

Membership Donations

As you may be aware, due to our Association's charitable relationship with the Royal Marines Association-The Royal Marines Charity (RMA-TRMC) we are no longer able to levy a subscription fee upon our members (lately £15). Therefore your Executive Committee have unanimously decided to change the method, with immediate effect, by which you can continue to voluntary donate to the 47 Royal Marine Commando Association (47RMCA). This change will bring the Association in line with the overwhelming majority of other RMA branches that have now moved away from individual subscriptions.

You will now be able to make a donation by Direct Debit to the RMA-TRMC; this will attract Gift Aid - for every £1 you donate that qualifies, the RMA-TRMC will receive an extra 25p from HM Revenue & Customs at no additional cost to you. The RMA-TRMC will retain the Gift Aid element and then forward your entire donation to the 47RMCA - a win-win for all concerned!

Due to Charity Law, the 47RMCA is unable to compel any member to make a donation by Direct Debit or even suggest a minimum or maximum donation amount - it is up to you to decide whether you wish to donate or, indeed, if you choose not to donate anything. However, voluntary donations are the only regular income that the 47RMCA receives and helps offset the routine expenditure that is incurred on items such as wreaths laid at our numerous commemoration events, welfare support, *Despatch* production and distribution costs, and website hosting fees. Your committee sincerely hopes that you will continue to generously support the 47RMCA so that it remains a strong and vibrant organisation dedicated to honouring the men of the wartime 47 Royal Marine Commando, especially those who made the supreme sacrifice.

If you wish to make a voluntary donation then the following will assist you:

- If you haven't already done so then you must join the RMA-TRMC. Becoming a member is easy, there is no joining fee or other financial cost. Please follow the link and register your details at: <https://rma-trmc.org/membership/> As the 47RMCA is now a branch of the RMA-TRMC, not becoming a member could put at risk your continued valued membership of the 47RMCA beyond 31st December 2025. Please act now to join the RMA-TRMC!
- Once you have been notified of your RMA-TRMC membership number you can then complete the attached Direct Debit form if you wish to do so. It is suggested that the start month for future donations is January 2026 (or earlier if you wish to donate for this calendar year). Once completed the Direct Debit should be forwarded to the address at the bottom of the form or, preferably, sent to Lisa Roberts, the Membership Co-ordinator, who will check the form and deliver to the RMA-TRMC membership office on your behalf. Please ensure that you then cancel your existing Standing Order or Direct Debit to the 47RMCA.
- It is recognised that our overseas members will not be able to complete the Direct Debit form (unless they have access to a UK bank account). If this is the case then they should continue to donate, if they wish to do so, via their existing method. Please contact the Treasurer at allen.withington@47rmcommando.org for further information.
- To further assist our hard working Membership Co-ordinator please complete the attached Membership Information Form, duly noting the RMA-TRMC's Privacy Policy confirming that you are content to be contacted by the 47RMCA. The completed form should then be forwarded to the Membership Co-ordinator along with your Direct Debit form (if you have chosen to voluntarily donate) to: Lisa Roberts, 30 New Road, Rayne, Essex, CM77 6TG.

If you require any further information or are unsure of the way to proceed then please get in touch with the Membership Co-ordinator by email: lisa.roberts@47rmcommando.org Copies of the Direct Debit form, Membership Information and the new Membership Information Guide are also available on the front page of our new website: <https://47rmcommando.org>

Thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.

Bob Perry
Chairman 47 Royal Marine Commando Association
(A specialist branch of the RMA-TRMC)