

Colchester Guards Club News

June 2006

Issue number 60



Next meeting

5th July 2006

The Club Standard

Well here it is at last. Our Colchester Guards Association Standard was shown off at the June meeting, being unofficially paraded in front of the Garrison Sergeant and Warrant Officer Mess, by a resplendent John Towler, who was topped off by his Scots Guards forage cap. A toast to the new Standard was called for by our President, Don Charles. Everyone present appeared well pleased with the result. The final cost, including the Standard itself, the pole and spear point, the carrier and gauntlets + of course, the inevitable VAT was, £783.78. The suppliers presented us with a free carrying case. ***The first official outing will be at 11.00 on Sunday the 2nd of July, at the Garrison Church, in Military Road, when the Padre, Steven Griffiths, will dedicate our Standard. Please turn out if you are able. We have the permission of the Garrison Sergeant Major to use the mess after the ceremony for a celebratory drink. They are not able to provide food, so will the ladies please bring with them a buffet as per Club evenings.*** A further suggestion has been put forward that the ladies, if they feel so inclined, wear a hat. Gentlemen please bring suitable head dress if you have it. As far as we know the next official outing will be at the Garrison Open Day on Saturday the 15th of July, when there will be a parade for local organisations Standards. Ours will of course be present and prominent, you can be sure of that. Whilst on the subject of the Garrison Open Day. A suggestion has been thrown into the arena, that we should have a 'posh picnic' with tables, chairs and necessary table decorations. John Towler will bring the larger items in his trailer (note especially for John Brown, 'with the Guards Club tyres'). Parking is on the grass near the events, so we can take up an acre or so to use as an H.Q. The Ladies may have to be pressed into providing the food, as usual. Fingers crossed for good weather and if the event comes up to last years standard, it should be a great day out. For discussion at the July meeting.

The car Boot Sale.

The event took place on Saturday AND Sunday the 3rd and 4th of



June. It all started at crack of dawn when some very bleary eyed Guards Club members spotted each other through the early morn-

ing mist. Soon a selling and buying frenzy was in full swing and goodies were disappearing off our stall as quick as lightning. Big John's trailer doubled as a kitchen and changing room. A 'cat walk' was quickly constructed so that our beautiful model could show off some of the finer female garments. Comments were made by other stall holders that we seemed to be enjoying our selves, 'Too much'. 'Too right we did'. So much so that we decided to move the show on to Ardleigh the next morning, after all who needs sleep in any case. The net result of the effort was £168.27 towards the Club funds and a great 'giggle'. Got to be a must for next years calendar.

Val and Paul's Games Day

Those that are attending the Games Day. Will you please let Val or Paul know ASAP if you will be staying for the evening, as they want to urgently sort out numbers.

Household Cavalry Open Day.

As in previous years, the event will take place at Bodney Camp, Thetford, training area on Sunday 23rd July 2006. This is always a great day out for those who love horses. For those who are not sure what a 'horse' is. It is a big smelly thing, with a prop on all four corners, no hand break or heater. Come to think of it, that describes a few people that shall remain nameless. In all seriousness, it is a wonderful family outing.

Future of The Mess

As most people will be aware, the Garrison Sergeants and Warrant Officers Mess is scheduled for closure after September this year. There will be a new Mess. It is not sure at present when this will be ready for use, although it is expected to be open within two months of the closure of the old one. Unofficially we have been told that our Club will be welcome to use the facilities of the new Mess. It may therefore be necessary to hold a couple of our meetings in a place yet to be identified. This will be reported on as soon as we have firm information.

Farwell to The Mess.

On Saturday the 9th of September, there is to be a 'Farwell to the Mess' open day to which we and other organisations who have used it over the years are invited. The event will be between 12.00 and 17.00. There will be a BBQ, at a cost of £4 per head, which must be purchased in advance. The event will include lawn games and other entertainment. A photographer will be present to take pictures of individual organisations in front of the Mess. We have already asked for 35 tickets. Please let Bob Naden know in writing if you will be attending, by the next meeting, with your BBQ money in a sealed envelope. Cheques payable to The Colchester Guards Association.

March Through Colchester

The Royal Anglian Regiment march through Colchester on Saturday the 16th September, due past the Town Hall at 16:30 Hrs, followed by a beating of the Retreat in Castle Park at 18:00 Hrs

Ken Muir

Done it again has our Ken with a silver gilt at Chelsea and the Stanley Lord Bowl for the best RHS fruit exhibit for 2005. Well done Ken. What happened to retirement?