

From: Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) SJ Bush RRC – Chair QARANC Association



QARANC Association

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To all QARANC Association Members,

It seems hard to believe that 9 months has passed since we wrote to you all confirming that the Board of Trustees had agreed that the QARANC Association should endure following the demise of the Corps and inception of the Royal Army Medical Service (RAMS). As outlined in that correspondence dated 23 June 2025, the decision was founded on the all-important views of our membership and fundamental issues relating to the proposed governance, financial and administrative management policies and practices to be adopted and practised by the RAMS Charity.

For your further interest, you may wish to be aware that the RAMS Charity is now registered with the Charity Commission, and their Board of Trustees are developing their policies and procedures to enable them to deliver their charitable 'objects.' The QARANC Association has maintained regular communications with them and offered assistance as required. Since the launch of this new Corps in November 2024, the QARANC Association has continued to support those in need, hardship and distress and have managed applications for grants for our association members and for our former QARANC serving personnel on behalf of the RAMS charity.

We are delighted to share the news that the changes we proposed to our governing document, the Constitution, have now been approved by the Charity Commission. This was a critical step going forward to ensure we operate within regulatory guidelines. We needed to ensure that it remained clear that, whilst the QARANC ceased to exist as an active Corps, QARANC Association membership remained accessible and possible for former QARANC personnel, whether still serving or retired.

As we continue on our journey, we have tried to grasp every opportunity to seek feedback from many QARANC Association members through our Trustees, meetings with branch members and through those attending the QARANC Reunion last year. We have specifically sought further opinion about what our Association in its current format and configuration does well and not so well! We have also gathered information on how you as members might wish to see the Association further develop and thereby sustain long into the future. This offered us some conflicting responses - however that is testament to our individuality and broad membership demographic.

As a result of your feedback, the Board of Trustees has authorised a review of financial and administrative services provided by our respected, hardworking and loyal staff and have identified areas to improve returns on our funds. They have recognised areas that need further review and the need to put 'meat on the bones'. We have also constructed a survey to enable us to build upon our current operating model and guide our strategy. This will help us to position ourselves in the best possible place to sustain our charitable 'objects' and deliver what you expect, want and need from us into the future. This is our Association, we are influenced and driven only by our

membership and therefore your feedback is very important. I would therefore urge you to complete the survey which will hopefully not take too long and return it as instructed. The questions specifically seek to gather more information on how we might improve our communication methods, increase our membership, assess the 'thirst' for future 'friendships' with our former medical services colleagues and friends and the newly formed RAMS Charity and wider military family. We would also value opinion on what type of collective gatherings might be appreciated in the future.

It is hoped you feel able to play a part in the future development of the QARANC Association – with your support, input and ideas, it will continue to shine even brighter as a jewel in the crown of antecedent Corps Associations. The Trustees plan to review the findings at their meeting in July 2026 and make recommendations for any changes thought desirable or essential in October 2026. This in turn will inform our strategy which will be shared through The Gazette or Newsletters and Website and hopefully in person at our celebratory event next year.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you want more information or help about anything relating to our Association. In the meantime, on behalf of the Board of Trustees can I thank you for your support to the Association and very much look forward to receiving your completed survey.

Yours 'In Friendship'

Sue Bush