

The National Routier

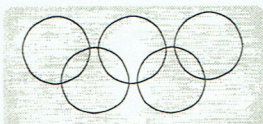
Being the Official Organ of
The Pike & Musket Society of New South Wales

Volume 12, Number 2

The Issue for Winter, 1996



March or Die II - the Final Furlong!



SPECIAL REPORT: Routier Gold!

- * Routiers break Olympic, World Records!
- * Reincarnated Wallenstein Leads March!



The National Routier

Volume 12, Number 2, being the issue for Winter 1996

Contributions may be presented in person by appointment, or sent physically or via the æther to:

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Still Absolutely Nothing	Rear Cover

National Routier is completely official party organ, doing will of proletariat, raising industrial steel production while combating capitalist hooligans. Did 3 weeks in Mother Russia be changing me, Comrade? Nyet! Now, where was I? Oh, yeah. The National Routier is the proudly biased and unreservedly partisan organ of the Pike and Musket Society of New South Wales. However, the Editor's state of intoxication notwithstanding, any and all opinions expressed in this particular issue probably don't reflect those of anybody except the authors. Thank God for that! So, don't blame the Broad Membership, the Commission of Array, the Captayne, or even me. And that's a legal opinion. Well, para-legal. Submissions of a suitable nature are very, very gratefully received. Really. I'd be so fucking glad to get another article! I've got your daughter. You have until next issue to write me an article, or we'll force her to start dating Gross. Or Stanley. Or any of the Routiers, for that matter. In the meantime, "suitable nature" demands that articles be historical, preferably relating to the 17th Century, astoundingly funny, or relevant to historical re-enactment and, better still, us! Ding dong, the Levellers are dead, the mean old Levellers, the wicked Levellers, Ding dong the wicked Levellers are dead. Hi ho the merry ho, sing it high, sing it low. Ding dong the wicked Levellers are dead... Or might as well be, anyway. Oops, was that politically incorrect? I'll do it again. <imagine it this time> There! Hahahahahahahahahahahaha!

Subscriptions (which include Associate Membership) are 20 dollars per annum.

The Very Late Winter Editorial

by, not unreasonably, the Editor.

Actually, I like the sound of "Publisher-General", and it's certainly more accurate in terms of what I do, but then again, "Publishorial" sounds silly. Oh, well...

I have returned from my peripatetic peregrinations overseas to find the Routiers sailing out of times of turmoil. Vast political upheavals (which some accused me of instigating!) had swept through my beloved Society, resulting in the two Soldiers' Council meetings that I missed while overseas were the most turbulent in Routier history. Things had normalised by the next meeting, everyone having had a gutful of politics, and wanting to get on with some serious Routiering! Fortunately, the opportunity was just around the corner...

The 10th Anniversary St Albans March, otherwise known as March or Die! II - the Final Furlong!, proved to be a triumph in every sense. Those who marched, Lived rather than Died, in the best Routier event in recent memory. Our triumphant arrival at the inn, and the welcome that we received, and the great sense of victory (as well as relief) are things that we will not soon forget.

As an event, it had all the vital Routier ingredients: camaraderie, adversity and beer. To such lofty achievements must we aspire!

Regarding this issue, and its lateness, I can only say this:

Oops.

As excuses, I can only claim sloth, an excess of activities, and habitual drunkenness.

Spikester

AKA

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Next Issue:

- Pierre exiled to the Mother Country (temporarily)
- Trade Secrets of the World's Worst Tailor.
- Haande & Tim take on the SCA - and win!
- Bill explains why his dining room always smells of poo.
- Stan reveals his latest houseguest.



See you there!

Minutes of the Meeting held 5/3/96

Present: S. Hand, A. Brew, D. Green, S. Gapps, B. Kenworthy, R. Argent, P. Breeze, D. Richardson, S. Gale, L. Barrett, B. Harrison, M. Terry

Apologies: S. Greaves, D. Earl

1. Correspondence

There was none and it was stated that we should make more of an effort to inform people of our change of address.

2. Business Cards to be done with Buccaneer font.

3. Membership fees to be increased to \$40 for normal members, \$25 for associate members and \$50 for new or lapsed members.

4. Andrew Brew had a survey of what events people preferred. It was filled in by the members.

5. The Standards Manual was handed over to Spike for production. 60 will be produced.

6. David Green is fostering the development of a loose body of interested people called the Serene and Pious Gentlemen of Petersham Ditch. He will keep us posted.

7. Armidale. A meeting will be held at the Koens house on 17/3.

8. The toolbox is broken and Ross Argent will fix it.

9. A query was made as to whether we have a first aid box. We do and a greater effort will be made to bring it to all events.

10. Editor's Report. The late editor reported that the Routier would be completed by the next meeting.

BUN FIGHT AT THE HOKEY CORRAL



THE SCA, RESPONDING TO CONTINUED CRITICISM,
ADOPT A POLICY OF GREATER REALISM.
ONE COMBATANT HAS DISCARDED HIS GREAT HELM
WHICH NOW LIES AT HIS FEET. (A KOENSTM CONTRIBUTION.)

Minutes of Soldier's Council held 2/4/96

Attendance: S. Hand, A. Brew, D. Green, D. Richardson, D. Earl, P. Breeze, B. Kenworthy, I. Argent, P. Fisher, M. Terry, S. Gapps, T. O'Neill, S. Greaves, R. Argent, M. Koens, T. Koens, B. Lincoln

Visitors: Madame Earl, A. Fowler

1. Correspondence

From Spike telling of his travels & copy of Moderne Aviso (US 17th C re-enactment mag)

Sec. to write to convention committee to inquire about a longbow vs. musket comp and about the tavern.

2. Treasurer's Report - Paul is to pay what is owing to him out of club funds. We are looking into doing a paying show at Moss Vale

3. Matters arising

a. Change of address - other groups are being notified

b. Business cards - no progress

c. survey - camps and banquets are the most popular events. Pub crawls and major shows least popular. The year's events will be tailored to suit the tastes of members.

d. Standards Manual - It cost \$720. Will be sold to members for \$12 and to non-members for \$20.

\$12 was received from the following people

A. Brew S. Gapps P. Fisher D. Green P. Breeze S. Greaves B. Kenworthy M. Koens T. Koens

D. Richardson \$24 was received from I. Argent

\$12 is owed by T. O'Neill, D. Earl, M. Terry, S. Hand

The \$144 collected was paid to S. Hand as part reimbursement of monies owing to him.

e. Serene and Pious Gentlemen of Petersham Ditch - Pierre is getting a register of all people interested in 17th century re-enactment together. He will advise future meetings of his success.

f. Armidale - discussion to be had after the meeting by all those attending

g. Toolbox - no progress

h. Cost of the Routier - It cost \$200.

3. The first circular was received from Taminick. They are tightening up their rules for the dinner. 12 people expressed interest in attending. Sec. to write giving preliminary numbers. We will strive to have a better campsite this year and to have pikemen for the drill competition.

4. Andrew expressed his desire for people to spend approx. \$1000 each on improving their equipment.

5. The meeting recessed while people read an article in the latest Routier written by Steve Gapps. Much discussion ensued. A motion was suggested that any motion for the club to expend a sum of money exceeding \$200 (with the exception of printing the routier should it ever exceed this cost) would be held over till the following meeting, thus giving all members a chance to consider the said motion. The motion was not voted on. The meeting was adjourned with the matter unresolved and further discussion will be held at the next meeting.

Minutes of the Meeting held at the German Concordia Club, 7/5/96

Present: A. Brew, S. Hand, D. Green, R. Argent, N. Potts, S. Gapps, M. Terry, J. O'Brien, D. Richardson, D. Earl, S. Greaves, M. Koens, T. O'Neill, S. Gale, L. Barrett, B. Lincoln

Visitors: Veronica, Paul

1. Correspondence - Letters sent to Convention Committee and Taminick Committee. Cheque received from R. Miners for two Standards Manuals.
2. The treasurer was not present so there was no treasurer's report. However, it was noted that the society owed S. Hand \$855.05 being for money outlaid by him on behalf of the society.
3. Matters arising from the last meeting
 - a. Business Cards and Flyers. No progress on business cards. John O'Brien has made a flyer and needs graphics. These are to be brought to the next meeting.
 - b. Standards Manual - Martin Terry, Tim O'Neill, Steve Gale and Nick Potts paid \$12. D. Earl still owes the club \$12. The \$48 collected was paid to S. Hand. (now owed \$807.05)
 - c. Serene and Pious Gentlemen of Petersham Ditch. More people continue to sign up as loose affiliates of the club.
 - d. Pewterers. Andy Brew has the addresses of several pewterers in the UK. Anyone who wants pewter tankards, plates, spoons etc. should see him.
 - e. David Earl has met a man who imports replica arms and armour from India. David says that it is of very high quality and is quite reasonably priced (being made by exploited third world types). He will try to get this man to attend the next meeting with divers items.
 - f. Toolbox - no progress
 - g. Andy's grand plan for everyone to get far better armour. This was discussed and Dean agreed to spend more than the national debt acquiring most very excellent armour.
4. The drill scheduled for Sunday May 26th is now a Working Bee at Satan's house. It was decided that we should buy a new bullet mould and \$65.90 was collected towards this. D. Green is to buy one.
5. Crookwell. Handouts were handed out (what did you expect). Some discussion of arrangements was had.
6. Stan is selling buttons.
7. Bill is selling eating kits.
8. Mark is selling bronze rivets.
9. Discussion of Steve Gapps' article "Some matters of importance to the Society..." ensued. A motion was put by S. Hand/B. Kenworthy "that any motion for the society to expend a sum of money in excess of \$200 (with the exception of printing the routier, should it ever exceed this amount) will be held over till the following meeting, thus giving all members a chance to consider the said motion before it is voted upon." The motion was carried.

Much discussion ensued on the topic of Steve Gapps' article. D. Green asked for a show of hands from those people happy with the way the society is being run. Thirteen of the sixteen people present raised their hands. The meeting was asked whether the way in which the society was run should be discussed at a special meeting (rather than individual issues being raised as part of normal meeting procedure). The members voted against having a special meeting.

Minutes of the Meeting held at the German Concordia Club 4/6/96

Present: A. Brew, S. Hand, P. Breeze, D. Richardson, B. Harrison, S. Gale, I. Argent, D. Earl, N. Potts, S. Drain, J. O'Brien, S. Gapps, M Terry, P. Fisher, B. Kenworthy, D Green, L. Poulter

Visitor: G. Bell

Apologies: L. Barrett, T. O'Neill

1) Correspondence:

- a) Keith Baker re Crookwell
- b) Russell Miner re Standards Manual
- c) Marian Castel re Conferention
- d) Fire and Steel re feast and lewd photos

2) Treasurer's report: We have \$616.36 from which we are paying Paul Fisher \$500. After this payment our debt to him will be \$167.00 Steve Hand is still owed \$807.

3) Matters Arising From the Previous Minutes:

Flyers: No Progress

Standards Manual - Earl still owes \$12

Pewterers - Andy will give details to Spike for publication in the Routier.

Some work was done on the toolbox

4) Crookwell:

2 coming from SA

6 Condottierri coming

4 AMMAS coming

20 Routiers coming

Total: 32

5) March or Die: People reminded of this - July 26-28

6) Colours: Motion put Hand/Brew - That we should become the Second Captain's Company of the Green Regiment of the Trained Bands of London and that the flag should be altered accordingly (that is by the sewing on of three white triangular devices). - Motion Carried

7) David Green pointed out that he and Ross Argent hauled all the heavy equipment and that without them the society would be in trouble.

8) The implications for the Society of the new gun laws were discussed. It was noted that the police ministers had proposed in a draft document that all muzzle loading firearms should be in category B, the most restricted category of legal longarms. It was agreed by all that this was absurd. The executive of the society agreed to look into what was happening with regard to the gun laws and the possible implications of any changes for the society.

Minutes of Soldier's council meeting, 2/7/96

Present: S. Hand, A. Brew, B. Kenworthy, P/ Fisher, B. Harrison, D. Richardson, P. Breeze, S. Greaves, T. O'Neill, D. Green, I. Argent, R. Argent, D. Earl, M. Terry, F. Daley, S. Gapps, J. O'Brien

Visitors: J. Latimer, Jackie Thinge

Apologies: N. Potts, S. Drain

1. Correspondence - received material from RAHS, Gun Show, Arms and Militaria sales. No action.
2. Treasurer's Report - We have paid off our creditors and are \$30 in the red.
3. Fliers - No Progress
4. Membership. The following people paid
S. Hand, P. Fisher, D. Green, S. Greaves, A. Brew, P. Breeze, D. Richardson, I. Argent, B. Harrison, S. Drain, M. Terry, D. Earl (still owes \$10).
5. St Albans - Logistics were discussed. Muster sheets to be sent to Victorians.
6. Sutton Forest - We got a letter thanking us for our participation and asking us to do it again in November.
7. Guns. A letter will be written to the appropriate person when we are able to ascertain who this is. Membership cards were approved with the addition of a number.
8. Editor's Report - The honourable editor asked for submissions for the next Routier.
9. We need more powder. Steve Gale will buy 10kg.



Minutes of Commission of Array meeting held at the Lord Nelson Tavern 20/7/96

Present: A Brew, S. Hand, D. Green, B. Harrison, P. Fisher, R. Argent

Observer: T. O'Neill

1. Mr Brew showed a letter which he has written to be sent to the appropriate authority requesting clarification of our position regarding guns. Suggestions were offered. Mr Brew will seek to establish who to send the letter to.

D. Green will furnish Andy with a list of shows we have done.

2. Divisional system.

It was proposed that the divisional system be changed from a geographic system to reflect battlefield roles. A divisional structure based around one pike division and two musket was proposed for discussion at soldier's council.

3. Shows - We are looking at getting a show with Abbey's Bookshop. Messrs Brew and O'Neill to follow this up. The method of training for shows was discussed and it was proposed that we do separate training for both fighting and shows.

4. Oktoberfest - We will look into having it one friday night at the German club. There will be a beer tasting competition in which the competitors are blindfolded and six beers are tasted. The Last Valley will also be shown. Andy and Dave will organise.

5. Taminick - Gross will check on Mr Gale to see that he is actually buying powder. We need more 0.75 Cal shot, this will be made at the next Working Bee.

6. Transport - The lack thereof. We are currently relying on two vehicles and it behoves all Routiers to consider the purchase of a hugermobile as their next vehicle.



THE UGLIEST CLOSE-UP?



MASTER OF 'ECKY THUMP!

Notification Is Hereby Given Of A

MAJOR MUSTER!

being the

"TAMINICK MILITARY ENCAMPMENT"

Friday 27th to Monday 30th of September this year.

The Muster site - shall be the shooting range of the North East Muzzleloaders Association (directions overleaf)

Early Mustering - whereas there is a good re-enactors market on the previous weekend, bandesmen are invited to commence mustering on Friday September 20th & spend the intervening week in military preparation whilst enjoying a pleasant rustic sojourn far from citty strife.

Billets - under canvas provided by common store tentage. Bedding should be of straw, plain blankets, skins & such like.

Food & drink - to be provided by members at their own cost & must conform to authentic 17th century type field provender. Please, no plastic packaging or tinnies / stubbies to be seen in camp.

Activities - parades, drills, shooting events, carousing

NB - please advise the adjutant of your intentions as to this event as soon as possible.

S. Hande

Adjutant - 02 9874 9815

NOTIFICATION IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A
MAJOR MUSTER!

being the
"St Crispin's Daye Encampment"

to be held at Sutton Forest on Saturday 19th
& Sunday 20th of October this year.

The Muster site - shall be at the Sutton Forest village Hall before noon on Saturday Oct. 19. To get there, take the M5 South & exit at Mittagong, proceeding via Bowral & Mossvale to Sutton Forest. Alternatively, stay on the M5 until you reach the Illawarra Highway Exit (48) & turn left. the village is about 10kms to the East.

Billets - available in the village hall or under canvas provided by common store tentage.

Food & drink - A Saturday night banquet & a light lunch on Sunday will be provided courtesy of our host, Lord Barnsley. All other meals shall be obtained from local purveyors & farmyards subject to individual endeavour. NB. the village has an inn of fair repute which does provide ales & wines as well as victuals.

Of The Cost - £15.00 per head. Includes feast, Sunday luncheon, site fees & market stall.

Activities - recruitment stall, sales of clothes & equipment, drill displays, fencing &, of course, carousing.

S. Hande
Adjutant.

PUT THIS ON YOUR FRIDGE

Calender of Routier Events August 1996 -Easter 1997

* August 25 Sunday	Working Bee, Common Store, 34 West Market Street Richmond 10 AM	*
This is next weekend you bounders		
September 3 Tuesday	Meeting, German Concordia Club 7PM	
September 27-29 Friday to Sunday	Taminick Military Encampment	
October 1 Tuesday	Meeting, German Concordia Club 7PM	
October 27 Sunday	Working Bee, Common Store, 34 West Market Street Richmond 10 AM	
November 5 Tuesday	Meeting, German Concordia Club 7PM	
November 24 Sunday	General Muster, Parramatta Park 10 AM	
December 7 Saturday	Christmas Party	
February 4 1997 Tuesday	Annual General Meeting, German Concordia Club 7PM	
Easter 1997	4654th tri-millennial re-enactment conferention near Geelong in Mexico	

A Note on Fencing

Fencing Practice is held in Petersham Park at 3PM every Saturday for those interested. Fencing is not held if a separate event is scheduled for that weekend. If you are in any doubt ring Stephen Hand on 9874 9815 or Andrew Brew on 9989 8026 sometime on Saturday morning.

A Note on Membership

All routiers to note that the final date for payment of membership at the normal rate of \$40 per year is August 31st. Payment to be made to the treasurer, Paul Fisher. Kill two gorillas with one arquebus and pay Paul at the working bee.



The Funny Pages

Where Mockery and Jape are Kinge

Wherein are revealed, among Other Wonders,
the Many Faces of the Purple Baldricke:



Figure 1: Au Naturele



Figure 2: The Largest Hat in Christendom



Figure 3: Cyrano?



Figure 4: CYRANO!

Ah, the marvels of the moderne age!

Let it never be said that I let it never be said.
(I never said that.)

A Call To All True Members Of The Pike & Musket Society To Dismiss False Doctrines & Rally 'round The Flag Of Auncient Mightynesse.

Wheras it has come to our notice from sundry ale-house conversations & from divers other sources of some repute, that the view exists amongst some that our once glorious society is entered upon a time of malaise; that perhaps it has lost its former zest & become fat, conservative and most staid, yea unresponsive, it be alledged by some fellows, to the so called needs of younger and newer members, it therefore behoves me, as a member of auncient lineage & indeed a founding father of the said society to respond to this charge. Wherefore I do now set down some few points to those of sufficient perspicacity to heed my words.

1. Change comes to us all. It would indeed be most strange for a society of twelve years standing not to change. Unfortunate as it may be, we do all of us grow old. There are many in the bande now who will not see 35 again and as they are beset with wyfe, children, household duties, work and in most cases, not inconsiderable debt, we can hardly expect them to behave as 25 year old carefree men of no attachment, fixed abode or regular employment that is as ale-house jongleurs & roistering fellowes. Indeed it would be pertinent to expect a much greater contribution from such independent chaps with time on thir hands & so little to clutter their lives than is in fact the case. Strange, but perhaps not surprising, that certain fellowes with the least external commitments do also make the least contribution to their chosen society.

2. Glory Dayes Past shall Be Made Anew. I would most earnestly hope that persons of our auncient bande are not sitting about dreaming of olden glories dayes & waiting for a saviour to rise from these streets for he shall not appear before those who hold out their hands expecting manner to fall from these skies. But he shall appear to those of strong mind & true heart who understand well that the society is only the summe of its parts, that is to say, the members one & all, & it behoves these same to think how they may make a greater contribution &, rather than attempt to relive old glories, create new ones & God willing, I may live to see great Dayes indeed. Let us remember the immortal words of Sir Grimwolde Dogge

"Ask not what yr Society can do for you, but rather ask what you can do for yr Society".

3. The Society is a Military Company. This fact should be obvious enough to all and yet it has come to pass that certain fellowes did not wish to obey the orders of company officers when in recent leager at Crookwell, were slovenly in drest & laggardly of attendance upon drill, marchings & other tasks. To such fellowes it should be known that our society has always operated in the field at the direction of officers or their deputies, not at the

whim of individuals which fact is well known to all. If such discipline is not to yr liking you are at liberty to seek yr amusements elsewhere in such company as be suitable, although I can scarce conceive of any military companies as would accept such illconduct. Members of ye Pike & Musket Society are expected to cheerfully & well undertake those tasks necessary & appropriate to our field activities, be they leagers, marches, showes or drills. The Soldiers Council is the place for debate and new ideas, not the parade ground.

4. Concluding this Theme. The time is nigh for our glorious company to rally itself from the recent blights & cast off those of evil council & pernicious influence. To such as may be new members now or in time to come, be reminded that you are perfectly at liberty to make criticisms or to put up new ideas provided they be of constructive nature. Our society, by those beakons of tradition, experience & expediency, is guided & ministered in certain established & orderly ways which it is the members obligation to uphold rather than to cast down, so put your best foot forward. & march to the proper beat. And you old sweats of gouty feet & swollen paunch, bestir yourselves again & rise out of yr urban torpor & make anew the mighty Routier spirit of far famed renown!

The exact militia programme & the Society in general should expect that every member shall do their duty.

Yrs in faithfully & obedient service.

Musketeer Green.
27 / 7 / 96.



The 20,000m Shamble.



In this Olympic year of our Lorde, how pleasant it was to once again march along that kindley route from Wise Man's Fairey to St. Albans. Did bring back fonde memmoreys of that time ten years ago, when on a much hotter daye, we did rise from the tentes near the Pub, and with coloures and drums to the fore, set off along the road at the quicke step.

Fucking hot it was, with Captayne Pierre determined to recreate realistic straggling, and the Lieutenant Tomislav equally determined to recreate "Beau Geste" with his frequent screams of "March- or die".

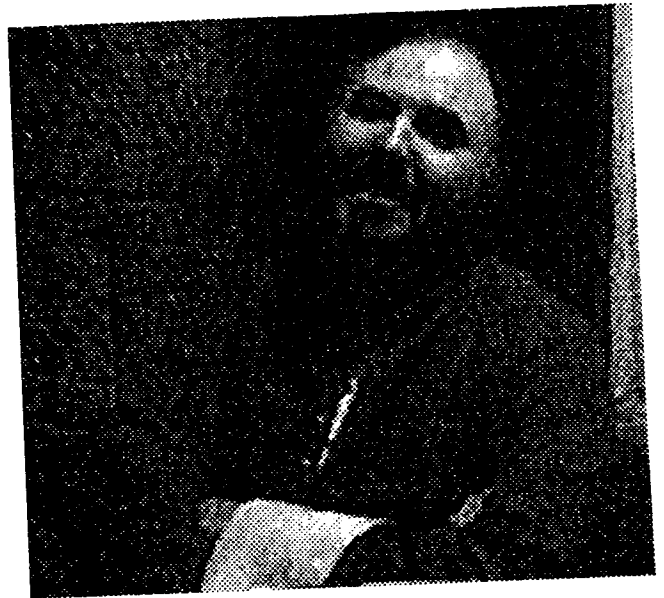
That year most everyone died, but this St. Albans march we all made it. The very dogges of the countryside seemed to enjoy our company, as did other beastes along the way, that is until they decided we were too far down the phylogenetic scale for them, and resumed their usual pursuits (i.e. licking their arses or standing idiotically staring at foliage, rusting dumped cars, etc).

The witty banter did eat away the miles- somewhat. After it started to rain at around half way, I began to feel the effort, although luckily my shoes provided such good service no blisters were experienced. The rain gave me a good incentive not to stop marching, and some of us remarked how miserable it must be to retreat in the wet, not with full bellies and the prospect of a warm pub at the close, but with cold billets ahead, and enemy cavalry behind. With the road churned to mud by the (back)passage of hundreds of troops in front. With dive-bombers circling overhead.

The march was easier than I thought it would be. Still harder with Napoleonic packs no doubt, but as it was pretty strenuous for late 20th century city-dwellers. A regiment of 600 men, plus baggage, must have occupied perhaps a mile or two of road, a great target for an ambush. And with foragers strung out requisitioning from the locals, the whole army creeping across the countryside like an enormous fish.

It is worth considering doing the March every Olympic year- in fact I must write to IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch about it, who is no doubt familiar with matters military from all the good work he did under Franco (as Roy Slaven said).

-Stanislaus



☠ March or Die! II ☠

The Official Story

One of the enduring legends of Routierdom is the tale of the St Albans March. Ten years ago, the embryonic Pike & Musket Society of New South Wales embarked on an epic journey - a 12-mile route march from Wiseman's Ferry to the pub at St Albans. To ensure adherence to European marching conditions (not to mention practicality), it was held in the middle of winter, 1986. Assuredly, the road would be cool and windswept, perhaps even muddy; the air would be cold, crisp and invigorating. This was the plan, of course - the reality was something else! That day in 1986 was to go on record as the hottest winter day in NSW in nearly 50 years, and the 40 degree heat took its toll. Only a scant few of those early Routiers made the distance. A legend was born - March or Die!

Routiers who took part in that epic struggle against the terrible heat, the relentless tyranny of distance, and the consequences of the previous night on the grog, were later honoured with the fabled Sun of St Albans, a decoration second only to the Star of Morisset in its place in the Routier firmament.

This year, as part of our ongoing tradition of 10-year anniversaries (I can't wait for the re-enactment of Morisset in 2000 AD!), the Routiers marched again - and this time, it was different! And yet somehow, identical...

A Misspent Night

After a night misspent drinking at ogling the live and fleshy entertainment at the local pub, we spent an uncomfortable night in the Companie Tentage which been set up in a local caravan park. Everybody snored, farted or worse. Waking up with hangover assaulting my brow, and strange sounds from Gross assaulting my ears, I felt the quintessential Routierness which comes from drinking too much and sleeping with a band of smelly, snoring drunkards in a tent. Inspired, we leapt forth to change into more suitable clothing, and to seek breakfast.

The more reputable eating-houses were still closed, so we broke our fast with some dodgy items sold to us by someone who looked like the brother of the Kwiki-Mart proprietor, Apu.

Recovering from inexplicable bouts of botulism, we repaired to the campsite and packed the tentage for transport to St Albans. This was a well-planned expedition: the baggage train was to be positioned ahead of us! Waiting for the ferry, several veterans were interviewed.

The consensus was positive. We were older and fatter, but much more experienced, and even more importantly, cunning. No-one would let the Companie down!

Crossing the river on the ferry, we resisted the temptation to pose as if making a mighty landing. Once there, the Baggage Trayne was sent ahead, while the remainder of the companie milled around the starting point (see cover).



Figure 1: The Captayne Shows the Way



Figure 2: A Campaign Veteran

The Beginning

The sky was clear, (well, consistently overcast, but in the clearest possible way, you understand.) our spirits were high, and it was 12 miles to St Albans, food, warmth, and beer. With a word from the Captayne, we started. The theme from Derzu Uzala pounded in my head.

The Surrounds

What a beautiful scene we were marching into (and out of)! Lush greenery, old farmhouses, scatterings of placid farm animals, picturesque hills in the distance. In the first couple of hundred metres (or should I say yards? Paces?), a dog rushed down from one of the houses to greet us. He came along, barking, wagging his tail, licking our (salty) hands, and generally being friendly. No doubt the canine, going mostly by smell, took us for his very own. Indeed, this noble dogge not only greeted us, but proceeded to the head of the formation, where he commenced to lead us from his domain!

So here we were, on the 10th anniversary of the legendary St Albans March, boldly creating another legend, and being led into the pages of history by.... a dog. But surely no ordinary dog? No! That bearing, that air of proud command.... This could only be Wallenstein himself! Encouraged by this fortuitous show of favour from the Powers that Be, we redoubled our efforts to march cheerily and confidently to our appointment with destiny. Ross had a stone in his shoe. My case of Siberian ankle, acquired on the less-than-ideally paved streets of Irkutsk, was playing up. Sue had decided to carry my bag, but now couldn't get comfortable. And Bertie, returning from being on the piss with business clients in Victoria, still had not yet arrived. Hand's gout was going to kick in any minute now, for sure.

Despite our troubles, Wallenstein stayed with us. And with us. After a couple of kilometres, I stopped thinking of him as a dog. It's amazing what lack of sleep and a flu will do. I took my attention off Wallenstein and studied our surrounds. This was wise, because our surrounds were already studying us. The road from Wiseman's Ferry to St Albans must have normally been pretty quiet and boring, because we had suddenly become the main attraction for every domestic animal - dog, sheep, horse or cow - in the area. A herd of horses came as closely as they could - right up to the fence- and followed us along the road, not taking their big, horselike eyes off us for a minute. A herd of cows followed a parallel path to us, until they were finally stopped by fencing. Dogs ran after us and barked whenever we went past a house. We also attracted a couple of cars and an entire bus full of English tourists, but that's another story.

Wallenstein's Leave-taking

After some miles, it became obvious that Wallenstein was not going to turn back to his home unbidden. He was having too much fun leading us down the road, possibly anticipating the huge beerfest that would surely follow, as sure as sodomy follows the clergy. However, we anticipated problems at the inn; the dog was under-age, and even if the innkeeper turned a blind eye, what of the dog's erstwhile owner? While it might be amusing to argue with a surly local while roaring drunk, dognapping was taken seriously in these parts. And he'd have plenty of friends hereabouts. We had no choice - Wallenstein would have to return.

Ross volunteered, distracting the dog with petting (though no heavy petting), and probably talking to him in the secret language that he and Womble use when they're alone, who knows? Once the companie had passed well out of sight, Ross led him back towards the Ferry. Taking the hint, Wallenstein retired, his duty evidently done.

The Weather

Soon after Ross caught up, the going got a little tougher. Bertie arrived, looking cheery and not at all footsore (grunt), and was soon going up and down the line, gratuitously giving orders and striking commanding poses, not an easy task when you're marching.

It was then that I noticed that we were marching



Figure 3: Wallenstein Leads Us On

MARCH OR DIE: THE ALBANS MARCH WITH SEVERAL & DIVERS COMMENTS ON THE NATURE OF BILLETING DURING THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR.

On Saturday July 27th, 1996, fourteen **loyal** members of the Pike & Musket Society marched 12 miles from Wiseman's ferry to St Albans taking 5¼ hours to do so (which I believe is a record for re-enactors). During the last half of the march it rained so much that, upon arrival at the hamlet of St. Albans, the Captayne deemed it appropriate to seek billets at the inn for his footsore & weary men rather than have them sleep in tents in the sodden field. Billets were most graciously granted by the innkeeper and, after eating, drinking & dicing, the valiant soldiers slept soundly on the parlour floor before a warm fire.

This excellent society event had, for me, a tremendous living history feel to it - the cold misty day, the damp fields, the cloud shrouded mountains, the rain dripping off my hat brim as I trudged along trying to count the beat in my head & hoping some obliging peasant chappie would carry my musket for me. The great moment was of course the sight of the cosy old inn as we crossed the bridge into the village. What a relief it was to lay down musket & rest, put off bandolier, sword & other accoutrements, don warm dry casaque and get set up at table by the fire in the parlour with a big tankard of the foaming beverage going down well. I am reliably informed by those who looked it on us from outside that we very much looked like a group of weary soldiers taking their ease at beer and dice.

The authenticity of the experience was enhanced by the fact that this is pretty much how English Civil War soldiers often spent their evenings when on the march. Not until the 18th century were the ordinary soldiers of the British army regularly issued with tents. In the English Civil War period the standard practice was to quarter in villages or towns at the end of each day's march, a system which did much for the soldier's comfort & health even if it did little for the army's relations with civilians who complained that their goods were stolen, their women violated, the men folk beaten up & that the papers issued by the army for billeting costs to be defrayed were not honoured.

The army had different problems related to billeting. In towns & villages soldiers were prone to excess of drink and wantonness & it was not always easy to muster them again in the morning especially if dispersed over a wide area. This could greatly reduce the amount of daylight hours available for marching. 6 or 7 hours on the road was the best that could be hoped for & marches of only 6 to 12 miles per day were typical. Nor was marching every day possible as two days in every three were normally spent resting, garnering supplies & working out what to do next. During the Midlands Campaign, Waller's infantry marched for 36 days out of 69 with no more than 3 days spent in any one place. On this march, 21 nights were spent in the open without any shelter at all. This was

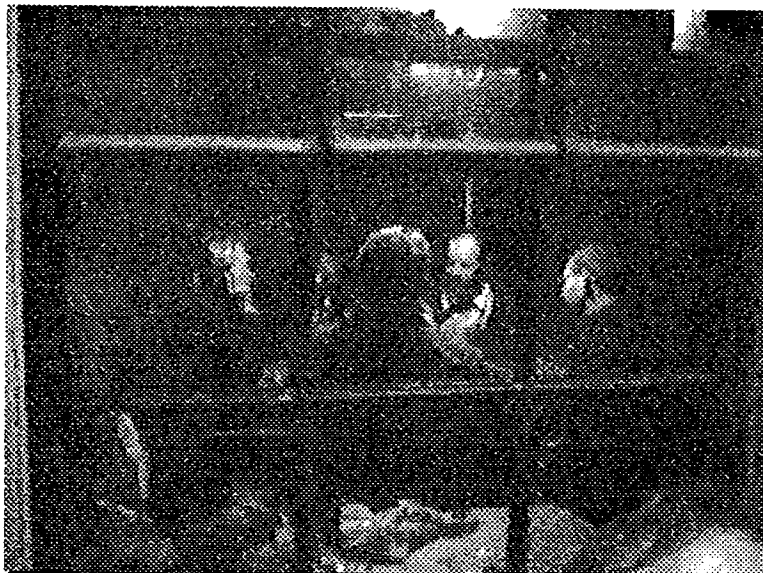
a great misery to the troops and the women folk who accompanied them and caused desertion and illness. Not for them the luxuries of waterproof tents, thermal sleeping bags, doonas & sheepskins or rugs to lie on.

Furthermore, in an age before distinctive uniforms it was not difficult for soldiers to cast off their war-gear and merge in with the locals. This practice was particularly common if battle was imminent or the weather turned foul. Before the battle of Cheriton in 1644 members of the trayned bandes, having been convinced by Waller to fight the following day, went into the town to 'refresh themselves' with liberal amounts of drink. Next day not all turned up who swore to fight. Some were doubtless too unwell. Others simply hid amongst the locals and ignored the beating drums, anonymity being the better part of valour.

Having had almost no land fighting on her soil since the Wars of the Roses, the English had not seen any need to invest greatly in military infrastructure and simply did not have the fiscal and logistical backup to provide adequate tentage, magazines or established barracks. Even in Europe, on the Spanish Road and in Thirty Years War Germany, systems of barracks and magazines were only ad hoc, temporary & often poorly organised. It was the difficulties experienced with moving large bodies of infantry in the chronic wars of the first half of the 17th century that led European governments, from 1650 to 1700, to set up permanent barracks and magazines in the main areas of operation as well as supply adequate tentage for extended periods in the field. When the Duke of Marlborough moved his 60,000 strong army from the Netherlands to Bavaria in 1704 he set up well stocked magazines in advance of his march and was able to **average** 12 miles a day; a feat unheard of in former times.

Between 1640 and 1700, the English went from having a small essentially amateur army to having a small very professional one. In the process a new military culture was established which seems to hold strong attraction for many re-enactors and wargamers. However I, for one, much prefer the more leisurely character of the trayned bande citizen soldier during the heyday of the London Militia. Which brings me back to that most pleasant of evenings in the St. Albans pub where the gallant Green Bandsmen, having strolled in leisurely fashion from the Great River, enjoyed good company, good beer, a decent meal and no bum bum pooh pooh carry on which is much better left to later and more vulgar regiments from the New World.

Musketeer Green
Paceman, March or Die!TM II!



A DITTY

to the tune of "The Grand Old Duke of York"

AHEM.

Oh, the Routier Captayne,
He had one dozen men,
He marched them up to the top of the hill,
And they wouldn't come down again.

"Our feet are sore" they said,
"Our guns are heavy too.
The weather here is cold and wet,
And our lips are turning blue."

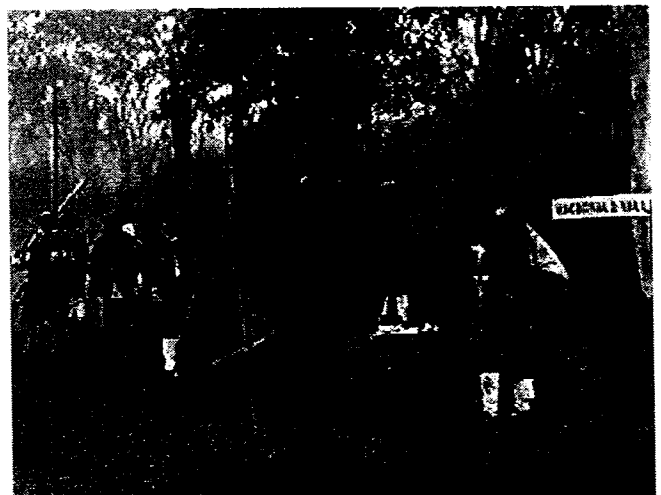
The Captayne looked aghast,
When he saw their disarray.
He said "You must all march my boys,
Or there'll be no beer today".

And when they all heard this,
They had an awful fright,
Not only did they march all day,
They marched all bloody night.

Well, they finally reached the pub,
and the Routiers gave a cheer,
'cause nothing fixes footsore soldiers
faster than a beer!

MARCH OR DIE!

.....
Sarge
August '96



RE-ENACTMENT IS MEANT TO BE FUN: OR WHY B. LEVELLER IS A PAIN IN THE ARSE.

We have all by now read the lengthy, occasionally scholarly, frequently provocative, but mostly rude and offensive rantings of B. Leveller and cannot but be struck by the obvious intensity of the said fellow and his fervent committment to his own cause. Notwithstanding this, I feel two points must be made in reponse to the thrusts of B. leveller lest our judgements be clouded with unholy earnestness & a sort of pious hypocrisy.

Firstly, let me point out to B. Leveller that, as an exponent of non material re-enactment, he is a poor example as can be proven by his not infrequent use of modern profanities, and his well known bum bum pooh pooh antics which have nothing at all to do with the social interaction of London Trained Bandsmen, be they levellers or tradesmen looking for an even break. On the material front he fares no better when we point out his habit of smoking cigarettes in re-enactment camp and his off times drinking of beer from stubbies, activities for which no evidence exists in regard to ECW times. People who live in glass houses should not throw stones as my old gaffer used to say.

Secondly, B. leveller, matey, what is all this angst and pious earnestness. Re-enactment, like any sport or hobby, is meant to be enjoyable, isn't it? One of great things which everyone admires about John Haskell of the NEMLA is that he has not forgotten that re-enactment is first and foremost a fun thing. And so it should be. If it becomes otherwise, then I for one will not be doing it. What a bore it will be to do the sort of non material baloney proposed by B. Leveller, particularly if it is of the anti social, slovenly, unco-operative "leveller" style which has become the trade mark of monseigneur Gapps. Let us not permit an apparently serious, but flawed, quest for "authenticity" mask the reality of one relatively new member beating his own rather ill-tuned and clamorous drum.

As the worthy and portly Mr. Hande as pointed out, we cannot remotely hope to re-enact to social and political dynamics of 17th century people and I do not think we should try. The past is a foriegn country. They thought and did things very differently back then. What we can do is re-create to the best of our ability the material aspects and some of the cultural aspects of the ECW soldiers life, use the period drill and orders, have our camps, go on marches, do the odd show, but most importantly just enjoy it all for what it is - a fascinating, exciting and amusing hobby which I, and most others in the society, do not want ruined by the commie style ratbaggery of one person. Gapp's antics and politics fly in the face of the original brief of the society's founding fathers and it remains my view that the majority of the members wish THEIR SOCIETY to remain stable, disiplined, well run, non political and free of beaurocratization. As Dean Richardson says "I did not join this society to listen to this crap". If the way this society operates is not to the liking of one or two malcontents, I suggest for the sake of us all, that they find their amusements elsewhere.

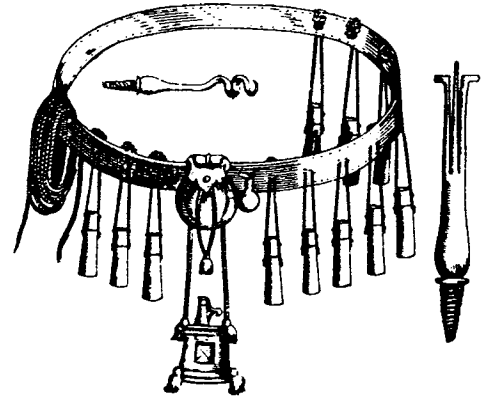
A pox on hypocrisy, earnestness, non material re-enactment and Steve Gapps.

Musketeer Green. 18/7/96.

The Exact Militia Programme ?

How it affects you.

baldrics
bandoliers
buckles
corslets
haversacks
helmets
muskets
pottles
scabbards



BALDRICS - few examples of ordinary soldiers baldrics survive. The 1638 issue of "Directions for Musters" describes the foot using "girdle & hangers" ie a waist belt from which several buckled loops were hung to secure the sword. This is logical as the waist-line of many ordinary people's doublets were cut straight rather than drooping as among the fashionable. However by the 1640s, waist belts were going out of fashion in favour of shoulder belts. Contemporary art shows us infantry baldrics with belts of about 3 to 5 cms width with or without a cast iron buckle and with two simple loops for holding the sword - these are just the sort of belts which feature in a 1642 illustration of men of the Artillery Garden.

BANDOLIERS - a recent study of contemporary sources by Messrs Hande & Green has revealed that bandoliers with buckles were exceedingly rare. Indeed only one example as been found to date - that made for an elite guard regiment of some German prince. And this same bandolier had tin charges covered with velvet! Wherefore all bandoliers are to be remade without buckles, with new bullet bags, strings, wooden primers & separator rings.

BUCKLES: almost all contemporary art shows Double D buckles on baldrics and other straps. Progressively, all the society's buckles will be replaced with double Ds, the exception being Waist-belts whose buckles were oblong being rather taller than wide.

CORSLETS - consisting of breast, back, tassets & gorget shall be the required armour for the societies pikemen for it shall be a terrible & most awesome thinge to behold in the field.

HAVERSACKS & SNAPSACKS are all now required as standard, rather than optional equipment. Haversack refers to the canvas or leather "sausage" bag worn the back for carrying various personal effects. Snapsack refers to a smaller squarish canvas or leather shoulder bag for carrying "snap" ie food in Northern English parlance.

HELMETS - under statute all trayned bandsmen were required to wear helmets & this shall be the goal of our society as much for show as for anything else. Wherefore all members shall be obliged to obtain helmets of morion, cabaset, pot or burgonet design: that is to say Infantry helmets.

MUSKETS OF 12 BORE" This equates to .75cal & was the statutory requirement for muskets supplied to the London Trained Bands. As part of the exact militia programme begun by Captayne Green & being continued by Captayne Brew, musketeers are to gradually replace their existing pieces with ones of proper bore. Musketeers Peter Breeze & David Green have begun this process by ordering two 1638 pattern muskets off mr. Steve Nicoll for approximately \$900.00 each. These veterans of many years will be styling themselves as exact musketeers in the new style.

POTTLES: Although in England's damp & cool climate, water bottles were rarely issued, they do nicely enhance the appearance of the complete militia-man and are certainly practical in our sun-burnt land. However as non statutory items, they shall be classed as desired but not mandatory.

SCABBARDS: - if yours is of old and inferior make, it must be renewed to the latest standard. Brass throats and tips were rare on originals, plain leather over a wooden frame being far more usual and much cheaper. The society is currently looking at a bulk order for scabbards with the Hon. Dick Stein or some other manufacturer of repute.

The exact militia programme is due for completion by the time of the Annual General Muster in November 1998.

Divers Facts Appertaining To The London Trayn'd Bandes With Some Specific References To The Green Bande.

Commander in Chief: the Lord Mayor of the cittie of London

Second in Command: appointed professional, usually with experience of the Dutch Wars. e.g. Sir Philip Skippon.

Regimental Commanders: colonels drawn from the city aldermen.

Lieutenant Colonels: usually soldiers of professional experience or members of the Voluntary Associations, they were appointed by the common council of the city.

Regimental Size	a) 1640	5 coys. of 300 men each
	b) 1642	6 or 7 coys. of 200 men each
	c) 1643	6 - 10 coys. variable strengths

No of Regts	a) 1640	4	6,000 men
	b) 1642	6	8,000 men
	c) 1643	13	18,000 men

Ratio of pike to shotte	a) 1640	1:1
	b) 1643	1:2

Ratio of officers to men (1643) 1 : 18

Note : the term officers refers to commissioned & non-commissioned officers as well as clerks, musicians, chaplains and surgeons.



Typical Company Structure

Captayne	commiss.	company commander (nob)
Lieutenant	commiss.	his deputy (professional)
Ensign	commiss.	trophy (colour) bearer
Two sergeants		drill instruction / discipline
Three corporals		drill instruction / div. leaders
Two drummers		musicians
One clerk		company books / paymaster
One gentleman-at-arms		weapons inspection & maintenance
100 - 200 soldiers		divided
into 3 divisions		- 2 shotte, one pike, each headed by a corporal.

Weapons & Armour: were meant to conform to statute but did not, trayned bandes having batches of arms bought over many years with pikes and muskets of several lengths & styles. With the exception of gentlemen who kept their own, arms and armour were kept in company or guild halls or churches or municipal buildings throughout the city & suburbs.

Service: Service in the trayned bandes was determined by wealth assessment & was an obligation to such as were "men sufficient (of means) of able & active bodies; none of the meaner sort, nor servants, but only such as be of the gentrie, freeholders and good farmers or their sons, that are like to be resident". In London these criteria translated into city gents, merchants, tradesmen, their apprentices and shopkeepers. The bands were intended for defence against foreign attack and for enforcing law & order in their localities if required. During the civil war the London bands regarded defence of the capitol & its immediate environs as their first responsibility & could only with reluctance be persuaded to serve outside the home counties.

The Green Bande

was formed out of the 4 original regiments - North, South, East & West - in 1642 when the bandes were re-organised from 20 companies divided amongst 4 regiments to 40 companies amongst 6 regiments. At a muster held in 1643, the Green bande turned out the

smallest number of men: 863 comprising 63 officers, 297 pikemen & 503 musketeers.

As yet I have encountered no references to suggest the Green Bande served outside London, except at Turham Green in November 1642. Being fairly small, it may be that the Green Bande, along with others, spent the war manning the "lines of Communication" - the 11 mile network of forts & trenches thrown up in 1643 to protect the Citties of London, Westminster & the borough of Southwark. It does seem that it was the bigger regiments - the Red, Blue, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, Westminster - who did the most field service with the "marching armies" which makes sense on a purely tactical level even if unfair in terms of who was shot at & who wasn't.

I hope that my trip to the old dart in October will reveal more about the Green Bande. For the nonce, my knowledge is exhausted.

DG.



Lift of Personages

Captayne

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Lisa Poulter (The Liquid-Eyed One): c/- The National Routier

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