



# Royal Anglian News

February 2020

# Regimental Matters

London Gazette 17 Feb 20

Major M. C. MELIA Royal Anglian Regiment 550739 is promoted to the substantive rank of Lieutenant Colonel 31 December 2019.

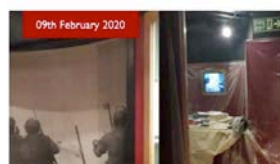
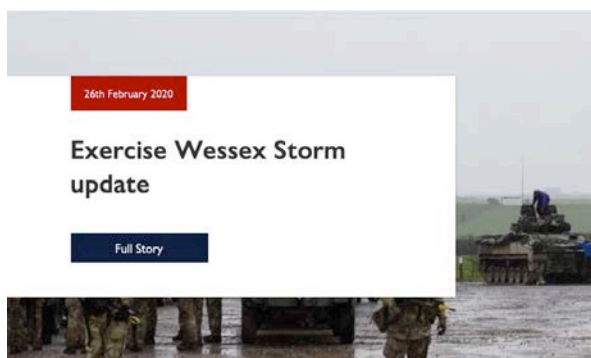
The Regiment congratulates Lt Col Andy Wilde on taking command of 1 PWRR in Dhekelia, Cyprus. 1 RANGLIAN are due to take over from 1 PWRR in Cyprus in mid-Jul 2021.

New Regimental Website launched on 01 Feb 20

The new Regimental website is now online at [www.royalanglianregiment.com](http://www.royalanglianregiment.com). The Regiment's first website was published in 2013 and the Regiment is grateful to Lt Col Paul Morris for setting it all up and then running it magnificently throughout its lifespan. The Regiment is very grateful.

The Regimental Council, advised by Col Comms, Col Simon Browne, directed that a new website was to be constructed. Unstuck Design were awarded the contract. The Regiment welcomes feedback: [rhqranglian@icloud.com](mailto:rhqranglian@icloud.com).

The Royal Anglian Regiment News Units Join us Rejoin Charity and Benevolence Associa



# Diary Dates 2020

March

- 1 Regt Chapel
- 11 Regt Museum Trustees meeting - IWM
- 16-17 Sandhurst Visit to the 1st Battalion
- 17 St Patrick's Day (still celebrated in Essex Regimental heritage)
- 17 Regt Comms Steering Committee Meeting
- 18 County Colonels Annual Association Meeting - RHQ]
- 19 Presentation of the Elizabeth Cross to the family of Pte Frank Pennington - Cottesmore
- 24 Regimental Selection Board - Sandhurst
- 24-26 Leicestershire Regt WWI burials - France Sgt Birkin, LSgt Cottrill, LCpl Jones
- 26 Regt Benevolence meeting
- 28 Regt Band Concert, Chatteris, in support of RBL

April

- 1 Regimental Recruiting Steering Committee
- 2 Jockey Club Lunch for Regt Benevolence
- 6 Beds and Herts County Committee
- 9 CCI92 Sovereign's Parade
- 15 Mobbs Memorial Rugby Match
- 18 Norway Campaign WW2 Service and unveiling in Norway
- 21 Northamptonshire County Committee
- 29 CWGC Norfolk Regt grave dedication - Littleport

# 1st Battalion (The Vikings)

## Vikings Support Ex WESSEX STORM

Soldiers of the 1st Battalion deployed in support of the 2nd Battalion on Exercise WESSEX STORM.

A (Norfolk) Company were the first to deploy, providing Real Life Support and an Enemy force to the 2nd Battalion whilst they trained prior to deploying on their Final Training Exercise.

C (Essex) Company were attached to the Poachers Battlegroup and provided a Light Role Rifle company to compliment the Poachers' two Light Mechanised Rifle companies.



D (Cambridgeshire) Company were attached to the 3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks) as the Support Weapons element of the Enemy Battle Group, dubbed 'Task Force Hannibal'. The Reconnaissance and Sniper Platoon (elements photographed below) provided an insurgent force throughout much of the exercise. The added complexity of an insurgent force operating amongst a civilian population was essential to providing challenging and realistic training to the 2nd Bn to prepare them for their upcoming Operational deployments.



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## 2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

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### Poachers finish Ex WESSEX STORM

After six weeks on Salisbury Plain, with no less than two storm fronts and Task Force Hannibal to contend with, the 2nd Battalion has now returned to Kendrew Barracks after completing Exercise WESSEX STORM. The exercise saw the 2nd Battalion put their skills to the test after successfully converting from a Light Role to a Light Mechanised Infantry Battalion. This training is critical for their upcoming overseas deployments later in 2020.



The initial stages of the exercise were focused on live fire ranges, run by the companies up to platoon level.

The second phase was a rotation of company level battle exercises designed to refine and develop skills operating in specific environments. This phase also included a

The final phase saw the various elements of the Poachers Battlegroup brought back together to fight alongside one another against Task Force Hannibal. Here they fought in a variety of scenarios; completing Battlegroup sized raids, attacks and defences of the various urban areas on Salisbury Plain Training Area against enemy incursions. The Poachers will now enjoy a short period of leave before resuming their training for Operations.



## 3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

### Fight to Win - An Army Reserve Task Force Hannibal Battlegroup.

In late February Army Reserve units delivered an enemy battlegroup, dubbed Task Force Hannibal, to go head to head with 2000 of their Regular counterparts on Exercise WESSEX STORM. The force was 400 strong with reserves from Portsmouth to Grimsby deploying alongside regular soldiers from the Vikings and Household Cavalry to add specialist weapons and armoured recce capabilities.

The 3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks) took the lead, supported excellently with rifle companies from 3 and 4 PWRR. All of this was to represent the fictitious Limarian Armed Forces, insurgents and terrorists doing whatever they could to disrupt NATO (2 R ANGLIAN, QDG and 6 Regt RLC) in the country of Atropia. The exercise was tough: (actual) storms and snow combined with testing new ways and means of achieving more to raise the stakes of the event. Despite all of the resultant frictions, it was a great success. The Army Reserve contribution was remarkable and proved an excellent experience for the BG. The exercise challenged the Battlegroup, Company, Platoon and Section leadership in tough conditions, afforded great opportunities to experiment and a rare chance for the Army Reserve to train at this level within a Brigade context.



*Task Force Hannibal at the end of the Exercise*

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# Association News

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## 6th Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment Officers' Dining Club

Reunion Lunch at The White Horse,  
Bury Road, Beyton,  
Bury St Edmunds, IP30 9AB  
Saturday 28th March 2020  
1230 for 1300 hrs

Dress: Smart casual but, for those in possession, the 'RPJ tie' is essential! Plus miniature medals. Bring Memorabilia. Those wishing to attend should contact the Secretary by Sat 14th March. :

Capt Felicity Leicester,  
Redroofs,  
9 Ditton Grange Close,  
LONG DITTON,  
Surrey KT6 5HQ  
07900 312 634  
[felicity.leicester@gmail.com](mailto:felicity.leicester@gmail.com)

## Harold Payne donates £10,000 to Regimental Benevolent Charity

On Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February Brigadier Olly Brown attended a Gala Charity Event at Harold Payne's renowned Café on the A17 near Holbeach, accompanied by Regimental Area Secretary 2, along with veterans from WWII and more recent conflicts. A great evening's entertainment 1940s style was enjoyed by all, and Brig Olly accepted a cheque from Harold Payne for the sum of £10,000 to help our Regiment's serving and retired members in times of hardship.

This is one of many incredibly generous donations made by Harold over recent years, and the Regiment is enormously grateful to him and his band of brothers who collect and fund raise in so many different ways. It is a phenomenal achievement and takes many hours even days to accomplish.



In addition, the wonderful

Ladies of CHOSEN, a charity shop in Holbeach, also made a donation of £1,000 on the night. This sort of gift from deep in our recruiting heartlands is incredibly heart-warming at a time when cuts and austerity is so often in the headlines. Lincolnshire has done us proud once again and we are grateful.

## 'Almanza 313' - Vikings' Wessex Officers Lunch

To mark the 313th anniversary of the Battle of Almanza (of 9th Foot/Norfolk Regiment fame), on Wednesday 22 April 2020 there will be a lunch near Shaftesbury in North Dorset for current and former Viking Officers who live in Wessex – or who live wherever and may wish to attend! Anyone who wishes to attend should send contact their details to Colonel Michael Goldschmidt at [goldschmidt1717@gmail.com](mailto:goldschmidt1717@gmail.com) tel: 01963 370688, detailing full name, years when a Viking, email/postal address, and tel no. Further details will be disseminated to those attending nearer the time.

## Veteran Breaks World Record

On 11<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at the Derby Velodrome Wayne Harrod, who served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and had to have his leg amputated as the result of an accident whilst on pre-deployment training for Operations in Afghanistan, took on the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) MC4 one hour challenge. He completed 42.460 kilometre making this a new world record, this was 171 laps with the previous record being 168. Wayne has been in training for many months, subjected to compulsory anti-doping testing, but says the challenge has took its toll but it was all worth it. Whilst justifiably incredibly proud of his achievement he does not want to stand forever and hopes others are encouraged to dig deep and challenge it.



# Regimental Bulletins

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

- Bulletin 08-20, CUFC Discounted Tickets
- Bulletin 09-20, Death of Mr Wally Rookes
- Bulletin 10-20, Special Order of the Day, Sobraon Day
- Bulletin 11-20 Death of Mr Nicholas Ayrton
- Bulletin 12-20 Death of Mr Michael Lawton
- Bulletin 13-20 Death of Mr Andrew Devine

## Front Cover

A 2nd Battalion Anti-Tank Platoon Jackal on Exercise WESSEX STORM. Photo Credit - LCpl Ward Worley.