



Grenadier News

The Autumn Newsletter of the Grenadier
Guards Association



Edition 1, October 2014

Association Headquarters

President: Colonel REH Aubrey-Fletcher

General Secretary & Regimental Treasurer: Major AJ Green

Association Non-Commissioned Officer: Sgt R Broomes

Regimental Headquarters

The Lieutenant Colonel: Major General Sir George Norton KCVO, CBE

Regimental Adjutant: Major GVA Baker

Assistant Equerry: Captain MWS Dobson

Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant: WO2 (RQMS) S Williams

Regimental Affairs Non-Commissioned Officer: Sgt A Bonsell

Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, LONDON, SW1E 6HQ

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

The Regimental Adjutant

As most people know, the Queen's Birthday Parade (QBP) was fairly "Grenadier-centric" with Nijmegen Company providing the Escort and the 1st Battalion providing Number 2-4 Guards. Everything passed uneventfully although there were elements of equine friskiness in the margins, but not, happily for the main "players"! The Queen pronounced that it was a good Parade. The Battalion will provide the Street-liners for the QBP 2015.

The Battalion will now remain in Lille Barracks, Aldershot until late 2018, and thereafter will move to Victoria Barracks, Windsor. In February 2016, it will leave London District and re-subordinate to 11 Infantry Brigade.

On 21 Sep 14 Nijmegen Company's old Colours were laid up at Radley College; the event itself was preceded by a Band Concert the previous evening. The Company marched through Radley College, marched off the old Colours and then handed them to the Chaplain at Radley for safe-keeping. It was a lovely service with a very intimate atmosphere, and both that and the Band Concert were greatly appreciated by Radley, and especially the Radley Boys.

On 29 Sep 14 there was an Association Branch Presidents' Briefing Day at Lille Barracks, the purpose of which was to give Branch Presidents the chance, collectively to visit the Battalion and discuss Association and Regimental matters. It was a most informative briefing, followed by drinks in the Sergeants' Mess and lunch in the Officers' Mess.

ARMY MAJOR UNIT CRICKET FINAL – WED 10 SEP 2014

Captain Mike Dobson

The Grenadiers won the toss on a beautiful September day and elected to bat. A shaky start saw two wickets fall in quick succession, but Major Rich Green and Captain Fred Moynan steadied the ship and both scored half centuries. A slight batting collapse towards the end, saw the Battalion team finish on 185-8, perhaps a slightly under-par score, but we would have to see what 22 Engineer



Regiment would bring to the party. Some ferocious bowling from LSgt Matthew Bent and Captain Alex Budge, meant the Engineers were restricted to 54-5, then 77-7, at which point their tail wagged and the Grenadiers looked in serious trouble. Major Rich Green again came to the rescue, breaking the key partnership and almost sealing victory. The last couple of wickets fell fairly easily and the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards were crowned the Major Units Cricket Champions, winning by 29 runs.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Welfare

With the support of funds provided by the Regiment and others the Association is able, wherever possible, to support those members and former members of the Regiment who find themselves in need. This is managed routinely through Branch Secretaries. More substantial support, usually of a one off nature due to unforeseen circumstances, can be sought in the first instance from The Royal British Legion or SSAFA by requesting a visit from a case worker. Further advice and details of how to make contact with either organisation can be obtained from local telephone directories, the internet or by calling the Association Office on 0207 414 3225/3285.

Shop

The Grenadier Guards Association Shop continues to enjoy steady sales and through them the continuing ability to support our charitable expenditure. The bulk of our sales and the most convenient method of purchase are online at www.grengds.com using credit or debit cards. Anyone wishing to pay by cheque and with no access to the internet can ring Sgt Broomes, confirm the cost and then send in a cheque.

The shop has expanded its range of stock over recent years and now has an extensive range of items which includes a smart home-ware section. The items and prices displayed in the Grenadier Gazette are subject to change as and when our suppliers adjust their prices and the website is the best place to go for up to date information.

UK customers should allow 28 days for delivery when ordering. Overseas customers delivery time may be longer and they will be informed should additional postage fees apply. Please see our terms and conditions at the website above or contact Sgt Broomes on 020 7414 3285 to make a purchase or for further information.

THE 1st BATTALION

Commanding Officer: Lt Col The Hon CL Broughton MBE

Adjutant: Captain PJ Rice

Sgt Major: WO1 (RSM) T Bearder

Lille Barracks, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2NQ

Major RJH Green – The Senior Major

Since March 2014 the Battalion has been extremely busy both at home and abroad. 1 GREN GDS BGHQ deployed to Saudi Arabia for the month of March to conduct a planning exercise with the Royal Saudi Land Forces, as part of the wider Defence Engagement Strategy. This was both useful in refining our procedures and getting to know our various attached arms, but also fascinating in gaining an understanding into this closed society. From Apr-Jun the Battalion was primarily focused on preparing for The Queen's Birthday Parade, where Nijmegen Company provided the Escort, and the Battalion provided Numbers 2, 3 & 4 Guards.

Immediately following the Birthday Parade, the Battalion deployed to Kent and then Northumbria, in order to conduct a three week battle camp in preparation for a deployment to Kenya. The battle camp was a great success, which included a hugely demanding patrols competition. Unfortunately, the deployment to Kenya was delayed from Oct-Dec 14 to Jun-Aug 15; however the Battalion is now well set for success, following an excellent two weeks at the Combined Arms Staff Trainer (CAST) in Sep 14.

The Battalion is now moving into a 6 month period of overseas deployments, including the Falkland Islands, Denmark and Cyprus, as well as all Companies undertaking Adventure Training both in the UK and overseas. The Battalion is also training for two overseas expeditions, one to Bhutan, which will see the Battalion providing the first UK military expedition to this remote country and also a more well-trodden expedition to Nepal, both in 2015.

The Battalion is busy, but in good spirits, with an outstanding forecast of events over the next year and can look back over their achievements in 2014 with pride. Over particular note is the increasing success on the sports fields, with the Battalion winning the Army Major Units Cricket Cup (see above) and the Battalion football and rugby teams developing strong squads for the coming season.

THE CARRINGTON DRUM AWARD

Captain Andy Butcher

The 2014 Carrington Drum, which is awarded to the unit from the Regular Army and Army Reserve that raises the most funds for ABF The Soldiers' Charity, has been won by the Recruiting Team from the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards. The team, who are based in Aldershot, raised money by running in the London Marathon, collecting at the Army vs Navy Rugby Match and the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. They also assisted at several Soldiers' Charity events around the UK.

Lt Col Charles Broughton MBE, Commanding Officer 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, said "I am immensely proud of the Grenadier Guards Recruiting Team for winning the Carrington Drum. Captain Andy Butcher, LCpl McCormack and Guardsman Viggors and Avery have raised a vast amount of money for the Charity over the last couple of years and this award is a testament to their hard work and dedication in supporting the Charity". F Company Scots Guards, who undertook a unit-wide skydiving day (amongst other activities), were placed 2nd while 3rd place went to the Army Training Regiment (Winchester).



Pictured: From L to R, LCpl McCormack, Captain Butcher, Gdsm Viggors and Gdsm Avery of The Grenadier Guards Regimental Support Team receive their award from General Sir Mike Jackson GCB CBE DSO DL, President of ABF The Soldiers' Charity.

THE REGIMENTAL SUPPORT TEAM

Captain Andy Butcher - Recruiting Officer and QM (T) 1 GREN GDS

Recruiting is still at the forefront of Battalion activity and with targets being met the next available course date for potential Grenadiers at The Infantry Training Centre, Catterick is January 2015. That said there is still much to do to ensure the pipe-line remains full. Within the last 6 months the Regimental Support Team has worked in Manchester, Coventry, Birmingham and London as well as supporting regional events and shows. The next six months will be challenging as this coming quarter is always the most difficult in the recruiting world; again I ask for your assistance in locating potential recruits within your area and if my small team can assist your Branch in any way please don't hesitate to contact me. We are planning recruiting surges in Northampton, Stoke and Derby in the run up to Christmas and when these dates are confirmed I will endeavour to let you know.

NIJMEGEN COMPANY

Company Commander: Major NA Strachan
Second in Command: Captain NPH Wills
Company Sergeant Major: WO2 S Brooks
Wellington Barracks, London, SW1E 6HQ



The year has been an incredibly significant one for the Company with its highlight undoubtedly being this year's Birthday Parade, on which the Company Trooped the Colours of The Second Battalion in front of Her Majesty.

Although the highlight of the year will undoubtedly remain Her Majesty's Birthday Parade, there is still a lot to look forward to for the Company. In the next few months they have:

- A platoon deploying as helicopter mounted troops as part of a Joint Helicopter Command exercise.
- A contingent providing marching troops in the opening ceremony of the Invictus Games (which you may have seen).
- A section deploying to Kenya with the Welsh Guards as part of Ex ASKARI THUNDER.
- The State visit of the President of the Republic of Singapore.

Major Strachan and the Company look forward as always, to the challenges ahead.

(Pictured above: Lt O M Wace and Nijmegen Company Trooping their Colour and LSgt D L Farrell prepares a sketch model prior to a patrol on the Company exercise in Brecon)

THE REGIMENTAL BAND

Director of Music: Major K Davies

The Band of the Grenadier Guards will be playing their part in this year's Scarlett & Gold Concert at the Cadogan Hall, London on Friday 28 November at 7.30pm & Saturday 29 November 2014 at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £25, £20 or £15 and are available online now.

To request the Grenadier Guards Band for any future events, a minimum of 6 week's notice is needed.

For further information contact Mrs Donna Manuel the Band Administrator on 020 7414 3267 or at:

donna.manuel164@mod.uk



USEFUL INFORMATION & NOTICES

The Defence Privilege Card



The Defence Privilege Card will allow members of the Armed Forces Community to save in stores, restaurants and venues by showing their Defence Privilege Card. This in turn will allow the Armed Forces, **their families and Veterans** to get recognition within their communities.

Members can now sign up to the service and request a Defence Privilege Card, which costs £4.99 for 5 years. For the latest information and up to date offers please visit www.defencediscountservice.co.uk

Somerset Legion House

Somerset Legion House is situated on the sea-front of Weston-Super-Mare with beautiful views over the Bristol Channel to Wales and Exmoor. Somerset Legion House is the perfect seaside escape - with sweeping coastal views and fresh sea air. Guests here feel instantly relaxed. Rooms are well appointed and en-suite; any stay here will feel like a home away from home. There is plenty to explore with Weston Bay on your doorstep, miles of clean sandy beach and a level promenade with Channel views. **Our Break services are available to serving or ex-Service men or women and/or their dependents that are in genuine need of a break.** Contact your local Legion office to apply, call our helpline on 0808 802 8080 for more information or email us.



The Royal British Legion - Remembrance Travel 2014 – 2015 Journeys of Remembrance

With tours led by official Royal British Legion guides (many of whom are ex-Service personnel) ranging from France to Burma, from Belgium to Singapore and from Germany to Italy, Remembrance Travel's tours journey into some of the most remarkable sites from WW1 and WW11. The tours will continue into 2015, so there is plenty of time to select the right one for you. By joining them on one of their Journeys of Remembrance you will be supporting the work of the Royal British Legion, who assist serving members of the Armed Forces, ex-Service men and women (veterans), their families and dependants all year-round, and continue to remember those who have given their lives for our freedom.

Many tours are accompanied by an official standard bearer and a trained medic or doctor is on hand to provide care and attention to any veterans or those with medical conditions who may be travelling. Tours for 2015 will include: 'In the Footsteps of the Railway Man (Singapore & Thailand), '70th Anniversary of the Rhine Crossings' and 'Gallipoli Anniversary'. How to book and for further information – online at www.arenatravel.com or by phone: 01473 660 800 (Mon – Fri 9am to 5.30pm)

The Regimental Christmas Card – 2015

Some readers will not be aware that the ordering system for the Regimental Christmas Card has been revised in order to avoid waste and loss of money. Please keep your eyes open for more information on the website www.grengds.com from March next year. Orders are likely to be required by 31 July 15.

War Requiem

You may already know about this concert; a unique performance of Benjamin Britten's War Requiem in the **Royal Albert Hall** this coming Remembrance Sunday - **9th November 2014 at 3.30 pm.** (will end at about 5.30 pm). It is being given by the [Royal Choral Society](http://www.royalchoral.org.uk), accompanied by the [London Philharmonic Orchestra](http://www.londonphil.co.uk), to mark the centenary of the First World War.

Lady Rothermere, our Patron, is generously supporting this concert through the [Lady R Foundation](http://www.ladyrothermere.com) and all proceeds from tickets sold will go directly to the veterans in the care of our charity. It would be wonderful if you could come and support them; this is a significant event for Veterans Aid.

Tickets can be purchased on www.royalalberthall.com or via **020 7589 8212**.

More information is available www.veterans-aid.net/war-requiem-concert-veterans-aid-marks-centenary-ww1-2/.

Very much hope you can join us and/or spread the word about it.

Best wishes as always,

Geoffrey

Geoffrey Cardozo
VETERANS AID
40 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0RE



Blind Veterans UK
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Blind Veterans UK, is a National Service, London, Wilt and Regiment Charity registered in England and Wales and Scotland (Scotland)

Blind Veterans UK

Blind Veterans UK believes that no one who has served their country should battle blindness alone. It doesn't matter when a veteran served, or how they lost their sight, Blind Veterans UK provides free, lifelong support and services to them and their family.

It is estimated that there are over 68,000 ex-Service men and women living with sight loss in the UK, but that are not currently aware of the support available to them. Blind Veterans UK's No One Alone campaign is reaching out to them to let them know that support is available.

For more information about our support and services, visit www.noonealone.org.uk or call 0800 389 7979.

Free Legal Advice at Queen Mary, University of London – Department of Law

The School of Law at Queen Mary, University of London, successfully established a legal advice centre in 2006 which is open to the general public. Through their '**supporting those who serve project**', they offer free legal advice to those currently serving in the Armed Forces, those who have served, and their families in areas of law such as;

Family, Company, Employment, LGBT, Property, Contract, Intellectual Property.

Their Legal Advice Centre is dedicated to offering both a welcoming and confidential environment when seeking free legal advice. If a client has a legal issue which they cannot advise on, they can signpost the client to an organisation that will be able to assist them. The Centre runs a term time only appointment system once a month. If they can help they will provide written advice within 14 working days of the appointment. They cannot represent clients in court, but will refer them to an organisation that can. To make an enquiry, contact:

Legal Advice Centre, School of Law
Queen Mary, University of London
Mile End Road, London E1 4NS
Tel: 020 7882 3931
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