



Regimental Matters

Royal Wreath Laying Ceremony in Norfolk to Mark the End of the Gallipoli Campaign



Her Majesty The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Gallipoli Association, have laid wreaths to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of the Gallipoli Campaign of World War One, an event organised by the Gallipoli Association.

Around 150 people including the Duke & Duchess of Cambridge attended the wreath-laying ceremony at the foot of the War Memorial Cross in Sandringham, Norfolk, including a five strong military contingent representing the three Battalions of The Royal Anglian Regiment who form part of 7 Infantry Brigade, also known as the Desert Rats.

The ceremony followed a Sunday service at St Mary Magdalene Church on the Sandringham estate which was attended by Her Majesty The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

The Queen was presented to Gallipoli Association Trustees before the short wreath laying service that saw Bugler LCpl Jason Hobson from the 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment sound the Last Post.

Wreaths were also laid by the Chairman of the Gallipoli Association Captain Christopher Fagan MBE DL, the Norfolk County Colonel of the The Royal Anglian Regiment Brigadier Max Marriner CBE, members of the Royal British Legion and Sandringham Girl Guide Jemma Garrard. Prayers were led by the Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe, The Right Reverend Dr Robert Innes.

After the short ceremony The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh met some of the 54 members of the Gallipoli Association who attended the event.

Many Norfolk soldiers, including soldiers from the 4th and 5th Territorial Battalions of The Norfolk Regiment, who are forebears of the Royal Anglian Regiment, fought in the campaign. The 5th Battalion recruited from North Norfolk including Great Yarmouth and Dereham and included a Company from the Royal Estate at Sandringham. In charge of the Company was 54 year old Captain Frank Beck MVO, the Land Agent whose job was to manage the whole Sandringham Estate. The senior estate staff were Sergeants and Corporals whilst the estate labourers filled the lower ranks.

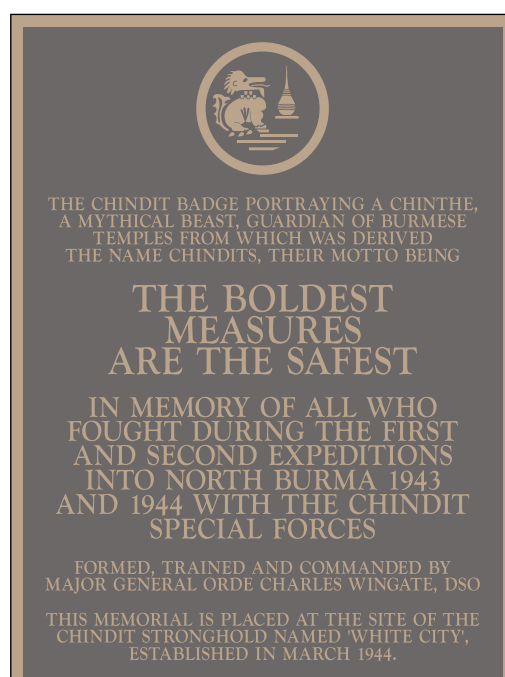
Major Gavin Rushmere, the Second in Command of the 3rd Battalion said: "The Regiment has a proud history and every soldier that joins the Regimental family is told about the sacrifice and heroism of our forebears. The battles they fought are carried on our Battle Honours - the outward sign of the inward strength of our Regiment. I speak on behalf of every single soldier in our Regimental family when I say the soldiers who fought and paid the ultimate sacrifice in the Gallipoli Campaign will not be forgotten."

The Gallipoli Association is a charity whose objective is to advance education for the public benefit by raising public awareness of the Gallipoli Campaign of 1915 and by encouraging and facilitating the study in the legacy and lessons of that Campaign, keeping alive the memory of the Campaign and ensuring that all who fought or served in it, and those who gave their lives, are not forgotten. Further information can be found at <http://www.gallipoli-association.org>. Major Gen Sir William Cubitt KCVO CBE. He is President for Norfolk County RBL.

Chindits Bronze Plaque

Chris Hoare, whose father-in-law was a Chindit, set about fundraising for a modest memorial with the help of the Burma Star Association. The plan is for the memorial to be built by the local Mawlu Heritage Trust at the site of White City and a party from the 77th Brigade, who will be visiting in March, to hold a brief ceremony of dedication at the site.

The badge of the recently raised 77th Brigade is based on the Chindit, and this has increased interest in the campaign in Burma. After recent visits, it was noticed that there was no local memorial at White City, and Chris Hoare who has family connections to the Chindits and to the Burma Star Association, set about fundraising for a modest memorial. The plan is for the memorial to be placed by 77th Brigade. The Royal Anglian Regiment and the Royal Tigers Association have



contributed to the fund, because Battalions of three of our forebear Regiments were involved: The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment and The Essex Regiment. The Chindits and our forebear Regiments all served with distinction, and one famous signal from Major-General Wingate at the end of an operation to one of our forebear Regiments wonderfully illustrates that distinction – ‘Well done the Leicestershire Regiment, Hannibal eclipsed.’

Honours and Awards

The Regiment warmly congratulates Major Phill Moxey on the award of an MBE in the New Year Honours List.

London Gazette Extracts December 2015

- Retirement: Maj TP Beighton on 16 Oct 2015
- Clasp to the LS and GCM: Sgt P Antoni
- LS and GCM: Cpl GC Joy

Promotions MS 5 Feb 16 (include)

- Maj (for Lt Col on assumption) T M B Smith SOI Offr Pipeline Strat Policy Dec 15

Beige List Dec 2016

- Capt F K Atkins, Capt D T Crosbie, Capt A K Luff, Capt A D Mackness, Capt S Thomas

Veterans Healthcare Meeting Boston

Maj Bob Grenfell ably assisted by Maj's Tim Brown and Bill O'Driscoll briefed at the last in a series of events to help aspiring GPs to understand some of the challenges faced by ex-members of the Forces when returning to civilian life, and also to help these young GPs better understand what and how to treat veterans.

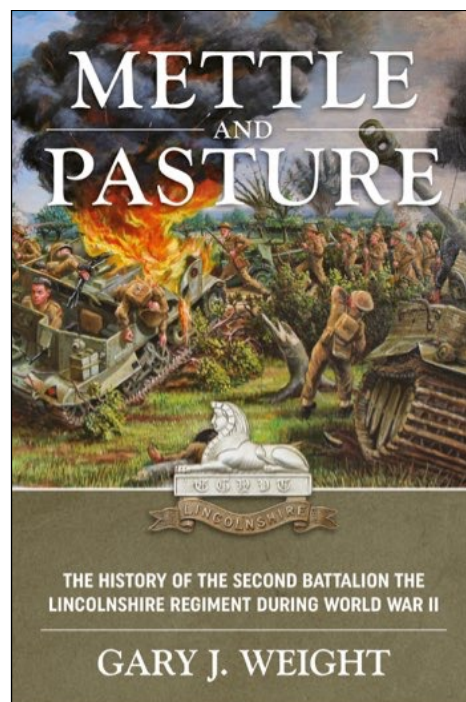


Mettle and Pasture

The story of the part played during the Second World War in Europe by the 2nd Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment. Entering France in September 1939 as part of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) they witnessed from the front line the blistering attack on Belgium at Louvain and first hand the German Blitzkrieg beginning on 10 May 1940. Fighting a fierce rearguard action as part of the British 3rd Infantry Division under command of General Montgomery, the Battalion covered the frenzied withdrawal of the British Army through the carnage of Dunkirk arriving back to the shores of England with less than 25% of their original force.

On 6 June 1944, almost four years to the day after the demoralizing evacuation at Dunkirk the Battalion landed on the coast of Normandy on D-Day.

Told in their own words, eyewitness accounts are expertly weaved together with official diaries to recall the experiences of the infantrymen at the front - from the days in France and Belgium in 1939 to the assault on Normandy, spear-heading such a great invasion, to resisting and attacking the enemy at Caen and blunting the formidable Panzer counter-attacks in the dangerous Bocage. From 'out of the frying pan and into the fire', come the bitter battles in Belgium and Holland, the attrition of holding the Maas River during the coldest winter in living memory, and finally on into Germany fighting the SS around Bremen just hours before hostilities ended on the 8 May 1945. Vivid accounts tell tales of courage, fear and individual sacrifice and how soldiers faced up to the enemy under fire, sharing danger and surviving the savage conditions but also of the pride and honour of belonging to such a famous and historic regiment - The Lincolnshire Regiment.



With an abundance of previously unpublished photographs and clear, concise maps of the battlefields, this is the story of the war the way it really was for an infantryman - told by the men who were there. 502 pages with 342 b/w photographs and 30 colour maps. There is more info on the author website www.garyweight.com and the book is available either from that website or Amazon, Waterstones.

The Last Stand of the 44th at Gundamuck 1842

The Chairman and Trustees of The Essex Regiment Museum have agreed to allow the famous painting by WB Woollen, The Last Stand of the 44th at Gundamuck, to be shown at the latest Tate Britain exhibition, titled Artist and Empire.

To celebrate this the Trustees have also commissioned the publication of a limited number of postcards of the painting to be sold to members of the Regiment and former Regiments. The postcards have been designed to function both as a postcard and a notelet with no division between address and content on the reverse side, just the title of the painting and its artist.

The price will be £0.25p per card, plus handling and postage. Those wishing to order some may do so through one of the Trustees;

Major R C Gould,
Broomfield Cottage
Mount Bures
Bures
Suffolk
CO8 5AJ

or on line at; rcgmtbures@hotmail.com

Postcards will be despatched on receipt of payment.



Diary Dates

February 2016

- 2 Pompadours ODC Meeting
- 7 Chapel Sunday Warley

March 2016

- 6 Chapel Sunday Warley

Remember, the Regimental Diary can also be accessed online at:

<http://www.royalanglianregiment.com/diary.html>



1st Battalion (The Vikings)

Viking Skiing

117 members of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment escaped their normal working lifestyle for a weeks skiing in the Alps. Les Contamines Montjoie, France has been an excellent opportunity to teach all skill levels from beginner to advanced skiers. The purpose is to deliver adventurous training to serving soldiers, to challenge their boundaries, mentally and physically.



This is an activity that the Bn tries to achieve annually (depending on operations) as our major overseas expedition and something we look to have our newest soldiers pushed forward towards.



2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

Poacher team deploys to train Nigerian forces fighting Boko Haram



Soldiers from the Second Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, will deploy to Nigeria.

More than 35 personnel from the Second Battalion, will shortly deploy to deliver infantry training to Nigerian military personnel preparing to tackle the extremist group in the north of the country.

Last month Defence Secretary Michael Fallon announced a step up in training to help Nigerian forces stamp out the threat posed by Boko Haram.

2 R ANGLIAN, based in Cottesmore, Rutland, provided support to the AFN throughout 2015, which included the deployment of Short Term Training Teams, and support to smaller training tasks to assist the resident British Military Advisory and Training Team – which has grown in size over the last year.

Around 130 UK military personnel deployed to Nigeria on a wide range of training tasks last year.

This included training in infantry skills, civil-military affairs, media operations, command and leadership, IED-awareness, and support to Nigerian military training schools and establishments.

Almost 1,000 Nigerian military personnel have benefited from training to prepare them for counter-insurgency operations in north east Nigeria, and the work by The Poachers, is now well-recognised across the AFN.

3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

Poulters Prize

The Worshipful Company of Poulters kindly presented their Poulters Prize for 2015 at Armourers Hall to Cpl Heneage from the 3rd Battalion. The Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion, Lt Col Keith Spiers commented, Cpl William Heneage fully deserves the Poulters prize, his professionalism, commitment and enthusiasm were overwhelming factors in his successful selection. His engaging personality and charm kept the Poulters entertained throughout the luncheon event, particularly as he told of his next adventure as a instructor for the Royal Bermuda Regiment."



The Sun Military Awards (Millies) Award Nomination to Captain Chris Finbow: Best Reservist

This week has seen The Sun Military Awards (Millies), now in their eighth year, recognise the contribution of individuals and units from the British Armed Forces who are deserving of special recognition.

Through The Sun newspaper, members of the public have been nominating their heroes; soldiers, sailors and airmen, who have shown exceptional service or overcome adversity between 31 August 2014 and 1 September 2015.



Captain Chris Finbow, 3 R Anglian - "Described by his peers as the model reserve soldier, having proven himself on operations in Afghanistan and elsewhere, Chris deployed at short notice for a four-month tour to train more than 200 members of the Nigerian Army before they deployed on ops against Boko Haram."

OC 2 Company Prepares to Compete in 24 hour Endurance Race

Maj Ed Matts is preparing for a gruelling 250km, 24-hour endurance race for charity in the new year.

The race, in March, in the beautiful Irish county, will see competitors run a half marathon, kayak 15 km in the sea, then cycle 100km to the base of Mt Muckish.

From there they will race up and down the 666m (2,185ft) mountain before getting back on the bike and cycling another 70 km before swapping back to running shoes and running a marathon to finish it off – all within 24 hrs.

The adrenaline junkie, met the race's two Irish originators while taking part in the Sahara Marathon in 2010.

The two men later took part in an epic two-month trip running, cycling and kayaking the length of the Yangste river in China.

They set up The Race Donegal as a mini-version of their trip and invited Ed and other selected ultra-athletes to take part in the event.

Ed said: " In 2013 I attempted the inaugural race, however missed the cut off for Mt Muckish and so am back now, to put this to bed once and for all.

"I travel about quite a bit for work and I've been swimming at the hotels where I've been staying.

"I've been suffering a bit of a foot injury so I can't push too hard too soon on the running but I've been doing plenty of swimming and rowing for fitness."

He is also having to fit in the training around planning for his forthcoming marriage to fiancée Kirstie Lawless, but added: "She'd rather I was doing this sort of stuff than going to Afghanistan."



Ed, who even completed a marathon around his small base in Nadi-Ali, in Afghanistan, in March 2012, around a "very boring" 600m track, added: " I am raising money for Gorta Self Help Africa, a charity which promotes and implements long-term rural development projects in Africa."

Self Help Africa, which has been working in sub-Saharan Africa for 30 years following the Ethiopian famine, aims to tackle the root causes of hunger and famine across the continent.

To sponsor Ed visit www.mycharity.ie/event/ed_matts, also see <http://extremechallenge.weebly.com/>