Salisbury Branch WRAC (Women's Royal Army Corps) Association



PRESS RELEASE -

Re-Launch of Salisbury Branch of WRAC Association

The **Women's Royal Army Corps** is celebrating its Centenary in 2019, and has been marking this with events in Guildford Cathedral, a celebratory weekend in Southampton and a Service of Dedication later in the year at the National Memorial Arboretum. The WRAC Association marked 100 Years of Women in the Army in 2017 and we were lucky enough to be able to celebrate at various events across the country.

The Army Board decided that WRAC officers permanently employed with other Corps should be transferred to those Corps on 1 October 1990. The servicewomen also employed by those Corps followed one year later.

In December 1990 the Army Board announced the formation of the Adjutant General's Corps. This Corps formed up on 6 April 1992 through the amalgamation of the Royal Military Police, Royal Army Pay Corps, the Royal Army Education Corps, Royal Army Ordnance Corps Staff Clerks and the remainder of the WRAC. These previous members of the WRAC were the pathfinders that have allowed todays serving Women have the opportunities that they enjoy now and various roles they can play in being part of the modern Army.

The WRAC spirit lives on in the WRAC Association through its national and international branch network. The proud legacy of successes and achievements over 90 years, together with the history and traditions of women in the Army, is carried forward to the Army of today. *Suaviter in modo, fortiter in re "Gentle in Manner, Resolute in Deed"* The Association is open to any female who has served.

After attending the recent Grand Reunion – some 400 ex serving ladies in Southampton with our oldest member being 100 years young from the Isle of Wight - it was suggested that we restart a local Group! So here we are asking you to help us spread the word.

With the added attraction of Salisbury hosting the National Armed Forces Day in June we are encouraging all ex WRAC members to come along to our re-launch the Salisbury branch. Our catchment area is a far as people wish to make it – there are already branches in Winchester and Southampton. But we are hoping to get Ladies from the surrounding area.

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Our first meeting will be on Wednesday 24th April at Wetherspoons, Salisbury at 19:30 – we hope to secure enough numbers and be able to take part in the Veterans March over the NAFD weekend. We are looking at both evening meetings and coffee mornings to enable as many of the Ladies who have served to join us.

So we would like to continue with **Comradeship, esprit de corps, benevolence and preserving traditions.** The WRAC Association: maintaining contact between former members of Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps, the Auxiliary Territorial Service, the Auxiliary Territorial Service Territorial Army, Women's Royal Army Corps, Women's Royal Army Corps Territorial Army, WRAC Territorial and Volunteer Reserve and women still serving in the Army.

Need more information or an interview? Would love to speak to you about this my details are:

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Information of the Association:

WOMEN'S ROYAL ARMY CORP ASSOCIATION

(INCORPORATING THE QMAAC AND ATS COMRADES ASSOCIATION)

The Women's Royal Army Corps Association was formed in 1949 on the birth of the WRAC. The WRAC Association superseded and incorporated the QMAAC and ATS Comrades Association. Everyone who served in the QMAAC, ATS or WRAC, as either a Regular or Territorial Army soldier or officer, is eligible to join the WRAC Association. THE AIMS

- Maintaining contact between former members of the QMAAC, ATS and WRAC and women still serving in the Army, fostering mutual friendship between them and providing for social gatherings.
- Fostering esprit de corps, comradeship and welfare, and preserving the traditions of the QMAAC, ATS and WRAC.
- To help, in conjunction with the ATS & WRAC Association Benevolent Fund and other welfare agencies, former members of the QMAAC, ATS and WRAC and their dependants who find themselves in difficult circumstances.
 BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP
- Membership of one of over 50 local branches of the WRAC Association offers access to regular meetings, outings and friendship with fellow servicewomen of all ages.
- Annual area reunions and 3-yearly national grand reunions.
- Lioness magazine delivered to your home twice a year.
- Access to Member Only areas of the WRAC Association website.
- Comradeship, help and support for women who have shared the unique experience of service life.

THE ORGANISATION

Headquarters WRAC Association, based at Basepoint, Winchester, is home to the Membership Section, the ATS & WRAC Association Benevolent Fund and Lioness, the house journal of the WRAC Association.

THE MEMBERSHIP SECTION

The Membership Section maintains the database of and provides administrative support to the WRAC Association's national and international network of branches and members. Every woman who served in the QMAAC, ATS or WRAC, either Regular or TA, is eligible to join the WRAC Association.