

Trustees' Annual Report for the period	
Period start date	Period end date
01 January 2024	31 December 2024

Section A: Reference and administration details

Branch Name	RAFA Formby Branch		
Other names / number Branch is known by	1242		
Registered charity number (if any)	1078906		
Branch's principal address	23 Balmoral Drive,		
	Churchtown		
	Southport, Merseyside		
	Postcode	PR9 8QB	

Names of the Branch charity trustees who manage the charity (generally known as the Branch Committee)(Please include all trustees for the Branch including custodian trustees in relation to branch property) (Note: Details required are for the period 1 Jan – 31 Dec 24 only)

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year
1	David McGregor	Chair	
2	Alan Smith	Secretary	
3	David Williams	Treasurer	
4	Vice Chair	Les Meadows	
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Section B: Structure, governance and management

Description of the branch's trusts

Type of governing document (e.g. trust deed, constitution)	Royal Charter, Rules, Byelaws, Area and Branch Regulations of the Royal Air Forces Association.
How the Branch charity is constituted (e.g. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by the branch membership

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <p>Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;</p> <p>The branch's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works.</p> <p>Relationship with any related parties (including branch club).</p> <p>Trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.</p>	<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> The Charity's Organisational Structure </div> <p>The charity is a branch of the Royal Air Forces Association which is a Royal Charter body and registered as a charity in England and Wales under number 226686 and in Scotland under SC037673 ("the Association"). The Association has many branches all of which share the same charitable object as the Association and are subject to the same constitution.</p> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Trustee Induction & Training <i>(Please insert any induction training or training courses completed by Trustees)</i> </div> <p>N/A</p> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Related Party Relationships <i>(e.g. Club if operated)</i> </div> <p>N/A</p> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> Risk Management <i>(include details of any Risk Management documents held)</i> </div> <p>N/A</p>
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Section C: Objectives and Activities

Summary of the objects of the branch set out in its governing document	To promote, through the comradeship engendered by its members, the welfare by charitable means of all serving and former members of Her Majesty's Air Forces, their spouses and dependents, together with the widows and widowers and dependents of those who died whilst serving or subsequently.
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Section D: Achievements and performance in 2024

Summary of the main achievements of the branch during the year

Chair Report

This past year has been one of reflection and growth. Sadly we have had to say goodbye to several cherished members of our RAFA family but also had the pleasure of welcoming new faces to the Branch.

Investments have performed exceptionally well and Wings appeal continues to surpass expectations thanks to the work of June Sefton, wings sec. The commitment to young aviators has continued, now supporting seven Air Cadet squadrons with financing the running of squadron vehicles, helping with sports kit, supply of flight simulation equipment and supporting visits to Europe in the run up to VE and VJ day. RAFA Formby Branch has personalised their relationship by presenting awards for achievements of Cadets ie best cadet. There is also a sponsorship of a floral Roundel dedicated to RAFA Formby Branch all these helping hands are on going and achieve their goal in promoting RAFA and future members of the RAF. In addition there has been support for RAFA Rothbury House and the RAF Benevolent Fund

The support also extends to Merseywing Air Cadets HQ at RAF Woodvale and support to CCF RAF sections school based. Members of the committee actively attend the civilian committees of Crosby and Southport Air Cadets.

RAFA Formby Branch will commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE and VJ days alongside the other services. These historic milestones provide a poignant opportunity to reflect on the bravery and sacrifice of those who served.

Treasurer Report

The Treasure reported on investments achieving their optimum interest and balancing the annual account as attached.

The Treasure reinforced the Annual statement of reserve policy from guidance published by the Charity Commission and RAFA finance. The trustees have agreed to continue to keep an average of estimated 2 years expenditure (£20k to £25k) as a reserve in general funds. It is the trustees expectation unless unforeseen circumstances occur that the charity income which arises almost entirely from investments is likely to exceed this level by year end. In such event it is the trustees intention that all excess funds will be reinvested for the future benefit of the charity.

<p>Summary of the main achievements of the branch during the year (cont)</p>	<p>Branch Welfare Officer Report</p> <p>Welfare visits continue to be an important part of the branch commitment to the local geographical area despite the resignation of 80 yr old from being the resident HWO, however continues to act locally as welfare support.</p>
	<p>Fundraising Report <i>(please insert details of the Branch Fundraising activities i.e. Wings Appeal events)</i></p> <p>Wings appeal continues to flourish, in regular Supermarket collection also inviting the Air Cadets squadrons that are supported by the branch to contribute to collect in their areas. During wings week our presence is felt in Formby village and Southport Botanical Gardens where the new RAFA gazebo is utilised to assist our efforts. Formby Branch members assist at the famous Southport Air Show.</p>
	<p>Membership Engagement Report <i>(please insert details of the Branch Membership Engagement (newsletters, social media etc.)</i></p> <p>The secretary publishes a monthly communication and diary of future events with the agenda for meetings held on the second Tuesday in the month at the Officers, Mess RAF Woodvale at 1430hrs</p>

Summary of
the main
achievements
of the branch
during the year
(cont)

Wellbeing / Social Report *(please insert details of the Branch Wellbeing and Social events/activities)*

The Branch usually have an outing in the early part of the year 2024 was to RAF Museum Cosford enjoyed by the pensioners and Veterans in our membership. Later in the year there is a branch gathering before Christmas. In the Southport there are several gathering points for Veterans ie. The RBL Hub open daily Saturday breakfast club and a Veterans gathering Monthly. Southport Armed Forces Day was a joint commitment with SSAFA and RAFA for the past few years but has now been taken over by RBL and Local Council

Commemoration Report *(please insert details of the Branch Commemoration events/activities (Remembrance, Standard Bearers Attendance at Funerals etc.)*

We have lost a number of WW II Veterans during the year one Frederick Horn was aged 102 The branch has participated in most of the funerals and provided Standard Bearer support along with RBL when required. Trevor Wilkins RAFA member was the most recent and his widow Susan h is now a member of the branch.

Community Engagement Report *(please insert details of the Branch Community Engagement activities (other groups you connect with, joint events such as Veterans Breakfasts)*

Covered earlier

Section E: Financial Review

Statement on Branch Expenditure*(How has branch expenditure supported the key objectives of the branch)*

The Treasure reported on investments achieving their optimum interest and balancing the annual account as attached.

Statement on Branch's Reserve Policy *(Branch Regulations stipulate that any Branch with total assets amounting to more than £5,000 should have a reserves policy and any Branch with assets over £10,000 should consider transferring excess funds across to the Branch Deposit Fund held at Association HQ. A template reserves policy can be found on the Branch Portal)*

The Treasure reinforced the Annual statement of reserve policy from guidance published by the Charity Commission and RAFA finance. The trustees have agreed to continue to keep an average of estimated 2 years expenditure (£20k to £25k) as a reserve in general funds.

Statement on Branch's Investment Policy*(Please include a statement on Branch investments and holdings and how these are managed (if applicable))*

It is the trustees expectation unless unforeseen circumstances occur that the charity income which arises almost entirely from investments is likely to exceed this level by year end. In such event it is the trustees intention that all excess funds will be reinvested for the future benefit of the charity.

Section F: Declaration

We confirm that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the branch's trustees

We confirm that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the relevant Charity Regulator on public benefit.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the branch's trustees

Signature

Alan Smith

Full Name

Alan Smith

Position (eg. Chair, Secretary)

Secretary

Date

7th April 2025

The Royal Air Forces Association - Formby Branch

Balance Sheet As At 31st December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
<u>Fixed Assets</u>		
N/A		
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Debtor (RAFA)	5,371	5,578
Cash at bank - current A/c (23815285)	21,970	17,604
(Transfer of Ac 2386913+33689670 to 23815285)		
Investment savings A/c Rathbones	1,005,606	964,515
Investment savings A/c Rothchild	33,057	29,476
	<u>1,066,004</u>	<u>1,017,173</u>
<u>Less Current Liabilities</u>		
Aramark Defence Services		84
Rothbury House	10,000	
RAFA Conference (unpresented CHQ133)	129	
Welfare (Xmas unpresented CHQ128)	44	
	<u>10,173</u>	<u>84</u>
Net Current assets/(Liabilities)	<u>1,055,831</u>	<u>1,017,089</u>
Represented By:		
Accumulated Fund		
Balance as at 31st December 2022	1,017,089	1,164,264
Surplus(Deficit) for the year	-5930	14,863
Increase/Decrease in investment Savings A/C (Rathbones £41091 + Rothchild -£3581)	44,672	-162,038
Balance As At 31st december 2023	<u>1,055,831</u>	<u>1,017,089</u>

The Royal Air Forces Association - Formby Branch

Income and Expenditure Account for year ended 31st December 2023

Community Account 23815285

	2023	2,022
	£	£
<u>Income</u>		
Membership rebate	511	618
Investment interest received	22679	19,668
Investment A/C Rathbones (owing)	5371	5,578
 Total income	 <u>28,561.00</u>	 <u>25,864</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
<u>Donations</u>		
Squadron 1439 (CHQ109 - IPAD))	957	
Squadron 1439		1,372
Squadron 1128 (CHQ114)	1,000	
Squadron 2348 (Transport CHQ108+111)	2,000	
Squadron 611(TransportCHQ110+124))	4,045	
Ukraine		8,000
Aramark Defence Services		84
Trophy Cadet award scheme (CHQ113+115+118+126)	400	352
Cadet Trophies(CHQ116)	432	
Botanic Roundel (CHQ112)	500	500
Lancaster Display Model (CHQ127)	1,000	
Merseyside Wing D of E(CHQ130)	1,703	
RAFA Big Ride (CHQ121)	1,000	
Total Donations	<u>13,037</u>	<u>10,308</u>
 <u>Other Expenses</u>		
Annual Conference (CHQ133+125)	364	
Welfare (CHQ122+123+128+129)	954	320
Chair Exp		250
Expenses(CHQ119+120+125)	116	
Wreaths(CHQ125)	20	123
RAFA Rothbury House (CGQ132)	10,000	
RAFA Benevolent Fund(CHQ131)	10,000	
Total Other Expenses	<u>21,454</u>	<u>693</u>
 Total Expenses	 <u>34,491</u>	 <u>11,001</u>
Surplus(Deficit) for the year	<u>-5930</u>	<u>14,863</u>

Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
Period start date			To	Period end date		
Day 01	Month 01	Year 2023		Day 31	Month 12	Year 2023

Section A
Reference and administration details

Branch name Formby

(referred to hereinafter as either the "Branch" or the "Charity")

Other names / number Branch is known by 1242

Registered charity number (if any) 1078906

Branch's principal address

Royal Air Forces Association	
23 Balmoral Drive, Churchtown	
Southport, Merseyside	
Postcode	PR9 8QB

Names of the Branch charity trustees who manage the charity (generally known as the Branch Committee)

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	David McGregor	Chairman		AGM
2	David Williams	Treasurer		AGM
3	Alan Smith	Secretary		AGM
4	June Sefton	Wings		AGM
5	Bob Anderton	Members		AGM
6	Les Meadows	Vice Chairman		AGM
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8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

Names of any other trustees for the Branch (for example, any custodian trustees in relation to branch property)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the branch's trusts

Type of governing document (e.g. trust deed, constitution)	Royal Charter, Rules, Byelaws, Area and Branch Regulations of the Royal Air Forces Association.
How the Branch charity is constituted (e.g. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by the branch membership

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the branch's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties (including branch club);

Charity's organisational structure

The charity is a branch of the Royal Air Forces Association which is a Royal Charter body and registered as a charity in England and Wales under number 226686 and in Scotland under SC037673 ("the Association"). The Association has many branches all of which share the same charitable object as the Association and are subject to the same constitution.

Trustee induction and training

Related party relationships – club (if operated)

- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Risk management

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the branch set out in its governing document

To promote, through the comradeship engendered by its members, the welfare by charitable means of all serving and former members of Her Majesty's Air Forces, their spouses and dependents, together with the widows and widowers and dependents of those who died whilst serving or subsequently.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the branch during the year

Formby Branch Have actively supported the following RAF Air Cadet Squadrons and Mersey Wing Area HQ RAF CF.

Financial help with Mersey Wing Area HQ for Air Cadets participating in the DOE Awards Scheme for equipment and clothing for Cadet who's families could ill afford to contribute.

Air Cadet Squadrons 1439, 1128, 2348, and 611 have had financial help to run Squadron vehicles.

The Branch has developed an awards scheme for best Squadron Cadet and the Squadron raising the most funds during Wings Week. Some personal awards and some Squadron awards. This was a very successful project maintaining excellent relations with RAF Air Cadets.

The Branch supported the Ukraine Fund.

Support for the RAF Benevolent Fund and Rothbury House Accommodation for RAF Veterans.

The Branch continues to support the Botanical Gardens Floral Roundel display Churchtown keeping a bond with the public.

The Branch supported a new town project of a Lancaster Aircraft exhibition in the Atkinson Art Centre Southport.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the branch's policy on reserves

A Policy on reserve funding has been set to take into account the forecast Branch annual expenditure.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the branch's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the branch;
- investment policy and objectives including any

Branch income is mainly from dividends from Investments in Rathbone's ethical investment portfolio and a Rothschild investment and membership rebate.

The Branch charitable objectives are to promote through comradeship engendered by its members, the welfare by charitable means of all serving or former members of our Air Forces, their spouses and dependents, together with the widows and widowers and dependents of those who died while serving or subsequently.

ethical investment policy
adopted. Branch

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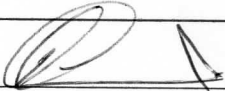
Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the branch's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Alan Smith	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary	

Date 4th April 2024