation of the branch we have over 160 registered members.

As we are all aware the current branch of Recovery Mechanics – Royal British Legion is in the process of being closed. For those who wish to transfer their membership to another branch of the Royal British Legion, please follow the instructions below:

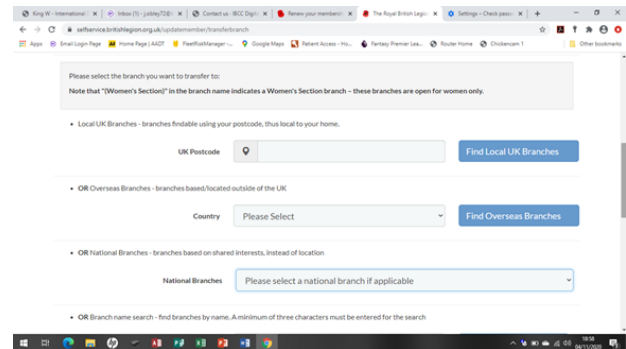
1. Open the RBL web site and log-in at <https://selfservice.britishlegion.org.uk/security/login>



2. Select Transfer Branch. Your current branch will be shown.



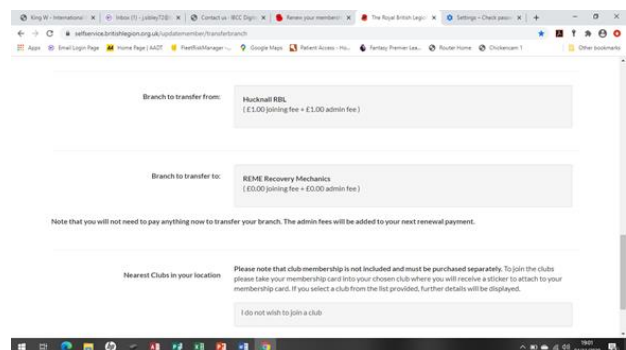
3. Scroll down and select the branch you want to join from the three options, Local UK Branches, Overseas or National Branches.



Please select the branch you want to transfer to:  
Note that "Women's Section" in the branch name indicates a Women's Section branch - these branches are open for women only

- Local UK Branches - branches findable using your postcode, thus local to your home.  
UK Postcode:  [Find Local UK Branches](#)
- OR Overseas Branches - branches based/focussed outside of the UK  
Country:  [Find Overseas Branches](#)
- OR National Branches - branches based on shared interests, instead of location  
National Branches:
- OR Branch name search - find branches by name. A minimum of three characters must be entered for the search

4. Scroll down to view your current branch and your selected new branch, if you are happy



Branch to transfer from: **Hucknall RBL**  
(£1,000 joining fee + £1,000 admin fee)

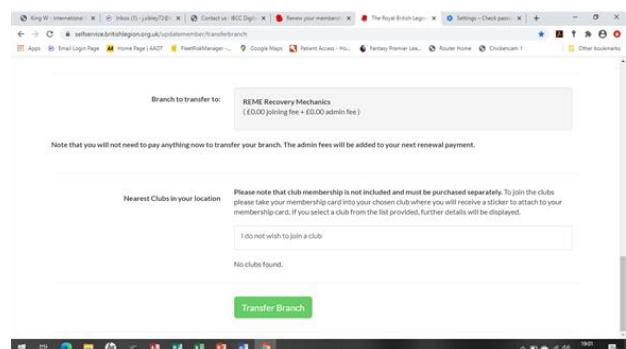
Branch to transfer to: **REME Recovery Mechanics**  
(£0,000 joining fee + £0,000 admin fee)

Note that you will not need to pay anything now to transfer your branch. The admin fees will be added to your next renewal payment.

Nearest Clubs in your location: Please note that club membership is not included and must be purchased separately. To join the clubs please take your membership card into your chosen club where you will receive a sticker to attach to your membership card. If you select a club from the list provided, further details will be displayed.

☐ I do not wish to join a club

5. Scroll down further and click the transfer branch button. And just wait for the RBL to send you your new membership card.



Branch to transfer to: **REME Recovery Mechanics**  
(£0,000 joining fee + £0,000 admin fee)

Note that you will not need to pay anything now to transfer your branch. The admin fees will be added to your next renewal payment.

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☐ I do not wish to join a club

No clubs found.

[Transfer Branch](#)



## FEES

There are no fees and at this point no intention of introducing any form of fees in the future.

## AIMS OF THE BRANCH

As the branch grows it is intended to issue a small booklet which will detail more our intentions and structure. The aims of the branch are straight forward, a brief overview is described below:

- Comply with the requirements of REME Association "REME 75 Rules".
- To foster a feeling of pride, fellowship, and common loyalty within the branch members.
- To keep in touch with, retain and keep alive comradeship and spirit of Recovery Mechanics who have served or are serving.
- Establish links between serving and ex Service members and families of the branch with the view to assisting all where necessary and possible.
- Explore ways in which the membership can contribute through fundraising events to charities.

## THE COMMITTEE

The initial committee will be formed of 7 members which includes the President, format and names listed below:

President:	John Sibley
Chairman:	Bryan Cronie
Membership & Fund Member:	Bob Fullbrook
Secretary:	Chris Zeil
Communication's Member:	Matthew Lambert
Serving Member:	Vacant
Veterans Member:	Vacant

As can be seen above there are two places currently vacant. We would very much like to fill these as quickly as possible, the idea being that there are specific representatives on the committee from both serving and retired members, therefore we respectfully request volunteers to step forward and be identified? If you are interested please make it known using the members email address "[recymechbranch@gmail.com](mailto:recymechbranch@gmail.com)". No decision has yet been taken on the duration of term for committee members, but it is thought that 2 years would be a minimum term.



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## **NEWSLETTER FREQUENCY**

It is the intention of the branch to produce a minimum of 2 Newsletters each year. Should there be the demand and material for additional editions consideration will be given to producing an edition on a quarterly basis.

## **NEWSLETTER MATERIAL**

Other than the news and updates from the committee about what may or may not be happening within the branch there will always be a requirement for articles to fill the pages of the Newsletter. The branch therefore encourages you, the members, for submissions to be included in each edition. They can be in the form of photographs with a story behind them, updates on service equipment (if permitted), current training tasks, (if permitted), golden oldies of tasks from long ago, stories on where are they now which could track an individuals progress since leaving the service, notification of forthcoming events etc., or just a good old Recovery Mechanics tail about the past. Anything if it is not offensive or detrimental to anyone, the type of things that appeal to good old Recy. Mech Banter. The committee will inform all members when the are on the look out for material, probably about 4 to 6 weeks prior to publishing. All proposed material should be submitted through the branch email address "[recymechbranch@gmail.com](mailto:recymechbranch@gmail.com)".

## **RELATIONSHIPS**

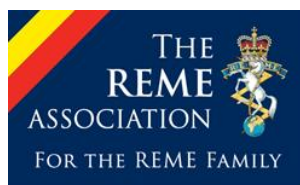
It is the intention of the branch to maintain healthy relationships with The REME Association, The Recovery Training Wing at Lyneham, The Recovery Mechanics Wall at Lyneham, The REME Museum, Historic Vehicles Museum and of course all other branches of the REME Family. We will also be fully supporting both the SNCO and ARV reunions and encourage all members to do so.

## **SUGGESTIONS**

The branch committee will always be open to any suggestion from the membership. If any member feels that they have a suggestion for the good and benefit of the branch, please submit it by using the branch email address "[recymechbranch@gmail.com](mailto:recymechbranch@gmail.com)".

## **GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS**

It is well known that in this modern day much care must be taken with information that is stored on any individual. The branch is extremely conscious of the requirements of the above regulations and will comply with requirements. That is one of the reasons why everything is being channelled through the same email address "[recymechbranch@gmail.com](mailto:recymechbranch@gmail.com)". Your details are safe.





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## THE BRANCH

The branch is your branch, a stand alone branch for Recovery Mechanics, run and administered by Recovery Mechanics, we are and always have been the closest family within REME, we know all the sayings and all the jokes out there about the humble Recy. Mech, actually the Recovery Mechanic is the true Craftsman, many on completion of service have gone on to establishing excellent second careers, so lets continue with our tradition of being the people called upon when things get tough, leading the way forward from the rear. Let's take advantage of our privileged position, enjoy, and get the absolute best out of all that we do.

## ASSISTANCE

We have already established the Recovery Mechanic Trade as a "Family", it really goes without saying that we are all here to help. In the event of any member experiencing difficult times they must not hesitate to contact the branch. We may or may not be able to assist, but if not, we certainly will be able to go to the next stage and find the place and people who can assist. We also ask, should any member become aware of the passing of a Recovery Mechanic, please make the branch aware. As has been previously stated throughout this Newsletter, all contact to be made through the branch email address [recymechbranch@gmail.com](mailto:recymechbranch@gmail.com).

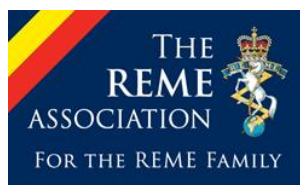
## THANK YOU

Finally, it is hoped that this first Newsletter gives you an insight to what we wish to achieve as a branch. Thank you to you the members, without you nothing is possible, thank you to REME Association for all their kind assistance in making it happen, thank you to the committee for its tireless work, without it nothing would have happened. Generally no names would be singled out, however in this case it is only right and proper that huge thank you goes to our President, John Sibley, without his experience and contacts within REME Association it would have been a massive struggle to get the branch formed as quickly as it was.

## THE PRESIDENT

Well, what a response we have had, over 160 members in the first month and its continuing to climb. This newsletter goes out at the same time as we all face really difficult times ahead, our Welsh and Northern Irish friends have already suffered a further lockdown and now its England's turn and our Scottish members have an even more complex tier system to contend with. Loads of change but all still the same.

All of us reading this newsletter have faced greater hardships, more dangerous situations, and longer periods of potential boredom than this lockdown can throw at us. Remember you're a Recy Mech and a Soldier, we are disciplined individuals, it's our duty to do the right





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thing, abide by the Government instructions, look after one another and those around us, reach out and help someone who can't help themselves.

We are not standing our post in a trench, bombarded every night, we are not storming the beach in France, we are not yomping across East Falkland or facing our traditional enemy. Remember those who went before gave so much more than we are being asked to give now. We won't be able to remember our fallen in the same way this year, but I know every single one of you will remember...

#### **AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING**



**WE WILL REMEMBER THEM**

Scribe – The Chairman

