



CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

DECEMBER 1990



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1st Battalion
(Norfolk, Suffolk and
Cambridgeshire)



2nd Battalion
(Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and
Northamptonshire)



3rd Battalion
(Bedfordshire, Herfordshire
and Essex)



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Colonel C J 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.



Member of the Association of Service Newspapers



The Queen Mother visits the 1st and 3rd Battalions in Colchester.

From the Colonel of the Regiment

IT may be that when Castle is distributed, the outcome of the Gulf crisis will have been determined, but as I write the world seems to be faced with the ugly alternatives of war or diplomatic debacle. Neither seems to offer any prospect of stability for the Middle East. Soviet Russia and Eastern Europe are in ferment, Western Europe wrestles with its own future and with Germany's unification, and there is hardly anywhere in the world that can boast economic and political confidence.

It all makes one wonder at the naivete, not to say foolhardiness, of those who demand peace dividends and the decimation of defence capability. In the Ministry of Defence one sees one half wrestling with cuts of up to 25%, and another half tearing its hair to raise the men and equipment to provide, sustain and maintain one armoured brigade at war establishment.

For the second time in less than a decade the services are called upon to deal with the "unexpected". So far none of our battalions has been called upon, but a good few Royal Anglians have been sent to make up numbers in Saudi Arabia. We send them greetings



and wish them good fortune.

These are not easy times for defence. There is a serious degree of public and political apathy as the threat to which we have become so accustomed recedes. Recruiting is difficult, cash is tight and activity levels are threatened.

It would be easy to be gloomy. But this is not at all the impression one gets from any of our Royal Anglian regular or territorial battalions. There is nervousness about the future of

course, but standards and spirits are high and there is not much envy of civilian life where inflation, recession and unemployment give cause for deep concern.

At this time I have no idea whether the Regiment will be affected by reductions in the Army. It seems likely that the size and shape of the future forces will be made known by early in the New Year, but there will then have to be grinding staff work and hopefully consultation and negotiation before detailed arrangements for implementing cuts can be decided and announced.

We are unlikely to know anything definite before next summer, but as I begin my final year as your Colonel I foresee nothing to shake my conviction that the Army and the Regiment will continue to offer a secure, exciting and enjoyable career.

To all Royal Anglians, past and present, wherever they may be, and to our Allied Regiments, my wife joins me in sending warmest Christmas greetings and good wishes for success and confidence in 1991.

Gen Sir John Akehurst

The Colour Parties of the 1st and 3rd Battalions the Royal Anglian Regiment await the arrival of the Queen Mother. *Picture: Bryan Long.*





Colonel-in-Chief

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER

Deputy Colonels-in-Chief

Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowden
Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester

Colonel of The Regiment

General Sir John Akehurst, KCB CBE

Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment

The Reverend T B F Hiney, MC CF

Deputy Colonels of The Regiment

Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire: Major General A J G Pollard, CBE
Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire: Major General P P D Stone, CBE
Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex: Brigadier W T Dodd, OBE

President of the Regimental Association

Major General Sir David Thorne. KBE

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 DL
Leicestershire: Colonel W G Dawson, TD DL
Northamptonshire: Colonel P Worthy
Bedfordshire: Colonel J P Wetherall
Hertfordshire: Colonel N H Kelsey, TD
Essex: Colonel P D L Hopper, DL

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, Thurrock, Watford, Wellingborough, Wisbech and Yarmouth.

REGIMENTAL LOCATIONS

Regimental Headquarters:

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN.

Tel: (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. (Tel: 0603 628455)

Area Secretary: Major W H Reeve

Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire

Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton, NN1 3RE. (Tel: 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. (Tel: 0277 213051)

Area Secretary: Major D J Thorogood

Regimental Information Team

Depot. The Queen's Division, Bassingbourn. (Tel: 0763 42271)

BATTALION LOCATIONS

1st Battalion (Norfolk, Suffolk & Cambridgeshire) Colchester To Fermanagh, Northern Ireland on Op. Banner Tour - May - Nov 91. To Celle BFPO 23 - Aug 92	Lieutenant Colonel D S B Phipps
2nd Battalion (Lincolnshire, Leicestershire & Northamptonshire) Celle BFPO 23. To Warminster as Demonstration Battalion - Aug 92.	Lieutenant Colonel A P Deed
3rd Battalion (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire & Essex) Colchester. To Ebrington Barracks, Londonderry, BFPO 807 on accompanied tour, May 91.	Lieutenant Colonel J D Lacey (Lieutenant Colonel R M Chisnall Oct 91)
5th Battalion, TA Centre, London Road, Peterborough	Lieutenant Colonel C G Stallard
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

Junior Infantry Battalion: Major F J Perry MBE

RMA Sandhurst: Captain N G Burrell to Mar 91, then Major K Hodgson

Mainly about people . . .

Promotions, awards and retirements

OPERATIONAL AWARDS: We extend our heartiest congratulations to the following on their operational awards for service in Northern Ireland — all are from the Vikings. Colonel **J C B Sutherland OBE**; mentioned in despatches **Cpl D A Batten**, **Maj C A Cocker**, **Major I R M Hall**, **WO1 I D P Smith** (who has now left the army), **Cpl P S Tansey**.

We congratulate the following who have been awarded the GOC's commendation for outstanding service in Northern Ireland. All are from The Vikings; **Cpl D M Caesar**, **LCpl P J Fleming**, **Capt R D Milligan**, **LCpl S S Morley**, **Lt A W Price**, **Sgt S P Prime**, **Sgt P S Windmill**, **Sgt G P Wolfe** and **Capt N Spinks**.

Honours and Awards: We extend our heartiest congratulations to the following on their awards in the 1990 Queen's Birthday Honours List — **Lt Col M J Kinson OBE**, **Lt S Dexter MBE**, **Maj H M P Halcrow MBE**, **WO2 D G Goude MBE**, **Maj A Powell MBE**, **Maj C A Styles MBE**, **WO2 A H Bokenham BEM**, and **SSgt B Lambert BEM**. We congratulate **Lt Col G D Duthoit**, **Maj A P Domeisen**, **Maj R M Brunt MBE** and **Maj W R Mooring** on their selection for substantive promotion to **Lt Col** in 1991.

We congratulate the following on their commissioning into the regiment on 11 Aug 90: To the 1st Bn — **2Lt A G Grinonneau**, **2Lt A C Jackson** and **2Lt C Pook**; To the 2nd Bn — **2Lt N A Johnson**; To the 3rd Bn — **2Lt C R Moore**, **Lt J C J Wright**, **2Lt D J Schwartz**. We welcome also into the Regiment **Lt John McCaffrey** who has transferred from the Australian Army. He is now serving with the 3rd Bn.

Almost as we go to print we welcome the following officers into the regiment after their Sovereign's Parade on 14 Dec 90. To the 1st Bn, **2Lt M P Brennan** and **2Lt M W Stickland** and to the 2nd Bn, **2Lt P J Cross**.

Retirements: The following have retired from the army and we wish them all success in their future lives. **Capt A G W**



The association gathering took place on in July. Story and pictures — pages 40-41.

Ward, **Capt R J C Goodin**, **Capt A R J Marsh**, **Maj D Taylor**, **Capt D J Willis**, **Capt F M G de Planta de Wildenburg**, **Capt T G D Townsley**, **Capt I R Gowdy**, **Maj D Taylor** and **Maj H S Bullock MBE**.

Congratulations: We congratulate **Cpl B J Traves**, 1 R Anglian, on achieving a distinguished pass on his 81mm CPO/MFC Course in Apr 90 and **LCpl C A Jewel** on attaining the same grade on the section commanders' Battle Course No. 18.

The following posting orders have been notified to RHQ: **Lt H M Back** to 7/10 I DR from 20 Jul 90 to 23 Aug 91. **Lt Col B H M Davenport** to be attached HQ Eastern District Oct 90 - May 91. **Capt J Fisk** to 1 R Anglian as QM 10 Sep 90. **Maj T M Power** to 3 R Anglian 30 Jun 90. **Capt M M McGowan** to 3 R Anglian from 2 R Anglian 30 Oct 90. **Lt Col R M Chisnall** to Chief Instructor BMATT Namibia 10 Sep 90 on promotion and to command 3 R Anglian Oct 91.

Col T B Thomas OBE to command

the Army Presentation Team 31 Nov 90. **Lt C S Calder** is to be ADC to **Maj Gen A J G Pollard** in Feb 91 and **Maj R C Gould** goes to HQ Queen's Division as SO2 G3 25 Feb 91. **2Lt G Morris** to Oxford University OTC 29 Sep 90 and **2Lt G T Corkery** is now at the Divisional Depot. **Capt A J Wadman** is now serving as SO3 J3 (Ops) RAF Mount Pleasant; **Capt P H Gaskin** is now in HQ Northern Ireland as SO3 G3 SURV/NISS.

Capt P D Jones is on the held strength of the Divisional Depot and **Maj H M P Halcrow MBE** with the UK Delegation Support Unit in AFCENT. **Lt N A Baker** is back with 3 R Anglian. **Maj C T Page** is to be COS HQ 19 Inf Bde 10 Dec 90 and **Maj S J Bacon** COS HQ 43 Inf Bde 4 Mar 91. **Capt M D Dicker** has returned to 2 R Anglian and **Capt P H Byrne** remains at the Depot as Coy 2IC.

Maj D C Napier is posted to BMATT

Continued Page 7

Mainly about people . . .

From Page 6

Namibia until 28 Feb 91 and Lt I S Davison is now with the JIB. Maj I R M Hall is now with HQ Western District as SO2 G3 Trg Cadets 14 Jan 91; Capt T J Dawson has returned to 2 R Anglian and Col J R Hart is presently serving an attachment with the MOD. Capt C J Barnes returned to 2 R Anglian 2 Nov 90 and Lt P D Bailey is attached to 7/10 UDR from 18 Jan - 18 Jul 91. Capt N G Burrell goes to the Staff College via Shrivernham on ASC 26 4 Mar 91. Lt S W Carver goes to the School of Infantry as an instructor (NCOs Wing) 3 Mar 91 and Maj R E Harrold returns to 2 R Anglian on 7 Jan 91.

WO1 Shruballs took over as RSM 3 Queens in Sep 90 and WO1 Gedge took over as RSM Depot Queen's Div in Oct. WO1 Vessey is now GSM Sinai. WO1 Scoles took over as WO1 37 CTT in July.

CONGRATULATIONS: We congratulate Col P D L Hopper on his appointment as Deputy Lord Lieutenant for Essex and Col W J Gleadell TD on his appointment as Deputy Lord Lieutenant for Lincolnshire.

PROMOTIONS: We congratulate Lt Col A Behagg and Lt Col A C Taylor on provisional selection for promotion to Col in 1991.

Col J P Macdonald, Deputy Honorary Colonel (TA) Cambridgeshire left the East Anglian TAVRA on 25 Jun 90 having been invited by the British Red Cross to devise and set up a fund raising scheme which would be put promptly into effect following a major disaster or civil emergency in Great Britain.

Congratulations to 2Lt Garry Morris (2 R Anglian) on obtaining an in service degree at Reading University in Oct 90.

We welcome 2Lts (Probationary) Fred Gray and Andrew Moffat. Fred is now at Exeter University, was previously an army scholar and has now been given a cadetship; Andrew has been awarded a cadetship at Keele University.

We congratulate Maj Pat King on his appointment to the General Synod of the Church of England.

We congratulate the following on their selection to WO1 during 91/92. WOs 2 Bilner, Drewry, Grenfell, Smith T D, Hoyles and Taylor. We congratulate also the following on their selection for RQMS duties in the same time span. WOs 2 Brett, Hillier and Todd.

DIARY DATES 1991

JANUARY

21 Jan 2nd Bn start conversion to Warrior.

FEBRUARY

6 Feb Concert Regimental Chapel, Warley.

15 Feb 3 R Anglian NITAT to end April.

MARCH

11-13 Mar RSMs convention, Bassingbourn.

15 Mar 3 R Anglian Officers' Dinner Club cocktail party.

17-5 Apr 1 R Anglian NITAT.

20 Mar Undergraduate's gathering, Bassingbourn.

23 Mar Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Association dinner.

28-4 Apr 3 R Anglian block leave.

APRIL

6-18 Apr 1 R Anglian block leave.

* 7 Apr Cambridgeshire Regiment Association dinner.

27-28 Apr Sobraon weekend, Lincoln.

29 Apr 1 R Anglian to Fermanagh.

30 Apr R Anglian Investment Committee meeting, Army & Navy Club.

MAY

3 May Officers' Dinner Club cocktail party, London.

3 May Northamptonshire Officers' luncheon, London.

15 May Suffolk Regiment council meeting.

30 May 3 R Anglian in Northern Ireland.

JUNE

7 Jun Regimental Annual golf meeting.

7-8 Jun Royal Norfolk Regiment Officers' Dinner Club dinner and luncheon.

22-23 Jun Royal Tiger's Weekend, Leicester.

29-30 Jun Northamptonshire Regimental Reunion (250th anniversary of founding of Regiment).

30 Jun Essex Regiment reunion, Warley.

JULY

7 Jul ASSOCIATION GATHERING, Bassingbourn.

12 Jul Queen's Division triangular golf match.

14-15 Jul TA Bisley.

27 Jul Suffolk Regiment Officers' Dinner Club dinner, Bury St. Edmunds.

28 Jul Minden reunion, Bury St. Edmunds.

28-19 Aug 5 and 7 R Anglian block leave.

AUGUST

4-27 Aug 6 R Anglian block leave.

2-15 Sep 2 R Anglian block leave.

13-14 Sep Regimental autumn golf meeting. Match v Flempton.

7-21 Aug 6 R Anglian annual camp, Stanford/Otterburn.

5 R Anglian annual camp, Sennybridge.

7 R Anglian annual camp, Warcop.

21-22 Aug Royal Lincolns Old Comrade's reunion, Cleethorpes.

28-29 Aug Royal Norfolk Regiment reunion.

OCTOBER

4 Oct 3 R Anglian Officers' Dinner Club luncheon.

8-22 Oct Company 5 R Anglian, Cyprus.

NOVEMBER

1 Nov Regimental Dinner & council meeting, London.

5 Nov Essex Regiment Remembrance Service, Chelmsford Cathedral, 1200 hrs.

5-7 Nov 1 R Anglian returns to Colchester.

7 Nov Field of Remembrance, London.

10 Nov Remembrance Sunday.

17 Nov Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Reunion, Kempton.

29-5 Jan 1 R Anglian on leave.

7 Dec Royal Leicesters Officers lunch, London.

* to be confirmed

Mainly about people . . .



Liaison at work: Lt Col Robin Greenham with Soviet comrades near Gotha in what used to be called East Germany.

Brixmis poised to step into the historybooks?

Lt Col Robin Greenham is the last SO1 Brixmis in its present form. He writes:

Due to the dramatic turn of events in Germany in the past year culminating in German unification on 3 Oct, Brixmis has ceased touring in the former East Germany and is now in limbo waiting political decisions on the future.

Brixmis came into being in September 1946 under the terms of the Robertson-Malinin Agreement which provided for Military Liaison Missions between the Commanders in Chief of the British and Soviet occupying forces in post-war Germany.

For just over 44 years, Brixmis has toured continuously in what was East Germany. Its vehicles, always distinguished by a yellow number plate displaying a prominent Union Jack and vehicle number between 1-15, had become part of the everyday scene in East Germany and to most people there, were a reassurance of the Allied presence in Germany.

Soxmis, the Soviet Military Mission in Buende, is the reciprocal Soviet mission under the same agreement.

Both Soxmis and Brixmis activities have been suspended pending the political decisions from Bonn. One thing certain is that Brixmis in its former size and shape

will certainly not reappear. However, it is hoped the German government will agree at least to a small liaison organisation whose task will be to maintain contact between the respective Commanders-in-Chief and organise reciprocal visits between their forces until the Soviets completely withdraw from Germany by the end of 1994.

In the last two years, Brixmis has been instrumental in planning and arranging the visit of CinC BAOR and CinC RAFG to the Soviet Western Group of Forces in September 1989, and the return visit of General Boris V Snetkov, CinC WGF, to British Forces Germany in September this year.

Brixmis also organised a very successful visit by the Commander I(BR) Corps, Lt Gen Sir Charles Guthrie, GOC 4th Armoured Division and SASO RAFG to 3 Shock Army in Magdeburg in September this year, and a visit of British bands to HQ WGF in August.

Those members and former members of the Regiment who have served in Brixmis will no doubt share a feeling of sadness at the demise of an organisation which has served its country so well for 44 years, but the hope is that the spirit if not the name of Brixmis will live on in the form of a small liaison organisation.

Officers' Dinner Club breaks with tradition

THE Officers' Dinner Club dinner took place at the Moot Hall, Colchester, on 9 Nov, a break from our traditional venue in London because the Vikings and Pompadours are stationed in that town.

Regimental guests were the Rev Tom Hiney, our new Honorary Chaplain, four from the Worshipful Company of Poulterers; Dr Colin Juniper, Renter Warden; Mr Clement Keevil, Past Master, Mr Robert Marshall, Past Master, and Mr Alan Scott. We were also delighted to see as our guest, Lt Col Eddie Guerrero, the Commanding Officer of the Gibraltar Regiment.

Over 145 attended the dinner in splendour and were entertained by stirring music from the Pompadour Band. After the loyal and regimental toasts, Gen Sir John Akehurst told all assembled that this was to be his last Regimental Dinner as Colonel because he would retire in Oct 91 on completion of five years in the post. All assembled thought it appropriate to give our Colonel a standing ovation at the end of his speech.

Because all three regular battalions will be out of the country next year, the next Regimental dinner will be held in the Naval and Military Club, 92 Piccadilly London on 1 Nov 91.

Table tennis challenge

WE have had a letter from Frank Flanagan — ex Poachers from '63-'68 — who may be remembered by some for his prowess with the table tennis bat. He needs a partner to help him win the 1992 World Veterans Table Tennis Championship to be held in Dublin. If there are any takers please send your name and address to Regimental Headquarters.

OFFICERS' SIDE HATS

Regimental side hats can now be purchased direct from the approved Regimental side hat maker - J A Orford Ltd., 91-93 Lowfield Street, Dartford, Kent, DA1 1HP. Tel: (0322) 227502.

Mainly about people . . .

A sporting pedigree

UNKNOWN to many, the new RSM of the Poachers, WO1 (RSM) Dave Goude MBE (pictured), has a sporting pedigree that can surely be matched by few. While serving on loan service with the Swaziland Defence Force he took part in a series of Skeet shoots and found himself selected to represent Swaziland in the 1990 Commonwealth Games in Auckland.

But on arrival at the airport ready to fly to New Zealand the team discovered there was no money in the kitty to pay for the tickets so the trip had to be temporarily abandoned.

David had by this time emptied his bank account but, with additional support from the battalion and some local businessmen, the team eventually managed to find sufficient to cover the expenses - though only just. In order to save money the team were reliant on the best air deals and consequently the journey took five days.

Having arrived late, the skeet team had just 14 hours sleep before their first competition. In the pairs events they finished a creditable 10th and in the individuals Dave survived the qualifying stages before achieving 27th place overall.



Rev Hiney appointed Honorary Chaplain

THE Reverend Tom Hiney, all will be delighted to hear, is now the Honorary Chaplain to The Royal Anglian Regiment.

Tom Hiney, pictured, went to Ratcliffe School and enlisted into the West Yorkshire Regiment. He was a cadet at Sandhurst from 1955-56 from where he was commissioned into The Royal Leicestershire Regiment which later became part of the 2nd Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment.

He served in Cyprus, the UK, in the Ghana Army where he served in the Congo, BAOR and The Sultan of Muscat's Armed Forces, Malta and Libya. He completed his military service in June '67, and in 1970 went to the Theological College at Cambridge to study for the priesthood and from there served in the Birmingham parish.

In 1971 he joined the Royal Army Chaplains Department and has served in



BAOR, the UK, Northern Ireland, Cyprus, SHAPE and is now at Chatham where he is

the senior chaplain for the Western Area.

Tom Hiney will be known to many both as a regimental officer and as a padre. During his regimental officer career he was awarded the Military Cross following an ambush in the Congo and in lighter vein achieved some notoriety as a munitions officer on British Rail.

In December '59 he and a territorial NCO, Cpl Sinclair, won the News of the World march from central Birmingham to London in which 228 servicemen took part.

As Padre, Tom Hiney has given compassionate advice and hope to many; his addresses at our Association gatherings are a model of their kind.

We welcome our Regimental Honorary Chaplain back into the fold in his official capacity and hope we will continue to see a great deal of him and his wife Muriel.

Mainly about people . . .



Volunteers wanted for a South Georgia expedition

THE island of South Georgia lies some 800 miles south east of the Falkland Islands. It is highly mountainous with little or no flat land. The island has many glaciers and is snow covered for the majority of the year. Only a couple of previous expeditions have explored the island and much ground remains untrudged by human foot. Grytviken is the only habitation on the island where the garrison of some 40 men is based.

After a winter tour as Garrison Commander and 2IC, Clements and Harris of 3 Royal Anglian saw the possibilities of mounting an expedition to the island. It is therefore planned to mount a Royal Anglian expedition to the island of South Georgia in September/October 1991 the duration of which will be between six-eight weeks. The aim of the expedition is to further explore the southern half of the island which is poorly mapped and there is little detailed information available.

The expedition will form two teams, a sea team and a land team. The sea team will aim to canoe around the southern tip of the island exploring the numerous inlets and fjords. The land team will traverse the many glaciers, support the sea team and attempt to climb some of the unclimbed peaks in the area including the currently unclimbed south east ridge of Mount Paget, South Georgia's highest mountain (9,625 ft).

Volunteers are now needed to form the

expedition party. Individuals possessing one of or preferably a combination of the following skills are required: **Canoeists/mountaineers.** Coxwain to man 5m inflatables with outboard motors. Sea experience is necessary as well as maintenance knowledge for the outboards. **Doctor or highly qualified medic** with mountaineering experience. **Mechanic** to repair and maintain the motors. **Photographer**, an expedition photographer is needed for still and video photography. He should have mountaineering experience. **Communicators**, experienced signallers are necessary, able to communicate in HF and Morse.

In addition, all applicants should be able to ski to a high standard.

A personal financial contribution will be necessary. Although it can not be fixed yet, it will not be in excess of £500 and is likely to be much less.

All applicants should submit a CV with full details of relevant experience and qualifications. The application should also be endorsed by the applicant's CO to the effect that the applicant will be available in September and October 1991. Applications should be submitted by the end of January 1991 at the latest to: Capt J E Harris, 3 R Anglian, Roman Barracks, Colchester, Essex CO2 9NT.

Further details available from Colchester Military Extension 3438.

Diners enjoy trip down memory lane

THE Past and Present Dinner Club celebrated its 23rd annual dinner night at The Depot The Queen's Division on Saturday 6 Oct 90. A total of 247 members and guests attended a very memorable evening. As always the meal was excellent and the organisation first class. Our appreciation and thanks go to WO1 (RSM) B D Hilton for the use of his Mess and for the hard work of all his staff.

We were extremely well entertained during the meal by the band from 5 R Anglian and our thanks go to them.

Our dinner chairman was Brig W T Dodd OBE, whom it is always a pleasure to see, everyone wishes him well with the BBC. It was also good to see all our other guests, especially Maj Gen Gerrard-Wright CB, CBE and Brig W R W Pike who were both on good form. It is of course always nice to see the In-Pensioners and they always thoroughly enjoy themselves.

These nights are always memorable and full of nostalgia for the majority of past members. Fond memories come flooding back. The lamps never stop swinging, old friends reliving their favourite stories and experiences. The younger members are not left out, although some of the older ones are always quick to remark "you've never had it so good"

It is, of course, always the good times that are remembered so well, along with the many characters, good or bad but remembered with affection.

A collection was made during the evening and a picture of the Battle of Gandamac (fought by a handful of men from the 44th Regiment in 1842) was purchased.

A large version painted by Ex WO2 Trevor Wringe can be found in the dining room of the Pompadours mess.

The sale of the Past and Present tie was going well so there should be a lot more members wearing them next year.

Another Past and Present dinner over, full of laughter and for many another trip down memory lane.

Mainly about people . . .

REGULAR FORCES EMPLOYMENT ASSOCIATION

Leaving the Forces? If so, RFEA is ready to help you with your resettlement in the UK and, in particular, to help you find suitable employment. If you have served with good character in the non-commissioned ranks for a minimum of three years, or less if you are being discharged on medical grounds, the association's services are available to you at no cost.

We are part of the Forces Resettlement Service and, with over a hundred years of experience behind us, operate through 40 branches throughout the UK where our employment officers are in close contact with employers.

If you need our help, fill in the card which will be with your discharge documents, or make earlier contact with the branch in your area of interest. Branch addresses and telephone numbers can be found from unit ship resettlement officers, regimental, corps and service associations, Jobcentres and local telephone directories. Or, write to us at Head Office, 25 Bloomsbury Square, London, WC1A 2LN.

International shooting

TWO representatives from the 6th Battalion recently visited Washington with the National Shooting Team. Following on from this we congratulate Capt Colin Bateman, the team captain, and LCpl Rolph on their successful shooting against the United States National Guard.

The team won the combat rifle match beating all other 51 National Guard State teams.

In the Individual Match, Capt Bateman achieved a maximum score but was awarded second place when the grouping in the bull's was measured.



Sgt Elliot of the Pompadours shows Smiley the moves during the Radio 1 visit to Clacton-on-Sea. It looks as though Smiley's heading for the guardhouse. (Picture: courtesy Tony Ellis) **More Pompadours news — page 30.**

French force friendships

CAPTAIN Rick Beven, 1 R Anglian, and Lt Mathew Edwardes, 6 R Anglian, were well hosted by members of the Alpine Brigade in France when adventure training in Provence in May this year.

After five days trekking in the Haute Alpes they were hitch-hiking into the Barcelonnette when they were given a lift by Lt Claude Matot, a Chaplain with the

Alpine Brigade. On finding out who they were, he invited them back to camp and put them up for the night.

The next day he hosted them on a visit to 4th Regiment De Chasseurs - a Medium Recce Regiment and part of the Force Action Rapide (FAR). Some good friendships were made and it is hoped that they will return the visit next year.

Silver train presentation

IN 1927 1st Battalion The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment was in China. In those days some Western powers, including Britain, held a number of ports and trading centres on the coast of China by treaty: one of these was the Kailan Coal Mine in North China, near Tongshan. In this area the remnants of the old government forces were being pushed back by the Nationalists and the situation was chaotic.

Two companies of the 1st Battalion were sent to protect European lives and property at the Kailan tin mines. The two companies used an armoured train to assist in keeping control in the area and to main-



tain communications with the outside world. After it was all over the Kailan Mining Association presented the battalion with an exact silver replica of the armoured train used — which, even in 1928, cost one thousand pounds.

Colonel-in-Chief's visit

Royal Anglians host the Queen Mother

AS long ago as May of last year, when the Officers' Club entertained the Colonel-in-Chief as our guest of honour at a reception in the banqueting house, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother had said she would like to visit the 1st and 3rd Battalions in Colchester this year, which marks her 90th birthday.

With Her Majesty's immensely crowded diary and the Vikings' and Pompadours' training and operational commitments, Monday 16 July was one of only very few days available. As it turned out we could not have chosen a better day for the weather was marvellous.

The programme started with Her Majesty's arrival - punctual to the second at 1130hrs - by helicopter of the Queen's Flight. Our Colonel-in-Chief was greeted by the Colonel of the Regiment and after introduction to Lady Akehurst, the Commanding Officers and Regimental Secretary and their wives, Her Majesty moved to the saluting base to be greeted by a fanfare of trumpets and the royal salute. The Queen Mother moved forward with the Colonel of the Regiment and ADC's to inspect those on parade followed by presentations of the British Empire Medal and Long Service and Good Conduct medals.

On returning to the saluting dais the bands and drums of the Vikings and Pompadours gave a musical display consisting of two quick marches, Imperial Echoes and The Red Cloak, and the Northamptonshire's slow march. After the royal salute Her Majesty moved to the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess where she talked with families of the two battalions and was photographed with each of the two messes.

From there Her Majesty drove to the Officers' Mess where again she talked with many families before lunching with officers and wives of the two battalions in a marquee erected for the occasion.

The Padre read out a prayer especially written for the Queen Mother's 90th year and approved by their Graces the Archbishop of Canterbury and York; the two bands played music during the lunch



Above: General Sir John Akehurst escorts the Queen Mother from her helicopter. Picture: Bryan Long. Below: A brief history. Picture: Photographers International.



which was ended by the loyal toast and toast "Our Colonel-in-Chief".

After lunch our guests, the Mayor of Colchester Mr Ken Cooke, the Lady Mayoress Mrs Gill Bober, GOC Headquarters Eastern District, Major General Evans and Mrs Evans, the Commander 19 Brigade Brig Farrar-Hockley and Mrs Farrar-Hockley left;

shortly afterwards the Queen Mother presented to the Colonel of the Regiment a signed coloured lithograph of herself.

The Queen Mother then moved to an open square of tents manned by the 1st and 3rd Battalions with various displays including historical tableaux of soldiers in bygone Regimental dress, displays of equipment

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Colonel-in-Chief's visit



Above: Inspecting the troops. *Picture: Photographers International.* Left: Cpl Evans receives his long service and good conduct medal. Below WO2 Billy Eke introduces Cpl Christian, Mrs Christian and their son Sonny. *Pictures: Bryan Long.*



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and of Regimental silver and pictures. She saw for the first time two pictures painted by Cuneo of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment at Casino and a river crossing in Burma.

While this was going on a team of soldiers from the Pompadours abseiled down

from a helicopter to present the Queen Mother with a birthday card and a box of chocolates. From there she walked to her helicopter where, after three cheers and to the strains of "Will ye no come back again" from the battalion bands, the Queen Mother departed in her helicopter.

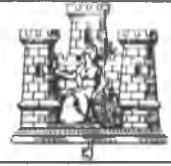
The whole day was a tremendous success and reflected well on the great deal of

work that had been put into the occasion by both battalions.

The families loved it and the Queen Mother has subsequently, through her Private Secretary, said how much she enjoyed the day and how touched she was at all the care and trouble that had been taken by the Regiment to make the whole occasion such a resounding success.



Vikings



A year between two tours

WHEN the Vikings look back at 1990 they will call it the year between two Northern Ireland tours. They returned from South Armagh in January this year. At the time that this goes to press the battalion will already have started NI training in preparation for their six-month tour in Fermanagh in May 91.

The CO has already conducted his initial recess of our home for six months in 1991 and the COP and Int Cell have started their specialist training. Despite the Division Colonel describing the news of another Ireland tour within 16 months as "rather like being smacked in the mouth by a wet kipper" the mood in the battalion now is one of anticipation.

NI is something the Vikings have got very good at over the years. This is not to say there have not been pressures in 1990, especially on families, as a busy year has been made busier by events in the Gulf.

The first part of the year saw the battalion committed to a large number of outside RAAT tasks such as running the 19th UKLF Cadet Leadership Course and EDSAAM among others. Interspersed with these large commitments, the rifle coys managed to get some training done with their affectionately named "Michael Jacksons" (Saxons). The two activities were not often compatible and the result was a lot of hard graft by everybody. It was not until the end of May that the spectre of RAAT tasks disappeared and the Vikings began to train in earnest to convert to a Mechanised (Wheeled) Battalion, something we had not been able to achieve last year due to the South Armagh tour.

19th UKLF Cadet Leadership course
THIS year's UKLF Cadet Leadership course managed to keep the Vikings on their toes whilst most units were busy enjoying some Easter leave. The course, now in its 19th year, hosted some 300 cadets aged between 16 and 17 years old from all over the United Kingdom, along with a contingent from the Canadian Cadet Force.

It was designed to improve the cadets' leadership qualities with a programme that

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Above: Maj Gen Pollard, Deputy Colonel of the Regiment chats to Cpl Buxton and Pte Cox of B Coy. Below: Drummer Ward of the Viking Drums Platoon.



News from the Vikings



Above: B Coy, winners of the Inter-Company falling plate competition and the overall trophy. Left: The ultimate Viking, RSM WO1 Jones 'Stabilis' at Edsaam. Below: Some of the 300 cadets who joined the Vikings on the UKLF Cadet Leadership course do some watermanship training.



News from the Vikings

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was both physically and mentally demanding. The cadets were organised into platoons for the 10-day course with Vikings attached as DS and as enemy. Platoon tactics and administration were covered, as well as numerous periods on the assault course, confidence course and watermanship training.

The course commanded a fair amount of interest from the press and from outside visitors, who included GOC EDIST, Maj Gen Evans and 19 Brigade Comd. Brig Farrar-Hockley, as well as commanders from cadets units across the country. This course was an undoubted success and as many as 70% stated they wished to join the Army.

Edsaam 1990

THE EDSAAM meeting this year, organised and entered in by the Vikings, involved so many people that the then RSM Lt Tony Jones held a fire practice to weed out any spare bodies for the butts on Middlewick Ranges. Over 200 men were involved in marshalling the events, running the ranges or sweating down at the butts.

The tentage required to be put and taken down would have been enough to host Billy Smart's circus but in the event all ran smoothly. As well as setting it up, the battalion used the rehearsals for EDSAAM as a chance to hold its own Battalion Inter-Coy shooting competition, which was won by B Coy. During EDSAAM itself the battalion entered a team and WO2 Sweeny Todd and the A Coy team did particularly well, winning the team and individual LSW shoots.

The end of the EDSAAM saw the start of our leave in lieu of that missed over Easter. Never have tents been taken down quicker ... with cries of "you're in your own time now".

Refresher Training

THE South Armagh tour meant the battalion was not able to train for some aspects of conventional warfare. This meant the first few months saw rifle coys retraining drivers and signallers, whilst the support coy platoons had to run a series of specialist cadres to train up mortar-men, Milan firers and Rarden gunners.

In the case of Support Coy, the hard work put in was illustrated by the excellent results on the Support Platoon's Recruit and Annual Firing Camps.

The period June to August saw the pro-



Above: CSM Todd and the A Coy team which won the Eastern District team and individual LSW shoots. Below: C Coy, winners of the inter-company section shoot.



gressive build-up from coy level training to BG and finally Bde training on Salisbury Plain, which became our second home for much of the summer. The battalion spent a week in June Fibua training at Longmoor (something the Vikings have had a lot of

practice at this year) and later at the new Fibua village at Copehill Down on Salisbury Plain. Meanwhile BG HQ was sharpening up command and control measures at the BGT(N) facility at Catterick,

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News from the Vikings



Above: The PNCO Cadre on a log run in Friday Woods. Below left: Cpl Jones and Pte Hunton of B Coy. Right: WO1 Jones hands over to new RSM WO1 Allen on Minden Day.



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which were later put to good use during BG training on the plain.

The period of July and August saw a

high level of exercise activity with the battalion carrying out coy level training in defence and in the attack on Salisbury Plain for ten days at the start of July. The whole



battalion then returned to Colchester and put on No. 2s and bulled boots for the hugely successful royal visit by HM Queen

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News from the Vikings

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Elizabeth, the Queen Mother.

This over, the whole brigade deployed to the Plain once more on Ex Panthers Fire. This involved the Brigade in defence and attacking from one end of the Plain to the other. It also involved a BG firepower demonstration involving A10's, a Regiment of FH 70 and the Viking Mortar Platoon. Commanders were able to get within 175m of the exploding shells closed down within their Saxons. Later they got even closer as a certain Pl Comd. inadvertently adjusted someone else's mortar fire and caused some alarm amongst spectators, including the CO.

The return from Ex Panthers Fire culminated in the brigade taking block leave for the remainder of August.

Even during leave some members of the battalion continued working up for the Cambrian Patrol competition under Capt Bill Howard. In the event, the team was unlucky despite an excellent performance and being well on the way to a gold medal they lost a member through injury on the abseiling stand and finished minus one of their team, thereby not qualifying for a medal.

Adventure Training

DESPITE a full programme the Vikings have dispelled the old adage 'all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy ...' and more adventure training has been carried out this year than two years put together.

This started with the Milan Platoon complete crossing the border and spending two weeks adventurous training in Garelochhead, Scotland. Whilst there, soldiers did a round-robin, hillwalking, climbing, canoeing and abseiling. At about the same time the JNCO's cadre spent a week in the Peak District using adventure training as a vehicle to increase confidence and build leadership skills.

During some of August block leave a battalion canoeing expedition went to the Ardeche in southern France, taking Capt Jim Boubouras, 8/9 Royal Australian Regiment, with them.

Capt Boubouras is over here on Ex Long Look and was most surprised to find himself transported to a new medium - water - in a country he was not expecting to visit. However, the R & R package in St Tropez more than made up for it. Even the Recce Pl gave up the battle of maintaining foxes to enjoy a week's climbing and hill-walking in Snowdonia.



Milan Pl's adventure training in Scotland arouses the interest of the locals. Pictured are Cpl Stewart, Sgt Grant, sheep, Pte Chamberlin and Pte Codlin.

With a relatively quiet period approaching in November, a number of more ambitious battalion expeditions are planned.

A Coy are taking 15 soldiers ski-mountaineering in the Jotentheimen Range in Norway, an area to the west of Bergen. B Coy complete are spending a week in Penhale camp on the west coast of Cornwall. There they will carry out a range of activities including hill-walking, mountain hiking, sea-canoeing and climbing on the sea cliffs. C Coy have two expeditions planned before Christmas, one to Turkey and one to the Pyrennes.

Exercise Taurus Trek is designed to introduce soldiers to high level mountaineering in the Ala Dag range of the Taurus mountains in Turkey. C Coy are also taking an eight-man expedition to the Pyrennes and plan to trek below the snow line from Mercis to Banyuls in the French Pyrennes.

Finally, Support Coy is taking 12 soldiers offshore sailing in the RCT yacht off Cornwall in an attempt to introduce Vikings to their native element - the sea. All in all, the Vikings may not be doing any overseas exercise this year but they are adventure training everywhere.

The Social Front

WITH the Vikings firmly back in England,

the Band and Corps of Drums has been kept busy at a number of venues including the Norfolk Show and Great Yarmouth Races. The two ceremonial highlights have to be the Viking Colour Party parading the Colours at the 90th Birthday Parade of HM Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, and her visit to the 1st and 3rd Battalions at Colchester on 16 July.

On 22 Sept, the Vikings opened their gates to families and old serving members of our former regiments - the Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiments. Over 600 people attended and had lunch and tea before watching the Band and Drums beating the retreat on the square. For some it was a reminder of the battalion's history; for our guests, a chance to see the raw material and tools of today's Army.

Minden Day

MINDEN Day was celebrated on exercise on Salisbury Plain on 1 Aug. The Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir John Akehurst, spoke to the whole battalion after the CO had presented them with their traditional Minden Roses. The two RSM's, WO1 Jones and Allen decided that Minden Day was a good day to handover as no-one would notice their hangovers the next day!

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News from the Vikings



Above: Milan PI adventure training in Garloch Head, Scotland. Right: The Band perform for Edsaam. Below: LCpl Page with a tankard for coming first in his PNCO Cadre.



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Conclusions

EVENTS in the Gulf have had repercussions on the Vikings. Initially the battalion was involved in training others who were going there in NBC and small arms. As time went on we helped paint vehicles and guard camps of units which had deployed.

Then our major Bde FTX in Germany, Ex Quarter Final, was cancelled as direct result of Op Granby. The battalion has used the time wisely to catch up on all the

mandatory tests that sometimes have to be squeezed into training when time allows during the year.

Lastly the Band, trained stretcher-bearers as well as professional musicians, will probably have deployed to the Gulf by the time this has gone to press. Whilst a fair few Vikings wish they were there as well we wish them God speed and a safe return in the New Year.

In all this is a year best summarised by the old battalion motto "Work hard, play hard".



Poachers



Sights set for Canada

THE second half of 1990 has seen a large proportion of the Poachers preparing both for BatusS and an extensive range of summer sporting activities. In addition, an unseen major feature has been operation Granby and the subsequent effects on the battalion.

May proved to be a busy month. While the CO was busy fostering good relations with the Bundeswehrs 32 Panzer Grenadier Bn, the remainder of the battalion was preparing for various exercises. The medical centre in its role as RAP, and the band, departed on a four-day medical exercise, returning just in time for the RAP to take part in the CO's last exercise before his hand-over at the end of the month.

After five days' hard training on a very hot and dusty Soltau, the battle-group charged up to the CO in a carefully and secretly organised salute choreographed by the 2IC, Adjutant and Operations Officer.

It was also the last exercise for LCpl Brennan after 22 years of exceptional service and on return to Trenchard Barracks he was royally towed out in a Stalwart on his last day.

However, the CO's problems were not over as he and his wife Ros braced themselves for a solid week of dining out. It must have all gone well as he successfully handed over and Lt Col Deed was firmly in the chair at the start of June.

The new CO, however, did not have the opportunity to sit back and admire his battalion as the various Brigade and Divisional sports meetings took off with a vengeance. The brigade swimming competition saw a number of individuals produce some very fine performances with B Coy providing the backbone of the team after their success in the Inter-coy competition the month before.

With C Coy having won the inter-coy cricket competition, it was only fair that A Coy took the honours in the inter-coy boxing after a week of splendid bouts showing the true guts and determination of those who took part. The boxing finals also gave

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Above: B Company in hasty defence during field firing. Below: RSMs hand over — Mr Brown (left) and Mr Goude.



News from the Poachers



Above: Op Granby personnel. Left to right: LCpl Richards, Pte Duffy, LCpl Pams, Cpl Tune, LCpl Hewitt and Cpl Benns. Left and below: Two tow outs — the CO is towed out in one of his favourite vehicles. LCpl Brennan leaves in royal style.



News from the Poachers



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the CO the opportunity to present a cheque to BLESMA for just over DM14,000, after a splendid fund raising effort by the whole battalion in an incredible variety of ways over the previous year.

June also saw the brigade and divisional athletics meetings. The Poachers did extremely well under the direction of Capt O'Driscoll and Sgt Powell, eventually fighting their way through the various competitions to achieve fifth place in the BAOR finals; the highest placed infantry battalion.

The main focus of July was the pre-BATUS field firing package at Sennelager from 7-20 July. It was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. The Milan Platoon, which under a trial being carried out is devoted to the companies, was centralised for the period, and demonstrated their expertise by scoring an almost unheard of 98% hit rate.

Whilst at Sennelager we were visited by Commander 22 Armd Bde. Brig Infantry and the Div Colonel, Col Pantou. A number of officers also had the chance to run in to old friends as the Regimental Cricket Team was on tour and, in addition, Col Groves from BBGT (BAOR) organised a barbecue for Regimental officers and their wives to coincide with the Regimental weekend at Bassingbourn.

To round off this busy period, we also

Above: Winners of the inter-company boxing — A Coy. Below: The CO presents the cheque from the Poachers to BLESMA at the inter-company boxing finals.



hosted visits by two of our CCF's, Stamford and Uppingham Schools. They were fully integrated into their host companies and had a splendid time. For many, it was their first experience of mechanised exercises, but hopefully not their last. Also during this period, a number of the Recce Platoon

under Sgt Hall were able to travel to Shilo, in Canada where they were hosted by 12 Panzer Grenadier Bn. Their report can be found elsewhere.

The second major event during July was the Talavera Day celebrations at the

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News from the Poachers



Left: Reporting a decision during field firing. Above: Will the CO notice the bolt's out? Pte Jackson briefs the CO on the weapon with Capt Colgan, Cpl Warrener and Pte Ogden looking on. Below: Inter-company swimming champions — B Coy.



News from the Poachers

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end of the month. Both the Officers' and Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Messes held dinners, while on the actual day the battalion was given the day off to watch the two messes do battle on the cricket field. Needless to say, the Officers' Mess handed out a crushing defeat.

August again saw the battalion out on exercise, this time as two organisations. B and C Coys joined 1 RTR for their final pre-Batus training, whilst the remainder of the battalion provided an enthusiastic enemy.

While the two sides did battle we were joined by an annual assortment of attachments; a woman officer cadet from Exeter UOTC (in an infantry battalion!), and MoD civil servant who specialised in fire-fighting equipment and ejector seats (very useful to us) and two potential officers with the unlikely combination of names of Heath Robinson.

After the exercise, all those going to Batus departed on two weeks' well-earned leave. Two new subalterns, 2Lts Stephenson and Leslie arrived from Warminster just in time to take over duties.

September was to be a quiet month. The KAPE team moved back to UK for their tour in the battalion's recruiting area on 7 Sept for two-and-a-half weeks under Lt Morris. Their tour included town fairs and visits to local schools and we await with anticipation to see the results in manpower terms.

On the 14th, the RSMs handed over, with Mr Brown changing messes having been ejected by WO1 (RSM) Goude on his dining out.

The 14 Sept saw pandemonium begin as it was announced that 22 Armd Bde would train 7 Armd Bde for their move to the Gulf. In a series of lightning moves, the battalion's staff laid plans for the training effort running small arms ranges, NBC, first aid and physical training and Warrior and Scimitar gunnery ranges.

Those involved pulled together magnificently at short notice to produce a much appreciated package for 7 Armd Bde. In addition, several Poachers were stood by to deploy, although not all were lucky enough to be chosen. Those eventually selected were Cpts Kemp and North, LCpl Hewitt, Pte Duff, Cpl Tune, LCpl Richards, Pte Wadham ACC and Cfn Tyler REME. We wish them all the best of fortune and will be keeping in touch.

Meanwhile, the Batus Coys were try-



Above: Cpl Weller and Dmr Bentley with B Company during field firing.



Above and below: The KAPE tour in September.



ing to find out whether their trip was on or off. They eventually flew out on 19 Sept for Medicine Man 6.

In what has been an extremely busy and varied year, the battalion now looks forward to its conversion to Warrior at the beginning

of 1991. It has had a number of additional site guards thrown its way, re-allocated from 7 Armd Bde, as well as a period of guarding Fallingbostal barracks in its run up to Christmas. However, the Poachers are in good heart.

News from the Poachers



Command and control made easy. 6 Pl fighting in the Russian trench system.

Training in Canada

B and C Coys, commanded by Majrs Roger Brunt and Mike Beard respectively, started their build up to Batus with an excellent live firing package devised by Capt Richard Kemp the Ops officer, which culminated in an attack on an exhausting Soviet trench system. This was to prove a very useful experience for similar obstacles encountered in Canada.

Before pre-Batus leave, the two coys spent a fortnight in Soltau training with the rest of 1 RTR battlegroup, linking in with the armoured squadrons with whom they would be working in Canada. By now all Poachers were ready for Batus and any challenges it might hold.

Thus began the move to Canada in mid-September immediately after leave. In addition to the two rifle coys, half of the Mortar Platoon under WO2 Woodcock were also on the move. As soon as all had arrived, the briefings began and seemed never to stop. Soldiers were warned, in particular, not to emulate the previous battlegroup and attempt to initiate any gophers to the airborne brotherhood by attaching one to a Schermully.

The run up to D Day involved taking over kit, road runs, reces and the inevitable checking out of Medicine Hat's nightspots. For Batus old hands, the Sin Bin still exists, but the Silver Buckle is sadly no more.

D Day saw the battlegroup deploy on to the prairie. For the "Batus virgins", the vast expanse was impressive and navigationally "interesting", but at least there were no problems with the weather; it was the hottest September in recent years.

Despite the intensive build-up in BAOR, the training on the prairie was progressive, starting at section level and building up to battlegroup manoeuvres. As far as most of the younger Poachers were concerned the best part of the exercise was the "Special to Arm training", in which each arm embarked upon training tailor-made to get the most out of the excellent facilities.

This involved an outstanding section-level day called Ex Muskrat in which amongst other things the rifle/Milan sections, involved in the Milan trial, were able to capture an enemy position as riflemen, then deploy Milan to engage a fleeing AFV.

It was during Muskrat that one of C

Coy's soldiers in an attempt to find a secluded toilet location walked 15km, shovel in hand, in search of dead ground.

The highlight of this phase was Ex Porcupine, known to all as "The Coolies", a day-long advance to contact along narrow, winding valleys. Ex Night Jar, the battlegroup night attack, is notorious for casualties, but fortunately the soldiers were well enough into the training not to suffer from being "too safe", and the amount of fire going down was impressive.

After Night Jar, the all-arms training element was introduced and things inevitably slowed a little. Ex Gopher was a gruelling 30 km coy squadron advance to contact, and Ex Goshawk was the first battlegroup exercise in which stronger enemy positions were encountered.

By now all vehicles were beginning to tire, and the maintenance day before the final test, ex Gazala was well timed. It is to the credit of both "Tiffys", staff sgts Moodie and Peacock, that the 432s stayed mobile long after the tanks.

Gazala involved digging in; the weather sensed this and decided to close in, hitting sub-zero temperatures at night. The defensive phase ended with a Danger Close Fire Mission from the artillery which destroyed all of the targetry designed for C Coys battle, leaving B Coy to hold off the only attack.

Because of the state of the tanks the exercise finished early, although Milan and mortar elements stayed out for Ex Skunk. Pte Bergin from B Coy had the privilege of hosting DINF in his trench during the Milan night shoot.

After hard work by all, the kit was handed over to the next Medicine Man battlegroup and everybody embarked upon R and R to such places as Banff, Calgary, Montana and Edmonton. Some soldiers embarked upon adventurous training with 1 RTR, doing such things as horse-trekking and parachuting. Some B Coy soldiers even managed to organise a "bungee diving" course. 2Lts Lyne and Leslie took the opportunity to visit our American friends of His Majesty's 10th of Foot of America, where they were lavishly entertained.

Fully rested and very poor, the companies climbed aboard RAF Tristars for the return journey to Celle. It had been a good exercise and well worth travelling 6,000 miles for ... and yes Sgt Stones (B Coy) really has been to Batus more times than anybody else.

News from the Poachers



Capt North reminds the Poacher officers why they are in Arnhem

Battlefield tour of Arnhem

GLIDERS and men of the 1st Airborne Division dropped into Oosterbeek (Holland) on 17 Sept 1944 with the aim of capturing the bridge over the Rhine at Arnhem. Forty-six years later, members of the Poachers descended on Oosterbeek, this time not to take and hold the bridge, but for a battlefield tour organised by 22 Arm'd Brigade.

We were accommodated in the Dutch National sports centre at Papendal along with the Dutch National under 25 Womens football squad. This arrangement was found to be very comfortable and in an ideal location close to all the major LZs and DZs, as well as being within taxi distance of Arnhem town itself.

Brigadier Walker, Commander 22 Arm'd Brigade, had layed on a number of guest speakers to take us through the events of the battle, all experts in their own field, two of whom had actually jumped in four-and-a-half decades before.

Col Geoffrey Powell and Col John Waddy started the tour by showing where they had landed, as Coy Commanders, and

we followed them through the battle to the point where they left it, either by swimming the Rhine on the night of 26 Sept in the case of Col Powell, by then Commander 156 Para Ban, or as a casualty via the Hotel Tafelberg, as in Colonel Waddy's case.

Background detail was filled in by Dr Adrian Groenweg (an expert in details of the Dutch underground movement) and Major Bob Kershaw (Para) an expert in the German situation in Holland at that time.

The third day was spent in Nijmegen, under the guidance of Col Wilhelm, a Dutch resistance fighter during the war, reliving some of the details of the battle in that area including details of both 30 corps ops and the 82nd US Airborne Div's operations during 20-26 Sept 1944.

All in all, the visit was tremendously successful and we found it very interesting and informative. All the speakers did a marvellous job of bringing the battles to life. As 21.1 Beart the Poachers' self appointed 'jump master' was heard to quote at the end of the tour "History has never been so much fun."

Understanding the Bundeswehr tactics

FIVE members of the Recce platoon led by Sgt Hall went to Shilo, Canada for three weeks in July as guests of the Bundeswehr's No. 4 Coy, 12 Panzer Grenadier Bn.

The aim of the trip was to see German soldiers equipped with Marder in their training role. The Poachers were taught to use and fire the Bundeswehr's weapon systems and get an understanding of their tactics. Initially, the Recce Platoon watched what was involved - very different from British tactical methods - before demonstrating how we would do it.

On one occasion as their Division General was watching he told the Pz Gren Coy: "The British are taught drills, it then becomes instinct. That's why they are so professional". After that, the five Poachers attempted to get their heads back in their Marders.

The trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all and undoubtedly valuable lessons were learned by both sides. It has also started to rekindle our links with local Bundeswehr units.

News from the Poachers

New monument commemorates dead of bloody Spanish battle

ONE of the bloodiest and costliest battles of the Peninsula Campaign took place on the outskirts of a small Spanish market town known as Talavera de la Reina on 27 and 28 July 1809. Although not a truly decisive battle it marked a turning point in the fortunes of the Allied Forces, commanded by Sir Arthur Wellesley, in their campaign against Napoleon and was heralded as a great victory by the British public.

Of particular note was the central part played by the 1/48th (the Northamptonshire Regiment - the 2nd Bn took part as well) who checked what was almost a route of the Guards Brigade and Kings German Legion and helped restore the British position. Of their action Wellesley (later the Duke of Wellington) wrote, "The battle was certainly saved by the advance, position and steady conduct of the 48th Regiment."

Until 1988, some 179 years since those fateful couple of days, the area of the battlefield had remained relatively undisturbed with little development and a number of the original buildings remaining.

Then, during construction of the Madrid-Extramadura motorway, which flanks Talavera to the north, a mass grave was disturbed by earth moving machines. The incident was discovered by Stephen Drake-Jones, a British civilian lecturer resident in Madrid and chairman of the Madrid branch of the Wellington Society.

He notified the Spanish government and, after a letter to the Times, an article in the Telegraph and a full page in El Pais, a decision was taken to erect a memorial to all who had died. The Spanish government agreed to pay.

Despite some delays and false starts, construction of the monument was eventually begun on a site between the (now completed) motorway and a small building known as the Blood Hospital (for that is what it was used as during the battle) which lies on the south-east side of the Medillon Hill, a feature which dominates the battlefield and from where Wellesley commanded. No attempt was made to link the monument directly to the disturbed grave as



Left: The original monument. It is interesting to note that when it was last refurbished the date of the battle was changed to 1908. Right: The new monument. The British regiments' names are on the left 'leg'.

this site was now below layers of tarmac, nor was it ever established whose bones it contained although it is known the area was just within what had been the French position.

The monument, as shown in the photograph, was designed to record the names of the principle regiments who took part, with one leg dedicated to each of the main forces; British, French and Spanish.

In planning the inauguration ceremony it was decided that representation of all the regiments who had taken part in the battle would be invited with the principle guests being the Spanish Defence Minister, the present Duke of Wellington and a senior French officer. On the day the line-up included a large guard of honour provided by the Spanish Army, a colour party from the French Army and representatives from almost all of the British regiments plus the band of the Scots Guards. CGS, Gen Sir John Chapple, who was visiting Spain at the time, also attended.

As well as the ceremony, and to make full use of the opportunity, the defence staff at our embassy in Madrid organised a three-day programme for all the British representatives. This included a full tour of the Talavera battlefield, a lecture on Wellington's generalship in the Peninsula campaign.

It was a fascinating few days, particu-

larly the battlefield tour with the details of the action narrated superbly by David Chandler from RMA Sandhurst and Sir Julian Paget who has recently written a book on the Peninsular battles. The brave and bold action of the 48th Regt was particularly emphasised and this naturally evoked great pride.

The ceremony itself was a grand occasion although there had been concern that the monument would not be completed in time (it was eventually finished some nine hours before the ceremony). However, all was well and this huge memorial now alerts travellers to what went on, 181 years ago, on what, initially appears to be a rather ordinary piece of ground.

The final act in this visit was to attend a splendid lunch hosted by the Mayor of Talavera at which each guest was given a commemorative plate (Talavera is famous for ceramics). To thank him for his kindness and to renew a link with the town whose name we bear on our badge the Mayor was presented with a limited issue plate from the Poachers bearing the names of all the battle honours of our former regiments and with 'Talavera' in bold letters in the centre.

So, if you are ever down in that part of Spain do look out for the Talavera Monument, it is well worth a visit

L. Col Deed



Pompadours



Spicey variety of life

THE past six months have passed all too quickly for the Pompadours, with events of only a few months ago now appearing to be part of the dim and distant past - if variety is the spice of life then life since the last Castle has been a vindaloo!

At the beginning of May the battalion completed its tour of duty on Op. Spearhead, which passed without incident, and most members of the battalion managed to fit in a spot of leave whilst not on lead company. Concurrent with our Spearhead duties, Heavy Weapons Company provided the administrative support for the UKLF Sniper Concentration - this was attended by over 200 snipers and instructors and was, by all accounts, a great success.

On 4 May, the WO's and Sgt's Mess took advantage of our home posting by holding their first exclusively Pompadour reunion. Over 200 past and present members attended including eight former RSM's.

The balance of May was spent tying up loose ends and preparing for Exercise Pond Jump West. The RSM held a series of rehearsals for the visit of the Colonel-in-Chief and an attempt was made to get the Inter-Company Cricket Competition under way. Unfortunately the weather doomed the latter.

On 8 May, CSgt Dowling's skills as an Assault Pioneer were put to the test when Her Majesty the Queen visited London Zoo. The Queen was visiting to inaugurate the new satellite help line for elephants and her itinerary involved crossing the elephant house moat - enter CSgt Dowling with a footbridge. The class 60 footbridge held and CSgt Dowling lives.

At EDSAAM the Pompadours had mixed success; nevertheless B Coy achieved second place overall. HQ Coy won the falling plate, came second in the Gun Match and Pte Chamberlain of B Coy was the Best Young Soldier Shot.

In the Army Orienteering Championships, held at Ash Ranges, the Pompadours managed 15th place and we hope that the growth in interest in orienteering within the battalion will pay off soon.



The Colours in Colchester High Street

Over the weekend 19/20 May, C Coy hosted a visit by 20 Cadets from Hertfordshire ACF. Capt Ian Gowdy laid on a full programme for the lads and kept them on the go throughout with an assault course competition, battle exercises and an overnight patrols exercise. Before the end of the month the battalion managed to squeeze in an Inter-company athletics meeting at the Garrison track, this was won by A Coy.

Throughout the month preparation for Exercise Pond Jump West, at Camp Wainwright in Alberta, continued with the Exercise Ops Officer, Capt Simon Etherington, being driven frantic by the unwillingness of our Canadian hosts to confirm any of the ranges or areas booked months previously.

To compound our problems, the deployment plan was in a constant state of flux and it looked at one time that the first

main body flight would beat the Advance Party to Wainwright. Finally, it was decided to hit the unit travel budget and a small pre-advance party was sent out to try to resolve the various hitches, which the more and more urgent signals were failing to do.

By the time the battalion group arrived most of the outstanding problems had been resolved, although that of which range template to use was not resolved until the day before the live firing started.

Exercise Pond Jump West afforded the battalion the opportunity to conduct training in a manner not possible on the confined training areas in the UK. The exercise was geared very much towards sub-unit training and started off with each rifle company being given a ten-day period during which it ran its own live and dry training - each being allocated an area larger than Stanford

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News from the Pompadours



Above: The Band at RAF Coltishall. Below: Concentration in the Inter-Platoon Competition

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Training Area. At the same time, the Support Platoons of Heavy Weapons Coy got in their own specialist training in preparation for the company battle-runs.

As a finale to the sub-unit training each rifle company was put through a company battle-run. These were all-arms and were in two phases. The first involved a 'dry' bridge demolition guard exercise on the battle river. This was an excellent exercise and kept all on their toes. The Pompadour Recce Platoon and the attached Assault Troop from 9/12L were a most effective enemy force providing snipers, frogmen, saboteurs and in a change of dress, a withdrawing covering force.

The second phase was a 48-hour live firing exercise which incorporated in advance to contact with several quick attacks at section, platoon and company level with the odd minefield breach to be made, a helicopter assault to seize a bridge and the concluding operation, a dawn assault across a 1500m wide lake. This last attack was supported by artillery, mortars and live overhead fire, although after 1,000m of paddling most were oblivious to their surroundings.

While in Canada, full use was also made of the opportunities for adventure training in the nearby Rocky Mountains, in particular in Jasper National Park. Major



Dick Gould and his team laid on a demanding package, a report on which appears elsewhere in this Castle.

The Grand Finale of Pond Jump West was a three-day exercise against the 1st Canadian Brigade Group with whom we

had been "sharing" Camp Wainwright. The Pompadour battle group chalked up a number of successes and managed to get plenty of practice in patrolling. Unfortunately the final grand attack turned out to be a bit of a

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damp squib and interest in the exercise was maintained only by the amazing flying of the Canadian CF18's who 'strafed' the battleground at very low level.

Ex Pond Jump West was not, however, all work and no play. While in Canada all ranks were given five days of R & R. Most chose to take this in Edmonton, Alberta's number two city and home of the world's largest shopping mall-cum-entertainment centre, complete with galleons, waterslides, ice rinks and submarines - an incredible place. Some managed to get concessionary flights with the Canadian Air Force to Vancouver for \$5 each way, while others chose to visit the local delights of Wainwright or Lloydminster.

Finally, unfortunately, the RAF played its joker and delayed our return by a week. This had several major implications, not the least of which was the loss of a week's rehearsals and preparation for the Colonel-in-Chief's visit. Luckily that week was not completely wasted thanks to the excellent World Cup coverage on the Canadian Sports Channel. By World Cup Final day the majority of the battalion was back in England and on a long weekend.

The lost week, however, meant that the final preparations for the Colonel-in-Chief's visit had to be done with great urgency. But we were lucky that the weather preceding the Queen Mother's visit was perfect and all preparations went smoothly. The Queen Mother's visit on 16 July is reported on elsewhere in the Castle, but it bears repeating that Her Majesty's visit was a glorious day and will be long remembered and cherished.

On 18 July, the battalion was granted the Freedom of the Borough of Grays and Thurrock and on the following day exercised its Freedom of Colchester. On both occasions the Pompadours were greeted very warmly and were fed and watered most generously at Civic receptions afterwards.

To close an excellent week, and to celebrate Salamanca Day, the battalion held a memorable All Ranks Party on 19 July, with the main act being provided by the Baron Knights - the supporting artistes' rendering of Phantom of the Opera was, however, not well received! Finally over the weekend, and coincidentally Salamanca Day, a joint 1st and 3rd Battalion Officers' Summer Ball was held. The following day a Battalion Church Service was held in the Chapel at Warley.

The final week of July was spent col-



The Three Peaks challengers, left to right: Capt Harris and Ladley, WO2 Pallant (Keeling), Sgts Robinson and Keeble

lapsing and returning tentage and stands and preparing for a 19 Infantry Brigade Exercise - Ex Panther's Fire.

Ex Panther's Fire was the first time the Brigade had deployed complete for a number of years and was intended to prepare the Brigade for Ex Quarter Final. The Exercise started with the battalion deploying in agonisingly slow time by Chinook to Stanford Training Area.

Thereafter the exercise speeded up considerably once we were reunited with our Saxons. We spent the first few days refreshing ourselves on operations with our vehicles and on low level training in the new FIBUA complex at Eastmere.

The battalion then redeployed to Salisbury Plain to rejoin the rest of the Brigade, taking part in Panther's Punch, an indirect fire exercise where we advanced, closed down, to the last safe moment and finally the Brigade FTX in which the Vikings and Pompadours joined forces to clear the new FIBUA village on the plain. It was while on this exercise that Iraq invaded Kuwait and so the sight of 19 Infantry Brigade moving back to Colchester caused some observers to draw the wrong

conclusions - hence The Sun's exclusive about the Regiment going to the Gulf. The brigade exercise over, the battalion went on a well-earned three weeks' leave.

At the beginning of September the battalion returned from leave refreshed and, with its sights set on two weeks' adventure training, a Kape Tour, PRE's and Exercise Quarter Final in Germany. Very quickly, however, the Gulf crisis caused the cancellation of the Divisional FTX and the battalion soon found itself instead providing guards for the Pioneer Corps at Northampton and instructors for 39 Engineer Regiment as they prepared for operations.

Meanwhile, the adventure training went ahead and reports appear elsewhere.

Somehow among all this, the battalion managed to go ahead with a Freedom March through Dunstable, making up for the lack of numbers with a Fox and Saxon at either end of the parade.

As earlier in the year, the Pompadours were well received, especially so as the Bedfordshire Regiment flash, resurrected by the battalion, was worn on parade for the

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first time since 1950.

In September, Major Dick Gould led a most successful Kape Tour around the schools of Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex. There is no doubt that the tour was a hit with the schools it visited. In barracks, C Coy hosted a Look at Life visit for 28 schoolboys; Captain Tarquin Crouch's programme enthused the lads to such an extent that 22 wanted to join up at the end.

Also in September we hosted three visits to the battalion. The first on the 11th was by Col P S Watton to review the Corps of Drums. Col Watton looked in depth at the standard of our dress and musicianship within the corps and was impressed by our enthusiasm. Later in the month we were visited by the Project Unicom team to brief us on the 'Son of Pampas' or was it grandson? Finally, on 27 Sept the Divisional Colonel, Col P V Panton OBE visited to update both senior messes on divisional matters and to conduct interviews.

The cancellation of Ex Quarter Final has given the battalion a much needed breathing space in October and an additional long weekend. It has also allowed events previously cancelled to be reinstated. Thus in October, the battalion has held a number of competitions, namely Inter-Coy basketball and volleyball and an Inter-Platoon competition, the first to be held for five years. These were won by HQ Coy, C Coy and 5 Pl respectively. The latter competition was close fought with honour at stake and tested platoons in most facets of an infantryman's skills.

Also in October we were visited briefly by Maj Gen A J C Pollard CBE, in his capacity as Colonel Commandant of The Queen's Division, to give us a further update on the shape of things to come.

On the sporting front, the rugby, soccer and orienteering seasons are now under way with some success in all three. In Rugby we are pleased to announce that 4 Pompadours (Pte Picton, Pte Green, Pte Tucker and LCpl Simpson) have been selected to play for the Infantry and Pte Tucker has also been selected to play for the Army under 21's.

On a lighter note the Adjutant, Captain Roland Ladley, issued a challenge to the rest of 19 Infantry Brigade to take on the Pompadours in a 3 Peaks Race. We now look forward to two months of cadres before we start reorganising for our next tour in the province.



Training at Eastmere was fun

First unit to test the new Fibua complex

THE Pompadours were the first unit in the British Army to use the new Fibua complex on Stanta at Westdown. As part of the 19 Brigade Concentration, the Pompadours undertook their warm-up training at Stanta which involved heavy usage of the new complex. The package was divided up into two parts, Company level training and a battalion attack.

The training wing comprising CSgt Conopo, Sgts Barrie, Brown and Mackness under OC HW Coy Maj Gould, set up a series of stands for the rifle companies to revise the skills learnt at Whinney Hill. It seemed a shame to move into the brand new houses, equipped with running water and furnishings which turned many eyes, but the troops soon overcame their inhibitions and set about building their defences. The Milan Pl. took the sting out of building the

defences by filling 30 tons of sandbags and moving them, and other defence stores to the buildings.

The climax of the FIBUA training was the battalion dawn attack mounted by A and B Coys on C Coy.

This phased operation saw A Coy under Maj Tim Page approach from the North and establish a foothold on the perimeter before pushing on to secure half the village. B Coy then approached from the east to take on more clearance and the assault on the bastion position. After five hours the battle was over with, the attackers convinced they had won, and the defenders claiming the same.

The worst part of the package then came with the clearing up. However, damage was minimal and the village survived to fight another battle.

News from the Pompadours

High drama afloat on the ocean waves

THE standard of and interest in sailing in the Pompadours has been steadily increasing under the guiding hand of Major Bill Mooring, whose enthusiasm has sent many Pompadours to sea — and nearly to an early grave in the case of one crew.

Exercise Purple Wave was divided into three crews. The first phase of the exercise involved just one crew which left Gosport on 7 Sept for a week on the RCT YC boat "Mariner"; the second involved the remaining two crews with a change of crew for "Mariner" and the taking over of a second boat, the Infantry Sailing Association's "Bold Warrior".

The first crew on "Mariner" had to change its schedule due to light winds and rather than visit the Scillies stayed slightly close to home. After filling her sails in the Solent, "Mariner" made a dash for Cherbourg and then visited Guernsey and Alderney before changing crews at Weymouth.

The weather was superb for sunbathing but not so good for sailing - however the trip to France gave everyone a chance to restock on duty free.

After swapping old sea dog stories and informing the new crew of the best places to "pull", "Mariner" once again set to sea. Meanwhile, at Whale Island in Pompey "Bold Warrior" was taken over and duly set sail - little knowing the fate that awaited. In the second phase both boats sailed a similar course to that of the previous week adding Jersey to their itinerary.

The weather, however, had now changed and was less suitable for sun-



LCpl Hall helming on Ex Purple Wave

bathing. Indeed the trip back was somewhat interesting for both boats: "Mariner" snapped a shroud while the unfortunate "Bold Warrior" was dismayed after the rear shroud parted.

Lt Baker, on "Bold Warrior", by his own admission was somewhat at a loss as to what to do whilst the skipper tried to save both the mast and sails. After it seemed the boat would be holed by the mast banging into it, the decision was made to cut it loose. This completed, "Bold Warrior" was allowed to drift for ten minutes to make sure that she was completely clear of the wreckage before starting the motor for the long and very unstable trip back to Whale Island.

Ex. Purple Wave was judged a great success and was greatly enjoyed by all who took part.

Attracting recruits for the future

THE Pompadours conducted a KAPE tour throughout the battalion recruiting area in September. Its aim was long-term recruiting and enhancing the battalion's visibility within the country areas. It was decided to target the schools which had not been visited by the Army recently, and the cadets, combining to give an age-span between 12-16 — tomorrow's recruits.

The display was built around the 81mm mortar which pupils and cadets had a chance to fire using the sandfilled round. The stands were all 'hands-on' giving pupils a chance to fire an air rifle on the RIT mini range, try the Milan simulator, use the battalion's range of radios, command a Fox, ride in the back of a Saxon, try all the Infantry weapons (dry of course) and take part in a section attack using coveralls, helmets, cam cream (of course) and SA80s firing blanks.

Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire were visited first touring schools in Amphill, Dunstable, Luton and Stevenage. During

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Crew One	Crew Two	Crew Three
Capt Crouch	WO2 Rouse	Capt Wadman
2Lt Stoddart	LCpl Hall	Lt Baker
Cpl Smith	Pte Austin	LCpl Jay
LCpl Sands	Pte Mackness	Pte Dowler
Pte Oddie	Pte Milton	Pte Chamberlain

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the second week schools were visited in Chelmsford, Gt. Barrow, Sherfield and Canvey Island and cadets throughout the whole of the Essex area.

It was found that the easiest access to schools could be gained by offering up the Band for a concert and providing command tasks for inter-house/tutor group competitions. The Band provided an excellent programme, which included Sgt. Milgate assaulting (musically of course) teachers during his solo performance on the trombone, and a stirring post horn gallop. It was most satisfying to see reluctant teenagers thoroughly enjoying an experience so alien to most of them.

The challenge pursuits, run by SSgt Wilson were a great success. It was the usual type of problem, the river is too wide, the plank too short, the barrel too heavy and rope too thin. The pupils loved it, putting every effort into solving the problem and executing their plan. The record was 1 minute 38 seconds set by a team of boys, but many girls teams put up some good times too.



Sgt Cairey demonstrates Spyglass

The Kape tour was a great success and all the schools have invited the battalion back again for another visit. The three-faceted approach of ceremonial, problem

solving and hands on equipment displays was at the core of the success, and it is hoped that in due time the seeds of interest sown will bear fruit with more recruits.

Nine teams take up three peaks challenge

NINE teams from five units in 19 Infantry Brigade set off on a charity event at 1400 hrs on 16 Oct to drive/climb the three highest peaks in England, Scotland and Wales; Scafell, Ben Nevis and Snowdon having responded to a challenge made by the Pompadours.

The teams, each of five men, had to get to and up the three peaks in the fastest possible time using a combination of vehicle and foot. At least three of the team had to go up each mountain for safety reasons, with the remaining two providing an admin. base at the bottom.

The event was started by Brig. C.D. Farrar-Hockley MC who set off the Kings Own Border Team at 1400 hrs; they departed rapidly in a brand new Land Rover Discovery. The four 3 RHA Battery teams had turned up in superfast Rover 414sis (16v) and on the road looked unstoppable. However 42 Ord Coy RAOC certainly maintained an all-weather capability in a green and black 3/4 ton Land Rover with the back converted into beds! Route selection was important. Seven of the teams



WO2 Pallant on Ben Nevis

opted the order Ben Nevis, Scafell, Snowdon. However this meant climbing the Ben and Snowdon in the dark which apart from being more dangerous, meant more difficult navigation.

The race winning team, D Battery 3 RHA, completed the event in a staggering 30 hrs and 30 secs. They chose the route - Snowdon (up the mountain railway) then Ben Nevis and finally Scafell. Second place was taken by J Battery 3 RHA who completed the event in 31 hrs 42 mins.

However, raising money was as important as the race. An amazing £5,300 was raised overall for many different charities. D Sqn 9/12L raised £2,700 for the East Midlands Children's Heart Care Association and were overall the best fund raisers. The overall winners, a combination of race placing and money raised, were 1 Kings Own Borders in their Land Rover Discovery. Although they tied in first place with the Pompadours and D Sqn 9/12L, they won the overall event by completing the race the quickest of the three.

The event was sponsored by 3 R Anglian who will not be in 19 Infantry Brigade next year. They sincerely hope the event will become an annual fund raising and prize giving spectacular.

Captain R J Ladley

News from the Pompadours

Putting the adventure into training

AS the minibus groaned out of camp we realised that we had probably forgotten to take the weight of eleven budding Alpinists into account. Oh well, c'est la vie!

Off we trundled towards the country's biggest traffic jam (otherwise known as the M25) with the novices reading lurid accounts of glissading, abseiling and 'pidre oncre' in past copies of *Climbing* and *Rambler* magazine. The journey down to Chamonix revealed the full potential of the minibus in an airborne role.

Chamonix boasts some of the best Alpine routes in the world, and being a ski resort in winter, is also well served by telephoriques, or 'freaks', which is the correct *français* for cable car.

Those of us who had been on the battalion's last sortie to Chamonix were overjoyed to see the sun shining. The last trip had been plagued by weather bad enough to encourage Noah to build a boat. Base camp was established in the harsh hinterland of Chamonix, our only comforts being hot showers, swimming pools, bars, restaurants and other mountaineering related things.

The first day was spent ice climbing on the Bossons glacier, which is the most heavily crevassed ice formation in Europe. Novices were introduced to the delights of abseiling off ice faces, whilst Pte Clark discovered how difficult it can be to climb a vertical ice wall in bendy soled boots. The sun still shining, we headed off for a few days in the hills. A spectacular descent from the Grande Montets and a glacier traverse, took us to our bivi sites. We biv'd within shouting distance of an Alpine hut, used by the more affluent alpinists. Unfortunately generosity does not seem to extend to those not paying to stay in the hut. One even had to covertly gather water which was otherwise being allowed to drain away.

The next day's climb involved a glacier ascent and a 2,500 ft rock climb. Not such a good time to discover you did not like heights. The descent involved a series of abseils including one over 70 ft crevasse.



Lunch break on the Midi Plan traverse. Left to right: Sgt Simmons, Pte Petter, Pte Clarke, LCpl McGrath, Capt O'Driscoll.

We returned to a night of comfort in the now deserted hut.

The next major trip involved a spectacular traverse of the Midi-Plan ridge. In places the ice ridge has drops of 3,000 ft either side. This particular trip really put the meaning back in to the words adventure training. Team members soon began to realise that doing the Niagara Falls impression was preferable to having to stop a fellow team member taking a fall. The technique used on sharp Alpine ridges involves leaping off the opposite side to the faller. Everybody enjoyed the trip, some more so in retrospect.

On return to the valley the heavens opened and Chamonix began to look like Atlantis. The following day provided some spectacular descents, down the waterslide at the local pool, and the only casualty of the trip - a twisted ankle for Cpl Warren.

With the forecast promising good weather for the following three days, we headed off to conquer Mt Blanc. Mt Blanc is Europe's largest peak and is a must for all

climbers who visit Chamonix. The forecast of three good days' weather all went horribly wrong after only 18 hours.

As I sat in a white-out 1,000 ft below the summit, I began to question our mastery of the French language, especially our interpretations of the last weather forecast. We rested for three-and-a-half hours in the Vallat mountain refuge, our only real stop on the trip, as a storm passed over outside. The weather became progressively worse, but we made the summit by seven in the morning, small icicles hanging off our eyebrows.

Once beneath the clouds and in to hail storms and rain, we decided how nice it would be to invite the French weather-forecasters to a lynching. The complete trip had involved 25 hours of walking and climbing and was a fitting culmination to a successful two weeks of mountaineering. Our thanks go to Capt James Harris for organising the expedition and the weather for being so kind to us.

By Capt D P O'Driscoll

News from the Pompadours



Emptying out on the Athabasca River, and only a quarter of the way!

Rockie Mountain high

AS part of the Ex Pond Jump West package an adventure training package was set up in the Rockies at a National Park Camp site just outside Jasper. The only things which distinguished this site from the general wilderness of the Rockies were a number of thunderboxes and a tap.

However, the permanent stall under Maj Dick Gould, CSM Keeble and CSgt Newman quickly transformed the camp into a workable base through which 600 soldiers of the battle group passed. The instructors were drawn principally from the battalion but included two Royal Marines who oversaw the canoeing.

The five-day package involved paddling (and swimming) 17 miles of the glacially fed Athabasca River in open Canadian canoes. The temperature of the water and the scenery were breathtaking. Obstacles along the course included a whirlpool, round which Cpl Bredin managed six rotations and the famous Beckers Rapids, through which the bandmaster, WO1 Parkinson, and RMO Maj Ashton passed successfully on the bottom of an upturned canoe. The excitement of the paddling was heightened by the annual run-off of melted snow and ice which raised the river by 6 ft overnight. This meant the trip generally only took two hours

More arduous was a cycle ride of 90 kms from the top of the Colombia icefields back to the camp. The record was set by 2Lt Chris Sear in 1 hr 48 mins on a racing bike.

Sgt Jones, the provost Sgt, was the adventure training co-ordinator and was responsible, with SSgt Wilson APTC, for the trekking component up a local mountain. Snow unfortunately precluded overnight stays as originally planned, so that these treks involved a monstrous slog through the trees to the alpine valleys and then up and up to the peaks. Many soldiers on these treks longed to be back on the flat fenland of East Anglia or even the prairies of Wainwright, but all completed the trek.

Sgt Slaney took soldiers on rock climbing and abseiling to a rocky outcrop overlooking the Athabasca River where tans improved and the delights of class four climbing were experienced.

The final activity was horse-back riding through the alpine meadows of Jasper in the shadow of Pyramid Mountain. By virtue of its location in the wilderness, the camp was a perfect setting from which to enjoy the local wildlife. Coy put in a company attack with their cameras on an unsuspecting brown bear

By Major Dick Gould

Big demand for the band

THE summer is always a busy time for a military band and the summer of 1990 proved to be no exception for the Pompadours' band.

After having their medical skills tested during the four-month ambulance workers' dispute, the band returned to musical duties in April.

One of the band's most memorable engagements in May was a concert given in the Regimental Chapel of the Essex Regiment at Warley. The concert was all the more enjoyable because of the guest appearances of two civilian musicians, Mr Richard Seal and Mrs Catherine Watts. During his National Service, Richard Seal was attached to the 3rd East Anglian Regiment

He is now the Organist and Master of the Choir at Salisbury Cathedral. Catherine Watts is a professional singer whose husband, Stuart, was the Pompadours' Bandmaster from 1974 to 1980.

At the end of May the band accompanied the battalion on Exercise Pond Jump West in Canada and were based in Wainwright, Alberta. During their five-week stay, the band gave 18 performances in the towns of Wainwright, Jasper, Edmonton and Hanna.

The band returned to England at the beginning of July. On the 16th the Queen Mother visited Roman Barracks. Her arrival on the parade square was greeted with the fanfare Salamanca played by the Pompadours' fanfare trumpeters. The 1st and 3rd battalion bands then combined to entertain Her Majesty with a marching display.

At the beginning of August the Pompadours' band took part in the spectacular massed-bands display at the Colchester Tattoo.

After their summer leave, the band had a number of interesting engagements in September. On 10 Sept they took part in a Battle of Britain parade in Norwich.

On 15 Sept the band dashed over to Flers, France, to take part in the First International Military Music Festival of Normandy. Needless to say, the Pompadours were the star attraction.

The retreat to Dunkirk

IT is difficult trying to piece together anything particularly lucid after all this time. Memories are perforce parochial to personal experience, largely with the Carrier Platoon of the 2nd Royal Lincolns. To me it is like peering into a swirling fog when every now and then a beam of sunshine comes and there is a bright picture of some situation or incident - where or when I do not always know. So the following notes are more like a series of cameos, not necessarily related, than a history of events.

Like all sagas there has to be a beginning and an end. Cutting out the 'cold war' of the winter of 39/40 spent at Grand Ronchin, I will begin with the arrival of the 2nd Battalion in good heart at Louvain in May of 1940.

We are not in our allotted positions because the Belgian forces ensconced there do not want to move. We are told that our Divisional Commander, Major-General Montgomery, is tactfully trying to put this right. He is evidently successful but meantime we are told to harbour up the Carriers in a wood near Battalion HQ. We dig our first granny slit trenches on Belgian soil and only just in time because things happen rapidly and we get our baptism of fire.

Shelling comes from nowhere into the trees above us and the driver of my own Carrier is killed instantly. He is buried with due ceremony nearby - a sad prelude to what is to come.

I go with others on a recce party from Bn HQ to see what is afoot on our right flank. There is quite a gap between us and the nearest of 1st Corps units, supposed to be filled by Belgian troops. We find a nasty vacuum - some well founded pill boxes, hastily abandoned rations, empty bully beef tins being explored by rats but no humanity in sight.

It must be around 16 May and, happy as we are in our own situation, a withdrawal is imminent. I am told to become acquainted with arrangements for blowing the main bridge over the River Dyle once our own companies and the cavalry screen beyond have crossed. It is a lovely day with no apparent pressure from the enemy. Off we go - I think my Carrier and one section of three. We find the plunger, nicely positioned by the RE in a culvert close by the

THIS article is written by Colonel Peter Rowell, MC OBE who was serving with the 2nd R Lincolns at Dunkirk. He was the Carrier Pl Comd (which had much the same role as the Recce Pl does now) and was awarded an MC in the field during the withdrawal and was subsequently seriously wounded. On the 50th anniversary of the retreat for Dunkirk, his story follows:

bridge. The bridge itself looks tough and out of the ordinary

We do not tarry because the road is shelled. I am moving smartly back to my Carrier when I am halted by a blast wave - a shell hit in the trees above my Carrier. My batman, Lewis, is blown from his comfortable seat in the rear of the vehicle onto his backside on the road verge. The driver, splendid fellow called Dove, is dead. I have to help Lewis aboard and then disentangle poor Dove from the controls and drive back to base without more ado. One named Pike takes over the driving and remains with me unscathed to the end.

Now it is dark, no lights anywhere; apart from a bit of shelling and small arms fire from nowhere in particular, we are hopeful of some sleep. An order arrives. We are to proceed at once to Louvain Railway Station, in the midst of Royal Ulster Regiment territory because it is reported the enemy has broken through there and over run the RUR positions. The noise made by Carriers hastening down cobbled streets in the dead of the night would blot out any noise of battle, but on arrival in the station square all is quiet - no enemy to be seen or heard and the RUR evidently have their heads well down. We feel almost apologetic for the intrusion and creep back to base.

Ill-fated bridge

We are down at the ill-fated bridge again. The battalion is mostly away on its withdrawal and we await our own 'A' Coy in its rearguard position on the other side. There has been some nasty shelling but this for some reason lifts. Then we spot them - first rather comical motorcycle combinations with three steel hatted, blue-grey clad gentlemen, one sitting bolt upright in the

side car clutching an automatic weapon. Behind them things looking like half track personnel carriers. They seem intent on crossing the bridge come hell or high water. We have some lovely target practice but wish A Coy would get a move on. A message arrives to say that the Coy is crossing further down on a makeshift footbridge so not to hold up on their account.

Push the plunger

But now there is another complication. A dear lady of uncertain age and draped in black appears in the middle of the bridge in a seemingly demented state with arms flailing, apparently unaware of bullets passing her way. Two of our chaps somehow get on to the bridge and carry her struggling to safety. By then many of the nearby buildings and part of the bridge seem to be on fire. Not a moment to wait about. We put our fingers in our ears, push down the plunger and beat a hasty and grateful retreat. The blast is quite something and a lot of masonry is thrown about.

We leave a very quiet Louvain, a few locals are already evacuating in the first grey light of morning - a procession of hand carts, prams and heavily laden cars and bicycles, which is to become all too familiar a sight in the days ahead. No sign of any enemy follow up across the river.

It is perhaps 17 May. Cloudless sky and all apparently at peace. I am taking the Carrier Platoon on a rather odd mission. The 3rd Division is withdrawing whence it came, via Brussels. To the north of this line of retreat is supposed to be territory held by the Belgian army, but nobody knows how effective that is and the division does not particularly want to be cut off from that direction. So 1st Middlesex (MG) Battalion

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under Lt Col Brian Horrocks (later General Sir Brian) has been despatched to make the necessary contacts and to try and co-ordinate things. Since then no news. I am to report to Horrocks and to give any help required.

A most interesting assignment but not all that easy. We have no maps! Mile after mile the country looks the same, featureless. The only excitements are random encounters with the enemy motorcycle fraternity. Lost as we are, we are startled to find our Bren guns opening up on them. We are passing a seemingly abandoned estaminet when I spot, sticking out from the back of the place, the undoubted bonnet of a Humber staff car.

I enter the bar to find Brian sitting there reading a Belgian newspaper. He tells me off in the nicest way for being late on parade. We rustle up a bottle of Dubonnet, or similar, while we discuss the situation. We decide that, in the absence of any organised Belgian force thereabouts, we had best make to join the division again

Enemy tanks

It is sometime later and we, the Carriers, are following the Middlesex by a cross-country route in the direction of Brussels. There are some guns with us, AA or A/TK which is comforting. We are not being harassed from the air but can hear the unmistakable sound of enemy tanks of sorts which seem to be following us. The Middlesex column turns down a lane with highish stone, grass covered banks to achieve the crossing of a river before a bridge is blown. We follow, leaving the guns on the road at the top of the lane. We all come to a halt.

The bridge has been blown. We all have to about face. Unfortunately a Carrier in those days was not known for its robust track pin. It has of course to be the rear Carrier to break down across the lane with only one track intact, an effective cork in the escape route.

Two of my sergeants take off their coats and get down to a job of repair as though mending a puncture in the garage back home. But guns are now opening up in the road above us and I must have started to give the sergeants more than mild encouragement. I am tapped on the shoulder and find Brian Horrocks. He invites me to sit with him on the hedge and smoke a



Colonel Peter Rowell receiving his military cross from King George VI

cigarette while my chaps get on with it. Of such stuff are true commanders made! Eventually we are mobile, get clear under cover of the guns (with enemy tanks static but in sight further up the road) and away to find another bridge not yet blown.

We are in Tourcoing with the battalion around us. The Carriers are positioned in a factory of sorts. There has been some bombing and a lot of the buildings round

about are on fire or smouldering. We are warned to be ready for a visit from a V.I.P. Out of the smoke, like some divine apparition, materialises the dapper figure of the Divisional Commander.

Do I imagine a salvo of gunfire, like a roll of drums which dramatises the scene?

Monty (then Major General Montgomery) is an inspiration, cheers us on

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in his inimitable fashion, pins an MC ribbon on my somewhat dishevelled dress, and disappears into the smoke whence he came.

We are en route for somewhere. All is a bit chaotic. Perhaps the lack of proper sleep is beginning to tell. I think it is somewhere between 23rd and 28th May. It is hot and we, the Carriers, are together; I feel the esprit de corps coming from 'my lot' and this keeps us all going. We have to make it through roads clogged with refugees, clearing only temporarily as aircraft strafe and drop light bombs along the way.

Carnage among refugees

The resultant carnage among the refugees steels us, I think, tired as we are, to go on and hit back. I am grateful indeed for the foresight and innovation of the (then) RAOC artificers who had been attached to us and who fitted AA Bren gun mountings in front of the rear seats of our Carriers, enabling us to hit back at low flying aircraft while on the move. They had also fixed 2 inch mortar mountings on to our engine housings, enabling us to combat enemy threats from hull down positions at comparatively short range. I think we are the first to have these ...

We have two mascots with us now - black kitten and a white rabbit. Lincolnshire soldiers are countrymen with a regard for animals; these two come with us to Dunkirk and, I believe, beyond.

We arrive at a seemingly deserted farm - perhaps near Zydskoote - it seems a suitable position in which to laager up to await further orders. Troops in the valley below are under heavy pressure. We go into the farm to recce. Inside a massive barn we are confronted by some rather frightened nuns and a number of very old and obviously very infirm civilians lying on straw beds.

I persuade the head nun that they must get out to safety while the going is good. Later I watch them trail up the lane, a farm cart drawn by two horses bearing their old patients lying on piles of hay. Later still, that road is heavily strafed with machine guns by low flying aircraft, and soon after bombed. The farm is still intact when we have to move on next day. What a thing to have on one's conscience for the rest of one's life! But it is amazing how in these circumstances one lives for the moment and its demands and does not look back

Another time and another place; I am

standing at a roadside next to CSM Noon. He is pointing out some company positions to me and to Kit Gough (OC HQ Coy) who is on his other side. There is a loud bang. The CSM is no longer with us. We summon up a burial party from Kit's company and carry on. The Carriers seem to have come into their own on this day - the 29th May. With so many casualties all around us, including so many good friends, it is not a day to reflect upon easily. I am really amazed, in retrospect, at the way the team manages to cope without communications or pre-arranged signals. I am unaware of anything more than Verey pistol lights and the odd hand signal. Somehow every Carrier crew must have an intuitive response of its own and the general threat in its immediate area. The eventual get away to lift A Coy out of a nasty situation under enemy attack is rather too much of a nightmare to dwell upon; but according to history we get away with it.

We are aghast as we approach the coastal area and fully realise at last what is happening to the BEF. Strewed across the landscape to right and left are the wrecks of our equipment, vehicles and weapons - destroyed by our own hands to deny it to the enemy. Ahead a very tired and dispirited column of men, French and British, are waiting for orders I think withdrawal to the beaches is being organised

Salvoes of shells

At the Furnes canal at Adinkerke, the Carriers, as usual, have the honour of blowing the bridge there when the last of the division has got across. We stay on the enemy side of the bridge in our prepared positions, and wait. We have a deadline of 0400 hrs for getaway, but only of course if all three divisions are on time.

Salvo after salvo of shells. After each the wiring and detonators on the bridge have to be checked. I am out with Sgt Foster doing just this when we hear the next lot coming. We leg it in different directions; he was right, I got it wrong. I am in a mess on the floor, being dragged across a road and into comparative safety ... oblivion and then I am on the engine housing of a Carrier (body all aching and racked with pain as the song goes). Foster is there, talking to an RAMC officer crouching in the backyard of a terrace of partially demolished houses. I think I am being treated to a shot of morphine; certainly events become even hazier

than before.

It is very dark and rather noisy. I am being lowered on a stretcher to the floor of, they tell me, a CCS on the outskirts of Dunkirk. There seem to be plenty of doctors and medical orderlies about, indistinguishable in their bloody and muddy white coats.

I am in a sort of dream but aware that the CCS is packing up. It seems that the medics are drawing lots for the honour of remaining with the surviving patients and going into the bag or making it if they can to the port or beaches. I understand that, crowded on the floor as we are it is to be last in first out for the patients that can be evacuated. This obviously suits me! I am near the door and my stretcher is roughly lifted out and pushed in to the back of an ambulance.

Oblivion again

There must be some four or five others. Oblivion again. We must be down by a quay in the harbour area. It is too dark to see much except smoke, flares, searchlight beams and flack. Awake again to the sound and vibration of the engine; we move from the quay and are grinding uphill over cobbles. All is quieter now.

Doors are thrown briskly open and, by what light I do not know, there is an unmistakable array of Guardsmen being told off in stretcher parties by an immaculate drill sergeant. I do believe their boots were shining! One by one our stretchers are drawn out and surely and safely along what I now know to be 'the mole'. A seemingly endless and slow shuffle across planks bridging the now famous gap blown by bombing in the middle of the thing, and then alongside and on to a ship of sorts. I am not amused by the almost perpendicular descent into the bowels of this ship - and am afraid this is reflected in my language; we must have been more than crammed full of survivors of various allied nationalities. I remember only intense heat and stench and noise, often remote and too often close overhead, of explosions. It is nevertheless unreal and after a while all fades away.

It is blissfully cool - the grey cool of dawn. I am on a stretcher affair on wheels, being pushed not carried; all seems peaceful and quiet. A grey haired lady with a kind face is bending over me; she is in a dark green WVS uniform. She asks me my name

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and next of kin. I have difficulty remembering these things. She asks if I want to send a telegram. I have a blanket over me. I put my left hand under it: it seems to be the only moveable limb. I find no clothes, no pockets and therefore no money. She understands and hastens to say it will not cost me anything. I burst into tears and feel a fool. A message gets through to my father in Somerset in time for him to stop a prayer being said in the local church.

I am on an ambulance train. It is hot again but I have had more morphine or

something and am comfortable. There are a lot of heavily bandaged but walking wounded types as well as stretcher cases. Hours seem to pass. Now I am in a Green Line coach, adapted for stretchers and then under clean, white sheets but am terribly hot again. It is in a green padded cell in Park Prewett mental hospital in Basingstoke - taken over by the military I hasten to add. I am in the cell not because I am a particular danger to anyone but because I stink too much with gas gangrene in the thigh and hip and various other now festering wounds which render me not very nice to know. I

ask for the window to be opened but of course padded cell windows are designed to give only a very limited egress, so we have to wait for carpenters to come and let in the air.

I am in that hospital, or in Harewood House convalescence home, for some 15 months, but recover and am able to go back to the fray, if only in a staff officer capacity, and land in Normandy with 21 Army Group thanks to the wonderful treatment and care received from all in that hospital.

This is, then, the end of my particular saga of Dunkirk.

Training soldiers in Mozambique

IT was a cold, rainy day in Crossmaglen, and I was sitting in the operations room listening to a helicopter fly out of the base when I was handed an official envelope. On opening it, I found that my application for loan service had come through, and I was posted to the Mozambique Training Team from February 1990 for six months.

The idea of serving in Africa had attracted me from the start, as did the fact that I would be training soldiers going back to a real war. So with the South Armagh tour over, I sat my promotion exams and went for my loan service interview in London. A few days later I found myself on a British Airways 747, Club Class to Harare.

The British Military Team moved into Zimbabwe in 1980 soon after independence to assist with the restructuring of the disparate guerilla groups and the Rhodesian Army into a unified Army. In 1985, as a result of a tripartite agreement between Britain, Zimbabwe and Mozambique, the Mozambique Training Team was formed. Under this agreement, British instructors, assisted by members of the Zimbabwe National Army, teach Mozambique recruits and soldiers on a Zimbabwe training area.

Initially, only one company of around 120 recruits at a time was trained. However, after the prime minister's visit in 1988, the number of instructors was increased to enable two companies to undergo training at any one time, and this is how the team is organised at the moment.

Each course lasts a total of 16 weeks, and having arrived at the end of a course, I was soon involved in the next. Training begins with weapon handling and a small amount of drill to mould the platoons



RPG-7 live firing in Mozambique

together. Training then moves out into the field. The final phase of the course is a two-week live firing package, when all the various manoeuvres are practised using live ammunition. It is very satisfying to watch a group of people slowly form into a unified platoon, and see their confidence grow until each man is capable of handling weapons and himself in a way that would have seemed impossible a few weeks before.

Before the war Mozambique had a thriving economy and provided good supply routes for Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana and Malawi, routes which became particularly important as they meant less reliance on South Africa. At the moment both Zimbabwe and Malawi have troops engaged

in operations against the Mozambique National Resistance, or MNR.

It is estimated that there are some 20,000 of these men still operating inside Mozambique. But South Africa has officially terminated support, and other sources are drying up. As a result the MNR leaders have recently met with top level officials of the government of President Chissano in Rome, with a view to settling for peace.

The war has cost Mozambique at least 700,000 dead, over 2,000,000 displaced, and enormous damage to her economy, as well as to the other front line states.

Finally, I thoroughly enjoyed my loan service and can recommend it unreservedly. I shall be applying again. Capt P.H. Taskin

Association Gathering

Drumhead service passes in style

THE Association gathering at the Depot The Queen's Division at Basingbourn on Sunday 15 July was an enormous success. Probably more than 1,500 people attended to enjoy a day of almost tropical heat, the drumhead service, the band display and the sideshows associated with a day out.

Many arrived early to head straight for the tea tent run by BLESMA which sustained association members made thirsty by a hot and humid day. The Reverend Tom Hiney conducted the drumhead service to the musical accompaniment of the Regimental Territorial Army band. The standard bearers put on a brave show having been rehearsed by WO1 (RSM) Norman prior to the service itself. The president of the association, Lt Gen Sir David Thorne spoke the exaltation, and on completion of the service, the Colonel of the Regiment addressed all present. He was very pleased to announce that Tom Hiney was from that day, to be the Honorary Chaplain of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

Shooting winners

The address over, Association members formed up to march past the Colonel of the Regiment, and immediately after — parched with thirst — there was a rush to the NAAFI tent. The TA band played incidental music while everybody lunched, and afterwards there were the usual activities at the stalls and the range.

The winners of the shooting were the Luton and Dunstable A team consisting of Mr Chapman, Mr Sharp, Mr Barker and Mr Barker Jnr, after a keenly contested match which required a shoot off. The winners received their pewter mugs from Lady Akehurst and are to be congratulated on triumphing at a keenly contested competition.



Association Gathering





Steelbacks



On exercise in Germany

THE battalion camped in Germany this year, as part of a 49 (Inf) Bde exercise. The Training Major and the Quartermaster always bear the brunt of the process and this year was no exception, though the G1 and G4 side suffered more perhaps.

The Quartermaster, Major Chris Kett, had worked the Advance Party hard in the few days available before we arrived in coaches from Gutesloh. Despite loose sandy soil and rain, we arrived to find our tented camp at Haltern Training Area set out in text book style, with hot water on tap, and even street lighting to mark our way at night.

After settling in began the process of training. Within the hour No 1 (Essex) Coy were out, though the men from Hertford were close behind.

The Training Major, Maj David Winn, had devised a programme for the battalion which scattered elements to several quarters during week one.

Each Rifle Coy embarked on a package consisting of two days' work up training, two days' field firing, a day of recreational sport and a day of sightseeing.

The Mortar Platoon joined their counterparts in 7 R Anglian in a short cadre during week one, run by the Royal Scots, before taking part in the 4 Div Mortar Concentration at Munsterlager in week 2. It seems that we educated the Regular Army on what a TA Mortar Platoon can do - yes we actually fire the things too.

The Second in Command was dispatched to Sennelager to oversee a Milan Cadre for our own Milan Platoon and those of 7 R Anglian and 5 RRF. The Steelbacks Recce Platoon were also present, though happily not evident. This was a time to renew old friendships as the cadre was joined by CSgt Minns from 2 R Anglian.

He was the Milan PSI with us a few years ago. Sgt Carter, also from the Poachers, gave the benefit of his experience to OC Recce, Lt Rob Facer. The cadre finished with a short battle scenario which left a considerable impression on both Milan

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Above: GOC Eastern District and CO having a discussion during the final phase of Ex Polar Rock. Below Sgt Kelly surprises a casualty evacuation from 6 Pl 2 Coy.



News from the Steelbacks



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and Recce, the former who had to track and "kill" Challenger, 432 and Warrior, occasionally at very close range, and the latter who had to sit tight in the midst of several tons of armour.

The Int Section hid somewhere doing interesting things, though under current conditions, we were never sure exactly what they did do.

The Steelbacks were joined by 7 R Anglian in providing recruits and staff for a joint Recruit Cadre. This proved absorbing as the 7th had a number of female recruits among their number. Their progress was interesting to watch as a prelude to the time when we also have women soldiers.

Finally, 18 men were sent to Bavaria to undertake pre-course training for adventure training qualifications. This aspect of soldiering is seen as a vital area of activity with which to provide our soldiers if we are to successfully compete with similar outdoor pursuits available to young men and

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Above: GOC Eastern District with CO and Drum Major inspecting the Corps of Drums Quarter Guard at Peterborough. Below: Maj Charles Thomas Bn 21C seen presenting a Regimental Plaque to Heir Wessell, the Burgermeister of Haltern.



News from the Steelbacks



Left: Cpl John Brown ACC flanked by the CO and OC 2 Coy after receiving his Lord Lieutenant's Certificate and Clasp to TEM for 19 years' continuous service. Right: WO2 (now Lt) Terry Game being presented with his TEM.

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women in civilian life projects.

Our new CO, EQ Lt Col Kit Stallard arrived at Haltern with the Main Body. He was, despite earlier comment, pleasantly surprised to have the Training Major reply to him that the programme remained firm.

By the middle weekend, it was time for an O Gp for the imminent main exercise. Perspective and analysis was given to what had been achieved hitherto, and the battle plan struck for the first phase.

We were to defend two key points and locate and capture enemy KPs at the opposite end of the Haltern training area, the western end of which was soon to be occupied by 7 R Anglian. Their mission mirrored ours. (They had, up to this time, camped at Laversum, a few kilometres from Haltern).

The Steelbacks deployed on foot from the relative dry of Tent City to a wet training area - Haltern. At least it made the digging easier.

The southern edge of Haltern has dense mixed forest through which the forward companies of both battalions were

patrolling. Each side enjoyed the capture of the enemy and honours were even, though our northern neighbours will undoubtedly claim otherwise. After about 24 hours, the forward and rear companies executed a relief in place and the exercise continued.

At the end of that phase, the battalion had to be moved to Sennelager for the second phase of the final exercise. Other events seemed to be taking their effect as helicopters which he had hoped were available, became unavailable. BALO had a hard time but eventually airframes arrived and both battalions enjoyed a 30 minute flight to Sennelager.

The battalion welcomed a number of visitors. Maj Gen Evans, GOC Eastern District, was first, closely followed by members of East Anglian TAVRA; Sir Joshua Rowley - Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk and president, Maj John Horrell - chairman, and Col Pat Hopper DL - Secretary with Col Pat Macdonald, Dep Hon Col Suffolk who joined us at dusk as the heavens opened. We also entertained some employers.

Now and then the dark was punctuated by the shielded flame of a hexistove as sol-

diers brewed up to keep warm. Dawn came, and grateful Steelbacks girded their loins. The battalion moved off to its FUP, to be joined by Maj Gen A J G Pollard, Deputy Col of the Regiment.

Secreted in a small copse on the edge of the battalion's objective, the QM(T), Capt Roger Eden, had provided a tent for breakfast for our TAVRA guests. Gunfire was served as the attack developed. As this phase finished the CO joined our guests for a hearty breakfast.

Having viltled Gen Pollard, Sir Joshua et al, and bidding them farewell and bon voyage, the breakfast party returned to the business of the move back to Haltern. Billy Batsim, otherwise OC Assault Pioneers Lt Richard Arnold had spent week one and the Haltern phase of the exercise, blowing things up.

With almost indecent haste, early air parties left, tents vanished, pantechnicons arrived with doors gaping to be filled by stores. Main air parties went by coach to Gutesloh and vehicle parties sorted themselves out for the long drive home.

Apart from camp, the pace of life con-

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News from the Steelbacks

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tinues to be hectic. On 11-13 May, 60 executives from all over East Anglia swapped their pinstripes for khaki when they joined Exercise Executive Stretch, which was sponsored by the battalion. The exercise took place at Stanta and was attended by men and women aged between 17 and 43. They were all put through their paces over the two days as they tackled leadership tasks, an assault course, map reading and a variety of other skills.

The battalion shooting team took part in Edsaam during the weekend 19-20 May, but was only successful in the SLR which was won by Lt Paul Neal. The team went on to compete at Bisley in July and finished 14th, one place lower than 1989, but we did beat the 7th Battalion.

5 & 6 HSI Coys managed an above average attendance on Exercise Viking Helmet, a Home Defence CPX held at Grantham on 23-24 May.

On 22-24 June the battalion travelled to Salisbury Plain for the ITX Exercise Steel Fist. It was an obligatory weekend and so coincided with the first time the Commanding Officer had the battalion assembled together.

In addition to the Joint TA Officers' Mess Summer Ball, which was held on 7 July, the WOs' and Sgts' Mess summer ball also took place on 14 July. The weather paid an important part in ensuring the success of this function.

The battalion continued to have its fair share of visitors to Bn HQ and HW/HQ Coy at Peterborough. On 15 May, the Divisional Colonel Queen's Division, Col P V Panton OBE paid his initial visit to the battalion, where he met and talked to all members of the permanent staff. The 12 June also saw GOC Eastern District paying his initial visit to the battalion, although he did meet a few members of the battalion during his visit to Exercise Executive Stretch on 12 May.

The new Comd 49 Inf Bde came to see us on 10 July. This was his first visit to the battalion since assuming command. During his visit he took time off from discussions with the CO to meet as many TA soldiers as possible.

Before the PS broke up for block leave, Comd 2 Inf Div dropped in for a lunch time visit on 19 July, and on the penultimate day before block leave the OIC Infantry Manning and Records Office paid his annual visit to meet and talk to the PS.

The following are to be congratulated



Members of the Assault Pioneers canoeing in Snowdonia.

on being granted TA commissions in the battalion; 2Lts Paul Martin and Stewart Stirling, both of 4 (Hertfordshire) Coy on 24 June 1990, 2Lt Nick Norman 3 (Essex) Coy on 15 July, Lt Terry Game formerly CSM 1 (Essex) Coy, Lt Keith Greenough formerly RRTT WO 4 (Hertfordshire) Coy on 18 June. The former is now Coy 2IC 1 Coy and the latter MTO; finally we welcome Capt Sean Barry as a Direct Entrant on 29 Aug - he has since taken over as OC Vange TAC 1 Coy.

We would like to welcome 21 is Ian Brenton (3 Coy) and Ian Haynes (4 Coy) on their transfer into the battalion from 4 QLR and the U'OTC Gen List respectively.

Capt Douglas Wilkinson and Lt Adrian Williams are also welcomed back into the battalion, both having served on SSVCC's with 1 R Anglian and 3 R Anglian respectively.

5 HSI and 6 HSF Coys have also had a few changes in the office structure with the arrival of Capt Charles Hattersley, Lt George Brooks (5 HSF), Lt Pat Morecroft (6 HSF) and the departure of Lt Tony Peck from (6 HSF) to E (HSF) Coy 6 R Anglian. We extend a hearty welcome to all of them

and wish Lt Peck every success in his new appointment with 6 R Anglian.

Many new faces have come and gone among the PS. We welcome WO2 Brett (Pompadors) SPSI 3 Coy, WO2 Cutter (Vikings) SPSI 1 Coy, Sgt Thumwood (Vikings) PSI 1 Coy, Sgt Gridley (Vikings) Sigs PSI, Sgt Ward (Poachers) Milan PSI and CSgt Buzzard (Poachers) QPSI 3 Coy.

We also bade farewell to: WO2 Rouse, ex SPSI 3 Coy to 3 R Anglian; Sgt Collins, ex PSI 1 Coy to Depot (HS); Sgt Bell, ex Milan PSI to 2 R Anglian; Sgt Avison, ex Sigs PSI to 1 R Anglian; WO2 Bacon, on discharge to join the West Yorkshire Police Force.

The battalion has had a rather hectic year culminating with a very successful camp in Germany. Recruiting continues to be a problem for our southern Companys, but overall remained steady throughout the battalion.

Following authority from MoD to enlist women into NATO roled TA battalions, we have since enlisted three. 1991 promises to be as busy as 1990, but await with bated breath to see what MTD constraints we might have to face.

News from the Steelbacks

Champion Trophy won again by HW/HQ Company

ONCE again HW/HQ Coy took the Champion Trophy for 1989/90 following the Signal Pl first place and the Int Sect second place at the battalion SAAM. The Recce Pl came first in the battalion patrol competition with the Signal Pl a close third.

It has been a very interesting year for the company, having obtained a number for course vacancies and a very good adventure training weekend in Snowdonia. The weekend, which was well attended, allowed those participating to take part in canoeing, rock climbing and walking. Even the QM (TA) had a smile on his face.

The Coy had a good attendance for camp at Haltern, but with the specialist platoons away for the first week doing their own training meant we had to use every available man left at base camp for duties.

On the personality front, we welcome our new RSO, Capt Tim Ridley from 4 Coy and bade farewell to our previous RSO, Capt Anthony Atkinson-Willes who has since assumed the Ops Officer appointment. Rumour has it that he is about to transfer to 3 Staffords.

Many congratulations to Sgt Dick Reed on gaining a good result on his recent RSO's course. We also welcome back LCpl Bill Lennox who spent 12 months with the Vikings on an 'S' type engagement. The coy is looking forward to 1991 and the next Inter-Platoon Competition and SAAM to make it another good year.

News from 2 (Northamptonshire) Coy

THE past six months has again been a busy period for 2 Coy. It began well with a successful weekend at the Battle Group Trainer at Bovington. We also saw the introduction of female recruits for the first time which meant some unusual problems to be overcome by an enthusiastic Training Team.

In June we ran the second of our popular JNCO Study Day and Dinners. This year's theme was OPs and a great deal of practical training was achieved. This was followed by a Ladies Guest Night in the evening at which the RSM and Mrs Todd were the principle guests of honour. This was a well attended event and without doubt the social highlight of the JNCO's calendar.

July and August were relaxed months for training with the annual company barbecue and raft race being held in July. Once again the sun shone as over 100 soldiers and families competed in various 'friendly' competitions. This year the OC's raft was beaten into second place by a victorious 5 Platoon in the hotly contested annual raft race. This is held on the River Nene in Wellingborough, much to the amusement of the citizens of the borough. However, Company HQ had its revenge by winning the five-a-side football and the tug-of-war. Under the loyal leadership of Cpl John Brown ACC, an excellent barbecue was produced by our chefs.

The decision by the battalion to spend £5,000 on adventure training equipment meant that Exercise Afon Amble in Snowdonia in August was an even bigger and better success than in previous years. A total of 30 from all ranks succeeded in climbing Snowden 'the hard way' on the Saturday via the breathtaking Crib Goch route. This proved to be a real 'bottle tester' for many, and with near perfect conditions, a real threat for the more experienced members of the company. The Sunday was spent doing more mountain walking or rock climbing, where some new stars were spotted.

During our R&R Day, during Polar Rock, we took a coach to Dusseldorf and after some brief shopping in the NAAFI and a few hastily written postcards home we set out for a day in this large city on the Rhine. This was an enjoyable break from the tented camp at Haltern.

We congratulate CSgt Norrie Slater on his promotion to Colour Sergeant. He has done sterling work as leader of the Recruiting Team which this spring resulted in over 30 enlistments. He hands on the mantle of recruiting and liaison to Sgt Bill Kelly.

We welcome our first two lady recruits; Pte Kimberlea Smith and Pte Alison Gardner. We expect to enlist a further two female recruits in the near future.

We bid farewell to Lt Hugh Watchman and his wife Anna who have contributed much to the company and we hope to see him back some time.

Capt Douglas Wilkinson completed a successful tour of duty with the 1st Battalion on a regular engagement, much of which was spent in Northern Ireland on operational duty. We look forward to seeing him back in the company in the future.

This year saw the transfer of Lt Simon Messervy from our Corby Platoon to HQ Coy as assistant IO. We thank him for his sterling work at Corby and wish him well in Battalion HQ.

At a ceremony in July, Cpl John Brown ACC was presented with the clasp to his TEM as well as the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for his outstanding loyal service - 19 continuous years' service with every camp completed.

Marriages included Cpl Guy Denis to Miss Gillian Matthews on 7 Apr, and LCpl Mark Burnett to Miss Alison Whiting on 12 May.

We are shortly to say farewell to Sgt Sid Ibrahim who returns to his battalion in Colchester (Pompadors) in November after a good tour with the company. His expertise in the training field was very welcome. We wish him good luck in his career. We look forward to meeting his successor, Sgt Neville Buzzard who joins us shortly from the 2nd Battalion.

News from 4 (Hertfordshire) Coy

THE 4 Coy has gone from strength to strength, now with more than 130 officers and soldiers on the books. Our policy of retaining soldiers through sensitive management, good administration and exciting weekend exercises, has succeeded.

In May the company carried out a patrol exercise against 282 Squadron RCT ending in a dawn attack to practice fire and movement. This gave us excellent practice for the Battalion FTX on Salisbury Plain in June.

In July our Families Day at Haileybury College near Hertford was attended by some 75 close relatives and by some of the Hertfordshire Regiment Old Comrades. We all enjoyed ourselves in the glorious summer weather.

In August we held a ladies weekend on Stanford Training Area, attended by 35 wives and girlfriends, the aim being to show them what their men get up to on TA Weekends. In teams of five or six the ladies went through a competitive course live shooting, the assault course, various BEs and command tasks.

A total of 89 soldiers attended annual camp, the best turn out for 5 years, and a very enjoyable camp too.

In October we say goodbye to CSM, WO2 Alan Batchelor when he hands over to his brother Hedley, and look forward to recruiting female soldiers for the first time.

News from the Steelbacks

Breathtaking exploits on mountains in Bavaria

QUITE literally breathtaking — at least once during their two-week exercise in Bavaria every one of the 20 soldiers from 5 Royal Anglian found themselves gasping.

Some of the raging weirs of the River Iller as they mastered the art of whitewater canoeing, others as they clung white-knuckled to the wire ropes high up on the dramatic Hindelanger Klettersteig Ridge, whilst the rain swept crags of the Grunten proved a challenge to those abseiling for the first time.

Each company was represented on the exercise, the aim of which was to train soldiers to the standards required to qualify as instructors in adventure training activities in order to provide much needed expertise in this type of training.

After moving to Germany with the rest of the battalion, the 20 soldiers under the command of Sgt Moore moved south to the Allgäu region of Bavaria where they took up residence in a lodge run by 39 Hy Regt. R.A.

Using the lodge as base, the soldiers began stage 1 of the exercise, this was designed for them to try their hand at a variety of outdoor pursuits - canoeing, rock climbing, abseiling and mountain trekking. Having spent a day on each activity, they then chose the activity in which to specialise, three equal syndicates emerged ready to start the five-day courses that formed stage 2 of the exercise.

An 0630 Reveille on day 1 of the courses set the tone for the rest of the week. Come 0730 the groups were all on their way to their various activities. The canoeists to the local lake for revision training, the climbers to the Grunten to master the skills of climbing and abseiling whilst the mountain leader group headed for the Rotspitz peak, some 5,000 feet of climbing ahead of them.

This routine continued with the groups gradually taking on more difficult routes and climbs as their experience grew, the



The trekking group on Phase 1 at Hindelanger, Klettersteig. From left to right, at the back, Cpl Tippett and Cpl Dunningham; front, LCpl Chapman, Pte Gamdrille, and Pte Woolfe.

work rate increased and the excellent food provided by Cpl Tucker proved most welcome at end of the busy days.

Whilst the canoe and rock climbing syndicates used the lodge as base throughout their courses, the mountain leaders moved off into the mountains for the final part of their course. The accommodation for this expedition varied greatly, from a bivouac site high up on the shores of a mountain lake to the plush interior of the Prinz Luitpold Hutte, an Alpine Lodge, built high up in the mountains.

Twenty-seven man beds proved a surprise to the lads on their first night as did some of the food they were served.

Apart from breakfast, the soldiers did not get the meal they asked for once throughout their stay. What they did get however, was of an excellent standard and such trials proved most entertaining.

As the mountain group struggled with appalling weather conditions and the confusing menu boards, the canoeists left the still waters of the lake and took to the River Iller. Its water varied from a gentle flow in places to roaring powerful wiers which tested their new found skills to the full. It was in this wild water that LCpl Emmins

earned the nickname Banzai. His death-defying attempts to negotiate these rapids were worthy of the most ardent kamikaze pilot.

Meanwhile, the rock climbers were learning and practising the skills required of them in order to qualify as abseil top rope supervisors. The emphasis on the course was on safety and technique. The climbs got progressively harder and more physically demanding as the course went on. Pte Galletty emerged as something of a human fly.

Despite far from ideal conditions on the crags due to rain and overcrowding, everyone on the course reached a high standard.

As the courses came to an end, all syndicates returned to the lodge for the inevitable admin duties and a visit to the local Gasthof for an end of exercise celebration before taking the long drive back to the battalion location at Haltern.

The first of its kind for the battalion, the exercise proved highly successful. A total of 95% of those who attended are now ready for qualification courses, an indication of the hard work put in by students and instructors alike.

A similar exercise is planned for 1994.



6th Battalion



Challenging times

LIFE in the 6th Battalion during the last few months has been varied and challenging. Shooting, as normal, was given a high priority, field training was aimed at preparing for annual camp (Ex Viking Anvil) and many soldiers have been given the opportunity to go away on adventure training. Needless to say all our companies have devoted a great deal of time and effort to recruiting.

After a successful Battalion SAAM, hopes of success at EDSAAM were high; we were not to be disappointed. For the second year running A (Norfolk) Coy won the event with our other companies coming 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 9th out of the 27 competitors. For the first time our HSF Companies entered and in spite of being short of puff at times, they finished a very creditable 18th and 22nd.

Other achievements included the winners of the Rifle, GPMG, Fire Team and Fibua matches. LCpl Rolph (A Coy) won both the Fibua and GPMG individual.

The squad for Bisley was chosen and formed up under the expert eye of the team captain, Capt Colin Bateman. Throughout the meeting the team fired well, eventually finishing a very creditable 4th in a closely fought competition.

LCpl Rolph and LCpl Basey-Fisher (A Coy) won the GPMG Team (Volongdis Trophy) and the team was runner-up in the Rifle Match and the SMG Match. WO2 Smart (HQ Coy) won the Individual SMG Cup (Pym Cup), LCpl Rolph won the JNCO Individuals SLR (Junior Service Cup) and Capt Bateman (HQ Coy) won the ETR rifle match. Both Capt Bateman and LCpl Rolph were chosen to represent the TA Team against the US National Guard.

In June the battalion held a major exercise aimed at preparing platoons for annual camp. In the initial stages the platoons rotated around a skills circuit and were tested in vehicle anti-ambush drills, platoon attacks (on foot and by helicopter), NBC recee and casevac. The second phase of the exercise included recee patrols and a night river crossing using flotation packs. After a

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Above: The battalion deploys from Senneybridge Camp. Below: LCpl Rolph and LCpl Basey-Fisher (A Coy) who won the GPMG Team (Volongdis Trophy) at Bisley.



News from the 6th Battalion



Above: The Cambrian March team from C (Suffolk) Company before the event. Right: A (Norfolk) Company 6 R Anglian at the TA Shooting Championships.

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brief rest for breakfast platoons then competed in a speed march and assault course competition, the winners being a platoon from D (Cambridgeshire) Company.

During the last two weeks of September, 300 members of the battalion moved to Sennybridge for annual camp. Those forecasting driving rain and fog were to be disappointed; the Padre earned his pay and we were blessed with a fortnight of glorious weather.

Companies spent the first two days on dry training, which was followed by three days field firing, the conclusion of which was an ambitious platoon attack. One surprised Norfolk soldier was delighted to report the discovery of East Anglia's disappearing top soil as he again assaulted uphill.

After a weekend's break which included guest nights, a CO's O' Group at Cardiff Arms Park and the Tickle Fitness Test the battalion prepared itself for Ex Viking Anvil which was run by HQ 54 Inf Bde. The bat-



talion was flown out of Sennybridge Camp by helicopter and it was not long before the companies were sending out patrols in all directions in an effort to locate members of the Red Dragon Force.

After a hectic 36 hours the battalion was ordered to cross the impact area at night in preparation for a brigade attack.

After a few minor mishaps the battalion arrived on the start line to be greeted by an impressive fire plan including FGA and artillery fire. The final attack was deemed to be a success and the battalion returned tired but content that a job had been well done.

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News from the 6th Battalion



Left: LCpl Foreman and Cadet Thompson on Ex Cadet Stretch. Right: WO2 Smart, winner of the SMC Individual at Bisley.

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The final phase of camp involved the Brigade Inter-Platoon competition. A platoon from C (Suffolk) Coy won the march and shoot and finished in third place, thus ensuring that C Coy retained the Champion Company Shield.

During Camp we were delighted to see a number of visitors which included the acting Colonel of the Regiment, our Deputy Honorary Colonels and members of TAVRA East Anglia.

The report on camp would not be complete without mentioning the success of our Cambrian Patrol Team chosen from C (Suffolk) Coy. The competition fell during the middle week of annual camp and the team lost its day off. Rumours that OC Recce had arranged this to avoid the Officers' Mess dinner night cannot be confirmed.

The competition was full of surprises not least when team members arrived at a reservoir from a predictable river crossing ... only to find themselves required to abseil down the dam to attack the pump house! For at least one team member it was his first

abseil. The event was made more demanding by the bad weather conditions and it is a credit to Lt Chris St John and his team that they were one of only three TA teams to complete with all their team members.

Recruiting has once again been one of our top priorities and in June we managed to reach our established strength, the first time this has been achieved since the battalion was formed in 1971. All the companies, including the HSF, have held at least one open day and many local shows and events have been supported.

Much has been done to strengthen our links with the CCFs of our sponsored schools and our County ACFs. In June, 37 cadets including members of Ipswich School, Framlingham College, Bedford Modern School and Langley School attended Ex Cadet Stretch which included a water crossing, confidence and assault course and a night-time tactical exercise.

Adventure training has not been neglected. Two major weekends have taken place at Edale and Leek and in July all the platoon commanders were given the opportunity to take their soldiers away on training of their own choice.

In recent months a number of key positions have changed hands. Major Alan Spearing has, after eight years, reluctantly handed over the reins of B Coy to Major John Lopes, who returns from the Infantry Wing at Cambridge UOTC. Major Spearing now moves to Bury St Edmunds to take over from Major Alan Chissel as 2nd IC, who is himself waiting in the wings to assume command next year.

Major David Denson (OC D Coy) and Major Mike Veal (OC HQ Coy) have exchanged commands. Iain Reid, Alex Muir, Nigel McCallum and Bruce Moore are all to be congratulated on their recent commissioning. We also welcome 2Lt Stephanie Wood who has been posted from 3rd Battalion The Worcestershire and Foresters Regiment.

Changes in the permanent staff have included the arrival of Maj Peter Barnes with his Bermudian sun tan and the departure of the Adjutant, Capt Andrew Marsh, who is now counting cans at Waitrose under the guidance of Brigadier Michael Aris. In his place we welcome Capt Richard Pattison, who started his Army career with the 6th Battalion

News from the 6th Battalion

Money for old rope

D (Cambridgeshire) Coy, with the assistance of Battalion Headquarters, encouraged the Mayor of Cambridge and over 200 local residents to raise money for Telethon '90 on 5 May, 1990.

Although only 80 foot high, most of the volunteers, willing of course, had never abseiled but attached to a rope with a TA soldier saying "of course it's safe" we had no refusals. A number of the volunteers slipped and ended upside down causing much concern to the watching public and the TV camera. Fortunately there were no injuries.

The Mayor of Cambridge set a fine example by leading down the team from Cambridge City Council (pictured right). His slip at the top brought a cheer from the Cambridge electorate.

The Commanding Officer led soldiers from HQ (Suffolk) Coy followed closely by the University Arms Hotel team, led by their manager. We managed to prevent his staff cutting his rope when he was half-way down.

Members of D Coy not only took part in the abseil, but also assisted in safety and forced members of the public to part with their money. The hijacking of the buses brought in some good donations.

Later the Adjutant, Capt Andy Marsh, and other team members abseiled into the studios of Anglia Television to present a cheque for £10,000.

It had been a worthwhile event for all concerned and the money raised was a just reward for all the hard work and thought.

Major D S Denson



Training with the US National Guard

FROM a cast of thousands I was delighted to be selected to train with the 2nd Battalion 110th Infantry United States National Guard, but due to my early arrival at Fort Indian Town Gap on 13 July ahead of the battalion, it was arranged for me to spend the first day-and-a-half with the Pennsylvania NCO School. I was able to watch and talk with both instructors and students of a PLDC course from 14-28 July. The course is for soldiers seeking promotion to E5 Sergeant, or a long way of saying a PNCO Cadre.

The difference in USNG terminology was to remain a recurring problem. I moved to the 2nd Battalion on Sunday and was introduced to the Battalion CO, Training Major, Command Sergeant Major (RSM) and Support Coy Comd (CSM). I was to be attached to their Scout (Recce) Pl as one of their Scout Sergeants was coming to 6 R Anglian in an exchange programme.

Monday was spent practising route recce and route security for the battalion move to the field on Tuesday morning. Time was also taken to practise area security for coy quartering parties (CQMS crew) and the location of a daytime and a night-time hide for the Pl

On Tuesday the whole battalion moved to the field with the Scouts providing route clearance, route security and area security for coy quartering parties. Once the quartering parties were in position the Scout Pl formed a forward screen. Wednesday was the first of our helicopter movement days with four missions. The first was to practice the location and marking of a chemically contaminated area in preparation for a battalion mission prior to the battalion FTX.

Thursday was spent rehearsing our dismounted and mounted patrol operations ready for the battalion exercise. Particular attention was paid to positional and marking of routes for rifle coys once enemy positions had been located.

Friday was also a helicopter day with four more missions, which like Wednesday, involved insertion, performing a task and then recovery from a second LZ. Tasks included recce patrols and occupation of OP's and hides. In many cases JNCOs were given command appointments whilst SNCOs acted as Ptes.

Saturday was supposed to be another helicopter movement day but because of the low cloud and haze the visibility was too poor for the helicopters to fly so we had to

use the vehicles (heli-bedfords). The first task was to locate and mark a chemically contaminated area as a test exercise and also as part of the battalion exercise.

Sunday was spent carrying out route recce and route security for the rifle coys as they withdrew from their phase 1 locations to occupy assembly areas ready for the start of phase 2, the battalion Test Exercise.

On Monday the battalion exercise started with an advance to contact with the Scout Pl, tasked with locating the main enemy position; once this was found the Pl task was to mark a forming up point and provide guides for the rifle coys so they could carry out a battalion attack.

Unfortunately I was withdrawn back to camp on Tuesday morning. The Scout Pl continued the exercise until Endex at 0800 hrs 25 July; to qualify for bounty they must spend 10 consecutive days in the field!

There are obvious differences between the USNG and the TA but I found their training both interesting and at times physically demanding with weather conditions of 95° temperature and 95% humidity. I was well looked after from my first movement with the unit until the time I left.

Sgt J. H. Negus

7th Battalion

Trendsetters achieve 'firsts'

THIS year has been one of dramatic change — not only for world politics but also for 7 Royal Anglian. As fast as some people have been tearing down walls, we have been laying solid foundations and consolidating our position as the Infantry trendsetter in the Territorial Army, rejoicing in some notable 'firsts'.

The training cycle started well with a successful Battalion Skill-at-Arms meeting in Colchester.

Following that our shooting teams performed well at the Eastern District Skill-At-Arms Meeting, with HQ Coy second in the section match and fourth overall, and B Coy achieving second in the FIBUA competition (Fighting in Built Up Areas).

As a result of some short but intense training managed by Capt Clive Mallett the battalion came 15th overall at Bisley, helped by some superb individual performances.

The most outstanding of these was Pte Scott of B Coy winning the Young Soldier Class of the Queens Medal and coming 6th in the Pistol Cup. Sgt Walker, also of B Coy, came 9th in the Volongdis and 28th in the Queens Medal.

On 2 June, 173 employers assembled at Leek Training Camp to experience first hand what their employees do in their spare time, and hopefully to persuade them to look more favourably upon the TA. Leek was at its worst with 'stair-rod' rain when all about was clam and sunny.

Despite these desperate conditions which grounded a brave attempt by the Lynx helicopter, the employers enjoyed a spirited company attack followed by a weapons and equipment display. This included an SA80 competition to find the top employer. The prizes were presented and employers addressed by Brigadier Johnny Walker, Commander 49 Infantry Brigade.

July saw the Battalion gather at STANTA for an inter-platoon competition. A gruelling and demanding test which culminated in a forced march and river crossing. Lt Coward's platoon from D Coy won,



with A Coy taking second and third place to clinch the Inter-Company Trophy.

Then finally, the moment of truth, annual camp (Ex Polar Rock) in Germany. 49 Infantry Brigade were privileged to be given the opportunity to train in BAOR. Although not the complete formation, it proved to be an excellent camp for those units lucky enough to be there. It was certainly the only major formation exercise in BAOR this year - and who knows, with the remapping of Europe it may have been the last. Something to tell your grandchildren.

The battalion arrived at Haltern training area near Munster with 432 volunteers. The first week saw a rotation of field firing and dry training with a patrolling exercise on Sennelager in ranges.

This junior commander theme developed in the second week with a free ranging exercise against our old foe, 5 Royal Anglian. Yet again they were crushed, much to the relief of the free world and the Training Major. The grand finale was a move by Chinook and Puma support helicopters to Sennelager where the battalion

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Above: The Battalion Bisley Team: Capt Mallett, CSgt Large, Capt Mitchell, Sgt Mackay, Sgt Mann, Pte Scott, Sgt Walker and Pte McConnell. Below: Pte Scott being presented with the Cup for the Best Young Soldiers in the Queens Medal Competition.



News from the 7th Battalion



Above: Determined and Defiant: Sgt Mann and the Defence Platoon. Left: Woman Private Bott of D Company, the best female recruit receiving her prize from the CO. Below: The Lincoln employers assemble at Sobraon Barracks.



News from the 7th Battalion



From Page 52

supported the rest of the Brigade in a classic advance to contact attack.

We stopped outwitting the 5th Battalion long enough to run a joint recruit cadre which was a great triumph of determination over adversity. A total of 53 recruits attended the cadre, including 7 Royal Anglian's ten female recruits.

A first not only for the battalion but also for the Brigade. The nine who passed did extremely well and have now come under the command of 2Lt Sally Forrest, who doubles as the Intelligence Officer.

The second week of camp saw a multitude of distinguished visitors, including Maj Gen Rose (GOC 2 Inf Div), Maj Gen Pollard (Acting Colonel of the Regiment), Maj Gen Evans (GOC Eastern District), D Jones Esq (BAOR Civil Secretary), two Deputy Honorary Colonels, one Sponsor Officer, one TAVRA Secretary, two TAVRA members, four journalists and the employers - several of whom had visited the battalion at Leek in June.

The importance of keeping the battalion in the forefront in these days of financial stringency cannot be over emphasised and the visits led to some first class newspaper articles and positive publicity.

As well as all this cadres were run for the Mortar Platoon, the Milan Anti-Tank Platoon and the Assault Pioneer Platoon. The Cambrian March team and the Machine Gun Platoon were left back in the UK to

train for their respective competitions. With their numbers, our total attending camp was 479.

You may think that camp was all work, but we not only laid on a free-fall parachute course in the middle weekend for those certifiable, but we also sent the companies off to various destinations like Arnhem, for some well earned rest and recuperation.

No notes on camp would be complete without a mention of the Training Major and his team of Permanent Staff Instructors. The TA Soldier knows how hard they work on his behalf and he may not tell them often but he is truly grateful for their professionalism, dedication and expertise.

Last but not least, the Padre, Major Michael Woods and the Doctor, Major Colin West, formed an inseparable team known to all as 'Body and Soul.'

Even the customary refusal of the RAF to fly us where we wanted to go when we wanted to go failed to dampen the battalion's enthusiasm and all returned from Germany in high spirits looking forward to a demanding but enjoyable remainder of the year.

Over the past year there has been much to-ing and fro-ing. We have bade a sad farewell to Major George Tomlin, the Training Major, who soared away to Belize. With him go our thanks for his considerable contribution to the battalion. In his place we welcome Major Tony Powell who

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Above: The exhausted eight — the Training Major and some of his team. Below: The Intelligence Officer, 2Lt Sally Forrest



News from the 7th Battalion



From Page 54

Above: At Endex, just before being told there was no breakfast left ... Below: Body and Soul: Major Colin West and Major Michael Woods.

arrived just in time to take on the Employers Day at Leek, run a challenging Inter Platoon Competition and put his unmistakable stamp on the excellent training in Germany.

All our congratulations go to the Trainer on the recent award of his MBE.

In addition the author of these notes for so many glorious years, Major Lawrence Chell, is moving on to grace 49 Infantry Brigade with his presence.

He handed over to Major Murray Colville during Camp. His endeavours over the last six years have been monumental, and all ranks join in thanking him for all his hard work on their behalf.

We wish Lawrence and Christine all the best and hope they will return to visit us regularly.

Looking forward, there is no diminution in the tempo of battalion training with a busy time ahead and Camp 91 at Wathgill, Catterick in prospect.



News from the 7th Battalion

A Coy on target in shooting

A COY (Scunthorpe and Grimsby) continues to build on its shooting prowess, with the team not only coming a creditable third in the EDSAAM Section Match but also winning the non-central NBC match.

Camp was characterised by the OC, Major Charles Szabo, leading his company gallantly on foot whilst his 2IC, Capt Jim Freeman, misled the company vehicles on a roundabout tour of UK, Belgium, Holland, BAOR and UK again.

B Coy (Lincoln, Gainsborough and Boston) has also had its share of honours and is particularly proud of Pte Nicholas Scott of Cherry Willingham, who won the Best Young TA Soldiers Shot in the Queens Medal. Sgts Lewis and Redhead led a sponsored abseil down Lincoln Castle which raised over £500 for a local hospital.

LDY Coy (Loughborough, Melton Mowbray and Hinckley) welcomes its new OC Major Richard Cole and wishes Major Richard Hunt a happy retirement from the TA. The company also says farewell to its long serving Sponsor Officer, Colonel Pat Bowlby and welcomes Major Alistair Hayward, a former Company Commander, in his place.

The company commemorated Frezenberg Day with a parade at the LDY Memorial in Bradgate Park which was attended by over 150 old comrades. The total strength at camp was 91, making it the strongest rifle company in the battalion.

WO2 Gamble and Sgt Huddleston return to the 1st Battalion to be replaced by WO2 Taylor and Sgt Cousins. The company now looks forward with confidence to the competition year and the retention of the Champion Company Shield.

D Coy (Northampton and Daventry) at last welcomes 12 Platoon into its new TA Centre at Daventry, officially opened by Colonel Worthy in the middle of Platoon attack demonstrations, equipment displays, distinguished visitors and the general public.

The company recruits at camp won the



Sgt Lewis Abseiling down Lincoln Castle to raise over £500 for a local hospital.

trophies for the Best Female Recruit (Wpfc Bott) and Best SLR Shot (Pte Robinson). For its R&R day the company visited the battlefield and old town of Arnhem.

Capt Clive Mallett stood in as Company 2IC and entertained the company with his constant flow of war stories.

E (Home Service Force) Coy (Leicester and Lincoln) is well recruited currently, but always looking for more enthusiasts. During the last six months they have trained at Thetford, Catterick, Warcop and Yardley Chase. Six soldiers accompanied the battalion to Germany where they helped enormously as drivers. The company is about to leave for its own annual camp at Penally in November.

The events of the last year have been no less turbulent for HQ Coy (Leicester) who are a microcosm of the battalion. They have supported the battalion well and with much good grace in every aspect of both training and social events, at times challenging the rifle companies for honours and awards.

As Echelon at camp they performed

wonders with their own quiet brand of humour and the success of camp is due in no small part to their cheerfulness and endeavour. As part of their own training, they were allocated two Puma helicopters for a day with both pilots achieving zero gravity on some manoeuvres, raising morale and other things for the troops.

On the personnel front Capt Mike Prebble has moved to take over as the Battalion Operations Officer, with Capt Nigel Pennington taking over as Company Second-in-Command. Lt Ian Shaw has been appointed as the designated Mortar Platoon Commander, whilst Lt Andy Jacques was transferred in to run the Battalion Defence Platoon and the Brigade Defence Section.

CSgt Nelson has been busy on the competition front taking two teams to the RFA Military Skills Competition at Holcombe Moor and winning the speed march event in the Belgian "War Escape" exercise. His reports are featured elsewhere in this edition but our congratulations to him for his sterling efforts.

News from the 7th Battalion

Colonels assemble to woo employers

Colonels Peter Worthy, Bill Dawson and John Gleadell:
*"When shall we three meet again?
In thunder, lightning or in rain?
When the hurlyburly's done,
When the battle's lost or won."*

THE first part of the prophecy seems to have come true. On a very wet hillside on Leek training area on 2 June, 7 Royal Anglian's three Deputy Honorary Colonels met to assist in the toil and trouble of persuading 173 employers of the battalion's TA soldiers, that the time off they allow for their employees to fulfil their TA commitments is worthwhile.

Such a turnout of employers was unprecedented and they were rewarded with a demonstration of the battalion's tactical skills and technical equipment, and a good lunch (paid from NELC funds.)

They had a chance to fire the SA80 and a few experienced a tactical helicopter ride before the weather clamped down.

On this day the battle was surely won, but much of the good work of these Regimental elders often draws little attention.

They serve a five-year sentence which is quite likely to be extended for good behaviour.

Unpaid for their labours, extremely busy in their own businesses, they provide a treasure chest of experience and knowledge on TA matters and contacts with county hierarchy, business managers and local news media.

The TA industry survives on its local connections and they play an increasingly



CSgt Large and Sgt Perks of Recce PI reveal their air photo interpretation method.

important role in publicising the name of the battalion and of the Regiment at a time of declining public interest in military matters.

Opening a new TA Centre in Daventry, fighting off a take-over bid by the Cavalry for LDY Coy in Loughborough, or getting involved with the case of a TA soldier sacked by his firm in Lincoln for spending too much time with the TA are all part of the rich fabric of the Deputy Honorary Colonels' labours.

New Sponsor Officer:

In August, we welcomed Major Alistair Heyward TD as the new Sponsor Officer for the LDY Coy (Leicestershire and Derbyshire Yeomanry) in Loughborough. He succeeds Colonel Pat Bowlby who retired after ten years of looking after LDY matters.

Their support in helping to bring about a successful outcome of the second part of the prophecy is invaluable.

Setbacks at RFA UK

TWO teams (both from Milan) entered this year's competition. Unfortunately due to vehicle breakdown lasting over five hours and bank holiday traffic, the teams did not arrive at the venue until 0330 Saturday morning, missing both the final briefing and several hours' sleep.

A total of 41 teams entered this year. Five teams (including 5 Royal Anglian) withdrew before the start, leaving 36 to compete.

The competition was won by a team from 262 Sqdn R (Aux) AF Regt with 4 KOB a close second. Team B Milan came 13th (beating 6 Royal Anglian) and team A Milan came 9th (beating 10 Para). Both teams worked hard in the competition and considered it well worth entering.

The teams were as follows: Team A - Sgt Staruck, Pte Elliot, Pte Lord, Pte Rush; Team B - Sgt Wheatly, Pte Ileck, Pte Henderson, Pte Pollard, Reserve Pte Revel.

Depot Queen's Division



Col Calder, Inspecting Officer, and Lt Calder, Albuhera PI Comd, with Pte Smith, Pte Berridge, Pte Freeman, Pte Stevenson, the prize winners of Albuhera and Quebec PIs who passed out from Depot The Queen's Division on 2 Aug 90.

Period of uncertainty continues

OUR period of uncertainty mentioned in the last magazine continues. Our hopes are high for a whole series of favourable decisions, many of which we are unable to influence. What size will the Infantry be?.. will it need as many Depots?.. where will units go on return from BAOR? All remain unanswered at present, but all will affect us.

We are also facing constantly changing goalposts over our budget as we try to reach 1 Apr 1991 with an all square balance. To this end, despite our own efforts not to be overspent, we have had our recruiting totals 'capped'. Despite what can be recruited, we are restricted to only 200 recruits this next half year. We are all in agreement when we

say this is a foolhardy decision for us in the Infantry. We have the resources to train more, the staff and expertise. Our hope is that those who do come to join us will be more suitable than we have experienced in the recent past. The early signs with the last platoon to join us, now commanded by Lt Richard Lyne, are encouraging.

This restriction in our numbers has not so far led to a reduction in our commitments. The Regimental gathering played a large part in our summer, and is well reported elsewhere. We have recently hosted the Sergeants' Mess past and present dinner, which was well supported again.

Despite not being able to compete as a

team at Bisley this year, Cpl Dickinson was entered as an individual, and had a very good year. He was 42nd in the Army 100, 5th in the Pistol, 11th in LSW and firmly secured his place in the Army Team which then toured Canada. During this tour he won the SMG individual championship and represented the team on all weapons.

We continue to receive many visitors, and have been lucky to have the Director of Infantry early in his tour in mid-June, and the new Colonel Commandant, General Major Tony Pollard. Colonel Brett returned to the fold on 12 July to be the Inspecting Officer for AN210 and Blenheim Platoons.

News from the Depot



Above: Grandson, father and two grandfathers, soldiers all. From the left: Lt Col Tony Reeve, Lt Charles Calder, Col Tony Calder, Major John Calder.

Three generations of Calder family

Three generations of the Calder family were together at Bassingbourn on 2 Aug 90. The occasion was the Passing-Out Parade of Albuhera Pl and Quebec Pl. Lt Charles Calder commanded Albuhera Pl and Col Tony Calder was the Inspecting Officer.

Both of Lt Calder's grandfathers, Col Tony Reeve and Maj John Calder were watching the parade. It was obviously a proud moment for all concerned and it was fitting that the four recruit prize winners were from the Regiment. Quebec Pl: Best Recruit - Pte Berridge. Best Shot - Pte Smith; Albuhera Pl: Best Recruit - Pte Stevenson; Best Shot - Pte Freeman.

Yet again we say hello and goodbye to members of the Depot. Since the last edition we have welcomed Lt Hart, WO1 (RSM) Gedge, WO2 Slevin, CSgt Shepherd, Cpl Denham, Cpl Wildney, Cpl Simpson from the Vikings, Sgt Clark, Cpl O'Grady from the Pompadours and Cpl Scrimshaw from the Poachers. Those leaving us have been Sgt Barnes; Cpl Skate, to the Vikings; Sgt Sinar to the Poachers; Cpl Yeomans to the Pompadours; and Cpl Elliott on discharge. They have all played a major part in Depot life.



Depot The Queen's Division. Inf M40 orienteering

Shooting team wins a title and trophies



The Regimental Information Teams.

Recognition for hard work

THE hustle and bustle of the Summer Show season is over for another year. The display equipment has been put into mothballs for the winter months ready to appear revamped next season.

While the three teams were of a similar high standard, this year it was good to have their hard work recognised, with No 1 Team (Sgt Atter) winning the Trade Stand Award for an eye-catching information display at the East of England Show (attendance, more than 50,000 per day)

Each team assisted at two of its county's ACF camps this summer. The furthest away was Bedfordshire's camp at Oakhampton on Dartmoor where No 3 team acted as advisers and administered the orienteering before being umpires/thunderflash throwers on the final exercise.

Also during the summer the teams assisted with another three Look at Life's, held at the Depot, to give school leavers an insight into the Army.

After a well earned break in September, the RIT returned to a busy autumn programme. The teams helped run the ranges for the Cadet SAAM held near Colchester 29/30 Sept. For added interest, the RIT also manned a display tent located next to the NAAFI's tea tent. It was a successful union, for while the cadets congregated around the NAAFI tent most had a browse around the R Anglian display to see what was on offer. The PRI sales broke records as well. Essex

ACF with their R Anglian capbadge won the Team Rifle Match and the LMG Pairs.

As well as the action packed days for cadets visiting the Depot during October, there was an extra for the RIT in the form of helping with the Cadets Patrol Skills Competition held at STANTA over the weekend 20/21 Oct. Winners were Leicester ACF, with Herts 2nd.

With the schools liaison office next door empty, (some unexpected postings materialised due to the Gulf Crisis) it will be difficult to visit as many schools careers conventions as last year, but we will try.

During the summer, Sgt Eldridge left the Army to seek his fortune in civvy street, Sgt Beagley has taken over the running of 3 team as well as running in numerous orienteering competitions.

Two new faces on the teams are LCpl Jones, 2nd Battalion who replaced LCpl Bee, now with the Queen's Division Mobile Display Team, and LCpl Stringer 1st Battalion who replaced LCpl Nicholls, now back with the 1st Battalion. Shortly after joining the RIT, LCpl Stringer married Evonne, we wish them all the best in their life together, (or apart, on the RIT).

In November, Capt PHByrne moved to the Depot and handed over the reins to Capt P Thurston from the 3rd Battalion.

In the New Year, Sgt Nyszczota is leaving No 2 team after a successful three-year run as Team Leader.

THE JIB shooting team for JSAAM 90 was well represented by the Royal Anglians. The team was led by Lt John Heap, who had able assistance from Cpl Andy Whittle. After a period of hard training the team won the Junior Soldiers Championship, collecting seven trophies on the way. Notable shooting was by J/Cpl Hack (now 3rd Bn) who won the Hotchkiss Cup (FIBUA match) with a score of 262 (HPS 300) and J/Ldr Ellingworth (now 2nd Bn) who finished in the top 30.

The battalion inter-section assault course competition completed a successful 12 months' training for Lt Heap's platoon. The platoon's three sections achieved first, second and third place, a feat never achieved before in the competition. Total Royal Anglian Juniors in training is 134.

Cassino Coy: In Cassino Coy HQ the Vikings are represented by the coy 2IC, Capt Paul Ladbroke, the newly arrived CSM WO2 Wharton and the indispensable CQMS CSgt Holmes. LCpl Cooper, the coy storeman is from the Poachers. On the training side, the Poachers are represented by the new Platoon Commander 9 PI, Lt Ian Davison and 10 PI Section Commander, Cpl Brownie. Where are the Pompadours?

In the past couple of months, having served their sentence, we regretfully had to say goodbye to Capt Tim Dawson who is slowly winding his way back to Celle, via every available course and squash court. Also (Cpls' Collins (Viking) and Thompson (Pompadour) who again return to their respective battalions.

Training in the coy is now in full swing, the new intake having arrived in July. They have completed the first external leadership package conducted in Crickhowell under the watchful eye of the JIB EL Wing training team.

There are now 46 Royal Anglian Junior Leaders in the coy and having weeded out most of the 'unsuitables' this figure should remain almost unchanged for the passing out parade in June 91. **Golf:** Major (John) Perry completed yet another successful year in the world of golf by winning the Army Officers' Autumn meeting played at the Berkshire club. He was also selected to play for the Infantry team at the Army Golf Championships.

Cadets

Sponsored schools visit the Depot

THE following sponsored schools CCFs visited the Depot and were trained and hosted by the RIT:- Bedford, Bedford Modern, Oundle, Felsted, Kimbolton, Uppingham, Ipswich, Woodbridge, Bury St. Edmunds College, Bancrofts, Oakham, Langley, The Leys, Merchant Taylors, Wellingborough, Wymondham, Berkhamsted, Royal Hospital School, Stamford, Haileybury and Lough-borough. 1 R Anglian and No. 1 RIT visited the Royal Hospital School on 25 Sept 90. The log race this year was won by Oundle School CCF.

AGIs/Services Day/CCF Dinners

The RCO attended some memorable AGIs/Service Days (as they are now known) and CCF dinners. The schools visited were:- Bancrofts - inspecting officer, Lt Col P R C Dixon; the Leys; Rugby; Stamford; Haileybury; Woodbridge; Langley - inspecting officer, Maj Gen A J G Pollard; Oakham and Uppingham.

It was a trip down memory lane for General Pollard when he inspected the contingent at Oakham for he was a pupil there many years ago and in the CCF!

Battalion visits

Again, we warmly thank all three regular battalions for hosting some excellent potential officers' and undergraduates' visits this year. We have received some glowing reports, but please ask them to pay their mess bills prior to their departure! The following CCF's visited battalions:- Uppingham and Stamford to 2 R Anglian and Bancrofts and Aldenham to 3 R Anglian.

Aldenham School CCF

Aldenham School CCF has been affiliated and sponsored by the Regiment for over eight years. It was with great sadness that news came through that the contingent was to be disbanded on 7 July 90 after returning from camp. The contingent started in 1903, and in 1908 became the OTC, later the Junior Training Corps, then the CCF.

Ashburton Shield results

We congratulate Oundle School on being awarded 507.27 points overall and for winning the Challenge Trophy and 8 bronze

medals. The team was:- Sgt Holman, Sgt Aistrup, CQMS Clugston (Captain), Cpl Wright, Sgt Gloren, Sgt Roberts, Cpl Simons and Sgt Parker. Well done!

The scores of other sponsored and affiliated schools were:- Greshams - 498, Berkhamsted - 492, Kimbolton - 486, Bedford - 483, Woodbridge - 482, Uppingham - 481, Framlingham - 477, Merchant Taylors - 476, Oakham - 474, Wellingborough - 467, Bedford Modern - 463, Stamford - 456, Haileybury - 447, Royal Hospital - 435.

University awards and cadetships

We warmly congratulate Fred Gray (Bancrofts and Exeter) on being awarded a Cadetship which follows on from his Army Scholarship. He is destined for the Pompadours after Sandhurst in 1995.

Andrew Moffat (Kimbolton and Keele) upgraded his bursary award into a cadetship and we were delighted at this excellent news. He is due to join the Poachers after

Sandhurst in 1993. Neil Whithear (Merchant Taylors and London) was awarded a bursary. Well done!

The Regiment now has five cadetships, 11 bursaries and 11 Army Scholars.

Finally, we warmly congratulate Donald Francis on being awarded an Army Scholarship and for producing some excellent grades at GCSE.

SSLC

We have received more applications for the Short Service Limited Commission than for many years and congratulate Chris Symes (The Leys School) for passing RCB in Sept 90.

He has joined the 2nd Battalion before starting his degree course at Edinburgh University. He will be there for four years.

RCB results

We congratulate other potential officers who have also passed RCB recently:- Harry Everard, David Ward and Simon Barrett.

CCF LOG RACE RESULTS - 1990

CCF	Date	Time/Mins
Loughborough	23 Mar 90	11.10
Rugby	15 Mar 90	11.28
Haileybury	5 Mar 90	11.50
Stamford	9 Mar 90	11.59
Royal Hospital School	19 Mar 90	12.02
St. Georges	26 Mar 90	12.15
Berkhamstead	7 Mar 90	12.36
Kimbolton	8 Mar 90	12.50
Wymondham	28 Mar 90	12.54
Merchant Taylor's	1 Mar 90	13.00
Bedford School	18 Mar 90	13.17
Wellingborough	14 Mar 90	Fail to finish
Oundle	1 Oct 90	11.05 Winning Time
Merchant Taylor's	5 Oct 90	14.35
Uppingham	8 Oct 90	11.46
Langley	9 Oct 90	12.55
Ipswich	11 Oct 90	11.28
Woodbridge	12 Oct 90	15.00
Bancroft	15 Oct 90	11.34

Cadets



Kimbolton CCF. L to r: Simon Measures, James Watkins, Melanie Walton, Andrew Jennings, Laurence Eastlake, Nicholas Measures, W/O Roger Watson, Alice Edwards, Michael Stratford, Martin Cuthbert, 2Lt Susan Camp, Myles Ford, Paul Turner.

Kimbolton in the Nijmegen marches

SOMEONE who shall remain nameless came up with the idea of taking part in the Nijmegen marches to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the School Cadet Corps.

The first task was to set about finding a team of 12 cadets to come with us to Holland the third week in July and march 100 miles, 25 miles a day on four consecutive days.

Training began in February and most weekends found us marching the lanes around Kimbolton. July seemed a long way off, but time quickly passed, Swanton Morley two-day march in April, Waendel two-day in June. We also discovered that Yardley Chase training area is within walking distance of the school.

Richard Merriman, head of PE, took a hand in our training and we discovered new ways of going up and down the portico steps. After Swanton Morley it was confirmed that we would be part of the British Military Contingent of 1,740 marchers from the Regular and Reserve Forces and Cadet Organisations.

On the 14 July we boarded a double decker coach which would take us to Nijmegen and Heumensoord, a tented village and home for the next six days to 9,000 male soldiers from 17 countries (including Hong Kong, Lebanon, Poland, Canada and

New Zealand). The girls were housed at Goffertal and bussed in each day. The Monday was taken up with sight-seeing and, for the team leaders, meetings. In the evening was the flag ceremony which is a kin to the opening ceremony of the Olympics.

Tues 17 July was the first marching day, our start time was 0500hrs, so it was reveille at 0230hrs, breakfast at 0300hrs, formed up and ready to move to the start at 0430hrs. These morning starts are a moving sight as teams set out in the early morning mist with banners flying, the sound of military music, the stamp of marching boots.

After the start control, teams begin to pick up the pace and singing breaks out as we set out on our way. Even at this early hour the Dutch are on the streets to watch the teams pass. Children run along beside the teams asking for souvenirs, a cry we would become familiar with over the next four days.

The route is broken up with three rest points, we reached the second by 1030hrs. It's time for lunch and we discover how hungry we are. After lunch we picked up the pace once more and with a song or two we pass more teams and by 1230hrs we are on the long straight road which leads to

Heumensoord and the finish.

It is in the International beer tent where we are given an enthusiastic welcome by the earlier teams who are standing on the tables singing and clapping.

Wed 18th July: This was a crucial day physically and mentally. The start time was a little later but no change in our routine. The civilians joined us earlier today and occasionally they were a nuisance as they broke up our marching pattern. The march is becoming a test of morale and foot care. Our strength of character was beginning to show and as our weary bodies marched in we knew we were halfway - no stopping us now.

Thur 19 July: The day of the hills, and our best days. We had picked up an American team as we stormed up the hills, they were finding the going hard. We were in good spirits, and we soon lifted their flagging spirits after exchanging songs and team members 'we lost our two girls at one stage'. As we covered the miles with our rhythmical chanting we came home with spirits high knowing we only had one more day.

Friday 20 July: Our reserve (Abigail Edwards) joined us for the final day. John Stratford (CO) came out from England to

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Cadets

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record the events as we snaked our way out - tired but jubilant, we were going to make it. The euphoria of the previous day was missing and we found it hard going in the heat, temperatures in the high 80's.

We shared the miles with SE London ACF and picked up the Americans again. As the day progressed we passed teams from Canada, Denmark, Sweden and the Swiss.

Finally we arrived at the holding area for the march past, 11th of the 100 plus teams making up the British Contingent and with our slowest time. Time to change, pin on medals and march along the road into Nijmegen for the last time amid the cheers of 250,000 spectators.

We had done it.

The team was WO1 Roger Watson (team leader), 2Lt Sue Camp, Martin Cuthbert, Larry Eastlake, Alice Edwards, Myles Ford, Andrew Jennings, Nichols Measures, Simon Measures, Michael Stratford, Paul Turner, Melanie Walton.

We would like to express our thanks to Ian Stokes and Kevin Curtis who gave up their Sundays to provide the back-up and support during training.

Oundle shooting team on top form

RECENT months have seen successes in Oundle rugby and cricket, and in June it was the turn of the Oundle shooting team to excel, by winning the 'Country Life' cadet rifle competition against 65 teams from other schools.

The school had been placed second in the two previous years, but this year came top with 962 points, just seven points off the record, followed by Hurstpierpoint and Bradfield colleges.

The school's full bore rifle team remains unbeaten after 11 matches this season.

Captain of the Oundle team, David Clugston (18), achieved the best possible score for the third year running, a feat never before performed in this prestigious contest. David, a member of the athletics GB rifle team, toured with them in Canada this August and achieved the highest individual score in the London and Middlesex rifle meeting at Bisley. The proud owner of a £1,400 Accuracy International rifle, David plans to make the Army his career.



Above: General Pollard tasting the curry with the CO offering advice and the CTT Commander refusing the kind invitation.

Oakham nostalgia

OAKHAM School CCF was inspected by Major Gerard A J G Pollard, CBE on 24 May. It was a particularly nostalgic day for the General as he was returning to his old school.



Right: Abseiling down from a very great height. Well done! Look no hands!

Around the Branches



THIS has been an historic year as it has seen the climax to some six years' hard work, culminating in the moving and redisplaying of the major part of the Regimental Museum Collection in its new home at the Shirehall, Norwich.

On the afternoon of 20 July, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Anglian Regiment, arrived at the Castle Gardens to be welcomed by a Royal Fanfare played by the trumpeters of the band of the 1st Bn; she then met the civic dignitaries and was ushered to the dais where the president, Major General Sir David Thorne KBE made his speech of welcome, to which Her Majesty replied.

Next followed a presentation of a jewelled brooch of Britannia by Maj J M Smyth MBE. Her Majesty met the branch chairman and many others before leaving the gardens to be escorted around the new museum. Her visit to the gardens meant she was seen and met many of the 500 old comrades and their families gathered there.

For many of those who had been involved in raising the £200,000 towards the museum move, there was to be a Beating Retreat in front of the City Hall and a Reception in the Rotunda of the Castle Museum, which proved a very warm finish to a memorable day.

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

The annual dinner of the 4th Bn Old Comrades Association was held at St. Edmunds Hotel, Gorleston on 21



The Colonel-in-chief departs having officially opened the Royal Norfolk Regimental Museum at Norwich. Picture: Eastern Daily Press.

Apr 90. Maj Tom Eaton presided and some 66 members including a small group of Royal Anglians attended as last year. The 4th Bn Officers' Club held their annual dinner at the TA Centre Officers' Mess on 20 Apr 90. Lt Col Cyril Grant presided and many former members of the battalion were present.

The 2nd Bn 'Kohima' Club held its annual dinner at the Norfolk Club on 4 May 90. Col Henry Conder presided and the Regimental Secretary was a guest. Everyone enjoyed a thoroughly nostalgic occasion, hearing from Major S S F Hornor of his recent return to Kohima battle ground.

The annual dinner and lunch of the Officers' Dinner Club were held at the Norfolk Club on 1/2 June respectively. Maj Gen Sir David Thorne presided at the dinner, which was attended by 40 members. On Saturday 2 June, some 40 members and their wives enjoyed the annual luncheon.

On Sunday 22 July 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 Bn Band. Once again, a thoroughly enjoy-

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Around the Branches

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able day and the Regiment again expresses its grateful 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 29 July it was so good to see many ex-Royal Norfolks, East Anglians and Royal Anglians attending the Minden Day reunion at Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds. This traditionally Suffolk Regiment day is becoming more and more a reunion for Ex 1st Bn East or Royal Anglians.

On Sunday 22 Sept the 1st Bn laid on an open day to which all the Old Comrades and their families of the former regiments were invited. The day started with lunch, and then in the afternoon there were sideshows and demonstrations illustrating battalion life, weaponry and mess silver, finishing up with Beating Retreat by the band and corps of drums. Some 300 Old Comrades took advantage of this highly successful day arranged by the commanding officer, Lt Col David Phipps.

Association dinner: On Saturday, 29 Sept some 175 Old Comrades attended the annual association dinner at the TA Centre, Aylsham Road, Norwich. During his speech Maj General Sir David Thorne welcomed everybody and explained that Brig Peter Barclay had written to him saying how much he regretted that for health reasons he was unable to attend, but had sent his best wishes and looked forward to being at the association service the following day.

The general then went on to explain that unfortunately Mr Winkie Fitt was not in the best of health, and was unable to attend, but he hoped we would see him next year.

A special guest this year was Mr Arthur England, aged 100 years, who

had fought in the 8th Bn in World War I. Mr England's advice to the assembled company was that as they got older they should take shorter steps.

The general went on to then explain how the 1st Bn had recently returned from South Armagh and the Commander Allied Forces had taken it upon himself to write to him saying how he especially commended the 1st Bn for its very professional qualities. Now it was back in 19 Brigade it had recently hosted an open day for 300 old comrades, which had been a very successful occasion. It was due to return to Ulster next year and the members present could be assured that the reputation of the Regiment was exceptionally high at the moment and in excellent hands.

The 6th Bn needed to be thanked for its continual support on Regimental occasions such as this.

The general then briefly touched on the Regimental benevolent work, the state of the cottages, and the chapel. In the case of the chapel, arrangements were in hand for a new altar frontal to be made and it was hoped that this would be completed within a year.

The museum provided a source of pride and was now being seen by considerably more visitors than the museum in Britannia Barracks. In 1988, 1,300 people visited the Britannia Barracks Museum and this number was exceeded in the first week of the opening of the new museum.

On Sunday, 30 Sept the Regimental chapel was once again packed for the association service at which The Reverend Canon John Brewer gave the address.

Benevolent fund: The Regimental Benevolent Fund has been able to provide timely financial grants to 47 former members of The Royal Norfolk Regiment and their families amounting to £4,120 during the year ending 30 June 1990. In addition to the grants, the Army Benevolent Fund is assisting in providing small pensions for five 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 Mrs Lyon (Norwich occupant) died on 15 Dec 1989.

Gorleston and Gt Yarmouth Branch

IT is with deep sadness that I have to report the death of Billy Plane on 30 May (the day of our May meeting) after a long illness. Billy, an ex-Japanese prisoner of war, was not only a regular attender and supporter of our meetings and events, but was also the secretary of 4th Bn Royal Norfolk Old Comrades Association. His death came as a shock to us all and he will be sadly missed by many of us.

Our speaker for the May meeting was a Mr Jack Grice (ex RAF) who gave a very interesting talk and slide show on amphibious and other specialist training that took place in the Fritton Lake area during the Second World War. His talk also covered in great detail, the specialist Home Guard sabotage, sniper and explosives unit that were located in secret underground tunnels and hideouts in the woods surrounding this large lake, the water way of which also encroaches into the villages of Belton, Browston, Ashby and Herringfleet.

Not forgetting our ladies, a very enjoyable ladies social night was held at the White Lion Hotel, Gorleston on 30 June when 33 members and guests wined, dined on an excellent meal, drank and danced the evening away. Requests from Jim Culley and other more senior members include the issue and wearing of 'ear plugs' at any future event when a disco will be providing the music. From intelligence gathered that evening, it was found that the chairman does in fact carry money on his person, when he had to dig deep into his pocket after John Morley had doubled the target set for income from the draw.

On 15 July, over 40 members and

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Around the Branches

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guests attended the third Royal Anglian regimental gathering at Bassingbourn, where we were proud to have the branch Standard dedicated. Our thanks go to the organisers and Tom Hiney the Padre for making this such a memorable occasion. However, I think that many of us will long remember this event as 'The Day of the Plague of Black Midget Flies'.

Five days later the branch continued enjoying the very warm weather when 19 members and ladies attended the Queen Mother's opening of the new Royal Norfolk Regiment Museum in Norwich.

This day was made all the more memorable for the branch due to our chairman, Bob Waller and his lady wife Jill having the honour of being presented to Her Majesty.

July continued being a very busy month with 21 members and guests attending the Minden Day celebrations at Bury St. Edmunds on 29 July. Suspicions were aroused when our Royal Norfolk Standard was proudly paraded deep in Suffolk territory. However, as its colour is mainly Royal Anglian blue with a Royal Anglian Badge centrally displayed, we were accepted as being on the same side and peace was acknowledged when some ex-Suffolk members joined our ranks and marched in our group on the March Past.

In August we finally repaid the loan for the Branch Standard, so kindly lent by the Royal Norfolk/Royal Anglian Regimental Association HQ at Norwich. Thanks for donations go to: Capt Simon Ward and Acle Detachment, Norfolk ACF (who also purchased the carrier), Becky Sharpe, Mr K J Watson, Frank Horton, Mr Smithson (of Nottingham), Ray Pillar, Bert Major, Mr A C Hart (of Glasgow), John Morley and the staff of Yarmouth Stores for their raffle. Also to Pauline Turner, Dawn Vriesema and Lt Garry Turner, Norfolk ACF for profit from book sales at car boot sales/jumble sales etc.

Another very enjoyable day was had by the 15 members who attended the 1st Bn's open day at Colchester on 22 Sept. Our more older members were surprised at the range of equipment and

weapons now issued to the infantry. Those that had a ride in the new Saxon armoured vehicle were thrilled with their ride, but what really made the day for some, was being allowed on to a range to actually fire the SA80 rifle. To the commanding officer and all members of 1 R Anglian we say a big thank you.

One disappointment in the club was that only nine members were able this year to attend the Royal Norfolk dinner at Norwich on 29 Sept. You non-attenders missed an excellent night.

By popular demand, another ladies night was held on 20 Oct. Despite the low numbers attending, the 16 members and ladies present enjoyed another excellent meal at the White Lion Hotel, the evening eventually proving to be very hilarious with comedy acts and jokes staged by the members themselves.

In addition to fund raising activities, our thanks go to the following who have helped in so many ways. To the landlord (Brian) and staff of the White Lion Hotel, Gorleston who have been more than helpful when we have held our monthly meetings and social events there; to Capt John Fisk, QM of 1 R Anglian who gave much appreciated assistance in enabling us to obtain head-dress for our Standard party; to Brian Becket in designing and producing our new branch letterheading; to Bertie Blowers and Albert Southgate for providing the cap badges of nearly all the former county Regiments which will eventually be displayed on our carrier depicting all regiments now forming the Royal Anglian Regiment; to Ray Pillar for organising all our transport requirements; Geoff Smith for selling the Christmas Draw tickets; Tony Waters for his home-made 'display frame' for the Standard and Sergeant instructor Nigel Lemmons, Norfolk ACF for auditing our accounts.

Membership is steadily increasing and now touches the 50 mark, covering ex-members from five of the former country regiments, plus East Anglian, Royal Anglian and 1 Corps attached.

Further details of membership and venue from Bob Waller (chairman), Gt. Yarmouth 669961.



OUR annual reunion was held at the Beacholme Holiday Camp at Cleethorpes on the weekend of 22/23 Sept. Our new president, Major General Gerrard-Wright presided. In addition to our usual attenders, Col Robin Drummond and Lt Col John Barstow came, with their wives, a 'first time for them all.'

A total of 220 sat down to dinner on the Saturday evening but unfortunately Lady Welby-Everard was unwell and unable to come, the first reunion that she has missed during the past 24 years.

We also welcomed members of our new branch, which is established in the Midlands, they already have 25 members. We wish them the best of luck and hope that their numbers will increase as the years go by.

The 1991 reunion will be held at the Beacholme on the weekend of 21/22 Sept.

Officers reunion: The Sobraon weekend will be held in the Officers' Mess at Sobraon Barracks on the weekend of 27/28 Apr 91. Details will be sent out to those on the mailing list in due course. Anyone not on the list who would like to attend should write to Capt Alwyn Smith at Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln.

Herouville: The trip to Herouville in June was very successful and a bronze plaque was presented to the mayor of the town by Major General Sir Christopher Welby-Everard, who was the commanding officer of the 2nd battalion when it liberated the town in 1944. Among those present at the ceremony were Major General Gilbert, Lt Col Chambers, Maj Colvin, Capt Bennett plus a number of our Normandy Veterans.

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Our president talking to two old soldiers of the Regiment. On the left Mr Wright aged 93 served in the 8th Battalion 1914-18 War, in the centre Mr Percy Waite aged 94 who served in the 1st Battalion 1914-18 War.

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Retirements: Major Charles Macklam retired from his appointment of chairman of the executive committee and ex-officio trustee of the association with effect from the 1 Oct 90. He had held these appointments for over 21 years and we thank him for his stalwart work for the association and wish him well in his well earned retirement. Col Robin Drummond has taken over the vacancy left by this retirement.

Deaths: Since last going to press the following have passed on – Mr Alexander, Mr G W Carey, Mr Daybell, Brig Dolphin, Mr H Griffin, Mr C King, Mr E Kirk, Mr F Lilly, Mr W Parke, Mr T Potterton, Mr A E Rose, Maj G Spratt and Mr P White.



THE annual dinner and dance was held at Sele School, Hertford, on 5 May and was a huge success. It was attended by 225 members and their guests and we were very pleased to welcome among the latter twelve members of the 3rd Battalion, Royal Anglians, led by Lieutenant-Colonel Julian Lacey, Major W R Mooring, second-in-

command, and Mrs Mooring, Capt Noland Ladley, the Adjutant, and Mrs Ladley.

We were also very pleased to see our oldest member Mr Frank Ames of Bedford, who celebrated his 99th birthday a few weeks later.

After dinner Brigadier Angus Robertson CBE, our chairman, welcomed the guests and expressed his appreciation that so many members had been able to attend and thanked them for their continued support of the association, he also thanked Mr Stanley Mansfield for once again so ably organising the event. Replying Col Lacey gave a resume of the activities of his battalion and said that members of the association would be welcomed at Colchester.

The evening ended at midnight when the assembled company marched around the hall to the strains of the Regimental March.

The Regimental Flash: WE are delighted that the 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment has adopted the shoulder flash of the 16th Foot, and decided to wear it for the first time in the county of Bedfordshire when they visited Dunstable and Bedford on 13 and 14 Sept.

It has been noticed that the flash worn by the 3rd Battalion is black and amber. For years, certainly long before the last war, argument has raged as to why black. And is the other colour amber or yellow?

Presentation of 2Lt Adlam's Victoria Cross to Luton Museum: ON 27 Oct 90, exactly 74 years to the day after he won it, the Victoria Cross of 2Lt

T E Adlam was presented, on loan, to the Regimental Association by his grandson, Cpl Martin Adlam of the RAF, for display in the Regimental Room in Luton Museum.

While handing his grandfather's medals to Lt Col W A Whittaker the president of the association, Martin Adlam said he and his family felt they should be in a place where they could be seen by members of the public and Tom Adlam's old Regiment.

In his speech of acceptance, Lt Col Whittaker stressed how fortunate we are to have a room in such an excellent and well run museum. He thanked the staff, the friends of Luton Museum and Mrs Mary Goldsmith, mayoress of Luton and chairman of the recreation services committee, for their efforts in making the museum such a fitting depository for items of historic interest.

Tom Adlam was just 23 and was serving as a platoon commander in 7th Bn The Bedfordshire Regiment when he took part in an attack on the village of Thiepval on the Somme, the garrison of which was holding up further operations. The attack wilted under heavy machine gun-fire, the men going to ground in the many shell holes.

He dashed from shell hole to shell hole collecting his men, and after making sure that each man had a grenade, inspired them to follow him in another attack under a hail of grenades.

This also failed and they found themselves in an empty enemy trench in which was a quantity of German stick bombs. He briefly instructed his men in their use and led a successful assault on the enemy position, killing or capturing all the occupants. By his dynamic leadership and determination he had snatched victory where others saw only defeat.

Although wounded, this gallant officer continued to lead his platoon over the next 24 hours in a series of further assaults, inspiring his own men and those around him. He was again wounded but refused to seek treatment until ordered to do so by his Commanding Officer.

Col Whittaker ended by saying:- "The citation and a description of the operation by Tom Adlam himself, are on display in the museum and I hope you will feel, as I do, that the presence of the medal itself brings to life the simple words of that description

"It must have been a very proud day for Tom Adlam when he first wore his Victoria

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Corporal Martin Adlam with the grandfather's medal — Mrs Whittaker, Col Whittaker, Mrs Mary Goldsmith, Corporal Martin Adlam and Maj David Thorgood.

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Cross. We are grateful to Martin Adlam and his family that they now allow us all a share in the pride."

Presentation of a Commando Fighting Knife to the 3rd Royal Anglians: IMMEDIATELY after the presentation of Lt Col Adlam's VC to the association, an engraved fighting knife was presented to 3rd Royal Anglians to commemorate all ranks of the Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire and Essex Regiments who served as volunteers in the Army Commandos between 1940 and 1946.

The knife is in a case which also contains cap badges of the two Regiments and photographs of Brig P Young DSO, MC, MA, CSM, L Leech MM, both of the Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment, and Lt Col C Newman VC, OBE, TD of the Essex Regiment, all of whom were founder members of the Army Commandos in 1940.

The presentation was made by Mr J Leech, whose idea it was and who met all the costs, to Major T W T Power of the 3rd Battalion.

The Story of The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment: A THIRD volume of The Story of The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment is being prepared. Contributions in the form of personal stories or anecdotes are urgently required from any individual who served during the period 1939 to 47 in any of the following battalions - 2nd Bn The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment;

1st and 2nd Bns The Hertfordshire Regiment (TA); 6th Bn The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (TA).

All contributions should be sent to: Major R H Medley, Pant-y-Goitre House, Llanvair, Abergavenny, Gwent NP7 9BB, by 13 March 1991.



IT is announced with deep regret that Col George Kenyon who joined the Hertfordshire Regiment in 1935 and who has been president of the Ware Branch and of the association since 1948, died on 7 July. Colonel Stanley Burr, who has been deputy president for many years, has kindly agreed to take over as president and Col Michael Kelsey has agreed to become vice president.

Membership has increased by 16 this year, including six from the 2nd Battalion. This increase is partly due to a 1st Battalion man, Mr Victor Hart, who enquired through SAGA magazine if a Hertfordshire Regiment Association existed. He immediately received a number of calls from others asking him for the address.

A total of 26 members and their wives paid a nostalgic visit to the Rothbury area of Northumberland from 18 to 22 May

where the 1st and 2nd Battalions and the 6th Bedfords were stationed in 1940 as part of the 54th (East Anglian Division). A church parade on the Sunday was led by the Rothbury Pipe Band and a wreath was laid on the town War Memorial in honour of those who died from active service in Italy and Palestine.



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
THE annual reunion was held on 7 and 8 July. The various Regimental meetings and the dinner were held on the Saturday and the Comrades church parade and officers' luncheon on the Sunday.

The annual meeting was held at noon on Saturday. A total of 21 members were present.

The annual reunion dinner took place at the drill hall, Clare Street, on Saturday evening. Our president and Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir John Akehurst KCB, CBE presided and proposed toasts to The Queen and Our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief. Messages of good wishes for a happy evening had been received from HM The Queen and HRH Princess Alice in reply to loyal messages sent to them earlier.

In proposing the toast to The Regiment, General Akehurst said how pleased he was to welcome such a large number of Comrades. For the first time since 1976, numbers had exceeded 200, many of whom had travelled long distances to be present. He thanked Lt Col John Wilson, Maj Tony Amos and Mr Peter Wilson for all their efforts in making this such a successful reunion and congratulated David Deacon for again making such a large contribution to our numbers. There was a moment of sadness when General Akehurst read the names of those Comrades who had died since the last reunion.

On defence, the General said it had

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been a difficult year. It had been said that there was at present no threat to our country, but this had been said in the late 20's and 30's - but the threat arose and we face the same problems today. When defence ran down regiments had problems in recruiting - soldiers worried about their future. He said that all our R Anglian battalions, both regular and TA were in good order and set good standards. But there was beginning to be a shortage of good regular soldiers. It was still a satisfying and enjoyable career, but unfortunately it was a time of great nervousness.

General Akehurst mentioned that next year we would celebrate the 250th anniversary of the raising of our Regiment and asked all Comrades to make every effort to attend.

Announcing the timings for the church parade the General said he hoped to see all Comrades on parade under Colonel Worthy. HRH Princess Alice was to be present, inspect the Comrades and take the salute at the march past. After wishing all Comrades a happy and enjoyable reunion the General asked them to rise to drink a toast to the regiment.

Colonel Peter Worthy then rose and, breaking with tradition, proceeded to highlight the long and very successful military career of our president, who had retired on St Georges Day after a very satisfying 42 years service.

Col Worthy had been in the same class at Sandhurst as the General and had known him longer than anyone else in the regiment. Commissioned in December 1949, they had reported to the Depot (Quebec Bks) in January 1950 when Lt Col Jack Ennals was Commanding and Serjt "Sandy" Pell was number 1 of the grass cutting equipment. As a subaltern, General Akehurst had represented the battalion at cricket, football, cross-country running and shooting.

Colonel Worthy mentioned the many senior appointments the General had held, culminating in 1987 when he was appointed Deputy Supreme Commander, Allied Powers Europe, in the rank of full General, the third only of our regiment to have achieved that rank. Sir John was appointed colonel



In-Pensioner Sandy Pell at the Northamptonshire REGIMENT Comrades Association Annual Reunion Dinner.

of the Royal Anglian Regiment in 1986 and in February of this year he was appointed chairman of the TA & VR Associates (which will please all terrers).

General Akehurst had been mentioned in despatches whilst serving in Malaya with the Malay regiment. In 1976 he was awarded the CBE and in the Birthday Honours List of 1984 he received a knighthood.

As a token of our appreciation and to mark his retirement. Col Worthy presented General Akehurst with a beautiful silver inkstand, a lovely piece, which had been presented to the 3rd & 4th Militia Battalions in 1871 by Lt Col Harry Thomas Salmon, and on which had been engraved: "Presented to General Sir John Akehurst KCB CBE, By All Members of the Northamptonshire Regiment, Comrades Association on the occasion of his retirement on St Georges Day 1990."

The church parade took place on 8 July. Comrades and wives arriving early in Gibraltar Barracks for a quick chat and to greet old friends. Preceded by the Royal Anglian TA Band & Drums, the parade marched off, receiving reinforcements on the way, to the church of the Holy Sepulchre, where

several more Comrades, unable to march, joined the parade.

The arrival of General Akehurst was acknowledged by a (silent) General Salute. At 1045hrs Princess Alice arrived and was greeted with a Royal Salute. Her Royal Highness then inspected the parade, to the delight of the Comrades and families watching from the pavements.

At the start of the church service, Her Royal Highness handed the Regiment's Wreath to the chaplain, who after placing it upon the altar, said the Northamptonshire Regiment Collect. RSM David Knight then recited The Exhortation - we believe, for the first time at a Comrades reunion church service. The buglers then sounded the Last Post and after a silence, the Reveille.

After the service, Princess Alice took the salute as the Comrades marched past on their return to Gibraltar Barracks for dismissal.

The officers then proceeded to Simpson Barracks where, by kind permission of the Commandant Royal Pioneer Corps, they entertained their guests to drinks and a buffet luncheon.

Corby Branch

Sadly we lost our chairman, Col Tony Hollins, after a bravely fought illness, and also our most popular vice-president, Capt Jack Hogg, from a heart attack. Both are sadly missed at the branch.

Peter Huckle, who had been standing in as chairman, has now taken the position over. We presented Billy Paterson with a tankard as a token of our appreciation for the excellent buffets he provides. Some of the Peterborough Branch attended one of our meetings and thoroughly enjoyed themselves, especially Bill's cuisine!

Our electric wheelchair has now been refurbished and is to go to one of the TA Club members who is in need of it. Thankfully none of our members require it at present.

The charity stall was a huge success and our chairman would like to thank all who participated in the organisation, collecting prizes and helping at the stall on the day. We visited Oundle FC as it had been arranged some time

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previously with Capt Jack. It was sad not to see him at the hub of things.

Our branch dinner is only a short time away, in the TA Club this time, our home ground as it were. We are all looking forward to a pleasant evening - with Bill Paterson as chef and Alf Segasby in charge of the waiters how can we have otherwise!

Peterborough Branch

The Woolpack, now very much a local museum for the Regiment in the Peterborough area continues to host our meetings and members who read this article and their friends would be welcomed by Peter Newton to visit and see his splendid collection at any time.

We have had a busy few months again holding our reunion at Huntingdon in April - a well attended gathering at which we were pleased to see the former Huntingdon branch president Major Ted Overall and his wife Smudge and a new face from the past, Capt Bill Bennett (formerly paymaster) and his wife Kay who have now moved back into the area from the Lake District.

"Grilling for Ex-Soldiers" was the headline in the local newspaper to record the happy joint barbecue we held in July with the Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades.

The president of that branch Tom Miles presenting our president with a Regimental plaque which now hangs at our meeting place, was the start of an excellent meeting of fellowship and good eating and drinking for both branches.

Members have attended functions at Corby and the Regimental gatherings at Northampton and Bassingbourn and, thanks to the hard work of our chairman Major Freeman, have, accompanied by their wives, had an outing to Windsor which has enabled them to visit the castle and its attractions of interest and see the other many fascinating sights in that town.

In conclusion though, where are the Royal Anglians? The branch is keen to expand and welcome into our meetings and activities any former Royal Anglians. The headquarters of Northampton have already advertised this fact locally.



ROYAL Tigers Weekend was held on 23 and 24 June. As usual the weekend began, on the Saturday evening, the annual meeting. A total of 47 members attended and Col T Holloway, the president, took the chair. This was followed by the annual dinner, held in the TA Centre at Ulverscroft Road. A total of 261 members and their ladies attended the dinner.

It is good to report that the dinner was once again a resounding success. After dinner, the doors were opened, as were the bars, and the reunion went on into the small hours.

On Sunday the traditional annual parade service was held in the Regimental Chapel of Leicester Cathedral. The Provost of Leicester took the service and Canon Michael Wilson preached a splendid sermon. After the service the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, supported by the chairman of the County Council, the Lord Mayor and the High Sheriff, took the salute at the March Past. It was rewarding to note that there was again a good turnout for the parade.

We then returned to the TA Centre. For the first time for a number of years we reverted to not having a central drinks party, but having both the Sgts' Mess and the Tiger Bar fully open. Regimental guests were entertained in the Officers' Mess.

We once again got great help and support from 7 R Anglian. We are all most grateful.

Particular thanks are due to Capt Michael Cunningham, PSAO at Ulverscroft Road, for his most willing and unflinching support and particularly to the association secretary, who, with no staff at Leicester, needs all the help he can get.

Norway Revisited: In April 1940, 1/5 Leicesters, as part of the 148th Infantry Brigade, took part in the ill-fated cam-

paign in Norway. In May 1990 some 70 members of the battalion, with their families, returned to Norway on a seven day pilgrimage. The party left Leicestershire by coach on 12 May and boarded the ferry at Newcastle. On board they met up with the party from 8th Foresters, the other battalion in 148th Brigade. One of the party now takes up the story.

"On our arrival at Oslo, early on 14 May we were met by our Norwegian hosts. They had arranged a tour of Oslo by coach and during the tour we were all entertained by the British Ambassador at his residence. We boarded a train from Oslo to Lilliehammer in the afternoon. The journey took 2 1/2 hours.

On arrival at Lilliehammer we were met by many civic dignitaries, the bands played and speeches were made. We were then taken to our accommodation, quite splendid chalets in a military camp in the hills above Lilliehammer.

The next two days were taken up by tours of the battlefields. Throughout the battlefield tours we were royally entertained by members of the local community. In the evening we met our Norwegian hosts socially, they supplying the lager, we supplying the duty free whisky.

On 17 May (Norwegian National Day) we all attended a most memorable and moving ceremony in the Lilliehammer War Cemetery. Wreaths and individual poppies were laid on all graves, by national representatives, Regiment representatives and families of the fallen. The Brownies of Lilliehammer laid flowers on each grave, as they have done for the past 50 years.

After this ceremony we watched the National Day March Past and then a service was held in Lilliehammer Cathedral. During this service an Altar Cross from St Michael's and All Angels' Church in Leicester was given to the Cathedral in commemoration of the British soldiers who died in the defence of Lilliehammer in 1940. The service was followed by a civic luncheon in Lilliehammer and the return rail journey to Oslo. There we boarded the ferry and arrived in Newcastle in

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the early morning of 19 May.

The pilgrimage was the brainchild of Mr Per Aspletten who had been a young resistance fighter in 1940. Now a man of considerable substance and influence in Norway, he masterminded the entire visit. He organised the magnificent sponsorship in Norway (rail journeys, coaches, food, accommodation etc.).

The necessary military planning and support was organised by Major Ian Binnie, RM, a Norwegian expert working in the MoD.

The tangible military support during the visit was given by a party from 3 WFR who accompanied the veterans of both Regiments throughout the visit. The Militia Trust of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment made a large grant to defray some of the veterans' expenses. To all the above we are most grateful.

To return, after 50 years, to the place where we had fought was an experience that none of us will forget. The weather in 1990 (bright and sunny by day) was in marked contrast with 1940. The ferry trip on a boat owned by Per Aspletten's friend, Fred Olsen, was much more comfortable than the sea transport of 1940. Fifty years on it was different. The welcome given to us by the Norwegians was overwhelming. We are glad that we went back."



Bury and District Branch

Mr W E Martin writes:

SINCE the last issue the weather has been perfect for all our outside events, this must be a record. Our monthly meetings have been very well attended and as you will see by our report the Bury Branch has been very much involved in various undertakings.

The first event our branch attended



Left to right: Brig. W C Deller OBE, Jack Doughty and Capt J F Milward MBE. Jack Doughty presenting Capt Milward (representing the 6th Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment) with a portrait of the Queen Mother to mark the occasion of her 90th Birthday. This presentation was made in appreciation of the assistance given by the 6th Battalion to the Suffolk Regiment Old Comrades Association. It is sad to report that Jack Doughty died a month after the presentation was made.

on 16 May was the dedication of three windows in the Regimental Chapel in memory of three officers who served in the Suffolk Regiment; namely, Lt General Sir Richard Goodwin KCB, CBE, DSO, Lt Col H B Monier-Williams OBE, MC and Major R Q March. The service was conducted by the

Rev T B F Hiney MC, Chaplain to HM Forces. Colonel W A Heal OBE in his address, gave an excellent account of the service given by each officer to the Regiment. The service was very well attended and all branches of the OCA were represented.

On 20 May we were involved with another dedication; this was at Beccles Parish Church where the Beccles Branch had their Standard dedicated. After the service several Standards, including the Bury Branch, with their escorts and representatives took part in a march past with Brig W C Deller OBE taking the salute. After the march past an excellent tea was provided at the town hall. Everything was

very well organised by the Beccles Branch.

The Cambridgeshires Service of Remembrance took place at Ely Cathedral on 10 June and as usual we gave our support. After the service we joined in with the march past complete with Standard. Major General A J G Pollard CBE took the salute. After the march past we all retired to the Haywards Theatre where we were able to renew old acquaintances.

On 16 June, our vice-chairman, Derreck Johnson, organised a country and western dance at the Risby village hall, the proceeds, just over £90.00 went to OCA Funds to help towards the cost of running Minden Day. Refreshments were provided by Marjorie Johnson.

The AGM of the OCA took place in the TA centre, Bury St Edmunds on 23 June. Some members of the Bury branch were unable to attend because at that time they were in France with members of the Stowmarket branch

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who had organised the trip to include visits to the Hillman Memorial, the Military Cemetery at Hermanville, Pegasus Bridge, Sword Beach and Arromanches where it is still possible to see remains of the Mulberry Harbour. It was a very good trip which was well thought out by the Stowmarket branch. Even the ferry strike did not dampen our enthusiasm.

Major Mike Veal, OC HQ Coy 6th Royal Anglians, invited us to an open day on Thetford range on 30 June, where we were introduced to various weapons, including the SLR/SA80. Several of our members and wives had a go on the range. It was a most enjoyable day, and thanks are due to Major Veal and other members of HQ Coy who did a lot of work on our behalf.

On the 15 July, some of our members attended the third annual reunion at Bassingbourn. As usual it was very well supported by representatives from all three battalions of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

The Minden eve buffet/dance on 28 July went off very well and as usual the Hemel Hempstead branch were very well represented. Tony Rogers and his music did a good job by providing the right mixture to keep everyone happy. The buffet, which was very good, was provided by Derreck and Marjorie Johnson of the Bury branch.

The next day was the day of the Minden reunion. It was one of the best days for weather and attendance that we have had for a long time. It was a special treat to see Madame Lenauld and the rest of our friends from Colleville-Montgomery. I am sure that all those who turned up had an enjoyable day. Thanks are due to the Minden committee and others who gave their time to ensure that a good time was had by all.

On Aug 2, a coach-load of us had a very entertaining evening at the Colchester Searchlight Tattoo. It is a biennial event and one of the largest events of its kind in the country, staged jointly by local townspeople and the Army.

A number of our members attended the Royal Anglian dinner/dance on 1 Sept. at the TA centre, Bury St. Edmunds. Major General Sir David

Thorne KBE did us the honour of accepting the role of dinner chairman.

On 22 Sept, 27 branch members and guests attended the open day at Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester, the home of the 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment. Members were met and informed of the programme of the day and then whisked off to the various messes, according to rank, where they enjoyed an excellent lunch. After lunch members were given an interesting introduction into up-to-date weapons and vehicles of today's Army and the various side shows. The NCOs and men in charge of the displays were only too pleased to answer any questions. After a very nice tea we had a special treat of watching the Beating of Retreat by the Band and Drums. It was nice to hear the strains of "The Duchess" before breaking into "Rule Britannia" and "Speed the Plough" during the march past.

Many thanks to the CO Colonel Phipps and all NCOs and men who gave their time to make an enjoyable day for us.

Some of our members attended the Cambridgeshire sergeants' dinner at Coldhams Lane, Cambridge on 29 Sept. It was an excellent dinner. We did rather well in the draw; each couple from Bury won a prize. We are always made very welcome by our friends of the Cambridgeshires.

Ipswich Branch

Mr. Reg Sayer writes:-

I must apologise to readers for the absence of news in the last edition of Castle. This was due to the lack of activities and items of interest to write about.

Readers may be interested to know that this contribution is being prepared in the shadows of St Georges Barracks, St Juliens, Malta during October. This brings back happy memories of when the 1st Battalion was stationed here during 1937 to 1939. Those who served here may recall there was the constant ringing of church bells, the smell of the goats as they were driven around the residential areas to be milked on customers doorsteps to produce "instant" milk. The church bells

only ring for early morning and evening services. The goats have disappeared and milk is supplied in cartons available from the local grocery shops. Life is quite the reverse of the slow, easy going manner of the pre-war days.

The branch news commences by reporting that we still enjoy excellent attendance at our monthly meetings. Members appear to enjoy the time spent together. We very rarely have absence through ill-health, but have had two members who had problems and could not join us for meetings. Major Williams was admitted into hospital and was housebound for about three months. Thankfully he has made complete recovery and can get out and about again. Ron (Freddie) Fox has not been as fortunate. He has been admitted to hospital on three occasions this year and has not been well enough to attend meetings for several months. He is missed by all and we hope he will soon make a full recovery.

On 20 May some of our members travelled by coach to attend the dedication service of Beccles Branch Standard. On 23 June Ron Willetts and I were invited to join other organisations to parade our Standards to welcome the Mayor and Mayoress ashore at the Old Customs House after they had led a number of little ships up the River Orwell to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the evacuation of Dunkirk. These little ships were some of those involved in the evacuation. We also attended a reception in the evening.

Our Standard was again on parade at Martlesham Heath on 17 June for a Remembrance Service held by the Martlesham Heath Aviation Historical Society in memory of the Americans who were stationed at Martlesham Heath during the Second World War. Some of our members also attended.

We were very pleased to invite Mr David Gillingham and his friend Marie to our July meeting. When they arrived they were both dressed in military uniforms as worn during the war. David was kitted out with all the gear, rifle, bayonet and even a field dressing and was wearing a Suffolk Regiment cap badge. Marie was wearing the uni-

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form and badges of the ATS including the authentic shoulder bag. David and Marie had organised a sponsored walk from Armatians to Dunkirk which took place on 26 May. They were joined by about 20 other young people and we have great admiration for them not just because of the walk but because David and Marie, in particular, were very keen to experience what the war time soldier had to endure, marching with full pack at the time of the evacuation of Dunkirk.

The final news on offer is to alert interested branches that we are organising a buffet dance to be held at Ransomes Sports and Social Club, Sidegate Avenue, Ipswich on 23 Feb 91. Directions to this venue can be given if required.

Leiston & District Branch

Mr 'Smudger' Smith writes:-

As the end of the year draws within sight, the branch can report a very successful year maintaining a membership of around 60 members with a hard core attendance at our monthly meetings of around 20.

In May we held our annual buffet dance in our headquarters at the LTAA Club. This was the first event we have held in our new meeting place and although space was restricted, the full house enjoyed themselves immensely. The LTAA Club provided an excellent buffet whilst members again came up trumps with prizes for the draw to ensure that the event was not a financial loss. We were pleased to welcome members from Beccles and Felixstowe Branches and hope they enjoyed themselves.

In June, 29 members and wives enjoyed a day in north Norfolk, visiting the 'Muckleburgh Military Collection' at Weyborne - well worth a visit - and a stop off at Cromer, returning home along the coast route.

We had a full coach for the Minden Day trip which was again a most enjoyable day. Our thanks and congratulations to that small and hard working band based on the Bury Branch who are the main producers, under the guidance of Tim Slinn of this excellent day's entertainment. We had

a few new members attending their first Minden Day but I am sure it will not be their last.

I had hardly reached home from Minden Day when the telephone rang. The voice began with the usual 'Do you know who this is?' Then, 'You must remember me, we shared a bunk in West Lines, Bury in 1940'. Still baffled, the caller then revealed himself as Jack Flagg who was a sergeant instructor with me at the Depot during that early part of the War.

I had often inquired after Jack but no one seemed to know where he had gone to. Jack, of course, served in the 2nd Bn in India during the 1930's and many will remember him as the Regimental bus driver in those days. Others may have more vivid memories of his driving around Bury in his ancient Austin Seven with anything up to half a dozen packed in with him. Jack's present address is 190 Sproughton Road, Norwich (0603 486294). I have been unable to visit him yet but it is a treat still to come. Incidentally, Jack obtained my address through the B & C, a copy of which had been pushed through his letter box by an ex R Norfolk.

Thanks to our branch president, Capt John Perrett and his wife Jane, the branch were again able to organise a fund raising garden fete in the grounds of their lovely old farm house on August bank holiday Saturday. This attracted a good crowd who supported the many side shows, teas and the grand draw. As a result, branch funds received a handsome boost. Again we would like to thank members for their generosity towards the various stalls and, most of all to providing such a wonderful draw. The president commented that he had held similar events before when he had been left to do all the clearing up, but at this event not a branch member left until not one matchstick remained on the ground. That is Suffolk Regt training John - and, of course the double sentry posted on the exits helped.

On 6 Oct the branch held its first branch dinner. Again in the LTAA with limited space and being our first event of this kind, we agreed to restrict it to branch members only and set a ceiling of 70. The final attendance fig-

ure was 67, which was just about as many as the club staff could cope with. Our chief guest for the evening was Major and Mrs S G Flick. Sam, as he is known to his many friends, is well known in East Suffolk through his long established auctioneering business at Saxmundham. He was also very closely associated with the Regiment, being at one time commander of the Leiston TA Coy, and then served as 2IC of the 4th Bn during the Second World War when he became a POW in Singapore. Our thanks to the staff of the LTAA club for the excellent meal and to our treasurer, Wilf, who arranged the whole event and not forgetting Chris for his excellently produced menu cards.

This period has not been without its sadness, with the passing of two old comrades. On 26 Apr 90 Ken Harvey died quietly in his sleep. Ken was a pre-war Territorial in the Leiston Coy and was mobilised in 1939. In due course he found himself posted to 1st Cambs and became a POW in Singapore with that Bn. He died as he had lived, quietly and uncomplaining. The branch was well represented at the funeral at the packed Leiston cemetery War Memorial Chapel.

On 5 July ex-Pte C Keeley died in hospital aged 81. Charlie joined the Regiment in the early 1930's, but was discharged on medical grounds in 1936. The medical reasons for discharge must have been minor because the following year Charlie was back in uniform with the TA at Leiston. Mobilised in 1939 he transferred to the Army Catering Corps and served in North Africa. With the rebirth of the TA he was quickly back into uniform serving with his old Leiston coy as an ACC cook. A big man, in heart and body, Charlie was respected by all who knew him. The branch chairman and Eddie Strowger attended the funeral at Ipswich Crematorium.

Hemel Hempstead Branch

Mr R Picton writes:-

We are sorry to have to start on a sad note to say that John Mayhew died at home on the 27 July 90. He had been ill for a long time, in and out of

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Around the Branches

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hospital since he came back in 1953 from the Far East, having served with both the 2nd Bn and the 1st Bn. He was a good member to the Hemel Branch and we will all miss him.

On the 20 May, the branch went to Beccles for their Branch Standard Service and wish to thank Fred Taylor, his committee and branch for inviting us. It was a long way to go but we were happy to take part in such a memorable occasion.

On 15 July the Hemel Branch attended the Royal Anglian Regiment at Bassingbourn. It was a good day with good weather, the sun out all day, and the beer tent open all day. It was good to see all the old Regiments there in such numbers and with the bands of the 1st Bn and 3rd Bn playing so well. We are all looking forward to next year.

There was a good attendance from the branch at Bury St. Edmunds for Minden weekend - the two days that we all look forward to. We got to Bury about 1230 hrs for dinner in the Regimental Club and our thanks to Beryl Baker for the meal that she put on for us. In the evening we attended the Bury Branch dance.

We hope to have a branch outing in mid-August next year, but no date has yet been fixed. We did have one to Hastings. It was a good day, with the weather good as always when Mick Murphy arranges it.

The Hemel Branch is always working to help any Ex-Service Associations and on 27 Oct 90 there was a dance at the Pavilion at Hemel Hempstead in aid of SSAFA and RBL.

Stowmarket and District Branch

THE branch meetings held at the Stowmarket Royal British Legion Club on the last Wednesday in the month continue to be well attended and enjoyed. Numbers of members continue to grow and we are always on the lookout for ex-Suffolks who live in the area.

The main excitement in the last period was our trip to Normandy to visit the Hillman Memorial, other memorials and military cemeteries in the area. A 50 seater coach left

Stowmarket at the crack of dawn on 22 June and eventually arrived at the Open Hotel Cain rather later than expected - in fact too late to be met by the welcoming party from Colville Montgomery. The next day after we had visited Hillman, and laid a wreath, "Les amis de Suffolk Regiment" hosted us all for lunch and drinks together with a few speeches.

We were very well looked after and are now planning and looking forward to our next visit.

Our entertainment committee, led by Jerry Sibly should be congratulated for a very well organised trip. In addition to the Hillman visit, the branch attended the Royal Anglian Regiment reunion at Bassingbourn, Minden Day at Bury St. Edmunds, Colchester Tattoo and the mystery tour and barbecue.



THE branch goes into the second half of 1990 in good heart. Former members of the Regiment are emerging from their fox holes to once again join up. The Annual Memorial Service and Reunion at Ely in June proved this. There were more ex. Cambs Regt men on this march past than there had been for many years, whether it was the added attraction of the band of the 1st Battalion, Royal Anglian Regiment, or that the event had been better advertised throughout the region and in the national journals is not known, but it was grand to see many old friends again.

The service in Ely Cathedral was most impressive, with a wonderful sermon. Added to this was that all the hymns sung were the old favourites that everyone knew and at last the City of Ely Band sounded the Infantry Man's Reveille, so loved by the P B I early each morning. On the march past the years seemed to roll away as the old comrades marched past the saluting base, shoulders back, chests out and arms swinging - the pride in their old Regiment showing in their bearing.

So to the reunion tea, for which thanks must be expressed to Major Ken Starling, Nancy Slattery and all their helpers including the local Army Cadet Force detachment (you make a smashing cup of tea Nancy). All too soon the day was over. We enjoyed listening to all the old songs that we sang in other places so many years ago, bringing back memories of old pals who are no longer with us.

We can but hope that this service and reunion continues for many years to come. To stand and watch as our Branch Regimental Standard passes by, reminds us that we are still members of a fine Regiment. It may have passed away, but is still remembered

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Generosity appreciated

WE have received this letter from Lady Goodwin following the Dedication Service of the Memorial Window to Lt. Gen. Sir Richard Goodwin on 16 May 90:-

"On behalf of my three sons and myself, I would like to thank very much indeed all those kind people who so generously gave towards the cost of my husband's Memorial Window. We dedicated this at a lovely service in the Regimental Chapel in St. Mary's Church, Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday, 16 May 90.

To me it seemed a sad but also a happy occasion. The window is now always there to remind us all of Dick who so loved the Regiment and everyone in them, and who never forgot a name or a face or where he last met them.

I hope that, somehow, he knows what so many of his friends have helped to remember him by - I hope that those who were not able to be with us on the day will be able to see the window next time they are in Bury

Around the Branches

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through its Old Comrades Association.

The branch hosted a barbecue in July which was held at the Woolpack, North Street, Stanground, Peterborough. Our guests were members of Peterborough Branch of the Northamptonshire Regiment and the Royal Anglian Regiment Association. During the evening a presentation of a Royal Anglian Regiment badge plaque and a book of the history of the Cambridgeshire Regiment was made to Major Richard Hill TD, president of that association.

As the evening was warm, the barbecue was of course held in the grounds and the bar in the War Barn was very popular. This barbecue is proving to be very popular, being the second one to be held and it will be nice to see our friends from sister branches next year.

So on to our annual jumble stall on Peterborough market on 15 July. It meant an early start at 0700hrs to catch the early morning shoppers. At 0600hrs the rain came tumbling down (if there were 364 dry days in the year we would pick the odd wet day). However, we met and started setting up the stall at 0645 and commenced selling dead on 0700hrs.

Business was brisk and luck was on our side as the rain stopped at 1300hrs. We took £110 and thanks are due for this magnificent sum to Mrs Sylvia Matthews, Don Poole, Jimmy Carter, Major Bill Grogan (ret'd), Eddie Davis, Peter Hall and secretary Jess Matthews; and of course the good people of Peterborough who gave us great support.

Wednesday 12 Sept saw the 100th birthday of the oldest living Cambridgeshire, Ex-RQMS Tant Hillam of the 1st Bn, who has at last reached that great age. Much had been

planned to celebrate the old soldier's great day. Unfortunately Tant was taken ill and had to be taken to Fenland House from his flat at the Lindens.

Our branch and Wisbech branch had joined forces to try and get the band of the 5th Royal Anglians to play birthday music for the old gentleman, including marching songs from the First World War, plus the Regimental flag to fly from the flat pole of the Lindens. This all had to be cancelled, but Tant was visited by Lt Colonel Stallard, CO of the 5th Bn and other members of the Regiment.

He received gifts from the Whittlesey and Peterborough Branches, The Queen's telegram, The Secretary of State's telegram and a visit from the Mayor of Peterborough, Councillor Alf Sapey. One of the greatest gifts on his birthday was a card from his old friend Will Scarr (94) who also served on the 1st Bn in the First World War and who met him in March this year after 75 years.

The branch lost one of its founder members with the death of ex-CSM Jack Doughty of the Suffolk Regiment on 31 Aug. His presence at Bury on Minden Day will be missed, his advice on regimental matters was invaluable. He was a true son of the Suffolks and a good servant to both the Suffolks and Cambridgeshires.

The Annual Service of Remembrance and Reunion took place in Ely Cathedral, the Regimental Chapel and the Hayward Theatre respectively on 10 June. There was an unprecedented turn out as the association was honoured to have the salute taken by Major General J G A Pollard of the Royal Anglian Regiment, with the band of the 1st Bn Royal Anglians leading the parade from the 'fall-in' on Barton road to the cathedral, and reforming in the High Street after the

service for the march past which took place in the gallery. The focal point was the laying of wreaths in the Regimental Chapel, where the president spoke the solemn words of commemoration with a response by all present.

At the saluting base were the Mayor of Ely, Mr B M Ashton, the Patron Lt Col E L V Mapey OBE TD, and the President, Col W F Page MC, TD, while the address at the service was given by the senior Chaplain to the Forces, the Rev Tom Hiney MC, CF. The City of Ely Military Band accompanied the service.

At the Hayward Theatre there was a display of the Regimental Silver under the watchful eye of CSgt H Taylor. During the proceedings a presentation of a military statuette was made to Major General Pollard.

Deaths:

Ex-CSM Jack Doughty died in hospital on 31 Aug 90 aged 68 years. Jack will be remembered as a loyal member of the Regiment and a helper for many years at Minden Day.

Cpl Ken Harvey died peacefully in his sleep at his home at Leiston on Apr 26 90 aged 81 years. He was in the 2nd Bn and joined C Coy at Crewe Hall just before embarkation.

Mr Tant Hillam died on 10 Oct 90 at Fenland House, Peterborough. Mr Hillam had his 100th birthday this year (see elsewhere in this edition) and served in the 1st Bn in the First World War. He is believed to be the longest surviving Cambridgeshire ever. More details in the next edition.

Mr George Cyril Moate died at home on Thursday 20 Sept 90 aged 70 years. He served in the 2nd Bn during the Second World War and was a POW in the Far East, working on the Railway of Death.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE REGIMENT ASSOCIATIONS

FUTURE EVENTS

Event	Date	Day	Time	Location
Regimental Council	17 Mar 91	Sunday	1030 hrs	Cadet Centre
Officers Dinner	6 Apr 91	Saturday	1930 hrs for 2000 hrs	Cadet Centre, Waterbeach
Annual Service & Reunion	9 Jun 91	Sunday	1400 hrs	Ely

Sport on camera



The Regiment side that played Greshams. Back: Kulkarni, Huddlestone, Bold, Grounds, Brown, Parker, Mr Best. Front: Bouverie N, Davenport, Dixon, Hipkin, Bouverie R.

Regimental cricket enjoys best season

IT is a pleasure to report that the Regimental Cricket Club has recorded its most successful season to date; more matches were played than ever before (16), of which eight were won, two were drawn, and six lost. Home matches were shared between Colchester and Bassingbourn, and many thanks are due to the 1st and 3rd Battalions and to the Depot for their excellent and willing sponsorship.

Our second tour to Germany was a great success and much enjoyed by all who took part - more of that below.

Players were found from both past and present members of the Regiment as well as potential officers. This combination continues to prove to be a happy and successful one. There were some individual performances of a high order - notably Andy Latham's century at Marlingford, the first for the Regiment for some years; LCpl Kulkarni's a 7-85 against the Gentlemen of Suffolk, and Sergeant David Elliott's hat-trick against Haileybury.

Over the season Andy Latham, Graeme Bird, Guy Hipkin and Brian Davenport con-

tinued to score runs more or less consistently, and five wicket hauls were registered by Andy Latham (again), Edward Thorne, and Sergeant David Huddlestone. Martin Romilly excelled behind the stumps, and defended judiciously with the bat in moments of need. Last but not least, the record stands for the second and ninth wickets were both broken.

Next summer, the fixture list will be much as before, with some minor adjustments. Sadly, another tour to Berlin looks unlikely given the changing situation there. We are looking to tour in the West Country - possibly a week in early August.

For the Germany tour, the party consisted of five from UK and the balance from BAOR - some Poachers and two old friends, Simon Ward and Bernie Nuttall. The tour opened with a marvellous day at Sennelager, playing Brigadier Julian Browne's XI; good cricket, an exciting finish and most generous hospitality.

The second match, having dropped anchor with the 2nd Battalion in Celle, was against the Queens Royal Irish Hussars in

Hohne; both these matches were won, David Napier scoring a half century in each.

The entourage then travelled to Berlin, staying in Edinburgh House; there was time to shop, to visit the East, and to see what was left of the Wall. The two games against the GOC's IX were both lost, but not by any great margin.

One highlight was a splendid 50 from Sergeant Steve Neville in the second game, which included, according to him, the first six he had ever hit - must have been the Schultheiss! The cricket aside there was some serious World Cup viewing, Badger and Ali reminiscing in the bar, and cultural visits down town by the younger element. Their report has yet to be received and probably never will be; in all, a memorable time.

In conclusion, it is important to thank the match managers for all their hard work in getting teams together, and to all the players who responded so enthusiastically. Please remember that anyone who is in the Regiment, of whatever rank, or who has

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Sport on camera

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served, or who has any other connection, is welcome to play for the club (ties, caps and sweaters are available from RHQ).

A letter has been received by the fixtures secretary from Graham Duthoit, currently on a long tour in Lesotho, which records the fact that he is now an international cricketer, having captained the victorious Lesotho team against Switzerland. On that basis he claims an as yet unfulfilled right to bowl for the Regiment - it is amazing how effective underarm bowling has proved to be in southern Africa!

RESULTS 1990

29th April v Rugby School
Rugby School 158-8 dec (Duffosee 4-15);
The Regiment 159-7 (Latham 66*) **WON**

6th May v The Leys School
The Leys School 144-7 dec; The Regiment
147/- **WON**

13th May v Haileybury College
The Regiment 152-8 dec; Haileybury
College 137-6 **DRAWN**

20th May v Oundle School
The Regiment 192-6 dec (Bird 72, Hipkin
62); Oundle School 140 (Latham 4-45)
WON

27th May v Perse Pelicans
The Regiment 207 (Bird 68); Perse Pelicans
183 **WON**

3rd June v Harrow School
Harrow School 185-7 dec (Latham 5-35);
The Regiment 154-9 (Latham 83) **DRAWN**

17th June v Felsted School
Felsted School 183 (E Thorne 5-43); The
Regiment 184-7 (Pattinson 52) **WON**

24th June v Bancrofts School
Bancrofts School 134 (Huddleston 5-19);
The Regiment 135-7 (Bird 55) **WON**

25th June v Framlingham College
The Regiment 106 (Pattinson 53);
Framlingham College 110-3 **LOST**

26th June v Gentlemen of Suffolk
Gentlemen of Suffolk 223 (Kulkarni 7-85);
The Regiment 89 **LOST**

27th June v Greshams School
Greshams School 168-8 dec; The Regiment
156 **LOST**

22nd July v Edward Evans Lombes' XI
The Regiment 193-6 dec (Latham 109*);
Edward Evans Lombes XI 194-9
(Davenport 4-38) **LOST**

THE TOUR

3rd July v Commander 33 Arm'd Brig's XI
Commander 33 Arm'd Brig's XI 103; The
Regiment 104-8 (Napier 57) **WON**

4th July v Queens Royal Irish Hussars
Queens Royal Irish Hussars 104; The
Regiment 105-3 (Napier 56) **WON**

7th July v GOC Berlins XI
The Regiment 157; GOC Berlins XI 158-5
LOST

8th July v GOC Berlins XI
GOC Berlins XI 236-6; The Regiment 185
(Neville 54, D Cooper 68) **LOST**

PROVISIONAL FIXTURE LIST FOR 1991

Date Time	Opponents	Venue
Apr		
Sun 28 1400	Rugby	A
May		
Sun 5 1400	The Leys	A
Sun 12 1400	Haileybury	A
Sun 19 1400	Oundle	H
Sun 26 1400	Perse Pelicans	H
June		
Sun 2 1400	Harrow	H
Sun 9 1400	Felsted	H
Sun 16 1400	Uppingham	H
Sun 23 1400	Bancrofts	A
Mon 24 1130	Framlingham	H
Wed 26 1130	Greshams	A
July		
Sun 21 1130	EE Lombes XI	A
West Country Tour		
4-11 Aug		

Regimental Rugby Club achieves early success

THE Regimental Rugby Club has begun the 1990/91 season with considerable success. The Regimental side, based on players from the Vikings and Pompadours, gathered for two days' training prior to the Infantry 15-a-side competition on Sept 26.

Unfortunately, injuries and unavailability did not allow us to field our strongest side but a series of spirited performances

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Sport on camera



Left: The Regiment's forwards get pre-match orders. Right: Hooker Lt Nick Palmer who has since been capped by the Infantry.

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saw the Regiment reach the semi-finals losing 6-0 to the eventual winners. During the competition in a total of six matches the Regiment conceded only 12 points and had its line crossed only once - an enviable record and giving a clear indication of the improvements to our game.

The squad, some 25-strong were ably supported by the club president, Maj Gen A J G Pollard who presented colours after the games to CSgt Steve Prime and LCpl Bushy Barrs.

Since the competition the Infantry selectors have called forward no less than seven Royal Anglians to take part in infantry training. Indeed, five players have

been capped for the Infantry on a number of occasions, and most of these are expected to be called forward to the Army trials on 11 Dec.

In the meantime, planning for the club tour goes ahead for January 1991. Details of the tour will be promulgated shortly and you are all encouraged to take part and support the Regiment.

The following have been selected as members of the Infantry Squad 1990: LCpl Adrian Anema*; Lt Nick Palmer*; Pte Jim Green*; Pte Steve Tucker; Pte Chris Picton*; Capt Julian Pollard* and Cpl Simmo Simpson. (** infantry cap*)

The Infantry selectors have also shown great interest in two players who are club members but are ineligible to play Infantry

rugby - Capt Jim Bouboures (ex Long Look) and Sgt Ian Wilkins (RAPC) both of whom have made invaluable contributions to our club.

Finally we welcome Cfn Willy Wilcoxon to the club - joining the Vikings REME detachment. He is currently playing for the Army and Combined Services U21 and has been selected as a reserve for England U21. He should help shore up the Regiment's back division and help considerably as we begin to take on some of the bigger names in Army rugby.

If you are interested in participating in any capacity write to, or ring:- Capt J C D G Pollard, HQ 19 Infantry Brigade, Goojerat Barracks, Colchester, Essex. Tel: Colchester Mil 2729, or Civil 0206 782729..

Vikings return to sport with a vengeance

THE Vikings missed being able to play competitive sport in South Armagh and have returned to it with a vengeance. The ever-impressive Viking orienteers won the EDIST orienteering league and went on to come 5th in the Army Championships as the highest placed infantry team. Under the inspired leadership of CSgt Bonnet, who

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A Coy Athletics team, winners of the Inter-Company Trophy

Sport on camera

From Page 78

orienteers for the Army team, they then went on to win the Infantry Championship.

The Vikings have taken part in all the major sports played within Colchester Garrison, but a notable success has been in rugby and cross-country. Over half the Regimental Rugby team are Vikings and this team came third in the infantry championships at Warminster in September, conceding only 1 try (to the RRW) all day.

A promising young cross-country team has been put together, which so far has won the first three of the district league races and only needs to win two more to win the district league.

The team will be completing in the Army championships later this year and intend to reach the finals. Part of their training is to take part in local races around Colchester.

The battalion has not had time to put together fully trained athletics team this year. This is a shame as A Coy entered a scratch team into the EDIST athletics championships in June, who came second and qualified for the UKLF athletics semi-finals at Aldershot. The battalion went on to enter a team which came third missing out on qualifying for the Army finals on the last event, the 4x400m relay.

Golfing success

A VERY successful Regimental Golfing Society meeting was held at Flempton Golf Club on 14 Sept in the most ideal conditions; warm with no wind and the course as usual in excellent condition.

Twenty-six members competed for the prizes which were won as follows:- Medal - first W L Murton, runner-up M D Smith. Stableford handicap - first D Lock, runner-up Major J Perry. The afternoon foursomes was won by Lt Col H Moore, partnered by Major J Perry, on a count back from M Murton and W Thompson.

The traditional match versus the Flempton Golf Club took place on the fol-



Above: The Vikings orienteering team — the best in the Infantry in 1990. Below: B Coy track stewards with Linford Christie.



lowing day. The game swung in our favour in the afternoon and the Regiment was eventually the winner by six matches to four.

The success in our match against

Flempton was the second win in the year for the Regimental team which narrowly beat both the Queens and RRF teams in the Divisional Triangular Match at Bury St Edmunds.



NOVAL LB

The style is Vintage
but not the price



Sport on camera

Poachers athletes in fast lane

AFTER a missed season languishing on the streets of Belfast, Poachers athletics started afresh for the 1990 season. Sgt Powell, the team trainer, had a job on his hands with gaps created in the team due to postings and discharges.

In the 22nd Armoured Brigade championships the team came second by four points to 14 Sigs Regt (EW) (these placings will be reversed in the 1991 season), but this qualified the team for the 1 Armd Div championships which were held at Verden on 20 June. A solid performance by both the first and second strings in all events ensured a place in the BAOR finals by coming very close second to a much improved 1 Armd Div and Sigs Regt team.

We also beat 14 Sigs Regt by 23 points. LCpl Andrews set a new divisional record in the long jump with a leap of 6m 30cms. The 400m relay team also set a record with a time of 3.29.35. In the BAOR finals we were beaten into fifth place by one point but had the consolidation of beating the other



Capt Gosling leads the pack into the battalion athletics meeting.

infantry teams who were sixth and seventh.

The following members of the team were awarded Divisional Colours for representing 1 Armd Div in the BAOR Pentangular Meeting against 3 Div, 4 Div, RCZ and the RAF: Cpl Chauhan, LCpl Andrews, LCpl Hancock, LCpl Matthews, LCpl Wright, Pte Berridge, Pte Chew. A reasonable season's work for a much weakened team.

Cricket achievement

THE Poachers B and C HQ Coys each entered a team in the General's Cup, the 1st Armd Divs knock-out cricket competition. B and C Coys were knocked out early.

HQ Coy, however, went from strength to strength, only just losing to 1st Armd Div Sig Regt in the finals in a nail-biting finish.

Depot team wins Zone A finals

THE Depot Athletics team had a very successful season and was a clear winner of the Eastern District and Zone A finals held at Aldershot against those qualifying from Eastern District and London District. This qualified the team for the Army finals at Aldershot on 20 July.

It was an extremely hot day and with everyone gaining a personal best performance the Depot was beaten by three points into second place behind 9 Ordnance Bn RAOC for the second year running. The climax of the day was undoubtedly the 4 x 400m as the Depot quartet romped home, winning by 20 metres.

Notable performances by Royal Anglian Athletes were WO2 Haniver winning the 400m hurdles in his 40th year! Pte Churn gaining second place in the javelin



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The Depot athletics team — Edist champions, Zone A champions and Army finals

Sport

From Page 90



WO2 Haniver on his way to victory in the Army finals of the 400m hurdles.

with Sgt Jackson and Cpl Brown gaining valuable team points in the shot, discus and 5000m. WO2 Haniver was also in the 4 x 400m and Cpl Dunn was a member of the team in the qualifying rounds.

This was a tremendous performance by all members of the team. The results were achieved by total determination to win and the professional coaching ability of WO2 (QMSI) Butters, BEM.

Hockey: The hockey team eventually closed the season with an extremely satisfying win over Depot The Prince of Wales Division to capture the Infantry Cup in a keenly fought match of high quality. The Regiment was well represented and the team included Lt Lyne, CSgt Catton, Sgt Keegan, Sgt Atter, Cpl Dade and Cpl Winter. Hopes run high this year, as few of the team have moved on, and replacements like Capt Thurston threaten to arrive within our numbers.

Orienteering: The orienteering team followed its success in EDIST by gaining 5th place in the Army Minor Unit competition and 4th place in the Infantry Minor Unit championship, only 2 minutes behind the 2nd team.

The championship team included Maj Ross and Sgt Beagley with Maj Ross retaining the Infantry M40 title.

Births & Marriages

MARIAGES

VIKINGS:

LCpl Berry to Beverley Pollard on 4 Aug 90; **Pte Betts** to Lisa Gee on 28 Jul 90; **Pte Biddle** to Sammantha Brown on 11 Aug 90; **Pte Brocklesby** to Karen Senior on 7 Jul 90; **Pte Edwards** to Alison Eagling on 7 Jul 90; **Pte Ellis** to Karen Hale on 1 Sept 90; **Pte Fowler** to Kerry Dale on 4 Aug 90; **Pte Hampson** to Susanne Bennett on 17 Aug 90; **Cpl Kennedy** to Elizabeth Allen on 21 Jul 90; **CSgt Lay** to Lynda Jones on 21 Sept 90; **LCpl Powell** to Lucy Peddell on 7 Jul 90; **Pte Townly** to Lisa Rushmere on 21 Jul 90; **Pte Turner** to Victoria Savage on 25 Aug 90; **LCpl White** to Maria Costano on 14 Sept 90; **Cpl Surr** to Sally Salmon on 24 Aug 90; **Capt Gaskin** to Catherine Datmiller on 22 Sept 90.

POACHERS:

Cpl P Kirk to Melanie Bailey on 17 Apr 90; **CSgt J F Upsall** to Patricia Hill on 28 Apr 90; **Capt R W H Colgan** to Lucy Foster on 28 Apr 90; **Pte J S Boarder** to Emma Louise Weston on 26 May 90; **LCpl R E Morson** to Ruth Bonny Oakley on 26 May 90; **Pte K A Harness** to Martina Geffke on 17 June 90; **LCpl N Metcalf** to Stefanie Ebeling on 20 June 90; **Pte C F Brown** to Rachael Robinson on 21 July 90; **Cpl J A Limb** to Rachael Farnsworth on 28 July 90; **Cfn M Brown** to Sharon Rouse; **D G H Hunter** to Gabrielle Clarke on 11 Aug 90; **Pte Bagshaw** to Amanda Lloyd on 24 Aug 90; **LCpl N King** to Angelika Roloff on 25 Aug 90; **Pte Lawson** to Jane McKibbin on 26 Aug 90; **Pte P W Petty** to Karola Trommer on 27 Aug 90; **LCpl D A Grant** to Heike Labahn on 29 Aug 90; **LCpl W C Gregory** to Tara Ruttowski on 31 Aug 90; **Pte S R Bronsdon** to

Donna Thomson on 1 Sept 90; **Pte P Day** to Lorna Simmons on 8 Sept 90; **Pte W M Toon** to Jacqueline Johnson on 14 Sept 90; **LCpl C M Jolley** to Doris Muller on 28 Sept 90; **Maj G R Weighell** PARA to Lesley Hughes on 27 Oct 90.

POMPADOURS:

Cpl Harvey to Doreen on 4 Apr 90; **Cpl Essai** to Karen on 28 Apr 90; **Cpl Ryan** to Angela on 12 May 90; **Pte Wale** to Jacqueline on 21 Jul 90; **LCpl Sanham** to Sharon on 21 Jul 90; **Cpl Mutch** to Teresa on 11 Aug 90; **Cpl Markham** to Karen on 18 Aug 90; **Pte Stafferton** to Deborah on 18 Aug 90; **LCpl Clarke** to Debbie on 18 Aug 90; **Pte Goodman** to Helen on 25 Aug 90; **LCpl Gardiner** to Anna on 25 Aug 90; **LCpl Smith** to Tracy on 25 Aug 90; **LCpl Harris** to Alison on 25 Aug 90; **LCpl Winkle** to Annette on 25 Aug 90; **LCpl Gray** to Debra on 1 Sept 90; **Pte Dawson** to Dawn on 8 Sept 90.

DEPOT:

Lt R Latham to Samantha Beeson on 21 Apr 90.

BIRTHS

VIKINGS:

Pte and Mrs Betts a son, Curtis; **Pte and Mrs Evans** a daughter, Abigale; **Cpl and Mrs Howe** a son, Nathan; **Cpl and Mrs Lund** a son, Thomas; **Pte and Mrs Pierce** a son, Drew; **Cpl and Mrs Tate** a son, Alex.

POACHERS:

Pte and Mrs Horsley a son David Liam Francis; **Cpl and Mrs Slater** a son Matthew; **Pte and Mrs Nunley** a daughter, Alisha Jayne; **Cpl and Mrs Abreu** a son Peter John; **Pte and Mrs**

Continued Page 82

Births

From Page 81

Heeley a daughter, Maxine Jessica; **Cpl and Mrs Collins** a daughter, Natasha May; **Cpl and Mrs Scrimshaw** a daughter, Kelly Melissa; **LCpl and Mrs Brown** a son, Jamie Lea Kenneth; **Sgt and Mrs Doucet** a son, Ryan James; **LCpl and Mrs Clarke** a son, Lewis Michael John; **Cpl and Mrs Dunn** a son, Kyle Reice; **LCpl and Mrs Baitson** a daughter, Natalie; **LCpl and Mrs Evans** a son, Luke John; **LCpl and Mrs Thorpe** a son, Ashton Alexander; **Sgt and Mrs Britton** a daughter, Laura-Beth; **Pte and Mrs Knowles** a son, Marc Lee; **LCpl and Mrs Hemmings** a son, Michael James; **LCpl and Mrs Bratton** a daughter, Sarah Jane; **Sgt and Mrs Fox** a son, Lewis Paul; **LCpl and Mrs McMullan** a son, Christopher William; **Pte and Mrs Witcomb** a daughter, Charlene; **LCpl and Mrs Colyer** a son, Lee Mark; **LCpl and Mrs Colbourne** a son, Cody Ashely Michael; **LCpl and Mrs Auckland** a daughter, Kay Sara; **LCpl and Mrs Jackson** a daughter, Kirsty Louise; **Pte and Mrs Gibson** a son, Conor Aaron; **Pte and Mrs Petty** a daughter, Sarah-Anne; **Pte and Mrs Pitcher** a daughter, Cyndi Louise; **Pte and Mrs Harness** a son Julian Keith.

POMPADOURS:

LCpl and Mrs Appleton a son, Daniel; **Maj and Mrs Bacon** a daughter, Emma; **LCpl and Mrs Fullbrook** a son, Liam; **Cpl and Mrs Harvey** a son, Simon; **Sgt and Mrs Kiely** a daughter, Kelly; **Capt and Mrs Ladley** a daughter, Jennifer; **Sgt and Mrs Pearce** a daughter, Ashleigh.

DEPOT:

Cpl and Mrs Lamkin a daughter, Stefanie Louise; **Cpl and Mrs Chambers** a son, Leon; **Sgt and Mrs Couldridge** a daughter, Hayley.

Obituaries

Lt Gen Sir Reginald Denning

LIEUTENANT GENERAL Sir Reginald Denning, the first Colonel of the Regiment from 1964-66, died on 1 Jun 90.

Born in 1894, he had an upbringing that was strict and fair; his mother Clare was a lady of indomitable spirit, with a sensible and clear vision of what her children should be capable. Where he achieved as a soldier, two of his younger brothers became equally well-known - one, Tom, a Master of the Rolls, the youngest, Norman, a chief of naval intelligence. Another brother, Gordon, died of tuberculosis in 1918 and his much-loved elder brother Jack was killed serving in the Lincolnshire Regiment in France in 1916.

Denning's military career is remarkable for service in two world wars, and post 1945, during the difficult years for the army when lessening imperial responsibilities led to a marked decrease in British military strength. Aged 19, he joined the Westminster Rifles and served in the Bedfordshire Regiment in the 1914-18 war, where he was badly wounded in the head on the Somme and left for dead. He recovered and ended the war on the staff of Third Army.

Between the wars he served with the then amalgamated Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment as adjutant and in other regimental appointments; he saw service in India. It was in these formative years that he developed further a passionate love for his regiment and became, in turn, the Colonel of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, Colonel of the East Anglian Regiment and finally the first Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment, from 1964 to 1966.

During the 1939-45 war he served with 11 Corps as a colonel and then brigadier, helping to marshal the defences of south-east England at a time when political and economic restraints had left the country woefully unprepared for war. South-east England was considered the probable invasion point for German forces and its defence installations were under constant threat and air attack.

But the tide turned and General Denning subsequently did much to make ready for the D-Day landing in Normandy. Before the landing took place, however, he was sent to Burma as part of Lord Louis Mountbatten's staff and helped plan opera-

tions to recapture Malaya and Singapore. When the Japanese surrendered in Singapore, Major General Denning, as principal administrative officer for all Allied forces under Mountbatten's command, with General Browning, flanked Lord Louis at the ceremony.

On return to England he was appointed chief of staff Eastern Command and subsequently GOC Northern Ireland until he retired in 1952. He then became chairman of SSAFA, an appointment he held for 21 years. It was a matter of particular pride that he enjoyed the support of the Queen Mother, not only because of this appointment in a caring association but because Her Majesty was colonel-in-chief of the Royal Anglian Regiment while he was their colonel. General Denning was intensely proud to have conferred on him the KCVO, a gift in the Queen's remit.

Denning saw immense changes in his 95 years. As a junior officer he was brought up in the mud and morass of the 1914-18 war when air power was in its infancy, armoured warfare scarcely conceived and poorly utilised, and the battle - in Europe at least - a terrible pounding war of attrition and casualties. From this environment and the subsequent slower-paced inter-war years his next sight of action was within the totally different parameters of the 1939-45 war, where air power gave both massive fire and transport support and the fluidity and speed of operations called for flexibility of mind, imaginative flair and a scrupulous attention to detail. These attributes Reggie Denning had in full.

His upbringing, religiosity and moral fibre made him a daunting - indeed terrifying - man to work with. He suffered no fools at all and expected the same dedication to the task on hand that he himself applied to everything. He inspired respect at all times and the exactitude of his methods and his courage - both physical and moral - earned affection too. His firm but sympathetic handling of the formation of the Royal Anglian Regiment - the first large infantry regiment in the army - was a tour de force of the highest order.

Almost to the very last his mind maintained its sharpness and it was only six days before his death that he was chiding those responsible for Regimental affairs for failing to keep him informed.

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of General Denning was held at the Queen's

Continued Page 83

Obituaries

From Page 82

Chapel of The Savoy, The Strand, London on Thursday 26 July 90. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by Sir Martin Gilliat GCVO MBE. The Colonel of The Regiment, General Sir John Akehurst and Lady Akehurst were present as were many members of the Regiment and the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Association.

Captain Colin Hill

CAPTAIN Colin Hill died on 23 May 1990 at the St Helena Hospice in Colchester after a short, tragic illness.

Colin was born on 4 July 1948 in Ipswich, Suffolk and was educated there before enlisting in 1963 at the age of 15½ as a junior soldier. He joined the 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment in Celle, West Germany and almost immediately his quality and potential were recognised.

Colin, by his 35th birthday, had been appointed RSM of the 5 (V) Battalion The



Captain Colin Hill

Royal Anglian Regiment. He was subsequently commissioned on 19 Aug 1985 and had recently been appointed Quartermaster of the 1st Battalion.

During his service Colin served in many countries including West Germany, Cyprus, Kenya and Northern Ireland and visited many others whilst on exercise with the battalion. He was always a staunch supporter of the Vikings with whom he happily served with steadfastness, integrity and loyalty. Colin showed a great deal of sporting potential which was encouraged in the family especially with his two older boys of whom he was exceptionally proud.

During his busy and varied career he met and married Cathy in June 1976. They had four sons and Colin proved to be a devoted husband and father.

Colin will be remembered as a person who lived life to the full, a man of warmth and compassion and a first class leader and supporter. He was a good friend to many, both past and present members of the battalion and will be sorely missed. We send our deepest condolences to his wife Cathy and his four sons.

Colonel Benjamin James Palmer MBE

COL. Ben Palmer was born 27 Mar 1919 and was commissioned into the Essex Regiment in 1939. In 1940 he was an acting Captain and MTO of the 8th Battalion before becoming adjutant and then taking up Grade 3 Staff appointments at HQ 46 Division in UK and an Infantry Brigade in north west Europe.

At the end of the Second World War he joined the 1st Battalion in India and was then posted to Sandhurst as an instructor. He served in Korea and held other staff and regimental appointments before selection to command the Depot at Warley during the critical period of the amalgamation of the Essex Regiment with the Bedford and Hertfordshire Regiment.

His management of this exercise earned him a well deserved MBE. He was promoted to Lt Col to command the East Anglian Brigade Depot at Bury St. Edmunds in 1962. He was promoted to Colonel for a post with the MoD and retired in Mar 69.

For his second career, Ben became deeply involved in school teaching and was



Col Ben Palmer

appointed chairman of governors of the Royal Essex County Schools for maladjusted children. He was also county treasurer of SSAFA. Ben died in hospital after several months of illness stoically borne. He was always cheerful and completely unflappable and much loved by all who knew him. Our deepest condolences are extended to his wife Barbara, his son Brian and two grandchildren.

Deaths:

Major J T Dudley, R Leicester on 5 Nov 1990. John Dudley will be fondly remembered as the Regimental Secretary the Royal Leicestershire Regiment for 17 years. He was commissioned originally in the Royal Lincolns.

We regret to announce the death of the following:- **Capt (Hon Maj) C A Crane**, Leicestershire Regt., 21 Sept 89; **Lt (Hon Capt) H A Lake**, Essex Regt., 23 Dec 89; **Maj O W S Seton**, Royal Leicestershire Regt., 24 Feb 90; **Lt J Taylor**, Royal Norfolk, 28 Apr 90 and **Maj (QM) J Greasley**, Royal Leicesters, 9 Mar 90.

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SWEAT SHIRTS - Navy, white printed badge on left breast sizes 36", 38", 40" & 44"	£8.10 ea
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Navy, embroidered badge on left breast sizes sml., med. & lge.	£10.45
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SWEATER	£20.40
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T-SHIRTS	£3.05
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White, blue badge, sizes sml., med., lge.	£3.30
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Childs - 26" & 28"	£3.35
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Navy, white badge, sizes med. & lge.	£3.45
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XL	£3.45
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TEA TOWELS	£1.00
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TIES - Regimental R ANGLIAN	£4.70
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TIES - Past & Present Dinner Club	£3.55
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