



The Parachute Regimental Association Aldershot Branch Newsletter

08/2007

Aug 2007

Monthly Meeting

Please note that due to holidays there is no monthly meeting in August. The next monthly meeting will be held on **Friday 7th September at 2000hrs in Malta Barracks.**

Bar Opening Times

The bar is open on Friday evenings **8pm till midnight** and Sunday afternoon from **3pm till 8pm**. Pool table and a good atmosphere await you. Please note that fresh ground coffee is available for those who have to drive or would like an alternative drink.

Branch Ties

We have purchased a quantity of Branch ties, which are on sale behind the bar at a cost of £9.

Southsea Spectacular

The Southsea Spectacular took place on Sunday 8th July. The sun shone and the numbers attending was at a record high. Unlike last year when some events had to be cancelled due to the high winds, all of the events took place and with a few new ones. Branch member Spud Murphy arranged to have his Chapter of the Harley Davidson motorcyclists attend. He expected around forty would respond, but obviously the word had got out and over sixty attended. As they revved up to follow the parade the ground shook and a few looked skyward to see if another jet aircraft was coming in. Spud led the parade of bikes and with his helmet painted maroon along with a Parachute Regiment Badge he gave the salute to the inspecting Officer. After the parade all of the young and the not so old were allowed to have a look at the bikes and talk to the Harley Chapter. Well done, Spud. If any member has photo's of the Southsea Spectacular please get in touch and I will include them in the next newsletter.

Summer Ball

Tickets are going very fast so if you have not applied for your tickets please do so. From the 1st August tickets will be available for members to invite guests. If you require tickets for yourselves or guests, please apply to Barry Longbottom in the first instance. A stamped addressed envelope must be sent to Barry along with a cheque for the full amount. The cost of the tickets are £26 each and the cheque should be made out to "**ALDERSHOT BRANCH PRA**". Please ensure that you inform Barry of the forenames and surnames of all of those attending so that the seating plan can be completed. Let Barry know as to whether you require a vegetarian meal for yourself or any guest. A raffle will be held and tickets will be on sale before and on the evening.

Nijmegen March

I am delighted to inform you that Denis Devey, Stuart McLaren and Trish Taggart completed the Nijmegen March. We were extremely lucky after watching the weather in Britain to have nearly four very good days sunshine. It rained on the last day around 2pm and the Dutch gave it their best, but it was not as good as British rain. Yes, we got wet but we finished off with a chorus of "Singing in the rain", good old British spirit.

Cenotaph Parade

The Royal British Legion Parade will be held on Sunday 11th November. This year will also mark the 40th Anniversary of the final withdrawal of troops from Aden and veterans of this campaign are encouraged to attend. Two hundred tickets have been allocated to the Parachute Regimental Association. This is a very small number so should any member wish to attend please contact the secretary as early as possible so that we can apply for tickets.

1 Para Logistic Regt

A reunion is being organised by 63 Squadron RCT for members of 1 Parachute Logistic Regiment. It is planned for the weekend of 12-14 October at the Days Inn, Nuneaton, Warwickshire. If any member wishes to attend please contact the secretary.

PCAU

We have received an invite to the Parachute Course Administration Unit (PCAU) at Brize Norton. The staff will demonstrate all of the latest equipment and training and perhaps you may be able to give it a go. If the Hercules is flying we may be able to thumb a lift. Sgt Paul Biddis (Parachute Regiment), has assured us that we will be looked after throughout our visit. This event will have to take place on a weekday. If we have enough interest we intend to book a coach for the trip. We will keep the cost to a minimum. Should anyone wish to attend this superb day please contact the secretary. Once I have received numbers I will notify members of the possible dates and costs.

Stuart