



Headquarters Brigade of Gurkhas

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See Distribution

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BACKGROUND

1. The Gurkha Brigade Association (GBA) organises a number of events during the year at which Regimental Associations (RA) are asked to contribute towards/participate in. Attendance at the Bhela requires no prior booking, but the remainder require RA members to “book in” if they wish to attend the events.
2. At this time of year, Editors of RA Journals will be preparing their final draft before going to the printers. I would be grateful if the information below could be included in your respective Journals so that your members are aware of when events are taking place.

AIM

3. The aim of this letter is to give the dates and outline timings in order to allow RA members to register their interest in attending events.

EVENTS

4. 11 Mar 19: COMMONWEALTH MEMORIAL GATE SERVICE.

- a. **Location:** Commonwealth Memorial Gate, Constitution Hill, London SW1A 1AA
- b. **Timings:** 1000 – 1230 hrs including tea/coffee and snacks.
- c. **Attendance:** Col BG and the two QGOO will attend; others are to inform Bde Sec by 18 Feb 19.
- d. **Admin:**
 - i. RAs who wish to lay wreaths are to inform the Bde Sec by 18 Feb 19.
 - ii. XO BG is asked to arrange a Piper and Bugler.

5. 1 May 19: GBA OUTREACH BRIEFING FOR RAs.

- a. **Location:** The Gurkha Museum, Winchester, SO23 8TS
- b. **Timings:** 1000 – 1430 hrs including lunch.
- c. **Booking:** RAs are to confirm attendance of Chairman and Hon Sec by 17 Apr 19.
- d. **Admin:** Hon Sec to inform Bde Sec of any issue they wish to discuss by 17 Apr 19.

6. 8 Jun 19: GBA MEMORIAL SERVICE AND LUNCHEON.

- a. **Location:** The Memorial Chapel and Old College, RMAS, GU15 4NP.
- b. **Timings:** 1000 – 1500 hrs including service, pre-lunch drinks and lunch.
- c. **Booking:** RAs are to confirm attendance by 24 May 19.
- d. **Admin:**
 - i. Cost £35.
 - ii. GBA Hon Chaplain to arrange Preacher.
 - iii. XO BG is asked to arrange a Bugler and Piper

7. 13 Jul 19: GBA BHELA.

- a. **Location:** Queens Avenue, Aldershot, GU11 2LE.
- b. **Timings:** 1000 – 1800 hrs.
- c. **Booking:** Not booking required.
- d. **Admin:** A central marquee will be provided, however if RA wish to have their own marquee they are to inform the Bde Sec by 14 Jun 19.

8. 12 Sep 19: GBA GOLF.

- a. **Location:** TBC.
- b. **Timings:** 0900 – 1800 hrs.
- c. **Booking:** RAs to book in teams with SO2 Plans HQBG – Major Dammar Sahi by 22 Aug 19.
- d. **Admin:** SO2 Plans will issue separate instructions.

9. 7 Nov 19: FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE SERVICE (FOR), GURKHA STATUE SERVICE (GSS) AND AGM.

- a. **Locations:**
 - i. FoR - Dean's Yard, Westminster Cathedral.
 - ii. GSS - Horse Guards Ave, London SW1A.
 - iii. AGM - Army & Navy Club, 36-39 Pall Mall, SW1Y 5JN.
- b. **Timings:**
 - i. FoR: 1000 – 1100 hrs.
 - ii. GSS: 1130 – 1200 hrs
 - iii. AGM: 1300 – 1500 hrs.
- c. **Booking:**
 - i. FoR: RAs to book members in with Bde Sec – details to follow.
 - ii. GSS: No booking required.
 - iii. AGM: This is for RA Hon Sec, GWT and Gurkha Museum resps. RA Chairmen are welcome to attend.
- d. **Admin:**
 - i. Tickets will be posted to Hon Sec.
 - ii. Entrance will not be permitted without a ticket.
 - iii. XO BG is asked to arrange a Piper and Bugler for Gurkha Statue ceremony.

10. 7 Nov 19: GBA DINNER.

- a. **Locations:** Army & Navy Club, 36-39 Pall Mall, SW1Y 5JN.
- b. **Timings:** 1745 – 2300 hrs.
- c. **Booking:** RA Hon Sec to submit bids to Bde Sec. Please note the seating capacity is 110, so early booking is essential.
- d. **Admin:**
 - i. Cost £65
 - ii. Dress Black Tie with miniatures.
 - iii. Seating, where possible, will be by Regiments.
 - iv. XO BG is asked to arrange a Piper.

11. 9 Nov 19: GURKHA CHAUTARA MEMORIAL SERVICE.

- a. **Locations:** Gurkha Chautara, NMA Croxall Road, Staffordshire, DE13 7AR
- b. **Timings:** 1000 – 1300 hrs.
- c. **Booking:** RA Hon Sec to submit bids to Bde Sec by 24 Oct 19.
- d. **Admin:**
 - i. QGS to provide Piper and Bugler.
 - ii. QGS to provide uniformed service personnel
 - iii. BWO GWT to approach local Gurkha Veterans.

12. **10 Nov 19: CENOTAPH PARADE.**

- a. **Locations:** Cenotaph, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2ET
- b. **Timings:** 0900 – 1300 hrs.
- c. **Booking:**
 - i. **Apr 19** – Registration email to all RAs.
 - ii. **Jun 19** – Application deadline.
 - iii. **End Jun 19** – The Royal British Legion will confirm with associations the number of tickets they have been allocated.
 - iv. **Aug 19** – Deadline for associations to complete participant information.
 - v. **End Aug 19** – Application will re-open for associations to register additional participants. *This will only occur if all 10,000 tickets have not been allocated from the previous stage.*
 - vi. **End Sep 19** – Final deadline for all participant information.
 - vii. **Oct 19** – Tickets and Joining Instructions sent to associations.
- d. **Admin:**
 - i. Applications forms will be issued to Hon Secs in May 19.
 - ii. All attendees are required to have a photo ID – Driving licence or passport.

CONCLUSION

13. Hon Secs are requested to give the above dates/details wide publicity in order to ensure maximum participation at all the events.



MK RAI MBE
Major
Bde Sec

Distribution:

Action:

All RA Hon Secs
GM of all Regts.

Info:

President GBA
Chairman GBA