



# Royal Anglian News



July 2023

Cover Image: Pte Clements, 3rd Battalion, dropping down from Graig Fan Ddu while training for the Cambrian Patrol

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# Regimental News

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## Our Regimental Day - 3 September 2023



Our Regimental Day is an opportunity for our Regimental Family to take part in a service of commemoration at our Regimental Memorial, as well as being our annual reunion. It is always held on the first Sunday in September; appropriately close to the anniversary of the formation of the Regiment on the 1st of September.

The scene was well set, with our Regimental Memorial looking cared for and dressed for the occasion, and all marquees with all the supporting elements in place. The day was blessed with glorious sunshine. The formal and traditional drumhead service at our Regimental Memorial is an appropriate way to start the day.

Our Regimental Band, our Association Standards and the Colour Party from our 3rd Battalion all add to the military ceremony, enjoyed by all. The service was led by our Assistant Honorary Chaplain for Cambridgeshire, the Reverend Alan Jesson. All 500 seats were occupied, with at least the same number standing on the grass around the seating.





The whole regimental family was represented, including: families of the fallen, our In-Pensioners from the Royal Hospital Chelsea, our veterans, regular soldiers, reserve soldiers and our Cadets. The Regimental Band provided excellent musical support to the service, during which we remembered our fallen. Rev Alan Jesson gave a thought-provoking address about military service.





At the conclusion of the service the newly appointed Colonel of the Regiment, Major General Dom Biddick gave a summary of the Regiment's busy year, including the co-location of our 1st and 2nd Battalions at Kendrew Barracks, Cottesmore, bringing the Regiment many challenges and opportunities.



Immediately after the Drum Head Service the crowd watched the Regimental Association march past, led by the Cadet Corps of Drums with 6 marching contingents formed of veterans from our: 1st Bn, 2nd Bn, 3rd Bn, 4th Bn, and TA/Reserve Battalions, followed by the largest contingent of affiliated cadet detachments yet. The Colonel of the Regiment and our Colonel Cadets, Brigadier Rich Lyne formally thanked the cadets for supporting the day, and presented Colonel of the Regiment Coins for excellence to nominated cadets from the affiliated detachments in our counties.



As ever, the beer tent and regimental shop did a roaring trade in the afternoon, many old friendships were renewed, and an even greater number of old tales were recounted. Some veterans manage to support the Regt Rugby on Saturday, and the Regt Day as well.

The weather gods were kind allowing everyone the opportunity to mingle in the sunshine, enjoy the music of the Regimental Band, visit the Regt Heritage Tent, and enjoy free access to the wider Imperial War Museum site. Many took the opportunity to enjoy rides in tracked military vehicles (AFV 432s). The Veteran Support marquee reported that they had made useful contact with many of our veterans. We can all look back on a very successful day.



As ever, we are grateful to all those that help to deliver the day. The Colonel of the Regiment thanked Colour Sergeant Glen and Mrs Sandra Keeble for their support for 20 years, presenting Sandra with a bouquet.

**Unusually, in 2024, our Regt Day actually falls on our foundation day, the 1st September, which will be our 60th, our Diamond Jubilee. So, please put it in your diary.**

### **New Senior LE Officer is Warmly Welcomed to the Regimental Council**



Maj Kev Main has taken on the appointment of Regimental Senior LE Officer. Kev is well known through his long service in our regimental family. After joining our 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn (The Pompadours) his career has included being RSM of our 3<sup>rd</sup> Bn (The Steelbacks), QM(T) and QM of our 1<sup>st</sup> Bn (The Vikings), and wherever possible, windsurfing. He is currently serving as the Senior Instructor (Combat) at the Royal School of Military Engineering. In Royal Anglian style our Senior LE Officer is carefully included in our regimental policy making and is invited to attend all our Regimental Councils. Over the years, the wise and grounded advice of our Senior LE Officer has been greatly appreciated in our Regt Council.



# 1st Battalion (The Vikings)

## The Vikings Have Returned to Home Shores

The Battalion has completed its move back to the UK, with the final group of soldiers and their families arriving in Kendrew Barracks in mid-August. After months of detailed planning, and some last-minute adjustments, the Battalion has been taking some hard-earned leave before it starts returning to work in late August and early September. The Unit Move team, in particular the Welfare Team under Captain Wayne Butterick, and the G4 teams under Major Joe Hayhurst (QM), Captain Colin Lewis (QM(Tech)) and Captain Larry Holmes (MTO), have been superb at every stage, ably supported by teams of Vikings in the UK and in Cyprus. On 11 August, the Battalion formally handed over its responsibilities as the Resident Infantry Battalion in Alexander Barracks, Dhekelia, to 1st Battalion the Rifles, in a flag change ceremony attended by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Adie Thompson and under the auspices of the Chief of Staff for British Forces Cyprus, Brigadier Andrew Dawes. It was a particularly poignant moment as Brigadier Dawes has a long history with the Vikings, having been the Battery Commander attached to the Battalion on Op HERRICK 6, and Commanding Officer of 19 Regiment Royal Artillery on Op HERRICK 16.

The Unit Move also marked the following changes of key personalities in the Battalion:

- Major Phil Lenthall, the Battalion 2IC, who heads to HQ Infantry and has been replaced by Major David Crosbie, who joins us from his recent posting in the Ministry of Defence.
- Major James Walters, Officer Commanding A (Norfolk) Company, who heads off to Shrivenham to instruct newly promoted Majors, has been replaced by Major Jet Ryan, who joins us from HQ Initial Training Group.
- Major Tom Green, Officer Commanding C (Essex) Company, who heads off to Army Headquarters, has been replaced by Major Simon Hamilton, who joins us from British Army Training Unit Kenya.

We have also been joined by Captains Ross Simmons and Joe Bagnall who both have returned from postings at Catterick, as well as Colour Sergeants Wildney (from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst), Prescott (from the Infantry Battle School), and Lake (from the Mission Readiness Training Centre).

The Battalion is now preparing for its transition to the Security Force Assistance role within 11 Security Force Assistance Brigade. We have already started deploying personnel out to Europe on various Operations, and will be delivering training in the Balkans to North Macedonia, Kosovo and Bosnia-Herzegovina through September and October. On return from their summer leave, C (Essex) Company and D (Cambridgeshire) Company will begin preparing to deploy to Kenya for an overseas exercise in October and November, where they will provide the opposing forces for the Grenadier Guards validation exercise. But before all that happens, the Battalion has a short period of time to shake itself out in Kendrew Barracks and unpack the dozens of ISO containers that have been making their way over from Cyprus. After a busy two years in Cyprus that seldom saw the whole Battalion together in Alexander Barracks, it will be great to be able to come together before training resumes.





## 2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

### 2nd Battalion Short Term Training Team to The Republic of North Macedonia



A Small Training Team from 2 Royal Anglian deployed to North Macedonia in June to run an Urban Operations and Close Quarter Battle Course for the North Macedonian Infantry. This was part of a long-term commitment by NATO and the UK to uplift the North Macedonian Army to the NATO standard as the country looks to join the alliance in 2027.

Alongside this, the Poachers would get to train and share SOPs with the North Macedonian Battalion that will be aligned to 7 Brigade during the commitment to NATO's Reaction Force. This offered invaluable insight into the nations culture and working practise before we potentially deploy with them in 2024.

The course was designed to build up from the basics of British Urban Doctrine such as weapon handling or how an individual moves to how a Platoon might defend an urban area, adding complexity throughout two weeks with each group. Training was conducted concurrently with Sections looking at skills and drills whilst command elements conducted conceptual training and planning exercises to make the most of the short time frame.



Then this was put together and analysed throughout a number of test exercises, each a tougher test than the last to prove the concept and give confidence to the exercising troops. The training audience jumped at this opportunity and showed us exemplary commitment and ability to learn and adapt to our methods.

They were then able to show off their developed skills in an afternoon attack watched by their senior command and embassy officials, during which they excelled themselves.

The training programme was elevated by the first use of a British built Urban Training Complex on the North Macedonians largest training area which offers the ability for them to develop their urban doctrine to a higher standard than they have previously been able to.

This alongside the steady stream of short-term training teams that have been delivering a variety of programmes from promotional cadres to education development is showing how committed the UK is to encourage greater military ties with the Balkan nation.

It was not all work however, the training team were also able to explore and gain a greater understanding of this fantastic land locked country, the second most mountainous on Earth. Using the relationships built with the Platoons in training and their great recommendations we were able to have some brilliant opportunities to hike, learn about the culture and greater understand the unique history which has followed the campaign of Alexander the Great. Overall the deployment was an excellent opportunity for all parties involved, forging greater relationships and knowledge between two NATO allies.







## 3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

### 3 Royal Anglian (UK) and One 1 (Germany): a new and unique partnership between two infantry battalions of the reserve

*"Reporting for duty in the brotherhood of infantry soldiers, sir" it echoes loudly through the night near the obstacle course of the Bergen-Lohheide training area in northern Germany. Four new brothers in arms receive their infantry badges from the 2IC of Unterstützungsbataillon Einsatz 1 (Ops Support Battalion of 1 PzDiv), a reserve infantry unit stationed in Oldenburg with the German 1st Armoured Division.*

Who cares and why would this appear here, you may ask. The answer is that 3 Royal Anglian and the tongue-breaking Unterstützungsbataillon Einsatz 1 (One 1 for short), a German infantry battalion of the reserve have recently formed a partnership that is unique in NATO and either of the partner countries.



From left: The CO, 2IC and RSM of One 1 talk to a soldier of 1 Coy in Norwich during a presentation of 3 Royal Anglian weapons and equipment. This was during an initial visit of One 1 to the UK in October 2022.

One 1 is young. The battalion was set up (only on paper initially) in autumn 2014. After staff of the German 1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Division moved to Oldenburg in northern Germany, the actual staffing and planning of training and exercises began in autumn 2017. Lieutenant Colonel Wolfermann took command at the end of 2017 and started almost from scratch. Soldiers had to be found first. So former soldiers of the division were contacted, word of mouth was spread and information events were held. The first small exercise with 14 soldiers took place in Oldenburg in March 2018, followed by a larger one in autumn 2018. Since then, things have been growing steadily with larger-scale exercises in 2022, which is also when the British/German partnership started.



The Initial Visit to Norwich Highlighted Many Similarities Between the Battalions

One 1's main tasks are operational support of the German 1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Division as well as protection of the divisional HQ once it goes operational on exercise or in combat. For this, One 1 needs well-trained infantrymen and women and this is where the parallels to 3 Royal Anglian start. One 1 has since its foundation trained many of its own infantrymen in a modular course designed for reservists. This is the very short story of the now very active reserve battalion. Behind it all lurks a lot of effort, sweat and tears (in a purposeful nod to Churchill).





A joint German/British tank Anti-Tank team in action during an exercise in Bergen/Loheide, Northern Germany, March 2023. 3 Royal Anglian sent three soldiers from 1 Coy on a first exercise visit.

“We are very proud to have established this partnership with 3 Royal Anglian”, says Lt Col Wolfermann, “and it is no coincidence that we are partnering with the British as there are a lot of parallels as well as mutual respect between our armies”.

Ensign Dr. Hammer, the partnership’s instigator and now its German LO adds “we have a common basis of commitment and professionalism. But there are also a lot of differences, which we view as opportunities to learn from each other and improve.

For example, 3 Royal Anglian has much more recent and ancient history, is busier and better established and has a much larger core of regular soldiers to support its operation. We are not there yet, but having an older brother like this certainly helps us on our way”.



A soldier of 1 Coy 3 Royal Anglian getting familiar with the German Machine Gun MG5.

By the time of writing, reciprocal CO + staff visits had happened in 2022, three British soldiers attended a training weekend in Germany in March 2023, and the 2IC and a small contingent of German soldiers took part in Gib Study and the Regimental Dinner in July 2023. “That was a unique experience for our soldiers,” says Lt Col Wolferman, “and we look forward to returning the favour and developing more joint training and exercise activities together”.

### Exercise Steelback Aachen - Battalion Battlefield Study 2023

24 members of 3 R ANGLIAN deployed to Germany over the week of the 21-25 August on Ex Steelback Aachen, a Battlefield Study to focused on operations conducted by US forces during the initial penetrations into Germany in Sep-Dec 1944.



Discussing the options for encirclement of Aachen

The Battlefield Study was organised and run by Major Ollie Ormiston, a former Adjutant of the Battalion. The Study was well attended by a diverse rank range from recruit to Commanding Officer. The Study provided an excellent opportunity to educate and develop members of the Battalion in Leadership, the Principles of War, and the Nature of Conflict through exposure to key historical events and battles.



The specific themes for the study were to develop understanding of the scale of warfare, the management of risk and discomfort and the fog and friction of war by concentrating on three main battles of the campaign, the Battle of the Stolberg Corridor (primarily 3rd Armoured Division), the Battle of Aachen (primarily 26th Infantry Regiment), and the Battle of the Hurtgen Forest (primarily 36th Infantry Regiment).

Exercise Steelback Aachen provided an excellent vehicle to discuss high intensity warfare that ranged from large scale urban operations to the fighting in woods and forests of the Hurtgen area.





# Our Regimental Heritage

## The 21st Century Royal Anglian Soldier Project Arrives in Essex and Bedfordshire

Another two of our C2I Royal Anglian Soldier displays have been delivered to the Essex Regiment Museum at Chelmsford, and the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Museum at Wardown House in Luton. The two new exhibits will link their historical narratives to C (Essex) Coy, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, and D (Bedfs. Herts) Coy, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. Both Regimental museums accepted the new displays in August.



Looking ahead to further Regt heritage outreach activity, a survey is currently underway at the Museum of Lincolnshire Life in Lincoln. It has been agreed that the timeline of the existing Royal Lincolnshire Regiment gallery can be extended to incorporate the Royal Anglian Regiment. Planning is well underway to facilitate the addition of a C2I Royal Anglian Soldier exhibition focused on A (Lincolnshire) Company, 2nd Battalion maintaining our strong bonds with our forbear regiment, and the county.

## Regimental Museum August Update



At the end of this Month we were focused on getting ready for the Regimental Day on the 3rd of September; It was an exciting day, and so good to see so many veterans and their families there.

Previously we have had our monthly showcase day, and got out our deactivated weapons out to show the public. If anyone wishes to volunteer either in the office, on events, or cadet visits, please get in touch.

We also have been working on changing some of our temporary exhibitions, and have recently changed the medals display, to show a medal of Major Pat King. It was touching doing this because we got support from his family and friends and it really helped build the case we added some great recent pictures to show his life. These have now been added to the case.

We have been receiving some new acquisitions, and received one lot from someone who served in the 1st Bn, which was great, and included some interesting commemorative pieces, including this silver tray, which names many Sergeants, WO1 and WO2 from the battalion from 1970-1972. We also had a set of new acquisitions from the 2nd Battalion displayed on a table in the heritage tent at the Regimental Day.

Lastly, we did have a veterans group visit the museum this month. We had a great time and got out some objects they may have remembered from their service, but also some new kit to show how things have changed. If anyone wants to book a visit, please get in touch!

### **PROFESSIONAL MUSICIANS: HAS THE CURRENT CLIMATE AFFECTED YOUR PERFORMANCE OUTLET?**

#### **#KeepDoingWhatYouLove**

**British Army Music offers a variety of employment opportunities\* for experienced musicians, freelancers and recently qualified graduates.**

From 27 days per year to a full-time career as an Army musician that may suit your circumstances.

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- Job security
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#### **#ArmyJobs**

\*British and Commonwealth Citizens are eligible to apply to join British Army Music.







# London Gazette

## The following entries relevant to the Regiment were in the The London Gazette dated 31 July 2023:

The undermentioned Captains to be Majors 31 July 2023 with seniority 31 July 2023:

M J Ielden 25003767

J R Snoddon 30146034

M C Durkin 30136452

M N Tovey 25232727

W G Pickering 30113811

J R Tracey 30117088

T M Shea 30181583

NT B Watkins 30197822

## The following entries relevant to the Regiment were listed in The London Gazette dated 21 August 2023:

The undermentioned Major to be Lieutenant Colonel 30 June 2023 with seniority 30 June 2023:

G J R Hudson 560904

Warrant Officer Class 2 Karl John Chambers 24950450 to be Lieutenant 10 December 2020 with seniority of the same date (Belated Entry)

Second Lieutenant (on probation) ST Fulford 30254384 is confirmed as Second Lieutenant 9 April 2017 with seniority of the same date (Belated Entry)

Officer Cadet Fatima Islam 30137781 to be Second Lieutenant (on probation) 7 April 2017 with seniority of the same date (Belated Entry)

Officer Cadet George Boyle 30283057 to be Second Lieutenant (on probation) 8 July 2019 with seniority of the same date (Belated Entry)

# Regimental Bulletins Register

## Regt Bulletins Issued Since The July 2023 Issue of RAN:

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-050 - 9 Aug 23 - Notice: The Regimental Day at Duxford 3 Sep 23

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-051 - 12 Aug 23 - Special Order of the Day - Blenheim Day

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-052 - 14 Aug 23 - Royal Anglian News, July Issue

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-053 - 16 Aug 23 - Death Notice - Major A C (Tony) Downes MBE

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-054 - 18 Aug 23 - Death Notice - Dennis Willmott CBE

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-055 - 1 Sep 23 - Death Notice - Ron Knight, Suffolk & East Anglian Regt

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-056 - 1 Sep 23 - Notice - Foundation Day, The Royal Anglian Regiment

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## Regimental Diary Dates

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### September

- 23<sup>rd</sup> Norfolk Association Dinner
- 24<sup>th</sup> Royal Anglian Regiment sponsored chapel service at The Royal Hospital Chelsea – All, past and present, warmly invited to attend.
- 24<sup>th</sup> Norfolk Association chapel service at Norwich Cathedral.

### October

- 14<sup>th</sup> 4/5<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire Regiment 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner
- 18<sup>th</sup> Late Entry Commissioning results published

### November

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Regimental Council
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Officers' Club Annual Dinner at the Army Navy Club – All officers, past and present, welcome to attend
- 11<sup>th</sup> Leicester Tigers Rugby Club Armistice Event
- 12<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Sunday Service at our memorial at the Imperial War Museum in Duxford – All, past and present welcome to attend
- 12<sup>th</sup> Norfolk Association's Memorial Cottages Service in Norwich
- 12<sup>th</sup> Association Contingent at Cenotaph
- 25<sup>th</sup> Commissioning Course Short parade at RMAS. Available to watch by Facebook Livestream
- 25<sup>th</sup> Regimental Autumn Band Concert in Grimsby
- 27<sup>th</sup> Sortie Day

### December

- 7<sup>th</sup> Charity Regimental Memorial Boxing event at Kendrew Barracks
- 9<sup>th</sup> Regimental Carol Service
- 15<sup>th</sup> Sovereigns Parade at Sandhurst for CC231 – RMAS + Facebook livestream

For more details and events please visit our website at: [royalanglianregiment.com](https://royalanglianregiment.com)

### February

- 24<sup>th</sup> The Royal Anglian Big Breakfast



# Our Regimental Association



## Field of Remembrance Opening Ceremony - Westminster Abbey, 9 Nov 2023

The opening of the Field of Remembrance in the garden of Westminster Abbey will take place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 1100 hrs. The Regiment will have its own Plot, supplemented with Badge Crosses for each of our forebear regiments. Unfortunately, the Royal British Legion has informed all RHQs that due to continuing building works in the Abbey precinct only 4 tickets will be issued to the Royal Anglian Regiment this year. It is with great regret that RHQ will therefore not be able to offer any more tickets due to the very limited numbers permitted to attend.

Our quota is for one Plot Guardian to stand in front of the Regimental Plot, and three general ticket holders. If you wish to apply for a general ticket or to be considered as Plot Guardian please forward your name to Major Tim Brown, Regimental Area 2 Secretary at [timothy.brown133@mod.gov.uk](mailto:timothy.brown133@mod.gov.uk)

## Cenotaph Veterans Parade – London, Whitehall, 12 Nov 2023



The Royal British Legion Cenotaph Veterans Parade in Whitehall will take place on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023. The Regiment has been allocated 40 tickets, of the 40 so far 20 have been requested so we still have plenty of space.

### Eligibility

- Ex-service Military and Civilian men and women from the UK and the Commonwealth that served the Crown.
- Wives, husbands or civil partners of those who died in service in Her Majesty's Armed Forces.
- A carer of a veteran requiring wheelchair assistance.

Carers will be allowed to accompany the veteran, as long as they themselves use one ticket allocation.

Those wishing to attend are to send the following details to [anne.godbolt100@mod.gov.uk](mailto:anne.godbolt100@mod.gov.uk) at the Area 2 Regimental Secretary's Office.

- Title / Rank
- First name
- Surname
- Service Number
- Bn Served with

- Campaign Medals

Timelines:

- 25 Aug 23 - All applications close.
- 30-31 Oct 23 – ETickets and instructions sent to participants.
- 12 Nov 23 - Event.

The Metropolitan Police will conduct individual security checks on participants, so ticket holders will need to bring photographic ID and proof of address with them for access to Horse Guards Parade.

We are also looking for someone to act as the Contingent Commander and Parade Marshall. If you are interested in this important role please send your name to the Area 2 Secretary, Major Tim Brown, [timothy.brown133@mod.gov.uk](mailto:timothy.brown133@mod.gov.uk)

### Leaf Yard - The Regiment's Mental Health and Wellbeing App



We can all benefit from working on our mental fitness. Think about it like your physical fitness - you train and strengthen your muscles and joints so that they can cope with the stresses and strains of daily life. Your mind is no different. Leafyard helps you train your mental fitness and build resilience.

To take advantage and get access for you, a member of your family, or a fellow veteran please visit: <http://www.leafyard.com/royalanglians>





# Regimental Rugby

The Annual Regimental Rugby match took place on Saturday 2nd September in blistering heat at Rochford RFC. Following the traditional roll of honour and bugle calls both teams and the 200+ crowd were ready for the game. Resplendent in RHQ funded shirts the Royal Anglians faced off against a youthful and plentiful Rochford squad, who had a little too much puff for the Regiment who were shorn of all but two serving members. Despite this, an entertaining match saw the hosts tested and 'on toast' in the scrummage before eventually running out winners 51-38.



The match wasn't all one sided, as the gnarled Regimental veterans played a tight game and only offered space on the outside, after their strong arm tactics failed or a lack of unity led to an error and a turn over. The home team started fast and despite an early score, the Regiment shocked them by replying with a brace of tries, the first by MoM Cpl Simon Mataceva (Vikings), on his way to a first hat trick in the fixture. Then another from Sgt Karl Smith (Vikings) who was driven over by his pals in the pack.





The match was played in quarters due to the heat, each quarter separated by water breaks. A pattern soon developed, with the Rochford team able to run through their well-practiced routines only to be foiled by last ditch Royal Anglian tackles or errors from the home team. Rochford scored some great tries and the Regimental team for their part started to have some success with short range drives, especially with Spencer and Barker (Vikings) and some strong Pompadour driving from Green and Knifton. These efforts kept the match tight enough to be entertaining. Up until the last 10 minutes, the Regiment stayed within 2 scores of their youthful hosts. The additional tries were dotted down by Mataceva (2) Fitzgerald and Barker.

Post-match, the outgoing Chair Jim Cunningham was involved in a cap exchange with new Chair Liam McGrath before the other post-match activities were conducted. The new Chair then presented caps to Nick Austin for his fund raising and sponsorship and a special 35th match award to Pete Barrs (Vikings) who has played every match since the team's inception under the late Maj Julian Pollard (Vikings).

A stunning achievement. An outstanding contribution award to the club was also made as (Pompadour) Lawrence 'Percy' Parsons was awarded the Dewick Shield.

The Rugby band wagon and its ever growing fan base moves onto Tring RFC next year with a match against the host on Sat 31st Aug 2024.

**More detail available from the Secretary, Ian Wilkins at: [wilkie332@hotmail.com](mailto:wilkie332@hotmail.com)**





# Our Affiliated Cadets

## The National Army Cadet Force (ACF) Museum – Official Opening

Victoria Cross winner, WO2 Johnson Beharry opened the National Army Cadet Force Museum in Octavia Hill's Birthplace House, Wisbech on 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023 to mark Octavia's legacy from 1889 when she established the first Independent Army Cadet Unit. Wisbech born (1838) Octavia Hill's pioneering work in Southwark, London with youngsters in 1889 lead the way to the modern day Army Cadet Force (ACF) as we know it today. Octavia Hill was a well known social reformer, one of the three founders of the National Trust and a campaigner for open spaces but is largely unknown for her work with the Army Cadets.



Guests included: Brigadier Tim Seal Vice, Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, The High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire, Colonel Ashley Fulford, National Colonel Cadets at Regional Command, Brigadier Richard Lyne, Royal Anglian Regt, The Mayor and Mayoress of Wisbech, and Veterans from Wisbech Royal British Legion.

The Vice Lord Lieutenant read out a letter received from Buckingham Place acknowledging the new National Army Cadet Force Museum and Octavia's pioneering work with the Cadets.

Brigadier Richard Lyne, Regimental Colonel Cadets, spoke to all the Wisbech Detachment Cadets who were proudly wearing the Royal Anglian cap badge. They spoke well and gave an account of their recent Annual Camp and cadet life post covid. After the opening WO2 Beharry gave a truly amazing talk on "how he won the Victoria Cross". Local Cadets from Wisbech Detachment and children from nearby Cambian Wisbech School had the opportunity to meet WO2 Johnson Beharry VC COG and help him plant a tree on Centenary Green to commemorate the occasion. (Picture: Sgt Doug Stuart, Cambs ACF PRO).



## WHY USE ROYAL ANGLIAN DIRECT?

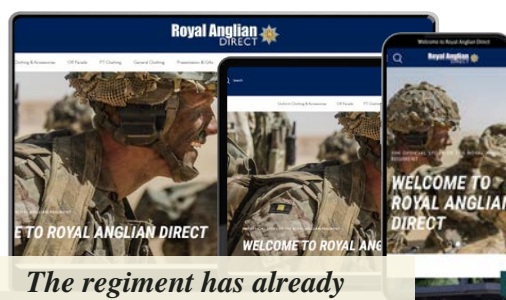
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One of the unique advantages of choosing the Royal Anglian Direct is that a percentage of the store's generated revenue is paid directly to the Regiment. By making purchases through this platform, you directly contribute to the financial growth of your Regiment. This revenue share can be reinvested into various areas, such as improving facilities, acquiring specialised equipment, sports initiatives or supporting welfare programs for regiment members, their families, and veterans.

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You may ask why the Regiment doesn't do this ourselves. Good question and easy to answer, RHQ does not have the resources to maintain the level of service and quality that Royal Anglian Direct offers boasting a quick and easy returns portal and live chat functions.

Also, Royal Anglian Direct holds the liability of the stock, in other words the Regiment is not paying to hold over **£18,750** worth of stock, money which is better used in support of the serving and veteran members of the Regiment.



*The regiment has already received £5,500 from sales made through the store.*

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