

Mechanics of Closure and Post-closure Organisation.

1. Once a decision on changes to the existing organisation of the Association is made the following actions will be required:
  - a. Confirmation of the date to move to “Association Light” (AL-Day) to all members, and the ramifications of the proposals.
  - b. Both before and after AL-Day, to take action as identified below. Note that this list is not exclusive and additional actions may be needed.

Action Required prior to AL-Day.

2. Appointment of Officers. The following officers to run the Association Light (AL) would be needed:
  - a. 6GR Sec. At present there are two members who have expressed interest. The appointee should be identified early to enable him/her to understudy the present Regt Sec until the end of 2025 and to be involved, when possible, in the actions below.
  - b. Website Manager. Subject to discussion, see para 7. below, and very unlikely to be needed.
  - c. Editor Regimental Journal. Appointment filled, see para 8 below. A Families Editor will also be needed.
3. Resolution of Membership.
  - a. Membership of 6GRR.
    - a.i. The existing rules on Membership of the Association would not change and would continue to include both Associate and Honorary Members (see Reference D, para 4.2 to 4.4). Note that at present Members within these two categories are not usually included in certain GBA functions, such as the Annual GBA Dinner. However this might all change and become considerably simpler once the GBA paper on RAs Future Planning is finalised.
    - a.ii. Furthermore, although our Chairman has chased-up members over subscriptions and up-to-date contact details, there may still be some who are inactive and should be removed from membership Lists.

b. Membership of GBA.

- b.i. The GBA Constitution specifies that only Full Members of RAs are members of the GBA (see para 29.a. of Reference A and para 9.a. of Reference E): RA Full Members are those who have served on the posted strength of Brigade Units. It is current practice that this is the only category of member entitled to attend all GBA functions. The problems this could pose to other categories of RA membership were identified in 2018 (Reference A) and are at present under review by GBA, but until the rules are changed, what follows remains in force.
- b.ii. The 6GRRRA Associate and Honorary Members do not meet the the criterion for Full Membership of GBA. However there will be some individuals among these groups who could reasonably seek such membership and it would be a travesty to disenfranchise them. For example the widows of Full Members.
- b.iii. GBA have now proposed that the widows/widowers of Full Members and those who consider that they have ties by kinship or association may become GBA Full Members and that Associations should identify such persons.

c. Action Required.

- c.i. Within the next year the Regt Sec should review the membership lists to identify any inactive members.
- c.ii. Prior to AL-Day the Regt Sec should identify any of our Associate and Honorary Members who merit membership of the GBA. See Para 3.b.iii. above.

4. Submission of Membership Lists to GBA.

- a. GBA have requested that an up-to-date list of Full Members should be submitted to the Bde Sec in advance of AL-Day. This should include non-Full Members identified as meriting GBA Membership.
- b. Action Required. The Regt Sec (possibly working with his putative successor, the 6GR Sec) will be required to:
  - b.i. Seek advice, possibly via GBA Sec, on the implications of the General Data Protection Regulations on transferring membership lists to GBA. See also para 5. below.
  - b.ii. Submit the definitive lists to GBA, but noting the comments in para 29.b. iv. of Reference A.

5. Access to Membership Lists for Others. Consideration will need to be given to how the organisers of the Cuttack legion Lunch Club and other 'own steam' events access Membership Lists to circulate details of such events. It is suggested that this continues as at present and with reference to the 6GR Sec when necessary.

6. Decisions on Subscriptions. There are two options:
- a. Continuation of Subscriptions. Should it be decided to continue subscriptions, principally to fund the annual Regimental Journal (see para 8.b.i. below), this can be done by removing the current No 2 Account from the Trust, when it closes, and reclassifying it as an Association account under control of the 6GR Sec. It would have neither charitable status nor be allowed to claim Gift Aid, but it could also be used to process payments, see para 6.b.ii below.
  - b. Cancellation of Subscriptions. If it is decided to cancel subscriptions then:
    - b.i. By Nov 24 the Regt Sec will have to inform all subscription-paying members to cancel their subscriptions due to be paid in the following year (ie in 2025). Members should be required to confirm that this has been done but see also paragraph 13.d. below.
    - b.ii. The No 2 Account would still be needed to process payments for any 6GRRRA events (ie Winchester) and certain 'own steam' events (ie Cuttack Lunch) and also to cover 6GR Sec's expenses. Some provision for the latter would be made initially by a Trust grant when this account moves from the Trust, and consideration as to how this is audited will also be required.
7. The Association Website. A decision on the future of the Association Website will need to be taken:
- a. All historical detail will be on the Legacy Website (see para 9.a. below) held by the Gurkha Museum. Information from the Address List and on Association events will be available from the 6GR Sec or an Association website, and the GBA Sec will provide details of Brigade events.
  - b. We would need to keep the existing website 'live', if only to provide membership details and possibly an electronic version of the Journal (see para 8.b.ii.). A solution would be to incorporate it into the GBA website with appropriate links, including to Association Events and a Membership list, protected by passwords as at present. HQBG have now agreed to host RA websites on the GBA website and to provide funding.
  - c. Bearing in mind the generous HQBG/GBA offer, there would be no point in maintaining an independent website, with a manager and appropriate funding.

Action Required after AL-Day.

8. The Regimental Journal. At present the Journal is issued annually at a cost of some £6,000. While the Trust may subsidise a final version of the Journal, Trust funding will cease once the 6GGRT is closed. There are three options:
- a. Take advantage of the offer from GBA to publish an Annual Report and selected articles in the Brigade journal, The Kukri. See also para 12.c. below.

- b. Continue to publish a journal:
    - b.i. As at present and with funding from annual subscriptions (see para 6.a. above).
    - b.ii. Or in a reduced form (ie news of events/members) electronically, as done at present by another RA, soon to be joined by a second.
  - c. A combination of both sub-paras a. and b.ii. above.
  - d. Whichever options are chosen, an Editor and a Families Editor will be needed and the 6GR Sec will have to ensure both posts remain filled.
9. The Archive Project.
- a. The Archive Project will continue until completed. It should be noted that part of this project includes a non-active legacy website, which will simply be a source of Regimental historical information: the final format of this has yet to be decided by the Gurkha Museum, where it will be held.
  - b. Prior to the closure of the Trust, and assuming the Archive Project is still running, a generous estimate of funding needed will be set aside. If there are any residuals, these will be donated to the Gurkha Museum.
10. Brigade/GBA Events. At present information is relayed from the GBA Sec to members by our Regt Sec, and booking-in and payment, where appropriate, is coordinated by both. In the future the 6GR Sec would be out of the loop and all information etc will be direct from the GBA Sec, using the membership lists provided (see para 4. above).
11. Association Events and the Role of the 6GR Sec.
- a. At present there is only one Association event – the annual Remembrance Service at Winchester Cathedral and the AGM/Lunch at the Gurkha Museum. The organisation of this event will be the one major role of the 6GR Sec, as it is at present, and it will have to be entirely self-funding. Note that discussions are underway with the Gurkha Museum to waive Museum room charges.
  - b. The AGM will no longer be required and any important news can be relayed over Luncheon.
  - c. The 6GR Sec will also:
    - c.i. Continue to provide a forum for members to keep in touch, which would include disseminating news of, for example, deaths (GBA should also be informed of such events) as well as 6GRRRA-centric events, such as the All Ranks Reunion.

- c.ii. Promulgate information about “Own Steam activities” run by individual volunteer members for the benefit of all members, ie Cuttack Legion Lunches, Regimental Shoots, Battlefield tours, etc. The organisers are responsible for all aspects of these events.
- c.iii. Ensure that the Association is represented at special events when appropriate.
- c.iv. Maintain liaison with the RGR and the organisers of the All Ranks Reunion.
- c.v. Seek advice or support when necessary from ex-Association and Trust officers (see para 11.e. of main paper), including help with obituaries and the like. Possibly known as the ‘Association Council’?

12. Brigade Events and relationship with GBA. The GBA will:

- a. Promulgate Brigade communications and details of Brigade events on both the Brigade website and, when appropriate, to members using the lists provided by the 6GR Sec. It will be up to individuals, not the 6GR Sec, to book-in and arrange payment for such events.
- b. Host a truncated 6GRRRA website on the GBA website (para 7.b.).
- c. If required, include an Association Report and selected articles normally published in the Regimental Journal, in the Kukri magazine and on the lines of previous practice. See para 8 above.
- d. Assist in organizing specific Association events as required ie Memorial Services for senior officers, events involving multiple Associations on MOD estate etc.

13. 6GRRT – The Trust. It would be ideal if the Trust could close at the same time as the Association moved to AL. This will not be possible, as there are bound to be various matters to be resolved and grants to be paid out from the final funds, and final accounts to be prepared for the Charity Commission. Note that:

- a. In Reference A proposals were made for the dispersal of Trust funds. This was updated in Reference C in the light of a significant reduction in Trust capital following the Memorial Project and will need further adjustment in due course.
- b. The Trustees do not have the power dissolve the Trust (see subsections 37. (iii).(a). and (c) of the Trust Scheme, and para 30 of Reference A). This will have to be negotiated between the Trust Secretary and the Charity Commission and will need to include details of the rationale for the Trust’s closure and the actions planned to dispose of Trust assets.
- c. The Number 2 Account – the Association account – would remain open and under control of the 6GR Sec once the Trust closes. This account would be required to handle subscriptions if it is decided to retain them, to process payment for any 6GRRRA events (ie Winchester), certain ‘own-steam’ events and to cover 6GR Sec’s expenses, for which provision would be made by a Trust grant.

- d. If subscriptions are discontinued, those not cancelled by payees will continue to be credited to the Trust until closure. Most suscriptions are paid into the Number 2 Account (which will remain open) and a few are paid into the Trust Account. In the case of the former, payments would need to be returned to the payee's bank account while for the latter, payments would automatically be returned to the payee's account.
  - e. The Trust would endeavor to close within six months of AL-Day.
  - f. The Trust would make a substantial grant to the GBA Trust to assist with their funding of wreathes, and to contribute to the Bhela, website and other costs.
14. 6GRRR Rules of the Association. Once the way ahead is clear, consideration will need to be given to amending the Rules of the Association.





