



CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT





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JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

June 1997
Vol. 10 No. 4



Editor : Maj RC Gould

Contents

Colonel of the Regiment	5	Normandy Band	47
Personalia	8	Special Features	48
Regimental Matters	10	Regimental Museum	57
Mainly about People	14	The Associations	60
Letters	16	News from the Cadets	70
News from the Vikings	18	Orbats (TA Battalions)	72
News from the Poachers	24	Marriages and Births	77
News from 6th Battalion	36	Obituaries	78
News from the Tigers	38	Notices	80
Ex Viking Thunder	41	Association Branches	82
The Poachers leave Warminster	44	Regimental Shop	83
Regimental Sport	45		
ATR Bassingbourn	46		

Front Cover: Cpl Howlett, Drums 1st Bn, on top of the World, Mount Kenya.

Rear Cover: Tigers prepare to attack Imber Village under cover of smoke.

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Elizabeth R
1995

*The Colonel - in - Chief, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth
The Queen Mother*



The Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon.



The Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester.

From the Colonel of the Regiment



General Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE ADC Gen, Colonel of The Royal Anglian Regiment

The 1st Battalion has had a busy six months - the highlight of which has been the training in Kenya. It was good to see that all ranks made the most of this opportunity to exercise overseas. With the Tactical Engagement Simulation Exercise on Salisbury Plain as a precursor to this, the battalion can be well satisfied that it has had a fair crack of the training whip and, in a National Defence Role, is about as well trained as any. As we go to press, four more Freedom Marches are imminent which will complete a two year programme of reinforcing our County links - before both Regular battalions are out of the country for a time.

The 2nd Battalion are now firmly ensconced in Cyprus having completed an outstandingly successful tour as The Combined Arms Training Centre's Battle Group at Warminster. This was no mean feat, as the role can, after a full two years, become both repetitive and a disincentive to retaining our soldiers and officers. That it did neither of these things is a great tribute to the leadership within the battalion and the approach to the role demonstrated by all ranks. The battalion left with its head held high and its reputation secure. Cyprus will bring new challenges - not least in terms of the spotlight that seems to be directed on the Army in its overseas garrisons and particularly Aphrodite's Isle. We all wish the battalion a happy, safe and positive tour there.

Both the 6th and 7th Battalions continue to prosper. It is planned that the T. A. Band will stay in Peterborough - under the welcoming and supportive administrative eye of 158 (Royal Anglian) Tpt Regt RLC (V) - and notable among their recent activities was the important role they both played in local flood relief operations. It is in the T. A. arena that there seems to be the widest speculation about the outcome of the Strategic Defence Review, causing all to feel ill at ease. We shall have to continue in this environment of uncertainty until the Review is completed and announcements made in Parliament. Meanwhile, we should continue to focus on what we are doing, recognise that the recruiting efforts are paying dividends, with some of the best regimental results in the Army, and sustain the successful activities we have undertaken to project the Regiment's image; not least of which have been the Regimental Briefing Day at Warminster, the fund raising event at the museum in Duxford and the 7th Battalion's initiative with the Sikh community in Leicester.



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

General Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE ADC Gen

Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment

The Reverend T B F Hiney MC

Deputy Colonels of the Regiment

1st and 6th(V) Battalions:

Brigadier J C B Sutherell CBE ADC

2nd and 7th(V) Battalions:

Brigadier P P Rawlins MBE

Colonel NH Kelsey OBE TD

President of the Regimental Association

Major General Sir David Thorne KBE CVO

Deputy Honorary Colonels TA

Norfolk	Colonel P J S Child
Suffolk	Brigadier A J K Calder OBE
Cambridgeshire	Colonel P G R Horrell TD
Lincolnshire	Colonel R J M Drummond OBE
Leicestershire	Colonel J C D Heggs DL
Northamptonshire	Colonel F A H Swallow OBE
Bedfordshire	Colonel M Adkin
Hertfordshire	Colonel N G Halsey TD
Essex	Colonel R A Shervington TD

Alliances

Australia	The Royal Tasmania Regiment
Barbados	The Barbados Regiment
Belize	The Belize Defence Force
Bermuda	The Bermuda Regiment
Canada	Sherbrooke Hussars
	The Lincoln and Welland Regiment
	The Essex and Kent Scottish
	The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment
Gibraltar	The Gibraltar Regiment
Malaysia	1st Battalion The Royal Malay Regiment
New Zealand	3rd Battalion (Auckland {Countess of Ranfurly's Own} and Northland) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment
	5th Battalion The Frontier Force Regiment
Pakistan	First City Regiment
South Africa	Regiment de la Rey
The Regiment	is affiliated to 158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC (V) and to the Worshipful Company of Poulters
1st Battalion	has a Bond of Friendship with HMS Norfolk

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,
Grays and Thurrock, Hertford, Hinckley and Bosworth, Ilford, Ipswich,
King's Lynn, Leicester, Lincoln, Lowestoft, Luton, Newham, Northampton,
Norwich, Peterborough, Romford, Southend, Sudbury, Watford,
Wellingborough, Wisbech, Great Yarmouth, and
The Colour of the Borough of Barking and Dagenham.

REGIMENTAL LOCATIONS

Regimental Headquarters:

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN
(Tel: 01284 752394 Fax: 752026/Colchester Military 5124)

Regimental Secretary:

Assistant Regimental Secretary:

Regimental Careers Officer: Major R C Gould

Area Office Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire

Britannia House TA Centre,
325 Aylsham Road, Norwich NR3 2AD
(Tel: 01603 400290)
Area Secretary: Major W H Reeve

Area Office Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex

Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Essex CM13 3BN
(Tel: 01277 213051)

Area Office Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire

Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton NN1 3RE
(Tel: 01604 635412)
Area Secretary: Colonel F A H Swallow OBE

Area Office Lincoln

Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY (Tel: 01522 525444)
Area Secretary: Captain D J Lee BEM

Regimental Information Team

Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn (Tel: 01763 242271)
Capt TD Smith MBE

Regimental Museum

Imperial War Museum, Duxford, Cambs CB2 4QR
(Tel: 01223 835000 Extn 313)
Regimental Attendant: Mr G A Boss

BATTALION LOCATIONS

1st Battalion,
Oakington Barracks,
Longstanton, Cambridge CB4 5EJ *(to Londonderry May 99)*

Lieutenant Colonel R J Kemp MBE

2nd Battalion,
Alexandra Barracks,
BFPO 58 *Falkland Islands Company
Mar-July 99*

Lieutenant Colonel S L Porter

6th(V) Battalion,
TA Centre, Blenheim Camp, Newmarket Road,
Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3SW

Lieutenant Colonel H N D Gill (V)

7th(V) Battalion,
TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester LE4 6BY

Lieutenant Colonel P M Holme

Regimental Representatives

Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn: Lt DJ Howson
Infantry Training Centre, Catterick: Maj AW Price
RMA Sandhurst: Captain R L Gerrard-Wright

Personalalia

Honours and Awards

We congratulate the following on their awards during the past six months:

Capt D A England	Jt Comds Commendation Op LODESTAR (FY)
Capt J A Farrer 9/12L	QCVS (NI) while attached to 1st Bn
Capt F J R Grounds	QCVS (NI)
CSgt D M Caesar	QCVS (NI)
Sgt A J Buxton	GOC's Commendation (Ops)(NI)
LCpl L F Doherty RAMC	GOC's Commendation (NI)
LCpl J D Kimble	GOC's Commendation (NI)
Pte G Stevenson	GOC's Commendation (Ops)(NI)
Maj A D W McArdle(V)	TD and 1st Clasp
Maj D W Reed(V)	TD 2nd Clasp
Capt J H A Tusa(V)	TD
WO2 J Bradshaw(V)	TEM 1st Clasp
WO2 A J Debenham(V)	TEM 1st Clasp
WO2 P R Hayter(V)	TEM 2nd Clasp
WO2 R G Rogers(V)	TEM 1st Clasp
WO2 B S Wetton(V)	TEM
WO2 P J Wight	MSM
SSgt D Jordan(V)	TEM
Sgt I D Branch(V)	TEM
Sgt P J Goodchild(V)	TEM 1st Clasp
Sgt T E Paul(V)	TEM 1st Clasp
Sgt J A Rusted(V)	TEM 2nd Clasp
Sgt M A Slater	LSGC Medal (Mil)
Cpl M A Jones	LSGC Medal (Mil)
Cpl J M Petch(V)	TEM
Cpl P Taylor(V)	TEM
LCpl L E Blandford(V)	TEM 1st Clasp
LCpl J Harrison(V)	TEM
LCpl F G Williamson(V)	TEM

Senior Officers' Appointments

The following are congratulated on assuming senior appointments:

Brig J C B Sutherell CBE	as ADC to HM The Queen
Lt Col P L Kirkbride RLC	as CO 158 (Royal Anglian) Tpt Regt RLC(V), 27 Apr 98

Promotions

Lt Col C A Cocker OBE	To Col, 30 Jun 98
Maj N G Burrell	To Lt Col, Jun 98
Capt N M P Brown(V)	To Maj, 3 Nov 97
Flt Lt S H Law(V)	To Capt, 17 Sep 97
Lt C T D M McLay	To Capt, 12 Dec 97
2Lt C D Davies	To Lt, 16 Dec 97
2Lt D H J Litjens(V)	To Lt, 2 Oct 97

Commissions

The Regiment welcomes the following newly commissioned officers:

Capt G J Webb	1 Apr 98 (1st Bn)
Lt A J Debenham(V)	3 Sep 97 (6th Bn)
2Lt P J Messenger	13 Dec 97 (1st Bn)
2Lt P A Muncey,	13 Dec 97 (1st Bn)
2Lt O C C Brown	13 Dec 97 (1st Bn)
2Lt B J Rayment	13 Dec 97 (2nd Bn)
2Lt S T Otter	13 Dec 97 (2nd Bn)

Personalia

Left the Army

The following are leaving, or have left, the Army:

Brig P P Rawlings	Sep 98.	Maj C J C Kett	Jun 98.
Col R G Greenham	Nov 98.	Capt M D Parry	Aug 98.
Col A C Taylor	Aug 98.	Capt I K S Howden	7 Dec 97.
Lt Col(Hon Col) P G R Horrell(V) TD DL	1 Nov 97.	Lt P D P Flemington(V)	25 Nov 97.

We wish them well for the future and hope to see them from time to time at Regimental functions.

Transfers

Lt E J M Osborne to 7 R IRISH 28 Oct 97

Postings

RHQ has been told of the following postings:

Col A C Taylor, from SVC Adv Nicosia to HS ATR Bassingbourn,	25 May 98.	Maj D G Vincent, from 1st Bn to HQ MND(C) BAE,	28 Sep 98.
Lt Col A J C Wild MBE, from DMO to 1(UK) Armd Div	12 Jan 98.	Capt A H C Borgnis, from 1st Bn to ITC Wales,	19 Oct 98.
Lt Col N G Burrell, from HQ QMG to JSCSC,	22 Jun 98.	Capt A P R Bowman, from ITC Catterick to 1st Bn,	22 Jun 98.
Lt Col D J W Baylis, from 158 (Royal Anglian) Tpt Regt RLC(V) to Brit Mil Msn Kuwait	29 Apr 98.	Capt D G Goude MBE, from 2 RGR to 2nd Bn,	8 Jun 98.
Lt Col(SL) R E Haes OBE, from Brit Mil Msn Kuwait to HQ ATRA,	12 Jan 98.	Capt P A Holton from ATR Bassingbourn to 2 RGJ,	17 Jan 98.
Lt Col C G Stallard, from HQ DSL to DM(A),	5 May 98.	Capt P S Leslie, from 8 Inf Bde to RAF College, Cranwell,	6 Apr 98.
Lt Col R E Harrold OBE, from 1st Bn to JSCSC,	18 Jun 98.	Capt L S F McGrath, from 1st Bn to CDO Trg Centre,	13 Jul 98.
Maj J A B Borthwick, from CATC Warminster to Catterick Garrison,	5 May 98.	Capt T E O'Driscoll, from 7 R IRISH to DMO, 27 Oct 98, and 2(SE) Bde,	30 Mar 98.
Maj S J R Browne, from DMO to RMCS Shrivenham, 12 Nov 98, and JSCSC	6 Sep 99.	Capt M D P Parry, from ITC Warminster to 24 Airmobile Bde,	15 Dec 97.
Maj S W Carver, from 2nd B to RMCS Shrivenham, 12 Nov 98, and JSCSC	6 Sep 99.	Capt T D Smith MBE, from 2nd Bn to OC RIT,	16 Mar 98.
Maj R J Clements, from HQNI to NI Trg Wg,	1 Jul 98.	Capt J P Trigg, from LSP ABU DHABI UAE to 1st Bn,	2 Feb 98.
Maj A Gosling, from RCB to RMCS Shrivenham, 12 Nov 98, and JSCSC	6 Sep 99.	Capt A Y L Wong(V), from 1st Bn to 7th Bn,	30 Apr 98.
Maj G P Halewood, from Resettlement Centre Catterick to RL&LS(East),	15 Jun 98.	Capt J M Woodham, from HQNI to HQ Land,	22 Jun 98.
Maj J E Harris, from PD/AS to 1st Bn,	24 Aug 98.	Lt I M Chance, from 1st Bn to ITC Catterick,	15 Jun 98.
Maj J M H Heap, from HQ UK Sp Comd(GE) to Staff College, Australia,	Jan 99.	Lt C D Davies, from 2nd Bn to 7 R IRISH,	16 Jan 98.
		Lt N J Haden, from 2nd Bn to ATR Bassingbourn,	15 Jan 98.
		Lt C D Hoyles, from 1st Bn to HQ STANTA,	29 Jan 98.
		Lt C Owen, Int Corps, from Int Centre Sp Unit to 2nd Bn,	9 Jun 97.
		Lt S R Smith, from ATR Bassingbourn to 2nd Bn,	29 Sep 97.

Promotion/Staff Exam and Staff Qualifications

Maj M H Wenham	Awarded sq
Capt L S F McGrath	Staff Pass
Capt E C Reynolds	Promotion Pass

Course Gradings

Cpl Quittenton	EPC 1 Distinction
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RSM Appointments

WO2 Stefanetti	1st Bn, Apr 98.
WO2 S P Prime	6th Bn, Jul 98.
WO2 Beighton	2nd Bn, Apr 99.

Regimental Matters

Audiences with our Deputy Colonels

Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, honoured the Regiment by receiving Lieutenant Colonel JBC Prescott and Lieutenant Colonel PM Holme at Kensington Palace on 8 December 1997 on the occasion of their change of command.

Lieutenant Colonel RE Harrold OBE and Lieutenant Colonel RJ Kemp MBE were honoured with an audience by Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, on their change of command at Kensington Palace on 10 June 1998.

Duke of Gloucester visits the Regimental Museum

The Duke of Gloucester visited the Regimental Museum on 25 March 1998 in support of a fund-raising reception hosted by the Colonel of the Regiment and the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Mr James Crowden. The event was attended by prominent individuals and businessmen from the Regiment's counties, together with several Regimental hosts. In his speech, the Colonel of the Regiment thanked the Duke of Gloucester for his support and said how appropriate his visit was in view of his family's close links with Northamptonshire. He noted, in particular, Her Royal Highness Princess Alice's 60 years association with the Regiment and its predecessors and her 26 visits to the Regiment over the past 35 years.



*Museum Reception, 25 March
HRH The Duke of Gloucester meets Mr George Boss. The Colonel of the Regiment
and the Regimental Secretary to the rear*

Regimental Briefing

15 January 1998

The 2nd Battalion hosted a Regimental Briefing at Warminster on 15 January 1998 for around 80 guests, ranging from Lord Lieutenants to Headmasters, employers and employment agencies and senior members of the Regimental Associations. Briefings were given by the COs of the 1st, 2nd and 7th Battalions, Brigadier PP Rawlins and the Colonel of the Regiment. The event brought old friends of the Regiment up-to-date with changes and made many new friends. Another such event is planned for January 1999, to be hosted by the 1st Battalion at Oakington.

Medals of Major General Sir Douglas Kendrew

A magnificent group of medals was recently loaned to the 2nd Battalion by a strong supporter of the Regiment and of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, Mr David C Samworth CBE DL. In thanking him for a most generous gesture and a fine addition to the Poachers' already extensive medal collection, the Commanding Officer wrote: "This group is a most wonderful and unique collection. The medals we have demonstrate our strong links with the county regiments from which we draw our traditions and heritage. Through your generosity, The Royal Leicestershire Regiment will be particularly well represented. We are really most grateful for your kindness and for thinking of the Regiment in this way". General Joe Kendrew who died in 1989 played rugby 10 times for England, as Captain in 1935, and was a British Lion. As a Royal Leicestershire Regiment Officer he won 4 DSOs, one in Korea. He was a Deputy Colonel of the Regiment from 1964-65 and served as Governor of Western Australia.

Presentation of Sword

On 11 May, Lieutenant Paul Muncey of the 1st Battalion was presented with a sword in an interesting ceremony at Oakington. The history of the sword goes back to 1953 when Brigadier RP Scott DSO, wishing to commemorate his brother who had served in The Essex Regiment from 1920-28 and who had been killed in an air crash, had presented his brother's sword to a young subaltern in The Royal Norfolk Regiment, John Jones. Its presentation was on condition that the sword be passed on to another young officer when no longer needed. Lieutenant Colonel Jones, now retired and in accordance with the agreement, approached the 1st Battalion in order to present the sword to a suitable young officer. Lieutenant Muncey, was selected by his CO and is now the proud guardian of a unique piece of Regimental history.

The Last Stand at Gundamuk

The oil painting of the last stand of the 44th Regiment of Foot at Gundamuk in 1842 by WB Wollen 1898 has been moved from the National Army Museum to The Essex Regiment Museum in Chelmsford.

The painting illustrates the stand of the last 20 men of the 44th at Gundamuk during the Regiment's attempt to withdraw across the mountains to India from Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan. The sole survivor of the annihilation of the Regiment was Lieutenant Souter, who wrapped the Regimental Colour around his body to save it; he was spared as a hostage, but later returned, with the Colour, to England. The Colour is now laid to rest in the Regimental Chapel at Warley.

Regimental Matters

The Regimental Council

The composition and work of the Regimental Council were described in 'Castle' December 1997. Its deadline for publishing did not allow a report on the Council's 7 November meeting, so the business in outline is given below.

The Council agreed to meet twice annually in future, the first meeting, in May on the same day as the Regimental Cocktail Party and then in November. Prior to the November meeting, there would be a Regimental Consultation Meeting to update Chairmen of the Former Regiment Associations and Deputy Honorary Colonels TA on Regimental matters. It was also agreed that the Regiment's senior LE officer should be a member of the Council (Lieutenant Colonel A Powell MBE has since been invited). Other matters discussed were the Regiment's finances, dress (a Regimental shoulder-slide is to be produced) and documentation for members of the Regiment on retirement, describing the benefits and workings of the Regimental Association.

Regimental Association Retirement Documentation

All members of the Regiment become members of the Royal Anglian Regiment Association for life when they join. Up to now, many members of the Regiment have retired without fully understanding the benefits, both financial and through retaining links with former friends, of the Association.

All members of the Regiment now receive a pack on retirement. This includes a letter from the President of the Regimental Association, Major General Sir David Thorne, with details of the Regimental Reunion, Association Branches, contacts in case of welfare problems, museums, the Officers' Dinner Club, the Past and Present NCO Dinner Club, details for those interested in joining the TA and cadets, and 'Castle', together with relevant application forms. Any retired member of the Regiment who did not receive the pack and complimentary pin-badge, and would like one, should contact Battalion Orderly Rooms or RHQ.

Field of Remembrance

Members and Former Members of the Regiment, who are within reach of London or who work or live in London, are reminded of the opening of the Field of Remembrance by HM The Queen Mother on the Thursday before Remembrance Sunday each year. This year's ceremony is on 5 November. This is a moving occasion at which the Regiment and Former Regiments, along with others, are represented each year by a number of members.

Regimental Graves in Aden

The Regimental graves in Aden featured in an article in 'Castle' June 1997. RHQ has not yet succeeded in making contact with the families of the following who are buried in Aden: Pte Shopland, Pte Fox, Cpl Watson, Cpl Herbert and Pte Rodgers. Any advice on the whereabouts of the families would be appreciated, so that photographs of the graves can be passed over.

The Regimental Reunion 19 July 1998

The Regimental Reunion will be held at Bassingbourn Barracks on Sunday 19 July 1998. The format will be:

1000	Gates open
1130	Drumhead Service
1215	March Past
1230	Bars, kiosks and stalls open
1330	Static display, side shows, shooting competition
1500	Band Display
1730	Bars Close
1800	Barracks close

We hope that even more serving and retired members of the Regiment and Association Branches with their Standards will attend this year. Packed lunches will not be available for officers this year; you are asked to bring picnics or use the considerable refreshment facilities provided.

'Regiment' Magazine

RHQ still holds a stock of 'Regiment' magazine of February/March 1997 featuring The Royal Anglian Regiment. Copies may be obtained at the following prices:

Pre paid	£2.50 per copy plus postage
Bulk sale or return	£2.75 per copy plus postage



Regimental Matters

Entry to Regimental Museum

There are still some members of the Regiment who visit the Museum at Duxford unaware of the discounted prices available; or do not visit because they feel the cost is too high. All members of the Regiment, past and present, and Former Regiments, qualify for a reduced cost of entry on production of an ID card, Association card or special card available from Area Secretaries. Cost of entry for days other than special events is:

Adult	£5. 50
Senior citizen	£3. 50
Child (5-16)	£2. 50
Child under 5	Free

The above reduced prices give entry, not just to the Regimental Museum, but to one of the finest air and land warfare museums in Europe.

Groups or individuals wanting special guided visits, or access to Regimental Archives, should contact Mr George Boss, the Attendant, direct on 01223 835000 ext. 313.

The Regimental Credit Card

Preparations for the production of the Regimental Credit card have been slower than hoped and it will now be launched during the summer. All serving members of the Regiment will receive a brochure and application forms from MBNA International Bank. Forms will also go out with the Officers' Dinner Club, Regimental Association and Former Regimental Association correspondence to retired members of the Regiment.



You are asked not to dispose of these papers without giving them consideration. Not only does MBNA offer facilities equal to, or better than any other bank, but the Regiment benefits financially from every application, there is no annual fee for the card and no customer liability if it is lost or stolen. It need not replace your present card, but be held in addition to it. For every application and from a percentage of the card's use thereafter, a sum will be paid to Regimental Association funds for the benefit of the Regiment.

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE ROYAL ANGLIAN
REGIMENT CREDIT CARD**

Errata

The following errors were inadvertently made in 'Castle' December 1997:

Mr Harley, the international wheelchair sportsman, was shown as Mr 'Hanley' on page 15

In the Museum Mural photographic montage on page 65, No 15 is 2 ESSEX at Zetten after its capture in 1945; No 17 is Lt Col Brinkley, The Royal Norfolk Regiment.

Contributions to 'Castle' wanted

You know how it is at re-unions - that great, and over used phrase, "Do you remember when..." predominates. You cast your minds back over the years to shared experiences and partake of the opiate of comfortable retrospection. As memories fade details are lost; names are forgotten and the amusing anecdotes slip the mind. This need happen no longer.

Why not write an article for the Castle to record, with words and photographs, your experiences. Let everyone else share in your experience and laugh with/at you. Lay down for posterity your thoughts and activities. Such articles do not have to be tales of great bravery and derring-do. If it is something you would talk about over a beer, share it with a wider audience - the readership of the CASTLE. So let's have your articles please.

NEXT CASTLE, DECEMBER 1998

Contributions required by 30th October 1998

NEW ENQUIRY INTO BLOODY SUNDAY

The Government has set up a new inquiry to examine the events in Londonderry known as Bloody Sunday. The Inquiry has a website on the Internet which includes the tribunal's opening statement - the website address is <http://www.bloody-sunday-inquiry.org.uk>. The Ministry of Defence has been asked by the Inquiry to contact all those soldiers and officers who gave evidence at the Widgery Tribunal in 1972 and those who made statements to the RMP at the time but were not required to appear at the tribunal.

For the new inquiry, legal advice for military personnel will be provided at public expense and can be arranged through the MoD.

Any serving or former members of the regiment who either gave evidence in 1972 or made a statement, or otherwise believe that they have evidence to offer, are asked to contact Miss Helen Anderson or Mr Bill Byatt in MoD on 0171 807 8513 or 0171 218 3078 for further advice and assistance.

Regimental Matters

Diary Dates

July

- 4-5 Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion, Northampton.
- 16 Peterborough Branch Northamptonshire Regiment Association Barbecue, Stanground.
- 18 Essex Regiment Association Annual Dinner and Dance.
- 19 Regimental Reunion, Bassingbourn.
- 22 Salamanca Day, 1st Battalion.
- 25 Salamanca Dinner, Oakington.
- 27 Talavera Day, 2nd Battalion.
- 30 Queen's Division Massed Bands, Leicester.

August

- 1 Minden Day, 1st Battalion. Suffolk Regiment Officers' Dinner, Bury St Edmunds.
- 2 Suffolk Regiment Minden Day Reunion, Bury St Edmunds.
- 13 Blenheim Day, 2nd Battalion.
- 16 Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Association visit to IWM Duxford.

September

- 1 Royal Anglian Regiment Foundation Day.
- 18 Regimental Golf Autumn Meeting, Flempton Golf Club.

- 20 Cambridgeshire Regiment Association AGM, Ely.
- 26 Royal Norfolk Regiment Association Dinner, Norwich.
- 26 1st Battalion Royal Leicestershire Regiment (old 50th/8th) Reunion, Leicester.
- 26-27 Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Reunion, Lincoln.
- 27 Royal Norfolk Regiment Association Commemoration Service, Norwich.

October

- Regimental Consultation Meeting, Oakington (date tbc).
- 2 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club Luncheon, Warley.
- 2-3 70th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion, Kettering.
- 3 Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Malayan Reunion, Lincoln.
- 10 4th/5th Battalion Royal Leicestershire Regiment Officers' Dinner, Leicester.
- 17 Peterborough Branch Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion.
- 24 Poachers Reunion, Felixstowe.

November

- 6 Regimental Council Meeting. Regimental Dinner, Army and Navy Club.
- 15 Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association. Reunion, Kempston.
- 27 Sortie Day, RHQ and 1st Battalion.

December

- 5 Royal Leicestershire Regiment Officers' Dinner Club Luncheon, Army and Navy Club.
- 8 Minden Band Concert, Lawn Complex, Lincoln.

January

- Regimental Briefing, Oakington (tbc).

February

- 6th Battalion Officers' Dinner Club Dinner (tbc).

From the Padre

As this item goes to press, the Cup Final has just taken place. Here in Chelsea, at the Royal Hospital, the Flower Show is about to begin. There is an exuberance of colour and spirit about things, which corresponds to the mood of the Church at its best.

Non-Christians might imagine that the Church is dismayed by the negative criticism which it has to put up with. But it is made of sterner stuff. It started its life 2000 years ago with the murder of Our Lord and savage persecutions of His followers.

He whom the Cross could not daunt nor the grave retain continues to give inspiration. Above all the Word of God is a never-ending source of strength and comfort.

For example, for those feeling under pressure, "God created the stars . . . and all the world. He does not grow tired or weary. Young men may do so, but those who trust in God renew their strength. They put out wings like eagles. They run and do not grow weary. They walk and never tire".

It's easy to take for granted the spirit of our nation at this high noon of summer. It's easy to take for granted the faith which we've inherited. It's easy to take for granted that we belong to a fine Regiment. Let us approach the millennium with a spirit of optimism and hope, reflecting our Easter Faith at its best.



Mainly About People



Major Peter Purdy, who served with 1 ESSEX, 3 E ANGLIAN and the 3rd Battalion up to 1969, recently presented an oil painting he had painted of the 3rd Battalion's merger parade at Colchester on 2 October 1992. The Colonel of the Regiment wrote to thank him for his excellent work which is an accurate record of an important day in the Regiment's history. The painting now hangs in RHQ.

Mr Jack Cosford, a veteran of The Cambridgeshire Regiment and author of 'Line of Lost Lives' on his experiences as a POW of the Japanese, assisted the BBC researchers in their recent Timewatch documentary 'The True Story of the Bridge of the River Kwai'.

Major David Thorogood retired as Area Secretary (Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex) on 10 April 1998 after 12½ years in post. David has served the Regiment magnificently during his time at Warley, most notably through the welfare and administration of the Associations and of the 3rd Battalion. He has well deserved his retirement but will not, it is hoped, be absent from Regimental occasions. One hobby he can now pursue was alluded to by the Colonel of the Regiment in his farewell letter when he referred to David's "famed skill at auditing the accounts with a shotgun under your arm". We wish Sue and David well for a happy retirement.

Major John Raybould has written a fascinating article on Bosnia on page 50. He sends the following information on members of the Regiment in Bosnia:

"There are a few Royal Anglians in Theatre. **Capt Peter Chilvers**, A Coy 6th Bn, is on a Military Colloquial Skills Course at Beaconsfield before he returns for yet another tour. 40% of the TA and Reservists in Theatre have extended their tour beyond the initial 6 months. WO2 De'ath, formerly 5th Bn and now 158 Tpt Regt RLC, is the Accommodation WO here at Divulje Barracks and WO1 Woodcock was RSM until retiring earlier this year. Major Bill Davie AGC was the TFAO (Theatre Field Admin Offr) and formerly Pay Sgt with the Poachers 1982-84. He remembers serving with K C Jones and LCpl Woodcock "always being in trouble". Pte King, 7th Bn, and ex-Poacher LCpl Alford serve with 1 KORBR and Pte Bishop, ex-Viking, is serving with 9/12 Lancers in Mrkonjic Grad, back in his old trade as a Dog Handler. He came out to Bosnia as a Reservist in September 1997 and served with 1

KORBR until April 1998 receiving an exemplary report. He is considering rejoining the Vikings at the end of his year in Bosnia. Meanwhile he needs a new Royal Anglian beret and badge. Can anyone help? (BFPO 551).

Major Ollie Bradley RLC worked for SFOR in Hungary. His brother Howell "Paddy" Bradley enlisted in 1 ESSEX in National Service days and served as an East Anglian for 12 years. (Editor - is this Cpl Bradley of the Officers' Mess 3 E ANGLIAN and 'filum' aficionado? Where is he now?) Ollie recruited Eugene Grey, now living in Northampton, who concluded his service as a Recruiting Sgt.

While visiting Zagreb I met **Major David Craig AGC (ETS)**, working as the Intelligence Analyst for HQ SFOR Support Command. He saw my Royal Anglian beret and stable belt and said he had once been a Cambridgeshire Regiment Cadet at school, then a Royal Anglian. That was my cue to throw out a few names from his era. He was forthcoming and provided a few details of his service (and he also persuaded him to write for 'Castle'). David related that when Lt Col Ian Haycraft was CO, he was a Cpl in the Recce Pl of 2 E and 2 R ANGLIAN 1962-67. He remembers a tall blond officer joining them in about 1965. When Orderly Officer, the Guard could not find him. He was later found, flat out, in the kitchen. The Guard covered for him explaining that "he was one of the subalterns we liked and worked for". (The Editor has the name of this officer, who recently retired from a successful, and clearly well-paced, career in the Regiment). After leaving the Regular Army David joined the TA Royal Welch Fusiliers but rejoined the Colours at the age of 39 in 1985. He served until 1995, first with the RAEC and then with yet another cap badge when they became part of the AGC (Adjutant General's Corps). David reckons that at 39 he was the oldest 2Lt since 1946!"



Major Mike Beard wrote from the United States, where he is an exchange officer at Fort Benning, saying he had visited HMS Norfolk at Savannah, Georgia. He reported that HMS Norfolk was well aware, and extremely proud, of its link with the Regiment and the 1st Battalion. At the same time, he discovered that HMS St Albans was currently being laid down, for completion in 2001. With his help, RHQ is pursuing with the Commander in Chief Fleet the possibility of a Bond of Friendship between the 2nd Battalion and HMS St Albans.

Mainly About People



WO2 P W Denny (left) receiving CBF Cyprus Commendation from Col Cook, Garrison Commander.

WO2 P W Denny is congratulated on his CBF's Commendation while serving as an Estate Warden at HQ Episkopi Garrison in Cyprus in 1997. WO2 Denny is now working in the Station Staff Office Paderborn/Sennelager.

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Letters

From: General Sir John Akehurst KCB CBE

Dear Trevor,

'Castle' magazine is a most impressive glossy and I congratulate you on both its appearance and its content. I am sure it will give pleasure to many. Nevertheless, I cannot resist taking you up on two matters of fact.

First, the snippet about the Poulterers. Sir Greville Spratt is not himself a Poulter, but when I determined that a link with a livery company would be of mutual benefit, I turned to Sir Greville for his advice on which would be a suitable Livery Company to approach. He recommended the Poulterers and made an initial introduction. Once the association had been settled, the Poulterers asked me if they could make some financial gesture towards the Regiment, preferably in support annually of some worthy cause. We then suggested that Adventure Training was a useful and enjoyable pursuit, which always lacked funds, and their Council agreed to make a donation of £500, which has been most welcome and put to good use for a wide variety of projects

Secondly, your answer to the letter querying the origin of the 'Egypt' and Sphinx components of the collar badge. You correctly ascribed this to the battle honour won by the 10th (North Lincolnshire) Regiment of Foot, but failed to mention that this honour was also won by two other regimental forbears, namely 44th (Essex) and 58th (Rutlandshire - later Northamptonshire). 'Egypt' and Sphinx is thus an eminently suitable device for our present Regiment. However, the collar badge was first designed for the 2nd East Anglian Regiment when the Royal Lincolns and the Northampton amalgamated in 1960. Talavera was a much favoured battle of the Northampton and the shared honour from Egypt made that attractive to both Regiments at a difficult time.

Yours ever,

John

**From: Major M J Beard
Box A82**

BFPO 2

Dear Colonel,

A belated Happy New Year from Fort Benning. Many thanks for your letter dated 6 January 1998 and the enclosures thereto; when I wrote to General Sir Michael on the subject of sq officers, I anticipated prompting some discussion at the Regimental Council Meeting and feel somewhat guilty at provoking the detailed research that has been clearly conducted. That said, I think that it has been a very useful exercise and has made much clearer the current situation for officers of all ages in the Regiment who are not psc, or who for one reason or another will not have the opportunity to attend Staff College.

I will be linking up with David England next month - he is coming up from Fort Polk to Fort Benning to get his 'jump' qualification, which involves lots of running around and

shouting before doing five qualifying parachute jumps! I will pass on to him the recent Regimental Newsletters, which I am very grateful to receive out here in order to keep in touch with matters Regimental.

Yours ever,

Mike

**From: Captain M S Wright
3560 Hemsedal
Norway**

Dear Trevor,

It is indeed many years since we last met. I hope you are enjoying life as much as I. Norway is a great land to live in; good standard of living, big unspoilt open spaces and virtually no class distinction. Of course there are things one misses and my feelings for Britain seem to be even stronger and contact with old friends seem even more important.

I am married to a Norwegian school teacher and we have two children. I have been re-educated and am an electrician working mainly for Scandinavia's largest company.

I am also an occasional actor, since it is cheaper it seems to use me in Norwegian feature films than to hire a real Englishman. I am always the bad guy, have been drowned once and am sometimes used for my English speaking voice. My acting skill, of course, stemmed from pantomimes at the Depot.

Incidentally, the last 'Castle' gave slightly wrong information. I no longer run an adventure training school, although am still fairly active, canoeing and skiing. I should always be delighted to see or help any Regimental folk who are in the area, for example in the way of recommending skiing holidays in winter, walking or caravanning in the Summer.

Yours,

Mike

**From: Mr Brian Parker
17 Redhouse Road**

Stourport-on-Severn
Worcs
DY13 0NN

16th February 1998

Dear Col Veitch,

During my National Service, I spent some time at Mons

Letters

Officer Cadet School, Aldershot, being commissioned on 7th November 1959. During this period, I made great friends with a fellow called Roger Hurles. Roger went to 3 E Anglian, I to the 1st Battalion The Worcestershire Regiment. We have never met or corresponded since.

As I approach my dotage, I thought that it would be nice to write to Roger and hear of his adventures. Is it possible for you to be able to give me a point of contact in order that I may write to Roger?

Thank you for the help that you may be able to give.

Yours,

Brian Parker

Editor's Note. Does anyone have contact with Roger Hurles? He served outside the Regiment in Ghana and the West Indies for much of his three years.

From: Major EGT Gentle
Headquarters Belize Defence Force

Sir,

Please accept and convey to the remainder of the Regiment our sincere thanks and gratitude for your kind gift of the CORONATION CHALLENGE CUP on the occasion of our 20th Anniversary.

Be assured that the CORONATION CHALLENGE CUP will be displayed in a place of esteem and cherished as we cherish our Alliance.

Once again, and on behalf of all members of the Force, many thanks and best wishes for the future.

Yours faithfully,

Major EGT Gentle

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The Vikings

There has been no let up in the pace of life for the Vikings since the last edition of 'Castle' and the Battalion has experienced a busy but enjoyable Christmas and year to date. The spread of activities has been as widespread as ever but dominated by two major Battalion exercises, TESEX and Kenya. These demanded considerable preparation and effort in order to reap the rewards that were enjoyed by the men. With some carefully planned training all sub-units were able to prepare and still have time for fun. At the time of writing, the Battalion was returning from Ex GRAND PRIX in Kenya and looking forward to some well earned leave before shifting the effort towards recruiting, cadres and the Freedom Parades and KAPE displays in our Counties.

TESEX

The first Battalion level exercise since Ex EASTERN HARRIER saw the Vikings taking to the pastures of Salisbury Plain and battling for survival in the most realistic environment the Army could offer in the form of the Tactical Engagement Simulation Exercise (TESEX). The Vikings found themselves pitted against the Poachers, who were well versed in the art of TESEX as it was their penultimate one. After an initial training period of two weeks, where Companies learnt about and gained confidence in the use of Improved Small Arms Weapons Effects Simulator (ISAWES), the Commanding Officer ran a short Battle Group exercise as a final springboard into the meat of TESEX, which was the force on force battles against the Poachers.

Battle 1

The Battalion deployed in rain, much to the delight of everyone, for Battle 1 which was the Advance. The objective was to close on Copehill Down Village, which involved the clearance of Imber en route. Both A and C Companies led the systematic clearance through Imber whilst B Company bore the brunt of the enemy's indirect fire as they sat in the Assembly Area before pushing through the lead Companies and continuing the clearance towards Copehill. After a night

of recess and battle procedure, the dawn brought with it the final push into Copehill Down. A hard fought battle ensued against a tenacious Poacher defence, which caused many problems and hold ups for the Vikings, but eventually the weight of fire brought about the capture of the village.

Battle 2

Whilst maintaining a presence inside Copehill Down, the Companies deployed to protect and picket a MSR of over 15kms. The battle saw the Poachers exert heavy pressure on the MSR defence throughout the night using both infantry and armoured vehicles to probe the defence and block the MSR. This sustained action was coupled with attempts to re-infiltrate Copehill Down and a NBC bombardment.

Battle 3

Digging down to stage 3 in the chalky soil of Salisbury Plain was approached with energy as we knew that shortly the combined armoured and infantry force of the 2nd Battalion would arrive on their positions. Using textbook GENFORCE tactics the Poachers launched their attack and A and C Companies took the initial brunt of the battle. Despite taking losses, the enemy thrust was repelled. A



Major Denis Vincent suits up for the next battle

new reconstituted enemy then returned, this time heading onto B Company's position; they failed to reach it due to a heroic stand 'to the last man' by our attached RAF Regiment Platoon! A secondary axis led into the middle of C Company, who engaged and destroyed the enemy through the vigorous employment of LAW tank hunting parties. The Battle Group had to work extremely hard against the Poachers and learned much about itself. The weather and conditions of Salisbury Plain could not dampen the spirits of the soldiers who gave a good account of themselves and felt justifiably proud of their performance in what proved to be a solid building block for future training.

The final run out as the Battlegroup complete TESEX 1,98



Sgt Simpson and Cpl Clark help zero the sniper rifles



Vikings

Kenya

An opportunity to go to Kenya usually occurs once in the career of the average soldier (unless of course you've done as much time as the QM). Ex GRAND PRIX, as it is named, gave the Battalion the opportunity to train in a variety of terrains and climates. The exercise was controlled from a central location at Nanyuki Show Ground and was split into four main activities, which were Company and sub-unit training, live firing, adventure training and African experience. This then culminated in an all arms Battle Group live firing exercise.

Company and Sub-Unit Training

The first challenge for the Companies was acclimatization. Kenya stands some 6,000 feet above sea level which, combined with the hot conditions, meant that the Companies had to spend some time in low level dry training getting used to the environment. The sub-unit training continued throughout Ex GRAND PRIX with the Recce Pl assisting the ranches with anti-poaching patrols and at the same time practising their own drills.

Live Firing Mpala Farm

The Battalion's live firing package was centred around Mpala Farm and was run by Major Tony Marinos, who was ably assisted by a large Permanent Range Team (PRT) drawn from throughout the Army. Under his guidance and direction, a series of progressive ranges were designed and built for the Companies and subsequently destroyed by them. The aim of the ranges was to enhance those skills revised on TESEX and learn those pertinent to the local environment. The Company exercised, in arduous conditions, from pairs fire and manoeuvre to a large scale Company operation. The lay-

out of the ranges and the heat in which they were executed meant that even a small assault took great determination and, by the end of the week, the Company Commander was left with tired but satisfied soldiers.

Live firing was also conducted on the foothills of Mount Kenya at Gathiuru and was designed around a jungle scenario. Here the troops learnt the art of snaring and water catchment and other survival skills as well as a progressive range package where they were taught contact drills in close countryside up to section level. The training team was led by Captain Chris Derby RGR on loan from the Platoon Commanders' Division and supported by a team of jungle hardened Vikings in the form of Cpls Harrod, Shepherdson and Brooks. The week long package was demanding at the best of times and, with the altitude at 10,000 feet, the soldiers soon found life somewhat harder than they had anticipated; although jungle skills dictating that one does not shave came as a small bonus for some.

Adventure Training and the African Experience

The Commanding Officer put a strong emphasis on fun for Ex GRAND PRIX and with that in mind a comprehensive adventure training package was devised around Lake Naivasha. The week normally followed the live firing at Mpala Farm and so the instructors, led by Captain Martin Elphee, supplied a package that catered for everybody's taste. The spectacular surroundings proved ideal for the hill walking and mountain biking activities, with there also being no shortage of large rocks for climbing and abseiling, whilst the lake was used for canoeing. With the exception of the local hippopotamus tramping through the liv-



Cpl Patten hanging out on Adventure Training

ing area, the Battle Group was able to relax and enjoy the well earned R&R.

The African experience was a chance to view Kenya from the air, river, ground or from the top of Mount Kenya. Major Mike Williams organised a package to suit everybody and each activity was heavily subsidised by the Battalion, which meant minimal costs were incurred by the soldiers. Vikings could trek to the summit of Mount Kenya in a 3 day expedition or have a camel carry your kit as you went on safari deep into the wilderness. For those wanting a little more action, there was white water rafting, where people were taught the correct way to wrestle with crocodiles, which would be useful as they were regularly thrown from the boat. Alternatively, Kenya could be viewed silently from the air as one could learn to paraglide.

Community Relations

Community Relations played a major role in the exercise, not least as the entire

Cpl Sell bellows orders to the Gun Line.



Cpl Harrod instructs on snaring in the jungle.



Vikings



Sgt Lenton meets locals.

exercise is run on the goodwill of the landowners and the Kenyan

Government. With that in mind, the Battalion held a reception for the local landowners and officials. The Battle Group undertook many CR projects from bridge building to road repair but it was a Blind Orphanage called St Mary's that captured the attention of the Battalion. A small party led by the Padre was escorted to the orphanage where they were greeted by a chorus of children who took immense pleasure in singing to the soldiers who delivered much needed medical supplies and sweets. All who went said it was an experience that they were truly glad they had taken part in.

Archer's Post

Archer's Post was the culmination of the previous weeks build up training. After a

round robin of Company level ranges, in temperature that regularly exceeded 120°F, the Battle Group came together for an unforgettable finale. After a preliminary night attack executed by A Company and a continued and ferocious bombardment from the artillery and the Mortar Platoon, in which the huge slabs of rock were blasted from the rock face to the rear of the range, the Battle Group carried out a co-ordinated final assault that will remain one of the most spectacular sights of the whole exercise.

Kenya proved to be an experience that nobody will forget. It afforded the Battle Group the chance to exercise in the most realistic conditions and yet at the same time provided the back bone for some high quality fun.

Sports News

Rugby

WO2 Cooper writes:

Due to the commitments this year, the season has been invariably short with only 5 games played and one to come. That said, the team has made excellent progress in coming to terms with and putting into practice the coaching style of the Director of Rugby, me! After 3 close defeats by ATR Bassingbourn, 39 Engr and 33 EOD a full strength team travelled to 1 RS, who fielded a team with 6 potential Scottish internationals. The game was packed with superb forward play, good ball retention and hard, aggressive running and resulted in a resounding 29-0 win, an excellent result. The trip to Kenya followed and, after a rash challenge, a game was born. Five weeks into the exercise,

the Vikings cobbled together a team to play against North Kenya. Wearing trainers, in what has been described as the Vikings' first international (where are the caps?), the Battalion dominated the game and cleaned up with a 29-0 victory.

Congratulations are due to Pte 'Ronnie' Barker who, after a period of enforced absence, has been selected to play for the Combined Services Under 21s. Later this year, at the AGM, the team will award colours to those players who deserve them and will hopefully be entertained by a guest speaker provided by Captain ("Leave it with me ...") FJR Grounds.



Sgt Robinson spins the ball out to the backs.

Football

The Viking football squad had a boost as Peterborough United agreed to play the Battalion in a friendly game. Cpl John Watson had organised the fixture whilst on rear party and, with help, set about training the Battalion team. The team was expecting, at best, the second team or one of similar status and so we were amazed when we recognised all of the faces of the players when they turned up. To our surprise, Barry Fry, the manager, pitted us against his first team and a few reserves that he wanted to see play. A gruelling 90 minutes of football then followed and at times, the score looked set



Cpl McGee battling it out with Peterborough United

Vikings

to stay in single figures, but despite valiant attempts from three different goal keepers the goals rolled in, final score ending a close 11-0. Never letting defeat get the better of a good game of football, a return match has been arranged at Peterborough's ground in the near future. The Vikings, though, can still hold their heads up high after a sterling performance

Squash

The Battalion's squash success has come in the form of singular achievement by Lt Ian Chance. The season has been particularly good for him as he has won everything he entered, boosting his personal silverware collection to almost as much as the Battalion's. Congratulations go to him for qualifying for the Combined Service team and for the following achievements:

Nov 97

Winner of the Infantry Open Championships

Winner of the Infantry Under 25s Championships

Seeded No 1 for Infantry at the Inter Corps Competition

Jan 98

Winner of Army Under 25s Championships



Lt Ian Chance collecting yet another trophy

Feb 98

Represented the Army in Under 25s in the Inter Service Competition (Army Winners)

Boxing

After getting selected to fight in the Army Boxing Championships, Pte Castle (D Company) was, at the time of writing, attending the Championships in

Aldershot. He will be fighting at Bantamweight and is thought to be in the running to be champion having already beaten the current champion.

Inter Coy Cricket

The Inter Company Cricket competition also took place this month and not even the torrential rain could dampen what turned out to be an excellent competition organised by Capt Nye. Quickly the competition turned into a two horse race between A and HQ Companies. In a nail biting finish in the last over of the last game HQ Company managed to just top the runs scored by A Company and retain the championship and trophy for another year.

Orienteering

The Vikings also fielded a strong team in the Infantry Orienteering Championships held in Warminster. The dedication of the squad was rewarded by their achieving runners up position and Best Regular Army Team. Individual success came from Maj Dennis Vincent, who came 3rd in the A course, and 2Lt Paul Muncey, who came 3rd in the B course. The team are training hard for the Army Championships which will be held in May.



The New Viking RSM. It was 'Out with the old and in with the new' as the outgoing RSM Webb handed over the helm to the incoming RSM Stefanetti before he took his up his new role as Captain Gary Webb the Families Officer on 1 April.

A Diary of Ex Grand Prix

Pte Melia, 6th Bn, attached to the 1st Bn on exercise in Kenya, writes:

This was a 6 week training exercise in Kenya with 1 R ANGLIAN. Pte Watkins, Pte Childs and I were attached to C Coy 11 Platoon for the duration.

Preparations for the exercise consisted of receiving lots of injections: hepatitis A, tetanus, typhoid, yellow fever and the inoculations for polio. In addition we had to start on our serum to help counter malaria. As we were inoculated we also received our kit and equipment for the exercise. The ex started with our arrival at Oakington Barracks on the evening of 13 Feb. This was a good opportunity to meet some of the guys we would be training with and to socialise with them in the NAAFI. The next morning we went to the MCCC at RAF Brize Norton before flying out at 0730 hrs, arriving at Nairobi Airport at 8.00 pm local time. We were then bussed to base camp in Kahawa. The first thing I had noticed whilst at the Airport was the heat, 26°C, and the noise of the insects. On arrival in Kahawa we were allocated rooms, or in our case the weapon store!

The next morning we left for Nanyuki Show Ground. This was an established camp with permanent features such as ablutions, cookhouse, post office, NAAFI and armoury, although the accommodation consisted of tents. The next morning we had PT, which was the first part of our acclimatization, after which we were allowed into town. On leaving the camp we were immediately surrounded by children asking for sweets, biscuits and money. After a while you found the easiest option was to get one of them to be your 'body-guard' and he kept all the others away.

On 18 Feb we moved by truck to Dol Dol, a journey which took three hours along a very bumpy and dusty road. Dol Dol is in the middle of nowhere and on arrival the camp was set up from scratch. It consisted of a cooks tent, CO's tent, med tent and comms tent. All the troops had 3 man tents - 4 per section. The next stage was to set up a perimeter wire, which was reinforced using the prickly bushes that were indigenous to the area, but we still had a visit from one of the local Masai tribesmen generals. Early training included preparation helicopter landing sites, trapping and gathering water. During my interview with the OC I mentioned my MSc in Water and Environmental

Engineering and the next day I found myself on the water collection and purification detail since I was deemed an 'expert'.

Tue 24 Feb. Coy ex involving platoons patrolling against each other. Our platoon (11) used locals to find the location of 9 Pl. Patrols were sent out regularly as well as two OPs being set up.

Fri 27 Feb. The group was driven to the Kenya National Park gates. From there we hiked up to the Met Station at approx 3200m altitude and a distance of 12km where we spent the night in bunk houses.

Sat 28 Feb. We hiked from the Met Station to Naro Meni River Lodge, a distance of 12½km and an altitude of 4300m. The altitude effects were particularly apparent for the last 200m of ascent. At around 4.00 pm a few of us walked a further 500m to see the glacier. Unfortunately we were not able to get to the summit of around 5200m for two reasons; the lack of time and the fact that we were not insured for above the snowline, even if there was no snow there.

Sun 1 Mar. We hiked from Nano Meni River Lodge all the way to the Kenya National Park gates, some 24km. Whilst waiting for transport the rangers showed us some of the confiscated weapons from poachers as well as ivory from elephants that had died from old age or had been shot after killing humans. One tusk weighed 30kg.

Tue 3 Mar. Went off to the Jungle School where everyone did an individual live close quarter battle (CQB). Due to the closeness of the jungle iron sights are used instead of SUSATs. We then had various lessons on navigation and patrolling.

Fri 6/Sat 7 Mar. CO's ex through the jungle, which involved a significant amount of tabbing in hot and humid conditions. The ex ended with a morning attack on the enemy followed by a long march to the vehicle pick up point. Then it was back for admin in preparation for Mpala farm.

Mon 9 Mar. Off to ranges at Mpala Farm, another tented camp but a bit more established than Dol Dol. Arrived in the afternoon, so just relaxed by the river for the rest of the day.

Tue 10 Mar. Zeroing on the range followed by a fire team range.

Thu 12 Mar. This was planned to be the company attack range but one of the Gazelle helicopters came down. As a result there was no live firing and we were sent to guard the crash site. The helicopter was badly mangled and it was amazing that no one was killed.

Sat 14 Mar. Back for admin then out into town for the evening.

Sun 15 Mar. Left for Archers Park, a 7hr bumpy, dusty and uncomfortable journey.

Mon 16 Mar. Company attack range with a live night ambush in the evening.

Tue 17 Mar. A live company deliberate attack.

Wed 18 Mar. A live dawn raid.

Thu 19 Mar. Night infiltration.

Fri 20 Mar. An early morning live battle group attack, including live artillery, SF and 51mm and 81mm mortars for smoke and illum. We then returned for admin and out into town.

Sat 21 Mar. Travelled to Lake Navasha for adventure training.

Sun 22 Mar. Canoeing using two Canadian Kayaks. This included paddling up to Joy Adamson's house.

Mon 23 Mar. This was our day off and was spent mainly by the hotel swimming pool.

Tue 24 Mar. Mountain biking, during which we rode around Port Kells National Park. Also rock-climbing.

Sat 28 Mar. Off to Nairobi Airport. Left at 9.00 am, arrived at RAF Brize Norton 6.00 pm English time, having stopped on the way in Jeddah in Saudi Arabia to refuel. After collecting all our luggage it was back to Oakington Barracks, some admin and then Pte Childs and I were picked up by minibus for our journey home.

All in all it was a good six weeks, even though it was tough in places. In addition we got a pretty good tan!

Vikings

Ex Grand Prix 98 - Kenya

Major Mark Randall, Gibraltar Regiment, writes:

It was in Autumn 1997 when, flanked by my trusty CSM W02 John Simmons, 1 R ANGLIAN, I set off to visit 2 PWRR and 1 R ANGLIAN in order to discuss arrangements for G Coy The Gibraltar Regiment to join both Battalions on Ex GRAND PRIX I and II 1998.

Following the return of 2 Pl from Ex GRAND PRIX I, victims of foul weather and, as a result, limited training possibilities, 1 Pl G Coy left Gibraltar by C130 bound for UK. The next day we took the flight to Kenya from Brize Norton with other members of the BG. An overnight stay at BATLSK, Nairobi, was followed by the long and bumpy trip to Nanyuki.

The platoon, commanded by Lt Tyrone Duarte with Sgt Leo Hayes as Pl Sgt, went on to marry up with A Coy with whom they would spend the next six weeks. Cpl Danino and LCpl Cartwright had by then moved to Lake Naivasha, where they paddled to and from Safariland, dodging reeds and hippos in quest of tea and cakes at Elsamere. Cpls Benteolo, Coleing and LCpl De La Rose departed for Mpala to join the Permanent Range Team where, during the course of the weeks, they gained invaluable experience in field firing from day after day on the ranges. Cpl Bula remained at NSG as a chef preparing copious amounts of food and mountains of boxed meals.

As far back as September 1997, the Coy had started training for deployment to Kenya. There was the attack week and defence week, patrols week and range week combined with our own Key Point and Tunnel Warfare training, capped with all sorts of exercises. We now hoped we had prepared well for the weeks ahead.

Tired of six weeks on Guards and Duties at Devil's Tower Camp, Gibraltar, 1 Pl approached Ex GRAND PRIX with renewed enthusiasm, a willingness to learn from what was on offer and a zealous determination to do well and enjoy the exercise. They were taken under the protective wing of Maj Richard Cook and CSM Chris Wright, who not only took care of their every need, but gave the platoon ample practice in all aspects of training covered during the exercise.

During the dry training at Dol Dol, a double crossing 'Masai agent' led the Gibraltar Regiment Pl into the clutches of another platoon waiting for the kill. It was at Plala where I managed to visit them for the first time and watched them put their training into good use during the live platoon attack. At Lake Naivasha, they enjoyed the package offered and in particular the visit to Elsamere and dancing to the local beat at the Masai village in the National Park. During the African experience, everything was covered from white water rafting to paragliding. And so on to the jungle phase where all the budding Rambos were keen on blowing up trees, hunting wild pigs and sleeping to the sound of a hundred screams and star of of a thousand bright eyes. The jungle was to bring forth sweet revenge for Dol Dol. Having chopped down half the canopy cover and adapted their own radio procedure in Spanish, success would follow during the Coy exercise.

W02 Simmons and I had the pleasure of being Sgt Major and OC at the Jungle Camp at Gathiuru up at 8,000 feet on Mount Kenya. The team was made up of Capt Chris Darby RGR and three instructors, Cpl Brooks, Herrod and Sherpardson, who had the envious task of building the Jungle School and the ranges. Also part of the team were Sgt McGregor and Pte Smith from the Signals Pl and a chef. In addition, we had Bdr Lightfoot as our driver. It was from the Jungle Base Camp that we launched our expedition to Pt Lenana at 16,335 feet. After stopping at McKinder's Hut W02 Simmons, Bdr Lightfoot and I set off at 0330 hours. We rested at the Austrian Hut for 15-20 minutes and then went straight to Pt Lenana getting there just before sunrise at 0615 hours. It was an expedition of 'affiliated units', as both The Royal Anglian Regiment and 21 Bty 47 Regiment are affiliated to The Gibraltar Regiment.

At Archer's Post, following the sound suggestions of the BN 21C, Maj Goodin and the expert advice of SM1 W01 Reeves, we proceeded to set up the Coy Night Ambush Range, where part of the Pioneer Platoon under Sgt O'Grady could not find enough trees to cut down with blunt machetes and an old rusty bow saw. The team arrived, comprised of Gibraltar Regiment soldiers from the

PRT and Lake Naivasha, 21 Bty Gunners from Lake Naivasha, Royal Anglians from the PRT, Mortars and Pioneers and Sgt Wood from the Royal Engineers. More affiliations. This time the members of The Gibraltar Regiment were working side by side with members of all the Corps and Regiments affiliated to us.

What followed was an amazing BG attack where all arms were combined during darkness and daylight to provide an incredible array of firepower, bangs, bright lights and screeching and whizzing noises. The Gibraltar Regiment Pl went in with A Coy to take the initial positions and then took part in the final assault where Cpl Diaz decided he would take the other platoon's position as well as his own. Not content with this, he was then seen delighting in bayoneting and head-butting the Fig 11 targets!

The six weeks will not be easily forgotten. Not only did we take part in an overseas exercise in far off Kenya under arduous and very basic conditions, but we also obtained value for money from the varied training packages and field firing. The Lake Naivasha and African experience balanced the hard training perfectly. More importantly, the Regiment mixed and worked with other members of the British Army and made many friends from The Royal Anglian Regiment, Royal Irish, Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers and other attached units.

We are grateful to the Commanding Officer and all members of 1R ANGLIAN for giving us the opportunity to train side by side with them. We hope that they now visit us in Gibraltar.

The Poachers

The Poachers have had another busy six months. Without doubt the highlight of the period was the move to sunnier climes and the conversion to a new role, one we haven't had a chance to practise for nigh on eleven years. Yes there were tears as we finally pulled out of Warminster (some of joy, some of sorrow) but every man jack will have some fond memories of the glorious Wiltshire countryside and the vast expanse of Salisbury Plain. As the Poacher family embarks upon a whole new adventure the thought of learning new skills, working with new units, in new surroundings and in a completely different culture is rather exciting.



Ptes Young (left) and Chapman (right), Cyprus - A new challenge.

The operational side of our duties here keeps us sharp and focused, but, although important, they are not the only activity the Battalion engages itself in. There is always the need to keep training and a great deal of time is spent on up-grading cadres, continuation cadres, Battle Exercises and Battle Lessons and intra-Battalion competitions of every kind. We are busy. Cyprus (despite what you've heard) isn't a holiday - it isn't supposed to be, it is a posting like any other. Saying that, it would be ludicrous to come all this way to such an opportunity-rich island and not make the most of every chance given to the us as a family. The various adventure training teams you will read about, combined with the 'get up and go' inherent in every Poacher, ensures that he and his family, indeed the whole Poacher family, will be able to make the most of this perfect setting.

Here are some of our thoughts on the final heady days of Warminster and the initial impressions of Cyprus. Quite by chance the Battalion has more than its fair share of budding poets in this issue of 'Castle'. Collectively the articles provide an insight into the Poachers in their new role in a completely new environment.

The Sun, The Sea, The Move - A Worm's Eye View.

Mrs Sue Sharp writes

Well, we finally left Warminster for sunnier climes, but first we stayed in the Corsham Centre for a few days before the flight to Cyprus. I couldn't believe how good the Centre was - it had got most things that you would need for a short stay - and then you had to make the best of it on a longer stay. It's just a pity that after 13 years of being an Army wife I only found out about it now.

One thought I had was that there must be so many service families who don't have a clue that the Centre is even there. As one person said to me "It's one of the Army's best kept secrets" and I can well believe it. If only it was advertised more - I do think that a lot more families could get so much from it. We were then told it was time to get on the bus for the trip over to Brize Norton.

Once we were on the bus the children started to get quite excited - all of a sudden it became real to them - they were really going on a plane. It was a convoy of 3 or 4 buses weaving through the countryside - what a sight. After an hour

or so we all arrived at Gateway House. Once we all got off the bus and found our luggage it was a mad trolley dash - it's amazing how people change when they think it was their trolley first.

Trying to get five suitcases on to one of those trolleys is a feat in itself. Once inside we were all told to start queuing to get our bags checked in so that we could get our room keys. By this time people were starting to get fed-up. The poor children were beginning to argue amongst each other - it seemed to take ages before we finally got our bags on the weighing scales. Everybody was worrying that they were going to be over the weight limit - it was good to see them all smiling when they came out. The rush for the room key came next. Then you saw loads of people walking about trying to find where their room was - that place is like a maze. Once we had dropped our stuff off we went to have something to eat - everybody was about ready for some food. A quick drink in the bar was needed next just to let the children run around for a bit longer - any excuse!

Come 10.30 pm it was time to go to bed as it was going to be an early start. Just going off into a really deep sleep when suddenly the alarms went off at 12.30 am.

The children were all over the place - loud sirens going off got everybody out of bed quickly. So after about 10 minutes we were all standing on the car park waiting to be counted. Once that was over with we were allowed back inside. It wasn't worth going back to bed as our alarm call was at 1.30 am. Then it was back on the bus and over to the Departure Lounge - just a waiting game for the plane to be re-fuelled. We finally got on the plane at approximately 5.30 am - by this time the children were unbearable. Once we were finally in the air the children all seemed to fall asleep, which gave the parents a bit of a rest. Then everybody started to hear those famous words that every child says on a trip: "Are we there yet?"

After a while the pilot then said that we were on the approach to Akrotiri Airport. Yip-pee!!! was heard all over the plane

Poachers



Cpl Marshallsay giving arcs to his section.



Cpl Marshallsay "Thinking on the hoof"



Pie Steele goes left, flanking on a A Coy B E. day.



"That's Better"



*Sobraon Day celebrations begin for the Battalion with a Muster Parade 13 March 98
"Lets get the dressing right"*



*Amdt to Bn Dress in Hot Climates OR's Working Dress with broken leg
Note Due to shortage of shoes OR's will not wear them*



*Amdt to Bn Dress in Hot Climates Offrs Working Dress with broken leg
Note The turn up on the shorts is to be a regulation 1 inch*

Poachers

(and some other choice sentences) as most of the adults had had enough by this time. Then the pilot informed us that we weren't allowed to land - we were going to have to go to another airport. We circled Akrotiri for about 25 minutes - then they changed their minds. Once we had finally landed it was a case of collecting all our luggage, getting onto another bus and heading for Dhekelia Garrison. Our first experience of Alexander Barracks was the Cookhouse, which seems about the norm. After we had something to eat we were taken to the car park to wait for another bus to take us to our quarters.

Finally we were on the right bus for our quarter area. We were dropped off at our new house at 5.30 pm - so all in all it had been a very long day for us all. Everybody made the best of what they had in the quarter on that first night. The next morning it was waiting for our boxes to arrive, then to get the house in some sort of order. A couple of days later we all had our 'Welcome to Cyprus' brief - got told the do's and don'ts; best to be made aware of them from the start. We picked up our ration cards and got the children into school - which gave us a couple of days to get everything else sorted out. Then it all seemed to fall into place. Everybody started to do their own thing, getting their lives together and starting all over again.

THE LAST ONE

*Well, that's it,
it's almost done,
just 12 hours to go
on the very last one.*

*No more STRESSED BADGERS1,
or GOPHERS with HOLES2,
goodbye to RED SHANKS3,
and TROTS round the GLOBE4.*

*Farewell to GRIM REAPER5,
and Brecon. So great,
go out feeling hacked off,
come back in a state.*

*No more PHANTOMS playing
BUGLES6,
an end to the lot,
the weather, sometimes good,
but usually not.*

*Farewell to TESEX7,
bye bye WESTDOWN8,
tempers going up,
morale going down.*

*Hi tech cops and robbers,
with lasers on guns,
reminiscent of childhood,
but not half the fun.*

*Au revoir to mortars,
see yer PCD,
the same to Inf Recce,
it's over for me.*

*I've made some good friends
in this Wiltshire jail,
but my sentence is over
and I'm out on bail.*

*It's not all been bad,
occasional sun thru' the rain,
so it's goodbye Warminster,
you won't see me again.*

Living in Cyprus is going to be an experience that most of us won't forget in a hurry; it's quite a change from any other posting I have been on before. The island is a lovely place - there's loads to see and do - as long as you are prepared to go and find some of it for yourself.

Hopefully there will be a lot of really tanned Poachers arriving back in the UK in the year 2000 - let's just enjoy and make the most of the next 2 years.

"So Farewell, Dear Warminster"

2Lt J.R. Sparks PWRR, C COY 2nd Bn, writes:

The Battalion arrived in Warminster in mid 1995 from Celle in Germany where it had spent the previous 7 years as an Armoured Infantry Battalion in WARRIOR. It would take up the mantle of Combined Arms Training Centre Battlegroup (CATC BG), or to the layman 'The Demonstration Battalion', taking over from the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire. In doing so it would inherit a variety of armoured vehicles including a company of 432s and 432 30s equipped with a FOX turret - an odd assortment in comparison to a WARRIOR Battalion's normal complement. The work and routine in this posting would prove to be inherently different from any other posting the Battalion had ever had; its exposure to the rest of the Army far greater and as a result perhaps far more influential. The amount of time which the soldiers would spend on exercise was also to be greatly increased in

the post. Now that The Poachers are firmly ensconced in the sunnier climes of Cyprus, over the next few paragraphs I will try to capture the essence of what the posting really entailed for the Battalion during this busy period and in so doing offer an insight into the lives of those who worked towards keeping up with the 'Commitments Diary'.

The CATC Battle Group is the only permanently formed battle group in The British Army. The combined arms environment in which the Battalion operated enabled it to build upon and hone the skills it had acquired in Bosnia and BATUS. With a total of 7 years as a WARRIOR Battalion, the unit was well placed for its tour in Warminster. In typical Poachers style the Battalion attacked the task with enthusiasm and professionalism, quickly earning itself a reputation amongst the Army as a highly skilled and

knowledgeable unit which would prove to be more than a match for any unit on TESEX (Tactical Engagement Simulation Exercise). Coupled with this it gave the Battalion the opportunity to pass on its experience in this field, from Battle Group Commander level through to Section Commander. In the main the role entailed support for various courses, putting students through their paces on courses such as the Company Commanders' Course, Armoured Infantry Platoon Commanders' Course, The Army Junior Division of the Joint Services Staff College plus demonstrations to Sandhurst Cadets and the Platoon Commanders' Division.

The primary aim of the Battle Group was to train those units or individuals that required a working knowledge and experience of the All Arms Battle. In so

Poachers



doing the Battalion and its other components had to meet the demands of the 'Commitments Diary' which scheduled events and exercises that would be taking place. These in turn would be tasked out to the Companies who would then provide the equipment, manpower and, often, expertise to run the exercises. The average time spent on exercise for most people amounted to up to two weeks per month. Some did more.

During our time in Warminster the Battalion played GENFOR (Generic Enemy Force) for a large number of TESEXs on Salisbury Plain. On a personal level this required everybody to dress in desert combats and equipment

designed to send or receive a laser which would detect shots fired and hits received. The vehicles would also be equipped with laser equipment so that ultimately the whole Battle Group, vehicles, equipment and individuals alike, could partake in any given encounter. A typical exercise would see components of the Battalion deploy over a given period to fight defensive parts of a battle, culminating in the complete Battle Group fighting an offensive operation.

Finally, having been away from the UK for so long, it was a welcome break for many of the families to come back. If no commitments were running over a weekend the barracks would often only be

occupied by a handful of people; the single soldiers, more often than not, getting away to visit family and friends. Lying in a South central location of the UK and in the beautiful Wiltshire countryside made for a good combination with destinations such as London, Weymouth, Northampton and Leicester all within two hours drive.

Warminster itself will be well remembered by the soldiers not least for the local watering holes. 'The Bath Arms' and 'JB's' providing many an eventful night out for the Poachers. It will also be remembered for copious amounts of vehicle maintenance and many a day spent on 'The Plain'!!

Raining - It's as good as it gets... D Company Battle Camp

Major Paul Nanson RRF, writes:

For those of you who have never been to Otterburn Training Area it lies on the Scottish border about 30 miles North of Newcastle. It is a rugged moorland area ideal for infantry soldiering, allowing all weapon systems to fire live, including FGA. It is a truly beautiful, breathtaking location - except when it's raining!

D Company deployed on Ex-POACHER'S THUNDER on 14 November for a 2 week Battle Camp. The aim was to fire all our Support Weapons and prepare for our change of role from mounted to dismounted operations. The whole company deployed over a weekend and endured a gruelling 12 hour road move, especially enjoying the delights of the A1. We eventually arrived at Redesdale Camp to find that Csgt Kirk and his team had set up shop with their usual efficiency and we settled in to first class,

warm accommodation. As we arrived it started to rain.

The first week was made up of low level live firing designed to get the platoons up to section attack level. All the platoons went through a progressive series of ranges from pairs fire and manoeuvre up to section attacks using 51mm mortar, grenades and LAW. Concurrently the Drums Platoon prepared for Match 83, the Sniper Section carried out live OP drills and sniper stalks, and the Recce Platoon carried out vehicle drills and 9mm shoots. 7 HEAT LAW rounds were fired and every soldier conducted a pistol CQB range Company Headquarters conducted their own intensive range package with the OC proving yet again that he was a better shot than the CSM and CQMS. The CSM blamed the shine from his receding hairline and the CQMS couldn't stop talking long enough to take

aim. All the soldiers thoroughly enjoyed the early morning PT which involved running up hills, bayonet fighting and, that old favourite, the log run. Each platoon had a night off when they sampled the 'kicking' night life of some of the local villages! All except the Recce Platoon who assured me that they enjoyed some bible reading followed by an early night with a hot mug of horlicks. Throughout the week it rained.

The second week saw each platoon conducting its own support weapon live firing. The Mortar Platoon said farewell to Captain Johnson and then went on to fire a demanding Part 1 shoot with the PWRR. The Milan Platoon fired live at both Warcop and Otterburn, culminating in a night shoot up on the moors.

This was a very successful exercise during which all firers managed to destroy

Poachers

all the thermal targets - and a range hut! The Recce Platoon and Sniper Section deployed to RAF Spadeadam for a 48 hour exercise where the teams were inserted around an airfield and tasked with conducting CTRs. Unbeknown to the Platoon the airfield is used by the RAF for aerial reconnaissance and so contains real Soviet equipment. A very realistic and worthwhile exercise with the Mortar Platoon providing the hunter force. Funnily enough it rained throughout.

The final 3 days of the camp was to be the company test exercise. The platoons

were tasked with supporting an infantry platoon (provided by C Coy) over a 48 hour advance to contact. Unfortunately, as we deployed, the mist came down and the rain increased to monsoon force. The phrase 'Gortex till ENDEX' was used a lot and after an approach march in full kit plus support weapons and ammo, we were told that we could not fire. Despite the conditions we did manage to fire the following morning and all the ammunition was fired less the mortars. C Company had a very successful attack range and it all came together for the grand finale on Wilkwood Range with a dawn Company in Defence shoot which

would have made Ridley Scott gawp in admiration.

In all it was an excellent two weeks. We fired a battalion's worth of ammunition over the period and the Drums achieved a very creditable score in Match 83. All the platoons fired their support weapons and everybody enjoyed the time away from commitments in Warminster. After a period of cleaning and handing over we returned to Warminster.

As I passed Hadrian's wall I noticed in my rear view mirror that it appeared to have stopped raining.

Poacher TRIGAT Trials - Milan Platoon

Pte Knowles, 2nd Bn MILAN Pl, writes:

TRIGAT is the British Army's new medium range anti-tank missile replacing MILAN. The POACHER TRIGAT trial team first assembled in June 1997 in order to begin the intensive anti-tank conversion cadre which was run by the British, French and German Aerospace team. On completion of the course the team departed for Larkhill to complete the initial live firing of TRIGAT. It was a success.

From this moment on we became a full part of the TRIGAT team and were soon to find ourselves travelling around both the UK and the world. Our next firing took place in the not so exotic location of Otterburn. The Infantry Trials and Development Unit (ITDU) also attended these trials in order to carry out their separate tests. In all, this particular trial lasted for a month, during which time the team were fully stretched and tested to the extreme. However, despite this a 100% hit rate was achieved.

The team then returned temporarily to the battalion in order to continue with commitments in Warminster. Soon after Christmas leave the team separated and Ptes Knowles and Day departed for the cooler climes of Shilo, Canada. Here the TRIGAT system was to be cold weather tested in temperatures below -60c. However, despite the conditions, the POACHER team maintained their morale and composure to achieve yet another 100% hit rate.

The POACHER team then reassembled in Warminster before heading off to the

exotic South of Australia. However, the team were unable to fly direct to Adelaide and were forced to stop over in Vancouver, Honolulu and Sydney! Once in Adelaide, the team then moved to Woomera, where we began the hot/dry trials. Conditions fluctuated between 30c to 40c. Still, despite this we were able to achieve a 100% hit rate. After this shoot we prepared for the four day journey North to Kakadu in the Northern Territory.

However, we were able to break the journey by stopping in Alice Springs and Ayers Rock. The reason we went North was to complete the hot/wet trials.

Finally, we arrived in Kakadu National Park, home to 'Crocodile Dundee' and now the Poachers. The monsoons were unreal and the humidity almost unbearable as it ran up to 100%. Again, despite this, both the TRIGAT system and the POACHER team proved their worth achieving another 100% hit rate.

By now the team had been away for 3 months and were ready for home, managing a short stop in Singapore on route. This was a particularly testing period but also most rewarding, with POACHERS not only demonstrating their resilience and adaptability, but also that of the TRIGAT system.

Pte Knowles completed all the shoots and tests. The Poachers team consisted of Cpls Auckland and Smith and Ptes Day, Harrison and Knowles.

Warriors no more !

Sgt Bartlett, A Coy, writes:

The roar of the engine, the grinding of the tracks, vehicle maintenance every day and being tossed about in the back like a rag in a washing machine. The first memories of the Armoured Infantry way of life. The boiling vessels now replaced by however many hexi blocks you can carry in your webbing. The enormous amount of allegedly useful but in actual fact useless kit that was carried in some bergens and stored in the left hand side of the vehicle.

Now there is no one to blame should something go wrong: if your map reading isn't all that it should be and you get navigationally embarrassed or you go down the wrong track, you cannot blame the driver. Just a few reminders of the good old WARRIOR AFV. Now they are in the past and replaced by the good old fashioned MK 1 boot. The drivers who sat in the front chuckling at the fact that the tank ditch that they had just driven over, or should I say into, had nearly thrown the commanders out of the turrets, can chuckle no more. The basic life of the Infantryman on foot and his lack of 'home comforts' is brought to the forefront here in Cyprus.

The dust has been blown off the basic, infantry skills like the section battle drills and the aims of patrolling, which seemed to have taken somewhat of a back seat since our role as Demo Battalion, CATC BG, in Warminster.

The driving of course was never stage managed and I sometime wondered if the drivers were actually taught to drive in a

Poachers

manner that would break and bruise the commander's hip bones at every available opportunity!! But no more, for those who remember the AFV 432s then the WARRIOR was a God-send, a little bit less room, but far more reliable and faster, and anyone who can remember any vehicle before we had AFV 432s is obviously a right old crusty!

Anyway, not being particularly good at writing articles for 'Castle', I took up the challenge to write an 'Ode' to the dear departed, noisy, cramped, but very well maintained WARRIOR.

Ode to the Warrior from Armoured to Feet.

*The WARRIOR was a certain treat,
But now in Cyprus we are on our feet*

*Across the world to a different place,
A different task with a very mixed race*

*In WARRIOR we went from here to there
With loads of kit, we did not care*

*Fit it all in and on our way
From A to B won't take all day*

*But now on foot, a different matter
All quiet and tactical, no chitter chatter*

*All our kit is on our backs
Use the dead ground, stay off the tracks*

*Gone are the days of the armoured role
No more rehearsals of demos in Battlesbury Bowl*

*The skills have changed from Mech to Feet,
A difficult task in this kind of heat!*

*Although the basics are the same
Without the WARRIORS it's a different game*

*The roar of the WARRIOR can be heard no more
Just the crump of our feet, as they hit the floor.*

Cyprus ...It's a dive

Cpl Cross, HQ Coy, writes:

It was a normal cold, damp, English day in Wiltshire. Nothing new happening, just us going about our routine of preparing the WARRIORS, 432s and other assorted vehicles. On this particular day, my driver 'Tina' Turner and I were on top of one of the biggest hills on Salisbury Plain, Battlesbury Hill, washing down our WARRIOR when the RSWO, W02 Good pulled up. As we were the only people on the washdown I knew he wanted to see us. So I went over to ask what he wanted, little knowing that for me this was the beginning of my move to Cyprus.

Obviously everybody knew that the Battalion was going but nobody knew who was going and when. So in answer to his question "Do you want to go to Cyprus on the Pre-Advance Party?" I answered "yes" before he could change his mind. And so it came to pass I was set to move between 8 and 10 Dec.

The day finally came and we were bound for Cyprus. After a long trip courtesy of the RAF we finally arrived. In all fairness I don't think our journey was as bad as those flights that came later, but at the time we thought it was bad. Next came the settling in period, finding out where things were, getting transport and so on. The Poacher community spirit soon emerged and on returning to work we were able to swap notes and see who had found what and where.

Generally, things were going well. The next three months were spent working for the Families Office. This went fine

and without a hitch. Slowly the time to return to the real world of work in the Signals Platoon loomed. One of my fellow Poachers on the Pre-Advance Party was told that he was going to work for the Poachers Adventure Training Team (PATT). This led to the normal jeers from the rest of us, but all in good fun and only because we were all secretly jealous of the prospect of water sports, sea, sun and the beach as a work place. We could all imagine what a hard life it would be NOT!!

The last day in the Families Office loomed no longer, it was here. Just the last family to see in, but before they arrived I was summoned by the OC, Maj Hall. What's going on? I wasn't due a confidential and I didn't take his house over so whatever it was was a mystery. I was getting my story together to plead innocence to any crime I would be charged with. On this occasion it was good news. Even though one of the guys had been attached to the PATT to instruct water sports, he was not qualified to instruct SCUBA diving; besides which the Battalion didn't have any diving equipment. The CO was keen that all Poachers be given the chance to try all adventure training/sports and this included diving, therefore action had to be taken. Within Dhekelia Garrison, there is an organisation called the Cyprus Joint Service Adventure Training Centre (CJSATC) which essentially teaches a variety of activities including parachuting, kayaking, rock climbing and sub aqua. This was it, my one and only hope. I was to be attached there for six months.

The first thought through my head was "What is my mission?" (it may have been the second!). I asked tentatively, expecting to have to run courses for the Battalion every week. How naive I was. All courses would be properly run, booked through the OC and scheduled to allow me some time off too. Paradise.

When I arrived at the Sub Aqua Wing I didn't know what to expect. Firstly there was an ex-Serviceman now in civil employment called 'Peds'. He was in charge because the real boss was back in England sunning itI don't think so. On top of Peds (although not literally) were two other guys on temporary loan, one from 1 LI and one from the UN. The week I arrived was a maintenance week. We spent the week cleaning, repairing and preparing the equipment for the intense weeks to follow.

As I write this article, things are now entering a busy phase. The sea is warm and everybody wants to learn to dive before it gets cold again. Despite the fact that we are now a team some seven strong, we will be very busy indeed over the popular summer months, but at least we'll be doing something we enjoy and more importantly helping other Poachers and dependants to enjoy it too. However not a day passes when we don't see or hear of the Poachers and the impression they are creating within the Garrison area at all levels, and despite the fact that I'm not involved though I'm glad to say I'm one of them, is that people are very impressed.

Our Routinely Exciting Operational Role

WOII (CSM) Humphries, A Coy, writes

As you look around and see map boards fixed to the wall, call sign boards, zap number sheets, the signaller monitoring two nets and the Watchkeeper overseeing all that surrounds him, you get a strange feeling of familiarity. It's only when you step out of the Ops Room, into the bright sunshine, take a glance over your left shoulder and see the Mediterranean Sea only two hundred metres away, that you realise you're over four thousand miles away from Ireland and in Cyprus.

The Ops Coy role on the Holiday Island is broken down into three areas. The first and most important task is the protection of the priority IA asset at Ay Nik (Ayios Nikolaos), 9 Signals Regiment. This is the reason why the Battalion is on the Island. A Platoon is stationed there at all times and is broken down into two multiples each consisting of three four man teams (again we never seem to be too far away from Northern Ireland). The Platoon must have a team on immediate notice to move at all times. A second team is on ten minutes notice and would be used to react to anything which the first team could not deal with. A third team is used to man BLACK KNIGHT entry control point, which is situated about 1 Km from Ay Nik Camp. This check point is the boundary between the Eastern Sovereign Base Area (ESBA) and the British Controlled Area of Cyprus (TCA). The team stays at BLACK KNIGHT for a 24 hour period to check the passes of people travelling between the two areas. The remainder of the Platoon are on rest and would be used if incidents took place. These teams can use the excellent facilities which all

Signals Units seem to have, like a fully equipped gym and indoor swimming pool, not to mention numerous tennis and basket ball courts.

The remainder of the Coy are at Alexander Barracks in Dhekelia. The two platoons rotate on a 24 hr basis between Patrols and Security (Guard). The Patrols Platoon provides a multiple on 1 hour notice to move and a multiple on 3 hours notice to move. This second multiple is the only real chance the pads (married personnel) get to go home in the two week period the Coy is on Ops. The 1 hour multiple carries out patrols around the ESBA. These tasks include boundary checks between ESBA and the TCA, security checks in and around the Garrison, NITESUN patrol or Eagle VCP with the SBA Police. Some of these take the form of anti-smuggling patrols with the SBA Police. Again we come to the Irish connection - on joint military and police patrols the Police have primacy.

The final Platoon task is the one we are all too familiar with - Guard. There is, however, a small difference, although the Platoon ORBAT remains the same. One team provides two men for the front gate of Alexander Barracks and two men for the main entry points to the Garrison. A second team is on QRF, on two minutes notice to move; and a third team is on prowler and fire picquet. The Platoon also provides a Guard Commander, 2IC and a driver. The sums show that only 15 men are needed, so this allows the remainder of the Platoon time on rest away from the Guard Room completely, or not to be on Guard at all.



Pte Tambling checks ID Docs at Entry Control Point (ECP) Black Knight.

The rotation of Guard to Patrols is every 24 hours. The Platoon is away at Ay Nik for 4 days, which gives them a break and allows Sections to do different tasks daily and hopefully helps reduce the boredom which may set in on the Ops cycle. The four day period at Ay Nik also allows the Platoon Commander to get some training done with his Platoon as he has a captive audience!

Ops Coy in Cyprus does not have the same degree of danger as in Northern Ireland. However, the tasks that it carries out are just as important, if not more so, as the defence of the priority IA asset at Ay Nik is of great importance. Cyprus, as some of you may have thought, is not the easy sunshine posting which we have all dreamed about - but at least it is SUNNY!

Routine Patrol by Ops Coy to check Entry Control Point (ECP) Black Knight



LCpl Waqairoba takes over Internal Security Eqpt



Poachers

It's a Jungle Out There... well at least a forest!

'The Withered Leg' writes

Right then kit check... map... yep... compass... yep... helmets... yep... chainsaws... yep... stop, stop, stop, stop, stop!" Why, if we are just about to embark upon one of the most secret operations known to Cyprus, are we taking chainsaws? To cut down the trees, stupid! And so it began, The Poacher Operation (as directed from higher) to clear illegal (and some may say rather naughty) trees from a proposed range area within the Sovereign Base Area (SBA). Nothing was left to chance, the whole operation planned right down to the minutest detail.

It was an early start (for some anyway - Adjutant!) and most of the Poachers Investment Group (PIG) were up before they went to bed. The Reconnaissance Platoon commanded by Capt Copeland (codename 'Bagpuss' for obvious reasons) were first across the Line of Departure, given the nickname FRONT GATE, because it was the front gate. They marked the route for the remainder of the Tree Extermination Squads (TES!) from B Coy and the follow on cordon troops, drawn from D Coy.

The silence of dawn was broken by a crescendo of coughing and spluttering (and it wasn't from the Recce Platoon OPs) as the chainsaws were fired up in the capable hands of the Assault Pioneer Platoon. As the Pioneers wielded their mighty weapons there was a team of Battalion Orderly Tree Movers (BOTM) working closely behind them in order to drag the illegal and highly offensive trees away to be burnt at the stake for being witches. The trees, it has to be said, offered little resistance and strong arm tactics adopted by B Coy were soon replaced by coercion to get them to 'come quietly'. At the insistence of CSM B Coy some of the more rowdy trees were cut into smaller pieces to make them easier to handle for 'his boys'.

Whilst all this was going on D Coy were providing cordon troops to keep locals away from the clear site. This consisted of a number of OPs, strategically placed so that no one could approach to check them without being seen, as well as a series of picquet posts on major routes. Added to this was the QRF of Special Constables and an Armed Response Squad (ARS).

As the chainsaws did their stuff and tree after tree fell in battle the soldiers valiantly fought against appalling odds to clear the area. The operation was scheduled to last two days but through sheer perseverance and down-earth guts and determination the woody enemy was soon on the run (or bonfire) and once again the good old British Tommy had given the enemy six of the best - trousers down. By lunch time (more pies than you could shake a stick at!) it was in the bag. The masterminds who were controlling the op from HQ knew that we'd have this particular Fireforce Operation wrapped up by nightfall. Incentives of days off, fast cars and cash spurred the young Poachers to even greater physical limits and as the trees fell the soldiers sweated.

By 1600 hrs it was all over. Not a tree standing on the proposed range. The task force retired back to its forward mounting base, Alexander Barracks, for firm hand shakes, slaps on backs and raucous laughter. Democracy had conquered. The battalion is now busy preparing for its next big one. Apparently we're going to landscape a gallery range!

Time Off in Cyprus

2Lt Christopher Barry, B Coy, writes:

There is undoubtedly a lot to do in Cyprus. Another well known fact is that the best of the weather will always be whilst you are on guard and the tarmac melts on the road. Consequently it was no great shock to see D Coy learning to windsurf on a sea more reminiscent of a winter gale in Skegness than the brochure picture of Ayia Napa. Not that this presented a problem to the erstwhile PATT (Poacher Adventure Training Team) safely ensconced in their 'Gucci' wetsuits, Gore-Tex booties and mitts whilst issuing instructions from the beach. However the average 'bod' on the water, or under it in most cases, with only the issued swimsuit (by now baggy enough to carry your windsurfer) and the raging sandstorm for warmth, probably recalled those February days on the 'Plain' with some affection.

Not that all the Coy's time off is spent in the sea, mind you. Water-skiing, diving and windsurfing are all very well but the

real pursuit of pleasure, as befits an Infantryman, takes place on land. Somewhere down the list of such opportunities comes go - karting. The Ayios Nikolios lozenge may be stuck out on a limb but it does offer a 732m track, "the very finest on the island", I am assured, and is the best thing for the budding Mansells. The trip up to the track is usually done by 4 tonne Bedford, just to get the troops into the idea of extreme speed, and is preceded by a lengthy safety brief, which is completely ignored. The jostling for position starts on the parade lap and by the time we reach the chequered flag it is a no holds barred war with OC Mortars right up there with Michael Schummacher and Mark Thatcher in the big league of motoring offenders. However, for sheer destructive power, few can match Cpl Cooley, who was on his third car by the time another ill advised overtaking manoeuvre sent him over the tyre wall and into the grandstand.

Back on the beach B Coy Navy Seal team is deploying. Ptes King, Lockwood and Piper are kitted out for a day's snorkelling, ignorant to the admiring glances and wolf whistles of the packed Ladies Beach, whilst Pte Noton, always on the look out for a catch, casts his rod out from the pier disturbed only by the Poacher Wives Club water-skiing and CSM Thorpe touting for business with his giant inflatable banana! On the far side, kicking sand in kids' faces, is the ever growing 'Poacher Chapter' of the Dhekelia Hells Angels.

Such balmy days off in Cyprus inevitably end with a trip down to the local town to the many poetry, vase painting and ancient philosophy classes which I understand have sprung up since The Poachers have arrived, every one warmly embraced by all ranks.

Poachers

Life's a Beach

CSgt Kretay, HQ Coy, writes

The Poachers Adventure Training Team (PATT) is a new department within the Battalion formed especially for the Battalion's tour of duty in Cyprus. The aim of the PATT is to add to their quality of life in Cyprus by providing a selection of adventurous training pursuits during the afternoons and to entertain the wives and families during the mornings with similar outdoor activities while their husbands are at work.

The five man team is comprised of the SNCO IC PATT, three Cpl instructors and one storeman. They are armed with qualifications, experience and enthusiasm in a number of adventurous training pursuits, namely windsurfing, water skiing, canoeing and rock climbing. This makes the team an extremely useful asset to the Battalion. The PATT is also in possession of a large amount of equipment such as a number of mountain bikes, downhill skis, dinghies and hill walking equipment which may be utilised by Poachers and their families.

In the Battalion's first month in Cyprus there have already been a number of achievements. Already there are a several wives who have mastered the arts of water skiing and windsurfing. Those that find that these activities not so enjoyable normally seek solace with a journey on the inflatable banana being towed by the speedboat. Some of the wives and families have been introduced to canoeing and mountain biking and there are moves afoot to start rock climbing soon. The soldiers have been introduced to all of the adventurous pursuits by the PATT with the result being that many members of the Battalion have now become members of the various adven-



The Patt... L to R: Rich Bond, Pte Rob Clarke, Cpl Dave Coupe, CSgt Eddie Kretay, Cpl Paul Coupland.

turous training clubs in and around the Dhekelia area - namely the Dhekelia Water Sports Club, the Yacht Club, the Sub Aqua Club and the Parachuting Club. The men have also been attending the many adventurous training courses being run in Dhekelia by the Cyprus Joint Services Adventure Training Centre (CJSATC).

Much has been achieved in the first month since the formation of the PATT but the team realise that there is a lot of work still to be done to improve the service to the customer. This work continues. The members of the PATT have a long working day and, indeed, a long working week. The working day usually starts at 0700 hrs and finishes at 1800 hrs. A six day working week is quite normal. The PATT is also utilised at other times, such as Battalion stand down periods and school half term breaks. Although we



Cpl Dave Coupe has another stressful morning!

tend to work very long hours, there are no complaints from the members of the team, as it is very seldom in one's life that someone is paid to partake in his hobby. How I enjoy 'fun in the sun' and providing an essential service for the Battalion.

Work! work! work! That's all we do.



'Poacher II' the Battalion speedboat in capable (?) hands.



Which Way Now

Maj Roland Ladley MBE writes:

Orienteering in the Regiment has always been a high priority and in the last two years the Poachers have made a real effort to take their team to higher and higher standards. A second in the 1997 3 Div League and a second in the 1997 Infantry Championships (unfortunately later disqualified for an erroneous error) are testament to this. The mark of the team coming of age, however, was to be crowned Army Champions in the 1997 Army Nights - this is the first ever Army level orienteering win by a Regimental side.

Orienteering is for maniacs. There are no paths and obstacles; most competitors fall over at least three times during an event. Fitness is obviously important, but mental agility is also key. Running through the woods trying to 'picture' the ground from the map (sweat in your eyes, map won't keep still) and, critically, trying to decipher what your eyes tell you against a map which is deceitful, all adds up to an emotionally draining experience. Now turn off the lights. Night orienteering is for masochistic maniacs. The events are slightly shorter (the Army Nights was around 7 km as opposed to 10 - and that's as the crow flies), but the kites (check points) are still hidden well. You have as much light as you can carry. Most lunatics run around with halogen headlamps strapped to their heads, some use Sharkeyes, some have right-angle torches. The results generally a field of view of around 5 metres, a map that glares back at you when you try and navigate from it and a spectacular array of alien white lights flashing across the heathland. When a light goes off it usually means that the competitor has fallen over yet again.

The Army Championships this year were based on a Harris Relay. Two groups of three (Team One - Major Roland Ladley, LCpl Andy Sumner and Lt Chris Davies; Team Two - WO2 Les DeLara, CSgt Keith Yeomans and Lt Nat Hayden) are given a set of around 40 check-points to complete as quickly as possible. Ten are compulsory and the remainder are split up by the team captain. Having given brief (but accurate) instructions, off you go. Not finding a check point first off (I had difficulty with Number 13) begins as a mildly depressing experience. As the time ticks away and reloca-



2R Anglian 1997 Army Inter Unit Night Orienteering Major Unit Winners

*Back Row L to R. WO2 De-Lara, Lt C Davies, LCpl Sumner
Front Row L to R. 2Lt N Haden, Maj R Ladley MBE, CSgt Yeomans*

tion (finding yourself) is not as easy as you would like it to be, the depression becomes deeper. Some stretch to panic, but this is never helpful. On the other hand, finding a check point, particularly at night, is like discovering the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. A descriptive but inaccurate analogy - it was raining but the sun was down.

Finishing at the same time on a Harris Relay is the key to success. If one runner is out 10 minutes longer than the remainder, then that's 10 minutes that could have been split between the other members of the team. Both of the Battalion teams came in within 3 minutes - perfect timing. All of the six ran at their best and all six had a story to tell about a particular aspect of their own race (CSgt Yeomans' torch batteries ran out; he replaced them after he had dropped them to the ground, only to find that they didn't work. He had put them in the wrong way round and had

to run the final quarter of the race in the pitch black).

Having finished together we knew we had done well, but had no idea that we could win. Other teams told tales of woe as the results poured in. When the results were clear, the team looked around in disbelief.

We had won an Army Championship - probably the most difficult one to win. There was no doubt in our minds that the sweat, bouts of depression and occasional pain were well worth it. The cup, by the way, is an old brass signalling lamp; the oddest (but arguably most attractive) cup in the Army.

Poachers

Sporting Poachers

Sgt. (SI) Cocker APTC, writes :

Following the publication of the last 'Castle', the Poachers have moved from one side of Europe to the other. At the same time, sport within the battalion has remained paramount to our ethos and keenly contested at every level.

At Coy level the Champion Sports Coy for the 1996-97 year was A (Lincolnshire) Coy. The contest was keenly fought throughout the whole year and as it was initiated in Warminster you will note the inclusion of all sub units of the Battle Group. The breakdown of the competition results are below :

	Harman Lines ¹	LAD	A Coy	B Coy	C Coy	DCoy	HQ Coy
Swimming	2	5	7	6	4	1	3
Orienteering	6	8	12	14	4	2	12
Boxing	0	0	14	10	12	8	6
Tug Of War	0	4	6	5	0	3	7
Basketball	2	6	3	7	4	5	1
Triathlon	1	7	6	5	3	4	2
Football	14	10	12	6	2	4	8
Rugby	12	14	6	4	2	8	10
Cross Country	4	0	12	10	8	6	14
Cricket	1	6	2	3	5	7	4
Hockey	12	14	10	6	2	4	8
Totals	54	74	90	76	46	53	75
Place	5	4	1	2	7	6	3

¹ Harman Lines - an amalgamated team from D Sqn Royal Dragoon Guards and the Royal Engineer Troop attached to the Battle Group.

At Bn level the Poachers entered both Div League and Infantry Cup Competitions before leaving Warminster. Sports we entered in were football, rugby, hockey, cross country, cricket and orienteering. It was during these cup and league competitions that the cricket team reached the semi finals of the Infantry Cup with the orienteering team winning the Army Night Orienteering Competition (see separate article by Maj. Ladley) and finishing well placed overall in the 3 Div League.

But the real success came in fishing. As with our boxing, the Poachers Angling team dominated the competition, the climax of which was winning the 1997 Inter Corps Match Fishing Championships for the Infantry with the team consisting entirely of Poachers.

The winning team was :

WO1 (RSM) Ralph
Csgt Kretay (Team Captain)
Sgt Bulbeck
Sgt Jones
Cpl Baines

Well that was the UK and since arriving in Cyprus the Poachers have already started to make their presence felt. This started with the Football Team playing the All Island Army 'A' Team. The game went all the way to the wire, with the All Island team scraping a 2-1 win which was followed by much talk of the Poachers being poached.

This was followed by the Rugby team putting two Rugby 7s teams together, at short notice, and entering the Island Rugby 7s competition. Despite no overall victory there's still time to watch this space.

We have also entered the Cyprus Football League at Coy level and are doing well. On the Boxing front, on 29 May, the Poachers will be boxing again at a charity All Island Tri Service and Civilian Competition, so hold onto your hats for that one!! However, the limelight again goes to the Fishing Team who have entered two teams in the Cyprus league and are already in joint 1st position. It looks like a two (sea) horse race.

At an individual level Sgt. John Limb (Recce Platoon) has been selected for the Cyprus Combined Services Football Team and plays against the Estonian National Team on 7 April, WOII (MTWO) Mick Abbs has been selected for the All Island Army Golf Team and WOII (RQMS (M)) Tim Beighton came 8th in the Combined Services Cross Country race held at Dhekelia in March.

Poachers



The victorious Infantry Fishing Team, all Poachers. L-R · Sgt Jones, Csgt Kretay, WO¹ (RSM) Ralph, Cpl Baines, Sgt Bulbeck

Welcome Home Poachers

By Ex-Sgt Malcolm Sargent, former Poacher

*From Lincolnshire farm, fen and fish town, I came
Drunkard, waster, even now I bear the blame.
Three hundred years I've played the soldiering game.
Now 'cross time, to keep my pledge, no shame,
For I am the Poacher*

*Royal Lincoln was I and East Anglian too,
Joined by 'Tiger' and 'Steelback' who,
Together, now as one, no longer few,
Proud Royal Anglian loyal and true,
Always a Poacher*

*HINDOOSTAN, TALAVERA, SOBRAON took my dead
Still many hear my name with dread,
But I remain where others fled,
My proud Colours stained with red
For I am a Poacher*

*Malay, German, Cypriot knew my face,
Some might say, here was no saving grace,
But only those who gave up the chase,
I travel like the wolf, who can stay my pace,
Here comes the Poacher*

*Now on the streets of Belfast I feel the pain
In the gutters my life runs mixed with the rain
Tired limbs, gaunt eyes show the strain,
No rest for me, no time to explain,*

*Look out for the Poacher
'Cross the fields of Ireland walk these proud and angry men,
My eyes were closed forever when I stood at Crossmaglen,
But I shall return to England tho'
None can tell me when,
How by my deeds shall I be remembered then
Beware the Poacher*

*In the woods, fields and ditches I ply the Poacher's trade
Full circle I have come, to no normal battlefield here made
For all is stealth and dressed in cam
Is this the British Vietnam,
Who sees the Poacher*

*And so once more to England I have come
Welcome kisses, the shaken hand, but not for some
An empty chair, a silent room, the lonely tears,
What was it for, the wasted years
A Poacher come home.*

*All is safe 'till night and nightmares start
No sleep for me eyes wild yet I did my part,
Flashing pictures, every bottle thrown,
No way to win these hearts.
People clapping, cheering, hear the news.
A soldier's life departs.*

Welcome home, Poacher, welcome home.

6th Battalion

Variety and flexibility have been key to the 6th Battalion's activities during the time span of this article. Training has been extremely varied with the Bn having the chance to experience a wide spectrum of activities at levels from individual skills to a combined arms battle group. In addition to training the 6th Battalion has assisted in Op GIRAFFE, the flood relief programme in East Anglia over the Easter weekend.

Exercises and Training

The main event in October was over the weekend 11-13 at Warminster with the 2nd Bn on Ex POACHERS CHARGE. After travelling through Friday night the Bn harboured at Imber Village to be woken by the Poachers in force the following morning. All ranks received presentations on the 81mm mortar, Milan, recce, the Infantry footbridge and WARRIOR AFV. The Rifle Coys were given a taste of armoured warfare by A Coy as they were taken through a fast moving coy attack which left a few sick but all exhilarated. After a morning of demonstrations the Bn conducted an FTX against a Poacher enemy force. The exercise involved a night infiltration across SPTA including a river crossing and minefield breach prior to launching an attack on Imber.

The second training weekend was based at coy level and involved TEWTS, FIBUA training, recce patrols and a variety of other activities.

November was an even more notable month for the Bn with Ex VIKING THUNDER providing a considerable challenge and new opportunities for many. In the early hours of Saturday 21 November the Bn moved to RAF Mildenhall where each coy passed through an MCCP. True to form the Americans, after being asked to provide an old building or hangar for the MCCP, excelled themselves by giving the Battalion full use of the International arrivals/departures terminal! After rehearsals and final battle preparation the two Hercules made the first flight into Watton Airfield. After 6 further runs the Bn was complete and moved to destroy an entrenched enemy provided by CUOTC. After two hard fought hours Chinook helicopters arrived to fly the Bn onto STANTA but, after only half of the lifts had been completed, a 'no fly' was called and a swiftly organised road move brought the remainder of the Bn onto the training area. Throughout a cold and very foggy night the coys advanced across STANTA, ending with a dawn attack.

On a complete change of tack the other training weekend in November was Remembrance weekend, which saw troops from the Bn attending parades throughout East Anglia.

After a quiet December the New Year opened with a bang with two very different weekends. The first saw 6 R ANGLIAN pitted against 1 RGR on Ex CHISO HAWA, or COLD WEATHER, on a water-logged STANTA. The Recce Platoon worked with their 1 RGR counterparts before the first attack against a very well defended position. The break in was quick and the momentum took the defenders by surprise and the position was soon in R ANGLIAN hands. The Gurkha counter attack retook the position after a very stealthy approach. Most of the Bn were directed to act as PWs to test the 1 RGR chain, which suffered under the weight of numbers.

After 'repatriation' the reformed 6th Bn launched another attack onto a second position and the adage 'time spent in recce is seldom wasted' proved true as an error in the Gurkha obstacle plan let one coy cross the river unopposed. At ENDEX 1 RGR hosted the Bn for an early curry lunch, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all and resulted in only a few minor chilli burns!

The other training weekend was far removed from the 1 RGR exercise and saw over 250 members of the Bn concentrating on a number of cadres to prepare for this year's camp and improve the employability of all personnel within 6 R ANGLIAN. The cadres included Recce, TA Radio Users, MT, MG, NBC, 1st Aid, map reading, upgrading and assault pioneers. Aviation support came in the form of the last minute arrival of an Air Sea Rescue helicopter, which, though precluded from any tactical scenario by being bright yellow, allowed for the swift movement of troops around the area.

March has seen training at Coy level and shooting at Middlewick and Fingringhoe Ranges in preparation for the Bn SAAM. Slightly out of the ordinary was a 49(E) Bde battlefield tour in France attended by a number of commanders. In order to

improve the all arms understanding of junior commanders a weekend with 202 Bty RA was organised at Larkhill and Salisbury Plain. After introductions to the equipment used by the artillery and the layout of the gun line everyone managed some 'hands on' loading, firing and directing fire.

Bn Skill at Arms Meeting

The Bn SAAM took place over the weekend of 18-19 April at Middlewick and Fingringhoe Ranges at Colchester. Despite the flood call out of the previous weekend the event was well attended as all coys put in determined efforts to take home a prize. The weather was reasonable, which was especially welcome as the Bn were in a tented camp in the centre of the barracks, convenient for the ranges and a night out in Colchester! After the competition the Bde Comd arrived to present the prizes to the accompaniment of music from the Band. It emerged that A Coy were the overall winners and also the winners of the section match and CO's fire team competition. The other winners were Sgt Macloughlin (HQ) for the rifle APWT, Pte Colledge for the LSW APWT, C Coy for the falling plate competition, Pte Hacker (C) best pistol shot and LCpl Radford (D) for the pool bull.

Training has been varied and interesting, with a very wide range of skills being either refreshed or learnt from scratch. Few units can have enjoyed the resources and assistance 6 R ANGLIAN has over the last few months and this is reflected in the high morale of all ranks.

OP Giraffe

On Friday 10 April HQ 49(E) Bde called the Adjt to request 6 drivers and Bedfords to assist with flood relief. Two hours later the demand increased to an Ops Room and all the vehicles and manpower we could provide from D Coy. Despite it being the Easter Bank Holiday weekend D and HQ Coy provided nearly 70 people from the Friday afternoon to the early hours of Monday morning. These volunteers conducted a number of

6th Battalion



The CO about to indent for a set of waders.



Lt Debenham with Brigadier Hurrell after being presented the Bar to his TEM



A 6 R Anglian Team assisting in the evacuations



A Coy collect the Champion Shield from Brigadier Hurrell



The CO wades in as Major Vince surveys the scene from on high

tasks from flood warning and sandbagging to evacuation and escorting police constables. It was a hands on experience for all involved with even the CO rescuing damsels in distress! The rescue of 29 people and 4 dogs from a caravan park by Lt Hitchings and his team will undoubtedly be the source of tales for many months to come.

Recruiting and PR

The Battalion has continued to be very well recruited with over 100% of officer establishment and ORs at over 96%. Open days run by all Coys have been responsible for maintaining a steady influx of recruits. Much good PR has also been forthcoming in the local press. Ex POACHERS CHARGE was covered well but especially successful was Ex VIKING THUNDER. Three members of the local press joined the Bn for the duration and produced an excellent series of articles in the Eastern Daily Press and the East Anglian Daily Times as well as television coverage. A new Bn

video has just been completed and will be circulated with a new Bn flyer to local MPs and recruiting and careers offices.

Assistance to the Regular Army

CSgt Hipperson recently returned from a short term training team in Namibia where by all accounts he did extremely well as part of a regular army training team running a new officers' course. Majs Davidson and Chilvers have returned from Bosnia, Maj Chilvers looking to return again in the very near future, and over twenty members of the Battalion were attached to 1 R ANGLIAN on TESEX and four went with them on Ex GRAND PRIX. Lt Gothard continues to serve with 7 R IRISH.

Social Activities

Although military training occupies most of the Bn's limited time there has

been time for some fun too! November saw the Officers' Mess Ladies Dinner Night, during which Maj Allcock and Capt Bailey were dined out, whilst December was awash with a number of Christmas functions. January saw work and pleasure on the cadre weekend when the officers entertained the WOs in the Mess at Bodney Camp. Entertainment was provided by the Band, whilst the remainder of the Battalion enjoyed a horse racing evening in the bar.

Personalities

November saw Capt Paul Bailey hand-over as Adjt to Capt Ian Couch, whilst April saw Maj Baker take over as OC D Coy, Maj Cook moved to Bn 2IC and Capt Trott took over as OC C Coy. OCdt Panton is to be congratulated on passing the TA Commissions Board, it is hoped to start the trend of 'home grown' officers. We also welcome Capt Carnegie, Lt Wragg and Lt Chambers, who have transferred into the Bn.

The Tigers

For a territorial Battalion, every year is a training year. This requires the annual selection of a new focus towards which we can channel our efforts. Inevitably this focus becomes our Annual Camp. It is therefore a great bonus when we can look towards an attractive goal such as an Overseas Training Exercise in Cyprus, Ex LIONS PRIDE 98. Along with this attractive package comes a demanding exercise environment and the requirement to learn a new type of operation.

FIBUA With The Poachers

Prior to embarking on Battalion pre-Cyprus training, the CO wanted to capitalise on the lessons learned during Ex EASTERN HARRIER and give the Tigers a taste of High Intensity Conflict. In order to achieve this he enlisted the support of the Poachers who turned out for a weekend to exercise the Battalion on Salisbury Plain. As Reveille was called on a cold Saturday morning the Medical Officer was heard to complain, from the depths of her sleeping bag, that it was still dark! It was scarcely light when the companies found themselves moving around stands covering the Infantry Bridge, minefield breaching and FIBUA skills. Above all, however, the soldiers came away impressed by having participated in a demonstration of WARRIOR in the attack. While the companies played with the new equipment, Battle Group Headquarters got on with some serious battle procedure for the exercise phase.

Surprisingly a dawn attack on Imber Village is not something that everybody has achieved. Even if they have it does not necessarily make it any easier or make the approach any shorter, especially at night and in very poor visibility. A cunning plan, however, does help and in this case a convincing feint by the Recce Platoon turned heads just long enough to allow a swift break-in before the slog of fighting through the village began. Commanding the deception force was Captain Al Martin, a former Poacher who had turned up for the weekend to think about joining the Battalion only to find that he was appointed OC Recce as he stepped off the coach. We are happy to report that he has not looked back. There is no doubt that the event was a great example of the type of cooperation that is possible across the Regiment and greatly enhances the training that can be achieved by a TA Infantry Battalion.

Remembrance Day

TA Battalions are in a unique position to support the act of Remembrance throughout the country each year. This

year the Battalion laid wreaths in each of our county towns and cities as well as in each town where we have a platoon location. The wreath laying is only part of the day. In many locations the TA Centre becomes the focus for members of the civic bodies, the local Royal British Legion and Old Comrades Associations, usually in the form of hosting a curry lunch. Battalion Headquarters and Headquarter Company, based in Leicester, was especially well patronised. The Tigers Bar, and both the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes, were packed throughout the afternoon. The Officers' Mess welcomed guests from the City and the County, among whom were the Lord Lieutenant and his wife, His Worship the Mayor and the Lady Mayoress and the Bishop of Leicester. In attendance were also Colonels Heggs, Dawson, Swallow and Wilson of previous Regimental fame.

Ladies Guest Night

For the second year the Officers' Mess held this popular mid-November event at Gamecock Barracks, Bramcote. The importance of the occasion should not be under estimated bearing in mind that our TA Battalions now each cover substantial geographical areas. Wives and partners seldom have the opportunity to meet and socialise. At this event, we not only say thank you to our 'better halves' for their forbearance with our regular disappearances but also give them a chance to compare notes. The 1998 Ladies Guest Night will be held at Ulverscroft Road, Leicester.

TESEX with The Vikings

Another example of the close cooperation between the Regular and TA Battalions of the Regiment came about in December. Captain Chris Pook, himself a former Viking, led a magnificent seven, volunteers and Permanent Staff, to Salisbury Plain in order to support the 1st Battalion on its TESEX. The team played various roles from umpire to administrator.

The exercise is a particularly testing one for the Battle Group involved and the

experience was highly beneficial for our soldiers. Despite the appalling weather the team reportedly enjoyed the spectacle of the Vikings exercising against an OPFOR provided by the Poachers, who were by that stage well experienced and practised in their role.

Serious about Cyprus

By December, having achieved the ability to execute, in training, fairly complex light-role conventional operations, the CO re-focused the Tigers towards the training required to meet the objectives for Ex LIONS PRIDE in Cyprus. Along the way training for BBGT in April was negotiated to ensure that the various Headquarters within the Battle Group were in good shape. Starting with the officers, a Study Day held at Leicester firmed up our grasp of current Army Doctrine and Tactics as well as giving an update on training methods. Basic standards of training were examined as companies undertook their own ATD training in early January on Training Areas throughout the Battalion area.

Following a successful recce to Cyprus by the CO, QM, Training Major and RSM in early February the staffwork and training began in earnest. The initial basic teaching for CRW operations was given to the Battalion in early February by the Permanent Staff during a weekend at Beckingham. By the end of the month training was taking place at company level on STANTA, working up to all types of patrolling and the essentials of cordon and search operations. In early March a Battalion CRW FTX took place, again on STANTA, with the repertoire expanding to include fix and destroy operations. The weather was quite appalling but did not detract from some excellent training.

With Battle Group Headquarters having had a good number of serious runs out in the last twelve months, and having conducted a recent CPX where the team moulded together well on the ground, we approached BBGT at the end of April with a certain amount of confidence ready to fine tune our deployment to Cyprus.

Tigers

Champion Company Competition

Orienteering Competition

The annual Battalion training programme is marked by a series of competitive events. Within the Battalion the ultimate prize is that of Champion Company. The majority of the events take place over the Autumn and Winter. This year, in order to capitalise on RSM Thomas' keenness for the sport, an orienteering competition was included. This was run in February and was keenly contested. A (Lincolnshire) Company were the eventual winners, narrowly beating HQ (Leicestershire) Company. The remaining rifle companies competed closely for third and fourth places. Given the closeness of the result it seems certain that there will be a re-match during the next training year.

MT Competition

Ex MECHANICAL TIGER exercises company teams in driving and MT skills. Only Sgt Arnold of C(Northamptonshire) Company was able to break a HQ Company monopoly on the event by leading the Best Landrover Crew. The Leicestershire team took Best Bedford Crew (Sgt Brotherton), Best Landrover and Bedford Team (LCpl Jennings) and finally Best Young Landrover crew. Perhaps it comes as no surprise that HQ Company also carried off Best Company and therefore the Mechanical Tiger Trophy along with the relevant number of points towards the Champion Company Competition.

SAAM

Whilst contributing towards the final inter-company placings, the result of the Battalion SAAM awards the title of Champion Company Skill-at-Arms and as such is fiercely contested and proudly held. The competition took place at Strensall in March with a dry, bright weekend helping shooters produce some first class scores in a variety of matches including the Parachute Cup, which was the subject of some controversy once teams had worked out how to make a protest. Once the final scores were totted up on Sunday morning B (Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire) Company emerged as convincing winners. Not only did the Company Commander, Major Nigel Brown, take the impressive shield back to Hertford but Sgt McPoland took the Best Shot Trophy and Pte Tucker added a total of four shooting prizes to the haul. There was a big smile all round, and that was just CSgt Brown, the then SPSI.

Champion Company

Despite their good performance at the Bn SAAM, B Company were unable to prevent A(Lincolnshire) Company from taking the Champion Company Trophy back to Sobraon Barracks for the third year running. Despite the shield in question having lived in Lincoln for four out of the last five years, the future is by no means a foregone conclusion, although any pretender to the title had better lay down the gauntlet quickly before the

Company Commander, Major Frank DePlanta, has it bolted to his office wall.

Recruiting and Retention

Recruiting and retention are subjects which have always been much discussed throughout the TA and rightly so, as any Battalion lives or dies by its establishment and turnout figures. We are pleased to be able to report that the Tigers are very much alive in this respect and growing with each recruit cycle. The RSM, WO1 Thomas, was tasked on arrival by the CO, Lieutenant Colonel Holme, to examine the issues of recruiting and retention together as a single issue. Interpreting information already available he saw that it was quite easy to interest a potential recruit but that the proportion who actually signed up could be much increased. He saw that the best recruited companies were those who retained the highest proportion throughout recruit training. The issue had become one of retaining recruits. He and the CO then produced an effective plan which is operating today with great effect.

As a result of this persistence, Company Recruit Reception and Training Teams (RRTT) keep better formal records of each person making an enquiry and can trace the fate of each. They have been taught the art of good 'recruit husbandry', placing a high value on each one throughout recruiting and training. The Recruit Induction and Selection Cadre has been fine tuned for the right mix of effort, fun and information. Procedures for documentation and medical examinations have been streamlined and standardised. The result is a much higher retention rate after selection.

Mechanical Tiger - The QMIV Capt GG Smith and Sgt Lightfoot gloat over the HQ Company victory



Champion Company Skill at Arms B (Beds & Herts) Company with a host of silver after BNSAAM



Tigers



*Recruit them and keep them.
PTI Sgt Sean McConnell of RRTT keeps tabs on
Recruits Michael Wroblewski and Alan White.*

A flow of attentive recruits has been maintained by increasing the number of six weekend cycles to four a year. This is more work for the dedicated RRTT staff but with a more efficient approach to administration they have taken this in their stride. The Battalion is set to keep up its current excellent recruiting standards.

Retaining a soldier past his initial training becomes a task for the chain of command. The Training Major, Major Andy Wadman, continues to produce outstanding, interesting progressive Battalion training, coupled with ample good advice to Company trainers. The strength and attendance of the Battalion is such that anyone who has not put in a return to say that they will attend Ex LIONS PRIDE will be disappointed. All places are taken!

Ready , Steady, Cook

Ex GREBE GREY is an annual 2nd Division catering competition which



*Tasty Tigers take Trophy Left to right - LCpl Willey,
Sgt Tayler and LCpls Percival and Botting
grinning after Grebe Grey.*

takes place in March. The CO's congratulations go to our winning team, who impressed some very discerning palates with their product and satisfied some demanding staff with their military and driving skills and fitness. The team, drawn from throughout the Battalion, comprised Sgt Gary Tayler and LCpls Natan Willey, Chris Percival and Richard Botting. The competition does a lot to raise the appreciation of the chefs in the eyes of the Battalion.

Taking first place in Ex GREBE GREY has qualified the Battalion team to go forward to Ex COMBAT CATERER, which is the TA national competition. Selection is an accolade in itself but the team is determined to do well when they go to Grantham in May.

The Lockwood Trophy

The tragic death of Pte Lockwood whilst on Ex MARBLE TOR in 1996 is commemorated in silver by the Lockwood

Trophy. This was paid for by the voluntary contributions of all ranks and is awarded annually to the most promising Young Soldier of the year. This year, on the Battalion SAAM weekend in March, Mr and Mrs Lockwood were at Strensall in person to present the award to Pte Disney of Headquarters Company for his excellent efforts during the last year and in recognition of his future potential.

Farewells and Welcomes

The following Regular Staff have left the Battalion on promotion: CSgts Brown and O'Dell and Sgts Saywell and Limb. They have been replaced by: CSgts Hopkins and Cox and Sgts Colyer and Rainey MC. The Adjutant, Captain James York, has departed for Media Operations at Northwood and in his place we welcome Captain Gary Morris. Finally, we say goodbye to LCpl 'Lefty' Wright and welcome in his place LCpl Frisby.

Births

Warm congratulations to Lt Mark and Mrs Aisling Thurley on the birth of triplets, Jamie, Connor and Mark on 11 March.



*Brigadier Hurrell, Comd 49 (E) Bde presents
Pte King of B (Beds and Herts) Company with his
NATO SFOR Medal*



The victorious Grebes Grey Team after winning the BFT section of the competition



*Mr and Mrs Lockwood present the Lockwood Trophy to the most promising
Young Soldier Pte Disney of Leicester*

Vikings



The Padre, RQMS Prime and Pte Bailey deliver aid to Nanyuki Orphanage.



SSgt O'Grady and his assault Pioneers purify water.



Cpl Golubovic shouts orders to his section.



Kayak racing on Lake Naivasha.



Drums PI provide supporting fire, Mpala Farm.



Pte Stewart on patrol.



Jungle Drills in Gathiara.

Ex Viking Thunder



C130 waiting to take the First Lift.



Capt Mike Googe, the Ops Officer prepares.



The First Wave departs.



Lead Elements start to secure the Landing Field.



A Coy arrive, running, at Watton.



The airstrip begins to be secure.



Elements of A Coy and Recce arrive.



The Second Wave finishes it's Battle Prep before flying out.

Ex Viking Thunder



Waiting to engage.



MG Platoon prepare to fire the Bn in.



Searching for the enemy.



The enemy dead.



The Lead Coy moves up to the FUP.



Fighting through the Bunker Complex.



The smoke clears after the success of the attack.

The Poachers leave Warminster



1 Platoon under the watchful eye of 2Lt Mark Dingle in typical Armoured Infantry Pose.



Warriors to the end... A Coy live firing at Castlemartin.



Regimental Sport

Regimental Golf - Spring Meeting, 24 April

Maj Stan Bullock reports:

The day, although looking slightly damp, in fact turned out to be quite acceptable to the more hardy members who turned up for the meeting at Richmond Park Golf Club, Watton. A total of 22 players enjoyed the morning's play of The Medal and Stableford and 24 played the Greensome in the afternoon. In addition, there were the usual Hidden Holes Sweep and Nearest the Pin that everyone (less one member) paid in for. Never mind, Norah, perhaps you can increase his pocket money for the Summer Meeting!

Owing to the sad loss of Michael Jones, who has organised and played in the Regimental Golf Meetings over the last few years, I was asked if I would help complete the organising that Michael had started and was only too pleased to do so. The Society offers their deepest sympathy to Michael's family.

The day commenced with coffee and biscuits for all and a pint for Mike Smith, as normal, with Peter Barnes and Keith Martin being welcome newcomers to the Society. Assistance in running the day's play and scoring was kindly given by

Gordon Halewood, Dave Wharton, Les Greenaway and by Deirdre Meddings before the match. Many thanks.

Much advice, help and some instructional criticism were given as the day progressed, with the odd military 'expletive' being interjected at intervals. One hole had an 'OUT OF BOUNDS' notice on the fence and some very large bulls inside. No member of the Society attempted to recover lost balls, but the verbal descriptions heard made interesting listening!

At the end of the day warm thanks were offered to the Richmond Club for their

very kind assistance and reception, also for the excellent condition of the course. All very enjoyable, thanks to the Secretary, the professional and all the staff.

A welcome visitor during the day was ex-WO2 Mick Smith, who with Flo has returned from Cyprus and is now residing in Swaffham. Nice to see you Mick.

Our next Meeting is the Summer Meeting and will be held at Stowmarket Golf Club on 19 June. To all those members who played in the Spring Meeting, many thanks and I look forward to seeing all members at Stowmarket.

Results:

	MEDAL	STABLEFORD	HIDDEN HOLE	GREENSOME
1	G Halewood	D Wharton	G Halewood	S McAnally/D Wharton
2	D Wharton	J Growse	M Smith	R Potter/R Allen
3.	M Smith	T Wesley	L Greenaway	G Halewood/L Greenaway
Nearest The Pin: Mike Smith.				

Infantry Sailing Regatta - Seaview, Isle of Wight, June 1997

Major Simon Andrews OC B Coy 1st Bn writes,

In retrospect, of his sailing last Summer:

Rear parties have the dubious but well deserved reputation of being very dull affairs with little thanks for the task done. It is doubly soul-destroying for those joining a Battalion for the first time straight from training. So it was with great pleasure that the Vikings entered a team into the Infantry Keelboat Sailing Regatta on 4/5 June 1997 at Seaview on the Isle of Wight. Sadly, we were only able to enter one team as there is a paucity of qualified skippers at the moment and so others who were interested in acting as crews had to be turned down. There is a lesson for the future in that it is imperative that skippers are trained up to allow soldiers simple but fun breaks away.

The crew had a multi-national flavour. Pte Ray Hoogendijk from A Company is half Dutch, while Pte Stef Surette from C Company is wholly Canadian. Both joined the Vikings in April 1997 from ITC Catterick, but had some previous though very limited sailing experience. Major Simon Andrews helmed and kept the pan-Battalion flavour going as he is OC B Company.

The weather had been very stormy during the previous two days for the Prince of Wales' Division Regatta and had resulted in the cancellation of one day's sailing. Therefore, there was a good entry of 12 teams from the Infantry as some of the POW crews had stayed on the extra two days for the Infantry Competition. The Regiment, with the 2nd Battalion last year's defending

champions, put in a total of 3 teams. For many, it was their first time at Seaview, so we were a bit behind the power curve in experience of the boats' capabilities, as well as a lack of intimate knowledge of local tidal conditions.

With an easy breeze to get used to the boats, the first day consisted of 3 races each of about 2 miles length. After having a bye in the first race, the Vikings sadly finished 9 out of 10 in the second and did not finish the third owing to the complete lack of wind at the end of the day. A barbecue provided the entertainment that evening. Whilst the Poachers invited the younger Vikings to join them to savour the delights of nearby Ryde, the Vikings probably wisely turned down the very generous offer.

cont

ATR Bassingbourne

Sailing cont.

Day 2 was a very different affair with Force 4s gusting Force 5 winds, which for a 25 foot open boat are considerable. Two races were held in the morning; the first saw the Vikings team come in 8th while in the second they were retired after hitting a buoy in the closing stages! Further racing was abandoned as the winds increased still further. Therefore, as a result of all races completed, the Vikings came in overall second to last, beating the Poacher B team, and coming just behind the Poacher A team.

However, they feel that they have learned an awful lot and intend to be back on 4/5 June 1998 to try again, but better prepared.

I have already mentioned the importance of being able to take soldiers away on this type of event. However, these regattas are not the only form of offshore sailing available. There are numerous adventure training expeditions being organised by other units who are crying out for skippers with experience. We must pick our next generation of soldier skippers now and get them experienced and qualified. That way, more people will be able to take advantage of these exciting



Pte Surette, Major Andrews and Pte Hogendijk at the Regatta

opportunities, both home grown and external to the Regiment.

ATR Bassingbourn

Lt Daniel Howson writes:

Life has continued a pace for the Royal Anglians at ATR Bassingbourn with the ever increasing demands for more recruits to pass through training and join the Field Army. In particular the last few months have seen the advent of 'back to back' Platoons. This procedure entails a training team passing out a Platoon on a Friday at the end of the CMS(R) training and then starting a new Platoon on the following Monday. This situation allows very little time for administration or for the training team to recuperate, although it appears that these pressures should ease as the ATR should shortly return to a less demanding schedule in the coming months.

Despite these pressures, however, the Royal Anglian contingent at ATR Bassingbourn remains strong and in good spirits. There have of course been the usual changes in personnel, most significantly with the departure of Major Corin Pearce after three years as the Regiment's 2IC. Major Pearce will be sorely missed as his efforts to improve the ATR and training of recruits were appreciated by all at Bassingbourn.

Capt Holton has been replaced by 2Lt Haden from the Poachers, so now three out of the five Infantry Platoons are commanded by Royal Anglians. At SNCO level, C Sgt Beswick has now moved from the Training Wing to be CQMS Wray Coy. Sgts Williams and Philpott continue to keep their Platoon Commanders on the straight and narrow and we congratulate Sgt Williams on his impending promotion. Meanwhile Sgt Cox of the Vikings continues to instill fear into the recruits as the Provo Sergeant.

It is at Section Commander level that most changes have occurred with several Poachers leaving for the sunnier climes of Cyprus. From the Vikings Cpls Main and Milton have arrived, the latter having successfully completed PSBC. Cpl Main has now replaced Cpl Stimpson, who now pursues a career in civilian life. From the Poachers, Cpls Hills, Dyson, Perry and Ennis have arrived to replace Cpls Lewis, Johnson, Guthrie, Whitely and Gadsden, the latter having moved on to undertake PSBC.

In the field of sport the Royal Anglians at Bassingbourn have been particularly suc-

cessful with Cpl Wilcox of the Vikings being selected for the Infantry Cross Country Team. The ATR Rugby Team had a successful season with the only defeat being in the final of the Army Minor Units Cup. Again Royal Anglians played a leading role with Lts Howson and Charlwood, along with Cpls Stimpson and Clark, all featuring throughout the season. Particular note is made of Cpl Clark's achievement in being named Player of the Year.

On the aquatic side of life the carps in the Bassingbourn lake have lived in constant fear as Sgt Williams stalks them at every opportunity. His achievement at helping to build a successful Fishing Club at Bassingbourn should not be underestimated.

In conclusion, despite the inherent pressure of training recruits, Royal Anglians continue to play a leading role in all aspects of life at ATR Bassingbourn. The spirit and professionalism of all members of the Regiment will surely lead to a high standard of recruits joining the Regiment after Phase 2 training.

Normandy Band

The Normandy Band of The Queen's Division

Captain James Taylor, the Director of Music, Normandy Band of the Queen's Division, writes:



Based in the North of England, it is not very often that we are called upon by The Royal Anglian Regiment, especially with the Minden Band based with the 1st Battalion in Oakington. Nevertheless, we were 'in the area' last year with performances at the East of England Show, Breckland (Attleborough) Tattoo and a charity concert in Hinckley. Our support for the Regiment goes up a notch this year, with Freedom Parades in Ipswich and Great Yarmouth.

1997 was the year for overseas tours. This neatly coincided with the first in a series of six CDs entitled 'The Normandy Band Tours the World'. Volume One covered the Mediterranean, starting in Spain and travelling clockwise through France and Italy, over to Israel and eventually ending in North Africa. Unfortunately, we weren't able to physically make this journey and even the Director of Music's bid for an all-expenses-paid recce to every featured country ("to get a feel for the musical culture") was rejected. We did, however, manage to travel to Cyprus where there is no longer a resident band. It was a busy, but enjoyable, four months as members of the Band visited Israel,

Turkey and Egypt on both business and pleasure during the tour. After a couple of months back in the UK, it was time to top up our tans and Gibraltar provided the perfect opportunity. We return there this year to provide musical support for the presentation of new Colours to the Gibraltar Regiment.

On the sporting front, the football team goes from strength to strength. Their first victory was obtaining sponsorship from Marstons Brewery, who kindly supplied them with home and away strips. The team has recently made it through to the quarter-finals of the Corps of Army Music Cup. Self-professed star of the team is SSgt Mick Gibbons, who joined The Royal Anglian Regiment after a brief spell in the Band of the RAMC. Another ex-Royal Anglian Battalion sportsman is John Milgate, who was recently promoted to WO1 on posting to the Royal Military School of Music as Band Sergeant Major. Whilst he was a loss to the Band, the experience he will pass on to the musicians there will benefit everyone in the Corps. On John's departure, there were a number of promotions within the band, including musicians who previously

served with Royal Anglian Bands: to Cpl - Alan Owens (saxophone) and Paul Gaskin (cornet) and to LCpl - John Nicholas (trombone).

Highlights for this year include Gibraltar, closely followed by a week in Finland, where we will be appearing with the Minden Band at the Hamina Tattoo. Other engagements in the Regimental area include events in Leicester and the East of England Show.

We have just completed the recording of our second CD in the series 'The Normandy Band Tours the World'. Volume Two, following 'The Mediterranean', features music from around the British Isles. There is a wide variety of styles to suit all tastes - from traditional melodies ('Men of Harlech'), right up to recent chart hits (the Oscar-winning love theme from 'The Titanic'); from marches such as 'Barnard Castle' to 'A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square', arranged by the Director of Music as an alto saxophone solo. For more information, contact the band office on Richmond (01748) 874900 (Catterick Military 4900).

Special Features

Abu Dhabi

Captain Jon Trigg, now with the 1st Bn, writes:

Upon returning to England's fair shores, I was given a rather sharp reminder that part of the deal for Loan Service is that you have to write an article for 'Castle' on return. This article serves two purposes; firstly to inform people what exactly you've been doing and secondly to remind people that actually you are not dead or AWOL, but have been simply 'Working Abroad'

Loan Service is one of those carrots that is dangled in front of people at certain times, conjuring up pictures of swaying palm trees and white beaches, but like most fantasies it very rarely comes to anything. So imagine my surprise when on volunteering for loan service after completing JDSC, I was offered the job of Tactics Instructor at the NCO School in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates. Where on earth is that, I hear you ask? Well, in reply, the UAE are a federation of seven sheikhdoms on the shores of the Arabian Gulf, sandwiched in between Oman and Saudi Arabia. Abu Dhabi is the largest and the capital city and it was there that I was sent, with my wife, in order to pass on my non-existent knowledge of operations in the desert. Abu Dhabi city itself is known as the Garden City in the Gulf and it truly is. The blue waters of the Gulf lap at the shores of an ultra-modern city created on the back of staggering oil wealth.

The school was about one and a half hours out into the desert in the centre of a training area the size of Hampshire. It was here that I was informed that my job spec had changed just slightly; I was not to be a Tactics Instructor but would actually head up the team in charge of the weapons and



Captain John Trigg with Major Obeid Mohammad Al-Masmari and their company car

tactics division reporting directly to an Emirati Colonel. My staff consisted of five serving British Warrant Officers, one retired ex-Guards WO1 on contract and thirty Arab instructors from Oman, Jordan, Sudan, Lebanon and the UAE. The courses the school runs are modelled on Brecon (adapted to the local conditions) and are all-arms; which means in reality that the Emirati students comprised everybody from WO1s from the Special Operations Group to sixty year old clerks from the Air Force.

The beauty of the job, however, lay not only in being your own boss, my nearest superior being the Defence Attache in the Embassy, but also the opportunity to work with people of a totally different culture who actually liked Brits. If there are Officers and SNCOs sitting out there reading this and thinking that they want a challenge, then all I can say is get yourself

on Loan Service. As 'advisors' we had to write all the courses, i.e. syllabus, programmes and content of lessons that we then later taught. All lessons taught were in Arabic. The two and a half months course at Beaconsfield acted only as a starter and there is no preparation for working in the endless expanse of the desert in temperatures in excess of 50 degrees C.

On the social side, there is a very large British ex patriot community in the Emirates that welcomes all newcomers with open arms. We joined the beach club and were soon off game fishing. But all too soon the year came to an end and the horrible realisation of an English Winter approached. The school was duly handed over, to be run totally by Emiratis from now on, so unfortunately yet another sunshine posting has gone. It was without doubt an excellent year

Out in Africa

Martin Boswell of the Imperial War Museum, and ex-6th Bn, writes:

Besides its ever popular wildlife, natural scenic beauty and strong diverse cultural differences, South Africa is a land particularly fascinating to the traveller with an interest in military history. This is a land densely rich with reminders of conflicts and campaigns, bristling with memorials, battlefield markers and museums that commemorate actions fought over by Zulu, Briton and Boer. In February I went to KwaZulu-Natal to

explore some of these sites, paying particular attention to the area which almost one hundred years ago was the centre of focus of the civilised world.

During the second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902), the town of Ladysmith was held under siege by vastly superior numbers of Boers for a period of four months. Known as 'The Aldershot of South Africa', this garrison town lay in a basin, surrounded by

high hills. 13,000 British troops, among them the 1st Bn The Leicestershire Regiment, were all that was stopping the Boer army from driving South and to overrun the colony of Natal. Our Imperial troops and uniformed Colonial Volunteers occupied a fourteen mile radius hilly perimeter that surrounded the town, while the Boers, dug-in on ground that overlooked the garrison, shelled the town and the 8,000 penned up civilians with irritat-

Special Features



The Town Hall in the centre of Ladysmith once used as a hospital during the Siege shows evidence of Boer artillery striking its clock tower.

ing repetitiveness at their leisure. With guns that outranged the British artillery, on dominating ground of their own choosing, the Boers settled down to play cat and mouse with the besieged Ladysmith.

To break the Boer initiative, daring night raids were mounted by our troops, sometimes successfully immobilising Boer guns in the nearby heights, and even improvised fake artillery posts were assembled to fool the enemy gunners in the effort to gain one-up-manship. The Boers, generally speaking, contented themselves with laying low and sniping and only once did they make any really serious attempt at assaulting the defences.



The same building today showing one of the two then obsolete British 6.3 inch howitzers that were hastily pressed into service during the siege

This was when on 6 January 1900 a very sizeable force nearly succeeded in storming the vitally important defensive hillside features of Wagon Hill and Caesar's Camp. Beaten off, with great cost to the defenders, nearly 800 Boers were left dead on the hills.

On 28 February, General Sir Redvers Buller's relieving force finally breached the

Boer cordon, itself battered and bleeding from many fights along the way. Jubilant crowds of civilians and troops lined the path of Buller's men in Ladysmith, relieved that their ordeal had come to an end at last. Buller's men were fatigued from their exertions and quite a comparison to the emaciated garrison who had endured disease, starvation and constant shelling. (Not only was food scarce within the besieged town, as hardly a horse remained that had not been consigned to the cooking pot, but the Boers had also added to the plight of the garrison by cutting off Ladysmith's water supply).

But celebration was the order of that day and emotions ran high throughout both forces and the civilians. Britain, indeed the whole Empire too, celebrated the Relief of Ladysmith. The consequences of its failure would have been catastrophic. The defence of the little town had cost the lives of 260 men killed in action, and a further 541 that had died of disease, as well as the lives of many more that had died in the battles that had led up to the relief.

Inside the Church of All Saints is a decorative memorial to those that fell, commemorating their names by regiment. There one can see that The Leicestershire Regiment too paid the price, for 64 of their number lie still in this part of Natal.

The visitor to Ladysmith and its nearby battlefields can still see a wealth of interesting reminders of the siege. The town has changed with progress, as is to be expected, but the Town Hall, once used as a hospital, still stands, with British and Boer guns standing outside. Other buildings from the siege survive too, including General Sir George White's HQ. The nearby Siege Museum displays relics and mementoes recalling these events, but it is high among the hills and memorials around the town that yesterday's ghosts can still be felt. The stone sangars erected by Tommy around the high defence



High above Ladysmith the visitor to the battlefields can still see much evidence of fighting Stone sangars erected by the British defenders at Caesar's Camp

perimeter still stand virtually unchanged in the intervening years. From these now abandoned positions can be seen individual graves and regimental memorials standing in the bright sunshine, an underlining testimony to a once bitter contest. Now and again, expended British. 303 and Boer Mauser rifle ammunition cartridge cases still come to the surface to emphasise this point.

Local inhabitants are very proud of their town's history and there are numerous contacts to be made if the visitor wishes to be guided around the historical sites. Naturally, quite an industry has grown out of their heritage and many people will readily recount a historical anecdote or two, as well as offer that marvellous South African hospitality.

South Africa begins to commemorate the centenary of the Anglo-Boer War next year, beginning in October, which will be the one hundredth anniversary of the start of the conflict. The town of Ladysmith, in particular, will be hosting a series of commemorative events culminating in a parade through the town and a party to celebrate the event in February 2000. I am presently in correspondence with the authorities that are organising the events in Ladysmith and it is hoped that parties representing regiments who participated in the conflict will send delegations to attend the Anglo-Boer War Centenary Commemorations. Perhaps representatives of The Royal Leicesters and the present Regiment will attend, too?

All of The Royal Anglian Regiment's predecessor regiments fought in this broad conflict in South Africa, as is witnessed on the battle honours conferred on our Colours. The next few months, I am sure, will see a dramatic rise of interest in this war through television documentaries, the media and museums.

The Balkans Beckon

Major John Raybould TD writes:

Two years ago four inches of snow fell on a late April evening in Bosnia as this TA officer worked on the Corps LOG OPS desk in the ARRC Logistics HQ, under the command of General Sir Michael Walker. Those six months were a rare experience for a TA Officer. General Angus Ramsey described the work of IFOR under General Sir Michael Walker as having "gone into an uneven seam in the carpet of history and stamped on it."

And now, as retirement age beckons in 1999, mobilised for the second time in 24 years of TA soldiering, I have a different experience of the Balkans. In a post unique in the British Army, as S03 TA/Reserves, the job description defines the role as "encompassing mobilisation, demobilisation and extensions of service. It also serves as an interface between UK and Theatre and as point of contact". Explaining that meeting incoming TA and Reservists at the airport was part of the job my younger daughter observed, "So you are going to be a holiday rep!"

Prior to deployment in December 1997, a week was spent at HQ Land Command at Wilton in Wiltshire. After a session of 'Interactive Computer Training' one afternoon, my pipe was at full steam in one of the very few smoking offices, door wide open, when a voice from the doorway announced, "Is that a pipe?" It was General Sir Michael Walker, Commander in Chief Land Command!

My responsibilities are for over 500 TA and Reservist men and women serving alongside 5000 of their Regular Army, Royal Marine, Royal Navy, Royal Fleet Auxiliary and Royal Air Force British male and female counterparts. In the British led Sector, where 19 Mech Bde hand over in April to 3 UK Div, there are soldiers from many countries around the world. They range from Canada to former Czechoslovakia, Malaysia and New Zealand. In addition there are several thousand more troops in the French Sector with its HQ in Sarajevo and in the American Sector based at Tuzla.

The IFOR (Implementation Force) mandate expired in December 1996 and the UN replaced it with the NATO led SFOR (Stabilisation Force) in what is described as 'Theatre'. In the first year of SFOR, 36 countries contributed to an amazing reconstruction. The Former Warring Factions, now diplomatically named 'Entities', continued to comply with the

terms of the Dayton Peace Accord. With enhanced freedom of movement and economic reconstruction, they are all indicators of the effectiveness of SFOR in this war-torn land.

The 9/12 Lancers from Swanton Morley in Norfolk on horseback, on foot and in wheeled and tracked vehicles, have continuously patrolled the 1400 km Zone of Separation and maintained a secure environment in more than 51000 sq km of territory. 64 bridges have been installed or repaired. The rail network into Europe is open. Civil control of the airspace and airports is progressing well with the aim of opening airfields again to civil traffic.

Basic necessities of water, gas and electricity have all been restored with a partnership between SFOR and the municipality. Children are back in school and there is freedom of movement for everyone. Above all, the killing has stopped and the people of Bosnia have hope for the future.

Against that background, my job involves a lot of travel, mostly by helicopter, over a beautiful snow covered mountain landscape. Any journey 'Up Country' involves packing an overnight survival bag, helmet, body armour, morphine, pistol and ammunition. Much reconstruction is evident from the air but many settlements remain utterly deserted and, because of mines, unapproachable. Parking on the grass verge is forbidden as the risk of striking a mine remains high.

Op LODESTAR is a 24-hour-a-day affair. At the Brigadier's Christmas Day morning brief I divulge, without much fear of a

breach of the Official Secrets Act, one item from the Intelligence and Security Brief: "At 3am the roving patrol found against the fence a bag containing weapons: 5 RPG, 4 AK7, 3 AKM, 2 T72 and a partridge in a pear tree!" The Brigadier, reflecting what we all thought, said, "I thought for a moment you were being serious!"

My office is backed by snow capped shadowed hills that lead to Dubrovnik, a texture of colours especially at dusk. One morning, behind me, the Clerk was cleaning his rifle on his desk. I heard a loud hiss. It was LCpl Khan using an aerosol can of air to pressure dust his rifle! From my South facing room, the view, past the pines and palms, is of the sea and an island 800m across the water. The balcony of the splendid Officers' Mess, formerly Tito's winter palace, is a gentle stone's lob from the lapping waters of the island strewn Dalmatian Coast of the Adriatic. After most meals I walk down a few steps to the water's edge and often see fish. At lunch time the RAF officers on CASEVAC standby regularly play petanque on a court below the balcony near a flagpole from which flies the Union Flag.

It certainly beats the teaching from which I retired in 1997!

On the day of writing this article I saw off the senior British Officer at the airport. He handed a copy of his poem "Remember SFOR", along with the trappings of his office, slippers, shawl and bath chair, to this younger chap who now carries the severe responsibilities that accompany the designation 'Oldest Soldier in Theatre'.

Remember SFOR

*Remember why you served out here today
- and in some future year when other
memories may fade
think, that you came not for parade or
glory, or the world's applause
but for a complex, yet worthwhile cause.
Remember bringing hope and care to those
embedded in despair;
to wary children whose rare, sudden smile
made all the risks and drudgery
worthwhile;
remember blinding light and driving snow
the mine-sown ruins where no people go
the haunted forests, wreck-strewn MSRs
the shouts, the shots
but also fresh bazaars and houses slowly
rebuilt, any-how -*

*a living Jenga you have helped allow.
Yes, though the fears remain, corruption too
'spite Factions' gangsters and the things
they do,
though slowly, sanity is taking sway
like new crops where the rocks are cleared
away.
This but for you, and you, and you
and all in SFOR, this would not hold true:
so friend remember, think this with pride;
the hope we served for came because we
tried.*

Malcolm Smith
Former Yugoslavia October 1997

Nairobi to Nanyuki Run

CSgt Skelton, 1st Bn, writes:

Anyone who has participated in an exercise in Kenya would undoubtedly remember the 2 to 3 hour drive between BATLSK Nairobi to Nanyuki Showground (NSG).

The road is long, boring, extremely steep in places and used mainly by crazy matatu drivers ferrying 15 to 20 locals between towns. Therefore the idea to run such a distance on foot would seem idiotic, except for the fact the Nanyuki Orphanage were in desperate need of furniture and stores. What better way then of raising money and sponsorship.

Being posted to BATLSK as part of the temporary staff enabled me to be acclimatized; identifying a team and support team took some persuading and pursuing local firms for sponsorship was not as difficult as anticipated.

The run was to take place over a weekend in February involving a team of seven runners and three support team all selected from either the Infantry or Corps. The run began at 0545 hrs on Saturday 21 February 1998 and, due to the dangers of running on the road at night, a stop off was planned in a town called Karatina. By 1400 hrs, four hours ahead of schedule, we had reached well over half way, having conquered some extremely difficult hills 'Polepole' (Slowly Slowly), to name but one. We continued running until 1600 hrs to save precious time the following day; this turned out to be a good command decision.



CSgt Skelton plodding on to NSG

The following day, and after a good night's rest, we continued with the challenge. The sun had by now forced the temperature to 32 degrees. The local tribes were highly amused at the whole affair and children often accompanied a runner bare foot for the odd mile.

The matatu drivers actually displayed some driving skills instead of motorway madness and kept their distance.

The views along the route were breathtaking with a back drop of Mount Kenya in its splendour to the East and the Aberdare National Park to the West. All runners continued to average between 1.2 miles per 8 minutes over arduous road conditions. We reached the Equator by

midday and the Orphanage by 1210 hrs to be greeted by some of the children. There we took time to have photos and light refreshment before running on to NSG to be met by the Commanding Officer and Quartermasters of both the Regiment and BATLSK.

Reflecting back now, we could have completed the run in one day as we actually took 12 hrs to cover the full 115 miles. We also took the opportunity to stay over in Karatina and experience Kenyan hospitality.

We raised in the region of around £1400 towards furniture, clothes and vital stores. If asked if we would do it again - absolutely!!

Kiwi Viking

Lt Peter Smith joined the Regiment on transfer from The Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment on 13 Sep 97, having served on Ex LONG LOOK with the 1st Bn in Bosnia in 1995. He writes here of his early impressions as a VIKING:

Since my arrival back into the Regiment, many people have asked me what New Zealand is like. My answer, it's like the UK but with 60 million less people and 160 million more sheep.

Thus far my time in the Vikings has been without fault except for the constant jibes about the similarities between me and my brethren across Tasman, something I believe I take with good grace. I was lucky enough to take over the Viking Mortar Platoon upon completion of the course in Warminster and straight away had a baptism of fire in the form of

TESEX. This experience was one of the more realistic exercise opportunities I have had and I enjoyed putting into practice what I had learnt on the course.

The Mortar Platoon itself is full of characters and our recent deployment to Kenya allowed these characters to develop even further. Kenya and exercises like it are one of the reasons I decided to come back to the British Army. The opportunity to conduct live firing in such a varied and challenging environment was an experience I will never forget. Also the interaction between the Platoon and N Battery 3

RHA was, I hope, fruitful for all concerned. Finally, after making friends with the odd camel spider and despite the reassuring presence of the Southern Cross in the night sky, landing back in Brize Norton was just as much a highlight for me as it was for everybody else.

My wife, Melanie, and I look forward to our continuing association with The Royal Anglian Regiment and would like to thank all concerned for making us feel so welcome.

Poachers with 1PWRR

Sgt Kyffin, 2nd Bn, writes from Belfast:

In the first week of July 1997, I was summoned to the RSM's office. Standing outside his door I racked my brains to think of why he wanted to see me. I marched into his office fully expecting to have my ear chewed off, to my surprise the RSM greeted me with a smile and asked me to sit down. I was then asked if I would like to take a platoon of Poachers to West Belfast, to reinforce the 1st Battalion The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment on their forthcoming tour. I said "yes".

I heard no more for a number of weeks and was unsure whether we would still go. No amount of pestering the Ops Officer revealed any further information. Finally, in the last week of July, I was called for an interview with the CO. He confirmed the tour was going ahead, but the manning had been reduced to four teams or multiples. I was also given the names of the men who would make up the teams.

As I left the CO's office, it dawned on me how little time I had to sort everything out. It was Friday, I had five working days to conduct some sort of training and

administer my men. An added problem was that we wouldn't come back to Warminster after leave, but would travel straight to Canterbury. The weekend was spent organising training and listing administrative tasks for the following week. We formed up on Monday. This was my first chance to get a feel for what experience we had in the multiple. I was pleased to find that all my comds had done tours of the province. These included, amongst others, South Armagh, Londonderry, West Belfast and East Tyrone. The Privates, however, had no experience of Northern Ireland, but I saw this as an advantage. We worked long hours, starting before breakfast and toiling until late evening. If it hadn't been for some sterling work by all the men, but especially my NCOs, I wouldn't have achieved as much as I did that week. The enormous administrative mountain was climbed and everyone had a good foundation of knowledge to join 1 PWRR.

We arrived at Howe Barracks, Canterbury, in late August, fully refreshed after leave. Everyone turned up on time, clean

shaven, but with enormous hangovers. I met the Bn and Coy personalities and my Pl Comd, 2Lt Flay. We were to have two more teams from 1 PWRR to make up the full Platoon. The Platoon launched into training in barracks. The week of training before leave paid off with the Poachers proving to have a head start in their knowledge and skills. The Pl Comd's and my immediate task was to make sure our mixed platoon integrated fully. We achieved this in two ways. The first was to train and achieve everything as a platoon. We also initiated team and multiple competitions.

The second method was violent games of murderball followed by a massive platoon drinking session. This worked well and the men formed friendships, which I know will last long after the Poachers have rejoined our Bn. We then went on to Lydd and Hythe to complete and bring together all that we had learned in barracks. This phase went extremely well with the platoon proving, yet again, to be capable of dealing with any situation we would face.

So much for training, then. The tour began with the command structure deploying to the Grosvenor area on 8 November. Our platoon moved to the newly built New Barnsley Police Station where we set about patrolling with 1 RHF to get to know the ground. The rest of the Coy joined us on 15 November when we took over responsibility of the area from 1 RHF. The remainder of the Coy were in Springfield Road RUC Station conducting patrols and Musgrave Park Hospital doing guards and duties. Mobile patrols were also used to support foot patrols in our area.

Memorable moments on tour have been LCpl Beardsley's superb display of hard targeting down a dead end alley. His team emerging from the same end they entered, red faced, amid roars of laughter and jeers from a gang of youths. Pte Swallow's amazing mid-air dive off a cemetery wall, onto his back. Finally, Pte Barnes (1 PWRR) walking backwards, trying to impress several young girls, turning around and walking straight into a lamp post.

By the end of the tour, we were looking forward to three weeks well earned leave and to rejoining the Battalion. All my men had exemplified what we have come to expect from Poachers, a thoroughly professional attitude to everything they had done. Also an enthusiasm for the job which never wavered and a sense of humour, even when nothing else went to plan. They had been a shining example and inspiration to everyone they worked with and set the highest standards which are synonymous with The Royal Anglian Regiment.



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When I was in Belfast

Lt Simon Worthy, attached to 7 RIR in Belfast, writes:

Having pestered the powers that be for long enough, the 2nd Battalion sent me on an operational tour with the 7th (City of Belfast) Battalion, Royal Irish Regiment. The Royal Irish Regiment is made up of one battalion in the General Service (GS) role and the remainder Home Service. Being with a Home Service battalion, I was fortunate enough to be accommodated at the Wardroom in Moscow Camp. This was the base for SNO NI (Senior Naval Officer NI) and, despite the Portacabin style buildings, there is no doubt that the Royal Navy certainly look after their own and enjoy themselves to the best of their abilities.

I bade farewell to the illustrious 6 Platoon and made my way via Stranraer to Belfast Docks. Eventually, I made it to the Wardroom and was immediately made very welcome - the Guinness and Irish whisky were really flowing - and this was my first night and a Sunday! I could not wait until the situation really became lively!

During my time with 7 R IRISH I took part in a number of patrols, played rugby for the Battalion, ran an alpine skiing expedition, took part in the day to day running of the Platoon and endured frequent VIP visits. On being introduced to all the Company's Platoon Sergeants I was immediately faced with the merry banter that I would become accustomed to, then thrive upon, over the coming weeks. As a rugby player I was fortunate (or so I thought) to be quickly enlisted in the Battalion rugby team. So, only days after arriving in Province, I was playing rugby - a mistake. The game was one of

the few that they won during my time in Belfast, but with 10 minutes remaining I dislocated my shoulder. This proved to be a great source of amusement - the DPM sling soon followed.

I was struck by my Platoon Sergeant's outstanding professionalism and man management skills. We seemed to fall into an excellent working relationship straight away. I was quickly informed that, only six months previously, the then commander of 3 Platoon was involved in an incident with an IED and was lucky not to lose his left leg. When I later met him he had great delight in showing me the horrific scars - certainly a brave man. The whole approach to this incident was refreshingly mixed with a sharp sense of humour.

One of the most memorable parts of my tour was the banter in the Platoon Office. Despite the heavy workload, there was a great sense of fun and mischievousness - and the best thing to do in this situation was to join them. The soldiers, being older and more experienced than in GS battalions, also kept me amused with tales of past patrols in areas of ill repute and also with their good humoured character assassinations.

It was enlightening to see how the press works in Belfast. In one of the few patrols that took place while I was in Province, we were filmed by ITN. They were responsible enough not to take obvious head shots unless we agreed - no one did, other than the irrepressible and highly amusing 'Stewarty', who soaked up the attention. Members of the patrol were surrounded by children in Burger



Lt Simon Worthy under fire in the Guardroom

King crown hats as they asked, in that wonderful East Belfast accent, "let's have a look through your eyepiece, mister". It was enjoyable to actually be out on the streets having some interface with the locals. However, all that appeared on the evening national news was soldiers "back patrolling the streets" and conducting VCPs outside a pub with a large, and most artistic, Protestant mural.

When I was in Belfast...the streets were quiet. Despite this selfish disappointment I had a truly memorable visit to 7 R IRISH. Being on the door-step of the vibrant city of Belfast, surrounded by rugged countryside, and overwhelmed with the kindness and good humour of 7 R IRISH and those at Moscow Camp, I could not fail to have an excellent tour. I was disappointed to be recalled after only four months in Province, but I would recommend a posting to 7 R IRISH for any Subaltern as a fresh change and an enlightening experience.

Lt Simon Worthy and Lt Chris Davies shake off hangovers on the Giants Causeway



Tigers Meet “The Tiger”

Captain Godfrey Shaw, 7th Bn, writes:

At Whipsnade Zoo the Woodland Walk meanders through an area of wood and enables visitors to see many of the wild animals, which are allowed to roam free in the grounds of the Zoo without causing the animals any distress. This is a popular attraction, which over time and countless trudging of feet has become dilapidated. The Zoo’s management decided that it would like to renovate the path prior to the commencement of the new season, but how could it move tons of bark and wood chippings without disturbing the wild life? Their thoughts quickly turned to their local TA unit as a responsive source of manpower. A request was forwarded to the Dunstable Platoon of B(Beds & Herts) Company and was quickly passed on by the OC as ‘2IC for action’.

My first thoughts were how to squeeze the event into an already packed training programme, caused mainly by the Battalion’s preparation for Battle Camp in Cyprus later in the year. My second thought was to carry out a recce to assess the nature and extent of the job. On seeing the walk my first question was “What about a couple of dumper trucks to move the stuff”? “No vehicles allowed, Sir, disturbs the animals”. Not half as disturbed as the troops are going to be when they get sight of the mountain of bark and wood chippings that will have to be

moved by wheel barrow, but this thought was quickly put from my mind!

On our first free Saturday 10 soldiers from Dunstable, Hemel Hempstead and Hertford spent the day moving what seemed to be a never ending mountain of wood chippings along the paths in wheel barrows. Surprisingly the mountain dwindled and the paths were soon returned to their old glory.

Once the task was completed our thoughts turned to possibly funding a Battalion mascot at the Zoo. Off we went to find a big cat and came face to face with the afore mentioned beast in the form of a Siberian Tiger called ‘Boris’. “He is an absolute awesome creature of such power, grace and beauty and yet totally deadly”, which is possibly why the Battalion takes the nickname ‘The Tigers’. The soldiers took numerous photos and were enjoying the walk around the enclosure when LCpl Jeff Seymour noted “He seems to be following us, Sir”. Our arrival at a glass viewing panel allowed a couple more photos and then we became worried as Boris began trying to claw and head butt his way through the glass. An unfortunate incident earlier in the week where a keeper lost his arm to a tiger at another Zoo caused me to begin a dignified, if not hasty, withdrawal from the location and the inevitable comment “You’ll never out



The Tiger

run him, Sir”. To which the also inevitable response of “I don’t care as long as I can out run you” was returned.

The day ended with the Company being presented with a photograph and commemorative certificate from the Zoo. The whole event was considered a great success as it demonstrated the Company’s will to assist in local county projects and to keep the TA in the public eye.

Members of B Coy awaiting lasking from the Tiger!



The Cambridgeshire Regiment

Major David Craig, AGC (ETS), serving with HQ SFOR Support Command, writes:

As a schoolboy in Cambridge in the late fifties, like thousands of other boys, I was a member of my school CCF. The Cambridge and County CCF wore as its badge that of The Cambridgeshire Regiment, a three turreted castle with 'CAMBRIDGESHIRE' scrolled below. Officered in the main by hard-bitten ex-wartime officers turned peacetime teachers, it quickly convinced me that a career in the forces was what I wanted. I duly trundled down to the Cambridge Recruiting Office about the time of my 16th birthday. I knew I wanted to be an infantryman and, when asked, said I wanted to be in The Cambridgeshire Regiment. The Recruiting Sgt explained that there was no such Regiment any more so I was recruited as a boy soldier into the 2nd East Anglian Regiment, later to become 2 R ANGLIAN.

28 years and 5 cap badges later, I was an RAEC officer attached to the Training Depot, Brigade of Gurkhas, in Hong Kong. During my tour I spent much time back-packing around SE Asia and eventually found myself in Kanchanaburi, Thailand, site of the bridge made famous in the film 'Bridge on the River Kwai'. The bridge, of stone and steel, still bears the scars of wartime bombing and on one side of the river a thriving town has grown up since the war. There are two British cemeteries, one on each side of the river, both beautifully kept by the local representatives of the British War Graves Commission. The more remote of the two is on the site of one of the POW camp cemeteries. Quiet and tranquil, it is bounded on three sides by the jungle. The other is next to a main road but it is still a peace-

ful and moving place. It contains the graves of soldiers killed in the retreat from Burma during the Japanese offensive. It was in this cemetery that I was taken back to my schooldays. For there, row after row, lay the dead of The Cambridgeshire Regiment. On each headstone was the well-remembered castle with its three round topped towers. I spent a long time there and came away with a new sense of pride in the badge I had been privileged to wear as a youth.

Now, on my 6th, and, I suspect, my last cap badge, I still have the first I ever wore. Polished almost smooth, it reminds me not only of my schooldays but of those men of The Cambridgeshire Regiment who made the greatest sacrifice in its service.

The Regimental Museum Appeal

The Trustees of The Royal Anglian Regiment Museum acknowledge with grateful thanks the contributions made by members of the public, the business community and The Regiment, both past and present, without which the museum could not have been built. In particular they wish to make special mention of the following:

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The Regimental Museum

Col(Retd) K Woodrow, Chairman of the Trustees, writes:

The purpose of this note is to say thank you to all those who have so generously contributed to the Regimental Museum, and to bring readers up to date with the state of the Museum's finances. Every donation, however modest, is very welcome and the Museum's Trustees are most grateful for the interest and support that many of you have given us. You may wonder why we are fund-raising so soon after construction. It is simply that we have paid for the Museum's construction but now seek sufficient funds to secure the Museum's future, update the displays from time to time and to develop a small area for the Attendant, Mr George Boss, to work from and sell his merchandise. We are also planning on installing CD-ROM for photograph and archive retrieval.

Our fund-raising within the Regiment involves asking those of you who have not yet contributed to do so (the Colonel of the Regiment has recently written to you all) and for those who have paid by covenant to consider extending your payments into a second term.

On behalf of all the Trustees, I would like to say a huge thank you to those who have decided to give again as a result of my letter, and to those who are giving for the first time as a result of the Colonel of the Regiment's letter. I would also like to



HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG chats to Col Kerry Woodrow, with Lord Lieutenant for Cambridgeshire, and Mr James Crowden

say thank you to all those who have written to me personally. Some have asked about the state of the Museum's finances and whether they are in a parlous state. As I have explained above, my letter is not a desperate attempt to stave off a financial disaster, but part of normal fund-raising activities to cater for future plans.

As part of these fund-raising activities, the Colonel of the Regiment and Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Cambridgeshire, Mr James Crowden,

hosted a reception at the end of March in the presence of HRH The Duke of Gloucester KG for selected 'Captains of Industry' who supported us in the past and who we had invited to do so again. You can read of the success of this in the accompanying article.

In conclusion, although our funds are in a healthy position, we have not quite reached our target. No organisation can be complacent about its finances and we shall continue to seek ways of raising money for the Museum.

Visits to the Museum and Archives

Mr George Boss, Regimental Museum Attendant, encourages all members of the Regiment visiting the Museum to



Mr Chris McInerney

warn him of their visit and to spend time identifying photographs, helping with captions and dates and thereby to contribute to the wealth of information that he is building up. One such visitor was ex-Cpl Alan Ivory, 3rd Bn, who was surprised to find the original CENTO Shooting Trophy in the Attendant's office that he won in NISHAN 1970 (visitors will discover that there is not much Regimental property that is not now in Mr Boss's office). He is seen here holding that trophy and a photograph of the event. Mr Ivory spent some time in the Archives store identifying photographs. He has now presented his own photograph albums to the Museum, thereby contributing even further to our records. Also visiting that day was ex-Pte Chris McInerney, who also spent time assisting the cataloguing of photographs.



Mr Alan Ivory

Items Donated to the Museum

The Trustees thank the following for donating items to the Museum or Archives:

WO2 I Simpson,	Minden Band 3rd Bn Band Banner prototype		1 E ANGLIAN hose-top and flash 2 E ANGLIAN hose-top
Mrs Kay Baldry	Chassepot carbine (captured in Radfan)		1st Bn hose-top flash 2nd Bn hose-top flash
Mr J Walker	Photos of Aden, Aden Police belt buckle	Miscellaneous Items	SLR sling;AMF(L) grey cap cold weather; Commonwealth Monitoring Force plaque, Rhodesia;
Mr G Bacon Mrs Tom Bullock	Videos UN Cravat, Video,Aden 63/64		Early NI leg-guards, earliest flak jacket (without plastic butt supports); South Arabian currency 1960s; Propaganda leaflet (original) from 1st Bn's 1964 Radfan operations.
Mr DJ Clements Major Thorogood	Video Documents		
WANTED			
Weapons	IWS; a wooden butt for early L67A3 1. 5 riot gun; sniperscope for . 303 sniper rifle.	Videos/Film	'Encircled Force' (1 E ANGLIAN, Berlin, 1961) 1st Bn's 'Airmobility 92' Early NI tours 3rd Bn Falklands tour 1989.
Accoutrements	Field Marshal's rank badge E ANGLIAN Regimental Association lapel badge		

Archive Material

Any significant material, particularly covering early operational tours in British Guiana, Aden, the Radfan and the earliest Northern Ireland tours, is sought. Complete photograph albums, properly captioned, would be most welcome. Also programmes, nominal rolls, ORBATs and operational orders.

Wanted - Photographs of Ex LCpl J M Evans, 3rd Bn 1974-79

Mr J M Evans, who served in the Medical Centre of the 3rd Bn from 1974-79, seeks photographs of himself in uniform during the Paderborn, Catterick and Cyprus tours. He has sadly lost all his photographic records and would greatly appreciate help in replacing some of them. On this occasion the Museum was not able to help, however this sort of research is becoming routine to Mr Boss who has an enormous collection in his archives, most of which will before long be accessible through CD-ROM.

Fund Raising - Special Thanks

All members of the Regiment who have contributed, whenever they do, are thanked by letter and their names are entered in a Donors Book held in the Museum. The following are thanked for generously donating to the Museum in conjunction with the Fund-Raising Reception on 25 March 1998:

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Museum

The Radfan Chassepot Carbine



The donation by Mrs Kay Baldry of a .50 calibre Chassepot Carbine captured in the Radfan, South Arabia, during the 1st Bn's 1964 tour makes a valuable addition to the collection. The bolt-action Carbine is French made, dates from 1860-70 and has brass fittings.

At least 3 of these weapons were found by the 1st Bn during their operations of 1964 leading to the capture of Jebel Huriyah. This one was obtained by WO1(RSM) Ray Baldry and another by the Mortar Platoon; the third is illustrated here in a cutting from Regimental Archives. This weapon and muzzle-loaders such as the Martini-Henry were often thought of as endemic among the Radfan terrorists who could snipe at 2000 metres and escape detection; nevertheless, by the early 60s they had received modern Soviet and Chinese weapons from the Egyptians and the historic single-shot weapons were often abandoned on withdrawal in order to protect their more effective weapons.



Colour Sergeant Roy Sharpe points out the bolt mechanism of an Arabian tribesman's rifle - a souvenir of the Radfan campaign last year (1964) - to his wife, Pat, while daughter Donna looks on

6TH BATTALION ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

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The Associations

Royal Norfolk Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Norfolk)



Benevolent Work

"To give away money is any easy matter and in any man's power. But to decide to whom to give it, and how large, and when, and for what purpose, and how, is neither in every man's power, nor an easy matter".

Aristotle (Died 322 BC)

Last year we managed to assist 69 cases with grants of which 57 were despatched within 5 working days. In addition three married couples and three widows were able to take advantage of the Army Benevolent Fund's family holiday scheme. The type of cases seems to be moving towards helping with the provision of wheel chairs and other items for the 'restricted elderly'. The standard of case-work continues to improve and the amount of assistance from other charities increases as 'almonisation' improves.

Chapel

The Chapel continues to be admired by visitors and we have to thank Mrs Janine Raybould for her floral support. Both of the annual services have been well attended and the Regimental Chapel Committee recently elected Reverend Canon William Sayer to the post of Vice Chairman to Major Sam Horner. This will lighten the Chairman's load and allow the Regimental Padre to use his Canon of the Cathedral 'hat' as he comes to meetings.

Regimental Museum

The success story of the year is the installation of a chairlift for the disabled from the lower floor to the mezzanine floor. This, together with an Educational Pack for use by schools, has been the major improvement to a highly regarded museum.

Regimental Homes

We are about to fill the place left in the Norwich Homes when Mrs Tyrell departed for a Residential Home. Mr Gerry Bacon is now in residence in King's Lynn. New boilers are being fitted and a painting programme in progress. Any ex-member of the Regiment, East or Royal Anglian, may apply to go on the waiting list and needs to write to the Regimental Area Secretary at Britannia House, TA Centre, 325 Aylsham Road, Norwich, NR3 2AB, requesting an application form

Gorleston and Gt Yarmouth Branch

In September, the Branch decided to have a night out at the New Inn, Rockland St Mary, now run by the ex-landlords of the White Lion. Twenty-six members and their wives attended and we had a terrific night; the food and beer were excellent. On the way home, the coach driver played a tape of all the old war songs and, although the singing wasn't great, it didn't stop until the last ones got off the coach. In September, twelve members also attend the Regimental Dinner in Norwich.

October saw the Branch hold its AGM. Membership had increased by five over the year and all the Committee were re-elected. This October we will be celebrating our Tenth Anniversary. It does not seem possible that the Branch has been going that long. We will have to think of something special to do.

Members attended the Armistice Parades at Gt Yarmouth and Norwich Memorial Cottages. The weather was good on both days.

We held our Christmas Dinner and Draw at the end of November. It was well attended by members, wives and friends - eighty in all. We were very pleased that Major David Clarke was Dinner Chairman and that so many old friends came a long way to join us. Selwyn and Mrs Chapman from Luton, Don and Mrs Richardson, Stan and Mrs Bullock from Bury St Edmunds, Bob and Grace Huxtable from Harleston and many friends from the Norwich area. The draw had over seventy prizes which were spread out equally. A good time was had by all.

This year, our dinner will be on Saturday 28 November and anyone requiring more information should ring 01493 601131 nearer the time. Our meetings are held at the White Lion Hotel, Cliff Hill, Gorleston, on the last Wednesday of each month at 8 pm. Anyone visiting the area who would like to call in will be most welcome; you may even see some old friends.



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Associations

The Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association and Royal Anglian Regimental Association(Lincolnshire)



Benevolence

Benevolence continues to be a major part of the Association's work, with a total of 44 applications having been received for consideration during the year. Grants totalling £2,350 were disbursed providing timely support to ex-Lincolns and their families. In addition, a total of £4,570 was obtained from the Army Benevolent Fund and other charities, for which we are most grateful. The regimental Benevolent Committee much appreciates the assistance it receives from the Branches, SSAFA Forces Help and The Royal British Legion, who process the requests from former members of the Regiment who need our support.

Lincoln branch

The Branch continues to thrive with membership reaching well over 180, attracting members from as far away as the North of Scotland and the South of England. Hence the motto - IT'S NEVER TOO FAR TO KEEP IN TOUCH. Many of these new members have served with The 2nd East Anglian Regiment and our present County Regiment, The Royal Anglian Regiment,

either as a Regular soldier or as a Territorial.

During the last few months, members have enjoyed a variety of activities ranging from Branch socials to a day trip at the Royal Armouries. Although all events were well attended, three, in particular, were a huge success. The Band Concert by the Minden Band held at the Lawn Complex, the Branch New Year Dinner and Dance held at the Assembly Rooms and a Fund-Raising Line Dance held at Sobraon Barracks.

With great reluctance, the Branch finally accepted the resignation of the Branch Secretary, Mr Wally Hibbard. Wally has given the Branch many years of loyal service and it is due to his tenacity and unfailing enthusiasm ("You can't possibly do that!") is not something Wally understands) that the Branch is as strong as it is today. His relentless efforts to succeed have been an example to us all and we wish him and his wife Leah all the very best for the future.

A new addition to the social calendar is the Ladies Coffee Morning being held in Sobraon Barracks at 1030 hrs on every fourth Monday in the month. The first of



Fund raising Line Dance at Lincoln.

these was held last March and, judging by the numbers who came along, it is certain it will continue to be a very popular event.

Midlands Branch

Current membership of the Branch remains at 45 and considering some of our older members find travelling difficult, especially during the winter months,



Band Concert by the Minden Band in Lincoln.



Captain Baxter REME takes the Salute at the Scunthorpe Branch Christmas Dinner.



Members enjoying a pint in the Assembly Rooms at the New Year Dinner & Dance.



Guard of Honour at Fred Paxton's Funeral



Bedworth Armistice Parade, 11 Nov 1997.

Associations

meetings are always well attended. The Committee must be congratulated for organising a busy and most enjoyable social calendar during the past few months, which included a very successful Christmas Buffet and a trip to the Royal Tournament.

Recruiting remains the top priority and, although a recent advertising campaign has been conducted, ex-Royal Anglian members are still slow to come forward. However, it has encouraged ex-servicemen from other corps to swell the ranks and there are now several associate members who take an active part in activities.

A large turnout of ex-Services associations assembled in the small town of Bedworth for the annual Armistice Day Parade held on 11 November. This included a strong contingent from the Midlands Branch, who came to remember many of the local men who had served with the Regiment during the First and Second World Wars.

Sadly, one of our oldest Members, Fred Paxton, recently passed away. Fred, who was born in 1914, joined the TA before enlisting as a regular with the 2nd Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment in 1934. From 1939 he then served with the 1st Battalion in India before transferring to the RAOC Indian Army in 1942. He



Members enjoying a pint in the Assembly Rooms at the New Year Dinner & Dance.

was finally discharged as a Captain in 1942, at which time he returned to the United Kingdom. Fred was a highly respected and well liked character of the Branch who will be sorely missed.

SCUNTHORPE BRANCH

The Scunthorpe Branch continues to flourish with a steady influx of ex-Royal Anglians swelling our ranks, confirming that the decision to add The Royal Anglian Regiment name to the title of the Association had been long overdue.

At the Branch Christmas Dinner held at the Wortley Hotel, Captain Baxter from

147 Recovery Group REME TA was our principle guest of Honour, taking the Salute during the formal part of the evening. Since then, a strong and close relationship has been formed between the local TA unit and ourselves, with the offer of using the Drill Hall for future events. This offer was gratefully accepted and during March the Branch organised a Combined Services social evening which, partly due to the co-operation from the TA and support received from other Associations, was an outstanding success. During the evening, 'Top Gun Stormin' Norman' Barnes presented Captain Baxter with an Association plaque for the Mess Hall as a mark of our appreciation.

The Suffolk Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Association (Suffolk and Cambridge Branch)



All Branches at this time are enthusiastically concentrating their efforts on fund-raising for the Suffolk Regiment Museum Appeal. The official launch took place with a ceremony at the Abbey Gardens on Saturday 25 April when Branch Standards were paraded. Branches are also arranging a number of other local events. Felixstowe are organizing a Gala Music Night at the Spa Pavilion on 18 July at which the Mayors of Felixstowe and Bury St Edmunds are amongst those attending. The usual programme of dinners, annual general meetings, dances and other events is in full swing and showing the lively character of

Branches. There was a Beating of Retreat by the Minden Band of the Queen's Division on the Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds, on Friday 8 May; a good turnout by the public was evident

Amongst information of interest to members of the Regiment recently uncovered is that a descendant of a Birkenhead survivor gained a VC in 1897. The wife of the Quartermaster, Lieut Nesbitt, of the Reserve Battalion 12th Regiment, was rescued from the Birkenhead with four of their children. A grandson, Randolph Cosby Nesbitt, serving with the British South African Police in an insurrection in

Mashonaland, displayed great gallantry in rescuing a party of miners and their womenfolk resulting in the award of the VC.

A Mr Wakefield of 40B Chichele Road, Cricklewood, London NW2 3DD, is asking for material about the 1st Bn's service in Macedonia 1915-18, for which he is planning a book. He also asks if there any survivors; he has found one. He has probably just missed another: Mr Frederick Mustoe, who died in December aged 98, saw service with the 1st Bn in 1917-19 and was buried at Spalding.

Associations

The Cambridgeshire Regiment Association and The Cambridgeshire Branch The Royal Anglian Regiment Association



Lieutenant Colonel E L (Victor) Mapey OBE TD

All Branches were shocked to hear of the death of their Patron and Past President, the much beloved Lt Col E L (Victor) Mapey on 5 Apr 98 aged 94 years. He was, until recently, attending many Regimental and OCA events, in spite of being in a wheelchair. His caring, polite comments and encouragement will be sorely missed by all. Our sympathy and thoughts go out to his wife, Margaret, and family and we hope that we will continue to see them in the future.

Regimental Council Meeting, 22 March 1998

The following were elected;-
President: Lt Colonel W F Badcock MBE
Chairman: Major D Denson
Vice Chairman: Mr H S Taylor
Secretary: Mrs A M Slatter (Major M Jarvis from Sep 99)

Regimental Museum

2000 Cambridgeshire Regiment guides are now available, price £5 or £6 including postage. Copies can be obtained from D Coy, TA Centre, Coldhams Lane, Cambridge CB1 3HT.

Officers' Dinner 1998

The official guests are the Lord Lieutenant, the CO 1st Bn The Royal Anglian Regiment, Lt Colonel R E Harrold OBE, and Mrs Harrold.

The Chapel Trust

It has been confirmed by the Charity Commission that any surplus income not needed for the Chapel can be directed towards other Regimental causes such as Museum maintenance. The Waterloo relics have been stored by the Cathedral. The Cathedral's sewing circle are investigating the restoration of the Volunteer flag.

D Coy 6th Battalion

It was announced by the Coy Commander that the Corps of Drums stationed at

Peterborough now come under the command of D Coy and can be booked for Regimental functions at no cost. Applications should be made to D Coy and will be dealt with on a first come, first served basis.

Old Comrades Association

Major Jarvis was congratulated on the new quarterly newsletter.

BRANCH NEWS

Whittlesea & Peterborough

A social evening was held on 8 December, the first one for over ten years. It was well attended with about fifty attending. MC for the evening was Jess Matthews, who also organised a very successful raffle raising £50 for Branch funds. After three months break the Branch met again at its HQ, the ACF HQ in Station Road, Whittlesey, by kind permission of the Detachment Commander, Lt Tom Denton. After the normal Branch meeting the AGM was held. The President, Canon Arthur Ludlow, thanked all the members for the hard work they have done for the Branch over the years and reported that the finances are on a firm footing thanks to the retiring Secretary, Jess Matthews. With a Vice President's position becoming vacant due to the death of Major Bill Grogan it was voted that this be offered to Jess Matthews in recognition of his service to the Branch and Association. Jess in accepting said that it was a great honour and that he hoped to serve the branch for many years. Alf Gray, who had been Branch Chairman for the past ten years, decided that he wanted to retire from that position. So ended an era in the life of the Branch. Jess Matthews had not only held office in the Branch but over the past 50 years had been associated with the Burma Star Association, The Royal Engineers Association, The Royal British Legion and SSAFA. His TA service with The Cambridgeshire Regiment and The Royal

Engineers Postal and Courier Service had spanned 34 years as well as serving with The Suffolk Regiment in Burma where he lost his right eye at Imphal. The Branch wished Jess good luck in his retirement.

The Xmas party at the TA Centre, Cambridge on Friday 12 December 1997 was a great success with a buffet, games, a good raffle and Father Christmas. It was very good to have Lt Col and Mrs Mapey with us and also the new President Lt Col Badcock, and Mrs Badcock. Thanks are expressed to Major Starling and his wife.

The Wisbech Singapore Club held their annual luncheon on 25 March 1998 at the Coach and Horses, Tilney All Saints, when about 45 members attended.

The Secretary has received a letter of welcome from General Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG, Colonel The Royal Anglian Regiment, in which he states:

"I would stress that the welfare of your Association and its members is of prime importance to the Regiment and I look to you to contact me directly if there is any assistance I can give you". In his reply the Secretary assured Sir Michael that we would not hesitate to seek his help should the need arise and thanked him for his personal interest in our Association.

The Prison Radio

Lt Col W F Badcock MBE writes:

The venture, to produce perhaps the first secret radio in Japanese Prisoner of War Camps on Singapore Island, began in June 1942, just four months after being taken into captivity. The parts were scavenged by members of 2 Cambs from abandoned ex-RAF equipment which the Japanese had carelessly deposited just outside their own guardroom at Sime Road Camp. Captain Beckett (Adjutant 2 Cambs) discussed with Corporal Rogers (a competent electrician) the possibility of

Associations

assembling a radio receiver. Sergeant Watson (135 Field Regiment RA) had some knowledge of radios and the three set about the task. The radio was built and concealed from the Japs in the latrine with the antenna hidden in the attap roof. Rogers tapped into the mains and all was ready to go. Parts left over were secreted to radio enthusiasts in other camps. Each night the news was taken down in shorthand by Sergeant Badcock (ORS 2 Cambs) and a news bulletin prepared by him for Lt Col Mapey (CO 2 Cambs) to disseminate at his discretion.

When the party was ordered to Thailand, the radio was dismantled and concealed in empty food tins under the care of Harry Cotton (QM 2 Cambs). On arrival at Chungkai Camp, the radio had to be converted to battery power, there being no mains supply. Contact was made with Lt

Tom Douglas, a former BBC Engineer, who, using the Br's radio parts, together with others he had acquired, was able to create five or six miniature sets, one of which he handed over to Capt Beckett. The set was built into a cigarette tin and operated by batteries covertly purchased by Lt J Masefield (FMSVF) from local Chinese traders delivering stores to the Japanese. When the 2 Cambs party was moved to Bankau Camp Douglas reconstructed the set in an officers' issue water bottle, cleverly arranged to still contain water. At Wan Tei Kien Camp a Japanese guard accidentally stumbled on a lead to the fact that the set existed, but fortunately his greater interest was in acquiring Beckett's Rolex watch. This saved the day, and possibly the lives of Beckett and all others involved. Each move was a forced march through virgin jungle, which produced its own problems of secu-

rity. At Takanun Camp the set was located in an officer's hut, with the batteries hidden in a bamboo roof support; the connecting wires led to Beckett's bed-frame with another wire, as antenna, supporting a mosquito net. A sawn off telephone ear-piece was the 'speaker' which spent the day hidden in Beckett's spare boot.

The set, which received BBC World Service Bulletins in the 19 and 25 metre bands, survived numerous searches by the Japanese secret police and Kempetei, until its life was brought to a close on return to the base camp at Chungkai, where a similar set already existed. It had served the Battalion well from June 1942 to March 1945.

The Royal Anglian Regiment Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Association



At the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association Management Committee Meeting on 13 October 1997, Major Robin Medley was unanimously appointed to the new post of Association Vice President.

The Regimental Area Secretary, Major David Thorogood, retired in April 1998 after thirteen long, and sometimes very difficult, years in the appointment. He has done particularly well for us during this time and he will be remembered by all with lasting affection. We thank David for his work for our Association and wish both him and his wife Sue every happiness in their well earned retirement.

Congratulations to the St Albans Branch on their 60th Anniversary on 2 March 1998 and to the Bedford Branch on their formation 60 years ago on 7 June.

The Dedication of the Watford and Hemel Hempstead Branch Hertfordshire Regiment Standard

The Hertfordshire Regiment Standard of the Watford and Hemel Hempstead Branch was dedicated on Sunday 21

September 1997 at St John's Church, Boxmoor. There are two Hertfordshire Regiment Association Standards; one represents The Hertfordshire Regiment Association at Hertford and the one which was dedicated represents the old 2nd Battalion, which was raised in the Watford and Hemel Hempstead area in 1939. The Branch's old Hertfordshire Standard, which has been in constant use since the end of the war, was getting very shabby and was laid up in the church at the same time.

The weather was fine and the turn-out good with the Union Standard from the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association and the Watford and Hemel Hempstead Branch Standards on parade, as well as Standards from the local ex Servicemen's organisations. There were several of the old 2nd Hertford members called up in September 1939 who attended the service and the 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment sent six soldiers to the event, including two buglers who sounded 'Last Post' and 'Reveille' before and after the laying up of the old Standard and the Consecration of the new Standard. After

the Dedication service all Branch members and their guests returned to the TA Centre for buffet refreshments.

The Re-Burial Of L/Cpl C Parr The Bedfordshire Regiment, Bury, Lancashire

On Tuesday 14 October 1997, Major J A (Donald) Girdwood accompanied by ex-Sergeant Ron Murray attended on behalf of the Regimental Association the re-burial of LCpl C Parr of 13th Battalion The Bedfordshire Regiment at Bury, Lancashire. LCpl Parr was one of five deceased soldiers of the 1914-18 Great War who had been buried in the Bury Methodist Cemetery in 1916; the other soldiers being one from The Royal Engineers and The Worcestershire Regiment and two from The Lancashire Fusiliers. Purchase of the Cemetery land by TESCO stores required re-burials to be enacted.

The turnout was impressive with a large number of Lancashire Fusilier and Worcestershire Regiment Comrades plus two regular Royal Engineers attending

Associations

the inter-denominational Memorial Service of Commitment at the burial area on the TESCO store's site. The short Service included prayers, a hymn, a short sermon and the laying of Regimental wreaths with a rendering of the 'Last Post' and 'Reveille' by a bugler of the Lancashire Fusiliers Comrades Band. At this service were the Mayor and two representatives of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission so the viewing and correct registration of the five names inscribed on the new marble plinth given by TESCO could be effected. After a short "March off" and dismissal those who attended the religious service returned to the Comrades' Club in the Wellington Barrack grounds.

Wartime Officers 2/16th Foot 50th Reunion

Fourteen officers who served with the 2nd Battalion (16th Foot) in France, North Africa, Italy and Greece during World War II met on Saturday 1 November 1997 at The Victory Services Club in London. The gathering was always in November just before Remembrance Sunday to commemorate those who did not return.

This meeting of friends who travelled from all over the UK was started in 1947 by Jack Douglas with the support and backing of Bill Whittaker who had commanded at Cassino. This 50th gathering was particular poignant as members decided reluctantly it would be the last formal gathering.

Wreath Laying Ceremony and Reunion, Kempston, 1997

The weather on Sunday 16 November 1997 was cold like the last few years, but it also had a slight drizzle in the air. This did not deter our members from turning up for this great event. In fact, the parade seems to get bigger every year. This year the itinerary had to be changed as the old TA Centre parade area was being built on to accommodate hangars for the Transport Regiment's vehicles.

The first change was the parking, as all cars and coaches bringing members to the Reunion had to park just up the road from The Keep at the Addison Howard Centre car park. Members then congregated in the TA Centre where they could fortify themselves before the parade with hot coffee or a drink from the bar laid on

by 201 (Bedford) Squadron 158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC(V).

As this was the first attempt at the new format, there were bound to be a few mishaps and perhaps this parade could be classed as a rehearsal for the 1998 Reunion. At 11.45, parade formed up in The Keep car park, another change to previous years. The 6th(V) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment Corps of Drums sounded the 'Advance' and the Association Standard and Wreath Laying Parties marched through The Keep gates to their positions on and in front of the Regimental Memorial. At 11.55 the detachments of marchers, with the Royal Anglian TA Band leading, marched out of the side exit to take up their positions, after countermarching at the Memorial.

The Association President and Chairman together with the Mayor of Bedford laid their wreaths. The short service was held and the Wreath Laying party laid their wreaths on behalf of the 1st, 2nd and 5th Battalions 16th Foot, 201 Squadron, the TA Band, Association Branches, The Hertfordshire Regiment Association, 1st Bn Canal Zone 1951-54 National Servicemen, Bedfordshire ACF and on behalf of widows of former comrades. The 'Last Post' sounded as the Standards dipped for the minute's silence, followed by 'Reveille', the Regimental Collects and the Blessing, the playing of the Regimental March and the National Anthem.

The President and party returned via The Keep to the saluting dais and the parade then proceeded to March Past. The President thanked the parade for attending and for the splendid turn-out, then the parade was dismissed to either lunch in The Keep or in the TA Centre. The Band provided a programme of music during the lunch and again friendships with old pals were rekindled before members returned to their homes.

The Presentation Of A Commemorative Portrait Of 2/Lt T E Adlam VC to the City of Salisbury

On 30 November 1997 a ceremony was held in the Guildhall, Salisbury, to commemorate the life and heroism of 2nd Lieutenant T E (Tom) Adlam VC, 7th Battalion The Bedfordshire Regiment, at the Battle of the Somme on 27 September 1916. The culmination of the ceremony was the presentation of a portrait of Tom

Adlam, paid for by family, friends and the business community of Salisbury.

Although Tom Adlam had been born and educated in Salisbury and was the only holder of the VC awarded to an individual from the City, there had been no memorial to him or any other recognition of him in Salisbury. It was to make good this omission that the idea of commissioning a portrait, which is to hang prominently in the Salisbury Guildhall, was first formed.

The ceremony was attended by more than a 100 guests, including upwards of 30 members of the Adlam family, the Mayor of Salisbury, representatives of Tom Adlam's old Regiment and The Royal British Legion. Brigadier W R W Pike, representing the Association, gave an address in which he outlined Tom's life and the events which won him the award.

The Association Dinner and Dance

This year's Association Dinner and Dance on 4 April was held at The Castle Hall, Hertford. More than 180 members and guests attended the function and there was general agreement that this new venue is a great improvement on the old one. Official guests at the Dinner included Colonel Geoffrey Morgan, the President of The Essex Regiment Association, and Mrs Morgan, who were supported by a large contingent from their Association. Captain Nigel Johnson, who represented the 2nd Battalion in Cyprus, was another guest, and after dinner he gave an interesting report on the 2nd Battalion.

During the speeches an engraved decanter was presented by the Chairman to Major David Thorogood who is shortly to retire as Association Secretary. The Chairman praised Major Thorogood's work on behalf of the Association.

The evening was a resounding success, thanks to Mr Stan Mansfield and those who helped him organise it.

News from the Branches

1997 was a busy year for the Bedford Branch with a large number of events. Three events in September, the first off by mini-bus (ex-3rd Battalion driver) to the 2nd Battalion for a fire power demonstration. Members fired the SA80 and rode in WARRIOR. The Battalion did

Associations

those who attended proud and we thank them very much. On 13 September, the Branch held its annual dinner at The Keep, Kempston, which everyone enjoyed. The next Sunday some Branch members attended the Watford and Hemel Hempstead Branch's Hertfordshire Regiment Standard Dedication. In October, the Minden Band came to Bedford Modern School and gave a concert in aid of SSAFA, which was a splendid evening out. November, of course, is taken up by Remembrance Sunday with the service on the Embankment, Bedford, and on 16 November at The Keep and TA Centre, when for the first time members attending could remember they got wet outside. In December, beside the usual monthly meeting, the Branch had a social evening with a buffet at the British Servicemen Association's Club.

The Branch and the Association's oldest member died on 26 September 1997 at the age of 98. George Bartram served with The Bedfordshire Regiment in the First World War.

On 7 September 1997, a party of seven from the **Watford and Hemel Hempstead** Branch went to Warminster for a Weapons Effect Demonstration by the 2nd Battalion and thoroughly enjoyed the day and the hospitality shown by our hosts. As mentioned, the Branch had a very successful Dedication Service of their new Hertfordshire Regiment

Standard on 25 October 1997. The local ex-Servicemen's Association held their annual dinner and a party from the Branch attended. Over £1,000 was raised for charity and this was shared between the Star and Garter Home and the Poppy Appeal.

Several members of the Branch attended the Remembrance Day parade in Hemel Hempstead and, on 16 November, the Branch once again had a good turn-out at the Wreath Laying and Reunion at Kempston. It was good to see two Hertfordshire Standards on parade. On 29 November 1997 the Branch held its annual dinner. This year, for the first time, it was at St John's Hall. The new choice of venue proved to be a great success, with more than one hundred people attending. The Branch held its final meeting for 1997 on 12 December. Meetings for the future will be on a bi-monthly basis, with the alternative months as a social evening. On 31 January 1998 the Branch held a 'Race Night' at the Hemel Hempstead Centre. This proved to be a great success and we raised funds whilst having an enjoyable evening.

Members from the **Hitchin Branch** attended the Reunion at Kempston on 16 November and all agreed that it was a very good turn-out as usual. A good number of members visited the Thursford Christmas show in December and had a very enjoyable day out, meeting

at the **Crawfish** public house before going to the show. The Branch Christmas dinner was held again at the Firs Hotel, Hitchin, on 20 December 1997, which proved to be a great success and was enjoyed by all. It has been agreed to book this venue again for 1998. The first monthly meeting of 1998 was at the Radcliffe Arms, Hitchin, on 27 January, when there was a good turn-out of members and the meeting agreed on the future events for the year.

The **Luton and Dunstable Branch** held a Saturday coffee morning in October 1997 at the Dunstable Methodist Church Hall. Although the morning started slowly, it ended as a great success with a £136 profit for Branch funds. Another coffee morning has been booked for May this year. Members of the Branch attended the Remembrance Sunday parade in Luton and the Annual Wreath Laying and Reunion at Kempston. The Branch held its annual dinner at the Royal Naval Club, Luton, on 21 December 1997, which was greatly enjoyed by all. At the December meeting the Branch held its Christmas draw and, on this evening, the ladies of the Branch very kindly provided a buffet. Mr Norman Chamberlain, ex-1st Herts and Branch Treasurer for a number of years, has retired as local Secretary of SSAFA. To date, Norman has handled 1,040 cases and a staggering £117,000 of which £20,000 alone was spent in 1997.

The Royal Tigers Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Leicestershire)



Royal Tigers' Weekend 20 And 21 June 1998

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will take place at the TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, at 6.30pm on 20 June 1998. This will be followed by the 73rd Annual Dinner. On Sunday 21 June 1997 the Regimental Parade Service at Royal Tigers' Wood, Bagworth, will be at 11.00 am. Following the Service, there will be a reception at the Working Men's Club in Bagworth.

Benevolence 1997

67 cases for Benevolence were considered by the General Committee of the Association during 1997. A total of £6,899 was given in grants during the year, an increase of over £2,300 from 1996. In addition, grants totalling £2,020 given by the Army Benevolent Fund to ex-Tigers and their families were disbursed by the Association. Both the Army Benevolent Fund and the Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund give considerable financial help to the Association and we are most grateful to both organisations.

Royal Tigers' Wood

Royal Tigers' Wood continues to go from strength to strength, with the bulk of the trees growing well and in extremely good condition. Some of the original trees representing Battle Honours of the Regiment that were planted in 1995 which had died were replaced in December 1997 and are now generally looking healthy. Another tree representing the Burma campaign has just been added. Members of the General Committee continue to visit the Wood regularly and report any problems. We remain grateful to Mr

Associations

Maurice Pettifer, Chairman of the International Tree Foundation, Leicestershire Branch, for all his guidance and advice and to the Woodland Trust for all their work in and around the Wood, which is now a major feature of the National Forest in Leicestershire. The Wood account is now in credit, thanks to the continuing generosity of Association members. However, there will be a continuing need for maintenance, replacement trees, wooden benches and ongoing improvements which will require limited financial support. Any donations will continue to be more than welcome. The annual service at Royal Tigers' Weekend will be held in the Wood this year and it is hoped that those members who have not yet visited the Wood will take this opportunity to do so and enjoy the occasion in good weather. It is a truly wonderful living memorial to The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

The Royal Leicestershire Regiment Museum

As reported in previous years, the Regimental Museum at the Magazine has been closed for refurbishment. When implementation of the plans for the refurbishment was started the Museum was closed and stripped of its contents, which were stored. It then became apparent that further conservation work on the building would be required and, whilst plans were being redrawn, the Government decided to make Leicester City Council a unitary authority. As a result the Magazine, and the staff supervising the work, were transferred on 1 April 1997 from Leicestershire County Council to Leicester City Council and this inevitably caused further delay.

Discussions between architects and many museum experts during the last year proved that the Magazine, which has such important and valued memories for the Regiment, was really most unsuitable as a museum building. Its access was very poor, parking was non-existent, it had no disabled or toilet facilities and it attracted very few visitors each year. The City Council have decided, therefore, to make better use of it by opening it up for specific events and guided tours to enable people to learn more about the historic building. It has already had a successful opening for visitors on Easter Monday and it will be open during the afternoon of the Saturday of Royal Tigers' Weekend. The City Council is also hoping to create an exhibition there about the medieval building and its surroundings. The Trustees of the Magazine, whilst sad at

seeing the end of the direct connection with the Regiment, have supported the Council's decision as realistic and in the best long-term interests of the Regimental collection and in teaching future generations about the Regiment.

It is hoped that on 18 May 1998 Leicester City Council will approve a plan to move the display part of our Regimental collection to the New Walk Museum in the centre of Leicester. This purpose-built building is a much better site, which attracts many thousands of visitors each year, has good parking, wheelchair access and a lift. Plans are being developed for a restaurant and children's area, thereby attracting even more visitors. We hope that by the end of 1998 the Regimental collection will be in a new gallery, dedicated solely to the Regiment, on the first floor of the prestigious museum. Professional exhibition consultants will be employed to construct a new home to display the Regiment's artifacts. A computer database will also be put in place there to enable members of the public to access photographs of the entire collection of over 5,000 pieces and to add details of their own family's connections with the Regiment. Those items which will not be on permanent display in the new gallery will continue to be stored as before by the Council. Some will be used to rotate the items on show and others may go into temporary exhibitions. A very few items may be in other parts of the New Walk Museum, such as on the staircase and the outer wall of the Regimental gallery, in order to advertise the Regimental collection. The Sevastopol cannons at the front of the Magazine will be relocated to their original home in front of New Walk Museum where they were first positioned in 1862.

The Trustees have been working closely with the City Council during the year and, considering the complexity of the situation, are pleased with the progress that has been made, even if it has inevitably been slower than they would have wished. They recognise that the City Council is committed to displaying the collection on the best site available and in the best way possible for the people of Leicester and for the Regiment.

The Trustees are also grateful to the dedicated and professional curatorial staff of the City Council for all their work behind the scenes whilst the Regimental artifacts have not been on public display. They have continued to answer questions from the public on many matters about the Regiment and have continued to care for, and add to, the full collection.

The Trustees are delighted that the end of the period when the Regiment's treasures have been out of sight seems to be approaching. The new home of the Regimental collection will be in a prestigious museum of International interest, which will help to raise the profile of the Regiment and to preserve its memory for posterity.

Reunion of the 50/8/1st Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment

The change of date from October to September seems once again to have paid dividends as there were 36 old friends present in 1997. Let us hope that the numbers increase still further this year. Mr Dean will, as usual, try to get the Reunion mentioned in the Leicester Mercury and the Sunday press.

Our sincere thanks from all those present to the Commanding Officer of 7 R ANGLIAN for allowing us the use of the facilities of the TA Centre, also to the barman and the caretaker Mrs K Nyszczota who arranged the excellent buffet, both of whom contributed to the success of the evening.

Since the last reunion we have heard of the death at 91 years of age of our old Commanding Officer, Lt Col A L Novis MC. It will be remembered that he took over command of the Battalion from Lt Col P A B Wrixon at Purley in 1943. PAB, as he was affectionately known, had formed the Battalion at Hinckley in 1940. Lt Col Novis took the Battalion to Normandy in 1944, was wounded near Caen and had to return to UK. He rejoined the Battalion at Lingen in Germany at the end of the war.

We have also recently lost two of our most regular reunion attenders, the Reverend Maurice Poyner and Ray Gardner. It was very gratifying to see some of their old friends at their funerals. If members hear of the passing of any old friends, please let the Area Office know.

In-Pensioner Myles Foster

It is nice to report that, after a gap of several years, we now have another In-Pensioner at The Royal Hospital. Cpl Myles Foster was admitted in July 1997 and is enjoying life in his new home.

The Northamptonshire Regiment Association and the Royal Anglian Association (Northampton)



Field of Remembrance 1997

The following people attended the Field of Remembrance at Westminster on 6 November 1997:-

Colonel P Worthy, Mr V C Earl and Mr A R J Culling. Apologies were received from Colonel F A H Swallow OBE and Mr A E Drinkwater.

Officers' Lunch Party

The Officers' Dining Club held their annual lunch on 1 May 1998. The same venue as in recent years was used, the magnificent and most interesting Officers' Mess of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Millbank, London, thanks to the kind hospitality of Colonel John Richardson who, when a young officer, served in the 1st Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment. A splendid menu, impressive wines from the Mess cellar and the happy atmosphere made it another memorable occasion. We hope to be allowed to use the Mess again in 1999.

Peterborough Branch

Another very successful year for our Branch and judging by the attendance and enthusiasm at the Annual General Meeting, a good beginning to the new one. We held our Annual General Meeting at our old home at the TA Centre in London Road. We were hosted in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess by RSM Chris Longrigg and other Mess members of 158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC (V), and presentations were made to Lt Col David Baylis who has been such a good friend and supporter of our Branch during his time in Peterborough - we wish him well in Kuwait.

With a very good show of our members present we planned the year ahead and hope that we shall enlarge our membership with newcomers from The Royal Anglian Regiment. Another Royal Anglian day is fixed in Peterborough for June and it is hoped that many readers will attend this and subsequent events. Our links with Finedon are very close and

we hope any readers of this newsletter will contact our Branch Secretary, David Allen, and join us from time to time. If you wish to send in your name and address we will put you on our mailing list. Please note the Annual Dinner is fixed for Saturday 17 Oct at the TA Centre in Peterborough where a welcome awaits all those who attend.

Finedon Branch

The Branch is now one year old and our first Annual General Meeting was held on 8 April. I think we have achieved quite a lot in the last year. Starting with a few interested members we are now 24 strong and looking at ways to increase this number even more.

The Branch has been represented at most of the events during the last year, from visits to Warminster to the Regimental Reunion at Northampton, and those who have attended have reported back on the good times they have had.

We are starting our second year with a visit to the Carpetbeggars Museum at Harrington in late June and it is hoped to have a conducted tour round this very interesting site. This is to be followed by lunch at the pub in Harrington village. We welcomed Major Tim Warr at our Annual General Meeting and through him we are arranging a visit to the Royal Navy and Marines Association. Tim also has contacts at Bletchley Park and a visit to this war-winning site is on the cards. With the annual Regimental Reunion just around the corner we are looking forward to that, and several members are planning to attend.

Regimental Briefing

The Colonel of The Royal Anglian Regiment invited many representatives from the Regimental area to attend a Regimental Briefing at Warminster on Thursday 15 January 1998. Our President General Sir John Akehurst, supported by our Chairman, Colonel Peter Worthy, helped host the Regimental guests.

Unfortunately many from Northamptonshire were unable to accept his invitation. However, it was a pleasure to meet again the Mayor of Kettering, Councillor Ray Wright, and to meet Neville Morris and Mrs Gloria Baker from the Careers Office. All were most impressed by the briefing given by General Walker, Brigadier Rawlins and three Commanding Officers; and also with the Weapons Effect Demonstration provided by the 2nd Battalion and supporting arms. The 2nd Battalion were in great form and the hospitality and organisation of the whole day were excellent. Many congratulations to them for a remarkable day.

History of the 5th Battalion North Africa and Sicily 1942-43

The splendid 36-page booklet about the history of the 5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment in North Africa and Sicily (November 1942 - August 1943), edited by the late Colonel T A Buchanan DSO OBE MC ERD TD DL, has been reprinted. It is dedicated to all members of the 5th Battalion who served in North Africa and Sicily and particularly to those who did not return.

Anyone who would like a copy should contact the Area Regimental Secretary (telephone 01604-635412). The booklet has not been produced to make money, but, if you would be prepared to make a small contribution towards its production costs (£3) and towards postage, it would be welcome.

Telephone Number

Please note that the telephone number of the Association has been changed to:- 01604-635412

Associations

6(V) Battalion Officers' Dinner Club

Another successful Dinner was held in the Officers' Mess in Bury St Edmunds on Sat 21 Feb by kind permission of the CO, Lt Col Howard Gill. It is planned to hold the next dinner in Feb 99. Any former officers of the Battalion who do not regularly receive an invitation, and who wish to receive details, should inform the Dinner Club Secretary, Maj J L Raybould, HQ UK NSE, BFPO 544, to be added to the mailing list.

2nd Battalion Dinner at Felixstowe, 25 Oct 97

On Sat 25 Oct the 12th Annual gathering of former members of the 2nd Battalion (the Poachers) was held, as in previous years, at the Marlborough Hotel in Felixstowe. This year's reunion was attended in good numbers and was, as always, arranged and organised by David and Pat Knight, who were also, as in previous years, assisted by Amanda and Henry King, their daughter and son-in-law. The number attending was in excess of 250 Ex-Poachers and their ladies, who came from all corners of the country. This number actually exceeds the maximum number laid down by the hotel! It is regretted that we are unable to invite people outside the Poachers, or indeed Poachers' families.

The evening commenced at 8 pm when all former Poachers and their ladies were greeted by David and Pat in the reception suite of the Marlborough. A special welcome was given to General Sir John and Lady Akehurst, who were both in excellent health and spirits and, as ever, in a very short time the evening came alive with the meetings and greetings of old friends.

In his opening remarks Mr Knight reminded us of those who had passed away since our last meeting and a silent tribute was paid to them. He named Janet Neave, wife of Brian Neave (ex Band); Pauline Bennett (ex QMs); Sgt Terry Baines (ex Drums and Officers' Mess Caterer); the son of Charlie McCaffrey who died very suddenly and tragically; and Colonel "Big John" Wetherall.

The guest of honour this year was General Sir John Akehurst, who made a short speech, and Lady Akehurst who was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

A special presentation was made to 'Nesta' who, although retired as a bar maid at the Marlborough, still comes out of retirement each year to run the main bar at the Poachers Gathering. She was presented with a bottle and we look forward to seeing her again in October. Mr Knight, in his speech, thanked RSM Ralph for the wonderful way the ex-Poachers were looked after when they had been invited to a Weapons Effect Demonstration at Warminster. It was lovely to see the Battalion in such good order. We all wish them a happy and successful tour in Cyprus and look forward to seeing them in two years' time.

Thanks were also given to the hotel owner Saresh Mohindra and his good lady and staff for the excellent buffet supper which was served later in the evening, and also for the drinks, which were still being served with breakfast. The weather for the gathering was, as usual, glorious, and most Poachers made an early start on Sunday morning with a brisk walk along the Prom and a visit to the Sunday market prior to heading off in various directions for home.

This year's Dinner will be on 24 Oct 98.

Warminster Branch of the Regimental Association

The Branch benefited greatly from the presence of the 2nd Battalion in Warminster during the last two years. The Battalion, particularly the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, have shown great hospitality and have swelled numbers at our various events. We shall miss them but wish them every success in Cyprus. They leave a good reputation behind them in Warminster, both for military professionalism and for good and friendly behaviour, which cannot be said of all Battalions that serve in the Garrison.

The Branch holds monthly meetings, usually on the first Monday, and although numbers are small there is no pressure on members to attend. It is simply for those who wish to meet, have a drink or two and mull over old times. Our President, General Sir John Akehurst, says that as he grows older his memory, like that claimed by a former American Ambassador, grows ever clearer and more precise of events that never happened! He thinks this applies to many other Comrades. But who cares? It's fun and relaxing to indulge in Regimental nostalgia.

The main event of the year is the Annual Dinner on a Saturday night in February, followed the next morning by a Service in the Garrison Church at which our Standard is rededicated. Both events were well attended this year on 31 Jan/1 Feb, and the Branch particularly appreciated members of the Regiment coming from afar to be with us. We are grateful to Padre Tom Hiney for coming from London to preach an excellent sermon at the Service.

Members of the Warminster Branch with visitors and friends and sundry Poachers, including the Commanding Officer, pose outside the Warminster Garrison Church after their service of Rededication.



The Cadets

Bedfordshire ACF

Skydive

Capt (ACF) Brad Reader, former Poacher, writes:

Sport parachuting in the armed forces has for many years been recognised by the services as an adventurous training pursuit. Five cadets, from Bedfordshire, all badged Royal Anglian, decided to take up the challenge.

There are three ways in which a complete novice may start sport parachuting at a military parachute centre. They are:

- a. Ram Air Progression System (RAPS) Static Line. A two day course, exiting from an altitude of 3,500 feet using a rectangular shaped parachute. On exit, the canopy opens automatically and the parachutist is responsible for all that happens after exiting the aircraft until landing on the drop zone. Progression to freefall may be achieved after completing subsequent jumps and successfully completing observed confirmatory drills.
- b. Tandem. A short briefing (20-30 mins), an exit altitude of 10,000-12,000 feet. The student parachutist is strapped to the front of an instructor. Most of the work is carried out by the Tandem Master throughout the Skydive. Between 30 and 40 seconds in freefall is enough to get a real taste of what real skydiving is like. The instructor flies and lands the parachute.
- c. Accelerated Freefall. One day of ground training. Exit at an altitude of between 10,000-12,000 feet. This training consists of eight jumps at different levels, with two instructors for the first three levels. On exit, the instructor(s) grip the student parachutist and continue to do so whilst in freefall. In the air, signals are given by the instructor(s) and they must be responded to by the student. Various exercises and manoeuvres must be carried out. The student deploys his own parachute, flies and lands the canopy himself. Each level requires a separate briefing, with confirmatory training, and is progressive. Only when a level is completed successfully may progression to the next level be allowed.



Capt Brad Reader, Tandem master with CSgt Kate Greer exit a RN Sea King at 10,000 feet

SMI Elaine Massie, an adult instructor from Sandy, supervised this venture and under her watchful eye Cadet CSM Phillip Sturgess (Stotfold Detachment), FCSgt Kate Greer, FSgt Marion Greer, LCpl Stuart Mason (Sandy Detachment), and Sgt David Sweetlove (Biggleswade Detachment) departed Bedfordshire on 28 April 1998 for the Air Mounting Centre at South Cearney, home of the RLC Parachute Team, the Silver Stars.

The RAPS Static Line course is very thorough and covers all aspects of the jump in great detail. At the end of the training, the instructors confirmed that the cadets on the course had successfully passed the ground training and were ready to skydive. As the other cadets started their training with the Silver Stars, Kate Greer was heading for the Joint Services Parachute Centre, Netheravon (JSPC(N)). On arrival at the centre she was briefed, kitted up and manifested to jump from a Royal Navy Sea King helicopter from Yeovilton. At 10,000 feet, the time to exit loomed. A perfect exit and stable position in freefall made the Tandem Master's life easy. LCpl Dave Ballard of 7 Regiment Army Air Corps kindly agreed to accompany

the tandem and record the event on video and stills.

The following is a personal account of Kate's experience:

"On the 28 April, I did a Tandem Skydive. I thought I would have been more nervous. When it came to the jump, I was more excited than nervous. I was particularly lucky to have the added experience of jumping out of a Royal Navy Sea King. The fixed wing aircraft we were due to jump from was being refuelled, so it was arranged for me to do my jump from the helicopter. As we gained height, my heart started to beat faster, but after five minutes it felt relaxed and could not wait to do my jump. As soon as we reached 10,000 feet the door was opened, soon after that I jumped. That was the moment of fear, after that it was the most thrilling feeling, just falling through the sky in freefall. After the parachute opened it seemed as though everything else in the world had stopped and we were just floating down. It was the most spectacular thing I have ever done and probably will ever do in my life. There are no words to describe what Tandem Skydive feels like, except

Cadets

perhaps superb! When we landed, my legs felt like jelly, not from fear, but excitement. For once in my life I was speechless.

Unfortunately on day two of the static line course, weather conditions were inclement and the cadets were only able to sit and watch the windsock being punished by the breeze. The jump will have

to be carried out at a later date when the weather is more accommodating. All the cadets thoroughly enjoyed the course and are looking forward to their skydive. Their enthusiasm and determination was a credit to them all.

This was the first time that cadets from Bedfordshire have been given the opportunity to try sport parachuting and it is

hoped that it will become a regular event. Very many thanks indeed go to all staff at the Silvers Stars Parachute Club, the Commandant and Chief Instructor of JSPC(N), the aircrew of 845 Sqn of RN Yeovilton for making this event possible and to LCpl Ballard for recording the Tandem.

Framlingham College CCF

Expedition to Bolivia 1997

Major Martin Myers-Allen, CCF Contingent Commander, writes:

Bolivia is the poorest, highest and most isolated of the Latin American republics. The country's natural attractions range from the peaks of the Andean Cordillera to the stark beauty and startling colours of the lakes and windswept deserts of the Altiplano; from jungle choked waterways of the Amazon and Parana basins to the thorny scrubland of the Chaco. Bolivia is a third world nation with a reputation for political shuffling and scuffling and a vast International market for its cocaine, which accounts for 60% of its foreign exchange revenue. However, over the last decade the country has enjoyed a stable, albeit a slightly highly strung version, of civilian democracy and the American DEA are cracking down on the drugs. It is now a relatively safe country for visitors with fewer problems of theft, guerrilla factions and violence that plague some of its neighbours.

The whole intention of exploring Bolivia was for the Framlingham CCF pupils to devise, plan and lead their own expedition. It takes a certain amount of trust and courage as an adult to eventually step to one side and let things unfold. However, the benefits of such an approach proved enormous. The pupils grew into confident, self-assured young men and women. After four weeks of living together they developed patience, resilience, leadership skills and mutual respect. The bonds formed between members of both teams became very strong and will probably remain for the rest of their lives. Both expeditions were far more successful than I had ever thought.

It is difficult to express on paper all that we have been through together. To begin

with the culture shock was pronounced and humbling. It ranged from the squalor and filth of the disabled beggars in the dusty, sewage-filled back alleys, to the wealth of businessmen and drug barons living in opulent guarded mansions and driving Mercedes and Japanese 4 x 4s.

On arrival we had to gasp for breath in the thin smog filled air and adjusting to altitude in La Paz at 3600m took about a week. A small excursion to the colourful, busy markets to haggle for tuna and rice was an exhausting experience. Diamox tablets accelerated the acclimatization and helped all the members of one team to ascend a glacier to the 5650m summit of Mount Mururata in driving winds and in a temperature of -51° centigrade. At this altitude the thin dry air contained only half as much oxygen as at sea level.

Lower altitude treks lasted three to six days and took the expeditioners along ancient Inca roads through cloud filled gorges of the lofty Corillera, down through humid jungle covered cliffs to the lowland oppressive steamy jungles of the Yungas. From the bustling frontier settlement of the Kurrenabaque in the heart of the rain forest, dugout canoes were taken on the turbid Rio Beni to hunt (catch and release) alligators, anaconda and piranha. The expeditioners were also able to explore the forest floor and swim with pink dolphins in the wider stretches of the river.

Nights were spent under mosquito nets kept awake by the sounds of the jungle and the guitars and singing by enthusiastic but musically challenged local guides. No self-respecting expedition should be complete without working for the local

community and one group redecorated a local orphanage during their acclimatization phase. Both teams completed the expedition by visiting the navigable, freezing waters of Lake Titicaca at 3800m and seeing the ruins of the birthplace of Inca civilisation on the sacred Island of the Sun.

Our timings could not have been better. Bolivia is changing rapidly and much of what we saw will be gone in five years. Spectacular rock formations high in La Paz known as The Valley of the Moon were being bulldozed for building space whilst we were there. Boats on the Rio Beni were already eroding the banks and will eventually drive the wildlife away. Traditional colourful and utilitarian Chola dress with the ubiquitous black bowler hat and western clothes were replacing layers of pollera skirts.

Whilst experiencing all of this, the expeditioners were challenged by inadequate transport facilities, numerous and indigenous languages, illness and fatigue. Three expeditioners required hospitalisation for short periods and everyone fell ill to some extent. It was all part of the challenge and one that they all faced up to.

Participants of the expedition would like to thank the 1st Battalion for their generous sponsorship which helped make this expedition take place. The next expeditions will take place in 1999 and two areas have been selected - the mountains of Nepal and the deserts of Namibia. A huge amount of interest has been generated and it is planned that two groups will leave for the developing world next Summer.

The Royal Anglian Regiment

Order of Battle, 1 May 1998

Regular Battalions

1st Battalion (The Vikings)

HQ COMPANY

Battalion Headquarters

Lt Col R E Harrold OBE
Maj R C J Goodwin
Capt C S Calder
Capt M A L Lyne
WO1 (RSM) Stefannetti D J
WO2 Langley Stevens R
Cpl Aspinall D
LCpl Griffiths J A

Company HQ

Maj M J Williams
WO2 Eales B
CSgt Jolly D C L
Cpl Patrick J N
Cpl Smith G D
Pte Paterson S (AGC (SPS))
Pte Liddell C C
Pte Willars B R

Officers' Mess

CSgt Garner D R
LCpl Mercer D J
Pte Foreman J
Pte Pereira S J
Pte Sicklen B P
Pte Skillings B J

Wos' and Sgts Mess'

Sgt Marsh D J
Pte Chandler D W
Pte Harris J R
Pte Johnson D
Pte Johnson M P
Pte Newson P J
Pte Pratt K P

Training Wing

Capt M L Elphee
WO2 Hill R A
Sgt Buxton A J
Sgt Watson G
Cpl Gardner S M
Cpl Snow I J
Cpl Watson G X

Gymnasium

SSgt Clarke D E APTC

LCpl Johnson N G
Pte Woods D L A

Provost Sect

Cpl Boreham M S
LCpl Panter S T
LCpl Stevenson T D

MT Platoon

Capt S J Nye
Sgt Yarham P J
Cpl Ball M W
Cpl Thompson B E
Cpl Watts M I
LCpl Barrs P S
LCpl Kimble J D
LCpl Mckenna
LCpl Pierce A
LCpl Plant B J
LCpl Salmon M R
Pte Branch C J W
Pte Carter P
Pte Dellow G A
Pte Fensome P A
Pte Freeman R S
Pte Hallam C C RLC
Pte Hutchinson A J
Pte Lomaz G J
Pte Norman R D
Pte Richardson M
Pte Seaman N D

QM Platoon

Maj A Jones
Capt R P Grenfell
WO2 Mackness D
WO2 Prime S P
CSgt Groves J S
CSgt Okopskyj W M
CSgt Pattison K
Cpl Allen D J
Cpl Blackwell A W
Cpl Harrison G
Cpl Howard J P S
Cpl Patten P G AGC (SPS)
Cpl Stewart A H
Cpl Taylor K S
Cpl White I
LCpl Chalkley P
LCpl Lennon D A
LCpl Richardson J
Pte Skelton N AGC (SPS)
Pte Murton T

Unit Families Office

Capt G J Webb
Sgt Lemmon M C
Pte Price A T

Catering Platoon

WO2 Gowans S D RLC
Sgt Hauxwell D C
Sgt McAuley A L M
Sgt Micklejohn L J
Cpl Aspinall S K
Cpl Baker L T
Cpl Coathupe P V
LCpl Hampson J V
LCpl O'Brien P J
LCpl Willemse K P
LCpl Wood N D S
Pte Barber B S
Pte Cooper R B
Pte McCallum C A
Pte Sharp D P
Pte Wallace D T

Signal Platoon

Lt D J Moss
WO2 Newman P S
CSgt Dade A J
Sgt Mcgregor G
Sgt Simpson M
Cpl Baxter G R G
Cpl Parkhouse J R
Cpl Stringer G B
LCpl Bell C J
LCpl Fosker S
LCpl Heal M J
LCpl Rumsey S D
Pte Cunningham B K
Pte Edwards D R
Pte Ellis M
Pte Kearney P M
Pte Kendall A B
Pte Mitchell D A
Pte Smith B A

Medical Section

Sgt Carter P R
Cpl Bartlett M A RAMC
Cpl Johnson S M
Cpl Milne L A
LCpl Doherty L F RAMC
Pte Baldwin L

Pte Horn S C
Pte Peyton I J

Intelligence Section

Capt L S F McGrath
Cpl Patten J J
LCpl Mason N
Pte Goodall D L

Regimental Admin Office

Capt P C Weston
Capt J MClee
WO2 Moore A
WO2 Russell R A
SSgt Shipman R A
Sgt Baxter A M R
Sgt Blackman A
Sgt Le Blanc C
Sgt Sinclair H
Cpl Allen J D
Cpl Moore C
Cpl Pincott D K J
LCpl Firth D L
Pte Best M
Pte Bailey N

REME (LAD)

SSgt David A
Sgt Turton P A
Cpl Garland M J
Cpl Mcallister J
Cpl Pavitt M D
LCpl Bracewell W J
Cfn Hobson P R
Cfn Jennings R J
Cfn Mountjoy K M
Cfn Watts R J

A COMPANY

Company HQ

Maj R A Cook
Capt P M Birch
WO2 Wright C J
CSgt Kerton P M
Cpl Dufosse P L
Cpl Magee A J
LCpl Jones B A
LCpl Neal A
Pte Blakemore M J

Orbat

Pte Carpenter D T J
 Pte Cole W E
 Pte Delisa M G
 Pte Mcauliffe M AGC (SPS)

1 Platoon

Lt I M Chance
 Sgt Clark S
 Cpl Fay D C
 Cpl McMillan M J
 Cpl Newton T R
 LCpl Anderson A
 LCpl Guy A W
 Pte Borgenvik J C
 Pte Christie K S J
 Pte Cranstoun G
 Pte Eastwood M
 Pte Ewers J A
 Pte Foy J D
 Pte Godley N A J
 Pte Harrison N J
 Pte Hill A R
 Pte Johnson T D
 Pte Page S D
 Pte Quincey M J
 Pte Sell P R
 Pte Wallbanks J R

2 Platoon

2Lt O C C Brown
 Sgt Ellis S
 Cpl Harrod W
 Cpl Stevens R J
 Cpl Summerson J P
 LCpl Browne P S
 LCpl Penny C T
 Pte Barker A
 Pte Castle S J
 Pte Canning J E
 Pte Gorham M
 Pte Hassan J R
 Pte Irving M R
 Pte Lilley P S
 Pte Marke J W
 Pte Martin S D
 Pte Morris N W
 Pte Nudds E
 Pte Rogers J L G
 Pte Sayce G N
 Pte Simmons M P
 Pte Stanton P J
 Pte Wilson S N
 Pte Winstone W R

3 Platoon

CSst Hale S C
 Sgt French B S
 Cpl Keating G
 Cpl Wood N D S
 LCpl Fordham I R
 LCpl Ward P A
 LCpl McHenry K G

Pte Abery S
 Pte Buckley P G
 Pte Cadwell M
 Pte Cartwright G M
 Pte Collier D
 Pte De Mierre P J
 Pte Fennell B P D
 Pte Haystead C J
 Pte Hoogendijk R W
 Pte Knights S J
 Pte Lee N J
 Pte Lynch J E
 Pte Marsh M
 Pte Miley A
 Pte Moxey S H
 Pte Procter A M
 Pte Rinder P J
 Pte Rolls D P
 Pte Smith C
 Pte Stewart G

B COMPANY

Company HQ

Maj S T H Andrews
 Capt A Y L Wong
 WO2 Soanes S V
 CSgt Jones T
 Cpl Buist D
 Cpl Collins I L
 LCpl Bee S R
 LCpl Frith
 Pte Andrews M G
 Pte De Buc R P
 Pte Forsythe P M
 Pte Jenkins I P T
 Pte Jones D P
 Pte Medbury J J
 Pte Stroud M V AGC (SPS)

5 Platoon

Lt D S J Biddick
 Sgt Routledge P J
 Cpl Golubovic P L
 Cpl Jay L W
 LCpl Lidlow D S
 LCpl Parker A J
 Pte Blackley M J
 Pte Bye M J
 Pte Hall S R A
 Pte Hills A D
 Pte Hitchcock A J
 Pte Holman R J
 Pte Inglis
 Pte Litchfield L A
 Pte Lander M J
 Pte Mackinnon J C
 Pte Morrison D J
 Pte Nunn S
 Pte Petryszyn M P
 Pte Pinchen G A
 Pte Revell B J
 Pte Stevens S D

6 Platoon

Lt A J Winter
 Sgt Pascal F D
 Cpl McGrath P C
 LCpl Jones A C
 LCpl Rout J G
 LCpl Thurston A D
 Pte Allen J M
 Pte Boyle M
 Pte Eggleton P M
 Pte Ellis M
 Pte Field E P
 Pte Hatton D J
 Pte Hodgston D J
 Pte Livingstone J
 Pte Locks A P
 Pte Moore M J
 Pte Naylor J M H
 Pte O'Brien J
 Pte Ribati D J
 Pte Robnett S R
 Pte Walker M
 Pte Welch A D

7 Platoon

2Lt P J Messenger
 Sgt Neal T
 Cpl Quittenton D A
 LCpl Hicks S
 LCpl Moller R C J
 LCpl White C A
 LCpl Dodd M J
 Pte Beeson S P
 Pte Brown D C
 Pte Earl L S
 Pte Gard D J
 Pte Hartland C
 Pte Hubbard W A
 Pte Hudson P W
 Pte Jackson R L
 Pte Jones D P
 Pte Lewis A R
 Pte Mclaughlan R B
 Pte Patterson A
 Pte Postle C A B
 Pte Smith P A
 Pte Weekley A

C COMPANY

Company HQ

Maj D G Vincent
 WO2 Robinson S D
 CSgt Osbourne R C
 Cpl Carter A A
 Cpl Morgan A J
 Pte Aldred A K
 Pte Baxter N S
 Pte Galloway W J AGC (SPS)
 Pte Lorenz J D
 Pte Scott G J
 Pte Watts V R

9 Platoon

Lt B M Allen
 Sgt Robinson I J
 Cpl Brooks G D
 LCpl Faupel A R C
 LCpl Head S T
 LCpl Rix N J
 Pte Allen P M
 Pte Buthcer M J
 Pte Conlon J
 Pte Cooper R B
 Pte Douglas C M
 Pte Fincham S C J
 Pte Gardner M J
 Pte Gibbs A D
 Pte Hales M A
 Pte Harris W R
 Pte Mcdonnell M
 Pte Mitchell A D
 Pte Peters I S
 Pte Pindar A N
 Pte Stewart S C
 Pte Sayce N A
 Pte Stubbs T G
 Pte Surette S J

10 Platoon

CSgt Marsh D
 Sgt Riley D
 Cpl Attwood S R
 Cpl O'Hanlon P J
 LCpl Hopkin C
 LCpl Nieve Y Gordo K
 LCpl Steel R J E
 Pte Armon S E
 Pte Collison M J
 Pte Everitt J
 Pte Hackett R E
 Pte Hipperson J J
 Pte Hornsey J R
 Pte Jowett D V
 Pte Lewis S T
 Pte Mosley K
 Pte Owen D J
 Pte Parker S W
 Pte Saunders M J
 Pte Smith M A
 Pte Sullivan D J
 Pte Wolf S R

11 Platoon

Lt M Powell
 Sgt James K J
 Cpl Clark D
 Cpl Neal S
 LCpl Browning W B
 LCpl Hill J J
 LCpl Ives A R
 Pte Atkins A R
 Pte Craddock L W
 Pte Jones N
 Pte Marsh J

Orbat

Pte Martin S P
Pte McGrath P G
Pte Meakin D S
Pte Mielke A
Pte Rice C M
Pte Syer D A
Pte Taylor A
Pte Tilley R H
Pte Turner S D
Pte Ward J T
Pte Winter C J

D COMPANY

Company HQ

Maj A C E Marinos
WO2 Knights S M
CSgt Shaw R V
Cpl Chamberlain A I
Cpl Hogston J
LCpl Bloss I G
Pte Douglass M A P
Pte Jones N W AGC (SPS)
Pte Morris M J
Pte Thain P J

Mortar Platoon

Lt P M Smith
CSgt Athroll R
Sgt Donnelly S J
Sgt Freeman M A
Sgt Turner R K
Cpl Grice J A
Cpl Penny C T
Cpl Watson R J

Cpl Wilton S J
LCpl Bilsborough C S
LCpl Duggan B J
LCpl Evans A
LCpl Hardy B
LCpl Rice A P
LCpl Shoesmith M J
LCpl Woodrow M L
Pte Aglae P
Pte Anderton S E
Pte Bale J C
Pte Brand S G
Pte Brunton J M
Pte Bygrave P S
Pte Cuthbert K
Pte Dack B J
Pte Fox T C
Pte Gammage M R
Pte Garnham R V
Pte Gould D L
Pte Greensmith S L
Pte Hemmins D J
Pte Hill B J
Pte Madden J
Pte Martin G J
Pte Molloy C J
Pte Morgan D J
Pte Patterson D J
Pte Scattergood A
Pte Sully J L
Pte Thompson R
Pte Whitelock L P

Milan Platoon

Capt F J R Grounds
WO2 Cooper C J

Sgt Collins T
Cpl Patten J J
Cpl Woods M
LCpl Codling P
LCpl Mawbey G R
LCpl Ratten J
LCpl Shaw D
Pte Brown G P
Pte Blundell R K
Pte Cloughton L M
Pte Eggleton J S
Pte Gomer W A
Pte Groves L L
Pte Harris R J
Pte Huggett R A
Pte Loates J R
Pte Lockyer T J
Pte Morcombe M J
Pte Stewart G
Pte Reid K
Pte Rowley J D
Pte Sinclair K P
Pte Wallace D J
Pte Ward K A B

Recce Platoon

Capt A H C Borgnis
Sgt De Bretton Gordon D M
Cpl Appleton A
Cpl Kulkarni C G
Cpl Roach I J
Cpl Shepherdson A
Cpl Smith C R
Cpl Thorn J G
LCpl Bonham M J
LCpl McGee B J

Pte Back S J
Pte Booth A J
Pte Castle D
Pte Challis D G
Pte Copson B J
Pte Glascodine S G
Pte Mansfield, B S S
Pte Moore R
Pte Myall B
Pte Stevenson G

Drums Platoon

DMaj Wildney M
Cpl Dungate N
Cpl Howlett P J
Cpl Self J E
LCpl Handley R J
LCpl Hasnip D R
LCpl Morris R A
LCpl Rayfield I M
Dmr Brown G P
Dmr Burgess G A
Dmr Davies L W
Dmr Ellarby B S
Dmr Gibbs D C
Dmr Gibbs E P
Dmr Love N J
Dmr Odley L T
Dmr Mullen A
Dmr Phair R J J
Dmr Tulit M E
Dmr Willsher M I

2nd Battalion The Poachers

HQ Company

Battalion Headquarters

Lt Col SL Porter
Maj MH Wenham
Capt GT Corkery
Capt RFL Lyne
WO1 (RSM) Ralph FA
WO2 (RAOWO) Price AP
AGC (SPS)
Sgt Barnes MT AGC (SPS)
Pte Kennon DW
Pte Wall A AGC (SPS)

Company Headquarters

Maj IRM Hall
WO2 (CSM) Sinar RH
CSgt (CQMS) Hodgkiss MW

Sgt Lade T
Cpl Keeble CD
Pte Connolly SJ
Pte Marston W
Pte Wingate AS

Unit Families Office

Lt SN Pallant
WO2 Beaumont FLJ
Sgt Mutch AF
Cpl Abreu JAA

Provo Section

Sgt Urand MR
Cpl Smith AG
LCpl Askew SM
LCpl Ainge DP
LCpl Gelder CM
Pte Martin GJ

MT Platoon

WO2 (MTWO) Abbs M J
Sgt Jones RD
Cpl Bonsall MC
Cpl Hunter EC
Cpl Piper AD
Cpl Turner SJ
LCpl Bronsdon SR
lCpl Inflis MJJ
LCpl Lawrinson CA
LCpl Smedley IT
LCpl Walton MR
Pte Appleyard A
Pte Crockett DJ
Pte Francies DN
Pte Heffer MW
Pte Hunt WJ

PATT

CSgt Kretay EAN
Cpl Coupe DJ
Cpl Coupland PC
Cpl Sayers RH
LCpl Bond RM
Pte Clarke R

Assault Pioneer Platoon

WO2 Brown SM
Sgt Doucet VJ
Cpl Lawrence G
Cpl Shaw SA
LCpl Clark S
lCpl Elliot KAG
LCpl Eratt KM
LCpl Felstead M
Pte Brawn I
Pte Crozier DF

Orbat

Pte Honeyball A
Pte Hudson-Bennett L
Pte Presley JR
Pte Riggs KW
Pte Woolley JM

QM's Department

Capt (QM) RJ Brown
Capt (QM (T)) AE Todd
WO2 (RQMS (M)) Beighton TP
WO2 (RQMS (T)) McCarthy M
Csgt Hall LF
Sgt Mecklenburgh GC
Sgt Thorpe RJ
Cpl Appleton TD
Cpl Bannon MB
Cpl Jones MA
LCpl Barge MJ AGC (SPS)
LCpl Goodman AH
LCpl Herron C
LCpl Kokonas AN AGC (SPS)
LCpl Reville MA
LCpl Rickman DJ
Pte Green RJ
Pte Otty AP
Pte Selby RJ

Intelligence Section

Lt C Owen Int Corps
CSgt Elliott DJ
LCpl Musson AL
Pte Terry KJ

Officers' Mess

Pte Hutchinson AJ
Pte Jennings L
Pte Saunders S
Pte Thompson R
Pte Tomlinson CA

Signals Platoon

WO2 (RSWO) Good DG
Sgt Charles MA
Sgt Smith MA
Cpl Baines N
Cpl Cross N
Cpl Lamb AB
Cpl Singleton SL
Cpl Whitehead AND
LCpl Rathie CS
LCpl Rawlings DL
Pte Bush SJ
Pte Cook SW
Pte Francis CI
Pte Gale JS
Pte Latter AA
Pte Robertson DWG
Pte Taylor KJ
Pte Turner CI

RLC (Catering) Drums Platoon

Sgt (D/Maj) Embleton K
Cpl Sands SJ
LCpl Griffin AJC
Pte Auckland MP
Pte Brawn RM
Pte Brown A
Pte Coleman K
Pte Fluery CJF
Pte Hume SJ
Pte Jubb PL
Pte Lang CF
Pte Marshall M
Pte McMillan G
Pte Neilly SJ
Pte Pass R
Pte Raynes PM
Pte Simmons MP
Pte Stephens D
Pte Whittle MA

WOs & Sgts' Mess

Sgt Cole RJ
Cpl Birtwistle R
Pte Clark LTD
Pte Tompkins DM
Pte Westley JJ

LAD

Cpl McCourty SN
Pte Maskell ML
Pte Mayes A
Pte Oliver JR

Training Wing

WO2 Ibrahim S
Sgt Evans JE
Sgt Heap RJ
Sgt Morson RS
Sgt Penn AJ
Sgt Saywell N
Pte Blair DM

Gym Staff

Sgt (SI) Cocker APTC
Cpl Horne DK
LCpl Foote DG
LCpl Rimmer PJ
LCpl Sheerin P
Pte Johnson MK
Pte Turnell MJ

Medical Centre

Capt RE Glover RAMC
Cpl Oxby KD
Cpl Pearson S
Cpl Van Den Heuval A RAMC
LCpl Cotgrave ME

LCpl Pardy AS RAMC
Pte Packham DD
WO2 (RCWO) Tibble KC RLC
Sgt Byrne MW RLC
Sgt Clarke S RLC
Sgt Hammond KP RLC
Sgt Roberts NW RLC
Cpl Beatty NF RLC
Cpl B-Rochard K RLC
Cpl Blondin MW RLC
Cpl Creasey JW RLC
LCpl Burns RS RLC
LCpl Dennis S RLC
LCpl Ingham NJ RLC
LCpl Johnson S RLC
LCpl Kuczerepa A RLC
LCpl McVay G RLC
LCpl Pearson G RLC
LCpl Wilson L RLC
LCpl Wood DG RLC
Pte Ashworth MW RLC
Pte Lewis DC RLC

Regimental Admin Office

Capt AS O'Brien AGC (SPS)
2Lt LC Hurn AGC (SPS)
WO2 (SQMS) Chapman P
SSgt Marshall RW AGC (SPS)
Sgt Casey SM AGC (SPS)
Sgt Elliott MT AGC (SPS)
Cpl Bland L AGC (SPS)
Cpl Brown JPT AGC (SPS)
Cpl Edwards P AGC (SPS)
LCpl Marshall MI AGC (SPS)
Pte Mayner LA AGC (SPS)
SSgt Leighton DM REME
Sgt Anderson NW REME
Cpl Boynton GT REME
Cpl Jones C REME
Cpl Larkman D REME
LCpl Dunbavin D REME
LCpl Sweetman MS REME
Cfn Diver RJF REME
Cfn Jones S REME
Cfn Povey SG REME
Cfn Woolley MA REME

B (LEICESTERSHIRE) COY

Coy Headquarters

Maj AC Wiles
Lt SW Romilly
WO2 Tilley P
CSgt Yeomans KET
LCpl Bradley M
LCpl Correa LJ
LCpl Styles AG
Pte Cain A

Pte Chapman SL AGC (SPS)
Pte Hart CJ
Pte King DWJ
Pte Latus G
Pte Lockwood T

4 Platoon

2Lt SJ Otter
Sgt Gray MJ
Cpl Deakin SA
Cpl Vazquez N
Cpl Waghorn LA
LCpl Harris AP
LCpl Rundle TA
LCpl Tams A
Pte Bird DL
Pte Bentley LJ
Pte Bonner DW
Pte Fleming RJ
Pte Gunn NJ
Pte Johnson MRS
Pte Lawson MPL
Pte Metson LE
Pte Newcombe CJ
Pte Newell PC
Pte Oliver LK
Pte Pett LMJ
Pte Picton RD
Pte Seymour MJ
Pte Shaw
Pte Stocks PE
Pte Towe SW
Pte Wells SJ
Pte Wheatley AN
Pte Wood MA

5 Platoon

2Lt CBK Barry
Sgt Sharp JW
Cpl Cole D
Cpl Lewis BP
LCpl Mahoney IM
LCpl Percival DC
Pte Atkins RA
Pte Baird CD
Pte Buckle JD
Pte Chester PJ
Pte Cousin R
Pte Day JD
Pte Denton TI
Pte Eglin DE
Pte Flynn R
Pte Jackson MS
Pte James KBJ
Pte Kirk AJ
Pte Noton D
Pte Payne JL
Pte Phillips TSJ
Pte Potter ND
Pte Riley CS
Pte Snook DJ
Pte Sweeney PW
Pte Wileman M

Orbat

6 Platoon

Sgt Walker VJ
Sgt Walker AR
Cpl Brown CF
Cpl Phillips JE
Cpl Townsend C
LCpl George A
LCpl Grice DA
LCpl Kennedy PJ
Pte Broughton K
Pte Elkington AA
Pte Fawcett TR
Pte Flitton AG
Pte Hardy DB
Pte Hewitt DM
Pte Hunt AJ
Pte Ireland G
Pte Ireland MT
Pte Lambert JA
Pte Manning SJ
Pte Mercer R
Pte Penrose T
Pte Piper S
Pte Routledge D
Pte Thurman MO
Pte Turner JK
Pte Vandyback LD
Pte Wilkinson PEW

C (Northamptonshire) Company

Company Headquarters

Maj S W Carver
Lt S C Worthy
WO2(CSM)Cousin A
Csgt (CQMS) Adie D
Cpl Foster AR
Cpl Morrissey MJ
Cpl Sumner ADW
Lcpl Allen WC
Pte Blanchard DC
Pte Crawl P
Pte Gedney C
Pte Lang CL
Pte Newland T
Pte Walters MJ
Pte Kelleher L AGC(SPS)

7 Platoon

Lt BJ Rayment
Sgt Hope M
Cpl Berridge F
Cpl Groom PA
Pte Siney DP
LCpl Downey JW
LCpl Macpherson DLM
LCpl Riseborough GD
Pte Barfield MAP
Pte Butler MJ
Pte Devine RJ

Pte Djemal OA
Pte Gage AMJ
Pte McLatchie J
Pte Merrill R
Pte Mortimer CS
Pte Owen JW
Pte Paveley AC
Pte Reid DS
Pte Reeder NS
Pte Roberts KL
Pte Simms B
Pte Smith JRS
Pte Spray DJ
Pte Swain AA
Pte Sweetland RJ
Pte Wolfe JC

8 Platoon

Lt JR Sparks
Sgt Markham D
Cpl Asker A
Cpl Frost R
LCpl Ashworth PL
LCpl Crabbe TAR
LCpl Smith DO
Pte Cantle THW
Pte Crosby DL
Pte Drakes SC
Pte Graham SD
Pte Gray JA
Pte Green LJ
Pte Greenhill JP
Pte Foster TS
Pte Kirk P
Pte Law LG
Pte Macdonald IR
Pte Payne NIJ
Pte Richardson DJ
Pte Scott CM
Pte Stow SP
Pte Thomas AM
Pte Thomas GMA
Pte Willey RW

9 Platoon

Lt NF Faint
Sgt Cutts S
Cpl David MJ
Cpl Horne AR
Cpl Johnson AJ
LCpl Brocklesby AB
LCpl Harris TP
LCpl Melody T
LCpl Newman T
Pte Boyall MS
Pte Curtin P
Pte Day RJ
Pte Dodd DM
Pte Garner DR
Pte Gibson A
Pte Griffin SJ
Pte Holod ST

Pte Kilby CL
Pte Knight PD
Pte Mactavish SJ
Pte Marshall A
Pte Squibb M
Pte Stkachan NR
Pte Thornton JJ
Pte Tipling DPM
Pte Vincent SR

D (Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire) Company

Company Headquarters

Maj P A E Nanson RRF
WO2 Thorpe M
CSgt Kirk P
Cpl Addison SJ
Cpl Hugill SM
LCpl Haves RA AGC (SPS)
Pte Gordon JT
Pte Jack JA
Pte Leeke BM
Pte Wilson NP

Mortar Platoon

Capt S R Smith
CSgt Odell R
Sgt Bonfield RJ
Cpl Brammer MG
Cpl Colbourne MJ
Cpl Doherty MR
Cpl Donovan NR
Cpl Elliott RAA
Cpl Eaton D
Cpl Guppy PJ
LCpl Booth DS
LCpl Fox CM
LCpl Franklin SP
LCpl Jones AL
LCpl Mccolm PA
LCpl Towler G
Pte Pickett
Pte Robertson MRD
Pte Seymore A
Pte Turner PD
Pte Vbranch MJ

Recce Platoon

Capt K R Copland
CSgt Haycock MS
Sgt Limb JA
Sgt Warrenner RW
Cpl Brownlie CJ
Cpl Caine AC
Cpl Clarke M
Cpl Dennis JJ
Cpl Riley SM
LCpl Cooley J
LCpl Coulbeck I

LCpl Gray RLA
LCpl Piesse RF
LCpl Rae SJ
LCpl Wollen
Pte Allen LG
Pte Beardall KJ
Pte Clarke SJ
Pte Farrow D
Pte Gillispie SG

Milan Platoon

Lt AL Robbins
CSgt Slater MA
Sgt Chambers DA
Sgt Rouget S
Cpl Auckland M
Cpl Carter RM
Cpl Derbyshire CM
Cpl Smith JR
LCpl Gallop SI
LCpl Gelsthorpe M
LCpl Handforth JC
LCpl Mattingly A
LCpl Symon T
LCpl Woods JT
Pte Bell CL
Pte Crafer RD
Pte Day M
Pte Good D
Pte Harrison P
Pte Harrison - Kerr (V)
Pte Howard MC
Pte Knowles DP
Pte Mair S
Pte Matthews L
Pte Midgely DM
Pte Peacock JC
Pte Plummer KR
Pte Borrill KS
Pte Broomfield LC
Pte Cruddace M
Pte Day P
Pte Elton MJ
Pte Fuller WC
Pte Gilbert DG
Pte Harrison AL
Pte Hughes GO
Pte Jolly LA
Pte King TL
Pte Parket MJ
Pte Gill ME
Pte Lawrence MJ
Pte Lawson SP
Pte Martin RD
Pte Peart SP
Pte Perry S
Pte Rushby PS
Pte Sizer CC
Pte Sutcliffe MS
Pte Taylor AA
Pte Wells A
Pte Staples LG
Pte Tidswell Ap
Pte Woods

Marriages and Births

Vikings Marriages

Gibbs	On 17 Jan 98, Pte Gibbs to Clare
Kendall	On 31 Jan 98, Pte Kendall to Sam
Smith	On 20 Dec 97, Lt Smith to Melanie
Panter	On 19 Dec 98, LCpl Panter AGC to Dionne

Vikings Births

McHenry	To LCpl and Claire McHenry a daughter, Chloe
Moore	To Cpl and Tracy Moore a son, Samuel
Liddell	To Pte and Myra Liddell a son, Jordan
Neal	To Cpl and Kayla Neal a daughter, Cassi
Rice	To LCpl and Maxine Rice a daughter, Tonisha
Robinson	To LCpl and Justine Robinson a son, George
Wilsher	To Pte and Kerry Wilsher a daughter, Alana
Cook	To Maj and Celia Cook a daughter, Phoebe
Russell	To WO2 and Moira Russell a daughter, Jennifer
Baxter	To Sgt and Kathy Baxter a son, Aaron
Magee	To Cpl and Jo Magee a son, Connor
Okopskyj	To CSgt and Nikki Okopskyj a daughter, Sasha
Tulit	To Pte and Terresa Tulit a son, Dennis
Wilton	To Cpl and Ashleen Wilton a son, Benjamin
Keating	To Cpl and Sam Keating a daughter, Georgia-Louise
Sinclair	To Pte and Charlotte Sinclair a daughter, Amy
Codling	To LCpl and Julie Codling a daughter, Keely

Poachers Marriages

Gage	On 08 Nov 97, Pte Gage to Amanda
Brocklesby	On 22 Nov 97, LCpl Brocklesby to Clare Louise
Young	On 28 Nov 98, Pte Young to Mandy
Dunn	On 06 Dec 98, CSgt Dunn to Samantha Jane
David	On 06 Dec 97, Cpl David to Jackie
Correa	On 13 Dec 97, LCpl Correa to Trish
Tipling	On 20 Dec 97, Pte Tipling to Marcia
Mair	On 20 Dec 97, Pte Mair to Dawn Lisa
Payne	On 20 Dec 97, Pte Payne to Julia
Sands	On 20 Dec 97, Cpl Sands to Theresa Dawn
Pearl	On 23 Dec 97, Pte Pearl to Carla Louise
Mactavish	On 03 Jan 98, Pte Mactavish to Nicola Lousie
Bonner	On 17 Jan 98, Pte Bonner to Ceri-Ann
Lawson	On 31 Jan 98, Pte Lawson to Michelle
Fox	On 07 Feb 98, LCpl Fox to Amanda Mary
Routledge	On 14 Feb 98, Pte Routledge to Louise
Oliver	On 14 Feb 98, Pte Oliver to Julie
Gray	On 16 Feb 98, Sgt Gray to Lisa
Taylor	On 21 Feb 98, LCpl Taylor to Debbie
Bond	On 28 Feb 98, LCpl Bond to Heidi Elizabeth

Poachers Births

Allen	To Pte and Mrs Allen a son, Jordon Jon
Burt	To Sgt and Mrs Burt a son, Leon Ian
Gillespie	To Pte and Mrs Gillespie a son, Liam Martin
Martin	To Pte and Mrs Martin a daughter, Jadean Morgan
Appleton	To Cpl and Mrs Appleton a daughter, Holly Ann
Fleming	To Pte and Mrs Fleming a daughter, Kayleigh Ann
Caine	To Cpl and Mrs Caine a son, Nathan Reece
Leeke	To Pte and Mrs Leeke a son, Bevan Michael
Johnson	To Cpl and Mrs Johnson a daughter, Demi
Hart	To Pte and Mrs Hart a daughter, Caprice
Chillingsworth	To Sgt and Mrs Chillingsworth a son, Ryan Martin
Bolton	To Cpl and Mrs Bolton a daughter, Jenny Suzanne

Tigers Birth

Thurley	To Lt and Mrs Thurley triplets, Jamie, Connor and Mark
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Obituaries

Major (QM) R F Baldry



Major Ray Balry died suddenly at home on 16 December 1997, following a severe heart attack.

Ray joined the Army in 1943 and served in The Coldstream Guards, seeing active service in NW Europe with the Guards Armoured Division. In 1948, he transferred to The Essex Regiment and was posted to The East Anglian Brigade Training Centre at Meanee Barracks, Colchester. He was an instructor on the training team teaching potential officers and NCOs. In 1951, Ray and Kay were married in Colchester.

Ray served with The Essex Regiment in

Germany, Korea, Hong Kong and Dortmund. It was in Dortmund that The Essex Regiment was amalgamated with The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment to become The 3rd East Anglian Regiment.

Ray left on promotion and became RSM of the Depot at Warley Barracks. 3 E Anglian then returned to Warley and Ray became RSM when the Regiment was posted to Malaya. Ray was commissioned in October 1963 and joined 1 E ANGLIAN in Aden as QM. Tours of duty as QM, Admin Officer with 24 Brigade in Plymouth and 2 Div HQ and Sig Sqn at Soest followed. Ray's last appointment was as QM at the Depot at Bassingbourn. He retired from the Army on 24 November 1979.

On retirement, Ray and Kay moved to Sandy, Bedfordshire, where he worked for ten years for a local company until he retired finally.

For so many who served with Ray, he will always be remembered as a dedicated professional soldier, an example to all. He was an outstanding instructor and a firm, yet always fair, disciplinarian who set and maintained the highest of standards. Ray was a man of few words.

When he spoke everyone listened, for it was sound advice and direction being given. He was a marksman with the rifle and represented the Regiment at Bisley on many occasions. He also had a great sense of humour and enjoyed mess life.

Ray also enjoyed playing golf and was, later, an active member of the Sandy Golf Club, where he made many good friends. Ray also loved working in his garden, which was always in immaculate condition.

Ray was a dedicated family man to Kay and his daughter Christina, who described him as "a wonderful dad, of whom I was so proud".

Many who served with Ray were present at his funeral to celebrate with Kay, Christina, Philip, Tom and Joseph the wonderful life Ray had had.

Ray's presence will be sadly missed at The Essex Regiment Reunions at Warley. To Kay and Christina, we extend our warmest and deepest sympathies. We shall always be here to give you our support and prayers.

MDF

Major M Jones

Major Michael Jones, who died in hospital suddenly on 19 March 1998 aged 64, was for many years a widely known and well regarded figure in the Regiment.



After a full military career, and an equally varied second one internationally in administrative management, he became an RO and, with his wealth of experience and skills, served the Regiment once again; first as Area Secretary at Lincoln (1990-94) and then at RHQ at Bury St Edmunds as Assistant Regimental Secretary. His untimely death came while still working in that capacity, and within four months of retirement.

Michael Jones, 'Mike' to many, was born on 16 July 1933 at Woodford Green, Essex. He was educated at prep-school in Derbyshire and St Alban's School, Washington DC, where his father was Petroleum Attache at the British Embassy. In the Autumn of 1952, after the then obligatory 10 weeks basic training in the ranks, he entered RMA

Sandhurst. In February 1954 he was commissioned into The Essex Regiment, following in his father's footsteps, and was posted to the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong. It was there he met Catherine Marshall, who was destined to become his wife and devoted lifelong companion. They married in June 1958 in the Regimental Chapel at Warley while Michael was a training subaltern at the Essex Regiment Depot.

Michael's early career followed the usual pattern of junior officer appointments as Rifle and Support Platoon Commander, Intelligence Officer, Assistant Adjutant and Company Second-in-Command. After Hong Kong he served with 1 ESSEX in Dortmund, with 1 NORTHAMPTONS in Watchet and Aden, and with 1/3 E ANGLIAN in

Obituaries

Malacca, Shoeburyness and Ballykinlar, N. I. In 1963 he returned to the Far East for two periods of secondment lasting five years; first, as Military Intelligence Officer at Brunei Police HQ and, secondly, with 1st/7th Gurkha Rifles in Malaya, Borneo and Hong Kong, as Company Commander twice and Adjutant in between.

A spell on the staff in Belgium at HQ Advanced Base (1969-70) was followed by a two-year tour with the 1st Battalion in Londonderry and Cyprus as a Rifle Company Commander, before returning to the staff as GSO2 in the Military Assistance Office at the MOD (1972-73). The lure of seconded service again proved irresistible and in 1974 Michael and Catherine set out for Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, on his appointment as GSO (Ops) of the Trucial Oman Scouts (later the Union Defence Force). On return home in 1977 he completed his service at HQ Queen's Division at Bassingbourn, retiring in June 1978.

If Michael's Army service had been varied his second career was hardly less so.

He worked exclusively for professionals who worked hard earning fees but lacked the time, the inclination or the experience to tackle administration. So it was that Michael provided the expertise sought by several international, largely UK-based consultancies in various engineering disciplines, and a law firm in Middlesex. These assignments took him as far afield as Dubai, Sri Lanka and Pakistan for years at a time. Housing was sometimes fairly primitive but visiting family and friends could only marvel at Catherine and Michael's home making talents, while enjoying the warmth and generosity of their hospitality.

The funeral took place on 27 March at the Parish Church of St Mary, Rickingham, Suffolk. The Church was filled with family, friends and representatives of local political and ex-service organisations to which Michael had given active support in his spare time. A strong Regimental contingent was led by the Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir Michael Walker.

Michael had a strong sense of duty and a positive, decisive manner. He balanced this with fairness and compassion, qualities which earned him the respect and affection of those who served with him. His mischievous sense of humour and frequently mordant wit, usually delivered dead-pan, made him entertaining company, and if discussions with him felt more like briefing sessions you were always left informed - emphatically informed!

Michael and Catherine had a very special partnership which lasted almost forty years and Michael had great pride in the successful development and achievements of his children.

Sadly he did not live to see his four-month old grand-daughter, India, who was born in South Africa. To Catherine, Edward and Vervan, and all members of Michael's family, we offer our love and sympathy in their great loss.

JEH

In addition to the above Obituaries, we regret to record the deaths of the following:

THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

Mrs Toni Milward, wife of Captain J F Milward, formerly PSAO 6th Bn, on 23 January 1998.

Mrs Diane Allen, wife of Captain R J Allen, PSAO 6th Bn, on 28 January 1998.

THE SUFFOLK REGIMENT

Col W A Heal OBE, on 14 February 1998. 'Tiny' Heal was commissioned into The Suffolk Regiment in 1932, commanded 5 Essex in Italy from 1944-46 and commanded 1 Suffolk from 1953-55. He was Bde Col the East Anglian Bde in 1958 and later the Regiment's Dep Hon Col TA for Suffolk. On retirement, he was Regimental Secretary for both The Royal Norfolk and Suffolk Regiments.

Lord Wyatt of Weeford, died 7 December 1997. Woodrow Wyatt served in The Suffolk Regiment throughout the war and was a long serving member of the OCA.

THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE REGIMENT

Lt Col ELV (Victor) Mapey OBE TD, Patron The Cambridgeshire Regiment OCA, on 5 April 1998.

THE ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENT

Pte FG Clark, 1st Bn R Lincolns, died on 22 May 1997. John Clark served from 1948-53 in Egypt, Transjordan, the Canal Zone and England, and in Germany with 1 Sherwood Foresters. He was a long serving member of the Lincoln Branch of the Association and will be greatly missed by his family and friends. ET

Notices

East Anglia Resettlement Advice Centre

Are you leaving the Army and planning to settle in East Anglia? If so you may consider making use of the Service Leavers' Support Team (SLST) based in Colchester. The Team is located in the East Anglia Resettlement Advice Centre, Napier House, Napier Road, and is headed by a Royal Anglian Regiment Officer, Lt Col Peter Dixon.

The role of the SLST is primarily to help members of 24 Airmobile Brigade make the transition to civilian life. However, assistance is given to any Service leaver who is planning to settle in East Anglia and in recent months an increasing number of Vikings have been making use of the facilities offered by the Resettlement Advice Centre. The Centre also welcomes any ex-Servicemen who are looking for re-employment.

The Centre has a large reference library and holds details of current local job vacancies as well as training providers. The SLST organises regular Employment Seminars and Job Finders Workshops, which cover subjects such as CV writing, interview techniques and job applications.

Any member or ex-member of the Regiment who is interested in making use of the facilities in the Centre is welcome to visit at any time during normal working hours. Contact telephone/fax number: 01206 782560 or Mil 765 - 2560.

Haig Homes Housing Bulletin

Unfurnished houses and flats are let to ex-Servicemen and women on secure assured tenancies at favourable rents of between £45.00 and £85.00 per week, depending on type and area. Properties are in 40 locations throughout the UK. Most are three bedroom semi-detached houses, but four, two and one bedroom accommodation is sometimes available. If you can foresee a need for housing apply as early as possible to go on the waiting list for particular areas.

Locations

Waiting lists are open for housing in the following areas:

Belfast, Bristol, Cardiff, Carlisle, Cheltenham, Edinburgh, Enfield, Glasgow, Gloucester, Grimsby, Hull, Jersey, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Morden, Newcastle, Norwich, Penzance, Portsmouth, Romford, Ruislip, Sheffield, Southend-on-Sea, Sunderland, Sutton Coldfield, Swansea, Warrington.

Applications

Apply in the first case with details of your housing circumstances to Mrs Theresa Ferebee, Housing Officer, on 0181 648 0335, for further information.

Equal Opportunities

Ex-Service people from ethnic minority groups are presently under-represented on the waiting list. Applications from members of ethnic and other minority groups are therefore welcomed.

Local Authority Housing

If you are on a Local Authority Housing Department waiting list you are likely to be given priority for a tenancy of a Haig Home if there is one in your catchment area.

Book Review - 'Reveille and Retribution'

For the many of you who have enjoyed the writings of 'Sustainer' over the years in the British Army Review there is now a chance to own a selection of some of his hilarious and most memorable jottings.

He has been joined by the excellent military illustrator 'Piscator', a former member of The Regiment known to members of the 3rd and 4th Battalions, in a joint effort that will bring smiles to the many of you who have met the military characters so clearly depicted.

The reviewer sympathises most with the RO who was found in a fitness-mad Mess quietly sitting at the bar dunking his mon-ocle in his G and T!

The proceeds of this excellent little publication are being donated to The Army Benevolent Fund and copies, which will make an excellent stocking filler for former Comrades and your other friends, who all think we are slightly dotty, can be obtained at a cost of £10. 95 including packaging from the publishers:

Bulldog Publishing Limited

FREEPOST KE8669, Weston Colville, Cambridge CB1 7YE

Book Review

Boycott: The Life Behind The Word'

This book is written by a retired officer of The Suffolk Regiment who commanded the Depot from 1954 to 1956. It is a family history with a difference. The first part is about his ancestors who were Rectors of Burgh St-Peter, a village in Norfolk on the Waveney near Lowestoft. Five generations of the family held the living in unbroken succession from 1775 to 1899. We hear a great deal about the life in Norfolk and Suffolk during these times. It cannot but be of interest to anyone living in these counties.

The second part is to do with a Charles Cunningham Boycott who, having soldiered in Ireland, remained there as a Landowner and agent for other Landowners. It was he who gave his name to a word now in use the world over - to 'Boycott' someone or something. This is not just about his family but a very interesting account of the Irish problems from the potato famines until Boycott's death in 1897. The book has taken a very long time to research but the end result is a really good read.

RGW

Notices

A SECOND CAREER AS A YEOMAN WARDER HM TOWER OF LONDON

The Yeoman Warders are descended from the ancient band of warders who, from early in the Tower's history, had the responsibility for guarding the gates and royal prisoners. From the reign of Henry VIII, these duties were carried out by the King's Yeomen at the Tower who were entitled to wear the royal livery - a version of which is still worn. The Yeoman Body numbers about 40 and their duties include looking after the 2 1/2 million visitors who visit each year from all over the world and contributing to safety and security. This includes giving guided tours, answering questions and having endless photographs taken. You therefore need to be good with people to be an effective Yeoman Warder.

Accommodation is provided in the Tower for Yeoman Warders and their families. There is likely to be a waiting list and Yeoman Warders may live out if they so wish. A new pay structure is to be introduced in 1998 but, currently, the starting salary, including overtime and allowances, is around £16,000.

Yeoman Warders are now recruited from all three Services. The qualifications are:

- a. Minimum rank of Staff Sergeant (although Sergeants may be considered in very exceptional circumstances).
- b. 'Exemplary' character.
- c. Under 50 years of age on appointment (Retirement age is 60).
- d. Applicants would normally be expected to hold the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, but non-holders will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- e. Medically fit.

Service as a Yeoman Warder is not just another job; it is a way of life. As a member of the Queen's Body Guard of Yeomen of the Guard Extraordinary, you will be expected to set the highest standards and to adhere to the traditions and ethos of this historic body.

Before applying, you are encouraged to contact the Chief Yeoman Warder (0171 488 5643). Interviews will normally be held shortly before a specific recruitment takes place. However, we would be delighted to receive applications at any time. If you wish to do so, write to:

Human Resources Manager
Waterloo Block
HM Tower of London
London EC3N 4AB

Tel No:- 01628 483550

JTS

Fax No:- 01628 486954

Jordan Travel Service
12-14 Glendower Pl. London SW7 3DP

Return to Aden

Sunday 8th November – Sunday 15th November 1998

Meals:- Half board (Buffet Breakfast & dinner, each day)

Visas:- A visa is required for Yemen.

The current cost is £29, plus a visa- handling fee of £12 per person.

Airport Tax:- UK airport tax included; Yemen airport tax £7.

Cost per person:- £ 748 (twin) **Single supplement:-** £138

(Subject to a minimum of 15)

Association Branches

Norfolk

HQ The Royal Norfolk Regiment Association and The Norfolk Branch The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Norfolk) Britannia House, TA Centre, 325 Aylsham Road, Norwich, Norfolk NR3 2AD
Tel: (01603) 400290
President: Maj Gen Sir David Thorne KBE CVO

King's Lynn Branch:

Chairman: Capt A A Hammond OBE, Sandena, Old Mill Road, Roughton, Norwich NR11 8PE

Secretary: Mrs C Hudson, 24 Rosebery Avenue, King's Lynn, Norfolk PO30 4AA
Tel: (01553) 762478

Gt Yarmouth/Gorleston Branch:

Mr R C Pillar, 16 Alder Close, Bradwell, Gt Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 8PD

London Branch:

Mr M J Frances, 4 Kingswood Park, Hendon Avenue, Finchley, London N3 1UG

Norwich Branch:

Mr P E Boxall, 31 Breckland Road, New Costessey, Norwich NR5 0RW

Suffolk

HQ The Suffolk Regiment Old Comrades Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Branch) The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN
Tel: (01284) 752394 (Wednesdays Only)

President: Brig W C Deller OBE

Bury St. Edmunds and District Branch:

Mr J Gingell, The Willows, Depden, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP29 4BY

Ipswich Branch:

Mr A E Stollery, 12 Cedar House, 2 Heatherhayes, Ipswich, Suffolk IP14 3CB

Hemel Hempstead Branch:

Mr R G Picton, 45 Paston Road, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 5AZ

Beccles Branch:

Mr M L Martin, 46 Fair Close, Beccles, Norfolk NR34 9QR

Felixstowe Branch:

Mr N Buckingham, Marshaba, 18 Fairfield Avenue, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP1 9JN

Stowmarket Branch:

Mr S P Sykes BEM, 27 Broomspath Road, Stowupland, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 4DB

Leiston Branch:

Mr A A Smith BEM, 95 Abbey Road, Leiston, Suffolk IP16 4TA

Sudbury Branch:

Mr D Land, 2 Pot Kiln Road, Gt Cornard, Sudbury CO10 0DA

Cambridgeshire

HQ The Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades Association and The Cambridgeshire Branch The Royal Anglian Regiment Association C/O TA Centre, Coldhams Lane, Cambridge CB1 3HT
Patrons: Col WF Page MC TD
President: Lt Col W F Badcock MBE

Cambridge Branch:

Col D E Latchford, 48 Lode Road, Bottusham, Cambs CB5 9DJ
Tel: (01223) 811454

Ely Branch:

Mr H R Hitch, 4 Olives Way, March, Cambridgeshire PE15 4PU

March and District Branch:

Chairman: Mr D W H Cox, 13 Fleming Court, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 9HD
Tel: (01354) 52021

Wisbech Branch:

Major DS Denson TD, 107, Drybread Road, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire PE7 1XL

Whittlesey/Peterborough Branch:

Mr B Whitwell, 48 Coronation Avenue, Whittlesea, Cambridgeshire PE7 1XE

Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire

HQ The Royal Anglian Regiment Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Association, Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood, Essex CM13 3BN
Tel: Brentwood (01277) 213051
President: Brig AFFH Robertson CBE

Hertford Branch:

Mr S R Mansfield, 1a Gwynne's Walk, Hertford SG13 8AD
Tel: (01992) 581551

St Alban's Branch:

Mr H R Howard, 24 Sherwood Rise, South Down, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 1LU
Tel: (01582) 621725

Bedford Branch:

Mr E Roberts, 3 Manor Close, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7AA
Tel: 01234 854 507

Hitchin Branch:

Mr B Read, 12 Habey Drive, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG9 4QN
Tel: (01462) 450710

Hertfordshire Regiment Association

Mr C Austin, 97 West Street, Hertford, Herts SG13 8EI
Tel: (01992) 558757

Watford and Hemel Hempstead Branch:

Mr E G Owens, 37 Bidshall Crescent, Dunstable, Bedfordshire LU6 3NF
Tel: (01582) 665734

Luton and Dunstable Branch:

Mr S Chapman, 86 St Margaret's Avenue, Luton, Bedfordshire LU3 1PQ
Tel: (01582) 28976

Essex

The Essex and Royal Anglian Regiments Association HQ The Royal Anglian Regiment, Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood, Essex CM13 3BN
Tel: (01277) 213051
President: Col G C P Morgan DL

4th Battalion Comrades Association:

Mr E B Hazle DCM, 11 Hunter Avenue, Shenfield, Essex CM15 8PE
Tel: (01277) 214606

7th Eagle and Gun

Regimental Association:

Mr V Foulsham, 62 Armstrong Avenue, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 9PT
Tel: (0181) 531 4808

Chelmsford and District Branch:

Miss S Ostler, St Michael's, 1 Gloucester Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9DP
Tel: (01245) 358724

Thurrock and District Branch:

Mr P Giggins, 89 Salisbury Road, Grays, Essex RM17 6DG
Tel: (01375) 378427

Lincolnshire

The Royal Lincolnshire and Royal Anglian Regimental Association, The Keep, Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY
Tel: (01522) 525444

President: Maj Gen R E J Gerrard-Wright CB CBE DL

Lincoln Branch:

Mr A Hibbard, 17 Ruckland Avenue, Lincoln LN1 3TF
Tel: (01522) 530396

Grimsby Branch:

Mr D Carroll, 87 Manor Drive, Waltham, Grimsby, Lincolnshire DN37 0NS
Tel: (01472) 826953

Grantham Branch:

Mr J W Flatters, 17 Longcliffe Road, Grantham, Lincs NG31 8DZ
Tel: (01476) 563548

Spalding Branch:

Mr A Waterfall, 26 Brewster Road, Boston, Lincolnshire PE21 0DY
Tel: (01205) 358565

Midlands Branch:

Mr L Wood, 15 Lancheater Road, Radford, Coventry CV6 3EY
Tel: (01203) 597815

Stamford Branch:

Capt W L Simpson, St Clement, 8 Barn Hill, Stamford, Lincolnshire PE9 2YG

Scunthorpe Branch:

Mr C Bromby, 85 Southfield Road, Scunthorpe, South Humberside DN16 3BT
Tel: (01724) 859253

Northamptonshire

HQ The Northamptonshire Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Northampton) Gibraltar Barracks, Barrack Road, Northampton NN1 3RE
Tel: (01604) 635412
Chairman: Col P Worthby

Corby Branch:

Mr K R Fordyce, 7 Motston Close, Corby, Northamptonshire NN17 2JD
Tel: (01536) 202761

Finedon Branch:

Mr RH Ogle, 44 Hayden Avenue, Finedon, Northants NN9 5ET
Tel: (01933) 681525

Peterborough Branch:

Mr D Allen, 10 Werrington Bridge Road, Milking Nook, Peterborough PE6 7PP
Tel: (01733) 810311

Leicestershire

HQ The Royal Tigers' Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Leicestershire) TA Centre, Ulvercroft Road, Leicester LE4 6BY
Tel: (0116) 2622749

President: Maj Gen A J G Pollard CB CBE

Wiltshire

Warminster Branch:

The Royal Anglian Regiment Association, Po Box 123, Headquarters Infantry, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 0DG
Tel: (01985) 219273 Ext 2211

Regimental Shop

LETTER	ITEM	PRICE £
A	ASH/PIN TRAY	2.25
B1	BADGE Blazer	8.50
B2	BADGE Cloth	0.80
B3	BADGE Collar 1st Bn, 2nd Bn, 3rd Bn	14.50 pr
B4	BADGE Eagle (Arm)	3.35
B5	BADGE Lapel	1.80
B6	BADGE Lapel Boxed Gold	4.75
B7	BADGE Lapel Association	1.30
C1	BELT Stable XL, L, M	9.45
C2	BELT Trousers XL, L, M, S	5.60
D1	BOOKMARK LEATHER Presentation of Colours	1.00
D2	BOOKMARK LEATHER Colours	0.40
D3	BOOKMARK LEATHER Drummer	0.66
E1	BUTTON Blazer Gilt L, S (Star)	1.85
E2	BUTTON Hat/Mess Kit (Tiger)	3.50
	CAP Baseball, Navy, White Badge (not shown)	3.00
	CASSETTE 'ARRIVAL', Minden Band (not shown)	6.00
	CD 'ARRIVAL', Minden Band (not shown)	10.00
F	CHRISTMAS CARD	0.37
G2	COFFEE MUG CHINA Gold Band, Blue Badge	2.90
G3	COFFEE MUG Black/Yellow Badge	1.60
	CUFF LINKS Gold Plated, Square (not shown)	15.00
	CUFF LINKS Enamel (not shown)	6.80
H1	GLASS with Handle, 1 Pint	1.95
H2	GLASS Whisky	1.30
H3	GLASS Straight, 1 Pint	1.30
	ICE BUCKET DRUM	4.25
J1	KEY RING Leather	0.45
J2	KEY RING Belt Colours	2.25
K	PENDANT on Gold Chain	7.40
	PEN Ballpoint, Blue, Black (not shown)	1.15
L	PEWTER TANKARD, Regimental Crest	17.50
L1	PEWTER TANKARD, Badged 1st Bn (not shown)	19.65
	PEWTER TANKARD, Badged 2nd Bn (not shown)	19.65
M1	POSTCARD Set of 16	5.00
M2	POSTCARD Single	0.40
N	PRINT Set of Eight Former Regiments	5.20
N	PRINT Single	0.65
N1	PRINT Drummer, Large	0.50
O	RIBBON 1.5" Wide, as Stable Belt	2.60 mtr
P	ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT BROCHURE	2.75
Q	SHIELD REGIMENTAL Hand Painted	25.95
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R2	STICKERS 4"	1.20
R3	STICKERS 6"	1.25
R4	STICKERS 12"	3.85
	SUIT COVERS Blue PVC (not shown)	4.80



LETTER	ITEM	PRICE £
S	SWEATSHIRT Navy, White Printed Badge	
XX	13.50
XL, L	12.95
T	T SHIRT Navy, White Printed Badge	
XXL	5.75
XL, L	5.50
U1	TABLE MATS Former Regiments, Red	33.15
U2	TABLE MATS Former Regiments, Dark Blue	33.15
V	TEA TOWEL Badges of the Army	2.25
V1	TEA TOWEL Royal Anglian 1st & 2nd Bn	3.40
V2	TEA TOWEL Royal Anglian 1st, 2nd & 3rd Bn	3.40
V3	TEA TOWEL Royal Anglian 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Bn	3.40
W	THIMBLES CHINA Regimental Crest Boxed	1.60
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Y	TIE PIN/SWEETHEART BROOCH Gold Boxed	6.90
	TIE TACK on Chain (not shown)	3.80
Z	UMBRELLA	3.50

Note:

1. Orders, together with remittance by cheque/postal order, made payable to "Royal Anglian Regiment Association", to be posted to RHQ The Royal Anglian Regiment, The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN. Please also include your daytime contact telephone number.

2. All prices include VAT and are subject to manufacturer's price increases.

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(Bank Address) Please pay now to Barclays Bank PLC, 52 Abbeygate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 1LL, and thereafter annually on the first day of June, the sum of £6.00 for the credit of the Royal Anglian Regiment RHQ Account (Number 30657336)

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THE MUCKLEBURGH COLLECTION



The Muckleburgh Collection is Britain's largest privately owned military museum. Set in 350 acres in North Norfolk countryside, the original NAAFI block of this former Weybourne camp, originally established in 1588, the year of the Armada, houses the heart of the collection. Recently, the 7th Battalion donated a ZPU-1 to the museum. This Soviet Anti-Aircraft quick change barrel heavy machine gun, a prize from the Gulf War, is now in company with the ZPU-2 and ZPU-4.

The old military camp was a main training camp for the Ack Ack (Anti Aircraft) Command. From 1936, A A Batteries were trained to improve shooting skills by firing at a radio controlled 'Queen Bee' or a drogue towed behind a Westland Wallace biplane. Winston Churchill visited Weybourne in 1941 to inspect the progress but left unimpressed. He demanded an improvement within a few weeks otherwise the whole staff would be sacked.

The site was cleared of crumbling huts in 1986/87 and formally opened by the Duke of Argyll as a public attraction on 8th May 1988. The collection has grown steadily each year and to date comprises 16 tanks, all in working order, approximately 150 armoured cars, vehicles, guns, bombs and missiles. Also, the comprehensive collection of the Suffolk and Norfolk Yeomanry, uniforms, photographs, a whole range of models and 3,000 other items of memorabilia. Its Naval model ships(54) all to the same scale are probably unique.

The museum is open daily from mid February to the end of October, 10am - 5pm. Tank demonstrations take place every Sunday and daily during the school summer holiday. We also offer a bumpy ride in a Gama Goat, a six wheeled drive American cargo carrier, for a small charge of £1.50. If you would like any further information, please call 01263 588 210/608

**WE WILL
NEVER
FORGET
YOU**

Please Remember

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If this is of interest to you, and if you are a serving or retired Officer, or wife, widow or dependant, of H M Services, or a serving or retired Civil Servant, please contact our qualified staff for further details at

Osborne House, East Cowes, Isle of Wight PO32 6JY
Tel: 01983 292511 Fax: 01983 295673.



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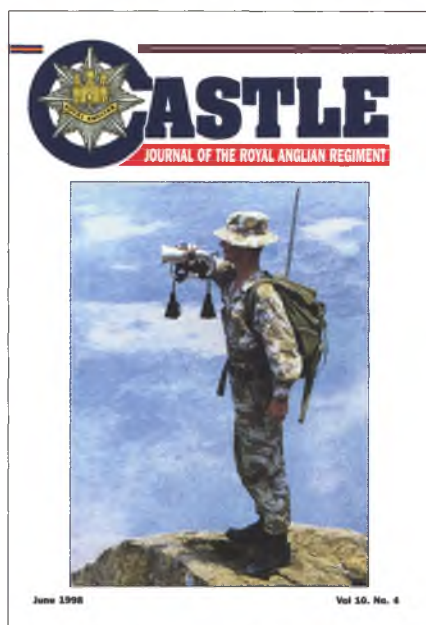
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