

# Sandhurst & District Corps of Drums



NACYP

*"Helping with the Development of Young People"*

Registered Charity No 1110329

## News Letter

Founded April 2005



Affiliated to BACYP and



### Issue 38 & 39 – May/June 2008

Welcome to this month's edition of the news letter. Sorry I did not send out a May issue, with all the band activities over the past month I basically run out of time. However, we are back this month with a double edition. As mentioned, May has been really busy for the band in many areas. We have now taken delivery of our new uniforms and we are in the process of final checking and sewing on badges etc. We hope to use them at Guns & Drums on 8 June for the first time. Also during May we performed at the Sandhurst Social Club's Ghurkha evening, more on that later. I have spent most of my spare time during May talking to many of the event organisers regarding the events we have undertaken to do this year. The Corps of Drums Society who was booked for Guns & Drums has backed out and therefore we will be the main band. Although this is an added responsibility for us it does mean we may get a bit more press exposure, which we can never have enough of. I hope you enjoy this double edition and hopefully I will be back on track for July? Best regards Mark

## Guns & Drums 2008

For those of you who are not familiar with Guns & Drums, then you are in for a treat. I have been involved with this event some years ago and I think you will find it a great event. The event is built around displays of various re-enactment groups, military weapons and marching bands. There will be lots of smoke and bangs which even after several years of attending the event still make me jump. Guns & Drums has not taken place for the past couple of years but is returning in 2008 and hopefully will again become an annual event. Along with all the displays, there is of course the museum which I think you will find of interest. As mentioned in my opening notes, we were booked as the second band; however the Corps of Drums Society who were meant to be the main band have pulled out due to lack of players. Therefore, we will step forward and save the day for the organisers, this can only do us good as we are more likely to receive better press coverage. We will also have a Recruitment stall at this event which could prove successful as many children and young people attend the event. Why not bring a picnic along with you and make a day of it?



## Don't' Forget

Practice when ever you can. We have a lot of events coming up over the next couple of months and we need to be at our best.

**PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT**

# Sandhurst Silver Band – Gala Concert

As band members are aware from my recent letter, the Sandhurst Silver Band will be performing at their Gala Concert on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at the Hexagon Theatre. This will be a really good event as the Sandhurst band are now ranked I believe in the top 200 bands in the world. Performing with the Silver band are the Reading Phoenix Choir, Brass Virtuoso- David Childs and interesting to us is the Corps of Drums of HM Royal Marines. As you know from my letter, we have a concession on tickets for our band members and families. If any other News Letter readers are interested in attending this event, either contact the Hexagon Box Office or the Sandhurst Silver band at [www.sandhurstband.co.uk](http://www.sandhurstband.co.uk)



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## SANDHURST SOCIAL CLUB- GHURKHA EVENING

As mentioned earlier, on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May we performed at the Sandhurst Social Club for their Ghurkha evening. The evening was arranged as part of the community integration program which the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst is keen to promote. Frank Jackson who has worked with the Ghurkhas for over 20 years in the RMAS organised the evening which was an outstanding success. There were over 60 Ghurkhas present on the night and they hosted everyone very well with samples of Ghurkha cuisine which kept all Social Club members happy. The Corps of Drums played a 20 minute slot which received a very impressive response. Drum Sergeant Jamie Gilliam performed a drum solo which he has been working on and again this went down very well with the audience. Frank organised a raffle on the night and the £107 raised was donated to the Corps of Drums. Well done to all band members that attended this event.

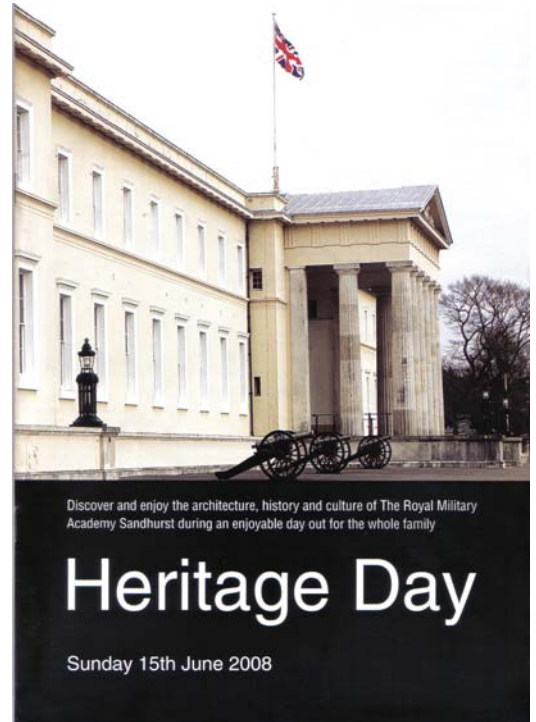


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## NEXT BAND EVENT – GUNS & DRUMS 2008 SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> JUNE

## RMA Heritage day – fast approaching

Our biggest event this year is nearly upon us. The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst Heritage Day in on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June. I recently attended a meeting at the RMA to get a better understanding of what we will have to do on the day. Basically we will follow a very similar format to last year's event; however they have decided not to use the main parade square in front of Old College. This will only be used for the Closing Ceremony and Beating Retreat. The RMA resident band which is currently the Light Cavalry Band will also play on the day. There will be an arena set up on the grassed area between Old College and Lower Lake and all displays will be done in the arena. Based on what was discussed in the meeting, they are expecting a big increase in people attending this year and estimate between 6-8 thousand people. This will, obviously provide us with a big audience which should be really good. I will be sending a letter out shortly to all band members which will give full details of where we will meet within the RMA.



RMA Heritage Day 2007



### The Light Cavalry Band



The Light Cavalry Band

### Heritage Day Site Plan 2008



Please note: Number 2 circled in red is Old College

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### **Donkey Derby Cancelled – Third Year Running**

Well we did it again, we spent most of Saturday and Sunday preparing for the Donkey Derby and yes you guessed it, it was cancelled again due to bad weather. At the time of doing this issue of the news letter I have not officially been told when it will be re scheduled. However someone has told me that it is likely to be Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June. Based on our current events schedule, I do not believe we will be doing it this year which is unfortunate. The proposed date of the 28<sup>th</sup> June is the only free weekend the band has for a number of weeks and I do not feel we can confidently field enough players to do the Donkey Derby as well. I intend to write to the organisers of the Donkey Derby suggesting that the current May bank holiday which has been used for a number of years be changed to later in the year when there is more chance of having better weather.

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Correspondence to

Band Master Mark Saunders C/O 19 Gibbons Close Sandhurst Berkshire GU47 9BB Tel: 01252 877212 or 07976 540584

E-mail [sparkysaunders@supanet.com](mailto:sparkysaunders@supanet.com) Visit us at [www.sandhurstdrums.co.uk](http://www.sandhurstdrums.co.uk)

## REMAINING EVENTS DIARY - 2008

Day	Date	Event	Time of Day/Venue	Comments
Sunday	8 <sup>th</sup> June	Guns & Drums	All day	All members
Saturday	14 <sup>th</sup> June	St Barnabas Church Community Fayre	Afternoon Derby Green	All members
Sunday	15 <sup>th</sup> June	RMA Heritage Day	All day RMA Sandhurst	All members
Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup> June	Aldershot Victoria Day Parade	Morning Aldershot	All members
Friday	4 <sup>th</sup> July	College Town School Summer Fayre	Early evening Sandhurst	All members
Saturday	5 <sup>th</sup> July	Ash Fun Day	Afternoon Ash	All members
Thursday	10 <sup>th</sup> July	School Prom (Private Event)	Evening Lakeside, Frimley	Selected members
Saturday	12 <sup>th</sup> July	Fleet Carnival (Children's section)	Morning Fleet	All members
Sunday	13 <sup>th</sup> July	Frimley Green Carnival	Afternoon	All members
Monday	25 <sup>th</sup> August	Mytchett Fun Day	Afternoon Mytchett	All members
Sunday	9 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Day Parade	Morning Sandhurst	All members

## ADDITIONAL EVENTS ADDED

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>1st July</b>	<b>BACYP AGM Reading</b>	<b>Early Evening</b>	<b>Selected members</b>	<b>Awaiting confirmation</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Private Wedding Camberley</b>	<b>Afternoon</b>	<b>Selected members</b>	<b>Confirmed</b>

As you are aware, we are just entering in to the bands busiest time of the year. I have a fairly good idea on who can attend the above events but please check the dates and times and tell me as soon as possible if you have any problems in attending. As previously mentioned to you, it is very difficult for me when planning line ups and orders of play etc if you back out at the last minute or just do not turn up?

**If you have any questions relating to the events diary then please speak to me about it. Regards Mark**

### Personal Loss

I would like to advise you that my mum passed away on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May. Although she had been ill for sometime it was unexpected. My mum was a very strong supporter to the Corps of Drums and she helped with donations whenever she was able to. She was present at our Thank You Concert in 2006 and was extremely proud of all the band members. Whenever I spoke to her one of the first things she asked me was "how is the band doing?" Her funeral is on 6<sup>th</sup> June. After discussion with my brother, we thought it would a nice touch if some of the band could play so my mum can hear them one more time. Amy, Greg, Bob, Nick and Josh were more than happy to help me and I would like to thank them in advance for doing this. It will certainly be a very emotional day. *Mark*