



Royal Anglian *News*



July 2022

Cover Image: Lt Paul Phillips delivers Orders for a Raid to 10 Platoon, C Coy, 1st Battalion, Cyprus

REGIMENTAL NEWS



The Regimental Band Welcomes A New Director of Music



The Regiment warmly welcomes Major Jason Griffiths as our new Director of Music. Major Griffiths brings a wealth of experience to the Regimental Band. He is joining us upon retiring from the Regular Army after some 38 years' service to Army music. Initially enlisting into the Queen's Own Hussars, Major Griffiths, on completion of the Students Bandmaster's course at Kneller Hall, has held many positions within the Royal Corps of Army Music including Bandmaster The Parachute Regiment and Director of Music, The Blues and Royals.

Royal Anglians Join the Spalding Armed Forces Day Parade



On Tuesday 21st June Spalding welcomed veterans, serving personnel, cadets and school children as they marched through the Market Place with the town's Mayor and dignitaries before halting for an Address by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant. The public paused and listened before cheering the parade on its way to the church of St Mary and St Nicolas where Jan Whitbourn, of Big Breakfast fame, had arranged refreshments for all. It was good to see many old friends after 2 long years of the pandemic including our parade marshal the ever youthful Ken Willows!



Annual Regimental Reception Held in Norfolk

On Friday 1st July the Regiment held its Annual Regimental Reception and Beating of Retreat this year at Langley School near Norwich. These events are held annually within our Regimental Counties to thank all the regiments supporters within a particular county, this year being Norfolk. Lt. Col. (Retd) Mark Nicholas, the County Colonel for Norfolk kindly arranged for Langley School to be available and raised a very impressive guest list. This included The Lord Lieutenant, local MPs, the Mayors of the towns of the County which have granted their freedom to the Regiment, the Civic staff who represent us within the County, service charities and volunteer supporters, donors to our Benevolent Fund, Schools, cadets and veterans. Speeches were made by Brigadier Rich Lyne the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Lt Col Graham Goodey Commanding Officer 1st Battalion and Major James Walters, OCA (Norfolk) Company.



Our 1st Battalion produced some impressive stands with soldiers confidently speaking to our guests who were both very knowledgeable and extremely polite, which has resulted in many letters of thanks. Hosts were made up from the 1st Battalion and our 3rd Battalion. Major Chris Cooper, who many of you will remember from the 1st Battalion, now commands the Langley School CCF and he and his cadets also supported the event.

The British Army Band (Colchester) gave an absolutely fantastic performance Beating Retreat which finished off the evening magnificently.

Harold Payne - Opening His Garden of Remembrance



Harold Payne has been a friend of the Regiment for many years. He runs an old fashioned café/roadhouse on the A17 near Fleet, Holbeach in Lincolnshire called the Anglia Motel. Here he collects military memorabilia including several out of service vehicles including a Chieftain tank! He has run many events for veterans and over the years, along with his army of volunteers, has collected thousands of pounds for military charities.

In the last few years alone, he has donated huge sums of money to the Regimental Charity. Just before Lockdown in 2020 Brigadier Olly Brown and the Regimental Area Secretary attended a Gala evening at the Motel where Harold handed over a cheque for £11,000 for Regimental benevolence. His generosity cannot be under-estimated.



On Sunday 3rd July Harold formally opened his Garden of Remembrance at Fleet. The gathering of over 100 veterans and well-wishers enjoyed a presentation to Harold by 2nd Lt Dave Butler from the Regiment of a Certificate conferring upon him Honorary Life Membership of the Regimental Association in recognition of his outstanding support to the Regiment over many years.

Picture: Harold Payne, Regimental Benefactor, with a WWII veteran Mr Sid Barnes and 2nd Lt Dave Butler from the 2nd Battalion.



Great War - Rededication Ceremonies 20-23 June 2022

Captain Tom Wilde, Padre to the 2nd Battalion, and Lt Jack Rice also of the Poachers joined a party from The Rifles in France 20-23 June close to Arras and Amiens for the rededication of the graves of two of our Fallen.

Second Lieutenant Ernest Lockett Cole of the 8th Battalion, The Northamptonshire Regiment, Killed In Action (KIA) on 27 September 1916, was interred at Ovillers Military Cemetery, and Serjeant Ernest Edward Harris of the 10th Battalion, The Essex Regiment, KIA 8 August 1918, at Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery. Also it was good to see in attendance a fit and well Peter Williamson in his role as a Trustee of the Essex Museum.

Padre Tom conducted the services and commented: "It has been a huge honour to conduct the services of 2nd Lt Ernest Lockett Cole and Sgt Ernest Edward Harris. During the services I spoke about the importance of a name and how wonderful it is when the names of our unknown fallen are found. With finding a name the person is brought to life through their history, their story and their endeavours.



A family is often found which can bring even more life to the serviceman and we had the great privilege to have family members from both 2nd Lt Cole and Sgt Harris joining us. Their names now live on through their families".

1st Battalion (The Vikings)



Vikings Embark on a Comprehensive Summer Training Season



C (Essex) Company deployed to the Western Sovereign Base Area on their two-week Basic Combat Syllabus exercise. The exercise was split into two parts with week one being focused on fitness, navigation and range time with the new SA80 A3s developing individual close quarter marksmanship skills. The week also included presentation and lessons on jungle warfare, the Cambrian Patrol, and a historical perspective of urban operations from Stalingrad during the Second World War, to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

This first week set the conditions for the following week's urban focused operations in Paramali Village. The company deployed on Sunday night to platoon harbour areas and were thankfully bolstered by the arrival of a further 15 members who had been tasked elsewhere during the first week. The week started with a rotation of Section attack lane by night, Nav Exercise and a challenging medical battle exercise. By midweek sections had moved into the village to conduct section level room clearance drills led by the section commanders before putting them into practice with two challenging platoon level attacks at night.

The Exercise culminated in a platoon raid to seize enemy assets and a lengthy extraction to a pickup location under harassing enemy fire. Overall, the platoons were able to get some much-needed training time before the company deploys on Exercise Eager Lion in Jordan later this year.

A Royal Visit to the 1st Battalion



The Battalion had the honour of hosting TRH The Earl and Countess of Wessex when he visited the Sovereign Base Areas last month. Despite a busy visit for TRH the Countess of Wessex found time to visit Viking families to learn about the experiences of families posted overseas with their spouses. HRH the Earl of Wessex visited A (Norfolk) Company who were training on Dhekelia Ranges. After meeting with soldiers HRH was given the opportunity to fire the Glock 17 pistol and it turns out that he is a pretty good shot!

1st Battalion Operational Shooting Team

The 1 R ANGLIAN shooting team has had an excellent season culminating in competing in the Army Operational Shooting Competition (AOSC 22).

The 1 R ANGLIAN shooting team is made up of 7 soldiers and 1 officer predominantly from D (Cambridgeshire) Company. Prior to the season the team had varying levels of experience, some members have competed in Army shooting competitions before whereas for others this was a new venture. The team began the season training in preparation for the Cyprus Operational Shooting Competition (COSC). Once the team was happy with our points of aim at the various distances we then began training for the specific operational shoots, this included snap shooting at up to 600m and physically arduous shoots to replicate shooting conditions found on operations.

The battalion team competed in COSC, against 9 other teams on the island. The 2-day event culminated with a falling plate competition. 1 R ANGLIAN beat off all other challengers, to comfortably win the Overall Competition and narrowly missed out on the falling plate coming 2nd in the final. Winning the COSC was a great achievement, the team came 1st or 2nd overall on every shoot. This victory earned the Shooting Team the opportunity to represent British Forces Cyprus at Bisley in the Army Operational Shooting Competition (AOSC 22).



The Army Operational Shooting Competition is a 3-day event held at Bisley ranges in Pirbright. It has been decades since the Battalion had last competed at the AOSC and the team was excited to have the opportunity. The event saw 35 teams take part from across the Army. There was a real difference in experience; some teams have competed in the AOSC every year since its inception.. Extremely high standards were set by the Royal Gurkha Rifles but the 1 R ANGLIAN team shot well during the competition. Ultimately the 1 R ANGLIAN team came 13th out of possible 35. Sadly, the team just missed out on finishing in the Army 100, which is the top 100 shots in the army. Cpl Westerman, and LCpl Fixe from Anti-Tank Platoon finished 112th and 119th respectively. Overall, the experience for all those that took part was extremely enjoyable and will be fondly remembered.

LCpl Jack Hind practices close quarter marksmanship ahead of the Cyprus Operational Shooting Competition

2nd Battalion (The Poachers)



Poachers Test Their Skills in the Field and at CAST



The Battalion's Operational Shooting Competition (OSC) Team travelled to Bisley to compete at the Army Operational Shooting Competition. Consisting of 7 soldiers and 1 Officer, placing 6th in the Infantry and 14th overall.

The 2nd Battalion Royal Anglian Battlegroup Headquarters completed their validation by Command and Staff Training (CAST) Group from Land Warfare Centre (LWC) on Salisbury Plain Training Area. Supported by the Joint Fires Cell from 5th Regiment, Royal Artillery and 26 Squadron, 32 Regiment, Royal Engineers.



Pic - 2 R ANGLIAN BG HQ CAST - Rehearsal of Concept (ROC) Briefing

A 'Lincolnshire' Company have been conducting Company level exercises, using the Marker Round Training System (MRTS) also known as simunition in Corsham Mines on Ex MARKER IMP. Focusing on executing the basics well as Sections and Platoons, in darkness, prior to deployment on Ex THUNDERING IMP on STANTA. This will then bring the Platoons together focusing on Company level tactical actions incorporating the Foxhound vehicle.



Pic - Briefing During Exercise Tiger's Claw - Using Dismounted Situational Awareness (DSA) suite

B 'Leicestershire' Company have been continuing their use of the Dismounted Situational Awareness suite on Salisbury Plain in cooperation with Infantry Trials and Development Unit (ITDU), supported by elements of D 'Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire' Coy. The technology allows users to track Friendly Force locations in real time, whilst also rapidly sharing adversary locations to maintain a complete understanding of the battlefield.

C 'Northamptonshire' Coy have successfully completed Ex THUNDERBOLT in Norway and returned safely to the UK for some well earned leave.

3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)



Royal Anglian Reservists On Parade for Armed Forces Day 2022

Royal Anglian Regiment Army Reservists from 4 (Lincolnshire) Company, based at Grimsby and Lincoln, formed the Army contingent at the Armed Forces Day parade at Cleethorpes where an estimated 180,000 crowd enjoyed the day's events and displays. 4 Company also provided an engagement/recruiting stand where there was a constant stream of adults and children who were keen to see some of the Army's weapons and equipment.



Maj Mitch Pegg, OC No 4 Coy 3 Royal Anglian, leads the Company through Cleethorpes on AFD 2022



With the national Armed Forces Day event some 50 miles up the coast at Scarborough, the crowds at Cleethorpes were able to see the same aircraft as they repeated their displays on the way back to their home bases.

The Band of the Royal Anglian Regiment



Back In Tune After COVID - The Regimental Band Has a Busy Summer Calendar Ahead



Capt Peter Hudson's last engagement as DoM at the RAF Henlow Platinum Jubilee Event

The Band has had an eventful couple of months. Back in February we said goodbye to Corporal Julian Blackman who retired after 21 years' service. Cpl Blackman had previously served for 22 years in the Royal Air Force music services. Solidly bouncing back after Covid, the Band performed a grand charity concert in Bury St Edmunds on the 14th May. The event was very well attended, and it was particularly good to see so many ex-members who were there to support Captain Peter Hudson, conducting his last concert before retirement.

The end of May into the start of June saw the Band undertaking our ADX at RAF Henlow. We provided musical support for the station Platinum Jubilee celebrations. We also said goodbye to Captain Hudson who retired from the Army Reserve the day after our ADX finished. Captain Hudson dedicated 26 years' to leading the band having previously served for 22 years in the Regular Army. In a handover ceremony, the new Director of Music, Major Jason Griffiths, took the baton and was warmly welcomed by the band at a social gathering in June.

The band provided musical support for the Peterborough Armed Forces Day parade on Saturday 25th June. The Band led the parade through Peterborough before being greeted by the Mayor at the Guildhall. We then led the parade back to the Town Hall where the Mayor took the salute. The band is now into a routine of rehearsal with Major Griffiths and looking forward to our short ADX at the end of July.

OUR AFFILIATED CADETS



Colour Sergeant Shane Pulfrey Receives Well-Deserved Recognition For His Contribution at King's School, Grantham CCF



During COVID 19 while CFAV's could not parade, Shane behaved in a manner well above his pay grade. He became the pulse of King's School Grantham CCF. He kept cadets briefed, ensuring their enthusiasm was channelled correctly. He briefed the Detachment Commander and his staff by telephone, and ensured the momentum of King's School CCF did not wane. It was down to his leadership skills that when the School CCF was re-opened, activities and training were restarted immediately, resulting in 180 cadets parading after lockdown.

Throughout his ongoing CCF career, Colour Sergeant Pulfrey has shown that he is reliable, trustworthy, totally committed, and extremely effective. He constantly puts CFAV's before himself and works in his own time, making a difference, supporting both the cadets and staff in their progression.

Staff Sergeant Pulfrey has developed a successful and excellent CCF School Staff Instructor career. He is fully deserving of recognition with the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate of Meritorious Service. Shane also qualified for his Cadet Force Medal which was presented too.

The Meritorious Certificate was presented by the Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire. Shane was a Colour Sergeant with 2nd Battalion, Royal Anglian when he retired from the Regular Army, it was therefore appropriate that the Cadet Force Medal was presented by Lt Col Ben Hawes MBE, CO of 2 Royal Anglian.



SALAMANCA DAY - 22 JULY 1812



The 44th and 56th of Foot, The Essex Regiment and the Battle of Salamanca

Following the French Revolution in 1789, Great Britain was at war with France for most of the period 1793-1815 as Napoleon Bonaparte, seizing power in 1799, attempted to dominate the whole of Europe. Much of the action was at sea, but the Peninsula War from 1808-1814, was the setting for the Army's major contribution to Napoleon's eventual defeat. For most of the time the British Forces in the Peninsula were under command of General Sir Arthur Wellesley, later to become the Duke of Wellington, and fought alongside Spanish and Portuguese allies.

On 22 July 1812 at Salamanca north-west of Madrid, Wellington's army, from a strong and well concealed defensive position, was able to launch a surprise attack on the flanks of the French forces. After repeated assaults the whole French Army was driven back in confusion, and the way was open for Wellington to advance on Madrid.

The 2nd Battalion of the 44th (East Essex) Regiment of Foot, which had been raised in 1803, played a significant part in the battle and Lieutenant William Pearce captured the Eagle Standard of the French 62nd Regiment of the Line. The 1st Battalion of the 9th (East Norfolk) Regiment, the 1st Battalion of the 48th (Northamptonshire) Regiment of Foot, and the 2nd Battalion of the 58th (Rutlandshire) Regiment of Footwear also involved in the action and, like the 2/44th, were granted the Battle Honour 'Salamanca'.

Subsequently, the 44th Foot, as the 1st Battalion of the Essex Regiment, adopted an eagle as their badge. The tradition was continued during further reorganisations so that today the Regimental Colour includes an eagle and all ranks of the Regiment wear an eagle badge on the upper left arm in formal dress. The anniversary of the battle itself is marked annually C (Essex) Company, 1st Battalion and C (Essex) Coy of the 3rd Battalion in Chelmsford.

TALavera DAY - 27 JULY 1809



48th and 58th of Foot, The Northamptonshire Regiment and the Battle of Talavera

Talavera was a battle of the Peninsular War. Wellington had advanced into Spain with the intention of bringing to battle a large French Army. On 27 July 1809 his forces occupied high ground at Talavera; south west of Madrid, alongside a large Spanish force. Late in the evening the French attacked, before the left of the British line was properly in position, and occupied an important hill. A swift counter attack, in which the 1st Battalion of the 48th (Northamptonshire) Regiment of Foot played a prominent part, drove the French off the hill, and other troops, including the 2nd Battalion of the 48th, came up to help secure the position.



The 48th (Northamptonshire) Regiment of Foot close with the French bayonets fixed!

A large scale French assault the following morning was repulsed, but later in the day when the French attacked the centre of the British line a dangerous gap was opened up. Wellington summoned the 1/48th to plug the gap, which they did with great dash and bravery. In his subsequent dispatch Wellington wrote, 'The battle was certainly saved by the advance position, and steady conduct of the 48th Regiment.'

Talavera Day was celebrated with the Northamptonshire Regiment and the 2nd East Anglian Regiment. Today it remains the the Regimental Day of the 2nd Battalion.



Regimental Bulletins Register

Regt Bulletins Issued Since the June Issue of RAN 14 June 2022:

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-47 Dated 4 July 22 - Job Vacancy Log Support Officer East Midlands RFCA

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-46 Dated 23 June 22 - Regimental Cricket Match Details - 15 Jul 22

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-45 Dated 15 June 22 - Death Notice, Adrian 'Benny' Bentley

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-44 Dated 15 June 22 - Funeral Details - Lt Col Thomas Finch - 4 July 22

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-43 Dated 15 June 22 - Death Notice - Sergeant Ian Cox

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-42 - Dated 14 Jun 22 - Royal Anglian News, June Issue

London Gazette

The following entry relevant to the Regiment was listed in The London Gazette dated 20 Jun 2022:

Warrant Officer Class 1 Wayne William Butterick 25107840 to be Captain 2 April 2022

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