



**HISTORY OF SIGNALLING IN 100 OBJECTS**  
**ROYAL SIGNALS BADGE AND ITS LINK TO THE**  
**FIRST SIGNALS (TELEGRAPH) BAND**



Charles Beresford became the Commander Officer of the RE Telegraph Battalion. He had in his garden a statue of the figure of Mercury (copy of one in Florence). This copy is now on show in the Royal Signals Museum. It is said that it was this statue that inspired him to suggest that the RE Bn should adopt this emblem. It was not used by the RE Signal Service. Prior to becoming CO, he played an active part in encouraging the RE Telegraph Bn band and using the emblem of Mercury. The inscription on the RE Band Mace is dated 9th May

1891. It was presented jointly by then Major CTC Beresford and Lieutenant C.J Elkington. This band mace is shown being used by the band in its early years and includes Beresford below. You can see Mercury in all the pictures on the Mace. The emblem is shown in the photo to the



left with a "Jimmy" on the cloth behind the group. The photo below is taken in 1910 at Rowlands Castle with the band marching. No one is quite sure why he is called "Jimmy" since it was "Charles" Beresford Perhaps it



was from the original Italian sculptor? Anyway It is now the emblem & badge of Royal Signals and is called "Jimmy".