



CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

JUNE 1989





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The Colonel of the Regiment greeting our Colonel-in-Chief at the Banqueting House

Royal reception

THE Officers' Club were honoured by the presence of the Colonel-in-Chief, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, at a reception on 5 May at the Banqueting House, Whitehall, to mark the Regiment's 25th anniversary.

More than 290 members attended. The principal hosts were the Colonel of the Regiment and the three Deputy Colonels. Her Majesty was accompanied by Lady Angela Oswald and Lt Col Sir Martin Gilliat.

Trumpeters from the Pompadours sounded a fanfare in Her Majesty's honour.

The reception was a great success and Her Majesty spoke to many past and present members of the Regiment and their ladies. We have subsequently received a letter from Sir Martin Gilliat, her private secretary, passing on Her Majesty's warm appreciation, saying that she will always have very happy memories of the occasion.



1st Battalion
(Norfolk, Suffolk and
Cambridgeshire)



2nd Battalion
(Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and
Northamptonshire)



3rd Battalion
(Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire
and Essex)



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Colonel C. Dale

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Our cover

Reproduced from the original painting by Charles
C. Stadden of a Regimental Drummer against a
background of the Abbey Gate, Bury St. Edmunds.



Colonel-in-Chief

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER

Deputy Colonels-in-Chief

Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon

Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester

Colonel of The Regiment

General Sir John Akehurst KCB CBE

Deputy Colonels of The Regiment

Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire: Major General A J G Pollard CBE

Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire: Major General P P D Stone CBE

Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex: Brigadier W T Dodd OBE ADC

Deputy Honorary Colonels TA

Norfolk: Colonel P W Raywood TD DL

Suffolk: Brigadier W C Deller OBE

Cambridgeshire: Colonel J P McDonald

Lincolnshire: Colonel W J Gleadell TD

Leicestershire: Colonel W G Dawson TD DL

Northamptonshire: Colonel J L Lowther CBE

Bedfordshire: Colonel J P Wetherall

Hertfordshire: Colonel D W Willard TD JP

Essex: Colonel P D L Hopper

Alliances

Canadian Armed Forces

Sherbrooke Hussars

The Lincoln and Welland Regiment

The Essex and Kent Scottish

The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment

Australian Military Forces

The Royal Tasmania Regiment

New Zealand

3rd Battalion (Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

Pakistan Army

5th Battalion The Frontier Force Regiment

Malaysian Armed Forces

1st Battalion The Royal Malay Regiment

Barbados

The Barbados Regiment

Bermuda

The Bermuda Regiment

Gibraltar

The Gibraltar Regiment

Belize

Belize Defence Force

Civic Honours

The Regiment has been granted the honour of the Freedom of Bedford, Boston, Bury St. Edmunds, Cambridge, Chelmsford, Cleethorpes, Colchester, Dunstable, Ely, Grantham, Grimsby, Hertford, Hinckley, Ilford, Ipswich, King's Lynn, Lincoln, Lowestoft, Northampton, Norwich, Peterborough, Romford, Southend, Watford, Wellingborough, Wisbech and Yarmouth.

REGIMENTAL LOCATIONS

Regimental Headquarters:

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN
(0284 752394/Colchester Military 5138)

Regimental Secretary: Colonel C J Dale

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major A G B Cobbold

Regimental Careers Officer: Major G W M Hipkin

Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire

Britannia Barracks, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 4HJ (0603-628455)

Area Secretary: Major W H Reeve

Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire

Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton NN1 3RE (0604-35412)

Area Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel J L Wilson DL

Captain A R Smith (Lincoln)

Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex

Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Essex CM13 3BN (0277-213051)

Area Secretary: Major D J Thorogood

Regimental Information Team

Depot, The Queen's Division, Bassingbourn (0763-42271)

BATTALION LOCATIONS

1st Battalion (Norfolk, Suffolk &
Cambridgeshire) Gibraltar, BFPO 52

Lieutenant Colonel J C B Sutherell MBE
Lieutenant Colonel D S B Phipps Feb 90

2nd Battalion (Lincolnshire, Leicestershire &
Northamptonshire) Celle, BFPO 23

Lieutenant Colonel T Longland MBE
Lieutenant Colonel A P Deed Apr 90

3rd Battalion (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire &
Essex), Minden BFPO 29

Lieutenant Colonel J D Lacey

5th Battalion
TA Centre, London Road, Peterborough

Lieutenant Colonel N H Kelsey TD

6th Battalion
TA Camp, Blenheim Camp, Bury St. Edmunds

Lieutenant Colonel P R C Dixon

7th Battalion
TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester

Lieutenant Colonel G I G Brett
Lieutenant Colonel R E Haes Oct 89

Senior Regimental Representatives

Depot the Queen's Division

Lieutenant Colonel M Boocock

RMA Sandhurst

Captain N G Burrell

JIB Shorncliffe

Major F J Perry MBE

From the Colonel of the Regiment



THIS year marks the 25th anniversary of the regiment - 25 remarkable years that have seen the amalgamation of our founder Regiments - complete with their valuable and important county affiliations - into the Regiment we know today.

Life in the regular battalions has always been busy and heavy demands have often been made of them. All ranks have been required to shoulder great responsibilities, often show patience and restraint in the face of aggravation and danger and throughout maintain their high professionalism.

Families have had to shoulder the problems of moves and separations whilst following the flag. It is very much to the Regiment's credit that its reputation and morale has remained consistently high.

Our Territorial Battalions have had to adjust to many changes during the past 25 years but have now settled down with companies closely affiliated to the main county cities and towns, with recruiting buoyant and with their spirit unalterably high. I have heard nothing but good of their high professional standing.

To celebrate this important year in the Regiment's history the Officers' Club has been host to our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother at the Banqueting Hall in Whitehall and I look forward to another massive Regimental Association meeting at Basingbourn on Sunday 16 July. I do urge all who can to attend. Last year's event was an unqualified success and we have the added pleasure this year of celebrating our quarter century. We might even have good weather; I am sure that Padre Tom Hiney, who will be taking our drumhead service again, will be doing what he can about this.

We continue to maintain our connections with our Allied Regiments and I was delighted to be at the Gibraltar Regiment's 50th anniversary celebrations on 29 Apr. The events included Trooping the Colour, an ambitious undertaking indeed, but impeccably done. We wish the Gibraltar Regiment all good fortune and success in the years to come and send our warm greetings to our other allied regiments in Australia, Bermuda, Belize, Canada, Malaysia, New Zealand and Pakistan.

National trends make recruiting increasingly difficult but our very existence depends upon it, so it remains a high priority task for all of us. Retention of officers and soldiers in battalions is as important as bringing in new blood but recruiting is a task to which we can all turn our hand. Most of us probably know somebody who is of two minds whether to enlist or not and it is up to us to encourage them to do so. With two Regular and three TAVR battalions at home, with our Regimental Information Teams and with four Regimental Bands, we should do all we can to lessen the effects of the 'demographic trough' and thus invalidate the speculation about decreases in establishment which we have already seen in the press.

I can report again, after many enjoyable visits to our battalions, that the Regiment remains in fine form whether on duty, socially or on the field of play; I am always heartened by their enthusiasm and dedication to whatever job they are given and I remain confident that whether in England, Northern Ireland, Germany or the Falklands, they will continue to win high praise.

Mainly about people . . .

Senior Appointments:

Maj Gen A J G Pollard - to be GOC Southwest District early 90.

Col J J W Browne - to Army Presentation Team until Sep 89 and then Bde Comd 33 Armoured Brigade Paderborn Dec 89.

Col J R Hart - to Commander BATT Sudan: 12 Sept 89.

Col J P Macdonald - Deputy Honorary Colonel TA (Cambridgeshire), vice- Col R A Shervington from 31 Mar 89.

Lt Col A R A Veitch - to Depot Queens Div: 29 May 89, pending next appointment.

Lt Col A D Slater - to SO1 (W) Project Officer to Nov 89 then CO 6 UDR.

Commissions:

We congratulate and welcome on their commissions:-

2 Lts N J Palmer, A W Price, B A Runciman and H T Simpson - to 1 R Anglian.

2 Lts P D Bailey and B A Foster - to 2 R Anglian.

2 Lts R C Stoddart and J M Chapman - to 3 R Anglian.

We congratulate the following on their commissions from the ranks

Lt M J Abbott (6 R Anglian to 1 Queens), **Lt M Jackson** - 2 R Anglian, **Lt P A Cookson** - Depot Queens Division.

RSMs:

The following RSM appointments have been made. We offer our congratulations to:-

WO1 R J Allan - to 27 Cadet Training Team,

WO1 C Norman - to East Midland UOTC,

WO1 D L Powley - to 6 R Anglian.

Retirements:

The following have retired. We wish them all success and good fortune for the future:-

Maj R J Jackson MBE (19 Jan 89), **Capt C**

R Webster (2 May 89), **Maj D J Wright** (20

Mar 89) and **Capt Alasdair Wild** (9 Jun 89).

Honours & Awards:

We congratulate the following in their honours and awards:-

Maj Bernard Mills CBE, **Maj R J Jackson MBE**, **Maj B H Tindon BEM**, **Lt Col J C D Higgs** on appointment of DL and **Brig W T Dodd OBE** on appointment as ADC to the Queen.

Continued Page 6



MEMBERS of the Infantry Cricket Club gather at the Long Room Lord's cricket ground, on the occasion of the annual dinner.

Left to right are: Lt Edward Thorne, Col John Holman, Maj Gen Sir David Thorne and Maj Guy Hipkin. Maj Gen Sir David Thorne has recently assumed the new appointment of Director General of the Commonwealth Trust. He will be responsible for implementing the Trust's plans which involves organising the Royal Commonwealth Society's services and premises, and a new programme of meetings and activities linked with the family nations.

Mainly about people . . .

From Page 5

Postings:

Capt G N Taylor - from 1/2 GR to Depot Queens Div as Training Increment; 2 May 89.

Maj R H C Lucas - to 2 R Anglian; Jun 89.

Capt S J Marriner - to 1 R Anglian; Jul 89.

Maj W P Secombe - from PMC Arborfield to Depot HS from 6 Jan 89.

Capt D M Harding - from 3 R Anglian to Depot Training Increment from 21 Jul 89.

Maj P M Holme - from JDSC to 2 R Anglian; 24 Jul 89.

Maj S R H Underwood - from 1 R Anglian to SO2 G2 HQ BAOR (Int Exploitation); Aug 89.

Capt N G Burrell - from 2 R Anglian to RMAS as Regimental Representative; 24 Jul 89.

Capt J P Sweeney - to 1 R Anglian; 3 Apr 89.

Maj C J C Kett - from 2 RRF to 5 R Anglian; 17 Jul 89.

Maj A P Domeisen - from 2 R Anglian to AITAT BAOR; 24 Jul 89.

Capt T D G Townley - from BRIXMIS to 2 R Anglian; 7 Aug 89.

Capt I P Wardle - from HQ Eastern District to 6 R Anglian; 15 Apr 89.

Maj D N Pryce - from 2 R Anglian to Depot Queens Div; 8 Jan 90.

Maj D Taylor - from 2 Queens to 7/10 UDR; 29 Aug 89.

Capt R C McDonald - from 2 R Anglian to AA College Harrogate; 17 Jul 89.

Lt R F L Lyne - from 2 R Anglian to Depot Queens Div; 5 Jun 89.

Maj P H Williamson - from DGGWL to ACDDS (OR) Land; 8 May 89.

Capt E E C Thorne - from RMt S to 1 R Anglian; 3 Jul 89.

We are pleased to see **Lt Tarquín Crouch** on his transfer to the Regiment from the AAC.

We congratulate **Brig W T Dodd** on his appointment as ADC to HM the Queen. We also extend our congratulations to **Brig C M J Barnes**, ADC on his future employment as secretary TAVRA, West Midlands starting in Sep 89.

Dinner Club's new secretary

Due to pressure of work the post of secretary of the Sergeants' Past and Present Dinner Club has been relinquished by Mr T Mourne. The post has been accepted by Mr D Martin.

In future, all communications regarding the Sergeants' Dinner Club are to be addressed to: Mr D Martin, 20 Springfield Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.



THE old links between the Royal Anglian Regiment and the Royal Tasmania Regiment were reinforced recently when Capt Mark Wenham of the 1st Bn visited our sister Regiment in Hobart. The links were first forged when the Suffolk Regiment, the 12th of Foot served in Tasmania from 1855 until 1866. Capt Wenham is currently on exchange

with the Australian army as a jungle warfare instructor at Canungra in south east Queensland. Capt Wenham and his wife, Penny, were looked after extremely well by the Regimental Colonel, Col L A Simpson. Capt Wenham is seen here exchanging plaques with the Regimental Colonel of the Royal Tasmania Regiment.

Special exhibition

THE Soldier as Collector - a special exhibition at the National Army Museum on 21 Jun 89 to 14 Jan 90, admission free.

Organised to celebrate Museums Year, this special exhibition looks at the remarkable range of items collected by British soldiers in peace and war.

A large number of unusual souvenirs and trophies will be represented, but the exhibition will also introduce some important academic collections and the colourful characters who created them.

The exhibition will chronicle the adventurous lives of fighting men who were also ethnographers, archaeologists, natural historians and collectors of antiquities, and enable visitors to find out more about the important contributions which many of them have made to the advancement of knowledge.

The National Army Museum is open from Monday to Saturday 10 am - 5.30 pm and Sunday 2 pm - 5.30 pm. Admission free. Car parking. Cafeteria.

Future events

WE had hoped to save postage and time by inserting proforma in Castle for social and other events for you to complete and return to us. This you rarely did and we have therefore decided to revert to the previous system, namely that you will be informed individually of events and asked to say whether you will be attending. However, your attention is drawn to Diary Dates for 1989 & 90 on page 59 which you may care to note.

Where is Eddie?

CAPT Lewis Thomas of Calgary House, Church End, Sherrington, Bucks, MK16 9PD, would like to know the whereabouts of ex Sgt E (Eddie) Wordsworth, late of the 1st Battalion the Suffolk Regiment, who served in NW Europe and Palestine.

Mainly about people . . .

VC presented to Suffolks

SERGEANT Aurhur Saunders 9th(s) Battalion the Suffolk Regiment was awarded the Victoria Cross for his outstanding bravery on 26 Sep 1915 near Loos France.

Although severely wounded, Sgt Saunders took charge of two machine guns and with a few men closely followed the last four charges of another battalion. Later when the remains of the battalion were forced to retire, he stuck to his guns and in spite of his wound continued to give clear orders and helped to cover the retirement.

His widow, Mrs Edith Saunders, who was 99 on 11 Feb 89, generously decided to present her late husband's Victoria Cross to the Suffolk Regiment on her birthday. The ceremony took place at the Howard House Retirement Home.

Brig Bill Deller received the medal on behalf of the Regiment in the presence of the Saunders' family and friends. Sgt Saunders VC never fully recovered from his severe wound but managed to serve in the Ipswich Home Guard during World War II.



Brig Bill Deller OBE receiving Sgt Saunders' Victoria Cross from his widow Edith, watched by her son Edward. Photo: East Anglian Daily Times

Celebration in Gibraltar



From left: The Colonel of the Regiment, the Governor, Air Chief Marshal Sir Peter Terry and Master Gunner General Sir Martin Farndale

SATURDAY, 29 Apr 89 marked the 50th Anniversary of the formation of The Gibraltar Regiment. This was obviously a great day for the Regiment who celebrated it in grand style. Guests included the Colonel of the Regiment and Lady Akehurst and the Master Gunner, Gen Sir Martin Farndale and Lady Farndale.

Celebrations included the Trooping of the Colour to the music of the Royal Artillery Alanbrooke Band and the Normandy Band of the 3rd Bn The Royal Green Jackets. The standard of the parade was excellent and the CO, Lt Col Eddie Guerrero had every reason to be proud of his officers and men and to have been the CO on such an auspicious occasion.

That same day, the Gibraltar Regiment hosted an anniversary dinner night at which the Colonel of the Regiment presented to the Gibraltar Regiment a lithograph of our Colonel-in-Chief, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, which she had graciously given and signed.

The celebrations ended on the Sunday night with a band concert given by the Royal Artillery Band in St Michael's Cave. The Royal Anglian Regiment takes this opportunity congratulating the Gibraltar Regiment on their 50th birthday and wishing them all good fortune and success in the future

Mainly about people . . .

Regiment's gift to the Poulters

THE worshipful company of Poulters gave a lunch on 12 Jan to which the Colonel of the Regiment, the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Christopher Collet and Sheriff, Mr Simon Block, were invited. The Colonel of the Regiment responded to the Master's speech greeting guests and took the opportunity of presenting to the Poulters, on behalf of the Regiment, six medals which had been beautifully converted into menu holders. These medals were struck for (from left to right) Sobraon (1846 Royal Lincolns), two for the South African Campaign (1899-1902, Royal Leicesters & Northamptonshire), New Zealand (1860-1866, The Suffolks), Northern Ireland (1 R Anglian) and the 1939-45 Defence Medal (Royal Norfolk).

The Master of the Poulters, Mr Peter Kemp, accepted the gifts with gratitude and said that they would be used at the high table at future functions. After the principle guests had left, the menu holders were much admired by all attending the lunch.

The Master subsequently wrote to the Colonel of the Regiment:

"At the end of lunch yesterday everything seemed to get into a bit of a rush due to the apparent need for the Lord Mayor to leave on time and I feel that not sufficient justice was done to thank you and the Regiment for the most magnificent gift to the company which you presented to me. I was absolutely overwhelmed by the quality of the gift and also by the most excellent and appropriate thought behind the gift for which I am sure



you were personally responsible.

Many people examined the gift after lunch and were all absolutely delighted. You may be assured that they will be on our table on

every dining occasion.

Once again, many thanks for making the trip to be with us yesterday, your presence was greatly appreciated."

Courage Remembered

A History of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission
By T.A. EDWIN GIBSON and G. KINGSLEY WARD

Foreword by Field Marshal the Lord Bramall GCB OBE MC JP
Introduction by Major F.A. Tilston VC CD LLD

Published by MSO for the Ministry of Defence
June 1989 Hardback £13.95 net

50 years ago

THIS year is the 50th anniversary of the declaration of World War Two. To mark this occasion we have asked retired officers to write articles describing what regimental and staff life was like at this time.

This is the first such article and describes life in India with the Suffolk Regiment.

We are grateful to Col A E Campbell MC, the author (and also author of *Jungle Green*, *The Seige* and many other books and articles).



Vikings



LCpl Dunn shows us how a river crossing should be done

Return to Colchester

AS 1988 turned into 1989, the battalion prepared for the move back to Colchester, 19 Brigade and "real soldiering" - that is to say NATO and Germany.

The end of 1988 was marked by the battalion cadre period, involving all aspects of personal skills, and the use and handling of support weapons. After a spell of local leave (for some) over Christmas and the New Year, the battalion formed up again for the last two months in Gibraltar and the handover to the 3rd Battalion The Royal Greenjackets.

However, this was not our sole concern and in January the battalion hosted a visit from the Soviet Studies Research Centre, who spent a very useful week in teaching all levels of the battalion how the Soviet Union might fight a future war.

Adventure training was kept up too and the first party of Vikings left Gibraltar in January for a week's skiing in the Sierra Nevada. This exercise went on for seven weeks and altogether 102 Vikings were able to scare Spanish tourists on the pistes over this period.

Meanwhile, back on the Rock, the MFO packing was being finished and the thousand

and one tasks required by a unit move were being completed. The handover itself went extremely well and most of the battalion left Gibraltar for two weeks disembarkation leave with the last soldier leaving the Rock on 16 Feb.

During leave, the orienteering team, consisting of most of the advance party, went up to Cromer in Norfolk to win the Edist championships which bodes well for our sporting commitments now we are back in the UK.

At the beginning of April the battalion formed up in Hyderabad Barracks and almost immediately launched into an intensive period of training. After just a week in barracks, all three rifle companies went off to do their own training; B and C to Salisbury Plain and A to Catterick.

Three weeks of live firing and exercises then followed to get all the mandatory training commitments out of the way, finishing with the Tickle trophy shoots which were conducted as far away as Lydd and Hythe (EDSAAM competitors having booked every range in Eastern England, or so it seemed).

Headquarter Coy and Support Coy were

also kept busy during this time. Aside from the usual administrative problems and challenges, the battalion also sent over not one but two headquarters staff to Ex Fourbrace, 4th Armoured Division's Command Post Exercise. This took place over large tracts of West Germany and enabled the Signal Pl to see whether most of the equipment they had taken over actually worked or not.

Support Coy sent the Mortars to Salisbury Plain, where they successfully completed their live firing package, firing their year's allocation of bombs, learning and re-learning many useful lessons. The Milan Pl because of Op Banner manning commitments, will not fire live this year and so are looking forward to a bonanza of missiles next year. The Recce Pl have begun to master their Foxes and have just had a successful two weeks at Lulworth Cove, where they completed their first live firing shoot with the Rarden cannon.

With spring now upon us and at least a start made in preparing ourselves for our NATO role, the pace of life is beginning to accelerate. The next few weeks will see the battalion change its role once more, as Op Banner comes closer.

News from the Vikings



Casualty evacuation (Training only mercifully)



Potential NCO Cadre in action

News from the Vikings



/ **Above:** Pte Craven takes the assault course in his stride

< **Left:** The RSM presents a plaque to 83-year-old Eusavio Palmero who attended every Viking Convent Guard Mounting ceremony

▽ **Below:** A potential NCO takes the 12ft wall.



News from the Vikings



Tough going up Naval Hospital Hill



River crossing drills for the Potential NCO Cadre.



Poachers



Pte Stead (A Coy) covering the approach of the CJM. Photo: Leicester Mercury

New Year in Ulster

JANUARY and Belfast had seemed a long way ahead when the caked-on dust of Batus had been washed from the pores and the battalion had readied itself for some well-earned leave in September. However, almost within the blink of an eye, the Poachers found themselves preparing for yet another NI tour at Sennelager. The battalion, never thrown even by the pace of modern soldiering, quickly settled to this change in role.

Of course, preparation for the tour had started long before. The Commanding Officer, Operations Officers and Quartermaster had a vital preview of the ever-changing situation in the province during their recon in early October. This allowed the CO to finalise his plans and the incoming Operations Officer, Capt Richard Kemp, to write the battalion operation order. Also during October the

multiple and team commanders were put through their paces for a week by NITAT at Sennelager before they got their opportunity to recon the ground in Belfast under the guidance of the outgoing battalion, the Coldstream Guards.

The first the majority of the Poachers saw of Belfast this time round was during the very valuable NITAT briefing package at the end of October. The battalion gymnasium was transformed into a briefing theatre and all personnel enjoyed a series of informative, interesting and lively presentations. While all this was going on, the BAOR role could not be entirely forgotten and the battalion rear party, which had been formed in September in preparation for the Belfast tour, started their major task of overhauling the entire vehicle fleet.

The future leaders within the battalion were put through a typically demanding potential NCO Cadre in October and early November by Capt Bob McDonald, training officer, and his staff. After weeks of consistent hard work Pte Pook emerged as top student.

Proving that all Army exercises do not have to take place in the cold, wet and mud of Soltau training area, Lt Tim Dawson and 2Lt Dharan Hunter led Ex Talavera Diamond to Spain where as we all know, it rains mainly on the plain. The long drive across most of Europe in a Land Rover was rewarded by 10 days of outstanding hillwalking and rock climbing.

Closer to home the Poachers table tennis team set about winning the 1 Armd Div table

Continued Page 14

News from the Poachers

From Page 13

tennis championship held at Verden on 27 Oct. LCpl Metcalfe took the individual champions title. November saw the team in action again, this time competing in the BAOR table tennis finals. Again the Poachers team played extremely well, finishing as runners-up. LCpl Metcalfe finished a very creditable runner-up in both the singles and double competition.

For the more energetic, Poacher sporting activities included the battalion cross-country championship held on a suitably tortuous course to the south of Celle. The day was won by B Coy, the Leicestershire Company. On 25 Nov the Poachers cross country team went forward to the 1 Armd Div championships and produced a very good result to come second overall. LCpl Thorpe was a creditable 16th best individual.

The battalion welcomed a number of civil dignitaries on visits during October, November and December. The chairman of Leicester County Council accompanied by the chief executive had a very enjoyable visit for three days in late October and met many soldiers from Leicestershire.

The Mayor of Lincoln, Cllr McDonald, visited in late November and finally the Mayor of Northampton, Cllr Liddington, visited in early December. The Poachers were particularly happy to see these visitors maintaining their close relationship with the counties and their towns, and to extend a warm invitation to visit the battalion in Belfast.

The Poachers were also pleased to welcome Maj Gen PPD Stone on his two-day visit in November in his capacity as Deputy Colonel, the Royal Anglian Regiment. Then on 15 and 16 Dec the Colonel of the Regiment, Gen Sir John Akehurst visited the battalion and wished the Poachers the very best good fortune for their Belfast tour.

With the Christmas block leave period almost upon us, the annual officers versus sergeants mess football match was played. After a typically hard-fought and physical game, the RSM eventually agreed with the Adj that the officers mess had won 1-0.

The Poachers deployed to Sennelager to start their NITAT package on 2 Jan, Ex Poachers Warren. This proved a most valuable training period with many good lessons to be learned or re-learned. During the training the battalion was visited by GOC 1 Armd Div, Maj Gen Swinburn and Comd 22 Armd Bde, Brig Pike. Another visitor was Brig Dutton the Comd 39 Inf Bde who was thoroughly



Pte Talbot in Ballymurphy. Photo: Leicester Mercury



Pte Stanton on sentry duty

Continued Page 15

News from the Poachers



The Colonel of the Regiment at MPH

From Page 14

impressed by the professional standard achieved by the Poachers during training and looked forward to seeing the battalion in equally fine fettle in Belfast.

The first Poachers to reach Belfast were the battalion intelligence personnel who took full advantage of their early deployment to benefit from the knowledge of the outgoing battalion of the Coldstream Guards. The remainder of the Poachers deployed from the 23 Jan through to the 30 Jan. A Coy, commanded by Maj Kevin Hodgson, deployed to Fort White Rock (FWR) in the southern-most part of the battalion TAOR. FWR located between the Turf Lodge and Divis mountain gave commanding views to the east over most of West Belfast and gave the company a purpose-built facility from which to operate. However, it quickly lost much of its charm when all were told of its attractions to the PIRA as a mortar target!

B Coy, together with the Milan and Mortar Pls commanded by Maj Roger Brunt, deployed to North Howard Street Mill (NHSM) to cover the centre of the battalion TAOR. Also located here was battalion Tac HQ. Living conditions, while not as squalid as some of the "older braves" remembered in the early days of the troubles, left much to be desired and were further complicated by the extensive refurbishment being done throughout the building, thanks to a PIRA car bomb the previous November.

C Coy and the Recce Pl commanded by



Pte Brown of the Milan Pl helping the hearts and minds campaign

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News from the Poachers

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Maj Mike Beard moved into the rather spacious base at Girdwood Park (GWD) to cover the North end of the battalion TAOR. However, they too found themselves a choice target for potential PIRA mortar bombers.

Echelon, the administrative base of the battalion deployed to Musgrave Park Hospital (MPH). Despite being christened "Slipper City" the administration had to look lively early in the tour as they were tested with a couple of hoax proxy bombs.

Tragically, the battalion suffered a fatality within the first week in Belfast. Pte Nicholas Peacock was killed on 1 Feb by a command wire IED outside the Rock Bar in the Falls Road. It came as a deep shock to the whole battalion and their sincere condolences went out to Peacock's family. The battalion 21C represented the commanding officer at the funeral, which took place with full military honours in Grantham, on 9 Feb. Our thanks go to 7 R Anglian for their assistance in providing the firing party and to them and the Depot for helping with all the administrative arrangements.

March and April brought further attacks by PIRA against the Poachers. A 250lb car bomb detonated outside GWD front gate just before a patrol was due to deploy. Fortunately there were no serious casualties. On St Patrick's Day a command wire IED left a NHSM Coy soldier shaken. FWR Coy took their turn and a RPG 7 was fired from 70m at a mobile patrol in Andersonstown. Luckily it missed its intended target. The RUC station in Grosvenor Road has suffered two separate mortar bomb attacks and both times escaped without casualties. A further RPG 7 attack, against the rear vehicle of a three-vehicle patrol in Lanark Way, proved as ineffective as the first. The missile missed and travelled 500m to impact in the wall of a church hall. Pte Lawson, a top cover sentry, returned two round at the fleeing terrorist but missed his target. NHSM was attacked with two blast bombs thrown into the compound and, although several vehicles were damaged, human casualties were fortuitously avoided. Poachers have been shot at on two separate occasions without casualties and managed to return rounds on one of those occasions.

Unfortunately, the battalion's luck ran out on 10 May 89. A command wire IED was detonated against a passing foot patrol of the NHSM Coy. Pte Joseph Kemp suffered lacerations to the legs and, more seriously, Pte Stephen Gill, who was closest to the seat of the explosion, took the full force against the right side of his body. Pte Gill suffered



The CO taking a break from the action

serious injuries but is recovering well.

Throughout the tour the battalion has hosted a steady stream of visitors including the Colonel of the Regiment, Gen Sir John Akehurst, Deputy Colonel, Maj Gen Stone, and the Colonel Commandant the Queens Division, Lt Gen Sir Jeremy Reilly. The battalion also hosted the RCDS, AFPRB, an all-party committee of MPC and the Mayors of Lincoln, Leicester and Northampton. Mr Roy Hattersley MP also dropped in for lunch as did the Junior Environment Minister, Mr. Chope.

Recruiting and retention has not been neglected. Local newspapers from Lincolnshire and Leicestershire have visited the battalion and have resulted in some valuable local press coverage. Additionally,

Yorkshire TV stayed with the battalion for nearly a week filming patrols and the living conditions in the locations and interviewing a cross-section of the battalion, gathering material for a programme about the Army in Northern Ireland to be shown later this year. There was no shortage of budding film stars wishing to be interviewed!

It has been a long, hard tour which has had its successes and its moments of tragedy. Although involving hardships and long hours the Poachers enjoyed the Op Banner Tour and can proudly look back at a job well done. Block leave was fully deserved and appreciated by the patient wives and families back in Celle. Soltau and a Divisional FTX and conversion to Warrior are the next challenges on the horizon!

News from the Poachers



Lt Gen Reilly with Maj Hodgson, Sgt Ralph and Lt Robinson at 'Fraggle' Rock



Pres Biggs and Hunt and Sgt Thorpe of BCoy discuss tactics with the CLF Maj Gen Hodges

News from the Poachers



The hierarchy of 7Pl plotting another sortie



Ptes Toon and Carmichael of BCoy try on the new helmet

News from the Poachers

Trek to Talavera

THE impression created by the arrival of Lt Col Donellan and the 1/48th on 28 Jul 1809 on the inhabitants of Talavera was somewhat different to that caused by 10 bleary eyed Poachers debussing from two dark blue Army Land Rovers on 3 Nov 1988.

Talavera Diamond was a two-week adventurous training exercise undertaken by a party of 10 men from 2 R Anglian. Its aims were to visit the battlefield of Talavera and to trek part of the ridgeline in the Sierra Nevada mountain range in Spain.

It was with some anxiety that the party departed for Talavera on a damp Tuesday morning in what can only be described as well-used Army Land Rovers. Delicately painted blue with a mere hint of drab green, they were cleverly disguised to look like ... Army Land Rovers painted blue. (The use of a mini-bus would have been far too suitable!)

However, with the essential duo of Cfn Adams and LCpl Bellamy poised ready to pounce like compressed springs at the merest whiff of trouble we departed. Capt Miller OC Lad gave us his blessing although being the eternal pessimist I smuggled the newly-acquired ADAC (German Automobile Association) into my personal belongings, just in case!

By rotating drivers every two to three hours and driving through the night we reached Talavera on the Thursday. The journey itself was full of contrasts, from the peace of the Rhone through France to the pandemonium of Madrid on a Wednesday.

To say the Guardia Civil in their patent leather caps were mildly perplexed with the arrival of 10 British "tourists" trying to retrace the footsteps of a Signor Wellesley and 20,000 marauding troops more than 180 years ago was an understatement. Indeed, the episode rapidly deteriorated into a "Fawlty Towers" farce with the topic of conversation revolving around a single expression of Gary Lineker, which produced many cries of ecstasy and much slapping on backs!

Today the high ground to the north of the River Tagus, where Wellesley drew up his troops across a two-mile frontage, is predominantly farmland. One could appreciate why Medellin Hill and the high ground was the key to the battle since it dominates the surrounding low-lying countryside. Prior to leaving Talavera we also visited the town and the church on the off chance of finding references to the campaign.



Just to prove we went!

We should have realised the sight of LCpl Blackwell frantically waving a gearstick above his head was a sign of a mechanical spell cast upon the expedition. Having taken care to carry the travellers' bible "A Rough Guide to Spain" containing a few handy hints, together with Lt Hunter polishing off his useful sayings (what a nice girl like you doing in a place like this?) we struggled to locate an expression along the lines of "any chance of welding the gearstick together, old boy". We sorted out the problem in Granada, so when it re-occurred at 2 a.m. on a Sunday in Valencia during the return journey we could at least inject the word "cambio" (gearstick) into the conversation.

We arrived at the southern side of the Sierra Nevada at the village of Capileira some 1436 m above sea level. With WO2 Sanderson gripping the base camp the plan was a days trek to the village of Trevelez, (1476 m), reckoned to be the highest in Europe, followed by a route incorporating Mount Mulhacen (15482 m), the Veleta peak (1527 m) and a return

journey south towards the villages of Lanjaron and Capileira. The climax came on reaching the summit of Mulhacen with a stunning view of snow-capped peaks silhouetted against the blue backdrop of the Mediterranean. In all, five days were spent on the mountain and although great distances were not covered, the effort required for six hours or so of gaining altitude was strenuous.

On arriving in Cella by Sunday mid-day, Lt Talavera Diamond had achieved its aims. It was enjoyable and we hope it will encourage others to attempt future expeditions. On behalf of the team and the Regiment we must say how grateful we are to the Poulterers of London for their kind help in sponsoring the exercise.

Team list: Lts Dawson and Hunter, WO2 Sanderson, Cfn Adams, LCpls Blackwell, Bellamy, Ptes Skinner, Heden, Lilley and Straunach.

L J DAWSON
L I



Pompadours



Hectic pace at home

THE Pompadours are back in Colchester, the town from which the battalion moved to Minden in 1983. The last six months have been frantically busy, with BAOR exercises continuing right up until the handover to 1 Argyl and Sutherland Highlanders.

On arrival in the UK the battalion was launched straight into two major UKLF commitments. Although there appears to be no immediate prospect of a slackening of the pace, the fact that we are now back on home territory makes life much more enjoyable.

In October the battalion ran a series of cadres to prepare for the move to the UK. The Potential NCOs Cadre included an excellent adventure training weekend in the Harz Mountains. Pte (now LCpl) Smith passed out as top student.

The battalion also passed its fitness ARU in October, gaining a 100% pass rate with an average time of 9 minutes 39 seconds. The cross country team were away at the time! A Coy enjoyed a week long trip to Berlin on Ex Helpful Bear. A report on some (but not all) of their activities appears elsewhere. The news of A Coy's Berlin trip spread rapidly throughout the battalion and the Adjutant was subsequently inundated with applications from soldiers wishing to visit the city.

The last major exercise for the Pompadours before leaving Germany took place in November, when most of the battalion's officers and SNCOs acted as umpires on Ex Iron Hammer, the 3rd Armoured Division FTX.

The weather was bitterly cold, forcing many of the participants, including the Ops Officer, to resort to two sleeping bags. C Coy were particularly fortunate to be able to umpire the Grenadier Guards Battlegroup equipped with Warrior, the new Infantry fighting vehicle.

Over 100 soldiers from the battalion acted as casualties to exercise the treatment and evacuation procedures. Maj Mike Godkin obviously liked what he saw: he has subsequently left the battalion and transferred to the Medical Corps. We will all miss him.

Preparations for the handover to 1 A & SH included a series of inspections by the CO and vehicles, equipment and accommodation



Pte Smith receives the prize for Best PNCO from Brig Phipps, Comd 11 Armd

were all cleaned and painted to the highest standard.

The Colonel of the Regiment, Gen Sir John Akehurst, paid a short visit to the battalion in the week prior to Christmas and presented Long Service and Good Conduct medals to CSgts Johnson, Dale and Baxter and Sgts Harris and Mason.

The Christmas spirit was dampened by the announcement of the ban on parties, the result of the Ramstein air crash earlier in the

year. The effects of cancelling a Corps exercise cannot begin to compare with the trauma caused when hair appointments, babysitters, dress fittings and the like have to be disrupted!

The period immediately following Christmas saw the arrival of the A & SH advance party in Minden, and the move of the first Pompadours to Roman Barracks, Colchester. Lt Col Behagg handed over

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News from the Pompadours

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Elizabeth Barracks and relinquished command of the battalion as the main body followed in mid February: we wish both Alan and Ros the very best of luck in Shrivenham.

Lt Col Julian Lacey assumed command of the Pompadours on the 24 Feb. Col Lacey has served for many years with the battalion, most recently in Minden as a company commander and 2IC, and both he and Diana are already known by all but the most recent members of the battalion.

He has been joined by Maj Bill Mooring, previously a Viking, who succeeded Maj Robin Chisnall as 2IC. Capt John Fisk has rejoined the Pompadours as QM(T), with Capt Bill Burford moving across to the senior Quartermaster appointment. The Adjutant handed over in May.

On 31 Mar, following disembarkation leave, the Pompadours became the on-call UKLF battalion: on 72 hours notice to move to deal with any emergency that could arise. Recent memories of the Lockerbie disaster ensured that preparations were taken seriously. The battalion was also tasked with providing a tactical headquarters and one company for an internal security operation on Salisbury Plain. A Coy took the opportunity to use the Plain for live firing and dry training, and visited some of the other range users to look at equipment undergoing trials. The Coy also conducted some joint training with the MOD police and the USAF, giving all concerned the opportunity to compare both equipment and techniques.

The battalion began a further period of cadres at the beginning of April. In addition to attending the usual series of tactics, signals,



The Colonel of the Regiment presenting the LS & GC Medal to the Chief Clerk, CSgt Johnson

assault pioneer and first aid cadres, over 50 soldiers began the process of learning to drive Saxon

The vehicles themselves were moved from the M1 compound to the sides of the Battalion Square, symbolising the awakening of interest in this new and unusual looking form of Royal Anglian transport

The Deputy Colonel, Brig Dodd was

among a large number of distinguished visitors who attended the 'Welcome to Colchester' cocktail party held in the Officers' Mess on 31 Mar. Many former Pompadours, both retired and serving officers, were able to attend, together with some of the leaders of the local civil and military communities

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The handover of command in Elizabeth Barracks Minden to CO 1A and SH



The new man at the wheel Lt Col Lacey

News from the Pompadours



The outgoing Commanding Officer, Lt Col Behagg, proving that at least part of the past 2 1/2 years had not been wasted!

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It was particularly nice to be able to welcome Mr and Mrs French back to the battalion in which their son Andrew had served for many years prior to his tragic death. Commander 19 Infantry Brigade, Brig Freemantle, paid a more formal visit during the following week.

The move to UK has brought no respite from the round of BAOR exercises. The CO and several officers spent four days in Germany on a 19 Inf Bde exercise, Ex Panthers Flame, and the 21C and another team deployed on Ex Fourbrace as the O Group returned to Colchester.

Looking ahead, the Pompadours have an interesting and varied programme for the remainder of the year. The battalion shooting team, captained by Lt Andy Latham, will compete in the Eastern District Skill-at-Arms Competition and Bisley.

C Coy group deploy to the Falkland Islands and South Georgia at the end of June, while B Coy must content themselves with Ex Lion Sun in Cyprus in August/September. A Coy will relieve C Coy from their operational duties midway through their tour in the South Atlantic to enable the latter to conduct some training on the Islands.



The Tactics Cadre: LCpl Fullbrook assisting LCpl Port with his camouflage

News from the Pompadours



Cpl Dear supervising an unusual range detail



The Baden-Powell Conversion Cadre Assault Pioneers constructing an 'A' frame



The NBC Instructors' Cadre reaching new heights

News from the Pompadours

Preparing for the Falklands

THE 3rd Battalion is due to undertake an operational tour of duty in the South Atlantic from July to November this year. C Coy group, commanded by Maj David Baylis, will act as the Resident Infantry Company (RIC) on the Falkland Islands while the Recce Pl and a small HQ contingent will form the Garrison on South Georgia.

A recce party consisting of the CO, OC C Coy, Capt Bill Burford (QM) and CSgt Hickey (CQMS C Coy) 'went South' for a week in early April. The weather was calm and sunny and the Islands could be seen at their best. The locals took great care to point out that conditions would not be so favourable when the Pompadours actually arrive in July! The current RIC (A Coy 1 Gordons) were extremely helpful and the recce enabled the party to discover answers to the myriad of questions being asked by those earmarked for the tour.

The members of C Coy group will spend much of their time patrolling the Islands. Patrols are often dropped by helicopters in outlying areas and then spend up to five days on foot, covering 40-50 miles across rugged and inhospitable terrain, before being picked up by ship or helicopter.

The patrols have many different tasks: these include visits to small isolated settlements, checks on secluded inlets and beaches, the updating of maps and surveillance from observation posts on high ground.

When not patrolling, soldiers will undertake a wide range of tasks around Mount Pleasant including the provision of a quick reaction force, the guarding of certain key points and the security of the large RAF contingent.

There will be many opportunities for training during the four-and-a-half month tour. Each of the five platoons will have the opportunity to spend a week in splendid isolation in the hills, conducting field firing. In addition, a second contingent from Colchester will be flown South halfway through the tour to enable C Coy to carry out training at company level.



The CO and OC C Coy with the current RIC Commander



Stanley Harbour

News from the Pompadours



A Coy in the Berlin Olympic stadium

Worthwhile exercise in Berlin

A COY 3 R Anglian spent a week in Berlin at the end of October 1988. The purpose of the visit, Ex Helpful Bear, was two-fold: to release HW Coy 1 BW to train in the 1 (BR) Corps area and to give some Pompadours an opportunity to use some of the excellent facilities which Berlin offers to those units resident there.

The battalion rugby team accompanied A Coy, having arranged a match against the host unit.

Berlin possesses one of the finest fighting in built up areas (FIBUA) training facilities available to the British Army. The Pompadour contingent put Ruleben Village, as the FIBUA complex is known, to good use during their week in Berlin.

Led by Capt Richard Clements and Lt Desmond O'Driscoll, A Coy practiced urban close-quarter-battle (CQB) and house clearing techniques in and around the village. They were provided with weapons effect simulators which provided a realistic and sobering means of measuring the effect of section-level tactics.

During the FIBUA training every soldier in the company abseiled down a tower block, some more easily than others: Pte Dennison distinguished himself by disappearing through an open window! The following day the company used an American Army Huey helicopter to continue the abseil training, which culminated in a 140 foot descent. It is hoped that the company will have the opportunity to display their skills at the Colchester Garrison

open day on 24 Jun.

A march and shoot competition was conducted in the beautiful scenery of the Grunewald. Section teams were confronted with a series of command tasks, including a wade out to a Royal Engineer boat which then carried them across Havel Lake. The route culminated in a gruelling stretcher carry and a falling plate shoot.

While in the city, A Coy took full advantage of the opportunity to 'see the sights'. Some soldiers were taken on a guided tour by helicopter; vehicle recognition skills were practised as the lucky few tried to identify the Soviet vehicles parked within the barracks on the eastern side of the wall.

The Black Watch provided transport to take the company on a guided tour of Berlin.

In East Berlin, many of those who watched the East German guards on duty at the tomb of the unknown warrior revised their opinions of British guard duty: the general feeling was that it was 'a good thing' that our army neither 'goose-stepped' nor expected soldiers to slope-arms for an hour at a time.

At the end of a busy week, all agreed that much had been gained from Ex Helpful Bear. The company returned to Minden by train, crossing East Germany and viewing for the last time the stark contrasts between life on either side of the Iron Curtain. A visit to Berlin is recommended to anyone uncertain as to whether it is necessary to maintain a strong defence in Western Europe.



Abseiling in Ruleben village

Feature Focus



The great camp at Razmak

Memories of Mhow

IN September 39 the 2nd battalion of the Suffolk Regiment was stationed in Mhow. In those bygone days of empire, each infantry regiment had two battalions, one serving 'at home', the other 'abroad', generally in India.

Mhow was a military station set down in the middle of an endless plain of dust and bush some hundreds of miles north east of Bombay, and it was in places such as this that British soldiers supporting the Raj, were condemned to six years of living hell, a hell of ferocious, unrelenting heat and intense and relieved boredom.

The place itself consisted of barracks for three battalions, of which one was British, a 'European' quarter wherein lived married people in considerable comfort but with nothing to do, and a 'native' quarter where many people lived in acute discomfort. The British soldier was not made welcome in this native quarter, nor was he in the European quarter, unless on duty.

The soldiers lived in stone-built and undecorated barrack rooms, 30-50 to a room, their iron cots precisely aligned in two rows, each a yard apart, offering the owner no more than 100 cubic feet of living space.

They took their meals in 'messes', a hundred together, lining up at a counter to have their food dolloped out into mess-tins, food prepared by fellow infantrymen who had been 'posted' to the cookhouse as a reward for a number of years of undetected crime rather than for their potential as cooks.

They washed in public, defecated and vomited in public, undressed and dressed in public, wrote their letters in public. There was not one moment of privacy for these men, night or day.

The officers' living conditions were, by comparison, luxurious. Married officers lived in spacious bungalows abounding in domestics; the bachelors shared extensive houses, each allocated to his own room and

each with his own personal staff.

Aged 20, the subaltern had at his beck and call no fewer than four servants. There was also the mess, beautifully appointed and staffed from kitchen to terrace by Indian menservants of superb skills and extraordinary devotion.

There, the officer could leave behind the seclusion of his own room and meet his friends for drinks, games or just conversation, though there was little to talk about as news from the outside world reached us too late to be of further interest, while talking 'shop' was banned from the very place where professional exchanges might most usefully have been made (politics and religion were also taboo) and in any case, intellects had long since been atrophied by the debilitating heat and the mindless monotony of each day's existence.

The soldiers' day began at 5 a.m. when

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they were summoned from the restless half-sleep of the tropical night by a bugle calling 'Reveille'.

There was of course no public address system and general activities were announced by bugle calls. Reveille was followed by the few and only moments of comfort that the soldier was to enjoy that day, when the char-wallah brought him his tea and the nappv-wallah shaved him while still on his bed.

By 6 a.m. the barrack room had to be in perfect order, ready for inspection by the eagle-eyed NCOs, with mosquito nets furled back and all the soldier's personal uniform on display on the end of his bed, pack squared off, puttees rolled and exactly aligned, shirts neatly folded to regulation size, spare boots shining like mirrors. Men and kit alike were inspected for the slightest failing.

Then out into the comparative cool of dawn, when, for an hour or so the temperature might fall to as low as 80° fahrenheit, for the morning's training.

Teaching and training were conducted along lines and using methods which would be laughed at today, but then the skills required of the infantryman in India in 1939 were not as numerous nor as complex as those demanded now.

The basic method was shouted instructions straight out of the book - "Take the head of the bolt between thumb and forefinger of the right hand" - "between thumb and forefinger, Aldridge, not your whole bloody fist; you're not 'andling yourself now!" - followed by constant and never-ending repetition.

We were required to march - and march we did, every day, everywhere. There were no cross-country and very few motor vehicles available, so the only way to reach anywhere, whether a rifle range, a training area or a military objective, was on foot.

The weightier equipment, including mortars with their ammunition and water-cooled Vickers machine-guns, was carried on mules, but the soldiers carried everything else, together with his heavy 303-calibre bolt-action rifle.

In addition to everyday marching the battalion would, from time to time, set forth on long route marches when we would cover up to 30 miles a day through the dustbowl of the sun-baked prairie and in temperatures of over 100° F. Soldiers looked forward to these marches which took them



The Vickers MMG

away from the awful tedium of barrack life.

We were required to shoot and there was daily practice in the manipulation of what, by modern standards, was a cumbersome and slow-firing rifle. However, we learned to fire these weapons, at slow and rapid rate, with marvellous accuracy, at ranges up to 500 yards. As with the rifle, so with mortars and machine-guns.

We were required to drill and to be smart. An almost perfect turnout was guaranteed by the small army of 'dhobis' who attended the battalion; uniform was collected by these expert washermen in the morning and returned clean and starched for wear that same evening.

An extraordinary high standard of drill was maintained by incessant practice under warrant officers who were perfectionists. These drills were an essential part of enforcing the strict discipline and high standards that simply had to be observed in the conditions and environment of a station in India. There was some satisfaction for the soldiers in the pride and acclaim generated by the spectacular parades staged on certain public occasions, of which the king and emperor's birthday took pride of place.

There was not much in the way of tactical training and what there was was conducted with little imagination. I recall one divisional exercise, in the Sind desert, when we marched 527 miles in 19 days and came face to face with an 'enemy' for

precisely 20 minutes. Yet we, and the exercise staff knew that we could march before the exercise started - what we needed to practice was how to repel a determined assault, how to storm a strongpoint (the frontal attack was much in vogue) how to conduct a withdrawal, how to prolong a pursuit.

Since emphasis was on individual skills, most training was carried out by NCOs of great experience and complete dedication, with officers taking a somewhat distant supervisory interest.

The morning's training ended at 9 a.m. and for the rest of the burning day the soldier had to fill in his time as best he could. His bed then became the centre of his life; he wrote letters on it; he cleaned his kit on it; he played cards on it; but, mostly he lay on it, stark naked, just watching the movement of the punkah, because there was nothing else to do. And as he lay there he sweated and scratched and moaned, waiting for the sun to go down on another day.

At 4 p.m., those engaged in sport, would stagger off their beds into sports kit. Like all other British regiments in India we were sports mad, not only by inclination of the young and fit but because there was no other form of leisure available. Contact games - hockey, football, basketball and rugby, also cricket - were played in terrific heat on sun-baked, iron-hard grounds.

After sport, back to the bed, or,

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Feature Focus



'Char up' at Damdil during North West Frontier operations

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occasionally, to the canteen where the soldier spent most of the little money he was paid - after compulsory 'stoppages' it was very little - on food, to complement inadequate rations, on beer and, Saturday evenings, on 'housey-housey' (bingo).

During his free time the soldier had no opportunity at all for any sex life. He was segregated from the local 'native' women by the policy of the times as well as by the prejudices of the Indians themselves.

Lady Roberts, together with a thousand memsahibs who followed her, ensured that there would be no provision of medically-controlled pleasure houses. Instead, doctors lectured on the dangers of venereal disease. Nearly all of the unmarried men in the battalion had spent these years of their youth without speaking one word to a woman of any sort. Although they were entitled to two weeks' holiday a year, very few could afford one day's holiday, and so they stayed with the regiment.

There were many more leisure facilities for the officer than for his soldiers. Officers had access to the horse-polo, hunting, pig-sticking or just riding out into the bush. There was the club, with its swimming pool and tennis courts and opportunities to

speak, at least, with women of one's own race, albeit other peoples' women.

Then there was the mess, though here, protocol was rigid and discipline strict, with compulsory dining-in evenings four times a week when all members dressed in full mess-kit and, waited on by their own liveried bearers, ate and drank their way through long and heavy meals. These were followed by games so rough and senseless as to be verging on hooliganism.

The officer, too, could afford to take his holidays, invariably spent in the most beautiful hill stations, enjoying, for all too short a time, a perfect climate and a hectic social round.

The soldier's life was seldom put at risk through military action. In cases of trouble it was usually enough for British soldiers to appear on the scene - their cohorts gleaming in khaki and steel - for peace to be restored.

Their life, though, was at risk every day from disease. Hygiene discipline was fanatically enforced; a soldier could find himself 'inside' for 21 days, and an officer lose his name, for taking off his topee only momentarily in the sunshine, or for appearing after sundown in shorts or with sleeves rolled up.

Yet you had only to lower your guard for a moment by drinking uncleaned water

on a route march, by failing to repair immediately a torn mosquito net, by incurring a wound, however slight, and omitting to clean and disinfect it, by playing with an unknown dog, and you would be struck down by dysentery, malaria, septicaemia or rabies, all killer diseases. You could be fit today and dead tomorrow.

The one ever-present ailment was prickly heat or dhobi's itch, thought to be caused by the starch with which one's uniform was daily impregnated. It generally started between the legs, then worked its way up the body, the terrible itching so virulent and persistent as to render the sufferer suicidal.

It was into this far-distant environment that news came, in September 1939, of the declaration of war against Germany. The effect on the battalion as a whole was negligible, though we had to despatch one company to Bombay, several hundred miles away, to forestall sabotage by four hundred German workmen employed in the docks.

On arrival, however, there proved to be little to do, as the Bombay police had rounded up all but four of these technicians and sent them off to a most delightful internment camp near the hill station of

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Feature Focus



King's Birthday Parade - Mhow in 1939. Note the roses on tubas and Colours

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Dehra Dun.

The effect on the morale of many members of the battalion, though, was catastrophic. These were the men who were coming to the end of their six years 'abroad' and who now, under no illusions that the war was to be a short one, were faced with a further unlimited period of service away from home.

But fate was soon to restore their spirits in the form of a despatch ordering the regiment to a little war of our own, on the North West Frontier, so that, towards the end of the year, we moved to Razmak and there, to us on our feet, with only mules for transport, the blitzkrieg into Poland, and all its implications were of purely academic interest.

Razmak was a military cantonment,

5000 feet up, set in glorious scenery and enjoying a climate of warm sunlit summers and cold snowcapped winters. In camp there was a strong feeling of confidence, wellbeing and comradeship. Three times a week we would walk, up to 14 miles in a day, over those high mountains and that rugged terrain, to protect supply convoys from ambushes which might be laid by a most cunning and worthy enemy, the Pathan.

We spent three exciting months of our stay there on an extended brigade operation dealing with tribesmen who had been called out on a holy war (Jihad).

As result of the enforced decentralisation of responsibility and decision-making to platoon and section commanders (communications from battalion HQ

downwards was by flag), the battalion left the frontier one year later as fine a fighting machine as the regiment had known, in every detail worthy of those who blasted the French cavalry from the fields of Minden.

Unfortunately, this machine was soon to be dismantled, in the interests of the hugely expanding Indian army, and officers and NCOs were dispersed to training centres and newly formed units all over the sub-continent. When in 1943, the real war was brought to the borders of India by the Japanese invaders, the 2nd battalion, newly constituted, was swallowed up in the jungles of the Arakan.

A.F.C.

Regimental Shop

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Feature Focus

Origins of the Eagle

THE Salamanca Eagle has a special place in the hearts of all those who have served in the Pompadours, as it represents one of the Regiment's major battle honours.

On 22 Jul 1812 the 44th East Essex Regiment fought at the Battle of Salamanca, one of the major and deciding actions of the Peninsular War against Napoleon.

During the early afternoon the Regiment, part of the 5th Division, was ordered to advance against the 62nd French Infantry Regiment. As they closed in, fierce hand-to-hand fighting ensued. Lt Pearce saw the French standard bearer, having removed the eagle from its pike, trying to conceal the 62nd Regiment's rallying emblem in his greatcoat. Aided by Ptes Finley and Murray the Subaltern was able to capture the eagle, which was subsequently handed over to Wellington's headquarters. The 62nd Regiment broke off the battle and the French Army was routed.

The 62nd Regiment's eagle is the only one missing from the collection kept at the French Army Museum in Paris. It can be seen at the museum at Warley, together with the colours and standards of the Essex regiment.

The eagle became the emblem of the Essex Regiment and this tradition has been carried on by the 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment. The collar badges worn by Pompadours show the eagle surrounded by the Royal Garter from the capbadge of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment.

In 1903, Col Broadmead presented a beautiful silver replica of the eagle to the officers of the Essex Regiment. The eagle is placed in front of the Commanding Officer on regimental dinner nights. In 1986 the battalion was presented with a second replica by the parents of Maj Andrew French, who was killed in action in Northern Ireland on 22 May 1986. The French Trophy, as the latter is now known, is awarded to the winners of the annual Officers' versus Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess cricket match.

1989 sees the 175th anniversary of the Battle of Salamanca. To mark the occasion, the old comrades of the Essex regiment held a celebration dinner in the 3rd Battalion officers' Mess on 12 May.



The silver replica of the Salamanca Eagle, presented by Col Broadmead in 1903



The French Trophy - presented in memory of Maj Andrew French

Feature Focus



The bridge on the River Kwai

Railway of death

Mr and Mrs R S Benns contacted us before their journey to Thailand during which they intended to visit the grave of Mr Benn's brother-in-law. This is an account of their pilgrimage.

MY wife and I recently laid a wreath on behalf of the Royal Anglian Regiment on the Cross of Sacrifice at Kanchanburi War Cemetery, Thailand. We were visiting the grave of my brother-in-law, Pte A E Chamberlain of the 1st Bn Cambridgeshire Regiment.

There are two war cemeteries in the area that we visited. Kanchanburi is the last resting place of 6,982 brave men from the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, India, Burma, Malaya and The Netherlands. Additionally, there is Chungkai Cemetery with a further 1,750 graves mostly British and Dutch. Many of the British prisoners were from the founder Regiments of The Royal Anglian Regiment, who were brought from Singapore after their capture.



The Military Cemetery at Kanchanburi

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Feature Focus



Mr Binns lays a wreath on behalf of the Regiment

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Although the history of the notorious "Death Railway" is well documented, it is worth mentioning that the infamous Imperial Japanese Army allowed only 14 months for the completion of the railway, which was to be 422 kms long. Unbelievably, the line was completed on time despite the privations and tortures endured. The prisoners were starved, beaten, tortured and disease ridden; a total of 16,000 prisoners of war died in the construction of the railway and it is believed that when the numbers of impress Burmese and Malay labourers are added, total deaths mount up to between 80,000 and 100,000.

Having travelled for two hours up the railway line and across the real Bridge on the River Kwai in temperatures of 98 degrees

fahrenheit, one suddenly has some idea of the suffering and torment that these brave men must have endured.

The railway line is still in constant use and the Bridge across the Kwai was repaired after being partially destroyed by Allied bombing in the later stages of the war. The railway stands as a tribute to those fine young men of the Army, Navy and Air Force who died in its construction and praise is high enough for the way the cemeteries are maintained. It is a consoling thought that the cemeteries are visited every day of the year by tourists from the United Kingdom and other countries.

The visit was one that made us feel very proud and which we will never forget.

R S BENNS

Out on the piste

THE Pompadours took part in Ex Snow Queen once again, despite the impending move to Colchester. From 14 Dec 88 to 16 Feb 89 over 130 members of the battalion were able to learn the basics of both langlauf and downhill skiing.

The ski lodge was a single self-administering *pension* situated in the heart of Bavaria close to the Austrian border, giving soldiers the chance to view a very different part of the country in which the battalion had been stationed for four years.

A total of four courses were run. The first, over Christmas and the New Year, was for families; the remaining courses each provided the opportunity for 30 soldiers to break their legs in a new and exciting way.

Instruction was provided throughout the exercise. Lectures were held on some evenings covering the care and maintenance of equipment, ski techniques and survival in arctic conditions.

Each course culminated with tests and a slalom competition on the final day. Over 70 soldiers gained proficiency awards. A night ski was held on the penultimate evening, following a full day's skiing and a couple of hours in a mountainside cafe. In pitch darkness, soldiers launched themselves down the slopes aided only by the light of the flaming torches ... and a few glasses of Baravian wine.

Ex Snow Queen also provided the opportunity to introduce a few of the more able skiers to the sport of ski mountaineering. Sgt Simmons and LCpl Adams both completed an arduous four day course, providing them with some useful experience of the sort of conditions they will encounter in South Georgia later this year.

Readers may like to be reminded that the Royal British Legion and the Government sponsor pilgrimages to countries where British servicemen have fought. Apart from such obvious countries as France, Germany and Belgium, pilgrimages are organised to Hong Kong, Algeria and Tunisia among others. Details are held by Regimental headquarters and by Area Secretaries. Details can also be obtained direct from: The Pilgrimages Department, The Royal British Legion Village, Aylestone, Maidstone, Kent ME2 0TX. Tel: (0622) 726729/716182/717172.

Feature Focus



Above: A final briefing at the top

Below: Cpl Wolfe shows how it should be done



Operation Raleigh

GUYANA, where the above photo of Maj Peter Barnes was taken, is in the words of Operation Raleigh's senior director in the field, "perfect expedition country." Recruits are being sought for future expeditions. Col John Blashford-Snell, director of operations, plans to send 720 British and international venturers on six expeditions lasting 10 weeks each, every year. Particular encouragement will be given to those from Britain's more disadvantaged areas, both urban and rural.

Expeditions are being arranged for Victoria, South Australia and Queensland, Zimbabwe and Chile during 1989. Applications should be addressed to Operation Raleigh, The Power House, Alpha Place, Flood Street, London SW3 5SZ, enclosing a large, stamped addressed envelope



Steelbacks



Mortar Pl - winners of the Inter Platoon Patrol Competition

THE last few months has seen quite a number of changes among the permanent staff. The Training Major, Maj Seed, returns to the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers after an extremely busy tour. Always a keen runner he has played an enormous part in the organisation of the battalion training. He will be greatly missed.

We welcome in his place Maj Winn, again from the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. It is hoped he has a pleasant (but no doubt busy tour) with the Steelbacks.

On the PSI side WO2 Grenfell, CSgt Strickland, CSgt Lay, CSgt Brothers and Sgt Callaghan have returned to the Vikings. Sgt Ward, the Signals PSI has moved back to the Poachers in Celle, while Sgt Cussons has returned to the 3rd battalion in Colechester. To all, the battalion extends its appreciation for the hard work which they have put in.

In their stead, the Steelbacks welcome WO2 Bacon, CSgt Preston and Sgt Avison from the Vikings, Sgt Cook and Sgt Mallon

from the Poachers, with Sgt Ibrahim joining us from the Pompadours. It is hoped that both they and their families enjoy their tour with the 5th battalion.

On the training side the battalion has had a busy few months. The new year burst into action over 27-29 Jan when the inter-platoon patrol competition was held at Stanford.

Over a particularly chilly weekend every platoon entered a team with each being tested in nine infantry tasks. The overall winners were the Mortars under Capt "Delboy" Dörner.

Two weekends in February saw Capt Vince of 1 Coy illustrate NBC expertise with Ex Steel Mask. All companies were represented in this exercise which included radac surveys and vehicle decontamination.

March was highlighted by Ex Polar Dawn, the 49 Inf Bde helicopter exercise. Both 1 and 3 Coys deployed with battalion HQ to Stanta.

The exercise proved to be last moving

and flexible. Both companies enjoyed the weekend and it proved that the TA do get helicopters occasionally.

Over 10-12 Mar a recruit selection weekend was held at Colchester. Almost 100 recruits were put through their paces. A good pass rate was achieved which bodes well for the future.

The battalion SAAM was held on 22-23 Apr. Results will appear in the next edition.

At Wellingborough 2 Coy have been involved in FIBUA training at Catterick. The company particularly enjoyed Ex Steel Mask, NBC reporting, reconnaissance drills along with the opportunity to use some very costly radac survey equipment added much needed realism.

The new Company Commander, Maj Nigel Fritch has pressed the need to get the basic infantry skills right by ensuring his team

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News from the Steelbacks



Recce Pl set sail



Pte (Ocdt) Hill on Ex Polar Dawn



Ptes Dunningham and Rosamond await an attack during Ex Polar Dawn

News from the Steelbacks

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is well trained and up to date. The troops were exercised at tactics weekends at Thetford and the Corby training areas.

In December WO2 Wilcox attended the first LAW 94 mm conversion course available for members of the battalion. During the course he fired two live rounds and was duly impressed. The company is now the proud owner of a training kit in preparation for the introduction of the new weapon system later this year.

In March WO2 Wilcox was again in the news when he won the over-35 TA Eastern District orienteering championships held at Cromer and is taking part in the UKLF championship. In addition, from the company, Pte Lovett from Wellingborough and Pte Cooper from Rushden also put in creditable performances.

Over Easter WO2 Wilcox, Sgt Moore and Ptes Lovett, Mitchell and Sanders took part in Ex Steelback Strider, a four day hill walking expedition in the Scottish Highlands based at Garelochhead.

Cpls Kelly and Anderson both successfully completed their junior NCO's course at Brecon adding to the growing nucleus of Brecon-trained junior NCOs in the company.

The first weekend in January saw 3 (Essex) Coy concentrating at Lowestoft TAC, courtesy of C Coy 6 Royal Anglian and the very useful cross unit links available on the PSI net. The company was joined by Capt Tom Dormer and both mortar lines.

The bracing sea air and the not too unkind weather gave us the opportunity to get some range time in at Pakefield and to practise skills and drills for the competition on 28-29 Jan. The points from this competition did, of course, have considerable bearing on the inter-company championship.

The competition weekend came and went, the platoon commanders all learning much from the experience. Silly mistakes are good object lessons and it was mostly those that caused the platoons to be marked down. Disappointing yes, but at least there were no fundamental errors.

Platoons need time for their own team skills and when the training calendar is busy, time is not always easy to find. The OC was unable to witness the competition as he was at Staff College.

February saw the Coy at Stanta to train in an NBC environment. Steel Mask was a battalion sponsored exercise which used one of the standard compound formats to enable each platoon to practise the various facets on

NBC drills.

In March, the two Essex Coys, with battalion HQ, participated in the annual 49 Inf Bde Ex, Polar Dawn, again at Stanta. The exercise, which involves perhaps half the brigade, gives players the chance to practise their helicopter drills.

No sooner had 3 Coy formed up in chalks than the helicopters arrived. With a speed and skill that belied their actual experience, the men were on and away to the second position. Once landed the exercise continued, the men again demonstrating very good drills. That particular move was one that all those who were there can be very proud of.

Amidst April showers the battalion took to Fingringhoe Ranges on 12 Apr to practice for its skill at arms competition on 22/23 Apr. Sadly the month also confirmed that 3 Coy had not retained its position as champion company, having given way to HW/HQ Coy and moving goal posts! It can gain some solace from the fact that it has second place and remains top rifle company.

3 Coy was away at the beginning of May at Aldershot, during which time the battalion 'O' Group departed for BAOR to make sure it is still there. The Company will provide a team for EDSAM and the command structure is again playing later in the month at BGT(S).

By the time the next edition is published the Company will have a new OC. The present can look back over 14 years of blood, sweat and tears (both pain and laughter) with some of the very best around and (he says), the last four years as OC have been an experience that cannot be repeated anywhere else in the TA.

Meanwhile, at 4 Coy life has been reasonably busy. The aim over the previous six months has been to have at least one field training exercise per month, something the company has certainly achieved.

In November 2620 Squadron RAF Regiment provided enemy as 4 Coy performed a slick night withdrawal in the snow. Revenge was sweet then 2620 were ambushed in the early hours of the Sunday morning.

In January most of the Company enjoyed the rigours of the patrol competition, except Cpl Giovanni from the Milan Pl for whom the going was challenging. The speed march ensured that all platoons gave their best. Sgt Summers was as fast on foot as he was in his RCT cab.

In March the roles were reversed and 4 Coy acted as enemy for 2620 Squadron on Stanta. A superb weekend gave them the opportunity of practising daytime patrolling, ambushes and advance to contact.

The present OC, Maj Robin Tournay moved to pastures new. Capt Grant Peakall will fill his vacancy.

Heavy Weapons/Headquarter Coy at Peterborough has had a very productive last six months. Maj Tim Warr has handed over command to Maj Peter Horrell. Maj Horrell assumed control just before Christmas, just in time to see his company dominate the battalion patrol competition.

Using a combination of military skills and downright determination, the platoons were faced with several demanding tasks: crossing a river, making a raft out of oil drums and logs, changing a wheel on a four tonner without the use of a jack, a forced march followed by a shoot, occupation of a hide and a night ambush patrol. The Mortar Pl occupied the top place position with the MT/Signals Pl second, while the recce Pl and Assault Pioneers came 5th and 11th respectively.

In February the company mounted a recruiting drive in Peterborough town centre. The Band and Corps of Drums arrived in the afternoon and entertained the shoppers for two hours with a concert and marching display. The following Tuesday evening the fruits of their labour was evident as 22 potential recruits turned up.

In March the company completed the good start it made last year. The orienteering competition saw HW/HQ Coy come 4th. Not brilliant but gives the company the title of Champion Company for the year.

Back with the Mortars The Platoon has grown during the past six months, approaching a full orbit of fifty personnel. In April the platoon was at full strength with all eight barrels manned and all executive positions filled.

Since camp they have taken a rest from specialised tasks in order to brush up on infantry skills, in preparation for the patrol competition.

For some in the platoon this was their first opportunity to learn those basic skills. As a consequence, the platoon were very enthusiastic about the training.

The Mortar Pl entered two teams in the patrol competition, each team consisted of six soldiers from Peterborough and six from Chelmsford. Team 'A' was led by Capt Dormer and Team 'B' by WO2 Steele.

The competition was demanding but was tackled with determination effort. Team 'B' achieved a creditable 9th position, after a misunderstanding at stage one, the raft building! Team 'A' surpassed expectations by

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News from the Steelbacks



2Lt Medwell, Sgt Northcote and 3Pl looking good in the march and shoot

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winning the competition.

This team did particularly well, coming first at the FIBUA stand, the occupation of a hide and the night ambush, to the embarrassment of the infantry platoons. As predicted by the platoon commander, the patrol competition trophy is now proudly displayed on Bullard's mantelpiece.

Our programme is now directed towards the Mortar Pl concentration in October. It is hoped that the platoon will field all eight barrels and will be able to support the battalion during a live firing attack. This Part III shoot will be the culmination of our 1989 training.

The promotion of CSgt Bullard to QPSI of 3 Coy was celebrated at the Mortar dinner held at the University Arms Hotel, Cambridge; we shall certainly miss his fatherly and wise council. However, he has only moved six feet across to his new desk and therefore will still be keeping his eye on mortar affairs. Our new PSI is Sgt Mallon from the Poachers.

On 13 Jan the Steelbacks were visited by Maj Gen D M Naylor, GOC N E District and Commander 2 Infantry Division. It gave him the opportunity to present medals to four members of the battalion. WO2 Dent, WO2 Grenfell and CSgt Strickland all received LS and GCs while Cpl Tucker from 4 Coy received his Territorial Efficiency Medal.



Maj Gen D M Naylor having presented LS & GCs to WO2 Grenfell, WO2 (RQMS) Dent (NRPS), CSgt Strickland and TEM to Cpl Tucker

News from the Steelbacks

Exercising in Canada

By 2 Lt R Arnold, HQ Coy

ON 14 Apr 1988 one officer and 19 other ranks from 5 Royal Anglian were attached to the Pompadours prior to Ex. Medicine Man 2 Batus. We were met by Lt Guy Skingsley and transported to Elizabeth Barracks, Minden, our home for the build-up training prior to the exercise. After arrival in Minden we were split up between B & C Coys and conveyed to our accommodation.

Training began in earnest with three days conversion to the SA80 culminating in zeroing and APWT on day 3. We were also introduced to the first of many BFTs which at one highlighted the difference in fitness requirement between the regular army and TA.

Field firing was carried out at Sennelager which gave all of us a chance to improve our basic skills with the new weapon and live ammunition. After 3 days back at Minden for personal administration we went to Soltau training area for battlegroup training.

It was here that we were introduced to the two tank squadrons from the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragon Guards, the REME and AAC attachments who would accompany us to Canada. This afforded us the rare opportunity to clamber over and, in some cases, drive Chieftain tanks.

From 16 to 26 May we returned to Elizabeth Barracks for fitness training and pre-exercise administration. At this point I would like to mention two 5th Battalion "old boys", Lt Adrian Williams and Sgt Colin Rafferty, both serving with the Pompadours, who took a keen interest in the attached personnel and offered useful advice and guidance to all.

Between 27 and 29 May the main body flew to Calgary, closely followed by the rear party. After a 14 hour flight there followed a three hour bus ride to Suffield which gave all of the newcomers a chance to view the seemingly never ending prairie.

The heat came as a surprise to many; we did not anticipate temperatures in the upper 30 C region!

On arrival at Suffield we were introduced to the delights of camp Crowfoot and the British Army Training Unit Suffield.

Batus was established with the co-operation of the Canadian government in the early 1970s. It covers more than 1600 square kms of the Alberta Prairie, which had been previously used for chemical and potential atomic tests.

Although it was never actually used for the latter a look at the map clearly shows the intended sites and the circles out from these

areas are still marked in miles. The battle group spent 16 days special to arm training on the area which culminated in Ex Alamein when the whole battle group came together for a massive display of firepower using live ammunition.

After the final exercise we returned post haste to camp Crowfoot for vehicle cleaning and post exercise administration, followed by a trip into Medicine Hat to sample the delights of the Silver Buckle and Sin Bin, two charming cocktail establishments with a peculiar line of cabaret.

The highlight of the tour was a well deserved R & R period during which we dispersed to various parts of Canada and the USA, but were subsequently recaptured in time to fly back to Germany by 27 Jun. We returned to the UK a few days later and dispersed to our loved ones, armed with moose heads and duty frees.

In conclusion, the tour was certainly an experience we are never likely to forget. The training was arduous but extremely satisfying. Our thanks go to all the officers and men of the 3rd Battalion but in particular I would like to express my thanks to the CO, Lt Col Alan Behagg, Maj David Bayliss, OC C Coy, Maj Robin Chisnell, OC B Coy and Capt Allisdair Wild, for their help and enthusiasm which made this tour so memorable for all of us.

Maintaining connections

WE have all seen the headlines about the shortage of recruits and have no doubt experienced the painful effects of serving with a battalion that is understrength; and it's not going to get better in the near future.

However, we in the Royal Anglian Regiment can help ourselves, we are a big family, both Regular and TA and now that we have two more battalions back in the UK we can make all our recruiting efforts work for the Regiment.

We in 5R Anglian, the Steelbacks would like to encourage those Regular soldiers coming to the end of their engagement, to join the TA. The three TA battalions cover most of East Anglia and the Midlands and offer soldiers a chance to pursue a civilian career while at the same time enjoying military activities with a strong Regimental

connection.

The Steelbacks are part of the 2nd Infantry Division, with a challenging and demanding role in BAOR. Next year we will be exercising in Germany.

The minimum time commitment is 27 days a year, although most soldiers do a minimum of one weekend a month, plus 15 days continuous training. If you join the TA within 12 months of leaving your regular units, you are exempt recruit training and can retain your rank (subject to vacancies). Also you could receive the full £600 tax-free bounty in your first year.

A word of warning however; make sure you get settled into your new civilian job before you join the TA, otherwise you could find yourself over-committed. (Those for whom the above time-commitment is

too great should consider the TA GpC (HSF) with a less demanding Home Defence Role.

In the coming months we will be making presentations to the Regular battalions in the UK to ensure that all the soldiers know of the options open to them. And it's not just one way. We are inviting the Regular Battalion to lay on presentations to the TA soldiers, to encourage them to join the Regular Army. Last year, about 20 Steelbacks joined up and a similar number went on 'attachments' to Canada and on special engagements in N. Ireland.

From now on we must ensure that both the Regular and TA Battalions benefit from our closer co-operation. As the shortage of recruits bites, let's make sure it bites somewhere else!

News from the Steelbacks



Mrs Moore and escorts on ben lme during Ex Steelback Strider

Striding in Scotland

By Sgt Moore, 2 Coy

STORM force winds, snow, sleet and rain, freezing conditions above 2,000 feet, gusts on summits expected to exceed 100 mph - the weather forecast, on the first day of Ex Steelback Strider, 5 Royal Anglian's first foray into the Scottish winter mountains.

After a gruelling trip north, the 25 budding adventurers greeted the weather forecast with some scepticism "Can it be that windy?" Then followed a brief lecture on the 'strange' equipment they had all drawn earlier - breeches, dachstein mitts, crampons, gaiters and ice axes - no DPM to be seen!

Once the preliminary preparations and briefings were complete, the group divided into four parties - each under the guidance of an instructor - for their first trip into the rain-swept hills around Garelochhead Training Camp. It soon became apparent that the wind could be that strong, the rain could come sideways and the mitts weren't so daft after all!

A good afternoon was had by all, breaking in the new gear, learning the basics of getting used to the idea of enjoying themselves.

Suspicious looks all round when one

group was asked by their instructor "What do you fancy doing - go up there? - over here? - it's your choice". Where was the catch? - we have a choice!

Saturday - it wasn't windy or wet, in fact, the sun was shining - Ben lme 1011 m high was today's goal - all aboard the waggons and on their way - stopping only to ravish the local wool hat shop - much to the delight of the proprietor - a week's takings in five minutes!

The transport dropped the groups off in the heart of the mountains - with huge boulder strewn slopes rising from every side - a dramatic start to a fantastic day. Three groups made their own way up the Ben lme north east ridge whilst the other chose Bealach a'Mhaim as their approach to the summit.

Much clicking of cameras and gasps of disbelief accompanied the steady ascent of the snow covered north east ridge, soon the moment they had all been waiting for - time to put the crampons on.

Earlier, a local had advised us of a 'few tricky bits' on the ridge - these gradually became more and more tricky and time-consuming as the group moved up. The last hurdle, a large steep buttress partially covered in snow and ice, called for some careful rope work and by the time this was surmounted by

all the groups the summit, temptingly close, had to be left for another day.

An epic day - sunglasses and lots of snow and a chance to try their crampons! It was a tired but happy group who returned to camp that night, the climbs getting steeper, the ice thicker with every story told.

Sunday - dull, warm, low cloud, light winds - freezing at 2,000 ft - yet another extreme. Today's goals - the cobbler. After a bit of a slog through some unpleasant forestry, the real climbing began, each group picking their own way up the steep eastern side of the Cobbler, no crampons this time but plenty of ice axe work - to gain the Bealach between the north and south summits of the Cobbler.

From here the groups visited the airy tops - the north peak surrounded by precipitous cliffs, once again the cameras clicked - unfortunately the best views being obscured by low cloud. The descent from the Bealach proved most entertaining, deep snow and thick icicles; much sledging, glissading and general malarkey ended out three days in the Scottish mountains on a real high!

Then it was back down to earth and back to camp - handing in of kit - a night out - clearing up and the long journey home.

LEAVING THE ARMY?

**You don't have to - join the Steelbacks
and enjoy the best of both worlds**



**5 Royal Anglian is a NATO committed Territorial
battalion with a role in Germany. Already nearly 100
ex-Regular officers and men enjoy combining the best of civilian
and military life.**

**If you join the Steelbacks within 12 months of leaving the Regular
Army you can keep your rank and get up to £600 as a tax free
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INTERESTED?

To find out more, ring one of the following numbers:

1 Coy	Braintree and Basildon	0376 44599
2 Coy	Wellingborough, Corby and Rushden	0933 76479
3 Coy	Chelmsford, Colchester and Warley	0245 251151
4 Coy	Hertford and Hemel Hempstead	0992 584521
HW/HQ Coy	Peterborough	0733 54581



6th Battalion



Changing the emphasis

AS the ink dried on our last contribution to Castle Lt Col Peter Dixon was easing himself into the CO's chair.

His mandate from the Brigadier was straightforward enough - to change the emphasis of battalion training from Home Defence to that of conventional warfare, while maintaining the hard-learned skills of our more usual role. The tone was thus set for the two forthcoming FTXs.

Readers will most probably be familiar with Stanta, set right on 6 R Anglian's doorstep. 6 R Anglian readers will be especially familiar with Stanta in appalling weather, which seems to occur each time we visit.

The November FTX was no different with biting cold and severe frost. In spite of the weather the turn-out was excellent and



Sgt Rivett (C Coy) presented with the territorial Efficiency Medal at the Battalion skill-at-arms meeting by the Bde Comd

upwards of 300 took part in a fast moving exercise.

The first day began with companies completing a lengthy advance to contact, clearing pockets of enemy en route. They then settled into hide positions and prepared

for overnight ambushes during which those who resisted the urge to keep warm by moving found themselves frozen to the ground.

Next morning, thinking that the exercise had ended, the hunters became the prey when their convoy was attacked on the return to Thorpe Camp and anti-ambush drills were quickly put into action.

Predictably enough the February FTX, or 'Suffolk Punch' as it was known, was staged in equally foul weather. The exercise commenced with a long night infiltration in thick fog during which familiarity with the training area was of little help to the map readers. The next day saw companies lying up in hide areas and preparing for another night move, reconnaissance of enemy positions and co-ordinated company attacks as the finale.

In addition to the FTXs a regular programme of training at company level and below has taken place with the emphasis on brushing up on personal skills. In March a cadre weekend was staged, with each of the companies hosting one or two mini-cadres, each attended by a cross-section of the battalion. First aid, NBC, signals, driver training and assault pioneering were amongst the subjects covered.

Other weekends have been dedicated to



A civilised way to do business. The CO (left) chats to Commander 54 Inf Bde

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News from the 6th Battalion



Exercise Suffolk Punch - members of C Coy setting out on patrol

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shooting as a build-up to the battalion and Eastern District Skill At Arms Meetings and, of course, Bisley. Having had plenty of opportunity to train and select their teams the companies met in Colchester in early April in the first one of these keenly fought competitions.

Traditionally, the battalion shooting competitions take place in mud but this year we were blessed with sunshine and near-perfect conditions. Last years' winners, C (Ipswich) Coy, were relegated to fourth place and B (Bedford) Coy won with the Challenge Shield. Our Home Service Force Companies fought hard for the HSF Cup with the silver eventually changing hands from E to F Coy.

As ever, there have been a few changes in the battalion staff list. In addition to the

change of Commanding Officer, Capt Roger Hare relinquished the Adjutant's appointment and moved to HQ UDR prior to his attendance at Staff College. His successor, Capt Andrew Marsh, another Viking, arrived hot off the press from JDSC in December, taking over just as block leave began.

Among the officers, Peter Akister (OC A Coy) is to be congratulated on his promotion, (Captain to Major), as are Glynne French, Jane Winder and Andrew Stewardson (Lieutenant to Captain). In the pipeline we also have a new batch of 5 Officer Cadets, all successful at the first District Assessment Board of the year.

Waiting in the wings to attend the next DAB are a further eight, who, by the time this is published, will know their fate.

Although there have been no great sporting achievements in the last year it has

not been for lack of trying. Our WRAC team achieved second place in the Eastern District cross-country competition, the male team were third in their class and a D Coy team were within sniffing distance of a placing in the district driving competition. No trophies this year but there are a few fluorescent cones in Colchester who will think twice before tangling with the 6th Battalion again!

Finally, just to prove that work and play can be combined with beneficial results here at battalion headquarters, our congratulations go to the Training Major, Jeremy Prescott, and the OC WRAC, Capt Jane Winder, on their engagement in January and the subsequent wedding which took place on Easter Saturday. Contrary to rumours, their honeymoon was not spent in a shell-scape on the Stanford Training Area, but they have been seen experimenting with a double sized matrimonial basha for future occasions.

News from the 6th Battalion

IN A daring escape attempt, Daisy, the last animal in 6 R Anglian's once thriving dairy herd made a bid for freedom on 10 Mar. Daisy takes up the story. "I'd had enough. There used to be 16 of us then gradually, one by one, we started to disappear. One peak in the QM's lock-up confirmed my suspicions - thousands of tins of minced beef stacked up in rows. With an FTX coming up I had to act fast."

Daisy began to formulate a plan and look for an appropriate disguise. Having stolen a red nose from the front of the staff car, Daisy intended to mingle un-noticed among the crowds on red nose day and make her bid for freedom.

Then fortune smiled on the bovine beauty. "I'd already considered stealing a bicycle but I'm no calf any more and riding a normal bike gives me foot and mouth - my rear feet tend to slip off the pedals and hit me in the mouth. A car was out of the question - I'm rather large around the middle and somebody was bound to notice that I wasn't wearing a seat belt. I was all set to make a run for it and then I noticed it - a bicycle made for two. How appropriate."

Siezing the opportunity, Daisy sped away to the lush pastures that lay to the north. "Word of the escape must have spread quickly," Daisy recalls, "no sooner had I set off than people began throwing coins at me to try and knock me off." Four hours later Daisy was recaptured 45 miles away outside the TA Centre in Norwich.

"I was pretty tired by then" said Daisy. "I'd covered 45 miles in four hours and I was getting weighed down by the coins that had been caught in the buckets on the front of the bike - £177 worth in all." Disappointed but unbowed Daisy was later returned to captivity.

Speaking exclusively to Castle an MOD spokesman said: "I don't know what you have herd but Daisy really had nothing to beef about. A full investigation has taken place and there is no question of any bullying. There have been no udder incidents of this type and dissatisfaction among our livestock is very rare. This is an unfortunate and isolated case of a steak-out going wrong!"

Daisy has now been re-employed at HQ 6 Royal Anglian, the front half as a Civil Admin Officer and the rear half as the Officers Mess Supervisor.

Front: Phil Crouchman; Rear: WSSgt Cathy Prewer (HQ Coy); Distance: 45 miles; Time: 4 hrs; Money raised: £177; Charity: Comic Relief.



Csgt George receiving the Challenge Shield for B Coy from Brig Ridley



Maj & Mrs Prescott honeymooning on Middlewick Ranges

7th Battalion

No lack of action

THE period following annual camp in Scotland started quietly enough with the onset of "Phase 1" training, but momentum soon gathered with a battalion study weekend at Chilwell covering all aspects of FIBUA followed by a battalion FTX in November at Longmoor when the theory was put into practice.

In December, instead of the traditional bounty weekend the battalion held a section competition at Beckingham which was won by the Recce Platoon. The weekend was rounded off with a Christmas lunch for the soldiers.

The New Year started well with the cooks coming first in Ex Combat Caterer, the Eastern District Cooking Competition. The winning team consisted of Sgt Scaife and Cpl Henry (LCpl Mann driving) and had been trained by WO2 Rosby and SSgt Burke. They are looking forward to winning the national finals.

In March the battalion took part in the annual 49 Bde FTX at Stanford, ex Polar Dawn. For once the Bn had not been cast as enemy and acquitted itself well in this fast moving and gruelling exercise using support helicopters.

The battalion sponsored a recruiting study day for East Midlands TAVRA at Leicester which was run by the OC RRTT, Maj Martin Mee. The perennial problems of recruiting and, more importantly, wastage, were discussed in depth and many new ideas were put forward. The real problem throughout the TA is not so much recruiting as keeping the TA soldier. We are fortunate to be well recruited at all levels, but even in the East Midlands there are ominous signs that recruiting will become more and more difficult.

Even our hard-pressed permanent staff get the occasional break and in March, WO2 Jim Pancoust organised Ex Tigers Snow, a few days skiing at Aviemore.

April saw the battalion involved in Ex Grizzly Bear, the Berlin Inf Bde Fibua package, the first of many overseas exercises arranged by Maj George Tomlin the Training Major. To follow is another exercise in Berlin, three in Hemmelsberg (with 4, 10 and 15 para) and two in Gibraltar. It is thought that beneath this Training Major's laconic exterior there is a travel agent struggling to emerge.



Section attack during Ex Polar Dawn

Also in April, the battalion held its SAAM at Colchester Ranges. This year D Coy won the championship, the Defence Pl won the platoon competition and Maj Gen Stone presented the prizes.

Company News:

A Coy now has a new OC, Maj Charles Szabo who took over from Maj David Chandler who had served 13 years with the company. The company was handed over in good order being 110% of establishment with 34 recruits in the pipeline. The company won the section competition and also the MT competition. Capt Pete Slinger is now the Coy 2IC. On a visit in January the CO, Lt Col Brett, presented TEMs to CSgt Graham Stephenson, Sgts Steven Cottam and Brian Gooderham and

Cpls Stephen Boam and David Sanderson. Cpl Paul Grant received the bar to his TEM.

B Coy's Gainsborough Pl won the falling plate competition at the battalion Saam and the Moseling Sword. This platoon is now commanded by CSgt (Ex WO2 and SPSI) Kiwi Wilson. Sgt Osman returns to 2 Royal Anglian and his place is taken by Sgt Simpson. WO2 (CSM) David Paine completed the London Marathon in 3 hrs 47 mins and raised money for a local charity by sponsorship.

Ldy Coy's Hinckley Pl won the section match and the Milan Pl at Loughborough bade farewell to Sgt Freddie Beaumont whose place is taken by Sgt Tomson.

D Coy, as well as winning overall at the

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News from the 7th Battalion



Helicopter deployment in Ex Polar Dawn



'Thanks for the lift' - Ex Polar Dawn

News from the 7th Battalion



Milan tracks an enemy AFU in Ex Polar Dawn

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battalion Saam produced the best officer shot (Lt John Mitchell) and also winning SMG Team. Leaving D Coy are WO2 Joe Heffernan on retirement and SSgt Burke (ACC) on promotion to WO2 who moves to HQ Coy. WO2 (SPSI) Ellingford and WO2 (CSM) Stuart mounted an abseiling spectacular in March in Leicester and raised more than £500 for Comic Relief.

E (HSF) Coy has also had its share of personality changes. The company is now commanded by Maj (formerly Lt Col) John Heggs, and Capt Gervais Smith moves up as 21C. After many years of stout and loyal services Lt Mike Taylor handed over his platoon of hand-picked brigands at Lincoln to Lt Ian Alexander.

HQ Coy's major achievement was to win the champion company competition, for the first time ever, a notable milestone in its history and a tribute to those who make the company tick. In January the GOC Eastern

District, Maj Gen Graham, visited the company and presented SSgt Rogers (RAPC) with his BEM and the Recce PI with their certificates for winning the section competition. RQMS Brian Lee is to be congratulated on commissioning and his new appointment as QM(V), taking over from Maj Geoffrey Taylor who has served at Leicester as Mor PI PSI, QPSI, Mor PI Sgt, CSgt and WO2, CSM, RQMS, QM(V), Mor PI Comd, MTO, 21C HQ Coy, OC HQ Coy then QM(V) again. This must be a record! We have also lost our Regular QM Lt Col Greenfield who is now the Staff College QM at Camberley and we welcome Maj John Rourke in his place. WO2 Rosby (ACC) and CSgt Bliss also leave on retirement, having given many years loyal service.

Looking forward, one sees the rifle teams eagerly training for EDSAAM and Bisley, volunteers being found for the Training Major's select trips abroad and the battalion preparing for annual camp on Salisbury Plain in September.



CSgt Kiwi Wilson takes a well-earned break

News from the 7th Battalion



Lt Ian Mitchell - best officer and SLR shot



Maj Gen Stone presents Capt Clive Mallett with the cup for best pistol shot



OC D Coy with his winning team

News from the 7th Battalion



The Defence Pl - champion platoon



A breath of fresh air for the permanent staff on ex Tigers Snow

News from the 7th Battalion



The Recce PI - winners of the section competition



Maj Geoffrey Taylor collects his medal for winning the non-central pistol match



Maj Gen Graham presents SSgt Rogers with his BEM



Three Lt Cols serving in one unit at the same time, is this a record? The CO, Lt Col Brett, flanked by the QM, Lt Col David Greenfield, who was promoted in December 1988 and Lt Col John Heggs commanding E (HSF) Coy who has temporarily retained his rank until formal enlistment action is complete.

News from the 7th Battalion

Concentration in Hong Kong

THE 1988 Hong Kong Mortar Concentration was as always run by S W W Netheravon assisted by four RAAT SNCOs from UK based infantry battalions. This year as the Mortar PI PSI with 7 Royal Anglian I was sent as a member of the directing staff. It proved to be hard but enjoyable work.

We arrived ten days prior to the start of the concentration which allowed time to acclimatise while carrying out the necessary reces at Castle Park range complex. Castle Peak was to be the location for all live firing phases.

The evenings were cooler which eased the slightly less arduous task of boosting Royal Anglian relations overseas. Capbadges were donated to worthy bar staff in both Kowloon and Hong Kong Island!

It was intended that the severe nature of the countryside at Castle Peak would provide a good test for both MFC and mortar line parties. This certainly proved to be the case.

In all, six mortar platoons supported by the MMG pl of 1/2 GR and Key exercise players were put through their paces. Key exercises players included platoons from 1/2, 2/2, 7 and 10 GR along with 1DERR (the resident British Battalion) and a platoon from 1 RNZIR.

Each package lasted five days and Ex Delhi Breech provided the meat of the concentration and was split into four phases. The initial phase was a road, foot and boat move by RPL to a secured BG concentration area, this included a chest deep walk in the South China Sea and a squelching yomp along the coast road at no extra charge!

Phase two, the defensive phase began with a helicopter insertion of 2 x 4 tube mortar lines and included another helicopter move of two mortars to support a quick company attack, a night patrol exercise, a night defensive battle and a casevac situation on the mortar line, amazing really a quick flick of the wrist and sucking chest wounds appear, it only takes a couple of these and counter battery drills improve 100%.

Phase three, a combined heli-foot withdrawal in the midday heat of day two provided no respite because, on arrival at the new BG concentration area, orders for phase four, the BG attack, were issued.

Commencing with the night occupation of a platoon mortar line to be completed by fist light. No problems so far. The mortar line was situated in a rather nice little spot, pre-



Lt Krishna Kuma Ale of 1/2 GR and CSgt Anderson with a presentation Kukri during the Hong Kong mortar concentration

selected by concentration staff of course. The ammunition was pre-dumped by helicopter on top of an equally nice but not so little hill, pre-selected by concentration staff of course! To this day I cannot understand how Ghurka soldiers can smile after struggling to the top of a severe climb to be confronted by up to 700 rounds of 81mm mortar ammunition which needs to be transported manually to the mortar line below.

Adjustment began at first light and the ensuing attack was fast and furious, both MFC and mortar line parties were pushed to their limit. All in all it was a realistic out of area operation with the MMG pl of 1/2 GR adding to the realism with Mor/SF co-ordinated fire planning.

The attack was a success and Castle Peak is safe once again. All that remained was for

the empty ammunition containers to be popped back on top of the hill for helicopter pick up and the platoon to withdraw to their much missed vehicles. By the time the sixth platoon had been exercised, both Castle Peak and the RAAT staff were looking rather worse for wear.

Worthwhile? It certainly was. Each platoon found the exercise both demanding and enjoyable. While passing on hopefully useful tips and ideas I certainly picked up a few of my own to pass on to 7 R Anglian and any future platoon I may work with.

Finally, with results collated and reports written, a few days before the flight back to Christmas in the UK, time enough to give away a few more cap badges.

By CSgt Anderson

News from the 7th Battalion



THE battalion skill-at-arms meeting took place at Colchester on 15/16 Apr 89, under the best possible shooting conditions.

The overall winners this year were D (Northants) Coy which became champion company at skill-at-arms on producing the best officer shot and best individual SLR shot (Lt Ian Mitchell) best SMG shot (Cpl Norman McKay) best SMG team and runners-up in the other team matches.

The Defence Pl were the champion platoon team, winning the Roupell Cup match, whilst 9 Pl (Ldy Coy) won the section match and 5 Pl (B Coy) the falling plate match. Capt Clive Mallet was again the best pistol shot.

Some remarkable shooting talent was discovered during the meeting which augers well for our intention to win the Eastern District small arms meeting championship again this year.

Maj Gen PPD Stone, Director General of Personal Services (Army) and Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, presented the trophies and prizes to round off a memorable weekend.

Pte Ivan Dabbs and LCpl Michael Oliver, two of the best shots of D (Northamptonshire) Coy, Champion Company Skill-At-Arms 1989, with some of their trophies.
Photo: Northampton Mercury.

Regimental Shop

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Depot Queen's Division

Relatively calm

THE Depot has experienced a period of relative calm after the hectic activity of 1988. We have been able to concentrate on our primary function of training recruits, a task that has become increasingly difficult and time-consuming.

We are glad to welcome back Lt Col Mike Boocock as Commanding Officer and wish all good fortune to his predecessor Lt Col Mike Goldschmidt.

Despite the best efforts of our recruiters, recruiting continues to fall below target levels, with three platoon intakes cancelled and several under strength. Of those who enter training, an increasing number are of low commitment and durability. This has led to much extra work for the instructors, as more and more hours of attention are devoted per recruit to train him.

Fortunately we have been blessed with a mild winter, as success rates normally deteriorate in winter months, even in a favourable recruiting climate. Kohima Pl (our rehabilitation unit) is now achieving a high rate of success with recruits who otherwise might have left the Army. Its terms of reference have now been expanded to give remedial training to recruits with any specific area of weakness rather than merely to injured recruits as previously.

Despite the compromises and additional measures resorted to during training, the standard of those passing out remains unaltered. We have not compromised on any of the critical objectives in training and the successful recruits may feel rightly proud of their achievement.

Congratulations go to Pte Biddle (Vikings) and Ptes Price and McGhee (Pompadors) for their award of Best Recruit in Minden, Normandy and Quebec Platoons respectively.

Shooting is one area of training that has become significantly less of a problem. SA 80 continues to be a joy and only a very few recruits find the personal weapons test to be a stumbling block these days.

DEPSAAM was held in March and was again a successful and enjoyable event. Cpl Dickinson (Vikings) emerged as champion shot after a three way shoot off and the meeting



The Div Col demonstrates his powers of hypnosis on Pte Jackson during Passing Out parade of Talavera Pl

identified some good talent for the Depot shooting team.

Once again the Regiment produces the lions share of the team, under the guidance of Lt James Lewis, and the omens for the district meeting and Bisley appear good.

On the sporting front, our rugby and hockey teams have enjoyed mixed fortunes, while the basketball team won the South East District competition and were third in the Army championships.

However, once again, the cross-country team were our most successful. The team, including five members of the Regiment, swept all before them in all District competitions and were 7th in the Army championships.

Cpl Maynard (Pompadors) was the star performer and we wish him luck in this year's athletics, where he is the current Army 800m champion and 400m runner-up.

The training platoons continue to make great efforts for charity. The most notable

recent achievement was by Korea Pl under Sgt Keeble (Pompadors) who raised £1,200 in a single day on the streets of Bury St Edmunds for the West Suffolk Scanner Appeal. In addition to fund-raising events, other platoons have carried out a wide variety of community tasks to help hospitals, old people's homes and youth clubs in the area.

We have received some notable visitors in recent months. Maj Gen Pollard was Inspecting Officer for the Passing Out Parade of Anzio and Blenheim Platoons on 2 Feb. The Director of Infantry, Maj Gen Pank had the dubious distinction on 16 Mar of becoming the first Inspecting Officer for years to experience a wet-weather Passing Out Parade in Hangar 3. Other parades were inspected by the Divisional Colonel and Director of the Royal Pioneer Corps.

Finally in May we received a visit from

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News from the Depot

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the Adjutant General, which was a most valuable opportunity for expression of views from the grass roots direct to the Army Board.

Since the last edition there has been a high turnover in the Depot permanent staff. We welcome Lt Nigel Goodwin, WO2s Cavaleiro, Hanniver, Jones and Sanderson, CSgt Guyton, and Sgts Couldridge, Swaep and Yarham. Lt Patrick Dean and WO2 Staples and Butts have retired and we wish them well for the future.

WO2 Threadwell departs to become TQMS 2 Queen in the next life and we say farewell to CSgts Pallant, Slevin and Smith and to Sgt Dowd, Keeble and Osborne with our thanks for all the hard work.

Right: The CO, as Inspecting Officer, speaks to Pte Brocklesby of El Alamein PI during his first Passing Out Parade since assuming command.

Below: The HQ Coy team, winners of the Fire Team Match, receive their medals from Mrs Boocock. The RSM appears uneasy and outnumbered by Royan Anglians.



News from the Depot



MRS Doreen Chamberlain, Chief Steward of the Officers' Mess at The Depot, retired at Christmas, after 18 years' service. She will be remembered by most serving officers and many retired officers, not only for her devoted and sterling service to the Mess but for her trusted and valued friendship as well.

Doreen and Phil Chamberlain plan, after a holiday in the US, to remain at their present home in Orwell. Here she is seen receiving a silver salver from the CO, Lt Col Michael Boocock, on her retirement. The salver, subscribed by our three Regiments, as well as the Depot Officers' Mess, depicts the three Regimental badges and an inscription denoting that it represents all the officers of the Division.

RCO

Keeping in touch with CCFs

AT THE time of writing, everyone is talking about the "demographic trough". We are as concerned as other Regiments about the future and are taking steps to ensure that our liaisons with schools, colleges and CCFs are made as good as possible, without wishing to create overkill with too many visits. Schools are busy places and they can't and won't take too many visitors. All subalterns should, however, be encouraged to visit their schools, but should check with the RCO first. Short presentations are ideal and accompanying senior officers on annual general inspections all help towards the recruiting effort.

A successful undergraduates' gathering took place at Basingstoke on 22 Mar. The following attended: Chris Stephenson (Oundle and Cambridge), Ralph Woodisse (Denstone and London), Tom O'Driscoll (Brentwood and Southampton), Robert Blades, Nick Nottingham (Haileybury and Durham), Alistair Martin, Gerald Corkery (St Aloysius and Swansea), Nicholas Mawer (Norwich and Birmingham), Lance Gerrard-Wright (Haileybury and Sheffield), Jonathan Veitch (The King's School, Canterbury, and Newcastle), Nigel Cairns (Felsted and Thames Polytechnic), and Adrian Grinonneau (Rugby). Lt. Edward Thorne - an in-service degree officer from RMC Shrivenham was also present.

At RMA Sandhurst there are three graduates and five non-graduates attending courses. Their passing-out parade is on 4 Aug 1989. There are four cadetship holders, 12 Bursars and 13 Army Scholars all destined to join the Regiment. We have seen more potential officers at RHQ so far this year compared with this time last year. 25 potential officers have so far attended pre-RCBs at Basingstoke and 26 are due to visit Regular battalions this year.

This does not include those destined to visit during vacation periods - for undergraduates - as arranged by HQ Queens Division. About 30 potential officers will attend RCB this year.

The RCO has attended several annual general inspections (AGIs) in May and we

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RCO, RIT

*Busy time
showing
the flag*

A FEW words from your Regimental Information Teams to keep you up to date with activities. We wish God speed to all those who have left since the last issue, especially Sgt Rowe after 22 years service.

During the last six months the teams have visited well over 250 cadet units in the area showing the flag and providing assistance at many weekend training events. Many combined Cadet Forces, ACF units and Scout Troops have visited the RIT at the Depot, where we have kept them busy and interested with our training packages and hopefully providing several future recruits for the Regiment.

One team, under the new leadership of Sgt Atter, attended the Easter Camp with Kimbolton School CCF and all reports indicate that they were highly appreciated. Two team, with Cpl Nyszczoła, attended their first show of the season at Hull on 15 Apr but even with good weather there was only a small turn-out. Better luck next time! Three team is also under new leadership with Cpl Eldridge who has settled down well. Cadet units from the 3rd Bn area are pleased to see a good team



LCpl Michael Bee No 2 RIT at Braintree County Fair instructing anti-aircraft gunners of the future (GPMG in the SF Role)

working together.

On 20 Apr, Col C. Dale, Regimental Secretary, inspected the RIT summer display to make sure all was up to scratch for the forthcoming season. Also looking to the future now that the 1st and 2nd Bns are back in the UK, we hope to spend more time working in co-operation with them. Please send us some good photographs!

Finally, we have a number of new soldiers posted into the RIT. At last we have a clerk, Cpl Hinkson from the 3rd Bn. Sgt Atter, LCpl Taylor and Pte Horton from the Vikings. Cpl Eldridge and LCpl Jones from the Pompadours. We wish them all well in the increasingly more demanding role as a member of the RIT. We hope to see some members of our TA battalions at the shows we attend.

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were grateful to our senior officers for finding the time to be inspecting officers. AGIs were: Wellingborough School (RCO); Ipswich School Centenary parade (Colonel of the Regiment and Commanding Officer of the 6th Bn); Bancrofts School (RCO and Commanding Officer of 3rd Bn); Berkhamsted School (RCO); Stamford School (RCO); Ratcliffe College (Maj Gen Pollard and RCO); Greshams School (Maj Gen Sir David Thorne and RCO); The Leys School (Maj Gen Stone and RCO); Rugby School (Maj Gen Pollard and RCO); Uppingham School Centenary Celebrations (Maj Gen Stone and RCO).

The Leys School Army Section is rebadging to Royal Anglian and General Patrick Stone officiated at the ceremony on 24 May. Uppingham School is also thinking along these lines and their efficient advanced infantry section may be rebadging largely due to the help they have received from the 7th Bn. Their CCF was originally badged The Royal Leicestershire Regiment until our formation in 1964.

Elements of Ratcliffe College CCF and the Leys School CCF are due to visit 2 R Anglian in Celle in July. 1 R Anglian and 3 R Anglian have also helped their affiliated CCFs since they returned to Colchester. We are grateful for all the support that the Regular

battalions give to potential officers during their busy schedule.

The Regimental cricket continues and it is interesting to note that the average age of the team, which was 39 in 1984, has dropped to 24 in 1989. Many of our potential officers who enjoy the game seem to benefit by the experience because they meet other members of the Regiment.

Finally, we are all aware of the problem facing us and will do all we can to ensure that battalions are kept up to strength. If any contacts are made by any serving or retired officers either socially, militarily or on the sports fields, do please inform the RCO who will ensure that they are followed up.



11 Pl Casino Coy, winners in the assault course competition, commanded by Lt Nick Baker

ACTIVITY at JIB Shorncliffe has been intense since the last lively report. Old faces have disappeared back to battalions or new postings, including the old CO, Lt Col P D Harry. However, we have our new draft of keen young officers and NCOs to replace the old. Thus, we say goodbye to Lt Roger Knight and Sgt Mann who both gave sterling service here. Yet, we say welcome to Lt Nick Baker, 3 Bn, who has just come back from Australia on Ex Long Look. Sgt DeMeyer 3 Bn, Lt Tim Dawson from 2 Bn, Cpl Robert Hill 3 Bn and Cpl Mark De Bretton-Gordon 1 Bn.

The training cycle continues, however a lot of extra activities for both juniors and staff have taken place. The battalion started its skiing exercise at Montreux, Switzerland in

January. The exercise ran through to March and proved to be very popular with both instructors and the juniors. The Adjutant, Capt Andrew Wiles, organised with the aid of the QM, Maj John Perry and the RQMS (Monty Beaumont) a Royal Anglian lunch for all members of the Regiment serving at JIB. The event proved to be an excellent opportunity to catch up on news from battalions and friends. The adjutant also continues to plan excellent sailing adventures around the Solent in the Infantry yacht. The most recent exercise being Viking Raid 1 which took place just after Easter. From all accounts it was a very memorable event and apparently names have been flooding in from all ranks wanting to know when Viking Raid

2 is going to happen.

The junior soldiers' companies had the assault course competition in early February. This proved that with hard work and preparation, the Prince of Wales's Division Coy could be beaten. Lt Nick Baker's platoon came first, second and third, closely followed by Lt Tim Dawson's platoon who came fourth, fifth and sixth.

Both platoons have now passed out from JIB and have moved to Depot to complete the remainder of their training.

Finally, we must congratulate RQMS Beaumont on his next posting back to the 3rd Bn as RSM in August 1989.



The Royal Anglian Winehean Club

CCFs



Bedford Modern CCF, Lt Col Gordon Roberts (centre) with the RCO, Maj Guy Hipkin on his right

Affiliated and sponsored CCFs as at June 1989

EASTERN DISTRICT:			
		Kimbolton School	1 R Anglian 7 R Anglian
Bedford Modern School	3 R Anglian 6 R Anglian	King Edward VI School, Chelmsford	3 R Anglian 5 R Anglian
Bedford School	6 R Anglian 39 Engr Regt	Langley School	1 R Anglian 6 R Anglian
Berkhamsted School	3 R Anglian 5 R Anglian	The Leys:	
Brentwood School	3 R Anglian 5 R Anglian	The Leys School	1 R Anglian 6 R Anglian
Cawston College	6 R Anglian	Oakham School	2 R Anglian 7 R Anglian
Felsted School	3 R Anglian 5 R Anglian	Oundle:	
Framlingham College	1 R Anglian 6 R Anglian	Oundle School	2 R Anglian 5 R Anglian
Greshams School	1 R Anglian 6 R Anglian	Ratcliffe College	2 R Anglian 7 R Anglian
Haileybury:		St Edmund's College	3 R Anglian 5 R Anglian
Haileybury	3 R Anglian 5 R Anglian	St George's School, Stowmarket	1 R Anglian 6 R Anglian
Ipswich School	1 R Anglian 6 R Anglian	Stamford School	2 R Anglian 5 R Anglian
		Uppingham School	9/12 L 2 R Anglian 7 R Anglian
		Wellingborough School	2 R Anglian 5 R Anglian
		Woodbridge School	1 R Anglian 6 R Anglian
		Wymondham:	
		Wymondham College	1 R Anglian 6 R Anglian
		LONDON DISTRICT:	
		Aldenham School	3 R Anglian 5 R Anglian
		Bancrofts School	3 R Anglian 5 R Anglian
		Merchant Taylors School	3 R Anglian 5 R Anglian
		RCO:	
		The RCO has good liaison with the following schools outside East Anglia: Rugby School, Ardingly, Hurstpierpoint, The King's School, Canterbury, Harrow, Wellington, St. Edward's Oxford.	

CCFs



Oundle School - Log Race winners with Lt Cdr Lindsay Rooms and the RCO, Richard Forsythe, centre



Maj Robin Tournay presents the Regimental Shield to Hugo Worth of Haileybury. The competition is for the Advanced Infantry Section and covers orienteering, shooting, weapon training, physical fitness, military knowledge, map reading and first aid. A swim was also included, despite sub zero conditions. 4 Coy 5 R Anglian gave valuable assistance, which was appreciated by the Corps

Fund for education

MEMBERS of the regiment may be interested to know about a fund which is available solely for the benefit of sons admitted to the Duke of York's Royal Military School of warrant officers and sergeants who are, or have been, enlisted members of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

The scholarship is intended to assist such sons who, on leaving the Duke of York's Royal Military School, attend any British university or other place of higher education, or go on to any Service academy. In the event that there are no suitable candidates for that form of award, the income may be used for educational or other purposes for such sons who are admitted to the school.

There are now three pupils who have fathers who are members of the Regiment.

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School

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The school is a boarding school for boys between the ages of 11-18. The curriculum, to GCSE examinations, had been tailored to a format close to that of national curriculum proposals before the latter came to light. Around 75% of the fifth form pupils gained GCSE certificates, in the grade A C range, in seven or more subjects.

Every help and encouragement is given to a pupil interested in the services as a career but entry into the school in no way, at all, commits a pupil even to considering such a career.

The school intake is selective. Account is taken of performance in English and mathematics examinations set by the school and careful note is taken of a report, on each potential pupil, that is written by the pupil's headteacher.

All pupils come from an army background and the staff are, therefore, well used to the needs and circumstances which follow from that background. The primary criterion for registering a pupil is that one parent (father or mother) has completed a minimum of four years Regular Army service.

While credit is given to parents who are still serving, pupils enter the school on equal terms if the qualifying parent has completed his, or her, Army service.

The entry processes are conducted in the period November - February of each school year with entry taking place in September, annually, at the start of the school year. The main point of entry is at 11+; a subsidiary and more competitive entry takes place at 13+. Entry at other points is exceptional and even that possibility may be limited by the vacancy state.

The school maintains a Christian ethos and pupils are required to attend morning chapel and an appropriate church service on Sundays. The military tradition of the school has been preserved at a minimum level which serves to unify the school, to acknowledge its foundation and to give a certain individuality to the school.

The pupils live in one of eight boarding houses on the 150 acre school site.

Regimental Shop

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Diary Dates 1989 - 90

1-2 Jul	Northampton Regt Reunion, Northampton.		6 & 7 R Anglian Annual Camp, Salisbury Plain (ends 7 Oct).
3 Jul	2 R Anglian return from Block Leave.	6 Oct	3 R Anglian Dinner Club Lunch, London.
7 Jul	2 R Anglian Band KAPE Tour ends.	6-7 Oct	Lincoln Tattoo.
8-9 Jul	Bisley TA.	21 Oct	'Past & Present' Dinner, Basingbourn (WOs & Sgts).
16 Jul	Regimental Association Gathering, Basingbourn.		
18-20 Jul	East of England Show.	3 Nov	Regimental Careers and Regimental Council Meetings.
21 Jul	3 R Anglian Block Leave.		Regimental Officers Dinner Club Dinner, 'In & Out' London.
24 Jul	1 R Anglian to NITAT Lydd.		
28-30 Jul	Northampton Show.		
29 Jul	Suffolk Regiment Officers Dinner Club Dinner, Bury St. Edmunds.	9 Nov	Field of Remembrance Service, Westminster Abbey.
30 Jul	Suffolk Regiment Minden Reunion, Bury St Edmunds.	16 Nov	3 R Anglian Coy Group complete in Colchester from Falkland Islands.
31 Jul	HRH Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, visits 1 R Anglian at Lydd.	17 Nov	Regimental TA Conference, Basingbourn.
4 Aug	2 R Anglian Block Leave.	19 Nov	Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiments Reunion, Kempston.
11 Aug	1 R Anglian complete NITAT.		
14 Aug	3 R Anglian Return from Block Leave.	27-29 Nov	42nd Queens Division Postings Meeting.
18 Aug	2 R Anglian return from Block Leave.	2 Dec	Royal Leicesters' Officers Lunch, London.
25 Aug	1 R Anglian to Northern Ireland Op Banner Tour.	21 Dec	2 R Anglian Block Leave.
1 Sep	Royal Anglian Regiment Formation Day (25th Anniversary).	7 Jan	2 R Anglian return from Block Leave.
2-16 Sep	6 R Anglian Camp, Wathgill.	18 Jan	1 R Anglian Block Leave after Op Banner Tour
15 Sep	Regimental Golf, Flempton.	14 Feb	1 R Anglian return from Block Leave.
16 Sep	Golf Regiment v Flempton Golf Club.	19 Apr	1 R Anglian exercise Freedom of Town of King's Lynn.
18 Sep	Royal Anglian Regiment Investment Committee Meeting, London.	18 May	3 R Anglian Dinner Club Cocktail Party, London.
18-29 Sep	2 R Anglian KAPE Tour (less Band).	30-31 May	Suffolk Show.
23-24 Sep	Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Association Meeting, Cleethorpes.	2 Nov	Regimental Careers and Regimental Council Meeting.
23 Sep	Royal Norfolk Regiment Reunion, Norwich.		Officers' Dinner Club Dinner.



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— PLEASE QUOTE RN1 —

Around the Branches



THE news from Norfolk must include the recent visit of the Mayor, Cllr Maj L H Dutton and Cllr Mrs J A Dutton, together with the chief executive and his wife, Mr and Mrs Alan Pask, to the 1st Bn in Gibraltar, 18-20 Jan 1989. This was a very successful visit and arrangements are in hand for the 1st Bn to exercise their Freedom of King's Lynn in 1990.

Plans to move the Regimental Museum from Britannia Barracks to the

No. 2 Court in the Shirehall, Norwich, are progressing satisfactorily. The Norfolk Museums Service has arranged to employ Maj Bob Godfrey, now that he has completed his 12 months of research, on a part-time basis until the new museum assistant keeper is appointed, but anyway until July 1989. Maj Godfrey and Mr David Jones, the project manager of Norfolk Museums Service have been responsible for assessing all the items for the new museum. Each selected item has been photographed and described for subsequent display by designer Mr Robin Wade. In addition, suggested captions have been written for the selected items and the story line for almost all the displays.

The value of the appeal now stands at £170,000 and is still open. Anyone wishing to subscribe should send their

donation, which will be acknowledged, to:- Area Regimental Secretary, The Royal Norfolk Regiment Association, Britannia Barracks, Norwich, NR1 4HJ.

The annual dinner of 4th Bn Royal Norfolk Regiment Comrades Association took place at St. Edmunds Hotel, Gorleston, on Saturday 15 Apr when some 85 members met for what was an excellent dinner under expert host ex S/ Sgt Tony Barfield.

Maj Tom Eaton, president, welcomed the Regimental secretary, Mr Tuck, vicar of Bradwell and Maj Bill Somerville, all attending for the first time. Among those attending was a contingent from A Coy 6 Royal Anglian. Capt Geoffrey Peacock was appointed chairman and Mr Bill Plane was re-elected secretary. £150 was raised in the raffle.



THE Sobraon weekend was held at Sobraon Barracks on the weekend of 22/ 23 Apr. On the Saturday night, Col John Gleadall presided over 35 at dinner. We were very pleased to have Maj Gen Pat Stone, Deputy Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment, as our guest for the evening.

On Sunday we had our usual cocktail party and 48 officers and their wives attended. This was followed by a curry lunch. Our thanks to the members of B Coy 7 Royal Anglian who did all the hard work.

The OCA reunion will be held at the Beacholme Holiday Camp on the weekend of 23/24 Sep. Anyone wishing to attend, and is not on our mailing list, should contact Captain Alwyn Smith at Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln.

September 1989 is the 45th

anniversary of the liberation of Le Havre. The 4th Lincolns were involved in this battle. A commemorative service is being held by the city and all regiments involved in the liberation have been invited. They have been requested to supply a Regimental plaque to be placed in the military annexe of the cemetery of Ste Marie. A bronze plaque has been ordered and we have managed to find an ex-member of the 4th Battalion, Mr Simpson of Stamford, who has offered to attend and present the plaque on behalf of the Regimental Trustees.

Since last going to press, the following have died: Mr R S Nicholson, Mr C Ormsby and Mr Simmons.

A memorial tablet to the Lincolnshire Regiment was placed years ago in the English Cathedral in Cairo. The cathedral was demolished and the memorial tablets were stored in the British Embassy pending the building of a new cathedral. The cathedral was completed last year and our tablet, along with others has now been transferred to the Regimental Memorial Chapel. The regiments were also asked if they would like to donate Regimental kneelers. Our Regimental Trustees had two made and presented them to the cathedral provost.



THE Suffolk Regiment Old Comrades Association (OCA) goes into 1989 with confidence and the knowledge of continued well-being. Our association continues to grow and we are delighted to welcome two new branches to our muster - Leiston and District and Sudbury and District. Their formation is very good news indeed and we congratulate everyone responsible and wish them success.

Maj A G B Cobbold has kindly agreed to take over the editorship of the Suffolk Notes for the Regimental magazines, and his first adventure will be cobbling together the November issues. Contributions should go direct to Tony Cobbold at The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks.

Beccles and District Branch:

"Consolidate" - was the exhausted cry of

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many section leaders, received by equally exhausted men. The vernacular was always something akin to the cook's last rites over the Christmas bird or Churchill's two-finger exercise. But consolidation is what the branch has now achieved. We are setting our sights very much on the future. A diversity of projects are in hand for 1989 which underpins the quality of comradeship and fellowship on which this branch is founded.

The most prestigious project is that of our Standard. This is now going ahead and I am happy to say the fund for this project is now oversubscribed. The dedication is in its preliminary stages of planning. There will be fair warning of this occasion and, hopefully, support will be from all inside the OCA and, of course, those who are out and who should be in!

Our third AGM took place on 12 Apr. The meeting was presided over by our president Major Curnock. There was a healthy turnout of 54. Branch reports indicated that the comradeship and the benevolent work are of a good standard. Officers were all re-elected. Two names were added to the committee, those of George Gibbs and Peter Neech. All round the branch is in good health.

Reports on the branch standard are good. It will not be long before we can join the other branches suitably attired for parade. We are grateful to many friends who have and are helping with the project.

The branch still meets every second Monday in the month at 8 pm and a welcome is extended to members and friends of the Regiment. Locality is the Caxton Club, Gaol Lane, Beccles - on all good Ordnance Survey maps.

Plans are in hand for social exercises and, of course, Minden day. We are grateful for the commemorative cross given us by Mr Wingfield of Hemel Hempstead. It is a real artistic regimental memento.

Bury and District Branch:

On Sunday, 25 Sep we had our normal outing to Stoke Bruene, leaving Bury St Edmunds at 9.30 am. Our first stop was at St Neots and after a good walk round

MINDEN Day will be a big occasion this year, so please make a firm note of Sunday, 30 Jul Minden Reunion.

The full musical programme includes the Glen Moriston Pipe Band, the Suffolk Military Band, the Suffolk Royals, the Band of the 1st Bn and the Band and Drums of the 5th Bn.

Another date to note is the OCA's AGM at the Blenheim Camp TA Centre, Bury St Edmunds (by kind permission of Lt Col P R C Dixon) at 1100 hours on Saturday 17 Jun. Ladies welcome. Refreshments afterwards.

The price of the "Suffolk Regiment History 1946-1959" has been increased. Copies are now available from The Keep at £14.50 plus £2 postage and packing. The price in the bookshops is £17.50. Have you bought yours?

we carried on with our journey and arrived at Stoke Bruene just before midday. We had an excellent lunch at the Old Boat Inn on the Grand Union Canal. After lunch we left for Turners of Northampton, where we had an enjoyable afternoon listening to a Wurlitzer and various other organs, including mechanical ones. Some of our party enjoyed a ride on the Gallopers. After a very good tea at Turners, we set off for home. We decided to stop on the way, and this happened to be at the Kentford Cock where we spent an hour sampling the local brew. After an enjoyable day, we arrived back in Bury at about 8.30 pm.

The Stowmarket Branch held their first annual dinner dance on Saturday 29 Oct at the Rookery Bowls Club, Stowmarket, and kindly invited some of our branch members to attend. It was a very good night. Thanks, Stowmarket.

On Sunday, 30 Oct the Suffolk Military Band celebrated their 21st anniversary with an excellent concert in the Corn Exchange, Ipswich, ably supported by the Suffolk Junior Military Band and the Olive Quattrill Singers. Some of the musical items on the programme were also performed at their very first concert. Desmond Carrington did a very good job as compere to an appreciative audience. Members of Bury Branch enjoyed the evening very much,

especially the opening number, which was "Speed the Plough".

On Friday, 4 Nov several of us went to the Festival of Remembrance at the Corn Exchange, Bury St Edmunds. This was organised by the Royal British Legion (Bury Branch). Our Standard was in attendance.

On Thursday, 10 Nov we went by coach to Westminster, picking up on the way some of our old friends from the Cambridgeshires. We attended the short service which takes place at midday, in the vicinity of St Margaret's Church. The Queen Mother attends this ceremony every year and spends quite a while afterwards chatting to representatives at the many Regimental plots in the Field of Remembrance. After the service, we all went our various ways to enjoy the afternoon. We left London at 6.30 pm but owing to an accident on the M11 we didn't get back to Bury until 10.20 pm. Apart from that, everything else was fine including the weather.

On Saturday 12 Nov, 20 branch members went to the Festival of Remembrance at the Spa Pavilion, Felixstowe. Tickets for this are always in great demand, so this was the first time for most of us. It was organised by the local branch of the Royal British Legion and exceptionally well done.

On Sunday 13 Nov, members of the branch took part in the Remembrance Day Service at St. Mary's Church, Bury St Edmunds. Our Standard was in attendance on the March Past with some of us marching behind it.

On Friday, 18 Nov some members returned to Felixstowe; this time as guests of the Felixstowe Branch of the OCA to their annual dinner, at the Grand Hotel. We were made very welcome, even to winning prizes in the draw. Thank you, Felixstowe, for a very good night.

On Sunday, 26 Nov a coachload travelled to the TA Centre, Yarmouth Road, Ipswich, in response to an invitation from the Ipswich Branch to attend their annual buffet dance. As usual it was a very good night, with a chance to meet up again with some old friends.

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On Tuesday, 29 Nov 23 we held our Christmas draw. It turned out to be a very good night with 105 prizes to be won. Margery Johnson organised an enjoyable buffet. Many thanks to all who helped with the draw.

Felixstowe Branch:

Since our last report we have held our AGM and our second branch dinner.

At the AGM "Cubs" Cubitt retired from chairmanship and the vice-chairman Sam Keeble, has taken over. "Cubs" has made a good recovery after the operation on his neck (that's what comes of sticking your neck out too far!), but he felt it was time for a younger man to steer the ship. Sam will be ably assisted by John Western (re-elected Treasurer), Norman Buckingham (re-elected secretary) and a keen and efficient committee of Eric Roworth, Dennis Ryan, Alf Scott and Gordon Shimmion. As he thinks of taking another long overseas holiday, Jim Lawrence did not wish to stand again and we thank him for his past services. In his place we are very pleased to welcome Mary Ryan, our first lady committee member. Sam Keeble has served in no fewer than five battalions of the regiment, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th and 2nd. Is this a record?

The dinner held in November at the Grand Hotel was again a great success with an attendance of 58, an increase on last year. Unfortunately the 'flu bug caught up with several of our usual supporters, but numbers were swelled by parties from Ipswich and Bury St. Edmunds branches whom we were pleased to welcome.

Major "Cubs" Cubbitt, who was elected president at the AGM, took the chair, and after an excellent meal Sam Keeble, on behalf of the branch, presented "Cubs" with an engraved silver pen and pencil set in recognition of his efforts in forming the branch. A happy evening ended with dancing and a sing-along.

We would like to hear of any ex-Suffolks who are unfortunate enough to be ill and are sent to convalesce at the Bartlett Memorial Hospital. Please make yourselves known to the British Legion representative who visits the hospital, or

phone "Cubs" on 285661, as he is continuing to look after welfare in the Felixstowe area.

Hemel Hempstead Branch:

We are pleased to report that our membership is still going up and that we are now well established in this area. Our social life is also very active. A recent branch trip to Dagenham British Legion Club was deemed to be a great success by all 53 members who attended. Our trip to Southend attracted 57 members.

Ray Picton resigned as chairman just before Christmas. Alf Hall has taken his place.

Ipswich Branch:

On Armistice Sunday we paraded as usual on Christchurch Park to pay tribute to those who died as the result of World Wars I and II. Gunboat Abbott laid a wreath on the memorial on behalf of the OCA. Later, our Standard was again on parade at the Kesgrave Memorial where Major Williams laid the Regimental wreath.

Some of our members were able to accept an invitation to the Felixstowe branch dinner. We thank Major Cubitt and his committee for their kind invitation and enjoyable evening.

The long-awaited 26 Nov arrived - the day we were having a buffet dance. With 134 tickets sold, we were sure of an enjoyable evening. We thank Jack Gingell and members of the Bury branch for turning up in a party of 48 and we also thank Jim Smith of Stowmarket branch for supporting us with 10 of their members. Although we were slightly overcrowded, everybody seemed to enjoy the evening and we are now looking forward to the next dance.

Leiston and District Branch:

Yes, at last we are off the ground and this new branch looks set to flourish. A provisional meeting to look into the possibility of reforming the old branch was held in the TA Centre, Leiston, by kind permission of Captain John Catt and B Company, Suffolk ACF, in October. This meeting attracted 13 ex-Swedes with five apologies, who pledged their full

support for any action taken. The mood of the meeting, right from the start, was an enthusiastic "Yes, we will have a branch".

It was agreed that the name of the branch would be Leiston and District and concentrating, in the first instance, on recruiting members from Aldeburgh, Leiston and Saxmundham. Obviously the branch will welcome anyone who has worn the badge, but especially those who served in C Company 4 Suffolk or the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment from the Company's recruiting area which, at one time or another, included Woodbridge, Wickham Market, Framlingham and Halesworth.

(O.K. Beccles, we know you consider Halesworth your province, but we believe there may be a few old stalwarts in that area who swear true allegiance to their old Company).

A branch committee was formed at this first meeting, comprising the following: Chairman, Mr A A Smith, BEM, 95 Abbey Road, Leiston, IP16 4TA. (0728)831003; Secretary, Mr R H Thompson, 46 Saxon Road, Saxmundham, IP7 1ED. (0728) 2509; Treasurer, Mr W A Goddard, 17 Sylvester Road, Leiston, IP16 4BH.

Peter (Sperry) Free, Stuart Hill, Les Heath, Eddie Strowger and Ray Saxby agreed to serve on the committee would have powers to co-opt when required with a view to including ladies at a later date. The office of president was left in abeyance of the time being.

A second preliminary meeting was held in November to consolidate the position and a date for the official start of the branch was agreed to be 1 Jan 1989 with the first official meeting on 11 Jan 1989. It was agreed that monthly meetings would be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 8 pm. John Perrett agreed to prepare an article publicising the formation of the branch and submit it for publication in the local papers. John must have excellent connections because his article was published in the same week. Thanks John.

Our first official function was the buffet dance in the TA Centre, Leiston on Saturday, 6 May.

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Around the Branches



The March branch annual memorial service held on 12 Feb at St Peter's Church, March. Photo: Peterborough Evening Telegraph

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We hope that branches will understand when we say it is not possible at the present time to entertain visits in numbers. This is due to severe bar restrictions but we hope to overcome this soon.



THE Officers' Dinner Club held their annual dinner on Saturday, 8 Apr at the University Arms Hotel, Cambridge, which was well attended.

The new Deputy Honorary Colonel, Col J P Macdonald took the chair and proposed the toast to the Regiment. Maj D S Denson, the Company Commander

of D (Cambridgeshire) Coy replied with an outline of the company's activities during the year.

Telegrams of good wishes were sent to the Queen and Queen Mother, our Colonel in Chief and messages of best wishes were received from both Buckingham Palace and Clarence House.

The guest of honour was Lt Col J C B Sutherell, CO of the 1st Bn Royal Anglian Regiment.

This function continues to be well supported by both past and present officers and there were several new faces whom we hope to see again in the future.

Congratulations to Col Pat Macdonald on his appointment as Deputy Honorary Colonel and many thanks to Col Dick Shervington for his work, on his retirement as Deputy Honorary Colonel.

March:

March branch held its annual memorial service in St. Peter's Church on Sun 12 Feb. This service is always held on the

nearest Sunday to 14 Feb which was the date in 1942 when the two battalions of the Regiment landed in Singapore and which after six days of fierce fighting had to surrender to the Japanese.

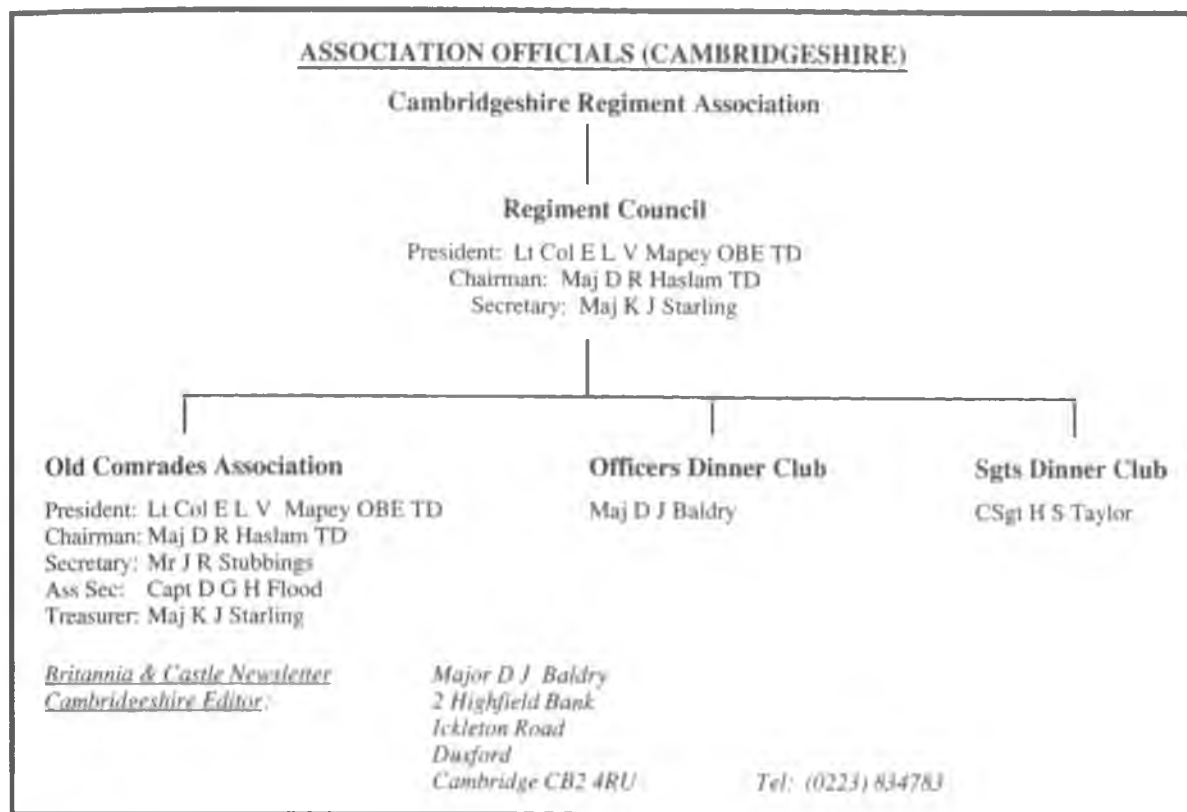
This began three-and-a-half years of captivity during which the men were beaten and tortured to such an extent that only 700 out of 2000 returned.

The service, conducted by Canon Munt, Padre of the RAF Hospital, Ely, was well attended. Hector Howes, branch chairman, read the first lesson and Mr Freddie Grounds, whose father, Capt Ambrose Grounds was killed in action at Singapore, read the second.

At the beginning of the service, the Regimental Standards of the March branch, carried by Army Cadets of the 3rd (C) Cadet Bn Cambridgeshire ACF and the Whittlesey and Peterborough branch by 5th (C) Bn (Huntingdon and Peterborough) Cambridgeshire ACF were placed on the altar. The Last Post and

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Reville were sounded by ATC cadets of March 1222 Squadron.

This will be the last time that this service is held in February as it is felt that the inclement weather that normally prevails at that time of the year keeps a lot of people away from the service so in future it will be held on the nearest Sunday to 1 Aug, the day in 1945 when the Regiment was released from captivity, so instead of remembering the surrender, the Old Comrades will remember when they were released. We will still remember our Old Comrades who did not return home.

Deb Fenn, treasurer of March branch was presented with a Regimental badge plaque by the secretary of the Whittlesey and Peterborough Branch in appreciation of her many years of service to March.

Whittlesey and Peterborough:

The AGM of the Whittlesey and Peterborough branch was held in the ACF HQ TA Centre, London Road, Peterborough on 16 Mar. In spite of atrocious weather, 16 members attended. The branch has a new chairman in Mr Alf Grey, who has taken over from Bill Paterson who has been forced to give up after six years through ill health. Bill has agreed to occupy the position of vice chairman.

Branch officers are - president: Mr T R Miles; vice presidents: Maj W Grogan and Maj D Bristow; secretary/treasurer: Mr J Matthews; welfare officer: Mr D Poole.

Cambridgeshire Regiment:

The Regimental Standard Party is provided by the ACF cadets of the 5th Huntingdon and Peterborough Bn Cambs

ACF and the 3rd (Whittlesey Detachment) (C) Bn Cambs ACF. The branch has two former members of the Regiment in its ranks, Ex RQMS Tant Hilliam (98 years) and Ex Pte Will Scarr (92 years) both of whom are fairly well in health. Three members are in hospital at present, president Tom Miles, Chris Edgely and Eric Moore and we wish them a speedy recovery.

Branch finances are sound. There are 60 members and attendances at branch meetings average 25. As the last two years have been very active for the branch (1987 branch standard dedication and 1988 all-ranks dinner), organised by the branch we are laying back in 1989 but will of course attend all OCA functions.

A social evening with the Northamptonshire and Royal Anglian Regiment Association will be held at the

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Woolpack, Worth Street, Stanground on Thursday 27 Jul and a jumble sale will be held on Peterborough Market in August. The branch dinner will be held in November.

There are five branches in the Association; Cambridge, Ely, March, Whittlesey & Peterborough and Wisbech and we hope that each will submit news for publication in the Castle together with photographs. All former Cambridgeshires are urged to join the OCA so that we can keep the traditions of our fine Regiment going. Otherwise the branches, like old soldiers will just fade away.

Cambridge Branch:

Cambridge branch held its AGM on 13 Dec 1988 when all the officers and committee were re-elected. Items discussed were the Regimental Chapel fund, a poppy wreath should be kept in stock, Mr Michael Moore's book "Battalion at War" and Mr Cosford's book "Line of lost lives".

FUTURE EVENTS:

Regimental gathering, Sunday 16 Jul at 12 noon, Bassingbourn.

D Coy open day, July, to be announced.

OCA annual general meeting, Sunday 24 Sept at 2.30 pm, Archer House, Ely.

D Coy dinner, Sunday 8 Oct at 7.30 for 8 pm, TA Centre, Coldhams Lane.

Sergeant's Dinner Club, to be announced.

Field of Remembrance, Thursday 9 Nov at 12 Noon, Westminster Abbey.

Officers' dinner, Saturday 7 Apr 1990, Cdt. HQ, Waterbeach.



THE following letter to Brig W T Dodd, from Lt Gen Sir Robert Richardson, Col

The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) was much appreciated.

"On 9 Oct 1688, Col Archibald Douglas, with other officers and NCOs of The First Royal Regiment of Foot, raised a Regiment of pikemen and musketeers at Reading, which later became The 16th or The Bedfordshire Regiment of Foot. On the Tercentenary of this auspicious occasion, I send, on behalf of all ranks of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment), greetings and very best wishes to you, the Commanding Officer and all ranks of the 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment, together with the chairman and members of The Royal Anglian Regiment, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association. Welcome to the 300 Club."

That the Tercentenary celebrations held in Bedfordshire have been so successful is due very largely to the unstinting assistance and support given so willingly by the mayors, councils and other dignitaries of the county. In appreciation of this a luncheon was held in the Keep at Kempston on 28 Oct, by courtesy of the Bedfordshire Masonic Society, to which they were invited.

In a concluding report to the Deputy Colonel, Angus Robertson listed the events and said:- "I believe those activities were successful and much enjoyed by all who attended. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association spent £10,000 on the Tercentenary and my clear impression is that all members of the association consider it to have been money well spent."

The annual reunion and Service of Remembrance was held on 20 Nov at the Regimental Memorial at Kempston. Without wishing to tempt fate, the run of good weather with which this occasion has been blessed for the past ten years continued and another fine, if chilly, day was enjoyed. It is equally pleasant to be able to report that the attendance, which has grown steadily each year, set another new record with more members taking part in the parade.

The parade, under the command of OC B Coy, 6th Bn, comprised B and E (HSF) Coys, 16th Foot Comrades, Bedfordshire ACF and was led by the

Royal Anglian T.A. Band. The service was conducted by Canon Peter Hartley who, as a sergeant with the 5th Bn, spent much of the war as a Japanese POW.

This year the parade included an additional wheelchair bound comrade in the person of Mr Leslie Cotter of Bury St. Edmunds, who suffers from multiple sclerosis. He was pushed by Lt Col John Bagstaff who not only arranged an ambulance for the journey to Kempston but also travelled in it and looked after Mr Cotter throughout the day. Mr Cotter joined the Regiment in 1946 and eventually became RSM of the Royal Anglian Depot at Bury St Edmunds.

On 8 Dec the Area Secretary visited the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, to present Christmas gifts and have lunch with our In-Pensioners. Maj Thorogood was accompanied by Mr Cyril Lewis who served during the last war with the 9th Bn and with 1st Bn The Hertfordshire Regiment. They were met by Mr Jack Butty and Mr George Craft. Jack has been in the Royal Hospital for some years but George joined early last year. He was a member of 5th Bn before the war and was captured with it at Singapore. He worked on the infamous railway for four years and was then sent to Japan to work in a coal mine - "out of the frying pan and into the fire" as he put it!

The 5th Bn The Bedfordshire Regiment, was known for many years by the fiery nickname, "The Yellow Devils", and this fact comes to mind every time Mr. Frank Ames of Bedford celebrates yet another birthday - this time his 98th. Frank joined the 5th Bn in 1913 and accompanied it to the Dardanelles in August 1915. On the 15th of that month the battalion made an attack over flat and open ground on Kidney Hill in Suvla Bay. To help the Gunners know where they were, each man wore a triangular piece of tin on their backs to reflect the sun. A staff officer, observing their remarkably steady advance against devastating fire thought the tin pieces were yellow spots. Turning to a companion, he said: "By Jove! If we had

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only one or two more battalions of those Yellow Devils we should be across the peninsulatomorrow!" This well-deserved soubriquet stuck and became even more famous in the ensuing campaign in Palestine.

At a meeting of the management committee held on 13 Oct it was agreed that a notable painting should be left to commemorate The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment and that Terence Cuneo, a well-known artist of battle paintings should be asked to paint a picture of a scene from the 1st Bn's exploits in Burma as part of the Chindits. The commission has been accepted and a subject has been chosen. Where the painting will hang has not yet been decided. A second picture to be painted by the same artist is under consideration.



THE 50th anniversary of the embodiment of the Hertfordshire regiment on 24 Aug 1939 will be commemorated on Sunday, 3 Sep when a parade will be held at 2.30 pm in the Richard Hale School, Hertford followed by a service in All Saints Church after which tea will be taken in the school. The Royal Anglian TA Band will lead the parade and will also play in church.

An excellent history of the Regiment has been written by Lt Col John Sainsbury under the title - "The Hertfordshire Regiment - An Illustrated History." Copies at £12.50 plus postage can be obtained from the secretary or chairman of the Hertfordshire Regiment Association.

Mr. Jimmy Crane BEM, had been connected with the Hertfordshire Regiment for more than 65 years when he died on 22 Nov 1987. He had been secretary of the association for more than 40 years. In spite of his numerous

activities, especially in the horticultural field, the Old Comrades always took first place and no-one could doubt his dominant influence upon the association, and his dedication to it. As a mark of appreciation a garden seat has been placed to his memory next to the rose garden in Ware Cemetery. A dedication ceremony was held on 2 Apr.



NOTES were not submitted for the December issue Castle, because the secretary of the association was arranging a dinner at which saw Uppingham School as the final event of the year which saw the 300th anniversary of the Raising of the Regiment in 1688. Here is, therefore, an outline of 1988 events.

The 1688 committee, Maj Bill Brogan (chairman), Lt Col John Heggs, Mr Tom Marston, Mr Nobby Clark and the secretary worked on the president's edict: "We can't have a Tercentenary, as we are no longer in existence, but at least we can have a jolly good birthday party." The celebrations centred around Royal Tigers weekend in Leicester on 25 and 26 Jun 1988.

On the evening of Saturday, 25 Jun the Band and Drums of the 2nd Bn Beat Retreat on Victoria Park, Leicester. The salute was taken by the Lord Mayor of Leicester and 3,000 spectators saw a first-class ceremonial parade. This was followed by the annual dinner of the Association. More than 450 members and their ladies sat down to dinner and afterwards the reunion went on until the early hours.

Thanks go to the staff of 7 R Anglian who manned the many bars, ran the memorabilia stands, organised car parking and helped make the evening a tremendous success.

On Sunday, 26 Jun the Tercentenary service was held at Leicester Cathedral. The fanfare trumpets of the 2nd Bn greeted

the arrival of the Lord Lieutenant of Leicester and the president of the association to a cathedral that was full to overflowing. The service was conducted by the provost and the address was given by the Chaplain General. Also present were the Lord Mayor of Leicester, the chairman of Leicestershire county council, the High Sheriff of Leicestershire, the Deputy Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment and the XVllth Foot. After the service, 600 members of the association marched past. The salute was taken by the Lord Lieutenant. Then, the City of Leicester and County of Leicestershire jointly hosted a reception to mark the 300th anniversary. Simultaneously a drinks party was held at the TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road.

Many members who had been involved in the civic reception later joined us at the TA Centre.

Other events took place throughout the year. The Hindoostan Club celebrated with a special dinner and the officers and their ladies dined and danced in the hall at Uppingham School - just to prove that they could still enjoy a ladies guest night.

Looking back, it is clear that all the effort was worthwhile. The support received from the Royal Anglian Regiment, particularly the 7th Bn, was impressive. Some participants said it was the last fling of the 17th Foot, others asked why we could not have a birthday party every year?



IT IS with great sadness that we report the death of so many of our comrades. With the death of Brig W J Jervois we have lost our last surviving Colonel of the Northamptonshire Regiment and with the deaths of Col Bob Jeffrey and Maj Bill Williams the Corby Branch has lost both

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its president and chairman. The death of Maj Donald Baxter leaves the Northampton Branch without a president. We understand that the Corby Branch has elected Lt Col Hollins, an ACF officer, to be its chairman and invited Col "Ali" Barber to be its president. Northampton is still in a state of flux.

Also we report the sad death, at the age of 85, of In-Pensioner Ernest Jack Robinson, who joined the Regiment in 1923. However, the association continues to flourish, as will be seen from the news from the branches below. Col John Wetherall has been appointed curator of the Regimental Museum in succession to the late Col Bob Jeffery and has set about the task with his customary zeal. Maj Ted Kelly continues to edit and produce the bi-annual newsletter, always eagerly awaited by all members of the association. We are fortunate in having such stalwart and productive supporters of the association.

Corby Branch

Over the past six months we have participated in several entertaining evenings among which was a visit to Corby RBL on 10 Sep in conjunction with Warrington RBL. Our own dance was held at Corby TA Centre on 24 Sep and as usual all who attended thoroughly enjoyed the evening. In October some of our members visited Oundle FC for the usual warm welcome from Captain Jack and his followers.

Our standard bearer now wears the Battle for Britain medal on official engagements, purchased by Maj Williams on our behalf, and worn for the first time on Armistice Parade.

Sadly, we have lost three of our comrades and office bearers in this period. First was John Currie, our chairman, after a long hard battle against cancer, a tireless worker for the branch and his local RBL.

Just after Christmas our president, Col Jeffery, also died after a long illness. Although his illness kept him away from a lot of meetings he assisted the Corby Branch in many ways behind the scenes and will be sorely missed. We were shocked by the sudden death of Maj

Williams, our vice president. There were not enough hours in the day for Bill Williams and most of them were devoted to the Corby Comrades. It was his wish that any tributes to him be in the form of donations to the Army Benevolent Fund and the branch has complied with this. Lt Col Hollins is our new chairman and having served with him many years ago we know the chair is in good hands. Maj Petch has agreed to be treasurer of the branch so our finances are also going to be well looked after. Thanks to both for stepping in at so short notice.

In conclusion, thanks to Maj Petch for the use of the TA Club for our meetings and the staff for their friendly service, not forgetting Bill Paterson. We look forward to Billy's buffets after our meetings.

Peterborough Branch

In an extract from the journal of the Northamptonshire Regiment Volume XV No 4 dated March 1954, it is recorded –

"Following the suggestion of the Colonel of the Regiment when he visited Peterborough in December, an informal meeting was held early in January at the London Road Drill Hall as to ways of forming a Peterborough Branch of the Comrades' Association. As a result, a general meeting was held on 29 Jan when, with 20 members present, Lt Col LN Quash, Commanding the 5th Bn, accepted the presidency of the new branch. The following other officers were appointed: Maj E W Kitchen MC, vice president; Mr A N Love, secretary; RSM E S Willmott, treasurer. Committee members were elected from Peterborough, Yaxley and Whittlesey. Monthly meetings will be held at the London Road Drill Hall on the first of each month."

I have had the privilege of being Branch president now for nearly 17 years (almost half the life span of the branch) and it is a tremendous joy to me to see attendance at our branch meetings now over the 20 mark.

The last 12 months have seen the passing of several long standing stalwart supporters of this branch. My father, Col Hill, who served with the 5th Bns in France together with Bill Williams and who both escaped at Dunkirk, Maj Donald

Baxter and Col Bob Jeffery have all died. They had supported us regularly over the years and will be missed.

I have mentioned branch meetings and I would like to thank Peter Newton and his wife for the splendid facilities which they have afforded at the Woolpack and also to record our thanks to the Comrades' Column of the Evening Telegraph and the press publicity achieved by Col Barber which continues to keep our branch publicity to the fore.

Maj Freeman, our chairman at the meetings over the last 12 months, deserves special thanks for his organisation of major branch functions. I do apologise, owing to my own problems over the last year, that it has fallen on Brian to organise the highly successful reunion at Huntingdon and he has kindly agreed to organise this meeting again this year, the seventh we have held. The annual dinner was again a great success for 120 plus who attended. Several members attended the Regimental weekend at Northampton in July and saw the presentation of the Victoria Cross to the Regiment and in the autumn, a bus trip to London rounded off the social calendar.

The branch still continues to remember former members' widows and the secretary and his wife take gifts to their homes at Christmas.

Fred Smith, after many years as Standard Bearer for the branch, has handed over this office to Sam Bloye, who with Fred's instruction, now carries the Branch Standard which will be paraded at this year's dinner. On the subject of the Standard, we thank Mr Allen Senior for his splendid craftsmanship in making a Standard holder which we shall use to the full in the years ahead.

In an effort to encourage membership, we have produced a new badge and card which we hope will encourage and foster the well-being of the branch.

Our branch secretary/treasurer must be congratulated for his good husbandry in keeping our finances in order. We have a satisfactory balance of funds from which to continue to finance and support Regimental Associations in Peterborough and area in the years ahead.

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Regimental Association

THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION COMBINED GENERAL AND BENEVOLENT FUNDS

Abridged Balance Sheet as at 31 May 89

CAPITAL OF FUNDS			ASSETS AND LIABILITIES		
1987		£	1987		£
£			£		
216,766	Balance brought forward	255,210	845	Office furniture at cost less depreciation	843
19,590	Excess Income over Expenditure	27,676	233,663	Investment at Cost	243,398
18,854	Profit on disposals	12,657	26,345	Cash loans/debtors	41,408
			11,986	Stocks	14,304
			972	Cash at bank, deposit and in hand	21,252
			18,601	Deduct Liabilities, Creditors and Case Loans	25,662
					295,543
<u>255,210</u>		<u>295,543</u>	<u>255,210</u>		<u>295,543</u>

GENERAL FUND

Abridged Income & Expenditure Account

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
1987		£	1987		£
£			£		
115	Subscriptions	105	250	Administration	253
92	Investment Income gross	92	258	Printing & Stationery	242
1,315	Profit on Sale of Regimental Souvenirs	523	-	Postage, Sundries & Depreciation	123
408	Refund of Administration Expenses from Benevolent Fund	102	-	Stock Written Off	11
			-	Donations	-
			-	Recruits entertainment on Liaison	-
			-	Visits	524
			-	Wreaths	28
			1,422	Excess of Income over Expenditure	(359)
<u>1,930</u>		<u>822</u>	<u>1,930</u>		<u>1,822</u>

BENEVOLENT FUND

Abridged Income & Expenditure Account

INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
1987		£	1987		£
£			£		
45,104	Days Pay Scheme	47,251	304	Audit	346
15,181	Investment Income	17,815	14,103	Case Grants	9,215
	387 Interest from Short Term Deposit	330	7,000	Donations to ABF	7,500
1,907	Sundry Donations & Receipts	1,581	7,184	Grants to Outstations	5,100
			1,500	Personal Accident	1,500
			6,001	Grant to Journal	6,347
			1,235	Donations and Appeals	350
			-	Depreciation	-
			473	Write Off Regimental Loan	-
			680	Grant to Suffolk Regiment War Memorial Homes	-
			-	Grant to Regimental Image	2,637
			403	Recruits Visits Expenses	268
			5,400	Transfer Officers Subs from Half Days Pay	5,400
			208	Association Admin. Expenses	102
			18,168	Excess of Income over Expenditure	28,212
<u>62,579</u>		<u>66,977</u>	<u>62,579</u>		<u>66,977</u>

Obituaries

Pte N Peacock



Pte Nicholas David Peacock was born in Grantham and educated at Belton Lane primary school and St Wulframs School, both in Grantham. At school he was a keen sportsman and a regular member of both the football and athletics teams. He enlisted in the Army on 17 Jan 1986 and after training at the Depot Queen's Division at Bassingbourn, he joined the 2nd Battalion and was posted to A Coy at that time based in Crossmaglen, South Armagh. He saw subsequent service in Celle, West Germany and Canada and with the mortar platoon.

Pte Peacock flew to Northern Ireland in January 1989 at the start of an emergency tour in West Belfast. On 31 Jan he was on foot patrol in the Falls Road when a command wire improvised explosive device in a drainpipe by the Rock Bar was detonated. Pte Peacock was seriously injured and dragged away to cover by his comrades and within minutes was in the Royal Victoria Hospital, but died of his wounds on 1 Feb. Pte Nick Peacock was a popular soldier in the battalion. He was a fit young man and a keen sportsman who enjoyed life to the full. He was buried by his comrades in Grantham with full military honours on Thurs, 9 Feb. All ranks of the battalion extend their deepest sympathy to his family.

Colonel Roger Howe OBE

We are sad to announce the sudden death on 24 May 89 of Col Roger Howe. He will, of course, be remembered as a former Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion.

His funeral, with military honours, took place at Selling Church, Kent on 30 May. Our condolences and sympathy go to his widow Barbara and to their children, Mathew and Alexandra.

(Roger Howe's death occurred too late to do other than make this announcement in this issue of Castle. A full obituary will appear in the next issue.)

Maj D K Edwards

Maj Derek Edwards died on 22 Nov 88 aged 52, after a long, courageous fight against cancer.

Derek, the son of a major in the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, spent his formative years in Countesthorpe and after leaving Lutterworth Grammar School he enlisted into the Royal Leicestershire Regiment in 1954. He served with the Royal Leicestershire Regiment and then the Royal Anglian Regiment in Sudan, Borneo, Germany, Northern Ireland, Cyprus and the United Kingdom. By the time he had attained the rank of Warrant Officer he was posted as RQMS to the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and later became RSM of 2 RRF. He was commissioned in 1976 as a quartermaster and served with both the 3rd and 7th Bns of the Regiment as well as with the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. When he was taken ill in the middle of 1988 he was serving with the Recruit Selection Centre at Sutton Coldfield. His funeral service took place at St Andrew's Church, Countesthorpe on 24 Nov 88.

Derek Edwards was a first class soldier and a man who always set and maintained the highest standards. He was a greatly respected and very popular member of every unit in which he served. He was a fine sportsman, excelling as a fly fisherman, representing the Army and winning several awards. Those of us who were privileged to have known and served with Derek will remember him for his professionalism, integrity, kindness and lovely sense of humour. To his wife Pam, his daughter Annie and his son Carl we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

J L W

Maj Gen Sir Douglas Kendrew KCMG CB CBE DSO

Maj Gen Sir Douglas Kendrew, former Governor of Western Australia, GOC Cyprus and England rugby captain who died on 28 Feb 89, aged 78, won no fewer than four



DSOs - three in the 1939-45 War and one in Korea. He was commissioned into the Leicestershire Regiment in 1931.

"Joe" Kendrew's courage under fire was legendary and even when a senior officer he was habitually up with the leading platoon in battle. His apparent indifference to personal danger gave the misleading impression that he was totally without fear; in fact he was very conscious of danger and would never expose the men under his command to unnecessary risks, preferring to take them himself.

A doctor's son, Douglas Anthony Kendrew was born in 1910 and educated at Uppingham. He was a renowned front-row forward and first came to notice when playing for Woodford.

At the age of 19 he was selected to go on the British Lions tour of Australia and New Zealand, but was the "baby of the team" in age only. Subsequently he became one of the mainstays of the outstandingly powerful Leicester teams of the 1930s.

His fierce demeanour and bulk made him a redoubtable opponent. He played for the Army from 1932 to 1936 and 10 times for England, captaining the team in 1935. At that time there were many fewer international matches and touring sides than today; had he had the opportunities of the modern player his England caps would have numbered many more.

Kendrew's military career began as an officer in the Supplementary Reserve. Having passed the necessary examinations, he was

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duly given a regular commission in the Leicestershire Regiment in 1931.

In 1942 he became a brigade major in North Africa, and the next year he was appointed Commander of the 6th Battalion of the York and Lancaster Regiment. He won his first DSO at Fedjenane in March 1943, his second at Salerno in September 1943 and his third in the Pescia River Crossing in January 1944.

From 1944 to 1946 he commanded a brigade in Italy, the Middle East and Greece. He was Chief of Staff in Northern Ireland from 1950 to 1952, then spent the next two years commanding 29th Infantry Brigade in Korea, where he won his fourth DSO at the Battle of the Hook in May, 1953. In 1956, when the EOKA trouble in Cyprus flared up, the Governor, Field Marshal Lord Harding of Petherton, asked for Kendrew as GOC and Director of Operations.

In 1958 he became Director of Infantry at the War Office and from 1961 to 1963 was head of the British Defence Liaison Staff in Australia. He was then offered the Governorship of Western Australia, which necessitated his retiring from the Army, and held the post very successfully for 10 years.

Kendrew was Colonel of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, Deputy Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment, Honorary Colonel of the Australian SAS and of the Royal Western Australia Regiment, President of the Knights of the Round Table and Commissioner of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. He was appointed CBE in 1944, CB in 1958 and KCMG in 1963.

Although somewhat intimidating on first acquaintance, Kendrew was quickly recognised as a perfectionist with a kind heart. His obvious integrity and interest in others, combined with total modesty about his own achievements, made him extremely popular, particularly in Australia where he was noted for his ability to earn the liking and respect of such widely differing characters as outback farmers and city tycoons.

In retirement he practised the less strenuous pastimes of golf and fishing. In 1935 he married Nora Elizabeth Harvey, who survives him with a son and daughter.

Col Robert Charles Jeffery TD DL

Col 'Bob' Jeffery, who died on 17 Jan 89, was a Territorial Army soldier through and through and dedicated much of his life to the TA. His

military service began with being called up in 1940 and posted to the Royal Artillery. As a gunner he was at El Alamein in a counter-battery unit of 30 corps, and fought with that corps to Tunisia and Rommel's final defeat in North Africa. He then took part in the capture of Sicily and Southern Italy before being withdrawn for commissioning and a tour as an instructor at the Royal School of Artillery. Later he volunteered to join the Indian Army where he helped to train a battery for the projected invasion of Japan.

Demobilised in 1946, Bob Jeffery joined Messrs Gotch, Saunders and Surridge in Kettering where, as a qualified architect, he eventually became a partner. It was in 1949 that he began his love affair with the TA, and served successively in the Northamptonshire Yeomanry, 4th Northamptons, 585 LAA/SL Regt RA (TA), as OC R Bty 438 LAA Regt RA (TA) and as OC A Coy 4th/5th Northamptons at Northampton. Promoted Lt Col in 1966 he supervised the TA Cadre until 1968, just before it rose from the ashes on the re-establishment of the TA in 1970.

The list of Bob's part-time activities is little short of extraordinary and shows a lifetime dedicated to service and to others. A Deputy Lieutenant for Northamptonshire since 1967 and Deputy Honorary TA Colonel for the county for many years he has also been a member of the TAVR Association, chairman St John's Ambulance, Northamptonshire, chairman SSAFA, Northamptonshire, administrator of a county youth organisation field centre in Wales, secretary to the trustees of the Kettering Grammar School Trust, a member of the management committee of the Regiment, and of course, until he fell ill last autumn, curator of the Regimental Museum. All these things were over and above his professional job.

Bob was just one of those special individuals with time, trouble and sympathy for everyone and everything. No-one who asked for his help or support left empty-handed, not only for personal generosity, but also for a ready willingness to organise or administer any project, however daunting. Many an event or reunion now established in the calendar began with Bob Jeffery either having the idea himself or being prepared to take on the organisation. His passing leaves an irreplaceable gap not only for his wife, Margaret, and his family, but also for the county and the Regiment. He was a truly selfless man.

Maj Donald Baxter DL



Maj Donald Baxter who died on 12 Nov 88 and whose death was reported in the last edition of the Castle, was commissioned into the Regiment in 1937 and joined the 58th at Ballykinlar. He later served as Adjutant to the 6th Northamptons at Sheringham until posted to the 5th Battalion with whom he served in the North African Campaign and took part in the Sicily landings. In 1943 he was posted to the Staff, afterwards rejoining the 5th Battalion. On the disbandment of that battalion he joined the 58th in Germany.

In 1959, while serving as 2IC to the 1st Battalion in Aden, Donald was offered the post of Assistant Regimental Secretary at Northampton, which, after much thought, he accepted. In 1964 on the formation of the Royal Anglian Regiment, Maj Baxter was appointed Regimental Secretary on the establishment at Northampton where, in addition to liaising with four regular battalions, he became curator of the Regimental Museum and overseer of all matters connected with the Comrades Association. In 1971, with his customary skill and diplomacy, Donald persuaded the borough council to re-house Regimental Museum in part of the Abington Park Museum. He also persuaded the Army to fund the provision of new show cases and lighting for the Museum.

Doyen of Regimental Secretaries, Donald Baxter found plenty of work to do from organising reunions to representing the Regiment at funerals. He was always available

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Obituaries

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to those who wanted help or advice.

Outside his regimental duties Donald stood and was elected to the borough council of Northampton. He was an area president of the Royal British Legion and in 1977 was honoured by being appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Northamptonshire.

There can be few in the Regiment who did not know Donald. His memory for names and faces was phenomenal. He was a true Christian who really "loved his neighbour" and the Regiment was indeed fortunate to have been served as secretary and curator by someone as efficient, dedicated and popular as Donald.

CSgt Thomas Molloy

With the death of Tom Molloy on 13 Jan 89, the Regiment has lost one of its best known characters. Born on 1 Oct 1908 he enlisted, at the age of 35, into the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment. He was posted to the Royal Norfolk Regiment in Nov 1943 and to the Northamptonshire Regiment in 1947. He served in North West Europe, Germany and Austria and Trieste and then, following a spell as an instructor at Colchester, was promoted to Colour Sergeant and posted to the Depot at Northampton. In 1954 he served with the 1st Battalion (48th/58th) in Korea and subsequently saw service in Cyprus and the Far East. He left the army in 1965 and served as a civilian storeman with the Quartermaster's Department at the Queen's Division Depot in Basingstoke.

Invariably addressed as Paddy or McGinty, Tom Molloy was loyal to the Regiment and a first-rate Colour Sergeant. He will be sadly missed by his friends and colleagues.

Ex R S M Stanley (Jungle) Randall

2nd Bn Cambridgeshire Regiment, 2nd Bn The Suffolk Regiment and 1st Bn Cambridgeshire Regiment TA, died on Saturday 16 Feb 1989, aged 73 years. He was one of the few to get away from Singapore just before it fell to the Japanese in 1942. He later served in the Burma campaign. After the war he was stationed in Germany for eight years and altogether served in the Army for 30 years.

Maj (AM) Tommy Warren who served with the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment TA died on 13 Mar 1989 at his

home in Newmarket, aged 76 years. Tommy will be sadly missed at Regimental reunions.

Bert Freestone of London road, Harston, Cambridge, died on Wednesday 15 Mar 1989, aged 93 years.

WE regret to announce the death of the following:

Col (Hon Brig) W J Jervois, Northamptonshire Regt; Capt (QM) J T Jewson, R Norfolk Regt; Maj (Hon Lt Col) Dickinson, R Lincolnshire Regt; Col J G Melcham, Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regt; Lt Col S A Rolfe-Smith OBE, R Anglian Regt; Lt (Hon Capt) Lord J W L Petre, Essex Regt; Lt (Hon Capt) W V Gurteen, Suffolk Regt; Lt G D Weedon, R Leicestershire Regt; Capt A H Last, R Lincolnshire Regt; Maj T C Warren, Suffolk Regt; Maj Dare Newell OBE, Suffolk Regt & SAS; Capt A J T Wells, R Anglian Regt; WO2 Ray West, Estate Warden, Detmold; Sgt A Glover, Royal Anglian Regiment; Capt W F Whiting, Royal Norfolk Regiment; Col S Browne TD JP DL, Royal Leicestershire Regiment; Brig I L Wight DSO OBE, Suffolk Regiment.

Births

1ST BATTALION:

Maj and Mrs Borthwick, a daughter, Lucy; Cpl and Mrs Bliss, a son, Daryl; Cpl and Mrs Downey, a son, Daniel; LCpl and Mrs Evans, a son, Benjamin; LCpl and Mrs Ellis, a son, Daniel; LCpl and Mrs Francis, a son, Aaron; Pte and Mrs Farrant, a son, Scott; Pte and Mrs Keen, a daughter, Stefanie; LCpl and Mrs Lord, a son, James; Pte and Mrs Mills, a daughter, Nicole; Pte and Mrs Quinn, a son, Paul; LCpl and Mrs Robinson, a daughter, Keely; Cpl and Mrs Coles, daughters Daryle and Dayna; Cpl and Mrs Morley, a daughter, Sarah Louise.

3RD BATTALION:

Maj and Mrs Bacon, a son, Charles Frederick; Cpl and Mrs Battersby, a son, Tristan; LCpl and Mrs Cunliffe, a son, Lee; Sgt and Mrs Deveraux, a son, Ross; CSgt and Mrs Hughes, a son, Craig; LCpl and Mrs Jordan, a daughter, Lauren; LCpl and Mrs Nathan, a daughter, Charlotte; Cpl and Mrs Ranford, a daughter, Shelly; Pte and Mrs Richardson, a son, Lee; Pte and Mrs Savings, a son, Shaun; Pte and Mrs Short, a daughter, Emma; LCpl and Mrs Smith, a son, Lee; Pte and Mrs Spragg, a daughter, Linda; Cpl

and Mrs Wishart, a daughter, Kayleigh; Pte and Mrs Wells, a son, Neal.

5TH BATTALION:

Sgt and Mrs Roberts, a daughter, Sarah; Sgt and Mrs Smith, a son, Ben; LCpl and Mrs Aitken, a daughter; Pte and Mrs Craig, a son.

DEPOT:

Sgt and Mrs Sinar, a son, Stuart; Cpl and Mrs Sampson, a son, Callum Kenneth.

RIT:

Cpl and Mrs Nyszczoła, a son, Danny; Pte and Mrs Beagle, a daughter, Lisa.

Marriages

1ST BATTALION:

CSgt Page to Deborah on 24 May 89; Cpl Piper to Kerry Louise on 27 Jan 89; LCpl Bickers to Joanne Lesley on 25 Mar 89; LCpl Traves to Angela on 11 Nov 88; LCpl Carle to Janey Anne on 8 Apr 89; LCpl Bonham to Diane Clare on 15 Apr 88; Pte Evans to Sandra on 16 Sep 88; Pte Gager to Teresa Susan on 26 Jan 89; Pte Michel to Jacqueline on 2 Dec 88; Pte Warrington to Loreta Bacar on 10 Dec 88; Pte Page to Andrea Susan on 18 Mar 89; Pte Wood to Tracy on 23 Aug 88; Pte Broadway to Louise Jane on 18 Mar 89.

3RD BATTALION:

Pte M R Wheeler to Tanya Bower on 6 Jun 88; LCpl I J Brown to Dawn Hedgecock on 6 Aug 88; Pte D M Betts to Julie Smith on 12 Aug 88; Pte W R Peppiatt to Tina Reeves on 6 Oct 88; LCpl G S Edwards to Ingrid Cooling on 29 Oct 88; Pte P W King to Sabine Stoize on 25 Nov 88; Pte S M Hugill to Doris Tliskiss on 14 Feb 89; Pte R A Morgan to Lurissa Holz on 22 Feb 89; Pte M B Bannon to Catherine O'Reilly on 11 Mar 89; LCpl S M Milgate to Kathryn Darch on 11 Mar 89; LCpl M D Nunn to Sandra Freitce on 11 Mar 89; Pte S M Thame to Christine Berg on 11 Mar 89; Pte N G Tufnell to Lisa Deury on 11 Mar 89; LCpl M P Alderson to Christina Prange on 18 Mar 89; Pte D Buist to Michaela Lorenz on 18 Mar 89; Pte G S Harris to Birgit Landwehr on 18 Mar 89; Sgt M W Hodgkiss to Louise Hobson on 8 Apr 89.

6TH BATTALION:

Maj J B C Prescott to Penelope Jane on 25 Mar 89.

DEPOT:

Cpl P J Humphreys to Miss D Lumley on 25 Mar 89; Cpl P A Redding to Miss C M Thorne on 25 Mar 89.

REGIMENTAL SHOP

All items badged Royal Anglian

* Prices each
incl. VAT

* Prices each
incl. VAT

BADGES

Blazer	£5.35
Cloth	£0.40
Collar Officers 1st, 2nd & 3rd Bn.	£10.65 pr
Lapel - R ANGLIAN Association	£1.00
Mini Cap - clutch or brooch pin	£0.95
Officers Cap	£5.80

BELT - casual trouser - sm. 31/34", med. 35/38", lge. 39/42"	£2.15
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BELT KEY RING	£0.70
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BOOKMARKS - leather in red, blue, green, black & luxol	£0.40
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BUTTON BLAZER in polished gilt - lge. & sm.	£1.20 ea
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CLIP BOARDS in blue - gold badge	£3.85
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COASTERS - blue leather - gold badge	£0.60 ea
Set of 6	£3.60

COLOUR PRINTS - set of 8 comprising 7 founder regts. in period dress + R ANGLIAN drummer	£5.20 set
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Small Prints	£0.65
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Large R ANGLIAN drummer	£0.50
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Large HM The Queen Mother	£2.65
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COMB/NAILE SET in leather case - various colours	£0.55
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CRICKET SWEATER - Longsleeve, 40", 42", 44"	£28.60
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CRICKET SWEATER - Slip-over, 40", 42", 44"	£24.20
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CUFF LINKS in polished gilt	£7.00 pr
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DIARY PLANNER CASES - blue plastic	£0.40
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Inserts	£0.45
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DINNER MATS - prints of founder regiments & drummer with cherry red or blue border Set of 8	£28.00 set
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DISPLAY BINDER - A4 12 pockets - blue	£5.60
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DUSTERS - yellow - blue badges in centre	£0.75
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FLAGS	
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Regimental all Bns., numerals in top corner	£24.00
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Regimental - plain	£20.00
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Storm Flag	£27.70
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GLASSES	
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Beer Mug - 1 pint	£1.25
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Whisky Tumbler - crystal TO ORDER	£5.00
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Beer Tankard 1/2 pint crystal TO ORDER	£6.20
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Beer Tankard - 1 pint crystal TO ORDER	£6.90
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GOLF TEES - Set of 6 in leather case	£1.40
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GOLF UMBRELLA	£12.30
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HATS - floppy - lge., med. & sml.	£1.20
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HIP FLASKS - leather case in navy	£7.50
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HOLDALLS - canvas, water-proof lining	£6.15
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ICE BUCKET DRUM	£12.70
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KAGGOL - Navy, 100% nylon, half zip with hood	£7.85
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KEY FOBS - red, blue, green, black & luxol	£0.40
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LEATHER BELT - black/brown reversible with Royal Anglian buckle	£8.30
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MUGS - Coffee - white, badged in yellow & black	£1.10
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PEWTER FIGURES

Combat dress with SLR, SMG or SA 80	£17.60
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NI COP with telescopic rifle	£18.70
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(Both types with regimental badge on hat & base)

PEWTER TANKARD - 1 pint With pewter badge, 1, 2 & 3 Bn	£16.45
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PEWTER TANKARD - 1 pint With R Anglian crest	£7.50
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REGIMENTAL CASSETTE - Beating Retreat	£4.00
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REGIMENTAL RIBBON - 1 1/2 in. wide	£1.50
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(same design as stable belt webbing)

REGIMENTAL HISTORY

Crater to The Creggan - hardback	£3.00
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- paperback	£1.00
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RUBBERS - white with blue badge	£0.25
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SHIELDS

Standard R ANGLIAN	£8.45
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Wooden hand-painted	£13.00
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Larger new wooden hand-painted	£12.50
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STABLE BELTS	£6.50
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STICKERS (plastic)

12"	£1.10
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6"	£0.95
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4"	£0.75
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2"	£0.55
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SWEAT SHIRTS - Navy, white printed badge on left breast

sizes 36", 38", 40" & 44"	£8.10 ea
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Navy, embroidered badge on left breast sizes sml., med. & lge.	£9.65
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SWEATER

Acrylic, navy, v-neck, embroidered badge	£13.35
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Lamb wool, machine washable, as above	£18.50
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(Both types in sizes 38", 40", 42" & 44")

T-SHIRTS

White, blue badge; sizes XL, lge., med., sml.	£3.10
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Childs - 26" & 28 1/2"	£2.00
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Navy, white badge, sizes lge. & med.	£2.85
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TEA TOWELS

Irish Linen	£1.00
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Cotton	£1.60
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Sport on camera



Determination and athleticism: Pte Gotch and Capt Porter of the Pompadours battle it out in the line-out



Cpl Newman 5th Battalion (C Coy) finds the energy to sing himself round the cross-country course

Golf winners

THE 1989 spring meeting was held at Flempton Golf Club in warm spring sunshine on 14 Apr. 34 members took part and as usual found the course to be testing and in superb condition, making it a most enjoyable day - a real regimental golfers' reunion. Prizes were won in the Medal Handicap by Maj John Perry (1st), Capt Gordon Halewood (2nd) and Maj Inglehy Jefferson (3rd). The Stableford, Maj Roy Jenns (1st), B Stout (2nd) and Bill Thompson (3rd) and the afternoon Foursomes, Lt Col Harold Moore and Maj John Perry (1st), ex-CSgt McAnally and ex-Sgt Ellis (2nd) followed closely by Col Badger and Maj Growse (3rd).

Sport on camera



Second place for the WRAC (6th Bn) team in the Eastern district Cross Country Competition



CSgt Hughes of the Pompadours challenges for the ball watched by Sgt Brooks and LCpl Glyn

Sport on camera



Pompadors cross-country team - 4th Armd Div champions. Front, from left: LCpl Brown, LCpl Howard, Capt Wadman and Cpl Maynard. Back, from left: Cpl Ryan, WO2 Twell, Pte McGrath and Cpl Lake

Running to victory

THE Pompadors' cross-country season began with a depleted team, four of the stalwarts from 1987/88 having left the battalion during the close season. However, new talent was discovered in the inter-coy run in mid August.

Because of the planned move to Colchester the Pompadors entered very few of the 4th Armoured Division cross-country league events, choosing instead to concentrate on the major championships.

The first hurdle was to retain the Divisional title. On a cold wintry day the battalion team coped well with the very fast seven mile course at Sennelager and pushed

the two favourite teams into 2nd and 3rd positions. Three members of the team arrived from an exercise just prior to the event and returned immediately afterwards, having contributed to the Pompador victory.

The BAOR finals were held at Bracht (JHQ) over a fast flat course. The team again ran well, qualifying for the Army finals by achieving 3rd place overall. Sgt Thomas, who had also lead the Pompadors home in the divisional championship, took the 9th position with the entire team finishing in the top 50.

Following their success in BAOR, the team moved to Colchester ahead of the battalion to prepare for the Army finals. Strengthened by the return of Cpl Ryan (who decided that life outside of the Army really wasn't all wine and roses), the team completed training without interruption.

The training was fully justified by the end result: the Pompadors finished fourth overall. The outcome was particularly satisfying as in finishing one place higher than the previous year the Pompador team beat the BAOR runners-up.

Sport on camera



BAOR Infantry cross-country champions - the Pompadours. Front, from left: Sgt Thomas, LCpl Brown, Cpl Ryan, Pte Reid and LCpl Howard. Back, from left: Cpl Maynard, Capt Wadman, WO2 Twell, Pte McGrath and Cpl Lake



The start of the BAOR Infantry cross-country championship

Sport on camera



WO2 (RQMS) Twell of the Pompadours receives the BAOR Infantry cross-country championship cup



Another one in the net for the short corner specialist Capt Wild of the Pompadours

Sport on camera



Pte Fallows of the Pompadours jumping high against 2Queens



A fine save by Sgt Milgate the Pompadours goalkeeper

Sport on camera



Winners of EDSOL Major Seed, Major Ross, CSgt Batchelor, Sgt Dawkins and WO2 Rouse

THE Steelbacks orienteering team won the EDSOL by winning 9 of the 10 league events.

The team was represented during the season by Maj Seed, Maj Ross, Capt Brunt, Capt Dormer, WO2 Grenfell, WO2 Rouse, CSgt Batchelor, Sgt Callaghan, Sgt Byford, Sgt Dawkins and Cpl Risley.

In each event the best four runners counted towards the team score which effectively meant stars like Maj Seed, Maj Ross, WO2 Rouse, Sgt Callaghan, Sgt Dawkins and CSgt Batchelor were always in contention.

Individual league honours went to Sgt Dawkins M21 runner-up, Maj Seed M40 winner and Maj Ross M40 runner-up.

At the EDIST/London District

championships the regular staff team of Maj Seed, Maj Ross, WO2 Rouse and Sgt Dawkins won the Regular Minor Unit Championship with a young Maj Ross taking the M40 trophy.

The TA championship was won by 4 Coy represented by CSgt Batchelor, Sgt Byford, Cpl Risley and LCpl Anderson. CSgt Batchelor was TA champion and WO2 Wilcox of 2 Coy won the M35 medal.

Both these teams went forward to the UKLF championship in Wales in April. The results achieved by the permanent staff team were excellent. In extremely difficult conditions they were runners-up in the Minor Units Championship. They now go forward to the Army finals in BAOR.

Remember

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