

The Northern Mick

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Sponsored by: JOHN ROCHE

Christmas Edition
2008

St Patrick's Day Celebration 2009

Special points of interest:

- St Patrick's Day Celebration 2009
- Committee meetings
- Presentation of new Colours
- Annual Dinner 2009
- The Regiment
- Fallen Comrades service



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There had been rumblings that the presentation of new Colours could take place on St Patrick's Day with the Regiment and therefore the branch would not hold it's own celebrations.

As this is now not the case, the Branch will be holding it's St Patrick's Day celebrations on Sunday 15th March 2009 at St Francis De Sales RC Church, Hale Road, Walton with a Mass commencing at 10:30 hours.

This will be followed by presentation of Shamrock by the Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside, Dame Lorna Muirhead. After which there will be a buffet laid

on at St Francis De Sales Parochial Club, Salop Street.

The cost of tickets for the event will be £2.00 per person, which includes the buffet. All proceeds from the ticket sales will be donated to the Irish Guards Benevolent Fund and Willowbrook Hospice.

Tickets are available from the Treasurer, John Roche. 11 Southgate Close, Croxteth Park, Liverpool, L12 0JN. Please supply a Stamped Addressed Envelope for the return of your tickets.

The presentation of new colours is mentioned on page 2.



Thinking about your 2009 Holiday yet ?

The following have holiday apartments for rent:

Salo, Lake Garda, Italy.

Bob Giles

07906843682 or

www.webspawner.com/users/igbob/index

Nerja, Costa Del Sol, Spain.

Laurie Haller

01932845826 or

www.nerja-holidays.co.uk

Don't forget to mention the Irish Guards Association if booking.

Committee Meetings

The next committee meeting will be held on Wednesday 14th January 2009. The meeting will be held at the Adelphi Hotel from 12:00 hours. Afterwards the Committee retire to Fridays Bar at the Adelphi, which operates *a happy hour* until 4pm. Bitter is £1.30 a pint and lager £1.80. Members

of the branch are invited and welcome to attend either or both: 12:00 meeting and 1:30 adjourn to Fridays Bar.

Irish Guards Journal, the 2008 journal will not be available until February 2009. Lt Col Brian O'Gorman, Regimental Adjutant, has decided that the journal

should include the whole year and not be cut off half way through, therefore the journal in February will cover approximately eighteen months and future editions twelve months. Although the cost of the journal has been increased, it will be held at £5.00 to all members.

PRESENTATION OF NEW COLOURS & QUEENS BIRTHDAY PARADE



Charity donations

Anyone who purchases items regularly online can now ensure a donation is made to a local charity by registering at

www.buy.at/willowbrookhospice

Willowbrook Hospice is a local charity that was set up by Lady Kirsty Pilkington after her husband (an Ex Gren) died of cancer. Over the last 10 years 1000's in the St Helen's/Knowsley area have been treated. A number of Micks and their families amongst them.

www.willowbrook.org.uk

The date for the Presentation of New Colours has now been set as Wednesday May 6th 2009, full details are as yet unknown and will be released later. Should members wish to apply for tickets to attend, I would request that they forward to the Secretary, a stamped addressed envelope for an ticket application form, when they are available. **NO SAE—NO APPLICATION FORM.**

Application forms for the Queens Birthday Parade will be available in the New Year, however I would stress that as the allocation to RHQ is 150 which is very few when you consider the wish list, do not hold your breath, consideration should be given to the rehearsals. However a stamped addressed envelope is also required for these application forms, when available. **NO SAE—NO APPLICATION FORM.**

The Branch will only be dealing with applications from Branch members and due to the expected take up on the allocations, it is important that members send in their stamped addressed envelopes as soon as possible as last minute applicants will be not be dealt with. The application forms when issued by RHQ will have an action by date.



Annual Dinner 16th May 2009

Once again the annual dinner will be held at the Britannia Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool on Saturday 16th May 2009. The dinner will be held in the new Sefton Suite.

The cost continues to be held at £25.00 per person and the Adelphi continue to keep the

cost of lager and bitter to £2.00 per pint.

The Major General, Bill Cubitt CBE has agreed to keep the date free. Arrangements for reduction on room charges continues.

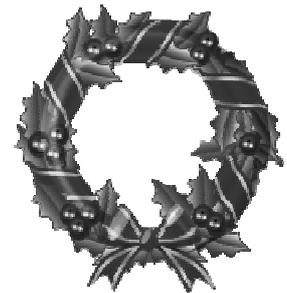
Major Robbie Kelly will be responsible for tickets and the



seating plan.

All past and present Micks and their families are welcome to attend.

Remember that date: Saturday 16th May 2009.



Fallen Comrades Service—15th November

The service this year was conducted by Father John Thompson, Canon Hawley sends his regards but due to a prior engagement could not attend. The Irish Guards Singers were in attendance, together with the Lord Lieutenant of Merseyside, Dame Lorna & Ronald Muirhead; Peter Kilfoyle MP; Eddie O'Hara MP; The Cadets and children from St Francis De Sales Infant School. Piper Joe Davis played as did ??, the bugler.

There was an excellent turnout of Micks; Parishoners and family members of our Fallen Comrades. Laurence Liddy and Mick Molphy were impressively turned out as the Cross Bearer and Standard Bearer. The Fallen Comrades remembered this year are: Joe Sweeney; Alex Fenton; Steve Griffiths; Colin Butterworth; Ray Cowap; George Tomlinson; Tony Doyle MBE; John Crewswell;

John Hirst OBE; Jim Lenton and Terry O'Connor together with Mary Deasley and Helen Roberts. Prayers were also said for Bill Eager and Ged Burgess. Eric Roberts presented the branch with a Standard Holder in memory of his wife, Helen. Roger Philips did broadcast a thank you to everyone involved.

Post Script: Bill Eager passed away 16/11/08 and Ged Burgess on 01/12/08.

Our condolences to their families.

Message from the Vice Chairman

“ Message from the Vice Chairman regards North of England Branch Audit Procedure. It has been brought to my attention by Eric Roberts that some members of the branch have complained about how the accounts were presented at the AGM on 19 March 2008. To clarify any misunderstanding the following is what happened, in what was an unusual year, since we changed Treasurers mid year. The accounts, which run from 1 January to 31 December, are audited annually at a time after 31 December and before the AGM. As you are aware I ran the account from 7 Jan 07 to 18 September 07, at which point I handed over to John Roche, our current Treasurer. Since I

could not audit my own accounts they were audited by a business man from Chorley on 12 March 2008 and were found to be correct and the audit certificate was sent to RHQ. I rang RHQ in September 2007 and asked permission for the next audit to run from 19 September 2007 (when John Roche took over) to 31 December 2008 in order to avoid two audits in one year. RHQ agreed to this and the committee members were informed. Therefore the first of John's accounts, which will be for 1 year and 3 and a half months, will be audited before the next AGM in March 09. I believe that where the misunderstanding has arisen is because John didn't present the AGM with an account sheet running from 19 Sep-

tember 07 to 19 March 08— this was an oversight on his part, however he did tell the AGM how the account stood at 19 March. In future a copy of the annual accounts will be sent to every member prior to the AGM. I hope this puts the record straight and all members feel more easy in mind and can assure everyone that the account is run in a proper manner. Finally the committee, which is voted in each year by the members at the AGM, is there to make sure that the branch is run properly under our Chairman. They are all volunteers and without them and their dedication there would be no branch to run.

Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to everyone.

Quis Separabit

Your Committee

Chairman—Arthur French

Vice Chairman—Major Robbie Kelly MBE

Secretary—Ken Owen

0151 292 2405

Treasurer—John Roche

0151 283 7786

Welfare Officer—Peter Lee

0151 480 4170

Standard Bearer—Mick Molphy

PR—Gerry O'Neill

Members—Tim Fitzgerald; Eric Roberts

The branch can be contacted at 2 Ardennes Road, Huyton, Liverpool, L36 7UF

northernmicks@blueyonder.co.uk

Branch email address

www.northernmicks.co.uk

Branch website

www.flickr.com/photos/23411166@N05

Various photos from the branch

<http://ig-association.forum-free.com/>

The New Irish Guards

The Regiment

Congratulations to Captain Frankie Howell on his commission and appointment as MTO, however on the Bn move to Windsor he takes over from Captain John Donaldson as Welfare Officer. John is off on attachment to the Grenadier Guards. Captain Simon Nicholls takes over as MTO and congratulations

to RSM Pearce Lally who on commission takes over as Recruitment Officer. Also congratulations to Paul Fagan & Brendan Campbell on their commissions. The new recruiting Sergeant is now installed in Kirkby, Eggy Byrne.

The new RSM is Ross Martin and Tim Eccles is the RQMS

at RHQ. Sgt John Parkinson (recruiting Sergeant in Liverpool before Paul Paterson) has rejoined and I gather he is one of many. Come early next year the Battalion will be up to strength, so congratulations on doing an excellent job to all the recruiters, who obviously must be doing something right.

