

CLUB LECTURE

The GREAT NORTH RIDE

Speakers

Colonel Ewen Cameron and Mark Blackett-Ord

Wednesday 2nd November 2011



In March 1603, on the death of Queen Elizabeth I, Sir Robert Carey, courtier and soldier, rode from London to Edinburgh to give the news to her heir, James VI of Scotland. Carey made the journey in just over 2 ½ days. James VI subsequently became James I of England and unified the English and Scottish thrones. Carey's journey is one of the most notable recorded rides in British history.

In March 2011 Ewen Cameron, a former regular cavalry and yeomanry officer and Major Neil Cross, the Commanding Officer of The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, recreated Carey's ride. Leaving St John's Wood Barracks at 4am on Friday 25th March they arrived in Edinburgh 86 hours later having spent 54 hours in the saddle and ridden 436 miles on a total of 120 horses.

Ewen Cameron will talk about their experiences, with an historical perspective given by Mark Blackett-Ord, whose book on the 1603 ride is due to be published in 2012. "It was the ride of a lifetime, full of excitement. We were never going to beat Carey's 2 ½ days and did not attempt to. He was able to gallop up the compacted earth of the Great North Road. We had to avoid motorways, railways, conurbations, barbed wire and other trappings of civilization. Planning our route was all about finding as much unimpeded grass as possible, to enable us to gallop on. We rediscovered the corporate memory of riding long distances which had been almost entirely lost."

The Charities

Combat Stress is the UK's leading military charity specialising in the care of veterans' mental health. The charity is currently undertaking a £30 million fundraising appeal to extend the reach of its core provision and improve its infrastructure in response to a greatly increased demand for its services as a result of military operations. Last year Combat Stress received over 1,400 new referrals. It has a current caseload of more than 4,600 individuals – including over 700 veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Light Dragoons Colonel's Appeal - The Light Dragoons is an Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment. Since their formation in 1992 The Light Dragoons have been deployed on 22 operational tours in the Balkans, Iraq and latterly Afghanistan. During their last tour in Afghanistan in 2009, the Regiment was engaged in the fiercest and most prolonged fighting that they had endured since WW2. During this tour the Light Dragoons suffered 6 fatalities, and over 40 wounded. They are due to return to Afghanistan early in 2012.

The aim of the appeal is to give enduring support to Light Dragoons wounded on operations or in regimental service, to their families and to the families of those killed on duty. Regimental Charities have always had an enduring part to play in supporting individuals within the 'Regimental family'.

Hunt Staff Benefit Society - We have chosen the Hunt Staff Benefit Society as a way of recognising the fantastic help and horses the two riders received from the hunts along the way. The HSBS is a registered Friendly Society benefiting hunt staff, without whom hunting could not exist. It offers a personal pension scheme specifically for staff employed by hunts. The pension is specially designed for hunt staff to take with them during their career.

Event Details

Time: 6.30 pm Reception
7.00 pm Lecture *followed by the buffet supper at approx 8.15 pm*

Cost: Reception & Lecture: Members - £25.00** Guests - £30.00 per person
Reception/Lecture & Supper Members - £50.00 Guests - £60.00 per person

** The cost of the tickets includes a £10 charitable donation

To Book: Kindly complete the booking form below and return it, together with a cheque made payable to 'The Cavalry and Guards Club' to the Membership Secretary, Frances Watt
~ please note; no tickets will be issued for this event ~

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To: Miss Frances Watt, The Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, London W1J 7PX

Club Lecture & Buffet Supper – Wednesday 2nd November 2011

From: [PLEASE PRINT]

Tel N°: **Email:**

I would like to attend: The Reception & Lecture with guest(s)
(please ✓ as appropriate) The Reception/ Lecture & Buffet Supper with guest(s)

Enclosed is a cheque (made payable to 'The Cavalry and Guards Club') in the sum of: £.....

Kindly print the names of your guests on the reverse of this slip. Thank you.