



# CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

DECEMBER 1989



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**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.



Pte Neal of Vikings A Coy provides protection for a VCP close to the border

# From the Colonel of the Regiment



IN THE last issue I looked back over the Regiment's first 25 years and noted, with pride and satisfaction, how we had, as the first of the "large" infantry regiments, achieved so much in blending the esprit de corps and the traditions of our forebears into a model of efficiency and professionalism. This time I want to turn to the future. It was an American who said "forecasting is a dangerous business, especially about the future", but after two-and-a-half years in NATO's corridors of power observing momentous changes on both sides of the crumbling Iron Curtain, I feel competent to draw some conclusions.

The pace of change in the international scene is astonishing. Who, in his wildest dreams, could have guessed two years ago that by now we would have an INF treaty signed and largely delivered, Eastern European countries no longer prepared to toe the Soviet line, or a Soviet Union beset by strikes and outspoken nationalism in its peripheral states, led by a man with the courage to pursue openness and substantial real disarmament? There is a public misconception that this disarmament has already occurred, when in fact there remain complex negotiations, ratification, and years of implementation before we can feel safe. The Warsaw Pact is acutely unstable and has immense military power. This is no time for unilateral disarmament; NATO must maintain the strength and cohesion to continue for the deterrence which has kept the peace for so long.

But the scene has changed. East/West relations have improved dramatically and there is no longer a looming and immediate threat. Peace is

in the wind, mutual trust is improving, and real security at a lower level of armaments is genuinely on the horizon. The general public, particularly in Western Germany, may be dangerously euphoric about not feeling threatened, but they begrudge resources for defence, resent the disruption and damage caused by military exercises, and are increasingly hard to persuade that it is only in the secure environment of sound defence that such benefits as health education, social welfare and freedom can be pursued.

So what is in all this for the Regiment? Will possible cuts affect us? Provided we can recruit and retain, the answer is emphatically "No". Cuts there may be, but they will be small in percentage terms and will not affect much of the infantry of the line for a long time to come. The nation will have vital defence commitments to NATO, to Northern Ireland, to the United Nations to Home Defence and to a number of places in the world for many, many years. Other roles may well come our way, and there is always, as ever, the unexpected. Britain is proud of its Services and even though the immediate threat recedes the Army will remain a popular and respected profession.

There are worries about motivation and the continued attractions of a military career. The first is perhaps not quite so

easy when Russians are not rattling their sabres just the other side of a cruel frontier. But we are soldiers, in a fine Regiment and what better motivation do such soldiers need than pride in their professional ability and the comradeship of service together, with the prospect of continuing that pride and comradeship for the rest of their lives?

The years of the massive exercises may be drawing to a close, but lower level training is busier, more demanding, more satisfying and more fun. Simulation is on the way and this can get the adrenalin flowing much more effectively than blanks. Adventure training, so important for building confidence and character, will attract greater resources. Overseas exercises will continue indefinitely and perhaps increase and I foresee no reduction in the demand for British officers and NCOs on loan service all over the world.

The pulling back of forces from the Warsaw Pact/NATO borders will not change NATO's strategy but it will give more time for mobilisation and deployment. This will bring increased dependence on the Territorial Army and the Reserves with excellent training opportunities in prospect for them.

This is no time for military depression. There is plenty to look forward to in this honourable and exciting profession of ours.

I wish you all a safe and merry Christmas and the fulfilment of all your hopes for 1990. I return to England in January and expect to be able to involve myself yet more in regimental functions, and to pay more frequent visits to our fine Battalions, a pleasurable prospect indeed.





### **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 D Stone CBE

Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex: Brigadier W T Dodd OBE

### **Deputy Honorary Colonels TA**

Norfolk: Colonel P W Raywood TD DL

Suffolk: Brigadier W C Deller OBE

Cambridgeshire: Colonel J P Macdonald

Lincolnshire: Colonel W J Gleadell TD

Leicestershire: Colonel W G Dawson TD DL

Northamptonshire: Colonel P Worthy

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, Basingbourn (0763-42271)

## **BATTALION LOCATIONS**

1st Battalion (Norfolk, Suffolk &  
Cambridgeshire) Colchester

Lieutenant Colonel J C B Sutherland 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), Colchester

Lieutenant Colonel J D Lacey

5th Battalion  
TA Centre, London Road, Peterborough

Lieutenant Colonel N H Kelsey TD  
Major C G Stallard - May 90

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

Lieutenant Colonel P R C Dixon  
Major A D Chissel - Apr 91

7th Battalion  
TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester

Lieutenant Colonel R E Haes

## **Senior Regimental Representatives**

Depot the Queen's Division

Lieutenant Colonel M J Boocock

RMA Sandhurst

Captain N G Burrell

JIB Shorncliffe

Major F J Perry MBE

# Diary Dates 1990

|                  |  |                  |   |
|------------------|--|------------------|---|
| 10 Jan           | 1st Bn returns from Northern Ireland.                        | 24-25 Jun        | R Tigers Weekend, Leicester.                                  |
| 12-14 Mar        | RSM s convention, Basingbourn.                               | 27-28 Jun        | Norfolk Show.   |
| 21 Mar           | Undergraduates' Day, Basingbourn.                            | 30 Jun           | Northamptonshire Regimental Association Weekend.              |
| 21 Mar/<br>1 Apr | 5 Bn SAAM.   | 7 Jul            | Joint TA Ball (Newmarket).                                    |
| 7 Apr            | Cambridgeshire Regiment Association Dinner.                  | 14-15 Jul        | TA Bisley.  |
| 7 Apr            | 6 Bn SAAM.   | 15 Jul           | Regimental Gathering, Basingbourn.                            |
| 20 Apr           | Regimental Golf, Bury St Edmunds.                            | 16 Jul           | Colonel-in-Chief visit to 1st & 3rd Battalions, Colchester    |
| 15-16 Apr        | 7th Bn SAAM.   | 17-19 Jul        | East of England Show.   |
| 22 Apr           | R Norfolk Commemoration Service, Norwich.                    | 28 Jul           | Suffolk Regt Officers' Dinner.                                |
| 28/29 Apr        | R Lincolns Sobraon Weekend.                                  | 29 Jul           | Suffolk Reunion.  |
| 5 May            | Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regimental Association Dinner.  | 30 Jul/<br>4 Aug | Colchester Tattoo.  |
| May              | Northamptonshire Regt Officers' Lunch, London.               | 1 Sep            | 26th Anniversary of the founding of the Regiment.             |
| 6 May            | Leicester Show.  | 7-23 Sep         | 5th & 7th Bns Annual Camp BAOR.                               |
| 9 May            | Suffolk Regt Council Meeting.                                | 14 Sep           | Regimental Golf, Flempton.                                    |
| 9-11 May         | Queens's Division Postings Meeting.                          | 15-29 Sep        | 6th Bn Camp, Sennybridge.                                     |
| 14-18 May        | Army Officers' Golfing Society Golf Meeting.                 | 15 Sep           | Golf v Flempton Golf Club.                                    |
| 18 May           | 3 Bn Officers' Dinner Club, cocktail party.                  | 21 Sep           | 3rd Bn Dinner Club Lunch, London.                             |
| 19-20 May        | EDSAAM.  | 22/23 Sep        | R Lincolns Cleethorpes Old Comrades Reunion.                  |
| 30-31 May        | Suffolk Show.  | 29 Sep           | R Norfolk Regiment Reunion.                                   |
| 1 Jun            | R Norfolk Officers' Dinner Club.                             | 30 Sep           | R Norfolk Association Service.                                |
| 2 Jun            | R Norfolk Luncheon.  | 6/7 Oct          | Lincoln Tattoo.   |
| 1 or 8 Jun*      | Regimental Golf Annual Meeting, Stowmarket Golf Club.        | 8 Nov            | Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey.                      |
| 10 Jun           | Cambridgeshire OCA Reunion.                                  | 9 Nov            | Regimental Officers' Careers and Council Meeting, Colchester. |
| 15-17 Jun        | Essex Show   | 9 Nov            | Regimental Dinner, Colchester.                                |
| 22 Jun           | Queen's Division Triangular Golf, Bury St Edmunds Golf Club. | 13 Nov           | Essex Remembrance Service, Chelmsford.                        |
| 24 Jun           | Essex Regiment Reunion, Warley.                              | 16 Nov           | Regimental TA Career Meeting, Basingbourn.                    |
|                  |  | 18 Nov*          | Bedfs Herts Reunion, Kempston.                                |
|                  |  | 1 Dec            | R Leicester Officers' Lunch, London                           |

\* to be confirmed

# Mainly about people . . .

## Promotions, Awards and Retirements

Congratulations to the following: **Lt Col John Fletcher** on his promotion on posting to HQ D Inf, 6 Aug 90. **Brig D J W Browne** on his appointment as Commander 33 Armd Bde in Paderborne, Dec 89. **Majors Robin Chisnall, John McColl and Kit Stallard** on "pink listing" for promotion next year. Our particular congratulations go to **Maj Kit Stallard** who has been selected to command 5 R Anglian in May 90 and to **Maj Alain Chissel** who is to be posted from 5 R Anglian to 6 R Anglian as 21C and subsequently to command that battalion in Apr 91.

Congratulations are also due to **Col Mike Goldschmidt**, **Col Gordon Brett**, and **Col Tom Thomas** on their recent promotion to Colonel and also to **Lt Cols John Houchin, Peregrine Rawlins and John Sutherell** who have been selected for promotion.

We welcome the following on commissioning and offer our congratulations: **2Lts Alex Beart, Jonathan Chastney, Warwick Saunders and Richard Lyne** all with the 2nd Battalion, and **Christopher Sear and Michael Sturgeon** with the 3rd Battalion. We also welcome **Capt David Wilkinson** now serving with 1 R Anglian on a Short Service Volunteer Commission for one year.

Many congratulations to **Lt Bob Potter**, 3 R Anglian, on his commissioning from the ranks.

**Honours and Awards.** We congratulate the following on their awards: **Maj H S Bullock MBE** (for services in Northern Ireland), **Maj R M Brunt MBE** (for services in Northern Ireland), **WO2 C C Scales MBE** (for services in Lesotho), **WO2 M J Todd BEM** 1 R Anglian, **Sgt A Ali BEM** for services as a senior NCO in the medical centre 2 R Anglian and **Sgt S A Pollitt BEM** - now retired - for services as Training Warrant Officer at the Depot.

**Retirements.** The following officers have retired and we wish them all success and good fortune: **Brig W T Dodd**, Deputy Colonel The Royal Anglian Regiment. **Brig Bill Dodd** has now left the Ministry of Defence as Director of Army Recruiting but will continue as Deputy Colonel The Royal Anglian Regiment. Others who have retired are **Lt J W F Lewis**, **Lt P C T Dean**, **Capt T Weightman**, **Capt J F Dean**, **Lt A P Latham**, **Brig W R W Pike**, **Maj M D Willdridge**, **Capt P W Denny** and **Brig C M J Barnes**. **Brig Barnes** is now the

secretary of the West Midlands TAVRA.

Congratulations to **Lt Nick Crawshaw** on winning the Army Full Bore Championships at Bisley and **Pte M C Shropshire** 1 R Anglian on winning seven gold, two silver and three bronze bars at the Junior Soldiers Skill at Arms meeting when he was at JIB.

**Maj John Oldfield** is now assistant to the curator at the School of Infantry with particular responsibility towards weapons which form the major part of the exhibition. In this he is fortunate to have the help and advice of Ann, his wife, who is in her own right a distinguished and well known restorer of arms and armour. John Oldfield would be happy to give members of the regiment private viewings provided he is given notice by telephone.

Our congratulations go to **Sgt D Macness** 3 R Anglian on his distinguished pass on Platoon Sgts Battle Course No 7/89 and **Sgt S N Pallant** also 3 R Anglian for his distinguished pass on the Milan Platoon Commanders Course No. 54.

**Postings:** **Brig M J D Walker** to be COS HQ 1 (Br) Corps, 4 Dec 89; **Col M K Goldschmidt** to DPS to DCINCENT HQ AFCENT, 3 Sep 89; **Col T D Thomas**, Col Army Plans at MOD, 4 Dec 89; **Col G I G Brett**, Col CIS MOD, Oct 89; **Maj J G G Ross** to Depot Queens Div, 15 Aug 89; **Maj I W Jefferson**, SO2 ADA Rome, 11 Nov 89; **Maj R J Hare**, RMCS (ASC 24 Div 3), 1 Jan 90; **Capt T J Smith**, Sch of Inf, 30 Oct 89; **Maj J W Rollins**, 1 R Anglian, 2 Jan 90; **Maj D N Pryce**, 1 Cadet Trg Team, 4 Dec 89; **Lt R J Latham**, Depot Queens Div, 6 Nov 89; **Lt S P Wormald**, 3 R Anglian, 13 Nov 89; **Maj J A B Borthwick**, COS 143 Inf Bde, 29 Jan 90; **Capt t D G Townley**, 1 QUEENS, 4 Sep 89; **Lt P A Cookson**, 3 Inf Bde HQ & Sig Sqn 21 May 90; **2Lt M J Kellaway**, 2 R Anglian, 14 Aug 89; **Maj C A Cocker**, HQ BAOR (SO2 G3 O&D Projects), 16 Mar 90; **Capt P H Gaskin**, BBS Mozambique, 19 Feb 90; **Lt Col F A H Swallow**, HQ UKLF Permanent Resident Courts Martial, 11 Dec 89; **Maj F M Froud**, SO2 MA2/CGS, 13 Dec 89; **Maj S G Porter**, HQ BF Hong Kong SO2 J3 Ops, 3 Jan 90; **Capt D C Napier**, HQ 1 (Br) Corps as SO2 G1 Co-ord Gen, 13 Dec 89; **Maj D J W Bayliss**, HQ AFNORTH as SO2 Log Plans, 2 Apr 90; **Maj A N Duff**, HQ South West District as SO2 AMFL, 2 Jan 90; **Maj S W Lamb**, 1 R Anglian, 26 Mar 89; **Maj S H Bullock**, HS Queens Div, 7 Mar 90; **Capt N Spinks**, HQ 12 Armd Bde as SO3 G3 Ops, 9 Apr 90.



## Sword of Honour

THE Inspecting Officer at the 100th Sovereign's Parade at the Military Academy was the Supreme Allied Commander Europe, Gen John Galvin, who was accompanied by the Colonel of The Regiment. The day was made particularly memorable for the Regiment because **2Lt Warwick Saunders**, a Corporal from the 1st Battalion and now serving with the 2nd Battalion, not only won the Sword of Honour but was also runner-up for the Queen's Medal (shooting) and the winner of the Bahrain Trophy for the best journal. We offer him our heartiest congratulations.

## Mainly about people . . .



Above: Maj Gen J B Dye; Maj Gen P P D Stone; Brig W C Deller; Col R J Abbott, Col R S Conder; Lt Col R G S Cotton; Lt Col P F Garman; Lt Col J Jackson; Lt Col M J Kinson; Lt Col P B D Long; Lt Col H H Norman; Lt Col A W J Turnbull; Maj D L Clarke; Maj J D Fletcher; Maj I W Jefferson; Maj J H Keep; Maj C J C Kett; Maj N J Lewis; Maj G Taylor; Maj M G Turner-Cain; Maj R C Wilson; Capt T H Bullock; Capt M N J Dawe; Capt R E Sharpe; Capt F C L Slinn

OFFICERS who served in First Battalion The First East Anglian Regiment in the Radfan Campaign in 1964 meet every five years to mark the capture of the Jebel Huriyah.

Maj Gen J B Dye who commanded the Battalion in 1964, this year instructed one of his former young officers, now Maj Gen P P D Stone to organise the 25th anniversary dinner in June. By kind permission of Commanding Officer, 1st Bn The Royal Anglian Regiment, and with wonderful support from his Mess staff who returned early from their pre-Northern Ireland tour leave, the dinner was held in the Officers' Mess, Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester and 25 officers attended.

A feature of this reunion is that soldiers serving with the Battalion in June 1964 and subsequently commissioned are eligible to attend and it is significant that 9 officers attending came into this category. Among them Lt Col Mike Kinson and Lt Col Paul Garman both former Warrant Officers who served with the Battalion in 1964 and are still serving in 1989.

Apologies were received from officers in Nepal, Oslo, Paris and even West Mersea. It is hoped that everyone will be available to attend in 1994, location to be confirmed.

### Career guidance

Lt Col Mike Kinson has written to say that he leaves PB2 in Apr 90. He presently looks after the career prospects of late-entry officers and is happy to give 'career guidance'.

## Anglians active in the Far East

ALTHOUGH you will have read much in your newspapers of events in China and Hong Kong there has been little news of Royal Anglian representation. There are just two 'Brown Berets'. Under one lives Capt Bill Willmott and the other is the home of St Maj Douglas Stewart. Both are working in Borneo Lines, Sek Kong in the New Territories. Bill is the SO3 G3 Ops/O&D/Air in HQ 48 Gurkha Infantry Brigade in his spare time. Most of his work time is taken up playing rugby or water polo. He recently led the British Forces rugby team to Singapore on a two-thirds successful rugby tour.

Dougie is the Chief Clerk in the QM's department of Borneo Lines. He deals with a camp containing Queen's Gurkha Signals, Gurkha Transport Regiment, Defence Animal Support Unit Hong Kong (the largest dog unit in the British Army), Hong Kong Military Service Corps - an all Chinese Unit, RAMC, RAEC, APTC, a Postal and Courier Detachment and a Brigade HQ. To cap this he has just been heavily involved in the building of a tent city for 8,000 Vietnamese Boat People.

At the time of writing the camp has been

dismantled for a few days whilst cyclone Gordon passes the colony. It will take another few days to re-erect the 160+ marquees and return the Vietnamese from their very crowded accommodation elsewhere.

Life for both of them has its compensations - the Gurkha Regiments are a new experience for them both and a very interesting one at that. The main role for the Gurkha Battalions and one British Battalion is guarding the border from infiltration by illegal immigrants. It is a hard job for the soldiers but capture figures represent a 'real' reward and the end of a night's work. Other benefits have to be just living in a very interesting part of the world. Demonstrations involving up to 1 million people with no arrests must be a novel experience for anyone. Trips to outlying islands by junk or just soaking up the weather on our weekend breaks help us to forget the inevitable work on the office desk. As with any other theatre Hong Kong is hard work but here there are very good ways to relax and enjoy what free time is available. If you happen to be passing through - don't forget a lonely Pompadour or a not-so-lonely (he is a pad) Viking.

## Mainly about people . . .

### Line of Lost Lives

**John Cosford** who enlisted into the 1st Battalion The Cambridgeshire Regiment in Apr 39 has written a book "Line of Lost Lives" which tells of his wartime experience as a prisoner of the Japanese.

His book is dedicated to all the men who fought in defence of Singapore and fell into Japanese hands - especially those of the Cambridgeshire Regiment. The book, which has a foreword by General Sir Timothy Creasey, is printed by Gryphon Books copies of which can be obtained from John Cosford direct at his address 548 Nacton Road, Ipswich IP3 9QD (£9.95, postage being free to members of the Association).

John Cosford was made writer of the year by the Society of Civil Service Authors for his work.

**Maj Mark Adkin**, who served in the Essex and East Anglian Regiment and also Headquarters The Barbados Defence Force, now lives in Bedford. While serving in the Barbados Defence Force (during the invasion of Grenada he was the operations staff officer and has written a book called "Urgent Fury, the Battle for Grenada" recounting his experience during this time. A publisher's insert about the book, accompanies this magazine.

### STOP PRESS

THE Officer's Dinner Club Regimental Dinner took place at the Naval and Military on 3 Nov 89. The Colonel of the Regiment presided and guests were Maj Gen W A Evans, GOC Eastern District and from the Worshipful Company of Poulterers, the Master Mr Alan Scott, the Upper Warden Mr Hugh Braithwaite and the Renter Warden Mr David Kemp. 147 members of the Dinner club attended this most enjoyable occasion.

★ ★ ★

THE Regimental Dinner of 1990 will take place in Colchester on 9 Nov. A note for your diaries please.

★ ★ ★

3 Royal Anglian moves to Edmonton Barracks, Londonderry in May 91 as resident battalion.

1 Royal Anglian moves to Fermanagh on unaccompanied tour in May 91



CAPT Robert Keron above, with friends, a territorial officer serving with A Coy 6 R Anglian, went on a trip to Nepal from May to July. He visited the Brigade of Gurkhas' training centre (where he met Lt Col John Childs - Ex Royal Anglian, who gave him considerable assistance for his subsequent

trek up the Mawang Valley. Capt Keron has written a very interesting article about his journey but unfortunately space does not permit reproduction in this magazine. Anyone who might be interested in making a like trip could contact the author at the TA Centre, 325 Aylsham Road, Norwich NR3 2AB.



Lt Nick Crawshaw, Vikings, draws a bead on a 300-yard rifle target at the RAF invitation shoot near Bisley



Mainly about people . . .

## What's in a name ...



### Divisional Colonel

WE now have a new Divisional Colonel in Col Paddy Panton who was educated at Merchant Taylors School and R.M.A. Sandhurst. He was commissioned into the Royal Sussex Regiment in 1961. He was ADC to the High Commissioner in Malta during 1963 when the Island obtained its independence. He moved with 1 R Sussex to BAOR in 1965 and was rebadged into 3 Queens in 1966. This posting was followed by a four-year flying tour with the Army Air Corps in Bahrain and BAOR. Having then served as Adjutant 3 Queens he carried out a Grade 3 (Operations) staff appointment in HQ 1 (Br) Corps before attending the Staff College in Canada in 1974.

There then followed a staff appointment in HQ South East District and a three-year tour as a Mechanised Company Commander with 1 Queens in BAOR. He attended the National Defence College at Latimer in 1980 before moving the HQ UKLF in a Grade 1 (Staff Duties) appointment. He commanded 1 Queens in N. Ireland (Omagh) from 1982 to 1985, before moving to the School of Service Intelligence at Ashford as Chief Instructor Intelligence Wing. On promotion to Colonel he was appointed Chief of Staff at HQ North West District in February 1987, before assuming the appointment of Colonel, the Queens Division in November 1989.

Col Panton's interests include golf, fly fishing, boxing judging, vegetable gardening, fell walking in the Lake District, and his family. He is married and has two children aged 14 and 16.

Sir,

On 2 Sep I had occasion to visit the university of Do Minho at Braga, in Portugal. To get there I had to change trains at a very small place called Nine which is situated about 20 miles north of Oporto.

I was talking to a Portuguese the next day at another university and told him how odd I found it that a Portuguese village should be called Nine. "Not at all odd", he said "it's an English name".

Apparently, according to him, during the Peninsula War, the Ninth Regiment of Foot

defeated a substantial French force in the area. In recognition of the regiment's gallantry and the Portuguese subsequent liberation from the French, the villagers agreed unanimously that from then on their village should be named Nine. The photograph, above, is of the railway station at Nine.

Ronald S. Scrivener.

37 Lysia Street, London SW6.

**Editors Note:** Royal Norfolk historians may care to comment.

## Mainly about people ...



Col John Holman, the past Divisional Colonel, visited Bermuda where he saw Maj Peter Barnes, WO2 Smith and WO2 Fenn. The picture above shows the group taken from RHQ looking out to sea. You can see the workers by the dress!

## Plea for information

Sir,

5776537 Private Henry MYEROWITZ  
2nd Bn The Royal Norfolk Regiment

My friend, above named, was killed, in action in France between 10 May and 23 Jun 1950 while serving with the 2nd Bn The Royal Norfolk Regiment. If any readers or past member of the Royal Norfolks, knew this soldier and can furnish any information about him particularly the circumstances of his death, I will be most grateful to hear by letter to me at 78 Raglan Court, Empire Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0RG, or by reverse-charge telephone call at 01-902 5380.

I M Patashnik (Major)

78, Raglan Court, Empire Way, Wembley,  
Middlesex HA9 0RG.



"You don't see many of these on the beach at Yarmouth" - what's going on? Turn to Page 35



# Vikings



## New faces for Ulster

AT the end of two frenetic months of training and RAAT tasks the Battalion paused for breath and departed on a fortnight's block leave. Just before handing over the Saxons to rear party the Battalion changed its orbit for the second time in four months. By the time the last people went on leave on 26 May the Battalion had reformed into the Op Banner orbit ready to begin the training for South Armagh.

It was interesting to note that less than half the Battalion had served in Ireland before. Many of the NCO's and Officers had served during the Londonderry tour in 1984-87 but almost all of the private soldiers had joined the Battalion during the two years spent in Gibraltar. Of those who had served in Londonderry very few had been on the Battalion's last rural tour in Fermanagh in 1983. With the ever-changing situation, tactics and equipment in Northern Ireland the Battalion was starting NITAT training from a relatively fresh position.

The commanders returned from block leave on 11 Jun, a week before the soldiers, in order to complete the NITAT Commanders Cadre. The NITAT presentations to the Battalion took place on 19-21 Jun which left the Battalion only four weeks to complete the basic, in camp, training before departing to Lydd and Hythe on 23 Jul for the full NITAT training package.

The three weeks of NITAT training passed quickly and on 11 Aug the Battalion returned to Hyderabad Barracks for a last few days with the families. The advance party departed to South Cernay on 17 Aug and the main body was complete in South Armagh on 25 Aug, just in time for the first incident of the tour.

The Battalion is now almost half-way through the tour in South Armagh and is already looking forward to the return to Colchester in early 1990. As always on Op Banner tours the time passes very quickly with the wives and families having to bear the brunt of the waiting. Despite the pressures of having to prepare for the tour in such a short period the Battalion did manage to host a few visitors and take part in a few sporting activities.



Pte Thompson, A Coy, chats to a young boy while on patrol



Sgt Cooper and his team from C (Ops) Coy, in front of Bessbrook Guardroom

## News from the Vikings



Sgt Cooper and his team arrive at Bessbrook after an operation



Pte Percival from MT helps build wire obstacles at R21



Pte Eustace, of A Coy, on a town patrol in the Forkhill area

## News from the Vikings



Princess Margaret is introduced to Maj Craig Cocker and members of B Coy HQ (left to right): Capt Paul Gaskin, Capt Douglas Wilkinson, attached from 5 R Anglian, and WO2 (CSM) Cutter

# Princess Margaret visits

ON Monday 31 Jul, at the end of the first week of the NITAT package, the Battalion was honoured with a visit from Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowden, the Regiment's Deputy Colonel-in-Chief.

HRH arrived by helicopter at 11 am. She was accompanied by Lord Napier and Ettrick, her Lady-in-Waiting Mrs Jane Stevens and the Lord Lieutenant for Kent, Sir Robin Leigh-Pemberton. The Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Maj Gen Tony Pollard travelled down the night before and was with the CO, 2IC, Adjutant and RSM to meet the Princess as she stepped off the helicopter.

The weather had been poor and the forecast was for more rain but luckily the day was bright and sunny, the umbrellas borrowed from the Quartermaster's golf bag were not needed.

The Princess was taken first to visit the Mortar Platoon on the Urban CQB range where she was met by Maj Rupert Lucas, WO2 Grenfell and OC Mortars Capt Alan Wylie. She watched a team from the platoon going through the range practice before meeting them in the range itself.

She was then taken to visit B Coy who

were in the middle of the dry urban exercise in Rye Village. She met members of Company Headquarters before being introduced to two multiples commanded by Sgt Allen and Sgt Prime respectively. She was clearly interested in the training and spoke to almost all the soldiers before being taken into the debriefing room to watch a video of a shooting incident that had taken place earlier.

The Princess departed after a pleasant and informal lunch. The visit was a resounding success and the Princess had obviously enjoyed meeting so many members of the Battalion in such a setting.

# News from the Vikings



Maj Jonathan Borthwick presents A Coy with their Minden roses on Minden Day at Lydd



LCpl Villette from 2PI keeps watch over the countryside from an observation tower

## Minden Day

MINDEN Day celebrations started early. The RSM gave the CO gunfire at 0130 hrs on 1 Aug before setting off to do the traditional presentation of roses to the soldiers. C Coy were presented with their roses at 0230 hrs before deploying on to the training area with the roses tucked into their helmets. The CO presented B Coy with theirs at 0600 hrs just before Support Coy and Headquarter Coy paraded on the main square for their roses and gunfire at a slightly more sociable time. A Coy returned from an overnight exercise on the local training areas in time to receive their gunfire, a fitting way to end an exercise and start Minden Day.

Minden Day celebrations had to be arranged around the training programme which only allowed for a few hours off during the afternoon. The Quartermaster arranged a Battalion barbecue for the evening meal and the Band came down from Colchester to play the traditional Regimental Marches. Minden Day would not be complete without a visit from some former members of the Battalion such as WO2 (Shaun) Hempstead and Ex Drum Major Dougie May. On this occasion a few brand new Vikings in training at JIB also joined the Battalion for their first Minden Day including the sons of Ex WO1 Rex Smith and Ex Cpl Charlie Shropshire and the cousin of Cpl Lenton (C Coy).



## News from the Vikings



Minister of State for Northern Ireland, John Cope, with the CO and RUC liaison officer

## Mortars miss target

JUST as the last of the main body was arriving at RAF Aldergrove our first and the D and D's last major IRA incident occurred. On a misty summer's day, at about 5 pm, four Mark II mortars were fired at the Creevekeeran permanent observation post. The mortars which were fired from the back of a Hiace van, travelled about 250 metres and missed the OP by a fairly narrow margin. The OP was still being manned by the last of the D and D's but the Vikings had taken command of the TAOR and actually took over the manning of the OP that night. Luckily no damage was done to the OP.

By the time this first incident had been cleared the Vikings had settled into the TAOR. A Coy under the command of Maj Jonathan Borthwick and WO2 Sweeney Todd took over Forkhill and the two permanent OPs on .799 and Foxfield.

B Coy under the command of Maj Craig Cocker and WO2 Sid Cutter was expanded to five platoons with addition of Milan Platoon (split into two rifle platoons) and took over the Crossmaglen TAOR. They man four permanent OPs at Croslieve, Glassdrumman, Drummuckavall and Creevekeeran.

C Coy under the command of Maj Ian Hall and WO2 Dan Taylor, became the Operations Company based in Bessbrook Mill. They are the one rifle company that is not responsible for a TAOR but have to respond to any requirement anywhere in the Battalion's TAOR. They have been involved in almost every incident and operation thus far.

Support Coy, having lost Milan Platoon, took over the Newtonhamilton TAOR. Mortar Platoon formed the bulk of the Company with Recce Platoon forming 'Heavy Platoon' with men from the Drums and Mortars. The Company was to be commanded by Maj Max Marriner but, sadly, he was temporarily invalidated out with a serious ear disorder. Maj Rupert Lucas was diverted away from his attachment with the Poachers at the last minute and is now commanding the Company with WO2 Bob Grenfell as his CSM.

Those of Headquarter Company who were not posted to the outstations took over Bessbrook Mill. The Mill is undergoing a modernisation programme and is no longer the half derelict and dismal place that many will remember from previous tours. The Mill Team of Capt Sean Sweeney and WO2 (Drum Major) Bokenham have the unenviable task of trying to run the place and take care of the host of small but important departments that live in the maze of corridors.

The Battalion has two extra companies attached under command throughout the tour. The Bessbrook TAOR is the responsibility of B Squadron, 5 Royal Inniskillen Dragoon Guards who are part of the OP Fondant Regiment. The Newry TAOR is taken care of by a company from the Black Watch that rotates through the Mill every five weeks or so. Both the Newry Coy and the Bessbrook Squadron are based in the Mill



The Belfast to Dublin line is cleared after the explosion on 29 Sep

*Continued Page 17*

# News from the Vikings

From Page 16

Bessbrook Mill has one of the busiest heliports in Europe. Capt Paul Ludbrook and W02 Shorty Long head the small Buzzard team that runs the incredibly busy helicopter programme that results from the complete lack of any road transport south of the Mill.

The Mill is also the home of the Quartermasters' Department ruled by Capt Tony Powell. Administering a seven-company Battalion with 14 permanent outstations requires a considerable amount of work, brainpower and flexibility. RQMS Richardson is departing just over half-way through the tour to become the RSM of JIB, he is replaced by RQMS Gedge.

Since the mortar attack on Creevekeeran OP on 25 Aug there have been 6 serious terrorist incidents in the South Armagh TAOR. The first was another attack on the Newry Dundalk railway line that took place on 26 Sept. The railway line was blown up with a command wire IED and was cleared by ATO and Operations Coy on 29 Sept.

The second was an IED that was placed in a hijacked car and left in a residential street in Newry on 1 Oct. It was cleared quickly by Newry Coy on the same day.

The third incident was a bomb placed in a post office van and left outside the main Post Office in Newry on 13 Oct. Again, this was cleared quickly by Newry Coy the next day.

The fourth incident was a heavy machine gun attack on an RUC armoured car patrol in Belleek on the night of 20 Oct. Two RUC constables had been driving to make a house call in Belleek when they were overtaken by a truck. As they were overtaken terrorists opened fire with two automatic rifles and one heavy machine gun.

Sadly one constable was killed and the other was badly wounded.

Operations Coy and the Bessbrook Squadron took care of the follow-up. The fifth incident in this period was a shoot against the site of a new RUC station in Newry. Terrorists fired over 100 rounds at workmen on the building site before getting away in two stolen cars. Luckily there were no injuries.

The last incident in this period was a mortar attack on the Barouki Sangar in Crossmaglen Square. At 1215 hrs on 26 Oct a tractor and trailer drove up and parked about 15 feet from the sangar. Three mortars were fired at point-blank range into the side of the sangar with one mortar remaining unfired. The sangar itself was quite badly damaged but luckily the six soldiers inside were unharmed.



A drumhead service marked our transition from a training to an operational Battalion. The Colours were marched at the start of the service.



The burnt out van outside the Post Office in Newry



# Poachers



## Intensive training

THE POACHERS were back in Trenchard Barracks on 3 Jul after a well earned and much appreciated post Op Banner leave period. Security was high due to the previous day's fatal car bomb attack in Hannover and numerous other terrorist activities affecting most of BAOR. In spite of this, life continued as near to normal as possible. An Active Edge was called at 0440 hrs on 10 Jul 1989 and the Battalion deployed to Soltau under the watchful eye of our newly appointed Adjutant, Capt Simon Andrews. To add to our numbers on exercise, 15 cadets from The Leys School and a further 22 from Ratchliffe College eagerly deployed with us.

With another Active Edge on 19 Jul we considered moving to Soltau permanently and using Celle as an R & R Centre.

In late July, the Battalion deployed, once again to the Soltau training area, this time as final preparation for Ex Red Stag, a BG FTX run by HQ 22 Armd Bde. With two days of robust training under the collective belt, the

battlegroup returned to Rheinsehlen Camp for a weekend of administration and maintenance. On the Saturday afternoon many Battalion fathers and husbands were invited by their children and wives for a family barbecue. Those without, amused themselves later that evening with the more traditional "smoker".

Early the following Monday morning found the battlegroup back in the field, under control of HQ 22 Armd Bde, at the start of Ex Red Stag. What followed was a week of intensive training designed to test the battlegroup in all phases of war. During the latter half of the week the exercise managed to escape into a 443 area to the east so even expertise with a map was required. Overall Red Stag was a very valuable and successful period of training, for which all members of the battlegroup were to be congratulated.

August saw the Poachers back in Soltau for a different reason. 1 Div Op Clean was initiated to tidy up the whole of the exercise area and involved the majority of 1 Div

personnel. Several interesting items were found including a pallet of anti-tank mines, complete tank track and a stray dog. The mines and tank track were taken away by the Sappers while the dog was disposed of by feeding it large quantities of cookhouse bratwursts. (It has not been seen since.)

When most of the Poachers were looking forward to leave 11-28 Aug, the more adventurous members were making last-minute arrangements to commence Ex Eiger Diamond. Maj Roger Antolik, Capt Dick Pattison and 13 members of the Battalion set off on 10 Aug to climb the Eiger. Full details and photographic evidence are enclosed! For those of you lucky enough to live in the Leicestershire area, a three-part radio documentary was broadcast by Radio Leicester who, much to the delight of Capt Pattison, sent a female reporter along with the climbers.

The main exercise in BAOR for us this

*Continued Page 19*



A Coy assault boat training - "I'm sure Oxford and Cambridge don't do it like this."

# News from the Poachers

From Page 18

year was White Rhino. The Battalion deployed on the first phase of the exercise, Stag Rhino, on 8 Sept to a 443 area south of Sennelager. In such a high-profile exercise, numerous visitors are normal and this proved to be no exception to the rule. Thursday 14 Sept saw A Coy host John Galvin (SACEUR); Gen Kenny (Comd Northag); Lt Gen Sir Peter Inge (Corps Comd); Gen Walker (GOC 1 Armd Div); Brig Pike (Comd 22 Armd Bde) and Air Marshall Sir Roger Palin RAF along with various press and photographers.

Phase Two of the exercise saw a large number of the Battalion return to Celle while the remainder planned the downfall of 7 Armd Bde as part of the CFX. On 21 September, C Coy were visited by the Minister of Defence which seemed a fitting finale to a successful exercise as ENDEX was called on 22 Sept.

After the normal post exercise clean-up, A and C Coys departed for site guard in the Minster Nord area.

The Battalion, well rested and back to normal after Northern Ireland, began a period of Cadres. These included PNCOs, Recce and Mortar as well as the usual series of Tactics, Signals, Assault Pioneer and First Aid Cadres.

On the adventurous training side, as well as Eiger Diamond, the Poachers have managed to get numerous members away to Bavaria under the watchful eye of Lt Phil Jackson. Activities have included all the character-building requirements such as top roping and abseiling. The PNCO's Cadre has also enjoyed a week in Bavaria as part of their course.

We now look forward to testing our skiing legs on Ex Snow Queen which is due to start on 21 Dec 1989.

Brig HWR Pike, Comd 22 Armd Bde, visited the Battalion at the beginning of October to tell us personally that our delivery of Warner has been delayed for 1 year.

Although the initial reaction was one of disappointment, the 21C, Maj Holme, soon got to work with writing out a new forecast of events which will keep the Battalion busy throughout 1990. The final forecast is yet to be published.

Since returning from Belfast, we have had our fair share of visitors. As well as a large number of Potential Officers, July saw four members of His Majesty's Tenth of Foot from America. After a very enjoyable dinner in the field and a black tie supper in the Officers' Mess, all four returned to America a few kilos heavier and very impressed with our hospitality.

August saw two visits of Comd Supply and one by Lt Col David Judd, Comd Maint.



Realistic camouflage is all very well but this was too good to resist

September was mainly spent away from Celle on exercise and following the news from Brig Pike, Maj Gen R.R.N. Wheeler CBE, the new GOC 1 Armd Div, changed our luck on Friday, 13 Oct by paying the Battalion a visit.

All in all, the Poachers have had a busy time, not only on exercise but also with adventurous training and visitors.

## Exercise White Rhino

HAVING survived a near "shooting down" by one part of the Battalion, and a visit to the Mortar Platoon, Gen Galvin arrived in his Black Hawk helicopter to visit A Coy on Ex White Rhino. The company had been working through the night and had just completed a hasty defensive position which we were to occupy until the battle group advance to contact the following day.

It has been reported, through our spies in D Coy, that an international incident was narrowly avoided when one member of the Mortars was advised not to peer too closely into the helicopter in case SACEUR thought

he was being mooned at! Fortunately not everyone in A Coy is that ugly.

SACEUR waded through the mud to begin his visit by talking to one of the Company Milan posts and, due to the timely arrival of the sun, after a night of torrential rain, found the company fairly presentable and in good spirits. On arrival at the Two Platoon SF trench however, he found one drummer standing in six inches of water behind his GPMG but still a "happy Poacher". SACEUR'S surprise grew when he asked the drummer how long he had been on the gun. When the reply "five years, Sir", came, it left Gen Galvin wondering not only who had drawn up the Stag list, but where the "Poachers" gets his stamina from!

Despite this misunderstanding, however, the brief visit passed without incident and SACEUR managed to discuss the exercise with several members of 2 Platoon before he was whisked away to another part of the battlefield. There will be some parts of his visit which, I am sure, Gen Galvin will forget in time, but the memory of LCpl Markham giving section orders to four Generals and an Air Vice Marshal will probably stay with him forever.

# News from the Poachers



Above: C Coy working hard on a 'snack attack' during Ex White Rhino

Right: Sgt Tilley (A Coy) and SACEUR on Ex White Rhino



"No. I said salute SACEUR - not shoot him!"



Maj Mike Beard looks as if he has just received an interesting proposal over the phone

## News from the Poachers



Visit of Maj Gen Wheeler, COC 1 Armd Div

# ‘A horse, a horse, my ....’

MAJ Ken Hodgson currently OC A Coy, is known for his all-round sporting ability and it will come as no surprise to those who know him well to discover that he had applied for the post of Equitation Officer at a recent sports board meeting.

The CO thoroughly enjoyed reading the minutes of the meeting and subsequently instructed OC Equitation to obtain a horse for the Battalion!

There then followed days of constructive argument regarding fodder and stabling which the QM vehemently argued was the MTO's responsibility, the horse being a means of transport. The PRI Officer insisted on rights for manure disposal through the PRI Shop, which prompted the MTO, whilst reserving the right to deny any responsibility for the horse, to maintain that if he was going to end up fuelling and garaging, he was jolly well going to dispose of any arisings himself!

Without doubt the greatest controversy was over what the horse was going to be named. This could not be resolved until OC Equitation had decided whether the horse would be a stallion, mare or gelding.

He decided to sit on the fence and invited suggestions for all three variants. It was assumed that the CO would have little difficulty choosing from the suggestions for a stallion which varied from "Big Boy" to "Colonel" and Quartermaster' (no prizes for guessing whose that was!).

Conversely, the Adjutant objected strongly to a gelding being called 'Adjutant' and even thought that Nancy Boy had been aimed at him by someone who failed to add his name to the suggestion sheet, but which was thought to be 2Lt Pistol-Grips who had been Duty Officer for the past month and a half!

The 2IC, hearing that the CO favoured

"Colonel" for a stallion and Adjutant" for a gelding became what can only be described as intensely irritated and had sent for OC Equitation before a discussion regarding a name for a mare got under way.

Battalion Headquarters went deathly quiet whilst the 2IC explained rather noisily, in words of very few syllables to OC Equitation, what would happen if the horse he obtained didn't have very large appendages indeed. It is understood that the CO made impromptu visits to sub-units during the few hours it took the 2IC to make his point clear!

Sadly, the horse has not been mentioned for several weeks and a few dare to ask what progress has been made regarding its procurement.

Perhaps the best steer can be taken from a modest advertisement in the Celle Bulletin.

**Wanted:** Table tennis net, bats and ping pong balls in good condition. Contact OC A Coy Ext 204



## News from the Poachers

### On top of the Eiger

"COME ON" it looked to be so easy from where we stood. Neither of us understood why Cpl Lerwill was taking so long on the next move: clearly he was unsure about something. I watched him keenly. The last piece of protection that he had been able to place did not look too reliable and in any case, he'd moved so far from it that I wondered if it would be of any use. Not that it mattered, my own stance, next to LCpl Gray, was so precarious that it made the whole thing academic. At more than 10,000 feet on the side of the Eiger it was hardly reassuring.

Cpl "Sherpa" Lerwill was still probing round with his ice axe and throwing snow down the slope as he dug around on the rock to try and find a hand hold. I shivered, half with the cold and half with fear. I don't know what LCpl Gray, standing a few feet away on the same ledge, was thinking but I was worried. Darkness was only about 45 minutes away, the slope was steep and still towered above us and it was snowing and very cold. Climbing this in the dark would certainly not be fun and yet there was nowhere obvious to bivvy.

It was pointless to share my fears with the others. They were either thinking the same thing or were in happy ignorance. Far below us the lights of Grindelwald looked warm and inviting and for the umpteenth time that day, I asked myself why I was here; I cursed my stupidity and vowed this would be the last time, then a mental picture of some of the previous sights and moments flashed through my mind. The good times always rise to the top - perhaps it was all worth it.

"Give me a couple of feet slack rope". The instruction returned me to reality and above my head Cpl Lerwill started to move again. It had been an anxious few moments but minutes later came the reassuring shout of I'm safe

I turned to LCpl Gray. Right, lets get on with it!" We climbed together and 30 metres higher I saw the problem. I paused, struggled and conceded that the delay had been acceptable.

"Good lead", I muttered as I reached the top of the pitch

Thirty minutes later three Poachers were safe on a small, uncomfortable ledge at 11,000 feet: our home for the night. It was snowing and the brew took forever but never was it more gratefully received.



From left: Cpl Lerwill, Maj Antolik and LCpl Higgins on top of the Eiger

Ex Eiger Diamond was a 16-strong, three-week exercise based in the village of Grindelwald under the north face of the Eiger. It was led by Maj Roger Antolik and had as its aim that summit, an aim that was achieved when on Thursday 23 Aug Maj Antolik, Sgt Howie (RAF), Cpl Lerwill and LCpl Higgins stood on the top. Not that they were the only successes of the trip, all Poachers who participated achieved their own personal goals

and everyone stood on the summit of a 12,000 foot peak. The summits reached included the Eiger, the Monch, the Jungfrau, collectively known as the Trinity, and the Weatherhorn. Some useful publicity for the Battalion was achieved by the inclusion in the team of a local radio reporter and interviews were played on Radio Leicester and Radio Lincoln.

Capt R W I Pattison

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## News from the Poachers

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# Novices take to the sea

"LET go aft! Take her forward on the bow warps." Pte Pitcher and Howells on the fore deck eased Sandpiper through the mooring posts of the British Kiel Yacht Club. The wind was steady Force 3 and backing north west.

"Stand by - foresail up!" Hand over hand, LCpl Dobson handled the halyard until, as the work got harder, he locked off and took three turns on the winch. Pte Thornton began to grind the winch handle and the sail was up.

"In on the starboard jibsheet". The sail filled and began to pull as Sandpiper cleared the end of the jetty; ropes lay in the cockpit and for a confused novice crew of Poachers the next problem was to make sense of the skipper as he gave instructions for the hoisting of the main sail.

"Stand by, coming head to wind ... let fly the jib ... main sail up! ... come on, faster ... lock off ... winch up ... slack on the topping lift - no the topping lift - that one, in on the kicking strap, now starboard jibsheet!" - Confused?

Fifteen minutes later with the warps neatly coiled and stowed and the halyards hung over

the winch heads, Sandpiper passed Fredreichoft light house and set a course to clear the Fjord mouth and then a passage to Copenhagen.

Regular readers of the Castle will recall the voyage of Golden Eye through the little Belt and Island of Fyn two years ago. This year with more experience and the benefit of one exercise behind us, the Sandpiper set sail for the Great Belt and the Island of Saejland and, of course, the sound and Copenhagen. Despite being storm-bound in her home port, Sandpiper and her crew made the 150 miles passage from Keil to Copenhagen in about 30 hours of good sailing. As we entered the yacht harbour of Lillehaven the mermaid could clearly be seen and was later photographed, complete with a Poachers flag.

In all, a dozen soldiers had an introduction into off-shore sailing and a chance to experience a week aboard a 33-foot cruising yacht. For the uninitiated, preparing a brew let alone a meal on a 30 degree angle is a frustrating and slow process. A trip on to the fore deck on a cold, wet and stormy night, in

rising winds, to shorten sail is an experience that leaves one in the short term very wet.

In all, Sandpiper spent 17 days at sea, covered just over 850 miles, and visited a dozen ports on the German and Danish Baltic coasts. We sailed in Swedish waters and watched East German searchlights sweep the sea on the inner German border. It was only with the greatest restraint that Pte Pitcher was prevented from repaying the Vikings for their "welcome" visits of the fourth and fifth centuries but he certainly turned heads in his horned helmet as we arrived under Red Ensign in some hapless fishing village.

The author of *Ex Eiger Diamond* and *Poachers all at Sea* wishes to reassure the Commanding Officer and other concerned parties that after this training he has now discovered the whereabouts of his Platoon office and can occasionally be found there. He has learned to lay a course from the Mess to the block, can come alongside and then climb in!

Capt R W T Pattison



The Poachers Officers' Mess cricket team



# Pompadours



## Hectic time for all

TO fully appreciate the flavour of the past six months in the 3rd Battalion one really needs to sit reading this short introduction, and the articles which follow, with a copy of the Regular Army Assistance Table in one hand and an atlas in the other.

As the only 19 Brigade Infantry Battalion resident in Colchester for much of the year, the Pompadours have spent much of their time 'helping out' on this and that. With 225 members of the Battalion serving in the South Atlantic the burden has fallen heavily on those who remained behind, ensuring that the summer remained busy for all.

Shortly after arriving in Colchester the Battalion embarked on a series of cadres, during which the Pompadours became the UKLF on call battalion - at 24 hours notice to move to any major contingency that might occur. Memories of the Lockerbie disaster loomed large in peoples' minds. A Coy were deployed to Salisbury Plain on an internal security operation and took the opportunity to carry out both live firing and dry training.

April saw the conclusion of the cadre period and the departure of the CO and company commanders for a recce in Germany. The Battalion was visited by 12 members of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regimental Association who made presentations to both the Officers' and the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Messes.

The Old Comrades appeared to greatly enjoy their day with the Pompadours and took the opportunity to update themselves on some of the equipment which has recently entered service. On the sporting front the Families Officer and Sergeant, together with LCpl Chipperfield, ran in the London Marathon - raising money for a hospice in Colchester and a hospital in Great Yarmouth. The Orienteering team competed in the UKLF championships and qualified for the Army Finals.

The Eastern District Skill-At-Arms Meeting dominated the first half of May. Over 250 members of the Battalion were involved in running the meeting: either manning the butts, acting as range staff or providing administrative support. The Pompadours team won the unit event to qualify



Cpl Dear points the way during A Coy's deployment on Salisbury Plain

for Bisley and the four company teams came 2nd, 4th and 5th and 6th in the sub-unit competition. LCpl Winkle (RouPELL Cup), Lt Latham (B Class Rifle) and Cpl Christian (B Class Gunner) all distinguished themselves by winning individual prizes.

C Coy Group and the Recce Platoon Group formed at the end of May in preparation for their work-up training prior to departing for the South Atlantic. All were put through their paces at Otterburn in June on ex Pompadour Splash, which consisted of both live firing and dry training.

The first four days were spent on the ranges, with the Support Platoons firing their respective weapons. The (1) FTX took place over the sparsely vegetated and hostile Cheviots training Area, to the north of the Otterburn range complex.

Over a period of five days C Coy and South Georgia Groups were tested on the full: individual fitness and resilience were stretched to the limit by a combination of testing endurance patrolling and harsh weather. Following a short period of leave, they deployed to the South Atlantic at the end of

June.

The entire Battalion were heavily involved in 19 Inf Bde's contribution to the celebration of the 800th anniversary of the grant of Colchester's Royal charter, held at Abbey Fields on 24 June.

The Pompadours provided a battle scene in the main arena and a series of stands encompassing 'A Day in the Life of a Pompadour'. The battle scene, which included elements of every arm and service in the Brigade, was co-ordinated by Maj Tim Page. (Loosely based around a bridge demolition, the display culminated in an attack which incorporated mortars and FH70, a Chieftain tank and a Lynx helicopter from which emerged four soldiers who abseiled 180 feet into the fray.

Away from the arena, spectators were invited to become a Pompadour for the day' and win a Certificate of 'Military Competence'. A series of stands, co-ordinated by Maj Simon Bacon, gave children (and their parents) the opportunity to sample a number of military

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# News from the Pompadours

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activities - ranging from firing sand-filled mortar rounds and the SA80 to changing the wheel on a Land Rover and performing drill.

More than 1,000 people took advantage of this unique opportunity and it is hoped that some will subsequently decide to become a Pompadour for rather longer than an afternoon.

July saw the handover from WO1 (RSM) Potter to WO1 (RSM) Beaumont, with the former returning from block leave in August as B Coy's 2IC. WO1 Eve from the Bermuda Regiment spent a month on attachment prior to returning to his own battalion as RSM. A second Bermudian, Officer Cadet Campbell, was attached to B Coy before departing to attend a commissioning course at Sandhurst.

During the summer the band played host to six members of the Bermuda Regiment Band. During their stay the bandmen integrated fully with the Pompadours and performed in public with the Band on four occasions.

A Coy deployed to the Falkland Islands in mid August. Having taken leave earlier than the remainder of the Battalion, the Company flew South to relieve C Coy Group of their operational duties - to enable them to take part in Ex Pompadour Onion.

During their short stay, A Coy soldiers took part in a wide range of activities including patrols, live firing, landing craft drills and joint training with RAF Police war dogs.

Many soldiers were given the opportunity to fill empty seats on the daily helicopter runs around the isolated bases and settlements. The most popular events proved to be the tours of the Tumbledown and Mount Longdon battlefields.

While more than 300 Pompadours



Four members of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regimental Assn during their visit to the Pompadours

sheltered from high winds in the Falklands, B Coy flew east to Cyprus. An account of Ex Lion Sun II appears elsewhere.

The CO entered into the spirit of things following his visit to Cyprus by flying out to Canada to receive next year's Battalion exercise at Fort Wainwright before joining C Coy in the Falklands.

Fortunately there were one or two Pompadours left back in Colchester, as a group of potential officers visited Roman barracks at the end of August. The Adjutant busied himself arranging for the Battalion to appear with the stars of the hit BBC TV series Blackadder.

At the end of September Capt Ladley led the Orderly Room clerks on a sponsored three

peaks shuttle, driving to and running up the peaks of Ben Nevis, Sca Fell and Snowdon in 48 hours. The event raised more than £500 for a local charity - with the team covering 1,290 miles in a minibus, and 25 miles on foot while climbing over 12,000 feet.

The Battalion has been involved in a host of other activities this summer, too numerous to mention. As this is being written the return of the Pompadours from the Falklands and South Georgia is imminent; their arrival in Colchester is keenly awaited by both families and friends alike. Next year the Battalion will train for the Divisional FTX in Germany. It will make a nice change!



Maj Gould wishing he'd brought his calculator



WO1 (RSM), now Capt, Potter hands over to WO1 (RSM) Beaumont

# News from the Pompadours



A Coy march out to prepare battle during 'A day in the life of a Pompadour'  
Left: The grand finale - a descent from 180 feet



WO1 (RSM) Eve. The Bermuda Regiment, presenting a crystal decanter to the WO and Sgts' Mess

## News from the Pompadours

### Blackadder comes to Colchester

MEMBERS of the Pompadours joined the stars of BBC Television's "Blackadder" on Sept 13 to film the opening credits for the new series, set in the trenches in France during the First World War.

The Pompadours' Band, dressed in their resplendent scarlet tunics, played a new adaptation of the Blackadder theme and 50 soldiers formed two platoons under the command of Rowan Atkinson and Hugh Laurie.

The day started with the Battalion parading on Roman Barracks square so that soldiers of the correct height and appearance could be identified. Having been issued with their khaki uniforms and rifles with fixed bayonets the "Young Contemptibles" departed for Cavalry Barracks, which had been chosen as the setting for the recreation of a 1914 parade ground. Meanwhile the Band, under the direction of WO1 Parkinson, wrestled with the score of the new Blackadder theme which had been delivered to them at 8.30 that morning. The recording which has been used at the start of each episode was made only 90 minutes later: an indication of the musicians' skill. The BBC are likely to issue a record in due course.

The majority of interest focussed on the stars of the series: Rowan Atkinson (Captain Edmund Blackadder) and Tony Robinson (Baldrick). The latter character, Blackadder's long suffering batman/cook in the new series, was dressed in a band uniform and equipped with a triangle. Stephen Fry, Hugh Laurie and Tim McInnerny were also present throughout the day - waiting patiently for their turn to record a short piece to be incorporated into the opening sequence. The actors posed for numerous photographs, chatted happily with journalists and soldiers and appeared to relish their short visit to Colchester.

The cast and principal members of the production team were invited to lunch in the Officers' Mess, an event which threatened to curtail the filming in the afternoon! The entire day was greatly enjoyed by the Pompadours, whether as participants or spectators, and the six episodes of Blackadder 4 were watched with keen interest.



Capt Edmund Blackadder on parade



Lt George - alias Hugh Laurie



'General' Stephen Fry



Baldrick tunes up!



## News from the Pompadours



'Eyes right' - spot the stars on parade

**Don't forget the  
Regimental Shop list  
on Page 96**

## News from the Pompadours

# Posted to South Georgia



Capt James Harris on South Georgia with a visiting ship in the background

By Maj Richard Clements

CONTRARY to popular belief South Georgia lies 800 miles SE of the Falkland Islands, not somewhere in the deep south of America. It is the most southerly of the Southern Ocean Islands surrounding the Antarctic continent.

The island is roughly crescent shaped, about 90 miles long. A mountainous spine, rising to 9,625 feet, runs down the centre. The coastline is deeply indented with fjords which have been carved by glaciers, more than 115 of which still exist.

The island was first claimed for Britain by Captain Cook, who described it as "this cruel and horrid place." Since its discovery the island has witnessed whaling, sealing and the establishment of a number of scientific bases. The 1982 Falklands conflict was sparked off by Argentine scrap dealers landing

illegally at the abandoned whaling station at Leith. Since then there has been a small garrison housed in the old British Antarctic Survey base at King Edward Point. That is why a small group of Pompadours found themselves on one of the world's most remote postings for 4 1/2 months this summer.

The first five weeks of the tour were taken up by an Antarctic Warfare Cadre, run by the attached Royal Marine instructor Sgt Wilson. The Cadre proved challenging, with new subjects such as snow and ice work, skiing and cold weather survival being practised alongside forgotten basic infantry skills.

Life was punctuated by the fortnightly visit of Fat Albert, the RAF Hercules C130 aircraft. These would fly over Cumberland Bay and despatch mail, which was plucked

from the water by eagerly waiting soldiers in boats. Every six weeks a resupply ship called at the island. These gave the Garrison their only opportunity to get mail out and to make the occasional satellite telephone call.

The principal reason for maintaining a garrison on South Georgia is to deter those seeking to establish a claim on the island. The Pompadours' deterrence force was based on the Recce Platoon, commanded by Capt James Harris.

After the initial training period patrols moved further afield. The terrain on South Georgia is harsh and virtually every trip entailed crossing glaciers, skiing and pulking. The patrols varied in size, from four men to the entire Platoon, according to their task.

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# News from the Pompadours



Pte Viddler takes cover during a live firing CQB exercise in Grytviken. The whaling ship 'Petrel', later raised by the Poachers, can be seen in the background



Maj Clements - the world's most southerly magistrate, deputy post master, harbour master, Customs officer and immigration officer.

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The weather varied tremendously and largely dictated what could be achieved. Being mid-winter in the South Atlantic, 80 mph winds and temperatures of  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$  were not unusual. Patrols went as far afield as possible, visiting the deserted whaling stations, checking safe houses, proving routes, culling reindeer and generally providing a presence. Map reading was entertaining as it was soon discovered that, with 500 foot contours on the 1:100,000 maps, it was difficult to anticipate the presence of 499 foot-high mountains.

The Garrison's secondary task was to provide a civil administration on behalf of the Governor of the Falkland Islands. The Garrison Commander, Maj Richard Clements, soon discovered that his duties included those of the world's most southerly magistrate, deputy postmaster, customs official and harbour master!

The soldiers' immediate neighbours consisted of a variety of wildlife: seals, whales, penguins and birds. As the spring arrived the

number of animals and birds increased and five ton bull elephant seals came ashore to mate. A visit to St Andrews Bay by Cpl Warren's patrol revealed thousands of King penguins and their offspring, in their brown downy coats.

The deserted whaling station of Grytviken was about 1km from the Garrison's base at King Edward Point. The whaling ship Petrel, weighing some 260 tons, lay sunk at her moorings in the harbour. Having persuaded the RE diving team to close the ship's sea-cocks, the Royal Anglian soldiers set about pumping her out. Four days and many cold hours later the Petrel was again afloat. The Pompadours, having claimed salvage rights, are now the proud owners of one of the last existing whaling ships.

The 4 1/2 months spent on South Georgia were unique. Leadership skills were tested to the full, infantry skills polished and refined, and each of the soldiers who formed part of the Garrison had a most tremendous experience which they will undoubtedly remember for the rest of their lives.



Pte Digby

## News from the Pompadours



The South Georgia Garrison



A patrol leads out into the frozen wastes

# News from the Pompadours



B Coy Group - Ex Lion Sun

## Package tour to Cyprus

B COY Group set off for Cyprus at the end of August leaving guards, duties and Regular Army Assistance Table tasks behind them. The first indication of what the following month had to offer was the breath taking heat that hit the soldiers as they stepped off the plane at RAF Akrotiri.

The Exercise was planned to exploit all the training facilities that can be found on the Mediterranean island, while not forgetting the opportunities that blue skies and blue seas have to offer!

During the first 21 days, each platoon group took it in turn with three seven day packages. The first consisted of military training over the harsh and rugged areas of the Western Sovereign Base Area, assisted by resident units such as the RAF's support helicopters and dog handling teams. The second package consisted of general training covering a host of items such as field firing, endurance and leadership training the latter in the beautiful cool mountains of Troodos.

Adventure training was the third activity, based on the watersports centre at Episkopi. This superb facility enabled the soldiers to windsurf, sail dinghies and canoe. Snorkelling became a firm favourite and some men had sub-aqua instruction. In addition, several members of the company were lucky enough to gain places on a free-fall parachute course at Pergamos. Each platoon group had a day off each week to sample the delights of the



5 Pl leave the beach during the final exercise

holiday island and that is all that needs to be said on that score

The CO and RSM paid the Company Group a visit during the second week. Both visitors participated fully in the activities which were taking place and their local knowledge from previous Cyprus tours was put to good use. Ex Lion Sun gave us the opportunity to visit and host Maj Charles and Ann Groves, who have retired to Ermi just outside Episkopi. Both were in good heart and send their best wishes to all their friends who know them in

the Regiment.

To round off the 'package tour' a short but varied Company Exercise was held in the Western Sovereign Base Area. It started with a beach landing, and a hard 48 hours followed; memories of R & R days faded fast as Boots Combat High covered many miles up and down the rugged hills of Cyprus. At the conclusion of the Exercise, all were agreed that Lion Sun (or "lie in the sun", as those who remained in the UK christened it) had been a great success.

## News from the Pompadours



Members of 4PI take a break from abseiling at Troodos



6PI. lean. mean. hungry for action .... and very hot!

## News from the Pompadours

### Walkabout victory is a record

THE Pompadours entered two teams in the 1989 Cyprus Walkabout, which took place at the beginning of October. The teams were led by WO2 (RQMS) Twell, a member of all the winning teams when 3 R Anglian last entered this gruelling competition. Between 1976 and 1978, the Pompadours won the Walkabout three times in a row: a feat never achieved by any other unit.

Arriving in Cyprus on 29 Aug the team members began their preparation with a gentle 10-mile run, two hours after landing at Akrotiri Airport! During the first two weeks training most team members suffered some sort of minor injury and one individual had to be replaced by a "volunteer" from B Coy, CSgt Cater. It should be added that CSgt Cater's training prior to the event was limited to instructing windsurfing and flying back to the UK to attend a court hearing in Northern Ireland. By mid-September the run from Episkopi to Froodos and back had become routine. With seven days to go, the strong team from 7 RHA were strongly tipped to win, with few of the interested spectators fancying the Pompadours' chances.

The first day of the competition began with breakfast at 0400 hours. Both teams suffered injuries in the first stage which had to be carried for the remainder of the event. At the end of the first day the B Team were in the lead, with a nine-minute advantage over their nearest rivals. The advantage was overturned early on the second day when 7 RHA raced through the first two checkpoints. Starting last, the Pompadours' A Team recovered time over the latter two stages to win by six-and-a-half minutes, in a time of 11 hours, 9 minutes and 25 seconds. The B Team finished in ninth place.

The 1989 Silver Boot, awarded to the Battalion for a record 4th time joins the trophy which was awarded to the Pompadours in 1978, following the three consecutive wins. The two teams, sponsored by members of the Battalion, raised more than £300 for local charities.



The winning Cyprus Walkabout team of LCpl Watson, RQMS and Cpl Ryan



Ptes Townsend and Chamberlain relaxing after qualifying for the RYA certificates



## News from the Pompadours

# Life in the Falklands



Cpl Redding, LCpl Gardiner, LCpl Cunliffe and Pte Homes occupy the remains of an Argentine sapper on Mt Tumbledown

**By Maj D J W Baylis  
OC C Coy**

"YOU don't get hills like these in Essex".

Always the master of understatement, Sgt "Wrinkly" Cussons coined the catchphrase of our tour in the very early phases. How right he was! The ground was rough and uncompromising with soft bogs in the valleys, wide rivers without bridges, tall mountains in the cloud and snow littered with impressive and serious stone runs. The weather was consistent only in its unpredictability. We had exposure cases and sunburn, trench foot and choking dust and always the wind. A wind that made conversation impossible, a BIT equivalent to running through a brick wall and caused constant, irritating dripping noses and chapped lips.

We went to the Falklands with a Company group of 190 men: full-strength rifle platoons and a Fire Support Platoon of Mortars and Milan with a Company Headquarters consisting of RAPC, ACC and REME personnel, MT and signals detachments, and clerks and storemen sufficient to administer these large numbers. We were known as the RIC (Resident Infantry Company).

We lived at the airport at Mount Pleasant (MPA), sharing the base with every Army

caphadze, (except Gunners!) the RAF and the RN, but unlike the vast majority of personnel we were instantly recognisable as a homogeneous, tight knit unit. The soldiers coped admirably with this glasshouse effect and everyone came to love the North London accent, the shady deals always on offer, the cut-you-off-at-the-knees humour and the straight answers to questions. The Station Commander, one of our great allies, wrote on a memo to his staff in reply to one of my requests, "Never buy a second-hand car from this Officer".

This was an operational tour. The threat perception at 400 miles from Argentina was totally different to the 8,000 when we were in the UK. The Rapiers always armed and manned; the Phantoms bombed up and their frequent scrambles to intercept inbound "Zombies" disturbing the early-morning stillness; operational ammunition carried by every RIC soldier 24 hours a day and the grey shapes of the RN frigates and coastal patrol vessels out at sea. The alert state of Military Vigilance (MV) was a constant reminder (at the time of writing) that the war has never been formally ended and Argentina is 45 minutes flying time away by fast jet.

Our contribution to the Theatre defences was low profile but significant and unique.

We provided a QRF ready at immediate notice to move anywhere in the islands to meet any threat or incursion. We patrolled all day and night the area around MFA, the fuel installations and pipelines, the coastlines around the Naval Harbour, the SAM footprints at the end of the runway and the approaches to the Rapiers sites. We also sent out settlement patrols covering distances of up to 120 kms in six days over the difficult terrain carrying 8-90 lbs. This led to expressions like "let's make like a camel and eat all the rations now" from Sgt "its really all muscle" Wilkins, to "for God's sake please squeeze this huge boil between my shoulder blades, it's heavy" from Pte Green. We visited the settlements where we were nearly always put up in homes or Portacabins, fed and watered. We also used the patrols for terrain familiarisation, vital because of its remoteness, and to reassure the settlers in their farms that the Army and HM Government still cares. We encountered all weathers, slept rough en route between the settlements, communicated by HF over 150 miles and all ranks learned to be resilient, self reliant and independent.

We trained constantly. Training objectives were limited only by the imagination

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# News from the Pompadours

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of the commanders at every level. With full strength platoons, plenty of ammunition and wide-open spaces the opportunities were endless. We nearly all trained on and fired the 50 Brownings that we had to man, we drove the tracked BV 206 (snowcat), usually on the surface, though Capt Roger Knight and F Sp PI tried it in the submarine role ..... and failed!

Every soldier was trained to IRRU standard on the radio including HF operating skills, we all trained to RFA standard in medical skills. The Drums Platoon had a weeks SF concentration and fired Match 83 in glorious weather conditions in the hills on the Onion Field Firing Range. The Mortar sections fired twice the annual allocation of bombs for a platoon in arduous and demanding surroundings and all the Milan section flew a missile. The two WRAC (RAEC) officers fell in love with our 14 Corporals who did EPC in one course under their tuition.

Sixty soldiers passed a difficult Grade 1 board on a wet and windy day on the slopes of Mount Pleasant. Finally there was the Onion Range. A small collection of Portacabins and ISO containers placed in a sea of mud alongside a fast-flowing stream in the middle 300 sq kms of live firing real estate. Platoons would deploy by helicopter and be left to train for seven days without any distractions. But who will ever forget the "bog monster" that caught LCpl John Peters when he fell in on his way to the loo one dark night, or the "eyebrow machine" used to heat up the water, a contraption rejected by Heath Robinson. And, of course, the generator, the only source of heat and light and about as reliable as an RAF Chinook.

We ran two unique exercises, that put us all to the test professionally, physically and morally. Ex Pompadour Onion was conceived and written by us with the tri-service availability of assets such as RN Frigates, patrol vessels, and RFA's as well as RAF Phantoms, Hercules and Chinooks. We sailed to San Carlos and undertook a dawn amphibious landing on the same beaches as the 1982 Task Force and then drove back the enemy (a troop of RE's on loan for the exercise) for 30 miles down the San Carlos valley to the edge of the Onion range. We then switched to live ammunition and went through a series of platoon attacks across rivers and up steep slopes crowned with barbed wire and stimulated by an enthusiastic "bangs" team from the RE's, culminating in a dawn live-firing Company area ambush on an "enemy" encampment. The strike of the Milan missile was the signature for a four-platoon fire power



Cpl Redding and his section find Argentine equipment on Mt Tumbledown

display of 50 Brownings, SF, small arms and 120 81mm mortar bombs to obliterate the target area.

Who will forget the weather!

Not Pte "Limpalong" Cooley with frost bite and the four sailors with us on the exercise, one of whom was medivaced back to UK with temporary paralysis from the waist down caused by the cold. All thanks to Capt Tony "lets have another river crossing" Miles for a memorable experience! The other exercise was Ex Sea Trout which was a joint exercise with a battery from 7 RHA who flew down to free their 105mm field guns and with whom we did a series of platoon and company live firing attacks with mortar and artillery close support.

However, it was not all work by any means. Nearly 100 soldiers were able to get away for a week's R&R in West Falklands at the Shag Cove Adventure Training Hut: they will not forget the canoeing, abseiling, archery, sailing and windsurfing they did there, not to mention the four course evening meals by candlelight with wine or the evening games such as "horse racing" or "spin the wheel."

We all managed to sail on RN ships at one time or another. Up to 40 soldiers spent a week on board at sea. Lt Howard Newson and seven soldiers sailed back to the UK on HMS Broadsword via a week in Barbados. F Sp platoon volunteered to paint HMS Leeds Castle in return for a BBO and some beers on board

and a great time was had by all. Sgt "Cultural Attache" Devereaux was only just restrained from taking down green and black paint instead of battleship grey! All the officers had outstanding Mess Kit dinner nights on board.

Many of the soldiers went out to Stanley and the settlements on community tasking, helping out the residents in return for board and lodge and a chance to relax in a family environment. They repaired roofs, painted buildings, worked in the Stanley museum and culled excess cattle for the farmers.

We won the MPA cross country relay championships and 7 Pl were runners up in the five-a-side football competition. All this, together with the monthly BFT's and CFT's and the 60 mile sponsored march, raising £2,000 for charity.

Many events and achievements have been left out of the article due to space restrictions. The section competition, the visit of the BBC film crew, airdrops with C130 Hercules, patrols in 1 CVP's, Sea Riders and CSB's. Four months is a long time and perhaps the reader gets the impression that we lived it to the full. We did. But we could not have done it without the support, patience, good humour and forbearance of our wives, families and girlfriends back at home. Therefore, a public and unreserved thank you must go to them for protecting us from the domestic tribulations that occur when one partner is 8,000 miles away. For them it was never easy. Thank you all.

## News from the Pompadours



Left to right, LCpl Peters, Pte Bone, Cpl Redding and Pte Hiscock are given a sea trout by shepherd Mr Ben Minnell

## Mons Drum

THE Mons Drum was carried into the Battle of Mons by Drummer Smith of the 1st Battalion, The Bedfordshire Regiment. During the great retreat, realising that the drum would otherwise be lost, he left it in the safe-keeping of a Belgium farmer. The drum was so disguised as a hatbox by the farmer's wife, Madame Chanoine, and survived the war intact. It was recovered in January 1919 by Brig Gen H C Jackson who presented Madame Chanoine with a replica. The drum was then trooped with the Colours at the site of the 16th Foot's first battle honour, Namur. Since that day the Mons Drum usually accompanies the Colours on parade, carried, where possible by the youngest member of the Corps of Drums.



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## News from the Pompadours

# Adventure training

THE summer of 1989 saw the Pompadours engaged in a number of adventure training expeditions in Europe, with more to come in November. Meanwhile, in the South Atlantic the RIC took every advantage of the climbing and canoeing facilities set up at Shag Cove on West Falkland, and the South Georgia Garrison ... well, that had four solid months of adventure training. Their stories are related elsewhere, but a brief account of main events from the UK follows.

In mid-June the 21C, Maj Bill Mooring, took a small group from A, B and HW Coys to the Solent for a week's offshore sailing on board one of the Infantry's two 34ft Sadlers.

The weather was perfect, with useful winds varying between force 3 and 5; in the skipper's opinion too calm for the real sort of "adventure" that makes the ticker race! Nevertheless, the crew (21 Lt Stoddart, LCpls Purtell and Douglas, and Pte Austin) were all bitten by the bug and hope for more next season.

The short cruise headed for Poole, spending the first night at Yarmouth on the Isle of Wight and arriving at their destination the next day after a visit to Studland Bay, where the crew took the plunge and went for a swim. On the way back to the Solent, the yacht visited the Shamrock Quay at the head of Southampton Water before returning to Whale Island. There had been sail changing and the Pompadours had taken easily to this new mode of transport, quickly picking up the handling techniques of warps, halyards and sheets, besides the pleasure of participating in this apparently glamorous sport.

Following this trip and with barely a nod to the CO in passing, the 21C set off with another novice, Capt Andrew Wadman, to form part of a crew in the Tall Ships "feeder" race from Terschelling in northern Holland to London.

Setting out from Portsmouth the crew enjoyed perfect downward sailing conditions to reach Holland via Boulogne. After a short diversion into an "Island Zee" to visit the old fishing town of Zierikzee, they continued north up the Dutch coast via Scheveningen and Den Helder before arriving at the island of Terschelling where a large fleet of sailing vessels was assembling, crewed by young people of all nations.

Kukri found herself berthed amid yachts from the Warsaw Pact, the largest of which was the 160ft three masted Bulgarian barque,



**Bold Fusilier sails from the Isle of Wight to Swanage with, left to right, LCpl Douglas, 21 Lt Stoddart and Pte Austin**

Kaliakra. A number of sponsored events were laid on by the organisers, the Sail Training Association Netherlands, before the Lutine Race began.

Meanwhile, the weather had deteriorated so that the start was held in strong winds gusting to Force 9, steep seas, driving rain and poor visibility. Most crews had a poor time of it and Kukri's was no exception. However, the wind and sea moderated a few hours into the race and Kukri, being in the fastest class which started last was first to set a spinnaker; this edge soon saw her cutting her way through the fleet and as dusk fell at the end of the first day, she was in the leading group.

Rounding the Smith's Knoll automatic light off Norfolk in the early hours of the morning, still carrying her spinnaker, Kukri crossed the finish line off the Shipwash Light a few hours later. She made her way up the Thames to Tower Bridge where some of the larger vessels, which had been unable to get into Terschelling, had already assembled.

When complete the vast fleet of sail was an impressive sight, the like of which had not been seen in the Thames for many years. Although apparently the first racing vessel to arrive, Kukri's corrected position was 3rd in

her class, a pleasing result for all aboard and one that topped out a memorable two weeks.

At the end of June, Lt Nick Green led a 10 man expedition from B Coy trekking in the Pyrenean Mountains of Andorra and France. They aimed to traverse the border ridge, climbing three of Andorra's highest peaks in the process. Conditions were the more arduous caused by the extremely hot weather.

Day one was spent climbing into the mountains from the small French hamlet of Bouychet. The views became increasingly spectacular as the altitude increased but at the same time the paths were more hazardous.

They camped that night beside Lake Gnioure and next morning found themselves enveloped in low cloud, with visibility down to a few hundred metres. Nevertheless, the ascent of Pic du Port, the first of three peaks, was achieved that day.

Pic de Tristagne was conquered in glorious sunshine on the third day. The views into France were breathtaking, causing as much excitement as the descent ... in one place the path had given way and the climbers were forced to stop across a gap with a 80ft drop beneath.

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The expedition reached the base of El Pic de Coma Pedrosa, the highest of their targets, late that evening. They gained the summit next day by climbing up a scree slope and through a snowfield, unusual given the intense heat they were also experiencing. The view from the top of Andorra and into Spain was quite outstanding.

After descending to rendezvous with their minibus, the party spent a day on the coast before the drive back to England. For a number of the soldiers it had been their first opportunity to travel abroad since joining the Army and the experience proved one to be remembered for a long time to come.

In early July, 24 soldiers from a Coy under the command of 2Lt Guy Bartlett spent a week on another expedition, this time to Snowdonia. Based at Capel Curig Camp near Betws-y-Coed, each man took part in two two-day treks, spent a couple of days rock climbing and one in canoes.

Basic climbing techniques were covered on crags near Betws-y-Coed before attempting a 1,000 ft Alpine climb, including the famous Buttress Amphitheatre, on the second day. Despite protestations, every soldier completed this and lived to tell the tale. After a couple of spectacular abseils, the

climbers ended their exhilarating day by swimming in the Rivera Conwy, attracting quite a crowd by jumping from a bridge into the water 60 ft below.

The first of the two hill walking expeditions was up Snowdon using the Y Lliwedd approach from the east rather than the easier tourist routes. After reaching the summit the groups returned via Crib Goch, a 3ft wide path with a 3,000 ft drop on either side. One soldier got the fright of his life when a passing walker slipped and grabbed his bergen, a mistake which could easily have ended in tragedy for both of them.

Spending the night at Pen-y-Pass, the groups then walked to a mountain lake which provided the opportunity for a cold but invigorating swim.

The second expedition was to Tryfan via the Glyder Pass and the Devil's Kitchen. The walk provided some spectacular views, a just reward for some difficult climbing, the more so for one soldier who insisted on doing so one-handed in order that he could listen to "The Sound of Music" on his Walkman!

Canoeing, beach sports and a barbecue on Llandudno beach combined to make good use of the last of the fine weather. It rained hard the following day, making rock climbing difficult much to the disappointment of the Company Commander Maj Tim Page, who

had chosen that day to join the climbers. The unusual Welsh weather then returned to the expected norm, resulting in the final two days being severely curtailed due to a heavy fog which descended into the mountains.

During the summer block leave in late July, seven Pompadours under command of Lt Adrian Williams spent two weeks in the Cairngorms, based on Rothiemurchus Lodge, just three miles from the River Spey and Aviemore, a perfect location for adventure training in both summer and winter. The area offers opportunities for water sports, mountaineering and skiing.

The initial period was mainly devoted to canoeing. Two days were spent on Loch Morlich learning the basics: fortunately the water proved warmer than expected, since most of the group spent more time in it than in their canoes.

Having mastered the eskimo roll the soldiers went on a short expedition down the Spey. The very dry summer had severely reduced the white water but despite this everyone managed to get thoroughly wet in the rapids that were found.

The group then went sea canoeing at Lossiemouth where tide, wind and a 6-7 foot swell provided exciting challenges. The end of the first week was devoted to windsurfing, ice-skating and mountain biking.

Climbing and abseiling occupied the soldiers at the start of the second week. After completing their early work on the lower crags at Kingussie the group progressed to some more spectacular ascents on Cairngorm itself.

Having successfully mastered the basics in the separate skills, the party were able to devote the last days of the trip to a mixture of climbing and surf-canoeing, in which all attained the Army Canoe Union Proficiency Test.

All were agreed that they had been extremely fortunate to have enjoyed the beauty of this magnificent part of Scotland in such superb weather, while at the same time testing themselves in a wide variety of challenging pursuits.

In November the Battalion sent 40 men back to Scotland in two parties over a two week period under the command of 2Lt Guy Bartlett for further adventure training. Based at Tom Maclean's Centre at Ardingth they will be climbing, hill walking, canoeing and windsurfing.

It will be an arduous experience but it will bring to a close the diverse adventure training by Pompadours this year, leaving them looking forward to more in 1991.



Tall ships on the Thames, with Kukri being dwarfed by the massive Kruzenshtern

## News from the Pompadours



Treading carefully in the Pyrenees



Pte Bird abseiling at Kingussie



Snowdonia - 2Lt Bartlett and his group pause for a rest at the top

# Summer training camp

IN August 1939 the 2nd Bn The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment in 9 Inf Bde of Maj Gen B L Montgomery's 3rd Div, were in summer training camp at Oxford near Marlborough. On 29 Aug we were moved back to barracks at Portland, mobilization was ordered and should have taken seven days but everything went so smoothly that it was achieved in five. The battalion was brought up to "war establishment" in personnel and equipment and on the eighth day it was located in our concentration area some 20 miles away in central Dorset.

It was a hectic few days. On the personnel side our CO Lt Col PH Hansen, VC DSO MC, left to take up a staff appointment and Maj T G Newbury MC took our command. Several regular and supplementary reserve officers rejoined us and a chaplain and MO arrived. Some 80 Poachers, all of whom had done seven years service in the regiment, were recalled from reserve and there were many reunions. It was quite a task for some of our young regular NCOs to command these old reservists.

There was no national service as we were

subsequently to know it, but a form of short militia service had been started at the time of the Munich crisis and we have some of these men. The Drums became stretcher bearers and the majority of the Band went to Lincoln.

Our uniform was still plus fours and puttees, as it was in 1914-1918. However, we had tried a form of denims with short gaiters which subsequently, with a change of material, became the battle dress the army used after early 1940.

As to weapons - we were already in process of changing from Lewis to Bren LMG and the 2" mortar had just arrived.

Transport was very basic: one 15 cwt lorry to each company and a few 30 cwt which, as previously earmarked local civilian vehicles, were requisitioned to form A echelon. All had to be camouflage painted, including a Leyland laundry van. The Norton and Matchless motorcycles remained but we said goodbye to the Austin Seven cars. B echelon lorries and our tracked Bren gun carriers did not come until after we arrived in France.

Half way through mobilization, on 3 Sept at 11 o'clock, several of us went to the mess to

hear the Prime Minister speak to the nation on the radio and heard that we were now at war. There was a moment's silence, no emotion was shown, one or two ordered a gin and we all went about our work.

Soon after arriving in our concentration area we had a Sunday church service, at Maiden Newton parish church, taken by our newly arrived chaplain Capt E L Seager RA CL D. When it came to the sermon many Poachers felt this was the time for a ten minute doze but were put off this by the opening sentence of a short talk in which Capt Seager said: "I am your padre and I want you to think of me in the light of the well known words of the film star. Come up and see me sometime - I'm no angel."

Training got into top gear and everyone was made aware of security. The pubs were numerous, very close to our billets and rumours flew around. In mid September, a few days before we left for France, as part of the BEF, the Battalion was inspected by the King at Maiden Newton.

AGR

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# Return to Pudu Prison

By Maj J D Bunkall, TD

THOSE of us who had the misfortune to be incarcerated in Pudu Prison may be interested to learn that early in March this year I was able to visit and be shown round the Jail.

The Malaysian Prison authorities are very alert to the possibility of hostage taking and it is extremely difficult to obtain permission for a visit.

The authorities, understandably, have another valid reason for not allowing outside visits - namely that at Pudu executions take place frequently.

Today, Malaysia is experiencing a widespread drug problem and possession of even a small quantity of drugs carries a mandatory death sentence.

My wife and I were staying in Kuala Lumpur for a few days and visited the prison on 8 Mar.

The prison, which was built by the British as a native jail in 1895, appeared

to have altered very little since my enforced stay there in 1942. We handed in our passports and camera at the Guard Room and were escorted to the Governor's Office.

The Governor was most helpful in every respect but insisted that we should be accompanied by a body guard consisting of six specially trained policemen.

During the three-hour tour I was able to identify the old circular ablution in the exercise yard and our old cook house, now a workshop.

Practically all the cells on both storeys have remained unaltered, including Padre Duckworth's little chapel cell where he dispensed what small "comforts" he could lay his hands on.

The outer wall, which the escape party scaled in March 1942, evoked sad memories for me. It may be remembered that a party of six officers, led by Bill Harvey, a Malayan rubber planter, broke out in an effort to contact Col Spencer

Chapman, who miraculously remained at large in Malaya throughout the entire war. Tragically, the party were betrayed to the Japanese and were all subsequently executed without trial.

My wife was forbidden to accompany us on our tour of inspection, and I must admit to a feeling of relief when we finally left the workshops and the close proximity of hammer-wielding prisoners. It made one aware of the hostage problem and the possibility of a sudden, armed attack. The Governor asked us to walk quickly through the Condemned Cell Corridor, as four convicted drug smugglers were to be hanged next morning!

After 47 years it may appear somewhat macabre to wish to visit such an institution but I am grateful to have had this opportunity, as it served as a reminder of the enduring courage and comradeship of the many East Anglians who spent the early months of their captivity in Kuala Lumpur.



## Feature Focus

# On a wing and prayer

By Maj G F Tomlin

ON Sun 11 Jul 53 hang-glider pilots gathered at Cwrt-y-Gollen Camp in South Wales for the 9th Joint Services Hang Gliding Championships - including me.

The championships were to take place over a period of five days with the pilots split into three groups dependant upon experience. I was in the intermediate group, the other two being novice and open. The pilots were a very varied lot and all ranks ranging from Air Marshall (flying but not competing), Sergeant (RM) to private soldier.

The type of tasks set in such a competition vary with the weather conditions of the day and the experience of the group. Advanced pilots will carry out circuits on set routes and straight cross-country routes and flying for distance, while the novices concentrate on top to bottom flights. My class was somewhere between the two concentrating on ridge races and accuracy of landings back on top.

The choice of flying sites depends upon the wind direction and this year we were lucky as flying took place every day, mainly in glorious sunshine. Many sites in the UK have good roads right to the top. Others don't and then you have to carry your glider. As a glider weighs approximately 700lbs and is about 15 feet long, it is not the best shape and size to carry up a steep slope.

The first day saw us carrying to the top of Hay Bluff. A superb flying site with take off about 600 ft above the valley floor. We flew two ridge racing tasks both of which were rather uneventful for me. They saw me into 3rd or 4th position with Sgt (RM) leading.

The next day saw another carry to the top of Hay Bluff in very hot and still conditions. Similar tasks to day one were set but in these conditions the skill is to judge when to take off and to gain sufficient height to land back where you started from.

Task One: I failed! However, I did do a reasonably accurate and soft bottom landing but in a gorse bush. I decided that a soft landing in a gorse bush is a contradiction in terms. The penalty for a bottom landing apart from a lack of score is that you have to carry your glider back up again (not too chuffed with this Sgt (RM) smirks).

Task Two: Much better and I had time to fly around the sky, free flying for half an hour.



Preparing for take-off

The end of day two saw me into about 5th position with Sgt (RM) still in the lead.

On the third day it was off to the sea cliffs at Rhossili but even here we found the wind direction was not good. Difficult conditions in which to fly along the ridge.

Task One: The task set was to fly along the ridge. The further you went (and returned) the more points and as many times as you liked. I decided that today was the day. If I was to win the competition this was the day to do it on!

I took off going for gold. I passed the 50 point marker - it was easy, I passed the 100 point marker and it was so easy I decided to go for the last 200 point marker.

The trouble with this was that it was much further than I estimated and the ridge curved in. As I headed for the marker I was gradually losing height but fighting for any lift I could find .....

I sat on the beach at the bottom in a furious temper and kicking myself for being so stupid. No points and I could have won instead of Sgt (RM).

Task Two: With several other pilots joining me on the beach task two did not take place.

The worst conditions encountered during the competition came on day four and saw us at the top of Merthyr Common waiting for the wind to steady and reduce in strength slightly.

Task One: Finally the one and only task. To fly for 20 minutes and to spot land either on top for maximum points or spot land at the bottom for slightly less.

I took off and flew well 600 ft above take off and landing back on top but just missing the spot landing. Sgt (RM) tried to top land several times - he's failing - he's going down

- he's bottom landing! - smack on the spot, smack on 20 minutes (!!!!)

The last day of the competition. For some reason placings in the competition were becoming less important. However, back on Merthyr with no wind and very hot. To the hang-glider pilot this means running at Mach 1 to take off and if you don't catch a thermal you glide gracefully to the bottom.

Task One: I glided peacefully to the bottom.

Task Two: Off I went at Mach 1 and started to go down and down and down. Half way down to the landing site I turned to run parallel with the ridge and over a small quarry. All of a sudden a rush of warm air hit me almost standing me on my tail. I pulled in, turned, put a wing down on the hot air and circling went up and up.

My first thermal! I flew round and round 800 feet above take off 1,300 feet above the valley floor. It can only be described as fantastic. Sgt (RM) did the same.

At the end of the day and the competition I came 6th having spent a marvellous week flying in South Wales and very pleased with myself.

The competition as a whole was won by Flt Lt Mick Appleby.

Hang gliding is one of the newer sports to be introduced to the services. It is challenging, exciting and adventurous.

Is hang gliding dangerous? In the 265 man flying days of the competition we had one minor injury.

If you wish to start hang gliding contact the Joint Services Hang Gliding Centre at Crickhowell Mill (7353) Ext 245.

I nearly forgot. Sgt (RM) came first in my class.

# Regimental Gathering

## March past in great style

THE weather for the second Regimental Association Gathering at Bassingbourn on Sunday 16 Jul produced another lovely day in an extraordinary summer of good weather. This combined with a gathering of somewhere between 1,200 and 1,400 Association members and their families determined to enjoy themselves, made a memorable day. The Rev Tom Hiney MC, began the day with a Drumhead Service with well-known hymns sung to music from the band of the Pompadours. The Colonel of the Regiment read the lesson and Maj Gen Sir David Thorne, as President of the Regimental Association, read the exhortation. It was a moving service, much appreciated by all.

The service over, the Colonel of the Regiment gave a short address before members of the Regimental Association formed up for the march past.

WO1 Powley, the RSM of the 6th Battalion had the unenviable job of organising into some semblance of military order, two serving Generals, one retired General, one serving Brigadier and two retired Brigadiers, as well as a considerable number of Colonels, senior NCOs and other lesser mortals. The march past went in good style with all proud to hear again their own regimental marches as they gave "eyes right" to the Colonel of the Regiment.

Lunch followed in blazing sunshine and the NAAFI beer tent did a roaring trade. The afternoon was given over to visiting the various stalls and side-shows run by the Depot The Queens Division while the Volunteer band played incidental music. The Old Comrades shooting competition (16 teams tried their hand) was won by the Bedford A team who narrowly beat (to their relief) the wives and daughters of the Poachers! The day ended with a band display by the band of the Pompadours, accompanied by the drums of the Volunteer band. It was much to their credit that the display was as good as it was for the band and the drums had had only that morning to rehearse.

The day was memorable and the Regiment is grateful to the Commanding Officer of the Depot The Queens Division and all staff who contributed to its success. For next year's diary, please note that the 1990 Regimental Association Gathering at Bassingbourn will be on Sunday, 15 Jul.



The pictures on this and the following two pages are the result of our snap-happy cameraman's travels around the Gathering. Invent your own captions!



## Regimental Gathering



## Regimental Gathering



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Shop  
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# Steelbacks



## Action in the field

THIS has been a good year for the Steelbacks. The high point was Exercise Polar Bear which ran from 23 Sep - 7 Oct. It was a challenging two weeks for the Battalion and is covered in greater detail elsewhere in these notes.

In June, the Battalion's ARU formal visit took place. The Commander 49 Inf Bde visited the Battalion on Salisbury Plain in the midst of the summer's heatwave which provided ideal conditions to see the Steelbacks in the field.

The Battalion deployed from their TA Centres in the early hours of 10 June. By 0700 almost 300 troops were in their harbour areas. That weekend's exercise Ex Steel Spring went extremely well and gave the soldiers a foretaste of what to expect on Polar Bear.

In July the Bisley team produced a consistent performance and achieved the same position as last year - 13th. Though slightly disappointing, it was good to beat our colleagues in 6 and 7 R Anglian.

On 21 July the Battalion hosted a visit to Peterborough by Gen Sir Charles Huxtable. After his arrival at Peterborough TA Centre by Lynx helicopter (which duly impressed the locals in very dusty conditions!) Gen Huxtable moved to Ferry Meadows to watch the assault pioneers carry out a tactical river crossing. He then visited the Mortar Pl who impressed everyone with a totally unrehearsed quick action deployment firing sandfilled rounds.

Having congratulated the troops on their performance, Gen Huxtable returned to the TA Centre for an excellent supper with the officers and SNCO's of the battalion. The efforts of so many TA soldiers at a slightly difficult time of the week certainly paid dividends with the visit being regarded as most successful.

At the end of July both the Officers and Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess held their respective summer balls. The Officers had a fine evening at Fanhams Hall whilst the Warrant Officers and Sergeants used Peterborough TA Centre as their venue. At both functions the Band and Corps of Drums performed admirably.

While the regular staff had a spell of block leave, 3 Coy took part in Ex Pompadour



2Lt Facer briefs Gen Huxtable

Marine Kingfisher. This is covered elsewhere but both exercises went extremely well and proved to be thoroughly enjoyable (especially by the CO whose use of HMS Pursuer as a water skiing motor boat certainly caught on!)

Also over August the band travelled to HMS Nelson at Portsmouth for their annual camp. Both music and marching improved significantly.

Polar Bear occupied September and October in terms of preparation, participation and post exercise administration. The latter months of the year were geared towards LAW 94 conversion recruiting and build-up training for Keystone 1990.

As part of the build up for exercise Keystone the Battalion held a Study Day at

Peterborough on 21 Oct. Over 50 officers, Warrant Officers and SNCO's listened intently to Col Vladimir Onischenkov (Maj Charles Watts) as he put forward the party line. In addition we were extremely fortunate to host Oberstleutnant Von Barfus from the VKK who outlined tasks which his unit would be responsible for. The day ended with a buffet supper in the Officers' Mess.

During this period the Battalion said farewell to CSgt Upsall (Poachers), CSgt Newman (Pompadours), Sgt Cook (Poachers) and LCpl Cartwright (Pompadours). In their stead the Battalion welcomes CSgt Knifton, CSgt Clarke, Sgt Collins and Cpl Hayward. To all, the Steelbacks hope that they will have a happy and successful tour.

# News from the Steelbacks

## Ambitious fast-moving exercise

Having just come back from Salisbury Plain, I feel that now is the time to put pen to paper and to recall what has been possibly the most ambitious and fast moving TA exercise I have ever been on.

As a Battalion our involvement really started last year at the end of Otterburn, when the Brigade Commander made it clear that we would be running some sort of live firing exercise for the Brigade on Salisbury Plain. In real terms, the practical work started a week before the Battalion arrived, when a small team of PSI's under the Training Major, David Winn, (another Fusilier!!) started to set up the ranges for the Brigade liveex.

The main problem was trying to actually get on the Plain to set out targets as it was almost in continual use. We luckily had the loan of some engineer plant to assist in digging trenches in the chalk, without whose help we would still be digging.

The more intricate problems of the scale of such an exercise were discussed into the early hours of the morning, assisted by Famous Grouse. Surprisingly we were able to remember all the points raised the following morning and it proved a most useful (though tiring) method of solving problems.

The Battalion arrived on 23 Sep and moved into Dunehill Plantation, where they remained for the first three days, conducting build-up training on Bulford Ranges. This phase simulated what we would have been doing in BAOR, not actually deployed for war but ready to move if required.

The Battalion shook itself out and carried out a 36-hour exercise designed to fit its own battle procedures down to platoon level. Wednesday night saw the battalion's first night in camp. Celebrations were restricted as the tickle test was run the following morning, when the Battalion wore 'en masse' for the first time our new issue blue Steelback sweatshirts. The result was a 96% pass rate, which considering the usual run of camp injuries, was an impressive effort.

Friday was platoon live firing and grenade posting which provided the safety staff with some interesting moments. It was also a day when Brig Stevenson from TAVRA East Midlands, Col Lowther and Col Willard, both Deputy Honorary Colonels came to visit and were clearly impressed with what they saw.



CO briefs OC2 - OC HW HQ Coy is far too tired to listen

But we wonder if anybody else has come across grenade rings that detach themselves from the pins with such ease!

Saturday saw the Battalion going through a live firing exercise the like of which Salisbury Plain has rarely seen. In essence two companies occupied a defence position and had tanks in intimate support.

The exercise started with Scimitar from 1 RRW simulating the recce screen withdrawing and engaging targets forward with 30mm and coax 7.62 mm. Chieftain on the positions also engaged targets with 120 practice rounds which provided the soldiers with an impressive firepower demonstration. Infantry targets were then pulled up and engaged from the fire trenches. The two reserve companies then moved forward and carried out an in-depth advance to contact and re-organised in pre prepared positions, where the same defence serials were played.

Finally the first two companies moved through and went into a series of platoon size attacks. All in all, a very ambitious but enjoyable package.

The Brigade FTX followed and was every bit as fast moving and exciting as had been promised. The whole exercise was peppered with visitors including the Commander in Chief UKLF, GOC Eastern District and Tom King MP. Both Commander in Chief UKLF and GOC Eastern District arrived simultaneously on the Battalion position, the former being two hours early. The Battalion had just been attacked by a large armoured force, a para drop had come in at Fox Coovert a mere 300



WO2 Wilcox

metres away, and we were at State Black.

To say BHQ was flustered is being kind. Amidst all of the nightmare, the Adjutant produced for the Co his clean pair of socks which the CO had requested earlier just to keep everything in perspective! It was then that both Generals arrived. We somehow coped very well.

The final Brigade attack was accompanied by tanks and helicopters in the ground attack role, which was both exciting to watch and gave most of the soldiers their first experience of the all arms battle.

Ex Polar Bear was a most enjoyable if tiring exercise. The aim was to exercise battle procedure at all levels and to see how ready the TA had become within a short period of build up training. These aims were achieved and as far as the Steelbacks are concerned we knew we were ready.

## News from the Steelbacks

# Success at Foulness

By Lt M A Baker

IN the week leading up to 5 Aug Foulness Island was seized by a foreign power. Yes you guessed it – by the Fantasians. In order to warn the Island of any intended seaborne invasion they established an observation post on the east coast. 3 (Essex) Coy was tasked to destroy it. Fifteen men from the Company were hand picked to form X Group.

Maj Charles Thomas had arranged transport with the R.N.R. from HMS Essex a Joint Services venture while they had the training vessel HMS Pursuer. So X Group had the means to effect an audacious beach landing on Foulness.

After a recon of the area a daring plan evolved – we were to set sail from Harwich on Saturday morning, storm the beach, cross the island, lay the charges and return for a pick up by the Navy.

A Friday night start was necessary so we duly arrived at Colchester TAC where the equipment was drawn and we settled down for the night. We rose early, ate a hearty breakfast and thence onto Harwich where we started the first leg of our journey.

HMS Pursuer was tied up (or is it moored) alongside Trinity House pier. We waited while she took on fuel studying her rakish lines – she is modelled on the Arran Class lifeboat, very fast and manoeuvrable – 40 knots maximum but in peacetime 20 knots. At last we were able to board and a gangplank was found so to cries of "avast there" and other nautical expressions we boarded.

The conditions were a bit cramped – bearing in mind she has a crew of 12, an extra 17 "pongoes" made a difference. Our kit, weapons and boots were placed in the wardroom – approximately 9ft square. After a safety brief we set sail.

The trip to Foulness was very interesting as we navigated our way along the Essex coast. The Captain, Lt Cmdr Kit Orde let us all take control of the wheel. Pte Jones of 7 Pl showed us that it was possible to turn 360 degrees on what seemed like a sixpence – luckily we had all taken the anti-sea sickness tablets!

After about two hours we were nearing the drop off point and we scrambled to reclaim our kit. The cross-loading onto our assault vessels took place in a Gemini and an assault boat. The landing was on!

The vision of John Wayne in "The Sands of Iwo Jima" was rapidly altered to "The mud



Preparing for landing

of Foulness Island". It is none too easy racing up a beach with mud up to one's knees. Our combat photographer, in the guise of Lt Col Nick Kelsey, was on hand to film the exercise.

The landing was a success with no enemy opposition so we started our trek across to the other side of the island. The sun beat down mercilessly as we moved avoiding enemy forces and hostile cows. Eventually the objective was in sight and a final RV was established.

The fire support group was despatched along the dyke while the assault group moved into position. I gave the order and the covering fire commenced. We advanced and Sgt Cullen and LCpl Denyer went forward to place the charges, they retired to a safe distance before detonation.

With the OP destroyed we retired under a flurry of smoke grenades and thunderflashes to cover our withdrawal. We raced back to the final RV and waited for the fire support group to return. A quick head count followed and we set off for the pick up point.

The sun seemed even hotter on the return journey, as time was running out we managed to avoid the field with the hostile cows (they did have big horns and looked very fierce!) We made it to the jetty one minute late and there was no sign of the boat – surely they would not have left us?

Needless to say the Navy were late but only by a few minutes. For the footsore members of X Group it was a welcoming sight to see the ship steaming towards us. The embarkation took a little longer as we used only the Gemini, but at last we were safely aboard.

On the journey back the matelots showed their hospitality by making endless cups of tea and allowing us to use their showers.

Like all good things it came to an end and when we reached Bradwell Marina and we joined the rest of the Company who were Leadership training. To build on Army/Navy relations the crew of HMS Essex joined us for a barbecue that evening.

The next day we started our day of Leadership training but that is another story.



Sgt Cullen takes control



# News from the Steelbacks



A muddy way to spend the day

## Parachuting with the dragons

Adventure training in HW/HQ Coy got off to an exciting start on 20 June when a party of nine, all ranks under 2Lt Arnold, travelled to Bassingbourn to complete a basic parachuting course with the Queen's Regiment freefall team The Flying Dragons. After a very arduous first morning learning (or in some cases re-learning) parachute safety drills and canopy control techniques, the afternoon was spent mastering the parachute landing fall (or not quite mastering it as demonstrated by LCpl 'count my bruises' Keen).

The weather later that evening was deemed perfect for parachuting and all course members moved to a nearby airfield for the moment of truth.

On the first lift Pte Ng terrified neighbouring farmers with his 150 decibel version of the safety count! (Not to mention the pilot, a nervous excitable French aviator!!)

All course members completed at least one jump from 2,000 feet without mishap. Faced with this clean safety record 2Lt Arnold tripped over a tractor and broke three toes, walking off the DZ and became the day's only casualty.

On the second day the course were shown

how to pack and check a parachute but nobody looked too keen when it was suggested that each packer jumped with his own chute. Capt Dixon (who incidentally achieved immortality by jumping in Ray Ban aviator sunglasses) suggested that Pte Knowles, who only came along to take photographs, should be the guinea pig, but this offer was politely declined!!!

On 11 Aug. 30 members of HW/HQ Coy travelled to Capel Curig for a weekend's adventure training in the Snowdonia National Park.

The party left the TAC at 2000 hrs on Friday and arrived at Capel Curig to be greeted with hot tea and sandwiches by the advance party, who had arrived earlier that day.

Reveille was put back an hour to 0615 hrs so everyone managed to get four hours sleep before the rigours to follow. After a hasty breakfast the group were split into four syndicates and led away by their instructors to be issued the equipment for the day. Syndicates 1 and 2 spent all day Saturday climbing the Snowdon Horseshoe.

This entailed a fairly steep trek up to Crib Goch and a scramble across the infamous 'Knife Edge' on the approach to the summit of

Snowdon. Sgt 'David Bailey' Dilks managed to climb backwards to enable him to take countless photographs for posterity.

The remaining two syndicates were divided between rock climbing and abseiling on Tryfan and canoeing at the local water sports centre. At lunchtime these two groups switched over. Recruit Chester cut a fine dash by turning up for rock climbing in a leather jacket, chinos and a pair of highly polished moccasins!

Due to lack of time on Sunday the two groups to tackle hill walking were taken on a shorter but more rigorous ascent on Tryfan and the remainder either opted for rock climbing or canoeing all day.

The weekend was exhausting but thoroughly enjoyable, the only sound heard on the homeward bound coach was snoring.

Much of the success of the weekend was due to the advance party led by CSM Bingham and WO2 Davies.

The catering was by C/Sgt Griffin and his team of brigands but the star of the whole show was WO2 Nightingale who travelled to Brecon and back to collect and deliver the canoes and equipment.

# News from the Steelbacks



HW/HQ Coy shooting team

## The road to Morocco

At the time of publication the Steelbacks were mounting a 14-day expedition to Morocco. Departing on 28 Oct the aim is to climb Mount Jebel Toubkal (13,500 feet).

The expedition leader is Tim Ridley, a chartered surveyor based in London. Among the party are two employees of British Steel: Paul Ilko and Jeff Short from the Corby area. Since its formation in 1967, the Battalion has formed a link with British Steel in Corby and a number of soldiers are employed by the company.

From the Peterborough area the unit will be represented by Sgt Phillip Dilks, a self-employed copy writer living in the Deepings.

At this time of the year the expedition can expect to encounter a very wide temperature range. In the valleys a day time temperature of 25 Centigrade can be expected to drop to below freezing on the mountain tops at night! The party expects to cover some 200 kilometres during the expedition and will be sleeping in bivouacs while crossing very remote terrain in the High Atlas Mountains, culminating in the ascent of the highest mountain in North Africa.

More on Morocco in June 1990.

### News from 3 (Essex) Company

Dear Diary.

One of the problems of any great artist is whether or not what one produces in original form will be reproduced with sufficient integrity to make sense to the audience. Judging by the latest two attempts to send text to Castle, something has happened at the (sub) editing stage. But, heyho, I suppose what will be will be and all I can do is hope.

Still, what have I to write about? I suppose we must have done something worthwhile, apart from being the best Company in the Battalion! (last year.)

The first two weekends of July saw the Company considering defence. On 1/2 July a team dug a fully revetted four man fire trench at Colchester TAC which, hopefully, will be useful to not only the Company, but also to the Battalion when training events are staged at the Garrison.

This was dug out under the supervision of SPSI WO2 Rouse, while the OC took Junior and SNCOs to STANTA to TEWT defence on the positions that we were to occupy a week later. Those weekends also gave us our first real introduction to the Cobra digging equipment, a major improvement over the high cycle gear.

August is traditionally our adventure training month and 5/6 Aug was a wet weekend.

though the sun shone. Having visited the Peak District National Park and Snowdonia in the previous two years, the OC had decided even before he had finished dangling on a rope off a cliff in Wales last year, that the Company should tackle something aquatic.

Where to go and what to do? Long journey times had featured prominently in the past, which decreased activity time. As luck would have it, a chance remark to the RNR representative at a local TAVRA meeting and the fact that one member of the Company had access to a private lake a few miles from Chelmsford gave seed to a thought which eventually produced what apparently went down as a 'jolly good weekend'.

It had to be. The CO had decided that he would join 3 Coy for the weekend, "but I don't want to interfere, you understand". And he didn't. In fact, evidence suggests that he thoroughly enjoyed himself.

An account of Ex Pompadour Marine, under the command of Lt Mark Baker, the intrepid X Group, and their raid on Foulness Island courtesy of HMS Essex, appears elsewhere in this journal.

The bulk of the Company took part in Ex Kingfisher, based at Bradwell, with sailboard training under Capt Dennis Fisher, our PSAO, water skiing (mostly under water), under the

*Continued Page 51*

# News from the Steelbacks

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instructions of the Carnie family (for which we are most grateful) and sailing from the Essex County Council Sail Training Centre at Bradwell Marina.

The Company barbeque took place on Saturday and we were happy to host the crew of HMS Essex, after a useful bit of joint Services co-operation. We hope that this liaison will continue.

As well as preparing for camp, the Battalion exercised at Aldershot at the beginning of September. 3 Coy played its part in that.

We also played our part in Ex Polar Bear, the 49 Inf Bde exercise on SPTA in September/October. The OC spent his last precious days as OC of a combined 1 (Essex) and 3 (Essex) Co group, before joining Battalion HQ as 21C (des) for the rest of camp.

Capt Neil Darlington was appointed OC 3 Coy from 1 Nov. He had a baptism of fire of sorts by having two evening meetings, two dinner nights and command of the Remembrance Day Parade at Chelmsford, all in his first fortnight!

The comparative peace of December, leading up to Christmas and a new decade, will no doubt herald a busy 1990, as the Company (and indeed the whole Battalion) gears up for an exercise in BAOR.

Peterborough hope I that Bury St Edmunds text the manages to get the right.

Sub Editors Note: Dear Scribe please accept my congratulations for a fine article worthy of inclusion for any shredding session!!)

Editors Note: We will let this one through – this time

## 4 (Hertfordshire) Company

In August the Company took some 30 wives and girlfriends on a training weekend on STANTA. After putting up their overnight accommodation the ladies tackled a series of tasks including the assault course.

On Sunday a series of stands had been organised to cover fieldcraft, command tasks and observation stands.

The weekend was designed to show our other halves the type of thing we want them to think we get up to! It proved to be most enjoyable and should raise the famous Hertfordshire spirit.

In addition to taking part in Battalion sponsored training the Company is looking forward to an escape and evasion exercise with the RAAF. The Company will have the use of 4 RAF tracker dogs. In addition the company is holding its annual section/platoon

competition in preparation for the Battalion's inter platoon competition early next year.

## HW/HQ Company

In 1989 HW/HQ (Champion) Company have gone from strength to strength, starting at the beginning of the year by retaining the shooting championship at the Battalion Skill At Arms Meeting and the Platoon Competition won by the Mortars. Also at the same time being presented with the overall Champion Company Trophy.

Throughout the year the specialist platoons have been training in their own industrious way for this year's concentration and more importantly Germany next year.

However, all training has been slightly hampered with the internal rebuilding and renovation programme that is taking place at Peterborough TAC. At the moment, because of all the builders materials, we have in fact fewer classrooms now than when the builders moved in to build more, but we are assured this is only a temporary setback.

Having had a taste of adventure training at last year's concentration in Otterburn the company decided to hold its own adventure training weekend in Snowdonia. This was an extremely good weekend and was well enjoyed by all who attended.

2Lt Facer and his Assault Pioneers have shown the Recce platoon that they have also gained their water wings by laying for the C in C on his recent visit to the Battalion.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ian Gray on his commission to 2Lt.

## Milan Platoon

The last six months have seen a good combination of Cadres, TEWT's and FTX's as the lead up training to Ex Polar Bear for the Milan Pl. Once again during this time we managed to invade, over various weekends, places as far apart as Wrenningham, Bunwell and Redbourne.

This wide and varied training obviously paid off, as on the Brigade Milan Concentration, we made a clean sweep of all of the AFV recognition prizes. Pte McManamin winning the Best Level 2 prize with a perfect score of 25 and the Best Level 3, the harder one, being won by Pte Bowdry. We do it from seven metres seems to be our motto, apart from Pte Lynn who can only recognise cows.

A lot of the credit for the success with the AFV is due to Sgt Warren who has temporarily left us to recognise a few criminals at Hendon

Police College. We hope to see him back soon.

Joining us is Sgt Murphy who keeps trying to interest us putting in sophisticated surveillance systems around the TAC. Rejoining us from a trip round the world is Pte Pemberthy who kept us suitably jealous while he was away with the occasional postcard from hot and exotic places.

## Exercise Steel Jacket 5 & 6 (HSF) Companies

Back in the long hot summer, weekend 21/23 July to be precise, the Battalion 21C, Maj Chissel, exercising his then recently acquired additional responsibilities to 'keep an eye on HSF training', devised a KP exercise for the Battalion's two HSF companies. The companies were combined under Maj O'Connor, together with WO2 Flemming and Sgt Pink as DS, umpires, and generally getting in the way.

To complete the troops on the ground a United States Marine Corps Detachment under command Capt J Caspers were the 'foreign' enemy. The US Marines' more usual role in the UK is guarding US installations.

The scene was set with an imaginative and vividly described exercise scenario, this was basically that the HSF Coy would move into DQD Bassingbourn and occupy the old control tower as the focal point for the exercise. The American trained 'special forces' job was to harass operations and stop the operation of the control tower.

The action started with the Company getting together in a car park overlooking the Little Chef off the A14. Our arrival shattered the occupants of several steamed up cars and was then enlivened with the appearance of a large number of people on foot looking for somewhere to 'do their thing'. It could have gone either way at this stage, with us either doubling the size of our Company or losing half of them! However, discipline overcame!

We moved into the Depot and on to occupy the control tower and the immediate surroundings. About an hour later Lt Peck's 16 Pl and Lt Tuvey's 17 Pl (reinforced with Sgt Preskey and elements of 5 (HSF) Coy) had captured all the enemy and detected most of the planted IED devices, with one exception where we 'lost' Cpl Brewer of 16 Pl!

Our US enemy had expected to observe our moving into position from OP's and zap us at first light! At this stage, WO2 Broyd's recently honed prisoner handling techniques came into play, as well as deterring 6 Coy

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# News from the Steelbacks

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people (mostly 18 Pl) from any ideas of collecting M16 rifles as souvenirs.

The exercise moved on with much activity, patrolling, KP guards, IED's, VCP's PCP's etc. This was enlivened by Maj O'Connor's stimulating plan that had all three Pls changing roles every eight hours (Guard, QRF, patrols/screen etc).

By mid-afternoon on Saturday the rules were adjusted to allow the enemy space to move. During this period they drove an unmarked van through our back door - one to them!

On Saturday night the DS directed that we set up two ambushes in the GDA. There was some confusion in trying to fix that the enemy actually walked into the ambushes; there are also stories in circulation about Lt Peck's map reading skills! (Various unattributable comments about never trusting officers with maps!)

Meanwhile, from Vange, 18 Pl (welcoming back Lt Keogh as OC after leave of absence) as QRF had some problems in finding the 'Peri track' and were observed driving around the main runway in 50 metre circles.

First light Sunday morning saw the enemy moving off for an attack in force on the control tower. 16 Pl as outer screen held them off, reinforced with the QRF (17 Pl) before the defences ran out of all five rounds of their ammunition in the face of sustained automatic weapon fire (no shortage of blanks in US MC!) but the tower held firm.

At end Ex, CSgt Burnett did us proud for breakfast with eggs, beans, bacon etc. The Marines joined us at this stage for an exchange of views on tactics, weapons etc. While this was going on 'The management' (hungry) were having their cards marked at the Battalion 21C PXR. As the de-brief drew to a close, Cpl Mac sidled up to advise don't hurry sir, the CSgt (with characteristic generosity) has given your breakfast to the Americans! Cpl Mac added, in his best host manner I did tell him you wouldn't be pleased! However, we did eventually get our breakfast so all was well in the end.

With the Company paraded, Maj O'Connor presented Capt Caspers, US MC with a Steelback shield and we all tried to recall battle honours from the American War of Independence in which any of the Royal Anglian constituent regiments featured.

A special mention to our newly joined WRAC girls, Ptes Gill Gulley and Toni Reeve, for working the two dogs in hot and difficult conditions. The girls also fired the M16 but



12Pl begins its sponsored gun-pull with encouragement from the Mayor, Cllr Betty Lees. Photo: Hemel Hempstead Express

Pte Toni Reeve didn't hit the target as she claimed, she couldn't see out of the fire trench!

A particular word of thanks to Pte Gregg of 18 Pl who suggested the whole idea of involving the US Marines through some work contacts he has.

A good weekend and we hope that Battalion 21C found this insight into MHD useful.

## Sponsored Gun Pull

Within one week of returning from annual camp on Salisbury Plain members of 12 (West Herts) Pl were putting on their kit again to undertake a gruelling 40 mile march.

This time, however, in addition to carrying their normal CEFO, they would be towing a 1 ton anti-tank gun and would be giving their services completely free of charge!

This apparent lack of sanity was all in a good cause, as the Platoon was taking part in a sponsored gun pull in aid of the Hemel Hempstead Gazette and Express EMU Appeal, hoping to provide funds to enable the

construction of a cancer screening unit at the West Herts Hospital in Hemel Hempstead.

The aim of the weekend was to manhandle a 1 ton BAT Infantry Anti-tank gun 40 miles through the main towns of West Hertfordshire to raise as much money as possible through individual sponsorship or collections made during the march. There was the added bonus of keeping the Army in the public eye with a view to encouraging local recruitment.

The weekend got off to a promising start with a visit by Maj Betty Lees to the hospital where the march began. Councillor Lees had chosen the EMU (Endoscopy Medical Unit) Appeal as her charity for her year in office. The mayor gave everyone in the Platoon a lot of encouragement and once the march started proceeded to follow in her official car voicing her support from the rear passenger window!

The whole event was well received in all the towns visited, which included Harpenden, St Albans, Watford, Berkhamstead and

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# News from the Steelbacks

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Hemel Hempstead. The public were very generous and understanding, particularly the drivers who were held up by the slow moving procession (although one irate yuppie used his car phone to voice his protest about the delay to the Police!) It was also decided to take the opportunity to pay respect to the fallen of the five major towns by laying wreaths at each of the Cenotaphs.

The event finished with a march through the centre of Hemel Hempstead back to the TA Centre in Queensway on the Sunday afternoon. The Platoon then paraded with the gun on the square at the back of the centre and presented a cheque for £2,700 to the mayor's husband Dr Bill Lees (himself a former Colonel in the TA) finishing finally with a march past the saluting dais.

The TA Centre was then crowded with soldiers, family and friends as an informal 'Open Day' which included displays of weapons and kit and an impressive display by Milan Pl in their model room of a Soviet Motor Rifle Regiment deployed for battle (in 1/300th scale, of course, but still a sobering sight!)

The teams for the march consisted of two 'pulling' teams: Charlie team - 2Lt Brown, LCpl Anderson, OCdt Basigara, Ptes Foxwell, McCarthy, Wilson and Beazley; Delta team - Sgt Bowden, Cpl Hammond, Ptes Bradley, Hall, Thornton, Twigg and Woods; a collecting team comprising LCpl Howe, Ptes Jackson, Doyle and Davies; a recruiting team comprising Sgt Byford and Ptes Mills and Purr who set up a stand at principal shopping centres at each of the towns; and a support and safety team from Milan Pl comprising CSgt Hanafan, Cpl Bulpit and Pte Barry who provided the teams with drinks and safety vehicles.

A special thanks must go to Shirley Frame, the caretaker and her husband Tom who gave all their support to the event by way of providing food and facilities, including a buffet on the Sunday from their own funds. Tom provided the platoon with a rousing welcome at the end by leading us into the TA Centre playing his bagpipes. It was Tom who was involved at the beginning in getting things off the ground along with Sgt Bowden.

Finally the Platoon would like to thank the 1st Cadet Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment for making their anti-tank gun available for the duration of the pull.

Next year a similar event is planned which would take in more of the major towns in Hertfordshire.



5th Battalion Assault Pioneers. Photo: Peterborough Evening Telegraph



CSgt Foster raised £425 for the Cystic Fibrosis charity by completing the Rotterdam Marathon



# 6th Battalion



A Coy team celebrates first place at EDSAAM

## Groundwork rewarded

THE last few months have seen the groundwork of early 1989 rewarded with a busy and successful time during which much has been achieved, the predominant themes being exercises, both at home and abroad, shooting competitions, sport and recruiting. We are now looking forward to an equally busy and stimulating 1990, when we hope to see a full-strength battalion working hard towards the main event of the year, a Brigade Concentration in Wales and, just as important, taking advantage of the sporting and social opportunities that are part and parcel of life in the TA.

Having won Bisley in '88 and having seen so much promising shooting at the Battalion SAAM, a correspondingly good result was expected at EDSAAM. Nothing, however prepared us for a result which exceeded our greatest expectations. Overall winners, our

companies were placed 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 7th and 11th. Other achievements were best individual, best team, and best "A" Class shots in both the rifle and GPMG matches, first place in the section match, best individual pistol shot and first place in the falling plate competition. The crowning glory of the day came when our falling plate team, armed with SLR, took on the best regular team (Heavy Weapons Company, The Pompadours) armed with SA80, and beat them in the shoot-off.

Thereafter, the Bisley team was quickly selected and grouped under CSgt Mason, A Coy PSI, for pre-match training. After EDSAAM morale was justifiably high and our retention of the Dragon Trophy seemed a real possibility. Fate, however, had other ideas, and on the day a solid performance faded after a weak result in the Section Match, leaving us placed 8th equal.

Our results in the individual competitions were somewhat better with Capt Colin Bateman (HQ Coy) winning the Officer Match and being placed runner-up to the Queen's Medallist. LCpl Fuller (A Coy) was 10th in the GPMG match, LCpl Rolph (A Coy) was 9th with the SLR, and Pte King (B Coy) was placed 6th in the SA80 match.

In May a team from the Battalion ran exercise Executive Stretch, a weekend leadership and development course aimed at young managers from the region's major employers. Forty attended and enjoyed a demanding weekend of initiative tests and outdoor activities on the Stanford training area.

Between 8-22 Jul a total of 108 all ranks, based on B Company deployed to Gibraltar

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# News from the 6th Battalion

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for Exercise Marble Tor. This was the second successive year that we had participated in the exercise, this time taking small groups from both the 5th and 7th Battalions. The exercise was a balanced mix of military and adventurous training and we were hosted admirably throughout by 3RGJ.

Training began with individual battle exercises and culminated in platoon level exercises and a military skills competition witnessed by the Director of Infantry. Participating troops soon became familiar with the Rock, from inside, outside and on occasions from out at sea prior to beach landing practice. We were also involved in the Fortress's annual security exercise and made full use of the ranges available - some firing SA80 for the first time.

When not practicing military skills, a full range of adventure training activities were available to keep us busy and amused. Using the expertise of the staff at the Gibraltar Adventurous Training Centre, and some home-grown talent, windsurfing, rock climbing, off-shore sailing and canoeing were all available. Some also took time out for Rock tours, tunnel tours and trips to the magnificent Lower St Michael's Cave. Each Platoon were also given a period of R and R, spent mostly on the Costa del Sol or exploring some of the less well-known areas of Andalusian Spain, or simply relaxing on the Rock and enjoying the superb weather.

Though far from being a holiday, Marble Tor was a refreshing break from our more usual routine. Although it had the anticipated effect of reducing numbers at annual camp it was considered a worthwhile long-term investment in terms of retention of trained personnel and the enjoyment that many gain from TA soldiering.

During the last few months we have continued to train, both for conventional operations and our more usual Home Defence role. Exercise Suffolk Punch, staged in June was a conventional defence exercise. Digging-in is never a popular activity, even on sandy STANTA, and one company showed great initiative in avoiding too much back-breaking toil by hiring civilian plant in the absence of RE assistance. For once the second-in-command was the most popular individual in the company being the only trained operator. Throughout the exercise our HSF companies were a formidable enemy and were stopped only by a battalion strength attack at the conclusion of the weekend.

In October we returned to STANTA for exercise Viking Shield, this time to practice

our Home Defence skills. During a fast-moving weekend, companies rotated around a circuit of exercise scenarios including a cordon and search operation, an IED incident and temporary manning of snap and permanent VCPs. With less than 15 minutes between the conclusion of one operation and the start of the next, commanders had to remain alert and flexible and the troops equally able to react to a variety of problems with the minimum of warning. The exercise ended with a battalion search and destroy operation during which the newly-formed recee platoon made its debut.

During the first two weeks of September, 240 members of the battalion moved up to Wathgill, N. Yorkshire, for our annual camp. Week 1 was used primarily for range work and low-level refresher training conducted by companies from the bivvy areas which were occupied soon after our arrival. The climax of the week was the Gaza Cup competition, an annual inter-company military skills contest. This was to be the final bout in the year-long competition to decide the champion company, and with three companies running neck-and-neck was even more keenly contested than usual. Eventually the outcome was decided by a single point and C Coy came from behind to take the shield for the 5th year running. First placed team overall was our Cambrian Patrol team, in training for the forthcoming competition.

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Capt Colin Bateman, Best Officer at Bisley and runner-up to the Queen's Medal



Advancing to contact through the FIBUA complex



# News from the 6th Battalion

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Week 2 saw the companies out on the Feldom range complex for the field firing package, including individual battle shooting, section attacks, 66 and 84mm HEAT firing, grenade throwing and a variety of defence shoots.

Of the many skills practiced, by far the most popular was the period that each company spent in the FIBUA complex. Constructed from what was once a patch of married quarters its labyrinth of tunnels and maze of buildings were an excellent setting for a day's intensive tuition and an exciting confirmatory exercise. Visiting journalists capitalised on the photogenic nature of the training and the Battalion received favourable write-ups in several regional newspapers.

During the camp we had welcome visits from Maj Gen Pollard, the Brigade Commander, the Secretary of TAVRA East Anglia and our Deputy Honorary Colonels.

Promoting ourselves in the media has been just one part of an intensive recruiting campaign. Unable to rely on the services of an ACIO we attract recruits largely through our own efforts. Although this is a time and manpower consuming exercise it has paid dividends this year.

Each of our 5 TA Companies has held at least one open day, with additional events staged by those companies with distant detachments. Assistance has also been given to local schools and ACF detachments, both fertile recruiting grounds, and a number of presentations have been made to large regional firms. Soldiers have also been encouraged to recruit their friends and work-mates, and at the end of the year a prize will be given to our champion recruiter.

So far in 1989 we have welcomed more than 250 new recruits. Sadly, wastage remains high but none the less our overall strength has increased significantly.

Volleyball, hockey, football, badminton, tug o' war and basketball were sports in which companies and individuals competed at Sportex, our annual sports and families day held at the Depot in June. Blessed with superb weather and a good lunch, the Battalion enjoyed a day of sport and relaxation in the company of friends and families.

On a more serious level 5 members of C Company under the leadership of CSgt Dawson entered the Welsh 1000, a gruelling race over the highest peaks in Snowdonia. All members of the team completed the course and were the 5th TA team to finish, being placed 17th from 46 teams overall.

Orienteering, parachuting, football and



Shunning the stairs for a more stunning entrance

hill walking are among other activities in which members of the Battalion have taken part, mostly during the occasional free weekends when no military training has been taking place.

During the last few months a number of key appointments have changed hands and several stalwarts have moved on.

Maj Bob West has handed over C Company to Maj Tony McArdle after 5 years

in the chair and a total of 18 years with the Company.

The major change in Battalion Headquarters has been the departure of the RSM WO1 'Monk' Abbott who joined 1 Queens on commissioning. His replacement, RSM Powley, is a Poacher who joined us after a year spent in Sinai, at the Depot, and latterly with 5 RRF.

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# News from the 6th Battalion

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In HQ Coy Maj Roger Herriot passed command to his 2IC Mike Veal. The mortar PSI, CSgt Stephen returned to the Pompadours and was replaced by another 3rd Battalion man, CSgt Bines.

B Coy has said farewell to CSgt Douggie George, the Admin PSI. His departure marked the end of a military career that had spanned more than 40 years. Last year CSgt George was awarded the BEM in recognition of his exemplary service.

Pat Tovell, Tim Seal, Robin Comerford and Sebastian Noakes are all to be congratulated on their recent commissioning. 2Lt Noakes immediately applied for a Short Service Volunteer Commission and is presently serving in Belize with the Gurkhas, and will return to us next April.

Right: A team from HQ Coy push and pull their way round the Gaza Cup course. Photo: Bury Free Press



Out in the bay - a welcome break from Marble Tor

**Regimental Shop  
list is on  
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Farewell to CSgt George

## News from the 6th Battalion



Back breaking work for the HSF as they prepare to defend the village



C Coy tug-o-war team try to drag the RSM away from the bar at SPORTEX



After 20 minutes, the executives arrive at a decision - it's an oil drum



C Coy hired diggers to build trenches

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# 7th Battalion

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A Chinook heli-borne assault drops in

## Action-packed annual camp

THE 400 volunteers who paraded for annual camp at the end of September were to embark on an action-packed whirlwind of activities on and around Salisbury Plain as part of the 49 Inf Bde concentration.

Initially, companies were rotated through training packages at the Longmoor FIBUA complex, the Porton Down Battle Run and Hawley Lake, interspersed with periods of dry training and basic rangework, also running for the first few days of camp were cadres for Mortars, Milan, Recce, Asslt Pnrs, SF and Int.

This was followed by Sect and Pl field firing which culminated with two Bn Field Firing Exercises with armour artillery and mortar support.

Camp ended with a three-day Bde FTX which started with the Battalion defending an intricately-wired and heavily fortified Imber Village against the combined weight of 1 RHF and 4 UDR, and after many helicopter operations and moves finished with a dawn brigade attack.

We were visited by Gen Sir David

Ramsbotham (Commander of the UK Field Army and Inspector General of the TA) and Maj Gen Evans (GOC Eastern District) who both witnessed our great battle at Imber. Maj Gen Stone joined us for the final day and stayed for our end-of-camp Regimental dinner at Fedworth House.

Except for those lucky few in B Echelon who were permanently based at our camp at Westdown, the Battalion spent almost the

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# News from the 7th Battalion

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whole of the 15 days in the field only returning to Westdown for two nights of well-earned rest. This was quite the busiest camp anyone could remember, a lot was learnt, some will be remembered, but overall a great tribute to our training staff.

Throughout camp we had a number of visits from journalists who gave us good PR coverage in the local press. Many of the photographs on these pages are courtesy of Gareth Griffiths of the Leicester Mercury and Mike Ingram and Ian Post of Mainly Military, a Northampton based press agency.

RSO, Capt Jim Freeman organised a combined signals and arduous training weekend in June in the Lake District. The weather was quite atrocious when one of his patrols found a civilian with a broken leg who had been lying in the rain near the top of Bow Fell for about four hours. The injured man was obviously in a poor way but the patrol was able to radio back to base for help. Meanwhile the broken leg was put in a splint and further exposure was kept at bay with a sleeping bag and an improved bivouac. A Sea King helicopter was tasked and took the injured walker to Whitehaven Hospital.

There is no doubt that the prompt and efficient action of the Signal Platoon saved a life.

Our successful Battalion SAAM in April was followed by EDSAAM in May where we took first place in the Moving Target Competition (Capt Mallet) and were runners up in the Section Match (LDY Coy), GPMG Match (individual - Sgt Walker, team - HQ Coy) and SMG Match (Pte Lillygreen). HQ Coy came 3rd overall in the championship.

Bisley in July produced a remarkable crop of 12 medals (3 gold, 1 silver and 8 bronze) won by Lt Mitchell, Sgt Large and Cpl Marriott.

For the first time in living memory Blackshaw Moor, Leek, was fine and dry for the Inter-Platoon Competition, which was won by the Hinckley Platoon of LDY coy, commanded by CSgt Terhegge.

Running concurrently with our routine weekend training, Maj Tomlin has organised an imaginative series of trips abroad. To date the tally is as follows: BAOR and Berlin (5 visits) - 52, Gibraltar - 16 and Belize - 10. Planned for the remainder of 1989 and March 1990: BAOR - 14 and Gibraltar - 120. A total of more than 200 soldiers abroad in one calendar year - is this a record and also the way ahead with the anticipated restrictions on formation exercises in BAOR?

As well as training at home and abroad,



the Battalion has achieved another notable coup in winning the GOC's Award Scheme for administrative and financial efficiency. The first prize of £7,000 was presented to Lt Col Brett by Maj Gen Evans on his first visit to the Bn in August.

Having commanded the Battalion for two-and-a-half years including three very successful camps we dined out Lt Brett who hands over to Lt Col Haes. Our long-serving Battalion admin officer, Maj Ashton retired earlier this year and his place has been taken by Capt Cunningham from the 13/18 Royal Hussars. WO1 Wilson has also retired from the army and WO1 Wilcox is now the new RSM.

To those who have left we offer our thanks and appreciation for their dedicated service and hard work and we extend a warm welcome to those taking up their new appointments.

A Coy (Scunthorpe and Grimsby) continue to flourish under its new OC, Maj Charles Szabo, with an excellent weekend live firing at Warcop where every soldier was able to fire 84mm HE. 2Lt Balsillie's Platoon came second in the PI Competition and for the second year running Pte Ian Darker has kept goal for the TA football team on its tour of

Mortar PI supports a Battalion night shoot. Left to right, Pte Farnham, safety supervisor, Pte Gnmmtt, Pte Brindley



"Repent all ye sinners!" Padre Capt Michael Woods psychs himself up for Church Parade

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# News from the 7th Battalion

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BAOR. Prior to camp the Company held a very successful families day followed by a summer ball attended by more than 140 company members and their guests.

B Coy (Lincoln, Gainsborough and Boston) has a new CSM, WO2 Paine who follows WO2 Creasey for a second tour, and a new SP5I, WO2 Martin who took over from WO2 Barker. 2Lts Melides and Hamer are to be congratulated on their recent commissions having completed the new rapid transit officer training scheme 'Fast Track'. Pte Bareham is also to be congratulated on passing out as Best Recruit on his cadre at Bassingbourn. Lt Col Brett presented CSgt Gorwood and Cpl Widdowson with the first clasp to the TEM awarded after 18 years service, and the Imperial Service Medal to Mr Etchell the civilian vehicle mechanic.

LDY Coy (Loughborough, Hinckley and Melton Mowbray) is now commanded by Maj Hunt who has taken over from Maj Smith the last of the Leicestershire Yeomanry still serving and a founder member of this battalion. Maj Smith was also instrumental in running the Challenge Saumur, an equitation competition held annually between the UK, France and Belgium which our team won this year in May. The CSM, WO2 Gould moves on to the District Training Team and his place is taken by WO2 Terhege from Hinckley, fresh from his success at winning the Platoon Competition. The Company also has a remarkable crop of OCds and Potential Officers - 12 in all - which augers well for the future.

D Coy (Northampton and Daventry) welcomes its new SP5I WO2 Isom and thanks WO2 Ellingford for his past efforts. The Company continues to favour Lydd and Hythe ranges with the occasional weekend at Longmoor. Recruiting from the new outstation at Daventry is going well and the new build should be complete by January. D Coy provided a spectacular display for the Daventry Gala which resulted in six more recruits.

E (HSF) Coy (Leicester and Lincoln), now commanded by Maj John Heggs, welcomes newly commissioned 2Lt Taylor from HQ Coy and congratulates Capt Smith on his recent engagement. Recruiting and attendance has picked up and training progresses at an impressive rate. Annual camp, a week at Penhale in Devon in October was a great success despite the weather. At last the Company has been able to move out of its Portacabin at Leicester and now has a permanent home in the main building.

HQ Coy (Leicester) having lost its CSM,



Decoy duck lookout - another Recce PI disguise

WO2 Taylor, to E Coy, welcomes WO2 Blanchard in his place. The cooks won Ex Tasteful Tiger, the Battalion catering competition, and went on to win the district competition and came fifth in the UK finals. Maj Gen Evans visited the Company on a Drill Night tour of inspection and saw a variety of training. Sgt Thompson's remote-controlled tank and met most Coy members. Just before camp the new Lord Lieutenant for

Leicestershire, T G M Brooks Esq, opened the new Quartermasters building, a most impressive structure with its contrasting bands of coloured brick and turrets at the corners.

With another camp behind us and a general movement of personnel around the Battalion to take up new responsibilities we now look forward to a further year of training in preparation for ex Keystone in BAOR in September 1990

# News from the 7th Battalion

## Travelling TA Man



**Pte Carl Powell, Int Sect, 7 R Anglian**

BORN in August 1965, Pte Powell attended Gateway School, Leicester, where he gained 10 'O' levels and 3 'A' levels.

After travelling extensively over Europe he studied at Oxford University from 1983-87 where he was awarded a BA Honours degree in Law. He decided not to pursue a legal career any further but has taken a series of temporary jobs which enable him to further his interest in the TA, which he joined in 1987, and travel abroad. He has recently returned from a seven month back-packing tour of Africa where he visited 15 countries. He has also attended annual camp this year.

Pte Powell may not be a typical volunteer but he is an example of the variety that can be found in any TA Unit.



**"Fair shares for all". Cpl Bacon directs trainee cook Pte Griffiths while LCpl Simpson brings in the bread**



**GOC Eastern District Maj Gen Evans presents Lt Col Brett with a cheque for £7,000 first prize in the GOC's award scheme**



# News from the 7th Battalion



Ex Polar Bear - the Battalion at ENDEX

## REGULAR FORCES EMPLOYMENT ASSOCIATION

THE Association, with the Ministry of Defence and the Department of Employment, is part of the Forces Resettlement Service. Our task is to assist all non-commissioned men and women who served with good character for a minimum of three years, or less if discharged on medical grounds, to find civil employment at the end of their engagements.

Our services are free and we take long-term interest in ex-Regulars so they are available to them throughout their working lives.

Our employment officers are situated in branches throughout the United Kingdom and they maintain close contact with local employers and Jobcentres. Their address and telephone numbers can be obtained from Unit/Ship Resettlement Officers; Jobcentres and local telephone directories.

From 1 Apr 1988 - 31 Mar 1989 the Association assisted 9,918 men and women with their resettlement and placed 5,117 in employment. Of those placed, 2,444 were men and women from the Army and 33 were from your Regiment.

## News from the 7th Battalion



Mr Etchell receives his Imperial Service Medal from Lt Col Brett



Lt Col Brett hands over the Battalion to Lt Col Haes



Lt Col Brett presents the first clasp to the TEM to CSgt Gorwood and Cpl Widdowson

# Depot Queen's Division

## Welcome increase

THE long, hot summer of '89 was a pleasant surprise but the range of commitments and activities at the Depot came as no surprise.

As usual, we have been called upon to turn our hands to almost anything, and in terms of training methods we have been required to be more flexible and painstaking than ever.

Following the lean period in the spring, there has been a welcome increase in applicants to join the Army and it has been vital to be able to accept them into training promptly. And so platoons continued to form up and train during the summer block leave period in order to catch the school-leavers before someone else did in these competitive recruiting days.

Happily the connecting design of A and B Coy new accommodation allows greater variation in platoon strengths than did the separate H-blocks of the past.

Of the current crop of new recruits, we find that sadly, many are of dubious motivation and soon fall by the wayside. But most of those who want to stay are completing training to a good standard, even though an increasing number require extra training in some form and at some stage. Clearly the fine weather has helped, with even the ground at Warcop drying out! Everyone has shouldered cheerfully the burden on training of the higher level of security state.

Congratulations should go to Pte Stimpson (Vikings), Pte Tyler (Poachers) and Ptes Fox and Phillips (both Pompadours) for their achievement of Best Recruit awards in Quebec, Normandy, Anzio and Rhine Platoons respectively.

In July the Depot, like several other UK units, ran two week long 'Look at Life' work experience courses to give 140 schoolboys an insight into Army life. Those that attended ranged from very keen ACF Cadets to youths with little enthusiasm or respect for any form of authority.

This presented quite some challenge to the patience and leadership of the course instructors but, with few exceptions, the response from the boys was good. The experiment was deemed to be a success and likely to be repeated next year.



LCpl Chamberlain receives the trophies from the GOC for best A class (SUSAT) shot and overall Best Rifle Shot at EDSAAM

Charity and community service ventures by the recruits have continued with probably more emphasis on service and personal contact than on purely fund-raising events.

One such event saw the recruits of A Coy with the gym staff running the annual Superteams competition for all the Hertfordshire Boys Clubs and Youth Clubs. This was a most successful day with a close rapport between the boys and the recruits, and hopefully with indirect recruiting benefits in due course.

The Depot has also undertaken its expected round of additional summer commitments. The Army Exhibition for Schools brought in the usual influx of display

teams and school coaches and the Regimental Gathering in July happily is gaining in momentum and popularity as an established event.

Similar occasions held by the Queens Regiment and the Army Benevolent Fund, together with civilian recreational activities, car boot sales etc all contribute to a forest of special event traffic signs and a lively time for Sgt Smith (Vikings) and his provost staff.

The most recent curiosity is the sight of vintage cars entering camp for the periodic auctions in Hangar 1 by James Commercial (No charge for the plug Col David James).

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# News from the Depot



Pte Bird receives his award from Brig Barnes during the Passing Out Parade of Rhine and Falaise Platoons



Brig Barnes and Pte Bloomfield (Falaise PI) exchange secret R Anglian greetings - to the suspicion of a watching Queensman

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Among the many visitors came the veterans of the 91st Bombardment Group who flew the B17s out of Basingstoke during the Second World War. They were clearly delighted to see their old surroundings once again, and moved to tears when no less than 5 B17s (diverted from filming at nearby Duxford) carried out a fly past over the barracks.

Depot teams enjoyed much success during the summer. Our cooks carried all before them in the District and Army competitions, as did our drivers in the District competition.

The athletics team qualified for the Army Minor Units Championships as runner-up to Int & Sy Gp in the area event. However, at Aldershot the team turned the tables on Int & Sy Gp to become runners-up to this year's champions, 9 Ord Bn. The team included R Anglians WO2 Hanniver and Cpl Maynard (both winners of their individual events) and also Lt Gosling and Cpl Dunn. Cpl Maynard, despite having his individual season impaired by injury, nevertheless has gone on to represent the Army again this year.

The full-bore shooting team won the District Minor Units Championships with LCpl Chamberlain (Vikings) as champion shot. Further success followed at Bisley where the team won the Minor Units Series A Championship, taking the Rifle Team, Fire Team and LMG/LSW Pairs matches in the process. All four individual team members were placed in the Army 100 including Cpl Dickinson (Vikings) 21st, Cpl Yeomans (Pompadours) 44th, and Pte Chum (Vikings)

95th.

In other areas of shooting, Lt James Lewis won the Infantry Young Officers Match with Lt Adrian Gosling 7th. Small-bore shooting has also flourished. By self-help an international standard 50m small bore range has been built at the Depot, and we have already hosted two international matches. Our small-bore team were 4th in the Army for Match 113, 2nd in Div 2 for Match 120 and had 5 individuals placed in the top 16 for Match 91.

Our teams for the coming winter season hope for equal success. Of these our hockey and cross-country appear to be best equipped. This year, for the first time, the Permanent Staff, rather than merely watching recruits slog it out in inter-platoon boxing, will enter a team in the Minor Units Novice Boxing Championships under the guidance of SSgt Johnson APTC and Cpl Dunn (Vikings).

Since the last edition we have welcomed on board Maj John Ross, Capt David Harding, Lt Peter Cookson, 2Lt Richard Lyne and Sgt Jackson. Among those leaving us have been Lt James Lewis (on retirement), Lts Steven Wormald and Adrian Gosling, WO2 Cavaleiro and SSgt Cunningham.

Without exception, they all have contributed greatly to Depot life, and we shall miss them. Finally our Div Col, Col John Holman, bade farewell in October on his posting on promotion to be the occupant of Dover Castle and Comd 2 Inf Bde. We wish him and Penny every success and, after a short interregnum, look forward to welcoming his successor at HQ Queens Div, Col Paddy Pantou, to Basingstoke.

## Team of five in Death March

By Lt A Gosling

IN August a team of five Depot permanent staff took part in the 20th International Death March at Bornem in Belgium. The team was led by Lt Adrian Gosling and comprised Lt Steven Wormald, WO2 Hanniver, Sgt Sinar (all Royal Anglians) and Cpl Sheehan RPC.

As with most things the entry of a team started innocently over a cup of tea in the Officers Mess. It was the name that did it. How could anyone ignore such a provocative title? Only after the entry forms had been sent off did we discover of what it consisted. Basically it is a 100km race over the tracks, lanes and cobbles surrounding Bornem with a maximum time limit of 24 hours.

Surprisingly, volunteers for the event were plentiful, and the final team was drawn upon a first come first served basis. After a lot of forms we were ready to go. Sadly the exploit was deemed not to qualify as adventurous training, and so we would have to cover the cost ourselves. Fortunately ICI stepped in to meet all our ferry costs leaving us with only a minimal cash outlay.

We arrived in Bornem at lunchtime on the day of the race. The town was enveloped in a carnival atmosphere with beer tents

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# Depot

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and streamers. Among this however, were small groups of quiet pensive folk - those that had to run.

After what seemed like an eternity everyone lined up at the start at 2100. 4,750 runners in all, and all of them it seemed in front of us. At this point Lt Wormald got separated from the team and he was never seen again until the finish.

For the remaining four the start was very slow, being caught up behind the massed ranks. But after a lap of Bornem the field began to spread out, and we started to move steadily up the field. The check points at this stage were about 5-8 kms apart and at the third one Sgt Sinar took a dislike to his milk and began to suffer stomach cramps.

Leaving Cpl Sheehan to look after him, Lt Gosling and WO2 Hanniver ran on in an attempt to catch Lt Wormald.

Still in darkness we reached the halfway stage feeling exhausted. The support minibus lifted our spirits and a change of socks freshened our feet. However, there was still no sign of Lt Wormald, and WO2 Hanniver's 38 years were beginning to show. After 8kms into the second half his left knee seized and reduced him to walking speed. So the chase was left to Lt Gosling, or so it appeared.

But then Sgt Sinar made a dramatic recovery and caught up Lt Gosling shouting "come on sir only a marathon to go!" The reply is unprintable.

By now the checkpoints were more frequent, even including one in a brewery giving away free beer to the runners! Each checkpoint also had a large medical area complete with comfortable beds, attractive nurses and a free bus ride to the finish. To say all this was tempting would be an understatement.

At last the sign appeared announcing that there was only 1 km to go, and, using their last reserves of energy, they managed to run to the finish to be welcomed by Lt Wormald. He had finished in 12 hours 50 minutes in 68th place. Lt Gosling and Sgt Sinar finished in 13 hours 40 minutes in 98th and 99th place, WO2 Hanniver and Cpl Sheehan finished in 14 hours 50 mins. Of the 4750 runners that started 2,700 actually completed the course.

The whole team agreed that the Death March was high on the list of the hardest things that they have ever done. To anyone who is bored and wants a challenge I can thoroughly recommend it. As for the five that went this year, remember there is a club for those that have completed ten Death Marches!

# RIT



LCpl Taylor instructs some "Royal Anglian" cadets on the range

WITH the summer season behind us we can look back with relief over our busiest season yet. We have attended more than 125 shows around our counties as well as many other smaller events. We have helped with 3 ACF annual camps and subsequently all 3 RITs received deservedly good reports. At some of the more prestigious events, such as the Southend Air Show which more than half a million people attended, we were grateful for help from the 3rd Battalion in the form of a Saxon and a Milan simulator both of which were great crowd pullers.

The RIT has now taken on a positive recruiting stance, visiting as many schools as possible during the winter months, working with Army Careers Information Offices (ACIO's) and Army School Liaison Officers (ASLO's). By reinforcing our direct contact with schools we hope to revive our flagging recruiting figures. In addition to our visits to ACF Detachments - the RIT's main job during the winter months - we have taken on many

visits to the RITs at the Depot. At the end of a typical day the Cadet has fired the SA80, had his confidence severely tested on the scaffolding, learnt a variety of military skills and, especially after the assault course, returned home exhausted but pleased with what he, and often she, has achieved.

We have several visits planned throughout the winter and with the new committal card now in use we hope more young men will want to serve with the Regiment. Our special thanks go to all the Depot Staff who have given so much help with ACF/CCF visits.

We say a special farewell to WO2 Whitby who has done sterling work with the RIT and goodbye also to LCpl K Ward who left the Army in October. We wish him and Mrs Ward all good fortune.

We welcome Sgt Cook from the 2nd Battalion, who has taken on the job of School Liaison Sgt and also welcome LCpls A G Green and G W Goodrum to the RIT teams.

## Junior Leaders

# Changes at Shorncliffe

SINCE the last article appeared in the Castle Magazine, JIB Shorncliffe has undergone a change. The training cycle still continues although with a difference. No longer is there the distinction between Junior Soldiers and Leaders but a common Junior Leader Entrant, whose training will be of a year's duration. For Burma and Cassino Companies it has been an interesting period of transition. After a small hiccup the number of soldiers in training is looking more respectable. 33 Royal Anglians having passed out in August, it is hoped to pass out a further 75 by mid 1990.

The staff has changed slightly with the departure of (previously RQMS) RSM Beaumont to rejoin the 3rd Bn in Colchester, Cpl Woodcock of the 2nd Bn has left the PT Wing for pastures new in the form of the Channel Tunnel.

The remaining personalities at Shorncliffe continue to be at the forefront of Battalion activities. Congratulations are due to Cpl Walker on obtaining a Canoeing Instructor qualification and Cpl Thompson on a creditable performance at Senior Brecon (not to mention the addition of a son to the family!). Lt Nick Baker enjoyed a stint away from JIB, training Potential TA Officers in Grantham, although rumour has it he passed those officers sporting fluorescent watches and large umbrellas!

Congratulations also to Sgt Neil Holmes, Vikings, who received his LS & GC from Lt Gen Sir Peter de la Billiere, GOC SEDIST on 12 Jul 1989.



JSLDR Ian Francis (far left) on the 'Kukri' in Zeebek

The Regiment continues to participate fully in the Battalion's sporting life. Capt Andrew Wiles, Adjutant, is involved with the rugby; Maj John Perry, Quartermaster, is aiming to emulate his golfing successes in the Army Championships and Capt Tim Dawson

and Sgt Holmes hope to represent either the Infantry or Queen's Division at squash. Special mention must go to Junior Leader Thomas on a memorable performance in winning the Junior Army cross country championships.

The battalion also continues to organise trips for both soldiers and staff. The long-awaited sequel to Viking Raid I, a maritime legend, Viking Raid II directed by the Adjutant, was held during 20-24 October. The Battalion is also due to participate in a re-run of last winter's skiing exercise to Switzerland which will provide a welcome break.

In July the Battalion, ably assisted by the Pompadours, entered a crew on the feeder race for the Cutty Sark Tall Ships Race 1989. Nine members of the Battalion sailed Kukri, a Nicholson 55, to Terschelling in the Dutch Frisian Islands and then raced to London. Four Royal Anglians took part and everyone had a terrific time.

Finally a welcome is extended to the new RSM, WO1 Richardson who joined JIB in November.



◀ Left. Sgt Neil Holmes of the Vikings receives his LS&GC medal from GOC EDIST

## Junior Leaders



Cpl Hill of the Pompadours on Ex Double Take

AFTER many months of planning and preparation, hours of solving logistical problems, ex double Take was finally on the road. After an uneventful journey to Dover, a fairly heavy sea crossing to Boulogne and a very long, tiring and boring drive, we finally reached St Jean Pied de Port in the foothills of the French Pyrenees. Due to a small hold-up with one of the vans we arrived at midnight on 27 May.

St Jean Pied de Port is a small, walled market town, 30 miles from the Atlantic coastal resort of Biarritz where there is little entertainment except the few tourist cafés and bars and a town stadium in which the local game, pelota, is played.

The next day was pencilled in as a rest day, but all the junior leaders wanted to get on the river as soon as possible. Canoes and equipment were loaded and a move was made to the first small rapid on the river. The morning was spent teaching basic white-water techniques. This was generally successful, although a number of capsize proved that the instruction was not perfect! Later in the day, an attempt to shoot the first rapid was made with only one capsize to mar a perfect score.

The following day a two-mile trip was planned in which two major rapids had to be negotiated. By this time, most of the Juniors had gained some confidence on white water and the results were quite good. The instructors split the class into two ability groups – advanced and intermediate. Both groups were doing well when we covered the same stretch of river the next day. Lunchtime each day was a buffet spread out on a groundsheet eagerly hoovered down by junior and staff alike.

On 31 May, a new and more difficult stretch of river was covered with four major rapids on route. Once on the rapid a slalom course was found and in attempting several of the gates, one or two juniors tried a little too hard and finished upside down.

At one stage J.Ldr Potts of 13 Pl casually mentioned that because he had capsized so many times he was thinking about joining the Sappers as a member of the underwater riverbed survey team.

Cpl Hill of the 3rd Bn did an excellent job as an instructor and will be required again next year. Also J.Ldr Hitchcock and J.Ldr Sinev were involved in Ex Double Take and are presently serving with the 3rd Bn.

## Schools

### Who wants to join?

By Maj Dick Gould

"WHO wants to join the Army"

Slowly, a trickle of arms raised, their owners looking with embarrassment at the rest of the group who sat smugly, having bluffed the system into having a week off school.

"Well we will see about that", said the instructor ... and he did.

So began the first of two attachments to the Battalion in July under the Eastern District "Look at Life" scheme. This is aimed at schoolboys aged between 14 and 16 who are attached from their schools and homes for a week in the summer term to look at a job of their choosing. 100 boys chose to visit the Army in Colchester and joined the Pompadours.

They arrived by train, car and taxi, apprehensive and unsure, but soon settled in under the leadership of Sgts Beaumont, Easterbrook and Kiely. Their day began with Reveille at 0630 hrs, a rude shock to one and all but it was part of a plan to show them the real Army as they would see it as a soldier. The boys then took part in many activities such as firing sand-filled mortar rounds, using the MILAN trainer, driving Land Rovers, firing rifles and doing the assault course. The first day ended with sports until 8 pm in a bid to prevent extensive pillow fights.

After their initial suspicions, bred by watching too many old war films, were allayed, the boys settled down to enjoy themselves, throwing themselves into every situation and activity with great vigour. Indeed, the competitive spirit and team work shown on the assault course would have done justice to trained soldiers. We found that the boys responded to both mental and physical challenges, perhaps often missing in their schools, with great enthusiasm.

The highlight of the attachment was an exercise where groups of boys patrolled against each other. They fed in the field, camouflaged themselves and used their newly-learned fieldcraft skills. The exercise ended in a climax of rifle shooting and thunderflashes as they destroyed each other's bases.

A survey at the end of the course showed that 80 per cent were in favour of joining the Army – a complete change from the initial poor showing and a tribute to the Pompadour squad leaders and instructors. It remains to be seen how many will actually join over the next three years, but the seeds have been sown.



# Rebadging at Leys School

### The Leys School CCF Rebadging and Annual Inspection

AN INSPECTION of the CCF is only compulsory every second year, but a contingent may choose to invite a senior officer and hold a slightly less formal event if it wishes, in the intervening period. This year, we were delighted when Maj Gen Patrick Stone accepted our invitation to visit the school as our inspecting officer. As a former Commanding Officer of the Poachers and a parent of a member of the CCF, his participation was particularly appropriate; because the main purpose of the inspection was to rebadge the Army Infantry Sections to the Royal Anglian Regiment.

A lunch, hosted by the headmaster, preceded the inspection. The morning had been very hot and it was with some trepidation that the CO accompanied Maj Gen Stone across the headmaster's lawn to where the contingent was on parade. Would there be an embarrassing collection of prostrate bodies lying there, having fainted in the heat? Fortunately, the heat of the sun was temporarily reduced by cloud, so no such disaster occurred. The new drill movements with the Cadet GP rifle were well executed by the Guard of Honour. Maj Gen Stone then presented the Royal Anglian cap badges to the Guard of Honour. The drill throughout the parade was of a good standard and a great credit to our SSI and those cadets who had spent so much time on it.

Inspection of training followed. As usual, there were a wide range of activities to see, reflecting the many different kinds of training undertaken within the CCF. The Royal Signals Troop demonstrated their expertise with BATCO over the VHF/HF Radio Net, practised pole crossing and mast deployment and even undertook some command tasks with instructions given over the radio. Watermanship skills were well to the fore, with river crossing on ropes, raft building and canoeing all on view. The basic skills of weapon training and shooting were not neglected, either. Junior Platoon members showed that camouflage and concealment on the Fen can be amazingly effective: though the prize for the most impressive camouflage must have gone to Cadet Lidster, who rose mud-bespattered from one of the ditches like a rather dishevelled Neptune!

Our thanks must go to Maj Gen Stone, Lt Cols Sutherell and Warren, and Maj Hipkin, who between them managed to talk to and see



almost everyone and everything, despite the tight schedule. Congratulations to all who contributed so enthusiastically to what was an excellent rebadging ceremony and inspection.

▲ Above: Maj Gen Stone with Maj Brown (JC) Chris Symes (PO) and Lt Col Sutherell at the Leys School

# CCFs



The river crossing tackled well during the AGI at the Leys School



Maj Gen Stone inspects the parade and issues the new belts at Uppingham School



The newly formed Tiger PI at Uppingham School with Maj Gen Stone, Maj Boston (OC), Capt Boston, the RSM, Maj Amos and the RCO

## CCFs



The Colonel of the Regiment inspects the Guard of Honour during the centenary parade at Ipswich School. Headmaster Dr Blatchly is in attendance



Lt Gen Sir Martin Garrod, Commandant General Royal Marines, with members of Uppingham School's Tiger Platoon after their section attacks at RAF North Luffenham

# CCFs



LCpl Clegg of the RIT instructing on the 'Noddy Suit'



Lt Col Geoff Coles who is retiring from the CCF at Kimbolton School. His Army Section Commander, Maj Ken Laffin, retires at the same time

**HAVE YOU RETURNED  
TO YOUR OLD  
SCHOOL? IF NOT,  
WHY NOT? IF YOU  
CAN, PLEASE  
CONTACT THE  
REGIMENTAL  
CAREERS OFFICER  
NOW!**

35 ARMY and RAF cadets from the Combined Cadet Force at Woodbridge School, near Ipswich, spent their Field Day on 13 Oct at Bassingbourn with the R.I.T.

They were taught how to handle the SA80 rifle, then fired it and the LSW on the range; they were taught NBC safety procedures; practised parachute jumping in the Transium and took part in a strenuous log race across the airfield.

They all had an excellent day and expressed their gratitude to the R.I.T. for making it possible. They are looking forward to coming again

**CALLING ALL CCF's  
AND ACF's.  
PLEASE SEND US  
PHOTOGRAPHS OF  
YOUR CADETS IN  
ACTION FOR THE  
JUNE 1990 EDITION.**

## CCFs, Cadets



The RCO presenting Duke of Edinburgh certificates during the CCF annual inspection at Wellingborough School

## R Anglian assistance

FOR their annual camp at Warcop this July Haileybury CCF had no fewer than five Royal Anglians to assist us.

They were Lt A M Williams and LCpl C Thorburn from B Coy, 3 R Anglian, stationed at Colchester; and WO2 R Edwards, ASgt P Reeder, and ASgt P Risley of 4 Coy, 5 Bn based in Hertford.

They all did us proud and were towers of strength. Our cadets were proud, too, to be wearing the Royal Anglian Regiment badge.

Regular soldiers of The Poachers gave Leicester cadets a night to remember. CSgt Alan Nichols gives Castle Donnington cadets, from left, Malcolm Thorley, Andrew Colton, James Priestley, Carrie Beirne and James Holman, a guided tour of the Warrior armoured fighting vehicle.



# Cadets

IN the June edition we considered the demographic trough and are pleased to report that this year we have not suffered too badly. The two years ahead of us, in the recruiting and retention business, are still of great concern and we are alert to the problems.

At RMA Sandhurst we have 15 cadets in training, nine graduates and six non-graduates. We have four cadetship holders and 14 bursaries and a total of 13 Army Scholars who are all sponsored candidates for the Regiment.

Details of cadets at Sandhurst are:

## SMC 891:

Michael Sturgeon - St. Joseph's College, Ipswich and Keele University.

Christopher Sear - Rugby School/Watford and Portsmouth Polytechnic.

Their Passing-Out parade took place on 8 Dec. They will join 3 R Anglian.

## SGC 893:

Nick Nottingham - Haileybury & Durham, Army Scholar/Cadetship.

Ian Astley - Chigwell and Durham, Bursary. Chris Stephenson - Oundle and Cambridge, Bursary.

Tom O'Driscoll - Brentwood & Southampton, Bursary (brother of Desmond).

Robert Blades - Leiston and N London Polytechnic, Bursary.

Tom Petch - The Leys School and Portsmouth Polytechnic.

Paul Leslie - Cardinal Heenan and Cambridge.

Their Passing-Out parade is on 12 Apr 90.

## SMC 893:

Russell Bird - Abbotts College, S. Africa. Adrian Grinonnet - Rugby School, Army Scholar.

James Jackson - Market Bosworth College. Chris Pook - Loughborough GS.

David Schwartz - Newark School.

Their Passing-Out parade is on 10 Aug 89.

## SMC 892:

Duncan Barrow - Chantry School.

His Passing-Out parade is also on 12 Apr 90.

The following potential officers are to attend courses in January:

## SGC 901:

Lance Gerrard-Wright (TBC) - Haileybury/Sheffield, Army Scholar. Cadetship.

Keith Knight - Ramsey/Swansea.

## SMC 901:

Jason Calder - Cranbrook.

He successfully completed the last Rowallan Company Course.

Brett Jarvis - Clacton School.

Richard Moore - Felsted.

Philip Cross - Pangbourne.

We congratulate Ralph Woodisse on the award of a Cadetship and Andrew Moffat, Ian Couch, Liam McGrath and Matthew Still on their Bursary awards.

All undergraduates should please note that the next gathering at Basingbourn is on 21 Mar 90. We hope to have a good attendance again.

We congratulate the following potential officers who passed RCB this year:

Duncan Barrow, Simon Greenwood, Ian Couch, Dominic Hampshire, Jason Calder, Keith Raynor, James Jackson, Tom Petch, Andrew Moffat, Liam McGrath, Russell Bird, Paul Leslie, Chris Pook, Matthew Still, Philip Cross, Keith Knight, Richard Moore, Bruce Pettit and Brett Jarvis and the following for being awarded Army Scholarships: Neil Whithear - Merchant Taylors School; Fred Gray - Bancrofts; Stephen Romilly - Haileybury

## Potential Officer Visits/CCFs:

We thank the Regular battalions for hosting visits during the year. 1st Battalion - 7, 2nd Battalion - 6 and 3rd Battalion - 11. In addition the Poachers hosted visits from Greshams CCF, The Leys School CCF and from Ratcliffe CCF. Some undergraduate attachments were also hosted. We hope to receive 8 potential officer flights to BAOR in the next financial year. Poachers please note!

We also thank battalions for helping CCFs and ACFs during their summer camps. This was greatly appreciated and was a huge success. We hope for the same support in 1990.

## Lppingham School:

The Advanced Infantry Training Group became known as Tiger Platoon on 2 Oct 89. The cadets were given new stable belts and Regimental berets. Maj Gen Patrick Stone officiated and spoke to the cadets after the parade. The cadets are to visit the Poachers in Celle in July 1990 during their summer camp.

The CCF is given great training assistance by 7 (V) R Anglian and this battalion is to be one of their sponsor units. Their CCF Annual General Inspection took place on 5 Oct 89 with No. 2 RIT in support.

## Field Days:

We thank the Depot The Queen's Division for allowing us to use their excellent training facilities for CCFs on their field days. The following 15 schools visited in Oct 89 and the RIT hosted these visits and were responsible for their training:-

Oundle, Brentwood, Felsted, Merchant Taylors, Oakham, Greshams, Ipswich, Kimbolton, Woodbridge, The Leys, Bedford Modern, St Edmunds College, Langley, Stamford and Aldenham.

The log race results will be published soon.

## Ashburton Results 1989:

Seventy five schools participated. Positions of our schools were: 6th Kimbolton - 487; 9th Bedford - 480; 13th Oundle - 477; 14th Berkhamsted - 476; 20th Uppingham - 473; 23rd Woodbridge - 470; 26th Oakham - 470; 28th Bedford Modern - 468; 30th Merchant Taylors - 467; 31st Framlingham - 466; 34th The Leys - 464; 36th Stamford - 463; 43rd Haileybury - 455; 44th Wellingborough - 455; 52nd Greshams - 450.

## Changes in Command:

Some CCF Commanders are due to change after many years of loyal service. They are: Michael Toole - Rugby, Gordon Roberts - Bedford Modern, Mike Hall - Brentwood. (We were delighted to see that he had been awarded the OBE). Hugh Sawbridge - Haileybury and Geoff Coles from Kimbolton.

We wish them all every success in the future and thank them for all their help, useful advice and warm hospitality over so many years. We congratulate Capt Anthony Drew on his promotion to Major.

Finally, to return briefly to the 'demographic trough' and its effects on our recruiting effort. Statistics do not prove much, however, this year has seen an improvement on 1988. We have interviewed 110 potential officers at RHQ. 53 have attended Pre RCBs at Basingbourn Barracks and 41 have attended RCB with 19 being successful. These figures are all up on 1988 and we strive for equal success in the coming year.

## RHQ STATISTICS

|                         | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Attended RHQ Interviews | 102  | 140  | 138  | 139  | 138  | 116  | 90   | 110  |
| Attended Pre-RCB        | 44   | 38   | 70   | 52   | 58   | 47   | 47   | 53   |
| Attended RCB            | 30   | 40   | 49   | 47   | 42   | 43   | 26   | 41   |
| Passed RCB              | 14   | 20   | 28   | 22   | 20   | 22   | 14   | 19   |

# Cadets

## Affiliated and Sponsored CCF's as at Dec 1989

|                          |                             |                                      |                            |  |                                      |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>EASTERN DISTRICT:</b> |                             | Kings School<br>Ely                  | 1 R Anglian<br>6 R Anglian | Uppingham School   | 9/12 L<br>2 R Anglian<br>7 R Anglian |
| Bedford Modern School    | 3 R Anglian<br>6 R Anglian  | King Edward VI School,<br>Chelmsford | 3 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian | Wellingborough School  | 2 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian           |
| Bedford School           | 6 R Anglian<br>39 Engr Regt | Langley School                       | 1 R Anglian<br>6 R Anglian | Woodbridge School  | 1 R Anglian<br>6 R Anglian           |
| Berkhamsted School       | 3 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian  | The Leys School                      | 1 R Anglian<br>6 R Anglian | Wymondham College  | 1 R Anglian<br>6 R Anglian           |
| Brentwood School         | 3 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian  | Oakham School                        | 2 R Anglian<br>7 R Anglian | <b>LONDON DISTRICT:</b>  |                                      |
| Cawston College          | 6 R Anglian                 | Oundle School                        | 2 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian | Aldenham School  | 3 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian           |
| Felsted School           | 3 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian  | Ratcliffe College                    | 2 R Anglian<br>7 R Anglian | Bancrofts School   | 3 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian           |
| Framlingham College      | 1 R Anglian<br>6 R Anglian  | St Edmund's College                  | 3 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian | Merchant Taylors School  | 3 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian           |
| Greshams School          | 1 R Anglian<br>6 R Anglian  | St Joseph's College<br>Ipswich       | 1 R Anglian<br>6 R Anglian | <b>RCO:</b>  |                                      |
| Haileybury               | 3 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian  | St George's School,<br>Stowmarket    | 1 R Anglian<br>6 R Anglian | 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. |                                      |
| Ipswich School           | 1 R Anglian<br>6 R Anglian  | Stamford School                      | 2 R Anglian<br>5 R Anglian |  |                                      |
| Kimbolton School         | 1 R Anglian<br>7 R Anglian  |                                      |                            |  |                                      |



# Around the Branches



AT the annual dinners in London, King's Lynn, Norwich and Gorleston, the attendance figures seem again to be growing as more senior members seem determined to attend and younger East/Royal Anglian Regiment members also show a desire to attend.

The 2nd Battalion "Kohmina" Club held its annual dinner at the Norfolk Club on 5 May 1989. Col Henry Conder presided and some 11 members and guests enjoyed a thoroughly nostalgic occasion.

The annual dinner and lunch of the Officers' Dinner Club were held at the Norfolk Club on 2/3 June respectively. Maj Gen Sir David Thorne presided at the dinner which was attended by 46 members. On Saturday, 3 Jun, 30 members and their wives enjoyed the annual lunch.

On Sunday 4 Jun the annual cricket match between a scratch Royal Anglian XI and a team raised by Edward Evans Lombe was held at Marlingford. The cricket was greatly enjoyed by both players and spectators as was the performance by the 1st Battalion Band. Once again, a thoroughly enjoyable day and the Regiment expresses its thanks to our most generous hosts, Edward and Marilyn Evans Lombe.

At the first day of the Royal Norfolk Show, the Regimental tent was used by the Deputy Colonel to provide entertainment for headmasters and potential officers who were suitably hosted by Regimental personalities. The second day was, as usual, rather quiet. Once again, the association has to express its warmest thanks to Mrs John Davidson and Mrs G Sanders for the marvellous flower arrangements.

On 16 Jul, many members attended the Royal Anglian Reunion at Bassingbourn where they were proud to take part in a March Past and to enjoy a very happy day meeting old friends and younger members of the Regiment.

The Gorleston and Yarmouth branch is growing in strength and some 50 enjoyed their

recently held annual branch dinner at the Rumbold Arms on 6 Oct at which the president, Maj Gen Sir David Thorne, was the chief guest.

In Norwich, Roy Smith and a few Ex East Royal Anglian chums meet at the Clarence Harbour (near the football ground) on the last Friday of the month. If you are in Norwich, drop in and swap a yarn or two.

The King's Lynn dinner, held on 27 Oct, was an all-time record for attendance with 82 sitting down to dinner. Maj Gen Sir David Thorne briefed everyone on the 1st Battalion's progress in South Armagh.

The Regimental Benevolent Fund has been able to provide timely financial grants to 58 former members of the Royal Norfolk Regiment and their families, amounting to £4,665 during the year ending 30 Jun 1989. Some of these requests were for assistance to buy such items as nebulisers, which are unavailable on the National Health, a powered wheelchair, scooter and a short holiday. In addition to the grants, the Army Benevolent Fund is assisting in providing small pensions for seven former members of the Regiment in need of continuous support.

The Regimental Benevolent Committee much appreciates the assistance it receives from branches of SSAFA, the Royal British Legion, FEPOW and other charitable organisations who continue to process the requests from former members of the Regiment for assistance.

The cottages at Norwich and King's Lynn continue to be occupied by former members of the Regiment and their families. Sadly, Mr Leslie Gotts (Norwich occupant) died on 19 Dec 1988. Mrs Gotts has decided to remain living in a Norwich bungalow.

On Sunday, 23 Apr 1989 the annual Commemoration Service was held in the Regimental Chapel. Canon Wynter Blathwayt conducted the service, the lesson was read by Maj Gen Sir David Thorne and the address was given by the Rev Canon H Bishop. The Regimental Chapel committee is again very grateful for the efforts of Mrs Rosemary Barclay who once again provided and arranged flowers in the chapel throughout the year.

The work of researching and assembling the various items and exhibits has continued under Maj Bob Godfrey and Mr David Jones. The design team of Robin Wade/Pat Read partnership has continued to liaise with Norfolk Museum Service and the county council over

the interior alterations and fitting out requirements to No 2 Court, the Shirehall. The title of the New Museum was confirmed by the Regimental Museum Trustees as being "The Royal Norfolk Regimental Museum" on 9 Mar 1989.

Plans are proceeding to capitalise on the additional display area afforded by the tunnel between the Castle and the New Museum and Maj Eton has now given £10,000 towards the cost of this project.

The planned opening of the Museum is to be in Jul 1990.



OUR annual reunion was held at the Beacholme, Cleethorpes on the weekend of 23/24 Sep. Maj Gen Sir Christopher Welby-Everard presided. Among those present were Maj Gen Gerrard-Wright, Maj Gen Gilbert, Col Bailey and Col Dale.

214 members and their wives sat down to dinner on the Saturday evening.

The 1990 reunion will be held at the same place on the weekend of 22/23 Sep.

**OCA President:** Maj Gen Sir Christopher Welby-Everard retired from the post of President of the Association on 1 Oct 1989 after 23 years service. Members of the association presented him with a statuette of a Lincolnshire Poacher in appreciation of his long and dedicated service and wished him all the best in his retirement.

Maj Gen Gerrard-Wright has assumed the mantle of President and being a genuine "poacher" is already well known to all members.

**Pte J Kirk, VC:** Pte John Kirk was awarded the Victoria Cross for gallantry during the Indian Mutiny whilst serving

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# Around the Branches

Joe Lynch GC with Cllr Dorothy Gavin and Maj Gens Welby-Everard and Gerrard-Wright at the dedication of a new headstone for the grave of Pte Kirk VC

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with the 10th Foot. After retiring from the army he went to live in Liverpool and died there in August 1865 at the early age of 38. At the time of his death he was living in the workhouse. He was buried in a pauper's grave along with five others. The location of the grave was not known until earlier this year as there was no headstone. The Regimental Trustees, with the aid of a grant from the Royal Anglian Regiment, commissioned a headstone to be erected over private Kirk's final resting place. A Dedication Service was held at Anfield Cemetery in June and was attended by Maj Gen Sir Christopher Welby-Everard, Maj Gen Gerrard-Wright and Captain Smith, Mrs Gavin, the Chairman of Liverpool City Council also attended.

As a point of interest, private Kirk's medal is on display with our Regimental Collection at the Museum of Lincolnshire Life in Lincoln.

**Le Havre:** The 45th anniversary of the liberation of Le Havre was celebrated in September. Mr Simpson, of Stamford, accompanied by Mr Harry Castle and Mr George Clark, all ex-members of our 4th Battalion, attended the celebrations and presented a bronze plaque on behalf of the Regimental Trustees. This plaque will be placed in the Military Annexe of the cemetery of Ste Marie at Le Havre.

**Sobraon Weekend:** The officers reunion will take place at Sobraon Barracks on the weekend of 28/29 Apr 1990. The usual format, officers' dinner on the Saturday evening followed by a drinks reception and curry lunch on the Sunday. Further details will be published early in the new year.

**Deaths:** The following members of the association have passed on since last going to press. Mr Body, Mr Barker, Mr Davidson, Mr Dowsett, Mr Robinson and Chelsea In-Pensioner Millhouse.



SADLY we have to report the death of our president, Lt Col John Barrow DSO, who died in his sleep on 4 Oct 1989 after less than two years in office. He commanded the 1st Battalion with distinction during the Chindit Campaign and in 1958 formed the 3rd Battalion, the East Anglian Regiment, which he commanded for the next three years. He was a very popular and highly respected member of the association and will be sadly missed.

We welcome as our new president, Lt W A ("Bill") Whittaker who joined the 2nd Battalion at the outbreak of the war in 1939 and remained with it until the end of hostilities, the only officer to do so. He took over command in Algeria in May 1943 and held it until Rome was reached

in July 1944. During this time the Battalion took part in all the major battles in Algeria, Tunisia and Italy, serving with special distinction at Casino. After the war he became well known in the film world and produced many films, the most notable of which were "The Dam Busters", "Ice Cold in Alex" and "The Rebel".

The annual dinner was, as usual, held at Sele School, Hertford, on 6 May 1989 when 240 members and their guests enjoyed an excellent dinner and a very pleasant evening. The principle guests were the Mayor of Hertford, Councillor Mrs Judith Sparks and Mr Sparks, Brig W T Dodd OBE and Mrs Dodd, Lt Col J Lacey, Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment, and Mrs Lacey. We were also very pleased to welcome a party of officers and warrant officers from the 3rd Battalion. In a short speech our chairman, Brig Angus Robertson CBE, welcomed those present and thanked the branch secretaries for their excellent work on behalf of their branches and the association. In particular

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# Around the Branches

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he thanked Mr Stanley Mansfield for again organizing this excellent evening. Following the usual toasts Brig Robertson proposed a toast to the 3rd Battalion, and in reply Lt Col Lacy gave a resumé of the recent activities of his battalion and extended a welcome from the battalion to all members of the association. The evening, which had begun with the entry into the hall of the nine branch Standards, ended at midnight with the Regimental March.

Lt Col J B Collings-Wells was born at Caddington Hall near Dunstable in Bedfordshire on 19 Jul 1880. He went to France with the 4th Battalion The Bedfordshire Regiment taking over command in December 1916, and was killed in action on 27 Mar 1918 at Bouzincourt Ridge, in Northern France during the German spring offensive. He was awarded the Victoria Cross for conspicuous bravery and skilful leadership sustained throughout the period 22 to 27 March and in particular on the 22nd during a rear guard action and on the 27th while leading a highly successful counter-attack.

As he was a bachelor, his Victoria Cross was presented to his parents by the King at Buckingham Palace on 1 June 1918, and with his other medals was recently inherited by his niece, Mrs R J Beharrell and her brother Mr A A Collings-Wells. Fortunately, for the association they decided that it was only right that their uncle's medals should be returned to his old Regiment where they could be put on public display.

Accordingly, at a luncheon party held at HQ Warley on 19 Jul 1989, the medals and some relevant and most interesting papers, including one to the Colonel's parents from the King, were presented to Brig W T Dodd OBE, who received them on behalf of the association. To commemorate the occasion and as a small token of appreciation, Mrs Beharrell and Mr Collings-Wells were each presented with an Elizabeth silver bowl with a replica of their Uncle's Victoria Cross in the centre, and a copy of "The Story of The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire



Left to right, Mr J M Beharrell, Mrs Beharrell, Brigadier W T Dodd DSO (holding the medals), Mr A A Collings-Wells and Mrs Collings-Wells.

## Regiment

It was thought appropriate, in view of the Collings-Wells' family association with Luton that the medals should be placed in the Regimental Room at The Wardown Park Museum in that town. This has been done.

Also presented were two side drums of the Hertfordshire Regiment Militia which were presented by Mrs Spriggs, whose mother was Lt Col J B Collings-Wells' sister. Unfortunately she was unable to attend. It is a matter of regret that the origin of these drums is unknown and all Mrs Spriggs is able to say is that they were presented to the Colonel's mother by an unknown donor.

The receipt of Lt Col John Collings-Wells' Victorian Cross means that there are now two examples of this decoration in Luton Museum the other one being that of the late Pte Edward Warner.



On Sunday, 3 Sep 1989 more than 400 members of the Hertfordshire Regiment Association accompanied by contingents from the Royal Navy Association the 16th Foot Association, the Cambridgeshire Regiment and the Royal British Legion gathered at All Saints Church, Hertford, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the embodiment of their Regiment on 3 Sep 1939.

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After gathering at the Richard Hale, Hertford, the contingent marched to All Saints Church led by the T A Band of the Royal Anglian Regiment and the Colours. In command was Lt Col Alan Melville for whom this was a very special occasion as when the Colours were laid up at the beginning of the war he carried the King's Colour.

The service was conducted by the vicar, the Rev David Mowbray, and the chaplain of the Hertfordshire Regiment, the Rev Simon Godfrey. The lesson was read by Col S R Burr. A wreath was laid by Brig G W Peters DSO, MC, who commanded the 1st Battalion with distinction in Italy.

The Hertfordshire Regiment Association held its annual dinner and dance on Saturday 7 Oct 1989. Councillor and Mrs Hunter, Mayor and Mayoress of Hertford and Councillor Peter Rutter, Chairman of East Hertfordshire District Council, were the principle guests. Approximately 150 association members and their guests attended.



THE annual reunion was held on Saturday and Sunday, 1 and 2 Jul. The various Regimental meetings and the dinner were held on the Saturday and the Comrades' Church Parade and officers' luncheon on the Sunday.

The AGM was held at noon on Saturday, with Gen Sir John Akehurst (president), Lt Col P Worthy (chairman) and 20 members present.

The comrades' reunion dinner was held at the Drill Hall, Clare Street on Saturday evening when 1 Comrades and guests attended. Gen Sir John Akehurst presided and proposed toasts "The Queen" and "Our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief". In his speech, Gen Akehurst welcomed the



Regimental dinner guests, from left: Brig W T Dodd, Mrs Dodd, Mrs A Robertson, Brig A F F H Robertson, Mayor of Hertford, Cllr Mrs J Sparks, Mrs J Lacy, Mr A Sparks, Lt Col J Lacy, OC the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment

guests and said how pleased he was to see a large attendance. At 189, our numbers were only one down on last year and while the reunion continued to attract this level of support it would continue in its present two-day format.

The General was delighted to see our In-Pensioner, "Sandy" Pell, with us again; also John Hosking, who with his wife, Toni, had travelled from the USA to be with us. The General congratulated David Deacon who had again organised his contemporaries and swelled our numbers.

Referring to the Church Parade, Gen Akehurst said that with but 200 days and an early breakfast to go before his retirement, this would be the last time on which, as a serving officer, he would inspect the Comrades. He hoped to see all present on parade for church in the morning. The General expressed our disappointment that HRH Princess Alice was unable to be with us. Due to another engagement she had reluctantly to cancel her visit. It is hoped that Princess Alice would honour us in 1990.

Gen Akehurst thanked Col John Wilson, Maj Tony Amos and Mr Peter Wilson who had done so much to ensure the success of the reunion and, in conclusion, thanked Bandmaster David McCrum and the band of the 2nd Bn (The Poachers) who had played and entertained

us so well during the dinner and who were to play for us on Church Parade the following day. The General ended by proposing the toast "The Regiment".

On Sunday, the Comrades, 186 strong, paraded for church under the Command of Lt Col Peter Worthy and, headed by the Band, marched to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre where the parade halted and Line was formed facing the church. On his arrival, Gen Sir John Akehurst, our president and Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment, was received with a General Salute and then inspected the Comrades.

At the start of the service, Gen Akehurst handed the Regiment's wreath to the chaplain, who, after placing it before the altar, read the Collect of the Northamptonshire Regiment. A bugler then sounded the "Last Post" and after a silence, "Reveille". The lesson was read by Gen Akehurst and the address was given by Maj the Rev. G R Buchanan, whom, in 1936, as an officer of the unattached list Indian Army served with the 48th at Dinapore and Lebong.

After the service the Parade reformed and marched back to Gibraltar Barracks, en route giving a smart "Eyes-Right" to the Mayor, Councillor Malcolm Lloyd, who took the salute.

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After dismissal, the officers entertained their guests at Simpson Barracks, while the Comrades made their way, or were bussed to the Drill Hall, there to continue reminiscing and swapping yarns.

It is an open secret that for many years some Comrades having paraded, marched to church and been inspected, have then defaulted. Instead of joining the service they have proceeded to the club or Clare Street, there to partake of the "hair of the dog" before returning to church in time for the March-Past and return to barracks. Imagine then, their surprise on 2 Jul when, due to a shortened service, they returned to church only to be informed by a startled clergyman that the service was over and that the parade had marched off!

ON 14 June, 12 members of the All Burma Veterans' Association of Japan visited the Northampton Regimental Museum on one of the first of such visits to the UK since the end of the war.

Brig D E Taunton, who had commanded the 48th for most of its time in Burma, had agreed to meet the visitors - some of whom, fighting with the Japanese 33 Division, had opposed the 48th throughout the campaign in Burma - and to speak briefly on various actions of the 48th.

Present partly from curiosity, more than half convinced that we were being conned into pulling the trigger of someone else's pistol it was, in the event, agreeably surprising to have one's fears proved groundless.

With advancing years feeling and perceptions change. Feelings that once drove us to great lengths to meet the challenge and inflict maximum hurt now fall far short of the hatred envinced by so many. This hatred, one suspects, (those intimately acquainted with the horrific treatment of POW's being most especially excepted) is as spurious as it is self consuming is probably engendered as much by fear and hearsay as by personal experience of close-quarter confrontation with the Japanese.

That said, the barbaric treatment of POW's by the Japanese still rankles, arousing a passionate hatred of that country. In Northampton, a proposal (to which the borough council has acquiesced) that a Japanese "peace pole" be erected, has met with hostility and derision.

Our visitors were made aware of this hostility but from their stolid, inscrutable countenances it was impossible to gauge their feelings. Presumably it is not within their nature to express regret or even to admit to a knowledge of the atrocities.

They were however, clearly anxious to "break the ice" and establish better relations with their erstwhile adversaries. Small wonder then, that the visit had received no publicity and had been kept low key.

There was no hint of arrogance about our visitors or of the "knightly qualities" of Bushido, nor were they the buck-toothed squinting idiots portrayed by wartime cartoonists. They were in the main old and initially apprehensive of their reception. They were in turn inscrutable and shy and, as the visit progressed and as we retraced familiar ground, animated.

Studying them, I reflected on the humane treatment accorded the wounded Ishizaki, captured at Kyaukchaw on 25 Jan 44; of "Tojo", taken on the Silchar track on 28 Apr 44 and whom for a few days happily assisted the cooks at "Roadhead". There was another who surrendered to 2 Coy ("Tiny" Webb) on 14 Apr '45 at the end of a five-day Coy search and destroy patrol. They were all well treated, given food and cigarettes and, more importantly, (such is our nature and one of our better national characteristics) all animosity ceased.

The leader of the visitors was one Ushiyama, Saitara (1-28-4 Kamii Kebukuro, Toshima-Ku, Tokyo, 170 Japan) who had opposed us on the "Track" and .5846. To him Brig Taunton handed an encased hanko (personal seal) removed from the dead body of a Japanese soldier of 214 Regiment at Kyaukchaw in Jan '44.

This generated much excitement and

Mr Ushiyama undertook to return the seal to the family of the dead soldier. Another, Tamayama Kazuo had been serving in Saigon in Sep '45 when Brig Taunton received the formal surrender of the Japanese forces in Indo-China. Others, fighting with the Japanese 31 Division had opposed the Royal Norfolk Regiment at the Siege of Kohima.

Most of the visitors spoke English, although the conversation was conducted mainly through an interpreter. The schedule was tight, the visit being from 1400-1530 hrs only but over a cup of tea time was found for comment and questions.

Personal gifts were exchanged (saki for the brigadier!) many photographs were taken and the visit ended with the Japanese presenting to the museum a framed print of Cuneo's painting of the action at Kohima.

In addition to the 12 Japanese visitors there were present from the Regiment: Brig D E Taunton, Maj E P Kelly (48th), Col J P Wetherall (Curator), Lt Col J L Wilson (Regt Secretary) and Mr Peter Wilson. Others were Maj G E Bradshaw, Royal Norfolk Regt, who in liaison with Mr Louis Allen, author of "Burma, The Longest War" had organised the visit; Maj (Dr) Harold Brown (MO to 1 Royal Norfolk at Kohima) and Maj C Gregg, who had served with the Chindits.

In conclusion, we agreed that the visit had been very worth while. It was a pity time was so short.



ROYAL Tigers weekend was held this year on 24 and 25 Jun. Once again, attendance was good.

The weekend began with the AGM. 72 Old Comrades attended and the chair was taken by Col T Holloway. Col

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Holloway made particular reference to the work of the Gen Committee during the year, under the steady guidance of the chairman, Col WG Dawson. All members were most grateful to the committee members, who had contributed to the undoubted success of the Tercentenary celebrations.

The meeting was followed by the annual dinner, held in the drill hall at Ulverscroft Road. More than 250 Old Comrades attended the dinner and the innovation of ladies dining, introduced in 1988 and continued this year, will be a permanent fixture of future dinners.

Now that the major refurbishment of Leicester Cathedral is complete we held the annual parade service in the regimental Chapel. Canon-in-residence, Michael Wilson took the service and the sermon was given by Canon Derek Buxton. We were honoured by the presence of the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, the Chairman of Leicestershire County Council, the Lord Mayor of Leicester and the Chief Constable of Leicestershire. Afterwards the Lord Lieutenant took the salute at the March Past. There was a very good turnout for this Parade, with more than 400 Old Comrades marching.

Following the parade, the annual drinks party was held at Ulverscroft Road. As usual the Royal British Legion Band, who had earlier led the Parade, played light airs while old soldiers, wives and guests reminisced of times fondly remembered. All in all a most successful weekend, due in the most part to 7 R Anglian. We continue to be most grateful for their help and support that makes Royal Tigers weekend so successful. It was again pleasing to see a number of R Anglian Comrades at the weekend, an encouraging sign for the future of the Leicester branch of the Royal Anglian Regiment Association.

On 4 May 1989 a Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Maj Gen Sir Douglas Kendrew KCMG CB CBE DSO, was held in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. The service was conducted by the Rev Denys Bartlett and the address was given by Sir George

Sinclair. The large and distinguished congregation included a great many regimental friends from the 17th Foot and from a number of other Regiments.

THE Gorleston & District Branch was formed in October 1988 and meets on the last Wednesday of each month at the Kevill Arms, Church Road, Gorleston.

Membership is open to all serving and ex-serving members of all Regular and TA Bns of the Royal Anglian Regiment, including any Corps personnel attached (male or female); and any ex-members of any former County Regiment now forming part of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

We would welcome a visit from any serving or ex-service soldier of any rank from any Bn who may be in the Great Yarmouth area, who would like to make himself known.

Due to increasing membership within the branch, the venue in future may be changed, therefore any person wishing to pay a visit would be advised to phone either Bob Waller (GY669961) or Ben Turner (GY 600070) for details.



THREE major events stand out since the last edition. The first was the visit to Normandy to dedicate the memorial at the Hillman Atlantic Wall strongpoint. It was a most moving occasion and most of us who were there have long since run out of superlatives. It was magnificent in every way. Frank Matthews, Eric Lummis and Hugh Merriam organised and ran a wonderful visit.

The second event - of a different calibre - was the second Regimental Gathering at Bassingbourn on 16 July. Built on the acclaim and goodwill from last year's Gathering it was a most enjoyable day. The teams at The Keep

and at Depot are to be congratulated for organising such a memorable reunion. May it prosper!

The third event was Minden Day. In the heart of the warmest, driest summer etc, our Reunion rates only with Wimbledon for producing rain. Even that torrential outburst could not ruin the day.

There have been some mutterings about the Drumhead Service arrangements and those for the OCA March Past. Most of these observations, funnily enough, have come from the folk who, while serving, did not much enjoy Church Parades and who would avoid a March Past-type parade like the plague, given the chance.

While we do not keep attendance records - how could we - everyone is in no doubt that 1989's Minden Reunion saw more people, listened to more and better music, drank more beer and ate more food than ever before. It also has to be said - it cost more.

Tim Slinn and his Reunion Committee deserve our congratulations.

While the Reunion enjoys this success, we must think hard about the future. Tim Slinn undertook to run three Reunions, 1990 will be his third. Who will succeed him? Are there any volunteers? Members of the Reunion Committee share one failing with the rest of us - they are not getting any younger, who will step forward to help them? Someone must do so - and soon - if the rest of us are to continue to enjoy our Minden Reunions in years to come.

While advice and comment are always welcome, we need some real physical support. A reasonable guess might be that we may only see a couple more of the present high standard unless we can find some new blood.

A little over two years ago the Regiment learnt that Madame Lenauld, a widow of Colleville-Montgomery, wished to offer to the Regiment a part of the Hillman strongpoint as a memorial to the Regiment.

In February this year Brig Bill Deller travelled to Caen where the formal transaction took place transferring

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ownership of a part of France to The Suffolk Regiment. On 7 June the memorial was unveiled by Lady Goodwin and Madame Lenauld in a simple but special ceremony.

To enable all this to take place involved a number of individuals on both sides of the Channel in quite a lot of work. After a preliminary visit by Lt Col Eric Lummis and a formal approach by Madame Lenauld, a committee was set up to make the necessary arrangements.

The target date was June 1989 when another visit to Normandy to commemorate the 45th anniversary of D Day had been planned.

A small party consisting of Hugh Merriam, Frank Matthews, Arthur Heal (the sapper officer with 1 Suffolk on 6 June 44) and Eric Lummis went to Colleville on three occasions to ensure that all arrangements were made.

Tribute must be paid to the Mayor of Colleville to the physical work of clearing the site to reveal the bunker which occupies half the plot of land, constructing a car park, clearing the site, erecting a fence and a flagpole and installing gates.

A great deal of this was provided by the mayor and commune without charge to The Regiment. In addition, as there were more wanting to take part in the visit than could be found rooms in the hotel, the inhabitants of Colleville found beds for 23 visitors from England.

The programme for the 45th anniversary visit had been planned to be rather less strenuous than that for the 40th anniversary, helped considerably by the fact that the hotel was nearby. Two coaches left East Anglia on Sunday 4 June.

The next day started with a visit to the remarkable memorial museum recently built to illustrate very graphically not only the battle for Normandy in 44 but also the origins of the last war and what took place in France.

From there the party drove past the war cemeteries at Banneville and Ranville where Suffolk Regiment men are buried and then on to Pegasus Bridge. From the invasion beach at La Breche, Hermanville



The unveiling of the plaque at the Hillman Memorial by Lady Goodwin and Madame Lenauld

we moved to Morris and were shown round the gun positions captured by B Coy 1 Suffolk 45 years ago.

The day ended with a visit to the bunker at Hillman with the memorial plaques in position for the ceremony.

The next day's programme started with a ceremony at the 3rd Division memorial in the centre of Caen below the Chateau. Leaving old colleagues from other units of 3 Div, the Suffolk party moved on to the Château de la Londe, the scene of heavy losses for the battalion in a hard fought battle on 28 June 44. The owner of the Chateau, 90-year-old Monsieur Formigny de la Londe had been asked to let us look round the grounds. It was, therefore, very unexpected to find that he had opened the Château to some 100 visitors and invited them to partake of champagne.

After this welcome hospitality, we looked around the cemetery at Douvres-la-Delivrande where so many Suffolk soldiers are buried. The day ended with the annual ceremony at the 3 Div memorial on the beach at Hermanville, followed by wreathlaying at Hermanville cemetery and a vin d'honneur in the village hall.

The final day was the unveiling

ceremony at Hillman. The weather did its worst but the ceremony went ahead in the face of wind and rain in a place deliberately chosen for its clear views and absence of shelter. Local branches of ex-servicemen's organisations were present and trumpeters from 1 Royal Anglian, their scarlet hidden under their cloaks took post under their Bandmaster.

Overall flew the yellow and red of the Suffolk Regiment flag. After an opening fanfare a welcoming speech by the Mayor and an introduction by Eric Lummis, Padre Tom Hiney from Shape (and late Royal Anglian) dedicated the memorial before Lady Goodwin and Madame Lenauld together unveiled the Union Flag and the Tricolour to reveal the memorial stone and descriptive plaque on the face of the bunker.

After prayers the Last Post, silence and Reveille were sounded.

The ceremony ended with wreaths being laid by Lady Goodwin, Madame Lenauld, representatives of the Old Comrades Association who had taken part in the capture of Hillman and the Mayor and others from the village.

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To round off this day the Mayor had laid on a vin d'honneur in the village hall. This enabled Brig Deller to present to Madame Lenauld a crystal bowl engraved with the Regimental badge and to make presentations to the Mayor and Monsieur Brisset who had acted as an invaluable go between in the discussions on the arrangements of regimental plaques.

From Colleville it was but a short trip to Ouistreham to catch the ferry back home with pleasant thoughts of a moving and memorable trip.

**Bury and District Branch:** On 29 Mar 1989 the Stowmarket Branch invited us to a social evening at the Royal British Legion, Stowmarket. We were looked after very well by our hosts and the evening went all too quickly.

We had our annual dinner on Saturday 22 Apr. Col J P Macdonald, accompanied by Mrs Sue Macdonald, was dinner chairman. Also present was Maj W H Reeve (Area Secretary) and Mrs Mary Reeve. Friends from the Cambridgeshires were represented by Maj and Mrs Ken Starling, Herbie and Mrs Taylor. In all, 112 sat down to an excellent meal followed by a dance with music supplied by "Gracious Manner".

Our AGM took place on the 25 Apr. Col W A Heal took over as president previously held by Maj Tom Warren. Tom will be sadly missed.

The Cambridgeshire held their Memorial Service on 11 Jun in Ely Cathedral and the branch was well represented. We took part in the March Past, marching behind our own standard. We had tea in the Haywards Theatre whilst the City of Ely Band entertained us.

On 16 Jul a coach load of our members went to the Royal Anglian Regiment Reunion at Bassingbourn. The weather was perfect, attendance was good and each of the Battalions of The Royal Anglian Regiment was well represented.

We had a full house for our Minden Eve buffer dance. Almost half of those

present were members of the Hemel Hempstead Branch. The food and the band were good. Many thanks to all those who help organise this event each year.

Sunday, 30 Jul, the day of the Minden Reunion, started cloudy. It was thought that it would clear and the weather forecast agreed so it was decided to hold the Drum Head church service outside, under the trees. Once again we ran out of luck, dead on 11 am when the service was due to start, down came the rain. The service, half an hour late in starting, was held in the marquee. After the service the March Past was held with Col W A Heal OBE taking the salute. The weather improved after lunch and it was possible to carry on with the planned entertainment during

the afternoon. The day finished with the 1st Battalion Royal Anglian Band and the 5th (V) Battalion Royal Anglian Band and Drums Beating the Retreat. In spite of the weather the attendance was good.

On Saturday, 2 Sept a number of our members attended a dinner dance in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the formation of the Royal Anglian Regiment. This took place at the TA Centre, Blenheim Camp, Bury St. Edmunds. 100 members sat down to an excellent meal and Maj Gen Sir David Thorne KBE accompanied by Lady Thorne, was dinner chairman. After dinner the tables were quickly cleared and very soon, aided by a good band, the floor was taken by many dancers.



MEMBERS of the Bury Branch of the Suffolk Regiment OCA made their way to Westminster on 9 Nov to take part in the Service of Remembrance outside St Margaret's.

After the service the Queen Mother, who attends this event every year, made her way round to the various Regimental plots.

In the above picture the Queen Mother is seen in front of the Suffolk Regiment plot having a word with the secretary of the

Bury Branch.

The Queen Mother then moved on to meet two representatives from the Royal Norfolk Regiment and representatives from the Royal Anglian Regiment.

It is very much appreciated by all that the Queen Mother makes sure that she sees every plot and speaks to regimental representatives, which took her well over an hour to do.

# Around the Branches

**Beccles and District Branch:** The Minden summit has come and gone the Regiment OCA continues its life of social welfare and comradeship maintaining ideals that are honourable to all especially those who are able bodied. We at Beccles regard our welfare work as the most important aspect of our association. We have an active Welfare Secretary who reports at our monthly meetings and we are in tandem with the local RBL and so, those less fortunate are in touch. With the advent of the new welfare form the executive will be able also to be informed at its meeting of welfare work in the OCA.

Recently, we held a successful buffet dance at Lowestoft drill hall, attended by Leiston and Ipswich members. We are grateful to Walter Taylor and his wife who cheerfully shouldered the main tasks. 50 members made the journey to Gibraltar barracks for Minden Day but unfortunately the bus disappeared on putting them down as did the haversack rations on board. A wet lunch is better than no lunch! The day, however was enjoyable. Thanks to the "boss man" and his team.

The recent loss of Ernie King was sad. Many attended his funeral at Hempsall. There will be wonderful memories of Ernie, a lovable stalwart, always eager to help.

Integration into local affairs and in local occasions help uphold the dignity we enjoy within the area. Again this year we take part in the open Christmas fair. Standard will soon be with us and dedication day is in sight.

Hillman was an historic occasion according to our people who attended, would it not be nice to see Madame Lenauld at the next Minden Day reunion?

Our monthly meetings are well attended, our funds are healthy and we average an attendance of 50. Our wishes to all members and their dependants for a happy and joyful Christmas and Prosperous New Year. To close, I must relate the MO's report on the sick Adjutant .. he suffered a mild hard attack!

Best wishes.

Fred Taylor

**Ipswich and District:** Although 1989 has been a very good year for this branch we got off to a bad start. We decided on a programme of events to give some activity for each month. Our first was a visit to Beccles, which had to be cancelled because the hall was not large enough to accommodate all who wished to attend. An alternative hall could have been hired for another date. This would have incurred additional expenditure to Beccles Branch and notifying each member of the change of date. To avoid this, we decided as we had booked a coach for 13 Mar to use it for a mystery tour instead.

On 6 May we had to choose whether to attend the buffet dance at the TA Centre at Leiston or join Felixstowe Branch at a tea party which they had organised with a view of raising funds with which to buy a Branch Standard. Our members elected to stay nearer home for the tea party. This was a very enjoyable afternoon out and we thank the Felixstowe Branch for inviting us and we offer our apologies to Leiston Branch for our lack of support on that occasion.

During June we took advantage of the good weather and boarded a coach for a day's outing to Clacton. On arrival, a breakaway group disappeared without trace, reappearing at approximately 3pm looking content with life. It appears they had spent some time in a nearby tavern where music was provided and dancing permitted. Everyone enjoyed that day out and it can be assumed this will be an annual event.

Our next venture was a conducted tour of the Chelsea Hospital where we met an ex-Suffolk Regiment man, Mr Jim Phillips, who was wearing the Chelsea Pensioner uniform. He was very pleased to meet and chat with some of our members with whom we had served. The conducted tour was well organised and the guides were interesting. We were all impressed with the massive dining room and sturdy dining room tables which must be quite ancient and worth a bob or two. The Chapel, too, proved as impressive as the dining room. It was the chapel in which we were most interested as we wanted to place a kneeler there to represent

the Suffolk Regiment. The hospital is well worth a visit, all ex soldiers take note as they need more recruits there. We intend holding our once a year buffet dance but as we now seem to have difficulty in using the TA Centre for this purpose due to security reasons we must consider an alternative venue for parking cars and coaches.

In conclusion we wish all our comrades a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

**Hemel Hempstead Branch:** On giving up the job as chairman of the Hemel Branch I have been thanked over and over for the work that I did. I would like all to know that it was not all down to me. Without the help of Tony Rogers and John Frawley we would not have got going. Thanks also to Ken Bunce and Bill Horwood at Watford. With us looking for Ex Suffolks we now have a branch of more than 90 members. Now that the branch is in new hands we will keep looking for ex-members of the Regiment. I would also like to thank all members of the Branch for the lovely present that branch chairman (Alf Hall) presented to me at the meeting on 27 Jan 89.

We have a good working branch at Hemel and have done a good job for the OCA in the four years that we have been going.

We in the Hemel branch are all Suffolks and hope to stay that way.

My thanks to all of you and I would also like to thank Jack Gingell who told me a lot about how to get going. Any time of day or night I would ring Jack and he was always there to help. Thanks to all of you.

Ray Picton

**Stowmarket & District Branch:** An opening meeting was held by Col P Dean, who welcomed the large attendance of ex members and outlined the advantages of forming a branch. The secretary of the OCA Maj Duncan Sutor then told members about the welfare aspects and active support that the branch can give.

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# Around the Branches

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After the opening discussion the branch was formally formed and officials appointed, there being 28 members. It was decided that the monthly branch meetings should take place on the last Wednesday of each month.

All members wish to thank Mr W Rowe, for the use of the British Legion Club as our HQ and for supplying sandwiches.

The Bury St. Edmunds Branch invited members to visit which proved a great success. In return, we invited them to a return visit.

A great day was held by members at the Minden Day Reunion and it was so nice to see so many friends and to chat about old times.

The entertainments committee arranged a mystery tour, during which they had a barbecue.

The Ipswich Branch was invited to our branch for a good natter.

The branch complement has now risen to 45, so it has increased quite a few and we now have a new president, Maj Tony Cobbold.

While "down under" on holiday I visited Capt Foster who wishes to be remembered to all members of the OCA.

**Leiston & District Branch:** The branch has continued to flourish during its first year since formation and membership continues to build up.

In April we moved into our new meeting place, Leiston Town Athletic Association Club, where we meet on the First Wednesday of each month at 8 pm. The club, which is only a stones throw from the TA Centre, has recently undergone an extensive rebuilding programme and can provide us with all our needs.

That well known Suffolk character, Maj Walter Mayhew consented to become president of the branch. Walter commenced his distinguished military career with the Leiston company of the 4th Bn in 1939. He was among the first to volunteer for the Parachute Regiment with whom he served until the end of the war when he returned to his Regiment



Members of the Stowmarket Branch of the Suffolk Regiment OCA

and served with the 1st Battalion in Palestine as MT Officer.

Branch activities have not been too hectic during this first year. In May we held our annual buffet dance in the TA Centre. In June, John and Jane Perrett and the branch chairman joined the Normandy party for the unveiling of the Hillman Memorial. The party had nothing but praise for the excellent organisation of all concerned, especially Premier Travel who were responsible for travel and hotel arrangements. The weather was not kind, raining at the three main events, the service at the 3 Div memorial at Caen, at the service on Sword Beach and, the heaviest downpour of all, at the unveiling of the Hillman Memorial. The unveiling of the memorial went without a hitch - even the flags over the plaques fell together at the appropriate moment and that was no mean feat. But we would expect everything to go smoothly when the organisation is in the hands of our own Regimental officers. At the end of June our president attended a tour of the first World War battlefields, an event with which he has been associated with for some years. During the visit he laid a wreath on behalf of the branch.

July 30 and our coach load was heading towards Bury for the annual Minden reunion. More than 40 members and wives enjoyed the day out in spite of the very inclement weather - what have we done to deserve such weather?

Congratulations to all involved in the organisation - it is very much appreciated.

On 26 Aug we held our first fund raising event. By kind permission of John and Jane Perrett we organised a garden fete in their spacious gardens. Again rain threatened to put a damper on things during the morning but by the afternoon it had cleared and the public came along to patronize the several side shows and stalls. We were pleased to see Doug and Jean Baddock from Bury at the event. On their way they had picked up Evelyn Boast - Jean and Evelyn had attended the pilgrimage to Normandy in June. Evelyn to the battlegrounds on which her late husband, Alec, was involved in 1944. I know they were very impressed with the trip. Alec had close connections with Leiston just after the war when he was PSI of the Leiston company for a couple of years. We were also pleased to see our old friend George, from Beccles branch. The highlight of the afternoon must have been the "fortune" telling by Gypsy Rose Mayhew - our president in drag. Thanks to the hard work of our hosts, a few of our branch members and their ladies and the generosity of many branch funds profited by more than over £175.

In September, nineteen members and their ladies attended the Beccles Branch buffet dance at Lowestoft.

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# Around the Branches

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We are now planning our majorevents for 1990 and so far have come up with the following dates: 12 May, Buffet/Dance, LTAA Club; 29 July, Minden Reunion, Bury St Edmunds; 25 Aug, Garden Fete, The Red House, Leiston; 6 Oct, Branch Dinner, LTAA Club.



A PARTY of 45 members and their wives from Thurrock attended the 45th anniversary of the liberation of Le Havre 1944.

We left at 9 pm on Thursday, 7 Sep and crossed on the 23.59 hrs ferry from Dover to Calais. We reached Le Havre at 0630 hrs on 8 Sep and a guide took us to the Hotel Climat at Montivilliers, some 5 km outside Le Havre.

After breakfast, we were picked up by a local bus for the tour of Le Havre, from 1400 to 1600 hrs, and visited the memorial exhibition in the town hall.

After dinner at the Merchant Navy School we were ferried to the Arts Centre in the great amphitheatre for a lecture and film of the Battle for Le Havre, which should have finished at 2230 hrs but did not end until 0030 hrs. We arrived back at our hotel, to be shown our rooms, at 0100 hrs, tired and weary. An unfortunate start to our visit.

**Day 2:** After breakfast we were supposed to be picked up by bus, which did not arrive so we used our own coach. A French official arrived by car to escort us to the Battlefield Tour. All buses assembled at the roadside overlooking the plateau and valley leading to Le Havre, the route taken by the 49th Division on Sunday, 10 Sept 1944. A sound effects machine had been set up and we heard the bombing of Le Havre by 621 Lancasters, 480 Halifaxes and 53 Mosquitoes, followed by artillery, tank and machine-

gun fire, also the sound of flame-throwers clearing the bunkers. We walked over the area the 2nd Battalion The Essex Regiment had taken, even visiting some of the bunkers we occupied during the advance. One was still there, as a memorial. After the battlefield tour we went to Fontaine-le-Mallett, marching with Standards to the memorial, where a service was held. I noticed with horror, as also did Capt George Green, that the Union flag was upside down. I brought it to the notice of Capt Ian Hammerton, who could not do anything till later when he discreetly brought it to the notice of the locals. They quickly righted the flag.

The Lady Mayoress welcomed us in the town hall, drinks and refreshments were available, after which a slap-up meal was laid on for our benefit. A presentation was made on behalf of the Essex Regiment by H.M. Conn in the shape of a miniature banner and branch tie with the 56th Brigade motif design, Essex title, polar bear and sphinx. After the reception at Fontaine-le-Mallett, we then went to the Ste Marie Cemetery, where a Scottish piper led the procession to the Cross of Sacrifice. A service was held, plaques were placed in position and a wreath laid by Col G.C.P. Morgan on behalf of the Essex Regiment. We visited the graves of Pte Eathough H.B. and Cpl Edwards D.V. who are buried in the cemetery Ste Marie.

At 2100 hrs on Saturday 9 Sept we were taken to the Gare Maritime for dinner and gala dance.

**Day 3:** All units assembled at the War Memorial in Le Havre at the Place de General de Gaulle where all Regimental and Branch Standards were paraded. A lone piper played a lament, Scotland the Brave and the national anthems of both countries as well as sounding the Last Post and Reveille. The whole contingent in Regimental groups, ours with Col Morgan, marched to the Church of St Joseph. The modern church had beautiful stained glass windows and the service was held in French and English. The reception in the town hall was attended by Col and Mrs Morgan. The rest of the group attended lunch at the

Merchant Navy School, which marked the end of the pilgrimage. The coach left Le Havre at 1430 hrs to catch the 1945 hrs ferry, arriving back in Thurrock at 2200 hrs.

It was a most entertaining and interesting trip, marred only by the first day's arrangements. A memorable and nostalgic journey to those of us who took part in the Liberation of Le Havre. We hope to return to see how our plaque has been installed at the Cross of Sacrifice.

H.M. Conn, Thurrock Branch.



ON THURSDAY, 20 Apr the St George's tide Eucharist was held in the Regimental Chapel at 11.30 a.m. when the celebrant was the Rev Canon D.J. Green. There were 26 communicants. The service is firmly on the calendar for the Thursday nearest St George's Day.

Following the service, coffee and sandwiches were enjoyed in the board room at Archer House, thanks to the partners of Archer & Archers, and the Ely A.G.M. followed, in time to allow those wishing to do so, to go on to Bury St. Edmunds for the memorial service.

At the Ely A.G.M. the President, Lt Col J.R. Ennion took the chair as the chairmanship had been vacant since the death of Alan Edwards. Mr P.T.P. Legge was nominated as chairman, subject to acceptance and the other officers re-elected en bloc. The accounts showed a satisfactory balance of £137.47 being less than that brought forward by the amount of £45.46 contributed for the new altar kneelers in the Regimental Chapel, due to be dedicated at the next Reunion with the promised altar rails and Credence Table.

The Hon Secretary Mr Roy Hitch said that the branch was as active as possible at all events to which they had an

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# Around the Branches

From Page 87

invitation, but mainly supported the Hon. Secretary so providing a focal point for executive functions and particularly the annual service of remembrance and reunion each mid-June.

The Hon Chaplain the Rev Canon Fred Stallard was unable to be present, but one of his first outings following his recent indisposition was to the Cathedral and Chapel, and we wish him well on the road to full health.

The annual Commemoration Service and Reunion was held at the Regimental Chapel, Ely Cathedral and the Hayward Theatre, on Sunday, 11 Jun when the attendance again exceeded expectations. The Lord Bishop gave the address, F.J. Grounds read the lesson and the Vice Dean, Canon D.J. Green, dedicated a Credence, altar rails and kneelers provided for the chapel.

The parade formed up on the King's School recreation ground and marched to the Cathedral preceded by the drums of City of Ely Military Band. The band accompanied the whole service.

The only disappointment at the last moment was the non-arrival of a contingent of the 6th Bn The Royal Anglian Regiment occasioned by their training programme.

After the service the Parade reformed in High Street and proceeded to the saluting base in The Gallery where the salute was taken by Gen Sir John Akehurst with the Lord Bishop, the Mayor and Mayoress of Ely and Lt Col E.L.V. Mapey in attendance.

Before the service, special guests were entertained to lunch at The Lamb Hotel and the reunion and tea held in The Hayward Theatre, where part of the Regimental Silver was on display.

During and after tea the City of Ely Military Band gave a concert in the grounds of the theatre, which was much appreciated.

Overtures were made to the Commanding Officer of the 1st Bn, the Royal Anglian Regiment with a view to the Band & Drums contributing to the next reunion on 10 Jun 1990, which would be a grand occasion, with two bands on

parade.

The AGM of Cambridge branch took place on 26 Sept attended by ten members. The officers were re-elected, with some changes on the committee, including the welcome addition of Col Derek Latchford and Capt Eric Clarke.

The treasurer reported a healthy financial position and the secretary was able to report that members, while not meeting regularly, gave support to all Regimental functions. The branch was able to keep in touch with its scattered and elderly membership by newsletter.

This has been a period of reflection for Whittlesey and Peterborough branch. For the last two years we have worked hard with the Standard dedication in 1987 and the All-Ranks Dinner in 1988. This year we have dedicated ourselves to increasing branch membership and finances for the branch benevolent fund.

We still have our two 1914-18 Comrades with us. Ex RQMS Tant Hillum is now 99 and Ex Pte Bill Scarr is 92, both fairly fit for their ages, both in sheltered accommodation.

The Regimental Branch Standard was accorded a great honour when it was placed on the High Altar in Ely Cathedral during the annual Memorial Service on 11 Jun. It has now been placed on the Altar in two Cathedrals, Ely and Peterborough. After the service at Ely the Standard party had the honour of leading out all the other Standards. The Standard party, provided by the Peterborough Detachment of the 5th (C) Bn (Huntingdon and Peterborough) Cambridgeshire A.C.F. is a credit to both the branch and the county.

Around 30 members and families attended the service and reunion tea. Thanks are extended to Maj Ken Starling and his band of helpers for providing a good helping of char and wads. As usual the sun shone upon the Old Comrades, who march as well as ever, but it was noticed that the ranks are thinning. Let us hope that the rumours are not true that 1990 could see the last service and reunion. While there is one Cambridgeshire left we must carry on with the event that keeps us together, for

without it we shall just fade away and soon be forgotten. Ely is our rallying point and must be preserved.

The branch held a successful jumble sale on Peterborough Market on 26 Jul when £79.10 was raised for branch funds. Thanks to Sylvia Matthews, Jimmy Carter, Don Poole, Peter Hall, Eddie Davis and the branch secretary.

A successful evening was held at the Woolpack, Worth Street, Stanground, Peterborough in company with the Peterborough Branch of the Northamptonshire and Royal Anglian Regimental Association where mine host, ex Drum Sgt Peter Newton, late of the Corps of Drums 5th (V) Bn Royal Anglian Regiment provided an excellent barbecue. Twenty-five of our members were present. During the evening a Northamptonshire Regimental plaque was presented by branch secretary Jess Matthews to the branch chairman of the Northamptonshire & Royal Anglian Association. This is to become an annual event which will be hosted next year by the branch and an invitation will be extended to all the branches of the association.

One way for the Old Comrades Associations to survive is to meet on such occasions as these.

We attended with our Standard, the Minden Day gathering of the Suffolk OCA. After a wet morning the afternoon came out quite warm and sunny and the afternoon entertainment was enjoyed by a large crowd of Old Comrades. For myself having served in both Suffolks and Cambridgeshire it was nice to meet old pals under the cover of the wet canteen.

Sunday, 13 Aug was Polish soldiers' day and branch members attended a Memorial Service at All Soul's Church, Park Road, Peterborough. Once more the Regimental Standard Party was on Parade. They were complimented by the Mayor of Peterborough, Councillor Derek Hodges on their smart turnout. After the service there was a march past and a wreath was laid on the War Memorial. After the "Fall Out" members enjoyed refreshments provided by the

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## Branches

From Page 88

Peterborough Branch Polish Ex Combatants Association at their Club in Stanground.

The Standard Party was on duty at Littleport on Sunday 24 Sep when a new War Memorial was dedicated. The branch annual memorial service was held on Sunday, 1 Oct. The Rev John Stevemett conducted the service and the Bishop of Ely gave the sermon, his last visit to the area before his retirement.

The branch hopes that the association's annual meeting decides to retain the 'Old Comrades' title.

The branch annual dinner will be held in December.

We would like to congratulate one of our vice presidents, Derek Bristow, who has been appointed Deputy Cadet Commandant of the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force. We hope that this appointment may help the branch to obtain No. 2 dress for the branch Standard party.

We thank all our sister branches in the association for their help during 1989 and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and best wishes for 1990. We may be getting a bit thin on the ground but we take great pride in being known as the family of the 'Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades' Association.

The annual dinner of the Cambridgeshire Regiment Sergeant's Dinner Club was held at the TA Centre, Coldhams Lane, Cambridge on Saturday, 7 Oct 1989. The evening was successful with nearly 80 sitting down to an enjoyable meal.

Guests of honour were Lt Col J R C Dixon, Commanding Officer of the 6th Bn The Royal Anglian regiment and his wife.

A number of our friends from the Suffolk Regiment OCA joined us, as did serving personnel of 'D' (Cambridgeshire) Coy 6th Bn The Royal Anglian, and members of the Cambridgeshire Regiment ACF.

The president Lt Col E L V Mapey paid tribute to 'Cadder' Parfitt, who died only a week or so before the dinner. Cadder had for many years, with his wife Julie, organised this annual dinner.

## Sport on Camera



Cpl Paul with some of the trophies won during the 1988/9 athletics season

Cpl Lenny Paul, a member of the 3rd Battalion, has continued in his quest to become Britain's foremost sprinter. During the past athletics season he has achieved some outstanding results, both as a member of the national squad and for his club, the Belgrave Harriers.

Cpl Paul won his first major championship of the season, the Inter-Counties, and followed this by winning the Inter-Services title for the third consecutive time. He was invited to a number of overseas competitions: firstly to Norway for the NV Games, to Belgium for an international meeting and then to Czumror

International Games in Turkey, where he won the 100 metres with a new track record. He hopes to be able to take up the offer of competing there again next year to defend his title. Cpl Paul has also competed as a member of the Belgrave Harriers Club, who finished third in the British League table and fourth in the GRE Cup.

Listed here is a full record of Cpl Paul's outstanding achievements. These are largely the result of his dedication and training, but also reflect the encouragement and support given by his Commanding Officer.

### Results for the Season 1988/9

|                                       |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Middlesex Championships:              | 1st 100m; 1st 200m.                   |
| Inter-Counties:                       | 1st 100m.                             |
| Army Individuals (Aldershot):         | 1st 100m; 1st 200m.                   |
| Inter-Services (RAF Cosford):         | 1st 100m; 1st 200m.                   |
| Southern Counties v Norway:           | 1st 100m; 1st 4 x 100m.               |
| NV Games (Norway):                    | 3rd 100m.                             |
| Belgium International:                | 1st 100m.                             |
| Commonwealth Trials (Gateshead):      | 3rd 100m (semi-finals)                |
| Czumror International Games (Turkey): | 1st 100m; new track record; 1st 200m; |
| 1st 4 x 100m.                         |                                       |
| Sprinter Trophy (Gateshead):          | 4th 100m.                             |
| McVities Cup (Crystal Palace):        | 5th 100m.                             |
| Great Britain v USSR v USA:           | 2nd 100m; 2nd 4 x 100m.               |

## Sport on camera



THE Royal Anglian Regiment Cricket Club enjoyed a season of singular success. Only one match was won but it was a season in which more matches (15) were played than ever before. Several of the drawn matches were very much in the Regiment's favour - particularly those against Haileybury Framlingham The Gents of Suffolk and the first of the tour games against the GOC Berlin's XI. As ever, it was a pleasure to play on the school's grounds for our away matches and to enjoy their hospitality afterwards.

Home matches this year were based at Colchester now that the 1st and 3rd Battalions have returned, although in the event two matches were transferred to Bassingbourn, which has been our home ground in recent years.

This year the club was able to go on their second tour to Berlin, taking in Celle with the 2nd Battalion and a match in Fallingb. en route. Our grateful thanks go to the 2nd and 3rd Battalions and the Depot, for their enthusiastic and first-class support during the season.

Team players were found from the usual combination of serving officers and soldiers, former members of the Regiment, potential officers, and those school leavers interested in

joining us - a very healthy and satisfactory mixture.

It was particularly pleasing to see an increasing number of young officers being involved. There were some good individual performances - Graham Bird, Guy Hipkin, Brian Davenport and Julian Browne continued to score runs more or less consistently and Matthew Still bowled particularly well - notably two five-wicket hauls on tour. Additionally, the record for the 2nd, 4th and 7th wicket stands were broken. Our particular thanks go to the match managers for their efforts to raise sides - sometimes a thankless task - and the club officers for their patient work throughout the year.

Next summer the plot is broadly the same, although we are considering the addition of a further two or three fixtures and hopefully, a return tour to Germany and Berlin but this time taking five or six days rather than the rushed three days this year. The detailed results for 1989 are below.

Please remember that anyone who is a member, or has a connection with the Regiment is eligible and welcome to play for the club - and can also buy the Regimental cap, tie and sweater, available from RHQ (caps at £12, ties at £13.05 (silk!), sweaters at £24.20 short sleeve, and £28.60 long sleeve).

The Regimental cricket team for the match at Haileybury on 14 May: Back row: Stephen Romilly, Chris Pattinson, Nick Nottingham, Graeme Bird, Eddie Erith, Danny Griggs. Front row: Neil Vartan, Martin Romilly, Guy Hipkin, Brian Davenport, Mike Scragg. We thank Mark for umpiring.

### Regimental Golf

THERE was a good entry for the autumn meeting of the Regimental Golfing Society on 15 Sept. Twenty four members completed and once again Flemspton Golf Club offered us every facility.

Results: Medal Handicap - winner Mr Stout, runner-up Capt Gowdy. Stableford Singles - winner Capt Halewood, runner-up Lt Col Moore. Stableford Foursomes - winners Sgt Rowe and Maj Hipkin, runners-up Cpts Gowdy and Halewood.

On the following day the annual match was played against the Flemspton Golf Club. It was a good fight and the Regiment won by 6 matches to 4 - the first time we have won since 1980.



# Sport on camera

## Regimental Cricket 1989 Results

|   |      |
|---|------|
| 13 May v The Leys School:<br>The Regiment 176 - 9 dec (Browne 52), The Leys School 125 - 6                | DRAW |
| 14 May v Haileybury College:<br>The Regiment 177 (Griggs 54), Haileybury 122 - 9 (Pattinson 5 - 15)       | DRAW |
| 21 May v Perse Pilgrims:<br>The Regiment 143 (Pattinson 70), Perse Pilgrims 147 - 3                       | LOST |
| 27 May v Bancrofts School:<br>Bancrofts 174 - 4 dec, The Regiment 96                                      | LOST |
| 4 Jun v Edward Evans Lombes XI:<br>The Regiment 178 - 9 dec (Browne 45), Edward Evans Lombes XI 173 - 8   | DRAW |
| 11 Jun v Harrow School:<br>The Regiment 120, Harrow 121 - 5   | LOST |
| 15 Jun v Felsted School:<br>Felsted 173, The Regiment 101   | LOST |
| 18 Jun v Uppingham School:<br>Uppingham 210 - 4 dec, The Regiment 201 - 8 (Latham 53)                     | DRAW |
| 25 Jun v Oundle School:<br>Oundle 151 - 7 dec, The Regiment 155 - 3 (Davenport 65, Bird 54)               | WON  |
| 26 Jun v Framlingham College:<br>The Regiment 217 - 7 dec (Hipkin 58, Knight 49), Framlingham 123 - 5     | DRAW |
| 27 Jun v Gentlemen of Suffolk & Bury & West Suffolk CC:<br>Gentlemen of Suffolk 135, The Regiment 133 - 7 | DRAW |
| 28 Jun v Greshams School:<br>The Regiment 165 - 9 dec (Still 51), Greshams 166 - 3                        | LOST |
| The Tour:   |      |
| 14 Jul v 2nd Royal Tank Regiment<br>The Regiment 156 - 7 dec, 2 RTR 158 - 9 (Still 5 - 10)                | LOST |
| 15 Jul v GOC Berlins XI:<br>The Regiment 200 (Bird 70), GOCs XI 164 - 9 (Still 5 - 36)                    | DRAW |
| 6 Jul v GOC Berlins XI:<br>GOCs XI 233 - 8 dec, The Regiment 91   | LOST |

## RARCC - Leading Averages 1989

### Batting (4 Inns min)

|                | Inns | No | Runs | HS | Ave   |
|----------------|------|----|------|----|-------|
| MP Still       | 6    | 2  | 105  | 51 | 26.25 |
| D J W Browne   | 4    | 0  | 99   | 52 | 24.75 |
| G Bird         | 10   | 0  | 227  | 70 | 22.70 |
| GWM Hipkin     | 14   | 1  | 264  | 58 | 20.31 |
| BHM Davenport  | 11   | 0  | 181  | 65 | 16.45 |
| NFC Nottingham | 4    | 0  | 59   | 41 | 14.75 |
| M S Scragg     | 7    | 0  | 113  | 26 | 14.71 |

### Bowling (4 wkts min)

|                 | O    | M  | R   | W  | Ave   |
|-----------------|------|----|-----|----|-------|
| G Pattinson     | 28   | 10 | 76  | 7  | 10.86 |
| E B Dawson      | 24   | 9  | 56  | 5  | 11.20 |
| A P Latham      | 26   | 5  | 57  | 4  | 14.25 |
| D. Huddleston   | 24   | 6  | 65  | 4  | 16.25 |
| M S Scragg      | 57   | 13 | 210 | 12 | 17.50 |
| M P still       | 80   | 11 | 296 | 16 | 18.50 |
| G Duffossee     | 49   | 10 | 140 | 7  | 20.00 |
| B E M Davenport | 26.3 | 6  | 81  | 4  | 20.25 |
| G Bird          | 84   | 12 | 325 | 7  | 46.43 |

### Catches

5 - Hipkin, 4 - Bird, Still, 3 - Barrington, Browne, Davenport, Duffossee, Page, Foster (2 st).  
66 players represented the Regiment during the season.



LCpl D Marshall of the Vikings in action

DESPITE the busy programme the 1st Battalion still managed to take part in a few sporting events. CSgt Bonnett lead the Battalion's orienteering team to victory in the eastern District Championships in March followed by a very creditable performance in the BAOR championships at Sennelager. Lance Corporal Marshall won the Colchester half-marathon on a hot day in June and was then selected by his club to run in a series of international events against Norway, Belgium and Denmark.

Nick Crawshaw became the Army Full-Bore Shooting Champion at Bisley on 2 Jul. He was shortlisted for the England team for the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand in 1990 but narrowly failed to gain a place and is currently hoping for a place in the team for the 1992 World Games in the USA.

## Sport on camera



Pompadours B Coy football team after their victory against the Episkopi RMP Coy



Winners of the F I road race, 7PI Pompadours with Maj Gen Stevenson

## Regiment to form rugby club

NEXT year heralds the formation of the Regimental Rugby Football Club, a club open to all ranks.

This will be marked by a tour of the Regimental counties in the spring of 1990. The tour dates are 26 Feb - 10 Mar beginning with a trial at Depot Queens Division, Basingstoke.

All members of the Regiment, Regular, Territorial and Retired are eligible to play. The tour will incorporate several games throughout our Regimental area, a trip to Twickenham and a club dinner. Training will include sessions with an England staff coach and the use of training equipment as used by international teams.

The tour will be physically demanding, challenging, great fun and free of charges for food, accommodation and travel. If you are interested in playing, contact your Battalion rugby officer for the details or, for those not serving with their Battalions, contact the Adjutant 7 R Anglian.

Rugby officers are as follows:

1st Battalion - Lt J M H Heap; 2nd Battalion - Maj R M Brunt; 3rd Battalion - Capt S D Etherington; 5th Battalion - Capt S B Brunt; 6th Battalion - Capt A R J Marsh; 7th Battalion - Capt J C D G Pollard; Depot The Queens Division - Lt R N Goodwin.



The Steelbacks half marathon team

ON SUNDAY 3 Sep, the Steelbacks entered four teams into the Cardiff half marathon which incorporated the TA, individual and team championships for 1989. It was to be the first time the Steelbacks had entered as a team and weeks of painful preparations were to be fully tested during the race.

A very warm sunny day heralded the starter's gun and nearly 1500 runners entered the fray, on the long, 13.1 miles to Cardiff city centre and its beautiful surroundings. A combined time of 4 hours and 3 minutes, from Pte Chapman (1.23.05) WO2 (RQMS) Dent (1.23.07) and CSgt Preston (1.25.51) enabled the team to achieve a creditable 4th place behind very strong opposition. The remaining three teams acquitted themselves extremely well in humid conditions and Battalion colours were displayed enthusiastically throughout.

Steelbacks running will move on from here, looking ahead to the Eastern District cross country season during the winter months, and a longer look ahead to 1990 when we shall be competing again in Cardiff.

In April this year, CSgt Foster successfully completed the Rotterdam Marathon in a personal best time of 3 hrs 18 mins 26 secs and is shown with other members of the Mortar Platoon of 5th Battalion, presenting a cheque for £425 in aid of the charity Cystic Fibrosis. Members of the Battalion dug deep into their pockets to sponsor CSgt Foster in this event and provide a worthwhile donation to the charity.

# Sport on camera

## Regimental Cricket Fixtures 1990

| Month | Date   | Opponents         | Venue           |
|-------|--------|-------------------|-----------------|
| APR   | Sat 28 |                   |                 |
|       | Sun 29 | Rugby             | (H)             |
| MAY   | Sat 5  | The Leys          | (H)             |
|       | Sun 6  | Harrow            | (A) Harrow      |
|       | Sat 12 |                   |                 |
|       | Sun 13 | Haileybury        | (H) Colchester  |
|       | Sat 19 |                   |                 |
|       | Sun 20 | Perse Pilgrims    | (H)             |
|       | Sat 26 | Bancrofts         | (H) Colchester  |
|       | Sun 27 | Rugby             | (H)             |
| JUN   | Sat 2  |                   |                 |
|       | Sun 3  | EE lombes XI      | (A) Marlingford |
|       | Sat 9  |                   |                 |
|       | Sun 10 | Felsted           | (A) Felsted     |
|       | Sat 16 |                   |                 |
|       | Sun 17 | Ippingham         | (A) Uppingham   |
|       | Sat 23 |                   |                 |
|       | Sun 24 | Oundle            | (H) Colchester  |
|       | Mon 25 | Framlingham       | (A) Framlingham |
|       | Tue 26 | Gents of Suffolk  | (A) Barrow      |
|       | Wed 27 | Greshams          | (H) Colchester  |
|       | Thu 28 | Gents of Suffolk  | (A) Barrow      |
|       | Fri 29 |                   |                 |
|       | Sat 30 |                   |                 |
| JUL   | Sun 1  | )                 |                 |
|       | Sun 8  | ) Lloyd's &       |                 |
| TOUR  | Sun 15 | ) Baltic Exchange |                 |
|       | Mon 2  | Travel to BAOR    |                 |
|       | Tue 3  | Comd 33 Bde XI    | Paderborn       |
|       | Wed 4  | 2 RTR             | Fallingbostel   |
|       | Thu 5  | Travel to Berlin  |                 |
|       | Fri 6  | Free in Berlin    |                 |
|       | Sat 7  | GOC Berlin XI     | Berlin          |
|       | Sun 8  | GCC Berlin XI     | Berlin          |
|       | Mon 9  | Disperse          |                 |

# Obituaries

## Colonel Roger Howe OBE

COLONEL Roger Howe's untimely death was announced briefly in the last edition of Castle.

He died while on leave and before taking up a second key staff appointment in the Ministry of Defence.

Roger Howe was a Leicestershire man and head boy of Market Harborough Grammar School before joining the Army. He was commissioned into the Royal Leicestershire Regiment in 1963 and was posted straight from Sandhurst to Borneo where the Battalion was on operation in the confrontation with Indonesia.

While still a platoon commander he also served in Aden. These two early experiences provided a taste for active regimental life which never left Roger. It made him a wonderful infantryman and regimental officer.

He became a member of the Royal Anglian Regiment on amalgamation in 1964 and served as battalion officer in 4 R Anglian in Malta where he had full opportunity to display his prowess as a sportsman, particularly on the rugby football field where he captained an excellent battalion team.

He was an outstanding battalion intelligence officer during the 2nd Battalion's tour of Belfast in 1972. He was fearless and courageous on the ground as well as completely ruthless in his pursuit of every conceivable lead in hunting down the terrorist. It was largely due to his personal efforts that the battalion achieved such skill in dominating its area. He received the MBE for gallantry after this tour.

His next tour of duty with the Regiment was as a Company Commander in the 2nd Battalion, first in Belfast in 1977 and then in the UK during a busy tour in the then 6th Field Force. The situation in Belfast in 1977 had changed considerably from that of 1972 and Roger's natural impatience to achieve results was frustrated by the restraint and procedures necessary at the time.

He was soon to be in his element however, directing the training of his company and particularly his young platoon and section commanders. He hated inefficiency and set a stark example to those who, he felt, did not take their profession sufficiently seriously. He understood his soldiers well and they in return respected his ability and loyalty to them.

Roger Howe then commanded the 2nd Battalion during the latter part of its tour in Berlin and for the most of its tour in Londonderry.

As a Commanding Officer his great strength was his deep and genuine interest in his soldiers which was obvious to everyone who served with him. Despite his extremely tough and professional style of soldiering his first concern was always for his men and, while he never suffered fools gladly, all ranks had a deep respect for him and it was a genuine pleasure to serve under him.

As a commander he was always decisive, quick to grasp the problem and implacable in his desire to wrest the initiative from the enemy. As such he was an invigorating commander to serve under and the morale and excellent reputation of the Battalion at that time was due in the main to his powerful yet low key influence.

Roger Howe was a fine operational soldier who was also an equally fine operational staff officer, first as SO2 Operations in 1st Armoured Division and then in the Directorate of Military Operations in the Ministry of Defence. It was natural, and a pleasure to all his friends, that on promotion to Colonel in 1986 his talents in this professional field should have been clearly recognised. At the time of his death he was due to start a second tour in the Directorate of Military Operations in MOD.

Those who served both under and with him will remember his high professional standards, coupled with a real sense of urgency to get on with the job. Roger Howe was an excellent sportsman and one of the ablest officers in the Regiment.

His good counsel, dedication and love of his Regiment will be sadly missed. We all send to Barbara, Alexandra and Matthew our continued sympathy. It may help them to know the high regard in which Roger held, not just in the Regiment but throughout the Army.

# Obituaries

## Maj C J S McMillen



CHRIS McMillen died at his Bury St Edmunds home on 22 May 1989, having been ill for some months.

Chris was born in Uganda on 24 Jun 1916, went to school at St Lawrence, Ramsgate. Shortly after leaving school he joined the Essex Regiment, Territorial Army. He was first commissioned as a TA officer in 1936 and subsequently took a Regular Commission, joining the Pompadours in 1938. He was with the 1st Battalion in Egypt where he met Margot and they married a year later.

His war service saw him as a Gunner officer after the 9th Battalion were converted. He took part at Arnhem and was awarded the Bronze Cross by Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands for his part in the operations. At the end of the war he took part in the relief of Norway.

He rejoined the 2nd Battalion in Italy in 1945 under command of Tommy Charles. He remained as a Company Commander in Italy and Colchester and joined the Gold Coast Regiment on secondment in 1947. He rejoined the Pompadours in 1951 in Germany and then went with them to Korea and Hong Kong. On returning to UK he left the Battalion and became 2IC at Harwich before retiring, through ill health in 1960.

Until his retirement Chris had been a keen sportsman, representing the Battalion as a boxer and at hockey as well as being a first class shot. Indeed, it was during a game of hockey that he had his first heart attack.

He retired to Colchester and after a short spell as a civilian became an RO. He returned

to the Regiment, firstly as Imprest holder at the Depot at Bury and then as Assistant Regimental secretary in 1969. During his time at RHQ, Chris was a popular figure, always ready to help and advise with warmth and compassion. Ill-health dogged him and he was finally forced to retire in 1974.

Chris will be remembered as a person who lived to the full; as a man with warmth and charm; as a first-class leader and supporter of those he commanded and as a good friend to many. We extend our sympathy to Margot and his son, Paul.

## Capt I P Wardle BCR



CAPT Ian Wardle was killed tragically in a car accident in Bulawayo, Rhodesia, on 25 Sep 89. Ian served with A Coy of the 6th Battalion at Norwich, where he held the appointment of Second-in-Command.

Ian attended the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, prior to returning to his native country Rhodesia, at the time of UDI. He served in the Rhodesian African Rifles and with C Squadron of the Special Air Service. He was awarded the Bronze Cross of Rhodesia for gallantry. He served as a seconded officer with the Sultan of Oman's Armed Forces in Muscat, attaining the rank of Major. It was during his seven years in the Middle East that Ian came into contact with many Royal Anglians and shortly after he moved to the UK he joined the Regiment as a Territorial Army officer.

He leaves a widow, Rosie, a son, Angus and a deep sense of loss in all who knew him. He will be remembered for his ebullient love of life.

## SSgt J M Stallerbrass BEM



JIM Stallerbrass enlisted into the Band of the 5th Battalion, The Northamptonshire Regiment on 1 Apr 1936 at the age of 15.

On mobilisation in 1939 he was posted to the regimental depot being too young to go to France. He served for six years and on demobilisation in 1945 he joined the Peterborough Home Guard Band.

When the 5th Battalion Band reformed in 1947 he rejoined and served until 1981, when he officially retired on reaching the age limit.

Although no longer a serving member he continued to play at every engagement until the final few months of his life.

He had the distinction of being on parade for the Silver Jubilee of two monarchs. The first was the Silver Jubilee of King George V and in 1977 he was on parade again for that of our present Queen.

In addition to his military career, Jim was conductor of the Peterborough Orchestra and taught young musicians at Peterborough College at evening and weekend classes.

He was awarded the BEM in 1981 and shared with his eldest son, James Francis, the unusual distinction of father and son both holding the BEM. His son received his award in 1983.

Jim will be remembered as a kind and gentle man who will be sorely missed. We send our condolences to his wife, Joyce, his four children and seven grandchildren.

# Obituaries

## Arthur Frank Stoke

Arthur Stoke died on 1 Sep 1989 aged 73 years.

He served in B Coy, 2nd Bn The Cambridgeshire Regt and was a Far East POW.

## Capt Jim Faunt RE (Retd)

Capt Faunt RE (Rtd) died on Friday 14 Jul 1989 at Boston, Lincs aged 71 years.

Jim Faunt joined the Lincolnshire Regiment in 1938 but transferred to the Royal Engineers in 1940. He was the founder vice-chairman of the Whittlesey & Peterborough Branch OCA, Cambridgeshire Regiment.

## John Robert (Jack) Edwards

John Edwards died on 8 Aug 1989 aged 92 years.

He served with the Cambridgeshire Regiment in the First World War in 1914 and was wounded and discharged in 1917.

Jack was a founder member of the Terrington St. Clement Royal British Legion.

## Sgt. Albert Parfitt

Sgt Parfitt, better known as "Cadder", died on 23 Sep 1989. Born in 1944, Cadder enlisted in the 1st Bn The Cambridgeshire Regiment in May 1939. Like most of the Battalion he was taken prisoner in Singapore, spending his captivity on the Burma-Siam railway.

He will be remembered for his part in organising the annual dinner of the Sergeant's Dinner Club over many years, strongly supported by his wife, Julie.

## CSgt Cyril Wilkinson

Cyril Wilkinson enlisted into the R

Lincolnshire Regiment, served in Egypt and subsequently with 2 R Anglian in Cyprus, Kenya, Gibraltar and N Ireland.

His last military appointment was with 5 R Anglian at Braintree. Cyril Wilkinson died, aged 58 years after a short illness.

His funeral was attended by many past and present members of the regiment who will miss his warmth and comradeship.

WE regret to announce the deaths of **Brig. H Bulwer-Long** (Staff, ex R Norfolk); **Lt Col (Hon Col) F V Osborne**, Suffolk Regiment; **Capt B C Thomas**, R Anglian; **Sgt Peter Hansley**, Suffolk/I R Anglian; **Pte David Withers**, I R Anglian in a motor accident; **Lt Col J S Ross MC**, 3 R Anglian; In-house pensioner **LSgt W (Titch) Millhouse**, R Lincolns; **Maj (QM) A R Bourne**, 27 Jun 89, R Lincolns.

# Births & Marriages

## VIKINGS

**Marriages:-** Cpl Redhead to Milena Alma Bruschi on 29 Apr 89; **Pte Rawlings** to Della Lorraine Waterman on 27 May 89; **Cpl Goodman** to Jean McCready on 27 May 89; **Capt Vincent** to Kay Elizabeth Hopkins on 13 May 89; **Cpl Suddaby** to Christene Fah on 20 May 89; **Pte Anderton** to Paula Victoria Weston on 3 Jun 89; **Cpl Simpson** to Angela Wickenden on 3 Jun 89; **LCpl Lawley** to Serena Margaret Fox on 3 Jun 89; **LCpl Wagstaff** to Lorraine Patricia Stokes on 3 Jun 89; **CSgt Strickland** to Jennifer Jane Watts on 22 Jul; **Pte Lyth** to Rosemary Ann Purvis on 12 Aug 89; **Pte Glenton** to Petra Aspinall on 24 Aug 89; **LCpl Finch** to Marian Lisette on 2 Sep 89.

**Births:-** Capt and Mrs R J C Goodin, a son Edmund Christopher Nigel; **Pte and Mrs Bacon**, a son Cory Richard; **Cpl and Mrs Pike**, a daughter Naomi Rebecca; **Cpl and Mrs Ransome**, a son Charon Jimmy; **Sgt and Mrs Fox**, a son Aaron Joseph; **LCpl and Mrs Alsop**, a son Gareth Steven; **Cpl and Mrs Pattison**, a daughter Danielle; **Sgt and Mrs Durrant**, a son Michael; **Sgt and Mrs Cowell**, a daughter Laura Jane; **LCpl and Mrs Bold**, a son David Christopher; **LCpl and Mrs Brown**, a daughter Stephanie Louise; **Cpl MD and Mrs Simpson**, a son Christopher Graham; **Cpl M and Mrs Simpson**, a son Dean Neal; **Cpl and Mrs Batten**, a son Thomas William; **Cpl and Mrs Whatley**, twin boys Luke and Marc; **LCpl and Mrs Patten**, a daughter Hanna; **Cpl and Mrs Marshall**, a son; **Cpl and Mrs Connor**, a son Jordan; **Sgt and Mrs Windmill**, a daughter Nicole; **LCpl and Mrs Hunter**, a daughter

Kerry; **Sgt and Mrs Stollery**, a daughter Amanda Louise; **Cpl and Mrs Hollingworth**, a daughter; **Cpl and Mrs Blanchfield**, a son Matthew; **LCpl and Mrs Vilette**, a son; **Pte and Mrs Lennon**, a daughter Stacy Lucinda.

## POACHERS

**Marriages:-** LCpl Mitchell to Joanne Mary on 6 May 1989; **Pte Lewis** to Leigh on 20 May 1989; **Pte Thorne** to Irene on 16 June 1989; **SSgt Mann** to Christine Lilian on 17 June 1989; **Pte Talbot** to Sandra Louise on 17 June 1989; **LCpl Hayes** to Paula Jean on 24 June 1989; **Pte Wright** to Mary Ann on 24 June 1989; **LCpl Higgins** to Heidi Margaret on 24 June 1989; **Pte Owen** to Stephanie on 24 June 1989; **Pte Kavanagh** to Bridget Minelle on 24 June 1989; **Cpl Mellor** to Alison Mary on 26 June 1989; **LCpl Mahoney** to Heather on 8 July 1989; **Cpl Hagon** to Anke on 11 August 1989; **Cpl White** to Ann Shirley on 12 August 1989; **LCpl Howard** to Amanda on 12 August 1989; **Cpl Britton** to Deborah Dorothy on 18 August 1989; **Capt Kemp** to Clare Susan on 19 August 1989; **Pte Cutts** to Donna Corrina on 19 August 1989; **Pte Harrigan** to Paula Mary on 25 August 1989; **Pte M A Waddington** to Frances Amanda Jones on 10 Jun 89; **LCpl V Whittaker** to Julie Loft on 8 Jul 89; **Pte M J S Pickers** to Silke Hardt on 29 Jul 89; **LCpl P Chalkley** to Lorraine Clutterham on 12 Aug 89.

**Births:-** LCpl and Mrs Chambers, a son Aaron Luke; **Pte and Mrs Bavister**, a son Dominic Peter; **Pte and Mrs Miller**, a son Alan Michael; **Cpl and Mrs Barloga**, a son Stephan James; **Cpl and Mrs Phillipson**, a daughter Jamie Lee; **Cpl and Mrs Sampson**,

a daughter Victoria Dorothy; **Maj and Mrs Brunt**, a daughter Alice Elizabeth; **LCpl and Mrs Carlin**, a son Shane Vincent; **Pte and Mrs Vangucci**, a son, Benjamin Andrew; **Pte and Mrs Piper**, a son Jason David; **Cpl and Mrs Jones**, a daughter Emma Louise; **Cpl and Mrs Rouget**, a son Craig Thomas; **Cpl and Mrs Beswick**, a son Marcus Kyle; **LCpl and Mrs Plant**, a son Paul Andrew; **Sgt and Mrs Beighton**, twin daughters Katie Joanne and Lucy Elizabeth; **Pte and Mrs Orton**, a daughter Sara Jane; **Pte and Mrs Hind**, a son Aaron James; **Cpl and Mrs Groves**, a son Christopher James; **LCpl and Mrs Welsford**, a son Daniel Roy; **Cpl and Mrs Arthur**, twin sons James and William; **LCpl and Mrs Brown**, a daughter Kerry; **Maj and Mrs Clements**, a daughter Laura; **LCpl and Mrs Green**, a son Christopher; **Cpl and Mrs Hind**, a son Christopher; **CSgt and Mrs Johnson**, a daughter Georgina; **LCpl and Mrs McGregor**, a daughter Sarah; **Pte and Mrs Morgan**, a son John; **Cpl and Mrs Sampson**, a daughter Charlotte; **CSgt and Mrs Sykes**, a son Jamie; **WO2 and Mrs Twell**, a daughter Stephanie.

## STEELBACKS

**Marriage:-** Lt Col Kelsey to Sophie Nowacka on 10 Nov 89.

## DEPOT

**Marriage:-** Pte D J Mucklow to Miss D A Ashworth on 26 Aug 89.

**Births:-** Cpl and Mrs Chambers, a son Aaron; **Cpl and Mrs Dade**, a son Simon; **LCpl and Mrs Harris**, a son Callum.

## RIT

**Birth:-** LCpl and Mrs K M Jones, a daughter Corrienne.

# 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",<br>lge. 39/42" ..... | £2.15 |
|---|-------|

|                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| BELT KEY RING ..... | £0.70 |
|---------------------|-------|

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| BOOKMARKS - leather in red, blue, green,<br>black & luxol ..... | £0.40 |
|---|-------|

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| 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 6 comprising 7 founder regts.<br>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 |
|-------------------------------|-------|

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Large HM The Queen Mother ..... | £2.65 |
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|--|-------|
| COMB/NAILFILE SET in leather case<br>- 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 &<br>drummer with cherry red or blue border<br>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 |
|---|--------|

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Regimental - plain ..... | £20.00 |
|--------------------------|--------|

|                  |        |
|------------------|--------|
| Storm Flag ..... | £27.70 |
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| GLASSES |  |
|---------|--|

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 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<br>Royal Anglian buckle ..... | £8.30 |
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|---|-------|
| MUGS - Coffee - white, badged in yellow & black ..... | £1.10 |
|---|-------|

## PEWTER FIGURES

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Combat dress with SLR, SMG or SA 80 ..... | £17.60 |
|---|--------|

|                                    |        |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| NI COP with telescopic rifle ..... | £18.70 |
|------------------------------------|--------|

(Both types with regimental badge on hat & base)

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| PEWTER TANKARD - 1 pint<br>With pewter badge, 1, 2 & 3 Bn ..... | £16.45 |
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| PEWTER TANKARD - 1 pint<br>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 |
|--|-------|

(same design as stable belt webbing)

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| REGIMENTAL HISTORY |  |
|--------------------|--|

|  |       |
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| Crater to The Craggan - hardback ..... | £3.00 |
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|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| - paperback ..... | £1.00 |
|-------------------|-------|

|                                       |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| RUBBERS - white with blue badge ..... | £0.25 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|

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| SHIELDS |  |
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|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| 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<br>sizes 36", 38", 40" & 44" ..... | £8.10 ea |
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| Navy, embroidered badge on left breast<br>sizes sml., med. & lge. .... | £9.65 |
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| SWEATER |  |
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| Acrylic, navy, v-neck, embroidered badge ..... | £13.35 |
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| Lambswool, machine washable, as above ..... | £18.50 |
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(Both types in sizes 38", 40", 42" & 44")

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| T-SHIRTS |  |
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| White, blue badge, sizes XL, lge., med., sml. .... | £3.10 |
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| Childs - 26" & 28" ..... | £2.00 |
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| Navy, white badge, sizes lge. & med. .... | £2.85 |
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| TEA TOWELS |  |
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| Irish Linen ..... | £1.00 |
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| Cotton ..... | £1.60 |
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|---|-------|
| Cotton showing all cap badges of the army ..... | £1.90 |
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| THIMBLES - bone china, gold rim, badge in blue ..... | £1.50 |
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| TIES - Regimental R ANGLIAN ..... | £4.30 |
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| TIE PIN - badged ..... | £1.05 |
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| TORCH (pen clip) - blue badge, disposable ..... | £2.00 |
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| WRITING CASE - blue leather, gold badge ..... | £10.65 |
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\* All prices subject to manufacturer's increases.

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