



Regimental Matters

Front cover:

The Poachers Live Firing.

Regimental Carol Service

Members of the Regimental family gathered for our third annual Regimental Carol Service on Saturday in association with Suffolk SSAFA on 7th December held in St Mary's Church, Bury St Edmunds. St Mary's is home to the Chapel of The Suffolk Regiment and The Royal Anglian Regiment. The service raised funds for our Regimental Benevolent Charity and was supported by Suffolk SSAFA.

The service was led by the Padre of the 3rd Battalion, Reverend Paul Whitehead, with excellent musical accompaniment of the Band of the Royal Anglian Regiment, led by Captain Peter Hudson the Director of Music. Our particular thanks to the Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion, Lt Col Adam Wolfe not only for the use of the Band but also for personally supporting the service and bringing other members of his Battalion Headquarters. It was a wonderful service, enjoyed



WO2 Ben Shropshire and family with CSgt Matthew Waters enjoying the Regt Carol Service.



Capt Peter Hudson and the Regimental band.

by all, and the Regimental family enjoyed the mulled wine and mince pies afterwards. We very much look forward to continuing this as an annual event.

The 2020 Carol Service is planned for Saturday 5th December in St Mary's Church, Bury St Edmunds. Please put this in your diaries.

Royal Hospital Chelsea

The traditional Christmas visit to the Royal Hospital was conducted 9th December 2019 by Bob Grenfell, who delivered Christmas Cards, presents and Season Greetings to our In Pensioners. They were all found to be well and in good spirits. They asked that thanks and Christmas wishes be extended to all.



RHC Christmas Visit - Left to Right - Michael Riley, Stephen Lines, Dougie May and Bob Grenfell.

Operational Honours and Awards 2019

The Regiment warmly congratulates Lt Col P C Moxey MBE on his award of QCVS.

The Regiment warmly congratulates WO2 (CSM) P Kennedy, C (Essex) Company on his award of a Joint Commanders Commendation.

Promotions

The Regiment congratulates the following Officers and Warrant Officers on their selection for promotion in 2020.

To Major - Direct Entry

- Capt T M Duncalfe
- Capt J G Ryan

To Warrant Officer Class 1

- WO2 W Butterick
- WO2 J Rawdon
- WO2 A Johnson
- WO2 S Seaton-Norton

Diary Dates

January 2020

- 6 RHQ Return to Duty
- 12 Chapel Sunday - Warley

February

- 2 Chapel Sunday - Warley

March

- 11 Regt Museum Trustees meeting - IWM
- 17 Regt Comms Steering Committee Meeting
- 18 County Colonels Meeting - RHQ

1st Battalion

Viking Mortar Platoon

The Viking Mortar Platoon completed their Cadre with nine new soldiers successfully passing to a high standard. The cadre tested their mettle in a number of challenging heavy-loaded marches and battle exercises where they proved their tactical ability to employ the 81mm mortar. Salisbury Plain Training Area was a suitable proving ground for the troops to hone their live firing skills and accurately pass their Annual Combat Marksmanship Test.



Christmas

The end of 2019 was celebrated with the traditional Officers' Mess vs Warrant Officers' & Sgts' Mess football match. It was a very heavily contested and fast-paced game with the Officers taking the initial lead. With some dubious calls made by the referee (SNCO) and a highly motivated team, the WOs and Sgts battled hard to secure a 4-3 win this year. A first for the Vikings was the Cpls vs Ptes football match that demonstrated a great amount of skill on the pitch and a desire to win which led to a successful outcome for the Cpl's team. By way of appreciation for the hard work and dedication put in this year by all, the Officers and SNCOs served the soldiers their Christmas dinner and wished them a Merry Christmas and a well deserved leave.



2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

Ex Mounted Poacher

During November the Battalion deployed to Stanford Training Area for Ex MOUNTED POACHER. The exercise incorporated a period of live firing and an opportunity for the Rifle Coys to operate with Specialist Platoons for the first time in their mounted role. It was a great chance to prepare ourselves for Ex WESSEX STORM in Spring 2020 and the wintery weather certainly blow out the cobwebs from our 2 years of warm weather soldiering in Cyprus.



2019 has been a busy period for the Poachers, following our return from Cyprus, resubordination to 7 Inf Bde and conversion to Light Mechanised Infantry. Christmas will be a good time to recharge the batteries and spend time with family and friends. We are looking forward to 2020, our hotly anticipated battle against both the Vikings and Steelbacks on WESSEX STORM and the build up to operations in Mali and Afghanistan



3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

Celebrating Christmas



The Steelbacks Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess celebrating Christmas in Lincoln in style.

4 (Lincolnshire) Company

4 Company spent the day with the pupils from the Uniformed Services Course at The Grimsby Institute. In just a few hours we have seen some incredible transformations of people who are normally quiet and don't get involved into future leaders.



Museum News

This month we have been ending the year with a small gathering for the volunteers, and a Regimental Christmas dinner. The December Object of the month was also holiday season themed.

We have also been scheduling works to be done in the museum to give it a further 'facelift', as well as changing some temporary cases, like the 'Kit Case'. This had previously featured rations but now features magazines about equipment and objects that are pictured within.

For the New Year, we have some new exciting things coming up, such as an inter-museum loan with a museum in Cambridge, which gives us a chance to showcase our collection in a larger Museum. Also with lots of new donations of objects, we have been preparing some nice little temporary displays for next year.

The Royal Anglian Regiment Museum would like to thank all its volunteers and supporters and wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Regimental Bulletins

This month RHQ has sent the Regimental family 4 Regimental bulletins, which will also be available on the Regimental Website:

- Bulletin 115/19 - Death of Richard Bruce
- Bulletin 117/19 - Royal Anglian News
- Bulletin 116/19 - Op Honours and Awards
- Bulletin 118/19 - Regt Battlefield Tour 2020