



THE
PARLIAMENT SCOUT

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*Communicating hys Intelligence
to the Kingdome*

Volume I Issue iv

A pamphlet offering diverse Instructions to the
ARMIE OF PARLIAMENT



Published this daye, 8th June 2014 A.D.
From our towne of Whitneye, Oxfordshire.
BY ORDER of Lord Generall Paul Eaglestone



THE LORD GENERAL

Hi All,

Well the season has started fairly well. The Call to Arms event at Billing was excellent with a great deal of hard work and hard socialising making it very special. Great venue and great weather. Can't beat that combination, which is why the Major at Cattows farm was slightly disappointing. However some heavy socialising and some good battles, plus a slide down the bouncy castle made it pleasurable despite the wet weather. Us old timers who have endured the likes of Enfield, Leeds and both Llantrisant's appreciate that it was not a really wet muster. Just a shower really. Well done to those who stayed for the Monday battle. Your support really is appreciated.

Coming along fast on the event front we have Naseby Coleford and Cheriton. All sound like good events and both Naseby and Coleford have become annual events and an opportunity to support organisations who have been very supportive of us as we have of them. See you there.

Following this we have Kelmarsh, which is the main emphasis for this edition. Attached is the script for the battles so that you all know what is actually going to happen. This is very much a film script type battle with both Simon and myself directing it rather than commanding it. You guys get to be the cast. You all have my permission to hang stars on your doors and we may even arrange some M&M's for your dressing rooms. Any specific colours required?

A great deal of information is contained within the last edition of Orders regarding Kelmarsh and so I do not propose to go over the details again however there are some specific points that may need to be explained.

The doors open for us all 12 noon on the Friday so feel free to turn after that. The beer tent will be open from Friday night and there are food traders.

On Saturday morning, between 8.30 and 9.30am, there will be a full rehearsal. This is so that you guys know what is going on and the technical issues such as commentary and command and control can be checked. I appreciate that you professionals probably do not need much of this, and I have been VERY impressed both at Billing and Cattows Farm of the way you have grabbed hold of this type of fighting. However we have to satisfy ourselves that the show will work. Just grin and bear it. Don't worry it will be over quickly and you will not have to endure standing there whilst officers chat. I promise I hate that more than you guys.

One of the most contentious issues regarding this event is the English Heritage policy on cross dressing. Please understand that this is not an anti female issue

but rather it is an instruction from the paying sponsor, English Heritage, who regard it as an authenticity issue. From their historical perspective it is logical and only effects the close up form of re-enactment on the living history camp. In other words where the paying public are standing next to you. Thus it does not include the battlefield. Linked to this if you are on the plastic camp and wish to wander round we would advise changing into civvies as it is somewhat rude to wander onto one period camp dressed as another period. It also confuses the paying public. I certainly will spend most of the time in civvies and get changed for the battles. Possibly a hassle but no big pain. It also means I can pop into the beer tent for a pint.

Dress code standards are of the highest and the Parliament army will represent the Eastern Association (and not the New Model Army as mistakenly crept into the Orders.)

London will join with the Scots. The look is for accurate campaign kit although again please ignore the blanket roll comment in Orders as this is not ECW but ACW! I inspected the army at Billing and was very impressed. A few issues that I passed back to officers the most common being footwear. There were still the odd pair of desert boots to be seen although it appeared most were being worn by new members and so understandable.

The plastic camp will be an SK controlled one. Gate guard will be run by both Ruperts and Manchesters. These guys will be there mainly to ensure that dress code rules are adhered to. Please do not give them a hard time (I know you won't.) in any way as they are there representing the respective Lord Generals so if you have an issue please do not go purple just chat about the problem. Ideally with Simon and I. Mutual respect goes along way to solving all ills. Ranting does not. (Yes I know that's great coming from the king of belligerence!!!!)

Please also note that camping area is limited and so everyone camping will be expected to take part in the event representing the SK. If family members of a participant do not take to the field as they are involved in looking after families etc that's fine. For example if my wife attends a muster with my youngest daughter they rarely go on the field. That's fine as it means that I am free to play soldiers. Such family based duties are part of what we do and to be respected.

However if members plan to attend the event for a free holiday and sit drinking all day please simply camp in a local commercial campsite and pay to come in as a member of the public. Again I am sure that no member of the Parliament army plans to try and do this but its best said so that we all understand the rules.

The battles last approximately 45 minutes and as you can from the script are heavily choreographed. Although I see a few problems with this as it is a stage show rather than the usual battles that we fight we have done this type of thing before and done it very well. The inherent discipline with the army allows me to be confident that we can pull this off with little fuss and show the world what we can do on this truly international stage.

Please support this event and enjoy it. As you are no doubt picking up from the emphasis that I have placed on this I do believe it is an excellent opportunity to do something that we have all successfully done before but on a much bigger stage ultimately for our own good and our own pride in doing a good job. Once done we can tick that box and look for other challenges.

See you there.

PAUL EAGLESTONE

LORD GENERALL



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