

Ralph Porter
10 Lawhorne Drive
Reeth
Richmond
North Yorkshire
DL11 6ST
Email ralph@porter216.fsnet.co.uk

Home: 01748 884684 Mobile: 0780 5411294

THE PARACHUTE SIGNAL SQUADRON OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION

REUNION 2012 - ARDSLEY HOUSE HOTEL FRIDAY 4th MAY TO SUNDAY 6th MAY 2012

Dear Comrade,

Firstly I would like to thank all of you who took the time to write to me and who contacted the web site with thanks for all who worked hard to make the last reunion a success. It is very much appreciated.

The next Reunion will be held again at the Ardsley House Hotel on the weekend of 4th/5th May 2012 departing on the morning of the 6th. The cost will be £25 per person per night (which includes breakfast).

BOOKING HOTEL ROOMS

Please contact the hotel direct to make your booking quoting "Airborne Signals Weekend". The address is:

Ardsley House Hotel and Health Club Doncaster Road Ardsley Barnsley South Yorkshire Tele **01226 309955**

Bookings will be accepted by phone. Credit/debit card numbers may be requested but as usual nothing will be debited from your account until you check out after breakfast on the 6^{th} May 2012.

If by the time you contact the Hotel all the accommodation has been taken, then contact, the Travel Lodge at Doncaster Road (only about 700 yds from the hotel) which has 30 rooms. Transport has been arranged to take residents back to the Lodge on Friday and Saturday night. The Travel Lodge reservation number is **08719 848484** or **08719 846121** or on line www.travellodge.co.uk

DINNER DANCE

The Dinner Dance will be held on the Saturday evening 1900 hrs for 1930 hrs. There is a slight change of menu, but the cost will remain the same as 2010. I may add that the cost of the meal in 1997 was £27.50 so we are doing well. **It would help if you return the menu ticking your choices with your proforma.**

Please don't delay in returning the attached proforma, you may post date your cheque no later 10^{th} April 2012.

GOLF

See proforma

I have arranged the Golf for the Saturday morning Tee Off 1030 - 1115 hrs with 3 buggies (weather permitting) tea/coffee and bacon sandwiches in the club house after your round of golf. They do have the normal dress code on the course.

RAFFLE

At the last reunion the amount taken has helped to keep the administration and web site in good stead, so I would like to thank everyone who donated raffle prizes and sold the tickets, not forgetting our auctioneer Ray Duffy.

There will be a Raffle at the dinner, so any prizes donated will be much appreciated

SEATING PLAN

When you return the proforma, if you would like to sit with friends/collegues I will do my best to accommodate but there will be no changes once the seating plan is in the foyer on the Friday night. Seating is twelve per table.

DAY TRIP - SATURDAY

Ron Hart and his party went to Fort Paull near Hull to see the last Beverley. If any are interested - a trip could be arranged. Names to Ron Hart please.

LADIES

I have arranged a 10% discount for any ladies who would like to use the Beauty Salon in the hotel. Just ring and book an appointment. Don't forget to mention you are part of the "Airborne Signals Weekend".

If there are any queries please don't hesitate to ring or email.

I look forward to seeing you all in May next year – or possibly in Caythorpe in September.

Regards

Ralph Porter

OBITUARY

It's with deep sadness and regret that we have lost seven of our comrades and friends since my last letter. The Last Post reads:

Alan Sefton Les Myres Rod Cunningham Pete Thornton Jim Bain Chris Petty

Gordon Newman

A MESSAGE FROM KEV BARRETT

The following is a copy of an email received from Kev Barrett – knowing our members I am sure there will be a good turn-out......

"I regret to inform you all that I have terminal cancer. It's in my lungs and brain. Problem with brain is that I do not know how long I will remain coherent and aware (then again – those of you who know me would question whether I ever was!). I had been hoping to attend Caythorpe this year, but all bets are off.

Anyway: Nick Joanes is coming over from Mexico and meeting me, Jim Turner and Tony (Bones) Warren on June 21st at a hotel in either Manchester or Preston (venue yet to be fixed). I know the date is not far away, but if anyone reads this and wants to join us, you are welcome. Or if you have contact with other 216 guys who you think

may be interested, can you please let them know? And please understand that the meeting is not about me dying, but is about us having a larf while I am still able to enjoy good things like beer and the memories of one of the best periods of my life with a team of unique guys who made up the ELITE 216.

For those of you who do not know me, I was a tech and served in the Squadron from 1973 to 1976.

Thanks in advance, Kev Barrett (or as Gordon Haughie once described me on parade: "Corporal Barrett, you are a heap!).

Tuesday 31 May 2011 - Burnley, Lancashire

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE TO OBTAIN FURTHER DETAILS WHEN KNOWN

UPDATE - MAJ GEN A J DEANE-DRUMMOND CB DSO MC

A recent telephone call to the daughter of Maj Gen Deane-Drummond has confirmed that he remains in the nursing home where he is cheerful and as well as can be expected – he sends his fond regards to all members of the Airborne Signals Association.