



The Official Newsletter of the Napoleonic Association .

Vol.1/2018

Quatre Bras

This monument was erected to commemorate the dedication of the British and Hanoverian troops during the battle at Quatre Bras on 16 June 1815. It was revealed on 7 June 2002 by the 8th Duke of Wellington, descendant of Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington, who defeated Napoleon at Waterloo.



Hello everyone,

Firstly, I hope that you all had a very happy Christmas, with lots of Re-enactment goodies in your presents. Now we are into the new year may I wish you all the best and a successful season.

Our first event of the Season is the Winter Party in Ware, which this year is being organised by Toni Monks. She tells me that there are still places available to get your kit brushed down and come along. It will be good fun and you don't have to dress up if you don't want to, just wear your favourite Regency/NA kit with the only proviso being no boots or hobnails. Don't delay your booking, tickets are already on sale and once they're gone, they're gone.

This is just a short edition, to give you the main reports and fixtures for the new season. The first of these of course will be the NA AGM and Training weekend at Ickworth, in April.

We can look forward this year to an interesting mixture of events— not least three Low Countries expeditions, as there are events at Quatre Bras, Ligny and Waterloo this year—only difficulty is deciding which to choose. We also have a Spanish event in the Autumn, at Astorga in Northern Spain, which hopefully will be a tad cooler than the searing heat of Ciudad Rodrigo and Fuentes last Summer. More details of this year's events are on the website and also in this edition.

In the meantime, keep supporting as many events as you can, the more people we get at events means we are more likely to get a return invite, and keep the interest in Napoleonic's going.

If you have any interesting articles, photos, book reviews, news items or reports of events, please send them to me so that they can be shared by everyone in future editions of the Adjutant.

See you all at the Winter Party.

Kate Lobb



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Chairman's Report

On behalf of the Executive Committee I wish you all a very Happy New Year.

So, it's that time of year again as we prepare for the new re-enactment season. A vote carried at the last AGM brought the Association's Financial and Membership Years together and both now start on the 1st of January. That means that your membership was due for renewal at the start of 2018. Membership Forms have been distributed to Unit Commanders and a copy is on the Association's website.



Photo © Alan Balding

You will note that subscriptions have increased this year. Jerry Sperring explained the reasons for the need to increase Membership Fees to this level at the last AGM and the AGM agreed to the increase in fees should that become necessary. Having completed our budget for 2018 it became clear that we would need to increase the fees to ensure we provide the type of events our members enjoy. The Executive Committee has held the fees at the same level since 2013 and each year has absorbed cost increases by careful financial planning. Unfortunately, rising costs have finally caught up with the Association and we have reluctantly had to increase the membership fees to the level agreed at the last AGM. The Executive Committee has always looked at ways of reducing costs to provide the best value for money for the Association's members and will continue to do so. However, this year we have had no choice but to increase the Membership Fees if we are to ensure the financial stability of the Association. The increase in Membership Fees must also be taken in the context of the time that has elapsed since the Membership Fees were last increased. The Executive also believe that the increased fees compare favourably with other re-enactment associations of a similar size.

One of the reasons for changing the Financial Year was to allow the Association its AGM in March or April instead of January. January AGMs have in the main been attended by few members and we have only just managed to make the numbers required to reach the quorum specified in the Association's Articles of Association. We therefore intend to hold the AGM at Ickworth to encourage more members to attend it. As a result, we hope that more people will become interested in how the Association is run and more importantly be willing to put their views forward on how they believe the Association should be run. Attendance at the AGM may also spur people on to become interested in joining the Executive Committee which we would welcome.

On a sad note, two of our members have passed away since the last edition of the "Adjutant" was published. They are Gandelf Strutt of the Kings German Artillery and Terry Schild of the Buffs. I am sure you will join the Executive Committee in sending condolences to their families.

I look forward to seeing you at Ickworth and if you are there please attend the AGM.

Martyn



The NA Committee

Chairman

Martyn Monks

Treasurer

Jerry Sperring

Secretary

Toni Monks

Safety Officer

Adrian Lobb

Events Officer

Tony Wilks

Membership Secretary

Fran Read

Media Officer

Laura Short



Above: Gandelf Strutt, who passed away in August 2017.



Right: Adrian Lobb found this early image of Terry Schilds when he was a pioneer with the 1st Foot Guards. Photo taken at the Royal Engineers Museum in the late 1990's

NA WINTER PARTY 2018

Please note: The AGM will be in April 2018 so this will just be a fun event

All welcome

Officers - Soldiers – Ladies

Civilians or guerillas

(Please Note: no hobnails or firearms)

Date:	Saturday January 20 th 6:00 p.m. to Midnight
Venue:	Fanhams Hotel, Ware, Herts, SG12 7PZ
Food:	2 course buffet dinner included (reasonable bar prices)
Dancing:	Dancing to the Austen Allegros. Simple country dances will alternate with more complicated Regency dances. Plenty of dancing for beginners and experts alike and masses of space for everyone to dance
Prices	Members £33.00 Priority booking available until October 29 th)
	Non members £38.00 (only available from October 31 st 2017)
Hotel Rooms:	Double rooms available from £75.00. This special rate has been agreed with the hotel but please book as soon as possible. Please contact Natalia Golba at the hotel on: 01920 460511 Or email at natalia.golba@exclusive.co.uk Mention the Napoleonic Association to obtain this special price
Tickets:	To reserve tickets initially please email: Antoinette.monks@btinternet.com A deposit of £5 per ticket will hold your tickets. Total cost <u>MUST</u> be received by October 31 st 2017 (members) and November 30 th 2017 (non-members)



Date:

Name: (Print). NA Membership no. (If appropriate)

Address:

Please reserve tickets for the ball Total cost of tickets
(Members £33 – Non members £38)

I enclose a deposit of (£5 per ticket). Remainder of money must be received by October 31st

Please make cheques payable to Mrs A G Monks and post with this slip to 57 Station Road, Southminster, Essex CM0 7EW.
(Please write name, address, NA membership number and number of tickets on reverse of cheque.

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope with your order. (No envelope – tickets will be withheld until envelope received)

WINTER PARTY 2018

Toni Monks has asked me to add this message as a reminder that there are still tickets available for the Party.

Dear unit commander / contact,
There are still tickets available for the winter party on 20th January . Please could you forward this message to your members as there may be some people who now wish to come but think it is too late to book. The hotel is large and numbers are no problem. Please ask your members to email me asap using high importance. They can pay by bank transfer and can collect their tickets at the hotel. I am aware that some people felt excluded from previous events as they were under the impression that they were too posh. It was never the committee's intention that people should be made to feel that way and to make everyone feel welcome I have worked hard to ensure that this party will be fun for all what ever their outfit (as long as it is of the period ----- but NO HOBNAILS please). Camp followers, soldiers, NCOs officers and ladies. What ever your nationality.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Our Musicians have been busy researching and have come up with some authentic Napoleonic march tunes which we can dance to, so I look forward to seeing you all there. (Kate)

From the Coalition Brigade

Frohes neues Jahr, С Новым годом, Happy New Year!

All is quiet on the coalition front so far this winter.

Our citizen armies have melted away like the snows, back to the warm safety of their workshops, universities and homesteads; the artillery are tucked up in barracks, shaving their spokes and polishing their barrels; and the staff have retired to the ancient comfort of a hilltop schloss, where a series of continental descents are being planned for the coming campaign season.

The Coalition's first outing of 2018 will be Ickworth, where we hope our exceedingly warm barrels will stave off the chilly local climate!

Yours etc
Richard Brown
Coalition Brigade Commander





The British Division Major General Sir Edwin (Ed) Parker

Welcome to 2018!

As I think most of you already know, I have been reappointed as Major General of The British Division for another year. An election was not held as no one else coveted the job, I would however, like to consider that I am here because of the support of all the British Units in the Division, so I trust you will forgive me if I thank you anyway!

Because of the changes in the NA's regulations and the rescheduling of the AGM to April, we conducted the appointment process a lot earlier than in previous years, giving the Command personnel a lot more time to make plans and appointments before the new season commences. This is a timing plan that we hope to continue to follow in future years.

However, before we have a brief look at the next season, I have to say how much I enjoyed Duncan's great article, on the French perspective on Waterloo in the last issue. Particularly his views on the health of Napoleon and the abilities of his commanders. It was good to see them presented as the great generals they were. If you are going to win it's always good to know

that your opponents were on top form when you did. I am not going to say that I agree with everything that Duncan surmised, but it made absorbing reading.

I will not spend too much time deliberating on the reason for the Allied success – it has been done many times over by others who are better historians than me - The history of Europe says we won, that Brussels and the route to the coast was successfully defended and the French retreated - and that's good enough for me!

I have never been one of those who advocated the view that the British did it on their own! I also believe that Wellington's calculations always took into account the help he believed he would receive from the Prussians and Russians – in the Prussians case a bit earlier than it actually materialised. The one thing we know is that battles are as much about seizing opportunities when they arise and reacting to your opponents' moves as they happen, as they are about your planning. I also have long believed, not just because the 44th played a significant role, that the bloody stalemate at Quatre Bras, which brought Wellington enough time to assemble the Allied army at Waterloo, was more significant than many give it credit.

Great job Duncan.

Moving on

Ginge Eames, at the end of 2017 retired from his position as artillery commander. Our thanks to Ginge for his service over the past few years and we hope we will see him in some kind of uniform somewhere in the future.

The British Brigade structure will remain broadly as last year and the only change in personnel at field command level is the appointment of Jerry Sperring as Commander of the British Artillery Brigade. Congratulations Jerry we look forward to seeing you in action.

I am sure that you all have a pretty good idea, of the events that we have planned for 2018. Of course overseas ones are not controlled by the NA, but the NA's support is actively sought by the organisers, who appreciate that our command/control structure brings them an army that is organised, safe, well drilled and as authentic as we can get it. In 2018 our key focus will be on 3 overseas events – Quatre Bras - May 20/22, Waterloo - June 23/24 We have been told that for the next few years (up to 2020 at least) Waterloo's dates will occur on the weekend after the 18th. Astorga (now October 13/14). And for some, Malta on June 9/10 is also on the agenda. All units wishing to attend will have to register with the organisers via their respective websites. I believe that QB and Malta have now closed.

In the UK we have our traditional start with the drill/skirmish weekend at Ickworth on April 7/8, our first opportunity of the year to play together. Worcester Re-enactor's M5 show - August 11/12 and the Hole Park international will be on Sept 1-2. We are assured by the NA's event team that others will follow.

I make no apologies for finishing on a rather sombre note, but it would be remiss of me not to personally mention the passing of Terry Schild's late of the 1st Footguards and The Buffs. Terry was one of the originals re-enactors, who had been in this hobby as long as I have, you always knew with Terry that there would be a cheerful welcome and ready smile every time we met. He was a friend to everyone. Rest those marching feet Terry. We will remember you.

January 2018

Major General Edwin Parker.
Commander British Division

From the French Brigade

As I write this article Christmas already seems a long time ago and the New Year celebrations have been and gone. That can mean only one thing, another re-enactment season will soon be upon us. The excitement for this year's events is already building with Brigade members looking forward to a busy season and especially trips to Malta and Quatre Bras. I have been pleasantly surprised by the number of new people who have joined the Brigade. It certainly bodes well for the future, brings in fresh enthusiasm, interest and ideas and can only enhance the overall performance of the Brigade. Welcome to one and all.

In the last couple of editions of The Adjutant I have included slightly longer articles than normal which covered aspects of Napoleon's career and The Battle of Waterloo and hopefully generated some food for thought amongst pro French and pro Allied readers of this magazine.

I was left wondering what food for thought I could provide this time. Given the likelihood that there were plenty of leftovers following the end of year celebrations I thought it might be useful to share a couple of period recipes, which you might like to try in camp or at home. The recipes are based upon an article published by the Foundation Napoleon.



Potato cake - sweet recipe to serve 4

A simple dessert recipe for your leftover potatoes.

At the beginning of the 19th-century, the potato was still to take over the family dinner table and continued to be considered like other varieties of sub-vegetables reserved for animal feed. Nevertheless, this hardy tuber's easy cultivation and clear nutritional benefits, coupled with occasional waves of famine and devastating crop failure, would ensure this humble vegetable's domination of the gastronomic scene in the years to come.

Ingredients

Leftover boiled or mashed potatoes

A knob of butter (size of knob varies according to amount of leftover potato)

Milk (preferably full fat for creamier mix)

Three eggs (more if necessary)

Icing sugar

Eau de vie and lemon (optional)

Period Recipe

Take some boiled potatoes and mash with a knob of butter; once everything is well-mixed, blend in enough milk to ensure that the paste is neither too light, nor too thick. Add a little eau de vie, two spoonful's of sugar and some grated lemon; once everything has cooled down, add three egg yolks mixed with milk. Stir well; next add the beaten egg whites. Grease the pie dish. Pour in the mixture, place on a larger dish, and cook in a hot oven. (Original French taken from *La cuisinière de la campagne et de la ville, ou La nouvelle cuisine économique*, Paris, Audot, 1818.)

6 - step guide

- 1) Mash or purée boiled potatoes
 - 2) Make a smooth mix (not too runny) with butter and milk
 - 3) Add icing sugar
 - 4) Flavour with eau de vie (of your choice) and/or lemon zest
 - 5) Add egg yolks, followed by the whipped egg whites
 - 6) Cook on a medium heat (6 or 7) for fifteen to twenty minutes
- Bon appetit

Floating island dessert (also known as "œufs à la neige" - "eggs in snow")

Just like today, children during the First Empire loved sweets and desserts of all types. With one well-known dish proving to be particularly popular: "œufs à la neige" (literally "eggs in snow"), little "floating islands" of whipped egg-white, sweetened and poached in a custard-like *crème anglaise*. Delicious!

During the 19th century, eggs were far more frequently used in cooking than they are today, mainly because they were versatile, easy to find and cheap to buy. Cookery books written during the period are full of recipes for eggs. There were savoury recipes (like omelettes or fried eggs) and sweet dishes (including cakes and custards). Very few kitchens at the time had ovens, so most recipes could be done using a saucepan and the stove. The recipe for our "eggs in snow" was thus perfect: the cook would make a creamy *crème anglaise* custard with egg yolks and milk before thickening it in the saucepan. The whipped sweetened egg-whites which had already been poached were then placed on top of this custard before being served. Today this dessert is often eaten with lots of caramel drizzled over the top!

Period Recipe

A famous cook from the period, Monsieur Viard, left this recipe for us to try (we have rewritten it a little bit to make it easier to understand): - Break ten eggs. Separate the yolk for the egg-white.- Whip the egg-whites until they form stiff peaks. Then add two spoons of powdered sugar and a little bit of orange blossom water. Pour half a litre of milk and 250g of sugar into a saucepan. Once your milk has started to bubble, take a tablespoon of your egg white mix and drop it into the milk. This will poach your egg whites. When all your little mountains of egg white have been poached, remove them. Remove half of the milk mixture from the saucepan, and add your egg yolks to the casserole, mixing it slowly with a wooden spoon. Once the milk and the egg yolks are properly mixed, that's your crème anglaise custard. Remove the saucepan from the heat. To finish off, place your little egg mountains on a plate and dribble some crème anglaise over them.

Today, we actually do the opposite: we put the custard in a bowl and we place the mountains-like eggs on top.

Vive L'Empereur Salut et Fraternite

Duncan

FOR SALE

I am selling my large ridge tent bought from Past Tents: fire-retardant treated canvas, split poles, plastic groundsheet and hessian groundsheet. Offers invited. Thank you.

Michelle (aka "Bob")

3/95 Rifles

Contact email: michelle.ward0@talk21.com]

FOR SALE

Two "Mountain Men" style tents with rustic poles.

Size 7' deep x 9' wide.

Height, 7' at front and 4' at rear.

Includes integral Awning and fully laced front.

Ideal as shop front awning for trader, would also make an ideal mess tent/awning for a smaller unit.

**Made of good strong proofed canvas
with all poles, ropes and pegs supplied.**

Price £495 each or discount if both sold together.

Photos can be supplied.

Unless sold beforehand, one of them will be in use at Ickworth

Please contact Kate and Adrian Lobb.

Contact email: adrian.p.lobb@gmail.com

Events for 2018

Here is the latest list of events, both arranged by the NA and other events abroad, which have been confirmed so far.

7 April	Ickworth House, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk	NA AGM
7-8 April	Ickworth House, Suffolk	Training, Living History and Skirmish
19-20 May	Battle of Quatre Bras, Quatre Bras, Belgium	International Battle Re-enactment
16 June	Light Division and Rifle Brigade Shrewsbury, Shropshire	Living History & Skirmish
23-24 June	Battle of Waterloo, Waterloo, Belgium	International Battle Re-enactment
7 July	Burghley House, Stamford, Lincolnshire	Battle Prom
14 July	Hatfield House, Hatfield, Herts	Battle Prom
21 July	Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxfordshire	Battle Prom
4 August	Highclere Castle, Newbury, Hampshire/Berkshire	Battle Prom
11 August	Ragley Hall, Alcester, Warwickshire	Battle Prom
1-2 Sept,	Hole Park, Rolvenden, Kent	Living History & Skirmish
13-14 Oct.*	Siege of Astorga, Astorga, Northern Spain	International Battle Re-enactment

*Please note this is not the date as shown on the web site as it has been altered since the list was first published.

There will be other events coming up as we hear of them, notably for those who are really keen on Belgian events we believe there is also the Battle of Ligny, on the weekend of 2-3 June. For anyone who has never been, there is a fascinating little museum at Ligny which is well worth visiting as it contains many original artefacts and it is only about 15 miles from Waterloo.

Another event which is taking place this year is the 20th Anniversary of the Bi-centennial Event which took place in Malta back in 1998, The Maltese re-enactors have been planning this for about 2 years now and it is happening between the 5-10 June.

I'm sure that those of you who are planning to go to any of the overseas events will have already registered. Here's hoping for a great season in 2018 and fine weather.

Contact your Events Officer Tony Wilks for more details on any of the events listed.

ooOoo

Bring and Buy Sales 2018

At the Winter Party there will be an opportunity in the afternoon to hold a sale—details of where and when to be arranged when we get there. So if you do have any stuff you want to sell, please bring it along, labelled clearly with your own name and asking price. We will sell it for you, and 10% of the price you get will go to charity. For the last two years we have supported the Army Benevolent Fund, but if anyone has any other suggestions, please let me know.

ooOoo

Did You Know?

By Royal Appointment

In around 1780, the Clerkenwell stationer and bookbinder William Addis was serving a short sentence in Newgate Prison in London. To help while away the time he made a toothbrush, using a bone and some hairs from a cowhide. No sooner had Addis been released than he decided to mass-produce his invention, just as toothbrushes were coming into fashion. He even won the approval of George IV—an invaluable endorsement. The toothbrush enterprise started by Addis has survived right up to the present day, under the name of Wisdom.

During the Napoleonic period, due to mass production making them cheaper, some soldiers included a toothbrush in their “Housewife” kit.

Adrian Lobb



And Finally....

Back in October 2017 some members of the NA were invited to take part in some filming to commemorate the Pentrich Rising, a revolt against the government which pre-dated Peterloo in 1819. The perpetrators were against the increased mechanisation of the cotton mills, and the filming took place at various locations, including Nottingham Museum of Justice and Cromford Mill in Derbyshire, pictured here. Cromford was the first real factory, built by Richard Arkwright in the Derwent Valley.

This photo courtesy of Brian Bullock shows the re-enactors, including Lawrence Short, Peter Hurcomb, Keith Prosser, Kate Lobb, Richard Evans, Adrian Lobb, Alex Davenport, John William Irwin and Laura Short.

Thanks to Laura Short for co-ordinating this event which was great fun.

