



# Grenadier News

The Autumn Newsletter of the  
Grenadier Guards Association



Edition 6, October 2019

## **Regimental Headquarters**

*The Lieutenant Colonel:* Major General CRV Walker, DSO  
*Regimental Adjutant:* Major JPW Gatehouse  
*Regimental Archivist:* Captain AGH Ogden  
*Assistant Equerry:* Captain R Thompson  
*Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant:* WO2 (RQMS) J Thompson  
*Regimental Casualty Officer:* Mr Matthew Ellmer  
*Regimental Affairs Non-Commissioned Officer:* Sgt R Haughton  
*Regimental Property Non-Commissioned Officer:* LSgt M MacMillan

## **Association Headquarters**

*President:* Colonel REH Aubrey-Fletcher  
*General Secretary & Regimental Treasurer:* Major AJ Green  
*Association Senior Non-Commissioned Officer:* Sgt R Broomes / LCpl J Dexter

**Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, LONDON, SW1E 6HQ**

## **REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS**

### **The Regimental Adjutant**

The fast pace of life here never seems to slacken and, following the excitement of the Medals Parade and Regimental Photograph at Windsor Castle in March, attention shifted squarely towards preparations for the Queen's Birthday Parade. The 1st Battalion provided the Escort (The Queen's Company), Two and Four Guards (found by Number Two Company and The Inkerman), with Nijmegen Company finding Number Three Guard. HRH The Colonel took the salute on the Colonel's Review in glorious sunshine on 1 June and many of you will have watched the Parade on the day itself, with the distinctive voice of Lt Colonel Vince Gaunt embellishing Huw Edwards' commentary on BBC1. All at Horse Guards were delighted with the Parade and the very high standards of drill and turnout which the Regiment maintains.

Before this on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May, Regimental Remembrance Day saw the Guards' Chapel packed with Grenadiers. Once again The Colonel attended, laying a wreath at the Guards Memorial and speaking to a large number of those gathered. For anyone who has not been recently, it is a stirring occasion and well worth the effort. Next year Black Sunday will be on 17<sup>th</sup> May.

Grenadier Day took place on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> July at Lille Barracks, hosted again by the 1st Battalion. The Colonel attended and spoke to many of the families present as he walked around the arena, where the Corps of Drums, tug of war competition and many other demonstrations were taking place throughout the afternoon. There were some wonderful stands manned by members of the Association and the Battalion and RQMS Thompson is to be congratulated for all the effort behind the organisation of such a happy and successful day. Next year Grenadier Day will take place on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July, again at Lille Barracks and the focus will be on celebrating the 3rd Battalion and the formation of The Inkerman Company in 1960. We hope that this event will attract many former members of the 3rd Battalion and those who have served since in the Inkerman Company, both with the 2nd Battalion and more recently the 1st Battalion. It should be a wonderful gathering.

In September our attention moved to France and Belgium with Grenadiers supporting the 75th Anniversary events in Paris, Pont-a-Marcq, Aarschot and Antwerp. The Regimental Band played in Ypres and the Regimental Adjutant laid a wreath at the Menin Gate. On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September The Colonel was met on his arrival in the City of Bruges by a Guard of Honour in the Market Square, found by Nijmegen Company with the Band in support. Later, all marched to the Guild of St Sebastian where we were hosted magnificently by members of the Guild. The Colonel also laid a wreath at the monument to King Charles II, commemorating the formation of the Regiment under Lord Thomas Wentworth in 1656.

Meanwhile, the 1st Battalion has just returned from a very testing 2-month long exercise in Belize. This focused on low level company and platoon training and for most, the change of temperature, humidity and living in the jungle for over a month without access to clean water or Wi-Fi will have been a testing experience. Afterwards, a few days of adventure training at San Pedro and into Mexico lifted everyone's spirits. Shortly, Support Company reinforced by a rifle platoon from Nijmegen Company will fly down to the Falklands for almost four months. The contrast will be stark!

Regimental Headquarters, under Major James Gatehouse as Regimental Adjutant, and WO2 (RQMS) James Thompson continues to be the beating heart at the center of all things Grenadier. Major Andy Green as Regimental Treasurer and General Secretary, ably assisted by Sgt Rob Broomes, continues to look after the Association. Captain Robert Thompson is the Temporary Equerry, dividing his time between Buckingham Palace and his desk here.

## **THE REGIMENTAL CASUALTY OFFICER**

**By Matthew Ellmer**

Once again 2019 has been a busy year to date for the Regimental Casualty Officer and the Colonel's Fund. We now look after 66 Grenadier veterans and 17 bereaved families.

In November 2018 former Guardsman Dougie Adams who was discharged with PTSD was selected by the charity Style for Soldiers and Art in the Aftermath to exhibit his art work at a gallery in Pall Mall, London. Dougie turned to art to help cope with PTSD and realised that he had a talent, the charity Art in the Aftermath have supported Dougie along with the



Matt Ellmer with Dougie Adams



Scafell Pike Challenge

Colonel's Fund, helping him with courses and enabling him to develop and express his talent. The event went well and Dougie took many commissions.



The Ling family, with the Senior Chaplain, Major Green and RCO

On Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019, 55 Grenadier veterans including Major Bernie Broad, Gdsm John Dawson, LSgt Josh Tuicicia, LSgt Markus Strydom MC, Kelly Atherton, Mike Atherton, Mandy Bainbridge, along with other family members and friends of the Regiment walked up Scafell Pike (978m), England's highest mountain in aid of the Colonel's Fund. All got down safely with the last person, a very determined Mandy Bainbridge and her support team coming off the mountain after 9 ½ hours!

This is the third mountain that I have taken wounded, bereaved and veterans up and the benefits are clear to see; team spirit, a sense of belonging, personal goals achieved and above all it shows our wounded can achieve anything. I have already planned the next mountain/event for 2020 - the Yorkshire 3 peaks, and have a list of individuals who want to

join me. The feedback from those involved and from those that we met going up and down was that we are doing the right thing for our Guardsmen and their families.



The RCO with Leon Stokes meeting The Colonel

Also in June I hosted the family of Gdsm Glen Ling who was killed in action in Crossmaglen in 1978. The family wanted to see the window of dedication in The Guards' Chapel. After a tour of the Chapel they also visited the Guards' Museum which was followed by lunch in RHQ.

On 14<sup>th</sup> July 2019 the 1<sup>st</sup> Bn hosted Grenadier Day. Organised by WO2 (RQMS) James Thompson the day went

very well and many of our wounded attended with their families, including former Gdsm Leon Stokes, a casualty from Op HERRICK 11. Part of his recovery introduced him into art, where he has produced some amazing pieces. This led me to encourage him to have a stall on the day; I also arranged to introduce him to The Colonel in order to show case his work. The Colonel was so impressed that He commissioned Leon to paint a scene of the dismounting Guard from His office in Buckingham Palace! It also led to Leon taking other commissions and selling some of his existing paintings.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Grenadiers, their families and friends who have raised money for the Fund and in turn for helping to support all wounded and bereaved Grenadiers and their families who have been affected by recent operations.

## REGIMENTAL CHRISTMAS CARD



This watercolour is of a Grenadier Colour Sergeant and Drummer, in Guard Order at Windsor Castle in 1833. It is held in the Regimental Collection and is by Richard Simkin (1850-1926). During his lifetime, he, along with Orlando Norie, produced thousands of watercolours depicting the uniforms and campaigns of the British Army. On the rear Simkin has noted that this watercolour is based on an oil painting, on panel, in the Royal Library at Windsor Castle. It is one of a numerous series, embracing every branch of the Service and painted by order of King William IV. The original painting is entitled 'Night Guard' and signed Alexandre-Jean Dubois Drahonet.

Order Form information can be found at the bottom of this newsletter. Order Forms must be returned to: Sgt Haughton, Regimental Headquarters, Grenadier Guards, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1E 6HQ by **Friday 1st November 2019** so that all cards can be sent out week beginning **Monday 2nd December 2019**. All cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable to: **The Regimental Adjutant, Grenadier Guards.**

## THE ASSOCIATION SHOP

The Association shop has introduced new shop items to its inventory this year, and has most recently sourced two new excellent products; Grenadier London Dry Gin and High-Quality Embroidered Table Covers. These items will be advertised very soon and an alert will be published when they are available online for purchase – just in time for Christmas..!

The shop will be closed for this year's Christmas & New Year break from **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December** until **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January**; orders placed between these dates will not be sent out until after the shop re-opens in January.

## THE 1<sup>st</sup> BATTALION

*Commanding Officer:* Lt Colonel PL Ashfield, DSO

*Adjutant:* Captain BRN Tracey

*Sgt Major:* WO1 (RSM) C Dougherty

**Lille Barracks, ALDERSHOT, Hampshire, GU11 2NQ**

## REAR OPERATIONS GROUP (ROG)

*Officer Commanding:* Major C Proudfoot (SG)

*ROG Adjutant:* Captain P Dougherty (AGC)

*ROG Sgt Major:* WO2 (CSM) R Owen

## By Major Cameron Proudfoot (SG)

With the Battalion deployed to Belize we have been left to hold the fort. Life eventually moved in to what could be called and understood to be 'steady state' and the drum beat of day to day activities such as logistical deliveries, barrack guard mounts and dismounts, fatigues and of course the all-important PT. The ROG on paper, as ever, looks healthy but as we all know this is rarely the case. With the issues of sickness, courses, discharges and postings outflow is never matched to inflow causing the CSM to constantly test and adjust

duties and fatigues. To add to the mix on this ROG we have been given further tasks including a Windsor Castle Guard, street liners for the State Opening of Parliament and a couple of tasks supporting the Army more widely.

Thankfully the Senior Major rose to the occasion and took on the Windsor Castle Guard along with the CQMS HQ Coy and men from his company who are preparing for deployment to The Falkland Islands on Op FIRIC.



The ROG maintain their skills

There is always something happening and life here is never dull or boring; having to manage all aspects of activity normally done by a plethora of behind the scenes personnel is a real eye opener. This in turn makes us respect all the unseen work undertaken by such people who have now found much respect from within our ranks.

We look forward to the return of the Battalion and all the madness that it will bring. Once complete they will head off on a couple of weeks leave which the ROG will continue to cover. Our turn for leave will come when they get back from theirs on 4<sup>th</sup> November after which no doubt we will reform for Christmas Rear Party soon afterwards.

## THE REGIMENTAL SUPPORT TEAM (RST)

By Sgt Kristian Oldfield, Team Leader

The team has had a busy year travelling across the country attending many different events and engagements from school careers fairs to apprenticeship shows.

At the beginning of the year the team became a divisional asset and we now recruit as one of five Guards RSTs. The teams work together and support each other at various events to showcase what our division has to offer.



Out and About with the RST

a night in the field teaching them basic field craft and infantry skills. This helps to give them a good understanding of what the Infantry has to offer and the chance to speak to experienced soldiers about what they may expect in training, on exercise and operational tours.

The team also assisted The Queen's Company on a trip to the Isle of Man at the Tynwald Ceremony where they provided a Guard of Honour. We were very well received and took the time to speak to the public in general and potential recruits in particular.



The RST instruct cadets.

We continue to travel the country with recruiting surges and events looking for future soldiers who would like to join our division for A LIFE LESS ORDINARY.

## **NIJMEGEN COMPANY**

*Company Commander:* Major C A G Williams  
*Second in Command:* Captain RHJ Harding  
*Company Sergeant Major:* WO2 (CSM) D Bailey

**Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, LONDON, SW1E 6HQ**

## **NIJMEGEN COMPANY**

**By Major Charlie Williams**



President Trump talking to CSM Bailey

Nijmegen Company remains the ‘gatekeepers’ of the Regiment, receiving our most junior Guardsmen from ITC Catterick and preparing them for life in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. The company has had another hugely busy few months. Whether it has been on Horse Guards Parade, at Buckingham Palace, in Bruges or on Salisbury Plain, our feet have hardly touched the ground.

In the build up to the Birthday Parade, the company provided a Guard of Honour for President Trump. It was an immaculate guard and all the more impressive given the condensed preparation time due to Troop training. POTUS was visibly delighted during the inspection and clearly enjoyed talking to the Company Sergeant Major and Gdsm Spilling, who grew up in Missouri. Later that week we

provided Number Three Guard for the Battalion’s Troop. It was a wonderful day and a proud occasion for all the young Guardsmen who had worked so hard in the build-up.

After a week of post-troop leave, July saw the company deploying on a summer exercise to Longmoor and Salisbury Plain. These exercises focused on back to basics soldiering for the Guardsmen. Blessed with superb weather and with a group of high-quality NCOs, the Guardsmen made the most of this good training opportunity. The challenging time in the field saw a large amount of development from the Guardsmen and culminated with some high-quality platoon attacks. This training has set the foundations for the company’s deployment to the Falkland Islands with the Battalion next January.

During a very busy period of Summer public duties, the company still managed to get twelve men away to complete the Nijmegen Marches, a four-day 100-mile march in the Netherlands. In a gargantuan effort all members of the team completed the event, with Gdsm Ralph and Whiston leading the entire British Military contingent through the town of Nijmegen in bearskins and tunics, despite some very sore feet.



The successful Nijmegen Marches team

The Company took some pride in mounting Queen's Guard on the hottest day on record in the UK. A statistic that will give some consolation to those that sweated their way through the mount, especially Gdsm Pharaoh who ended up on the front page of three national newspapers! The autumn saw the Company conducting a Guard of Honour in Bruges for The Colonel and Prince Laurent and afterwards enjoyed some excellent liquid refreshment provided by the Guild of Saint Sebastian!

The final few months of 2019 has seen the company assisting with numerous events tied into the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the liberation of Europe. There will also be a great deal of build-up training for our Falkland Islands deployment in January 2020.

## THE REGIMENTAL BAND

*Director of Music:* Maj M Smith BA (Mus) LRSM CAMUS

*Bandmaster:* CSgt Mattias Per Anderson

*Band Sergeant Major:* WO2 D Buckles

### By Musician Matthew Denney

During the summer season 2019, the Band of the Grenadier Guards has taken part in several notable events. One internationally recognised occasion was the state visit of President Donald Trump. The Band paraded alongside Nijmegen Company providing a guard of honour in the gardens of Buckingham Palace. President Trump was welcomed to Great Britain by Her Majesty the Queen and invited to inspect the Guard.

Another historical occasion in which the Band was involved was Tynwald Day, which is the National Day of the Isle of Man and the day on which the Manx Parliament, the oldest continuous parliament in the world meet. The ceremony has taken place for over a thousand years, so it was a great honour for the Band to accompany The Queen's Company providing two Guards of Honour for the ceremony.

Finally, the highest profile event in the calendar was The Queen's Birthday Parade, where this year The First Battalion trooped their Colour. This year's parade was particularly special for the Band due to the Massed Bands of the Household Division performing a new composition as the "Quick Troop". This piece is the unofficial gift to the monarch from the Massed Bands: titled "Twice the Man" and composed by our Principal Tubist, Lance Sergeant Shepherd and was dedicated to previous Grenadier Senior Drum Major Steve Staite. This is the first time a serving rank and file musician's composition has been selected for this occasion, and thus a huge privilege for the Band.



The Tynwald Ceremony

The Band also recorded all the music from The Queen's Birthday Parade 2019 and is available to download from: [www.householddivision.org.uk/music](http://www.householddivision.org.uk/music)

Notable events more recently have and will include the Band supporting the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Liberation of Belgium alongside Nijmegen Coy in September, the forthcoming overseas tour of Japan during October, and of course the annual Scarlet and Gold Concert taking place on 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> November at Cadogan Hall.

The Bands of the Household Division will once again present their concert Scarlet and Gold at the Cadogan Hall, London, SW1X 9DQ on 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019. Tickets start from £20 and can be booked by calling the box office on 020 7730 4500 or online at [www.cadoganhall.com](http://www.cadoganhall.com) all details of the band's future activities can be found on their Facebook pages at: <https://facebook.com/BandoftheGrenadierGuards>



Cadogan Hall



### **GRENADIERS' OFF-GRID ODYSSEY – Featured in Soldier Magazine, August 2019**

A team of (Grenadier) soldiers smashed a world record for paddling the Yukon River from source to sea.

Captains John Frith and Tom Bolitho, along with Guardsmen Joe Heywood and Al Szysko, beat the previous fastest time for completing the 1,956-mile waterway by more than ten days, arriving at the finish line in the Bering Sea in 28 days, 21 hours and 15 minutes. They also became the first British Troops to complete the feat.

Just getting to the remote starting point in British Columbia involved hitching a lift on a freight train that was passing through and the Servicemen had to be entirely self-sufficient throughout the trip.

“The longest we went without seeing signs of human life was nine days – and even that was only an airliner overhead,” said the expedition leader, Captain John Frith.

“More people climb Everest every year than have ever kayaked the Yukon. It was an amazing experience but seeing the signs of climate change was sobering.” (Soldier Magazine, August 2019 Edition)



The highest level of preparation was required for this event, from calculating the correct food quantities to take per man, to highly-detailed route planning and practicing how to sew and treat open wounds, as pictured above. Please visit Twitter, Facebook or Instagram to see plenty of pictures and videos of the lead-up and completion of this event.

### **SILVER BUGLE AWARD – Featured in the Soldier Magazine, August 2019**

Lance Corporal Andrew McKenna, 23, from Farnham, who serves as an Assault Pioneer, was judged as the best bugle player in the Guards Division by a panel that included Major General Ben Bathurst the General Officer Commanding the Army in London and the Queen’s Household Troops, The Brigade Major of the Household Division, and The Garrison Sergeant Major.



The talented soldier, who recently returned from an operational tour working for the United Nations in South Sudan, will now have the honour of playing and carrying the coveted Silver Bugle throughout the year on all State Ceremonial events and on Public Duties. When not in use, the Major General's Silver Bugle will be securely displayed within Battalion HQ Grenadier Guards, to serve as a badge of honour for the whole unit.

Speaking after the event Andrew said: "I get nervous every single time I play but I was pretty happy with my performance. I'm now really looking forward to playing on some important occasions in the Army calendar".

Andrew didn't expect to do so well but his superiors had every faith in his talents. He was entered into the competition by the Grenadier Guards Drum Major who had heard him perform. Luckily being posted to South Sudan meant that in between his daily duties carrying out force protection for the British Engineer Group, Andrew had lots of opportunity to practice his bugle calls for the challenging competition and the hard work and dedication certainly paid off.

This has turned into an exceptional week for the young soldier from Surrey. He is also on parade at Windsor Castle where he will receive his operational service medal from the Colonel Grenadier Guards, HRH The Duke of York.

As well as being presented with the coveted Silver Bugle the proud soldier was also handed an engraved Brass Bugle to keep forever, a certificate, and prize money. (Soldier Magazine, August 2019 Edition)

### **FORTHCOMING EVENTS – KNOWN DATES**

East Midlands Breakfast Club – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Each Month – The Young Vanish, S44 5NB

Sergeants' Mess (Past & Present) Club Dinner – TBC

Grenadier Guards Association Annual General Meeting (AGM) – Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Mar 2020

Regimental Remembrance Day – Sun 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020

The Major General's Review – Sat 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020

The Colonel's Review – Sat 6<sup>st</sup> June 2020

Beating Retreat Wed 10<sup>th</sup> & Thu 11<sup>th</sup> June 2020

<http://www.householddivision.org.uk/beating-retreat>

The Queen's Birthday Parade (1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Welsh Guards) – Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Jun 2020

<http://www.householddivision.org.uk/trooping-the-colour>

Grenadier Day – Lille Barracks, Aldershot, GU11 2NQ – Sun 12<sup>th</sup> July 2020

### **USEFUL INFORMATION & NOTICES**

#### **THE UK ARMED FORCES VETERAN ID CARD**

The Ministry of Defence is launching a new Veterans ID card which will enable public and charitable sector services to instantly recognise the service of a Veteran. This card will provide proof that a Veteran has served in HM Armed Forces in line with the Government definition of a Veteran, which is one day's service.

Currently, there is no way for existing Veterans to easily prove the fact that they have served, and the administrative burden on providers when verifying that a person is a Veteran can be considerable, both in time and cost. This card will confidentially verify that someone has served in the Armed Forces.

However, this card will not be held by all Veterans as it is being rolled out in tranches and some genuine Veterans in need may not have the capacity to apply for one.

Therefore, please do not take the absence of a Veterans ID card as proof that a person is not a Veteran. Instead continue to use your existing processes to verify their Veteran status.

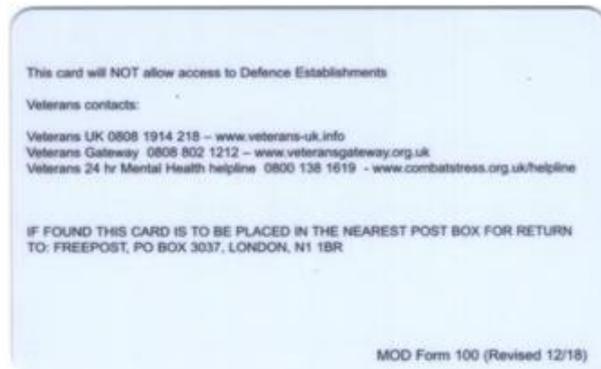
If you are asked questions about the ID card, please refer Veterans to the Veterans UK helpline number – details below – and they will be able to provide the relevant information.

Telephone: 0808 1914 218

Website – [www.veterans-uk.info](http://www.veterans-uk.info)



Front of Card



Rear of Card



## ENHANCED LEARNING CREDITS

The MOD's Enhanced Learning Credits Scheme (ELC) promotes lifelong learning amongst members of the Armed Forces – and for up to five years post service. The scheme provides financial support in the form of a single up-front payment in each of a maximum of three separate financial years. You are reminded that ELC funding is only available for pursuit of higher level learning i.e. for courses that result in a nationally recognised qualification at Level three or above on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) (England, Northern Ireland and Wales), a Level six or above on the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) or, if pursued overseas, an approved international equivalent qualification with an approved learning provider.

## Getting Started: How does it work?

- a. There are several stages to the ELC process. Full information is set out in Joint Service Publications (JSP) 822.
- b. First you must have already been registered to become a Scheme Member and have accrued a sufficient amount of service before you can submit a claim. If you are still serving speak to your local Education Staff as they will be able to check your entitlement for you. If you have left the forces contact ELCAS as they can make the appropriate checks.
- c. Have a look at Service Personnel Claiming ELC or Service Leaver Claiming ELC respectively as these pages will tell you how to make your claim. **A Claims Authorisation Note must be obtained prior to a member committing any monies to a course.**
- d. Finally, you must complete your Course Evaluation via the Member's Area. Please note that **further claims** cannot be processed until the evaluation has been completed.

## THE FORCES EMPLOYMENT CHARITY



We work with thousands of employers who see the value of military experience and the benefits of recruiting from a talent pool of 20,000 service leavers and veterans who work with us every year. We have Employer Relationship Managers in every region of England,

Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

### Access Military Talent.

Ex Forces are one of the largest sources of talented potential employees in the country. Service leavers and ex forces are highly trained and skilled individuals who have worked within a motivated culture with exceptionally strong teamwork. We work with 20,000 Service Leavers and Veterans meaning that we can support employers to recruit when they need high volumes of people to join their organisation.

### Our Recruitment Service.

We have 12 Employer Relationship Managers who are based in every region of the UK. Our Employer Relationship managers work in partnership with organisations' military recruitment programmes, hiring managers and HR teams.

In 2016 we worked with 7,000 Employers ranging from the largest multi-national companies through to regional and local companies. We work with employers in every sector including: construction; engineering; financial services; telecoms; leisure; sport; forestry; waste management; energy and many more.

## Online Jobs Board.

RFEA uses RightJob an online jobs board that is dedicated to jobs for Service Leavers and Veterans. RightJob promotes your organisation and your Job Vacancies to 20,000 service leavers and ex-forces personnel who are actively seeking jobs.



When it comes to settling into civilian life, it's not unknown for ex-servicemen and women to fall through the gaps. If you are finding it hard to resettle, have been forced to retire due to injury without a suitable resettlement package or are suffering from PTSD I would like to help.

This scheme was launched in June 2011 by Simon Weston OBE.

Throughout the year we have course places on offer completely free of charge (some training is discounted) to ex-service men and women with our ex-military bursary scheme. All our awards are at our discretion and applicants will be vetted before an award is made.

The free places are intended for applicants who:

- a. Have been injured in service or suffer from PTSD.
- b. Are not already working in a trade such as electrics, plumbing or renewable installation.
- c. Have been unable to find suitable work since leaving the army and are struggling to find a new career

## LADY GROVER'S FUND

### Cost effective health insurance for Officers' families

Lady Grover's Fund provides insurance to help meet the unexpected costs associated with recovery from either illness or injury for Officers' families.



NURSING, HOSPITAL AND HOME HELP

Knowing that financial support is readily available towards the additional costs of nursing, hospital care and domestic help when emergencies happen can mean working and home life does not have to stop whilst family members recover.

Officers and former Officers from across the Services are eligible for membership. Also eligible are widows & widowers, divorced wives & husbands and descendant carers of Officers.

Membership subscriptions are £60 per year (equivalent to £5 per month) for potential grants up to £8,000 per year. Members can claim for expenses for hospital accommodation, nursing home accommodation, home nursing/care, home help, and convalescence.

Get covered and join today...

Visit [www.ladygrover.org.uk](http://www.ladygrover.org.uk) or write to:

The Secretary  
Lady Grover's Fund,  
Mountbarrow House,  
6 - 20 Elizabeth Street,  
London,  
SW1W 9RB

Telephone: 020 7808 4180

## **NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT COMMEMORATIVE COIN**

### **A message from Colonel John Andreas Olsen, Defence Attaché to UK and Ireland**

The Norwegian government can offer a commemorative Coin to British veterans who took part in the liberation of Norway during the Second World War. The criteria are that the service of the sailor, soldier or airman in the period of 1940-1945 must have a connection to Norway, one way or another. The medal cannot be presented post mortem.

We would appreciate all the help you can offer in identifying and locating candidates for the Coin. We would need the name and a short description of the veteran's service with reference to Norway; upon approval from the Norwegian Ministry of Defence we can set up the event. We would like to give this priority, and stand ready to travel to the destination of the veteran, to award such a Coin on relatively short notice.

Feel free to contact me ([john.andreas.olsen@mfa.no](mailto:john.andreas.olsen@mfa.no)) or Nicholas John Taswell ([Nicholas.John.Taswell@mfa.no](mailto:Nicholas.John.Taswell@mfa.no)) 07887735043 with suggestions, and do not hesitate to make contact if further clarification is necessary.

The article at the link below may also be of interest.

<https://www.peterboroughtoday.co.uk/news/people/peterborough-war-hero-one-of-the-first-to-be-given-special-medal-1-8993637>

## **CHRISTMAS CARD ORDER FORM**

If viewing this newsletter digitally, click the 2019 Christmas Card Order Form link displayed underneath the link for this newsletter, on the previous webpage

If viewing this newsletter in paper-form the 2019 Christmas Card Order Form is attached.