

16 Air Assault Brigade Headquarters  
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All Airborne Signals Association Members      Reference: 216/105/04  
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**CAYTHORPE WEEKEND 07-09 SEPTEMBER 2007**

1. I write this letter as advance warning of the Caythorpe Weekend dates and to update you all on what the squadron has been doing. The Caythorpe weekend will take place on the second weekend in September 2007, 07-09 September. I have attached an attendance form and would request that you fill in the form and return it to me as soon as possible.

2. The squadron has been extremely busy since the last reunion, we finished our tour in Southern Afghanistan, introduced BOWMAN (a new communications system, replacing CLANSMAN), had a royal visit and been given back our name of 216 Parachute Signal Squadron.

3. BOWMAN

BOWMAN is the new battlefield communication system replacing CLANSMAN. The Brigade since returning from Ops has been converting all its vehicles to enable the BOWMAN platforms to be fitted. The Squadron has had to retrain on the new equipments and has quickly got up to speed using the new radios. The brigade, lead by the Squadron will prove its ability to use BOWMAN over the next couple of months, interesting and busy times ahead.

4. Royal Visit

The Squadron was given the opportunity to host HRH Princess Royal in November last year. The visit enabled the Squadron to explain to HRH the roles we filled whilst in Afghanistan and enabled the SHQ to be opened officially. 5 soldiers were also awarded LS&GC medals as well as one soldier being awarded a commendation.

5. Parachute Title

Hurray, the OC Squadron has managed to twisted enough senior officers arms and been given the authority to retitle the squadron as 216 (Para) Signal Squadron, the use of this title will be restricted to a less formal way of referring to the unit i.e. when used by other CORPS units. Our full designation will remain as shown on the above letterhead.

6. The Squadron has been under command of Major Robin Anderton Brown for nearly a year now, and I am conscious that some of you will not have meet him so I

enclose a short history of his career. Many of you know Mr Coates, the Bde RSM, he has been selected for commissioning and will take up his new job as Regional Career Management Officer base in Blandford in May 07, I am sure you will get to see him at this years reunion and we all wish him the best in his new career. The new RSM will be Mr Mick Brown who is posted in from 11 Signal Regiment. We all welcome Mr Brown and by way of introduction, I have attached an outline of his career to date.

7 If anybody has any questions arising out of this letter please contact me on any of the above numbers. I would also ask all members to contact me if they of anybody who has moved or has passed away so we can keep our database up to date.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'AB Lothian', written over a horizontal line.

AB LOTHIAN  
Captain  
Secretary ASA