



Sir Marmaduke Rawdon's Regiment of Foote 1643-46 Warning Order Royal Gunpowder Mills 14 - 15 August 2010

UPDATED 5 August 2010

Rawdons are back at the Mills once more for another weekend of skirmishing and partying.

Improbable scenario: King Charles has instructed Sir Marmaduke Rawdon and his men to march from Oxford to garrison Basing House in Hampshire, but the Colonel appears to have taken a slight detour to...err...Essex. Sir Marmaduke, in a little known episode from history, has determined to lead his Regiment to the Gunpowder Mills to replenish his stocks of powder before marching to succour the Marquis of Winchester.

There will be a Skirmish each day as Rawdons and allies attempt to drive the Roundheads from the Powder Mills. We will try to make it as much fun as we can, with much shooting by the Shotte and the Gunnes, and plenty of pushing for the Pikemen.

As well as the main skirmish, there will be a mini-skirmish and a drill display. And for the first time at the Powder Mills, Sir Richard Grenville's Troop of Horse will be present for a Cavalry Drill Display and to wreak havoc in the Skirmishing.

Please read the following information carefully as there are many dos and don'ts for this event.

Living History

The Living History campsite will be set up on the main field. If anyone would like to take part in the living history, you will be very welcome – just let Elaine know in advance please so she can allocate you a space. **UPDATE 5 Aug – set-up is now not available before 5pm on Friday.**

Plastic camping

The plastic site has limited space. Please bring a small tent rather than an enormous palace if you can, or share, and go easy on the caravan or campavan awnings – this way we can hopefully get everyone in. Please keep vehicles off grass which could be used for tents and keep coned roadways clear for the “land train” which goes round the site.

For those who haven't been before, please note that the plastic site is some distance from the main gate and from the proper loos and the water, and has no direct access.

Absolutely NO open fires, barbeques of any sort, or candles, lanterns etc on the plastic site please, for safety reasons. Please take all possible measures to avoid the risk of fire.

Semi-authentic campsite

If you have an authentic style canvas tent, you are welcome to pitch on the main field in the “semi-authentic” area. This will help to relieve pressure on the plastic site and you will be nearer the facilities. The semi-authentic site will be visible to the public but roped off. **UPDATE 5 Aug – set-up is now not available before 5pm on Friday.**

Access and timings

The Mills is an enclosed site with security arrangements to prevent unauthorised access. Please bear with us regarding the following access times.

The gate will be open for arrivals from **3pm** on Friday 13 August until **midnight**. **Plastic campers must drive carefully as the site will be open for punters until 5pm**. If you arrive after midnight, site security will let you in. Eventually.

The gate will be open and personned by Rawdons from **8.30 to 10.00** on Saturday morning (**Note change of closure time**). Very early arrivals must be nice to the security guard.

On Saturday and Sunday, there must be no vehicle movement on site between **10.00 am and 4.30 pm** when the public are around (apart from blue badge holders). If you arrive between these times, you will have to park in the public car park and bring your stuff onto the site on foot, or leave it until later. Please ensure you have your membership card with you if not in kit, or you may be asked to pay admission. Likewise, if you will need your vehicle between these times, you will have to move it out to the car park before 10.00 am and bring it back in after 5pm.

On Saturday night we will be guarding the gate until **8pm**, so if you go out, please be back by then.

On Sunday the gate will be open soon after the skirmish to allow for departures. Please drive carefully as there will still be punters around.

The campsites will be available until 10.00 Monday morning. **This is now a strict leaving time**. We won't be guarding the gate on Sunday night so anyone staying over will need to liaise with security if they go out.

Party!

The dressy-up theme this year is **The World of Gerry Anderson** – Thunderbirds, Captain Scarlet et al... We'll have some of the Milton Brewery's finest products available, plus some cider. Beer tokens will be on sale during Saturday from the LH site.

Facilities/food

The on-site cafe **has been replaced by a burger van selling a limited range of food and drinks** – unfortunately the usual cooked breakfasts will not be available this year. A basic authentic-lunch will be available on the LH for a small fee – buy tokens in advance.

Waltham Abbey town is about 15 mins walk/5 mins drive away, and has shops, cashpoints, pubs, takeaways, an offy, petrol and a huge Tesco. It also has the historic Abbey itself, which is worth a visit if you have time. Some pubs are to be approached with caution if you are in kit.

Safety

Please do not explore beyond the plastic campsite in the non-public area and do not let children do so either. There are stretches of water and other hazards such as deep pits. Please keep out of buildings and do not use the derelict bridges (however tempting that is). This area is best seen by means of the Land Train guided tour and you can buy tickets for this by the cafe. We hope to arrange a special land train trip just for us on Saturday after the public are gone.

Dogs/wildlife/mosquitos

Dogs are not allowed at this site. Please don't bring them with you.

Deer and other animals live wild in the grounds – take extra care when driving, especially at night. Please help to protect the deer by not leaving food lying around, especially in plastic bags, cos several have died from scavenging and eating plastic. Please don't feed the deer either.

Insect bites can be a big problem here. If you are prone to bad reactions to these, ensure you have the appropriate medication with you.

Rubbish

Please bring all binbags and rubbish to the skip by the café when you leave.

Location and directions

The Gunpowder Mills is on Beaulieu Drive at Waltham Abbey, between junctions 25 and 26 of the M25. **The postcode is EN9 1JY.** There is a huge colour sign at the entrance to the Mills, which is opposite a MacDonalds. The entrance gates for participants are at the far end of Beaulieu Drive (on the right).

From M25 Junction 25, take the first exit onto the A10 towards Hertford. At the next roundabout, take the A121 towards Waltham Cross. At the next roundabout, take a right towards Waltham Abbey. The Gunpowder Mills are signposted with brown signs (a picture of a mill) and some AA signs. Follow the signs to Waltham Abbey. Turn left into Beaulieu Drive, which is opposite MacDonalds.

From M25 junction 26, take the A121 towards Waltham Abbey/ Loughton. At the roundabout, take the 2nd exit onto A121 heading to Waltham Cross/Chingford/Waltham Abbey. Go through two roundabouts. This road eventually emerges at the junction with Beaulieu Drive – go straight ahead to the Mills entrance.

There is also a “directions” facility on the Gunpowder Mills website:

<http://www.royalgunpowdermills.com/directions.htm>

The nearest train station is Waltham Cross, approximately 20 minutes walk away. Cabs are available at the station. Buses from Waltham Cross: 240,250,252

See you there!

Muster organisers

Matters Military: Alistair North, 0208 350 5483, alistairnorth@yahoo.co.uk

Matters Domestic/Living History: Elaine English, 07866 791 202, e.english@mdx.ac.uk

Powder Officer: Wayne Johnson, 07977 169 969, powder@rawdons.co.uk

Websites: www.rawdons.co.uk www.royalgunpowdermills.com