

## Regimental Matters

#### **Appointments**

Her Majesty The Queen has approved the appointment of Colonel S J R Browne as Deputy Colonel Royal Anglian Regiment in succession to Brigadier A J C Wild. This appointment will take effect on I April 2017.

#### Pink List 17

The Regiment warmly congratulates the following members who have been selected for promotion:

- Maj T B Mellar
- Maj S R Milsom-Smith
- Maj P A Muncey

#### London Gazette Jan 17

#### Reg C

- Maj F K Atkins
- Maj A K Luff
- Maj A D Mackness
- Capt C J Duncalfe

#### Reg C (LE)

- Maj LW Jay
- Maj A J Penn

#### 2nd Clasp To VRSM

CSgt V M Casey

# Diary Dates

#### March 2017

5 Chapel Sunday - Warley

15 Regimental Museum Trustees Meeting

17-18 Centenary of Pte Cox VC - France

18 6 (V) R Anglian Officers Reunion - BSE

# 1st Battalion (The Vikings)

#### A (Norfolk) Company

A (Norfolk) Company has embraced the cold this month on exercise near Salisbury conducting platoon level training. This is in preparation for Gibraltar in May and Kenya in the Summer where it will deploy completely. It is building up from fighting as a small team of 8 to operating as a 120 man company group.





#### Vikings In The Desert

Soldiers from B (Suffolk) Company have deployed to Jordan for Ex Olive Grove attached to the 130 man A Coy Group from 2PWRR. They have begun an Reception Staging and Onwards Integration package to introduce them to the arduous terrain offered by the Jordanian desert and set the conditions for one of the most challenging training environments available to the light role infantry soldier. After acclimatising and conducting static ranges, they have begun individual battle skills ranges to train their drills in clearing positions with grenades and bayonets.



# 2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

#### B (Leicestershire) Company in the Oman

Week 2 in Oman! B (Leicestershire) Company continue to deliver a Short Term Training Team (STTT) to The Royal Army of Oman Parachute Regiment (SO PARA). The soldiers have been put through their paces in an intense week of training where they have learnt the fundamentals of urban operations.













# 3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

#### 4 (Lincolnshire) Company

4 (Lincolnshire) Company hosted The Worshipful the Mayor of the Borough of North East Lincolnshire, Councillor Christina A McGilligan-Fell who visited the training night at Grimsby Army Reserve Centre. The Mayor presented Private Robbie Brown with his stable belt, signifying his having recently passed the Combat Infantryman Course. The Mayor also saw training in progress and was keen to hear about the weapons and equipment currently in use.





Lincoln Army Reserve Centre Open Day 4 (Lincolnshire) Company

4 (Lincolnshire) Company held an open day this month, opening its doors to potential Steelback recruits of the future. As well as a variety of infantry equipment on display for interested individuals to lay their hands on, there was a chance to speak to reservists from 4 Company and get their feedback on what it means to be a modern British Army Reservist. Are you interested in doing the Army Reserve? If so, follow the recruiting links on our website.

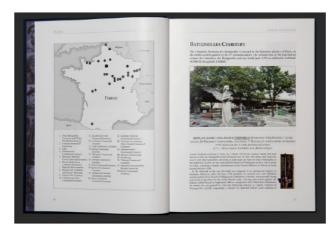




## Literary News

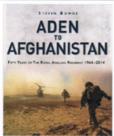
#### SAS and LRDG Roll of Honour

The author of 'The SAS and LRDG Roll of Honour 1941-47' has requested that details of his book be circulated to our Regimental family. Further details may be found at: <a href="www.sas-lrdg-roh.com">www.sas-lrdg-roh.com</a>. The 374 casualties came from a wider variety of regiments and included many from our forebear Regiments: Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Lincolns, Leicesters and Beds & Herts.





Aden to Afghanistan – Fifty years of the Royal Anglian Regiment 1964-2014 by Steven Bowns. Publisher - Osprey 2014. 372 large pages. Copious illustrations, photographs and maps. ISBN: 978 1 4728 0805 9



First of all I have to declare that I know the author - we served together in the British Army at the School of Infantry. Steve was instructing future Anti Tank leaders how to hit armoured vehicles with things that went bang at the end of wires, I was teaching how to sneak about under bushes and

not get shot and how to machine gun the bad guys from a long way away.

But with as much of an unbiased review as I can muster, I have to say the book he has compiled is excellent, a crossover of an Osprey 'this is how it happened' publication – e.g. maps, weapons, tactics, uniforms and equipment, joined with a fascinating well researched overview of an often unsung infantry regiment of the British Army doing what they have done since the end of World War II, fighting terrorism and acting as the firemen for the UK government all around the globe.

From Aden to Afghanistan is a chronological account of the various battalions of the Royal Anglian Regiment, a regiment with strong geographical ties to the East Midlands and East Anglia.

Multiple tours in Northern Ireland and Afghanistan are the obvious highlights with diagrams, anecdotes and interviews that really bring home the frequent boredom, interspersed with high risk adrenaline action these campaigns typify.

Add to this the often unheralded, or largely forgotten 'peace keeping operations' in Bosnia, Aden, Iraq and a fair few others and you have probably the best written account of the life and function of a 20th century infantry unit of the British Army without the hyperbole of Special Forces and Andy McNab style claptrap. This is the story of Tommy Atkins, post war style, told simply without fuss but with attention to detail that will educate and enlighten the reader.

To my knowledge the format is unique: Excellent Osprey illustrations of riots, ambushes and equipment. Pertinent photographs and interviews are balanced nicely to show the real face of the men, women and officers and the thoughts and memories of the conflicts, as well as the more routine activities of camp and families.

Some of the most poignant parts of the book are interviews with the parents and relatives of those who were injured or killed in recent conflicts.

The book is available on Amazon, hardcover and is a fantastic addition to anyone interested in what infantry soldiers do while we sleep in our beds safely. David Redpath

FEBRUARY 2017 5

### West Ham Remembers the Fallen

A stone plaque dedicated to the 13th (West Ham)
Pals Service Battalion, The Essex Regiment (West
Ham footballer supporters who took up arms in the
First World War) was unveiled by Sir Trevor
Brooking at the Boleyn Stadium, Queen Elizabeth
Park on Saturday 11 Feb. The Essex Regiment were
represented by The County Colonel of Essex,
Colonel Charles Thomas and members of the
Chelmsford Branch of the Essex Regiment
Association. Soldiers from C (Essex) Company, The
Vikings were present at the unveiling.

The 13th Battalion of the Essex Regiment, known as the West Ham Battalion, was created by the Mayor of the Borough on 27 Dec 1914. All the men were based in East London, many worked at the Thames



Ironworks and the majority were Hammers supporters. The West Ham Battalion fought in the Somme, Vimy Ridge and Cambrai.

Colonel Simon Browne, Deputy Colonel (designate) of The Royal Anglian Regiment (and Hammers fan ) said: "We owe a tremendous debt to these soldiers and all those who fought in World War One. It will be a reminder to all those entering the shop that young football fans just like them, were willing to pay the ultimate sacrifice to keep our country safe."

Elliot Taylor, who has written a book about the Battalion, and whose idea it was to erect the plaque, was also present at the ceremony.





FEBRUARY 2017 6