

"OUT & ABOUT"



**HOME HEADQUARTERS
THE ROYAL DRAGOON GUARDS
3 TOWER STREET
YORK YO1 9SB**

01904 642036

hhq@rdgmuseum.org.uk



Autumn 2010

In a break from the norm this newsletter will not have any Commanding Officer's notes. These will appear in a later newsletter once the Regiment is safely back in Catterick.

This newsletter is early so as to ensure that everyone gets the information regarding the post tour event. You will also find information regarding next year's Oates Parade, which will be held in York, and the usual return for Cavalry Memorial parade in May 2011.

Memorial Service, Medal Parade and Lunch 2 December 2010

The Medal Parade, Memorial Drum Head Service and lunch will take place on Thursday 2 December at 11:00am at the Race Course in York. The Regiment and their families will all be there and it is hoped as many members of the Association as possible will join them. It will be very much a family affair, General Henry Woods as President of the Association will take the salute and present the Regiment with their Afghanistan medals together with The Colonel of The Regiment and The Commanding Officer, this will be followed by a Drum Head Memorial service for those who lost their lives during the tour. Lunch will be a buffet affair in one of the Race Course's many function rooms. The cost will be £15 per head for the buffet; a list of the closest hotels to HHQ can be found by visiting the York Tourism website at www.visitryork.org or phone on: 01904 550099. Should there be a demand, it is planned to hold a cocktail party in the museum on the evening of Wednesday 1 December from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, this will give everyone a chance to look around the museum as well as catch up.

Oates Sunday 13 March 2011

A decision was taken by the committee to move the annual Oates Service from London to York in the hope that it will attract more members of the Association. The parade and church service will take place in our own Regimental Church, All Saints, Pavement in York commencing at 12:30pm followed by a buffet lunch in the Hilton Hotel, which is next door to HHQ, the museum will also be open for those who wish to browse after lunch. The cost of lunch will be £10 per head.

Combined Cavalry Memorial Parade 8 May 2011

The Combined Cavalry memorial Parade will take place in Hyde Park on Sunday 8 May 2011. Everyone is asked to be in the park by 10:30 am. This will be followed by a buffet lunch in The Victory Services Club. The turnout for 2010 was superb and given the recent losses in Afghanistan it is hoped that this will be repeated as a gesture of support to the bereaved families, not just our own but from other Cavalry and RTR regiments. The cost of lunch will be £10 per head.

Summary

There is quite a lot going on over the next eight months or so, the support from the regimental family has been nothing short of tremendous over the last six months. It has served to bring more and more people back into the fold and, fact, we have the largest Regimental Association in Royal Armoured Corps and I suspect, beyond. The need for this support doesn't end with the end of the current operational tour, we have soldiers with life changing injuries and we have children who have lost their fathers as well as the families of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. And before we know it, they will be back in Afghanistan in 2012. To that end, attendance at one or more of the above Regimental occasions by members of the Association who can possibly make it will be very much appreciated by the serving Regiment. The returns are inside and if they could be back in good time together with any remittance to allow HHQ to book meals etc, that would be very much appreciated.

While It may seem that the information required on the attached returns is a little over the top; it is our opportunity to check that we have your correct contact details on the database.

GENERAL INTEREST

Veterans' Welfare Service – Statement of Purpose 2009/2010

The Veterans Welfare Service (VWS) is committed to enhancing the quality of life for Veterans and beneficiaries of SPVA pensions and compensation schemes, and all their dependants. It also focuses upon providing support that will enable the seamless transition from Service to Civilian life, assist bereaved families or respond to key life events that present welfare needs. The VWS provides a caseworker approach that offers professional help and guidance through either telephone contact or a dedicated visiting service.

The Royal Star & Garter Homes

BECOME A FRIEND

You probably already know what a forward thinking and dynamic Charity we are, committed to providing the best nursing and therapeutic care for the disabled ex-Service Community in our Richmond and Solihull Homes. And if you receive this newsletter direct to your door, you possibly already support us with a regular gift. If not, then perhaps you would consider "Becoming a Friend"?

Why we need your support:

Care homes for the ex-Service community are few and far between. Homes that also provide dementia care are even fewer. That is why we are building new homes around the country.

All our new homes will include provision for dementia care and residents will benefit from specialist nursing care. To be a part of our vision to provide more of these homes around the country, we need regular support from you. We have always depended on individual supporters. You are our lifeblood. Last year, about a fifth of donations were generated from those who had committed to a regular gift.

How you can help:

The most effective way you can help us is by becoming a friend of The Royal Star & Garter Homes. As a Friend you pay a regular monthly or annual donation. Doing this reduces our administration costs dramatically and as a mark of our thanks we send you an enamelled lapel pin bearing the Charity's crest, a certificate and a newsletter twice a year.

You can set up a regular gift quickly and securely on-line. Visit our website: www.starandgarter.org and go to the "How You Can Help" then the "Regular Donations" section. Or call **0845 370 7500** to request a form or find out more.

Inheritance Tax Exemptions for Veterans

Under s154 of the Inheritance Tax Act, the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre (JCCC), part of the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency, can grant exemptions from Inheritance Tax (IHT) on the estate of serving military personnel who die whilst on active service against the enemy or other service of a war like nature. Exemptions can also be granted on the estate of those who die in retirement where it can be shown that their death was due to or hastened by an injury or illness sustained on, or aggravated by, past military service that meets the requirements of the Act, even if the death occurs many years later. However, there is no automatic exemption for serving military personnel, or veterans, and the award of a war pension is no guarantee an IHT exemption will also be granted. Each case has to be considered on its merits after the death of the individual concerned and in the case of those dying in retirement will require the JCCC's medical advisors to be given access to the deceased full medical history. Further information on IHT exemptions can be obtained from the Deceased Estates Office of the JCCC.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

NHS Credit Crunch Stress line

The NHS has launched a new helpline to assist those struggling financially as a result of the current economic climate. The helpline is run by trained health advisers who offer useful advice and information, and direct the client to other services which may help them, including financial management services, and employment or careers advisers.

The helpline telephone number is 0300 123 2000 and is open from 0800 to 2200 every day. For further information on services offered by the NHS please see www.nhs.uk.

NHS Credit Crunch Stress line

The NHS has launched a new helpline to assist those struggling financially as a result of the current economic climate. The helpline is run by trained health advisers who offer useful advice and information, and direct the client to other services which may help them, including financial management services, and employment or careers advisers.

The helpline telephone number is 0300 123 2000 and is open from 0800 to 2200 every day. For further information on services offered by the NHS please see www.nhs.uk.

NHS Credit Crunch Stress line

The NHS has launched a new helpline to assist those struggling financially as a result of the current economic climate. The helpline is run by trained health advisers who offer useful advice and information, and direct the client to other services which may help them, including financial management services, and employment or careers advisers.

The helpline telephone number is 0300 123 2000 and is open from 0800 to 2200 every day. For further information on services offered by the NHS please see www.nhs.uk.

GPS for Disabled Drivers

It is vital for disabled drivers and their carers to have essential information at their fingertips. Useful information includes details of Blue Badge parking spaces, how parking rules vary depending on council areas, which petrol stations are disabled-friendly and whether your destination is accessible or suitable for you when you arrive. Gowrings Mobility, the UK's market leader in wheelchair accessible cars, is announcing the first dedicated Blue Badge satellite-navigation product, which uniquely gives access to more than 10,000 disabled parking bays and local council parking concessions, plus more than 60,000 points of interest including 300 accessible beaches. Shopmobility and disabled toilets.

This super satellite navigation will take away any uncertainties of where to park, or whether places are accessible. It will enable disabled travellers to enjoy spontaneous journeys, and go wherever they want.

Gowrings Mobility by calling **0845 6088050**.

NORCARE

SUPPORTED housing charity Norcare is working with The Royal British Legion to establish a facility for vulnerable veterans that will help them to find homes and jobs. The Norcare Veterans Centre will have onsite accommodation and a visitor centre where veterans can access advice on employment and training, welfare and debt advice, family liaison and counselling, health and well-being programmes and specialist help for issues such as trauma.

State Pension Abroad

You can claim your State Pension if you live outside the UK. However, you'll only receive the index-linked increases if you live in the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland or in a country with which the UK has a social security agreement that includes state pensions. For more information on the UK State Pension for Britons living abroad, visit

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Pensionsandretirementplanning/StatePension/Basicstatepension/DG_10026714

Parish Notices.....

Regimental Association

There are a number of types of legacy:

A Pecuniary Legacy – This involves leaving a specific sum of money to The Association.

A Specific Legacy – This involves leaving a specific item such as a painting or even a house.

A Reversionary legacy – If you have family commitments then you might like to consider a Reversionary Legacy which reverts to The Association after the second death in a partnership or marriage

A Residuary Legacy – The remainder of your estate i.e. the rest of your property, possessions and money after any specific and pecuniary legacies have been made and after any taxes, debts or bills have been paid.

You could quite simply set up a Standing Order with your bank for a set amount each month, quarter or year. If this is your preferred option there is a Standing Order form attached at the end of the newsletter.

So in summary, I implore you all to remember charity begins at home and you never know when you might need to call upon The Association to help.

Cumbria Branch News

The future of the Cumbria Branch's Social Reunion scene was the subject of much debate earlier this year and after consulting our membership, it was decided that we will continue with only one social evening each year, as near as is possible to 17th March, "Paddy's Day". The first of our new "St. Patrick's Day" Socials took place on Saturday, 27th March, 2010, in the Workington Royal British Legion, a great night enjoyed by all who attended, either local members and their guests, or visitors from as far a field as London, Nottingham, Yorkshire, Co. Durham and various parts of Scotland. Our evening was shared with the Miller family, celebrating Butch and Pearl's ruby wedding anniversary. Cumbria Branch extends our congratulations to them. Details have not yet been agreed for the next Social in 2011, but it should be noted that this would be held to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Cumbria Branch. Once agreed, full details will be posted on the R.D.G. website. Contacts for tickets & accommodation are Marty Burdon (01900-602559) or Roger Bright (01900-604680 or rbright2@sky.com).

Come and join us for a great night, with good entertainment, good food and raffles, and catch up with your old Hillbilly pals who will be delighted to see you.

If anyone is visiting our area and fancies a night out, give Marty or Roger a ring and we'll be pleased to round up a few of the "lads".

5 INNIS DG Association Belfast & Dublin Branch

The 5 INNIS DG Belfast & Dublin Branch will be holding their Balaklava Ball on Saturday 23 October at the CIYMS Sports Pavilion Belfast. The cost will £25 per head, payable at the door. The dress is strictly formal, further details from Jack Halliday on 02890 768098 or saljak@btinternet.com

OBITUARIES

We regret to inform members of the following deaths and offer sincere
Condolences to all relatives and friends

- Mr H M McGlinchey (Mac) 5INNIS DG 1955-58, 14 Conway Crescent, Macclesfield, Chester
Who died 7 November 2009
- Mr GA Baird (Angus) 4/7DG, Oakleigh, Jurby Rd, Isle of Man
Who died 11 December 2009
- Major GH Battle (Geoffrey) 5INNIS DG 1955-57, Well Cottage, Flempton, Bury St Edmunds
Who died 24 December 2009
- Mrs J Teague who died 27 December 2009
- Mr NE Wisker (Norman) 5INNIS DG 1942-46 Windlesham Surrey
Who died 2 January 2010
- Lt R Macaire (Richard) 5INNIS DG 1960-61, Chile
Who died 19 January 2010
- Mr D Scott (Desmond) 5INNIS DG 1968-74, Belfast, Co Antrim
Who died 31 January 2010
- Mr R Cosby (Roy) 5INNIS DG 1980-88, 6 Ballybean Park, Dundonald
Who died 10 February 2010
- Mr S Weaver (Steven) 4/7DG 1989-92 RDG 1992-98 Hinkley Leicestershire
Who died on 12 February 2010
- Mr J Senior (James) 5INNIS DG 1972-73 Co Cork Eire
Who died 23 February 2010
- Mrs J Ryans who died 17 March 2010
- Mr H Thomas (Hefin) 5INNIS DG 1963-85, Caerphilly, South Wales
Who died 3 April 2010
- Mr K Abbott (Bud) 5INNIS DG 1949-50, 1 Abbotts Row, Ludlow, Shropshire
Who died 4 April 2010
- Mr G Hewdy (George) 5INNIS DG 1942-46, York
Who died 5 April 2010
- Mr T Varty (Thomas) 4/7DG 1962-84, Ferryhill, Co Durham
Who died 27 April 2010
- Mr G Waller (Gordon) 4/7DG 1952-55, 7 Maple Drive, Sheffield
Who died 30 April 2010
- Mr CE Etheridge (Charlie) 5INNIS DG 1937-46, 14 Robert Hardy House, Cheltenham
Who died 6 May 2010
- Mr S Nicholson (Scott) RDG, 1A West St, Aspatria, Cumbria
Who died 8 May 2010
- Mr N Jackson (Neville) 4/7DG 1950-52 11 Woodhouse Rd, Melton Mowbray
Who died 21 June 2010
- Tpr Ashley David Smith RDG 2008-10 Lown Hill York
Who was KIA 18 June 2010,
- Tpr James Leverett RDG 2008-10 St Nicholas Rd, Rotherham
Who was KIA 5 July 2010
- Mr Ingley (Slim) 5INNIS DG 1938-45, Leongather, Victoria, Australia
Who died 7 July 2010
- Mr P Lush (Peter) 5INNIS DG 1950-55, 15 Woodlands Way, Havant, Hants
Who died 9 July 2010
- Mr A Bowman (Alfred) 5INNIS DG 1945-47, Upminster, Essex
Who died 12 July 2010
- Mr D Morley (Dougie) 5INNIS DG 1958-1965, Lindfield Rd, Stockport
Who died 12 July 2010
- Sgt David (Bob) Monkhouse 5INNIS DG & RDG 1992-2010, Aspatria, Cumbria
Who was KIA 17 July 2010
- Mrs J Murkett (Joan) Tamworth, Staffs
Who died 20 July 2010
- Cpl Mathew (Matt) Stenton RDG 2004-2010, Wakefield, West Yorkshire
Who was KIA 21 July 2010
- Mr E Bray (Ernie) 4/7DG 1939-46 Stoke Bishop, Bristol
Who died 25 July 2010
- Mr B Sutton (Brian) 4/7 DG 1942-47, Sutton-Under-Brailes, Bandury
Who died 11 August 2010
- Mrs June Ward Harrison, Stockton on the Forest, York
Who died 18 August 2010

**Memorial Service, Medal Parade
& Lunch
Thursday 2 December 2010**

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Tel:.....

Email:.....

I will be attending the parade & lunch at the Racecourse and will be accompanied by:

.....

.....

.....

(Lunch is £15 per head, children 5 yrs and under; no charge)

I am interested in attending the museum cocktail party on Wednesday 1 December and will be accompanied by.....guests.

(Cocktail Party is £5 per head)

Total Remittance: £

*Cheques to made payable to HHQ RDG

**Oates Sunday
Sunday 13 March 2011
All Saints Church, Pavement, York**

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Tel:.....

Email:.....

I will be attending the service & lunch and will be accompanied by:

.....

.....

.....

(Lunch is £10 per head, children 5 yrs and under; no charge)

Total Remittance: £

*Cheques made payable to HHQ RDG

**Combine Cavalry Memorial Parade
Hyde Park
Sunday 8 May 2011**

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

Tel:.....

Email:.....

I will be attending the parade & lunch and will be accompanied by:

.....

.....

.....

(Lunch is £10 per head, children 5 yrs and under; no charge)

I would like to reserve the following:

Standing Enclosure.....Tickets

Seating Enclosure.....Tickets

(Subject to availability)

Total Remittance: £

*Cheques made payable to HHQ RDG