

Colchester Guards Club News

February 2006

Issue number 57



Next meeting

1st March 2006

. If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would have put them on my knees.

The New Season

Oh Yea, Oh Yea, Oh yea.

Eyes down and look in for 2006.

The list of suggested activities are as follows:

Sunday 12 March

Is the Coldstream Association, Suffolk Branch, annual lunch at the Cedars Hotel, Stowmarket.

Saturday 23rd April

Kings Lynn St Georges Day lunch. Paul will discuss this at the March meeting.

Tuesday 2nd May

The Crumbly Jet Setters Section fly off to Crete for seven days of sun and frolics, returning suitable bronzed on Tuesday 9th May.

Sunday 14th May

Coldstream Guards 'Black Sunday'. A service in the Guards Chapel at 14.00 followed by a march from Wellington Barracks to the Guards Memorial. This will be pre-empted by the now traditional picnic, followed by a hostelry break some where on the way home.

Operation 'Happy Wanderer'

'Route March'. It is proposed that this year's shuffle start at Dedham and takes the route along the Stour toward Flatford, returning via the Rose & Crown at Dedham, for a little light liquid refreshment and lunch. A date has yet to be set. Up for discussion at the March meeting.

Picnic

Whilst on the 'open air' theme. We have in the past tried to arrange a Club Picnic at Alton Water. The idea being that we all bring some food and entertainment, perhaps a round of baseball with full protective clothing, lawn darts etc and spend a few happy hours beside the lake beneath the trees, you know the rest. Again, date up for discussion.

Boot Sale

Another event to be discussed is possibly another car boot sale. This will not only boost the club finances but is always great fun. No prizes for guessing where the event terminates. Any old tut will be appreciated, so will any 'old' volunteers.

8th July Coldstream Guards Association Day

This year at Victoria Barracks, Windsor. Another event for discussion at the next meeting.

Saturday 15th July

Is the day of the Colchester Military Festival on Abbey Field. It is a likely that a Club Standard will be completed by this time, to be paraded in all its glory. Last year's event was excellent. Those who attended, the Browns and Nadens, felt that we could well turn it into a Club event, weather permitting, take a large hamper, some suitable beverages, table, chairs, candelabra etc and indulge ourselves in much merrymaking.

Sunday 27th August Games Day

Paul & Val have been kind and brave enough to host yet a great sports day, so get going with your fitness regimes, especially with right arm. Prizes for the raffle will be appreciated. As always, an event not to be missed at any cost.

Friday 6th October

will hopefully see the Club annual dinner, location as yet uncertain. Much will depend on the situation with regard to the Garrison Sergeants Mess.

Coldstream 2nd Battalion re-union

To be held on 29th & 30th September 2006, in Doncaster. Last years was reported to have been excellent.

Suffolk Coldstream Association AGM

On Friday 13th October at the Cedars Hotel, Stowmarket.

12th November Remembrance Sunday

It is suggested that we join the Colchester Parade again this year. Details to follow nearer the date in a future Newsletter.

Sick Parade

Larry and Rachel have both been in hospital recently, however we are very pleased to report that they are both now home and making steady progress.

Brian Mead has also been in hospital. He has lately been somewhat 'under the weather' and is undergoing tests to get him back on keel. We all obviously send them our very best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Club Standard

The Colchester Military Open Day will take place on 15th July 2006. One of the features is a parade involving local organisation's standards. As you will be aware, our Club at this time does not own such an animal. A suggestion has been put forward that we correct this sad situation. It is therefore proposed that we, or more correctly, our resident upholsterer and designated standard maker 'The Big John' will get into production. The plan so far is to make the flag in three panels, obviously 'blue red blue'. In the centre will be the Household Division Star. Embroidered above the Star will be the words, 'Colchester Guards' and below 'Association'. The planning team feel that 'Association' has a better ring to it than club. There will be a gold fringe attached to the outside edges. A two piece pole will be made topped off with a brass point. If insulted in the traditional manner and supplied with sufficient liquid encouragement, the above described Scottish fellow may even make up a leather carrier. On the carrier cross strap will be all the Household Division badges and stars in 'parade' order. It is hoped that once made, we can display the Standard at official Club meetings and functions. A full discussion concerning this will be brought up at the next meeting, seeking approval and constructive suggestions. With any luck the proceeds from the car boot sale will help with the cost of the project.

We are aware that the Coldstream Association fixtures dominate many of these events. Please let us know of your own Regimental or other dates of interest and we will publish them in the Newsletter.

Make sure you bring your diaries with you to the next meeting. Remember the club meets the first Wednesday in every month unless otherwise notified in advance.

These days, I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter.. I go somewhere to get something and then wonder what I'm here after.