



Royal Anglian News



March 2023

Cover Image: Operation Golden Orb - The Royal Anglian Regiment Marching Contingent for the Coronation of HM The King is practicing hard at Kendrew Barracks.



Regimental News

Congratulations To Brigadier Dom Biddick!

The Regiment warmly congratulates Brigadier Dom Biddick on his selection for promotion to Major General.

Brigadier Dom Biddick is currently a student at the Royal College of Defence Studies, and is due to take up his new appointment of Chief of Staff at Field Army Headquarters in July 2023.



Brig DSJ Biddick MBE MC

The Regiment Prepares For A Very Important Ceremonial Role

The Regiment is to provide 3 King's Colour Parties and a marching contingent of 3 +24 drawn from across the regiment for the coronation of His Majesty The King in early May. The Colonel of the Regiment will also be on parade.



All those in the contingent will parade in Number 1 Dress (Blues Ceremonial).



Look Out for Your Copy of Castle 2022 in the Post!

Subscribing Members of the Regimental Association can expect to receive their copy of Castle 2022 before the end of March.

Those members who do not pay the subscription fee but would like to view Castle 2021, can now view last year's journal on the regiment website at royalanglianregiment.com

Previous issues of Castle and Royal Anglian News are already available on the Regt website in digital format. They can also be viewed on the Royal Anglian Regt Museum website.

In the coming months, as part of the Royal Anglian Digital Muster Programme, regimental publications will be uploaded onto the new Regt Website. Association members will be able to access Regt Bulletins, back issues of Royal Anglian News, and previous issues of Castle.

The Regimental Adjutant Hands Over at Regimental Headquarters



Captain George Liddington, 2nd Battalion, has completed his tour as the Regimental Adjutant, departing RHQ to take up a new post in 77 Brigade.

The Regt Secretary and the RHQ team lunched out Capt Liddington and warmly welcomed his replacement from the 1st Battalion, Lieutenant Paul Phillips.

Congratulations on Promotion - Lt Col Bruce Weston



The Regiment warmly congratulates Lt Col Bruce Weston on his promotion to the substantive rank Colonel in 2024 with acting rank from the commencement of his Defence Attache training in March 2023

Thank You for a Generous Donation to the Regimental Charity

Paul Hemmings and his wife Helen visited RHQ on Friday 3rd March 2023 to make a donation of £5500 to the Royal Anglian Regiment Charity. Paul and Helen are members of the Norfolk Military Vehicle Group and attend a number of events throughout the year, where they raise funds solely for the Royal Anglian Regiment Charity.

Paul and Helen can be seen presenting the cheque to Mark Goldsmith, the Assistant Regimental Secretary.

If you are interested in visiting Paul and Helen at one of their local events here are some arranged dates and venues, with more to publicised later in the year.



- 30th April and 1st May - Stradsett Country show, Kings Lynn
- 27th and 29th May - Lancs and Tanks at East Kirkby, Lincolnshire
- 1st and 2nd July - Hunstanton Military Weekend



1st Battalion (The Vikings)

Desert Warriors - D (Cambridgeshire) Company in Kuwait



In February 2023 1 Royal Anglian Sniper and Anti-Tank platoons deployed on Ex Desert Warrior 7, attached to B squadron Queens Dragoon Guards (QDG). The month of combined training culminated with a joint demonstration of mounted and dismounted close-combat skills prior to Kuwait's Liberation Day anniversary.

The bilateral exercise involved the development of the Kuwaiti Land Forces (KLF) Reconnaissance Battalions with integrated troops from the QDG's B Squadron and elements from D Company, 1 Royal Anglian.

Sniper Platoon spent the first part of the Exercise on the ranges cross training with the KLF snipers. The last 3 weeks 1 Royal Anglian Sniper Platoon ran a training package for 10 potential snipers, from the QDG. Preparing them for their Sniper Operators' course later in the year.

The training involved camouflage and concealment, observation, judging distance, sniper knowledge, an introduction to stalking, navigation and of course, marksmanship. We also conducted our own marksmanship training, starting off with grouping and zeroing, before progressing to the sniper ACMT,. Our objective was to prove readiness to deploy on operations around the world. The Platoon also trained with snipers from the US army working as pairs with the objective of getting first round hits on man sized targets over a mile away in the Kuwaiti desert.

Anti-tank Platoon made a visit to their Kuwaiti counterparts, demonstrating each other's kit learning about one another's capabilities. The platoon also honed their instructional skills running an Anti-Tank Gunner's Cadre for the QDG.

Ten students from the QDG attended the cadre. The cadre ran over the four-week period starting off with NLAW and Javelin weapon handling, including weapon characteristics, introduction to observation posts and Armoured Fighting Vehicle recognition. Javelin military knowledge was tested, and we also conducted anti-armour ambushes,

The training cycle culminated in a 48-hour confirmatory exercise in the harsh Kuwaiti desert testing the students on all that they had been taught.

Once the QDG soldiers get back to their unit and pass the in-door trainer test (IDT) they will be badged javelin gunners able to deploy on operations with the weapon system.



Ex Desert Warrior 7 was successful for all involved, for most soldiers it was their first time in Kuwait, training in a desert climate, and experiencing another culture. The exercise allowed us to conduct some exceptional training.

Pic - US Army Sniper Pair Cross-Training with I R ANGLIAN Sniper Platoon.



1 R ANGLIAN PATROLMAN CADRE - 30 JAN – FEB 23



To kick start the new year, the 1 R ANGLIAN Close Reconnaissance Platoon conducted a 4-week Patrolman Cadre in order to qualify new members of the platoon and maintain our fighting edge through well resourced and planned training.

The 4-week cadre was designed to teach the fundamentals of being a patrolman, the individuals tasked with conducting the FIND function for the Battle Group. For young Private soldiers, some who have only been in the army for less than 12-months, this is a huge responsibility and therefore the training must reflect the challenges and nuances of the role.

Pic - A Patrolman occupies his OP whilst donning a Ghillie suit.

The cadre was split up into two elements: tactics phase and Live Fire Tactical Training (LFTT). Tactics was compromised of a three-week progression programme which included key skills such as navigation and doctrine, up to battle space awareness and setting the conditions for offensive action. Despite the steep learning curb for most, all members of the Platoon demonstrated an eagerness to learn and true grit through physical robustness in tough conditions. Whilst deployed, troops on the Western Sovereign Base Area had numerous valleys and re-entrants to tackle in temperatures varying from -4 to 20 degrees.

Whilst the Close Reconnaissance Platoon's primary role is to find and report on the enemy, we must also be prepared to conduct limited offensive action, usually in the form of raids and ambushes. As such, these were critical learning objectives which we covered on the cadre using the urban training estates available to us; one being the new 'skills house' within the Bn MT compound. The skills required during urban warfare demand a high level of soldiering ability to ensure speed is achieved and momentum maintained. This applies to all ranks and the training achieved certainly demonstrated the high level of soldiering expected of a patrolman. Great teamwork and communication throughout led to some fantastic serials and highlighted the Platoon's ability to operate in a congested and confined environment.

To finish the cadre, the Platoon conducted a weeklong LFTT package on Pyla ranges towards the East of the island. Reconnaissance Platoon LFTT often centres around contact drills on the premise that as a Patrol we do not deploy with the lethality to advance towards the enemy; and realistically if we've been seen, we're in trouble. Therefore, we conduct short sharp extraction drills with a high rate of fire, at speed, and often with tight arcs to maintain realism.

These drills are the summary of being a reconnaissance patrolman; having to maintain situational awareness in a chaotic state and requiring absolute faith in the abilities of the patrolman to you left and right. The LFTT package was a complete success as the newly qualified patrolman demonstrated excellent soldiering skills and discipline to operate with live ammunition, proving their worth to be a part of the Close Reconnaissance Platoon.



Pic - The Newly Qualified Members of I R ANGLIAN Close Reconnaissance Platoon



Now the Platoon has completed its cadre and we have gained some 'fresh blood', our focus now turns to Ex MAYAN VIKING, a challenging 6-week exercise in the jungles of Belize where the PI will be tested in a new, unfamiliar and hostile environment.

This training opportunity, so close after the cadre, will help maintain the Platoon's focus to constantly improve and elevate the I R ANGLIAN Close Reconnaissance Platoon.

**Capt Michael Andrews, OC
Close Reconnaissance
Platoon**



2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

2nd Battalion Mortar Cadre in Oman

The Battalion deployment on Ex Desert Khanjar 23 represented a golden opportunity for Mortar Platoon to conduct a much-needed numbers cadre. Following operational deployments on Op NEWCOMBE, the platoon had gained significant experience within its junior and senior NCO cohort but had since atrophied at the junior ranks. Ex Desert Khanjar 23 provided a fantastic platform from which to launch an arduous and testing Mortar Cadre, ushering in a new generation of mortar soldiers to carry the platoon forward into VJTF(L) preparations and later deployments as part of NATO's spearhead Battalion.



The Ras Madrakah Training Area provided a range of challenges for the candidates, with intense heat, dust and a vast desert landscape setting the scene for the four-week package. The cadre opened with a two-week skill-at-arms phase, aimed at training all cadre participants in the use of the mortar weapon system. Soldiers had to learn the roles of each of the three mortar numbers in detail, proving that they could operate the weapon system proficiently from all positions, before attempting the weapon handling test. The days were long; always starting with platoon PT sessions designed to condition the troops for a 2-miler assessment and two "heavy carry" events. In conjunction with the weapon handling test results, these events formed a clear initial picture of each of the cadre nominees whilst also serving to test the current members of the platoon. This phase would set the groundwork for the coming range package. Mortar Platoon were gifted a huge portion of the training area within which to conduct the live fire progression, from the most basic shoots to the more demanding annual combat marksmanship test. Not only would the cadre participants be put under

pressure, but current members of the platoon would have to prove their skills – providing a healthy competition between the two cohorts. The range allowed for fantastic visibility out to three kilometres, with a diverse set of targets for the Mortar Fire Controllers to choose from; ranging from linear features lined with wrecked vehicles, to bunker positions and problem targets on plateaus.

The troops would remain deployed to the range for the entire week whilst conducting the necessary shoots at both day and night. Down-time was spent conducting personal PT and getting to know their potential new platoon-mates, with a particular focus on the weight set most evenings. The week helped to instil a strong esprit de corps, with visitors from throughout the Battalion commenting on how positive and cohesive the unit was becoming. By all accounts, the range package was a roaring success; not only were the troops now fully qualified to fire in more complex tactical scenarios, but the platoon was starting to adopt its unique identity once again.

The final test for the cadre took the form of a four-day confirmation exercise, utilising the Coyote vehicles and TCV's to replicate likely tasks required of the platoon during Battlegroup offensive operations. The platoon practiced tactical manoeuvre through complex desert wadi systems, with a keen focus on quickly adopting adequate cam and concealment on the mortar lines as they came in and out of action. Whilst providing a useful tool with which to assess the candidates' motivation and newly acquired skills, it also supplied multiple lessons for the platoon to absorb in the coming training year. All personnel, at every level, walked away from the exercise with their own areas to improve but also – most importantly – a rewarding sense of achievement.

With the cadre complete, Mortar Platoon is now close to full strength for the first time in several years. Not only this, but the resources are readily available for subsequent training to push the envelope into true optimisation, ready for future tasks in 2024. There is also a tangible air of positivity about the platoon, who have a firm appreciation of the importance of their role in the wider context of the Battalion. The mortar cadre got them to the start-line; now the real work begins

An Officer's View of Life at ITC Catterick - Capt Charlie Boffey-Rawlings

A vital component of the British soldier is the world class training they receive, regardless of cap badge or service. With it being said that sweat in training saves blood in war and brains save both the initial training that soldier undertakes is there to develop a complex and thinking individual with a capacity to grow towards the needs of the team and The Army.

Whilst different cap badges of the Army will find themselves strewn over the breadth of Britain the Infantry Training Centre (ITC) Catterick alone, is the home of the British Infanteer. The establishment delivers Phase 1 and 2 training to all recruits joining the Field Army's Infantry's Battalions as well as develop future leaders of the Army Reserve. Located in deepest darkest North Yorkshire, it is a challenging environment in which future soldiers are tested and moulded often with the sharp end of a bayonet.

My time at ITC started with my movement from a Rifle Platoon Command in summer of 2022 having previously led 5 Platoon, 2 Royal Anglian in Cottesmore for 2 years. This is a common second posting for Infantry Platoon Commanders and having had several NCOs who had recently been at the Centre providing their experiences and some tips regarding the *Vickery* I was sent North with my Army provided transit van with final round of leaving drink; multiple handshakes and less anxiousness than my arrival to Battalion.

I joined B Coy, 1st Infantry Training Battalion taking over a Platoon as they progressed into their Phase 2, Infantry Trade Training (ITT). The ITT was a 14-week course with over 6 weeks of field activity in an arduous and challenging course that provided the building blocks for soldiers to progress on into further training. These soldiers are not the finished product, but individuals with core knowledge and an ability to learn and retain the information that will then come at their units. The progress they will have made over a short six months should not be underestimated.

The ITC offers different experiences for the Platoon Commander to Battalion. Working with a variety of cap badges, and a variety of accents, adapts your delivery style and I certainly feel I have grown as a junior leader in the short time I've been here. Empathy, patience, and ingenuity to maximise the limited resources you have is vital as a training team and the ability to lean on the experienced and motivated Corporals makes the process that much easier.

Whilst the course offers many positives, the two highlights for me were both towards the end of the course;

Live Fire Tactical Training or LFTT is the penultimate activity and varies from course to course. Our course had the privilege of Sennybridge, and the weather and terrain created an excellent experience for the recruits. The real pleasure for me was seeing the recruits, having spent the previous 5 months learning weapon handling and marksmanship, and then on static ranges show the confidence and ability to function as a member of their section.



Finally, the greatest sense of pride came from the final pass out, BI passed out 36 soldiers heading to all corners of the UK, Cyprus and even Gibraltar. I am pleased to say three Royal Anglian soldiers were on parade, Pte Tipper joining The 1st Battalion and Ptes' Rhodes and Watkins to The 2nd Battalion. Meeting the new soldiers' friends and families was a truly rewarding experience, and one I was delighted to be a part of, followed by a well-deserved drink in The Infantry School of Dance with my training team.



I am set to return to Regimental Duties July 2023 and will return with a respect for those instructors at the ITC and an awareness of the new soldier's ability and experience. The soldiers passing out are expected to do more with less, in an ever-changing world and should not be underestimated in their ability to adapt and develop at a rapid rate. I was told once that as a Platoon commander I owned the last 100m, as an infantry soldier they own the last 6 inches.

Fighting the Cost of Living - A Royal Anglian Initiative Successfully Launched

A Report from Capt Johnny Rawdon, Unit Welfare Officer

The 2nd battalion gratefully received a welfare grant from Regimental Funds to augment the current cost of living. This will help our soldiers and their family's during what are increasingly economically difficult times.

The money is already making a positive impact. Our first event was a family's Sunday lunch. We held it on Mother's Day the 19 Mar 2023. As the battalion is still deployed it was great seeing so many partners and their children attending the event. A really important part of this event was to also introduce the wider battalion family to the new battalion restaurant, which is a far cry from a traditional cook house.

This is where the discounted children's meals are going to be served. The first run out of the initiative will happen next week. We will start slowly, one meal a week to build the interest for two weeks. This will allow us to test and adjust, ironing out any problems. The Initiative will be running at full capacity in April 23.

The 50 plus members of the Poacher family that attended were not only very grateful, but you could feel a really nice sense of community. This is something that is important to the current commanding officer but



has always been an important part of our Poachers ethos. Once the Vikings land in Kendrew Barracks the new restaurant could really become the hub of the Royal Anglian community, allowing the families from both battalions to come together. Once the second initiative gets up and running, the Poachers shopping delivery service. I will send updates on the progress. Just for information, as we are going to start slowly allowing us to apply due diligence to all the applications, also allowing ourselves time to iron out any issues.

Royal Anglian Band

Grand Coronation
Charity Concert

Saturday 27th
May 2023 at 1pm

St Mary's Church,
Bury St Edmunds

Free Admission




3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)



Death of WO2 Neil Tattersall

The 3rd Battalion, the Royal Anglian Regiment regrets to inform the Regimental family of the death of WO2 Neil Tattersall (AGC (SPS)). WO2 Tattersall was taken ill whilst deployed on the 3rd Battalion's skiing Adventurous Training Exercise in Austria, and died on the morning of Saturday 11 Mar 23.

WO2 Tattersall had been the Regimental Admin Warrant Officer of the 3rd Battalion since 2014. He was a hugely valued and integral member of the Steelbacks. Neil will be sorely missed by all those who knew and worked with him, our thoughts are with his wife and children at this deeply sad time.

The funeral of WO2 Neil Tattersall will take place on Fri 31 Mar 23 at 1500hrs in St Mary's Church, Honey Hill, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1RT.

Serving personnel may wear Service Dress. Following the service there will be a reception at the Constitutional Club, 12 Guildhall Street, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1PR.

The 3rd Battalion Command Cadre

The 3rd Battalion, Royal Anglian Regiment conducted a Battalion Command Cadre over the weekend of the 24 – 25 Mar 23 on STANTA training area. The aim was to prepare junior officers and soldiers attending future promotion courses.



To ensure we set our junior officers and soldiers up for success, the focus was on developing their understanding and implementation of the combat estimate. The cadre also offered the opportunity to assess fitness standards, navigational skills, and the delivery of a Tactical Exercise Without Troops. All of which was designed to hone soldiers understanding of the Infantry fundamentals, culminating in a Section Attack.

The weekend was also open for those currently in command appointments across Bn and those Private soldiers wishing to attend future NCO cadres to develop their leadership skills.



The Regimental Band



This month the band has been busy completing our ITR's as well as training for our upcoming Coronation engagements including our grand charity concert at St Mary's Church, Bury St Edmunds on Saturday 27th May.

In addition to this, LCpl Hobson (pictured) provided musical support to Peterborough City's Commonwealth flag raising ceremony earlier this month.

Also, our wind quartet has provided musical support to various mess functions in the area.

Details of the Spring Concert are included in the Diary Section of this Newsletter.

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#ArmyJobs

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





The London Gazette

The following entries relevant to the Regiment were listed in The London Gazette dated :

The London Gazette dated 6 Feb 2023:

Lieutenant H I M Di – Lieto 30285661 to be Captain 10 August 2022.

Lieutenant R Smith 30273922 to be Captain 10 August 2022.

Regimental Bulletins Register

Regt Bulletins Issued Since The February 2023 Issue of RAN:

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-014 - Dated 03 Mar 23 - Royal Anglian News - February Edition.

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-015 - Dated 14 Mar 23 - Death Notice - WO2 Neil Tattersall, 3rd Bn

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-015a - Dated 14 Mar 23 - Death Notice - Michael Charles Moore

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-016 - Dated 16 Mar 23 - Death Notice - Lieutenant Peter Samuel Luckin

Regimental Bulletin Number 23-017 - Dated 22 Mar 23 - Death Notice - Richard Faulkner

Regimental Diary Dates

April

- 6 Mobbs Memorial Match - Bedford
- 14 Infantry Training Centre Catterick Pass Out Parade – ITC Catterick
- 14 Sovereign's Parade CC222 – RMA Sandhurst
- 25 Almanza Day

May

- 6 HRH King Charles III Coronation Day
- 12 Regimental Council Meeting – Royal Hospital Chelsea
- 12 Infantry Training Centre Catterick Pass Out Parade – ITC Catterick
- 15-19 Regimental Battlefield Study
- 27 Regt Band Spring Concert - St Mary's Church, Bury St Edmunds



Regimental Association News

Veteran Engagement - 45 Pompadours Rally in Colchester

A Pompadour gathering was held in the Officers' Club in Colchester on Friday 24th March 2023. The guest of honour was Lt Gen Phil Jones, the new Governor of Windsor Castle, and the guest speaker was Capt Rose Wild, Adjutant, 7 (Para) RHA.



L-R Sean Kim, CSgt Pete Chamberlain, Mark Waddington & Mark Baker



L-R Mark Rose, Carl Douglas, Jamie Clancy & Paul Glynn

The audience were treated to a vignette of Rosie's amazing career to date, her exploits in the sporting arena, winning the sword of honour at RMA, and of course her becoming the first ever female to pass All Arms P Company. Her attendance for the sharp eyed amongst you was no accident as both her unit and the 44th Foot met their demise in the Retreat from Kabul in 1842. The fact that her father was CO of the Poachers as well as Adjutant of the Pompadours was yet another twist.

The evening was a huge success and brought together many ex Pompadours (45) from the Colchester area, as well as from further afield. A great night of reminiscing, and asking who other people were reminded everyone of the need to keep in contact. Part of the RHQ funded drive to get veterans together and support each other it was a great night in the Regiment's second home and many phone numbers were exchanged and promises made to get to the next event.



L-R Neil Cartwright, Hayden Coggin, & Graham Hughes

A big thank you to CSgt Pete Chamberlain for his sterling work on setting up the venue, to Nick Austin and Dave McKinstry for running the raffle which raised £275 for the benevolence fund. Finally to the team at RHQ and WO2 Mole Stevens for their continued support.

Further information on Royal Anglia Veteran Engagement events can be obtained from Wo2 Mole Stevens at the following email address:

regtveteransengagement@royalanglianregiment.com



Our Regimental Museum

From our Curator, Melissa Kozlenko at:
royalanglianmuseumcurator@outlook.com

The biggest museum news for March is that we have chosen a new area to house the museum within the IWM! It is exciting to be moving across site, and to build a new museum that can showcase a newer pedagogy of how to display our collections as well as highlighting even more current history. The trustees are diligently working towards some fundraising strategies for the future but it is an exciting time. There are also to be some changes to site, and the new museum will be put in an area that holds Cold War and current conflict.

As reported last month, we have been focusing on changing some temporary displays in the galleries as well as the object of the month. Our newest new display being the 'Regimental Alliances' case, which is used to house different Regiments we are allied with, and how that came to be. It has been focused on Canadian alliances for some time, but is now going to feature the Royal Bermuda Regiment. After looking at the collection, we have various artefacts for this, and there is a rich history. Below is an older picture of the Regiment, as well as some newer pictures from our collection. For the full history, pop in and see our display.





From an archival point of view, we have been painstakingly sorting through a mass amount of boxes of paperwork that were at Warley Barracks. Some really interesting things, but a lot of unneeded paperwork as well, it's a big job, but it will be great when it's done. The volunteers have been tirelessly helping on this task. These are just a few of the many boxes, but slowly being collated and sifted.

We are now getting in gear for events that are coming up, as well as cadet visits and look forward to a good and productive year.



The Museum Trustees are looking at some very exciting designs and concepts for our new space at Duxford.

Our Regimental Heritage



Major Tim Brown, our Area 2 Regimental Secretary was recently contacted by a small group in St Albans who are erecting a lasting memorial to the 15 men from one street who gave their lives in the Great War. Touched by the sensitive nature and passion displayed Major Tim Brown went to meet the members of the King's Road Memorial Fund Committee. St Michael's Village is situated on the edge of St Albans in the shadow of the cathedral, and to this day remains almost as it was at the turn of the last century.

Born out of a desire to commemorate the lives of the Great War fallen who had lived in King's Road, St Albans, the road's current residents suggested the idea of a lasting memorial. Then came the task of researching the lives and the families of those men. It involved many hours of leafing through old newspapers and archives, obtaining advice and guidance from local and national bodies and so on. This book – a further memorial – is the result.

"This book... will be a lasting record of the human cost of war and the fifteen men who tragically lost their lives."

Daisy Cooper, Member of Parliament for St Albans and Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats.

"... a poignant tribute to a past community by their successors; a vibrant testimony to the strength of both."

Rev Kenneth Padley, Vicar of St Michael's Church, St Albans.

"This is magnificent and poignant history from a very special street."

Sandy Walkington, County Councillor for St Albans (South).

"A moving account, told with genuine pathos and heartfelt emotions..."

King's Road: for King and Country

King's Road: for King and Country Judy Sutton & Helen Little

The Great War story of King's Road, St Albans
Compiled by Judy Sutton & Helen Little
... The Endless History Series...

KING'S ROAD

Published in England
by The Endless Bookcase Ltd

Also available as an e-book:
www.theendlessbookcase.com

ISBN 978-1-914151-13-2

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For King and Country tells the story of this quiet corner of the city, renowned at the time for manufacturing straw hats! It focusses initially on the lives of the 15 men from King's Road who served in the Hertfordshire Regiment before being drafted into other units on arrival in Flanders. It evokes the nature of family life in a tight community where everyone knew everyone, and front doors were always left open. The book has been well researched and includes an interesting section on the social history of a typical semi-rural village in the Chilterns at a time when London was still a very long way to travel.

On Saturday 13th May this year the Memorial will be unveiled on the wall of No 1 King's Road in a ceremony to be attended by the Regimental Adjutant, and Standard Bearers from the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Branches of the Regimental Association. This book is a fitting tribute to all those families who lost loved ones and is a little gem for which the authors, Judy Sutton and Helen Little, are to be commended.

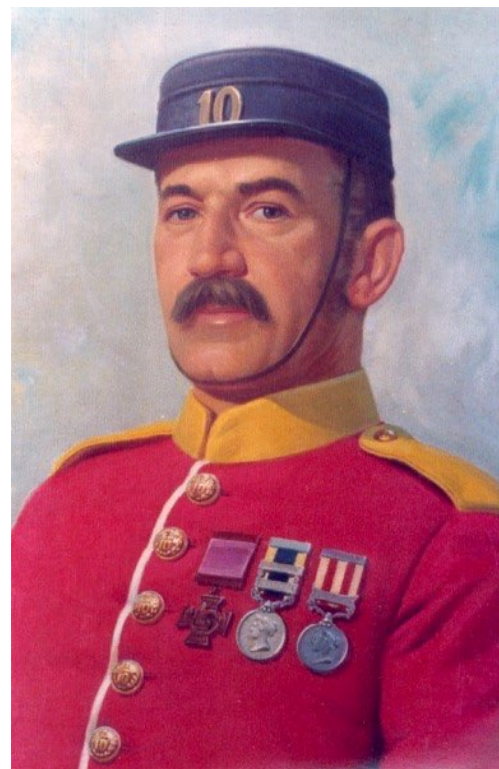
Yellow Bellies are Nothing to do with Lily Livers

A recent article by Rose Wild in The Times @TIMESFEEDBACK shed some light on the history of one of our forbearer regiments:

Stephen Lockwood of Deganwy describes himself as a Dog (North Walean) by choice and Cockney by birth, but he was indignant to see me using the term 'yellow bellies' for natives of Lincolnshire las week.

'Personally, he writes.'I love regional nicknames, but in The Times? My late father was a Tyke, or Yorkshireman, bu his antecedents were yellow bellies (a term probably referencing yellow-bellied, ie freshwater Eels rather than cowardice.) I am surprised that you use this notionally pejorative description when The Times, in common with the OED, considers 'Taf' an unacceptable name for 'South Waleans.'

Pejorative? Not at all, and nothing to do with Eels either. Let Robert Jackson go Gomersal, West Yorks explain. While he was on National Service in the late 1950s, he says, 'after initial training in the Army Catering Corps I was posted to the Main Cookhouse of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment where I was promoted to Lance Corporal and put in charge of the officers' mess catering. On mess nights the officers wore full kit, and the waiters their original old uniforms, which included yellow waistcoats treated with bright yellow clay, I believe, which gave them their nickname along with all the folk from the county.'



Pte John Kirk VC - Yellow Belly you say?

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