



THE QUEEN'S REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Patron: Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of Denmark

PRESIDENT: COLONEL A A A BEATTIE

THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT MUSEUM

DOVER CASTLE

SECRETARY: MAJOR A M GOULDEN

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QUEENS REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION UPDATE

20 May 2013

Dear Colleague

Contrary to the cookhouse rumours currently circulating, the Queen's Regimental Association is not dying, going broke or being taken over by aliens. As briefed by the President at the last reunion there are a number of changes taking place which it is hoped will reenergise the Association for the benefit of all members.

For those not up to speed the following is currently taking place:

1. With effect from 31 March the MOD no longer supports the associations of former regiments. The PWRR Association will continue to be run from Area HQ in Canterbury with the main RHQ being in the Tower of London. The Queen's Regimental Association is being run from wherever the Secretary decides to work from - be it Deal, Dover Castle, Canterbury or London. Correspondence should be directed to the Queen's Museum at Dover Castle although for prompt action email is better.
2. The funds of the Queen's Regiment Association are safe and still being operated efficiently by the Trustees and are being utilised for the benevolence of all members.
3. A new secretary has been appointed. Major (Retd) Alasdair Goulden, has been appointed to work on Association business for 2 days per week. He can be contacted on 07803 789061 or by email at Queensregimentassociation@gmail.com. Please contact him if you have any concerns about what is happening in the Association or just to get in touch.
4. A new website is currently being constructed. The URL will be www.Queensregimentalassociation.org. On it will be information and links to all branches that wish to engage with the wider regimental family. It will be used to pass on news so that as many members as possible can be kept informed about anything that is going on or may be of interest. The branches will be encouraged to keep the Secretary informed of their activities so that they can be published widely. A new registration form will be included which will help us keep in touch with members and hopefully engage with the approximately 3,000 past members of the Regiment with whom contact has been lost.
5. Contrary to the gossip that the Association is dying on its feet, a new branch in Eastbourne is in the process of opening and details will follow in due course. The 1QUEEN'S Group have

recently asked to become an official branch and discussions are taking place with other groups with the aim of us all working to a common purpose for the benefit of all ex Queensmen. The Branches and groups have done an amazing job in keeping the Association alive against the odds and it is hoped that they will continue to do so. Neither the President nor the Secretary have any intention of interfering with the way branches and groups are run but they would like to take an interest in activities and would hope to visit occasionally if invited to meet members.

6. A new Journal will be produced later in the year. Requests for contributions will be sent to branches.
7. The President and Secretary are currently in negotiation regarding a permanent Regimental memorial. A decision has not yet been taken as to where or what it will be but it will probably be sited at the National Arboretum, Litchfield. Members will be informed as and when a decision has been taken and given details of any dedication that will take place. A decision regarding the memorial in Howe Barracks has not yet been taken but it will be dealt with in a respectful fashion and a number of options are being examined. When the right solution has been found members will be informed. Please do not believe any rumours regarding memorials that come second and third hand.
8. The issue of the museum is being looked at by the Heritage Committee and when they have come to any decisions these will be passed on to the membership.
9. The annual reunion and AGM are being relocated to the Union Jack Club and will take the form of a lunch. Details will be published in due course. Options to see whether we can celebrate the 40th anniversary of the presentation of Colours in some way are being examined as are plans for the 50th anniversary of the formation of the Regiment in 2016.
10. Keeping in touch is difficult and expensive by post and so the majority of communication will take place through the website, the various branches and groups or by email. When the new website goes live all members are encouraged to confirm their details on the online form and if not a member of a branch please do consider joining one to keep in touch.

Past gaps in coverage and linkage between individuals, groups, branches and the Association are acknowledged but we are trying to rectify this. Some may wish to continue doing their own thing outside of the wider Regimental family and that is absolutely fine. However, strength through unity will benefit more ex Queensmen.

In conclusion the Association has taken the opportunity of the removal of MOD support to examine what it is doing and to try to reenergise and reconnect with past members. It is hoped that everyone will help by working towards a common purpose. I look forward to receiving any constructive comments and suggestions you may wish to make to help us achieve this.

Yours sincerely

Alasdair Goulden