



CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT





Editor : Lt Col T D A Veitch

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Front Cover: The Poachers exercise their Freedom of Watford. The Mayor, Councillor Sheila Rosser, inspects.

Rear Cover: The Tigers and The Poachers, Freedom of Hertford. General Salute.

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Elizabeth R
1995

*The Colonel - in - Chief, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth
The Queen Mother*



The Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon.



The Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester.

From the Colonel of the Regiment



General Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE ADC Gen, Colonel of The Royal Anglian Regiment

It is rare to have all four battalions of the Regiment active for any period of time in the United Kingdom - even the home base is often deserted as operational emergency tours are mounted. The period over the Summer and Winter of 1997 has seen our four battalions having the opportunity to work and play at home with something of an excuse to get to know one another. The Summer saw a number of Freedom marches with the Regiment being warmly welcomed in several of its cities and boroughs; the marching columns did us proud and were not only a tribute to the regular battalions for the work that went into the parades, but also to the territorial battalions who provided much of the essential administrative support.

In the Autumn, three of the battalions took part in a major 2nd Division exercise at Sennybridge; the 6th and 7th Battalions were players and the 1st Battalion provided all the administrative and training support. Rumour has it that, save an overseas exercise for the TA in the Caribbean, this was as good a Summer camp as any. What was particularly nice was that this was the first chance for the three battalions to work together in such a manner for many years - it was a precious coincidence of events for the Regiment.

Meanwhile, on the purely Regimental front, the Association Gathering, hosted at Oakington, was blessed with good weather and many turned out - it was, as ever, a moving sight to see the Old Comrades march with their heads held high and their dignity intact. By all accounts the Gatherings across the counties have been equally well attended and successful. The Princess Margaret visited the 1st Battalion on Minden Day at Oakington. Although the rain and the Royal Party arrived at the same time, by the end of the afternoon Her Royal Highness departed in high good humour, leaving the warm afterglow of a happy family visit in which the battalion and its old comrades had done their Deputy Colonel-in-Chief proud.

We await, with some trepidation, the outcome of the much heralded defence review. Not that we have anything more to fear as a Regiment than others, but somehow we all feel that, notwithstanding so thorough a recent series of overhauls, human nature is such that any review is bound to produce changes - no self respecting reviewer in the modern environment is likely to say "All's well - carry on!" Although there have been promises of transparency, we have not yet any idea of what the review may propose in terms of roles, tasks, structures and resources for the Services, let alone the Army. There is already much ill-informed speculation and the chances are that this will grow over the next few months. The fact is that everything is being looked at and no decisions have been taken; nor are they likely to be until the late Spring of next year. We should all remain focused on what we are doing and avoid being diverted by unsubstantiated rumour; more than anything, let us continue to recruit quality, project the right image and attend to the Regiment's health.



Colonel-in-Chief

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER

Deputy Colonels-in-Chief

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

Colonel of the Regiment

General Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE ADC Gen

Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment

The Reverend T B F Hiney MC

Deputy Colonels of the Regiment

1st and 6th(V) Battalions:

Brigadier J C B Sutherell CBE

2nd and 7th(V) Battalions:

Brigadier P P Rawlins MBE

Colonel NH Kelsey OBE TD

President of the Regimental Association

Major General Sir David Thorne KBE CVO

Deputy Honorary Colonels TA

Norfolk	Colonel P J S Child
Suffolk	Brigadier A J K Calder OBE
Cambridgeshire	Colonel P G R Horrell TD
Lincolnshire	Colonel R J M Drummond OBE
Leicestershire	Colonel J C D Higgs DL
Northamptonshire	Colonel F A H Swallow OBE
Bedfordshire	Colonel M Adkin
Hertfordshire	Colonel N G Halsey TD
Essex	Colonel R A Shervington TD

Alliances

Australia	The Royal Tasmania Regiment
Barbados	The Barbados Regiment
Belize	The Belize Defence Force
Bermuda	The Bermuda Regiment
Canada	Sherbrooke Hussars
	The Lincoln and Welland Regiment
	The Essex and Kent Scottish
	The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment
Gibraltar	The Gibraltar Regiment
Malaysia	1st Battalion The Royal Malay Regiment
New Zealand	3rd Battalion (Auckland {Countess of Ranfurly's Own} and Northland) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment
	5th Battalion The Frontier Force Regiment
Pakistan	First City Regiment
South Africa	Regiment de la Rey

Civic Honours

THE REGIMENT HAS BEEN GRANTED THE HONOUR OF THE FREEDOM OF:

Bedford, Boston, Brentwood, Bury St. Edmunds, Cambridge, Chelmsford,
Cleethorpes, Colchester, Dunstable, Ely, Grantham, Grimsby,
Grays and Thurrock, Hertford, Hinckley and Bosworth, Ilford, Ipswich,
King's Lynn, Leicester, Lincoln, Lowestoft, Luton, Newham, Northampton,
Norwich, Peterborough, Romford, Southend, Sudbury, Watford,
Wellingborough, Wisbech, Great Yarmouth, and the
The Colour of the Borough of Barking and Dagenham.
The 1st Battalion has a Bond of Friendship with HMS Norfolk

REGIMENTAL LOCATIONS

Regimental Headquarters:

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN
(Tel: 01284 752394 Fax: 752026/Colchester Military 5124)

Regimental Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel T D A Veitch

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major M Jones

Regimental Careers Officer: Major R C Gould

Area Office Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire

Britannia House TA Centre,
325 Aylsham Road, Norwich NR3 2AD
(Tel: 01603 400290)
Area Secretary: Major W H Reeve

Area Office Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex

Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Essex CM13 3BN
(Tel: 01277 213051)
Area Secretary: Major D J Thorogood

Area Office Leicestershire and Northamptonshire

Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton NN1 3RE
(Tel: 01604 35412)
Area Secretary: Colonel F A H Swallow OBE

Area Office Lincoln

Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY (Tel: 01522 525444)
Area Secretary: Captain D J Lee BEM

Regimental Information Team

Army Training Regiment, Basingbourn (Tel: 01763 242271)
WO2 MS Stimpson
WO2 M Ritchie

Regimental Museum

Imperial Museum, Duxford, Cambs CB2 4QR
(Tel: 01223 835000 Extn 313)
Regimental Attendant: Mr G A Boss

BATTALION LOCATIONS

1st Battalion,
Oakington Barracks,
Longstanton, Cambridge CB4 5EJ
(to Kenya 12 Feb - 28 Mar 98,
to Londonderry May 99)

Lieutenant Colonel R E Harrold OBE
(Lieutenant Colonel R J Kemp MBE, Jun 98)

2nd Battalion,
Battlesbury Barracks,
Warminster, Wilts BA12 OAZ
(to Cyprus- Alexandra Barracks, BFPO 58 Feb 98
Falklands Islands Company
Mar - July 99)

Lieutenant Colonel S L Porter

6th(V) Battalion,
TA Centre, Blenheim Camp, Newmarket Road,
Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3SW

Lieutenant Colonel H N D Gill (V)
(Maj D V Watson MBE PWRR, Oct 98)

7th(V) Battalion,
TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester LE4 6BY

Lieutenant Colonel P M Holme

Regimental Representatives

Army Training Regiment, Basingbourn: Lt DJ Howson
Infantry Training Centre, Catterick: Maj AW Price
RMA Sandhurst: Captain R L Gerrard-Wright

Honours and Awards

We congratulate the following on their awards during the past six months:

Maj RG Burns	MBE, Former Yugoslavia.
Sgt P Markham	QCVS, Northern Ireland
Cpl TR Newton	MID, Northern Ireland
Mrs Avril Inman, 7th Bn	C-in-C's Certificate of Commendation for Meritorious Service
SSgt N Skelton	LSGC(Mil), 29 Dec 96
Sgt G McGregor	LSGC(Mil), 23 Nov 96
Sgt M A Smith	LSGC(Mil), 28 Dec 96
Cpl C J Brownlie	LSGC(Mil), 4 Jan 97
WO2 M D Bessell(V)	1st Clasp to TEM
LCpl L F Smith(V)	1st Clasp to TEM
SSgt M Denyer(V)	TEM

Senior Officers' Appointments

The following are congratulated on assuming senior appointments:

General Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE as ADC Gen to HM The Queen
 Major General R E J Gerrard-Wright CB CBE as Deputy Lieutenant (DL) for Lincolnshire
 Col R M Brunt OBE as Comd 3 Inf Bde on promotion to Brig, 1 Dec 97
 Col A P Deed OBE as Comd 15(NE) Bde on promotion to Brig, 5 Jul 97
 Col J D Lacey OBE as Dep Comd 24 Bde, 4 Oct 97
 Lt Col P M Holme as CO the 7th Bn in succession to Lt Col J B C Prescott, 27 Apr 97.
 Lt Col R J Kemp MBE as CO 1st Bn, Jun 98
 Maj D V Watson MBE PWRR as CO 6th Bn, Oct 98

Regimental Appointments

The following are congratulated on their assuming senior Regimental appointments:

Lt Col (ACF) (Retd) W F Badcock MBE as President The Cambridgeshire Regiment OCA
 in succession to Col (Retd) W F Page MC TD, 5 Oct 97
 Col N H Kelsey OBE TD ADC as Dep Col of the Regiment (TA) in succession to Col D K Harris OBE TD DL, 5 Oct 97
 Col R J M Drummond OBE as Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Lincolnshire in succession to Col D K Harris OBE TD DL, 31 Mar 97.
 Col P J S Child as Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Norfolk in succession to Col P B D Long OBE, 31 Mar 97.
 Col F A H Swallow OBE as Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Northamptonshire in succession to Col P Worthy, 17 May 97.
 Col M Adkin as Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Bedfordshire in succession to Col T A Winton OBE, 1 Jul 97.
 Col R A Shervington TD as Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Essex in succession to Col R C Tomkins OBE TD DL, 31 Mar 97.

Promotions

Col A P Deed OBE	To Brig, 30 Jun 97	Capt J M Heap	To Maj, 30 Sep 97
Col D J Clements MBE	To Col, 30 Jun 97	Capt A C Marinos	To Maj, 30 Sep 97
Lt Col D S B Phipps	To Col, 30 Jun 97	Capt D McCrum	To Maj, 30 Sep 97
Maj J W Rollins MBE	To Lt Col, 30 Jun 97	Lt R G Atkinson(V)	To Capt, 1 Feb 97
Maj R J Kemp MBE	To Lt Col, 30 Jun 97	Lt P A Holton	To Capt, 13 Dec 96
Capt J H A Tusa(V)	To Maj, 1 May 97	Lt T D Smith	To Capt, 23 Jan 97
Capt S J Browne	To Maj, 30 Sep 97	Lt P A Taylor(V)	To Capt, 1 Jun 97
Capt S W Carter	To Maj, 30 Sep 97	2Lt C D Davies	To Lt, 16 Dec 97

Selected for Promotion

Maj P D Jones MBE psc, to Lt Col

Maj A J C Wild MBE psc (Aus), to Lt Col

Commissions

The Regiment welcomes the following newly commissioned officers:

2Lt M R Bowdler(V),	8 Apr 97
2Lt C J Conrad(V),	12 May 97
2Lt A F Hawley,	8 Aug 97, to 2nd Bn

Left the Army

The following are leaving, or have left, the Army:

Col ME Romilly, 31 Jan 98
Col T B Thomas OBE, 24 Dec 97
Lt Col J B C Prescott, 10 Jul 97
Maj W Burford MBE, 14 Oct 97

Capt R J Allen, 1 Sep 97
Capt JND Bowes, 1 Nov 97
Capt P J Lennon(V), 23 Jun 97
Capt S C Russell, 28 Aug 97

Capt G Toyn, 9 Dec 97
Capt H T Simpson, 15 Feb 98
Lt J D Hughes, 1 Jun 98

We wish them well for the future and hope to see them from time to time at Regimental functions.

Transfers

Lt Col J W Rollins MBE to Royal Irish Regt, 20 Nov 97
Capt M A Baker to Int Corps, 20 May 97
Lt D Johnston(V) from RAF, 18 Apr 97

Lt R G J Potter(V) from Para(V), 1 May 97
Lt R A Shaw(V) from Black Watch(V), 31 Mar 97
Lt P M Smith from RNZIR to 1st Bn, 13 Sep 97

Postings

RHQ has been told of the following postings:

Maj M J Beard, from 2nd Bn to Exch Fort Benning, USA, 17 Oct 97
Maj J A B Borthwick, from 2 RGJ to CATC Warminster, 1 Dec 97
Maj R A Cook, from AFSC(G) Staff Coll to 1st Bn, 13 Oct 97
Maj A Gosling, from HQ 8 Inf Bde to RCB, 19 Jan 98
Maj D J Gregory, from 2nd Bn to Ex LONG LOOK, 28 Apr 97,
and from Ex LONG LOOK to HQ AITO, 15 Dec 97
Maj G P Halewood, from 7th Bn to Resettlement Centre, Catterick,
3 Nov 97
Maj P D Jones, from 24 Airmobile Bde to MA CINC AFNOR
WEST, Jan 98
Maj R A Knox, from Dept of AG to DMO, 9 Jun 97
Maj R J Latham, from RCB to ITC Catterick, 12 Jan 98
Maj R W T Pattison, from RMCS Shrivenham to DGCIS, 26 Aug 97
Maj C J Pearce, from ATR Bassingbourn to Rhine Area Sup Unit,
26 Jan 98.
Maj M H Wenham, from RMA to 2nd Bn, 6 Oct 97
Maj W A Willmott, from 2nd Battalion to CMSC(G), 1 Dec 97.
Maj A M Wylie, from RMCS Shrivenham to DLSA DG LOG SP(A),
4 Aug 97
Capt P M Birch, from ITC Catterick to 1st Bn, 5 Jan 98
Capt A P R Bowman, from 1st Bn to ITC Catterick, 3 Sep 97
Capt S J R Browne, from 1st Bn to DMO, 25 Aug 97
Capt S W Carver, from MOD to 2nd Bn, 12 Nov 97
Capt I Couch, from 1st Bn to 6th Bn (as Adj), 27 Oct 97

Capt D A England, from NITW to BDS Washington, 28 Nov 97
Capt P A Holton, from ATR Bassingbourn to 2nd Bn, 25 Jul 97
Capt P L Leslie, from 2nd Bn to HQ 8 Inf Bde, 31 Aug 97
Capt G Morris, from Combined Arms Trg Centre to 7th Bn (as Adj),
3 Nov 97
Capt T E O'Driscoll, from 7 R IRISH to 1st Bn, 23 Sep 97
Capt E C Reynolds, from 2nd Bn to CATC, 15 Dec 97
Capt D J Ward, from 1st Bn to HQ Land, 10 Nov 97
Capt A Y Wong(V), from 7th Bn to 1st Bn, 10 Oct 97
Capt J C J Wright, from HQ 8 Inf Bde to RMCS Shrivenham, 5 Jan 98
Capt J A York, from 7th Bn to PJHQ(UK), 10 Nov 97
Lt N J Haden, from 2nd Bn to ITC Catterick, 15 Dec 97
Lt D J Howson, from 1st Bn to ATR Bassingbourn, 5 Aug 97
Lt J D Hughes, from ITC Catterick to 1 KORBR, 24 Oct 97.
Lt P M Lincoln(V), from 2RRF to 6th Bn, 1 Sep 97
Lt T B Mellor, from ATR Bassingbourn to 2nd Bn, 21 Jul 97
Lt E L Paden, from 1st Bn to ITC Catterick, 30 Mar 98
Lt J R Sparks PWRR, from 2RRF to 2nd Bn, 16 Sep 97.
Lt S C Worthy, from 2nd Bn to 7 R IRISH, 19 Sep 97
2Lt N D B Charwood, from 2nd Bn to ATR Bassingbourn, 29 Sep 97
2Lt J C Hay (AAC), from RMA to 1st Bn, 8 Sep 97
2Lt A J Winter (Int Corps), from HQ DISC to 1st Bn, 13 Oct 97

Staff Qualification (TA)

Maj A D Fairbanks Weston(V), Jan 97
Maj P Starcevic(V), Jan 97

Staff Qualification(Sq)

Maj S B Brunt, 1 Jan 97
Maj R H C Lucas, 1 Jan 97
Maj A J Wadman, 1 Jan 97

Promotion/Staff Exam

Capt I Couch	Staff Pass
Capt P S Leslie	Staff Pass
Capt R F L Lyne	Promotion Pass
Capt M A L Lyne	Promotion Pass

Selection for Staff Training

Maj A Gosling	RMCS, Dec 98
Maj R J Latham	RMCS, Dec 98
Capt S J R Browne	RMCS, Dec 98
Capt S W Carver	RMCS, Dec 98
Capt J M H Heap	Australia, Jan 99

Course Gradings

LCpl Bradley, R ANGLIAN, 158 (Royal Anglian) Regt RLC(V), is
congratulated on his 'A' Grade on the All Arms JNCO MT
Management Course at Def School of Tpt, Leconfield.

The following were awarded a Distinction at EPC 1:
Cpl R N Hall Cpl N B Lakey

Sports Achievements

2nd Battalion - Army Night Orienteering Championships 1997

Capt M B Dicker, Infantry Colours for Dinghy Sailing

Pte Hancock, 2nd Bn, Army Boxing Squad

Cpl I D Port and Cpl S R Palfrey, Members of the winning Army Team in the 97 Tri-Service London Triathlon Competition.

Cpl Port is also in the Army Swimming Team

Capt A D Grinonneau, Combined Services Cricket Colours (Scoring 126 on his debut v Duchess of Norfolk's XI)

Regimental Matters

Visit To 1st Battalion By Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret

The 1st Battalion and their guests were honoured by a visit by Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret to Oakington on Minden Day, 1 August 1997. It was a memorable day in spite of heavy rain during the morning's parade. After the visit the Colonel of the Regiment wrote:

"On behalf of the Regiment I am most grateful to Your Royal Highness for finding time to visit the 1st Battalion at Oakington last Friday. Your Royal Highness will be aware that such visits always bring great pleasure to Officers, Soldiers and families of the Battalion and this visit was no exception."

The Commanding Officer had wanted to have a family day, integrating the old comrades and the young members of the Regiment and Your Royal Highness' presence made the family complete. Everyone that Your Royal Highness met and spoke to was thrilled and will remember the day for a very long time. We are deeply indebted to Your Royal Highness and send our warmest thanks and most loyal greetings".

In response Princess Margaret's Private Secretary wrote:

"The Deputy Colonel-in-Chief has seen your letter and read it with much pleasure. Her Royal Highness very much enjoyed the time spent with you all, and was much touched by the warmth of the welcome she received during her visit to the Regiment".

New Deputy Colonel

Col D K Harris OBE TD DL handed over as Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, on completion of his 5 years appointment, to Col N H Kelsey OBE TD on 5 Oct 97. The Regiment thanks Col Harris for his work for the Regiment and hopes his knowledge and experience in Regimental matters will continue to be available in the future.

Col Kelsey is welcomed back into the Regiment which he first joined in Lincoln in the 5th Battalion in 1968. His TA Service later saw him commanding 4 Coy 5th Battalion in Hertford, on the staff of HQ 49 Brigade and CO of the 5th Battalion from 1987-90. His service since was with HQ 49 Brigade, HQ 54 Brigade, Sandhurst and Training Policy at Upavon. In civilian life he is a film-producer.

Regimental Consultation Meeting, 9 July 1997

A new meeting of senior members of the Regimental hierarchy, to provide the Colonel of the Regiment with views on a wide range of Regimental topics, and in turn to be kept up to date on developments, took place at Oakington on 9 July 1997. Most of the Chairmen of Former Regiment Associations, the Deputy Honorary Colonels TA and RHQ staff attended.



Front Row (left to right) Brig A F F H Robertson CBE, Maj Gen R E J Gerrard-Wright CB CBE DL, The Colonel of the Regiment, Lt Col R E Harrold OBE, Brig W C Deller OBE, Maj Gen A J G Pollard CB CBE, Col G C P Morgan DL, Maj Gen Sir David Thorne KBE CVO, Col P Worthy

Back Row (left to right) Lt Col T D A Veitch, Maj M Jones, Col M Adkin, Maj W H Reeve, Col R J M Drummond OBE, Col F A H Swallow OBE, Col R A Shervington TD, Lt Col P M Holme, Capt D J Lee BEM, Col J C D Heggs DL, Maj R C Gould

Regimental Matters

The Regimental Council

The Regimental Council and its responsibilities is an area that is little understood by many in the Regiment. Since its decisions affect how the Regiment operates an explanation of its work might be appreciated. More than that, those decisions that will have a significant bearing on serving and retired members of the Regiment will in future be explained in 'Castle'.

The Regimental Council is chaired by the Colonel of the Regiment. Council Members are the three Deputy Colonels, the four Commanding Officers, the President of the Regimental Association and the Regimental Secretary. In attendance are CO 158 (Royal Anglian) Regiment RLC(V), the Chairman of the Museum Trustees, the Chairman of the Regimental Investment Committee, Area Secretaries and the Assistant Regimental Secretary. There are other related Committees, such as for the Regimental Association and Benevolence, Funded Charities and Regimental Investment but these need not be explained further here.

The Regimental Council meets annually in November, usually at the Army and Navy Club in London. As we go to print it has been decided to hold a second meeting in May each year. This year's Council Meeting took place on 7 November. The Agenda for Council Meetings covers those subjects of Regimental coordination outside the Commanding Officers' 'management' of their Battalions. These subjects usually include recruiting, sports, dress (at enormous length), finance, the Museum, customs and traditions, Regimental events, properties and silver, the Regiment's relations with our Former Regiments, CCFs, ACFs and Allied Regiments and more.

The decisions of the Regimental Council are well known to those serving with Battalions but others are more difficult to keep informed. For this reason 'Castle' will in future publish an abbreviated list of major decisions with a short explanation. Unfortunately, the Council Meeting this year (on 7 November) coincides with production of the December 'Castle' and cannot therefore be reported until the next, June, edition.

One subject that will have been covered at the Council Meeting on 7 November, and that can be explained here, is the requirement for serving regular officers to pay an extra half day's pay, a measure necessary to cover silver insurance and repairs - while, at the same time, RHQ is selling some silver. The increase to 2 Days' Pay was ruled by the Regimental Council in November 1995 on the advice of COs that serving regular officers had widely agreed to retain the silver held in their trust and that they wished to pay for its maintenance in this way. Over recent years, Regimental silver holdings have been reviewed and a comprehensive programme of maintenance and repair completed - this has confirmed the need for this additional income to ensure the proper care of our Regimental inheritance into the future. It should also be said that serving regular senior NCOs also contribute £1 per head per month to this fund. The disposal of some silver resulted from this review of holdings when it was decided, as a last resort, to sell a limited amount of table silver that was found redundant or beyond economic repair.

One final word on the raising of additional funds for silver is this. The money from serving officers and senior NCOs goes towards the Regiment's Funded Charities, the source of funding of all Regimental (non MOD) activities. These funds are in increasing demand in support of the well-being, esprit and image of the Regiment - that is for Regimental sports, its publications, the TA Band, adventure training expeditions, presentations and visits. Our funds must be maintained at a level sufficient to pay for all these aspects, additional to silver, that contribute to the good of the Regiment and the quality of Regimental life.

RHQ Posts Vacant

Retired Officers of the Regiment are sought to fill the posts of Assistant Regimental Secretary (taking over from Major Mike Jones in July 1998) and Area Regimental Secretary at Warley (to take over from Major David Thorogood in April 1998). These are key Regimental posts that are ideal for someone interested in the well-being of the Regiment and the welfare of its members. Details of these important posts are available from RHQ.

Regimental Chapel, St Mary's Bury St Edmunds

Royal Anglian Regiment embroidered kneelers are still wanted for the Suffolk and Royal Anglian Regiment Chapel in St Mary's, Bury St Edmunds. The kits cost £29.45 and are available from RHQ. The Chapel Trustees thank the following for donating kneelers:

Lady Akehurst
The Misses and Mrs T D A Veitch

The Regimental Credit Card



A VISA credit card has been commissioned bearing the Regiment's name and cap-badge, blue in colour, for use by members of the Regimental Association (i.e. all serving and retired members of the Regiment). This exclusive card is being launched by MBNA International Bank Ltd, the world's second largest credit card lender.

There will be no annual fee for the card and no customer liability if it is lost or stolen. Application forms will shortly be sent by MBNA to every listed retired member of the Regiment and every serving member.

The card can be held in addition to any other card you hold and need not replace your present card. The Regiment will benefit financially from every application and from a percentage of each card's subsequent use.

**PLEASE SUPPORT
THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT CREDIT CARD.**

Regimental Matters

The Poulters and The Regiment

The Regiment has a special association with the Worshipful Company of Poulters, which we have enjoyed since 1986. At that time Sir Greville Spratt, Lord Mayor of London elect and Chairman of London TAVRA, offered the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, who was then General Sir John Akehurst, the award of a £500 Travelling Bursary annually to one of our Battalions in rotation for adventure training. This generous award is given to a selected expedition each year and the expedition leader briefs the Company on return. The most recent beneficiaries have been the 7th Battalion for climbing in Scotland and the 1st Battalion's expedition to Pakistan, reported elsewhere. This very close and highly valued association with the Poulters also takes the form of frequent social exchange and visits. The Worshipful Company of Poulters is a City Livery Company dating from the early 17th Century, which is closely involved in the food (largely fish and meat) industry in UK.

Entry to Regimental Museum

Members of the Regiment and Former Regiments are reminded that they and their families can obtain reduced entry charges to Duxford on production at the main gate of an ID card, Association Card or special card obtainable from Area Secretaries. The reduced price is £5.40 for adults, £3.70 for senior citizens and £2.70 for children under 16 years.

This enables entry not just to the Regimental Museum but to one of the finest air and land warfare museums in the UK.

THE 'STEELBACKS' LIVE ON

It was welcome news to hear that 158 (Royal Anglian) Regt RLC(V), the successors to our 5th Bn, have officially adopted the nickname 'Steelbacks'. The name was from the 5th Bn and from their predecessors

The Northamptonshire Regiment. The name originated from the reputation of the 58th Foot among Wellington's Army in the Peninsular War 1809-15 carrying "as little for flogging as for the Frenchman's steel". One recruit at Bidassoa in the Pyrenees in 1813, Private Richard Hovenden, avoided by his comrades for fainting after 20 lashes for brawling, tried to redeem himself and prove he was a true 'Steelback' by insulting the Colonel. He was imprisoned and sentenced to 150 lashes. Before punishment the French attacked. Hovenden escaped, joined the battle, saved the Colonel's life but was mortally wounded in the process. He returned to his cell and when the Colonel visited him to release him in recognition of his gallantry he had already died of his wounds.



Lt Col David Baylis (right) presents Major Richard Hill, President of The Northamptonshire Regiment's Peterborough Branch, with a RLC plaque in recognition of the new RLC(V) unit's assumption of the 'Steelback' nickname

Regimental Reunion, 20 July 1997

The Regimental Reunion took place at Oakington on 20 Jul, by kind permission of the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion and with enormous administrative support from the Battalion. The arrangements for the Drumhead Service, lunch and refreshments, and displays by the RIT, Museum and the Minden and TA Bands were immaculate, with thanks to all involved. The Reunion was attended by over 1200 members of The Regiment and Former Regiment Associations, some of whom had driven long distances to attend.

A traditional feature of the Reunion is the shooting competition for Association Branches run by the RIT. 7 teams entered with the following results:

1st	The Suffolk Regt Assoc, Bury St Edmunds Branch
2nd	The Royal Lincolnshire Regt Assoc, Lincoln Branch
3rd	The Suffolk Regt Assoc, Beccles Branch

Next year's Regimental Reunion will take place at Bassingbourn on Sunday 19 July 1998.

PLEASE GIVE THIS DATE AND VENUE WIDE PUBLICITY.

Past and Present Sergeants' Dinner Club

Senior NCOs leaving the Regiment, and those who have already left, are reminded of the Past and Present Sergeants' Dinner Club, which holds an Annual Dinner. The next Dinner will be in October 1998. Details of membership from WO2 (NRPS) B P Tunstall at the 6th Bn (01284 752396).

Eagle and Garter Dinner Club 5th Salamanca Dinner

Serving and retired former Officers and Senior Non Commissioned Officers of the 3rd Battalion gathered at the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, ATR Bassingbourn, on 26 July for the annual Salamanca Dinner.

80 of a total membership of 200 were present. The President, Brigadier C Groves, spoke passionately as he always does about those memorable times with the Pompadours. His trademark of standing on the table for his address was resisted this year, nevertheless his words were warmly received. Next year's Dinner is pencilled in for 25 July 1998. For those serving or retired officers and SNCOs who wish to join the Club the Secretary, Maj Bob Potter, can be contacted at the 6th Bn on 01284 754632.

Membership of The Army and Navy Club

The Wilkinson Bequest, offering two years free membership of the Army and Navy Club, has four vacancies from March 1998 for officers of the Regiment. Those interested should apply to RHQ in accordance with RSI Section 18.

Regimental Matters

Officers' Regimental Cocktail Party, 22 May 1997

The following attended the Officers' Regimental Cocktail Party at the Army and Navy Club on 22 May:

Maj Gen PPD Stone
Maj Gen Sir David Thorne
Brig & Mrs JCB Sutherell
Col & Mrs RJ Abbott
Col RM Brunt
Col CJ Dale
Col & Mrs MK Goldschmidt
Col & Mrs K Woodrow
Col & Mrs P Worthy
Col & Mrs FAH Swallow
Lt Col BHM Davenport
Lt Col & Mrs RJ Kemp
Lt Col & Mrs SL Porter

Lt Col TDA Veitch
Maj SPM Blyth
Maj DL Clarke
Maj BR Cornish and Miss Diana Ellis
Maj SD Etherington
Maj DJ Gregory
Maj DGH Hunter
Maj IW Jefferson
Maj P Nanson
Maj EEC Thorne
Maj AJC Wild
Maj W Willmott
Capt GT Corkery
Capt AG Grinonneau

Capt & Mrs RFL Lyne
Capt & Mrs CAS Mather
Capt EC Reynolds
Capt & Mrs SR Watson
Capt C Webster
Capt TR Wilkes
Lt IE Moran
Lt MB Walker
Lt S Worthy
2Lt CVD Davies
2Lt N Faint
2Lt N Haden
Mr & Mrs D Butcher, Poulterers
Mr & Mrs J Butcher, Poulterers

Diary Dates

January

15 Regimental Briefing, Warminster.

February

9-28

Mar 1st Battalion to Kenya.

10 Sobraon Day, 2nd Battalion.

10 Lord Mayor's Dinner, Leicester.

21 6th Battalion Officers' Dinner, Bury St Edmunds.

March

4th/5th Essex Regiment Officers' Dinner

April

4 Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association Dinner.

17 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club Cocktail Party, Army and Navy Club.

25 Almanza Day, 1st Battalion.

26 Almanza Day Commemoration Service, Norwich.

30 4th/5th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment Dinner, Millbank.

May

1 Northamptonshire Regiment Dinner, Millbank.

2 Cambridgeshire Regiment Officers' Dinner, Waterbeach.

13 Freedom of Ipswich

15 Freedom of Great Yarmouth

17 5th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment Dinner.

20 Freedom of Southens

26 Freedom of Peterborough (tbc)

29 Regiment Council Meeting

29 Regimental Cocktail Party, Army and Navy Club.

June

4 2nd/5th Essex Regimental Officers' Luncheon, Warley.

5 Royal Norfolk Regiment Officers' Dinner, Norwich.

6 Royal Norfolk Regiment Officers' Luncheon, Norwich.

6 Regimental Tennis Tournament for Sponsored Schools, Kimbolton.

7 Opening of 49 Division Memorial, Croxton.

14 Cambridgeshire Regiment Annual Service of Remembrance and Reunion, Ely.

17 Regimental Function for Suffolk, Haughley Park, Stowmarket.

20-21 Royal Tigers Weekend.

24 Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Officers' Luncheon, London.

24-25 Royal Norfolk Show.

25 Hindoostan Day, 2nd Battalion.

27 Dettingen Day, 1st Battalion.

28 Essex Regiment Reunion.

July

4-5 Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion, Northampton.

16 Peterborough Branch Northamptonshire Regiment Association Barbecue, Stanground.

18 Essex Regiment Association Annual Dinner and Dance.

19 Regimental Reunion, Bassingbourn.

22 Salamanca Day, 1st Battalion.

25 Salamanca Dinner, Oakington.

27 Talavera Day, 2nd Battalion.

August

1 Minden Day, 1st Battalion. Suffolk Regiment Officers' Dinner, Bury St Edmunds.

2 Suffolk Regiment Minden Day

Reunion, Bury St Edmunds.
13 Blenheim Day, 2nd Battalion.

September

Regiment Consultation Meeting, Oakington (date tbc)

1 Royal Anglian Regiment Foundation Day.

5-6 Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Association Reunion, Lincoln.

20 Cambridgeshire Regiment Association AGM, Ely.

24 Royal Norfolk Regiment Association Dinner, Norwich.

25 Royal Norfolk Regiment Association Commemoration Service, Norwich.

26 1st Battalion Royal Leicestershire Regiment Reunion, Leicester.

October

2 3rd Battalion Dinner Club Luncheon, Warley.

2-3 70th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion, Kettering.

17 Peterborough Branch Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion.

24 Poachers Reunion, Felixstowe.

November

6 Regimental Council Meeting. Regimental Dinner, Army and Navy Club.

15 Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association Reunion, Kempston.

27 Sortie Day, RHQ and 1st Battalion.

December

5 Royal Leicestershire Regiment Officers' Dinner Club Luncheon, Army and Navy Club..

Mainly About People

From the Padre

It's amazing that so many people remain hopeful and optimistic at the end of each year. Year by year we make New Year's Resolutions and wish that the next year may bring happiness.

Christians have an inbuilt reason for being optimistic. Very soon in the year we celebrate the centrepiece of our faith at Eastertide. In this sense, the symbol of our faith is not the cave or stable at Bethlehem; nor even the Cross. It is the empty tomb. So it has been for two millennia and so it will always be.

From the viewpoint of us in The Regimental Association, we see every reason why the Battalions should view the future with confidence. We hope that you share this view. During the Summer months we fortunately saw quite a lot of the 1st Battalion. In the case of the 2nd Battalion it will be in January next - not Warminster's brightest month, but Oakington and Bury St Edmunds and elsewhere in the many Territorial locations have reverberated to the marching of the bright peacekeepers in that area. Wherever your travels take you, may this continue to be the case in the future.

Everything in the Regiment's past should incline serving soldiers to be confident of the future. The Christian is armed with additional confidence, for he and she can relate to the Psalmist when he said: "Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord, my God, thou art great indeed".

Rev Tom Hiney



Major (Retd) Malcolm Taylor MC wrote to the Editor correcting the detail of an article in the last 'Castle'. Apologies are offered. He retired, of course, as a Major and served in the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, 2 E ANGLIAN and 2 R ANGLIAN. The Ramsgate, Republic of South Africa, postcode is 4285. He again invites members of the Regiment to contact him if visiting South Africa and would be particularly keen to see Col Christopher Dale and Simone to exchange tales of Malaya and Minden. He would advise visitors to avoid Johannesburg "like an Angolan minefield".

Capt Mike Wright, who served from 60-66 in 2 E ANGLIAN and 2 R ANGLIAN, wrote describing the adventure training school in Helmsedal, Norway, he is running (or would be if he had not slipped a disc).

Lieutenant Colonel H W Clark, who served with The Northamptonshire Regiment, 2 E ANGLIAN and 2 R ANGLIAN from 1946-77, wrote to comment on details of Royal Visits given in the last 'Castle'. His memories of events 35 years ago are quite correct and the list on page 58 of the last edition should be annotated with the following additions:

- 28 Apr 61 Princess Alice visited 2 E ANGLIAN at Watchet
- 19 Jun 61 HM The Queen visited 4th/5th Northamptonshire Regiment and 4th/6th R Lincolnshire Regiment at Stanford
- 28 Jul 64 Princess Alice had dinner with 2 E ANGLIAN Officers at the United Services Club
- 10 Aug 64 Princess Alice visited 2 E ANGLIAN at Felixstowe
- 22 Jun 65 It is probable that the Queen Mother's visit to Bury St Edmunds was cancelled

Major James Hart, when serving with 20 Armd Bde in Bosnia, wrote that during his IFOR to SFOR tour he met other Royal Anglians in theatre. Col John McColl OBE was the MND(SW) COS when 20 Armd Bde arrived. He was assisted by Maj Roland Ladley MBE, SO2 G3 Ops/O&D, and, on the Div O&D staff, was Capt Jon Heap. On the Div G4 side, Maj Rod Burns 7 R ANGLIAN provided continuity as his tour spanned part of the old HQ MND(SW) and the new MND(SW)(20 Armd). Capt David England arrived in Apr 97 as the Div Liaison Officer to the VRS Corps HQ.

Maj Alasdair Wild leaves the MOD in Feb 98 to assume the appointment of SO1(W) G3 Ops HQ 1(UK) Armd Div. He also raised £400 for charity in Sep by completing the inaugural London Triathlon (1500m swim, 40km cycle and 10km run) set in the spectacular surroundings of the London Docklands. Two other Poachers also successfully completed the course: Sgt Curtess (HQ 24 Airmob Bde) and Cpl Pulphrey (ATR Bassingbourn). Well done to all three!

WO1 C R G Duncan came into RHQ on retirement, having just handed over as RSM of the 6th Bn, to move on to employment as Supervisor of Fingringhoe Ranges. We wish him well (and watch your range discipline).

Capt Paul Denny, who retired from the Regt in 1990 having been QM of the 1st Bn, and is now Executive Officer with Suffolk ACF, has done the Regiment great credit with his appointment to Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Yeoman of the Guard as CSM. Capt/WO2 Denny reports that the Guard is the oldest Royal Body Guard and the oldest military Corps existing in this or any country, dating from Saxon and Norman times. Its duties nowadays include parading for State Visits,

Mainly About People

the State Opening of Parliament, Royal Weddings and Funerals and Coronations, and annual events such as investitures, diplomatic receptions, garden parties and Maundy Services. In all each Yeoman is called for duty about 8 times each year. Capt Denny says that the Yeoman are always looking for new recruits, who must be under 55, in possession of the LSGC, and with at least 22 years service. Members do not need to live in London.



Yeoman Denny

Editor. *The Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant of the Queen's Body Guard has written to the Colonel of the Regiment specifically stating that he would like to recruit more from the ranks into the Guard. Applications for membership to this proud and distinguished body should be made in accordance with QRs 1996 Annex H(J) to Chapter 9. The Queen's Inspection of the Guard at Buckingham Palace on 5 Jun 97 was attended, as Regimental Representative, by Brigadier P P Rawlins MBE.*

Major David Napier wrote from Bermuda, where he is serving with the Bermuda Regiment as Senior British Loan Service Officer, that "both Warrant Officers are doing well (WO2 Stollery and WO2 Davis), we have first had our FFR inspection and exercise, which went well, and we are planning for Recruit Camp in January and the overseas trip to Jamaica in April next year. I hope we will be having Royal Anglian support for both events".

WO2 M F Smith, who served with the 3rd Bn, with whom he was seriously wounded in Aden, and the 2nd Bn and retired in 1979 from Bassingbourn, rang to say that he had returned from living 18 years in Cyprus and now lives in Norfolk. In Cyprus he saw Major C H Groves, a fellow resident, and Brig W T Dodd who visited his own property from time to time. Mr Smith is keen to contact Regimental friends, who will find him at: Rallimount, Tumber Hill, Swaffham, Norfolk PE37 7PJ.

Major Brian Parsons, Essex Regiment, 3 E ANGLIAN and 3rd Battalion between 1950 - 68, writes from Australia where he is busy "helping redundant executives improve their future employment opportunities". He and his wife Denise are looking forward to a visit by Major General K Burch and his wife Sara next year.

Major John Raybould (V) TD visited RHQ after a short notice posting to Bosnia in late November as SO3 TA/Reserves if he manages to pass "the running and jumping tests". He will be responsible for the 800 or so TA and Reserve Officers deployed with SFOR (the Stabilisation Force).

Lt Guy Skingsley, 3rd Bn 1986 - 88, wrote from Stockholm. He seeks an East Anglian Officers' or ORs' cap-badge. He is also keen to locate his old platoon commander in B Company, Sgt Jim Cunningham, who he believes joined the Police Force.

The Regiment has sponsored **Mr Stuart Hanley**, previously of the 3rd Battalion, as an international athlete with BEWSA, the British Ex-Services Sporting Association. Mr Hanley served in Colchester, Germany and Canada between 1982-85 and was tragically paralysed from the waist down in a car accident after leaving the Army. He has distinguished himself as an athlete at the Paralympic Veterans of America Games in San Diego with Silver Medals



Mr Stuart Hanley competing in the javelin

at shot, discus, javelin and slalom and a Bronze at swimming. His record medal haul was more than any other British athlete. He wrote to say that he plays sledge ice-hockey, went to the 94 Winter Paralympics and has been selected for the 98 team in Japan. We congratulate him on his successes. Mr Hanley is unable to work but would be keen to contact friends from the Regiment. It is hoped we can get him to the Regimental Reunion next year. He lives at: 9 Brand End Road, Butterwick, Boston, Lincs.

Sgt Hall, who had been Bass Drummer with the 3 E ANGLIAN and 3 R ANGLIAN Band up to 1965, seeks a recording of the Berlin Tattoo of that year. Mr Hall can be contacted at: 6 Welbourn, Werrington, Peterborough, PE4 6NH.

Mr John ("Blondie") Goodfield, retired on 28 May 97 as cleaner for RHQ at The Keep, Bury St Edmunds, after 56 years' association with The Suffolk Regiment and the Regiment. Mr Goodfield enlisted into The Suffolk Regiment in Bury in 1941 and served with its 1st Bn in the Normandy Landings through to Bremen. From there he went to Egypt, Palestine and Greece.

In 1948 he joined The Essex Regiment but returned to the Depot at Bury in 1950. With the Suffolk Regiment he was posted to Wuppertal, Trieste and Cyprus, to Berlin with 1 E ANGLIAN and to Aden with 1 R ANGLIAN in 1964.

He left the Army in 1971 to work in the Post Office and returned to work at The Keep from 1984-1997. He says he plans to re-enlist, but this brief biography of long service (and much undetected crime) may have spoiled his chances. The Regiment thanks Mr Goodfield for his loyal and invaluable service. To mark his retirement Mr Goodfield was presented with a garden bench with inscribed plaque by his friends at RHQ.

Mr Goodfield and Lt Col ICR



Letters

From: Colonel M E Romilly OBE
CBDE Porton Down.

Dear Trevor

I really enjoyed the last edition of Castle and I am moved to put pen to paper for the next edition.

I retire from the Army in December, after 34 years immensely happy and rewarding years. I am probably the last serving Founder Member of the Regiment, having been on parade when the Regiment formed on 1 September 1964. I served with the 4th, 3rd and 2nd Battalions of our fine Regiment. I have no doubt that the Regiment is the best Line Regiment in the Army. We have a wonderful record over that 33 years and we can be rightly proud of our achievements. My only regret is that those two fine Battalions, the 4th and 3rd, and of course the 5th (Volunteer), no longer exist, except in spirit.

It will undoubtedly be very sad to leave, but I hand over the family tradition to my son Stephen, who is a Poacher. For myself, I will become a Defence Consultant in the New Year. This should keep me in touch with events and the Regiment.

God bless you all,

Martin

Editor's Note. In fact Col Romilly is not quite the last Founding Member. Others are Col Tom Thomas, who retires on 24 Dec 97, Col Tony Taylor, Lt Col John Ross, Maj Chris Kett and Col Robin Greenham. Also, in the TA, Maj David Norbury.

From: Brigadier General Earl E Arthurs MVO MBE
Commandant Belize Defence Force.
HQ BDF, Airport Camp, Ladyville, BELIZE

Trevor

I write to formally inform you that from 1 July 1997 I will be seconded to the Ministry of National Security in the capacity of Coordinator General for the Belize Department of Corrections.

It was a privilege, and indeed a pleasure, to have worked with you over the past few years. I take this opportunity to thank you for the tremendous and kind support which you afforded both myself and the Belize Defence force.

Whilst it was always my intention to retire from the Belize Defence Force in 1998, when this opportunity came with all the right conditions I accelerated my plans and accepted.

The formal handing over ceremony will occur on 7 February 1998, prior to which Colonel Robert Garcia (my current Deputy) will be acting in the capacity of Commandant. I am confident that he will maintain the same level of communications and trust and that you will be equally supportive to him and the Force.

Yours sincerely

Bob

From: Mrs C A Maxted
25 Water Lane, Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, WD4 8HP

Dear Sir

I wondered if you could help me. My brother, who has lived in Australia for the past 30 years, has asked me to try and contact two of his Army mates who served with him between 1962-64 in The 3rd East Anglian Regiment and the 3rd Battalion based in Bury St Edmunds. He served with them in Northern Ireland (Ballykinler) and in Germany (Berlin). Their names are LENNY LYONS (nickname The Nose) and DAVID (Smudger) SMITH, both came from the Dagenham area. My brother's name is BOB WHITE (nickname Chalky) and his Army Number was 23933736. He was medically discharged in 1965/66, I think. When he was in the Army his home address was in Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire.

Yours faithfully

Christine Maxted (nee White)

From: Mr Frank Flanagan,
351 Grimsby Road, Cleethorpes, Lincs

Dear Colonel Veitch

I would appreciate your answering a question that was put to me as far back as 1964. As a young man in the 2nd Battalion, on leave in London in uniform before leaving for Cyprus, I met a girl in the WRAC in King's Cross Buffet who asked me, seeing my collar-dogs, if I was in the Egyptian Army. Even today I still do not know the origin of the collar-dogs.

Yours sincerely

Frank Flanagan

Editor's Note. 30 years after the event I am happy to enlighten Mr Flanagan. The collar badge comprises a Sphinx, Egypt and Talavera. The Sphinx and Egypt originated from the award to the 10th North Lincolnshire Regiment in 1801 after the landings at Aboukir Bay and defeat of Napoleon's army in Egypt; Talavera was the celebrated victory by the 48th Northamptonshire Regiment in 1809.

From: Mr Lindsay Rooms
Oundle School, The Combined Cadet Force
New Street, Oundle, Peterborough, PE8 4EN

Major R C Gould
Regimental Careers Officer

Dear Dick

Thank you very much for putting us in touch with Captain Calder and the 1st Bn with our request for help with our field-weekend in September. Corporal Darren Fay of 1 Platoon A Coy was detailed to join our Adventure Training Section in the Lake District. He joined us in Oundle on Saturday and travelled in the coach with us. He was an exceptionally nice young man who adjusted well to our needs and had a close rapport with our Cadets.

Letters

I believe he enjoyed the experience and has expressed a wish to join us again if the opportunity should arise. As you know we are always keen for qualified military personnel to join us for camps, etc., and we would be delighted if he could join us in the future.

I will write to Captain Calder and to Corporal Fay's Company Commander to thank them personally for allowing him to be absent from his military duties and to give them the dates for our Summer Term Field Week-End.

Your cooperation and continuing support is greatly appreciated.

Yours,

Lindsay

Editor's Note. A nice letter and an example of many that the Regiment receives for the much appreciated support the Bns and the RIT give Schools and ACF detachments.

From: Elizabeth Baily,
Camberley, Surrey

Dear Colonel Veitch

Thank you very much for the most generous donation of £500 which you arranged for my father's Regiment to give me to go towards my electric wheelchair. It was most kind of you to give me so much and I am most grateful for your donation.

I now have my wheelchair which has made such a difference to me. I really love it because it has special facilities which allow me to move different parts of the seat. It also has extra bonuses such as lights, blinkers and a very loud horn! It can go extremely high, so that I am almost as tall as my brother. It makes him very surprised to confront me suddenly at his eye level.



Elizabeth Baily.

I am so relieved to have a chair that can go as fast as my sister's; we now have races without me getting left behind, and we can go on long family walks without having to worry about pushing home chairs with flat batteries. It can go for 25 miles before it runs out.

Thank you again. Without your help I could not have got my chair so quickly.

Yours

Elizabeth

Editor's Note. The above charming letter was sent by Elizabeth Baily, daughter of Col Dan Baily, in response to the Regiment's donating towards her electric wheelchair. We are delighted to know that our support is so much appreciated.

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The Vikings

Since the last edition of Castle magazine the Vikings have started to settle back into Oakington Barracks and a very fast pace of life as the only regular Battalion in 49(E) Bde.

After the Battalion's return from Belfast on 13 May 97 and post tour leave the Vikings have been extremely busy. The diversity of tasks has been considerable with the Battalion shifting the main effort from recruiting and Freedom Parades to preparation for TESEX. Throughout this time the Vikings have also been supporting 49(E) Bde and 2 Div in a number of tasks, with Ex EASTERN HARRIER being the main event involving all departments. Cadres have been numerous as the change from the Northern Ireland ORBAT back to the conventional role has taken place. The Battalion looks forward to TESEX and Ex GRAND PRIX in Kenya early in 1988.

Freedom Parades

The first task that faced the Battalion after leave could hardly have been further removed from operations in West Belfast. As part of the recruiting programme and in order to reaffirm the Battalion's county links a number of Freedom Parades were carried out during July. The first of these was at Bury St Edmunds on 5 July in the presence of the Lord Mayor and General Sir Michael Walker. After forming up in the Abbey Gardens the Battalion, in the form of two Guards furnished from B and D Companies and the Colour Party, exercised the Freedom of the Town finishing with a church service and the laying up of the old Queen's Colour. After the service a reception was held for a number of the parade personalities whilst the remainder were kindly hosted by 6 R ANGLIAN at the TA Centre.

The second parade took place in Cambridge on 11 July with Guards again from B and D Companies under Maj Simon Andrews and Maj Tony Marinos. It proved to be a very warm day and Cambridge was overflowing with tourists which, when combined with the many traffic calming measures, made for some interesting drill movements. The parade was in the presence of the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire and Brigadier JCB Sutherell.

16 July saw the next parade at King's Lynn with Guards provided by A and C Companies under Capt Freddie Grounds and Maj Dennis Vincent. The final Freedom Parade took place in Chelmsford on 18 July and despite poor weather had perhaps the best turn out of spectators. After the parade and reception the Minden Band and the Drums

Platoon went on to the Essex Regt Museum in order to beat the retreat.

Throughout the duration of the Freedom Parades, a KAPE tour was in action under Lt Powell and sponsored by C Coy. This tour worked with the parades in each of the locations providing information to those whose curiosity had been aroused by the Battalion presence.

Minden Day

By Minden Day, 1 August, the Freedom Parades had ensured that drill was in the forefront of most peoples' minds if only to the extent of wondering how many variations of timing the officers could manage with their sword drill! Preparations were fast and furious and rehearsals continued in warm weather and brilliant sunshine. The rehearsals also gave the opportunity for General Sir

WO2 Cooper in fancy dress for Minden Day aerobics - the picture he hoped would never be published.



The Commanding Officer presenting Minden Roses to HQ Coy



Vikings

Michael Walker to present a number of LSGC medals. The parade was held on the Battalion's sports pitches so the hope was for dry weather. The morning was overcast but dry as the Drums Platoon gave the Commanding Officer an enthusiastic early morning call before waking the rest of the Battalion in their own particular style. Gunfire was served to the soldiers before a spot of early morning fancy dress aerobics and then men retired to their respective Messes for breakfast. After breakfast Minden Roses were presented and final preparations were made for the parade. As the Battalion marched on the rain started to fall as a light drizzle

but despite this the parade passed off well without the feared quagmire developing. The presence of our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret made this a particularly memorable day for all involved.

Following the parade Her Royal Highness visited the WOs' and Sgts' Mess before having lunch in the Officers' Mess. Before leaving Princess Margaret spent some time at the fete by which time the weather had fortunately taken a turn for the better. The evening saw an All Ranks Dance which proved a lively end to the day.



General Sir Michael Walker presenting the LSGC medal to CSgt Skelton when visiting the rehearsals.



The Coy Guards form up



HRH The Princess Margaret prepares to inspect the Battalion.



"They never said Ex Long Look would involve drill." Sgt Baker joins in the Minden Day Parade



Drums Platoon display.



The CO leads the Battalion March Past



CSgts Jones and Marsh, Escorts to the Colours.



B Coy march past.

Ex Eastern Harrier

The largest commitment for the Battalion during this period has been the support of the 2 Div Concentration at Sennybridge, the largest post war gathering of Territorial Army troops. The entire Battalion was involved from the QM's Department to the rifle companies providing enemy for the second phase and the Signal Platoon making up the bulk of Divisional Headquarters!

The first phase of the exercise was a live firing package, Ex FIRESTORM, working from low level skills up to Battalion attacks with support weapons. Adding to the concern of safety staff was a contingent from the Czech Army who used their own weapons on the ranges. Luckily 'STOP!' is easily translated. Capt Grounds had the task of organising and running the range package, which proved to be a nerve wracking job, but by the end of the phase everyone who took part expressed their thanks to the range staff for a job well done.

The second phase involved B and C Companies providing enemy for a Fighting in Woods and Forests scenario and a Fighting in Built Up Areas package. Despite a few suspicious plain clothes reces by unnamed commanders the battles were demanding for all involved as Maj 'they'll never take me alive' Dennis Vincent ensured every metre was well contested! We particularly welcomed the opportunity to work alongside (and at times against) the 6th and 7th Battalions. The exercise had a very strong Regimental flavour and for many it was the first time that they had seen the TA in action and a new respect was found for our sister Battalions.

Other Activities

The Battalion has provided assistance in a number of other areas, the most management intensive of these being C Company acting as CivPop for NITAT and 1 PWRR throughout October. During this time no opportunity was wasted and an attempt was made to ensure that training continued whenever possible. Cpl Carter even managed to run an RRU cadre between serials!

The Cambrian Patrol Competition also demanded a considerable amount of support with B Company providing the

manpower with elements of the Signal Platoon, Mortar Platoon and the Quartermaster's Department. At the time of writing the Company was in the early stages of deploying to rural Wales and the shock of being based in a floorless ACF hut was still fresh.

The Mortar Platoon has also worked with the Royal Artillery and were attached as exercising troops for Ex EASTERN HARRIER. The main event for the Mortar Platoon has been the Mortar Concentration.

Training

Despite a packed programme the Battalion has concentrated on progressive training building up to TESEX. Fitness training has increased in all departments and the re-introduction of the Commanding Officer's Fun Run on Friday has seen a general improvement in levels of fitness. Routine training has continued as companies are now allocat-

ed training weeks when they are untouched by guards and duties and this has allowed training to take place undisturbed out of camp in a variety of areas.

A number of cadres have been run since the return from Belfast including Regular Radio Users, Sniper and PNCO, all of which have produced some good results and have improved the overall standard of a large number of soldiers.

Prior to TESEX the command structure benefitted greatly from a visit to BBGT(B), which was a valuable chance for the Battle Group Headquarters to develop ideas and an efficient working practice. As this was the first major look at conventional operations since the Battalion's return it proved to be a highly useful reintroduction. The Commanding Officer's discussion group served as an open forum for a pool of varied experience from which the Battle Group's methods of operation could be developed and attempts made to understand all the terminology that has been introduced with new doctrine.

The PNCO Cadre are put through their paces on the Assault Course



Adventure Training

A number of expeditions have taken place and all departments have been able to spend some time adventure training at either Leek or Capel Curig Camp. The basic activities of rock climbing, hill walking, canoeing and mountain biking were all available and some more adventurous groups even tried their hand at quad bike racing. The package was a welcome change of pace and a good chance for platoons to let their hair down and relax. Some strenuous activities combined with the attractions of some of the Welsh coastal towns meant that almost everyone had a good time. Bridge-jumping into icy cold streams is an activity which one platoon is not keen to repeat, especially in the early hours of the morning.

The two major expeditions were the Pakistan trip and, though not true adventure training, the HMS Norfolk visit, which are both detailed elsewhere.

SPORT

Wednesday afternoons have been largely dedicated to sport despite the busy programme and this has resulted in some enjoyable matches and good results. Inter Company matches have taken place for cricket, rugby, football and hockey.

The Vikings Inter Company Hockey Competition

As part of the Battalion drive to play and win sports competitions this Winter season, the Vikings Inter-Company Hockey Competition was played on 1 October. The primary aim of such competitions is enjoyment for all taking part, but with the 2nd Division Hockey Cup, The Infantry Cup and The Army Cup all on the horizon, the team selectors were observing the play carefully for young and the slightly more mature hockey talent in the Battalion.

The competition was played indoors on a pitch marked on the floor of one of the Company hangars at Oakington Barracks. The smooth pitch surface made play very fast and at times a little furious. The 7 man Company teams all played each other in a mini league with matches lasting just 14 minutes.

All the games were close and by the afternoon playoffs no single team stood out as the likely winners. Both the Semi-Final matches were decided by penalty shoot-outs leaving C (Essex) Company and D (Cambridgeshire) Company to face each other in the Final. By the final whistle blast the score remained 0-0 and the two teams prepared for the nail biting penalty shoot out which would decide the winners of the Hockey Cup.

With all the drama associated with Euro 96, D Company emerged as the winners of the competition. The Commanding Officer presented medals to the runners up and handed the Inter Company Hockey Cup to the D Company Team Captain, Cpl Chamberlain.

The day was a great success. It was enjoyable, physically demanding and demonstrated that the Vikings have a good number of high quality hockey players of all ages. All the players conducted themselves in the best traditions of the sport and we look forward to the start of the 2nd Division Hockey Competition with high hopes of victory.

Cricket

Due to the NI Tour and leave, Vikings Cricket this year was restricted to an Inter Company Competition and entry to the Infantry Cup. The first hurdle was to identify cricketers and a closely fought Inter Company Competition achieved just that. Run on a league basis the competition went down to the last game between A and HQ Company. HQ Company proved too strong and ran out winners by 10 runs to win the competition with Pte Barker (A Company) winning Most Improved Cricketer.

Having identified a squad of 17 players, the Battalion played 1 PWRR (winners for the last 4 years) in the Quarter-Final of the Infantry Cup. Losing the toss the Vikings batted first and made a very creditable 151-9 against a strong team. However, after a good start with the ball 1 PWRR were 0-1, when their batsmen took control and passed our score losing only three wickets in the meantime. 1 PWRR ran out winners by 7 wickets. It is pleasing to say that against strong opposition the Vikings were not disgraced and the grounding is now set for a good season next year.

Rugby

Since returning from Northern Ireland, the Battalion Rugby Club have been training in earnest, under the watchful eye of the newly self appointed 'Director of Rugby', WO2 Cooper. There is no Infantry Cup this season, and because of the recent tour to Belfast we did not qualify for the Army Cup, so the season will be based around a number of so-called 'friendly' fixtures.

The start of the season has been dominated by the Inter Company Competition, which has proved to be a huge success, with plenty of hard fought and close matches, a number of minor injuries and the discovery of a wealth of new talent. The final was between D (Support) Company and C Company, which turned out to be an epic encounter, but sadly this was not reflected in a score-line of 56-7. C Company played with great determination and pride, but at the end of the day were unable to cope with the size of the opposition pack, especially their No 8, Cpl Patten who played outstandingly. D Company, who were extremely well drilled, were worthy champions. The Most Improved Player award for the competition went to the D Company full-back, Pte Huggett, who was most impressive throughout.

There have been a couple of successes at representative level from Battalion players already this season. Capt Grounds and Pte Barker have been capped for the Infantry and Pte Barker has been capped by the Army Under-19 Team.

C and D Coys battle for the ball during the Inter Coy Rugby.



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The Poachers continue to set the standards and help train the rest of the Army. Our usual round of commitments has been interlaced with some worthwhile individual sub-unit training. However it's not all work at the CATC BG and we have managed to fit in quite a bit of play too.

At the time of writing the Battalion is busy starting its training for its deployment to Cyprus in early 1998. Although to some it may be regarded solely as a "sunshine posting" to The Poachers there is a very serious and worthwhile mission in Cyprus which will offer us a new challenge. There will also be unrivalled chances for sports and adventure training. We intend to make the most of them.

Not being content with helping to train the rest of the UK based Regular Army The Poachers have also been forging greater links with our TA counterparts and the local community. This has been achieved in the case of the TA with a series of training weekends put together by the Demonstration Office. The local community have been "Poached" with a number of appearances at local events, festivals and galas as well as laying on day trips to the Bn for local children.

The Bn has enjoyed its time in Warminster and feel it has made a real contribution to the training of the rest of the Field Army whilst maintaining its own high standards. It would be a lie to say that we weren't looking forward to our next deployment - Ayos Nikolias beckons. At least we will move firm in the knowledge that we as the CATC BG quit while we were ahead.

Major Roland Ladley MBE writes:

Phphphphphphphphphphphphphphphphphph.....BANG!%****.....shhhhhhhhhdong.....CRACK!!%&.....
 "Hullo Zero this is Mike One Zero Alpha. Contact. Wait out".....

Battlesbury Bowl has always been the Army's greatest amphitheatre. For decades, come rain or shine, thousands of military men and women, civil servants, politicians, dignitaries, arms manufacturers, cadets and even school children have sat on the side of Battlesbury Hill and watched the Demonstration Battalion (plus supporting cast) show off the British Army's (and recently RAF) weapon systems. The cast has always been impressive: Chieftain, Challenger, Warrior, Abbot, AS90, Tornado, Harrier and a vast number of less noisy but equally striking weapons. The louder the bang, especially at the target end, the more the audience liked it. As a member of that audience at least three times since 1980 I remember in particular, at the end of one such performance, a number of us clapping. The Bridge Too Far was good, but you can't beat the real thing.

So when it came for me to become the director of this wonderful piece of theatre I suddenly found myself looking at the show critically. The WED's sponsors, the Junior Division of the Staff College (AJD), had wanted something more, something that showed the weapons doing more than just firing. The CO and I, having watched the faultless May performance, both agreed that we could do something with the old WED - what it needed was a plot. With a plot we could have characters, special effects and good old pantomime suspense. This was theatre!

Right, where do I start? Live firing is a complicated and dangerous occupation. The old WED worked the live-firing templates of the bowl to the limit. Movement would need very careful orchestration, extra rehearsals and very confident soldiers. The opening scene and the finale needed to be momentous; the bit in the middle would still be required to display the weapons, show their characteristics and capabilities, whilst retaining the plot and keeping the audience's interest. We needed a worthwhile enemy. We wanted more bangs, more fire and more smoke. We wanted to get away from the script, introduce the characters in the vehicles, broadcast radio traffic and live fire control orders; yes that's it. This was going to be bigger than Ben Hur.

Ah we still need a plot.

So the plot was devised and approved: enemy attack, enemy get close, enemy repelled and finally enemy defeated. The script, which included authentic radio traffic and fire control orders from inside the firing vehicles, was drafted and agreed. The scenery was enhanced: vehicles were dug in and camouflaged, minefields laid, dummy exploding enemy vehicles designed and built and the range cleared of unwanted hulks. The Small Arms School Corps approved the new live firing plans. The new WED was written, but as yet unrehearsed.

The rehearsals were inevitably tense and not without incident. Changes were made as the black and white script threw up all sorts of unwanted true-colour idiosyncrasies. By the day of the dress rehearsal the cast were confident and relaxed. The director, on the other hand, was fretting. The rehearsal, thankfully, was a success, although inevitably with 'bangs' some things did not go off as planned - the attack on one of the Challengers, which was meant to be hit with a flash and some smoke, confused the audience as the Engineer's explosive charge blew the smoke generator 40 foot in the air.

The opening night. The scene setter was the RAF attacking target Yankee - for once they were magnificent, firing over the head of the audience into the spu opposite. The enemy artillery bombardment shook the stand and the detonating enemy 432 exploded to everyone's delight. Our defences opened up, the Challengers fired even louder than usual at the red hard targets and the radio orders set the scene. Forty-five minutes later, with only one unavoidable hiccup (the rapid cratering kit was a blind) and the finale begun. Quick Battle Orders by the OC were followed by a volley of shots from Warrior, Challenger, Sabre and SF. The two Warrior fired smoke, pulled back and moved to the FUP - whilst their supporting Challenger cut across the bowl and hit (on the move) two of the red hards. The Warrior screamed towards

Poachers

the final enemy enclave supported by mortars, SF and coax from the Challenger. The soldiers debussed, killed the enemy and raised the Union Flag. It was over.

I must admit there was no clapping, but there was smiling. The cast had per-

formed nearly faultlessly showing none of the foibles of real actors (own dressing rooms and the like). The reviews, which started to trickle in, were very positive. Importantly AJD, the sponsors, wrote and said they were delighted with the new format. The critics, for once, were pleased and the hard work was, as a

result, worth it. Whilst the show would not make the West End, it would stay in its present format for some time. There would be changes, indeed an amended script is being worked on now, but overall the Battalion had made a little piece of history by adapting the Firepower Demo and turning it into a real piece of theatre.

Fame And Fortune with the "Big Breakfast"

WO2 M Thorpe, CSM D (Sp) Company, writes:

It was 0430 hrs on 6 Sep 96 and I had been told to manage the "Big Breakfast" crew whilst they were in camp filming a live show on the main square in Battlesbury Barracks, Warminster.

Most of the previous day, members of The Poachers had prepared the square by moving vehicles to act as a back drop. Soldiers had been chosen to appear on the show with presenters Denise Van Alton and Richard Alford. Not knowing what to expect, it seemed the whole camp wanted to make an appearance on live TV. My job was to ensure that the crew got everything they wanted without disrupting the daily routine of the Battalion too much.

They arrived in a fleet of vehicles: cars, large lorries and coaches carrying the guests and crew. In a few minutes they were busy setting up, everything started taking shape and apart from a "little chaos" the whole thing resembled a military operation.

It was difficult to work out who was in charge, but eventually scripts were approved and adjusted to fit the needs of individuals in certain parts of the show.

I was assured by the Ops Officer: "Don't

worry, Sgt Maj, you won't have to appear on TV". However the producer had different ideas: "Will you give this to Richard and say a few words". Reluctantly I agreed and prepared for my chance to "trip the light fantastic". I then marched onto the screen and did my bit. The crew kept holding up cue cards to read but I just seemed to get carried away. Finally I marched off and my moment of "glory" was over. Or was it?

The CO and members of A Coy sang the "Lincolnshire Poacher" our Regimental March whilst the Recce Pl A Coy (our Warrior Coy) and D Sqn of The Royal Dragoon Guards, the Battle Group's own tank squadron, showed off their equipment.

Soldiers kept turning up and found themselves appearing on the TV either as back drops to interviews or running past the cameras wearing full webbing.

At one of their features they had a gentleman from Bovington who spent the entire show making a model of a Challenger 1. There was an all male singing group called "Benz", which took part in an assault course competition before being drilled up and down the square by yours truly.



Welcome to Poachers Mountain-WO2 Thorpe in front

Other guests on the show included a survival expert and Sharleen from the pop group "Texas". Soldiers from the Battalion were also involved in a living in the field stand, with the Red Devils making an entrance by parachuting onto the square (but only just).

At 1200 hrs it was all over with a few photo opportunities taken and a hurried "Goodbye". Then they were on their way and life was back to normal.

WO2 Thorpe (again) with Big Breakfast Host Denise Van Alton



WO2 Thorpe and various 'hangers on' have a photo call with Sharleen, lead singer of the group Texas



Free To March

WO1(RSM) F A Ralph writes:

During The Poachers' brief but hectic two year 'stop over' in the UK, it was agreed to accept and exercise the right to the Freedom of the City of Lincoln on 2 July, Luton on 3 July and Watford on 4 July. Accompanied by the Corps of Drums and the Minden Band of The Queen's Division, the Poachers would march through each town with bayonets fixed and Colours flying.

The Freedom Marches had two main aims: first, they were an opportunity to renew our existing links with the Mayors and Council members of Lincoln and Watford, and, for the first time ever, accept the Freedom and hospitality of Luton. Second, the marches had the potential to attract many new recruits to the Battalion.

In preparation for the forthcoming Freedom marches, buff belts and ammo boots were demanded from the loan pool at Thatcham. Many soldiers had to be taught the art of cleaning buff belts and bulling ammo boots. Having mastered these skills, the four 36 man guards, furnished by A, B, C and D(Sp) Coys, were put through their paces on the drill square in between the many exercises and commitments that had to be fulfilled. After weeks of practice and preparation, the four Guards, complete with admin support team and ably commanded by WO2 Beaumont, finally headed off



Practice makes perfect

to be hosted by the Vikings in Oakington, who kindly allowed us to use their camp as a staging post.

It is said that if any parade is to be successful, then mistakes need to be made during the rehearsals. That was a major concern for both the RSM and Adjt as no major mistakes had been made. Thankfully, on the Lincoln march rehearsal we had more than enough mistakes to contend with! Pushing superstition aside, all three marches went exceptionally well and The Poachers justifi-

ably showed themselves off with pride. However, the lads' hard work did not go unrewarded - the Town and City Mayors laid on lavish receptions which ensured that all who were not driving had plenty to eat and drink. The new Mayor of Watford, in particular, was a worthy hostess. Not to be outdone, she showed the lads how to drink by drinking a pint in three seconds! Without a doubt, the three marches were a success and were enjoyed by spectators and soldiers alike, despite the pain and preparation put in by the latter.

The Colours of His Majesty's 10th Foot parade in Lincoln with The Poachers



George Amos (left) and Leo Lynch (right) of His Majesty's 10th Regiment of Foot in America strike a pose next to the Lincolnshire Poacher, Cpl Donovan, after the Lincoln Freedom Parade



Poachers

A Company training in Wales



LCpl Dunn trying to escape from Wales on his bike.



Cpl Gibson after his submarine encounter.



Pte Cass - forgetting he has to have water to canoe



Pte Rimmer relaxes during a lull in A Coy live firing package at Castlemartin



Cpl Ennis demonstrates the Army's new invisible canoe



A Coy at the close of their live firing package

At Last A 'Miss Poacher'

Major Paul Nanson RRF, OC D(Sp) Coy, writes:

What a strange profession we have! One minute running around Salisbury Plain chasing your TA contemporary on Ex RED SHANK, the next riding in the back seat of the CO's staff car with the latest Page 3 sensation, Melinda Messenger. More of my amazing back seat antics later, first some background!

As the Battalion Recruiting Officer I was tasked with running The Poachers' KAPE Tour in May 97. What better way to get some publicity than by asking for a Miss Poacher to visit the troops? Enter Captain Nigel Johnson and Lieutenant Stephen Romilly, who were duly tasked with providing. Imagine my surprise and delight when they entered my office in mid April to tell me that Melinda wanted to be the lucky lady. John Kay, the military correspondent for the Sun, visited the Battalion in Celle and was hosted, extremely well it turns out, by Nigel. As luck would have it Melinda had been looking for a good PR opportunity with the Forces and so had jumped at the chance to visit The Poachers. With the permission of Army PR and the CO we invited Melinda for a day out at Battlesbury Barracks.

Which is where we pick up the opening gambit in the back seat of the CO's staff car. I was tasked with picking Melinda up from her house in Swindon. Both Nigel and Stephen had been mysteriously struck down by a terrible stomach bug the night before! I was granted the use of the CO's staff car and Pte Tomlinson. Bright and early on the Tuesday morning we set off for the big 'pick up' with the subtle odour of 'Pagan Man' aftershave



The new Miss Poacher, Miss Melinda Messenger.

and hair gel permeating around the car (Tomlinson had also made an effort with his appearance!!) In Swindon we quickly found the house and I knocked hesitantly on the door expecting to be greeted, at the very least, by a huge minder, or worse a long term boyfriend. Melinda was on her own and absolutely charming. The trip back to Warminster flew by with Melinda bubbling away talking about her jet setting lifestyle as an international model, and me talking about chasing TA officers around Salisbury Plain!

Back at Bn HQ, it was a quick change into combats in the Bn 2IC's office, closely guarded by an ever vigilant Provo Sergeant. I'm told Melinda's combats were later sold for a princely sum in the NAAFI to a private buyer who wished to remain anonymous. From then on it was

a tour around the barracks taking publicity shots of Melinda with the KAPE Team. Despite the CO's decree that only single soldiers be filmed with her, the RSM and CSM D (Sp) Coy also managed to elbow their way into a couple of snaps! The Mess was unusually full at lunch with a large number of Pads forsaking their wife's sandwiches and opting to lend some moral support to the livers-in - funny that!

Melinda left us shortly after lunch after signing on as Miss Poacher and promising to visit us in Cyprus. It was a great day out, resulting in some good positive PR for The Regiment in the country's most popular daily newspaper. Melinda was a pleasure to host and we all look forward to seeing her again soon.

KAPE through the eyes of a Poacher

Cpl Donovan, D (Sp) Coy, writes:

After 3 weeks of training, briefings and the obligatory setting up of stands for numerous visitors who required their own private viewing of the entire KAPE, we finally departed Warminster in the early hours of 2 May for what was to become a very busy, exhausting but enjoyable, and certainly memorable, two weeks Kape Tour.

Morale was high as it was to be at all

times during the tour. Although a variety of reasons have been suggested, the main one was that everyone was eagerly awaiting the outcome of the meeting and photo shoot with one Miss Poacher. It is rumoured that she is far more attractive than the original Poacher, and is also paid a higher salary!

The tour kicked off at Spalding Flower Festival where everyone had their first

encounter with Joe Public and some of the normal, and not so normal, questions we were to field over the next two weeks. The public fell into five categories:

No. 1 - The old veterans who had joined the Army when Centurion was a rank and not a tank. They wanted to tell all of us, individually, how they had to tab and fight in GS blankets and ammo boots with no soles or socks. Don't get me

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wrong - some are interesting and very genuine, but you can't help getting the feeling that the story has grown over the years!

No. 2-The worried mother who had watched too much TV and thinks we are there to grab young Timothy and throw him in the back of the minibus never to be seen again. These were fended off more quickly as the tour developed and everyone became used to dealing with questions like "Will Timothy be beaten up when he gets to Royston Train Station?" The best plan was to send them to speak to the younger soldiers who had not long been out of training.

No. 3 - The Weekend Warrior! The inevitable TA soldier who would try to tell you everything about the kit and how they used it all the time! In fairness, however, a selection proved to be keen to join the Regular Army and were immediately snapped up by a vulture with a Poacher's flash waving a Committed Recruit Card.

No. 4 - The Wide boys. A few were encountered, notably in the Luton area, who thought that CDT (Compulsory Drug Testing) was a new substance the Army would give them to inhale. They were soon brought back down to earth and many were made to realise that even the Army had their fair share of cool dudes that could do funny handshakes and speak up for themselves.

No. 5 - The unsure individuals who had lots to ask. Many of them had never been able to speak to anyone on their own terms about life in the Army without traipsing miles to the nearest Careers Office. From this group came the majority of the 112 potential recruits who were convinced by the team, and to which the bulk of the 44 Committed Recruit Cards were issued.

The initial start and meeting Joe Public were to pave the way for the next 2 weeks. There were early starts, late finishes and all the laughs and usual activities that take place when a group of 90 soldiers of



The Lincolnshire Poacher, Cpl Donovan D(Sp) Coy, with Miss Poacher at the start of the KAPE Tour.

all ranks get together under one roof in a new location. Overall, though, it was a useful and rewarding experience which kept the Poachers in the public eye and directly attracted a number of recruits.

Survival? It's Child's Play!

2 Lt Nicholas Faint writes:

As part of a Mechanized Company within CATC BG we not only have to fulfil our commitments to Warminster Training Centre but also to the community. One of these tasks fell to 9 Platoon during June.

The task given to me by the OC involved Kingdown School, the local comprehensive, which was having a week of practical learning. The Poachers were asked if we could teach about sixty children survival camping over a three day period - of course we could.

The children would arrive at nine o'clock in the morning and would be led to a central briefing area where they would be briefed and taught how to "cam up". The hands on approach worked a treat and soon the DS were surrounded by budding "Rambos". Once covered in cam cream the children lost any inhibitions they may have had: getting dirty and messy was the order of the day.

Now, as they looked like soldiers they would have to be taught the most basic of soldiering skills - to make a shelter.

Under instruction from LCpl Brocklesby and with help from Pte Knight, Pte Marshall and Pte Thornton the "mini-Poachers" were shown how to construct two different types of bashas. Many were truly amazed that a "sheet of plastic" could, with a little ingenuity, become a "tent". All made attempts with some excellent examples resulting.

With the shelter now made it was time to broaden their basic skills, hence the other instructional topics of collecting water; how to make a fire; snare setting and a demonstration on how to clean a fish. This topic proved to be the most popular of all. It was carried out perfectly by LCpl Brocklesby much to the delight of the students (plenty of shrieks and disgust!). Once LCpl Brocklesby had finished, two students were then given the chance to clean their own fish. We had no problems getting a male volunteer but female volunteers were rather few and far between. Under strict supervision the two volunteers then gutted the fish as if they were professionals. They were then cooked over an open fire for all to taste - easy!



Once a Poacher always a LCpl Brocklesby demonstrates the skilful art of fish cleaning.

All in all the three days were very successful. The children enjoyed themselves and the Battalion was brought closer to the local community. However, next time I just hope it is not me that is asked to fulfil this commitment as controlling and teaching twenty school children is very hard work!

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LCpl Percival finds out too late that his counter attack plan isn't working - Ex Grim Reaper, PCBC.



Nothing like a cigarette after a march and shoot



Coy/Sqn attacks on Ex Counter Stern for the benefit of AJD.



Lt Moran about to go down - Talavera Families Day, 25 July.

Heartbreak Ridge

2 Lt Christopher Davies writes:

In October 1981, the first Trailwalker was organised by the Queen's Gurkha Signals. Although the 100km Macle hose Trail in the New Territories of Hong Kong had been used for several years as the venue for an individual test for Gurkha Soldiers, 1981 was the first year a team event was held. Only military teams completed, raising HK \$80,000 for the Gurkha Welfare Trust and for local charities.

It is now 1997 and Trailwalker Hong Kong still continues, but it is now run by Oxfam. Because of the large number of Gurkhas stationed in the UK, Trailwalker has also become a very popular event here too. The 100km race runs over the South Downs from Peterfield to Brighton.

At the race start at 0900 hrs 28 June there were hundreds of competitors from units all over the Armed Forces. Teams were made up of groups of four, the Poachers team consisting of 2Lt Davies, Pte Sims, Pte Spray and Pte Wolfe. Pte Stow ran administration and provided support.

Training for the event had been hard work and on a regular basis the team were running between 10 - 15 miles daily.

However, 100km (66 miles) was a distance we had never approached before and therefore had no real understanding of the pain waiting ahead.



The team at the start of the race. L to R. Pte Wolf, Pte Sims, Pte Spray, 2Lt Davies (with silly hat).

A maximum time limit of 30 hrs was placed on the event which initially caused us concern. However, our finish time was 13 hrs. The greatest incentive was the falling light. No-one wanted to run through the night so a concerted effort was made to run as much as possible.

The event was split down into 11 legs, each leg being between 8 - 12 km. At each checkpoint we were able to refuel with Marmite sandwiches and energy drinks. This was also a good opportunity to stretch off as our legs became increasingly tight. During the race we were able to appreciate the full beauty of the South Downs and chat to various people on a social and non-competitive

basis. The most tortuous experience was being able to see the sea and imagine how cooling it would be to go for a swim.

The race seemed never ending. Leg after leg we pushed on, walking up and running along and down hills. At the finish, and after completing a lap of the Brighton Racecourse, the team collapsed and willingly received applause from their supporters. In the end we came 9th out of 36 teams which was very good considering our relaxed approach. I would fully recommend the event to any soldier who wants a physical challenge. Why do a Marathon when you can do more than two in one day?!

Battle Group Sport over the Summer

Following the report in the last Castle, the only sport that the Battle Group has played with any amount of regularity is cricket. We are members of the local evening league as well as the usual array of Army and Infantry Competitions.

We suffered the usual problems with getting a balanced and regular side out between commitments. This was most evident in the first round of the Army Cup. Our side on paper looked quite strong, however the loss of the Squadron

players due to a commitment did cause problems. We did not do ourselves justice and ended up losing to 3 UK Div HQ and Sigs Regt.

Further evening league matches and the Inter-Company Competition identified a few more players. This set us up for the Infantry Cup Semi-Final against 1 PWO. Batting first, we scored 158 all out with ASM Tracey top scoring with 45. At 80 for 7 the PWO were on the ropes but a spell of poor fielding and bowling let

them off and we lost by 3 wickets. The Inter-Company Competition this year was a six-a-side format. A good day of cricket resulted in victory for D (Support) Company beating the LAD in the final.

In other sports, the Battle Group is now preparing for the Rugby and Football seasons prior to leaving for Cyprus. The Rugby Team is preparing for its first match this year with a squad of over 40 players attending training.

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The Football Team is also enjoying a better outlook. In the Inter-Company Competition, the Harman Lines team won, beating A Company in the final. This was the build up for the Div six-a-sides where we lost in the quarter final to 9 Supply Regt RLC who were the eventual winners. At present the first team has only played one match, losing 2-1 to 32 Regt RA (last year's Premiership Winners).

Members of the Battle Group are now starting to participate in other diverse sports in preparation for going to Cyprus. There is a large contingent of water-skiers, who, under the coaching skills of WO2 Thorpe and LCpl Bond, visit Horley Lake regularly. There is also the beginnings of a Parachuting Club after 21 members of D (Support) Company went away and qualified to start jumping. With Netheravon so close it is an ideal chance for quick advancement to freefall standard. There are also over 30 qualified divers who will hopefully use the facilities in Cyprus to pursue this sport.

On the individual side of life, Captain Grinonneau (OC Milan PI) was selected for the Combined Services Cricket Team and was awarded his Combined Services Colours after scoring 126 on his debut (see article on page 64).



*Capt Grinonneau at Lords
in Combined Services Colours.*

Boxing

After the success of last season, there was a great deal of expectation throughout the Battle Group for the 1997 Inter-Company Boxing Competition which

was held 13-16 Oct. The competition got off to a very good start with some excellent fights in the preliminary rounds and the semi-finals. Every fighter showed a great deal of courage, guts and a real determination to win. Fights of some note were, at bantamweight, between Pte Peacock (D Coy) and Pte Lang (C Coy), with Pte Peacock winning on points. At featherweight, Pte Hume (D Coy) lost a very close decision to Pte Wilkinson (B Coy). At lightmiddle, 2Lt Barry (B Coy) lost a hard fight to Pte Beardall (A Coy) and at heavyweight, Pte Atkins (B Coy) won the clash of the Titans against Pte Seeley (D Coy).

With 3 Companies still capable of winning the competition, the finals were the closest for years. An explosive start saw Pte Chester (B Coy) stop his opponent in the first round. At featherweight, Pte Gillespie (C Coy) beat Pte Wilkinson on points after a hard fought contest. At lightweight, Pte Charles (A Coy) proved to be too strong for Pte Reid (C Coy), stopping him in the 2nd round. Before the break, Pte Burgwin (D Coy) overpowered his opponent, winning in the 1st round.

After the break, Ptes Crabbe (C Coy) and Beardall produced a 3 round bruiser with Beardall winning with a stoppage in the last round. At middleweight, Pte Smart (A Coy) was just too strong for LCpl Riseborough, stopping him in the 3rd. The light-heavyweight bout between Pte Sweetland (C Coy) and Pte Bracegirdle (A Coy) was a gruelling fight producing a number of standing counts for each boxer. The referee eventually stopped the fight in the 3rd in favour of Sweetland. At heavyweight, Pte Atkins put in a solid performance to beat Pte Ferrand (A Coy) on points. The last fight of the evening, on welterweight, was between Pte George (A Coy) and LCpl Cruddace (D Coy). George, a veteran of Inter-Company Boxing, forced a stoppage to win in the 2nd.

After a superb night of boxing A Coy, coached by Cpl Farrell, managed to reverse the positions of last year and take the title. C Coy were runners-up and B Coy were third. Pte Wilkinson won the prize for the Best Loser and Pte Atkins was awarded the Best Boxer prize. Brigadier Rawlins MBE, the Deputy Colonel of The Regiment, was present to award the prizes and see the Poachers' boxing pedigree in action.

Cross Country

During the close season, the Cross Country Officer has been running training and build up work in order to identify a squad for Cyprus. Training is now being aimed at competitions following the Battalion move. The culmination of the selection process was the Inter-Company Cross Country held as part of the Champion Company Competition. A very close event was won by HQ Company, with A Company as runners-up.

The event was very useful in identifying new talent and will enable the strong squad to be capable of winning competitions in Cyprus. More detailed news on Cross Country will appear in the next edition of Castle when we are settled and competing in Cyprus.

Poachers II Angling Club

Since our arrival in Warminster, the Poachers II Angling Club have once again established themselves not only as leading lights in Army Team fishing but also at club level. The Battalion's fishing club now boasts some 30 active members who regularly took part in this year's Battle Group league matches. Many of the club members have fished at Divisional level and Sgt Bulbeck, Sgt Barrett and Cpl Baines fished for the Army A Team which won the 1997 Army Open Shield on 2 Jul 97.

The Poachers II Angling Club looks forward to welcoming new members in Cyprus, as the fishing there is said to be excellent. Don't forget to pack your tackle!



*Cpl Baines receiving the trophy from
Major General ASH Irwin (President of the Army
Angling Association) for winning the Army Individual
Open on 2 Jul 97. Sgt Barret looks on*

Vikings

Freedom of Chelmsford, 18 July 1997.



The Drum Major preparing to march on.



A Coy Guard



Mr Hook, Curator of the Essex Regiment Museum, hands the Salamanca Eagle to 2Lt Litjens, 6th Battalion,



The Colour Party



Drums Platoon and the Minden Band Beating Retreat



The Lord Mayor of Chelmsford inspects the Drums Platoon.



The Salamanca Eagle escorted by 2Lt Litjens, WO2 Cullen and Sgt Dunningham of C (Essex.) Coy, 6th Battalion.

Freedom of Cambridge, 11 July 1997.



The Commanding Officer and D Coy Guard



The Colour party



LCpl Panter and Drums Platoon

Poachers

Freedom of Watford, 4 July 1997



Vikings

Vikings expedition to Pakistan



The Quarter Guard outside the 5FF Museum.



Officers of 5FF at the Officers' Mess, Islamabad.



*Major Wenham making the presentation on behalf of the Regiment to
Lt Col Muhammad Nasir Ali Khan, CO 5FF.*



The views up the final slopes of the Daintier Pass.



Firing on the gallery range at Islamabad. Note the empty case catcher



Privates Jones, Bee and Sullivan resting on the way to Naltar Lakes.

Tigers

Freedom of Hertford, 11 Oct 97



CO Presents cheque for the Mayor's charity.



B Coy Tigers march through the Market Place.



Town Mayor Cllr Coots presents gavel to Brig Rawlins.



Colour Party.

*L to R rear: CSgt Pearce, CSM Hanafan, CSgt Montague
L to R front: Capt Shaw, Lt Thurley, Maj Rooney.*



D Coy 2nd Battalion eyes left.

6th Battalion

The Summer and Autumn months have seen the 6th Battalion training hard all over the country with exercises as far afield as Warcop, Sennybridge and Salisbury Plain. After a very busy but rewarding annual camp the Battalion has now settled into an action packed Autumn programme.

Major Exercises and Training

The thrust of the Summer's activities was focused firmly on the Battalion's preparation for the 2 Div FTX Ex EAST-ERN HARRIER. As this involved both live firing and Battle Group exercises all aspects from grenade throwing to fighting in woods, forests and built up areas had to be covered. The Trg Maj, Maj Lucas, and the RSM, WO1 Duncan, devised a testing weekend on 10/11 May at Bodney Camp STANTA which kept both the commanders and the troops fully occupied. While the SNCOs and below progressed through the IBSR, pairs CQB and fire team attacks the Commanders were involved in a CPX. With all the Command Posts deployed tactically in the field the Command and Control of the Battalion was fully practised. With assistance from 3 PWO, a Fire Support Battalion, the Battalion rehearsed the attack and defence, gaining valuable experience from the presence of Milan and Mortar Fire Controllers.

The Command and Communications elements of the Battalion were also involved in the Brigade CPX at STANTA on 7-8 Jun 97. After a TEWT on hele ops and Battlegroup operations the Battalion main and step up HQs were put to the test during a series of "Radio controlled" attacks, with the Coy HQs acting as LOCONs. With the activity going on

C (Essex) Coy compare the performance of a Warrior with their Ford Escorts



Cpl Guppy introduces the spy glass to some 6 R Anglian recruits

through the night the HQs had a chance to practise moving in darkness and step up procedure. Overall these CPXs were extremely successful with some complimentary comments on our performance from the Bde staff.

The new Army Operational Shooting Policy (AOSP) demands that all troops who take part in "Stage 5" fire and movement exercises must first progress through build up training including the APWT and pairs fire and manoeuvre. As a result, and to allow the maximum of activity and participation on Ex EAST-ERN HARRIER, much time has been devoted to range work throughout the Summer. Both D and HQ Coys practised live section attacks, tactical grenade throwing, defence shoots and ambushes at STANTA on 31 May - 1 Jun and all Coys fired the APWT on 21-22 Jun.

As a culmination to the marksmanship training the Battalion held its annual Skill-at-Arms Meeting at Colchester Ranges on a sunny weekend 3-6 Jul. With high attendance from all Coys most of the Battalion completed their APWT as well as the traditional Inter Coy and Officers' vs Sgts' Mess Falling Plate Competition. Overall winners after some excellent shooting were A (Norfolk and Suffolk) Coy (winning 8 out of 13 prizes), with D Coy coming second. Results were as follows:

APWT Rifle Champion:
Capt RDF Harrison - HQ Coy
APWT LSW Champion:
Pte S Ward - A Coy
LSW Match Winner:
Pte S Ward - A Coy
Section Match Winner: - *A Coy*
Falling Plate: - *C Coy*

After a curry lunch at the back of Middlewick Ranges, Brig AJK Calder OBE, Deputy Honorary Colonel Suffolk, presented prizes to the Battalion.

LCpl Tibble Battalion hop scotch champion



6th Battalion



The MG Platoon on Salisbury Plain preparing to fire a map predicted shoot.



The MG Platoon Silver Medalists in Match 83 1996-97.



Brig WJ Hurrell CBE, Comd 49 (E) Bde, presents a Silver Medal to Pte Welch, MG Pl.

The Machine Gun Platoon, under the leadership of Capt Mike Gooze and the watchful eye of their PSI Sgt Wilkins, have continued to hone their shooting skills. In late May they travelled to Salisbury Plain to practice map predicted fire. Although a difficult shoot the 1996-97 Match 83 Silver Medallists achieved some good results. Building on their success of last year the Platoon has already surpassed its previous scores

when it fired the Army wide SF Competition once again in Sennybridge during Annual Camp. We hope they finish once more in the top three.

The long nights of the summer months also allowed the Coy's junior officers and NCOs to practice their basic tactics. C Coy held their annual "OC's Challenge" competition composed of various battle exercises, weapon handling skills and

day and night navigation and patrolling. Held at Longmoor, out of the four section strength teams who participated the overall winner was Cpl Head from 8 Pl. A Coy held their own weekend to practise section and platoon drills (such as section attacks and harbour routine), while HQ Coy also used the proximity of Friday Woods and Colchester Ranges for practising Infantry skills as background activity to live firing.

Ex Eastern Harrier

Finally with all Coys thoroughly prepared the Battalion deployed on Ex EASTERN HARRIER from 2-16 Aug 97. The FTX involved all TA Infantry Battalions from North of Newcastle to the Thames Estuary travelling West across the country to Wales. In total this comprised over 3,000 soldiers and 800 vehicles. Although the coach party were flown by Chinook from ITC Brecon to the area the green vehicles had a long and tiring controlled move and arrived early on Sun morning. Their arrival coincided with the start of the rain which continued throughout the week causing flooding in some of the other parts of Wales and the West Country. Nevertheless the Battalion's spirits were not dampened! Week 1 saw the Battalion based around a farm complex in the North of the area and largely involved build up training for a large live firing exercise, Ex FIRESTORM. Coys worked through an



A happy Battalion HQ in the field: L to R Capt Bailey (Adt), WO1 Keeble (RSM), WO2 Syme (RSWO), Capt Harrison (RSO), Lt Col Gill (CO), Maj Vince (Bn 2IC) and Capt Gotobed (IO).

intensive but progressive programme from pairs fire and manoeuvre to Platoon attacks under the watchful eye of the 1 R ANGLIAN Permanent Range Team. Ex

FIRESTORM on Fri 8 Aug saw the Battalion deployed to assault a succession of Platoon positions with support from our own SF and Divisional Milan,

The CO and his Tac Party take cover during Ex Firestorm.



Sgt Rackham points out the location of a friendly flock of sheep to Sgt Shand and LCpl Wall.



Who said the infantry walk everywhere? A Chinook collects A Coy.



6th Battalion

Mortars, Artillery and CVRT. This large scale exercise proved a fitting finale to the first week's training. Also in Week 1 the Battalion was visited by Brig Hurrell, Comd 49 (E) Bde, who presented Silver Medals to the MG Pl after they came second in Match 83, and Brig Strudwick, D Inf.

The Battalion's hard work of the first week was rewarded when it was lifted by Chinooks back into Sennybridge Camp

to begin its R&R package on Fri night. After the constant rain of the first week, Sat saw Coys relaxing in the sunshine in the towns of Cardiff, Tenby and Bristol. A well earned rest was had by all and the Battalion returned refreshed to begin the operational exercise phase. This involved the Battalion revolving through three separate scenarios. Firstly the Battalion assaulted the FIBUA Village (after a night repelling enemy patrols provided by the Paras) and then conduct-

ed a route clearance through forestry blocks defended by a determined enemy provided by 1 R ANGLIAN. To end the Camp on a high note the Battalion completed a heliborne Op and was inserted at dawn by Chinook to complete an assault on Canada Corner. Overall Camp was a demanding but successful exercise for the Battalion which tested all ranks thoroughly, made memorable by the fast pace of operations and also the availability of helicopters.

6th (V) Battalion Officers' Dinner Club

The 1998 Annual Dinner will be held in the Officers' Mess in Bury St Edmunds on Saturday 21 February 1998. Any former officers of the Battalion who do not regularly receive an invitation, and who wish to receive details, should inform the Dinner Club Secretary and be added to the mailing list.

Autumn Training Programme

The autumn training programme has been both varied and challenging. In Sep the Recce and MG Pls travelled North to Warcop to build on their experiences at Camp with live contact drills, pairs CQB and Section Attacks with overhead fire. D Coy and the Defence Pl have also used the NBC Complex at STANTA to teach NBC defence in the purpose built system. Throughout the night the composite force were put through its paces with chemical and conventional attacks provided by the ACF.

However by far the highlight of the Autumn has been Ex POACHERS CHARGE. Sponsored by 2 R ANGLIAN this exercise saw the Battalion drive down to Salisbury Plain to be given a weekend out with the Poachers. Starting with a morning of familiarisation with demonstrations from the Milan, Mortar and Recce Platoons, the Battalion went on to practise Coy attacks in Warrior, erecting the infantry bridge and clearing minefields. 6 R ANGLIAN then completed one of the set battles that the Poachers orchestrate as part of the CATC Battlegroup. The 6th Battalion advanced across the Plain in vehicles and on foot to negotiate a minefield and river crossing at night to conduct a dawn attack on Imber Village. With 2 R ANGLIAN as the enemy the Battalion were treated to a first class weekend's training, which all ranks thoroughly enjoyed.

Recruiting

As well as training the Battalion has continued to promote itself through the counties of East Anglia with some successful results in recruiting. All Coys used the Summer months to attend the local County Shows with our efforts spread as far apart as the Southend Airshow in the South to the Aylsham Show in the North and the Ida Darwin Hospital Fun Day in Cambridge in the West. The Recce Pl has also held a NSPCC Open Day for underprivileged children at the Bury St Edmunds TA Centre while A Coy opened its doors at Norwich for a fun packed programme for youngsters devised by WO2 Langley-Stevens. A new weapon in our recruiting campaign has been a recruiting trailer. Procured by Capt Martin, the Battalion's RAO, and funded by TAVRA, the Battalion now has a very smart vehicle with which to promote our image through the region. The Battalion has had over 50 new recruits in the past 6 months and it is hoped that the Autumn TV and media campaign coupled with our own recruiting efforts will continue to swell our ranks.

Ceremonial

The Battalion has been involved in a number of ceremonial events over the Summer. By far the most prestigious has been the appearance of the Corps of Drums at the Changing of the Guard ceremony at Buckingham Palace in May and Aug. Under the control of Drum Major Bradshaw the Corps combined

Drum Major the London Regt leads the combined Corps of Drums down The Mall, May 97



6th Battalion



LCpl Ward sounds reveille.



Lt Col Gill presents LCpl Cheetham with the award of CO's Bugler.



The Adj, RSM and CO at the inspection of the Corps of Drums at their Annual camp, Oakington

with the London Regiment to provide an excellent flute and drum performance. It was also a colourful display of uniforms, what with the sealskins of the Fusiliers, caubeens of the Irish and the spiked helmets of our Drummers!

D (Cambridgeshire) Coy has also participated in the Annual Ely Parade in memory of the Veterans of the Cambridgeshires who served in the Far East during the Second World War. Joining 1 R ANGLIAN in their Freedom Parade of Chelmsford was an honour guard of Lt Litjens, WO2 Cullen and CSgts Denyer and Garner from C (Essex) Coy. This party had the task of protecting the French Eagle captured at Salamanca, and for a Coy that preserves all the fine traditions of the Essex Regt this was a great privilege which they will never forget.

Adventure Training

The Battalion has also enjoyed a number of adventure training expeditions over the Summer. At the back end of camp the Pl Comds were tasked with running their own weekends and so with much ingenuity and imagination their soldiers were treated to activities as diverse as hiking in the Yorkshire Moors, pot-holing in Derbyshire and mountain biking and other adventurous pursuits in Wales. C Coy also held a walking weekend in the Peak District in early Sep.

Social Activities

Although busy in its military training 6 R ANGLIAN found some time for some fun too. A and D Coys have both held their own annual parties while C Coy celebrated Salamanca Day with an all ranks dinner and disco. A Coy have been improving their international relations by hosting the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada. After WO2 Langley-Stevens, their PSI, visited the Regiment in Apr (see the last edition of Castle) A Coy returned the favour by hosting 15 all ranks from the Regt when they flew into England on their way to the D Day commemoration events in Normandy at the beginning of Jun. Maj Steven Fradley, their OC, also attended the Canadian Militia Staff College this year and during his R and R visited the Lincoln and Welland and Essex and Kent Scottish Regt, both of which are affiliated to the Regiment. It is hoped that we may be able to further these links over the next year as there is much potential for interesting and enjoyable joint training.

Pesonalities

Since the last edition of Castle the Battalion has said goodbye to a number of its Permanent Staff. After three years in the post as RSM WO1 Duncan has retired

and has been succeeded by WO1 Keeble from the 1st Battalion. We wish them both all the best for the future. WO2 Langley-Stevens and CSgt Garner have both returned to the Vikings and been replaced by CSgts Sykes and Swaep. WO2 Callaghan and Sgt Shand have also left the Army at the end of their 22 years service and the Battalion wishes them good luck with their new careers. It also welcomes WO2 De Meyer from CUOTC and Sgt Rackham who have taken over from them.

Serving with the Regular Army

As present the Battalion has a number of officers and soldiers serving with the Regular Army. Maj Davidson has nearly completed his third tour of duty in the Former Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) as LO for HQ MND SW while Capt Chilvers is working in the G5 and civil affairs department of Banja-Luka. Pte Scott has also nearly finished his tour of the FRY as a driver based at Split's Divulge Barracks while Pte Hall has recently returned. Lt Gothard has volunteered for an extension to his tour with 7 R IRISH.

LCpl Smith receives his Territorial Efficiency Medal from Christopher Pertwee, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Essex.



Maj Baker presents Cpl Cooke with a Lord Lieutenant's Certificate



6th Battalion

Ex EASTERN HARRIER



Pte Melia: a smiling casualty of war



Sgt Rackham chats up the birds.



D Coy marching into the FUP



Cpl Cudby and Cfn Graham, the Battalion's Armourers.



Pte Allen, RAP



Sgt Dunningham and Pte Turner, firing. Match 9.



A Coy get closer to nature.



Minden Day - Sgt Wilkins, CSgt Thumwood, CSgt Sykes and WO2 Langley-Stevens.



Maj Fradley and Maj Cooke. Join the TA and feel a man



Lt McCulloch with Col Chrissel, the Deputy Commander

The Tigers

The last six months have seen a number of changes in Battalion personalities, work-up training and participation in EXERCISE EASTERN HARRIER and success in competition. The Battalion joined 2 R ANGLIAN in exercising The Regiment's Freedom of Hertford. Elements of the Battalion have also taken part in adventurous training and there have been several successful social events.

New Regular Staff

Lt Col Holme is now well established having completed six months in command. RSM Thomas, who arrived at the same time as Lt Col Holme, has also made his mark throughout the Battalion. Maj Gordon Halewood has now departed the Battalion after 3 years. The Officers' Mess is particularly grateful to him for organizing an excellent Summer Ball. The success of the Battalion Catering Team reported in the last edition of Castle was also a result of Maj Halewood's work. Maj Halewood's replacement is Maj Bill O'Driscoll who has, within the space of one month, firmly established himself in the Battalion. The Battalion Adjutant is now in the process of changing over. Capt James York leaves at the end of October and Capt Garry Morris takes over.



Lt Col Holme meets his drivers LCpl Wright(left) , LCpl Wallace (centre.)

Training for Ex Eastern Harrier

The training for Exercise EASTERN HARRIER took several forms. CPXs and TEWTS were utilised to practise procedures and allow the Commanding Officer to outline his style of operation. In addition to CPXs and TEWTS, FTXs were used to rehearse the Battalion in operations such as Fighting in Woods and Forests (FIWAF) and working with support helicopters. Much of this training was attended by 3 PWO in order to provide the Battalion with a knowledge of the capabilities and role of support weapons.

The Commanding Officer's first weekend was the 49(East) Brigade CPX on STANTA in May. It was also the first time Capt Pook had filled the role of Battalion Ops Officer. The weekend proved to be very hectic once the CPX had started, but was a good opportunity for the Commanding Officer to meet and work with the Company Commanders for the first time.

The first of two pre EASTERN HARRIER exercises at Sennybridge was EXERCISE TIGER HUNT. The main aim of this exercise was to ensure that all soldiers attending EASTERN HARRIER were qualified to live fire in line with the new Army Operational Shooting Policy. This exercise also ensured that range

time on EASTERN HARRIER was spent as productively as possible. After the live firing phase the Battalion attacked the training village to refresh and practise FIBUA skills.

EXERCISE TIGER HUNT in Sennybridge was a Battalion and Company level FTX with the aim of training the Battalion in the drills for mounting operations using support helicopters. It was also a rehearsal for possible future operations on EASTERN HARRIER. With ideas and drills "borrowed" and modified from 24 Airmobile Brigade the Battalion was able to move from dispersed hide locations, marry up on a helicopter landing zone and fly forward for operations with relative ease. The exercise was also an opportunity for echelon to practise the casualty evacuation, re-supply and PW chains within the Battalion.

EXERCISE EASTERN HARRIER

EXERCISE EASTERN HARRIER has been the focus for all Battalion training throughout the year. The exercise was in two phases, a week of Field Firing up to Battalion level, followed by a swiftly paced five day FTX at Battle Group

level. The FTX included Fighting in Woods and Forests, Support Helicopter Operations and Operations in Built Up Areas (OBUA). The last time that so many Territorial soldiers were involved on the same exercise was in the days of LIONHEART and KEYSTONE. The exercise was large enough to command a good level of support but, by remaining at Battalion level, ensured that soldiers were never bored.

The move to Sennybridge was strictly controlled as a divisional operation owing to the large number of vehicles and troops involved. A day long move meant that the Battalion was not complete at the concentration area, Farm 11, until 0430 Sunday morning. This late arrival did not prevent the Battalion moving onto the ranges by 0900 hrs, with the exception of our drivers who were by then fast asleep!

Field Firing

The range package for the first week was laid on by 1 R ANGLIAN who provided the majority of support to the exercise. 1 R ANGLIAN's support was excellent throughout. The range package continued the training that the Battalion had been doing before camp and was to culminate with a live firing Battalion attack.

Tigers



The sun always shines on the Officers' Mess.



Lt Herbert with Grimsby Platoon.



WO2 Bevin screams at a day dreaming soldier.



B Coy debus for Ex Firestorm.



A Coy after Firestorm. (The other 50 are on the Chinook).

Despite poor weather, the first week proved to be most enjoyable. Visitors included the Director of Infantry, Brigadier Strudwick, during one of our Platoon Attack Range days. Brigadier Strudwick talked at length to many soldiers and was particularly impressed with the enthusiasm and attitude of the reservists.

The culminating point of the first week was EXERCISE FIRESTORM. This was a Battalion Live Firing attack which took place in exceptionally hot weather. The attack was supported by artillery, mortars, Milan and GPMG SF. Adding to the realism the Battalion was flown onto the range by Chinook. Although there was a delay due to Milan misfires the Battalion spent a hard afternoon fighting through the length of A Range. At the end of the range the Battalion was flown back in time for a barbecue marking the end of the first week. Following the barbecue there was a 24 hour stand down during which the Companies escaped the training area to Cardiff, Barry Island and Swansea.

Commanding Officer's Exercise

Prior to the live fire Battalion attack the CO had a chance to prepare the Battalion for week two by putting the Companies through a day of Company level exercises. These exercises included FIWAF and OBUA. In slow time Commanders at all levels were able to practise the drills that would be vital in the following week. The OBUA phase was split into a TEWT run by the Ops Officer, Capt Pook, and a

practical exercise focusing on the break-in battle. By this stage visitors were coming thick and fast and the Malaysian Chief of Reserves, Brigadier General Wahid, flew into the training village to observe this part of training. He was keen to meet our SNCO Permanent Staff and from his own experience he identified them as key to a successful TA Unit.

FIWAF Operation "Tigers versus Vikings"

The initial Battle Group operation of the second week was a FIWAF operation that involved clearing a Main Supply Route. As the Battalion pushed through the large wood the enemy (1 R ANGLIAN) withdrew through a series of ambushes, obstacles and prepared positions. The obstacles meant that Sgt Nagra and the Assault Pioneers had their work cut out as the Battalion moved through the wood. The final position proved a difficult nut to crack, but some 12 hours after H Hr the first phase finally came to an end.

Helicopter Operations

Helicopter Operations were mounted from Farm 7. This was not a secure base and soon after the Battalion's arrival enemy parachutists were seen dropping nearby. These Para drops were dealt with by B Coy under Acting OC B Coy Captain Nigel Brown. Although not a difficult task it served to ensure that rest was kept to a minimum. Whilst at Farm 7 we were visited by D CinC LAND, Lieutenant General Pike, who discussed

the patterns that TA training might take in the future. With the General safely on his way the Battalion returned to planning and preparing for the helicopter operation. The aim of the helicopter operation was to destroy an enemy company in a village area surrounded by woods. Two companies were flown forward to a drop off point that afforded a covered approach to an assault position, while a strong platoon was flown in as deception force attacking the enemy just prior to H Hr from a different direction. Further helicopter drop offs were used to insert signals rebroadcast sites and to add to the deception plan. The pre-training for this operation paid off and by last light the Battalion had achieved its objectives and reorganized in order to

B Coy deploy



Tigers



A Tiger attacks.

move off and prepare for the next operation.

Clearance of Cillini Village

The last operation was an attack on Cillini village which was occupied by an enemy force. The Battalion spent sixteen hours in a harbour area preparing for the attack. The plan involved two companies breaking into the West end of the village following a deception force attack on the East end of the village. OC Headquarter Company, Major Neil Marsh, led the deception force, which achieved more success than expected and drew the enemy away from the main body. The village was eventually secured after a tough fight and was a very fitting climax to the end of EX EASTERN HARRIER.



This is good weather in Lincoln. L to R: Cpl McCuddy, Cpl Beard, Cpl Taylor, Pte Winter, Cpl Smith.

Echelon Working Hard

The work of echelon throughout the two weeks deserves special mention. In the first week a field kitchen was set up and provided a mountain of food while the MT kept the companies moving round the ranges. In the second week the CQMSs and their crews probably had the least sleep of anybody. They kept the Battalion re-supplied and moving and the exercise scenario dictated that echelon remained tactical throughout.

Yet More Visitors !

Several exercise visitors have already been mentioned. Other visitors included representatives from the Czech Army, Brigadiers (Retd) Browne and Stevenson from East Midlands TAVRA, Col (Retd) Drummond as Dep Hon Col TA for Lin-



Oh, it's the 2IC!

colnshire, and an important employers visit. Included in the employers visit were two representatives from the local Sikh community in Leicester. This visit was particularly successful and it is now hoped that the Battalion is beginning to forge stronger links with the local Sikh community.

Freedom of Hertford

On 11 Oct The Regiment was permitted to exercise its right to march through the Town of Hertford with bayonets fixed, drums beating, band playing and Colours flying. This Freedom Parade was a joint 2nd/7th Battalion event. As B Company is based in Hertford the majority of The Tigers involved were from B Company. Capt Lynch, PSAO B Company, ensured that not only would there be a parade, but in addition there was a Reception afterwards and an All Ranks Party in the

evening.

The senior Regimental guest was the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier PP Rawlins MBE. The Brigadier accompanied the Town Mayor, Councillor Cootes, in the speeches and taking the salute at the Town War Memorial. The Parade was formed from D Company 2 R ANGLIAN, B Company 7 R ANGLIAN and The Minden Band. The Colour Party was provided by 7 R ANGLIAN. Despite heavy rain the Parade was well received by local people.

At the reception afterwards the Town Mayor presented the Battalion with a wooden gavel for use at dinner nights. In return the Battalion presented a cheque to the Town Mayor for his charity. The All Ranks Reception was held in the Corn Exchange and proved to be a great success, allowing the soldiers to relax after a day of drill.

Adventurous Training and Sport

In the last six months two adventurous training expeditions have been undertaken and the new RSM has revived interest in orienteering. C Company went to Snowdonia and under Cpls Crutchfield and Thompson undertook a variety of activities including climbing, walking and abseiling. The Training Major organised a permanent staff trip to the Lake District EXERCISE REVERS EBOR. The aim of this exercise was to walk South to North across the Lake District. In two days the 10 man team covered 55 miles, which included walking out of the Langdale Valley and also climbing Skidaw. The RSM persuaded the Leicester based permanent staff to form an orienteering team and enter the 2 Div league. On the team's first outing it was composed of Maj Wadman, Capt York, WO2 Ralph, Sgt Welsford and L Cpl Wright.



Ex Revors Ebor start: L to R; RSM Minor Graham Thomas, CSgt Brudenell, CSgt Kean, RSM Thomas, Sgt Saywell, CSgt Odell, WO2 Ralph, Sgt Limb, Maj Wadman, Capt Yorke.

Competitions

Capt Declan Woods and C Sgt Briggs led the Battalion Intelligence Cell to victory in the 2 Div Intelligence Cell Competition. The competition was based on Battle Group Intelligence Cells but also required cells to brief on subjects such as the Cuban Armed Forces. Major General Farrar-Hockley MC, GOC 2 Div, presented Capt Woods with a Warrior statue, which now proudly resides in Leicester TAC.

Pte Brockwell of C Company should also be congratulated on being awarded Best Student on the May Combat Infantryman's Course held at Catterick.

Social Events

As usual there have been numerous social events throughout the last six months. Of particular note were the Officers' Mess Summer Ball and the Cpls' Mess Dinner Night. The Summer Ball was held at Beaumanor Hall just North of Leicester. The sun shone long enough for a Mess photograph in the gardens before the eating and dancing began. In October the Cpls' Mess held their Dinner Night at Ulverscroft Road TA Centre. The driving force behind this event was Sgt Nagra, who organised a very enjoyable night for around one hundred Corporals and their guests.

Award

In June Mrs Avril Inman, the B Company AO, was awarded the Commander in Chief's Commendation for Meritorious Service. As B Company's AO Mrs Inman saw the Company through a troubled year following the illness and then death of the Company's Permanent Staff Administrative Officer.

Sandhurst

The Regimental Representative at RMAS, Captain Lance Gerrard-Wright, writes:

Since the last issue of the Castle there have again been several changes to the Regimental permanent staff at RMAS. The list is currently as follows:

Capt R L Gerrard-Wright	-	Coy Instr, Old College
WO2(RQMS) D Smith	-	RQMS Old College
CSgt C Tate	-	Pl CSgt, Normandy Coy
Sgt J Grouse	-	Instr Sigs Wing
Cpl Bolton	-	Sigs Wing
LCpl W Watson	-	RP Staff

Earlier in the year we said goodbye to Major Mark Wenham who left for the 2nd Battalion, CSgt Kirk who returned to the Poachers and Sgt Simpson who returned to the Vikings. Cpl Dales finished his Army days here at RMAS. Sgt Grouse, Cpl Bolton and LCpl Watson all joined us from the 2nd Battalion.

cont >

ATR Bassingbourn

On the Officer Cadet front, recruiting has had its fair share of ups and downs. Cadets have increasingly appeared to view their career in the short term, looking for courses and sunshine rather than command in the future. However, we did again have more approach the Regiment for interview than there were vacancies. At present we have a total of 19 Officer Cadets in the pipeline, which reflects continued healthy interest in the Regiment.

The following Officer Cadets have passed out in 1997:

April: OCdt Chris Barry (Ypres Coy) - to 2nd Bn
August: OCdt Alex Hawley (Somme Coy) - to 2nd Bn

The Colonel of the Regiment, accompanied by Lady Walker, attended the April Sovereign's Parade and saw OCdt Chris Barry pass out. The previous evening, at the Regimental Cocktail Party, we welcomed Major Roland Ladley, OC A Company 2nd Battalion, who presented OCdt Chris Barry with a tie, lanyard and Battalion tracksuit. In August the Colonel of the Regiment was represented by Brig J C B Sutherell CBE, with Regimental regalia being presented to OCdt Alex Hawley by Col D J Clements MBE the previous evening.

Now the new term has begun, the Academy once again reverberates to the sound of "PUNCH!" as the fresh short-haired Officer Cadets tick-tock about. As a platoon commander in the first term, it is interesting to see some of the changes that have been introduced such as more "communications skills", information technology and internal ongoing validation. Drill and shouting PTIs remain very much the same!

ATR Bassingbourn

Sport and Adventurous Training at ATR Bassingbourn

Major Corin Pearce, Regimental Representative at ATR Bassingbourn, writes:

Despite the ever increasing pressures a workload involved in bringing seventy Royal Anglian recruits up to CMS(R) standards over the last 6 months, it is not all work and no play for the Royal Anglian training staff at ATR Bassingbourn. Despite free time being at something of a premium, Poachers and Vikings continue to set a high standard in all manner of sporting and adventurous training pursuits.

Cpls Whiteley and Foreman continue to represent the Regimental football team in matches both against local civilian teams and in 2nd Division and Army level competitions. Cpl Stimpson was selected to represent the Infantry throwing the discus in a number of this season's events. Cpls Wilcox and Lewis were also presented Regimental Colours for their performances on the athletics field at Unit level. The quality of experience of the Royal Anglians in track and field assisted the C(Queen's Division) Company Athletics Team to perform admirably during this season's Inter-Company Athletics Competition.



R ANGLIAN representatives with Mr Lofty Adcock, ex 2nd Battalion, and Mr John Baggeridge, ex 3rd Battalion, by the Canberra gate guardian.

Cpl Port claims that because he is a member of the Army's Swimming Team and the Regimental Triathlon team, he is in some way justified in shaving his legs. Other members of the permanent staff have their doubts. However his performance this year has improved markedly,

culminating in his forming part of the Army team, alongside Cpl Pulfrey (who doesn't shave his legs), which won the 1997/98 Tri-Service London Triathlon Competition. With the recent granting of military sporting status, plans are now being drawn up for the formation of a

ITC Catterick

Regimental Mountain Biking Team under the auspices of Capt Holton. The stout frame of CSgt Beswick is now a regular sight as part of the Regimental Orienteering Team, and Sgt Cox has become a stalwart of the Regimental Golf Team.

On the water, Lt Smith assumed the task of organizing and running a very successful week's sailing in the English Channel for members of the ATR, whilst Sgt Williams continues to spend the majority of his time in pursuit of the noble carp in the Regiment's lake. Below the waves, Capt Holton is busy assisting in the establishment of a Regimental Scuba Diving Club in preparation for an expedition to Egypt in April 1998.

Regimental Representation at Bassingbourn

RHQ/HQ COY

Maj C J Pearce	Regtl 2IC
CSgt R Beswick	Trg Wing SNCO
Sgt I M Cox	Provo Sgt
Cpl G Foreman	Gym Staff
LCpl M Dingley	Provo Staff

Training Teams

Capt P A Holton OC Albuhera Pl
Sgt M Philpott
Cpl J J Clark
Cpl P N Gadsden
Cpl J A Guthrie
Cpl N C Hedge
Cpl P S Johnson
Cpl B P Lewis
Cpl J Whitley

Training Teams

Lt D J Howson OC Minden Pl
Sgt M A Williams
Cpl I D Port
Cpl S R Pulfrey
Cpl D A Quittenton
Cpl A Roberts
Cpl J J Stimpson
Cpl A P Tinkler
Cpl M Wilcox

ITC Catterick Minden Day 1997

Major Andrew Price, the Regimental Representative at Catterick, writes:

The first of August was a memorable day for permanent staff and students alike at the Infantry Training Centre Catterick ITC(C). Both had two reasons to be cheerful: celebrating Minden Day and preparing for three weeks' leave. The last day of the Summer term can be counted upon to be busy but for the members of the Regiments who celebrate the Battle of Minden it was especially so. The day started with drizzle but it

cleared up in time for the RSM 1st Battalion ITC(C) to parade members of the following Regiments:

The Royal Anglian Regiment
The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers
The King's Own Scottish Borderers
The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment
The Light Infantry

Several have since passed out and joined their Battalion.

Pte Johnstone, now with the Vikings, having received his first Minden Rose at ITC(C)



OC D Coy 2 ITC(C) Maj A W Price R ANGLIAN presents Pte Postle, now with the Vikings, with his first Minden Rose

In recognition of the seniority of the various Regiments in 1759, The Royal Anglian Regiment contingent were on the right of the line. The parade served to introduce students to a vital part of their Regimental history and also to meet other members of the Regiment at different stages of training.



Regimental Sport

Tennis

The first Royal Anglian Regiment Tennis Tournament for affiliated schools took place at Kimbolton School on 7 Jun 97. There were fewer entries than we had hoped, but some excellent tennis was played throughout the day. Kimbolton School came out winners, with Loughborough filling second and third places. The organisers, the Regimental Secretary and Major Clyde Aylin, formerly PSAO with the 5th Battalion and an England Veteran tennis player, took on all-comers and were only beaten by an ad hoc team of PE teachers.

Queen's Division Triangular Golf Match, 23 May 97, Canterbury The Trophy returns

Having reluctantly surrendered the trophy last year to the PWRR on a wet and cold day the team assembled on a cool but not unpleasant day to once again do battle. It was soon apparent that the PWRR would not surrender the trophy easily and they had carefully selected their team for best results. RRF were going to have a say as well. Come lunchtime and the end of the first round the PWRR were in the lead by 23 pts despite some very respectable scoring by all our golfers.

After a sumptuous lunch we all let out our belts a notch and set out to make up the deficit and so we did. With two results to come we had closed the gap to 6 pts! With one to come it had gone back to 10 pts, however Dave Wharton came up trumps with a magnificent and much commented on 42 pt score to enable us to snatch victory by a mere 2 pts! Never has it been so close.

As ever the venue was splendidly prepared and as the weather improved so did our golf with everything ending in a blaze of sunshine. Well done to all the team.



Winners Queen's Division Triangular Golf Meeting

Rear Row (L to R)
Ev Leyland, Gordon Halewood, Graham Taylor, Peter Woodcock, Ron Travis
Front Row (L to R)
Paul Fox, John Perry, Les Greenaway, Dave Wharton, Shaun McAnally

Scores: Royal Anglian Regiment - 668 PWRR - 666 RRF - 573.

Regimental Golfing Society Annual Meeting

22 stalwarts turned out for the Society's Annual Meeting at Stowmarket Golf Club on Friday 20 Jun 97. The course was in its usual immaculate condition and play was enthusiastic and competitive. Regrettably we were caught by the rain in the afternoon but spirits were not dampened and the temperature did not reflect the agonies of the Spring Meeting.

Those who attended were:

GA Boss, KP Brett, HS Bullock, J Fisk, L Greenaway, C Groves, GP Halewood, JS Houchin, R Jenns, M Jones, DF Knight, E Leyland, RHC Lucas, RW Potter, S Shailes, MO Smith, GN Taylor, KW Taylor, RF Templeman, Sir Michael Walker, P Woodcock, S Woods and Mrs Deirdre Meddings.

Those who were unable to attend:

Sir John Akehurst, IM Cox, RA Hastings, JP Macdonald, PP Rawlins and D Wharton.

Regimental Golfing Society Prizewinners

THE ISHAM SALVER (SCRATCH):

1st: Ev Leyland, 2nd: KP Brett, 3rd: Mike Smith

THE POMPADOUR CUP (MEDAL):

1st: Graham Taylor, 2nd: Bob Potter, 3rd: Ron Templeman

THE SUFFOLK CUP (HANDICAP):

1st: Gordon Halewood, 2nd: Sgt Woods, 3rd: Ken Taylor

THE PONSONBY CUP (FOURSOME):

1st: Messrs K Taylor & Boss, 2nd: Messrs Halewood & Potter, 3rd: Messrs Greenaway & Brett

HIDDEN HOLE SCORE:

1st: Graham Taylor, 2nd: Gordon Halewood, 3rd: Ev Leyland

Special Features

Tales From The North West Frontier Royal Anglians in Pakistan

Major Mark Wenham writes on the 1st Battalion's expedition to Pakistan:

Most readers will be aware that our sister Regiment in Pakistan is the 5th Frontier Force Regiment (5 FF); however, I suspect that, like myself until recently, few will be aware of the background to this affiliation. Almost all our founder Regiments have some connection with the region of the North West Frontier and India since the time of the Mutiny in 1857, up to the Second World War and Independence in 1947. At least one of the Regiment's VCs was won at Kohima in the Burma campaign. The specific connection with 5 FF dates from WW1 and the campaign in Mesopotamia. The 53 Sikhs (now 5FF) and the Leicestershire Regiment (17th Foot) served together in 28th Frontier Force Brigade between 1915-18. During this time they fought at Tigris, the siege of Kut, Baghdad, Palestine, Beirut and Tripoli. The Regiment now share the Battle Honours of TIGRIS and MESOPOTAMIA 1914-18 with 5th Frontier Force Regiment.

Given this connection, the idea was conceived that it would be appropriate for the Regiment to visit 5 FF in their Golden Jubilee year. It would also be an excellent opportunity to undertake some high level trekking in the Hindu Kush, Karakoram and Himalayan mountain ranges. From a personal perspective this would be a particularly significant expedition to be part of as my father had served in The 5/13th Frontier Force Rifles (FFR) before and during WW2, and had commanded the 9th FFR at Partition. It was therefore a chance for me to see some of the area in which he had served, and, as it transpired, to meet one of the officers he had served with.

Like so many expeditions the planning can be difficult, and this was no exception; this was exacerbated by the fact that the 1st Battalion were on an operational tour of NI and the lines of communication to Pakistan were somewhat unreliable. So it was with some trepidation that the team (two officers, three SNCOs, including one from the 2nd Bn, and seven ORs) met up at Heathrow airport on 23 July, safe in the knowledge that at least we had the tickets, and that someone would meet us at Islamabad.

In the event, we arrived in Islamabad after a nine hour direct flight and were met by a Pakistani Colonel from GHQ and a staff sergeant from the British High Commission. This ensured a smooth passage through customs and we were then met by officers of 5 FF, who escorted us to our hotel. Apart from the intense heat things were looking up already.

5th Frontier Force Regiment

5 FF are an Infantry Battalion currently stationed on a three year tour of ceremonial duty and internal security duties in Islamabad. The Battalion has a strength of approximately 1000 all ranks which are divided into four rifle companies and a headquarters company (support weapons are held in the rifle companies). Recent tours have included supporting the peace-keeping operations in Somalia 1994/95. A summary of the Regiment's origins is shown below:

- 1847 5th Frontier Force Regiment
Raised in Feroze Pur by a Capt Winter as part of Infantry Frontier Brigade
- 1857 3rd Sikh Regiment
Employed on Frontier against Bodzar tribesmen.
- 1903 53rd Sikhs Frontier Force
New Colours presented by Lord Kitchener.
- 1915-18 Served with Leicestershire Regiment (17th Foot) in Mesopotamia
- 1922 3rd Sikhs 12 Frontier Force Regiment
- 1935 3rd "Royal" Battalion Sikhs
Awarded on occasion of King George V Silver Jubilee
Last British CO of Battalion Lt Col JA Bell.
- 1947 3rd Royal Battalion. Name of Sikhs omitted after Partition.
- 1956 5th Battalion Frontier Force Regiment.

On arrival at the barracks in Rawalpindi the group were met by the officers and Junior Commissioned Officers (JCOs) of the Battalion, and then, somewhat unexpectedly, I had the privilege of inspecting the Quarter Guard. On returning to the Mess we were all introduced to the Pakistani "tea break", which seemed to comprise a three course meal of local dishes, which, despite being delicious, did not agree with some of the group's more delicate digestive systems! In the afternoon we were taken away from the oppressive heat of the city to the cooler area of the Muree Hills to do some sightseeing, returning to the hotel exhausted at the end of our first full day in-country.

The following day's programme included a visit to the ranges and test firing both the Steyr sniper rifle and the G3. There were varying degrees of success and no shortage of the usual excuses.

Throughout the visit the hospitality and kindness shown to all the group by 5 FF was exceptional. There was always an officer earmarked as escorting officer to ensure that we were in the right places at the right time. These officers, who spoke excellent English, also became our interpreters, and, when required, guides for shopping and sightseeing trips, and successfully made every effort to see that we wanted for nothing. We were entertained so well that some were becoming concerned that despite the trekking they may return to UK many pounds overweight. It was also a particular honour to meet so many distinguished retired officers from the Regiment who we were introduced to during the course of the stay.

The presentation of a commemorative silver cup from the Regiment was received by the Commanding Officer Lt Col Muhammad Nasir Ali Khan. The cup had fittingly originated

Special Features

from The Royal Leicestershire Regiment. In return a large framed Regimental plaque, depicting the badges and battle honours of 5FF, was presented, along with a smaller memento for each member of the group.

After the trekking phase (see below) we were taken by 5 FF to the city of Abbotabad, which is about 3 hours drive North (depending on the Monsoons) from Islamabad. Named after General Abbot, this is the last major town before entering the Northern areas and is also the Frontier Force Centre. This broadly equates to an RHQ and training depot rolled into one. However it must be remembered that there are some fifty odd battalions in the Frontier Force alone, and all their recruits will conduct a basic training course at Abbotabad prior to joining one of the Frontier Force units. Recruiting in Pakistan is not the same as for the UK: there are approximately 3000 applicants for 500 vacancies! !

During the course of the stay at Abbotabad we were briefed on the training regime and shown some of the recruit training. Perhaps the most vivid memory will be of the recruit accommodation and the cookhouse, or at least our soldiers' reaction to it. It was also interesting to note that during basic training recruits are taught English as a formal part of the syllabus, but that is probably not hard to programme given that training starts at 0430 hours! ! !

From my own personal point of view I was able to meet an officer who served with my father, who was kind enough to entertain the whole group on one evening and regale me with countless tales of yore. I also saw reference to my father's service in the museum at Abbotabad, and to my uncle who was the last British officer to command the FF Centre.

Trekking in Northern Pakistan

The trekking side of the expedition was planned very much "on the hoof", due to a lack of knowledge of the area and difficulty in obtaining accurate guide books. To that end three jeeps were hired, with drivers, and we headed tentatively, but with some sense of adventure, for Northern Pakistan. It is a 16 hour drive, which we managed in two memorable days. The first thing that became apparent was the different approach that Pakistan has to driving; ride on the horn, foot down and hope for the best is how it appeared to us. The roads too did not help; these varied from a normal four-lane road to a nearly one-lane goat track. Roads are not just the preserve of vehicles in Pakistan; goats, cows and other wildlife are also allowed. On the second day we found ourselves on the famous Karakoram Highway (KKH to the locals). This is a well maintained arterial road which follows the path of the Indus river and connects with China. The heat was recorded at 50 degrees C during the course of the drive along the KKH.

This area of Pakistan is also much more remote and isolated than other trekking and climbing areas. There are no tea-houses or facilities outside the main towns; therefore all expeditions have to be totally self-sufficient. This also includes provision of medical and emergency supplies, as we were to discover later.

Leaving the KKH at Raikot Bridge we discovered payment was required to use the only road to Fairy Meadows. Having hand-



*The "Summit Team" crossing the Dainter Pass, 4900m
Back Row: Sgt Gray 2nd Bn, Pte Sullivan, LCpl Doherty RAMC
Centre: Pte Jones, Sgt Riley, Pte Owen
Front: Pte Cloughier, Maj Wenham, Pte Bee*

ed over approximately £60 we set off on a track that was a little wider than the jeep. As the track climbed it also seemed to narrow and the surface became more rutted, which with a 2,500ft drop on my left hand side was an excellent therapy for concentrating the mind, causing much nervous laughter, and trying to remember where the travel insurance had been put. After an hour of this "white knuckle" experience that I vowed never to repeat, we arrived in Tato. Not a buzzing metropolis, but a couple of shepherd huts beside a river and, due to a recent landslide, the end of the road. Camp was established for the night and the jeeps dispatched the next morning as we set off for the illusive Fairy Meadows. I should point out that the excessive heat, dehydration and continual bouts of "Delhi belly" were starting to take their toll. That day's trek took five hours, and at 3500m there was a flat meadow campsite with an unrivalled view of Nanga Parbat, the eighth highest mountain in the world, affectionately known as "killer mountain" for the amount of lives it has claimed.

After a required rest day in these pleasant surroundings, a day trek was conducted to the Base Camp of Nanga Parbat, at 4200m. This was an excellent day's walk in much cooler weather. The only regret was that the cloud-base was low and so the spectacular views promised in the guide book were denied to us. That evening CSgt Hill contracted a severe fever, which in the space of about an hour saw his temperature rise to an incredible 40.5 degrees. Thanks to the outstanding work of LCpl Doherty and the quick reactions of the rest of the team a potentially tragic situation was avoided. It is worth noting that five IV drips were used during the course of the night to bring down the CSgt's temperature.

The following day saw appalling weather, and given the CSgt's condition, it was decided to abandon plans to go for South Jalipur Peak and move down to Gilgit the next day. The walk down was uneventful but we did use the services of a locally hired horse to transport the casualty. To our surprise the jeeps were at the prearranged RV, but apart from off-loading the bergens everyone elected to walk the eight or nine Ks to Raikot Bridge in fierce sunshine rather than face another epic drive.

Gilgit is the main town in the Northern area of Pakistan and is the central focus for trekking and climbing groups. The group spent the night here to reconsider the next trekking options. The next day saw the group in the Naltar valley to the NW of Gilgit. A guide and porters were employed and we embarked on a five day trek over the Dainter Pass to a height of 4900m.

Special Features

Unfortunately CSgt Hill had not recovered sufficiently and Capt Bowman had contracted a throat infection and they were unable to take part.

This was a most enjoyable phase of the expedition. The weather was cooler, most of the group had acclimatised sufficiently, the views of the high peaks of the Hindu Kush were spectacular and we hardly saw another trekking group for five days.

The first camp was made at the Naltar Lakes. These small lakes are perched high up in the foothills of Khaitar Peak just off the Gilgit River. The first lake is a startling green colour (caused by algae on the bottom) surrounded by birch ash and pine trees, which made for an ideal campsite.

The route then follows the line of the Shani or Naltar Glacier, before the steep climb up to Upper Shani at about 4150m. From here there are dramatic views of Sentinel Peak (5260m), The Twins (5798), and Shani Peak (5887). A further steep climb and short scramble is required to gain the Dainter Pass. This was crossed in the morning to avoid slushy snow and risking avalanches. A very short piece of snow had to be crossed which involved crossing a small area of crevasses. It was with some amusement that we watched the porters holding on to a piece of rope that had the breaking strain of an elastic band, and one of the team crossing in bare feet as he could not get any traction

in the smooth soled trainers he was wearing.

There then followed a long downhill trek over one and a half days in gradually increasing heat to the small village of Torbuto Das, where we managed to RV with the vehicles. Another night in Gilgit and then the start of the two day drive back to Islamabad. Although we did not achieve all that we set out to on this phase, everyone was exposed to some challenging and adventurous trekking in a totally unique setting.

This was a wonderful and thoroughly enjoyable expedition to Pakistan. I only hope that now that our links with 5FF have been re-established that the exchanges between the two Regiments can be more regular. I am extremely grateful to Lt Col Muhammad Nasir Ali Khan, CO 5 FF, and everyone who made this such an enjoyable and memorable visit. We look forward to returning the compliment and seeing members of 5 FF over here in the near future. On behalf of the whole expedition I would also like to acknowledge the financial contributions made by the 1st Battalion, Regimental Headquarters and The Worshipful Company of Poulterers. This made a significant difference to the way in which the expedition was conducted.

See photographs on page 35

STTT Namibia

CSgt Hipperson, a 6 R ANGLIAN SNCO, is serving on an S Type Engagement from May-Dec 97 with a British sponsored short term training team in Namibia.

I was fortunate enough this year to be selected to form part of a six man team to serve in Namibia running a Commissioning Course for the Namibian Defence Force (NDF).

The team arrived at Sandhurst in late May 1997 to meet each other and spend a week doing last minute preparations prior to deployment. We also looked at the way Sandhurst runs its Commissioning Course with a view to chopping it up to fit a seven month package.

On arrival in Namibia we began a week of organising the camp to receive our fifty Officer Cadets. The first five weeks consisted of intensive training. Very soon the pressure was on the students, especially with the physical efforts required to complete Battle PT culminating at the top of "Hungry Hill" on our back door training area. On week five we held a Pass Off Parade for the successful students. This was followed by a week's well deserved leave spent with the other Pl Sgt exploring the Namibia Desert and Tish River Canyon with temperatures down to -5 at night.

On return to Camp we began the Commissioning Course covering attack, defence, Counter Insurgency Ops, border control, with much PT and drill involved. Teaching Namibians is easy as they are model students. Although conditions are basic the course has gone down well; the students are good and generally very fit.

The team managed to get a long weekend in Etosha Game Park viewing such wildlife as elephants, lions, rhinos and giraffe.

Unfortunately, due to having a happy shopper camera most of my photos came out as small dots much to the disgust of my wife. We also arranged a number of trips for the students to visit installations important to the infrastructure of Namibia such as the Rossing Uranium Mine, the Stock Exchange, the Kumane Hydro Electric Scheme and the National Import/Export Centre. This would be the students' only chance to see these attractions and was very well enjoyed by all those who participated.



CSgt Hipperson

At the time of writing this article, October, I'm home of leave (and very cold) and on return have only nine weeks to complete the Course with the successful Cadets Passing Out on 9 December 1997. Overall this has been the most enjoyable six months I have spent in uniform albeit at risk from snakes and scorpions!

To conclude, if anybody gets the chance to serve in this beautiful country, don't think twice; take it and you will never look back with regret.

A Walk on the Wild Side Tasmanian Style

Maj Duncan Gregory, Contingent Commander on Ex LONG LOOK in Australia and New Zealand, writes:

It wasn't quite a meeting of Stanley and Livingstone proportions but nevertheless a happy coincidence to bump into a fellow "Long Looker" in the middle of the Cradle Mountain, Lake St Clair National Park in Central Tasmania. Both of us were undertaking the 90 km Overland Track through true wilderness country. Sgt Beeton as part of an Engineer Survey Squadron expedition, myself on an individual basis. "Bush Walking", as Australians describe this activity, didn't seem an entirely accurate description as I struggled across snow fields, carrying four days of food, tent thermals and wearing head-to-toe gortex to delay the intrusion of water during twelve hours of rainfall, and the whole time on the look out for three types of poisonous snakes, Tasmanian Devils (a large aggressive rodent), leeches and mythical tigers that are said to inhabit the island's remotest parts. "Bush Walking" seemed to understate the scale of the endeavour.

Despite such adversities it was in the end a thoroughly rewarding experience. The sun did shine for some of the time. The possums did cause initial frustration but in the end great amusement for their unbelievable dexterity and determination in undoing the straps and draw strings of my rucksac, at night, to pilfer the food contained within. The camaraderie of other walkers united in the same venture was also genuine. Despite the allegedly large number of people who walk the track in warmer months the total lack of any rubbish or other detritus that is sadly a feature of many of the paths in Britain and elsewhere in the world, is testimony to the Australians' strong respect for and protection of wilderness areas and their belief in maintaining them in their natural state.

The walk completed, and with due apologies to the bus driver for my unsavoury state, I travelled on to Hobart, the island's main urban centre and a meeting with The Royal Tasmania Regiment. I, perhaps like you, was unaware of our Alliance with this Regiment. An initial move towards re-establishing the link occurred earlier in the year when Colonel Mattay, the Regimental Colonel, visited RHQ. Spending four months in Australia as this year's Ex LONG LOOK Contingent Commander was a further opportunity to rejuvenate the Alliance and see how it could be further strengthened.

Like us The Royal Tasmania Regiment has undergone a number of mergers in the 120 years since its founder Regiment, The Tasmania Volunteer Rifles, came into existence in 1878. Now as then it remains a volunteer, or reservist, unit as they call it, and operates very much along the lines of our own TA Battalions. RHQ had warned me to expect a plaque to be presented in return for the one given to Colonel Mattay during his visit, so I was somewhat taken aback when the "plaque" actually manifested itself as two engraved silver cups.



Major Duncan Gregory meeting Lt Col Steven Smith, CO of 12th/40th Battalion, The Royal Tasmanian Regiment.

Accepting these on behalf of the Regiment I assured the Commander Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Smith, that I would do all I could to secure an exchange position with them as part of next year's exercise.

As most will realise, Ex LONG LOOK is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Whilst it may be true that UK participants tend now to work harder on the exercise than hitherto, ample opportunity exists to see much of this fascinating continent. It is therefore unfortunate that this year's exercise was under-subscribed by thirteen positions and, despite my best efforts to get Royal Anglian officers and NCOs to fill them, only Sgt Garvey of the 1st Battalion could be released. With the likelihood that in the near future, possibly next year, the exercise will be opened up to a small number of the TA, 1998 should be the year that we ensure we get an exchange with The Royal Tasmania Regiment included as part of it, preferably someone with a pair of walking boots and a head for heights!

Major Duncan Gregory with Cradle Mountain in the background at the start of the Overland Track in Central Tasmania.



Post Card from Banja Luka, Republik Srbska Bosnia Herzegovina

Capt Pete Chilvers, a 6 R ANGLIAN Officer, is serving his second tour in Bosnia. Having first been mobilised from Apr - Dec 96 he has returned to the FRY to serve again as a member of the International Force trying to sustain peace.

Zdravo, dobra dan, kako ste?

This morning I was woken at 04.30 by a large detonation. As the explosion rumbled on I slowly came to, reached for the radio and called in a report. For me, rolling over and going back to sleep, it meant just another night's disturbed rest. However for the Banja Luka editor of Glas Srbski (a Serb nationalist paper) it meant he no longer had a car. At 12.30 another explosion was reported but the location and reason for this one has not yet been established - this is Banja Luka.

Located in the North West of Bosnia, Banja Luka is my home. Since arriving back in Bosnia-Herzegovina for a second tour back in May this year I have been working in G5 or, as it has become known, Civil Affairs. The G5 branch of the British Divisional HQ is responsible for support to the civil agencies implementing the peace agreement and to generally forge links with civil leaders within the Bosnian community in order to support the military mission and mandate.

As part of this effort a number of CIMIC Centres, or Civil Military Co-operation Centres, have been established. These are houses that exist out in the community and operate as information centres and points of contact for the civilian population and the Non-Governmental and Internal Organisations. I run the Banja Luka CIMIC and I and the 3 soldiers and 3 interpreters that work from 47 Petra Kocica, Banja Luka, have spent something like £250,000 on various types of projects this year doing everything from repainting and repairing children's playgrounds to repairing student accommodation at the University.

My main function though is working and liaising with the myriad of IOs (International Organisations) and the plethora of NGOs (Non-Governmental Organisations). I aim to help them carry out their work and keep the Division up to speed on what is being planned to advance the peace process and thereby ensure SFOR has an input.

Life never has a dull moment and just when you think you've seen and heard it all something else crops up. The night before last I was called at about 20.00 with a report from one of the IOs that his colleague had been seen being beaten behind a cafe in the town. The victim in question had then disappeared and no one knew where he had gone. It turned out he had been chatting up the daughter of a well renowned Person Indicted For War Crimes and two large men, possibly called "Ron", had had a word in his "shell like". Someone should have told him there are easier and less painful ways to commit suicide.

To talk you through a not un-typical day, last Tuesday I visited the European Community Monitoring Mission at their HQ first thing in the morning and took away a copy of their regular report to the EU on Bosnia. This was followed by a daily staff meeting at the UNHCR (United Nations High Commission for Refugees) at which all the protection and pro-



Capt Chilvers explores a Czech BMP while serving with SFOR

gramme officers brief on their latest activities throughout our AO. This was followed by a meeting with a Parliamentary Sub-Committee of the Council of Europe (Croatia has just been admitted), at which I had to give a 20 minute briefing. Stopping for a cup of tea, I then went back to the CIMIC Centre to meet a local lady who was seeking help in finding her son. He had been called up for military service in 1995 for two weeks to serve as a cook on the Bihac front. Unfortunately he never returned. He had been badly wounded when his position was overrun and his friend had had to leave him on the battlefield, being unable to carry him away. The friend is now apparently prepared to take the parents back to the last place he had seen their son. The families' hope, and it is slim, is that their son is alive and being held as an illegal detainee.... two were released in an International Police Operation only last month in Central Bosnia. What I can do is limited, but appreciated none the less. I put them in touch with the Red Cross, the (Body) Exchange Commission. In addition I can provide information on known minefields and can let the International Police Task Force know where and when they wish to travel in order that an element of additional security can be provided when they cross the Inter Entity Boundary Line that divides the Former Warring Factions. I can also inform the local Battle Group who control that particular area in order that they are aware of the visit and the location. A sad case, and dealing directly with the parents listening to a tearful mother tell her story brings the bald statistics of 25,000 missing persons in Bosnia home. Indeed a large number of bodies still lie on the surface of former battlefields across the country. Like the mines, it is a big job clearing the debris of war.

After lunch it is off to the weekly Human Rights Working Group meeting, at which I am the SFOR delegate. The issues dealt with range from illegal evictions to Muslim cemeteries being concreted over in order to build housing estates and exhumations and mass graves. No two days are the same and the day does not end until you are safely tucked up in bed, and sometimes not even then.

Living off camp and within the community has its risks but these are carefully assessed and reviewed. The object of living

Special Features

in the town among the local citizens is to demonstrate our trust and faith in them and to present the human face of SFOR. We are a convenient point of contact for the locals and if their only perception of SFOR is "that lot in the camp" or "that lot in the tanks" we risk becoming unapproachable. That will only create a barrier which will work against us and the International Community's aim of a return to normality. So, Banja Luka is now my town. I know it, its people and its leaders. However, despite the freedom of living in town, the Internationals have a greater level of personal freedom than I. At the end of the day, I am a soldier, and we at SFOR are here to ensure a secure environment in order that the civilian organisations can build a lasting peace. That requires a certain distance be kept. It's a bit like being a big brother, someone who is able to underwrite with the force of a Challenger and an Apache the will of the International Community.

It's fascinating working in this country. Each day is a challenge of diplomacy, strength and most definitely a test of your sense of humour. The thing to remember though is that there is no "pink", no DS solution. If it works, it's good, and if it doesn't it might do next time so don't rule it out.

If I was to tell you what I want, it would be for things to get better, and to stay better. Speaking from a second mobilisation perspective I feel I can say that things are improving. One six month tour can create a certain level of disillusionment since the period is too short.

As far as the future is concerned, for things to remain better it will probably be necessary for us to remain, for a while at least.

Exercise Hercules' Pillar, Gibraltar

Lt Simon Worthy, 2nd Battalion, writes:

The Poachers carried out a two week scuba diving expedition to Gibraltar in July 1997. With The Royal Anglian Regiment's links with The Gibraltar Regiment an expedition to visit the isthmus and take part in adventurous pursuits is a thoroughly rewarding experience. The end state for my expedition was to have eight new sports divers. With any adventure training exercise so much can go wrong, and more so on one as complicated as scuba diving, but fortunately everything started well on the first day and continued more or less along the same vein.

We were able to dive at some truly breath-taking sites whilst on the expedition. The Ragged Staff Rock dive, sometimes known as the Silent Pool, was not an easy dive so only a limited number of us had permission to be there. It is a cave dive to about 40m depth over a distance of 100m so no vertical descent or ascent was possible - a new experience in itself. The cave contains stalactites, stalagmites, and at 15m depth an inconvenient but truly impressive stalactite. It was one of the most eerie of dives. In the centre of the lake was a single red rose and on the cave wall was a plaque, all for a diver who had died only weeks before - a frightening reminder of one's own mortality. The effect of the Halocline where there is a change from fresh water to salt water is truly startling - like pouring glycerine into water - I thought I had lost my contact lenses!

On one of our night dives LCpl Allen enjoyed chasing an octopus but easily lost the battle as I looked on laughing as best I could underwater. Meanwhile two other divers were having a tete-a-tete with a Ford Escort - I wonder if the insurance company knows its whereabouts. I have since been pondering what was more horrific at night, the ugly marine life or the acquaintances made above water after hours by some members of the expedition!

Oceanus Reef has one of the truly most dramatic "drops" in the area. We were certainly very fortunate to visit this particular dive due to the difficulty level. The reef has lots of fish life, soft corals and red coral. The most stretching part of the dive was the strength of the currents sweeping over the reef and down to a drop of well over 70m. We had been told that when the cur-



Lt Simon Worthy prepares to "Ditch in the soup"

rents take you it's just a case of going with the flow, and hopefully one will come up within a half a mile of the rescue boat. With this in mind we seemed to enjoy the dive even more.

We were well hosted on various occasions by members of The Gibraltar Regiment. They enjoyed revealing their expertise in tunnel warfare during one of our tours. To repay their hospitality, we hosted them at a barbecue after "destroying" them 7-4 in a competitive football match. We ensured that we paid an important visit to The Royal Anglian Way and presentations took place between the expedition and G Coy The Gibraltar Regiment.

The expedition was indeed a success both in diving and in improving The Royal Anglian Regiment's links with The Gibraltar Regiment. Although some expedition members failed to achieve their individual aims the majority achieved far more than could be reasonably expected in the conditions encountered. All of the expedition members were deliberately placed in potentially life threatening situations and allowed to respond in their own manner within the bounds of safe diving practices. The qualified Sport Divers were given the opportunity of participating in extremely complex and hazardous dives; none of them declined the offers.

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Exercise Yodelling Cadet,

Officer Cadet Simon Otter, also sponsored by the Regiment on his adventure training from Sandhurst, writes on his expedition from 9 - 18 Aug 97 to Southern Germany:

Exercise Yodelling Cadet was a ten day adventurous training exercise based in Bavaria, Southern Germany. The primary aim of the expedition was to undertake some arduous hill walking, the secondary aim being to visit the concentration camp of Dachau, which is just North of Munich.

The group of ten intrepid Officer Cadets met up in London. It was here that we experienced our first problem. This came in the form of Officer Cadet Knox (Green Howards) and his passport or rather lack of it. Failing to read his joining instructions correctly he had omitted to pack it, which necessitated a quick drive back to Sandhurst.

Our first deadline was the Eurotunnel which we made in good time only to discover that the train on which we had booked had been over subscribed; as a result we were delayed for an hour. After complaining en masse to the operators we had to content ourselves with some discount vouchers and a game of volleyball much to the bemusement of coach loads of French tourists.

Two hours into France, in the early hours of the morning, our navigator decided rather unwittingly to turn off the autoroute and look at Roubaix and Lille at close quarters. After an hour of being 'geographically challenged' and directing numerous insults at the French system of sign posting they eventually found a signpost to Brussels, which was the general direction in which we needed to head, much to the relief of everyone. The remaining ten hours of the journey was largely uneventful except for a close encounter with the rumble strip at 4 a.m. in the morning.

We arrived at our Gasthaus in Niedersonthofen in the early afternoon. The proprietor was a retired Sergeant from the Royal Signals and was therefore experienced in accommodating forces personnel. Once we had unloaded the luggage we headed for the nearby lake. The temperature of the lake certainly invigorated us after the long journey. Someone had rather foolishly positioned a pontoon about 30 metres offshore. Inevitably, being a competitive bunch, we began to devise light-hearted games such as 'King of the Pontoon' and 'Sink the Pontoon'.

On the second day we undertook a 5 hour acclimatisation walk up to the local waterfall. The water was possibly the coldest running water known to man, however this didn't deter the majority from a brisk swim. One Officer Cadet, deciding this wasn't cold enough for him, stood under the main 15 metre high waterfall, where, between the screams, he counted to thirty. The remainder of us were in hysterics at the bizarre antics.

Unfortunately our expedition coincided with the 'fest' week of the neighbouring towns and villages. Naturally it was the group consensus to become immersed in local culture and so a trip in the evening to Kempten, a nearby town, was planned. Not known to do things by half we all donned our plus fours and knee high red socks, issued courtesy of RAF Thatcham. Somehow we were all admitted into the fest on a family ticket!



Author third from left, back row.

An hour and a couple of steins (litre glasses) of beer later we were the focus of attention in the main beer tent with our rather interesting variation of German dancing which we tried but failed miserably to vaguely co-ordinate with the local oompah-pah band. I think it is fair to say that everyone had a night to remember.

On the next day we began the main walk in earnest. We started from Oberjoch and our objective was to walk to Oberstdorff climbing the Nebelhorn mountain (1876m) en route. Each man carried a bergen weighing approximately 20 kilograms. The gradients along much of the route were very steep and it was very physically demanding. Fortunately having spent two terms at Sandhurst we were all at the peak of fitness, or at least we believed we were. The fact that we were physically exhausted for a lot of the time we quickly attributed to the lack of oxygen at that altitude. Both nights we stayed in hutted accommodation. If the authorities had allowed we would have much rather camped. The piece de resistance was definitely the amazing views as fortunately we were blessed with excellent weather. What a contrast this was to Sennybridge or 'Sennyberia', as we affectionately refer to it at Sandhurst, where we seem to undertake numerous exercises. We arrived in Obersdorff on Thursday afternoon tired but with a great sense of achievement.

On the Friday morning we visited The Royal Castle of Neuschwanstein, which is an extremely impressive castle complete with spiralling towers built by the rather eccentric King Ludwig II. In the afternoon, under the tuition of the Gasthaus' instructor (another ex Royal Signals Sergeant), we undertook some climbing and abseiling, which, for some members of the group, was the first taste of it.

We then headed for Garmisch and camped the night at the United States campsite, where we were very kindly invited to their Alpine Lodge for a disco. On the Saturday we climbed the Zugspitze (2965m), which is the highest mountain in Germany. The ascent and descent took 10 hours, but, as with the other walks, was extremely enjoyable and worthwhile. In the evening we headed for the much talked about Munich.

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Having drunk an admirable quantity of local beer during our stay we thought it would only be courteous of us to pay a visit to the Hoffbrau Haus and see where the beer was brewed, and indeed to see if the taste of the beer differed at source. After extensive testing the group was of the opinion that the taste was not markedly different and therefore that it must travel well.

On the next and last day of our expedition we were all in need of a sobering experience. This took the form of a visit to the concentration camp at Dachau, which was founded in March 1933 to house political opponents, Jews, clergymen and 'undesirable elements' (homosexuals and intellectuals). These groups of people were all deemed by the Nazis to be enemies of the Nationalist-Socialist regime. Between 1933 and 1945 206,000 prisoners were registered at the camp and during World War II 31,591 prisoners of all nationalities are known to have died at Dachau and thousands of others are still unaccounted for.

Those in the group walked around the camp individually saying little to each other if they happened to pass. Personally I

felt that due to the eeriness which permeated throughout the camp, it was necessary to experience it alone. This then allowed me to begin to contemplate how terrible life there must have been.

When the atrocities which occurred at the camp were made public they disgusted the whole world. Words alone seem inadequate when summing up a place like Dachau and therefore I can only refer to a memorial which I saw there, which read 'Let us never let this happen again'.

The journey home, as with the journey down, was long, tiresome and slightly painful. However we did manage to avoid the delights of Roubaix and Lille and made it back to Sandhurst via London without further mishap. I think it is fair to say that all the members of the expedition had a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding time, which will remain with them for many years to come.

IFOR to SFOR - A Viking's View

Major James Hart, now with 20 Armoured Bde, writes on his tour in Bosnia

Having been away from both the 1st and 2nd Bns when they went to Bosnia I was one of the few R ANGLIAN officers who had not served in the Balkans. However no sooner had my wife and I arrived in Paderborn, the home of HQ 20 Armd Bde, than I discovered that for the first 6 months of my new posting I was to be deployed to Former Yugoslavia. We were to take over the HQ of the British Bde on OP RESOLUTE 3. I was not going to get left behind in the medal stakes after all!

The HQ deployed in Oct 96 and relieved HQ 1 Mech Bde at Sipovo. The HQ worked to HQ Multi National Division(South West)(MND)(SW) based at Banja Luka, along with a Canadian Bde HQ. As SO3 G3 Ops/O&D I had a busy job overseeing the current daily operations undertaken by our Bde. This comprised of a Dutch Guards Battle Group (BG) 17 GFPI (Guards Fusiliers Princes' Irene), a Malaysian BG, 2 MBG, and our own A1 BG 1 WFR. Having been taught on JCSC that operational staff work meant heaps of abbreviations and the utmost brevity in all staff work, it was with some surprise that due to multi nationality everything had to be in long hand and in capitals to prevent misunderstanding and ambiguity.

We were based in Sipovo's Hotel Janj with the HQ complex being based somewhat aptly in the old hotel disco! We enjoyed a late Bosnian Summer which stretched into November and then, with no autumnal transition period, the harsh Bosnian winter snow was dumped on us. This did not melt, except for one short period, until late Apr 97. Overnight the chaos of poor roads, a lack of suitable vehicles and difficult terrain caused all ops to be hampered and slowed down. Helicopter flights became marginal at the best of times and the moods and temperament of the weather became the largest and most significant planning factor for all ops in the Bde area.



Major Hart briefing COMSFOR, Gen Crouch, in the Bde complex at Sipovo

The day to day work of the Bde consisted of ensuring the 3 faction armies - the VRS(Serb), the HVO(Croat) and the ArBiH(Bosniac/Muslim), complied fully with the Military Annex to the Dayton Peace Agreement which had been signed in Dec 95. This was done by Bde units monitoring all authorised military training and checking the inventories of all the armies' declared weapon storage sites. These sites were divided into combat sites (with combat vehicles within them) and infrastructure sites (with logistic elements within them). The former had to be inspected every 30 days and the latter every 60 days. Barely a day went past without some posturing or complaint by the Former Warring Factions (FWF) as a result of an IFOR confiscation due to irregular accounting at a storage site. However having a Brig who had been a military negotiator at Dayton ensured that the local Corps Comds were not able to pull the wool over our eyes.

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IFOR ended its mandate on 20 Dec 96 and SFOR was born. Implementation had evolved to Stabilisation and OP RESOLUTE passed to OP LODESTAR. SFOR's mandate is due to last until Jun/Jul 98 assuming successful municipal elections take place and nation building institutions take root. With the arrival of SFOR came a dramatic reconfiguration in MND(SW). The first was the collapse of the Bde level of command. Over the period of a week the Canadian Bde HQ and our own Bde HQ were dismantled and moved to Banja Luka. MND(SW) was now to consist of 7 Multi National Battle Groups working to one Div HQ whose core structure comprised HQ 20 Armd Bde. We would work to the new HQ SFOR based in Sarajevo under command of COMSFOR, a US 4 star General.

My job became a great deal busier. The Div BGs now consisted of the SCOTS DG BG, 1 GH BG (who had replaced 1 WFR), 3 RMP, who had a special Area of Operations (AO) in Banja Luka itself, 101 Regiment Hussars Prince Alexander - a Dutch Tank BG (who had replaced 17 GFPI), 2 PPCLI - a Canadian Mech BG, 3 Malaysian BG (who had replaced 2 MBG) and finally 6 Czech Mech BG - former enemies during the cold war, BMP 2 equipped and very robust.

The new AO was the size of Wales and had 2 alphabets, 3 languages and 4 religions within it. The chance of all 7 BGs having a quiet day at the same time was very rare, so days were busy. National agendas, different foreign policy attitudes and different interpretations of peace support operations were just some of the diplomatically challenging problems and headaches that had to be overcome without either SFOR party losing face. Even Rules of Engagement cards were different! The intricacies of our coalition force had to be studied, learnt and above all protected from exploitation by the Factions. Even the smallest of issues could rise to strategic levels. A small ragged Croat flag hoisted over a wrecked Bosniac Muslim mosque caused such an outcry that even DSACEUR became interested!

HQ 20 Armd Bde handed over to HQ 7 Armd Bde in Apr 97 having reconfigured the British MND from its IFOR state to its current SFOR structure. Looking back it was a fascinating experience at both Bde and Div levels. Multi National coalition ops may well be the way ahead and no doubt Royal Anglians will be centrally involved and to the forefront of them in times to come.

Upgrade your Life Insurance - You are going to BATUS

Lt Andrew Robbins, 2nd Battalion, writes:

After months of being unsure as to whether I was to go to Canada, my flight confirmation came through the day before Easter leave. On 4 April I was to board flight RR2762 and head for Calgary (facing backwards) via Iceland. On arrival in Canada we were herded aboard a coach that drove us the three hour journey into the Prairie lands. Thus began my life as infantry dismounted safety officer going by the name of Callsign 32, well at least until August.

For the first four or five weeks the pace of life was fairly steady, if not cold (-15c), due to the fact that the first MEDMAN exercise had been cancelled. Thus time was taken up with the statutory safety briefs, lectures on the BATUS safety system, exercise TEWIs and a Direct Fire Weapons Effect Simulator (DDWES) instructors course. In amongst these various activities there was time to hunt out and buy the obligatory BATUS banger (a 1983 5 ltr Mercury Zephyr - a particularly smart vehicle even if I say so myself), explore the delights of Medicine Hat (the nearest town) and at weekends ski in Banff. However by the second week in May the snow had disappeared and time was spent in Calgary - embarking upon a multitude of cultural visits!

Finally on 28 May MEDMAN 2 started. This was to be a two squadron (1 RTR) one company (2 RGJ) exercise. My first job was to run a dismounted attack lane where the sections practise fire and movement as well as getting used to the safety staff providing the 'link' between the forward and rear sections. Basically the 'link' means that either a dismounted safety staff or safety vehicle stands forward of the firer so that he becomes the firer's 570 (the safety arc used when carrying out live firing), or in the case of WARRIOR the Land Rover becomes its 45. Thus 'check fire' is achieved by getting in front of the firer! (Life assurance - what life assurance?) My second responsibility on the second day of the exercise was to run a section in defence shoot with WARRIOR supporting with both Chain Gun and 30mm cannon, as well as each section firing two LAWs (Light Anti-Tank Weapons).

From the third day the Company starts to operate in its mounted role, with the exception of one dismounted night attack; first at platoon level, then building up to company level, until finally the Battle Group as a whole works together. Obviously there is a steep learning curve for the Company who had only recently converted to armour, but also for the safety staff who are trying to learn their job. The live firing phase lasted for eleven days, with the remaining period taken up with TESEX (an exercise using the Army's latest laser technology to simulate weapons firing), where safety staff help to not only fit but also administer the DFWES equipment before becoming observer controller/umpires. The build up period for this phase follows a similar pattern as the live firing build up, which culminates in Ex TOTALISE, which is a five day TESEX. Generally during MEDMAN safety staff start work at around 0500 hrs coming in off the Prairie at around 1800 hrs, except when night attacks take place when we stay out until the attack is over. However the saving grace is that a night attack is always followed by a maintenance day. Contrary to initial beliefs the TESEX phase is harder work than the Live Fire period, with long periods spent on the Prairie.

Eventually MEDMAN draws to an end leaving the safety staff with ten days' leave in which to recover. However, being Callsign 32, I was responsible for the range clearance that takes place at the end of each exercise. The leave period is usually a good opportunity to travel around the States or go down to Mexico. However, I was fortunate enough to be there during the BATUS 25th Anniversary and so all safety staff were given a long weekend before returning to run various stands.

The pace of life on MEDICINE MAN was fast but I was rewarded with an opportunity to broaden my experience of combined arms operations and a period of R & R between exercises. Overall, a most worthwhile journey.

Striking Out or is it Striding Out?

Major Roger Shelmerdine-Hare, serving at HQ Allied Air Forces NW Europe, writes:

I would like to do anything, as long as it's within 4 hours of Ipswich.

This is exactly what I asked of PB2 or whatever it is called nowadays. Suddenly I found myself working in a very different environment, although thinking about it, this place is rather like the submarine at Enniskillen where Bn HQ was entombed in our Fermanagh tour in 1991. So, what am I doing in the bunker at RAF Strike Command, what is the RAF and, more importantly, how long can I remain undetected here?

I had always wanted to work in the G2 side of life, and so it was with some glee that I came to High Wycombe to find out from an Army Air Corps Major what I was letting myself in for. We met at the gate, where the smartly dressed policeman waved at me and the armed sentry stared inwards, in case, as I found out later, anyone tried to leave work before 1500 hrs. I found myself in a delightful area of buildings, trees, cars, and some very large emblems. **FIRST TO STRIKE** this, **COMMAND** that. Bomber Harris' office is still in existence in a pretty building, as is his bunker which isn't pretty or in a building! That said, they are using some money saved on carpets to refurbish the bunker, an alternative for the alternative War HQ I believe.

We came to the next set of gates, guarded by an Anti Aircraft system liberated from somewhere hot, as well as a fine specimen rose. Taking our last gasp of fragranced air, we were swallowed up by the entrance to the bunker. And there you have it. I can't tell you the rest as a RAF Policeman who resides in the office will arrest me.

I wear uniform. WO1 Duncan, who spent a lot of time trying to break me from the habit of wearing Gucci Kit, however, would be very pleased. The RAF do not have as many options as we have and the Brigadier who works in AFNORTHWEST set the precedent of long hair and odd uniform. So I am afraid that on the odd occasion I do slip and wear No 58 dress, that is jungle trousers, Canadian desert boots and a shirt. The programme is: I get up at 0615 hrs (thanks to the staff at Bury St Edmunds who gave me the world's loudest alarm clock), I leave Bicester for work at 0715 hrs latest and it is cold at that time of day. Of course, the bunker is air conditioned so getting the balance is tricky. I also finish work at odd times, and return home between 1730 and 1930 hrs. It's cold then too.

Anyway, I am surrounded by computers in here. I can see 30 screens, and there are only 15 of us in here. Oh, I must not forget the two ceiling supported TVs, very useful for catching up on the day's weather. What do I do, I hear you ask? My title is SO2 G2 OPINT/PLANS. I cover a whole range of things: C2W, exercises, plans, NATO (we are dual hatted here) and anything which the RAF doesn't want to deal with. For example, a wall had to be removed from between two rooms to facilitate comms. Who can fix it? Well, bringing in my RSO experience and knowledge of DIH (Do it Herself), I sorted it. Op JERRICHO was created, workers briefed, the OPO written and I then left for a week returning to find that it had worked. Marvellous.

It is an enjoyable job here. Yes, the hole in the ground is not the best of environments, but being a confirmed window gazer, at least I can now focus on my work. I get about, meetings in London, courses to attend in Oberammergau, Brussels and

Chicksands, and conferences in America and Holland. Exercises have taken me to High Wycombe, Norway and Sweden. Talking of which.....

Have you ever seen a Swedish Special Forces man with 20,000 parachute descents cry after jumping out of The Enemy's aircraft? No? Well I haven't either, but it was a close thing. 17 nations took part in a Partnership for Peace exercise in Sweden a few weeks ago. Belarus, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Poland, Russia, UK, USA, to name but a few, sent over aircraft, inflatable hospitals, Medevac Crews and air drop specialists to practise a humanitarian aid exercise. We all lived in new portacabins on the airfield, nice clean and non-leak type for a change, a diet of open sandwiches and drank beer and socialised. It was tough. The full planning cycle for airops was conducted with our cell assessing how the task went. We did a mixture of Quick and Dirty debriefs "You OK, took off, got back, any problems?" to a more subjective look at the strategy of P&P Operations and the need for SOPs and basic humanitarian organisation templates. For example, if the Russian airdropable, inflatable hospital is available to be used in a crisis, what system will they use to record medical information, what is needed by the doctor who is at the interface between the hospital and the aircraft, and where is English (the common language) required?

I have a few pictures in my mind from this historic event:

A Russian pilot in the front seat of a Swedish C-130, discussing the controls, "I've only one of those, but three of these", etc etc. An intel officer pointing to the IL 76, Candid, the second largest Russian aircraft, at the far end of the runway, saying "Its odd seeing the enemy here, a bit unnerving".

A Grippen roars overhead and as one body all the people in the bar rush out, look up and grin, watching as it effortlessly turns pulling 9G, the occasional rueful glance to other pilots indicate that this is an impressive aircraft.

The female pilot of the USA C130, after watching the display by the Swedish C130, turned to me and said words to the effect that..... that sort of thing excited her..... to be honest it did me too, the C130 that is.....

It is fascinating finding out about a world which I have never really needed to understand. One of the advantages of doing odd jobs. I also have managed to use the Army card. I've been shooting for the Army and took a team to Canada to compete in the Canadian Skill at Arms Competition CFSAC. Whilst there, I came across Mr Scarboro, ex 2 R ANGLIAN, who is now, having emigrated to Canada, a Commissionaire. In Target Pistol shooting, we recently fired the final, as we know it, match against the other Services but lost to the RAF. The Combined Services then shot against GB, and lost as well! After the team tea, we had a minute's silence for the end of a way of life for the many thousands of law abiding citizens who have been involved in pistol shooting. The end of an era, the end of a tradition and the demise of a freedom. What next? A ban on shot-guns, rifles and then fishing, maybe restrictions on access to the hills, who knows? I've never written to No 10 before, but I have now.



Climbing is now my main sport. We walked up Mt Blanc a few weeks ago. Bad weather sadly forced a retreat, which turned out to be a sensible decision, for as we lay in our beds on the Monday morning the Chamonix helicopter took off in clouds to rescue some climbers. We didn't find out till the Wednesday as I travelled to London that an avalanche had killed a British climber. So for once a good decision, although at the time I was pretty unhappy at coming down. But climbing is good, it is another way to focus and yet you can take other people there and share the experience. All my kids climb and enjoy it, and it is a great way to meet people.

So, the work is varied. Blue jobbies are on the whole OK but they have different ways of doing things. For instance, I had been away for 5 weeks, Canada, leave and the Summer Bank Holiday and I returned for 0750 hrs sharp. My curiosity started to twitch as I came in through the gates. Where were the crowds? I parked in a very empty bunker car park, walked

through the quiet corridors to the beige doors, dumped my bag on the desk observing the rather quiet room (the lights were off, presumably to save electricity), then moved slowly through to the briefing room for the morning brief to find just the night shift. Yes, the RAF sensibly allow personnel travel time after Bank Holidays, so I had a quiet few hours to clear my In Tray and to fill out my 1771s. So much for coming in early!

In all seriousness, the job is interesting and with a large amount of variety. I am away a lot either on courses, training, conferences or exercises. I have a chance to see the workings of a professional organization, which is high tech but undermanned, especially in those areas which should be growing like intelligence. It is also good to be able to look back at how we in the Regiment conduct ourselves, our man-management, the ability to communicate and enthuse soldiers and the bonds of friendship that remain despite being rather distant.

Outreach Programme Visit to the Czech Republic, 21 Sep - 1 Oct 97

Lt Dominic Biddick, 1st Battalion, writes:

OCs are always handing out things to subalterns: Tasks, paperwork, fatherly advice, extras, that sort of thing. However, it isn't every day that the OC turns around and casually asks if you would like to jet off to the Czech Republic for ten days. I considered the question for all of about two seconds and then replied with a firm "yes" and a thoughtful smile, as I pondered what the visit might entail.

A few days later I received a written instruction for the visit which explained that it was one of a series of steps brought about by the 'Outreach' Programme. The Outreach Programme is designed to improve Anglo-Czech relations, as well as build up knowledge of each other's Armed Forces in preparation for Czech integration into the NATO structure. I was to be one of a party of twenty British officers visiting the Czechs, who in turn were sending twenty of their officers over here.

On arrival at RAF Northolt for the flight to Prague it became apparent that my fellow visiting officers represented a cross section of the Army, and indeed the RAF. One thing we shared, however, was a severe lack of faith in the rather historic looking 'Antonov' airframe sitting on the runway that was about to become our transport to the East. By the time we boarded the aircraft had been affectionately nicknamed 'Air Force 1', but all worries were quickly washed away by the swift appearance of some Czech beer. Naturally, acting in an ambassadorial role, I thought it would have been impolite to have refused!

On arrival in Prague we were swiftly briefed by the Defence Attache and then split up into pairs and shipped out to various bases. My partner for the trip was a Royal Corps of Signals officer currently serving with the Army Air Corps as a Lynx pilot. Our destination was to be the 33rd Helicopter Base in Prerov, an industrial town in the East of the country. We were soon met by our host, a 'Major Vladimir Chromy', the 2IC of the Czech Air Forces 'Tiger' HIND Mi-24 Squadron.

The morning of day one consisted of an introduction to key personnel and a tour of the camp. The base had previously been home to squadrons of SU-22s, and is consequently dominated by

well fortified aircraft silos. The jets are gone now, but in their place sit row on row of HINDS, HIPS, SCOUTS and FALCONS. The latter were recently obtained in an exchange with the Polish Air force, who in turn received Mig-29s from the Czechs. In the afternoon we were flown by HIP back to Prague to visit the Air Force Museum. The key point that was put across in the visit to the museum was just how proud the Czechs are of their pilots who flew for the RAF during World War Two. This link with Britain means a lot to them and they are understandably keen to re-establish it in the form of NATO membership.

The reader shall be spared a day by day account of the remainder of the visit, although there were activities that are worthy of a few words here. Primarily there was the flying; a display was put on which included flights from each type of aircraft on the base. Of course the star of the show was the HIND. This really is an impressive aircraft, renowned for its firepower and protection. Points often overlooked are the HIND's troop carrying capability (crew of three plus an eight man section) and superb speed and manoeuvrability. I was certainly unaware that with a top speed of 330 km/h the HIND is some 100 km/h faster than the Lynx. After the display we were treated to some stomach-churning low level flying onboard the HIND and the FALCON, an experience that I shall not quickly forget.

Lt Biddick by a Hind Mi-24



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A second highlight of the trip would have to be the 'survival' exercise we were forced to endure. In effect it was a refresher course designed to teach pilots how to survive in the event of coming down in enemy territory. As an Infanteer I was delighted when this course allowed me the opportunity to experiment with 'Semtex'. Rather than mundanely blow up charges that we had prepared our rather eccentric instructor insisted that we used them for 'explosive fishing'. Admittedly the technique was successful and the harvest it created was eaten that evening!

A day of the visit was devoted to giving and receiving presentations back in Prerov. Having been briefed on the way the British Army worked the Czechs were particularly interested to learn more about how our arms plot cycle worked, how we coped with women in the Army and the results of having a volunteer as opposed to conscript force. Interestingly our host felt that of all its features it was the British Army's doctrine that impressed him most, for the Czechs are currently struggling to establish doctrine and indeed new tactics of their own, although the Americans are assisting them on the tactics side.

There was of course a social side to the exchange, and a fair few Czech beers were tasted. At an average cost of twenty pence per pint one might be excused for thinking heaven on earth had been found! A visit to Prague was also included in the programme, prior to a wash up with the Defence Attache to discuss points raised over the ten days of the trip.

In essence this trip proved to be a great opportunity to spend time with, and get to know the mind of, the former enemy. I was left with the impression that we were right to fear the capabilities of the Warsaw Pact Forces during the Cold War. However, the Czechs, at least, are now a force in crisis. They receive little support from their political masters and are consequently on the receiving end of massive financial equipment and manpower cuts. These problems may sound familiar, but they are way beyond anything that we have encountered in the British Army. I for one will be charting the progress of the Czech Forces on their road to NATO membership with great interest.

On Attachment with 2RRF

2Lt Lincoln, 6 R ANGLIAN, who has just completed a year's attachment to 2 RRF in Germany and Bosnia, writes:

23 April was supposed to be the long awaited day that the advance party from my platoon were to deploy to Bosnia. I had also been given the dubious honour of being the packet commander for the flight. Unfortunately, having arrived at Hannover airport, we were greeted by the news that the flight would be delayed until the following morning. The following day the flight to Split went smoothly. We were greeted by stories of two feet snow drifts in Gornji Vakuf (GV), which at the time we found difficult to believe due to the glorious sunshine in which we had arrived. However, some hours later these rumours proved to be true. Considering we had all been bragging to friends and loved ones how this was to be a Summer tour, and that we would return as "Bronzed Adonises", this was a bit of a shock.

The Company Group comprising of Company Headquarters, three Warrior platoons, the Anti-Tank Platoon, REME and Tech assets were based in the Precision Factory, Gornji Vakuf. This was a base which we shared with two different Engineer Squadrons. Despite the excellent facilities that the P-Factory had to offer, the more exciting prospect to the Platoon Commanders was the Platoon House in Prozor, which had been established to provide greater patrol cover in the South of the area of operations.

After just one night in which to get completely disorientated in GV, I was to take my small advance party to the house to relieve the outgoing Green Howards. The accounts that I had heard of what the house had to offer were true. With satellite TV, video, a full-time chef and medic, there wasn't much more that you would need. However this wasn't the end of it, as the house also contained the only two baths in the whole of the Battle Group area, as well as a good looking locally employed cleaner!

Prozor is a staunchly Croat town of approximately 15,000 people and is the location where the Muslim/Croat war began. It is located about 20km South of Gornji Vakuf, with the large mountainous feature of "Tito's Fist" in between. "Tito's Fist" was also the location of the rebro site between the area to the South and the HQ in Gornji Vakuf. The site was manned by a section (rotating on a daily basis) from the Platoon in Prozor. This also provided a great opportunity to provide the house with a warning if the OC was on his way past to visit.

The first five weeks provided me with the most enjoyable period of the whole tour. To command the platoon in isolation from the rest of the Company was an excellent opportunity. It also saw the first deployment for us of a Warrior in anger; Cpl McKenna became the hero of a small Muslim town called Duge when he arrived in the middle of the night in his Warrior to deter threats from local civilians and police.

The day to day activity saw plenty of patrols with newly promoted LCpls having a lot of responsibility. The patrols were to gain information on villages, provide information on return of refugees, provide confidence to locals and deter action from any belligerents. Additionally there were many weapons and ammunition convoys to be escorted between various Former Warring Faction cantonment sites. As a Platoon Commander I was regularly involved in inspecting a number of cantonment sites. Each would be formally inspected once a month. From time to time there would be discrepancies in the amount of kit which was held and on several occasions weapons and munitions were confiscated.

There were also opportunities for training and the platoon made good use of the available resources. Chinooks provided transport for the platoon to participate in field firing in the Republic of Serbia on a VRS training area. There were also a number of cadres which were run during the tour. These included JNCO tactics packages, gunnery, map reading as well as adventurous training and watersports at Brac. One of the better day's training existed close at hand. This involved using a local Muslim Army training area to practise platoon level Warrior tactics. The area, unlike most in Bosnia, was clear of mines. However, training opportunities obviously took second place to operational commitments.

I only completed four months of the tour, as I was to return to civilian life to take up a job with the MOD. I left with nothing but good memories of the time that I spent with the Fusiliers, and of Bosnia. I have gained much experience, and of all the things that I had done in my SSVC year the hardest was to hand over my platoon when I left to the next Platoon Commander.

Driving in the Former Republic of Yugoslavia

Pie Scott, 6 R ANGLIAN, who was mobilised to join IFOR/SFOR and served with them for 12 months, writes:

I was mobilised on 27 Oct 96. I went to Sandhurst to do the paperwork and have my medical and dental. When we passed the medicals we were issued Combat 95 kit and our weapons. We also received £3,454 tax free. We then went to Salisbury Plain to do our training for Bosnia under instructors from 1 PARA. The training was demanding and very well put together.

After a few days we were individually tasked with being Section Commanders. All the training was geared around casualties in different situations from road traffic accidents to minefields. We were given 48 hours leave at the end after which I was told I would be attached to 200 Signal Sqn in Sipovo. We flew out from Lyneham on a Hercules C130. It wasn't as cold as we had been told when we arrived in Split. We were taken to the TRC (Theatre Reception Centre), which was based in a fruit picking complex, and were given a mines brief, a pay card and 100DM. We then collected our baggage and were taken to the LO's building in Divulge Bks. We were given a brief by the LO from 200 Signal Sqn and had some food. We then travelled by coach to Sipovo where the weather was much cooler. We arrived at the hotel in Sipovo at 2130 hours. Some of the lads stayed at the hotel being used by 20 Armd Bde. The rest of us went to the secure factory in the town. We had a hot meal then a brief from the Camp SSM. I was informed I would be with the MT Section. I also found out that a Cpl Trumm from 158 (R ANGLIAN) was with the MT Section. We were shown our bed spaces in a small room for 8 which was cold and dusty. That day we filled lots of paperwork in, NOK forms and general info about ourselves. We had a brief and demo about snow chains with one of the Regular soldiers looking after us. He showed us around camp and the routes around Sipovo. One of the main tasks was taking civilian cleaners from the hotel to Jayce where they lived. We had to escort backwards and forwards as they were Croatian and Sipovo is a Serb town. In the middle of November the snow started to come down hard. We also moved location within the factory into the 'pig pen', the old boiler room. The highlight of Sipovo was the CES show. We were kicked out of our room for the girls from the show who stayed there for a few days.

In December 20 Armd Bde moved to Banja Luka to take over command of MND SW. As Division HQ pulled out of Bosnia, the factory we were staying at was taken over by 7 RHA. I asked to stay in Sipovo to help with handing the hotel back to the local authorities. While I was in Sipovo I met a few of the lads from the RAF Regiment and found out that they were from RAF Honington and knew a few who lived in my home town. I got on really well with the RAF lads, who then moved to Banja Luka with us where I spent Christmas Day. Later in

the month I was asked to go to 1 AFA and help out for a few weeks. The few weeks turned out to be a permanent move. I was a Crash 1 driver for the whole of January and crashed out four times that month. The second crash out was to an RTA. A 127 Ambulance with a casualty had gone off the road on Route Parrott having hit black ice on a bed. We found the Ambulance upside down in a gully.

In February I was asked to go to split and work at the MPP (Medical Provisioning Point). Our job was to keep two vehicles on the road, a Daf and Landrover. Also we had to deliver medical kit to the outstations. In April 1 AFA left and 19 Airmob Fd Amb arrived. At the start of March the temperature in Split got hotter and hotter.

Over the next few months I got a new driver with me from 4 PARA. A small group of us built a new club for the junior ranks which we called 'Cocktails'. On the trips up country we noticed a lot of repairs being done mainly in the towns of Kupres and Sipovo. The main work is being done in Kupres, which is a Croatian town.

In April I got to fly in a Chinook all over Bosnia. I managed to sit on the tailgate of the Chinook and flew over Sarajevo and Mt Igman. TMW (Tactical Medical Wing) Medic SAC Forsyth did his impersonation of Elvis Presley and I acted as his 'bodyguard'. We were much in demand and flew all over the theatre and did gigs raising money for an orphanage. The best gig was in Sarajevo at the Ambassador's residence. Over the next month we travelled about Croatia visiting Sibenik, Omis, Dubrovnik and Sibenik National Park. We did a Serbo-Croat language course and did adventure training on the island of Brac. Everything I did there I've never done before. The highlight of the course was diving, even if it was just around the bay. In August Bosnia was getting ready for the elections in September. In September, I went to Brac for 5 days' adventure training including rock climbing, sailing, sea kayaking, aqua diving, windsurfing, snorkelling, trekking and waterskiing. I got an ever better suntan on the last morning on a 1½ mile run called the Challenge. In September the Advance Party for 24 AFA arrived for the changeover at the end of the month. The elections passed quickly and the snow has now started to fall in Bosnia.

Editor: This report illustrates the extraordinary experiences of a TA soldier with limited service as a Volunteer prior to his Bosnia tour. He is now considering further regular service. The 6th and 7th Battalions have some 7 all ranks currently serving with the Regular Army.

Exercise Slick Cadet

Officer Cadet Brian Rayment, who joins us on commissioning from Sandhurst and who was sponsored by the Regiment on an expedition to USA, writes:

Between 11 and 25 August six Sandhurst cadets took part in a mountain biking adventurous training expedition in Utah in the United States with the aim of climbing the equivalent height of Mount Everest in eight days.

The original plan was to get a Greyhound bus from Denver to the starting point, however this we learnt would have taken nearly twenty hours so instead we decided to hire an eleven seat minibus to use as our tour bus. Unfortunately I didn't have my

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driving licence with me so all I could do was sleep my way through the night until we arrived.

The weather in Utah in the middle of August is notoriously hot with temperatures reaching up to 120 degrees not uncommon. With this in mind we all decided to have a day of acclimatisation before embarking on any biking. As it turned out, even with the acclimatisation period it was very difficult to do much between midday and 2 p.m.

Utah provides some of the best mountain biking in the world due to its wide variation in terrain and good weather, however it also provides some of the most dangerous conditions which should only be undertaken by experienced mountain bikers. Although I have done quite a lot of mountain biking the trails still managed to return me to UK with twelve stitches and a \$800 hospital bill.

The route which we had chosen took us through the Canyonlands National Park, which is a continuation of the Grand Canyon running North towards Salt Lake City. The National Park is, in its own peculiar way, an extremely beautiful area of the Mid West offering breathtaking scenery as well as interesting historical

Indian Reserve sites. Because the National Park is widely used by tourists there are designated trails and cycling loops laid down for cyclists and trekkers to follow. They vary in degrees of difficulty, with riders being able to gauge the difficulty of the trail they are about to undertake by the name; these range from 'Sidewinder Trail' to 'Suicide Hill' through to 'Shrimp Rock' and so on.

With a good bit of cycling done we decided to venture further South to the Grand Canyon for some R&R. This was absolutely spectacular and although we arrived in the early evening the sight was still something that will remain with me for many years. On the way back through Colorado to Denver we also stopped in Vail for the last night which saw us celebrate one of the team's birthdays in true British style!

The expedition was a success with us all enjoying ourselves and learning a lot about the American way of life. The weather was much more of a burden than we had imagined. This did not put us off in any way, however if I were to undertake any future expedition to this part of the world I would definitely choose to go at a cooler time of the year.

Mont Blanc

Sgt N King of 13 Cadet Training Team, who was sponsored by the Regiment to climb Mont Blanc, writes:

We left Grantham at 0200 hrs on Mon 11 Aug 97 and arrived at the Chamonix camp site at about 2200 hrs that night. Even though it was dark when we arrived it still made the Brecon Beacons look as flat as Lincolnshire and the famous squaddie thought of "What the hell am I doing here?" crept into my head. I chose the camp site by assessing the surroundings and by brilliant navigational techniques even though everyone else thought I was lost and that it was a fluke. I don't know what made them think that, even if it wasn't the site we planned on. Tue 12 Aug was spent getting local route information and having equipment checks. On Wed 13 Aug we started doing snow belays using ice axes and deadmen; then came ice axe arrests, which the Guardsman of our team found slightly more difficult than the remainder. This was all done on the Col Du Midi but fortunately we caught the cable-car which took us to 3800m. Even though to get to the Col Du Midi still meant walking along a snow knife edge, which I'm told means certain death if you are not fully alert, little did they know that Sgt Burrell, who was on my rope, had his eyes shut for most of it. Thur 14 Aug was an acclimatisation day and it was intended to walk as far as the Refuge De Tete Rousse. During the day we practised security on steep ground and learnt to stay out of the way of the French, who have little regard for other peoples' safety.

Then after further acclimatisation on Fri 15 Aug we set out to crack the highest mountain in Western Europe. The first day was up to the Tete Rousse for a coffee, then to the Grand Couloire. This was across a gully where it is not uncommon for people to be seriously injured or killed on this part of the route. The next part was the steepest with a grade 1:2 climb up to the Gouter Hut, which we reached at approximately 1530 hrs. We erected our tents about 200m from the hut, then moved into the hut where we planned to stay and fight until they threw us out. But as it happened we were allowed to stay in the hut as 5 beds became vacant. It did however turn out that we would have been more comfortable sleeping outside in the snow, because 7 sleeping in the space of 5 and 40 sleeping in a small room no bigger



L to R: SSgt Mayoh, Sgt Burrell and Sgt King all looking completely exhausted on top of Mont Blanc.

than a garage was an experience I don't wish to repeat. At 0100 hrs the following morning we could bear it no more so we got up and started to prepare ourselves. We left the hut at about 0230 hrs with our head torches on, and what looked like a small hike on the map soon proved to be a mammoth walk. The route became a bit narrow in places with sheer drops on either side. We were soon clear of the Dome du Gouter and passed the Vallot and we were on the final climb. We were all extremely exhausted as we started to climb again.

The day had just broken with the sun set low in the sky as we reached the top. Before us was the most fantastic panoramic view of the Alps. Normally we would have loved to stand and take photographs and admire the view fully, but after all the hard work and the relief of just reaching the top, all we wanted to do was get back down to the bottom. We could easily understand, after experiencing the climb ourselves, how people fall from the summit. Although determined after carrying a heavy, expensive camera, to get a photo before leaving, this however was not to be,

as due to the cold the batteries were totally dead. We arrived back at the Gouter Hut and our tents at about 1000 hrs. By unanimous decision it was decided to get our heads down for an hour and then finish the descent to the station and thence Chamonix. Back at the camp site our plan of celebrating with a few sherbets soon ended with everyone crashed out in their tents.

The next few days were also just as challenging on R & R. As we raced down the Luge, which was a 2km dry toboggan run set

into the hillside, we all became childish speed freaks determined to break all the rules going. But luckily for us we only took 3 minor casualties. Then, not content with dragging us up the highest mountain in Western Europe, the boss thought it would be a good idea to throw us off one, so we all did a tandem paraglide. This was a great way to end the expedition and on Wednesday 20 Aug we left Chamonix and started the long journey home. My thanks go to The Regiment for helping me take part in the expedition.

Sailing the Seven Seas with the Royal Navy

Lt David Howson, 1st Battalion, writes:

On a cold, dark night in Battalion Headquarters in Belfast a Caribbean cruise courtesy of the Royal Navy was possibly the furthest thing from my mind. I had just returned from leave and was about to embark on the second half of the BRB tour when I was approached by the Commanding Officer. For some time the Vikings had been affiliated to HMS Norfolk and occasionally members of the Battalion had been invited to board the ship for short periods of time during exercises around the coast of Britain. What the Commanding Officer and the Ship's Captain, Commander P D Hudson, had in mind however was to far exceed what had gone before.

The offer had been made by Commander Hudson for 9 Vikings to join the Ship in San Francisco in June and then to accompany it on its homeward voyage through the Panama Canal and back to Plymouth. The journey would include stops in Mazatlan in Mexico, Panama and Tortola in the British Virgin Islands. As time progressed towards the end of the tour more and more details began to emerge. The party was to comprise one Officer, 2 JNCOs and 6 Private Soldiers. On returning from Belfast the personnel for the trip were selected by respective Company Commanders so that the 'Raiding Party' comprised the following Vikings:

OIC - Lt Howson (A Coy)
LCpl Brown (HQ Coy)
Fensome (A Coy)
Mansfield (B Coy)
Huggett (D Company)

2IC - Cpl Dufosse (A Coy)
Ptes Fennell (A Coy),
Seville (A Coy)
McGrath (C Coy)

The details of the trip were finalised and on 23 June the party departed Oakington Barracks for Heathrow Airport not knowing what to expect once we arrived in San Francisco. We boarded the plane in something of a holiday atmosphere and 10 hours later arrived in San Francisco. On disembarking from the plane we were met by Lt Venables and Lt Moore of the Royal Navy who drove us all across the City to the shores of San Francisco Bay. The ship could not have been docked in a more glamorous location. The area was one of San Francisco's most popular tourist attractions known as Fisherman's Wharf. In particular it afforded an excellent view of Alcatraz and the Golden Gate Bridge. The weather was also excellent and was in stark contrast to the gloom we had left behind in Oakington.

On arrival on board HMS Norfolk we were welcomed by Commander Hudson. This was also our first real opportunity to find out more about the ship and the role it had been fulfilling. HMS Norfolk is a Type 23 Frigate which was commissioned in 1990. Its primary operational role is anti-submarine warfare and consequently the ship possesses some extremely technical equip-



The Vikings at a stop over in the British Virgin Islands

ment. The ship is 133 metres long and at its widest point 16 metres wide. The ship also has a Lynx helicopter and at full strength has a complement of 180 men including 17 Officers. One task which the Vikings had to quickly achieve was to become accustomed to the nuances of Naval language. For instance soldiers were affectionately known as 'Pongos', the toilets known as the 'heads' and the local towns known as the 'shore'.

The ship's most recent task had been as Falklands Guardship and it had departed Devonport Dockyard in January. After stopping in Rio de Janeiro HMS Norfolk had spent 4 months in the South Atlantic before travelling along the West coast of South America to San Francisco. The ship was primarily in the San Francisco Bay area to take part in the 'Britain meets the Bay' Festival. This was a week long event designed to promote Britain's social, economic and cultural interests in the Bay area. We had so managed to arrive in San Francisco at the time of the annual gay parade. The ship was to be made open to the public and being the first British warship to visit for seven years it raised substantial local interest.

Not all the interest was desirable however as on our second day in San Francisco there was a bomb scare on the pier next to which we were docked. This was successfully dealt with by the local police but it did put the spotlight on the local Irish population who were threatening a 1,000 strong protest against the British military presence. This in reality turned out to number approximately 50.

During the week we were introduced to all the main personalities on board the ship and we began to get to grips with the Naval rank structure and mode of operation. All The Vikings were also given the chance to experience the sightseeing opportunities in

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San Francisco with all personnel making trips to such places as Alcatraz, Chinatown and the Golden Gate Bridge. Cpl Dufossee and Pte Huggett also represented HMS Norfolk at cricket.

The ship finally set sail from San Francisco on 30 June. As HMS Norfolk made a spectacular exit under the Golden Gate Bridge there was time to reflect on the excellent time we enjoyed in the city and also how well the Royal Navy had been received by the local population. We had at this stage been joined by 5 members of the RAF from RAF Coltishall making it a truly Tri-Service occasion.

As the ship sailed South towards Mexico the NCOs and Privates were tasked to different areas of the ship by the senior NCO on board, the Master At Arms. The ship had lost 30 men on advanced leave and during the trip Vikings would work in the Marine and Weapons Engineering Departments, the galley and the stores besides keeping watches in either the ship's Control Centre or on the Bridge. There were also opportunities to view exercises such as Ex KERNAL BLITZ which involved a submarine hunt or to watch the ship's weaponry such as the 4.5 inch gun or 30mm cannons in action.

After 4 days at sea we arrived in Mazatlan in Mexico. This was a tourist town frequented mainly by Americans and Canadians. The town was slightly run down but it did possess a long sandy beach and a sufficiently lively night life to keep everyone entertained. Unfortunately HMS Norfolk had arrived during the Presidential elections in Mexico. This meant that under Mexican law alcohol was banned for a 48 hour period which caused some consternation among the ship's company. The sun, sea and sand did however provide some compensation.

The next stage of the journey was to Panama where we would be transiting the Panama Canal. On arrival in Panama we entered Rodman US Naval Base for a short stay of around 36 hours before moving through the Canal. Unfortunately Panama Canal proved to be somewhat disappointing although the actual Naval Base was itself in a reasonable location. Our passage through the canal was at night so there was not much scope for sightseeing, although

even in the dark it was possible to see what a great feat of engineering the Canal is.

On exiting the Canal we sailed towards Tortola which is the capital of the British Virgin Islands. The Islands have a population of around 16,000 of which many are British ex-pats. The local hospitality was excellent and with the locally made Pussars Rum readily available an enjoyable time was had by all. In particular the Island had some extremely idyllic, secluded beaches which even the relatively bad weather could not spoil. With the local population entertaining us at every opportunity it was something of a shame to leave Tortola, but after 4 days we set sail on the final voyage across the Atlantic.

This part of the journey was expected to take 9 days with the Atlantic being notorious for its rough seas. The time flew by however as all of the ship's company worked extremely hard in order to prepare Norfolk for its return to Plymouth. Eventually, after 9 days at sea, the coast of Cornwall appeared out of the mist and a few hours later we were within the breakwater at Plymouth where we anchored for the night. Next morning the ship moved alongside its berth with the Vikings adding an interesting touch of colour as we lined the decks with the Royal Navy. This proved to be an emotional and memorable occasion as many of the ship's company had not seen their families for 7 months. We therefore disembarked the ship and returned to Oakington for the latter part of Minden Day.

In conclusion, the visit provided an excellent opportunity to visit many countries that the Vikings would not normally go to and also to learn more about the way the Senior Service works. What made the trip particularly special however was, firstly, the outstanding hospitality which we were shown by the Royal Navy whether in the Wardroom or in the Messdecks. Second, the excellent manner in which HMS Norfolk was received by the local population wherever it docked was a credit both to the ship and the Service. It is very much hoped that such ventures between the Vikings and HMS Norfolk will continue long into the future.

Combined Services Cricket

Capt Adrian Grinonneau writes:

Having been capped by the Army in 1996, I became eligible to represent the Combined Services (CS) at cricket for the 1997 season. This only throws you into the selection pool of over 100 players in the three Services, so it is by no means a guaranteed route in.

The first match of the CS season was at Arundel against the Duchess of Norfolk's XI two weeks after the Australians had played there. I did not make the original squad but, because the RAF opening bat pulled out due to injury, I was called up the day before.

The match itself was lost by 7 runs, but I was able to put my foot in the door for further selection by scoring 126.

Contrary to popular opinion, playing representative sport for the Army or the CS is not one great big jolly. This was proven to me in the next match against Oxford University. We were playing the same team that had beaten Glamorgan two days before they played us and were due to play the Varsity match the following week. As a result, it is taken very seriously by both sides. The day of the match starts with fitness training, team meetings and

then specialist coaching with one of the two CS coaches either batting or bowling. Once all of this is finished, there is a final session of fielding practice then the team is announced in the final squad meeting. What followed was 3 days of cricket education for me in a match that ended in a very exciting draw (yes, draws can sometimes be exciting!).

The pinnacle of the CS season is the match against the England Under 19 Team at Lords. This is just a warm up match for them but an honour for the CS to play at Lords. I was again fortunate enough to be selected, but was denied by the weather as the match never started due to rain. The experience of being a player at Lords is one that I will now treasure (despite not actually playing!). It was like being a professional sportsman, if only for a day.

Having now played at this level it only reinforces my view that players who wish to pursue representative sport should be encouraged as much as possible. The reward of playing for your Service and then all of the Services should be the ambition of every sportsman in the unit and can only happen with support at all levels. This I was fortunate enough to have.

The Muse



A major feature of the Regimental Museum is a mural of the Regiment's family tree from formation of the Former Regiments of Foot to the present day. Superimposed on this organisation chart are the historical paintings by Alix Baker. As background to this detail, and intentionally less prominent, is a series of historical pictures, formed as a collage, chronologically illustrating significant events in the Regiment's history. Because the date-line and details of Regimental organisations takes priority in the display the historical images are deliberately obscure. The reproduction above gives a clear impression of this feature of the mural.

When constructing the mural, the Project Officer tried to obtain images of all major events in the Regiment's past, however he could only work from the material available in museums, Messes and, particularly, in the National Army Museum archives. While it is not entirely representative and comprehensive, the collage gives a fair and balanced illustration of the Regiment's past.

Some of the pictures used are familiar to us all, others less so. Since there is no one in the Regiment who would recognise every image they are identified here:

1. 'The Raising of the Regiment', showing the 16th Foot (later The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment) being raised in Reading in 1688 by Col Douglas of the 1st Foot (Royal Scots).
2. The 16th Foot at Blenheim, Marlborough's most famous victory, in 1704 in the War of the Spanish Succession.
3. The 12th Foot (later The Suffolk Regiment) in the storming of Seringapatam in 1799 in the 4th Mysore War. Here the Regiment is seen crossing the River Cavery, before an assault that led to the death of Tipoo Sultan. Tipoo Sultan's silver powder flask is still held by the 1st Battalion.
4. The death of Wolfe at Quebec in 1759. The 17th Foot (later The Royal Leicestershire Regiment) and the 48th and 58th Regiments of Foot (later The Northamptonshire Regiment) were present in the attack on the Heights of Abraham during which Gen Wolfe was mortally wounded.
5. The landings in Aboukir Bay, Egypt, in 1801, in which the 10th Foot (later The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment), 44th Foot (later The Essex Regiment) and 58th Foot took part. The expedition led to the defeat of Napoleon's army in Egypt.

um Mural



6. Ava, 1824, during the Burma War, in which the 44th Foot took part.
7. The 9th Foot (later The Royal Norfolk Regiment) at Allahabad in 1849.
8. 'The Last Stand at Gundamak', in Afghanistan in 1842, which only one man in the 44th East Essex Regiment survived. This man, Lt Souter, was spared because he wrapped the Colours round him to protect them and was thought to be a Prince.
9. Lucknow, 1858, in the Indian Mutiny, in which the 10th North Lincolnshire Regiment were involved.
10. The Northamptonshire Regiment at Laing's Nek in 1881 in the 1st Boer War.
11. 'Storming of Kronje's Laager' in 1900 by the Norfolk Regiment in the 2nd Boer War.
12. 'The Last Stand' of the Northamptonshire Regiment at Saran Sar in 1897 on the North West Frontier in the Tirah Campaign against the Afridis.
13. The Essex Regiment in the trenches in 1915 (possibly 2 Essex at Ypres).
14. The Norfolk Regiment in Northern Europe in 1944.
15. The Essex Regiment in 1945.
16. The 2nd Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment in France, 1940.
17. The Royal Norfolk Regiment, Cyprus 1958. This shows the CO, Lt Col Winkley, and his Rover Group.
18. The 1st Battalion in Belize, 1982.
19. The 2nd Battalion in Celle, BAOR, 1987.
20. The 4th Battalion, Fujaira State, Oman, on exercise from Bahrain in 1970.
21. The 1st Battalion, Northern Ireland, 1970.
22. The 2nd Battalion, Ex LIONHEART, BAOR, 1984.

The Regimental Museum



The Regimental Museum Appeal

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The Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation
The Everard Foundation
The Great Northern Railway Hotel, Peterborough
The Leslie Mary Carter Charitable Trust
The Lord Barnby's Foundation
Lord De Ramsey Family Charitable Trust
The Major Simon Whitbread Charitable Trust
The Pye Foundation
The Royal Leicestershire Regiment Association
The Sandra Charitable Trust
The Territorial Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Association for East Anglia and the East Midlands
The Worshipful Company of Poulterers
Varity Perkins
Whitbread in the Community
Whiting and Partners, Charters Accountants
Wilsons Hogg Robinson

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE REGIMENT

The following questions can all be answered by an inquisitive visitor to the Regimental Museum:

1. The Regiment was presented with a gold sword by a King in 1970. Which King and why?
2. A stamp was once struck bearing a Royal Anglian rifleman wearing a Bandsman's aiguillettes and white accoutrements in No 2 dress. Who authorized this mixed dress and how did it appear on a stamp?
3. Which members of the Regiment have won the Queen's Medal at Bisley?
4. The BAOR display-case contains special currency for use by forces overseas. What is this?
5. Why do certain officers in the Regiment wear spurs?
6. Why do the 7th Bn wear a black/red/grey lanyard?
7. How many Victoria Crosses have been won by members of our Former Regiments?
8. On which British Colony is 'Royal Anglian Way'?
9. Where did the Colours of the Regiment's Drummers' dress cords originate?
10. One museum photograph shows a soldier on guard on a Military Train. Which train was this?

Should you need it, the answers can be found on page ...102.

Future Plans

The Museum has been open 18 months and most of the Regiment have by now visited it. No Museum is ever complete and items for display or for the reserve store or archives continue to be delivered to Mr Boss, the Regimental Attendant, at Duxford. Plans for the future include a new work-place and sales area for the Attendant, where Regimentalia can be displayed and sold. Some thought is also going towards the storage and retrieval of archive photographs by CD Rom with touch buttons giving access to maps and to photographs on ceremonial and operations.

Fundraising

All Museum funds were raised without support from Regimental money, except for a loan which has been repaid, but with generous donations from the Battalions and serving and retired members of the Regiment. All bills have been paid and a sum invested, but Museum finances must be further augmented to pay for routine maintenance, such as repairs or purchases, and to build the sales area. For this reason the Trustees are launching a mini-appeal in the New Year to the local business community. However, if we are to ask businesses to contribute more Regimental money must be raised. Letters have been sent to all officers who have not contributed; all previous donors are being asked to repeat their gift or extend their bankers' orders. PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY TO YOUR REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Wanted

Film Copies of all film made of the Regiment are sought. One such item sought is "Encircled Force", made in 1961 in Berlin by Anglia TV with 1 E ANGLIAN. Another is the 1st Bn's "Airmobility 92". Film of the Regiment's early NI tours is also wanted.

Radfan Little is displayed covering some significant tours in the Radfan in the mid 1960s. Notes, maps and other personal memorabilia are sought.

Archive Material Any significant material, particularly covering early operational tours in British Guiana, Aden, the Radfan and the earliest Northern Ireland tours, is sought. Complete photograph albums, properly captioned, would be most welcome. Also programmes, nominal rolls, ORBATs and operational orders.

Visitors to the Museum

There have been too many visitors to name them all, however Mr Boss asks members of the Regiment to ask for him specifically (he is sometimes in his office). Visitors should sign the Regimental Visitors Book, which is rapidly becoming a useful locations list of old comrades.

Museum Sales

Postcards of Historic Uniforms - The uniformed figures which form the main feature of the Museum's history wall have been reproduced as postcards. Price £5.00 for set of 16 cards (plus post and packing).

Regiment Magazine - The Feb/Mar 97 edition featured The Royal Anglian Regiment and the Former Regiments. Price £2.75 (plus post).

Museum Brochure - The Museum Brochure is now on sale in the Museum or from RHQ. More than a brochure describing the Museum only, it covers the Regiment's history, its customs, dress, ceremonial and operations. Every member of the Regiment should have one. Price £2.50.

'Line of Lost Lives' - by Jack Cosford of The Cambridgeshire Regiment, describing the author's experiences as a Japanese PW. Price £9.95 (plus £1.50 post and packing).

All the above are available from RHQ or the Museum.

Voluntary Attendants Still Sought

A few volunteers have from time to time served as voluntary attendants in the Museum; however, more are needed to ensure the Museum is manned when the Regimental Attendant takes leave or days off. There are also busy times at Duxford when Mr Boss needs assistance with sales or with guiding visitors. If you live within 30 minutes or so of the Museum please consider helping the Regiment as a Voluntary Attendant. Bring your family and enjoy a day at the Imperial War Museum at the same time. If you can help, please contact Mr Boss or the Regimental Secretary. The Trustees thank the following for working as Voluntary Attendants:

Mr Michael Draper	Miss Emily Veitch
Mr David Fairbairn	Mr Bert May
Maj Ron James	Mrs Lily Sutcliffe
Maj Mike Jarvis	Mr Dave Turner
Mrs Judith King	

The Collection

The Trustees express their thanks for the following significant donations to the Museum Collection or Regimental Archives:

Kimbolton School CCF Badges	
The Leys School CCF Badges	
Ex-Cpl Johnson	Photographs
Mr Laurie Justice	Photographs
(Mr Johnson and Mr Justice were members of the famous 3rd Bn group "The Digits" in the mid-60s).	
Maj BAR Harrington-Spier MBE	
	Cap Badges
Mr MD Meredith	Archive material

Weapons IWS; a wooden butt for early L67A3 1.5 riot gun; sniperscope for .303 sniper rifle.

Accoutrements Field Marshal's rank badge
E ANGLIAN Regimental Association
lapel badge
1 E ANGLIAN hose-top and flash
2 E ANGLIAN hose-top
1st Bn hose-top flash
2nd Bn hose-top flash

Miscellaneous Items SLR sling, AMF(L) grey cap cold weather; Commonwealth Monitoring Force plaque, Rhodesia; Early NI leg-guards, earliest flak jacket (without plastic butt supports).

Photographic Archives

Mr George Boss, the Regimental Attendant, writes:

I am in the process of assembling a substantial and comprehensive collection of photographs covering Battalion tours around the world. I already have a reasonable collection, which adequately illustrates the ceremonial, the training and the operations of our Battalions, but I seek record of the less significant details that will complete the picture - personal photographs, group photographs of sections and platoons, living conditions, family life, recreation, sport and so on.

Particular tours that I need help with are:

Malaya, 1959 - 62

3 E ANGLIAN

Few photographs of Companies, Platoons or Sections are held.

Berlin, 1959 - 61

1 E ANGLIAN

The change of BD to SD or Combat Kit, Weapon changes and exercises.

British Guiana, 1962

1 E ANGLIAN

Few photographs exist.

Aden, 1964 - 67

All Battalions

The Radfan campaign is poorly covered, less a magnificent collection of photographs loaned by Col Richard Abbott. More is required, both Radfan and Aden, the former particularly covering Monks Field, Cap Badge and Thumier.

Belize, 1982 - 83

1 and 3 R ANGLIAN

Video tapes were made on these tours but have not been obtained. Photographs also are in short supply.

Bahrain, 1969 - 70

4 R ANGLIAN

Almost no coverage of Bahrain is held. Of particular interest is record of the last men to serve with the 4th Battalion (one of the final presentation mugs is also sought).

Libya, 1966- 68

4 R ANGLIAN

Photographs of the riots at the start of the Arab-Israeli War are not held, of particular interest being the make-shift anti-riot dustbin lids and hockey-sticks. Also record of the Battalion's visits into the desert to find the 'Lady be good' and exercises in and around Fort Cheruba.

Cyprus, 1964 - 67

2 R ANGLIAN

Little record of this tour is held, at a time when Dhekelia Barracks was brand new. Troodos, reached by dirt roads, snorkelling and watersports and the 'Cyprus Walkabout' all should be recorded.

Ballykinler, NI, 1962 - 64

3 E ANGLIAN

Training, exercise and ceremonial photographs are needed.

Additionally, any photographs of Battalion Bands and Drums are needed to confirm details of the changes of dress over the years.

Without your help the collection of photographs illustrating the Battalions over the years can never be complete. Please present or loan your photographs so that we have a comprehensive record for our successors.

Enquiry - Cloth cap badge

A Royal Anglian cloth cap badge made of silver and gold thread on a black backing has been presented to the Museum. No mention of this type of cap badge is given in Regimental Instructions. Readers are asked when the cap badge was manufactured and who used it.

Support for Schools

Mr George Boss writes that one of the many tasks he is involved in is the loan of military uniforms to schools and other groups. One recent event he helped with was with uniforms for a modern-dress 'Midsummer Night's Dream' by Highfield School in Letchworth. A teacher wrote:

"This letter is to thank you and The Regimental Museum for your kind help with the set and costumes for our play. We performed 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' by William Shakespeare on seven occasions including at the Plinston Hall, Letchworth, and the Civic Hall, Broxbourn. Everyone commented on the military theme, with such stunning costumes, particularly Oberon's and Titania's, and asked us where they came from. So we hope you will get lots of extra visitors this summer. Once more our sincere thanks for all your help. We quite literally couldn't have done it without you."

Shakespeare in Regimental dress



The Associations

Royal Norfolk Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Norfolk)



Secretary's Report

Benevolence

In 1996 the Association assisted some 95 cases as compared to 58 in 1995. From Regimental funds a total of £8847 was granted compared to £5985 for the previous year. In addition £26969 was "almonised" or squeezed out of other service charities to make a grand total of £35816 paid for the benefit of these deserving cases.

The office "target turn-round time" for a simple case is set at one working day from receipt to despatch whilst that for more complicated cases is five working days. I will report next year as to how successful we have been in achieving these self-imposed targets.

In the meantime, please remember the less fortunate and take the trouble to leave a bequest in your Will. It's quite painless!

Chapel

The Chapel Committee would like to report that the Old Regimental Colour of 1st Battalion The Royal

Anglian Regiment has now been hung where it can be clearly seen. Plans are in hand to produce a new notice to hang on a pillar in the Chapel. Mrs J Raybould continues to provide her usual high standard of floral arrangements.

Association Membership

We continue to attract those who served as National Servicemen. This natural desire to come together for Regimental occasions is shown by the dinner attendances at 200, those who took the trouble to visit the 1st Battalion at Oakington for The Royal Anglian Regimental Gathering in July (the largest gathering yet) and our own Remembrance Service on every 11 November at 1045 am at the Regimental Cottages in Norwich. Minden Day (the Sunday closest to 1 August) at Bury is now a star attraction for both young and old. It is not exclusive to Ex-Suffolks as I have been saying for the last 10 years. A really fun occasion and not too far to drive to and to be driven home from.

Regimental Museum

The documentation onto the database of the archives and photographs is now well in hand. Once completed, this will allow far greater access to be available with a larger range of options for their future use.

On 17 May a new exhibition entitled Hidden Treasures opened which covers the use of archives in the search of family forebears.

War Memorial Homes

The members continue to enjoy the sanctuary which these homes give them, both on the Ring Road in Norwich and at Gaywood in King's Lynn. Mrs Gotts, the last surviving original resident, died recently so vacancies do occur for couples. Any Ex-Member of the Regiment wishing to be put on the waiting list should write to the Regimental Secretary at RHQ Britannia House, TA Centre, 325 Aylsham Road Norwich NR3 2AD requesting an application form.

The Royal Lincolnshire and Royal Anglian Regimental Association



Annual Reunion 1997

This year's Annual Reunion, held on Sunday 28 Sep, was a one day trial event with the aim of keeping costs to a minimum as most of our members are pensioners and felt that the cost of a two day event was becoming excessive. The various Regimental meetings were held early in the morning followed by the Comrades Church Parade and a buffet style reunion in the afternoon.

Both the AGCM & AGM were held in Newport Barracks, Lincoln, and were Chaired by the President of the Association, Major General R E J Gerrard-Wright CB CBE DL. After he had welcomed the Regimental Secretary, Lieutenant Colonel T D A Veitch, he quickly pressed on with the agenda which included the "Change of Title". After some discussion members agreed to add the name of The Royal Anglian Regiment to the title of the Association, creating the "Royal Lincolnshire & Royal Anglian Regimental Association". This means that anyone who served with either Regiment is eligible to join the new Association.

Associations

After the Meeting, Comrades marched the short distance along Newport Road to attend the Church Service in St Nicholas Church. The weather was good and many spectators turned out to watch the Comrades, led by Branch Standards, march past, giving eyes left en route to our President who took the salute. A large congregation then enjoyed the stimulating service given by the Rev David Bates (a former officer of the Regiment) and Canon Brian Wiskin (Vicar of St Nicholas Church).

The reunion was held in the afternoon at Sobraon Barracks with 140 members in attendance. General Gerrard-Wright presided and proposed toasts of "The Queen" and "The Regimental Association". In his speech the President welcomed everyone present but in particular Tom Scott our In-Pensioner and Mr & Mrs Jacobs, our Dutch friends and Honorary Members of the Association, who had travelled all the way from Hemmen in Holland to be with us. The day proved to be a great success and was enjoyed by everyone.



Maj Gen R E J Gerrard-Wright CB CBE DL taking the salute during the Annual Reunion 97

Freedom Parade

The Freedom of the City of Lincoln was granted to The Lincolnshire Regiment in June 1945 and was later transferred to the 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment (The Poachers), our successors. So on 2 Jul 97 hundreds of spectators turned out to line the route through the centre of Lincoln as the Battalion, led by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel S L Porter, and supported by the Minden Band, exercised this right. Also on parade were Comrades of The Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association, who formed a guard of honour either side of the saluting dais, where the Mayor of Lincoln and Brigadier P P Rawlins MBE took the salute. Altogether a wonderful occasion where members of the public were treated to a marvellous spectacle.

Trip to Warminster

Early on 3 Sep 18 members of the Association boarded two minibuses at Sobraon Barracks ready to make the

long journey to Battlesbury Barracks in Warminster. On arrival at the Barracks six long hours later we were ushered into the Sergeants' Mess for some welcome refreshments and a briefing on the day's events.

Unfortunately, because we had arrived slightly later than originally planned, we missed the opportunity to look around and drive the Infantry's latest armoured vehicle, the Warrior. However, we were shown current combat rations, communications, small arms and personal equipment.

After lunch in the Regimental Dining room (no boil in the bag for us) it was back onto the minibuses for the Weapons Effect Demonstration. This alone was worth travelling all this way to see as we were shown the awesome power which commanders have at their disposal with the modern weapons of today. The sheer weight of fire power that can be brought upon a target within seconds was truly amazing.

Back to the Barracks and into the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess

for tea. Their hospitality, as always, was overwhelming and a very pleasant end to what had been a most impressive and enjoyable day. We were all made to feel very special and wish to express our sincere thanks to all those who were responsible for making our visit so memorable.

Royal Anglian Regimental Gathering

The Association had a very strong contingent attend the Regimental Gathering at Oakington, with six Branch Standards and 120 Comrades on parade for the march past.

In the afternoon Association members browsed round some very interesting displays laid out by the Battalion where young soldiers were only too keen to demonstrate their skills and knowledge of the equipment.

The Minden Band of the Queen's Division finally brought what had been a most enjoyable day to a close with a wonderful exhibition of marching and music.

2nd Battalion marching through the City of Lincoln



Members of the Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association enjoying the hospitality of the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess during their trip to Warminster



Maj Gen Gerrard-Wright and ex members of the 1st Battalion The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment who served with the Regiment from 1949 to 1953



Associations

Scunthorpe Branch

The Branch has been very active since last Castle, having organized outings to other Branches, a day at the races (where the Chairman, Cliff Bromby, did not have such a good day) and many social events. Social functions are always well attended and enjoyed by the members and their guests especially our Reunion and Christmas dinners where Jane Tracy (our own Vera Lynn) helps to bring a little nostalgia to the evening's events.

On 3 Sep some of our members joined other Branches from the Lincolnshire area for a visit to the 2nd Battalion in Warminster to attend the Weapons Effect Demonstration. It was a thoroughly enjoyable two days, not only because of the awesome firepower display but because we were very impressed with the confidence and professionalism of the young soldiers of today. It was notable that the old "esprit de corps" still lives on.



Jane Tracy entertaining members of the Scunthorpe & District Branch.

Grimsby Branch

Membership continues to increase despite some sad losses during the year. New members, which included some ex-Royal Anglians, have brought with them some positive and interesting ideas for 1998 and we look forward to a more active social calendar next year.

With great reluctance the Chairman, Mr Arthur Carroll, accepted the resignation of the Branch Treasurer, Mr David Casswell, after 31 years of dedicated service to the Branch. His experience and guiding hand on all Branch matters will be sadly missed but we all wish him well for the future.



Mr Arthur Carroll presents Mr David Casswell with a silver tankard on his retirement as Branch Treasurer of the Grimsby Branch.



Members of the Grimsby Branch at the Regimental Gathering

Midlands Branch

The Midlands Branch have been very active and numbers attending the monthly meetings at the Royal British Legion Club in Sheldon have been averaging over 30. Our social events have included Sunday lunches, the Regimental Gathering, dinner nights and a very successful trip to the Royal Tournament.

The Branch welcomes any ex-Royal Lincoln or ex-Royal Anglian living or about to live in the Midlands area to come along to their monthly meetings, which are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm.

Officers' Luncheon

The Officers' Dinner Club held their Annual Luncheon at the new venue of the Army & Navy Club in London on 25 Jun. It proved to be a popular choice with large numbers attending and the delightful surroundings and impressive menu made it a most memorable occasion. So much so that the date for next year's luncheon has already been set for 24 Jun 98.

Final push over Rhine

WHAT began in March 1945 as a routine patrol for Private Samuel Miles from Leicester helped to provide vital information for the massed forces of the British Army preparing to cross the Rhine in the final push through Germany.

Sam Miles was in the 2nd Battalion of The Lincolnshire Regiment which in mid March 1945 moved to take over a section of the Rhine in the Obermormter area of Germany.

"The West bank of the river was covered with a choking evil smelling smoke screen obscuring the enemy's view of the British preparations for the crossing" recalls Mr Miles of Northfield.

As the History of the Lincolnshire Regiment explains - the Germans were still carrying out patrols in boats seeking to find out what was happening on the British held side of the river.

One such enemy patrol comprising 11 members was captured by Captain H J Pacey and his men - one of whom was Private Miles. "We had seen their patrol on shore walking almost parallel to ours and then heading for the river and starting to get into a boat. We opened fire wounding one man and eventually capturing the rest and taking them back to our base," says Mr Miles.

Associations

The Lincolns' Regimental History not only acknowledges the capture as a magnificent achievement it says: "It also provided - together with other information already acquired - proof of the presence of the major part of the German 1st Parachute Army on the battle front—a fact of no small interest to the formation destined to carry out the Rhine crossing."

Explains Mr Miles: "The Second Lincolns followed in our push through to Bremen in Germany's heartland" he adds. In recent years Mr Miles has re-established contact with two members of his patrol - Richard (Dickie) Bird in Grimsby and Bob (Tich) Hendrie of Coventry.

"Our only reward for helping capture the German patrol had been a tot of rum apiece," reminisces Sam Miles - a member of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Association.



Sam Miles (right) and his old comrade 'Tich' Hendrie

The Suffolk Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Association (Suffolk and Cambridge Branch)



Branches report a busy Summer with the usual activities. All would particularly welcome ex-Royal Anglians to join their meetings, outings and social occasions.

The occasion of the laying-up of the Queen's Colour of the 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment on 5 July in St Mary's Church, Bury St Edmunds, preceded by a parade in the Abbey Gardens, was well attended by Branches with their standards and received favourable reports. Branches and their standards were also on parade at the Royal Anglian Regimental Reunion at Oakington a fortnight later when again the weather was good. Many old friends were met and a good day was had by all.

Minden Day at Gibraltar Barracks was as usual the highlight of the Regimental year. The weather was good and an enjoyable time was had with old friends meeting and renewing acquaintances. It was felt to be a splendidly organised day with due thanks to Stan Bullock and his small committee.

Very notable is the way in which the various Branches support each other by

attending the various special social occasions they organise. Amongst the many events run by Branches were the three month exhibition of Suffolk Regiment Memorabilia in Beccles Museum (an album of historic photographs has been placed in the hands of the Trustees of the Museum); the stalls manned by Beccles Branch members at Beccles Regatta Festival; a Gala Music Night by the Felixstowe Branch in aid of the re-housing of the Regimental Museum. The Branches will be well represented at the Field of Remembrance outside Westminster Abbey on 6 November. They will also be at other Remembrance Day services and parades such as the Festival of Remembrance at the Spa Pavilion Felixstowe organised by The Royal British Legion. In Felixstowe on the next day two wreaths will be laid at the War Memorial on the Sea Front - one for The Suffolk Regiment, the other for The Royal Anglian Regiment.

The Regimental Museum and Concise History of the Regiment

Much preparatory work has been going on towards the move of the Regimental Museum to Moyse's Hall in the centre of

Bury St Edmunds reported in the last Journal. The Regiment has pledged to raise £50,000 towards the cost of setting up the Museum in the refurbished listed building. As a start towards the appeal for funds the Regiment commissioned a new concise history of the Regiment which went on sale at the Minden Day Reunion on 3 August. The publication is well illustrated in colour and has received favourable comment. The Editor of the Bulletin of the Military Historical Society considers it a 'well produced publication on gloss paper ... with excellent pictures of uniforms and badges'. The Editor of the Army Quarterly has expressed his congratulations on an interesting idea and a novel approach with bright and attractive illustrations. Copies are available from the Hon Curator, The Suffolk Regimental Museum, The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN at a price of £6 including postage and packing; cheques to be made payable to the Suffolk Regiment Museum Appeal.

Associations

The Cambridgeshire Regiment Association and The Cambridgeshire Branch The Royal Anglian Regiment Association



OCA AGM, 21 SEPTEMBER 1997

The following Officers were elected:

President	:	Lieutenant Colonel W F Badcock MBE
Chairman	:	Major D S Denson TD
Vice Chairman	:	Mr H S Taylor
Secretary	:	Major M A Jarvis
Treasurer	:	Major S Herod

Thanks were expressed to Colonel W F Page, Major D S Haslam and Major K Starling for their past service to the Association. Colonel W F Page was elected to be a Patron.

As the cost of hiring the Hayward Theatre has trebled it was agreed to look for an alternative venue for the reunion tea.

Mr Taylor produced the new Regimental flag which has been donated by the Royal Anglian Regimental Secretary, Major W H Reeve.

It was agreed to accept an offer from the Western Front Association to lay a wreath on the annual Armistice Day Parade at Ypres on 11 November at a cost of £15. The Chairman reported that No 1 Company of Cambs ACF had laid a wreath themselves on behalf of the Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades on a recent visit.

Cambridge

The Branch had their AGM on 17 September and reported with regret the passing of Major J Hyde and Mr C Wilson. It had been a quiet year but there was a good turnout for the Annual Reunion. Mr H Taylor was reappointed Chairman and Colonel D E Latchford was appointed Secretary/Treasurer. The Branch also expressed their thanks to Major Starling for the work he had done in keeping the Members up to date with events. It was agreed to hold a Christmas party again this year on Friday 12 December at the TA Centre, Coldhams Lane, Cambridge.

March & District

It has been a quiet year. Due to illness members have not been able to get out and organise functions except for the Annual Holiday in late May when the Branch went to Bournemouth for a week.

Whittlesea and Peterborough

The Branch held its Annual Church Service on 7 September at the

Methodist & United Reform Church, Whittlesey, which was attended by the Lord Lieutenant, Mr David Remphy, High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire, Colonel Derek Bristow, the Cadet Commandant, the Chairman of Whittlesey Town Council, Councillor Michael Chapman and Mrs Chapman and other Town Councillors. Lessons were read by Canon Arthur Ludlow and Major Les English. The Lord Lieutenant read out an address in memory of Diana Princess of Wales. The Church was full to capacity. The sermon was preached by the Rev Lawrence Sharp and the Exhortation and Kohima Epitaph were recited by Mr Jess Matthews. The Last Post & Reveille were sounded by a Drummer of the ACF Corps of Drums. A light buffet was prepared by the ladies of the Church Committee and was enjoyed by both the Old Comrades and the congregation.

The Branch Regimental Dinner was held at the Newark Hotel, Peterborough, on Friday 10 October. Amongst the guests were the Lord Lieutenant, The President of the OCA, Lieutenant Colonel W F Badcock and Mrs Badcock, and the Cadet Commandant, Colonel Derek

Bristow. The Loyal Toast was proposed by Major Les English and the Toast to the Guests by the Branch President Canon Arthur Ludlow. The Toast to the Regiment and the Branch were proposed by Mr Don Poole, ex 2nd Battalion Cambridgeshire Regiment. The Lord Lieutenant responded and Colonel Badcock spoke a few words to the members present. The Regimental Call, Mess Calls and Cookhouse were sounded by a member of the ACF Corps of Drums. Tributes were paid to Mr Jess Matthews who has organised these dinners since 1986 and he responded by thanking all the members for their support over the years and asked them to support the new Secretary.

The Branch will hold the AGM on 18 March 1998.

Mr P Legge writes from Downham Market that 20 Cambridgeshires attended the Minden Reunion on 3 August and met old faces and a good time was had by all. Also that 12 Cambridgeshires attended the Church Service at March on 17 August, which the Lord Lieutenant attended.

Associations

The Annual Service of Remembrance, 8 June 1997

Once again the Regiment was welcomed at Ely Cathedral for the Annual Service of Remembrance by the Dean. The Branch Standards were marched towards the altar in a very professional way followed by the Colour Party of D Coy with the Regimental and Queen's Colours of the 6th(Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment. The hymns were accompanied by the City of Ely Military Band and the lesson was read by the President, Colonel W F Page MC TD. The address was given by the Revd Canon Michael Wadsworth, who pointed out that the lesson was written from captivity. He said that his School Chaplain was Canon Noel Duckworth, so well remembered by members of The Regiment for his heroism and endurance, and went on to pay tribute to his work before and after the War. The 'Last Post and Reveille' were movingly played by members of the Band and the congregation stood in silent homage to those who had lost their lives during both World Wars.

After the Service a strong contingent from the OCA accompanied by D Coy and the Cambridgeshire Army Cadets and led by the City of Ely Military Band marched past the Lord Lieutenant, Mr James Crowden, who took the Salute. The Cadets were led for the first time by their own newly formed Corps of Drums who looked resplendent in their new uniforms.

The Parade then retired to the Haywards Theatre where tea had been prepared under the supervision of the OCA. The Cadet Corps of Drums put on a Beating of Retreat, which was very much appreciated.

The Cambridge Regiment Collection, Duxford

The need for funds is never ending and, to attempt to fill this need, the Lord Lieutenant signed an Appeal letter in May which went to 100 businesses and important people in the County. The aim is to raise another £20,000 to maintain and sustain the Collection over the coming years. To mid-October just under half had replied and the appeal stands at £7,000. The sale of our 'WW1 Replica' Christmas cards has gone well and yielded a useful profit. We have repaid the loan of £500 from the Suffolk Regiment Museum which helped us to pay our original bill to the IWM. Our funds are invested with The Royal Anglian Regiment Museum's Trust Funds.

The display at Duxford is largely unchanged but it is hoped to make some improvements in the lighting and some captions, as well as the completion of the WW1 gallantry awards display. The jewel in the crown will be the medals of Colonel Muirhead Clayton, kindly loaned to us by the family. The Collection has also received some Militia insignia (helmet badge and dress buckles), an Officer's Mess Undress side cap and a Volunteer's cross-belt plate.

The guide to the Regiment for use at Duxford and elsewhere will shortly go to the printers. With some small changes, the Council approved the draft on 21 September. Details will be circulated to OCA Branches and other Regimental Associations as soon as the guide is ready.

The Royal Anglian Regiment Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Association



We are pleased to report that Major General J A Ward-Booth OBE DL has accepted the invitation to be our new President as from 1 May 1997. Our Chairman, Brigadier Angus Robertson, presented our retiring President, Colonel Sir Derek Milman, with a suitably engraved glass goblet at the Officers' Luncheon at Chicheley Hall on 25 June.

In a short speech Brigadier Robertson thanked Sir Derek for the invaluable support and advice he had provided during the five years of his Presidency, and went on to praise the part Lady Milman played in the life of the Association. Brigadier Robertson summed up the widespread feeling in the Association by concluding that we had been lucky to have as our President such a distinguished soldier.

Regimental Museum

The new Chairman of the Museum Committee, Major Dinnin, congratulated Mr J Dix and Mr J Leech on completing the recording and logging of all our Museum exhibit items. 71,000 people visited Luton Museum last year, most of whom also visited the Regimental gallery. Plans are being prepared for a dug-out display in the gallery.

Associations

The Association Dinner and Dance

This year's Association Dinner and Dance on 12 April was held at a new venue, The Castle Hall, Hertford, and it was generally agreed that this venue was a much better place for the future. Two hundred members and their friends attended. We had an excellent meal, after which our Chairman, Brigadier Angus Robertson, welcomed our guests The Mayor and Mayoress of Hertford, Lieutenant Colonel Porter, CO 2nd Battalion, and Mrs Porter. He also welcomed a party from the Essex Regiment Association and our new Association President and his wife, General and Mrs Ward-Booth. In his speech the Chairman thanked the Branch Secretaries for their work, particularly 'Becky' Sharpe for producing 'The Wasp' and Stan Mansfield for continuing to arrange the Association's Annual Dinner.

Lieutenant Colonel Porter then gave a report on the 2nd Battalion and also invited members to visit them all at Warminster. He finished his speech by proposing a toast to the Association. After the speech the President of the Hertford Rotary Club presented a cheque to Colonel Porter for £250 for the Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund and also an inscribed tankard. The rest of the evening was spent dancing and it ended



Peter Morris, President of the Rotary Club, presents a cheque to Lt Col Simon Porter.

as usual with all present marching round the hall to our old Regiment March.

1st Battalion National Service Reunion - Suez Canal, Egypt, 1951-54

The Stotfield Social Club on 7 June was again the venue for the second reunion of the 1st Bn The Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment Suez Group 1951-54. This year the Group also celebrated the 50th Anniversary of National Service. The gathering was organized by Mr Ron Hope. Over eighty members of the Regiment attended, most accompanied by their wives, and in all over 141 persons celebrated the Reunion. Guests included Major D Girdwood, Major H Parker, Major R Dinnin and a special guest Major W A Moody, RSM of the Battalion when it was in Egypt.

The opening speech was made by Ron Hope who welcomed everyone to Stotfield and thanked those who had travelled some distance to be there on the night. The response had been as good as last year; we had lost a few and gained a few, it was reported. A first class buffet was again provided by Ron Hope's daughter and daughter-in-law. A special cake was donated by Mr and Mrs Dear, which was once again of a Regimental design. Another notable guest who attended was ex-Corporal G Saunders, who was a Depot training NCO.

Presentations were made by Major Parker to Ron Hope's wife, his daughter and daughter-in-law, as well as to Mrs Dear. They all received bouquets of flowers for the splendid work they had done in making the night such a success. Major Parker was once again called upon to make an address in which he praised the way National Servicemen had distinguished themselves in condition of service which were harsh and which had taken two valuable years out of their lives. Another highlight of the evening was the presentation to Major Moody by Major Parker of a picture of a soldier in the uniform of the Regiment. Major Parker then proposed a toast to the Regiment and Absent Friends.

The rest of the evening was spent by the guests talking over old times. Photographs were brought out at every opportunity and the clocks were turned back over 40 years or more. During the evening a collection was made and £20 was sent to the North Herts & Stevenage Branch of the Parkinson's Disease Society and £100 to the Association.

The Laying Up of the Association's Union Standard

Our old Union Standard was presented to the London Branch on 21 June 1942 and was carried on all occasions when the Branch paraded until the Branch finally stood down in 1982. The Standard was then entrusted to the Bedford Branch for safekeeping and used as the Standard of The Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment Association until very recently.

Restored and cased, it was considered appropriate that it should be displayed where first consecrated, in the Church of Transfiguration, Kempston, Bedford. The ceremony took place on Sunday 15 June 1997 - fifty-five years after the consecration. The service, attended by the regular congregation and members of the Regimental Association, was conducted by the Vicar, the Reverend J R Brown. The unveiling ceremony was carried out by the Association Chairman, Brigadier A F F H Robertson CBE. In addition to the Union Standard, a framed copy of the 1942 Order of Service together with a Record of Service and a 1940 cap badge were on display for the information of visitors. After the service members of the Association together with their guests returned to the Keep where refreshments were served.

2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment - Freedom of Luton and Watford

On 3 July 1997, on a grey and overcast day, members of the Association attended the ceremony to mark the bestowal of The Freedom of the Borough of Luton on the 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment. On the following day, Friday 4 July, 224 men from the 2nd Battalion marched through Watford Town Centre exercising their right to The Freedom of the Town.

The Royal Anglian Regimental Reunion, Oakington Barracks

Sunday 20 July 1997 was a hot sunny day at Oakington Barracks for the Regimental Reunion. Seven of the Association's Standards were in the march past where members from our Association were joined by the Essex Regiment Association marchers. These Reunions bring together old friends who over the years have lost contact with each other. Two such meetings occurred this year when Pete Messenger and Alec Reeson met for the first time in 49 years, both having served with the 1st Bedfords MT Section in Tripoli, and Tony Marshall (Bedfords) and Peter Barnes (Northampton) met again for the first time in 38 years.

The Visit to the 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment

A total of sixty six members from the Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment Association and the Essex Regiment Association visited the 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment on 3 September 1997 to witness the final rehearsal of a Weapons Effect Demonstration.

Association members arrived at Battlesbury Barracks at 10.45 am for coffee in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess followed by a briefing on the role of the Battalion given by Major Andrew Wiles, OC B Company. The old comrades were then formed into groups and visited equipment display stands.

After lunch in the cookhouse (very nostalgic!) the old comrades were taken up



Mr Stan Mansfield, Hertford Rotary Club, presenting Major Bill Willmott with a print of Hertford Castle at a visit to Warminster earlier this year

to Battlesbury Bowl for an awesome demonstration of the Battle Group's fire power, which included all the infantry weapons plus Challenger main battle tank armament and Royal Engineer demolition charges. It was a splendid display of skilful shooting. Our lasting impression from the day was of the professionalism of the soldiers of the 2nd Battalion.

News from the Branches

The thirty eight members of the Bedford Branch who attended the Association Dinner at Hertford had a very good evening and liked the new venue. In May a number of our members attended a service at St Andrews Church, Biggleswade. This was for the voluntary organisations and was attended by the Lord Lieutenant of the County.

June was a very busy month for the Branch as on the 7th we had two functions in one evening. The first a fund raising event, an Army Benevolent Fund Beating of Retreat at Oakley House, which was performed by the Minden Band and the Pipes and Drums of the London Irish. Then on to an Olde Time Music Hall held at the Clapham Community Centre, with a buffet-bar-affle. Thanks to Mrs Lois Baggaridge and Percy the Pike, who worked so hard to make the evening a success, £192 went to Branch funds. Next, in June, was the Laying Up and Rededication of the old and new Union Standards. The service went very well.

We must not forget the two buglers in their Reds who came all the way from

Warminster - they did us proud. On 29 June we were off and had a murky day in Yarmouth, the majority of the coach filled by members of the Bedford United Services Club.

The last few months have been a busy period for the Hertford Branch. The Association Dinner does involve quite a lot of work but we have great support from our members and a large number attended this function. On 1 May a party from the Branch visited the 2nd Battalion at Warminster where we were again received in their usual generous manner. A party of the Branch attended the Founders' Day Parade at the Chelsea Hospital and the granting of the Freedom of Luton to the 2nd Battalion, and witnessed a very fine turn out by the Battalion and the Band. It was a pity that there was not a better attendance by the public who apparently knew little about it. We are holding a Branch Dinner at the Mayflower Place, Hertford, on 29 November and will of course be in attendance at Kempston in November.

During recent months Watford and Hemel Hempstead Branch efforts have been concentrated on the Dedication of the Branch's Hertfordshire Standard, which was done on 21 September. Our old Standard has at last been hung in St Mary's Church, ending a four year saga about who was to hang it and where. Castle Mall proved to be a great success for the Association Annual Dinner, which was enjoyed by all Branch members who attended. An excellent evening at Stotfold for those of us who went to meet old acquaintances and reminisce over the time spent in the Canal Zone. On 5 July, eight members attended the 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment

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Garden Party at Warley and later in the month the Regimental Gathering at Oakington proved an enjoyable day out in the sun. Six members of the Branch attended the Annual Branch Shoot at Bisley on Sunday 27 July. Congratulations to Viv Austin, who, on his first visit to Bisley, won the Cup. We fired rifles in the morning and in the afternoon we shot pistols. This will be the last time we will be able to shoot pistols because of the law banning hand guns.

The St Albans Branch supported the Regimental Association at the annual dinner at Castle Hall Hertford and the Laying Up of the Association's Old Union Standard at the Church of the Transfiguration at Kempson. The Regimental Gathering was a great success and we all had a very good day. We are now looking forward to 16 November, the Association's Reunion at Kempston.

The Hitchin Branch suffered a loss when their Secretary, Mr Les Olney, passed away on 9 May 1997. He will be sadly missed by all. The Branch has had a summer outing and is holding its Annual Dinner at 'The Firs', Hitchin, on 21 December.

Luton & Dunstable Branch members attended the Freedom of the Borough of Luton Parade on the town's sports ground on 3 July. The Branch members were disappointed that the 2nd Battalion could not march through the town and that there were few of the local population there to witness this fine event. The Regimental Gathering was another great day out, although the Branch Secretary,

who is also the Standard Bearer, lost his way, again, and missed the Service, but fell in for the march past. The Branch entered the shooting competition but the shooting was too good, and we didn't come last, did we Watford? The Branch had a successful day trip to Brighton and held a coffee morning at the Dunstable Methodist Church Hall, which brought in a nice little sum for Branch funds. Thanks to all the ladies for making these events so profitable with their hard work.

The Hertfordshire Regiment Association

The AGM was held on 5 March 1997 at the TA Centre, Hertford. The usual business and election of Committee Members took place. Once again our Spring Supper was held at the TA Centre on 26 April. This year it took the form of a fish and chip supper, which was well supported and enjoyed by all. We were entertained on the organ with music and sing along and we had an excellent raffle. The visit to the 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment was an eventful trip. Our coach broke down, luckily near a pub where we spent the next three hours awaiting relief transport kindly sent by the Battalion to transport us to Battlesbury Camp. We arrived just in time to see the fire power demonstration and afterwards to the WOs' and Sergeants' Mess for refreshments. We were fed and watered in the ORs' Mess and eventually got home in the early hours of the morning. There has since been another trip which proved to be another very enjoyable visit. A Beating of Retreat in aid of the Army Benevolent

Fund was held at Haileybury on 29 June and was attended by members with Den Corbett carrying the Standard. A coach trip was arranged by the local British Legion to the Royal Tournament and several members made the trip to Earl's Court and enjoyed the display. Members attended the Regimental Gathering at Oakington.

We are pleased to have an old Battalion Flag in our possession. This flag flew at the 1st Battalion The Hertfordshire Regiment's HQ during the Italian Campaign and in Palestine. Our thanks to Frank Holland who brought it home with him and has kindly had it framed and presented to the Association. It now hangs in the Club Room at the TA Centre, Hertford, with our other Regimental History items. The Dedication of the Watford & Hemel Hempstead Branch Hertfordshire Regiment new Standard took place on Sunday 21 September at St John's Church, Hemel Hempstead, when our Standard and members of our Association were present. For future events there is our Annual Association Reunion and Luncheon and Band Concert on Sunday 2 November at Sele School, Hertford, at 12 noon. The Volunteer Band of The Royal Anglian Regiment will once again entertain us at lunch. We will attend the Remembrance parade at Hertford on Sunday 6 November, and again on the next Sunday our Standard and members will attend the Wreath Laying Parade and Reunion at Kempston, and it is hoped that the Association will hold another Spring Supper next year.



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The Royal Tigers Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Leicestershire)



The Royal Tigers Association and the Royal Tigers' Weekend this year was held on 21-22 June. The reunion started as usual with the Annual General Meeting of the Association which was attended by 43 members. The 72nd annual dinner was then held at the TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester. It is most pleasing to report that once again attendance was good, with over 170 sitting down, which was admirable. The President of the Association, Maj Gen A J G Pollard CB CBE, presided. The caterers excelled themselves with a first class dinner and plenty of wine.

In his speech, at the conclusion of the dinner, the President explained the position about the Royal Leicestershire Regiment Museum. He then outlined the progress in Royal Tigers' Wood which was a marvellous living memorial to the Regiment, with almost all the trees doing extremely well. He thanked the

Woodland Trust for all their work on behalf of the Association. The President concluded his address by thanking the 7th Battalion and the Leicestershire and Northamptonshire ACF for all their help with the arrangements for the weekend. After the General had proposed the Loyal Toast and the toast to The Regiment, the reunion continued, both bars trading happily into the night.

On Sunday the weather was kind for the Annual Service in Leicester Cathedral, attended by the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, the High Sheriff for Leicestershire, the Lord Mayor of Leicester and the Lady Mayoress, Chairman of Leicestershire County Council and the Acting Chief Constable of Leicester. We were also particularly pleased to welcome Lieutenant Colonel Simon Porter of The Poachers and Sarah Levitt, the new Head of Leicester City Museums, to their first Royal Tigers'

Weekend. The Provost of Leicester took the service and the preacher was the Rev Tom Hiney, who is an Honorary Life Member of the Association. The Standard of the Association was carried by Mr R E Jones. As this year is the Centenary of our Regimental Chapel, a particularly moving part of the Service was when the civic dignitaries and Regimental Officers processed into the Chapel for special prayers to commemorate the Centenary, led by the Rev Tom Hiney. After the service, the civic dignitaries supported the Lord Lieutenant when he took the salute as the Association marched past. After the usual march to the Town Hall and dismissal, members returned to the TA Centre to continue the reunion.

It was another very successful weekend, which would not have been possible without so much support from 7 R ANGLIAN. Their willing assistance is very much appreciated by us all.

VISIT TO WARMINSTER

Approximately 90 members of The Association accepted an invitation to attend a 'Regimental Day' with The Poachers on 4 September.

We were given a warm reception in the WO's and Sgts' Mess, including a welcome and brief description of the role of the Battalion by the Officer Commanding 'B' (Leicestershire) Coy. This was followed by an efficient static display of equipment, personal and support weapons used by present day infantry.

An excellent lunch was provided in the cookhouse and it is pleasing to report that all "guests" queued in good order! We were then taken by transport to view a live firepower demonstration. This opened with a swift and fearsome airstrike, followed by attack and defence manoeuvres, deploying all tactical weapons available to an infantry battalion, working in close support with armoured, artillery and engineer units. The skills and enthusiasm displayed by all ranks combined with discipline of the highest order were most impressive. "Shell shocked", we returned to the WO's and Sgts' Mess for further hospitality where Lieutenant Colonel Simon Porter, the Commanding Officer of the The Poachers, addressed us and Major General A J G Pollard CB CBE replied. In appreciation of the visit, and to mark the occasion, two framed prints of "The Leicestershire Regiment Battle of Princeton 1777" were presented to The Poachers.

Throughout the whole day we experienced courtesy and propriety with proficient military bearing. The Commanding Officer and all ranks of The 2nd Bn Royal Anglian Regiment are to be congratulated on, and thanked for, a most enjoyable and memorable "Regimental Day" for us retired soldiers who "never die"!

Presentation of prints to The Poachers



ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT GATHERING

This year another bus was arranged to take Association members to Oakington for the Royal Anglian Regiment Gathering on 20 July, and several other carloads arrived in time for the Drumhead Service. It was pleasing to see so many more Tigers than in previous years and, as all those who attended enjoyed a wonderful day, it is hoped that attendance will continue to increase each year. The weather was kind and the arrangements splendid, so we send our thanks to the Vikings for another most enjoyable Reunion.

The annual Reunion of the 50th/8th/1st Battalion was held, as is now customary, on the last Saturday in September. There were 36 members present, most of them familiar faces from previous years, and the best attendance for several years. They had an excellent evening. Again, they expressed their sincere thanks to 7 R ANGLIAN for use of the TA Centre, and to the barman and caretaker who provided first class service and arranged an excellent buffet. They both contributed enormously to the success of the evening. Ray Pell gave a very interesting talk about the 49 Division Memorial at Croxton, about which members had previously known little. Next year's Reunion will be on 26 September 1998.

The Royal Leicestershire Regiment's Museum at The Magazine is still closed. Responsibility for the Museum passed from Leicestershire County Council to Leicester City Council on 1 April 1997. Before its handover more essential structural work to the building had been identified and new plans are now being drawn up by the City Council, who are keen to reopen it. The Trustees are keeping in close touch with the City Council over the situation.

It is pleasing to report that ex-Sgt Myles Foster has been admitted to the Royal Hospital as an In-Pensioner, the first Tiger there for several years. We all wish him a happy stay there and look forward to seeing him at the next Royal Tigers' Weekend.

The Essex and Royal Anglian Regiment Association



As always, the most important event of the year was the Essex Regiment Reunion on Sunday 29th June when we were delighted to welcome our Deputy Colonel, Brigadier John Sutherell, to Warley for the first time. He read the lesson at the annual Service of Remembrance in the Regimental Chapel, at which the names of those members who have died during the previous twelve months were read out by the President of the Association. Following the Service Brigadier Sutherell took the salute at the March Past and inspected the old comrades before joining them for tea in the Keys Hall. After the tea he mingled with the gathering on the Headquarters lawn where he chatted to a large number of former members of The Essex Regiment and their wives.

There was a record attendance at the Reunion with the Chapel filled to capacity and more members were on parade for the March Past than for many years. The King Edward VI School Chelmsford Corps of Drums, which is the last remaining unit to wear The Essex Regiment cap badge, led the March past and gave a display on the Headquarter's lawn at the end of the

Reunion. We were most grateful for their support; as usual their turnout was immaculate and their performance impressive.

The Reunion was attended by the Mayors of our Freedom Boroughs. In addition, the Mayor of Barking and Dagenham was present for the first time; he was able to see the Borough Colour on parade together with the Association and Branch Standards. The Barking and Dagenham Colour was presented to The Royal Anglian Regiment on 7th March 1997 at a ceremony at which the 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment Comrades Association was well represented. The Colour is now housed in the Regimental Chapel where the monthly services continue to be extremely well supported with congregations averaging about 100.

The Association annual Salamanca Dinner and Dance was held at the County Hotel at Chelmsford on Saturday 19th July and was attended by 138 members, wives and guests. We were particularly pleased to have Major Dennis Vincent, Officer Commanding C (Essex) Company of the 1st Battalion, and Major

Mark Baker, Officer Commanding C (Essex) Company of the 6th Battalion, with us together with their wives and a party of senior ranks from both companies.

On the previous day, 18th July, a large number of our members watched the 1st Battalion exercise their Freedom of Chelmsford and attended the subsequent Reception hosted by the Borough. Nobody who witnessed the parade could have failed to be impressed by the smartness and professional appearance of the soldiers of the Battalion with which we are proud to be associated.

Our links with the two regular Battalions were further strengthened when a party from the Association attended the 1st Battalion's annual Minden Day celebrations at Oakington on 1st August. Another contingent were guests of the 2nd Battalion for a Weapon's Effect Demonstration rehearsal at Warminster on 3rd September. In both cases they were extremely well looked after and most grateful for the hospitality they received. The large number of our members and their wives who went to Oakington for the Regimental Gathering

on Sunday 20th July considered that this, too, was a most enjoyable occasion.

The Essex Regiment Museum in Chelmsford is open again with an improved display following extensive work on the roof to improve security. A new display case spanning the end wall contains a collection of silver including all the 2nd Essex Silver Drums which have now been brought together again. Four of the drums were presented by the County of Essex in 1913 and the remaining seven were purchased in 1922, having been subscribed for by members of the 2nd Battalion. It is entirely appropriate that the drums should now be all together in the Regimental Museum where they provide the people of Essex with a permanent reminder of the very strong links that existed between The Essex Regiment and the County of Essex.

As an Association we are very well served by the stalwart ex-members of The Essex Regiment who hold office on the General Committee and on their Branch Committees. We are extremely fortunate to have, and most grateful for, their loyal and dedicated support. We have been pleased to welcome a number of new members who responded to notices placed in local newspapers throughout Essex and are indebted to Captain George Green for this worthwhile initiative. We feel we can look forward to the immediate future with confidence.

Branch Reports

The Eagle and Gun Association

As an Association we meet twice a year for a couple of hours and once on Remembrance Sunday when we have our own private service at the same spot where we mustered on 23 August 1939.

Time continues to erode our numbers and for the first time the number of invitations sent out has fallen to 98 of whom three have since died. 53 have actually replied, 32 in the affirmative. Some are coming from far afield including Ontario, Canada, and Perth, Australia. Both have chosen our date for a trip to 'Blighty'.

4th Essex Comrades Association

The year has been a busy one for all members of the Comrades Council and the members of the Association.

The year began badly for us with the sudden death of Major Jack Watt DSO MC, who was a staunch supporter of the Association and the first duty of the year was for members and Standard Bearers to form an Honour Guard at his funeral on a bitterly cold January day. Jack was such a good friend to the Association, being associated with the Battalion since the early part of the war, and will be sorely missed by us all.

The annual Service of Remembrance was held at the Regimental Chapel at Warley on Sunday 23 March with over 100 members and guests participating. This was a very special service for us with the dedication of the Pews and Memorial to Lieutenant Colonel LWA Chappell MC TD, and we were honoured to have Mrs Anne Chappell and fourteen members of her family in attendance. The memorial takes the form of a Salamanca Eagle in an oak wreath on a shield with a purple ground and bears the inscription "In Memory of Lieutenant Colonel LWA Chappell, born 1911-Died 1996, Who Commanded the 1/4th Bn. The Essex Regiment during the Italian Campaign from March to October 1944." After the service tea and light refreshments were served in the adjacent TA Centre, allowing members to catch up with, and chat to, old friends.

Tickets were once again available for the rehearsal of Trooping of the Colour at Whitehall on Saturday 31 May and members soon snapped up the allocation for this event and had a very enjoyable day.

Invitation to Beating Retreat by the Band of the Royal Corps of Signals at the TA Centre at Ilford were received from the

Commanding Officer of 36 (Eastern) Signals Regiment and taken up. Those attending were treated to a first rate show and were made most welcome at the following reception in the Officers' Mess.

Saturday 12 July saw a hot Summer's day for the Reunion Garden Party held on the lawn of The Regimental Headquarters at Warley. The grounds had been prepared by members of the

Comrades Council and stoic band of helpers during the morning, and by 2pm Comrades and guests were arriving, some having travelled quite a distance to attend. Entertainment was provided by the girls of the orchestra of the Ursuline School, Brentwood, and two displays were provided by the Essex Corps of Drums.

Various displays of memorabilia, photographs and documents were provided by members and proved very popular. A fine tea was provided mid-afternoon, and much reminiscing was undertaken! The day drew to a close all too quickly and culminated with the final display by The Essex Corps of Drums including the Retreat Ceremony. With the strains of the Regimental March dying away on the still evening air, Comrades started to drift away to go home with old friendships renewed and news caught up on. The members of the Council wish to thank all those who made the day such a success.

Members attended the Freedom March of the 1st Battalion at Chelmsford and the Mayor's reception that followed. We also went to the Gathering at Oakington and the Weapons Effect Demonstration put on by the 2nd Battalion at Warminster. We cherish our links with the serving Battalions of The Royal Anglian Regiment and appreciate the welcome that we always receive.

Our Annual Dinner was held on Saturday 4 October at the TA Centre at Warley with over 100 members and guests attending, including our President, Major General Dennis Beckett CB DSO OBE. A well attended evening was enjoyed by all.

As the year draws to a close we look forward to our Remembrance Parade at Ilford on Sunday 9 November, where again we meet at St Mary's Church for the service at 11.45am. and march back to the TA Centre in Gordon Road, led by The Essex Corps of Drums. Once again the messes will be open for a drink after the service and we sincerely thank the Commanding Officer and all ranks of 36 (Eastern) Signals Regiment for the courtesy and hospitality extended to us, not only on this day but throughout the year.

The 4th Battalion Comrades Association remains in a healthy state, with an increasing membership despite the inevitable losses as the advancing years take their toll. If you are interested in

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joining the Association please contact our Hon. Sec. Ted Hazle DCM (01277 214606). You will be most welcome.

Thurrock Branch

Our Branch is still fairly active and since our last input for The Castle we have attended The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association dinner and dance and thoroughly enjoyed the evening. We held our own buffet and dance in April and this was very well attended.

A number of Branch members went on the trip to Normandy and the Somme arranged by The Polar Bear Association. It was a most interesting time especially the tour of the Somme battlefield.

Beating Retreat at Crix is always a good evening. The only thing that went wrong was the weather. Can't someone do something about it? Never mind, the weather

for the Reunion was better and although the clouds were threatening the rain stayed away. The numbers were higher than for a long time and our thanks to Major Thorogood and his helpers for all the arrangements.

In July we attended our Association dinner at the County Hotel, Chelmsford, which was a wonderful evening. Next morning we were up early to get to Oakington Barracks for the Regimental Gathering, and we were back at Oakington shortly afterwards for the Minden Day parade attended by Princess Margaret. We all felt very proud to be associated with the Battalion.

The visit to Warminster was very enlightening and we were amazed at the fire power of a modern Infantry Battalion. The 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment looked after us very well and on behalf of our members our thanks to them for making some Old Comrades feel young for a while.

Chelmsford Branch

The Branch continues with afternoon meetings every other month. The highlights of the year was the Warley Annual Reunion and the Trigno Reunion held early in November at the local TA Centre.

This year saw The Royal Anglian Regiment marching in the town exercising the Freedom of the City of Chelmsford which took place on 18 July, followed by Beating Retreat in Oaklands Park. On 19 July we attended the Annual Dinner and Dance of the Essex Regiment Association at the County Hotel and next day a few non dancers managed to catch the coach from Warley for the family day at Oakington Barracks.

The Warley Regimental Chapel services are well attended each 1st Sunday of the month with our Standard Bearer, Mr Saville.

The Northamptonshire Regiment Association and the Royal Anglian Association (Northampton)



Annual Reunion 1997

The Annual Reunion was held on 5 and 6 July. The various Regimental meetings and the Dinner were held on the Saturday and the Comrades' Church Parade and Reunion on the Sunday.

The Dinner was held, as usual, in the TA Centre with 176 members in attendance. General Sir John Akehurst presided and proposed the toasts of "The Queen" and "Our Colonel-in-Chief". General Akehurst said that telegrams of good wishes for a convivial evening had been received from Her Majesty The Queen and from HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, in reply to loyal telegrams sent to them earlier. In his speech General Akehurst welcomed all the comrades present, and especially Lieutenant Colonel Porter, the Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment. His Battalion had given the Association members a wonderful day at

Warminster on 30 April and would be hosting us again in September. He then, on behalf of the Association, congratulated the Lord Lieutenant on his Knighthood in the New Year's Honours List. He also congratulated Mr Ogle on starting up the Finedon Branch. He announced that the Regimental Secretary had taken over from the Chairman as the Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Northamptonshire. General Akehurst thanked Major Amos and the caterers for the excellent arrangements and for the meal. Announcing the details for the church parade, the General said that, very sadly, HRH Princess Alice would not be able to attend, but he felt sure that all present at the Dinner would be on parade for church the next day. The General ended by proposing the toast "The Regiment".

The next day the weather was fine for the Church Parade. The turnout was as good as ever and the march, headed by The

Royal Anglian Regiment TA Band, was enjoyed by marchers and spectators alike. The Church Service was well attended and, as usual, stimulating. The address was given by the Reverend Keith Anderson, the vicar of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. After the Service the parade returned to Gibraltar Barracks for dismissal, en route giving an "eyes right" to the Mayor of Northampton, who took the salute, and to our President.

5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment (Battleaxe Division)

The 5th Battalion held its 9th Reunion Luncheon on Sunday 18 May 1997 at the Barnsdale Lodge Hotel, near Rutland Water. The host, Major Donald Girdwood, welcomed all the ladies and gentlemen and presented the ladies with

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very attractive buttonholes. Before an excellent lunch, Donald Girdwood asked for a minute's silence to be kept in respect of two fellow comrades who had died during the year (Jim Bullis and Eddie Lees) and also read out apologies from comrades unable to attend owing to illness. He said there would be sufficient funds to enable the reunion to continue until the year 2003. He also read out a letter from Colonel 'Buck' Buchanan, who was unable to attend due to ill health, and who had expressed his disappointment at not being able to be present on this occasion. He said he was pleased with the response to the book he had produced on the 5th Battalion in North Africa and Sicily, and although no charge was made for it, £800 had been received which had gone to Regimental Funds. Hundreds of copies had been sent out, some by himself with personal letters and the rest had been distributed by the Regimental Secretary and Mrs Sarah Peyton, ably assisted by Majors Girdwood and Hill, Gordon Isom and Mrs Joy Moring. One was sent to Major Matthew Hunt in Australia and to the Venerable David Apivor in Vancouver. After lunch, Major Richard Hill proposed the Loyal Toast, the toast to Princess Alice, Dowager Duchess of Gloucester (Colonel-in-Chief), and The Regiment. He made a short speech and delved into a bit of past history. He also thanked Donald Girdwood for making the reunion possible and thanked Gordon Isom and his sister Joy for all the administrative work involved in making this event possible.

70th Northamptons 6th Annual Reunion Dinner

The 6th Annual Reunion Dinner took place on Friday 3 October 1997 at the Conservative and Unionist Club, Kettering. Fifty four persons sat down to an excellent meal and a very convivial evening ensued, Mr Jeffery Brown chairing the proceedings. The Battalion was pleased and honoured to entertain as its principal guests the Mayor and Mayoress of Kettering, Mr Ray Wright and Mrs Wright; Colonel Peter Worthy, Chairman of the Comrades Association, and Mrs Worthy; Colonel Anthony Swallow, Regimental Secretary and Mrs Swallow; and Captain David Berridge and Mrs Berridge.

The Mayor, in response to a toast to the visitors, recalled that the Battalion had been raised in Kettering in 1940 and he

paid tribute to the Battalion's first Adjutant, Lt Col W W Holland, who had died in April this year. Mrs Vera Holland, who had bravely travelled from Upper Brailes in Oxfordshire to be present, thanked the Mayor for the tribute to her husband and thanked the 70th Battalion and the Regiment for the many kindnesses shown to her.

Captain David Berridge MC, before proposing the toast to our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief Her Royal Highness, Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, told of his privileged association with Her Royal Highness and reminded us of Her Royal Highness's sixty years sustained deep interest in the affairs of the Regiment. Captain Berridge recalled his early days in the ranks in the 70th Battalion and proclaimed that the character building instruction and training he had received in the Battalion had served him well in his later army and civilian life.

On Saturday 4 October members, their ladies and guests attended a buffet luncheon at the Conservative Club. During the luncheon Mrs Jeffery Brown, wife of our Chairman, made a presentation to Mrs Vera Holland, who took the opportunity to once again thank members for their many kindnesses. The 1998 Reunion Dinner will be held at Kettering on Friday 2 October.

Finedon Branch

Since the launch of the Branch in March this year, it has gone from strength to strength. Members have attended the two Weapons Effect Demonstrations at Warminster, the Annual Regimental Reunion at Northampton and the Poachers Reunion at Felixstowe. Links have been established with the Peterborough Branch and we shall be joining them for a trip to Duxford in the near future.

On Remembrance Sunday we paraded as a Branch at Higham Ferrers and Paul Hale laid a wreath on behalf of the Association. Afterwards we retired to the Band Club at Finedon and Ray Ogle presented a framed drawing of the Royal Anglian Regimental Badge to Nigel Lawman, the Secretary of the Band Club. The gift was given to the club to show our appreciation for the hospitality the club has given the Branch since our foundation.

Membership is rising and we have four

new members in the pipeline and an open invitation has been sent to members of the 4th Battalion who may wish to join us from time to time, or indeed join on a permanent basis. Reflecting on our first six months all members are justly proud of our achievements and we are looking forward to the future with confidence.

Officers' Lunch Party

The Officers' Dining Club held their annual lunch on 2 May 1997 in the magnificent and most interesting Officers' Mess of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Millbank, London, thanks to the kind hospitality of Col John Richardson. A pleasant menu and impressive wines from the Mess Cellar made it a particularly memorable occasion.

Visit to The Poachers, 4 Sep 97

One of the unforgettable highlights of the year was our visit to Warminster. After meeting our comrades at junction 15A of the M1 we joined members of The Royal Leicestershire Regiment already aboard the buses. The journey down in brilliant sunshine was quite pleasant. On arrival we were taken to the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess for coffee and biscuits and briefing of the day's events.

We were then organised into groups to inspect the modern Army's small arms and tanks. We were amazed at how well versed the soldiers were on their weapons and they explained it all to us clearly. We then went back to the cook-house for a superb lunch - a choice of five or six dishes.

It was then time to assemble for the afternoon's demonstration of modern warfare. Ear defenders were issued and the 'Tiger' who sat next to us said "We shan't need these". There was a loud explosion quite near and when we looked 'Tiger Tim' had decided to wear his plugs. After the small arms and tanks had knocked out some of the enemy targets, over came the Harriers and Tornados in an attack that was most frightening by its accuracy.

The mortars and tanks then mopped up the rest of the enemy to conclude an unforgettable afternoon's demonstration. Everything that happened was so clearly communicated that it made it easy to fol-

Associations

low.

Back to the Mess for drinks - the bar was open and our very generous hosts supplied us with whatever took our fancy, and even implored us to stay longer, but the buses were waiting and sadly we had to leave. The journey home was very pleasant and the whole proceedings were very well organised. Thanks once again to all concerned in the arrangements.

Quebec Barracks

On Monday 29 September 1997 the Chairman, Regimental Secretary and other members of the Regiment visited Quebec Barracks in Northampton to see the start of its demolition by contractors. It was a nostalgic and sad afternoon. The Barracks was started before the war but only completed in 1948, when it became the Depot of The Northamptonshire Regiment. After the Regiment's amalgamation with The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment in 1960, the barracks became the Depot of The Royal Pioneer Corps and renamed Simpson Barracks after General Sir Frank Simpson. After The Royal Pioneer Corps joined the new Royal Logistic Corps, the barracks was vacated in 1993. Sadly vandals have been on site since and it was no longer the smart place which it used to be.

Demolition of all the buildings is expected to be completed in December 1997, and Westbury Homes are going to turn it into a housing estate with some 300 homes.

The first room to be demolished was the Commanding Officer's office. Some wags on parade thought the guardroom might have been more appropriate! There was not anybody there who had not got fond memories of the barracks, the "home" of the Regiment (and later The Royal Pioneer Corps). It was a happy camp, with a personality all of its own, and will not be forgotten.

Museum-Colours of the 58th Regiment

The Regimental Museum has recently acquired the last set of Colours of the 58th Regiment (2nd Battalion).

They were presented to the 58th at Aldershot by Lieutenant General

Knollys on 10 May 1860. They were taken with the Regiment to South Africa and were carried in action at the Battle of Ulundi (1879) and Laing's Nek (1881) and are believed to be the last Colours of a British Regiment carried into action. Because heavy casualties to officers resulted from the practice of taking the Colours into action, a circular was issued in January 1882 pointing out that, in consequence of the altered form of attack and the extended range of firing, Colours would not necessarily in future be taken by a battalion on active service, but should normally be left at base.

The Colours remained mostly with the Battalion until 1961, when they were marched off parade, together with those of the 48th (1st Battalion), by The 2nd East Anglian Regiment (the successor unit to The Northamptonshire Regiment), thus achieving a record of over 100 years in use.

For some time afterwards they were on display in the National Army Museum in London, but have now been returned to us. They are on display in the Regimental section of Abington Park Museum and are one of our most prized items. Visitors are welcome between 1 pm and 5 pm Tuesdays - Sundays and on Bank Holiday Mondays. Entry is free.

Peterborough Branch

There is continued strong Branch activity here in Peterborough. Chairman Terry Edge, on behalf of the Branch, organised a 5 Royal Anglian Reunion on the Saturday of the Regimental Weekend held at the TA Centre in London Road. This enabled many old serving members and their families to come along, enjoy refreshments, see the new vehicles on display by the Royal Logistics Corps and, more importantly, to hear about our Branch and future events.

We hosted a splendid barbecue at our meeting place, The Woolpack at Stanground, in July, a lovely sunny evening. With our friends from The Cambridgeshire Regiment we got down to the real business of comradeship.

The highlight of the year, as always, is our Annual Dinner, which we held on 18 November and this year 113 sat down to a fine beef dinner. It was without doubt one of the best dinners for years. The Royal Anglian TA Band gave us another

fine programme of music and the Corps of Drums gave us an excellent display after the meal. In period costume they brilliantly reenacted the reforming of the Regiment after the great victory at Talavera. We saw the soldiers gathering together around the Colours and the drums. They played victory beatings and sang poignant songs. A fine end to a splendid evening.

Thanks are due to The Royal Logistic Corps, who allow us the use of the Drill Hall and assisted and helped with the arrangements.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Major D F Hooton OBE TD JP DL on his award to be an Officer of the Order of the British Empire for his service to the community, which was announced in Her Majesty The Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Royal Anglian Gathering

It was pleasing to see so many more members than in previous years attending The Royal Anglian Regiment Gathering at Oakington in July. As all those who attended enjoyed a wonderful day, it is hoped that attendance will continue to increase each year. The weather was kind and all the arrangements were excellent, so we thank the Vikings for another most enjoyable reunion.

Reunion Questionnaire

74 replies were received to the questionnaire sent out with the November 1996 newsletter about the format of the Association's annual reunion in Northampton. These were considered by the Management Committee in February. There was very strong support for retaining the Church Service, but other responses were mixed. After a discussion the Committee decided to retain the existing two-day arrangement for 1998. The format would be reviewed again if it was felt necessary.

Telephone Numbers

Please note that from 15 January 1998, the telephone number of the Association will be changed to: 01604 635412.

The Cadets

Most of the Army Cadet Force units in the Regiment's Counties are affiliated to The Royal Anglian Regiment and wear its cap badge. The following School Combined Cadet Force units are affiliated to the Regiment:

Bancrofts
Bedford Modern
Berkhamsted
Brentwood
Cawston College
Felsted
Framlingham

Greshams
Haileybury
Ipswich
Kimbolton
King Edward VI,
Chelmsford
Langley

The Leys
Loughborough GS
Merchant Taylors
Oakham
Oundle
Ratcliffe
St Edmunds, Ware

St Josephs, Ipswich
Stamford
Uppingham
Wellingborough
Woodbridge
Wymondham

SALAMANCA SHIELD 1997- RESULTS

The RIT ran the annual Salamanca Shield Competition on Sunday 8 Jun 97. Although the event was not as well attended as last year, all the Cadets who participated enjoyed the event and to that end it was a successful day. Diary date for next year's competition is 7 Jun 98.

Team Results

Overall Winners:

Team 19 Lincolnshire ACF
Sgt Lambie
Cpl Dixon
LCpl Orford
Cdt Howard

Runners Up:

Team 2 Norfolk ACF
SSgt Sadd
LBdr Woods
LBdr Elvin
Gnr Elvin

3rd Place:

Team 1 Norfolk ACF
Bdr Kirk
Gnr Ford
Gnr Ward
Gnr Downes

Individual Stand Winners

Map Reading:

Team 44 Essex ACF
Sm Martin
LCpl Baker
LCpl Bolton
Cdt Cain

Shooting:

Team 2 Norfolk ACF
SSgt Sadd
LBdr Woods
LBdr Elvin
Gnr Elvin

Tent Erecting:

Team 40 Hertfordshire ACF
Sgt Anderson
Cpl Gill
LCpl Brackford
Cdt Cox

Boating:

Team 45 Essex ACF
Sgt Nairn
Cdt Scott
Cdt Robinson
Cdt Lane

March

Team 19 Lincolnshire ACF
Sgt Lambie
Cpl Dixon
LCpl Orford
Cdt Howard

Observation:

Team 19 Lincolnshire ACF
Sgt Lambie
Cpl Dixon
LCpl Orford
Cdt Howard

First Aid:

Team 45 Essex ACF
Sgt Nairn
Cdt Scott
Cdt Robinson
Cdt Lane

Norfolk ACF

Major John Doughty, OC Britannia Company Norfolk ACF, writes:

The Summer months are the busiest that we experience as a company. It's a case of trying to squeeze as much activity into the best weather as possible. Since my last letter the company has held four training weekends and of course our annual camp. Planning is everything in our organisation, and frequently takes longer than the actual event itself, but it's worth it. A well planned event just clicks into action. This Summer our two largest events were the Holkham Country Fair and annual camp.

Holkham Fair is something we have been involved with since its inception. We undertake all the car parking and entry

fee collection. It requires all the adult instructors and a minimum of about a hundred cadets. Everybody works hard for the whole weekend dealing with somewhere around 60,000 people and 25,000 cars.

Our two-week annual camp was held at Fremington in Devon and as usual was the highlight of the training year. It's really the only time in the year when the whole County ACF gets together in strength in one place. I am sad to report that the company did not repeat its success of last year in the various county competitions and my office wall now has slightly less silverware hanging on it. Still you've got to give the other companies a look in every now and again!

We did however retain the Simon Ground Memorial Trophy that is awarded each year to the outstanding cadet of the county. Cadet Corporal Joanne Page from the Fakenham detachment was nominated by her detachment commander and enthusiastically seconded by me. Joanne is a model cadet who is rising through the proficiency syllabus with ease and, as her rank suggests, is someone who eagerly accepts responsibility. This may not seem all that remarkable in itself but Joanne is deaf and takes in the majority of her instruction by lip reading. She thoroughly deserved the award and was shocked to receive it on the County Parade at the end of camp, as she was unaware that she had been nominated.

Cadets

More Recruits for Norfolk ACF

Major John Raybould, "double-hatting" with 19 Mech Bde and as PRO, Norfolk ACF, writes:

WO2 GG Burgess, formerly with 6 R ANGLIAN, has added his brown beret to the throng of former 6 R ANGLIAN SNCOs and Officers who serve with Norfolk ACF. Former 1 R ANGLIAN soldiers who serve with Norfolk ACF are Captain Stuart Sprules, 2IC Britannia Coy, and, though he now wears Gunner uniform, Major Dave Hedges, OC CNA Battery. Majors Miles Green and Raybould were delighted to learn of the return to Dereham of Capt Gerry Gandon, formerly PSAO of A (Norfolk) Company, 6 R ANGLIAN.

Lincolnshire ACF

New County Cadet Commandant

RSMI Eric Sharpe writes:

Succeeding Colonel Robert Dickinson on his retirement as County Commandant of Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force is Lieutenant Colonel Geoff Newmarch of Welton. Colonel Newmarch previously served in The Light Infantry for 9 years on a Regular Army engagement as a Platoon Commander and Mortar Officer. On leaving the Regular Army he enlisted for 10 years in the 7th Bn and attained the appointment of OC A Coy in Lincoln. In 1988 he was promoted Lt Col and appointed OC East Midlands University OTC based at Nottingham. His service

with Lincolnshire ACF began on 1 Sep 94 when he was appointed Deputy Commandant. A keen field soldier he has been instrumental for the last three years in programming the exercises for annual camps and in the training of the senior cadet platoon for the Regional Combat Cadet Skills competition. He is also a very keen sportsman, especially rugby, and enjoys outdoor pursuits such as hill walking and adventure training. His son Russell is a sponsored potential officer at University.

Cadets Face Cheviot Challenge 1997

On Saturday 14th June 1997 a group of Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force members lined up with 144 teams to compete

in the Cheviot 2000 Fell Race over a distance of 22 miles. The event is a National Fell race of 22 miles over open fells, on foot, in some of the most wild and remote areas on the Scottish/English border of Northumberland. One wrong turn and you are in Scotland. Taking in eleven peaks, each one over 2000 feet above sea level, teams are required to navigate by map and compass and carry items of equipment on parts of the journey. In total each member of the team climbs in excess of 5000 feet during the race. Teams were in competition with those of the SAS, Parachute Regiment, Royal Marines, Fire Brigade, Regular Army and Territorial Army units and teams from the police forces. Lincolnshire ACF teams scored well, the best being Capt Sutherland, OC 13 CTT, in 27th place.

Cambridgeshire ACF

Colonel Derek Bristow BSc



Colonel Derek Bristow, Commandant of Cambridgeshire ACF, has recently been honoured by being appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for Cambridgeshire. Colonel Bristow joined the ACF as a Sergeant in the 5th Battalion Cambridgeshire ACF in 1975. In 1977, having been commissioned, he became Detachment Commander of St Neots, a position he held for some years. Following further promotions he became Battalion Commander of 5th Battalion ACF until 1989. In

1989 he was promoted Lieutenant Colonel, becoming County Commandant in 1993. Colonel Derek Bristow is a retired Police Superintendent with Cambridgeshire Police.

Major John Watson, OC No 1 Company, writes:

No 1 Company of Cambridgeshire ACF covers the geographic areas of Greater Peterborough and Fenland. We have twelve detachments, six in the city and the others in Yaxley, Whittlesey, Thorney, Wisbech, Outwell and March. In total 260 cadets serve in the Company.

We have undergone an extremely hectic twelve month period, starting with Annual Camp 1996 in Ripon, where we heard the news that the Company were to be granted the Honorary Freedom of the

Town of Wisbech. We believe that this is the first time a Cadet unit has been given the honour of receiving the Freedom of a Town. It is even more important for us to be honoured by Wisbech, as the founder of the Cadet Force, Octavia Hill, was born in the Town.

On Sunday 1 Dec the Company paraded through Wisbech behind our Corps of Drums to the Market Place. The parade was inspected by the Mayor, Councillor Joan Diggle, and the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Mr James Crowden K St J JP. The declaration was then read by the Town Clerk and the Mayor presented the Freedom Scroll. The officers and adult instructors were somewhat disappointed that there was no mention in the declaration about testing the ales of the Town. A march past completed the parade and the salute was taken outside the Octavia Hill Birthplace Museum,

Cadets

with the Lord Lieutenant, Mayor and Cadet Commandant standing beneath the blue plaque recording Octavia Hill's birthplace. Various other parades and functions have been undertaken by the Company and the Corps of Drums are performing every weekend of the year.

Prior to Annual Camp 97, 135 cadets and 22 officers and adult instructors took part in a visit to France and Belgium, visiting the 1st World War cemeteries and memorials. We were accommodated in the Belgian Air Force camp at Koksyde. We shared the camp with a party of Argentinean airmen, a fact that made our hosts a little nervous. During a practice for the Menin Gate parade, an interna-

tional incident almost occurred when the Corps of Drums played 'Rule Britannia' as they passed the Argentineans who were watching the rehearsal. They, however, only reacted by standing to attention as we passed. The culmination of our Belgian visit was the 'Last Post' ceremony at the Menin Gate, during which our buglers played the Reveille. Cadet CSM Steven Batchelor laid a wreath at the gate on behalf of the Whittlesey Peterborough Branch of the Cambridgeshire Regiment OCA. The wreath was laid between those of His Majesty King Albert of the Belgians and HRH The Duke of Kent, who had been at the gate only a few days before to commemorate the 80th anniversary of Paschendale.

After our visit to Flanders we returned to Britain and Annual Camp at St Martin's Plain, Shorncliffe. The Cadets were disappointed with the accommodation after the splendid billets they had in Belgium but we soon settled into the camp programme. The next important date in our calendar is 7-8 Nov when the Drums have been invited to join the massed Corps of Drums of The Royal Anglian Regiment at the Lord Mayor's Show in the City. Practising with the 1st, 2nd and 6th Battalions is something our members are looking forward to, ever keen to show the regulars what they can do.

Essex ACF

Nothing's going to stop us now

Major Peter Wade, PRO D Coy, writes:

We have all seen it on the ACF video, but now I was watching the Cadets actually doing it in real life. The team took to it like ducks to water. The briefing said they were to enter the rubber rafts, paddle round the bouy in the lake and get back in the fastest time. We had all been soaked by a torrential downpour so we did not care. Our team came last in that particular event amongst the Essex teams, but it was declared to be great fun.

Our esteemed and revered acting Coy Comd, Captain Brian Low, had volunteered me to take a team to the annual Salamanca Shield 1997. As the Essex Regiment or their forerunners had captured the Salamanca Eagle we felt obliged to do our best as the modern day descendants of those Essex men.

The Royal Anglian Regiment RIT did a great job of giving the Cadets from the whole of the Regimental area an exciting day at ATR Bassingbourn. The events included falling plate, assault boat, map reading, observation, forced march and first aid. The steeple-chase was replaced by tent erection which we did in the pouring rain. Essex won three events but Parsons Heath Detachment, D Coy Essex ACF, my detachment, came away with no trophies. The team was LCpl Warren Arnold Brown, Cadet Adrian Pomroy, Cadet Matthew Hopkins and Sgt Daniel Brown. The day was a great success and they unanimously agreed that they would be back next year.

Salamanca Shield 97



Woodbridge CCF

Woodbridge goes to Cornwall

WO1 KP Brett, RSM of Woodbridge School CCF, writes:

Sand, sun, sea and sunburn! Summer Camp at Penhale Training Camp way down there in Cornwall was where the majority of the Cadets spent seven days at the beginning of July. Everyone was a bit dubious of the week ahead as in the previous week the camp had been awash in the aftermath of torrential rain. Tents had been afloat a couple of times, but due to the Contingent Commander's prior planning and indenting for good weather on the relevant form, we were not disappointed and had a week of glorious sunshine.

After a nine hour drive the previous day everyone looked aghast when on Sunday morning at 0630 hrs they were told once again to get on the coaches for a short trip of only one hour to the ranges. Prior to the camp weapon training had taken place in abundance and proved worthwhile as the first day was spent on a range in the middle of nowhere knocking down targets at 1,000metres (allegedly!). Top shot of the day was Sgt Ed Longhurst-Pierce.

That evening there were inter Platoon football and basketball matches which involved both the boys and girls. Rachel "Chopper" Irwin and Heather "Bite yer legs" Tod did some damage to the opposition and the end result was a draw with each team losing a couple of players to their tackles!

Monday saw the Cadets carrying out Signals training on a very hot day. However the Training team got it right and the day was both interesting and beneficial. The final stand of the day was Signal training on water, which believe it or not was most popular, but doesn't the sand get in all the kit! The orienteering competition took place in the evening and many a sand dune was visited as they all look alike. We did not win but Vavid Henderson came in the top ten and Anna Edgar came second in her class and received a medal.

Tuesday was the day the Cadets had their intelligence and powers of leadership tested with command tasks and initiative tests. On yet another sweltering day everyone worked hard and by the time the assault course had been completed

everyone was very tired. Unfortunately for them they had to then go and prepare for the 24 hr Exercise which had been devised by the CSM Anna Edgar, Colour Sergeant Sarah Cleland-Smith and Sgt Ed Longhurst-Pierce with some assistance from the Staff.

Fifteen patrols of four set off through enemy held ground with the orders to RV with an agent before dusk. Thankfully all made it (eventually) and met their Platoon Commanders at their hides where they then prepared to carry out patrols on the enemy. Information gathered and deciphered they then prepared to sleep. Ever tried putting up a basher on a sand dune? Bungees definitely not required! After some sleep but more sentry duty than anything and with the threat of getting bumped always on their minds, which also kept them awake, they arose and rehearsed for an ambush later in the morning. The ambush took place on the enemy vehicle taking breakfast to them and amazingly enough there was enough food for everyone to have breakfast as well? Given further orders to erase the pockets of enemy on or around the axis they carried out an advance to contact and completed the mission in the heat of the midday sun. However they were informed that there was the further threat of invasion from the sea so they then had to hand in weapons, get changed into their beach wear and in the guise of sunbathers they spent another hour or two on the beach watching for but not ever seeing the enemy! This unexpected end to the exercise was appreciated but unfortunately unlikely to ever be repeated!

Unfortunately for our march and shoot team they had to prepare themselves for this event which took place that evening. The whole Contingent turned out to cheer them on but the lack of sleep the previous night took its toll; they still managed a creditable 4th place.

Sleep was the order of the night and everyone did just that before parading on the Thursday for the four skills stands which proved to be one of the highlights of the week. Survival in the field, ambushes, stalking, grenade throwing and the jungle lane were the stands. Too

much happened on each to write, but each stand was excellent. The jungle lane proved to be the best but if the press ever got hold of the pictures there would be questions asked! However every picture tells a story and the Cadets will agree that as the stand was designed to practise teamwork, being roped together wading through the streams under submerged logs up slippery slopes through undergrowth certainly tested the teamwork. As they said afterwards, it was brilliant.

That evening was the Camp Inter Contingent Assault Course Competition. We entered a male and female team as well as making up 6 members of a composite female team. The boys came 4th in the male competition and the female team came 2nd in the female one and received medals. Congratulation as well to the composite team who came 4th.

Friday and the last day of training saw everyone canoeing or power boating in Falmouth Harbour. A relaxed end to a hard week's work (honest!) was enjoyed by everyone.

At the final parade that evening one of our ex Officers, Lt Kesterton, now doing time with Liverpool College, presented the Kesterton Trophy to LCpl Paul Simpson for being the best Cadre student. 1 Platoon collected the Inter Platoon trophy for the second year running and the CSM, CSgt and Sgt Longhurst - Pierce bade their farewells as this was their last camp after five years loyal service.

66 Cadets went to Camp and was the largest Contingent there, and we definitely had the largest number of females. Thanks to Lt Bradshaw, on secondment from Suffolk ACF, who was a great help (seriously), to Sub Lt Van Zwanenberg on shore from the Navy Section, and of course to the Contingent Commander Major Broaderwick for booking the sunshine and also for his briefs, debriefs and more briefs.

Bancroft School CCF

Canadian/UK Cadet Exchange 1997

Cadet Corporal Anna Gust writes:

This summer took me and eleven other cadets from across the UK into the wilds of the Canadian Rockies for a six week adventure training course. I had applied, through Cadets, to take part in the annual Canadian/UK Exchange for which twelve cadets were chosen from across the country and was pleasantly surprised to have been chosen! The course took place at the Banff National Army Cadet Summer Training Centre, the top cadet camp in Canada. It provided Canada's top 170 cadets (plus 12 British cadets and 6 German youths) the chance to experience the Rocky Mountains whilst offering a challenge and leadership training.

On arrival at the camp the twelve of us "Brits" were separated into platoons with whom we would spend the majority of our time. The camp's situation inside the Banff National Park boundaries provided the most amazing scenery, the mountains towered above us from every side. The Canadian cadets, having been on a number of different annual six week camps, knew more about what to expect and slipped into the routine. Us Brits, on the other hand took slightly longer to adjust, especially when it came to adapting to Canadian style drill, in French.

My first week was spent with my platoon doing leadership tasks which were a less imaginative equivalent to our British command task. The tasks became even less imaginative as the week went on and we ended up repeatedly sweeping the parade

square! However, they gave us a good insight into the job of a leader and plenty of practice to develop our leadership.

The next five weeks were (to my relief) a dramatic improvement upon the first week. We spent the second week in groups of three or four rock climbing, the climbs progressing from simple scrambles to vertical faces in the space of five days. By the end of the week we knew how to belay, set up the climb and, of course, climb. The last few days involved some of the most amazing and most challenging climbs I have ever done. Unfortunately, climbing had to end and we were passed over to the glacier hiking instructors for some even more amazing views and harder work. We camped next to the glacier for four nights, exploring the glacier during the day which included a hike up to the top of a ten thousand foot peak. The glacier was stunning, the snow stretched for miles around and there was an eerie silence only broken by the rumble of an avalanche in the distance.

The remainder of the course was spent on a four-day hike, camping in the Banff and Kootenay National Parks surrounded by the most "awesome" (as the Canadians put it) scenery. Also, five days white water canoeing which was fun despite some very close encounters with rather large rocks! The build up to Final Parade meant that the final week was spent rehearsing, but it also included a Parks Project, to help maintain the Park's

paths, and an orienteering competition. The Final Parade was, unfortunately, conducted in rain coats but, nevertheless, it was an unforgettable moment of pride for all the cadets who successfully passed the course. Saying goodbye was, inevitably, the worst part of the course! I made some really good friends and all of us Brits had the time of our lives - certainly an adventure we will remember forever!

Afternote.

On the basis of this course, in which she gained an 'A' grade and was awarded the Sands Shield for leadership, and other events Cpl Gust is to be congratulated on being awarded The Duke of Edinburgh's Gold Award.



Cadet Corporal Anne Gust

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St Joseph's CCF

Peter Holme, who formed a new CCF and affiliated it to The Regiment, writes:

“We’re going to start a CCF”, said the Headmaster. “That sounds nice,” I replied. “I’m glad you said that,” he continued, “because you’re in charge.” Thus began a hectic but very enjoyable 18 months of development at our school. St. Joseph’s College with the School of Jesus and Mary came into official existence on 1 January 1996, being the amalgamation of two Independent schools in Ipswich; no prizes for guessing the names of the two schools! The Head and the governors had been working with MOD since the middle of 1995 seeking permission for the establishment of a new CCF at the school. From what I can gather MOD are more used to overseeing the closure of contingents rather than opening up a new one and so things were a little slow at first. However we were granted permission to form an Army section of 60 cadets from 1 September 1996. As we approached Easter 1996 there were several issues to be sorted. First and most important was to appoint an SSI. Now at this time I was unaware of the fantastic network of communication that takes place within the Army but suffice to say I was contacted by several very strong candidates before I had even managed to advertise the post! We were lucky enough to appoint W02 Graham Hughes of 1 Royal Anglian though he constantly reminds us all that he is really a Pompadour, dressing almost exclusively in purple to drive home the point! Along with Graham came half of 1 Royal Anglian and a fantastic amount of support from the QM, Major Gould at RHQ and Major Andrews from B Company. Starting from scratch needs a lot of advice and support and so far Graham has been excellent at this side of the job. The second point concerned the contingent title. The new school name is quite a mouthful and when I read the guidelines about shoulder titles for brassards along with the price list from CSD I began to panic! We would need extra wide brassards and a bank loan to get the titles made. So we came to a compromise - the contingent would be referred to as St. Joseph’s CCF thus saving the Army several gallons of ink per year.

Next we needed to appoint CCF Officers and with a touch of arm twisting Mr. Keith Hirst and Mrs. Tineke Regan “volunteered” to apply for commissions. There was also a duty put on 2 Cadet

Training Team to give us some basic education in military matters. Capt. Clive Trott and his team had the dubious pleasure of spending two days trying to make three not-so-young teachers look something vaguely like Army Officers. “Just take their brains out and they’ll be perfect” suggested Tricky Cowell. The two days were a good introduction to the Army and the Cadet movement - we all found out what a Pongo is but none of us can march!

In July we were fortunate enough to spend four days at Proteus as guests on attachment to Framlingham College CCF. The days in the field were great fun and we learnt a lot during discussion at meal times and in the bar but the accommodation So in September we had the basic administrative structure set up but would we get any cadets?

The answer initially was a resounding yes. By half term we had over 70 cadets signed up, though we knew this was partly due to the novelty factor. For the first year we left everything voluntary; some fell by the wayside, dropped out due to sporting commitments or found it just wasn’t for them. By January we seemed to have settled with 50 cadets though numbers did pick up during the rest of the year. I had hoped to have a solid core of 30 cadets by the end of the first year so it was very pleasing to find that we still had 56 on the roll in June 1997.

The first year has been packed with events including a camp at the school Rugby Festival, a visit and helicopter flight at Wattisham, Snow Cadet, Combat Cadet, adventure training and our first Central Camp. Several of the senior pupils at school had experience in other



St Joseph's CCF at Proteus

cadet forces, notably the ATC, and transferred to the CCF to give us some experienced cadets and also to improve their chances of gaining promotion! It is interesting to note that these cadets express a preference for the CCF “..because we do more interesting things and don’t spend all our time being shouted at and drilled.”

We have spent a lot of time getting to know about the local cadet movement and I would like to express my thanks to the contingent commanders at Framlingham College, Woodbridge School, Ipswich School and The Royal Hospital School for their support and help even during competitions. Which brings me to Ex Combat Cadet 1997. We felt we had to enter for the experience. Mr. Hughes put together a mixed team of older cadets and took them along. “Just don’t come last” was my only instruction. I needn’t have worried. Several of the other schools did when we appeared to be

Cadets

in first place half way through the first day! However experience told in the end, the team made a few mistakes, became tired and Kevin Brett at Woodbridge School had obviously bribed everyone to let his team win again! We came a very creditable 8th place with the promise of better to come in future years.

For our first Central Camp we were told the best place to go would be Proteus and the accommodation was excellent. This turned out to be a fantastic week, putting into practice much of what had been learned over the year, trying out some new sports and getting into trouble for having an over exuberant pillow fight with another school (or two). The cadets put in some strong performances on competition day, our best result being a second place in the assault course competition. Again links with 1 Royal Anglian were strengthened as the Battalion supplied demonstration and support troops for the camp. The majority of cadets had a great time despite the heat, the sunstroke and Cadet Brownell visiting the hospital after parting company with a mountain bike. As our second school year begins we have made some changes. The third form have been timetabled for CCF during lesson time on Friday afternoon thus giving us another 50 "volunteers". The older cadets are moving on with Advanced Infantry Training and the Duke of Edinburgh Award. We have permission to start an RAF section from January 1998 which means more teachers volunteering to put on uniform. There is a lot to do in terms of administration (does the Army really need to send out so many pieces of paper?) and resources (we're still waiting for an armoury) but I'm sure with maximum effort from all parties this new venture will continue to be a success.



Cadets from St Joseph's CCF at Camp in Proteus

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THE BEST FROM THE PAST TAILORED TO THE PRESENT

The Royal Anglian Regiment

Order of Battle, 1 October 1997

TA Battalions

6th (Volunteer) Battalion

Battalion Headquarters

Lt Col H N D Gill
Maj S Card
Maj R H C Lucas
Cf 3 D C Lowe TD RACHd
Capt P D Bailey
WO1 (RSM) Keeble G J

Headquarter (Suffolk) Company

Regimental Admin Office

Capt P G Mann AGC (SPS)
Capt K R Martin AGC
WO 2 Cook S C R AGC (SPS)
WO 2 (ORQMS) Webby A St J
S Sgt Bracey L J AGC (SPS)
Sgt Alderton K N AGC (SPS)
Sgt Hunt N J AGC (SPS)

Company Headquarters

Maj C P Vince TD
Capt D C Coe MBE
Lt J E Hadaway
WO 2 De Meyer G J
WO 2 (CSM) Welton B S
WO 2 Goddard R
C Sgt Mason K R
Cpl Head T R
Pte Cobbold P L
Pte Perkins K E

Medical Section

Maj I N Morton RAMC
Sgt Archer M J RAMC
Sgt Smith P G RAMC
Pte Allen S J RAMC
Pte Rhind S
Pte Wells C A

Training Platoon

Maj C D L Winn
Sgt Emms M
Cpl Westley S R
L Cpl Porter R F
Pte Devereux L K
Pte Fallon J V
Pte Feeke K N
Pte Panton C J
Pte Prior F M
Pte Randall T J K
Pte Scott G P
Pte Smith K J
Pte Spencer D J
Pte Wallace S A
Pte Williams E J

Intelligence Section

Capt P M Gotobed
WO 2 Smith J V
Pte Wenlock S L

Quartermaster's Department

Maj (QM) R W Potter MBE
Capt (QM) G W French TD
WO 2 (RQMS) Tunstill B P
S Sgt Hopper G R REME
C Sgt Moffat D I
Cpl Cudby C M REME
Cpl Plume S C
Cfn Graham M J REME

Catering Platoon

WO 2 Heskett G H RLC
Sgt Stoker E RLC
L Cpl Rogers A K RLC
Pte Hayward S G RLC

MT Platoon

Lt G A Hitchings
WO 2 Firth R A
C Sgt Cummings D
S Sgt Mulligan J REME
S Sgt Smith A G REME
Sgt Cummings D
Sgt Spooner I
Cpl Eareham A R REME
Cpl Hunt W J
L Cpl Byrne J
L Cpl Lawrence D
L Cpl Ward W P
Pte Fletcher I D
Pte Rice A P

Signals Platoon

Capt R D F Harrison
WO 2 Syms R W
Sgt Jenkinson D H
Sgt Rackham M R
Cpl Stammers M
L Cpl Morris T K
L Cpl Wall D J S
Pte Chapman R E
Pte Goldsmith A P
Pte Lindsey P J
Pte Richardson P J
Pte Sheppard E

Recce Platoon

Capt S R Watson
C Sgt Armstrong D G
Sgt Martin K J

Cpl Henderson N E
Cpl Hill P A
Cpl Knight G
Cpl Langham D E
Lcpl Bessant S D
L Cpl De Kretser M W
L Cpl Evans-Hendrick A J
L Cpl Faulkes N E
L Cpl Stone R A
L Cpl Winfield P I
Pte Colledge M E E
Pte Jeffery M J
Pte Lewis M R
Pte McNally J H R
Pte Melia M C
Pte Nash D M
Pte Pinkerton N J
Pte Ranson P T
Pte Seisun J A
Pte Skilton H J
Pte Wright P

Defence Platoon

Lt D D Johnstone
Sgt Starie M F G
Sgt Street M A
Cpl Lemay D W
L Cpl McIntyre D J
L Cpl Stoker M J
L Cpl Turner M A
Pte Betts K J
Pte Browne A M
Pte Clarke D J
Pte Cook
Pte Crisp E M
Pte Grant J M
Pte Groves C G
Pte Lathangue S J
Pte Levitt G A
Pte Murrow P J
Pte Spary C A W
Pte Spurgeon R J

Regimental Police

Sgt MacLoughlin S A
Pte Black P A

A (Norfolk and Suffolk) Company

Company Headquarters

Capt S C Taylor
Capt P L Smith BEM
Lt A J Debenham
Lt G R Youngs
WO 2 Catton S G
S Sgt Bissett G A RLC
C Sgt Gedge T P AGC
S Sgt Russell M R AGC (SPS)

C Sgt Sykes P A
Sgt Green J A
Sgt Mills S C
Cpl Baldwin C M RLC
Cpl Hodgson M N
L Cpl Bunn S E REME
L Cpl Hindle S A REME
L Cpl Skinner S D
Pte Abbs M J RLC
Pte Jones L D AGC (SPS)
Pte Prockter J J

Training Platoon

Lt M R Bowdler
WO 2 Mantripp DR
Cpl Hatch SP

1 Platoon

Sgt Rushmere G J
Cpl Adams E A
Cpl Lunn S D S D
Cpl Wilson S M S M
L Cpl Boardman P A P A
L Cpl Hall M W
L Cpl Wiseman A P
Pte Silverstone D P
Pte Chambers K J
Pte Coleman S N
Pte Cousins J L J
Pte Cowey D B
Pte Custance J E
Pte Divey R S
Pte Ellis S N
Pte Feller I R E
Pte Fuller D S
Pte Hampshire I B
Pte Harvey M J
Pte Hilton J A
Pte Martin A A
Pte McDonald D J
Pte Mitchell D J
Pte Nurse J N
Pte Spears R D J
Pte Ward A
Pte Warner S
Pte Waterfield D F
Pte Watts M J
Pte Williams P J
Pte Willis M A
Pte Wilmot M G

2 Platoon

Cpl Baker D S
Cpl Rolph D G
Cpl Thurston J D
L Cpl Antill S J
L Cpl Beavis C W
L Cpl Feaks J E
L Cpl Palmer D N

Orbat

L Cpl Smith G M
Pte Barron A C
Pte Everett A E
Pte Harris M R
Pte Harvey D
Pte Marsh P J
Pte Price M
Pte Savino D J
Pte Smith L M
Pte Stafford A N
Pte Strange N S
Pte Swift A J
Pte Thompson S N
Pte Ward S

3 Platoon

Lt R J McCullough
Sgt Fuller P J
Cpl Buck M J
Cpl James S O
L Cpl Brown J L
L Cpl Green R G
L Cpl Pluck A
L Cpl Pollard K L
L Cpl Roe I P
L Cpl Sherlock M
Pte Albutt L M
Pte Alger R A
Pte Bacon S D
Pte Blower I J
Pte Blythe P R
Pte Carver A
Pte Casey V M
Pte Comley P S
Pte Cyprus P B
Pte Davies A J
Pte Dore R
Pte Fenwick D J
Pte Fisher G M
Pte Graysmark S A
Pte Green M D
Pte Hammersley J E
Pte Hughes G R
Pte Inwards S J
Pte Johnson C C
Pte Jones S G
Pte Langdale M
Pte Ley S A
Pte Mascorn E D T
Pte McMurtry J E
Pte Moore G R
Pte Poole D C
Pte Reid L A
Pte Shrimpton S A
Pte Taylor J D K
Pte Taylor J M
Pte Turner R C
Pte Waldrige C J
Pte Whitehead D R
Pte Wilkinson J G

C (Essex) Company

Company Headquarters

Maj M A Baker
Capt T P Jenkins
Capt P D Thurston
Capt C V Trott
WO 2 (CSM) Cullen A M
C Sgt Anderson V A

C Sgt Denyer
Cpl Barlow J S RLC
Cpl Cain P F
Cpl Cooke V J RAMC
Cpl Crawley P E
Cpl Green D E AGC (SPS)
Cpl Gunner R RLC
Cpl Lelliott S W REME
Cpl Moffat C S
Cpl Seely M F
L Cpl. O'Sullivan CA AGC (SPS)
L Cpl Rayner A A
L Cpl Smith L F
L Cpl Wade S L
Pte Andrews A
Cfn Broadbent R C REME
Pte Butler C
Cfn Lockey J K REME
Pte McLaren P D
Cfn Muir S REME
Pte Piper S J
Pte Stoughton B RLC
Pte Wingar P M

Training Platoon

WO 2 Hayter J V
Sgt Brazier M D
Sgt Ferrie V S
Cpl Britton B J
Cpl Diss K W
Cpl Rowley D J
Pte Mabley I. P
Pte McMahon B K
Pte Russell D P

7 Platoon

Lt D H J Lijens
Sgt Dawson A G
Cpl Bourne R C
Cpl Goode J A
L Cpl Hardy J P
L Cpl Pugh
L Cpl Tibble P C
Pte Aspinell S D
Pte Boyle K D
Pte Clinch D M
Pte Donovan R J
Pte Hales M
Pte Heron C J
Pte Holmes J A
Pte Howes G J
Pte Hulme T F
Pte Jeffcott S J
Pte Lambert P T
Pte Lewis J G
Pte Marns J F
Pte Maybank R T
Pte Moylan A J
Pte Packer N
Pte Roberts W J
Pte Russell I T
Pte Sargent N A
Pte Semaine R R
Pte Sewell D V
Pte Spooner C J
Pte Thurgood C F
Pte Valvona P A
Pte Vickery R J
Pte Westgarth S R
Pte Witham D S

8 Platoon

Lt A S Davies
Sgt Chapman P
Cpl Head C J
Cpl Woodward S B
L Cpl Muneton B
L Cpl Swann S J
L Cpl Wayland D M
Pte Bassill P D
Pte Boorman P R
Pte Bray D W
Pte Degnan G D
Pte Foley B J
Pte Harper C M
Pte Holmes D T
Pte Irwin-Parker T J
Pte Jeffree J P
Pte John R J
Pte Lane G J R
Pte Masek R J
Pte Merrett P C
Pte Miller M
Pte Noles G J
Pte Poston D A
Pte Rolfe M W
Pte Watkins D J
Pte Williams A J

Machine Gun Platoon

Capt M Googe
WO 2 Brown M J
Sgt Dunningham M J
Sgt Wilkins P R H
Cpl Instance N B
L Cpl Blower D E
L Cpl Cavedasca P J
L Cpl Collinson N
Pte Allen J
Pte Cain P W
Pte Hounsell A H
Pte Rivers A J
Pte Simister A J
Pte Swan A J
Pte Turner A E
Pte Tyler S G
Pte Welch C

D (Cambridgeshire) Company

Company Headquarters

Maj D J Cook
Capt R J Allen
Capt P A Taylor
Lt P M Lincoln
WO 2 (CSM) Bessell
C Sgt George RC
C Sgt Smith KA
C Sgt Thumwood A J
Sgt Catton C
Sgt Route P A RLC
Cpl Ellison A E
Cpl Fuller N M
Cpl Rogers M P
Cpl Shearing G G
L Cpl Beach A
L Cpl Radford S RAMC
L Cpl Robinson M RAMC
L Cpl Rymills D M

L Cpl Wingfield M
Pte Griffiths S
Pte Hoadley D K
Pte Lee R J RLC
Cfn Littlechild I D REME
Pte O'Neill D N M
Pte Wilson P AGC (SPS)

Training Platoon

Lt R A Shaw
WO 2 Larham A
Sgt Campbell M A
Pte Bouqdib R M
Pte James R S
Pte Kell J M
Pte Ring C J
Pte Machin B L
Pte Morley R M
Pte Potter M W
Pte Shropshall I J
Pte Stubley K J
Pte Whitehead M J

12 Platoon

2 Lt N D Haden
Sgt Branigan G R
Cpl Fidell L
Cpl Foster S M
Cpl Thompson B D
L Cpl Page M
L Cpl Powell A C R
L Cpl Spalding-Hall R J
Pte Adams T J
Pte Barton R D
Pte Bass D C
Pte Burnett A M
Pte Clements R P
Pte Coleman D G
Pte Germeney N C
Pte Gow S A G
Pte Gregory G A
Pte Hazell CG
Pte Impey C J P
Pte Jarvis B M
Pte Jones M
Pte King C N
Pte Lawson S
Pte MacCuaig D
Pte Piper M A
Pte Richardson M N
Pte Rudelhoff D S
Pte Smith D M
Pte Stevens R D
Pte Stubley D J
Pte Thomas A G
Pte Thompson N F
Pte Yardsley M C

15 Platoon

2 Lt C J Conrad
WO 2 Rogers R G
Sgt Thorpe D J
Cpl Wenn D N
L Cpl Falconer I W
L Cpl Horton R M
Pte Barer R A
Pte Barry M G
Pte Bloy C P
Pte Bowser R G

Orbat

Pte Brooks A J
Pte Caffell D P
Pte Calaby G P
Pte Chatfield R J
Pte Collinson P S
Pte Dale E
Pte Davidson D P
Pte Elmes S R
Pte Garsden C M
Pte Isbell A R
Pte Larham M A
Pte Pilbeam A D
Pte Rayner P A
Pte Rout R M

Corps Of Drums

WO 2 (D Maj) Bradshaw J
C Sgt Jordan D
Sgt Nightingale P
Cpl Clark B J E
Cpl Coakes G
L Cpl Cheetham M S
L Cpl Howe A J
L Cpl Hudson A S
Dmr Bottomley P D
Dmr Goddard M J
Dmr Large M A
Dmr Reed D J
Dmr Watts D K

The Royal Anglian Regiment Band (TA)

WO 1 (BM) Hudson P C H
WO 2 Bedding M BEM
WO 2 Hall P A
Sgt Petch J M
Sgt Rusted J A
Sgt Taylor P
Cpl Harrison J
Cpl Schofield E R B
L Cpl Beard H E
L Cpl Beeston S R
L Cpl Fletcher H S
L Cpl Hookway R W
L Cpl Jordan A M

L Cpl Thompson R G
L Cpl Williamson F G
Musn Adams S
Musn Auburn A L K
Musn Auffret M R
Musn Greenway R C
Musn Hobson J C
Pte McKeown C
Musn Penny G A
Musn Prescott R T
Musn Richardson L B C
Musn Roberts F L
Musn Scott E C
Musn Sharpe H J
Musn Woollard C P
Musn Wyatt C J
Musn Wyndham F D

7th (Volunteer) Battalion

Bn HQ

Lt Col Holme PM
Maj Wadman AJ
Maj Burns RG
Capt York JA
Capt Pook C
WO1(RSM) Thomas PJ
LCpl Wright RJ

Coy HQ

Maj Marsh ND
Capt Cunningham MA
Capt Howe DM
Capt Tucker SP
WO2 Ralph AD
WO2 Shand JL
Sgt Welsford RD
Cpl Edwards GJ
Pte Walsh JF
Pte Langham DE

Chaplain

Maj Woods MS

Asslt Pnrs

CSgt Simmonds PT
Sgt Nagra BS
Pte Bray NA
Pte Burnett R
Pte Campling WR
Pte Derry WM
Pte Evans APD
Pte Glover NI
Pte Griffiths LH
Pte Hunter AJ
Pte Mistry GB
Pte Nawaz SA
Pte Nimmo DW
Pte Smith DC

Catering

WO2 Hargrave TN

SSgt Cooper CP
Sgt Simpson JM
Cpl Bailey JR
LCpl Doherty TLM
LCpl Percival CP
Pte McIntosh MJ

CQMS

CSgt Marriott D
CSgt Upsall JF

Int Sec

Capt Woods DN
CSgt Briggs AJS
Pte Hunt Sheppard VEE
Pte Kemp EM

Medical

Maj Frain IKM
CSgt Galbraith K
Pte Brown MP
Pte Redman EJ
Pte Wheatley K

Messing

Sgt Rowswell L
Cpl Makosch RJS
Pte Pope AS
Pte Teagle PJ

MT PI

Lt Martin KR
WO2 Culshaw DJJ
Sgt Hale DJC
Sgt Lightfoot JL
Cpl Parker RG
Cpl Southin VD
LCpl Botting RJH
LCpl Hewitt SL
Pte Burton CA
Pte Butler AJ

Pte Cooper AM
Pte Hill PA
Pte Kaur R
Pte Mckinnon GG
Pte McLeish AA
Pte Millington FJ
Pte Reid GJ
Pte Smith AP
Pte Taylor AJ

Provost

Sgt Nagra AS

QM's Dept

Maj O'Driscoll W
Capt Smith GG
WO2 Gladwin RD
WO2 Hackett IRR
Sgt McConnell BJP
Sgt Tye Pr
Cpl Parker KB
LCpl Ford PW
Pte Clague J

RAO

Maj Black RA
Capt Hope TP
WO2 Vernon ML
WO2 Lincoln BB
SSgt Davies JT
Sgt Bott HA
Sgt Waller G
Sgt Wightman TF
Cpl Reedy IJ
LCpl Stevenson RA

Holding PI

Capt Dance TA
CSgt Smalley AG
Sgt Webber IW
Cpl Ball NT
Pte Anderson DM
Pte Aswat A
Pte Bakewell LP

Pte Cufflin DL
Pte Davies TJ
Pte Dempsey DK
Pte Fisher SA
Pte Gilbert CJ
Pte Hodge NJ
Pte Hunt TJ
Pte Lewin CA
Pte Marlow NM
Pte Midson CP
Pte Naphine GA
Pte Panchal DJ
Pte Peene HA
Pte Smith CA

Recce PI

Lt Flemington PDP
CSgt Warren PV
Sgt Brotherton PM
Sgt Lovett LP
Cpl Cardall S
Cpl Hague P
Cpl Sharp M
LCpl Basra HS
LCpl Coleman IF
LCpl Marriott AW
LCpl Richards AE
Pte Anstee DY
Pte Cayless A
Pte Clare PR
Pte Crozier A
Pte Devlin CE
Pte Disney RWR
Pte Donaldson MP
Pte Fleming TA
Pte Halfpenny SD
Pte Law C
Pte Lewin DJ
Pte McEntaggart JP
Pte Nellist CS
Pte Palmer LA
Pte Pemberton DM
Pte Pullin SA
Pte Reynolds DP
Pte Smvithers MR
Pte Stalder CP

Orbat

Pte Sutton JT
Pte Thompson RP
Pte Walters G
Pte Wragg A

REME

SSgt Felstead AV
SSgt Goodrich DJ
SSgt Malinowski D
Cpl Atkiss GF
Cpl Beard GS
Cpl Hodgkinson G
Cpl McGowan GD
LCpl Ellis JA
LCpl Mitford D
LCpl Thompson G

Pte Bettany Md
Pte Heward G
Pte Irving K
Pte McKinnon GA
Pte Stuart A

SF PI

Capt Pape MB
Sgt McConnell SC
Sgt Wilson LR
Cpl Johns ALM
Cpl McKinnon SA
LCpl Hilder M
LCpl Prince I
Pte Brown CL
Pte Brown GEW

Pte Elton ML
Pte Gaskin DE
Pte Harrod PJ
Pte Kirkland RD
Pte Lea D
Pte Leivers P
Pte Lockwood M
Pte North J
Pte O'Farrell TN
Pte Payne ARJ
Pte Richardson MJ
Pte Tory MJ

Sig PI

Capt Atkinson RG
CSgt Wells PR

Cpl Dabell K
Cpl McKinnon A
LCpl Drake N
LCpl Gleming SA
LCpl Jennings H
LCpl Randall DA
LCpl Staples AJ
LCpl Wallis RP
Pte Elliott L
Pte Kershaw MJ
Pte Randall SD
Pte Schroder MR
Pte Warrington CD

A COMPANY

Coy HQ

Maj De Planta De Wildenberg FMG
Capt Pratt JE
WO2 Watson E
CSgt Odell RL
Sgt Limb JA
Cpl Smith PJ
LCpl Spence PMJ
Pte Cottom IT
Pte Cullen D
Pte Round DJ
Pte Todd LM

Sigs

Cpl Beard DT
LCpl Warne G

CQMS

CSgt Osman MW
CSgt Sackree IM
Cpl Finlay FA

Catering

Cpl Jones AI
Cpl Metcalfe DE
Pte Bannon M
Pte Tye GR
Pte Willey N

Medical

Pte Oxborrow EM
Pte Saxby TA

MT

LCpl Henderson KP
LCpl Long CPA

1 PI

CSgt Hudson P
Sgt Chutkhan SMJ
Cpl Cook MR
Cpl Day MT
Cpl Tilley JL
LCpl Ball NJ
LCpl Horrey MA
Pte Adams MA
Pte Burns RJ
Pte Duxbury DA
Pte Fay W
Pte Hansen JB
Pte Harris GP
Pte Harrison RK
Pte Jackson SD
Pte Kelly A
Pte Pearl WF
Pte Popplewell IR
Pte Rivett PE
Pte Squires CG
Pte Wayne J

2 PI

Lt Herbert NA
Sgt Brecken KT
Cpl McCurdy AJ
Cpl North CJ
Cpl Taylor JLG
Cpl Thompson B
LCpl Connaboy C
LCpl Davidson KM
LCpl Wilson R
Pte Addison NG
Pte Allen JM
Pte Blades SS
Pte Burch S
Pte Burns SJ
Pte Capindale PI
Pte Casey AE

Pte Conniss A
Pte Cook RKS
Pte Cooper DL
Pte Cowan MS
Pte Dawson CJ
Pte Dawson TET
Pte Elliott JC
Pte England PR
Pte Fisher GN
Pte Gallagher JH
Pte Grant SP
Pte Holdsworth P
Pte Johnson AJ
Pte Kershaw RS
Pte Kirkham J
Pte Jirkham M
Pte Laird JR
Pte Laird MS
Pte Leaper JR
Pte Lord JM
Pte Martin AH
Pte Phillips WA
Pte Robinson JA
Pte Scott CR
Pte Sheils W
Pte Shorter KJ
Pte Shorter PF
Pte Sweet A
Pte Towle AD
Pte Wheatley KA
Pte Winter C
Pte Wood PD
Pte Woodhead RG

3 PI

Sgt Redhead S
Cpl Hamer DN
Cpl Smith JG
Cpl Whiting AS
LCpl Baines RJ
LCpl Ball MLV

LCpl McIntyre AJ
Pte Baker CA
Pte Bathgate GS
Pte Bisset AD
Pte Brotheridge IW
Pte Chetwood DR
Pte Clayton JJ
Pte Conway IR
Pte Dart AK
Pte Ding JM
Pte Dovey IP
Pte Durose SA
Pte Edwards SW
Pte Harwood N
Pte Kane S
Pte Marston AAN
Pte Massingham TM
Pte McGowan JP
Pte Meadows SP
Pte Poole PL
Pte Powell T
Pte Ruddlesdin WN
Pte Shaw LY
Pte Sibbons WR
Pte Slack LN
Pte Speck PA
Pte Tasker MB
Pte Turner S
Pte Wearmouth B
Pte Whittaker PW
Pte Wignmore TM
Pte Wilinon SR
Pte Brown JE
Pte Harris DJ

B COMPANY

Coy HQ

Maj Rooney J
Capt Brown NMP
Capt Lynch JJ
WO2 Hanafan JA
CSgt Brown PD
CSgt Pearce SWH
Sgt Gali D
Sgt Saywell NA
Cpl Grey CA
Pte Lucas-Clarke P

Sigs

Pte Lanaway GD

CQMS

CSgt Montague KJ
CSgt Templeton GJ
Pte Green DJ

Catering

LCpl Ambrose M

MT

Pte McCarthy SA
Pte Ralph P

REME

Cpl Turner ID
LCpl Harrison G
Cfn Castle RWJ

RRTT

Capt Foster PA
Capt Shaw GB
LCpl Bygrave DP
LCpl Horner AJ

SF PI

Pte Gale JM
Pte Laws PM
Pte Sammons P
Pte Sammons TM
Pte York PW

4 PI

2Lt Sommerville DJ
Cpl Finnegan JS
Cpl Low B
LCpl Bird BJ
LCpl Haward CG
Pte Alderson JM
Pte Bardwell MW
Pte Brewer JS
Pte Brown NR
Pte Brown R
Pte Cockerell MJ
Pte Dillury CJ
Pte Dutton DA
Pte Gearing CP
Pte Gorvett MJ
Pte Green IB
Pte Green SR
Pte Howel AJ

Pte Hoy AB
Pte Hull MR
Pte Ibbott AJ
Pte James P
Pte Jones B
Pte Jones MPG
Pte Lee DA
Pte Norris RJ
Pte O'shea M
Pte Pryke G
Pte Rogers KJ
Pte Roy TDD
Pte Smith DA
Pte Westrip J
Pte Wise CD
Pte Woods S
Pte Yates PE

5 PL

Lt Wickett GH
Sgt McPoland SM
Cpl Cavendish PJ
Cpl Rees AD
LCpl Howe I
LCpl Main GM
LCpl Seymour J
Pte Avril DJ
Pte Coan GP
Pte Cook JL
Pte Koh NES
Pte McCarthy KS
Pte Monk SJ
Pte Pidgeon NG
Pte Ponde AT

Pte Read SM
Pte Tilley JF

6 PI

Lt Thurley MR
Sgt Butler C
LCpl Brightwell SK
LCpl Duffy JG
LCpl Green BF
LCpl Herron RJP
LCpl Mason P
LCpl McLatchey DP
LCpl Stratton RJ
LCpl Sweeney JA
Pte Bobbett HW
Pte Broom P
Pte Broomfield CA
Pte Burke TEJ
Pte Clarke-Tunncliffe EG
Pte Cook D
Pte Cowley GNJ
Pte Halliday S
Pte Irvin KA
Pte Lewis DJ
Pte Lyons IJ
Pte O'Sullivan TP
Pte Robins JB
Pte Teye-Otum CK
Pte Turburville AT
Pte Whitaker KD
Pte Fisher PS
Pte Francis SM
Pte Jones R
Pte Lund GS
Pte O'Shea CL

C COMPANY

Coy HQ

Maj Rickards MD
Capt Amos AT
Capt Croft AP
WO2 Bevin MJ
CSgt Brudenell KG
CSgt Keen KP
Cpl Berrill AP
LCpl Vilbro WS
Pte Coulthard WE

Sigs

LCpl Holmes MA
Pte Knight KK
Pte Marks CR

CQMS

CSgt Jones T

Catering

Sgt Tayler GR
Pte Reid CA

MT PI

Cpl Ring JG
LCpl Bruce PA
Pte Sellers AJ

RRTT

WO2 Kelly WGR
Sgt Buzzard SN
Sgt George AM

7 PI

Lt Thompson TC
Sgt Arnold JC
Cpl Thompson RJ
Cpl Watters LD
LCpl Bevin DT
LCpl Crutchfield SJ
LCpl O'Toole DP
LCpl Tutty T
Pte Barker SJ
Pte Bellham CK
Pte Briggs JM
Pte Broad TM
Pte Brockwell BC
Pte Burnhope DN
Pte Carter MH
Pte Cota CE
Pte Cummins MJ
Pte Cuttriss MD
Pte Davis TJ
Pte Dolman B
Pte Forbes RJ
Pte Hawes MR
Pte Henderson GA
Pte Hind RH

Pte Hunwicks WG
Pte Leask W
Pte Lee EA
Pte Lee M
Pte Lynn AC
Pte Marriott PB
Pte Parker MDE
Pte Philips DA
Pte Pittams GM
Pte Sargeant T
Pte Scarcliffe BJ
Pte Sherriff JC
Pte Simpson DC
Pte Smith M
Pte Thompson JP
Pte Walding GJ
Pte Whittaker DA
Pte Wood JA

8 PI

Lt Potter RGC
Sgt Askew CJ
LCpl Baillie MJA
LCpl Peck NG
Pte Ames MD
Pte Chamberlain NR
Pte Day GT
Pte Harrison SR
Pte Horsewood MJ
Pte Hull AM
Pte Love JR

Pte Mitchell RL
Pte Oram R
Pte Payne GB
Pte Payne L
Pte Rock PG
Pte Snellink AW
Pte Thompson G
Pte Willis CR

9 PI

Cpl Bedwell PJ
Cpl Rawlings PR
Cpl Short ME
LCpl Merrill AL
Pte Avery AG
Pte Brown PA
Pte Chisholm GJP
Pte Facer PA
Pte Follows DR
Pte Harris JC
Pte Kitson CM
Pte Lewis KH
Pte Patchesa RP
Pte Samwell R
Pte Ward AR
Pte White DW

TA ERE and Unposted

Col A D Chissel TD	D Comd 49(E)Bde	Maj A D W McArdle	2IC CUOTC
Col N Kelsey OBE TD	Unposted (Dep Col)	Maj D M Norbury	CVHQ
Lt Col R M L Colville	Unposted	Maj J L Raybould TD+	S03 TA/Reserves MND SE/19 Mech Bde
Lt Col A N Duff	CVHQ	Maj D W Reed TD+	CVHQ
Lt Col N A ffitch	Staff Coll Staff	Capt P Chilvers	GS/Civil Affairs, HQ MND SE
Lt Col P G R Horrell TD	Unposted	Capt I Gowdy	Unposted
Lt Col C A F Thomas TD	Unposted	Capt S G Hudson	CVHQ
Maj J C Allcock	49 Bde STT	Capt A G Sides	Unposted
Maj S Card	SO2 G3 Ops(V) HQ 49(E)Bde	Capt T Smith	TAPIO
Maj J M Davidson	HQ MND SW LO, HQ MND SE	Capt J H A Tusa	CVHQ
Maj M Ellis	OC Inf Wing CUOTC	Capt A Y L Wong	SSVC 1 R ANGLIAN
Maj A D Fairbanks Weston	Trg Maj Media Ops(V)	Lt M D Gothard	SSVC 9 R IRISH
Maj S C Fradley	Leave of absence	2Lt O D M Philpott	TA Unposted List
Maj D A Livingstone TD	CVHQ		
Maj J D Lopes TD	CVHQ		

Marriages and Births

Vikings Marriages

Morris	on 1 Mar, Pte Morris to Marie
Boyle	on 31 May, Pte Boyle to Sarah
McMillan	on 4 Jun, LCpl McMillan to Sarah
Sayce	on 7 Jun, Pte Sayce to Kathrine
Hill	on 26 Jul, LCpl Hill to Andrea
Smith	on 12 Aug, Pte Smith to Karen
Paden	on 15 Aug, Lt Paden to Stephanie
Mitchell	on 16 Aug, Pte Mitchell to Emma
Rice	on 16 Aug, Pte Rice to Suzanne
Allen	on 29 Aug, 2Lt Allen to Faith
Mitchell	on 6 Sep, Pte Mitchell to Melanie
Mullen	on 6 Sep, Pte Mullen to Laura

Vikings Births

Bell	to Pte and Lynne Bell a daughter, Charlotte
Rice	to Pte and Maxine Rice a daughter, Tonisha
Wilsher	to Dmr and Kerry Wilsher a daughter, Alana
Neal	to Cpl and Kayla Neal a daughter, Cassi Grace
McHenry	to Cpl and Claire McHenry a daughter, Chloe
McKenna	to LCpl and Jan McKenna a daughter, Niomia Jade
Liddell	to Pte and Myra Liddell a son, Jordan
Lawson Brown	to Pte and Bonnie Lawson Brown a son, Jack
Moore	to Cpl and Tracey Moore (AGC) a son, Ryan
Robinson	to LCpl and Justine Robinson a son, George
Fordham	to Pte and Maria Fordham a son, Liam
Browne	to Capt and Nikki Browne a son, Harry
Evans	to LCpl and Tracey Evans a daughter, Kezleigh
Ward	to Pte and Tracey Ward a son, Ryan

Poachers Marriages

Charles	on 19 Jul 97, Sgt Charles to Caroline
Penn	on 9 Aug 97, Sgt Penn to Alexandra
Gallop	on 28 Aug 97, LCpl Gallop to Rachael
Trafford	on 16 Aug 97, Pte Trafford to Colleen
Herron	on 8 Aug 97, LCpl Herron to Rachel
Hunt	on 2 Aug 97, Pte Hunt to Jennie
Coleman	on 9 Aug 97, Pte Coleman to Mandy
Marshall	on 30 Aug 97, Pte Marshall to Nichola
Crafer	on 16 Aug 97, Pte Crafer to Pauline

Askew	on 16 Aug 97, LCpl Askew to Michelle
Roberts	on 9 Aug 97, Pte Roberts to Angela
Rathie	on 20 Sep 97, LCpl Rathie to Sophia
Hickman	on 21 Jun 97, Pte Hickman to Sarah
Blanchard	on 22 Aug 97, Pte Blanchard to Lindsey
Pilgrim	on 16 Aug 97, LCpl Pilgrim to Louise
Eratt	on 2 Aug 97, LCpl Eratt to Paula
Neilly	on 21 Jun 97, Pte Neilly to Shirley
Mattingley	on 9 Aug 97, LCpl Mattingley to Hella
Waters	on 20 Sep 97, Pte Waters to Gemma
Harrison	on 15 Aug 97, Pte Harrison to Michelle
Chester	on 10 Aug 97, Pte Chester to Rachel
Smart	on 28 Jun 97, Pte Smart to Claire
Graham	on 5 Jul 97, Pte Graham to Andrea
Penrose	on 8 Aug 97, Pte Penrose to Tara
Porter	on 9 Aug 97, Pte Porter to Cheryl
Midgley	on 13 Aug 97, Pte Midgley to Rebecca
Fleming	on 16 Aug 97, Pte Fleming to Hayley
Newell	on 7 Sep 97, Pte Newell to Hazel
Latham	on 7 Jun 97, Pte Latham to Michaela
Corkery	on 26 Apr 97, Capt Corkery to Claire

Poachers Births

Doherty	to Cpl and Mrs Doherty a daughter, Lauren Nina
Brammer	to LCpl and Mrs Brammer a son, Steven Ray
Rickman	to LCpl and Mrs Rickman a son, Ryan Luke
Cotgrave	to LCpl and Mrs Cotgrave a son, Sean Leslie
Clarke	to Pte and Mrs Clarke a daughter, Taylor Leighann Sydney
Newland	to Pte and Mrs Newland a daughter, Jordan Valerie Jade Chelsea
Walton	to Pte and Mrs Walton a son, Charlie Roger Phillip
Snook	to Pte and Mrs Snook a daughter, Georgia

Tigers Birth

Limb	to Sgt and Mrs Limb a son, Lewis James
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Other Marriage

Nottingham	on 2 Aug 97, Maj N F C Nottingham to Sue
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Obituaries

Major (Honorary Colonel) J P Wetherall

John Wetherall died suddenly on 7 October 1997. The fourth member of his family to serve in The Northamptonshire Regiment, he was born in 1930 and commissioned in 1950. He served with the 1st Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment in Trieste, Wuppertal and Hong Kong. In 1958 he was seconded to the Kenya Regiment before returning to 2 E ANGLIAN. After a staff appointment in Berlin he became Training Major of 4th/5th Northampton TA in Peterborough and finally sat on the Regular Commissions Board at Westbury, retiring in 1970.

His second career was as a stockbroker in London from which he finally retired to dedicate his time to the Northamptonshire Regiment Museum as its Curator. From 1985-91 he served the Regiment as Deputy Honorary Colonel for Bedfordshire as well as giving much time to the local community through work with the church, the Parish Council, The Royal British Legion and other organisations.

John was a popular man with a great sense of humour, big in stature and in character, devoted both to The Northamptonshire Regiment and The Royal Anglian Regiment. We extend our sympathy to Sally, his wife, and to Sarah, Christopher and Richard. He will be sadly missed and fondly remembered.

Major CH Macklam

Major Charles Macklam (always known as Mack), late The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, died peacefully in hospital in Lincoln on 3 September 1997 aged 81.

Mack enlisted at the Depot in Lincoln in 1935 and, after training, went out to the 1st Bn in India in 1936 where he served until volunteering for the Parachute Regiment in 1941 - serving with them in India, the Middle East, UK and Europe until 1948, having been commissioned Quartermaster in 1945. In 1948 he rejoined the Regiment in Palestine and from then until 1963 served as QM in both the regular and TA Bns of the Regiment at home and abroad. He had to retire early from an ERE appointment in Aden following a heart attack (which he characteristically described as a "touch of indigestion") in 1965. Mack then became a Rent Officer in Lincoln from the inception of that service and soon rose to be the Chief Rent Officer for the County from which he finally retired in 1980.

Mack was an Outstanding Quartermaster. He was a man of few words and they were invariably direct. He lived by the motto always on display in his office - "Time is money and I am a poor man"! But under a somewhat forbidding exterior there lay a warm and generous nature. He had every quality that one would wish for in a QM - extremely intelligent, sharp as a razor, flexible, resourceful, foresighted, highly efficient and very hard working. His first thoughts were always for the soldiers and woebetide anyone whose priorities lay elsewhere. He was awarded the MBE for his exem-

plary service to the 1st Bn during the Malayan Emergency in the 50s and wherever he served he earned the highest praise for administrative excellence. He ran Bn football with the same energy that he brought to the day job and during the days of National Service had close links with the professional clubs in the county which led to the Bn enjoying an unprecedented run of success in competitions! He was a Trustee of the Regiment and Chairman of the Executive Committee for 24 years where his wisdom and experience were invaluable. And if all this sounds a bit "heavy" it has also to be said that Mack had a marvellous sense of humour and was a delightful companion.

Mack married his charming wife, Lois, in 1945 from whose untimely death in 1977 many felt he never fully recovered. To his daughters, Janet and Caroline, their children and the family we extend our deepest sympathy. He will be enormously missed by a very large number of old Lincolns.

REJ G-W

Captain R H E Luscombe

Captain Bob Luscombe died on 14 August 1997 at the age of 77. Bob had a full and varied military career starting with his joining the 4th Battalion The Royal Norfolk Regiment (TA) in 1936, with whom he was called up in 1939. From 1943 he served in The Parachute Regiment, after the War with The Royal Norfolk Regiment, including



Captain R H E Luscombe

one year in Korea, and subsequently The Essex Regiment. He was commissioned as MTO then Quartermaster in 3 E ANGLIAN in 1962, serving in Ballykinler and Berlin and completed his last tour with HQ 2 Division in Lubecke. He retired in 1968. Throughout his Regimental career Bob was much respected as a man of impressive stature and fine bearing, an outstanding soldier and a Quartermaster of the old school. Those who served with him will remember him as a fair and kind man who was ever ready to advise, particularly those at an early stage of their career.

On retirement Bob worked for many years as a successful bank manager for Barclays but additionally became actively involved in numerous organisations in the local community in Sawston, Cambridgeshire. He was a church warden for many years, on the Parish Council, and President of his local Bowls Club and 50 Plus Club. The Regiment, his many friends, Joan, his wife, and sons Patrick and Terry will sadly miss a kind and highly respected man.

Captain G W Meen



Captain and Mrs. G W Meen

Captain George William Meen died on 29 June 1997. George Meen, known as Bill or Twiggy to his family and friends, grew up on a farm in Cambridgeshire where he developed what was to become a life long love for the outdoors.

In 1964, after finishing his education at Bottisham Village College, Bill followed his brother Bob into the Army, enlisting in the Regiment as a Junior Leader. This

was to become the start of thirty years exemplary service to the Regiment. 1965 saw Bill commence his first tour of duty with the 1st Battalion in Celle, BAOR, from where he went on to serve in Catterick, Londonderry, Cyprus and Tidworth and exercises in Kenya, Denmark and Norway as well as operations in East Tyrone. After some 12 years service with the Vikings Bill was posted to the 7th Battalion as a PSI with LDY Company at Melton Mowbray before moving to Colchester to serve with the 3rd Battalion. The highlights of this tour with the Pompadours saw Bill promoted to CSgt Platoon Commander leading his men on patrol in the jungles of Belize, then as WO2 motivating his men as CSM Support Company. During this time Bill also served on operations with the UN in Cyprus as well as travelling to both Kenya and America on exercise before moving on again to BAOR.

Bill was never one to sit around getting bored and, craving new challenges, he volunteered for a 2 year posting to 1 Regt AAC in Germany as SSM to 661 Sqn. Having given the AAC the benefit of his advice on Infantry tactics, and no doubt a few hints on how to fly their machines, Bill was promoted to WO1 and appointed as RSM to 5 UDR in Ballykelly, Northern Ireland, a rank and appointment of which he was extremely proud.

In July 1988 Bill was commissioned and returned to serve with the Vikings in

Gibraltar, Northern Ireland and Colchester, showing great compassion as Families Officer and professionalism as MTO. In 1992, during the unsettled time of 'Options for Change', Bill took the decision to leave the Army and settled down in the family home in Colchester. However, this was not the end of his service to the Regiment. Soon after leaving the Regular Army Bill joined the 6th Battalion as MTO in Bury St Edmunds, leaving after 2 years to dedicate more time to his studying for Royal Horticultural Society examinations.

During his service Bill could never be described as a large and loud character, but rather a reserved and private person. He was a firm but fair disciplinarian, always immaculately turned out and for ever professional. He was a man who got on with the job in hand and once completed went home to spend time with his beloved family. The words minimum fuss and maximum efficiency spring readily to mind when thinking of how Bill went about his chosen career.

Bill was happiest when he was with his family, of whom he was immensely proud and dedicated. He was a devoted husband to Margaret, father to Joanne, Caroline and Alison, grandfather to Harriet and friend to many. He will be fondly remembered and sadly missed.

AJ

In addition to the above Obituaries , we regret to record the deaths of the following:

THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

Pte K L Bridger, 1st Bn, 12 Jun 97.

Lance Corporal Helen Beard(V), The Royal Anglian Regiment TA Band, 28 Oct 97.

THE ESSEX REGIMENT

Major B H Tinton BEM TD, 9 Oct 97. Aged 77. Chapel Historian and Chairman of the Chapel Committee. Maj Ben Tinton will be remembered gratefully by members of The Royal Anglian Regiment for his personal interest in and visits to patients in BMH Woolwich.

Capt G F Chinery, 23 Oct 97.

THE ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENT

Edna Mary Colvin, widow of Maj L H B Colvin MC, 7 Sep 97

We extend our condolences and sympathy to their family and friends.

Notices

60th Anniversary of the Formation of the Kenya Regiment

The Secretary of the UK Branch of The Kenya Regiment is trying to contact ex-members of the British Army who served with the Regiment as Permanent Staff Instructors at the Training Centre at Nakuru. At this time only four ex-KRTC Training PSIs are in touch and they would like to be able to increase this in the year of the 60th Anniversary of the Regiment's formation. The present OCA membership is over 1000, spread throughout the world, who are kept in touch via a Newsletter system and they have two UK based reunions each year. The Kenya Regiment has been in "Suspended Animation" since Kenya Independence but are resolute in wishing to maintain the camaraderie which was one of its hallmarks.

Should any of those PSIs being sought read this, they are asked to contact:

Mr Justin G Templer
Secretary, The UK Branch
The Kenya Regiment Association
24 Springfield Road
Portishead
BRISTOL
BS20 9LH

The Royal Homes for Officers' Widows and Daughters

Queen Alexandra's Court has 75 self-contained flats for the widows and unmarried daughters of deceased officers of the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force. Vacancies occur periodically. The Royal Homes are Grade II listed buildings and set in delightful grounds. As a rule 60 is the lower and 75 is the upper age limit for entry. Applicants must be able to care for themselves and their flats. There is a resident Manager, an Assistant Manager and a visiting Nursing and Welfare Sister. For further information write to:

The Manager, Queen Alexandra's Court, St Mary's Road,
Wimbledon, LONDON SW19 7DE

The Army Benevolent Fund

The Army Benevolent Fund is the Army's Central Charity which works with Regimental and Corps Associations to provide help to Regular and Territorial Army soldiers, ex-soldiers and their families, when they are in real need.

Financial Help is given to individuals through their Regimental or Corps Associations, supplemented where necessary by grants from the Fund.

Practical help is provided through the financial support given by the Fund, on behalf of all Regiments and Corps, to those national charitable organisations which provide for the special needs of soldiers and their families

In the year which ended on 31st March 1997 the Army Benevolent Fund gave:

£2.7 Million to individuals through Regimental & Corps Associations and £2.1 Million to over seventy charitable organisations providing a service of direct benefit to a significant number of soldiers, ex-soldiers and their dependants.

The Trustees of The Royal Anglian Regimental Association are grateful to the Army Benevolent Fund for the ready response we receive to all requests passed to the Fund. The Fund deserves support and Serving and Retired members of the Association might like to know that the ABF is looking for younger members to join or support their voluntary fundraising committees. These operate in every County of England and Wales and in Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and Cyprus. Anyone, of any rank, who is interested in helping the Fund in any way, but particularly by joining with others in organising events with a wide appeal, should contact: The Army Benevolent Fund, 41 Queen's Gate, LONDON SW7 5HR, who will put them in touch with their local ABF Regional Organiser. Those still serving should make the offer through their current Unit Headquarters.

The Churchill Rehabilitation and Assessment Centre

The Churchill Rehabilitation and Assessment Centre at The Royal British Legion at Aylesford, Kent, provides an excellent service to those disabled ex-Servicemen or women who can benefit from the treatment available, and cannot obtain the treatment locally.

The Centre comprises large, well equipped occupational therapy and physiotherapy departments including a large gymnasium and modern hydrotherapy pool.

Ex-Service personnel attend intensive courses of treatment to help them overcome or diminish their disablement. The patient is personally assessed by the Consultant in charge and his fully qualified staff; treatment is individually prescribed normally for a period of two weeks. Improved mobility and relief of pain often result from the treatment given and the patient invariably leaves with more confidence, having learned the most beneficial ways of living with his or her particular problems.

Living accommodation is provided in the nearby Gavin Astor House, which is a modern purpose built nursing home. It has well appointed bedrooms all with private facilities and spacious, comfortable dining and lounge areas. It has 24 hour nursing cover.

All ex-Servicemen and women are eligible to apply for treatment. Their disability need not be as a result of service in the Forces.

Further information including a brochure may be obtained by writing to:

The Administrator
The Churchill Centre for Rehabilitation and Assessment
Gavin Astor House
Royal British Legion Village
AYLESFORD
Kent ME20 7NF

The Duke of York's Royal Military School

Attention is drawn to the extensive range of educational opportunities offered to children of Service personnel at the Duke of York's Royal Military School at Dover. The school is funded by the MOD.

The Duke of York's is a selective, independent boarding school for the eleven to eighteen year old sons and daughters of Army, RAF and RN/RM personnel, both serving and retired. Its catchment population has been tri-Service since September 1992.

The school exudes a warm, caring atmosphere, its examination successes are excellent and it is magnificently situated and resourced. Its subsidised fees of less than £300 per term offer exceptional value and apply whether you are serving or retired.

Regular Forces Employment Association (RFEA)

The RFEA assists ex-regular men and women to resettle and find employment, any time up to the national retirement age and as often as necessary, provided they

- * left with a character assessment of "satisfactory" or better,
- * served a minimum of three years in the ranks,
- * or were medically discharged regardless of time served.

This service is now also extended to

- * those who were subsequently commissioned,
- * widows/widowers provided the spouse died in service.

RFEA Employment Consultants have all had a full and successful Service career themselves and worked in commerce or industry, placing them in a unique and strong position to offer

- * Registrants free personal counselling and local job finding advice,
- * Employers access to a responsive free recruitment service.

During the period 1 April 1996 - 31 March 1997

- * 11,605 men and women joined the register,
- * 4,791 left it having been placed in employment,
- * of those placed 2,105 were from the Army,
- * many more will have secured work following job search advice.

This service is available from thirty nine Branches throughout the United Kingdom

- * Branches are listed in Yellow Pages or local directory.
- * alternatively contact Head Office at 49 Pall Mall, LONDON SW1Y 5JG or ring 0171 321 2011 or fax 0171 839 0970,
- * or better still contact the Branch nearest to your Headquarters - call *Mike Plume in Bury St Edmunds on 01284 755197 and see how he can help you.*

Cadet Administrative Officer

The post of Cadet Administrative Officer with Lincolnshire ACF, working in the North of the county, is vacant on 1 April 1998. The post is suitable for a retired Staff Sergeant or WO. Details from RHQ.

Game Conservancy Trust

The Game Conservancy Trust seeks Membership Organisers for Suffolk and Lincolnshire. The posts are self-employed, tasked with enrolling new members into a charity related to conservation and country pursuits. Details from RHQ.

Royal Worlington Golf Club

Applications are now invited for the positions of

CLUB STEWARD AND STEWARDESS

to be responsible to the Secretary for the day to day running of the Clubhouse with particular emphasis on the bar, catering and security. Applicants should be experienced in all aspects of house management. They will understand and value the traditions of Members' Clubs as well as the need to provide an excellent service to visitors. A high standard of traditional cooking is a necessity. Combined basic salary circa £20,000, plus a non contributory pension and a share of the catering profits. The package will include free accommodation and utilities. The successful couple will be required to live in the flat above the Clubhouse and be available to take up the position in April 1998. Applications in writing with full CVs and named referees to:

The Secretary, Royal Worlington and Newmarket Golf Club, Worlington, BURY ST EDMUNDS, Suffolk, IP28 8SD

Book Review

Queen Alexandra Hospital Home

by David Farrant.
Phillimore, £14.95.

'Queen Alexandra Hospital Home' by David Farrant is the story of a remarkable institution with an inspiring history, dedicated to the care of disabled ex-servicemen. Since the First World War, the Home has always cared for those who were permanently disabled and established new standards of care and pioneering medical procedures. The first steps in physiotherapy and occupational therapy were followed by helping the patients to re-train and to find employment. This powerful story will appeal to many readers, who will discover a bygone social age and trace the courage and resilience of both the patients and the carers, who have shown a persistent determination to make their lives fuller and richer.

Association Branches

Norfolk

HQ The Royal Norfolk Regiment Association and The Norfolk Branch The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Norfolk) Britannia House, TA Centre, 325 Aylsham Road, Norwich, Norfolk NR3 2AD
Tel: (01603) 400290
President: Maj Gen Sir David Thorne KBE CVO

King's Lynn Branch:

Chairman: Capt A A Hammond OBE, Sandena, Old Mill Road, Roughton, Norwich NR11 8PE

Secretary: Mrs C Hudson, 24 Rosebery Avenue, King's Lynn, Norfolk PO30 4AA
Tel: (01553) 762478

Gt Yarmouth/Gorleston Branch:

Mr R C Pillar, 16 Alder Close, Bradwell, Gt Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 8PD

London Branch:

Mr M J Frances, 4 Kingswood Park, Hendon Avenue, Finchley, London N3 LUG

Norwich Branch:

Mr P E Boxall, 31 Breckland Road, New Costessey, Norwich NR5 ORW

Suffolk

HQ The Suffolk Regiment Old Comrades Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Branch) The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN
Tel: (01284) 752394 (Wednesdays Only)

President: Brig W C Deller OBE

Bury St. Edmunds and District Branch:

Mr J Gingell, The Willows, Depden, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP29 4BY

Ipswich Branch:

Mr A E Stollery, 12 Cedar House, 2 Heatherhaves, Ipswich, Suffolk IP14 3CB

Hemel Hempstead Branch:

Mr R G Picton, 45 Paston Road, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 5AZ

Beccles Branch:

Mr M L Martin, 46 Fair Close, Beccles, Norfolk NR34 9QR

Felixstowe Branch:

Mr N Buckingham, Marahaba, 18 Fairfield Avenue, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP1 9JN

Stowmarket Branch:

Mr S P Sykes BEM, 27 Broomspath Road, Stowupland, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 4DB

Leiston Branch:

Mr A A Smith BEM, 95 Abbey Road, Leiston, Suffolk IP16 4TA

Sudbury Branch:

Mr D Land, 2 Pot Kiln Road, Gt Cornard, Sudbury CO10 ODA

Cambridgeshire

HQ The Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades Association and The Cambridgeshire Branch The Royal Anglian Regiment Association C/O TA Centre, Coldhams Lane, Cambridge CB1 3HT
Patrons: Lt Col E L V Mapey OBE TD Col WF Page MC TD
President: Lt Col W F Badcock MBE

Cambridge Branch:

Col D E Latchford 48 Lode Road Bottisham Cambs CB5 9DJ
Tel: (01223) 811454

Ely Branch:

Mr H R Hitch, 4 Olives Way March, Cambridgeshire PE15 4PU

March and District Branch:

Chairman: Mr D W H Cox, 13 Fleming Court, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 9HD
Tel: (01354) 52021

Wisbech Branch:

Major DS Denson TD 107, Drybread Road Whittlesey Cambridgeshire PE7 1XL

Whittlesey/Peterborough Branch:

Mr B Whirwell 48 Coronation Avenue, Whittlesea, Cambridgeshire PE7 1XE.

Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire

HQ The Royal Anglian Regiment Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Association, Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood, Essex CM13 3BN
Tel: Brentwood (01277) 213051
President: Brig AFFH Robertson CBE

Hertford Branch:

Mr S R Mansfield, 1a Gwynne's Walk, Hertford SG13 8AD Tel: (01992) 581551

St Alban's Branch:

Mr H R Howard, 24 Sherwood Rise, South Down, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 LLU
Tel: (01582) 621725

Bedford Branch:

Mr E Roberts 3 Manor Close, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7AA.
Tel: 01234 854 507

Hitchin Branch:

Mr B Read 12 Haby Drive Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG9 4QN
Tel: (01462) 450710

Hertfordshire Regiment Association

Mr C Austin, 97 West Street, Hertford, Herts SG13 8EI
Tel: (01992) 558757

Watford and Hemel Hempstead Branch:

Mr E G Owens, 37 Bidshall Crescent, Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU6 3NF
Tel: (01582) 665734

Luton and Dunstable Branch:

Mr S Chapman, 86 St Margaret's Avenue, Luton, Bedfordshire LU3 LPQ
Tel: (01582) 28976

Essex

The Essex and Royal Anglian Regiments Association HQ The Royal Anglian Regiment, Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood, Essex CM13 3BN
Tel: (01277) 213051
President: Col G C P Morgan DI

4th Battalion Comrades Association:

Mr E B Hazle DCM, 11 Hunter Avenue, Shenfield, Essex CM15 8Pe
Tel: (01277) 214606

7th Eagle and Gun Regimental Association:

Mr V Foulsham, 62 Armstrong Avenue, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 9PT
Tel: (0181) 531 4808

Chelmsford and District Branch:

Miss S Ostler, St Michael's, 1 Gloucester Avenue Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9DP
Tel: (01245) 358724

Thurrock and District Branch:

Mr P Giggens, 89 Salisbury Road, Grays, Essex RM17 6DG
Tel: (01375) 378427

Lincolnshire

The Royal Lincolnshire and Royal Anglian Regimental Association, The Keep, Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY
Tel: (01522) 525444
President: Maj Gen R E J Gerrard-Wright CB CBE

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Regimental Shop

LETTER	ITEM	PRICE £
A	ASH/PIN TRAY	2.25
B1	BADGE Blazer	8.50
B2	BADGE Cloth	0.80
B3	BADGE Collar 1st Bn, 2nd Bn, 3rd Bn	14.50 pr
B4	BADGE Eagle (Arm)	3.35
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G3	COFFEE MUG Black/Yellow Badge	1.50
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Note:

- Orders, together with remittance by cheque/postal order made payable to "Royal Anglian Regiment Association", to be posted to RHQ The Royal Anglian Regiment, The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN. Please also include your daytime contact telephone number.
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THE MUCKLEBURGH COLLECTION



The Muckleburgh Collection is Britain's largest privately owned military museum. Set in 350 acres in North Norfolk countryside, the original NAAFI block of this former Weybourne camp, originally established in 1588, the year of the Armada, houses the heart of the collection. Recently, the 7th Battalion donated a ZPU-1 to the museum. This Soviet Anti-Aircraft quick change barrel heavy machine gun, a prize from the Gulf War, is now in company with the ZPU-2 and ZPU-4.

The old military camp was a main training camp for the Ack Ack (Anti Aircraft) Command. From 1936, A A Batteries were trained to improve shooting skills by firing at a radio controlled 'Queen Bee' or a drogue towed behind a Westland Wallace biplane. Winston Churchill visited Weybourne in 1941 to inspect the progress but left unimpressed. He demanded an improvement within a few weeks otherwise the whole staff would be sacked.

The site was cleared of crumbling huts in 1986/87 and formally opened by the Duke of Argyll as a public attraction on 8th May 1988. The collection has grown steadily each year and to date comprises 16 tanks, all in working order, approximately 150 armoured cars, vehicles, guns, bombs and missiles. Also, the comprehensive collection of the Suffolk and Norfolk Yeomanry, uniforms, photographs, a whole range of models and 3,000 other items of memorabilia. Its Naval model ships (54) all to the same scale are probably unique.

The museum is open daily from mid February to the end of October, 10am - 5pm. Tank demonstrations take place every Sunday and daily during the school summer holiday. We also offer a bumpy ride in a Gama Goat, a six wheeled drive American cargo carrier, for a small charge of £1.50. If you would like any further information, please call 01263 588 210/608

Next Castle, June 1998

Entries for the next edition of Castle are required by 15 April 1998

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS ON PAGE 76

- The 4th Bn's last overseas posting was on garrison duties in Bahrain from 1969-70. At the end of their tour the Ruler of Bahrain, Sheikh Isa Bin Sulman al Khalifah, presented the CO, Lt Col T Holloway, with a golden sword, which is on display in the Museum.
- The stamp was struck in Gibraltar in 1969. The CO, Lt Col J B Akehurst, and his RSM WO1 L J de Bretton-Gordon, decided to brighten up the image on their stamp in the face of sartorial opposition from a Scottish Regiment. The soldier's No 2 dress was embellished for the stamp with Bandsman's accoutrements. Regimental pride in the issue of the stamp was not reflected in subsequent correspondence from the Colonel of the Regiment. Nor was the historic significance of the stamp much appreciated by the subject, Pte Weston - he was in the Guard Room at the time.
- Winners of the Queen's Medal were Capt A T Domeisen in 1977 and LCpl Scarboro in 1984. The Regiment scored a unique double in 1984 with Lt C Bateman (V) also winning the TA Medal.
- The notes are British Armed Forces Special Vouchers or 'BAFs'. The currency was issued by the Army Council at the end of the war for use in the occupied zone of Germany and was still in use in NAAFI's in Berlin into the 1970s.
- Spurs are worn by Field Officers and above and Adjutants in Mess dress and ceremonial No 1 dress. Those officers were traditionally mounted.
- The lanyard was inherited from the 4th Bn and The Royal Leicestershire Regiment - black in mourning for Gen Wolfe, red for infantry, grey from the 17th Foot's original facings.
- 45 VCs have been won: The Royal Norfolk Regiment - 6, including our only surviving VC Capt D A Jamieson VC; The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment - 10; The Suffolk Regiment - 2; The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment - 9; The Royal Leicestershire Regiment - 4; The Essex Regiment - 6; The Northamptonshire Regiment - 8.
- 'Royal Anglian Way' was first constructed on Gibraltar by the 2nd Bn during their tour in 1969. It has been maintained by the Regiment ever since.
- Drummers' dress cords are: 1st Bn - black, in mourning for Sir John Moore; 2nd Bn - black, in mourning for Gen Wolfe; 6th Bn - A Royal Regiment's dress cords of scarlet/blue/yellow.
- The train featured in the Museum is the Berlin Military Train, which was operated by the RCT between Berlin and Helmstedt in West Germany, daily traversing the old Soviet Sector of East Germany, until the early 1990s. Berlin garrison troops provided a guard.

Erratum The Editor regrets that the answer to Question 5 in last 'Castle' is wrong. Officially the stripes of The Royal Norfolk Regiment tie and the 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment tie all go from high left to low right - the ties are identical. However, a batch was made by mistake with stripes going in the other direction. Some of these are being worn in the Regiment still. The wrong explanation for this strange situation given in 'Castle' was provided by a person of influence in Norfolk who will remain nameless.

Editor I know many more questions relating to Museum exhibits but no more answers! The next 'Castle' will include a new feature 'Strange but True'. This will describe unusual, even humorous, true incidents and characters in the Regiment. For example: Which officer in the Regiment was formally challenged to a duel in Iceland when the Regiment exercised there? Contributions for this feature are sought.

