

VOX PUBLICUS

The newsletter of Thomas Ballard's
Regiment.

Easter 2010.

Misty's bit

Well, I intended to write a Christmas/New Year message about the iniquities and sin of over indulgence but I will just have to trust that you all behaved in moderation. I was working nights every night over Yuletide so my apologies.

I am now in a full time job (Hurrah, we can eat again!) but it will mean I have to work every other weekend and probably some Bank Holidays but I will try to get to as many events as the Regiment is attending. This does not mean I am going to not carry out my duties but I will have to be a bit more planned than usual and make use of the modern technologies more (or pigeons).

As it stands, the 2010 season is no great shakes which was predictable given the financial climate. Displays and marches have never been a great weekend away but we will have to make the most of it and have a great social life to compensate. It could also be the season the whole society shapes up and gets leaner and fitter with regard to our product to ensure a brighter future (Boycie speak I know but valid). This could also be the time we get to renew kit at events if we can sort out transport.

So far as I can see, the main events will be Caldicot, Parliament training and Basing all of which are classified as Regimental turnout to lend our support. We can have a look at Caldicot as to what we want to do en-masse for the other musters. Our presence at a small event may be the difference for an organiser.

Caldicot is, as usual, being run by the West. We will no doubt have to take our turn on guard duty and help on site which should not be too much of a chore and I hope that we can be relied on to give whatever is needed. All regiments have been asked to participate in the castle interior events whether Living History presence or displays. I suggest we do some displays a la Memmingen. We can do the "drunken pikeman"; we can do "whose baby" and make them into something good for the public. Any ideas, e mail or phone them to me. My new mobile is 07949 750867. E mail: jonhowarth_2000@yahoo.co.uk. I am hoping to be there for the Saturday and Sunday job permitting but will make an appearance at some time come what may! I would like a brief officers meeting and a quick regimental meeting at some time on the weekend at a time TBA. I will know when my movements are more solid.....oo er missus!

That's all for now.

If you have not renewed membership yet do it now. Also, let's try to get some new blood in for Easter. We can show them a good time even if the battles are a bit scarce. Let's use the new website as it was intended and start to communicate there.

See you all soon

Misty

Given this day 15 February in the walled treasonous nest of Royaliste vipers that is Worcester

Multi-media

Two things to highlight in this issue that I think everyone should make the effort to see - a new film based on the life of Rembrandt and the excellent TV series Seven Ages of Britain.

Firstly, Peter Greenaway, no stranger to 17th Century films after *The Draughtman's Contract*, has created a new film set in our era - *Nightwatching*. This depicts the life of Rembrandt while he is painting the (now) ridiculously famous *Nightwatch* which is probably, along with *The Laughing Cavalier* by Van Hals, one of the few paintings everyone who attends one of our battles will be familiar with from the 17th Century.

Apparently, Greenaway's trademark set design and lighting all add to the illusion of actually being inside a painting. He himself has said that his settings for *The Draughtman's Contract* were based on the art of Carravaggio, Rembrandt & Vermeer so a film based on the life of Rembrandt is a logical expansion on this. The attraction of the film to us re-enactors is the depiction of 17th Century life on a grand scale. Not to mention sex, nudity, violence, swearing (five uses of a word I can't re-produce in a family magazine in one sentence !) & that nice bloke from the office (Martin Freeman). So, something there for everyone to enjoy !!

As the original painting is in the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam this may be the closest that some of us ever get to the original (most people who go to Amsterdam don't usually go for the art). And I bet it never gets shown in Swindon because there are no car chases in it . . .

Now, I must confess that I haven't seen all the episodes of *Seven Ages of Britain*, presented by David Dimbleby. The two I focussed on were the Age of Power (1509 - 1609) & the Age of Revolution (1603 - 1708). The first of these span from Henry VIII's accession through the lives of his children and gives a good background to our period and the religious changes that influenced the 17th Century so much. The second however gives a glimpse into the everyday lives of both Royalty & the commoners with quite a large focus on the Civil War and the different factions this created.

Through use of portraits of King Charles I and his court and pamphlets produced by the Levellers, Diggers & Ranters (who apparently believed in a life of excessive self gratification - sounds a better bet than being a Leveller to me !) David Dimbleby illustrates both the build-up to war & the development of the many factions that flourished in 'The World Turned Upside Down'. This period, with the breakdown of the social structure caused by the wars, led to people seeking answers that did not come from their former social over-lords or the church. The program then goes on to talk about the reign of Charles II and the scientific and political achievements that ultimately led to the British Empire.

The one downside to the program was quite extensive footage of a recreation of the battle of Naseby, complete with plastic portaloos and modern tents in shot and several re-enactors obviously in much earlier period costume than ours. After several minutes of trying to spot someone I knew I discovered that this was in fact the ECWS - so much for their much vaunted authenticity.

The program certainly got me thinking about the people and art work of the period & prompted a visit to both the National Portrait Gallery & the National Gallery to see many of the paintings featured in the program. Always worth doing if you are in London on a wet afternoon (and it's free !).

So, I recommend watching out for both the film & repeats of the TV shows (try BBC I-Player) - happy viewing.

Coxy

**WESTERN ASSOCIATION/ HOPTON'S TERCIO AND
GERRARD'S REGIMENT'S TRAINING MUSTER**

**CALDICOT CASTLE, MONMOUTHSHIRE
2nd – 6th APRIL (EASTER) 2010**

DATE: Campsite opens from Midday Friday 2nd April to Midday Tuesday 6th April 2010

EVENTS: This is a training weekend for the Western Association, Hopton's Tercio and Gerrards Regiment. There will be time and space each day for Brigade/ Regimental training. There will be, on the Sunday and Monday afternoon's, a small skirmish in front of and inside of the Castle for all participants to be involved. There will also be a History camp inside the Castle on the Sunday and Monday from 1100hrs to 1700hrs on both days.

A company (working for the BBC) will be filming on the Saturday from 1300hrs to 1600hrs and **has requested as many of us as possible to take part** (They are looking for 30+ personnel). At the moment this is only pike/musket/drums/colours of both sides but they may require some camp followers. They will also require cannon. There will be an inspection of kit before the start of filming.

A full programme of displays is also being arranged running from 1100hrs until 1700hrs (Sun/Mon). If anyone would like to help/contribute to this programme please contact Tim Baldwin at the contact numbers below ASAP and we will fit you into our programme.

LOCATION: Caldicot Castle is situated within the town of Caldicot, Monmouthshire. From all directions follow the BROWN TOURIST SIGNS to Caldicot Castle. Follow the SK signs from the entrance through the car park to the campsite entrance.

FACILITIES:

The **CRIMSON MOON BEER TENT** will be providing liquid Sustenance.

The **BEER TENT WILL BE HEATED**. There are no funds available for disco's/groups so on Sat/Sun please bring you voices and instruments (if you play) and we will have a good old fashioned SK night out

The "Castle" Inn at the entrance to the castle approx. 150yds from the campsite

The "Tippling Philosopher" Inn is situated approx. 200yds to the rear of the campsite along the backpath from the campsite.

There are a number of shops within 15 minutes walk

Joe and Sheryl (Tilliers Regiment) food trader will be on Site.

POWDER: The Powder Master is Ian Iycett – king (Contact details below). Powder issue times will be posted at Guard Tent.

CANNON: Please book your cannon in with Pete Hodges (Contact details below) there will be **No** firing of cannon inside the castle.

LIVING HISTORY: There will be a living history camp situated inside the Castle, which will be open to the public on the Sunday and Monday. Those members who wish to camp in the Living History site may do so from Friday to the Tuesday morning. We will receive the keys to the castle and all Living History members who wish to sleep inside the castle will be locked in for the night (the gate being kept locked at all times after the castle staff have gone). If people wish to camp they must be aware that the castle will be open as normal during the day and therefore security of property will be the individuals responsibility. There will be a room in the castle for people to place any items for safekeeping, the key being with the person in charge of the site. This room is small but will be heated. There is a toilet within the castle that will be open to everyone living in the castle.

(IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE A GOOD LIVING HISTORY CAMP WITHIN THE CASTLE AND I WOULD LIKE TO ENCOURAGE THOSE WHO PARTAKE IN LIVING HISTORY TO SUPPORT THE TRAINING EVENT)

TIMETABLE OF MAIN ACTIVITIES INSIDE CASTLE

Day	Time from	Time to	Action
Sunday	11.00hrs	-----	Castle Opens to Public
	11.15hrs	12.00hrs	Tilliers Drill display
	12.00hrs	12.30hrs	Ballards
	12.30hrs	13.00hrs	Horse
	13.00hrs	13.30hrs	Lady Christine Carrs Regt Gun (Demo no firing)
	13.45hrs	15.00hrs	SKIRMISH
	15.30hrs	16.00hrs	Wardlaws Demo on Dragoon drill etc
	16.00hrs	16.30hrs	Gerrards Regt
	17.00hrs	-----	Castle Closes to Public
Monday	11.00hrs	-----	Castle open to Public
	11.15hrs	12.00hrs	Rawdons Regt
	12.00hrs	12.30hrs	Godolphins Regt
	12.30hrs	13.00hrs	Horse
	13.00hrs	13.30hrs	A Royalist Gun (Demo no firing) To be nominated
	13.45hrs	15.00hrs	SKIRMISH
	15.30hrs	16.00hrs	Vaughans Regt
	16.00hrs	16.30hrs	Carrs Regt

GUARD ROTA FOR CALDICOT CASTLE EASTER 2010

Friday 12.00hrs --- 08.00hrs Saturday ----- Western Association and any volunteers

08.00 Saturday --- 20.00hrs Saturday ----- Western Association

20.00hrs Saturday --- Midnight ----- Vaughans Regiment

Midnight --- 08.00hrs Sunday ----- Western Association

08.00hrs --- 08.00hrs Monday ----- Hopton's Tercio

08.00 Monday --- 13.00hrs Monday ----- Gerrard's Regiment

13.00hrs Monday --- Midnight ----- Western Association and any volunteers

I will be asking for volunteers (in and out of Association) to help on Friday evening/night (I will probably be up all night, I usually am). Saturday breaks down to 4 hr stints with Vaughns Regt taking a 4 hr stint. Please let me know what period you would like

08.00-1200, 1200-1600, 1600-2000, 2000-0000 (Vaughns), 0000-0400, 0400-0800

I am hoping to fill the timings on Monday 1300hrs on with volunteers (in and out of Association)

Thank you all for your help with the Guard

Tim Baldwin

PROVISIONAL MUSTER LIST – 2010

PLEASE NOTE THAT FOR 2010 ALL EVENTS WILL BE PUT ONTO THE MUSTER LIST, EVEN THOSE WHICH ARE CONSIDERED TO BE REGIMENTAL. FOR REGIMENTAL, THIS WILL BE SPECIFIED WITHIN THE TYPE OF EVENT.

(Unless confirmed, some events may be subject to change or cancellation)

Please see notes below.

DATE	VENUE	TYPE OF EVENT	REQUIREMENTS	REGIMENT	CONTACT	STATUS
2-5 April	CALDICOT CASTLE	BRIGADE TRAINING	TBC	TBC	TBC	Awaiting Contract
17-18 April	ROYALIST ARMY RENDEZVOUS – NASEBY	TRAINING	TBC	TBC	TBC	Confirmed
24 April	SANDWELL, W. Bromwich	St. Georges Day Event	L.H. & Drill Display	Hoghtons	TBC	Awaiting Contract
1-3 May	PARLIAMENT ARMY TRAINING NASEBY	TRAINING (N.B. This event will be postponed should a Major be secured!)		Hammonds	John Courtney-Thompson	Awaiting Confirmation
1-3 MAY	Reserved for Potential Major	MAJOR	Large LH Horse/Artillery	TBC Negotiations broke down – Not hopeful but will hold date until end of February please.		
15-16 May	STRATTON Cornwall	AE	Parade and Skirmish	Grenvilles	TBC	In Negotiation
15-16 May	EDZELL CASTLE Scotland	Living History event (Booking essential)	LH	Frasers	Dale Haigh 0774678 4412	Awaiting Contract
29-31 May	NEGOTIATIONS FAILED – LIKELYHOOD OF ALTERNATIVE SLIM – POSSIBLE SOLUTION SMALLER EVENTS NORTH AND SOUTH? Will update as developments occur.					
29-31 May	LOSELEY PARK Please note that this event will be cancelled up to 1 month prior in the event of a Major being secured.	Strictly Booked Mini	TBC	Ruperts	Barrie Upton 01252694550	
5-6 June	STRATFORD ARMOURIES Warwick	MAJOR	TBC	Midland Association	Phil Tilley 01908 561396 Ian Hurst 01530 469421	Confirmed Awaiting Contract
12-13 June	NORTHAMPTON	NASEBEY MARCH	TBC	Army of Parliament	TBC	Awaiting Confirmation
12-13 June	SLEDMERE HOUSE Driffield, E.Yorks	Booked Mini	LH, Small Artillery and Displays/Skirmish	Glemhams	Dave Murry Fenwick 01977 603120	Contract Sent
19-20 June	ARLINGTON COURT Devon (Nat.Trust)	Very small booked Mini	TBC	Skippons	TBC	Contract Sent
19-20 June	WEST END CARNIVAL Nr. Southampton	Mini	All branches of Army Except Horse	Tilliers	Richard Pearce 01420 88218	Confirmed
26-27 June	REDBOURNE Herts	Small Booked Mini	LH, Displays and possible Parade	Northampton	TBC	In early Negotiation
26-27 June	ARMED FORCES WEEKEND Wollaton Park, Notts	Very Small Booked Mini	LH & Displays	TBC	TBC	Awaiting Contract
3-4 July	WESTONZOYLAND Somerset	Monmouth Mini	TBC	Godolphin's	Adrian Roberts 01278-422549	Contract Sent
3-4 July	NEWARK Nottinghamshire	Mini Booking required.	L/H, Artillery/Foot & Skirmish	Gells & Kings Guard	TBC	Awaiting Contract
11 th July	TARPORLEY Cheshire	Small Booked event	Carnival – Small LH and Arena Display	Lisles	TBC	In Negotiation
10-11 July	BOVEY TRACEY Devon	Small Booked Event	Drill Displays	Wardlaw's	Robert Jones 01225 421704	Confirmed
10-11 July	FONMON CASTLE Nr. Cardiff	Booked Mini	Large LH, Artillery	Vaughans	Twm/Kerry Jarvis 07531 692006	Confirmed
10-11 July	WOLVERHAMPTON SHOW	Large County Show (SK have own area)	LH, Drill Displays and Cameo's, Small Skirmish	Hoghton's	TBC	Awaiting Contract
24-25 July	GODOLPHIN HOUSE	CANCELLED DUE TO UNSCHEDULED EMERGENCY BUILDING WORK.				
31 July-1 Aug	SHAW HOUSE Newbury	Booked Mini	LH, Small Military Displays	Rivers	Tbc	Awaiting Contract
14-15 Aug	SUNDERLAND Tyneside	Minor Major (Beachside Camping)	Very Large Artillery, LH and OR's	Glenhams	TBC	Confirmed
14-15 Aug	FORT GEORGE Scotland	Strictly Booked Multi Period	LH & Displays	Frasers	Dale Haigh 0774678 4412	Confirmed
28,29,30 Aug	BASING HOUSE Hampshire	MAJOR	Largest LH, Artillery Horse?	Hawkins	Keith Allmark	Awaiting Contract.
10 October	RIPPLE SERVICE	AE		YEOMEN	Peter Bloomfield 01452 423744	Confirmed

Ballard's Officers Meeting 25/10/2009

Present Andy Cox, Tim Bruce, Shelley Bruce, Misty, Theresa Williams; Phil Coates, Neil Hall, Sharon Bull

Apologies Debbie Applegate, Nick Adams

Finances were discussed – regiment is solvent but not rich. Main income is from subscriptions. Subscriptions were discussed, some are still outstanding from 2009. Theresa is now keeping track of this.

It was confirmed that all adult members of Ballard's need to pay subs, including our German contingent. Current fee is £10 per year which needs to be paid to Theresa by separate cheque from the membership fee.

It was agreed that cheques would be issued to settle up outstanding amounts owed by the Regiment, rather than cash.

Structure of the Regiment was discussed & generally felt to be right for the current size of Ballard's. John King is to be formally promoted to Sergeant, as this was never progressed.

Coxy offered to stand down, as his knee will probably prevent him fighting pike in the future. This was accepted & he will revert to Gentleman Volunteer/Reformado as appropriate. He also volunteered to take on the role of Baggage Master, which was accepted providing Steve Streeter no longer wishes to do it. As part of this the cart is to be rebuilt to a more manageable size.

On the field John & Phil will take it in turns to command the pike block, with Misty, Coxy & Neil on hand to advise.

The role of Standard Bearer was discussed – this is an appointment not a rank, unlike Ensign which is a formal rank. It was decided to run this informally with people being given the role on an ad hoc basis.

Events – it was decided to not hold a banquet this year due to the expense. In-formal local get-togethers to take it's place.

Misty volunteered to try & organise an event in Worcester, to include a guided tour of the Civil War sites in town, an evening get together, drill & an overnight stay.

The Regiment badly needs more events to raise money & recruit – please keep your eyes open for any opportunities.

Membership stood at around a hundred at the end of the year.

We need to recruit and putting on local events and socials is the ideal way to do this.

The new website is another good way to attract interest, Neil needs content however so please contribute.

It was decided to look into producing business cards as a way of publicising the Regiment. These would contain the web address as a way for people to get in touch with us.

Communication – Orders of the Daye is now on-line, paper copies to be printed & distributed by Theresa & Kevin. This will cause a slight rise in mailing costs for the Regiment. It is hope to offset this by asking Lothar to print off local copies for Germany. Orders will also be linked to from the new website.

Coxy will continue to produce & mail Vox, articles would be welcome.

An accurate list of web-addresses is needed, Debs to be asked to update the latest regimental list as forms come in.

Website – as above Neil has developed a new website for publicity, information and also as a forum for the regiment. It can also be used to get numbers for 'booked' events.

Next Meeting is to be held at Caldicot Castle at Easter.

Upcoming Events

From Richard Pearce –

There is the opportunity to open up a muster at West End, Southampton 19/20th June to accommodate more members if there is a demand. If any of your local guys would like to come some idea in advance would be very helpful as it means re-arranging the event a bit, which we are happy to do.

It will be a cracking little muster (authentic camp, drill displays and battle), very sociable carnival with a big and appreciative crowd.

Please let Misty know if interested – contact details at end of Vox.

Coxy's bit

First off, my apologies for the long silence. Unfortunately I have been very busy at work (recruiting - if I never see another CV again it'll be too soon) and suffering from general idleness over the winter. Still, business resumes as normal and just in time for Easter at Caldicot - see warning orders in the cunning centre pull out section for further info. As the first one of the season it should be a good time to blow away the cobwebs and sort out our kit & drill so hope to see lots of you there.

Over the weekend we hope to have an Officers meeting Sunday morning and probably a general meeting for the regiment on Sunday evening. Unfortunately Misty probably won't be with us till late Saturday night & I'm not sure of my ETA either. So please organise yourselves to cover guard duties etc & help out as necessary.

In the continued absence of a paper Orders (I'd really like to know if the drop in numbers rejoining has wiped out any saving from stopping it) I include a provisional list of musters for 2010. One of the reasons to meet up at Caldicot is to decide which musters Ballard's will target so all please have a think about your availability.

Pete & Lorraine recently visited Althorp House, this is what they had to say - "We went as we had some free tickets. Would recommend a visit if you haven't been - they have a stunning art gallery with paintings by Rubens, Van Dyck, Reynolds. Gainsborough etc - all part of the family's collection from the last 500 years. Entry fee is a bit pricey at £15 - but well worth it. Got some great ideas for 17th century kit (mostly ladies stuff though)." All that and a dead Diana as well - Daily Mail readers would be so proud !

So, hope to see you all at 'COLD'icot in lovely sunny Wales !

Coxy

Quote

"Not only are you lot top of the food chain on the battlefield, now I know you are top at partying as well" - Gee, Gells Rgt, after witnessing Ballard's 'at play' at Edgehill (see Facebook for the proof !).

Regimental Contact Details

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Please note that the details above are for SK use only - no spam to be sent to the web addresses as some are work based.