

THE ACCESSION OF KING CHARLES III

MHS members may be interested to know of the preliminary MOD guidance which has been issued to the chain of command following the accession of His Majesty King Charles III. The key message is that many of the physical changes that will ultimately be required – e.g. cap badges / Colours etc – should be enacted when it is reasonable, practicable, and cost-effective to do so.

The Heraldic Crown



The Heraldic Royal Crown, which forms part of the cypher and features on many cap badges across all three services has changed from the St Edward's Crown to the Tudor Crown, shown on the left. In Scotland a version featuring the Scottish Crown will be adopted. Changes will be enacted in a reasonable and timely fashion rather than immediately. This was the approach adopted in 1952 when it took up to 20 years for some Colours to be replaced. The Scottish version is shown to the right.

Royal Affiliations and Royal Colonelcies.

As published in the August 2022 *Bulletin*, Her Late Majesty held many Royal Affiliations and Royal Colonelcies, all of which will now be reviewed. This review will be conducted by Buckingham Palace, in a timely and coordinated fashion with support from the Defence Services Secretary (DS Sec). It does not follow and must not be assumed that The King will automatically take on all of the Royal Affiliations and Royal Colonelcies held by the late Queen.

Official Portraits

There is no immediate requirement to replace official portraits or likenesses of Her Late Majesty and there is no recommended timetable for their replacement.

Honours and Awards

Some Honours and Awards in the UK take their name from the current Sovereign such as 'The Queen's Gallantry Medal'. Guidance will be provided in due course regarding any changes to such Honours and Awards.