

# WELSH GUARDS NEWSLETTER



Winter 2011

Issue No 81

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## Last Printed Newsletter From Welsh Guards Association

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### REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Regimental Lieutenant Colonel: Brigadier R H Talbot-Rice  
Regimental Adjutant: Colonel T C S Bonas  
Assistant Regimental Adjutant: Major K Oultram  
Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant: WO2 L Scholes

### 1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION WELSH GUARDS

Commanding Officer: Lt Col D L W Bossi  
Second-in-Command: Major H G C Bettinson  
Adjutant: Capt T C Spencer-Smith  
Reg. Sergeant Major: WO1 (RSM) B Baldwin

Over the course of the last year the Battalion has lived a life of contrasts from the rigours of training for operations to the discipline and precision of Public Duties. We have moved our home from Lille Barracks in Aldershot to Cavalry Barracks in Hounslow and embarked upon some extremely well designed and resourced training specific to our mission in Afghanistan next year. The Battalion has attracted plaudits from all who have seen us and is now an integral part of 12<sup>th</sup> Mechanised Brigade.

On the sporting front, after 29-years in the wilderness the Battalion has this year seen its name inscribed (for the 11<sup>th</sup> time) on to the silver of the Army Rugby Cup. This is an enormous achievement for all involved, and has palpably raised the Battalion's morale. The Army Cup Final saw Welsh Guardsmen serving and retired roar on their team to a convincing win. Not to be outdone, our footballers also reached the finals of the Infantry Football Cup, no mean feat in a rugby-battalion like 1 WG and, although they came away without silverware in the event, their achievement is no less remarkable for that.

In March 2012 we begin to deploy on our operational tour to Afghanistan, or OPERATION HERRICK 16". The Battalion will be responsible for mentoring and advising the Afghan Police in a composite force under my command known as the Police Mentoring and Advisory Group or "P-MAG". This will mean accepting under command all sorts of specialist and non-specialist troops, both British and Danish, to help us carry out our task. The Prince of Wales's Company and Number Three Company will in their turn reinforce 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment and 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment respectively in more traditional "ground-holding" roles. Knowing that we deploy with the strength in depth of the wider Regiment behind us is vital for morale and the continued support we experience from the Association - whether on the touchline or marching alongside us at St. David's Day or Remembrance Sunday means a great deal to all of us still serving. Thank you for your continued and unstinting support. None of us know what the future holds in Afghanistan, I can only assure you that we are well prepared mentally and physically for what we will face.

### WELSH GUARDS ASSOCIATION

President: Colonel T C S Bonas  
Vice Presidents: Brigadier J F Rickett CBE  
Mr R E Lewis  
Treasurer: Major K Oultram  
Secretary General: Mr B Keane  
Welsh Guards Association  
Maindy Barracks, Whitchurch Road  
Cardiff CF14 3YE  
Tel: 029 20781342  
E-mail: [brian\\_keane@yahoo.com](mailto:brian_keane@yahoo.com)

### ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Due to escalating costs to printing and postage, it has been decided, regrettably, to discontinue publishing the Association Newsletters, and this will be the last one in this format. News relating to the Association and the Regiment can be easily obtained via the internet, and the Association also runs its own site: [www.welshguardsassociation.com](http://www.welshguardsassociation.com) which will be regularly updated with relevant information and news.

### ST DAVID'S DAY

St David's Day will be celebrated with the Regiment at the Cavalry Barracks, Hounslow before their deployment to Afghanistan. Due to limited parking at the Barracks, it is envisaged that the Association will provide some sort of transport for members. Lunch tickets and further information will be available from the Secretary General, Maindy Barracks, Cardiff.

### ASSOCIATION GOLF SOCIETY

Dates of meetings can be found in 'Forecast of Events'  
Please contact Martyn Griffiths for further information.  
Tel:- Home: 01792 298279  
Work: 01554 891882.  
Mob. 07764 531125.  
Or email: [griffithsfam88@btinternet.com](mailto:griffithsfam88@btinternet.com).

### ASSOCIATION RACE DAY

The next Association Race Day will be held at Ludlow Racecourse on Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup> 2012. The cost of Tickets will hopefully be the same as last year, (£38.50) but will be confirmed at a later date. If you wish to attend please contact the Association Office (Tel: 029 20781219) before 30<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

### QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PARADE

1st Battalion Coldstream Guards will troop their Colour in 2012. Tickets will be allocated to Branches as per rota.  
Major General's Review - June 2<sup>nd</sup> - FREE.  
Colonel's Review - June 9<sup>th</sup> - £10  
Queen's Birthday Parade - June 16<sup>th</sup> - £25

## FALKLANDS 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

A number of events are taking place next year to commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and the Regiment will be involved in one fashion or another, with Association attendance, support from 1 WG and also the Band in some cases.

Provisional details are:

**Sunday 20 May:** Unveiling of a Falklands Memorial at the National Arboretum in Staffordshire. The Regiment have made a donation to the building of this Memorial.

**Sunday 17 June:** The annual service at the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel at Pangbourne.

**Saturday 23 June:** The annual Falklands Service in Wrexham. This is to be the Regiment's main effort in commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

**Saturday 30 June** SAMA Wales Service and Parade in Cardiff, held in conjunction with Armed Forces Day

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### March

1 St David's Day, Cavalry Barracks, Hounslow

### April

14 Ogmores Branch Dinner/Dance, Masonic Hall, Bridgend

29 Association Race Day Ludlow

### May

3 Association Golf Meeting Raglan, Newport

20 Unveiling Falklands Memorial, National Arboretum

### June

2 Trooping the Colour –Major General's Review

9 Trooping the Colour- Colonel's Review

15 Association AGM, Wellington Barracks

16 The Queen's Birthday Parade

23 The Falklands 30 years Comm. Service, Wrexham

24 Imber Court

28 Association Golf Meeting, Vale of Glamorgan

30 Falklands Memorial Day Cardiff

### July

1 Mont/Shrop. Luncheon, Wroxeter Hotel, Atcham

26 Association Golf Meeting, Tenby Golf Club

### August

30 Association Golf Meeting, Builth Wells Golf Club

### September

Association Darts/ Shooting Competition (TBA)

### October

27 Monmouthshire Branch Dinner, The Angel Hotel, Abergavenny

### November

11 Remembrance Day

## BRANCH SECRETARIES

**ABERDARE:** Mike Williams,  
33 Tre Gwilym, Cwmbach, Aberdare, Mid Glam.  
CF44 044 Tel: 01685 877786

**CARDIFF:** Bill Morris,  
39 Gareth Close, Thornhill, Cardiff  
CF14 9AF Tel: 02920 611241

**CARDIGANSHIRE:** Nigel Owen,  
Station Chambers, Alexandra Road, Aberystwyth  
SY23 1LH Tel: 07712 883927

**EAST GLAMORGAN:** Ken Haines,  
Trevone, Duffryn Road, Rhydfelin, Pontypridd  
CF39 5RU Tel: 01443 492316

**LLANELLI:** Alan Cunningham,  
9 Alden Drive, Cockett, Swansea  
SA2 0FY Tel: 01792 554151

**LONDON:** Jeff Heenan,  
27 Mount Gardens, Harrogate,  
N. Yorkshire HG2 8BS Tel: 01423 879326

**MERTHYR TYDFIL:** Errold Jones.  
18 Marshall Crescent, Penydarren Merthyr Tydfil,  
CF47 9JA Tel: 01685 377814

**MIDLANDS:** Jonathan Bayliss  
2 Weston Court, Long Compton,  
Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire  
CV35 5JX Tel: 01608 684834

**MONMOUTHSHIRE:** Steve Liversage,  
7 Shaw Close, Ebbw Vale,  
NP23 6QQ Tel: 01495 302567

**MONT/ SHROPSHIRE:** Ben Parry,  
10 Grangefields, Off Roman Rd.  
Shrewsbury, Shrops.  
SY3 9DE Tel: 01743 244189

**NORTH AMERICA:** Andy Suter  
8314 TinTinhull Lane, Waxhaw,  
N Carolina. USA 28173  
Tel: (from UK) 001 704 8140676

**NORTH OF ENGLAND:** Keith Bonehill,  
5 Halls Place, London Road, Northwich, Cheshire.  
CW9 8BA Tel: 01601 41317

**NORTH WALES:** Dave Webb  
2 Arran Drive, Rhyl, North Wales.  
LL18 2NS Tel: 01745 334340

**OGMORE:** Mike Jones,  
40 Garfield Avenue, Litchard, Bridgend.  
CF31 1QA Tel: 01656 650367

## PEMBROKESHIRE

Rob Davies ,  
16 Nant y Ffynnon, Letterstone  
Haverfordwest, Pems.  
SA62 5SX Tel: 07576903209

## SWANSEA / WEST GLAM

Peter Williams,  
12 St Peters Ave, Cockett, Swansea.  
SA5 5BX Tel: 01792 416010

**WELSH GUARDS REUNITED:** Mike Wakely,  
1a Hawthorn Hill, Trefechan, Merthyr Tydfil.  
CF48 2ES. Tel: 01685 371024

## St David's Day March 1st 2012 - Meal Ticket: Pay as you Dine

Name

.....

Reg No

.....

Address (Capitals)

.....

.....

Post Code

Tel No.

.....

Tickets Reqd: .....

Return to: Sec General, WGA Maindy Barracks, Cardiff. CF14 3YE