



THE CAVALRY CLUB
Directorate of Comabt Support,
D COS (Ops),
Colaiste Caoimhin,
Glasnevin,
Dublin 9.

Dear Member,

As this Newsletter is written at this time largely due to the prompting of our Webmaster, Capt. Peter O'Kelly, 11 CAV SQN, I thought that it would be appropriate to allow sight of the President's diary for 2004:

* 19.02.04	Stand-down Parade Comdt Noel Maher, 11 CAV SQN	Cathal Brugha
* 29.02.04	Committee Meeting	McKee
* 11.03.04	Retirement function - Lt. Col Niall Daly	Cork
* 13.05.04	Presidents' Lunch	McKee
* 14.05.04	Visit to UNTSI	Mil Col
29.05.04	Lt Col Tom Stapleton's Funeral, (RIP)	Naas
02.06.04	Golf Outing - CAV Cup	Curragh Golf Course
23.07.04	Re-connection Dinner	Officers' Mess, 1 S Bde
23.07.04	Presentation of Mementoes of Honorary Membership to Brig Gen Pat Nash, GOC 1 S Bde	1 S Bde
23.07.04	Committee Meeting	Cork
Sept 04	Visit to Western Balkans	Sarajevo
Sept 04	Cavalry Day	Curragh
07.10.04	Committee Meeting	Colaiste Caoimhin
06.11.04	60th AGM and Post-AGM Dinner Guest Speaker Lt Gen Jim Sreenan COS	Ceannt / Curragh

"Fliers" were issued to members for all past events. Members should be in receipt of a letter from Comdt Eoin Kelly in respect of the event in Cork on July 23rd 2004. The highlight of the year will be the 60th AGM and Post-AGM Dinner, planned for Saturday, November 6th, 2004 in Ceannt Officers' Mess, the Curragh, birthplace of the idea of the Club. Lt Gen Jim Sreenan COS, has honoured the Club by agreeing to attend and be guest speaker. The dress code will be formal with partners welcome. Further details will be posted on www.cavalryclub.ie and by "flyer". Club Members are exhorted to attend this prestigious event.

Greetings from Western Balkans

I send greetings to the President and all members of the Committee and Club from Sarajevo. I hope you will be pleased that your communications reach Western Balkans. I am delighted to see that the Club, as it approaches its 60th birthday, is in good health. It is good to see the Club activities moving outside sheet 16 and the function on 23 July is an appropriate occasion to mark this special birthday. I would appreciate if my sincere best wishes could be passed to Brig Gen Pat Nash and Mrs. Nash.

As I approach my own 60th birthday I suppose it is an appropriate time for reflection. I would like to express my thanks to you, the committee and indeed your predecessors over the decades who have worked tirelessly in pursuit of the aims of the Cavalry Club. While we have gone through lean times over recent years, something as special as the Club is worth fighting for. The good fight has been fought by the current committee and your immediate predecessors in recent years to ensure that the Club's future is guaranteed.

I wish you continued success in your endeavors and look forward to returning home in mid-October when I can attend future Cavalry Club functions.

Sincere best wishes,
Brendan McCann

New Members

Presentations of Club Ties/Pins were made to 2/Lts Bernadette Byrne, Nicky Veitch and Damien O'Herlihy, in Cathal Brugha Barracks on February 19th, 2004, the Committee of the Club having determined that all new entrants will be welcomed in this manner into the Club.

Stand-down Parade Comdt Noel Maher

On a cold but star-filled night in February, the 11th Cav Sqn said farewell to its O/C in traditional Cavalry style; a parade, drive past and lights-out. The event was very well attended with representatives from all Cavalry Units. The large turnout included Lt Col Eamonn Cullagh DCAV, Lt Col A.J. O'Donovan DRES, Comdt Gerry Cooney SSO DCOM Sp, Comdt Pearse Buckley O/C 11 Cav Sqn, Capt Colin MacNamee, Comdt Robert Duggan, Capt Peter O'Kelly, Lt Mark Morris and Capt Chris McQuaid, President. The Committee on behalf of the members wishes Noel many happy years of "retirement"!

Retirement Function - Lt Col Niall Daly

A miserably wet evening in Cork didn't dampen the merriment of this occasion, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. Lt Col Daly was in sparkling form as he painted his career in the Defense Forces with very thin brush strokes, leading to a broad canvas, setting the tone for a very pleasant evening. There was a very large turnout which included Lt Gen Jim Sreenan COS, Maj Gen Dermot Early DCOS (SP), Brig Gen Pat Nash, Col Terry Young, Brig Gen Pat O'Sullivan and Lt Col Eamonn Cullagh, DCAV. Niall and his family are wished long life and happiness.

Presidents' Lunch

A very pleasant lunch was held at the 'Trophy' Room, Officers' Mess, McKee Barracks. The small turnout comprised Col Liam MacNamee (1987), Capt Frank McMahon (1978, 2001), Lt Col Noel Byrne (1999), Lt Col Pat O'Brien (1990), Comdt Eamonn O'Briain (1997, 1998), Comdt Pat Rafter (1995), Comdt Robert Duggan (2002) and Capt Chris McQuaid (2003). Many thanks to Capt Mick Curran, Mess Sec and Comdt Robert Duggan for organising this event.

Visit to UNTSI

A low turnout didn't affect this memorable visit to the UN School, DFTC. Two former DCAVS were in the attendance which comprised Col Derry O'Riain, Col Ray Whyte, Lt Col Pat O'Brien, Comdt Eamonn O'Briain, Capt Tony Daly, Lt Col Ken Kelly, Lt Mark Morris and Capt Chris McQuaid.

The visit commenced with coffee and gorgeous cake in the Officers' Mess, Pearse Barracks, followed by a brief by Col Jim Goulding, Sch Comdt, with updates on Liberia from Lt Col Pat Muldoon. The brief was fascinating. A pleasant lunch followed, after which a short film on UN Missions was shown - which was very much enjoyed by the "senior members of the Club. Many thanks to the staff of the UN Sch: Col Jim Goulding, Lt Col Pat Muldoon and Comdt Tom Ahearne, on what was a sad day for the Mil Col, the funeral of Sgt John Ryan, Cadet School.

Lt. Col Tom Stapleton (RIP)

It was my sad duty to attend Lt Col Tom Stapleton's funeral in Naas - he was my first Unit O/C whom I met later in life at UCD, while he was attending an evening BA degree course. When I first met him he made me very welcome - a tall charming man - a man of compassion. No doubt loved by all who had the privilege of knowing him. A man of high intelligence who wore his learning lightly - always kind. A great host - hospitality and empathy in practice. His funeral service was a celebration of his life the theme being his virtue, goodness and decency; as a husband, father, brother, friend and colleague. The testament to his memory was the very large turnout at his funeral. It was a sad-happy day. Condolences to his wife Margaret and family.

Golf - The Cavalry Cup - Curragh

This day was dampened by an accident to Capt Jonathan Mills, CAV School, who is making a recovery, may it be very speedy Jonathan, and best wishes to you on behalf of the membership.

The event was attended by ten members of the Club. Lt Michael Murphy organised the day in conjunction with CAOGS; one card - two competitions - one winner!! top of the range staff work! Members in attendance Col Hugh O'Connor (2nd), Col Michael Mulooley (F9), Lt Col Pearse McCorley (3rd), Lt Col Michael Murphy (1st), Capt Trevor Ging (B9), Comdt Niall Cremen, Comdt Robert Duggan, Capt Frank McDonald, Capt Tony Geoghegan and Capt Chris McQuaid. Many thanks to the CAOGS and Lt Col Michael Murphy for making us so welcome and for the invitation into the Members' Bar for the presentation of prizes.

Comdt Gerry Cooney KFOR

Gerry 'escaped' to KFOR - great for him but a loss to the Club and Committee. Best wishes for a successful mission and heartfelt appreciation for all your work for the Club. Many thanks also to the staff of the office of DCAV for help and willing support, even after the 'boss' had gone!

Certificate of Honorary Membership

A framed Certificate of Honorary Membership of the Club has been designed using the Corps Badge and as a background a "ghost" image of the St. Brigid's Cross, with 1944 as a faded centre. The frame is wooden, colour black, the mounting red, the border green - all three colours! The first framed Certificate will be presented to Brig Gen Pat Nash GOC 1 S Bde, at the Re-connection Dinner, to be held in Cork on 23rd July, 2004 at 7.30 p.m. This event is open to all Club Members and former and serving Officers of the 1st Cav Sqn, be they Club Members or not. Later in the year Certificates will be presented to Mrs. May McCodey and Mr. J.C. Farrell, elected to honorary membership of the Club wef 1 November, 2003, immediately following the adoption of the current Consolidated Rules of the Club.

Headed Paper

The Certificate of Honorary Membership will form the basis of the design of headed paper for the Club. Again, the Corps Badge will be Used with the St. Brigid's Cross in 'ghost' with "The Cavalry Club" over the motif in semi-circular script with "Carpe Diem" at the bottom in opposition and resolution.

Future Projects

- Printed Rules to include a history of the Club, the Glengarry and tradition of Lights Out (Lt Col Ken Kelly) - 2005.
- Sub-Committee on Database (PDF/RDF) - 2005
- Visit to the West - 2005
- Visit to Regions - 2005
- Visit to Training Camps RDF - 2005

Committee

As President, one cannot do it alone - it's a team effort. I was very fortunate to have such an excellent Committee: Lt Mark Morris, Treasurer, Comdt Robert Duggan (who agreed to act as Sec pro-tempore - strict conditions agreed!!!), Comdt Eoin Kelly, who agreed to organise the Cork event, Lt Col Mick Murphy, not Committee, who agreed to organise the golf outing, Capt Mick Bohan, a constant source of encouragement, to all of whom I offer my heartfelt thanks. Thanks also to Lt Col Eamonn Cullagh, DCAV and his staff, not forgetting our webmaster Capt Peter O'Kelly. I view this newsletter as a mid-term report on the activities of the Club for the year. I hope to issue a final report in late November.

Condolences

The Committee on behalf of the members ' extend their sincere sympathy to the families of Comdt Tommy Roche, Capt Bill Manahan and Lt Col Tom Stapleton - may they rest in peace.

Club Merchandise

Club ties are available at €20, miniature sterling silver Collar Badges at €25.

== == == Carpe Diem == ==