



# CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

JUNE 1995





1st Battalion



2nd Battalion



June 1995

Vol. 9 No. 5

## Contents

Colonel Of The Regiment's Message .....	3
Mainly About People .....	6 - 16
News from the Vikings .....	18 - 25
News from the Poachers .....	26 - 33
News from the Steelbacks .....	34 - 37
Museum Focus .....	38 - 39
Presentation of Colours .....	40 - 47
News from the 6th Battalion .....	48 - 55
News from the Tigers .....	56 - 64
Feature Focus — Himalayan trek .....	66 - 67
Cadets .....	67
News from the Branches .....	68 - 77
Sport .....	78 - 81
Births & Marriages .....	81
Obituaries .....	81 - 82
Regimental Shop .....	83

*Editor:*

*Colonel C. J. Dale*

*Printed by:*

*Levypress Ltd., Guddard Road,  
Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 5NF.*

*Advertising by:*

*Combined Services Publications,  
PO Box 4, Farnborough, Hants.*

*Production by:*

*Pulse Communications*

## 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



The new colours during the presentation of new colours ceremony held at the Imperial War Museum Duxford in April

# From the Colonel of the Regiment

The last six months has been rather a bitter sweet period in the Regiment's history. The battle to retain our 5th Battalion was lost for reasons which still defeat those who were prepared to apply logic and fairness to the equation. However during this period, the Regiment achieved the highest number of honours and awards of any Regiment in the Northern Ireland and former Republic of Yugoslavia lists, including the Military Cross For Corporal Rainey, and produced a Presentation of Colours Parade for our Deputy Colonel in Chief at the Imperial War Museum in Duxford at the end of April, that has been acclaimed by all who saw it. As I write, the 1st Battalion is stood by in Colchester, as part of the reinforcement Brigade for Bosnia - all our hearts I know are with them.

The 5th Battalion will re role as 158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC (V) in April 1996, after a suitable re-badging parade, details of which will follow. In addition to retaining the Regiment's name in its title, the new Transport Regiment will also retain a number of the Regiment's accoutrements, including the brown beret and Minden Flash as a permanent reminder of their inheritance and the ongoing links with our Regimental area. Our dealings with the Royal Logistic Corps over this very difficult matter could not have been more friendly or constructive and I am deeply grateful to them for this. Lt. Col David Bayliss, who has just taken over the 5th Battalion, will also be the first Commanding Officer of 158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment on transition.

The loss of the 5th Battalion next year will I am afraid inevitably mean a revision of our current battalion affiliations within our countries. I will be writing to all former regiment Association Chairmen in the next few weeks with our recommendations, in order to seek their views prior to ratification of the new affiliations at the November Council Meeting



The presentation of New Colours to the 1st and 2nd Battalions by HRH The Princess Margaret, our Deputy Colonel in Chief, on the 29th April was a magnificent occasion, much enjoyed by all who attended. A great debt of gratitude is owed by us all to RHQ for their excellent organisation of this major event and to the 1st Battalion, for bearing the major load of the parade, and the huge administrative task of guiding, seating, and looking after the nearly 4,000 who attended. Few, I believe, will forget HRH's particularly pertinent words to the Parade regarding the impact of recent reorganisations on our numbers. Her emphasis that this in no way affecting the binding ties of our long history with our counties and through them our former regiments was a message that we do well to remember in these turbulent times. I have no doubt that the presence of our Territorial Battalions on parade and the wonderful march past of our cadets and association members at its conclusion will have done nothing but reinforce this message.

A hidden bonus of the Presentation of Colours was the opportunity for many of us to welcome and re-acquaint ourselves with the representatives of our affiliated regiments who came from Bermuda, Canada,

Belize and Barbados to mark the occasion. I am also delighted to report that we have reinstated our alliance with Regiment de la Rey and 1st City Regiment, both of South Africa.

The Northern Ireland and former Republic of Yugoslavia awards list published at the beginning of May contained no fewer than 1 OBE, 2 MBEs, 2 MIDs, 3 QCBs and 3 QVCs for the Regiment, sure proof of the quality of our officers and men when placed in the most testing circumstances of all. I am sure proof of the quality of our officers and men when placed in the most testing circumstances of all. I am sure that the recipients of these well deserved awards will however agree with me that the award of the Military Cross to Corporate Rainey, the first to the Regiment, is a superb achievement and crowns what is anyhow an outstanding list. All concerned deserve our warmest congratulations.

A report on the Museum Appeal appears elsewhere in the magazine. However, the enthusiasm and generosity of both serving and retired members of the Regiment, plus considerable support from our counties and industry, mean that we should open early in 1996, which is wonderful news. We still need about £50,000 to ensure the long term future of the project - so keep collecting! My sincere thanks to all who have donated so far.

My last wish, which has been somewhat disrupted by the events of the last week, is for a period of stability for the Regiment after the last few years, to allow the two regular Battalions to readjust to their new roles next year and for our two TA Battalions to settle down and establish themselves. Bosnia may disrupt part of this, but I remain as convinced as ever, that the sound common sense, dedication and professionalism, the hallmarks of the regiment will see us through come what may.

**Maj Gen PPD 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: Lieutenant General M J D Walker, CBE  
2nd & 7th (V) Battalions: Brigadier C Groves  
Colonel D K Harris, OBE, TD, DL

**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, DL  
Leicestershire: Colonel W G Dawson, TD DL  
Northamptonshire: Colonel P Worthy  
Bedfordshire: Colonel T A Winton, OBE  
Hertfordshire: Colonel N H Kelsey, OBE TD, ADC  
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

South Africa

Regiment de la Rey,  
First City

## **Civic Honours**

The Regiment has been granted the honour of the Freedom of Bedford, Boston, Brentwood, Bury St. Edmunds, Cambridge, Chelmsford, Cleethorpes, Colchester, Dunstable, Ely, Grantham, Grimsby, Hertford, Hinckley, Ilford, Ipswich, King's Lynn, Lincoln, Lowestoft, Newham, 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: 01284 752394, Fax: 752026 / Colchester Military 5124)

Regimental Secretary: Colonel C J Dale  
Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major M Jones  
Regimental Careers Officer: Major R C Gould

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

Britannia House TA Centre. (Tel: 01603 400290)  
325 Aylsham Road, Norwich NR3 2AD  
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  
Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY. (Tel: 01522 525444)  
Area Secretary: Captain D J Lee BEM (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 242271)  
Captain J J Wilcox

## **BATTALION LOCATIONS**

1st Battalion, Colchester.  
(Moves to Oakington Aug 96)

Lieutenant Colonel R M Brunt, OBE  
(*Lieutenant Colonel R E Harrold Apr 96*)

2nd Battalion, Celle BFPO 23. (Moves to Warminster Mar 96)

Lieutenant Colonel D J Clements MBE

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

Lieutenant Colonel D J W Baylis

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

Lieutenant Colonel C A F Thomas, TD

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

Lieutenant Colonel J B C Prescott

### **Regimental Representatives**

Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn: Major C J Pearce  
Infantry Training Centre, Catterick: Major R W T Pattison  
RMA Sandhurst: Captain N F C Nottingham

## Mainly about People



Parade formation during the presentation of the new colours. For full story and pictures turn to Page 40.

# Honours, awards and retirements

WE congratulate the following on their awards: **Maj (Ret'd) W G St Brogan DL**, the OBE and **Maj T A Winton** (Deputy Hon Col) TA (Bedfordshire) the OBE for services in the former Republic of Yugoslavia.

We congratulate also the following on their awards and decorations in the Armed Forces Operational Service Honours List No. 3.

### Northern Ireland:

**Lt Col R M Brunt** MBE the OBE; **Maj P D Jones** the MBE; **Capt S J R Browne**, the MID.

**Lt M A L Lyne**, C'Sgt P Tilley, S/Sgt K P Keen, Cpl S Gales, Cpl S M Riley, and Pte S P Clegg, Joint Commanders' Commendation.

### Former Republic of Yugoslavia:

**Maj A J C Wild**, the MBE; **Cpl A J Rainey**, the MC; **Col J A McColl** OBE, MID; QCB to **Maj R J Kemp** MBE, LCpl S P Ollerton and S/Sgt D A Robinson; QCVS to **Capt S D Etherington**, **Capt P S Leslie** and **Lt Col S I. Porter**.

To **C'Sgt C J Cooper**, **Cpl K J James**; **Capt A. Jones**, **Pte N R Norman**, **Pte (now**

**Mr) P D Quilter**, **Cpl I J Robinson**, **Sgt C Tate**, **Maj M H Wenham** and **Pte C J Winter**, the GOC's Commendation.

### Newly Commissioned:

WE welcomed into the Regiment **2Lt E J M Osborne** on Apr 13, 1995 from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He is now posted to the 1st Battalion.

### Redundancies:

THE following have been selected for redundancy this year: **Brig A Behagg** MBE, **Brig A J Calder** OBE, **Brig C Groves**, **Brig T Longland** OBE and **Col M K Goldschmidt**.

All were volunteers.

### Retired:

**Maj Tim Townley** on Nov 1, 1994; **Capt Bruce Pettit** on Feb 28, 1995; **Maj Frank Froud** on Mar 1, 1995; **2Lt Stephen Sutcliffe** on Mar 27, 1995; **Capt Nicholas Palmer** on Mar 31, 1995; **Capt Stephen Gandy** on Mar 31, 1995; **Lt Roger McClure** on Mar 31, 1995.

We wish them all the best of good fortune in civilian life.

## From the Padre

### A spur to us all

FOR those of us on parade at the presentation of colours to the 1st and 2nd Battalions, it seemed very appropriate that this historic occasion took place just one week before the observance of the 50th anniversary of VE Day. The colours were consecrated. That is to say declared sacred and also set apart. Sacred because they enshrine all the finest qualities that God has given us. Set aside because those who serve under them, those who follow the colours are themselves set aside.

"There's something about a soldier." There certainly is. For behind the style and swagger, there is the promise of unlimited liability which no civilian is called upon to give. This year we give thanks to God for relative peace, and give thanks to so many soldiers, sailors, airmen and civilians who enabled the victory over evil to come about, at so great a cost.

It was stirring on that April morning at Duxford to see these new colours unfurled and set aside, inheriting all the traditions of the former regiments, tangible reminders of all the courage of so many of our regimental forebears. We salute the colossal efforts of those who fought and those who were imprisoned in the Far East during the last war. For all those who served in the European theatre of war. Our new colours are reminders of all these things and a spur to us all to be better and to do better in the future.

Tom Hiney

## Mainly about People

# Steelbacks to be re-roled in transport

AS everyone will know, 1994 has marked a further reorganisation of the Territorial Army and despite representation and excellent support within our nine counties, including all our nine Lord Lieutenants, the decision went against the Regiment and the 5th Battalion is to be re-roled as a Transport Regiment.

Meetings were held between the Colonel of the Regiment and Maj Gen D I. Burden CBE DG Log Sp(A) in the early part of this year at which the following decisions were made:

■ once re-roled the new Regiment's full title will be 158 (Royal Anglian) Regiment Royal Logistic Corps (Volunteers), abbreviated where appropriate to 158 (R Anglian) Regt RLC(V);  
■ Squadron's titles are to reflect their geographical affiliations by towns as follows:

200 (Peterborough) HQ Sqn  
201 (Bedford) Sqn  
202 (Ipswich) Sqn  
203 (Loughborough) Sqn

■ The 5th Battalion is to continue to operate in its infantry role until November 95. Between 1 Nov 95 and 1 Apr 96 the Regiment is to start adjustment to its revised organisation, establishment and role. On or about 1 Apr 96 the Regiment is to adopt its new identity including its new title and uniform. The target date for the Regiment to be effective in its new role is 1 Apr 97 with full operational effectiveness by 1 Apr 98.

■ Lt Col D JW Bayliss is to command the Regiment for a full tour; thereafter the Regiment will be commanded by an officer selected by the RLC. The RLC is to appoint a training major to take the post in September 95. Other training appointments are to be filled on an opportunity basis by agreement by the CO and Comd RLC (TA).

■ Following rebadging, at least one of the key regular posts within the Regiment should be filled by a R Anglian officer, WO or SNCO in order to maintain R Anglian links.

■ The new Regiment is to wear the Norfolk Regiment brown beret. The parade beret is to be worn with a metal RLC cap badge, backed by the Royal Anglian black patch. The Regiment is to wear the Minden Flash on the right upper arm of combat kit.

■ R Anglian regular personnel serving with the Regiment are to wear standard R Anglian uniform as of right.

■ The new Regiment is to retain the 5th Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment colours until 1996 until which they will be laid up with honour and not be replaced.

■ Those funds and items of silver and property which are solely the property of 5 R Anglian are to transfer direct to the re-roled Regiment.

■ The Royal Anglian Regiment will maintain an interest in funding the Regiment and the CO will be encouraged to turn to them for assistance for instance in the maintenance of Regimental property.

■ The Royal Anglian Regiment will retain the Drums Platoon although members of the platoon will be welcome should they wish to transfer to the re-roled Regiment.

■ The RLC and the new Regiment will provide every possible assistance to the Royal Anglian Regiment to enable historic, regimental and geographical links to be maintained, for instance in the use of TACs for our Royal Anglian Regiment reunions.

## Letters

### Memorabilia wanted for new museum

SIR, Elsewhere in the Castle is a detailed article on the Royal Anglian Regiment museum collection. Could I ask all members of the Regiment, serving and retired, to please empty their garages, lofts and glory holes for material for the museum.

Personal memorabilia and humorous anecdotes are also wanted. Unless you help, the museum cannot achieve the highest standards we aim for it.

The museum will be open in about six months' time. It will illustrate the esprit de corps, the traditions and history of the finest Regiment in the British Army, as well as the gallantry, efficiency and loyalty of its members.

Its use of modern techniques of display and presentation will be second to none and I anticipate we will all be proud to show it to our families and friends.

My sincere thanks go to those who have so generously contributed to the museum appeal, which has raised over £200,000 towards the target £250,000. However, many serving or retired members of the Regiment have not yet supported the appeal and their donations are urgently needed now - please.

Anyone wishing to discuss either the appeal or items for the museum collection should please contact me at the 5th Battalion on 01733 54581."

Trevor Veitch

### Veterans sought for Anzio visit

BILL Dilworth of 51 Chester Road, Walthamstow, London E17 7HP (tel: 0181 5200235) has written to ask whether any Anzio veterans, or members of families whose relations may have been there, would like to contact him

Bill has visited Anzio and arranged a number of battlefield visits and tours. He would be delighted to hear from anyone who may be interested in participating in another visit.



# Mainly about People

## DIARY DATES 1995

### JUNE

- 2 Royal Norfolk Officers' lunch, Norwich.  
 8 Founders Day, Chelsea.  
 17-18 Royal Tigers' weekend.  
 23 Regimental golf meeting, Stowmarket.  
 18 Official opening Royal Tigers' Wood.  
 20-21 Queen's Division posting meeting.  
 25 Essex Regiment reunion.  
 28/29 Royal Norfolk show.  
 29 16th Foot Officers' lunch, Chicheley Hall.

### JULY

- 1-2 Northamptonshire Regimental Association reunion.  
 20 Colonel Commandant's meeting, London.  
 21 Essex Regiment Association annual dinner.  
 29 Suffolk Regiment officer's dinner.  
 30 Suffolk Regiment Minden Day reunion, Bury St Edmunds.  
 Laying up of 1st Battalion Queen's Colour, Bury St Edmunds

### AUGUST

- 1 Minden Day  
 13 Laying up of 3 East Anglian Colours, St Paul's, Bedford.  
 15 50th Anniversary VJ Day.  
 26-9 Sept 5 Royal Anglian Camp, Otterburn.

### SEPTEMBER

- 31st Anniversary of the founding of the Regiment.

- 6-22 7 Royal Anglian Camp, Warcop.  
 8-9 Autumn golf meeting, Flempton.  
 23-7 Oct 6 Royal Anglian Camp, Lydd/Hythe.  
 23 Royal Norfolk Association dinner.  
 24 Laying up of 1st Battalion regimental colour, Norwich.  
 30 Royal Lincoln Regiment reunion, Lincoln.

### OCTOBER

- 3 50th Celebration freedom march, Norwich.  
 5 Freedom March, Ipswich (TBC).  
 6 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club autumn lunch.  
 12 Freedom march, King's Lynn.  
 14 4/5 Royal Leicesters' dinner.  
 28 Concert at Warley Chapel (ABF).

### NOVEMBER

- 3 Regimental dinner and council meeting, London.  
 9 Field of Remembrance.  
 12 Remembrance Sunday.  
 19 Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment reunion, Kempston.

### DECEMBER

- Royal Leicesters' Officers' lunch, London.

## In Brief

### Home available for disabled servicemen

THE Queen Alexandra Hospital Home is situated at Gifford House, Boundary Road, Worthing, West Sussex. The aims of Gifford House are to provide a real and happy permanent home for 50 disabled ex-servicemen and to give a holiday with nursing and medical treatment to some 200 disabled servicemen each year.

The president is our own Colonel-in-Chief. It may be that a reader may know a disabled member of the Royal Anglian Regiment - or indeed any other regiment - who might benefit from knowing that the hospital exists. Contact RHQ for further details.

### Study of Nazi adjutant

**The Devil's Adjutant: Jochen Peiper - Panzer Leader**

MAJ Gen Michael Reynolds, late of the Queen's Regiment, and a previous Queen's Division brigadier, has written a book on one of Himmler's former Adjutants and the battle which brought this senior commander in Hitler's SS bodyguard to the foreground of history. Anyone interested in buying the book can purchase it from the warehouse for £16 (£4 cheaper than the shops) including postage and packing. Cheques to this amount should be paid direct to M F Reynolds, 8 Grassington Road, Eastbourne, Sussex BN20 7DU.

### POW reunion

THE eighth annual ex-Prisoner of War reunion will be at Warners Holiday Village, Hayling Island, from Friday Oct 20 to Monday Oct 23, 1995. Ex-Prisoners of War relatives and/or supporters requiring further details, please send an SAE to:- Charles Jago (reunion organiser) 74 Norfolk Road, West Harnham, Salisbury, SP2 8HG; or phone 01722 333599.

### Sgts' dinner dates

THE Sgts' Past and Present Dinner Club will meet on Sat Sept 30, '95 at Thorpe Camp (Stanford Training Area), 1930 for 2000 hrs. Accommodation will be available for all persons attending. Further details are available from either WO2 B P Tunstall on 01284 754632 ext 116 or CSgt T Gedge on 01603 427658.

## Mainly about People



Majs Mike Beard and Seymour Blyth at the Intrepid Sea-Air Museum.

# A world role with the UN in New York

**Maj S P M Blyth writes:**

'NEW York, New York, so good they named it twice', and truly one of the world's most exciting cities. Its international stature was acknowledged after the Second World War when it was chosen as the site for the United Nations Headquarters.

It was here in Manhattan, that for seven months last year, spanning from April to October, I was the Operations Officer on the UNProfor military desk within the department of peace keeping operations of the UN Secretariat. At the time it was understandably the largest and busiest of the UN desks, consisting of six personnel, who apart from myself from the UK, hailed from Malaysia, France, Denmark, Germany and Australia.

The job was fascinating. Apart from being the point of contact for Headquarters UN Profor in Zagreb, we provided the military input to the political staff and Boutros Boutros Ghali's military adviser within the Secretariat, a Canadian General. The team was responsible for co-ordinating changes in accordance with the Security Council Resolutions as they affected the military, and specifically in the identification, procurement, equipping and deployment of units and reinforcements for UN Profor. Thirty-six countries were providing troops and equipment to Bosnia, Croatia and Macedonia, and the link into the permanent

missions in New York, and hence their national capitals, proved to be an interesting insight into the methods employed by each.

On a trip to the former republic of Yugoslavia, the opportunity of visiting the Poachers was too good to miss. Their welcome, briefings and professionalism reflected the high esteem with which they were held in theatre. It was also good to see Royal Anglians in New York. Col Gordon Brett spent two weeks as the Nato LO from Brussels, and Maj Mike Beard and Capt Henry Simpson came over with a small contingent from The Bermuda Regiment.

New York, and Manhattan in particular, is a wonderful place to live. My apartment was situated in the Upper East Side, a stone's throw from Central Park, and a brisk half hour walk from the UN building on the East River. All the well-known sites were on hand, too many to mention. Long Island, Broadway shows and an afternoon's baseball at Shea Stadium, having negotiated the subway system, all had to be crammed in when time allowed.

This was a magnificent tour in a friendly city. Primarily, however, it gave me the opportunity to see, understand and participate in, the decision-making processes of an organisation which I believe will have a marked effect on our military futures. The trip home on the QE2 was a bonus!

## Prime Minister launches Army Grove appeal

VERY few of the many events commemorating the end of the Second World War will generate permanent and lasting tribute to the individuals, Regiments and Corps which took part in those stirring events.

However, there is one initiative that has been specifically conceived as a living lasting tribute to the war-time generations that will be a gift, in their memory, for future generations to reflect upon and enjoy – this is the National Memorial Arboretum.

In November 1994 the Prime Minister officially launched an appeal, of which HRH the Duchess of Kent is the patron, to develop the arboretum on land gifted for this purpose on the banks of the River Trent in Staffordshire. On this site individuals and groups are being invited to plant trees to commemorate their friends, comrades and units in which they served.

For example, a long Western Front Avenue of Poplars will lead to a large poppy field which is being sponsored by the Royal British Legion. Beyond the poppy field, in a formal setting, Army Regiments and Corps are being encouraged to have a tree planted so that every unit of the British Army, both past and present, will be represented on the site.

Close to this grove will be an area where individuals will be able to have commemorative trees planted. The names of those thus recalled will be placed in a Book of Remembrance to be kept at the site. It is also the intention that this will be the one place in the country where a two-minute silence, accompanied by Last Post and Reveille, will be observed every day of the year in perpetuity.

Any individual can have a tree planted for £30, which will cover planting and maintaining costs as well as purchase. Obviously any additional sum will enhance the site's appearance.

Any contributions, which should include details of the individual or group being commemorated should be sent to: Commander D J Childs, Director – National Memorial Arboretum, Europa House, 13/17 Ironmonger Row, London EC1V 3QN. Tel: (0171) 250 1700.

He will be glad to answer any queries. Cheques should be made out to The National Memorial Arboretum.

## Mainly about People

# Minister's plea on giving life to others

**Health Minister Tom Sackville explains new system to boost organ donations**

VERY few of us will ever need to undergo a transplant operation. But if and when we do, we all want to be sure that an organ will be available for us.

The NHS is entirely dependent on the generosity of individuals who agree to donate their organs. Since 1972, over 30,000 organs have been donated to the NHS – more than 3,000 last year alone. But these figures are still not meeting the demand for organs. At the end of last year, there were still 5,600 people waiting for a transplant.

We always need more organ donors, and the government has been working hard to encourage people to make their intentions clear through the 'Carry the Card' campaign. The latest phase in the campaign is the creation of a national computerised register of donors.

A recent MORI survey showed that families will almost always agree to an organ being retrieved if they know that it is what their relative wanted. But when the wishes are not known, for example because the deceased was not carrying a donor card, about a quarter of all families refused permission for personal reasons. So opportuni-

ties for organ donation are being missed simply because people are not carrying their donor card.

Introducing a computer register should virtually eliminate the problem.

Every donor will be able to register with the NHS organisation that links donors to possible recipients – the UK Transplant Support Services Authority (UKTSSA). Then all the hospital needs to do is to check whether the potential donor's name is on the register – providing quick and simple reassurance to the next-of-kin.

Every one of the 5m plus people renewing their driving licence each year are also invited to join. And we hope soon to include an invitation to join whenever people register with or change GPs.

You can join the register simply and easily by filling in the leaflet 'Life – don't keep it to yourself', available free of charge by ringing Freephone 0800-555777. Alternatively, you can pick up copies from the GP surgery, your local library, post office or Citizen's Advice Bureau and return it by freepost.

Organ donors already give new life to thousands every year. Join the register today. Ring 0800-555777.

**Tom Sackville**  
Parliamentary Secretary for Health

## A padre's hard luck tale of fire and theft

**OVER the years many a hard luck story has been spun in an attempt to obtain sympathy from a CQMS. The following letter from the Battalion Padre, the Rev David Lowe is worthy of note:**

To: CSgt Mason, 6 Royal Anglian  
I have just returned from three months away in France and Italy on Sabbatical study leave. On the very first day, in Paris, my car was broken into. I lost a few items including my briefcase which contained all my research notes and work as well as contact addresses in Italy. Unfortunately the army sleeping bag was also taken!

I am aware that I shall have to pay for this and am expecting to do so. If you let me know the cost I will forward payment to you. Had the sleeping bag not been stolen it may have met its fate in another way. On the third night I returned to the cottage in France to find the cottage on fire! I lost other possessions in that. No further mishaps occurred until my penultimate week, when my credit cards, etc, were pick-pocketed in Rome!

All good wishes, The Rev D C Lowe  
**Footnote: It almost worked. The Lord moves in mysterious ways.**

## Northants vacancy

**Post vacancy RO2 Regimental Area Secretary – Leicestershire & Northamptonshire**

THE above post falls vacant on May 27, '96 when Lt Col J L Wilson retires. The main role of the Area Secretary is the administration of the Royal Anglian Regiment, the former Royal Leicestershire Regiment and the Northamptonshire Regiment Associations. He is answerable to the Deputy Colonel (presently Brig C Groves) and also to the chairman of the Former Regiment Associations of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment and the Northamptonshire Regiment. Much of his work involves liaison with local government in the two counties and the administration and secretarial work involved with benevolent trusts and funds. Should any officer due for retirement be interested, they should contact RHQ or Lt Col Wilson direct at the 7th Battalion.

## The Rag

Right in the heart of London, "The Rag" is one of the least expensive of the capital's clubs. With 150 years of tradition it offers an elegant blend of charm and style combined with the facilities expected of a contemporary club.

Whether you wish to meet friends and colleagues at a central London base to attend events and occasions that are part of life in and around London or to simply relax in a tranquil setting and use the excellent facilities to ...

- enjoy superb cuisine from a top chef
- host a reunion dinner or wedding party
- stay overnight in comfort
- hold a business meeting or seminar
- rendezvous for a pre-theatre supper
- park in the secure underground car park

..... then join "The Rag" for all this and much more.

Should you wish for a leaflet or an introductory tour please call the Club Secretary, Major David Taylor, on 0171 930 9721 or fax on 0171 930 9720.

## Mainly about People



Three Royal Anglian LCpls and a 38 Eng Regiment Cpl on top of Black Tusk

# Canadian high life

Back in August 1994 160 AYT, with three members of 1 Royal Anglian, LCpls Thomas, Bremner and Gyton headed off to Canada for Exercise Lucky Ebor with other members of 160 AYT from a number of different units. They write:

ON arrival at Edmonton Airport the team hired two large cars and then headed on the long journey to Vancouver.

With an overnight stay in Jasper and another nine hours on the road the team finally met up with our OC, Capt Fannin, who was sorting out the various adventurous training expeditions and accommodation while in Vancouver.

With the first expedition only two days away, the team had a few admin points to sort out and a chance to sample the Vancouver culture!

Garibaldi National Park was the first of many parks we visited and a four-hour walk to the campsite at Garibaldi Lake, a quiet and peaceful setting to spend the night. In the morning, with the sun rising over the glaciers, we headed towards our final climb which was Black Tusk, a mountain which looked tough to look at and was as tough to climb. No sooner had we got to the bottom then we were climbing again, but this time a sheer face. This was the chance for LCpl Gyton to show off his skills.

Once again with only a day of admin, we then set out to the Broken Islands for our sea-kayaking expedition. The Broken

Islands are located on the edge of the Pacific Ocean. The numerous islands are densely vegetated and vary in nature from the calm inner islands with lagoons and gravel coves, to the outer islands with heavy seas, rocky shorelines and quiet sandy coves.

The money received from the Battalion was put into good use in the hiring of kayaks and equipment and was one of the most enjoyable activities we took part in, although it rained frequently. Memories of home were not far away.

With a couple of days of R&R, the team made plans to go to Seattle US, which

was only three hours drive from Vancouver. Once there we visited a number of places, including the Space Needle and Lake Union where Sleepless in Seattle was filmed.

On Sept 13 we moved to the Rockies at Lake Louise where, with breathtaking views and severe mountains rising to over 11,000 ft, we set up camp. At night the temperature dropped to a few degrees below zero but this wasn't our main worry – it was the grizzly bears that shocked us! There was only one night that we actually saw them, but they seemed to be more interested in LCpl Thomas's trainers than eating us.

With only a few days remaining the team had to still climb Mount Temple at 11,100 ft, this was always going to be a demanding climb and proved to be on the day as poor weather and a low snowline prevented us making the attempt. However, Eiffel Peak proved equally demanding and the high altitude was also challenging. Dizzy spells occurred quite often in the team but it all seemed worthwhile when the views excelled anything we could possibly imagine.

When the OC the 2IC and another member of the team returned to the UK due to commitments, it left five of us remaining for our summer leave. With the whole of Canada to explore and a hire car the world seemed our oyster. But money was running short, so a trip horse-trekking seemed the most likely and money saving option.

After visiting Edmonton and Calgary, a few hours' flight brought us back to the cold and wet of the English countryside. Looking back, we agreed that the trip had been enjoyed by all.

Once again all this would not have been possible without the Battalion's financial help and a big thank you goes out from all the AYT

LCpl Thomas

### The Union Jack Club

**The club extends a warm invitation to all members of the services to make use of our modern accommodation and facilities**

A wide choice of single, double and family bedrooms, many with private bath/shower, WC and TV

Restaurant – Bars – TV Rooms

Reading and Writing Rooms – Conference Rooms

Snooker/Billiards Room – Launderette

Ideal for those visiting London, conveniently situated in Sandell Street opposite the Waterloo Road entrance to Waterloo Railway Station

**For further information and to book your accommodation contact:**

The Reservations Office, The Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, London SE1 8UJ, Telephone: 0171 928 4814 Fax: 0171 620 0565

## Mainly about People



BMATT SA 2. Maj S B Brunt integrating with former SADF and APLA members.

# Helping integration in South Africa

**Maj Steven Brunt writes:**

"WHY are the British getting themselves involved in our country again?" This kind of sentiment probably summed up the feeling of many former members of the South African Defence Force (SADF) when they heard that a team of 33 British officers and warrant officers were to be sent to their country. It is worth remembering at this point that during the Boer Wars some 400,000 British troops served here and some of the policies adopted at that time were, not to make too fine a point, far from popular.

On Apr 8, '94, the South African transitional executive council issued a formal invitation to the UK government to assist in the process of integration of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF). It was in response to that request that the Ministry of Defence created and deployed BMATT SA, which became operational on June 13, '94.

The tasks of BMATT SA are: first to validate the criteria and standards for the new SANDF against international norms; second to monitor the assessment, selection and training of the former Non-Statutory Forces (NSF) into the new Army; and third to adjudicate between the parties involved in the integration process. So what in plain English does this mean?

Validation has in the main been carried

out by BMATT staff at the Army and Other Service headquarters at Pretoria. This included endorsing the principles and guidelines that were to be published to ensure a fair and even-handed approach from all sides involved in the integration process.

The main parties that form these non-statutory forces are the Mkonto We Siswe (MK), the armed wing of the ANC, the Azanian Peoples Liberation Army (APLA), the armed wing of the PAC and the armies of the old nominally independent homelands of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei (TBVC).

BMATT has been involved primarily with the integration of MK and APLA. As is the case with all organisations, different people do things in different ways. It is our task to ensure account is taken of former service and previous experience.

The process starts with intakes reporting to assembly areas at Wallmanstal (near Pretoria) for the former MK or De Brug (near Bloemfontein) for former APLA members. Processing takes around six weeks, with documentation and educational qualifications checked, medicals given and assessment/potential test schemes and interviews carried out for choice of arm. Once accepted, the individual appears in front of a placement board where his rank and service is confirmed. The soldier is then moved on

to a training location where he undergoes 'bridging' training which is aimed at bringing his common level of knowledge up to standard.

At the assembly areas representatives from the old SADF and MK/APLA jointly run the selection process, while a BMATT officer is present to offer advice, to ensure fair play and if required to adjudicate. The BMATT involvement continues at the bridging training sites where advice on training matters and often purely management matters is sought regularly.

BMATT SA is more an advisory team than an advisory training team. In many ways our task is similar to being an invigilator at an exam; when you are in the room everybody gets on with the job in hand but the moment you leave . . . !

Having said that, good progress is made. All parties involved in the process appear to be approaching the issue in a sensible manner which bodes well for the future. There have been and will no doubt continue to be difficulties. The honeymoon period is coming to an end and hard decisions will have to be made concerning the future size and organisation of the NDF.

The team is now 31-strong and most are on six-month tours. Nine officers are on two-year accompanied tours. I am based at Bloemfontein in the heart of the Orange Free State where they say that there are no oranges, nothing is free and it is in one hell of a state.

In addition to responsibilities in Bloemfontein, I regularly visit training sites in Kimberley which is some 160 km from Bloemfontein; the road is notable in that it has eight minor bends and the last 26 km is dirt track! The route passes the site of the Battle of Paardeburg where in February 1900 the Boers under General Cronje surrendered to the British.

Several of our former regiments were heavily involved in this battle as is testified by the Roll of Honour. Twenty-five soldiers from The Norfolks, The Lincolns and The Essex lost their lives. It was also the site where Lt F N Parsons (1 Essex) saved the life of Pte Ferguson who lay wounded under enemy fire and received The Victoria Cross for his bravery. Even today the battlefield is littered with the debris of war.

It is now March and the heat of an African summer is making way for the heat of an African winter and the Rugby World Cup! This is without doubt an impressive part of the world and worth a visit.

If anyone should be considering coming to South Africa and needs a point of contact please get in touch - I would be delighted to help.

## Mainly about People

# The Anglians in Gibraltar

**Capt John Wright writes:**

THE Royal Anglian Regiment is still well represented on the Rock despite the Vikings withdrawing as resident Battalion in 1989. As far as I know there are 18 people in Gibraltar with some kind of Regimental connection. They vary from serving members (Majs Robert Goodin, Peter Ferrary and myself), members of the Gibraltar Regiment who have been attached to a Battalion, and ex-Regimental members who have now settled in Gibraltar. The majority of the ex-members have joined the locally raised Gibraltar Regiment, many of whom were in the Vikings and came back to the Rock after the 87-89 tour. Fourteen of us managed to get together for a photograph in March earlier this year.

The Regimental links with the Rock go back much further of course. In the Great Sortie of Nov 27, 1781, the following county Regiments were involved: the East Suffolk Regiment, the Dorsetshire Regiment, the West Essex Regiment, the Rutlandshire Regiment, the Highland Light Infantry, the Duke of Albany's Own Highland Regiment and the Perthshire Regiment. The sortie was a successful attempt by the British to attack the Spanish lines and to destroy the guns which were harassing the besieged town. One will note quite a few of the Regiment's county predecessors were involved. The date of the Great Sortie is significant in that it was chosen in 1968 as the day of the alliance between our and the Gibraltar Regiments.

The Great Sortie, albeit significant, was but a small part of British Army involvement in Gibraltar. Many regiments considered their service to be of such great importance that they adopted the key and castle as their capbadge, notably the Suffolk Regiment, the Northamptonshire Regiment and the Essex Regiment. The key and castle represent the fortress of Gibraltar and of course form the centrepiece of our capbadge today.



Anglians on the Rock

Our ancestors' influence is still seen about the Rock. There is a cave on the Upper Rock called Holy Boys' Cave, so named after the IXth Regiment (Royal Norfolks). It is said that when members of the Regiment were working in and around the cave the locals mistook Britannia on the cap badge to be the Virgin Mary, and were so dubbed the Holy Boys. Their graffiti remains in the cave today – a list of names and 'IXth Regiment 1888' is clearly written on the Rock.

The Regiment has left its mark in more recent times too. The Royal Anglian way was opened on the Upper Rock in 1987, and the commemoration plaque at the entrance is very evident. The way leads to Rooke Battery, a popular tourist trap. In the town centre at the Piazza there are a set of badges of the various regiments which have served in Gibraltar. The East Anglian county regiment badges are very prominent.

Now to the photograph, the back row are all serving members of the Gibraltar Regiment. From left to right are Cpl Courtenay, formerly a Viking; Sgt Bliss for-

merly a Viking; Lt Mario Altman who served with the Poachers recently in Bosnia and Celle; finally Cpl Herbert, LCpl Gager and Pte Collis, all former Vikings. On the front row are serving Royal Anglians, Capt John Wright, Majs Robert Goodin and Peter Ferrary. Next is the Commanding Officer, the Gibraltar Regiment, Lt Col Dennis Duarte who served with the Poachers in Berlin in 1979.

Continuing is Lt Col (Ret'd) Domingo Collado an ex-Commanding Officer of the Gibraltar Regiment and Maj (Ret'd) Fofi Casciaro who served with the Royal Anglian Regiment in the early 1970s. Next is Maj Francis Brancato who served with the Pompadours in 1986 and finally Capt Chris Wawn, formerly a Viking now serving in the Gibraltar Regiment as RSI.

At present there are soldiers from the Gibraltar Regiment on attachment to the Poachers, who are taking part in training at Batus. The links between the Rock and our Regiment appear to be ongoing despite the continued military drawdown from Gibraltar. Let us hope this continues.

## Mainly about People

# Fact finding with the Albanian military

**Capt Duncan Gregory writes:**

THE other day I came upon a memo outlining the requirement for an Infantry Major to join a fact finding team to Albania. As is the case with memos that have done the rounds of several desks they accumulate comments, one being "where's Albania?" But my attention was drawn to the Chief of Staff's distinctive hand indicating that I was to be the nomination for this.

After several meetings and numerous phone calls I found myself in Andover on an exceptionally wet and windy November morning loading the civilian Land Rovers that had been hired for the trip.

The plan was to head south through France, Switzerland and Italy, destination Rome and a meeting with the British Defence Attache, who was also responsible for Albania and who would accompany us for the first part of the visit. As to the exact itinerary, once in-country we were somewhat in the dark but had, without difficulty, filled the Land Rovers with every sort of cold weather clothing, sleeping systems, food, stoves, water and much more.

On reaching the British Embassy in Rome we availed ourselves of the Embassy shop, buying what we were assured would be good bartering material, whisky galore. With the little space remaining in the vehicles we set off for Bari and our night crossing by ferry to Albania. Confirming our booking at the port in Bari took less time, and cost less in backhanders, thinly disguised as some form of tax, than had been predicted. Presenting ourselves in good time for the ferry proved unnecessary, as it took a full two hours for the relatively small number of vehicles to be loaded in haphazard fashion to a cacophony of shouts whistles.

We arrived in Durres, the main Albanian port, in beautiful sunshine and were met by our Albanian military hosts who smoothed our passage through customs in little under an hour. For those poor unfortunates without such assistance it appeared that most of the rest of the day would be taken up with customs and immigration procedures. With a military vehicle front and



Bump starting a T59

rear we set off for Tirana, the capital for meetings at the Defence Ministry.

First impressions of Albania were of a country somewhere between Morocco and Nepal in the level of development. While predominantly an agriculture-based economy, there are a number of vast factories, now in various states of disrepair, reminiscent of the pictures of Chernobyl after the disaster. Built by the Chinese in the 1950s, they are no longer economically viable, which, from an environmental perspective is undoubtedly a good thing, having every appearance of being polluting monsters. Another thing that takes some getting used to are the vast numbers of, what we termed, Chinese mushrooms. In essence these are two-man concrete pill boxes that are everywhere, almost appearing to grow from the ground like a crop. A relic of the communist era, they were manned whenever the American Sixth Fleet entered the Adriatic. Great efforts have obviously been made to remove such graphic reminders of the communist period, but the numbers and their weight makes this almost impossible without the aide of large pieces of plant equipment which are sadly lacking.

Once in the capital, one is struck by the juxtaposition of the old with the new; the latest Mercedes competing with horse drawn carts; the students every bit as trendy as their Western counterparts and the elderly still in peasant attire; drab communist style shops and modern chain stores. Lengthy briefings were given by the Albanian Army, Navy and Airforce at the Ministry of Defence, outlining what they

perceived to be their major needs.

Briefings completed, we made our way back to our lodgings on foot through the centre of Tirana. We made an incongruous sight clad in Service dress or equivalent, clutching sleeping bags and bottles of water, passing between groups of students, all looking understandably quizzical.

The following day we began our series of visits to units, in the case of the Army team starting with 2 Division in Elbassan, some 40 miles south of Tirana. It was difficult to get used to the concept of a Division with only 2,000 active soldiers, most of these conscripts doing the mandatory 15 months' service. So began a pattern repeated in the remaining divisions that we visited. It would start with an informal and wide-ranging discussion with the Commander, or his Chief of Staff, normally with various staff officers in attendance all smoking profusely. At some point drinks would be served, usually Raki and a Fanta equivalent, and this would be the signal for the discussions to switch from military matters to anything from children to health to world affairs. Then would follow a series of visits to the units making up the division where we were shown everything from the 50-year-old Chinese trucks, their first line transport (which remarkably they manage to keep on the road by way of improvisation and cannibalising other vehicles) to the divisional ration store, depressingly devoid of much in the way of food. We even had a chance ride in a T59, which the Albanian tank crew had to bump start down a hill as

*Continued Page 15*

# Mainly about People

From Page 14

the batteries were faulty.

Throughout these visits it was clear that their needs were multitudinous, in fact anything we were able to give them they would be grateful for. They wished to rid themselves of the most obvious trappings of the communist period, their Soviet style uniforms adorned with red flashes. The ranks of the commanders was puzzling in the first instance. Some divisions were commanded by our equivalent of Lieutenant Colonels, with a full Colonel as Chief of Staff. But it was explained to us that during this period of transition it was the appointment not the rank that carried respect, although they were intending to move towards ranks equivalent to appointment.

The most interesting visit was to the Korkci region in the north of the country. As in Britain it is the north where the largest mountains are to be found, and again, like us they are inhabited by people they call highlanders. The scenery was breathtaking: snow-capped mountains and deep ravines filled by fast flowing white water. The occasional farmsteads miles from anywhere, sported more often than not, to our amazement, a satellite dish. Like the uniforms this was initially puzzling until one came to understand how much they wished to be in touch with all that goes on in the outside world after 50 years of solitary confinement.

During these visits we were invariably billeted in a local hotel, where we made full use of the latest in warm clothing, sleeping systems, rations and water. A far cry from what we might term a hotel – water was in short supply or totally absent. Heating was definitely not provided despite near freezing temperatures at times. Food could usually be obtained but a staple diet of beef and olives called, on occasions, for the variety offered by compo.

Our stay in Albania also happened to coincide with a service to mark the establishing of a War Graves Commission plot for those members of the SOE who lost their lives in Albania. Numbered among them is Sgt I E Moores of The Royal Norfolk Regiment, who died in Albania while attached to Number 2 Commando.

At the time of writing the author is investigating the feasibility of an adventure training expedition to Albania in 1996. While not the most demanding terrain (the highest point is about 2,500 metres) it is, nevertheless, virgin adventure training territory and would provide an opportunity to learn more of the SOEs exploits during the Second World War. If the expedition is achieved I promise readers a second instalment of the Albania story.

## Why you should support the Benevolent Fund

### Why should you give up a day's pay for the Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund?

Consider these cases:

1. Ex-Cpl X – a soldier who had served both with the 1st and 2nd Battalions in Northern Ireland, Cyprus and many other stations, left the Regiment after six years and with his wife and two children found accommodation and a job.

Eighteen months later he was made redundant and his wife became sick with worry. Money was short and DSS grants did not stretch to anything other than the very barest necessities. The children's clothes started to wear out and it was difficult to keep the house warm. One of the children became very ill.

Thus through no fault of anybody, Cpl X suddenly found that he could not cope as head of the family. He went to the Soldiers' Sailors' and Air Forces' Association for help, which in turn asked the Regiment to assist financially with warm clothes for the children and the payment of certain debts such as electricity.

The letter arrived on the Thursday and after consultation with SSAFA and RHQ a cheque for £450 was in that evening's post to the SSAFA representative for him to pay the necessary bills. Cpl X was subsequently helped with another cheque for £300 – he has now found a job and is back on an even keel.

2. Sgt Y left the Regiment 25 years ago and went to live with his wife in Northamptonshire. Five years ago his wife became seriously ill with muscular dystrophy and was unable to walk – even to get to the telephone. Once again the Regiment stepped in, found her an electric chair, bought her a remote telephone, paid for various items of furniture which a disabled person could use and through SSAFA and the DSS made certain that Sgt Y and Mrs Y's living standards were as tolerable as could be managed.

3. Pte Z, a soldier from the 2nd Battalion was very badly hurt in an accident. He was medivaced to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woolwich, and the Regiment paid for a number of his mother's railway

tickets to visit him. The Regiment also ensured his wife's costs from Germany for moving the family were covered and that everything that could be done to help him and his family with government agencies was carried out swiftly.

The Regiment works hand in glove with the Army Benevolent Fund, which does much to help serving and ex-soldiers who fall on hard times. We give them some £9,000 per year as an annual grant. The Regiment gets quite a bit of this back because they help us pay the more expensive bills which frequently crop up.

But where does this money come from? It comes from serving officers and soldiers of the Royal Anglian Regiment who pay one day's pay per year into the Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund. The fund presently is worth over £500,000, which sounds an enormous amount of money but it is invested and the income from the investment goes to help those in need. The Regiment pays out about £32,000 each year, which is round about 50% of our total annual income. Such money as is left over, is reinvested because the cost of living is constantly going up and inevitably grants that we make increase in the same proportion. Thus the average payout to those in need is £275 but is quite often £1,000 or more.

So what's in it for you? The short answer is that while you are serving in the army one hopes very much there will be no need for you to be helped out. (But note Pte Z above) and one never knows when disaster can strike. For such disasters you can insure under the PAX scheme while serving. All officers and soldiers pay into the Benevolent Fund during their service but once they leave they remain members of the Association.

So look at it this way – you are paying for an insurance policy during your service in the Regiment (when you can afford it!) so that if you fall on hard times after you have left the Regiment, it is there to help you. In addition, all paying members of the Association are automatically insured against serious accident (for instance £1,000 for the loss of a limb).

So anybody not paying up now should see their superior officer and sign up!



# Mainly about People

## On tour in India's remote frontiers

Maj Paul Gaskin writes:

IN the last article on the Indian Defence Services staff college I covered the daily routine, and looked forward to the Forward Area Tour (FAT). In this article I shall cover that and the second tour of the course, the Industrial Demonstration Tour (IDT). The FAT, for foreign, Indian Navy and Air Force officers took place over two weeks in late October, and began with a very early morning bus ride down to the plains, and an Indian Air Force base called Sulur. There, after a welcome breakfast, we were driven to our aircraft, a giant Russian-built IL 76, which easily swallowed the 200 DS and students into its cavernous, two-storey interior.

Four-and-a-half hours later, we landed in North India at Bagdogra, which is situated in the thin strip of land that joins the north-east of India to the rest of the country between Bangladesh and Nepal. Here the group divided into two, with one half moving on by bus to Sikkim, while my group flew on further north and east. We transferred to a Russian AN32 and flew to Tezpur, a town on the banks of the Brahmaputra River. As at Bagdogra, on our arrival we were promptly deafened by the scream of Mig 21s taking off and landing a few yards away. We stayed one night at Tezpur, and attended a cocktail party given by the Corps Commander. Next day we boarded buses and began the slow climb into the Himalayas, passing through thick jungle alongside wide deep rivers and rounding countless hairpin bends before we reached Tengga. We had now reached Division Headquarters level.

In the early morning we boarded our buses for yet another day. The road now became narrower and slower as we moved up into the area reached by the Chinese in the 1962 war. As we moved up, so the temperature came down, and by the time we crested the top of the Se La pass at nearly 14,000 ft, there was snow on either side of the road. From here the road is lined with bunkers old and new. Having broken down for a while, we arrived at our destination, Tawang, in the dark. Our travels were still not over, and early next morning after a



A Royal Anglian and friends in the Himalayas.

brief from the Brigade Deputy Commander, we climbed into one-ton vehicles for the final leg to a battalion location. This we reached after a further three hours or so of bumping along a rough track. The whole of this area is disputed by the Chinese, and as a result of the 1962 war, and India's determination not to be caught unawares as it was then, is heavily fortified and occupied. Gun positions and bunkers line the road, and most people, if not in the Army, work for it. The terrain is bleak and harsh, and the air thin (14,000 ft) but we were given a warm welcome – units spend two years here, and if you are lucky, your wife may live only three days' travel away. In the winter, that same journey can take two weeks.

We returned from Tawang and after a brief stay in Tezpur, flew on by AN 32 to Chabua in Assam, further to the north and east. It was from this airfield that the Negasaki A-bomb mission flew. Surrounded by jungle and tea plantations, we stayed for the next three days. My group was lucky with the weather, and on two days we flew out of Chabua and up into the valleys of the Himalayas to Army outposts. These two posts, like many others, are supported almost entirely by air. Here the pilots have to get it right first time, as both strips are only just longer than the minimum required, and one of them is adorned with the stripped wreckage of another AN 32 which failed to adopt the correct approach. The soldiers here spend most of their time patrolling the steep, jungle-clad mountains, right up to the snow-covered knife edge that separates India from China.

On our fourth day we climbed once again into our bus, and drove east, with the aim of crossing the Brahmaputra and reaching an outpost near a town called Tezu, near the international tri-junction of India, Myanmar (Burma) and China. From here the famous Ledo road was built to support General Stilwell's Chinese army. The Brahmaputra is one of the world's great rivers, and as it winds

its way down into Bangladesh, it changes course and creates a vast flood plain, which makes it virtually impossible to construct a bridge. Its 15 km width does not help, and we spent most of the day on motorised rafts or deep fording in our bus before reaching our destination in the jungle.

This at last was our final destination on the FAT, and the next day we retraced our steps by bus and aircraft all the way back to south India and home.

After a pleasant Christmas break the course recommenced in early January. We fought the 'telebattle' (CPX) and prepared ourselves for the second tour, the Industrial Demonstration Tour or IDT in February. This epic 12-day journey takes the whole course of 400 odd students plus DS halfway up India to Bombay and Pune. The course is divided into two, and each half goes on a separate train.

Nothing in India happens very fast, and our first two days were spent watching the countryside go by as we trundled north. We visited a factory or two in Pune and Bombay, but the highlights were the two firepower demonstrations and our day at sea with the Indian Navy off Bombay. During the demonstrations we saw T-72s, BMP-2s and BM 21s firing, as well as Mig 21s, 23s, 29s and Jaguar aircraft dropping bombs and firing cannons.

The end of the course is now very close. It has been a fascinating and intriguing year. Working with an army of 1.1 million men, and two clearly identified threats, offers a different perspective to our European viewpoint. I have been lucky enough to visit diverse and interesting places, and met a large number of officers from India and much of eastern Asia, and from all three Services.

It is well worth considering coming here. You will earn your psc qualification and you will also travel much and absorb a broad picture of the profession of soldiering in India.



# How do you feel about leaving the Army?

**A**s you're well aware, serving in the Forces isn't just a job. It's a way of life. So, it's no surprise, that after leaving, many people feel as though they're high and dry, like a fish out of water.

But there's no need for you to feel this way, it's perfectly possible for you to keep up with old friends, make use of the unique skills you've acquired, and make a vital contribution to the nation's defence into the bargain.

How? Simply by becoming a member of the Volunteer Forces, which make up a third of our Army and represent a significant part of our commitment to peace.

There are two options open to you.

Firstly, you can join one of the Territorial Army Independent Units based in the TAVRA region in which you have decided to settle. An ideal route for those leaving Infantry or Cavalry regiments.

Secondly, if you are leaving a Corps, you could retain your capbadge and become a member of either an Independent Unit or a TA Specialist Unit. In either, you can maintain and extend the special skills that you have learned.

You can contribute as much time as you want in any one year. The minimum that we ask is that as a member of the Independent TA you complete 6 weekends, a two-week Summer Camp and some weekday evenings. As a Specialist we ask only 15 days training and two weekends.



In return you will receive payment equivalent to the rates paid to Regular Army soldiers plus an annual tax-free bonus.

If you would like more information about how you can stay in the swim of things, write to the address below, giving details of which option you are interested in, your current age and address, your intended county of residence, and of the regiment you have left or are leaving.

The Territorial Army, Freepost, 4335 (Ref: 9000), Bristol BS1 3YX.



# Vikings



## A multitude of tasks

IN the last six months the Vikings have been kept active on a multitude of tasks. The highlight of the period has, without doubt, been Exercise Trumpet Dance. This involved the deployment of 1 R Anglian Battle Group to Fort Lewis near Seattle on the west coast of the US. Back in the UK we have managed to keep up a busy sports schedule interspersed with 24 Brigade exercises and RAAT tasks. Of particular significance since returning from America has been the heavy involvement of the Battalion in the presentation of new colours at Duxford.

The Battalion was on Spearhead from the middle of October through to Dec 10. Despite rampant speculation on the possibility of deploying to far flung parts of the world we remained firmly in Colchester. This did not, however, prevent the rifle companies from getting away on some low level training at Hythe and Lydd, and

*Continued Page 20*



The CO inspects the PNCO Cadre, (above). Left: The CO congratulates L/Cpl Ballard on passing out first on the PNCO Cadre.

## News from the Vikings



Above: Vikings receive their medals at the Brigade sports competition.  
Right: Pte Waterman raises the Gryphons Trophy on behalf of the Vikings after winning the Brigade winter sports competition.  
Below: The CO presents the Tomlinson Trophy to L/Cpl Ballard.



## News from the Vikings



Above: C/Sgt Dan Brothers (left) tries to put the ball past Capt Tony Jones in the Officers' vs Sergeants' Mess game. Left: Pte McFadden of A Company bayonet fighting.



### *From Page 18*

Sennybridge C Company organised an inter-section competition which started with a practice Spearhead call-out and deployment by Chinook to Longmoor. Cpl Attwood's section emerged as the eventual winners.

December saw the emphasis turn very much towards sport. An inter-company novices boxing competition was held on Dec 1. After an excellent evening of sport, C Company emerged as the eventual victors, snatching the title by a single point from A Company. We also fielded a full range of teams into the 24 Brigade winter sport competition. We succeeded in winning the rugby competition and were runners-up in the football. On the penultimate day the Vikings were in joint first place with 3 Regiment AAC. The outcome was dependant on the tug-of-war which we won, thus securing overall victory and the Gryphons trophy. The sporting year ended with the annual officers' Sergeants' Mess football match. The warrant officers and sergeants were feeling fairly smug after their unusual victory over the officers at cricket.

*Continued Page 21*

# News from the Vikings



From Page 20

cers managed to hold the score level at 0-0 to half time, but succumbed in the second half to concede defeat at 3-0.

After six weeks of hard work the PNCO Cadre passed out in early December. The top three students were promoted by the Commanding Officer on the parade. In first place was L/Cpl Ballard who won the Tomlinson Trophy. L/Cpl Ayscough from Screen Company was second and L/Cpl Merry third. The Corps of Drums also competed for the Commanding Officer's bugle competition, with Dmr Pennock named as the CO's bugler and Dmr Hasnip as the Adjutant's bugler. The rest of the Battalion was much relieved after the competition not to have sleep disturbed by the drummers practising at all hours.

## Exercise Trumpet Dance

The Battalion returned from Christmas leave on Jan 3 and almost immediately began the deployment to America for Exercise Trumpet Dance. The Battle Group formed up with attachments including 25/170 (Imojen) Battery from 19 Fd Regt RA, a troop from 51 Squadron RE and a flight from 3 Regt AAC. The exercise was based at Fort Lewis, which is about an hour's drive from Seattle in Washington State. The Fort is the home of the American 1st Corps and houses some 70,000 US service personnel.

*Continued Page 22*



Left: Vikings go through the live firing grenade Fibua skills house at Fort Lewis. Above: WO2 (CSM) Davis and Major Burrell of A Company feeling the cold on the Yakima training area. Below: Firing 51mm HE on the company batterrun.



## News from the Vikings



Left: Sgt Gridley enjoying the skiing package at Snoqualmie. Right: B Company makes a big impression with the locals.

### From Page 21

Facilities on base included two huge gymnasiums, a bowling alley, a cinema, a roller skating rink and a massive PX.

Once complete in Fort Lewis the battle group undertook an eight-day training package around the Fort Lewis complex. The emphasis was on live firing with all companies rotating through section and platoon attack ranges. A particular highlight was the tyre house, a purpose-built Fibua range which allowed the throwing of live grenades. This certainly provided some exhilarating moments for both exercising troops and safety staff alike.

The battle group was also able to make use of other facilities such as the confidence course, the assault course, abseiling towers, the bayonet assault course and watermanship training on the many lakes and rivers in the area. One of the most enjoyable features of the package was the opportunity to undertake a degree of cross-training with our American counterparts.

The mobile Milan platoon took full advantage of this and spent two days training with an American armoured unit equipped with M1 Abrams tanks. The Americans were generous enough to let the Vikings form the complete crew for some of their tanks and to practise driver training to their heart's content.

On completion of the Fort Lewis pack-

age, the battle group then moved onto a three week rotation which consisted of a skiing package, a period of training at Camp Bonneville and a company live firing battle run at the Yakima Firing Centre. The skiing package was based at the Snoqualmie resort in the Cascade Mountains. Every morning about 140 intrepid Vikings clad mostly in issued Gorretex boarded 4-tonners bound for a day on the slopes. Their arrival surprised, not to say mildly alarmed, the natives. The Battery and PRT skied at Mission Ridge which was closer to Yakima. During this package Sgt Osborne set a new record for the fastest descent of the mountain, mostly on his backside!

Camp Bonneville is a small training area on the border between Washington and Oregon State. The companies used their time there to conduct an escape and evasion exercise. C Company succeeded in getting a team of American interrogation experts to assist with the exercise. Starting from a blank sheet of paper, the team was able to establish all it needed to know about 24 Brigade. The Royal Anglian Regiment and Maj Wenham's personal habits!

Having completed the escape and evasion the companies then moved to Yakima in order to carry out a three-day live firing exercise. This was conducted on the multi-purpose range complex, which is a state-of-the-art computer controlled range facility

some 2 km by 5 km. The exercise was coordinated by Maj Wylie and was designed to involve all battle group weapon systems. The format for the exercise was for the companies to carry out an all-night approach march culminating in the breach of an enemy wire obstacle using Bangalore Torpedoes.

The companies then advanced to contact, attacking and destroying four enemy positions using small arms, Milan SF Machine Guns, mortars and artillery. On completion of the four attacks the companies then moved into a pre dug defensive position and engaged fleeing targets with LAW 94mm and 51mm mortars. During the night the platoons were involved in fighting patrols and tank ambushes using Milan. In the early hours of the morning the company was faced with a sustained attack from the enemy which forced it to withdraw in contact. The battle run finished with a company deliberate attack which gave commanders a chance to practise full battle procedure.

The final phase of the military training was a battle group dry firing exercise based on the training areas around Fort Lewis. A combination of some extremely close country and very cold weather put the commander's navigation and troops' field discipline to the test. Part of the exercise involved the Battalion conducting an exfiltration at sec-

*Continued Page 23*

# News from the Vikings



Above: Pte Simpson occupies his trench at Yakima. Above right: Recce Platoon posing as usual. Right: C Company moving across the line of departure for the final attack at Stanta. Below: Drummers observe their arcs on Gryphons Lift.

## From Page 22

tion level. As the Battery was providing the hunter force, the stakes were high if any of the Vikings were caught. The exercise finished with a battle group advance to contact using British and American airborne recon patrols to locate enemy positions.

With the military training over, all that was left was for the battle group to enjoy some well earned R and R. Some travelled as far as Los Angeles, Hawaii and New York. However a firm favourite with the Vikings was Vancouver due to the legal age for consumption of alcohol being only 19 rather than 21 as in the USA.

## Exercise Gryphons Lift

The Battalion enjoyed two weeks of well-earned leave post Exercise Trumpet Dance, with the exception of B Company which attended the battle group trainer as part of 3 Regiment AAC. The remainder returned to work on Mar 13 and spent three days preparing for Exercise Gryphons Lift.

On Mar 16 the Battalion deployed to Stanford training area and moved into

*Continued Page 24*





## News from the Vikings



Above: Mr Richard Mottram PUS (Des) learns how to drive an ATMP. Below: Pte Charles smiling as usual.



### *From Page 23*

Wretham Camp for a couple of days training prior to the start of the Brigade exercise. During this time the companies carried out Milan battlefield casualty replacement cadres. In addition the White One crew put the Battalion through a practice night fly out. We also hosted RWF Poole from the Daily Telegraph who was writing an article about 24 Airmobile Brigade.

The first half of the exercise confirmed the employment of the battle group in the traditional blocking role. We deployed to RAF Woodbridge and then flew back up to Stanta and set up a defensive position centred on Frog Hill. After digging all night the Battalion was tasked with hosting Mr Richard Mottram, the Permanent Under Secretary of State (Designate). The rifle company soldiers ensured that Mr Mottram left with a clear picture of airmobility at belt buckle level.

Phase 2 of the exercise saw the Battalion engaged in offensive operations. B and C Companies took part in an attack to destroy pockets of enemy resistance at Sculthorpe Airfield in North Norfolk, and to crater the runway to prevent its further use by enemy forces. The Battle Group returned to Woodbridge in order to plan for the final attack on the Harrier Strip. The operation involved a flyout from Woodbridge to Stanta. The companies then waded over the River Wissey prior to attacking the enemy which was provided by 101st Airborne from the US.

### **Run-up to the colours parade**

A and C Companies were both involved in Exercise Red Shank which is a RAAT task to provide exercising troops for the TA company commander's course at Warmminster. The troops under command of Majors Burrell and Wenham obviously did well as glowing letters arrived from the Commandant of the Combined Arms Training Centre congratulating them on a job well done

The priority since the end of Red Shank has been towards the colours parade. At the same time, however, we are training teams for the 4 Division skill-at-arms meeting, the multi-national division (central) patrols competition and the Nijmegen marches. Particular mention should be made of our two Nijmegen march teams which under command of 2Lt Gregory and 2Lt Preston, managed to finish first and second respectively from a field of 111 teams in their practice march at RAF Benson on the weekend of Apr 22/23.

The Viking chefs have also hosted a  
*Continued Page 25*

# News from the Vikings

## From Page 24

Look at Life visit from some 60 children from 11 schools around the Colchester area as part of food safety week. The SQMS, WO2 Preston, gave the children an insight into field catering and the delights of compositions, as well as a tour of the various messes. In the afternoon the children wore off some energy by taking part in some pot-tered sports in the gymnasium, followed by prize giving from the CO.

## Conclusion

The Vikings have had a busy and varied six months and we now enter the 24 Brigade exercise season, starting with Exercise Gryphons Claw on May 1-5. In the next six months the Battalion will be carrying out reces for Exercise Grand Prix in Kenya in January 1996, which is the next big 'look forward' for the Vikings.



Above: A Chinook lifting vehicles on Gryphons Lift. Below: The CO presents prizes to Colchester schoolchildren after their Look at Life visit hosted by the Viking chefs.

## Commended for acts of bravery

TWO of our soldiers have been commended for conspicuous acts of bravery. LCpl Shepherd saved a man from drowning off the coast at Great Yarmouth last year and has been nominated for an award by the Royal Humane Society. Drummer Willsler has been awarded a GOC's Commendation for rescuing a woman from a burning house in Braintree and was voted the Braintree and Witham Times Man of the Year. They have both been nominated for a Radar People of the Year luncheon.

CSgt Smith of the Vikings is to be commended for achieving a distinction on the Recce Platoon commander's course.

The RQMS, WO2 Webb, is to be congratulated on an outstanding report from the RQMS's course.

Cpl Buxton of B Company is to be commended for achieving a distinction on the Platoon sergeants' battle course.

Cpl Keating of A Company is to be congratulated on successfully completing the Commando course at Lymstone.



The mortars showing off their tubes to local schoolchildren.



# Poachers



## Return from Bosnia

THE Poachers have had a busy six months since the last edition of Castle. On return from Bosnia the Battalion worked hard removing the Chobham armour from the Warriors and carrying out the mundane, yet necessary, post-tour administration in preparation for leave. In December the Battalion paraded through the streets of Celle to mark our return from Bosnia. The address to the assembled townsfolk given by Commander 7 Armoured Brigade, Brig Andrew Ridgeway, and the town's mayor told of the valuable work that the Poachers had achieved in restoring a sense of normality in central Bosnia. They also heard of the courage displayed by members of the Battalion who had been injured during the tour as well as the supreme sacrifice of Capt Steve Wormald, who gave his life in the service of peace.

After a hectic week of dining outs, the

Battalion said farewell to the Commanding Officer Lt Col John McColl who, after two-and-a-half years, was ceremoniously pulled out of camp in a Warrior. He was succeeded by Lt Col David Clements. We also said farewell to the QM, Maj David Whitehead, on his handover to Capt Bill O'Driscoll, before the Battalion went on three week's well-earned post-Bosnia leave.

On return the Battalion was launched into an extremely intensive cadre period and preparations for deployment to Batus. These included the specialist platoon numbers cadres and a potential JNCO cadre run by Capt Gary Morris. Mortar Platoon had a numbers cadre which culminated in some excellent live firing on Munsterlager ranges. The Signal Platoon got a much needed chance to run two RRU cadres and a Standard II cadre in the space of three months. No less than 14 cadres have been

run with some 290 students being supported by 70 instructors.

The return from Bosnia has meant that it was necessary rapidly to re-acquire the conventional war armoured infantry tactics with Batus looming on the horizon for all three rifle companies and the majority of Support Company. The first companies, B and C Companies, under command of Majors Alisdair Wilde and Richard Clements, respectively, will deploy on Exercise Medicine Man 1. The third company, A Company, to deploy to Batus is currently preparing to deploy on Exercise Medicine Man 3 in support of the RDG. The companies began their build up to Batus at the Simnet trainer at Grafenwohr in southern Germany where 'virtual reality' training was conducted in a computer simulated environment. This refreshed everyone to the

*Continued Page 27*

# News from the Poachers



Left: A 'wounded' comrade is extracted out of contact at Sennelager. Above: Realistic Operation Grapple 6 training at Sennelager. Above right: Cpl Gray, Sgt Curtis and Cpl Fuller take a break during Operation Grapple 6 training in Sennelager. Right: No not Bosnia but A Company's 'UN base' at Sennelager.



## From Page 26

procedures involved in working with armour and gave commanders at all levels a chance to practise command and control in all phases of war.

In addition to preparing for Batus, all the mandatory tests that are so much a part of the infantryman's life had to be completed. During the first week in February the Battalion held a skill-at-arms period during which the Battalion completed ATDs, APWTs and tickle shoots. Capt Bear captained the Snipers to a very comfortable score of 382 in the Sniper Cup.

Although the Battalion is extremely busy it has still found time to play some sport. On Feb 1 the Officers' Mess versus WOs' and Sgts' Mess football was a keenly-contended match. Despite some excellent goal-keeping by Maj Andy Wiles, the WOs'

*Continued Page 28*



## News from the Poachers



Above: Capt Morris and WO2 Prime with top 10 PNCO students.  
Below: Operation Grapple 6 training at Sennelager.



### *From Page 27*

and Sgts' Mess won the match and also the new Wormald trophy. On Feb 5, the Battalion hosted the 7 Armoured Brigade badminton competition. On Mar 1 the Battalion basketball team, led by the Adjutant, Capt Stuart Carver, was narrowly beaten in the final of the 7 Brigade basketball competition. Some members of the Battalion also managed to get down to Bavaria for two weeks to complete some basic winter training on skis.

The Poachers were also responsible, during the spring, for training of 1 D and D and all their supporting arms prior to their deployment to Bosnia on Operation Grapple 6. The majority of the Battalion moved to Sennelager for two and a-half weeks in a carefully managed programme to ensure minimum disruption to the ongoing cadres. During our pre Bosnia training we were given some realistic and useful training by the Battalion that was training us. Now that it was our turn to do the training every effort was made to ensure the training package was of the very highest standard. A considerable amount of hard work and time was put in by the companies in constructing extremely realistic UN scenarios on the

*Continued Page 30*

## News from the Poachers



Above: On return from exercise Capt Morris explains to WO2 Prime how he managed to avoid putting on any cam cream. Right: LCpl Jackson supervises the removal of a foot from his Warrior's rear idler. Below: LCpl Wellard commands during a Warrior driving cadre. Below right: Cpl Cowen models the latest soldier 95 kit.



## News from the Poachers



Above: Pte Turnball of C Company receives first aid from two Sappers during Operation Grapple 6 training. Left: Officers' Mess football team, moral victors. Left bottom: WOs' and Sgts' Mess team – the Cantonas of Celle.



### From Page 28

Sennelager ranges. Hard targets were repainted and moved by bulldozer, sangars built and trenches dug. In some cases entire UN bases were built in order to ensure complete authenticity and range wardens were amazed to arrive at their ranges to find that their huts had been painted white. OC A Company, Maj Kemp, in pursuance of perfection asked for considerable logistic support in improving his range.

Not to be outdone the QM, Capt O'Driscoll, set to to provide everything he was asked for without exception. This finally came to a head when Maj Kemp's range was finished and set for the arrival of the exercising troops – with a Warrior dug in hull down in the range car park and the last of only three PA systems in Germany, having broken the first two!

The effort put in by the Poachers was certainly rewarded by some high praise given from the senior officers who visited and by some very useful and realistic training being achieved. Most of Battalion Headquarters and Signal Platoon then moved to Detmold to form part of Locon for

*Continued Page 32*



# News from the Poachers



Above: Maj Bacon talks to Pte Birkin at the end of the PNCO cadre Right Ptes Dunn and Correa unearth a 500W generator during the Std II cadre Below Pte Renshaw cleans a 94mm drill round after PNCO cadre final exercise





# News from the Poachers



Above: Maj Gen Cordy Simpson talks to the Std II signallers.  
Below: 128 years of undetected crime – 8 LS and GC recipients.



## *From Page 30*

the Division CPX Exercise Rhino Sword. This was an excellent opportunity for us to practise the latest 7 Armoured Brigade SOPs and streamline the procedural aspects in the running of BG Headquarters. The Sobraon dinner was held on Feb 16 in the Officers' Mess and on Feb 10 in the WO's and Sgts' Mess.

Also in February Commander 7 Armoured Brigade, Brigadier Ridgeway, paid his farewell visit to the Battalion prior to his handover.

On Feb 17 the Battalion hosted a visit from Comd 1 (UK) Armoured Division, Maj Gen Roddy Cordy Simpson. He visited the tactics and Std II signals cadres and awarded signallers badges. He then awarded eight LS and GC medals to members of the Sgts' Mess and had lunch in the Officers' Mess.

February also saw the last of the Battalion fleet of Warriors returning from being resprayed to their original green and black camouflage as memories of Bosnia seemed to fade into the dim and distant past.

Batus training continued with live firing packages on the ranges at Bergen Hohne with the usual annual Warrior GSTEs being fired as well as the new Oscar shoot which proved a very demanding test. A Company

*Continued Page 33*

# News from the Poachers



Above: Sgt Curtis controls safety during Operation Grapple 6 training. Right: The colours on parade in the centre of Celle town after the Battalion's return from Bosnia. Below: A dug in Warrior in a 'UN base' on Sennelager ranges.



## From Page 32

managed to excel at this shoot and did particularly well achieving a score of 71%, the highest in the Army this year. With the closure of the Soltau training area there has not been the opportunity to spend as much time on work up training in Germany as has been the case in the past.

Despite this a lack of real estate and also having the interruption of the Operation Grapple 6 training package, which made pre-Batus training time limited, the Poachers have proved this was no obstacle to ensuring that they are fully prepared for the challenge that lies ahead.

On Mar 30 the RSMs handed over with WO1 Pallant taking over from WO1 Cutter who we wish the very best of luck in civvy street.

Trenchard Barracks was again quiet with B and C Companies away on leave in mid-April and on return from leave immediately off to Canada. A Company on pre-Batus training and any remaining personnel in UK preparing for the presentation of new colours parade in UK.

The Battalion can look forward to a less turbulent, but probably just as busy, period in the second half of the year as it prepares to hand over to 2 RRI and move back to Warminster as the CATC battlegroup in March 1996.





# Steelbacks



## Preparation for re-roling



Above: 54 Brigade military skills competition – part of the winning team. Left to right: top – Sgt Smith, Pte Liston; bottom – Pte Clements, 2Lt Bullard and Pte Thompson.

Below: The Nijmegen marchers in front of 125th anniversary British Red Cross banner. Left to right: top – 2Lt Moran, Cpl Cambell, 2Lt Bullard, Sgt Smith, Ptes Gow and Germany, LCpl Peach; bottom – Ptes Davidson, Skeggs, Thompson, Maj Davidson OC, Cpl Brannigan, Ptes Clements, O'Neil, Cpl Porter.

THE last six months has been particularly eventful for the Battalion with the training front dominated by the 54 Brigade military skills competition, some key changes in personnel and the announcement and preparation for the Battalion's re-roling. The Battalion remains well recruited although the flow of recruits can never be taken for granted.

The brigade military skills competition took place on the weekend of Mar 10-12 on the Stanford training area. The competition involved first aid, a battle shoot, a command task, an assault course, field craft and a night navigation exercise. They all took place on the Saturday with a speed march, log race and falling plate shoot on the Sunday. The Sunday events were preceded by the brigade church parade which was a somewhat poignant occasion given the looming dishandment of 54 Brigade (the Battalion is now part of 49 (East) Brigade).

It is notable that the 54 Brigade competition was won by a 20-man team from 3 Company led by 2Lt Gary Bullard. This competition has probably meant more for 3

*Continued Page 36*



## News from the Steelbacks



Above:  
Preparation for  
brigade military  
skills' command  
task. Left to  
right: Cpl Wenn,  
LCpl Peach, Cpl  
Porter, Pte  
Cochrane, Pte  
Burnett (Comd).



Left: Nijmegen  
March training.

## News from the Steelbacks



*From Page 34*

Company than any other sub unit in the Brigade since the winning teams received the Veal Trophy. Many readers will know that Maj Mike Veal was OC 3 Company at the time of his death and that the trophy was presented at the end of the competition by his widow Mrs Diane Veal. The closeness of the competition made 3 Company's success all the sweeter. The trophy will be used in the 49 Brigade Competition and 3 Company feels bullish about retaining it. Headquarter Company's team was neck-and-neck with 3 Company during the competition and at the end was only one point behind. However HQ Company won last year and from a Battalion perspective it was good to see the Veal trophy passed to another 5 Royal Anglian team rather than one from another battalion.

3 Company has also been preparing to send a team of 12 to the Nijmegen march in Holland. There were 20 volunteers and there has been regular training to get them, and more particularly their feet, into condition to march 100 miles in four days. This has often meant them marching back to the TA Centre after a weekend training exercise, which is no mean achievement if you have spent the best part of the last 36 hours without sleep. A useful spin off of the Nijmegen training has been a heightened local media interest in 3 Company. This is particularly useful for recruiting.

The Battalion has also been successful in the orienteering field with the team from 2 Company leading the way by finishing second in the Eastern District championships. The team was led by WO2 Byford, CSM 2 Company. 2 Company's orienteers are now fixing their sights on the UKLF championships at Catterick in May.

The permanent staff have also been involved in a number of reporting activities, including a successful winter badminton tournament in which the final match was won by the RSM, Mr Hillier, partnered by Mr Stewart Holmes from the stores. Capt Clyde Aylin, HQ Company's PSAO, also continues to carry all before him in his veteran's tennis matches.

With regard to forthcoming events, the Signal Platoon is planning a sponsored walk in aid of the Regimental Museum at Duxford. WO2 Reed, Sgt Dade (PSI) and Cpl Fowkes will be leading the team. The plan is to walk coast-to-coast from St Bees in Lancashire to Robin Hood Bay in North Yorkshire, a total of 200 miles. The Battalion wishes the team every success.

2 Company's soccer side has also acquitted itself admirably with a 2-1 win over an RLC squadron, together with a 5-5 away draw against Headquarter Company.

The Battalion is now over the initial feelings of sadness regarding the decision to re-role the Battalion as a Transport Regiment of the Royal Logistic Corps and is

working looking forward to the implementation phase. Smiles were certainly evident when it was discovered that the unit would have over 70 motorcycles. However, the driver training required to make the unit fit for this role will be substantial and represents a major commitment by the Army.

A Royal Logistic Corps team led by Col Mike Syms made a presentation at Peterborough on Mar 21 1995 to outline the type of training that will be needed when the Battalion re-roles next year.

Unfortunately as part of the re-rolling and because of real estate needs, the Battalion will be losing the present 3 Company in Cambridge to 5 Royal Anglian, its former parent unit, and 2 Company in Hertford to 7 Royal Anglian. 2 Company has always been a constituent part of 5 Royal Anglian. In exchange the Battalion will gain a company from 7 Royal Anglian and one from 6 Royal Anglian. The respective locations are Loughborough and Ipswich. The exchange of companies will not take place until after annual camp and the new unit will not come into existence until April 1996.

Fortunately the Battalion, even in its new guise, will continue to maintain the

*Continued Page 37*

# News from the Steelbacks



Above: Lt Col P G R Horrell TD hands over command of the Steelbacks to Lt Col D J W Baylis. Above right: LCpl Duffy and Pte Sammons 'beef up' a snap VCP. Right: QM Maj Crosbie-Wood presents RSM WO1 Hillier with the trophy for winning the permanent staff badminton competition, ably assisted by Stewart Holmes (ex-Viking).



## From Page 36

links with the Regiment and the first CO of the new unit will be a Royal Anglian, Lt Col David Baylis.

Our present CO, Lt Col Peter Horrell, handed over command at the beginning of May to Lt Col Baylis. Lt Col Horrell has been with the Battalion since his days as an officer cadet and all ranks of the Battalion wish him good luck for the future. He presented the Battalion Officers' Mess with a superb claret jug and the officers presented the CO with a number of pieces of crystal to add to his collection.

There have, of course, been a number of promotions during the last six months and congratulations are due to WO2 Slater at Headquarter Company who is a major force in recruit training and to WO2 De ath who has moved from colour sergeant to CSM Headquarter Company.

3 Company has had a change of PSI with CSgt Garner leaving in January with

the best wishes of the Company and the Battalion for the future. CSgt Tilly from 2 Royal Anglian has now settled in and all ranks wish him a successful tour with the Battalion.

The Battalion is in good shape and is looking forward to annual camp and to the reorganisation and, for at least part of the present Battalion, re-rolling. It will as always give its best

## Castle Focus



**VAUXHALL**

# Vauxhall sponsors appeal

THE Royal Anglian Regiment thanks Vauxhall Motors for its magnificent gift of an Astra car as a raffle prize for the Regimental Museum appeal. As our main sponsor, Vauxhall aims to preserve the customs and traditions of the Regiment.

Raffle tickets are widely available. Members of the Regiment and their friends and families are asked to support the Museum Appeal by participating in the raffle. Should anyone want tickets for sale, they should contact RHQ or the Project Officer Lt Col Veitch on 01733 54581.

The Vauxhall Astra was on display and raffle tickets were on sale for the first time on Apr 29 at the presentation of colours and netted well over £1,000. The car will be on view and tickets on sale again at the following events.



<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
Carnival, Bury St Edmunds	Jun 10-11
Essex Show or Grantham Carnival	Jun 16-19
Lincoln Show	Jun 20-23
Essex Regt Reunion, Warley	Jun 25
Royal Norfolk Show	Jun 27-30
Essex Police Fun Day, Chelmsford	Jul 8-10
Northampton Show	Jul 13-17
East of England Show	Jul 17-20
Holkham County Fair	Jul 21-24
Heckington Show	Jul 28-31
Minden Day, Bury St Edmunds	Jul 30
Bakewell Show	Aug 1-4
Weyland Agr Show, Watton	Aug 6
Ashfield Show	Aug 11-14
Northampton Balloon Festival	Aug 17-21
End of Second World War Parade, Bury St Edmunds	Aug 20
Leicester City Show	Aug 26-29
Spectacular, Chelmsford	Aug 26-27
Orsett Show	Sep 1-3
Royal Anglian Past & Present Dinner Club, Thorpe Camp	Sep 30
3rd Battalion Dinner Club lunch, Warley	Oct 6
Museum opening	Dec

# Castle Focus

A range of items are still required for the Regimental Museum

## More artefacts wanted

WITH the Imperial War Museum designers now carrying out detailed work it is becoming clearer exactly what will go into each exhibit. Some missing items have been identified. The following are currently required by the Project Officer Lt Col A D A Veitch - tel: 01733/54511 (5th Battalion) or 01780 64802 (home):-

■ **Regimental Music.** We have the following: Massed Bands of the Queen's Division, Horseguards, 1951; Poachers' 'Under Cover'; Massed Bands of the Queen's Division Beating Retreat; Suffolk Military Band Cassette; Poachers' 'In Berlin'; 'Echoes of an Era'; 'On It's My Delight'; 3rd Battalion's 'Music for a Regimental Dinner'; 'Poachers Prowl (BBC Radio) Does anyone have any other recordings? for example, 'Poachers in Concert' (Felixstowe)?

■ **Film.** Does anyone hold film, particularly on the amalgamation of the county regiments in 1958-60 into the East Anglian regiments, and other historic events and operations or exercises.

■ **Band Items.** Photographs of Band activities are needed (overseas, Operation Granby, military training, Royal engagements, on board ship).

■ **Plaques.** 1 and 3 East Anglian, 4 Royal Anglian and Tiger Company plaques are sought.

■ **NI.** Early shield wanted.

■ **Flags.** Wanted - 1 and 3 East Anglian; East German and Soviet (from Berlin); Flosy (Aden); IRA/Republican and Ulster Red Hand (NI). We hold a Cypriot national flag - is there a Greek Cypriot flag?

■ **Berlin.** Any interesting items relating to the wall, sectors, military train, Spandau prison, allied kommandatura

■ **Medals.** The following are sought: GSMs Aden (2), Radfan, Borneo, NI, miniature NI, LSGC (2), Operation Granby group, TD (2) and TEM.

■ **Sportsmen.** The only international sportsmen so far identified are: Cpl G A

Gooden, 3rd Battalion - England Athletics - did he run internationally '62-'65?; Sgt L Paul, 3rd Battalion - GB Bobsleigh '87 to present, England and GB Athletics '89; Pte Strudwick, 3rd Battalion - England Boxing, date?; LCpl Maxwell, 3rd Battalion - England Boxing, date?; Cpl W Taylor, 2nd Battalion - Wales and GB Athletics, '77; Lt C P Simpson, 1st Battalion - England Rugby, '63; SS/L W R Tancred, 1st Battalion - England and GB Athletics, '64-'68; Cpl C Clover, 1st Battalion - Athletics, date? In which year did he win Commonwealth Gold?

Are these details correct? Are there others? We will also mention titles, medals and national champions such as Lt M S Wright, British Canoeing Champion 1970.

■ **Dress/insignia.** Wanted: Badges for 4 Royal Anglian Pioneer Squadron's axes and axe (if such badges were worn); gas mask and parachute badge; field officer's cap; beret; hat; white gauntlets for pioneer; a pair mess wellingtons; 2 swords and silver scabbards; 4 Royal Anglian tie, stable belt, blazer badge, officer's and ORs' collar badges; 1 East Anglian stable belt; East Anglian Regimental Association badge; officers' Britannia buttons, large and small pace stick.

■ **Photograph.** A photograph of 3 East Anglian soldier in B D marching order in 1958 is wanted. Also of the 4th Battalion pioneer sergeant and a 1st Battalion drummer in no.3 dress whites.

■ **Maps.** Operational maps of Bahrain, Libya, Malta, Gibraltar, UN Cyprus.

■ **Regimental Journals.** A complete set of East and Royal Anglian journals will be needed by the attendant for reference. The following are needed: 1st East

Anglian journals - all; 2nd East Anglian journals - all; 3rd East Anglian journals - issues no.4 Vol 1, nos.1 and 5 Vol 2; Royal Anglian Castle - issues nos.2 and 5 Vol 4, nos.4, 6, 9, 11 Vol 8, no.4 Vol 9, all issues 1977-86.

A great deal of material has been donated over recent months, but much more is needed to bring the exhibits to life, particularly with items of a personal nature. One such donation, of great interest, for example, was a recently donated 57 pattern haversack with its complete contents.

A special mention must be made of the generous gift of a mass of uniforms, equipment and documents (particularly covering Malaya and Aden) by the family of the late Lt Col A R A Veitch.

Others who have contributed are: Maj De'ath, clothing; WO2 De'ath, clothing; WO2 Lowe, equipment; Capt Greenough, accountants; Maj Whitehead, clothing, equipment; Lt Col Clements, NI equipment; Lt Col Gordon, family and welfare material; Capt Beale, photographs; Maj Thoroughgood, accountants; Maj Thompson, maps; Lt Hook Esq, research; Maj Bright, NI equipment; Lt Stephenson, mess; Lt Lt Lyne, information; Maj Hipkin, 1st Battalion 1st Day cover Gibraltar; Maj Rogers, Malayan CT compass, maps; Maj Lywood, medals; Lt Col Garnett, maps; J Batt-Rowden Esq, material on Gibraltar; Lt Col Forbes, APTC; research into international sportsmen; S/Sgt Simpson, records, CDs; Sgt Merryweather, records, CDs; Col Goldschmidt, mess kit and medals.

## BLAZER SALE

◆ SINGLE BREASTED

**£49.00**

12.90 P & P UK



**BLAZER** —  
Polyester/Wool styled by James Barry to give shape and comfort, comes in Navy or Black, double or single breasted. Sizes range from 36" to 48" extra large on request. Please send for brochure.

◆ DOUBLE BREASTED

**£54.00**

12.90 P & P UK

NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNEO VETERANS ASSOCIATION HQ  
1 PARK AVENUE EAST, KEYWORTH, NOTTINGHAM, NG11 5EZ  
UNITED KINGDOM  
TEL/FAX: 01159 373157



## Presentation of Colours



# Ceremony with splendour

THE 1st and 2nd Battalions were presented with new colours by Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford on Apr 29, '95.

One always has to start an article about an outdoor event in the UK by mentioning the weather, which on this particular day was overcast and rather cold but mercifully the wind was not too strong (for Duxford) and the rain held off until the latter part of the afternoon.

Over 3,500 people attended what turned out to be a truly splendid event. The stands were packed, the overflow chairs were all full and many people who had been held up on the motorway and other approach roads had to be seated in chairs to the rear of the parade. Space was at a premium and as we knew only too well so was time, because our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief was to arrive at 1130 and depart at 1430 sharp. There was a great deal to pack into a very short space of time.

The parade was a tremendous success. The drill was of the highest order and quite

remarkable, bearing in mind that only three weeks had been available for preparation. Everyone kept in step, no-one fell out and everybody on the advance in review order managed to count the appropriate number of steps accurately! Truly miraculous and truly wonderful to behold.

The parade marched on at 1055, the Minden Band in all its scarlet glory led by the drums of the 1st and 2nd Battalions. The parade was brought to attention by the parade commander, Lt Col Roger Brunt, for a general salute which was taken by the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Mr James Crowden, with in attendance, Lt Gen Michael Walker our Deputy Colonel, Maj Gen Ray Pett the Director of Infantry and the Colonel of the Regiment.

At 1125 precisely (what else would you expect of the Royal flight) Her Royal Highness's helicopter landed, introductions were made by the Lord Lieutenant and the party moved in their limousines onto the parade ground for the Royal Salute.

The inspection followed and the old colours were marched off to the strains of

Auld Lang Syne. The consecration of the new colours then took place with the Chaplain General the Rev Doctor Dobbin, attended by the Right Rev Monsignor Loudon, Principle Roman Catholic Chaplain for the Army, our own Honorary Chaplain the Rev Tom Hiney and the Rev P M Carter, Senior Chaplain to 24 Air Mobile Brigade officiating. After the consecration the presentation of the colours took place by our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief.

Princess Margaret then addressed the parade as follows:

**"It gives me great pleasure to be with you today, at the Imperial War Museum to present new colours, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen, to the 1st and 2nd Battalions the Royal Anglian Regiment.**

**Emblazoned on these new colours are the battle honours of the seven county regiments who came together 30 years ago to form the Royal Anglian**

*Continued Page 42*

# Presentation of Colours



The New Guard of Colours. Rear row (left to right): CSgt SM Knights, CSgt R Langley Stevens, WO2 GD Hughes, WO1 (RSM) CD Hoyles, Lt DJ Ward, 2Lt AHC Borgnis, Capt AB Behrt, Lt JND Bowes, WO1 (RSM) SN Pallant, WO2 AD Ralph, CSgt LF Hall, CSgt KP Keen. Front row: Capt RW Potter MBE, Maj NG Burrell, Maj PD Jones, Lt Col RM Brunt MBE, Maj Gen PPD Stone, CB OBE, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Rev Dr V Dobbin MBE QHC, Lt Col DJ Clements MBE, Maj AM Wylie, Maj MH Wenham, Capt DG Goude MBE



The Old Guard:  
Rear row (left to right) CSgt Martin, Csgt Newman, Dmr MJ Montgomery, CSgt RA Cousins, Csgt AW Glynn  
Front row: Lt FJR Grounds, WO2 MW Hamilton, 2Lt PM Birch, 2Lt JD Hughes, WO2 RN Hayton, 2Lt G Toyn.

# Presentation of Colours



*From Page 40*

Regiment. The period of amalgamation will be remembered by many former members of those regiments who are watching the parade today. In the last few years, similar changes to the balance of influence in the world which led to the original formation of your Regiment, have caused further reductions in the armed forces, leading to the loss of your 3rd Battalion in 1992, and the re-rolling of your 5th Battalion in early 1996.

For a Regiment which is so closely identified, both historically and geographically, with its founding counties, I know what pressures this placed on the four remaining battalions to identify properly with the nine counties you proudly represent.

I believe that there is all the more reason therefore, to emphasise the essential links with your counties (Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex) for that is where the Regiment will always draw its soldiers and its strength from.

Also we remember Minden, Waterloo, Burma, North West Europe, Korea and the many other battle honours you proudly carry on these new colours. For they represent the history that so clearly binds your Regiment with its past, and sets the standards for its future. This, I can assure you, is a hard earned and priceless asset that can never be changed or reduced regardless of what the future may hold.

I entrust these colours to your safe-keeping, confident that you will continue to uphold the long traditions of service and sacrifice they represent and that you will maintain and safeguard the high standards set by those who have gone before you.

I give you my best wishes for the future, and pray that wherever these colours may be carried, it will be in the cause of peace."

The Colonel of the Regiment then replied:

"Your Royal Highness, on behalf of all ranks of The Royal Anglian Regiment, and all those present here today, thank you for honouring us by your presence on this very special occasion and for presenting the 1st and 2nd Battalions with their new colours on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen. May I also thank you for your gracious words.

*Continued Page 43*

# Presentation of Colours



From Page 42

Many of us gathered here today know you well, for yours has been a long and much valued association with the Regiment – commencing as Colonel-in-Chief of The Suffolk Regiment in 1953 – and then Colonel-in-Chief of the 1st East Anglian Regiment following the amalgamation of The Suffolk Regiment and The Royal Norfolk Regiment in 1958 – before becoming our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief in 1964 on the formation of The Royal Anglian Regiment.

I know that your special position with us throughout the last 40 years of our evolution means that you appreciate better than most the central part our history has played in sustaining the cohesion and quality of the Regiment today. I can assure you that the setbacks of recent years may have reduced us in numbers, but have done nothing to weaken these links.

I do not believe that there can be any finer symbol or rallying point for a Regiment such as ours than our colours – emblazoned with our name, Royal Anglian, which is our present and our future – but also with the record of our predecessors' bravery and valour lest we should ever forget our past.

Ma'am, we are honoured by your presence here today. May I assure you that in this uncertain world your Regiment will continue to build on its reputation for professionalism of the highest order, whilst maintaining the

*Continued Page 45*



## Presentation of Colours

---



# Presentation of Colours



From Page 43  
traditions of which we are justifiably proud. Our new colours will be respected and carefully guarded and when opportunity allows, carried as proudly as those of any of our forebears."

There then followed the march past by the four Guards of the Regular Battalions with their new colours followed by the three Volunteer Battalion Guards who appeared miraculously from under the wing of the B52 bomber. The parade then formed up again with the four Regular Guards in front and three IA Guards with their colours behind. The advance in review order and the Royal Salute then followed. The parade commander then asked our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief for permission to march off, which they duly did to the strains of the Regimental march. A truly brave sight.

Finally (and at miraculous speed) all the cadets whom the Regiment had invited and who had helped line the route for Princess Margaret as well as helping with chairs and other duties, followed by the members of the Regimental Association under their three columns of the Vikings, the Poachers and the Pompadours, marched past Her Royal Highness to the applause of all assembled.

Princess Margaret then retired which gave people just about enough time to get to their marquees for lunch and refreshments. The clock was against us but despite that, time was found after lunch for our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief to meet many past and present members of the Regiment.

Perhaps the quotes of the day were from Association members, one of whom asked HRH to "give my compliments to your sister" and another who turned her through 180 deg. with the request to "face Lofty so he can take a picture of you"

Our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief took all this in good part! HRH then sat with the principal participants of the parade for an official photograph. Three cheers were given as she left for the helicopter pad to depart as planned at precisely 2.30.

It had been a splendid and moving occasion and greatly enjoyed by all. Subsequently the Colonel of the Regiment sent the following signal to all Battalions and the Director of Music of the Minden band:

**"For Commanding Officers and all ranks the Vikings and Poachers and all members of the Regiment who supported and took part in the parade from the Colonel of the Regiment.**

**Very many congratulations on an absolutely first rate presentation of**

**colours on Saturday Apr 29. The parade went like clockwork and everyone played his part without mistake. The bearing and drill of all of you was of the highest order.**

**Our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief was immensely impressed by all she saw and expressed her admiration of your professionalism and bearing to me personally. I have also heard nothing but praise from those who had the pleasure of watching.**

**Congratulations are also due to the "backroom staff" who supported the parade by putting up stands, traffic control and the many other jobs that went unseen but which were vital to the success of the whole operation.**

**Well done everybody. You should be justifiably proud of what you have achieved. My heartfelt thanks to you all."**

*Footnote: Because of traffic problems, some may not have received an official programme. RHQ has some spare and anyone wishing to have one please ask. First come, first served!*

# Presentation of Colours



## Presentation of Colours







# 6th Battalion



## A hectic winter schedule

SINCE the last Castle magazine the Battalion has continued to thrive. Rather than go into hibernation over the long days of winter, the Battalion has been as active as ever.

In November the Battalion took part in Exercise Viking Quarry, a 54 (East Anglia) Brigade test exercise based at Stanta. The exercise was set within a United National scenario. A host of varied incidents ranging from the treatment of civilian casualties to a Brigade deliberate attack on the Fibua complex were tackled. The exercise will not be forgotten for some time and some valuable lessons were learnt for the BBGT exercise the Battalion undertook in December.

BBGT was the culmination of the year's training for Battalion Headquarters. This proved to be a very demanding but informative weekend at Catterick. Despite little experience of the all-arms battle or BBGT, the Battalion held its own and came away a great deal uplifted and a little wiser for the experience. It is a constant source of amazement as to how the BBGT team can squeeze so much into one battle. Luckily the Red Hordes are only symbols on a map.

January, bounty training aside, effectively saw the start of a new training cycle. Having concentrated on the attack last year, this year will concentrate on defence and the counter attack. Perhaps unusually for the TA, the year will also have a large ceremonial aspect. The Battalion was involved in the presentation of new colours to the regular battalions in April and on VE Day exercised its freedom of Bury St Edmunds. Lower key parades to commemorate the end of the Second World War and Remembrance Day will also add to the ceremonial commitment.

At the outset of the year the calendar certainly appeared full and so far this year has proved to be demanding in a number of ways. The year got off to a deceptive start with the unseasonably mild weather in January allowing the companies to blow away the winter cobwebs during a couple of training weekends. One of these was Bounty Hunter which allowed the majority of the Battalion to achieve their bounty.

In February the focus of the training



LCpl Woodcock and Pte Lunn brush up on gun skills prior to deploying to Warcop.

turned to preparation for the annual brigade military skills competition. It was decided this year to approach this event from the 'line of march'. One weekend was, however, dedicated to preparation for the competition. The weekend conducted at Stanta, based mainly on a number of field firing

stands, proved to be an interesting refresher of military skills. A number of interesting range practices were run, including a defence shoot in NBC conditions, live section attacks, pair CQB and individual skills. The competition took place over the week-

*Continued Page 50*

# News from the 6th Battalion



Above: Cpl Seeley instructs some new recruits. Left: Cpl Seeley reaches for a borough councillor during an employers' evening. Below: Sgt Mark Hansen and Sgt Gwynyth Bisset with Lord Lieutenant Timothy Colman after being presented with the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for Meritorious Service.



## News from the 6th Battalion



Above: LCpl Bulger and Pte Pilgrim, the top scoring team at Warcop with 250 points out of 300.

Right: The short and the tall, WO2 (CSM) Welton having a word with Pte Brooks.



*From Page 48*

end Mar 11/12 and was to be an extremely demanding 36 hours. It proved to be a two-tier test with the Rifle Company OCs having to provide the stands at short notice. Maj Chris Vince, OC C Company was awarded the prize of the most imaginative stand. In all, 15 20-man teams took part.

Saturday saw the teams undertaking a number of stands including the assault course, fieldcraft, first aid, shooting, an initiative exercise and a vehicle foot night navigation exercise

At the end of day one the Battalion was placed first and second but disappointments in the final event, the march and shoot, saw the lead slip away. The Battalion eventually finished with three teams in the top six. Congratulations to 5 Royal Anglian who took the honours. It is also of note that the weekend attracted a great deal of local media interest with an article on Anglia Television and a number of articles in the local press. Inevitably Cpl McNeil from B Company once again starred.

The start of the year continued to be dominated by competitions with the Battalion skill-at-arms meeting being conducted over the first weekend in April. After a preparation weekend during which the companies' shooting teams confirmed their points of aim and fired the Roberts Cup and Association Match, the meeting proved to be a huge success, largely due to some glorious weather. The first day of the meeting concentrated on individual shooting with the

*Continued Page 52*

## News from the 6th Battalion



Above: A clutch of PSIs. From left to right: Sgts Skelton, Shand and De Bretton-Gordon, CSgt Boulton and WO2 Callaghan. Left: Cpl Smith during the run down on the falling plate. Below: WO2 Roberts hands over the B Company CSM post to WO2 Welton.



# News from the 6th Battalion



Above: The victorious Officers' Mess falling plate team. Left to right: Capt Glynn French, 2Lt Beavis Allen, Capt Pete Chilvers and Maj Nick Morton. Below: 2Lt Kate Stead gives 2Lt Jo Richards a massage during the Battalion SAAM. Bottom: Three generations of Calders 'on parade' during the Battalion skill-at-arms meeting. Left to right, Maj (retired) John Calder, Capt Charlie Calder and Brigadier Tony Calder.



## From Page 50

Roupell, the Roberts, the Association, the LSW and GMPG Matches and the Fibua Cup being fired. Sunday saw the completion of the individual shoots and the falling plate competition. After a very exciting competition, 2Lt McCullough's team from A Company came out on top. In the traditional head to head between the Officers' Mess and the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, the Officers' Mess once again won. Overall the honours for the day went to A Company which was a clear 2,000 points ahead of the nearest company. Individual honours went to Cpl Rolph who once again proved himself to be the Battalion champion shot. The Battalion shooting team is now training under the watchful eye of WO2 Conopo in preparation for the 2 Division SAAM.

The Battalion SAAM meeting proved to be the last event that Brigadier Tony Calder attended as Comd 54 (EA) Brigade. The day proved to be a fitting farewell. Not only did Brigadier Calder present the shooting prizes but he was also able to present some medals. WO2 Roberts and CSgt Brown were both awarded the Territorial Efficiency medal. Sgt MacLoughlin was presented a bar to his TEM. While not wishing to undermine the achievements of the others, WO2 Mantripp's award of the second bar to his TEM is a truly remarkable achievement. WO2 Mantripp joined the Battalion in 1970 and has given 25 loyal years of service during which time he has always qualified for his bounty. WO2 Mantripp is justifiably proud of his long service, a feat that is rare indeed.

The Machine Gun Platoon has also been extremely busy over this period. The arrival of Sgt De Bretton-Gordon on completion of his SF course added a welcome injection of pace. The Platoon started its preparation for Match Nine during a live firing weekend in November. The Platoon deployed to Warcop in March. Unfortunately two of the four teams did not perform up to their normal standard on the day and the Platoon finished in 13th place out of 32 teams. This is, however, an improvement on previous years and should provide the firm foundations for further improvement over the coming year.

While the main events already covered above have dominated the calendar, routine training has continued. In November most of the permanent battalion staff attended security training run by 54 (EA) Brigade at Colchester. The Signals Platoon has been running RRU cadres while the Recruit Training Platoon under Maj David Winn

*Continued Page 54*

## News from the 6th Battalion



Above: Maj Howard Gill with his enemy force ready to seek out the RAF Regiment.

Left: CSgt Brown receives his territorial Efficiency Medal. Below: Recce Platoon members ready for a night on the town. (Photo courtesy of the *East Anglian Daily Times*)



## News from the 6th Battalion



*From Page 52*

has been as busy as ever providing the lifeblood of the Battalion. The Adjutant, Capt Adrian Goshing, also ran a successful walking weekend in Derbyshire over Easter. The younger officers spent valuable time revising map reading skills while the more senior officers took the opportunity to stretch their legs. Overall the training of the Battalion continues apace, always evolving to meet the challenges that the new role of General Reserve provides.

Unicom arrived at the Battalion in November, proving once again that the modern infantryman has to be more than a 'grunt'. This computer network electronically links all Battalion headquarters and Headquarter Company departments with the Company outstations. After an extensive building and training programme the system is now up and running.

The introduction has not been without its problems as the 6th Battalion is the first territorial unit to receive it and the first unit to combine a local area network with a wide area network! The office power package is now working and E-Mail is zipping all over the Battalion. The rumours that B Company is an electronic black hole are greatly exaggerated.

The full data package that will eventually replace Pampas should be on line by the end of the year. The QM's department is proof you can teach an old dog new tricks and nobody is envious of Capt Keith Martin's appointments as OC Unicom.

After the Battalion skill-at-arms meeting, the rest of April was dominated by drill as the Battalion rehearsed for the colours parade at Duxford. The sight of rifle drill in the drill halls is a rare sight, but it seemed to be enjoyed by most. It certainly proved to be a spectator sport!

After two days of rehearsal over the weekend Apr 22/23, the Battalion was ready for the dress rehearsal. Friday's rehearsal was not fault free and due to work commitments the Battalion was a few soldiers down. The parade on the day, however, went well. For most the lunch afterwards proved to be equally enjoyable with the opportunity to meet up with old friends. Had the weather been a little warmer the lunch might well have lasted into the early hours!

This year is also proving to be a year of  
*Continued Page 55*

Top left: C Company maintaining security despite the ceasefire.  
Left: Maj Chris Vince, or is it Lord Lucan, alive and well and running a successful TA Company

# News from the 6th Battalion



(Photos courtesy of the East Anglian Daily Times.)

From Page 54

change. On Apr 1, 54 (EA) Brigade was disbanded and the Battalion became part of 49 (East) Brigade based at Chilwell. As well as the outward change in the wearing of a Polar Bear insignia, the move to a much larger Brigade will bring new challenges.

In addition, with the reorganisation of the brigade areas, the Battalion now straddles two districts of divisions as they are now called. This will inevitably cause some administrative complications. The Battalion has approached these moves with a positive attitude and looks forward to the new challenge.

A more important change is, however, moving ever closer with the formation of an RLC Regiment out of the three Royal Anglian territorial battalions. This re-rolling will impact on the Battalion as we will lose B Company based at Ipswich and gain D Company based at Cambridge from 5 Royal Anglian.

The mechanics of the re-rolling and the size of the task ahead for B Company are only now becoming clear. With the transfer effectively happening in November the next six months will prove to be a challenge. It will, however, be a challenge that is met and overcome by the professionalism and positive approach of all the members of the Battalion. ARRC role beckons

Above: B Company team members finding the going tough during the Brigade military skills competition march and shoot. Below: The Battalion 2IC, Maj Tony McArdle surrounded by 'the press' during Exercise Viking Quarry.







# Tigers



Sgt Bridle and the B Company team prepare for the live section attack range

## Restructuring and the future

THE hand that turns the wheel of fortune has moved in a way that few would have predicted over the last few years. Before the first round of TA restructuring reviews, 7 Royal Anglian was NATO roled and during that review our future remained very much in the balance. Our eventual survival saw us revert to a Battalion with a national defence role and before the dust had much chance to settle on that reorganisation the TA found itself under yet another review, with the future of the Tigers once again under the microscope.

Our current role, in line with the majority of other TA Infantry Battalions, is now that of general reserve. Under the latest TA restructuring review the various options that were being discussed for this battalion were as varied as the many roles available: District Reconnaissance, Fire Support Battalion, and forming the Independent Transport Regiment. The news that we were to survive in our existing role was met with obvious relief and the Sword of Damocles

that has been hovering over our heads for far too long has hopefully now been put back in its sheath for good.

In November 1995 we sadly say farewell to B (Loughborough) Company on its merger with the 5th Battalion and welcome the Hertford Company and the Dunstable Platoon. The Battalion's real estate will then stretch from the Humber in the north to the M25 in the south covering five of the nine countries that are linked to the Regiment. The recent announcement that the Tigers are to be ARRC assigned from 1996 for two years is extremely good news, as training for this role will indeed offer everyone a real and tangible challenge and will rekindle among a few of the older members of the Battalion some of the memories associated with our previous NATO role. The wheel of fortune has indeed turned full circle and smiled kindly on us.

### Training diary

Our individual skills had been the theme of

annual camp in September 1994 so the focus of our subsequent work has been on the development of our teams by taking every opportunity for realistic training in the field. This training up until the end of March has been concentrated at section level and so has proven to be very popular with our soldiers while also effectively preparing the Battalion for the Brigade FTX to be held during annual camp 1995 at Otterburn.

Although October was fairly quiet after camp, we were quickly back into the training cycle with shooting organised at company level followed by section live firing ready for Exercise Welsh Warrior at the end of November. Weather best described as inclement greeted our move to Sennybridge, but nonetheless the sections carried out a physically demanding but successful field firing package. This included day and night section attacks, including firing L2 grenade and 66mm LAW.

*Continued Page 58*

## News from the Tigers



Left. The Recce Platoon take the strain during Exercise Cambrian Cudgel.

Below: Brig H R G Wilson, Commander 49 Brigade, presents the TEM to Corporal Nagra



# News from the Tigers



Above: A delighted Maj Peter Starcevic, OC C Company accompanied by LCpl Thompson, makes off with the champion company trophy. Left: Pte Hilder collecting the winning Company skill-at-arms trophy from Brigadier Wilson on behalf of Headquarter Company Below: The skill-at-arms competition trophies await the victors.



## From Page 56

The Remembrance weekend gave the companies the chance to refresh their security procedures on the Saturday, while on Sunday to entertain local guests to lunch. In November our GPMG(SF) Platoon came fourth out of eight in the Match 83 competition held at Otterburn; this was a great achievement for a platoon that has only been together since camp and is an excellent foundation for WO2 Ford and his team to build on. Last year was rounded off with the traditional Christmas weekend at Beckingham which combined a section military skills competition and young officer training with the soldiers' dinner and party.

The New Year saw the continuation of our policy of progressive field training, the main emphasis being on Exercise Stealthy Tiger held at Stanta at the end of January. A testing exercise culminating in a night infiltration and ambushes, it gave our junior NCOs an opportunity to lead their fire teams and sections independently.

February was a month of varied train-

*Continued Page 60*



## News from the Tigers



Above: Sgt Smalley and his recon platoon team with the Exercise Polar challenge trophy. Right: The Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire presents the long service and good conduct medal to CSgt Tony Glynn. Below: WO1 (RSM) S West prepares to address the Battalion.



# News from the Tigers



The A Company team who finished a creditable 5th in Exercise Grebe Grey, the EDist catering skills competition.

From Page 58

ing, much of it orientated towards competitions: Exercise Tasteful Tiger, won by A Company, was a catering and military skills competition for our cooks to prepare for the E Dist competition. Ex Grebe Grey, held at the end of April. The Battalion team came a commendable fifth out of 17. Exercise Mechanical Tiger, won by B Company, saw our MT sections in competition with each other, testing knowledge of vehicle maintenance and repair as well as driving skills - both exercises were held at Garratts Hay barracks in Loughborough.

The major battalion level training in February was field firing at Warcop: it was a two-level exercise including a comprehensive field firing package of 66mm LAW, grenade, section attack and day and night section defence ranges. Alongside this was run Exercise Cambrian Cudgel, a patrols competition which was both arduous and hard fought. The teams patrolled through a number of stands covering weapon handling, fire control orders and target indication, signals, A/V recognition, first aid and vehicle accident drills. The night phase involved the patrols carrying out OPs, while Sunday morning began with a command task followed by a gruelling march and shoot competition. The event was won by the Reece Platoon team commanded by Sgt Smalley, who went on to lead his team to victory in the Brigade competition Exercise Polar Challenge at Feldon. Our other teams

in the Brigade competition finished fourth, fifth and eighth out of the 10 other participants.

There was no respite in the pace of training during March with the Battalion skill-at-arms meeting held at Strensall this year for the first time. It was a most successful venue with the ranges right on the doorstep. The meeting was won by HQ Company with Brigadier Wilson, Commander 40 (East Midlands) Brigade, presenting the prizes, including the champion company trophy to C Company.

Alongside this hectic schedule the command posts have been starting to work up to the Brigade and Battle Group training in June with Operations Officer, Maj Frank De Planta, putting us through his near legendary CPXs.

The last six months has been a demanding period for our soldiers who have worked hard throughout and great progress has been made. Our attention now turns to moving on to platoon and company level field training ready for annual camp.

## Social

In between this very busy training schedule we have also found time to fit in many social activities both at Battalion and Company level. In January B Company held its traditional festive clay pigeon shoot which was well supported by both past and present members of the Company. In February C Company held a well attended

ladies guest night when it took the opportunity to dine out several mess members including WO2 Wilcox and his wife. A Company held its Sobraon Dinner in Lincoln and was followed by B Company which commemorated Burns Night in the strictest traditions of the occasion, giving many their first opportunity to taste haggis.

In March the WOs and Sgts held an extremely successful ladies dinner night in Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln, and later that month the Officers' Mess held a very enjoyable black tie dinner during the Battalion skill-at-arms meeting at Strensall. It was good to welcome Col Alan Deed to this occasion. Also during this month, Brigadier Peter Stevenson, Secretary of East Midlands Tavra, kindly came to Ulverscroft Road TAC to open the recently refurbished Officers' Mess which now has direct access to the old Snug Bar. Past Mess members, who happen to be passing on a Tuesday evening, are invited to drop in for a drink and a chat in the convivial atmosphere of these new surroundings.

## Personalities

In February SSgt Vernon from the Pay Office left for a six-month tour with the Regular Army in Bosnia where he will act as an interpreter. Since leaving the Army in 1983, he has gained a degree in Russian and Serbo-Croat at Nottingham University. WLCpl Bowers of A Company has also been deployed on a six-month tour in the Falklands where she will be a company clerk to the Regular Army Reinforcement Company (see separate articles).

Congratulations to Maj Trevor Terheege who has taken over as OC B Company. Trevor is an outstanding example to us all, having joined the Battalion as a private soldier at the Hinckley TA Centre where he later went on to command that platoon as a sergeant and took more than 40 soldiers to annual camp. He moved to Loughborough where he became CSM before commanding the Milan Platoon on commissioning. Over the last two years he has been Company 2IC. During his time with B Company, Trevor has seen many changes including the closure of the TA Centre in Hinckley, the demise of the Milan Platoon and the re-titling of the Company from LDY (Prince Albert's Own) to B (Leicestershire) Company. Not only does he have an active TA career but also runs his own engineering company. He has a huge wealth of experience on which to draw as he takes his company into another round of change as it prepares to move ~~down~~ to the 5th Battalion before re-rolling to RIC. These

*Continued Page 61*

# News from the Tigers



The Burns Night supper at Loughborough. Maj Neil Marsh and CSgt Jock Cousin inspect the haggis prepared by Sergeant Henry.

From Page 60

will be challenging times for the men and women of Loughborough and Melton Mowbray and we wish Trevor and his team every success.

Maj Neil Marsh has handed over command of B Company after over two years of successful command. The Highland branch of the Regiment will miss his unique renditions of Flower of Scotland and we wish him well at East Midlands UOTC. We have also said farewell to Simon Bacon who is now 2IC of the Poachers, CSgt Glynn who is returning to Celle and WO2 Dixon who is now with the Unicom Team.

We are pleased to welcome Maj Rodney Harward who joins us as Training Major from London District, a Fusilier by birth and having had his hackle surgically removed, is now beginning to look increasingly at ease in his new headgear! WO1 (RSM) West has joined us from the Vikings and takes over from WO1 Kelly. WO2 Templeton has also arrived from the Vikings and is now SPSI of HQ Company. SPMS Hargrave has transformed the cooking department and CSgt Ibrahim is wel-

comed as SPSI in Northampton.

Medals have been presented to several members of the Battalion in recent months. In December the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire presented the LSGC medal to CSgt Glynn. In March, Brigadier Wilson presented TEMs to CSgt Pickett and Cpl Nagra, both of HQ Company, and in April WO2 Barnes of B Company was presented with the same medal by Colonel Simms.

LCpl Southin of Headquarter Company took part in an energy-sapping charity run from Leicester to Strasbourg last year; running in a 10-man team, each member ran 15 miles a day over four days to cover the 600 miles which finished at the European Parliament.

Congratulations are in order to the following Capt David Howe and Andy Croft on their appointments on promotion to RSO and OC RR&TT respectively; 2IC Alex Wong on passing his Jotes 1 exam; OCdt Mark Given on passing the RMAS course; WO2 Wilcox on his promotion to RQMS; and WO2s Henderson and Kelly on their promotions to CSM of B and C Companies respectively.

## Operational tours – a TA perspective

7 Royal Anglian has two soldiers currently on six month operational tours. S/Sgt Vernon AGC (SPS) from Headquarter Company in Leicester is in Bosnia as a Serbo-Croat interpreter. WLCpl Bowers AGC (SPS) from A (Lincoln) Company is with the TA Reinforcement Company in the Falklands as the company clerk. Their initial despatches from their tours follow:

### Bosnia

SSgt Vernon writes:

IN January the Battalion was trawled for Serbo-Croat speakers to go to Bosnia for six months. I jumped at the opportunity and learnt on Feb 3 that I was to be called up and to be in Bosnia by Feb 11. Having made preparations for the financial provision of my family, I set off for HQ UKLF to be mobilised. This consisted merely of being handed an official notice. Thence we went to Warminster for kit issue, a process which lasted until just after five o'clock, then onward to RAF Lyneham where I quickly learned to put the kit together.

I arrived in Split just after midday on Feb 11. Fortunately the chief colloquial speaker, Lt K Arnold RN, was there waiting for her R and R flight. She thought I might go to Kiseljak and perhaps on to Gorazde. Consequently I stayed four nights in a 'hotel' in Split waiting for the decision. On Wednesday I started my trip to Kiseljak.

The trip to Kiseljak deserves to be described. The route is quite simple, the journey not so. Along the Dalmatian coastline, a beautiful stretch of road, with the Adriatic Sea lapping against the many tourist towns that have seen better days. It is obvious that before the war these resorts were bustling all through the long Balkan summer but now they have the appearance of deserted backwater towns. We crossed the river Neretva and turned eastwards towards Bosnia along the Main Supply Route. Entering Bosnia we saw a discernible change in the surrounding landscape. We stopped at the first village which is completely deserted and bombed out. The senses do not quite comprehend the devast-

*Continued Page 62*

# News from the Tigers

From Page 61

tation. Television pictures cannot convey the horror that confronts you. If the first vilage was an eye-opener, Mostar was even more. You cannot go through this old town, one of the pearls of Bosnia, but have to travel around it. From the back of a Land Rover the view is horrendous. The whole town appears to have been destroyed. All shattered and lying in ruins, nestling in the foothills of a Bosnian winterland.

Leaving Mostar behind we headed up further into Bosnia and turned on to a very muddy mountain road heading for Kresevo and then to Kiseljak. This part of the journey has some marvellous scenery. The river Neretva, alongside which we travelled for some two hours, looked in places like a single sheet of dark jade, an impression which I thought at the time to be partially due to the mountains on either side, but we went into a wide plain and there it was again, placid, deep and still definitely dark green.

Kiseljak houses A2 Echelon of Britbat 2; at the time of my arrival I RGBW. The accommodation was a hotel built specifically for the 1980 Winter Olympics in Sarajevo – comfortable but already rather rundown and dilapidated. It was built in a hurry and is decaying just as quickly. Here I found that the only duty for a Serbo-Croat speaker is convoy duty. I did not relish the boredom of travelling to and from Gorazde and speaking for only one or two hours a trip. I elected instead to go to Gorazde to accompany foot patrols. To anyone that knows me, going on patrol would sound a preposterous idea but I was looking forward to it immensely.

The trip to Gorazde took 13 hours but I only saw it from the back of a Saxon – nothing to report. When I arrived at Gorazde the camp was like a quagmire. It was supposed to be the beginning of spring. The weather since I have arrived changes almost daily, from snow to rain to brilliant sunshine and high temperatures and all the way back.

My first job was a five-day stay at an OP with Recce Platoon I RGBW, patrolling every day into local villages to make the UN presence felt. Mar 1 saw the arrival of I RWF and they were told that I could speak Russian. Coincidentally part of the Gorazde Force is a Ukrainian company (tales about them, and there are many, will have to wait).

I was quickly reassigned as the interpreter to the Ukrainian LO and have since been employed as such, with the notable exception of a three-day patrol with B Company I RWF. These patrols meant a lot of walking and, worst of all, climbing. My thoughts on this sort of activity are well



Sgt Vernon preparing for deployment to Bosnia

known in 7th (V) Royal Anglian and it will come as no surprise that I found it hard going, especially in deep snow.

I persevered and have quiet satisfaction in those achievements, considering my age (45) and the ten years of intervening civilian inactivity since I last did anything similar.

Coming towards the end of March it is still very cold, very white, and in camp very muddy. I have plenty of work and still much to do, but beware the slivovic!

## Falkland Islands

LCpl Bowers writes:

WHILE on my Clerk's Class 1 course in Worthy Down I met LCpl 'Jools' Colbourne 6RRF who told me of a venture to the Falkland Islands which sounded like a chance of a life time – one woman (now two) with 200 men! A few further inquiries later I was told that Wales and Western District were still short of volunteers for the TA Reinforcement Company and without much hesitation I put my name down.

I arrived on Feb 7 at Swynnerton to assist with clerical aspects of the Company. On Feb 17 I became a special type enlistment (for six months only) to ensure I could take part in this operational tour. Shortly after this we upped sticks and moved to Cwrt-y-Golen training camp in Wales for Stage 2 of the training.

On completion of this training the Company was granted a long weekend and returned to Swynnerton training camp where I assisted the MCCC set up of the unit

move to the Falklands between Feb 28 and Mar 5.

I bade farewell to our fair Isle on Mar 10 and spent an eternity, well 16 hours plus, on a 'Timmy' (Tristar) without my new partner in crime 'Jools', as she was on an earlier flight. Much to my surprise Mount Pleasant Airport was better than I thought, and although the buildings are not as permanent as I had imagined, it is 'home' for now. My only 'bottom lipper' about being here is the mail, or lack of it!

With the remainder of the AGC we entered the Mare Harbour relay race and finished in bronze position with no training.

Although I have been here a month, I have not had much chance to see the islands as much of my time has been taken up with re-organising the office and getting used to the new IT system. However, I am keen to see what the islands have to offer and my first trip is likely to be to San Carlos to visit the memorial for Col A Jones.

Life here is very different from the Company office in Sobraon Barracks but on first impressions I am glad I decided to take the challenge. Due to my age the Falklands conflict did not really have a direct bearing on my life at the time.

Now that I have been here, I can see very vividly what the soldiers had to fight for and the conditions they had to put up with. Some 14 years on, the islands still remain very British; cold, wet and the TV is rubbish! I am looking forward very much to my next three months.

# News from the Tigers

## Bosnia – an artist's impression

*Capt Jonathan Wade, 2IC A Company 7 Royal Anglian, writes:*

LAST summer I went on a two-week sketching/painting trip to Bosnia sponsored by the 2nd Battalion. I had previously painted in military theatres during my years as a regular officer (Royal Highland Fusiliers) including three stints in Northern Ireland, Berlin, Canada and finally the Gulf with 7th Armoured Brigade. This time, as a civvy painter, I took a Croatia Airlines flight from Heathrow to Zagreb, then another to Split where I was met and escorted inland to the Battalion Taor centred on Vitez.

The last time I had visited Yugoslavia was in 1980 on my way to Turkey and I had forgotten just how beautiful it is – a sort of idyllic Ruritania with its valleys and wooded hills, mountains, lakes and rivers. The scale of the war damage however, particularly in the built-up areas, was quite staggering. The civvies were generally friendly and cheerful.

The Poachers made me feel very much at home and made every effort to move me about the patch with as free a rein as any painter could wish for (I have in the past been Battalion Operations Officer in West Belfast and well understand the horrors of too many visitors).

I was very pleased to meet some old friends and acquaintances in the Battalion, particularly Maj Richard Clements with whom I did JDSC in 1987, Capt Andy Foster who participated in an extremely jolly Sobraon dinner at Lincoln last year and not forgetting our late QPSI CSgt Thorpe now back in the real world.

My main task was to produce a largish oil painting as a memento of the Poachers' tour to hang eventually in Battalion headquarters. After consultation with the 'head shed' it was agreed that it should be based on a Warrior manning a checkpoint in Stari Vitez. All in all I completed 50 sketches/watercolours of various aspects of the British UN involvement, and to date I am still working on some of the other commissions



Above: Rough sketches of a Warrior In Travnik. Left: Capt Johnny Wade back in familiar territory — manning the Company CP

Brigade, the Sappers (everywhere) who were doing their usual good work on minefields, roads and bridges, and 207 Signal Squadron.

The main impression I gained with the Poachers was what a good job the British infantry soldiers are doing under trying and often frustrating circumstances while retaining an enormous, if often rather macabre, sense of humour.

I would like to publicly thank all ninks of the Poachers for a most interesting and rewarding visit to a Battalion on operations in Bosnia, a far cry from my current post as 2IC of Maj Rod Burns' A (Lincolnshire) Company 7 Royal Anglian!

I am indebted to all those who kindly held their poses so well and kept me supplied with endless brews from their BVs! I shall never forget the dawn beauty of the Vlasic feature or the sound of the occasional Serb artillery round whistling down into the town of Travnik in the valley below. As a painter, I paint many Arcadian landscapes of the Claude Lorraine variety and made many useful notes here.

I was fortunate in gaining commissions from various other sub units involving trips to Maglaj for The Light Dragoons and Gornji Vakuf for Headquarter 7 and

Footnote: Commissions may be sought from Capt Wade via A Company 7 Royal Anglian or 01472-357708. His paintings are now spread throughout the civilised world including RMA Sandhurst, the late 1 Queens Own Highlanders, Headquarters 7 Armoured Brigade, 16/5 Lancers and in the possession of Gen Norman Schwarzkopf. He has exhibited in Paris, Cognac, Edinburgh and London and is currently working on an exhibition of paintings based on a trip to North West Pakistan in 1993.



## News from the Tigers

# Sandhurst – the Fast Track

2Lt Paul Burrows writes:

I WAS a 29-year-old retired rower of national standard who had just returned from a round-the-world trip. Having recently started working for Northamptonshire County Council's Leisure Services Department as training officer I was looking for something to replace the commitment I used to make to my sport. The TA seemed like a good idea as I had failed officer selection 12 years previously and had often wondered what would happen if I tried again. I regarded the challenge as a good opportunity to develop some personnel management skills.

Having phoned the TA in April to inquire into the possibility of joining I was told that the only way this could be done, because of my age, was if I was considered suitable for Officer selection. After meeting the Commanding Officer I was recommended for attendance at a district assessment board in May, equivalent to the Regular commissioning board. Similar in format with command tasks, general knowledge tests, essays and presentations, I passed with a recommendation to complete officer training on the Fast Track system.

Fast track is a three-week compressed course designed for those who have the motivation, maturity and can take the necessary time off from their civilian employment. It takes a civilian with little or no military experience through basic recruit training, leadership, the orders process, map reading, first aid, NBC and of course BFTs, CFTs, and assault courses. In my case all this in 35 degrees heat – it was of course the second hottest summer this century! This prepared me for the two-week TA commissioning course which followed on immediately from Fast Track. So anyone completing Fast Track, can in a matter of weeks earn his commission, as against the usual method for TA OCdt training which can take anything up to a year to reach the same stage.

On my course 35 candidates formed up at Sandhurst for the initial three-week training period, of which only two others were in my position – and they had done



2IC Paul Burrows — from civilian life to 2Lt in just five weeks

slightly more than my three hours introduction to which end of the SA80 is dangerous! The vertical learning curve thus began.

The course does serve its purpose, assuming you are not part of the 30% injury list, as it teaches you the Sandhurst way of doing things. This is particularly important for the TA because it seems that current tactical doctrine takes a lot longer to filter down to our units and there is a lot of re-learning to do for all candidates. This was of course to my advantage, as I was learning for the first time and had no bad habits to get out of. The other plus is that you get to know the staff before the final two-week commissioning course, though this may be a mixed blessing depending upon how well you are doing.

At the end of the three weeks, which has little 'bull' because there is no time for it, we were joined by a further 60 potential officers. Although they no doubt had more military experience than most

of us, we had the advantage of having already settled into the course. The commissioning course was more of the same though this time it was assessment based rather than instructional. With 60 new faces, however, the pressure was off if you had already established yourself and were not being asked to prove yourself again.

The foremost memory I have of the course is that my feet really did not touch the ground. In the five weeks I spent at Sandhurst I had 1.5 free days which were not under the control of the DS. This was my time for personal admin and sleep.

One of the highlights of the course was without doubt the end of course dinner complete with band, something which really made me appreciate the ceremony of the British Army.

The passing out parade, on the other hand, was quite an anti-climax being all over in 45 minutes, with only the Adjutant's horse providing any real merriment by doing what horses always do, as soon as they see a parade square! By the end of the course I was quite relieved to be driving out of the gates to return to some form of normality.

For me, however, this was only the beginning. While I had been commissioned for my leadership ability I am still seriously lacking in what could be called military knowledge. Having subsequently done a stint organising our recruit training and now as a platoon commander with PCBC imminent, I can attend training nights and weekends with slowly increasing confidence that I am earning my keep.

Was Fast Track a good experience? Yes it was. The DS were exceptional, in particular the Colour/Staff Sergeants and even the Corporal of Horse, a title which took us all a bit of getting used to. Would I recommend this route to anyone else with no military experience? I would be struggling to say yes. I had the benefit of having had some 'living' under my belt and my previous outdoor experience and fitness proved a tremendous asset. However, my learning curve on the course was vertical and is continuing. There is a limit to how much you can delegate to your platoon sergeant, after all the buck stops with me.

However, I have achieved my immediate ambition of gaining a commission and leading a platoon of soldiers which I find immensely satisfying. I sometimes wonder how I can fit all this in with everything else I do. After all even God needed to rest on the seventh day!

# Welcome to Naafi Financial Services

- All major financial & insurance products available
- Committed to meeting your needs worldwide

Call into your local  
Naafi Financial Centre  
or call us on 0115 935 4133 (UK)  
or 02161 9500 (Germany)



**YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU  
DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS  
ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER  
LOAN SECURED ON IT**

*When applications available on request.*

Naafi Financial Services is a member  
of FIMBRA.

Savings Plans, Investments, Pensions &  
Life Assurance are regulated by FIMBRA.  
All other products shown are not.

Naafi Financial Services  
College House, Upper College Street,  
Notttingham NG1 5EU.

# S

SAVINGS  
PLANS

# BANKING

# mortgages

# INSURANCE

Motor • Kit • Travel • Winter Sports

# budget & charge cards

# F

Financial  
INVESTMENTS  
LIFE ASSURANCE

# P

PENSIONS  
WILLS  
Planning

# PIC

Personal Injury Cover

# Car Sales

# Personal Loans

## Feature Focus



Group B setting out from Langtang Village, with Alan Cole second from the left.

# Ex-Anglian leads Gold Award trek in Himalayas

**IN the autumn of 1994, Alan Cole, formerly Cpl Cole of the Vikings Orderly Room, set off trekking to the Nepal Himalayas with a part of the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award candidates on a one-month venture from Lincolnshire. He writes:**

The preparation for the venture began two years earlier. Research in deciding on where in Nepal the group would go and precisely what the group would do and when, became important issues if the plan was ultimately to be sold to prospective candidates to complete the expedition and residential sections.

Attracted to the venture were 24 boys and girls whose ages ranged from 16 to 22 years, each of whom had to fundraise their places to the tune of £600, which was not an easy task in recessionary times.

On Oct 22 a party of 24 young people and 11 adults, one of which was a doctor

and another a staff nurse, left the UK for Kathmandu, a full 24 hours' travel time. On arrival the Nepali year was 2051. After our first day touring Kathmandu, quite a culture shock to many who had neither flown or left home previously, the venture was truly about to begin.

The party split into two groups, each with different itineraries. Group A would trek with Group B starting initially at Dunche, and moving via Syabru to Langtang village approximately 50 miles north of Kathmandu. Group A was to spend time undertaking project work ranging from religion, geography, art and sketching, to flora and fauna before returning to Kathmandu one week later. There they would spend a week at the Bhaktapur students' library participating in a programme of cultural activities while Group B was trekking beyond the Langtang village to take in a notable peak – either Yala (5,520 metres) or Tserko Ri (5,033 metres). This

group would then return to Syabru and head to Sing Gompa and along the Laurenbine Pass to the gosainkund holy lakes. At Sermatang the group would spend time at the local school, Yangrima. At Yangrima school we were asked to help build some steps from the classrooms down to the sports pitch before playing a game of football which we lost 1–0.

Like many schools in the mountains of Nepal, the buildings are poor with no toilets or running water and furniture rarely exists. Some pupils walk two hours (there are no roads or powered vehicles of any kind) to class, where they start the day by lining up for a finger nail inspection. Parents have to pay for their children's education. School is suspended in January and February because of the extremes of winter.

It was nice for Group B to stay a while in Sermatang after walking continuously for 15 days and trekking some 90 miles at altitude. It was all the more enjoyable for the rapturous reception at the school by children and staff. A total of £400 was donated for furniture, which had to be made in Kathmandu and carried up to the village.

After two days we moved on finally to our transport which was waiting at Melamchi

*Continued Page 67*

## Gadets

# Lincoln Cadets raise money with Swimathon

THE charity, Lincoln Lions, invited the Horncastle Detachment to assist in a sponsored Swimathon at Yarborough School, Lincoln, in aid of local charities. Seven cadets, and even the Detachment Commander took up the challenge and, during the day, completed over 140 lengths of the pool in single-length relays.

Swimming began at 10.00am and finished at 3.00pm in an event that, apart from being very worthwhile, gave the cadets a great deal of enjoyment. Their efforts for the day were rewarded when they were presented with certificates by the Lions and, very much to their surprise, they also received a shield for having completed the number of lengths for their group.

The total sponsorship money raised for the day was £120, which went towards the overall total of £2,000.

### Helping the community

Community projects have been to the fore, with the detachment assisting with at least two venues.

The first of these was at the South Hykeham Church gala, when cadets helped by loaning and erecting tentage, and also assisted with the tidying up after the event.

They were also in evidence at the Lincolnshire craft fair, when their main duty was the manning of the car park for visitors.

(This did not always go to plan, as some drivers followed their own whims and not the advice of the attendants!).

At the close of the fair, cadets were gainfully employed in helping to pack up stalls, and were rewarded for their efforts.

## Cambridgeshire ACF welcomes Maj Gen Cordingley

CAMBRIDGESHIRE Army Cadet Force was honoured to receive Maj Gen Cordingley at Waterbeach. After his inspection of a guard of honour, the GOC was welcomed by Col D H Bristow, County Commandant.

Maj Gen Cordingley gave an interesting and stirring address on the Desert Storm campaign and the role and future of the Army Cadet Force to the assembled guests before making the following presentations: Cadet Force Medal to Maj A Y S McLoone, Maj M Wood and Lt G Nicholas; Duke of Edinburgh's Award (gold) to S I I. Winters and Cdt Sgt N Plumb; Cdt Cpl S J Godfrey and I Ross presented Maj Gen Cordingley with a shield and Cambridgeshire Regiment tie, to commemorate his visit.

Col D H Bristow thanked the GOC for his visit and the interest he was showing in the Army Cadet Force in general and Cambridgeshire in particular.



Alan Cole among the villagers in Theru, inside the Royal Chitwan National Park

From Page 66

Pul Bazaar ready to return us to Kathmandu to meet up once more with Group A.

The following day we were up early again, this time to the Royal Chitwan National Park to enjoy safari by elephant and dug-out canoe where rhino, deer, boar

and crocodile were observed.

It was also Nepal's national election time. The government had decreed that no alcoholic drinks would be served until after the elections. The Communist party was elected

On the third day we returned to

Kathmandu ready for the long trip home to baths, showers, toilets and conventional meals which we had long awaited.

It was especially pleasing that our young people adapted to their changed circumstances, did not grumble even when they were not feeling well but knew they had to continue trekking, and gelled together as a group with no evidence of homesickness. It was a pleasure to see so many young people come together from all over Lincolnshire and get on so well.

It would be amiss of me if I did not mention our chosen trekking agency, Specialist Trekking Co-operative, which organised our sherpas, porters and kitchen staff who at all times simply could not do enough to please us and made our welfare their priority. This trekking agency is run by Doug Scott the Everest mountaineer.

While in Nepal, we had four Nepali students accompany the groups. In addition, a number of projects received financial assistance from the group: Langtang village school, £750; Mundu village school, £750; Bhaktapur (non-formal education), £600; Adarsha school for the mentally handicapped, £125; Shree Kalka school (plantation), £35; Nepal Leprosy Association, £113; Duwakote village (water project), £500; Sermatang school Yangrima, £400; Kathmandu environmental, £14.

# Around the Branches



FOR those of you who were anxious to learn if we did indeed manage to move our headquarters after 108 years of occupation, the answer is 'yes' but at a squeeze for the converted married quarter at the Aylsham Road TA Centre in Norwich has all of three bedrooms and two rooms downstairs.

The roof space has been converted to accommodate some of the museum items and we fortunately have the use of some garaging thanks to 6 Royal Anglian.

We moved immediately after Christmas and with the exception of our flagpoles we are almost ready to be 'opened'.

Who will buy Cameron House with its unrivalled view of Norwich Gaol to its north and a 'fine city' to the south, remains to be seen. We have now 'bedded in' and Lindsey and Liz are very happy with the new office whilst Ted has yet to manage to get into his room upstairs.

He shares the bedrooms off the landing with SSAFA and RFEA. Unfortunately we had to say goodbye to The Royal British Legion in the form of Commander Adrian Allenby, who can now be found at Fakenham.

## VE / VJ Day

This event was commemorated within the county and at Bassingbourn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment D-Day veterans spent a day at the TA Centre Norwich on May 8 and others paraded with the US 2nd Air Division in Norwich on May 7.

## Freedom parade

Arrangements are in hand for the 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment to exercise its Freedom of Norwich on Oct 3 '95. This will be 50 years after it was granted to the Royal Norfolk Regiment and 10 to The Royal Anglian Regiment. The timings have yet to be finalised but it is likely the day will start with a parade in front of the City Hall Norwich, followed by a march to the cathedral for a service. Lunch will follow and in the evening there will be a beating retreat.

## Regimental Museum

We welcome Kate Thaxton back after her leave to produce James. She is putting together a new exhibition devoted to the 50th year after the war, which will include the Regiment's own copy of Mein Kampf. The recent exhibition on Regimental Silver caused a degree of interest, particularly for those who had never seen the magnificent King's Cup.

## Dinners

The 4th Battalion held its annual dinner at Gorleston on Saturday Apr 22 when many of the FEPOWS met once again. The officers had dined the night before in Norwich.

## Gorleston & Great Yarmouth District Branch

IN October we held our sixth AGM. Doesn't time fly? Since forming more than seven years ago we have established a hardcore of members which is steadily increasing. All of the committee were re-elected, with the exception of Ben Turner, who, having been treasurer since formation, relinquished his post due to family illness. The branch passed a vote of thanks to Ben for his work: many of you who know him will know that he doesn't suffer fools gladly, and if it is not 100% perfect, then it is not right.

Fortunately we were able to talk

Becky Sharpe into the vacant post. Becky was able to take over quite a healthy set of accounts, due to Ben's providence and to Mick Ellis our draw member, who would not let anyone escape, be they member or casual drinker in the bar, unless they purchased a ticket. Selling tickets is not everybody's cup of tea, so well done Mick and thanks Becky.

Members present were delighted to hear that Maj Willie Reeve (Regimental Secretary, Norwich) was happy to accept the offer from all members to become branch president.

As usual, the branch's annual dinner and Christmas draw was held at The St Edmunds Hotel in November. Sixty-two members and guests sat down to another enjoyable meal, where they were honoured by the presence of The Colonel of the Regiment, Maj Gen Patrick Stone CB, CBE. As dinner chairman he did an excellent job and told those present that not only had he had an enjoyable evening, but was pleased to see and be able to chat to so many old friends.

The draw went well, with over 60 prizes being evenly distributed between those who bought tickets off the card throughout the year and those who bought tickets on the night. As for the card, amicably sold by Brian Beckett, coverage was truly national, with prizes going all over the country. Rumours now have it that Brian is submitting a 1,771 mileage claim. Many thanks Brian for your hard work throughout the year, but counter rumours have it that Becky has obtained Ben's magic red pen to put a thick red line through any claim. Thanks also to Pauline Turner who again sold a record number of tickets on the night, thus helping to keep the dinner draw account in the black.

This year started with a business meeting, followed in February by a games night and buffet. In March we

*Continued Page 69*

# Around the Branches

From Page 68

were able to welcome local GP Tom Pace as guest speaker. Tom had a very interesting career as a medical officer in the Royal Navy, where he reached the rank of Surgeon Commander. His travels took him to Northern Ireland, Norway, Canada, Italy and The Falklands, the past posting being in submarines. Thanks to Tom for a very interesting and enjoyable evening for the members.

We meet on the last Wednesday of every month at The White Lion Hotel, Cliff Hill, Gorleston at 8pm. If any ex-members of the Regiment, or members of other branches are in the area they would be most welcome to join us. Our dinner and draw for 1995 will again be held at the St Edmunds Hotel, Gorleston, on Nov 25 and any old friends who would like to attend should contact Ray Pillar on 01493 601131 nearer the time.



WITH Christmas well behind them, most members were busily making preparations for the main event in this year's calendar, the 50th anniversary of VE and VJ Day.

## Lincoln Branch

BECAUSE of the difficulties in being able to arrange a suitable date in December '94, the Branch held its annual Christmas dinner on Jan 14, 1995. Strange as it may be to hold the Christmas dinner in the New Year, it was well attended and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

March saw the arrival of the long-awaited trip to Belgium. A group of 26 mounted the bus in Sobraon Barracks at 4.00pm on Mar 2 to begin a five-day tour of First World War battle fields, museums and memorials. The first



Pack Horse Farm Cemetery. From left to right: Mr W Hibbard (branch secretary), Mr G Wadsley, (branch standard bearer), Mr B Bullock, Mr H Marshall

night was spent on board the ferry, which was one of the roughest crossings many of us had encountered and the following morning could not come soon enough. Once on dry land, things seemed so much better and it was off to Popping where we settled into our accommodation in TOC H.

During the next few days we were kept to a very tight schedule covering the many battles fought for the town of Ypres, especially by the Lincoln Regiment during the 1914-18 War. Each evening tired bodies would make their way back to the hotel after a very exhausting but satisfying day.

After a number of ceremonies and a first hand look at some of the trenches and conditions that were endured by soldiers on both sides during those years, the tour ended with a games night in a local restaurant. Everyone who went will wish to thank David Bartlett and John Hudson for organising a first class trip and for sharing their excellent knowledge of the events during 13-18 War and the Lincoln Regiment.

## Spalding Branch

THE Branch has 20 members spread over a wide area of the Spalding and Boston district, many of who do not have their own transport which adds

complications to any event organised. Nevertheless, the annual general meeting on Apr 10 was well attended and a new committee was elected.

In consultation with the South Holland and District Council, the Branch assisted the Spalding Branch of The Royal British Legion to organise the thanksgiving church parade held on May 7.

During the recent months the council also has been busy converting a disused part of a bowling green in Spalding, into a Garden of Peace as a tribute to all those who served their country during the Second World War. Every association has been given the opportunity to have a plinth made of stone, with the organisation's name engraved on it (all to be identical), which will be placed in the garden. The garden will be dedicated in August as part of the VJ Day events taking place in the town.

A memorial plaque in memory of those soldiers of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment who gave their lives in the Second World War, which used to hang in the Drill Hall before the hall was sold, was recently found a new home. The plaque, after being refurbished by the late Capt Guy Bray, was presented to the Spalding and

*Continued Page 70*

# Around the Branches

From Page 69

District Council who had offered to take care of it. The plaque now hangs in pride of place in the new council buildings in Spalding.

## Grantham Branch

APPROXIMATELY 30 branch members and ladies attended the annual Regimental reunion in September 1994. Everyone enjoyed a pleasant day and were pleased to renew old acquaintances. We would like to record our thanks to Mr Wally Hibbard and the Lincoln Branch for their efforts in organising the event.

On Remembrance Sunday a large number of the branch members and their ladies took part in the parade and church service. This was followed by the traditional Sunday lunch and get-together, which was very much appreciated by all those who participated.

In January 1995, 56 members and their guests enjoyed a New Year dinner and social evening. The branch, unfortunately, does not have the luxury of a meeting or club room, so these are the only times that we are all able to get together, making them all the more appreciated.

The main event took place in the Commonwealth War Cemetery in Faenza on Monday Apr 10, 1995.

Taking part were contingents from Canada, India, New Zealand, South Africa and the UK with representatives from each of the embassies concerned. Greetings and addresses were given by all the groups attending and were translated by a multi-lingual MC. Particularly interesting were the native contents of the Maoris and the South African addresses which were really something to see.

An armed guard was provided by NATO, a brass band from Italy and the local students and school children helped with the singing. All national anthems were played and in all it was a most impressive and emotional ceremony. Wreaths were placed at the Great Cross and we were asked to ensure that only the conventional poppy wreaths with the Regimental Crest were used.

After the ceremony we were invited to a monastery in Brisighelia, about five miles away, for lunch (all paid for) laid on by the nuns, making a most enjoyable day.

On Tuesday we visited the CWGC cemeteries at Gradara and Montecchio, laying a wreath at the Great Cross and afterwards visited the ancient town of Urbino.

On Wednesday we saw the War Cemetery at Coriano Ridge where 50 of the 6th Lincoln are buried, moving onto the village of Gemmano where the great battle had taken place and we had suffered so many casualties.

On a lighter note we visited San Marino and our journey home took us via Lyon and Paris, with a conducted tour of the city and a one-hour trip of the River Seine.

## Scunthorpe Branch

SCUNTHORPE now has a membership of 49, which is steadily increasing. Forty of those members were on parade for the VE Day celebrations and a small display was set up, recruiting more ex-members of the Regiment to join the Association.

This year marks the second anniversary of the Scunthorpe Branch which chairman Mr C Bromby and members celebrated in style with a cabaret evening in a local hotel on Jun 2.

On a sad note, one of the founder members of the Scunthorpe Branch Colin Drane died while undergoing a heart by-pass operation in Hull's Castle Hill Hospital on Jan 12. Colin, the father of three, had been the resident drummer for more than 27 years at the Scunthorpe Independent Liberal Club and for 11 years prior to that he played percussion in the Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Band.

At the Woodlands Crematorium in Scunthorpe on Jan 18 colleagues from the Royal Lincolnshire Old Comrades Association formed a guard of honour and regimental standards were lowered as hundreds of mourners wept during the sounding of the Last Post. Colin was a friend to all and will be sadly missed.



**BEDFORDSHIRE &  
HERTFORDSHIRE**

## Officers' dinner

MEMBERSHIP of the Association up to the middle of October 1994 was 686, the highest for 12 years, and is mainly due to the members contacting former comrades-in-arms with the object of getting them to join the Association. The Association has at least three nonagenarians, the oldest being 95-year-old George Bartram of the Bedford Branch who served in the 4th Battalion The Bedfordshire Regiment in 1917/18. The other two served with the 2nd Battalion in China between the wars.

Sadly, we are also losing a few. Many have left their mark on the Association and will be sadly missed at Association gatherings. One was 'Lucky' Nunn, ex-1st Battalion (Tobruk, India and Burma) who over the last 12 or more years had sat on the management committee, and in recent years had done much sterling work on the Benevolent Committee. We shall cherish his memory and that of the other brave men who wore our badge with pride.

On the benevolence side the Association had 26 requests for grants approved over the six months from May 1994, totalling £2,920.27. This was very similar to the previous six monthly figures. The grants ranged from domestic items to Nursing Home fees. In the last two years the Benevolence Committee has received 111 requests for assistance and has granted a total of £14,922.55 including ABF subsidies, which works out at one case per week at an average grant of £134.43.

*Continued Page 71*

## Around the Branches

From Page 70

### The museum

The gallery at Luton Museum displaying the Association's collection is to be upgraded. Work will start by late April 1995 with a view to opening the new gallery in August 1995. Luton Museum has obtained a grant from the Museum's and Galleries' Improvement Fund, and funding from Luton Borough Council. Association members will be invited to attend an event to open officially the gallery sometime this summer.

### The ending of the 1939-45 – 1st Battalion reunions

Sadly the last reunion was held in October 1994. Reunions have been held since 1948 when Maj 'Froggy' French and 'Ticker' Eames met in a London public house and started them off.

The first was held at the depot in Brentwood and from there it moved to a public house in Soho under the guidance of Ticker. In the 70s Baron Hough took over the running until the premises could no longer accommodate them. After a further move 'Lucky' Nunn managed to find a slot at the Victory Services Club, where the reunions were held until last year.

The Great Reaper has been taking a heavy toll of the members so that despite the energy and industry of Lucky, the reunions became difficult to organise. The final straw came with the deaths of 'Gazzer' Gasgoine and 'Skipper' Franklin. With the agreement of the remaining few, Lucky decided to call it a day – and now Lucky has gone too.

### Annual reunion and remembrance parade – November 1994

The Association's annual reunion and remembrance parade takes place at the Regimental War Memorial opposite the old Kempston Barracks on the Sunday after Remembrance Sunday every year at midday. Over the years we have been very fortunate with the weather for our wreath laying parade.

It was as usual an excellent turnout with members from all over the coun-



The brains of the Bedford Branch committee members on Feb 3, 1995. Left to right: Maj Jim Darville TC, president; Maj Donald Girdwood, vice-president; Maj Winton OBE, outgoing president; Tom Morley, vice-president; Doug George, chairman and treasurer; John Baggardidge, secretary; Adrian Forde, minutes secretary.

*Copyright Premier Newspapers Ltd.*

try including most of all the old familiar faces and quite a few new ones all looking for a long-lost friend. For the wreath laying parade we were fortunate to have once again the Volunteer Band of The Royal Anglian Regiment, by kind permission of their Commanding Officer. The Band performed a medley of music before the parade formed up.

The standards of the branches were marched to their positions on the memorial and at 11.55am the parade marched on with No.1 Company, 5th Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment leading. These were followed by two contingents of old comrades, each approximately 80 in strength, Bedfordshire Army Cadets and Bedfordshire Police Cadets.

With the arrival of the Deputy Colonel, then Maj Gen M J D Walker CBE, with the Association president and chairman, there followed a short service conducted by the Rev Robin Brown. The Deputy Colonel, Association president and chairman, and the Worshipful Mayor of Bedford, Councillor D Jones, laid their wreaths. The Exhortation was read by Lt Col C

S E M Bagstaff.

With the Band playing the Destiny Waltz, wreaths were laid on behalf of the 1st, 2nd and 5th Battalions 16th Foot, The Royal Anglian Regiment TA Band, Bedford, Hertford, St Albans, Hitchin, Watford & Hemel Hempstead, and Luton & Dunstable Branches, The Hertfordshire Regiment Association and the Army Cadets. Individual wreaths in memory of loved ones were also laid.

The Deputy Colonel took the salute for the march past as the Band played the old Regimental march 'Mandolinata'. The General addressed members commenting on the great turnout and the smartness of the parade. The comrades then lunched either in the Drill Hall or The Keep before making final farewells for another year.

### Annual dinner and dance

The attendance at the Association's annual dinner and dance at Selle School, Hertford, on Apr 15 was down a little on previous years. We were

*Continued Page 72*



---

# Around the Branches

---

From Page 71

pleased to welcome as our guest Lt D J Clements MBE, Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion. All Association branches were represented as well as 12 members of the Essex Regiment Association.

The Association was most fortunate in having the Band of The Essex Yeomanry to play members into dinner and the branch standards into the ball, and gave an excellent performance during the dinner. After the speeches and the Royal Toast, dancing continued until the evening ended in its usual way with all present marching around the hall to our old Regimental March. A really wonderful night.

## Future events

The organisers of the 16th Foot officers' lunch at Chicheley Hall, Bedfordshire on Thursday Jun 29 are hoping to break attendance records at this splendid get-together.

The colours of the 3rd East Anglian Regiment will be mounted in St Paul's Church, Bedford at a service on Sunday Aug 13 (Blenheim Day). The aim of the service will be to pay respect to the colours being laid up and the soldiers who served with our old Regiment in peace and war. An appropriate brass plate near the colours will explain their history.

## News from the branches

**The Bedford Branch** new president is Maj W J Darville TD, ex-2nd and 5th Battalions who took over in October. Maj T A Winton, the previous president, had to stand down due to his absence in Croatia, although he will continue to be a branch member. We must also congratulate Maj Winton on the award of the OBE in the New Year's Honours list for Humanitarian Service in the former Yugoslavia. The branch dinner was held at the Moat House Hotel on Oct 1, 1994 and was attended by 68 members. The Remembrance reunion was yet again well attended by branch members.

A social evening was held at the BUSA Club on Dec 2, 1994 with a well stocked buffet and raffle provided

by Glynis Hardwick.

**The Hertford Branch** remains very active with a great deal of support from members at all of our functions. Seventy members and their friends attended Kempston in November. Two weeks previously it held a supper dance which made a valuable contribution to branch funds. On Dec 14, members attended a Band Concert at the Castle Hall, Hertford. The Minden Band of the Queen's Division provided the music and a total of £604 was made for the Army Benevolent Fund. Another concert by this fine band, to be run by the branch, has been arranged for Nov 16, 1995 and support from other branches would be welcome. A number of functions are arranged, including a VJ band concert on Aug 11, 1995 and members look forward to meeting old friends at the Association dinner and at the colour presentation.

At the beginning of the year things have been rather quiet for the St Albans Branch. The January meeting had to be cancelled owing to bad weather and some comrades not being well.

**The Watford & Hemel Hempstead Branch** held a very successful Race Night at the TA Centre, Hemel Hempstead on Oct 15, 1994, but like most events of the year was unable to raise as much money for charity as would have been liked. The Remembrance Day service at St John's Church, was conducted by the Rector of Hemel Hempstead who is also the Padre to the Branch.

On Nov 20, the Branch's largest contingent of 50 members and partners went to the annual reunion and Remembrance Day at Kempston. This event is always popular. The Branch annual dinner dance was held on Dec 9 at the Heath Park, when 90 members and guests attended; the same venue has been booked for 1995. The branch is ten-years-old this year but at the moment it has not decided on a venue to celebrate at due to the sudden death of 'Lucky' Nunn. We in the Branch will miss him as a good friend and comrade.

**The Hitchin Branch** opened its

first report for 1995 with the good news that Harold Walker is now safely home from hospital and making a complete recovery. On Nov 20, a number of members attended the annual reunion at Kempston which was very successful. The annual Christmas dinner was held at the Firs Hotel, Hitchin and proved again to be a very enjoyable evening. A reservation has been booked for this December. For the future, the Branch has made applications for tickets to attend the Beating Retreat in London on Sunday Aug 20, which is part of the programme in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of VJ Day, and the presentation of new colours at Duxford.

**The Luton & Dunstable Branch** organised a day trip to Southend on Oct 1, 1994, and everyone enjoyed themselves. The Branch annual dinner was held at the Royal Naval Club on Dec 9 with 42 members having an enjoyable evening. Members also attended the dedication of the new standard of the REME Association's Luton Branch at the Parish Church on Oct 23, 1994. Of course the annual reunion at Kempston is always well attended by our members. The branch standard was carried by the secretary Selwyn Chapman and the branch wreath was laid by Peter Kilby. Two Saturday coffee mornings have been held at the Dunstable Methodist Church hall. Both of these, one on Dec 3 and the other on Feb 18 raised over £100 for branch funds. Another is scheduled at the same venue later this year.

Arrangements are well in hand for attending the association dinner and the presentation of new colours.

The Branch had a sad loss on Nov 2, 1994 with the tragic death of Leila Gearing who had been a member of the social committee since the reformation of the Branch. Leila was always ready to help and organised and ran the monthly raffles and the annual Christmas draw, as well as helping at the coffee mornings. She will be much missed by all members of the Branch. The annual AGM and the annual draw,

*Continued Page 73*

# Around the Branches

From Page 72

which on the death of Leila had to be postponed, was held at the March monthly meeting.

## Deaths

**Mr Ken Albone** late 2nd Battalion Bedfs & Herts on Oct 20, 1994; **Mr Leslie Day** late 6th Battalion Bedfs & Herts on Mar 9, 1995; **Major Jack Douglas MBE** late 2nd Battalion Bedfs & Herts on Mar 28, 1995; **Maj John Evans** late 1st Battalion Herts on Jan 8, 1995; **Maj Dudley Cawte Franklin** late 1st Battalion Bedfs & Herts on Sept 17, 1994; **Mr Peter Gibson** late Bedfs & Herts and No. 3 Commando on Oct 6, 1994; **Lt Col E M Harper** late Bedfs & Herts and Royal West African Frontier Force on Dec 25, 1994; **Mr Len Leach** late 1st Battalion Bedfs & Herts on Feb 8, 1995; **Maj H J Letch** late Bedfs & Herts on Dec 19, 1994; **Maj Derrick Monico TD** late 5th Battalion Bedfs & Herts on Oct 8, 1994; **Mr Bill Scully** late 2nd Battalion Bedfs & Herts on Nov 25, 1994.



THE Association Secretary, Maj Colin Albany, is recovering from his illness, but is still only working part-time at the TA Centre, Hertford.

A visit on Oct 16 to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, was made by members of the committee to attend the governor's parade and service. The annual lunch band concert took place at Selle School, Hertford on Nov 6. An excellent lunch was enjoyed by all, and the concert by the Volunteer Band of The Royal Anglian Regiment was most impressive. Nearly 150 members and wives attended. Now that this function is held at lunchtime many more mem-

bers are attending, and we look forward to seeing even more at this year's event, on Sunday Nov 5, 1995.

On Remembrance Day, the Hertfordshire Regiment Association standard was carried by Mr D Corbett and there was a good turnout of members on parade at the Hertford War Memorial for the service. As always members were well represented at the annual reunion at Kempston, where the standard was again on parade. At the AGM on Mar 29, Peter Burgess was elected chairman in place of John Renwick. A spring supper took place on Apr 1 at the TA Centre, Hertford, when some 50 members attended as well as several widows of the Association.



THE 40th annual reunion dinner, held as usual at the TA Centre, London Road with the kind help and co-operation of 5 Royal Anglian was a great success. We had an excellent night. The branch standards of our own and the Corby Branch were paraded before the dinner and we sat down with increased numbers and a particularly strong officer support to a good roast beef dinner.

We enjoyed the Royal Anglian Band playing for us during the meal and were given a display by the Corps of Drums under its new drum major to conclude the entertainment. A raffle held after the dinner enabled us to make a very worthwhile donation to the new Regimental Museum Appeal Fund.

One sad note which should not go unreported, was the death of Lawrence Poulter, the only recorded local Huntingdonshire Cyclist, just a few weeks before the dinner. We had hoped he would attend the dinner

where an exhibition in memory of the Huntingdonshire Cyclists had been staged.

We held a well attended annual general meeting in February and were particularly encouraged to be told that there were details of about 60 former Royal Anglians in our area who we will invite to join our branch meetings.

Plans are well in hand for the events in the months ahead. The presentation of colours at Duxford, the Regimental weekend and, hopefully, a visit by the Branch to the Museum in Northampton are but a few of the matters on our agenda.

I do hope readers will support our branch whenever they can. We have a joint barbecue with the Cambridgeshire Regimental comrades on Jul 20 at the Woolpack, Stanground and our dinner at the TA Centre in Peterborough on Saturday Oct 21. Do please try and come along.

## A gathering – Felixstowe Oct 22, 1994

ON Saturday Oct 22, 1994 the 9th annual gathering of ex-2nd Royal Anglian Regiment (The Poachers) was held, as in previous years, at the Marlborough Hotel in Felixstowe.

This year was attended in record numbers and was, as always, wonderfully arranged and organised by WO1 David and Pat Knight, who were also, as in previous years, ably assisted by Amanda and Henry King – David and Pat's daughter and son-in-law.

This now very popular event in our reunion's calendar was attended by 245 ex-members of the Royal Anglian Regiment and included a number of the original amalgamation members of Ex-Royal Lincolns and Ex-Northampton – a number of whom had travelled quite long distances to be present. The evening commenced at 8pm when all former members and their ladies were greeted by David and Pat in the reception suite of the Marlborough Hotel. And, as ever, in a very short time, the evening simply 'came alive' with the greetings and meetings of old friends from our

*Continued Page 74*

# Around the Branches

From Page 73

Regimental family! David, who has now become our accepted president for this gathering, and also acted as our chairman for the evening, welcomed all those present.

In his opening remarks we were reminded of those who had passed away since our last meeting and silent tribute was paid to them. David named Bernard Wolfe and his wife, Sgt Mac Mackenzie, Cpl Jeff Kirk and Cpl Carter. David then welcomed in particular Cpl Rod Carter's wife Jenny and their two sons who had come along especially for the evening.

The guests of honour this year were Lt Col David Greenfield and his wife Isobel, both of whom have been stalwart supporters of this event since the first gathering. Also everyone attending were delighted to see for the first time Lt Col Ron and Daphne Baylis, who we all well remember from the days way back on the amalgamation of The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment and The Northamptonshire Regiment in Watchet, when Ron was the first Regimental sergeant major of the new regiment.

We were all delighted that David and Ron had done so wonderfully well in their respective careers, and to have both now retired in the rank of lieutenant colonels and both having been awarded MBEs during their service.

All were also delighted to meet Maj De Breton Gordon, whom many of us had not seen for a long time. It was his first time attending and we feel sure he was pleased to meet with so many old friends during the evening. A bouquet was presented to Mrs Greenfield, and amidst fond and spontaneous acclamation a special bouquet was presented to Pat Knight to celebrate the fact that it was David and Pat's 34th wedding anniversary.

An excellent buffet supper was served later in the evening and I feel was enjoyed by all. It was a lively and enjoyable evening, when reminiscences went on long into the night and early morning!

E A R

## 70th Battalion, The Northamptonshire Regiment

WITH our ladies and guests some 65 persons sat down for dinner. Thanks to the generosity of members our finances are in good order. Donations during the year totalled £85 and the raffle raised the magnificent sum of £132.20. Along with members of the committee some members kindly donated raffle prizes.

Members attending the reception the next day were well pleased with the arrangements made to give us such a memorable occasion. Col Holland, on behalf of members presented to the Mayor of Northampton a Regimental plaque and thanked him for entertaining us so superbly. After the reception we paid a visit to the Regimental museum.

After a warm welcome and introductory few words from Col John Wetherall, curator of the museum, members viewed the exhibits and expressed the opinion that obvious co-operation with the Northampton Borough Council had produced a very pleasing and worthwhile display.

## The Church of the Holy Sepulchre

IN late March a report appeared in the Northampton Chronicle and Echo to the effect that the Church of the Holy Sepulchre may well be made redundant. Many letters of protest were received by the paper, several of which alluded to the regiment. One extract appears below:

From:- The Chairman, The Northamptonshire Regiment

"I was dismayed, as are many other comrades of the former Northamptonshire Regiment, to hear that plans are afoot to close this famous Church - our Regimental Church.

"The Church, which houses our Regimental Chapel containing many memorials to former members, is the spiritual home of all those who have served in your County Regiment. It was always one of the fust places to be visited by new recruits and officers. Today it is a place of pilgrimage for them. There has always been a close association between the Church and the

Regiment. An illustration of this was the presentation of churchwarden's wands in 1962. This year a memorial to the late Brig D E Taunton for his service to the Church and the Regiment will be dedicated. This association must be allowed to continue.

"The Regiment is proud of its connections with one of the greatest examples of a round church remaining in the country. Its closure would be an irreplaceable loss to Northampton, the county, its regiment, the country and the world."



## Royal Tigers Wood

AS part of the development of Royal Tigers Wood a small group of trees was planted within the wood. The 17 trees planted represent countries in which the Royal Leicestershire Regiment served and for which they were awarded Battle Honours. The International Tree Foundation researched the appropriate species and advised on the purchasing of the trees.

The following trees representing the battle honours as shown, were planted: Black Poplar (Namur 1965), Snake Bark Maple (Louisburg 1758), Red Maple (Canada 1759), Bristle Cone Pine (Martinique 1762), Bhutan Pine (Khelat 1839), Scots Pine (Sevastapol 1855), Indian Chestnut (Ali Masjid 1878), Eucalyptus (South Africa 1899-1902), Oak (Neuve Chapelle 1915), Chestnut Leafed Oak (Mesopotamia 1915-18), Plane (Somme 1916), Incense Cedar (Palestine 1918), Evergreen Oak (Sidi Barrani 1940), Maritime Pine (Crete 1941), Italian Alder (Salerno 1943), Golden Poplar (Scheldt 1944) and Korean Hill Cherry (Korea 1951-52).

Continued Page 75

# Around the Branches

From Page 74

In addition two seats are to be positioned in the group of trees to represent Malaya 1941-42 and Chindits 1944.

The planting took place on Feb 23, 1995. Trees were planted by individuals and representatives of those organisations who have been so supportive to the Regimental Living Memorial. Amongst those present were the Vice-Lord Lieutenant, the leaders of those councils involved with the wood, representative of the Woodland Trust, the National Forest, the International Tree Foundation, Lady Martin, Mrs Moore, Mr David Harding (ARC - who provided the memorial stone), Mr Philip Colin (The Stonemason who engraved the stone), Mr D Cox (nurseryman who provided and looked after the trees), Mr M E Cooper (who placed the stone in position) and a number of members of the Royal Tigers Association.

After the planting ceremony and a visit to the Regimental Memorial Stone, a small reception was held in Bagworth village hall.

The president of the association, having visited the battlefield of Princeton, where in 1771, 240 men of the 17th Regiment defeated an American Brigade, instigated the presentation of a 'Mercer's' Oak from the battlefield to be planted in the wood. In late March, the curator of the battlefield despatched two White Oaks from the battlefield site. They were transported under the personal care of an American National Guard Officer who delivered them to Gen Pollard and Lt Col Swallow at USAF Mildenhall. The two trees (dormant and boxed) were then transported to Col Swallow's house and the next day collected by the chairman and secretary of the association, transported to a nursery in Leicestershire and placed in rootainers. It is hoped that the curator will attend the dedication service at Royal Tigers Wood on Jun 18 when the trees will be placed in position.

The dedication of the wood will take place on Royal Tigers weekend. The short service will be held in the area of the glade surrounding the Memorial Stone. The Provost of

Leicester will officiate at the Service and the Rev Malcolm Stonestreet (an ex NS officer with the 1st Battalion in Cyprus) will dedicate the wood. A reception afterwards will be held in Bagworth.

## VE Day

The Association had the opportunity to meet locally during the VE commemorative weekend. The president of the Association commanded the parade on the march past after the service in Leicester Cathedral on May 7. The parade marched from the Cathedral to the Town Hall and, after a short address from the Lord Lieutenant, drank a welcome pint of beer very kindly donated by Everards Brewery, in Town Hall Square.



THE remembrance service and reunion took place at Warley on Jun 26, 1994. At the service, which was held in the Regimental Chapel, the address was given by the Venerable David Jennings, Archdeacon of Southend. He also dedicated a pew-end memorial to the late Brig Charles Paton. After the service a large number of old comrades took part in the march past at which the salute was taken by Maj Gen Walker. An excellent tea was then enjoyed in the Keys Hall (the old Depot gymnasium) and the day was rounded off with a gathering on the headquarters lawn during which the silver bugles, presented by the County of Essex to the Pompadours in 1937, were handed over on loan to the King Edward VI School Corps of Drums.

Throughout the year services are held in the Regimental Chapel on the first Sunday of each month. These are always well supported with congregations of about 70 to 80. One of the fea-

tures of the service is that a different officer is invited to read the lesson each month and it has been particularly pleasing that the commanding officers of both the 1st and 6th Battalions and the Regimental Secretary have been among the readers in the past year.

The annual Remembrance service and reunion in 1995 will be held on Jun 25. The sermon will be preached by the Rev Tom Hiney, the Regimental Chaplain, and it is hoped that a pew-end memorial to Brig Dick Randall will be ready in time to be dedicated at the service.

On Oct 16 last year a party from the Association visited the Royal Hospital at Chelsea. They took part in the governor's parade and marched into chapel with the in-pensioners for the morning service during which the Association standards were laid on the altar and the president read the Essex Regimental prayer. After the service, members of the Association and their wives joined the in-pensioners for drinks in their club.

On Nov 8 representatives from all former battalions of the Essex Regiment attended a short service in Chelmsford Cathedral at which the president and area secretary laid wreaths below the Regimental memorial. The Association was also well represented when the Duke of Edinburgh opened the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey on Nov 10.

Former members of the 1/5th Essex gathered at the TA Centre at Chelmsford on Nov 5 for their annual commemoration of the crossing of the river Trigno in November 1943. The fact that 57 veterans of that battle, in which 1/5th fought with great gallantry and suffered 139 casualties, were present 51 years later was a remarkable tribute to the spirit and comradeship of that fine battalion.

A new display case is being built in The Essex Regiment Museum at Chelmsford in which the Salamanca Eagle, items of 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment Silver, the silver drums of the 2nd Battalion The Essex Regiment and Brig Paton's

*Continued Page 76*

# Around the Branches

From Page 75

medals will form part of the display. Four of the silver drums were presented to the Pompadours by the County of Essex in 1912, the remaining eight drums were purchased by voluntary subscriptions within the Battalion and were beaten for the first time at Ambala in India in November 1923. The cost of the case in which they will be displayed has been met by grants from The Royal Anglian Regiment, Essex Heritage Trust, Jardine Insurance Services, and M and G.

In early May a party of Essex Regiment Association members together with members of the Polar Bear Association were due to pay an eight-day visit to Holland for the VE Day commemorations. A report will appear in the next edition of the Eagle, the Association journal.

## Thurrock Branch

AFTER a busy summer last year, with three trips to France apart from all the other trips we attended, everything seems to have calmed down, although in October a few 2nd Essex old comrades travelled to Wuustwezel in Belgium for their 50th anniversary of liberation. A very good programme of events was enjoyed. Representatives were present from all battalions that served in the 49th Division, the Polar Bears.

November was a very busy month with remembrance services including our local commemoration. Our branch dinner and dance was also in November and this was attended by the Mayor and Mayoress of Thurrock and Col and Mrs G Morgan. It was an excellent evening. We shall be repeating the function on Nov 18, 1995, so how about it, both old and serving comrades, just write or phone, we would very much welcome your attendance.

The branch donated a Christmas tree and decorations to Thurrock Hospital this year and this was greatly appreciated by both patients and staff.

No Bassingbourn this year, we shall miss this wonderful gathering, but

let's hope for a good turn out at Duxford for the colour presentation.

**P Giggins Hon Sec.**

## 4th Comrades Association

THE 4th Battalion Comrades Association has had its usual activities in the past year, which all appeared highly successful.

Our memorial service in March 1994 went with the usual solemnity but all present were enjoined by long friendships. In the RHQ afterwards we all had a good chat as refreshments were enjoyed. Our garden party was held in July at Warley and over 200 members with wives and friends were present. Entertainment was supplied by the Essex Corps of Drums, also by the Ursuline School Orchestra. Our dinner dance proved to be another enjoyable evening.

**Ted Hazle DCM Hon Sec.**

*(Ted and Cis celebrated their golden wedding in March - hearty congratulations. Ed.)*



**Branches: Beccles, Bury St Edmunds, Felixstowe, Ipswich, Leiston, Stowmarket, Sudbury** (see address page 85 December 1994 issue Castle)

MOST branches report an active and busy half year with well attended meetings and a full programme for the summer.

Beccles had a very successful Christmas social limited only by the capacity of the clubroom of the Caxton Club. They look forward to members from other branches attending their

autumn buffet dance to be held at Lowestoft Football Social Club on Fri Sept 29. Monthly meetings average 40 out of a membership of 54. They are busy preparing for the VJ Day 50th anniversary ceremony.

At Felixstowe there was a highly successful Christmas party with a live wire entertainer Jean Cass. Again a busy summer lies ahead with participation in all the VJ Day ceremonies.

Hemel Hempstead has been very active in raising money for the Royal British Legion with the selling of poppies supported by a dance. They are looking forward to the various events this summer - Duxford, Minden weekend and VJ Day.

Ipswich too, reported their buffet dance held on Dec 3 a great success. On Dec 16 they ended up with a fish-and-chip outing at Kesgrave RBL instead of Woodbridge but as a result filled a gap in the badges held by the RBL by presenting one of The Suffolk Regiment. There is a full programme ahead with Duxford, Minden Day and VJ Day anniversaries at Bury on Aug 30.

Leiston mourns the loss of two stalwarts: Charlie Johnson, an FEPOW, whose funeral service at Theberton with a packed congregation supported by branch and RBL standards, demonstrated the esteem in which he was held; and Maj Geoffrey Wilson, a keen TA officer in the area with C Company 4 Suffolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire and finally RAOC. Leiston has been exceptionally busy putting up a large scale model of part of the infamous Siam-Burma railway now displayed in the Leiston Longshop Museum.

It has received much praise and a visit to it is highly recommended. Upwards of 10,000 are expected to have viewed it before the end of the season in October.

Once again we would like to extend a warm welcome to any ex-Royal Anglian to become members of any branch.

They will be received with open arms and find themselves among friends

# Around the Branches



## CAMBRIDGESHIRE

### Officers' dinner

THE Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Mr James Crowden K St J, was the guest of honour at the Cambridgeshire Regiment officers' dinner held on Apr 8 at the Cadet headquarters, Waterbeach. Col W F Page MC, TD, president of the Regimental Associations, presided and 2Lt S Crockford of the Cambridgeshire Army Cadets was Mr Vice.

Telegrams of greetings were read out which had been received from Her Majesty The Queen, Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother our Colonel-in-Chief and The Princess Margaret, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief.

The Regiment was toasted and a reply given by the Officer Commanding 3 (Cambridgeshire) Company, 5th (V) Royal Anglian Regiment, Maj J M Davidson, who regaled the assembly with tales of the exploits of the Company.

We were very pleased to see a large contingent from the pre-war regiment including Lt Col E L V Mapey, Patron of the Regimental Associations and OCA, and several regular attenders from the Yeomanry who are connected to the Regiment through the cadre.

We were also very pleased to have the colours of the 5th (V) Battalion on parade, and the Cambridgeshire Regiment silver so ably prepared by C/Sgt Taylor.

The dinner for next year has been arranged for Saturday Apr 13 at Waterbeach and it is hoped that other Regimental organisations will keep this date clear.

### Cambridgeshire Regiment museum news

In addition to the small display incor-

porated into the permanent Royal Anglian museum, the Regiment has been offered a site adjacent to the Royal Anglian display. This would enable the Regiment to have its own display of uniforms, maps, medals etc.

The offer has been gratefully accepted and in order to have the display professionally produced to Imperial War Museum standards would cost some £8,000 to £12,000.

The Singapore Drums have been lent to the Imperial War Museum to be part of a 50th anniversary display relating to the fall of Singapore. It is proposed that the existing displays at Ely and Bury St Edmunds will remain.

Mr F Grounds has kindly produced a complete inventory of all the Regiment's display material.

### Regimental Chapel, Ely Cathedral

Col P D Storie-Pugh, Col D Bristow and Mr F Grounds have been appointed trustees. The families of Col Carpenter and Col Thome have been approached to see if they would be prepared to pay for the Glastonbury chairs with suitably engraved plaques. The trustees have agreed to contribute £5,000 towards improvements to the lighting and fabric. The Ely sewing party has agreed to revamp the altar cloth.

### Bury St Edmunds Museum

On display here is a copy of an original painting of Cpl L A Austin of the 1st/1st Battalion Cambridgeshire Regiment winning his DCM at Ypres on Apr 28, 1915. The painting is by H H Flere and is dated 1916. Can anyone

throw any light on where the original may be? Mr D Lammin of 20 Towneys Ride, Bures St Mary, Suffolk CO8 5DB would welcome any information on Pte Lammin who died on May 26, 1943 and served with the Regiment.

### Obituaries

Lt Col Jack Ennion died on Nov 9, 1994, aged 84. The funeral service was held at St Andrew's Church, Soham and supported by a large number of old comrades. Commissioned 2/Lt into the 1st Battalion Cambridgeshire Regiment in 1929, he was stationed in England from August 1939 to April 1940, then B E F France May 1940, returning to England in June 1940 to November 1941.

He was then posted to East Africa in January 1942 until November 1942 and the Middle East for the remainder of the War with the East Africa Pioneers. He was CO of the 2nd Battalion Cambridgeshire Home Guard from 1953-56. He practised as a solicitor from 1934 to 1984. He will sadly be missed as a regular attender at OCA meetings. He was chairman of the trustees of the Cambridgeshire Regimental Chapel Endowment Fund for a number of years and under his guidance the fund flourished.

Donations in memory of Jack Ennion raised £1,158, half going to The Royal British Legion and half to the Chapel Endowment Fund.

Lt Col (Jock) Colchester who commanded the Regiment immediately after the War has died, details not known.

### Future Events

Event	Date	Day	Time	Location
3 Company (Open Day	Jul 16	Sun	11am	Coldhams Lane
Minden Day	Jul 31	Sun	11am	Bury
VJ Service	Aug 13	Sun	3pm	St Peter & St Paul, Wisbech
VJ Parade & Service	Aug 19	Sat	2.15pm	Ely
VJ Service	Aug 20	Sun	11am	Peterborough
Regimental Council	Sept 24	Sun	10am	Waterbeach
OCA AGM	Sept 24	Sun	2.30pm	Masonic Hall Silver Street, Ely
Sgts' Dinner	Oct 14	Sat	7pm	Waterbeach
Officers' Dinner	Apr 13 '96	Sat	7pm	Waterbeach

## Sport

# Mixed results for Vikings

### Football

THE Battalion football team came together after the battalion seven-a-side tournament on Sept 94 which C Company won beating A Company in the final on penalties 4-3. The football teams started training in late September with the first team under WO2 Hughes and the second team under Cpl Bishop (who apparently taught Brian Clough all he knows).

The season started well with two friendly games against the MCTC and HMS Orwell, which we won 3-1 and 9-0 respectively. However the team took a jolt when it crashed out of the Army Cup, being defeated 4-3 by OIEMH Woolwich; a hard fought match which the Vikings should have won.

We were also knocked out of the Infantry Cup 5-1 by an extremely good 1 Cheshire side which went on to win the cup. On the plus side, the team managed to achieve second place in the brigade winter sports competition.

The side continued to play in the Eastern District League, achieving some creditable wins. The team never quite managed to live up to pre-season ambitions, however, this was the first time the side had been together for a couple of years and the groundwork has been put in for a more experienced and skilful team next season.

### Cross-country

Lance Corporal Dunn and Private Dack of A Company are to be congratulated for coming second and third respectively in the Army one mile championship held at ATR Bassingbourn on Mar 29.

### Golf

Eighteen members of the Viking Golfing Society enjoyed glorious weather during their spring meeting at the Stoke-by-Nayland Golf Club on Apr 12. Results were as follows:

**AM Stableford:** 1st Cpl J Watson, 42 pts; 2nd Maj (ret'd) J Fisk, 41 pts; 3rd Capt A Jones, 38 pts; 4th Capt R J Allen, 37 pts. Longest Drive, Sgt I Cox; Nearest the Pin, Sgt C Tate.

**PM Greensome Stableford:** Winners Capt A Jones and Sgt I Groves, 32 pts. Nearest the pin, Sgt S Woods

### Basketball

The Vikings basketball team under the illustrious leadership of the Medical Officer,



Above: Vikings football team 1994-95 Below: 1 R Anglian team for the E Dist basketball competition



Capt Karen Jenkins, competed in the E Dist (S) finals. Having only lost one game throughout the entire season the team was confident of victory.

The finals comprised of three games to be played in one day. In the first game the Viking team was narrowly defeated by 33 EOD with a margin of only three points. In the second game the team staged a convinc-

ing comeback to win against 10 Regt R.I.C. This was due to some spirited performances by WO2 West, Sgt Kerton and Cpl Watson. The Battalion had everything to play for in the last game against 39 Ingr Regt, the former Army champions. The Vikings gave the Engineers a game to remember but were eventually defeated by five points. The team finished in overall third position.



## Rugby success in Eastern District competition

Lt Grounds, Rugby Captain, writes: SINCE the last report, owing to commitments, the Battalion Rugby club has had a limited number of fixtures, encountering mixed fortunes. In December the team competed in the Eastern District 15-a-side competition which it won by playing some well disciplined and entertaining rugby against many local rivals. Just prior to Christmas, the team recorded a 14-3 victory over a reasonably strong Bury St Edmunds XV.

Since returning from America, where unfortunately the team was unable to arrange a game, we have competed in the Eastern District 7-a-side competition. In a thrilling semi-final, in which eight minutes of extra time was played to determine the winners, 39 Regt RE finally came out on top and went on to win the final easily.

In the final game of the season, our only game since the new year, we came up against a strong 39 Regt RE side in the final of the Eastern District League. The forwards had the upper hand in nearly all areas despite 39's weight and height advantages. The game was played at a fast and furious pace and the only points to be scored in the first half was a 39 penalty. At the start of the second half we went off the boil, conceding two quick tries. By the time we had got back into the game it was too late, and despite applying considerable pressure we only managed to salvage one try. The final score in a very closely contested game was 5-17.

There has been more success at representative level this year. Lt Grounds, Sgt Anema, L/Cpl Barrs and Ptes Crowe and Dodd have all been capped for the infantry.



## Enjoyable hockey season

Top: The Vikings' rugby squad 1994-95.

Above: Vikings hockey team 1995.

THE hockey season began in earnest in September with the inter-company hockey competition. In a fiercely contested competition and amid much hacking at the shins the Screen Company team, led by the erstwhile Sgt Winter, eventually emerged as the victor.

Battalion hockey followed on from the company competition, with the team soon involved in the Eastern District major units competition. The team quickly progressed through to the semi-final where it won a particularly hard fought victory over the CSS Battalion based in Colchester. The final, held in Richmond in appalling weather conditions, sadly did not go our way despite two outstanding short corners taken by Pte Collison. The opposition, 22 Regt RA, sneaked victory 3-0.

The Brigade winter sports competition saw the team once again playing on grass pitches. In a two-day event the team managed to draw all but one of its matches and unfortunately lost 2-1 to 1 LI.

As the season draws to a close, the team can look back on an enjoyable and successful time. Under the guidance of SSgt Sage, it has received some excellent coaching and has seen some young players develop their skills. We look forward to next season.

**FREE SAMPLE SHIRT**

U.K. MADE OLIVE GREEN T-SHIRTS

HUNDREDS OF EMBROIDERED STOCK DESIGNS AVAILABLE.

**PRINTED OR EMBROIDERED TO YOUR OWN DESIGN**

- T-SHIRTS
- SWEATSHIRTS
- POLOSHIRTS
- RUGBY SHIRTS
- SWEATERS
- BASEBALL CAPS

FOR FREE COLOUR BROCHURES CONTACT:

**TEES TOTAL**  
 High St, Wootton Bassett,  
 Swindon, Wilts SN4 7AB  
 TEL: (01793) 849888  
 FAX: (01793) 849890  
CREDIT TERMS FOR U.K. FORCES



## Sport

### 'Crash course' in skiing for 6th Battalion

*CSgt Atkins writes:*

TEN members of A Company 6 Royal Anglian took part in exercise Norfolk Nordic, which was a skiing exercise for a week in Feb-Mar '95.

We stayed at the joint services Scottish Recreation Centre (Rothiemurchus Lodge) which is in the Cairngorms some 450 metres above sea level. It is situated at the northern entrance to the Lairig Ghru, seven miles from Aviemore.

The lodge provided excellent accommodation consisting of four-man cabins which were of a continental style, and included our own kitchen, sauna and lounge with remote control TV.

We were much better situated than our civilian counterparts as we were half way between the ski slopes and the main holiday resort of Aviemore. This allowed us to hit the slopes first every day.

Only three of us had skied before so the remainder underwent four days intensive ski instruction, but by the end of the week they were the more experienced skiers on the more difficult slopes.

Private Colk, from the Lowestoft Platoon, was our only casualty of the week – he got angry with a rock and decided to head-butt it, resulting in five stitches, but he skied on in true military fashion.

One other point to note was that on day one of the exercise, which was an admin day, we were sat in one of the local hotels deciding on our tactics for the week when one of the local OAPs collapsed at the bar with a suspected heart attack. This was the signal for our paramedic Cpl Smith to spring into action and treat the gentleman until the emergency services arrived. Needless to say we lived on this glory all week and the hotel became our local for the rest of the trip.

This was an excellent week's skiing and enjoyed very much by all of us. The Rothiemurchus Lodge is highly recommended to units planning a skiing trip or even adventurous activities in the summer.



Above: The A Company ski party. Below: The successful women's cross-country team. From left to right: Ptes Navalkar and Morris, 2Lt Stead and Pte Byrne.



## Runners in good form

ON the sports field the 6th Battalion has continued to build on last summer's successes. In November a team of ten members of the Battalion took part in the territorial 10km road running championships at Barnsley.

On a hilly and demanding course the A team of Capt Adrian Gosling, Sgt Skelton and Ptes Sanders and Millard finished a very creditable third. A male and female cross-country team entered the 49 (E) and 54 (EA) Brigade cross-country championships. The male team on this occasion was overshadowed by the female team, with Pte Morris winning her race and team qualifying for the national territorial championships at Mill Hill. The national championships in March proved a stiffer test with

the team in ninth place out of 21 teams. Pte Morris was again the best placed individual in 10th position. The Battalion was also represented by Sgt Skelton running for Headquarter 54 (EA) Brigade cross-country team. The team eventually won the Eastern District League.

The Battalion has also entered the E Dist orienteering competition with the regular staff competing most Wednesdays. The team is currently well placed with three events remaining. In the territorial competition, the A Company team of CSgt Atkins, Cpl Rolph, Sgt Hipperson and Pte Waterfield should be congratulated on winning the I Dist (South) championship. The team qualified for the I A/Headquarter land championships in May.

## Sport

# Keenly-fought golf meeting

THE spring meeting was held at Flempton Golf Club on Maundy Thursday. This year we were blessed with excellent weather in addition to a very fine lunch. The course was at its usual very high standard and the competition was keen but friendly.

Results were:- **Medal handicap:** winner Mr E Leyland, runner-up Mr S Shailes; **Stableford:** winner Mr L Greenaway, runner-up Mr K F Rowe; **Stableford Greensome:** winner Messrs Greenaway and Fox, runners-up Messrs Row and McAnally.

The following fixtures are arranged for the remainder of the year:- Annual Regimental Meeting, Stowmarket Golf Club - June 23, Autumn Meeting, FLEMPTON GOLF CLUB on Sept 8 followed by the match against FLEMPTON on Sept 9.

## CRICKET FIXTURES

Sun Jun 4	Harrow School	2pm	Colchester	Lt Col B H M D Davenport
Sun Jun 11	Felsted School	2pm	Colchester	Lt Col D J W Baylis
Sun Jun 18	Brentwood School	2pm	Colchester	Lt Col D J W Baylis
Sun Jun 25	Bancrofts School	2pm	Colchester	Maj D C Napier
Wed Jun 28	Greshams School	11.30am	Holt	Lt F J R Grounds
Fri Jun 30	St Edmunds College	2pm	Ware	Lt Col B H M Davenport
Mon Jul 3	Framlingham College	11.30am	Colchester	Lt Col B H M Davenport
Tue Jul 4	Woodbridge School	2pm	Colchester	Lt F J R Grounds
Wed Jul 5	The Royal Hospital School	11.30am	Holbrook	Maj D C Napier
Sun Jul 9	Commander 24 Alrmobile Brigades XI	2pm	Colchester	Lt Col B H M Davenport
Tue Jul 11	Perse Pelicans	2pm	Cambridge	Lt Col D J W Baylis

Club ties, sweaters and caps may be purchased from RHQ Royal Anglian (01284 752394) or Colchester mil (01206 785124) or from the Secretary at matches.

If players have not completed their availability forms, they should contact match managers direct if they wish to play in any match.

## Obituaries



Lt Col Alastair Robert Aydon Veitch

### Lt Col Alastair Robert Aydon Veitch

Lt COL Alastair Veitch died peacefully on Feb 22, 1995 after a short illness.

He was born in Sawbridgeworth in 1937. A year or two later his family moved to Clavering in Essex and up to the age of 12 his life was that of a normal energetic boy with two younger brothers - normal that is within the constraints of wartime England. Tragedy then struck the family in the early 1950s when first their father, and then three years later their mother, both died. Fortunately help was at hand as friends of the family rallied round, took them into their home and adopted them.

At the time Alastair was at school at Kings, Canterbury and it was typical of him that from that moment on, at the age of only 16, he took on the responsibility of caring for his younger brothers and became almost a father-figure to them.

In 1957 this tall, upright, reserved but very confident young man, already sporting the severe moustache which marked him out in a crowd, began his initial military training at Sandhurst. On leaving Sandhurst he was the first officer commissioned into the newly

*Continued Page 82*

## Births and Marriages

### VIKINGS

#### BIRTHS

Phillips - To WO2 and Mrs Phillips a son Nicholas; **Brown** - To Cpl and Mrs Brown a daughter Shannon Marie Sarah; **Watson** - To Cpl and Mrs Watson a son Daryll; **Crowe** - To Pte and Mrs Crowe a son Max Anthony; **Williams** - To Capt and Mrs Williams a son Charles; **Jones** - To Pte and Mrs Jones a son Jay; **Turner** - To Pte and Mrs Turner, twin sons Callum and Nathan; **Gardiner** - To Cpl and Mrs Gardiner a son Aaron; **Hopewell** - To Pte and Mrs Hopewell a daughter Amy Elizabeth; **Buff** - To Sgt and Mrs Buff a daughter.

#### MARRIAGES:

**Wright** - On Nov 14 Dmr Wright to Susan;

**Heal** - On Dec 17 Pte Heal to Wendy; **Blake** - On Mar 4 Pte Blake to Melitta; **Scott** - On Mar 4 Pte Scott to Paula Louise; **Hammond** - On Mar 7 Pte Hammond to Catherine; **Freeman** - On Mar 9 Cpl Freeman to Alison; **Boulton** - On Mar 18 Cpl Boulton to Lynda; **Lapworth** - On Mar 25 Pte Lapworth to Samantha; **Holdam** - On Apr 1 Lt Holdam to Laura Sue.

#### POACHERS

##### BIRTHS

**Fuller** - To Cpl and Mrs Fuller a daughter Demi Sophie; **Creighton** - To Cpl and Mrs Creighton a son Reese Robert; **Kirk** - To Sgt and Mrs Kirk a daughter Jasmine Charlotte; **Mahoney** - To Cpl and Mrs Mahoney a son Daniel Stephen; **Kemp** - To

Major and Mrs Kemp a daughter Anna Jane Louise; **Dewar** - To Pte and Mrs Dewar a son Tony Jason; **Jollands** - To Pte and Mrs Jollands a son Anthony Mark; **Kennedy** - To Pte and Mrs Kennedy a son Curtis John; **Thompson** - To Pte and Mrs Thompson a son Danny; **Kennedy** - To Pte and Mrs Kennedy a daughter Kathrine Elizabeth.

#### MARRIAGES

**Flack** - On Dec 10 Pte Flack to Denise; **Lyne** - On Dec 17 Capt Lyne to Tara Jane; **Hart** - On Dec 19 Pte Hart to Marian; **Jollands** - On Feb 3 Pte Jollands to Sabine.

#### BIRTHS

**Gaskin** - To Maj and Mrs P H Gaskin a daughter Lucy Catherine

# Obituaries

amalgamated 3rd East Anglian Regiment.

Within a short time the Pompadours were posted to the Commonwealth Brigade in northern Malaya based on the town of Ipoh. Here in the camaraderie of a happy battalion he consolidated his military training and his career flourished with the challenge of jungle operations on the Malay/Thai border.

After a successful tour in Malaya it was back to England for a brief spell before the battalion was posted to Northern Ireland. Here he met Rozy whom he later married while serving as Adjutant at the Depot in Bury St Edmunds.

Career moves meant leaving the Battalion for Shrivenham and Staff College and subsequently his postings included tours in America and Sudan as well as staff jobs in the Ministry of Defence in London. In 1986 he was posted to Bury St Edmunds to command the 6th Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment.

After a full and distinguished career in the Army he retired to Suffolk in February 1993. But his heart had always been in the army and it was not surprising that in November of that year he became the local county officer of the Royal British Legion.

His love of the Regiment, his immense sense of duty, his loyalty to his family and close friends and a quiet but firm faith will long be remembered by those who knew him well. Despite his illness and desperate weakness he still managed to attend a Royal British Legion function two days before his death.

It was a tribute to his popularity and his outstanding example that his funeral at St Mary's Church, Lidgate was attended by so many of his family and Regimental friends.

RJC

## Lt Col Harold Norman MBE

LT COL Harold (Vic) Norman died on Jan 6, 1995. He started life with the Essex Regiment but after service as an instructor at Sandhurst was posted to 1 Suffolk in Malaya in 1950.

He remained with the Regiment in Trieste and Wuppertal. He became successively RSM and QM of 1 Cambs and then QM of the combined Norfolk and Suffolk Battalion. He saw service in Felixstowe, Celle and Aden and proved himself to be a tower of strength with efficiency and integrity. After Celle he became Families Officer at Catterick before final promotion to Staff Quartermaster.

On retirement he went to work for Barratt's with old Regimental colleagues. Bng W C Deller OBE, in his address at the funeral service, paid tribute to his military standards and absolute efficiency. He

regarded him as the best QM he had met – top class with common sense and a thoroughly balanced sense of the real priorities in life.

To his wife and family our deepest sympathy is extended. They will miss him greatly and so will we.

## Maj John Kelvington Parker



Maj John Kelvington Parker

JOHN was born on Jun 10, 1934, the only son of the late Col O K Parker, MC, of the Northamptonshire Regiment. John was educated at Eastbourne College and The Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, after which he was commissioned into The Northamptonshire Regiment joining the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong.

John soon proved he was a first class Regimental officer. He had strong values based on a philosophy of never forget or fail in your duty, be honest, impartial and considerate to others and enjoy life. John practised this all his life, and taught and expected others to do the same. He was an example to all. He always had a genuine interest in, and love for, his fellow men. He continually developed a spirit of teamwork, plus friendship, in which all gave of their best. He was kind and considerate to all. He had a complete straightness of character.

John was keen on all games and sports, playing many well. Many will remember his stalwart innings of 52 in the 1957 reunion match, and his outstanding success at squash in the 1956/57 season, when he never lost a match. He was the Far East Land Forces champion the same season. He played rugger for the Regiment and as a member of the 2 Royal Anglian successful team of 1962 was described as "always in excellent form." This comment sums up John's attitude to life, his Regiment, his retired career, his great contribution to his local community and his love of shooting.

John held many rewarding and stimulating appointments, all of which were carried out with much success. They included Adjutant of the 5th Battalion, OC Junior Soldiers Wing at Bury St Edmunds, plus staff appointments in Headquarters Southern Command, Headquarters UKLF, Headquarters The Queen's Division and

MOD, together with perhaps a highlight of his career a tour with the Bermuda Regiment. A former CO wrote: "John epitomised all that was so good in the professional way in which he tackled the job and we are grateful to him for this."

After retirement, John became Housing Commandant, principally in Waterbeach Garrison. One of his COs wrote: "I have lost a good friend who was always absolutely straight and of course refreshingly direct in all his dealings at work."

John was always cheerful and never allowed his earlier physical setback to overshadow him. It was always a pleasure to meet him. A lasting memory will be his happy smile at the 1994 Northampton reunion when for the first time for many years, he was able to march with his comrades.

John died at home on Dec 18, 1994 after a short illness. The high esteem in which he was held was reflected in the very large congregation for his funeral at St Andrew's Church, Wimpole.

We extend the sympathy of the Regiment to his wife Sue and family.

Peter Worthy and others

## Deaths

WE regret to record the deaths of the following:

Maj P F Chapman Royal Anglian on Nov 24, 1994; Maj (QM) J H Leeson Royal Anglian on Mar 6, 1994; Lt Col (Hon Col) P A Morcombe DSO OBE Suffolk on Sept 22, 1994; Maj A A G Power Royal Anglian on Dec 9, 1994; Lt Col J W Hall Essex on Oct 31, 1994; Lt Col S W Phipps 3 East Anglian Jan 15, 1995; Capt C S Abbott MC Royal Norfolk on Mar 7, 1994; Brig C A R Johnson Royal Lincolns on Nov 6, 1994; Maj J M Smyth Royal Norfolk on Nov 16, 1994; Lt Col G J Somerville Cotton 2 East Anglian on Jan 8, 1995; Maj (Hon Lt Col) St H W T Lewis Royal Norfolk on Dec 24, 1994; Maj (Hon Lt Col) K S McGregor Royal Leicesters on Dec 27, 1993; Maj J E Douglas MBE Bedfs/Herts on Mar 28, 1995; Maj Higginson MC Essex on Jul 9, 1994; Lt Col H C Gregory MC TD Essex on Jul 25, 1994; Capt Harold Moore MC Essex on Jan 6, 1995 (at the age of 102); Mr S Farthing Essex in May, 1994; Impensioner Cyril Spencer Essex on July 9, 1994; Col H Craig OBE TD Essex on Jan 5, 1994; Col A E C Alton TD DL Essex on Jul 23, 1994; Lt E A Woodhouse Royal Norfolk on Dec 5, 1994 and Pte M A Strang Royal Anglian on Apr 12, 1995.

We extend our condolences and sympathy to their families and friends.

# REGIMENTAL SHOP

All items badged Royal Anglian

	* Prices each incl. VAT		* Prices each incl. VAT
ASH TRAYS - clear glass - badge in centre .....	£2.20	PEWTER TANKARD - 1 pint	
ASH / PIN TRAYS - china, white, blue badge .....	£1.80	R Anglian badge .....	£14.30
BADGES		Fluted R Anglian Badge .....	£20.40
Blazer .....	£7.50	1st & 2nd Battalion Badge .....	£19.65
Cloth .....	£0.55	PRINTS - Colour - set of 8 comprising 7 former regiments	
Collar Officers 1st & 2nd Battalions .....	£14.50 pr	in period dress + R Anglian drummer .....	£5.20 set
R Anglian Collar .....	£2.50 ea .. £5.00 pr	Single Prints of above .....	£0.65 ea
Lapel - R Anglian Association (boxed) enamel .....	£4.75	Large print R Anglian drummer .....	£0.50 ea
Lapel - R Anglian Association .....	£1.30	REGIMENTAL RIBBON - 1 / in wide .....	£1.50 mtr
BELTS - Casual Trousers - sm. 31/34", med. 35/38",		(same design as stable belt webbing)	
lge 39/42" .....	£3.00	REGIMENTAL HISTORY	
- Stable - sizes med. lge. & XL .....	£7.65	Crater to The Creggan - hardback .....	£3.00
BOOKMARKS - leather in assorted colours (old style) .....	£0.40	SHIELDS (plaques)	
- leather (Drummer printed in colours) (new style) .....	£0.66	Wooden hand-painted .....	£20.45
BUTTONS - Blazer - in polished gilt - lge. & sm. ....	£1.80 ea	STICKERS (plastic)	
- Side Hat & Mess Kit (Officers) .....	£3.50 ea	12" .....	£1.80
CASSETTES - Regimental Bands - Beating Retreat .....	£4.00	6" .....	£1.25
LP Records .....	£1.00	4" .....	£1.20
CD 2nd Battalion Band .....	£8.75	2" .....	£0.80
CHRISTMAS CARDS (Regimental Badge on front) .....	£0.37 ea	SWEAT SHIRTS - Navy, with white printed badge on left breast	
COMB/NAILFILE SET in leather case - various colours ...	£0.65	sizes med. & lge. ....	£9.80
CRICKET SWEATER - Slip-over, 40", 42", 44" .....	£31.25	XL .....	£9.95
CRICKET CAP .....	£14.45	XXL .....	£10.40
CRICKET TIE .....	£10.50	Navy, with embroidered badge on left breast.	
CUFF LINKS - gilt polished .....	£10.20 pr	sizes med. & lge. ....	£12.10
DISPLAY BINDER - A4 12 pockets - blue with badge .....	£5.60	XL .....	£12.75
FIGURES		SWEATERS - Lambswool, machine washable,	
Bronze - SA80 & SLR (special orders) .....	£40.25	embroidered badge, sizes 38", 40", 42" & 44" .....	£26.80
Pewter - combat dress with helmet .....	£24.00	TABLE / DINNER MATS - prints of former regiments &	
with beret .....	£27.80	drummer with dark blue or red border (set of 8) ...	£33.15
with Drummer .....	£35.10	T-SHIRTS	
(to order) Burma Campaign .....	£35.10	Navy, white badge, sizes XXI .....	£4.75
(All figures with regimental badge on base)		XL .....	£4.40
FLAGS		med. & lge. ....	£4.10
Regimental all Battalions., numeral in top corner .	£70.00	TEA TOWELS	
Regimental - plain .....	£70.00	Cotton showing all cap badges of the Army .....	£2.25
Small Flag (18" x 12") .....	£27.70	R Anglian (new design) .....	£2.50
GLASSES		THIMBLES - bone china, gold rim, badge in blue .....	£1.60
Beer Mug - 1 pint .....	£1.65	TIES	
Beer (glass 1 pint straight) .....	£1.10	Regimental R Anglian (dark blue, red castles) .....	£5.40
Whisky .....	£1.10	Regimental Association - Polyester .....	£5.00
HIP FLASKS - 6oz - leather case in navy with badge .....	£10.05	- Silk .....	£17.50
HOLDALLS - canvas, water-proof lining .....	£6.15	TIE PIN / SWEETHEART BROOCH	
ICE BUCKET DRUM .....	£17.85	- gold, enamel badge .....	£6.90
KEY RINGS - leather - assorted colours .....	£0.40	UMBRELLAS .....	£13.50
mock padlock style - gold coloured .....	£4.50	WRITING CASE - blue leather, gold badge .....	£10.75
MEMO PADS - Refills for Tubby Memo Pads .....	£2.70	DISPOSABLE LIGHTERS (black with	
NOTECASE / WALLET - black - gold badge .....	£8.35	Royal Anglian Regiment printed in gold colour) are	
MUGS - Coffee, China - white - blue badge .....	£2.50	available from RHQ <i>not through the post</i> .....	£1.15
- Coffee, Pot - black & yellow badge .....	£1.35		
PAPERWEIGHTS - 1st & 2nd Battalion badges			
(made to order) .....	£25.95		
PENDANTS (enamel, R Anglian Badge) on chain .....	£4.10		
PENS - ball point - Royal Anglian Regiment - dark blue .	£2.25		

\* All prices include V.A.T. and are subject to manufacturer's increases.

## Notes:

- Orders, together with remittance, cheques/postal orders made payable to "The Royal Anglian Regiment Association" posted to RHQ The Royal Anglian Regiment, The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN.
- All prices include VAT and are subject to manufacturers' price increases.
- ALL COSTS WILL BE CHARGED ON PARCELS FOR POSTAGE AND PACKING**

## BLAZER SALE

SINGLE BREASTED  
**£49.00**  
£2.50 P & P  
UK



DOUBLE BREASTED  
**£54.00**  
£2.50 P & P  
UK

**BLAZER** —  
Polyester/Wool styled by James Barry to give shape and comfort, comes in Navy or Black, double or single breasted. Sizes range from 36" to 48" extra large on request. Please send for brochure.

NATIONAL MALAYA & BORNED  
VETERANS ASSOCIATION HQ  
9 PARK AVENUE EAST, KEYWORTH,  
NOTTINGHAM, NG12 5JZ.  
UNITED KINGDOM  
TEL/FAX: 01159 373157

## C. D. WAIN & CO.

*Registered  
Insurance Brokers*

ST. NICHOLAS CHAMBERS  
12 TALBOT LANE  
LEICESTER  
LE1 4LQ

Tel: Leicester (01162) 518139  
(2 Lines)

## HOW YOU CAN START A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS TODAY

DORLING KINDERSLEY FAMILY LIBRARY  
One partner has a regular income - the other develops a  
business with DKFL.  
Eventually both are involved  
Find out how you could become part of an award winning  
business selling award winning books and CD-ROMs.

**Substantial income possible**

David Burroughs 01223 - 840573

(Independent Distributor)

## WE, THE LIMBLESS, LOOK TO YOU FOR HELP



We come from two World Wars. Korea, Kenya, Malaya, Aden, Cyprus, Ulster, The Falklands and all those areas of turmoil where peace must be restored. Now, disabled and mainly aged, we must look to you for help. Please help by helping our Association.

BLESMA looks after the limbless from all the Services. It helps to overcome the shock of losing arms, or legs or an eye. And, for the severely handicapped, it provides Residential Homes where they can live in peace and dignity.

Help the disabled by helping BLESMA with a donation now or a legacy in the future. We promise you that not one penny will be wasted.

**THE FIRST STEP  
by a recent, young  
double amputee**

**PLEASE GIVE TO THOSE WHO GAVE**

Give to those who gave — PLEASE



Donations and information: The Chairman, National Appeal Committee,  
BLESMA, Midland Bank PLC, 60 West Smithfield, London EC1A 9BX

## BLESMA

BRITISH LIMBLESS  
EX-SERVICE MEN'S ASSOCIATION

## jolliffes OF COLCHESTER

THE  
ORIGINAL GARRISON TAILORS  
still providing the  
SUPERB TAILORING SERVICE  
to which  
THE ARMY IN COLCHESTER HAS  
BEEN ACCUSTOMED

Regimental Ties, Blazer Badges & Plaques,  
Buttons, Badges, Crowns, Stars & Chevrons,  
Miniature Medals & Mess Kits  
Leather bound Berets  
14 Crouch Street & 176 Butt Road  
Phone (01206) 575617  
Tailors to the Regiments of Royal Anglia  
for over 50 Years