



# CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

DECEMBER 1992



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1st Battalion



2nd Battalion



December 1992

Vol. 8 No. 12

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*Colonel C. Dale*

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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.



Member of the Association of Service Newspapers



Lt Schwartz and Lt Wilcox carrying the 3rd Battalion Colours into Warley Chapel for the last time.

# From the Colonel of the Regiment

1992 has not been an easy year for the Regiment. I need not remind you here of the great sadness and sense of loss that the merger of the Pompadours with the 1st and 2nd Battalions engendered in the hearts of all those present at the parade in Colchester on the 2nd of October and the laying up of the 3rd Battalion colours at Warley on the following day.

Our Territorial Battalions have also had their own adjustments to make as a result of 'Options for Change.' Although they have not been as severe as the loss of a battalion, thank goodness, they have nevertheless meant a change in county boundaries for the 5th and 6th Battalions and a transfer to the home defence role for the 5th and 7th Battalions.

We can I believe, take heart from the fact that insofar as Options for Change are concerned, the worst should now be over for the Regiment and we can concentrate fully on doing what we do best – producing the finest Regular and Territorial Battalions in the Army. All the signs are that this is already happening, with a very positive and forward looking attitude clearly evident in every area of the Regiment.

It was I'm afraid, inevitable that what with the pressure of dealing with the immediate problems of reduction and restructuring thrown up by "Options" over the last year, several important areas of the Regiment have not been afforded the priority they deserve. I am thinking in particular here of our Battalions' linkage with our counties and through them our Regimental Associations, and recruiting. Both these matters were addressed in detail at the November Regimental Council Meeting. Insofar as the Territorial Battalions are concerned, as a result of the changes their current affiliations are now quite clear: 5th (V) Battalion (Norfolk, Suffolk & Essex); 6th (V) Battalion (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire & Cambridgeshire); 7th (V) Battalion (Lincolnshire, Leicestershire & Northamptonshire). Their close affiliations with our counties are further endorsed by the county sub-titles now carried by their companies which are listed on page 8.

It has also been agreed, after prolonged discussion, that the original concept that the Regular Battalions should each represent all nine counties is probably unrealistic in terms of linkage with our former Regimental Associations and to a lesser extent recruiting. There is not space here to detail the historic versus geographic arguments that make an equal division along an East-West line untenable. There was generally agreement that the historic linkage between the Suffolk and the Cambridgeshire Regiments, which would have been threatened by such an arbitrary division, must quite properly remain. This does lead to what may appear at first sight to be a



rather lopsided division of the regimental area between the two Regular Battalions. This is however more than compensated for when the Territorial Battalion affiliations are taken into account.

The 1st Battalion, in conjunction with the 5th and 6th Battalions, will maintain a close association with Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex, whilst the 2nd Battalion, in conjunction with the 7th Battalion, will retain their current association with Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. There is general agreement that the Regular Battalion relationships with their counties will have to be one of close association rather than the more traditional affiliation, with all that involves in terms of county titles. Insofar as recruiting is concerned, this must as always be led by demand and the situation appertaining in each Battalion at a particular moment in time. However, there is agreement that in general the 1st and 2nd Battalions will recruit in the areas where their associations principally lie, but share the middle ground of Peterborough, Cambridgeshire and parts of Northamptonshire in a sensible and mutually agreed way.

Looking more to the immediate future, the 2nd Battalion will be moving to Northern Ireland as this edition goes to print. The 1st Battalion are also due to return to the Province in a year's time. All of us who have served are only too well aware of the stresses and strains, not to mention the dangers, of unaccompanied operational tours. They can and do affect the very fabric of the Regiment, from those in command at all levels, to the wives and children left behind. When carried on at the intensity

that Options now demand of our much smaller Army, one can only praise the fortitude and commitment of those involved, pray for their safety and success and wonder at the wisdom of those who have reduced the size of the infantry to the degree where this frequency of tour must be inflicted on our hard pressed battalions. This is not a problem which is going to go away quickly and the Regimental Council will continue to express its concern over these developments at every opportunity.

Despite these pressures the Regiment has continued to excel throughout the last year on the ranges, in the boxing ring, on the ski slopes and on the sports field. More details of all these events will feature elsewhere in this issue. If anything, the merger will strengthen our regular representation and one can I believe confidently anticipate even greater gladiatorial feats. I congratulate all concerned in maintaining the Regiment's pre-eminent sporting reputation.

The Royal Anglian Museum project at the Imperial War Museum Duxford has now reached the design and costing stage. I am delighted by the general enthusiasm for the idea and optimistic that it will proceed to fruition. However, until the design and costs have been thoroughly debated and agreed by the Regimental Council, no firm decision on implementation can be taken. All the Regiments' various museums continue to play an important part in preserving our history for the soldiers and citizens of today. Details can be found elsewhere in this edition.

The Association Gathering at Bassingbourn this year was a resounding success and is now firmly established as one of the main annual Regimental gatherings. I am delighted to be able to confirm that thanks to the support of the 1st Battalion, the 1993 gathering will be at Bassingbourn on the 29th August. This is slightly later than normal, but nevertheless we have managed to retain the venue.

Finally, I would like to pass on all our thanks to Brigadier Bill Dodd who has now completed his tour of duty as the Deputy Colonel responsible for the 3rd Battalion and the Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex association areas and welcome his successor, Colonel David Harris, our first Territorial Army Deputy Colonel, who will represent our territorial interests throughout the regimental area and at the Regimental Council.

May your fortitude and good humour sustain you all over the next year, which promises on the economic and global levels to be as difficult as 1992 and may I wish all ranks of the Regiment and their families and our Allied Regiments a Happy Christmas and a prosperous and successful New Year.

**Major General P P D Stone**



**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 Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester

**Colonel of The Regiment**

**Major** General P P D Stone, CB, CBE

**Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment**

The Reverend T B F Hiney, MC

**Deputy Colonels of The Regiment**

1st, 5th (V) and 6th (V) Battalions: Major General M J D Walker, CBE

2nd & 7th (V) Battalions: Brigadier C Groves

3rd Battalion: Colonel D K Harris, OBE, TD, ADC

**President of the Regimental Association**

Major General Sir David Thorne, KBE

**Deputy Honorary Colonels TA**

Norfolk: Colonel P B D Long, OBE

Suffolk: Brigadier W C Deller, OBE

Cambridgeshire: Colonel J P Macdonald

Lincolnshire: Colonel D K Harris, OBE, TD, ADC

Leicestershire: Colonel W G Dawson, TD DL

Northamptonshire: Colonel P Worthy

Bedfordshire: Colonel T A Winton

Hertfordshire: Colonel N H Kelsey, OBE TD

Essex: Colonel R C Tomkins, OBE, TD, DL

**Alliances**

Canadian Armed Forces

Sherbrooke Hussars

The Lincoln and Welland Regiment

The Essex and Kent Scottish

The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment

Australian Military Forces

The Royal Tasmania Regiment

New Zealand

3rd Battalion (Auckland {Countess of Ranfurly's Own}  
and Northland) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

Pakistan Army

5th Battalion The Frontier Force Regiment

Malaysian Armed Forces

1st Battalion The Royal Malay Regiment

Barbados

The Barbados Regiment

Bermuda

The Bermuda Regiment

Gibraltar

The Gibraltar Regiment

Belize

Belize Defence Force



## **Civic Honours**

The Regiment has been granted the honour of the Freedom of Bedford, Boston, Bury St. Edmunds, Cambridge, Chelmsford, Cleethorpes, Colchester, Dunstable, Ely, Grantham, Grimsby, Hertford, Hinckley, Ilford, Ipswich, King's Lynn, Lincoln, Lowestoft, Northampton, Norwich, Peterborough, Romford, Southend, Grays and Thurrock, Watford, Wellingborough, Wisbech and Yarmouth.

## **REGIMENTAL LOCATIONS**

### **Regimental Headquarters:**

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN.  
(Tel: 0284 752394 / Colchester Military 5138)

Regimental Secretary: Colonel C J Dale

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major A G B Cobbold

Regimental Careers Officer: Major G W M Hipkin

### **Area Office, Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire**

Britannia Barracks, Norwich, Norfolk NR1 4HJ. (Tel: 0603 628455)

Area Secretary: Major W H Reeve

### **Area Office, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire**

Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton NN1 3RE. (Tel: 0604 35412)

Area Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel J L Wilson, DL

Major M Jones (Lincoln)

### **Area Office, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex**

Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Essex CM13 3BN. (Tel: 0277 213051)

Area Secretary: Major D J Thorogood

### **Regimental Information Team**

Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn. (Tel: 0763 42271)

## **BATTALION LOCATIONS**

1st Battalion, Colchester

Lieutenant Colonel R M Chisnall, OBE  
(*Lieutenant Colonel R M Brunt MBE Nov 93*)

2nd Battalion, Celle BFPO 23.

Lieutenant Colonel J C McColl

5th (V) Battalion (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire & Cambridgeshire),  
TA Centre, London Road, Peterborough.

Lieutenant Colonel P G R Horrell TD

6th (V) Battalion (Norfolk, Suffolk & Essex),  
TA Camp, Blenheim Camp, Bury St. Edmunds.

Lieutenant Colonel A D Chissel, TD

7th (V) Battalion (Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and  
Northamptonshire), TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester.

Lieutenant Colonel R M L Colville, TA

### **Regimental Representatives**

Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn: Major J A B Borthwick

Infantry Training Regiment, Ouston: Lieutenant M A L Lyne

Army Junior Leaders Regiment, Bramcote. Captain T L Crouch

RMA Sandhurst: Captain D G H Hunter

# Mainly about people . . .

## DIARY DATES 1993

### FEBRUARY

25 Phase 2 redundancy decisions.

### MARCH

23 4/5 Essex annual dinner, Colchester.

31 Undergraduates' convention Bassingbourn.

### APRIL

16 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club cocktail party, London.

22 Regimental spring golf meeting.

24/25 Royal Lincoln TA weekend.

29 Regimental investment committee meeting.

### MAY

7 Northamptonshire Regiment Officers' lunch.

### JUNE

3 Officers' Club cocktail party, Duke of Yorks.

4 Royal Norfolk Officers' Dinner Club dinner.

5 Royal Norfolk Officers' Dinner Club lunch.

18 Regimental annual golf, Stowmarket.

18 Royal Lincoln Officers' luncheon, Duke of Yorks.

19/20 Royal Tigers weekend.

24 16th Foot Officers' lunch, Chicheley Hall.

### JULY

3-4 Northamptonshire Regiment regimental weekend.

9/11 TA Bisley.

16 Queens Division triangular golf match, Bury St Edmunds.

19-6 Aug 7 Royal Anglian block leave.

19-9 Aug 6 Royal Anglian block leave.

31 Suffolk Regiment Officers' Dinner Club dinner.

### AUGUST

1 Minden Day.

1 Suffolk Regiment reunion, Bury St Edmunds.

1-31 5 Royal Anglian block leave.

29 Association Gathering Bassingbourn.

### SEPTEMBER

10/11 Regimental autumn golf meeting, Flempton.

11-25 7 Royal Anglian camp, Warcop & Otterburn.

18/19 Royal Lincoln reunion, Lincoln.

25-10 Oct 5th & 6th Royal Anglian camp, Sennybridge.

25-26 Royal Norfolk Regiment reunion.

### OCTOBER

1 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club lunch, London.

### NOVEMBER

4 Field of Remembrance.

5 Regimental dinner and council meeting, Colchester.

14 Remembrance Sunday.

### DECEMBER

2nd Battalion to Northern Ireland.

## Promotions postings awards and departures

WE congratulate the following on their awards in the recently published Northern Ireland list: **Maj W Burford MBE**; Mentioned in Despatches, **Sgt M R Atkins**, **Capt A E Eaton**, **Lt Col D S B Phipps** and **Pte C D Sibley**; the GOC's Commendation was awarded to **Pte D P Gregory**, **Cpl D J Marsh**, **Cpl M D Nunn**, **Pte N J Paine**, **Pte M J Shoesmith**, **Pte I. Waldron**, **Cpl M A Williams** and **L.Cpl G C B Lawrence**.

### Postings

RHQ have been told of the following: **Maj Gen M J D Walker CBE** will be Assistant Chief to the General Staff on 11 Dec 92. **Brig T Longland** is now with D of Inf. **Brig P P Rawlins MBE** is now the Defence Military Attache in Bonn. **Brig D J W Browne MBE** has left Germany and is now DLOC in the Metropole Buildings at MOD.

**Col M E Romilly OBE** is now COS UK Div HQ & Sig Regiment. **Col T B Thomas OBE** is with the SHAPI Staff (BAE). **Lt Col T D A Veitch** is now Deputy Commander SNR College at RMAS. **Lt Col R E Haes** is now at Ashford as SOI Psy Ops. **Lt Col D S B Phipps** has handed over Command of the 1st Battalion to **Lt Col R M Chisnall OBE** and taken up the appointment of SO/COMD BGT (South) Bovington.

**Lt Col C G Stallard** has handed over command of the 5th Battalion to **Lt Col P G R Horrell TD** and goes to Mulheim on a long language course on 3 Jan. **Lt Col A P Deed** has handed over command of the 2nd Battalion to **Lt Col J C McColl** and is now SOI MA to COMLANDCENT. **Lt Col P W Field OBE** is now SOI D PROG DP2 at the Ministry of Defence. **Lt Col D J W Baylis** is now SOI NEDD at MOD.

**Maj J Fisk** is now the QM of the 5th Battalion. **Capt D G H Hunter** is A Company 2IC and the Regimental Representative at RMAS. **Maj R H C Lucas** is OC AATAT HQ INT & SY GP (UKLF). **Lt Grinonneau** is with the 2nd

*Continued Page 7*

# Mainly about people . . .

From Page 6

Battalion and **Capt N J Palmer** leaves the 1st Battalion to join the JCU (NI) as LO on 8 Jan.

**Maj C T Page** is posted to the Combined Arms Training Centre as S02 on 4 Jan 93 and **Capt S W Carver** has left the School of Infantry and is with the 2nd Battalion again. **Capt J M Woodham** leaves the 1st Battalion and takes the job of Instructor NITAI at the School of Infantry on 8 Feb. **Lt J J Wilcox** is now Air Adjutant of the 1st Battalion and **Capt R W Potter** QM Tech of the 1st Battalion.

**Maj C J C Kett** has left 5 R Anglian for HQ UNFICYP as S02 Property Manager, and **Maj D W Price** leaves 1CTT to take up the appointment of ASLO Salisbury on 4 Jan 93. **Maj R E Harrold** is now with the School of Infantry and **Capt P L Smith** BEM with the 2nd Battalion. **Capt C J Barnes** left the 2nd Battalion for 1CTT and **Capt R W T Pattison** has handed over Adjutant of the 6th Battalion to **Capt S D Etherington**. **2/Lt N A Johnson** is enjoying a secondment to the Gibraltar Regiment which ends on 29 Jan 93; **Capt A J C Wild** goes as a student to the Australian Staff College 18 Jan 93. **Maj R J Shelmerdine-Hare** goes as S02 DAR on 2 Apr 93. **Maj C J Pearce** has left Germany and joins the 1st Battalion on 4 Jan 93.

**Maj W A Willmott** has left the 3rd Battalion and is now with HQ BAOR as S02 G3 O&D TA. **Maj P H Williams** will be S02 (W) LSOR from 4 Jan 93. **Capt S T H Andrews** and **Capt P H Gaskin** go to Shrivensham and the Staff College together on 8 Mar 93 as does **Maj R J Ladley** on 22 Feb 93. **Capt T L Crouch** leaves the Army Junior Leaders Regiment to rejoin the 2nd Battalion on 5 Jul 93.

On 5 Oct the following were posted from the 3rd Battalion to the 2nd Battalion: **Maj S L Porter**, **Capt N J R Green**, **Capt R J Latham**, **Capt D P O'Driscoll**, **Lt P P Morris**, **Lt B W Pettit** and **2/Lt S C Russell**. On the same day the following were posted from the 3rd Battalion to the 1st: **Maj R S Ladley**, **Capt J E Harris**, **Capt H Newson**, **Capt N A Baker**, **Capt M C Dixon**, **Capt R E Stoddart**, **Lt I W K Astley**, **Lt T E O'Driscoll** (on 30 Nov 92), **Lt D J Schwartz**, **Lt C C Sear** and **Lt J C J Wright**.

**WOI K P Brett** has left the 3rd Battalion and is now with the 6th, and **WOI R J Cook** is now with 5 R Irish. **WOI W H Eke** left 6 R Anglian and is now with the Cambridge UOTC; **WOI R P Grenfell** has also left 1 Queens and is now with the 1st



Picture courtesy of Northampton Mercury

On patrol in Vogelsang. More 2nd Battalion pictures — Page 24

Battalion in Colchester. **WOI P J Pacey** has left 5 R Irish and is now with the 7th Battalion in Leicester and **WOI T J Parkinson** is Bandmaster of the 1st Battalion. **WOI D B Parr** is with HQ Chilwell Garrison and **WOI C C Scoles** is with 2 RRF. **WOI A R Shrubsall** is now with Depot Queens Div prior to retirement. **WOI A E Todd** has left the 5th Battalion for the 2nd and **WOI A F Twell** RSM the 1st.

**Maj D J Clements** is now on the held strength of the Depot pending his next appointment; **Capt D J Vincent** is now with the School of Infantry NITAT and **Maj R J Clements** is on the held strength of the Depot pending his next appointment.

**Maj A J Wadman** should have taken over as Company Commander with the 2nd Battalion as we go to print and **Maj A Powell** leaves the 7th Battalion on 5 Apr 93 to become S03 G4 Q1g HQ Rear Combat Zone.

**Lt M A Lyne** is now a Platoon

Commander at the Inf Trg Bn Ouston. **Col M K Goldschmidt** becomes DACOS HQ UKLF on 11 Jan and **Maj F R Antolik** is now with 1 RRF.

**Lt Col A P Domeisen** MBE takes up the appointment of GSS3 Post with the German Army on 30 Apr 93 and **Lt Col B H M Davenport** has taken over as Adj of Colchester Garrison. **Maj S J Bacon** is now the new Trg Maj of the 7th Battalion, **Capt A C Wiles** is on the held strength of HQ Queen's Division and **Maj M J Beard** leaves Fort Carson to become Trg Maj of the Bermuda Regt 21 Jun 93.

## Congratulations

WE congratulate the following on their selection to promotion to Lt Col in 93: **Maj M D Chambers**, **Maj D J Clements**, **Maj C A Cocker** and **Maj J B C Prescott**.

We congratulate the following on their selection for command appointments: **Lt**

*Continued Page 8*

## Mainly about people . . .

From Page 7

Col R M Brunt MBE to command the 1st Battalion Dec 93; Maj C A Cocker to be CO HQ Regiment 1 (British) Corps Feb 94 and Maj C A F Thomas TD to be CO of the 6th Battalion Oct 93. Maj K Hodgson is to command 8 RAR in Jun 1994 and Maj M D Chambers, Queens University OTC (Belfast) Sept 93. Maj G D Dutoit to command ATR Bassingbourn Feb 94.

### Transfers

Lt G J Bartlett has now left the Regiment on transfer to the RPC.

### Commissioning

WO1 R J Allen was commissioned on 1 Oct 92 and WO1 N J Richardson on 6 Sep and is presently serving with 2 RRF.

The following have been selected for commissioning in 1993, WO1 R G H Bilner, WO1 C C Scoles, WO1 A F Twell and WO1 A E Todd. We offer them our heartiest congratulations.

### Mainly about people

Col J R Wooddise DI, completed his tour of Colonel Commandant Cadets (Derbyshire) on 1 Oct 92 after many years in post.

### Leaving the Army

The following have left the regiment since the last issue of the Castle; we wish them all happiness and success in their new lives; Maj A N Duff 1 Nov 92, Lt Col F A H Swallow OBE 15 Oct, Maj C A Styles MBE 18 Oct and all the following on 30 Sep 92: Col K Woodrow, Lt Col P D B Long OBE, Maj D G Ridgway, Capt P A Cookson, Capt D M Harding, Maj F J Perry MBE and Capt G W Meen. Maj P Barnes left on 1 Oct 92, Capt G N Taylor 1 Sep 92, Maj P W King 21 Aug, Capt R D Milligan 20 Jul, Capt M K Flynn 18 Jul, Lt C C Sear 8 Dec 92 and Lt M B Sturgeon on the same day.

Lt Col Boocock left on 10 Nov, Maj C A Styles MBE on 18 Oct, Lt I S Davison on 5 Aug and Capt T J Dawson will leave on 1 Jan.

## Volunteer Battalion changes

BECAUSE of 'Options for Change', the boundaries between the 5th & 6th (V) Battalions changed and in common with the rest of the Army, all three battalions lost one rifle company and their home security company. The full titles of our three volunteer Battalion with effect from 10 Oct 92, are listed below as, for completeness, are company headquarter locations and titles also.

5th (V) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire & Cambridgeshire) with headquarters at Peterborough and rifle company headquarters at:-

- 1 (Bedfordshire) Company - Bedford
- 2 (Hertfordshire) Company - Hertford
- 3 (Cambridgeshire) Company - Cambridge

6th (V) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment (Norfolk, Suffolk & Essex) with headquarters at Bury St. Edmunds and rifle company headquarters at:-

- A (Norfolk & Suffolk) Company - Norwich
- B (Suffolk & Essex) Company - Ipswich
- C (Essex) Company - Chelmsford

7th (V) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment (Lincolnshire, Leicestershire & Northamptonshire) with headquarters at Leicester and rifle company headquarters at:-

- A (Lincolnshire) Company - Lincoln
- B (Leicestershire) Company - Loughborough
- C (Northamptonshire) Company - Northampton



Lt Col John Wilson, Secretary The Royal Tigers Association, presenting a Tiger's head to Maj Richard Cole OC B (Leicestershire) Company, 7th Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment on the Company assuming the county title.

For  
Regimental Shop

See page 89

## Mainly about people . . .

# Messages from the Colonel-in-Chief

ON 5 Oct '92 we were, as a Regiment, reduced from three to two regular battalions. To mark this occasion messages were exchanged between us and our Colonel-in-Chief, and The Princess Margaret our deputy Colonel-in-Chief. The Colonel of the Regiment also sent a special order of the day. All are reproduced in full below.

The Colonel of the Regiment sent the following message to our Colonel-in-Chief, HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother:

"The Colonel of the Regiment and all ranks of the Royal Anglian Regiment send their loyal greetings to our Colonel-in-Chief on the occasion of the merging of the 3rd (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire & Essex) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment with the 1st (Norfolk, Suffolk & Cambridgeshire) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment and the 2nd (Lincolnshire, Leicestershire & Northamptonshire) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment to form the new 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Regiment on 5 Oct 1992.

Your Majesty will be aware that the merger is the result of the reductions in the infantry following the review by the Ministry of Defence last year. We are naturally sad to lose such a splendid regular battalion, however their traditions and history and those of their antecedents, the Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment and the Essex Regiment will be carried forward by them to the new battalions, who I have no doubt, will maintain your Regiment's high reputation for professionalism and esprit de corps."

We received the following reply.

"The Regiment is once again going through a period of change – and it is to me a source of very real sorrow that the 3rd Battalion is to lose its individual identity. The splendid record of achievements of this battalion have added lustre to the proud record of the Regiment. It is however encouraging to know that the fine traditions of the 3rd Battalion will not be lost but will be established in the 1st and 2nd Battalion. To the new formation I offer my warmest good wishes and my confidence that the future of the Regiment is in good hands."

Brigadier W T Dodd OBE, the former Deputy Colonel of the Regiment sent the following message to The Private Secretary to HRH The Princess Margaret, our deputy Colonel-in-Chief:



Even sad days have their compensation! Ex-Support Company 1 Essex at the 2 Oct '92 Thanksgiving parade. From left to right: Capt M S Smyth, Capt W L Simmons, Col J V Miseroy and Lt Col K J T Hoile.

On Friday 2 Oct 1992 The 3rd Battalion (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex) The Royal Anglian Regiment will parade for the last time at Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester. This will be a day on which pride in the Battalion's undoubted achievements will be overshadowed by great sadness at the loss of such a fine unit which has served with distinction in many theatres during the past 30 years.

On the following day the 3rd Battalion's Colours, presented by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, at Tidworth on 12 July 1974, will be laid up in the Regimental Chapel at Warley in Essex. The officers and soldiers of the 3rd Battalion will then disperse to the newly created 1st and 2nd Battalions, in which it is intended to embody the history and traditions of the three former battalions.

Will you please convey to our deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, the loyal greetings of all officers and soldiers serving with the Pompadours at this sad time, together with the best wishes of all members of both the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association and the Essex Regiment Association.

We received the following reply from the Private Secretary:

I write to thank you for your letter dated 17 Sept, which I have shown to Princess Margaret.

Her Royal Highness bids me say that she has many happy memories of her association with the Regiment since becoming your deputy Colonel-in-Chief in Sept, 1964, and has enjoyed having the opportunity to meet so many of you and

your wives during that time. The Princess feels sure that the splendid achievements of the 3rd Battalion will be carried on in the same tradition by the newly formed 1st and 2nd Battalions, and knows how hard you are all working to preserve the very best of the whole Regiment. The deputy Colonel-in-Chief has asked me to convey a message of her best wishes for the future to All Ranks, past and present. The 3rd Battalion (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex) The Royal Anglian Regiment, when you assemble for your Final Parade at Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester, on Friday, 2 Oct, and Her Royal Highness bids me thank you, the officers and soldiers serving with the Pompadours and the members of both the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association together with the Essex Regiment Association for the loyal greetings which your deputy Colonel-in-Chief much appreciated."

The Colonel of the Regiment sent the following special order of the day to all five battalions on 5 Oct '92:

Following the splendid parade by our past 3rd Battalion and the laying-up of their colours at Warley, the 5th of October marks the day of our merger and the formation of the new 1st and 2nd Battalions The Royal Anglian Regiment. The Regiment now reposes its trust in our two Regular and three Volunteer battalions to continue the traditions and high standards of professionalism of our former regiments and battalions. All serving officers and soldiers can now look forward to well manned units in worthwhile roles affording an enjoyable and challenging career. I send my very best wishes to all ranks on this historical day.

## Mainly about people . . .

### Poulters attend Officers' Club dinner success

THE Officers' Club Regimental dinner took place at the "In and Out" on Friday 6 Nov. Our only guests were once again from the Poulters and we were delighted to see the Master, Dr Colin Juniper, the Upper Warden, Mr David Butcher and the Clerk to the Poulters, Mr Alan Scott.

Some 96 diners were present and heard the Colonel of the Regiment welcome our guests, thank them again for their valuable contributions towards regular battalion adventurous training and review the decisions made by the Council Meeting earlier in the day and which are included in the Colonel of the Regiment's message at the beginning of this edition of the Castle.

In all it was a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Next year's dinner will take place in Colchester at the Moot Hall on Friday 5 Nov 93.

### Regular Forces Employment Association

ARE you being made redundant under 'Options for Change' or leaving the services at the end of your contract? In either case, RFEA is ready to help you find suitable employment.

If you have served with good character in the non-commissioned ranks for a minimum of three years, or less if you are being discharged on medical grounds, the Association's services are available to you at no cost. We are part of the Forces Resettlement Service and, with over a 100 years of experience behind us, operate through 40 branches throughout the UK.

If you need our help, fill in the card which will be with your discharge documents, or make earlier contact with the branch in your area of interest.

Branch addresses and telephone numbers can be found from Unit/Ship Resettlement Officers; Regimental, Corps and Service Associations; Jobcentres and local telephone directories. Or, write to us at Head Office, 25 Bloomsbury Square, London.



**Maj Kevin Ryan writes:** WO2 Brian Hillier was presented with his LS and GC Medal in November 1990 by HRH The Princess Margaret. HRH was visiting Bermuda to present new Colours to the Bermuda Regiment, of which she is Colonel-in-Chief, on its 25th anniversary. Honoured though he was to receive his medal in such a distinguished way, WO2 Hillier always felt he would have liked his own Battalion's way of presentation, with the reading and handing over of a citation.

A number of factors conspired to prevent this happening until he was due to leave Bermuda, when in a surprise ceremony the CO, Lt Col Allan Rance, handed over a citation, along with flowers for Mrs Hillier and the Regiment's thanks and best wishes for the future.

### From the Padre

## God is close at hand

THE past year has been a turbulent and momentous one for the Regiment and for the nation.

In an age of activism, nay hyper-activism, one is in danger of not hearing the voice of God saying, "Steady. Wisdom comes only with reflection. Be still and know that I am God."

The other side of this coin lies in seeing God in everyday things and ordinary people. You may know the story of the man who was trapped in his house as floodwaters rose around him.

He prayed hard. A minute later a rowing boat came by. He waved it away saying, "I don't need a boat. God will save me." The same reply was given to a helicopter winchman.

After he had drowned, the man confronted God and complained. "I heard your prayer very clearly," said God, "and I sent a

boat and a helicopter, but you refused their help. What more did you want?"

For serving and retired members of the Regiment, external events seem so fast-moving that there is a danger of feeling helpless or at the mercy of whim.

We do well to recall in these turbulent days that God is close at hand to help us. Let us see him too in everyday things and in those around us . . . even in rowing boats and helicopters.



Tom Hiney

T.H.

## Mainly about people . . .

### Bassingbourn's new Divisional Colonel

WE now have a new Divisional Colonel at Bassingbourn, Col Nigel G D Robinson MBE who has taken over from Col Paddy Panton who in turn is now in Exeter at the Combined Record Office.

Col Nigel Robinson was born in Gosforth in 1940 and educated at Askham House School, Gosforth and at the Royal Grammar School Newcastle where he was a member of the CCF - Naval Section.

Whilst working for Lloyds Bank in their Wallsend and Grey Street, Newcastle branches, he held a TA Commission in the 6th Battalion RNF. After attending Mons

Officer Cadet School he was commissioned into the 1st Battalion RNF in March 1961. Col Nigel served with 1 RNF (later 1 RRF) until 1971 apart from two years at the Fusilier Brigade Depot, Sutton Coldfield.

He saw service in BAOR, Aden and the UK and appointments included Intelligence Officer in Aden 1965-66 and Adjutant 1966-1968.

After attending Staff College he became an instructor at JD Staff College and then Coy Comd with the 2nd Battalion Catterick and Paderborn 1975 to 77 followed by a staff appointment as DAA and QMG, HQ

20 Armoured Brigade in Detmold 1978-79.

Col Nigel commanded the IRRF in Minden BAOR 1980-1982 before becoming an Instructor at Staff College Camberley 1983-85, Chief of Staff at Staff College 1985-88, Colonel PB2 MOD 1989-92 and since September 1992 has held the post of Divisional Colonel of The Queen's Division.

His interests include rugby football, fly fishing, hill walking and reading.

We welcome him back into the Divisional fold and wish Col Paddy Panton health and relaxation in the West country.

### Lt Col Greenham at Führungsakademie

Lt Col Robin Greenham is now the British SOM/DS at the Führungsakademie.

He lectures on British Defence Policy and armed forces (being responsible for all three services) and represents the UK's interests there.

He helps to organise the various annual exchanges with UK colleges and co-ordinate all visits by British officers to the Führungsakademie, requests for information in both directions and generally acts as the British point of contact in Hamburg.

He is also CO to the British army students and keeps a watchful eye on all six UK students.

The German Army runs a two-year General Staff Course. At any one time there are four army, 1 RN and 1 RAE students from the UK. All are volunteers and generally enjoy their time in Hamburg. Col Greenham is the second R Anglian incumbent in recent times, the first being Kerry Woodrow in '83-'85. He will be in post for about another year.

### MOD Club

THE Royal Anglian Regiment MOD Club (consisting of those Regimental officers serving at MOD) meets at The Tattershall Castle, a floating restaurant moored near the Embankment Underground Station and perhaps more usually known as The Belgrano, on the last Thursday of each month at 12.45 pm.



Lt Col Peter Dixon sends his regards to all readers and this picture of him - with friends and refreshment with the BMATT in Namibia - proves life is not all work.

### The Royal School Hampstead

THE Royal School, Hampstead, was founded in 1855 for the daughters of soldiers, originally those killed during the Crimean War. The Charter of the School for boarding the daughters of servicemen has recently been widened to include officers' children.

The chairman of the Royal School, Maj Gen P W Davies, wishes to draw to our readers' attention that fees remain very

competitive and are tailored to the boarding school allowance.

The school also runs scholarships at all levels. The School educates girls up to A level. The Bursar is Lt Col (Retired) M E C Rixon.

The address of the school is, 65 Rosslyn Hill, Hampstead, London NW3 5UD and Col Rixon's telephone number is 071 794 7707.

## Mainly about people . . .

# Career feedback sought from service leavers

THE Tri-Service Resettlement Organisation has little precise knowledge about service leavers and their second careers.

To help it – and indeed future members of the Regiment leaving the Army – it has asked if all those who have taken up a second career could complete the proforma shown below this article and send it to the address shown. The case studies do not necessarily have to be recent, although only an exceptional

story would be of interest if the individual left the services more than five years ago.

What is important is that they reflect the accuracy of our claims about the qualities, skills and experience of those leaving the Regiment being directly transferable to a second career.

In this context, an interesting job search might be as relevant as highly paid employment.



### TRI SERVICE RESETTLEMENT ORGANISATION CASE STUDIES PROFORMA

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Service/Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Job obtained/  
sought \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Leaving Service \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Starting Job \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Details:  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Supplying the Information \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:** S02 PR & Info. Rm 525, St Georges Court, 14 New Oxford Street,  
London WC1A 1EJ.

# Fine response to Band's grand reunion

## BSM Airzee writes:

A GRAND reunion of past and present Regimental Band members and was held by the First Royal Anglian Band Association in Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester on 19 Sept.

The evening was an immense success because exactly 150 members and their wives or guests spent the evening reminiscing to the early hours.

Bandsmen from the Royal Norfolks, the Suffolk Regiment, the 1st East Anglian Regiment and the then current Viking Band were well represented. The breadth of service seen by everyone was well over 60 years – from the 1930s to date. No-one could calculate the total length of years served by everyone but it must have been in the hundreds!

It was gratifying to note that some members had travelled great distances to be there and the unanimous feeling was it was well worth it. Some had not seen their former colleagues for 30 years.

A splendid buffet, prepared by the 1st Battalion chefs together with ample quantities of ale helped to loosen tongues and jog memories, as if they ever needed it.

The reunion will be held every two-three years or so. This should give Sgt Frank Piper and myself time to recover.

A newsletter will be sent to all members in due course outlining some ideas for the future. Should anyone not have received correspondence regarding the Association, please contact either: 0206 783236 (day) or 0206 760121 (evenings).

## Junior Leaders

MR B A Roberts of The Caretaker's House, Magdalen College School, St John's Site, High Street, Brackley, Northamptonshire NN13 5AE, is in the process of collecting information so that he can put together a history of the Infantry Junior Leader Battalion from when it was formed in Tuxford, through Plumer Barracks, Plymouth to Park Hall Camp in Oswestry.

He wants to contact any members of the Battalion who served either as boys or permanent staff to contact him with any information they may have including photographs, documents, stories etc.



## Mainly about people . . .



Battleground — The 6th Battalion on exercise. More pictures — Page 48

## Windsor School get-together plan for 1993

Mrs C Poole writes:

HAVING been an ex-pupil of the above schools, I and some other ex-pupils have got together and organised the Windsor Society to register all old school pupils and the teachers. We aim to hold a school reunion in 1993.

The school was opened in 1953 and closed in 1985. It was situated in Hamm, West Germany, and at one time used as a barracks.

To date we have registered some 300 or more people, some as far afield as Canada, America, New Zealand and Australia. If you attended these schools or know of anyone who has and who may wish to join the society they should write or telephone and I will forward the necessary registration forms.

Telephone: (0604) 493832. Mrs C.Poole, 42 Lower Meadow Court, Thorplands, Northampton NN3 1YU.

## King's African Rifles seeks members

THE King's African Rifles and East African Forces Officers' Dinner Club has been in existence since 1947 and currently has around 450 members. The Club is open to all officers who have served with the KAR, NRR, or Somali Scouts.

Its annual dinner is held in London, usually on the first Friday in June. Guests of honour in recent years have included Gen David Ramsbotham, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Tom King (all ex KAR) and HRH The

Duke of Edinburgh.

Life membership is only £10 and cheques should be forwarded to the Hon Sec, Maj George Pearson MBE, 'Harambee', Chilton Corner, Great Waldingfield, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0RL.

Club ties, the KAR Regimental tie and the ties of many KAR battalions can be obtained from the Assistant Secretary, Lt Col Richard Corkran OBE, Crockfords, Shurlock Row, Berkshire RG10 0PL.

### ADVERTISEMENT

MANY may not be aware of the excellent facilities available in London at the Victory Services Club which is very close to Oxford Street. It is a membership-only club and is open to all ranks of the armed forces, wives and widows.

Annual membership is £10. The club provides accommodation (£19.50 for the best single bedrooms and £39 for the best double bedrooms — a full cooked English breakfast costs £2.50!) in addition to games rooms, television rooms, library and restaurant.

The club is presently being refurbished and provides good facilities and very reasonable rates both for the casual visitor or for anyone wishing to stay a night or two in London.

For any additional information please contact:

The Membership Secretary  
The Victory Services Club  
6379 Seymour Street  
London W2 2HF  
Telephone: 071 7336374.

## Fellowship Centres

THE Ex-Service Fellowship Centres runs two residential care homes for ex-servicemen and women, ex-merchant seamen and their widows/widowers. New Belvedere House in Stepney, East London for 29 male residents and Hollenden House, in Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex for 44 male or female residents including 10 disabled.

Residents, who must normally be of pensionable age, have their own rooms in comfortable buildings and may bring some of their own furniture.

These houses are not nursing homes and residents must, on admission, be capable of looking after themselves though help can be given where necessary, such as with bathing.

Fees are maintained within the limits set by DSS-Local Authorities. Those interested should write to: The Administrator, Ex-Service Fellowship Centres, 8 Lower Grosvenor Place, London SW1W 0EP. Tel: 071-828-2468.

# Regimental gathering

## Successes and sadness after Options for Change

FULL marks must go to our Regimental Chaplain, Tom Hiney, for so arranging the weather that on the Sunday itself, although blustery, it remained dry. This was no mean achievement because the day before had been very wet as was the day that followed.

We were fortunate yet again that not only was the weather kind but also that some 1,400 Association members and their families attended. The mixture for the gathering was much as before, starting with a Drum Head Service conducted by The Rev Tom Hiney.

The Colonel of the Regiment in his address at the end of the service, summarised what had happened as a result of Options for Change since the previous gathering in 1991 describing how the 3rd Battalion would be returning from Northern Ireland in August and would be holding a Thanksgiving Parade and laying up of Colours on 2 and 3 Oct. The 5 Oct was the day on which it was deemed we had formed two new regular battalions. It was sad to lose a regular battalion but it had been a great success story to have retained all of our three territorial battalions.

Next followed the march past with each column being accorded its proper regimental march as they gave their eyes right to the Colonel of the Regiment. Maj Gen Walker took on the duties of Parade Commander and fell everybody out at the end of the march past.

Packed lunch or picnics then followed and as ever, the beer tent did a roaring trade as did the regimental shop. The RITs were very active in not only running the shop but conducting the shooting competition; the winning men's team was Hemel Hempstead B (for the fourth time) and the winning ladies team was Team 19 from Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. Mrs Stone presented their prizes.

The day was rounded off by the 1st Battalion Band and Drums giving us a first class band display.

As always, it is difficult to pick out everybody who deserves thanks for all the



help that was given to make the 12th such a success. Top of the list must be the Depot Commanding Officer, Lt Col Jerome Church and his indefatigable staff whose weekend was probably disrupted because of the work they had to put into the gathering.

A special vote of thanks goes to the two bands, the 1st Battalion Band under the baton of Mr Wallis, for its excellent music during the Drum Head Service and for the band display and to our Volunteer Band, yet again, for the music during our lunch.

Mr Giedge, the Depot RSM performed wonders with a very well rehearsed standard bearers' party and indeed by marshalling three columns of Association members (all of whom seemed to wish to talk at the same time) into proper order for the march past.

The food was fine, the side shows very well run and the soldiers on duty immaculately turned out. Our heartfelt thanks go to all

Everybody should note that our next Gathering will be at Basingbourn on Sunday 29 Aug. Unfortunately we again have no flexibility about the date



## Regimental gathering





# 1st Battalion



C Company Milan PI on a Tor in Dartmoor during Ex Phoenix Forger.

## The new Battalion forms

THE new 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment was formed at Hyderabad Barracks on 5 Oct. It was not until the Commanding Officer spoke to the Battalion on the first morning that the full size of the unit became apparent.

The Battalion is currently slightly over strength which will have a major and positive effect on the way we do business, and on guards and duties.

That said, the pace of life does not ease up and the forecast of events looks to be both full and challenging. After the last few years it is very good news indeed to serve in a fully manned battalion with a full complement; sections of eight, platoons of 30 and so on.

The Battalion was quickly into action with of a battalion exercise less than a week after forming. Ex Phoenix Forger, aimed at

**Editor's note: Because the June-December period covers the merger on Oct 5, the 1st Battalion contribution consists of two parts — before the merger and afterwards**

forging the Battalion through the medium of a testing exercise in a difficult environment, did just that.

The Dartmoor weather behaved better than expected as the sections and platoons were put through a series of demanding stands carrying heavy loads over long distances between each stand.

The final forced march and series of skills tests put the platoons under pressure

and did much to knit teams closely together.

The winning platoon was 8 platoon commanded by Lt York, Sgt Yarham and Sgt Swaep; the runners up were Milan platoon commanded by Capt Heap and WO2 Webb.

On completion of the exercise, the Battalion had a 'Smoker' in Oakhampton Camp.

This included a magnificent spit-roast meal and a Band and Drums display.

The food and a couple of beers did much to alleviate sore feet and backs; it also allowed individuals to recount their achievements which grew with telling!

The impact of a full Battalion with more than its share of talent was also seen on the sports field.

The rugby side won its Army cup second

*Continued Page 17*

# News from the 1st Battalion



Above: Milan Platoon Sp Company evacuating an NBC casualty.  
Below: LCpl Riley deals with an exercise casualty.

## From Page 16

round tie with 39 Engineer Regiment. The match could not have been tighter with the final score line of 8-7.

The cross-country A and B teams finished first and second respectively in the first two Eastern District Cross-Country league races. The Athletics teams continued the movement by taking the first four team positions in the 19 Infantry Brigade Athletics meeting early in October.

Congratulations go to L/Cpl Andrew Green for being awarded national honours by representing the country in Open Karate and he has since fought in Birmingham to gain his English cap.

Ptes Brown and Rix have been picked for the Army Colts Rugby team and we wish them all the best.

A full programme of potential NCOs cadres and preparations for Spearhead are under way.

The Battalion has had its introduction to air mobility with an initial study day and also Cpl Lazic is practising his Serbo-Croat as an interpreter in Bosnia. Although the merger was a sad event it is now in the past and the newly formed 1 R Anglian is up and running!



## News from the 1st Battalion

# On exercise in Cyprus sunshine



Above: Wire crossing, Copehill Down style. Below: The OC of the German Company and members of Support Company.



DURING April and May, both A and C Companies participated in Exercise Lion Sun, in Cyprus. The majority of the package was military training. Apart from this, most soldiers emerged with some form of adventure training qualification, not to mention a good suntan!

Adventure training was centred around the water, soldiers being able to choose from sub aqua, sailing and wind surfing. The 'icing on the cake' of the five week package was a short period of R and R. Some soldiers visited Egypt and Israel. However, many decided to sample the delights of Cyprus itself.

On return to England there was little time for rest. During June the command elements of the Battalion were exercised at both battalion and company level at the Battlegroup Trainer in Catterick. The Battalion then spent two weeks at STANTA. The three rifle companies rotated through a package that included FIBUA, NBC, range work and dry training. Support Company providing much of the assistance. Battalion Headquarters conducted a CPX designed to practise a Landrover based, as opposed to a Saxon based, headquarters. An echelon also spent the exercise in the field, its first such deployment for two years.

Within two days of returning from three weeks block leave in August, the Battalion moved to Salisbury Plain for a three phase exercise.

Phase one consisted of a Battalion-run defence exercise. The Battalion was based in Rolleston Camp for phase two during which a considerable amount of training was undertaken. The highlight of this phase was a fire power demonstration organised by Maj Wenham for the benefit of the whole Brigade.

In particular, the combination of mortar and map-predicted SF fire was very impressive. Also during phase two, each of the rifle companies participated in a company live firing attack. Phase three of the exercise comprised the Brigade FTX. Flexibility was much in evidence during this phase: especially when predicting where the support helicopters might drop one next!

The exercise attracted widespread publicity and several senior military visitors because of the participation of a German company. The Third Company of the 51st

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# News from the 1st Battalion



## *From Page 18*

Jaeger Battalion was attached to the Battalion for the duration of the exercise. C Company Headquarters acted as the liaison team between the Germans and Battalion.

Above: Cpl Eales briefs Support Company at STANTA. Below: Milan Platoon ready for action on Salisbury Plain. Bottom: Cpl Payne and his 'Look-at-Life' Section.

## **Cadres and concentrations**

THI soldiers on the potential NCO cadre completed a very arduous course with a final exercise on Dartmoor. The top three students all received their first stripe: congratulations to LCpls Lackey, Wharton and Goodman.

The Signal Platoon held an RRU cadre and Pte Eccles achieved first place. While the rest of the Battalion was exercising on STANTA, Drums Platoon was the clear winner of the Eastern District Match 83' SF Shoot held at Warecop. Milan Platoon spent two weeks in Otterburn on the UKLF Milan concentration. The platoon were put through its paces by the staff from Netheravon. Sgt Cooper won the AFV prize

## **Training and other commitments**

THERE has been the usual round of RAAT and other such tasks. B Company assisted the Depot Queen Division with the schools visit. The Battalion hosted two Look-at-Life visits for 15 and 22 schoolboys respectively. B Company spent an arduous week as the 'hunter' force on an escape and eva-



*Continued Page 20*

# News from the 1st Battalion



*From Page 19*

sion exercise in the Welsh Borders.

A Company participated in a week long KAPE tour. It toured local schools in order to give the pupils a better understanding of the Army and hopefully gain some recruits. As well as giving the pupils an opportunity to meet soldiers, the Company laid on a number of stands including vehicle and equipment displays and an indoor paint ball range.

The paint ball range consists of a small course, along which people run, firing paint at targets. The week culminated with a visit to the Suffolk Show.

Signals Platoon conducted an HF exercise. The Platoon split into groups of three to four and moved to various parts of the British mainland. The control station remained in Colchester. Communications were achieved between Colchester, Inverness, Crickhowell and Dartmoor.



Top: Pte Rumsey during the PNCO cadre. Above: The CO presenting Minden roses and mugs to B Company. Below: Brigadier Calder speaks to W02 McCroaty.

## Inter-company competition

THE inter-company competition was eventually won by HQ Company which was victorious in the athletics, cricket, orienteering, rugby and march and shoot competitions. During the athletics competition, each available soldier competed in two field events and one track event.

The march and shoot consisted of a 10-mile march that incorporated both NBC and first aid stands and a falling plate shoot. High temperatures made it particularly difficult. The individual team winners were a team from A Company under Lt Chris Pook and Sgt 'Orville' Wright.

The two HQ company teams were placed second and equal third, gaining first place in the inter company march and shoot competition.

## Minden Day

THIS year Minden Day was celebrated in traditional style. The living-in soldiers received gunfire — rum and tea — from the Officers and Senior NCOs at 0630 hours. Any early morning cobwebs were removed by breakfast and company PT sessions.

The Battalion then formed up as company groups and the CO and company commanders presented red and yellow roses to each soldier.

At 1100 the Battalion paraded in four company groups. The Commander of 54 Brigade, Brig AJK Calder OBE, took the salute. Brig Calder was the CO in 1984, the last time the Battalion was able to celebrate



*Continued Page 21*



# News from the 1st Battalion

## From Page 20

Minden Day in traditional style in England. The parade was watched by most of the families and many former soldiers.

A free barbecue lunch was provided for the soldiers and families. A families' fete was held during the afternoon. The afternoon was completed with Beating the Retreat. The finale of Minden Day was an all ranks ball held at Leisure World, Colchester.

## Preparation for merger

IN September, the Battalion started the final preparation for the merger. While the officers and warrant officers conducted a Board of Officers, the soldiers enjoyed a sports afternoon each day. Sporting activities included the Brigade potted sports competition and the Brigade Athletics competition, which was won by the Battalion.

Finally during September, the Battalion said farewell to the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Phipps. He was towed out of camp in a Saxon converted to look like a Viking long-boat, but not before he had been dined out in the Officers', Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' and the Corporals' Messes.

## Adventure training

MANY members of Battalion participated in adventure training activities. Eleven soldiers spent nine days mountaineering in the Zermatt area of Switzerland: a full report is included in this edition.

Other members of Support Company sailed in the Infantry yacht to France and the Channel Islands. The remainder of the Company spent two weeks in Capel Curig in Snowdonia: hill walking, climbing, canoeing and wind surfing.

## Battlefield tour

EIGHT officers spent three days in France on a Battlefield tour, organised by 19 Infantry Brigade. The tour included a visit to the memorial commemorating the Suffolk Regiment at the Battle of Le Cateau in 1914.

## RSMs

AT the beginning of September, RSM Rod Allen handed over to RSM Bob Grenfell. RSM Allen assumed the appointment of Families Officer from Capt Paul Smith.

## W02 Taylor MSM

DURING June, Maj Gen Walker visited the Battalion twice, once in his capacity as



Above: W02 Webb and his team the inter-company march and shoot competition. Below left: Lt Col DSB Phipps. Below right: W02 Steffanetti on Minden Day.



The C0 being towed out of camp

*Continued Page 22*

# News from the 1st Battalion

From Page 21

Deputy Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment and once as GOC. After presenting prizes to the winners of the inter-company march and shoot competition, he presented the Meritorious Service Medal to W02 'Fee' Taylor. The MSM was awarded for nearly 30 years' distinguished service in the Army. W02 Taylor joined the Army in 1964 and has spent the majority of the subsequent years with the Battalion.

His career has included service in Aden, Nigeria, Cyprus, Norway and Gibraltar. After completing 22 years, W02 Taylor remained with the Battalion as the service funds accountant. Gene Walker said that the MSM was a very rare award indeed and during his time with the Battalion, he had only seen one other member of the Battalion receive it.

## Minden Day 48 years ago

MR George Fouracres last celebrated Minden Day in 1944, as a Private in C Company, 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment. The Battalion was taking part in the breakout from Normandy. Nevertheless, the Battle of Minden was still



Maj Gen Walker presents W02 Taylor with the MSM.

celebrated. The day began with the traditional gunfire and a parade, during which each soldier was presented with Minden roses.

Other highlights of the day included receiving a can of beer and the opportunity to attend a film show.

Forty eight years later, Mr Fouracres attended the Minden Day celebrations as part of a group exhibiting Second World War vehicles. During the breakout from Normandy, Mr Fouracres drove the Company's Bren gun carrier which was used for carrying spare ammunition.

**THE** Regimental Band's workload continues unabated, performing in and around the far-flung reaches of East Anglia and beyond.

Not so long ago the traditional "summer season" lasted from May to September with the winter months set aside for training and upgrading cadres. Nowadays requests for our services continue on into October and November. December is always busy!

The Band, prior to the merger, had managed to cover most of Norfolk and Suffolk with a KAPE tour and high profile engagements such as the Sandringham Flower Festival in the presence of the Colonel-in-Chief, HRH The Queen Mother and, not least an invitation to play at a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.

To our knowledge this was the first time in the Band's history this has happened.

At the end of the "season" our thoughts turned to the forthcoming merger. It must be realised that, at the time of writing these notes no-one in the Band world knows what lies ahead.

The Battalions may have merged but what about us? Will we remain part of the Battalion or could we conceivably

## Band season continues to lengthen

become one large Regimental Band permanently based in the UK? We shall see.

The old 1st and 3rd Battalion Bands joined forces to provide a good solid sound for the Pompadours' final parade and small groups from the 1st Battalion played at the numerous functions/receptions held on 2 Oct.

We welcomed the Bandmaster, WO1 (BM) T J Parkinson and the 11 musicians from the 3rd Battalion posted to us.

A highly prestigious engagement for the Fanfare team took place at Framlingham Castle, where we were chosen to open the summit meeting of all the European agricultural ministers. The local news did manage to record the first three notes of the opening fanfare before switching to another item.

On 10 Oct, only five days after the

merger the Band gave a concert for SSAFA at the Snape Maltings, Suffolk. This venue is highly regarded as a concert hall. Benjamin Britten founded the Aldeburgh Festival there and it hosts regular visits from major symphony orchestras from London. The concert exceeded our expectations, bearing in mind the lack of rehearsal time.

This was the third time the 1st Battalion had played there but always, due to our size, with another Regimental Band.

A great sense of pride and achievement was felt by all in the knowledge that we had performed well together and it was solely a Royal Anglian effort. Although the attendance was lower than previously we managed to raise £100,000 for SSAFA.

Bringing us down to earth was our participation in Ex Phoenix Forger in which we assisted the medical staff and the Ops Officer by "acting" in the CAS.

Forthcoming events include the re-opening of the Theatre Royal, Norwich and more charity work for the National Children's Homes, again in Norwich.

Next year, hopefully the Band will be in America and Canada on a coast-to-coast tour lasting three months.

## News from the 1st Battalion

# Matterhorn climbers just short of summit

Capt Henry Simpson writes:

IN July this year 11 members of 1st Battalion took part in Exercise Hornli Viking in the challenging environment of the Swiss Alps. The aim of the expedition was to introduce novice mountaineers to the excitement of Alpine mountaineering and to climb the Matterhorn, probably the most spectacular peak in the Alps.

Planning for the expedition began in February and a sponsorship appeal to local East Anglian companies produced some financial backing, and an enormous box of mustards and sauce mixes from Colmans.

This contribution was gratefully received and led to some culinary wonders during the expedition. The team was selected mainly from Support Company with Capt Nick Nottingham and Cpl Kev Carpenter from the training wing joining Capt Henry Simpson as the instructors. None of the team had climbed a major Alpine peak before and the expedition set off from Colchester with a real sense of adventure.

The team travelled by minibus down through France and up into the Swiss Alps where base camp was established in Zermatt. Our orange Force 10 tents stood distinctively amongst the dome tents of a multi-national brigade of climbers and we soon became quite a tourist attraction. Cpl Ian Cox, the base camp manager, was quick to launch into heroic tales of our climbing feats whenever the opportunity arose.

The first three days were spent teaching basic rock climbing and abseiling skills to the novices, and on altitude acclimatisation treks up into the surrounding mountains. The weather was perfect with glorious views of the Matterhorn.

On our fourth day in Zermatt the team took the famous Gornergrat train up through the mountain to the snow covered ridges above to practise snow and ice safety techniques. The hordes of Japanese tourists looked at us in amazement as one by one we threw ourselves off the ridge to practise ice



Above: Capt Nottingham, Pte Smith, Cpl Carpenter and Cpl Watson on the Hornli Ridge. Right: Cpl Watson and Capt Simpson at the foot of the Matterhorn



axes to snow traverses and was sometimes difficult to follow. The ground of the most viable route was loose, steep and very unpleasant.

The team, roped up for safety, worked well but our cautious approach meant the going was often slow. With the sun beating down, the snow quickly began to melt and water could be heard cascading down under the snow fields. Stone falls and small avalanches also became more frequent although many were caused by climbers above.

axe breaking and rescue techniques.

Preparations for the attempt on the Matterhorn were now complete and a team of five was selected to attempt the summit. The next day the team walked up to the Hornli hut at the base of the Hornli ridge, our start point for the real climb.

After a sleepless night in the hut dormitory we set off in darkness at 0420 hrs to begin the climb. Several other groups parted at the same time creating a thin snake of torches flickering up the mountain side. Fortunately, there was also a full moon and the team made good progress up the ridge.

It was not until daylight that the full enormity of what we were attempting became clear. On our left the snow covered east face dropped steeply down to a glacier 1000 m below, and on our right the almost sheer north wall rose up the summit 1000m above. The route varied from steep scram-

By the time the team reached the Solvay hut just 400m short of the summit, some climbers were already returning from the shoulder above having failed to reach the summit. They warned of treacherous snow conditions and with time pressing we reluctantly decided to descend.

It took us ten hours to abseil and climb back down to the hut where the rest of the team was waiting anxiously. Earlier a helicopter had rescued a climber who had fallen from the ridge and they had no way of knowing if it had been one of us. Of the 40 or more climbers who attempted the ridge that day, only five made it to the summit.

Despite not reaching the top all the team felt a great sense of achievement and we left Switzerland with a greatly improved confidence in our abilities. It is hoped 1 R Anglian will return to the area again next year, and all the unsuccessful summit team have already volunteered. Watch this space..



# 2nd Battalion



## Exercises on the Belgium border

THE last six months has certainly been an interesting time for us. It has also been remarkable in that the Warriors have been put away since the Staff College Demo in May. Exercise Poachers Prowl was the first challenge. This took place at Vogalsang, a spectacular barracks on the Belgium border, and consisted of a week on the ranges followed by a week's patrol exercise.

Once the novelty of living in the barracks that Hitler once used as a breeding centre had worn off, the hills took their toll. The final exercise certainly blew away a few cobwebs making full use of helicopters and an assault river crossing at night.

Summer was spent mostly in barracks with a cadre training period covering Warrior gunnery, Warrior driver maintenance and signals. Despite this busy period taking up a great deal of manpower the Battalion did manage to enter a number of teams in the Oberst-Hasselmann March, a German Army military skills competition.

This was a one-day competition for four-man teams testing fitness, first aid, AFV recognition, Milan, anti-ambush drills and a quick attack. Two teams from C Company, led by Capt Tim Smith and Lt Bruce Down, came out joint first. Some members of the Battalion also managed to get out and about adventure training but that is reported elsewhere. After a great deal of preparation and a considerable amount of shouting by the RSM, WO1 (RSM) Goude, the highlight of summer for most was the Talavera parade and open day on 25 July. This consisted of a parade including a trooping of the Colour in the morning. The inspecting officer for the day was Sir John Akehurst, and the parade was also watched by the Bde Comd 22 Armd Bde; Brig Kiszely and Brig Infantry, Brig Groves.

During the parade Sir John Akehurst presented Gulf Campaign medals to Sgt Lowe, Cpl Tune, LCpl Toon, LCpl Hewit, Cfn Jeckells and Cfn Tyler and the LSGC to WO1 (RSM) Goude.

He had previously presented the LSGC to Pte Glynn of the Mortar Platoon.

The afternoon saw a well supported



LCpl Andrew at Vogalsang still smiling despite the tabbing.

*Continued Page 26*

# News from the 2nd Battalion

Picture courtesy of Grantham Journal



Picture courtesy of Grantham Journal



Top left: Cpl Andy Hopkins at the start of the Vogalsang patrols exercise. Top right: Pte Squires poses for the press. Right: LCpl Matthews ready to take his section 'over the top'. Below: Cpl Wright of the Mortar PI making a point.

Picture courtesy of Grantham Journal



# News from the 2nd Battalion

Picture courtesy of Northampton Mercury



From Page 24

Battalion Fair with a lot of imaginative stands including a 'Human Duck Shoot' from B Company. The Day ended with a lively all-ranks dance in the gym.

The Battalion did go to Soltau training area but not this time to train but in the words of Bde to 'Womble'. A number of truckfuls of litter were collected as part of the clean-up before the area is handed back to the Germans. The summer was also tinged with a little sadness as Maj Harrold and the RSM attended the decommissioning ceremony of HMS Hermione, which was a sad end to a very enjoyable association.

The end of summer saw the Battalion going on block leave and being told that it was going to East Tyrone on a six month tour in December. This meant that the summer leave would be the last for some time. Even during leave the rear party was busy as the Battalion helped to train the Cheshires prior to their deployment to Bosnia. Also a large amount of equipment was thrown up to aid this effort including four Warriors to Cheshires, two Warriors to 7 Armd Wksps and 13 to the repair pool. On return from leave the Battalion was busy with a complete signals PRE.

The end of summer was also a time of change in Battalion Headquarters with the RSM handing over on 1 Aug. We welcome Lt Goude to the Officers' Mess and wish WO1 (RSM) Todd the best of luck for his

tour as RSM. The CO also handed over on the 21 Sep.

Lt Col Deed had a busy two years, converting the Battalion to Warrior when taking the 2nd Battalion Battle Group to the Gulf during Operation Granby 2, and more recently starting the conversion to NI skills. In his place we welcome back to the Battalion Lt Col J C McColl.

Then before the NI orbat had been settled the SOTOT team was giving the initial briefing package. This was followed, after the comd's cadre, by the main recce. For some members of the 3rd Battalion this was their first encounter with their new Battalion and merger took place in the waiting room at Gutersloh Airport!

The recce and the merger seemed to go smoothly with the new Battalion quickly being absorbed in NI training. Unfortunately as a result of a reorganisation required to fit the shape of our TAOR, C Company was split to enforce A and B Companies. The C Company spirit, however, lives on with its platoons, and the Company will quickly reform on our return to Celle.

As these notes are being written the Battalion is preparing to go to Sennelager for a month to be put through the SOTAT package. By the time the Castle is printed the Battalion should be deployed on what we all hope will be a successful tour of East Tyrone.

Above: Helicopter drills at Vogalsang. Below: CSM Woodcock leans forward for a closer look at his weapon.



## News from the 2nd Battalion



Above: The band marches past in quick time during the Talevera Parade. Right: Cpl Plant pictured with his wife shortly after he was presented with the QGM on 28 July. The medal was awarded for gallantry in Kuwait during an ammunition explosion in July 1991. Below: LCpl Baines looking worse for wear during the Battalion open day.



## News from the 2nd Battalion

# Under fire in Northern Ireland



Above: LCpl Lambert gets involved in some minor aggro. Below: Another day at the office for Pte David, Handforth and Tomlinson.



THE story begins at Christmas 1990 when the commanding officer 2 R Anglian was to provide a platoon of 32 for attachment to ISG. A composite platoon was immediately formed from volunteers across the Battalion, with platoon commander Lt Stephenson and platoon sergeant Sgt Thompson being "volunteered" in time-honoured fashion.

The group moved to Hohne for four months' training, returning to home base at weekends but integrating fully with C Company ISG. The only difference to the new life was a few Household Division quirks – a JNCO was heard to mutter, "Is that a Guard Mount over there or are they Trooping the Colour?"

By April we were firmly ensconced in the dreaded "Mill" and the first afternoon's patrol provided a rude awakening. PIRA mounted an opportunity cowboy shoot at Sgt Thompson's team in a moving vehicle in the Beechmounts.

No soldiers were hit but a passing van driver was rather surprised to find a gun shot wound to his left shoulder. The incident certainly jolted us into the realities of west Belfast.

Four months on, the tour continues at a hectic pace with the platoon providing some notable successes. Cpl Bartlett's search team has been particularly busy, with him personally finding a bomb in a "Fire Exit" sign, cached in an old people's home on the Falls.

Among other finds was the recent discovery by Ptes Clark and Cooper of an abandoned bomb-making class, with photocopied handouts of TPUs still in place.

On the routine patrols LCpl Hill found fame in the national press when he saved a child's life after the youngster had stopped breathing. He must be one of the few soldiers to have received a bottle of Scotch from a "traced" family. Sadly he had to leave us mid-tour to return to Celle. And Pte Rutter is still basking in the glory of spotting a CWIED set up and ready for the primary team in Dunville Park.

With a month still to go, one would imagine soldiers are looking forward to their leave. But no, ten have volunteered to move immediately to E Tyrone, and a further group aim to return to the BRB with the Devon and Dorset Regiment next summer. Sadly though, the platoon faces disbandment this Christmas.



## News from the 2nd Battalion



Top left: Cpl Green 'She looks worth stopping.' Top right: LCpl Coley assists the RUC in a routine comd task. The ladder was a coffee jar improvised grenade throwing point. Left: Lt Chris Stephenson on patrol. Below: Pte Allcorn 'You'll never walk alone.'



## News from the 2nd Battalion



Above: The band in concert dress. Right: SSgt Simpson and SSgt Hudson discuss the Vienna Opera House programme.

### Performing prestige concerts in Europe

THIS year started off on a bad note (no pun intended) for the Band with the leaving of Sgt 'Taff' Peter Perkins, shortly followed by W02 (BSM) Barry Grunnell. We wish both of them and their families every success and happiness in their new lives and careers. They will both be missed for many years to come.

With the start of another hectic summer season the 2nd Battalion Band was again flying the Royal Anglian banner in many various corners of the European Community. Early in the year we had a trip to Vienna to play in the British Embassy for a multi-national audience which included the British Chief of Defence Staff

Whilst there we thankfully had a little time to see the marvellous city. Visiting that great city is an experience to be recommended to anyone. Our work with British Embassies also extended to Luxembourg where we played during the Queen's birthday celebrations.

Not all of our work took us so far afield. The vast majority was within a couple of hundred kilometres of Celle.

This included a string of Schutzenfests and other such celebrations furthering Anglo-German friendship, which is good for all concerned.

One engagement was at Dusseldorf Boat Show in January, when as we were about to march on for our display, the organiser pointed out a gentleman seated in the front row and said "by the way - that's Prince Edward over there."

Some engagements were quite different, such as when we played at a show jumping and dressage event which, to our surprise, was held in a Brewery!

As ever there were many things happening away from musical events, and this year saw a fair spread of marriages and births amongst the families in the Band. Congratulations to them all.

Our year is not yet over; we still have



some interesting engagements to look forward to, including trips to Holland and southern Germany. We also look forward to welcoming the men from the 3rd Battalion and getting straight down to business with making music with the slightly larger sized Band.

We are now progressing well with the planning for next year. Arrangements are being made to ensure that '93 is at least as busy as '92, hopefully including cutting a new CD.

Details of the new recording will be circulated as soon as it is made. It is expected to be available also on cassette.

## News from the 2nd Battalion

### Underwater training off the south of France

IN keeping with the OC LAD adventure training programme it was decided that a diving expedition should be arranged for some time in 1993. This has now been confirmed for July '93 in Belize.

So with this in mind volunteers were sought out from the LAD. With ten names put forward the next step was to arrange for these prospective Jacques Cousteau's to be trained to a basic level of diving.

Military sources seemed to be out of the question so another option had to be found. The answer came from the resident RCT representative LCpl Lewis to whom the answer was easy, "Let's all go to the south of France and do a course there".

Once the OC LAD had agreed to grant leave to all those concerned, planning began. In January letters were sent booking three mobile homes on a site in St Tropez, a reasonable place for adventure training. A friend of LCpl Lewis's, who runs a diving school, was contacted to see if he could run a course for our lads. He was quite happy to do so and to give us a good discount into the bargain.

Now came all the boring paperwork involved in such expeditions, arranging medicals, E111 Forms, Transport and equipment. The Battalion was brilliant in as much as it provided us with wind-surfing kit, water-skiing kit and the use of the PRI speedboat. The Adjutant was most helpful in getting two sets of diving equipment from 14 Sigs Diving Club.

Things were looking good until two things were noted: one, nobody had an RYA Boat Handlers' Certificate and two, there was no axle on the speedboat trailer.

Thinking quickly on your feet is well taught in the RCT, so in went a course bid for a boat handling course for LCpl Lewis, and off went the trailer to the garage with the PRI's blessing. One



LAD outside the dive shop. L-r CFNs Goddard, Greech, Jeckles, and Sopen

course and one axle later we were ready to roll.

In August, petrol coupons bought, route cards written, and the boat loaded we were off. After the worst imaginable journey ever, due to the French holiday period, we finally arrived safely in St Tropez and got booked into our 'homes'. A few days to acclimatise and the boys were ready to dive.

The course lasts for six days with at least one dive per day, and theory lessons held in the evenings.

This part was the hardest of the course as it is held at the diving beach bar, so whilst having to try to concentrate on depth charts, decompression stops and other mundane matters the lads had to put up with free flowing alcohol and semi-naked women. That every single one passed the theory side on the first attempt just shows the resilience of the REME soldier.

Many a laugh was had during the course and everyone enjoyed themselves, including the extra long snorkel swim that was thrown in "just for fun" by the instructor. All the tests were passed with flying colours and a barbecue was held to issue the diving licences.

Everyone was given a special certificate pointing out his/her own individual diving attribute, such as underwater break-dancing champion or the "the only person able to breath under water (without air)."

On the last day both the chief diving instructor and the owners of the mobile homes took LCpl Lewis to one side and said that they had never had such a good bunch of lads to deal with and that they would be only too happy to have another group from this unit. It must be said that the cleanliness of the mobile homes on the last day would have passed the ASM's inspection.

So with new friends made and addresses swapped, we set off back to Celle with tales of diving, drink and women in that order, (very unusual for singlies). We now all look forward to our trip to Belize and warm seas.

A special mention must be made of Cfn 'USM' Culligan who despite the most valiant effort to find the love of his life (including chatting up every girl in one disco), has now been deemed not 'the unstoppable sex machine', but instead, 'the unstartable sex machine.' Let's hope he has more luck in Belize.

## News from the 2nd Battalion

### Canoes and uncertain seas off Sardinia

Lt Lance Gerrard-Wright writes:

EXERCISE Sphinx Diamond was an adventurous training canoeing trip that took place in Sardinia from 1-17 June 92. Lt Lance Gerard-Wright (A Company) led the expedition and Capt Mike Dicker (D(sp) Company) was the chief instructor. Sgt Walker (A Company) handled shore party duties, Ptes Farrell, Forman, Birkin and Stanisenski (All A Company) completed the party making a total of eight.

The party left Celle on 1 June, taking the PRI minibus (kindly lent by the Families Office) through Germany, Switzerland, Austria and Corsica before eventually arriving in northern Sardinia 36 hours later. Experiments carried out on the journey suggest that the phrase "We'll spend the night in the bus" will continue to be an unpopular one!

The first couple of days were spent taking over and repairing kit (all of which was provided by B.E.B Sardinia, for which many thanks) and it was at this stage that the expedition mascot made its first appearance – a large tuna fish was sighted following our canoeists.

As a result of several unscheduled visits to the mysterious undersea worlds of Jacques Cousteau (see Pte Stanisenski for extensive details) kit replenished from the depths included: a hat, a pair of sunglasses, a T-shirt, a beach towel, and a pair of shoes.

Once we had become used to handling the Nordkapp sea-canoes (faster but slightly more unstable than normal canoes), we took to sea and paddled between seven and ten kilometres a day, returning to campsites in the evening.

Although all participants managed to return to Celle looking suitably Mediterranean, the weather was by no means consistent.

Rain and wind could and did appear at a moment's notice leading to a couple of spectacular quick dashes for shore - and several times we were reminded of the sinking feeling every soldier knows, waking up to the drum of rain on our tents.



Above: Pte Foreman. Below: Sgt Walker teaching Pte Farrell how to roll.



The expedition certainly experienced its fair share of adventure. One member of a party on a similar expedition was killed 18 months ago and although thankfully we were never in danger to quite that extent, there is no doubt that the sea feels very big and very ominous once the waves rise.

It is only a small canoe and a paddle that ensure your safety. It was amazing to see the surge of energy at the sight of the shore.

All in all it was a very worthwhile trip.

Capt Dicker and Sgt Walker proved to be excellent instructors, and many thanks are due to them for teaching everything from eskimo rolls to canoe polo.

Everyone came away vastly improved as canoeists, and with a lasting impression of white beaches, impossibly clear water, and sun – in addition to several insurance claims, and that gut turning feeling when your centre of gravity shifts and you just know you're going over . . . !

## News from the 2nd Battalion

### Mountain training on rock face and river

Lt Bruce Down writes:

EXERCISE Steel Diamond was a two-week adventure training exercise for my Pl in C Company. I took my platoon into the Harz mountains for two weeks of climbing, canoeing and hill walking. The exercise was based at the Tarfhaus Lodge which proved to be a very good value at DM50 per week to hire.

From the lodge there are a number of good climbs within 20 minutes travelling, along with a large lake and a river ideal for canoeing. The surrounding hills are not particularly challenging though there are some good routes to walk and places of interest to visit, like the famous Brocken which is now open to the public.

There is still a detachment of Russian soldiers living in the spartan barracks on the hill. Here the East-West divide is still evident as they look out from behind a wire fence at German tourists eating bratwurst and drinking beer sold from their old QM's department.



Pte Mallet maintaining points of contact in the Harz mountains.

The two weeks' training was divided up into a canoe package, a climbing package and two days of walking. The Platoon was split into two groups which rotated through their packages.

Having carried out a skills session the climbers then found themselves stuck limpet like, or not, to the rock face. A series of chin and fingernail holds were used to overcome the overhang and the three points of contact were occasionally replaced by full body contact. However, a good series of climbs was completed.

The climbing finished with a bridge

abseil off the end of the rope into the lake. The climbers, having watched Cpl Jervis jump off the bridge in his wet-suit, decided not to be outdone. Having jumped, I pulled myself from the water at the feet of a group of Germans watching the display who asked if we were German Marines, to which I simply replied, "No we are British," at which point a look of sympathy crossed their faces. It had explained all.

The canoeists had a mixture of lake and white water canoeing once they had mastered the skills. Initially there was a lot of effort being put into powering the canoes in a crazy arc. However, under the watchful eyes of Cpl Jarvis and Sgt Dale they were soon paddling in a straight line and it was fine for the white water.

Adopting a similar approach to that required for skiing (the faster you go the less chance there is of you falling over or capsizing) the journey down the river began and so did the river bed inspections, disproving the earlier theories.

## Peering into the heart of an active volcano

2Lt Ed Reynolds writes:

EXERCISE Tiger Diamond was an expedition conceived and led by 2Lt Reynolds. The aims of the expedition were to climb Mount Etna, abseil off and climb the local crags and experience a little of Sicily's charm. After weeks of planning and a few last minute changes to manning as the JSMEI instructor pulled out, the expedition finally left Celle on Wednesday 1 July.

The final party was led by 2Lt Reynolds and Capt Gosling, and consisted of four members of 2Lt Reynolds' platoon: LCpl Cole, Pte Ground, MacDonald and Caine, and Pte Isbell as the medic and Pte Bond as the REME support.

The journey to Sicily was an adventure in itself as the party drove from northern Germany in the PR1 minibus. Some 42

hours later after stopping off at Lake Garda in Italy overnight, the party finally drove off the ferry onto Sicilian shores. The first day was spent recovering from the journey and moving to the base campsite on the coast at Catania almost in the shadow of the volcano.

Saturday was spent abseiling and climbing on a nearby dried-up waterfall, and the evening preparing for the walk up Etna, a climb of 7,000 ft which was to be completed in two days.

After two exhausting days in the heat, the party made it to the summit. During the last part of the climb the tracks had run out and the group was walking on the old lava flows, feeling the heat of the volcano through the cracks.

The experience of the volcano was the

highlight of the expedition. It is hard to describe the power and presence of an active volcano until you have looked inside the crater! All the members of the expedition agreed it was not an experience they would quickly forget. The next day was spent sorting out blisters and learning about abseiling systems. After two more days of abseiling and jumping off cliffs, to the amazement and entertainment of the locals, it was time to return to Celle.

The journey again proved to be interesting with some spectacular electrical storms and a sweepstake as to whether their would be enough money for the petrol.

Overall, all concerned enjoyed their time in Sicily including the heart stopping moments on the cliffs and Mount Etna. It is a trip that is recommended to all.



# 3rd Battalion



## Londonderry — final months

THE summer, from an operational point of view was very quiet with the local IRA taking an extended summer holiday. A Company had a major find in the Brandywell in June by finding a MK 12 Horizontal Mortar that was set up in a car boot ready to be used. The find was as a result of good inquisitive patrolling by 3 R Anglian and the RUC. This find seemed to take the stuffing out of the opposition.

The success was followed by one by B Company. A Green Howard's Multiple discovered a hide in the Brandywell that held a MK 12 Mortar bomb and a sniper rifle.

July arrived and the marching season was upon us. This year the Battle of the Boyne parade in the north-west was held in the 'Maiden City'. As with all big parades, it was all hands to the pumps with HQ Company taking over the Guards in Ebrington and the Rifle Companies helping the RUC to search, clear and hold the routes.

The operation was a success with the SF being praised by the community leaders on both sides of the river for the sensitive way in which the the Army was handled.

This year the Internment Day and the Apprentice Boys March fell on the same weekend. Once again the whole battalion was involved in helping the RUC to deal with the parades, and all went smoothly on the day. With over 150 bands in the city, the Apprentice Boys March was an impressive sight but the sensibilities of both communities had to be taken into account when it was being policed. Again all went without a hitch.

The last company in the city was C Company, which had to deal with a number of incidents. The first was a shooting in the Carnhill Estates when a foot patrol was engaged on the 10 Aug. On the 11 Aug an armoured RUC car was attacked with a Coffee Jar bomb which failed to explode.

Finally, on the 15 Aug the IRA tried to deliver a bomb to a border check-point. The attempt was foiled by swift Army and Police action. Along with this C Company was involved with getting the operational bases ready for handover. A hectic final



Above: OC A Company and friend briefing his 'Rover Group'. Below: MK 12 Mortar find by B Company in The Brandywell — 18 June 92.



month in Londonderry; and one that went without a hitch.

Visitors continued to cross the Sperrins even in our final few weeks. A BBC film crew was hosted for three days to produce a programme about the pressures faced by soldiers in Northern Ireland, producing a number of budding film stars.

On Saturday 22 Aug command was handed over to the First Battalion The Kings Own Royal Borders

### The Freedom of Colchester

IN late July the Mayor of Colchester had invited the Battalion to exercise the Freedom of Colchester for the last time prior to the merger. The programme was already looking tight for the Battalion's three weeks in Colchester prior to the merger, but the invitation was accepted,

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# News from the 3rd Battalion



Above: The Battalion marching through Colchester. Right: Some of the Freedom Mayors waiting for the Battalion to march past. Below: The CO and Adjutant saluting the Mayors.



## From Page 34

filed away to be looked at more closely once in England.

The Mayor of Colchester kindly invited the mayors from the other 11 Freedom towns, and luckily nine were able to attend. The date that had been set was 29 Sept. so on arrival in Colchester we had less than 14 days to arrange and finalise all the details. The Second in Command used all his knowledge of police operations to sort out

the security and the RSM walked the route a number of times to ensure that the timings were going to be exact.

For those married members of the Battalion who were to go to 2 R Anglian, a crash course in SA80 drill was arranged by CSMs as their arrival in Colchester was a belated one. The Battalion could only fit in one full rehearsal before the day so it was with a little concern that the Battalion marched to the start point, Cavalry

Barracks, on a sunny Tuesday morning. The only delay was the report of a hoax device on the parade route - déjà vu!

Everyone was astonished by the number of people who turned up to watch the march. The High Street had crowds four to five deep along its length all clapping and cheering as the Battalion marched past. The salute was taken outside the Town Hall by

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# News from the 3rd Battalion



Top: The Thanksgiving parade, the Colour Party with No. 3 Guard. Above: The Laying Up of the Colours service. Below: The CO being pulled out of camp.



*From Page 35*

the Mayor of Colchester, councillor Mary Franks and the Deputy Colonel, Brig Dodd.

The Mayor kindly invited 100 members of the Battalion to the Moot Hall for a reception after the march. During the reception the Band played and the Drums carried out a display. The Mayor of Colchester presented the Battalion with a copy of the Freedom scroll and in return the Battalion presented the council with a commemorative plate which marks the merger of the 3rd Battalion with the other two regular Battalions.

## **The Thanksgiving Parade**

WHEN the initial draft of the Thanksgiving Parade was tabled by the RSM at 'prayers' in Londonderry, a number of company commanders were heard to inquire about the sobriety of the man. The idea of trooping the colours after only three weeks' practice was always going to be ambitious.

Great credit must go to the RSM and his team of drill instructors for the standard of the parade and for achieving a balance between the spectacle and the family occasion.

The Thanksgiving Parade was to be the main event in the merger programme, and the one at which the Battalion opened its doors for the last time to the Associations, past Pompadours and the families.

The work started early with the one man

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# News from the 3rd Battalion



*From Page 36*

advance party, Maj Roland Ladley, booking the 1001 things that an event of this nature needed.

The RSM spent time at Ballykelly with 1 WG designing the parade, and the companies were fitted with new denims and combat jackets in the province.

On returning to Colchester after leave, drill became the order of the day. The first hurdle was the Company Drill Competition to chose the guard to escort the Colours. HQ Company won the competition to the delight of the company, if not the OC, Capt Nick Baker, who now had to learn an extra 32 words of command. It is a long time since 3 R Anglian has done as much drill and it is a great surprise to the Battalion that CSM Dawson's pace stick lasted the course.

After a slightly amusing final dress rehearsal when everything went too well, the big day arrived. The Guards were ready, the tents were erected, the food prepared and the multitude of details squared away.

The parade was a great family occasion, with the Colonel of the Regiment, Maj Gen Stone taking the final salute. The sight of so many past and present members of the Battalion forming up for the final march past will be hard to forget. The parade was a poignant occasion although as the Colonel of the Regiment highlighted in his speech, it was also a time to look forward to forming two larger and better battalions.

Once the parade was complete, the



Top: The Thanksgiving parade, The Adjutant and No. 4 Guard present arms. Above: RSM Twell hands over the Colours to the Colour party Below: Members of the Associations waiting to march off with the Battalion at the Thanksgiving parade.



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# News from the 3rd Battalion

*From Page 37*

Battalion hosted the 1,500 plus guests at three separate lunches. The lunches gave everyone a chance to meet old friends some of whom had travelled long distances to be at the parade, the farthest afield were from Africa and Asia. It also gave the serving members a chance to say their farewells.

## Laying up the Colours

THE final and saddest event was 3 R Anglian's final visit to Warley. On a wet and windy Saturday 3 Oct, 200 members of the Battalion took the Colours to the Regimental Chapel at Warley for the last time.

The service, conducted by the Chaplain General, the Rev Harkness, the Regimental Chaplain, the Rev Tom Hiney, and Rev Franks (RC), was a moving occasion. Once again a large contingent from the Associations were present to attend in the final service.

It was extremely poignant to leave the Chapel with the Colours still laid in front of the altar but heartening to know that they are in very distinguished company, in a chapel that has a long association with the Battalion and its former Regiments.

After the service a contingent from the Battalion met members of the Associations in the TA centre where the CO presented a print to the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brig Dodd, thanking him for his constant support and guidance during his tenure as Deputy Colonel

## The last 'Pompadour' CO

ALTHOUGH Lt Col Robin Chisnall OBE is remaining in Colchester to command the new 1st Battalion, he was given the traditional 'send off' by 3 R Anglian as he was pulled out of Meeanee Barracks in an APV.

The officers, warrant officers and sergeants pulled the APV as the remainder of the Battalion lined the route with the Band playing the battalion marches. It was the end of an era but equally the start of a new and exciting one; a positive view which is shared by all ex 3 R Anglian.

## 'Drive alive' winner

THE CO's driver, Pte Mercer, along with two other members of the MT driving team returned from the UKLF driving competition with two prizes. Pte Mercer won the LGV cross country prize, having competed against 35 other teams. The team won the 'Spirit of the Competition' prize which was appropriate as it took two attempts to travel up to the competition in the first place.



Above: The last Pompadour drum major, Drum Maj Lade Below: The Colours of the Third Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment Laid for the last time at Warley.



## Feature Focus

# Warley Chapel — a priceless asset

FOLLOWING the Laying Up of the 3rd Battalion's Colours in the Regimental Chapel at Warley on 3 Oct, it would seem appropriate to draw the attention of all members of the Regiment to this priceless asset.

The chapel, which was originally the riding school of the East India Company, whose Depot was at Warley, was dedicated as The Essex Regiment Chapel on 1 Mar 1925. A listed building, its official title is now the Regimental Chapel of 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment and The Essex Regiment, but this is clearly subject to review.

It is a fitting resting place for some 30 colours which hang mainly in the nave. It also contains fragments of other colours, perhaps the most interesting of which is the remains of the Regimental Colour that Lt Souter wrapped around himself prior to the last stand of the 44th Foot at Gundamak on 13 Jan 1842, thereby saving both the Colour and his own life.

This is framed above a memorial to the 665 members of the Battalion who perished during the disastrous retreat from Kabul.

Another fragment is from the King's Colour of the 2nd Battalion of the 44th Foot, which fought with singular distinction in the Peninsular war and in the Waterloo campaign.

Lt William Pearce captured the Eagle standard of the French 62nd Regiment at the Battle of Salamanca on the 22 July 1812 while serving with the 2nd/44th and for many years the Eagle was housed in the chapel before being moved to the Essex Regiment Museum in Chelmsford. On 16 June 1815 the same Battalion fought with exceptional gallantry at Quatra Bras where it received, and routed, an attack by French cavalry on its rear rank as it was advancing in line.

During this action a portion of the Colour, which is now encased in the chapel, was cut off by a French Lancer but was immediately recovered. The remains of the Waterloo Colours also hang in the chapel.

The chapel contains many other memorials, each of which makes its own contribution to the history of the Essex Regiment and therefore to the rich story of the Royal Anglian Regiment. For example, there are some 40 carved pew heads mainly dedicated to the memory of individual officers. Of particular interest is the pew dedicated to



Above: Laying up of colours by the 3rd Battalion on 3 Oct 92.

The CO, Lt Col Robin Chissell is reading the lesson

Lt Col A E Loftus OBE, TD, DL, a former commanding officer of the 6th Battalion The Essex Regiment. At the age of 70, on the assumption that man's allotted span was three score years and ten, Col Loftus put his affairs in order and, amongst other things, paid for a pew head to be inscribed in his memory. He went on to live for a further 33 years and is probably the only officer ever to sit in his own memorial pew.

A book written by Maj B H Inton BEM, TD, describes the chapel in full. Copies can be obtained from the Regimental Area Secretary at Warley.

They cost £5.50. But, fascinating and informative though the book is, it is no substitute for a visit to the chapel which members of the Regiment are encouraged to make in order fully to appreciate its dignity and status.

A service is held in the chapel at 11 am

on the first Sunday of each month. These services provide a focus for members of the Essex Regiment Association and for other ex-service men and women in Essex. They are extremely well attended and any member of the Regiment or of any of the Associations of the former Regiments would be assured of a warm welcome.

Everywhere one looks in the chapel there is evidence of the love, care and pride that previous generations have taken in its embellishment and maintenance.

Now that the history and traditions of the Essex Regiment have been embodied in the two new battalions of the Royal Anglian Regiment, the chapel is an important part of the heritage of the Regiment as a whole. Therefore, it is to be hoped that the Royal Anglian Regiment will embrace the chapel and continue to care for it and to cherish it as lovingly as the Essex Regiment did.

## Feature Focus

# Royal Anglian museum planned

THE Regiment intends to install a museum at Duxford near Cambridge on the M11. It will be located within the Imperial War Museum's magnificent new Land Warfare Hall. All who have seen the site will appreciate this to be a fine location, central within the Regiment's area and able to benefit from the host museum's 400,000 visitors each year.

We have enlisted the help of a professional museum designer to make recommendations and thus outline costs; we expect to hear the results of his study shortly. We have asked him to illustrate life in the East Anglian and Royal Royal Anglian Regiments from 1958 to the present. The latest display techniques, including the use of sound and video, will be used. Lt Col T D A Veitch has undertaken the task of Regimental Project Officer.

We envisage that there will firstly be a display linking the Regiment with our former Regiments before showing exhibits of the Regiment's role in every theatre it has served from Malaya to the Gulf. Our volun-

ter battalions, loan service and UN duties, cadets, regimental associations, sports and adventure training. Bisley, our chapels and museums could all be covered. Exhibits may well also include our traditions, honours, ceremonial, regimental music, colours and silver. The whole display would be professionally set out and would not come cheap.

sonal mementoes, early dress accoutrements etc, you are asked to contact one of those listed below.

Items we have been unable to obtain to date include many of the out of date weapons, radios and personal equipment which were used in the early days of the Regiment.

If the project goes ahead, it has to be professionally done which means expense. However we must first await the designer's plans and costings. Consequent on that we will have to decide the form the museum will take and how the money is to be raised. We will almost certainly have to organise an appeal.

Contact points:  
Regimental Project Officer – Lt Col T D A Veitch, R Anglian; New College, Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Surrey GU15 4PQ. Tel: Civil (0276) 2514 Ext 41; Military 726 2514.  
1 R Anglian Museum Officer – Maj F M Froud R Anglian, 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester, Essex C02 7TB. Tel: Civil (0206) 78 3256. Military 765 3256.

2 R Anglian Museum Officer – Maj D Whitehead, 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, BFPO 23. Tel: Civil 010-49-5141-302-254; Military 782382 254.

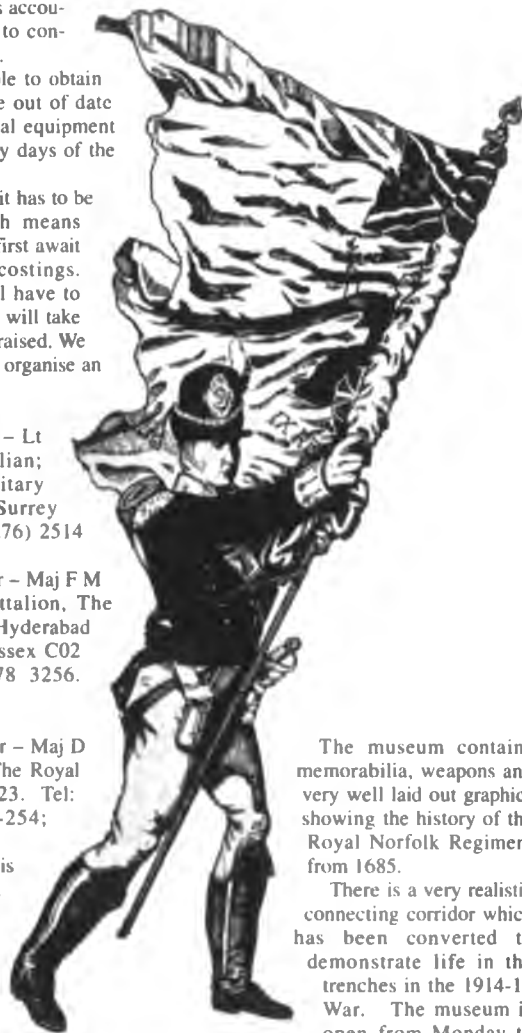
5 R Anglian (Sgt Boyd who is collecting the material at Peterborough – TA Centre, London Road, Peterborough, Cambs PE2 9BY. Tel: Civil (0733) 54581; Military RAF Wittering Ext 3300.  
RHQ and area secretaries whose addresses and telephone numbers are shown at the beginning of this magazine.

### The Museum of the Royal Norfolk Regiment – Norwich

THE museum of the Royal Norfolk Regiment was originally situated at Britannia Barracks but has recently been moved to the Shirehall near to the castle in Norwich. The museum was opened by our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

teer battalions, loan service and UN duties, cadets, regimental associations, sports and adventure training. Bisley, our chapels and museums could all be covered. Exhibits may well also include our traditions, honours, ceremonial, regimental music, colours and silver. The whole display would be professionally set out and would not come cheap.

Within our Regular and Volunteer Battalions, museum officers are already providing much of the material required, including a piece of the Berlin wall, drums, silver, photographs, medals and anecdotes (some of which, for various reasons, may be unusable). If any serving and retired member of the regiment has any material he believes might be of use, particularly memorabilia from operational tours, per-



The museum contains memorabilia, weapons and very well laid out graphics showing the history of the Royal Norfolk Regiment from 1685.

There is a very realistic connecting corridor which has been converted to demonstrate life in the trenches in the 1914-18 War. The museum is open from Monday to Saturday 10 am to 5 pm and on Sunday 2-5 pm; there is a small admission charge.

Because there was not room in the Shirehall to hold everything, remaining items of the former Royal Norfolk Regiment museum remain in Britannia Barracks.

### The Museum of The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment – Lincoln

THE museum of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment is housed in the old Militia

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# Feature Focus



From Page 40

Barracks in Burrow Road and forms part of the Lincoln City's 'Lincoln Life Museum.' It is soon to be refurbished. The museum consists of memorabilia of the Regiment since its founding in 1685 as the Earl of Bath's regiment until amalgamation with the Northamptonshire Regiment in 1960. There is a small charge for admission. The museum is open on weekdays from 10-5 and Sundays 12-4.



## The Museum of the Northamptonshire Regiment – Northampton

THE museum of The Northamptonshire Regiment was originally situated in the Regimental Depot, Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton and was first exhibited as a collection in 1933. In 1948, when the Depot moved to Quebec Barracks, the museum also moved and occupied premises in the barracks which later became Simpson Barracks. In 1960 Regimental Headquarters

moved back to Gibraltar Barracks and the museum came too. A regimental museum housed within a barracks, surrounded by a threatening wall, gives no encouragement to the general public to venture within.

Therefore, in 1970, members of the County Borough of Northampton and officers of the Regiment decided that if accommodation could be made available in the museum that already existed in Abingdon Park, they would lend the exhibits. This all proceeded and in 1971 the Marquess of Exeter opened the museum with the very amicable arrangement that the Regiment looks after the display and maintenance of the exhibits whilst the local authority looks after the security and the maintenance of the premises. Admission is free.

## The Museum of the Royal Leicestershire – Leicester

THE Magazine forms an original part of the ambitious New Works, which Henry, Earl of Lancaster began just outside Leicester in 1330. The area was provided with walls of its own and a gatehouse. The gatehouse became the property of the county and in 1642 the county magazine was stored there. The magazine became more closely connected with military use as adjoining land was bought to provide buildings for the militia.

The construction of the Newark underpass in 1968 involved the demolition of the 19th century barracks, leaving the magazine in sole possession of a fine island site. This gave the opportunity to use the magazine, which has for 300 years been a military

building, as a museum for the Royal Leicestershire Regiment. Admission is free.

## The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Museum – Luton

THE 16th Foot Museum exhibits are displayed at the Luton Museum at Wardown Park, Old Bedford Road, Luton. The exhibits include a Blenheim display and a wonderful collection of old Bedford silver which, until recently, was on loan to the 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment.

A new display case is being made for the very large number of medals held at the museum and these will be on show soon. Admission to the museum is free and the opening hours are 10 am to 5 pm on weekdays and 1 pm to 5 pm on Sundays.

## The Essex Regiment Museum – Chelmsford

THE Essex Regiment Museum is housed in a separate wing at the Chelmsford and Essex Museum at Oaklands Park, Moulsham Street, Chelmsford. The exhibits include a marvellous display of weapons, uniforms, medals, photographs and personal equipment.

The Salamanca Eagle seized from the French 62 Regiment by Lt Pearce at the Battle of Salamanca on 22 July 1812, is on



show together with Lt Pearce's 1793 General Service medal. The museum is open from 10 am to 5 pm on weekdays and from 2 pm to 5 pm on Sundays. Admission is free.

## The Museum of the Suffolk Regiment – Bury St Edmunds

THE Museum of the Suffolk Regiment continues to be housed in The Keep at Gibraltar Barracks, in Outrisbygate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. It is the only former regiment museum still on MOD property; the museum is housed in two floors with very well displayed Suffolk Regiment memorabilia.

The museum is open on weekdays and admission is free.

## Feature Focus

# Impressions of Colorado and life in the US Army

**Maj Mike Beard, currently the British Exchange Officer at Fort Carson, Colorado, USA, writes:**

THE British Infantry exchange post at Fort Carson in Colorado, with its wonderful climate has for some time been on my Grade 2 staff "dream-sheet".

To cut a long story short, in May 1991 my wife Jill and I arrived in the US and have since formed many impressions of life with the US Army.

We moved 'on post' into a very comfortable and well-equipped three bedroom bungalow looking out across Cheyenne Mountain which many of you will know has buried in its depths the operational headquarters of NORAD (so we could have been sitting on ground-zero in the cold war days).

We spent a good deal of time barbecuing on the patio in the sunshine, and the only drawbacks are the nightly howling of coyotes, a skunk which sits under our bedroom window sharing its odorous charms, and the lack of a garage in the cold winters.

My job is in the Division HQ, in G3 Plans, responsible for operational war plans and exercise planning. Over the 25 years that this exchange has been ongoing, the 'Brit' has become fully integrated and I consider myself fortunate amongst the US exchange officers to have such a challenging job.

Up to two years ago, the Division was focused almost entirely on its role of reinforcing NATO in Europe, but the Gulf War and the ending of the cold war means that along with most units based in the US, the Division must be prepared for deployment to Korea, the Middle East or any other potential hot-spot. I have returned to Germany five times for REFORGER planning and am currently organising participation in a European scenario exercise; our next two exercises will have Korea scenarios and my successor will probably get to know Korea fairly well!

And what of my impressions of the US Army? On the positive side, one is struck by their hard training, high-tech equipment



The Adjutant and CO of the 10th of Foot relaxing before battle.

and PT; three times a week I parade at 0630 for PT, summer, winter, rain or shine! Their basic PT test includes push-ups and sit-ups as well as a timed two mile run, with scoring standards geared to sex and age. Brigades and battalions are really put through their paces at the National Training Centre (NTC) in California, and even Corps and Division staffs are thoroughly tested and ruthlessly evaluated during exercises run by the Battlefield Command Training Program (BCTP).

On the down side, big is not always beautiful; nearly the whole Division is based on Fort Carson, and this often means brigade and battalion commanders are stifled by over-command from Division. A reluctance to delegate and fully utilise talent is common at all levels, and as a result some junior officers and NCOs are able to get away with low standards. The reporting system is largely bankrupt because everyone is 'outstanding', and raising your voice at an idle or incompetent subordinate is not considered acceptable behaviour!

The work-ethic can be both impressive and depressing; no second thought is given

to calling in personnel who are off duty or on leave, and many officers will not take leave because if they are not missed, they can't be doing a very important job...

On the social side, Jill and I have been delighted to welcome a steady stream of 2nd Battalion (or ex), including Brian Davenport, Nigel Burrell, the Longlands, the Knoxs, Mike Dicker and Gary Morris, all of whom have explored widely, including the Grand Canyon and Monument Valley.

We have also made many good friends in Colorado, though the level of socialising is much restricted in comparison to a British mess - the Officers' Club is closed down for budgetary reasons and the early starts in the morning subdue the party animal.

We have travelled widely, including a trip to Boston to benefit from the legendary hospitality of the 10th of Foot and to take part in the annual re-enactment of the skirmish with the American rebels at Lexington Green. There the Colonel taught me the vital command, "Scooch!" - used to ensure troops on the Green take one step to the right to avoid marching into dog mess. We have also become true blue Denver Broncos fans with limited understanding of American football.

We are occasionally seen in country and western bars and I have invested in a suitably understated pair of cowboy boots, though the music still gives me indigestion.

Our skiing has improved considerably, and the fresh Colorado air has no doubt contributed to the pending arrival of our first born!

Above all, like any exchange or loan service posting, it has given us a wonderful opportunity to savour a different way of life for a while, and we are making the most of it

## Feature Focus

# Bidding farewell to Belize

**Maj George Tomlin (ex Belize Defence Force) writes:**

WITH the boat sold and the car back in the UK courtesy of the RAF, Maureen and I finally bade farewell to Belize on the 5 Jun 92. After many a farewell do, the sad blow of actually leaving was softened by the fact that we were to return home via Hawaii, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Since I last reported on the Force in Castle Jun 91, much has happened. Annual camp 91 was held in July in an area known as Mullins River. It is a beautiful area of the country stretching from coastal mangrove, through flat bush and on up to rolling hills covered in primary jungle.

The camp period itself was divided into three main elements. It began with a week's work-up for the Volunteer Force who were then joined by the Regular Force by way of a beach landing to join the Volunteers for exercise Jaguar Hunt. The exercise was a tremendous success but in such fantastic terrain who could fail.

However, it is perhaps memorable only for the expansion of the beach head through the short coastal strip of mangrove. It took the Force all day to battle its way through the area carrying CEFO over a distance of only 2 to 3 km. The exercise ran its course, ending with a convincing and staged final attack. I say "convincing" and "staged" as it also served as a demonstration of our worth to the many notable visitors on that day.

Annual camp concluded with field firing for the Regular Force in the jungle. A challenging and exciting number of ranges were set up by Trg Wg which provided an excellent training package.

Our next exercise was due to be an FTX but unfortunately because of operational commitments, it had to be scaled down to a CPX. This was also a disappointment as I had organised for 20 members of the Regiment to join us in Belize to act as umpires. I did however manage to justify the continuing participation of 10 officers from the battalions for the training which I designed directly on the lines of a BBGT exercise.

To have so many R Anglians working with the Force was a great opportunity for two allied regiments to get to know each other better. I am sure that the BDF benefited from the assistance given to them but I am equally sure that R Anglian officers



L-R: The Hon Carlos Diaz, Minister for Energy and Communications and inspecting officer at a recruits' POP, Capt Kelly OC Trg Wg and Lt Col Usher Comdt BDF.

gained from the experience. Many firm friendships were made and I know that members of the Regiment will always be welcome at Price Barracks.

I should also mention that there are usually four exercises in Belize each year. Two of these are run by HQ BFB and two by BDF. For all exercises umpires are usually required and are often in short supply. So if a trip to the tropics is appealing, and UOs can spare you, why not volunteer your services!

The beginning of the year was marred by a terrible and fatal road traffic accident on the Western Highway. Three BDF soldiers were killed and one has died as a result of the accident since I left Belize. I also understand that a fifth soldier remains critically ill.

Through Regimental HQ the condolences and sympathies of the Regiment were conveyed to the BDF and to relatives of the deceased. The Regiment also made a donation to the BDF Benevolent Fund which we had recently established. The donation was very gratefully received.

I also have a great number of memorable moments of a much lighter nature, such as hunting crocodiles late at night with the commandant. I also managed one or two trips to the Caves fishing and scuba diving

which is second to none. Barracuda, chips and mushy peas were always on the Tomlin's weekly menu.

In between all of this fun was also a lot of hard work. The Asst Adjt had been attending the JDSC course in Barbados, a course which is exported from Warminster each year. This year the second of the courses was to be held in Price Barracks with the BDF acting as host. The three-man team led by Lt Col Richard Venning 2GR duly arrived and with great enthusiasm the course commenced.

This particular course was of significant importance to the Force for two main reasons: the first being that Warminster is unable to accept students from overseas for this course, and secondly we were hosting officers from other countries of the area such as Jamaica and Guiana. It helped to put the BDF more firmly on the Caribbean map.

For my final few months I was involved with writing the Force's "A Design For The Future". Much of the study revolved around reorganisation and the possibility of the Force creating a jungle warfare school for itself.

Before leaving Belize I was honoured by a summons from the Prime Minister to be thanked personally for my work with the Force.



# Steelbacks



Displaying their trophies are members of 9 Platoon, 3 (Essex) Company — champion platoon at camp 1992.

## ‘New’ Steelbacks begin exercises

THE new look, post Options, Steelbacks took to the field in October in a demanding exercise aptly named Ex Steelback Anew. This was the first time the Battalion had trained in its new orbat following the county reshuffle with the 6th Battalion, on 10 Oct. More of this later.

Sadly we have now lost our Milan capability and the platoon is busy retraining to the SF role to become the Machine Gun Platoon under the new command of Lt Nigel Brown. Capt Adrian Williams, who was OC Milan, has now moved to 2IC of 2 (Hertfordshire) Company.

The Mortar Platoon has also suffered cuts reducing from eight to four tubes although, due to a high level of joint training with the 6th Battalion who took over the four tubes

we lost, it is almost business as usual for them. Indeed, they are already known by their unofficial title of ‘5th/6th Mortars’.

The next few weeks and months will be a hectic period of adjustment as we all get used to new faces and operating procedures. To give but a small example, the HGV drivers joining us from the 6th Battalion had no previous experience of 4-wheel drive Bedfords. Ex Steelback Anew was designed to achieve this and more.

It was an ambitious exercise covering night infiltration an advance to contact, complete with river crossing phase and a dawn battalion attack. The aim was to weld the new Battalion into a fighting team.

The Battalion gathered in the cold darkness of STANTA training area on Friday

evening and immediately began to sort order out of the initial unfamiliarity. Soon the companies were on their way to drop off points, hampered by an unexpectedly locked access gate.

The enemy on this occasion was a platoon of American Air Force soldiers and their Hummer recce vehicles.

There were a few contacts as the companies made their way to the battalion RV and assembly area.

With the dawn, the Battalion moved out on an advance to contact to force a river crossing before last light. This phase saw more enemy action and a visit by the Brigade Commander, Brig Calder OBE.

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## News from the Steelbacks

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Above: Sgt Holmes leads one of the HQ Company march and shoot teams comprising members of Recce PI, Mortar PI, and Signal PI, at the halfway stage of their march. Both teams put in good performances. Below: The Battalion formed up with colours on parade for a drumhead service at annual camp.



# News from the Steelbacks



Left: The CO, Lt Col Stallard, presenting W/Pte Gillian Garfield with her trophy for the first female home on the Battalion Road Run. Right: Lt Col Stallard in ebullient mood on the shingle at camp 1992.

Unfortunately the Brigadier brought the rain with him and by the time he left the river crossing both he and the Battalion were soaking wet.

The rain remained more or less constant for the next 18 hours until endex, which turned an already tough exercise into a real test of our endurance and sense of humour.

The final attack went in at dawn with the Recce Platoon paving the way after company recon patrols had failed to find their way in difficult conditions.

Steelback Anew showed that there were lessons to be learnt by all but, by the end the aim had been achieved, a new team had been forged.

## Shooting in the sun – camp 1992

ANNUAL camp this year was held in July at Lydd CPTA, and centred around the excellent ranges of the Lydd and Hythe complex.

The weather was exceptional in every sense with burning sun during the day and the infrequent rain falling only at night.

It proved to be a near perfect two weeks for everyone to become really proficient with their personal weapon. All the ranges were used, often with highly imaginative variations to take them away from the NI terrorist theme.

The Urban CQB range, for example, was turned into Sarajevo, complete with UN

Blue Beret instructors and safety staff.

Lt Philip Vaughan alternated sections between scenarios of hostile and friendly civilian population just to keep them on their toes.

However the news that the CO, 2IC, Adj and RSM were going to take part as a brick had obviously been leaked. To greet the gang of four was a very hostile crowd of mainly female soldiers carefully schooled in the art of provocative intimidation, and more bombs than even Gen Schwarzkopf could have dreamed of.

Two other important events took place at

*Continued Page 47*

# News from the Steelbacks

From Page 46

camp, the first of which was the inter-platoon competition.

This was fought out on scores over a series of ranges, an assault course and culminated in an eight mile march and shoot held in blistering heat across the unforgiving Lydd shingle. Clear victors were Lt Nick Norman and 9 Platoon from 3 (Essex) Company.

Secondly, the Battalion held a full Drumhead Service, complete with Colours and the Band, at which the Padre Simon Godfrey presided. This was a poignant moment as it was the last time at which the whole battalion paraded prior to the orbat change on 10 Oct.

Although this was predominantly a shooting camp we were delighted to be joined by our Band which trained alongside us for the two weeks. In addition to their own training they provided musical accompaniment to our Drumhead Service, early morning PT calls and Regimental dinners.

With such an action-packed agenda it was not surprising that we would attract a fair number of visitors. We were not to be disappointed and the Adjutant, Capt Tony Marinos, was kept on his toes dealing with a succession of visits from Maj Gen Kennedy, DGTA, Maj Gen Walker, GOC 2 Div, Brig Calder, Comd 54 Bde and Col P W Raywood TD DL, chairman of E Anglian TAVRA.

We believe that they all went away impressed and heartened by the dedication, hard work and enthusiasm shown by all ranks.

Amongst all the hard work the social side of life was not forgotten. The officers hosted the Warrant Officers' and Senior NCOs' Mess to drinks during the night of the great storm which saw half of south-east England flooded and widespread power cuts.

Despite the black-out the sergeants continued drinking and demonstrated an amazing ability to identify empty glasses even in complete darkness.

In return the WOs and SNCOs entertained the officers to a games night which, predictably, they won.

## New role

THE recent 54 Brigade study day on our new national defence role shows that there is a lot for us to get our teeth into in the next 12 months. We look forward to the opportunity of serving alongside the 6th Battalion as we learn new skills and main-



Cpls Ken Scrivener and Vic Cook receive their Lord Lieutenants' Certificates.

tain the Steelbacks motto: 'Pride in performance'

## Mainly about people

THERE have been a further crop of command and appointment changes recently. In April WO1 Hillier took over as RSM from WO1 Todd who returned to 2 R Anglian as RSM. A busy October saw the change over of the training major quarter master, and commanding officer

Lt Col Kit Stallard handed over Command of the Battalion to Lt Col Peter Horrell at 1200 on Friday 16 Oct, and was towed out of Peterborough in traditional style by the permanent staff in a Recce Land Rover.

The restructuring of the Army and Options meant that he had a busy and demanding tour, and we are all grateful for his hard work in helping to ensure that the 5th Battalion emerged more or less intact. Our new commanding officer is a territorial soldier who is also a successful local businessman with a family dairy farm and milk distribution service in Peterborough

We also said farewell to Maj John Ross as training major, after his third tour with the Steelbacks, and Maj Chris Kett as quarter master. Both were keen sportsmen and the Battalion will miss their contribution to our sporting success. They were succeeded

by Maj Dougie Coe and Maj John Fisk.

In September the Officers' Mess held a Regimental dinner in the 1st Battalion Officers' Mess at Colchester, to dine out the Essex officers who were leaving to join the 6th Battalion. Also at the dinner were a number of officers retiring from the Regiment: Maj Tim Warr, Maj Bill O'Conner and Capt Terry Game. All had served the Battalion for many years and their experience and dedication will be greatly missed.

A Regimental guest night dinner was held in the Officers' Mess at Peterborough in October to welcome in the Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire officers and their ladies to their new Mess. The opportunity was also taken to dine out the CO and quarter master.

WO1 Maurice Bedding, the Band NRPS warrant officer was awarded the BEM in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

It was presented at Peterborough by the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, J P Crowden JP WO1 Beddings' family were present at the ceremony and a champagne reception was held afterwards in the Officers' Mess.

Also receiving awards were Cpls Ken Scrivener and Vic Cook of 1 (Essex) Company, who were presented with Lord Lieutenants Certificates by Col Roger Tomkins OBE TD DL, Deputy Honorary Colonel for Essex.



# 6th Battalion



## A change of direction

THREE main events have dominated the last six months for the Battalion. These have come in the form of very intensive and thorough FIBUA training, annual camp and the reorganisation of the Battalion under Options for Change. All have been successfully completed and the Battalion is now looking well prepared to fulfil its new national defence role.

As annual camp loomed in September, the months of June, July and August were preoccupied with preparation for our deployment to Warcop. The completion of six months' hard training came to a head with a very successful Battalion exercise held at Copehill Down on Salisbury Plain over the weekend 20-21 June. The Battalion worked alongside the All Arms FIBUA Instructors Course which allowed us to reap maximum benefit, especially as the commanders were able to use the excellent URBAT facility. Later at camp, the Battalion was able to confirm its skills in a battalion assault on the Whinney Hill complex at Catterick.

Preparation for annual camp continued, with a battalion CPX on 8-9 Aug being the final major pre-camp training before 376 members deployed to complete a comprehensive package which took place at Warcop, Catterick and Otterburn. The emphasis was on the progression from individual to section level live firing prior to company live firing during the battalion FTX in the second week. Further details on camp are addressed elsewhere.

The Battalion has followed its success in winning the UKLF TA Tickle Fitness Competition by its even more impressive shooting results in recent months, again the subject of a separate article. The silver room is in need of expansion.

Not only has the Battalion been busy on the home front, a number of soldiers have exercised abroad. Eighteen officers and soldiers took part in Ex Pond Jump West in Canada with 1 RHF, which took them away for six weeks. Others joined with the ACF and went on an expedition to the Pyrennees in the middle of July which was a great success, being an excellent opportunity for



"Why is it my turn to lie in the stinging nettles?"

training in a rugged and mountainous environment.

On the Bank Holiday weekend in August, a team competed in the International Patrolling Competition in Brischofszell in Switzerland in which 160 teams competed, with 6 R Anglian coming 50th and being awarded the prize for best turnout and dress.

2Lt Cathy Flack, the Assistant Adjutant, is in Namibia on Op Raleigh and Sgt Sinclair shot for the TA team in America against the US National Guard. In addition to the above, we sent CSgt Okopskyj to Gibraltar for a month on Ex Purple Monarch, the most recent Purple JFHQ exercise. More overseas training is being planned.

On the social side, the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess held a successful summer ball at Bury St Edmunds on 27 June with the main attraction being the bouncy castle which came under siege from those trying to relive their childhood. A similar scene was set on 11 July at Chilford Hall

near Cambridge, with the Officers' Mess summer ball, which was not blessed with the same measure of fine weather as was seen at the annual cocktail party and beating retreat.

For it was a warm summer's evening in August when 120 guests and serving members gathered on Angel Hill in Bury St Edmunds to listen to an outstanding performance from the Volunteer Band of The Royal Anglian Regiment and the Drums of the 5th Battalion.

At the beginning of October the reorganisation of the Battalion was imposed by Options for Change.

A sad farewell was bid to our B (Bedfordshire) Company and D (Cambridgeshire) Company who moved across to 5 R Anglian, but at the same time we welcomed 5 R Anglian's two Essex companies which amalgamated into one.

There have been a number of personality

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# News from the 6th Battalion



*From Page 48*

changes within the Battalion since last we wrote

We welcome Capt Simon Etherington (late of the Pompadours) who has taken over as Adjutant from Capt Richard Pattison, and also WO1 (RSM) Brett (also late of the Pompadours) who succeeded WO1 (RSM) Eke during annual camp in September.

Other new faces include Sgt Cowell (1st Battalion) and Sgt Matthews (late 3rd Battalion) who arrive as PSI recee and mortars respectively.

In August the Battalion was happy to welcome back Lt Stephanie Lack who returned from spending 14 months with 1 R Anglian. On top of the new arrivals, the 'command team' has bade farewell to those members of the permanent staff from B and D Companies and welcomed those from Essex.

To all, whether departing or arriving, we wish you 'bon chance' in your new appointments.

Above: "But sarge, I've never had so much link before. I don't know what to do with it all." Below: "Just as good on exercise as we are at Bisley"



## News from the 6th Battalion

# Training at its best – camp 92



Above: Brig AJK Calder OBE (Bde Comd), Lt Col AD Chisel (CO) and WO1 (RSM) WH Eke at Stanta. Below: 6 R Anglian breach the defences.



The Commanding Officer writes:

IN September, the Battalion held its annual camp at Warcop and Otterburn. It was the culmination of our training over the past 18 months when the Battalion changed emphasis from being a Home Defence Battalion to becoming a new National Defence Battalion. The aim was to run a series of cadres, and company field firing in the first week, culminating in a four-day live firing FTX in the second week. Quite an ambitious project.

Planning began in Nov 91, only two months after camp. Much of the spadework was done by the CO and Maj Peter Barnes, the then training major. Having spent a considerable amount of the previous camp involved in live firing, it was difficult to work out how to improve on it. One thing had been lacking and that was mortars and artillery. Early contact was made with 1/51 Highland and 266 Op Battery, who were both keen to provide assistance as they were at Otterburn over the same period. It also gave them the opportunity to practise their MFCs and FOOs respectively in live firing operations with "grunts" on the ground.

Detailed planning began in April when Maj Seymour Blyth took over as TM. It is hard sometimes to imagine in real terms what it takes to translate an idea into reality. It is to his credit that undaunted by the prospect, he pulled all the strings together and produced probably one of the most exciting training packages seen outside Canada or Kenya.

In the first week the Battalion paraded over 350 strong, and formed up into either cadres or company groups for Stage IV field firing run by company permanent range teams.

Apart from the normal HGV and signals standard 2 cadres, the Battalion ran a highly successful sniper cadre (more about them later), a GPMG (SF) cadre, an assault pioneer cadre, a two-week recruit cadre and most interestingly, a junior officers cadre. The latter was organised and run by the Adjutant, Capt Richard Pattison and the Ops officer, Capt Matthew Ellis.

Needless to say, it was demanding (some would say gruelling) both mentally and physically.

The field firing was to complement the

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# News from the 6th Battalion



Sports day — the final of the 100m high hurdles!

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hard work carried out by the Battalion in converting to the 5.56 rifle earlier in the year.

The companies were able to take full advantage of the marvellous range facilities at Warcop and during this time each soldier was able to fire amongst the full range of weaponry and ammunition, some form of HEAT round and throw an L2 grenade. The ranges were all run in a positive, imaginative and progressive manner, in keeping with the Battalion's expertise in this field.

Within this extremely busy programme, a day was put aside for the inter-company Gaza Cup competition.

The format was conceived and run by the RSM, WO1 Eke. It was set over 9 km of rugged Cumbrian countryside and took more than seven hours to complete. Tasks

were set throughout the course which were designed to confirm skills that would be used in both weeks of camp. These included pre-field firing requirements, first aid BHLS, arty target indication, cooking, an orders and tactical exercise including a river crossing with flotation packs, map reading and an assault course.

The competition was won by our (now renamed) C Company by a single point. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the competition, and it marked a remarkable swan song for RSM Eke before he went to join Cambridge University OTC as RSM. He will be greatly missed.

The Friday was designated as visitors' day and the Battalion was honoured by the presence of the Honorary Colonels, Brig W C Dellar OBE and Col J P Macdonald. We were also pleased to welcome our Deputy

Brigade Commander, Col N Kelsey OBE and Lt Col Kate George from Female Focus at UK11. The day ended with a superb Officers and SNCOs' dinner night, the highlight of which was each company giving a short presentation to the assembled throng on their company's history from the formation to the present day.

It was a moving evening as it was the last time the Battalion in its present form would sit down together prior to reorganising under 'Options'.

The second week started with orders for a battalion attack on Whinney Hill, the FIBUA complex at Catterick. This was the culmination of our FIBUA training which had seen the Battalion in all of the major FIBUA training establishments in the UK. Our reputation had preceded us and the staff at Whinney Hill were impressed with what they saw.

For the first time, the Battalion used FOOs, sniper teams and SF in the unique setting of FIBUA. It was fascinating to watch company commanders deploying sniper teams to clear a path before launching into assaults on buildings.

We all learnt a lot, but were reassured that our methodical approach to FIBUA training had paid off. The exercise was watched by our Brigade Commander, Brig A J K Calder OBE.

The following four days were spent covering all phases of war in a live firing tactical environment, exercising all elements of the Battalion to the hilt.

The exercise was visited again, by the Brigade Commander and also Brig C Groves in his short-lived capacity as our Deputy Colonel (and also we suspect wearing his Brigadier Infantry hat). His flattering comments on the training were particularly welcome, especially as in his own words, he had had little dealing with the TA in the past.

The exercise culminated in a night move across the impact area, where several people, including the CO and Ops officer, discovered how deep the water-filled shell holes were.

Camp 92 completed the change around of the Battalion to face its new multi-purpose national defence role. By the time this article appears, we will have said farewell to our old B (Bedfordshire) and D (Cambridge) Companies which go to our 5th Battalion, and we of course welcome the newly merged ' Essex ' Company.

It only remains to say that we can now face the future with complete confidence in the new format that is 6 R Anglian.

## News from the 6th Battalion

# Shooting success follows success

WO2 S C L Smart writes:

IN March this year the Battalion completed its conversion training to the 5.56 Rifle and I SW. By August we were the the NATO Champions Reserve Forces.

Initially our sights were set on winning EDSAAM, no mean task considering we would be shooting against teams who had long been converted.

Any doubts were unfounded as the Battalion was again the outright winner with our HQ, C and D Companies taking the first three positions and five of the top 12 places in the rifle championship. Cpl Rolph was, not for the first time, the champion shot.

Having succeeded at the first hurdle, we turned our attention to Bisley. The format for the TASAM 92 had changed and we commenced firing on the Friday and finished on the Sunday with the fire team match. We came within a whisker of winning the overall championship, eventually settling for third place.

We did however win the rifle championship, with WO2 Smart coming first in the ETR match, Cpl Rolph second in the Queens Medal and Pte Winfield runner up in the best young soldier.

With another success behind us, the aim of defending our title of NATO champions reserve forces was not beyond us.

We returned to Bisley in late August and competed against 29 teams from nine NATO countries, winning four of the five matches and coming second in the last. WO2 Smart won the converted gallery match, Sgt Sinclair the SMG match and Cpl Rolph was the overall champion at arms. Not bad.

As we write, Sgt Sinclair is representing the TA shooting team in Arkansas USA, against the US National Guard.

A summary of 6 R Anglian's shooting successes for the year are shown below.

### Non Central Matches

Winners - UK Non-Central Rifle Match. HQ Company; Winners - UK Non-Central SMG Match. HQ Company; Winners - UK Non-Central Pistol Match. HQ Company.

### EDSAAM

Winners - Unit Championship. HQ Company; Winners - Rifle Match. HQ



The Battalion Bisley team with the Rifle Championship, Converted Gallery Match Winning Team, ETR Match Best and Best JNCO trophies. Back row: Pte Doyle, LCpl Woolhead, WO2 Smart and Pte Winfield. Front: Sgt Sinclair and Cpl Rolph

Company; Winners - Falling Plate Match. HQ Company; Winners - Fire Team Match. C Company; Runners-up - Unit Championship. C Company; Champion Shot - Cpl Rolph. A Company; Winner - LSW Match - LCpl Woolhead, B Company; Best Young Soldier Moving Target - Pte Winfield, C Company.

### TASAM Bisley

Winners - Rifle Championship; Winners - Converted Gallery Match; Runners-Up - The Quartet; Runners-Up - TARA Trophy. 3rd Unit Championship; Winner - ETR Match - WO2 Smart; Best JNCO - Cpl Rolph; Runner-Up - Queens Medal - Cpl

Rolph; Runner Up - Best Young Soldier - Pte Winfield.

### Reserve Forces NATO

Winners - Overall Championship, NATO Champions, Winners - Rifle Championship; Winners - Converted Gallery Match; Winners - ETR Match; Winners - SMG Match; Winners - Pistol Match; Runners-Up - Moving Target Match; Winner - Converted Gallery Match - WO2 Smart; Winner - SMG Match - Sgt Sinclair; Runner-Up - ETR Match - Sgt Sinclair; Third - ETR Match - Cpl Rolph; Champion at Arms - 1st Cpl Rolph, 2nd Sgt Sinclair, 4th WO2 Smart



## News from the 6th Battalion



At the start of the expedition — Col du Somport in the Pyrennees.

### Epic in the Pyrennees

Lt Stephanie Lack writes:

ON a dull summer day in July, members of 6 R Anglian and Cambridge ACF set off for what turned out to be an epic adventure into the French/Spanish Pyrennees. The aim of the expedition was for the group to have the opportunity of taking on the far greater challenge of training and testing of skills and abilities in a harsh, mountainous and rugged environment, and for the cadets to be assessed for the expedition phase of their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

The venture itself took place over the period 19 Jul to 4 Aug. During this time the five-day expedition was conducted along the high level Pyrennian Route (HRP) from Col du Somport, South of Pau, on the French/Spanish border, to Vignemale, further along the border in the West. This encompasses climbs from 1,000 to 2,800 metres, with many being noted for their degree of difficulty.

Fourteen of us, soldiers, cadets and instructors, squeezed into a minibus, crossed the Channel from Ramsgate to Dunkirk and drove down to the French/Spanish border, sleeping and eating en route.

A day was spent at a campsite close to the border to acclimatise and prepare for the expedition, plus catch up on much needed sleep so that day one commenced

bright and early with hiking boots on and bergens packed ready for the off. Divided into two groups, the parties set off for five days of arduous climbing, steep descents, breathtaking views of seemingly unending mountain ranges, beautiful lakes and valleys, and more snow than is seen in a harsh winter in England.

Prone to severe thunderstorms, the Pyrennees were kind to us and only one spectacular electric storm was witnessed, which fortunately proved the tents were fully waterproof. Otherwise the sun beat down every day soaring into the high 90's which added to the challenge and gave us the additional consideration of dehydration and other heat related problems. Each day started early and ended at last light with short but regular stops throughout. Camping up high was relatively easy but meant that washing became a record breaking event in the icy cold mountain lakes and streams.

Although a defined route was followed, marked by small piles of stones known as 'cairns' it was often very vague and navigational skills were tested as well as confidence and agility over very steep ground.

The expedition was a great success and after a few days break in Spain we returned home flushed with our achievements.

## Exercises in Canada with the Highland Fusiliers

Capt Matthew Ellis writes:

EIGHTEEN members of 6 R Anglian arrived at Oakington Barracks, Cambridge on 29 June to start a six-week attachment to the 1st Battalion The Royal Highland Fusiliers, who were shortly to deploy to Canada on Ex Pond Jump West. We were soon dispatched to our respective companies and began preparations for the imminent move.

Over the next few days, kit was issued, inoculations for a wide range of illnesses were given and last minute purchases were made; all whilst endeavouring to overcome the problems of understanding instructions given in a broad Glaswegian accent.

The majority of personnel flew during the period 1-3 Jul which involved a coach trip to Brize Norton (via the early morning M25 car park) and an eight hour flight to Calgary. On arrival we had a four hour transfer to Wainwright which gave us our first sight of the Canadian countryside, open plains and long straight roads.

Capt Chris Moon and I arrived on 1 Jul and spent the following four days on range reces in preparation for the Company live firing battle runs for which we were to act as safety staff.

The climate was warm and acclimatisation was relatively easy. The training area was unlike anything we had seen before and a lack of features provided a challenge to map reading.

Sgt Hipperson, Sgt Gordge and Cpl Wesley joined the Permanent Range Team (PRT) on 4 Jul, by which time the 1 RHF Battle Group, which included 25 Bty 19 Fd Regt RA and a Fd Tp from 39 Engr Regt, was complete in Camp Wainwright.

Whilst the rifle companies began battle preparation for the battle group exercise which was to start the package, those

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# News from the 6th Battalion



White water rafting in Canada.

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PRT staff not Stage 4-5 range qualified, attended an authorisation cadre. With the remainder of the battle group deployed on exercise from 5-8 Jul, the PRT continued preparations for the battle run.

The PRT tented camp, which was to be our home until 23 Jul, was adapted to fit both our requirements and those of the stringent Canadian fire regulations.

After the FTX, the rifle companies began a four phase package consisting of company training, the company battle run, adventure training and R&R. The company training involved a mix of dry training and live firing in preparation for the battle run.

It was a five day continuous live firing exercise, commencing with an assault boat crossing of a lake followed by an assault on Patricia Hill.

Day 2 began early with an advance to contact starting with section objectives and culminating in a company attack. The company then went into a defence phase and that night put out two ambush patrols.

Day 3 was purely routine in defence and ended with a fighting patrol. A

defence shoot followed by a withdrawal from the position to a company harbour took place on the following day. Recce patrols were dispatched that night to establish enemy locations on the company defensive position they had vacated earlier that day.

A company attack to retake the position was the culmination of the exercise which included artillery and mortar fire.

Adventure training took place at Jasper in the Rocky Mountains, a seven hour journey from Wainwright.

The activities offered included canoeing, rock climbing, hill walking, horse riding, white water rafting and mountain expeditions.

The canoeing took place on the Athabasca River which is fed from a glacier originating some 60 km away. However, the water was still exceptionally cold, as we were to find out at the end of the day at the 'bridge jump' which was from a girder bridge 45 ft above the water.

The Fraser River, just inside British Columbia, was equally unwelcoming and was the location for the white water rafting.

Class 3A rapids were tackled with great enthusiasm as was the competition

to oust the other team from its raft.

A limited number of us were taken on the difficult slopes of Mt Edith Cavell (11,030 ft) which involved mixed alpine routes with crevasses and 55 degree ice slopes. Pte Dethick (B Company) joined one such group, which was the most successful, but he did not quite reach the summit.

The R&R package ran from Edmonton with the soldiers being accommodated in a hotel on the outskirts of the city.

The West Edmonton Shopping Mall, which is the biggest in the world, provided a marvellous source of both entertainment and presents for wives and girlfriends.

We all returned to Camp Wainwright by the end of July, and those of us who had civilian job commitments flew back to the UK on the 29th, the remainder returning up to a week later.

It had been a most memorable and rewarding experience for all of us, and the many military skills we learned will be put to good effect back in the battalion.

Our thanks to 1 RIF for its superb hospitality and 'wilco' assistance throughout the exercise.



# Tigers



Cpl Wilson's team tackling the Razmans' Regimental Sgt Maj Norman final challenge.

## Bucks fizz and bugles

JULY started with the Officers' Mess summer ball, held at Castle Ashby, medieval home of the 7th Marquess of Northamptonshire. The function commenced with bucks fizz and a stunning display by the Drums and Bugles of the 5th Battalion, setting the tone for dancing the night away and a memorable social occasion.

The following weekend saw the annual battalion driving competition, *Ex Mechanical Tiger*, an arduous test of driving and tactical skills which took place in the area between Leicester and Nottingham. Whilst HQ Company won the four ton trophy and A Company the quarter on prize, C company was the overall winner on aggregate, closely followed by A Company.

The annual Battalion inter-section competition took place at STANTA on 18/19

July. On the Friday night, sections deployed into *hide positions* from which they were required to navigate around 12 individual tactical stands at timed intervals.

The eight-man sections were put to the test at each stand, including clay pigeon shooting, prisoner handling and anti-tank stalk.

The final leg was a forced march culminating with each section having to man-handle an 1,800lb anti-tank gun (Combat) over an obstacle course.

This was a spectacular test of stamina and guts with the gladiator's prize going to Cpl Hinks of C (Northamptonshire) Company who, with a reduced team of four men, beat many of the eight man teams. But the winning section belonged to Cpl Sackere of A (Lincolnshire) Company which also took second and equal third

places, becoming the outright winner of the competition.

Meanwhile, the Battalion REME Section was the sole TA unit to enter the static display competition at the Corp's 50th anniversary celebrations held at Aborfield.

With a well organised stand representing a Field Regimental Workshop, the inspecting officer, Maj Gen Heath, can be forgiven for believing this was a Regular Detachment!

Whilst the stand attracted and entertained many of the 15,000 spectators, SSgt Goodrich and Sgt Wells took a break, returning to find a beaming team hugging the first prize. This says much to the credit of a very important but often forgotten technical team within the Battalion

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# News from the Tigers



Left: SSgt Goodrich and Sgt Wells with their first place certificate. Right: Col Wilson presents a tiger head to Maj Richard Cole.

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July also saw the annual documents inspection in which the Battalion was graded above average again, thanks to the combined efforts of the Chief Clerks and administrative officers at company locations.

## Regimental wedding of the year

THE Commanding Officer, Lt Col Murray Colville, married Karen at the high altar of Leicester Cathedral on 22 Aug witnessed by 180 guests. The unit Padre, Rev Michael Woods, conducted the wedding service.

The subalterns provided a Guard of Honour with drawn swords to the carriage, which was a suitably prepared open-topped recce vehicle, escorted by two fully manned and camouflaged Land Rovers.

The entourage attracted a symphony of blaring horns, whistles and dubious gestures all the way to the champagne reception at the TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road.

The bridal couple were presented with silver salvers from the officers and all ranks. Congratulations and best wishes go to Col Murray and Karen from all ranks.

## Sports and families day

AN inaugural battalion sports and families day was held at Chilwell Garrison on 6 Sept. This took the shape of an inter-company knock-out competition including football, rugby, hockey and volleyball, ending with a cross-country team race.

Each company provided two amusement stands to keep the children happy, together with a barbecue lunch, whilst the PRI provided a canteen which became a highly popular focal point for everyone. Two artistic clowns were in great demand, transforming the children's faces into weird and wonderful images, much to their delight. Balloons and kites abounded.

The knock-out competitions continued throughout the day, with supporters constantly on the move, crossing the sports complex from one match to the next, with everyone keeping a sharp eye on the scoreboards. There was much ribaldry and every result was challenged or disputed with good humour.

Final company positions were determined only at the last event – the cross-country match. First home was Pte 'Nobby' Nobbs of C (Northamptonshire) Company,

whose team also came first giving his company the overall championship award. The CO's wife, Karen, presented the prizes.

Despite inclement weather conditions, something of a carnival spirit prevailed among the soldiers and families who thoroughly enjoyed the event. So this first sports and families day was a huge success and is now set to become an annual event.

## Annual camp 1992

FOR Exercise Territorial Tiger, the Battalion was based at Okehampton Training Camp with all activities on or around Dartmoor. A total of 410 volunteers attended and all were put through their paces.

The main training package comprised a circuit of training sessions each of two-three days duration, including a company field training exercise, field firing, APWT, adventure training and bounty tests. Each company in turn rotated around these activities.

Two very attractive adventure training

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# News from the Tigers



## *From Page 56*

instructors were provided by East Midlands UOTC. 2Lt Andrea Webb, a formidable rock climber, and OCdt Laura Frank, a competent fellwalker, were never short of men to take up rocks and hills and down dales. They both did a marvellous job.

The Royal Marines provided SSgt Pat Tate, a charismatic and experienced PT canoe instructor, whilst the canoes, windsurfing machines and civilian instructor, swimming pool and leisure facilities were all provided by a local hotel-sports complex.

Here the men learnt the basics of canoeing and windsurfing before being unleashed on the nearby reservoir. This was when the fun started for it was unbelievably funny to watch the antics of raw novices taking to the water! Meanwhile, other volunteers were trying their hands at hang-gliding somewhere on the edge of Dartmoor, depending on the wind direction. One student refused to take to the air when he realised he would not be fitted with a parachute. All would-be flyers started on tethered hang-gliders before going solo. The

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Above: The victorious C Company with their families at the Battalion sports day.  
Below: Cpl Tucker, CSgt Kostas and CSM Stone discuss a hopeless case.



## News from the Tigers



Above: A Company's winning teams inter-section competition. Below: Lt Col Murray Coleville and Karen leaving Leicester Cathedral following their marriage



### *From Page 57*

only snag was that the further they flew, the longer was their haul and recovery back up the mountainside

The field firing package was run by Capt Frank De Planta, who, with skill and imagination, organised an exciting scenario for the platoon attack and withdrawal. This, together with the night ambush and grenade stalk, was undoubtedly a prime highlight of camp for each platoon in turn.

Whilst the rest of the Battalion were enjoying the circuit of training activities, four cadres were in progress in and around the excellent facilities at Okehampton Camp.

The recruits were busy on their Recruit Cadre, run by Capt Nigel Pennington and W02 Isom. Of the 43 who started, 39 succeeded in passing, having thoroughly enjoyed their first taste of army life and discipline

The nominated best recruit was Pte North of A (Lincolnshire) Company who can take pride in his performance within an above average intake

Maj Colin West RAMC ran a Standard 3 Medical Cadre on which LCpl Walton of A (Lincolnshire) Company won the prize for being nominated the best student

A standard 2 Signals Cadre for 20 students was run by Sgt Avison (Sigs PSI) who put an enormous effort into the preparations resulting in 100% pass rate A productive

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## News from the Tigers



Above: Cpl Sackeree's winning team section competition.  
Left: Resting before night operations Below: A concerned looking No.3 hands over a mortar bomb and is heard to say 'Tail First.' (He too had heard about the Secretary of State).



## News from the Tigers



Above: Company Sgt Maj Barnes says, "I am sure the X said dig here." Below: With a smile RSM Norman looks on while the team struggle on 'Razmans' challenge.



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cadre indeed! An LGV Cadre was run by Sgt Lawless (NRPS) providing two more qualified drivers for each company during the camp period

In the midst of all these activities, the Padre, Rev Michael Woods, somehow managed to levitate himself at times so as to be in several places at once. Thus, he eyeballed and searched the souls of just about every soldier in the Battalion. He was last seen mounting a hang-glider and soaring towards his ultimate goal.

We received a number of military visitors, notably Brig David Biggart, Brig Peter Stevenson, Col Bill Dawson, Col David Harris, Col Peter Worthy and Tim Richie. Two Belgian Air Force officers, Lt Reg Chambers and Lt Philippe Devos, and two Belgian warrant officers, A D C Van-Heuverswyn and Sgt Philippe D-Haene were with us for the duration and took a full part in the training, spirit and fun of the camp period

In addition, each company had a press visitor over two days, representing the primary local newspaper in its respective county, while Gareth Griffiths of the Central Office of Information had a press release for circulation to newspapers at all the out-station locations.

Although this was a very active camp, it was by no means all work and, when opportunities arose, all ranks found the time and facilities to enjoy themselves to the full.

R&R occurred on the middle Saturday when companies were bused to Plymouth or Torquay, the scenes of many a sordid tale.

Between training activities, most volunteers were frequently able to enjoy the very welcome NAAFI Junior Ranks Club or the local pubs, not withstanding the 1000 ft descent into Okehampton town and return.

The officers regimental dinner night was held in the first week and was memorable, and not only for the excellent meal prepared by the cordon bleu chef Cpl Mellows. The highlight of the night was the subalterns' carefully planned ruse at the expense of the Adjutant, Capt Nigel Goodwin

He was unceremoniously hauled before the 'court' to face a barrage of charges associated with his handling of junior officers. Although ably defended by his defence council, the by now famous Capt Frank De Planta, the mitigating circumstances were waived by the judge, Capt Peter Stacevic, who summoned all the subalterns and officer cadets as witnesses for the prosecution.

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# News from the Tigers



Left: Cpl McConnell pointing out Pte Boyd's MPI. Right: Regimental Sgt Maj Norman handing over to RSM Pacey.

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The verdict was guilty; the black cap donned and the hapless adjutant sentenced to be taken from this place and wrapped in sheep's clothing until the end of camp!

By all accounts then, it was indeed an excellent camp and vindication for all the hard work put into devising an admirable programme, followed by detailed preparations and near perfect execution by all concerned.

The summer camp of 92 on Dartmoor will long be remembered!

## Personnel changes

JULY was both a momentous and victorious month for A (Lincolnshire) Company. Maj David Livingstone and Capt Brian Barber departed for other fields, to be replaced by Maj Jim Freeman and Capt Jim Watson. In the same month, they rallied the Company sufficiently for it to emerge 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the inter-section competition. All credit to the highly motivated sections commanded by Cpls Sackerey, Brecken and Chutkhan respectively. Well done!

In September we said farewell and good luck to the outgoing RSM, WO1 Chris Norman at the end of his Army career and nearly two productive years with the Battalion.

He will best be remembered for his own high standards, his tight grip on courses together with a penchant for devising imaginative and stiff competitions! Since leaving the Battalion, he married Debbie at Royston with a reception at the Depot WOs' & Sgts' Mess. We wish them both all the very best for the future.

We welcome the new RSM, WO1 Pacey who is no stranger to the Battalion, having had a previous tour as SPSI with HQ Company.

He returns to the Battalion following a two-year tour as RSM with UDR. Putting his regimental uniform on for the first time in years proved to be difficult. However, Capt Cunningham has promised him a crash course in lunch time football to get him back into shape!

Capt Ken Bruton (PSAO of former A Company at Scunthorpe) was dined out at the Officers' Mess dinner night at Okehampton camp.

A remarkable officer indeed, at the end of a long and remarkable career. Ken could procure anything as long as it could be found in an Army inventory.

He will long be remembered for the immaculate TA Centre at Scunthorpe where the men could literally eat off the floor. We wish him and his wife, Margaret, all the very best as they look forward to a long and

happy retirement in sunny Spain.

Lt Trevor Taylor has retired after a long and eventful career which started in the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, followed by several decades of loyal and prominent service with the TA.

But we have not seen the last of this old soldier for he intends to remain in uniform with the ACF.

In August, Lt Terry Dance took over as 2IC HQ Company vice Capt Jim Freeman, now commanding A (Lincolnshire) Company. Sgt Peter Brevin, after giving long service, and Sgt Lol Mann have transferred out to join the newly formed LDY Squadron at Glen Parva.

B (Leicestershire) Company bids a sad farewell to WO2 Ted Hubbard at the end of 22 years sterling service and wishes him every success in the future. B Company welcomes 2Lt Gus Thornton from HQ Company as Lt Roger Wiltshire departs to command the Mortar Platoon.

The Company also welcomes CSgt Tony Glynn (2nd Battalion) as the new QPSI, and Sgt Stuart Robinson (3rd Battalion) as PS1.

6 Platoon of B Company has had a spate of births in recent months and congratulations go to Sgt Burrows, Cpl Dale, LCpl Cox and Pte Slater. Congratulations also to WO2 Dan Taylor and wife, Carol, on the birth of their new son.

# Depot Queen's Division



Brig Calder presents the Salamanca Shield to the ACF victors — Cpl England, Cdt Ridler, Brig Calder, Cdt Marshall, SSgt Coszens.

## New unit set to take over

THIS will unfortunately be the last contribution to Castle from the Depot, which ceases to exist on 31 Dec after just over 23 years training soldiers for the Division. Army Training Regiment Bassingbourn, which forms on 1 Jan, is a new unit training the Royal Engineers, Royal Signals and the Infantrymen of the Queen's Division for the ten week Common Military Syllabus (Recruits).

On completion of this, everyone moves on for Special to Arm training which, for the Infantry, will be at Albermarle Barracks, Ouston in Northumberland.

Those functions concerned with discipline and holdees, traditionally associated with the Depot, will be transferred there. Officers and soldiers of the Regiment will continue to serve at Bassingbourn both in C (Queen's Division) Company and in Headquarters posts, but in reduced numbers.

The most significant Regimental event of the last six months was, of course, the Regimental Gathering on 12 July.

All Royal Anglians at Bassingbourn were co-opted to assist in one capacity or another. By the time Maj Borthwick and RSM Gedge had done their final inspection on the

morning of the 12th, all had reason to feel very pleased with their efforts.

That the day was a tremendous success was beyond doubt and all the Depot staff can congratulate themselves on the part they played. Particular praise is due to W02 Brooks, the ground manager co-ordinator, and W02 (RQMS) Duncan who organised the complex stores and tamage required.

Throughout the last period the Regimental Information Team has had its traditionally busy summer show period.

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## News from the Depot



Arrival of the AFV 432 at the Depot.

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The splendid weather at the start of the summer meant a high attendance and considerable interest across our counties in the Regimental display. The hard work has paid dividends and we have a steady flow of recruits for the Regiment.

All Depot intakes until January are now full, unlike some of the supposedly better recruited northern Regiments.

A number of Look at Life visits have been hosted by the team together with Cadet Corps visits. The Salamanca Shield Competition for cadet units across our counties was held on 7 June and there was an excellent turnout.

Brig Calder came to present the prizes to the winners, Norfolk ACF. All in all a thoroughly satisfactory Regimental day and it is hoped that many of the cadets who took part will one day be soldiers in our regular and TA battalions.

### Personnel Changes

INEVITABLY the last six months have seen some changes in personnel at the Depot. **Maj Ridgeway** has retired after 30 years' service, having served in all three regular battalions during this time. We wish him and his family well as they start a new chapter of their lives.

Farewell also to **WOI (RSM) Gedge**, who has left the Regiment after an excellent

tour as Depot RSM, on completion of 22 years' service. He has now started his own business with his customary drive and enthusiasm and we wish him and his family well.

Farewell also to **Sgt Legget** who has been posted to the ACIO in Peterborough, and to **Sgt Smith** who leaves the Army on voluntary redundancy; the Depot Guardroom will not be quite the same. **Sgt Atkins** has left the Depot at the end of his service and has settled in Peterborough; we all wish him and his family well.

Welcome to **Maj Ross** and **Capt Foster** who have taken over the key positions of quartermaster and adjutant respectively. **Sgt Knifton** is the new Provost Sergeant and he stalks the barracks accompanied by a large Alsatian dog; potential malefactors beware! **Cpl Conner** has been posted in from the 1st Battalion and having closed down the stores in the old C Company is now moving on to the training wing.

The infantry wing of the D&M School presented the Depot with an AFV 432 as a gate guardian

It is now on a plinth at the front gate and the picture shows the handover on its arrival in July

### Hockey

THE Depot team have made an excellent start to the season, winning the EDIST(S) Hockey Sixes on 16 Sept.

## Cadets

### Potential officers' RCB results

WE congratulate the following potential officers on passing RCB:- **Ian Goulson** - For Army Legal Corps; **Michael Penrose** - For CCC 931 via ASE Beaconsfield; **Edmund Parker** - For CCC 953 via Nottingham University and the award of a Bursary; **Stuart Hawkins** - For CCC 953 via Dundee University; **Jonathan Hazan** - For CCC 963 via Edinburgh University; **Bevis Allen** - For CCC 953; **Matthew Jones** - For CCC 953 via W London Institute; **William Webber** - For CCC 931; **Matthew Thomas** - For CCC 931.

We also congratulate **Anthony Borgnis** on the award of a Bursary for his last year at Exeter University and **Neil Hazell** for his last year at King's College, London.

We welcome **Craig McLay** from RMA Sandhurst. He was commissioned on 12 Dec and joined the 1st Battalion. He represented RMA Sandhurst at rugby.

### 'O' Type training

DAR has decided that 'O' type training is to cease at the end of this year. The last course at Aldershot, run by the RCT, is from 18 Oct - 4 Dec. **Edward Osborne** is the only potential officer who is attending from the Regiment.

### Potential officers' visits to battalions

THE following potential officers visited our two regular battalions in the summer months and we warmly thank them for laying on such interesting and challenging programmes whether the visit was in Colchester/Salisbury Plain or Celle/Berlin! We have received some glowing thank you letters from our potential officers.

### 1 Royal Anglian

**James Tomalin**, **Kevin Deamer**, **Richard Gladwyn**, **Chris Mason**, **Stephen Cox**, **Edward Bastow**, **Christian Parker**, **Andrew Northcott**, **Francis Brackley**, **Simon Blyth**, **Daniel Hatfield**, **Freddie Grounds**, **Edward Osborne**, **William Webber**, **Craig McLay**, **Ian Howells** and **Mark Wood**. **2Lt M J D F Gray** also visited the battalion from 24 Aug - 5 Sep 93 as part of his OTC Cadetship

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# Cadets

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attachment during the summer vacation. He is destined for the 1st Battalion after Sandhurst in Aug 95.

## 2 Royal Anglian

Michael Penrose, Adrian Pettitt, David Gledhill, Philip Weston, Freddie Grounds, Richard Jackson, Clive Baynton, Matthew Jones and Richard Potter. Kenneth Copland, a Bursar at Edinburgh University, also visited the battalion from 1 - 12 Sep 92. We now look forward to receiving new dates for visits in 1993.

## RIT (ARCO)

Capt P D Thurston is to leave the appointment of Assistant Regimental Careers Officer after more than two years in the job. He has decided to leave the Regular Army and to seek employment not far away from us. We wish Paul and Sylvia the very best of luck for the future.

A special message from the RCO: "Thank you Paul for a job well done. All ranks of the RIT will miss you, they have appreciated all you did for them."

Good luck.

## The Ashburton '92

RESULTS of our sponsored and affiliated schools were as follows. - Oundle - 6th, Woodbridge - 7th, Uppingham - 8th, Oakham - 13th, Kimbolton - 20th, Merchant Taylors - 29th, Wellingborough - 32nd, Bedford Modern - 33rd, Bedford - 34th, Stamford - 50th, Berkhamsted - 56th, Framlingham - 61st.

A total of 62 schools entered. Our particular congratulations go to Woodbridge School which did particularly well this year.

## Cadet Pairs

Berkhamsted won the challenge shield and two silver medals. Greshams was second and won bronze medals as did Uppingham School which was third.



**RARCC v Uppingham School - 22 June.** Edward Bastow and Freddie Grounds (an OU), both potential officers, played in this match which was drawn at Uppingham on 'the Upper.' (Alison is in support.) Freddie Grounds is now at RMA Sandhurst having started the new course in September

## Cadet Fours

Greshams won the challenge trophy and 4 silver medals. Woodbridge came third and won the bronze medals.

## The Wellington

The challenge cup and engraved silver spoon was won by Greshams School, by Cdt G Panella.

## Public Schools Snap Shooting Competition

Oundle came second with 333 points. Uppingham was 7th and Kimbolton School 10th.

## Marching

Oundle School won with 261 points. Uppingham was second with 212 points, and Bedford Modern 16th.

## The Perse

The challenge trophy and silver medal were won by Sgt C A S Lemmer of Greshams

School and second was Sgt J H M Curtis of Uppingham. Berkhamsted was 6th with Merchant Taylors 7th

## The Cottesloe Vase

Kimbolton School was 4th - Wellingborough 10th, Woodbridge 16th and Framlingham 21st.

## The Country Life

6th - Woodbridge, 7th - Uppingham, 10th - Oundle, 16th - Oakham, 21st - Kimbolton, 25th - Wellingborough, 31st - Bedford Modern, 34th - Merchant Taylors, 38th - Berkhamsted and 44th - Framlingham.

## The Schools Aggregate

Oundle School won the challenge trophy and 12 silver medals. Uppingham was third, Bedford Modern 11th, Kimbolton 13th and Wellingborough School CCF 16th.

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RHQ Interviews/Visits 1982 - 1992											
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
Attended RHQ Interviews	102	140	138	139	138	116	90	124	115	103	105
Attend Pre-RCB	44	38	70	52	58	47	47	53	50	45	65
Attended RCB	30	40	49	47	42	43	26	34	27	29	29
Passed RCB	14	20	28	22	20	22	14	22	15	10	10
Attended Visits to Battalions	20	25	28	20	19	27	30	27	31	12	40

# Cadets

## Felsted on parade for visitors

FELSTED School CCF turned out in all its glory on 21 May. A large inspecting party led by Col G I G Brett (Royal Anglian Regiment) was given a brief introduction to the corps by way of an enthusiastic parade.

Cadets ranging from 14 to 18 years old paraded in temperatures well exceeding 85°F. Many did well although there was the occasional cadet for whom the occasion was all too much! The afternoon proceeded well with the inspecting party given demonstrations in .22 shooting, abseiling by a very eager RAF section and a three section battle drill. Col Brett was also shown the skills of the sub-aqua section team which consists of the sixth form year. The demonstration included many underwater antics which from the surface seemed well rehearsed.

In the inspection report one comment that stands out is: "A flourishing CCF contingent with an enthusiastic leader at its head." This leads on to Maj Bartlett, who has been the driving force behind Felsted CCF for many years than he might care to remember. Previously the SSI, he now commands the CCF with great pride. Many of the cadets owe him a great deal for all the work and time he gives.



Above: Col Brett talks to the cadets during the inspection. Below: On parade.



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### The Cheltenham Cup

Oundle was second with 729.35 points. Finally, we congratulate Woodbridge School on winning the Eastern District CCF Bisley Shield (South) and Oundle School for winning the Eastern District Shield (North).

### CCF Field Days

THE following sponsored school CCFs visited the Depot and were hosted by the RIT: The Perse School, St Edmunds College, Woodbridge, Felsted, Langley, The Leys, Racliffe College and Ipswich. Kimbolton CCF and Oakham CCF have already

booked in for March 1993! Regrettably we were unable to host Greshams CCF this time because the RIT was involved with "Look at Life"

### Inspections

Three School CCFs held their inspections in the autumn. They were: Haileybury, 29 Sep; The Leys, 30 Sep; Uppingham, Oct

### Exploration to South Georgia

Capt James Harris and Capt Richard Pattinson gave a very successful presentation to the following Schools before Christmas: Felsted, St Edmunds College, Framlingham, Bedford Modern, Langley, Greshams, Kimbolton, Brentwood St George's School, Merchant Taylors and Oundle.

## School News

**Stamford School** We congratulate Lt Col G Woolf on assuming command of Stamford School CCF in September. We wish him success in this appointment. He takes over from Wing Commander G D Sinker

**Berkhampstead School** Lt Col W E Glover MA, who has been commanding the CCF since 1984 and who has served for over 30 years, has announced his retirement from the contingent. He will retire on 7 Dec 1992. The Regiment thanks him for his sup

Continued Page 66

# Cadets

From Page 65

port over the many years of our affiliation. We wish him and his family all good fortune for 1994 when Bill will also retire from schoolmastering.

The CCF will be commanded by Maj F Charnock.

**Langley School** Maj W A Osborne has announced that he is intending to retire from teaching at Langley School next year but very much hopes to stay on as commanding officer of the contingent. We understand that he could break a few records if this happens. We hope so.

## **Brentwood School**

It was recently announced that Mr J A E Evans will be retiring as the headmaster of Brentwood School in September 1993. His successor will be Mr J A B Kelsall, who is currently the headmaster of Arnold School in Blackpool.

We wish John and Vyvyan Evans a very happy retirement and thank them for their interest in the Regiment over the many years that they have been at Brentwood.

## **Oakham**

Cadet LCpl Andrew of Oakham School CCF – one of our sponsored schools – visited Whitehorse, Canada on a CCF leadership course.



**BRIGADIER A J K Calder inspected the Woodbridge CCF guard of honour in the presence of the headmaster, Dr D Younger, and the commanding officer, Maj Richard Broaderwick. Biennial review was on 15 May. The headmaster recently visited the Depot to see the cadets training during their field day.**

He has written a most interesting article which is sadly too long to reproduce in the Castle and too good to shorten.

He can be contacted at Oakham School for details.

**Oundle:** Lt Marcus Parry revisited Oundle School CCF on 28 May.

He is an old Oundelian and the day was a

nostalgic trip down memory lane, for not only was he ADC to CinC 1 KLF for the parade but he was there to see his younger brother's passing out parade.

Marcus is stationed at the Depot

**Uppingham:** We congratulate Richard Boston, the OC of the CCF, on his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel.

## Kimbolton in canoe marathon

THIS year for the first time Kimbolton School CCF entered teams in this gruelling four-day race, in which teams race from Devizes, more than 125 miles, along the Kennet and Avon canal, up the Thames to Westminster. All six crews, pictured right, finished the race in under 24 hrs.

The results were: LCpls Claire Capps and Sarah Jardine, 23 hrs. 47 mins – 31st – second girls team; Sgt M Cuthbert and T Saw, 21 hrs 21 mins – 14th; Cdts A Ashman and T Kynoch, 21 hrs 55 mins – 16th; Cpls E Richards and M Bennett, 21 hrs 56 mins – 19th – third boys team.

Overall, 1st Cadet team Cdts M Cranston and A Patterson, 21 hrs 55 mins – 17th; Cpl C Mear and Cdt R White, 23 hrs 53 mins – 34th.



## **Walking Madness**

As a change from taking teams to the Nijmegen four-day marches Lt Sue Camp and WO1 (SS1) Roger Watson with Cdt Cpl Matthew Bennett and U6 pupil Andrew Harper at the start of the summer holidays

did Wainwright's coast to coast walk, 190 miles from St Bees to Robin Hoods Bay.

## **Late News!**

We congratulate Charles Mear on being appointed CSM of the CCF. Well done!

## Cadets

# Moorland training for Lincs youngsters

### Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force Annual Camp 1992

MEMORIES of the long hot summer of 1987 were in mind as the advance party set off on 30 July for annual camp at Penhale Cornwall.

Camp training was organised by cadres, dependent on the level required consisting of nine different cadres for cadets and a county ICTC organised by the 13 CTT.

The ICTC spent the first week of training at Penhale, culminating with an expedition to Bodmin Moor from where they were transported to Thetford for the final phase.

This year a group of senior cadets was undertaking concentrated training for exercise Combat Cadet, a competition to be held at Stanford training area in October. For them there was no comfort of a barrack room and such facilities, they were to spend their initial days in the field as a mobile guerrilla force.

In rotation the junior cadres yomped across the training area to the camp site at the farthest end of the dunes. From here they were to carry out their fieldcraft, map and compass and camp craft training. For some this was their first time living in a tented environment and was quite a revelation.

In-camp activities consisted of signals and band cadres, air rifle range, abseiling, orienteering and sports.

Canoeing was undertaken at Stithiams reservoir, the cadets being transported daily.

For the community project this year the cadets were given the task of erecting pig wire fences and wooden walkways for the National Trust round an area of the approach to Hollywell Bay.

Thursday was the day that had been awaited for by many for this was to be a memorable day for 80 cadets when, by courtesy of 658 Squadron AAC they had an exhilarating experience. Taking to the air in a Scout or Gazelle helicopter they were taken to Newquay and over the training area on the way back to camp. The pilots were equally as mystified as county headquarters as to how the PRO had managed to arrange it!

The first of the visitors arrived on Friday morning to undertake a tour of the camp and the cadets training facilities.

We were honoured to welcome Brig P I B Stevenson CBE, Secretary of East Midlands TAVRA, and Col W J Gleadell OBE TD



The Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force Band.

DL, Honorary Colonel of Lincolnshire ACF.

Later to arrive and join the other guests for the officers' dinner night was Col R J M Drummond OBE, Deputy Secretary of East Midlands TAVRA.

Another important visitor arrived on Monday when we welcomed Brig D A K Biggart OBE, Brigade Commander of 49 (East Midland) Brigade accompanied by the G3 Cadets, Colonel J A Woodall.

The county band, which had been practising on the hill behind the camp in very strong windy conditions was not without engagements and had put together a very entertaining programme. It was remarked that when they tried to march into the breeze more wind went into the front end than could be blown into the mouthpiece!

On leaving, the band volunteered to march the half mile back to camp and as they began their repertoire near the St Pirans Inn, they became the source of attraction of many of the populace.

Seeing interest aroused, the PRO paid a quick visit to the Innkeeper to arrange a band display on the lawns the following evening.

Quite a crowd gathered to hear the music and watch the marching display, the cadets giving as much as they could to their performance. It was mentioned that in the audience was none other than the bandmaster of the 2nd Royal Anglian Regiment.

On this occasion he resisted the temptation to produce the charge sheets when the band struck up with the Regimental March.

Thursday, and still it was raining. Gone entirely now were the thoughts of 1987 and the all too glorious summer as one took more shelter in the collar of the combat jacket.

The competitions had to continue, however, and the conditions only seemed to heighten the determination of the contestants.

By lunch it was all over but who had won was not revealed until the Commandant's final parade and the presentation of the trophies. Then amazingly it stopped raining for a short time while the results were made known and 4 Company declared the winner for 1992.

Friday, and the inevitable, as dawn broke a mysterious glowing orb was espied to rise out of the dust of the horizon. Some verbally expressed what they had been thinking about the lack of this glory of nature for the last few days!

So we came to the end of camp 1992, a camp that had kept the cadets busy and entertained with the inclusion of new pursuits on the programme.

Thanks as always to the many organisations that assisted during annual camp, the Army Air Corps, the camp staff, the Royal Corps of Transport for vehicles and drivers, the Medics and RAF St Mawgan

# Around the Branches



THE Association continues to grow, attracting not only those former members of the Royal Norfolk Regiment but also a younger membership consisting of former 1st East Anglian and Royal Anglian Regiment personnel.

Evidence of this can now be seen in the Gorleston and Gt Yarmouth Branch and also in the Norwich Branch whose Standard will be dedicated in the Regimental Chapel at the Association Service in September.

I have to report that the benevolent work which is done on behalf of the Regiment has increased over the 12-month period ending up in June 1992 by a factor of 28%. This has meant more money has been used for the benefit of the needy than ever before and is a symptom of the Regiment picking up the bill where the state has failed to provide the necessary support.

The annual dinners in Kings Lynn, Norwich and Gorleston continue to be well supported. This year the attendance of members at the Royal Anglian Regimental gathering at Bassingbourn and also at the Minden celebration at Bury St Edmunds are to be welcomed and encouraged.

The 4th Battalion Officers' Dinner Club and the 2nd Battalion Kohima Club held their annual dinners in Norwich under their respective chairmen and the London Branch had its annual buffet dance at the Florence Nightingale, Westminster Bridge. In Norwich the annual dinner and lunch of the Officers' Dinner Club were held on 5/6 June respectively with some 41

officers attending the dinner and 48 officers and their wives attending the lunch.

Unfortunately the annual cricket match between the Royal Anglian XI and Mr Edward Evans-Lombe's team did not take place at Marlingford this year and it may be that this fixture will have to be dispensed with in the future.

On the evening of the first day of the Norfolk Show the Regimental Tent was used by the Deputy Colonel, Maj Gen Mike Walker, to provide entertainment for headmasters and potential officers who were hosted by regimental personalities. The second day of the show as usual was rather quiet. Again, the Association has to express its warmest thanks to Mrs John Davidson and Mrs G Sanders for making the tent look so attractive with their floral arrangements.

On the 50th anniversary of the Fall of Singapore, services were held in St Peter Mancroft Norwich and a memorial was dedicated. There was also a service in East Dereham; both churches crammed full of old FEPOWs.

## VC picture

MAJ David Jamieson VC, together with other former 7th Battalion officers, were invited by the Officers' Mess of the 1st Battalion to lunch on 3 Apr when the picture of the Battle of the River Orne was unveiled.

## Chapel altar frontal

THE new altar frontal made by Mrs Jeanette Durrant was officially received into the cathedral at the Association Service held on Sunday 29 Sept 1991 and both of the separate Regimental drops depicting Britannia and Royal Anglian Star were displayed at the Commemoration Service held on 26 Apr. The Rev Cannon Wynter Blathwayt conducted the service, the lesson was read by Maj Gen Sir David

Thorne and the address was given by the Rev T G Ward. Coffee was taken afterwards by worshippers in the Prior's Hall.

The Regimental Chapel Committee is again very grateful for the efforts of Mrs Rosemary Barclay who has continued to provide and arrange flowers in the chapel throughout the year.

## Benevolence

THE Regimental Benevolent Fund has been able to provide timely financial grants to 80 former members of the Royal Norfolk Regiment and their families amounting to £12,263 during the year ending 30 June 1992. In addition to grants, the Army Benevolent Fund is assisting in providing small pensions for six former members of the Regiment in need of continuous support.

The Regimental Benevolent Committee much appreciates the assistance it receives from branches of SSAFA, the Royal British Legion, FEPOW and other charitable organisations who continue to process the requests from former members of the Regiment for assistance.

## War memorial

THE cottages at Norwich and Kings Lynn continue to be occupied by former members of the Regiment and their families. Currently there are 15 on the waiting list.

## Regimental Museum

MORE than 100,000 visitors have now visited the museum at the Shirehall and I have to report that in addition to the chronological display case, the graphic panels which were needed have now been installed. There only now remains some 40% of the medal collection to be mounted in the special medal cases. The condensed Regimental History by

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# Around the Branches

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*From Page 68*

Mr Tim Carew has been available since Christmas from both the museum and RHQ.

The Royal Norfolk Regiment has served around the world so the museum displays take you on a global tour, from Ireland to Tibet, Afghanistan to South Africa, Japan to America and many other exotic places.

Throughout history, between fierce and bloody battles, soldiers spent much time on long journeys and on garrison duty. The displays also deal with the daily life of a soldier such as his recruitment and pay, food and training, barrack life and marriage.

There are two ways to enter the Museum, one from Castle Meadow the other from the Castle Museum. From the castle you go down the eerie tunnel prisoners were once taken to be tried. Following that is a walk-through model of a First World War communication trench. There was a vast network of trenches behind the front line which were used for supplies.

Combined admission charges for the Castle and Regimental Museums are: adults - £1.60; senior citizens -£1.20; children - 60p. For the Regimental Museum only, the figures are 80p, 40p and 20p respectively. The Museum is open Monday to Saturday 1000-1700 hours, Sunday 1400-1700 hours.

## **Regimental history**

BRIG Mike Thorne together with a small history committee commissioned Maj Bob Godfrey MC to write the final chapter of the History of the Regiment covering the campaign of Korea and Cyprus. It is hoped that the history will be available by the end of 1993.

## **Gorleston, Gt Yarmouth and District Branch**

ON Whit Monday, the branch took part in the American Veterans' Day Parade at the old Weybourne Camp on the north Norfolk coast which now houses the well known Muckleborough Collection of military equipment, both past and present, especially armoured

and soft skinned vehicles. More than 100 Royal British Legion and All Arms Association Standards, including some from the US were assembled on this very impressive parade.

In addition to the normal vehicles, etc, which form part of the Muckleborough Collection, well over 100 enthusiasts proudly displayed their privately owned military vehicles, the majority of which were authentic in camouflage and insignia.

Our speaker for the May meeting was our own member Jim Culley who, in front of several members producing and wearing steel helmets, gave an interesting and humorous account of his first overseas posting in Gibraltar with the Royal Norfolk Regiment before the Second World War.

In June, we again had the pleasure of the Luton and Dunstable Branch paying us a visit whilst on their annual Sunday outing, this year to Great Yarmouth. At least this year they were blessed with fine hot weather and both branches had a very enjoyable get-together and buffet at our meeting venue, the White Lion Hotel, Gorleston.

As in previous years, the branch was well in attendance at the July, Royal Anglian Gathering at Bassingbourn, where as usual we met and enjoyed the company of so many old friends.

The speaker for our July meeting was another branch member, this time John Morley who gave a humorous account of his Army career. At this meeting it was nice to see WO2 Steve West (1 R Anglian) who is currently a Permanent Staff Instructor with 6(V) R Anglian at Bury St Edmunds.

A minibus load of members attended Minden Day at Bury St Edmunds, the Standard this year being carried by John (Striker) Wells, one of our ex Suffolk members.

At our August meeting we were privileged in having another Regular Soldier attend. This time Pte Dean Alford, who is now serving with the 2nd Battalion.

Early in September we enjoyed

another .22 shooting competition against the local Norfolk Army Cadet Force, our competitors this time being York Road, Gt Yarmouth Detachment with the branch eventually winning by 188 points to 184.

Later in September, 12 branch members were present at the Annual Royal Norfolk dinner held at the Aylsham Road TA Centre, Norwich.

As we were concerned that Gen Sir David Thorne KBE might one year cut his hand with his annual ritual of banging an empty glass on the dinner table, the branch presented the Regimental Association with a gavel. This and its base were handmade by our Chairman, Ray Pillar. The Royal Norfolk badge decorating the base was donated by Maj Willie Reeve, Regimental Secretary (Norfolk) the Regimental brooch decorating the actual gavel was donated by the branch and the cost of the engraving and plate was borne by Tony Waters of the Sienna Lodge Hotel, Gt Yarmouth.

Jim (Benny Hill) Culley was our speaker again for the monthly meeting, giving part two of his pre-war service in the Royal Norfolks, this time, 'Life in India.' Part two was even funnier, so what can we expect in part three?

On 2 Oct, Becky Sharpe, a Hertfordshire member of our branch represented us and the Luton and Dunstable Branch on the sad occasion of the 3rd Battalion's Final Parade, which took place in Colchester.

Our best wishes go to our members Brian Becket, George Long, David Page and Henry Snowling, who are either suffering from ill health, recovering from a serious operation or are on long-term convalescence in a home or hospital. Regards also go to one of our characters, namely John Morley, who is now working with the construction industry in Germany.

Thanks go to Brian and Val of the White Lion Hotel (our meeting venue) for all they have done for us over the past two years and we wish them well on their taking a public house at Blofield.

# Around the Branches



## Regimental reunion

THE annual Regimental reunion was held over the weekend 19/20 Sept at the Beacholme Holiday Park, Cleethorpes. The dinner which was attended by 207 members and friends, Maj Gen Gerrard-Wright our president being in the chair, was preceded by the annual general committee meeting and the annual general meeting.

A decision was taken at those meetings that the venue for the reunion would be changed from Cleethorpes to Lincoln for 1993 and the Lincoln and District Branch was elected to organise it.

Of the factors taken into account was that the Midlands Branch felt it was too far to travel and that the Beacholme Holiday Park's parent company, Holimarine UK Limited, was in the hands of the receivers and its future could not be guaranteed.

## Malayan reunion

THE annual Malayan reunion was held in the TA Centre, Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln on 3 Oct. Originally aimed at those members of The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment who served with the Battalion during its tour in Malaya from 1955-58, it has been expanded to encompass all who served with the Regiment. Over 200 attended the function, many from outside the county, which took the form of a reminiscent get-together at which light refreshments were served. The bar profit was healthy and the stories improved with the passage of time.

The event is organised by Colin Coggan who was on hand to welcome Maj Gen Gerrard-Wright and Captains John Richards and Peter Jennings. He

was ably assisted by former CSM George Greenaway.

## Royal Lincolnshire Regiment officers' reunion luncheon

THE first of hopefully many such events was held at the Officers' Mess, HQ RCT TA, Prince William of Gloucester Barracks, Grantham on 12 June 92. A total of 50 attended and pledged support for future gatherings. It has been decided that the venue will alternate between London and Grantham.

## Lincoln and District Branch

THE Lincoln Branch, now firmly established, has seen the resurgence of a more normal way of branch life. For the first time a delegation from Lincoln together with the Branch Standard attended the Regimental Gathering at Bassingbourn. The day was considered a great success and plans are afoot to attend again next year.

THE Branch reintroduced its annual outing and this year went to the Beamish Heritage Park, near Consett, County Durham on 7 Oct. The party consisted of 50 members and wives and although the weather could have been kinder the trip was enjoyable and the outward and inward refreshment stops allowed everyone to stretch their legs. Next year's outing destination has yet to be decided.

## Grantham a District Branch

THE Branch annual dinner was held on 15 May at the King's Hotel, Grantham and a total of 71 members and guests were present, many of whom had travelled a considerable distance to be there. The principal guests were Maj Gen Sir Christopher and Lady Welby-Everard, Mrs Harrison and Capt Alwyn Smith. After an excellent dinner, the guests were apprised of the details of the forthcoming Regimental reunion at Cleethorpes, the Regimental Gathering at Bassingbourn and reminded of the 50th anniversary of the Battle for Salerno in which the 6th Battalion fought.

## DIARY DATES

**Lincoln and District Branch Luncheon:** Sunday 4 Apr 1993; Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln.

**Sobraon TA Weekend:** Weekend 24/25 Apr 1993; Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln.

**Grantham and District Branch Dinner:** Friday 14 May 1993; Kings Hotel, Grantham.

**Royal Lincolnshire Officers' Reunion Luncheon:** Friday 18 June 1993; Duke of York's Headquarters, London.

**Regimental Reunion Weekend:** 13/19 Sept 1993; At a venue to be decided in Lincoln.

**Malayan Reunion:** Saturday 2 Oct 1993; Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln.

## Midlands and District Branch

THE Dedication of the Midlands Branch Standard took place in Coventry on 6 Sept 92. The well organised parade, headed by the president, Maj Gen Gerrard-Wright, marched from the forming-up place to Holy Trinity Church where a service of dedication was conducted by the Rev Robin Trew, the address being given by the Rev David Bates from Lincoln.

Following the service the parade formed up outside the church, with the Branch Standard leading, accompanied by 16 others (it was the first time many had seen four Royal Lincolnshire Regiment standards on parade) and preceded by a 12-strong Corps of Drums. There were a total of 50 marching on parade, including two uniformed members of A (Lincolnshire) Company and the salute was taken by the president.

Following the parade a reception was held in The Royal Warwickshire Regiment Club and a total of 150 attended. The resurgence of the branch is a great credit to the committee who

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are to be congratulated on their achievement.

## Spalding and District Branch

THE Branch continues to flourish and the chairman, Capt Bray, celebrated his 98th birthday on 5 Nov 1992. The secretary, Arthur Waterfall, continues to mend slowly but has still not fully recovered from his accident last November.

## Veteran members of The Regiment

ON 27 Aug ex-Sgt William Heggs of the 2nd Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment received a telegram from Her Majesty congratulating him on his 100th birthday. Col Robin Drummond, who was originally commissioned into the 10th Foot attended his birthday celebrations at his nursing home in Gelding, Nottingham and passed on the good wishes of the president, Maj Gen Gerrard-Wright and the members of the 10th Foot Association.

Sgt Heggs who has the Mons Star, fought through the whole of the First World War with the 2nd Battalion without suffering a scratch!

In November 1917, he was awarded a commendation for brave conduct in the field by Field Marshall Haig. The commendation was available for all to see and had been signed by the then Secretary of State for War, Winston S Churchill.

In addition to friends and relations, the Mayor and Mayoress of Gelding were present and were joined by BBC Radio Nottingham and the local television service. A great day for a grand old soldier.

## The Last Grimsby Chum?

WE had thought that the last Grimsby Chum living in England was Mr Barker still resident in the town. Now we are advised that a Mr William Melhuish, living in Manchester, served with the Chums throughout the First World War and celebrated his 99th birthday on 14 October.



## A Message from our retiring president, Lt Col W A Whittaker

"IF pride is one of the seven deadly sins then, I am afraid, I have a difficult time ahead, since I have, for the past three years, been immensely proud to have been president of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association. My only regret is that I have been prevented by physical difficulties from attending a number of functions at which I would otherwise have wished to be present."

He said that we all bitterly regretted the "merging" of our own 3rd Battalion which had always made it clear that it regarded itself as the successor of the two county Regiments from which it was formed.

In stressing the excellence of the relationship between it and our Association he said that the Battalion had made individuals and groups welcome whenever their heavy commitments made it possible; its young soldiers, by their keenness to hear about the activities of The Bedfords in the last war, made it clear that they regarded our Regiment as their own.

He went on to say that it is difficult to see how the new 1st and 2nd Battalions will be able to relate in the same way to each of the nine counties and seven county Regiments from which the Royal Anglian Regiment was originally formed, but "we all hope that in course of time the ties between our TA units and the county will be correspondingly strengthened.

"However, the decision is made and there can be no "looking back." It is difficult to see what part any of us can play individually in this new organisa-

tion but we can and must give all possible support to the Regimental Association so that through its many active branches and gatherings, under the able and committed chairmanship of Brig Angus Robertson, it can exert such influence as may be possible on future developments on the Royal Anglian Regiment and ensure that the name of The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment is preserved as one of its "founder members" and provider, in part, of its history, tradition and battle honours.

"I have enjoyed my time as president. It is 64 years since I first joined the Regiment but I shall still hope to look forward to meeting my old comrades as opportunity offers for some time to come. Remember when you are wondering whether to turn up or not at some function, that is not just the pleasure you may get from seeing old friends, but the pleasure we all get from seeing you. Keep up the good work of the Association and good luck to you all."

## Our new president

LT Col Sir Derek Milman Bt, MC, took over as president of our Regimental Association on 3 Oct for a three-year tenure. Sir Derek was commissioned into the Indian Army in 1938 and fought the war with The Punjab Regiment in Eritrea, North Africa and Burma.

He served with the Pakistan Army from 1947 to 1950 when he transferred to the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment and served with it at home and abroad.

In 1957 he became an instructor at RMA Sandhurst and commanded the 5th Battalion The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment.

## The dispersal of the Officers' Mess silver of The 3rd Battalion Royal Anglians

THE silver items once the property of The 16th Foot have been distributed to

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the 1st and 2nd Battalions, The Royal Anglians, to our display at Luton Museum and a considerable number of the smaller items have been purchased by ex-officers of The 16th Foot. The number of pieces in each category are too numerous to enumerate here.

The two principle pieces, the Marlborough Centrepiece and the Silver Train, are now with the 1st and 2nd Royal Anglians respectively.

## Annual dinner and dance

THE annual dinner and dance was held at Sele School, Hertford, on 2 May and was attended by upwards of 200 members, their families and friends. The principle guests were Col Morgan, president of the Essex Regimental Association, and Mrs Morgan. We were also very pleased to welcome, once again, a party from the Essex Association.

After welcoming those present, our chairman Brig Angus Robertson CBE, MA, stressed the need to increase the membership of the Association. He also expressed his disappointment at the changes in the composition of the Royal Anglian Regiment. He ended by thanking Mr Stanley Mansfield for once again organising the evening so efficiently and for making it such an enjoyable event.

An excellent meal was served after which dancing continued until midnight when the evening ended with a march around the hall to the rousing air of our Regimental March, *Mandolinata*.

## Officers' summer luncheon 1992

A TOTAL of 41 officers of The 16th Foot, their wives and guests, gathered for a reunion luncheon at Chichely Hall, near Newport Pagnell, ten miles from Bedford on 25 June.

The garden of the hall, a large country house set in imposing grounds, provided an ideal setting for what turned out to be a most convivial and enjoyable occasion. The house which was once owned by the famous Admiral

Beatty is now occupied by Mrs Nicholas Beatty.

That this event, the brainchild of Maj Andy West, and so ably organised by him, took place at all is due entirely to the fact that his conviction that it would be adequately supported eventually overcame the considerable opposition which felt that the opposite would be the case.

Thanks are also due to Andy's son, Richard, whose marquee hire company provided the chairs, tables and sunshades free of charge.



## Our late chairman

WE suffered a sad loss when our chairman, Mr Trevor Powell, died on 3 Aug. He served with the 1st Battalion throughout the war and was Battalion Signals Sergeant during the Italian campaign.

He is succeeded by Mr John Fenwick who served in the 1st Hertfordshires.

## Membership

WE are delighted to be able to report that our strength continues to increase and now stands at 363 an increase of 20 during the last six months.

## TA connections

WE wish to place on record our appreciation of all the help and support we have received from No.4 (Hertfordshire) Company, 5th Royal Anglians and we are all delighted that it has survived Options for Change and will continue in existence as No.2 (Hertfordshire) Company.

We were also proud to have been invited to attend the 25th Anniversary celebrations at Peterborough and to

have taken part in the Freedom of Peterborough March Past.



## Annual reunion

THE annual reunion was held on 4-5 July. The various Regimental meetings and the dinner were held on the Saturday and the Comrades church parade and Officers' luncheon on the Sunday.

The annual meeting was held at noon on Saturday with 21 members present. The major item proposed and accepted was that the format for reunions, commencing in 1993 would be: Saturday, AGM followed by annual dinner at TA Centre; Sunday church parade (forming up at TA Centre, Clare Street) followed by drinks at TA Centre.

The officers' sherry and luncheon party would be discontinued.

The reunion dinner was held in the TA Centre with 166 members in attendance. Gen Sir John Akehurst presided and proposed the toasts of "The Queen" and "Our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief." Gen Akehurst said that telegrams of good wishes for a convivial evening had been received from Her Majesty The Queen and from HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester in reply to loyal telegrams sent to them earlier.

In his speech Gen Akehurst welcomed the Comrades present. Numbers did not reach last year's figures but 1991 had been an exceptional year. A number of Comrades, and wives, came along after the dinner. Comrade David Deacon had again produced 27 of his contemporaries: a

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welcome contingent.

Referring to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, the General said that "Geordie" Lomas had decided to leave and return home but that another old soldier, former WO Charles Hutchinson, 5879240, had been admitted as In-Pensioner.

There were no IPs present this year as both "Sandy" Pell and "Charlie" Hutchinson were in the infirmary. The General was pleased to welcome Bill Hegarty (Australia) and John Tayler (Dover), both present for the first time. Gen Akehurst thanked Maj Tony Amos and his staff for their assistance with arrangements for the dinner and Col John Wilson, our Regimental Secretary who "makes it all happen."

The General said how sad it was to note the number of Comrades who had died since last we met. Ill health had prevented many more from being present with us. These Comrades have our deepest sympathy with their afflictions and our best wishes for their future welfare. Gen Akehurst said that for a number of years Maj "Donald" Girdwood had organised a 5th Battalion (78th Division) lunch at no cost to those attending and that a plaque in appreciation was to be presented to "Donald" the following day, the 50th anniversary of the landings in North Africa.

On Options for Change, Gen Akehurst said that the 3rd Battalion, Royal Anglian Regiment was to amalgamate with the 1st and 2nd Battalions in October. From September the Royal Anglian Regiment would consist of two regular and three TA battalions.

Announcing details for the church parade, the General said that in the unavoidable absence of Col Peter Worthy, the church parade would be commanded by Col John Wetherall - "Wetherall for the parade, weather fair for the day" (cheers) and although we were all reaching the age when marching requires some little effort he hoped to see all those present on parade for Church the next day.

The General ended by proposing the toast to "The Regiment."

Lowering skies and the threat of rain clearly influenced the number parading for church, which was well down on previous years. However, the rain held off and at 1030 hrs a total of 74 comrades 59 officers and 59 rank and file under the command of Col John Wetherall and headed by the Band of the 51th (V) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment, marched off to the church of the Holy Sepulchre, there to be joined by a number of comrades unable to march - or unwilling to risk the elements.

The Lesson was read by Gen Sir John Akehurst and was taken from St Paul's first epistle to the Corinthians, chapter 12, verses 12 - 26 (very appropriate - look it up). The address was given by the chaplain, the Rev Keith Anderson MA.

After the service the parade returned to Gibraltar Barracks for dismissal, enroute giving a smart "eyes right" to Gen Akehurst and the Mayor of Northampton, who took the salute.

The officers then, probably for the last time, entertained their guests in the Officers' Mess, Simpson Barracks. The Comrades retired to Clare Street where they continued to reminisce, the while being entertained by the Band of the 5th (V) Battalion which, by every account performed magnificently.

## 5th Battalion, 78th (Battleaxe) Div Reunion

NEWPORT, Cambs, where three counties meet, was the venue for the annual luncheon of the fighting 5th on 17 May 1922.

Pre-lunch drinks were taken on the lawn where the "Lamps" started swinging as we rehashed old campaigns and experiences.

A presentation was made to Maj Girdwood consisting of 78th Divisional Shield, by Ned Reynolds on behalf of all the Comrades in appreciation of his sterling efforts in arranging these annual functions. A total of 71 Comrades and ladies sat down to a

pleasant luncheon. Toasts to the Queen, Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, The Regiment and absent friends were taken. Two minutes' silence was observed in memory of fallen Comrades and to Comrades who have died during the year - Ernie Bestwick and Harry Gibson. We WILL remember them!

After lunch Ned Reynolds proposed votes of thanks to Maj Girdwood, Gordon Isom, Wally Ball and others who had worked so very hard to arrange the gathering and to the benefactor whose support made this reunion the success it indeed was.

It was a pleasure to meet so many Comrades making the effort to attend, Dick and Ross May from Lincolnshire among so many too numerous to mention. Comrades then retired to the lawn to continue reminiscing until breaking up around 6.30pm. Nearby Duxford Imperial War Museum and local beauty spots were visited ending a perfect day.

Maj Girdwood informed the gathering that the 1993 luncheon would be held in the vicinity of Rockingham Castle.

In conclusion, I would like add how worthwhile it was to make the effort to support my comrades in another exceptional reunion and look forward to the next.

A.E.V.S. (42)

## 48th Officers Burma Dinner

THE 47th annual dinner of the officers who fought in Burma with the 48th was held on 25 Apr (Anzac Day) in the Officers' Mess, Simpson Barracks, by kind permission of the Commandant, Royal Pioneer Corps. Our guest for the evening was Lt Col Trevor Bright RPC.

After toasts to "The Queen", "Our Colonel-in-Chief, HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester" and "The Regiment" (the 48th), Peter Keily, rose and after expressing our sadness at the death of Brig Ted Taunton, who had commanded Ae 48th for the greater

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part of the Burma campaign, gave apologies and news of these who could not be present with us on what could well be the penultimate to meeting of this exclusive dinner club. Diminishing numbers and uncertain future of Simpson Barracks after April 1993 posed the problem of visibility.

Maj Terry Molloy had brought with him some very interesting panoramic colour photographs of Pt 5846 and "Half-way House." The photographs which had been given to him during his visit to Japan last year, had been taken by Japanese Burma Veterans, some of whom make annual visits to those old battlefields, and had apparently been taken from the road south from Bishenpur.

Peter Keily announced that next year's dinner was to be held at Simpson Barracks on 17 Apr 1993 – the 46th anniversary of the arrival in Northampton of the Cadre of the 48th after the Battalion had been placed in "suspended animation."

## 4th Battalion (1939/46) officers' reunion dinner

THEY say "All good things come to an end" – sadly after 45 annual dinners it looks as if the 4th (1939/46) officers' reunions have 'reached the end of the road.' I have organised and attended all previous 45 reunion dinners, but this year in response to some 30 invitations to Operation Reunion '46 I only received five acceptances (15 apologised and said they were too old or it was too far to travel, or they would be on holiday, and 10 failed to reply). It was obvious we could not hold a reunion at Simpson Barracks for such a small number so unfortunately the event had to be cancelled.

Obviously 'time marches on' and we have had a lot of pleasure each year meeting old friends and comrades, and personally, as someone truthfully remarked, to me it has been 'a labour of love.' However, one must be realistic and unless some ex-4 NN (1939/46) members can suggest an alternative

'get-together' (eg lunch) we must accept the inevitable.

My grateful thanks go to those old comrades who have loyally supported me for so many years and our appreciation to the Royal Pioneer Corps staff who have provided such excellent service and facilities at Simpson Barracks for so long – how ever did they put up with us?

D.P.S.



IN the last issue of the Castle Journal, an article appeared regarding a memorial wood that the Royal Tigers Association proposed to initiate, as part of the new National Forest. In essence it had been decided to approach the membership of the Association to see there was support for a living memorial to the 17th Foot.

The response has been most positive. More than 200 members of the Association responded and to date nearly £4,000 has been donated towards such a memorial. The Trustees of the Association have intimated their financial support to the project.

A steering committee has been organised and meetings have already been held with the National Forest Development Team, the Countryside Commission, the Woodland Trust, The CLA and local councils.

As a result we now intend to widen the appeal to focus on the county of Leicestershire and are already in a position to purchase a viable stretch of woodland, incorporating a car park and a granite memorial.

Reports will be given as progress develops. Perhaps in June 1944 we will be able to hold a Regimental church service in our memorial wood.

In June, Royal Tigers weekend was held, as usual, at Leicester. The dinner, on 20 June, was attended by 200 members and their ladies.

It is pleasing to report that the dinner and the reunion afterwards were a great success.

On Sunday the traditional annual parade service was held in the Regimental Chapel of Leicester Cathedral. Canon Michael Wilson officiated and the Rev Michael Wood, a past Chaplain of 7 R Anglian preached a splendid sermon.

After the service, the Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, supported by the chairman of the county council and the Lord Mayor of Leicester took the salute at the march past of the Old Comrades. The normal Sunday reunion at Ulverscroft Road took place after the church parade.

Despite the difficulty regarding man training days in the Territorial Army, we once again got great help and support from 7 R Anglian. We are all most grateful. Particular thanks are due to Capt Cunningham for his most willing and unflinching support.

As a result of Options for Change, the LDY Company 7 R Anglian at Loughborough, was renamed B (Leicestershire) Company. To mark this the Company was presented with Tigers head, together with a framed Tapestry of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, by the Association. This tapestry was given to the Association by the family of the late Maj Reggie Coleman (5 R Leicesters (TA)).

As the Drill Hall at Loughborough was for a long time the HQ of 5 R Leicesters (TA) it is most appropriate that the Leicestershire TA Company should be housed there. Plans are in hand to extend the connection between the Association and B Company.

In October the 4/5th Battalion The Royal Leicestershire Regiment Officers' Dining Club held its annual dinner in Leicester, which once again was a nostalgic and pleasant occasion.

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Later in the month the 8th Battalion (later 1st Battalion) reunion was held at the TA Centre at Ulverscroft Road. The numbers had decreased only slightly during the year and it is an event which remains very popular. Ex RSM 'Dixie' Dean continues to mastermind proceedings with his undiminished enthusiasm.

Finally, we give news of our furthest flung branch, the Colonial Lillywhites. Ex RSM Tom Marston took the opportunity on his visit to Australia in March, to look them up. His report follows:

## The Colonial Lillywhites

IN March and October 1836, after occupying several stations throughout the Colony of New South Wales, the 7th Regiment sailed for India in three wings. The first and second wings sailed in March leaving the third wing behind until October. When the Regiment finally ended their tour of New South Wales it left behind 141 casualties, as follows:

Officers retired – 11; died (includes the Regimental Surgeon James Ward Martindale) – 39; discharged to out pension – 4; discharged receiving gratuity – 33; discharged paying fee – 23; service expired – 3; transferred to other Regiments – 28.

Out of a total of 50 officers and 814 NCOs and men, 98 wives were known to have accompanied their husbands to Sew South Wales and Van Diemen's Land.

Today some descendants of those men keep in touch through membership of the Colonial Lillywhites, The 17th or Leicestershire Regiment Association in which they receive a quarterly newsletter from the convener, Mr David Murphy. David has done extensive research into the history of the 17th Foot whilst stationed in Australia including its stations and activities, its personalities and family histories. David's late wife's ancestor was Sgt Thomas Conroy 17th Foot.

On the first Sunday in August each

year a special commemorative service is held at the Garrison Church, Milsons Point, Sydney. After the service there are displays put on by people interested in the Old Imperial Regiments who served in the Colonies from 1788 to 1872.

Tom Marston, who is a member of the Colonial Lillywhites the 17th or Leicestershire Regiment Association, visited Australia in March this year. He took with him a Regimental Plaque of the Royal Tigers Association, The Old Comrades Association of The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, to present to Mr David Murphy as a token of affiliation.

The presentation of the plaque made by Mr Les Bryant. (Members of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment pre-Cyprus 58' will remember him as Cpl 'Busty' Bryant, Provost Corporal). Wearing the tie of The Royal Leicestershire Regiment was another ex member of the 1st Battalion who now lives in Australia, Mr Syd Bryant (no relation to Busty). Thanks are due to Syd Bryant who organised the wonderful day out for the party, which was the highlight of the visit.



A REMARKABLE reunion took place on 4 July when no less than 54 veterans of the battle of Dcir-El-Shein gathered at Warley.

Despite the weather, which was not kind, these Old Comrades came with relatives and friends to commemorate that day 50 years ago in July 1942 when the 2/5th Battalion the Essex Regiment fought with such distinction that the tide of the desert war was turned and the Regiment was awarded a Battle Honour for their bravery and

outstanding performance.

In view of the weather the initial gathering took place in the mess where a bar had been set up. As everyone arrived old friendships were renewed and a fund of reminiscences of those days were recounted. Tea was held in the Keys Hall and the climax came when the veterans assembled for a group photograph.

Finally, the day was rounded off with a service of remembrance in the Regimental Chapel. The Rev Tony Smith, who himself served in the 2nd Battalion the Essex Regiment, took the service and Col A E C Alston TD DL read the remembrance prayer. Many must have been recalling memories of Lt Col Steve May who commanded the Battalion during the battle.

Our annual reunion took place on June 28th at Warley and if the saying "the sun shines on the righteous" is correct then members of our Association must be an extremely virtuous bunch of fellows. Our day was blessed with continuous sunshine and over 400 members and friends were able to enjoy the wonderful garden at Warley to the full.

The service of remembrance was conducted by The Rev K F Belben TD ChStJ CF (TA). The Rev Tom Hiney MC, Honorary Chaplain to the Royal Anglian Regiment, gave the address.

The Rev Hiney said how much he was looking forward to the visit, on 11 Oct, of Association members to the Royal Hospital Chelsea where he is chaplain.

Afterwards "Harry's Bar" did a roaring trade and eventually everyone went on their way looking forward to the last Sunday in June 1993.

In May Col Morgan, our president, Harry Conn and the editor had the great pleasure of attending the 100th birthday party of one of our members, Harry Moore MC.

Harry won his decoration as a Lieutenant with the 10th Service Battalion the Essex Regiment at the

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battle of Foret de Monmal 1918.

The Army Catering Corps had made a magnificent birthday cake, which we duly presented, together with a Regimental tie and a special bottle from our president containing a dram or two to see him through the party. Harry was already wearing his Regimental tie and was obviously delighted that the Association had remembered him in this way.

It was a great pleasure to have been with Harry and his family on this day and to hear a special telegram from the Queen. As his son Alan said to me, "Father has had a charmed life."

In October we shall be gathering in force to give the 3rd Battalion a rousing send off and parading at the laying up of their colours at Warley. Deep though our sense of sadness is, we are looking to the future positively and will give our unstinting support to the two new battalions.

## Thurrock Branch

APART from our usual monthly meetings, our first main event was in April when members enjoyed a buffet dance. Some committee changes took place at the annual meeting with the resignation of Harry Conn from the position of secretary. The new committee is as follows: president, Maj D Riches; chairman, Mr R Crisp; secretary, Mr P Giggins; treasurer, Mr A Turburville; welfare, Mr L Knight, assisted by his wife Kit.

The branch visit to Normandy in June was a great success. Many interesting visits took place including a number of First World War cemeteries. Further visits will be organised by Harry Conn to Holland in 1943, Normandy 1994 and Holland in 1995. All those interested should contact Harry as soon as possible.

On 4 June several branch members went to Braxted Park to hear the 1st Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment and the 1st Battalion the Royal Highland Fusiliers 'Beat Retreat.' This was a grand evening.



Harry Moore MC cutting his birthday cake on his 100th birthday.

For the Regimental reunion the branch invited guests from Belgium. They were most impressed with our chapel and the gathering of Essex Comrades. We also gave them a tour of the Regimental Museum.

## 4th Battalion Comrades Association

OUR annual, garden party was held on 11 July and it was a day to remember in more ways than one! For a start, with the weather set against us, not a lot of "garden" came into it and therefore as the rain intervened all activities were transferred to the Drill Hall. Some 300 attended of which many were OCA members including 16 of our officers.

Entertainment was provided by the Brentwood Ursuline Convent School for Girls Jazz Band and the Essex Corps of Drums. The performance was appreciated by everyone. A very comprehensive selection of music was played and included a selection of the old favourites.

Those Old Comrades in good voice joined in and a good time was had by all. To the great delight of all OCA members the Corps of Drums marched

off to the Essex Regimental March 'Knife, Fork, Spoon.' We are all looking forward to our annual dinner dance to be held on 23 Oct and a full report will be included in the next issue.

Regretfully we have to report the passing of two of our members, Mr Bernard Murray, ex A Company. He served in the same company throughout the war and at one time served on the Regimental Council. Also Mr Ernest Abrams, a veteran of the First World War. He served all through the war in the Middle East, including Gallipoli, and was wounded at the battle of Gaza in 1917. He died aged 96.

## Chelmsford and District

COMMITTEE meetings are held regularly every three months, some members coming from nearby but others travelling from Grays and Southend. Sheila Ostler is the very active secretary and recently forwarded the following interesting information.

Quoting from her letter: "At the annual Warley reunion in 1991 Mr Cliff Hunan came over from Canada for the event. He was an active 84 year

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## Around the Branches



Members of the 2/5th Battalion The Essex Regiment who fought at the Battle of Deir-El-Chein, July 1942, at their reunion.

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old and delighted to meet 1st Battalion regulars, especially those who served at Pembroke Dock.

"This year he was unable to attend having been knocked over at a pedestrian crossing. Fortunately no bones broken, but bruised and shaken. I took a 'get well' card to the reunion to collect signatures.

"At the end of the afternoon I had collected quite a few and posted it off to him the next day. I have since heard that he intends to be with us next year!

"One member mentioned that a Mrs Gagan was present. I immediately asked whether he meant O'Hagan. He was Capt Q M at Pembroke Dock. It transpired that she was his daughter in law and that her husband, Allen, was presenting his father's sword to the Royal Anglian Regiment that day to be used for ceremonial purposes. Allen and I had last met as children of the Regiment in Pembroke Dock".

It is interesting that Sheila's father was a corporal in the 1st Battalion the Essex Regiment and that her God Parents were Sergeant and Mrs Barney O'Hagan! On the back of her birth certificate is the Regimental stamp,

'Warley Orderley Room' 15 Aug 1925, when her father had just become eligible, at 25, for married quarters.

There will be more of Sheila's memoirs in the newsletter.



### Hemel Hempstead

**Mr R Picton writes:**

THE branch is sad to have to report the deaths of two members – Frank Horwood, and Ray Hosier, who was an Hon Member of the Hemel Branch. There was a good turn out at the funerals with the Standards of the Royal British Legion and the Hemel Branch Standard. They were good members and gave good support to the branch we will miss them.

The Branch at Hemel is still doing well with new members coming in and

we are happy to report that we have a Royal Norfolk and a Royal Anglian in the branch who became members at our last meeting. We are happy to have them with us.

At the last AGM on 20 June the chairman was hoping to get the Hemel Branch a new name! But we are sorry sir, as the Foreign Legion is the best name for us, and we are the best, we like to keep the best name in the Service.

In September two coach loads from the Branch went over to Holland and stayed in an hotel at Molenhoek. During the trip we visited Venray, Overloon and Mook. The branch put a wreath at Overloon and a cross on each Suffolk grave. The visit was run by the Hemel Hempstead Combined Ex-Service Association. It was a full programme of events and we saw a lot of Holland. We all look forward to the next one in 1993 and '94 when we hope to cover more of Holland.

The Branch has been out and about with a day trip to Southend and a night at the Royal British Legion at Dagenham, where we put £25 to their

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## Around the Branches

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OAPs fund and a good time was had by all.

The day at Bassingbourn was a good one with John Frawley having a good time at Field Events with members of the Royal Anglian Regiment OCA.

The Minden Reunion gets better each year with more and more coming and we have to thank the Royal British Legion News Book for getting the dates out to all the members and next year we hope to have more there as Mr N Martin is letting us have a few more addresses.

The dance at the TA Centre was a good night but, with all the members that we have, it looks as if we are putting the Bury Branch members out, so we have to think about that for next year; we would not like them. To think that we are taking over their night.

The food that Mrs B Baker put on for us at the R Anglian Club was really good; there was no way that anyone could have got better.

The bands did a good display and the Suffolk Royals did a good job as well. The march past was also much better this year, so at the end of the day all were happy.

### **Beccles & District Branch**

**Mr Martin writes:** OUR AGM has come and gone with all officials re-elected for another term of office. Branch funds remain in a healthy state and we have a steady trickle of new members. Sadly, as with all branches, we have also lost some stalwart members who have passed on.

We enjoyed the American Veterans' Day at the Muckleburgh Collection, Weybourne in June. There was much to see and do and it gave our parade marshal, George Gibbs, a chance to sort us out into three ranks and some semblance of order for the parade and march past.

There were those among us who had been stationed at Weybourne during the war and it transpired that our chairman, Fred Taylor, had organised social evenings there in the distant past. He

was reminded of this by a fellow member, who, I believe, also asked if he could have his ticket money back as he had missed one!

We attended the RBL Services Parade at Mildenhall in June, managing to arrive so early that the beer tent was still being erected.

Our Standard was one of many taking part in the impressive parade during the afternoon. A long day, it ended with Beating Retreat by the Royal Anglians band.

Minden Day 1992 will be well remembered by branch member Vic Moore, who celebrated his 82nd birthday on the coach, complete with birthday card signed by just about everyone at Bury St Edmunds on the big day.

During the same week was Beccles Regatta. Carnival with the usual street party. As always we support this event and our stalls are excellent fund raisers for the branch. Sincere thanks to Mr and Mrs Frank Finch for their help in organising the Bottle Stall. All members wish Mrs Finch a speedy recovery after an unfortunate and painful accident after enjoying a well-earned holiday.

Among many, interesting speakers addressing the branch this year were two representatives of the local detachment of the Army Cadet Force. They brought along a variety of equipment, rations (which disappeared during the evening) and the latest service rifle. This aroused great interest and had many of us searching in vain for the bolt, the safety catch and the piling swivel.

We maintain close links with pre-service organisations and to this end we have supported our local Sea Cadets Funday, held on Beccles Quay. Our stalls were in place and ready to do business when the heavens opened and the long-standing drought was almost rectified in one afternoon. A disappointing day for the Sea Cadets, who had worked hard to make the event a success.

Our Standard will be on parade for the Royal Naval Patrol Service annual

reunion at Lowestoft in October. This will be followed by our autumn buffet dance also in October.

### **Leiston & District Branch**

**Mr Smith writes:**

THE last issue of B & C went to press just before our annual buffet dance due to be held on 30 May. The event duly took place in the LTAA at Leiston and was once again a great success. Unfortunately, due to clash of dates, a number of branches were unable to join us but we were pleased to welcome members from Ipswich and Felixstowe Branches. Everyone had a wonderful evening and look forward to next year's event.

A small coach and a number of private cars ensured a goodly branch turnout at Bury on 2nd Aug for the Minden Day celebrations. Once again our thanks are due to Stan and his small band of helpers for another wonderful reunion. All who attended voted it one of the best - thanks in no small measure to the weather.

On 5 Sept we held our annual fund raising garden fete in the gardens of The Red House with thanks to John and Jane Perrett. How lucky we were as it was probably the only fine Saturday in that month - we had sunshine throughout our day. Our thanks to all those who gave prizes for the draw - especially Tony for the extra prizes including the doll for the special draw - to all those who manned the stalls having come along in the morning to put them all in place.

As a result the branch funds were increased by almost £200.

We went through the area in typical Suffolk fashion to ensure that every matchstalk, sweet paper etc. was picked up after the event only for Jane Perrett to fall over a tent peg left behind. Sorry Jane, but there always was one slack member in every cleaning up party.

A month later, on 10 Oct, we held our third annual dinner dance, again in

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# Around the Branches

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the LTAA hall. A total of 61 members and friends including our special guests Lt Col Pat and Sue Macdonald enjoyed a fine roast beef of old England dinner superbly presented by chef Tony Cooper and his happy band of helpers. We were very pleased to welcome a group from the Felixstowe Branch - especially as they had attended their own branch dinner on the evening before. They even brought their own broom to sweep the floor before dancing. Again, thanks to all those who donated the many prizes for the draw, especially Tony and Janet for again running an additional draw for a doll and teddy bear. Thanks to 'Toddy' and his small band of helpers who were responsible for the whole organisation. Once again John Perrett was an able dinner chairman keeping us all in order.

We must apologise to Felixstowe Branch for a clash of dates - albeit 24hrs apart, which prevented a party from our branch supporting their dinner.

Sad to have to report the loss of one of our members. Dudley Crane, ex 4th Battalion and FEPOW died suddenly on 10 Sept. A number of his ex comrades and branch members attended the packed church for his funeral service. The branch sends its condolences to his widow, Hazel. Roy Boast and Monty Fisk have had further spells in hospital and both were cheered up by visits from Branch members. We wish them a full recovery. It was pleasing to meet Maj Sam Flick recently and find him back to his old cheerful self although, to his annoyance, unable to drive now.

The projected move of the memorial flag from the Cadet Centre to a more public position appears to be bearing fruit. Negotiations are afoot to have it on permanent display in the Leiston Long Shop Museum which attracts many thousands of people each year. Failing our own Regimental Museum, which would be unable to accommodate this 11ft by 6ft frame, it is difficult to imagine a more suitable home than a

museum created in a former engineering workshop which itself was created by a former commander of the Leiston TA Company and where many of the old TA members were employed.

The Branch has now decided that it must no longer be the "odd man out" and has decided to have its own Branch Standard. Moves are afoot to have it made and, hopefully, it will be on parade for next Minden.

In conclusion the branch thanks its president, John Perrett, for ensuring the branch continues to receive full local publicity with his monthly reports in two popular local papers.

## **Stowmarket Branch**

**Mr Sykes writes:**

THE branch went to Weert in Holland to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Fakrel Esta Fette. To the uninitiated this is a run from Weert to Brussels and back in three days and nights.

A string of youngsters run to the tomb of the unknown soldier in Brussels with a torch, light it and return to Weert.

In this way the people celebrate the liberation of Weert by the Suffolk Regiment.

We left Stowmarket at 0900 hrs on Wednesday 16 Sept and were on board and sailing from Felixstowe by 1100 hrs. The crossing was calm and uneventful and we arrived at 1700 hrs local time.

The trip to Weert was motorway all the way and we arrived in Weert at 2100 hrs, where a late meal had been laid on for us.

On Thursday the 17th at 10am we set out for a guided tour of the local area taking in a lot of the positions originally taken up by the regiment. After lunch we headed off to the Town Hall where a civic reception had been laid on with the Burgermeester and her councillors.

After coffee and cake we were officially welcomed to Weert and each of us presented with a tie, especially made to commemorate the 40th anniversary. We in turn presented the

Burgermeester with a Regimental Ice Bucket. We have since found out that instead of putting their voting slip into a biscuit tin they now pass round the ice bucket.

Pleasantries completed, we went on foot to the canal and Suffolk Street where we relaid the plaque that was on the café opposite the canal on the bridge itself.

The plaque laid, we set off to walk the route of the battalion's advance into Weert. After our evening meal we watched the runners start off on their run to Brussels and back.

Friday saw us off to Cologne in West Germany for the day to visit the cathedral and a trip up the Rhine. We had to get back to Weert.

Saturday saw us visiting the cemeteries at Overloon and Venray which included a trip to the museum. In the afternoon we attended a service in Weert, a very irrepressive church which welcomed the runners and the torch to Weert.

In the evening we watched a spectacular display of Holland's marching bands.

On Sunday we went to Arnhem and arrived at Oosterbeek Cemetery just after the school children had laid flowers at each and every headstone, tradition carried out every year.

We presented the hotel with a Regimental plaque, which has pride of place behind the reception, and to Theo, who looked after us, a Regimental tankard. Full I might add, with local brew.

An early start on Monday saw us saying farewell to Weert and were on board the ferry by 1100hrs. We sailed at 1200 hrs and arrived at Felixstowe at 1700 hrs local time.

To sum up, a marvellous trip. The people of Weert were the friendliest continentals I have met. That leaves only the committee and especially Jerry Stribbling and his wife Anne to thank very much for making the trip the success that it has been.

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## Around the Branches

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### **Bury and District Branch Mr Martin writes:**

ON 9 May 1922, nine of our members made their way to Stowmarket to attend the Stowmarket Branch annual buffet dance which took place at the Stowmarket Football Club. It was a change of venue for Stowmarket because of the need of larger premises to cater for the demand.

So this year the Stowmarket Branch was able to invite guests from other branches. It turned out to be a very good evening, meeting Old Comrades from several branches. The food was very good and plentiful; the Band was also very good. It was well organised, especially the raffle as our chairman and secretary will confirm as they both won a prize. Well done Stowmarket.

A coachload of our members went to "Turners" of Northampton and enjoyed an afternoon listening to various types of mechanical organs finishing up with an excellent rendering by a very good organist on the mighty Wurlitzer. A day much enjoyed by our members.

Once again on the 14 June a number of our members made their way to Ely to join with the Cambridgeshires in their Memorial Service which took place in Ely Cathedral. We joined with them with our Standard in the march past where the salute was taken by the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire. After the march past we had tea in the Haywards Theatre and were well entertained by the City of Ely Band. We left Ely promising to be back next year to give our support.

The AGM of the executive committee of the Old Comrades Association took place on 20 June at the TA Centre, Blenheim Camp, Bury St Edmunds.

On 12 July some of us went to the fifth Regimental Gathering at Bassingbourn. The day started with a Drum Head Service which was conducted by the Rev TBF Hiney, MC. After the service we took part, with our Standard, in the march past. The salute was taken by the Colonel of the Royal

Anglian Regiment, Maj Gen P P D Stone CB CBE. During the afternoon we enjoyed the musical programme of the T A Band of the Royal Anglian Regiment. The day ended with a musical and marching display from the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion. It was a very good day weather wise and it gave us the opportunity to meet up with several old friends.

On 1 Aug we had our Minden eve buffet dance. We had a full house and we had Tony Rogers and his ensemble to provide the music for the dancing which was well received. The buffet was provided by Derrick and Marjorie Johnson. We sincerely thank all those members who brought with them a prize for the raffle. A total of 30 prizes helped to make it a great success. We also thank Tony Rogers who refused payment for his very fine performance. This meant that our profit for the evening was greater than usual, so our committee decided to donate £126.00 of it to the OCA fund. It was a very enjoyable night.

The following day, 2 Aug, took us to the Minden Day celebrations which took place as usual at Gibraltar Barracks. The day turned out to be a great success, starting with a Drum Head Service conducted by the Rev T B F Hiney MC. The Suffolk Military Band supplied the music during the service. After the service we were given an interesting talk by the president of the OCA, Brig W C Deller.

During the afternoon there was continuous entertainment on the square provided by the Band and Drums of the 5th Battalion of the Royal Anglian Regiment, The Suffolk Royals and the Southwold and Reydon Band and Drums; this was followed by the draw for some very good prizes donated by various firms.

The profit from this helps to offset the total cost of organising the Minden Day celebrations. The day finished with the Beating or Retreat by the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion of the Royal Anglian Regiment. It was an excellent performance that finished off

a very good day.

Thanks must go to the branches which each did their bit to help out on the day. Thanks also must go to the Minden committee and members of the Bury Branch who were very much involved in the hard work required before the day and on the day.

The annual dinner dance of the Royal Anglian Association Club took place on 29 Aug. Members of our Branch attended. It was an excellent dinner and shared by Maj Gen A J Pollard CBE who was accompanied by his wife. A very good night, which I am sure, was enjoyed by all.

On 9 Sept ex band members from the Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and the Royal Anglian Regiment took part in a reunion at Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester.

This was the first one of its kind which was organised by Band Sergeant Maj R S J Airzee of the 1st Battalion Band, The Royal Anglian Regiment. Some of our members attended and met many old friends that they hadn't seen for ages. For a first-time event it was a huge success and it is hoped that it will be repeated.

On 9 Oct a mini coachload of our members went to Felixstowe to attend the annual dinner dance organised by the Felixstowe Branch of the OCA. This took place at the Marlborough Hotel, Felixstowe. The food was excellent and the band was very good and as usual it was very well organised.

### **The secretary writes:**

Membership of our club now stands at 250 and is still on the increase. Most of our members say, "It is a little wooden hut in the middle of nowhere but the people in it want to make you come back again and again."

We always like to welcome new members to our club from serving and ex-serving members of our armed forces.

I would like to use this opportunity to say a big thank you on behalf of our

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# Around the Branches

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members to ex-members of the Regiment for saving our club. About a year ago with all these government changes, we were told that our club would be in the way.

## The Suffolk Regiment Sergeants' Dinner Club

Mr Gingell writes:

THE Sergeants 6th annual dinner took place on 26 Sept in the Officers'/Sgts' Mess in the TA Centre, Blenheim Camp, Bury St Edmunds by the kind permission of the CO, Lt Col A D Chissell TD.

Brig W C Deller OBE was the dinner chairman. The dinner was very well attended with 51 members and guests sitting down to an excellent meal catered for by Marjorie and Derrick Johnson.

Guests included RSM Grenfell and ex members from the 1st Battalion Sgts' Mess, WOII Wesley and ex members of the Royal Anglian Regiment. Also in attendance was ex Lt Vic Pulley-Blank ex Federation of Malay Police who many may remember from the good old Kagang days.

New members attending this year included Drummy Moyes, Ken Atkins, Dickie Dove, Tommo Thomas, ex Armourer Sgt Tivy, ex Sgts Liles and Noble.

Apologies and best wishes were received from 10 members who were unable to attend due to domestic problems, ill health and previous engagements.

Some 35 prizes were donated to the raffle; tickets sold raised £120 which helped to defray expenses for the evening. In all, a most enjoyable evening where members met for the first time, or again after many years, conversation was never lacking.

Should any ex WOs / Sgts of the Suffolk / Cambridgeshire Regiments wish to join the Sgts' Dinner Club, please contact H J Gingell, The Willows, Depden, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP29 4BY or Tel: 0284 850211.



## OCA

**1993 Reunion and Service of Remembrance:** to be held on 20 June 93 at Ely. The Dean has agreed to give the address. The City of Ely Military Band has requested less involvement at the Hayward Theatre.

**RAF Hospital:** Various parts have been split up and there is a possibility of sharing with the British Legion. The ACF is likely to have the former NAAFI store.

**County Remembrance Fund:** Applications had fallen off and it is urged that special attention be given to the plight of members who were not taking advantage of the available help.

**Accounts:** The general fund was £244 which was £38.95 down due to increased bank charges and postage.

The Benevolent account stands at £2046.37.

It is intended to cut costs by pruning the mailing list.

**Regimental Chapel Endowment Fund:** The balance stands at £12,514.85 plus shares valued at £1,495. However covenants are running out which will hit the income unless they are renewed.

The under altar carpet needs replacing and a small knob on one of the panels needs repairing.

It was suggested that two Glastonbury chairs be provided bearing the Regimental badge.

**Britannia & Castle Newsletter:** Members are urged to keep up their

subscriptions to ensure up to date information on activities.

## From the Branches

### Wisbech

Capt P M Clayton reports that all is well, the AGM had been held the preceding Friday when the same officers were re-elected.

Dances and outings had been arranged which proved most successful including Bassingbourn, Minden Day at Bury and the D Company open day in July.

The main outing had been to France and Belgium via Dunkirk through Belgium, Ypres, Menin Gate (Ceremony), Somme, Vimy Ridge and had been well received by members of the War Graves Commission.

### Ely

Mr H Roy Hitch reports that this had been a quiet year and much regretted the loss of Mr Len Gilby who is greatly missed.

Finances are in good order and the local members had supported the various Regimental functions.

Continued support is given to the secretary and assistance when required to the Regimental Chapel and the Ely Museum. Attendance at Westminster is a concern.

### March

Mr H H Howes reports that it has been a most successful year with outings as far as Newquay. Tenby is on next year's programme, and a party in February.

There is some concern that no more regard is paid to the annual VJ services. Finances are in good order.

### Whittlesey & Peterborough

Known to be in good order but Jess Matthews coping with personal problem of bereavement and moving, to whom all send condolences and good wishes.

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# Around the Branches

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## Cambridge

The chairman, Mr Herbie Taylor, reports that the branch is in good heart and finances sound. All officers were re-appointed at the last AGM. The Christmas party at the TA Centre had been the main function and proved entirely satisfactory. Trips to Bury, Wisbech and Peterborough had been made and the reception at all of them was very warm.

Bassingbourn, Minden Day and D Company open day had been attended and thanks are expressed to Maj M R Veal for the arrangements.

## D Company

Maj M R Veal reports that recruiting has been fairly successful resulting in a total strength of 101 but young subalterns were in short supply. Wally Rookes has retired from the canteen and is naturally missed after so many years.

Next April will see the 21st anniversary of the Company, and a shield is being made bearing the Cambridgeshire crest.

The Company attained the Company Championship in the Skill at Arms contest, and training was intense. The September camp was held at Warcop, Cumbria and attended by 69 only as the remainder were on courses.

In the March and shoot inter-company competition, the company missed winning by only one point.

In the Options for Change the Company goes over to the 5th(V) Battalion. It will also be replacing the RAF Contingent at Ely for the Armistice Parade.

## Regimental Council

### Regimental Museum and displays:

The Royal Anglian Regiment is negotiating for a display room at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford and investigations are being made to see if there would be any space for any of our exhibits.

The Ely Museum is now more actively seeking public support but there seems little likelihood of any change to our display area. There may be a possibility of a small display at Waterbeach ACF HQ.

**Regimental silver:** Numerous requests have been received and these were to be considered after 31 Oct 92.

**Regimental history:** The post-1971 history is to be copied six times before being passed to the book-binders, cost up to £200 and donations are sought.

**Cambridgeshire Regiment Sergeants' Dinner Club:** Yet another successful annual dinner was held for the first time at the ACF Centre at Waterbeach.

Some 52 members and friends sat down to a really first class meal laid on by the ACF Chef, Mr Colin Hubbard.

Both the Patron, Lt Col E L V Mapey OBE, TD and the president, Col E F Page MC, TD attended, as did members of the Suffolk Regiment OCA and the ACF.

The new venue proved a popular choice and it was great to have the Regimental silver on the tables again. Our thanks are due to the ACF for the loan of the Centre.

**Memorial Service Ely 1992:** Members of the Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades formed up and in company with soldiers of D

(Cambridgeshire) Company, Royal Anglian Regiment marched from Barton Road, Ely to the cathedral on Sunday afternoon 14 June, for their annual reunion and memorial service. Standards of the local Regimental association branches, supported by the Royal Artillery Association and Parachute Regiment Association, were paraded in support.

The extremely well attended service was held in the presence of the Queen's representative, the Lord Lieutenant, G Crowden, JP, and Bishop Stephen of Ely delivered a profound and moving sermon. Cadets of the Ely Detachment Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force assisted with the collection.

After the service the Old Comrades and D Company formed up in Ely High Street and led, as earlier in the afternoon by the City of Ely Military Band, who also played in the cathedral, marched past down the gallery, the salute being taken by Maj Gen (Rtd) Chisholm, to Barton Square.

Then followed tea in the Hayward Theatre lent for the occasion by courtesy of Kings School.

Over 300 members and guests enjoyed the tea organised by Capt T Overy, Cambridgeshire ACF and his team. A speech of welcome and thanks was made by the president of the OCA, Col Walter Page.

**Can anyone help?:** An enquiry has been received from J J O'Brien, 13 West Back Avenue, Cliftonville CT9 3LH:- "Does anyone remember L/C J O'Brien of the 1st Battalion who died of wounds in No.1 Malaya General Hospital 16.2.42 and was subsequently committed to a communal grave. Army No. 6020968."

An enquiry has been made by his daughter for any news of 583590 or 5833590 Pte Fiddaman RT K.I.A. 13.2.42 who was buried in Syme Road Camp (possibly moved to Crangi Cemetery) 1st Battalion Cambs.

Was he in your Company? Any news to the secretary. He enlisted from 369 Bramford Lane, Ipswich.

## FUTURE EVENTS

Event	Date	Day	Time	Location
Regtl Council	14 Mar	Sun	10am	Waterbeach
Officers' Dinner	3 Apr	Sat	7pm for 7.30pm	Waterbeach
Reunion / Service	20 June	Sun	2pm	Ely
OCA AGM	19 Sept	Sun	2pm	Ely

## Sport

# Mayall targets world championships

PTE Mayall, pictured right, joined the 2nd Battalion just as it was returning from the tour in Kuwait. At this stage the Battalion's Nordic ski team was starting to reform in preparation for the coming season's rigours. Having not had the opportunity to try skiing, Pte Mayall decided to give it a go.

As well he did! The results speak for themselves. At the Infantry Meeting he achieved the following results: 10 km Classical Race (Novice), second; 7.5 km Biathlon Race (Novice), third; Member winning team 10 km Classical Race (Novice); Member winning team 7.5 km Biathlon (Novice); Member winning team 15 km Patrol Race (Novice).

It was results like these which caught the eye of the British Junior Biathlon Team selectors. Since mid-May Pte Mayall has trained in Colerne, Wiltshire. Here the training has focused on shooting, rollerskiing and strength training. There have been three main training camps, two in Scotland and one in Wales.

These have been used to expand the activities undertaken to include hill walking and mountain biking.

This has been interspersed with the Scottish and the British Rollerski Championships. In the Scottish Championships Pte Mayall achieved second place overall in the six mile race, whilst at the British Championships he achieved second place in the two mile sprint. In both races he was better placed than the current British Junior Biathlon Champion!

To keep tabs on the athletic development he has attended the British Olympic Medical Centre in London twice. Once at the beginning of the season and a second time before we moved onto snow on 1 Nov. The improvement in his body's ability to



take in oxygen has been quite marked, as has his resistance to lactate build-up in the muscles.

The team along with Pte Mayall moved to on-snow training in Norway and then will

take part in the Infantry, divisional and national meetings in the New Year. If successful at the national meeting Pte Mayall will go on to the World Junior Biathlon Championships.

## Regimental golfers face keen competition

THIRTY-six members of the Regimental Golfing Society took part in our annual meeting on 6 June, which took place this year at Stowmarket Golf Club. The weather was quite unkind, not the warmest of days and quite wet under foot, nevertheless there were some very good scores and keen competition.

The prize winners were: The Isham

Salver (scratch); First ex Sgt Bruce Stout, second ex Sgt Ken Rowe and third Lt Col David Phipps; The Pompadour Cup (medal): first Maj Roy Jenks, second ex RSM David (Lofty) Knight and third ex CSM Ken Taylor; Suffolk Cup (Stableford): first Sgt Tom Wightman, second Capt Clive Mallett and third ex CSM "Shack" Shailes; Ponsonby Cup

(Foursomes): first Capt Fisk and Sgt Pye, second Sgts Rowe and McAnally and third Capt Mallett and Sgt Wightman. The inter-battalion cup was won by the holders, The 2nd Battalion.

The next fixture in the season was the Queen's Division triangular match held at

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# Sport

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the Bury St Edmunds Golf Club on 17 July. Teams of ten took part. Our team, which won the cup, comprised Capts G Taylor, D Davidson, G Halewood and A Birrell, WO1 Richardson, ex CSMs G Boss, K Taylor, G Peck, CSgt A Thomas and ex Sgt Rowe. The team scores were RRF 515 points, Queen's 520 points and the Regiment 567. A very fine team effort.

The traditional autumn meeting weekend where we play Flempton Golf Club for the Regimental shield took place on 11 and 12 Sept.

The results of the Society Meeting on the 11th were, Medal handicap: first Capt Joe Rowlinson, second Maj John Growse, third Sgt Tom Wightman; Stableford: first ex CSM "Shack" Shailes, second Maj John Perry, third ex Sgt Bruce Stout; Foursomes: first ex CSMs Boss and Taylor, second Majs Ladley and Jenns, third Capt Fisk and ex Sgt Stout.

The highlight of the season is our match against Flempton Golf Club which has now been taking place since 1962 and even before that the club had always offered its hospitality to those serving at the Depot in Bury St Edmunds.

To mark this long and very friendly association with the club, members of the Golfing Society clubbed together, bought and presented a fine garden bench seat with a traditional brass inscription plate.

The presentation was made by Gen Sir John Akehurst to club captain Allan Birrell (a former member of the Regiment) after the match where sadly we were beaten by the club 5 1/2 to 4 1/2 matches. A copy of the letter of thanks from the club is below:

"In addition to my verbal thanks last Saturday I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all members of Flempton Golf Club, of thanking the Regimental Golfing Society for its generous and much appreciated gift of a garden bench. I am sure that with our ageing membership this will receive a great deal of use!

Our association with the regiment has been a long and happy one and I hope it will continue for many years to come. I am particularly delighted, in view of my own personal connection with the regiment, that this presentation has been made during my captaincy.

Please convey our thanks to all members of the Regimental Golfing Society."

# Cricketing season improves steadily

A SEASON that started rather inauspiciously for the Royal Anglian Regiment Cricket Club with cancellations and losses ultimately proved to be a very good one - in terms of results and the young talent that emerged. Of the ten

matches that were played, four were won, four drawn and two lost.

One of the wins was our first ever against Greshams.

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## RESULTS 1992

17th May v Oundle School The Regiment 145; Oundle School 146-2 .....	LOST
24th May v Perse Pelicans Perse Pelicans 275-5 dec; The Regiment 202-7 (Russell 87) .....	DRAW
31st May v Harrow School Harrow School 161-6 dec; The Regiment 115-7 (Davenport 53) .....	DRAW
7th June v Felsted School Felsted School 175; The Regiment 179-3 (Cooper 88*) .....	WON
21st June v Bancrofts School The Regiment 144; Bancrofts School 148-4 .....	LOST
22nd June v Uppingham School The Regiment 169-7 dec; Uppingham School 123-4 .....	DRAW
23rd June v Woodbridge School Woodbridge 83 (Taylor 6-31); The Regiment 86-6 .....	WON
24th June v Greshams School Greshams School 154-6 dec; The Regiment 158-5 .....	WON
28th June v Brentwood School Brentwood School 182-5 dec; The Regiment 185-5 (Bird 69*, Bastow 60).....	WON
29th June v Framlingham College The Regiment 184; Framlingham College 153-7.....	DRAW

## Averages

### Batting

(4 Inns min)	INNS	NO	RUNS	HS	AVE
Bird	4	1	140	69*	35.00
Bastow	6	0	184	60	31.00
Kulkarni	4	1	64	38*	21.33
Badger	4	1	82	33	20.50
Davenport	10	2	162	53	20.25
Hipkin	7	0	125	48	17.85

### Bowling

(6 Wkts min)	O	M	R	W	AVE
Taylor	20	1	97	8	12.13
Badger	23.2	1	92	6	15.33
Latham	45	9	151	8	18.88
Davenport	78.2	10	353	15	23.53



# Sport

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As events transpired only two matches were played at home, at Bassingbourn and Colchester, and the club thanks the commanding officers of the Depot and the 1st Battalion for their assistance in hosting these games.

Thanks are also due, as ever, to our match managers, who almost without exception produced full, well-balanced, and capable sides.

Individually, the older hands continued to perform – Graeme Bird was always consistent with the bat, culminating with a fine 69\* against new opponents Brentwood School; Jim Badger got runs and wickets at the right time, and Guy Hipkin and Brian Davenport were generally consistent – the latter having a good haul of wickets. Andy Latham's prolific run-getting fell away a little, but he was a consistent wicket taker with the new ball.

Of the younger players it is especially satisfactory to record the performances of Edward Bastow with the bat and Freddie Grounds behind the stumps – both of whom look like being with the Regiment on a permanent basis as young officers.

It was particularly nice that two players from the Poachers took time out to play in the 'week', Cpl Nigel Metcalfe and Pte Shaun Taylor, the latter turning in a fine performance of 6 – 31 against Woodbridge – the best bowling performance for the Regiment for some years.

Both young men are clearly products of the Colour Sergeant Tony Ali school of coaching in the 2nd Battalion.

Guest artists as usual played their part. Maj Nigel Russell contributed a cultured 87 against the Perse, and William Cooper 88\* against Felsted (his own school).

Next season, the plot will be much as before with perhaps one or two new fixtures and also the appointment of more junior match managers.

Finally, a reminder that the Regimental Cricket Club is for all members of the Regiment, whether retired or serving and new players are always most welcome: contact RHQ for details.

## Orienteers win title again

THE 1st Battalion orienteering side was the clear winner of the Infantry Championships for the fourth consecutive year. TQMS Bonnett was placed first on the A course, Maj Shelmerdine Hare and W02 Callaghan were first and second respectively on the B course and Capt Woodham was second on the C course. The orienteering team was third in the Army Championships.

The Battalion athletics team won the Eastern District Championships held in Colchester. The following soldiers were first: LCpl Garfield, 100m; LCpl Curtis, 200m; LCpl Ward, 400m; Pte Coe, 800m; Bandsman Hill, 5000m; Cpl Dunn, 400m hurdles; Sgt Cranmer, 3000m steeplechase; LCpl Bold, shot and discus; and Pte Hannington, pole vault. The team was also first in the 4x100m relay. The team was subsequently placed fifth in the Army Athletics competition held in Aldershot. LCpl Bold came second in the shot competition and was invited to represent the Army.

On Saturday 16 May, LCpl Green from Colchester became the Eastern Counties light heavyweight kick boxing champion. After the contest, consisting of four rounds each of two minutes, he was



LCpl Ward at the UKLF championships.

declared the winner by the four judges. LCpl Green has only recently started kick boxing, although previously he practised Korean karate. Earlier during the month, he was second in a national Korean karate competition held at the Corn Exchange in Ipswich.

## Keen rivalry in 2nd Battalion events

AS ever the summer bought a number of fair weather 2nd Battalion sportsmen out of the closet. On the domestic front the main sporting events of the summer were the inter-company athletics and swimming.

The first event of the summer was the athletics. This had caused more than a stir of interest as D(Sp) Company and B Company started training their teams some time before the event. On the day the pre-training paid off and it soon developed into a very close competition between these two com-

panies. After a competitive day and some outstanding individual performances D(Sp) Company narrowly won. Pte Risi of D(Sp) Company was also named the best athlete of the day. Credit should also go to Ptes Newby and Thorne who captained and trained the top two teams.

The swimming was also closely competed but due to its closeness to the athletics, less pre-training was carried out. This

Continued Page 86

THERE'S NO DRAM LIKE

**DRAMBUIE**

Liqueur



# Sport

From Page 85

may also be due to the fact that the battalion pool is outdoors and without heating!

This led to the day being very close with the result resting on the final event. In the end D(Sp) Company, the favourite, narrowly lost to the HQ Company team.

The Battalion cricket team has had a successful season, winning the BAOR Infantry Cup, the 2nd Battalion scoring 173 with 3 L.I trailing with 102. The highest scores of the day were a vintage 50 from Maj David Napier and a fine 31 from Lt Adrian Grinonneau.

CSgt Ali, in his last game for the Battalion, topped the bowling with 3 for 30, proving age is no handicap.

Also HQ Company won the 1st Armd Div inter-company Generals Cup, the first time ever an infantry company has won this trophy.

After the allotted 20 overs, the scores were HQ Company 102 for 14 (Lt Adrian Grinonneau 51 not out and Sgt Neville 23) and A Sqn 1 RTR from 14 for 7 went on to 50 all out. (Pte Isebell and Cpl Mulvanna taking three wickets each.)

The Cooper Cup is a cup awarded annually to the private who has made the largest contribution to battalion sport. This year the award went to Pte Thorne who throughout the year has represented the Battalion. In the Gulf he won two international road races, the Kuwait 10-mile run for freedom and the Al Jubail marathon. He was also a member of the successful battalion Nordic ski team. On return from skiing he represented the Battalion in the BAOR infantry cross-country championships.



Above: The 2nd Battalion cricket team after winning the BAOR Infantry Cup. Below: The 2nd Battalion tug-of-war team pictured with the 1 Armd Div shield



## Victorious return to tug-of-war

THE 1992 tug of war season has seen a victorious return to Army competition by the 2nd Battalion. Whilst the majority of the team were drawn from the LAD, the presence of Cpl Taylor ensured that the team flew the 2nd Battalion flag in open competition, as well as the REME colours when competing in REME Corps events.

It was a fit and confident team which arrived at Detmold for the first competition, the REME 50 Tug of War.

Despite losing narrowly in the heavier weights (680 and 640kg) it was the lightweight 560kg team which took the honours, beating a strong team from 1 ADTR Wksp, which fully expected to win this weight outright.

The 1 Armd Divisional Championships at

Hohne was next in line. The Divisional competition allowed us to take on the might of the Gunners, for whom tug of war is an extremely serious business. A hard fought final with 40 Fd Regt at 560kg ensued, with the 2nd Battalion losing badly. We were the only 22 Armd Bde unit to enter.

Our runner-up placing allowed us to journey to UK to compete at Army level, and a very generous 40 L.I team sang our praises on BFBS radio.

Training now intensified, to help us build up to both the REME and Army competitions. Once the team had departed news was eagerly awaited. When it came, it was all good, with the 560kg team triumphing in the REME championships and taking a very creditable third place in the Army's. The

win in the REME event ensured that we were now representing the Corps itself.

The Inter-Corps competition gained us another third place, the team now being very tired after three competitions.

As the winter indoor competition is a very different sport we will begin training for next year in January. Perhaps 1993 will bring greater things, but a record which reads like this will be hard to beat: REME 50 BAOR Championships - 560kg Winner; 1 Armd Div Championships - 560kg Runner Up; REME 50 Corps Championships - 560kg Winner (now Corps Team); 1992 Army Championships - 3rd Place 560kg; 1992 Inter-Corps Championships - third place 560kg.

# Births, marriages and deaths

## 1ST BATTALION

**BIRTHS:** **Latham** - To Capt and Mrs Latham a son Harry; **Goodin** - To Maj and Mrs Goodin a daughter Georgette; **Stefanetti** - To W02 and Mrs Stefanetti a daughter Christina Maureen; **Wenham** - To Maj and Mrs Wenham a daughter Harriet; **Barber** - To Cpl and Mrs Barber a daughter Christie; **Love** - To Sgt and Mrs Love a daughter Belen Kathleen; **Kendall** - To Pte and Mrs Kendall a son Reece; **Woods** - To LCpl and Mrs Woods a son Nathan; **Martin** - To CSgt and Mrs Martin a son Jack Philip; **Greenhalgh** - To Pte and Mrs Greenhalgh a daughter Ann Marie; **Robinson** - To LCpl and Mrs Robinson a son Joseph James; **Howlett** - To LCpl and Mrs Howlett a daughter Hanna Paige Louise; **Quittenton** - To LCpl and Mrs Quittenton a son Adam James Alexander; **Lanchester-Handing** - To Pte and Mrs Lanchester-Handing a daughter Keron Eleanor Claire; **Eagle** - To Pte and Mrs Eagle a daughter Chanzena; **Cowie** - To LCpl and Mrs Cowie a son Jordan; **Vincent** - To Capt and Mrs Vincent a daughter Jessica Anne; **McNelly** - To Pte and Mrs McNelly a son David Gary.

**MARRIAGES:** **Guthrie - Mags** - On 26 Sept LCpl Guthrie to Miss Samantha Mags; **Thompson** - On 2 May Pte Thompson to Miss Maria; **McHenry** - On 11 May Pte McHenry to Miss Claire; **Watson** - On 23 May Cpl Watson to Miss Christina; **Greenhalgh** - On 23 May Pte Greenhalgh to Miss Lucille; **Moy** - On 30 May LCpl Moy to Miss Gillian; **Watson** - On 6 June LCpl Watson to Miss Lisa; **Hardy** - On 20 June Pte Hardy to Miss Dedra; **Riley** - On 27 June Pte Riley to Miss Paula; **Cranmen - Gore** - On 1 Aug Sgt Cranmen to Miss Corinne Louise Gore; **Szynal - Page** - On 15 Aug Cpl Szynal to Miss Sharon Page; **Dennis - Thompson** - On 3 Oct Pte Dennis to Miss Lisa Jane Thompson; **Langyey Stevens - Franklin** - On 29 Aug Sgt Langyey Stevens to Miss Gillian Franklin; **McNeill - Strike** - On 18 Sept Pte McNeill to Miss Michelle Louise Strike; **Buckman - Rymell** - On 12 Sept Pte Buckman to Miss Susan Carol Rymell; **Ward - Docherty** - On 26 Sept LCpl Ward (Band) to Miss Luan Docherty.

## 2ND BATTALION

**BIRTHS:** **Marshall** - To Pte and Mrs Marshall a son Thomas Darren; **Chick** - To Cpl and Mrs Chick a son Carl Anthony; **Hanna** - To SSgt and Mrs Hanna a son Steven William; **Brown** - To Cfn and Mrs Brown a daughter Hannah; **Smith** - To

LCpl and Mrs Smith a daughter Alexandra; **Avery** - To Capt and Mrs Avery a daughter Helena Ruth; **Nolan** - To SSgt and Mrs Nolan a son Phillip Jaames; **Woods** - To Pte and Mrs Woods a son Christopher; **Hewitt** - To Pte and Mrs Hewitt a son Aaron; **Edmondson-Jones** - To Major and Mrs Edmondson-Jones a son Matthew Peter; **Cutts** - To Cpl and Mrs Cutts a daughter Shai; **Appleyard** - To Pte and Mrs Appleyard a son Jake Daniel; **Saunders** - To Cpl and Mrs Saunders a daughter Megan Louise; **Boarder** - To Pte and Mrs Boarder a daughter Charlotte Louise; **Lynes** - To Cpl and Mrs Lynes twins Danielle and Benjamin; **Coupe** - To LCpl and Mrs Coupe a son Kurt Ashley; **Brown** - To Pte and Mrs Brown a daughter Cindy Anne; **Lobley** - To Pte and Mrs Lobley a son Mark Richard; **Slater** - To Cpl and Mrs Slater a son Jonathan; **Scott** - To Cpl and Mrs Scott a son Naill James; **Brown** - To LCpl and Mrs Brown a son Matthew James; **Wright** - To Pte and Mrs Wright a son Aaron Daniel; **Ayde** - To Cpl and Mrs Ayde a daughter Alison Jane; **Rouget** - To Cpl and Mrs Rouget a son Aaron James; **Gibson** - To LCpl and Mrs Gibson a daughter Naomi Erin; **Stephen** - To CSgt and Mrs Stephen a daughter Chelsea Alana; **Humphreys** - To Sgt and Mrs Humphreys a son Rhys Michael; **Eaton** - To Pte and Mrs Eaton a son Scott; **Pinnegar** - To Sgt and Mrs Pinnegar a son Craig Andrew; **Johnson** - To Cpl and Mrs Johnson a daughter Lucy Emily; **Stanton** - To Pte and Mrs Stanton a daughter Chloce; **Andrews** - To Capt and Mrs Andrews a daughter Poppy Charlotte Elizabeth; **Miller** - To LCpl and Mrs Miller a son Ben John.

**MARRIAGES:** **Lamb - McCulloch** - On 21 Mar 92 LCpl A B Lamb to Miss Elaine McCulloch; **Cheffins - Page** - On 27 Mar 92 Pte D S Cheffins to Miss Karen E Page; **Bridge - Vines** - On 18 Apr 92 Pte J R Bridge to Miss Andrea Vines; **Fradgley - Williams** - On 18 Apr 92 Cpl I M Fradgley to Miss Linda Williams; **Winthrop - Walker** - On 23 May 92 Capt I S Winthrop to Miss Joyce Walker; **Chapman - Boyfield** - On 23 May 92 LCpl G Chapman to Miss Sharon Boyfield; **Heath - Dienes** - On 5 Jun 92 LCpl A R Heath to Miss Ildiko Dienes; **Chapman - Jeffs** - On 6 Jun 92 LCpl A Chapman to Miss Lisa Jeffs; **Brown - Coco** - On 3 Jul 92 Pte D Brown to Miss Dunja Coco; **Dennett - Roy** - On 11 Jul 92 Cpl S Dennett to Miss Gillian Roy; **Pinnegar - Bartlett** - On 20 Jul 92 Sgt A Pinnegar to Miss Deborah Bartlett; **Bellham-Wroblewski** - On 25 Jul 92 Cpl J W

Bellham to Miss Christine Wroblewski; **Bradley - Eggeling** - On 30 Jul 92 Pte R Bradley to Miss Karin Eggeling; **Dyson - Marske** - On 7 Aug 92 Pte S J Dyson to Miss Karen Marske; **Smales - Oxby** - On 8 Aug 92 Pte P Smales to Miss Andrea Oxby; **Smith - McCauley** - On 15 Aug 92 Cpl M Smith to Miss Andrea McCauley; **Green - Appleyard** - On 15 Aug 92 Cpl R Green to Miss Joanne Appleyard; **Crudace - Kleinfedt** - On 17 Aug 92 Pte M Grudace to Miss Regina Kleinfedt; **Walker - Owen** - On 22 Aug 92 Cpl A Walker to Miss Monica Owen; **Rainey - Saunders** - On 23 Aug 92 Cpl A Rainey to Miss Sarah Saunders; **Jamieson - Hunt** - On 28 Aug 92 Pte J Jamieson to Miss Amanda-Jane Hunt; **Smith - Mayes** - On 29 Aug 92 Bdms N Smith to Miss Nicola Mayes; **Seal - Kernachan** - On 10 Sep 92 Sgt D A Seal to Miss Sandra Kernachan; **Redman - Little** - On 25 Sep 92 Cpl A Redman to Miss Jacqueline Little.

## STEELBACKS

**MARRIAGES:** **McCartney - Bavin** - On 26 Sep 92 WO1 McCartney to Miss Bavin; **Marinos - Livett** - In June 92 Capt Marinos to Miss Michele Livett.

## DEPOT

**BIRTHS:** **Beart** - To Lt and Mrs Beart a son Benjamin.

**MARRIAGES:** **Bracey - Stewart** - On 25 Sep 92 Cpl Bracey to Nicola Stewart.

## DEATHS

WE record with regret the death of Lt Col D E Long-Price OBE ex Essex and 3rd East Anglia Regiment on 5 Aug 92. Sgt J B Delaney ex 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment on an adventure training exercise on 3 Jun 92, and Pte G A Fountain ex 3 Royal Anglian on 8 Oct 92 in a motor accident. We extend our sympathy and condolences to relatives and friends.

We are also sorry to record the deaths of: Col S C Aston OBE TD DL on 19 May 92; Maj Harry Selwyn Spicer Few on 30 Jan 92; Sgt L J Gilbert DCM on 5 Feb 92; Capt Sir G S Inglefield GBE TD on 17 Oct 91; Lt H A Sandeman on 28 Dec 90. Capt N T Bending (ex Northhamptons) 21 Jul 92; Capt F W Turnbull (ex Northhamptons) 15 Jul 92; In-Pensioner C H Hutchinson (ex Northhamptons) 26 Sep 92; Maj W F Adams (ex R Leicesters) 31 July 92; Maj L G Mayhew (ex R Leicesters) 4 Aug 92; Maj Gen G L F Payne CB CBE (ex R Leicesters) 10 Sep 92.

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## Obituaries

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### Major R (Bob) E Eke

MAJ Robert Edward Eke died of cancer in St Helena's Hospice, Colchester, on 16 October 1992. The diagnosis that Bob or Boblet – for that was what he was called by his many friends - had cancer came as a complete surprise and the manner in which he kept it at bay for so long was a direct reflection of his determination and courage.

Bob was born on 9 Apr 1947 and educated initially in Kenya and then Hampshire before enlisting in 1963 as a Junior Leader at Towyn, North Wales. He joined the 3rd Battalion in 1965 when his qualities were immediately recognised and he was ear-marked for early promotion. He progressed through the ranks to become RSM the 6th Battalion in 1982 followed by RSM the 3rd Battalion, having seen active service in Aden ('67-'68) and five tours in Northern Ireland, two of which were residential in Belfast and Londonderry.

He served also in Tidworth, Colchester, Basingbourn, Cyprus, Paderborn and Minden. He was commissioned into the 3rd Battalion, serving as MTO and Training Officer.



It forms part of the tragic story that he left the army briefly in 1990 because his first wife Parr was terminally ill with cancer. After her sad death, Bob rejoined the Colours and went to Londonderry as OC HQ Coy for the Battalion's final operational merger. In 1992, Bob married again.

Bob was a man of principle, a complete professional and a staunch supporter of regimental life. His standards were second-to-none which earned him the respect of the

whole Regiment. His loyalty both to commanders and his men was exemplary and the manner in which he conducted himself, laced with his excellent humour, endeared him to all who were privileged to have served with him. He was a guide and good friend to many in the Regiment and all were the richer for having known him.

He leaves behind him his much loved wife Carol, children Jamie and Katherine and his brother, WO1 (RSM) Eke (CUOTC). He was a very special soldier indeed who will be sorely missed. We extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to his family and friends.

### Many thanks (Maj Bob Eke)

DEAR friends and colleagues, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all on behalf of Bob, myself, our children and our family for the cards, the wonderful floral tributes and all your kind thoughts and words during what has been a very difficult time for us all.

Thank you,  
Caroline Eke.

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