



Hello Members,

We are now only ten weeks away from our 50th Birthday Celebrations and I am looking forward to seeing you all there.

This year's event is going to be a wonderful event and it is fantastic to be able to tell you how many visitors are coming from overseas, the response has been fantastic and I can confirm General Hickman our last Army Commander will be attending too.

Over the last few weeks I have had a lot of inquiries to attend the Service at the Statue **ONLY**. This is something that cannot happen unfortunately. The Association is in a situation that we have to sell tickets for the whole day's events including the Gala Dinner to cover our costs.

Last Monday I visited Lord Salisbury to present the final plans to him and as on previous occasions security will be tight as we will have members of Her Majesty's Armed Forces there, so access will only be by the coaches that the association provides for ticket holders.

The closing date to purchase tickets for this event will be 31st August, 2011

Can I remind you that your ticket for Saturday 24th September includes

1. All coach travel, from London or pick up points and return.
2. The events at the Statue / River, Hatfield House
3. Picnic Lunch
4. Afternoon Tea.
5. Gala Dinner.
6. Cost of this ticket is £50.00

The Dinner will be a traditional British three Course meal, if anyone wishes a vegetarian option could they please let me know.

Dress : Ladies - Smart Casual

Gents - Regimental Blazer, Tie or Lounge suit, for Gala Dinner miniature medals may be worn.

I would also like to remind you we will be marching on to Parade as a Battalion behind the Band. We still have Blazer Badges and Ties available.

Dress : Regimental Blazer, Ties or Lounge Suit and Beret if you have one.

On a very sombre note we would like to invite members of the association who lost family whilst serving with RLI to lay the five wreaths although there will be an opportunity to place the British Legion wooden crosses in the ground at the end of the service. If you would like to lay a wreath could you let me know ASAP as the names will go into the Order of Service.

PICK UP POINTS :

Saturday, 24th September, 2011

Millennium Hotel, Grosvenor Square, London

Leave 11.00 am

Ramada Jarvis Hotel, Hatfield

Leave 12.00 midday

Hatfield Railway Station

Leave 12.00 midday

PURCHASE OF TICKETS:

FRIDAY, 23RD September Prayer Meeting £10.00

At the Rifles Club, 56, Davies Street, London 7.30pm.

Saturday, 24th September Service at Trooper Statue, £50.00

Visit Museum, Bedford and Gala Dinner including

Coach travel from pick up points.

PAYMENT OPTIONS :

1. By direct transfer of money to RLIRA Bank Account.

Bank: NATWEST Account Name : RLIRA

Account Number 62234145

Sort Code 60-02-13

BIC NWBK

IBAN GB42 NWBK 6002 1362 2341 45

PAYMENT OPTIONS CONT.

2. By credit card :

Telephone : Martyn Hudson, RAFA Club, Bedford +44 (0) 1234 350707 between 11.30am until 3.00pm and 18.30 until 22.00 hours Wednesday -- Sunday.

Payment will be processed as Bedford RAFA.

3. By Cheque, send to :

Martyn Hudson, RAFA Club, 93 Ashburnham Road, Bedford MK40 1EA

Please contact Martyn Hudson for any queries you may have at

Telephone +44 (0) 1234 350107 Bedford RAFA Club

Email : martyn.hudson2@btinternet.com

ACCOMODATION OPTIONS :

1. LONDON Millennium Hotel Mayfair, Grosvenor Square.

2. RAMADA JARVIS HOTEL, Hatfield, Hertfordshire.

3. BEDFORD :

The Shakespeare Hotel www.shakespearehotel.com

The Railway Hotel www.railwayhotelbedford.co.uk

De Paris Avenue Hotel www.Deparishotel.com

Travel Lodge www.travelodge.co.uk

or consult www.bedfordhotels.co.uk

If staying in Bedford you need to catch bus to Sandy and train from Sandy Station to Hatfield Station for pickup by coach there at 12.00 midday and return to Bedford after the Service.

ALL coaches will return from Bedford to pick up points Hatfield and London after Gala Dinner. Last coach to Hatfield and London leaves 11.30pm

Please advise me of your pick up point and return as we will have Coach Martials to check folks on and off coaches.

MERCHANDISE :

Blazer Badges (green or black backing)	£14.50 + pp
Regimental Ties	£12.00 + pp
Beret Badges	£5.00 +pp
Chest Wings (metal)	£4.00 +pp
RLI Cuff link sets	£20.00 +pp
Ladies & Gents Lapel Badges	£3.00 +pp

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS FOR 50TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

A REMINDER !!

FRIDAY, 23RD SEPTEMBER 2011

PRAYER MEETING AT RIFLES CLUB, DAVIES STREET, LONDON

AT 7.30PM COST OF TICKET £10.00 Wrist bands will be given to ticket holders to ensure entry to Rifles Club for security. Wrist bands will be sent out to ticket holders.

SATURDAY, 24TH SEPTEMBER 2011 at 1.00 pm

Service at Trooper Statue, View Colours in Chapel, Hatfield House

Visit Museum Bedford and Gala Dinner

COST OF TICKET £50.00 Ticket admission to coaches only.

I look forward to seeing you in September, please do not hesitate to contact me for any queries. Believe me it will be a spectacular weekend.

Telephone : Martyn Hudson +44 (0) 1234 350107 Bedford RAFA.

Email : martyn.hudson2@btinternet.com.

Address: Martyn Hudson, RAFA Club,

93 Ashburnham Road, Bedford. MK40 1EA.

FORTH COMING EVENTS :

THE RHODESIANS WORLDWIDE BBQ , Derby on 23rd & 24th July, 2011

It is regretted that the RLIRA will not be able to be present this year.

COMBINED FORCES DINNER - Saturday, 31st March, 2012, at Chicksands, Bedfordshire.

To raise funds for ongoing projects and for the Association to associate with all members.

Martyn Hudson

Chairman