

04/11 ROYAL ANGLIAN NEWS APR 11

1. **BATTALION ACTIVITIES**

a. 1st Battalion

With the return from Ex ASKARI THUNDER in Kenya the Battalion began the seemingly endless post exercise administration that always follows such a big deployment. Serial number checks of all kit and equipment and then 'the big clean' where half of Kenya's dust must have been released into the air around Pirbright Village. The Company and Platoon HQs started planning the next training their soldiers will conduct. For the 3 Rifle Companies this would build on the platoon and company level drills and see them allocate troops to driver and commander courses for a wide range of both familiar and new vehicles that the 1 R ANGLIAN Battlegroup will encounter in Afghanistan.

Lt George Waterfield began organising and planning the Battalion shooting team competing the in 3 UK Division Skill At Arms Meet (SAAM). With range time at a premium this will provide an excellent opportunity for soldiers to hone their marksmanship and across a variety of shooting disciplines in shoots that vary from 25 meter quick reaction shoots to the more traditional 400 meter falling plate competition.

With all the plans set it was time for the Battalion to take two weeks leave and recharge its batteries. Luckily the Kenyan weather had followed us back to blighty so those sun worshippers among us had ample opportunity to maintain and top up the colour gained on exercise.

Other events included the return of Lt Harry Willies from his two year posting to the Army Foundation College (Harrogate) as A Coy 2IC, with Lt Phil Lentall taking over up in N Yorkshire. Capt Simon Broomfield took over Mortar Platoon from Capt Tom Clark who has started his RSOs course in Bovington.

In sporting news 3 Vikings took on the Virgin London Marathon. Ex Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM), now Infantry RSM Tim Newton, Sgt 'Will' Willsher from Mortar Platoon and new Adjutant Capt Graham Goodey completed the event. Capt Goodey achieved a impressive time of 3 hours 22 minutes after only a week and a half's training after returning from Kenya.

- b. **2nd Battalion**
- c. 3rd Battalion