



# CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

DECEMBER 1995





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1st Battalion



2nd Battalion



December 1995

Vol. 9 No. 6

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## Our cover

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

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Colonel C. Dale

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The Vikings hold a Battalion muster parade in Croatia

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# From the Colonel of the Regiment

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Just for once, and I sincerely hope for a long time hence, I have no reductions in battalions or manpower to report, no battles with the powers that be to update you on, and no impassioned requests to rush to the battlements to protect yet another precious part of the Regiment from attack. Instead, as we approach the end of yet another year, I can, I hope, concentrate instead on passing on to you some of the expressions of admiration and respect from all quarters of the Army, and indeed from outside the service as well, that I receive as Colonel of the Regiment, which all goes towards reinforcing and confirming our special reputation in the Army and which you should all be aware of.

As with the 2nd Battalion, the 1st Battalion's emergency tour in the former Yugoslavia, despite the lack of the latter's more testing deployment, has been described to me as exemplary by all who saw them there, or with whom they came into contact. It takes a special degree of training and professionalism to maintain operational sharpness and morale in the circumstances in which the Battalion found themselves, but it is quite clear that this was maintained throughout. "Professional to the tips of their fingers" was how some very senior officer described them to me.

The next year sees the 1st Battalion move to Oakington in August and the 2nd Battalion to Warminster in March with the distant prospect of Cyprus in 1998 to sustain them through endless demonstrations. I hope for all their sakes that the next two years will be a little less frenetic than the last, but one is increasingly conscious of the instability in the world that can so easily change these plans. However, whatever happens, we can all be certain that our Regular Battalion's deep rooted professionalism and resourcefulness will more than see them through, whatever is thrown in their direction.

In a very different way, but just as testing in its demands on leadership and

maintaining the Regimental ethos, our Territorial Battalions have just completed the internal reorganisation necessary to allow the 5th Battalion to re-role as Royal Logistic Corps in March 1996. Regimentally, two new alignments will come into force from January 1996, when the 1st and 6th Battalions will assume responsibility for representation and recruiting in Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire; whilst the 2nd and 7th Battalions assume these responsibilities for Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire. Association links and support will I hope come more gradually into line with these groupings. However, as there is no change to our Regimental area offices, there is no pressure for any radical changes in how the associations organise themselves.

Our 5th Battalion, in particular its Commanding Officer and permanent staff, deserve a very special commendation and all our thanks for the exemplary way in which they have dealt with the conversion of the Battalion to a Transport Regiment. I need not remind you of the extreme sensitivities involved in dismantling an old and much loved and respected part of our Regiment in order to hand it over to another Corps. The retention of each soldier's commitment to the future, rather than the past, the need to focus on a new and possibly unwelcome role and the difficulties

of motivating every member of the unit throughout the process, should not be underestimated. Every report I have received has stressed the outstanding way in which this has proceeded. I am deeply grateful.

The final chapter of this process will be marked by a parade and laying up of Colours at Ely on Mar 30, 1996. On the following day, the 6th Battalion will mark its 25th anniversary at Bury St Edmunds. Our TA Band and Drums, which we have retained, will perform at both. It should be quite a weekend.

The third and equal element of our Regiment, the Associations, continue to underpin and support all we do in their respective counties. Rather than gradually wither on the vine, as the gloom mongers predicted some years back, their numbers are increasing, as is self-evident to anyone who has recently attended any of the major reunions. Long may it continue, I really would encourage anyone who has served with the Regiment, but who has lost touch with us to make contact with his local association branch, where I can assure him he will be given a warm welcome.

Our Allied Regiments continue to maintain contact and a keen interest in the Regiment and I hope that they will always feel that they have a home from home here, should any of their numbers ever be in this country. In this context can I welcome back into the fold our two South African Regiments, Regiment de la Rey and the 1st City Regiment

Lastly, may I pass on my personal thanks to every member of the Regiment, including our families, for their huge contribution to the well being and reputation of the Regiment and wish you all a safe and rewarding 1996 and a very happy Christmas together with your family and friends.

**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 Sir Michael Walker, KCB, 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 A J K Calder, OBE

Cambridgeshire: Lieutenant Colonel P G R Horrell, TD

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**

Australia

Barbados

Belize

Bermuda

Canada

Gibraltar

Malaysia

New Zealand

Pakistan

South Africa

The Royal Tasmania Regiment

The Barbados Regiment

Belize Defence Force

The Bermuda Regiment

Sherbrooke Hussars

The Lincoln and Welland Regiment

The Essex and Kent Scottish

The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment

The Gibraltar Regiment

1st Battalion The Royal Malay Regiment

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

5th Battalion The Frontier Force Regiment

First City Regiment

Regiment de la Rey

## **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: 01604 35412)  
Area Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel J L Wilson, DL (Lt Col F A H Swallow 27 May, 96)  
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: 01277 213051)  
Area Secretary: Major D J Thorogood

### **Regimental Information Team**

Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn. (Tel: 01763 242271)  
Captain R J Allen

## **BATTALION LOCATIONS**

1st Battalion, Colchester. (Moves to Oakington Aug 96)	Lieutenant Colonel R E Harrold
2nd Battalion, Celle BFPO 23. (Moves to Warminster Mar 96 and Cyprus March 98)	Lieutenant Colonel D J Clements MBE
5th (V) Battalion (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire & Cambridgeshire), (Re-roles as a Transport Regiment Mar 30 96) 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 (Major H N D Gill (V) 15 Apr 96)
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

## DIARY DATES 1996

### JANUARY

9-10 Queen's Div last postings meeting.

### MARCH

30 5 Royal Anglian re-rolling ceremonies.

31 6 Royal Anglian 25th anniversary celebrations.

### APRIL

19 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club cocktail party, RAG.

20 Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Association annual dinner.

26 Royal Anglian golf spring meeting, Flempton.

### MAY

2 Regimental Investment Committee meeting, London.

3 Northampton Regiment Officers' lunch, London.

3 4 Northampton reunion dinner.

4 1st Battalion laying up of colours, Norwich.

19 5 Northampton reunion dinner.

29/30 Suffolk Show.

### JUNE

7 Royal Norfolk Officers' Dinner Club dinner.

15 7 Royal Anglian Exercise Freedom of the City of Leicester

21 Royal Anglian Regiment golf meeting, Stowmarket.

22/23 Royal Tigers weekend, Leicester.

26/27 Norfolk Show.

30 Essex Regiment Association reunion.

### JULY

4 16th Foot Officers' lunch, Chicheley Hall.

6/7 Northamptonshire Regiment reunion.

### AUGUST

Association gathering. Date to be confirmed.

1 Minden Day.

3 Suffolk Regiment Officers' dinner.

4 4 Suffolk Regiment Association celebration of Minden Day.

4 1st Battalion laying up of colours, Bury St Edmunds.

### SEPTEMBER

1 32nd anniversary of the founding of the Regiment.

1 Association Gathering, Oakington.

5 Royal Anglian Officers' Club cocktail party, RAG.

14 Royal Anglian autumn golf meeting, Flempton.

21-22 Royal Lincolns Regimental reunion.

21 Royal Norfolk/Royal Anglian Association (Norfolk) dinner

### OCTOBER

4 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club lunch.

4 7th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment reunion.

### NOVEMBER

1 Regimental Council meeting and dinner, London.

1 Field of Remembrance.

10 Remembrance Sunday.

17 Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment Association reunion.

### DECEMBER

1 Royal Leicesters Officers' lunch, London.

# Honours postings, awards and retirements

## Congratulations

WE congratulate the following on their awards in the Queen's Birthday Honours List 95. KCB - Lt Gen Sir Michael Walker KCB, CBE; CVO - Maj Gen Sir David Thorne KBE, CVO; MBE - Capt D McCrum MBE.

## Postings

RHQ has been told of the following postings: Col G I G Brett is now the Executive Officer Saceurs and Dsaceurs representative in the Military Committee. Col T B Thomas OBE has left Shape to become Deputy Commander of 24 Air Mobile Brigade. Lt Col R E Harrold on Dec 5 took over as Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion from Lt Col R M Brunt OBE who goes to the MOD (MO) on promotion. Brig A Behagg MBE leaves Headquarter Training Support Command in Germany to go on held strength ITC Catterick pending redundancy.

Capt B A Foster is SO3 G3 (Training Policy) Headquarter Infantry and will be going with Capt D E O'Driscoll to the new Joint Service and Command Staff College Course No.1 in Sept 96. Capt A Gosling has left the 6th Battalion and is now SO3 G3 Operations at Headquarter 8 Infantry Brigade and Lt P D Smith returned to the 2nd Battalion as Families Officer on Sept 11, 95.

Capt M B Dicker is now C Company 21C at A T R Bassingbourn and Capt D G Vincent leaves Headquarters 39 Infantry Brigade to take up a Company Command post with the 1st Battalion in Jan 96. Capt B G Goude MBE has left the 2nd Battalion and is now Training Officer Headquarters TSC/Headquarters TSU.

Maj P D Jones MBE has left the 1st Battalion to become COS Headquarters 24 Air Mobile Brigade. Maj D Whitehead is now Commanding Officer ATTAT Headquarters Int & Sy Gp UK. Maj A J C Wild MBE has left the 2nd Battalion to take up a post at the MoD. Maj R W T

*Continued Page 7*



# Mainly About People



**MUSEUM APPEAL:** General Sir John Akehurst receives a cheque for £5,000 for the Museum Appeal from Simon Gibson DL on behalf of his family trust.

From Page 6

**Pattison** is to attend No.10 Dagger Course at RMCS Sept 96, **Maj R J Kemp** leaves the 2nd Battalion to take up the appointment of OC AITAT (G) Jan 19, 96 and **Capt M D Parry** has left the 2nd Battalion also to become Mortar Instr at ITC Warminster.

**Capt D G H Hunter** leaves his Dagger Course at Shrivenham to become SO2 (W) LSOR ACDS (OR) Land Systems in Feb 96. **Maj R C J Goodin** takes over as 2IC of the 1st Battalion Jan 23, 96; **Lt K R Copeland** has left the 2nd Battalion to become a Platoon Commander at ITC Catterick along with **Lt S C Russell** who leaves ATR Bassingbourn on Jan 1, 96.

**Maj R J Clements** is now SO2 G3 SURV HQ Northern Ireland. **Capt HT Simpson** leaves Bermuda to take up the post of SO3 G2 (Proj/Man Coord) on Feb 23. **Capt SW Carver** is now at the MOD SO3 Spec Proj and **Maj MJ Beard** leaves Bermuda to take up the appointment of 2IC of the 2nd Battalion on Apr 5 96.

**Maj IRM Hall** has left the 2nd Battalion and taken up the appointment of Adjutant of the 6th Battalion.

We welcome on board **2Lt SD Wilson** at Oxford University on his award of cadetship; we congratulate **Maj A Powell MBE** who leaves HQ Land to become

Quartermaster General at the ARCC Support Battalion on Apr 29 96 on promotion.

**Lt Col M D Chambers** leaves Queen's University, Belfast for the post of SO1 Training 2 Headquarters Land on Apr 15, 96. **Capt P S Leslie** is now undergoing Spanish language training.

**Maj J E Harris** and **Maj R A Knox** have both left the Staff College, the former is now SO2 (W) Project 1 and the latter Company Commander with the 1st Battalion. **Maj M H Wenham** has left the 1st Battalion and is now SO2 Arm 2 (SIM) (2) and **Major J F McDonald** has left the 5th Battalion and is SO2 (W) PM CBD and PA. **Capt G Morris** has left the 2nd Battalion and is SO3 Inf FIBUAT.

**Capt A J Grinonneau** has left ITC Catterick and is with the 2nd Battalion. **TM B Sheath** has left the 1st Battalion and **Lt J D Hughes** the 2nd Battalion to take up posts as Platoon Commanders at A T R Bassingbourn. **Maj W A Wilmott** is now with the 2nd Battalion as Demonstration Officer and **Lt Col D S B Phipps** is SO1 Land 3 PJHQ

We congratulate the following on passing the Integrated Promotion and Staff Examination: **Capt P D Bailey**, **Capt S J R Browne**, **Capt C S Calder**, **Capt R L Gerrard-Wright**, **Capt P D Morris**, **Capt**

**M D P Parry**, **Capt J M Woodham** and **Capt J A York**.

## Left the Army

The following have retired from the active service list in the Army: **Maj DN Price** on July 1, 95; **Maj PH Williamson MBE** Aug 1, 95; **Capt R W H Colgan** Sept 9, 95; **Brigadier A J K Calder OBE** on Oct 22, 95 and **Brigadier T Longland OBE** on Dec 31, 95.

We wish them all the best of good fortune in their future careers and hope to see them from time to time at various Regimental functions.

## Transfers

**Capt I W K Astley** has transferred to PWO; we wish him all the best of good fortune in his new regiment.

## Newly Commissioned

We welcome into the Regiment **2Lt S R Smith** after his Sovereign's parade on Aug 11, 95; he has been posted to the 2nd Battalion.

We also welcome **2Lts C D Davies** and **A L Robbins** who were both posted to the 2nd Battalion and **2Lt D J Howson** who is with the 1st Battalion after their Sovereign's parade on Dec 15.

## Mainly About People

### Vikings Band sale funds new ceremonial items

**Band property of the former band of the 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment**

THE Vikings Band was absorbed into the Corps of Army Music on July 31, 1994 and the majority of its property, consisting of uniforms, instruments and the music library, was sold. Approximately £20,000 was raised from the sale and this money became the Regimental Accoutrements Fund (the fund).

The fund is used to finance the replacement of ceremonial items, such as drummers' uniforms and colour belts. Officers, warrant officers, senior and junior non-commissioned officers serving with the 1st Battalion all contribute monthly to the fund so that it does not have to rely on investment alone.

In July 1994, the 1st Battalion music stand banners remained in service until replacement banners, commissioned for the Minden Band of the Queen's Division, were issued. This issue has now occurred and Viking Band banners are available for disposal.

Banners will be presented to:

- a. The Regimental Museum at Duxford.
- b. The Officers' Mess of the 1st Battalion.
- c. The Officers' Mess of the 2nd Battalion.
- d. The WOs' and Sgts' Mess of the 1st Battalion.
- e. The WOs' and Sgts' Mess of the 2nd Battalion.

The remaining banners will be sold for the benefit of the Regimental Accoutrements Fund. All those who wish to bid for one should send a cheque for £100, made payable to 'Central Bank 1 Royal Anglian' to the Commanding Officer, 1 Royal Anglian, Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester, Essex CO2 7TB before Jan 31, 1996.

Since demand is expected to outstrip supply, a draw will be held under the supervision of CO 1 Royal Anglian in early February 1996. If you are successful, your cheque will be cashed and a banner will be sent to you - if you are not successful, your cheque will be returned.

### Future dress and County Associations

**AT the Regimental Council meeting on Nov 3 95, it was agreed that from Jan 1 '96:**

**"The 1st Battalion could again wear the yellow lanyard and the 2nd Battalion the black. The 7th Battalion will continue to wear their own lanyard and the 6th Battalion the present Royal Anglian lanyard.**

**"The 1st and 6th Battalions will be associated with the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Essex and the 2nd Battalion with Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire."**

### New venue boosts Regimental dinner

THE Regimental dinner was held at the Army and Navy Club in Pall Mall (the RAG) on Nov 3, 95. Our guests were Lord Braybrooke, the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, James Crowden Esq the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, R P Juniper Esq, T G Harris Esq, J G Butcher Esq and P C Keevil Esq.

This was the first time the Regiment had used the RAG because the club can only manage a maximum of 125. The general consensus of opinion was that the food was good and that numbers permitting, we should go there again.

### Cocktail party date

**THE Officers Club Regimental cocktail party will take place at the Army and Navy Club Pall Mall (the RAG) on Thur Sept 5, 96 from 1830 - 2030 hrs.**

## On convoy duty in former Yugoslavia

**Col Tony Winton OBE, at present Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Bedfordshire and UN Observer in former Yugoslavia writes:**

"You must be one of those crazies who drive round Bosnia in civvy trucks!" So said the RSM of the 1st Battalion The Royal Highland Fusiliers to one of our convoy leaders in Vitez School Camp in October 1994. This succinct but accurate summary of the activities of the British convoy teams of the Overseas Development Administration (Emergency Aid Department) of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office is probably all the Poachers and the British Forces in the Former Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) ever knows about us (Capt John Heap and all other BRITBAT LOs to UNHCR Zenica excepted).

The UNHCR registration plates and roundels, the Union Flag and the ODA logo on vehicle cab doors will have offered a clue to the thinking soldier, but the when, where, who, why, what and how, may not have been readily or accurately answered.

As the manager of the ODA Logistic Group in the FRY which at its height comprised 110 employees in eight convoy teams, three workshops, a warehouse and an airfield loading team, I am well placed to answer these questions. As a good association member I am also under pressure to explain my absences from sundry meetings and gatherings. Perhaps this will help.

**When?** In August 1992 the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees asked UN member nations to contribute money or physical aid to refugees and displaced persons in the FRY. The British Government ODA Emergency Aid Department contributed a convoy of 20 10-tonne trucks for six to eight weeks. Since that date the highwater mark of 62 task vehicles and 40 plus convoy leader and back-up vehicles have delivered tonnes of food, medical supplies, shelter material and

*Continued Page 9*

# Mainly About People



Left: Neretva River Valley, heavy ferry provided by Slovakian engineers to by-pass two road bridges blown in 1993. British ODA convoy team disembarking.

Below: UK nomads II team. In winter in central Bosnia near Vitez.

Pictures: Morgan Lanham



infrastructure engineering material to every destination in the FRY whose names have become familiar in the UK.

**Where?** Initially out of Croatia (Split) into Bosnia (Sarajevo). The UN Protection Force had not yet formed and tourist road maps were useless as most of the journey was on un-metalled roads. Confrontation lines between warring factions were undefined and unmapped. Ignorance was bliss and reality only broke through when the convoy ran a gauntlet of snipers into Sarajevo.

Later the base in Zagreb delivered into Serbian Bosnia (Banja Luka), Serbian

Krajina, UN protected areas north, south, east and west, and the Bihać Pocket in Bosnia. By then, courtesy of UNProfor (RE map store) we were beginning to find our way with more confidence. Quite important in a war. In Metković (south Dalmatia/Croatia) we delivered to Central Bosnia (Tuzla, Zenica, Sarajevo) the Eastern Enclaves (Srebrenica, Žepa and Gorazde) and Serbian Bosnia (Trebinje).

This impartial distribution of aid to all sides of this three-cornered conflict led to some dangerous dashes across front lines during negotiated ceasefires, which did not always hold

**Who?** British drivers, mechanics, convoy leaders, managers and administrative staff. Croatian and Bosnian interpreters, mechanics and administrators providing much needed advice, guidance and support in impressive English. Drivers are mostly experienced in long haul, HGV, continental work, over at least five years. A majority are ex-service, some with relevant skills. have been employed as Options has released them e.g. RE plant fitters, RCT tank transporter drivers, REME recovery mechanics RN, RM, Army and RAF have all been represented, including a nuclear submariner with attitude, paras, commandos, endless RCT and REME, infantry of every tribe including James Bullock ex 2nd Battalion who was pleased to share a sherrbert with Maj David Whitehead 2 Royal Anglian in Vitez, old pals from the Corporals Club

**Why?** We are, we believe, in receipt of the best conditions of service, equipment, administration and pay in organisations of similar employment by UNHCR in FRY. Our turnover rate is low, the job satisfaction level is high and in that paradoxical way, the busier we are, the happier the teams. There are as many reasons for doing this work as are men doing it. Unemployment, debt, divorce, adventure, wanderlust, humanitarianism (not many), boredom, all have their recruits, but the few who leave do so reluctantly and return at the first opportunity

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# Mainly About People

Right: Scimitar, Light Dragoons, Maglaj secondary distribution warehouse, showing signs of shrapnel damage. A central Bosnian hot spot.

Below: UK red team in Vitez School camp, in winter, home of the Poachers for 6 months.

Pictures: Morgan Lanham



From Page 9

**What?** We are employed by the Crown Agents who are contracted by ODA to provide staff, equipment, pay, travel and recruitment to support the teams. This is a hazardous job. Extremes of climate, geography and road conditions mean disaster is potentially around every corner. The conflict can flare up locally and randomly engulfing the badly briefed convoy in cross-fire, artillery or mortar fire. The obstructionism of innumerable and apparently pointless checkpoints and the ever-present possibility of the bored, drunken 'soldier' loaded with slivovic and armed with his father's AK 47, can never be overlooked.

Sniping at our vehicle tool boxes or fuel tanks is clearly entertaining to the snipers and an unquestioned tribute to their marksmanship, but at the same time it alarms the drivers and is costly in spares. And it happens. Shelling and mortar fire, generally referred to as 'incoming' can be intelligently anticipated. There is a type of harassing fire that is clearly meant to discourage an approaching convoy from a particular route or destination, and shrapnel damage to our vehicles is proof positive that it works. UN in all its forms in FRY has always tried to 'talk down' the levels of violence in order to nurture the peace process but the wise convoy leader and his managers maintain a high level of caution, scepticism and anxiety



whilst counselling the message – "complacency kills."

The warring factions are not the only hazards encountered by our convoys. "There is no escort available today, the Battalion is rehearsing a parade for the visit of the CDS" – subaltern British battalion. "You can't come in here, you're civvies." Corporal guard commander British battalion. "Convoys requiring emergency accommodation must give two days' notice of their requirements." Staff officer Sector HQ (believed to be British). "If you cannot understand our soldiers, I suggest you learn \*\*\*\*ish!" UNProfor military, (tranks and nationality not specified), have attempted to impose their convoy rules on us which has

led to misunderstandings that have given rise to threats with:– a pistol, three riflemen pointing rifles, an officer seizing a soldier's rifle and pointing it, APCs pulled across the road, raised fists.

Of course we realise that the well intentioned and sincere offers of "help at any time" expressed in the upper echelons, does not always filter down to the NCOs who sometimes fail to carry out their humanitarian tasks either in fact or in spirit in quite the way the CO had in mind. But this is rare, and language difficulties apart, the aid convoys and UNProfor manage to operate in harmony, albeit at arms length.

Continued Page 11

# Mainly About People

**How?** ODA and UNHCR have an agreement in which ODA undertakes to provide an agreed trucking capacity in the FRY. Crown Agents are contracted by ODA to provide the equipment, personnel and management to achieve that trucking capacity. Food aid is purchased and delivered into Croatian ports under UN World Food Programme control.

Once in Croatia UNHCR as 'lead agency' controls the distribution to refugees and displaced persons through primary warehouses to secondary warehouses to a programme drawn up by UNHCR. Field officers of UNHCR deploy the convoy teams and task them to deliver aid from primary to secondary warehouses according to the programme. Field officers are responsible for secondary distribution to camps and municipalities sheltering refugees and displaced persons.

By the nature of this civil war the only drivers safe from direct attack from the military personnel of the warring factions are 'internationals'. British, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, Russian and German governments all provide international teams in partnership with UNHCR. Good friends, co-operative colleagues, all mutually supporting one another both physically and morally.

There is much more to tell. We have all been saddened by the sights of the consequences of civil war in Europe, so close to home. Few have returned home unaffected by their experiences and I doubt that any have found the work to be futile or pointless. Indeed the reverse, they find it satisfying and rewarding.

Finally, for those who are sceptical about the need and wisdom of UK involvement in UN Peacekeeping, both militarily and providing humanitarian aid. There is no doubt in my mind that UNProfor has, through periods of utterly thankless negotiation between the most perfidious and mendacious warring factions it is possible to conceive, kept the aid convoys running. UNProfor has successfully protected communities and individuals, provided medical and surgical assistance, constructed roads and shelters, restored utilities, cleared mines, escorted convoys, provided casualty evacuation of injured aid workers, including our drivers, recovered aid vehicles from traffic accidents, day and night, winter and summer, 24 hours per day for almost three years.

The conditions of the Bosnian population with UNProfor can only be guessed at, but we can all be certain that without the presence of battalions such as the Poachers, the situation for 4 million Europeans, 2.5 hours from London, would be apocalyptic.



Royal Anglians at the Bermuda Regiment annual camp — Camp Lejeune, North Carolina

## Bermuda Regiment reaches 30

THIS year the Bermuda Regiment has been celebrating its 30th anniversary. The close links continue, with four members of the Royal Anglian Regiment currently on seconded service. This number is periodically boosted by short attachments to assist with the annual overseas and recruit camps.

The permanent staff number just 26, with conscripted part-timers providing some interesting challenges during their three years' service. If you have a change to get over to Bermuda do take it and reflect for a moment on how this unique alliance came into being.

### REGIMENTAL GATHERING

It is planned to hold the Regimental Gathering at Oakington Barracks, Longstanton, Cambridge on Sept 1 96. The format will be:

1130	Drumhead Service
1214	March Past
1230	Bars open and lunch
1330	Shooting and Static displays
1500	Band display

We hope that even more Association branches will attend with their standards and increase the 1,200 who were present at the gathering in 94. If you would like to join us for our annual family day, please contact your Area HQ if you belong to an association or direct to RHQ using the application form below.

### Regimental Gathering Oakington Sept 1 96

(Please complete and return either to your OCA Branch or to RHQ)

- 1 Attendance. I/We would like.....tickets for the Gathering on Sept 1 96
2. Food. Please reserve..... box lunches at £7.50 each for which I enclose a cheque for £..... made out to 'RHQ R Anglian'\*

Name and address (IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

.....  
 .....  
 .....  
 ..... Postcode.....

\*There will also be bars and stalls for hot dogs, ice creams etc and a picnic area if you prefer to bring your own food.

Note: Would OCA Branches please send consolidate returns through Area Secretaries at Lincoln, Norwich, Northampton, and Warley as appropriate who will co-ordinate contingents from the areas.



## Mainly About People



### Sergeant majors reunite for laying up of colours

THE Colours of the 1st Battalion the 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) were laid up in the parish church of St Paul, Bedford on Aug 13 1995.

Invitations to attend the service were sent out to all former commanding officers and Regimental sergeant majors who had held those appointments during the period June 2, 1958 to July 12, 1974.

Four of the seven former Regimental

sergeant majors accompanied by their wives managed to attend and are pictured above—L. to R. Maj Stan Bullock MBE, Capt Tom Bullock MBE, Maj Roy Jenns, MBE and Maj Ray Baldry.

Maj Jenns was on parade when the colours were presented at Warley on May 1, 1959 and again when the colours were marched off parade, for the last time on July 12, 1974 at Tidworth.

### From the Padre

### Recognising our need for God

ALL serving and retired members of the Regiment must have been heartened by the events of 1995 at which the nation responded with such gratitude to all that the Armed Forces had done and sacrificed in recent times.

The VJ observances seemed to be even more poignant than those of VE. This was partly because they also marked the 50th anniversary of the end of the war.

After so much turbulence and uncertainty it did us good to know that all the service and sacrifice had been appreciated and seeped into the heart of the nation. Every newly joined soldier must have been affected by this mood, and so it was not just the Regimental Associations which will

have been given a boost. The church has always been at the heart of these national observances, and one of its chief roles is to be alongside us in our joys and sorrows.

Strangely prone to changing wine into water, it is nevertheless at its best when it is weak, like our Lord on the Cross. For then its strength is not its own but God's. This applies to us as individuals too. We need to recognise our need of God. We can then be strong in His strength, open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit — open also to His guidance. In the meantime let us thank God for what he has done for us personally, and what he has done for our nation at this time.

Tom Hiney

### Museum Appeal requires more funds

SIR. A detailed article on progress of the Regimental Museum project appears elsewhere in the Castle. Its opening is scheduled for early spring. Further funds are still required, in particular from those members of the Regiment who have not donated, but I am most grateful to those who have given to the appeal and can assure you all that your contributions mean that we can produce a display of the highest quality.

By the time the next Castle is published the museum will have been opened. Regimental visitors to the museum should be aware that special, discounted terms have been negotiated with Duxford for serving officers and other ranks of the Regiment and Former Regiments and their immediate family. Details can be obtained from RHQ or area secretaries and will be announced in the next Castle.

The Regiment will employ Mr George Boss, a retired senior NCO, as museum attendant. However, we will also need a pool of volunteers living locally on call for busy days. Anyone interested in acting as a voluntary museum attendant should please contact RHQ or the undersigned as soon as possible.

Finally, setting up the museum has already awoken great interest in Regimental matters such as customs, Regimental music, the development of our uniforms and details of operations. I hope our museum encourages a wider knowledge of Regimental history and its discussion and presentation through letters to or papers in the Castle. On behalf of the trustees I welcome any constructive ideas and contributions to the museum. Please contact me on 01733 54581. *Lt Col T D A Veitch*

### Gallipoli campaign

COL Michael Hickey has written a most interesting and well researched history of the disastrous Gallipoli campaign from its initial success to final defeat. The book published on Oct 12, 1995 and priced £19.99, is available from John Munay, 50 Albermarle Street, London W1X 4BJ.

# Mainly About People



Capt Williams (left) with Maj Burrell in Bosnia.

## A Kiwi Viking

**Capt E G Williams RNZIR writes:**

AS the sun goes down on what has been an outstanding 16-month tour with the Vikings, it is with some sadness that I look back on what has been and will remain one of the highlights of this Kiwi officer's career. Not only has the attachment been professionally rewarding but the friendships formed have made the tour one my family and I will never forget.

I received a phone call on a warm November afternoon in 1993 from the New Zealand Army Military Secretary asking me if I would like to go to the UK for two years. The fact that I was given only three weeks in which to move my family to the other side of the world did not influence my decision as I answered the question in approximately 3.5 seconds. Overseas postings are as scarce as hens' teeth in my Army and ones to the UK even more so.

My posting order as a Company 21C was to the 1st Battalion, the Royal Anglian Regiment, which I soon realised was nicknamed the Vikings.

When I arrived in December '93, the Battalion was readying itself for its East Tyrone tour and unfortunately New Zealand officers at that time were not able to deploy to NI. To mark time, I was attached to the headquarters staff of 24 Airmobile Brigade where I counted the days until the Battalion came home.

Expecting to undertake the attachment

to the Battalion as a Company 21C, I was pleasantly surprised when the Commanding Officer rang me from NI asking if I would be his Operations Officer. Again after considering the offer for about 3.5 seconds I gave him a positive reply. What a challenge I thought. In the New Zealand Army, Operations Officers are senior Majors so to say I was a bit daunted would be an understatement. However this trepidation soon disappeared when I finally joined the Battalion in August 1994 and the rest, as they say, is history.

Working as the CO's Operations Officer has produced a number of challenges, numerous Brigade exercises, Spearhead, Trumpet Dance and the Battalion's recent deployment to the Former Republic of Yugoslavia, to name but a few. The professionalism to the task and the standard of the Viking soldier has impressed me greatly. The Vikings truly are a fine battalion. The same can be said about the way my family and I were welcomed into the Battalion. The friendliness and support shown to us have been outstanding to say the least.

When we return to the land of the All Blacks and Jonah Lomu, we will always be Kiwi Vikings at heart and the friends we have made will remain our link with the Battalion. Those Vikings who find themselves upside-down down under, the opportunity to become a Viking Kiwi will be there for the taking.

## Books

### Bedfs & Herts at war in Europe

**Regimental History – the story of the four battalions of the Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment and the Hertfordshire Regiment TA 1939–1947**

MAJ Robin Medley has written a history of the Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment TA from 1939–1947 which covers the evacuation from Dunkirk, repelling the Herman Guring division Mejezel Bab Casino and many other individual accounts of other theatres of war in Sicily, Normandy, Greece and Singapore.

It will of course be of particular interest to those who served in the Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment and indeed anyone with an interest in the former Regiment's regimental history. The price is £19.95 (plus £1.50 p&p – £2.50 outside UK) and anybody wanting a copy should apply to Pen & Sword Books Limited, FREEPOST SF5, 47 Church Street, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 2BR. Tel: 01226 734222. RHQ and the Area Office in Warley also have a number on sale at the same price.

### A Suffolk's saga

LT Col Bertie Bevan, late Suffolks, has written a book entitled *Topees and Red Berets*, which is the story of a somewhat unconventional and exciting life of a professional soldier commissioned into the Suffolk Regiment. Col Bevan served with the 2nd Suffolks in Mhow, central India, during the last years of the Raj and while on the North West Frontier was attached to 19th Hyderabad Regiment. He was later in action during the Imphal Campaign.

To reserve a copy apply to Square One Publications, 20 Woolston Avenue, Letchworth, Hertfordshire SG6 2ED. The cost is £15, which includes postage.

### War of independence

RICHARD Sampson has written a book entitled *Escape in America – The British Convention*, about the American War of Independence but in particular prisoners of war held by the Americans of whom a number were from the 9th Foot, subsequently to become the Royal Norfolks. The book can be ordered from Picton Publishing (Chippenhams) for £27.50 plus postage £3.50 (UK). The address is: Queensbridge Cottages, Paterdown, Chippenham, Wilts. SN15 2NS.

## Mainly About People

# Changi memories

**Col Peter Baily joined the 3rd Lincolnshire Regiment in 1933. In 1938 he was seconded to the Malay Regiment and in February 1941 became a prisoner of the Imperial Japanese Army. He writes:**

WE, prisoners inside Changi gaol, knew through a secret wireless that on Aug 6 and 9, atomic bombs had been dropped on two cities in Japan with devastating results. The attitude of the guards changed. Some even asked officer prisoners for "chitties of good treatments (sic)", presumably having heard mention of war crimes trials. We heard the news of the surrender on Aug 15 but did not know if the local Japanese Army would accept it.

The next day, to our great excitement, British and Canadian planes flew low over the gaol. A party of us congregated inside the prison gates as a shower of leaflets descended. I have one of them now. They were from the RAF and RCAF stationed on the Cocos Islands. They sent greetings and dropped what they described as "a few odd comforts donated by every man in every Army and Air Force unit on the islands", with a promise of more to come. The last words on the leaflets were "as you probably know, the war is over and we have won." The excitement was intense and a middle-aged Wing Commander near me dropped dead - it was too much for his heart.

### Gates opened

The prison gates were thrown open and the guards disappeared, but we were advised not to stray outside as there might be diehard Japanese soldiers not prepared to accept the surrender. A day or two later a small British party parachuted into the camp. They were the advance guard of an organisation called RAPWI (Repatriation of Allied Prisoners of War and Internees). Red Cross food held up by the Japanese started to arrive, but the first few lorry loads consisted entirely of butter. Our doctors warned us that our stomachs would not tolerate much of this, but richly fried rice was too difficult to resist. The doctors were right - for the next two or three days many of us felt too queasy to eat other food coming in. Bundles of letters arrived, we were able to prepare telegrams and the BBC news was heard openly.

A few Indian officers appeared from their camps and they and the British Indian Army officers greeted each other with

warmth and affection after their long separation. Parties were invited to dine aboard Royal Navy warships at anchor off Singapore. We were getting enough to eat but it was difficult to digest army rations. Despite the almost unbelievable change in our circumstances there was nothing much to do except wander around the camp. Three episodes stick in my mind.

The first was about a week after the surrender. I was going for a walk and saw the British Senior Officer talking to a woman in white. He called me and asked me to try to find a certain Major. I stared, not having seen a white woman for three-and-a-half years, and realised at once that it was Lady Louis Mountbatten in her St John's Ambulance tropical uniform. I only had a g-string around my waist, and although my body and face were dark brown from the sun, I can remember blushing with embarrassment from head to toe. Lady Louis smiled and I went off in search of the Major.

The news of her visit spread around the camp and was a considerable morale booster. Soon after, the clothing problem was alleviated, if not entirely satisfactorily solved. Quantities of khaki shirts and drill shorts and slacks arrived, but there was a problem. Most prisoners had lost so much weight that their trousers would not stay up, and string, cord or anything that might serve as a belt was at a premium.

The second and most exciting episode was the formal surrender in Singapore of all the Japanese armies in southeast Asia to Lord Mountbatten. It was to take place on Sept 12 and I was determined to see it. I got a lift into the town on a returning ration truck and found my way to the Municipal Building where the ceremony was to take place. I walked up the steps and tried to get into the long verandah which overlooked the cricket ground. A British Military Police officer stopped me, no doubt a scruffy looking figure, and said only VIPs were allowed.

I said to him, "Look, I've waited three-and-a-half years for this and you can't stop me now." Decent fellow that he was, he turned his back for a moment and I slipped in. The verandah was packed with senior officers of all the services and some civilians, but the only two I recognised were the Sultan of Johore in his uniform as an honorary Field Marshal in the British Army, and Bishop Wilson, who had been so appallingly treated by the Japanese, in his purple robes. Formed up on the cricket

ground below was a Guard of Honour and contingents of the British, Australian, Indian and Dutch armies, the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines, the French Navy and a small party of the Chinese Resistance. Fighters and bombers roared overhead. The approach road was roped off and all Singapore seemed to have turned out to watch.

At 11 o'clock precisely Lord Mountbatten arrived and inspected the Guard of Honour, and the Royal Marine Band played Rule Britannia. He then moved into the building followed by senior officers. There was a sudden hush and I saw seven Japanese Generals, in single file and wearing their swords, marching towards the building. They were flanked on either side by Royal Marines in their white helmets, rifles at the slope. The Japanese, grim faced, entered the building and shortly after reappeared without their swords and were marched off. They had signed the document of unconditional surrender.

Lord Louis then emerged and moved to the saluting base. The Union Jack was broken. It was the one that had been used in the 1942 surrender and then buried at Changi. The Band played God Save the King and the other national anthems. The various contingents marched past to the applause of the populace. Significantly, the biggest cheer went to the small Chinese party. They were led by a man called Ching Peng, who later became leader of the Chinese Communists whom the British Army fought during the Malayan Emergency.

### Lord Mountbatten

My last memory is of a visit to our camp by Lord Mountbatten. Despite freedom, food and clothes, morale was low in many cases. Repatriation was going very slowly and there was nothing to do except wait. RAPWI became known as 'Retain all Prisoners of War and Internees Indefinitely', which was unfair, but we did not appreciate the shortage of shipping and air transport resultant from the war.

The future seemed uncertain and some officers were even murmuring about compensation or pensions. This had evidently come to the ears of Lord Louis and he gave a salutary pep talk. The gist of it was that he knew that we had had a bad time, everything possible would be done to get us fit and to resume our careers in civilian life or in the Forces, but we must not expect to live on sympathy for ever.

Then, at last, after several weeks, it was my turn to be sent home. I was lucky enough to go by sea and gradually get acclimatised from the tropical heat and humidity of Singapore to an English winter.

# Mainly About People

## Victims of the Battle of Paardeburg

Maj Steven Brunt writes:

I MENTIONED briefly in the June edition of Castle that I had managed to visit the Battle of Paardeburg where some of our former Regiments were well represented. It occurred to me that there may well be relatives of those who died at the battle who may still have links with the Regiment either directly through individuals serving or indirectly through our Regimental Associations. In addition there may be some who would be interested to hear where their great grandfather or great uncle was killed.

With this in mind I would like to publicise the accompanying list of those who died at Paardeburg between Feb 18-27 1900.



Number	Rank	Name	Regiment
08	Pte	Beattle J	Lincolns
2465	Pte	Bleach W	Norfolks
3420	Pte	Digby G	Essex
5102	Pte	Field GC	Essex
	Lt	Hyllton-Joliffe JC	Norfolks
2940	Pte	Kettle J	Essex
5206	Pte	Lake I	Essex
3232	Pte	Mansfield G	Essex
4189	L-Sgt	Mason T	Essex
807	Pte	Mayer G	Norfolks
4818	Pte	Morgan J	Essex
3181	Pte	Nelson S	Norfolks
2920	Pte	Newstead T	Norfolks
2762	Pte	Osbourne L	Norfolks
1776	Pnr Sgt	Randall H	Lincolns
5716	Pte	Ruggles W	Essex
3104	Pte	Sell A	Essex
3985	Cpl	Stort G	Lincolns
	Cpl	Walsham C	Essex
25555	Pte	Wand F	Essex
4266	Pte	Welham W	Essex
5607	Pte	Wollard I	Essex
4936	LCpl	Wright	Essex
4900	Pte	Young T	Essex

As for the battle site it is situated about 75 miles west of Bloemfontein in the High Veldt. The attack of the Essex took place on the morning of Feb 18 over a totally open piece of ground. Needless to say many of the casualties were sustained on that morning.

## Honourable Corps in need of recruits

Reproduced below is a letter from Col Tom Hall, the Lieutenant of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms written to the Director of Infantry. The letter is self explanatory; recruits are required!

I AM writing to seek your help in identifying and encouraging officers to become candidates for the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms. Though we were founded in 1509 as 'The Sovereign's Nearest Guard', I think it is true to say that not many serving officers are aware of our existence!

In outline, we have five officers and 27 gentlemen, who are required for a variety of royal duties about six times per year. Vacancies as they occur are chosen by Her Majesty, on the recommendation of the Captain, from a list of officers with long and meritorious service held by the Military Secretary. The officers, with the exception of the Captain who is a political appointment, are promoted from among the gentlemen.

A candidate may put his name forward to the Ministry of Defence (MS1b), Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 4PZ whilst still serving, but will not be interviewed until after he has retired. The outline qualifications are:- i) An officer who has held a Regular Commission of rank not normally lower than Substantive Major in a combatant corps of the British Army or Royal Marines; ii) Not over 52 years old when a vacancy occurs for his appointment; iii) Not less than 5ft 8in in height without boots.

Whilst we have enough candidates to fill projected vacancies until 1998, from 1999 onwards we will be short, so are looking for suitable officers born after 1946 to put their names forward to give a good choice for each vacancy.

I would be most grateful for your assistance in making more officers aware of the existence of the Honourable Corps and the opportunities of joining this historic 'Band of Gentlemen'. Any officer who wishes to know more about The Honourable Corps is most welcome to contact the Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant (Lt Col Richard Mayfield DSO) or myself.

Col Tom Hall  
The Honourable Corps of  
Gentlemen-at-Arms, St James's Palace,  
London SW1A 1BP. (0171) 930-4739

# Attachment to the Spanish Infantry

The Army language scholarship scheme:

## Capt Andy Foster writes:

SITTING at my desk one lunchtime, eating my lunch whilst ploughing through DCIs (as is an Adjutant's wont), I came across an instruction entitled 'The Army Language Scholarship Scheme' (ALSS). It was, it told me, a scheme to increase the base of language competent officers in the Army, by sending them for a year to allied armies after limited initial language training. The aim was to learn by immersion thus acquiring the 'sub-culture' as well as the target language.

## Selection board

The aim of this article is to plug the ALSS, as, incredibly, it is under-subscribed. My career planners needed to sanction my application, and after some sucking of teeth and a suggestion that the scheme was not a way of avoiding a staff job if I had aspirations to go to Staff College, it was reluctantly agreed that I could apply. I hasten to add that their advice was totally sound, but in today's competitive army I wanted to plan for non-selection for Staff College by having another unique, string to my bow.

My application duly went to ETS 1 at Worthy Down and in due course I was called forward to a special selection board at the Defence School of Languages.

This involved a series of language aptitude tests in English (to confirm an understanding of grammar), and an interview by a board which satisfies itself that the officers' interests are looked after by selection for the scheme and that the Service's best interests will be served by the officer concerned.

I had applied to go to Spain, as being a degree linguist in French, I was told that I should consider learning a new language instead. Having been selected for the scheme, its sponsors D and D International at HQ DG D&D, tailored a package to suit my individual circumstances. I left my Grapple tour in late August 94 and immediately started an intensive four weeks of one-to-one tuition at a civilian language school in Cambridge. The idea of this course was to bring me up to Nato Standard Language Profile 2210 (formerly known as Colloquial level<sup>1</sup>) and at the end of it I passed the exam and immediately left for Spain.

I was attached to the Service Attaché Madrid, who administered me during my time in Spain. D and D International organise the placement in all foreign armies participating in the Scheme and in so doing take into account the officer's Arm and where possible his wishes, career and academic background too. I was sent to the Academia de Infanteria in Toledo, which in very simplified terms is the equivalent of ITC's Wales and Warminster combined.

Toledo is one of the most beautiful cities in Spain; a strategic town both during

the Peninsular War and the Civil War, it saw a bloody siege ending with brutal retribution by the victorious Nationalists under Franco.

As I approached the Academia's main gate, the main issue for me was – will I understand them and will they understand me, having had such limited language training? The answer to both questions was 'no'. Having lived in France during my degree I knew that having a good academic standard did not necessarily help. 'Living' the language involved a couple of months of groping one's way whilst acquiring the language people really speak (e.g. "that's a smashing motor car" vs "that's a smart set of wheel."), people don't speak as on exercise tapes but rather eat their words, so a certain amount of tuning in to the correct frequency needs to take place.

## Wonderful reception

The frustration of those early days was made as easy as it could be by the wonderful reception that I received. I was welcomed and entertained in a manner that was almost embarrassing when compared with what I might have expected from our own Army. I was accommodated in the Residencia de Oficiales, which is an Officers' and Sergeants' Mess rolled into one. Meals are paid for as they are taken and are four course affairs, with wine provided. The standard was variable, but generally food was tasty and menus contained a lot of fish.

In such a short article a discussion of the differences between the two Armies would raise more questions than it answered. Those readers who are interested can find out more about the Spanish Army in an expanded version of this article which is published in the 1996 Infantryman Magazine.

In essence the Spanish Army has a dif-  
*Continued Page 17*

OUR task is to assist all ex Regular servicemen and women who did not hold commissioned rank, who served with good character for a minimum of three years, (or less if discharged on medical grounds), to find employment. We take a long-term interest and can, as a registered charity, offer our free counselling service to them throughout their working lives.

The RFEA works together with the Tri-Service Resettlement Organisation, the Services Employment Network/SkillBank, the Officers' Association and the Employment Service, as part of the Forces resettlement

## Regular Forces Employment Association

ment service.

Our employment officers maintain close contact with local employers, also offering them a free service, from our 39 branches spread throughout the UK. Their address and telephone numbers can be obtained from Resettlement Officers, Corps and Regimental

Associations, Jobcentres, Yellow Pages and local telephone directories.

Sadly, only half of those eligible to register with the Association do so but during the period Apr 1, 1994 – Mar 31, 1995 the Association assisted 12,241 men and women with their resettlement and placed 4,903 in employment. Of those placed 2,738 were men and women from the Army and 32 were from The Royal Anglian Regiment. In the first five months of this year we have registered 4,280 and placed 1,954 from all three services. That is a 45% success rate. Why not contact us and see how we can help you.



# Mainly About People



Above: The author with two instructors from the Academy.



Left: Cpts Foster (left) and Richard Latham by the Talavera Monument. Behind them, through the tress is the precise spot where the 48th distinguished itself in the battle and save the day

From Page 16

ferent way of achieving the same aim. It does not lack dynamic professional officers, but conscription has made the Army unpopular and it is therefore easy for the government to underspend on defence – their most modern MBT is the M60. This lack of modern equipment affects their operational capability, although their experiences in Bosnia

are proving invaluable for the officers and soldiers

At the Academia de Infanteria I attended students' lessons in order to practice my Spanish and to get a feel for the way that they did business. When not doing that I would study Spanish in my office or chat to people in the Academy Headquarters. Learning a new language by immersion is

like having to study Military Law every day for four months; your brain hurts at the end of each day. It is only at the end of that period that you start to acquire some kind of consistency with your understanding and the use of correct idiomatic language.

As I became more linguistically competent, I started to give talks on the British Infantry, Bosnia etc., organising accommodation for a Lt Colonel visiting for a Nato meeting, setting up recces for exchange exercises, being the Spanish point of contact for 3 (UK) Division's Staff Ride. This latter undertaking took up more and more of my time as the June visit got nearer and ultimately became a source of great satisfaction. I learnt to negotiate with senior officers, do business on the phone (always hard in a foreign language) and when they arrived, I acted as interpreter – in short I did everything that the ALSS had aimed to develop in me.

That apart, the trip involved study of the battlefields of Talavera and Salamanca which was obviously of particular interest, both to myself and Capt Richard Latham Royal Anglian who, as an SO3 in 3 (UK) Division's Headquarters took part.

## Job prospects

What prospects do my attendance on the ALSS give me? I have recently taken the Nato SLP 3333 (Interpreter) exam, after further sponsored language training on my return from Spain. If I have passed it, I will be entered on the Worthy Down computer as a Spanish interpreter. Whenever a requirement for a linguist arises my name will come up.

Thus I could end up on a United Nations mission whose official language is Spanish (eg San Salvador) hosting visiting Spanish-speaking VIPs or I could be an LO attached to a Spanish unit on joint operations or exercises – I am about to spend 10 days in Spain doing the latter.

Whatever the future holds for me regarding promotion, I am now in a better position to dictate what I do and to ensure that I use my languages. I had a wonderful year and now have a foreign language. Not a bad return from the year of my life that I invested in the scheme, particularly when languages are set to become so important, with multinational operations becoming the norm.

It is essential that more Teeth Arm officers get involved in the ALSS so, apply now for the 96/7 scheme, you will not regret it!

If you are interested in the ALSS, the scheme is detailed in DC1 15/95 and the point of contact is ETS 1b at Worthy Down (tel 727 2671).

## Mainly About People

# Dramatic changes in infantry training

### Maj J W Rollins writes:

THE two articles reproduced here and in next summer's *Castle* will, I hope, give you a flavour of how the recent dramatic changes in Infantry training have developed. The first is a purely factual account of the new organisation at Catterick. The second will be a personal view from Maj Richard Pattison who is one of the new Company Commanders.

It is worth making a few points from a Regimental perspective. There are 22 Vikings or Poachers here, so we are relatively well represented. However, we are spread across three battalions. Each of the platoons is trained by a team of six (Officer, SNCO and four JNCOs) from a Division of Infantry. So some Royal Anglians are concentrated in such teams. However, in the main we do not see a great deal of each other. Having said this, we do socialise. One

of the more successful events within the ITC was a Royal Anglian all-ranks barbecue. Along with the Parachute Regiment, we are the only capbadge to get together in such a way.

The ITC is in many ways something of a pressure cooker. Although we are not running at much more than 50% – due to poor recruiting – everyone is very busy, in particular the training teams. There is open and healthy competition between capbadges. Standards, whether purely physical or in terms of the other aspects of our profession, are exceptionally high and are improving.

The emphasis, from Commandant and the three Commanding Officers downwards is leadership from the front and instructors at all levels are expected to match up. Not every one of the 550 military staff here has made the grade. However, there is no doubt that Royal Anglians have shone at every

level.

### An overview

UNTIL 1993 all Infantry recruit training was conducted at the old Divisional and Regimental depots across the country. When it was decided to create a 10-week long common military syllabus for all arms and set up the Army Training Regiments (ATRs) to run the course, three Infantry Training Battalions (ITBs) were established at Catterick, Strensall and Ouston to conduct Phase 2 training for the Infantry. However, this had always been intended to be an interim solution, the long term plan being to centralise

Phase 2 at Catterick, realising savings of more than 30% over the cost of running the three ITBs.

We have taken on the tasks of the old depots / ITBs – less, of course, Phase 1 training. As well as conducting Phase 2 training for both the Regular and TA Infantry we also run significant Phase 3 courses on behalf of both the Infantry and 5 Airborne Brigade and are the Depot for just under one third of the Army. If the Army recruits to SCAMF, we will train approximately 12,000 a year.

In short, we compromise three training battalions, including 10 training companies and with an any-one-time population of up to 3,000 broken down into some 550 military staff, 160 civilians with the remainder under training. Each of the training companies represents an intake. We are geared to receiving an intake of up to 210 Regular soldiers every fortnight and the same number of TA soldiers every other fortnight.

This system applies for all companies within the ITC with the exception of the Foot Guards and Parachute Regiment whose intakes come in on a platoon basis because they complete different, longer CICs. The Foot Guards undergo a 14-week course, including two weeks of drills, although each platoon trains with a line Infantry company for all major field exercises. The Parachute CIC also forms up by platoon and conducts a 17-week programme to incorporate parachute selection and training.

All training teams (Platoon Commander, Sergeant and four JNCOs) are based upon divisional capbadges. Where at all possible soldiers are trained by staff from their own divisional capbadges. Although this has not always been possible because of the difficulty of matching Phase 1 output and Phase 2 intakes and because of the importance of minimising the gap between Phase 1 and Phase 2 training – in nearly every case soldiers pass out from an ATR on a Friday and start at Catterick the following Monday.

### The Syllabus

A high percentage of time is spent on skill-at-arms, fieldcraft and fitness, the pivotal skills of the infantryman. These three skills encompass most of the critical objectives that a trainee must pass to complete this phase of his training. Of equal importance is the overall standard that each soldier attains at various stages of the course on key exercises and field training.

The programme is structured around the field training exercises, each set to enable the trainee to use his newly-acquired skills

*Continued Page 19*



## Mainly About People

*From Page 18*

and knowledge in a realistic and progressive manner. The first such exercise occurs in week three covering basic fieldcraft and low level section tactics; two weeks later in week five there is the patrols exercise; both exercises are in excess of 48 hours. The defence exercise which runs over four days is programmed in week seven. These three exercises are all conducted on the local Catterick and Feldom Moor training areas, making best use of some rugged and demanding terrain and sometimes less than friendly weather conditions. Weeks 10 and 11 are spent away from Catterick on the final battle camp. The first week is spent field firing at Warcop where soldiers then move onto the eight-day final dry training exercise that confirms the training carried out during the CIC. This exercise is held at Kircudbright and Galloway Forest during the winter months and Otterburn during the summer.

Phase 1 training for Infantry TA soldiers is carried out within their own battalions over a number of weekends before attending a two-week TA combat infantryman's course here at Catterick.

There are certain mandatory training objectives which must be achieved prior to attending the TA CIC. The course here is demanding, with 50% of the training time spent in the field, including five nights out. The TA soldier also has to pass critical training objectives, such as APWT and BFT. There is no doubt that the TA CIC has raised standards.

The ITC carries out two Phase 3 courses. We train machine gunners and drummers for the Infantry, and run all arms pre-parachute selection courses to select officers and soldiers for 5 Airborne Brigade.

The GPMG SF/Class 3 drummers course is some 20 weeks long. Musical skills take the bulk of that time, but great emphasis is placed upon the machine gun both in gun drills, and in the tactical deployment of the Machine Gun Platoon in all phases of war and all types of terrain. Fitness training is programmed throughout the 20 weeks and requires the gunners/drummers to train with the GPMG SF and associated equipment and weight. This is no course for the faint hearted. Parachute Selection or 'P' Company has a charter to train and select some 700 officers and soldiers for 5 Airborne Brigade as well as conducting pre-parachute selection for Parachute Regiment trainee soldiers during their CIC. It is a demanding course which has lost nothing from its move from Aldershot.



## Awards for Bosnia

Cpl Rainey MC and Maj Wild MBE are seen following the presentation of their operational awards from the Poachers' tour in Bosnia. The awards were presented at a historical ceremony in The Westminster Hall on June 25 which commemorated the 50th anniversary of the founding of the UN. All recipients of 1994 Bosnia and Rwanda awards received their medals and were subsequently entertained at Buckingham Palace. Cpl Rainey remains one of the very few ORs to have been awarded the MC.

# Mainly About People

## ROYAL ANGLIANS AT ITC CATTERICK

Pictured are eight of the 22 Royal Anglians at ITC Catterick. Left to right, are: Cpl Newton, Trg Team Instr; Cpl Roach, Trg Team Instr; Cpl Cooper, Trg Team Instr; Drum Major Locke, Drums/SF Company Instr; Maj Rollins, COS; Capt McGrath, Trg Team Cmd; Lt McClay, Trg Team Cmd; Sgt Marsh, Trg Team Sgt.

See story – page 18.



## The Sandhurst connection

### *The Regimental Representative at RMAS writes:*

THE Regimental community at Sandhurst continues to thrive. At present the permanent staff from the Regiment are seven strong. The Regimental Representative, Capt Nick Nottingham, arrived in May and has commanded two platoons of the first term of the commissioning course. WO2 (RQMS) Smith has moved from being RQMS within the AM's Dept and is now RQMS and Exercise Warrant Officer Old College. CSgts Kirk and Humphries (both Poachers) continue to work in the Skill-at-Arms Wing where they have now been joined by CSgt Wright (a Viking) who has moved there after a year with Rowallan Company. Sgt Simpson, another 1st Battalion man, has been with the Signals Wing since his arrival in May and Cpl Dales from the 2nd Battalion remains on the RP staff.

On the potential officer front the future is very bright. Having seen 2Lt Ed Osborne commissioned into the 1st Battalion in April, and 2Lt Stuart Smith into the 2nd Battalion in August, 3 OCdts are due to be commissioned on Dec 15, 1995: OCdt Dan Howson to the Vikings; and OCdts Chris Davies and Andrew Robbins to the Poachers. In addition,

there are (at the time of writing) eight potential officers due to pass out in April 96 who will attend the Regimental Acceptance Board in November, and a further seven candidates due to pass out in August 96 who are about to complete their first term. It would appear that the Regiment will have little difficulty in selecting both the right number, and the right calibre of young officers over the next year.

Various social occasions take place each term. The termly visit of the Regimental Tailors, FA Stone & Sons, is marked by a sandwich lunch to which all potential officers, RMAS permanent staff, and permanent staff and students both at Staff College and JDSC are invited. Later in the term one of the potential officers in the senior term organises a night out for all potential officers which takes place in London; it tends to be of a more informal nature! At the end of each term the Colonel of the Regiment (or his representative) comes down to the 'Eve of Sovereign's Parade Drinks', to which all permanent staff and potential officers are invited; those due to pass out the next day are formally presented with their respective battalion ties. In May we were delighted to welcome Colonel John Houchin, and in August Colonel Michael Goldschmidt, both of

whom represented the Colonel of the Regiment at the Sovereign's Parade. We look forward to the Colonel of the Regiment himself coming down in December.

The commissioning course itself continues to evolve. The first (junior) term is spent in Old College, and on successful completion of it, OCdts move to New College with a different platoon commander and platoon colour sergeant, who then take them through the second (intermediate) term and on to the third (senior) term. The course is totally integrated so that in any one platoon overseas cadets serve alongside their British counterparts, graduates alongside non-graduates, and Army scholars, Bursars, Welbexians and undergraduate cadets alongside soldier entrants. The female platoon in each intake is part of a company of two other male platoons, and they complete an almost identical course to them. Rowallan Company continues to run; Colour Sergeant Wright's article elsewhere in this magazine eloquently describes its aims and structure.

In summary, Royal Anglians continue to have a strong influence at RMAS and the Regiment has built on its reputation for having a close family atmosphere across the rank structure. Those who serve here invariably appreciate the considerable amount of sporting and leisure facilities available at Sandhurst and while the terms themselves remain extremely busy, the leave periods between them are clearly enjoyed by all.

## Mainly About People

# Cambridgeshire museum appeal

The Cambridgeshire Regiment is launching an appeal for a museum. A letter from Lt Col Pat Macdonald follows along with a resume of the Regimental history

I am writing to you about our appeal for funds to establish a Cambridgeshire Regiment display at the Imperial War Museum (IWM), Duxford. You are aware, I know, that this opportunity has arisen as a result of work to establish the Royal Anglian Regiment museum there. We hope that the Royal Anglian Regiment will wish to make a contribution to the appeal.

The IWM has identified space close to the Royal Anglian display which it has offered to the Cambridgeshire Regiment, if we are interested. The IWM estimates the cost of the work to be some £12,500. At its March 1995 meeting, the Regiment's council wholeheartedly accepted the IWM's offer and invited me, with a small committee, to take the matter forward and raise the necessary funds.

The Cambridgeshire Regiment's display already established in the Ely Museum is seen by many visitors; that at Bury St Edmunds is less frequented because The Keep is not on the acknowledged tourist routes. (Attempts to change this are in hand, as you know.) The Cambridgeshires' presence at both these will remain.

An additional display in such a prominent and popular place in our county, as the IWM, provides a demanding challenge for us. I have launched a county-side appeal for support and, to date, the response has been most warming. County, district, town and parish councils are proving to be most generous. So is the reaction, so far, from past and present Cambridgeshires. We have also appealed to the trustees of the former Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment (TA) and of the 1st East Anglian Funds.

We have not finalised the legal arrangements for our presence at Duxford, but we anticipate no difficulties, given the head of goodwill being shown to us. We seek to raise our target figure by the end of this year, if at all possible, and will be grateful for any help which you can provide towards its attainment.

Lt Col J P Macdonald,  
Chairman.

### The Cambridgeshire Regiment

THE county has only briefly been listed in the Infantry of The Line in the Regular Army. In 1782 a regiment, which had been raised in 1702 by a Col Saunderson, and which had become the 30th Foot in 1751, was designated 'Cambridgeshire'. However, the connection was broken in 1881 when it became instead the West Lancashire (later East Lancashire) Regiment.

The modern volunteer tradition dates from 1860 with the formation of the Cambridgeshire Rifle Volunteer Corps.

In the First World War the Battalion served continuously from 1915 to 1918 in France and Flanders earning 27 Battle Honours. By all reports, it was an outstanding Battalion. The cost was over 860 dead and almost 3,300 wounded.

The Battalion performed well in the inter-war years. Early in 1939 authority was given to raise the 2nd Battalion and this was achieved in a matter of days: both Battalions camped together in August 1939.

The fate of the two battalions in the Second World War is well known. On

Japan's entry into the War, their Division, the 18th (East Anglian), was diverted while en route to the Middle East to the Far East. The 2nd Battalion arrived in time to become involved in the confused fighting of the withdrawal to Singapore, in which it acquitted itself well, but at a high cost. The 1st Battalion arrived at Singapore only to join in the desperate final battles for the island. Both were still fighting fiercely, although surrounded, when the surrender was ordered on Feb 15, 1942. In these actions, and in the years which followed, almost 800 Cambridgeshires were killed in

action or died as POWs in the hands of the Japanese. The two battalions were disbanded on their return to England.

When the TA was reformed in 1947, the Regiment was established as a light anti-aircraft regiment, Royal Artillery, retaining its colours, drums and buttons.

Changes continued. In March 1961, as part of a general rundown of the TA, the Regiment became part of the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment TA, part of the Corps of the 1st East Anglian Regiment (itself formed in 1959, from the Royal Norfolk and The Suffolk Regiments). In 1967, the new TA Regiment was disbanded. However, four years later, in 1971, D (Cambridgeshire) Company was formed as part of the 6th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment; and a worthy successor it proved to be, based on Cambridge and Wisbech and drawing volunteers from all over the county and beyond. In October 1992 the Company joined the 5th Battalion as part of a post-Cold War reshuffle, but in November 1995 it reverted to the 6th Battalion and its long links with Suffolk.

There are a few good  
challenges left in this life  
... This is one

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# Vikings



Drummer Pennock sounds the morning reveille.



Picture, courtesy of the Eastern Daily Press

## Deployment to Ploce

THE past six months for the Battalion have been dominated by our preparation and deployment to the former Republic of Yugoslavia. We were originally put on seven days' notice to move on May 29 as the hostage crisis in Bosnia deepened. Whilst the political negotiations were taking place at a far higher level than ours the Battalion trained for operations across a broad spectrum of possible scenarios and threat levels. Having been given the go-ahead we successfully deployed to the port of Ploce in Croatia and established a semi-permanent camp from a 'green field' site.

Against the back drop of a continually changing situation in the Balkans the Battalion has trained within the limitations of the area to carry out its role as the theatre reserve. Sitting in Ploce in October it is

extraordinary how much things have changed since late May. What the future holds and what part the Battalion will take does not bear speculation, except to say that we are here and ready to be tasked.

### Training

Having been warned off for deployment, Headquarter Land hastily put together a comprehensive training package based around Salisbury Plain. The first week involved activities broadly based on the Operation Grapple training. First Aid and mine awareness featured heavily. Perhaps however, the most interesting and challenging part was the negotiation training. This involved platoon and sub-unit commanders having to negotiate their way through various warring faction checkpoints and road

blocks manned by members of the expatriate Serbo Croat community in the UK. It is certainly a great leveller when you have an unshaven Serb or Croat sticking an AK47 under your nose and being unimaginably difficult! For the rifle companies the most gratifying part of the week was seeing some of the stouter members of Headquarter Company performing house entry drills in the FIBUA village at Copehill Down.

Towards the end of the first week we had our first experience of the national press corps as they descended on the Vikings. They were allowed to see some first-aid training and a checkpoint negotiation stand; however, Pte Ford, our female Headquarter Company clerk seemed to generate more interest! The Commanding Officer certainly

*Continued Page 24*

## News from the Vikings



Above: Cpl Guymer being interviewed by the national media.  
Right: 2Lt Preston gets the third degree during checkpoint negotiation training. Below: Ptes Russell and Sinclair of Mobile Milan practice inserting IV drips into each other.



# News from the Vikings



Above: Early morning ablutions Ploce style.  
Below: Drummer Tulit gets a Viking haircut.



## From Page 22

received some practice in his interview technique as he gave about 12 interviews to the national media within the space of 45 minutes.

In week two we moved onto field firing with battle exercises at section, platoon and company level. Mortars and Milan were also able to complete some live firing. At the end of the week the Battalion was put through a battle run involving company convoy drills and culminating in a live firing battalion attack with a troop of Scimitars and two platoons of mortars under command. Following the field training the majority of the Vikings command element moved onto a Brigade level CPX held at the BBGT(S) at Warminster hosted by Lt Col David Phipps. Whilst there we played through a few scenarios in which the Brigade might become involved and continued with the negotiation and media training. We were visited by the CGS and the Minister of State for the Armed Forces.

## Deployment

Once we had completed our training the Q-side swung into action and started preparing us for the deployment. The Quartermaster's department had to wade its way through an

enormous amount of UN paperwork including the completion of the UN 'In survey' which required the listing of almost every item held by the Battalion. The majority of the Vikings were able to snatch 10 days' leave before we received our movement orders. With a bit of help from our American counterparts in the form of ships and some C141 Starlifters, the deployment began with the loading of vehicles at Marchwood on July 19.

The first troops to arrive were an activation party which reached Split on July 31. The US air crew obviously thought they were flying straight into a war zone as they persuaded everyone to run off the back of the Starlifter with the engines still running. This very un-British act certainly surprised the air movement staff at Split airport. The activation party moved down to Ploce and were able to celebrate Minden Day in the traditional manner with a presentation of roses from the Brigade Commander, Brigadier Brims late LI, another Minden regiment.

On arrival Ploce was a rather dilapidated port working at about 10% capacity and with none of the facilities required to house some 3,500 troops. The majority of

*Continued Page 27*

# News from the Vikings



Above: The Brigade Commander, Brigadier Brims presents Minden Roses assisted by the RQMS(T), WO2 Keeble. Left: Camp November, or Camp Nasty as it is known by the troops. Home of the Vikings. Below: NCOs Cadre give covering fire whilst exercising in Friday Woods.



Picture: courtesy of the Eastern Daily Press



# News from the Vikings



Picture: courtesy of the Eastern Daily Press

Above: Cpl Watson of B Company briefs his section. Left: Viking soldiers get 'stuck in' on the improvised bayonet fighting course. Below: Viking chefs sustaining the Battalion, often in extremely testing circumstances.





# News from the Vikings



Above: Cpl Keating salvages his belongings after the first flood. Right: WO2 Hughes paddles up the tent lines. Below: Cpl Baron wielding the Swing Fog with gay abandon on his nightly rounds.

## *From Page 24*

the preparatory work, such as provision of potable water and sanitation was completed by the Engineers.

However, it was up to the Battalion to construct its own camp. This involved erecting tents to accommodate everyone and building a field cookhouse from a marquee that looked as if it had probably seen service in the Boer War and had not been used since. The main body were all in country by Aug 5 and with the camp completed it was time to get down to some training.

## **Life in Ploce**

The Brigade mission in Croatia is to act as a theatre reserve. Although at the time of writing we have not deployed anywhere, a number of possible options have been planned and receded.

It remains to be seen whether any of these options will lead to our deployment

*Continued Page 28*



## News from the Vikings



Above: Clearing a path out of a minefield on an exercise in Ploce. Below: Lt Ward and Pte Collier involved in early morning PT. Bottom: 2Lt Smith, New Zealand Army and Sgt Carpenter using improvised weights during boxing training.



### *From Page 27*

'up country'. For the majority of our time training has been limited to fairly low-level skills as we have not had access to any training areas or ammunition. This situation has recently been resolved and we have been able to get into Bosnia and train in an area just north of Tomislavgrad.

We have concentrated particularly on weapon drills, first aid training, helicopter emplaning and deplaning drills, fitness training and abseiling. Furthermore we have been involved in two brigade level CPXs, one in Ploce and the other in Tomislavgrad.

On a lighter note, the companies have organised strong-man competitions, volleyball knockouts, swimming regattas and such evening activities as lotteries and bingo.

These have all gone some way towards relieving the routine of life in Ploce. Furthermore an R&R centre has been establishing up the coast where soldiers have been able to have a 24-hour respite and carry out some adventure training.

### **Visits**

Since deploying to theatre we have hosted a number of visits from high-ranking officers such as the CDS, Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge and the Joint Commander, Gen Sir John Wilsey.

All have emphasised the delicacy of the peace process and complimented the Brigade on putting up with the difficult conditions and uncertainty with great fortitude and humour.

*Continued Page 29*

# News from the Vikings



From Page 28

## Weather

It would be remiss not to include a mention of the weather which has varied from extremely hot, up to 45 deg C, to extreme wind and rain. The latter has resulted in the camp being completely flooded out on two occasions and a number of tents blowing away on a third. Despite the conditions everyone has kept a sense of humour. Particularly amusing has been the sight of WO2 Hughes canoeing between the tent lines and bemused captains running around in the middle of the night half naked wondering where their tent and most of their clothes have disappeared to. After the most recent flood, a camp vacated by the Canadians became available at Rastevic and the Battalion has been ordered to move to it. It is about 80 miles northeast of Split.

## Conclusion

The Vikings are all in good heart and dealing with the difficulties of working in a multi-national environment in a very upbeat manner. We have now got greater freedom of movement and consequently we should be able to carry out more field training in the future. Indeed we are set in early October to undergo a period of winter training. Our R&R package has started and we are slipping into the routine that develops on any operational tour. We expect to do a full tour in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia although developments in the peace process may lead to the adjustment of that expectation.

**Postscript: The Vikings returned to the UK in November**

Above: The Commanding Officer briefs the Battalion on the latest situation.  
Below: Heli abseiling onto the salt flats around Ploce Dockyard.



Picture: courtesy of the Eastern Daily Press

## News from the Vikings



The Viking football team photographed with the local Croatian side. See sports — Page 83

# Surveillance training in Egypt

*CSgt Redford Smith writes of his experiences in Egypt:*

BACK in February of this year whilst on Exercise Trumpet Dance in the US I remember being asked by the Adjutant if I was interested in assisting on a recce cadre in a hot country. After great deliberation I said 'yes'. Little did I know at this stage that I would spend five weeks as a Captain in Egypt.

From June 20 to July 25 I was attached to a four-man team from the Armoured Reconnaissance Tactics Division from Warminster. We were tasked with running a three-week surveillance course in Egypt. Surprisingly the three CSgts on the team were all granted the local rank of Captain to compensate for the inflated Egyptian rank structure!

The aim of the course was to instruct students in rural surveillance

techniques and was particularly structured for the Egyptian Central Security Forces (CSF). Training was given in such fundamental recce skills as establishing both rural and desert OPs, navigation (which was most difficult as the Egyptians do not use maps, but rely on local knowledge), close target recces and the use of surveillance devices.

After a period of 10 days acclimatisation and preparation the course began. There were 24 students with varying degrees of operational experience. Eight were from the Hostage Release Force and were particularly well motivated and had the added advantage of being able to speak English. The Arabic course that we attended in the UK proved invaluable as the interpreters allocated to the team proved to be a great disappointment.

Throughout our time in Egypt we

were accommodated in a hotel which, although basic, gave us the opportunity to explore Cairo. We were also able to use the facilities of a police club and occasionally the British Embassy. At the end of the course we were whisked away on a three-day tour of Upper Egypt. We were able to visit all the major tourist sites including the pyramids at Saqqarah and Giza and the towns of Aswan and Luxor. The Egyptians' hospitality throughout was marvellous with VIP treatment and police motorcycle escorts the norm.

The time spent in Egypt proved to be a unique experience both militarily and socially. The Egyptian way of life is something that takes more than five weeks to get used to. Maybe that is why I would readily volunteer for Egypt '96 and would recommend the trip to anyone else.

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# Poachers



## A hectic 'fallow' year

THE Poachers' 'fallow year' between operational tours and Warminster continues to be anything but. Training and training support commitments, particularly with regard to training units and individuals deploying to Bosnia, continue apace. On May 12 the new Brigade Commander of 7 Armoured Brigade, Brigadier D W Montgomery, made his first visit to the Poachers and presented citations in front of the national media to those Poachers who had received awards in Bosnia.

A number of events organised with the aim of continuing the strong links between the Poachers and the local German community have taken place. The annual round of Queen's birthday celebrations was followed on July 26 with a visit by officers and SNCOs from our local Bundeswehr Aviation Regiment in Celle. The guests saw the full range of our equipment, fired on the various simulators and drove Warriors before watching a beating retreat by the Normandy Band of the Queen's Division.

On June 8 the Commanding Officer's annual bugle competition was held to perpetuate the memory of the bravery and devotion to duty of Bugler Allen of the 58 Regiment of Foot. He was killed at Bulcotts Farm, New Zealand, whilst sounding the alarm. His right arm being shattered by a tomahawk. Holding the bugle in his left he continued the call until hacked to pieces by the enemy. Although this year's competition was less bloody, it required some tough judging from the Commanding Officer, RSM and Adjutant before deciding that Drummer Packham had won the coveted award.

The Battalion has continued to play a leading role in five out of the six Medicine Man exercises at BATUS in Canada. In July no sooner had those elements of B and C Companies, Mortars, Milan and Recce who had stayed on in Canada to act as opposing forces, returned to Celle than A Company group, under Maj Richard Kemp went out as part of the RDG battlegroup on Medicine Man 3. All armoured infantry companies and all of the support platoons have participated in at least one Medicine Man exercise, with many individuals from the Battalion



Sgt Dunn wonders why he has just thrown himself out of a perfectly serviceable aircraft.

having taken part in two or three.

Meanwhile life in Celle has been far from quiet. The Commanding Officer has carried out his inspections of all departments in the Battalion as part of ongoing preparations for the handover of Trenchard Barracks and the vehicle fleet to 2 RRF in February 96. The overall standard was

extremely high and has provided a firm starting block in order to give the Fusiliers the customarily excellent Poacher handover.

Visits have also been frequent throughout this period and have included the Director of Infantry, Maj Gen Pett on Jul 10-11. Similarly we have had visits from

*Continued Page 34*



## News from the Poachers



Above: Pte Harness enjoys a joke with members of Signal Platoon.  
Left: Cpl Rainey MC. Below: LCpl Dyson on stag in Canada.



# News from the Poachers



Above: LCpl Birkin still able to smile despite 'horrific abdominal wounds' during a BE laid on for the Director Infantry. Above left: Ptes Felsted, Rolfe and WO2 Abbs of Mortar Platoon pose at the end of a Battalion CPX. Left: Another new pack for OC – BATUS 95. Below left: Major Clements debriefs C Company personnel in BATUS.



## From Page 32

two school CCFs, namely Oundle between Jul 12-18 hosted by C Company, and Kimbolton between Jul 27 and Aug 5 hosted by D(Sp) Company. On Sept 18 and 19 the Commander Allied Rapid Reaction Corps, Lt Gen Sir Michael Walker, visited the Poachers. He arrived by helicopter and met the officers and their wives during a black tie dinner held in the Officers' Mess. The following day the General, after an office call with the CO, toured the barracks and visited training in the Gunnery Wing, the Small Arms Trainer before taking the wheel of a Warrior on a cross-country driving exercise. He then presented three commendations for service in Bosnia and four Long Service and Good Conduct medals before having lunch in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess.

Talavera Day was celebrated in true Poacher style by a families barbeque during the day, and Warrant Officers going to the Officers' Mess for a very lively dinner night. In August the Battalion had a well-earned four-week summer block leave. On return the Battalion conducted the mandatory annual ATDs and achieved a 100% Opeval result as well as beginning preparations for the major events that would fill our

*Continued Page 36*

## News from the Poachers



Above: Drums Platoon. Left: The CO presents prizes at the end of the bugle competition. Below: CO, Adjutant and RSM judge bugle calls from behind a screen during the bugle competition.



# News from the Poachers



Above: A recent photo of Capt Wormald's memorial stone in Bosnia. Above left: March past of the Battalion colours. Below: Relieved that they haven't been hacked to death by a tomahawk – bugle competition prizewinners Drummers Poundall, Packham and Coleman.



## *From Page 34*

lives until Christmas — Exercise Rhino Spear, a divisional CPX, battalion field firing at Sennelager, and a brigade exercise in December.

Cadres have continued with a vengeance. The MT Platoon in Warminster is required to be almost three times its current size and as a result HGV and HAZMAT cadres seem to be never ending. The Signals Platoon has run the first ever regimental signallers' cadre which has been challenging for the instructors and students alike. The Armoured Infantry Manning Increment has been finalised and those soldiers that will be left behind in Celle have now been notified. Tickle shoots, Opeval BFTs, doctrine study days and a board of officers have continued without pause and preparations for Warminster by the CO and the Families Office was given to wives in order to prepare them for the imminent move.

We have finally moved a little closer to the computer age with the installation of the Unicom computer system. As one hard pressed clerk put it, it is not quite the information superhighway, rather the information candy striped road.

A number of study days have been run at battlegroup and brigade level in an effort to update personnel in the very latest tactical doctrine. Majs Kemp and Wild were respon-

*Continued Page 38*

## News from the Poachers



Above: Brigadier Alan Behagg talks to Poachers on parade.  
Left: Lt Gen Sir Mike Walker talks to CSgt Brown.  
Below: Maj Gen Pett, Director Infantry, talks to LCpl Rimmer.



## News from the Poachers



Above: LCpl Jackson, Cpl Heeley, Sgt Curtis and WO2 Beighton pose for a photo during a lull in battle. Below: Lt Gen Sir Michael Walker discusses the finer points of warrior gunnery with new recruit gunners.



### *From Page 36*

sible for arranging the 2 Royal Anglian sponsored study day on offensive operations which was attended by Maj Gen Cordy-Simpson and the Brigade Commander as well as some 70 officers from the Brigade. Lectures were given in the Officers' Mess after which everyone clambered into Warriors and were driven at speed to Schuen training area whilst listening, on the crew briefing system, to the forward two platoons of A company assaulting a position. On their arrival at the training area everyone then debussed to witness the 3rd Platoon assault the depth position amid a large amount of explosions, smoke and battlefield debris.

It was a spectacular demonstration which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

On Sept 29 the Poachers held a muster parade to troop our new colours before the Battalion, with Brigadier Alan Behagg taking the salute. The majority of the Battalion were unable to be at Duxford when the new colours were presented due to BATUS commitments and this was the first opportunity to receive the colours formally and welcome them into their home. The following day the Battalion went on a well earned long week-

*Continued Page 40*



## News from the Poachers



Top: Capt Trott wonders why his German visitor is not paying the slightest bit of attention to what he's saying. Above and below: The Talavera Day barbecue.



## Leaping out of planes

### Cpl Winkle writes:

During the period June 12-23 C Company was allocated 10 places on the All-Arms Parachuting Course at Bad Lippspringe. A good cross-section of the Company was represented with personnel from each of the platoons volunteering.

After some rigorous ground training it was time for the first jump. We all squeezed into the very small plane and it suddenly hit us that this was the point of no return. As the plane gained height quickly, I sat there looking at my altimeter rise. I looked at the jumpmaster's face as he grinned from ear to ear - obviously this was his favourite moment, knowing what was going through our minds.

When the time came to jump the door was opened and the jumpmaster called 'running in' - this is it I'm going to die! The best part of the whole process was watching the expression on the face of the jumper just prior to actually going out of the door. Up until this time everyone has been concentrating on their drills but it is at this moment they suddenly realise they are actually about to do something very stupid. The expression of pure fear mixed with shock is not one that I will easily forget.

When my turn came I remember thinking that there was no turning back because I couldn't face the slugging I would get afterwards. So I edged my way to the open door. You are told not to look down but instinct tells you otherwise, that was my second mistake, the first (as I thought then) was coming on the course.

Then came "Go!" accompanied by a sharp push on your shoulder, just strong enough to ensure there was no choice. I pushed myself out and awaited that falling sensation. I wasn't disappointed. I didn't count, I suppose I forgot, but the next thing I saw was my open 'chute. My landing was good and I was very relieved to be back on solid ground. There are few things in life which can give such a sense of fear and excitement all at the same time.

# News from the Poachers



From Page 38

end and the officers held their autumn ball.

The Battalion has just learnt the excellent news that it will be going to Cyprus after its two years in Warminster and this news has been greeted with great anticipation (apart from those who, due to postings,

will not be going!). At the time of writing the Poachers' entire vehicle fleet is being loaded onto trains at the railhead and final preparations made before deployment on Exercise Poachers Stung, the last live firing exercise the Battalion will conduct in Germany. We look forward now to a num-

Above: C Company scorch some earth.

ber of events to mark our farewell from Germany after nine years in Celle. This must be a near record for an infantry battalion post-war and we certainly intend to mark our departure with some style.

## Poacher trains the Namibians

WO2 A D Ralph writes:

THE Poachers were asked to provide a training Warrant Officer to make up part of a five-man Short Term Training Team (STTT) tasked with assisting in the training of the Namibian Defence Force's Recce company from Aug 28 to Oct 16, 1995 - I was the lucky candidate.

In 1990 the Namibian Defence Force (NDF) was set up when Namibia ceased hostilities with South Africa and was given independence. The NDF is still developing its tactical procedures and requires training



WO2 A Ralph successfully despatches a vicious Puff Adder with his AK 47.

teams to assist. Our training team was based in Osana training camp which is 12km south of a small township called Okahandja, 60km north of the Namibian capital Ninthoek.

We found the lack of English speakers was a major problem, which made the task of teaching the more complex subjects very difficult.

The aim was achieved with some creditable results, namely during the final exercise only one out of the eight OPs was located by helicopter during an intensive search in the mountains of Osri Kiri.

At the end of the training period the team took nine days well deserved R and R visiting places such as Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe.

It was an amazing opportunity that I recommend to anyone.

# News from the Poachers

## Fishing team finishes fourth

THE Battalion Fishing Club has managed to fish a full season without the interruption of an operational tour this year. The Poachers entered a five-man team into the 1995 British Army Angling Germany (BAA(G) qualifiers in Holland.

The event was staged over four weekends and a total of eight matches were fished. The aim was to select a BAA(G) team to fish against the UKLF team. The Battalion came fourth overall out of 22 teams and high scores of three members of the team resulted in WOII A Ralph, Sgt Pearce and Cpl Baines being selected to fish in the UK.

Right: L to R: Back row – CSgt Kev Keen, CSgt Steve Brown, Sgt Pete Macdonald. Front row – Cpl Ged Baines, Sgt Percy Pearce, WO2 Alan Ralph, LCI Coups Coupland, WO2 Felix Ralph.



## A tale of three fishermen

Cpl Baines writes:

THREE Poachers gained excellent results in British Army Germany fishing matches this season and in doing so were invited to return to the UK to attempt selection for the Army National and Inter-Services Squad. The three, WOII Alan Ralph, Sgt Percy Pearce and Cpl Ged Baines, all jumped at the chance and eagerly awaited the arrival of the letter confirming dates, tackle requirements and the all important 'team plan'. When the letter finally arrived the three could be heard discussing bank loans, visa credit cards etc. etc. The Poachers' expedition set off back to the UK. The first stop was a tackle shop. Three hours later we emerged some £600 poorer, in possession of lots of new kit and headed for our base camp at RAF Stanmore Park.

Day one of the Army Open Match saw 160 fishermen pegged out along the Grand Union Canal (not literally!) near Milton Keynes. Five hours later the results showed Cpl Baines in fifth place with 12.5 oz, WOII Ralph and Sgt Pearce with 'growlers' (the name given to someone with a bad day's fishing!). On days two and three we again fished the Grand Union Canal whilst being



WO2 Alan Ralph captains the Poachers fishing team to victory.

closely scrutinised by the Army match captain for possible selection. Back in the NAAFI bar that evening the long-awaited team announcement was given. Cpl Baines was selected for the Army team and WOII Ralph and Sgt Pearce were selected as reserves. The next day the Army individual championships took place on a different stretch of canal which was only two feet deep and full of 'zoo creatures' (better known as Carp). Hook one of these and you

can wave goodbye to your £1,000 pole as it snaps or sails off down the canal. Fortunately none were hooked and our best result came from Sgt Percy Pearce with fifth place in his section.

In the Inter-Services match the Grand Union Canal produced its usual harvest of tiddlers. The competitors found themselves having to catch at least 40 fish to make 1lb in weight which most of us managed to catch but the Navy and the RAF managed to land a few more bonus fish giving them the edge. Result: First RAF, second Navy and third Army. Maybe the five-figure sponsorship deals these teams have helps! Congratulations to Sgt Percy Pearce who caught 8lb of fish to give him second place in the reserve section and win him some well earned cash. For the UK versus UKSG(G) match we moved to Grenndon Ponds in Castle Ashby. This place was well stocked and everyone caught big fish. It made a change from the canal and an excellent day was had by all. Result: First UK, second UKSG(G).

Although the trip proved to be expensive and hard work it was a great experience and all three of us look forward to the challenge of being selected to fish for the Army next year. The expedition returned to Cullie having not quite conquered the Grand Union Canal but certainly having given it our best shot (...lead-free shot!)



# Steelbacks



Pte Turner instructs GDS Harrell at Otterburn camp.

## Key changes of personnel

THE last six months has been an eventful time for the Battalion with key changes of personnel, annual camp, a major exchange visit with the US National Guard, and planning for the Battalion's re-rolling as a Transport Regiment.

Lt Col Peter Horrell, whose service with the Battalion stretched back to his days as a Platoon Commander, handed over command to Lt Col David Baylis; while WO1 Hillier has handed over as RSM to WO1 Woodcock.

Another key change was Maj Fraser Macdonald's departure as Training Major and his replacement by Maj Paul Brook (RLC). Maj Macdonald was tasked to make 5 Royal Anglian's last annual camp as an infantry battalion one to remember. He served at an earlier date as Adjutant 5 Royal Anglian and given the reputation he gained at that time, no one was surprised by the

excellent training package he implemented. Maj Paul Brook took over as Training Major immediately after annual camp and as a member of the Royal Logistics Corps has the necessary background to shape training to fit 5 Royal Anglian's forthcoming role as a transport regiment.

The exchange with the Maryland National Guard took place during annual camp and involved a company from Maryland changing places with a composite company from 5 Royal Anglian. The British company was drawn from Hertford, Bedford, Peterborough and Cambridge and the Headquarters element was drawn from 2 (Hertford) Company. The company was commanded by Maj Stephen Card.

The training conducted in the US was extremely testing and those taking part found the training areas somewhat different to those found in England. The water moc-

asin snake and the rattlesnakes, as well as poisonous plants, added a little something to the training!

During the first few days the Company began to adjust to the different climate. The company found an American Gospel style church service rather different to UK services when this was held before training in American tactics at squad level. The abseil tower was also put to good use although Capt Brown, 2 Company, managed on one occasion to land on his head.

The Company was then moved to Fort A P Hill, Virginia for live firing. The move from Maryland to Virginia was by Chinook helicopter, courtesy of the American National Guard. The ground logging flight added a little excitement to the move. After arriving at Fort A P Hill, live firing took place including use of the M60 machine

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# News from the Steelbacks

Right: LCpl Sullivan and Pte Yabsley during a helibound operation with 21 SAS (V) in Scotland.



Below: Sgt Paul and Cpl Smith checking the RAP stores with their USNG counterparts in preparation for the Battalion FTX Otter



## Regimental Museum

# Appeal reaches £245,000

THE appeal for the Regimental Museum is only pounds away from reaching its target £250,000.

However, the costs of purchasing, restoration and preparation of items for display and their maintenance over coming years mean that we must continue raising funds and the Colonel of the Regiment has asked the Appeals Director to aim for £300,000.

Above all, contributions are needed from those members of the Regiment who have not yet donated. All contributors will of course be named on lists in the museum.

Vauxhall is the main sponsor for the museum with the donation of the Astra car for the raffle. The raffle has so far raised £8,000.

Those who bought tickets should retain their tickets until April/May 1996 when the winners will be drawn at the Opening Ceremony. (Tickets state the draw as being 'probably in December 1995').

Ticket stubs should be returned by Mar 5.

In addition to Vauxhall, a large number of the public and businesses in the Regimental area have been most generous in contributing to the appeal.

To date our main sponsors are: The Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve Association (TAVRA), The Royal Leicestershire Regiment Association, Col R G Wilkes, The Charles S French Charitable Trust, The Chetwode Samworth Charitable Trust, The Lord Barnby Trust, The G C Gibson Charitable Trust, The Lord de Ramsey Family Trust, The Earl Fitzwilliam Charitable Trust, The Maj Samuel Whitbread Charitable Trust, The Leslie Mary Carter Trust, The Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation, The Pye Foundation, The Poulterers Company, The Everard Foundation, Charles Wells Ltd, Whitbread in the Community, Greene King, Barclays Bank, Holt's Bank, The Alliance and Leicester Building Society, Norton Rose, Guardian Royal Exchange, Essex and Suffolk Water, British Gas, Calor Gas, Rank Hovis McDougall, Pedigree Chum Petfoods, Munton and Fison, Spicers, Perkins Engines, The D G Marshall of Cambridge Trust, The Ford of Britain Trust, Clarksteel, Normanton Knitwear, TeleAdapt, RCI UK and



Patron of the Royal Anglian Regiment's Museum Appeal, Sir John Akehurst (right), receives a cheque for £2,500 from Tony Harding, managing director of Essex and Suffolk Water pic.

Ireland, The Great Northern Railway Hotel, Peterborough, South Cambridgeshire District Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Brentwood Borough Council, Ely City Council and Dunstable Town Council.

### Museum – exhibits wanted

EXHIBITS for the museum are now largely complete, with thanks to the following for donating items to the collection.

Gen Sir John Akehurst – First Day Covers; Mr Roberts – photographs, records; Lt Watson – miscellaneous; Maj Thorogood – sword, decanter and other battalion items; Maj Brehant – NI equipment; Col P F Sherington – Aden tape; Maj Purdy – uniforms; Maj Hutchings – Malaysia items, BD; Maj Parsons – 'Castle' magazines, records; Lt Col Orpen-Smellie – Bisley material; Royal Anglian TA Band – music stand and music; Minden Band – 3rd Battalion

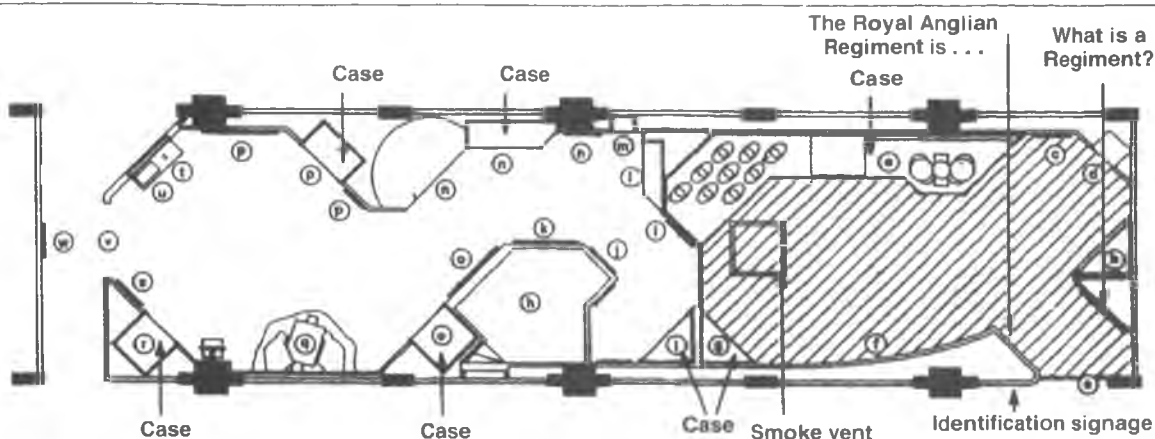
items; WO1 Parkinson – assistance with recordings; Col Goldschmidt – First Day Cover (Apr 29, 1995); Maj Bacon – Rhodesia memorabilia, assistance with scripts; Mr Wilson – radios; Maj Power – uniforms; Maj Williamson – medals, uniforms; Commanding Ports Ranges – terrorist weapons; Lt Col Davidson – IRA mortars; Mr Hook – assistance with research; Sgt Greaves – sniper equipment; Capt Wade – Bosnia sketches, oil painting; Military Survey – maps; WO1 Woodcock – sword, belt, ammunition, shell; Capt O'Driscoll – accoutrements; Capt Jackson – accoutrements; WO2 Gladwin – ditto; Sgt Macdonald – ditto; LCpl Headland – ditto; Lt Col Holloway – photographs; Maj Williamson – medals, uniforms, maps; Maj Cornish – photographs; Capt Albany – Gibraltar stamps; Sgt Greaves – sniper equipment; Sgt Paul – sports items.

In spite of the donations above, and

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# Regimental Museum



## Museum design

THE diagram shown here is the third and final plan for the museum. The basic design is largely unchanged, with the first room describing the Regiment's history, traditions and uniforms, a corridor covering our operational tours and roles, and a final room covering honours and awards and the Roll of Honour. The most important changes are the addition of a second A/V monitor, a new case for the colours, silver drums and replica Salamanca Eagle, the replacement of the Land Rover exhibit by a Milan crew, and a large Warrior model. Apart from the Milan crew, the other main exhibits are an Aden foot patrol and a Northern Ireland riot scene.

### KEY

- a. Entrance
- b. Merchandising
- c. Col-in-Chief display
- d. A/V monitor
- e. Case featuring crossed colours, silver drums, mess table with silver and nine life-sized dressed figures and torsos
- f. Family tree
- g. Case featuring battle group layout
- h. Aden tableau
- i. Aden case
- j. Global deployments
- k. Hangover from Empire, Falklands, Zimbabwe, Gibraltar, Belize
- l. End of Empire. Malaya, BG, Malta, Bahrain
- m. Sports and adventure training
- n. Northern Ireland
- o. Cold War: BAOR, Norway and Berlin
- p. Peacekeeping
- q. Milan missile unit
- r. Case featuring temporary exhibits or exhibits related to the Regiment today
- s. The Regiment today
- t. Honours and Awards
- u. Roll of Honour
- v. Exit
- w. Affiliations, Associations, Chapels and Museums

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with only months to go before the museum opens, the following items are still urgently sought:

Any weapons, medals and personal memorabilia, particularly relating to operations; Flags – Irish Republican, Ulster Red Hand, NLF/FLOSY (Aden), USSR, East German, Greek Cypriot/Greek, 1 and 3 East Anglian, 4 Royal Anglian; 'Castles' – August 1985 and October 1971; All 1 or 2 East Anglian journals; 3 East Anglian 'Wasp and Eagle' Vol. 1 Issue 4, Vol. 2 Issues 1 and 5; Early NI riot leg-guards; 1 East Anglian plaque; East Anglian Brigade shoulder flashes (Viking's Head); Officer's wooden (bamboo) cane; 1 and 2 East Anglian hose-top flasks; East Anglian Brigade associate lapel badge; Hertfordshire Regiment lapel badge.

Anyone with suitable material for the museum should contact the Project Officer, Lt Col T D A Veitch, at the 5th Battalion on 01733 54581.



Royal Anglian Regimental Museum: 03h layout: Prepared for The Imperial War Museum.

# News from the Steelbacks



Top: LCpl Wilson and her team prepare to celebrate after winning the 1 Company driving skills competition. Above: WPte Sims, Jordan Derby and LCpl Radford having their equipment checked prior to the FTX. Below: LCpl Horton of Wisbech was summoned from the FTX to donate blood for an emergency bone marrow transplant. His was the only blood type that matched a child in his local hospital.



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gun, M16 assault rifle and 203 grenade launcher.

The last part of the training exercise was conducted in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Military mountaineering was carried out including rope bridging. This, like all parts of the training package, was interesting as well as testing.

B Company, Maryland National Guard, meanwhile attended annual camp with 5 Royal Anglian. They found Otterburn, Northumberland, to be wet and fairly rugged.

2Lt Aldridge, 2 Company, who acted as a liaison officer, remarked that the American troops were relatively informal and also surprised to find that some soldiers were Vietnam veterans. 1 Company sponsored the US Company and those company personnel involved found their American counterparts friendly and keen to take part in field firing. Indeed the Battalion as a whole found the National Guard to be keen to give their best.

However the Americans found exercising at Otterburn a testing experience given the climatic conditions and the MO had to deal with a larger than usual number of exposure cases.

There were severe problems at Otterburn over when and where the Battalion could fire because of the preceding drought conditions, but thanks to the flexibility of the Training Major and the permanent range teams, the Battalion was able to extract maximum advantage from the available ranges. One particularly notable improvisation was the use of a Saxon on a gallery range!

The final exercise at Otterburn was the escape and evasion exercise run by Maj Nigel ffitch in which officers and SNCOs, including the CO and the Training Major, were the escapees, and the rest of the Battalion led by the Battalion 2IC, Maj Neil Darlington, were the hunters.

Those taking part were encouraged in their endeavours by the knowledge that capture would involve interrogation by the RSM and his team of American Special Forces and SAS personnel. Equipment carried by the escapees was somewhat basic — for example the waterproof clothing was a black plastic bag! The CO was 'bumped' last but slipped through without capture, although a member of his party, Maj John Davidson, OC 3 Company experienced capture and interrogation by the RSM and his team.

Another interesting part of the training conducted over the last six months was 5

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## News from the Steelbacks



Above: Privates Stafferton, Heath and Spinks checking their equipment and baggage for their flight to America. Right: 1 Company bottle party! LCpl Cavendish and Pte Course have their respirators checked before being sent to the gas chamber by LCpl Lower. Below: LCpl Warwick makes a quick sale — the National Guard stock up before the final FTX at Otterburn.



## News from the Steelbacks



Above: The 3 Company guard formed ready for the unveiling of The Memorial Wall. Left: The Memorial Wall with The Cambridgeshire Drums flanked by Sgt Thorpe and Cpl Brannigan. The drums were hidden after the surrender at Singapore and were returned to The Cambridgeshire Regiment after the war. Bottom left: The CO and RSM look tentatively at first aid training prior to deployment at Otterburn. Below: WO2 (CSM) Bessell looking for his toothpaste at Otterburn.



# News from the Steelbacks

From Page 46

Royal Anglian involvement in Exercise Pirates Treasure, the annual camp of 21 SAS. The 5 Royal Anglian detachment was led by Capt Jim Dowle 2IC, 1 Company and elements of the detachment were drawn from 1 Company, 2 Company and Recce Platoon.

Despite the fact that the exercise took place in July, all concerned report that the Scottish Hills over which the exercise took place were as rain washed as ever.

On a different note, mention should be made of success on the sporting front; Capt Clyde Aylin PSAO Headquarter Company successfully defended his Open Singles Veteran Tennis title in August at the 75th Army Lawn Tennis Championships held at Aldershot. He was subsequently selected to represent the Army at the Inter-Service Tournament at Wimbledon. He is also captain of the Cambridgeshire men's county over-55's team and is looking forward to retirement when he intends to become a Lawn Tennis Association coach.

Autumn recruiting has taken off with a vengeance in Bedford and Peterborough with major displays and open evenings. The response has been remarkable with positive interest shown by 76 and 65 potential recruits attending the open evening at Peterborough and Bedford respectively, at the end of September.

Good use was made of the RLC Drops Vehicle loaned for recruiting purposes to the Battalion. This reversal of the national trend reflects well on all the Battalion's recruiting staff who have put in much hard work at a critical time in the Battalion's history.

The Battalion was due to become non-effective as of Nov 1, and exchange 2 Company and 3 Company for companies based in Ipswich and Loughborough. We are now heavily involved in the planning and preparation needed to become 158 (Royal Anglian) Regiment RLC (V).

Despite early misgivings Battalion personnel have grasped the new task and set about re-rolling with a positive and forward thinking approach.

Virtually everyone in all ranks, has agreed to re-role and is now being rewarded with a programme of licence acquisition and prospects of overseas camps as befits our new role as Commander ARRC's centralised Combat Service Support Regiment.

This exciting challenge gives a real impetus to our transition training as we have a firm objective and a real place in the nation's ORBAT – the Steelback tradition will continue as we ensure those targets are met.



TLZ at RAF Kinloss

## Guarding pirate treasure

*Capt J Dowle 2IC 1(Bedfordshire) Company writes:*

**DURING** July this year members of 1 Company, 2 Company and Recce Platoon, were attached to 21 SAS for the unit's annual camp in Scotland; Exercise Pirates Treasure.

The 5 Royal Anglian detachment led by Capt Jim Dowle (2IC 1 Company) were deployed as an enemy force (The Tartanian Liberation Army). Required to work within an extremely strict exercise brief, it was acting skills rather than infantry skills that were called into play.

Following the initial disappointment when it was disclosed that the exercise would not involve romping around 'the inaccessible part of Scotland', everyone settled down to what amounted to ten days of role playing.

The enemy force were based at three separate locations (all genuine, highly sensitive Nato installations) and was required to act as a militia force 250 miles behind its own lines. (Not much call for all that Gucci recce kit, Sgt Greeves!) The routine was occasionally broken by periods of instruction from the host units directing staff in such subjects as combat first aid, helicopter patrolling, IED search and setting up of TLZ's (Temporary Landing Zones).

Eight days' worth of Arctic rations, menu B-mutton flakes (as if we needed it packaged and dried with so much of it on the hoof!) were supplemented by various

methods. Due to a local chocolate shortage Rolos became an unofficial currency where at the Isle of Rona they were bartered for fresh rations.

At 2Lt Aldridge's location, Pte Webb delighted all with his culinary expertise – his slugs in garlic were particularly 'unique'. Disappointment followed his lack of success with a 'Portuguese man-o-war' dish. Recce Platoon discovered the source of the best steak and kidney pies in Britain (location to remain a secret).

Meanwhile, up in the rain-washed mountains, several small groups of men were battling over ragged terrain, with heavy equipment, fighting off exposure and no doubt disbelieving that the rest of Britain was suffering a heatwave.

The climax of the exercise was fairly predictable with all locations being 'taken out' with no friendly casualties.

The flight home was more enjoyable than the flight out, due to being in daylight. (Both flights were by Special Forces pilots at 250 ft.) However, views on this vary greatly depending upon whether one's stomach contents remained where they were or not! The victims shall remain nameless.

All in all, although the exercise was not what was expected, everyone gained something.

I think 1 Company and Recce Platoon will agree that the hours spent on the back of a truck will ease the transition to the RLC!



# 6th Battalion



A Company on Exercise with 24 Air Mobile. 2Lt Taylor and LCpl Dekretser enjoy the ride.

## A diverse six months

THE second half of 1995 proved to be as diverse as the first, the Battalion being occupied with events ranging from ceremonial to battalion live firing attacks at Otterburn.

The first activity since the last Castle notes was the VE Day Commemoration events in May. On Sunday May 7 the Battalion exercises its Freedom of Bury St Edmunds. The Lucknow Band of the Prince of Wales Division led the parade which was commanded by the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Charles Thomas, the Battalion parading the colour party and two guards of 48. The Royal Anglian contingent was followed by the RAF Regiment based at RAF Honington which also exercised its Freedom parading the Queens Colour. Lt Gen Sir Michael Walker KCB, CBE kindly made space in his busy schedule to take the salute. After the parade, the Old Comrades Associations from the Bury St Edmunds area also

marched past. Tea followed, provided by the WRVS in a veterans' marquee and entertainment was provided by local schools and organisations. After a number of fly-pasts by a Lancaster Bomber a beacon was lit concluding what was a very enjoyable day. In addition, over the VE commemorative weekend, a party of six soldiers from the Battalion joined a small contingent from 49 (East) Brigade who paraded at Amhem and the Assault Pioneers supported a VE Day re-enactment at Kentwell Hall.

The final weekend of May saw the Battalion deploying into the field. After the ceremonial of the previous six weeks, this proved to be a breath of fresh air and was well attended. June was also spent in the field with company level training. This saw the start of the defence package that would run throughout summer.

Rather than lazing in the sun, July proved to be a busy month for the Battalion.

Over the first weekend Battalion Headquarters and two companies assisted by the Honourable Artillery Company provided the enemy force for a London District Exercise at Stanta. Everyone involved had a hectic weekend evading the best laid plans of 10 Para and 4 RGJ. A Company, in particular, had an excellent final few hours exploiting the mobility provided by ample helicopter support. Afterwards it was stated that Capt Matthew Ellis and Adrian Gosling controlled the enemy with panache! Definitely a first.

July also proved stimulating for the grey matter with the Battalion hosting a joint TEWT for the Officers of 5 and 6 Royal Anglian. The weekend was well supported by both Battalions and achieved its aim of firmly establishing the estimate process with the leaders of the Battalion. On the Saturday the field officers and junior

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## News from the 6th Battalion



Above: The Assault Pioneers and the gun positions they built at Kentwell Hall. Right: Pte Butcher and his section taking the covered route. Below: Pte Dingle about to depart



# News from the 6th Battalion



Top: WO2 Barker selling yet another ticket. Even Terry Waite is not safe!  
Above: SSgt Smith and Pte Debenham service another vehicle at camp.  
Below: LCpl Gibbons and Pte Riefe on the B Company defence exercise.



*From Page 50*

officers attended different TEWTs before joining up in the evening for a shoot on the SAT and a barbeque. Despite the effects of the night before the field officers conducted a well thought through confirmatory TEWT for the junior officers on the Sunday.

August saw a mixture of training taking place. The month started with low level training in company locations with the exception of A Company, which deployed to Chilwell to take advantage of Brigade facilities. Already many of the Battalion have now completed a large proportion of this year's bounty tests. B and C Company also conducted range weekends in preparation for the battalion weekend in September. The Machine Gun Platoon also deployed to their annual camp.

Camp was meant to be part of a 24 Airmobile Brigade exercise but unfortunately 24 Airmobile went to take a look at Bosnia. Showing immense flexibility and determination, the Machine Gun PSI, Sgt De Bretton-Gordon, managed to prepare a challenging camp for the Platoon. After a week digging in on Salisbury Plain, our machine gunners then moved to a live firing phase based at Dartmoor.

The most important events of August, however, were the events to commemorate the 50th anniversary of VJ Day and the end of the Second World War. All the Battalion was involved in some way. A Company attended the march and service in Norwich. C Company provided administrative support personnel to the main event in Chelmsford. With the CO on leave booked a year previously, the Battalion was grateful that Col Alain Chissel, erstwhile CO himself, commanded the Suffolk county parade in Bury St Edmunds. The parade consisted of the band of the Honourable Artillery Company, 200 serving personnel from B and Headquarter Company and four other units and 1,400 veterans.

September saw the Battalion deploy on two major weekends. The first weekend of the month was spent at Colchester ranges. The majority of the Battalion were introduced to and attempted the new APWT. Despite a heavy downpour some good results were achieved. Concurrently the 2IC, Maj Chris Vince, ran a very hectic CPX which tested Battalion Headquarters and the Company Command posts. The highlight of the month was, however, the battalion test exercise conducted over the weekend 16/17. This was the culmination of the summer's defence training and proved to be a demanding 48 hours. The Battalion (supported by a BC and two FOO parties from 202 Battery

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## News from the 6th Battalion



Above: WO2 Roberts and the Recce Platoon Headquarters pose for the camera.  
Left: LCpl Beavis – “Platoon radio op is no easy life, even when you’re playing enemy.”  
Right: Sgt Hipperson checking a prisoner.



# News from the 6th Battalion



Picture courtesy of EMAP Anglian Newspapers

Above: Maj Simon Dixon leads the 6 Royal Anglian contingent on the VJ Day parade at Bury St Edmunds. Below: 2Lt Jo Richards getting a taste for the RLC before B Company's impending conversion.



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RA, a light mobile digger and crew from 53 Fd Squadron (Air Support), and a number of Army Cadets) occupied and dug a company defensive position through Friday night and Saturday morning. A and C Companies then withdrew to a battalion assembly area, becoming the enemy force for phase 2 of the exercise.

Saturday night was barely long enough for all the patrol activity involving the snipers, Reconnaissance Platoon and all three rifle companies. The exercise concluded on Sunday morning with A and C Companies attacking B Company's positions. The attack showed how effective a good defensive position could be when supported by a well thought out counter attack plan. Eventually honours finished equal and the RSM conducted the clear up in his own indomitable style. Regretfully he felt he should decline the kind offer of rolling up one of the cadet's sleeping bags!

The weekend was also the last time that B Company would exercise in its own right as part of 6 Royal Anglian. This added some piquancy to the patrol activity and the bluff and counter-bluff as the OPFR moved off to its new location. It also rained — heavily -

*Continued Page 55*

# News from the 6th Battalion



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from O Gp to finale. But you cannot have everything. If that wasn't enough, the CO and Adjutant caught the 0757 Long Wheel Base back to Bury St Edmunds. After a shave and shower, it was into SD for a Civic Service in St Mary's. Immediately prior to the start of this exercise, the CO deployed to RAF Honington representing the Battalion at the RAF Regiment's annual Battle of Britain cocktail party. All in all a busy time.

The highlight of the training year was annual camp. This year it was a brigade concentration at Otterburn in October. The first nine days were spent field firing. The ranges proved to be excellent right through from the individual close quarter battle range to the final live firing battalion attack. (Thank you Padre.) During the first week the ranges were largely run by company staff progressively building up to the platoon and company attack ranges run by the Cheshires.

The Battalion had a number of visits during camp. In week one we provided lunch for GOC 2 Division, Maj Gen Patrick Cordingley. He saw a fine display of fire and movement by C Company's MT Corporal, Cpl Cain. Thankfully the RSM, resident in dayglo yellow, managed to put the

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Above: C Company soldiers looking pleased with themselves at the end of Ex Eastern Promise

Left: LCpl Lemon prepares another chicken for the pot.

## News from the 6th Battalion



Above: Cpl Garrick and dignitaries at a C Company employer's evening. Right: CSgt Boulton receiving his LS&GC medal. Below: The Brigade Commander Brig H R G Wilson presenting SSgt Prentice with his Territorial Efficiency Medal.



*From Page 55*

GOC's Gazelle in the right spot. However the sight of Chico Duncan running up a Range road with jacket in hand cursing 'drive's airframe' for not watching where he should land, is a sight to remember.

We entertained Brig Bill Deller, outgoing Dep Hon Col Suffolk, mid-week. By all accounts he thoroughly enjoyed his visit, and we thank him for his help in the past. He is a great friend of Suffolk. On the last day of week one, not only did we entertain Cols Pat Hopper and Kevin Fitzgerald (secretary and chairman of TAVRA East Anglia respectively), our County TAVRA chairmen, Col Tat Boddye and Majs Ian Bruce and Carol Gurney, and Col Roger Tomkins, Dep Hon Col Essex, all our own guests, but we also hosted DINF, Maj Gen Ray Pett, with Brig Henry Wilson, our Commander. It is to the credit of the QM's staff that all went well. Needless to say, the CO, 2IC and Adjutant enjoyed the Mess Night later.

A CSE show provided entertainment for the soldiers that night in the NAAFI, before a much deserved day off on the Saturday. Everyone returned from the delights of Newcastle and after a battalion orienteering event to clear the heads, battle procedure started for the battalion live firing attack. The TM, Maj Roger Shelmerdine-Hare, excelled in laying on an excellent range which was enjoyed by all those that took part. As soon as the Battalion was clear

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# News from the 6th Battalion



*From Page 56*

of the range, battle procedure started again, but this time for the brigade exercise.

Alongside the shooting a number of brigade cadres were also conducted. 6 Royal Anglian sponsored its fair share. WO2 Conopo ran a highly successful advanced sniper cadre. Five students, after two years' perseverance, were finally badged. The Signals Platoon also ran a TA radio users cadre. This is a new cadre replacing the old Standard II and proved to be a success. Maj David Winn, OC Training Support, ran a potential JNCO cadre, ably assisted by CSM Catton of the 2nd Battalion. Pte Smith from A Company was awarded the prize for the best student.

The final brigade exercise was set within a UN scenario with the Cheshires providing the OPFOR. Here the advantages of a brigade camp were instantly realised. The move to the brigade concentration area showed the size of the new 49 Brigade and the need for a disciplined move. Once in position the Brigade moved forward to battalion TAORs. 7 Royal Anglian flew forward and 3 WFR and ourselves conducted a water crossing across Kielder Water. This crossing conducted at dawn proved to be a very hairy experience. The wind was generating waves big enough to cause the crews of the assault boats more than a little worry.

After some minor skirmishes the exercise concluded with a brigade dawn attack.

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Above: The CO receives a shield on behalf of A Company from Mr Bill Holden of The Royal Norfolk Regiment. The shield will be awarded annually to the company that provides the most support to old comrades. Below: The CO presenting B Company with a print of Thetford to mark their departure from the Battalion.



# News from the 6th Battalion

From Page 57

The Recce Platoon also took advantage of the camp period to prepare for the Cambrian Patrol. Sgt Skelton, the Recce PSI, put them through their paces with a challenging schedule over the demanding terrain of Otterburn training area. Due to injury Lt Roger Harrison (RSO Des) was a last minute substitution as the team commander. In the event the team did very well, completing what was a very gruelling two days and obtaining a certificate pass. The Cambrian Patrol certainly lived up to its reputation and all should be congratulated on their efforts.

The last six months has also seen a number of medals awarded. CSgts Boulton and Eales were awarded their Long Service and Good Conduct Medals, SSgt Prentice and LCpl Thompson were awarded their Territorial Efficiency Medal and CSgt Negus was awarded a Clasp to his Territorial Efficiency Medal. They are all congratulated

on their long service and dedication.

The Battalion 2IC Maj Tony McArdle has moved to the same appointment in CUOTC. Maj Chris Vince has moved up from OC C Company to his slot. Maj Mark Baker has assumed the appointment of OC C Company. We saw a change of command at A Company on Nov 1. Capt Stephen Fradley joined the Battalion hot foot from HQNI, having left the Regular Army.

Capt Fradley took over from Capt Peter Chilvers, who now reverts to Company 2IC. The Adjutant, Capt Adrian Gosling, has moved to a staff job in Londonderry with 8 Brigade and Capt Paul Bailey has now assumed this appointment. We wish them all the best for their future posts.

We welcome to the Battalion Capt Alan Sides from CUOTC and Capt Tim Jenkins from 1 Wessex. We hope they enjoy their time with the Battalion. In addition we congratulate 2 Lts Ciaralli-Parenzi and Litjens on their commissioning.

Finally as these notes are being written the Battalion is preparing to lose B Company to 5 Royal Anglian. As part of Options they will re-role to the RLC. We hope they quickly adapt to their new role and wish them all the best for the future. We are sure, however, a link will always remain between the two units. In their place we welcome back the Cambridge Company and look forward to seeing a few familiar faces back in the Battalion.

For posterity, the Cambridge Company will not be called B Company, but D Company, its nomenclature when last with this Battalion. Historians can decide on the merits of this in years to come.

However, by doing this, we not only mark the (enforced) absence of B Company, but also the resumption of D Company within our midst. Lastly the pink list announced that Maj Howard Gill, latterly OC A Company, is to succeed Col Charles in the spring of next year.

## Liberation celebrations

*Sgt Ferrie writes:*

SEVEN soldiers from 6 Royal Anglian took part in this exercise that provided ceremonial support by 49 (East) Brigade to the 49 (Polar Bear) Division Association. The aim of the exercise was to mark the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Holland and the subsequent VE celebrations.

The various contingents met at Thurrock Services on the morning of May 2. All participants, veterans, spouses, representatives of Regimental Associations and the Colour Party and Guard embussed onto two coaches and headed for Calais. People quickly got to know each other which was just as well considering the space limitations and the long journey ahead. The crossing was smooth.

Over the week the party took part in many parades, following the route taken by the liberating troops in 1945. This enabled us to participate in celebrating the liberation day of a series of villages.

May 3 and 4 parades were quite low key as they were mainly commemoration services for the Dutch dead. We were invited to take part but not to march to keep the military aspect to a minimum.



The C Company Contingent

The highlight of the exercise was the National parade at Wageningen to celebrate the liberation of Holland. This was the scene of the German surrender in 1945. The route was lined by over 300,000 people and the salute was taken by members of the Dutch Royal Family and ambassadors and senior officers of the Allied Nations.

The circuitous route went to 5km which was quite hard going for the Guard and the veterans alike — considering the temperature rose to the 90s. At every turn we were greeted by tumultuous applause and cheering. It was a very proud moment.

Once the parade fell out we were whisked away to another village to cele-

brate its own liberation day, led by the British Legion Youth Band. The village had been preparing and saving for the celebrations for two years to provide our meals and free beer after the march.

The party was led by Sgt De Bretton Gordon who made the front page of the local paper bearing the Essex Standard.

Sgt Dunningham, Cpls Diss and Instance and Pte Collinson made up the remainder of the party.

For most of us it was our first public parade but even the old hands agreed it was one of the most worthwhile exercises of our Army careers. The enthusiasm and gratitude of the Dutch people and the friendships struck with the veterans will always remain with us.

# News from the 6th Battalion

## Exploring Zimbabwe

### *Pte Leonard writes:*

DURING this summer I decided to swap my combats and cam cream for shorts and T-shirt and headed off to Zimbabwe with Raleigh International (formerly Operation Raleigh).

Each Raleigh group consists of 12-15 venturers, aged between 18-27, and a project manager. The group however is responsible for planning its days and the timetable. We each had a day as group leader where we were responsible for delegating the work to be done.

Our first project was to build a viewing platform at Tambahata Pan. Tambahata Pan is set in the Gomoreyhan National Park in Southern Zimbabwe. The park was reopened two years ago and the aim of the project was to encourage more tourists to the area. The work was fairly hard in basic conditions. The nearest town was three hours' drive away and as water was scarce we only had one mess tin of water a day to wash in.

During our stay we saw plenty of wildlife including zebra, hyenas and a group of elephants who decided to walk through our camp one night!! After completing this task we spent two days trekking with a scout from the wildlife society. This was very enjoyable.

### **Save the Children**

The second project was working with the Save the Children Fund. We were alongside local builders building a dormitory block for 24 health care trainees. As our camp was behind a local school, a couple of times I was asked to teach. This was great fun.

The first time myself and another venturer taught sport to 70 children. This proved to be quite difficult as hardly anyone spoke English. We ended up playing football, rugby and volleyball. The second time I ended up teaching nursery rhymes to the younger children. The project went by very quickly and we were straight into our third task.

This was at the Kuburi Wilderness Reserve. Here we worked alongside the Wildlife Society of Zimbabwe. Our aim was to build A-Frame huts to be used as accommodation for students learning about the environment. Our camp was on the shores



Pte Leonard

of Lake Kariba so we had lovely surroundings. We started work at 6 and finished around 5.30. We learnt how to thatch the roof which took a long time. It was very rewarding to see the finished building. After two weeks with sore backs and aching arms it was onto the adventure phase at Nyanga.

Nyanga National Park is in the east of Zimbabwe and is a very remote and unspoilt part of Zimbabwe. As well as trekking we spent some time clearing pathways which was hard work.

### **River crossings**

Most days ended with a cooling swim which was great after trekking all day long. Due to my lack of height the river crossings became quite a challenge. Luckily we always had a safety rope which was just as well as the rivers could be quite fast flowing. After two weeks it was back to base camp in Harare and then off to Victoria Falls so we could go rafting.

The final three days we spent white water rafting on the Zambeze River. These days were full of excitement and were sometimes scary. The boat flipped twice and I fell out four times. Once it felt as if I was never going to come up out of the water.

One set of rapids, called Oblivion, seemed huge. Unfortunately the boat flipped as soon as we hit the rapid and we all fell out and bounced all over in different directions! At the end of the day we would stop at a beach, make a campfire, cook tea and fall asleep under the stars.

The whole trip was brilliant and I would recommend Raleigh International to anyone. Being in the TA definitely helped me as we were living and working as a team 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

I would also like to thank RHQ for sponsoring me, 6 Royal Anglian for their support and everyone else who sponsored me and made this wonderful experience possible.



# Tigers



## Unleashed for action

THE Battalion has enjoyed a diverse period of activity varying from the commemorations of VE and VJ days to the rigours of a Brigade FTX during annual camp.

Our diary in May began with the VE Day celebrations being supported in all three of our county cities with C Company parading the colours through Northampton. A party of our soldiers under Capt Steve Tucker also participated in a number of events in Holland to mark the liberation of towns and cities by the 49th (West Riding) Division in 1945.

The main training effort in May was focused on a Battalion FTX held at Sunnybridge and conducted at platoon level. At the same time our shooting team competed at EDSAAM, coming a very respectable 9th out of 18, under the leadership of Lt Mike Pape.

June continued our progressive training cycle with company level training at Stanford. The Brigade and battlegroup trainer at Catterick proved to be an invaluable experience with the Battalion playing our new role of General Reserve for the first time. Our command structure was well practised down to Platoon Commander level with all elements of Battalion Headquarters fully tested in the all arms battle.

Lt Alex Wong from B Company chose the most attractive option of the month, taking a composite platoon on Exercise Turtle Reef to the Ascension Islands.

As the main holiday month in our area, July, was relatively quiet with one Battalion training weekend at Sennybridge. the FTX at company level saw our soldiers working hard through an advance to contact, night infiltration and a deliberate company dawn attack.

The return to training in August was well attended with companies supporting local VJ Day celebrations with our colours being paraded by A Company through Lincoln. Headquarter Company also put on a very good recruiting display at the Leicester City Show where our 4-tonne based air rifle range made its debut and proved a popular attraction. This facility enables money received to be redirected into the recruiting effort.

Recruiting continues to be the CO's



Colour party at VE Day parade in Northampton. WO2 Ford flanked by Lt Declan Wood and Lt Alex Wong.

main priority for the year and the RSM is now spearheading the Battalion's efforts in this important area. Display boards have been made for our TCVs and a pool of equipment has been assembled for each company to call upon to use in their own recruiting displays. The Battalion has formed a presentation team in order to spread the TA message to schools and ACF

units in our area, using the format of a 40-minute slide show.

As well as our priority on recruiting, increasing emphasis is being placed into ensuring that maximum numbers turn out for weekend training. In order to qualify for their annual bounty, soldiers now have to attend six out of nine battalion weekends

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## News from the Tigers



Above: Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire presenting an NELC Certificate to a local employer, Mrs Bradshaw with Maj Rod Burns. Right: CSgt Brudenell, QPSI C Company, winner of the Assistant Deer Manager's Trophy. Below: It's not all work!  
WO2 Cousins, Ascension Islands, 1995.



# News from the Tigers



Top: Battalion recruiting display – Cpl Ball, WPte Peene and Capt Terry Dance.  
Above: CO presenting CSgt Cooper SPSI A (Lincolnshire) Company with his GOC Northern Ireland commendation. Below: Champion TA unit team in land command driving competition – LCpl Southin, WPte Tooley, Sgt Hale and LCpl Freestone.



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and this aspect, combined with imaginative training, has increased the average attendance on such weekends from 150 last year to 200 this year.

In September our attention turned back to the main focus on the year's progressive training; the Brigade Concentration. Company recce groups headed north to prepare their training packages for the first week of camp. The primary battalion level training was FTX Exercise Storming Tiger, which proved to be highly successful and the culmination of our run-up to annual camp.

Having progressed through section level training in January to company level in July, Storming Tiger was carried out at battalion level including company advance to contacts followed by a battalion deliberation attack at dawn. Recce Platoon were given the task of laying out the FUP with the Nato T which after two battalion rehearsals during the day and night went off without a hitch for the attack itself. It was clear that the Battalion had come a long way since the first exercise in January and was now well set for the Brigade Exercise in October.

Alongside this a small group of officers took part in a Brigade-sponsored logistics TEWT run by 222 Field Ambulance at RAF North Luffenham. Not only did they come away with a good understanding of the new logistics concepts but also with enough new abbreviations to keep others guessing for months ahead.

Following their successes earlier in the year at the 2 Infantry Division driving competition, our team from Headquarter Company went to the Land Command 'safe and skilled driving competition' at Beaconsfield with their confidence and hopes riding high. Facing 21 other teams from both the Regular and Territorial Armies, Sgt Hale, Cpl Lightfoot, LCpl Freestone and WPte Tooley came away with Best TA Team, runners-up overall and winners of the Highway Code quiz.

September also saw the issue of the new DPM PLCE which our soldiers eagerly assembled and then wore for the first time at annual camp. Survival aids will soon be out of business!

Exercising Raging Bear, the 49 (East) Brigade Concentration, took place in October at Otterburn and the Kielder Forest with the Battalion working alongside the 6th Battalion, 3 WFR, 222 and 254 Field Ambulance. During the first week we carried out our own work-up training which culminated in platoon and company live firing attacks. After a brief break for R & R

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# News from the Tigers



*From Page 62*

spent sampling Newcastle's hospitality, the Battalion deployed on its own warm up exercise, set on our way in traditional fashion by the Padre, Michael Woods.

Our own short FTX ran on directly into the Brigade FTX which meant a total of five days in the field; for many soldiers this was the first time they had done an exercise lasting more than a weekend.

The Brigade ex, Exercise Eastern Promise, was based around a Peace Support Operational Scenario with the Battalion carrying out numerous and varied tasks; SH deployment, convoy escorts, hostage situations, advance to contact and finally culminating in a Brigade attack.

Our preparatory training paid off, for in the Brigade attack the Battalion's main task was to secure the Brigade FUP and line of departure which was expertly done by Lt Wong and the composite recee platoon. The speed of the Tigers, when they were finally unleashed, to take on a depth company position startled the Brigade staff who marvelled at the short time it took us to double around from our holding area towards the objective.

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Above: Brigadier Wilson with Maj Petar Starcevic, WO2 Ibrahim (SPSI) and Capt Mike Rickards – Ex Raging Bear. Below: Winning photo in the CO's September photographic competition, Maj Trevor Terheege.



# News from the Tigers

From Page 63

Alongside this we had soldiers taking part in the Brigade Pte to LCpl Cadre, GPMG (SF) training for Match 83 and preparation for the Cambrian patrol competition.

The Battalion's numbers were supplemented by 22 reservists, who had been bid for 12 months previously. The presence of these ex-regular soldiers, many of who had had no contact with the Army for up to eight years, proved to be a resounding success as they all brought their own varied levels of expertise to each of the platoons to which they were attached.

At the conclusion of the Brigade attack, the Commander, Brigadier Henry Wilson, presented the Hunt Trophy back to the Battalion for the second year running. This year it was won by Headquarter (Leicester) Company for achieving the highest number of soldiers qualifying for bounty in the Brigade (87%).

This has been a challenging period for the Tigers but the Battalion's excellent performance has demonstrated the benefits of progressive field training and we can look to the future with confidence.

This will be the last time that we write in the Castle with our current organisational structure. Our best wishes for the future go to the men and women of B Company in Loughborough and Melton Mowbray as they re-role to RLC with 5 Royal Anglian. At the same time we look forward to welcoming our new friends from Hertford, Hemel Hempstead and Dunstable.

## The social calendar

The summer months brought with them an active social diary for the Battalion.

Leicester hosted the Royal Tigers weekend in June at Ulverscroft Road, whilst in July the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess and the Officers' Mess held their summer balls.

The Battalion also hosted three cocktail parties in Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton; here we entertained civic dignitaries and local employers whose support we rely on so heavily in allowing our soldiers the time to fulfil their training commitments. A number of these employers were presented with certificates from NELC (National Employers Liaison Committee) in recognition of their support.

## Freedom of Leicester

Leicester City Council has recently confirmed that if they will be bestowing the honour of the Freedom of Leicester on to the regiment. Initial planning is now under way but it is likely that the ceremony will take place on a Saturday in June 1996 with a



Above: GOC 2 Infantry Division talking to Pte Jennings Signal Platoon – Ex Raging Bear. Below: GPMG(SF) team prepare for Match 83 – Ex Raging Bear.



parade in Victoria Park followed by a march through the City. This ceremony will be particularly momentous for the Battalion as it coincides with our 25th anniversary.

## Personalities

We would like to extend our congratulations to the following on their promotions and new appointments:

**Territorial Army:** OCdt Potter to 2Lt in C Company; OCdt Phillips to 2Lt in B Company; CSgt Bird to WO2 in A Company; SSgt Vernon to WO2 in the UAO; Sgt Barnes to CSgt in Recce Platoon; Cpl Arnold to Sgt in C Company;

Cpl Askew to Sgt in C Company; Cpl Hale to Sgt in MT Platoon; Cpl Simpson to Sgt in Headquarter Company and Cpl Wilson to Sgt in S F Platoon **Permanent Staff:** CSgt Cousin to WO2; CSgt Ibrahim to WO2 and Sgt Goodrich to SSgt.

**New appointments:** The Battalion welcomes SSgt Malinowski to the post of NRPS armourer at Headquarter Company; Lt Papé to SF Platoon Commander; Lt Martin to MTO on commissioning from RQMS; WO2 Gamble to CSM Headquarter Company and WO2 Kelly to CSM C Company.



# 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.

# ATR Bassingbourn

## Training teams at full capacity

THE Army Training Regiment continues to pass out recruits to Minley, Blandford, and Catterick under newly networked Standard Training Procedures. The Common Military Syllabus provides a singular standard of training across both Infantry and Corps, training both men and women. A training platoon may have recruits from the Royal Engineers, Royal Signals and the Queen's Division, although generally they are largely from one Corps of the Arm.

Although the year began quietly throughout the Regiment, recruiting in the last six months has picked up and the training teams are all full with many courses running back-to-back.

Throughout regimental life Royal Anglians are very much in the picture, whether at work, in recreation or as members of their respective messes. Nowhere is this more so than on the sports pitches.

Capt Mike Dicker, the Second in Command of C(QD) Company has begun to stretch the hockey team to new limits with help from Sgt Walker and Cpl Clarke. By successful lobbying of the Regimental 2IC,

Capt Dicker secured a brand new Astro turf pitch — exclusively for hockey! In the football team Cpl Cutts, Burt and McGrath represent the Regiment which had a very successful season last year, and which have begun this season with the same gusto, having only been defeated once so far. Cpl Cutts and Cpl Clarke also had a very good summer competing for the Regimental Athletics team.

On the Golf course Sgt Walker, Sgt Shaw and Cpl Routledge like to keep the Commanding Officer company, and this is certainly where they are all to be found every Wednesday afternoon (and Thursday and Friday . . .) The Regimental Rugby team has had a successful start to this season, the squad heavily represented by Royal Anglians. Cpl Clarke and Cpl Cole are the main players from among the training teams. No article would be complete without mentioning the Provost Staff from whom Sgt Urand and LCpl Ainge represent the Regiment on the rugby field and remain the friendly face of the ATR.

The shooting team has gone from

strength to strength this year, due in no small part to Cpl Jervis' valiant support and time spent in training and competing. Cpl Mackay completed the All Arms Commando Course at Lymstone in October and has represented the Regiment at triathlon.

One of the more significant events in the summer was the departure of the Quartermaster, Maj John Ross, posted to the ARRC Support Unit as Quartermaster after three years in the chair. He is remembered as the advocate of innumerable plans involving rigorous exercise.

Soon to be missed is Sgt Urand who will be moving to Warminster to become Provost Sgt for the Poachers. Also soon to be posted on promotion to Sergeant is Cpl Jervis who will be taking up a post at 13 Cadet Training Team.

This autumn we congratulate Cpl and Sara Burt, Cpl and Sally Clarke on the birth of their sons.

It has been a full and varied year at Bassingbourn for all Royal Anglians and we look forward to another.

### Woodbridge contingent grows stronger

SINCE the last article the strength of the contingent has again risen and we now have over 150 cadets, all volunteers. We have had visits from the Royal Signals information team, the Regimental careers officer and our guest speaker at the annual lecture was Mr Richard Ashley who gave a superb lecture on the history of the rifle.

Lt Col R M Brunt OBE, an Old Woodbridgian, returned as our inspecting officer for our non-review inspection. At the final parade he was presented with a small memento of his days at the school both as a sportsman and as a leading figure in the CCF. He was then guest of honour at the dining out of the

Senior NCOs that evening.

Competitions have been entered throughout the year and from coming near bottom at Combat Cadet in 1994, the team came top in the district and second overall by a single point in this year's competition, an excellent effort. They managed to complete the 32km in 3hrs and 51 minutes, the fastest time of the competition.

The shooting team also saw an improvement at Cadsaam, with the team coming fourth out of 25 in both the rifle and LSW matches, and winning the moving target match. These made us the most successful CCF in the district.

Annual camp was at Wathgill, where 87 cadets enjoyed the Yorkshire air and hills, and where we came fourth overall in the competition for the best CCF.

Individual performances have seen our senior cadet, CSM Karen Dorward, be selected as the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk's Cadets and CSgt Sally Nicholson attend the land command

leadership course and earn a superb report. CSgt Ben Saunders was one of only 12 British cadets selected to go to Canada on the Banff leadership course. He had a great time and again received a distinguished report.

We have also done our bit for the Regimental museum appeal by taking part in a sponsored assault course competition, an idea dreamed up by the Headmaster, Mr S H Cole, after attending the Headmaster's briefing day at Frimley Park. He will not be going again! A cheque will be presented to RHQ shortly.

Finally we have said goodbye to Lt Paul Kesterton on his move to Liverpool and to Lt Carolyn Youngs on her retirement. Both were stalwarts of the contingent for seven years and will be missed. In their place we welcome 21sts Andy Moore and Pat Tyler and hope they enjoy themselves in years to come. We look forward to continued success in 1996.

## Lincs cadets triumph in Cheviot fell challenge

A PARTY from the Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force lined up on Saturday June 10 to complete in the annual Cheviot 2000 fell race which involved crossing open fells on foot over a distance of 22 miles.

Taking in 11 peaks, each one over 2,000 ft above sea level, each team was required to navigate by map and compass and carry equipment on parts of the journey.

In total each member of the team climbed in excess of 5,000 ft during the race which took place in the worst conditions that have been experienced for the event for many years.

Capt Roger Wells (County Assistant Training Officer) of Lincoln, Sergeant Jess Henderson of Grantham and Cadet Sergeant 'MC' Harper (18) of Coningsby, crossed the finishing line after 8 hours 16 minutes and were the first team home in the Territorial Army Group

To them was awarded the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve Challenge Cup, which has been previously held by the Royal Marine Reserves, 4th Battalion

The Parachute Regiment and 21 SAS. This is the first time that the cup has been awarded to a team from the Army Cadet Force.

## Uppingham CCF wins at Bisley

UPPINGHAM CCF shooting VIII won the Ashbourn shield in the NRA meeting at Bisley in July.

This victory in the premier schools shooting event was won by a clear margin of six points over RGS Guildford.

The team was captained by Andrew Williamson who led a young eight to victory.

This youth works well for the future.

Of particular note was the shooting ability of Clive Kelsey who also shot well enough to come 2nd in the Spencer Melliush individual trophy.

## Annual camp 1995: on exercise at Sennybridge

ANNUAL camp 1995 for the Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force was at Sennybridge and everyone looked forward to the fulfilment of the programme that was to include normal APC training to exercise on a very large unknown area.

Joining in the training were a group from the Lincoln Sea Cadet Corps of six males and two females.

Cadets were organised into cadres as in previous years with their own group of instructors, enhanced by the standing training teams under the guidance of the county training officer and his staff.

### *Refreshing swims*

Each cadre day began, in the heat, with a most refreshing swim at the pool at Brecon before the training for the day took place. Abseiling and mountain biking were arranged within the same area.

The track for the biking was over very rough, and at times, very steep roads of the training area near farm 5 where caution had to be exercised. Here WSMI Denise Artis constantly showed her mechanical prowess by the daily maintenance of adjusting wheels, brakes and the mending of punctures.

Adventure training, skill-at-arms, drill, map and compass, and action in emergency first aid were all undertaken at the various star levels allowing for the further advancement in star subjects.

### *Refurbishment task*

Those on the community project found that it was essential to make good use of the suntan lotion as for them shelter from the constant radiation of the sun was very sparse and generally non-existent.

Their task was to assist the National Trust near Pen Y Fan in the refurbishing of public footpaths by

forming a chain gang and moving selected large stones from the lower slopes to the higher where they were to be placed in the worn paths. The National Trust wardens were then to cover the surface with soil and gravel later.

### *Poachers Chase*

The 'piece de resistance' for everyone at all levels was the exercise Poachers Chase, devised by the new deputy commandant, which gave the cadets training in different types of patrols. These were undertaken with great verve and enthusiasm, taxing many on their knowledge.

A unique but sombre event took place during camp at the old grenade range when a group of cadets and officers from 3 (Para) Company laid a wreath in the memory of a member of 10 Para (Volunteers) who gave his life to save that of his student who had 'frozen' in the act of throwing. He was unable to wrestle the grenade from the soldier's grasp and so shielded his body with his own. For his deed of self sacrifice he was awarded the posthumous George Medal.

### *Award of medals*

At the final county parade, awards were made including the Cadet Force Medal to SMI Chris Auckland and SMI Bob Williams.

In the competitions, 4 Company again triumphed as it received awards for Drill, Quarter Guard and best overall company in aggregate. The shield for best improved detachment for the year was awarded to Newport with the Efficiency Shield being presented to Stamford detachment.

The award of the Sheriff's Trophy to the cadet judged best on the senior cadet cadre during the year was made to Cadet Staff Sergeant Gavin Cliff of Newport detachment.

# Around the Branches



I HAVE to report that the Association's work continues in spite of our being relocated at the TA Centre after some 108 years of Regimental presence at Britannia Barracks. We moved immediately after Christmas to this converted married quarter previously used by Cambridgeshire University Officer Training Corps for a few hours each week.

With SSAFA and RFEA upstairs we are able to fully use every nook and cranny and we have all come to the conclusion we are actually very much better served here on the Aylsham Road as we are next door to a very friendly Post Office which has four postings a day, the bank is all of two minutes up the road and the local shops cater for most of our needs. With A Company 6 Royal Anglian next door we are very well served for transport and manpower assistance for such events as the Norfolk Show, the Association dinner and other Regimental occasions, something we can not thank them enough for.

Our membership continues to rise with now some 1,000 members on the office database (I hesitate to use the word computer for thanks to a member's generosity we now have an additional one as well as an MOD replacement for our original). With all this technology at our finger tips we are now producing our own menu cards, service sheets, name cards and shortly our own headed stationery.

Attendances at all of the various branch dinners continue to be good and it was particularly heartening to see so

many brave the arctic winds and hard seats of Duxford for the Presentation of New Colours to the two Regular battalions at the parade in April. Needless to say there was no criticism of the excellent drill, turnout and performance of those regulars and territorials on parade. The march past of old comrades left a number of wives with lumps in their throats when they saw the magnitude of the marchers proudly swinging along to Rule Britannia.

The Regimental tent was once again heavily used on the first day of the Norfolk Show. The Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment entertained a number of distinguished guests on behalf of the Regiment at what has now become a seasonal occasion for anyone entitled to wear a Regimental tie!

## Benevolence

50 years after the end of the Second World War it would seem that a degree of conscience is at last discernible amongst those who govern us and have it in their power to see that our veterans should be able to complete their lives in a modicum of comfort – let us hope this new-found wave of caring will not vanish once the jollifications and commemorations are over.

For the record the number of agreed welfare cases for the last year has increased by 16% on the previous year to 64 (55). The reasons for this increase are mostly due, it is believed, to the increased awareness of everyone to the work of The Royal British Legion at county level with its introduction of county field officers throughout the UK, and also to the advertising campaigns mounted by SSAFA and the ABF. Some £6,544.32 (£5,946) was distributed from Royal Norfolk Regimental funds and additional grants were obtained from the Royal Anglian Regiment, Army Benevolent Fund and any other charity with which it was possible to almonise.

## Chapel

The practice of families being able to remember loved ones by having their names carved on the oak panels in the chapel continues with Maj Peter Straghan's name dedicated in April and Lt Col Alex Turnbull's name was added in time for the Association Service in September. Mrs Rosemary Barclay has continued to provide lovely floral arrangements for our Regimental Services for which we all thank her.

## War Memorial Homes

These are full again after a recent vacancy. The very valuable work of the visitors continues. They quietly see to the needs of the residents and the work of maintenance under the watchful eye of the committee and Maj Sam Hornor in particular, is to be commended.

## Regimental Museum

Now that we have our curator back, having added a son James to the nominal roll, the museum is taking advantage of the 50 year anniversary to lay on a suitable temporary exhibition. A number of new projects are in hand which range from the taking of 'oral' histories, setting up an endowment fund and the possible publication of Col Knight's wartime diary as a FEPOW. It gives me great pleasure to tell you that the late Lt Col Alex Turnbull is now remembered in the Regimental Museum which he had so much to do with both as Regimental Secretary and after he had retired, as a trustee. A particularly important water-colour, 'Norfolk Volunteers on the Rifle Range at Gt Yarmouth, 1900', by S J Batchelder, which Alex was so anxious for the museum to purchase, has been conserved and its frame refurbished. It now hangs in his memory on the rear stairway where the light levels will not damage it

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# Around the Branches

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## Regimental Dinner – September 1995

OVER 200 attended to hear our president, Maj Gen Sir David Thorne KBE, CVO, praise the efforts of a number of individuals and bodies for their sterling work on behalf of the Association. Bill Holden was congratulated on the award of the MBE for services to the Royal Norfolk Regiment D-Day Veterans' Association. That Association had presented a shield to A (Norfolk and Suffolk) Company, 6 (V) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment in recognition of their services to the Association. Tributes were paid to the late Jack Forrest and Col Bill Brinkley who died in September 1995.

Plans for the laying up of the colours of the 1st Battalion in the Regimental Chapel had been delayed due to events in Bosnia. At least the future of A (Norfolk and Suffolk) Company was guaranteed as they had survived the TA cuts. Sixty-four welfare cases had been supported in the year and the £2,700 raised from the raffle had met over one-third of the grants which totalled £6,500.

The chapel committee and their chairman, Maj Sam Horner, were thanked for their work relating to the chapel.

Over 300,000 visitors had passed through the museum and fund raising would need to continue to improve the exhibits

Particular thanks was paid to individuals: Ted Whiting for his production of the excellent menu; Maj William Reeve for his organisation; Maj Gilbert Banthorpe for his continued involvement; Capt Paul Smith, the Permanent Staff Admin Officer of A Company, for his assistance with setting up the hall; Paul Boxall for the raffle and 'over-generosity with his time'.

## Norwich and District Branch

The Norwich Branch has had a busy time during the past months with 37 paid-up members. A number of us were called upon to take part in the 50th anniversary celebrations and

parades which took place in the city, the cathedral, St Andrews Hall and the TA Centre in Aylsham Road.

We also attended a number of Regimental funerals of Association members and officers.

Members were also called upon to accompany the standard at a parade to mark the unveiling of a plaque to commemorate the spot where an American Liberator bomber crashed in 1945, close to the Drill Hall, killing all the crew and two children in their garden. CSM Shepherd MM was the parade marshal and the standard was carried by Paul Boxall.

Col and Mrs W D Flower again graciously opened their lovely home and garden to us in July for our monthly meeting.

The reunion dinner was held in the TA Centre, Aylsham Road in September with 213 members and guests enjoying comradeship and a good meal with beer and port for the Royal Toast. This is the first time we have broken the 200 barrier. Well done, all who attended and thanks to Paul Boxall who checked everyone's ticket before granting authority to enter.

We were delighted to see Mr Tunaley present after his recent illness. He can be seen walking, albeit slowly to the 'Roundwell' where we believe he stops for a jar. We hope to see you all again at 1830 hrs on Sept 21, 1996 for sitting down at 1900 hrs.

The dinner was followed next day by a service in the Regimental chapel which also had a record attendance of over 90 members and ladies to witness the blessing of the memorial to Lt Col Alex Turnbull. Coffee and refreshments were served in the Prior's Hall. (Thank you Gilly for the refreshments and your expert team of washers up, Pat Cole, Alec Barr and Maurice Eke.) Note the earlier time of 0930 hrs for Regimental chapel services, the next being the commemoration service on Apr 1, 1996 to mark the Battle of Almanza.

At our annual meeting in October the following officers were elected: President – Col W D Flower TD;

Chairman and Secretary – Paul Boxall; Treasurer – Maj J L Raybould TD; Welfare and Entertainments Officer – Maj G Banthorpe; Visiting Officers – A C Storey and F Baker.

On Nov 11 we attended the Regimental Remembrance Service at the War Memorial Cottages, Mousehold, followed by coffee and biscuits.

Arrangements are in hand to hold a Sunday lunch for members, ladies and friends in the Aylsham Road TA Centre on Feb 25, 1996.

Any ex-members of the Regiment, both Regular and TA, would be most welcome to visit us at 11am at the Norman Centre on the fourth Sunday of the month.

We regret to report that George Clapham died in October 1995. A very trim and smart man he was a regular attender at branch meetings and was our oldest member.

## Deaths

**Maj Barnham Savory**, Royal Norfolk in 1994; **Mr Alfred Charles Yaxley**, Royal Norfolk on Jun 6, 1994; **Sgt Ted Boxall**, Royal Norfolk on Nov 9, 1994; **Mr Donald Gimmer**, Royal Norfolk on Nov 18, 1994; **Mr Jack Greef**, Royal Norfolk on Jan 3, 1995; **Mr W (Whally) J Bland**, Royal Norfolk on Jan 5, 1995; **Mr Sonny Suckling**, Royal Norfolk on Mar 2, 1995; **Mr Maurice Windscheffel**, Royal Norfolk on Mar 11, 1995; **Mr S A Oakes**, Royal Norfolk on Apr 2, 1995; **WO2 R Basted**, Norfolk on Apr 13, 1995; **WO2 John Forrest**, Royal Norfolk on Apr 19, 1995; **Mr 'Dick' Wood**, Royal Norfolk on Jun 6, 1995; **Mr Bob Potter**, Norfolk on Jun 7, 1995 aged 91; **Mr Donald Anderson**, Royal Norfolk and Ox and Bucks on Jun 25, 1995; **Mr Desmond Atkins**, Royal Norfolk on Jul 10, 1995; **Mr H S Grass**, Norfolk in WW1 on July 13, 1995; **Mr David Roome**, Royal Norfolk and Suffolk on Jul 15, 1995; **Mr Edwin John 'Jack' Loveday**, Royal Norfolk in Aug 1995 in Australia; **Mr George Clapham**, Royal Norfolk in October 1995.

# Around the Branches



THE annual reunion dinner was held in Lincoln on the weekend of Sept 30 / Oct 1 with over 200 attending the dinner on the Saturday night.

Maj Gen R E J Gerrard-Wright presided and among those attending were our In-Pensioner Tom Scott and 51 members of the Anciens Combattants from Herouville in France led by their presidente, Madame Monique Broc.

On Sunday the comrades paraded for church and under the direction of Mr Wally Hibbard, with branch standards and the Band of The Royal Anglian Cadet Force leading, marched along Newport Road to St Nicholas Church. During the service wreaths were laid by our French guests and buglers sounded the Last Post and after a short silence 'Reveille'.

Altogether a very successful weekend. The 1996 reunion will be held in Lincoln on the weekend of Sept 21/22.

## Spalding Branch

Branch members and over a 1,000 members of the public gathered together for the Dedication Service held on Aug 20 in the 'Peace Garden' in Spalding.

The 'Peace Garden' has been the initiative of the South Holland and District Council, converting a disused part of a bowling green into a beautiful and peaceful garden with each association being allocated a plot and engraved memorial stone.

The moving service followed by a band display and barbecue was very much appreciated by the large gathering and everyone agreed the 'Peace Garden' was a fitting tribute to all those men and women who gave their lives in the service of their country.

## Visit to Bremen Apr 26-30, 1995

On Apr 26, 1945 the 3rd British Infantry Division fought its last battle of the war by capturing the German city of Bremen. On Apr 26, 1995 Sydney Smith and Joe Collinson, who were both members of the 2nd Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment, which took part in the battle for the city, flew by Lufthansa 737 Jet from Heathrow Airport to Bremen as guests of the people of that city. They were accommodated in the Ubersee Hotel until Apr 30 and during this period treated right royally.

Lt Col John (Jock) Smith, Liaison Officer for the British Forces, took charge of us and guided us through the excellent programme of events.

At 1530 we were entertained in the Rathaus (City Hall) enjoying cups of tea or coffee and some very calorie loaded cream cakes served by waiters resplendent in bright red jackets and black trousers. There were also some news reporters there interviewing various members of the party. We were then free until 2000hrs when we were invited to dinner in the historic Ratskeller (restaurant in the cellar of the city hall) given by the British Consul General Hamburg, the Hon British Consul in Bremen and the Bremen Senate. One of the guests was Mr Peter Bigglestone, chairman of the RBL in Hamburg. This was again a most sumptuous meal and held in a most impressive 'cellar'.

The main event of the visit was at 1000hrs the following day when we all assembled in the Upper Hall of the Rathaus where we were entertained by a youth string orchestra with various items between the speeches.

The main speech was by Mayor Klaus Wedemeier, President of the Senate, which was delivered in German but fortunately copies of the speech in English were supplied. The reply was given by Hans-Christoph Enge of the British Consulate. Presentations were then made to the mayor by members from the various British units.

This was followed by drinks in the main chamber and then at 1200hrs we

were invited to lunch by Friedrich van Nispen, Senator for Interior and Sports, in the 'Club zu Bremen' and as usual the food was of first class quality.

The next event on the 27th was at 1530 hrs when we met our tour guide for a look at the various places of interest around the city centre and turned out to be a most amusing and educational experience.

After the walk in the city centre she then took us by coach through Bremen, pointing out various items of interest and then out of the city into the open country and to a restaurant where again we had tea or coffee and the sumptuous butter cake which was delicious.

This had been an excellent day and we arrived back at the hotel happy and thankful to the powers that be for their kindness.

Friday Apr 28 was the day when we met the members of the German Army in different conditions to our meeting in 1945.

At 1000 hrs we were taken by bus to the Scharnhorst-Kaserne (barrack) and there were greeted by Oberst (Colonel) Hans-Roland Zangl who gave us a welcome and then we had a group photograph taken by the Army photographer and were presented with a copy when we left in the afternoon. We were served with what we were informed was a typical Army lunch, the main course being large sausages, potatoes and veg. In other words good old 'bangers and mash'. There was a slight difference to my Army days in that at the side of the knife and fork there was a pint of beer. After the lunch the Oberst gave a short talk on their present role as a unit.

Sitting opposite me at the dining table was an 85-year-old German soldier who during the war was a prisoner in Russia for seven years before he escaped and returned to Germany - he was quite a character and kindly gave me a photograph of himself taken during his days of service. He looked quite impressive sporting his Iron Cross.

We had a walk round the barracks and saw the various items in their museum and then it was time to say

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# Around the Branches



The visit to Bremen

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farewell and return to our barracks, the end of another most interesting and enjoyable day.

Saturday Apr 29 was supposed to be a free day for looking around Bremen but a small party of us had a bonus trip. An inquiry had been made as to the possibility of going to the war cemetery at Becklingen where we knew some of our Lincoln friends were buried, and one of the people involved in the organisation of our visit arranged at his own expense to take a party of us home in his car and the remainder in a minibus.

We eventually arrived at the cemetery and found it was being maintained in excellent condition. We found the headstones of our friends, paid our respects, took photographs and left with certain feelings of sadness. On our return journey we briefly called at Belson Concentration Camp but did not have time to go beyond the entrance. We returned to the hotel saddened but pleased we had been able to say farewell to the friends who had fallen in the battle for Bremen. Sunday was the day for returning home and we departed from Bremen airport at 0945.

I was much impressed with the city of Bremen. The architecture of the buildings was most impressive, the internal decor and the various types of lights inside were beautiful. It was a delight to look around inside at the magnificent carvings.

It was also interesting to see the

amount of freedom the cyclists had, they seemed to have the right to travel all over the city centre. Tracks had been provided for them at the side of most of the roads and as these generally were down the side of the pavement the riders tended frequently to mingle with the pedestrians who did not seem to complain. The reason for the large number of cyclists is because the city and surrounding roads are mostly flat.

Finally I must say it was a most enjoyable visit and I cannot thank enough those who had anything at all to do in organising the event.

Joe Collinson

## Stamford and District Branch

The branch now has 36 members although during the year we lost Jim Flynn (6th Battalion). His funeral was attended by many members and friends, the church being completely full. The branch has regular meetings at the Royal Air Force Association Headquarters and the Regimental March is played at the start of our meetings. We also have a raffle which members organise in turn and contribute prizes. Also we have invited member's spouses to become honorary members.

During the year we attended a number of various functions. We were well represented at the Regimental annual reunion lunch, annual meeting and church parade and thought the 'day' was very convenient for those who travelled some distance and at a

most reasonable cost.

On Nov 11, 1994 we held the branch annual remembrance dinner in the Danish Invader, when 30 members and wives had a very enjoyable time getting into the Christmas spirit. We still had a good turn out at the Remembrance Sunday parade. We were very pleased to be able to place a Lincolns' wreath on the War Memorial.

In January we had a most interesting meeting in Stamford Town Hall where we were given a tour, told about its history and saw the town's regalia which included some Regimental silver of the old borough (a silver bugle presented to the Regiment was really appreciated). Finishing the evening with some excellent refreshments and punch in the silver punch bowl from the regalia led to a demand for a return visit. Members noticed that among all the plaques hanging on the wall, there was no Regimental plaque. They decided to rectify this and have made a specially mounted plaque, which will be presented next year on Sabraon Day, Feb 10, 1996.

On Feb 28 our branch annual meeting was held, the first since we restarted the branch. The officers and committee were re-elected.

On Mar 17 members helped with the Army benevolent collection in the town and on Apr 22 a good number went to Cleethorpes for the reunion lunch of the Grimsby Branch. All had a good time with a good lunch and agreed that it was extremely well organised by Jack Lindley MM.

On Apr 29 we went to Duxford for the presentation of colours to the Royal Anglian Regiment and on Jun 4 we attended with the branch Regimental standard as part of the ex-service contingent, the town's civic church parade for the new mayor.

And on Jun 18 an outing visited the Muckelburgh Collection at Weybourne Military Camp. Some 40 members had a good time, which happened to include the County Royal British Legion Rally, in addition to a good collection of Veteran Military transport.

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# Around the Branches



VE Day in Lincolnshire

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## VE/VJ Day Parades

The branch took a part in the various parades nearby but we decided to have only a commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. This was in due deference to those who fought in the Middle and Far East. We had a commemorative weekend with the ex-service organisations and voluntary organisations taking part, first with an exhibition of memorabilia – we had a very good stand of Regimental items thanks to Capt Davis for his help – and many interested inquiries were made.

The Sunday Drumhead Tribute and Promise Service was the largest Stamford has had for a very long time (400 on parade), we had quite a few members joining us from other branches and nearby villages. We were especially interested in the dedication of a tablet recently placed on the war memorial to past comrade Pte J A Marshal, 1st Battalion Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (Malaya), which was provided by the town council. This was followed by a march past, the salute being taken by Maj J O Flint DSO, MC, DL (Ex 4th Battalion). Display items on the recreation ground included Dusty Miller and his friends' Veteran Transport, including his well-known 'carrier' and wartime three-ton lorry.

A fitting end came when we joined

the RNA for their sunset ceremony.

We have recently taken part in the Stamfords' Freedom and Battle of Britain Parade, the usual church service parade, an RAF wing with bayonets fixed, and the 'Freedom Sword' to the war memorial for wreath laying. Then came a parade through the town and a march past the Mayor at the Town Hall.

The newsletter is sent out to all our members and gives branch details often including some brief extracts of Regimental history. We have had a number of inquiries. Thanks to members for making the copies and their distribution. We gave the local press a condensed copy about "what we were doing on VJ Day"!! (little was printed!). We still regret that we do not have any ex Royal Anglians to join us.



THE VE and VJ 50th anniversaries kept the Association branches busy helping to organise and participate in their various town parades.

Additionally they brought renewed interest in the old Regiment, bringing in new members to the Association, as well as relatives inquiring about their father's service.

The Royal British Legion journal, July/August edition, had an article on artists who were prisoners-of-war of the Japanese; one of these was an ex 5th Battalion man, Phillip Menisky, who in great secrecy documented camp life and illustrated medical records. Some of his POW drawings are on show at an exhibition, 'Victory in the Far East' at the Imperial War Museum until Dec 15.

Members of the Association attended the presentation of new colours to the 1st and 2nd Battalions of The Royal Anglian Regiment at Duxford. It was a very splendid and moving occasion. The drill and bearing was of the highest order and all on the parade must be congratulated on their professionalism. At the conclusion of the ceremony the Association members, headed by their standards and led by their chairman, Brigadier Angus Robertson, marched past Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret.

## The museum

As stated in the June 'Castle', the museum at Luton has been emptied preparatory to beginning the refurbishment of the ground floor. It was hoped that this would be completed before the VJ anniversary, but sadly it wasn't, and at the time of writing the finishing date is thought to be mid-December. The museum has asked the Association for a large contribution to the costs of the work in the 16th Foot Gallery and for the repairs to the Mons Banner, and this has been agreed.

## The Regimental Memorial and Gardens

The memorial and gardens in Kempston receive regular attention. The two lengths of fine mesh which were put up inside the railing in an attempt to prevent rubbish being thrown into the garden have been stolen! Improvements to the lettering

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# Around the Branches

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on the right hand obelisk have been completed and the column cleaned. As most of the rose bushes were too old or just going wild, they have been replaced by 22 evergreens which should give good ground cover.

## 16th Foot Officers' lunch at Chicheley Hall

The lunch was organised by Maj Mark Adkin, and was held at the usual venue Chicheley Hall, in June. Numbers attending were fewer than the previous year, but nevertheless it proved a pleasant afternoon spent with good friends in a lovely setting. These lunches are enjoyable occasions and are open to all officers, both Regular and TA, who have served with the Regiment.

## The laying up of the 1st Battalion 3rd East Anglian Regiment colours

This was one of the most important events organised by the Association during 1995. The service for laying up the colours of the 1st Battalion 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) took place in the parish church of St Paul, Bedford on Sunday Aug 13, 1995. It was held, appropriately, on Blenheim Day.

When all were assembled the following dignitaries entered: the vicar of St Paul's accompanied by the preacher; the Deputy Chaplain General; the Colonel of the Regiment; the president of the Association; the mayors of the towns in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex which have granted Freedom of their Boroughs to The Royal Anglian Regiment; the Mayor of Kempston; the Corporation of the Borough; the Mayor of Bedford; the High Sheriff of Bedfordshire; the Deputy Lieutenants representing Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenants for Essex and Hertfordshire; and the Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire accompanied by the former Bishop of Bedford.

During the singing of the first hymn, the standards of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association and the Essex Regiment Association were brought to

the Bishop at the altar.

The bidding and citation of the colours was read by Maj Gen M W Holme CBE, MC and the vicar accepted the colours for safe custody within the church.

The lesson was read by Maj Gen P P D Stone CB, CBE, Colonel of the Regiment, after which the members of the Bedford Choral Society sang the Te Deum. This was followed by the act of Remembrance, The Khohima Epitaph, the sounding of Last Post, and The Exhortation said by Brigadier A F F H Robertson CBE, chairman of the Association, the Silence and Reveille.

The Venerable Alan Dean QHC, Deputy Chaplain General of the Army then gave a memorable address.

Preceded by the Standard Bearers, the dignitaries then withdrew to the Regimental marches of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (Mandolinata), the Essex Regiment (the Hampshire) and the Royal Anglian Regiment (Rule Britannia/Speed the Plough), rendered by the Bedford Town Band, which had played throughout the service.

A reception, hosted by the Worshipful, the Mayor of Bedford was held in the Coach Room at the Swan Hotel afterwards.

## News from the branches

The **Bedford Branch**, like the other branches, has had a busy time over the last few months. The annual dinner and dance at Hertford was once again a first class function with 40 members attending. Members were invited to a ceremony commemorating the end of the war, at Odell Castle on June 24, when Trevor Cox carried the branch standard. A number of tickets were given to the branch for Founder's Day parade at Chelsea.

The **Hertford Branch** was involved in the local VE and VJ Day commemorative parades in Hertford. The branch members and their friends gave the Association dinner and dance their full support, and a party of 80 attended the presentation of new colours to the two Regular battalions at Duxford. The

branch held a VJ Band Concert at Castle Hall, Hertford, on Aug 11, which was very successful with strong support from ex-service organisations which attended with their standards. These included The Royal British Legion, The Burma Star Association, Royal Naval Association, Royal Air Force Association, Parachute Regiment Association, the Essex Regiment Association and our own and the Bedford Branch, plus a number of youth organisations.

The **St Albans Branch** found it difficult to attend all the functions that marked the 50th anniversary of the ending of the Second World War, but the highlight was the Royal British Legion Parade at Harpenden on May 7. The parade was divided into two sections, the first being all the ex-service men and women, Navy, Army and Air Force, and the second being all the civilian organisations. The ex-service section was led by the Scots Guards Association Pipes and Drums from Windsor. The high point of the day was the spontaneous applause from the crowds as the parade moved off to the War Memorial for a short service, and the march past brought cheers from all the people of Harpenden. When it was over, a free meal and a drink were laid on by the organisers of the day, plus a gift of a £2 commemorative coin for all on the parade.

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the formation of the Watford & Hemel Hempstead Branch, 48 members and their partners spent an excellent evening at Turner's Night Club in Northampton. Members paraded with their standard at the Abbots Langley VE anniversary celebration. After a service at St Lawrence Church the parade marched to the Manor House Sports and Social Club where a buffet was arranged by the local branch of the Royal British Legion. The branch is now trying to raise funds for a new 'Hertfordshire' standard to replace the existing one, which is a little worse for wear. Various fund raising activities have been suggested and money is

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# Around the Branches



The standards of the Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment Association and the Essex Regiment Association at the laying up of the colours of the 1st Battalion 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) at St Paul's Church, Bedford on Sunday Aug 13. Left to right:- the Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment Association Union standard carried by Russell Smith, the Essex Regiment Association standard carried by Peter Womack, Bedford Branch standard carried by Trevor Cox, 4th Essex Regiment branch standard carried by Les Knight and the Luton & Dunstable standard carried by Selwyn Chapman. *Photo: Charles Hill Photography, Bedford.*

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beginning to come in. Also, the branch is in the process of mounting the old Watford Branch Standard in St Mary's Church. The branch annual dinner was on Dec 9.

Although the **Hitchin Branch** remains small in numbers, it is still big in its endeavours to utilise the social side of the branch to the full. On Sunday July 2, members and wives enjoyed a boat trip from Oxford to Abingdon despite the heavy thunder storm. At Abingdon a very enjoyable meal at the 'Crown & Thistle' was had by all. To conclude the list of social outings for this period, 17 lucky members received tickets to attend the Beating Retreat and Ceremony of Remembrance on Horse Guards on Sunday Aug 20, which was a very enjoyable and impressive evening. The branch annual Christmas dinner will be held at the 'Firs Hotel', Hitchin on Dec 23.

The **Luton & Dunstable Branch** members attended both the VE and VJ Day Commemorative parades in Luton. These parades were very similar, start-

ing with a service in the parish church of St Mary's, followed by a march through the town centre. On the VJ anniversary the standard bearer Selwyn Chapman and some branch members also attended the afternoon memorial service at the Priory Church, Dunstable. The branch standard was again carried by Selwyn at the laying up of the colours of the 1st Battalion 3rd East Anglian Regiment at St Paul's Church, Bedford on Aug 13. On the social side, a coach trip was organised on Sept 2 to Southend, with members of the Normandy Veterans' Association. Everyone enjoyed themselves. The branch had one of its biannual coffee mornings at the Dunstable Methodist Church hall on Saturday Oct 28. Members give their full support as the proceeds help fund the welfare and social activities of the branch.

## Obituaries

**Mr Brian Crisp** late 1st Battalion Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire, India, Tripoli and Greece; **Maj Vernon French** served with the 1st, 2nd and

5th Battalion 1935-1958, India, Burma, Egypt, Goslar, on Oct 6, 1995; **Mr Gerald Golding** late 1st Battalion Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire, Tripoli and Greece, on Feb 15, 1995; **Mr R Harris** served with Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire from 1930-1994, on Aug 22, 1995; **Maj Tommy Haygarth** late 1st Battalion Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire, Burma, Salonika, Tidworth and Goslar, on June 2, 1995; **Maj Horace Hollick DSO** late 2nd Battalion Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire, North Africa, Italy, Cassino, on June 28, 1995; **Mr J Le Maitre** late 2nd Battalion Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire 1930-41, wounded at Dunkirk, on June 28, 1995; **Capt Colin Scott** late 1st Battalion Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire, Goslar, on May 10, 1995; **Mr Arthur Smith** late 1st Battalion Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire, Chindit, in April 1995.



THE annual meeting took place on Mar 29 at Hertford TA Centre. John Renwick resigned as chairman and J Crane, P Davey and A Page resigned from the committee. Their hard work over the years is greatly appreciated. Maj Peter Burgess was elected chairman and Frank Holland was elected to the committee.

The VE and VJ Day commemorative events at Hertford were supported by members. The Association standard was carried by Mr D Corbett on both these parades.

Future events include the annual lunch band concert which was due to take place on Sunday Nov 5 at Sele School, Hertford at 12 noon. Once again the Association was fortunate to have the Volunteer Band of the Royal Anglian Regiment agree to play.

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# Around the Branches

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The 1996 annual meeting will take place at Hertford TA Centre on Apr 13, 1996 at 8pm, and the spring supper will be held on Apr 13 at the Hertford TA Centre.



FOLLOWING on from the VE Day commemorations, the next major event for the Association was Royal Tigers weekend. The weekend this year was particularly special as the dedication of Royal Tigers Wood took place and, for this year only, was substituted for the annual Regimental service, held each year in Leicester Cathedral.

On June 17, following the annual meeting of the Association which was attended by 61 members, the 70th annual dinner was held at the TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester. It is most pleasing to report that once again the attendance exceeded 200, which is admirable. The president of the Association, Maj Gen A J G Pollard CB CBE presided at the dinner.

In his speech, at the conclusion of the dinner, the president made specific reference to progress of Royal Tigers Wood, which was being dedicated during the weekend. He introduced the members to Mr John Mills, the curator of the Princeton Battlefield State Park, who had flown in from the United States particularly to attend the weekend and to take part in the planting of two Mercers Oaks within Royal Tigers Wood, from the Battlefield of Princeton. The Oaks had been moved from the battlefield, under the auspices of Mr Mills. The president expressed his deep gratitude to Mr Mills and, in accordance with a resolution unanimously passed at the annual meeting announced that Mr Mills had been made an honorary member of the



Maj Gen AJG Pollard CB CBE planting a Mercer oak at Royal Tigers Wood. Left to right, Mr J Mills, The Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Rev Malcolm Stonestreet and the Provost of Leicester

Association and presented him with an association tie. The president concluded his address by thanking 7 Royal Anglian and the Leicestershire and Northamptonshire ACF for all their help with the arrangements for the weekend. After the General had proposed the loyal toast and the toast to the Regiment, the reunion continued, both bars trading happily into the night.

On Sunday the weather was kind for the dedication service of Royal Tigers Wood at Bagworth. At 10.30 am the first members of the congregation began to arrive and climb the hill to the area of the Memorial Stone. Buses carrying the Band and many Association members arrived by 11.00 am and at 11.10 am all were in position for the service. The VIP party, comprising of the President accompanied by the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, the chairman of Leicestershire County Council, the assistant chief constable of Leicester, the Provost of Leicester, the Rev Malcolm Stonestreet and the chairman of the Association, arrived by off-road

transport and the service began at 11.15 am. The standard of the Association, carried by Mr T J Marston MBE, MSM, was then taken to the Memorial Stone and received by the Provost. The service lasted some 35 minutes and included some splendid singing of well known hymns and a particularly memorable address by the Rev Malcolm Stonestreet. Malcolm was a national service officer with the 1st Battalion in Cyprus during the emergency in 1955-56 and it was, therefore, particularly fitting that he played a leading part in the service as did the Provost of Leicester who officiated.

At the conclusion of the service the two Mercers Oaks were planted, fittingly in a prominent location next to the Memorial Stone.

Following the planting of the Oaks a reception was held in Bagworth. Some 250 members and their families attended. During the reception the secretary of the Association, Lt Col John Wilson, who is retiring after 15 years

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## Around the Branches



The president of the Royal Tigers Association leading Leicester's VE Day parade

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in post before next Royal Tigers Weekend, was presented with a silver tankard from all members of the Association. The reception continued well into the afternoon, and proved to be a fitting finale to a very special Regimental weekend.

Finally, mention must be made of the VJ commemorations within Leicestershire. The Far Eastern area of operations in World War Two is of particular significance to the Royal Leicestershire Regiment. The 1st Battalion fought throughout the Malayan campaign and in Singapore before captivity. The 2nd and 7th Battalions both took part in the Chindit operations in Burma (the only British Regiment to supply two battalions).

On July 26, 1930, the City and County of Leicester presented to the Leicestershire Regiment a set of silver drums and silver bugles. The parade commander on that occasion was Lt Col P S Creagh DSO, commanding the 2nd Battalion of the Regiment. These drums were piled on Victoria Park on Aug 20, 1995 for a drumhead service. The Royal Tigers Association took part in the parade and service and the Association contingent was commanded by Lt Col J P N Creagh, the son of the parade commander who had taken part in the presentation of the silver drums some 65 years previously.



### Whittlesey & Peterborough

The branch took an active part in the VJ celebration in Peterborough and attended the Ely service, reported elsewhere in this edition.

We also attended the March Branch's annual church service in St Peter's Church on Sunday Aug 6 when we once again enjoyed meeting our old comrades of that branch. On Sunday Aug 13 we were in Wisbech for the Singapore Club's VJ church service which was held in St Peter's and St Paul's Church.

The parade route to the church was about 15 miles, a long way for men over 70 to march, but it was noted that there were 12 former FEPOWs of the Regiment who marched. After a fine service there was another parade of about a mile before it was dismissed, again the FEPOWs took part. The salute was taken on the steps of the Clarkson Memorial by the Lord Lieutenant, Mr James Crowden.

A fine beating of the retreat took place at 5.15pm on Wisbech market place provided by the Cambridgeshire Army cadet force band.

The annual church service was held at the United Reform Church, Queen Street, Whittlesey on Sunday Sept 24. The service was attended by the Lord Lieutenant, Mr James Crowden, the High Sheriff and the town chairman of Whittlesey together with members of the town parish council.

The branch Regimental dinner was held at the Newark Hotel, Eastfield Road, Peterborough on Friday Oct 6th. The guests of honour were Mr & Mrs M Colton of the Peterborough Evening Telegraph.

The branch had 14 pieces of Regimental silver to adorn the four tables and the Regimental flag and the branch Regimental standard were on display.

Branch president Tom Miles outlined the branch activities during the last 12 months, with special emphasis on the VJ Days at Ely and Peterborough. We thanked the branch officials for their loyalty during the past year. A raffle and auction afterwards raised £63.

This dinner was the most successful that the branch has held so far but we shall have to try and make the 1996 dinner even better. Like our sister branches we are losing members and are down to 40 of which 20 are active. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at the Whittlesey ACF Headquarters, Station Road, Whittlesey at 8pm, except during the winter months December to March.

May we take this opportunity to wish the branches of the Association a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

### Cambridge Branch

The annual meeting was held on Sept 7 when all branch officers were re-elected. Members attended the VE and VJ parades as well as Minden Day. There are 79 members on the books and contrary to rumours the branch is

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# Around the Branches

## Future Events

Event	Date	Day	Time	Location
Regimental Council	Mar 17	Sun	10am	Waterbeach
Officers' Dinner	Apr 13	Sat	7pm	Waterbeach
St George's Day Dedication Service	Apr 23	Tues	11.30am	Ely Cathedral
Annual Remembrance Service and Reunion	June 9	Sun	2.30pm	Ely
Regimental Council	Sept 22	Sun	10a	Waterbeach
Old Comrades AGM	Sept 22	Sun	2.30p	Masonic Hall, Ely

not closing. Thanks are expressed to 3 Company Royal Anglians for their hospitality after the unveiling of the memorial to the Regiment at Coldhams Lane on Aug 18.

### Wisbech Branch

I am pleased to report that over the last year the branch has continued to meet regularly on the last Friday of each month and its membership remains at 35.

In September last year the members at its annual meeting re-elected the branch officers and a new social committee.

In November the branch attended a number of Remembrance parades and services in Wisbech.

December and January kept branch members busy with a number of social events including dances, carol services and the usual New Year's eve party.

A small but very important event for the branch was the dedication service for the memorial seat erected in the gardens behind the war memorial in memory of the Cambridgeshire Regiment.

The branch was pleased to be well represented at the Ely Parade in June and in August took an active part in the various VJ parades in: Wisbech on Aug 13; Peterborough on Aug 15; Cambridge TAC on Aug 18; Ely on Aug 19 and Peterborough on Aug 20.

By way of relaxation some members of the branch escaped out of Wisbech to attend the Edinburgh Tattoo.

The branch has commenced its

support for the Cambridgeshire Regiment Collection appeal by sending a donation to its chairman and looks forward to attending its official opening in due course.

### March Branch

The branch has had a steady year but without a lot of activities. It attended all the functions and the committee are discussing making a donation to the museum fund.

### Ely Branch

It is sad that this year the branch lost its president Lt Col Ennion. The branch is small in numbers but was represented at almost all the functions during the last year. However transport was a problem. The branch laid wreaths on Remembrance Day and the VE and VJ Day services. Four members are still active. The branch proposed to carry on until the next annual meeting in 1996 when it will decide whether to carry on.

### Snippets from the annual meeting

Maj M A Jarvis was appointed secretary and thanks were recorded to Mr Roy Stubbings, the retiring secretary, for his long and valuable service.

Mr Martin Boswell, who is associated with the Duxford Museum, was appointed to the museum committee and it is hoped that he will become the Regimental Archivist.

Copies of Col Badcock's Regimental History are still available. Also ties are available from the ACF

Headquarters at Waterbeach.

A request was made that former members of the Home Guard should be eligible to become members in view of the fact they wore the Cambridgeshire capbadge. This is to be decided at the next annual meeting.

The Association has received a £500 legacy from the late Lt Col Ennion.

### The Cambridgeshire Regiment Collection at Duxford

The proposed Cambridgeshire Regiment Museum at Duxford will be called the Cambridgeshire Regiment Collection and will require £12,500 to achieve museum standards, plus an amount for maintenance on a regular basis. It will be situated alongside the Royal Anglian Museum in the Land Warfare Hall.

It has been decided not to approach captains of industry but to go for small contributions from members of the Regiment, the British Legion and parish and district councils. The response so far has been fantastic - 37 councils have responded and only a few have refused. Five British Legion branches have responded so far together with several members of the Regiment. The Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Trustees have promised £500 and in the event of a shortfall would be prepared to make a loan of £5,000 interest free. The OCA at their recent annual meeting agreed to donate £300 from their £500 legacy from the late Lt Col Jack Ennion.

The total to date is nearly £6,000 and as a donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has offered to match pound for pound raised up to a maximum of £6,000 we are nearly there. However a considerable sum will be needed to provide the maintenance costs from interest, so further donations are still needed.

The Dedication of the Cambridgeshire Regiment Collection would be "to members of the Cambridgeshire Regiment and their families". A roll of founder donors

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# Around the Branches

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would be on display.

It is not intended to withdraw items from displays in either Ely or Bury St Edmunds but would be drawn from reserves and should go back to the days of the 30th Foot. The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, which is the successor of the 30th Foot has agreed to provide something and any members who have anything of interest are asked to donate it.

On the management side, it is proposed to have a small team of guardians but no official trust. The guardians would comprise the OC for the time of the Cambridgeshire Rifle Company, or his deputy, the chairman of the OCA, the Commandant of the Cambridgeshire ACF, one of the vice-presidents of the Regimental Council (Col Macdonald plus two others, Capt J S Cook and Maj D Denson, have been proposed). Three members would form a quorum.

The Royal Anglian side is in hand and it is hoped to open the Collection in May 1996. It is proposed that the Cambridgeshire Regiment Collection will be open some two weeks later and will include exhibits from the Cambridgeshire ACF, OTC and the Home Guard.

All enquiries should be directed to Lt Col J P Macdonald at 15 Wimpole Road, Great Eversden, Cambridge, CB3 7HR. Tel: 01223 263293.

## Regimental Chapel

The new lighting has now been installed and a new altar cloth is in place, kindly made by the ladies of Ely led by the Dean's wife. The new Gladstonbury chairs are now in place, commanding the Wartime Commanding Officers, and a St George's Day dedication service will be held on Apr 23, 1996 at 11.30am outside the chapel in Ely Cathedral.

## Great St Mary's Plaque

The mystery of the Regimental colours in Great St Mary's, Cambridge has now been resolved and it appears that when the new floor was put down in 1959 the colours were buried in front

of the altar. A plaque is now being made which will say:- "The colours commemorated above were taken down during alterations in 1959 and placed beneath the new floor before the altar." These were the colours of Headquarters Company, 3rd Cambridgeshire (Volunteer) Battalion, Suffolk Regiment presented by Queen Victoria at Brandon in 1860 and laid up in Great St Mary's on Mar 29, 1908.

## Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force

The Regimental Council would like to record their thanks to the Commandant and members of the ACF for their help in maintaining all the Regimental functions throughout the year and for allowing the use of their premises, especially Waterbeach.

Mr Justin Norman is researching the history of the Regiment at Singapore and wishes to appeal for any assistance that can be offered. He is researching from call-up to demobilisation as well as any personal anecdotes. In conjunction with this, he is requesting any information on the whereabouts at that time of his grandfather Albert (Ted) Norman, especially anything about his time as a FEPOW. His address is 50a Upper North Street, Brighton BN1 3FH.

Hodder & Stoughton of 33B Euston Road, London NW1 3BH announces the publication of 'Singapore - The Pregnable Fortress' by Peter Elphick, whose previous book with Michael Smith is 'Odd Man Out', the story of the Singapore traitor.

## Obituary

We regret to announce the following death:- **Mr Stanley C Irons**, died on July 6, 1995 after several weeks of illness at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow, aged 78 years. Pte Irons joined the 1st Battalion The Cambridgeshire Regiment on Mar 15, 1940 and served until May 1946. He served continually with the 1st Battalion and was a FEWPOW.

Our sympathy goes out to his widow and family.



THE highlight of the last period has to be the trip to Holland in May to celebrate the Dutch liberation. A party of Essex comrades accompanied by their president, Col Geoffrey Morgan, stayed at Elst for nearly a week and attended numerous ceremonies at places where the 2nd Battalion the Essex Regiment had seen action in 1945. Massive crowds greeted us wherever we went and the hospitality of the Dutch people was quite overwhelming. Maj Charles Willis, who was with the Battalion during the campaign, laid wreaths at Elst and the barracks at Harskamp and also presented Regimental plaques to the mayors of Elst and Nijmegen.

The multi-national company Akzo kindly arranged a river trip for us from Nijmegen to its factory at Arnhem. This factory was the famous 'silk factory' taken by our 2nd Battalion before the advance into Arnhem itself in April 1945 and where Capt Peter Butler sadly lost his life and was one of the casualties of the war.

We were honoured to have Peter's widow, Betty, with us on the trip and she unveiled the memorial in the church of Eusabius, Arnhem, in memory of the Polar Bear Division. Later, the bouquet of flowers given to her at that ceremony were laid on Peter's grave. Our abiding thanks are due to our Dutch hosts for their unfailing kindness and generosity.

This year our dinner and dance was held at the County Hotel in Chelmsford. Our special guest was the Mayor of the City together with representatives from the Royal British Legion and the 1st and 6th Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment. It was a great success, masterminded by Maj

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# Around the Branches

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John Hutchings, and we all look forward to the next one in 1996.

Reunions always adopt a similar pattern and this year was no exception. One notable highlight was that the salute was taken by Maj Gen Michael Holme CB, MC. Michael, normally on parade with 'the boys', donned his uniform and had a word for every man on parade. It was a privilege to have this distinguished Essex soldier with us.

During the service a pew end memorial was unveiled to the memory of Brigadier R J Randall. Rumour has it that there may well be another one to unveil next year.

The presentation of colours parade at Duxford was well attended and, despite the chilling wind, enjoyed by all. I think everyone was impressed by the drill and turnout of those on parade. Association members were proud to be included in the march past and it was amusing to hear the ribald comments when the sergeant in charge of the Essex column actually explained the procedure for falling out. I think we had at least three Major Generals with us!

## Thurrock Branch

The branch has been very active since my last notes for the 'Castle'. Starting with March we attended a concert in the Regimental chapel at Warley where all proceeds went to the Army Benevolent Fund. It was a grand day at Duxford for the presentation of colours to the 1st and 2nd Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment and good to see all the old comrades that we would normally meet at Bassingbourn.

During April we also attended, with our standard, the dinner dance of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regimental Association. Our thanks to Stan Mansfield for an evening enjoyed by all.

During May some of the branch, along with other members of the Association, visited Holland for the liberation ceremonies. This trip, arranged by Harry Conn, was appreciated by all who attended. The Thurrock branch standard was also taken and proudly paraded. Thurrock members

also attended the VE day parade in Grays Thurrock where the Association standard, carried by Capt Peter Womack, was paraded at the war memorial and also at the Grays Parish Church.

In June we had our Regimental reunion. What a great day meeting up with comrades you only see once a year. The Salamanca dinner and dance held at the County Hotel Chelmsford was a great evening. Our thanks to Maj Hutchings and his committee.

Some members attended the VJ service together with our standard in the parish church at Grays Thurrock. The branch also made a good turnout for the VJ and end of the Second World War drumhead service and parade at Hylands Park Chelmsford.

**Peter Giggens, Honorary Secretary**

## 4th Battalion Comrades Association

This Association has had its usual full complement of activity in the past year. We had our own memorial service in March and followed this with a garden party at Warley in July. Both were well supported.

A party attended the Salamanca dinner and dance at Chelmsford and also the Drumhead service at Hylands Park. We shall be holding our own dinner and dance in October and numbers are looking good.

**Ted Hazle DCM, Honorary Secretary**



## Annual reunion 1995

THE annual reunion was held on July 1 and 2. The various Regimental meetings and the dinner was held on the Saturday and the Comrades church

parade and reunion on the Sunday.

## Comrades' annual reunion dinner

The dinner was held, as usual, in the TA Centre with 205 members in attendance. Gen Sir John Akehurst presided and proposed the toasts of "The Queen" and "Our Deputy Colonel in Chief". General Akehurst said that telegrams of good wishes for a convivial evening had been received from Her Majesty The Queen and from HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, in reply to loyal telegrams sent to them earlier.

The president then addressed the comrades. He welcomed all present and commented on the excellent turnout, which was the highest for a number of years. He particularly mentioned David Deacon and Lofty Knight and congratulated them for the encouraging attendance, particularly among those members who had only recently joined.

The president then turned his attention to the Royal Anglian Regiment. He explained the results of the review of the Territorial Army in general and its effects on the Royal Anglian Regiment in particular. He was sad that the 5th Battalion would disappear, but in name and role only. The Drill Hall at Peterborough, so important to the Peterborough Branch, would remain as a going concern. The General went on to summarise the year as far as the Regular Battalions were concerned. He reported that they continued to be held in the highest esteem.

The president concluded his address by thanking all those who had been responsible for the organisation of the whole weekend. He then proposed the toast "The Regiment."

## Comrades' church parade

The next day the weather was perfectly adequate for the church parade. The turnout was as good as ever and the march, headed by the Band of the 5th Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment, was enjoyed by marchers and spectators alike. The church service was well

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# Around the Branches

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attended and, as usual, stimulating. The address was given by the Rev Tom Hiney, chaplain to the Royal Hospital Chelsea, who is a great friend of the Association. All who attended the service appreciated his splendid address.

After the service the parade returned to Gibraltar Barracks for dismissal, en route giving an 'eyes right' to our President and the Deputy Mayor of Northampton, who took the salute.

## **5th Battalion the Northamptonshire Regiment – 78th Battleaxe Division**

On Sunday May 21, 1995 the seventh reunion luncheon was held, as in previous years, at the Barnsdale Lodge Hotel on the edge of Rutland Water, Oakham.

Maj Donald Girdwood welcomed all who were present, in total 69 comrades and ladies. Among the honoured guests were Col 'Buck' Buchanan, who commanded the Battalion in North Africa and Sicily, and Maj Ted Kelly.

All the ladies were presented with posies during pre-lunch drinks. Our President, Maj Girdwood explained the arrangements for the annual reunion lunches and informed the gathering that the next luncheon would be held on May 19, 1996 at the same venue.

An excellent luncheon was served in a jovial and convivial atmosphere. The Loyal Toast to Queen Elizabeth, Princess Alice, and the Regiment was taken, and a few minutes' silence to absent friends was observed.

After luncheon Col Buchanan spoke of his many memories during his command of the Battalion and how pleased he was to be able to attend this gathering. Maj Girdwood thanked our secretary, Gordon Isom for his sterling efforts to get comrades to the venue from far away places.

In conclusion, once again, we extend our grateful thanks to our benefactor, who sponsors the luncheons.

## **Peterborough Branch**

Another 12 months has flown quickly by and these notes are jotted at the time we are receiving replies to the annual

dinner circular. The initial response seems encouraging and I am sure I shall be able to report in the next issue another successful reunion, though sadly the last now before the demise of the 5th Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment. We wish the successor unit still to bear our name in its title every success.

The branch has had an eventful summer here in Peterborough and elsewhere in the county with our members supporting fully the local cathedral services and events to commemorate the 50th anniversary of VE and VJ Days.

The high spot in the summer was the barbecue which is the annual joint event with our good friends in the Cambridgeshire Regiment Association.

This year it was our turn to host and we saw record numbers attending at The Woolpack on a very fine, warm (it could be nothing else this summer) July night. Our secretary, David Allen, had organised a splendid meal and the comradeship could not have been better.

The branch, I can assure you, continues in good heart and all members sincerely hope that Royal Anglians and Northamptonshire comrades within striking distance of Peterborough will continue to join and support us at our various meetings in the months ahead.

## **4th Northampton (1939–1946) annual reunion**

The 49th reunion dinner was held in the Higham Ferrers Working Men's Club on Friday May 5, 1995 by kind permission of the committee and members of the club.

Following the grace, the chairman asked the comrades to observe the usual brief silence to mark the deaths since the last dinner of Monty Anderson, Maj E W (Bill) Bayley, Capt Norman Geary, Wilfred Bradley, Jack Coe, Stanley Green, Roland Magee and Harold Smith, and to remember all those who were no longer with us.

Welcoming the comrades, Mr Adrian Wells, the club chairman, said how pleased they were to provide their

facilities to the Battalion and he hoped the evening would be a happy occasion. In response, the chairman thanked the club committee on behalf of the comrades for the warm welcome and for generosity putting their fine club at our disposal.

He welcomed all present and thanked them for making such an effort to attend.

Sixty-six comrades were present, supported by our guest and three chauffeurs! Three more had had to cancel at the last moment. He made special mention of Joe Cox's presence and said how splendid it was to have him with us again.

Following the toasts the chairman asked the comrades to join him in expressing thanks for help and assistance during the year.

To Col Wilson and his staff for the help with the typing and producing of dinner letters and reports; to Bill Teece for his generous provision of typed envelopes; to the committee members for their enthusiastic backup; and to those comrades who, led by the president, attended Monty Anderson's funeral in June at Flore Church, where he was buried with military honours, and finally to Mr and Mrs Wragg and their staff for the excellent meal that evening.

Maj Scopes, treasurer, then reported a balance at the bank of £421.39 and all debts paid!

The chairman pointed out the sad increase in deaths this year and a noticeable rise in the numbers on the sick list.

In some cases comrades had an invalid wife who needed their constant attention. The chairman proposed the toast to "absent friends."

There followed a general discussion on the future of the dinner and the pattern of next year's 50th reunion.

The chairman said he would convene a committee meeting in advance of the despatch of the mid-term letter due out in February. The committee would draw up a plan for the consideration of the comrades similar to the 1993 vote on altering the date from October to May.

## Branches



### WARMINSTER

THE Warminster Branch, believed to be the most remote branch in the UK from East Anglia, is well and thriving. Although fairly small in numbers the branch is well attended and supported by enthusiastic members bolstered up by serving Royal Anglians posted to the Warminster Area. That said, the branch is always on the lookout for new blood and any member, past or present who happens to move to or is just passing is very welcome to call in. Branch meetings are held on the first Monday of each month, either in the Conservative Club in Warminster or the Warminster Training Centre (WTC) WOs' and Sgts' Mess by kind permission of WO1 (RSM) G J Goodchild Royal Anglian.

Members have taken an active part in Regimental functions over the past year. Although transport will always be a problem the help the branch has received from the WTC through the RSM has been very generous and much appreciated. Members have attended the colour parade in April 95 and the WOs' and Sgts' Mess Past and Present dinner in Sept 95. An enjoyable time was had by all who attended.

By the time this article is published the branch will have had its annual meeting which is immediately followed by the annual dinner Christmas function on Nov 25, 1995. Last year's function was well attended. This year it will also be followed the next day by a church service and the dedication of the branch standard.

Finally members are looking forward to renewing old acquaintances and making new ones with the 2nd Battalion when they move to Warminster in 1996. We wish them a successful move and a happy tour in Warminster.

## Sport



Tri-Angular Match team: Left to right: Rear – Maj (R) J Perry, Mr D Wharton, Mr K Taylor BEM, Mr L Greenaway, Mr R Travis; Front – Mr P Fox, Mr K Rowe, Maj G Halewood (captain), Mr S McAnally, Capt D Davidson.

## Golf trophy reclaimed

### Regimental Meeting

THE annual meeting of the Regimental Golfing Society was held at Stowmarket Golf Club on June 23, 1995. A total of 32 players competed in fine weather on the very well maintained and exciting course. The results were: Islam Salver – Mr Travis; runner-up – Mr K Taylor; Pompadour Cup – Mr Shailes; runner-up – Mr Peck; Suffolk Cup – Mr Shailes; runner-up – Mr Peck; Ponsonby Cup – Messrs Leyland and Smith; runners-up – Messrs Halewood and Wilcox.

### Queens Division Tri-Angular meeting

### May competition

ON a beautifully sunny day in May the Regimental golf team reclaimed the Tri-Angular Match Trophy. The competition was held at the Canterbury Golf Club which proved to be in excellent condition on the

day. The team all played consistently over both rounds, which is the key to success in this event and the splendid lunch was not allowed to affect the afternoon round.

Cost and the excellence of the food and course have led us to booking the same venue next year. Accommodation is always available at Howe Barracks, a very short distance from the course.

### Autumn meeting

The autumn meeting was held at Flempton Golf Club on Sept 8, 1995. Prize winners were: Medal – Mr Knight; runner-up – Gen Sir John Akehurst; Stableford – Mr G Taylor; runner-up – Mr McAnally; Greensome – Messrs Rowe and McAnally; runners-up – Gen Sir John Akehurst and Maj Halewood.

Regrettably the match versus Flempton Golf Club on Sept 9, 1995 had to be cancelled as we were unable to raise a team.

### NEXT YEAR'S FIXTURES

Spring meeting, Flempton Golf Club	Apr 12
Divisional Tri-Angular meeting, Canterbury Golf Club	May 10
Regimental meeting, Stowmarket Golf Club	June 21
Autumn meeting, Flempton Golf Club	Sept 13
Meeting v Flempton	Sept 14



## Disappointing cricket season

### The Royal Anglian Regiment Cricket Club 1995

President: Brigadier A J K Calder OBE  
 Secretary: Lt Col B H M Davenport  
 Treasurer: Maj D C Napier

THIS year marked the Club's 30th season, and one not marked by any notable success on the field.

Two draws out of a total of nine matches played is the best gloss that can be

put on the results. Winning or losing matches is of course only part of the plot; continuing to play the schools in East Anglia and our other opposition provides the opportunity to retain contact with them, to display the sporting spirit in which we as a Regiment play our cricket, and gives our players the opportunity to play at some fine grounds.

There were 14 fixtures scheduled for the summer; unfortunately five of them

were to be cancelled – to some extent due to a shortage of players exacerbated by the 1st Battalion's preparations for their unexpected operational tour to Bosnia. Of the planned list, there was some new opposition – St Edmunds College, Ware, the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook (the alma mater of our treasurer), Commander 24 Brigades XI, and the Light Infantry.

### RESULTS 1995

Apr 23	v	St Joseph's College, Ipswich	Lost
Apr 30	v	Uppingham School The Regiment 157-7 dec, Uppingham 158-8	Lost
May 28	v	The Light Infantry The Regiment 122, The Light Infantry 123-8	Lost
June 4	v	Harrow School Harrow 179-2 dec, The Regiment 73	Lost
June 28	v	Gresham's School The Regiment 71, Gresham's 72-2	Lost
June 30	v	St Edmunds College, Ware St Edmunds 204-5 dec, The Regiment 192-8	Drawn
July 3	v	Framlingham College The Regiment 133, Framlingham 134-?	Lost
July 4	v	Woodbridge School The Regiment 157, Woodbridge 116-7	Drawn
July 11	v	Perse Pelicans The Regiment 116, Perse Pelicans 118-2	Lost

The matches against Felsted School, Brentwood School, Bancroft's School, the Royal Hospital School and Commander 24 Brigades' XI were not played.

### Individual performances

In terms of individual performances there are some deserving mentions; Cpl Paul Dufosse bowled consistently well and was the top wicket taker; Cpl Martin Ward, after a slow start, batted in a disciplined and positive way to be the leading run maker, and Capt Evan Williams (of the Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment, attached to the 1st Battalion) was not far behind. The only half century was recorded by Andy Latham (late 3rd Battalion) against St Edmunds College.

As usual, our match managers performed heroically getting sides together (from a variety of sources!). To them, and the players themselves for playing, a large vote of thanks is due.

Looking forward to 1996, a full fixture list as before is anticipated, ideally not interfered too much with by the commitments of the two Regular battalions – indeed it is hoped to see more Poachers players as they return from Celle.

The home ground will still be at Colchester, although it may be possible to play occasionally at the 1st Battalion's new home at Oakington.

### Committee changes

The club committee is due for a change; Brigadier Tony Calder, our chairman, has now retired – his support will be greatly missed; David Napier is posted to Bermuda, and the secretary's time is coming to an end. Lobbying is now taking place to corner reliefs!

The Regimental Cricket Club is for all members of the Regiment, of any rank, whether retired or serving. New players are always welcome.

The contact is the secretary, Lt Col Brian Davenport, Headquarters 24 Airmobile Brigade and Colchester Garrison, 3/4 Napier Road, Colchester CO2 7SW, tel: Colchester mil (01206-78) ext 2020.

# Sport



## Vikings in Croatia

Despite being stationed in Ploce, the Vikings managed to organise a number of sporting events. Of particular note has been the inter-company Grade 3 novices boxing which was held on Sept 16. It was a memorable evening to which the rest of the Brigade was invited.

The Quartermaster's department again managed to come up trumps and converted an empty warehouse into a boxing auditorium with the ring made of pallets. Perhaps the best fight of the night was between Pte Crowe, Headquarter Company and LCpl Head of C Company who slugged it out for the full three rounds in

the heavyweight contest. Crowe emerged as the eventual winner and LCpl Head took the prize for best loser.

The standard of boxing throughout the competition was exemplary and augurs well for an attempt at the Army competitions. C Company won the overall competition by a convincing margin.

Furthermore we have played local sides at both football and rugby.

On both occasions the matches have been extremely close. However there has been a certain amount of disagreement on the rules, particularly of rugby.



Above: The Viking rugby side which played the local Croatian team. Below left: LCpl Codling in action against the local Croatians. Croatian side.

**jolliffes**  
**OF COLCHESTER**

**THE ORIGINAL GARRISON TAILORS**  
still providing the  
**SUPERB TAILORING SERVICE**  
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# Sport

## Poachers compete in wide variety of events

ALTHOUGH the Poachers have been extremely busy they have still found time to play sport and get the maximum number of Poachers away on adventure training. The Battalion windsurfing team won the BFG novice championships, and the fishing team has gone from strength to strength. Congratulations go to Cpl Baines, picked for the Army fishing team, with WO2 Ralph AD and Sgt Pearce being selected as reserves, receiving their colours and half colours respectively.

The Officers' versus Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess golf was won very easily by the Officers' Mess.

On Sept 26 Hohne Garrison held a Modern Triathlon competition. The weather was mixed but this did not deter a healthy turnout of Poachers at the event, especially of young soldiers. Competition was fierce and despite the weather produced some excellent results. Overall results put the Battalion in second place behind 32 Engineer Regiment. 2 Royal Anglian B-team came 12th with 5 Platoon and 9 Platoon coming 14th and 15th respectively. An excellent performance from Cpl Harvey LAD saw him score 3084 points for a comfortable first place. There were other notable performances from LCpl Hannigan, Sgt Almond and Maj Wild.

The Battalion also came a very comfortable second in the Brigade cricket competition with Capt Gerrard Wright scoring



Top: Officers' and Sergeants' Mess cricket teams. Above: Capt Heap, Sgt Derbyshire, Sgts Dunn and Curtis. LCpl Risborough and Brocklesby and Pte Coupland celebrate their windsurfing victory. Below: Cpl Baines wins a place in the Army fishing team.

40 off eight balls at one stage.

An inter-company rugby tournament was held on Sept 9. Six teams entered the ten-a-side competition which was run on a league basis and which was sponsored by the official sponsors of the Rugby World

Cup - Toyota. Competition was fierce and a number of companies attempted, to no avail, to smuggle local German club players into their teams to gain that vital advantage. In the end the LAD triumphed with B Company coming second.

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## Sport

### 6th Battalion orienteers finish fifth in league

THE 6th Battalion has been active on the adventurous training and sports front. At the beginning of the last six month period the Eastern District Orienteering League came to an end.

This season the league was very well supported with 395 individuals from 33 teams taking part. The Battalion finished in a very creditable fifth place with individual honours going to WO2 Callaghan, runner-up in the M35 class and Pte Morris, runner-up in W19 class.

A permanent staff team consisting of the TM, Maj Roger Shelmerdine-Hare, the Adjutant, Capt Adrian Gosling, the SPSI, WO2 Callaghan and the Recce PSI, Sgt Skelton also took part in the Welsh 1000 hill race.

This event which starts on the Welsh coast and finishes on the summit of Snowdon certainly lived up to its reputation. The rolling countryside of Suffolk in no way prepared the team for the hills of Wales.

Despite foul weather everyone in the team finished which proved to be an achievement in itself. Members of the Battalion have also taken part in a number of fun runs. The most successful were the Recce Platoon team which impressed the locals by completing the Bury St Edmunds 5 in full kit.

### Adventure training in Lake District

ALL companies of the Battalion have also been away adventure training. A Company spent a very enjoyable weekend in the Lake District. Completing some arduous walks which certainly revised the map reading skills of the commanders.

B and C Companies, under CSgt Eales and WO2 Brown respectively, conducted leadership training at Capel Curig in Wales. During the weekend all of the soldiers experienced climbing, abseiling and navigating the peaks of Snowdonia.



Above: The Welsh 1000 team on Snowdonia  
Below: The Recce Team after completing the Bury 5.



# Births and marriages

## POACHERS

### Births

**Howard** — To Cpl and Mrs Howard a daughter Amy Rachael; **Auckland** — To LCpl and Mrs Auckland a son Craig Mark; **McCrystal** — To Pte and Mrs McCrystal a daughter Sophie Louise; **Saunders** — To Cpl and Mrs Saunders a daughter Charlotte Amanda; **Hancock** — To Pte and Mrs Hancock a son Sean Andrew; **Barstow** —

To Cpl and Mrs Barstow a son Alexander John; **Atkins** — To Pte and Mrs Atkins a son Thomas Leonard; **Harrison** — To LCpl and Mrs Harrison a daughter Casey Lorraine Carole; **Hosken** — To LCpl and Mrs Hosken a daughter Toni Alexandra; **Bronze** — To Pte and Mrs Bronze a son Jordan Neil; **Poundall** — To Pte and Mrs Poundall a daughter Lauren Victoria; **Eaton** — To LCpl and Mrs Eaton a daughter Isabell.

### Marriages

**Frost** — On Mar 18 Cpl Frost to Ariane; **Rogers** — On Apr 28 Pte Rogers to Sophie Lucinda; **Harrison-Kerr** — On May 13 Pte Harrison-Kerr to Claire Louise; **Lawrinson** — On June 13 Pte Lawrinson to Eve Marie; **Dunn** — On Aug 19 Pte Dunn to Susan Michelle; **Guppy** — On Aug 12 LCpl Guppy to Paula; **Pallant** — WO1 Pallant to Alison Claire; **West** — On Aug 5 Cpl West to Nicola Ann.

# Obituaries



### Lt Col W H Brinkley

Bill Brinkley entered Sandhurst in 1932 and was commissioned into the Norfolk Regiment in August 1932, joining the 2nd Battalion in Devonport prior to six years' service with the 1st Battalion in India. He served during the Northwest Frontier operations, then in Delhi and Bangalore.

In 1940, when he was Adjutant of the Battalion he moved to the UK for the defence of London. After attending Staff College Camberley he was staff employed in Lincoln. He rejoined the 1st Battalion in Scotland and trained for the landing in Normandy on June 6, 1944.

He was wounded on patrol in Normandy and was evacuated to England. He trained recruits at the Regimental Depot, Norwich. Once his wound healed, he rejoined the Battalion at Kervenheim. In March 1945 he became a GSO II Instructor at the Staff College, Quetta.

His peacetime service took him to India and Berlin followed by staff employment in Hong Kong.

He was subsequently posted to

Seremban, Malaya for anti-communist operations.

He became Second-in-Command of 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment in Trieste and from there joined the Headquarters of the British Commonwealth Force Korea in Kure, Japan.

He was appointed to command the 1st Battalion The Royal Norfolk Regiment for anti-Eoka operations in Cyprus. With the end of Eoka activity, the Battalion moved to Iserlohn where he relinquished his tour of command.

In retirement he served in a variety of staff appointments in Chester, Exeter and for the last 14 years of his retired service was associated with the Army Band office. He settled in Rickingham, Suffolk where he was church warden for a period. He was also chairman of the local branch of the Royal British Legion for 12 years. A strong supporter of all Regimental occasions and activities, he was also a keen golfer.

In 1943 he married Jean McCreath. We extend our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

### Deaths

We record with sadness the deaths of the following: **Maj A T Y Haygarth** Beds & Herts on Jan 2, 95; **Lt (Hon Maj) G I. Goodwin** Suffolks on Apr 26, 95; **Maj (Hon Lt Col) M J Kerslake** Suffolks on Jun 28, 95; **Col E A Hefford** CVO, DSO, OBE Royal Lincolns on Sept 19, 95; **Maj S E J Mason** Royal Anglian on June 18, 95; **Maj (Hon Lt Col) E M Harper** Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire on Dec 25, 94 and **Maj V A French** Royal Anglian on Oct 6, 95. We extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to their families and friends.



### Maj Bertie Ambler MBE MSM

AFTER a long illness Bertie passed away peacefully on the evening of July 28, 1995.

Bertie was captured by the Japanese during the fall of Singapore in 1942. At the time he was serving in the Loyals as a bandsman. Bertie joined the 1st Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment as the paymaster whilst the Battalion was serving in Aden. He continued to serve with the 1st Battalion during its tours in Aden, Germany (Celle), Catterick, Northern Ireland and Cyprus.

Whilst serving with the Battalion, Bertie was awarded a much deserved MBE and MSM and the unique award (for an officer) of the Clasp to the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. He was an excellent paymaster, and was well liked and respected by all who knew him.

More Royal Anglian than most, Bertie liked nothing better than relaxing while listening to Regimental Bands and in particular his own records of the Royal Anglian Bands.

We extend the sympathy of the Regiment to his wife Avril, his daughters, Kathleen and Jane, and all his friends.

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