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Chairman, *The Light Infantry Club*



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Light Infantry Club Members

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NEWSLETTER 2017

It is that time of year again and I am being harangued in a hospital environment by your Club Secretary who is of course keen to send out the details for the coming year to whet your appetites and encourage early booking for our Club events. Belated New Year's greetings to all Club members and thank you for the personal messages of support I have received – I am assured by the doctors I am on the slow road to recovery.

The Regiment enjoyed a second successful Association weekend at the Greenhous Stadium in 2016 and most of the teething problems experienced in 2015 were addressed. Numbers were again strong, the Regimental spirit stronger and we have a solid foundation for this year's and future gatherings. The Club achieved a modest increase in numbers at the lunch in the face of strong competition from the pull of the beer tent, and we intend to keep it going until it is clearly no longer viable - we hope to see a few more 'new' faces this year.

The Salisbury Wardrobe Club lunch was well supported with almost 100 attending and we were once again blessed with fair weather and the unique setting, good company and high quality fare. This ensured that it was another massive success for which huge thanks are due again to Tim Lerwill and Sue in The Rifles' office – but of course thank you to all those of you who attended!

The numbers attending the Club Dinner increased and it was good to see some early commitments to attend thus taking the pressure off the Dinner Chairman and the Club Secretary in knowing we had a financially viable event. The cost will again this year remain unchanged which means no increase in cost for around 10 years! The Cavalry and Guards Club provide us with an excellent service at reasonable cost in a prestigious setting so please put the date of the dinner in the diary now and show your support by declaring your willingness to organise a table, or at least commit to the event with a secure diary date as soon as possible.

I am, as ever, hugely grateful to all those who spend time and energy organising these events and I hope that you will feel able to support at least one of them again this year – especially if you have not been for a while.

The comprehensive programme of former Regimental and Rifles events in the counties will continue to compete for our support, but this year's Club dates are:

Saturday 17th June - LI & Bliigny Club Lunch at the Association Weekend, Shrewsbury.

Sunday 9th July - LI Club Lunch, The Wardrobe, Salisbury.

Thursday 12th October - LI Club Dinner, The Cavalry & Guards Club, London.

I emphasise that the success of each event is largely determined by members arranging tables of friends and those of shared experience across our Regiment so don't feel that you have to wait to be invited – pick up the phone or send an e-mail and arrange a table yourself.

The Light Infantry Website (www.lightinfantry.co.uk) includes a Club page and I hope that many of you will read this newsletter there and book your places on the functions. We have so far reduced the postage bill by over 80% by utilising the internet which is the most effective way; so if you have received a hard copy of this letter and have an email address please consider registering the latter with us at liclub@lightinfantry.co.uk and help us to reduce costs further.

With my best wishes for a peaceful and healthy 2017!

Mark Elcomb