



## Regimental Matters

### Regimental Day Sunday 1st September 2019

All members of our Regimental family are welcomed to their Regimental Day. Music for the day is kindly provided by the Band of the Royal Anglian Regiment and the Corps of Drums of the Cambs ACF. The outline timings are:

- 0930 hrs Gates Open.
- 1100 hrs Muster for Drumhead Service, please be seated by 1115 hours.
- 1120 hrs Standards March On.
- 1130 hrs Drumhead Service at the Regimental Memorial.
- 1230 hrs Bars and Stalls open, picnic tables will be available.
- 1300 hrs Musical Recital by the Regimental Band in the picnic area.
- 1500 hrs Flag Lowering Ceremony at the Regimental Memorial.
- 1700 hrs Bars and Stalls close.

Those attending are made aware that there will be no Beating of the Retreat but a simple Flag Lowering ceremony at the Regimental Memorial to which all are welcome to attend.

## Diary Dates

### 2019

#### August

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 1  | Minden Day                                |
| 4  | Chapel Sunday - Warley                    |
| 4  | Regt Association (Suffolk) Minden Day BSE |
| 13 | Blenheim Day                              |
| 31 | Regt Rugby - Hemel Hempstead              |

#### September

- |    |                                 |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 1  | Regt Day - IWM Duxford          |
| 3  | Regt Comms Meeting              |
| 18 | Regt Museum Trustees Meeting    |
| 25 | Regt Heritage Committee Meeting |
| 29 | RHC Sponsored Service           |

## Chapel of the Essex and Royal Anglian Regiment

The Essex and Royal Anglian Regiment Chapel is looked after by a Committee with Colonel Charles Thomas TD DL as its Chairman. It is situated in Warley very close to Brentwood and there is a service on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month which you are warmly invited to attend. The Chapel is steeped in Regimental History and has lovely grounds including a small rose garden dedicated to those soldier who were killed during the Afghanistan tours. Members of the Regiment are entitled to be married, be baptised or hold a funeral service in the Chapel. Memorial services and one off events are also welcomed by appointment. There is no standing vicar for the church so this will have to be arranged by those making the booking, help can be given.

On Jun 28<sup>th</sup> Private Thomas Henderson of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion married Miss Shannon Bloomfield at the Chapel they are wished a long and happy life together. The July service held on the 7<sup>th</sup> was hosted by the Brentwood Royal Navy Association when they re-dedicated their Standard.



*Mr and Mrs Henderson peruse the order of service.*



*Bentwood Royal Navy Standard rededication.*



## British Soldiers Killed During WW2 Laid to Rest

Two unknown British soldiers have finally been laid to rest after they lost their lives during World War 2.

The 2 men were buried on Wednesday 03 July during a moving ceremony at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, Salerno War Cemetery in Italy. The service, organised by the MOD's Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre (JCCC), part of Defence Business Services, was conducted by the Reverend Iorwerth Price CF, Chaplain to the 1st Battalion. Members of the 2nd Battalion, led by Captain David Rawdon, carried the coffins to their final resting place. Nicola Nash, JCCC said:

"These 2 soldiers lost their lives in 1 of the most ferocious battles of the Second World War.

Although we were not able to identify them, they have now been laid to rest with honours and their bravery and heroism will always be remembered. The remains of the 2 soldiers were found by the 1943 Salerno Association, outside of Salerno, on a hill nicknamed "the Pimple" by Allied soldiers during World War 2. This hill was heavily guarded by the Germans and was the focus of intense fighting during September 1943. Despite extensive research and DNA testing, the JCCC were unable to identify these two men".

The 1943 Salerno Association also found the ID bracelet of Major Robert Brown DSO, who was attached to the Royal Leicestershire Regiment and was also killed during action on the Pimple on 16 September 1943. The bracelet was handed back to the JCCC, who will present it to Major Brown's daughter.



## Charles Benford 100<sup>TH</sup> Birthday

Charles Benford who served from January 1940 to May 1946 with 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion the Essex Regiment (The Pompadours) celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

Charles has lived in a care home in Essex for two years and is much-loved by all of us there. His grandfather taught him the butchery trade until he was called up to the army in 1939. He reported for duty with 2nd Battalion Essex Regiment (The Pompadours) at Warley Barracks on 15th January 1940. From there he served across the UK before the battalion received large drafts of men to bring it up to strength for D-Day. The Battalion and Brigade landed on Gold Beach on D-Day June 6, 1944. Charles, was then a Sergeant with a Bren Gun Carrier platoon, he remembers sailing in a landing craft and from there they fought their way inland to liberate Bayeux the following day. While the war was underway, Charles began to exchange correspondence (as a pen friend) with Doreen Turvey. Charles and Doreen married in September 1945 and later became proud parents to John and Sandra. Sadly, Doreen passed away in 2011 after 65 years of marriage. His children have blessed him with ten grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Charles said: "I have had an amazing 100 years and a very special day with my family and friends to celebrate, with the Queen also sending her congratulations." "I have no secret to longevity, it's just the luck of the draw really."

Along with other civic dignitaries Colonel Charles Thomas, John Youles and Mick Chapman attended the Birthday Celebrations. A presentational certificate from the Chelmsford Branch of the Association was presented by Colonel Charles to mark the event. The Regiment also sent a birthday card.



## Harold Payne Fundraiser

The Regiment wholeheartedly thanks Fleet fundraiser Harold Payne who took his military vehicles to the coast for day in order to fundraise. Mr Payne raised £2,500 for the Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund and released 1,000 roses to the sea in honour of the 1,000 Norfolk soldiers captured and killed by the SS at Dunkirk behind enemy lines.





## New Regimental Shop

Have you had eyes-on The Royal Anglian Regiment's new shop? Royal Anglian Direct is live now! [www.RoyalAnglianDirect.co.uk](http://www.RoyalAnglianDirect.co.uk). A proportion of the funds from Royal Anglian Direct will be fed back into The Regiment to support our benevolence and welfare activities.



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# 1st Battalion (The Vikings)

## Rededication of the Grave of Serjeant William McWheeney VC - Dover

Members of C (Essex) Company of the 1st Battalion attended a poignant and very moving ceremony in Dover at the rededication of the headstone of Serjeant (sic) William McWheeney VC 44th Foot, (later The Essex Regt) conducted by Reverend Iorwerth Price CF, Chaplain to the 1st Battalion. The VC citation was read out by Sergeant Flower, of C (Essex) Company. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Regiment by Major Nick McGinley OC (C) Essex Company and the Essex Association by the County Colonel of Essex, Colonel Charles Thomas TD DL.





## 2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

### Farewell To Lt Col Bruce Weston

Following morning PT, the Battalion arranged for the CO to be carried by chair to a speedboat, riding into the sunset and leaving in suitable style. "It's been brilliant, a real honour and a fantastic privilege."

After three years in charge, the ceremonies were not quite finished for the outgoing CO as he was carried aloft aboard a specially built throne down to the beach where a speedboat was waiting to whisk him way alongside his wife Katie.



## 3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

### High Sheriff Visits 4 (Lincolnshire) Company

The High Sheriff of Lincolnshire, Mr William Day, recently visited 4 (Lincolnshire) Company at their historical home in Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln. After being introduced to Colonel Geoff Newmarch, the Royal Anglian County Colonel, and to senior Company staff, he was invited to inspect the parade. He was very much at home in this role having been an officer in the Grenadier Guards some 30 years earlier. After the inspection, he kindly presented Privates Macauley Bagguley and William Palk with their Combat Infantry Course pass certificates.

The High Sheriff was then taken on a tour of the barracks by Colour Sergeant Wayne Sheils who pointed out the many historical commemoration panels and other artefacts from the antecedent Lincolnshire Regiment. The Officer Commanding, Major Mitch Pegg then briefed Mr Day on the Army Reserves in general and the Regiment, Battalion and Company and their roles. After watching the troops rehearse harbour drills and receiving a 'hands-on' weapons demonstration and brief – where the High Sheriff was reacquainted with the GPMG – he spoke to all members of the Company at the end of the evening and told them how impressed he was with their commitment and standard of training.

Major Pegg said, 'Since the Company was reformed in 2016, it has had a close relationship with successive High Sheriffs and each has been to one of our Company locations, either for a formal visit or on Remembrance Sunday. It means a lot to know that such prestigious individuals within the county engage with us and support what we do.'



*High Sheriff making a presentation to Private Macauley Bagguley.*



*High Sheriff making a presentation to Private William Palk.*



# Museum News

## Regimental Museum

Another Air show this month and we now have a group of new volunteers for airshows, and some more people that have expressed an interest in volunteering in the future. It is lovely to have such a good base building, and many guys which are extremely knowledgeable. I'm hoping going forward it will either mean we can do more, or allow us to do what we do now if the trustees are not available to volunteer.

We have received some new donations this month, including some archival objects and shooting medals from WO2 Potton, which were an interesting lot from a man who served with the Essex, East Anglian and Royal Anglian Regiments. On the other side of the timescale, we received some items of kit from Afghanistan and may be receiving an NLAW from the same donor in the future which is great for showing to visitors and quite light and easily transportable.



## Lieutenancy Representation Bayeux

The 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings on Normandy beaches received considerable, and appropriately so, coverage on the television. Bayeux was a focal point for many nations on 6th June. One event that did not receive as much attention, though also well attended, took place the following day, again in that city.

On 7th June 1944, the 2nd Battalion The Essex Regiment, (The Pompadours), liberated Bayeux. The Battalion was supported by the Sherwood Rangers, in tanks. Fighting was light and the city was secured in good order. It appears that the Battalion found itself introduced to Calvados!

In June 2002, a memorial stone was erected to commemorate the liberation. There is an annual event to commemorate this and three other memorials, all attended by Regimental representatives, and a number of local school children. Monsieur Le Mayor presides, speeches are made, and wreaths laid. Royal British Legion Standards are On Parade, as are Standards from their French equivalent.



This special year, representation from the Lieutenancy was requested. As neither HM Lord Lieutenant nor the Vice - Lieutenant were available, I was asked if I might make the trip. As a Royal Anglian, the successor Regiment to the Essex Regiment, and as County Colonel for Essex, it was an honour to journey across the north-east of France to attend the event and lay a wreath on behalf of the Lord-Lieutenant. Fortunately, the weather behaved. For those who may have read about the invasion, it was interesting to reflect on the stormy day and to consider what it must have been like for the troops loaded into landing craft

into a heaving sea 75 years ago.

After the Mayor, the local MP, Regimental and Pompadour wreaths were laid, each stone received an abundance of flowers laid by the school children. It is clear that history must not be forgotten.



# The Band of the Royal Anglian Regiment

## The Old Divinity School Saint John's Street Cambridge

At 6.30pm on Friday 2 August the Regimental Band celebration of music will mark this year's 75th Anniversary of D-Day with a programme from film themes and military marches to current hits and popular songs of World War 2.

The concert takes place in the Grand Lecture theatre of the Old Divinity School in St John's Street, Cambridge.



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## Royal Anglian Fishing

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Paul Hallybone an ex Poacher organised The Royal Anglian Regiment, Inter Battalion Open Fishing Competition, held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 19 at Decoy lakes in Whittlesey. The match was run in aid of the Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund and raised a superb £275. The event was won by a guest angler ,David Smith with a 167lbs 8oz catch, with the top Royal Anglian rod and winner of the Inter Battalion Challenge David Baker and ex Viking with a 124lbs 12oz catch. A good days fishing and comradeship was had by all.

The dates for the Pompadours on the Bank events in 2020 are:



*L-R Adrian Terheege, Paul Hallybone and Alan Dent.*

- Match 1                      Fri 29 May 20 - Decoy Lakes – 6 & 4 Lake Islands.
- Charity Open                Fri 26 Jun 20 - Decoy Lakes – Yew Lake.
- Match 2                      Fri 31 Jul 20 - Decoy Lake – Cedar lake.
- Match 3                      Fri 25 Sep 20 – Rookery Waters, Pidley – Magpie Lake,

All anglers, serving or veterans are more than welcome to attend, further details are available for Paul Hallybone at [Paulhallybone@ntlworld.com](mailto:Paulhallybone@ntlworld.com)

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## Regimental Bulletins

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This month RHQ has sent the Regimental family 12 Regimental bulletins, which will also be available on the Regimental Website:

- Bulletin 54/19 - Death of Howard Nailard
- Bulletin 55/19 - Death of Stuart Pollitt
- Bulletin 56/19 - Postponement of 6th Bn Colour Layup
- Bulletin 57/19 - Regt Band Celebration - Cambridge
- Bulletin 58/19 - Death of Ron Stokoe



- Bulletin 59/19 - Rededication of Grave of William McWheeney VC - Dover
- Bulletin 60/19 - The Not Forgotten Association Afternoon Tea
- Bulletin 61/19 - Death of John Hayton MBE TD\* AE
- Bulletin 62/19 - Job Vacancy - East Midlands
- Bulletin 63/19 - Death of Ernest Albert Coombes
- Bulletin 64/19 - Association Minden Day - BSE
- Bulletin 65/19 - Special Order of the Day - Salamanca Day

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## Association Minden Day Sunday 4th August

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A poster for the Minden Day Reunion. The top half has a red background with the title 'MINDEN DAY REUNION' in large, bold, black letters. Below this is a yellow section with the date and time 'SUNDAY AUGUST 4TH 2019 12PM-4.30PM'. The middle section has a yellow background with a faded image of a marching band and the text 'A GREAT FAMILY DAY OUT OPEN TO ALL!'. Below this is a list of activities. The bottom section has a red background with the location and parking information. The bottom right corner features a close-up image of red and yellow roses.

**MINDEN DAY REUNION**

**SUNDAY AUGUST 4TH 2019**  
12PM-4.30PM

**A GREAT FAMILY DAY OUT OPEN TO ALL!**

- MARCH PAST OF OLD COMRADES
  - BOUNCY CASTLE
  - FACE PAINTING
- SUFFOLK REGIMENT MUSEUM OPEN ALL DAY
  - LICENSED BAR AND FOOD OUTLETS
  - LASER QUEST
- MILITARY HISTORICAL VEHICLES,
  - UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT
  - GLENMORISTON PIPE BAND
  - CITY OF ELY BAND
- OLD COLDSTREAM CORPS OF DRUMS
- CAMBRIDGESHIRE ACF CORPS OF DRUMS
  - PICNICS WELCOME

**GIBRALTAR BARRACKS, THE KEEP,  
NEWMARKET ROAD,  
BURY ST EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK  
PARKING - COLLEGE CAR PARK  
BEETONS WAY ENTRANCE**