

QG SIGNALS ASSOCIATION – NOTICES

Britain's Gurkhas – by Brigadier Chris Bulloch, OBE, MC. This book is reputed to be the most authoritative history of the Brigade of Gurkhas and will be sold through the Gurkha Museum. The price is £45 plus p&p.

Gurkha Fine Foods. We are very pleased to announce the launch of Gurkha Fine Foods, a range of easy-to-cook gourmet curry sauces and achars (chutneys) which provide the authentic and natural tastes of Nepal. The initiative is that of Emma and Chris Ford (late Comd QG Signals). Further details are on the QG Signals Association website. For more information please visit www.gurkhafinefoods.co.uk or email info@gurkhafinefoods.co.uk. The contact telephone number is 07949 668703.

Brigade of Gurkhas Christmas Cards and Calendar

Christmas Cards. This years Brigade Christmas Card is "Machhapuchhare" from a photograph taken by Bruce Niven. The wording on the card "With Every Good Wish for Christmas and the New Year" will be under crossed kukris. There will be no ribbon and the crest and wording will be in black ink. The cards will be sold in aid of the Gurkha Welfare and Gurkha Museum Trusts. A similar card with an RGR badge instead of the crossed kukris is available on request. The cards will be available from mid May.

The cards will be sold in aid of the Gurkha Welfare Trust and the Museum. Cards are available by mail order or email from the Museum in packs of 5 priced at **£1.75** for orders received before **1 October** and **£1.95** thereafter, plus postage **5 - £2.50; 10 - £4.25; 15 - £6.30; 20 - £8.05; 25 - £10.55** – for amounts above these up to 100 please telephone the Museum]. A bill for postage will be sent with orders of 100 + and overseas. Orders to The Gurkha Museum (ALB), Peninsula Barracks, Romsey Road, Winchester, Hants, SO23 8TS. Cheques for cards + postage to be made payable to "**The Gurkha Museum**".

Calendar. Following on from the success of our new venture of designing and printing Museum Calendars, the Museum intends to produce a Museum Calendar for 2011; price will be £7.00 which includes VAT, p&p and postage. Please apply direct to the Museum as for Christmas Cards.

Forces Reunited. Forces Reunited enables you to contact all your old friends that have registered with them. Currently, there are over 20,000 members. Membership is free and has the support of SSAFA Forces Help. Join now at www.forcesreunited.org.uk or telephone 08707 484 137

Kukhri Magazine - Articles Covering Period 1 Apr 08 to 31 Mar 10

We have received a request from the Editor of the Kukhri Magazine for articles covering 1 Apr 06 - 31 Mar 07. Should any of you feel the urge to write an article which is Gurkha related please do so and submit to me by 25 Apr 07. Text may be sent to me by email but photos

should be sent by post and will be returned once they have been scanned. Please do not submit scanned photos - originals only please.

The British Cyprus Memorial Trust

The British Cyprus Memorial Trust has been established to honour the memory of the 372 British servicemen (including 8 of our Corps) who died on active service during the Cyprus Emergency 1955-59, the 50th anniversary of the ending of which falls next year. Full details can be found at their website; www.britishcyprusmemorial.org

Help for Heroes

“Help for Heroes” is a new organisation formed to help those who have been wounded in Britain’s current conflict. For further information please refer to their website at: www.helpforheroes.org.uk

Veterans Qualify For Discounts Too – It's Official.

Access the internet – go on-line and save! 100's of discounts and special offers have been negotiated for you as part of the MoD Defence Discount scheme at www.forcesdiscounts-mod.co.uk It's free, it's easy, sign in and log and start saving. This is the only official MoD discount scheme for the defence community and is totally free. No annual subscription needed. Also available in hard copy. The Defence Discount Directory and website form the Defence Discount Scheme. For more information call: Crest Publications Ltd on 01604 495495.

The National Memorial Arboretum.

The Arboretum, which is near Lichfield and where the Corps Memorial was unveiled on 20 May, has published a full colour guide book which details every aspect of the 150 acres of wooded parkland and its numerous memorials, including the striking Armed Forces Memorial. Copies are available at £7 from the Arboretum gift shop or at £10 (to include p&p) by phone on 01283 792333 or by email at info@thenma.org.uk

Soldier Magazine.

This excellent monthly magazine normally retails at £2.50 a copy, but you can now read it, in a new format, absolutely free. An interactive digital edition, which you can easily navigate, flick through, enlarge or download and print, is online via a button on the home page of their website, www.soldiermagazine.co.uk. This free service, available to anyone with internet access, features a brilliant at-a-glance guide to the entire edition, a rapid search programme that helps you find stories on any given topic, and an archive of previous editions. It also allows you to download them as PDF files and there are links to some of their advertisers.

DVD of "A History of the Royal Corps of Signals".

RHQ RSA has informed us that permission has now been granted for the Museum to sell the DVD "A History of the Royal Corps of Signals" which was produced last year. The cost is £10.00, plus 15% p&p (£1.50 to you and me). Cheques payable to "Royal Signals Museum

Fund" and should be sent to the Corps Museum , Blandford Camp, Dorset DT11 8RH.

Lapel Rosette Authorised for Wearing by Members of the Order of the British Empire and the Holders of the British Empire Medal.



A lapel Rosette has been authorised for wear by those holding any grade of the Order, and those in possession of the BEM. It has a representation of the badge of the Order mounted on a button of pink and grey. It costs £15 which includes p&p and can be obtained from Toye Kenning and Spencer Ltd, Regalia House, Newtown Road, Bedworth, Warks, CV12 8QR. Further details are on the website www.tksmedalsandribbons.co.uk

UK Armed Forces Veterans Badge.



Eligibility for the above lapel badge has now been extended. Men and women who enlisted in HM Armed Forces between 3 Sep 1945 and 31 Dec 1984 may now apply for the badge. Apply online at: www.veterans-uk.info/ and click "Medals/Badges/Emblems". Or call their helpline: 0800-169 2277. Those who enlisted after 31 Dec 1984 will become eligible for the badge at a later date. Please do not send your applications to RSA HQ (as some have done in the past).

Forces Online.

Forces Online describes itself as 'the all-new free big discount service and lifestyle website for the armed services, families and servicemen'. Note that the site is not sponsored by the MOD and anyone taking advantage of the offers made does so at their own risk. The website is at: www.forcesonline.com.

Tribute & Commemoration – Sebuah Pengiktirafan & Peringatan

The National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Assn has produced a 140 page colour publication (in soft back); "A Tribute & Commemoration – Sebuah Pengiktirafan & Peringatan". It has many articles, including the story of the Campaign with numerous colour pictures. It also lists the Signals units involved, plus their role. RSA HQ has 30 copies and they are available free to members. Anyone who would like a copy should send an A4 SAE (with postage affixed to the value of £2.01) to RSA HQ. First come, first served, but Peter Cuckow can reserve a copy for those with a genuine interest.

War Memorials Trust.

War Memorials Trust, the charity that works for the protection and conservation of war memorials in the UK, had its 10th Anniversary in 2007. Since it was established the charity has helped 500 projects nationwide allocating £350,000 through its grant schemes. But it cannot undertake this work alone as it relies entirely on voluntary funding. If you would like to support its work send a donation, or join (£20 annual, £100 life), to Winston S Churchill President 4 Lower Belgrave Street London SW1W 0LA, or to report a war memorial concern, telephone 020 7259 0403, email info@warmemorials.org or visit www.warmemorials.org.

Book – OPERATION BANNER – 1969-2007.

The Corps has commissioned an author to produce a book which will record the Corps contribution to Op BANNER covering the period 1969 to 31 Jul 07, the date on which Op BANNER will officially cease. If anyone has served in NI and thinks they may have an interesting contribution to make to the book then please follow the internet link below which will take you to the "News and Events" page of the Royal Signals site where you can complete the online "Op BANNER" questionnaire:

The questionnaire will then be forwarded to the author who may contact you if he feels you have a contribution to make.

This book is all about you, your stories, what you did, when, where and how. It will describe and record the many facets of the Corps contribution to Op BANNER. This is your opportunity to get your name into a book, so I would ask that if you have an interesting story/anecdote then please take a few minutes to complete the questionnaire. The author will also be looking for photographs/maps etc to be included in the book.

The book will be published by Halsgrove and is due for release on the 1st Aug 2007. The cost will be between £20 and £25.

TV Licences For The 75's++

One of the benefits of maturity is that reaching the age of 75 entitles you to a free TV licence for the household. Your renewal notice includes this information, inviting you to apply using a given 0845 or 0870 number, both chargeable. We are, however, grateful to one of our members, John Larke, who discovered (via the internet) that this can also be done using Freephone numbers 0800 551 550 or 0800 328 2020.

Visiting York

Members visiting York might like to consider staying at the hotel owned and run by Bob Cook, Hon Secretary of the York Branch. The hotel is 15 minutes walk from the city centre and a discount may be given to those producing their Life Membership card. Call Bob on: 01904 655413

Borneo Confrontation 1962 -1966.

The Curator, The Gurkha Museum is planning to stage an exhibition during 2006 to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the end of confrontation in Borneo. The exhibition will highlight the campaign and the contribution made by the Brigade of Gurkhas. The Brigade of Gurkhas had an advantage over their British counterparts of collectively having a sustained operational theatre input throughout the entire campaign, although individual units changed. The exhibition plans to highlight the four years of the campaign, the tasks undertaken by units of the Brigade, the multi national and tri-service component of the units involved, the political constraints, hearts and minds as well as the operational successes. If individuals have any particular items of interest covering documentation, photographs, films, or drawings, propoganda leaflets, captured Indonesian clothing equipment that would enhance the exhibition -please do contact the Curator (Tel: 01962842832, or email curato@thegurkhamuseum.co.uk)

Marathon des Sables.

Capt Ed Janvrin, 2RGR is organising a team of himself and three Gurkhas to enter the famous and gruelling Marathon des Sables and is looking for individual sponsorship. The aim of this venture is to raise £10,000 for two charities, the Gurkha Welfare Trust and Afghanald. For further information please visit their website: edjanvrin@hotmail.com or telephone Ed at 006733 224101.

JP Cross Books

John is offering cut price books. Any bids to John at BG Pokhara, BFPO 4 or Email: jpx@mos.com

THE CALL OF NEPAL. £3.50 + p&p £1.50 = £5 (used by USA in conflict resolution teaching as best source for explaining Nepalese psyche)

THE THRONE OF STONE. £5.50 + p&p £1 50 = £7 (showing the rise of the current dynasty that was started by Buddhiman Gurung's forebears)

'A FACE LIKE A CHICKEN'S BACKSIDE'. £10 50 + p&p £1.50 = £12. (Recently republished in Singapore in 'paperback')

'THE RESTLESS QUEST: BRITAIN AND NEPAL ON A COLLISION COURSE AND THE START OF THE BRITISH-GURKHA CONNECTION 1746-1815' - NEW Cost: £10 + postage to J P Cross, account 007388217) at NatWest(55-61-09), Market Cross, Sturminster Newton, Dorset DT10 1AT, UK. E-mail: jpx@fewanet.com.np

After the infamous Black Hole of Calcutta incident in on 21 June 1756 the East India Company was in such straits that it could have lost its potential superiority in India. 'Destiny can turn on a very small point' and, for the English Company it turned on four. The first was because an obscure woman in the foothills of the Himalayas died in childbirth, the second because an

equally obscure Frenchman in Lyon was caught in Flagrate Delicto committing incest, the third because hornets were accidentally annoyed by a chance shot from a matchlock and lastly because an innocent man was blown from the muzzle of an English gun.

Historical bones of this story are strong and true, the flesh is as English historians have it, the blood as the Nepalese have it. The clothes are as seen by one who has known the hill men of Nepal for sixty years and how they react to some situations yet to happen as they have already reacted to others.

This is the story that shows how those four unrelated, unusual and, except for the actual persons involved, insignificant episodes were responsible for India remaining British for the next 191 years.

The Restless Quest is the sequel to The Throne of Stone which relates how the same family that features in The Restless Quest started the current royal dynasty in today's Nepal.
