



NW RFCA

RESERVE FORCES' AND CADETS' ASSOCIATION FOR
THE NORTH WEST OF ENGLAND AND THE ISLE OF MAN



103 Regiment Royal Artillery





A word from the Commanding Officer

From combat to peacekeeping and humanitarian work, joining the Army Reserves can provide you with opportunities for learning new skills through challenging training; participating in exciting and adventurous activities; as well as the possibility of international travel. These are just some of the key features available to soldiers and officers within 103 Regiment Royal Artillery. As a Regiment, we recruit from, and represent, the diverse communities in which we are based across



the North West and Midlands. For those with service experience, whether in the Regular forces or Cadet organisations, we would also welcome your skills and knowledge. A second career in the Army Reserve can offer comradeship, belonging, and an opportunity to work in a way that few other vocations can. No matter your background or experience, you will bring a whole host of talents and skills that can help the Regiment in achieving its 'Mission and Tasks' in support of the Regular Forces. Training within the Army Reserves promotes physical robustness, mental resilience, leadership across all levels, and encourages deliberate thinking and problem solving. You get paid for your time and will have a career structure for your development, from Gunner through to General!

Background History Introduction to the Regiment

The North West Gunner Regiment's formation can be traced back to 1804 during the Napoleonic Wars as the Heaton Artillery Volunteers. Since then, it continued to grow and evolve until it matured into its current formation, 103rd (Lancashire Artillery Volunteers) Regiment Royal Artillery, in 1967. The unit's key strength comes from the soldiers who, as Reservists, give up their spare time to train and deploy on operations. Afghanistan, Iraq and Cyprus are just some of the contemporary operational theatres our soldiers have served in, with training exercises both nationally and internationally including Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark,

Estonia, the Falkland Islands and Germany. Powerful but compact and mobile, the Light Gun can be transported anywhere on the battlefield. You and your detachment go with it into action by road, by landing craft or by helicopter. The Regiment now proudly serves with 4th Light Brigade Combat Team, within 1 UK Division, providing Artillery Close support to the Brigade as a formed Regiment. 103 Regt RA works in partnership with employers and the community to maintain a mutually beneficial relationship through the Armed Forces Covenant, producing soldiers that are resilient and adaptable and use their civilian skills to bring a new dimension of experience, whilst modelling the Army's core values and strengths as exemplary employees within their chosen civilian professions.



Opportunities

103 Regiment RA is an equal opportunities employer with a variety of deployable and non-deployable career options for professional roles ranging from Light Gun Operator, working with the guns to deliver indirect offensive support to infantry troops on the ground, to Fire Support Teams, operating on foot alongside frontline infantry to coordinate artillery strikes and provide vital intelligence. We also offer a variety of attached support roles including logistic specialists, medics, chefs, musicians, pipers and drummers who are vital to our success.

Talking Heads



Gunner Plimley
216th (The Bolton Artillery) Battery RA

I am 38 years old, and I have been a kitchen designer for 18 years. I love what I do as it involves meeting people and designing their dream kitchen, but I needed to do something different with my spare time. I wanted something constructive, physical and meaningful, so I joined the Army Reserves. In February 2020, I went to my local Army Reserve Centre in Bolton and was shown around which was so exciting. Unfortunately, Covid hit, turning the world upside down and delaying my recruitment process. However, I persevered, and it turned out to be the best thing I have ever done. I passed out in November 2021 and have already achieved so much. I have been on Adventurous Training in The Lake District and several field exercises in the Brecon Beacons and Staffordshire. I have completed a Communications Course and will shortly be attending my Level 2 Guns Course. All the aspects of my basic training have helped grow my confidence and given me transferable skills that I take into my civilian job. On top of that, I have met some great people and with the bonus of getting paid for all of it! I only wish I had done it years ago.



Gunner Kane.
209th (The Manchester Artillery) Battery RA

Having spent 19 years working in the motor industry and then a further 10 years as a roadside patrol technician for the AA, I decided I needed a new challenge. I wanted to work as part of a team, get hands on and stuck into some physical work outdoors.

I have always enjoyed this and joining 209 Bty as a light gunner has been a great decision. Enlisting during the covid pandemic presented many delays to the joining process and Phase 1 Training; but it was worth the effort and perseverance, since joining, I am really enjoying being part of the Regiment. With so many people from different walks of life, it really is a melting pot of characters with varied training events, and drill nights are great fun. This September I will be attending Liverpool John Moore's University to retrain as a Paramedic, taking my love of being outdoors helping people and transferring from fixing cars to fixing people. With so many roles available within 103 Regt, I may look to train as a Combat Medical Technician, to use my newly learned civilian skills to be of benefit to the Regiment.



Lance Bombardier Oates
208th (3rd West Lancashire) Battery RA

I joined the Army Reserve in May 2015 after a recruiting surge on the Isle of Man. This was until I spotted the adverts for the Isle of Man 103 RA recruitment, through this I joined 208 Battery RA based in Liverpool. My previous skills from the Royal Air Force helped me through the selection and initial training which was challenging at times, since passing out I have been made to feel welcome within the Battery and have gone on to become a trained Fire Support Team (FST) member. Even though I am from the Island and there is a stretch of water between my home and the Battery, it has never been an issue, I have always been included in all aspects of Battery life whether it's military Training, adventurous training or career courses. This has given me the tools to grow my military career. What I enjoy the most is the mix and balance between being a coach driver as a civilian to working as part of an FST party at the weekend.



The majority of the Regiment is centred around the North West of England with Army Reserve Centres in St Helens, Bolton, Manchester and Liverpool. We also have a strong presence in the Midlands with an Army Reserve Centre in Wolverhampton. Additional satellite detachments are based in Nottingham.

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Prescot Road
St Helens
Merseyside
WA10 3UB

208 (3rd West Lancashire) Battery Royal Artillery
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Liverpool
L17 9PH

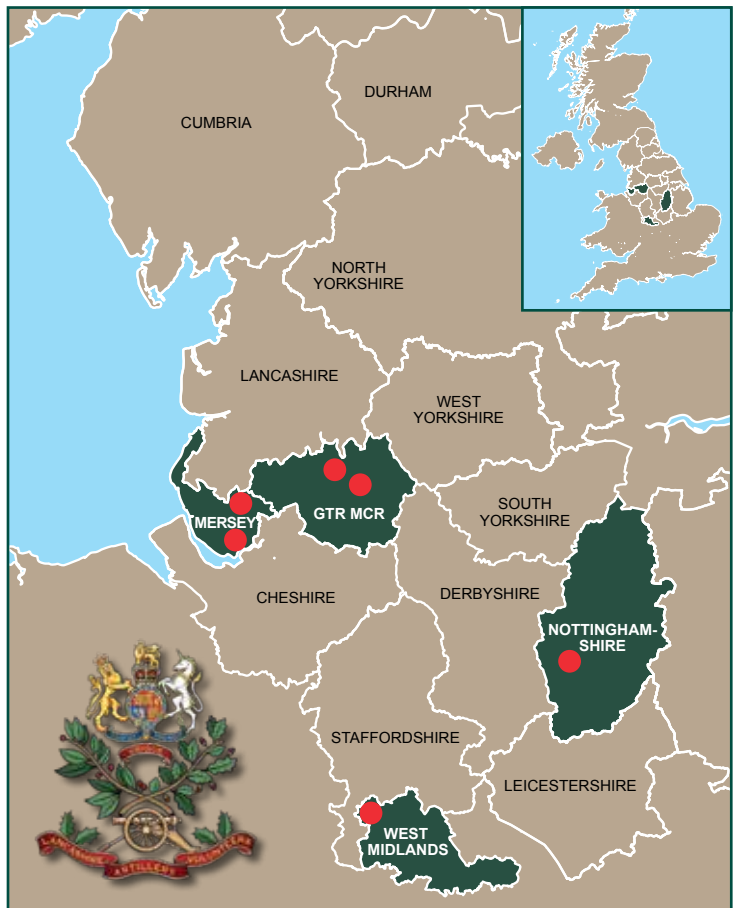
209 (Manchester) Battery Royal Artillery
Army Reserve Centre
Belle Vue Street
Manchester
M12 5PQ

210 (Staffordshire) Battery Royal Artillery
Wolseley House
Wolverhampton
WV10 9QR

C Troop Nottingham
210 Battery Royal Artillery
Army Reserve Centre
Hucknall Lane
Nottingham
NG6 8AQ

216 (The Bolton Artillery) Battery Royal Artillery
Army Reserve Centre
Nelson Street
Bolton
BL3 2RW

The Lancashire Artillery Volunteers Band
Incl. The Lancashire Artillery Volunteers Pipes & Drums
Army Reserve Centre
Nelson Street
Bolton
BL3 2RW



Find out more about joining the Gunner family:
#TEAM103

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