



# NEWSLETTER



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## AGM 2002

The 58<sup>th</sup> AGM of the Cavalry Club took place on 02<sup>nd</sup> November 2002 at Cathal Brugha BKs and was one of the better-supported meetings for a good many years with twenty-five members in attendance. The Club continues to reinvigorate itself thanks to the hands-on patronage of Col B. McCann (D CAV) and through the willing support of his staff at Colaiste Caoimhin. This year saw the departure from the Committee of Comdts' Tony Bracken and Sean O'Keefe after many years of dedicated service to the club. These stalwarts can be likened to the story 'Footprints' in 'carrying' the club through some barren years for which the membership is extremely grateful.

Members and spouses broke bread at the Officers' Mess following the AGM. Kevin Myers entertained as the after dinner speaker with some personal opinion and an anecdote in which he claimed to have been at one time mistaken for 'officer material' during a visit to Northern Ireland. Col Dan Christie and Major Gavin Lapworth of the North Irish Horse Regimental Association also attended the event. It will be remembered that the Defence Forces handed over a Churchill Tank to the North Irish Horse on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2002. This tank had been exhumed from the Glen of Imaal and restored to a presentable condition under the supervision of Comdt Johnny Molloy. The Director of Cavalry and President of the

Cavalry Club have been invited to attend a blessing of this tank in Belfast on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2003.

## New Committee

The following members were elected to the Committee for 2003.

<b>President</b>	Comdt R. Duggan
<b>President Elect</b>	Capt C. McQuaid (Retd)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Lt M. Morris
<b>Member</b>	Comdt E. Kelly (Retd)
<b>Member -</b>	Capt P. Rochford
<b>Member -</b>	Capt O. Ross
<b>Member -</b>	Capt D. O'Brien

## Calendar of Events

<b>Mowag Presentation, DFTC</b>	<b>Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Apr 2003</b>
<b>Outdoor Event, Venue (TBC)</b>	<b>Sat 24<sup>th</sup> May 2003</b>
<b>Cavalry Memorial Day</b>	<b>Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Sept 2003</b>
<b>W/E North Irish Horse</b>	<b>Sat 27<sup>th</sup> Sep 2003</b>
<b>Cavalry Club AGM</b>	<b>Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Nov 2003</b>
<b>Proposed Christmas Dinner</b>	<b>Dec 2003 (TBC)</b>

## Upcoming Events

The first official Cavalry Club event of the New Year will take place at the DFTC on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2003. D CAV has kindly facilitated the hosting of a presentation on the four variants of the **Mowag Piranha IIIH 8x8 APC** along with a tour of the new Combined Vehicle Base Workshops (CVBWS). This event is a must for members with an interest in modern armour

developments in the Defence Forces. Retired members are especially encouraged to attend and a bus is being laid on to convey members to and from McKee Bks, Dublin. A non-alcoholic lunch has been arranged and retired members can avail of the lunch 'gratis'. Members are requested to contact the Directorate of Combat Support (01-8042057) not later than 1600hrs on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2003 to indicate whether you will require lunch, bus or both. Collection from local train stations for members travelling from locations other than Dublin can also be arranged by request.

It is hoped that prospective club members will be encouraged to attend also.



### Programme

**0930 hrs - Bus Departs McKee Bks**  
**1030 hrs - Coffee Combat Support College**  
**1100 hrs - Background Mowag Presentation**  
**1130 hrs - Vehicle Display 3 Inf Bn**  
**1230 hrs - Lunch Officers' Mess**  
**1330 hrs - Tour of CVBMS/ Vintage Vehicles**  
**1500 hrs - Bus Departs for McKee Bks**

There is an opportunity for a YO's get together on the night prior to this event. Any member prepared to co-ordinate an activity please contact the President (who still thinks he's a YO).

### Suggested Events

The Committee has discussed options for improving the numbers attending the Annual Golf Outing and has decided to combine the event with some other outdoor activity e.g., Fly Fishing, Clay Pigeon Shoot, River Cruise to

culminate in a Stag Dinner at a venue to be decided depending on the availability of Tee Time.

A number of the younger members have approached the Committee with a view to proposing that a Cavalry Christmas Dinner should take place in the Carragh Camp. It would appear the many officers did not attend any function last year and are anxious to see a Christmas function that they can identify with.

Any suggestions or observations on the above would be welcome (Contact the President at 01-8042109).

### Military Heritage Tours

Capt Donal Buckley (Retd) has forwarded an information pack to the Committee on organised tours both in Ireland and on the continent. Perhaps a member may like to co-ordinate such an event. Further information is available from the President or at the following website

[www.militaryheritagetours.com](http://www.militaryheritagetours.com).

### Members' Survey

Many thanks to the twenty-eight members who took the time to complete the questionnaire. There was an equally mixed level of satisfaction from the members who replied on the level of Club activities. The Lunch/Dinner with Guest Speaker and the Battlefield Tour type activities were identified as most desirable and the Committee will attempt to address this need during the coming year.

The majority of replies favoured pretty much the status quo as to the time of year for the AGM. The majority of members surveyed were

either not prepared/ or not prepared at present to serve on the Committee, however most members were in favour of regional committees who would organise one event per year locally. Subscription level was deemed to be adequate.

The majority of members surveyed were not in favour of a Cavalry Association open to all ranks but some suggested accreditation to such an association.

Opinions/ suggestions on the material for the website and as to how the Club might improve were varied and will be taken on board by the Committee. More detail is available from the President should member feel so inclined.

## Financial Matters

Members are asked to check with their financial institution to ensure that the correct subscription amount is being deducted annually from their account. Copious amounts of Direct Debit mandates are available from the Club Treasurer.

## Club History

Comdt Tony Bracken penned an article on Club history for the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Cavalry Corps and this piece can now be developed into a more comprehensive production. Any member who has a particular flair to undertake the venture can be assured of the Committee's support. Interested parties can contact any member of the Committee.

## Club Logo

For many years there has been debate over the Club logo (generally accepted as the breastplate) and the English/ Irish wording to be used. The Committee has decided that a

competition will be run to adopt a suitable logo through the Club Website. See [www.cavalryclub.ie](http://www.cavalryclub.ie) for details.

## Club Merchandise

New Club Ties and Polo Shirts will be available for purchase at all events or by contacting the President.

## Club Rules

Comdt Gerry Cooney did a tremendous job in producing a copy of the Rules that incorporates all amendments prior to the AGM 2002. The Rules will require further amendment following the AGM and Capt Chris McQuaid is undertaking the work of refining the booklet. It is planned to issue a copy to all members at the next AGM. Any comments can be forwarded through the Directorate of Combat Support.



## Web Site

The Club Website is finally 'live'. It is hoped that this tool can be used to keep members up to date on Club Activities and in touch with one another. It will be important to keep the site current and to ensure that no activity be permitted that might reflect negatively on either the Club or the Defence Forces.

Comments and suggestions are invited through any member of the Committee.

**Carpe Diem!!!**