



CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT



The Royal British Legion.

Always on active service.

- There are 6 million ex-Service men and women alive today – 1 million more than were called up to serve in WWII.
- British troops are currently serving in peace-keeping roles throughout the world.
- The Poppy Appeal only raises half the funds we need each year – so the income we receive from legacies is vital.

Remembering the Legion with a gift in your Will would preserve the Poppy as a symbol of hope for all those who need our care and support now and in the future.

For more information on making or changing your Will, please call Andrew Jones on 020 7973 7297 for a FREE copy of our Will Guide. Or, complete the coupon below and return it to: The Royal British Legion, FREEPOST [SW1345], Dept FR, 48 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5YT.

Please send me my FREE Will Guide.

Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms _____ Initials _____ Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Registered charity number 219279

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



Peripheral visions



Tel: 07010 717232 email: Info@peripheral-visions.co.uk
30-36 Burton road, Sheffield, S3 8BX
www.peripheral-visions.co.uk



Call now with your requirements, or order securely online at

www.peripheral-visions.co.uk

**New bargains
every day**

**Laptops from £200
Refurbished full systems from £100
New systems from £300**



MEDAL YEARBOOK 2002

Order yours today!

This new look edition contains descriptions, pictures and valuations for all British and Empire orders, decorations, campaign medals, long service medals, life-saving awards and a host of others.

With NEW illustrations, NEW sections and New information, the MEDAL YEARBOOK 2002 is a "must have" for collectors and dealers alike.

Order now!

Call: 01404 44166 Fax: 01404 44788

E-mail: sales@tokenpublishing.com

Or visit our website @: www.tokenpublishing.com

Ref:
Force/02



TOKEN PUBLISHING, ORCHARD HOUSE, DUCHY ROAD, HEATH PARK, HONITON, DEVON, EX14 1YD.

The Muckleburgh Collection



Britain's largest private military museum with 15 working tanks. 150 vehicles, guns and missiles and 3,000 exhibits in the original NAAFI block of former WWII 'Ack Ack' Camp. Tank demonstrations every Sunday, daily during school holidays except Saturdays. Restaurant and Gift Shop.

Telephone 01263 588210

Motorcycle Instructor Training

The Motorcycle Instructor College specialises in vocational training

Train with us to become a CBT, Direct Access and Advanced Instructor

*Residential courses - vacancies nationwide
CDL and Armed Forces resettlement courses*

01743 443300

www.livingyourdreams.co.uk



Autocare Centre

*The complete servicing and repair centre
for Diesel and Petrol vehicles*



MOT'S WHILE-U-WAIT - NO BOOKINGS NECESSARY

CHEPSTOW

1, 2, 3, 4 & 7 MOTs

Petrol, Diesel and Catalyst tested

Air conditioning repairs and servicing

Unit 6, Bulwark Business Park, Bulwark, Chepstow (opposite LIDL)

Telephone: 01291 627137

Major lease companies approved. Major credit cards accepted



BE THE BEST



HANGING UP YOUR BOOTS?

If you are about to leave the Regiment, you can still play an active role in the Territorial Army or Army Cadet Force. Your skills and experience will make you a valuable asset to any of our TA units. Or become an instructor with the Army Cadet Force and help its 13 to 18 year olds acquire the skills and attributes they need to make the best of their lives.

YOUR SKILLS ARE IN DEMAND

RING FOR DETAILS

East Midlands
0115 9799599

email: post@eastmidrfca.demon.co.uk

East Anglia
0845 7023860

www.reserve-forces-anglia.org

visit us **online@**
www.forcespublishing.co.uk

FORCES & CORPORATE
PUBLISHING LTD
the market leaders in
military publishing

WANTED

PART TIME PAID ADULT INSTRUCTORS

Ex Regular or Auxiliary Service Men and Women AND Ex Senior Cadets

The Army Cadet Force is the Army's own youth organisation and needs men and women to join us as leaders.

If you have served in any branch of the services you will have skills to offer the youth of Cambridge, Fenland and Peterborough areas.

Cadets are 13-18 years of age.
They are keen to learn!

Are you keen to help them?

For further information write or phone:
Commanding Officer
Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force
Denny End Road
Waterbeach
Cambridgeshire CB5 9QU
Telephone: 01223 862949
Facsimile: 01223 441830



**“I’ve got to the stage in my life
when I’m not prepared to
accept second best.”**



BUY NOW
100% PART EXCHANGE
OR 5% DEPOSIT PAID ON
SELECTED PLOTS

There is a special moment that every home
buyer hopes will happen to them.

The moment when you say, yes! That's it, that's
for us, it's the moment when you fall in love with your
new home.

It seems to happen more often with Bovis Homes.

It's more than bricks and mortar, superior
specification, number of rooms or a list of features.
It's a once-in-a-life-time experience.

Well, perhaps twice if you're buying another
Bovis Home.

For details of all our homes visit

www.bovishomes.co.uk

Saxmundham Heritage Meadow

(Close to A12)

3 bedroom homes from £89,950*
4 bedroom homes from £146,000

Telephone (01728) 605772

Open 10am to 5pm, Thursday to Monday

*5% deposit paid offer is only available on these homes

Kesgrave Grange Farm

(near Ipswich)

4 bedroom homes from £212,500

Telephone (01473) 625829

Open 10am to 5pm, 7 days a week

Call 0800 60 60 20 (24hrs)
for details of other Bovis Homes


**BOVIS
HOMES**

You'll know in a moment

5% DEPOSIT PAID OFFER IS ONLY AVAILABLE ON 3 BEDROOM HOMES AT SAXMUNDHAM. 5% DEPOSIT PAID OFFER AND PART EXCHANGE OFFER IS AVAILABLE ON SELECTED PLOTS FOR RESERVATIONS LEADING TO CONTRACTS WITHIN FOUR WEEKS AND COMPLETION BY 22/02/02 SUBJECT TO STATUS, SURVEY AND CONTRACT. OFFERS ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. ASK THE SALES MANAGER FOR DETAILS. ILLUSTRATION IS TYPICAL OF ONE OF OUR HOMES ON THESE SITES.

Building Quality new homes throughout East Anglia and the surrounding Counties

McLean Developments

BOWTHORPE, NORWICH
Earl's Gate V 01603 746502

DOVERCOURT, ESSEX
Mulberry Gardens 01255 556931

DEREHAM, NORFOLK
High Oaks 01362 690519

ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE
Ashleigh Grange 01353 659768

ST NEOTS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE
Eynesbury Manor 01480 472375

COLCHESTER, ESSEX
Myland View 01206 751908

KESGRAVE, SUFFOLK
Foxwood 01473 749302

CHAFFORD HUNDRED, ESSEX
Charles Heights Coming Soon

CAMBOURNE, CAMBRIDGE
Friars Field Coming Soon

ATTLEBOROUGH, NORFOLK
School Walk Coming Soon

McLean Sales Centres are open from
11.00am to 5.00pm 7 days a week.

Wimpey Developments

ELY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE
Mandeville Place 01353 659200

WILLINGHAM, CAMBRIDGE
The Conifers 01954 261399

Wimpey Sales Centres are open from
10.00am to 5.15pm 7 days a week.

McAlpine Developments

DOVERCOURT, ESSEX
Pennyholes 01255 508329

KESGRAVE, SUFFOLK
Partridge Croft 01473 636431

CAMBOURNE, CAMBRIDGE
Chancery Green 01954 715176

McAlpine Sales Centres are open from
10.00am to 5.00pm 7 days a week.



**CALL OUR 24 HOUR BROCHURE
REQUEST FREEPHONE LINE**

0800 7831879

or our website
www.mcleanhomes.co.uk



**McLean
Homes**



FREE

MILITARY KIT, PERSONAL ACCIDENT
OR DEATH POLICIES

WITH OUR MOTOR INSURANCE



Exclusive rates for HM Forces in the U.K.,
Northern Ireland & overseas.



New Platinum Insurance.

Only available to H.M. Forces. Covers Car
Breakdown in U.K. & Europe, Travel
Insurance, Kit, Road Rage, Lost Keys &
Personal Accident.

All for less than 40p per day



Special schemes available for military kit,
home contents, buildings &
travel insurance.



Personal loans for any purpose

£2000 ~ £25,000 *

0800 074 9402

Open 365 days a year (8am to 10pm weekdays & 9am - 9pm weekends)



Forces Direct Insurance Service Ltd (Credit Brokers),
The Manor House, 10 St. Margarets Green, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 2BS
Tel: (01473) 211951 Fax: (01473) 213898
E-mail: sales@forcesdirect.co.uk

www.forcesdirect.co.uk

* Written quotations available on request subject to status.
Loan only available to Service Personnel over 25 years of age.



BARNARD CASTLE SCHOOL

Co. Durham DL12 8UN
Tel: 01833 690222 Fax: 01833 638985

Independent Day and Boarding School for Boys and Girls aged 4-18

- Outstanding academic results
- Excellent sporting facilities
- Strong music and drama
- Varied outdoor pursuits
- Entrance Scholarships (including Sports & Music Awards)
- Approx half an hour from Catterick Garrison & RAF Leeming
- **Forces Bursaries**

Promoting achievement within a caring community

Further details and prospectus from the Headmaster's Secretary

Email: secretary@barneyschool.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 527383

St. John's-on-the-Hill



Tutshill, Chepstow,
Monmouthshire NP16 7LE

*Outstanding
Education :
Affordable
Fees*

A Co-Educational Day and Boarding School

- ✓ From 3 months - 4 years in our Racecourse Day Nursery
- ✓ From 2+ - 7 years in our Early Years and Pre-prep Department
- ✓ From 7 - 13+ in our Main School

- Individual focus - average class size less than 16 pupils
- Sessional Nursery to suit your needs
- Outstanding OFSTED report for provision for 4 year olds
- Balanced curriculum including Music, Art, Sport and Drama
- Fully equipped ICT suite
- Specialist Learning Support Department
- Superb sports facilities - heated indoor swimming pool, new Astroturf pitch
- Wide range of activities and after school clubs
- Weekly, full and flexi boarding from 7 years
- Daily transport to and from surrounding towns and villages
- Beautiful location and close to motorway links
- Scholarships and HM Forces Bursaries available

38 Senior School Scholarships in the last two years!

To find out more about St. John's and to request a copy of our prospectus please
Telephone **01291 622045** or fax **01291 623932**

e-mail: st.johns.chepstow@dial.pipex.com
website: www.stjohnsonthehill.schoolzone.co.uk
Reg. Charity No. 312953
Member: IAPS, ISIS

Building on Tradition : Creating the Future



Haberdashers' Monmouth Schools

The Family of Haberdashers' Monmouth Schools have enjoyed another successful year, not just in this year's A level and GCSE results but also in sport, music, drama and expeditions to the Himalayas & Tanzania.

To find out more or to arrange a visit please call:

**Monmouth School : Boys 7 - 18 years,
with boarding from 11. Tel : (01600) 713143**

**Haberdashers' Monmouth School for Girls : 7 - 18 years,
with boarding from 11. Tel : (01600) 711104**

www.habs-monmouth.org

Registered Charity No. 525616



Prior's Field School

Godalming, Surrey

Boarding, Weekly Boarding and day School
290 girls aged 11 - 18

10% discount for Forces Families
Refurbished Boarding
Accommodation

Excellent A Level results
Superb facilities with new Sports Hall

You are most welcome to visit to discuss your daughter's education with the Headmistress and staff.

Enquiries to the registrar

Tel: 01483 810551 Fax: 01483 810180

Email: admin@priorsfield.demon.co.uk
web: www.priorsfield.demon.co.uk

Prior's Field School Godalming Surrey GU7 2RH

Registered Charity Number 312038

AKENHAM

MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Henley Road, Akenham, Nr Ipswich

Opening January 2002!

- Traditional, Sound Montessori Education
- High Adult: Child ratio
- Monday - Friday
Morning, afternoon or full day sessions
- Children accepted between
2 years 6 months - 5 years of age
- Delightful rural location yet within 10 minutes
of Claydon, Coddensham, Henley, Ipswich, Otley
and Tuddenham - to name but a few!

For further information and details of our
'Open Days' or for a prospectus,
please telephone

Mrs T.A. Reeve Mont Dip, DPP
01473 738554

Providing
Quality
Education &
Training for the
Community

Woking College

Your Specialist Sixth Form College

A tradition of success

Excellent facilities

Supportive working environment

Adult Education & Training Facility

Tel: 01483 761036 www.woking.ac.uk

Cambridge

REGIONAL COLLEGE



Cambridge Regional College is an Approved Centre for the Institute of Management and provides programmes that cover the **Certificate and Diploma in Management** together with **NVQs in Quality Management (Level 4)** and **Management (levels 3, 4 & 5)**.

The College's Business Consultancy has a successful track record of helping organisations with management and employee development programmes, targeted to the needs of the individual and which can be run at the College or on your own premises. Almost any vocational area can be accommodated within our delivery staff networking capability.

As many of our programmes are tailor-made, they are priced according to the situation. For a chat and/or quotation, please call CRC Business Consultancy on 01223 418436 and ask for John, Margaret or Derek or email us on busconsult@mail.camre.ac.uk



Training Solutions
2000

**THE ONE STOP TRAINING PROVIDER
FOR ALL YOUR TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HEALTH & SAFETY | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MANAGEMENT TRAINING |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MECHANICAL | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ELECTRICAL |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WELDING | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FORK LIFT TRUCK |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IT TRAINING | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CUSTOMISED TRAINING |

COVERING THE WHOLE OF SOUTH WALES

Office 6, Valleys Venture Wales
Business Centre
Pant Industrial Estate, Dowlais,
Merthyr Tydfil CF48 2SR

Tel: 01685 371500
Fax: 01685 371911

email: trainingsolutions2000.fs.business.co.uk

www.trainingsolutions2000.co.uk



AN OUTSTANDING OPPORTUNITY TO RUN A QUALITY INN.

If you've ever dreamt of running a quality Inn, you'll find an abundance of opportunities with Greene King.

Following the restructure of Old English Inns, a portfolio of properties is being repositioned into the market. Located in some of the most beautiful parts of the country.

As part of this scheme, we are looking for Licensees to operate these highly desirable establishments.

Our agreement package will give you all the freedom you'll need to run your own business whilst enjoying the full partnership of one of the UK's largest Pub Companies.

All we ask in return is that you bring us the enthusiasm and entrepreneurial flair to make your Inn a success. You'll also need the ability to invest and the drive to build on track record that's already seen our Pub Partners operation voted "The Publican Pub Company of the Year 2001".

If you think you've got what it takes, then visit our website to see the Inns available, their impressive setting and their extraordinary potential.

www.greenekingpubs.co.uk

or call our Recruitment Team on 01284 714497 or write to Greene King Pub Partners, Westgate Brewery, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 1QT



THE UK'S LEADING SANDWICH AND COFFEE FRANCHISE 160 Stores Worldwide (November '01)

Investment: £60k to £130k
Liquid Capital Requirement
of £40k

Opportunities to Develop
Multiple Units



British Franchise Association
Franchisee of the Year 2001

'Joining the O'Brien's team
was one of the best deci-
sions that I ever made'
Rob Shields, O'Brien's, Cambridge.



www.obrienonline.com

International Support Office: 23, South William Street, Dublin 2, Ireland. FREEPHONE 0800 973888

110145©O'Brien's 2001

IT'S OUR DEFINITION



Lease & Tenancy Opportunities

adj **Exceptional:** distinctive, unusual, outstanding; the exception that proves the rule; *qv* **Enterprise Inns** a business that's focused on individuals, providing a rare mix of training and support, offering ambitious individuals the potential to make a truly exceptional inn.

Exceptional? That just about sums you up. And it's why we want to talk to you. Because you've got ambition and flair, you're commercially astute, and you want to earn the right recognition and rewards with your own pub and a big industry name. One of the biggest of them all – Enterprise Inns. A partner who's as passionate about business success as you are.

And here's your chance. At Enterprise Inns, there's something to suit almost everyone – from rustic country pubs to smart city centre venues to small, friendly locals. With over 3500 pubs across the country, there's also a wide choice of options on offer, from 21 year lease agreements to 3 year tenancies.

Whatever you choose, we're right behind you. You can expect full, ongoing training accredited by the British Institute of Innkeeping, plus lots of support in all aspects of running a successful pub business.

Join our fast-growing group of Retailers in Partnership and you can look forward to the freedom to run things your own way – with a vast choice of leading drinks brands from some of the world's most famous brewers as well as the best known independent producers.

If you've got the funding and commitment, and can relate to the Enterprise definition, give us a call now – we've probably got the right opportunity for you.

Freephone: 0800 953 0073.

www.enterpriseinns.com

WHAT'S YOURS?



Considering a new career?

**LGV1
Drivers
Wanted
Nationwide**

If you are LGV 1 trained and looking for a new career, why not consider the container transport industry. Maritime Transport is one of the most dynamic companies in the container transport sector. We are looking for permanent LGV 1 drivers based at Felixstowe, Isle of Grain, Southampton and Tilbury for nationwide container distribution. Successful applicants will be offered a competitive package, training and the opportunity to be part of a progressive, privately owned transport company.

Please write, enclosing your C.V., to Andrew McNab, Maritime Transport Limited, Maritime House, The Dock, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 3ST.



visit us online @
www.forcespublishing.co.uk

**FORCES & CORPORATE
PUBLISHING LTD**
the market leaders in
military publishing

NEBOSH Health & Safety Training CERTIFICATE & DIPLOMA

If you are looking for a career in health & safety, the NEBOSH qualifications are the most widely requested and recognised; Sunderland based Integra environmental is one of the leading UK providers of these qualifications.

If you want to spend your money wisely choose Integra for experienced, practitioner trainers, quality training facilities and above all the results we help our delegates achieve - these are the envy of all better known competitors and often achieved at a third or a half the cost:

NEBOSH Certificate 1998 - 2001

Lowest Pass Rate: 78%
Average Pass Rate: 85%
Passes @ credit/distinction: 51%
Pass Rate Last Two Courses: 92% & 100%

NEBOSH Diploma Pt 1 1999 - 2001

Lowest Pass Rate: 78%
Average Pass Rate: 89%
Passes @ credit/distinction: 30%
Pass Rate June 2001: 100%
10% of All UK Distinctions: June 2001

- Block Mode
- Day Release
- Evenings Only
- Supported Distance Learning (subject to approval)

For more details contact: Mike Harris

Tel: 0191 515 2666

www.integra-e.co.uk



We'll take you where you want to go!

vacancies for PCV Drivers & Trainee Bus Drivers



We're always keen to meet people from all walks of life, who have clean licences and want to be trained for a new career.

Be a London United Bus Driver - you'd never guess you'd enjoy it so much!

- ✚ Secure career
- ✚ Good opportunities for overtime
- ✚ Excellent rates of pay
- ✚ Up to £1,000 p.a. Tfl Bonus



For vacancies at our garages:
CHISWICK • HOUNSLOW
TOLWORTH • TWICKENHAM
SHEPHERD'S BUSH

0800 694 0112



In the heart of Brighton...

Move forward with 

It's never too late to change

Train in the fastest growing

industry with qualified trainers

MCSE • N+ • A+ • ECDL

Microsoft Certified

Professional

Systems Engineer

TEST CENTRE

Accommodation can be arranged

at good rates

01273 735736

Join the winning team.



Some goals are easier to achieve when you have a good team behind you. Getting CIMA or ACCA qualified is one of them. BPP have 25 years of experience in helping students pass their professional exams and can offer you:

- a NATIONWIDE NETWORK of Premier Registered training centres
- a dedicated team of PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED TUTORS
- a range of exam focused, part time CLASSROOM COURSES
- targeted DISTANCE LEARNING with our Home Study packages
- innovative study materials that include TAPES, VIDEOS and ONLINE LEARNING


ACCOUNTANCY COURSES

Visit www.bpp.com
or call 020 8740 2222 for a brochure


OCR
RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT

OCR offers a wide range of nationally-recognised qualifications, suitable for learners of all levels and abilities. If you're looking to gain new skills or want a qualification to prove your skills, why not look into one of the following?


New CLAIT – this is the IT qualification to suit everybody, whatever their background. It has been designed as a fresh and modern update to the UK's most popular foundation IT qualification, RSA CLAIT.

Teaching Exercise and Fitness – this is a new qualification that has been designed to provide an access route for new entrants to the fitness industry and will provide successful candidates with the ability to gain personal liability insurance.

For further information on these or any other OCR qualifications, please contact our Information Bureau on **01223 552806** or see our website: www.ocr.org.uk






THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK
INSTITUTE of EDUCATION

Change Lives Open Minds

train to teach with US

- ◆ Primary Early Years
- ◆ Primary 5 – 11
- ◆ Secondary - specialise in
- ◆ Economics with Business Studies
- ◆ English and Drama
- ◆ History
- ◆ Information and Communications Technology
- ◆ Mathematics
- ◆ Modern Foreign Languages
- ◆ Religious Education
- ◆ Science

Strong partnership with schools across the Midlands

Well established and respected course

Excellent recent Ofsted reports

Some Secondary courses available via Flexible provision

For further information please contact:
June Morris on
024 7652 8148
email: pgce@warwick.ac.uk
<http://www.warwick.ac.uk/wie>



December 2001
Vol 12 No 1



Editor: Lt Col PRC Dixon OBE

Contents

The Colonel of the Regiment	17	Regimental Sport	59
The Regiment	18	Special Features	60
Regimental Locations	19	<i>Army Cricket Tour to Trinidad</i>	60
Personalia	20	<i>Lombardia 2001, International Military</i>	
Regimental Matters	21	<i>Patrol Competition</i>	61
Mainly about People	21	<i>Soldiers' Memorial</i>	62
A Christmas Message from the Chaplain	22	<i>Viking Tidworth 25 Years-On Reunion</i>	62
Diary Dates	22	<i>Recruiting in the Royal Anglian Regiment</i>	63
Letters to the Editor	23	ACF and CCF Detachments	65
The Vikings	24	The Associations	68
The Poachers	31	Obituaries	78
Colour Section	45	Book Reviews	79
East of England Regiment	53	Association Branches	80
158 (R Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC (V)	57	Deaths	81
Regimental Museum	58	East of England Regiment Orbat	82

Front cover

Talavera Day - Colonel of the Regiment takes the salute from the Corps of Drums

Back cover

2nd Battalion - Lt McNeil on Divis Mountain

Regiment and Museum Internet Website

www.army.mod.uk



FORCES&CORPORATE
PUBLISHING LTD

© Crown Copyright: This publication contains official information. It should be treated with discretion by the recipient. The opinions expressed in the articles in this journal are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy and views, official or otherwise, of the Regiment or the Ministry of Defence. No responsibility for the goods or services advertised in this journal can be accepted by the publishers or printers. Advertisements are included in good faith.

Managing Director: Ron Pearson
Sales Manager: Amanda Mains

Forces and Corporate Publishing Ltd, Hamblin House, Hamblin Court, 92-94 High Street, Rushden, Northamptonshire NN10 0PQ. Tel: 01933 419994 :: Fax: 01933 419584



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



Gen Sir Michael Walker GCB CMG CBE ADC Gen, Colonel of the Regiment.

The events of 11 September in the United States made us all catch our breath and made us wonder about what it is, in the free world, that causes terrorism on this scale. There are clearly gaps in our thinking which is why the Secretary of State for Defence has initiated work on 'a new chapter' for the Strategic Defence Review. A chapter that will look at whether we are able to respond to such attacks in the most appropriate way, both in terms of our home security and operations overseas. We shall see this work concluding in the middle of next year and I have little doubt that all of us in the Regiment, Regular and Reserves alike, will be looking to play a part in any shifts in emphasis in the sort of training and operations we undertake.

Our upbringing in the Army, in which both battalions and significant numbers of the TA have been involved, has been dealing

with terrorism in Northern Ireland for many years; to which has been added more recently operations in the Balkans and the Gulf. This texture of experience is complex and irreplaceable and serves us particularly well for whatever forms of asymmetric warfare we might be asked to undertake. It is a depth of experience that few other armies can match and we will remain at the forefront of those military forces that the international community will have confidence in. Long may this remain the case.

For these reasons it is important that Regimentally we continue our determination to be fully manned - and I congratulate all those who have made Herculean efforts and the success they have achieved on this front - fully trained for whatever we may be asked to do and to introduce as much fun into Regimental life as possible.



The Regiment

Colonel-in-Chief

HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother

Deputy Colonels-in-Chief

HRH The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon

HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester

Colonel of the Regiment

Gen Sir Michael Walker GCB CMG CBE ADC Gen

Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment

The Rev MD Franks MBE

Deputy Colonels of the Regiment

1st Battalion: Maj Gen JCB Sutherland CBE

2nd Battalion: Maj Gen JC McColl CBE

TA Sub Units: Col NH Kelsey OBE TD

Deputy Honorary Colonels TA

Norfolk, Suffolk

Col PJS Child

Lincolnshire

Col RJM Drummond OBE

Leicestershire, Northamptonshire

Col JBC Prescott

Essex, Hertfordshire

Col RA Shervington TD DL

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

The Royal Gibraltar Regiment

1st Battalion the Royal Malay Regiment

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

5th Battalion the Frontier Force Regiment

First City Regiment

Regiment de la Rey

Gibraltar

Malaysia

New Zealand

Pakistan

South Africa

The Regiment is affiliated to 158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC(V)
and to the Worshipful Company of Poulterers

1st Battalion has a Bond of Friendship with *HMS Norfolk*

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 Colour of the Borough of Barking and Dagenham.

Regimental Locations

Regimental Headquarters

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN
Tel: 01284-752394. Fax: 752026/Colchester Military 5124
e-mail: rhq_ranglian@keme.co.uk

Regimental Secretary: Lt Col PRC Dixon OBE

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Maj J Fisk

Regimental Careers Officer: Vacant

Area Office Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire

Britannia House TA Centre,
325 Aylsham Road, Norwich NR3 2AD
Tel: 01603-400290
Area Secretary: Col AC Taylor

Area Office Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex

Blenheim House, Eagle Way,
Warley, Essex CM13 3BN
Tel: 01277-213051

Area Office Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire

TA Centre, Clare Street, Northampton NN1 3JQ
Tel: 01604-635412
Area Secretary: Lt Col FAH Swallow OBE

Area Office Lincoln

Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY
Tel: 01522-544886
Area Secretary: Capt DJ Lee BEM

Regimental Information Teams

Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn (127 AYT)
Tel: 01223-204216
Goojerat Barracks, Colchester (160 AYT)
Tel: 01206-782311
North Luffenham (161 AYT)
Tel: 01780 727806

Regimental Museum

Imperial War Museum, Duxford, Cambs CB2 4QR
Tel: 01223-835000 Ext 298
Regimental Attendant: Mr GA Boss

Battalion Locations

1st Battalion,
Elizabeth Barracks, Pirbright GU24 0DT

Lt Col PD Jones MBE

2nd Battalion,
Beachley Barracks,
Chepstow, Glos NP16 7YG

Lt Col RJ Ladley MBE

East of England Regiment
TA Centre, Blenheim Camp, Newmarket Road,
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3SW

Lt Col NA ffitch TD

Regimental Representatives

Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn: Maj DJ Gregory

Infantry Training Centre, Catterick: Maj PD Bailey

RMA Sandhurst: Vacant

Army Foundation College Harrogate: Lt MC Melia

Personalia

Honours and Awards

Queen's Birthday Honours

MBE

Cpl MA Jones 2nd Battalion

Maj AE Todd 2nd Battalion

CBF Cyprus Commendation

WO2 FCJ Beaumont

Operational Awards (NI)

MBE

Capt DSJ Biddick 1st Battalion

QCB

Cpl PS Culshaw 1st Battalion

QCVS

Maj RJ Clements 1st Battalion
Maj DP O'Driscoll 2nd BattalionMaj DA England 1st Battalion
Cpl DRC Faupel 1st Battalion

GOC Commendation

Capt CD Davies 2nd Battalion
Cpl SA Deakin 1st Battalion
Cpl CG Kulkani 1st Battalion
Cpl JR Marshallsay 2nd BattalionWO2 N Skelton 1st Battalion
WO2 SV Soanes 1st Battalion
Sgt MI Woods 1st Battalion

Commissioning

The following were commissioned on 10 August 2001:
2Lt TP Coleman, 2Lt MR Cook, 2Lt AJH Houchin*The following were commissioned on 14 December 2001:*
2Lt AK Dart, 2Lt TP Dunlop, 2Lt SR Poulter

Promotions

Capt PM Birch	to major	30 September 2001
Capt I Couch	to major	30 September 2001
Capt RP Grenfell	to major	30 September 2001
Capt NA Johnson	to major	30 September 2001
Capt PM Smith	to major	30 September 2001
Maj RHC Lucas	to lieutenant colonel	30 June 2002

Postings

Maj MH Wenham	from RMCS to MCM Div APC	August 2001
Maj JM Woodham	from JSCSC to SO2(W) DDBE	August 2001
Brig AP Deed OBE	from York Garrison to JHQ SOUTHEAST (Izmir)	August 2001
Capt JD Carnegie	from 1st Battalion to HQ 7 Armd Bde	September 2001
Capt JD Hughes	from 2nd Battalion to RMCS	September 2001
Capt AW Johnson	from 1st Battalion to JCU (NI)	September 2001
Maj BM Down	from 143(WM) Bde to ALSCS	September 2001
Maj PML Ferrary	from MOD DI RA to OCE Kuwait	October 2001
Maj JAB Borthwick	from BMATT Sierra Leone to HQ TSC(L)	October 2001
Lt Col AJC Wild MBE	from 2nd Battalion to PJHQ(UK)	January 2002
Capt MP Aston	from 1st Battalion to HQ ARRC	January 2002
Maj D McCrum	from R&LS to EER	January 2002
Maj A Jones	from EER to 1st Battalion	January 2002
Lt RH Whitham	from AFC Harrogate to 2nd Battalion	January 2002
Col RE Harrold OBE	from HQNI to DCCA/CGS	January 2002
Lt Col PM Holme	from Warminster to HQ TSC/HQ TSU	February 2002

Left the Army

The following have left the Army. We hope to see them from time to time at Regimental functions:
Capt BJ Rayment September 2001, Lt Col PRC Dixon OBE September 2001, Capt NF Faint October 2001

Regimental Matters

Staff changes

Lt Col PRC Dixon has been appointed Regimental Secretary in succession to Col AC Taylor who has moved to Area Office Norwich to relieve Maj WH Reeve who has retired.

Maj RC Gould, who was RCO for over six years, has moved to Colchester.

Regimental Reunion

The Regimental Reunion will be held at Bassingbourn Barracks on Sunday 14 July 2002. The format will be similar to previous years:

1000 hrs	Gates open
1130 hrs	Drumhead service
1215 hrs	March past
1230 hrs	Bar, kiosks and stalls open
pm	Band and drums display
1730 hrs	Bars close

President of The Regimental Association

Brig CMJ Barnes OBE has been appointed President of the Regimental Association. He was commissioned into 1 Suffolks, and

served with all three battalions before commanding the 2nd Battalion 1975-77.

Email facility

RHQ now has an email facility: rhq_ranglian@keme.co.uk

Castle – June 2002

All contributions for the next issue of *Castle* are requested to be with the editor by 15 April 2002.

Have you lost contact?

Starting in the June 2002 issue a new section of *Castle* will be introduced with the aim of helping members of the Regiment trace old friends.

Details should be sent to the editor together, if possible, with a photograph. Please ensure that a contact address is included.

Regimental website

A new interactive Regimental website was launched in November. It can be accessed through the Army website: www.army.mod.uk

Mainly about People

Col RA Shervington, Honorary Colonel Hertfordshire and Essex, has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the county of Essex. So also has Col CAF Thomas who was, until recently, County Commandant Essex ACF.

Maj RS Cross ex 3rd Battalion has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the county of Durham.

During a recce to Sierra Leone in July 2001, Lt Col Richard Kemp, Commander OPTAG, and Maj Richard Clements, OC NITAT (centre), met up with Maj Jonathan Borthwick (right). Maj Borthwick was adviser to the 4th Brigade of the Sierra Leone Army (SLA), then based at Port Loko. Also in the photograph is WO2 Robinson (left) who is an SLA adviser in Maj Borthwick's team. Also in theatre at the time were Maj Pete Smith, a member of the JTFHQ operations staff, and Capt Nat Hayden, another SLA adviser.

During their time in Sierra Leone Lt Col Kemp and Maj Clements also saw much evidence of the strong impact made upon the SLA by the Poachers' deployment into theatre as a training team during 2000. The name 'Poachers' is on the lips of many an SLA soldier,



The Poachers' legacy.

and recognition of the Royal Anglian capbadge causes quite a bit of excitement. In fact, the 5th Battalion of the SLA, based in Freetown has adopted the nicknames 'Poachers' and 'Steel Back', as well as the 2nd Battalion's yellow and black flash. These insignia are very much in evidence all around the Battalion's barracks.



Royal Anglians in Sierra Leone.

A Christmas Message from the Chaplain

I recently came across two stories based on Christmas. As I read through them I could not stop myself from having a little 'chuckle'. I hope as you read them you too will chuckle, perhaps, even burst out laughing! It's been said that a good laugh is better than a 'tonic'.

The first story: A man standing in the shadows was carefully waiting for the family to finish loading the car to go away for Christmas. When it became dark, he set off towards the front door of the house and rang the front door bell. There was no answer, the man, a seasoned burglar, had no difficulty in picking the lock and getting inside. As a precaution he called out into the darkness. 'Is anybody home?' He was stunned when he heard a voice reply, 'I see you, and so does Jesus'. Terrified, the burglar called out 'Who's there?' and again the voice came back, 'I see you and Jesus sees you'. The burglar switched on his torch towards the direction of the voice, and was immediately relieved to see a caged parrot, who recited once more, 'I see you, and Jesus sees you'. He laughed to himself then went to the wall and switched on the light. Then he saw it. Beneath the parrot's cage was a huge Doberman pinscher. Then the parrot said, 'Attack Jesus, attack'.

It's good to laugh out loud. Even though there is a lot of talk about the possibility of all-out war, recession and a whole litany of trouble that each day presses on us, we are nevertheless all invited to laugh a little and rejoice as Christmas approaches.

The second little story: It was the school Christmas nativity play; the children were all singing a carol. *Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel*. The children were singing joyfully, yet the teacher conducting noticed something was wrong. Little Megan, the loudest one, had mixed up her words and was singing, 'No Hell, No Hell, born is the King of Israel'!

Christ is born, to suffer your worst pain, worst distress, worst humiliation. He has taken away the punishment due for our sins. He is God's gift, given to us to hang on a tree. Not some pretty Christmas tree. He is born for a tree stripped bare, made of rough wood, the Cross of Cavalry. Greet God, your Saviour, from our wrongs, he is the rescuer. No hell, no hell! Born is the King of Israel. Christ our Saviour is born.

God bless you all and your families at this Christmas time and the coming year of 2002.

Diary Dates

March

- 4 4th Battalion the Essex Regiment Comrades Association Meeting
- 16 Poacher 2002 - Spalding
- 23 4/5th Battalion Essex Regiment (TA) Officers' Dinner Club Annual Dinner

April

- 7-9 R Lincolns battlefield tour and internment of unknown soldiers - Arras
- 11 Beds & Herts Association management committee meeting
- 12 Spring golf meeting - Richmond Park, Watton
- 19 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club, cocktail party, London
- 26 4th Battalion the Essex Regiment Comrades Association AGM - Warley
- 28 Almanza Service - Norwich Cathedral

May

- 9 Northamptonshire Regiment officers' lunch, London
- 10 Opening of The Suffolk Regiment Museum - Bury St Edmunds
- 12 5th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment lunch, Barnsdale
- 25 Queen's Div Golf Triangular Meeting - Canterbury
- 30 2/5th Battalion the Essex Regiment officers' lunch - Dunmow

June

- 1 R Norfolks Officers' Dinner Club - Norwich
- 4-7 Suffolk Regiment 'Hillman' Pilgrimage
- 7 Dedication of memorial to 2nd Battalion the Essex Regiment Bayeaux
- 13 R Lincolns officers' reunion lunch
- 21 Summer golf meeting - Ely
- 22 Beds & Herts Association dinner and dance - Hertford
- 22/23 Royal Tigers' Weekend, Leicester/Bagworth

- 26 Royal Norfolk Show
- 27 16th Foot officers' annual lunch - Buckden
- 30 Essex Regiment Association reunion - Warley

July

- 6 4th Battalion the Essex Regiment Comrades Association garden party - Warley
- Beds & Herts Officers' Goslar Reunion
- 6/7 Northamptonshire Regiment annual reunion, Northampton
- 13 Eagle & Garter Club dinner - Bassingbourn
- 14 Royal Anglian Regiment Gathering - Bassingbourn

August

- 4 Minden Day Reunion - Bury St Edmunds

September

- 14 Autumn golf meeting - Flemspton
- 28 Royal Norfolk Association dinner - Norwich

October

- 4 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club, annual lunch - Warley
- 4 70th Battalion reunion dinner, Kettering

November

- 1 Royal Anglian Officers' Dinner - London
- 7 Field of Remembrance - Westminster Abbey
- 10 Remembrance Sunday
- 17 Beds & Herts Regiment Association reunion

December

- 11 Beds & Herts Association visit to Royal Hospital Chelsea

Letters to the Editor



I am currently writing a book on Land Rovers in British military service which will cover the Series I to the Series III. I would like to hear from any readers who have used these types and may have any interesting information or any photographs of these in service with the Royal Anglian Regiment or any of the former regiments.

The Land Rover first saw active service during the Korean War. Can any veterans who served with the Royal Norfolk Regiment or the Royal Leicestershire Regiment tell me if either Regiment had been issued with Land Rovers and, if so, were any of these the Rolls-Royce powered version? I am interested in any version of the Series I, II IIA, and Series III used in any role in peacetime exercises or in any of the many conflicts and peacekeeping operations that the Regiment has been involved in up to whenever the 90s and 110s replaced the Series IIIs which were in service with the Regiment. This would include Malaya, British Guiana, Brunei, Aden/Radfan, Hong Kong etc, also service with the BAOR (were any Land Rovers painted in the 'Berlin' or Urban scheme?), Cyprus in '73 or '74 (some photos show SWB Series IIAs windscreens and tops removed in a pink/stone colour with black and green disruptive patterns covered in what looks like a coarse scrim or possibly fine 'chicken wire' - can anyone elaborate?), and also the troubles in Northern Ireland, Operation Granby in the Gulf and Bosnia. Any details on modifications, colour schemes and equipment would be greatly appreciated, if you can help please contact: Alan Fanning, 32 Burgess Road, Waterbeach, Cambs, CB5 9ND. Email: alan@afanning.fsnet.co.uk



Regimental Race - Great Yarmouth - 4 September

I attended the races at Great Yarmouth yesterday and presented the Regimental Cup to the winner and £50 for the best turned out horse. David Henson, the clerk of the course, looked after us very well and we had an enjoyable day despite the weather which was not nice for this time of the year.

The race was won by a horse called 'Samhari' owned by Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum, trained by David Loder in Newmarket and ridden by Frankie Dettori. The best turned out, judged by Rachel, was 'Iroquois Chief' trained by Michael Bell in Newmarket.

A few members of the Regiment were there and it was a pity not to see more but perhaps that is because we do not advertise it among ourselves. Perhaps a short notice in *Castle* would help.

Maj Richard Wilson
Hockham Lodge, Shropham,
Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1ED
Tel: 01953-498240



The Aden Veterans' Association

This report is brought to you after a very successful campaign to encourage former Aden servicemen to join its organisation during the Minden Day reunion at Bury St Edmunds. A similar exercise was conducted at Bassingbourn two weeks earlier.

There were 17 people enrolled on the day bringing the membership to just over 400. The occasion was blessed with the attendance of the President and Vice-President of the Association who were the original founder (Mr John Hotston) and co-founder (Mr Ernie Izard) formerly of the Royal Sussex Regiment.

Many more application forms were taken away for completion and an amount of merchandise also sold at Bury St Edmunds making the day a very productive one!

Presently a number of local branches are in the process of launching, in particular the Fenland and District Branch is expected to be launched in the autumn with a potential strength at the moment of 20.

Other events taking place this year will be a return tour to Aden between 7 and 14 November with the itinerary covering the Remembrance services at Maa'la and Silent Valley while in England, the Aden veterans will be taking part in the Remembrance services at the Festival of Remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall and the

march past the Cenotaph in London.

Although the Association is still in its infancy, the future looks good after a very successful AGM and dinner in Coventry on 30 June this year when 110 members sat down to a meal in the presence of the Lord and Lady Mayor of Coventry and their deputies, concluded by a march past in Coventry on the Sunday morning.

Mr AM Cole
(Formerly 1st East/Royal Anglian Regiment
14 Matmore Close, Spalding Lincs PE11 2QS)



A monument was unveiled at Alrewas near Lichfield on 19 April for those who lost their lives in the Palestine Campaign 1945/48. Those attending from the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, Birmingham Branch, were as follows:

From left: Ray Tooze our Standard Bearer from the 4th Battalion, 49th Division, Polar Bears, Frank Birkett, John Westwood and myself Frank Jennings.

We all served in Palestine with the 2nd Battalion. About 400 veterans visited the site which was opened by The Duchess of Kent. My friend Pte Kenny, who died out there, is to have his name on a tablet in Lincoln Cathedral.

FH Jennings
50 Mildenhall Road
Great Barr, Birmingham B42 2PH
Tel: 0121 6825179



I am writing with the hope that you may in some way be able to assist us in promoting ESHRA.

It is our hope to promote the agency (ESHRA), so that the forces' community is aware of the kind of advice we are able to offer, in relation to the ex-service homes in the first instance, private and voluntary homes, and also on independent living and funding issues.

We understand people find the whole process quite bewildering, when suddenly faced with the prospect of having to find a care home for themselves or a family member. Again, it is not always easy to find the right advice as to where to go next. As with the ex-service homes, many ex-service people are unaware of their existence. We would like to make sure they are kept occupied, to enable the homes to continue, and provide a special environment for those in need.

Anneliese K Taylor
Care Provision Advisor

Ex-Service Homes Referral Agency (ESHRA)
PO Box 31096 London SW1Y 5ZR
Tel: 020 7973 7343
Helpline: 020 7839 4466

1st Battalion - The Vikings



The welcoming committee - Minden Day 2001

As this issue goes to print, the Battalion will have finally confirmed its position as the Army's lead mechanised Battle Group and departed for a well-deserved period of leave. The last six months have been as busy and involved as anticipated.

The Battalion has undergone a number of changes from the standard mechanised infantry battalion orbat, specifically with regards to the organisation of the manoeuvre support company - D (Cambridgeshire) Company. Commanded by Maj Alex Beart, D Company has now effectively become the Recce Company. The company now comprises a mobile Milan Platoon equipped with Land Rovers, the Anti-Tank Platoon equipped with Saxon, a Recce Platoon equipped with Scimitar, a Light Recce Platoon formed of the Battalion's snipers and the Mortar Platoon. These assets, commanded by the ISTAR Group, should enable the Battle Group to locate the enemy early and then pull the remainder of the Battalion into the operation.

The most significant event for the Battalion has been the move from Northern Ireland to its new home at Elizabeth Barracks, Pirbright. Despite being depleted by Brigade demands on our manpower to augment the Battle Group on Exercise Iron Anvil, Minden Day was celebrated in the traditional manner and set a fine standard and precedent for our future years in Pirbright.

Following what seemed a very brief period of leave, the Battalion returned with pace of life and focus of training aimed at bringing the Battle Group HQ element, sub units and echelons up to speed. It was a busy time conducting training in anticipation of the Battle Group forming up in its own right with the necessary skills to face the requirements of CAST and TESEX. Everyone has watched the developing international situation with interest and there has been a sober acknowledgement that the Battalion may very well be called forward

next year in our state of high readiness year. The role and nature of our contribution is unknown at the time of writing, but it has certainly coloured the Battalion's attitude to its forthcoming training and helped focus our resolve and determination.

A (Norfolk) Company's OPFOR Deployment – BATUS – July to October

Lt TW Gregory and Lt GL Allen write:

It seems a long time since the first rumours of an Army 'road trip' to Canada were first circulated in Londonderry. Yet, less than 10 months later, we find ourselves Pirbright-bound once again, but this time having completed a three-month deployment to BATUS. Sixty-one Vikings deployed as the A Company group, having been tasked to provide the armoured infantry company of the OPFOR, in support of the Light Dragoons. The OPFOR mission...to inflict a GENFOR style defeat on the enemy, who, as it turned out, were our new Ace of Spade brethren from 12 Mech Bde. The odds were the sort that Viking soldiers relish: Three full Battle Groups (KRH - Challenger 2, 1 Staffords - Warrior, 1 WG - Saxon), versus the OPFOR orbat of a T80 heavy motor rifle battalion. Despite numerical odds of some 10-1, it is hard to argue against the eventual end state...we stuffed them! Success in the field was mirrored by an overall package which saw Vikings learning to skydive, ride horses, negotiate river rapids, and of course, grab some much-deserved bar time throughout Western Canada and the Rocky Mountains.

The following is an account of the highs and lows of a long deployment, in an unfamiliar role, under difficult conditions, which saw A Company earn the Battalion an unrivalled reputation among the staff of BATUS and 12 Mech Bde alike.

On arrival at BATUS it soon became clear

that the company had a lot of work to do in order to arrive at a state of training that would allow for our eventual victories. The beat-up training period of three weeks was therefore the best opportunity the company could have hoped for. Clearly the priority was to shake off the Northern Ireland mentality and foster the Viking war fighting spirit, while simultaneously integrating the company into the armoured infantry role. Fortunately the excellent levels of co-operation between the Vikings dismounts and Light Dragoon tank and BMP crews allowed for a very rapid assimilation of information and exchange of ideas. So much so that by the time Minden Day arrived, Viking Company was ready to prove itself in 'force on force tests' against the other sub units of the Battle Group. By the time the sun rose on 1 August, from the defensive positions, which they prepared through the night, Viking Company had completed the destruction of two armoured squadrons.

Minden Day itself was spent on the prairie and so celebrations were muted. Nevertheless the company paraded during a 'pause in the battle'. The citation was read, roses were worn, and gunfire (of sorts) was served - much to the astonishment of the Light Dragoons. How fitting it was that on the day we celebrated the defeat of the French cavalry by our forebears, we ourselves enjoyed a 1 August victory. Against the cavalry yes, but it may be some years until we can have another crack at the French.

By mid August the population of the BATUS camp at Suffield had begun to swell with the combined caphadges of 12 Mech Bde. The 'enemy' had arrived, in preparation for the biggest armoured formation exercise staged by the British Army in 20 years. How timely then that A Company group was granted a three-week block of adventure training and R and R as the Brigade Battle Groups conducted live firing on the prairie.

The Vikings

The first port of call was Lake Newell, where our Vikings took the opportunity to practise water-sports, and improve their suntans over a period of three days. The cool fresh waters were certainly a relief from the arid, dust blown expanse of the training area, and most soldiers were glad of the opportunity to mix with the locals.

The adventurous training opportunities at BATUS are well renowned and A Company was lucky enough to have the chance to experience the full benefit of the package. The Vikings were well represented on all of the activities, with favourites being an accelerated free-fall course, a multi-activity adventurous training camp and a Canadian canoeing extravaganza. Despite the allure of flinging oneself from a perfectly serviceable aircraft several thousand feet above Calgary, or the thrill of diving headlong into the aptly named Widow-Maker, which is a stretch of water normally avoided by sane folk as the turbulence drags and holds you under for far too long before spitting you out somewhere downstream, a large number of the company opted for the more sedate sounding Rough Ride. This was billed as 'pony-trekking', conjuring up images of small, docile animals with a penchant for carrots. This proved not to be the case. Our steeds were in fact totally wild for nine out of 12 months, and had only recently been rounded-up for this particular season.

Over the four days of the expedition, which was based some 90km from any civilisation in Fly Camp, many a happy hour was spent in the saddle exploring the Rockies. Some unfortunates however, spent more time in the dirt than in the saddle. Most notably Lt Andy Dobbin, who lasted only an hour before an involuntary dismount mid-gallop, and 'Corporal of Horse' Damage Dungate who, over four days, managed to build up an impressive level of hatred for the entire horse species. Owing to the natural instinct of wild horses to 'run as a pack', there were numerous stampedes invariably ending in chaos with riderless horses and horseless riders spread in equal amounts across the tracks, woods, rivers and lakes of the



Maj Heap, OC A (Norfolk) Company, presenting Minden roses on Minden Day on the prairies of BATUS, Canada.

expansive mountain range. With the majority of the company now battered and bruised, it was time for some well-earned R and R.

On return to BATUS, all were refreshed, happy and ready to get stuck-in to the TESEX proper.

Despite being billed as the biggest British Army exercise in several decades, Exercise Iron Anvil began at a sedate pace. For the first couple of missions, the OPFOR was split, with each portion, be it armoured infantry, recce or part of a tank company, taking on an element (normally a company

group) of one the Battle Groups. Already at this early stage it was becoming apparent that the OPFOR was good and the extensive beat-up training had paid off, as the OPFOR was able to act and react much more quickly than any of the Battle Groups.

The next step-up was pitting the OPFOR against a Battle Group complete. This started with the Battle Groups in a daytime advance. The OPFOR mission was to delay the enemy for two hours. Five hours after Startex, the Battle Group had still not managed to penetrate the Recce Company's Milan matrix. No sooner had they broken through the recce screen, than they were being engaged by the tank and infantry companies. This brought about their final destruction, but not before having to get regenerated several times – resulting in the nickname 12 (Regen) Bde.

The exercise culminated in the OPFOR versus the entire Brigade. By this stage morale in the OPFOR camp was at a record high. The final mission again saw OPFOR in defence. After two days in an observation post screen the Vikings attached to the Recce Company alerted the remainder of the OPFOR of the approach of the lead elements of the lead Battle Group. Immediately our tanks rolled into action, while the observation posts continued to send back information and call in fire missions. After a very long night, the Brigade had made its way through the recce screen and begun to engage the defensive positions. A Company



Dmrs Tischler and Jarvis patiently wait for the enemy.

The Vikings

held all its trenches and repelled every attack thrown at it.

With the exercise over, there was little time to relax as preparations for our move home went into full swing. Every member of A Company, whatever their role within OPFOR, had proved the Vikings a force worth reckoning with. The extent to which the Vikings had influenced all the battles was also mirrored in the number of nominations and actual awards of 'Iron Crosses'. In total the company received three citations and three Iron Crosses. In particular, Cpl Panter received a posthumous Iron Cross for outstanding leadership, courage under fire and total disregard for his own life. It was with heads held high that A (Norfolk) Company left Canada with an enormous feeling of a job well done.

Eastenders meets Eastenders

Capt HJ Owen, AGC Det Comd writes: Following the departure of Tamzin Outhwaite from Eastenders, the once cockney barmaid is now playing the lead in a new BBC1 drama entitled *Redcaps*. She plays a Royal Military Police SNCO and is involved in a number of incidents all squashed into hourly episodes.

The producer and director of the drama had the script but no location and this is where the Battalion's involvement started. Following an unexpected visit the production team decided that Elizabeth Barracks was the ideal location. Bearing in mind that 'location, location, location' is everything, Elizabeth Barracks was deemed to have the right 'atmosphere' and looked sufficiently imposing, that is it looked like an Army camp and not a holiday camp. It was then decided that not only were its external features in keeping with the script, but also the insides of the main kitchen and



The BBC let loose on the parade square.

LAD were perfect for filming, as was Cpl Milne's married quarter (much to his and his wife's surprise).

On 26 July the TV crew moved in to the barracks and much to the consternation of the MTO, proceeded to turn the MT park into a caravan site. There were costume trailers, catering trailers, make-up wagons not to mention the star's rest rooms. Filming began in earnest and the opening scene of the drama was filmed on the Elizabeth Barracks parade square.

Although the star of the show is Tamzin Outhwaite there was an opportunity for all those in the Battalion who wished to make an appearance as an extra, to do so. Those that did take part all got the opportunity to talk to Tamzin and quiz her about her military experience, and also get the much desired signed photos. What the actress made of it all is not public knowledge.

The filming continued on Minden Day, and no-one was to escape the festivities. At 0645hrs on 1 August Tamzin was woken by a number of officers and SNCOs with the traditional gunfire. Unsurprisingly volunteers for this duty were plentiful! She then witnessed the Battalion fun run with almost everyone in fancy dress, but was the Commanding Officer really dressed as a fairy? Although filming was stopped during the Minden Day Parade there was still a cameraman on site as any military activity could have served as a background feature.

All of those who took part thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and learned that actors do not have an 'easy life'. The work, both in front and behind the camera, involved long hours and lots of repetition. There was no rush from any members of the Battalion to change careers, leaving the retention figures safe for now.

Exercise Arctic Trail 2001 - The Rally of Reykjavik

Lt M Duppa-Miller writes:

To expect the unexpected is always sound advice in Army life, but to drop off some cash following a charity collection and walk out with an invitation to Iceland with the Army Rally Team is true Viking tenacity! In June, C Company raised over £1,200 for the Army's nationwide Army Benevolent Fund collection, co-ordinated locally by Capt Sunderland RLC, co-driver for one of the Army Rally Team's six rally spec Land Rover Defenders. Racing six weekends a year, the highlight of the team's season is the arduous Rally of Reykjavik around south-west Iceland, encompassing 18 stages over three days. While depositing the collection money it emerged the rally team was short of service crew, and the opportunity was for the taking. Two months later Lt Duppa-Miller, Cpl McKenna, Pte Moore and Pte Willard were en route to the Arctic.

As we flew into Reykjavik to an awesome



CSgt Ellis, Cpl Heal and Tamzin Outhwaite.

The Vikings

display of the Northern Lights, none of us were quite sure what to expect from this spectacular island or from the rally. We had a driver (Pte Willard) two mechanics (Cpl McKenna and Pte Moore), a Wolf bursting with spare parts, and an admin instruction quoting lots of stages, legs, distances, and totally unpronounceable names. Our role was to follow the rally as part of the service team, repairing, refuelling, and recovering the six race Land Rovers after each stage. If all went well we might just be tinkering, changing tyres and refuelling. We could also be recovering and rebuilding entire vehicles on the mountainside.

The 30-strong rally team was housed at the sprawling US military base at Keflavik, on the south western peninsula of Iceland, aptly where the Vikings first landed to produce the island's current population. Day one involved unloading the vehicles and spares from the container ship that set sail a week previously, decontaminating for foot and mouth and transporting all the kit from Reykjavik docks to our workshop on the US base. We also got our first glimpse of the barren peninsula and Reykjavik itself. The next two days were spent sorting piles of spares and preparing the race vehicles for the rally while the crews drove the route in the service vehicles making pace notes. While engines were stripped and brake assemblies checked, the four of us managed to get away in down time to sample the delights of the Blue Lagoon, the nearby steaming sulphur lake. An awesome experience at the best of times, made all the more pleasurable by an impeccably timed photo shoot with some glamour models!

Following scrutineering the next morning the 20 competing cars met in central Reykjavik for TV and press interviews, followed by a four-stage race around the Reykjavik area and south western peninsula. The scenery on the peninsula was spectacular. The cars climbed over steep gravel tracks and slid around hairpin bends on the slopes above salt-ringed lakes, before moving on to flatter ground where they threw up long dust trails in their wake. The Rovers needed little servicing and gave us a chance to mop up the atmosphere and excitement, especially in the central Reykjavik stages in the evening twilight where the crowds lined the route. Later on the race teams took guests and the ambassador for a spin round the Reykjavik stage at high speed.

Day two of the rally took us deep into the south of central Iceland covering a mammoth 752km over 11 stages. This was great fun as service crew, as it is one of the few rallies where case vehicles follow the exact route of the competing cars. Our Wolf was put through its paces as we negotiated the dirt tracks through the moonscape interior, climbed over deep tracks burrowed into the volcanic ash of active volcano Mt Hekla, forded numerous streams and drove for hours without seeing any form of civilisation. Central Iceland is a wilderness of awesome beauty, the landscape changing from dusty moonscape plains to glacier



In the foothills below Hekla Volcano, South Iceland, which erupts every 10 years or so.

capped mountains, with dramatic geological scars and vivid lichens. The day ended in high drama as the two lead Land Rovers of the race team drove neck-and-neck with one another competing to win their class, leaving the title open until the final day. Since all vehicles stayed on the road, the service crew were called on only for minor repairs, tinkering in engines, and refuelling.

The final day of the rally negotiated 559km through the barren hills around the Kjolur glacier in the west of central Iceland. Here the road crosses serrated rock fields and glacial moraine making driving a game of controlling slides and keeping the wheels on the ground, exacerbated by steep gullies beside the road. Racing back to the south western peninsula the rally finished at lunchtime, all vehicles and crew in one piece and everyone in high spirits ready for the evening banquet and prizegiving. The awards ceremony took place in downtown Reykjavik where the team endured four hours of speeches before enduring the hardships of the Scandinavian filled clubs which stay open till six before the party moves out onto the street! A must for any stag night!

The trip was brought to a close the next day by displaying the vehicles at a monster truck and classic car rally on the US base, and entertaining our American hosts in the evening. A brilliant experience was had by all, and the trip opened future opportunities for the Vikings in the Army Rally Team.

Minden Remembrance

Maj AB Beart writes:

Following Minden Day it was decided by the Commanding Officer that it was a most fitting and appropriate tribute to place the Minden garlands on the graves of the fallen; and so on the morning of 2 August they were removed from the Colours and were taken to Brookwood cemetery by the

Officers' Mess PMC, Maj Beart and Pte Nolan, Mortar Platoon.

In a simple ceremony Pte Nolan laid the first Minden garland at the base of the tablet which honours the memory of Pte Wood of the Suffolk Regiment. His body was never recovered from the battlefield and hence he has no grave and is remembered on the walls of the central memorial. The second garland was placed against the stone inscribed, 'Their name liveth for evermore'.

Brookwood cemetery is surrounded by pine forest which keeps out the noise of suburbia and offers a peaceful haven of remembrance. The cemetery is surprisingly large and it is very humbling to walk among the graves of so many British, American and Commonwealth soldiers. The laying of the garlands in this way was a fitting way to remember and honour those who died while serving with our former Regiments.



Pte Nolan places a Minden garland.

The Vikings



On behalf of the Viking team Maj Alex Beart receives a prize pair of 10 x 42 binoculars from Gen Denaro.



Cpl Morris, Maj Beart and Sgt Simpson catch a moment to pose for the camera between camouflage and concealment stands.



Sgt Simpson sends another round into the target's neck at 1,000m on Stickledown.

International Snipers

Maj AB Beart writes:

During the period 13-16 July 2001 a three-man team, consisting of Maj Beart, Sgt Simpson and Cpl Morris, headed for Dering Lines in Brecon for the inaugural British Army International Sniper Symposium and Competition. The break in the long hot spell of weather had come and had given way to gusty squall conditions. The wind was a strong to very strong westerly which had the distinctive blue and yellow Bisley range flags flying almost higher than horizontal on their bending flag poles. Settling down on the 1,000m point of the Stickledown Range, Sgt Simpson steadied his breathing and squeezed off a cold shot at the infinitesimal Figure 11 target to his front. The screen disappeared and after a few nail-biting moments reappeared with a two-inch spotting disc in the target's neck – a hit! Sgt Simpson emerged from the thick cover of his hessian ghillie headdress with a massive smile across his face.

Earlier in the week the team had taken delivery of the new spotting scopes and telescopic rifle sights which constituted the mid-life upgrade for the L96 sniper system. In 1997, while OC Sniper Division, I had run a trial for the new equipment and had been a member of the project team responsible for procurement. It is very rare to be involved in the procurement of new equipment for the Army and then subsequently to have the pleasure of using it once it is finally issued. The new equipment is, at last, giving the sniper the ability to meet the doctrinal requirements of a kill at 900m and harassing fire out to 1,100m. In many instances it is allowing much more accurate engagements, for example, guaranteed cold barrel hits on a Fig 14 Hun's head out to 600m. Not bad eh?!

With only a week and a half of preparation, the team was in no way fully prepared for the stiff competition of the world's finest snipers but it was nevertheless determined

The Vikings



Inspecting the damage - competitors peer through the shattered windows of the target vehicle at the remains of their 'water melon headed' enemy following a highly successful co-ordinated shoot.

to do its best. The symposium was a really good opportunity to learn ideas and techniques from others. Sniper training is a subject in which you never stop learning and many of the lessons learned will be implemented to improve our own sniper training with the Vikings.

After a series of challenging and demanding live firing and dry stands the

Vikings managed to achieve fourth position out of 22 teams. A very creditable performance which saw the team beating stiff competition from other elite units including the US Rangers, Paras and Royal Marines.

Sgt Simpson and Cpl Morris had an outstanding competition and will, next year, be back for more!

Operation Viking Invader

Operation Viking Invader was carried out as the Battalion's first major recruiting activity since returning from Northern Ireland in May. The operation was launched with a combined arms orbat, including many of the attached personnel from the REME LAD and RLC Service Support and was supported by the Poachers mobile recruiting team which covered Lincolnshire.

With D-Day on 1 September the scheme of manoeuvre was to move around the coastal resorts of Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex targeting the casual labour employed by the tourist industry who were coming to the end of their seasonal employment. The operation started in King's Lynn and finished at Southend.

The operation was unique for two reasons. First, it employed a jet-ski display team as the centrepiece to attract attention and raise media interest. A number soldiers in the team were able to qualify for their RYA Level 2 Jet-Skiing as well as taking part in the displays off the beaches of Gt Yarmouth and Lowestoft. As a result of such an unusual sight considerable local as well as media interest was roused. Secondly, a competition to win an Army mountain bike was run as a means of generating a database of information of interested potential recruits.

The operation not only allowed the Regiment to considerably increase its profile in East Anglia but also, as a result of the recruiting activities, a database of 1,613 names of males in the target age group who were interested in Army activities was created. It is hoped that this sort of operation will become an annual event.



Operation Viking Invader - LCpl Gibbs and Sgt Clarke on patrol in Lowestoft.

The Vikings



From left: 2Lts Teare, Connolly, Stamm, Hartley and CSgt Rainey. End of final exercise.

Platoon Commanders' Battle Course Cyprus 2001

2Lt JMC Teare writes:

The effects of foot and mouth have been widespread and for the most part bad. One benefit, however, was the move of the Infantry Training Centre Warminster to Cyprus. The first two courses of this year, disrupted by the disease, found themselves not digging in but building sangars, not freezing in a Welsh ditch but sweltering in a dry river bed. Cyprus as an exercise area offers different challenges to Sennybridge and it made a welcome change. With the theory and tactical exercises without troops (Tewts) behind us we could concentrate on

the tactics of fighting a platoon in a conventional war and gaining our field firing qualification.

The exercise areas in Cyprus being very different, made this training challenging as well as realistic. Having to run a field firing exercise in strange terrain is good practice for the future. Similarly navigating, controlling your sections and keeping communications in the close country was also very useful. The heat which had hit us literally as soon as we came off the plane also created problems. Not just for the students but for the instructors who had to consider the increased degradation of troops. The training objectives that needed to be covered came under pressure as the heat

index rose. By the end, after a 12-day final exercise, all command and training objectives had been achieved.

The Regiment was out in force with one Poacher and three Viking officers on the course, along with Capt Borgnis and CSgt Rainey instructing. In the R and R phases the young officers definitely made the most of limited time and the opportunities available, though I suspect the instructors with better intelligence managed more. Sailing, diving, cliff-jumping and my particular favourite, jet-skiing, were all attempted, if not mastered. With a final party held in a traditional Cypriot Mezé it was time to depart back to the battalions to claim that we had actually done some work, despite the sun tans!

Suffolk Regiment Visit to Hamont Achel, Belgium

It is the custom of the Suffolk Regiment to periodically visit towns on the Continent that were significant in the post D-Day operations of 1944/5. The visit to Weert, Holland and Hamont Achel, Belgium in September this year by the Suffolks and a 1st Battalion Colour Party was no exception. Both Weert and Hamont had been liberated by the Suffolks post D-Day and this year a party of veterans returned to witness a memorial to be unveiled by the civic authorities in their honour in the town of Hamont.

The time spent in Holland and Belgium allowed those of us from Battalion to explore and understand the role of 1 Suffolks in the allied advance through the Low Countries. During the brief trip there were opportunities to visit Geysteren Castle, the war cemeteries at Overloon and Venry – the latter containing many graves of soldiers from the Royal Norfolk and Suffolk Regiments who were both units of 3 Infantry Division.



CSM Tate, Lt Nicholas, CSM Shaw march on the Colour. Hamont Achel, Belgium - 21 September 2001.

2nd Battalion – The Poachers

Commanding Officer's Introduction

It must seem repetitive to the wider readership that I am opening the Battalion article with the comment 'it has been a busy and varied six months!' I can only say, once again, that it has.

We started the period in the summer winding up our NIBAT 3 commitment and with C Company deployed in Northern Ireland over the Colours Parade as part of the Royal Irish Regiment amalgamations. After a breather of all of two weeks, we were back at OPTAG for some more public order training prior to assuming the role of Public Order Battalion 1 for the summer marching season. Much to the disappointment of the soldiers that had trained very hard, we did not deploy.

The remainder of July, up to block leave, was taken up by an attempt to bring the Battalion back together after a very fragmented nine months. We played a lot of sport and were honoured by the presence of the Colonel of the Regiment at our Talavera Day Parade. He will be relieved to hear that, although critical of his own approach and landing, it was substantially more attractive than that of Gen Delves some two months later! The weather was kind to us and we had an excellent Regimental Day with sport, entertainment, a little drill and some well-deserved operational award and LS and GC presentations. It gave me special pleasure to see the award of MBEs in the Queen's Birthday Honours List to Maj Alf Todd and Cpl (now Sgt) David Jones. The one exception to our quiet summer was for the Recce Platoon who enjoyed conducting their numbers cadre in Belize. This is covered in a separate article.

After a major change of field officers, we restarted in September with an effort to regain our conventional skills. Maj Dennis Vincent joined as 2IC and Majs Simon Etherington, John Wright and Richard Lyne as OCs A, B and C Companies. Much of our effort was expended on retraining the support weapons platoons with Milan, mortar and sniper cadres with continuation training for the Recce Platoon.

As you will read in later articles, we have also been able to play plenty of sport and to run some Tewts and a CPX to revitalise our conventional skills. This period has culminated in a very exacting inter-platoon competition held on Sennybridge Training Area that saw 11 platoons (the Mortar Platoon was live firing at the time) work their way round 10 stands. A little spice was added by the fact that no-one actually knew where or when they would finish. All the platoons knew was that it would last around 48 hours. In the end, we had some traditional Welsh weather that ensured that most of the teams took between 55 and 60 hours. The Recce Platoon took the accolades with 6 Platoon (Drums) then 9 Platoon placed second and third but everyone who completed the course can be proud of what

they achieved, as it was extremely demanding.

The period up to Christmas sees us spread to the four winds again. We are now UK Standby Battalion and have major RAAT commitments in support of the Cambrian Patrol March, NIBAT IV training for 3 Para, replacing the Gurkha Demo Company at Brecon and supporting School of Infantry exercises. The pace really doesn't slacken much. I hope that next year, when we move into a Light Brigade, along with three other battalions, that we will be able to spread the tasks to fit our major commitments better than hitherto, as being one of only two battalions in a Regional Division gives little flexibility. With a bit of luck, you will read of this change in the June 2002 edition along with the escapades of A and C Company Groups in Belize.

Our manning levels, although now dipping slightly below the established figures, are well on the road to a surplus with over 60 soldiers recruited into training between 1 April and 1 October. Well done to all of you who work in the AFCOs and AYT's.

This will also be my final *Castle* article as Commanding Officer so I would like to close by thanking all of those who have helped me over my tenure in command. It has been an honour and a privilege to work with such a committed group of people and the quality, enthusiasm and dedication of the vast majority of our officers and soldiers remains second to none. This last year, in particular, has not been an easy one as we have been continually hit by short notice commitments and have borne a heavy burden of RAAT. In most cases this is indicative of the wider trend in a very busy Army but in some cases, the result of amateur planning. The Poachers have risen to every challenge and will, I am sure, continue to do so. To all Poachers

reading this article, I wish the very best of luck and urge you to continue to uphold the very fine reputation that the Battalion has.

Poachers 'Down Under' - Fair Dinkum

Sgt Donovan writes:

B (Leicestershire) Company deployed to Rype Village in mid-March to play civpop for 1 Coldstream Guards, it will be a time for me to remember. I was approached by the OC, Maj Nottingham, and told that, from a cast of many thousands of people, I had been chosen to represent the Poachers in Australia on Exercise Long Look. Eventually, after a couple of days of constant smiling and letting everyone in the company know where I was off to, I had to get on top of all the admin requirements that were needed for my exchange.

The long-awaited day came. Lt Newmarch (who was the lucky officer going on Long Look), and I were taken to Brize Norton and, after a series of deployment briefs and a night in the bar to get to know people, I was boarding the plane on 16 May ready for my trip Down Under.

After a couple of stops en route, we eventually landed in Brisbane. The reception party was excellent, and nothing was too much trouble. We attended a BBW where we had the opportunity to meet exchange personnel from the RAR, brief them on our parent units and the UK, and share a beer or 10.

On 21 May the Long Look contingent split and we went our separate ways to our host units. I was destined for 1st Battalion 1 RAR, based in Townsville, North Queensland. This was also the home of 3 Brigade. Due to the Battalion being on their POTL from East Timor, I found myself working with a



Sgt Donovan outside 1 RAR Battalion lines.

The Poachers

small rear party with plenty of sports and trips. A good chance for acclimatisation, and for ground orientation.

Halfway through June, I received a fax from the Adjutant telling me that I had been promoted to sergeant as of 30 June. I was made up by the Commanding Officer 1 RAR in front of the whole Battalion and then posted to their training platoon as the platoon sergeant. In Australia, all recruits who join the Battalion undergo a four-week training programme. This covers a variety of weapons training, fieldcraft, Battalion history and fitness.

In between the training I found time to go out on exercise (Bush), with Alpha Company for a week. I taught a few OBUA lessons for sub-units in 1 RAR and for other units in the Brigade. On the ranges I had the opportunity to fire the F88 Steyer and F89 Minimi. A key priority for the Battalion at this stage of the year is sport. I managed to get involved with 1 RAR soccer and have plenty of good memories of 'sporties parade' every Thursday afternoon.

As the end of my tour gets closer, I'm getting plenty of opportunity to get around and see a bit more of the country. So far I've visited 14 different places up and down the east coast. I would like to say to anyone out there - if you ever get the chance to go on Exercise Long Look, then grab it. The way I have been hosted by 1 RAR has been excellent, I have met many good Aussies and will endeavour to keep in touch with them and to maintain the Royal Anglian and 1 RAR connection. Good luck to the Big Blue One!

Exercise Corse Dragon

Lt JP Delf writes:

Early September saw a welcome elongation of summer sun for soldiers of B Company, with an adventure training expedition to the French island of Corsica on Exercise Corse Dragon. The aim of the exercise was to walk selected parts of the Grande Route 20. The 'GRs', as they are known in the trekking community, are a series of hill and mountain walking routes across Europe. The GR20 is, perhaps, the most famous consisting of 110km of paths which wind through varied terrain from wooded hills to rocky mountains.

The start of the expedition began with an overnight crossing from Dover to Calais followed by a minibus trip to Nice - a total journey of over 15 hours by land and sea! Arrival in Corsica saw the expedition head straight for the hills to the small hamlet of Vizzavona where the walking would begin. Despite the expedition leader, Lt Delf's, disturbingly poor grasp of the French language (Pte Eastwood only revealing he had quite good grades in French after his platoon commander had succeeded in embarrassing himself...) supplies were bought and camp set up. The following three days saw some arduous hill walking north of Vizzavona to a height 20 times that of Ben Nevis. The party sought shelter in the

refuges that dot the GR20 route eating meals of ravioli and all day breakfasts to keep up their energy levels. Overall the weather was good - apart from the attempted ascent of Mt Ordo which took place amid a spectacular thunderstorm. After the storm, the group was informed by smiling natives that this was the first rain in four months. Wet, bedraggled, and with tired feet, our intrepid group of explorers retired to the small resort of Calvi to sample the local beverages, make a frantic bid to top up their tans, and generally (particularly in Pte Newbury's case) pose about on the beach.

With time running short and no indication that Pte Newbury's ardent impressions of Baywatch were to achieve much, the group made their return through France to Calais - an event which served to highlight Lt Delf's complete inability to change a flat tyre (I was checking the route!). Overall the expedition was a great success and enjoyed by all, though it seemed to do little to endear Pte Smith to the driving of the French.

Battalion Tewt Week

Capt AF Hawley writes:

Following a prolonged period on the NIBAT roster, it is fair to say that commanders at all levels have allowed their grasp of conventional operations to slacken. Only those soldiers - whether newly arrived platoon commanders, or freshly qualified section and platoon sergeants - who have recently returned from the bosom of Warminster or Brecon, could be said to be current, or at least recently practised. Aiming to put this right, the minds of commanders at all levels were effectively 'put in for a service' courtesy of Tewt Week, which ran from 17-20 September.

The four days were divided between defensive operations, offensive operations, transitional operations and logistics. Each morning began with a central presentation by one of the company commanders,

followed by deployment onto 'the ground' - an area of private land overlooking the western approaches to the Severn River crossings. Commanders at platoon and section level were then divided between the company commanders, and each group included support weapon specialists. Each group was taken through the estimate for the respective operation, based on the situation they had been given the night before, and the ground they overlooked during the day.

During the estimate, the support weapon specialists educated the rifle company soldiers on their capabilities, while the rifle companies had the opportunity to explain their needs to the logistic gurus. On completion of the estimate, each group formulated a plan, and then attempted to walk through their operation, discussing potential strengths and weaknesses of solution as they went. The newer platoon and section commanders contributed much to the older and bolder on experiences with the 2010 orbat, and the application of manoeuvre support. Each night homework was set in the way of writing of orders.

Much was 'reminded and revised' during the week, and a great deal learned for the first time. All commanders are looking forward to Belize and the opportunity to exercise tactically with their troops.

Inter-Platoon Competition 14-19 October

The inter-platoon competition was designed to replicate the Cambrian Patrol. The aim was to mount a testing conventional exercise to put platoons through their paces, and at the same time have a preparation exercise for Cambrian Patrol 2001. The concept saw platoons deployed for 48 hours each with 11 competing platoons. The exercise had 13 different stands at which the platoons had to perform.



Battalion Tewt - OC B Company (Maj Wright) and his CSM (WO2 Bredin) frame a warning order.

The Poachers



Inter-platoon competition - Milan Platoon overlooking the enemy position.

The stands included orders and kit inspection, CTR, patrol reports, first aid, NBC, platoon quick battle orders, a river crossing, reaction to a vehicle ambush, a quick attack, a platoon advance to contact and a through debrief. All the stands were scored and those scores fed to the Signals Platoon team at EXCON who kept control of the safety net.

The exercise was a big endeavour for a Battalion to stage from within its own resources. As a result some outside help was sought. To this end special thanks should go to the four volunteers who came down from the East of England Regiment to support us. They were Cpl Pugh, Cpl Finlay, LCpl Cooke and Pte Siddle. In addition to this there were a number of departments in the G4 world, both internally and externally to the Battalion, which called in favours and went to various unknown corners to find what was required to make the competition work. All of these departments require a special word of thanks from the competitors and BHQ for ensuring that the competition worked. Of these efforts one of the most tireless must have been that of CSgt Colyer for his role as the CQMS to the exercise, particularly when the Battalion had so many other commitments going on and difficulties in managing the limited resources of equipment available to them.

From all this admin and competitive mayhem came an eventual winner. In 2001 this emerged as the Recce Platoon under Capt Chris Davies and CSgt Morson. Second place went to 6 (Drums) Platoon under Drum Major Huggins and Sgt Townsend and third to 9 Platoon under Lt Simon Roberts and Sgt Waghorn.

Exercise Mulanje Gold

Lt JP Downes writes:

It was during a typically rainy day in Northern Ireland that I received a phone call from my OC: 'How do you fancy going to Malawi with Southampton UOTC as a JSME(LS) instructor?' he asked. After carefully thinking it through (for about 10 seconds) I said yes.

Exercise Mulanje Gold was a 21-day adventure training exercise with three separate phases. Phase one was a trekking phase on the Mulanje Massif in the south of Malawi for nine days. Phase two was a five-day MACC task in Blantyre hospital. The final phase was R and R.

The agenda was diverse, allowing all participants an educational and humbling insight into the world's fourth poorest country, and one that is relatively untouched by tourism.

During phase one, we trekked for nine days along the Mulanje Massif. The Massif rises steeply and suddenly from an undulating plain in the south of the country. The stunning scenery, plus easy access, clearly marked paths and a series of well-maintained huts, make Mulanje one of the finest trekking areas in Africa.

The group then returned to Blantyre, 50km to the north of Mulanje for a couple of days' rest before starting work in Blantyre District Hospital. Cleaning out rat-infested wards and helping to sort out medical stores and equipment was quite a draining experience. It provided an opportunity to meet the real people of Africa and be humbled by how people can be very happy with so little.

The final phase of the exercise was a

relaxing and fitting end to an outstanding exercise. Lionwide National Park only has one safari lodge in an almost deserted setting, which proves - for me at least - why Africa is the most beautiful continent on the planet. Seeing rhinos, elephants, and lions in their natural environment is always an experience that leaves you breathless.

Lake Malawi (one of the Great Rift Valley lakes) was the final part of the trip, allowing for a few days' rest prior to returning to the UK.

For anyone considering an adventure training exercise, Malawi is definitely worth exploring.

Inter-Company Competitions

LCpl Turnell writes:

Prior to summer leave the Battalion competed in a number of inter-company competitions.

The inter-company Superstars competition took place in the gymnasium at Beachley Barracks. This was a tight competition which was scored as an individual and a team event. The winners of the team competition were A Company and the runners-up B Company. The winner of the individual prize was Capt Barry. Pte Martin of B Company was second, with Pte Antoni from C Company a close third.

The inter-company modern triathlon competition (the Olympic modern triathlon but without riding and fencing) was co-ordinated by Maj Hunter. This involved a 400m swim followed by a 25m range shoot, then a 4km run. The swim was conducted at Chepstow leisure centre. After this event it

The Poachers



The winning D (Sp) Company six-a-side team.

was clear that it would be a contest between the following for first place: Lt Harris, Maj Woodisse and Maj Hunter - and only one person could be the victor. Lt Harris took the crown, with Maj Woodisse runner-up and third place taken by Maj Hunter. HQ and C Companies tied for first place.

The tug-of-war event took place on Talavera Day. It was a hot summer's day, so increasing the number of spectators watching the event, but adding to the strain for the competitors. The competition became a battle between D Company - led by WO2 Penn - and HQ Company, under the

command of WO2 Beswick. The final pulls were close, but D Company's better preparation paid off and they were rightly awarded first place, with HQ Company runners-up.

The cricket final was contested between B Company and HQ Company. B Company batted first and despite an early collapse made a creditable score mainly due to the batting skills of LCpl Johnson.

The wickets of HQ Company fell at frequent intervals with far too few runs being scored. B Company ran out comfortable winners with the OC, Maj Nottingham,

being awarded the trophy.

In the volleyball competition D Company easily took first place with HQ Company narrowly being awarded the runners-up spot.

On the first Friday back after summer block leave, companies competed in the six-a-side football competition. Two teams from each company played in two leagues in the morning before the winners and runners-up played off in the semi-finals. D Company and C Company eventually contested the final, with D Company proving to be too strong for a tired looking C Company, running out winners by three goals to one.



LCpl Bissell (A Company) during the triathlon.



Maj Woodisse (A Company) on the final leg of the triathlon.

The Poachers



Members of A Company on GR20.

Exercise Bonaparte Dragon - GR20 Corsica

Lt JD Inch writes:

Bonaparte Dragon was an A Company expedition to the mountains of Corsica. We aimed to walk the length of the island along the Grand Randonnee 20 (GR20), a high level trek covering 120 miles in 14 stages. The ambitious concept was to complete this in 10 days, with two days free for the beaches of Calvi. The team consisted of Lt Inch, Lt Downes, Cpl Sutherland and Ptes Richmond, Smith, Hickey, Parker and Wilson.

The team of eight arrived at the start point in Calenzana aware that a demanding trek lay ahead. Day one proved just how demanding as the slopes became steeper, the paths rockier and the sun hotter. The walking expedition had become a scrambling expedition.

We spent the nights camping beside, and once or twice sleeping inside, the refuges located at the end of each stage. These provided us with our water and shelter when needed, but more crucially with chocolate, local wine and cheese. The chosen route therefore was demanding by day but reasonably luxurious by night.

Days two to four were the most awe-inspiring on the route, with the magnificent Cirque de Solitude providing a real test of courage for those less suited to exposed heights. Fortunately, some of the areas of bare rock were equipped with chains or ladders to give a bit of extra support. We also deviated from the GR20 to tackle Monte Cinto, Corsica's highest peak, but wet rocks

underfoot and lightning overhead stopped us in the early stages.

After these five days, it was clear that we weren't moving quickly enough to complete the route in 10 days so decided to stop at Vizzavona. Unfortunately, another day of electrical storms stopped us from clearing one of the higher passes so we had to opt for a lower level route and left the GR20. By the end of the 10-day period, we ended up in Corte having achieved 10 good days of mountain walking, but not all on the GR20 as planned. We then had a couple of days in the picturesque but slightly quiet resort at Calvi before flying back to Chepstow.

Mortar Platoon Cadre

CSgt Limb, Mortar Platoon 2IC, writes: The cadre formed up with 18 new recruits. They were all ready to try their hand at mortaring, however it was hard to work out who had volunteered, and who had been volunteered. The cadre began in camp with a week of very intense classroom work, and the platoon was glad to welcome back Cpl Booth and Cpl Towler from their recent posting as this gave us two fresh instructors. The second week began to put in to practice what had been learned in the classrooms, and saw the cadre deploy on to Carwent Training area for a week, where the drills began to sink in.

Weeks three and four saw the platoon deploy to SPTA ready for the live firing phase. At the end of week three the cadre fired the first part one shoot; there were a few nervous people about! The shoot went well, with half the cadre on the mortar line and the remainder in the observation post



Sgt Curtis demonstrates.

practising map-reading and fire missions. On the day there was some very good drills and shooting.

Week four saw the continuation of live firing with 500 HE, 190 WP and 88 illum rounds fired. The week started with the continuation of the part one shoot; by the Tuesday the cadre was firing on fire plans and making good progress. In particular, they began to use HE and WP in the fire plans to good effect, enabling MFCs to practise their corrections.

The Poachers

Later that day illum was fired, with the MFC sending his orders to the mortar line. This shook out some cobwebs, and the end result was a very effective illum plan.

Towards the end of the week the platoon deployed out by foot and the cadre began to realise that carrying all the mortar kit is hard work. They deployed into a mortar line and began to work on the MFC's fire plan. When the position had been successfully neutralised, the mortar line came under bombardment and redeployed. Once in position they then came under contact from dismounted troops and had to use their infantry skills to fend off the attack.

On the whole the cadre was a success. The platoon members are now qualified, and are looking forward to the forthcoming RAAT tasks. The platoon would like to wish Sgt Mick Baker all the best for the future as he is leaving the Army after 22 years and would like to thank him for all his hard work on behalf of the platoon.

Exercise Poachers' Pride, Belize

Capt ACD Davies writes:

Petrol bombs, bricks and plastic bullets, coupled with blinding scratched visors and shields, while trapped down dark alleyways for hours on end - the offer just didn't sound that attractive. However, the possibility of completing some dedicated, hard and rewarding training in the Caribbean did. Extracted from the Northern Ireland orbit, a motley crew of soldiers from throughout the Battalion embarked on the first light role reconnaissance cadre for over 10 years.

On arrival in Belize the weather was a stark contrast to that experienced within the

freezing, soaked peninsula of Beachley, Chepstow. Distant, warm memories of Cyprus were in our minds as we disembarked the RAF VC10 and immediately began sweating. Cpl Oldenburg, a member of the Recce Platoon, who had become native Belizean during his attachment to BATSUB (British Army Training Unit Belize), met us at the airport. 'Would he remember us?' we all wondered. The first week in Belize was spent acclimatising to the unpredictable weather patterns and building on the foundation reconnaissance skills. BATSUB Headquarters is located near the airport in Belize City. Previously named 'Airport Camp', it has been the seat of the British Army in Belize for many years and therefore enjoyed by numerous battalions completing tours of varying lengths.

The majority of the cadre was conducted in the mountainous region of the Baldy Beacons. The training area was vast and surrounded by dense jungle creeping up its steep sides. Throughout the cadre, the students completed early morning fitness training, followed by numerous lessons on the tactics and methods of operating as part of a reconnaissance platoon. New skills were learned daily and put into practice during field exercises or fieldcraft periods. The majority of firing was live, concentrating initially with four-man team contact drills and casualty evacuation procedures. Among the cadre directing staff, we were lucky to have dedicated medical, signals, and assault pioneer instructors who were invaluable and added much to the cadre.

The content of the cadre was progressive, as well as intensive, and concentrated on

the different operations of war. Due to the demands of battalion-level reconnaissance operations, all students required a sound knowledge of what the Battalion does in the 'bigger picture' and how brigade-level operations are conducted. The amount of theory taught on the cadre often resulted in some pretty sore heads and intense stares.

The cadre was completed with a short exercise, which involved a 36-hour infiltration, followed by a CTR onto an enemy position. Having only had a few hours to recover from a previous defensive exercise, the students were all fairly tired and consequently displaying their true colours. After gathering suitable information on the enemy and their position, the exercise company commander was briefed on the varying options for attack. The best plan was chosen and initiated at dawn by a platoon-level raid. The swift attack was supported by GPMG fire and simulated mortars. Prior to withdrawing from the enemy position, Pte Hartsthorpe strapped four sticks of plastic explosives to the main enemy building, and initiated the strike. While withdrawing to a Platoon RV, the enemy position was completely destroyed.

For the students, the cadre was over. They will now form what should be the lead platoon in the Battalion. However, the experience of Belize had much more to offer. A weekend in the jungle on a survival course was first on the menu, where a pig and various other delights were enjoyed under the rainy canopy. During the long journey back to Price Barracks the soldiers started to focus on their shorts and sunglasses as the last stage of the cadre was R and R. Sea fishing, sunbathing, zoo visits, mini-holidays on local islands and many other attractions kept everyone busy until the RAF arrived to take us home.

A Quick Glimpse

LCpl Boddington,

Recce Cadre Student, writes:

Cast off to a faraway land, I found myself isolated and unsure. My latest adventure was based around a light role reconnaissance cadre in Belize. The Caribbean stirred distant memories of past explorations and my mind was excited at the potential challenge. I invite you to read an extract from my diary, written during a period of hardship and grief:

My callsign was only three kilometres from our objective, a rendezvous point, where we were due to meet the remainder of the platoon and receive coded CTR orders over. We only had four hours left, which may seem like plenty of time, but the Belizean terrain consumed time at the same rate as it consumed our energy.

Contouring around the endless hills to avoid detection from the enemy, I was beginning to suffer déjà-vu. We moved down a steep slope, feet burning, into a secondary jungle and hacked our way through a stream after finding a crossing point. A slow scramble up the reverse slope on all fours, with feet slipping under the



Pte Hartsthorpe prepares to destroy enemy position in the jungle.

The Poachers



LCpl Squibb delivers orders.

weight of our awkward bergens, we continued until we reached the top, prior to heading straight back down the other side and around. 'The enemy had better be worth all this effort,' I thought.

My fellow adventurers were a mixed bunch. Some had been in the job for a while, while others had grafted away in rifle companies. After experiencing a progressive and intense period of training, we were all getting on pretty well. Each individual's idiosyncrasies were known, which always ensured good banter and ridicule to keep morale high. Getting lost on navigational exercises or being behind on runs was soon a thing of the past. We were trained in new aspects of fieldcraft, HF radios and realistic first aid training.

The build-up exercises we went on mainly practised light role reconnaissance operations. We did lots of sneaking around on our bellies, sketching enemy objectives and working out how best to attack them. Our initial efforts at constructing observation posts were pretty poor, as numerous points were always picked up about them. However, as time went on, we got better and even managed to outwit the directing staff on one occasion. The final exercise in Belize was short and sharp. However, it was closely followed by a period of R and R in absolute bliss and tranquillity. As we finally left the country, on our way back to rainy cold England, we all thought to ourselves how much we would miss the country - at least until January 2002 that is!

Milan Live Firing - The Rocket Men

*Capt STG Otter,
OC Milan Platoon, writes:*

The culmination of the five-week Milan reinforcement cadre was the live firing phase. The Battalion is equipped with 12 Milan posts which means that ordinarily the Milan Platoon is allocated 12 live missiles per annum. The principal aim of the live firing was to ensure that the newly-trained members of the platoon had the opportunity to fire the Milan system under realistic and testing conditions.

Four Milan detachments, led by qualified detachment commanders, tackled the insertion route of 10km across Salisbury Plain. Once they had received the initial battle picture they were released at half hour intervals. Each detachment had to carry two Milan posts and four missiles, in addition to their CEFO. Each detachment was given a two-and-a-half hour target time to complete the insertion. Penalty points were awarded if a team overran this time. During the insertion all members of the detachments had to tackle two stands. The first being AFV recognition, and the second ammunition pre-firing checks.

Prior to arrival at the firing point each detachment was issued with an updated battle picture. Included within this was an increase to the NBC state which required all exercising troops to adopt Dress State Three Romeo.

All firers were then told to move rapidly but tactically up to the firing point. The intention was to conduct all firings using MIRA and a thermal target at a range of 800m. This was achieved for the first detachment. Unfortunately, the elements soon conspired against us and wrecked the



A four-man recce team in Belize using an improvised stretcher for Casevac.

The Poachers

Saab target, reducing it to the size of something akin to a Mini Metro. By a process of elimination, subsequent firers engaged a static target at a range of 1,850m (an old tank which the weather was unable to destroy). All firings were recorded on video and a cool-headed but eagle-eyed Cpl Symon made the final decision if there was disagreement as to the accuracy of each firer.

Out of the 12 missiles fired 11 hit the target, 10 of which were 'K' kills. The accuracy shown by the firers experiencing their 'baptism of fire' was truly impressive. In a close-run competition, Cpl Knowle's detachment were the victors beating Cpl Wood's by a nose.

In conclusion, the feedback from the newly-trained soldiers was that the day had been challenging and realistic but enjoyable. In an ideal world each individual would have exposure to this type of live firing training on a frequent basis. Unfortunately, it is likely that they will have to content themselves with the simulator, which although extremely useful, is no substitute for the real thing.

Exercise Inca Dragon

Lt RJ McNeil writes:

Having spent a month in Battalion, I thought it was about time to organise some adventure training - destination Peru. The aim was to conduct nine to 10 days' arduous trekking



White water rafting on the Rio Apurimac.

in the Andes, finishing at the ancient Inca city of Machu Picchu. The concept of the expedition was further inspired by a recce conducted as part of an Army Air Corps trip. The team of 13 was made up of members of A, B, C, and D Companies with B Company clerk (AGC) attached. For some it was their first experience of trekking and

the Andes promised to provide the perfect setting.

We set off on 22 August and flew to Lima, and then on to Cusco - our base for the next three weeks. The first four days were set aside for acclimatisation and administration. Considering that Cusco is 3,400m above sea level, all members coped very well with the altitude. Organising the trek went relatively smoothly but I felt it was important to steer away from the many packaged treks on offer in Cusco. The criteria for the trek caused some amusement within the trekking industry who thought we were quite clearly mad to carry all our own kit for nine days in the mountains with the bare minimum of assistance from porters. However, everything was finally in place and we set off on an emotional bus ride deep into the Andes to our start point, a remote farm near Mollepata.

The following day we began the trek up to the Mt Salcantay Pass. The first two days proved to be quite emotional, but the backdrop was inspiring and the team held together well. We continued in the shadow of the mighty Mt Salcantay rising 6,200m to our front. This induced mixed feelings, as we all knew that we had to cross a pass close to 5,000m in order to continue the trek.

The route I had planned to follow had to be changed on arrival in Peru. The pass we intended to cross was closed due to the descending snowline so I designed a new route with the help of our guide. The new route was rarely walked by trekkers and was far more remote than the 'Inca Trails' I had covered on my recce. On arrival at the base of Mt Salcantay I was relieved to discover that our pass was open and just below the snowline, so we pushed on and crossed the pass. Luckily no members of the expedition suffered any serious adverse effects due to the altitude and we soon descended into the Amazonian cloud forest. The scenery from here to Machu Picchu



Just having crossed the Mt Salcantay Pass (4,800m).

The Poachers

changed daily and we soon found ourselves in warmer climes with hot springs to keep us clean and snakes and spiders to keep us on our guard.

Throughout the trek we covered about 90km with a total ascent of around 4,000m, which all members coped with well. On the ninth day we reached Machu Picchu and immersed ourselves in the Inca cultural experience. It is a truly fascinating place unlike any we had ever been to. Our final ascent was from Machu Picchu up an adjacent peak affording us an awe-inspiring view of the Sacred Valley, the heart of what was the Inca Empire and for us the end of a memorable trek.

On returning to Cusco we began the R and R phase that consisted of paragliding, mountain biking and three days' white-water rafting on the Apurimac. The rafting will remain with all of us for a while as the grade five rapids did their best to claim us.

As we were preparing to leave Cusco the terrorist attack on the United States took place. This meant that we could not leave Peru as our ticket took us back to UK via New York. We established camp in Lima and I set about trying to get us home. We quickly received support from the Battalion and the British Embassy, but had to wait until the flights resumed back to UK. We spent an extra week in Lima and amused ourselves by learning to surf in the Pacific Ocean - not a bad way to end a superb trip.

Exercise Bermudan Drummer

On 10 September, 16 members of the Corps of Drums (6 Platoon B Company, 2nd Battalion), set off on Exercise Bermudan Drummer. The main purpose of the visit was to train and perform with the Bermudan Regiment Band and Drums. It was also an opportunity to complete some adventure

training in what is a very beautiful and hot setting.

On arrival in Bermuda we were instantly hit by the heat and humidity, but luckily we had missed a tornado that had passed earlier in the day. After a short trip we arrived at Warwick Camp - the home of the Bermudan Regiment.

Our first event was Harbour Nights, on Front Street, Hamilton. This event is held every week during the tourist season (April-October), in front of all the tourists, locals, and cruise liners. The event consisted of the Corps of Drums putting on a show, followed by local acts and bands. Judging by the applause we were well appreciated.

The high point of the exercise was the Beating Retreat, held at St George's, which was the capital of the islands until 1815. The line-up was the Bermudan Regiment Band and Drums, the Bermudan Islands Pipe Band and ourselves. With only a night's practice (without the Pipe Band), we managed to put on an excellent display which was watched by the Premier of Bermuda (Jenneifer Smith), and Maj Lamb of the Bermuda Regiment, who took the salute. The whole evening was a success, with the Americans especially pleased with the tribute to America played by the Bermudan Regiment Band and Drums.

After the event we were hosted in brilliant fashion by the Bermudan Regiment Band and Drums who showed us how to make a visiting unit feel welcome and relaxed. The only downside to the events was that three were cancelled - one due to rain and two to the attacks on America.

During the 10 days we were lucky enough to take part in a lot of sport, fitness, and adventure training. After the first morning of splashing around and playing football on the pink beaches, all members of the platoon were asking for a second visit. The only

nervous point was being told not to go night swimming in case of sharks! However, the sea also offered hours of activities, ranging from swimming to scuba diving. The platoon also hired mopeds to get around the island - which led instantly to two cases of road rash.

The island also has the widest range of other adventure training activities such as scuba diving, fishing, and sailing, but these are often expensive. The Drums also visited the capital, Hamilton and talked to the tourists. However, we were not impressed with paying £5.50 for a pint of Fosters!

During the whole visit, the Corps of Drums were hosted by Maj B Dill, Director of Music, who did an excellent job of looking after us with the help of Capt Eve, the QM. The whole exercise could not have taken place without the kind permission of the Commanding Officer of the Bermuda Regiment, Lt Col Gibbons, and of the Bermuda government. Help and guidance were provided by Maj Lucas and WO2 Marsh Royal Anglian - both attached to the Bermuda Regiment.

Overall it was a highly successful exercise which was without doubt the high point of the year. It will be long remembered by those who took part.

Gibraltar Sub Aqua

Cpl Hugill writes:

Exercise Barbury Bluebell, organised by 1 RHA from Tidworth Garrison, was designed to upgrade divers to their next level within BSAC (British Sub Aqua Club); fortunately for myself they had no advanced instructor to complete any training. With Talavera Day approaching and the prospect of endless days of drill practice with the RSM, I received a phone call from Maj Saunders, asking me if I was interested in two weeks' diving in Gibraltar with 1 RHA.



Beating retreat rehearsal with the Bermuda Regt Band and Drums.

The Poachers

With only a few days to pack and update my medical, it was all systems go from the wife and the Battalion. Having spoken to 1 RHA, I found out that I was to fly out a day earlier than the rest of the team so that I could take over the equipment and boats.

The flight out from Heathrow at 0415 on 22 July passed off smoothly and I was surprised to find three other divers from the expedition on the same flight. Soon we were approaching the famous Rock of Gibraltar, which looked small from the air. Within hours of landing I had to make my way to 4 Docks, HMS Rooke to sign and account for the equipment and boats; the only problem was that we had no transport or directions. The local Gibraltarians' directions all seemed to be 200m then left; with an island that was 1.5km long, we had already walked about 4km only to find the dock was shut for the day. The only option left was to check out the town and take some photographs.

Diving day one kicked off with shake-out dives to 6m max, and getting to meet the other nine expedition members. After sorting out everyone's buoyancy - with one member carrying 32lb in weights, it was time to revisit the town and establish a midway meeting point for the expedition.

The diving was now in full swing, and we were completing two dives a day to various depths to enable a slow build-up of training and accustomisation to depth. Some of the wrecks that we dived on in the first week were small pilot boats in shallow depth, and were ideal for training later when everyone had qualified.

The second week now had all the team trained up to sports diver, which meant that we could enjoy less restricted diving, and visit some of the more challenging dive sites such as Jubilee Shoals - which is a reef in the middle of the Gibraltar Straits where the Atlantic meets the Mediterranean. The charts showed a reef at 20m dropping to a



Cpl Hugill.

bottomless abyss. By judging the tidal flow charts and a little local knowledge, we were soon peering off the reef into Poseidon's kingdom and beyond.

The last dive was left to the expedition to choose. The decision was taken to dive once more at Jubilee Shoals and peer into the dark abyss and dream of mermaids or catch a glimpse of Davy Jones' locker.

With the expedition drawing to a close, we arranged a tour of the military tunnels in the Rock that are still used today for tunnel warfare training. We also found to our dismay that if we had asked, we could have dived some of the caves and wells within the Rock that have only been seen by a select handful - maybe next year.

With a few farewells and presentations we booked a top table at Raffles, and invited our Naval tour guide for a social. We plan to investigate the rocks and caves within Gibraltar Rock next year.



Cpl Hugill, with bouffant still in tact!

Inter-Company Boxing 2001

WO2 RQMS Heycock writes:

After last year's successful boxing season, in which the Poachers (for the second year running) managed to reach the Inter-Unit Novice Grade 3 semi-finals, the Battalion was once again bitten by the boxing bug. B Company had taken the honours in recent years, but there was a great deal of rivalry and expectation between the rifle companies for this season's Inter-Company Boxing Competition.

The boxing got off to a great start with some excellent semi-finals fights. The fight of the semi-finals was the light-middleweight rematch between Pte Macdonald (C Company) and Cpl Morgan (A Company), during which both boxers showed power, aggression, and determination. Cpl Morgan eventually managed to stop Pte Macdonald with a series of powerful combinations in round three reversing the decision from their previous encounter.

After the semi-final bouts were completed the competition could not have been closer, with the three rifle companies each having six boxers through to the finals and with only one point between them.

The finals got off to an explosive start with Pte Allatt (B Company) at bantamweight producing a combination of aggression determination and punching power to stop his opponent in the first round. At featherweight Pte Pegg (A Company) won a very close fight against Pte Thompkins (B Company) on points after a hard-fought three-round contest.

Next in, at lightweight, Ptes Davis (B Company) and LCpl Bergwin (A Company) produced a thrilling contest with both boxers receiving standing counts. Pte Davis eventually won a very close points decision by a majority. Before the break Pte Reid (B Company) at light-welterweight stopped his opponent with a devastating boxing performance.

Following the break Cpl Morgan (A Company) and Pte Conroy (B Company) produced an excellent three-round contest during which both boxers showed power, aggression and determination, combined with boxing skills. Pte Conroy eventually won. At middleweight Pte Martin (B Company) proved to be too clever for Pte Hilton winning on points in a hard-fought contest. Next, at light-heavy, Pte Rook (C Company) beat Pte Haynes (A Company) on points after three close rounds. At heavyweight Pte Fenton (C Company) put in a solid boxing performance to beat Pte Strong (A Company) on points. The final fight of the night at welterweight was between Pte Antoni (C Company) and Pte Jackson (B Company). Pte Antoni showed some clever footwork and quick accurate punching to hold at bay the aggressive Pte Jackson. The unanimous points decision going to Pte Antoni.

After nine excellent contests, during which every fighter showed determination and

The Poachers



Light heavy. Pte Haynes (left) vs Pte Rook.

effort, B Company, coached by Cpl Hardy, became the Inter-Company Boxing Champions 2001 with C Company beating A Company to the runners-up position by winning the final three bouts. The trophy

for best loser went to Cpl Morgan (A Company) at light-middleweight and Pte Reid (B Company) was presented with the trophy for best boxer for his devastating performance at light-welterweight.

There is undoubtedly some good new talent in the Battalion team this year and we look forward to the first round of the Army Novice Competition on 13 December, when we are boxing 9 Sup Regt RLC.



B Company Inter-Company Boxing Champions.

The Poachers



Talavera Day - the Colonel of the Regiment Inspects A Company.

Talavera Day 2001

Capt Romilly writes:

Talavera Day 2001 was set up to be an open day for the families of those in the Battalion. In addition to this, the plan saw a Battalion march past and Colours parade with an inspection being carried out by the Colonel of the Regiment. To achieve this each company was tasked to produce a number of stands and to prepare for the influx of families and friends to the sports pitches immediately outside the camp. This was then balanced with an exciting programme of drill to ensure that the Battalion was ready for its big day on parade.

The day started with the parade, which was closed to the general public. Only families of the Battalion and invited guests were able to attend. As a whole the parade went exceedingly well as the pictures illustrate.

After the parade the majority of people moved over to the day's real entertainment which was the open day and the final of the inter-company cricket competition. The amount of work that had gone into the production of the stands was apparent in all cases. This effort, coupled with the good weather on the day, ensured that all the

CQMS had a profitable day, and that by the end of the day there were a few personalities from around Battalion who looked as though the sun had got the better of them.

JWI Course

Lt JD Inch writes:

Lt Roberts, 2Lt Inch, Sgt Percival, Cpl Penrose, and LCpls Gillespie, Spray, Hardy and MacTavish attended JWIC 1/01 in June and July. The course takes place in the Jungle Warfare Wing at Medicina Lines, Seria - a small Brunei oil town. The course was attended by 64 students most of whom were infantry, but with a few gunners and engineers. The Poachers provided the largest contingent apart from 1 RGR, which has the benefit of living just around the corner.

The course builds from the individual and section skills, through to platoon and company operations in the second half. The initial few days are spent acclimatising, and the first lessons take place in an air-conditioned lecture theatre.

The first foray into the jungle is a five-day exercise in a jungle school in an area of secondary/fringe jungle. This provided a useful introduction to the basics of administering yourself in the unique jungle environment. Subjects covered at this stage

included tracking, the use of dogs, CTR, and patrol SOPs.

The range package ran throughout the course, and for most people was the highlight. This progressed from individual contact drills in open country to section contact drills in close country. It culminated in live platoon camp attacks and ambushes. The background activities were also excellent value with a large emphasis on blowing things up.

The two major exercises on the course were the Individual and Section Skills Phase (ISP) which lasted nine days, and the platoon and company-level final exercise which lasted 15 days.

The final exercise covered the whole spectrum of operations taught on the course including boat operations, river crossings, camp attacks, ambushes, defence and the company firm base. This was the only experience of a protracted tactical period in the jungle. Our only reprieve was that the swamp march took place on relatively firm ground due to the unusually rain-free conditions, and that the crocodiles stayed away from the river crossings!

The emphasis throughout was on training instructors, so everything was set out as an example of how the skills could be taught in



The Jungle Warfare Instructors Course.

our battalions. The NCOs prepared lessons, the officers gave presentations, and we all wrote jungle exercise instructions. This all left little free time, but we had quickly discovered Seria has little to offer apart from a vast colonial cinema.

One weekend is set aside for R and R, and the majority of the course made for the holiday island of Lahuan for a much needed escape from Jungle Warfare Wing.

Cross Country Competition

Capt AF Hawley writes:

The Poachers held their annual inter-company cross country competition on Friday 12 October. Forsaking the drudgery of a Le Mans style lapping of Beachley peninsula, the RSO selected a route around Chepstow Park Wood. This route was approximately 6km in length, and led competitors through forestry blocks, leafy hollows, and dreamy clearings - with a couple of cheeky hills thrown in to ensure a healthy dose of sadism.

LCpl 'The Body' Turnell and LCpl Wileman took care of the administrative arrangements, and welcomed 10 runners from each of the five companies to the course in time for an 1100hrs start.

The first hill sifted the running wheat from the jogging chaff, although the race remained hard fought throughout. It was particularly pleasing to see a number of duels culminate in races for the line.

The race was eventually won by Capt Hawley (HQ), with Pte Antoni (C) second, and LCpl Lang third. The prize for best veteran (35 and over) was awarded to WO1(RSM) Martin, and for best junior runner to Pte Bridget (C). The team event (which counts towards the inter-platoon competition) was won by B Company, with HQ Company 'Old Boys' coming a close second. There is clearly plenty of talent to draw on in the Battalion although the young bucks will need to work hard to dislodge the HQ OBs for whom the Commanding Officer, RSM, and Capts Beighton, Romilly, Barry and Hawley finished in the top 25.

5 Division Triathlon Championship

On a very pleasant summer day in early September, with their arms and legs well rested after a long summer break, the Poachers' triathlon team headed off for the 5 Division Triathlon Championships held at Bovington. As with any sport that involves

elite athletes in the Army, the quality of kit was second to none with some of the wheels on individual bicycles probably being worth more than the total value of all the bicycles held by the Poachers' team.

The event was a short course one consisting of a 400m pool swim followed by a beastly, undulating 20km cycle ride and a 5km run. Due to the pool swim, the event was conducted in waves of four so that competitors were stretched out across the whole of the course and the winner would not be clear until the last man was in.

We entered a mixed team of novices and more experienced triathletes comprising the Commanding Officer, Majs Hunter and Woodisse and LCpls Wolfe and Bissell. For the latter three athletes, this was their first event in the UK.

The quality of athletes taking part was considerable and it was evident that there were many Army standard athletes competing, mainly from training regiments and the Cdo Sqn RE.

After a gruelling day, the Battalion team came fourth overall with individual success for Maj Woodisse as novice runner-up and the Commanding Officer as veterans runner-up.



2nd Battalion - Ptes McClintock (left) and Reilly at Girdwood Park. (Both their fathers served with the Pompadours).



2nd Battalion - Cpl Addison receiving his LSGC from the Colonel of the Regiment.



Operation Viking Invader - CSM Hale in command of the 1 Royal Anglian Jet Ski Display Team.



Maj Heap, OC A (Norfolk) Company delivering orders to his all arms grouping in BATUS.



2nd Battalion - Pte Fenton (C Company) defeats Pte Strong (A Company).



2nd Battalion - LCpl Steel catching his first Barracuda during R and R, Belize.



1st Battalion - CSgt Markham and 'crew' on the line of departure for Minden Day.

East of England Regiment



Rigid Raiders approach beach.



Thirsty work.



Pte Clarke and LCpl Andrews RAMC.



CO and RSM.



Members of A (Norfolk) Company at the summit of Mount Blackrock in the Rockies.



2nd Battalion - CSgt Kyffin receiving his LSGC from the Colonel of the Regiment.



LCpl Jenks B Company - EER.



2nd Battalion - LCpl Fleury and Dmr McClatchie practise beach assault in Bermuda.



A (Norfolk) Company heads for the hills on Exercise Rough Ride.



Commanding Officer The Poachers in deep water.



JUU Peter Howego (left) of Southampton University OTC on a diving expedition in the Red Sea.

East of England Regiment

Annual Camp Preparations

The main focus of the training year has been the build-up to and the eventual deployment on Exercise Lions Pride 01. With a planning recce successfully completed in January 2001 by the Commanding Officer, Training Major, QM and Adjutant and the issue of the funding of the exercise resolved by Comd 49(E) Bde and GOC 4 Div, preparations could begin in earnest.

With main body flight numbers confirmed, the Adjutant, Capt Mark Powell, began the lengthy process of re-orbatting the Regiment from its normal six companies into three rifle companies and an echelon. Company PSAOs fed in the necessary information on confirmed attendance to RHQ where the Adjutant, using a cunning database constructed by Capt Ty Smith, began to flesh out the bones of the camp orbat. Capt Ty Smith was made responsible for organising the 'on island stand-down' package and he quickly acquired quotes from local travel agencies for boat excursions finally ending up with a choice of packages in either Paphos or Latchi. The Training Major, Paul Alun-Jones, along with WO1 (RSM) Abbs, set about confirming the outline camp programme and required pre-training identified during the recce. The main factor on camp was going to be the temperature and lack of time available to acclimatise prior to commencing field training. The main focus of the pre-training would focus on medical training covering heat-related injuries, the essential skill of water management and fitness training. The Quartermaster's team began their preparations for accommodating, feeding and moving the Regiment utilising the limited on-island assets available which are usually used for a company-sized exercises. The QM, Maj Tony Jones, also entered into tense negotiations with the Bloodhound Camp 'Sutler', one of the numerous Faizullah brothers, finally managing to hammer down his initial quote to £3 an EER T-shirt!

Mobilisation Exercise

With annual camp now only a month away the Regiment held a mobilisation exercise designed to test the procedures already in place for the deployment to Cyprus. With the number of expected attendees on camp exceeding the space on flights this was also an opportunity to test individuals' commitment. Companies reported to Bury St Edmunds and went through a process of baggage and documentation checks. This was also the first opportunity for Capt Ty Smith to confirm preferred adventure training and stand-down options. The weekend ironed out any problems that could otherwise have been encountered at the MCCP at S Cerney.

From the mobilisation weekend the final list of attendees on camp was passed to the Adjutant. As the number of aircraft seats



2Lt Adrian Coulson gives orders.

had been reduced, a manning conference was held at RHQ to trim the attendance to fit the aircraft lift capacity. A number of difficult decisions had to be made with the band and the shooting team both remaining in the UK to conduct separate training. A number of individuals were also put on a reserve list to fill places when individuals inevitably dropped out.

All Change?

With Exercise Saif Sareea placing a great deal of demand on the RAF air transport fleet, the weeks preceding camp proved to be uncertain as to whether the Regiment would deploy. With only three days to go the Commanding Officer received a message from Commandant Stanta saying that Training Support Command Land TSC(L) had requested that the area be block-booked for an alternate EER annual camp! This was confirmed by a rather worried Commanding Officer when he phoned TSC(L) direct, with the G4 and G3 advance parties already in Bloodhound Camp the rapid planning of an alternate camp was going to be a difficult task. An RAF TriStar had broken down at Ascension Island and the knock-on effect caused by Exercise Saif Sareea meant that Exercise Lions Pride would be the first casualty. As Brigade had agreed to take the financial risk and guarantee our movement the option of a chartered civilian air flight was investigated. Many combinations of single RAF flights with individuals using civilian flights from airports across the country were proposed.

On the day of the deployment still nothing had been finalised and it was time for the UEO advance party to move to the MCCP at S Cerney. When the UEO, Capt Mark Powell, arrived at S Cerney on the Friday afternoon nobody there was in a position to say how or if the Regiment was to deploy to Cyprus! TSC(L) had knocked off for the



WCpl Andrews demonstrates EER FIST technology.

weekend and RAF duty personnel at Brize Norton were none the wiser. With the companies now parading and moving from their various outstations to the MCCP a rather large problem was developing!

Dumbo or Jumbo!

When it was looking like the Regiment was going to be stuck at S Cerney with nowhere to go, an RAF movements corporal appeared clutching a one-page fax. On this was the plan for moving the Regiment to Cyprus! We were to fly in one main body, which made the UEO's life a lot easier, on a chartered Icelandic Air Boeing 747 Jumbo.

The lengthy process of putting the companies through the MCCP baggage check procedures now began. This all ran smoothly under the control of the Adjutant and RSM as the companies were fed through in a large hangar adjacent to the passenger

The East of England Regiment

area. The only small hitch was when one soldier, who shall remain nameless, asked if Vaseline was dangerous air cargo much to the delight of the movements staff! The MCCP check was followed by the Adjutant re-orbatting the Regiment into the exercise companies so the troops could 'hit the ground running' upon arrival in Cyprus.

There was of course to be one last problem, as the Adjutant (UEO) and RSM (IC freight) were last to leave S Cerney for Brize Norton there was not enough transport provided by the movement coach company. Fortunately the RSM was able to commandeer the Commanding Officer's staff car and move the stragglers to Brize.

Up, Up and Away!

Finally on the morning of Saturday 24 June a large white 747 left RAF Brize Norton for RAF Akrotiri with 396 people from the EER on board. The arrival at Akrotiri was smooth with the G4 advance party meeting the main body. The only small problem was trying to identify which plastic bag contained your footwear, as there were 396 to choose from. This was a movement restriction implemented due to foot and mouth.

Week one

The main aim of week one was to train at a steady pace to allow the troops to acclimatise as best they could during this short period. As the main body arrived in Bloodhound Camp they were met by Maj Tony Jones (QM) and his team and found an immaculately prepared camp. The three rifle companies (renamed W, Y and Z) were accommodated in tents with echelon in hard accommodation. With only a small cookhouse, meal timings had to be staggered with the Battalion chefs working long hours in extremely hot conditions to produce an extremely high standard of catering support.

The activities in the first week were three two-day packages through which the companies rotated with echelon staff fed into the programme on an individual basis. We were joined on camp by 26 members of



Rigid Raider familiarisation.

the Jersey Field Sqn RE (part of 73 Engr Regt) who spent the first week conducting a demolitions training package for themselves and our Assault Pioneer Platoon. The three company training packages were as follows:

A two-day field exercise run by the Battalion 2IC, Maj Frank De Planta, and his team. The exercise was aimed at shaking out the companies and getting them used to their new orbat. It involved the establishment of a company harbour, static lessons during the heat of the day, patrol activity (including recces and platoon ambush patrols), a night insertion into Paramali village followed by company commander's disposal. It was during this exercise, that commanders at all levels began to realise just how hot it was going to be in the field and how vital water management would be. The RMOs visited the exercise at regular intervals and potential heat casualties were identified early and treated before they became a problem. Particular emphasis was placed on junior commanders to ensure that they monitored the water intake of their troops, in some cases enforced water breaks were used to ensure troops maintained the necessary levels of fluid intake.

This exercise allowed companies to learn valuable lessons in a teaching environment prior to more intensive field training during

the second week.

A two-day package including a day's equipment familiarisation and a day's on-island stand-down. The equipment familiarisation took place on Akrotiri mole and allowed all the companies to familiarise themselves with the equipment they were to use during the second week of camp. The stands included the Wessex helicopter, Rigid Raider assault craft and the Landing Ship Troops (LST).

A company 'smoker' was held on the first evening of the package at the beach below Bloodhound Camp. The next day was spent on stand-down organised by Capt Ty Smith. There were two options available to individuals; a visit to the fishing village of Latchi with an excursion on a glass-bottom boat or a trip to Paphos including a cruise on a pirate ship with live entertainment. Capt Ty Smith became very involved with the whole sales pitch for his trips and was renamed Spiros Smith from Trotters independent travel agents! The stand-down trips were extremely successful with all ranks enjoying themselves for a day.

The final package was two days' adventure training either in the Troodos Mountains or at Tunnel Beach. We were lucky enough to get external assistance from a number of qualified instructors who supplemented our limited 'in house' assets. Maj John Tolan from EMUOTC co-ordinated the Troodos Mountain package. The activities available at Troodos were mountain biking, climbing and abseiling, hillwalking and swimming. Many people preferred the Troodos option as the temperature was some three degrees cooler.

The other choice was a watersports package based at Tunnel Beach. Capt Guy 'Beach Bum' Martin had the enviable task of running the package for a week! Activities at the beach included windsurfing, canoeing, water-skiing, dinghy sailing and of course beach volleyball!

The padre, Capt Paul Whitehead, managed to qualify himself as a windsurfing instructor prior to camp...some people will do anything for a week on the beach! He claimed it allowed him to bond with his flock and he also managed to win the beach fashion award with his range of thongs and bandanas!



WO2 Ralph instructs Z Company.

The East of England Regiment



Mountain biking, Troodos.



Lt Massem RNR and Sgt Nagra, safety boat crew.

Week two

The final week of camp involved a five-day test exercise for the rifle companies with echelon providing administrative support throughout. The exercise involved three 24-hour company-level operations - beach landing/cordon and search, support helicopter assault/advance to contact and a patrols operation. The culmination of the three operations was a battalion OBUA operation in Paramali village.

The beach landing operation was run by Maj Robin Atkinson and his team. Companies conducted an initial move to Akrotiri mole where they received orders and conducted battle procedure. There was then a two-hour move by LCT to a holding area where the initial beach landing force cross-decked onto RE Rigid Raiders and hit the beach. The main body followed closely and under cover of offensive support (BATSIM and smoke) assaulted and seized the beach. Once secure, the company reorganised and moved into a harbour to conduct battle procedure for a cordon and search that evening. The cordon and search



A well-earned drink.

was supported by an AAC Gazelle with Finch and Nitesun and also AES and tracker dogs. Once complete the company then moved to an HLS for the next phase.

Once at the HLS and already having received orders for the next phase the companies moved by SH (RAF Wessex) to conduct a deliberate attack on an enemy objective. The company then immediately reorganised and conducted an advance to contact involving a quick attack, finally sitting out the heat of the day in a harbour before the next phase.

Having received orders in that harbour for the patrols operation the company moved by road and established a company patrols base from which to conduct subsequent tasks. Recce patrols were sent out to identify likely enemy routes and suitable ambush sites. Platoon-sized ambush patrols were then deployed to destroy enemy infiltration patrols.

The Battalion then moved into a concentration area where orders were given for the final phase of the exercise, a battalion-level assault onto Paramali village. The Jersey Field Squadron provided the enemy force with the Assault Pioneer Platoon organising the BATSIM.

Initially the investment of the village was conducted by the SF Platoon and elements of Y Company, with the Mortar Platoon providing indirect fire support. W Company then conducted the break-in battle with Z Company and subsequently Y Company echeloning through to secure the village.

Echelon

Throughout annual camp all the members of echelon worked tirelessly to support the rifle companies. The Battalion REME personnel spent camp in the garrison workshops repairing the ageing fleet of vehicles, the MTWO, WO2 Bailham, and his platoon worked around the clock to provide transport as requested. The QM department kept the camp up and running and the companies administrated through their respective CQMS crews. The RLC chefs in the Catering Platoon produced excellent food throughout the exercise. Finally the RMOs, Majs Rachel Sutcliffe and Malcolm Finch, visited training regularly to ensure potential heat casualties were identified and prevented. Alongside the RMOs worked the company medics who skilfully treated minor injuries in the field to allow troops to continue soldiering.



Beach landing, LST.

The East of England Regiment



WO2 Kerton (SPSI A Company).

New Faces

The Regiment was sad to say goodbye to the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Clive Newell PWRR, who handed over Command to Lt Col Nigel ffitch TD Royal Anglian on 3 September 2001. Colonel Clive had led the Regiment through the difficult transition period following SDR and leaves his successor a well-motivated and recruited Regiment. Colonel Clive was dined-out at a joint Officers and Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess function held at Leicester TAC on 1 September 2001. Colonel Nigel joins us from four years as an SO1 Directing Staff at JSCSC. It was also time for the Training Major, Paul Alun-Jones WFR, who is replaced by Maj Robert Knox Royal Anglian. D (Mansfield) Company sees a change of Command with Maj Phil Brothwood handing over the reigns to Maj Nigel Sheppard.

New PSIs include WO2 Eales (SPSI E Company), CSgt Jewell (SPSI A Company) and Sgt Traves (PSI Mors). The husband and wife team of Sgt and Elaine Lamb also left us to return to the Poachers and Sgt Heddershaw takes over as Sigs PSI.

The Regiment's potential officer training continues to bear fruit under the guidance of Maj De Planta - recently 2Lts Adrian Coulson, Alex Horner, Shaun McGarry and Stuart McLaren have all been commissioned into the Regiment. There are a number of potential officers and officer cadets still



D Comd 49 (E) Bde visits camp.



CO (right) with OC RRTT (N).

under instruction and the officer plot continues to look healthy. JNCOs continue to attend centralised training weekends and attend SCBC(TA) and PSBC(TA) with encouraging results.

Recruiting continues at pace and the Regiment is able to maintain full manning through the efforts of the Regimental recruiting team run by WO2 Kelly and the two recruit training teams headed by Capt Simon Watson and Lt Bob Rogers.

The Future

The Regiment's training focus for 2002 is directed towards the Commanding Officer's two test exercises. The first test will be a force-on-force exercise with companies operating against each other. The remainder of this year focuses towards the Christmas weekend where there will be an inter-platoon competition, inter-company orienteering and the usual Christmas celebrations.

The Regiment continues to support the Regular Army on operations with individuals deployed in the Balkans and Northern Ireland on mobilised, FTRS or S-Type service. With both officer and soldier recruiting healthier than ever, and with training well-planned and focused, the future looks bright for the East of England Regiment.

EER Golf Championships

WO1 (RSM) Abbs writes:

On a very bright late September day the 4th EER Golf Championships took place at Cretingham Golf Club, Suffolk. Entry to the championships is restricted to past and present members of 6 Royal Anglian and EER. It is a measure of the event's status that participants travelled from as far afield as Lincoln (or was it a question of work or golf - and the latter won!). However, guests are invited in order to keep the competition fierce, and once they have stabled their horses, and secured their six guns, they are ready to play!

Events began with bacon and sausage rolls, copious quantities of coffee, and the obligatory telling of a few lies about recent

past matches and individual form! After a comprehensive brief from the competition secretary (Bob Carter), we proceeded to our start tees.

In the morning the 'warm up' competition, a nine-hole pairs Stableford format, allowed those who hadn't played the course before to acquaint themselves with the subtleties of the short course. Positioning and the short game experts come to the fore. The winners for the previous two years, Messrs Bob Potter and Rod Allen, failed on countback to retain it for a third year. After the morning's round, lunch was taken and then the main competition took place, an 18-hole individual Stableford/handicap competition. Some very creditable scores were recorded including gross scores from Mick Abbs (73) and Bob Carter (76). The results are published below. After the match a short prizegiving took place in the clubhouse. Prizes were presented by Mr John Watson, Cretingham Golf Club secretary and an ex-Viking SNCO. We look forward now to returning to the same venue next year to enjoy the fantastic hospitality and the new 27-hole format.

AM Competition

Stableford

B Locksmith/P Kidd	17	Countback
R Allen/B Potter	17	
D Sims/C Pearce	16	
J Watsop/M Abbs	16	

PM Competition

Gross

M Abbs	73
R Carter	76

Stableford

Davies	38	Countback
M Cooper	38	

Handicap

R Allen	64
B Potter	65

Guest

H Foster	40	Countback
J Walkinshaw	40	

158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC (V)

The Regiment has been very busy over the entire year so far. Not all of the tales are suitable for publication, so a selection are presented here for your amusement. Special congratulations go to Lt Col Eden, the TQM. He was awarded the senior TA award of the Queen's Volunteer Reserves Medal on this year's Queen's Birthday Honours List, for 17 years' dedicated service to the Regiment. The Regiment also takes this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work and continued dedication.

200 (Peterborough) Headquarters Squadron RLC (V)

The Headquarters has recently said farewell to Capt Phil Moore, the Adjutant, who leaves on promotion for a procurement job in Bath. We wish him all the best.

The Regimental 2IC headed up the planning for the Minden Dinner, an annual event which marks the Royal Anglian tradition of celebrating the Battle Honours won by the English infantry (later the Suffolk Regiment) at the Battle of Minden on 1 August 1759. The Officers' Mess traditionally hosts the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess members, down to the last drop of port. This year the location was kindly provided by RAF Alconbury. In typical USAF style, the en-suite rooms and 'eat as much as you can breakfast' were just the trimmings on an exceptionally stylish and slick evening, ably presided over by mess manager SSgt Martin Davies.

The Commanding Officer presented Territorial Decoration citations and medals to Maj David Ashley and Capt Paul Francey, marking 12 years' dedicated and efficient service to the Territorial Army (not to mention undetected crime!). The Minden Sash (awarded to the SNCO who has contributed most to the Regiment over the previous year) was presented to SSgt Lee Wilson. The Commanding Officer felt that he, in particular, had most fully embraced the changes needed from all ranks to effect the transition over the past five years to RLC from infantry. The new Adjutant, Capt Kate Rawdon Smith, was formally welcomed as the first female to serve as Adjutant in the history of the Regiment.

201 (Bedford) Transport Squadron RLC(V)

The squadron said a fond farewell to Capt John Reid as he leaves the Army and begins a restful retirement. Maj Sam Evans took over as the OC, which he juggles with his several civilian jobs – not least of which is as a colonel equivalent civil service job! Lt Edwards is to be congratulated on her promotion to captain, which was celebrated in style at the dinner despite her not having managed to get the extra pips onto her Mess dress! The squadron in particular have been concentrating intensively on recruiting new soldiers and officers. A series of employer liaison committee suppers and cocktail parties have helped thank those already

converted to the worthiness of having employees conducting worthwhile military training on their weekends.

202 (Ipswich) Transport Squadron RLC (V)

202 Squadron has continued to uphold its reputation as the social squadron of the Regiment, with many official and some unofficial functions, enjoyed by all. In fact, they are having such a good time, so far from Regimental Headquarters, that various visits by personnel, namely the RSM, Adjutant and the whole Quartermaster's Department (!) have made the long journey south-west to join in the fun.

203 (Loughborough) Transport Squadron RLC (V)

Capt Geoff Cutler writes:

203 Squadron has made the executive decision to tell a few more than the highly edited stories of the other squadrons:

End of summer... must be getting near that time again to look back over the past few months and let the rest of the world know what we've been up to, this would get us shot if we were civil servants, but that's a different story.

Despite the best efforts of foot and mouth, the squadron has managed to pack a fairly full summer, I say fairly as there were at least two days when we paused to catch our breath, both logged in the squadron diary.

Personality-wise the squadron seems to have had a merry-go-round, Maj Simon Barnes took over as OC, he's been here so long the rumour is that he has planted most of the squadron skeletons! We have said farewell to our SPSI, WO2 Kurt Hobday, and welcomed his replacement WO2 Max McQue, also we welcome SSgt Paul Spencer, who is going to teach us about canoeing and the RE short arm lift and said farewell to SSgt Bob Brown who has also transferred to civvy street. Sgt Guy Pollard has recently joined the corps of married

people, so we welcome his newly promoted wife Michelle. In addition we have had a rapid influx of new recruits, despite foot and mouth cancelling all the county shows, which are a prime source of recruits for the squadron. That said, Sgt Rome Sharma and Pte Hasmukh Chudasama represented the squadron at the Leicester Belgrave Mela, which produced several hopefuls – well done.

Activity levels have been high. The squadron managed to have its first proper truckie exercise, Iron Dukeries. The squadron deployed using Grantham and Chilwell, looping in between in accordance with a finely crafted MEL, if I do say so myself. The highlight for the squadron was the opportunity to observe an MPC cadre conducting a one kilometre advance to contact, standing the squadron to in the process, thanks guys! This led up to the Regiment FTX, Sea Steelback, with the SHQ conducting railhead ops at Ludgershall, with the task troops conducting inload/outload of Browndown and Abingdon. Most notable was the TCO, Capt Mick Marlow, complete with white hat, acting like a whirling Dervish pulling trucks forward to load and offload the train, if you have been to Ludgershall you know how tight it is there.

In addition the Fitter Section deployed to Salisbury Plain as part of a REME skills weekend, managing to conduct some vehicle familiarisation on 432, Samson, Saxon and AVLB, all in the interest of wider trade training, no cabbvng allowed. Presently the squadron is gearing up for our annual camp, Exercise Silver Beaver, which we are assured will provide many learning opportunities and challenges - Hurrah!

The squadron also managed to fit in a spot of adventure training, based at Capel Curig. An entertaining weekend was had by all doing a mixture of mountain biking, hill walking and abseiling, climbing and general mayhem in a slate mine, where Pte Emma Wing managed to do a creditable impression of a dying swan grabbing for hand holds.



Cpl Tooley during recovery training on Exercise Silver Beaver.

The obligatory barbecue was cancelled due to the obligatory poor weather, but soldiers being the same all over, they still managed to keep themselves entertained – ask no questions!

Travel broadens the mind, apparently, so the squadron now has several broad people who have managed to find time to fly the flag in foreign climes. Sgt Paul Mitchell joined 1245 (TC) PLS, National Guard in Oklahoma City, the rumours about his liking for horses now are completely unproven. Sgt Glen Hodgkinson acquired a suntan in Kenya, after six weeks' hard labour, with no rest.

Meanwhile Cpl Rogers returned from having done three back-to-back tours in Bosnia. LCpl Janet Thompson was finally prised away from Australia where she was attached to the Australian Reserve Forces. At the time of writing the SSM, WO2 Steve Wheatley, is preparing to take a Regimental team to the IMM, in Germany, with Sgt Trevor Watkins, Cpl Andy Wade, Pte Bobby Ball, Pte Kylie Skabula and Pte Booth representing the squadron.

All of this has taken place during the usual round of social occasions, most notable was the squadron ladies' dinner night in May, superbly organised by the PSAO, Capt Jeff

Wilcox and his committee, too numerous to mention. An excellent evening was had by all, even the Port Club, when they were dragged out of session by their spouses. Throughout this the squadron has found time to help out local charities with the Walk of Life in aid of the Children's Hospice and running an assault course for the Diabetics Association.

That has been a quick gallop through the squadron's summer activities, for the unabridged version write to the squadron 2IC, who will happily furnish you with the three disks covering the events which didn't quite make it to press.

Regimental Museum

George Boss, Museum Attendant writes:

Museum donations

Throughout the year members past and present have kindly donated many items to the museum, and for this we are extremely grateful.

Mr Keith Plum - 1969 Signals Platoon photograph at Aldershot. Two Football trophies (BAOR champions and the Infantry Cup Winners 1972/73).

Mr F James - From the Isle of Man a Suffolk Regt Swagger Stick.

Mr T Wood - Many photographs from 1959 covering Mombassa, Aden, Watchet Somerset during National Service days.

Mr Nat Adey - A camcorder for museum usage.

Brig C Groves - A wordprocessor and printer.

Cpl C Headland (2nd Battalion) - A vast amount of keepsakes, two East German Border Guards Caps, photograph album 1987-89 tour in NI, two flags (Kuwait) (Red Hand of Ulster), two Russian medals, education precis, Poacher mag 1989, duvet cover (UN), pair of WWI Binns (Gulf War) German military.

Maj P Williamson - Swagger Cane, pair of Fox puttees and two rifle slings.

Col J Lacey - SD Jacket (offs pattern).

Mr D Schwartz - Operational reports NI and orders relating to his tour in 1988-91.

Maj M Lyne - Clothing 95 pattern.

Maj W Burford - Orders for the Scrubber Line, orders for opening fire (almost the original Yellow Card), Medals Parade Cyprus 1967, UN Flag Code and Regulations Book.

- Discharge documentation AF B 108 AF B 2006 and other relevant items.

Wanted

Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' past and present tie. A documentary video entitled 'Soldier in the Sun' covering the 1st Battalion 1963-65.

Photographic Archives

East Anglian Regiments

Photographs of platoons that served at Bury St Edmunds during the period 1958-64. Names of officers and SNCOs/JNCOs and soldiers must accompany the photograph.

The Royal Anglian Regiment

Basic training photographs as above for those who served at Bury St Edmunds. In addition, when integration took place between 1968-70 prior to the Depot Queen's Division opening, we had trainers at the Depot Queen's at Howe Barracks, Canterbury and St George's Barracks, Sutton Coldfield. Could you please either have a copy made or colour-copy and sent to the Regimental Museum or, to help in the identification, bring the photograph to the museum? You will get free entry as you are bringing museum artefacts for Regimental collation.

Operation AGILA

Were you one of the few who were on this operation and took a camera, and also brought back insignia of the units that you

monitored? If so, could you contact the museum and help bring up-to-date the small file that I have on the operation.

Sierra Leone

Individual's photographs and stories of what happened and where, are urgently required to make a file to keep the history straight. Your help is urgently required before you get another posting to an even hotter climate!

Contact the museum on 01223 835000 Ext 298. (The voice mail is always on for your messages).

Regimental Volunteer Attendants

Throughout the year the museum is readily manned by a group of volunteers who live within a reasonable distance from Duxford.

The trustees and myself would like to convey our heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for the giving of your time and effort when requested.

If any of you out there who live near to the Duxford area and wish to give of your time to meet the public and talk about all things military and regimental then just call in or ring up and book a day here at the museum to see if you would like the job. The uniform is free (you provide your own) and the people you meet are from all military backgrounds and this includes sons and daughters of members of the Regiment. You will be astounded how people react when they find how really small the world is when they visit your museum.

Special Visitor

Mrs Sandra Clark, formerly Ogilvie, the wife of the late Cpl Andrew Ogilvie who died in Berlin in 1966, arrived at the Regimental Museum with her daughter Amanda. This was to be a highlight of



Mrs Sandra Clark and daughter Amanda at the museum office.

her daughter's life, as she had never seen her father, as she was only one year old when he passed away. Mrs Clark had visited the museum just two weeks before and wandered into the Land Warfare Hall, and saw The Royal Anglian Regiment Gallery. To her great amazement she put the video on of the Berlin days when the 3rd Battalion was stationed there. During the very first clip she saw her late husband trundling through the snow, all 10 seconds of it. Taken aback she contacted the office through the duty attendant in the hall and then made her way down to the office in Hangar 4 for the second surprise. In the video collection was a copy of the film, 'Battle Line Berlin' taken in 1965 on the training area. At her request a copy of the tape was made, and on that Sunday mother and daughter sat down in the office and played the film backwards and forwards to see for the first time dad playing soldiers.

In addition the museum gave Mrs Clark a copy of the final parade of the 3rd Battalion and the laying up of the Colours to see if she could recognise any of the Regiment. She has some wonderful memories of her stay with the Regiment and can still recall many names and faces from the film and the museum records.

If you wish to be known to Mrs Clark, just drop a line to the museum at Duxford and I will pass it on for you.



'Crater to the Creggan' (front cover to the book). Can anyone identify the soldier standing next to the blown up Saracen?

Regimental Sport

Golf

Spring Meeting

6 April, Richmond Park, Watton

Twenty-two members of the society played at this popular venue, on what was a showery day, although everyone managed to come in fairly dry.

It was nice to see a couple of new faces, Col David Phipps and Sgt Ivan Snow, whom we hope to see more of, along with others.

Results:

- Medal** - 1st L Greenaway, 2nd D Wharton.
Stableford - 1st S Horton, 2nd S Robinson.
Scramble - 1st S Horton, S Robinson, L Greenaway, G Taylor.
 - 2nd D Wharton, M Pye, S Davis, P Woodcock.
Longest Drive - L Greenaway.
Nearest Pin - S Horton.

Queen's Division Triangular Match

25 May, Canterbury Golf Club

The Regiment was represented by Messrs Potter, Brett, Allen, Woodcock, Whight, Boss, Halewood, Greenaway, Abbs, Wharton. Regrettably, even under our new captain, Maj Bob Potter, we did not quite make first place. On behalf of the Regiment we thank them

for volunteering and hope that perhaps next year, now that both battalions are in England, we shall have some more volunteers to represent us.

Summer Meeting

22 June, Ely

On a warm, dry and fairly sunny day again 22 members took to the field at this relatively new venue, but one which is popular. We welcomed back Ken Rowe and hope we will see him again.

Results:

Medal Scratch for the Isham Salver:

- Winner S Horton
- 2nd K Rowe

Medal Handicap for the Pompadour Cup:

- Winner D Wharton
- 2nd C Kett.

Stableford Handicap for the Suffolk Cup:

- Winner D Goude
- 2nd G Halewood.

Foursome Stableford Handicap for the Ponsonby Cup:

- Winners D Goude & W O'Driscoll
- 2nd R Potter & K Brett.

For next year's venues and dates please see Regimental Diary.



Summer meeting 2001 Ely Golf Club. From left: K Brett, G Halewood, W O'Driscoll, S Horton, D Wharton, C Kett, K Rowe, R Potter, D Goude.

Special Features

Army Cricket Tour to Trinidad

Capt AG Grinonneau writes:

At the beginning of the year I was fortunate enough to be selected to be vice-captain of the Army cricket tour to Trinidad for two weeks leading straight into the start of the domestic session (yet another jolly I hear you cry!). Fourteen players, a coach, manager, scorer and an umpire composed the party of the first genuine Army cricket tour for many years. We followed in the footsteps of an Army Development XI that went to Trinidad the previous year and lost every match by some margin! Our mission therefore was to salvage pride and restore the reputation of Army cricket.

The build-up to the tour began with a training weekend a week before departure in Taunton that served to brush away the cobwebs and remind us all which way round to hold a bat. Staying mercifully free from injury, the team met at Heathrow on Wednesday 28 March. With the help of very generous sponsorship deals from Scrumpy Jack, NCP Carparks and Chase Cricket, we actually looked like a proper tour party with the same clothes, kit-bags and blazers – to the extent that a number of players signed autographs in the terminal!

The original itinerary gave us two days of training before the first of six matches spread over 11 days. However, on arrival in Port of Spain at 2100 hrs, we were welcomed with a vast quantity of Carib beer and the news that we had a match the following morning. So it was that 13 hours later (in 35 degrees replacing the chilly UK March weather) we took to the pitch against the Trinidad Police XI. Reducing the Police to 135 all out we won by six wickets with plenty of time to spare, my score of 24 was unfortunately my highest of the tour.

Game two against Harvard CC was a memorable finish. From 85 for 2 and cruising, we were reduced to 149 all out (21 from myself) and let Harvard in. I had to observe the finish from the boundary having broken a finger in the field with seven overs to go; but with Harvard needing just three off the last over with three wickets in hand, our opening bowler took all three wickets for no runs giving us an unlikely win by two runs.

Our third game was billed as the match of the tour. Played at the Queen's Park Oval Test ground (the week after South Africa had beaten the West Indies) against Queen's Park CC. A Premier League

side. Queen's Park were very rarely beaten by touring sides and so it came as a shock when they were all out for just 95. My elation was short-lived however. Batting with a broken finger (any excuse will do!) I made my lowest score of the tour – 0. A duck at the test ground was disappointing but we went on to win by five wickets.

A combination of a day spent on Maracas beach, my duck and a broken finger afforded me the luxury of two days' rest including the fourth match against the Trinidad Defence Force. Played on an absolute minefield of a pitch we chased 184 rather easily to win by seven wickets. Our fifth match was the most controversial. News of our performance got around the circuit quickly (especially the demolition of Queen's Park) and so our opposition (Wanderers CC) fielded a very strong team. Including the West Indies 'A' opening bowler (yes – he was very quick) they proved too strong and we failed to reach the target of 218 scoring only 185 (my 11 not really helping that much!). The controversy came to light after the match when the scorers highlighted that the names of the bowlers did not correspond to the batsmen. It turned out that Wanderers had used 14 players to ensure both a very strong batting and bowling performance. We felt a bit disappointed to surrender our unbeaten record in such a manner and yes, sour grapes did come into it, but we felt proud that it took this kind of behaviour to beat us.

Our last match was a bit more social against the Collegians CC. We were just too strong and they got nowhere near our score of 223, resulting in a 70 run victory. Our record of five wins was very creditable considering it was bang in the middle of their cricket season and none of us had played for seven months. Pride was well and truly restored.

The social side of the tour was also immensely satisfying. A team comprising seven officers and seven other ranks mixed as well as we normally do during the regular season and over the course of the tour, some £200 was raised in fines that went towards the end of tour dinner. Our hosts always made sure there was plenty of Carib beer in ice-boxes near to hand and even on training days we were able to see the sights of Port of Spain.



Capt Grinonneau on tour to Trinidad with the Army cricket team (seated front row, second from left).

Lombardia 2001, International Military Patrol Competition

OCdt Andrew Wilde, Southampton University Officer Training Corps, writes:

Every year the Italian Reserve Officer Association organises a patrol competition in the Lombardia region of Northern Italy. As well as the patrol part of the event there is the Italian equivalent of Remembrance Sunday, in which all the Italian servicemen who died during World War Two are remembered in a wreath laying ceremony in Luino town centre.

As with nearly every other exercise taking place this year, there were problems caused because of the foot and mouth outbreak but, as the date of the competition got closer, it was clear that we would be allowed to travel and take part in the event. The build-up to the team's departure was relatively muted because all those taking part were in the midst of end-of-year university exams, but with a couple of hectic days' preparation the team was ready to embark on the 14-hour journey to Northern Italy on 16 June.

Once we arrived in Italy the team started the preparation for the event. We were unable to train in Britain, so we arrived five days before the event so that we could carry out some in-country training, get used to the overpowering heat and humidity, finalise the team format and work out team sops. The training that was carried out included fitness work in the hills and around the lake also minor team tactics, first aid skills and artillery target indication.

After five days of training, the Lombardia 2001 military patrol competition started. First the team had to register and we were given our start time of 0500hrs and then there was a briefing for the team commanders at 2100hrs. In the briefing the safety points for the competition were covered and some areas were highlighted which would be important in the competition such as knowing how to co-ordinate a close air support mission and also foreign mine and weapon recognition.

The scenario for the competition this year was that a four-man patrol was being deployed in order to gather information about the enemy anti-aircraft defences and subsequently use artillery to suppress those positions and then use an air strike to destroy the enemy radar and chemical weapon sites.

The journey from our hotel to the start line was an hour, so after a night of working out co-ordinates of equipment caches and routes around the mountains the team got very little sleep. However, we

turned up at the start ready for anything. At the start my team all did their best to drink more water than 20 thirsty fish because we knew from last year that lack of water would be a problem, but eventually at 0500hrs the event started. We had a quick kit check and a computer test to see if my orders had been understood by the other three in the team, then we were off.

The first two legs were speed marches followed by a minefield breach. At the minefield breach the team's knowledge from Cambrian Patrol showed as we managed to identify every mine we were tested on. The next phase, after another speed march, was to call in a fire mission that was to suppress enemy anti-aircraft weapons in order to allow the close air support mission to fly in and destroy the enemy radar sites and chemical weapons sites. The destruction of these two targets was the aim of the patrol and once we had called in the air strike we were retasked and given the mission of reconnoitering an area which was the site of an enemy troop concentration. The team got on to the area easily but we were then unable to find much information of any use because of the two-hour time constraint and the risk of penalty points if we were seen.

The next phase was a rappel down a cliff and then a waterfall followed by a CQB lane with Italian shotguns which showed the lax attitude the Italians had to safety. The team before us had another team walk down the range towards them and was only spotted at the last minute. There was then a first aid stand that also incorporated a casualty evacuation across a chest deep river. The last part of the event was another speed march to the end where we had a further kit check and final debrief on what we had seen and done on the patrol.

On the Sunday morning after the Remembrance parade and the wreath laying there was the prize giving ceremony. My team won the best of military academy and also was placed sixth overall beating many Regular foreign teams as well as a team from the Royal Marines which came eighth.

I have now taken part in this competition for two years in a row and would recommend it to anyone who has the time spare available to compete. The competition is open to Regular and Reserve teams and with a little bit of training and knowledge and a few choice words of Italian any team can do well.



The author second from right.

Special Features

Soldiers' Memorial



In 1972 Cpl Michael Boddy of the 2nd Battalion was killed by an IRA sniper while on patrol in Belfast. Twenty-five years later LBdr Stephen Restorick was shot dead in South Armagh.

On Sunday 30 September a memorial to the two soldiers was

unveiled in the grounds of Peterborough Cathedral by the Bishop of Peterborough. Joining family and friends of the two soldiers were Lt Downs, WO2 Beswick and Dmr Stephens. The latter played the Last Post on the bugle used by Cpl Boddy.

Viking Tidworth 25 Years-On Reunion

Capt (Retd) TR Wilkes writes:

Awake early in bed one morning at the beginning of the new millennium I was pondering on the meaning of time, life, the past, the future; in short, the normal gambit of early morning thoughts, when they turned to what I had been doing five, 10, 20 years ago. I realised that 25 years previously I was enjoying myself enormously as a bachelor subaltern with the Vikings at Assaye Barracks, Tidworth.

The Battalion was having a cracking four-year tour as the UK infantry contingent to Allied Command Europe Mobile Force (Land) or AMF(L). Our remit was to be on 72 hours' notice to move to

support Nato's northern or southern flank. Thus we spent our winters in Norway, our summers in Turkey or Sardinia, thrown in with a Northern Ireland tour (Tyrone and Armagh 1974), royal visits, including the presentation of new Colours, as well as maintaining our normal skills, exercises, freedom marches and so forth.

I recall that period as happy and rewarding. I served with some superb professionals, made many friends and have wonderful memories. As I lay abed, it occurred to me that it would be marvellous to meet up with my fellow officers and to see what had become of us all in the intervening 25 years. Thus was conceived the idea of a Tidworth 25 Years-On Reunion. I immediately resolved to do something about it. Several weeks later I resolved that I really ought to do something about it. In early April I decided I definitely needed to do something about it. So one evening late in April I did do something about it.

I rang around some of my old comrades, for such is how we must now think of ourselves, to canvass opinion on the idea and the logistics of getting together people scattered around the globe. Initial results indicated that this would be a 'good thing' so I now felt committed to really doing something. Following a good deal of deliberation it was decided that the reunion should take place in London, since everyone knows how to get there without a map, can do so from most foreign parts, including East Anglia and accommodation, shops and transport were in good supply. The Army and Navy Club offered a suitably military and conveniently central venue and a Saturday lunchtime in early October was chosen. I was ready to go live!

It took several hours' research identifying, to the best of my ability



Special Features

and reducing brain cells, those who had been members of the Mess in Tidworth and their present whereabouts. Actually this was the fun part of organising the reunion, as I tracked down and spoke to, or heard from, so many old friends and caught up with their news. It was also fun to have my memory jogged about some Mess members I had not remembered having been with us in Tidworth. Regrettably, I did have trouble tracking down all of the Royal Marine, Royal Engineer, Royal Army Pay Corps, Royal Army Chaplains Department and Royal Air Force attached officers who were stationed with us. So the invites went out and the response was wonderfully encouraging. It looked as if this would work.

Out of the 100 letters that I sent out I had a response of well over 75 per cent. By the day of the reunion 65 people were due to attend and in the event only one was unable to be with us. A stream of faces, half-remembered, appearing at the door of the library of the Rag, the delight of recognition and of meeting again after so long, the large grins and happy laughter of reunion, all made for a wonderful time.

It was as if the years fell away and the banter, chat and repartee of the Tidworth Mess were as they had been 25 years ago. Old photos, past copies of *Castle* and of *Angle* magazine were pored over and the anecdotes flowed. The Wives Club re-formed over the coffee after a splendid buffet lunch while the men, rarely smoking now, gossiped and compared their pension investments.

The Colonel of the Regiment, who had been Adjutant when the Battalion first moved to Tidworth, made a brief and much appreciated speech to us all and echoed all our wishes to be present at the next reunion in 2025! By the end of the afternoon and after our tea and scones, we concluded that we had had so much fun and enjoyment that getting together on a more regular basis was something we ought to do, for all past and serving officers of the Battalion. Since I amassed considerable data in putting the Tidworth reunion together I am happy to offer that as a start to the formation of a 1st Battalion Officers' lunch or dinner club. Similarly, I am able to provide address details to anyone wishing to contact old friends.

Recruiting in the Royal Anglian Regiment

Introduction

At the last Regimental Recruit Steering Group meeting, it was agreed that *Castle* magazine would carry a series of articles, on recruiting, retention, resettlement and re-enlistment (R4). Many of you, both inside and outside the Battalions, will be aware that a great deal of time and effort is invested into recruiting, but most of you will only have an outline knowledge of how the system works, which you may have gleaned from *Castle* articles or participated in an activity. Recruiting Group discharges a responsibility on behalf of the Adjutant General to recruit soldiers. But to man both battalions fully requires much more than a few TV adverts and Saatchi posters. Full manning is fundamental to our existence and is a key part of offering our soldiers a varied and exciting career, as the opportunities in undermanned battalions are not so good. This first article in a series looks at how the Regiment conducts recruiting. You will note that the days of freedom marches and static displays in shopping centres are gone, although these are still carried out as they maintain the KAPE (keeping the Army in the public eye) element of recruiting, and what we seek to do is to offer a more focused effort, aimed at a specific target audience and the proof of the pudding is in the results achieved by both battalions.

A Regimental Approach

Full and balanced manning remains the Regiment's number one priority after operations. To achieve this a Regimental strategy that encompasses R4 is employed to ensure that the soldier, from first contact, through his service in the Regiment, to discharge and beyond is managed correctly both personally and professionally. A holistic approach to R4 is vital; each component overlaps and complements the others. A soldier who has left the Regiment who has benefited from good management, leadership, opportunity for full career development and has had a decent resettlement package is much more likely to exhort the Regiment as a worthwhile career to family and friends. He is also more likely to re-enlist when weighing up the benefits of civilian life to those he enjoyed during service. Within the R4 process recruiting involves targeting the right applicant, enlisting him in to the Regiment and getting him to one of the Army Training Regiments. Those of you involved in recruiting will know that this is not easy and getting one applicant through the system from first contact to the Regiment takes approximately 10 months.

The tactics we use in recruiting are ones tried and tested and work. They are based on the successful strategy developed by the Vikings who have gone from 130 under strength in Mid-1998 to almost full manning today and that is no mean feat. By using elements of that strategy and other ideas from within the Battalion and other units we have, in the first six months of this year, enlisted more soldiers than we did throughout the whole of last year, a clear indication that best practice works. (Everybody in the Regiment has a part to play in recruiting. How the system works is information we all need to know - after all the best recruiters are our soldiers). Our strategy is a Regimental one but allows for flexibility to cater for each Battalion's

role, environment, facilities and of course personalities. It is also sustainable and can continue wherever the Battalion may be deployed.

Organisation and Function of Recruiting Personnel

The Regiment employs approximately 40 personnel in black economy posts to assist recruiting. This includes the manning of three Army Youth Teams (AYTs) based at Bassingbourn (127 AYT), North Luffenham (161 AYT) and Colchester (160 AYT). The role of AYT is to conduct outreach activity, military and adventurous training for young people and give them a taste for military service and maybe sows the seed for future interest. They also conduct two-day Regimental exercises for battalions, which are called Poacher and Viking Encounter. These are specifically designed for potential Royal Anglian soldiers and are the cornerstone of our recruiting activity.

Each battalion employs a mobile recruiting team to dominate our recruiting counties and work in direct support of recruiting offices. The mobile recruiting team provides training evenings for cadet detachments, schools, colleges and tactile recruiting in cities, towns and villages. To process potential applicants through the enlistment procedure there are recruiting sergeants working from recruiting offices in our county, cities and towns. Recruiters, while having a wider responsibility to recruit for the field Army, do spend time co-ordinating battalion recruiting activity. Their knowledge of particular areas ripe for recruiting activity is essential. This first contact is a vital aspect of what we do, so selecting the right soldier is critical.

Regimental Recruiting Steering Committee

While battalions plan and conduct their own recruiting activity the Committee is responsible for formulating the overarching recruiting policy for soldiers and officers. The Committee meets twice a year and is chaired by the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment. In attendance is the Regimental Secretary, Commanding Officers of both Regular Battalions and the East of England Regiment. The Regimental representatives at ATR Bassingbourn, AFC Harrogate and ITC Catterick attend to provide current information on Royal Anglian students in training and to ensure the Regimental recruiting policy is being applied consistently to assist retention in training. Commander Regional Recruiting attends the Committee to provide advice on recruiting activity in the Regimental counties, marketing the Regimental image, media planning and recruiting trends.

Recruiting Activity and Methods

Viking/Poachers Call

These are conducted by soldiers working individually, pairs (Satisfied Soldier Scheme) or in four-man teams carrying out tactile recruiting in the local area. Soldiers travel light, armed with photo albums and Regimental literature to give to the potential applicant. The advantage of calls is that the soldiers are not tied to a particular area and are particularly effective at exploiting areas containing the target age

Special Features

group such as city centre shopping malls, youth clubs and jobcentres.

Viking/Poachers Raids - Major Recruiting Activity

A Raid is the name given to collective recruiting activity. The Battalion conducts one major recruiting activity in its recruiting counties each year. This is designed to be a significant, high-profile event that capitalises on the current role of the Battalion and involves tactile recruiting. Priorities will be deduced after advice from the various recruiting staff, but will be along the lines of:

- The attraction of direct entry/adult recruits.
- Seed sowing in ACFs and, to a lesser priority, schools.
- Maintenance of a high-profile and positive image in the recruiting counties.

The Vikings have recently conducted 'Viking Invader', a raid on the coastal towns in Viking recruiting counties. The aim was to target the 16 to 18-year-old casual worker nearing the end of the summer season and perhaps looking for alternate employment. Invader enticed the target audience with a number of hands-on activities on the beach. Concurrently the mobile recruiting teams of both battalions were carrying out calls in the inland towns and villages. Invader was a good example of precision targeting, synchronisation and good co-ordination by both battalions.

Viking/Poachers Fusion

Fusion exercises, a youth development programme sponsored by both battalions, are designed to target the many football academies in our recruiting area. Fusion offers opportunities for personal development, team building and leadership activities. The aim is to provide a safety net for those who do not progress through to the senior teams. The emphasis is on a sporting career in the Army. The Vikings have conducted successful programmes with Peterborough Town and Norwich City and the Poachers are taking on Scunthorpe United and Leicester City in the new year.

Viking/Poachers Encounter

Encounter is the cornerstone of our recruiting activity. Once 'first contact' is made with the potential applicant who is considering



Poachers Encounter Bassingbourn.



Happy Poachers after an Encounter.

joining the Army, the aim is to get him on to an Encounter exercise as soon as possible to cement the relationship with the Battalion. Encounters are run by the AYT's and provide a two-day look at Army life focusing on the Regiment. The students take part in military activity and leadership exercises designed to develop teamwork and a sense of belonging. Encounter exercises are fun and rewarding and the feedback from students is always positive. Approximately 1,300 personnel have attended Encounter exercises in the last three years, many of whom are in the Regiment today.

Poachers Progress

Poachers Progress is a premium version of Poachers Encounter and is conducted at Chepstow or a suitable location within our recruiting counties. The aim of Poachers Progress is to maintain the interest of those who have attended Poachers Encounter and have expressed an interest in joining the Poachers. Potential AFC(H), SLS and junior applicants are the priority target audience.

Army Cadet Force (ACF)

Over 30 per cent of all soldiers have had some cadet force experience before enlistment. The ACF are therefore perhaps the best target audience. The mobile recruiting team visits one cadet detachment weekly and assists in low-level training of students whose ages range from 13 to 18 and all have more than a passing interest in the Army, its achievements, skills and values. ACFs actively advise and prepare those who are considering a career in the Army. The detachments, which are in county groupings, are run by volunteer instructors who achieve a great deal with a small amount of support both in materials and finance. Assistance from the Poachers leaves a lasting impression on cadets and could sway their choice of career. It is a fertile recruiting ground.

The Best Recruiters

Experience has shown that a happy soldier is the best recruiter there is. At home on leave, attached to recruiting offices, or employed on recruiting activity he can identify with many of the target audiences, and can sell his satisfaction in a tangible and understandable way. He stands to benefit from recruiting the right calibre of individual in two ways. First, a financial reward through the committed recruit card bounty scheme. Second, a fully manned section and hence less guard duties! The Satisfied Soldier Scheme allows a Poacher to spend a week back in his hometown attached to a recruiting office from where he visits schools, cadet detachments and local careers fairs.

Rallying Call

An important part of the recruiting effort is the link with the ex-serving members of the Regimental family. Most join the many Regimental Associations and a lot attend regularly the many reunions that take place annually throughout our counties. The Regimental Gathering at Bassingbourn is always well attended and at battalion-level the Felixstowe and Spalding reunions go from strength to strength. There is a long line of family lineage in the Poachers and

Special Features

we have at least eight serving soldiers whose fathers have served and countless others with family ties to the Regiment. We rely on our ex-serving soldiers to continue to exhort the Poachers to as wide an audience as possible. Also of great value is the opportunity for serving soldiers to interact with the Regimental Associations. A recent visit by the Poachers Corp of Drums to the 100th birthday celebration of ex Royal Lincolnshire Regiment soldier Mr Frank Winfield was a huge success and enforces the ethos of a family regiment.

Regimental Website

The refurbished Regimental website is now online. You can access the site by logging on to the British Army Website www.BritishArmy.co.uk. You will find the website very easy to use and full of up-to-date information on the Regiment today, its history and

personalities. The site also has battalion pages where up and coming events, news and information is published.

Summary

A happy soldier is our best recruiting tool, and we espouse the use of the Committed Recruit Card to encourage soldiers to get friends and family to join. Besides the financial reward of £183, the soldier is taking part in the recruiting effort and this helps cement the ethos of a close, family Regiment. This recruiting plan has been developed and refined over four to five years but there is always room for improvement and it is invariably the people on the ground that provide the conduit by which we gauge the mood of the target audience. If you have any ideas, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Regimental Headquarters who will refer you to the relevant person in the Vikings or Poachers.

Our Affiliated ACF and CCF Detachments

Bancroft's School CCF

Senior NCO's report

This year has been an enormous success for the Army section, from the new recruits through to the more senior ranks. For me, the highlight of the year was the Biennial Review, which was a great achievement, as recognised by all those who attended the occasion, with special praise coming from the inspecting officer. Despite the weather proving to be a problem, the day was extremely successful and showed the entire contingent - both Army and RAF sections - as one of the best in the area.

Along with enjoyment and satisfaction came a degree of sadness and disappointment reflected in the cancellation of adventurous training due to the foot and mouth outbreak. For the U6th cadets, it was to be their last and thus proved even more disheartening. However, we did benefit from a week's extra revision for the exams; time will tell as to whether this will have been beneficial or not.

The Army section was, as usual, divided into a number of groups, all of which had their own goals to achieve. These goals would not have been accomplished without the excellent teaching and guidance given by the ever-helpful and committed NCOs, so to them I say a big thank you.

With recruits being their usual immature and boisterous selves, it is the responsibility of the NCOs to mould them into well-drilled, first-class cadets. All recruits passed their shooting and safety test at



an extremely high standard, and their military knowledge and understanding shone through. The Training Platoon also performed remarkably well, all passing their drill and turnout test with a minimum mark of 75 per cent. The Advanced Infantry were split between LSW (Light Support Weapon) lessons and the BITs (Basic Instructional Techniques) course, switching after having completed the training on each.

This summer saw a record number of applicants for a variety of leadership courses and reports so far suggest members of our contingent acquitted themselves well; I am certain that the skills learnt will be quickly implemented. We are fortunate in having a group of excellent NCOs waiting to take command and demonstrate their powers of leadership.

Finally, I would like to thank all the officers and W02 Spiers, whose efforts and support this year have been excellent, as ever. For, without their hard work and preparation on all activities, the contingent would not run as smoothly and efficiently as it has. Therefore, I thank you and leave it to next year's NCOs to raise and improve the section even further.



Gresham's School CCF

Lt Col RH Peaver, Contingent Commander writes:

Foot and mouth disease severely curtailed the contingent's training over the summer period, with Easter adventure training camp, Army section annual camp, expedition training and some MOD-sponsored courses being cancelled due to the outbreak.

Fortunately, however, during the summer holidays our popular annual Snowdonia mountain activities camp, RAF Camp at Coningsby, Bisley Camp and a visit to 20 Armoured Brigade at Paderborn Garrison were able to go ahead.

All of these ventures were highly successful and provided an enjoyable and worthwhile end to an otherwise disrupted training year. With 100 new recruits joining the contingent this September, we look forward to a busy and productive new academic year.

Photo: Gresham School CCF in Germany. The first aiders seem confident, but the casualty still looks unhappy.



Our Affiliated ACF and CCF Detachments

Uppingham School CCF



A silver collection - Shooting as a school's major sport

Uppingham School CCF had a very successful target shooting season reaping honours from most if not all the competitions they entered in the season.

Winning the much sought after Ashburton Shield was the icing on the cake, but also winning the Marling, and others made this one of the best seasons many can remember.

Many young shots stayed on to compete in the open meeting and gleaned a range of honours.

The Master IC shooting Peter Warren (an old Viking) and SSI of the school, stated: 'At the start of a season seldom would you dare say here we have a winning team but this year the feeling was there, and a well disciplined, organised and motivated team went forth to grab the glory'.

Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force

Despite the restrictions on training due to the foot and mouth outbreak members of Lincolnshire ACF have not been idle. In June members of the county attended the East of England Show at Peterborough where demonstrations of cadet activities were displayed by members of 2 Squadron next to the Regular Army 9th/12th Lancers stand. Here hundreds of cards for the Camouflage Campaign were distributed to prime teenagers with an interest in the Army or Cadet Force.

Waddington International Air Display was the venue in early July with the cadets from 1 Company manning the recruiting caravan among displays of the Royal Engineers and the REME with their armoured recovery tank. Following this weekend a seminar for potential officers and instructors was held at the Cadet Centre which 25 interested parties attended.

1 Company cadets were involved in another major event when they attended the Lincoln Water Festival held on the Brayford Pool,



Brigade Commander 49 (E) Bde, Brig DR Wilson, chats to the cadets of cadre 6 at Napier Barracks on his visit to camp after arriving by helicopter.

Our Affiliated ACF and CCF Detachments

which is close to the centre of Lincoln and the new University of Lincolnshire and Humberside. Again many cadet-recruiting leaflets were distributed and more potential officers and instructors showed interest.

Finally, through the assistance of Coningsby RAF station a one star first aid course was held in June in order to have more of the cadets qualified in preparation for the county annual camp. Annual camp was held at Napier Barracks, Folkestone from 12 to 23 August.

Success for Skegness Detachment

Skegness Detachment of the Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force, which is affiliated to the Royal Anglian Regiment, has recently been awarded the Lucas Tooth County Championship Shield for the best detachment in Lincolnshire 2000/2001. Skegness beat off stiff competition from the other 32 detachments in the county to be awarded the shield for the first time since the detachment was re-established in 1983. The trophy was presented by the County

Commandant, Col Simon Frere-Cook MBE, at Annual Camp.

Brother and sister, Sgt Maj Ashley Wheeler and Cpl Suzanna Wheeler collected the trophy. The trophy was first presented in 1908 and is the most prestigious award presented by the county. To win the award the cadets from the detachment must consistently perform to high standards on all company and county weekends throughout the year, complete Army proficiency certificate tests to a high level and contribute significantly to the local community.

The award was particularly poignant for the detachment commander of the last 11 years, Capt Mark Smith. Mark has been promoted to take on the role of Company Training Officer for Three Company. Mark's successor will be SSgt Jamie Nisbet who has been involved with the detachment as both a cadet and adult instructor for over 10 years.

A number of ex Skegness cadets currently serve with the Royal Anglian Regiment, including SSgt Glen Jackson, Cpl Shannon Smart, L/Cpl Gordon Wells and Pte Carl Smith.



Skegness Detachment - winners of the Lucas Tooth Shield.

WE, THE LIMBLESS, LOOK TO YOU FOR HELP

We come from two World Wars, Korea, Kenya, Malaya, Aden, Cyprus, Ulster, The Falklands and all those areas of turmoil where peace must be restored.

Now, disabled and mainly aged, we must look to you for help. Please help by helping our Association.

BLESMA looks after the limbless from all the Services. It helps to overcome the shock of losing arms, or legs or an eye. And, for the severely handicapped, it provides Residential Homes where they can live in peace and dignity.

Help the disabled by helping BLESMA with a donation now or a legacy in the future. We promise you that not one penny will be wasted.

PLEASE GIVE TO THOSE WHO GAVE

Give to those who gave - please



Donations and information: The Chairman, National Appeal Committee,
BLESMA, Midland Bank PLC, 60 West Smithfield, London EC1A 9DX

BLESMA
BRITISH LIMBLESS
EX SERVICE MEN'S ASSOCIATION



THE FIRST STEP
by a recent, young double amputee

The Associations



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

Chapel

A roll of honour recording the names of members of the Royal Norfolk Regiment who died on active service in Korea and



From left: Maj Tim Chatting and WO2 Paul Boxall in the Regimental Chapel Norwich Cathedral with the Korea and Cyprus Roll of Honour.

The last surviving Warrant Officers of 1 Royal Norfolk who sailed to Pusan, Korea in September 1951. They met for a reunion drink at the Maid's Head Hotel, Norwich 50 years to the day after they had sailed.

Cyprus in the 1950s was dedicated on 30 September. Association members and relatives of those listed filled the knave for the dedication which took place as part of the cathedral's evensong. Afterwards the book was processed to the Regimental Chapel.

Regimental Garden

The memorial garden, which was opened on 2 June by the Bishop of Norwich, is developing well. Some minor changes are planned for the winter months and all the indications are that the garden will become a popular visitor attraction, and a place for quiet contemplation.

Regimental Museum

In a small private ceremony held on 28 August Mrs Jamieson handed to the museum her late husband's medals in accordance with his wishes. The Jamieson VC along with his other medals will be displayed as soon as the necessary security enhancements have been implemented.

Association Events

The annual dinner held at the TA Centre, Aylsham Road on 29 September was



attended by 173 members. Maj Gen Sutherell presided, and a raffle organised by Mr P Boxall raised over £300 to go to the Memorial Garden Fund. Among those present was Mr Tony Towell who met up with 15 members of the Machine Gun Platoon who he had last seen in Korea nearly 50 years before.

Reports from the King's Lynn and Gorleston and Gt Yarmouth Branch dinners will appear in the next issue.



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

News from the Branches

Throughout the summer the branches have been as active as usual. Outings have been undertaken, fetes have been organised and coaches have been packed full and driven to Bury to attend the annual celebration of Minden Day! The arrival of lots of new members is good news but does not lessen the sadness we all feel when we read of the deaths of Old Comrades.

Minden Day 2001

This year the Minden reunion took place on Sunday 29 July. It was the warmest Minden

Day that anyone could remember, the coaches rolled into Gibraltar Barracks and cars crowded into the shade of the woods to the west of the parade ground. No one knows the exact numbers attending but the milling throng really does seem to get bigger each year.

The marquee was crowded for the Drumhead service with many members and their families, grouped together outside, joining in the hymns. After the service the President of the Association, Brig Deller, made his annual 'report to the Regiment'. Among other matters he explained changes

to the organisation of the Regiment's affairs relating to the Cottage Homes, the new museum and the chapel. He spoke also of the planned visit in September to Holland and Belgium (see below for a full report on this). Brig Deller also confirmed the regularisation of the appointment of a number of Honorary Vice Presidents of the Regimental Association (HVPs). The three current HVPs, Peter Dean, Arthur Smith and Frank Matthews were joined by Anstice Gilson-Taylor, Hugh Merriam, 'Tidler' Martin, Jack Gingell, Giles Creagh, BJ Clarke and Ray Picton.

The Associations

The President also had some bad news. Firstly, after many years of hard work on behalf of The Regiment for Minden Day, Stan Bullock had decided he needs a rest. It seems unlikely that the work he did could be taken over by any other one person and it may be that a committee will succeed him! At any rate, we all owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude. The second bit of bad news was that Maj William Reeve, our Regimental Secretary, is retiring. The Brigadier spoke of William's untiring efforts on our behalf in all affairs of the Regiment and particularly in welfare matters. On behalf of the Regiment, Brig Deller presented William with a cheque made out to a firm of fishing tackle providers to ensure, as he said, that the money would have to be spent on his favourite sport and not otherwise squandered!

The remainder of the day passed very happily in a blaze of sunshine. The march past was as large as ever and the sweat stood out on many a brow. The displays were as interesting as in the past and much appreciated. Many present commented favourably on the performance of the band and drums though the Regimental March was conspicuous by its absence.

Memorial to Lt Col ET Lummis

Following Eric Lummis's death in June 1999, the Mayor of Coleville-Montgomery, M Guy Legrand and his council presented a plaque to the Regiment in memory of Eric's important part in fostering relations between the town and the Regiment. At the centre of his work was the creation of the memorial at Hillman, a place of such importance in the battles fought by 1 Suffolk following the D-Day landings in Normandy. On Wednesday, 1 August 2001 there was a Service of dedication for this memorial plaque in The Suffolk Regiment Chapel, St Mary's Church, Bury St Edmunds. The chapel was filled with family, friends and Old Comrades, including D-Day veterans.

The service was taken by the Revd Canon John Hayden. Maj Hugh Merriam MC gave the address, the lesson was read by a granddaughter and the plaque was dedicated by the Revd Canon Hughes supported by Brig Deller. The service concluded with the playing of the Regimental Marches, *The Duchess* and *Speed the Plough*. Afterwards the family invited the congregation to take refreshments at the west end of the church.

Thanksgiving Service for Maj WJ ('Johnny') Calder

Johnny Calder, late of The Suffolk, East Anglian and Royal Anglian Regiments sadly died on 17 July 2001. A very moving Thanksgiving Service was held in All Saints Church, Melbourn on 24 July. The church was packed with family and local and Regimental friends from all three regiments. One of Johnny's grandsons, Maj Charles Calder, the Royal Anglian Regiment, gave the address in which he painted a charming picture of a good man we in the Suffolk Regiment will miss greatly.

57th Anniversary Visit to Belgium and Holland - 20-23 September 2001

A coach party of 48, and others who travelled independently, went on this anniversary trip. 1 Suffolk had been closely involved in the liberation of Hamont in Belgium on 20 September 1944 and the Battalion liberated Weert just across the frontier in Holland on 22 September 1944 and it was to these two towns that the Suffolk party now made its way.

In the afternoon the party moved to Hamont in Belgium where it first visited the town museum and then assembled for the parade which was the highlight of the weekend. The occasion was the unveiling of a plaque to honour the part played by 1 Suffolk in the liberation of Hamont. The parade comprising the Suffolk contingent and Belgian veterans was formed up on the



The Street Sign and Suffolk Badge at Weert

square facing the town hall. Our President, Brig Bill Deller, was the senior British representative present and thus accompanied the Mayor of Hamont throughout the ceremony. (The GOC 1st Division and the British Ambassador were otherwise occupied with the recent terrorist crisis). The Regimental Colour of 1 Royal Anglian was marched on and the ceremony began. The Mayor and Brig Deller inspected the parade and unveiled the plaque erected on the wall of the town Hall, wreaths were then laid and *Last Post* and *Reveille* were sounded, the Exhortation was then spoken by Mr Trevor Lewis. The day concluded with an excellent supper with wine and coffee when the Suffolk party were guests of Hamont.

On Saturday the commonwealth war graves cemeteries were visited at Overloon where there are 23 Suffolk graves and Verrey where there are 22 Suffolk graves. There then followed a visit to the ruins of Geysteren Castle where 1 Suffolk fought its last major action in the Second World War from 24 to



The Memorial Plaque to Lt Col Eric Lummis



The Plaque Dedicated at Hamont on 22 September 2001

The Associations

30 November, 1944.

The weekend was rounded off on Saturday night with the traditional dinner, it was a convivial affair with an excellent menu and an abundance of wine. Brig Bill thanked all who had taken part in organising the weekend and he in turn was thanked for his part as 'the driving force' behind everything we do within the Association.

Annual Dinners

The annual Minden Officers' Dinner took place as usual at Culford School, on 28 July. Forty-eight officers and ladies were present. Next year's dinner will take place at the same venue on Saturday 3 August.

The annual Suffolk Regiment Sergeants' Dinner took place at Blenheim Camp, Bury St Edmunds on 15 September 2001. There

was a good gathering with ladies in attendance for the first time.

The date for next year's dinner is not yet confirmed.

Anyone who would like more information about next year's dinners should, in the first instance, contact the Area Regimental Secretary, Col Tony Taylor on 01603 400290 or 01284 752394.



The Cambridgeshire Regimental Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association

Annual Service of Commemoration and Reunion

Once again there was a good turnout for the annual service and reunion at Ely on Sunday 3 June on a bright and blustery day. Due to the early timing of the service in the cathedral this year there was no parade before the service.

The congregation was welcomed by the Dean and a particular welcome to Mr F Grounds who, in his capacity as one of Her Majesty's Deputy Lieutenants, deputised for the Lord Lieutenant who was officiating at the Duxford Land Warfare extension opening.

The Standards were laid up as usual but this year there appeared to be fewer than usual, due no doubt to the increase in age of members. This year we were very grateful to have some 75 members of D (Cambridgeshire) Company of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Anglian Regiment present, led by their company commander, Maj Alex Beart. This was a very good effort as they had recently moved to Pirbright from Northern Ireland and were still officially on leave.

The service took the usual form and the address was given by the new Precentor of the cathedral, the Rev Nicholas Woodcock, an ex naval man, whose theme was 'Peace, the peacemakers and the peacekeepers'.

The march past this year had to be rearranged due to policing problems and started at the opposite end to usual ending up on the cathedral plain. The salute was taken by Mr F Grounds and the City of Ely Military Band led the parade and afterwards gave a short recital. After the Old Comrades came the very smart contingent from the Royal Anglians and bringing up the rear were the also very smart contingent from the Army Cadets with the pipes and drums.

An excellent tea was laid on in the Hayward Theatre, kindly supplied by the ACF catering department. Altogether another day to remember and hopefully the

commemoration can carry on in the future, albeit with a declining number of Old Comrades.

Officers' Dinner

The President of the Association, Lt Col WF Badcock MBE, presided at the annual dinner of the Officers' Club held at Waterbeach on 5 May. There was a very good turnout of members and the guests of honour were Mr James Crowden, Lord Lieutenant and Maj Alex Beart, the company commander of D (Cambridgeshire) Company of the 1st Royal Anglian Regiment, and Mrs Beart.

Telegrams from Her Majesty The Queen, The Queen Mother and Princess Margaret were read out and Maj Beart expressed his thanks to the Regiment for their support. Col Colin Elsdon, the Commandant of the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force, gave a report of the progress of the force over the year including the difficulties of finding a campsite this year due to the foot and mouth outbreak.

The President thanked Col Elsdon for assisting and supporting the annual dinner and also to the ACF caterer Mrs M De' Ath for providing such an excellent meal.

The Cambridgeshire Regiment Collection

The Guardians have now moved on to a further re-organisation of our museum store which, after its transfer to Bury St Edmunds, has been reviewed by Col Pat Macdonald and Maj Dick Gould who made their recommendations to the Guardians for retention and disposal of artefacts in order to retain important items, and remove others that have no relevance to the Cambridgeshire Regiment. This has allowed certain items to be passed on extended loan to our sister Regiments Suffolk and Essex Regimental displays, with the balance to continue to be held in store. The Guardians feel this is a very satisfactory outcome, but that certainly

does not mean that we do not still wish to acquire historical Regimental items as and when they become available.

Our displays at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford are in good order and, with the new exhibitions in the military wing, we have undoubtedly seen a greater 'footfall'. The good relationship there with Martin Boswell on our behalf, and George Boss for the Royal Anglians is of great help and importance, as indeed is the co-operation and the administrative help we receive from all at Bury St Edmunds.

Col Pat Macdonald did much to get our museum at Duxford off the ground, and over the past two years we have consolidated and expanded that work. It is now important to maintain our displays and continue to add to them. It is hoped that Old Comrades and their relatives will always wish to share some of the interesting and historical items they have in their possession.

It is important to preserve the past, without which there could be no future.

There remains a quantity of photographs in our possession which are currently being evaluated. The County Records Office which holds a selection of Regimental archives has expressed interest in their transcription and store. We have recently received a Sergeant Major's dress uniform jacket in poor condition. More importantly we hope to acquire the medals of Sgt Maj Jones DCM MM, he won in the First World War. Interestingly, he was still serving with the Regiment at the beginning of the Second World War.

Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force Supporters League

The recently re-instituted Cambridgeshire ACF Supporters League goes from strength to strength. From small membership in the early months, last year saw 32 members, and this has grown now to 57. A lively management team organises several social events during the year, one of which is

The Associations

reported below. But the main purpose of the league is to give support to the Cambridgeshire ACF through its Commandant, Col Colin Elsdon.

League members come from all walks of life, but all appreciate the superb training that the ACF gives to the youth of Cambridgeshire, and are keen, if only through their subscriptions (£10 per year per couple), to support this. A free quarterly newsletter keeps them informed of ACF and league activities. Interested? A telephone call or letter to the Secretary will get you full details of application for membership and a copy of the latest newsletter will be sent to you immediately on joining.

The Secretary is Alan Spillett, Rose Cottage, West End, Gorefield, Wisbech Cambs PE13 4PH. Tel: 01945 870588. Email: AlanSpillett@Jantemmarsh.fsnet.uk.

Recently, the league organised a visit to

the battlefields, the first stop was the Menin Gate where the party witnessed the impressive ceremony of the *Last Post* sounded by the trumpeters of the Ypres Fire Service.

The following morning they visited the 1914-18 Museum, the Cathedral and St George's Memorial Church in Ypres where a brass plaque commemorates the British units that took part in the battle for Ypres including the Cambridgeshires.

In the afternoon they visited Hill 62, Sanctuary Wood Museum, Essex Farm Cemetery where poppy crosses were placed on the grave of Pte Sam Butt from Whittlesey by Maureen Watson on behalf of Sam's sister and one by Ursula Cuffe on behalf of Whittlesey Town Council at the Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest looked after by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, and registering 34,888 names. President Wally and his daughter Diane placed flowers

in memory of Wally's father whose name is recorded there. On the way back, the Langemark German Cemetery was visited but which by comparison, was depressing in both layout and upkeep.

That evening they returned to Ypres for the *Last Post* and wreath laying ceremony, where several British Legion Standards were paraded in the presence of a large crowd. A number of wreaths were laid on behalf of the British units, including one provided by Bob Anderson and laid by Wally for the Cambridgeshire Regiment. The next day they visited Vimy Ridge where the Canadians held a line only a few yards from the Germans. The trenches and tunnels, also the shell craters are preserved. It is still too dangerous to wander over the area, but a visit to trenches and deep tunnels is a must for any visiting party. They are a stark reminder of how things were during World War One.



The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Association and the Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Lincolnshire)

Benevolence 2000/2001

The General Committee of the Association during 2000/2001 considered 36 cases for benevolence. With the assistance of the Army Benevolent Fund, the Royal British Legion and many other ex-servicemen's charities a total of £17,591 was disbursed by the Association to ex-members of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment and their families who had fallen on hard times.

Regimental Reunion

The 54th annual Regimental Reunion was held in Lincoln on Sunday 23 September. The new format of holding the AGM in the spring and the reunion in the autumn turned out not to be as popular as originally expected, with only 57 members attending the luncheon.

The morning started off with Association members forming up behind the Nottinghamshire Hussars and Army Cadet Force Band who led the march to St Nicholas Church where family and friends met them before attending the annual church service. The Rev David Yabacombe took the service during which wreaths were laid and the *Last Post* and *Reveille* sounded. Afterwards they marched back to Newport Drill Hall before returning to Sobraon Barracks to enjoy an excellent carvery lunch and the usual liquid refreshments. The President, Maj Gen REJ Gerrard-Wright CB CBE DL, presided.

Our sincere thanks from all those who attended the Regimental reunion go to the

company commander, Maj Atkinson of B Company, the East of England Regiment for allowing us to use the facilities of the TA Centre and also to both the bar staff and the caretaker, David Metcalfe MBE, whose contributions ensured the success of the event.

Malayan Reunion

The annual Malayan reunion was held in the TA Centre, Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln, on Saturday 6 October. Once again it was a great success with over 200 members attending, many of whom had travelled from far and wide to be there. It was a wonderful evening and there was no shortage of the odd yarn or two, which tended to improve with the passage of time. I am sure everyone who attended would like to express his or her sincere thanks to Colin Coggan who arranged a very enjoyable evening.

Officers' Reunion Lunch

The Officers' reunion lunch was held in the Officers' Club in London on Wednesday 22 August. Even though numbers were down from last year (mainly due to the event having to be rearranged at short notice because of London Underground strikes) it was a most successful event. Those who made the journey enjoyed a splendid lunch and were able to renew friendships in a very cosy and pleasant atmosphere.

Details of next year's Officers' Luncheon, being held in the Officers' Club in London

on Wednesday 12 June 2001, will be sent out in due course. Anyone not on the mailing list should write to Capt John Lee at Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln.

Battlefield Tour

Six members of the Stamford Branch recently embarked on a five-day tour of the 'Battlefields of the Great War'. Their journey took them via the Channel Tunnel to Roubaix, where they stayed at the Grand Hotel Mercure. The following morning they travelled to the Ypres Salient area. Here they visited Sanctuary Wood at Hill 62, where many of the original trenches can be seen and a large collection of World War One artefacts; the Hooze Mine Crater near the site of the battle of Menin Road from Hellfire Corner to Geluveld in Flanders Fields. They then went into the town of Ypres, which was completely demolished by shellfire during the war but is now a very impressive town with some magnificent buildings in particular the town hall and the cathedral. They visited the British - St George's Church in Ypres well known for its decorative embroidered kneelers depicting many of the Regiment's capbadges followed by a very interesting tour around the famous museum at Cloth Hall. They also had the privilege of being part of the guard of honour at the daily ceremony held at the Menin Gate. Their next stop was the tank memorial at Courcellette, Essex Farm at Hill 60 and the largest military cemetery

The Associations

at Tyne Cot, Passchendaele.

On day three they travelled to the Somme calling at the town of Albert which is famous for 'The Golden Virgin' of basilica. The museum is in a 10m deep, 230m long underground tunnel, which recreates the daily life of a soldier in the trench during the offensive of 1916. They also visited one of the largest mine craters on the Western Front called the Lochnagar Crater. This crater is closely associated with 10th Battalion, the Lincolnshire Regiment, 'The Grimsby Chums' who suffered a large number of casualties during this offensive. Later that day they visited the Newfoundland Memorial Park and the Devonshire

Cemetery at Mametz.

The next port of call was the Thiepval Memorial, built by the British government in 1932, an imposing monument, which commemorates 72,085 British and South African men who have no known grave. Here they laid a wreath in remembrance of those members of the Lincolnshire Regiment whose names – more than 700 – are carved in the stone walls.

On the following day they called at Vimy Ridge. This Canadian monument of twin white pylons took 11 years to build and contains almost 6,000 tons of limestone. At the top are figures representing peace and justice, truth, knowledge, gallantry and

sympathy. Below them set in a 100 hectare park are the names of 11,285 Canadians killed in France whose final resting place is unknown. They also visited one of the huge tunnels dug under no man's land where, before an attack, 1,000 men would wait until the artillery barrage had stopped and the mines had been set off allowing them to penetrate the German lines. This tactic was used to great effect and thus began the German defeat.

The following day they started the long journey home, once again via the Channel Tunnel. It had been a long and hectic five days but extremely interesting and well worth it.



The Royal Anglian Regiment and Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association

The Regiment's Museum

The trustees are pleased to report that the appeal has raised sufficient funds to complete phase one of the museum's refurbishment by the end of November. The current display has been dismantled and the conservationist and manikin-maker have been appointed. New wall panels and the exhibit captions are at proof stage. Everything is on schedule except for the completion of the audio-visual.

The museum has recently received one of its most interesting exhibits, a diary, written in the trenches in 1917, by Sgt EJ Wildbore of the 6th Battalion. It contains pressed flowers from the battlefield and a blood-stained Iron Cross taken from the body of a German soldier. Sgt Wildbore's DCM and citation will be exhibited with his diary.

Association Annual Dinner and Dance

The Annual Association dinner and dance was held at the Castle Hall, Hertford on Saturday 2 June 2001. The evening started in the usual way by marching in the Branch Standards to the old Regimental March *Mundolinata* played by the Band of the Essex Yeomanry. However, this year we were honoured to have the Regimental Colour with a Colour Party from the 2nd Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment. These were marched into the Hall to their Regimental March *The Lincolnshire Poacher*.

An excellent dinner was provided during which the band played to their usual high standard. At the end of the dinner toasts were drunk to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief and absent comrades.

Our Chairman, Brig Angus Robertson, in his speech welcomed our guests, Lt Col AJC Wild, Commanding Officer of the 2nd

Battalion and Mrs Wild, Col H Morgan, President of the Essex Regiment Association and Doctor Morgan. He also welcomed a party of friends from the Essex Regiment Association. He thanked those in the Association for all their good works. Before proposing the toast to the Regiment he finished as usual with one of his jokes.

In his response Lt Col Wild gave a very full report on the activities of his Battalion and pledged his support for the close links that the Association has with the Battalion.

A message of loyal greetings had been sent by our Chairman to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and a reply had been received from her.

It was then time for dancing and this year live music was provided and all too soon it was time to finish in our usual way by marching round the hall to our old Regiment's march.

The 16th Foot Officers' Lunch

This lunch was again held on 27 June at the Lion Hotel, Buckden as this venue continues to prove popular, being conveniently situated for most and carrying with it the guarantee of good food. There was an excellent choice of menu and the table wine lasted throughout the meal!

Twenty-one officers and their ladies attended and it was a nice surprise to welcome two new diners, both former second lieutenants in the Bedfords. A thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all who attended and everyone seemed keen to continue at the same venue next year.

The Royal Anglian Regimental Gathering - Bassingbourn

The weather at Bassingbourn on Sunday 15 July 2001 was sunny with a nice cool breeze which was really fortunate as the weather

for most days beforehand was awful and on the Saturday it had rained all day. With the Branch Standards from all the Associations on the Parade Ground the Drumhead Service was held. The Chaplain, Maj (Rev) MD Franks MBE gave the address which was based on the tale of the Good Samaritan and he finished with a joke that went down very nicely with the congregation.

The Associations with their Standards then marched passed the Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment, Gen Sir Michael Walker GCB CMG CBE ADC Gen. As has proved the case over the other years, our Association had the longest marching contingent and seven Branch Standards on parade.

After the parade was dismissed it was a rush to the bar and food stalls for both liquid and solid provisions, the first mentioned preferable! The facilities for the family were better organised than the previous year. The Normandy Band of The Queen's Division gave a display of marching and music and the combined Corps of Drums of the 2nd Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment and the East of England Regiment gave a fine display of pipe and drum music. An excellent day spent meeting old friends soon came to an end.

The visit to the 2nd Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment by members of the Association

On 12 September 2001 members of all the Battalion's Affiliated Associations (Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, Leicester, Lincoln and Northamptonshire) were invited to spend the day with them at their barracks at Chepstow, many travelling the day before to stay the night. There were only four members of the Association staying that night and when they arrived the Battalion was on a one-hour standby as a result of the

The Associations

terrible terrorist atrocities in America. However, everyone was made very welcome and were most warmly entertained for an evening in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. The 'Bedford' four (Luton Branch) were joined by WO2 Phil Philpot, Pioneer Sergeant Greg Lawrence and although on leave Sgt 'Jock' Mutch who came to the Mess especially to meet the Old Comrades. These three (all ex-3rd Battalion, and Essex boys) entertained the 'Bedford' four in a great way.

News from the Branches

There is not much to report from the branches for this issue. Branch members attended the Association dinner and dance on 2 June and the Royal Anglian Regimental Day at Bassingbourn on 15 July and all are looking forward to the Association wreath laying ceremony and reunion at Kempston on 18 November and to their various annual branch dinners with which they usually finish the year.

The Bedford Branch held a service at the Church of the Transfiguration at Kempston in conjunction with the regular congregation on 12 August 2001. Some 50 members of the Association attended with the Standards of Bedford, Hertford, St Albans and the Hertfordshire Regiment Association in attendance. The church houses the old depot chapel as it is situated only 700 yards from the old barracks.

Following the service members and their guests adjourned to the 'Keep' where an excellent buffet lunch was enjoyed, after which Brig Robertson presented the

Masonic Centre with a picture of 'The 16th Foot at the Battle of Blenheim'. Later many members and guests visited the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Room in the 'Keep' and spent time examining the memorabilia on display. A very good day for the Bedford Branch.

The Hertfordshire Regiment Association
On 8 May 2001 48 members of the Association and their wives left Hertford to travel to France via the shuttle for a three-day battlefield tour.

During the day they visited Arramanches Museum and arrived at Mondeville, Caen where they stayed the night. A busy day on the Wednesday as members visited the Mulberry Docks, Juno and Sword Beaches before going on to Pegasus Bridge, Merville Battery (airborne landing), Ranville Cemetery and finally what they really came for, Ver-Sur-Mer.

Here they were welcomed by the mayor and a ceremony was held at the 2nd Battalion the Hertfordshire Regiment's memorial where a wreath was laid. The Association's Standard and the French Standards were lowered and the exhortation was said by Mr Cyril Austin. *Reveille* and *Last Post* were also sounded. During this event Col N Kelsey OBE TD MA the President of the Hertfordshire Regiment Association presented the mayor with a Regimental plaque.

Before returning home on the Thursday the party travelled to Mere Oglise and visited the US Airborne Museum, the German War Cemetery at La Campe, Point Due Hoc,

Omaha Beach, the US landings and St Laurent Cemetery where a wreath was laid by Cyril Austin and the exhortation spoken by Lt Col DFW Willard TD JP. The party arrived back at Hertford by 2200hrs. A great tour enjoyed by all.

Members and their wives attended the annual dinner of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association at the Civic Hall, Hertford and had an enjoyable evening. As Den Corbett has had to retire as Association Standard Bearer the Standard was carried for his first time by Roger Francis who did a first class job. Cyril Austin and Den Corbett were presented with certificates of merit for many years' service to the Association.

At the Army Benevolent Fund Beating Retreat at Haileybury College on 30 June, members of the Association enjoyed an excellent musical display with many Standards on parade including our own carried by Roger.

The Royal Anglian Regimental Gathering at Bassingbourn was attended by some members and their wives. The Standard, carried by Roger, took part in the Drum Head Service and the march past of the Old Comrades. The weather was good, just a nice cool breeze blowing across the parade ground. The Normandy Band and the Corps of Drums from the 2nd Battalion and the TA entertained the crowd for another enjoyable day.

The Association annual reunion will be held on 4 November 2001 at noon for 1pm, at the Mayflower Place, Hertfordbury, Hertford.



The Royal Tigers Association and

The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Leicestershire)

Royal Tigers' Weekend

Royal Tigers' Weekend this year was held between 23 - 24 June. This year's reunion had a new venue - Devonshire Place in London Road, Leicester. The reunion started as usual with the annual general meeting of the Association which was attended by 60 members.

The President invited Sarah Levitt, Head of Leicestershire County Council Museums and Heritage, to address the meeting and she outlined her plans for developing the Regimental Museum. The 76th annual dinner was then held and it is most pleasing to report that once again attendance was good, with 191 people sitting down, which was admirable. It was a great pleasure to have in-pensioner Myles Foster from the Royal Hospital with us again, but sadly

Moshe Freedman was unable to join us this year. The President of the Association, Maj Gen AJG Pollard CB CBE DL, presided. The caterers excelled themselves with splendid décor, a first class dinner and plenty of wine, so everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

On the Sunday, the annual service was held in Leicester Cathedral but this year we returned to the Regimental Chapel. We welcomed to the service the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire and the Hon Mrs Brooks, the Lord Mayor of Leicester and the Lady Mayoress and the Chairman of Leicestershire County Council. The Chancellor of Leicester Cathedral took the service and preached a moving sermon. The Standard of the Association was carried by Mr RE Jones.

After the service, the civic dignitaries supported the Lord Lieutenant when he took the salute as the Association marched past which was, as always, a very moving spectacle.

After the usual march to the town hall and dismissal, members returned to Devonshire Place to continue the reunion. It was another very enjoyable weekend, during which the weather was kind to us.

1st Battalion Reunion

The 50th/8th/ 1st Battalion held its annual reunion on 29 September 2001 at Ulverscroft Road, thanks to C Company, East of England Regiment. Seventeen members were able to attend and enjoyed excellent service from the bar and a splendid buffet..

This reunion fell on the 57th anniversary

The Associations

of the attack on the Depot de Mendicite, near Merxplas, which was heavily defended by the Germans. After fierce fighting, during which 25 officers and soldiers were killed and many were wounded, the day was won, so this was a particularly fitting day for this reunion. We are grateful to C Company of the East of England Regiment for their usual encouraging support.

60th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete
The Regiment was represented at the 60th Anniversary of the Battle of Crete by Lt Col JED Watson DSO.

The ceremony was attended by vast crowds, with three bands (one Greek, one Australian and one British) and a Royal Navy guard of honour on parade. Lt Col Derek Watson laid a wreath on behalf of the Regiment next door to that laid by HRH The Duke of Kent.

Visit to the Poachers

Taking up the invitation for the Regimental Association members to visit 2 Royal Anglian in Chepstow in Gloucestershire, a group travelled down on Tuesday 11 September, that fateful day that America was attacked by terrorists. We arrived in the early evening to find that the Battalion had been 'stood to'. They were ready to move with the possible task of guarding airports and a number of other key points against terrorist attacks.

Despite all this we were warmly welcomed and showed our accommodation and, although we were doubled up in the soldiers' accommodation, it was still very comfortable. First on the agenda was joining the members of the other Regimental Associations in the Sergeants' Mess for the official welcome.

An excellent curry, a real credit to the staff, was served and at the bar a pint of 'John Smiths' was just 80p. The Mess was packed with items of interest, paintings, medals and many items of silver on display, a number we recognised from the Royal Leicestershire Regiment. During the evening a number of Mess members joined us as the possibility of the Battalion being deployed receded. The Commanding Officer also joined us as the Battalion was finally stood down and he had a good chat to almost everyone there.

Breakfast was in the soldiers' dining room, the full fry-up and a gallon of tea. A coach then took us into Chepstow to visit the castle. After an hour walking the ramparts and climbing the towers, all traces of the previous night's overindulgence were gone and we returned to the camp.

Tea in the Sergeants' Mess was followed by a talk and slide show of the Battalion's role and recent tasks, training and sporting achievements.

The rest of the day, with a break for lunch in the Officers' Mess, was taken up with

visits to a number of stands to show off the Battalion's weapons, equipment and training. These stands were manned by soldiers of the Signals, Recce, Mortar, and Milan (anti-tank) platoons, a rifle platoon laid on a demonstration of riot control in an internal security situation and we all had a chance to fire the rifle on a very sophisticated facility called the small arms trainer, the poor scores being put down to a fault in the equipment! Computer error! Whatever the scores we all had great fun repelling an attack in the desert.

All the soldiers we met appeared very fit and enthusiastic and appeared to take great pride in explaining and demonstrating their weapons and equipment. They all seemed to be genuinely pleased to host us for the day. We finally ended back in the Sergeants' Mess for a cup of tea and the Commanding Officer's farewell speech. On our side everyone had thoroughly enjoyed the visit, the hospitality, the activities and not forgetting the cheap beer!

We are all very grateful to the Commanding Officer and all his officers and soldiers who made this such a really enjoyable and memorable visit.

Royal Tigers' Wood

Royal Tigers' Wood continues to thrive, and every visit there raises one's morale. Anyone needing a map of how to find the Wood should ask RHQ for one.



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

Bayeux Memorial to the Pompadours
D Day, 6 June 1944, saw the 2nd Battalion the Essex Regiment approaching the beach of Le Hamel where they landed without casualties at 1230hrs. In addition to their normal equipment they were wearing Mae Wests, and some were on bicycles.

On the evening of the same day they were on the outskirts of Bayeux which was their first major objective. Patrols were active and discovered that there was an effective anti-tank ditch to their front together with some German troops.

It was decided to delay their approach until the next morning, 7 June, when at 1000hrs, and supported by the tanks of the Sherwood Rangers, they took the town without damage or injury. A few enemy stragglers were

rounded up and after securing the post office (where they captured the German mail intact) and railway station, they proceeded on their way.

Bayeux, therefore, was the first major town to be liberated in the campaign, and this by the Essex Regiment.

While there has been a memorial to the Sherwood Rangers there has been nothing to record the work of our 2nd Battalion and so a committee was formed under the chairmanship of Col Geoffrey Morgan, President of the Essex Regiment Association, and with the backing of senior veterans of the campaign, to plan the commissioning and erection of a suitable memorial. This is now in hand and it will be made by David Dewey of Widford in

Hertfordshire in blue/grey Welsh stone.

The inscription, both in French and English will read:

*To commemorate the liberation of Bayeux
on 7 June 1944
and in honoured memory of all ranks of
the 2nd Battalion the Essex Regiment
'The Pompadours'
who gave their lives
in France, Belgium and Holland
6 June 1944 - 8 May 1945*

And so on 7 June 2002, and commencing with a short service at the Military Cemetery, the unveiling will take place. The Normandy Band of the Queen's Division will play and it is hoped that the Lord Lieutenant of Essex,

The Associations

the Lord Braybrooke, will officiate. Also present will be the Chairman of Essex County Council, Mayors of the County Boroughs, and Mayors of those London Boroughs that were formerly part of Essex. Many veterans will be on parade and it is hoped that the Colonel of The Regiment will give the address.

The 1st Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment are planning to send a Colour Party together with their Corps of Drums and the combined bands will Beat Retreat in the town that evening. The silver drums of the 2nd Battalion the Essex Regiment, presented by the people of Essex in 1935, will be piled for the service.

The Association recognises with immense gratitude the generous contributions made by their members, the county council and other local authorities and by a number of Essex based grant making trusts. Also for the considerable help given by the Royal Anglian Regiment.

Gathering of National Servicemen

On the afternoon of 26 August a gathering of national servicemen took place at Warley HQ. Some 300 attended, enjoying meeting Old Comrades and visiting the displays organised by Ian Hook, Keeper of the Essex Regiment Museum. The Association recruited 32 new members and it is hoped that more will join in due course.

The Chapel

The weekend of 7-9 September saw the Essex Heritage weekend where a number of selected places in Brentwood are opened to the public. This included our chapel which received 172 visitors. £130 was donated. A thanksgiving service for the Armed Forces was held in the chapel on 2 September.

Visit to The Royal Hospital

What has become our annual visit to the Royal Hospital Chelsea will take place on 21 October. We are looking forward to attending morning prayer and meeting the new chaplain, the Rev Richard Whittington who recently took over from the Rev Tom Hiney MC who has now moved to Windsor.

Annual Reunion

Our annual reunion took place at Warley on Sunday 24 June and was blessed by a day of glorious sunshine. We were pleased to welcome Col Julian Lacey CBE as inspecting officer and the Rt Rev Thomas McMahon, Bishop of Brentwood, accepted our invitation to preach the sermon. Guests included Mayors of our county boroughs and our good friend the MP for Thurrock, Andrew McKinley. Maj Simon Browne from C Essex Company the Royal Anglian Regiment also came together with Mrs Browne.

The highlight of the day was when Joan Westover from Warley HQ was presented with a certificate of appreciation from the Colonel of The Regiment for the work she does so willingly for the Association. Nothing could be better deserved and the

look on her face was one of complete surprise! Well done Joan.

Salamanca Lunch

A very successful lunch was held at the Marconi Club in Chelmsford on Friday 20 July. This replaced our usual dinner and dance and was very well attended.

Thurrock Branch

Through the winter months there was no hibernation and we were kept busy attending dinners and functions of the different Associations in our area.

March arrived and that meant the AGM. There were no changes in office or committee but we now have a new President, Lt Gordon Wren, who is also editor of *The Eagle*, Journal of the Essex Regiment Association. Our previous President, Capt George Green, resigned due to moving from the area and his health. We wish him well.

We were pleased to have our usual invitation from the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Association to attend their annual dinner and dance. We all enjoyed a very good evening with them. We were also invited to attend the new mayor's civic service in the borough of Thurrock.

In June a number of us went on a trip to France and Belgium arranged by Harry Conn, Secretary of the Polar Bear Association. Our itinerary was interesting with visits to Dunkirk, Lille, Gent, Arras, Rouen and the Menin Gate. We also visited other places where the Essex Regiment saw action in 1944 such as Banneville, Croisilles, Falais and Corneilles.

June saw our reunion at Warley and it was great to see our Regimental Chapel filled with Old Comrades from all the different battalions of the Regiment. The roll of honour read out during the service numbered 40. *We Will Remember Them*. I should mention that our regular service on the first Sunday of each month is always well attended.

Some of us travelled to York in August and took in two events. The 49th, Polar Bear Association AGM and dinner, and the Normandy Veterans Association annual service of Remembrance in York Minster. There was a very good turnout and the event was followed by lunch and entertainment at Imphal Barracks.

In March of this year we had a dedication in our Regimental Chapel of a memorial plaque the ATS/WRAC who served at Warley or other areas of Essex during World War Two.

Peter Giggins, Hon Sec.

4th Battalion Comrades Association

The Association has had another busy year, starting with our memorial service at the Regimental Chapel on Sunday 18 March, with over 100 Comrades and guests attending. The service was conducted by the Rev Tony Pugsley and was followed by light refreshments and a chat in the adjacent TA Centre.

Members attended the Essex Regiment

Association reunion on Sunday 24 June, and we were all much relieved to have a dry day. After the service several of us (those who were able) joined in the march past before retiring to the Keys Hall for tea. We were all delighted to see Joan Westover, who runs the Regimental Office, presented with a certificate of appreciation for all the work she does for us. A good day ended with a fine display on the lawn by the Corps of Drums of King Edward's Grammar School CCF.

Our annual garden party took place on 30 June, and again we were blessed with a fine summer's day. The afternoon's entertainment commenced with the orchestra of the Ursuline Girls School (Brentwood) treating us to a selection of popular music.

The peace of the afternoon was then shattered as the cadets from the Waltham Cross Detachment ACF entered the area in patrol formation, an unseen enemy opened fire on them from the thicket at the end of the gardens. The patrol dropped into a 'pepper pot' formation and put in a section attack to subdue the aggressors. After a furious firefight the enemy was routed, and the area policed and secured, suspects detained and searched, and the wounded treated. At the end of the display they asked permission to march off from Maj Gen Beckett, who complimented them on their skills and presented them with an Essex Regiment plaque in appreciation of their display.

Five members of the Association, including Charles Ashfield, John Teeder and Warrick Lewis (who was collecting his late father's medal) were presented with the Greek Medal by Maj Gen Beckett. The final display before tea was served by the Essex Corps of Drums.

After tea the orchestra of the Ursuline Girls School once again entertained us to a musical interlude after which the raffle was drawn. With the shadows lengthening, the Essex Corps of Drums entered the arena for the final display. As their display culminated towards the evening hymn and Retreat they were joined by the cadets from the Waltham Cross Detachment ACF. After permission to march off had been granted to Drum Major Mick Chapman by Lt Col Brewer the two units marched past to *Rule Britannia* and *The Pompadours* – the regimental marches of the Royal Anglian and Essex Regiments respectively. The day was deemed to be a great success by all those who attended.

Members have also actively supported other functions run by the Royal Anglian Regiment and Essex Regiment Association, including the Regimental Gathering at Bassingbourn, the National Service Gathering at Warley and the service of thanksgiving held at the Regimental chapel on Sunday 2 September.

We had a good TV coverage when our Chairman, George Green appeared on the television programme *Battlefields* about Alamein with Prof Richard Holmes on BBC2.

The Associations



The Northamptonshire Regiment Association and the Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Northamptonshire Branch)

Annual Reunion 2001

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

After the AGM, the dinner was held in the TA Centre with 189 members in attendance.

Gen Sir John Akehurst presided and proposed toasts of 'The Queen', 'Our Colonel-in-Chief' and 'Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Princess Alice'. Gen Akehurst said that, in reply to loyal telegrams sent to them earlier, telegrams of good wishes for a convivial evening had been received from Her Majesty The Queen, from Her Majesty

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother and from HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester. The General ended a short speech by proposing the toast 'The Regiment'.

After dinner, the Drums Platoon of the East of England Regiment gave us a splendid musical re-enactment of the Battle of Salamanca, which was much enjoyed by everyone.

The next day the weather just kept 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 principal guests were Mr J Mackaness DL (representing the Lord Lieutenant), the Mayor and Mayoress, Sir John and Lady Lowther, several officials of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and Judith Hodgkinson, the curator of the Regimental Museum.

The church service was well attended and, as usual, stimulating. The service was taken by the vicar of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Rev Neil Purvey-Tyrer. During the service, the new Finedon Branch Standard was dedicated.

After the sermon, the 10 Colours which used to hang in the chancel of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and which had been sealed in a special casket, were brought from the Crusader Round by a Regimental bearer party up the centre aisle and into the Regimental Chapel, where they were lowered into the floor. During their committal, a prayer, specially written by him, was offered by the Rev JEA Hopkins TD MA, late captain 1st Battalion the Northamptonshire Regiment. This was an extremely moving ceremony. After the service had been completed, a stone tablet was put into place over the casket.

After the service, the parade returned to Gibraltar Barracks for dismissal, en route giving an 'eyes left' to the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, who took the salute, and to the Mayor of Northampton and our President.

The centre of attention then moved to Clare Street where there was the all ranks' reception, at which the officers and their guests joined the usual throng. The threatened rain held off as everyone gathered for a very happy occasion and more reminiscences.

Another Reunion

Another very successful reunion was held at the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Club, Lorne Road, Northampton on 12 May 2001



Committal of Colours.

The Associations

by members of the Northamptonshire Regiment who had mainly served with the 1st Battalion (especially the Signals Platoon) in Germany and Hong Kong, although there were some from other stations/years. Many of the usual faces arrived and a number of animated conversations were going on. A beautiful buffet was supplied by Gwen Fleckney and Viki Ricketts and was well appreciated by all those in attendance. A terrific time was had by everyone and many, many laughs and amusing stories went on. Those of us who were to attend the Regimental reunion said our farewells in the knowledge that we would soon be meeting up again.

5th Battalion Reunion

The annual reunion of the 5th Battalion the Northamptonshire Regiment was again held at Barnsdale Lodge, near Rutland Water, on Sunday 13 May 2001. Before the start of an excellent lunch, Maj Donald Girdwood welcomed everyone and said how pleased he was to be there, in much better health than last year, and gave each of the ladies a lovely buttonhole. He also read out apologies from those unable to attend for various reasons. A minute's silence was held in respect of those comrades who had died since the last reunion. This reunion was another very happy and enjoyable occasion.

70th Battalion Reunion

The 10th annual reunion of the 70th Battalion the Northamptonshire Regiment took place on Friday 5 October 2001 at the Conservative and Unionist Club, Kettering. Mr Jeffery Brown chaired the proceedings and the Battalion was pleased and honoured to entertain as its principal guests the Mayor and Mayoress of Kettering, Cllr Robert Civil and Mrs Barbara Civil and Gen Sir John Akehurst, President of the Regimental Association. Forty-three sat down to an excellent meal and a very convivial evening ensued.

During the evening Gen Sir John Akehurst presented to the Mayor the 70th Battalion's silver Inter-Company Boxing Cup, confirming still further the special association the Regiment has with the borough of Kettering.

On Saturday 6 October 2001 the mayor kindly entertained 70th Battalion members and their ladies and friends to a buffet luncheon in his parlour at the municipal offices. In appreciation, members organised a raffle for the mayor's charity, which raised

a very satisfactory sum. Col Peter Worthy, Chairman of the Comrades' Association, on behalf of all present, most eloquently thanked the mayor for his kindness and generosity.

Peterborough Branch

A varied and active summer for our branch. We visited Elgoods Brewery with its recently restored gardens and this was a great success and the tour of the Real Ale production area and sampling of the beers was a particular pleasure.

Royal Anglian Day in early June at the TA Centre, Peterborough proved, as usual, to be the highlight of the summer with the added attractions of a paint ball range, Regimental exhibits, an excellent bar and buffet lunch.

Spirits were high at our annual barbecue with our friends from the Cambridgeshire Regiment and we were in no way dampened despite the torrential rain on the night which almost drowned the barbecue! It was, alas, rain, rain again for the visit to Duxford but it was an enjoyable day, everybody seeing the various museums and displays especially the excellent Battle of Britain exhibition.

We attended the Peterborough City's Garden of Peace service in August when the memorial stones were consecrated. Branch members and our Standard stood in proud tribute in front of the Northamptonshire and Royal Anglian Regimental stone along with 15 or more other regimental and other Associations which were all there commemorating those who had fought in wars of the last century.

Finedon Branch

The highlight for the branch this year was the dedication of the Branch Standard at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton at the Regimental Reunion in July. This, coupled with the entombing of the old Colours of the Northamptonshire Regiment, made a weekend that no branch member present will forget. Full praise must go to Dave Thornley who did a magnificent job as Standard Bearer, and he was a credit to the branch and the Association.

The branch has once again had a busy period with some form of function almost every month. Another day to remember was our annual canal boat trip. This year's was the best yet. The boat was packed with members and friends and all had a hilarious time. Once again thanks must go to John and Carol Behan for organising it.

Another milestone of note is that the ladies now attend our meetings every third month. They have brought some fresh ideas and make a most welcome contribution to the meetings. At the moment they are saving up for a weekend break at some very expensive location but as yet they have declined to inform us just where they are going!

Visit to the Poachers

Thirteen members of the Association, led by the Chairman, had a splendid 24 hour visit to Chepstow on 11/12 September to visit the Poachers. We were joined there by members of the Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Associations so we totalled over 100.

Most of the visitors arrived on the Tuesday evening, when they were royally entertained in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess with a magnificent curry and a large quantity of beer! This was the day of appalling agony for our American cousins and, with such international anxiety over worldwide terrorism, the Battalion was on very short notice to move to protect key points in the UK, so our hosts were unable to drink alcohol and we had to make up for that!

After the formal welcome we were broken down into groups, visiting various stands in rotation, showing us the modern equipment and weapons of the Recce Platoon, the mortars and anti-tank weapons of D (Sp) Company and the signals equipment. There was a chance to see anti-riot drills, practise our shooting in the simulator trainer and tour the barracks, including the PRI shop which seemed to do quite well from all the purchases made. In the middle of all this activity was a buffet lunch in the Officers' Mess.

Despite a few showers, it was a wonderful day which we all enjoyed immensely. It was a privilege to meet the first class NCOs and soldiers of the modern Army, who showed off their equipment with such confidence and pride. The two Messes had most impressive displays of silver for us to enjoy, and it was particularly nice to see various pieces of the Northamptonshire Regiment silver which has recently been transferred by the trustees to the 2nd Battalion. The Grafton Plate was in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess and looked really splendid.

We are all very grateful to the Commanding Officer and all his officers and soldiers who made this such a really enjoyable and memorable visit.

Obituaries

Maj WJ Calder



Maj 'Johnny' Calder died suddenly, but peacefully in his sleep, at his home on 17 July 2001.

He was born in April 1919 in Somerset, a county that he loved, and which left him with an enduring regard and understanding of country people and the rural way of life. This was to serve him well later in life when he readily identified with the Suffolk soldier. He was educated at Dean Close in Cheltenham and then joined RMC Sandhurst in 1938.

Johnny was commissioned into the Suffolk Regiment just before the outbreak of war in July 1939. While serving at Portsmouth he met Louise, then a Wren, and married her shortly afterwards in December 1942. He landed in Normandy with 8 Inf Bde as the staff captain, but was soon transferred to 1 Suffolk as a company commander. While serving with the Battalion he was twice wounded, the second time by a mortar in Holland, which ended his war.

After two years in Kenya on the HQ East Africa's staff as DAAG, Johnny returned to 1 Suffolk for the tour in Malaya. He played his part in the Battalion's marvellously successful operations against the Communist bandits, but narrowly survived an ambush in which the soldier in front of him and the one behind were killed.

A spell on the staff followed, as the Brigade Major of 50 Independent Infantry Brigade at Tidworth. The Brigade Commander was the notably irascible Bobby Bray, which provided him with a fund of stories for many years. Returning to Regimental duty he served with 4 Suffolk, commanded the Depot at Bury St Edmunds and commanded a company with 1 Suffolk during their tour of Cyprus in 1957-58. Johnny then had an illness that put him in hospital for nine months, and probably put paid to his hopes of promotion.

A series of staff jobs followed his recovery, some he thoroughly enjoyed, such as the assistant military attache in South Africa, where he and Louise made many friends, with whom they kept in touch regularly, and the Allied Command Secretariat in Berlin. Other agreeable posts in UK were at HQ Northern Command in York and his penultimate post at the MTC in Colchester.

As a prelude to retirement, he joined HQ Queen's Division at Bassingbourn in 1973 and took up the post of RO Royal Anglian when it became vacant, looking after the careers of junior officers in the Regiment. He found this immensely satisfying as it kept him in touch with what was happening in the battalions and allowed him to help young officers in their career choices. Many who went into his office found a sympathetic ear and some sound advice. Even after illness forced his retirement in 1982, he was always keen to hear how 'his' officers were faring.

While in East Anglia he was able to indulge his passion for game shooting and ran a syndicate at Stanford for 12 years. A good game, and rifle shot, he really enjoyed the timelessness of the training area, so much so that he asked that his, and Louise's, ashes should be scattered at Cutthroat Wood. He also took a great interest in Suffolk Regimental affairs, organising the annual dinner for many years and, right up until his death, visiting the Regimental homes in Suffolk. In 1994 he lost his beloved Louise, a bitter blow, but one which he dealt with in his characteristically courageous way, although

he never really mastered the art of cooking.

The funeral was held at the parish church in Melbourn, which he attended for many years. It was filled with family and friends from the Regiment and the local bowling club of which he was an active member. Perhaps the last words belong to his grandson, also in the Regiment, who said at his funeral that he will be remembered first and foremost as the epitome of a true gentleman, a compassionate soldier, and a kind and generous father, grandfather and great grandfather. He will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

AJKC

Lt Col BN Crumbie



Bryan Neil Crumbie was born in 1935 and educated at Oakham School before going to the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst. He was commissioned into the Royal Leicestershire Regiment in July 1956 and, after the usual infantry officer courses, joined the 1st Battalion in Cyprus on active service in February 1957. Even during his earlier years, he always liked to be in command, and seen to be so. He was never afraid of speaking his mind forcibly. He became Adjutant of the 1st Battalion in 1964 in Watchet in the

lead up to the Regiment joining the Royal Anglian Regiment.

The Battalion then went to Aden on active service, after which Neil successfully completed the Staff College course in 1966. He then had his first secondment overseas - back to Aden, but this time in the Federal National Guard. He returned to an important post in the Defence Intelligence Staff in the Ministry of Defence for two years, and then went back to Arabia - this time the Abu Dhabi Defence Force. He returned to be a Company Commander in 2 Royal Anglian on active service in Northern Ireland before a short tour back in the Ministry of Defence and promotion to lieutenant colonel where he commanded the Jebel Regiment in Oman. His final appointment was with Nato in the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe before he retired in August 1978.

For a number of years, Neil found life difficult. He worked for Grand Metropolitan, looking after catering services in the Middle East and Africa. He spent a period in Leicester helping *Keep Britain*, and Leicester in particular, *Tidy*. He started his third phase of life back where he finished his second, in Brussels, joining the European Commission. Here, he was able to use his language skills, having tours of duty in various capitals, especially in Arabia, before in 1991 accepting a tour of duty - for three years initially - in the Portuguese Islands of Sao Tome and Principe. They are two very small islands under the bulge of Africa on the Equator, and he stayed there until he retired in the autumn of 2000.

He remained a bachelor, whose death was very sudden, only 16 days after cancer had been diagnosed. He was the last of the Crumbie family line. His grandfather, Tom Crumbie, was Honorary Secretary of the Leicester Football Club (still called the Tigers, after the Regiment which provided so many players) for 33 years and gave a stand (still named in his memory) to the Welford Road ground.

FAHS

Book Reviews

The Forgotten Army's Box of Lions

by CD Johnson

120 pages, 51 black and white photographs, maps and documents. Full colour paperback cover. Priced at £11.00 including postage and packaging.

The true story of the defence and evacuation of the largest supply depot on the Imphal Plain

Six years in the research and writing *The Forgotten Army's Box of Lions* is the true account of the defence and evacuation of the largest supply depot on the Imphal Plain during the Siege of Imphal 1944. Compiled from war diaries, eye-witness accounts and previously unpublished and unknown records, this book now accurately details this overlooked action fought by mostly administrative troops.

Includes:

Contributions from British and Indian survivors, also from the last known Japanese survivor. Maps of defensive positions and the Imphal area. List of units involved and their strengths. Detailed casualty list.

Photographs of some of the participants. Copies of documents including original congratulatory messages and orders for evacuation. Commanders notes written while under fire. A history of the war

memorial in India dedicated to this battle. A chapter dedicated to the author's late father who served 21 years with the Royal Norfolk Regiment and was a survivor of this action. This includes many photographs and personal papers recounting a varied and colourful career most of which was spent in India.

Comments:

'The accuracy and research carried out is so thorough and exact in every detail. As I read the book, the memories came flooding back and I relived that battle in which my Battery was part of.' Rev EJC Loseby 3 Battery, 28 (J) Field Regt RA.

'I think the story of Lion Box is very accurate and that opinion comes from someone who served during the whole campaign.' Andrew Charles Worcs Regt attached 20 Rft Camp.

'Well researched and exciting book.' Military Historical Society.

'A very useful book. We are very pleased to find a home for it in our library.' Sarah Paterson, Imperial War Museum.

Available from the author: Mr CD Johnson, Jays Cottage, Bussey Bridge, Bergh Apton, Norfolk, NR15 1 DF. Tel: 01508 480257 Email: Johnno@busseybridge.fsnet.co.uk

A View from the Turret

A History of the 3rd Royal Tank Regiment in the Second World War

Maj Bill Close MC

188pp 140 x 215mm (5½" x 8½")

H/B 0-9533359-0-9 illus B 18 £16.95 Dell & Bredon

About the author

The author has a distinguished war record, having served throughout the Second World War with the 3rd Battalion, Royal Tank Regiment. The survivor of 11 direct enemy hits, which on each occasion forced him to bale out of as many tanks, he was wounded three times, but not seriously. He took part in the Normandy battles, embracing 'Operation Epsom' and the battle for Hill 112. He commanded one of the leading squadrons of 3RTR in the major battle of Normandy, 'Operation Goodwood' and thence the race across France and the Low Countries, taking in the liberation of Amiens and the capture of a bridge over the Somme, the liberation of Flers. He was to be in the leading squadron on numerous occasions in the epic advance and seizure of Antwerp, and was involved in the heavy fighting in Germany until the Baltic was reached.

This is the story of the exploits of the 3rd Battalion Royal Tank Regiment during World War Two as seen through the eyes of one of its most experienced tank commanders. Its baptism of fire came in 1940 during the heroic defence of Calais where all its tanks and

vehicles were lost. In November 1940, the Battalion was sent to North Africa and figures in most of the desert battles. In early 1941 the Battalion was withdrawn from the line and sent to Greece where its tanks were finally neither strong or numerous enough to stop the onslaught of the German divisions. All its tanks and vehicles were again lost, and only some 200 officers and men of the battalions eventually landed back in Egypt, after various adventures. The Battalion played a considerable part in the bloody fighting at Sidi Resegh, Bir Hacheim and Knightsbridge. It led in part the advances to Agedabia and Msus, and back to Alamein. It took part in the famous 'Left Hook' battle with the New Zealanders, making a considerable contribution to the success of the battle and subsequent forcing of the Gabes Gap and the Mareth line, and the entry into Tripoli. The Battalion played its part in the El Alamein battle, once again receiving heavy casualties, but went on with success at Alam Halfa and Gazala and the final advance to Enfidaville. 3RTR enjoyed great success with the 11th Armoured Division, taking a major part in operations 'Epsom', 'Goodwood', the liberation of Amiens and capture of the bridge over the Somme. It led, again in part, the epic advance and capture of Antwerp and the final slog to the Baltic. Sadly, the Battalion is no more, having been amalgamated with the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment.

Association Branches

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

King's Lynn Branch
 Capt AA Hammond OBE,
 Sandena, Old Mill Road,
 Roughton, Norwich NR11 8PE

Gt Yarmouth/Gorleston Branch
 Mr RC Pillar,
 16 Alder Close, Bradwell,
 Gt Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 8PD

London Branch
 Mr MJ Frances,
 4 Kingswood Park,
 Hendon Avenue,
 Finchley, London N3 1UG

Norwich Branch
 Mr PE Boxall,
 31 Breckland Road,
 New Costessey,
 Norwich NR5 0RW

Suffolk

HQ The Suffolk Regiment Old Comrades Association and the Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Branch)
 The Keep,
 Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St Edmunds,
 Suffolk IP33 3RN
 Tel: 01603-400290
 01284-752394 (Wednesdays only)
President: Brig WC Deller OBE

Bury St Edmunds and District Branch
 Mr C Smith,
 15 Rectory Road,
 Whepstead,
 Suffolk IP29 4TE

Ipswich Branch
 Mr R Garner,
 24 Oregon Road,
 Kesgrave,
 Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 7EX

Hemel Hempstead Branch
 Mr M Gilbert,
 84 Westfield Road,
 Berhamsted,
 Hertfordshire HP4 3PN

Beccles Branch
 Mr ME Reed,
 143 The Avenue, Lowestoft,
 Suffolk NR33 7LJ

Felixstowe Branch
 Mr N Buckingham,
 Marahaba, 18 Fairfield Avenue,
 Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 9JN

Stowmarket Branch
 Mr D King,
 110 Bury Street,
 Stowmarket,
 Suffolk IP14 1HF

Leiston Branch
 Mr AJ Watson,
 57 St Margarets Crescent,
 Leiston,
 Suffolk IP16 4HP

Sudbury Branch
 Mr D Land,
 2 Pot Kiln Road,
 Gt Cornard,
 Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0DA

Lowestoft Branch
 Mr RE Sharpe
 17 Conrad Road
 Oulton Broad
 Lowestoft NR32 8QB

Cambridgeshire

HQ The Cambridgeshire Regiment Association and the Cambridgeshire Branch The Royal Anglian Regiment Association
 c/o Cambridgeshire ACF, Denny End Road,
 Waterbeach, Cambridge
President: Lt Col WF Badcock MBE
Secretary: Maj MA Jarvis
 1 Witham Close,
 St Ives, Cambs PE27 3DY
 Tel 01480-380234

Cambridge Branch
 Col DE Latchford,
 48 Lode Road, Bottisham,
 Cambridge CB5 9DJ
 Tel: 01223-811454

Ely Branch
 Mr HR Hitch,
 7 Olivers Way,
 March, Cambs PE15 9PU
 Tel: 01354-653058

March and District Branch
 Mr DWH Cox,
 13 Fleming Court,
 March, Cambs PE15 9HD
 Tel: 01354-52021

Wisbech Branch
 Mr RC Keating,
 41 High Street,
 Sutton, Cambs
 CB6 2RA
 Tel: 01353-778128.

Whittlesey and Peterborough Branch
 Mr B Whitwell,
 48 Coronation Avenue,
 Whittlesey,
 Cambs PE17 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: Maj Gen JA Ward-Booth OBE
 DL
Chairman: Brig AFFH Robertson CBE

Hertford Branch
 Mr SR Mansfield,
 2 Fairfield Road,
 Bungay, Suffolk NR35 1RY
 Tel: 01986-893228

St Albans Branch
 Mr P Messenger,
 14 Mobile Home Site,
 Drakes Drive, St Albans,
 Herts AL1 5AE
 Tel: 01727-858131

Bedford Branch
 Mr E Roberts,
 3 Manor Close,
 Kempston, Bedford
 MK42 7AA
 Tel: 01234-854507

Hitchin Branch
 Mr F Gorton,
 22 Hine Way,
 Hitchin, Herts SG5 2SL
 Tel: 01462-620398.

Hertfordshire Regiment Association
 Mr C Austin,
 97 West Street,
 Hertford, Herts
 SG13 8EI
 Tel: 01992-558757

Watford and Hemel Hempstead Branch
 Mr EG Owens,
 37 Bidshall Crescent,
 Dunstable,
 Beds
 LU6 3NF
 Tel: 01582-665734

Luton and Dunstable Branch
 Mr S Chapman,
 86 St Margaret's Avenue,
 Luton, Beds
 LU3 1PQ
 Tel: 01582-728976

Association Branche

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 GCP Morgan OBE DL

4th Battalion Comrades Association

Mrs J Edmonston,

39 River Way, Loughton, Essex IG10 3LJ

Tel: 0208-508 2332

7th Eagle and Gun Regimental Association

Mr V Foulsham,

62 Armstrong Avenue,

Woodford Green, Essex IG8 9PT

Tel: 0208-5314808

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 Giggins,

89 Salisbury Road,

Grays, Essex RM17 6DG

Tel: 01375-378427

Lincolnshire

HQ The Royal Lincolnshire and Royal Anglian Regiment Association

The Keep, Sobraon Barracks,

Lincoln LN1 3PY

Tel: 01522-525444

President: Maj Gen REJ Gerrard-Wright
CB CBE DL

Lincoln Branch

Mr HE Hill,

8 Westwood Drive

Swampool,

Lincoln LN6 0HT

Tel: 01522-878179

Grimsby Branch

Mr D Carroll,

87 Manor Drive, Waltham,

Grimsby, Lincs DN37 0NS

Tel: 01472-826953

Grantham Branch

Mr JW Flatters,

17 Longcliffe Road,

Grantham, Lincs NG31 8DZ

Tel: 01476-563548

Spalding Branch

Mr A Waterfall,

26 Brewster Road,

Boston, Lincs PE21 0DY

Tel: 01205-358565

Midlands Branch

Mr L Wood,

15 Lanchester Road,

Radford, Coventry CV6 3EY

Tel: 01203-597815

Stamford Branch

Capt WL Simpson,

St Clement, 8 Barn Hill,

Stamford, Lincs PE9 2YG

Scunthorpe Branch

Mr C Bromby,

85 Southfield Road,

Scunthorpe,

South Humberside DN16 3BT

Tel: 01724-859253

Northampton

HQ The Northamptonshire Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Northampton)

TA Centre, Clare Street,

Northampton NN1 3JQ

Tel: 01604-635412

Chairman: Col P Worthy

Corby Branch

Mr KR Fordyce,

7 Motiston Close, Corby,

Northants NN17 2JD

Finedon Branch

Mr RH Ogle,

44 Hayden Avenue,

Finedon, Northants NN9 5ET

Tel: 01933-681525

Peterborough Branch

Mr D Allen,

10 Werrington Bridge Road,

Milking Nook,

Peterborough PE6 7PP

Tel: 01733-810311

Leicestershire

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

TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road,

Leicester LE4 6BY

Tel: 0116-2622749

President: Maj Gen AJG Pollard CB CE
DL

Wiltshire

Warminster Branch

Mr E Wilson,

23 The Heathlands,

Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 8BU

Tel: 01985-219273

Deaths

We have been informed of the deaths of the following members of our Former Regiments' Associations:

Bell: Mr AO Bell died 18 September 2001, aged 76. Sergeant, 2nd Battalion Beds and Herts. N Africa, Italy (Cassino) and Greece.

Bligh: On 4 July 2001, Lt Col PG Bligh, late the Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

Browning: Captain HE Browning died 7 August 2001. 2nd Battalion Beds and Herts. N Africa and Italy (Cassino).

Creagh: On 22 March 2001, Lt Col JPN Creagh, late the Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

Freakley: On 14 June 2001, Sgt TA (Tom) Freakley, late 1st Battalion the Royal Leicestershire Regiment and 4th Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment.

Fuller: Mr H Fuller died in July aged 83. 5th Battalion Beds and Herts. FEPOW.

Humphries: Maj MH Humphries MBE TD died 25 June 2001. 2nd Cambs.

Itzinger: Mr D Itzinger died 23 August 2001. 1st Battalion Beds and Herts. Egypt.

Lawrence: Mr C Lawrence died 21 July 2001 aged 74. Sergeant 2nd Battalion Beds and Herts. Greece and Egypt.

Madlin: WO1 Eric Madlin died 15 August 2001. 3rd East Anglia Regiment and 1st and 3rd Battalions the Royal Anglian Regiment.

North: Mr C North died 14 May 2001 aged 65. NS, 1st Northants Sergeant, 1st Herts TA/1st Beds & Herts TA.

Peberdy: On 24 September 2001, C Peberdy late 1st Battalion the Royal Leicestershire Regiment and 4th Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment.

Rand: Mr N Rand died 21 May 2001. 1st Battalion Beds and Herts Cyprus and Egypt.

Roffey: Mr DA Roffey died 1 April 2001. 2nd Battalion Beds and Herts. Italy.

Saunders: Maj R Saunders died 9 April 2001. 2nd Battalion Bed and Herts. Italy.

Scales: Maj WEW Scales DCM died 31 May 2001 aged 92. 2n Battalion Beds and Herts BEF. Commissioned 1st Herts Italy.

Seabrook: Mr J Seabrook died 29 August 2001 aged 63. 1st Battalion Beds and Herts. Goslar.

Street: Maj WJ Street TD died 28 August 2001. Doctor, 5th Battalio Beds and Herts. FEPOW.

Swayne: Mr D Swayne died 7 August 2001 aged 67. 1st Battalio Beds and Herts. Cyprus and Egypt.

Watkins: Col IL Watkins TD DL, died 13 August 2001. 2n Battalion Beds and Herts. Italy.

Orbat for the East of England Regiment

as at October 2001

HQ Company

Battalion Headquarters

Lt Col NA ffitch TD
Maj RA Knox
Maj FMG de Planta de Wildenberg
Capt MG Powell
WO1 (RSM) Abbs MJ

Regimental Administrative Office

Maj KR Martin
Maj CP Vince
Capt PG Mann
WO2 Coleman R
WO2 Russell MJ
Sgt Alderton KN
LCpl Perkins KE

QM Department

Maj A Jones
Capt GA Hitchings
WO2 Tunstill BP
CSgt Moffat DI
Cpl Plume SC
LCpl Stokes MJ
Company HQ
Capt GW French
WO2 Emms M

RR&TT

Lt RG Rogers
LCpl Blackburn MA
Pte Seeley MF

Medical Section

Maj RC Sutcliffe
SSgt Archer MJ
Pte Clarke DJ

Signals Section

SSgt Shand G
Sgt Greenwood IG
Sgt Heddershaw SJ
Cpl Randall TJK
LCpl Bygrave DP
LCpl Wells CA
Pte Lanaway GD

Catering Platoon

SSgt Stoker E
Cpl Rogers AK

Equipment Support

SSgt Alexander S
SSgt Carter RWE
SSgt Hopper GR
SSgt Smith AG
LCpl Ryder PJ
Cfn Graham MJ
Cfn Young RJM
Pte Fitch AD

MT Platoon

WO2 Bailham JE
CSgt Cummings D
Cpl Hunt WJ
Cpl Lawrence D
Cpl Street MA
LCpl Frost AD
LCpl Hazell S

Pte Milne KM
Pte Scales SL

Suffolk Platoon

Lt CL Panton
Sgt Starie MFG
LCpl Betts KJ
LCpl Fallon JV
LCpl Hazell CG
Pte Andrews TD
Pte Benjamin JJ
Pte Britton BJ
Pte Brown C
Pte Clark DJ
Pte Dargue ACH
Pte Edwards CA
Pte Finch PW
Pte Foddering SJW
Pte Greenwood C
Pte Hales AD
Pte Linton-Clowes MA
Pte Marshall RD
Pte McLaren NB
Pte Neep AP
Pte Padley SM
Pte Potter MW
Pte Sampson KJ
Pte Smith AM
Pte Smith DM
Pte Toates NR
Pte Wheeler CL

The Royal Anglian Band TA

WO1 Hudson PCH
WO2 Ainley MJ
CSgt Temple JD
SSgt Fraser JM
Sgt Fraser RM
Sgt Gardner M
Sgt Hall PA
Sgt Taylor P
Sgt Thompson DG
Cpl Auffret MR
Cpl Carey NJ
Cpl Evans AM
Cpl Hookway RW
LCpl Auffret EC
LCpl Elvin MJ
LCpl Fletcher HS
LCpl McKeown C
LCpl Richardson LBC
LCpl Roberts FL
LCpl Thompson RG
Bdsm Andrews JL
Bdsm Bain AM
Bdsm Comber GP
Bdsm Hobson JC
Bdsm Hobson SF
Bdsm Lock JR
Bdsm Marsland L
Bdsm Pearce D
Bdsm Proudfoot TD
Bdsm Wallis RE
Bdsm Wyatt CJ

A (Norfolk and Suffolk) Company

Company HQ
Maj GC Martin

Capt AJ Debenham
Capt PL Smith
WO2 Steele T
CSgt Jewell CA

AGC (SPS)

Cpl Ireland JL
Cpl Jones LD

Stores

CSgt Keeble GJ
CSgt Mills S
Cpl Stone MN
LCpl Feakes

MT

Sgt Green JA
Cpl Rolph DG

REME

Cpl Hindle SA
LCpl Bunn SE

Cat Det

Cpl Baldwin CM
Pte Lake MEM
Pte Thorne TR

Sigs Det

Cpl Adams EA
LCpl Roberts JA
Pte Barnes SJ

RR&TT

Sgt Rushmere GJ
LCpl Palmer DN

RAMC

Pte Galea DP
Pte Mortimer BG
Pte Smith-Ames SMA

1 Platoon (Norwich)

Sgt Knight G
OCdt Collins CM
Cpl Hall MC
Cpl Ellis SN
LCpl Jones
LCpl Walter ND
LCpl Williams PJ
Pte Allen PD
Pte Beavies CW
Pte Biss MJ
Pte Browne RL
Pte Fallon ME
Pte Fitt DM
Pte Crotty P
Pte Harnet CA
Pte Hayes DO
Pte Heppleston NG
Pte Homer AC
Pte Hulcoop IR
Pte Lee PA
Pte Leeder MR
Pte Mooney SC
Pte North S
Pte Puxford JA
Pte Sanders DH
Pte Smith JE
Pte Stewart JJ

East of England Regiment

Pte Tacon JN
Pte Ulph A
Pte Wallace GJ
Pte Wright NG

2 Platoon (Lowestoft)

Sgt Roe IP
Cpl Antill SJ
Cpl Brown JL
Cpl Sherlock M
LCpl Casey VM
LCpl Colledge MEE
Pte Abbott CL
Pte Askew AWPte Bell JJ
Pte Church CP
Pte Crossman A
Pte Fisher GM
Pte Gough PD
Pte Harper IJL
Pte Kershaw SL
Pte Leham MJ
Pte Lines MS
Pte McMurtry JE
Pte Kickess JK
Pte Sayer EJ
Pte Self MJ
Pte Smart J
Pte Waller ALJ
Pte Ward R
Pte Watkinson JG

Mortar Platoon (Norwich)

WO2 Hipperson P
Sgt Traves B
Sgt De Kretser MW
Sgt Fuller PJ
Sgt Stone RA
Cpl Hatch SP
Cpl Pollard KL
LCpl Sayer DE
LCpl Staines GB
Pte Burrows P
Pte Chambers KJ
Pte Coleman SN
Pte Cooper MC
Pte Hatton RJ
Pte Harvey MJ
Pte Hogston DJ
Pte Kelly MS
Pte O'Brien PLD
Pte Steward AP
Pte Wilkinson JG
Pte Zachariades GM

B (Lincolnshire) Company**Company HQ**

Maj RG Atkinson
Lt IM Sackree
Capt JC Sayers-Pratt
WO2 Hancock MW
WO2 Ralph AD
WO2 Monroe SA
Sgt Clarke M

Stores

CSgt Osman MW
CSgt Brotherton PM
Cpl Finlay FA
Cpl Day MT

Sigs

Sgt Beard DT

LCpl Meadows SP
Pte Tasker M

AGC

Cpl Smith PJ
Pte Scorer AJ

Medic

LCpl Cooke MP

RR&TT

WO2 Redhead S
Cpl Cook MR

MT

LCpl Fox SA
LCpl Henderson KP
LCpl Long CP

REME

LCpl Spence P
LCpl Chester AP

Catering

Cpl Metcalfe DE
Cpl Willey N
Cpl Bannon M

4 Platoon

2Lt SC McLaren
CSgt Taylor JL
Sgt McCurdy AD
Pte Wells CW
Cpl Shiels W
Pte De Van ML
Pte Siddle P
Pte Grant SP
LCpl Davidson KM
Pte Newby K
Pte Fyfe SP
Pte Marley AH
LCpl Pullan DW
Pte SweetA
Pte Martin AH
Pte Carter BW
Pte Hardy MG
Pte Allison WS
Pte Roney PS
Pte Hislen G
Pte Burnett AM
Pte Hotchin BA
Pte Lamberton G
Pte Jackson SP
Pte Plumtree DJ

Recruits

Pte Brogan AL
Pte Burrell C
Pte Farramd RK
Pte Fawcett DM
Pte Stokes MA
Pte Welsh S
Pte Wilson TN

5 Platoon

2Lt SF McGarry
Sgt North C
Pte Bentham SH
Cpl Dovey IP
Pte Reilly AJ
Pte Buxton MR
Pte Newberry AJ

Pte Fricke CI
Pte Palmer DS
Pte Barker J
Pte Bierley PL
Cpl Whiting AS
Pte Capps WJ
Pte Davies S
Pte Atkin S
Pte Finch I
Pte Hayhurst DA
Pte Chetwood D
Pte Lockwood AJ
LCpl Capindale PM
Pte Green WM
Pte Hurst J
Pte Preston G
Pte Volak JD
Pte Bulmer DJ
Pte Bayliss AR
Pte Loven AJ

Recce Platoon

CSgt Thompson B
Cpl Baines RJ
LCpl Jenks GA
Pte Ruddlesdin WN
Sgt Mann PA
LCpl Buswell SC
Pte Killingsworth RK
Pte Bissett AD
Cpl Dolby MR
LCpl Kelly A
Pte Wearnmouth B
Pte Wayne J
OCdt JM Ding
LCpl Sibbons WR
Pte Kane S
Pte Russell OA

C (Leicestershire & Northamptonshire) Company**Company HQ**

Maj GB Shaw
Capt TD Smith
Capt DJ Sommerville
WO2 Brown PD
WO2 Bevin MJ
WO2 Warren PV
CSgt Upsall JF
CSgt Buzzard SN
CSgt Marnott D
Sgt Shaw SA
Sgt M'Connell
Sgt Tayler G
Cpl Nagra AS
Cpl Coleman RA
Cpl Wheatley K
LCpl Fleming SA
LCpl Marriott MJ
Pte Smith AP

Assault Pioneers (Leicester)

CSgt Webber IW
Sgt Nagra BS MBE
Sgt Sharp DR
Cpl Ball NT
Cpl Hague P
LCpl Burnett R
LCpl Dore CE
Pte Cragg T
Pte Hurst DO
Pte Jenkins GJ

East of England Regiment

7 Platoon (Northampton)

Lt IJ Ginns
Sgt George AM
Cpl Baillie MJA
Cpl O'Toole DP
Cpl Thompson RJ
LCpl Gillan PA
LCpl Holmes MA
LCpl Payne GB
LCpl Payne L
Pte Bell AJ
Pte Bevin DT
Pte Coleman SR
Pte George NA
Pte Gidney DJ
Pte Hallam AN
Pte Harvey MR
Pte Joseph DPR
Pte Lambeth W
Pte Macaulay IR
Pte Neighbour DJ
Pte Parker MDE
Pte Roberts SC
Pte Robinson HP
Pte Simpson BDE
Pte Still SJ
Pte Swift AG
Pte Tew MN
Pte Turley PS
Pte Wooldridge D
Pte York MR

8 Platoon (Leicester)

Capt TC Thompson
Sgt Hunter AJ
Cpl Coleman IF
Cpl Cardell S
LCpl Haldane GL
LCpl Seymour J
LCpl Wragg A
Pte Astin S
Pte Clay MT
Pte Cole RJ
Pte Davis TP
Pte Devlin CE
Pte Dyer SA
Pte Gibson J
Pte Humphries GD
Pte Kenny RJ
Pte Lucas DP
Pte Norton GR
Pte Omang JA
Pte Rai S
Pte Randall LJ
Pte Singh J
Pte White P

Drums Platoon (Peterborough)

WO2 Bradshaw J
Sgt Nightingale P
Cpl Clark B
Cpl Coakes G
LCpl Cheetham M
LCpl Howe A
LCpl Hunter D
Dmr Bottomley PD
Dmr Eames M
Dmr Field EP
Dmr Gibbons S
Dmr Nixon DM
Dmr Reed DJ
Dmr Richardson AJ

Dmr Wells JH
Dmr Britchford DAJ

Detached

Sgt Lovett
LCpl Percival
Pte Kennedy

D (Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire) Company

Company HQ

Maj N Sheppard
Capt AC Smith
WO2 Smart LM
Capt RJ Ford
CSgt Derbyshire P
Sgt Brocklesby
CSgt Waiton D
CSgt Tumanow IC
Cpl Crawford RI
Sgt Taylor S
Cpl Develin ND
LCpl Smith W

AGC

Cpl Price M
Pte Hume M

Medic

Maj Finch ME
Cpl Simcox ESM
LCpl Taylor JE

MT

LCpl Shaw MA
Pte Stokes CN

REME

LCpl Southey A
LCpl Pheasant SJ

Sigs

LCpl Black AC

Padre

Capt PC Whitehead

RR&TT

WO2 Cook PA
Sgt Simcox ML
Cpl Puttick CD
LCpl Watkinson D
Pte Burrows P

10 Platoon (Mansfield)

Lt TV Griffin
Sgt O'Donnell MR
Pte Morley R
Pte Hill J
Cpl Wheeler SM
Pte Pitchford GJ
Pte Musson MA
Pte Tarrant M
Pte Hicks M
Pte Howl P
Pte Smith PR
Pte Rice JA
LCpl Orton N
Pte Stringfellow MR
Pte Bramwell AR
Pte Beddow
Pte Dee LC

Pte Kerley PM
Pte Alder JW
Pte Weeks CD
Pte Haddock ATJ
Pte Creswell RL
Pte Blagden GM
Pte Maby W
Pte Kenny A
Pte Platt IT
Pte Bush W

11 Platoon (Derby)

Lt CM Massingham
Sgt Pickering JR
Pte Corner D
Pte Weekes KT
Pte Hewitt JJ
Cpl Leighton CM
LCpl Patrick A
Pte Anderson TW
Pte Anderson TKI
Pte Barringham LE
Pte Brown CN
Pte Mitchell RI
Pte Dunne SJ
Cpl Stuart M
LCpl Yeates JD
Pte Watson G
Pte Mallen NJ
Pte Hague DR
Pte Hudgins C
Pte Melrose I
Pte Neale RG
Pte Jackson NP
Pte Spencer RA
Pte Perks SJ
Pte Sallah O
Pte Shipman JM
Pte Smith RJ
Pte Somers C
Pte Upton WJ

SF Platoon (Mansfield)

Capt KE Spiers
WO2 Gorski JM
Cpl Mee SJ
LCpl Coulson SJ
Pte Sutcliffe N
Pte Braddow LD
Pte Charles A
Cpl Mee SC
Pte Baxter A
Pte Jones S
Pte Booth CJ
Cpl Criddle PA
LCpl Ryan RM
Pte Jones MD
Pte Walsh MR

E (Essex & Hertfordshire) Company

Company HQ

(Chelmsford)
Maj M Googe
Capt PD Thurston PSAO
Lt TJ Irwin-Parker
WO2 Butler C
WO2 Eales B

Stores

CSgt Anderson V
CSgt Head CJ

East of England Regiment

Cpl Crawley PE
LCpl Green DJ

Sigs Det
Cpl Swann S
LCpl Degnan GD
Pte Ellerbeck MF

AGC (SPS)
Cpl Green DE

RAP
Cpl Andrews

MT Det
Cpl Cain PF
Pte Hatt CA
Cpl Lelliott SW
LCpl Wiseman JG

RLC Chef
Pte Bartlett VJ

RR&TT
Capt Watson SR
WO2 Brazier MD
WO2 Brown MJ
Sgt Cavedasca P

13 Platoon (Chelmsford)
2Lt Horner AJ
Sgt Collinson N
Cpl Marns JF
Cpl Pugh I
LCpl Jeffree JP
Pte Anderson DW
Pte Bissell MJ

Pte Brown MJ
Pte Butler S
Pte Collinson S
Pte Cox CJ
Pte Effstratiou TJ
Pte Graham-Watson T
Pte Hanlon SA
Pte Jacoby
Pte Johnson DWR
Pte Massey LM
Pte McManus JR
Pte Needham DR
Pte O'Connell JMB
Pte Parker JT
Pte Richards
Pte Thompson DAA
Pte Watkins DJ
Pte Wiggins PR
Pte Williams AJ
Pte Howarth

14 Platoon (Hertford)

2Lt Coulson AJ
Sgt Low B
Cpl Duffy JG
Cpl Haward CG
LCpl Kelly JJ
LCpl McClatchey DP
LCpl Stratton RJ
LCpl Sellers THJ
Pte Avey SF
Pte Baird JWA
Pte Bardwell L
Pte Bhatti TM
Pte Bullock P
Pte Clarke-Tunncliffe MCT
Pte Gosden A

Pte Hatt J
Pte Ibbott AJ
Pte Kelson RW
Pte Byron PL
Pte Kovacs IR
Pte Lawrence L
Pte O'Shea M
Pte Robins JB
Pte Storey ID
Pte Turner PT
Pte Wellings ND
Pte Greenhill DS
Pte Brady CJ
Pte Breese RF
Pte Brett SL
Pte Poulton

MG Platoon (Chelmsford)

Lt AJ Litjens
Sgt Dawson AG
Sgt Dunningham MJ
Sgt Wildney
LCpl Instance N
Pte Connell RG
Pte Gillan RT
Pte Hacker S
Pte Hawkins IM
Pte Hawkins PR
Pte Higginson NP
Pte Kenyon JD
Pte Leroux JPS
Pte Needham SR
Pte Plair SR
Pte Reeve KS
Pte Smith MC
Pte Thomas DW
Pte Westgarth J

STEPPING STONES

STREET, POST OFFICE & TRADE DIRECTORIES ON CD

Offered for the first time

The Full 1841 Census on CD

West Riding Section Available February

The West Riding section (not the index) will be available at £24.95 plus £2.00P/P.

As an introductory offer all orders taken before the end of March will be at the special price of £19.95 plus £2.00P/P.

Other Sections to follow throughout the year.

To take advantage of our special offer send payment to the address below

Contact us at
Stepping Stones

PO Box 295

YO81 1YS

Tel :- 01904 424131

Fax :- 01904 422351

Email :- judd@mjudson.freemove.co.uk

Web Shop :- www.stepping-stones.co.uk

Payment methods

- ◆ By cheque to the contact address
- ◆ Phone your order with Credit Card details
- ◆ order on line 24/7 at our secure web shop.

For details of our current range of Street, Post Office & Trade Directories on CD see our other advert or check the web shop.
please phone if you would a catalogue of our Directories on CD's

STEPPING STONES

STREET, POST OFFICE & TRADE DIRECTORIES ON CD

Abbreviations: Alpha - Alphabetical Named & Address's list of Residents. S - Street Directory. PO - Post Office Directory. T - Trade Directory.

Phone for a catalogue with more details of individual Directories or download it from our web page. New Directories coming out are on our web page. Tell us which area & year you are looking for on our web page.

Bristol 1852/53 T
Cheshire 1828-29 T
Cornwall 1919 T
Cumberland 1834 T
Devonshire 1830 T
Durham 1834 T
East Riding 1872 PO
Essex 1832-3 T
Hull 1892 Alpha
Hull 1892 S
Hull 1892 T
Hull 1897 T
Lancashire 1848 T
Leeds 1853 S
Liverpool 1848 T
London 1865 Commercial Part 1
London 1865 Commercial Part 2
London 1865 Street Part 1
London 1865 Street Part 2
London 1865 T Part 1
London 1865 T Part 2
Manchester 1848 T
N Wales 1828-9 & S Wales 1830 T
Newcastle & Gateshead 13th & 14th
North & East Rid of Yorks 1897 T
North & East Riding 1872 T
North Yorkshire 1897 PO
Northumberland 1822 T
Northumberland 1848 T
Principal Cities 1822 T
Residents for the E. Riding 1897 T
Scarborough 1902 S & T
Sheffield 1822 T
Somersetshire 1851 T
West Riding 1822 T
York 1897 S & T

Cambridgeshire 1830 T
Derbyshire 1842 T
East Yorkshire 1822 T
Essex 1828
Glasgow 1838/39 T
Hampshire 1830 T
Hertfordshire 1828 T
Hull City Centre 1872 T
Kent 1828 T
Kent 1832/34 T
Leeds 1907 Private Res Part 1
Leeds 1907 Private Res Part 2
Leeds 1907 S
Leeds City Centre 1822 T
Lincolnshire 1876 PO
Middlesborough 1897 S & T
Middlesex 1828 T
Middlesex 1839 T
N'ampton's 1841 & Hereford's 1835 T
Norfolk 1830 T
Norfolk 1895 PO
Norfolk 1895 T
North Yorkshire 1822 T
Nottingham 1854 S & T
Oxfordshire 1830 T
Shropshire 1858/59 T
Staffordshire 1828/1829 T
Suffolk 1840 T
Surrey 1828 T
Surrey 1840 T
Sussex 1828 T
Sussex 1832/34 T
Wiltshire 1851 T
Worcestershire 1828-9 T
York 1822 T
Aberdeenshire 1837 T

Berwickshire 1837 T
Birmingham 1777 T & P res
Bradford 1906 S
Bradford 1906 T
Bradford 1906 Alpha
Bristol & Suburban 1896 S
Bristol 1896 Alpha
Cambridgeshire 1883 PO
Cambridgeshire 1883 T
Dorsetshire 1880 PO
Dorsetshire 1880 T
Dumbartonshire 1828 T
Edinburgh & Leith 1848-49 T
Edinburgh Leith 1848-49 S & T
Edinburghshire & Haddington 1837 T
Fifeshire 1837 T
Gloucestershire 1894 PO
Gloucestershire 1894 T & Comm
Herefordshire 1879 PO
Herefordshire 1879 T
Huntingdonshire 1877 PO & T
Lanarkshire 1837 T
Leicestershire 1828 T
London Trade 1828-29 T
Newcastle 1778 T the first Directory
Orkney & Shetland 1837 T
Oxfordshire 1877 PO
Oxfordshire 1877 T
P Cities 1837 T
Perthshire 1837 T
Sheffield 1787 T
Shropshire 1895 T
Shropshire 1895 PO
Suffolk 1883 PO
Suffolk 1883 T

**Contact us
BA Dept
Stepping Stones
PO Box 295
York YO31 1YS**

**Phone: 01904 424131
Email:
judd@mjudson.freemove.co.uk
Web page:
stepping-stones.co.uk**

**All CD's are £11.99 + £1.00 P&P in the UK
for first CD, 50p each CD after that.
Check out our web page for overseas P&P.
Order online. Phone orders with credit card
details or send a cheque.**

OFFICIALLY APPOINTED TAILORS TO
THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

SERVICE DRESS NO.1 DRESS MESS KIT
 MILITARY TIES & BADGES ALL MILITARY ACCOUTREMENTS
 MEDAL MOUNTING & REPAIR SERVICE ALTERATIONS

F. A. STONE
&
Sons

NORWICH

SAVILE ROW

ESTABLISHED 1874

BESPOKE TAILORS & GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTERS

TRADITIONAL HAND BUILT BESPOKE TAILORING

DISTINCTIVE MADE TO ORDER SEASONAL RANGE OF CLASSIC CLOTHING

SPECIAL CORPORATE RATES PRIVILEGE CARD SCHEME VISITING SERVICE

SUBSCRIPTION TERMS AVAILABLE

17 TIMBERHILL NORWICH NR1 3JZ

ALSO BY APPOINTMENT AT

9/10 SAVILE ROW LONDON W1

TELEPHONE 01603 488861 FACSIMILE 01603 488862

EMAIL FAStone@timberhill.Freeserve.co.uk

THE BEST FROM THE PAST TAILORED TO THE PRESENT

GREAT VALUE...GREAT SERVICE

E·A·S·Y CAR C·A·R·E

An established company with a reputation
 for quality & service at competitive prices

The complete service - Whatever make of car

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Car hire & car sales | Exhaust systems • |
| • Car body repairs | Mechanical repairs • |
| • Car servicing & repairs | MOT testing • |
| • Clutch & brakes | Valeting • |
| • Diagnostics | Van hire • |
| • Car breakdown recovery | Courtesy cars available • |

CALL FREE 0800 328 5661



Fax: 01291 637939

Web site: www.easycarcarecentre.co.uk

Bulwark Road, Chepstow NP16 5JG



TALKING PAGES
 0800 600 900



ATTENTION!



**YOU'LL ALWAYS FIND AN
IMPRESSIVE LINE UP AT:**



H R OWEN

Cowdray Avenue, Colchester, Essex, CO11DP.

Tel: 01206 216900

www.hrowen.co.uk

e-mail: sales@colchesterhrowenlandrover.co.uk

Call us (mentioning the Royal Anglian Regiment) to arrange a test drive.
Prompt attention to your requirements is guaranteed.

Your Local Law Firm

Barnes *R*utter
Richards

**Crime
House Buying/Selling
Personal Injury
Family & Matrimonial
Employment
Landlord & Tenant
Wills & Probate**

Chepstow

01291 628898

Manor House, Bank Street,
Chepstow

e-mail: postmaster@brrsol.co.uk
Website: www.brrsol.co.uk

Training by Design (Global) Ltd



If you are in the process of planning for your future, you can consider TbD Global to be one of your essential ports of call. We understand how difficult it is to fit regular study into a busy lifestyle, with detachments cropping up unexpectedly and when you least need them.

That's why we provide flexible learning programmes with a combination of internet support, face to face tuition and distance learning materials.

More than ever before, employers are using qualifications and experience as benchmarks to determine whom they should employ. Ex-service personnel have skills and values that can add benefit to any working environment, but are often viewed as being unable to manage people other than by barking orders.

Get qualified! While this is not a comprehensive list of the qualifications we have to offer, you can see that there is a selection suited to modern business:

Law

Paralegal Certificate
Paralegal Diploma
Law Cost Drafting
ILEX Diploma
ILEX Pt 1
ILEX Pt 2
LLB*
LLM*

Management

Strategic Mgmt NVQ L5
Operational Mgmt NVQ L4
Personnel Mgmt NVQ L4/5
Administration NVQ L4

Information Technology

IBT2/3
ECDL

Cambridge Business Skills**

Communication
World of Business
Managing Tasks
Managing Business Data
Business Communication
Business Finance
Business Law
Marketing
Market Research

* LLB and LLM are studied under the London University External Programme.

** Cambridge Business Skills are short courses designed and accredited by Cambridge University

If you have already used your resettlement allowance, we may be able to assist you to access additional funding towards the cost of study.

For more information, visit us at www.tbdglobal.com.

Your future is waiting.

9 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8LB
0870 241 3998
www.tbdglobal.com





TRAIN TO BE A BUS DRIVER

You enjoy driving and you're safe, confident and patient on the road, which is why you're ideally suited to becoming a Bus Driver.

Join us and you can look forward to:

- Paid training
- Top rates + overtime
- Free travel for you and a household member
- Generous pension and company share schemes
- 20 days' paid holiday
- Flexible shift based work

You just need to be aged 18-64 with a full UK/EU driving licence (max 3pts). Call us now on:

01843 590037

(24 hour answerphone)

Stagecoach in East Kent



Committed to Equal Opportunities

We have vacancies at:
Ashford • Canterbury • Dover
Folkestone • Ramsgate • Herne Bay

School of Agricultural and Forest Sciences University of Wales Bangor



Education and Research for a Sustainable World

BSc courses in the following subjects:

- Agriculture
- Agriculture with Business Management
- Agroforestry
- Environmental Conservation
- Environmental Science
- Forestry • Forestry and Forest Products
- Land Use Studios
- Rural Resource Management
- Sustainable Development

HND/HNC in Equine Studies.

**Also masters level
courses available**

• PRIFYSGOL CYMRU •
UNIVERSITY OF WALES
BANGOR



Contact: Ginny Myers
Tel: +44 (0)1248 382281
Fax: +44 (0)1248 354997
safs@bangor.ac.uk
www.safs.bangor.ac.uk

Tarmac

Develop your own business as a Contract Haulier

As the UK's leading multi-product ready-mixed concrete supplier for the building and construction industries we offer self-employed contract hauliers a unique business opportunity and a real chance to share in our success by providing a high quality distribution service to our customers.

Driving your own vehicle, you'll be rewarded with competitive haulage rates with payments calculated on an individual load basis. That means that the more concrete you deliver the better your earning potential. And although you're in the driving seat you can expect from us:

- 5-year term contract with sickness, accident and other public liability insurance cover.
- Full business management and accounting support, including VAT
- Monthly repayment of vehicle running costs to assist with cash flow

You will, of course, have a valid LGV Licence together with a Certificate of Professional Competence. If necessary we can provide assistance to obtain an Operator's Licence, which you will need to meet your statutory obligations.

Interested? Then write with brief details of your qualifications and experience to Alan Braddy, Transport & Production Manager.

Tarmac Southern Limited

Bellhouse Quarry, Warren Lane, Stanway, Essex CO3 5NH

www.tarmac.co.uk

An equal opportunities employer

DELIVERING BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE UK

We are looking for owner-drivers to operate 7.5 tonne and Sprinter type vehicles from our branches throughout the UK

If you are:-

- Ambitious
- Hard working
- Experienced in multi-drop deliveries

We can offer you:-

- The chance to operate your own business with no capital investment
- Good financial rewards
- A steady income provided by a brand name highly regarded in the parcels market
- A vehicle rental package including maintenance and insurance

For an information pack, contact

Samantha Prescott

Freephone 0800 7832347



LYNX

flpersonnel ltd

Recruiting for the UK's largest breakdown and recovery company

RECOVERY DRIVERS

for various locations across the south of England.

HGV2 (passed before Jan 1997) & HGV1 licence holders (LGV C+E)

Full time shifts/long term temporary contract/ genuine permanent opportunities.

Excellent pay/paid training/holiday pay/bonuses, uniform/Stakeholder pension scheme.

Call Jane 01708 505487/07719 379711

PATROL TEAM MEMBERS

Mechanics or technicians experienced with electrical knowledge.

S/West London, Central London & Thames Valley

Circa £21,000 + overtime

23 days holiday/benefits/vehicle & equipment

21+ years/max 3 points on licence/shifts.

Call Tara 020 8491 6400/07967 043099 (Ref: Tar01)

Drivers Needed...

unloads

One of the UK's largest vehicle delivery companies requires full time

LGV

Class 1 & 2 Drivers

Newly qualified drivers welcome

Travelling nationwide you will collect & deliver new & used commercial vehicles on trade plates.

This role requires initiative & flexibility

Have you got what it takes?

0845 300 0 335

www.unloads.co.uk



**SPECIALISTS
IN HGV
DRIVER
SUPPLY**

LOOKING FOR A NEW DIRECTION?

Full time or part time work
Trunking or multi drop, ADR, HIAB, Drawbar
Whatever your preference, whatever your skill
minimum earnings

CONTRACT WORK £425 + O/TIME £8-£10
HGV 1 - £400 HGV II £325 NON HGV £300

Free company uniforms provided
Holiday pay

Contact us now and ask about
our resettlement programme

Tel: 01235 550300

11 YEARS SERVING OXFORDSHIRE

24 hours manned office

Tannery Court, Stratton Way, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 5TS

visit us online @
www.forcespublishing.co.uk

**FORCES & CORPORATE
PUBLISHING LTD**
the market leaders in
military publishing

Intelligence

Good security officers often have to act fast. But before they do, they have to think – to interpret the mass of information their senses are giving them so they can make a response that's appropriate as well as timely. It's a kind of intelligence that doesn't always show itself in a string of GCSE successes, but you'll know if you have it or not. And if you do, you also have basic qualification for a new career with Group 4 – a career that gives you plenty of training and personal development and the benefits that prove you're with the company that's creating the future of security services.

We offer a full five day induction course (followed by a shadowing period so you're confident you've got to grips with the job), the chance to gain City & Guilds or NVQ and excellent benefits that include holiday and sick pay, an inquiry on duty scheme, and free uniform and training.

If you'd like to become a member of our team, please call our Resourcing Team on 01376 512592 or 520630 for an application form about one month before you will be available.

We are an
Equal Opportunities Employer



The Professional Security People

DRIVERS CONNECT

FOR PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS

The Midlands leading supplier of LGV 1 drivers

LGV DRIVERS ALWAYS REQUIRED

You will be working for major distribution companies as part of our contract service team

We offer full and part time employment with all associated benefits. We are an Equal Opportunities employer.

'Driving to secure your families future'

Contact

Steph
01604 588200

Tracie
01455 559559

Professional LGV

(C+E) Drivers



DAY SHIFT

NIGHT SHIFT

TRAMPERS

LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE UK

Trampers must be prepared to have several nights out each week.

Share the benefits of being part of a very successful, fast growing, privately owned, dynamic and innovative logistics company. Earnings will be in excess of £20K a year.

- Premium vehicle with phone
- Top quality work
- High basic with holiday pay
- Significant earning opportunities
- Life assurance
- Sick pay
- Stakeholder pension
- Full uniform supplied

Please contact Ian Grant on 01480 457748

NO AGENCIES

ALL CITY TRUCK GROUP SITES ARE NON-SMOKING

**....driven by our customers
(who are driven by you)**

A Better Way to Work With Free Transport

BURY ST EDMUNDS

Production Operatives

Alternating shifts	6am - 2pm/2pm - 10pm	£216 after training.
Day shift	8am - 4.30pm	£192 after training.
Evening shifts	6pm - 10pm	£96 after training.

Free Transport Pick-up Points

Moreton Hall	Community Centre, Bus Stop Bottom Symonds Road, Wyevale Garden Centre.
Nowton Estate	Mayfield Road, junction Steward Road Mayfield Road, junction Banks Walk, Moccebearer Public House, West Suffolk Hospital, Vinery Road, Out Westgate, Back of Woolworths, Linden Tree, Fornham Road, bus shelter.
Horringer Court	Glastonbury Road, Maltward Avenue, Abbot Road, Westley Road.
Westley Estate	Oliver Road, Community Centre, Newmarket Road, Minden Rose.
Howard Estate	Merry-go-Round, St Olaves Road.

For times of transport and if you are looking to join a thriving company with a range of other benefits call Sheila Bird, Personnel Officer, between 8am and 4.30pm on (01284) 762241



Twenty-Four Seven

recruitment services



Are currently seeking to recruit LGV class C+E drivers for our major blue chip client in the Chepstow area...

We can offer:

Pay rate £7.75 to £10 per hour

Free uniform

Four weeks annual paid holiday

Long term on-going work

Call Paul Norris now for an application form on

01291 624111

07721 521986



RAPIER

EMPLOYMENT

Class 1 Drivers
Minimum age 23
Minimum experience 1 year

Forklift Truck Operators

Counter Balance & Reach

Various Clerical positions available

266 Chepstow Road
Newport
Gwent
NP19 8NL

Tel: 01633 280006

Fax: 01633 283340

Email: rapiernewport@btconnect.com

HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING

RSS

TRAINING SERVICES

All courses
are held
either in
house or at
your
premises

- Safe Sling Practice
- Lighting Gear Inspection
- Wire Rope Inspection
- Lifting Equipment Management
- Safe use of Overhead Cranes (Manual and Power Driven)
- Safe use of Lorry Mounted Hydraulic Cranes



32a Village Farm Road,
Village Farm Industrial Estate,
Pyle CF33 6BL

01665 740074

Mobile: 07831 258385

Fax: 01656 745020

www.rss.rope.and.sling.co.uk

METER READERS REQUIRED

Our Blue chip client urgently needs people who are self motivated, have excellent interpersonal skills, and are extremely physically fit. You will be engaged in reading both Gas and Electric meters throughout the Midlands, South East and London.

If you can work on your own, are very flexible, and possess a mature attitude, then this position is ideal for you. You will be expected to work split shifts between the hours of 07:00 and 20:00 and walk up to 8 miles per day.

Ideally you will be from ex-service, Post Office or door to door sales background.

Full time positions, we can offer you a basic salary and superb bonus scheme.

If you have got your own home telephone and transport and want to earn between £250 & £300 per week then telephone 01707 396550 (Meter reading division)

Opportunities in Aborfield & Bordon

Our Garrisons, comprising several training schools, are constantly developing their courses, facilities and services and currently offer the following career opportunities:

Lecturers:

Microwave and Radar Systems and Mechanical Engineering, Tels Section Leader, Advanced Electronics.

Maintainers:

Medical & Dental, Radar and Lab Technicians.

Instructors:

Vehicle Automotive, Electrical, Armoured Vehicle Automotive, Welding, Radar, Medical and Dental, and Instrument and Small Arms.

Miscellaneous:

Avionics, Vehicle and Lab Technicians, Vehicle Mechanic, Stores Assistant and various admin positions.

We offer an excellent range of benefits and the working environment you would expect from a world leading organisation. Training will also be provided.

To apply, please contact The Personnel Department, VT Services, 223 Southampton Road, Paulsgrove, Portsmouth PO6 4QA, Tel: 023 9235 4421, Fax: 023 9235 4219 or Email: personnel@vtis.com

www.vosperthornycroft.co.uk



VO/PER THORNYCROFT

An Equal Opportunities Employer

◆◆◆ THREE SHIRES

Bedford's leading

DRIVING INSTRUCTOR TRAINING CENTRE

Train whilst still employed

Low cost, pay as you train

Signed guarantee of standards

Full facts & free brochure

DSA ADI - MIAM RoSPA - ADEPD

01234 344629 seven days



OPPORTUNITIES AT OUR WOKING BRANCH DRIVERS (FULL AND PART TIME)

We require drivers to work daytime, evenings and weekends aiding our busy delivery and collection department. Candidates must have a flexible approach to working hours. Applicants should preferably be over 21 years old and must have a full, clean and valid driving licence.

VALETTERS ALSO REQUIRED

To apply contact us on

01483 750907

Alex Boxall, Branch Manager, Sixt-Kenning Rent A Car,
55-57 Walton Road, Woking GU21 5DW

We are equal opportunities employer

**Souths leading
Employment Agency**

We are now recruiting

★ Full time ★ Part time ★



LGV 1 (C&E) min £70 per day

LGV 2 (C) min £65 per day

Non LGV (7 1/2) min £50 per day

Plus immediate opportunities for

Warehouse Staff ★ Labourers

Loaders ★ Gardeners

Council Contractors

Pickers & Packers

Excellent Rates of Pay and Benefits

**Call us now on
01276 676667
Manned 24 hours**

**Phoenix House
419 London Road
Camberley GU15 3JA**

Legal Executives

Chichester College offers the very best in legal training with its well-established ILEX Legal Executive courses commencing in September.

ILEX Parts 1 & 2

All of our courses are ILEX accredited and are taught by professional lecturers and lawyers, in a friendly and supportive environment. We also offer a wide range of Business and Accountancy qualifications. For more information call (01243) 786321 www.chichester.ac.uk

Chichester College
of Arts, Science and Technology



Chichester College of Arts, Science and Technology,
Westgate Fields, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1SB
Dedicated to Excellence in Education and Training



Hippozone Limited (HZL)

www.protective-security.com
info@protective-security.com
Tel: 01332 295695
Mobile: 07860 438856

**Bomb Awareness Courses
Protective Search Courses
(NCFE Certificate)**

**Health and Safety Approved
First Aid Courses**
(First Aid at Work and Emergency Aid for
appointed Persons)

**Safe working in the tattoo industry
(NCFE Certification)**

Administration Address
PO Box 84, Catterick,
North Yorkshire DL9 3YS



The Industrial Rope Access & Height Safety Specialists

- ✓ IRATA Level 1, 2, 3 Courses in London & North Wales
- ✓ Rope Access Contracting
- ✓ Inspection, Maintenance & Safety Supervision
- ✓ Height Safety Equipment Supply
- ✓ IRATA Member Company

For more details contact:
DRAGON SAFETY SYSTEMS
Tel: 0845 3090703
Email: info@rope-access.co.uk
www.rope-access.co.uk

BUS DRIVERS

Stagecoach, Cambridge's largest bus operator, is seeking both men and women, trainee and experienced Drivers for our busy network.

If you are not experienced, we can train you to drive one of our buses - and pay whilst you're learning - but we can't train you to be good with people - that should come naturally to you.

And as you'll be dealing with both the young and the not so young, from all walks of life, it's an essential quality. It's also what helps make the job so interesting.

All we ask is that you're aged 18-62 and hold a full UK driving licence. Well presented and in good health, you'll need to demonstrate a friendly manner in dealing with our customers, be able to perform simple arithmetic and, most importantly, be punctual.

If successful, we can offer you:

- ✦ Annual average earnings £16,500 a year plus overtime
- ✦ 22 days paid holidays
- ✦ Contributory pension scheme
- ✦ Free travel on all Stagecoach buses in the UK
- ✦ £225 average per week whilst in training

Call Margaret
on **01223 425080**

Welcome bonus of £400*
for existing PCV holders

* After six months service

 **Stagecoach** East

Shift & Day Fitters

Competitive rates of pay Vacancies in Bedford & Cambridge

We need urgently fully skilled fitters for both shift and day work at our depots in Bedford and Cambridge to help maintain our modern fleet of buses and coaches to the very high standard required by the Department of Transport.

If you would like to join our enthusiastic team of engineers, now is the time to act to pursue a secure and interesting career in the transport industry. PCV or HGV licence holders always preferred but not essential.

Benefits of working for one of Britain's largest private bus companies include free bus travel for you and your partner on all Stagecoach bus services excluding London, four weeks paid holiday, contributory pension scheme, and after a qualifying period, sick pay scheme and free Stagecoach shares.

For further details, please call Mick Forbes at Bedford on 01234 353661 or Alan Henderson at Cambridge 01223 423578.

Stagecoach EAST 

SEVEN YEARS A GRENADIER

This book is a compelling memoirs of the author's time in one of England's finest Regiments, the Grenadier Guards.

Written from grassroots level, this is the first hand account of a young guardsman's experiences in those early years.

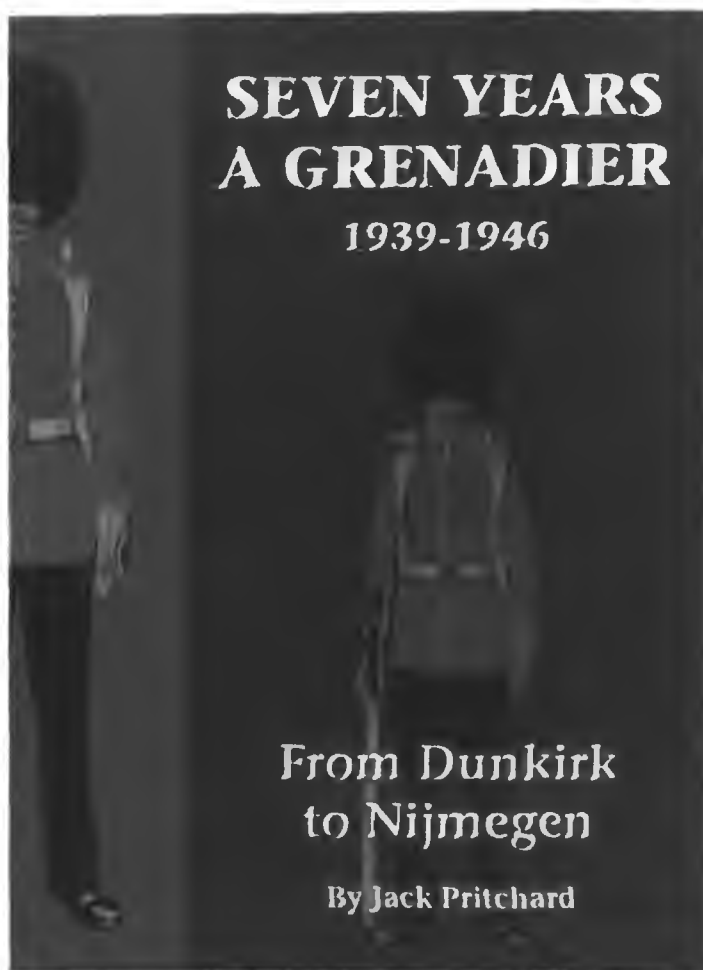
The book's success is its authenticity. No works by social historians, professors or anyone else about the period can do the same job as a first-hand unprejudiced and natural account such as this. If anyone wants a picture of what it really was like in these times, then there is no substitute for the authentic memories of the participants.

Follow the author Jack, through his training and then see for yourself what it was like to live and fight during the second world war from Dunkirk to Nijmegen.

His prose, as well as being very readable, is richly textured; as such, it lends his descriptions an impressive and entirely fitting dramatic immediacy. In short, this is a well-written and intrinsically engrossing piece of work.

Approx 128 pages with 28 photographs and 3 maps in perfect bound, board gloss colour cover. Book size 148mm x 210mm.

ISBN 0-9529597-4-7. Price £8 + £1 p&p



by
Jack Pritchard

ORDER FORM

To: Mrs Lynne Pritchard, 14 Edinburgh Drive, Willenhall, Wolverhampton WV12 4SA

Please send me copy(ies) of SEVEN YEARS A GRENADIER at a cost of £8 + £1 postage and packing.

I enclose a total remittance of £.....

Please make cheques payable to W J PRITCHARD

Name (block capitals please):

Address:

Postcode:

