



Royal Anglian *News*

June 2020

Regimental Matters

Colonel-in-Chief, HRH The Duke of Gloucester

Our Colonel-in-Chief sent the Regiment his best wishes as we entered this period uncertainty, and his message was carried in March's *Royal Anglian News*. HRH was due to attend our Cambridgeshire VJ75 Service in Ely Cathedral in July, which sadly has had to be cancelled. We hope he may be able to attend next year. The regimental family might like to know that our Col-in-Ch's Private Office asked for a meeting by telephone so HRH could be updated on the Regiment's recent activities. The meeting was on the 2nd June, and was reported in the Court Circular in *The Times*.

Virtual Regimental Day 2020

The decision to cancel the Regimental Day in 2020 has been circulated in a Regimental Bulletin. The Regiment is preparing a Virtual Regimental Day in its place. The format of the production will be broadly the same as our traditional Regimental Day, with a particular focus on the Drum Head Service at our Regimental Memorial. It will be available online at 1100hrs on Sun 6 Sept 20. The Regimental family are invited to send any photos or video clips of veterans, past or present, for inclusion in the production to the project lead timothy.brown133@bc.mod.gov.uk

Change of Command - 1st Battalion

Lt Col Graham Goodey MBE

The Regiment warmly congratulates Lt Col Goodey on assuming of command of the 1st Battalion. He is returning to the Battalion from the Advanced Command and Staff Course, taking over as the Battalion begins its pre-operational training.



Lt Col Phill Moxey MBE.

Lt Col Moxey's command included a major operation tour in Afghanistan. The Bn deployed as the Kabul Security Force, a successful tour, for which they received several operational awards, including his QCVS. On return, the Bn hosted our Col-in-Ch HRH the Duke of Gloucester and many members of the Regimental Family for a magnificent Minden Day. In the closing months of his command, the Battalion provided a COVID Response Force, supporting the installation of the Nightingale Hospital, setting up Regional Test Centres and providing Mobile Testing Units. After well-earned leave, Lt Col Moxey will take up his new appointment of SOI Prog Plans in Field Army HQ and carries the very best wishes of the regimental family with him.



New Regimental Representative at RMAS

The Regiment welcomes Capt Matt Durkin as the Regimental and Queens Division representative at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and wishes him luck as an instructor there. We hope his presence will continue to attract high calibre young officers to lead our soldiers.

1st Battalion (The Vikings)

Vikings MST and CFA visit

June marked the first time since Christmas that much of the Battalion was operationally able to pause and take leave.

Although that leave was staggered between Company's (as the requirement to attend certain Afghanistan-specific courses endured), most Vikings were able to take two weeks leave during the month of June. This was the first time since December that leave meant leave and wasn't a form of local stand-down with the very real prospect of call-back in support of Op RESCRIPT activity (the COVID response). It was refreshing for all.

As the Battalion came back to work throughout June, the focus switched towards Afghanistan and Op TORAL. On 15th June, members of 2 R ANGLIAN (under Lt James Heal) as well as six Army Reservists (from 3 R ANGLIAN, 3PWRR and 4PWRR) joined the Battalion to commence Mission Specific Training (MST) for Op TORAL II.



The Training Wing within HQ Company have done some great work in ensuring that the training estate here at Woolwich is being used to best effect to support such training. Both the indoor 25m range and Dismounted Close Combat Trainer (DCCT) have been refreshed, as has the small Dell training area directly opposite the barracks. Work by CSgt Andy Howe and the wider Training Wing team has allowed the creation of a simple but effective training house in an old respirator-testing facility. Following SASC approval, the facility was also declared safe for use with the Marker Training Round System (paint rounds).

All this progress was timely as Commander Field Army (Lt Gen Ivan Jones CB) visited the Vikings on 18th June and got to see for himself how the limited on-site facilities were being put to best possible use. The General's visit overran significantly, a sure sign of how much he enjoyed spending time with Viking soldiers and officers (including our attached Vikings – REME, RAMC and AGC(PS)!)

At the time of writing, another week of good, TORAL-focused training was commencing (including ranges, FOXHOUND and CAV (Civilian Armoured Car) courses), with the Battalion also getting ready for the inaugural All-Ranks Brief (ARB) to be delivered centrally by the Mission Training and Mobilisation Centre here at RAB next week. That week will also mark the beginning of the handover between Lt Col Phill Moxey MBE and Lt Col Graham Goodey MBE, and yet another chapter in the history of the 1st Battalion.



2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

Op NEWCOMBE preparation and return to MTU

The beginning of the month saw the battalion be released from the commitment to the Covid Support Force (CSF), which enabled us to take a well-earned week of leave. By being released from the CSF, the battalion began switching its attention to upcoming operational deployments in Afghanistan and Mali. This has seen our Machine Platoon from C (Northamptonshire) Company be attached to the Vikings to commence their mission specific training for a deployment later this year to Op TORAL where they will provide security on the streets of Kabul.



Concurrently to this, B (Leicestershire) Company have continued their pre- deployment training for Op NEWCOMBE later this year with the Light Dragoons Battle Group. This has seen them conduct battle exercises on the airfield focusing mainly on Counter IED drills and mounted live firing in their Foxhound vehicles in Warcop on Ex MOUNTED TIGER.

Midway through June however, the battalion were brought back onto the CSF commitment which has seen A (Lincolnshire), C (Northamptonshire) & D (Beds & Herts) Companies deploy yet again onto Mobile Testing Units until the end of August. However, the rotation still allows traditional training to be conducted with A (Lincolnshire) Coy deploying on Ex CORSHAM IMP, developing their CQB drills using simunition.



3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

MTU Tasking Complete!

June saw the Steelbacks of the Covid Support Force continue on task as mobile testing units (MTU), across the East of England. Having completely taken over from the Poachers and QDG previously on task, they now had their own command teams in place, allowing a level of freedom in completing the tasks. With the force split into a northern grouping and a southern grouping to enable command and control.

For those Reservists not mobilised training had to continue, a whole new problem in itself, how to train soldiers across the Battalion whilst maintaining lockdown. No one joined the Reserves for a distance learning experience, but training and skills must be maintained. Armed with this the RSM, CSM's and permanent staff started planning training programmes that could be delivered over video conferencing, developing skills and maintaining interest of the soldiers.

With a task so public facing every day brought the challenge of interacting with the public and maintaining that professional attitude whilst balancing in a relaxed demeanour to put any nervous people at ease. This was not made easy by the barriers of the PPE and the weather, as we hit the start of the June heat wave. Commanders having to rotate soldiers to avoid them standing in the unrelenting sun for too long, with the added frustration of subjects remaining in cars getting hotter and hotter as they carried out an unpleasant task.

It is a credit to the soldiers that they remained in exceptionally high spirits throughout this process, always engaging test subjects with good humour. I am absolutely certain that Pte Clement could sell ice to an Eskimo after seeing him interact with the public.

There were also occasions where soldiers were required to provide quick thinking solutions to issues that arose, Ptes Desborough and Bourton found themselves dealing with a deaf subject which meant that the standard plan of getting them to call through to the phones wouldn't work. Unable to remove his mask to allow for lip reading Pte Desborough, completely unphased, managed to communicate to switch to text messages completed his handover to Pte Bourton who took the subject through the test. Although this test took longer than normal it is a credit to both junior soldiers (Pte Desborough has been with the Battalion less than 12 months) that they remained calm and provided an excellent bespoke solution to the public, who later posted about the great service she had received on Facebook.

With the MTUs handed over the Steelbacks went on their leave before being demobilised to return to their civilian jobs in July. It was a great experience for the Army Reserve to be used in support of the national response, with at one point the Steelbacks providing over 10% of the national MTUs. It has shown what their training can achieve, and their skills at dealing



with general public and putting them at ease. Whilst none of them could have imagined that this is what they would have been doing when they joined, they all stepped up and were counted when it was needed.

Despite the largely positive nature of June for the Steelbacks it has been touched with sadness as we must announce the tragic death of Pte Matthew Lodge, who was killed in a road traffic collision the evening of 25th June. Matthew was a dedicated member of 3 (Essex and Herts) Company, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this difficult time.

Maj Rhys Little OCTFI

Association News

Funeral of Bernard “Bunny” Barratt

Due to Covid19 restrictions at Lincoln Crematorium where the funeral service was held representatives of the Lincoln Branch were unable to attend but were allowed to mount a Standard party at the gate. Commanded by Major Jim Freeman the Standard Party comprised C/Sgt D Metcalfe MBE, Sgt F Finlay, and Mr M Reams.

The Association has decided to hold a full memorial service at some time in the future. Details will be promulgated when known.



Royal Anglian Regiment Museum

As the current climate has dictated, the Museum is closed. We are hoping it will reopen in August, but as with these things it is a 'wait and see' scenario. From home we have been committing time to standardising terms on the database of archives and objects, doing some research, as well as preparing some of the future exhibitions program for the future once we can get back to normal. There has also been time spent on look through all of the digitised Castles and making sure they are no cut off edges, or other errors. It has also been great to read articles from each year and learn little snippets from different exercises. The airshow at Duxford is also going ahead, so some thought as to our presence there and how we can represent the Royal Anglian Regiment Museum safely to the public needs to be addressed, but the Museum is excited for the challenge!

Hopefully everyone is staying safe! In the meantime, here are some favourite pictures from the archives as they are being worked on.



Top left: Captain N A Baker, 1995, 1st Bn on ops in the Falklands

Top right: Captain Grinonneau, on Thruxton race circuit racing an Aston Martin, 2nd Bn, 1996

Bottom left: this is Talavera day, in 1984

Bottom right: Vikings on 'Operation Trumpet Dance' 1995

That's all for now!

The Curator,
Royal Anglian Regiment Museum

RHQ circulated six Regimental Bulletins in March which are also on the Regimental Website:

- Bulletin 40-20 Cpl Neal Riches Request
- Bulletin 41-20 Newsletter Link
- Bulletin 42-20 Death of Frank Thompson
- Bulletin 43-20 Cancellation of Regimental Day
- Bulletin 44-20 Death of Mr Alex Latham
- Bulletin 46-20 Royal Tigers Day

Diary Dates - Spring and Summer 2020

The Regiment regrets that our major Regimental events for this Spring were cancelled. During the Coronavirus crises our policy has been to cancel major events three months in advance of the event: before invitations are issued and before Regimental funds have been committed. Current plans are to have no major Regimental events this Summer, in July, August or September. As soon as we are able to resume our programme of events safely, we will do so. Updates of Regimental Events in October and beyond will be in July's *Royal Anglian News* and in Regimental Bulletins.

FULL TIME RESERVE SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AT BASSINGBOURN BARRACKS

The Mission Training and Mobilisation Centre (MTMC) is being established at Basingbourn Barracks. The MTMC are advertising 40 Full Time Reserve Service (Home Commitment) jobs at Basingbourn Barracks. These range in rank from JNCO to Station Support Officer. Full details are available from RHO.

Bolt & Magill Lincoln House | 5 Pump Court | 9 Bedford Row

This is the first in a series of articles by Sarah Magill and Matthew Bolt, two barristers who specialise in defending members of the Armed Forces. They will explain how your approach to navigating the military and civilian legal systems can affect you and your families both during your careers and afterwards.

In each issue, they will cover one aspect of Service Law or Criminal Law and provide tips and guidance on how to navigate your way through. They will also look at what you need to do to ensure the best outcome for you and your family. If there is a specific topic you would like them to cover you can contact them via BoltandMagill@gmail.com

Bolt & Magill

WHAT HAPPENS IF I GO TO THE MAGISTRATES' COURT?

If you are unlucky enough to be charged with a criminal offence, then you will have to go to the Magistrates' Court. As always prior preparation and knowledge will make your time there easier. In this article we tell you what to expect and suggest you need to do to prepare. Every case is different, and you should take legal advice about the specific allegations against you, but this is a good start.

What is the Magistrates' Court?

All criminal cases in England and Wales begin in the Magistrates' Court and if you're charged with any criminal offence then your case will begin there. 95% of cases will end in the Magistrates' Court as well, indeed some criminal offences can only be dealt with by the Magistrates' Court such as common assault and low value thefts. More serious offences can only be dealt with in the Crown Court and the

magistrates will send your case there. A third group of offences can be dealt with in either the Magistrates' Court or the Crown Court, and you can choose which court will hear your case.

When you get to court your case will be heard by either three magistrates or a single district judge. What's the difference? Magistrates are ordinary members of the public who have volunteered as judges. They are assisted by a qualified legal advisor. A district judge is a qualified lawyer who is employed as a judge. Magistrates and district judges have the same powers to manage your case and if needs be pass sentence. In most cases magistrates and district judges have the power to send someone to prison for up to six months.

How does my case get to the Magistrates' Court?

You may be unlucky enough that after being arrested you are held in custody overnight and brought before the Magistrates' Court the next day. In that case if you have not already instructed a lawyer you will have the opportunity to consult with a Duty Solicitor. This service is free of charge and you can appoint a different lawyer going forward.

If you have not been held in custody overnight, then you may be released by the police on bail and told to go to court on a specific date. Alternatively, you may receive a requisition or a summons. This is a letter telling you what you are alleged to have done and when you have to go to court. If you have advanced warning, then it is vital you prepare for court.

- Choose a lawyer and make sure they can come with you.
- Inform your unit and choose an assisting officer.

What happens at First Appearance?

When you first go to Court or hopefully beforehand you and your lawyer will receive disclosure. This is usually a summary of the evidence the prosecution has against you. Your lawyer will use this and what you tell them to advise you about your plea.

You will be expected to enter a plea to the charge against you, either guilty or not guilty. It is vital you take legal advice before doing so. Even where you have admitted some wrongdoing it does not mean you are "guilty as charged" or it maybe you only did some of what you are accused of. It is vital to get your plea right. The courts give you credit for your plea, effectively a discount on your sentence if you admit the offence early. The later you admit the offence the less discount you receive. At first appearance you can receive a one third reduction in sentence. If you are guilty and have been advised that you should enter a guilty plea then the earlier the better. You should only plead guilty if you are guilty and have had legal advice. If you enter a not guilty plea and then change your mind your credit will be much less.

What happens if I plead guilty?

If you enter a guilty plea you may be sentenced straight away so make sure you bring a reference from your unit and details of your income and expenditure. If the court needs more information about you or does not have time to deal with the case your sentence may take place on a different day. This can involve the Probation Service preparing a report on you.

If your case is too serious for the Magistrates' Court then you will be committed for sentence to the Crown Court. You will then be sentenced on a different day by a Crown Court Judge.

What happens if I plead not guilty?

If you are not guilty and enter a not guilty plea then the case will be case managed for a trial either in the Magistrates' Court or if the matter is serious in the Crown Court. A date will be set for the next hearing

and you will need to identify what parts of the prosecution evidence you want to challenge. Your lawyer will be able to advise you on this.

If the case does not finish will I be held in custody?

At the end of the hearing the issue of bail will be decided. You can be held in custody until the next hearing if the court thinks you will fail to turn up to court next time or you will interfere with the witness or you will commit further offences before the next hearing. To help your lawyer make a bail application you or your Assisting Officer will need to be able to tell the court where you will be living and sleeping until the next hearing. If you are going on exercise or being deployed, you need to tell your lawyer where you will be.

Where do I get advice and representation?

Your unit will offer you the services of an Assisting Officer; it's important to choose carefully. You need someone you trust and who knows you well. For a first appearance your company commander is a good choice. They may also be able to recommend a lawyer who has worked with your unit previously.

You are entitled to free representation at the Police Station and at your first appearance at the Magistrates' Court. After that you will need to arrange your own lawyers. You may be eligible for Legal Aid to help with the costs of your representation or you may need to pay privately. If you are eligible for Legal Aid then you will be required to pay a contribution towards your defence. This may be several thousand pounds. You will get your contribution back if you are acquitted.

It is important that your lawyer understands how the criminal process will affect your service and how your service can impact on the court process. Try and find a lawyer who specialises in both criminal and military law. Some specialist barristers can be instructed directly from their chambers.

Major Administrative Action

As a soldier, the court process is not the end of the process. Even if found not guilty you may be subject to Major Administrative Action. The Court needs to understand how Major Administrative Action works and the effect it will have on your career and family. This is where having a specialist military lawyer helps. If you cannot find a military law specialist in time, then make sure your Assisting Officer brings to court a hard copy of AGA165 to give to your lawyer. A copy of Annex G of AGA167 may also help.

Three Top Tips

The three most important things to remember if you have to go to the Magistrates' Court are:

- 1) **ADVICE:** Make sure you get legal advice. Preferably from a specialist in both criminal and military law.
- 2) **CREDIT:** If you are guilty you will receive credit for your plea if you plead at the earliest opportunity. Ensure you have legal advice so you make the right choice at the right time.
- 3) **AGAI:** Whatever happens at Court will affect your career so make sure your lawyer and your Assisting Officer are ready to deal with that as well.

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COVER PHOTO

CFA, Lt Gen Ivan Jones speaks to Vikings taking part in Simunition training at Woolwich Barracks.