

# The Welch Fusilier

April 2006

R.W.F. Comrades Association, Aberystwyth Branch Newsletter

No. 1

## Welcome Comrades to the 1st Newsletter

This is an important day for our branch with the decision to launch a quarterly newsletter based on Aberystwyth branch and its members. The prime role of this newsletter is to keep members informed of what is going on, future events and any information members would like to say or share about the past or future. If you have a story or any photographs etc. you would like to share with us, anything will be gratefully received. Lets get together and make this venture a great success for the branch.

Mike Binks (Editor).

## Branch members launch exhibition on memories of WWII at N.L.W.

It was a great honour for branch member Mr Maelor Evans and associate member Mr Iori Lewis recently to be asked to launch the exhibition *Their Past Your Future* held at the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth to commemorate the end of World War Two to a packed audience of Ceredigion residents.

The exhibition is curated by the Imperial War Museum, and its journey around Wales ends at the National Library, it explores the lasting impact of conflict on people and places in the UK using printed materials and photographs.

The Second World War ended 60 years ago but lives on in people's memories and family histories, in the UK's rebuilt city centres and 'new towns', and in our education, social and health services. Through a mixture of personal stories, reminiscences and previously unseen archive images, objects and film footage, the exhibition explores how the war changed the people and the landscape of the UK forever.

## Comrades

### Meeting's

All persons who have served with the RWF are more than welcome to attend our meetings and events. The Branch meets on the 4th Wednesday in the month at the Royal Naval Club, Market Street, Aberystwyth, at 2000hrs.

Meetings last at the best for an hour and it will be a chance once a month to catch-up with mates and have a drink or two.

Sample story from exhibition.



### Land Army Women in Wales

280 Welsh women were among the first to be trained for the Women's Land Army; by 1943 there were 4,357 women in the WLA in Wales.

Over 350,000 acres of land in Wales was taken over for military use.

Welsh farms produced food that was badly needed for the whole of the UK.

More information is available on the <http://www.theirpast-yourfuture.org.uk>

**R.W.F.  
Comrades  
Branch Aberystwyth**

**New Executive 2006/07**

**Executive  
Committee Officers:**

**President –**

**Mr John Bitchell**  
(also Welfare Officer)

**Chairman –**

**Mr Ron Taylor**

**Vice-Chairman -**

**Mr Mike Binks**  
(also Editor of Newsletter)  
E-mail: mikebinks05@aol.com

**Treasurer –**

**Mr Peter (Sam) Lansley**

**Hon. Secretary –**

**Mr Paul Hinge**  
10 Tregerddan  
Bow Street  
Ceredigion  
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please)

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*Their Past Your Future exhibition.*

**Do you have e-mail?**

If you have a computer and an e-mail address, then you can receive the newsletter as an electronic publication in full colour.

Give your address to the branch secretary or the newsletter editor.

**Formation of New Regiment and the future of the Comrades Association**

The Hon. Secretary attended on behalf of the Branch, the Annual Secretary's meeting held in Newtown during March, when it was unanimously agreed that the Association would carry on as it is constituted at present.

The Regimental Secretary Lt/Colonel (Retd) M.A Lloyd (Merv), was delighted that the branches fully supported what he felt the Association Executive would be proposing. There were many other issues discussed including what do we do now with former Royal Welsh Regiment service personnel. The consensus of opinion was that we accept these servicemen and women with open arms and keep the traditions of the Royal Welch Fusiliers alive for the future.

**Aberystwyth  
T.A.  
SAFE**

A recent announcement was made stating that changes to the Territorial Army will not affect the RWF Unit at Aberystwyth.

Armed Forces Minister, Adam Ingram announced that B Coy are safe as well as (203) Field Hospital at Aber.

**Where are they now?**

Do you know of former members of the Regt that we could contact. If you have any names and addresses please pass them on to the Hon. Secretary

**Branch Meeting's**

Branch meets on the 4th Wednesday in the month at the Royal Naval Club, Market Street, Aberystwyth, at 2000hrs.

**200 Club**

The 200 Club draw will start at the next meeting 26th April. Two draws will take place.

## Cyprus Trip 2007

The RWFCA will be running a holiday to Cyprus in September 2007 for a period of two weeks in a 3\* hotel on a half-board basis. Should the Regiment be in situ and not on Operational Duty there will be a dinner arranged and other events plus it is proposed that the tour party hold a beach BBQ as a Thank You. This holiday will be for Comrades and Partners (if you wish). Flights will be arranged for you from Cardiff and Manchester. Costs at time of going to press are not set but you can expect the holiday to cost around £400 per head. You will have to arrange your own holiday insurance as the age demographics of those travelling makes a group insurance impossible to arrange.

## 82nd Reunion 2006

This year's reunion is on the 1st-3rd September in Wrexham. If you want to attend there will be transport from Aberystwyth on the 1st returning on the 3rd and accommodation and meals can be arranged.

Please contact Hon. Secretary if you want to attend...better still, come to the next meeting. Cut-off date for bookings will be the July meeting. However, the sooner you book the better your chance of securing a place. (Payment for the weekend will be required with booking)



Evening entertainment at the annual reunion in Wrexham 2005.

Its a **1st**  
for the branch.



Next  
Meeting Dates:

26th April

24th May

28th June

For the 1st time ever Aberystwyth Comrades came home with a trophy with Duncan Sykes winning the individual shooting competition held at Wrexham indoor range last year.

## St David's Day Dinner

March 11th 2006

With last minute decision to organise the annual St. David's day dinner, members had an enjoyable evening of celebration, with members travelling from as far as north wales and the forest of Dean. The branch wish to thank Mr & Mrs P Hinge at Capel Bangor Golf Club for having us at the club.



Peter Jones, Dunkan Sykes Mike Binks & Mike Jones.

Members of the branch Shooting team that came second at last year shooting competition firing the rifle 5.6 (old SA80) converted to 2.2 at the indoor range at Wrexham.



The ceremony of eating the leak.



Sam Lansley & chief guest Captain Colin Jones M.B.E. present members with their awards after the leak eating ceremony held on St David's Day.