

BAND OF THE ROYAL ARMoured CORPS 2017

by Gary Gibbs

The full uniform for the Director of Music and Bandmaster have been approved. At present the rest of the band wear No 1 Dress. They will wear a black sable fur busby. The boss will consist of a gold gimp oval cockade to be level with the top of the busby. White Ostrich feathers 15 inches high encircled by gilt ring with a white vulture feather base in a gilt corded ball socket with four upright leaves. The bag is scarlet with gold Russia braid on the outer edge and up the centre. At the centre base a gold gimp boss. Busby lines gold purl round cord with slides and acorn finials, circling the busby three times and looped onto the breast.

The tunic is blue cloth edged round with gold chain gimp. On each side of the breast six loops of gold chain gimp. On the back seam a double line of chain gimp traced on each side with gold Russia forming a crowsfoot at the back shoulders and an Austrian knot at back skirt. Two gold netted buttons at back waist. The collar is trimmed with $\frac{3}{4}$ inch side gold broken bias lace on the upper and front edge and traced in gold Russia braid on the inner edge, the lower edge trimmed with gold gimp chain. The cuffs consist of an Austrian knot of gold chain gimp traced on each edge with gold Russian braid the whole eight inches from bottom of cuff. Plaited gold chain gimp lined blue shoulder cords, a gold wire netted ball button at neck edge. Director of Music rank badges silver embroidered stars or crown. The Bandmaster's rank badge in gold embroidery on blue backing.

The arm badge the RTR tank on upper right arm, four inches from the shoulder. For the Bandmaster, WO2 below their badge of rank and Staff Sergeants on the lower arm. Dark blue Baratheia cloth overalls with two stripes of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide yellow cloth down the outside leg seam. Mess Wellington boots with swan neck spurs.

Hussar pattern shoulder belt in red leather, faced with two-inch wide herringbone train lace with a scarlet central stripe. The pouch flap in silver with gilt Armoured Corps badge on a black pouch.

The 1912 pattern sword is carried, the sword slings are red leather faced with gold herringbone train lace with a scarlet line down the centre, and plain gilt wire buckles. The sword knot is hussar pattern, gold and scarlet round cords with gold and scarlet acorn. Gloves white. If a cloak is worn it is the RHA dark blue pattern with eight RAC buttons, six down the front and two attached to a belt on the rear.