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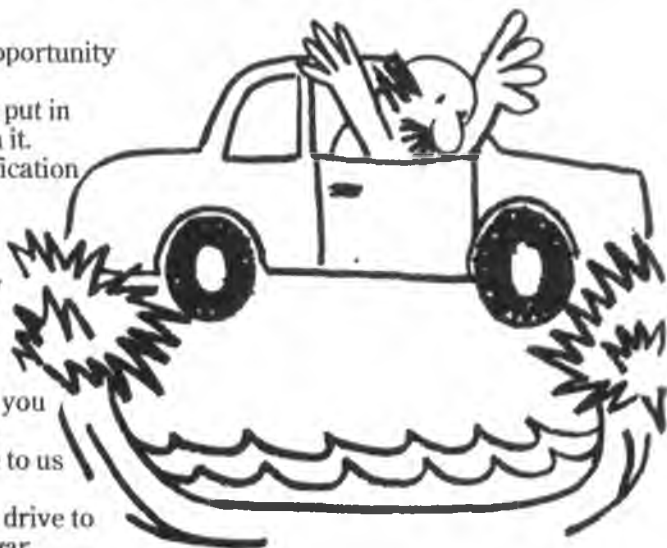
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SUPPLEMENT No. 2—PAGE TWO

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1/78

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Dr. Elizabeth Frankland Moore, Honorary Secretary of BLESMA's National Appeal, said

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in London today, 'The support which we have received from the Services has enabled many disabled ex-Service men and women to be helped by BLESMA to lead as normal a life as possible. I am grateful for this opportunity to express my gratitude for Service support. All this helped BLESMA to give grants of more than £50,000—an all-time record—where the money was most needed.'

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Will you please continue to help BLESMA to keep all this work going. The Association now urgently needs further substantial finance to improve its Blackpool Home to maintain the highest possible quality of accommodation.

Your Regiment supports BLESMA through the Army Benevolent Fund.



# Castle



## The Journal of the Royal Anglian Regiment

1978

Vol. 6 No. 1

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Editor:  
Lt.-Col. Murray Brown, DSO  
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Printed by  
W. G. Holloway &  
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### Our Cover

Reproduced from the original painting by Charles C. Stadden  
of a Regimental Drummer against a background of the Abbey  
Gate, Bury St. Edmunds.





**Colonel-in-Chief:**

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER

**Deputy Colonels-in-Chief:**

Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon

Her Royal Highness The Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester

**Colonel of The Regiment:**

Major-General J. B. Dye, CBE, MC

**Deputy Colonels:**

Lieutenant General Sir Timothy Creasey, KCB, OBE

Brigadier R. E. J. Gerrard-Wright, CBE

Brigadier R. J. Randall

**ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE BATTALIONS**

5th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment

6th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment

7th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment

**ALLIED REGIMENTS**

**Canada**

The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment

The Sherbrooke Hussars

The Lincoln and Welland Regiment

The Essex and Kent Scottish

**Australia**

The Royal Tasmania Regiment

**Pakistan**

5th Bn. The Frontier Force Regiment

**Malaysia**

1st Bn. The Royal Malay Regiment

**Commonwealth Forces**

The Barbados Regiment

The Bermuda Regiment

The Gibraltar Regiment

**New Zealand**

3rd Bn. [Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland]

Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

**Regimental Headquarters:** Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

Telephone: Bury St. Edmunds 2394.

**Regimental Secretary:** Lt.-Colonel C. R. Murray Brown, DSO.

**Assistant Regimental Secretary:** Major A. G. B. Cobbold.

**Regimental Secretaries:**

Headquarters (Norfolk) – Lt.-Col. A. W. J. Turnbull, MC.

“ (Suffolk and Cambridgeshire) – Lt.-Col. H. S. R. Case, MBE.

“ (Lincolnshire) – Captain A. Smith.

“ (Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire) – Major D. Baxter, DL.

“ (Essex) – Major T. R. Stead, DL.

“ (Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire) – Major J. A. Girdwood.

“ (Leicestershire) – Major J. T. Dudley.

# PTE. ANGLE

## On County Connections

Much has been said and written about the maintenance of our county connections within the Large Regiment. As recorded by Michael Barthorp in "Crater to The Creggan", the recommendations of the Regimental Colonels Meeting with the Commanding Officers in May 1963 regarding the importance of maintaining these connections were approved by the Regimental Council and materialised in the form of sub-titles to each battalion. The retention of battalion collar badges was another of the wishes which was agreed. Who at that time could have foreseen the order in July 1968 to disband the 4th (Leicestershire) Battalion? In the event to ease the passage of that decision and to further the concept of the Large Regiment it was decided to drop battalion sub-titles, replace battalion collar badges with the regimental badge and to replace the regimental button with the Royal Tiger and Laurel Wreath so as to perpetuate the former insignia of the Royal Leicesters. Brave decisions and clearly forward looking when, in retrospect, one recalls that as early as March 1968 the DCGS warned that in addition to the proposal to disband eight infantry battalions plans should be laid for possible additional reductions in the mid 70s. Fortunately these did not materialise.

But after fourteen years and with the undoubted success of our regiment in every field, the opinion is that one feature of the regimental structure is suspect. That is the "county connection". The regimental "image" in the counties is not strong and the dropping of definite visible links between battalions and counties has contributed to this unwelcome state of affairs.

The Regimental Council discussed this matter recently and has decided that as from 1st January battalion county sub-titles are to be used. Although there will be no official change at this time, the undermentioned titles will be used in any context where they can promote closer affinity with their counties of

origin and assist generally in recruiting:

1st Battalion (Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire)

2nd Battalion (Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire).

3rd Battalion (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex).

County sub-titles have always been recognised as essential to the TAVR companies and remain so.

As a further measure to mark the county identity and historical origins of our units, it was agreed to apply to the Army Dress Committee for authority for our Regular Battalions and TAVR Companies to wear the appropriate East Anglian collar badges. The present regimental cap badge and button will remain unchanged.

So—we have come full circle? No, Pte. Angle is very happy, and together with the stronger ties with our Old Comrades' Association is determined to make rapid strides to correct this one weakness—the County Connection.

## On Old Comrades

The main aim of all Regimental Associations is to foster the spirit of comradeship among all members of the regiment, past as well as present.

In 1964, when our Association was formed, all our members were serving. After fourteen years we now have a large corps of Old Comrades, the majority of which live in our county areas. The Presidents and Chairmen of the former regiments Old Comrades Associations have generously agreed in principle to a change in their titles to include The Royal Anglian Regiment. In doing so they have accepted us as full members of their Associations. The generosity of the serving soldier in supporting the Regimental Benevolent Fund through the Day's Pay Scheme is recognised as an essential ingredient to guarantee the future wellbeing of all Old Comrades. Although final agreements have not yet been reached, further proposals are mentioned below.

## **Strengthening the connections between the old and new**

The Regimental Council discussed this matter at length and are to ask the officers of the former regimental Associations to consider means of strengthening the bonds between us by more active inclusion of Royal Anglian members in their affairs. For example, including our badge with theirs, our members in their Branch functions, and serving members of the appropriate regular battalion and retired Royal Anglians on their Committees.

This is not a process which will blossom overnight. Success will depend very much on the Royal Anglian soldier, retired and serving, making himself known to the Old Comrade Association Branch near his home.

In Bury St. Edmunds your Association Branch Club operates in the recent RHQ buildings in Blenheim Camp. Today the membership is largely of those who served in our former regiments. The Suffolk OCA share the facilities and the club rooms are being redecorated. Regular weekly functions take place, there is a bar and a darts team. We have a close liaison with the Burma Star Association and The Royal British Legion.

Similar facilities exist in the Old Comrade organisations in all our county towns. Write to your nearest Regimental Secretary whose address is on your Association membership card.

# **On Association Branches**

The Branches of our Old Comrade Associations are always glad to welcome new members and now that the main Associations are to work more closely together, Royal Anglian members will be able to make contact with these Branches at the following addresses (telephone number in bracket if applicable).

**NORFOLK.** Headquarters The Royal Norfolk Regiment Association, the Royal Anglian Association (Norfolk Branch), Britannia Barracks, Norwich. (28455).

**Kings Lynn Branch**  
Captain T. M. Wilkin,  
27 Tuesday Market Place,  
Kings Lynn. (3111)

**London Branch**  
Mr. S. A. Tuck,  
46 Rayford Avenue,  
Lee, London SE12.

**SUFFOLK.** Headquarters The Suffolk Regiment Association and the Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Branch).

The Keep,  
Gibraltar Barracks,  
Bury St. Edmunds. (5371)

**Sudbury Branch,**  
Mr. E. A. Sore,  
8 North Rise,  
Gt. Cornard,  
Sudbury.

**Ipswich Branch**  
Mr. P. Gilbert,  
7 Henslow Road,  
Ipswich.

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE.** Headquarters The Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades' Association and The Cambridge Branch—

Major W. F. Badcock, MBE,  
TAVR Centre,  
Coldhams Lane,  
Cambridge. (48001)

**March and District Branch**  
Mr. J. Fryer,  
7 Festival Homes,  
Westwood Avenue,  
March.

**LINCOLNSHIRE.** Headquarters The 10th Foot, Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Lincolnshire Branch)—

Sobraon Barracks,  
Lincoln. (25444)

**Lincoln Branch**  
Capt. W. H. Lewin,  
182 Rise Holme,  
Lincoln. (25576)

**Grantham Branch**  
Mr. P. C. Halls,  
2 The Avenue,  
Dysart Road,  
Grantham. (3104 office)

**Spalding Branch**  
Mr. A. Waterfall,  
26 Brewster Road,  
Boston.

**Boston Branch**  
Mr. F. Myatt,  
8 Carmell Green,  
Boston. (01053)

**Grimsby Branch**  
Major H. Latimer,  
Edisford Church Lane,  
Marshchapel (585), Grimsby.

**BEDFORDSHIRE AND HERTFORDSHIRE.**

Headquarters The Royal Anglian Regiment  
(Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire) Association.

Kempston Barracks,  
Bedford. (43319)

**London Branch**  
Mr. W. G. Aldridge,  
14 Acacia Court,  
Grange Road,  
Gravesend (64026), Kent.

**Bedford Branch**  
Mr. C. C. Wells,  
11 Hardwick Road,  
Bedford. (65472)

**Hertford Branch**  
Mr. S. R. Mansfield,  
42 Fore Street,  
Hertford. (54546)

**Watford Branch**  
Mr. L. Nunn,  
53 Broomfield Rise,  
Abbot's Langley  
Hertfordshire.

**St. Albans Branch**  
Mr. H. R. Howard,  
62 Spencer Street,  
St. Albans. (51432)

**Hitchin Branch**  
Mr. H. C. Walker,  
17 Stringers Lane,  
Aston, Stevenage,  
Herts.

**Ware Branch**  
Mr. J. E. Crane,  
London Road Nurseries,  
Ware. (3127)

**LEICESTERSHIRE.** Headquarters The Royal  
Tigers Association and The Royal Anglian  
Regiment Association (Leicestershire Branch)

TAVR Centre,  
Ulverscroft Road,  
Leicester. (22749)

**Grimsby Branch**  
Mr. G. Willcock,  
The Smokers' Arms,  
Albion St, Grimsby,  
S. Humberside.

**ESSEX.** Headquarters The Essex Regiment and  
Royal Anglian Regiment Association

Blenheim House,  
Eagle Way, Warley,  
Brentwood. (213051)

**Chelmsford Branch**  
Mr. C. Meekins,  
185 Warley Hill,  
Brentwood. (214951)

**Metropolitan Essex Branch**  
Capt. W. B. Faint,  
52 Roydon Close,  
Loughton. (6035)

**Saffron Walden Branch**  
Mr. E. W. Elsom,  
11 Castle Cross,  
Saffron Walden. (27370)

**Southend Branch**  
Capt. R. G. Turnnidge,  
5 St. David's Drive,  
Leigh on Sea,  
Southend. (554883)

**Thurrock Branch**  
Mr. T. J. Everett,  
52 Corringham Road,  
Stanford le Hope. (70749)

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.** Headquarters The  
Northamptonshire and Royal Anglian Regi-  
ment Associations

Gibraltar Barracks,  
Northampton. (35412)

**Corby Branch**  
Mr. J. R. Gayne,  
17 Ashley Avenue,  
Corby.

**Northampton Branch**  
Mr. L. A. Jeynes, MM,  
11 Lennox Walk,  
Ryehill,  
Harlestone Road,  
Northampton. (582954)

**Peterborough Branch**  
Mr. J. E. Cooke,  
1 Caldecote Close,  
Stanground,  
Peterborough.

## On Freedoms

During the past year the Freedom to march through the streets with Drums beating, Bands playing, Colours flying and bayonets fixed has been conferred upon the Regiment as under:

**27th March, 1977—City of Ely to 'D' (Cambridgeshire) Company 6 Volunteer Battalion.** At a colourful and moving ceremony in Ely Cathedral and in the presence of the Lord Lieutenant, the Colonel of the Regiment and Deputy Colonel for Cambridgeshire (TAVR), the Mayor presented a scroll to the Company Commander, Major Denis Haslam.

**27th April, 1977—Borough of Colchester to the Regiment.** The rights conferred on the Essex Regiment on 3rd April, 1946, were transferred by unanimous recommendation of the Colchester Borough Council. The 3rd Battalion will not be able to exercise these rights on behalf of the Regiment until returning from Northern Ireland.

**20th May, 1978—Borough of Hinkley and Bosworth.** The 2nd Battalion will receive the Freedom on behalf of the Regiment.

### Exercising Freedom Rights

The 1st Battalion exercised their rights in Great Yarmouth on 20th June and in Ipswich on 21st June.

The 2nd Battalion exercised their rights in Northampton on 9th December, 1976.

## On Band Uniforms

Our Battalion Bands are going to wear scarlet jackets. This will add a splash of colour and without a doubt put us in the forefront of regimental bands—especially when massed with the Corps of Drums. We shall expect a commensurate improvement in the marching and playing!

## On Cadets

We are proud of our record over many years now on the enlistment of Junior Leaders and Junior Soldiers. Our ACF units, badged Royal Anglian, are the mainspring behind this success and I would draw your attention to the

reports from some of them on page ★ to ★.

The pictures of these keen young men, enjoying the rigour of a disciplined life are very encouraging. Are we all doing enough to encourage our ACF units?

## On Dates to Remember

Regimental gathering 1978: Tidworth, 5th May, when all three battalions will, for a very short time, be in the county. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, has graciously consented to honour us with her presence. The programme of events will have been communicated to all before this reaches you. It is to include displays by all three battalions interspersed with music from the Masse Bands and Drums in the afternoon, tea and late evening Beating of Retreat prior to Ball Dances and Discos.

### Ceremonial

19th May: 2nd Battalion exercise Freedom Rights in Lincoln.

20th May: Freedom of Hinkley and Bosworth, 2nd Battalion.

21st May: 2nd Battalion exercise Freedom Rights in Cleethorpes.

25th May: 1st Battalion exercise Freedom Rights in Norwich.

26th May: 1st Battalion to exercise Freedom Rights in Bury St. Edmunds.

### Regimental Golf Society Meetings

Spring: John o' Gaunt, 20th March.

Summer: Annual Meeting Royal Worlington, 23rd June.

Autumn: Flempton, 22nd September; match v. Flempton, 23rd September.

Queen's Division—Inter Regimental: Gog Magog, Cambridge, 19th September.

Army Golf Championships: Royal Birkdale Lancashire, 8th-13th May.

### Regimental cricket

Versus Gentlemen of Suffolk, Thursday, 15 June, at Victory Ground, Bury St. Edmunds.

Versus Fitzwilliam College, Friday, 2nd June at Cambridge.

Versus West Norfolk, Saturday, 3rd June at Hunstanton.

## On Fire Fighting

Well done!

# MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

## Honours and Awards

### 1977 Birthday Honours

CBE—Colonel K. Burch, MBE.

OBE—Lt. Col. R. H. Robinson, MBE.

BEM—Sgt. M. Luckman.

### Northern Ireland List No. 23

OBE—Lt. Col. C. M. J. Barnes, MBE.

Mentioned in Despatches—L/Cpl. M. P. Wallington.

### 1978 New Year Honours

KCB—Lt. Gen. T. M. Creasey, CB, OBE.

OBE—Lt. Col. C. C. Curtis, The Bermuda Regiment.

MBE—Maj. D. R. Baily.

BEM—C/Sgt. S. P. Sykes.

### Commands

To hold the two top operational commands in the Army at the same time is just another measure of our excellence.

Congratulations to—

### Northern Ireland

Lt. Gen. Sir Timothy Creasey on his knighthood, appointment to General Officer Commanding, Northern Ireland and Colonel Commandant, The Queen's Division. Brigadier David Thorne on his promotion and appointment to command 3 Infantry Brigade in Northern Ireland.

### Rhine Army

Major General Peter Leng on promotion to Lieutenant General and appointment to Commander 1st British Corp in July.

### Regimental

Lt. Col. T. D. Dean to command 6 (V) Battalion in October 1978.

Maj. R. J. M. Drummond to command 3rd Battalion in March 1979.

### Queen's Division

#### Divisional Brigadier—

Brigadier David Carter relinquishes the appointment in August 1978 and is to serve in Gibraltar as Deputy Fortress Commander.

Brigadier H. C. Millman, OBE, Queens, will become Divisional Brigadier.

#### Promotions

To Brigadier in 1978—Colonel K. Burch, CBE.

To Colonel in 1978—Lt. Col. M. E. Thorne, OBE.

To Lieutenant Colonel in 1978—

Major R. J. M. Drummond.

Major C. T. Marshall.

#### Deputy Colonels

Colonel Mike Pallott has relinquished the appointment as our Deputy Colonel for Leicestershire after a seven year tour of duty.

The Regiment is most grateful for the loyalty and devotion he has given during a most difficult seven years during which the final disbandment of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment took place. The smooth method in which the Tigers became absorbed into the Royal Anglian Regiment and the strengthening of the bonds between the Regiment and the City and County of Leicester is evident in the fact that no successor is to be nominated to replace him in Leicestershire.

Brigadier Gerrard-Wright, well known to many Tigers since he served in the 4th Battalion in 1968, is to include Leicestershire in his new title . . . Deputy Colonel (Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire).

#### Civic Honours

Lt. Gen. Sir Richard Goodwin is to receive the Honorary Freedom of the Borough of St. Edmundsbury on 26th May, 1978. This is a great honour rarely bestowed upon anyone outside the Council. It is planned that the ceremony should take place immediately prior to the 1st Battalion marching through the town exercising their Freedom Rights.

Major Donald Baxter is now a Deputy Lieutenant for Northamptonshire.

#### Regimental Secretaries

After six years in our Norfolk office Jo Joanny was forced to retire last November due to increasing blindness. With characteristic determination Jo carried on until he really



could not see at all. He has retired to live at 24 Westminster Crescent, Buckingham Road, Brackley, Northants, and welcomes any of his friends at any time.

Lt. Col. Alex Turnbull has succeeded him.

### Commissions

Congratulations to Warrant Officers J. D. Fletcher, D. W. Spalding and B. J. Upson on being granted Short Service Commissions. Also to Captains H. S. Bullock, D. R. Edwards, F. J. Perry and D. M. Greenfield on their Quartermaster Commissions on 1st April this year.

We welcome to the Regiment the following officers who have been commissioned since our last report:

#### Regular Commissions:

J. M. Weigold  
R. Edmondson-Jones.  
R. M. Froud.  
K. P. Tansley.

#### Short Service Commissions:

S. H. Branch.  
S. J. Marriner.  
P. Zmitrowicz.

#### Transfers from:

RAF--2Lt R. G. Fryer.  
RMP--Lt. M. J. Beard.

2Lt. P. J. D. Ralph, 5th (V) Battalion has completed a Short Service Volunteer Commission and 2Lt. C. R. Chapman a Short Service Limited Commission. We hope they enjoyed the experience.

The following officers have retired:  
Colonel E. Turnill.

Lt. Cols. H. W. Clark, A. W. J. Turnbull, P. Worthy.

Majors D. G. M. Anstee, L. A. Palmer, J. W. Scragg, W. J. B. Peat, R. C. Hastie, B. D. Hickman, J. A. G. Everitt (QM), J. Eyions.

Captains J. E. Tilley, P. C. Shalders, R. E. Sharpe and H. C. Simmons.

### Long Service and Good Conduct Medals

Awarded to WO I D. G. Ridgeway, WO II G. M. O'Hara and J. E. Mitchell, Sergeant J. F. Newcombe and Corporal Lonsdale.

### The Muscat Victory Medal

The Queen has been graciously pleased to grant unrestricted permission for the wearing

of the medal by UK Army personnel seconded to SAF. The qualification is 30 days' service in SAF in the Dhofar Operations between 23rd May, 1965, and 2nd December, 1975. In addition and irrespective of length of service in SAF, the award may be granted to anyone who received an award for bravery or was killed or wounded in action. If in doubt you should write to HQ The Queen's Division.

### Sergeants' Past and Present Dinner Club

At the Annual Dinner at the Depot The Queen's Division, the Dinner Chairman, Lt. Gen. Sir Richard Goodwin, spoke of the strength of the Club, 210 members dining together, and of the great contribution made by Major 'Stan' Chandler, the Club Chairman over many years, who had been the initiator and guiding light in bringing this Club, inaugurated by the Suffolk Regiment in 1906, into the Royal Anglian Regiment. The Club presented Major Chandler with a silver cigarette box.

Major Tommy Warren has taken over as Chairman.



Presented by members of the Sergeants Past and Present Dinner Club to the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess of the Queen's Division Depot.

# CHAMPIONS

It is not often that a regiment can boast four achievements at the very highest level as we have done this year in Captain Domieson, L/Cpl. Taylor and Ptes. Clover and Dickinson, whose photos appear here.

Not to be outdone by the 'professionals', our TAVR Battalions have provided Pte. Blatch, bronze medallist in the Young Soldier Volunteer Championships at Bisley and Pte. Hornet in the TARA 50, both of the 5th Battalion, and O/Cdt. Veal, Best Young Soldier in the Eastern District Championships.

The 3rd Battalion won the Cyprus Walk-about for the second consecutive year in competition with 80 teams, civilian and services. Our picture shows the winners: Cpls. Twell and Devaney having been in the winning team last year too.



**Pte. Clover, 1s Battalion, demonstrates the art of throwing the javelin. In 1977 he broke the Army and Inter-Services record by over 10 metres with a throw of 80.98 metres. At present he stands third in the UK rankings. He was awarded the Army Athletics Award for the best performance in senior field events 1977. The Commonwealth, European and Olympics are all in his grasp.**



**Bisley 1977. 1st Battalion. Captain Domieson, winner of the Queen's Medal, The Roupell Cup, The Old Contemptibles Cup, The Service Rifle Championship and the Silver Jubilee Aggregate Match. He was second in the Henry Whitehead Cup and the Gurkha Appeal Match. Pte. Dickinson, the Champion Young Soldier, shares the honour in the traditional Queen's Medalist Chair.**



**L/Cpl. 'Wally' Taylor, 2nd Battalion, the United Kingdom 400 metre champion. An injury kept him out of the Great Britain team in the World Championships but he is hopeful of being fit again for the Commonwealth Games.**



Happy and glorious . . . Cpt. Twell, Pte. James and Cpl. Deveney.



'Super Chefs'—winners of the South East District Catering Competition and a close second to the Irish Guards in the Army final. From left to right: Sgt. Paddy Irvine, Sgt. Roger Jones, L/Cpl. Glyn Meekins and Pte. Pat Certmell.



WO.I Ridgway being presented with his medal by Lt. Gen. Tim Cressay. WO.I Ridgway is the Superintending Clerk at the Queen's Division



Brigadier R. E. J. Gerrard-Wright presenting the medal to Sgt. Newcombs. The Depot CO, Lt. Col. H. M. du Lohan, Queens, looks on approvingly.



WO II O'Hara, Corporal Lonedale and WO II Mitchell celebrating with Brigadier Gerrard-Wright and the Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. Charles Barnes

# The Association Twelfth Annual Report

The Eleventh Annual Report and Accounts were presented to an Annual General Meeting held at The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, on 21st October, 1976.

Colonel J. C. Denny, chairman, presided in the absence of Major General J. B. Dye, president and Colonel of the Regiment.

This report covers the activities of the Association for the year ending 31st December, 1976.

## Northern Ireland

1976 has been the first year since the emergency started in 1968 that the Regiment has not been involved.

The 2nd Battalion is currently (April 1977) on a four month tour in Belfast, its fifth.

## Casualties

Two officers and four soldiers have died from natural causes or accidents during the year. In one case only was financial assistance sought and this was connected with assistance with school fees for the son at the Duke of York's School.

The follow-up action in all casualty cases is dependent upon accurate up to date information regarding hospitalisation and subsequent return to duty or discharge. There is room for improvement in this and your Committee is aware of the problems. Much can be done by individuals themselves and by ensuring that members are aware of the aims of the Association, which must be a continuing process during his service and particularly on discharge for whatever reason.

## Membership

Under the ruling passed last year that all soldiers badged to the Regiment are automatically Life Members of the Association there is no longer any significance in quoting the numbers as heretofore. What remains more important now is the number of supporters of the Day's Pay Scheme in aid of the benevolent fund referred to elsewhere in this report.

## Accounts

The abridged General and Benevolent Fund accounts are attached to this report.

The General Account now shows the expected decrease in annual income from subscriptions due to no longer having individual Life Membership. In order to maintain sufficient money in this account to fund activities within the charter but not directly for benevolent work the sum of £250 has been transferred from the Benevolent Fund. This covers administrative expenses, as shown in the attached account. Steps have already been taken to lessen the expenses under 'Lunches and entertaining' which were exclusively for visits to the regimental headquarters by recruits from the depot when the aims and objects of the Association and the Day's Pay Scheme are explained. Recruits also visit the Suffolk Regimental museum in Gibraltar Barracks. Your Committee considers these visits are valuable to assist the aim of the Association, namely to encourage the spirit of comradeship between past and present members of the Regiment and former regiments. These lectures are given in the Bury Branch club premises and Old Comrades of the Regiment and former regiments attend to meet the recruits. Profits on the sale of Regimental souvenirs rose from £275 to £327.

The Benevolent Fund shows an increase in income from the Day's Pay Scheme of £711 and a total income to the Fund over the year of £15,753, £1,500 more than last year.

The Balance of Funds representing the excess of Income and Expenditure for the combined funds dropped from £7,065 last year to £4,968. There have been increases in three areas of benevolence which account for this drop; £600 in case work, £1,600 in the annual grant to the ABF and £250 in grants to each of our former regiments.

## Investment Capital

Investment Capital in the Benevolent Fund stands at £35,835 with a market value as on 31st December, 1976, of £26,750, which reflects the very low state of the market at that time. The increase in the income from our investments of £402 is due to the good work of your Investment Committee.

## Capital Policy

Pursuing our policy to enlarge the scope of use of the annual income from the Capital Funds which now stands at £55,929, your

Two of the buglers concerned, **Monsieurs Daniel Demey and Maurice Baratto**, have been honoured with awards of the **British Empire Medals**, which were recently presented to them by the **British Embassy in Brussels**. These awards have given much satisfaction to the few survivors who were involved in the fighting, to the relatives of those whose names are inscribed on the memorial, and to all our **Old Comrades** and to **Cambridgeshires** as a whole.

#### **The Cambridgeshire OCA meeting**

Officers of the Association are: **President, Lieutenant Colonel E. L. V. Mapey, OBE, TD**; vice-presidents, **Colonels J. G. A. Beckett, OBE, TD, DL, W. F. Page, MC, P. D. Storie-Pug, OBE, MC, TD, DL, S. C. Aston, OBE, TD, DL, P. S. W. Dean, Lieutenant Colonel J. W. Ennion, Messrs. P. J. Tharby, J. Duffield and A. P. Humbertsore**; chairman, **Major W. F. Badcock, MBE, TAVR Centre, Coldhams Lane, Cambridge**; hon. secretary, **J. R. Stubblings, 25 The Vineyards, Ely**; assistant secretary, **G. A. Street, 16 Church Close, Ely**; hon. treasurer, **Major H. G. Burns, 10 St. Martins Close, Exning, Newmarket**.

#### **Cambridge Branch**

Recent changes in the officers of the branch include the chairman, treasurer and secretary. **Major W. F. Badcock, MBE (County chairman)** was elected branch chairman vice **Mr. H. Herrell**, who was elected the treasurer vice **Mr. E. O. Moy**, who has gone to live in Australia.

At the County Executive meeting in September 1977 a resolution to admit adult members of the County Army Cadet Force to full membership of the OCA was carried unanimously, and as a result **Major D. E. Hutt**, who had been an honorary member for some years, was admitted to full membership and subsequently elected secretary, vice **Arthur Tucker, MBE**, whose service to the Regiment and the OCA are legendary, but who wished to secede from branch office.

At the branch pre-Christmas meeting various names were submitted and approved to receive Christmas gifts which, it is hoped, helped the recipients to enjoy the season more. The committee are always anxious to hear about any **Old Comrade** needful of help in any way.

On Remembrance Sunday the chairman, supported by other members, laid a **Regimental wreath** during the civic service at the memorial in Station Road, Cambridge, and later attended the service in **GT. St. Mary's**

Church. A similar wreath was laid by **Mr. A. J. Searle** in **Stockingford Church** on behalf of the OCA, an act he has carried out for many years.

#### **March and District Branch**

On Sunday, the 2nd October, 1977, members and friends of the March and District branch of the **Old Comrades' Association** attended **St. Peter's Church, March**, for a service of blessing for a wheelchair.

After the service members moved to the **British Legion hall** for the 'handing over' of the chair.

The treasurer of the **Wheel Chair Fund**, **Mr. J. Duffield**, made a short speech outlining details of how the money was raised to buy this chair, and explained that most of the money came from a sponsored 'Roll the barrell' from **Whittlesey to March**.

**Mr. Duffield** then presented a rose bowl to **Mrs. P. M. Jolley** for her work in helping the OCA.

Members then continued with a convivial evening.

On Friday, 16th December, 1977, the March and District branch OCA were invited to join the March detachment of the **Army Cadet Force** for their Christmas party. The drill hall was suitably decorated with bunting and a Christmas tree. A short bingo session started the evening's entertainment, followed by games and carol singing. The cadets then gave a display of 21 drill movements without any word of command. This was thoroughly enjoyed, especially by former servicemen. The thoughtfulness and respect that the cadets showed to all those present was something to be proud of, for the **Cadet Force**, the town of **March**, and the country they serve.

#### **Sergeants' Dinner Club**

The annual dinner was held on 24th September, 1977, at **The University Arms Hotel, Cambridge**, with 120 members and wives attending. A very good evening was enjoyed by all, largely due to all the thoughtful organisation, including a wonderful display of **Regimental silver** by the ever faithful hon. secretary **Kadar Parfitt**.

#### **18 Division Officers' Dinner**

A good contingent of **Cambridgeshire officers** attended the annual dinner at **The University Arms Hotel, Cambridge**, on 22nd Octo-

# THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

## COMBINED GENERAL AND BENEVOLENT FUNDS

### Abridged Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1976

| CAPITAL OF FUNDS |                                   |                | ASSETS AND LIABILITIES |                                     |                |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
|                  |                                   | £              |                        |                                     | £              |
| 1975             |                                   |                | 1975                   |                                     |                |
| 44,038           | Balance brought forward           | 50,961         | 244                    | Furniture at cost less depreciation | 201            |
| 7,065            | Excess of Income over Expenditure | 4,968          | 34,832                 | Investments at cost                 | 36,510         |
|                  |                                   |                | 2,723                  | Case Loans                          | 8,498          |
|                  |                                   |                | 5,414                  | Debtors                             | 2,355          |
|                  |                                   |                | 1,609                  | Stock                               | 14,889         |
|                  |                                   |                | 7,730                  | Cash at Bank and Deposit            | 109            |
|                  |                                   |                | —                      | Cash in hand                        | 62,562         |
|                  |                                   |                | 53,888                 |                                     |                |
|                  |                                   |                | 2,785                  | <i>Deduct</i> LIABILITIES           |                |
|                  |                                   |                |                        | Creditors                           | 6,633          |
|                  |                                   |                |                        |                                     | 6,633          |
|                  |                                   |                |                        |                                     | £55,929        |
| <u>51,103</u>    |                                   | <u>£55,929</u> | <u>51,103</u>          |                                     | <u>£55,929</u> |

### GENERAL FUND

#### Abridged Income and Expenditure Account

| INCOME       |   |             | EXPENDITURE  |                                   |             |
|--------------|---|-------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
|              |   | £           |              |                                   | £           |
| 1975         |   |             | 1975         |                                   |             |
| 566          | Subscriptions                                 | 135         | 236          | Admin and Audit                   | 179         |
| 275          | Profit on Sale of Stock                       | 327         | 112          | Printing and Stationery           | 84          |
| 147          | Refund of admin expenses from Benevolent Fund | 123         | 107          | Postage and Sundries              | 56          |
| 1            | Lunches refund                                | —           | 18           | Wreaths                           | 23          |
| 312          | Sundry Donations                              | 2           | —            | Entertaining Recruits             | 367         |
| 66           | Investment Income                             | 69          | 894          | Excess of Income over Expenditure | —           |
|              | Add Excess of expenditure over income         | 53          |              |                                   |             |
|              |   |             |              |                                   |             |
| <u>1,367</u> |   | <u>£709</u> | <u>1,367</u> |                                   | <u>£709</u> |

### BENEVOLENT FUND

#### Abridged Income and Expenditure Account

| INCOME        |                                  |                | EXPENDITURE   |                                       |                |
|---------------|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
|               |                                  | £              |               |                                       | £              |
| 1975          |                                  |                | 1975          |                                       |                |
| 11,297        | Day's Pay Scheme                 | 12,008         | 197           | Admin and Audit                       | 232            |
| 2,872         | Investment as per Schedule       | 3,274          | 46            | Write off Bad Debts                   | 82             |
| 130           | Investment on Short Term Deposit | 453            | 94            | Printing, Stationery and Lapel Badges | —              |
|               |                                  |                | 1,884         | Case Grants                           | 2,484          |
|               |                                  |                | 1,400         | Donation to ABF                       | 3,000          |
|               |                                  |                | 2,850         | Grants to Outstations                 | 3,100          |
|               |                                  |                | 228           | Personal Accident Assurance Premium   | 228            |
|               |                                  |                | 10            | Wreaths                               | 15             |
|               |                                  |                | 350           | Benevolent Secretary Salary           | 390            |
|               |                                  |                | —             | Inland Revenue Stamp                  | —              |
|               |                                  |                | 800           | Journal                               | 1,000          |
|               |                                  |                | 269           | Donations and Appeals                 | 183            |
|               |                                  |                | 6,171         | Excess of Income over Expenditure     | 5,021          |
|               |                                  |                |               |                                       |                |
| <u>14,299</u> |                                  | <u>£15,735</u> | <u>14,299</u> |                                       | <u>£15,735</u> |



# AROUND THE BRANCHES

## THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

### Annual Reunion, 1977

The major event of the Regimental Calendar, the Reunion Dinner, was held in Norwich on Saturday, 24th September, and some 250 'Old Comrades' enjoyed a very convivial evening. The President of the Association, Brigadier F. P. Barclay, DSO, MC, DL, presided, and in welcoming a former GOC Northern Ireland, Lieutenant General Sir Ian Freeland, and the GOC designate, Major General Tim Creasey, he commented on the fact that these distinguished soldiers of the 9th Foot seemed to have established a Regimental tradition for advancement to 'hot seat' operational appointments.

In his address to the 'Old Comrades', Brigadier Barclay stressed the need to strengthen the links between the veterans of the founder Regiments and the soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment. He referred to the recent visit of the 1st Battalion to Norfolk during the summer 1977, and noted with satisfaction the enthusiastic way in which all elements of the Battalion, particularly the Band and Drums, had been received throughout the County of Norfolk. Unfortunately, on this



Reminiscences. Former members of the Royal Norfolk Regiment and serving members of 'A' (Royal Norfolk) Company 6th (V) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment (TAVR) at the Reunion Dinner. Left to right: Mr. F. Johnson, Impensioners Bert Tubby and Charlie Hampton, Sgt. A. Ground, C/Sgt. H. Burton.

(Courtesy 'The Eastern Daily Press')

occasion only a few members of the County of Norfolk Branch of The Royal Anglian Regiment Association were able to be present at the dinner because the 1st Battalion was deployed on exercise in Denmark at the time.

The President noted that more than 100 financial grants had been made from the Association's Benevolent Fund, and the St. Leger Sweepstake, which had been well supported by members, had again contributed handsomely to this fund. On a sadder note, the President referred to the premature retirement of the former Regimental Secretary, Lieutenant Colonel 'Joe' Joanny, MBE, who had been forced to retire on medical grounds after a long period of ill-health, during which he had made valiant and successful efforts to ensure that the affairs of the Association had functioned effectively.

On 23rd/24th September, the Officers Club Dinner and Luncheon were held in Norwich for the first time, and both functions were well attended. The 30th Annual Dinner of the Kohima Club (2nd Battalion, The Royal Norfolk Regiment) was held in London in May, and the 32nd Annual Dinner of the 1st Battalion The Royal Norfolk Regiment DV Club was held in Norwich on Saturday, 29th October, 1977. A good representation of officers who served in those Battalions had once again enjoyed exchanging reminiscences of their days together in Burma and NW Europe.

The Regimental Chapel, in Norwich Cathedral, continues to be one of the major focal points for visitors to the Cathedral and the Regimental Association services have been particularly well attended. At a recent service two stalls were dedicated, one to the memory of Colonel J. H. Jewson, MC (former Commanding Officer of the 4th Battalion) and the other to Lieutenant Colonel E. C. Prattley (former Commanding Officer of the 5th Battalion). The most recent embellishment to the Chapel has been the Queen's Colour of the 1st Battalion The East Anglian Regiment, which has been hung above the Altar. The Regimental Association is particularly fortunate to have the services of the Reverend Wynter Blathwayt as its Chaplain, who continues to devote a good deal of his time to the affairs of the Regimental Chapel.

## THE SUFFOLK REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Association was held at Gibraltar Barracks on 30th November, 1977, chaired by General Sir Richard Goodwin, and its object, as always, was to co-ordinate the affairs of the various activities of the Regiment, for the committee chairman to make their reports and for discussion on affairs of general Regimental interest.

The chairman opened the meeting by welcoming Major Badcock, representing the Cambridgeshire Regiment, and congratulated Lieutenant Colonel T. D. Dean on his forthcoming appointment to command 6 (V) R. Anglian.

### Old Comrades Association

Colonel P. S. W. Dean (chairman, OCA) reported: Financially the OCA is in a reasonably sound position. The number of applications for grants increased to 139 in 1976 (94 in 1975) and the average grant from our funds was £18.50. So far this year the number of cases is slightly down but the average grant has increased to about £20. In addition, with the help of the Army Benevolent Fund we paid 13 weekly pensions of £1, £2 or £3. Also, in addition, 66 grants of £1 each were made at Christmas. No case was turned down through lack of funds and if it was beyond the scope of our own funds, the Royal Anglian and the Army Benevolent Funds had always helped on our recommendation. Reunion—the attendance this year was even better than last year. We appear to be going from strength to strength. It was good to see an increase in the number of younger members. The meeting recorded its appreciation of the dedicated work of Mr. Calver, 'both on and off stage' in all Regimental affairs. A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Calver, her daughter and grandson for their combined family effort in assisting at the reunion.

### Museum

Major H. Gilson-Taylor (chairman, Museum Committee) reported: The Museum fund now has a healthy credit balance. There is an increasing number of organised visits from schools, recruits from the depot at Bassingbourn, Women's Institutes, cadets, etc. Mr. Calver is prepared to open up at nights and weekends for such parties. In order to retain the backing of the Army Museums Ogilby Trust we are in the process of adopting a new Trust Deed.

### Regimental Chapel

Major H. Gilson-Taylor (chairman, Chapel Committee) reported: A plaque bearing the Regimental crest and dates the Regiment had served in Gibraltar, had been placed in position in the Garrison church, Gibraltar. The Rev. Bob Ebbitt, who served with the Regiment in Malaya, and is now the Chaplain at Gibraltar, had been most helpful in getting the work done.

The chapel funds are now in a more healthy condition. We have received a grant from the Royal Anglian Regiment of £350 specifically granted for refurbishing the chapel.

### Officers' Dinner Club

Lieutenant Colonel H. S. R. Case (secretary) reported: The annual party had been held at the Army & Navy Club in London on 9th November. There had been a good attendance and those present agreed that the party was a success. At the party Colonel W. A. Heal had been presented with a silver rose bowl for which officers had subscribed as a tribute to his devoted fifteen years of service as Regimental Secretary.

As a result of holding the party the night before the Field of Remembrance ceremony, there had been a good turnout at Westminster Abbey for the ceremony the following morning. All members of the dinner club had been sent a questionnaire asking if in future the annual party should be held in London or Bury St. Edmunds. Fifty-two had replied in favour of Bury St. Edmunds and 18 for London.

### Annual Reunion 1978

As agreed at the annual meeting of the Association, the reunion for 1978 will be held at Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, on Sunday, 30th July, commencing with the Drum Head Church Service at 11.30 a.m. Notices regarding meals, etc., will be sent to all known OCA members, but please note that no invitation or ticket is necessary to attend the reunion. All members and their families of any battalion of the Suffolk Regiment, Cambridgeshire Regiment and Royal Anglian Regiment are welcome.

### Officers' Dinner Club, 1978

As decided at the annual meeting of the Association, the annual function will be held at the Angel Hotel, Bury St. Edmunds, on Saturday, 29th July, the day before the annual reunion.

Notices will be sent to all members.

### **The Royal Anglian Regiment Sergeants' Dinner Club (past and present)**

Mr. A. W. Calver reports: Once again this much looked forward to annual dinner took place at the Regimental Depot at Bassingbourn and, as usual, the Commanding Officer, RSM, and everybody (particularly QM and Catering Departments) could not have been more helpful, and actually proved to us that the age of miracles is not past as our every request was granted, 'just like that'.

This dinner club is certainly a thriving one, and I wonder if the personnel who sat down to the original dinner in 1906 under the Suffolk Regiment Sergeants' Dinner Club (past and present) could have visualised 210 members assembling for this annual event on the 15th October, 1977, this being the tenth dinner of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

As usual the meal was excellent, and the wine went down well, so it must have been good. It was nice to see the Regimental ties of all our old Regiments so well represented, and naturally I as an 'old Suffolk' was thrilled to see that amongst the 'old and bold' the Suffolk tie seemed to be predominant. It was also very good to see so many members of the 'young and strong' present, which means the club could go on for ever. As usual the many stories of old were told, and although they had all been heard before, they always go down well.

The dinner was this year chaired by our President, Lieutenant General Sir Richard Goodwin, which means that we can always enjoy that witty after dinner speech. This year our chairman had two presentations to make, one, a very nice shield bearing the crests of the seven old Regiments grouped around the Royal Anglian badge. This was presented on behalf of the dinner club to the Depot Sergeants' Mess, I suppose more as a bribe for the years to come. The second presentation was a very nice cigarette box to our retiring dinner club chairman, Major S. Chandler, who has decided to hand over the many tasks this post entails to Major T. Warren, but like the good old warrior he has always been, has said that he will always be available if required.

How nice it is to visit Ipswich and Woodbridge these days where we have much first class Suffolk Regiment hosts and hostesses. Just give a thought to what a wonderful day can be had by all 'ale-lovers', i.e., a trip to Joe and June at The Lion's Head, followed by a livener with Jimmy and Iris at The Halberd, and then if you can still find time, a night-cap

with Les and his charming lady at The Anchor in Woodbridge.

It's OK all you junior ranks, ex-WOs Jones, James and Mixer have mellowed with the hard times of civilian life, and you will find after all that their parents were really married. The pubs are stuffed with Dirty Dozen comrades.

### **The late Major A. K. Catchpole**

A memorial chair to the memory of Tony Catchpole subscribed to by some of his brother officers has been placed in the Regimental Chapel, St. Mary's Church, Bury St. Edmunds.

### **Boston Sea Ranger**

No doubt many of our readers will remember hearing on TV and radio of the sinking of the Lowestoft trawler 'Boston Sea Ranger' just before Christmas. She went down at night four miles off the Cornish coast. We are glad to report that amongst the survivors was ex-Cpl. 'Pedlar' Palmer of Southwold.

Pedlar, who is a staunch member of the OCA, behaved in a particularly gallant manner in the best tradition of the Regiment. As the ship was about to sink he gave his life jacket to another member of the crew who was unable to swim and jumped into the sea without his life jacket. Whether one can swim or not, it is no mean thing to give away such a vital aid to survival and then commit oneself to the sea on a winter's night, when the chances of rescue could be slim, as indeed they were in this case. Only three out of a crew of eight survived after a long cold night in the water.

We congratulate Pedlar on his escape and commiserate with him on the loss of his ship-mates; a loss we know he feels deeply.

## **THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE REGIMENT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION**

### **Menin Memorial Gateway, Ypres**

As many ex-Cambridgeshire's and others will know, our 1st Battalion went to France in 1915 and fought in the Ypres salient and suffered many casualties. The names of those who made the supreme sacrifice are recorded on the Menin Memorial Gate.

The Gateway was completed in 1927 and a ceremony of sounding the Last Post commenced at this time; this has been continued on every evening since by two Belgian buglers.

Two of the buglers concerned, Messieurs Daniel Demey and Maurice Baratto, have been honoured with awards of the British Empire Medals, which were recently presented to them by the British Embassy in Brussels. These awards have given much satisfaction to the few survivors who were involved in the fighting, to the relatives of those whose names are inscribed on the memorial, and to all our Old Comrades and to Cambridgeshires as a whole.

### **The Cambridgeshire OCA meeting**

Officers of the Association are: President, Lieutenant Colonel E. L. V. Mapey, OBE, TD; vice-presidents, Colonels J. G. A. Beckett, OBE, TD, DL, W. F. Page, MC, P. D. Storie-Pug, OBE, MC, TD, DL, S. C. Aston, OBE, TD, DL, P. S. W. Dean, Lieutenant Colonel J. W. Ennion, Messrs. P. J. Tharby, J. Duffield and A. P. Humbertsore; chairman, Major W. F. Badcock, MBE, TAVR Centre, Coldhams Lane, Cambridge; hon. secretary, J. R. Stubblings, 25 The Vineyards, Ely; assistant secretary, G. A. Street, 16 Church Close, Ely; hon. treasurer, Major H. G. Burns, 10 St. Martins Close, Exning, Newmarket.

### **Cambridge Branch**

Recent changes in the officers of the branch include the chairman, treasurer and secretary. Major W. F. Badcock, MBE (County chairman) was elected branch chairman vice Mr. H. Herrell, who was elected the treasurer vice Mr. E. O. Moy, who has gone to live in Australia.

At the County Executive meeting in September 1977 a resolution to admit adult members of the County Army Cadet Force to full membership of the OCA was carried unanimously, and as a result Major D. E. Hutt, who had been an honorary member for some years, was admitted to full membership and subsequently elected secretary, vice Arthur Tucker, MBE, whose service to the Regiment and the OCA are legendary, but who wished to secede from branch office.

At the branch pre-Christmas meeting various names were submitted and approved to receive Christmas gifts which, it is hoped, helped the recipients to enjoy the season more. The committee are always anxious to hear about any Old Comrade needful of help in any way.

On Remembrance Sunday the chairman, supported by other members, laid a Regimental wreath during the civic service at the memorial in Station Road, Cambridge, and later attended the service in GT. St. Mary's

Church. A similar wreath was laid by Mr. A. J. Searle in Stockingford Church on behalf of the OCA, an act he has carried out for many years.

### **March and District Branch**

On Sunday, the 2nd October, 1977, members and friends of the March and District branch of the Old Comrades' Association attended St. Peter's Church, March, for a service of blessing for a wheelchair.

After the service members moved to the British Legion hall for the 'handing over' of the chair.

The treasurer of the Wheel Chair Fund, Mr. J. Duffield, made a short speech outlining details of how the money was raised to buy this chair, and explained that most of the money came from a sponsored 'Roll the barrell' from Whittlesey to March.

Mr. Duffield then presented a rose bowl to Mrs. P. M. Jolley for her work in helping the OCA.

Members then continued with a convivial evening.

On Friday, 16th December, 1977, the March and District branch OCA were invited to join the March detachment of the Army Cadet Force for their Christmas party. The drill hall was suitably decorated with bunting and a Christmas tree. A short bingo session started the evening's entertainment, followed by games and carol singing. The cadets then gave a display of 21 drill movements without any word of command. This was thoroughly enjoyed, especially by former servicemen. The thoughtfulness and respect that the cadets showed to all those present was something to be proud of, for the Cadet Force, the town of March, and the country they serve.

### **Sergeants' Dinner Club**

The annual dinner was held on 24th September, 1977, at The University Arms Hotel, Cambridge, with 120 members and wives attending. A very good evening was enjoyed by all, largely due to all the thoughtful organisation, including a wonderful display of Regimental silver by the ever faithful hon. secretary Kadar Parfitt.

### **18 Division Officers' Dinner**

A good contingent of Cambridgeshire officers attended the annual dinner at The University Arms Hotel, Cambridge, on 22nd Octo-

ber, 1977. Those present were Page, Foot, Mapey, Bradford, Howard, Clancy and Dean. Col. Flossie Flower delivered an oration on the subject of tropical worms and bugs which had many of us scratching! It was good to see Col. Jack Johnson, OC 4 Suffolk, aged 80. He was in great form.

### **Remembrance Day 1977**

In addition to the wreath laying at Ely Cathedral on 13th November, a wreath was laid by Colonel P. S. W. Dean in the form of a plaque of the Regimental cap badge on the Regiment's plot at the Field of Remembrance outside Westminster Abbey on 10th November. Lieutenant Colonel H. S. R. Case, MBE, Regimental Secretary, The Suffolk Regiment, Mrs. Peter Dean and Mrs. Pat Macdonald were also at this short but impressive ceremony.

### **Future events**

Saturday, 10th June: Garden Party with ex-4 Suffolk Band, The Rookery, Rougham, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, 3 p.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday, 11th June: Re-union Remembrance Service, Ely. Parade 2 p.m. Service 2.30 p.m.

Saturday, 23rd December: Sergeants' Dinner.

## **10th FOOT ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENT ASSOCIATION**

### **Annual Reunion 1977**

The Annual Reunion was held at the Beacholme on the 17th/18th September, 1977.

Major General Sir Christopher Welby-Everard presided over the Annual General Committee and the Annual General Meeting. Both meetings were well attended and the Association business was satisfactorily carried out.

On the evening of Saturday, 17th September, 300 members and wives sat down to dinner and afterwards danced until the early hours. Those that preferred to prop up the bar had plenty of opportunity to do so as drinks were served until 0030 hours.

As usual, on Sunday morning we had our Divine Service in the Music Room, which was well attended. Bars were then opened for anyone wishing to partake of the 'hair of the dog' prior to making their way home.

### **Annual Reunion 1978**

The Annual Reunion for 1978 will again be held at the Beacholme Holiday Camp and will be organised by the Grimsby Branch. Inquiries should be made to Mr. Eric Robinson, 71 Worcester Avenue, Grimsby, who is the new secretary at Grimsby.

A very warm welcome will be extended to all ex-members of both the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment and of the Royal Anglian Regiment. Naturally, if any serving members of the Royal Anglian Regiment wish to come, they also would be extremely welcome.

The programme will be:

### **Saturday, 23rd September, 1978**

2.30 p.m.: Annual General Committee Meeting.

4.00 p.m.: Annual General Meeting.

7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.: Annual Dinner and Dance.

### **Sunday, 24th September, 1978**

10.45 a.m.: Divine Service in the Music Room.

The usual very pleasant accommodation and meals, etc., will once again be available for those wishing to stay overnight at the Beacholme.

Don't forget, if you wish to attend next year please contact Eric Robinson at Grimsby or R.H.Q. Royal Anglian at Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln, for details.

### **Lincoln Branch**

Our Annual General Meeting was held on the 6th September, 1977, and was well supported. We have had a few changes on the Executive Committee. These are: Chairman, Frank Abbott; Retiring Chairman, Fred Smedley; Vice-Chairman, Norman Johnson; Vice, Frank Abbott; Assistant Secretary and Treasurer, Bob Charlton; Entertainments, Stan Jones (Junior), new member.

We all wish Fred Smedley all the best in his retirement and thank him for his hard work for the Club during the last six years.

Captain Wilf Lewin, our secretary and treasurer for the past 30 years, is still soldiering on. We offer our congratulations to him on his award of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal. Well done.

In May of this year a bus-load from the branch visited the Chelsea Hospital. Ginger

Webb, who lives in the South, met us there and we had a most enjoyable and interesting tour of the Hospital and grounds. Our In-Pensioners, Pte H. S. Palmer, S/Sgt. S. Edwards, Sgt. T. Grice, Sgt. W. Wildgoose and Cpl. H. Rix, were in the main in good health and were pleased to see us.

Our Branch Dinner for 1978 will be held at the Silvergate Restaurant on Saturday, 4th March, 1978. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Wilf Lewin at Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln.

The branch is quite strong at the moment, but we welcome new members, so if any ex-Lincoln/Royal Anglian wishes to join our club, then please come along to Sobraon Barracks and make yourself known.

### Grimsby and District Branch

This has been a successful year for the branch, both financially and socially. The Branch Dinner was again held at the Town Hall, Grimsby, and was a most enjoyable and successful evening. Prior to the dinner we were entertained in the Mayor's Parlour by the Mayor and Mayoress—Councillor and Mrs. Ellis. The President, Major General Sir Christopher Welby-Everard, attended, and we were delighted to again welcome Lady Peggy, as she is known by us. Our next Branch Dinner will be held at the Town Hall, Grimsby, on 11th March, 1978.

The officers of the branch wish to thank all members who have contributed to making the year's work a success, and special thanks are due to our lady members for the hard work they do in providing refreshments, selling raffle tickets, etc.

We have held four dance and social evenings at the Memorial Hall, Cleethorpes, during the year which have been well attended and resulted in an increase to our funds. In addition we have had some enjoyable outings.

Our thanks are due to our Entertainments Chairman, Ernest Harris, and to Myrtle, for all their hard work.

At the Annual General Meeting in July the following officers were elected: Chairman, Lt.-Col. S. C. W. Disney; Vice-Chairman, Major M. Latimer; Hon. Treasurer, Councillor D. C. Casswell; Secretary, E. Robinson, who has subsequently had to resign, so the post is now vacant—we are looking for a volunteer!

The branch has lost several members and honorary members during the year, notably Major Jack Ottley, a past chairman and secre-

tary of the branch, and recently secretary again. He was indefatigable in his work for the branch and the Association, and his long connection with the Regiment was valuable when investigating cases of need. He will be sadly missed by all members of the Association.

Our monthly meetings are held in the Sergeants Mess at Westward Ho! Barracks, Grimsby, by courtesy of Major M. Shaw, and we are well looked after from behind the bar by Ann and Colin Johnson.

The branch was well represented at Lincoln for the re-dedication of the Regimental Chapel at St. Nicholas Church, Newport, Lincoln, on 29th May, 1977, which was a very moving service. In the evening we were entertained by the Lincoln Branch, which was enjoyed by all.

### THE ROYAL TIGERS ASSOCIATION

Royal Tigers' Weekend was held on 18-19th June, 1977.

At the Annual General Meeting our President, Colonel Mike Pallot, thanked all those who had supported our money-making efforts. Our annual sweep on the Grand National made a profit of £711.

The Annual General Meeting was followed by the Annual Dinner and Reunion. It is most gratifying to note that numbers attending are still increasing.

At the Royal Tigers' Sunday parade service in the Regimental Chapel we were honoured by the presence of the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire and Mrs. Martin, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Leicester, and the Chairman of the Leicestershire County Council, amongst many other distinguished guests. After the service, old comrades marched past the Lord Lieutenant, who took the salute. The parade was commanded by Major General Sir Douglas Kendrew, and ex-RSM Tom Marston carried the Standard.

It has been decided by the General Committee that all ex-members of The Royal Anglian Regiment will automatically become members of the Royal Tigers' Association on application. There is a thriving branch of the Royal Tigers' Association at the TAVR Centre, Leicester Road, Loughborough, and all ex-members of The Royal Anglian Regiment will be welcome. It is hoped in the near future to start a branch at the TAVR Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester.



## THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT COMRADES ASSOCIATION

The Annual Reunion was held on Saturday and Sunday, 2nd and 3rd July, 1977. The form was the same as in previous years and consisted of a meeting of the Management Committee followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Association and the Annual Dinner on the Saturday and then the Church Parade, Officers' sherry party and luncheon and a regimental gathering in the club on the Sunday.

The Annual General Meeting was attended by 25 members and at this meeting the General Fund Account and the Benevolent Fund Account were accepted and reports were received from the three branches of the Regimental Association. It was also decided that the Reunion in 1978 would be held in Northampton on Saturday and Sunday, 1st and 2nd July, 1978. During the year 73 cases had been helped by the Benevolent Fund and including supplementary pensions and Christmas grants £3,532.77 had been spent on relief. This could not have been done without considerable help from the Royal Anglian Regiment and the Army Benevolent Fund.

On Saturday evening the dinner and dance was held. It was attended by 235 people and the band of the 5th (V) Bn The Royal Anglian Regiment played during the dinner. On Sunday the Church Parade was held. Brigadier P. W. P. Green commanded the parade whilst Brigadier D. E. Taunton, President of the Regimental Association, carried out the inspection, laid a wreath at the War Memorial and took the salute at the March Past after the church service. The service was conducted by the Vicar of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Canon H. A. Tibbs, who also preached the sermon. The Band and Drums of 5th (V) Battalion were present on the parade.

After the parade the officers entertained their guests for sherry and luncheon in the Officers' Mess of the Royal Pioneer Corps at Wootton and at the same time the Northampton branch entertained in their Regimental Club.

We were delighted to have as guests the Mayor and Mayoress of Northampton, Brigadier R. E. J. Gerrard Wright, Deputy Colonel The Royal Anglian Regiment (Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire), Lt. Col. D. M. Hainsworth, Commandant Depot Royal Pioneer Corps and Mrs. D. M. Hainsworth, Canon H. A. Tibbs, and Mrs. Tibbs.

### Corby Branch

Secretary: Mr. J. R. Gayne, 17 Ashley Avenue, Corby, Northamptonshire.

The branch has a membership of 80. They meet once a month at the TAVR Centre. They do have their problems with no home of their own and having to share the Corby club. They have difficulty in holding social evenings; nevertheless they have had a couple of 'nights out' and hope to have more during the winter months.

A very profitable jumble sale helped to keep our welfare funds looking reasonable and in addition to caring for the members of the branch the old people at Marlow Court are supported.

Congratulations to our oldest 'young soldier', George 'Buller' Dixon on reaching his 80th birthday last August, also to our vice-president Major V. C. M. Williams, BSc, FCS, on successfully completing the four days march at Nijmegen for the 20th consecutive pilgrimage.

Thanks are due to Major Alan Petch and the Corby club for all that they do for the branch.

### Northampton Branch

Secretary: Mr. L. A. Jeynes, MM, 11 Lennox Walk, Ryehill, Harlestone Road, Northampton. Tel: Northampton 582954.

The branch has had a very active year and is in a sound financial position. The Annual General Meeting was held on 24th March, 1977. The officers are President, Major D. Baxter, DL; Chairman, Mr. J. O. Roberts; and Secretary, Mr. L. A. Jeynes, MM. Mr W. McNicol, MM, retired as treasurer after many valuable years of service. There was an innovation this year with the branch annual dinner being held in the Regimental Club. We were delighted to entertain the Mayor and Mayoress of Northampton, Brigadier and Mrs. D. E. Taunton and Major and Mrs. P. F. Keily. There have been many social evenings and outings and for the majority of these our thanks are due to the chairman and Mrs. J. O. Roberts for all the organising that they do. The visitation of people in hospital and those sick has not been neglected and the generous donations to the collecting tins weekly have helped enormously with welfare.

This is a very active branch and although predominantly ex-Northamptonshire Regiment all ex-Royal Anglian members are gladly welcomed to join. The club is open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings from 7 p.m.; on

Sunday from 12 noon and then again in the evening at 7 p.m.

#### **Peterborough Branch**

Secretary: Mr. J. E. Cooke, 1 Caldecote Close, Stanground, Peterborough, Northants.

Monthly meetings are held at the TAVR Centre, London Road, Peterborough, and they are now held on the fourth Wednesday in the month.

A dance was held in the spring which, thanks to the energy of the secretary, John Cooke, £40 was added to the branch funds.

The branch dinner was held on Saturday, 22nd October, 1977, at which the Band of 5th (V) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment played. It was a very good evening and 140 people sat down with more joining for the dancing afterwards.

We again visited our widows at Christmas and made sure that they were not forgotten.

### **THE BEDFORDSHIRE AND HERTFORDSHIRE REGIMENT ASSOCIATION**

The Royal Jubilee Year has enabled many ex-members of the Regiment to take part in functions held both by Regimental Headquarters and branches in the knowledge that this indeed was a period when one could look back with pride in one's old Regiment and all that it has stood for during a period of well over 250 years.

Again, the Annual Dinner and Dance was both popular and successful with as good an attendance figure as ever. Mr. Stanley Mansfield, as the Master of Ceremonies, ensured that the meal was tasty and the helpings were plentiful. The Band, in turn, was judged to be very talented. Fortunately, this year's event was held under cooler conditions of weather, much to the relief of all those who experienced the heat at the previous one. The new Deputy-Colonel, The Royal Anglian Regiment, Brigadier R. J. Randall, and Mrs. Randall were present.

With great sorrow and respect we record the deaths of Major Bill Berridge, Captain Harry Albany, Captain William Dixon, MBE, and Ex-Drum Sergeant and 'Old Contemptible' George Stringer, the last-named being in his 89th year. Major Berridge was RSM of the 1st Battalion at the outbreak of the 1939-45 War and later held a Commission in the Royal Pioneer Corps; he was a member of the Regi-

mental Association's Committee. Captains Albany and Dixon both had distinguished service in the Regiment and the present OC 5th (Hertfordshire) Company, 5th (V) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment is carrying on his uncle's traditions by serving with the Volunteer Reserves; he is Major Colin Albany.

#### **Bedford Branch**

Major Bill Berridge had for 2½ years been chairman of the branch, so his recent death required the election of Mr. Charles Peacock as chairman. Bill Berridge had given magnificent service on behalf of the members in spite of having poor health recently. He will be most sadly missed by all and it was indeed a proud moment for so many to be present at the short Memorial Service held on 14th June at the Regimental Memorial.

Several new members have joined the branch. Such a keen and talented hon. secretary as Mr. 'Buster' Wells can only tolerate seeing branch numbers for ever increasing. He also was able to arrange an outing to Royston to visit 'Mine Host' Major Colin Ladley, now the owner of The Fox and Duck Inn, who previously served in the Regiment and the Royal Anglian Regiment.

#### **Ware (Hertfordshire) Branch**

Ware celebrated their Annual Dinner at Presdales School on 21st May, when over 300 people attended—a record for recent years.

The Bowls Club is still very popular; Mr. Jimmy Crane, the honorary secretary, has carried off several prizes now that he is restored to good health after a serious illness last autumn.

#### **London Branch**

Brigadier Randall, Deputy Colonel, The Royal Anglian Regiment, and Mrs. Randall attended the Annual Dinner and Dance at the Union Jack Club on 29th October. This was a most happy and successful evening in very comfortable and pleasant surroundings. Captain J. Connolly has taken over President of the branch.

#### **Hitchin Branch**

A new honorary secretary, Mr. Harry Walker, has now succeeded Mr. H. Pateman, who has given many years of most loyal service. The branch has taken over new premises to meet the needs of increased membership.

## Watford Branch

A new honorary secretary, Mr. L. Nunn, has succeeded Mr. G. H. Down. The branch has been increasing in numbers and is looking forward to several functions in the near future.

### General Items of Interest

On 11th September a Church Service was held in the Rose Garden of Ware Cemetery to commemorate a plaque to those who had served in the Hertfordshire Regiment and had laid down their lives to two World Wars. In the grounds of Hertford Castle on 8th October, a Memorial was dedicated to the late Brigadier John Longmore, CB, CBE, DL, TD. Many Hertfordshire Regiment comrades and their families were present at both ceremonies.

Kempston Barracks was the venue for Kempston Town Council's Jubilee Celebrations on 23rd September. The Council is taking great interest in the preservation of our old home and is setting up an Appeals Committee so as to retain the Main Keep of the Barracks for posterity; many offers of help from national and commercial organisations and well-known individuals have been received by the Town Mayor.

The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, recently said farewell to In-Pensioner C. Kelly, who has decided that the advantages of matrimony will tend to outweigh the companionship of that famous establishment. His many friends in the Regiment wish him great happiness in the future. Three In-Pensioners of the Regiment, A. J. Craxford, G. R. Drinkwater, MM, and W. G. Lilley still reside in the Royal Hospital and welcome visits from Regimental friends when in London.

### DIARY DATES

6th May—The Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment Association Annual Dinner and Dance, Presdales School, Ware.

19th November — Wreath-laying Ceremony, Kempston Barracks, Bedford.

### REGULAR FORCES EMPLOYMENT ASSOCIATION

Looking for a job in civilian life? If so, contact your local office of the R.F.E.A. Branch addresses and telephone numbers can be obtained from Resettlement Officers and Regimental Associations—or from Post Offices, Employment Offices, or local telephone directories.

## THE ESSEX REGIMENT ASSOCIATION

### Annual Reunion

The Essex Regiment reunion held at Warley on Sunday, 26th June, was, as always, a great success. Over 400 members and their wives attended, and again we enjoyed very fine weather.

The reunion this year will be held at Warley on Sunday, 25th June, and full details will be sent out with the March Newsletter to all members on the subscribers' roll.

### Regimental Chapel

Many of our readers will know that the United Reformed Church Brentwood have, for some few months, been negotiating for the purchase of the chapel which they plan to use in place of their existing church in Brentwood. The outline proposals are acceptable to the Regiment, but no final decisions have yet been taken. Should the negotiations prove successful, the United Reformed Church authorities have said that they would be happy for the Regiment to have full use of the church for special services, and it has been agreed that the majority of the main furnishings and memorials would remain in situ.

### Subscribers' Roll

A new printed roll is to be produced during the year (April). Is your name on the Roll and have you notified any change of address? Minimum subscription 50p per year will ensure that you are on the Roll and will receive newsletters and other notices. Names of annual donators (banker's orders) are already included on the Roll.



Annual Reunion Warley. Brigadier R. J. Randall takes the salute.

# 1st BATTALION

1977 was rather an exotic year for the Battalion with exercises in Norway, Italy, Jamaica, Guyana and Denmark. With so many overseas exercises the 2IC was heard to remark that the Training Cycle was like his folding cycle—small wheels and no brakes. But it was also a successful year for the Battalion, particularly in the field of shooting, athletics and football.

## Exercise Hardfall/Cold Winter 1977

The Battalion deployed to Exercise 'Hardfall' by LSL, landing at Ulvik in the far reaches of the Hardanger Fjord, Norway's apple country. After serious attempts by the Chinese crews to get every one declared 'persona non grata', we sorted ourselves out and deployed to our hostels and camps around the ski-ing resort of Voss.

As it was the third successive year, the Battalion had a strange mixture of skiing talent, from the novice unable to stand up for the first day or so, to the 'hot-dogger' doing his suicidal tricks down the steepest of slopes. The depth of snow was far less than in previous years which made skiing all the more difficult and this was made worse in the later stages when there was a considerable thaw. At times it was like skiing



'C' Company on the March.

Puma emplaning a section  
—a rare sight.





Lt. Rupert Lucas and 9 Platoon.

on ice cream. The Volvos suffered too, and for the first time the drivers were having the most unpleasant experience of going through the ice. The warm weather meant that only a few of the Battalion were able to take and pass the 10 kilometre ski race, and the Norwegian Army 30 kilometre ski race was cancelled. We have yet to carry it out as a Battalion. The only disappointed man appeared to be the RSM who ran round the course instead; Capt. Williams RM also did it the hard way by following the route taken on the famous Telemark raid on the German heavy water plant.

Support Company carried out a two-day exercise testing NBC equipment for the Arctic. It was a very hard and testing exercise; soldiers were alternately on the point of collapse with heat exhaustion and being frozen. To make matters worse they were being gassed as well. Everyone was delighted to return to the easier life of the Battalion four-day exercise to test our readiness for the trip north to the Arctic for exercise 'Cold Winter'.

Exercise 'Cold Winter' was designed for the Norwegian Brigade North with the Battalion acting as enemy for a change. The exercise followed the same line of advance as the attack



A Scimitar of Recce Platoon prepared for exercise Cold Winter.

on Narvik during the war, which added interest. 45 Commando were also involved and, much to our delight, we found that they fell about on skis as much as we did.

#### Italy—Exercise Ponte Vecchio

The first of the three companies to go on an exchange visit was 'A' Company, who set off for north-east Italy in May. The Company was located in a dusty training area near Trieste and in between cruising down the canals of Venice, visiting the Italian alps and sampling the local vino, found a little time for some military duties. The host unit was a Bersaglieri Battalion identified by the flowing cock feathers worn in their hats—even on operations. Fortunately the Italians received the chicken imitations in good spirit.

The first point of contact with the Italian way of life was in the cookhouse. First impressions were favourable—as soon as the free



Italian field cooking and nobody looks too pleased about it.



Royal Anglians and Italians honour their dead

wine and beer was spotted — but as the break-fastless days passed with the same tasteless and dry pasta for every meal the comments became unprintable. Luckily there was a restaurant fairly close to the barracks which provided fish and chips supplied by three nubile waitresses.

The training was centred round the preparation for a live firing attack exercise by an Italian battle group. The company was to take part mounted in M113 APCs (shades of things to come) and watched by all the top brass from the Corps Commanders downwards. The attack was a success, no one was killed, and there was a lot of back-slapping afterwards.

Two trips to Venice, including a visit to a First World War Memorial to the British 7th Division which had fought alongside the Italians, a trip to the seaside resort of Jesolo and another to the Italian Alps were all immensely enjoyed. The greatest problem was how to get the excess wine, so generously given by the Italian hosts, past the Customs.



Major Calder cruising down the canals of Venice in a police launch.



Everyone gets roped in for the exercise in Italy —the QM drives an APC.

#### Jamaica—Exercise Calypso Hop

'C' Company was next to go in June. They were selected to join the tax exiles and spend five weeks sunning themselves in Jamaica. A total of one hundred and fifty all ranks, including some attachments from AMF(L) on a swan, comprised 'C' Company group. Most of the time was spent with a Jamaican unit at Monique Camp where platoon training took place for the first two weeks. The company worked in the morning and relaxed in the afternoon on the beach at Ocho Rios. The highlight of the trip was an exercise in which the company group walked across the island from south to north over the Blue Mountains. It began with a beach landing assisted by the Coast



10 Platoon's temporary NAAFI—L/Cpl. Smith with Pte. Wilson and Pte. Milne.





Cpl. Cutter, 'C' Company, takes a rest from jungle bashing.

Guards and ended when they rescued the company from a banana wharf. It gave everyone a chance to see the country, eat the local fruit and meet the people amongst whom many friends were made.

After the exercise the company divided into four locations: 9 Platoon set up base at Negril within ogling distance of a nudist beach, 10 Platoon had a villa complete with house keeper at Palm Tree Bay, 11 Platoon established themselves beside the Jamaica Hilton and 12 Platoon congregated around a swimming pool in Discovery Bay. It was a thoroughly enjoyable trip, the only problem being how to get the rum past the Customs.

#### KAPE

While 'C' Company were sweating it out in Jamaica the rest of the Battalion returned to 'God's country' for a two week KAPE tour Based at Wretham Camp, the Battalion sent Arctic displays to all the fetes and gala days in the area. The two most notable were the Duxford Air Show, where 'B' Company laid on an unscheduled race on the runway between a Scimitar and a Landrover, and the Royal Norfolk Show.

The Battalion also exercised their freedom to march through Great Yarmouth and Ipswich with Colours flying, band playing and bayonets fixed. Many old friends came to watch and later reminisce over a few pints. In between times the Battalion managed to fit in some training on the Stanford PTA.

#### Guyana—Exercise Lead Ball

'B' Company were the last to go on their exchange visit, although they very nearly did not

'With colours flying' in Great Yarmouth.



go at all due to the emergency in Belize. They were delayed seven days eventually and the main body arrived before the advance party.

The base area was sited at Timehri (Atkinson Field to those who remembered the Battalion's emergency tour in 1962) and the company was given the use of the Playboy Club nearby. After a few days acclimatisation to the local booze and swimming pools, the company moved to Tacama in the interior. This is the Guyana Defence Force training area and although unpleasantly insect-ridden, proved to have some magnificent facilities. There is a spectacular interface of jungle and savanna and so it provided excellent jungle training facilities and equally excellent field-firing ranges. These were used to the full as was the Tiuni river for watermanship training—by far the most popular activity.

On return from Tacama the Company visited a diamond factory and a distillery, but got free samples only from the latter; played football and rugby against local sides and enjoyed a Minden Day party at the Pegasus Hotel at which everyone ended up in the swimming pool.

The return trip went well, stopping at Bermuda with time to call in on Major Chris Mather. As usual the only problem was how to get the Liquid Gold past the Customs.

#### **Minden Day**

For the first time for a number of years Minden Day was held on the 1st August. It was celebrated in the usual way with gunfire at Reveille, followed by a parade. Major General Tim Creasey took the salute and presented the



**'I think this one has holes in it.' 5 Platoon look dubious.**



**7 Platoon doing Watermanship training on the Ituni river.**



**Cpl. Duncan leads a section on Watermanship training.**



**Taking a rest from field firing—Ptes. Haynes, Steele, Shepherd, Newman, Nicholls.**



General Creasey talks to men of 'A' Company.

LSGC medal to Sgt. Jenner—some say for not letting anything out of the clothing store for ten years. The parade was followed by an imaginative and enjoyable fete and a potted sports meeting. In the afternoon the officers thrashed the WOs' and Sergeants' Mess at cricket but came together in the evening for the Beating of Retreat and a cocktail party in the Officers' Mess.

#### Denmark—Exercise Arrow Express

In September the Battalion set off for the AMF(L) FTX—Exercise Arrow Express, held in Denmark. Despite a rainy start, the weather was very kind and it was an enjoyable exercise. Our 2nd Battalion formed part of the enemy but we never really got to grips with them. An over-zealous umpire ensured that the exercise came to a grinding halt before we could assault their carefully prepared positions. Major Frost, our Danish I.O, was with us once again, complete with violin case full of schnapps.

In the NATO Cup March and Shoot Competition after the exercise the Battalion took the first three places with 9 Platoon winning the cup.



Battalion HQ tries to keep out of sight of the 2nd Battalion.

#### Battalion shooting team

The Battalion had another successful year at Bisley, despite the record scores. The only disappointment was that the team did not improve their position in the major units order of merit but this was more than compensated for by some magnificent individual results.

Bisley began on a high note with some very good scores on the Electric Target Range, particularly by Captain Tony Domeisen, who ex



A suitably modest looking Captain Domeisen.

celled himself by getting the maximum score on both the Roupel and Henry Whitehead and then repeating the performance on his tie shots. He won the Roupell but unfortunately lost the Whitehead on his second tie shoe. The rest of the fortnight continued in the same vein with some good results interspersed with a few disappointments, especially on the GPMG, but C/Sgt. Jones and Pte. Dickinson restored morale in that respect with a very creditable second in the GPMG pairs. The team ended up ninth in the Army Championship, but the high point for the team was to chair off Captain Domeisen after his final shot as the winner of the Queens Medal. He is the first Royal Anglian ever to win this distinction—and with a record score. Pte. Dickinson, twenty-fourth in the Army Hundred, became the Champion Young Soldier, which was a great performance. What a tremendous potential for the future we have.

Cpl. Todd also made the Army Hundred and Capt. Domeisen, 2Lt. Hare and WO2 Smith made the SMG 45. Subsequently both Capt. Domeisen and Cpl. Todd shot for the Army.

For the first time as a team the Battalion entered the Nationals representing the Queen's Division. In a very high scoring week Capt. Domeisen won the Queen Mary for the second time. As this is the equivalent of the Inter Services Championship, including teams from overseas, this rounded off a very remarkable year for him. Others shot well too: 2Lt. Hare came 14th and Cpl. Todd 21st. In the Service Rifle Championships five members of the team won Silver Jubilee Medals—Capt. Domeisen, Cpl. Todd, 2Lt. Hare, C/Sgt. Jones and WO.II Smith.

Next year we hope to do better as a team and training has already started. Meanwhile we look forward to our last trip to Norway and then some extensive conversion training before returning to Celle in August.

**1st Battalion Bisley team.  
Standing l to r: WO.II  
Smith, Cpl. Smith, Cpl.  
Cheong, Cpl. Todd, C/Sgt.  
Jones, Pte. Weaire. Sitting:  
Capt. Domeisen and Pte.  
Dickinson.**



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# THE POACHERS

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The Army's restructuring took the battalion out of 16th Parachute Brigade and into the 6th Field Force, the United Kingdom Mobile Force. The pace of life speeded up with an increase in the number of TEWTs and CPXs run by the new GOC, Lt.-Gen. Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley. In addition two large NATO exercises took place, the first in Denmark and the second on Salisbury Plain. Add to this an emergency tour in Belfast (March to June) and a Skill-at-Arms meeting plus the usual extras and you have little breathing space.

Before we arrived in Belfast in March we were honoured by a visit from Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief. After meeting some of the wives in the Sergeants' Mess, Her Royal Highness visited the companies on training. Starting with the Training Wing and progressing to 'C' Company in the gymnasium and 'B' Company on the square, Her Royal Highness went to the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess for drinks followed by luncheon in the Officers' Mess. The Regimental Secretaries from Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire, together with the Battalion's Deputy Colonel, Brigadier R. E. J. Gerrard-Wright, were also present.

'B' Company, amid much polishing of boots, exercised the Battalion's Freedom of North-



**Cpl. Boyd ('C' Company) discusses the political situation with some of the locals.**

ampton in traditional style. It proved to be an excellent time for reinforcing links and cementing friendships with members of the town. By a strange quirk of fate, the Mayor of Northampton had the same surname as the CO. This had apparently been the case when the Battalion last performed the ceremony.

After the parade the Mayor and the Council entertained all those on parade to lunch in the Guildhall while the Band played in honour of the Mayor and his councillors. After lunch the Mayor toasted the Regiment and General Dye replied.

## Northern Ireland

1977 officially began early on a bitterly cold morning on 4th January when the Commanding Officer and Adjutant flew to Belfast to carry out a recce. The remainder of the party moved at a more civilised hour to add the khaki beret to the sea of maroon berets belonging to 2nd Battalion The Parachute Regiment. Our task was to operate in the Springfield Road Tactical Area of Responsibility. Half of the battalion's area was a familiar stomping ground from the last tour, and many



**'Now, what about the handover/takeover certificate'—Maj. Pond surveys some of the real estate with Capt. Kinson.**

old faces, both friendly and unfriendly, were recognised. The Poachers were to assume responsibility for a much larger area than we had been allocated in 1975. This included the Lower Falls, Distillery, Divis, Clonard, Beechmount, Rodney/St. James, Westrock, Whiterock and the Ballymurphy. 'A' Company, under Major Martin Romilly, occupied Moyard with a responsibility for the Ballymurphy and Whiterock. 'B' Company, under Major Mike Boocock, occupied the dingy Lower Falls area with the additional responsibilities of the concrete conglomeration of Divis, and the newly built Distillery. 'C' Company, under Major Roger Howe, controlled the Beechmont, Rodney/St. James and Westrock areas, whilst Major Mike Chambers, Support Company, bottled up the Clonard and the Collins. In the middle of the area was Battalion Headquarters sited in the vulnerable Springfield Road Royal Ulster Constabulary Station, from where operations were directed by Colonel Charles Barnes and a bevy of operations operators and a covey of intelligence officers.

Whilst the commanders were engrossed in recces, the remainder of the battalion was slowly pulling itself together and making a determined effort to work off the excesses of the Christmas leave. A demanding schedule of fitness training and shooting was initiated, and the roads for miles around reverberated with the sound of pounding boots. The early morning bashes were identified by the sounds of wheezes exuding from a multitude of tortured lungs. By mid February the Northern Ireland training cycle culminated in Internal Security training at Lydd and Hythe prior to pre-tour leave.

The advance party arrived in Belfast on 11th



Cpl. Barnes, Ptes. Wells and Humphries proudly display part of 'C' Company's find of an Irish Republican Army hide in St. Kevins School.



'B' Company dealing with rioters from the Divis in Castle Street.

March after a sea crossing in a Force 9 gale. The main body also suffered the whims of the weather and were delayed by some eight hours, much to the irritation of 2nd Bn The Parachute Regiment and our advance party, the former because they were happy to leave and the latter because they were itching to take over.

The Poachers arrival coincided with an increase in Provisional I.R.A. activity in our area with eight shooting incidents. This included an RPG 7 rocket attack against a Gunner 'Pig' travelling through the area, two bombs and a number of bomb hoaxes and minor aggro on the Peace Line Interface, in Distillery and the Cuper Street area. 'A' Company experienced most of the attention by having three patrols shot at in Ballymurphy. 'B' and Support Companies had similar experiences but in all cases alert patrolling and poor terrorist marksmanship result in no Security Forces casualties. Swift action from 'C' Company extricated a Royal Ulster Constabulary mobile patrol when it was ambushed at the end of the Motorway. About twenty shots were fired from an armalite at the Royal Ulster Constabulary vehicle and the policemen were practically out of ammunition as 'C' Company arrived.

The first major find of the tour came in the early hours of 31st March as a large-scale search was mounted in New Barnsley. In a slick and rapidly mounted operation 'A' Company discovered an Ak 47 Russian Assault Rifle, a 9mm pistol and a considerable supply of medical stores. The rifle, in particular, caused a stir in the corridors of the Northern Ireland Office, as this weapon was the first of its kind to be discovered in Belfast.

The end of April found the Poachers half-way through their tour and as was expected the

increase in level of violence was maintained. The General Officer's Commanding policy, 'The Way Ahead', was firmly underway with the result that a greater degree of co-operation between the Army and the Royal Ulster Constabulary was noticeable; more so than had been experienced in other tours. The policy proved effective with combined Police and Army patrols operating in areas previously patrolled only by the Army. 'A' Company again took the brunt of the Provisional Irish Republican Army offensive in April and sustained two casualties. Corporal Nicholls was shot in the leg by a sniper in the Ballymurphy and Private Purchase received minor bruises and severe lacerations from a claymore mine which exploded a few feet from him. Partly as a result of these incidents several arrests were made and six people were charged for attempted murder and possession of arms. At the same time a local bar was searched in Ballymurphy and two shotguns, 95 rounds of ammunition and 84 pounds of explosives were unearthed. The Provisionals brought out an RPG7 for the second time in the tour and attempted to ambush the luckless Gunners on the Springfield Road. The attempt was a Public Relations disaster for the I.R.A. and a great shock for a sleeping 'paddy' who was thrown out of his bed as the rocket hit his house. The other companies had few drastic incidents in April but none the less were very active. 'C' Company were quickly to the scene after a bomb in the Beechmount killed a boy and injured several others. The situation was such that further violence could have developed had it not been for firm and rapid action. Bombs in the city centre and inter sectarian sniping occupied the majority of 'B' Company's time whilst Support Company directed their main efforts towards the Peace Line. Five rounds were fired at a Support Company landrover on the Falls Road and a member of the Royal Ulster Constabulary was fired at on the Springfield Road. At this time a further patrol was engaged in Iris Street but fortunately no casualties were sustained.

During April visitors as well as operations made the month a busy one. Whilst the visitors are too numerous to mention, it was good to see Major Robin Drummond, who was ostensibly following operational events to add further realism to his training programmes. Visitors ranged from the General Officer Commanding to Air Marshall Curtiss (Commandant of the Royal Air Force Staff College) and Lieutenant General J. Jarventos of the Finnish



The Lord Mayor of Leicester, Alderman Baker, chats with a fellow 'Tiger', Cpl. Trowell ('A' Company).

Army. If the reduction of the violence is not a sign that we are beating the Irish Republican Army then the increase in the number of visitors since the last tour must be a good indication.

In May came the Ulster Strike. A platoon from 'A' and 'B' Company were grouped under command of Captain Allan Deed of Support Company to be at forty minutes' notice to fly anywhere in the province. 'C' Company were ready to go into the petrol station business if required, but those Poachers with aspirations to be a crane operator, sewage attendant or lorry driver were disappointed with the ultimate failure of the strike.

May proved to be a particularly productive month with 'C' Company unearthing a Provisional hide in St. Kevins School which contained, amongst other weaponry, a Garrand and Springfield rifle. Later a Remington 30.06 was found in the Westrock. This period encompassed the Ulster Union Action Council Strike and the Northern Ireland council elections as well as the norm of attacks against the Security Forces. Lance Corporal Rose was unfortunately injured whilst patrolling the Royal Victoria Hospital when attacked by a gunman. Luckily as a result of his quick reactions and his build we are happy to report that he is on his feet and back with the battalion. Two off-duty members of the Ulster Defence Regiment were murdered in the Falls, and polling day proved eventful as 'A' and Support Companies quelled ad hoc riots in the Ballymurphy.

June was initially quiet but livened up as the locals got wind of the Poachers departure. An improvised explosive device in the Lower Falls directed at the Officer Commanding 'B' Company caught Private Foskett in the blast. After



being blown twenty-five feet he sustained minor wounds to his limbs and a perforated eardrum. He was later released from hospital. The month appeared to be dominated by the various I R A. factions attacking each other, much to the satisfaction of the Security Forces but dismay of the Royal Victoria Hospital. A diligent patrol of 'C' Company located an explosive device in Celtic Park as they were about to depart for England. It was promptly dealt with. The finale of the tour came when 'A' Company, after hours of careful searching, unearthed seven rifles and approximately 2,500 rounds of ammunition hidden in graves in the Belfast City Cemetery.

The battalion's fifth four-month tour in Northern Ireland and its fourth in the notorious and difficult area of the Lower Falls concluded at the end of June. The result in terms of attrition against the terrorist was most impressive. Forty-six persons were arrested and charged for crimes ranging from murder to attempted murder and possession of arms and explosives. Twenty-one weapons and four thousand rounds of ammunition were recovered during searches of 673 occupied houses, unoccupied houses and waste ground. Even better the battalion and the Royal Ulster Constabulary got a joint approach going that bodes well for the future policing of the Lower Falls.

The handover to 3rd Battalion The Light Infantry went smoothly and the battalion returned to the customary after-tour discos, dinner nights, sports days and administrative checks. A much welcome leave came in mid



The Chief of the Defence Staff, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Edward Ashmore, KCB, DSC, being briefed by Pte. Platten of 'A' Company.

July. Corporal Nicholls is back in uniform as the Regimental Information Team Sergeant at Bassingbourn and L/Cpl. Rose is working in the armoury.

The Wives' Club were as usual fully supported by the Families Officer, Stan Bullock. They maintained a full programme of outings, meetings, 'chicken and chips' events whilst maintaining the exchange of video tapes between Gillingham and Belfast. During the tour the ACC cooks won the Combined South East District and London District Catering Competitions whilst reaching the finals of the Army Competition. The team, under Staff Quartermaster Sergeant Eccles was Sergeant Irvine, Sergeant Jones, L/Cpl. Meekings and Pte. Cartmell.

In spite of the situation the officers of Tactical Headquarters celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee. From left to right: Capt. Chisnall, Capt. Greenfield, Capt. Thornton, Captain Barnes, Maj. Woodrow, Lt. Col. Barnes, Capt. Longland.



## Skill-at-Arms Camp

The battalion returned from leave in August and immediately re-organised onto the new 650 establishment. The only immediately noticeable change was the formation of Delta Company under the command of Captain Peter Holme and with WO.II Travis as Company Sergeant Major. The Company consists of the Recce, Assault Pioneers and Drums Platoons. By a strange coincidence Headquarters Berlin Brigade make this organisation mandatory so the battalion will not require further reorganisation when it moves to Berlin next year.

Skill-at-Arms took top priority in August. The battalion moved to Dibgate Camp, Folkestone, on Sunday 21st for two weeks shooting. The personal weapons tests were fired using the 'Maber' flow under a centralised battalion organisation. This resulted in all but ten people passing their personal weapon tests, including everyone from the Commanding Officer down firing and passing two alternative tests. We were informed by the Range Headquarters at Hythe that such a programme has been rarely attempted let alone successfully achieved. Sixteen per cent achieved marksmanship standard.

A Champion Company, platoon and section competition was run concurrently with the weapon tests with the scores of each individuals first classification shoot counting. The newly formed 'D' Company under Captain Holme came out winners after a close contest with 'A' and 'B' Companies. 4 Platoon under Second Lieutenant Webster won the platoon competi-



Sgt. Marrison (A' Company) is presented with a tankard by Mrs. Charles Barnes for being best SLR shot during the Infantry Skill at Arm Camp. Cpl. Gray (background) is obviously delighted at the result.

tion with 3 Platoon (Lieutenant Godkin) second and 1 Platoon (Lieutenant Gill) third. Number 1 section of the Assault Pioneer Platoon came first in the section competition with 1 section of 1 Platoon second and 1 section of Recce third.

4 Platoon under second Lieutenant Webster followed their earlier shooting success by winning the inter platoon challenge trophy at Lydd from 5 Platoon (Lieutenant Hawkins) and the Recce Platoon (Captain Holme). It was interesting to note that the winning Platoon was not only commanded by the most junior of officers but also had in Sergeant O'Driscoll a very recently promoted sergeant.

2Lt. Christopher Webster, Sgt. O'Driscoll and 4 Platoon, Champion Platoon at the Infantry Skill at Arms Camp in August.



In the other competitions The Tickle Trophy, a company team competition for the selected best shots in the rifle, General Purpose Machine Gun and Sub Machine Gun, was won by 'D' Company whilst the champion Self Loading Rifle shot was Sergeant Marrison of 'A' Company. He won in a close contest with Pte. Langley of Support Group. Both shot consistently well over the whole fortnight Cpl. Makin of Support Group won the best Sub Machine Gun shot.

Whilst at Hythe the battalion came into contact with the Suffolk Amy Cadet Force who were enjoying two weeks in St. Martins Plain Camp. The Regimental Sergeant Major laid on a morning's demonstration of infantry weapons for an enthusiastic audience. Several former members of the Regiment were there, notably Colonel Peter Badger (whose son Lieutenant Simon Badger is serving in the battalion), WO.I James and Colour Sergeant Plaice.

#### Denmark

After a short break the Poachers returned to Gillingham to prepare for Exercise Arrow Express; a 6 Field Force Field Training Exercise in Denmark. The departure for Arrow Express began in mid-September in a series of 'packers', by air and sea supplemented by lengthy 4-ton and coach journeys. The destination for the Poachers was a campsite close to the Kelvehave bridge which joins the islands of Zealand and Mon. The advance party, under Captains Greenfield and Kinson, worked energetically to ensure that the problems experienced in other camps during wet weather were minimised.



WO.II Alnsworth expands on the virtues of the Landing Ship Logistic to 'B' Company.



The Second-in-Command, Maj Woodrow, briefs Brigadier Gray, Commander of 6 Field Force, on exercise Arrow Express as Battalion Headquarters buzzes with activity.

From the time of the battalion's arrival to the start of the Exercise companies were engaged in helicopter training, recces of the local area and renewing old acquaintances with members of 1 R Anglian (the enemy!). The helicopter training was particularly welcome as the battalion was able to practice the movement of support weapons as well as polishing up company enplanement drills.

Exercise Arrow Express began on 16th September with 1st Battalion The Parachute Regiment dropping on the island of Mon to secure the Kalvehave bridge. This was followed by a helicopter assault (led by 'A' Company) and simulated seaborne landing to secure a bridgehead to the South of Mon. In darkness the remainder of the battalion flew in to advance on foot to relieve The Parachute Regiment and advance north of the bridge. It was not until the following day that the enemy were encountered in any strength as 'A', 'B' and 'D' Companies secured a series of objectives. Whilst this was happening 'C' Company completed a river crossing and penetrated deep into enemy territory. The following day the remainder of the battalion were lifted by helicopter to join 'C' Company. The Ace Mobile Force (Land) counter attacked and the Poachers withdrew to a defensive position to the east of the island.

The finale of the exercise came when 1 R Anglian clashed with the Poachers and the Danish Bornholme Battle Group in their defensive positions. By some keen intelligence gathering 1 R Anglian Battalion Headquarters was located and assaulted in swash-buckling fashion by a coup de main force led by the

Regimental Sergeant Major in a Puma helicopter. The helibourne attack came as the United Kingdom Mobile Force headquarters were umpired out and opportunism took over from the exercise narrative. The Commanding Officer left it just late enough to prevent retaliation and the end came as he passed a light-hearted critique of our 1st Battalion's performance to its Commanding Officer over the radio. This had by now become a joint Regimental frequency!

After the exercises the remaining days in Denmark were spent sampling the attractions of Copenhagen and relaxing prior to our departure for Gillingham and 'A' and 'B' Companies previous engagements as demonstration troops at Sandhurst and 'C' Company's adventure training at Glencoe.

In November we took part in Exercise Avon Express as part of Orange Force. Our job was to provide a controlled enemy for the Southern component of the Ace Mobile Force (Land). On the morning of 21st November 'A' Company under Major Romilly carried out a coup de main operation to capture a bridge over the river Avon. The bridgehead was then secured for the breakout by 'B' and 'C' Companies accompanied by a squadron of tanks. Later a host of visiting Generals and Staff Officers descended on Major Howe and 'C' Company who by this time had withdrawn into a defensive position to fight off an Ace Mobile Force (Land) counter attack.

The year ended with the battalion posted to go anywhere as the United Kingdom Spearhead battalion.



**Ptes. Watt and Powell ('C' Company) prepare for all eventualities on exercise Arrow Express.**

#### **Personalities**

In November we said farewell to Lieutenant Colonel Charles Barnes, who left us to instruct at the Staff College. The Poachers wish him well and thank both the Commanding Officer and his wife Myrtie for all they have done for the battalion. In the same breath the Poachers welcome Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Stone and his wife Christine to the battalion. They will take us to Berlin and who knows where after that!

Turbulence never abates and at the end of 1977 the battalion lost more than the usual



**Pte. Follows receives medical attention from Sgt. Brown and Pte. Hoyles after a skirmish in Denmark.**



**If I can put on cam creme, you can! The Commanding Officer's vehicle manned by Sgt. Waqairoba and L/Cpl. Taylor.**

number of officers. Captain Holme is now Aide-de-Camp to the General Officer Commanding Northern Ireland, Captain Chisnall an instructor at Warminster, Lieutenant Pearce an instructor at Brecon, Captain Barnes is Adjutant of 5th (V) Battalion, Captain Wildridge an instructor at the Royal Marines Training Centre, Lieutenant Harrold left to go to the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion at Shornecliffe and Captain Stan Bullock to be Quartermaster of 7th (V) Battalion. The Sergeants' Mess has suffered less. However, Company Sergeant Major Ainsworth has left 'B' Company for London University, Company Sergeant Major Norton has left Headquarter Company for the Depot and Company Sergeant

Major O'Hara has left Support Group for the 7th Battalion. The latter has been with this battalion on all its five tours in Northern Ireland, commanding a platoon on three of the tours. His expertise will be missed.

Talking of Northern Ireland. With the tour in Berlin to come it will be at least three and a half years before the battalion returns. It is perhaps worth mentioning that in the five tours the battalion has been awarded a total of 25 operational awards. Three OBEs, one DCM, three MBEs for gallantry, one MBE for meritorious service, two MMs, two BEMs for gallantry, eight MIDs and six General Officer Commanding Commendations. A great record of service to take to Berlin.



**Captain Peter Holme, Company Sergeant Major Travis and 'D' Company, Champion Company at the Infantry Skill at Arms Camp in August**

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# Pompadours

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The year has been busy in Cyprus. Somehow we only just manage to meet all the various commitments in which we find ourselves involved. Operationally we cast a broad net. There's Troodos about 6000ft up in the clouds . . . Ayios Nikolaious, near Famagusta . . . and our own cantonment of Episkopi. Training takes us to Pyla Ranges, which are the other side of Larnaca Bay; and we go as far north as one can go these days . . . Akamas . . . a forgotten peninsular of Cyprus, not far from Turkey!

In the world of sport the battalion is to be found doing most things. There are those who jump out of airplanes (ask Major Wright) and those who scabble around at the bottom of the sea (ask Lieutenant Brehaut). The Commanding Officer is now an accomplished equestrian (at the behest of Captain Lacey). And the golf course and the kart track both have their own special breed of supporters.

The summer was L . . . O . . . N . . . G and HO! Chilly UK is a bleak prospect for the beginning of 1978.

But what of 1977?

## New Year visit

Her Majesty's Minister of Defence, Mr Fred Mulley, accompanied by his wife and an impressive entourage, visited the battalion on 5th January. After the Commanding Officer's briefing, Mr Mulley visited a large static display comprehensively depicting the Battalion's operational roles and responsibilities. He was suitably impressed by the diversity of elaborate equipments and the technical expertise needed to operate it all.

## Malta GC

After twelve months in Cyprus, the battalion was rewarded with a brief sojourn in Malta. Exercise Turnabout began on 11th January with one rifle company at a time, accompanied by elements from Support, Command and Admin Companies, rotating every fortnight



**Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mulley being greeted by the Commanding Officer on their arrival at Salamanca Barracks.**

with their opposites from 41 Commando based in Malta. 'A' Company and the Anti-Tank platoon were the first to go. 'B' Company and the Recce changed over with them on 25th January, and on 8th February 'C' Company and the Mortars flew out to RAF Luqa.

Accommodation was at Ghajn Tuffieha Barracks just north of Golden Bay. Much use was made of the ranges to improve the overall standard of shooting, and minor exercises at Hal Far airfield were popular . . . deployment was by helicopters and naval patrol craft.

41 Cdo were most helpful. Their assistance during rock climbing, survival lessons and familiarisation with Gemini assault boats and Gazelle helicopters was invaluable. Visits to historic Valetta, medieval Rabat, and the walled city of Medina, soon brought each Company's fortnight to an end. On 22nd February the 'C' Company detachment, in their VC 10s, returned to Cyprus bringing to an end the battalion's Maltese Connection.



**Cpl. Cousins and a Maltese Gazelle.**

February brought Shoot to Kill into everyone's vocabulary. Captain Tim Otter and his Training Wing laid on a number of informative presentations and cadres designed to give that initial impetus to the whole Personal Weapon Concept.

Meanwhile, up in Troodos—6000ft above sea level—Captain John Walsh and Lieutenant Graham Duthoit were master-minding the Military Ski Centre. For a long time there was no snow! Nevertheless, this did not prevent a comradely 'spirit' being engendered amongst the instructors.

#### **Exercise "Booted Eagle"**

The spring brought with it Exercise Booted Eagle. It was a joint services CRW exercise held in the Republic, south of Paphos. Initial deployments took place on 5th March—a date which resuscitated General Winter. Temperatures plummeted. High winds and driving rain made conditions difficult. On ground above 3000ft, snow settled and froze. Helicopters and vehicles found the going treacherous.

The enemy was from 1 Para supplemented



**Mrs. Rathzel and Colin Groves at the Skill at Arms meeting.**

by our own Anti-Tank platoon. Under command was 34 Squadron RAF Regiment and 'C' Squadron 15/19 Hussars; also a few helicopters. Umpires flew out from the UK . . . and a sprinkling of Gunners ran a ghost 'gunner net' which added another dimension of realism to the exercise.

Veterans of the UN Tour (69-70) wallowed in long lost memories as sub-units staged through Mandria, Stavrokono, Souskiou, Kithasi and other Turkish villages; all now sadly abandoned as a result of the '74 war.

It was all over by 13th March. We all learned was that Cyprus, sometimes, can be bitterly cold!

The battalion Skill-at-Arms meeting took place on 19th-20th April at Akrotiri. Weather conditions were well nigh perfect, and at the end of the meeting, that intrepid armourer S/Sgt. Appleby, REME, proved to be our champion shot. 'B' Company did well throughout, and after a series of hard fought Falling Plates Matches, rightly emerged as champion shooting company.



**CSM Dear of 'B' Company collecting the Champion Shooting Company's Cup from the Commanding Officer.**



**Summer in Cyprus . . . and the ever present threat of fire. L/Cpls. Cooper and Dale with Ptes. Stock and Vorster . . . controlling a blaze in the SBA.**

But as the weather grew hotter, so the attendant risk of fire began to manifest itself more and more. As the resident battalion in Episkopi we are on call throughout the summer to assist the local fire brigade in their constant struggle against 'bondu fires'. This summer there was the usual batch of giant conflagrations. One simultaneously threatened the dry ski slope at Episkopi and the married quarters belonging to the SBA police station. The advancing flames were finally halted just twenty metres from the buildings. During this blaze virtually every man in the battalion was involved in one way or another. Who would have guessed they would be fire fighting in down-town swinging England!

#### **The Queen's Jubilee**

The highlight of the celebrations was the joint services' parade held on 3rd June amidst

the lush greenery of Happy Valley. In the glorious sunshine of the late afternoon, the assembled parade, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel W. T. Dodd, paid tribute to Her Majesty with a 21 gun Royal salute booming in from HMS Mohawk at anchor in the bay, and a Feu de Joie from those on parade echoing round the high cliffs of the valley. The Royal Air Force fly-past included helicopters and a Nimrod escorted by three Canberras. On parade were guards from 'A' and Support Companies with Major Pat Shervington and Captain Phillip Seccombe out in front. The Band and Drums, in company with those of the Royal Irish Fusiliers and the Central Band of The Royal Air Force were magnificent. So was Lieutenant Simon Bacon, who must be one of the smallest Ensigns ever to carry the Queen's Colour. But so very, very smart.

After the Royal Salute the Parade marched past the Administrator and Commander British Forces Cyprus, Air Vice Marshal R. D. Austen-Smith. Naturally the 15/19 Hussars drove past in very good order.

That evening the Warrant Officers and Sergeants organised a magnificent Jubilee Ball. This extravaganza, under the Presidency of WO.II Stannard, concluded with a champagne breakfast in broad daylight the following morning.

The battalion received its quota of Jubilee Medals, and we were delighted to see that Sergeant Luckman of the Assault Pioneers was awarded the British Empire Medal in the Jubilee Honours List.

**The Commanding Officer at the head of the March Past during the Queen's Jubilee Parade at Happy Valley.**







**Maj. Gen. Timothy Creasey talks to Sgt. Dorritt of the Recce.**

### **Inter Platoon battle tests**

On the training front, the battalion concentrated on shooting and other basic skills. This all culminated in the Inter Platoon Competition which was held from 11th-15th July, during one of the hottest weeks on record. This year the emphasis was on battle efficiency and sound all round fitness. After an initial inspection and move by vehicles which resulted in the platoons being ambushed. Then followed a gruelling 11km forced march across difficult country in oppressive temperatures in excess of 100°F. Soldiers carried 60-80lbs of kit and equipment, and water was at a premium.

During the Defence Phase, platoons mounted night ambushes against vehicle borne enemy mortar detachments. At dawn an Advance to Contact near Sterakovou, preceded a 4 mile speed march which ended on the ranges at Akrotiri. It was during these tactical phases that the Director of Infantry, Major General Timothy Creasey, visited the battalion and witnessed several of the platoons in action.

Needless to say, the competition included the



**Well done the Mortar WO.II Tunstall and Cpl. Wyatt during the Platoon Battle Test Speed March.**



**High Noon starring Cpl. Barnsdale of 'C' Company.**

### **3 Platoon in full spate.**





**A Recce Section during the Platoon Battle Tests.**

inevitable assault course race. At Evdhimou beach a novel aquatic race using assault boats in a battle handling environment created an exciting finale to a very hard and testing week.

Third place was awarded to the Recce Platoon, commanded by Lieutenant Graham Duthoit. Second was 4 Platoon with S/Sgt. Nat Adey in command. The winners were 5 Platoon, commanded by Second Lieutenant Paul Currell.

### **Exercise Dry Stone**

August was relatively quiet until its final the field for Exercise Dry Stone . . . a Defence week when the battalion once again entered exercise. The opposition was provided by Support Company 6 Gurkha Rifles and our own Support Company under Major Andrew Duff. The battalion advanced from Akrotiri to the extreme western boundary of the SBA before digging in. It was a long, hot march of about 40km over barren, rocky country. Once again temperatures were up in the hundreds and there was little or no shade. Broken picks and shovels, blistered hands and a scorching sun made the defensive position a tough, back-breaking task. Mines and barbed wire, mechanical digging tools were all ferried up by helicopters belonging to 84 Squadron. It was an arduous exercise and by its end we were all looking forward to the long weekend that was ours at the end of August.



**L/Cpl. Anderson . . . the Pompadours answer to Evel Kneivel . . . during the PT display at the Salamanca Day celebrations.**



**L/Cpl. Eke hovering — just off Malta.**

## Curium

Formation Whistling—an esoteric pastime here in Cyprus—holds little attraction for Mr Watts, the Bandmaster. To prove that Bands play better than Whistlers, Mr Watts arranged, in conjunction with every available Irish musician, a spectacular band concert in the time-worn ruins of Curium. For those not used to the sight of massed bands playing under the stars in an ancient amphitheatre, the effect, both visual and aural, was one of excitement and magic. That evening on 14th September was a night to remember. Especially with the brilliant singing of Catherine Watts and the heroic renditions by Captain Bill Gordon. Who can forget his 'Rose of England'?

## The 650 Battalion

Late September heralded the advent of the 650 Battalion. Its inauguration on 23rd September brought about the demise of Command and Admin Companies and the re-creation of the old and much loved HQ Company. Major Humphrey Bradshaw is the resplendent officer commanding (when he is not winning an Oscar as Lord Brockenhurst in 'The Boy Friend').

## Victories

The soccer season has got off to a good start with the battalion winning the Carter Cup at RAF Akrotiri. This is a knock-out competition, played in the evenings under floodlight. The RSM, WO.I McDonnell, was well pleased with the result, especially as he is now the Football Officer!

October is Walkabout Time. As usual the battalion was responsible for the organisation and administration of this major orienteering competition. The controller, overall, was the Second in Command, Major Trevor Veitch. The start and finish, checkpoints, medical cover, and search and rescue were but a few of the cornerstones on which the success of this competition depends.



The Band at the Nicosia Festival of Arts.

The actual race was on 13th-14th October and once again the battalion clinched victory. Running magnificently, Corporals Andy Twell and Jim Devaney, with Private Jamie James, outclassed all opposition to take victory for the second successive year. A feat unequalled by any other unit.

## Swan song

November is an Indian summer. Although dispersed all over the island . . . the battalion is now rapidly being overshadowed by the move to Northern Ireland, via Bulford. MFO boxes are beginning to appear and the usual plethora of preliminary inspections prior to the march-out are coming into evidence. Aircraft manifests are being made out and the departure from Cyprus is almost upon us. It seems inconceivable that two years have passed by since we first arrived. Tempus fugit!

In December Exercise Golden Barque takes the battalion to Akamas for the last time. There we shall be searching for those elusive dissidents who work so hard to make life difficult for us. Golden Barque will be the battalion's swan song in Cyprus. Bulford will be the next challenge.

Come next March . . . Cyprus will just be a memory in the sun. A fond memory at that.

Beating Retreat at Nicosia during Jubilee Celebrations.



# 5th (Volunteer) Battalion

The past year has seen many changes within the Battalion. Lieutenant Colonel John Tadman handed over command on the 20th October to Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Swallow. Colonel John was dined out at Peterborough and presented with a carriage clock by the officers. The dinner took place the same weekend as the Audit Board, an occurrence when everyone asks many questions about everyone's account except his own. Other changes during the year included the departure of Major Peter King, who formerly commanded 5 Company, and Lt. Nick Halsey, who commanded the Hemel Hempstead Platoon. Congratulations to Colin Albany on his promotion to Major and taking command of 5 Company. Officers joining the Battalion include Captain Mike Mercer, formerly 6/7 Queens, and Second Lieutenant Graham Whiting, both to 5 Company. Congratulations to the following who have been commissioned: Les Halliday as QM2, Keith Swetman, Charles Thomas, Bob Reeves and John Lopez. Finally, we welcome Major John Wooddisse as Training Major, who joined us in January from the Ministry of Defence and who took over from Major Brian Cridland.

Our recruiting campaign early in the year produced such a large number of recruits that the Battalion had to run its own cadre at Stanford. The forty-seven-strong cadre was extremely well organised by RSM Beckett, who quietly admits that this period of command has been the most enjoyable fortnight of his tour. During the middle weekend the Colonel of the Regiment visited the cadre and saw the training in full swing. On the final Saturday Colonel A. I. S. Makin, TAVR Colonel South, was the Inspecting Officer for the passing-out parade.

Private Bill Jones and Corporal Alan Bunn, 2 Company, organised an interesting musical evening at Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln, entitled a 'Pageant of Military Music'. This portrayed the development of military bands and music through the last two hundred years. There was a large audience and the Pageant was a great credit to the two producers.

Following the Battalion Orienteering competition at Thetford Chase, which was won by 5 Company, the Battalion entered teams from all Companies less one in the Eastern District Orienteering Championships at Cromer on Saturday, 5th March. In the TAVR Minor Units Competition we gained five team places out of the first seven, including the winner. In addition, Lieutenant Andrew Alexander qualified to enter the Army Senior Championships.

On Saturday, 12th March, our Annual Fitness for Role Inspection took place at Stanford with the Brigadier Nottingham, Brigadier D. M. Stileman as the Inspecting Officer. Providence was with us in providing glorious weather, and during his tour Brigadier Stileman himself drove around the MT Platoon Cross Country Circuit, visited a tactically sited Regimental Aid Post, saw 5 Company perform on the assault course and 4 Company occupying a defensive position. He was apparently well pleased by all he saw.

On Saturday, 19th March, the Earl of Stradbroke, Lord Lieutenant for the County of Suffolk, officially laid the foundation stone of 1 Company's new Drill Hall at Ipswich. The brief but well executed and impressive parade, for which 1 Company provided a colour party and a half guard, with the Band accompanying, was followed by a buffet luncheon.

On the evening of Saturday, 26th March, an Officers' Guest Night was held by 2 Company at Lincoln, with a large attendance of guests from the Regular Army and RAF Stations in Lincolnshire among others. The following day the Band and Corps of Drums performed at a Cathedral Service and Parade at Ely, when the Freedom of the City was granted to D Company of the 6th (V) Battalion.

On 1st April the Battalion celebrated its 10th Anniversary and to mark the event a Ladies' Guest Night was held at the Queens Division Depot. The occasion was graced by the attendance of HRH The Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief. There was an impressive list of other guests, including

Major General J. B. Dye, Colonel of the Regiment, Major General D. J. St. M. Tabor, GOC Eastern District, our Deputy Honorary Colonels, former Commanding Officers and Company Commanders. The TAVR Colonels and representatives from both TAVRAs were also present, and ninety-six in all sat down to dinner. The following evening at Peterborough, RSM Beckett and his mess members held an Anniversary Ball. Practically all the officers, warrant officers, sergeants and their wives attended this exceptionally well organised, colourful and memorable occasion. We hope that it will not be ten years before there are two other such events.

In April and May the Battalion concentrated for major exercises at Stanford. On the first of these our enemy included a platoon of the 3rd Battalion, and the US 6th Infantry from Berlin, who played a truly professional and enthusiastic part. They were equipped with detection devices that made our job of filtration at night very difficult. After the exercise had been in progress for a few hours, one Company Commander, when given his orders for the next stage—a withdrawal—replied in words something like this: 'My men haven't arrived on this position yet, I had better stop them where they are and pick them up on the way back'.

On the 14th May we took part in the Eastern District Small Arms Meeting at Colchester, 5 Company winning the TAVR Minor Units Trophy, the Rifle match, the GPMG match and



Eastern District Skill at Arms Meeting, Colchester 14th-15th May, 1977. HQ Company team receiving their prizes from the GOC as winners of the Section Match. Right to left: Capt. M. Milne, Sgt. Binley, Cpl. Parkinson, L/Cpl. Dean and Pte. Hardy.

Best Pair, and the SMG match. HQ Company won the Section match and individual winners included Second Lieutenant Swetman, the Pistol and Best Officer, Sergeant Binley, the SMG, Private Hornett, Best Private/Corporal, and Private Blatch, Best Young Soldier.

We congratulate Colonel J. Tadman, Major J. W. Hayton, Company Sergeant Major Burgess, Sergeant Wilcox, and Mr. G. D. Etchell, employed by TAVRA 2 Company, Lincoln, who received Silver Jubilee Medals.

During the last week in May and first week in June the Battalion camped at Sennybridge, in

Lt. Col. John Tadman taking his official farewell of Capt. Garv R. Banware, Commander Company 'B' 2/108 Infantry Division, New York State National Guard.





**A photograph which illustrates the contrasting arms and combat kit of one of our riflemen and his National Guard counterpart.**

Wales. For many members it was back to familiar ground, despite the claim of 'never again' after the camp in 1972. This year camp was different: we had 157 officers and men of Company B, 2nd 108 Infantry, 42 Infantry Division of the United States National Guard, from New York State, attached to us for both weeks. We were also pleased to have three officers from the 193 Panzergrenadier Battalion, from Munster, West Germany. For the first week an American platoon was attached to each four Rifle Companies, and during the second week, after spending two days 'rest and recuperation' in London, including Jubilee Day, Company B trained on their own and took part in our final Battalion exercise. The German officers were also attached to separate Companies which began to resemble those of a United Nations Force. Training this year was at Company level, including field firing. Companies planned their own exercises, with the Battalion exercise as a grand finale. Everyone enjoyed this multi-national fortnight, and even though each nationality had its own way of doing things, the end results were much the same. At the end of Camp numerous presentations were made and we are now the proud owners of a superb 'Bowie' knife and a painting of 'The First Wave at Omaha', which is one of the National Guard Heritage paintings. Her Majesty's Silver Jubilee Day was celebrated by a Drum Head Service during the morning, a moving occasion despite the gloomy weather. Afterwards the officers were invited to the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess for drinks before both Messes combined to serve the Junior Ranks Jubilee Dinner.

The Battalion again entered a team for the TARA Central Meeting and NRA Service Rifle Championships at Bisley. The team was captained by Second Lieutenant Swetman and coached by Sergeant Denny, PSI 1 Company. They spent two weeks of intensive training at Tidworth prior to the meeting, where the 1st Battalion very kindly accommodated them. The team was placed 11th equal out of 68 entries in the TAVR Unit Championships (Dragon Trophy). Private Blatch (HQ Company) was placed third in the Young Soldier Competition and Private Hornett (5 Company) was ninth in the TARA Jubilee Medal Competition.

Twelve soldiers from the Battalion formed part of the Eastern District contingent at the Review of the Reserve and Cadet Forces at Wembley on 30th July. The Colours were on parade, the Colour Party consisting of Lieutenant Martin Mee, Second Lieutenant Bob West, Company Sergeant Major Deacon, Colour Sergeant Lee and Sergeant Hemsall. It was a most impressive occasion and will be remembered for many years by those who took part.

This year for the first time the Battalion entered a team for the Nijmegen Marches. The team from 5 Company was coached by Sergeant Major Gorbould and successfully completed the 100-mile course over the four days 18th-21st July.

All Companies, accompanied by the Band and Corps of Drums, took part in Silver Jubilee Parades in their various county towns and cities, and on the 12th July, 5 Company provided a Guard of Honour for the visit of HRH Princess Margaret to Hertford.



**Part of a combined 4 Company/Company 'B' Section during the Battalion Fire Power Demonstration.**



Lt. Bill O'Connor, Battalion Anti Tank Officer, demonstrating a prepared defensive position to some of our distinguished guests on Visitors' Day.

The Band spent a week at the Depot Royal Artillery, Woolwich, for their annual camp, which they thoroughly enjoyed. They were much indebted to the Gunners for the way in which they were allowed to become involved in many aspects of Depot life. On most mornings they took part in the recruits passing-out parade rehearsals on the impressive Woolwich forecourt.

The Battalion Skill-at-Arms Meeting was held at Beckingham on Sunday, 28th August. This was, fortunately, one of the few real summer days of the month, which contributed to a pleasant and successful occasion. The Inter-Company Championship was won by 5 Company, with 2 and 3 Companies equal runners-up. Private Nelson, of 4 Company, won the Battalion Championship Shot Award.

At the Eastern District Northern Skill-at-Arms Meeting two weeks later, 5 Company won the TAVR Unit Championship and were the winners of the GPMG match. 1 Company won the SMG match.

In late September, 3 (Essex) Company took part in the Marches Internationales du Val-de-Marne, an annual event to commemorate the freedom of Paris in 1944, which takes place on the outskirts of the city, and only once before has a TAVR unit taken part. The Company entered two teams of fifteen men and paid their own travel costs. All less one man successfully completed the thirty kilometers, assisted round the course by free drinks which the International Red Cross supplied. The weekend included a conducted tour of Paris and the participants, having left Chelmsford at 5 a.m. on Saturday, 24th September, returned 4 a.m. on

Monday, 26th, after an exhausting but enviable international experience. Apart from individual medals and a shield, 3 Company won an award for their turnout and bearing on the march past.

A total of twenty eight all ranks, including the Second in Command and Regimental Sergeant Major, were attached to the 2nd Battalion for Exercise Arrow Express in Denmark from 12th to 28th September. The arrangement was of great mutual benefit and we hope that this form of support to the Regular Battalions will become a regular feature of our training year.

On the 1st April, 1978, one year after celebrating the tenth anniversary of our formation, major changes are imminent. With the re-rolling of the 7th Battalion, we lose 2 Company (Lincoln) and 4 Company (Leicester) to the 7th Battalion and gain their Wellingborough Company, who became 2 Company (Northamptonshire). We are naturally disappointed in losing our Northern Counties (Lincolnshire and Leicestershire), but the effect will be that both Battalions' areas are relatively more compact.



Cpl. McIsaac and L/Cpl. Selwood of the Corps of Drums sounding the evening call during annual camp at Sennybridge.

# 6th (Volunteer) Battalion

Jubilee Year has been a very full and satisfying year for the Battalion. January was only a few days old when the overseas Exercise 'Copper Beech' swung into action. The Battalion furnished a composite Company drawn from throughout the Battalion area to relieve a Company of the 2nd Battalion Royal Green Jackets in Gibraltar. Under command of Major Ron James (Bedford), the Company undertook Border Guard duties in country very dissimilar to our usual 'home' ground of Stanford PTA. For two weeks we were fully employed training, including some spectacular abseiling and performing duties on the frontier. We were also able to lend some hefty assistance to a civil project by clearing ground of trees to such an effect that the emergency services on the 'Rock' were alerted twice! Despite the very full programme, some managed a day of sightseeing in Morocco and survived the experience quite well. All in all, it was a most successful exercise and we were pleased to have been asked to take over a Regular Battalion's task, and by all accounts, to have met the requirements.

At the end of March the Battalion paraded at Ely for a most impressive ceremony within the Cathedral, when the Freedom of the City of Ely was conferred upon 'D' (Cambridgeshire) Company. The Company Commander—Major Dennis Haslam—marched the parade in pouring rain past the Mayor of Ely and the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire. We were fortunate in having the Band of the 5th Battalion on parade for the march and to play at the reception after, together with the Band of the 1st Battalion. The Colonel of the Regiment and Mrs. Dye were guests of the Mayor.

In April the Pompadour Detachment at Braintree, in Essex, started in business once more as 'C' (Essex) Company. They are under 'starter's orders' to provide a full Company by 1st April, 1978, when again we shall be a 'four' Company Battalion. It bodes well for their success that many of those in the original Company soldiered on after the reorganisation as the Pompadour Detachment, demonstrating the Pompadours don't easily give up.



'Who's a lucky boy?' Cpl. Bill Christy in the QM's store greeting another recruit.  
Photo: Bury Free Press.

## Camp at Warcop

Jubilee Week saw us in Camp at Warcop; on Jubilee Day the Battalion Sports Meeting was preceded by a Pimm's Party in the Officers' Mess for the Sergeants, which might have been responsible for some of the more outstanding performances, but arguably might have acted as a constraint in some of the events. In any event, the Sports Day was reckoned a success.

Sgt. Mick North and Major Dennis Haslam received the award of the Jubilee Medal at a Battalion parade at Camp. Sgt. North from 'C' Company has many years' service in the Territorials, going back to the days of the 4th, 5th Battalion The Essex Regiment (TA), whilst Major Haslam took many years in the Gunners and the Sappers before realising the greater attraction of the Infantry.



The excellent field firing facilities were used to the full and Major John Robinette, our Training Major, managed to arrange an impressive helicopter-borne exercise which covered Warcop and Catterick areas. A conspiracy of silence in 'B' Company resulted in the Company Commander being the only person not informed that on return to Warcop the helicopter would hover rather than land, which enabled observers to witness Ron James attempting to endow the characteristics of a wounded buffalo with the grace of the corps de ballet. Unfortunately, no cameras were to hand.

It was a very good Camp; the cookhouse prospered under Staff Sgt. Skipper, who earlier in the year, with Private Derek Snelling won first prize in the Eastern District Catering Competition against all comers. This is the third time that 'Skip' has pulled it off. Well done.

The Deputy Commander of Eastern District visited us on 9th June for a fleeting FFR Inspection, but seemed well pleased with what he saw. On Friday, 10th June, our Visitors' Day brought the Deputy Chairman of East Anglian TAVRA, Colonel K. Lomas, with the Secretary, Colonel W. Pakenham-Walsh, and the Vice-Chairman of the Cambridgeshire TAVRA, Major R. A. Shervington, who was particularly welcomed by his old Company, 'D' Company. The Honorary Colonels of 'A', 'B' and 'C' Companies, together with our TA Colonel (South)—Colonel A. I. S. Makin—also made the long journey north to see us, and we were glad to welcome all our visitors whose interest



'Does he know what he's doing?' MO Capt. Hornett and Sgt. Pete Garford, RAMC, reluctantly pose for publicity. Photo: Bury Free Press.

in our affairs and continuing support was borne out by the long distances they are prepared to travel to see us.

The really bad weather held itself in reserve for exercise 'Range Rover', but everybody was kept very busy with ambushes and fighting patrols which left us all a bit wet and very tired.



Cpl. Danny Frodsham initiating recruits on our Signals equipment in the new TAVR Centre. Photo: Bury Free Press.



Our Armourer, Cpl. Richard Ashley at work in his new quarters. Photo: Bury Free Press.

The Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier Dick Randall, spent a day with us during the second week, and by all accounts thoroughly enjoyed himself. 'A' (Royal Norfolk) Company managed the fastest time over the assault course on the final day and won the Commanding Officer's Competition.

We had thirtyfour recruits at camp, who were worked very hard for the fortnight under the Chief Instructor for the Cadre, RSM David Spalding. It seems they thoroughly enjoyed it and emerged ready to build on the knowledge they gained by being active and useful members of their Companies.

On the last day we utilised the service of the Chief Drill Instructor, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, who had moved into Warcop, in an effort to co-ordinate the officers' drill. It must have been quite a picture, and was certainly enjoyed by those who took part, who were understandably pleased to have survived and to have received a reasonably complimentary comment at the end.

The main event in July was the Royal Guard of Honour which the Battalion provided at Norwich County Hall on Monday, 11th July, on the occasion of the visit of Her Majesty the Queen to the county. Much hard work was put in by all who took part during the Saturday and Sunday before the great day RSM David Spalding may feel satisfaction that his thorough preparation throughout those two days of con-

centrated rehearsal produced a parade which attracted much favourable comment from important quarters. It was a grand occasion for Norfolk, and the Queen's Colour of the old 4th Battalion Royal Norfolk Regiment (TA) was the focal point of the Guard, borne appropriately by Lt. Colin Palmer and escorted by Sgt. Colin Sadd and Sgt. Tony Ground, all from 'A' (Royal Norfolk) Company.

But it was also a grand Battalion occasion in every sense, for Companies had responded well in support of the Norfolk Company and there were volunteers from as far away as Wisbech, Cambridge, Bedford and Braintree, providing the necessary numbers for us to put on a worthy show. To emphasise the 'Battalion' approach, it will have been noticed that the splendid Colour Belt worn by the Ensign was that of the Suffolk/Cambridgeshire Regiment (TA).

The fact that the parade was on a Monday presented problems for Volunteer soldiers; the Subaltern of the Guard, Lt. John Davidson, forsook his rolling acres and his wellington boots, whilst Major David James escaped from the rarified atmosphere of the Stamp Auction Room to take part in the parade. The story is similar for all the Volunteers involved, who rightly felt it was an honour which the Battalion was proud to have, and one which they would ensure was done properly. They did.

Unsung in the background, seeing to the admin and the all-important feeding, were the

**Her Majesty The Queen  
inspecting the Guard of  
Honour at Norwich escorted  
by Maj. David James and  
GOC Eastern District . . .  
Maj. Gen. D. J. St. M.  
Tabor, CB, MC.**





**'Royal Saluta' Lt. Colin Palmer (Colour Ensign).**

QM Major Danny Bebbington, Sgt. Pete Brown and Colour Sgt. Brian Bear of 'A' Company, with Staff Sgt. 'Skip' Skipper, supported by his cooks, ensuring everyone was well fed and unlikely to fail through lack of nourishment. Their final triumph was the provision of lunch for the soldiers and their families on the day of the parade.

On the same weekend a team of ten represented the Battalion at Bisley. Only three of them had done any competition shooting before, and although there were no prizes, they acquitted themselves well. In spite of having to fire without a full team at one stage, the scores in each competition were higher than those of our team last year. Best results were sixth out of 49 in the China Cup (Section Match), and Pte. Ian Porter, 'B' Company, was seventh in the ETR Individual Match. Training was car-

ried out under Staff Sgt. 'Hughie' Wilkins. In spite of the Battalion non-gliadiator policy and the glamour of the rival attractions in Norwich, the team are to be congratulated on their enthusiasm.

In September we bade farewell to RSM David Spalding, whom we thank for his work for the Battalion during his stay with us. We congratulate him on his obtaining his Commission. In his place we welcomed 'home' RSM Mick Dear, who is now on his second tour with us.

Blenheim Camp has been transformed from an undistinguished collection of wooden huts to an ultra-modern TAVR Centre more befitting a Battalion Headquarters, and so we are in a better position to extend an invitation to those who have served with us in the past to drop in and see us and have a pint for old times' sake.



**1st Battalion Band and Drums at Norwich**

# 7th (Volunteer) Battalion

The long-awaited news of our re-role to a NATO commitment arrived just in time for inclusion in last year's magazine. Naturally enough, most of this year has been spent in preparation for our new task. Lt-Col. Bill Dawson, our then Commanding Officer, was delighted at the news and also that he would hand over the Battalion to another TAVR commanding officer. On 10th March he visited the headquarters for the last time as Commanding Officer, and after an informal luncheon he said his farewells to the permanent staff and was towed in an open Land Rover out of the main gate.

Our new Commanding Officer, Lt-Col. John Gleadell, previously the Second-in-Command, took over the following day, and any thoughts he may have had about relaxing behind his new desk were quickly shattered. Our re-role has involved him in numerous planning conferences which have entailed thousands of miles travelling all over the District.

On 1st April, 1978, we shall become part of 7 Field Force with a BAOR Reinforcement role, and training for this role has been our prime objective. Many NCOs have attended specialist support weapon courses at the School of Infantry and specialist cadres were run at camp with the loan of equipment from the 5th Battalion.

Camp this year was to be a highspot for the Battalion. Shortly after Easter, with camp only weeks away, we learnt that we were to act as hosts for a company of the United States National Guard, who were to train with us for fifteen days at Sennybridge. Fortunately, a detailed programme had been arranged which allowed them to join in our training activities.

At four o'clock in the morning on 15th May, the Commanding Officer welcomed Captain 'Butch' Moran and his one hundred and fifty men of Company 'C', 1st Battalion, 181st Infantry on their arrival in coaches after their transatlantic flight. For these men of 26th Yankee Division, Wales was something that had to be seen to be believed. For many it was their



**Mr. Brown meets Company 'C' 1st/181st Infantry Support Regt.**

first journey abroad, but they soon pitched into the routine and made camp a most successful one that we shall long remember.

The Commanding Officer had made three decrees on his arrival at Sennybridge. Firstly, that the sun would shine for two weeks; secondly, that the visit of our American allies would be a success; and thirdly, that the visit of Mr. Robert Brown, MP, the Under Secretary of State for the Army, would also be successful. The Commanding Officer was not to be disappointed. We all enjoyed fifteen days' dry and sunny weather—most unusual for Sennybridge. Mr. Brown's visit was certainly successful. Having arrived by helicopter, he spent the



**Cpl. Simmants, 'C' Company, demonstrates Mortar drills. Under Secretary of State (Army) talking to Cpl. Gereski, USNG, and Capt. Moran, CO talking to Mr. P. Main-Cole, PPS, to US of S.**

morning visiting the Anti-Tank, Mortar and Signals Cadres, and watched British and American troops training side by side. After lunch in the field he saw men of Company 'C' tackling the assault course, and ended his visit by firing the American M16 rifle on the Close Quarter Battle Range

Most of our American friends joined the Trained Soldiers Cadre run by OC 'A' Company, Major Mike Shaw. They spent the first week on the excellent field firing ranges. Several range officers had great difficulty in dissuading them from emptying a full magazine at each target on the Individual Battle Shooting Range, such was the firepower of their M16 automatic rifle. Most of our soldiers were able to fire the M16, but we were highly amused by the terse American declaration at the end of range practice—'No brass, no ammo'—to which one gentleman of Indian extract added 'No arrows!'

A thirty-six-hour joint forces exercise—Exercise Yankee Handshake—started on the second Sunday. The Junior NCOs Cadre, led by OC 'D' Company, Major SIMON Robinson, provided a lively enemy who were eventually overwhelmed by the friendly forces after a heli-borne assault. A squadron of Royal Navy helicopters were training on the area, and in return for some assistance with weapon training we were able to do some useful helicopter training in which all ranks participated. It was reported that the Commanding Officer spent more time in the air than he did on the ground!

Following the exercise, our American friends left for a whirlwind tour of London, staying



**Sgt. A Barnes, 'C' Company, explains intricacies of 81 mm to Mr. Robert Brown, MP, CO looks on.**

overnight at the Union Jack Club. Empty wallets on their return was 7th Battalion's contribution to the tourist trade!

The climax of the second week's training was the Inter-Platoon Competition. The first defensive phase was conducted separately because of the basic difference in tactics, but the second phase, consisting of a forced march, a first-aid test, the assault course and a final falling-plate shoot, was competed for by both sides. 'A' Company's platoon, led by Lt. Ed Marshall, narrowly beat No. 1 Platoon of Company 'C', led by Sgt. Gadbois. Six seconds separated the two teams after three hours of competition.

During camp we were visited by Major General P. Shapland, the Director of Volunteers. He had been responsible for setting up this visit and he was exceptionally pleased with its successful outcome. He hoped that it might in time be possible for a full exchange visit, with UK units travelling to USA.

Following celebrations in some of the local hostelries, we bade farewell to the men of



**S/Sgt. Meen, PSI, LDY Company, explains Wombat to Mr. Brown and USNG and 7 R. Anglian Anti Tank Cadre.**



**RSM Fisher being presented with his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal by Colonel G. L. Aspell.**

Company 'C'. Many firm friendships had been formed and US mail is now a regular part of every company's 'In' tray.

Camp was no sooner over than we were all plunged into various activities for Her Majesty the Queen's Silver Jubilee. The day after our return saw seventeen members of the Battalion travel to Grantham for a rehearsal of the Reserve Forces Review. On 30th June Her Majesty, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, reviewed her Reserve Forces at Wembley. Following the entry of the Massed Bands of the TAVR, the District contingents marched into the arena. Then the Colours and Guidons of many units marched on. Our Colour Party consisted of Lt. (now Captain) Taylor, Lt. Marshall, WO.II Warr, C/Sgt. Garton and Sgt. Shears. Her Majesty reviewed the parade in an open carriage and finally took the salute as all the Colour parties and troops paraded around the arena. The review, followed by a Musical Pageant held in aid of Service charities, was watched by many members and ex-members of the Battalion.

We were again fortunate enough to send a party on the Reserve Forces Association exchange visit to Germany. Majors Connell and Shaw, 2Lt. Riddle and Sgt. Hardy visited Panzergrenadier Battalion 212 at their annual camp at Bergen Hohne. They took part in training exercises and had their first experience of fording a river in a Marder armoured personnel carrier. They thoroughly enjoyed their visit and we understand they even managed some training on beer and corn!

We again held a very successful Recruit Cadre at Stanford Training Area in October. During the middle weekend of the cadre the rest of the Battalion trained at Stanford, which gave the Company Commanders a chance to



**L/Cpl. (now O/Cdt.) David Chandler on the Assault Course. (Courtesy 'Des Richardson').**

see their recruits at work. We were visited on this occasion by Brigadier D. Stileman, Brigadier Eastern District, as part of his FFR inspection.

The spirit on the Recruit Cadre was again excellent, and after two weeks of hard work, the Commanding Officer, having presented Pt. Neal of LDY Company with the Best Recruit Tankard, took the salute at the passing-out parade.

The first move in our reorganisation took place in September, when LDY Company moved its headquarters from Melton Mowbray to Loughborough. Melton is being retained as a detachment centre, but the Ilkeston Platoon, commanded by Lt. John Lambie, have formed the basis of the new LDY Company of 3rd Battalion The Worcestershire and Sherwood Forester. We wish them all every success with their new unit.



**C/Sgt. Smith and Lt. Marshall watch the enemy advance on Ex Hard Clash.**



**Ptes. Toone and Kite spit roast their rabbit on a 'D' Company Anti Tank adventure training week-**

Unfortunately, we have had to say farewell to many old friends during the year. After camp we said goodbye to Major Peter Wilson, our Headquarters Platoon Commander and Signals Officer, when he moved to command 39 Signal Squadron. In September, Major Mike Menage, our Training Major for the past two and a half years, departed for a new job at Headquarters UKLF. Having arrived in Northampton as a bachelor gay, he departed as a happily married man with a family. We wish them all every success in the future.

Lt. Peter Ralph has joined the 3rd Battalion on a year's Short Service Volunteer Commission and is enjoying his work at Tidworth.

However, we are happy to welcome several new faces—Major Simon Robinson and Major Derrick Connell as OC 'D' and 'B' Companies respectively, and two new Regular Officers, Major Charles Lumby, our new Training Major, and Capt. Stan Bullock, our new Quartermaster. We hope they will enjoy their tour with us.

Our reorganisation is moving ahead and at the end of October we received the first of our support weapons. They are now being issued to companies so that the anti-tank gunners and mortar men can start training in earnest. 'D' Company managed to get their anti-tank gun into action for Exercise 'Hard Clash' at the end of October—a great morale booster for everyone to see it in the field.

We shall be pleased to see our geographical reorganisation complete and we are now looking forward to setting up our Battalion Headquarters and our new HQ Company in Leicester early in 1978, and by 1st April the changes should be finalised, allowing us to get to grips at camp next May with our new role.

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# ARMY CADETS

## ESSEX A.C.F.

It was most fortuitous that Essex Army Cadets secured the best of the 1977 summer weather for their Annual Camp at Proteus Camp, Ollerton, for the first fortnight in August.

The County Commandant, Colonel J. H. L. Parker, was present throughout. A very comprehensive training programme had been drawn up and this got off to a flying start on the very first day with Lieutenants John Welland and Dennis Fitzgerald taking parties to the Peak District for the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award Expedition testing.

We were fortunate that the 45 Army Youth Team, who were with us in camp, had the lakes in the grounds of Welbeck College at their disposal to give practical training in watermanship, and the close proximity of the Peak District provided an opportunity for an introduction to rock climbing.

Working closer to camp was a team from the Depot of the Prince of Wales Division, led by Lt. Mike Mullis, a former Essex ACF Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet. The 'Mullis Marauders' took two cadres of senior cadets through an intensive field training course which greatly helped those taking part towards their Three Star qualification. Needless to say, this tough and imaginative training proved more than enjoyable.

During the first week we were visited by Brigadier D. M. Stileman, Brigadier Eastern District (Nottingham), who spent a day seeing all forms of training.

In the second week, we were glad to welcome Major Geoffrey Mason, MBE, GSO2 (Cadets) Eastern District, who spent three days with us going into all aspects of training and administration.

The prize for imaginative training must go to Major Jeff Garnett, OC 'A' Company, who arranged conducted tours of both Welbeck and Sherwood Collieries. Those who went will long remember the warmth and kindness of their reception by both the miners and the management.

Towards the end of camp we were most happy to see our Honorary Colonel, Colonel

Peter Franklin, who spent an exhaustive day covering all aspects of our activities, including night operations.

For our Guest Night we were pleased to entertain the Chairman and Secretary of the TA&VR Association of East Anglia, Colonels Hunter Jones and Pakenham-Walsh. Our Honorary Colonel was also there. 'D' Company's Corps of Drums played beforehand and the dinner was followed by an informal visit by our guests to the Sergeants' Mess. It was a very successful evening indeed, with only one slight casualty—the PMC (expendable), who was struck by a low flying Company Commander coming in to land after a twice-round-the-room-without-touching-the-floor exercise!

It was a tired but happy Cadet Force that returned to Essex on the special train on Friday, 12th August, and all ranks are looking forward to an equally happy and profitable camp next year.

**Eastern District Cadet Skill-at-Arms meeting,  
Middlewick Ranges, Colchester,  
1st-2nd October, 1977**

Four teams competed in the meeting and all of them achieved good results in spite of the strong winds.



Essex Army Cadets on Assault Boat handling drill, under instruction from 45 AYT.





**Brig. Stileman discusses field camouflage with Essex Army Cadets in the training area.**

The 'D' team came 9th overall and won the ACF section of the Falling Plate. 'B' and 'C' teams tied for 5th position overall, and 'A' team were 7th.

The results were a great credit to the County Shooting Officer, Captain Brian Ainger, who was responsible for training the competitors for the meeting. It was also a significant tribute to the campaign initiated by the County Commandant to give greater encouragement towards bringing good individual shots together from throughout the county and forming successful teams for these events.

## **1st HERTFORDSHIRE CADET BATTALION**

1977 saw the 1st Battalion sharing Fremington Camp, North Devon, and Willsworthy Camp, Dartmoor, with their sister Regiment The 4th Cadet Regiment (Herts. and Bedfs. Yeomanry) R.A. The camp was run by the county staff and three hundred all ranks who attended were divided into four groups owing to the shortage of accommodation at Fremington. 'A' Group, approximately eighty-five all ranks, moved straight to Willsworthy, where it began to rain for the three days they were there. Then 'B' Group moved out on Wednesday to Willsworthy, now re-christened 'HMS Willsworthy' (as everything was afloat), where it carried on raining with one or two hourly breaks. However, Dartmoor afforded country

which Hertfordshire Army Cadet Force do not usually come across. Map reading, adventurous training, fieldcraft and survival against the elements were lessons well learnt. Our grateful thanks to the 3rd Royal Horse Artillery cooks who cooked the compo food in such trying conditions. During the first week Groups B, C and D were using Fremington to the full, Brauntton Burrows across the water turned out to be ideal ground for section attacks, map reading and night exercises. Also the assault course at Fremington proved very popular and the .303 Range on the road to South Molton was well attended. On the middle Saturday Groups A, C and D had the day off in Ilfracombe, where the day was marred with the tragic death of Cadet Kevin Taylor from Letchworth, who accidentally fell to his death from a cliff. Our deepest sympathy has been conveyed to his parents, cadets and adult staff of his platoon. On Sunday the County Chaplain at Fremington Church held a remembrance service with all Groups attending.

The Battalion now boasts of a Regimental Fife and Drum band which gave various performances for the officers on the 'Dining In' night and for Ilfracombe Carnival, where it received a resounding ovation for the excellent performance. All credit to Hitchin and Letchworth platoons for their hard work in forming the band.

To sum up, apart from the appalling weather when it rained nine days out of fourteen, the cadets on de-brief said that they thoroughly enjoyed the camp. The accommodation, NAAFI and films helped to contribute in no mean way, and the verdict was 'Roll on Annual Camp 1978'.

### **Champion Athlete**

At the National Athletic Championships held at R A F. Cosford, Wolverhampton, on the 16th July Cadet J. Parrott won the high jump with a height of 1.61 m. Also Cadet Cpl. Morrell came second in the 1500 metres with a time of 4-43.6 secs.

### **Bisley**

Hertfordshire County team won the Canada Trophy with a score of 250. Also in the Frankfort Shield and the Watts Bowl, Hoddesdon Platoon came eighth on both occasions. L/Cpl. Day was second in the Patriotic Shield 300 yds. shoot and four cadets were placed in the 'Cadet 100'—Sgt. Barnes, L/Cpl. Day, L/Cpl. Smith and Cpl. Barnes.

## SUFFOLK ACF

Once again the year has been one with a very full programme and a review of the events and activities leaves a thought in the mind 'how do they manage it'. Well, officers and adult instructors serving with the ACF on a voluntary basis are very dedicated people. In spite of some headlines in the press about modern youth, the ACF officers and adults are supported by a large number of very good cadets who are prepared to work hard, cheerfully and with great enthusiasm, accepting the discipline which is so necessary to achieve the aims and objects of the Cadet Force.

In this report it is not possible to quote the details of all cadet activities but it is hoped that readers will be made aware of the great variety of interests and training undertaken by the cadets, all of which point to the requirements of the Army Cadet Force Charter as follows: The Army Cadet Force is a voluntary organisation, sponsored by the Army, and taking part in both military and community activities. Its purpose is to develop among its members the qualities of good citizenship and the spirit of service to Queen and country. It will seek to achieve this aim:

(a) by providing adventurous and challenging activities, designed to develop powers of leadership and qualities of character valuable alike to the civilian and the soldier;

(b) by stimulating interest in the Army, its achievements and skills and its part in the national life;

(c) by giving encouragement and training to those considering a career in the Regular Army or service in the Reserve Forces.

Sixty boys left the Suffolk ACF in the year to join HM Forces or the police force.

The highlight of the year 1977 was the Queen's Silver Jubilee visit to Ipswich on 11th July. Sixty army cadets were proud to form the Guard of Honour at Ipswich Airport. Suffolk ACF trumpeters played the Royal Salute whilst Cadet L/Cpl T. Henderson ('A' Company, Bury St. Edmunds) was thrilled to be spoken to by the Queen.

During the preceding months individual units had been supporting local events and cadet bands, trumpeters, signal and display teams were in great demand.

Hadleigh (REME) jeep display team gave an impressive performance at Hadleigh Agricultural Show in May which was applauded by a



(On the left) Cadet L/Cpl. T. Henderson ('A' Company, Bury St. Edmunds) being approached by the Queen during Her Majesty's Silver Jubilee visit to Ipswich in July.

large audience. The Suffolk ACF trumpeters, wearing the full dress of the Suffolk and Norfolk Yeomanry, are at the time of writing these notes performing for the second time at the bi-annual Berlin Tattoo.

High standards and traditions of regular Regiments are wherever possible followed by cadet units as evidenced by cadets of 16/5th Lancers Detachment, Ipswich, who enjoyed an Aliwal evening to mark the battle of Aliwal (India) fought in 1846 by the 16th The Queens Lancers. Lt. Peter Elmer and 2/Lt. Cliff Cutter have both served with the 16/5th Lancers, hence the affiliation.

Regular church parades are held on ACF Sunday (June) and Remembrance Day (November) and most other weekends will find cadets in large and small numbers undertaking training for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Adventure Training including rigorous training weekends held at Stanford TA in the January-March period when the weather plays its part and adds to the hazards. In between times we have our annual shooting and orienteering competitions; good progress is being made with the latter sport and cadets now have the message that speed coupled with map and compass accuracy are essential ingredients for winning the major trophies. Several reports are being received of community work being carried out in the county—chopping wood for the older folks, cleaning amenity areas in villages and towns, acting as car park attendants at local functions and providing signal communications at point to point and gymkhana events.

Progressive training for the Army Proficiency Certificate (ACF) continues throughout the



**Hadleigh Detachment (REME) Suffolk ACF Jeep vehicle stripping and assembly display team in action at Hadleigh Agricultural Show.**

year covering drill and turnout, map and compass, fieldcraft and skill at arms, and many other items of useful knowledge are included in the syllabus.

Finally we come to annual (12 day) camp which was at St. Martins Plain, Shorncliffe, near Folkestone in August. With night exercises just as popular even if the wind blows and heavy rain falls, cadets show a noticeable determination to struggle to the end. Watermanship, abseiling, shooting at Hythe ranges, signals classification course, a course for senior cadets and adult instructors was efficiently conducted by No. 1 Cadet Training Team, all of which helped to make this a most enjoyable and successful camp.

'B' Company swept the board and took most trophies as follows: King Cup, Champion Rifle Shot (individual); Chadd Shield, Champion Rifle Shot (Company); Rowland Shield, Falling Plate; Oakes Memorial Cup, Orienteering; Rose Bowl, Cadet with highest marks in APC three star level; Cadet Trophy, Unit with best all round improvement; Collett-White Shield, Highest percentage of APC passes; The Drill Cup, Swimming; Stawell Cup, Adventure training; Five-a-side football, Inter-detachment; Lucas Tooth Shield, detachment showing greatest all round improvement during 1976/77.

'A' Company claimed the Brooks Stick, best cadet NCO over the year.

Our congratulations go to Major David Clarke ('B' Company Commander) on being awarded the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal and to Acting Major Rupert Pope who received the MBE after a long period of service with the ACF and who retired in January 1977. We also say goodbye to SMI A. W. Lawson (Chief Clerk), who has retired after 15 years ACF service.

## LEICESTERSHIRE AND NORTHAMPTONSHIRE A.C.F.

In previous notes we recorded the success of former Cadet Cpl. Ian Dale, then an Apprenticed Tradesman. Ian was promoted to Army Apprentice Tradesman RSM and won three top awards at the Army Apprentices College at Arborfield. He took the coveted Award of Honour, the Chief Instructors Cup and the Senior Education Officer's Cup and received the awards at a Passing Out ceremony from Major General J. M. Gow, Director of Army Training.

Lt. P. G. Collier was appointed our County Quarter Master following his commissioning. Lt. Collier has many years' service with the Army Cadet Force and was RSM and then RSMI from 1950 to 1976.

To mark the departure from 15 Cadet Training Team of CSM Bob Arkless on taking up a post in BAOR, Wigston Detachment 'B' Company presented a silver goblet to him at a ceremony held at the Detachment Hut.

At an impressive ceremony held at the TAVR Centre, Brentwood Road, Leicester, in late April, Leicester's surviving Old Contemptibles handed over part of their regalia to 'C' Company when the sling, belt and gloves formerly used by the Standard Bearers of the Leicester Branch were handed to the Army Cadet Force for safe keeping and use on appropriate occasions.

Mr. Reg Toone, the Standard Bearer and a former Patron of the Branch, presented the regalia to Major Peter Kellett.

Three of the eight remaining Old Contemp-



**Major P. H. Kellett receives the regalia of the Leicester Old Contemptibles.**  
(Courtesy Leicester Mercury)



**Training at Camp.**

tibles in Leicestershire were present. Mr. Alf Hawkins, the Secretary, spoke to the cadets about the First World War and expressed his pleasure that the Cadets were so successful. Alf Hawkins is 87 and was with his elder brother, Arthur, who is 90.

Lt. Arthur Hurst and a party of cadets visited BAOR in 1977 and were attached 1 Queens. All had an excellent time and were very well looked after.

The highlight of the Queen's Jubilee Year was our Jubilee Parade and church service at Kettering parish church on Sunday, 19th June. Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, was present at the service and took the salute at the March Past. The service was attended by 100 officers, SMIs and SIs and 411 cadets as well as many parents, friends and distinguished guests.

The Band of 5 Royal Anglian played during the service and for the March Past. 'A' Company's Corps of Drums led the parade. The service was conducted by the Rev. F. Pearce, CF, Rector of Kettering, Chaplain to 'D' Company. The lessons were read by Col. A. P. Gilks, the County Commandant, and Cadet Martin Pugh, Kettering Detachment 'D' Company. The address was given by the Chaplain General to the Forces, the Venerable Archdeacon Peter Mallett, QHC. After the March Past and whilst cadets and relatives were having tea, Her Royal Highness, Princess Alice, was entertained to tea and a number of those who had attended the service and parade were presented.

Other Jubilee events included a tattoo in Leicester where one hundred cadets dressed as

Zulus took part in a reconstruction of the Battle of Rorkes Drift; the Hinckley Triple Tattoo in which 'B' Company took part; and the Northampton Jubilee Pageant where 'A' Company Corps of Drums played.

Heartiest congratulations to Lt. Col. M. J. B Farnsworth on the award of the MBE in the Queen's Jubilee Birthday Honours List. Also to Col. N. T. Nicol, TD, our Medical Officer, Major H. K. Beard, OC 'D' Company, and 2Lt. C. B. Freeman, 'A' Company, on the award of Silver Jubilee Medals.

On the 1st October, 1977, Col. R. A. Gill, TD, was appointed County Commandant in succession to Col. A. P. Gilks.

### **Sport**

During the year we entered teams in the Eastern Region ACF athletics and swimming championships. We won the senior championship in the regional swimming competition and were second overall. Five cadets were selected for the national swimming championships and Cadet Pike of Prince William School, Oundle ('D' Company) won the junior breast stroke event. Teams competed in the London and Middlesex Cadet rifle meeting and the Cadet Forces rifle meeting, all at Bisley. Our annual rifle meeting was held at Brinkton, Northamp-

### **Annual Camp**

Our annual camp was held at Westdown (South) Camp, Tilshead, Salisbury, and was attended by 38 officers, 40 SMI/SIs and 401 cadets.

15 CTT ran a very successful course for new officers and SMI/SIs and 16 AYT ran a course for Three Star Cadets and 17 AYT another on advanced training for Four Star Cadets.

Visits were made to 1 Royal Anglian, Royal Engineers at Andover and Junior Leaders Regiment Royal Armoured Corps at Bovington. Each day parties of cadets swam at the Garrison Baths, Larkhill, whilst others went canoeing. In addition various other activities were laid on each evening for those cadets in camp.

Once again we record our thanks to Mrs. Edmunds, Mrs. McLaren and Mrs. Blunt, WRVS ladies, for all their hard work. As in previous years our Medical Officer was assisted by Mrs. Collier and Mrs. Speechley, both of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and we thank them sincerely for their help. Our annual swim-

ming gala was held on Friday afternoon and the athletics meeting on Monday afternoon.

The Commandant's annual inspection and presentation of prizes took place on the second Sunday. The County Commandant took the salute at the March Past, followed by our camp church service at Larkhill under the auspices of our Senior Padre, Rev. F. G. Adams, TD, CF.

We were more than pleased to have with us on Tuesday and Wednesday representatives from the Northampton Chronicle & Echo, Leicester Mercury, Kettering Evening Telegraph and the Harborough Mail, and from the published accounts of their visit it seems that they found that the cadets were not only enjoying themselves but doing worthwhile training.

Amongst our visitors were the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, the Lord Mayor of the City of Leicester, Councillor A. T. Baker and a one time ACF officer, the Mayor of Northampton, and the Mayor and Mayoress of Kettering.

Col. Martin presented SMI D. Timson, Market Harborough Detachment 'C' Company, with the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate. Afterwards Col. Martin, the Lord Mayor and Col. G. L. Aspell, TD, DL, chairman of the Leicestershire County Committee of East Midlands T & AVR Association, and Col. H. C. W. M. Tulloch, Deputy Secretary of the Association, dined with the officers.

This was the last camp for our County Commandant, Col. A. P. Gilks, as he was retiring shortly afterwards, to be succeeded by Col. R. A. Gill, TD, who was with us during camp. We hope that Col. Gilks will enjoy his 'spare time'.

#### **NORTH-EAST LONDON A.C.F**

In the distant lands of North-east London (Ilford to be precise) are to be found the far-flung outposts of two Royal Anglian ACF detachments (31 Company and 32 Company), a proud reminder of former Essex Regiment days, almost lost amidst the obscurity of time and a welter of differing regimental affiliations. But proud we are of our associations and busily forging further regimental links for the future.

A busy year began with a map-reading exercise and two-day camp at "Battles Hall Farm", the main feature of which was mud! The officers and NCOs who were on the recce came off best of all by wearing wellies throughout the

weekend. A day's training built up to a spectacular night patrol exercise with flares galore just to keep the cadets and the local Air Traffic Control (who were in the know) on their toes. On the Sunday there was an escape-and-evasion exercise around the countryside, punctuated with typical cadet map-reading inability, to find the ever notorious Wun-Hung-Hi and Wun-Hung-Lo who, on being successfully captured, were escorted back to camp to face the torture of CSM Hayman's anything-goes-stew.

Easter Camp was at Proteus Camp, Ollerton, which, despite the long journey and arctic conditions, was a tremendous success, most cadets having the opportunity to fire the SLR, LMG, SMG and 9mm pistol, as well as taking part in orienteering, running around the assault course and taking part in fieldcraft exercises.

A number of cadets disappeared to Frimley Park in early May for a watermanship exercise run by the Guards Training Sergeant, Sgt. O'Connor, and as the success of these exercises is generally judged by the number of upturned boats and drenched participants it must have gone pretty well. Meanwhile, others of us were walking from Ilford to Southend Pier (I tried, succeeded and don't recommend it!) to raise money for a visit to Ypres.

The Belgian trip took place in late May. We were part of the ACF's annual visit to participate in a Last Post ceremony under the famous Menin Gate memorial. Sgt. (now C/Sgt) Jaques, Cpl. Grier and Cdt. Kurner formed the Colour Party. The ACF banner, presented some years ago by H.R.H. Prince Philip (our Colonel-in-Chief), was paraded outside these shores for the first time ever. The annual visit is a unique experience in that half of the time is spent totally formally with rehearsals, parades and receptions, and the other half is completely relaxed. (Note: as written! Conjures up all sorts of strange visions in the mind.—Editor.) This year we visited the Ypres Cat Festival, a typical mediaeval continental excuse for a long colourful carnival quite unlike anything we ever see in England.

Annual Camp was at Digbate, nr. Folkestone ("The Digbate Hilton") with its Victorian accommodation and stone-age sanitary arrangement. C/Sgt. Jaques was whisked away to Crowborough for four days and emerged looking much the worse for wear and in possession of his APC four-star qualification (which Sgt. Sanders had also obtained on a course earlier in the year). As camps go it was exceptional: exceptionally good and exceptionally hard work with the usual open range

firing, Duke of Edinburgh expedition training, day and night exercises, a vehicle ambush (with apologies to the chap whose Ford Cortina we mistook for the scheduled four-tonner) and a march-and-shoot competition in which the officers actually had to lead their men all the way, and in which we occupied 4th and 5th places out of 20.

Early September saw a small party return to Ypres at the town's request to join in the international remembrance parade for the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Menin Gate and the 60th Anniversary of the Battle of Passchendaele. A feature article in "Soldier" magazine included a back-page colour photograph of two of our cadets on parade: Cdt. (now L/Cpl.) Port is laying the wreath and Sgt. Sanders is the centre cadet standing.

At the end of September Vange and Purfleet were the venues for a skill-at-arms weekend, the highlight of which was undoubtedly the cooking of Sgt. Stenner, who had never catered for 40 people before and was only given three hours' notice that he was actually required when all else had failed: he did a great job. The long winter was by now drawing in, giving plenty of time for spitting and polishing, all of which was very necessary with the onset in the space of five weeks of a Commandant's Parade, Remembrance Sunday, our Annual Inspection (conducted this year by Col. de Klee, Scots Guards) and on open evening starring the now legendary 32 Company Continuity Drill Squad.

The year drew to a close with a weekend camp at Crowborough where training was pleasantly interrupted with a Christmas dinner served, as tradition requires, by the officers to the men, followed by an evening's entertainment provided largely by the cadets but including Lt. Baker's "Chelsea Pensioners on Parade" sketch which we are prepared to hire out at a suitable fee.

# Depot Queen's Division

## Training

Since last going to print there has been a major reconstruction of the soldiers' training. They now complete three 14-week terms and graduate to their Battalions as fully fledged competent young soldiers when they are 17½. At present there are over 100 young R. Anglian soldiers in training excluding the Band and Drums Platoons. OC Salamanca Platoon, WO.II Bausor, well supported by Cpls. Clarke, Marden and Huckle, have ensured the 'guinea pig' platoons have had an excellent start. Lt. Hall's platoon, Sobraon, are doing extremely well. Other aspects which should help us meet the training aims are: the cash award for the best individual shot on APWT; the CO's Pendant for the best platoon's shooting average; the system of training team conferences in weeks seven and 13; the achievement of wearing Regimental badges on Passing Off the Square Parades. Do not be surprised to see Caps Combat now greatly in evidence everywhere! After all, the 91st (Heavy) Bombardment Group USAF were here in 1943 and again in 1950.

## Permanent Staff

The Regiment is well represented here with ten officers and over 50 other ranks all who play a critical role in the life of the depot. Major N. J. Lewis arrived in August as the new 2IC and he also is now the senior Royal Anglian representative, having taken over from Major G. W. M. Hipkin.

## The Royal Anglian Regimental Information Team

The Royal Anglian Regimental Information Team, with headquarters at Bassingbourn, is

spread throughout East Anglia, with Number 1 team at Swanton Morley, responsible for Norfolk and Suffolk, Number 2 team provided by the 2nd Battalion at Lincoln, looking after Lincolnshire and South Humberside, Number 3 team provided by the 3rd Battalion at Bassingbourn working in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex. Number 4 team draws from all Battalions in Leicester working in Northamptonshire and Leicestershire, and Number 5 team in Bassingbourn looking after Cambridgeshire.

The RITs, equipped with Landrovers, caravans and pellet ranges, attend shows, fetes, fayres and galas throughout the summer months visiting ACF and Scout units in the evenings and schools in the afternoons giving assistance in training and film shows and talks about Army life. Any cadet who is interested is 'steered' towards the Army Careers Information Office and left in the care of the Royal Anglian Recruiter. During the winter months Stanford training weekends are the main feature on our programme. Each weekend approximately 90-100 ACF and CCF members spend their time firing weapons, patrolling, boating and tackling the assault course, having very little time for sleep. Coach drivers often remark how quiet it is on the coach during the return trip home.

Major David Thorogood commands the teams, ably supported by Lt. Brian Newman.



Members of Albuhera Platoon commanded by WO II G. A. Boss, seen here before firing their APWT. Eight members of the platoon are ex-junior soldiers.



Cpl. Isom and L/Cpl. Wilson, WRAC. Cpl. Isom married L/Cpl. Sylvia Wilson on 3rd December, 1977. They both hope to settle in Berlin with 2 R. Anglian in 1978. Now you know what Cpl. Isom has been doing at the Depot! Miss Wilson is currently working in the Medical Centre



A cheerful welcome.



Members of Talavera Platoon, 'D' Company being instructed in basic theoretical map reading.

# SPORTS REPORT

## VIKINGS Football

The Battalion football team completed another successful season, getting amongst the honours once again by winning the South West District Challenge, the Salisbury Plain Major Units Cup, and the Salisbury Plain League Cup.

The Battalion also reached the semi-final of the Infantry Cup, losing 2-0 to the eventual winners, and the quarter finals of the Army Cup. The season got off to a very good start with the Battalion playing the FA cup winning side of Southampton, whom we entertained for the day. The 'Saints' proved to be the professionals that they are, by defeating the Battalion 2-0 in a most entertaining and exciting match. The Battalion had no less than eight players representing the Army and Division throughout the season which was a great achievement for the Battalion and players concerned.

So at last the Battalion is getting the recognition in football that has been sadly missed in the past. A special mention is made of 'Tony' Jones for his continuous hard work in assisting WO.II 'Chunkie' Slinn in the moulding



Mel Blyth trying out a new method of defence under Sgt. Scoles guidance.



WO.II Slinn gives Laurie McMenemy a few tips on the SMG.

together of a very good team. The final record for the season was:

| P  | W  | L | D | GF  | GA |
|----|----|---|---|-----|----|
| 33 | 30 | 3 | 0 | 154 | 31 |

### Athletics

1977 proved the most successful season for the Battalion team since they started the AMF(L) role. They came runners-up in the Army Inter Unit championships held at Aldershot. In addition, for the second successive year, they achieved the highest infantry placing. Success this year was largely due to considerable depth of talent in both track and field, and few teams have been able to boast an almost complete representation of Battalion rank structure in an athletic team. Notable athletes this year were: Pte. Clover (javelin), who recently joined the Battalion and competed for Britain this season and currently is the Commonwealth champion and the world junior record holder; Cpl. Bodger (hammer) competed for the Combined Services; Cpl. Haniver, Sgt. Atkin and Capt. Willdridge are amongst other athletes who gave valuable service and competed for the Army.

During the course of the season the Viking Superman Trophy was jointly won by Sgt. Jones and Sgt. Shrubshall and the Batchelor Trophy for the best all-round performance of the season was won by WO.II Ross.





Maximum effort from the CO at the Army Championships.

## Poachers

### Rugby

Rugby has been going from strength to strength with the Poachers undefeated in



Sgt. Sanderson and Drum Major West jumping for the ball in a match against 25 Field Regiment Royal Artillery, which was played during the Poachers Op Banner tour.

Northern Ireland and through to the third round of the Army Cup. In particular Private Woodcock deserves a mention as he has been a regular member of the Army Under 19 team and has been selected for the Midland Colts.

Finally the football team could not complete the full league programme because of the Northern Ireland tour and had to withdraw from the Chatham League when leading the first division. In the semi-finals of the South East District Cup the Poachers went down 3-1, in extra time, to 22 Engineer Regiment but are into the second round of the Army Cup. Still, the future looks good as Privates Moy, Dunne and Hill are currently in the Army squad.

'B' Company Group. Rugby team with friends.





**The Poachers football team.**  
**Back row:** L/Cpl Rook,  
 Pte. Easey, Pte. Moya,  
 WO.II Whitfield, Pte. Dunn,  
 Pte. Johnson, Cpl. Boyd.  
**Front row:** C/Sgt.  
 Halewood, Cpl. Eccles, Cpl.  
 Watson, L/Cpl. Thomas,  
 Pte. Hollis and L/Cpl.  
 Halls.

### **Boxing**

The boxing team after defeating I Royal Green Jackets were runners-up in the 1976 South East District Novices competition, losing by three bouts to 5 to 7th Royal Horse Artillery. At the South East District Individual Novices competition the team collected nine of the 18 finalist trophies.

The hockey team also maintained their stan-

dards despite the loss of Major Brian Davenport, our main exponent of the game. After a hard fought draw against I Royal Green Jackets in the Army Cup quarter finals, the team were unable (believe it or not!) to find a suitable date for a replay and regrettably had to withdraw. However, in the Infantry and South East District Cups the team managed to go through to the semi-final and final respectively.

**The Poachers hockey team.**  
**Back row:** Maj. Davenport,  
 WO.II Thompson, Cpl.  
 Germany, Pte. Catton,  
 Lt. Col. Barnes, Capt.  
 Kinson, Capt. Holme. **Front**  
**row:** Lt. Badger, Cpl. Boyd,  
 Cpl. Leighton, Pte. Wells,  
 Pte. Friend and Cpl.  
 Leyland.



## Athletics

L/Cpl. 'Wally' Taylor in particular heads the list of successes having made Regimental history when he became the United Kingdom 400 metre champion on 12th June this year in a time of 47.5 seconds. Wally is already a member of the British Athletics team and has already had a very creditable result when he was second to Roger Jenkins in the Phillips International meeting last year at Crystal Palace, but his new victory is his best performance to date. His record in Army athletics is outstanding. He was the Army 400 metre champion in 1974 and 400 metre hurdles champion in 1975, and for the past four years he has represented the Army in the inter-Services championships. He was awarded his Combined Services Colours in 1975 and has, this season, been picked to represent Great Britain. His sister, Gladys, is a British international athlete and a member of the British 4 x 400 metres relay team.

# POMPADOURS

## Athletics

In the heat of a Mediterranean summer, the Battalion's athletes looked promising. On 1st July 'B' Company, with great style, ran out clear winners of the WSBA Minor Units Athletics championships.

In the Cyprus Inter Service championships the Battalion managed its fair share of the glory. First of our champions was L/Cpl. Tony Dixon ('C' Company), who won the 400 m hurdles in 59.1 secs. In the 100 m sprint Army sprinters Pte. Lennie Paul ('B' Company) and L/Cpl. Jimmy Hume ('C' Company) took first and second places in 11.00 and 11.01 secs respectively. Cpl. Andy Twell managed to wrest third place in the 800 m. While in the field, setting a new record in the discus event, Captain Peter Field recorded a throw of 40.98 metres (34 cm better than the previous best).

All in all, it was a good season against limited opposition.



**Captain Field in action. The Cyprus Services Discus Champion.**

## Parachuting

The Cyprus Combined Services Parachute Club championships were held during the first half of August. Competing in the championships were teams representing Corps and Regiments from the UK, BAOR and Cyprus. In the novice event, Pte. Colin Capper ('A' Company) put up a tremendous show on his student parachute. Indeed, after the first few rounds he was beating several of the experienced competitors who were jumping with the latest high performance parachutes. Pte. Capper went on to win the novice event comfortably and become the novice champion of Cyprus.

In the overall competition the highest placed Cyprus competitor was Cpl. Mick Baxter (HQ Company), who is at present an instructor at the Adventure Training Centre at Pergamos. Well done Pompadoours.



**WO.II Cocksedge coaching the MT Tug of War team into the semi-finals of the Cyprus Championships.**

## Soccer

Last season the Battalion team was undefeated at the top of the league . . . until their last match. On the other hand 'A' Company won the Minor Units Soccer League, winning 11 matches out of 11.

This season has started off well with the Battalion team winning the Carter Football Trophy in October. This trophy, which is played for under floodlights, is a considerable prestige win and all our opponents now know of our calibre . . . if they didn't already know. Before reaching the final the team had scored 24 goals with only one against. Is this an omen for the future?

# DEPOT

The Regiment supports all sporting activities extremely well.

**Football:** The following represent the Depot: Lt. Hall, Cpl. Murton, Cpl. Clarke (goal-keeper), Sgt. Dent, Cpl. Polston.

**Tennis:** The following represented the Depot: Maj. Hipkin, Lt. Power, Lt. Blythe and Cpl. Harman. Four out of six! The team won the 'E' District competition.

**Hockey:** The following represent the Depot: Maj. Hipkin, Cpl. Harman, Cpl. Denton and Lt. Blythe.

**Skiing:** Cpl. Threadwell continues to be one of the Depot experts. He is a qualified instructor and was a member of the team that competed in the John Player Highland Pentathlon at Aviemore. He is also a fine cross-country runner and athlete.

**Shooting:** The standard of shooting is getting better and better and some of the APWT results cause even the QMSIs to raise their eyebrows! More shooting is being carried out than ever before and 'C' and 'D' Companies now have a week's shooting camp, usually at Thetford or Colchester. JSSAM 1978 will be entered with renewed vigour and results hopefully will be a big improvement on this year. Developments for a 100 m range are progressing well.

**Squash:** The Depot team had several regimental players with Major John Parker and Captain Simon Hopkin playing for the 1st V. Major Guy Hipkin, Sgt. Bill Isles and L/Cpl. Trevor Gell also played in both 1st and 2nd V matches. We were knocked out in the quarter final of the Army Cup by HQ Northern Ireland who were the eventual runners-up.

Regrettably this was John Parker's last playing season as he has been given medical orders to stop playing his support has been much appreciated.

**Depot cricket team. Winners of E District cricket competition and runners-up of the area competition 1977. Royal Anglian players Cpl. Clarke, Lt. I. R. M. Hall, Maj. G. W. M. Hipkin (capt.), Sgt. Harding and Cpl. Polson.**



## Regimental cricket

Once again the Gentlemen of Suffolk proved too strong for the regimental eleven at Bury St. Edmunds on 2nd June.

Gentlemen of Suffolk: 251 for 7 declared (Lt. Badger 3 for 71).

The Regiment: 101 (Col. D. Thorne 23).

On 3rd June we travelled to Cambridge for a new fixture against Fitzwilliam College. Thanks to an excellent opening stand by Majors Davenport and Goldschmidt of 103, we won the match.

Fitzwilliam College: 184 for 7 declared (Col. D. Thorne 3 for 50, Lt. A. Wells 2 for 52).

The Regiment: 185 for 7 (Maj. Davenport 75, Maj. Goldschmidt 61).

## Golf

The Regimental Golfing Society held the usual three meetings. In the spring at Thetford, the summer at Royal Worlington and the autumn at Flempton. Colonel Badger cleared the board at the annual meeting at Worlington. At Flempton the regimental team defeated the Club.

A new Inter-Regimental Cup, presented by the Queen's Regiment for the three Divisional Regiments was won by our team with 129 Stableford points to the Queens 115 and the Fusiliers 100. The team consisted of Lt. Cols. Marriott, Murry Brown and Easter, Majors Hipkin, Jenns, Growse and Hazelwood, and Captain Woodward. The match was played at the Gog Magog GC, Cambridge.

## Army Golf—Argyll and Sutherland Bowl, Sandwich

Our team reached the final, defeating the Queens 'B' (14-0) and Royal Scots (13-4), but were beaten (unexpectedly we thought!) by the Fusiliers (17-2). The team was: Generals Freeland and Creasey, Brigadier Akehurst and Colonel Noble. General Freeland was undefeated and scored seventeen of our twenty-nine holes on the Hambro scoring system.

# OBITUARY



**MAJOR GEORGE SHIPLEY**

The sudden death of George Shipley at the age of 54 came as a great shock to his many friends, who had only just assimilated the news of his serious illness. At least his suffering was kept to the minimum.

George did his basic training with the young soldiers battalion of the Northamptonshire Regiment in the early 1940s and was commissioned into the Dogra Regiment, Indian Army, in July 1942. His war service was mainly in the Middle East, but in March 1945 he was sent to the Far East starting in Burmah and taking in Singapore and Java. He was commissioned into the Northamptonshire Regiment in early 1947 and thereafter served either with the Regiment and their successors, or on the staff in various capacities until his untimely death a few months before he was due to retire. In 1949 he married Margharite, inheriting a delightful daughter, Judy, and in 1952 a son, Michael, was born to them, only to be killed tragically in 1975 when serving on attachment in Dhofar.

George had three loves: his family, the Army and his religion. From these and his career details, he might sound worthy, ordinary and dull. This was far from the case. While no genius, he had tremendous common sense which enabled him to ignore red tape and irrelevancy, and exercise a sound judgement in giving decisions. He had adaptability which enabled him to mix with all ranks, creeds, and nationalities, particularly from the other side of the Atlantic! He had enthusiasm and drive at the right moments and could influence subordinates and superiors. But overall he had a tremendous sense of humour which gave him the ability to see things in perspective, and

enabled him to bring high-fliers down to earth. On the way from the church to the interment, some of us reminisced about George's remarks which had become classics to his old friends. Outsiders looking in might have thought we were enjoying a party. George would not have wished it otherwise! Children loved him, soldiers loved him, subalterns loved him, and above all so did his family. I have never met anyone who disliked him. Could there be a better memorial?

Brigadier C. B. Bristow, who served with him in the Dogras, writes: 'When I joined the MG Battalion in 1943 George was the youngest British officer. When the Battalion moved to the Burma war his youthful enthusiasm and high spirits even in trying conditions were always a tonic. A natural soldier, he never missed an opportunity to see action and was always an asset in a tight corner. He loved the Army and the Dogras and after the war applied for a regular commission.'

To Margharite and Judy we offer our deepest sympathy for the loss of both their menfolk within three years. But their faith sustains them. Go and visit them and you will find George and Michael still live.

J.P.W.

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#### **MAJOR GENERAL S. A. COOKE, CB, OBE**

Major General Sidney Arthur Cooke, CB, OBE, who died at Kelling Hospital, North Norfolk, on 25th March, 1977, had a distinguished career in both the British and the Jordanian armies. He was 73. He was awarded the OBE for his services in Burma 1943; mentioned in despatches in 1949, became a Companion of the Order of the Bath in January 1953, and was awarded the Order of El Istiqlal (Jordan) 1st Class in November 1953.

'Sam' Cooke was born on 21st July, 1903, the son of Major Arthur Cooke of the 13th Hussars. He was gazetted Second Lieutenant in the Lincolnshire Regiment in 1923 and much of his service before the Second World War was in India where he was serving on the staff of Lahore Brigade Area when war was declared. In 1942 Cooke was posted as a Major to the 13th Kings, part of Wingate's Long Range Penetration Brigade.

Cooke later succeeded to the command of this battalion and commanded a Group of Columns in Burma with great success. Unfortunately he became virtually crippled by jungle sores and had to be evacuated by air towards the end of the operation.

His connection with Jordan began in 1951 when he was selected to succeed Brigadier N. O. Lash Pasha, the operational commander of the Arab Legion under General Glubb Pasha. Lash was not a regular soldier and the British Government had stipulated that his successor should be in return for an increased British financial subvention which would allow the Arab Legion to be expanded.

Cooke was promoted Major General in September 1951, and became GOC of the newly formed 1st Arab Legion Division. According to the practice then prevailing in Jordan, which was itself a hangover from the old days of the Ottoman Empire, he was also given the honorary title of Pasha, and it is as Cooke Pasha that he is best known to the Arab officers and soldiers who served under him. He held his appointment for nearly six years, an unusually long period, but he was due to be relieved by another British officer when the coup d'etat organised by a group of young Arab officers led to Glubb's dismissal in March 1956, and Cooke's supersession by an Arab officer. After his return to this country he retired from the Army in March 1957.

A batchelor, always immaculately turned out, he was an excellent organiser and trainer. His task was not an easy one because inevitably he had to play second fiddle to Glubb, particularly in the delicate matter of selection of senior Arab officers for promotion.

For much of the time he remained in the background in his divisional headquarters at Khaw, outside Zerka. There were some who felt that he should have played a more active part but he was probably correct in acting as he did because he could never have hoped to match Glubb's influence with the government and the Arab Legion; he therefore saw his task as being one which would ensure that his troops were well organised, equipped, administered and trained. In this he was wholly successful.

There was a dependability about Sam Cooke, which was worth a great deal when the tensions were high. Had he elected to do so he could probably have crushed the coup d'etat that overthrew Glubb Pasha, and he was at the time bitterly criticised in certain circles for failing to do this. But he knew that in so acting he would be going against the wishes of a man he greatly admired, and he almost certainly realised that the days of the British in Jordan were numbered anyway. As with Glubb's, Cooke's

forbearance made it possible for Anglo-Jordanian relations, after a brief period of mutual recrimination, to return to their former cordiality, and for this he merits the gratitude of both Jordanians and British alike.

\* \* \*

#### **HON. BRIGADIER H. W. CLARKE, MC**

Henry Woodthorpe Clarke was born at Binbrook, Lincolnshire, on 4th January, 1897. He was educated at Repton College. In 1914 he ran away from school and enlisted in the Lincolnshire Regiment as a private soldier, and in due course was promoted to acting Lance Corporal. He was appointed to a Territorial Force Commission as a Second Lieutenant in the 5th Battalion, The Lincolnshire Regiment, on the 1st January, 1915. He was then posted to Ireland and was involved in the arrest of de Valera at Boland's Bakery in Dublin.

In November 1916 he was posted to No. 2 Company, Machine Gun Corps, in France. In June 1917 he was transferred to No. 62 MG Company BEF France. He was awarded the Military Cross in recognition of his initiative when leading a detachment of mobile machine gunners engaged in harrying the enemy by enfilading fire, his company was cut off, he himself was wounded, but grimly held on in his isolated post until relieved. He was also mentioned in despatches in 1917.

In World War II he served with the BEF in France for a short period before being posted to India. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on the 29th December 1941. In 1942 he moved to Iraq to command X Field Regiment RA. During 1942 to 1944 he covered a lot of ground moving from Iraq to Middle East, back to Iraq, then to Palestine, and ended up in Egypt in October of 1944. He was then appointed Chief Inspector, Wheat Collection Scheme, and was promoted to Colonel. In November 1944 he was appointed Central Co-Director and Economic Adviser MESC, Syria and Lebanon with the rank of Brigadier. He remained in the Middle East until returning to the UK in October 1945.

On retiring from active service in 1946, he became very involved with the Grimsby Branch of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association, and continued his association until he died in October 1976.

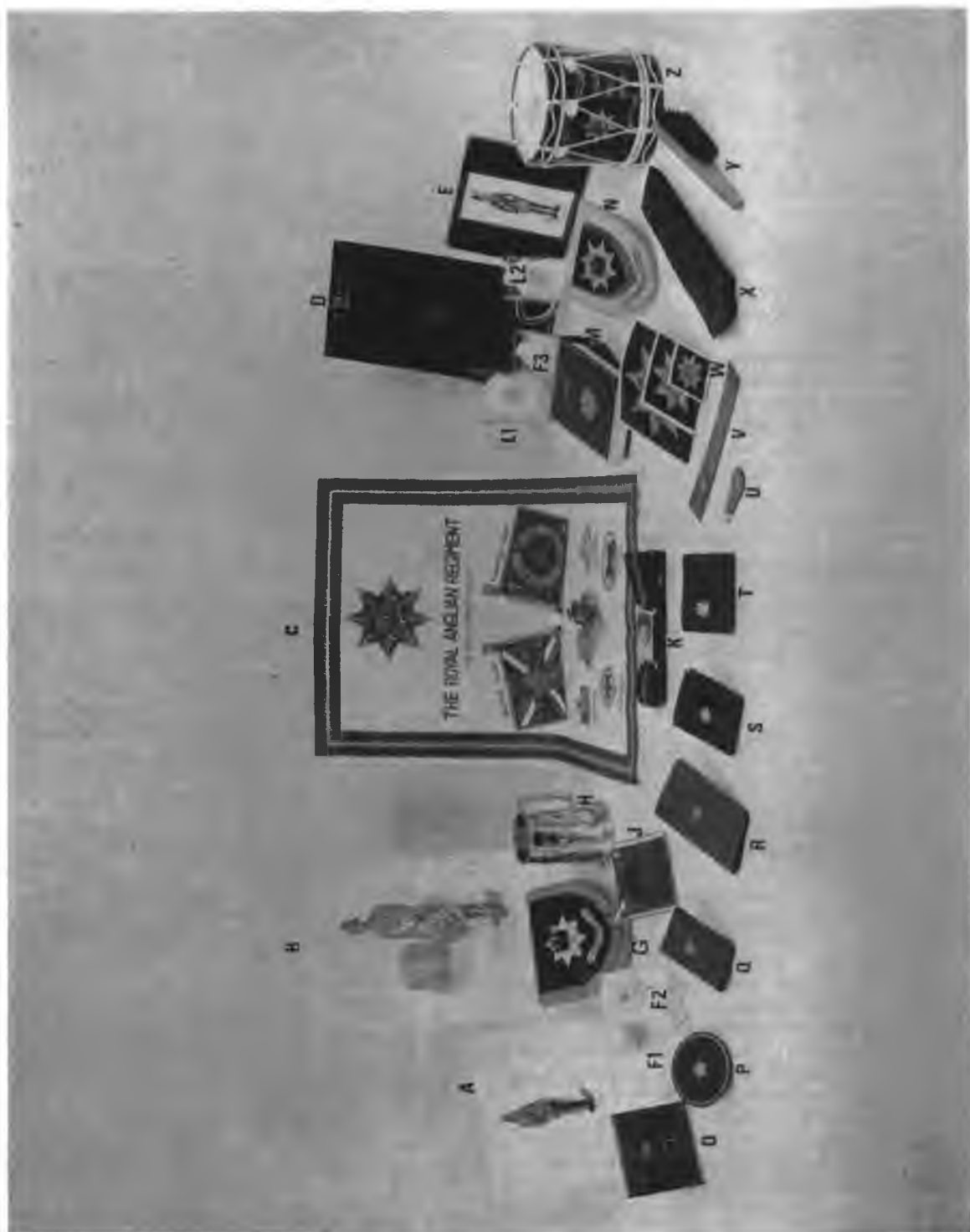


**RSM CLIFFORD JOHN ROSE,  
DCM and Bar**

Cliff Rose died in July 1977 after a short illness. He joined 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment TA in 1933 and served in the Regiment as a Territorial for 20 years. On mobilisation in 1939 he was Transport Sergeant and was promoted to CSM in 1940. He was appointed RSM in the Western Desert in 1942, a position he held with great distinction throughout the campaigns and battles of 1/4th Battalion in the Second World War. He was awarded the DCM at Djebel Garci in Tunisia and a Bar to the DCM at Cassino, and was also mentioned in despatches. He rejoined 4th Battalion when the TA was reformed in 1947.

His courage in battle and example at all times will be remembered with pride and affection by his many friends and comrades in arms. A memorial service was held in Warley Chapel on 30th October, 1977.

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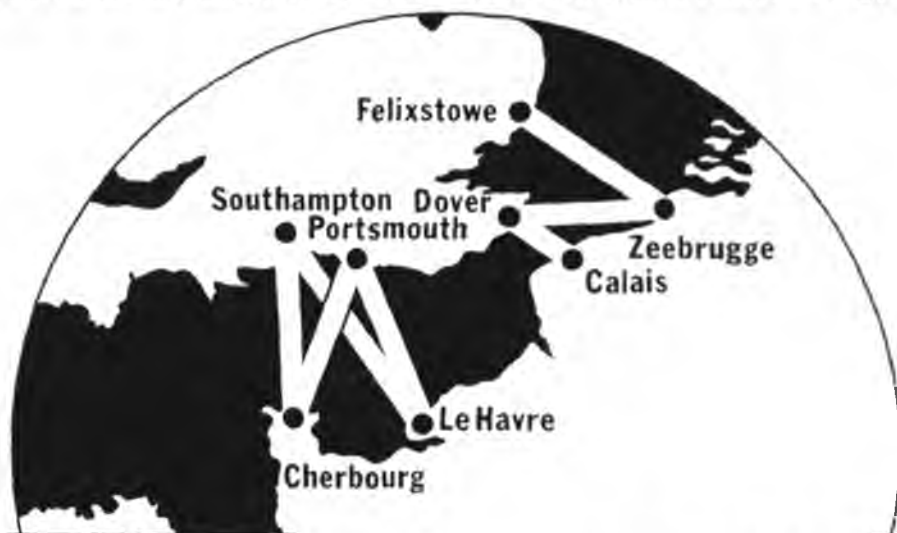
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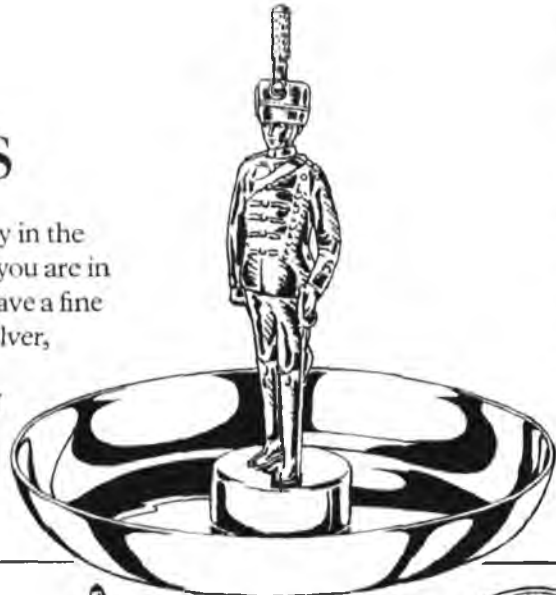
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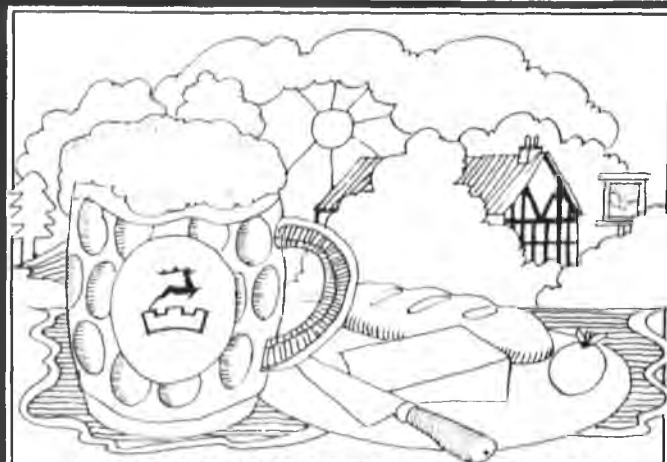
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