



# CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT



**WILCON**  
HOMES

Where the heart is.

A Wilcon street scene

**Heartlands  
East Dereham**

A superb development  
of 4 and 5 bedroom  
homes.

For further details contact us on  
**01362 690916**

**Bishops Park  
Kings Lynn**

A superb development  
of 1, 2 and 3 bedroom  
homes.

For further details contact us on  
**01553 773301**

**The Willows, Thetford**

A superb development of  
4 and 5 bedroom homes.

For further details contact us on  
**01842 762680**

Wilcon Homes have been building  
new homes since 1905 and is one  
of the country's most successful  
and respected housebuilders.  
Excellent locations, innovative  
designs, quality materials and  
careful craftsmanship combine to  
make Wilcon the name you can  
trust. So why not make Wilcon  
your first choice?

Sales Centres and Showhomes  
open 11am to 5pm 7 days a week.

**Mountwood  
Bury St. Edmunds**

A superb development  
of 4 and 5 bedroom  
homes.

For further details contact us on  
**01284 723097**

**Broomhills  
Downham Market**

A superb development of  
3 and 4 bedroom  
homes.

For further details contact us on  
**01366 387948**



**H.C. WOLTON & SON**  
PRACTICE EST. 1919

*Surveyors, Valuers & Auctioneers*

- BUILDING SURVEYS
- RICS/ISVA HOMEBUYER SURVEY AND VALUATION
- VALUATIONS

*Nationwide coverage provided*

*Contact:*

**COLCHESTER (01206) 560785**  
THE GRANARY, 9 ST JOHN'S ST, COLCHESTER



## COLLINS CONTRACT CLEANING

*Specialist Domestic Cleaning*

**Commercial and Industrial**  
Large or Small Contracts  
COMPETITIVE RATES

Offices/Shops/Factories  
Builders Cleans  
Window Cleaning  
Carpet/Curtain Cleaning



15 Ladysmith Avenue, Brightlingsea  
Colchester 01206 305366  
Mobile 0585 657118

## TEDDIES 'N' TOYS

Bridge Street,  
Downham Market,  
Norfolk PE38 9DW

We stock collectable bears made by Merrythought ☆ Russ Berrie, Russ Vintage Edition now in stock ☆ Boyds ☆ Deans ☆ Deb Canham ☆ Colourbox ☆ Ty Beanie's, Attics etc ☆ Cottage Collectables ☆ Heartfelt ☆ Alberon Dolls & Plush. Teddy related ornaments.

We also have Artist bears by Maureen Frost - Honeyhill Bears, Ruth Dickinson - Wellwood bears. Sarah's Bears, Joy Jeyes Miniatures, Gill's Gollies.

BFPO Orders welcome.

**Telephone 01366 386950**



## Cellini's of Colchester

*The name you can trust*

# Nails

Nail Extensions  
Luxury Manicures & Broken Nail Repairs

★ Waxing ★ Eyelash Tinting ★ Eyebrow Shaping

Phone/Fax: 01206 578778  
email: nails@callinis.co.uk

13 North Hill, Colchester CO1 1DZ

## The Corner Exchange Colchester

**01206 572506**

All secondhand household goods bought  
and sold

'The only complete secondhand goods  
dealer in Colchester'

What would you do without us?

Plume Avenue, Colchester CO3 4PG

*Interior Design...  
...for busy people*



Our store: We bring thousands of quality design samples to your door at a time to suit you.

Our products: We have everything you need, from soft furnishing to lighting, furniture and carpets.

Our consultations: There's no charge for our time. You only pay for the products you purchase.

Our ideas: We use your ideas and our expertise to give you what you want within an agreed budget.

Call today! Freephone 0800 373678 or 01268 747986



**Decorating Den**



# FREE

MILITARY KIT, PERSONAL  
ACCIDENT OR DEATH COVER  
INSURANCE WITH OUR

**FORCES**  
*direct*

# Motor Insurance

- Preferential rates and exclusive schemes for H.M.Forces, MoD Personnel (serving & retired).
- Immediate cover and monthly payment schemes.
- Special schemes available for military kit, home contents, buildings & travel insurance.
- Open 365 days a year.
- 8am-10pm weekdays, 9am-9pm weekends

[www.forcesdirect.co.uk](http://www.forcesdirect.co.uk)

# 0800 074 9402



**Forces Direct Insurance Service Ltd.**

The Manor House, 10 St.Margarets Green, Ipswich, Suffolk. IP4 2BS

Tel: (01473) 211951 Fax: (01473) 213898

email: [sales@forcesdirect.co.uk](mailto:sales@forcesdirect.co.uk)

**JOLLIFLEUR**  
*Florists*

\* Daily Deliveries \* Fresh Cut Flowers \* Pot Plants  
\* Dried & Silk Flowers \* Specialists in Wedding  
Flowers & Floral Tributes

51 High Street, Wivenhoe, CO1 9BJ  
**01206 826001**

**BROWNS COUTURE**

Bridal & Evening Wear  
gowns made to measure

Hire service available

Any design undertaken

41 High Street  
Wivenhoe  
01206 827270



**LOUIS MICHEL**  
*Exclusive Shoes &  
Leather Wear*

**NOW OPEN**

Stockists of Italian Shoes

Di Sandro	Habille
Lello Bacio	Vincini

*to name a few*

5 Doubleday Corner, Coggeshall  
Tel: 01376 562327

**MILL RACE NURSERY**



- \* Garden Design
- \* Large Plant Centre
- \* Boating on the River Colne
- \* Dried & Silk flower shop
- \* Garden Furniture
- \* Coffee Shop

NEW ROAD, FORD STREET, ALDHAM,  
COLCHESTER (just off A1124 at Ford Street)

Tel: 01206 242521  
Open 7 days a week

**SIZED UP**



*We* have customers from all over the UK who return season after season to enjoy our friendly service and extensive choice.

Feel free to come and have a look.

We stock sizes 14-26

Speedy alterations

Open 10am-4pm

Closed Wednesday

**11 Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex**  
**Tel: 01787 472633**

**Ideal Dutch**

Conservatory Furniture  
Gifts & Accessories  
Teak & Hardwood Garden Furniture



Showroom opening times:  
Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm  
Sunday 10am-2pm

Showroom within  
F.V. Conservatories  
(opposite Q8 Garage)

**Ideal Dutch**, Colchester Road, Elmstead Market, Essex CO7 7EU  
Tel: 01206 242366 • Mobile: 07771 510805

**10% OFF  
DMC KITS  
TO ARMY WIVES**

**THE IPSWICH NEEDLECRAFT CENTRE**

**57 QUEENSWAY, IPSWICH, SUFFOLK IP3 9EX**

**TEL: 01473 715252**

**FREE  
POSTAGE  
& PACKING**



**K3401 Convent Lily**  
14 count 14" x 17"  
RRP £25.00  
Our Price **£22.50**



**K3403 Henry VIII**  
16 count 17" x 14"  
RRP £25.00  
Our Price **£22.50**



**K3405 King Arthur**  
16 count 17" x 14"  
RRP £25.00  
Our Price **£22.50**



**K3402 Sweet Rose**  
14 count 14" x 17"  
RRP £25.00  
Our Price **£22.50**



**K3320 Farmyard Fun**  
16 count 14" x 11"  
RRP £15.00  
Our Price **£13.50**



**K3261 Cockerel**  
16 count 6" x 6"  
RRP £7.95  
Our Price **£7.15**



**K3368 Side By Side**  
14 count 8" x 10"  
RRP £11.00  
Our Price **£9.90**



**K3370 Scrumping**  
14 count 10" x 8"  
RRP £11.00  
Our Price **£9.90**



**K3367 Keep To Your Own Side**  
14 count 8" x 10"  
RRP £11.00  
Our Price **£9.90**



**K3379 Stile**  
16 count 5" x 7"  
RRP £6.95  
Our Price **£6.25**



**K3380 Gate**  
16 count 5" x 7"  
RRP £6.95  
Our Price **£6.25**



**K3400 Follow The Leader**  
16 count 17" x 11"  
RRP £25.00  
Our Price **£22.50**



**K3201 Balloon Journey**  
16 count 8" x 10"  
RRP £9.95  
Our Price **£8.95**



**K3202 Towelling Dry**  
16 count 8" x 10"  
RRP £9.95  
Our Price **£8.95**



**K3272 In Trouble Again**  
16 count 8" x 10"  
RRP £13.00  
Our Price **£11.70**



**K3274 Daisy Chains**  
16 count 8" x 10"  
RRP £13.00  
Our Price **£11.70**



**K3208 Poppy Girl**  
16 count 8" x 10"  
RRP £13.00  
Our Price **£11.70**



**T60445 Poppies**  
14 count 7" x 16"  
RRP £12.00  
Our Price **£10.80**



**K3258 Summer Roses**  
16 count 9" x 12"  
RRP £13.00  
Our Price **£11.70**



**K3259 Wild Roses**  
16 count 9" x 12"  
RRP £13.00  
Our Price **£11.70**



**K3406 Balloons**  
16 count 12" x 17"  
RRP £25.00  
Our Price **£22.50**



**K3338 Sealife**  
16 count 12" x 14"  
RRP £19.50  
Our Price **£17.55**



**K3287 Fast Off**  
16 count 7" x 5"  
RRP £6.95  
Our Price **£6.25**



**K3290 Kitten**  
16 count 9" x 9"  
RRP £13.00  
Our Price **£11.70**



**K3412 Horses**  
16 count 17" x 12"  
RRP £25.00  
Our Price **£22.50**



**K3216 Village Stroll**  
18 count 8" x 10"  
RRP £12.00  
Our Price **£10.80**



**K3217 Station**  
18 count 8" x 10"  
RRP £12.00  
Our Price **£10.80**



**K3218 Sweet Shop**  
18 count 8" x 10"  
RRP £12.00  
Our Price **£10.80**



**K3248 Family Tree**  
16 count 14" x 17"  
RRP £24.00  
Our Price **£21.60**

Available from our shop or by mail order. Please make cheques/postal orders payable to:  
**The Ipswich Needlecraft Centre, Apple Tree Cottage, Mellis Road, Thornham Parva, Eye, Suffolk IP23 8ET**



## Parliament Restaurant & Bar

- Traditional English Menu
- Daily Chefs Specials
- Available for Private Functions & Celebrations

Open 7 days a week for  
Lunch & Dinner

**01206 577986**

The Red Lion Hotel,  
High Street, Colchester

[www.brook-hotels.co.uk](http://www.brook-hotels.co.uk)

## GREAT VALUE CRUISING

### INCLUDES:

- Gourmet food
- FREE entertainment on ship
- 'Broadway style' shows

*Fantastic deals available now.*

*Don't be disappointed!*

Call your friendly local independent Cruise Consultant NOW

**Tel: 01277 356592**

TTA: R542X CRUISE CONTROL



## The Frock Shop

*'Sophisticated clothes for young women and those that still are!'*

58b Rosemary Road  
Clacton-on-Sea  
Essex CO15 1TE  
Telephone: 01255 431580

### THE HOUSE WITHOUT A NAME EASTHORPE NR MARKS TEY



Situated between Copford and Messing, this intriguingly named pub dates back to the 16th century and includes a resident ghost.

Gary and Laura serve fresh, traditional home cooked food at very reasonable prices. Quality real ales and fine wines are available with your meal 7 days a week, including a magnificent Sunday Lunch menu.

Open all day Saturday and Sunday.

The No Name' welcomes families to the restaurant, beer garden and picturesque duck pond.

**01206 213070**

## The Leaping Hare



Vineyard Restaurant,  
Country Store and Gardens  
*at*  
Wyken Vineyard

*1998 Good Food Guide  
'Vineyard Restaurant of the Year'*

OPEN 10-6 Thurs, Fri, Sat and Sun  
EVENINGS Fri and Sat

Please Book 01359 250 287  
Wyken Vineyards Stanton,  
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk

Discover the exciting opportunities  
for a great day out

## *in* **Thetford Forest Park**



### **Starting from High Lodge Forest Centre**

#### **OPENING HOURS**

Forest Drive 10am-8pm (or dusk)

Centre open every day Easter-October 10-5

November-March weekends only 11-4

*Shop & refreshments • Forest walks & trails  
• Cycle hire • Picnic & play area • Squirrel's  
maze • Wildlife hide • Orienteering &  
squirrel scamper • Special events  
programme • Education services*

#### **For further information**

Forest District Office  
Santon Downham, Brandon IP27 0TJ  
Telephone: **01842 810271 or 815434**



## *RIDE AWAY*

Everything for the Horse & Rider

### **FREE SADDLE FITTING SERVICE**

Country wear clothing  
Stockists of Mark Regent, Puffa, Musto etc  
Horse wormers

Open 9.00am-6.00pm Summertime ) Mon-Sat  
9.00am-5.00pm Oct-March

Full repair service  
MAIL ORDER AVAILABLE

**IPSWICH (01473) 257096**

Cockfield Hall Lane, Westerfield, Ipswich



## **COLCHESTER COACHES**

**where service still counts**

Private & Contract Hire  
Holiday - Day Trips  
School Travel

**53-73 Seater with Reclining Seats**

*For a pleasant journey at  
competitive prices*

**COLCHESTER  
(01255) 424000**



282 London Road, Clacton-on-Sea  
**Mobile: 0850 720060**

# **Holiday in Zimbabwe**

**Secluded chalets in a very scenic area  
30km from Harare.**

**Safaris, visits, car hire etc arranged prior to arrival**

## **Contact**

Joyce and John Rourke  
PO Box HG140, Highlands, Harare, Zimbabwe

**Tel: (2634) 339467/746485**

**Fax: 776521**

**Email: [timelink@mail.pci.co.zw](mailto:timelink@mail.pci.co.zw)**





At last! Good news for golfers who can't get a handicap without joining a club and can't join a club without a handicap. For only £25 you can become an Associate Member of the English Golf Union or the English Ladies' Golf Association, the governing bodies for amateur golf in England and gain recognition of your playing abilities with your own membership card. Call us now and we'll send you a brochure/application form that tells you all about it.

## join this club!"

### ENJOY THE BENEFITS

- An EGU/ELGA Associate Member handicap
- The opportunity to play courses normally closed to non-handicap golfers (some at reduced fees)
- Starter pack and membership card
- A free monthly prize draw
- A superb coaching package at the National Golf Centre
- Clothing, holiday, insurance and merchandise packages
- Quarterly newsletter and updates
- Regional competitions with a national final for Associate Members

For your brochure/application form call the number below and ask for 'Associate Member information'

**Tel: 01526 354 500**

English Golf Union, Woodhall Spa, Lincolnshire, LN10 6PU.  
WEB <http://www.englishgolfunion.org> E-MAIL [info@englishgolfunion.org](mailto:info@englishgolfunion.org)



## THE UNDERWATER CENTRE FORT WILLIAM SCOTLAND

**REMOTELY OPERATED VEHICLE TRAINING**

Electronics  
Hydraulics  
Acoustics



**LEISURE DIVING**

PADI dive courses  
ITDA technical courses  
Speciality diving courses



**NEW FOR THE MILLENNIUM**

**MIXED GAS DIVING SYSTEM**

**ARRIVES IN SCOTLAND.**

**THE ONLY HSE CLOSED BELL ASSESSMENT CENTRE IN THE WORLD**

**DIVE TO 150 METRES**

**COMMERCIAL DIVER TRAINING HSE COURSES**

Scuba, Media, Scientific, Surface Supplied, Wet Bell, Closed Bell (Saturation).



Air Supervisor  
Mixed Gas Supervisor  
Wet Welding  
Cutting/Burning, First Aid, Diver Medic, A.L.S.T.

**Whatever you choose as your underwater career call the professionals at the world renowned Underwater Centre**



ISM 215181/ED  
Institute of Supervisors  
Management Assessment Centre



Member Company



SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY  
Assessment No. 4096724



Registered HSE Diving Contractor 0089  
HSE Recognised Competency Assessment Centre



The Underwater Centre - Fort William - Inverness-shire PH33 6LZ - Scotland  
Tel: +44 (0) 1397 703786 Fax: +44 (0) 1397 704969  
EMAIL: [mc@stenmar.com](mailto:mc@stenmar.com) WEB SITE: <http://www.stenmar.com> (A member of the Stenmar Group of Companies)

# FLS Aerospace Limited



FLS Aerospace is one of the world's fastest growing providers of value-for-money, full support aircraft maintenance, component management and overhaul services. In 1998 we launched our Prime Maintenance Organisation (PMO™) total support product and we now support over 250 aircraft for over 30 operators across Europe.

Operating from London Gatwick, London Stansted, London Luton and Manchester airports, we now have vacancies for the following:

**LICENSED ENGINEERS**

**COMMERCIAL PERSONNEL**

**WIDE RANGING ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

**MECHANICAL / AVIONIC  
WORKSHOP MECHANICS**

**MECHANICAL:** Engine Shop / Hydraulic Shop / Sheet Metal  
**AVIONIC:** Instrument Shop / Radio Shop / Electrical Shop

Applications from qualified engineers welcomed. Experience in Aerospace advantageous, but appropriate training will be provided where necessary.

This is an outstanding opportunity to join a growing organisation that offers an attractive remuneration package including a competitive salary, excellent benefits and sound prospects for career advancement.

Please apply in writing enclosing CV to Guy Whittaker,  
Personnel Manager, FLS Aerospace Limited, Long Border Road,  
London - Stansted Airport, Essex CM24 1RE

For Company information see our website at [FLSAerospace.com](http://FLSAerospace.com)  
Fax No: 01279 680085 E-mail: [guy.w@flsaerospace.com](mailto:guy.w@flsaerospace.com)



# ***Looking For a Secure Future?***

***Train for Fibre Optic and Data Network Cabling Installation.***

***Courses for entry level applicants and senior level engineers.***

***Gain an Internationally accepted BiCSI accreditation:***

- ↪ Apprentice level.***
- ↪ Installer level.***
- ↪ Technician level.***
- ↪ RCDD senior level.***
- ↪ Introduction to Fibre Optics.***
- ↪ Introduction to Data Networks.***



Keystone Training Ltd, The Training & Qualifications Centre,  
Abington Hall, Abington, Cambridge CB1 6AL

Tel: +44 (0) 1223 890904      Fax: +44 (0) 1223 890905

***<http://www.keystone-training.com>***

# aim high

**for your next career move.**



**Chelton are one of the world's leaders on airborne antenna and avionics systems with customers in over 70 countries.**

**Our Marlow based company will value your experience and expertise, sharpen your technical focus and stretch your existing skills.**

We have many opportunities for people in development, production, the laboratories and administration, who love to tackle complex challenges and who are ready to contribute to an organisation which has achieved the highest recognition for its design and manufacturing capabilities.

If you would appreciate the responsibility of working with an innovative, world-class company and would like to benefit from a competitive reward package, please telephone 01628 472072 for an application form.

**Alternatively you can send us your CV with a covering letter to: Denise Bond, Human Resource Manager, Chelton (Electrostatics) Ltd, Fieldhouse Lane, Marlow, Bucks SL7 1LR or e-mail: [bond@chelton.co.uk](mailto:bond@chelton.co.uk) (no attachments please).**



**CHELTON**  
A Cobham plc company

You can find out more about Chelton (Electrostatics) Ltd by visiting the Cobham plc website at [www.cobham.com](http://www.cobham.com)



## Attention

**All Telecomms and Network Engineers (DMS, AXE10, SDH etc).**

We always require ex Service Technical Personnel for contract or permanent positions throughout the UK and Mainland Europe to satisfy the ongoing demand from our Blue Chip Client base.

**We are The IT Recruitment Specialists in Voice and Data Communications.**

**NB.** *We pay our contractors within 48 Hours.  
We can upgrade your skills via our in-house training if required.*

**Please contact Ash Ghailan on 0171 726 2224  
or Email/Fax your CV to [cv@clw.co.uk](mailto:cv@clw.co.uk)/0171 726 2225**

**COMMS LIFEWAKE LTD, 10 IRONMONGER LANE, LONDON EC2V 8EY**

Where the welfare and development of the individual is of paramount importance

A happy and thriving Christian community offering first class education to boys and girls aged 3 to 18 years old

Set in 56 acres of wooded parkland, the College is both a day and boarding school with two family run boarding houses.

Charity No. 1051688

**St Joseph's College, Ipswich**

01473 690281 or 556965

**WHAT'S BEHIND THE NEW FACE OF SKODA?**

**A TOTAL PEACE OF MIND PACKAGE**



**6 YEARS**  
(10 YEARS ON OCTAVIA)  
**ANTI-PERFORATION**  
**WARRANTY**

**3 YEARS**  
**AA COVER**

**3 YEARS/**  
**45,000 MILES**  
**SERVICE & MAINTENANCE**  
**PACKAGE**

**3 YEARS**  
**UNLIMITED**  
**MILEAGE WARRANTY**

**THE OCTAVIA RANGE**  
**PRICES START**  
**FROM £11,499**  
**ON THE ROAD**

**THE FELICIA RANGE**  
**PRICES START**  
**FROM £6,999**  
**ON THE ROAD**

**T.A. Porter & Sons**  
**London Road**  
**Copford**  
**Colchester**  
**Essex**

**Tel: 01206 210422**

**After Hours Sales: 0860 349666**



Volkswagen Group



December 1999  
Vol 11 No 2




---

**Editor: Col AC Taylor**

---

### Contents

The Colonel of the Regiment	17	<i>Life in Zimbabwe</i>	62
The Regiment	18	<i>Potential NCO's Cadre</i>	62
Personalia	20	Regimental Sport	64
Regimental Matters	21	Colour section	
Mainly about people	22	<i>1st Battalion</i>	65
Reunion of the Pompadours of Malaya	23	<i>2nd Battalion</i>	67
Letters	24	<i>East of England Regiment</i>	71
The Vikings	25	Adventure Training	73
The Poachers	33	CCFs and ACF	75
East of England Regiment	47	The Regimental Museum	80
158 (R Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC (V)	53	Obituaries	81
Minden Band The Queen's Division	55	Deaths	81
Special Features		The Associations	82
<i>Hillman and Pte Hunter DCM</i>	56	Regimental Orbat - TA	93
<i>B (Leicestershire) Company Falklands Tour</i>	57	Births and marriages	95
<i>Success in the Braille Rally</i>	58	Association Branches	96
<i>Short Term Training Team in Sierra Leone</i>	59	Notices	97
<i>Outreach and Defence Diplomacy</i>	61	Book Review	98

#### Front cover

Exercise Saffron Sands, Jordan;  
The Poachers Drums Platoon on KAPE Duties.

#### Back cover

Follow me!

#### Regiment and Museum Internet Website

[www.army.mod.uk](http://www.army.mod.uk)

**FORCES &  
CORPORATE**  
PUBLISHING LTD

© Crown Copyright: This publication contains official information. It should be treated with discretion by the recipient. The opinions expressed in the articles in this journal are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy and views, official or otherwise, of the Regiment or the Ministry of Defence. No responsibility for the goods or services advertised in this journal can be accepted by the publishers or printers. Advertisements are included in good faith.

Editorial director: Ron Pearson  
Advertising manager: Ursula Taylor

Forces and Corporate Publishing Ltd, Hamblin House, Hamblin Court, 92-94 High Street, Rushden, Northamptonshire NN10 0PQ. Tel: 01933 419994 :: Fax: 01933 419584



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



**Gen Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE ADC Gen, Colonel of the Regiment.**

The Army has been busy since our last publication and flits in and out of the news - in operations like the advance into Kosovo and East Timor and the longer term peace operations like Bosnia and Northern Ireland.

It demonstrates what being part of an expeditionary and capability based Army is all about. This is a small Army, about the same size as it was after the demobilisation following Waterloo, which, with so many commitments, is why we are all so busy. Yet, it is acknowledged to serve its country well and it is widely admired for its variety of skills by its allies and potential foes alike. Its international prestige stands high and anyone wearing the uniform benefits from this success. It is good for morale and it is good for the Regiment.

Within this small Army, the standing of our two Regular Battalions and the East of England Regiment is second to none. The 1st Battalion is settled well into Londonderry, where it has already earned itself a reputation for professionalism and competence; not just on operations, but also in the wider field of sport, support and welfare activities. The 2nd Battalion is in the twilight of a highly successful tour in Cyprus and a Battalion exercise in Jordan has allowed it a rare opportunity to train together. By the time we next go to press, the Battalion will have moved to Chepstow, where its

light role will focus on jungle warfare. The Regiment's companies as part of the East of England Regiment have formed into their new structure, conducted their first camp and are well on the way to becoming operational on the due date next year.

The manning situation is highly optimistic but we must not be complacent; we are fully up to strength with officers and have more than enough recruits to bring us fully up to strength in the Battalions over the next six months. I congratulate all involved in the enormous amount of thought and effort that has been put into recruiting and retention.

And so to the millennium. We can have no idea about what this new century will hold for us - even less, the next few years. The unexpected will be always around the corner. Who will we have to help or defend in the next couple of decades? What will be the new faces of warfare in which we will be required to pit our skills? What we can do, however, to prepare ourselves best for whatever faces us, is to ensure that our ranks, Regular and Reserve, are filled with high quality young men who wish to serve their nation with the Regiment. And we need to take care that their aspirations match with the practice and rewards of civil society. If we can continue to do this, the Regiment will remain second to none, whatever the millennium may have in store.

## CASTLE



## The Regiment

### Colonel-in-Chief

HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother

### Deputy Colonels-in-Chief

HRH The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon  
HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester

### Colonel of the Regiment

Gen Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE ADC Gen

### Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment

The Rev MD Franks MBE

### Deputy Colonels of the Regiment

1st Battalion: Maj Gen JCB Sutherland CBE ADC  
2nd Battalion: Brig JC McColl CBE  
TA Sub Units: Col NH Kelsey OBE TD

### President of the Regimental Association

Maj Gen Sir David Thorne KBE CVO

### Deputy Honorary Colonels TA

Norfolk, Suffolk	Col PJS Child
Lincolnshire	Col RJM Drummond OBE
Leicestershire, Northamptonshire	Col JCD Heggs DL
Essex, Hertfordshire	Col RA 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 Royal 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
Pakistan	5th Battalion the Frontier Force Regiment
South Africa	First City Regiment
	Regiment de la Rey

The Regiment is affiliated to 158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC(V)  
and to the Worshipful Company of Poulterers  
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, Wisbeck, 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:** Col AC Taylor  
**Assistant Regimental Secretary:** Maj J Fisk  
**Regimental Careers Officer:** Maj RC Gould

#### Area Office Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire

Britannia House TA Centre, 325 Aylsham Road, Norwich NR3 2AD  
Tel: 01603-400290  
*Area Secretary:* Maj WH Reeve

#### Area Office Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire

TA Centre, Clare Street, Northampton NN1 3JQ  
Tel: 01604-635412  
*Area Secretary:* Col FAH Swallow OBE

#### Regimental Information Team/128 AYT

Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn  
Tel: 01223-204216  
Capt TD Smith MBE

#### Area Office Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex

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

#### Area Office Lincoln

Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY  
Tel: 01522-544886  
*Area Secretary:* Capt DJ Lee BEM

#### Regimental Museum

Imperial War Museum, Duxford, Cambs CB2 4QR  
Tel: 01223-835000 Ext 313  
*Regimental Attendant:* Mr GA Boss

## Battalion Locations

1st Battalion,  
Ebrington Barracks, BFPO 807

Lt Col RJ Kemp MBE

2nd Battalion,  
Alexander Barracks,  
BFPO 58

Lt Col AJC Wild MBE

*(to Chepstow March 2000)*

East of England Regiment  
TA Centre, Blenheim Camp, Newmarket Road,  
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3SW

Lt Col CA Newell PWRR

## Regimental Representatives

**Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn:** Maj MA Lyne  
**Infantry Training Centre, Catterick:** Capt PD Bailey  
**RMA Sandhurst:** Maj STH Andrews  
**Army Foundation College Harrogate:** Lt OCC Brown

# Personalialia

## Honours and Awards

Sgt Balbir Singh Nagra East of England Regiment is congratulated on the award of the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Capt RW Wooddisse is congratulated on being awarded the Military Cross in the Operational Awards List 1999 and WO2 AD Ralph on the award of the QCVS.

## Commissioning

The following passed out of RMA Sandhurst on 6 August 1999 and joined their battalions as follows:

1st Battalion  
2nd Battalion

2Lts GL Allen, RM Hitching, RJ James, MA Nicholas  
2Lts GB Foden, ML Melia, RH Newmarch, AP Wolfe

## Promotions

The following have been selected for promotion to lieutenant colonel in 2000:  
Maj SJ Bacon, Maj MJ Beart, Maj SPM Blyth

The following were promoted to major on 30 September 1999:  
Acting Majs DA England, JCJ Wright, Capts BM Down, RL Gerrard Wright, JA York, Capt (LE) RJ Brown

The following have been promoted to captain on 6 August 1999:  
Acting Capts DJ Moss and TB Mellar,  
Lt DSJ Biddick on 22 October 1999

## Left the Army

2Lts M Hucklesby and GP Joyce's Short Service Limited Commissions ended on 16 August and 6 September 1999 respectively

## Postings

RHQ has been told of the following postings:

Maj RJ Clements from NITW	to 1st Battalion July 1999
Maj RCJ Goodin from 1st Battalion	to RMCS September 1999
Capt EC Reynolds from CATC	to Cambridge UOTC September 1999
Capt PD Bailey from HQNI	to ITC Catterick January 2000
Maj AW Price from ITC	to RMCS November 1999
Maj AE Eaton from JSCSC	to ACDC(OR) August 1999
Maj SD Etherington from JSCSC	to HQ 145(HC) Brigade August 1999
Maj PML Ferrary from DCEE	to OCE (Military Observers) October 1999
Maj RW Potter MBE from EER	to Londons April 2000
Maj A Jones from 1st Battalion	to EER(V) January 2000
Maj AC Marinos from 1st Battalion	to RMCS November 1999
Lt OCC Brown from 1st Battalion	to AFC Harrogate November 1999
Capt CT McLay from 2 CTT	to 2nd Battalion August 1999
Maj PH Gaskin from BMATT SA	to RRV March 2000
Capt BM Down from BMATT SA	to 143(WM) Brigade August 1999
Lt Col SL Porter from 2nd Battalion	to PJHQ September 1999
Maj JAB Borthwick from CATC	to Northumbria UOTC September 1999
Capt LSF McGrath from CTC RM	to 16 Air Asslt Brigade January 2000

## Regimental Matters

### Benevolence and the Day's Pay Scheme

Many members of the Regiment are not clear about the system of benevolence, particularly the Day's Pay Scheme, and how it might benefit them in times of hardships. The letter which follows, from the Controller of the Army Benevolent Fund, details the funds disbursed to past and present members of the Regiment and the former Regiments - very significant sums of money.

*Thank you very much for your cheque of £9,000 which represents the annual grant from The Royal Anglian Regiment to the Army Benevolent Fund for 1998/99. We are extremely grateful and our trustees have asked that their thanks are passed to you and your trustees, not only for this year's grant, but also for your continuing support.*

*You may be interested to know that between 1 April 1998 and 31 March 1999 the Army Benevolent Fund disbursed a total of £7,809 to past and present members, and their families, of The Royal Anglian Regiment and a further £52,616 to your antecedent Regiment. In addition, the fund, on behalf of all the Regiments and Corps of the Army, donated £2.5 million to those charities which either provide vital services to the partnership of Army benevolent funds or meet the special needs of the soldiers, ex-soldiers and their families. This is included in the total of £10 million which the partnership of the ABF and Corps and Regimental Benevolent Funds disbursed during the year to members of the Army and ex-Army communities who were in real need. I would be most grateful if you could give these statistics the widest possible circulation across the Regiment.*

In addition to the money from the ABF the Regiment pays out over £40,000 per year to those in need. The average payout is about £300 but it is often over £1,000 (eg for wheelchairs or adapting cars for disabled use).

Where does the money come from? It comes from the serving officers and soldiers of The Royal Anglian Regiment who pay one day's pay per year in the Regiment's Benevolent Fund. Any excess of income over expenditure each year is invested to create income which can be used to help those in need in the future.

None of us imagine that disasters will befall us, but sadly every year we at RHQ receive requests for assistance from those for whom things have gone very wrong. One hopes that it will never happen to you - but it could. So, if you are not currently subscribing a day's pay please contact the RAO and sign up now.

### The Regimental Gathering

This year's Gathering/Reunion took place at Bassingbourn Barracks on Sunday 25 July. The weather was fine and the event well attended. Branch Standards were paraded under the watchful eye of Maj Stan Bullock and the service was conducted by the Rev (Maj (Retd)) Martin Franks. We were fortunate to have the services of the Royal Anglian TA Band and doubly fortunate to be entertained by the Band of The Bermuda Regiment. Led by their Director of



The Colonel of the Regiment and Lt Col Outerbridge.

Music, Maj Barrett St Vincent Dill, the band was in England to fulfil a number of engagements including one at the last Royal Tournament to be held at Earls Court. It was an opportunity for both retired and serving members of the Regiment to renew acquaintances. We were delighted that their Commanding Officer, Lt Col Patrick Outerbridge ED, his Adjutant and RSM were also able to be with us.

Our Millennium Gathering will take place on 23 July 2000, at Bassingbourn Barracks and follow a similar format.

### MBNA International The Regimental Credit Card

We continue to receive royalty cheques for the Regimental Credit Card. There is no annual fee and the interest charges are competitive so why not support the Royal Anglian Credit Card?



### Regimental Uniform Shop

RHQ operates a shop for officers' uniform. Officers wishing to use this facility should contact the Assistant Regimental Secretary.

### Diary Dates

#### March

18 Poacher 2000 Reunion, Spalding

#### April

7 Golf Spring Meeting, Watton  
29 Cambridgeshires Officers' Dinner

#### May

14 5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment (Battleaxe Division) Reunion

#### June

4 Cambridgeshires Reunion and Service, Ely  
14 R Lincolns Officers Reunion Lunch, London  
23 Golf Summer Meeting, Ely  
24/25 Royal Tigers Weekend, Leicester

#### July

8/9 Northamptonshire Regiment Annual Reunion, Northampton  
22 Pompadours Eagle and Garter Dinner, Bassingbourn  
23 Royal Anglian Gathering, Bassingbourn

#### September

2/3 R Lincolns Reunion, Lincoln  
15 Golf Autumn Meeting, Flempton  
23 1st Battalion The Royal Leicestershire Regiment (old 50th/8th Battalion) Reunion, Leicester

#### October

6/7 70th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion, Kettering

#### December

2 Royal Leicestershire Regiment Officers' Dinner Club Lunch, Army and Navy Club, London

## Mainly About People

**Sgt Balbir Singh Nagra** was awarded the MBE in the Birthday Honours List 1999. The honour was in recognition of his tireless efforts in encouraging young men from the ethnic minorities in Leicester to join the TA. Sgt Nagra, who is a postal worker in civilian life, served for 20 years in the 7th Battalion and is now with C Company of the East of England Regiment. We warmly congratulate him on his award.



**Brig John McColl, Deputy Honorary Colonel, 7 Royal Anglian and Sgt Balbir Singh Nagra MBE (7 Royal Anglian) at the Vaisakhi parade in Leicester in April.**



A smiling **Maj Robert Goodin**, photographed outside Ely Cathedral after receiving his BA (Open University) - a tribute to his determination: It took five years' study and much burning of midnight oil.

**Col John Wooddisse** recently wrote in to say that while on a visit to Ireland he had visited St Nicholas Collegiate Church in Galway, the largest medieval parish church in Ireland and noticed that the first name on the Roll of Honour for the Great War is **Capt Cecil Crompton-Holmes** The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment who was killed on 26 August 1914.



**WO2 Alan Dent**, who left the 3rd Battalion from Minden in 1987 wrote in to say that he is now serving as an NRPS Supply Controller with 158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment in Peterborough. He claims that the above photograph shows him winning a 10km race in Tenerife. We wonder what happened to the other competitors and the spectators?

Recently **Lt Col David Baylis** and **Maj Andy Wadman** met up in Kuwait as members of the British Military Mission. The last time they had served together was in C Company 3 R Anglian in Minden in 1989. Lt Col Baylis is a member of the Directing Staff at the Kuwait Joint Command and Staff College, while Maj Wadman commands the Desert Warrior Battalion Training Team. Both are on two years' loan service and are thoroughly enjoying the experience.

They write that Kuwait is a place of definite challenges, there is the cultural divide to cross and a serious military job to do. The continuing threat from Iraq is taken in earnest and the spectre of an aggressor just over the desert horizon brings a sense of purpose to their work. Temperatures during the six summer months can get to 120F which is a real test of character. Kuwait itself is a mish-mash: western comfort spiced with a definite middle eastern flavour, and a cosmopolitan population in which the ex-patriots from all around the world outnumber the indigenous Kuwaitis.

They both pass on their best wishes and recommend loan service to anyone looking for something a bit out of the ordinary.

**Martyn Cook**, a Regimentally sponsored potential officer, recently attended a Territorial Army Commissioning Course at Sandhurst and was presented with the Taylor Woodrow Cane of Honour, awarded to the most outstanding cadet on the three-week course. He has now been commissioned as an officer into the East Midlands Officer Training Corps.



**Martyn Cook receiving the Cane of Honour.**

## Reunion of the Pompadours of Malaya (1959-62)

In the late autumn of 1959, a year and a half after the amalgamation of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment and the Essex Regiment to form the 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot), the 1st Battalion sailed for Malaya to undertake its first foreign tour of duty. Nearly 40 years on, on 19 February last, those officers who served together at Ipoh and Malacca held a reunion lunch at the Army and Navy Club to mark Maj Gen Michael Holme's tenure of command.

There was much catching up to do as many had not met for a long time; in some cases not since Malaya. It was hardly surprising, therefore, that to begin with there were a few recognition problems ('Who's that over there next to .....?'). But it did not take long for the hubbub of greeting and conversation to reach a crescendo, and the high-spirited family atmosphere of that most happy battalion, which Michael and Sally Holme did so much to engender and nurture, soon asserted itself.

Altogether it was a very enjoyable and successful occasion for those able to attend. Several who could not attend sent messages and memories which were displayed for all to see. Many present had brought their photographs or albums, which also aroused much interest and entertainment.

Those attending, including some who were young children in Malaya, were: Michael and Sally Holme, with Victoria; Mark Adkin; John and Paula Bacon; Graham and Emma Barnett; Roger Bates; Pat Browne, with Carey; Mike Bucknall; Peter Bye; Randal and Noreen Cross; John and Margaret de Bretton Gordon; Nell Duffie; Peter and Adriana Gill; Bill Hancock; John and Heather Hutchings; Catherine Jones; Peter Light; Albyn Lunn, with Simon; Cliff Norbury, with Mary; David and Judy Norbury; Bob and Libby Pike; Mike and Daphne Randall, Angus and Gillian Robertson, with Alexandra; Richard Seal; Donald Shaw; Andy and Dagmar Styles; Peter and Ginie Sincok, with David; David and Audrey Taylor; Rozy Veitch; David and Sasha Wells, with Katinka; Kerry and Sue Woodrow.



Who are they, where are they, why and when? Answers in the next edition of *Castle*.



From left: Richard Seal, Albyn Lunn and Michael Holme.



Sally Holme and Katinka (née Wells).



From left: Ginie Sincok, Victoria Walker, Pat Browne and Mary (née Norbury).



# Letters



I came across this notice on the Internet:  
43286 Pte Wilmot - The Northamptonshire Regiment  
I have a Bible from the First World War that I would like to get back to the family it belongs to. My grandfather, Frank Hilton, of Bolton, Lancs, was in the RAMC. Shortly before he died he gave me his medals and a Bible, which was presented to the troops on 25 August (?) 1914. The name of the person to whom it belongs is Pte D (?) Wilmot, 43286, Northampton. We live in Canada now and just got on the internet and I am hoping to track down Mr Wilmot or his surviving family. Anything at all would be very much appreciated especially any photographic records. Thanks a lot, Sheila Bromiley (nee Hilton) <yelimorb@hotmail.co>

**BA Roberts**



The Regimental Golfing Society  
Results and meeting notes appear elsewhere. However, I would just like to mention that interest seems to have waned. From around 150 names who appeared on original address lists, we now only have a core of about 40 who play and ten more who kindly take the trouble to correspond.

I therefore, with correspondence costs, will only be able to send letters to those 50 subscribers. It would be very good news for those who are even mildly interested, if you would cut out and return the bankers order to me, so at least you will be kept abreast of events on the Regimental golfing scene.

**J Fisk**  
Golf Representative



I sent you a booklet on the Battle of Crete some time ago and am now writing to tell you about our walk through Crete this spring which raised funds for various charities.  
Glynn and I set out from Kalives on Suda Bay at about 0500hrs on 27 May. We climbed away from the coast up into the mountains onto the Askifou Plain and then the Imbross Gorge. We eventually made it through to the village of Sfakia at about 1345hrs where we were met by our wives for the road journey back to Kalives, but not before we had laid a wreath at the monument in Sfakia to those who lost their lives in the Battle of Crete. So why the walk over the White Mountains? I first visited Crete in 1995. Our holiday rep told us about the Suda Bay War Cemetery so, as any ex soldier would, I drove down to pay my respects. It was then that I discovered that the Leicesters had been involved. I started to read books on the battle and became more and more interested.

This included a trip to the Imperial War Museum to read on the history of the battle. The story is absolutely fascinating. The 2nd Leicesters were at Heraklion. Their task was to back up those directly defending the airfield. And believe me they did.

There were three airfields on Crete in May 1941. Heraklion was the only one not to fall into German hands. At Heraklion alone over 1,000 German parachutists were killed. It was 10 days of fierce fighting at all the airfields before the island fell and the order was given to evacuate. The Royal Navy picked up the troops at Sfakia and Heraklion. The troops who were picked up at Sfakia had to walk from Suda Bay over the White Mountains under almost continuous bombing and strafing by the Luftwaffe.

The losses to the German parachutists and glider troops, some 4,500, were such that Hitler never contemplated using them again in the war.

This year at the Regimental Gathering I had the pleasure of meeting Tommy Marston, a veteran of the Crete campaign and an ex Tiger. He told me that while the battle was on he and his mates had to bury some of their fallen comrades. This they did at a place near Knossos. They removed their ID discs and handed them in and marked on a map where they were buried. This information was then passed to the War Graves Commission. Some years later Tommy revisited Crete and Suda Bay War Cemetery. And, in the cemetery were his fallen comrades.

Glynn and I would like to use *Castle* to thank the following for their assistance and encouragement:

Maj Gen AJG Pollard, and Col Swallow (Tigers Association); Lt Col Kemp and all ranks of the 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment for their donation towards the sum of £1,840 raised for the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital.

**Tom Smith**  
2 Kingston Vale  
ROYSTON  
Herts SG8 9UG

**To receive news of  
the Golfing Society  
please fill in the form below  
and return it to RHQ**

**Bankers Order  
Regimental Golf Society**

To..... Bank plc

..... Branch address

Please pay to Barclays Bank plc, 52 Abbeylegate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 1LL the sum of £2 annually as at the first day of February 2000 for the credit of The Royal Anglian Regiment RHQ Account (No 30657336)

Date.....

Signature.....

A/C No.....

Rank and name.....

Address.....

Tel No.....

*NB: This bankers order cancels any previous bankers order for The Royal Anglian Regiment HQ Account (No 30657336) and/or Royal Anglian Regiment Association Account (No 50657151).*

**Next Castle June 2000. Contributions by 15 April please.**

# 1st Battalion - The Vikings

*Out in this cold, the wind and the rain  
Taunted and ridiculed time and again  
Vainly endeavouring peace to maintain -  
Who are you? - a British Soldier.*

*Yours is a debt we can never repay.  
Nobody knows how long you must stay,  
From morning to evening, from day to day,  
God bless you! Oh, British soldier.*

*Ulster will fight - Crater to the Creggan*

## Farewell Oakington

The NITAT sponsored urban package at Lydd and Hythe and the rural package at STANTA completed the months of Northern Ireland training. The Battalion had almost finished its stint as a National Defence Battalion, a role that few were sad to leave. The reorganisation of the Battalion into the Northern Ireland Orbat, which included the complete platoon from the Poachers, and the preparatory training had brought back a unity that the previous mainly fragmented two years had denied.

The Battalion's departure from Oakington coincided with the closure of the barracks. The 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, who we replaced in Londonderry, were returning to the newly renovated St George's Barracks in North Luffenham and so Oakington, for the present time at least, was put in mothballs. The Battalion had served in East Anglia for ten years.

## Hello Ebrington

Throughout May, more and more Vikings arrived at Ebrington Barracks. Most of the Battalion had never before served in Londonderry; indeed many had never served in Northern Ireland. Those who flew into RAF Aldergrove were whisked away by Chinook to land a short time later on the doorstep of the camp. Specific theatre orientation presentations were then given. At midday on 12 May operational command of the Londonderry TAOR passed. The arrival of A (Norfolk) Company, the last element in, on 24 May signified the Battalion complete in Londonderry.

From Ebrington Barracks the Battalion co-ordinates the security of four separate base locations, Clooney Base, Masonic Patrol Base, Fort George and Ebrington Barracks itself. The Battalion, which is part of 8 Infantry Brigade, supports RUC N division and the Strand Road and Waterside Sub Divisions. Our Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) extends from the city centre, into the enclave and southwards to the rural mountains.

## The Operations Cycle

The Battalion's current operation cycle is in four stages. Ops 1 Company is based in Fort George. Its role is counter terrorist, providing immediate operational support to the RUC. The Ops 2 Company is based in Ebrington. It is the Battalion, Brigade and



LCpl Dodds and his team deploy by boat.

sometimes the province reserve. Its job is either to reinforce in the Battalion TAOR, or to be ready to surge into any area in the province to reinforce RUC and Army units already there. Ops 3 is the Ebrington Barracks and Clooney base security. This is the least enjoyable, but companies know that following Ops 3 comes Ops 4. The Ops 4 Company enjoys three well-earned weeks' leave followed by two weeks' quality training, either in Northern Ireland, the mainland or overseas.

## All Quiet On The Western Front?

On arrival, one of the immediate priorities was to conduct Brigade in province public order training. The purpose of this was to develop our public order techniques at company level. Furthermore it gave us our first opportunity to train jointly with the

RUC mobile support units (MSU). The training was valuable, and gave everyone confidence in his ability to operate in the intense public order situations.

Within a week, D (Cambridgeshire) Company put the public order training into practice. During its Ops 2 phase, the company deployed out of area on four separate occasions. The first was the most significant as the company was surged to the 'People's Park', next to the Garvaghy Road, to support the RUC. As tensions grew to breaking point, the mobile support units called upon D (Cambridgeshire) Company for support as stones and petrol bombs rained down. On this, and subsequent, deployments, the company was pleased to find itself operating under the command of our former Commanding Officer, Brig RM Brunt, Commander 3rd Infantry Brigade.

As Ops 2 was dealing with public order



The Commanding Officer and RSM on the street.

## The Vikings

outside of our TAOR, the remainder of the Battalion was preparing for the 'Long March'. The march was planned to assemble in Londonderry and move over a period of 12 days to Drumree, were it would arrive, on the day of the church parade on 4 July. It was due to pass as many Loyalist areas as possible, drumming up support on the way. Due to the high profile of the march and the political implications, the RUC was concerned for the safety of those taking part. The Battalion therefore conducted a large-scale search operation using our own search teams and dogs, the Royal Engineer search teams plus C (Essex) and D (Cambridgeshire) Companies. Every potential danger area was thoroughly checked and secured. As a precautionary measure, public order companies were on standby. The march however passed through our TAOR without incident. Nevertheless the whole operation was a valuable experience for all involved, practising our search procedures and techniques and focusing our operational planning, preparation and battle procedure.

At the same time, we commenced patrolling the border area north of the city to counter the increased threat from dissident Republicans. This was the first such patrolling in the area in several years. Our control activities continue today, as the dissident threat increases. We operate on foot, by helicopter, boat and vehicle. Patrols here so far have been successful in deterring attack and disrupting terrorist preparations. There have been a number of notable successes during these operations, including the discovery of a hide containing ammunition and a balaclava by Lt Nick Charlwood's multiple.

### Operation Claudius

Operation Claudius was the codename for the periods of increased preparedness, covering the marching season. For the Vikings, the major event was the Apprentice Boys of Derry parade in August. Traditionally the march is contentious, although in recent years it and the accompanying demonstrations have passed off peacefully.

Early political indications were that the parade would again pass without major incident. This however did not turn out to be the case. As the political situation in Belfast deteriorated, the indicators showed that Londonderry could prove to be an excuse cause political disruption.

As it became clear that disruption to the Apprentice Boys of Derry parade was likely, all earlier plans were discarded and the Battalion and the RUC conducted a series of intense planning sessions to scale up the security forces operations. This resulted in the deployment of four extra companies into the Battalion's TAOR. In addition, we deployed all rifle companies; one in the counter terrorist role and three as public order troops. This meant that HQ Company had to take over the security of all the bases,



**Pte Frost observing his arcs.**

a task with which they had become particularly familiar, nicknaming themselves 'Ops 5 Company'. The RUC's contribution consisted of 14 mobile support

units, equal to more than a battalion's worth of soldiers.

Some engineering work preceded deployment of troops onto the ground, but the first major component of the operation was a large-scale route search. This was of two days duration, employing eight unit search teams, (four from the Vikings and four from the Royal Welch Fusiliers), two Royal Engineer search teams, two Royal Engineer search advisers and 10 dogs.

During the morning of the parade, C (Essex) Company blocked three of the city gates, using Royal Engineer crowd control obstacles and Saxons.

Simultaneously, A (Norfolk) and D (Cambridgeshire) Companies deployed in what GOC NI described as: 'The longest base line in history', to block access into the city via the expressway that runs between the Guildhall and the river.

Significant rioting occurred in Waterloo Place during the day, but the combined efforts of the Army and the RUC meant that the parade itself, which lasted most of the day, passed without any interference. There were 100 bands and upwards of 10,000 supporters on the streets.

Throughout the operation, B (Suffolk) Company, sometimes reinforced by elements of D (Cambridgeshire), provided counter-terrorist support to the police and our own public order forces.

During the night and into the early morning, crowds flooded onto the streets to cause damage to property and attack the security forces. The Vikings redeployed to



**Search dog at work.**



**CCO blocks the City gate.**

the streets where they faced a barrage of insults. Throughout the night, companies formed base lines to meet the violence. The rioting youths ripped paving slabs from the ground and hurled them at the security forces. They then rampaged through the city centre looting and burning shops. Hundreds of petrol bombs were thrown, many of which found Viking base lines.

Careful planning, professionalism and rapid reactions by both the RUC and the Army paid off during the operation. At its conclusion, no baton rounds had been fired; an unprecedented occurrence that denied the opportunity to exploit such actions for propaganda purposes. Furthermore, there had been no serious injury to either security forces or civilians, which greatly assisted the media being unable to publish any adverse criticism of the security forces' actions.

### **Minden Day**

This year's celebrations were organised by OC Headquarters Company, Capt Bob Grenfell. The day began with the senior NCOs and officers serving the traditional gunfire. Closely behind that came the 'alternative' PT session before all dispersed to their respective messes for a leisurely Minden breakfast. With the Battalion on parade, in front of the city, the Commanding Officer then retold the battle and likened it to modern-day warfare, substituting the local geography for that at Minden. The guest of honour was Commander 3rd Brigade, Brig Brunt, who presented roses to the Battalion's front rank. It was a great pleasure to see Brigadier Roger, Susan and the family back with the Battalion on this day. The



**It's a knock out (note the dodgy salute in the background).**

## The Vikings



**Brig Brunt presents Minden Roses to HQ Company.**

Commanding Officer invited the Quartermaster, Maj Jones, to present roses to the rear rank. After 30 years in the Battalion, Tony was celebrating his last Minden Day while serving in the Battalion.

Our padres jointly conducted the drumhead service overlooking Londonderry City, before everybody moved to Clooney Base with their families for the afternoon events.

The afternoon was packed with company sponsored activity stalls as well as a number of commercial rides. Furthermore the gym staff ran an *It's a Knockout* competition for children and the odd Viking who couldn't resist. There was a tug-of-war competition and despite their best efforts in the final, C (Essex) Company could not outpull the mighty Headquarters Company. The day

was a wonderful chance to catch up with old friends who visited the Battalion. The day finished with social events in the messes and a junior ranks function in the Naafi.

### Commendations

The Commanding Officer recently acknowledged the outstanding achievements of a number of individuals in the Battalion. LCpl Cooley of the Poacher Platoon of A (Norfolk) Company was awarded a Commanding Officer's Commendation. Pte Steel, also from the Poacher Platoon, was awarded a meritorious achievement award for their professional conduct during a mobile patrol of the Enclave, where they dealt with the aftermath of a very serious traffic accident.

Pte's Abery and Rust, again from A (Norfolk) Company were also commended for outstanding achievements while carrying out security and surveillance duty. Both soldiers' professional action led to arrests by the RUC.

### Potential NCO Cadre

Our first Potential NCO cadre in Londonderry is being conducted jointly with the 1st Battalion the Royal Green Jackets, who are based at Palace Barracks, Belfast. The cadre formed up in September. It is split into three main phases. Phase one will concentrate on basic instruction techniques, introduction to orders and skill at arms. The second phase, in Sennybridge, will cover tactics and practices of command. The final phase will again be in Londonderry and will focus on specific Northern Ireland tactics and procedures.

### Visits

Since our arrival in Londonderry, the Battalion has hosted numerous visits. The first visit was from the Chief of the General Staff's briefing team. The team presented to the Battalion on the global deployment situation of the Army, projected deployments and current issues. Then followed four 'focus groups' designed at four different levels: single living in soldiers, JNCOs, SNCOs and officers. Here the focus groups had an opportunity to voice their concerns. At the end of the day, the Commanding Officer was briefed by the team leader on the main issues gathered from the focus group discussions.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Dr Mowlam, visited in August.

The GOC Northern Ireland, Lt Gen Sir Hew Pike, visited the Battalion on three separate occasions. The first visit was within two weeks of our arrival. Secondly he visited during the Apprentice Boys of Derry march. On his third visit the GOC was formally briefed on our present and future activities. He then met soldiers from B (Suffolk) Company at Masonic Patrol Base and Fort George.

The CGS, Gen Sir Roger Wheeler GCB CBE ADC, also visited the Battalion. His visit followed similar lines to that of the



**LCpl Cooley with his Commanding Officer's Commendation.**



**Pte Rust receives his meritorious achievement award.**

## The Vikings

GOC. However at Fort George he was introduced to the officers and senior NCOs.

Finally our Deputy Colonel, Maj Gen Sutherland visited. After a formal brief on the activities of the Battalion he spent time with all of the companies. The Deputy Colonel of the Regiment presented WO2 Shaw with his Long Service and Good Conduct medal at a lunch in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. Later that evening Gen Sutherland and his wife were guests of honour for dinner in the Officers' Mess.

### Adventure Training

No sooner had A (Norfolk) Company arrived at Ebrington, than it was off again on an adventure training exercise. The company deployed to Garelohead for a leadership development week. During the week the company enjoyed various activities such as hill walking, canoeing, rock climbing, mountain biking and windsurfing. Two of the most challenging peaks, Ben Nevis and Aonach Eagach knife edge ridge, were selected for the walking, where the 500-600m drop encouraged people to concentrate. The other activities were equally challenging.

### Sport

Despite the demands of operations and all our other activities, the Vikings have had an extremely successful sporting period. The

defence of old championships and the quest for new ones has led teams and individuals to work even harder.

### Boxing

Pte Castle C (Essex) Company has again been selected to train with and fight for the Army. Pte Castle, who previously fought in the inter-company competition, will leave the Battalion to train with the team in September and will return in March 2000. This is his second consecutive season with the Army squad.

Brig Davidson-Houston, our Brigade Commander, was guest of honour at the 1999 inter-company boxing competition finals. The event was held over three days. The interior of the bubble gym was transformed into a multi-media boxing arena which brimmed with atmosphere as companies supported their boxers. The preliminary rounds had tied A (Norfolk) and C (Essex) Companies in first place, with an equal number of finalists. There was not a bad fight all night and at the end of the heavyweight bout, the scores were still even. C (Essex) Company was declared victors on the countback. Remarkably for boxing at this level, only one fight was stopped before the third round.

Selected boxers from the inter-company competition have now formed up as a Battalion boxing team for the Army Grade 3 Novice Boxing Competition.

### Cricket

*Capt Bunny Nye writes:*

Having had a successful 1998 season in winning the Infantry Cup it was hoped that 1999 would be even better and we would win the Army Cup as well as retaining the Infantry Cup.

Well, the dream failed, but only just. We retained the Infantry Cup but exited the Army Cup at the semi-final stage.

Unfortunately, due to the Arms Plot Move an inter-company competition was not possible but in early May a squad of 17 players assembled to commence battle. The Army Cup first round was at home against 7 R Irish which we won by seven wickets, having to chase 120 with Capt Nye finishing on 42 not out. We then travelled to Newcastle to play 39 Regiment RA and set a total of 154-9 of which Cpl Kulkarni finished on 82 not out which was an excellent performance in difficult conditions.

39 Regiment RA were never in the race and were bowled out for 92 with all our bowlers among the wickets. With our confidence high we moved on to Blackpool to play 1 King's and having reduced them to 10-5 we let them off the hook and finally bowled them out for 74. Cpl Dufosse was the hero taking five for three in eight overs. The Vikings reply was a struggle but we finally won by three wickets thanks to 26 by Capt Nye and 22 not out by Cpl Dufosse.



Who said brawn never beats brains?

## The Vikings

The quarter-final took us to Aldershot to play 1 Battalion REME from Germany. The Battalion batted first and amassed 234 for four with Capt Nye 97, Sgt Forrest 64 and Cpl Kulkarni 27 the main scorers. Thanks to some excellent bowling 1 Battalion REME were bowled out for 34 with Cpl Stevenson taking four wickets with successive balls to finish off the match. The Army Cup semi-final saw us drawn against the eventual winners, 1 PWRR, at Canterbury. 1 PWRR posed a score of 250 for seven and in a spirited reply the Vikings managed 151 all out losing by 99 runs.

The Infantry Cup was a smaller competition and having defeated 1 RWF in the first round by 34 runs and receiving a bye in the next round saw us play 1 D and D in the final at Tidworth. The Vikings were well motivated for the game and having lost the toss were invited to field. At 90 for two our opponents looked in good shape but some very good tight bowling restricted 1 D and D to 158 for nine in their allotted 45 overs with Capt Nye 3-31, Cpl Kulkarni 3-20 and Cpl Dufosse 2-24 the wicket takers. In reply the Vikings started steady by taking the score to 80 for two at tea and the team in confident mood. Tea completed Lt Alex-Biggs decided to take the attack to the bowlers and with some fine shots took his score to 61 before being bowled. Victory was gained with eight overs to spare to retain the Infantry Cup.

The season was a great success for the Battalion cricket team during a very busy operational tour and all players and supporters should be congratulated on their efforts.



CGS visiting B Company at Masonic.

### Northern Ireland Triathlon Championships

*Sgt Port writes:*

It was a cold, blustery day in Ballykelly. After a quick brief about routes, distances, and some rules, we found ourselves standing beside the swimming pool. We were ready for the first of the three events: Twenty-two lengths of the swimming pool. Five minutes later we were off, as the lengths passed - 15, 16 - my arms felt heavy, the lungs cried out

for oxygen, and the muscles burned. 'Only another seven lengths to go!' someone cried, cheers for that!

All too quickly I was in the transition area once more, helmet on, cycle shoes on, and the final touch - 'sunglasses' - must make the right impression! I grabbed my bike and steeled myself for 19 miles on a very windy airfield. The first four laps were fine, but then the wind took its toll and the last two laps really burned the thighs. Back up a small hill, off the bike, helmet and cycle



Dr Mowlam chats to members of A Company.

**The Vikings**

shoes discarded, running shoes on, a quick drink, check shades (remember our appearances lads!). Then I was off on the run, a further six miles of the beloved airfield. The first mile felt like riding a unicycle with my knees and feet coming up over my head. After that I slipped into a nice rhythm and the course flew by. A small hill loomed at the end of the course, only it now looked like Alpe D'Huex! After that final pain it was just a case of pushing through the finish funnel, and after an hour and 45 minutes of hell, it was finally over. The remainder of the team all finished in quick succession, all excited and buzzing after completing their first triathlon.

An hour later the seven teams gathered, eagerly awaiting the results of the competition. Major units third place was announced, then second place was called... "And first place goes to... 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment - The Vikings!

Considering the amount of training the team had prior to the event it was a significant achievement to have come away as the Northern Ireland Champions. Inspired by this success the team has now started to train a little more seriously, with a view to the Army Championships.

The team: Sgt Port (captain), Capt Biddick, Cpl Shaw, LCpl Glascodine, LCpl Lidlow.

**Football**

*Maj (QM) Tony Jones writes:*

After hard pre-season training and a number of six-a-side competitions, the football team has not kicked a ball in the Army Cup, Infantry Cup or the Northern Ireland league or cup competitions..

The first six-a-side competition was the



**W02 Shaw receives his LSGC from Gen Sutherland.**

Infantry Sixes at Aldershot. A squad of nine travelled to take part in the two-day competition on 1/2 September 1999 and after some hard fought matches progressed to the final and finished runners-up to 9 R Irish, losing 3-2.

The next competition was the Northern Ireland Sixes at Ballykinler. The Battalion fielded two sides in this competition, played on full-size pitches and consisting of eight leagues with the top teams of each league progressing to the finals of the competition



**Victory for Pte Johnson after the bloody battle.**



## The Vikings



**The NI triathlon champions show their silverware.**

and the runners-up to the plate competition. The B side finished as runners-up in their league but lost out on going forward to the plate competition on goal difference. During the league stage they almost put right the defeat in the infantry finals by holding 9 R Irish to a draw. The A side fared better by winning their league and progressing to the quarter-finals in which they defeated 1 Scots

Guards 3-2 in what was probably the game of the day. We then defeated 1 RGJ 4-1 in the semis to reach the finals against a very professional, fit and well organised 7 R Irish side which defeated us 6-0.

As runners-up in the Northern Ireland sixes we went forward to the Army competition at Aldershot on 6 October 1999. This competition consisted of two leagues of eight

with the top two teams in each league contesting the semi-finals, our league consisted of the Cheshires (eventual winners), The Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, 3 RSME (eventual runners up), 5 Regiment RA, ATR Pirbright, 36 Engineers and 3 Div HQ and Sig Sqn. A 0-0 draw against the RE and a 3-2 loss to 3 RSME meant we just missed out on a place in the semi-finals. Without doubt our best result of the day was the 4-2 win over the Cheshires who went on to win the competition by defeating 3 RSME 1-0 in a hard-fought final. The six-a-side competitions have been hard work but enjoyable and if they are anything to go by we can look forward to a good 1999-2000 season.

Following the Army Sixes Sgt Ramm and Pte Mosley have been called up for Army trials and these two, along with Sgt Goodman and LCpl Ward, have been called up for infantry trials - more on their progress in the next issue.



**The victorious cricket side.**



**LCpl Glascodine during phase one of the triathlon.**

## 2nd Battalion - The Poachers

**'Never have I seen a unit with such a strong Regimental identity or sense of purpose.'**

*Quote from a two-star General visiting the Poachers.*

During their second and last summer in Cyprus, the Poachers have gone from strength to strength - while operations have continued unabated, the time has also been found to enjoy ourselves.

Since June of this year, the Battalion has undertaken numerous events. B (Leicestershire) Company Group have returned from a highly successful tour as the Falklands Islands Resident Infantry Company (FIRIC); several demonstrations have been carried out on both Pyla ranges and the local training area for visitors; our commitment of a platoon to the Vikings in Londonderry continues; much worthwhile and hard training has been conducted on-island; and all this against a backdrop of deploying the battalion to Jordan for a five-week live-firing exercise, Exercise Saffron Sands 99, including an HQ Infantry-sponsored trial of Novell tactics, and the new orbat and structures involved therein. In November and early December, an expedition will go to the Himalayas.

By the time this edition of *Castle* reaches its audience, the Poachers will be back from Jordan and engaged in operations over Christmas and the millennium - and, those soldiers manning the Black Knight ECP on the edge of the Sovereign Base Area will be the first people on British soil to welcome in the next 1,000 years!

So, for the last time before the Battalion returns to England and the not-so sunny Chepstow, here follows a glimpse of what the Poachers have been up to for the last six months.

### Exercise Purple Strike

*Sgt Sharp (B Company) writes:*

Exercise Purple Strike was the culmination of all our training in the Falkland Islands. It was a week-long tri-Service exercise, and for some this was the first experience of working with the other Services. The scenario saw a lightly equipped SF enemy landing on West Falkland with the purpose of embarrassing HM Government. This enemy duly had to be cleared.

The company was lifted by Chinook and dropped off at San Carlos where we moved into a forward operating base (FOB) run by the RLC. We then spent the next 24 hours carrying out the normal battle procedure.

The next day we were split into chalks, given a life jacket and then flown to Fox Bay on West Falkland - this may all sound very easy, but with your webbing and bergen weighing the same as an average family car it was no simple task.

The Chinook dropped us off at Fox Bay landing strip, a short tab to the harbour area where we were met by a guide who at first glance looked like an Argentinean spy, but was in fact Cpl Vazquez. The next 24 hours



**Fire support (.50 Browning).**

were spent in the normal fashion with orders being given later that day - the enemy had captured a bridge to the north of our position and the company had the task of destroying them. At last light, all the bergens were loaded into the CQMS's BV 206 and then the company, led by 6 Platoon, moved off northwards. The tab seemed to go on for ages and in fact it did, as we didn't arrive at the next hide until one o'clock the next morning with some very sore and tired soldiers. The terrain was some of the worst that I had ever seen, and the cry of 'How much further?' was heard at regular intervals and the answer was always the same - 'About 6km'. It was also a very cold night and the sweat was freezing on our kit, so most of the company looked like Frosty the Snowman.

Once in the hide we laid up until first light. However, the Sniper section had to go forward and recce the enemy position. It was just a shame that the enemy supplied by the Falkland Island Defence Force were still in Port Stanley (having not yet deployed). They did, however find a good FUP and

Fire support position for the dawn attack.

Come first light we were off heading towards the FUP but by the time we got there it was more like a lunch time attack. 6 Platoon were to assault first followed by 4 then 5 Platoon. On H hour, 6 Platoon launched itself into the assault, taking the home bank and the bridge. 4 Platoon then moved through and destroyed the depth positions leaving 5 Platoon at the rear with the gear.

The next task the company had was to wait for a Hercules to drop off our rations which was done with some style, while we watched the rations floating down to earth at the end of a parachute.

Once the RAF had managed to cover West Falklands in chicken and pasta, it was decided that because the company was now short of food, the next attack on Mt Moody would be cancelled, and the company would instead move by BV 206 to Port Howard. What should have been a four-hour road move took all night to get two thirds of the company there.



**A and B Companies clearing positions.**

## The Poachers

Once in Port Howard we all moved into a sheep shed and started on a bit of admin. The next phase of the exercise was to be live, so it was BFAs off and all blank ammo handed in which was easy for my platoon as we had been on exercise for three days, tabbed over 25km and not fired a round. Once the company had sorted itself out, it was yet another tab - this time south, so at least it was downhill heading towards Second Creek Range. We were looking for an ISO container which had the company's ammunition in it - it's amazing how an ISO can hide in the Falklands!

Once the lead elements of the company had located the ISO the troops got their heads down while the platoon sergeants and the CSM distributed the ammo. Orders were given, the company was to advance west, destroying all enemy in its path.

At first light the company was off, this time led by 5 Platoon. The platoon launched into the first position once Pte Chester and myself had finished demonstrating to a BFBS camera crew the fine art of hitting the enemy with two-inch mortar bombs. 4 and 6 Platoon took out the next two positions, with 5 Platoon giving fire support. The attacks were then halted as the company was doing so well we only had one position left to take and the CBF was coming to watch this the next morning, so yet again we found ourselves in a harbour for the night, with no bergens. We knew we were in for a long cold night and we were right!

Before first light the company was already in the FUP waiting for the off, and once the Mortar Platoon and the naval gunfire from

*HMS Westminster* started, the company advanced - 6 Platoon took out the forward right position and 4 Platoon took on the forward left which left 5 Platoon with the depth which happened to be on top of a mountain - well, a hill really - but after Pte Chester and myself had run up and down it a few times for ammo resupplies it felt like Mt Everest! Somehow our company commander managed to get himself killed and Capt Romilly took over, but luckily Endex was called soon after before any harm could be done!

All that was left now was the mandatory clean-up and yet another tab, this time to RV with a LCVF where the company was then taken out to *HMS Westminster* for the trip back to Mare Harbour. However, myself and 20 others ended up on the *Grey Rover* which was a refuelling ship with not a can of lager in sight.

Exercise Purple Strike was a hard and at times very testing exercise which was enjoyed by the company - and was a good example of what can be achieved on a FIRIC tour.

### Sailing Expedition

#### - Exercise Poachers Islands

*Lt E Belderbos (C Company) writes:* Our initial idea was to take an expedition on a trip of the Greek Islands, starting and finishing in Akrotiri, Cyprus. With Rhodes, a key custom port for the Greek Islands becoming out of bounds and increasing time constraints due to other commitments the expedition began to become untenable. An

opportunity then arose to deliver a 35-foot yacht, *Harmony*, from the west coast of Greece back to Akrotiri. This would prove more of a challenge because of the distance and would provide a more interesting voyage due to a course straight through the centre of the Greek Islands. With sponsorship from the Poachers' affiliated counties and associations and T-shirts donated by the Hellenic Bank, the expedition began to take shape.

On arrival in Levkas, on the western coast of Greece, many of the crew were surprised to find our transport for the voyage was safely on firm ground supported on timbers, while the hull was being painted. We spent the day buying food and preparing the boat for the next day's sail. Ideally we would have sailed that day, however, we had to wait for a surveyor to check over the boat and as the crew were mainly novices we decided against a night sail. Late in the afternoon *Harmony* was lowered by crane into the water. The evening meal was eaten on board, the safety brief given and a watch system organised. With the prospect of several days at sea the first run ashore was taken.

Despite a few sore heads we slipped moorings from Levkas at dawn. Motoring, due to a distinct lack of wind, we headed along the coastline towards the Corinth Canal. We sighted a basking shark early in the morning. By midday the wind had totally dropped and the crew went for a swim just off the island of Oxia. As we sailed east we passed Patra, the wind picked up, the motor was stopped and man overboard drills were



The author (Sgt Sharp).



*Harmony* undergoing final preparations.

## The Poachers



**The Corinth Canal - from left: Ptes Smith, Johnson, Wakefield, Thornton, Boyall, Day and Lt Belderbos.**

practised under sail. The wind lasted only a couple of hours and we were back motoring as the first night sail began. Prior to entering the Gulf of Corinth the land closes in on either side and a careful watch is needed due to the concentration of water traffic. This provided a good opportunity for the crew to learn the light configurations of different boats. The Corinth Canal only allows one way traffic so we had to wait

until the traffic from the east had passed through. Dug at the end of the last century the three-mile long Corinth Canal is an impressive sight with the sides up to 250ft in places.

A course was set for Los, 'backpacker's paradise', located in the middle of the Greek Islands. Remaining on a port tack, *Harmony* was averaging six knots. Breakfast was a combination of hot-dogs, scrambled eggs

and chilli sandwiches, the remains of Pte Smith's meal from the previous night. The conditions now created the first victims of seasickness, pills were taken and those suffering were harnessed to secure points on the deck. Pte Boyall began to realise how much he actually missed the land of Cyprus, or any land for that matter.

Dolphins were sighted at lunchtime and stayed with the boat for a few minutes, much to the crew's excitement. With increasing wind speed *Harmony* began to make seven knots and with Los on the horizon we realised we would be there by early evening. We were tempted to push on due to the excellent conditions, however, the crew had been sailing now for three days, save for the two hours in Corinth and we needed more supplies.

Los is claimed to be the birthplace of Homer and according to the pilot book, 'the waterfront throbs to the sounds of music from bars and discos as Los is the centre for the young backpackers'. Even within two miles of Los's coast, we could only make out a small collection of white huts on the hillsides and we began to doubt the pilot book's favourable description - the island looked deserted.

Los harbour is hidden behind rock outcrops and only becomes visible within half a mile overlooked by a church on the cliffs. We moored stern to in one of the only berths available. Port facilities were limited so showers had to be had in either the local campsite or one of the hotels. An order for three days' worth of food and bottled water was placed with a shop near the harbour. The night was spent ashore and Los lived up to its reputation. Surrounding the harbour are various shops, bars and restaurants, however, the main activity is found on top of the hill. A 15-minute climb up the steps



**Sunset in the Aegean Sea.**

## The Poachers

to the chora above and there is a maze of streets packed with bars and backpackers.

An early morning was needed as we had three days in which to reach Cyprus. We loaded the boat with enough drinking water, working on three large bottles a day per man. The tanks were filled with the tap water available, this would be used for washing, the boat had two showers. Diesel was re-supplied, including a spare jerrycan - in retrospect we should have bought another. Gas and other boat supplies were bought from a local bike-hire/chandlery.

After leaving Los we skirted round the west coast of the island. Our course to Cyprus left us on a run and with an increase in wind we reached speeds of up to nine knots. If these conditions continued it would be possible to harbour in Karpathos, the last island prior to Cyprus. Unfortunately, the wind soon died and we started to motor. Despite having a full tank and spare, the diesel had to be watched as there were no more ports en route to Cyprus.

Staying on a course of 100 degrees, the wind had risen again, we remained on a run with the sails 'goose-winged' (the headsail poled out on the opposite side to the mainsail). With the waves on the same course as the boat we began to surf. At this rate we would easily reach Cyprus by midday Thursday.

As the boat was staying on course there is a limited amount of work for the crew. As we were operating a mother watch system, one person from each watch would act as cook and cleaner for the day. Everyone cooked at least one meal on the boat and the standard was consistently good throughout the voyage. Pte Johnson found that playing poker was always a good way of increasing his stock of cigarettes. More books could have been taken as Pte Wakefield speed read the entire contents of the boat's limited library within a couple of days. *Jaws*, the most popular book, was read by five of the crew. With each member of the crew writing a section of the boat's diary, Pte Thornton proved himself as a journalist and artist with his five-page epic.

Most of the crew could plot the boat's position on the chart, this was done every hour and details such as boat speed and barometer readings were entered in the logbook. Although we were using GPS, the Aegean Sea has enough islands and landmarks from which to gain a fix.

During the night the wind had become non-existent, the headsail was taken in, the mainsail centred. The engine was turned on which put our limited amount of diesel under more pressure. We averaged about five knots throughout the day, if there was no wind we wouldn't reach Cyprus until Friday.

Late in the afternoon the wind picked up and we had the full complement of sails up on a port tack. After last light low-lying cloud began to form. Just off port stern we could see sheet lightning on the distant horizon. The barometer reading that had stayed relatively constant for the trip dropped three points in half an hour. We put

a reef in the mainsail, donned oilskins and braced ourselves for a storm. After two hours and the clearing of the cloud it became evident we were clear.

Hopes of reaching Akrotiri by midday, Thursday began to fade, as at first light our destination was still 70 miles away. Inconsistent wind meant we were alternating between sail and engine. Cyprus only became visible on the horizon by late morning. Towards the end of the afternoon, as we headed closed to land the sea breeze built up and the boat speed rose steadily to six knots. Between Paphos and Akrotiri, while on a run with the skipper at the helm, we reached eight knots.

Prior to entering Akrotiri Mole, *Harmony* was totally cleaned out below decks. We reached Akrotiri Mole by late evening and finished the task of clearing out the boat, before heading back to Alexander barracks and a range day the following morning.

We logged well over 700 nautical miles and carried out five night sails, an excellent achievement for many of the crew who had never sailed before. As a result of the expedition Ptes Smith and Wakefield have since taken competent crew courses and are hoping to become day skippers in the near future.

### Like Father, Like Son

*The following article illustrates the family traditions and lineage of the Royal Anglian Regiment - at no time is it intended to implicate the currently serving Lt Otter and Sgt Riley, and any similarity to any events concerning them is purely coincidental.*

*Lt Otter and Sgt Riley (B Company) write:*

In September 1998 when my new platoon sergeant arrived it didn't take long to establish that both our fathers had served in

the same company of the 3rd Battalion between 1971 and 1975. Somewhat taken aback by this coincidence we both decided to trawl the memory banks of key personnel who have since retired from the Regiment and those still serving within the 2nd Battalion. Not really knowing what we would find we embarked upon the quest for information.

From the outset it was hoped that our investigations would jog some memories and unearth some anecdotes about our fathers' dim and distant pasts. Prior to commencing the search we were both convinced that the likelihood of finding information of a delicate and sensitive nature would be extremely high. Moreover it was our opinion that if any such information were to be subsequently published in, for instance, the Regimental journal, this would only serve to embarrass our respective fathers. Accordingly one such tale of woe is given below (source anon)...

Maj Martin Franks (now the Rev) was ex Drum Major and RSM of the Essex Regiment. That name will conjure up some long buried memories; especially for a young subaltern by the name of Tim Otter and a corporal from 5 Platoon B Company by the name of Mick Riley.

Cpl Riley was guard commander for 3 R Anglian in Paderborn one cold winter evening. 2Lt Otter was a newly-arrived subaltern to the Battalion, along with 2Lt Palmer.

On the night in question, Maj Franks walked into the guardroom, as he was the (greatly respected and feared) field officer of the week. These were his words: 'Cpl Riley, I have a task for you my boy,' (we were all *his boys*). 'I have two young officers I want to initiate into the Mess.'

And with that he begins to reveal his dastardly plan as follows. LCpl Parrot (Anti-Tank Platoon) would be placed in 'close



Lt Otter (Jnr) and Sgt Riley (Jnr) at the San Carlos war memorial in 1999 (B Company 2 R Anglian).

## The Poachers



Lt Otter (Snr) B Company 3 R Anglian in Cyprus 1977.

arrest'. Prior to his recent 'capture' he had seduced, violated and shamed Paderborn's loveliest.

Accordingly the local constabulary wished to interview the beastial lance corporal. 2Lts Otter and Palmer were to sign a live body receipt from Cpl Riley who would then explain the severity of LCpl Parrot's crimes and proceed to elaborate on the intricate details. They would then take him by 'duty driver' (OC LAD REME) to Paderborn police station. En-route Parrot was to effect his escape from the Land Rover. His escape would be made good with the aid of Capt Steele's MG convertible. This would be conveniently parked with the engine running in a nearby side-street. Off would go LCpl Parrot with Capt Steele leaving the poor subalterns contemplating their terminally short careers in the Pompadours.

That was the plan - however, we all know that few plans survive the first contact. When they arrived at the RV, out jumped Parrot (Battalion sprinter) who promptly made a dash for Capt Steele's car. In hot pursuit was Tim Otter (veritable racehorse). In jumped Parrot head first into the MG and away it sped. On jumped 2Lt Otter, hanging on by his fingernails yelling 'stop in the name of the law.' Alas courage alone could not sustain his grip on the accelerating sports car and 2Lt Otter was sent tumbling into the road rendering his brand new No 2 dress to ruins and his own self scratched and bruised.

Public safety was 2Lt Otter's first thought as he hurried to the nearest phone box where he informed the local police of the (now two) dangerous criminals at large in the fair town of Paderborn.

The local police responded with equal gusto and dispatched with lights flashing all available cars (armed to boot) to track down the perpetrators. Unfortunately one of the police cars was involved in an accident

### The aftermath

OC LAD	Duty Field Officer	November February May
Maj Franks	Duty Field Officer	December March June
Capt Steele	Duty Field Officer	January April July
Cpl Riley	Guard Commander	For eternity
LCpl Parrot	Guard 2IC	As above
2Lt Otter	New Uniform	
2Lt Palmer	Therapy (post traumatic)	
Injured policeman	Compensation for injuries	
Local constabulary	New car (VW Passat)	
Regimental credibility	Floundered momentarily	

resulting in the car being written off and a policeman hospitalised.

It doesn't take the brains of an archbishop to work out that the proverbial 'hit the fan'.

2Lt Otter and his cohort arrived back at the guardroom to explain their lost charge to an already ashen-faced Maj Franks and an equally crestfallen Cpl Riley.

### KAPE Tour 1999

*LCpl Jennings (C Coy) writes:*

At the end of May, around 30 soldiers from the Poachers embarked on a three-week KAPE tour. We left Cyprus with a number of objectives: to maintain public awareness of the Army's role in the modern world; to enlighten young adults to the opportunities and challenges an Army career can offer; and specifically to encourage potential recruits to join our own Battalion, the

Poachers. For those of you who think this is a perfect opportunity for a skive, or to get back home to visit mum/dad/girlfriend, think again!

A typical day started at about 0730hrs, with weapons being drawn from the armoury and vehicles being loaded for the day's proceedings. Following morning scoff (good old English cooking) and armed with Army horror-boxes (containing real sandwiches and Gucci pop), we set off. Generally, each town would be manned by one or two teams of seven to eight men, displaying weapon systems such as L96, Milan, 81mm mortar and GPMG. A stand was built around RB44s, a Land Rover or the Recce Platoon motorbike, with the public being free to come and look at the display, ask questions or enquire how to enlist. Of course, nearly every town had its old timers who had seen some action, some of whom were suitably



LCpl Marshall with the dance group 3 Girlz.

## The Poachers

impressed with the advances in technology, others who insisted that they'd had it harder in their day. The majority of visitors were welcoming, pleased to see us, and several wishes of 'good luck', 'keep up the good work' were passed on - goal one, maintaining public awareness, achieved.

On any one day we would visit one or two towns with static stands. At the same time, a third team would 'skirmish' a nearby area, namely driving around and talking to passers-by, informing them of local careers offices and trying to gauge local interest. We would then either set up a stand at this location at a later date, or note its details for future KAPE tours'. Throughout the day, those young adults of a suitable age were able to get all the information they needed to help them make the right decisions, and for really serious candidates, the added incentive of being issued a 'Committed Recruit' card was offered.

This stage of the day was usually complete by around 1530hrs, when we would pack up and return to the accommodation - in all we stayed in three camps throughout the tour, each of the three host regiments proving very hospitable. But the work was not over yet. Most evenings were taken up with cadet nights; a visit to a cadet centre was possibly the most demanding, but also generally the most rewarding. With cadets giving up their free evenings, and some of them cycling over six miles simply to attend, we could estimate that they were quite interested.

Cadets were put through a series of stands, including instruction on each of the weapon systems, some basic sniping skills, PT and a question and answer session based around the Army in general and the Battalion in particular. This final stand was usually my responsibility, and though to begin with I found myself stumbling for words after five minutes, by the end of the tour it was difficult to fit in all I wanted to say within the 20 minutes allocated. In fact, it was almost as much of a learning experience for me as it was for some of the cadets! Most of the lads at the cadet centres seemed to enjoy the sniping lecturette, while most of the young ladies seemed to want as much PT as they could get (could this have been anything to do with Pte Perry's tanned and bulging biceps?). Needless to say, many of those we spoke to were set on a career in the Army, though not always in the infantry, and by the end of the day we could allow ourselves to feel a certain sense of satisfaction. By 2230hrs the weapons were back in the armoury, and occasionally we even congratulated ourselves with a shandy or two.

During the tour we also took in two important events. The first was the East of England Show in Peterborough where, along with various other units, we displayed our wares for two and a half days. During the show we even managed to get the dancers from a local radio station to wear combats and Royal Anglian berets - a major coup for Battalion PR. The second was our attendance at the Army Exhibition for Schools, held at



**The KAPE team, with admirers.**

Bassingbourn Barracks, where we set up a number of stands including a rifle range, a paintball attack and an assault course run with the RIT. Though the youngsters were on the whole well below recruiting age, we nevertheless took the opportunity to show them how exciting life in the Army could be - goal two achieved.

By the end of the tour we had covered the counties of Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire - the recruiting areas of the Poachers. We had a substantial list of names and addresses of potential recruits to the Poachers (goal three achieved), and everyone had had a tiring yet rewarding time - a bonus for all. I am sure that if you were to ask any of those making up the tour team if they would do it again, they would all agree without hesitation; I know I would. A successful tour all round!

### Jungle Warfare Long Range Patrol Course

*CSgt Phillpott (D (Sp) Company) writes:*

Being stuck in Cyprus has its advantages, but it also has its pitfalls. Being the Recce Platoon, it is very hard to maintain the high

standards of training especially when the platoon is on the operational orbit as an extra rifle platoon, carrying out guards and duties. When the we were given the chance to send two six-man teams to Brunei to do the Jungle Warfare Long Range Patrol Course, the opportunity was jumped at!

One sunny Thursday we left the warmth of Cyprus for Brunei (which was hotter!). On arrival and after one and a half hours on a hot sweaty minibus, we arrived at Training Team Brunei (TTB), only to find out due to a mix up in flights we had arrived two days late for the course. So, unfortunately for us we had missed two days of the acclimatisation period.

Thrown in at the deep end we had some catching up to do. A week in camp, getting ready for our stint in the jungle, included a swim test and a BFT (albeit in even more humidity than Cyprus). During the week we spent one night out, really just to check your kit worked. If it didn't you got wet (or should I say drenched as it hammered it down - I hadn't seen rain like that before). My kit worked, so I was all right Jack. There was a lot of admin to be done, such as prepping 19 days' worth of 24-hour rations for each man in the jungle, known to all as the 'J'. River crossing drills and boat ops



**CSgt Philpott and CSgt Limb (Recce Platoon) look concerned prior to the abseil.**

**The Poachers**

were not quite like those in England, but it was great to be in the river until they showed you where the crocodile sentry needed to be posted!

There was also some really good live firing, culminating in six-man contact drills in the jungle. By the time you'd finished, your lungs had dropped out and your thigh muscles were burning. Then there was heli-abseil drills, practising for insertions - this produced a few white faces and wobbly legs, dropping 150ft with full kit. They said you could brake on your descent, but I never found out how, so I just bounced when I hit the ground.

Then came the time for our stint in the jungle for 18 days solid. We rode in on the skids of a Bell 212 with all our kit - that was an eye opener. We then had a short 2km tab to the harbour area through the jungle. It was the first time tabbing in the heat and humidity and we all found it a lot harder than we thought, with slow going and the heat taking its toll. Heat stroke had already hit the course with some soldiers from other patrols being RTU'd. The rule was drink, drink, drink, then fill up in the streams, and don't forget your steri-tabs.

For the next 12 days we were taught various skills and drills, and then practised them with small exercises; jungle navigation, patrolling, CTR drills, caching, dog ops, ambush recce and all other drills needed for the six-day final exercise. Some of the tasks could be linked with recce drills in NW Europe but some were totally new.

The final exercise. We were on our own now, (no DS) but there were tracker teams chasing us, gaining info on any mistakes made. We inserted by heli and moved off -



**Cpl Whiteley, CSgt Limb, CSgt Philpot, Pte Farrow.**

we had three days in which to reach our search area. We pushed on hard and fast and managed to drop short of our search area within the first day. We then spent four days searching every inch of our area to find nothing. Totally demoralised, we had heard on the net the other patrols picking up enemy. We were then called into another team's search area to assist their CTR on a bigger enemy camp. Recce tasks were then carried out to assist a Gurkha platoon into a harbour area, and then set them up for a camp attack. Dawn the last morning we attacked, then

withdrew on helis. Once it was finally over, they decided to tell me that there were no enemy in our search area - 'cheers'.

It was great to be finished - we looked like vagrants with beards, but we had done it. The Poachers had started with 12 men and finished with 12 men, only two of the three teams out of eight to do so, which was an achievement in itself.

The 'J' was a great experience and one I am glad to have been privileged to have had - that said though, I am not in any great hurry to get back there!



**Endex.**



## The Poachers

### Exercise Saffron Sands 1999

Exercise Saffron Sands 99 was a battalion-level live firing exercise undertaken by the Poachers in Jordan during October 1999. The exercise was the culmination of conventional training over the last two years. As the Eastern Sovereign Base Area Battalion in Cyprus there is not the opportunity to conduct battalion live firing, and therefore a suitable overseas location is required. This was only the second time that a battalion level OTX has been conducted in Jordan.

The exercise area lies approximately 60 miles south of the capital Amman, and is a vast desert area not dissimilar to BATUS (only with fewer trees), offering virtually limitless live firing opportunities. In order to maximise the opportunity that was on offer, the Battalion ensured that it had trained up to platoon-level live firing and company-level dry training prior to deploying to Jordan.

The deployment in late September was slightly hampered, by the East Timor crisis, which resulted in some of the Battalion and the freight being deployed by the ageing Belfast fleet. Nonetheless the Battalion was complete by 1 October and training could begin on schedule. Throughout the exercise the Battalion was accommodated in a large tented camp in the middle of the desert which was primitive but nonetheless became home for a month. The camp, *aka* Camp Jamal, was erected and maintained under the eagle eye of the QM(T), Capt Alf Todd.

The first phase of training saw the Battalion conduct a trial of the new light infantry battalion organisation (with manoeuvre support sections in each platoon) on behalf of the Force Development unit at DINF. This took place using the Direct Fire Weapons Effect Simulation System (DFWES) which the Battalion had used extensively while at Warminster. There was also the chance to conduct platoon-level live firing, and marry up with our Jordanian



counterparts from the 9th Prince Mohammed Battalion of the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces.

The companies then undertook 12 days of rotational training. This entailed three four-day packages which included the following:

1 Adventure training and R and R at Aqaba, which is a small resort at the southern end of the country located on the Red Sea. This

was headed up by the MTO, Capt Steve Pallant, and the activities included sub-aqua diving, windsurfing, waterskiing, canoeing and trips to the historic site of Petra. This package was preceded by a diving expedition to the Red Sea led by Capt Stuart Smith and Sgt Charles, which laid the foundations for the adventure training package;

- A period of company training, which allowed the company commanders to conduct their own training;
- A company battle run which saw the companies put through a challenging and demanding live firing exercise, put together and run by the operations officer, Capt Nigel Johnson, that included advance to contact, trench clearing, convoy ambush, company-level day and night attacks.

There then followed what was to be the culmination of our training with the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces; a joint tactical live firing display in front of HRH Prince Faisal (the King's brother). The exercise was masterminded by OCD (Sp) Company, Maj James Hart, and in addition to the firepower of both battalions, also integrated 155mm Jordanian artillery, Cobra attack helicopters, F-5 fighters and British RAF Jaguars.

As well as conducting joint training with the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces there was a chance to mix on a social level as well. This included sampling some of the excellent Jordanian hospitality (which left



## The Poachers

most stomachs intact), and witnessing an evening of traditional singing and dancing, culminating in a display by the Corps of Drums and a rousing rendition of *The Poacher*. There was some difficulty in the translation, and it did take some time to explain why the whole Battalion is known as 'the hunters who go out and steal animals from others'.

Having bade farewell to the 9th Battalion Royal Jordanian Armed Forces, the Battalion undertook a four-day dismounted battalion live firing exercise. This included a defensive phase, two simultaneous night raids followed by a company-level ambush and concluded in a memorable Battalion live firing dawn attack onto the highest feature on the training area, known as Jebel el Sulsul. All in all, the troops covered over 50km on foot to undertake these activities.

This ambitious live firing exercise was only possible due to the support of a very large permanent range team which was drawn from units across the Army, including a number of Vikings (Sgt Patten, Cpl Brooks and Cpl Dykstra), who also contributed a rifle section. This, coupled with another section from Bermuda, made for a very regimental exercise, resulting in some memorable inter-battalion banter and rivalry.

In addition to the exercise itself the Battalion undertook a small community relations project in the village of Al Qatrana on the edge of the training area. This was carried out on behalf of the British Embassy in Amman by the assault pioneers and members of 62 Cyprus Support Squadron RE. The project entailed refurbishing, and re-decorating the girls' secondary school, which was formally handed over to the Mayor of Qatrana by the British Ambassador.

As well as supporting the live firing with their machine guns the Corps of Drums were also required to don their scarlets and play on behalf of the defence attaché. The platoon



played on four different occasions that included the opening of the HSBC bank in Amman, the launch of the new Rover car, and at a reception for the Rolls Royce Club. All the events were well received and resulted in some excellent PR coverage for the Battalion.

This exercise offered one of the increasingly rare opportunities for the Battalion to conduct a first class live firing package, in a demanding and challenging environment that rivals any of the other major OTXs. This has resulted in an excellent level of personal and team skills being achieved throughout the Battalion which has been an outstanding preparation for our return to Chepstow in March 2000.

### Exercise Saffron Sands 99 - A 'Platoon Commander's View

*2Lt R Witham (A Company) writes:*

My arrival in Cyprus coincided with preparations for a battalion overseas exercise in Jordan. The prospect of an entire month with one's platoon, away from distractions and duties, is every young subaltern's dream. As an opportunity for getting to know individuals, establish relationships and conduct quality training it simply cannot be beaten.

Our build-up preparations began in early July. Individual field firing on the local ranges progressed up to fire team and section level. Problems were resolved and drills perfected. Patrolling and navigation are but two of the skills practised on a company exercise in the Lima mountain range. Mistakes and problems provided us with the lessons necessary for continued improvement. In barracks, myself and the other commanders talked to the company about subjects as diverse as desert survival, Bedouin culture and Jordanian history, hoping that the word 'Jordan' might come to be associated with more than a pin-up model or Formula One racing.

The departure date soon arrived and we boarded an RAF flight to Jordan. From the military airport in Amman we were driven at breakneck speed into the desert. Our home for the next five weeks is to be a tented village, laid out with ordered military precision and known as *Camp Jamal*. After being reunited with our baggage and shown to our accommodation we toured the immediate area. Paths are marked with white-washed breeze blocks, eating areas are located around a central square and urinals are a tube of guttering protruding from the ground. Any ideas of privacy are shattered by the sight of communal toilets. It is apparent that a great deal of thought has gone into the camp layout, right down to the



## The Poachers



provision of hot water, electric lighting and satellite television. Even in the desert there is no escaping the Spice Girls.

The first few days of desert life pass slowly as kit is unpacked, weapons are zeroed and training programmes finalised. Two immediate challenges soon presented themselves: dust and diarrhoea. The dust challenge is more of a nuisance than a problem because it makes weapon cleaning and equipment serviceability a constant headache. Hygiene is the more serious of the two issues. Preventative measures include the use of disposable eating utensils, frequent hand washing and weekly foot inspections. Despite these a significant number are struck down with 'desert dribbles' and spend a few sleepless nights rushing across camp, toilet rolls in hand.

After settling in, we began training. As a platoon commander I am given an unprecedented level of freedom in deciding what to do. Along with the platoon sergeant we decided to practice ambushes, contact drills and deliberate attacks under the unremitting desert sun. The three-day company exercise took our training a stage further. All of the shooting was with live ammunition. There was no room for mistakes and the pressure on everyone was that much greater. But as with all things, the harder the work the greater the rewards. The platoon was now showing real signs of improvement and there was a palpable sense of achievement. The exercise finished on a high note with a barbecue and sketches.

During our daily training we were shadowed by both the Bedouin, who pick up every last piece of brass casing and left-over targetry, and our Jordanian Army counterparts. The JAF, as they are known, watch and then attempt to replicate our training with their own troops. What they lack in the way of equipment and resources they more than make up for with enthusiasm and effort. Nevertheless it always seems

prudent to give them a wide berth since safety isn't high on their list of priorities. Indeed, much of their training is conducted with an almost suicidal disregard for anyone's safety, including their own.

The working day is long; generally beginning at five with the sound of *The Lincolnshire Poacher* being played over the tannoy system and ending with a platoon brief for the following day's events at around nine o'clock in the evening. The first signs of exhaustion and tiredness were beginning to show. A break was needed. It was with some relief therefore that the company headed south, to the coastal resort of Aquaba for its R and R package. Four days away from dust and compo in the comfort of a three star hotel seems too good for words.

Mindful of the fact that Aquaba itself offers little in the way of entertainment, the Poachers adventure training team set about

providing some sporting alternatives to eating and sleeping. For the culture visits there is a day trip to the ancient ruins of Petra. This area of breath-taking beauty consists of a number of different buildings and temples that have quite literally been carved into the mountainside. For some, however, its archaeological significance is eclipsed by its connections with the film *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*. Cultural visits, windsurfing, water-skiing, diving and snorkelling still fail to lure some away from the delights of Pizza Hut and the hotel bar.

The platoon returned from R and R laden down with fake clothing and 'hubbly-bubbly' pipes, with the Battalion final exercise at the forefront of our minds. It's been billed as the high point of Saffron Sands and rightly so; The exercise took us through a wide range of military operations



**The Poachers**

including the defence, the withdrawal, ambushes and finally; of course, a battalion live firing attack. Along with a realistic scenario, seemingly limitless quantities of ammunition and a massive exercise area on which to play, it would be difficult for the training to be anything but excellent.

In the event things ran smoothly and the company acquitted itself admirably. At platoon-level the exercise is as demanding as those that have preceded it. Leading the entire company across unknown ground with map and compass, having the Commanding Officer critique one's orders or watching live rounds kick dirt up meters in front of you, all lead to varying degrees of pressure. Yet without it, the sense of accomplishment and relief on hearing 'Endex' after three days would not be nearly so great.

It's been a long and dusty five weeks of hard work and enjoyment, and while I'm far from mastering this most difficult of professions I am confident that it has taken me that one step further towards being a better officer. Surely that is as good a vindication for the value of Exercise Saffron Sands as any.



## The Poachers

### Poachers Sports

*SSgt (SSI) Cocker APTC writes:*

The last year has held many rewards in the Poachers' sporting calendar, with the Battalion having representatives in most of the Army teams on the island.

Despite companies being on leave and on operations, the Poachers entered a team in the Army Athletics Competition. Nine teams entered the competition on a day that saw temperatures reach 35C and an ice cream van sell out within an hour of arriving. By half-way, any one of five teams could have won the competition and at the end of the day, the Poachers finished in third place. Then came the business of choosing an Army team to take on the RAF, in order to compete in the inter-services title. All nine units were approached to supply athletes and a team of 28 was selected, 10 of whom came from the Poachers.

The selected Poachers were: Lt Hawley - 3000m Steeplechase; WO2 Slater - Shot; Cpl Oldenberg - Shot; CSgt Elliot - Javelin; Cpl Waqairoba - High jump and 110m hurdles; Cpl Scott - Discus; Pte Francis - Long jump; Pte Perry - 400m and 400m relay; Pte Stow - 100m and 100m relay; Cpl Johnson - 400m relay.

The RAF started strongly by taking first and second places in the 400m hurdles and first in the 800m. However that's where their luck ran out and the Army started to dominate the competition. The Poacher representatives seized the opportunity to demonstrate their strength after disappointing performances in the Army competition.

#### Results

**3000m Steeplechase:** 1st Lt Hawley, 11 min 4 sec.

**High jump:** 1st Cpl Waqairoba, 1.65m.

**110 Hurdles:** 1st Cpl Waqairoba, 17.66 sec.

**400m:** 1st Pte Perry, 53.22 sec.

**400m Relay:** 1st Pte Perry, 3min 35 sec.

**100m:** 1st Pte Stow, 11.73 sec.

**100m Relay:** 1st Pte Stow, 47.76sec.

**400m Relay:** 1st Cpl Johnson, 3min 35 sec.

#### The final results were:

Army 116 pts  
RAF 66 pts

The day was finished off with an inter-garrison tug-of-war competition.

The event was a crushing victory for Dhekelia Garrison (with the Poachers providing six out of the eight team members) who never lost an end. The final positions were:

1st Dhekelia Garrison	9 pts
2nd Episkopi Garrison	5 pts
3rd Royal Navy	4 pts
4th RAF	0 pts



Pte Perry against RAF Laarbruch in the Akrotiri tens semi-finals.

### Poachers Rugby Club

*Sgt M 'Bilko' Urand writes:*

The Poachers Rugby club ended the 1998-99 season with two major competitions. At the beginning of May the club entered the infantry rugby sevens held at Warminster, and at the end of May the Episkopi rugby sevens back in Cyprus.

The Warminster competition was the first infantry sevens to be held for many a year and attracted 24 teams. The Poachers played a total of six games and were knocked out in the quarter-finals of the bowl by the 'Dukes' who went on to win.

The team returned to Cyprus and it was not long before the last competition of the season. After the cold and damp of Warminster it was now time to get used to Cyprus again and the Episkopi rugby sevens. The team was virtually unchanged from Warminster, but the season had been long and hard with many injuries picked up along the way. The Poachers were knocked out in the early stages of this event. The club in the 1998-99 season had played a total of 36 matches in all competitions, and were now looking forward to a well-earned rest.

The few weeks' rest did not last very long

before the start of the first competition of the new season. The Akrotiri international floodlit rugby tens was to take place 19-23 July 1999, brought forward due to the up-and-coming rugby World Cup. The Poachers entered a strong team. The heats took place during the evenings of 19/20 July when the club played IKOSB, Stags and RAF Strike Command. After two days of hard competitive rugby the team had a relaxing day at one of Akrotiri's beaches, before the quarter-finals. On the evening of 22 July the team discovered that they had a bye through to the semi-finals where they would play RAF Laarbruch. The semi-finals and the finals were all to be played on the main rugby pitch in the stadium on the same evening. The team took to the field watched by 1,500 spectators, all supporting the RAF team! The team put a lot of hard effort into this game, Pte Pez Perry and Cpl Fred Oldenburgh (D (Sp) Company) scoring spectacular tries, and Sgt Wez Anderson (LAD) converting all the kicks. At the end of 20 minutes of rugby the team came away with a 19-12 victory and a place in the final.

The bowl final was to be played one and a half-hours after the semi-final. During this time the team went away and sorted out a



The forwards having a bath watched by the team medic, Sgt Oxby.

## The Poachers

few moves and relaxed. The final got underway at 2000hrs against the RAF Vets. The Poachers again played some hard rugby but were unable to break down the RAF defence. The final score was 25-7 to the RAF.

The Poachers team for the Akrotiri tens was: Lt Rayment (C), 2Lt Joyce (C), Sgt Urand (HQ), Sgt Robb, Sgt Anderson (HQ), Sgt Oxby (HQ), Cpl Bonsall (HQ), Cpl Oldenburgh (D), LCpl Felstead (C), LCpl Ainge (HQ), LCpl Parly (HQ), Ptes Turnell (HQ), Perry (D), Mayes (HQ), Bellamy (C), Cfn Allen (HQ).

### Inter-Company Boxing Competition 1999

*WO2 (CSM) Heycock writes:*

Having not entered the inter-unit novice boxing competition for the past two seasons, the 1999 inter-company boxing competition was the perfect opportunity to start to rebuild the Battalion team, ready for our return to the UK in early 2000. The competition was held in the open between 14 and 18 September.

The competition got off to the best start possible with some excellent fights in the prelims and the semi-finals, with every fighter showing a great deal of courage and determination.

With the standard set, the second night also produced entertainment of a high quality, opening with a hard battle at bantamweight between Pte Tompkins (B Company) and Pte Pegg (A Company), Pte Pegg eventually getting the decision. At lightweight Pte Mason (A Company) beat Pte Hume (HQ Company) by a very narrow margin. The second semi-final at lightweight was also closely fought with LCpl Burgwin (B Company) losing on a majority decision to Pte Wakefield (C Company). A special



The Poachers tens team just before the final.



Sgt Lewis with his C Company boxers.



Pte Atkins (B) on the receiving end.



Pte Young (A) and Pte Styles (B) - middleweight finals.



Pte Pegg (A) and Pte Farrand (D(Sp)) - bantamweight finals.

## The Poachers

mention must go to Pte Crozier (HQ Company) who at heavy-middle, in a terrific bout full of aggression, guts and determination lost to Pte Atkins (B Company) on points.

The finals got off to an exciting start with bantamweights Pte Farrand (D Company) and Pte Pegg (A Company) producing an all-action opening bout with a combination of boxing skills, aggression and determination - Pte Farrand eventually edged a very close majority decision. At featherweight Pte Davies (B Company) out-pointed Pte Wooley (HQ Company) in a toe-to-toe contest. Next in at lightweight, Pte Mason (A Company) and Pte Wakefield (C Company), put on a good all-round performance. However, with clever movement and defensive skills, Pte Wakefield out-boxed his opponent to claim a well-deserved unanimous decision. Before the break at lightwelter, LCpl Gillespie (C Company) and Pte Riley (B Company) produced an excellent bout with blood, guts and determination throughout the three rounds, but LCpl Gillespie eventually won on a majority points decision.

At light-middleweight Pte Wardle (B Company) and Pte Wilkinson (A Company) produced a very aggressive first round with Pte Wardle producing the bigger punches to win by a stoppage. Following the break at middleweight Pte Styles (B Company) proved to be too fit for Pte Young (A Company), winning the last round to edge a close points decision. At light-heavy Pte Perry (D Company) beat Pte Wileman (B Company) after Pte Wileman was judged by the referee to have knocked down Pte Perry with an illegal punch, an unfortunate end to a contest Pte Wileman was well in control of. At heavyweight Cpl Oldenburg (D Company) put in a good boxing performance to out-point Pte Atkins (B Company).

The final fight of the night was at welterweight between Pte McDonald (C Company) and LCpl Morgan (A Company). In an explosive first round, Pte McDonald



The 18 finalists.



The 1999 inter-company novice boxing champions - B Company.

managed to stop LCpl Morgan with a powerful combination.

At the end of an exhilarating night's boxing, B Company were crowned the inter-company boxing champions of 1999 with A Company runners-up. Best boxer went to

Pte Wakefield (C Company). Pte Mason (A Company) was presented the trophy for the best loser.

After a fantastic week's boxing in a wonderful setting, the Battalion boxing team looks to have considerable potential.



Pte Plummer - WO2 Thorpe.



LCpl Brocklesbury instructing windsurfing.

# The East of England Regiment

## The End of an Era

The 6th and 7th Battalions were withdrawn from the order of battle on 1 July 1999 and two companies from each were transferred to the new East of England Regiment. Joined by a rifle company from 3rd Battalion, the Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, the new unit, with its headquarters in Bury St Edmunds, is now the only TA Battalion in 49 (East) Brigade.

## New Beginning

The new unit, comprising rifle companies from Lincoln, Leicester, Norwich, Mansfield and Chelmsford, began training during its first annual camp over the period 17-31 July 1999. The shape of the new Regiment is different from our Regular counterparts in the 1st and 2nd Battalions. Each of the five rifle companies has two rifle platoons and a support platoon. Lincoln has the Reconnaissance Platoon, Norwich the Mortar Platoon, Leicester the Assault Pioneer Platoon and Chelmsford and Mansfield, a Machine Gun Platoon each. Headquarters Company is minute and lacks a Signal Platoon and its echelon troops. It does, however, represent the best possible arrangement for the available funds and everyone in the new Regiment is committed to creating a vibrant and well trained unit to support the Regular Army. It is expected that the TA soldier will continue to train with his/her usual zest and energy.

## 1999 Annual Camp

The Regiment began training during its first annual camp over the period 17-31 July 1999 and the first week in Sennybridge concentrated on specialist cadres. The aim was to train soldiers from the Support Platoons in their new role and focussed on mortars, reconnaissance, SF machine guns, signals and assault pioneers. Rifle platoon soldiers conducted their own training while the Adjutant, Ian Couch, planned and led



Cpl Horner (14 Platoon) teaching 94mm drills.

training for Young Officers.

In addition, the Battalion had responsibility for supporting a rifle company from 135th Infantry Regiment Illinois National Guard from 10 to 24 July 1999. The work varied between providing permanent range teams to acting as enemy during a Fibua assault on Cilieni village.

Over the same period, the Battalion dispatched a composite rifle company to the United States to train with the Illinois National Guard. Drawn from across the whole Battalion, the 150 soldiers were led by the Company Headquarters from D (Mansfield) Company and included a FOO party from 201 (Beds and Herts Yeomanry) Battery, 101 (V) Regiment RA.

On completion of the Sennybridge package, the Battalion moved to Lydd and Hythe for part two; six days on the ranges. Prior to that, each company enjoyed a day's R and R along the south coast. The delights of Brighton and Eastbourne were a welcome change from the sheep of mid-Wales!

The CPTA package used all the excellent and varied ranges at Lydd and Hythe. Many new soldiers pitted their marksmanship

skills against dummies and vicars for the first time and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The period at CPTA finished with a Commanding Officer's competition day. Ten teams, two from each rifle company, were required to tackle nine stands varying from a first aid battle exercise to the Infantry Combat Fitness Test. The event was won by a packed team from E Company, with B Company taking second and third places.

After the disappointments of the Strategic Defence Review, annual camp had the effect of rapidly injecting a positive atmosphere into the new Regiment. Many of the suspicions and barriers between the three former Battalions were removed and a new spirit began to sweep through the Regiment as camp went on and all ranks are to be congratulated for getting down to the real business of training.

## The Personalities

The new Battalion headquarters is a healthy mix of officers from the three former battalions. Lt Col Clive Newell PWRR came from outside, the Adjutant and RSM came from 7 R Anglian and the Quartermaster from 6 R Anglian. The new training major, Paul Alun-Jones WFR took up his post in September. This enormous spread of experience should send the Battalion forward with confidence and ability.

Maj Nick Turner WFR, the Regiment's first Battalion 2IC, has left after 27 days in post to command the 49 (East) Brigade Specialist Training Team on promotion to lieutenant colonel. He is replaced by Maj Frank de Planta R Anglian who handed over the Lincoln Company to Maj Chris Pook R Anglian.

Capt and Adjutant Gary Morris R Anglian handed over the training major's responsibilities to Maj Paul Alun-Jones WFR in mid-September and promptly went on leave to recover from the rigors of the G3 world. He was heard to utter that G1 and APC Glasgow were pure joy when compared to the black art of organising TA training! Capt Morris skilfully steered the new Regiment through its first annual camp



2Lt Irwin-Parker - posing!



CSgt Warren, B Company.



## The East of England Regiment



**2Lt Tim Irwin-Parker abseiling down the skills house at Lydd!**

and ensured that it was efficiently run and highly successful. We wish him well in his more familiar role where access to an air-conditioned office, a 650W microwave and the opportunity to read everyone else's confidential reports are critical to his morale.

In late September, C (Leicestershire and Northamptonshire) Company and B (Lincolnshire) Company have had new company commanders. Capt Godfrey Shaw R Anglian took over from Maj Matthew Ellis R Anglian in mid September. At the same time and after a brief spell in command, Maj Chris Pook handed over to Capt Robin Atkinson at Lincoln.

At the same time, Maj Steve Fraser-Burton WFR handed over at D (Notts and Derby)

Company to Capt Phillip Brothwood WFR. Maj raser-Burton is a civilian information systems specialist at HQ 49 (East) Brigade and will no doubt continue to keep a watchful eye over his old charges. We wish both he and Maj Ellis well in retirement.

We also say farewell to all the loyal, long serving non-Regular permanent staff from all three Battalions, who have not transferred into the new Regiment. They have served their Battalions well and we wish them every good fortune in whatever career they now choose to pursue.

Sgt Nagra, an experienced hand in the Assault Pioneers and a postman in his civilian career, was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire in the 1999 Queen's Birthday Honours List. The award was awarded for services to ethnic recruiting. We hope that as a result of his groundwork over the last few years, both the Regular and TA Battalions will see greater ethnic representation in their ranks in the future.

### Post-Annual Camp Training

Following a highly successful annual camp, four of the Battalion's five rifle companies deployed to Catterick over 20-22 August to brush up on their individual Fibua skills in preparation for the Battalion's first weekend at Inber Village in October. The weekend at Catterick was planned and led by B Company's Maj Chris Pook and focussed on the rudiments of fighting in built up areas. While the overall attendance was severely curtailed by annual holidays, Maj Pook's originality and breadth of training topics proved a hit with the troops. Those who were able to attend benefited greatly from quality instruction and the demanding



**2Lt Dart on the assault course.**

training. It was especially pleasing to see TA officers and NCOs professionally conducting training and Regular SPSIs and PSIs efficiently and inconspicuously acting in their advisory capacity.

Over the period 10-12 September 1999, Maj Frank de Planta and WO2 (SPSI) Alan Ralph ran a two-day introductory and refresher course for 16 young officers, officer cadets and potential officers. Based throughout at Proteus Camp, the weekend focussed on officer-type training and ranged from tackling combat estimates to learning command task techniques in preparation for TCB and RCB. The Commanding Officer had been scheduled to lead the training but who could say no to a late invitation from



**E (Essex and Hertfordshire) Company winning team, CO's competition 30 July 1999.**

# The East of England Regiment



EER Officers' Mess, annual camp 1999.



Pte Long after the ICFT at annual camp.



Capt Godfrey Shaw's reaction to being told he was to command C Company.



Cpl Hamer after the ICFT at annual camp.



Cpl Baines wondering what to do with his spare hand.

## The East of England Regiment

the Queen of Denmark!

The companies continued to practise their low level Fibua skills with A (Norfolk) and C (Leicestershire) Companies joining for a weekend's training at the Fibua village at STANTA and D (Notts and Derby) and E (Essex and Hertfordshire) Companies joining for training at Nescliff. Not many from Essex had ever ventured that far north!

The Battalion kicked off the first of its new recruit cycle programme in August. Twenty-one potential recruits attended the initial selection weekend on 20-22 August at Proteus Camp and 19 were selected for further training. Spread over five weekends and ending in late October, the recruits will be comprehensively prepared for attendance at ITC Catterick on the Combat Infantryman's Course. Once trained, they will take their place in one of the Battalion's ten rifle or five specialist support platoons. The pre-Combat Infantryman's Course training is demanding and while the fallout rate is high, those who reach Catterick invariably prove to be more worthwhile, reliable and able members of the Battalion than if the system were less challenging.

The Battalion completed its first Battalion training weekend over the period 1-3 October 1999 based at SPTA. The weekend was the first time that all five rifle companies and HQ Company were in the same place. The weekend was the culmination of the previous two months of training at company level and concentrated on the Battalion training focus - Fibua. The exercise was initially based in Imber where the Battalion was re-orbated into three rifle companies, manoeuvre support platoons and echelon. No mean feat since the Lincoln Company arrived at 0400 on Saturday morning and the re-orbating was complete by 0730hrs.

The morning concentrated on low level skills and drills through a series of BEs and saw the Commanding Officer hold the first BG orders in preparation for the forthcoming BG operation. Battle procedure commenced and company level rehearsals were completed and the EER moved out on its first BG operation - attacking Copehill Down Fibua village. By 0900hrs the objective was



Practising entry techniques.



A quick O Group!



Director of Infantry visiting Exercise Eastern Village - where's the QM's cam cream?

**The East of England Regiment**

**A (Norfolk) Company on Exercise Eastern Village.**

taken and the Battalion began the slow move back to TACs. During this time EER were visited by Brigadier Infantry and Brig McColl, our Deputy Colonel. The weekend was without doubt a fitting way to start Battalion level training.

The Commanding Officer remains transfixed by his new and geographically challenging command. Since taking charge of 6 R Anglian in May and putting the finishing touches to the merger of the three battalions in June, he has clocked up a whopping 50,000 miles in his staff car. A

great deal of tyre treads have been worn in building the Regiment's new identity and sense of unity.

We are getting there!

### **The Regiment's commitment to Full Time Regular Service**

An awareness of the opportunities offered by Full Time Regular Service (FTRS) is rapidly spreading across the Regiment. Currently, five officers, four SNCOs, ten JNCOs and ten privates are on FTRS duties

or are scheduled to join in the coming weeks. Service locations range from Kosovo with 2 RGJ to Londonderry with 1 R Anglian via Cyprus with 2 R Anglian and Kenya with the permanent training team.

It offers the part-time soldier a breadth of experience and an insight into the Regular Army world that could never be secured through the Territorial Army in its current peacetime role. From the letters and postcards received from those troops deployed, FTRS appears to work very well for those who wish to take advantage of it.



**B (Lincolnshire) Company in the attack on Exercise Eastern Village.**

## The East of England Regiment

### Two weeks in the United States

*Lt Neil Herbert - Pl Comd B (Lincs)*

*Company writes:*

Exercise Prickly Pear is an annual exchange event between a rifle company group from the TA and their equivalent in the United States National Guard. We were fortunate to have secured the exercise in the first place but doubly lucky given that it was to take place in the middle of the biggest air operation seen in Europe since the end of the Second World War. The American airlift capacity was at full stretch and, while other exercises were not so lucky and had to be cancelled, the Pentagon managed to provide a USAF Starlifter named Memphis Belle 5 to move us.

The exercise was based around D Company with rifle platoons from other companies. The aim was to bring together soldiers from all three former Battalions.

The company flew to Fort McCoy in Wisconsin although it was actually training with 1st/131st Infantry Battalion of the Illinois National Guard from Chicago. Once safely on the ground, we were issued with M16s, Minimis and M60s and settled into a training programme designed to bring us up to speed.

The exercise was run entirely from the field as part of a 66th US Infantry Brigade operation which, in turn was part of Exercise Global Patriot, a computer generated exercise run from Washington DC and based on a North Korean scenario. Different National Guard Brigades were being exercised on training areas across the United States.

After an introductory range package, the main effort within the company switched to



**The company exercising some faith!**

progressive dry training using blank ammunition and MILES, both of which were provided in plenty. Once our dry section attacks had reached a high standard, we were permitted to fire live. Training with our American counterparts was encouraged and our attached FOO party from 201 (Beds and Herts) Bty RA operated with the Brigade artillery unit firing tonnes of live ammunition over our heads. At the same time, five soldiers took part in the American sniper course.

American hospitality throughout the exercise was quite superb. Away from the legendary but unappetising MREs, the ubiquitous barbecue with its massive steaks and free beer was a hit with the troops and did much to reinforce the bond between our two nations.

After an arduous ten days in the field, we

were rewarded with three days' R and R in Chicago. It was an opportunity to see a little more of the country than a mere training area and most of the platoon seized the chance. While we enjoyed the bars and clubs of downtown Chicago, we also had time to lie on the lakeside beaches and spend our hard-earned cash on reasonably priced jeans and T-shirts.

As I lay on the sand under the hot sun, a can of Michelob in hand, I reflected on my good fortune and the poor National Guardsmen struggling with the delights of the Sennybridge weather. It confirmed to me that God was indeed an Englishman.

All in all, the two weeks in the United States were memorable and a confirmation to us all that the new TA remains a thriving enterprise where opportunities for adventure abound.



**Exercise Prickly Pear - an EER Company move to the US (author sleeping again).**

# 158 (R Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC(V) The Steelbacks

*Capt SP Evans writes:*

This has been a very busy year for the Steelbacks, with exercises in Canada, Gibraltar, Germany, the Czech Republic and a battlefield tour to the USA!

The training year got off to a hectic start when Maj Richard Arnold, the incoming training major, learned two days before 90 personnel were due to depart on Exercise Marble Tor to Gibraltar that the exercise was cancelled due to lack of RAF trooping flights.

We were able to beg buy and borrow seats on civilian flights for the troops but not their weapons or equipment. Disaster was averted, due to the timely intervention of the Royal Gibraltar Regiment, whose 2IC Maj David Seed, is a former training major of 5 R Anglian. A scaled down version of Exercise Marble Tor took place with weapons and equipment supplied by the ever-helpful Gibraltar Regiment. During the stand down period working parties carried out refurbishment tasks on the Royal Anglian Way, thus maintaining the heritage of which the Steelbacks are immensely proud.

July saw the deployment of 35 members of the Regiment on Exercise Polar Keys to the Czech Republic with 4 Para. The party was led by Capt David Ashley of 202 Ipswich Squadron. During the exercise we were introduced to a variety of former Warsaw Pact weapons and equipment. The highlights included flights in Hip helicopters



**Lt Col PL Kirkbride (seated front, third from left) and the composite troop at Bolitice Training Area in the Czech Republic on Exercise Polar Keys, 10-25 July 1999.**

and firing RPG 7s on Bolitice training area. The Commanding Officer visited during the middle weekend and found all the troops in good spirits, despite having completed a tactical advance to battle at Parachute Regiment speed!

August saw the deployment of 20 officers and SNCOs on Exercise Steelback Potomac, a Regimental battlefield tour to Gettysburg, engineered by the ever resourceful Training Major.

The party deployed to Washington on 26

August arriving at the Governor's House Hotel by mid afternoon. A free evening to sample the delights of downtown Washington saw OC 203 Squadron, Maj Geoff Stephenson, indulge his artistic bent by visiting various lap dancing establishments.

The following day we were entertained by the US Reserve Officer's Association, who laid on guided tours of the Capitol Building and the Pentagon as well as providing an entertaining and informative briefing on



**HRH the Duke of York listening to Maj Jerry Datzky, 23 Hamilton Service Battalion, attempting to tell a joke. Capt Roger Tinget (second from right), looks on.**

## The Steelbacks

their own organisation. After an intensive study period in Washington the party moved to Gettysburg Pennsylvania where they were divided into three syndicates. Each syndicate was given a different aspect of the three-day battle to discuss and make a presentation on to the rest of the group. The highlight of the tour was the presentation on the defence of Little Round Top by the 20th Maine Volunteer Regiment, an epic feat of arms that struck a chord with all the volunteers present. The visit culminated in a visit to a local photographer to capture the moment for posterity and afforded the officers of RHQ the opportunity for some serious posing.

Our bond of friendship with the 23 Hamilton Service Battalion continues to prosper. During the month of June we hosted 20 members of the Battalion for 10 days, during which they took part in a squadron FTX, a live firing package and were hosted at the Suffolk Show by Capt Roger Tingey, 200 Squadron, who managed to get them introduced to the Duke of York. We intend to send 20 all ranks to Canada for a winter warfare exercise in February 2000 as part of the reciprocal arrangement.



**158 Regiment Officers on Exercise Steelback Potomac, battlefield tour of Gettysburg PA, 26-31 August 1999. From left, standing: Maj Bingham, OC 200 Squadron; Maj Stephenson, OC 203 Squadron; Lt Col Eden, QM Tech; Maj Arnold, training major; Maj Kendall, RQM. Seated, Maj Seal, OC 201 Squadron; Lt Col Kirkbride, CO.**

# EVERY YEAR WE HELP FIGHT 300,000 BATTLES.

Every year, thousands of widows, needy and disabled ex-Service people receive vital financial support from The Royal British Legion.

We also run seven residential and three convalescent homes for the old and infirm.

And by setting up associated companies we provide work for thousands of ex-Servicemen and women who might otherwise struggle to find work in civilian life.

As a direct result of our commitment to care, over 300,000 ex-Service people each year are now able to do more than just soldier on.

If you would like to know more, make a donation or become a member write to: The General Secretary, 48 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5JY or phone 0171 973 0633.

**THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**



## Minden Band The Queen's Division



A year of change for the band with the new Director of Music, Capt Tim Arnold, and new Bandmaster, WO1 Norman Morfill, completing their first year in the driving seat and also a move to Bassingbourn Barracks, our third permanent posting!

The posting began with the band working the beginning of its summer season out of four containers, as the new all-singing all-dancing band block was neither singing nor dancing. Thankfully we eventually moved in and the grand opening went ahead with Col Sandy Blackett OBE, Director of Corps of Army Music, doing the honours.

The year has been busy with many engagements including two foreign trips, one to Switzerland and the other to Italy - a great hardship but someone had to do it!

Other engagements included the usual amount of pass out parades, county shows, Colours Parades and Royal British Legion/Army Benevolent Fund concerts.

Time has also been spent in schools doing workshops with the youngsters to encourage them interactively in their music and to do some recruitment for Army Music. The response to this has been good, 20 coming to do a week's work experience with the band. Some schools have visited us in Bassingbourn bringing with them their school bands. These have included the Warwickshire College Band, Landsmere Concert Band and the South Norfolk Youth Symphonic Band.

The band also took part, with the Kohima Band (TA) and 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalion

Corps of Drums, in the New Colours Parade for 3 PWRR at the South of England Showground in Ardingley, Sussex. Queen Margrethe II of Denmark took the salute on a bright sunny day.

This year has also seen the arrival of a new member of the Trombone section in the guise of Musn Ian Travers, a look-a-like for Bruce Forsythe, so many shouts of 'good game, good game' can be heard regularly resounding around the band block. This year also sees the departure of Musn Richard 'Roger' Cook who leaves the band after three years.

The band will also receive its first female musician in early 2000 and is looking forward to trips to Washington and the Falklands in the near future.





## Special features

### Hillman and Pte Hunter DCM - 6 June 1944

On 6 June 1944 1 Suffolk landed in Normandy on Queen Beach as the reserve battalion of 8 Infantry Brigade, the assault brigade of 3rd Infantry Division. The 1st East Yorkshire and South Lancashire Regiments had landed ahead of them and had seized the beaches. 1 Suffolk's task was to clear the village of Coleville-sur-Orne (now Coleville-Montgomery), seize the four gun battery codenamed Morris to the west of the village and then the defended position to the south-west of Coleville known as Hillman. By 1100hrs the village had been cleared and Morris had surrendered just as B Company was about to breach the wire. This position had been heavily bombed before D-Day and shelled by the Navy that morning - clearly with the desired effect. This left Hillman to be captured.

Shortly after 1300hrs the attack on Hillman began. The position was spread over an area some 500 by 400 yards with two thick wire belts between which was a minefield. It consisted of a number of mutually supporting heavily concreted defensive posts with armoured cupolas impervious to 17-pounder shells and interconnected by underground passages and deep trenches. It was, in fact, not a battalion headquarters as the intelligence reports had said but the headquarters of 736 Coastal Defence Regiment and a much stronger position than thought when the plan was made in March. For reasons which are not clear it had not been bombed either before or on D-Day and to complicate matters further the forward officer bombardment with 1 Suffolk had been killed on the beach and his radios lost.



Pte Hunter DCM, 1999.

There was therefore no fire-support available from the cruiser and destroyer allocated to support 1 Suffolk.

A gap was made through the wire by a battalion breaching platoon but the position was otherwise virtually untouched when A Company began its attack. The company

commander was killed almost immediately as was the leading platoon commander and despite attempts to silence the cupola doing the damage with a PIAT, the attack came to a halt. Those inside the wire were withdrawn and a new plan made. This involved a nine-foot tank gap in the wire and minefield and a second attack by A Company with Sherman tanks from 13/18 Hussars and a repeated fire plan. This second assault, launched late in the afternoon, was successful but with such a large position it took time to clear the concreted and armoured strongpoints and it was about 2000hrs before firing finally ceased. The next morning 70 Germans, including the smartly dressed regimental commander, with packed suitcases surrendered, having spent the night underneath A Company dug in on their objective.

It was during the second attack that Pte James Hunter was called forward with other Bren gunners to give covering fire to neutralise a cupola holding up the attack. There were casualties as they moved forward but with others he reached a shell hole inside the position but came under fire from the cupola as well as grenades and mortars. Deciding that the position was dangerous, Hunter watched the cupola and as it traversed away from him, charged it. As he ran forward it turned back towards him and he sprayed the gun slit with his Bren until it stopped firing. Joined by some of his comrades they cleared and checked nearby trenches. During this time Jim Hunter was wounded in the head by a shell or mortar splinter and subsequently evacuated. For his action, which contributed greatly to the final success of A Company's attack, Hunter was awarded an immediate DCM. It is fascinating to me that the citation shows the battalion recommended him for a Military Medal which at either Brigade or Divisional HQ was upgraded to the DCM.

In 1988 what is left of Hillman was given to the Suffolk Regiment OCA by Mme Suzanne Lenauld, who, as a girl, witnessed the landings, to be made into a Regimental memorial. This was dedicated in 1989 and is maintained by Les Amis Du Suffolk Regiment, a group of local people. They have since then excavated more of Hillman and this year on 6 June, the 55th anniversary, dedicated one of the newly uncovered bunkers as 'Bunker Hunter DCM'. The plaque was unveiled by Jim who was then, along with 21 other veterans from 1 Suffolk in 1944, presented with the Coleville-Montgomery Medal for Outstanding Service to the Municipality (ie its liberation) by the Mayor.

For anyone wishing to know more about the controversies on D-Day, an article by Eric Lummis, *D-Day, 6 June 1944: The Truth About 3 British Division*, published in the *Army Quarterly* is recommended. A copy is held in the Suffolk Regiment archive.



The plaque reads... On June 6th 1944 Pte JR Hunter single-handedly silenced a machine gun which, firing from this bunker, was holding up the attack by A Company the 1st Battalion the Suffolk Regiment. This courageous action contributed greatly to the subsequent capture of 'Hillman' during which Hunter was wounded. His outstanding bravery was recognised by an immediate award of the Distinguished Conduct Medal, a rare distinction for a private soldier.

**B (Leicestershire) Company Falklands Tour***Maj JW Hart writes*

B Company, having stayed in Cyprus during 1998 when A and C Company groups deployed to Jordan, was to get its chance away from the clutches of the Battalion by deploying to the Falklands as the Roulement Infantry Company (the RIC).

Falklands pre-training started on 25 January 1999, before B Company group complete formed up on 1 February 1999. The pre-training was based around three core areas - fitness, conventional tactics and patrol skills and winter survival education. A tricky task in the Mediterranean spring of Cyprus! The final part of the pre-training saw further cold weather briefings and frantic packing for deployment. A week's leave was taken and then the company deployed over the period 8-11 March 1999. B Company was to relieve C Company of 1RGR.

The flight down to the Falkland Islands took a total of 22 hours and went via the UK and Ascension Island in the Atlantic. This stop off is really just a piece of lava sticking out of the Atlantic Ocean on the Equator. The arrival in the Falklands was a relief to all, as was the shock of arriving in East Falkland. No amount of watching the videos the 'Battle for the Falklands' really prepares the new arrival for the uniqueness of the location. The landscape is a mixture of Sennybridge, Otterburn and BATUS all rolled into one. At best the features look forlorn and at worst forbidding.

The two largest islands - East and West



**Maj JWW Hart assumes the role of FIRIC from C Company 1RGR, 11 March 1999.**

Falkland - together are about the size of Wales. The Joint Service Garrison is based at Mount Pleasant Airfield and this is situated on the southern side of East Falkland about 30 miles from the capital, Stanley. The Garrison lives in a huge, purpose-built complex known to all as the 'Death Star'.

No sooner had B Company bade farewell to the Gurkhas, then they were immediately involved in welcoming HRH the Prince of Wales. (Pictures in the June 1999 *Castle*).

In addition to the spectacle of meeting the future king, the occasion provided an excellent media opportunity to get the Poachers on national and international TV.

The Garrison has the following elements: the maritime component is made up of a Royal Navy Frigate, a RN fisheries protection vessel and various Royal Fleet Auxiliary supply and support ships. During the tour a nuclear submarine (SSN) was also attached. The land component consists



**B Company Patrol.**

## Special features

of the resident infantry company, an RE airfield repair squadron, an RLC supply unit and a signals unit. The air component is made up of four Tornado F3 fighters, one C130 Hercules aircraft, one VC10 air-refuelling tanker, two Chinook helicopters, two Sea King search and rescue helicopters and an RAF Regiment air defence Rapier squadron. There were also a huge number of RAF support staff. In addition there are headquarters and administration units. There were also a surprisingly large number of civilian support contractors, met office forecasters and property management staff. The resident infantry company is the only truly deployable land asset and as such has a more varied time than most.

The company split its time each week into three activities - patrols and training support, quick reaction force and guards and live firing training. A platoon would carry out one of these for a week and then would rotate onto the next task. The rotation moved from live firing training to quick reaction force and guards and finally to patrols and training support.

The highlight of the tour was the two-week company training package of live firing and manoeuvre split into two elements; Exercise Prime Poacher and Exercise Purple Strike. Exercise Prime Poacher was carried out on the Onion Range Field Firing area (a deserted valley, named after Mt Onion, approximately 20km north of Mt Pleasant where all infantry weapons can be fired, in all directions.) The company completed six live firing company attacks by day and night and were reinforced for this period by a section of mortars, a section of GPMG(SF) and two sniper pairs, all from D(Sp) Company in Cyprus. In addition a section of assault engineers was attached from 59 Commando Squadron RE for mobility support.

Having trained as a fully equipped company group, it was ready to be deployed to West Falkland on Exercise Purple Strike.

Socially the tour calendar was very full



**Cpl Brian Lewis instructs a civilian visitor on the use of the general purpose machine gun in the Falkland Islands.**

and the Poachers wasted no time making the most of the uniquely captive situation. The 'Death Star' was very well equipped with two awesome gyms, a swimming pool, two Naafis, a cinema, an internet suite and at least 36 bars! The company ran two of the four battlefield tours - Goose Green (Lt Barry) and Mount Tumbledown (Lt Otter). Hindoostan Day was celebrated quietly, the modern day Royal Leicesters still being operationally deployed 174 years after the Tiger was awarded. On the sports side the company won the inter-unit 'Rockhopper Challenge' March (Capt Romilly, Pte Leach and Pte Seymour clocking the fastest time.), the inter-unit basketball and the five-a-side football world cup! The company also carried out four ceremonial parades in Remembrance of those who died in the conflict in 1982. In addition skirmishing parties of Poachers ventured as far as South Georgia and Montevideo.

B Company handed over to B Company



**The Mount Tumbledown memorial.**

of 1PWRR, a Gurkha reinforcement company, between 8 and 11 July 1999. The company left the Falklands where the temperature was 3C and arrived at RAF Akrotiri where the temperature was 33C!

## Royal Anglian Success in Braille Rally

*Capt (Retd) Ray Hazan writes:*

The car slewed round the corner, narrowly missing a Range Rover approaching along a very narrow Surrey country lane. Rain was falling fast. Unexpected and deep pools of water buffeted the car. These sudden jerks caused the navigator's finger to score across his Braille. Thick cloud outside contrasted with the blue of the language inside! Well, this is a little exaggerated, let's say it was one inch per minute!

This was the 17th annual Braille Rally organised for visually impaired people by the Kingston-upon-Thames Lions Club in association with Malden and District Motor Club and in co-operation with St Dunstan's, the national organisation for men and women blinded in the Services.

Of the 24 competitors, four St Dunstaners took part. Each was teamed up with a driver

from his former Regiment or Corps.

It was my privilege and an honour to be driven by the Colonel of the Regiment, Gen Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE ADC General, Commander-in-Chief UK Land Forces, who is far more used to driving his own helicopter or being driven. It was generous of him to give up a valuable Sunday to drive around a very soggy Surrey countryside.

Sid Doy, 82, who was blinded at Dunkirk and subsequently spent three years as a prisoner of war, was driven and kept in order by former Grenadier Guards Capt Don Ashworth; ex-sapper John Gilbert was driven by Maj Tom Wye MBE RE; Terry Walker, ex REME, and a retired Braille teacher, joined forces with Kevin Hayat, a civilian attached to a REME workshop in

Aldershot.

The Braille instructions for the 75-mile course around Surrey were given to the navigators a few minutes before 'take off'. They gave a mileometer reading, an average speed and, as an example, the instruction 'TL' (turn left) at traffic lights, 'SP' (signpost) Woking. The aim was to arrive neither early nor late at the ten control points.

While Sir Michael concentrated on driving through the torrential rain and on the mileometer, I dictated the 147 Braille instructions to my wife, Roberta, in the back seat, who, in turn, fed them to the driver. It was a real team effort. The Royal Anglian team had an additional handicap to overcome, when they were instructed by their navigator to look out for a signpost to 'Kuston'. Well, the Braille sign for the letter

'u' and the combined letters 'ing' are easily confused in a car leaping over sleeping policemen!

We resisted the temptation to nobble our competitors by flattening the dots of their Braille instructions. However, we could not help feeling a little satisfied when the REME team in their Mini Cooper hit a pool of water, which fused their electrics!

The honour of the Regiment was upheld when Sir Michael presented me with the trophy for the winning St Dunstaner navigator. This was a most attractive statuette, presented by the Grenadier Guards Association, representing a Guardsman in 1925 uniform complete with Lee Enfield, bearskin, backpack and bedroll. It stands proudly on a mantelpiece, perhaps to be accompanied next year by a statuette of a Royal Anglian?

Note: The idea of using raised dots to write messages was devised by a French artillery officer in the 1820s. Messages could be read in the dark without having to shine a light and compromise the position. Capt Charles Barbier de la Serre took his idea to a school for the blind in Paris, where the young Louis Braille was a student. Louis worked on the



**The Colonel of the Regiment, Ray Hazan and WO2 (RQMS) Bould.**

system for two years, producing the six-dot code, as we know it today.

Capt Ray Hazan served with the 2nd Battalion and lost a hand, his sight and much

of his hearing in a parcel bomb explosion in Londonderry in 1973. He is currently Head of Public Relations for St Dunstan's, who care for blinded ex-Servicemen and women.

## Short Term Training Team in Sierra Leone

*By Cpl Dennis (A Company, the Poachers)*

Not many people have heard much about Sierra Leone; for me, the first I heard was back in early 1997 during a large coup that took place. To give you an idea here is a bit of history I got from the internet prior to my departure.

'The West African state of Sierra Leone was first colonised by the British in 1787 as a settlement for Africans freed from slavery. Bordered by Guinea and Liberia, its terrain rises from flat, coastal lowlands to mountains in the north-east. After 19 years of one party or military rule, a democratically elected government took office in 1996, but lasted only one year until another military coup. Chances of stability are further undermined by the years of conflict with the RUF.'

So where did the British come into the equation? The British government agreed £10 million aid to the region, and that's where the short term training team appeared.

The move over was something like out of a film. From Heathrow to Paris for an overnight stay, and then onto Guinea. When we arrived at the airport it seemed as though every African in the country was at the airport waiting to grab our luggage to earn a few Guinea francs. We were met by a representative from the British High Commission, who unfortunately was unable to obtain the hotel courtesy bus, so had to cram us and all our kit into four taxis. We suddenly broke down with no-one about, let alone any other vehicles. Stuck in the middle of nowhere, the driver decided to leave his vehicle in search of a petrol station. He disconnected and took with him his one gallon petrol tank and disappeared for about three quarters of an hour, returning with it



**No lack of effort on the CQB.**

half-full before we continued on to the hotel. We booked in at about 2200hrs only to book out at 0600hrs, before moving onto a military camp to be flown into Sierra Leone by helicopter. We arrived at the helo and were met by a couple of Russian mercenary pilots and their 'Hip'. An hour later we arrived at Defence HQ Sierra Leone (DHQ).

Initially on arrival the plan was for one week acclimatisation, an eight-week long instructor's course, one week for de-kitting and R and R; however, when we got out there, the first week consisted of writing a training program, building a camp to house the students and re-teaching ourselves the

old SLR. The eight-week course was then reduced to seven and the final two weeks were dedicated to the first two weeks of the platoon commander's battle course.

When the students turned up they were in 'Rag' order. Picture a soldier who has not been paid for over a year, and is wearing shorts and flip-flops. He could not afford to feed his family let alone buy washing and shaving kits. For his breakfast he received a dry bread roll and dinner consisted of rice and fish. Sometimes they were not fed due to lack of money from DHQ. So you can imagine the mammoth task we had to train these troops to live and fight in the jungle

## Special features

using British style tactics.

Initially I had nine students but only finished with seven (three of whom were to achieve an instructor recommended pass). The subject matter over the seven weeks consisted of map reading, leadership lectures, method of instruction, tactics, patrolling, BEs, TPs, field firing and rangework and a week's jungle exercise. The language barrier should not have been a problem as the national language is English - however only ten per cent of the population are literate, and these were the only people who could speak English to an understandable level. The remainder spoke broken English called 'Creole', so a few Creole words later (combined with my slight Cockney accent and a lot of pointing) things went hunky-dory.

Each student put in 100 per cent - that is 100 per cent African style. Everything took time and whenever we got frustrated we kept being told 'This is Africa not the UK'. Generally speaking the weather was good considering we were just hitting the rainy season. The first three weeks it was very hot, especially working in the squad tents which averaged about 48C. So when the rain did come it was welcomed, but when it rained it did so non-stop for four days, had a day's rest and then started again. Flash floods were a major problem when working lower down towards the coast.

WO2 Mez De Meyer has also completed a short tour in Sierra Leone this year, and provided the photographs which accompany this article.



A chance to view Russian hardware close up.



WO2 De Meyer and the platoon commander's course.

## Outreach and Defence Diplomacy

*Maj PM Ferrary writes:*



**Maj Ferrary (right) with the Ukrainian Ambassador to London, Prof Komissarenko (centre) visiting HMS Invincible (September 1997).**

For the past two and a half years I have been working in the Directorate for Central and Eastern Europe (DCEE) which forms part of the MOD central staff. DCEE is concerned with the management of Outreach - the name given to the MOD's programme of defence activities with the countries of central and eastern Europe - essentially all those countries of the former Warsaw Pact and former Soviet Union which were our potential enemies during the years of the Cold War. My particular job entailed the development of policy and the management of our defence programmes with Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova. Serving members of the Regiment will know that defence diplomacy is now an important element of our mission. Many former members who served during the Cold War may be unaware of the extent of our contact with former adversaries, and the emphasis placed on it.

The aim of Outreach is to promote stable and democratic governments in CEE through, *inter alia*, 'the creation of democratically accountable and cost effective armed forces...'. Outreach is distinct but complementary to Nato's Partnership for Peace programme. It involves bilateral defence programmes of varying intensity with all the countries concerned according to their priority. Russia is clearly our most important country. And though our contacts, with one exception, were all suspended during the Kosovo crisis

(the exception being our officers' resettlement programme in Russia which forms an important adjunct to our Outreach activities), these are now being rebuilt.

By contrast our large programme of activities with Ukraine, another of our priority countries, remained on track; the Ukrainian government, despite its own disquiet about the bombing, nevertheless, maintained a pragmatic attitude in its relations with Nato. We also run important programmes with the Baltic States, Romania, Bulgaria and increasingly with Georgia and some of the countries of former Yugoslavia.

Until their recent accession to Nato in April, Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary were important countries for Outreach assistance and for the remainder of 1999 at least DCEE will remain responsible for managing the defence bilateral programmes with these countries (responsibility for policy, and eventually implementation, having been transferred to the newly formed Nato and European Policy Group within the MOD).

Our programmes involve a spectrum of activities including high level visits, expert advisory visits (on a range of subjects such as defence management issues, and officer/NCO training), courses in UK, in country training by short term training teams (STTT) and secondees, joint exercises, arms control training and English language training which

is in huge demand in all of these countries. We are also interested in opening up new training opportunities for UK forces in the countries of CEE. The Royal Marines have carried out mountain and cold weather training in Romania and this year, a TA battalion-level exercise was staged in the Yavoriv training area near Lvov in western Ukraine. It is hoped this exercise may become an annual event.

There are also increasing opportunities for loan service in CEE countries. There are currently six military officers (four at one star level) and six MOD officials scattered around CEE countries as special advisers. There are also a number of STTTs deployed (mainly in the Baltic States). It is intended to replace the latter with the formation of a BMATT CEE in 2000 which will be based in the Czech Republic but which will serve the different training needs across the region. BMATT CEE will be commanded by a lieutenant-colonel, supported by a small HQ element, and four training teams each comprising a major and four SNCOs - so there will be opportunities at all levels for loan service in the region.

For my part I have been lucky to have had a hugely interesting job involving travel to the countries of my concern. Having whetted my appetite I have now abandoned my desk in MOD to serve with the United Nations Military Observer Mission in Georgia.

*Das Vidanyha!*

## Special features

### Life in Zimbabwe

*Maj (Retd) JS Rourke writes:*

I joined BMATT in January 1992 for my first ever visit to the Southern African region and was immediately taken with the beauty of the country, its abundant wildlife and in particular its fantastic weather. My job there was less than taxing and it gave the opportunity to improve my golf handicap which with practice (lots of) came down to a respectable 13, alas that is not the case now.

Midway through my tour I began to ponder the possibility of staying in Zimbabwe and to that end I decided to try and establish a business. My son, Sean, had a flourishing business in Time and Attendance Clocking System in Newark and this was an export opportunity for him and a possible business venture for me. I applied to the Zimbabwe Investment Center and after much red tape and a mammoth 21-page document of projected employment, export potential etc, I finally got approved to run a business.

By September 1993 I had reached a stage where I was confident I could survive and make a successful business here so I decided to resign. MOD would not release me for eight months but as they requested me to do that in Zimbabwe, I had no complaints. While still being paid by HM and with the BMATT winding down in number and activities I had plenty of time to get my company established and having completed my tour with BMATT in March



1994 I had four months' leave which was spent fulfilling the many orders we had received. My final day of service was 23 July 1994 by which time I was fully ensconced in the business. Fortunately the business has been a success and we are now the leading company in our field in the country.

Not content with our lot we were given the opportunity to purchase a plot of land (18 acres) in a very attractive area about 30km from Harare on part of which is Mt Hamden where, but for an error of navigation by Selous, Salisbury (now Harare) would have been established. Over the past two years we have cleared the site, built an access road and built a house. We are now in the process of building a number of holiday chalets (the ulterior motive) and have formed a second company in the tourist trade. The first four chalets with supporting administrative building will be completed soon and we are hoping to have our first guests in by the end of the year (1999).

Zimbabwe, despite the bad press it has been receiving over the past couple of years, is an excellent holiday location. The extensive wildlife parks, Victoria Falls etc, make it one of the most attractive places in Africa, this coupled with the rate of exchange of Z\$62.00 to £1 sterling makes it excellent value for money and we hope we will see some past and present members of the Regiment in due course.

*(See the advertisement elsewhere in this issue...Editor).*



The view from the main house and chalets.

### The Potential NCO's Cadre

*An unnamed student writes:*

The phrase PNCO Cadre evokes the same reaction from anyone who has been through the experience, the standard reply being, 'Oough, rather you than me mate, I wouldn't want to do that again' spoken with emphasis and through a sly grin.

As the reader could imagine this doesn't, in any way, instill confidence of any sort of comfort to the recipient. But as a wise man once said, 'Confidence comes from knowledge and experience and comfort is only relative to the last hardship'.

So it was that with some trepidation, individuals from a varied cross section of the Battalion prized themselves from the warmth and security of their beds, donned the garb of the fighting soldier and mustered outside the unfamiliar surroundings of the Training Wing. Strung about with equipment and brandishing the tools of the trade, still not overly sure what was expected of us, casting a wary gaze over strangers who would soon become good friends and leaders we would willingly follow into battle, and trust our lives in their hands (well almost!).

The first day eased us into the process with the squading of 1, 2 and 3 Sections and a reassuring opening address from the Commanding Officer, who, in his characteristic way, assured us that the days of thrashing the soldier into command ability was just a memory of any NCO with two or more medals. From there we

retired to our squad rooms, accompanied by the usual derogatory banter between soldiers that seems to be inherent to the Army in general. On each desk within the squad rooms was laid out various items of kit and equipment, ranging from cam cream to NBC suits, and enough typed information to warrant the maintenance of the Forestry Commission and an official complaint from Greenpeace.

Later that day we were introduced to the complexities of the planning and preparation of a skill at arms lesson, and we were each given a subject on which to prepare and give a 10-minute 'lecturette'. This was a period of the following day that was to prove a source of great amusement to us all.

Week one followed a course of physical training and teaching practices on all platoon weapons. These lessons, in most cases showed great improvement, although nervousness seemed to be the prominent emotion, but confidence is beginning to grow.

At the end of week one we received what we believed to be a well-earned and needed day off providing a chance to reflect on what we had done and what we needed to do. In some cases that evening was spent in the age-old fashion, which entailed an attempt to reach an advanced state of mental incapacity by the repeated consumption of fermented vegetable products with soldiers to the bar as moths to the flame!

## Special features



The Monday of the second week started in the customary way with the WTWO's SOP inspection, each of us with the niggling doubt in the back of our minds of 'have I forgotten anything?' accompanied by the well known exclamation 'attention to detail, gentlemen'.

At this stage we started to be introduced to the seemingly mind numbing process known as battle procedure, and were bombarded with the plethora of orders sequences and pneumonics. The blank faces of the seated audience spoke volumes and it seemed that our foreheads needed to be at least eight inches taller to retain all the information.

As the week unfolded and with further practice periods and orders exercises, the roots of confidence dug in deep and the branches of knowledge opened just that little bit further.

The middle of the week was broken up quite nicely with a practical coaching range day which made a welcome change from the classroom and camp environment.

After extensive orders exercises and following an inter-section football competition, the week was rounded off by an outstandingly conceived and executed quick battle orders exercise. Utilising the Battalion Small Arms Trainer in order to add a sense of realism, the exercise was carried out with an urgency not unreminiscent of a combat situation. This was a timely change from the comfortable academic feel of the orders undertaken earlier in the week. This gave us a small insight as to what was to come in the next stage of

the cadre, in what the instructors repeatedly referred to as 'sunny Wales'.

If there is a bright centre to the universe then Brecon is at its furthest point. After travelling through Northern Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales we found ourselves in Sennybridge Camp. All of a sudden the coach didn't seem such a bad place to be, knowing that in the next three weeks we would most probably be somewhat tired and a tad moist.

The cadre remained strangely quiet as we marched off up the hill to the accommodation blocks, apart from someone's reassuring words... 'Don't worry lads, imagine what it would be like if it was really hilly and rained all the time'. Lulled into a false sense of security by the fact the sun was smiling at us (SOP for the first day of exercise in Brecon) we managed a half-hearted titter.

The first week went well and to a greater or lesser degree everyone achieved a pass, or at least a pretty damn close approximation to one. During this week we introduced ourselves to the Royal Green Jackets who were attached to us for this phase of the Cadre. We were most disappointed to discover that only two of them knew the words to *Over the hills and far away* and they were overawed by our harmonious rendition of *Vikings Here Vikings There*. The week rounded off with mid course interviews. Honesty and frankness, you can't beat it!

One week blended into another with time no longer holding any meaning to us. This was apart from one morning when we were late for the armoury and informed in no uncertain terms how displeasable the armourer found this to be.

With the teaching phase over it was time to get down to the heart of the matter. 'Trust in God and keep your powder dry,' Oliver Cromwell said, obviously the new model army never marched this far west. More appropriately, double check your grids and rotate your socks!

The dictionary defines 2IC as being an individual who is capable of thinking of 12 different tasks while carrying out seven of them, with the physical ability to become omnipresent on demand.

The highlight of the final week in Brecon, for most of us, was the live platoon attacks with ammunition being by no means at a premium and more L2s than you can point a bayonet at. We closed in using our best knees-bent advancing tricks and unleashed withering fire into the seat of our foe which was blown asunder. That's got to be fun in anyone's book! Those cardboard cut-outs knew what it was to be on the wrong side of us that day and no mistake!

Mounting the coach on the last day and driving out the gate for the last time was like going home to find your girlfriend had turned into Cindy Crawford. A not unpleasant feeling to say the least.

The last week in camp seemed to be the longest of them all with admin being the watchword. With a couple of days' NI training, a day adventurous training and a little walk around the Battalion square in preparation for the pass off parade on the final day.

Today being the last day for the majority of us as private soldiers, fingers crossed, before being elevated to the dizzy heights of lance corporaldom on this day. The parade, even if I do say so myself, went off without major disappointment or embarrassment.

From there it was down to the serious business of imbibing copious amounts of uncle Smirnoff's fine clear liquid by way of celebration. That evening was spent with a good old knees-up in The Crown, not-so-public house, accompanied by the prodigal son of the disco epoch Mr Stanley's Road Show with a memorable time being had by all.

And so ended this prologue of our Army career, with undoubtedly challenging and varied episodes to follow in the fullness of time and not a moment too soon, I might add.

In summary then, six weeks had passed and what a joyous time it was. Much was learned by all, about ourselves as well as the job. New friends had been made and a larger understanding of the greater good that is to be found on the field of battle firmly rooted in our psyche.

You may, if you have not already done so, be thinking... 'I wouldn't mind having a go at that'. My advice to you would be have the courage to push yourself forward, Do it!, You could well surprise yourself and those around you.



# Regimental Sport

## Golf

### Queen's Division Triangular Golf Match - 21 May Canterbury

The Regiment was represented by Messrs Halewood (captain), Whight, Greenaway, Potter, Allen, Wharton, Wilcox, McAnally, Carter, Travis, Leyland. All conditions were right, but the golf was wrong apart from a credible 35 points from Jeff Wilcox, and an amazing 45 points from Dave Wharton. Regrettably this was not enough to retain the Cup, but confidence is high for the year 2000.

#### Results

PWRR 490 pts. R Anglian 447 pts. RRF 430 pts.

*NB. Gordon Halewood, after six years as captain, would like to step down. Volunteers please...*

### Summer Meeting 18 June Stowmarket

A brilliant day weatherwise, on a course which had been prepared for two championships, saw 32 of our members take to the field. It was nice to see some new golfing faces, namely Roger Antolik, John Lee, Doug Coe, Malc Wiles, Paul Ablitt, and David Goude.

#### Results

*From a maximum H/C for the day of 21*

**Isham Salver (Scratch):** 1st Lofty Woodcock (7) 79; 2nd Clive

Mallet (8) 81.

**Pompadour Cup (Handicap):** 1st Peter Barns (21) 66; 2nd Ev Leyland (15) 68.

**Suffolk Cup (Stableford 7/8ths of H/C):** 1st Dave Wharton (15) 38pts; 2nd Les Greenaway (14) 37pts.

**Ponsonby Cup (Foursome 7/16ths of combined H/Cs):** 1st Geoff Peck and Kevin Brett 39pts; 2nd Steve Horton and Les Greenaway 35pts.

**Hidden hole sweep:** 1 L Greenaway; 2 S Horton; 3 P Woodcock.

**Longest Drive:** P Woodcock.

**Nearest the Pin:** S Horton.

### Autumn Meeting 17 September Flempton

The Regiment has old links at this club, at which 14 members played, and finished, dry. It was nice to see the return of Maj Tony Cobbold, and nicer still for Lady Akehurst to present the prizes.

#### Results

*Maximum H/C for the day - 24*

**Am 9 hole 4 ball better ball:** 1st Gen Sir John Akehurst and John Growse; 2nd Gordon Halewood and P (Chalky) Whight.

**Pm 18 Hole Medal:** 1st Mike Smith; 2nd Les Greenaway.

**18 Hole Stableford:** 1st Gen Sir John Akehurst; 2nd P Whight.



Trophy winners, Stowmarket summer 1999. From left: Isham Salver, P Woodcock; Suffolk Cup, D Wharton; Ponsonby Cup, K Brett and G Peck (missing, Pompadour Cup, P Barns).

# 1st Battalion The Vikings



LCpl Peyton desperately tries to have a wash.



Capt Steffanetti doing his best to avoid buying a round.



The Minden Day Colour Party.



The QM presenting Minden Roses.

# 1st Battalion



The RSM making a splash!



LCpl Naylor has his advance stopped.



The city gates are blocked by a CCO.



Lt Messenger looking particularly happy to be on a boat.



GOC meets Poachers in Fort George.



Cpl Boreham on top cover in the city.

# 2nd Battalion The Poachers

D ( Support) Company Internal Security Training



**2nd Battalion**

**C (Northamptonshire) Company - Pyla Ranges**



**B (Leicestershire) Company - FIRIC**



On patrol.

**2nd Battalion**



Lt Barry and Sgt Coupe lead the Queen's Birthday Parade in Port Stanley, 21 April 1999.



The Queen's Birthday Honour Guard provided by The Poachers, *HMS Westminster*, the RAF and the Falkland Islands Defence Force.



Ptes James and Brownsword on point duty.

## 2nd Battalion

### L37 Cadre - Kalo Chorio Ranges



WO2 Keen with the GCNG LO.



Saxon FMX.



Cpl Doherty (HQ Company) as safety.

### PNCO Cadre 2/99



The fight-through.



Winning the firefight.



The assault.

# The East of England Regiment



The private soldier cadre on camp 99.



Cpl Duffy and Pte Robins E Company prepare to live fire.



The Honorary Colonel (Lincolnshire) talking to Sgt Nagra MBE.



The Mortar Platoon in action.



WO2 Ralph SP51 B (Lincolnshire) Company trying some live firing at Lydd on annual camp 99.



More cam required.



Comd 49 (E) Brigade talking to Pte Fitt A (Norfolk) Company.



The MG Platoon in action on annual camp 99.



CSgt Jolly (SP51 E Company), SSgt Carter (NRPS Armr) and WO2 (CSM) Denyer E Company.



# The East of England Regiment



Assault pioneers prepare a cutting charge.



LCpl Tucker E Company after the CFT!



Assault preparations for Exercise Eastern Village.



The QM and his cronies on annual camp!



Exercise Prickly Pear - the boys enjoying the US weaponry.



Pte Watkins at annual camp.



Sgt Buzzard, Cpl Hague and Sgt Askew hard at work - annual camp 99.



The training major (Capt Morris) and Adjutant (Capt Couch) at the inaugural EER dinner night.



Exercise Eastern Village - Maj Trott and Lt Litjens commanding a Fibua attack.



Exercise Mulberry Tree - the CO hands over the EER presentation to the OC of the US National Guard company.

## Adventure Training

### 32C and Dressed in Rubber - Exercise Abou Ebor

*Sgt Johnson, 13 CTT writes:*

Exercise Abou Ebor was a diving expedition to the Red Sea based around a package organised through Diving World which operates out of Hurghada Egypt. A trawl of other units was required to fill the 16 places. This resulted in several Royal Anglian capbadged adult cadets taking part.

The decision was taken to opt for a life aboard boat. This allowed for the maximum variety of dive sites and resulted in a very pleasant stay aboard the *Sir Cousteau*, a 27m purpose-built dive boat which drew envious glances from other dive groups.

Three dives per day and lectures at night left nobody in doubt that this was no holiday and resulted in an embarrassingly large number of beers being disembarked at the end of the week.

A visit to the *El Mina*, an Egyptian gunboat sunk by the Israelis lying in 30m of water, was a highlight. The dive involved entering the wreck from a hole made by a shell and finning along the inside with the lack of light and construction of the passageway giving an almost 'Alienesque' feel.

The majority of those taking part completed 17 dives and with the help of both BSAC and PADI instructors, several gained higher qualifications.

As a footnote to the article a quick description of a cadet training team may be of help to anybody applying for a post with a team. In essence a team has an OC, team sergeant major and a number of sergeants drawn from both the infantry and the Corps.

The team is responsible for providing military and adventure training that is required by cadets within their area. The infantry provide most of the military training of cadets and cadet adults while those from Corps provide adventure training assistance. However there is overlap, in a week you could be climbing, instructing 14-year-olds on linear ambushes or introducing a cadet adult to 'military life'. An interest in adventurous training, a willingness to teach subjects you know little initially about and the patience of a saint is all that's needed.

It was an excellent break from normal duties.



### In Search of an Oasis

*WO1 Paul Thomas (EER) and WO2 Steve Higgins (APTC) Ex Poacher*

Anyone who has been to the top of Blackpool Tower will appreciate that at 100m high it would be a thrill, provided that you have a few screws loose, to abseil from the top. Imagine an abseil into a cave nearly 600m deep with no safety rope! To add a bit of excitement into the abseil your rope is only 200m long, so at 200m down you have to get off the rope, hang on an 8mm diameter rusty bolt hammered into the cave wall by a Spaniard at some time in the last 20 years. Once all your team of three is hanging on the rusty bolts pull the rope down after yourself, being reasonably careful not to drop the rope.

This was the start of the Cueto Coventosa cave system, the final objective on Exercise Titan Hall, a 17-day caving expedition to Northern Spain. Exercise Titan Hall is organised by the Land Command School of Adventurous Training at Ripon. The exercise is designed to provide those who attend with the necessary experience to go forward for assessment as joint service cave leaders and instructors.

Having survived the seven-hour abseiling trip to the base of the cave system the group had to move to the first rest point, which, according to the survey of the system, is called 'The Oasis'. When you picture an oasis a certain image is called up... mentally remove the palm trees and sun, and that should provide the recognition of a Cave Oasis, easy for the team to spot. As we passed the small trickle of water, dripping slowly into an old bucket hidden in a very rocky uneven section of cave passage, the general agreement was that it would not be much further to 'The Oasis', 30 minutes later we returned to 'The Oasis'.

Unable to find a flat area to rest, the team selected a less sloping part of the floor to attempt to sleep for a couple of hours, while the bucket refilled having drunk both cups of water that 'The Oasis' contained.

Refreshed after some sleep and hot food and having once again drained 'The Oasis', this time sharing the half a cup of water collected while we rested. The next stage of the trip took the team through about 4km of fantastic passages, seeing formations that will only ever be seen by a few other people in the world.

The narrowing of the passages reduced the speed to a slow crawl, which was annoying but bearable. Bearable, until the heavy bag that each team member had attempted to drag him into the long narrow slot that we had been crawling along the top of. Everyone had, until now, been trying not to look down the slot.

The Spanish word for turbine is similar to the English and seeing it on the survey combined with the narrowing of the passages should have been warning enough. The team became aware of a noise in front that started as a gentle rumble, but quickly developed into a thundering roar with each shuffle forward. It is at this point discussion started to the cause of this noise, was this noise and wind being caused by the cave flooding due to heavy rain, or the change in air temperature between the cave system and the surface? Then just as you work out the answer, the carbide light blows out in the wind. This left some wishing that they had changed the electric back-up-light battery, before the trip started.

This was followed by a 30m abseil down a ridiculously tight slot in a freezing wind

that involved removing most of our equipment, including the abseiling device. Half way down the abseil some of the team got stuck and had to shuffle right, guided by the man below, how did the first man get down? At the base of the abseil it should have been a simple walk to find the pre-positioned boats. Or not find the boats, as they had been stolen as some sort of replacement armada. This was quite a feat as the lakes are at least 1km underground.

Some entertaining swimming practice followed, water and flame do not mix! Underwater and laden with kit in the dark which way is up?

Three lakes and a number of large water filled ponds that are not shown on the survey, the team now fully understands that waterproof kit depends on the amount of water. Suddenly the gentle walk out had changed to an epic of survival. It was a relief that the support team, realising there was a problem, entered the cave from the bottom end to check on the lack of progress.

Exercise Titan Hall provided adventure, sharpened our caving skills and tested the military characteristics of teamwork, courage, self motivation and determination, it also reminded us what we joined the Army for. It could do the same for you next year, all you require is a small brain in order not to realise the danger and hard work required, and to be reasonably fit. Basic caving courses lasting five days are run by the Land Command School of Adventurous Training at Ripon. With an ex Poacher, Steve Higgins, there, you may be lucky and get a place, why not try it and see? But if you don't we will both be able to go again next year after a check with the insurance company!

# Adventure Training

## Sailing

Maj Richard Latham writes:

Since it began in 1925, the Fastnet Race has been one of the world's premier ocean events, its reputation cemented among sailors long before the tragic saga of 1979 when 15 died and only 85 yachts from 303 starters finished the storm racked race. This year the weather was kinder and while we had our share of winds there were no dramatic rescues.

Our crew had varying levels of experience but all were new to the Fastnet. We set off from the Solent for the long outward leg west, before returning back across the Irish Sea, around the Scillies and home to Plymouth.

A 610-mile course that took us just under five days placing us 68th out of 220 to cross the line (98th with handicap applied). The weather varied from flat calm to Force 7 gusting 8 and we were fortunate to be perfectly placed for the eclipse.

It was a most rewarding experience and one that I can recommend to anyone in search of a challenge, as long as they have 'sea legs', a sense of humour and waterproof skin!

2 Lt MA Nicholas writes:

The Army Sailing Regatta was held at JSSC Gosport over the weekend of 30 to 2 July 1999. Sandhurst's contribution was a boat skippered by Maj STH Andrews R Anglian and crewed by six officer cadets including Junior Under Officer MA Nicholas, OCdt J Delph and OCdt R James two of whom were commissioned into the Regiment on 6 August 1999.

We had expected to sail *Wishstream*, Sandhurst's own boat, but owing to outstanding repairs we borrowed *Trocus* a 34ft Victoria Class yacht from the JSSC.

Our efforts were not helped by the fact that the crew had never worked together before and one or two had not sailed for some time. The 34ft Victoria is a fairly simple boat to handle and our skills



Maj Latham at the helm of 'Amanda Kulu' the Oyster Lightwave 395. In the background the Fastnet Rock (and lighthouse) and the tip of Southern Ireland.

improved as the Regatta continued. Although we did not win any race our progress was sure but steady if not a little stately.

During one race we were involved in a true 'Viking' style ram which excluded us from the next race while *Trocus* had some minor damage seen to!

The passage race was the most memorable if just for the long hours at sea and the remarkable southern coastline of the Isle of Wight.

In the early hours of the last morning we gracefully retired and so Sandhurst's attempt at winning the Army Regatta was brought to a close.

## Poachers Sailing

The Battalion has made good use of its time in the Mediterranean and many soldiers have learned to sail and logged considerable distances, around the Greek Islands and in one case sailing back to UK.



Pte Michael Dreczewicz (2nd Battalion).



A moment of calm - Pte Peacock (2nd Battalion) at the helm.



Pte Nathan Cass (2nd Battalion).

## Potholing



WO1 Paul Thomas potholing in Spain.

# Combined Cadet Forces and Army Cadet Force News

## Haileybury CCF

The Army Section of Haileybury's CCF marked two special events on Monday 10 May with the most elaborate drill parade attempted there for at least 20 years.

These were the retirement of Capt Roger Bass (alias the Second Master) after a cumulative total of over 35 years' uniformed service, and the inaugural presentation of the Simon Lewis Trophy in memory of the former officer commanding, who died of cancer last October at the tragically young age of 36.

Capt Bass was commissioned into the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in 1958 and served variously in the Bedfordshire Regiment, the East Anglian Regiment, the New Zealand Cadet Corps, and Haileybury CCF (badged Royal Anglian). Despite two breaks of service, he totalled 35 years and eight months in uniform. The CCF does very little ceremonial drill nowadays, but to warm an old soldier's heart, a challenging programme was taught and rehearsed in just 80 minutes - thanks to Sgt Lenton of 3 CTT. Up to then many of the company of 75 cadets on parade had done little more than come to attention and stand at ease. Within an hour and a half they had managed a string of new moves, including forming three ranks as a drill movement, getting on parade, the advance in review order, dressing in open order, and a march past and to a standard which earned compliments from the demanding Sgt Lenton. The cadet Sergeant Major, Christopher Crauford (alias the Head of School), an Army sixth form scholar, who led the parade, then presented Capt Bass with a Royal Anglian Regiment ice bucket for use in his retirement.

The late Simon Lewis's widow, Vicky, had travelled from Surrey with her two young children, to make the inaugural presentation of the trophy in memory of Simon. It is to go annually to the best cadet



**Capt Bass's Certificate of Long and Meritorious Service.**



**Haileybury field day - look behind you!**

in continuation (second year) training, and this year to LCpl Robert Beazley. Capt Bass and Mrs Lewis were given a rousing three

cheers and there were few on parade or watching who did not leave with a lump in the throat and a tear in the eye.



**Mrs Lewis presents the trophy to LCpl Robert Beazley.**

## CCF and ACF News

### Bancrofts CCF Canadian Cadet Exchange

*Cdt Sgt Leah Torence-Smith writes:*

This year I spent my whole holiday in the Canadian Rockies. I had been selected, along with 11 other British cadets to train with the top 170 Canadian cadets and seven German youths, at the Rocky Mountain National Army Cadet Summer Training Centre, Leadership and Challenge Course.

The camp's location had been moved from the town of Banff to the middle of nowhere. We were told that the camp (Ghost Camp), would not be quite finished, but the first thought that came into my head when I saw the camp was 'building site'! Everywhere you looked there was mud and holes, and trailers to act as temporary offices and the cadet Naafi. I am pleased to say that by the time I had to leave it had become really beautiful, with grass and even a tree!

It took us a week or so to get settled in, and it was not easy. The Canadians, however, take part in six-week camps every summer and took it all in their stride, or at least pretended to! The outline of the course was five activities lasting four to five days each with rest and recreation time and battalion dances dotted between.

My first week was spent learning the Canadian style leadership procedure, commanding what we call command tasks but what they define as small party tasks, searching for bombs around the camp and cleaning the male barracks. Disgusting!

It was such a relief to finally be able to leave the camp. We had rock climbing and spent four days in groups of only four with



**The author.**

an instructor. We had to learn to trust our feet and eventually we were able to climb vertical rock faces with no hand or foot holds. It was good to be off base and with our more relaxed civilian instructors. We met a group of British soldiers from Uxbridge on the rocks, again canoeing and then again camping!

After rock we moved onto the glacier, Peyto, where there were only three of us to every instructor. We learned how to travel

safely on the glacier using body harnesses, ropes and many knots, how to walk in the snow, and how to perform crevasse rescues. But the best things for me were the breathtaking views and the silence, it just doesn't get that quiet in London. Being on the safety rope and ten or so metres apart, meant that we could not talk but this gave us time for reflection; glacier was the only time I was ever alone.

I was really dreading watermanship but as it turned out, I enjoyed it the most. We spent the first day on the lake and the next four on the Bow and Kananaskis rivers braving the rapids in our canoes (two-man open boat) and surfing and swimming a bit if we happened to tip while attempting manoeuvres.

Our last activity was a four-day hike. It was not very physically challenging but worth it for the views and scenery. The last week was spent doing an orienteering competition, parks project (looking after the park's paths for future visitors) and practising for the graduation parade.

Final parade was an important event for all who passed the course, and everyone managed to survive it despite the hot weather.

Saying goodbye to the Canadians and to the Brits a few days later was the hardest part of the course. It was the people I met and got to know and came to depend on after only six weeks that made the camp what it was: the best six weeks of my life.



**DM Andrew Baggs leads the King Edward VI Grammar School of Chelmsford Corps of Drums at the Essex Regiment Reunion 1999.**

## With Hindsight

*SSgt Nicola Gust writes:*

Army camp does funny things to time: each day seems to last an eternity so that by the afternoon you're referring to breakfast as having been 'yesterday'; yet the week flashes by like lightning - no sooner do you arrive than you're on your way home again. The same is true of my time in the CCF: each year was packed full with so much new information and so many new experiences that at the time it seemed to last forever. Looking back I can see just how much I've learned from my time in the CCF, and by learning I don't mean the acquisition of skills such as weapon handling and battlecraft but the more general skills of leadership, teamwork, self-confidence and motivation. For me, the actual activities of the CCF, the rifle shooting, drill and exercises, have been but an environment and a structure in which personal skills can be developed.

Because of the structure of the CCF and the strict hierarchy of the ranks, there is always something to aim for, from best recruit award to senior NCO, and an individual's function within the contingent constantly changes. The teamwork skills practised as a recruit are replaced by leadership skills as an NCO.

Also, because the Army formally 'trains' you in these skills, everyone gets the chance to lead, rather than it being those with the loudest voices who always get the limelight. The CCF allows those who would normally stand back to take the lead and show initiative where otherwise they may not have done.

Your rank, which is earned rather than won, gives you the legitimacy and confidence to assert your authority in an area where you are recognised to have experience and ability.

Another area where the CCF is, I believe, unique is in the range of activities and talents it caters for. Physical activity is a part of being in the CCF, but not the most important part: it's not necessary to be in the first sports teams to succeed (trust me!). Everyone can add their own personal talents to the contingent, be it in climbing over ten-foot walls or organising the Corps of Drums.

Above all the CCF is immense fun, especially on camp and adventurous training. I can think of no other activity in which year groups interact to the extent that they do in the CCF and there is always a feeling of 'camaraderie' created. I have a real sense of achievement and pride in having attained a high rank, despite not being what many would see as a 'stereotypical' CCF-y. CCF has been an invaluable experience as well as a highly enjoyable one.

## Lincolnshire ACF Annual Camp 1999

Before annual camp at Wathgill in North Yorkshire our new padre, the Rev Ian Walker, followed the example of his predecessors by requesting good weather for the period. For the first week of August we were blessed with just that, glorious sunny days and pleasant evenings.

On Sunday the cadets were sorted out to the cadres which they would be on for their star training, introduced to their instructors and briefed. They were then paraded to attend the safety demonstration with a talk on the use of blank and pyrotechnics with emphasis on the dryness of the Catterick training areas and the dangers this could bring.

On Monday we were privileged to have members of 2 Royal Anglian Regiment from Cyprus and the RIT from Bassingbourn join us to assist and show new tactics of an infantry fire team and good camouflage and concealment. Then the cadets put this training into practice with their found knowledge and demonstrated what they had been taught.

Among the teams were soldiers who had lived in the local village areas of Lincoln and one, Cpl Roddy Hall of 2 R Anglian, had been an Army cadet with Lough and Metheringham detachments from 1981 to 1984. Members of his team were Pte Kevin Peacock of Martin, Ptes Mark Salt and Eddie Thornhill of Epworth and Martin Price of Branston. Other ex-cadets who turned up and joined in the senior cadet training were Alistair Dickson and Chris Lambie of the Royal Marines, proudly sporting their green berets. We also welcomed LCpl Roles and Tpr McLaughlin of the Queen's Royal Lancers, who gave their assistance with the cadres. Another visitor was CSgt Groves of 1 R Anglian who had dropped in for a pleasant reunion with his son Stuart, a member of Spalding detachment.

Weather permitting, other strenuous



**CSgt Groves and son.**

activities included canoeing near the race course at Ripon, rock climbing at Brimham Rocks and off-road biking on part of the nearby training area. The cadets also had the pleasure of swimming at Richmond and Catterick and a visit to the Green Howards' Regimental museum at Richmond.

For the community project this year the cadets had the task of rebuilding pathways along a popular muddy section of the River

Swale at Richmond but these were not on the level and much hard work was needed to lay logs by the side of the path and infill with slag. Materials included timber edging and recycled road waste and the tools for the job were provided by the local district council. Our padre administered prayers on company and squadron muster parades and held a spiritual session each morning for most cadres and was surprised at the interest

## CCF and ACF News

shown by many cadets, and some of the questions asked. He and others, were also surprised at the number of cadets who attended morning communion services, possibly a ploy to avoid the morning camp area sweep.

Early one morning the Commander 49 (East) Brigade, Brig WJ Hurrell CBE dropped in by helicopter to undertake a tour of the training and meet the cadets on the areas. Later the main group of visitors arrived, the Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire, the Mayor and Sheriff of Lincoln, the Chairman and Secretary East Midlands TAVRA and the county Honorary Colonels.

On the middle weekend the glorious weather was to change and bring a wet and cool start to the major exercise 'Poachers Dale' that had been devised by the Commandant, Col Geoff Newmarch. Torrential rain descended in the afternoon

and after the first night of their recce patrols a halt was called to return to camp to dry out personnel and clothing.

The second phase began on the Monday evening, with better weather, and included escape and evasion as the groups travelled from one RV to another trying to avoid the searching opponents.

As a change from the usual day out to a coastal resort or theme park the cadets were taken for an insight into what the conditions of the Army of many years ago was like by a visit to Eden Camp near Malton. A camp of old wooden huts of yesteryear with kit, equipment and other displays which depicted life in those years.

After their evening meal, a parade was held in the Naafi for the presentation of cups, shields and trophies to the winners of the various competitions and to individuals for their achievements.

The presentations included the award of First Clasp to the Cadet Force Medal to Capt Norman Vardy, the Cadet Force Medal to SMI Barrie Addison and a presentation of an award of a Medallion of Honour to Cdt RSM Rebecca Boshier, much to her surprise.

To round off the evening and this year's camp a disco was held in the Naafi and the cadets were also entertained by the pop group, 3 Girlz, who have adopted the county after meeting some cadets at the East of England Show in July and are now thought of as mascots for Lincolnshire ACF.

Apart from the other helpers we must mention the members of 13 Cadet Training Team who assisted with the rock climbing and canoeing and the drivers of the RLC from Grantham who turn up without fail. To all these people we extend our sincere thanks.



Members of the RIT with Lincoln cadets.

## ACF Bolivia Expedition 1999

*William Loates, Lincolnshire ACF, writes:*

After an uneventful flight from Heathrow we arrived at La Paz airport at 0800 local time and spent the next three days acclimatising, exploring the city and arranging materials for our community project. La Paz came as a culture shock. We soon learned that most of what you wanted to buy, you bartered for, because they would try to charge foreigners about three or four times the normal price.

We went to the Naval Headquarters where we were told about Bolivia and its rather small navy. They have quite an embarrassing history because in all the wars they have fought, they have been beaten, except when fighting for their independence. There was also a visit to the British Embassy where we talked to the ambassador about what we

would be doing while in Bolivia.

We then moved to the naval base at San Pedro by bus, taking the building materials with us. This was our accommodation while we were working on the project to repair a medical sanatorium at San Pablo, a short boat ride from the naval base, which was on the shore of Lake Titicaca.

After completion of the project we presented the medical team and villagers with an ACF plaque to put inside the centre. The locals were so pleased with the work we had done, that they wanted us to paint their school for them. Unfortunately we didn't have enough time, so we gave them the spare plaster and the tools that we no longer needed.

On our last day at the naval base we crossed

the island to visit a historical town called Copacabana which was a wayside rest for pilgrims visiting a shrine called Titicaca (Rock of the Puma) where human sacrifices took place during the reign of the Inca empire.

Later that day we returned to La Paz to prepare for the trekking phase. We had to go down to the market to buy all the food we would need. However after a few days' trekking we realised that we had miscalculated, so were on half rations from then until the end of the trek. We also had to organise transport to get us to the start of the trek, as well as porters with their donkeys and llamas to carry the majority of our equipment for the first six days.

The next day we got on a bus to travel to the start of our trek. We pitched our tents and were in bed by 18.30, because it was already dark and the temperature was dropping below zero.

Walking at altitude was hard at first, but after a few days we got used to being out of breath all the time and were able to make fairly good progress. Fortunately nothing fell off the donkeys because it would have been a long walk to collect it from the bottom of the valley. The paths that we were walking along sometimes had near vertical drops at the sides, but most of the time there was just a steep slope covered in scree. Some of the views were absolutely fantastic. We even saw condors soaring among the peaks.

The day on which we attempted the mountain began at 0230hrs. Unfortunately we had to leave two members back at base camp because they were suffering from altitude sickness. We started the walk up the moraine at 0300, reaching the glacier at around 0430. There we roped up into two groups of five, put on our crampons and took our ice axes out to minimise the risk of a fall. We then began the ascent of the peak, crossing some deep crevasses on the way. The ascent of Tarija was made at about 0700, when some people rested while six of us made the ascent of the next peak, Pequeño Aplamayo. This was completed at about 0800 and meant that we had climbed two mountains of over 17,500ft. It was well worth the effort as we were rewarded with views back towards Tarija and the rest of the Conderiri Massif and also out towards



**William Loakes on the final ridge of Pequeño Aplamayo.**

the jungle, which was covered in a misty haze. We all returned safely to base camp, where the two suffering from altitude sickness were on their way to recovery. The next day was spent crossing the mountains in preparation for our descent down into the yungas, steep-sided jungle-covered valleys, which stretch down to the Amazon basin.

Because we were a day behind our schedule, we tried to take a short cut along the River Tiquimani (Tiquimani meaning

*evil*) to Choro, which would have made up this day. There was one slight problem we encountered about halfway down the track, it just stopped. We were forced to camp overnight, and try again the next day, but in the end we had to retrace our steps which meant that we lost two more days. Because of this we did not make it into the Amazon region but even so the expedition was a wonderful experience, and one I would love to repeat.



**Porters and Llamas.**



# The Regimental Museum

*Mr George Boss, Museum Attendant, writes:*

## Visitors From Our Allied Regiments

A welcome sight at the museum at Duxford this summer was the Commanding Officer of the Bermuda Regiment, Lt Col Patrick Outerbridge, together with his RSM, Warren Furbert and Adjutant, Capt Eddie Lamb. They were in the UK to visit the Bermuda Regiment Band which was carrying out its annual camp.

On his tour around the UK and then to the Middle East, Alisdair McIntosh called into the museum to tip his hat and be brought up to date with the Regiment. Sgt McIntosh is a member of 3rd Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (RNZIR).

## Recent Donations

<i>Mr Laurie Justice</i>	Metal Badge - Eagle and Garter.
<i>Mr Martin Arnold</i>	Various programmes Open Day 1970 (Depot) Medal Presentation (UN).
<i>Lt Col Nigel Burrell</i>	T-shirt (Logo) British Forces Lebanon.
<i>Mr Eddie Smith</i>	Three scrapbooks, East Anglian to Royal Anglian - Persons who lived in the Cambridge areas. Son's GSM (KIA - NI 1972).
<i>Mrs Joan Burt</i>	Accoutrements from 1958-1992 and details of his Salamanca Trip.
<i>Maj Martin Franks</i>	1974/75 Shantallo Company Rag C Company.
<i>Mr Derek Burman</i>	Military accoutrements.
<i>Mr Phil Conopo</i>	Cassette tape - Military Bugle Calls of the Army
<i>Mr Shack Shailes</i>	



**Sgt Alisdair McIntosh, a member of 3rd Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (RNZIR) on his visit to the museum.**



**Lt Col Patrick Outerbridge, RSM Warren Furbert and Capt Eddie Lamb outside Land Warfare Hall.**

## Obituaries

### Col Peter Badger



Peter Badger, who commanded 1st R Leicesters in Borneo and was later Brigade Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment, has died at the age of 80 at his home in Suffolk.

Peter took command of the Tigers in Munster, but after moving back to England, the Battalion, well recruited with Regulars, was warned at short notice in February 1963 to move to Borneo for operations. In the event there was a spell in Hong Kong to acclimatise and undergo some jungle training before moving to the Borneo Territories to counter Indonesian aggression. The Tigers were the first British infantry battalion to be sent.

Peter Badger's task was to deploy the Battalion to cover 200 miles of frontier as well as seek out the remaining rebels from the Azahari revolt in Brunei. Companies (Holloway, Higgs and Marshall) were spread across East Sabah, Brunei and Sarawak and platoons, often 80 miles from their company headquarters, occupied fortified camps along the border with the task of patrolling and showing a presence. Platoons operated closely with special forces and with locally recruited Iban and Murat tribesmen and lived entirely by HF radio and air resupply.

During six months of operations the Tigers, under Peter Badger's command, established an excellent reputation as effective jungle troops, especially at platoon level. There were a number of contacts, in two of which Thompson and Peel won MCs. In his biography of Gen Walter Walker, Tom Poceka says of the British Infantry...*The Royal Leicesters were the first to fight!* And so it was.

Peter Eric Beaumont Badger was educated at Sutton Valence School and RMA Sandhurst. A keen sportsman and excellent golfer he was commissioned into the Leicesters but spent much of the war with the Commandos and Special Service Group latterly in the Adriatic and Italy. In 1944 he joined 2nd North Staffords as a rifle company commander and took part in the operations around Monk Grande, north of Florence. He moved with them to Palestine and then Egypt. After further service in Palestine he went to the Staff College in 1948 and was subsequently GSO2 Operations and Air in HQ FARELF in

Singapore. It was here, in Raffles Hotel, that he met his beloved Joan. They were married in 1951.

After service with 1st Royal Lincolns in BAOR, Peter was an instructor with the RAC at Bovington before returning to the Tigers in Cyprus in 1956 during the EOKA emergency. Leading his command, D Company, manned essentially of national servicemen, had a particularly good record with a number of successful searches, cordons, 'finds' and a terrorist capture to its name. After one find of bombs in Farnagusta centre late at night, Peter was delighted when explosives experts directed that the find be blown in situ. After a shattering but safe explosion Peter headed for home to be met half way by Joan, the only person he had failed to warn of the impending explosion. She thought he had been ambushed. The rocket he was given by a relieved but furious wife was much admired by his driver and radio operator.

During Peter Badger's time as Battalion commander, the formation of the new 'Large Regiments' was proposed and he was much consulted, seeking and being given the assurance that this was the right way ahead and that the rest of the infantry would follow. He always felt let down that his promise was not kept. After a spell as Chief of Staff at Brixmis in Berlin he became Brigade Colonel (1966-69) of the newly formed Royal Anglian Regiment where he played a key part in bringing the Tigers into the new Regiment and in making the Regiment a whole. It says much of his commitment to the new Regiment and its men that from his voluntary retirement in 1969 until 1987 he was chairman of The Royal Anglian Regiment Association. He retained a deep affection for the Regiment for the rest of his life. During his service he was twice mentioned in despatches.

In retirement Peter and Joan settled in Suffolk where variously he grew mushrooms (not a success was how he put it) and was secretary of Aldeburgh Golf Club. This was followed by a spell as project manager for the construction of a golf course in Corfu - an experience he and Joan described as their last overseas posting. Thereafter he was executive officer of Suffolk ACF, being appointed a DL in 1980. He was latterly men's captain at Woodbridge Golf Club and to the end of his life remained an excellent golfer.

Peter Badger was quite a shy man but he and Joan were a couple ideally suited to the rigours and challenges of Army life. Their home was always fun, welcoming and happy. They were enormously generous to those serving with them. They took great pride in their two sons, the older of whom, Simon (Jim), was commissioned into The Royal Anglian Regiment. Joan predeceased Peter by almost exactly two years. To Jim and Christopher and their families we send our sympathy but also our gratitude for the service of their parents to our Regiment.

AJGP

### Brig JAC Cowan CBE



Brig Alan Cowan was commissioned into the Rifle Brigade. He served in Egypt and Italy during the Second World War and was mentioned in despatches. He commanded a company in Kenya during Mau Mau and then in Malaya where he was again mentioned in despatches.

He was selected to command the Royal Leicesters in 1964. During his period in command the Battalion rebadged Royal Anglian, joining the new Large Regiment as the 4th Battalion and served in Watchet, Aden and Malta. It is a period remembered with fondness by those who served under him and who had not initially greeted with enthusiasm the news that they were to be commanded by an outsider. They need not have worried. Brig Alan became a strong supporter of the Regiment and of the Royal Tigers Association and remained so for the rest of his life.

Brig Cowan took command of 8 Brigade in Londonderry soon after troops were deployed on the streets. He left the Province in November 1971 - just before Bloody Sunday and retired from the Army in 1975.

He then joined the Civil Service first in the Northern Ireland Office (in London) and then as secretary of the Government Hospitality Fund, with the task of managing official government entertainment, which he did for the next 14 years before finally retiring at the age of 70.

A service of thanksgiving was held on 10 September which was attended by many of the officers who had served under him in the 4th Battalion, as well as friends from the Civil Service and the Royal Green Jackets.

### Deaths

We also regret to record the deaths of the following:

**Maj EH (Ernie) Morgan MBE MC** on 9 June 1999, in Australia.

**Col MV (Maurice) McArthur OBE DL** on 13 June 1999.

**Lt Col ET (Eric) Lummins** on 11 June 1999.

**Maj DC (Dennis) Counsell** on 26 June 1999.

**Maj JW (John) Scragg** on 15 June 1999.

**Maj DJ (Danny) Beddington MBE** on 14 September 1999.

**Mr Ken Delaney** ex 4th Battalion on 4 August 1999.

**W Nind**, In-pensioner on 14 July 1999.

**J Butty**, In-pensioner on 6 August 1999.

**Col JCD Higgs DL** on 22 October 1999.

## The Associations



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

#### Benevolent Work

The final results for 1999 become available in early January. As at 30 September, the Association has dispensed funds to some 46 cases. This compares to 40 for the same period last year. The nature of the requests are in line with other ex-Service charities and are largely connected with providing electric wheelchairs for the immobile or replacing major items in the house. For those of you in the fortunate position of having bank balances heavily in credit, we can always use any gifts or bequests!

#### Regimental Association Dinner

As usual the TA Centre at Norwich was crowded for Saturday 25 September when some 175 sat down to a four-course meal. The chief guest was Lt Col Clive Newell, Commanding Officer of the East of England Regiment. His words of encouragement were well received and wrote afterwards to

say how he felt enormously privileged to meet so many World War Two veterans from our different and varied battalions. Those present included old soldier Mr HA Brawn-Meek 1934-43 (1st and 2nd Battalions) and young soldier DW Eyles R Anglian 1981-88. Col Newell was able to assure us that our links with the TA here in Norwich were firm for the foreseeable future.

Our thanks as usual go to Mr Paul Boxall and his band of helpers for setting up and taking down everything connected with the dinner. Once again his raffle raised some £285. In recognition of his work for the Regimental Association, he was presented with an engraved crystal bowl.

#### Chapel

The Service on Sunday 26 September was well attended as usual. The families of the late Maj Sam Hornor and Mr Jack Forrest

were present to see memorials dedicated as was one for the late Brig Jack Wilkinson, Colonel of the Regiment.

#### Regimental Homes

These are all currently occupied. If you wish to put your name on the waiting list either for one of the homes on Mousehold Lane, Norwich or at Gaywood in King's Lynn please call Regimental Headquarters and we will send you a form to complete.

#### Regimental Museum

This will not be closed during the refurbishment of the Castle. Work continues on the archives and photographs. Visitors now number almost half a million per year.

#### Remembrance Service

This will be at the Cottages at 1045hrs on Thursday 11 November. Dress - medals and tie.



### The Suffolk Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Suffolk)

#### President's Message

Minden Day, what a great day, as indeed it always is. This year it was further enhanced by the Presentation of the Caen Memorial Museum Medal to some veterans of the fighting in Normandy. These medals were supposed to be only for those who made the pilgrimage this year but Frank Matthews persuaded the museum to give a few extra and we were fortunate to have the Mayor of Coleville with us to present them. It made a fine spectacle in the sunshine of the old Barrack Square. However, as someone who took no real part in World War Two, it always strikes me as sad that those who fought in Burma, the Far East and in North Africa and Italy in the battalions of the Regiment do not have the demonstrations of gratitude for what they achieved as do those who fought in Europe with the 1st

Battalion, many who served with 1 Suffolk agree with this sentiment. Those who served elsewhere should know the Regiment is equally proud of what they achieved in difficult conditions without the resources available in Europe. This was not a one battalion Regiment.

#### D-Day - 55th anniversary

Forty-two members, 21 veterans, wives, friends, two American visitors and grandchildren made for France and the 55th anniversary. Over two days we travelled from the beaches to Fleur into the Falaise gap. First day to Caen where commemorative medals were presented to all veterans. Then our own tribute to Suffolk men at three cemeteries and to the simple stone at the Chateau, our longest and bloodiest battle. Finally a reception at

Tinchbray when individual scrolls were presented.

D-Day was memorable - veterans, bands, cavalcades of cars, VIPs and spectators. Sword Beach, Hermonville, Montgomery Statue and 3 Div Memorial. Then on to our piece of France, Hillman and Les Ami's du Suffolk Regiment. The memorial to 'Tich' Hunter DCM was unveiled and scrolls presented. The day ended with a reception at the Marie with our host, Guy le Grande. Midnight came with a rendering of the *Marseillaise* fit to blow the roof off.

A splendid and unforgettable pilgrimage. Living history, renewing old acquaintances and forging new.

#### Amalgamation Day - 29 August 1959

Turbulence and change have been part of the military way of life since the end of

## The Associations

World War Two. In 1948 1 and 2 Suffolk were amalgamated, 11 years later some 30 infantry battalions suffered the same fate. So in 1959 after 274 years of separate service the Royal Norfolk and the Suffolk Regiments amalgamated in Iserlohn, Germany. When the news of amalgamation was first received it came as rather a shock. Most people at the time thought it had to be and we could not have wished for better partners. We were the same age, we talked the same language and we liked each other.

Forty years on with the successes of the intervening years, it was obviously the right recipe to cope, not only with the changes in size and shape of Regiments and the Army but with the future challenges that followed

and hopefully with the next millennium too.

### Holland Trip 1999

Forty three members including 13 veterans, wives and friends coached through Belgium and Holland. Ceremonies, including other units, took place at Hamont, with a special presentation to the RAF and Venray before a large audience, choir and band. Our individual tributes included Weert, Kanville in Belgium and Overloon. We were greeted on arrival by a 'guard of honour', Taff Gillingham of Ipswich Branch and eight volunteers (individuals who had volunteered at their own expense) dressed and equipped for 1944! With a Branch Standard they supported us at all ceremonies. Another

splendid pilgrimage.

### The Museum

The award of £585,000 has been granted by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. With a large contribution from the borough and the £50,000 pledge from the Regiment the total of £830,000 will allow the project to proceed. Work will commence in 2000. The structure is likely to be completed in March 2001; it will then be closed for internal work prior to the opening in July/August 2001. The president thanks everyone who has so generously contributed. The target was and is £100,000. The total to date is £87,431, but with interest, tax refunds and pledges stands at £91,469.



## Cambridgeshire Regiment Association and

## The Cambridgeshire Branch of The Royal Anglian Regiment Association

### Social Events

The 50th annual dinner of the Sergeants' Dinner Club was held on 18 September at the ACF Centre, Waterbeach. This anniversary dinner was very successful with 52 attending and among the guests were Col Colin Elsdon the Commandant of the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force, Lt Col WF Badcock President of the Cambridgeshire Regiment Association, Col Derek Latchford and Maj K Starling and wives. We were also very pleased to welcome Mrs M Mapey, Maj and Mrs Bullock from the Suffolks.

Herbie Taylor was in the Chair and thanked Col Elsdon and his staff for all the help given to the Association and also RSM Bob Maxwell for looking after the club and also thanked his warrant officers for attending the dinner.

On 12 September a very successful curry lunch was held at the cadet headquarters by the Regimental Association when some 50 members and wives attended. Members thoroughly enjoyed it and had a good get-together and commented that they hoped it would be an annual event. Thanks go to Lt Col WF Badcock and Mary for organising it and members were pleased to see Col Colin Elsdon and Mr F Grounds. Afterwards a draw was held.

The Regimental Association has been very pleased to accept a silver peacock complete with tail feathers and mounted on a wooden base, altogether some 18in in height, which has been bequeathed to the Association in the will of the late Maj Derrick Bunkall (2nd Cambs).

This extremely attractive and valuable piece was handed to the President by Mrs Margaret Bunkall at her home on 16 August

and the Association wishes Mrs Bunkall every happiness in her new home.

A very successful officers' dinner was held on Saturday 1 May at the cadet headquarters at Waterbeach. Col WF Page presided and Lt Swann, of the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force, acted as Mr Vice. The guests of honour were the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Mr James Crowdon KStJ and Col Taylor, the Regimental Secretary of The Royal Anglian Regiment, and Mrs Taylor.

After the toasts and telegrams were read, Col Dick Shervington read a report from Maj Baker, the company commander of D (Cambridgeshire) Company, who was unable to be present. He said that it was a great honour but with sadness that he read the report of the demise of the company due to the recent defence cuts, as he had the honour of setting up the company some 28 years ago. Maj Baker, in his report, told of the difficulties in finding places in the reserve forces for members of the company who still wished to serve, but was confident that most would find units, including the RAF Regiment. To mark the end of a TA unit associated with the county there had been a parade at Ely and a ball held at the University Arms Hotel, Cambridge.

We were delighted to welcome Mrs Mapey and Mrs Bunkall and grateful to Col Colin Elsdon for his help with the dinner and for allowing it to be held at the county ACF headquarters.

Once again members of the Regiment, the Army Cadet Force, relatives and friends gathered together in our magnificent cathedral for the annual service of commemoration on 6 June. The service started with the Dean welcoming the

congregation and with the Bidding. During the first hymn, *Praise, my Soul, the King of Heaven* the Standards were received by the Dean. The lesson was read by the president, Lt Col WF Badcock MBE, and the address was given by the Rev Neil Follett, vicar of Godmanchester, an ex-Army man. The City of Ely Military Band accompanied the organ throughout the service and an excellent *Last Post* and *Reveille* were given by the trumpets of the band. The Lord Lieutenant and the Deputy Mayor of Ely were present in their official capacity, the Lord Lieutenant now as a patron of the Associations.

As the march past assembled it started to rain as usual but led by the City of Ely Military Band and accompanied by the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Corps of Drums, a proud corps marched past the Lord Lieutenant.

After a splendid tea in the Hayward Theatre, the president thanked the Association for organising the event and the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force for arranging the tea.

### The Cambridgeshire Regiment Collection

Capt Paul Leach reports that he has taken over from Col Pat Macdonald and thanks him for his work in setting up our own display at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford, where the history of the Cambridgeshires is seen by such a wide audience.

We had hoped to have the recently purchased medals on display this summer but pressure on the management and staff there has meant that this has fallen behind. However, by the time you receive this copy

## The Associations

of the journal, the Lt Col Saint and CSM Dockerill medals will be there to be seen. We have reorganised the medal display to place Lt Col Clayton's medals side by side, and those of the CSM, possibly the most decorated Cambridgeshire, in a prominent position among the other gallantry medals we have mostly on loan from recipients' families.

These changes have been facilitated by remounting and repositioning our badge collection and they too are back on display.

In purchasing the three sets of medals, the Regiment received a very generous donation towards their cost from the Hudson Charitable Foundation in Wisbech. This was particularly directed at obtaining CSM Rowe's medals. He held a unique, and much respected position in Wisbech between the wars, and indeed long after. It has been thought fitting that these medals be offered on indefinite loan to the admirable Wisbech Museum where they will be displayed.

It is difficult to display all the items we have, which is the aim. But with this in mind, we offered - on indefinite loan, to the City of Cambridge - the Regiment's Freedom Scrolls for display in the Guildhall. The scrolls were handed over with due ceremony and local publicity by Col Badcock, president of the OCA on 14 September to the Mayor of the City of Cambridge in the presence of the Lord Lieutenant, Mr James Crowden - our patron, and will now be exhibited in the Guildhall.

In the same vein, the Local Militia List dated 1822 for the parish of Thorney - then part of Cambridgeshire - which had been

'stored' in our archives, was offered on indefinite loan to Thorney Parish Council which has been pleased to accept this fascinating piece of local history. When properly mounted it will be displayed in their very fine heritage museum.

The growth of local museums around the county, led by Wisbech and Ely and encompassing March, Whittlesey, Chatteris and now Soham gives us more opportunities of displaying our history, and indeed there is much enthusiasm from the museums to do so. This can only be to the good in preserving the Regiment's place in local history at a time when our name has vanished at senior level in active terms. However, it is at least preserved in the hands of our very active county Army Cadet Force and the enthusiasm and help we receive from them led by their Commandant, Col Colin Elsdon, is very much appreciated.

Finally, but by no means least, our parent, the 1st Battalion in the person of RSM Prime, is also very supportive in preserving the link that is part of the East Anglian 'thing' and has asked for some Cambridgeshire Regiment historical items that might be displayed in his Mess alongside the Suffolk, Norfolk and Essex Regiments - we are delighted at this request and we are currently discussing what suitable items to loan.

### Obituaries

We are sorry to report the following deaths and express our deepest sympathy with families.

**Doughty:** Roberts, Leslie (Bob) Doughty died on 17 August 1999 aged 80. He saw

wartime service with the Royal Artillery. Post war he served with the 629 LAA Regiment RA (TA) and the 1st Battalion, Cambridgeshire Regiment. He was a member and for many years Chairman of the Wisbech Branch of the Old Comrades Association. Our sympathy goes to his wife Daisy, his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. The funeral service was held at St Leonard's Church, Leverington on 27 August.

**Issacson:** Capt (QM) Charles Issacson died on 16 June aged 88. Charles served as civilian permanent staff from 629 LAA days through to the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment and on disbandment transferred to the CUOTC. During the war he saw service with the 2nd Suffolks in India. He was a keen market gardener and on retirement devoted himself to his hobby.

**Parker:** Joe Parker, HQ Company... details to follow.

**Page:** CSgt Harry Page died on 3 September aged 91 and was cremated on 14 September. For many years he was the Officers' Mess chef.

**Russell:** John Russell, chairman of the Wisbech Branch of the Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades Association died on 23 August 1999 aged 62. He saw service with the Royal Air Force and later the Cambridgeshire Regiment (TA). His death in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kings Lynn, after a very short illness came as a shock to all his friends, and our sympathy is extended to his wife Janet, sons and family. The funeral service was held at St Peter's Church Wisbech on 31 August.



Freedom Scrolls being returned to the City of Cambridge on 14 September 1999. The Mayor, far right, at the ceremony, together with, from left, Lt Col WF Badcock MBE, James Crowden KStJ JP, Lord Lieutenant, Capt John Cook, Capt Paul Leach and Rob Hammond, Cambridge City Council's chief executive. Photo courtesy the Cambridge Evening News.



## The Royal Lincolnshire and Royal Anglian Regimental Association Lincolnshire

### The Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Museum

Plans for the refurbishment of the museum of the county Regiment remain on schedule with the second stage of the project, the design phase, having been completed. This marks the culmination of more than 18 months of fundraising, during which time the Trustees of the Regiment raised over £54,000 towards the total cost of £220,000, and in conjunction with the JANVS Group Ltd of York - specialist museum and exhibition designers - the completion of the design work.

When the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment was amalgamated in 1960, its Colours at that time had been in service for 99 years, and were the oldest serving colours in the British Army. In liaison with the JANVS Group designers we have taken this element as our central theme for the museum and created a design that is a fitting tribute to the men that have, for almost 300 years, served with the colours of the Regiment.

During the 300 years of the Regiment's history there have been countless examples of selfless courage, personal sacrifice and devotion to duty, men serving with the Regiment gaining no fewer than ten awards of the Victoria Cross (VC). The design for the new museum includes a special display on the VC, with information on each of the recipients

The Regiment saw active service in many theatres of war and the new museum will feature a fantastic and fascinating collection of artefacts, personal possessions and memorabilia. Many of these items were collected by the men of the Regiment from the actual battlefields and have never before been placed on public display. The museum is scheduled to open at Easter 2000, and promises to be a unique and exciting attraction.

### Regimental Reunion 1999

This event was held in Lincoln on 4/5 September and despite the fact that attendance was considerably lower than in previous years it was a most enjoyable weekend. The annual general meeting was held in Sobraon Barracks, prior to a Regimental Dinner on Saturday 4th, where Association business was discussed and speedily dealt with (in some cases).

A total of 90 members, wives and guests attended the reunion dinner at which David Metcalfe MBE and his team provided an excellent menu. Following the Loyal Toast the President of the Association, Maj Gen REJ Gerrard-Wright CB CBE DL, gave a very interesting and entertaining speech, as only he can, in which he particularly emphasised the continuing strength of the Association and its close ties with the Royal Anglian Regiment.

The following day everyone met at Newport Barracks to greet old friends and have a quick chat before forming up on parade ready to march to St Nicholas' Church. In bright sunshine and preceded by The Royal Anglian Regiment TA Band and five Branch Standards, the parade marched down the road to church. After the service everyone returned to Sobraon barracks for a band concert and afternoon tea with the opportunity to take a further look around the mini museum, which had created enormous interest throughout the whole weekend.

Our congratulations go to the committee of the Lincoln Branch, in particular the Simpson family, for organising such a splendid and very successful Regimental Weekend.

### Scunthorpe Branch

Recent recruiting initiatives have gone well and membership has now risen to over 70. Unfortunately, many of those members are unable to attend branch meetings due to work commitments or the distances they have to travel. Nevertheless we ensure they are all kept fully informed on the activities organised by the branch each month. Of course this does incur some extra work and cost, but it is fully justified by the excellent attendance at most of our functions throughout the year, in particular the Annual



Lochnagar Crater seat.

## The Associations

Formation Dinner and the Remembrance Day Parades.

Cpl Pearson, a serving member of the Royal Anglian Regiment and the son of our administration officer, completed the Great North Run recently in aid of Cancer Research. Well done on a marvellous effort and for raising the much-needed money towards our nominated charity.

### Grimsby Branch

A party of the Grimsby and District Branch attended the Royal Anglian Regimental Gathering held at Basingbourne, Cambridgeshire, on Sunday 25 July including two of our new members, Tony and Paul Sadler. Following a short Drumhead Service, members fell in behind the Branch Standard to march past the Colonel of the Regiment to the sound of the Regimental March played by the Royal Anglian TA Band. The day ended with a fine music and marching display by the Bermuda Regiment Band which was in the United Kingdom on tour.

At the Lochnagar Crater on the Somme a memorial seat was erected and dedicated to the memory of the 10th Battalion (Grimsby Chums), The Lincolnshire Regiment, who were cruelly decimated on the weekend of 17 July 1916. During the preparations to install the seat, remains of a British soldier were found and later identified as 1306 Pte George Nugent of the 22nd Battalion, Northumberland Regiment, who had been posted as missing in action on 1 July 1916.

### Lincoln Branch

The Branch has had a very active year with visits to the Scunthorpe Steel Works, Kneller hall, National Fisheries Museum and a very enjoyable canal boat trip on the Leeds-Liverpool Canal. In between time the branch has organised two band concerts, featuring the Minden Band of the Queen's Division and the Lincolnshire Fire Brigade Band. Both were very well attended and raised several hundred pounds towards the Royal



Paul and Tony Sadler at the Regimental Gathering.

Lincolnshire Regimental Museum Appeal. Other collections were held outside local supermarkets and at the famous Lincoln Christmas Market where substantial amounts were raised.

Once again the responsibility of organising the annual Regimental Reunion fell upon the Lincoln Branch. However, it was a privilege we were pleased to accept, being the last Reunion in this century and because it included the dedication of our new Association Standard, which now proudly displays both the Royal Anglian and Royal Lincolnshire Regiment badges. Altogether a very enjoyable and memorable weekend.

### Spalding Branch

Although the smallest branch in the Association we feel we can still compete with the others when it comes to arranging special events. We have therefore organised, in order to celebrate the millennium, a Royal Lincolnshire and Royal Anglian Reunion

(Poacher 2000) to be held in the Springfields Exhibition Centre, Spalding, Lincolnshire, on Saturday 18 March 2000.

It is open to all members and their partners of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment and all members and their partners, past and present, of the Royal Anglian Regiment, from either the Regular or TA Battalions.

The cost of a ticket is £10 per person (admission by ticket only), which includes a welcome drink, buffet meal and musical entertainment by the CBS Big Band. In addition there will be a Military Static Display (vehicles of yesteryear) at the entrance to the hall.

For further details and booking forms please contact:

Brian Willoughby, Springfield's Gardens, Camelgate, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE12 6ET, Tel: 01775-724843 or Trevor Snell, 29 St Thomas's Road, Spalding, Lincolnshire PE11 2XX, Tel: 01775-762847.



## Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Association

### The Regimental War Memorial and Garden

Mr and Mrs Harold Howard of Kempston Grange (now the Addison Park), whose only son, Lt Addison Howard lost his life while serving with the Bedfordshire Regiment in the 1914-18 war, decided in 1921 to make a free gift of land to the Regiment to enable a memorial to be erected in memory of those who fell in the Great War. Money was raised and the memorial was duly built. In 1939 Mrs Mary Howard sold further land to the

trustees, which today forms the major part of the memorial garden in Kempston.

After the 1939-45 war, a second obelisk was erected in memory of those who gave their lives in the Second World War. More land was obtained for the garden in 1959 and so we have the memorial and garden as we know them today. There has, however, been an increased awareness that a time will come when the association will no longer have members to maintain and care for the upkeep of the memorial and garden,

which is presently carried out by members of the Bedford Branch led by Doug George.

The management committee realised that a decision had to be made if the memorial was not to be left untended at a future date. Kempston Town Council subsequently agreed that it would take over the memorial and garden from the Association. Following this, the Charity Commissioners had to be advised of our intentions and the charity scheme revised. The stage we have now reached is that a draft scheme has been

## The Associations

prepared and is presently being discussed. The chairman of the Association has expressed a wish to hold a small formal ceremony marking the transfer to the Kempston Town Council in due course.

Members of the Association on their visit to the 2nd Battalion

Last November Stan Mansfield was asked to organise a party of Association members to spend a few days with the 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment in Cyprus. So it was that on Saturday 13 March 1999 that a party of 12 assembled at Heathrow for the flight to Cyprus. They were met at Larnaca Airport by 2Lt Max Hucklesby and taken to Alexander Barracks where they settled in to the accommodation in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. A programme had been mapped out for them by the Adjutant, Capt Ken Copland which was interesting, varied and energetic and allowed them to witness at first hand all aspects of today's modern Army, so very different from their era. The programme included excursions to Larnaca, the Troodos Mountains, Nicosia and Ayia Napa. They also visited a number of military units and posts. In Nicosia they toured the Green Line, between Greek and Turkish Army units. Tuesday night was a games night in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess where they were well and truly beaten and one member had his tie cut off. This has now joined the Mess collection. However, they did rather better on the range where two members had scored ten out of ten.

During the evening George Owen presented the Mess with a framed and inscribed print of the Battle of Surinam. A highlight of the week was a dinner in the Officers' Mess. Their final night was spent in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess and 2Lt Max Hucklesby was invited to dinner. This gave them the chance to express their thanks to him for looking after them so well during the visit. Next day they bade farewell to the Battalion. Before leaving, they gave a gift to their driver, Pte Barry Cooper, who had driven them to so many interesting and varied places during the week. They left with lasting memories of a fine Battalion which, from the Commanding Officer downwards, did everything that they possibly could to provide such a wonderful week. A very big thank-you to the 2nd Battalion.

### The Association Dinner and Dance

This was again held at the Castle Hall, Hertford on Saturday 17 April 1999 and was attended by approximately 200 members and their families and friends, together with parties from the Burma Star Association and the Essex Regiment Association. Official guests included Col Geoffrey Morgan, president of the Essex Regiment Association and Mrs Morgan and Capt Gerry Corkery representing the 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment. 2Lt Max Hucklesby also attended. Brig Angus Robertson welcomed all present and gave a

report on the Association thanking all those who gave so much time and effort in making it the success it is. He thanked Stan Mansfield for continuing to organise the dinner and as usual finished his speech with a couple of jokes, something that we all have to suffer! Then Capt Gerry Corkery gave a report on the 2nd Battalion which was of great interest to all present. We in the Association value our links with the Battalion and the tremendous support that we have received from its Commanding Officers.

The evening started with our Regimental March being played as the Standards were marched in and after Grace they marched off to the Regimental March of the 2nd Battalion, a small tribute to our old friends. During and after dinner, music was provided by the Essex Yeomanry Band playing to their usual high standard and then it was time for dancing. Everybody agreed that it was a great evening and nearly all stayed to the very end when the evening finished with all present marching round the hall to our Regimental March.

### Suez Revisited

In August 1954 Ron Hope visited the Moascar War Cemetery to say his last farewell to his friend Robert Coulson, who died at El Ballah in October 1953. It was an emotional return to the Canal Zone in April 1999 to visit his friend's grave. He also visited the graves of three other 'Bedfords' lads who are buried out there, Ptes CM Perry, H Tharby and IC White. The cemetery at Moascar is beautifully kept. In 1954 it was barren, no grass or flowers, now the area is green with flowers at every headstone. Wreaths were laid by Ron and Alex Dear on behalf of the Regimental Association and the 'Last Post' was sounded before their departure.

### News from the Branches

In March the Bedford Branch had another bric-a-brac stall at Clapham Village Hall and raised £133 for branch funds. Members attended the Association dinner and dance at Hertford in April and in May members attended a service of remembrance by the Bedford and District Branch of FEPOW at Elstow Abbey which was quite excellent. Members attended Newmarket Races on the July Course in aid of the Royal British Legion. Three members of the Branch attended the Museum Appeal at Luton, 49 Branch members attended the Bassingbourn Gathering especially enjoying the Bermuda Band. The Branch held a service at the Church of Transfiguration, Kempston on Sunday 22 August with our Standards present.

The Hertford Branch had over 60 members at Bassingbourn for the Regimental Day which all agreed was most enjoyable. The previous week a party from the branch travelled to Chelmsford to attend the Essex Regiment dinner and dance, where we were

made most welcome. The highlight of the year was our trip to the 2nd Battalion, five branch members travelled to Cyprus and if we did not lead the way in drinking in the Sergeants' Mess, we certainly did in shooting. A large number of the branch attended the Association dinner, not quite so many dancers these days as we all get older.

The St Albans Branch made a presentation to the Royal British Legion Harpenden Branch of a picture of Regimental Colours in appreciation for holding their monthly meetings there. In May the secretary, Reg Howard, received a wonderful surprise from his branch members. This being a picture of the 'Keep' at Kempston with a Regimental cap badge and a photograph of himself with the Branch Standard and also the insignia of the 16th Foot. All this to mark his 50 years' service to the branch. He was also presented with a Regimental cake, a bottle of whisky and a Regimental tie. At Bassingbourn the branch entertained members of the Bermuda Band and Drums who gave branch members a bottle of Bermuda rum and a Bermuda Regiment Shield and in turn the branch secretary presented them with a bottle of the 'Famous Grouse Whisky' and a good time was had by all.

Seven members of the Watford and Hemel Hempstead Branch visited the 2nd Battalion in Cyprus and had a marvellous time. Four members with the Branch Standards attended a service in Romford to dedicate a memorial to the Korean Veterans on 9 May and on 20 June the Standards were paraded at Haileybury College for the Beating of Retreat by the Band of the Irish Guards and the Brentwood Youth Band. The three members who attended the museum appeal at Luton on 1 July, represented the Second World War period, Korea and the end of National Service.

The Hitchin Branch has little to report. The Standard was on parade at Bassingbourn with all the other Association Standards. The Branch organised a mystery coach tour which ended up at the National Tramway Museum at Crich Matlock in Derbyshire. The weather was grand and the scenery beautiful and all members had a good day out.

The Luton and Dunstable Branch attended with the Standard the laying up of the old and the dedication of the new Standard of the local branch of the Royal Air Forces Association. Four members attended the museum appeal and members with the Standard attended The Royal Anglian Regimental Gathering at Bassingbourn which everyone enjoyed.

The fourth reunion of the Suez Canal Zone - 1951-54 Veterans took place on Saturday 4 September 1999, at the new venue, the Arlesey Town Football Club Function Hall, Arlesey, Bedfordshire. The facilities were first class, plenty of room and no parking problems. As in the past 100 members and wives gathered to celebrate the last reunion of the century. A buffet was provided and



## The Associations

for the ladies present, an Irish Dance was performed by a young lady. Brig Angus Robertson proposed the Regimental Toast. This year featured a show of equipment and arms used by the 1st Battalion out in the Canal Zone. To raise money for the Museum Appeal Fund a bottle of 'Stella Beer' brought back from Egypt by Ron Hope was raffled and £100 was passed on to the museum. A great night.

### Obituaries

The following members have died since the last issue - Maj D Bebbington 1st Battalion;

In-pensioner J Butty, 1st Battalion, China; Mr F Harris, 5th TA and 6th Battalion; Col MV McArthur OBE DL; Lt Col Sir Derek Milman MC, Bart, 1st Battalion, CO 5th Battalion, president of the Association 1992-94; In-pensioner W Nind, 1st Battalion; Mr B Turvey, 2nd Herts, No 9 Beach Group.

### The Hertfordshire Regiment Association

The Hertfordshire Regiment Association's annual fish and chip supper was held at the TA Centre, Hertford in April which was

followed by a bingo session. Three members of the Association attended the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Museum Press Appeal Launch at Wardown Park, Luton on 1 July. Several members had a most enjoyable holiday last October at the Royal British Legion Holiday Hotel at Newquay. The autumn supper took place at the TA Centre, Hertford on 1 September which was very successful. Our President, Col Kelsey, is trying to arrange a trip to Italy next year to visit the places the Regiment fought in during the Italian Campaign. Cost and dates will be circulated later.



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

Royal Tigers' Weekend this year was held on 19-20 June. The reunion started as usual with the annual general meeting of the Association which was attended by 54 members, and it was a great pleasure to have In-pensioners Myles Foster and Moshe Freedman from the Royal Hospital with us. The 74th annual dinner was then held at the TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester. It is most pleasing to report that once again attendance was good, with 180 people sitting down, which was admirable. The President of the Association, Maj Gen AJG Pollard CB CBE, presided. The caterers excelled themselves again, with another first class dinner and plenty of wine.

In his speech at the conclusion of the dinner, the president explained that the Regimental museum had been moved successfully to the New Walk Museum in Leicester. Royal Tigers' Gallery had been opened by the Colonel of The Royal Anglian Regiment on 23 April 1999 in front of over 400 people. The gallery is not as large as we would like, and discussions continue with Leicester City Council over plans for a more appropriate gallery in due course. Meanwhile all the artefacts which are not on display in Royal Tigers' Gallery are safely stored in the Newarke Houses Museum. We are very grateful to Dr Yolanda Courtney, the curator of Royal Tigers' Gallery, and all the other staff of the Leicester City Museums Service for all their work in cleaning, and repairing where necessary, all the items which are now on display. The president encouraged all Tigers to visit the new display, and also to visit Royal Tigers' Wood which remains a marvellous living memorial to the Regiment, with almost all the trees doing extremely well. He thanked the Woodland Trust for

all their work on behalf of the Association. The President concluded his address by thanking C Company of the East of England Regiment and the Leicestershire and Northamptonshire ACF for all their help with the arrangements for the weekend. After the General had proposed the loyal toast and the toast to the Regiment, the reunion continued, both bars trading happily into the night.

On Sunday the weather was kind for the annual service in Leicester Cathedral, attended by the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, the Lord Mayor of Leicester and the Lady Mayoress and the Chairman of Leicestershire County Council. During the service memorial plaques in the Regimental Chapel were dedicated to all Tigers killed during the Korean campaign and to Lt Col 'Spike' Nicholls. We were

particularly pleased to welcome ten members of the Nicholls family, the Chairman of the Leicester Branch of the British Korean Veterans Association and four representatives from the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, two of whose members lost their lives while serving with our 1st Battalion in Korea. The Provost of Leicester took the service and the preacher was the Rev Tom Hiney, who is an honorary life member of the Association. The Standard of the Association was carried by Mr RE Jones. After the service, the civic dignitaries supported the Lord Lieutenant when he took the salute as the Association marched past, which was a very moving spectacle. After the usual march to the town hall (dodging roadworks!) and dismissal, members returned to the TA Centre to continue the reunion.



Leicester Cathedral - the rear rank.

## The Associations

It was another very enjoyable weekend, and it gave us much pleasure to entertain Capt Chris Davies and four members of the 2 R Anglian KAPE team. The successful weekend would not have been possible without so much support from C Company of the East of England Regiment and their willing assistance is very much appreciated by us all.

This year another bus was arranged to take Association members to Bassingbourn for the Royal Anglian Regiment Gathering on 25 July, and several other carloads arrived in time for the Drumhead Service. It was pleasing to see so many more Tigers than in previous years and, as all those who attended enjoyed a wonderful day, it is hoped that attendance will continue to increase each year. The weather was kind and the arrangements splendid, so we send our thanks to all the organisers for another most enjoyable reunion.

The annual Reunion of the 50th/8th/1st Battalion was held, as is now customary, on the last Saturday in September. Sadly, for the second year running torrential rain deterred some regular attenders from turning up, and a number of familiar faces were missing, especially some who had long distances to travel. Nevertheless those stalwarts who braved the weather had an excellent evening. Again, they expressed their sincere thanks to C Company for use of the TA Centre, and to the barman and caretaker who provided first class service and arranged an excellent buffet. They both contributed enormously to the success of the evening. Next year's reunion will be on 23 September 2000.

The third reunion of 1st Battalion veterans who served in Cyprus 1955-57 was held in Leicester on 16 October 1999. Almost 200 people attended and had a very enjoyable evening. Sterling work in the collection of news items and photographs of the period had been carried out by a number of researchers and these were made available as a part of a display rekindling memories and cementing ties among old comrades. There is also contact from New Zealand and Australia, with various exhibits having been sent from there. A photograph session of the massed veterans was a particular



**Mr Stan Barkley, a former old Tiger meets up with George Boss at the TA Centre Ulverscroft Road, after the Annual Gathering at the Cathedral in Leicester for the Service of Dedication and the traditional march to the Town Hall. Stan served with the Battalion in the late 50s until its overthrow in 1970-1975 and crossed over to the 3rd Battalion in BAOR. He saw his time out in Paderborn and left the country to settle down in New Zealand. He and his wife and family moved to Auckland. It didn't take them long to join the Civil Service out there and put his previous service into practice as a demolitions expert. He has now reached the age of 63 and is fully retired to enjoy the relaxing life of Reilly. He wishes to extend his hospitality to any of you, if you should get lost in Auckland and require sustenance.**

highlight of the evening, lasting some 20 minutes and creating a unified atmosphere of camaraderie and humour which made it all a very successful event.

The Regimental memorial at Ladysmith has been refurbished before the centenary of the siege. In addition the area of the 'Leicester Post' has been cleared of bushes, grass and vegetation, and a fence has been placed round the memorial stone. Messrs Richard Lane and Tom Marston spent ten days in South Africa attending many of the festivities, parades, Mayoral receptions, concerts etc that took place to celebrate the start of the siege and laid a wreath in remembrance of all the Tigers who died during the campaign. An exhibition to

commemorate the defence of Ladysmith is now on display in the Leicestershire Record Office in Long Street, Wigston Magna until 3 March 2000. Entrance is free.

Royal Tigers' Wood continues to thrive, and every visit there raises morale. Anyone needing a map of how to find the wood should ask the area office in Leicester for one.

Sadly since April 1999 two vice-presidents of the Association (Brig Alan Cowan and Col Peter Badger) have died, and their obituaries appear elsewhere in this edition. Col John Heggs, one of the most stalwart post-war Tigers and until recently chairman of the Association, also died recently. An obituary will be published in the next edition.



## The Essex Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Essex)

It is a matter of some concern that the Area Secretary's post at Warley remains unfilled. However, we are indebted to Maj David Thorogood who comes in to the office on one day each week to deal with welfare

cases and the accounts, and to Mrs Joan Westover, the acting administrative officer, who has been a tower of strength. She is now very ably supported by Mrs Rosayne Jones. They are an excellent team and we

are very grateful to them all.

Our annual reunion on Sunday 27 June was, as usual, extremely well attended. We were delighted to welcome Maj Gen John Sutherell who took the salute at the march

## The Associations

past. No sooner had the parade halted than the heavens opened and, after a rapid dismissal, those on parade made a dash for the Keys Hall where a more than adequate tea awaited them. Fortunately, the sky cleared during tea which enabled everybody to move over to the Headquarters' lawn for an excellent display by the Corps of Drums of King Edward VI School, Chelmsford.

The reunion commenced with the annual service of remembrance in the Regimental Chapel during which the president read out the names of 39 former members of the Essex Regiment known to have passed to higher service during the preceding 12 months. The address was given by Maj the Rev Martin Franks and the service conducted by the Rev Kenneth Belben.

The undoubted success of the reunion owed much to Maj David Thorogood who masterminded the proceedings and to the many other people who helped with the arrangements.

The annual Salamanca Dinner, held in the Marconi Athletic and Social Club on Saturday 17 July, was attended by 121 members of the Association, together with their families and friends, including a large contingent from the Brentwood Branch of the Royal Naval Association. The venue proved popular and everybody enjoyed the evening.

On 13 March Col Andrew Croft's daughter handed over her father's medals to Capt Tim Simmons, Chairman of the Essex Museum Trustees. The medals, which include the DSO, the OBE and the Polar Medal, will be on loan to the museum and will be incorporated into the existing splendid display.

We were extremely sorry to learn of the death of Mr Bert Warren who was 100 years old and a recipient of the Legion d'Honneur earlier this year. His photograph appeared in the last edition of *Castle*. The Legion d'Honneur presented to Mr Robert Jiggins is now in the Essex Regiment museum and we look forward to receiving a report from Australia, where Maj Brian Parsons is due to present the Legion d'Honneur to Mr John Hart at his 100th birthday party.

The services, which are held in the Regimental Chapel at Warley on the first Sunday of every month, continue to be well supported. We are indebted to the ministers who conduct these services and, also, to the serving and retired officers who read the lessons.

Sadly, we have just learned of the death of Capt Peter Womack who, for many years, was the Association Standard Bearer. He played a major part in the arrangements for our reunion and as a member of the general committee. He will be greatly missed. A full obituary will appear in the next edition of the *Eagle*.

### Thurrock Branch

We have again held our usual buffet and dinner dances, both being well attended. The branch has also attended the events of other associations in our area, not forgetting



The late Capt Peter Womack at the Essex Regiment Association Reunion, Warley, June 1999.

the larger gatherings such as Bassingbourn and our own reunion at Warley where, I am pleased to say, our Regimental Chapel was nearly full. Both events are great for meeting old comrades.

In June, some members of the branch travelled with the 49th West Riding Division Association (Polar Bears) to Normandy, a very good trip.

### 4th Battalion the Essex Regiment Comrades Association

The first event of the year was, as usual, the memorial service held on Sunday 28 March. Approximately 140 Comrades and guests attended. The Rev Pugsley conducted the service. After the service, the congregation repaired to the adjacent TA Centre where refreshments were served. Members of the Essex Corps of Drums, who had acted as sidesmen and ushers for the service, sounded the Last Post and Rouse and gave a short concert.

The annual general meeting was held on Friday 23 April, with 21 members and three guests present. It was with regret that we learned that our president, Maj Gen Denis Beckett CB DSO OBE intended to stand down after nearly 18 years in that office, due to family commitments. Maj Gen Beckett, who had served with the Battalion throughout the whole of the Second World War, is a much-respected officer and one all Comrades are proud to call a friend.

We were fortunate to welcome Lt Col Geoffrey Brewer to the meeting, where he

was duly nominated for the post of president and elected by a unanimous vote. Lt Col Brewer was the last Commanding Officer of the 4th/5th (TA) Battalion before the amalgamation of the Regiment into the East Anglian Regiment. As a former Mayor of the London Borough of Redbridge, Lt Col Brewer who is a lawyer by profession, and drafted the Association's constitution, should be well able to keep us on the 'straight and narrow' in the future.

The new style of newsletter *Knife, Fork Spoon* is being distributed three times a year to all members, and seems to be going from strength to strength. Many are now contributing articles for publication. A collection of photographs and documents is being built up by the editor, held 'electronically' on computer disk, allowing the originals to be returned to contributors. These form an important part of the history of the Battalion and copies are made available to the Regimental Museum if required.

The building work now being undertaken at the Castle below Monte Cassino is still being monitored, as the Castle was the scene of some of the bitterest fighting between 15 and 23 March 1944 in which the Battalion was involved. It is believed that at least 12 members of the Battalion remain buried under a collapsed section of wall and representations have been made through the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, and the Ambassador in Rome that any excavation work carried out is done with due regard to the last resting place of these men.

## The Associations

July was an extremely busy period. Our own reunion garden party was held on Saturday 10 July, with well over 200 members and guests attending. The weather held fair and the day was a great success, with musical entertainment by the orchestra from the Ursuline Girls' School Brentwood, and the Essex Corps of Drums throughout the afternoon. A good contingent of members attended the Salamanca Ball at the Marconi Social Club, Chelmsford on Saturday 17 July, and also the Royal Anglian Regiment gathering at Bassingbourn on Sunday 25 July. Through contacts with St

Edward's Comprehensive School in Romford, a poppy wreath was laid on behalf of the Battalion at the Thiepval Memorial in France during an educational trip to the battlefields of World War One.

Our annual dinner-dance on 2 October at the TA Centre Warley was well attended. The Remembrance Parade at Ilford was held at St Mary's Church where once again the 'Pompadors' marched back to the TA Centre at Gordon Road (our old Drill Hall) where we were made most welcome as guests of 36 (Eastern) Signals Regiment.

It is good to see that, although we are

inevitably losing members, we are now recruiting post-war members of the Battalion, and from today's TA and Army Cadet Force. The interest in preserving the honour and traditions of the 'Pompadors' is not waning. Looking to the future, we are able to offer the service of providing the location of the grave or memorial dedication held on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission database (any branch of the Armed Services) by 'Internet' access for members. Traditions and new technology do go hand in hand into the new millennium.



## The Northamptonshire Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association

### Annual Reunion 1999

The Association annual reunion was held on 3 and 4 July. The various Regimental meetings and the dinner were held on the Saturday and the Comrades' Church Parade and Reunion on the Sunday. After the AGM, the dinner was held in the TA Centre with 206 members in attendance. Gen Sir John Akehurst presided and proposed toasts of *The Queen* and *Our Colonel-in-Chief*. Gen Akehurst said that telegrams of good wishes for a convivial evening had been received from Her Majesty The Queen and from HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, in reply to loyal telegrams sent to them earlier. The General ended a short speech by proposing the toast *The Regiment*.

The next day the weather just kept fine for the church parade. The turnout was as good as ever and the march, headed by The Royal Anglian Regiment TA Band, was enjoyed by marchers and spectators alike. The church service was taken by the Rev John Hopkins (late captain in the 1st Battalion), which was particularly enjoyable. It was well attended and, as usual, stimulating.

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

Afterwards, there was an all ranks reception in the TA Centre in Clare Street. This was the first time for several years that the officers and soldiers had been able to meet up again after church, and it was nice that the Mayor of Northampton and several officers' widows were also able to join us. Afterwards there was a buffet for all those who had ordered one. This format seemed popular and will be repeated next year, with an enlarged buffet.

### Another Reunion

Another very successful reunion was held on 15 May 1999 by members of the Northamptonshire Regiment who had mainly served with the 1st Battalion (especially the Signals Platoon) in Germany and Hong Kong, although there were some from other stations/years. This reunion was held at the Royal Navy and Marine Association Club at Lorne Road, Northampton, which made the gathering extremely welcome. Between 60 and 70 people attended and the meeting was addressed briefly by Bill Deadfield, who had organised it. It was a very enjoyable evening and all the staff made them very welcome, tending to their every need (especially at the bar!). A 'group' played 'our kind of music' and some people actually ventured on to the floor!

The buffet, which was supplied by some of the ladies, looked magnificent and was enjoyed by all. It was very good to see the old faces again and many yarns were swapped on the night. A number of 'new' faces were seen this year who were made very welcome.

### 5th Battalion Reunion

The 11th annual reunion of the 5th Battalion the Northamptonshire Regiment was again held at Barnsdale Lodge, near Rutland Water, on Sunday 16 May 1999. Before the start of an excellent lunch, Maj Donald Girdwood welcomed the ladies and gentlemen and gave each of the ladies a lovely buttonhole. He also read out apologies from those unable to attend for various reasons. A minute's silence was held in respect of those comrades who had died since the last reunion. This reunion was another very happy and enjoyable occasion.

### 70th Battalion Reunion

The eighth annual reunion of the 70th Battalion the Northamptonshire Regiment took place on Friday 1 October 1999 at the Conservative and Unionist Club, Kettering. Mr Jeffery Brown chaired the proceedings and the Battalion was pleased and honoured to entertain as its principal guests the Mayor and Mayoress of Kettering, Cllr Jonathan and Mrs Angela West. 53 persons sat down to an excellent meal and a very convivial evening ensued.

On Saturday 2 October 1999 the Mayor kindly entertained 70th Battalion members and their ladies and friends to a buffet luncheon in his parlour at the municipal offices. In appreciation, members organised a raffle for the mayor's charity which raised a very satisfactory sum. Col Peter Worthy, chairman of the Comrades' Association, on behalf of all present, most eloquently thanked the Mayor for his kindness and generosity.

### Peterborough Branch

The branch has had an active summer and autumn. The highlight of the summer was the Royal Anglian Day organised by our chairman, Terry Edge, held at the TA Centre in Peterborough. George Boss from Duxford kindly sold Regimental items and there was a fine collection of photographs and historical items of 5 R Anglian on display, which were extremely interesting and gave a lot of pleasure and happy memories to those who attended. The East of England Regiment Corps of Drums put on a splendid display and Lt Col Roger Eden took the salute. Many branch members supported the other Regimental functions over the summer and we all had a very fine evening of comradeship with the Cambridge

## The Associations

Regimental Comrades at the barbecue at our meeting place at The Woolpack in Stanground in July.

As always the finale to the year was the reunion dinner on 16 October. This was well attended again this year, with 123 sitting down. We were pleased to have as our guest of honour Lt Col Peter Kirkbride who kindly addressed us and we do thank him for his support of the branch. Those attending were entertained by the Cambridgeshire ACF Corps of Drums who played for us during the meal and put on a marching and drumming display to conclude the evening. An excellent night of comradeship rounded off the last dinner in the present millennium and it is hoped that on Remembrance Sunday the local Royal Anglian and Northamptonshire Regimental Comrades will march *en bloc* to the cathedral and for the march past after the laying of wreaths.

### Finedon Branch

Since the last issue the branch has continued to enjoy meetings and functions. Membership is still slowly increasing and attendance at meetings is very good.

There was a good turnout for the Regimental Reunion at Northampton in July and this was followed by an excellently

organised boat trip by John and Carol Behan in August. Several members attended the Royal Anglian Gathering at Bassingbourn in July and it is pleasing to report that the branch team won the clay pigeon shooting competition. In October several members attended the annual Poachers Gathering in Felixstowe. As normal this turned out to be a most enjoyable weekend. The gathering this year was organised by Tony Lamont and friends, and David and Pat Knight were presented with a matching pair of watches from all ex-Poachers.

This year the branch is attending the annual Remembrance Day service at Desborough, after which a wreath will be laid on behalf of the Regiment. To take us up to Christmas we have a dinner night planned for 4 December in Wellingborough. This very successful year for the branch has seen us gain strength in numbers and hold a social event nearly every month of the year. The end of the year is near and a new millennium awaits us all.

### Northamptonshire Regiment Museum

The museum has been handed over by the trustees to the new sole trustee - Northampton Borough Council. The original plan was for the museum to be handed over

in 1995 but due to unforeseen circumstances regarding the charitable deeds this was delayed by protracted negotiations until this year.

The borough has a duty to consult the Regiment or its successor. A representative of the Regiment will be appointed (Col P Worthy is the first one) and the borough must liaise with him at least once a year. The borough must fully consider any advice given, and must notify the representative in writing of any reason for departing from any advice given. The borough will also provide a copy of the museum's annual accounts and report for the Regiment.

Items for the museum continue to be presented and a cabinet for display of the 1,800-plus medal collection has been purchased with the help of a grant from The Royal Anglian Regiment.

Liaison with the borough is regular, and their storage facilities for the items not on display is excellent. The future of our Regimental collection is in good hands.

### Move of Area Office

In early December 1999 the area office moved from Gibraltar Barracks to the TA Centre, Clare Street, Northampton. The telephone number remains unchanged.

# EVERY YEAR WE HELP FIGHT 300,000 BATTLES.

Every year, thousands of widows, needy and disabled ex-Service people receive vital financial support from The Royal British Legion.

We also run seven residential and three convalescent homes for the old and infirm.

And by setting up associated companies we provide work for thousands of ex-Servicemen and women who might otherwise struggle to find work in civilian life.

As a direct result of our commitment to care, over 300,000 ex-Service people each year are now able to do more than just soldier on.

If you would like to know more, make a donation or become a member write to: The General Secretary, 48 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5JY or phone 0171 973 0633.

**THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**



# East of England Regiment

As at 1 October 1999

## Regimental HQ

Lt Col CA Newell PWRR  
Maj PHG Alun-Jones WFR  
Maj FMG De Planta De  
Wildenberg R Anglian  
Capt G Morris R Anglian  
Lt ND Haden R Anglian  
Lt AS Davies R Anglian  
WO1 (RSM) Thomas PJ  
R Anglian

## HQ (Suffolk) Company

Capt GW French  
Capt DC Coe (PSAO)  
WO2 GJ De Meyer

## QM Department

Maj RW Potter  
Lt GA Hitchings  
WO2 Hargrave TN RLC  
WO2 Heskett GH RLC  
WO2 (RQMS) Rogers RG  
WO2 (RQMS NRPS) Tunstill  
BP  
CSgt Moffat DI  
Sgt Route PA RLC  
Sgt Stoker E RLC  
Cpl Plume SC  
LCpl Rogers AK RLC  
LCpl Stokes MJ  
Pte Spurgeon RJ RLC

## RAO

Maj CP Vince AGC (SPS)  
Capt PG Mann AGC (SPS)  
Capt KR Martin AGC (SPS)  
WO2 Coleman R AGC (SPS)  
SSgt Bracey LJ AGC (SPS)  
SSgt Russell MJ AGC (SPS)  
Sgt Alderton KN AGC (SPS)  
Cpl Hunt NJ AGC (SPS)  
LCpl Perkins KE AGC (SPS)  
Pte Wilson P AGC (SPS)

## MT Platoon

CSgt Cummings D  
Cpl Hunt WJ  
Cpl Lawrence D  
Cpl Lemay DW  
LCpl Branch CJW  
Pte Beckham MCW  
Pte Feeke KN  
Pte Scales SI.

## REME Section

SSgt Carter RWE REME  
SSgt Hopper GR REME  
SSgt Mulligan J REME  
SSgt Smith AG REME  
Cpl Bareham AR REME  
LCpl Ryder PJ REME  
Cfn Graham MJ REME

## Signals Platoon

Sgt Lamb AB  
Sgt Shand G  
Cpl Blower DE  
Cpl Greenwood I

Cpl Randall TJK  
Pte Goldsmith AP  
Pte Wells CA  
Pte Milne KM

## RRTT (E)

Capt M Googe  
CSgt Emms M

## Medical Section

Maj IJK Sommerville RAMC  
SSgt Archer MJ RAMC

## Suffolk Platoon

Sgt Starie MFG  
Cpl Porter RF  
LCpl Betts KJ  
LCpl Fallon JV  
LCpl Hazell CG  
Pte Atwell LJ  
Pte Bell GT  
Pte Clarke DJ  
Pte Finch PW  
Pte Fitch AD  
Pte Gow FAG  
Pte Grant JM  
Pte McLaren NB  
Pte Neep A  
Pte Smith AM  
Pte Versteeg L  
Pte Willings NJ

## A (Norfolk & Suffolk) Company

### Company HQ

Maj PA Taylor  
Capt PL Smith (PSAO)  
Lt AJ Debenham  
WO2 Knights SM  
WO2 Steele T  
CSgt Gedge TP  
CSgt Kerton PM  
Sgt Mills SC  
Cpl Ireland JL AGC (SPS)  
Cpl Jones LD AGC (SPS)  
Cpl Rolph DG  
Cpl Stone MN  
LCpl Feeks JE

### MT Platoon

Sgt Green JA  
Cpl Hindle SA REME  
LCpl Bunn SE REME

### Catering Detachment

SSgt Bissett GA RLC  
Cpl Baldwin CM

### RRTT

Sgt Knight G  
LCpl Palmer DN

### Signal Detachment

Cpl Adams EL  
Cpl Wiseman AP

## 1 Platoon

2Lt CJ Panton  
Sgt Lunn SD  
Cpl Antill SJ  
Cpl Baker DS  
Cpl Hall MC  
LCpl Ellis SN  
Pte Beddar PV  
Pte Cousins JJJ  
Pte Custance JE  
Pte Feller TRE  
Pte Harris AJ  
Pte Harris MR  
Pte Jones S  
Pte Sheekey JA  
Pte Strange NS  
Pte Walker DM  
Pte Walter ND  
Pte Waterfield DF  
Pte Webster MR  
Pte Williams PJ  
Pte Buckles IG  
Pte Mooney SC  
Pte Fitt DM  
Pte Lord AM  
Pte Parker CM  
Pte Zachariades GM  
Pte Collins CM

## 2 Platoon

Lt MR Quinn  
Sgt Roe IP  
Cpl Brown JL  
Cpl Sherlock M  
LCpl Casey VM  
LCpl Colledge MEE  
LCpl Pluck A  
Pte Church RA  
Pte Davies AJ  
Pte Duncan HJ  
Pte Fisher CM  
Pte Hitter RC  
Pte Jones SG  
Pte King DG  
Pte McMurtry JR  
Pte Shrimpton SA  
Pte Turner PJ  
Pte Waller ALJ  
Pte Whitehead DR  
Pte Lucas G  
Pte Page MP  
Pte Watkinson CA  
Pte Edmonds AW  
Pte Pickess JK  
Pte Johnson AL  
Pte Kershaw SL

## Mortar Platoon

Lt RJ McCullough  
CSgt Hipperson PA  
Sgt Fuller PJ  
Sgt Rushmere GJ  
Cpl De Kretser MW  
Cpl Hatch SP  
Cpl Pollard KL  
Cpl Stone RA  
LCpl Bevis CW  
LCpl Boardman PA  
Pte Burrows P

Pte Chambers KJ  
Pte Coleman SN  
Pte Cooper MC  
Pte Harvey MJ  
Pte Ley SA  
Pte Sayer DE  
Pte Wade JJ  
Pte Warner S  
Pte Wilkinson JG

## B (Lincolnshire) Company

### Company HQ

Maj C Pook  
Capt RG Atkinson  
Capt JC Pratt (PSAO)  
WO2 Ralph AD  
WO2 Sackree TM  
CSgt Osman MW  
CSgt Redhead S  
Sgt Rainey AJ  
Cpl Day MT  
Cpl Jones AI  
Cpl Smith PJ AGC (SPS)  
LCpl Henderson KP  
LCpl Long CPA  
LCpl Spence PMJ  
Pte Meadows SP

### Medical Section

LCpl Siddle TA

### Signals Platoon

LCpl Goldsmith A

### RRTT

WO2 Hudson P  
Cpl Cook MR  
Cpl Hamer DN  
Cpl McCurdy AJ

### Recce Platoon

Capt NJ Sutherland  
CSgt Warren P  
Sgt Brotherton P  
Sgt Mann PA  
Cpl Baines RJ  
Cpl Beard DT  
Cpl Dolby MR  
LCpl Buswell SC  
LCpl Dawson TET  
LCpl Kelly A  
Pte Beatty AC  
Pte Bisset AD  
Pte Brown RH  
Pte Calbert PJ  
Pte Chetwood DR  
Pte Ding JM  
Pte Jenks GA  
Pte Kane S  
Pte McLaren SC  
Pte Wayne J

## 4 Platoon

2Lt AK Dart  
Sgt Taylor JLG  
Cpl North CJ

**TA Orbat**

LCpl Capindale PI  
 LCpl Davidson KM  
 LCpl Sheils W  
 Pte Algar DJ  
 Pte Berry J  
 Pte Brown SP  
 Pte Carter BW  
 Pte Clover RA  
 Pte Cornish SC  
 Pte De Van N  
 Pte Downs SC  
 Pte Espin G  
 Pte Grant SP  
 Pte Hardy MC  
 Pte Laird JR  
 Pte Lamberton G  
 Pte Louis SK  
 Pte Martin AH  
 Pte Oldfield EP  
 Pte Pogson CC  
 Pte Prior AJ  
 Pte Pullan DW  
 Pte Shorter PF  
 Pte Siddle P  
 Pte Sweet A  
 Pte Topliss NP  
 Pte Wells BJ  
 Pte Welsh N  
 Pte Wilson R  
 Pte Winter C

**Catering Detachment**

Cpl Metcalfe DR RLC  
 LCpl Bannon N RLC  
 LCpl Willey N RLC  
 Pte Poucher D RLC

**5 Platoon**

2Lt S Lowther  
 Sgt Thompson B  
 Cpl Dovey IP  
 Cpl Whiting AS  
 LCpl Wilcox DPA  
 Pte Bolland AM  
 Pte Cassar JC  
 Pte Cockram J  
 Pte Donnor JD  
 Pte Fleeting EJ  
 Pte Gurney BD  
 Pte Hillary SJ  
 Pte Johnston DM  
 Pte La Bianca S  
 Pte Newberry AJ  
 Pte Norie BL  
 Pte Pearl WF  
 Pte Powell T  
 Pte Sibbons WR  
 Pte Squires CG  
 Pte Wheatley KA  
 Pte Whittingdon RJ  
 Pte Wilson DAJ

**C (Leicestershire and Northamptonshire) Company****Company HQ**

Maj ML Ellis  
 Capt MA Cunningham (PSAO)

Capt AD Martin  
 Capt AYL Wong  
 WO2 (CSM) Pickett AW  
 CSgt Marriott D  
 Sgt Nagra AS  
 Cpl Coleman IF

**Signal Detachment**

LCpl Botting H  
 LCpl Fleming SA

**MT Detachment**

Cpl Botting RJH  
 Pte Smith AP

**Catering Detachment**

Sgt Tayler GR  
 Cpl Bailey JR  
 Pte Marriott MJ

**Medical Detachment**

LCpl Wheatley K

**Assault Pioneer Platoon**

Lt DJ Sommerville  
 CSgt Webber IW  
 Pte Mistry GB  
 Sgt Nagra BS  
 Cpl Ball NT  
 Cpl Haque FL  
 Cpl Burnett R  
 LCpl Hunter AJ  
 Pte Smith DC  
 Pte Ailden MC  
 Pte Marsh R  
 Pte Glover ND  
 Pte Fallows C  
 Pte Campling WR  
 Pte Evans APB  
 Pte Derry WM

**7 Platoon**

Lt Thompson TC  
 Sgt Buzzard SN  
 Cpl Bailie MJA  
 Cpl O'Tool DP  
 Cpl Thompson RJ  
 LCpl Pittams GM  
 LCpl Phillips DA  
 Pte York MR  
 Pte Gormley A  
 Pte Needham SR  
 Pte Craddock C  
 Pte Tew MN  
 Pte Roberts SC  
 Pte Bentley TJ  
 Pte Pritchard GHF  
 Pte Kitching SD  
 Pte Gillan PA  
 Pte Parker PD  
 Pte Darymple TRR  
 Pte Peat ML  
 Pte Payne L  
 Pte Smith M  
 Pte Bell AJ  
 Pte Allen SS  
 Pte Payne Pte GB  
 Pte Ginns TJ  
 Pte Barritt RA  
 Pte Frost SJ  
 Pte Robinson HP

Pte Cotterill GR  
 Pte Norman WA  
 Pte Thomas OD  
 Pte Briggs JM  
 Pte Neighbour DJ  
 Pte Clarke TP  
 Pte Hamilton AJ  
 Pte Bardeil PM  
 Pte Baxter TJ  
 Pte Brockwell BC  
 Pte Hawes MR  
 Pte Knight KK

**Drums Platoon**

WO2 Bradshaw J  
 Sgt Clark RJE  
 Sgt Nightingale P  
 Cpl Coakes G  
 LCpl Cheetham MS  
 LCpl Howe AJ  
 Pte Bottomley PD  
 Pte Eames MH  
 Pte Gibbons SC  
 Pte Hunter DJ  
 Pte Reed DJ

**8 Platoon**

Lt Potter RGC  
 Sgt Short ME  
 Cpl Cardell S  
 Cpl Sharp M  
 Cpl Coleman IF  
 LCpl Craig RJ  
 LCpl Robinson T  
 LCpl Wragg A  
 Pte Brown CL  
 Pte Brown GEW  
 Pte Weller AJ  
 Pte Davis TP  
 Pte Elson N  
 Pte Beet GR  
 Pte Beale AS  
 Pte Carter PAW  
 Pte Fowler AR  
 Pte Gaskin DE  
 Pte Cook D  
 Pte Haldane GL  
 Pte Smith RM  
 Pte Corda A  
 Pte Turner PLC  
 Pte Coyle A  
 Pte Hart RV  
 Pte Shortt P  
 Pte Payne ARJ  
 Pte Mobbs GW  
 Pte Trowel DM  
 Pte Hairsine W  
 Pte Newcombe J  
 Pte Mcleod PM  
 OCdt Adams BJ  
 Pte Ross MB

**RRTT**

WO2 Bevin MJ  
 Sgt McConnell SC  
 Sgt Askew CJ  
 Sgt McKinnon A  
 Pte Blythe AN  
 Pte Stickley JP

**E (Essex and Hertfordshire) Company****Company HQ**

Maj CV Trott  
 Capt PD Thurston (PSAO)  
 Capt SR Watson  
 Lt MR Thurley  
 WO2 Denyer M  
 CSgt Anderson VA  
 CSgt Butler C  
 Sgt Moffat CS  
 Cpl Green DE AGC (SPS)  
 Cpl Crawley PE  
 Cpl Diss KW  
 LCpl Green DJ  
 LCpl Swann SJ  
 LCpl Wade SL  
 LCpl Willey DP  
 Pte Andrews A

**RRTT**

2Lt CJ Von Abo  
 CSgt Brazier MB  
 Sgt Dawson AG  
 Sgt Finnegan JS  
 Cpl Haward CG  
 Cpl Tibble PCL  
 Cpl Bygrave DP

**Catering Detachment**

Cpl Gunner L RLC  
 Pte McMurray J

**MG Platoon**

Capt GB Shaw  
 Sgt Colyer CC  
 Sgt Dunningham MJ  
 Cpl Cavedasca PJ  
 Cpl Collinson N  
 LCpl Instance NB  
 LCpl Turner AE  
 Pte Whalley SD  
 Pte Connell RG  
 Pte Donald GSD  
 Pte Hacker S  
 Pte Higginson MP  
 Pte Jones MJW  
 Pte King RW  
 Pte Kirby T  
 Pte Plair SR  
 Pte Turner AD  
 Pte Westgarth SR

**13 Platoon**

2Lt TJ Irwin-Parker  
 Sgt Head CJ  
 Cpl Pugh T  
 Cpl Rowley DJ  
 LCpl Marms JF  
 Pte Baker DJ  
 Pte Bray DW  
 Pte Brayshaw TD  
 Pte Brown MJ  
 Pte Butler S  
 Pte Campbell AP  
 Pte Challis GS  
 Pte Chissel JA  
 Pte Dovavan RJ

**TA Orbat/Births and Marriages**

Pte Fairweather BP  
 Pte Foley BJ  
 Pte Jeffcott SJ  
 Pte Jeffrey JP  
 Pte Johnson DWR  
 Pte Williams AJ  
 Pte Pimm JM  
 Pte Rice DM  
 Pte Richards AJ  
 Pte Rome BP  
 Pte Smith JB  
 Pte Thompson DAA  
 Pte Watkins DJ  
 Pte Witham DS

**MT Detachment**  
 Cpl Lelliott SW REME  
 Cpl Cain PFL  
 Cpl McCarthy SA  
 LCpl Wiseman JC REME  
 Cfn Castle RWJ REME  
 Cfn Ralph P

**14 Platoon**  
 Lt DHJ Litjens  
 Sgt Low B  
 Cpl Duffy JG  
 Cpl Homer AJ  
 LCpl Bird BJ  
 LCpl Harrison D  
 LCpl Mason P  
 LCpl Tucker PJ  
 Pte Walters SM  
 Pte Alderson JM  
 Pte Archer MJ  
 Pte Avey SF  
 Pte Brewer JS  
 Pte Brown NR  
 Pte Bullock PJ  
 Pte Byron PL  
 Pte Clark Tunnickliff RG  
 Pte Cockerell MJ  
 Pte Lanaway GD  
 Pte Davis SJC  
 Pte Gearing CP  
 Pte Headington CP  
 Pte Kellwick CA

Pte Kelly JJ  
 Pte Kelson RW  
 Pte Kovacs IR  
 Pte Lee BA  
 Pte Tobin JM  
 Pte Letts SA  
 Pte Lewis DJ  
 Pte Lucas Clarke P  
 Pte Mear MJL  
 Pte O'Shea M  
 Pte O'Sullivan TP  
 Pte Overton PS  
 Pte Robins JB  
 Pte Walters SM  
 Pte Taylor CD  
 WO2 Brown MJ

Sgt Petch JM  
 Sgt Taylor P  
 Cpl Fraser RN  
 Cpl Harrison J  
 Cpl Hookway RW  
 Cpl Jordan AM  
 LCpl Affret NR  
 LCpl Beeston SR  
 LCPL Carey NJ  
 LCpl Fletcher HS  
 LCPI Greenway RC  
 LCpl Thompson RG  
 LCpl Williamson PG  
 BdsM Adams S  
 BdsM Auburn ALK  
 BdsM Elvin MJ  
 BdsM Hobson JC  
 BdsM Jinks EC  
 BdsM King H  
 BdsM McKeown C  
 BdsM Richardson LBC  
 BdsM Roberts L  
 BdsM Wallis RE  
 BdsM Wyatt CJ  
 BdsM Wyndham JD

**The Royal Anglian Regiment (TA) Band**

WO1 Hudson PCH  
 WO2 Hall PA  
 SSgt Bedding M  
 Sgt Gardner M

**Births and Marriages****Vikings****Births**

**Houston:** On 29 July to SSgt and Mrs Houston, a son, Josh Brian.  
**Povey:** On 31 August to Cfn and Mrs Povey, a son, Cai Emyr.  
**Bale:** On 20 April to LCpl and Mrs Bale, a daughter, Courtney Chantel.  
**Gomes:** On 28 June to Pte and Mrs Gomes, a daughter, Elise.  
**Foreman:** On 15 May to Pte and Mrs Foreman, a son, Joel Robert.  
**Fosker:** On 3 April to LCpl and Mrs Fosker, a son, Charlie Micheal.  
**Moore:** On 23 June to WO2 and Mrs Moore, a son, Joshua James.  
**Norman:** On 15 July to Pte and Mrs Norman, a daughter, Rebecca.  
**Craddock:** On 9 May to Pte and Mrs Craddock, a son, Harry Luke.  
**Kearney:** On 20 May to LCpl and Mrs Kearney, a son, Johua.  
**Thorn:** On 10 July to Cpl and Mrs Thorn, a son, Elijah Jacob.

**Marriages**

**Anderson:** On 8 May Pte Anderson to Kerry.  
**Brown:** On 17 April Pte Brown to Tina.  
**Browning:** On 17 April LCpl Browning to Nikkola Joni.  
**Carpenter:** On 7 May Pte Carpenter to Miranda Jane.  
**Christie:** On 4 September Pte Christie to Leah Ann.  
**Duggan:** On 30 July Cpl Duggan to Samantha.  
**Everitt:** On 5 May Pte Everitt to Ann-Marie.  
**Forbes:** On 15 June Sgt Forbes to Linda.  
**French:** On 17 July Sgt French to Stephanie.  
**Hartland:** On 16 April LCpl Hartland to Jane.  
**Hills:** On 11 June Pte Hills to Caroline.  
**Holmes:** On 12 April Pte Holmes to Sally.  
**Hopwood:** On 17 April Pte Hopwood to Louise.  
**Jones:** On 23 July Pte Jones to Natalie Alice.  
**McGee:** On 6 May: LCpl McGee to Emma.  
**Mosely:** On 16 April Pte Mosely to Donna Marie.  
**Revell:** On 11 June Pte Revell to Lee Anne.  
**Scattergood:** On 24 August Pte Scattergood to Laura Marie.  
**Weaver:** On 29 July Pte Weaver to Verity Karla.  
**Willars:** On 28 April Pte Willars to Dayna.

**Poachers****Births**

**Brown:** On 7 May 1999, to Pte and Mrs Brown, a daughter, Mollie Mae  
**Clark:** On 6 August 1999, to LCpl and Mrs Clark, a son, Morgan Rhys.  
**Gilbert:** On 19 March 1999, to Pte and Mrs Gilbert, a son, Joshua Daniel.

**Hack:** On 16 February 1999, to LCpl and Mrs Hack, a son, Rhys James.  
**Hall:** On 6 April 1999, to Cpl and Mrs Hall, a daughter, Rachel Elizabeth.  
**Harris:** On 9 June 1999, to Cpl and Mrs Harris, a son, Harry Anthony.  
**Hart:** On 31 July 1999, to Maj and Mrs Hart, a daughter, Olivia Kathleen.  
**Hudson-Bennett:** On 13 July 1999, to Pte and Mrs Hudson-Bennett, a daughter, Lauryn.  
**Johnson:** On 8 May 1999, to Pte and Mrs Johnson, a son, Matthew Johnathan.  
**McGow:** On 23 June 1999, to Cpl and Mrs McGow, a daughter, Caitlin.  
**Morgan:** On 17 June 1999, to LCpl and Mrs Morgan, a daughter, Brooke Alison.  
**Pardy:** On 4 Aug 1999, to LCpl and Mrs Pardy, a daughter, Keira Mai.  
**Robinson:** On 15 July 1999, to Pte and Mrs Robinson, a son, Joe Stephen William.  
**Smith 760:** On 4 June 1999, to LCpl and Mrs Smith, a daughter, Elena.  
**Swan:** On 24 June 1999, to Maj and Mrs Swan RAMC, a son, Euan James.  
**Vincent:** On 27 July 1999, to Pte and Mrs Vincent, a daughter, Melissa Louise.  
**Wardle:** On 21 July 1999, to Pte and Mrs Wardle, a daughter, Samantha Thea.

**Marriages**

**Barfield:** On 16 February 1999, Pte Barfield to Lousie Caroline.  
**Barry:** On 19 July 1999, Lt Barry to Gael Elizabeth.  
**Borrill:** On 17 April 1999, Pte Borrill to Lynn.  
**Gibson:** On 13 April 1999, Pte Gibson to Claire Louise.  
**Hume:** On 21 August 1999, Pte Hume to Tracey Ann.  
**Ireland:** On 17 July 1999, Pte Ireland to Joanne.  
**Mackness:** On 17 April 1999, Pte Mackness to Loretta Anne.  
**Staniszweski:** On 17 April 1999, Pte Staniszweski to Claire.  
**Terry:** On 28 August 1999, Pte Terry to Dawn.  
**Vendyback:** On 31 July 1999, Pte Vendyback to Sarah Jane.

**East of England Regiment****Births**

**Watson:** On 19 July 1999, to Capt and Philippa Watson, a son, Angus.  
**Dunington:** On 4 October 1999, to Sgt and Cheryl Dunington, a son, Thomas.  
**Bunn:** On 8 October 1999, to LCpl and Sarah Bunn, a daughter, Jade Summer.



## 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**  
 Capt AA Hammond OBE,  
 Sandena, Old Mill Road,  
 Roughton, Norwich NR11 8PE

**Gt Yarmouth/Gorleston Branch**  
 Mr RC Pillar,  
 16 Alder Close, Bradwell,  
 Gt Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 8PD

**London Branch**  
 Mr MJ Frances,  
 4 Kingswood Park,  
 Hendon Avenue,  
 Finchley, London N3 1UG

**Norwich Branch**  
 Mr PE Boxall,  
 31 Breckland Road,  
 New Costessey,  
 Norwich NR5 ORW

### Suffolk

**HQ The Suffolk Regiment Old Comrades Association and the Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Branch)**  
 The Keep,  
 Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St Edmunds,  
 Suffolk IP33 3RN  
 Tel: 01603-400290  
 01284-752394 (Wednesdays only)  
**President:** Brig WC Deller OBE

**Bury St Edmunds and District Branch**  
 Mr C Smith,  
 15 Rectory Road,  
 Whepstead,  
 Suffolk IP29 4TE

**Ipswich Branch**  
 Mr R Garner,  
 24 Oregon Road,  
 Kesgrave,  
 Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 7EX

**Hemel Hempstead Branch**  
 Mr RG Picton,  
 45 Paston Road,  
 Hemel Hempstead,  
 Hertfordshire HP2 5AZ

**Beccles Branch**  
 Mr ML Martin,  
 46 Fair Close,  
 Beccles, Norfolk NR34 9QR

**Felixstowe Branch**  
 Mr N Buckingham,  
 Marahaba, 18 Fairfield Avenue,  
 Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 9JN

**Stowmarket Branch**  
 Mr D King,  
 110 Bury Street,  
 Stowmarket,  
 Suffolk IP14 1HF

**Leiston Branch**  
 Mr T Stebbings,  
 Coranette,  
 16 Westward,  
 Leiston, Suffolk IP16 9HX

**Sudbury Branch**  
 Mr D Land,  
 2 Pot Kiln Road,  
 Gt Cornard,  
 Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 0DA

**Lowestoft Branch**  
 Mr R E Sharpe  
 17 Conrad Road  
 Oulton Broad  
 Lowestoft  
 NR33 8QB

### Cambridgeshire

**HQ The Cambridgeshire Regiment Association and the Cambridgeshire Branch The Royal Anglian Regiment Association**  
 c/o Cambridgeshire ACF, Denny End Road,  
 Waterbeach, Cambridge  
**President:** Lt Col WF Badcock MBE  
**Secretary:** Maj MA Jarvis  
 1 Witham Close,  
 St Ives, Cambs PE17 6DY  
 Tel 01480-380234

**Cambridge Branch**  
 Col DE Latchford,  
 48 Lode Road, Bottisham,  
 Cambridge CB5 9DJ  
 Tel: 01223-811454

**Ely Branch**  
 Mr HR Hitch,  
 7 Olivers Way,  
 March, Cambs PE15 9PU  
 Tel: 01354-653058

**March and District Branch**  
 Mr DWH Cox,  
 13 Fleming Court,  
 March, Cambs PE15 9HD  
 Tel: 01354-52021

**Wisbech Branch**  
 Mr RC Keating,  
 41 High Street,  
 Sutton, Cambs CB6 2RA  
 Tel: 01353-78128.

**Whittlesey and Peterborough Branch**  
 Mr B Whitwell,  
 48 Coronation Avenue,  
 Whittlesey, Cambs PE17 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 SR Mansfield,  
 1a Gwynne's Walk,  
 Hertford SG13 8AD  
 Tel: 01992 581551

**St Albans Branch**  
 Mr HR Howard,  
 24 Sherwood Rise, South Down,  
 Harpenden, Herts AL5 1LU  
 Tel: 01582-621725

**Bedford Branch**  
 Mr E Roberts,  
 3 Manor Close,  
 Kempston, Bedford MK42 7AA  
 Tel: 01234-854507

**Hitchin Branch**  
 Mr B Read,  
 12 Habey Drive,  
 Hitchin, Herts 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 EG Owens,  
 37 Bidshall Crescent,  
 Dunstable,  
 Beds LU6 3NF  
 Tel: 01582- 665734

**Luton and Dunstable Branch**  
 Mr S Chapman,  
 86 St Margaret's Avenue,  
 Luton, Beds LU3 1PQ  
 Tel: 01582-28976

### 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 GCP Morgan OBE DL

**4th Battalion Comrades Association**  
 Mr EB Hazle DCM,  
 11 Hunter Avenue, Shenfield,  
 Essex CM15 8PE  
 Tel: 01277-214606

## Association Branches

### 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 Giggens,  
89 Salisbury Road,  
Grays, Essex RM17 6DG  
Tel: 01375-378427

## Lincolnshire

### HQ The Royal Lincolnshire and Royal Anglian Regiment Association

The Keep, Sobraon Barracks,  
Lincoln LN1 3PY  
Tel: 01522-525444

**President:** Maj Gen REJ Gerrard-Wright  
CB CBE DL

### Lincoln Branch

Mr HE Hill,  
8 Westwood Drive  
Swampool,  
Lincoln LN6 0HT  
Tel: 01522-878179

### Grimsby Branch

Mr D Carroll,  
87 Manor Drive, Waltham,  
Grimsby, Lincs DN37 0NS  
Tel: 01472-826953

### Grantham Branch

Mr JW Flatters,  
17 Longcliffe Road,  
Grantham, Lincs NG31 8DZ  
Tel: 01476-563548

### Spalding Branch

Mr A Waterfall,  
26 Brewster Road,  
Boston, Lincs PE21 0DY  
Tel: 01205-358565

### Midlands Branch

Mr L Wood,  
15 Lanchester Road,  
Radford, Coventry CV6 3EY  
Tel: 01203-597815

### Stamford Branch

Capt WL Simpson,  
St Clement, 8 Barn Hill,  
Stamford, Lincs PE9 2YG

### Scunthorpe Branch

Mr C Bromby,  
85 Southfield Road,  
Scunthorpe,  
South Humberside DN16 3BT  
Tel: 01724-859253

## Northampton

### 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 Worthy

### Corby Branch

Mr KR Fordyce,  
7 Motiston Close, Corby,  
Northants NN17 2JD

### 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, Ulverscroft Road,  
Leicester LE4 6BY  
Tel: 0116-2622749

**President:** Maj Gen AJG Pollard CB CBE

## Wiltshire

### Warminster Branch

Mr E Wilson  
23 The Heathlands  
Warminster  
Wiltshire BA12 8BU  
Tel: 01985-219273.

## Notices

### The BRIXMIS Association

If you served in the Mission and would like to renew old acquaintances there is a thriving BRIXMIS Association. For details contact: Maj (Retd) Geoff Greaves, 144 Sandyhurst Lane, Ashford Kent TN25 4NX Tel 01233-613412 Fax 01233-634606.

### Haig Homes

Haig Homes provides housing for ex-Service families. Unfurnished houses and flats are let on secure assured tenancies at favourable rents. Please apply to Mrs Theresa Farebre, housing officer at Haig Homes, Alban Dobson House, Green Lane, Morden, Surrey SM4 5NS or telephone 0181-648-0335 for further details.

### Anglia Battlefield Tours

Anglia Battlefield Tours specialises in taking 13 to 16-year-olds to World War One and Two battlefield sites. Two years ago they took eight schools on tours. Last year the figure was 40 and this year it is likely to be double that number.

Consequently they are looking to recruit part time guides. Experience is not essential as full training is given, but applicants must have an interest in the period and the ability to talk enthusiastically to young people. If you were an officer or SNCO in the Regiment why not apply? Suitable candidates will earn £150 per day. If interested contact Col A D Chissel TD at 59 Stortford Road, Great Dunmow, Essex CM6 1DG or telephone 01371-874070.

### NRPS Vacancies

The East of England Regiment has the following NRPS posts available:

**MTWO** - Bury St Edmunds - Available now.

**PSAO** - Leicester - Available May 2000.

For further details contact the Adjutant on 01284-752396.

### The Askari Appeal

The King's African Rifles was formed on 1 January 1902 and served the British Crown in two world wars and after. They volunteered to serve the Crown, many were killed and wounded and many decorated for bravery. Today many of them live in poverty, with no pension or means of support. The Askari Appeal, administered by the Commonwealth Ex Services League, is designed to help the 12-15,000 remaining veterans in their old age and allow them to live out their remaining lives with some dignity. Over £50,000 has been raised towards the target of £100,000.

A grant in Africa for as little as £20 can be a lifesaver for an old soldier. Any donations should be sent to the appeal via Col AF Mackain-Bremner OBE at Summerlea, The Street, East Knoyle, Salisbury SP3 6AJ.

### The Army Dependants' Trust

The Army Officers' Dependants' Fund and The Soldiers' Dependants' Fund merge on 1 January 2000 to form the Army

## Notices

### Dependants' Trust.

Annual rates of subscription will be £5 for married widowed and divorced members £3 for single members and £10 for retired officers employed by the MOD. Ninety-five per cent of the Regular Army are members of the current funds and automatically become members of the new trust.

The aim is to achieve 100 per cent membership. Every year, sadly, serving members of the Army who are now members of the funds die, and their dependants are thus denied the benefits.

### Eagle and Garter Club

*Maj W Burford MBE writes:*

The Eagle and Garter Club Dinner was held in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, Bassingbourn, on the evening of Saturday 24 July 1999 by kind permission of the RSM. Sixty-two members attended another very memorable reunion of 'Pompadors.' The hard work carried out by Maj Bob Potter MBE, secretary, and Mr Graham Hughes, treasurer, ensured the event was well organised and enjoyable for everyone. A quintet, under the watchful eye of WO1 John Millgate, entertained throughout the evening. Those attending covered a range of years from John Baggeridge, who was

a platoon sergeant as long as anyone can remember, to Sgt Jay, recently promoted and serving at the ATR, who served as a lance corporal with 3 R Anglian.

Our President, Brig (Retd) Groves, was on excellent form and delivered his normal enthusiastic speech, to an equally enthusiastic audience. The special bond that unites Pompadors and the special relationship that has always existed between the Officers' and Sergeants' Mess was very much in evidence. This is now a very important date for many Pompadors to renew old acquaintances, journey down memory lane and update themselves with all the latest news.

For all those who are missing out by never attending, you do not require an invitation. All you need is a proforma for the dinner night or for membership which you can get by contacting the secretary, Maj Bob Potter MBE, on either 94650-5115 (military) or 01284-754632 (civil).

Next year it is planned to hold the dinner on Saturday 22 July (Salamanca Day). We are expecting a very good attendance. To be eligible to attend or become a member you must be an officer, warrant officer or SNCO and have served with 3 R Anglian at sometime. Remember, once a Pompador always a Pompador, and always welcome.

## Next Castle June 2000. Contributions by 15 April please.

### Book Review

#### Generally Speaking: 'Then Hurrah for the Life of a Soldier'.

*By John Akehurst. 225 pages, 16 illustrations.  
Published by Michael Russell, £19.95.*

Here is a book which should be of special interest to all readers of *Castle*. Not only has the author served with the Northamptonshire and Royal Anglian Regiments, eventually as our Colonel and therefore a familiar figure, but the story he has to tell is of his life in the Regiment and the Army in which, during a total of nearly 43 years' service, he rose from private, enlisting as a Regular for 'five and seven' in 1947, to full general.

For us members of the Regiment, obviously the chapters dealing with his years in 1st and 5th Northampton and, of course with 2nd Royal Anglian, will be the most compelling, not to mention entertaining. But his time away from the Regiment in Malaya, Oman, his four tours in different ranks at the Staff College, his years on the staff and as a higher commander, and his work since retirement for the Territorial Army are also full of interest, amusement and his thought-provoking, memory-inspired reflections on the military life: in all a very good read.

Besides his military life, there are reminiscences of success and failure on the cricket field and, particularly in later life, on the golf course and trout stream. The Gulf War, after his retirement, found him a new role as a 'media personality' wherein, it may be remembered, his comments were more thoughtful and sensible than some others made at the time.

It may be that what he lost through the tragically early death of his son, Julian, has helped to motivate the many hours' involvement since his retirement with the education of the young as a governor of two quite different schools. In this latter work there is, perhaps, a parallel between, on the one hand, his military life with its early pranks and irresponsibilities proving no handicap in the rise to four-star rank and, on the other, his less than distinguished early scholastic career eventually culminating in his five years as chairman of the governors of Harrow School.

*Generally Speaking* is an enjoyable and very readable book.

### Regular Forces Employment Association

#### RFEA Limited

#### Helping You Find a Job

Assists ex-Regular men and women to resettle and find employment, any time up to the national retirement age and as often as necessary, provided they...

- Served a minimum of three years in the ranks;
- Or were medically discharged regardless of time served.

This service is now also extended to

- Those who were subsequently commissioned;
- Widows/widowers provided the spouse died in service.

Our employment consultants have all had a full and successful Service career themselves and worked in commerce or industry, placing them in a unique and strong position to offer...

- Registrants free personal counselling and local job finding advice;
- Employers access to a responsive free recruitment service.

During the period 1 April 1998 to 31 March 1999...

- 9,315 men and women joined our register;
- 3,025 left it having been placed in employment;
- Of those placed, 1,663 were from the Army;
- Many more will have secured work following our job search advice.

This service is available from 38 branches throughout the United Kingdom.

- Branches are listed in Yellow Pages or local directories;
- Alternatively contact head office at 49 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5JG or ring 0207-321-2011 or fax 0207-839-0970.

# BMW

- Parts & Spares For All Series BMW's
  - 1000's of Items • New & Used
- All Guaranteed - Fitting Service Available
  - BMW's Purchased For Cash
- Dismantling/Spares/MOT Failures
  - Delivery & Collection Service

Angus Buchanan Workshops - Est 1967



**01206 262556**



NAYLAND ROAD, LEAVENHEATH, COLCHESTER

## 7/8 SEATS

PEOPLE CARRIERS • PETROL & DIESEL

VW CARAVELLE 2.5 TDi  
8 SEATS, LUXURY INTERIOR, AIR CONDITIONED

CHRYSLER VOYAGER 2.0  
7 SEATS, LUXURY INTERIOR, AIR CONDITIONED

- COMPETITIVE RATES
- DELIVERIES
- EUROPEAN USE
- FRIENDLY SERVICE

### MPV HIRE

199 LEXDEN ROAD, COLCHESTER

**01206 545666**

For Colchester & Hadleigh Offices

# SAFETY...

...IN LOW NUMBERS!

*B-Safe*  
*- One Way*



- CBT'S • Direct Access • Bike Hire •
- Full Licence Courses •
- Flexible Courses To Suit •

TRAINING IN CLACTON,  
COLCHESTER & SURROUNDING AREAS

**01255 436820**

27 Havering Close, Great Clacton,  
Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO15 4UX

## SPECIALISTS IN MEDALS

Catalogues available, subscription per annum:

£6.00 UK - £10.00 rest of the world

Send 50p in stamps for sample copy

Business Hours: Monday-Friday 9am to 6pm

### Neate Militaria & Antiques

Members: O.M.R.S., O.M.S.A., M.M.S.S.A., M.C.C. of C.

P.O. Box 3794

Preston St Mary, Sudbury CO10 9PX, UK

Telephone: 01787 248168

Fax: 01787 248363

Proprietor: Gary C Neate

## Company Picnic

SANDWICHES, PLATTERS  
& BUFFETS DELIVERED

- ★ Daily Call
- ★ Functions
- ★ Boardroom Meetings



**Tel/Fax: 01206 231865**

## G.D. Golding

*The Military Tailors*



We are pleased to be Regimental  
Tailors By Appointment to  
**THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT**

CIVIL &  
LIVERY

- Suits
- Sports jackets
- Blazers
- Trousers



MILITARY

- Mess kit
- No.1 dress
- Service dress
- Accoutrements

SERVICE

- Visiting service (UK & Germany) • Account facilities
- Customer satisfaction guarantee

220 HATFIELD ROAD, ST ALBANS,  
HERTS AL1 4LW and  
183 LONDON ROAD, CAMBERLEY,  
SURREY GU15 3JS

Telephone: (01727) 841321

Facsimile: (01727) 831462

website: [www.goldings.co.uk](http://www.goldings.co.uk) email: [tailors@goldings.co.uk](mailto:tailors@goldings.co.uk)

PROFESSIONAL  
HYGIENIC

**TATTOO  
ART**

BODY PIERCING

BY CHRIS  
TRADITIONAL, NEW WAVE,  
CELTIC & CUSTOM.

66 ST. JOHNS STREET,  
BURY ST EDMUNDS.  
TEL. NO 01284 723939



## COMPUTER TRAINING

F1, 33 Ipswich St, Stowmarket

RSA - C.L.A.I.T, IBT2, IBT3 + Internet technology  
also SAGE, M/S Office, Scanning,  
Web page design computers for beginners  
(only 4 people per class)

For more information  
Tel: 01449 677323

Software & Hardware available in the shop.



The Vineyard Delicatessen  
23/24 Eld Lane  
Colchester  
Essex CO1 1LS  
01206 573363

*Purveyors of fine wine and food*

Mediterranean olives and oils  
British, French, Italian cheeses  
Fine wines from around the world  
Bin ends, Case discounts, tastings  
Handmade jams, chutneys, sauces  
Homemade terrines and pates  
Homecooked meats, hams and more  
Much, much more!

*For further information please give us  
a call, or drop in to the shop*

# GENUINE ARMY SURPLUS

We stock a wide range of army  
surplus, British, German, Dutch etc.  
at very reasonable prices.

Also: All camping and outdoor  
equipment available

Also: Air rifles + scopes in stock

Also: Good quality undergarments

*Please contact us for details*

328 North Road, Darlington, Co.

Durham, DL1 3BH

Tel/Fax: 01325 481366

*Mail order and BFPO orders welcome  
All credit cards accepted*

**QUALITY WITHOUT BEING  
EXPENSIVE...**

## KESGRAVE ALARMS

*Maintenance Contracts  
Very Competitive Prices*

**FULL AFTER SALES SERVICE  
EXISTING SYSTEMS UPGRADE**

- Intruder Alarms
- CCTV Systems
- Security Lighting
- Automatic Gates
- Domestic Specialists

**IPSWICH (01473) 620368**

51 Trinity Close, Kesgrave, Ipswich IP5 1JB

## Holiday in Zimbabwe

Secluded chalets in a very scenic area  
30km from Harare.

Safaris, visits, car hire etc arranged prior  
to arrival

### Contact

Joyce and John Rourke  
PO Box HG140, Highlands, Harare,  
Zimbabwe

**Tel:** (2634) 339467/746485

**Fax:** 776521

**Email:** [timelink@mail.pci.co.zw](mailto:timelink@mail.pci.co.zw)

Looking for a  
local reliable company?

## ANGLIAN REMOVALS LTD

Hawkins Road, The Hythe,  
Colchester CO2 8JX

*Where careful handling and personal  
service come first*

**Local & long distance  
throughout the UK**

- Free estimates
- Storage facilities
- Homes/Offices
- HM Forces
- House clearances
- All packing materials supplied
- Prompt efficient service



**01223 303222**

## MARK MUNSON SILVERSMITH

*Specialists in fine sterling silver models, figures and centrepieces*



### Warrior

Warrior APC with Chobham Armour.  
Commissioned by 2nd Battalion.

The Royal Anglian Regiment to commemorate their tour of duty in Bosnia.

In addition to creating Individual Centrepieces, Figures and Models we also offer a comprehensive service in the repair and maintenance of existing Silver and Plate.

*For further details contact:*

**MARK MUNSON, Maltings House, Maltings Farm Lane,  
Ardleigh, Colchester, Essex CO7 7LJ  
Phone or Fax 01206 230983**

Be  
PENSIONS  
prepared  
LIFE ASSURANCE  
for the  
INVESTMENTS  
life you  
PROTECTION  
don't yet  
MORTGAGE SERVICES  
know.

Contact  
Dermot Matthews MLLA (dip)  
Financial Planning Consultant  
Telephone 01206 751262  
Fax: 01206 751264  
Mobile: 07771 742068  
Email: Dermot.Matthews@allieddunbar.co.uk

Allied Dunbar  
Ground Floor  
900 The Crescent  
Colchester Business Park  
Colchester  
Essex CO4 4YQ

Contact  
Steve Harrison MLLA (dip)  
Financial Planning Consultant  
Telephone 01206 751262  
Fax: 01206 751264  
Mobile: 0771 417 0663  
Email: Steven.Harrison@allieddunbar.co.uk

Allied Dunbar Financial Advisers Ltd is a member of the Allied Dunbar and Threadneedle Marketing Group and is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority in relation to the life assurance and pension products of Allied Dunbar and the investment products of Threadneedle.

*For all your financial planning*



**Banklands  
Independent  
Financial  
Services**

*Professional Advice for Families,  
Individuals and Businesses*

**Investments,  
Pensions  
Savings  
& Protection**

Steven Rowlands MLIA (dip) CFA  
21 Great Harlings, Shotley Gate,  
Ipswich IP9 1NZ

**Telephone 01473 787800  
Fax 01473 787808**

A member of IFA Network Limited which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority

**Do you want your story told?**



Forces & Corporate Publishing can make sure that your experiences and memories are not forgotten but shared and enjoyed with others. If you have written a book and would like to see it published -we can help.



We offer a full publishing service including professional advice, top quality design and production with advertising back up.

For an informal discussion on your requirements please call the Managing Editor on 01933 419994



Hamblin House  
Hamblin Court  
92-94 High Street  
Rushden  
Northamptonshire NN10 0PQ  
Tel: 01933 419994  
Fax: 01933 419584

# Do you need financial or legal advice?

Our lawyers and team of independent financial advisers can help you with investments, pensions, tax planning, making a will, family law and conveyancing or leasing.

*With an ongoing programme of client care, Birkett Long regards its clients as top priority. You can be certain of expert advice given in a clear, friendly and approachable way. We have lawyers who are members of The Law Society's Family Panel and Children's Panel, and financial advisers who are completely independent. Call us to find out more.*

Contact Louise Long on 01206 217300  
or send an email to [louise1@birkettlong.co.uk](mailto:louise1@birkettlong.co.uk)

Birkett Long Essex House, 72 Crouch Street, Colchester, Essex, CO5 5HH  
[www.birkettlong.co.uk](http://www.birkettlong.co.uk)

Birkett Long is authorised by The Law Society in the conduct of investment business



## George Hazell & Co

Chartered Surveyors, Auctioneers and Valuers

**SEEKING TO LET YOUR PROPERTY?**

**CONTACT THE PROFESSIONALS**

Rentals also available

**Tel: 01284 702626**

Pat Milbourne



Short Brackland, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1EL  
Email: [gh&co@hazell.co.uk](mailto:gh&co@hazell.co.uk) Website: <http://www.hazell.co.uk>

**01284 702626**

## Debt Problems

**We can and will help**

We can arrange one monthly payment and have it reduced by 80%

Whatever the amount you owe

For a free information pack

**(01206) 578481**

**24 hours - 7 days**

Consumer Credit Licence No. 467915



# DELTA

**CAR & VAN HIRE**



**OVERLAND INDUSTRIAL PARK, SUDBURY ROAD, BURY ST EDMUNDS**

- CARS
- MINIBUSES
- PEOPLE CARRIERS
- VANS
- LUTONS
- COMMERCIALS
- LOCAL DELIVERY & COLLECTION
- PART OF NATIONAL NETWORK
- DAILY, WEEKLY, WEEKEND
- LONG TERM HIRE (Written details on request)
- ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS
- FREE DELIVERY & COLLECTION FROM RAF HONINGTON

A Member of the



**01284 386071**



## TRAINING FOR YOUR FUTURE

**SE  
TS** Suffolk  
Educational  
& Training  
Services

Professional Short Courses include:

- Managing Change
- Various Health & Safety qualificatory courses
- Supervisory Management
- Various IT Courses
- Basic Food Hygiene
- Various First Aid Courses
- Modern Foreign Languages
- Public Speaking and Presentations
- Dealing with Difficult Behaviour
- Team Leadership

and, in conjunction with Suffolk Fire Service:

- Basic Firefighting Course
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Breathing Apparatus Training
- Fire Marshal Training

For further details, ring (01473) 343635



**SUFFOLK COLLEGE  
COMPANY**



# MOTORCYCLE EXCEL TRAINING

SETTING THE STANDARD IN  
MOTORCYCLE TUITION

**No 1 IN EAST ANGLIA**

C.B.T. AND RE-TESTING

125 CC TRAINING & TEST DIRECT  
ACCESS SCHEME

HIRE BIKES AVAILABLE 50-500CC

BACK TO BIKING COURSES

RIDE ALIVE COURSES

COLCHESTER

**01206 512375**

IPSWICH

**01473 272789**

Out of hours: 0797 - 131 - 7609 (Mobile)

Arrow House, Arrow Road, Colchester, Essex CO4 3TA

# Solving Problems at any Distance

**PAC's Remote Trainer** extend the handler's influence and control to the limit of his eyesight...

With a reach of up to 1 mile and up to 4 days of continuous use on one charge. PAC's dog control and training products give dependable action every time. Full control from the transmitter handset enables the handler to do his job with ease and confidence. PAC's remote trainers are the de facto standard in the UK and in Europe. Thousands of users will testify to the success in correcting all types of persistent problems.

- Pet dog running away and being wilfully deaf to recall.
- Worrying of farm stock, chasing deer, horses, cats and other small animals.
- Chasing cars, joggers and cyclists. Jumping up and/or stealing food.
- Sheepdogs gripping their sheep, Gun dogs running in, ranging too far and being over enthusiastic.



Designed and  
manufactured in the UK  
Established 10 years

**PAC's Electronic Fence** is another brilliant device, enabling worry free containment of one or more dogs - at an affordable price. A price that is significantly less costly than conventional fencing. Dogs of all sizes and breeds soon learn the new regime afforded by a virtually invisible barrier that is safe both to the dog(s) and to all other creatures - including children.

AGENTS - North Yorks: 01388 537188, Cumbria: 01768 863137, South West: 01769 560040, Wits: 01666 822447, South East: 01206 331238, Herts: 01783 288206, Birmingham: 01386 792345, Perth (Scotland): 01738 632316, Cheshire/Manchester: 01565 634195.



**Call PAC NOW!**

**Freephone  
0800 028 4325**

Website: [www.pacdog.com](http://www.pacdog.com)

Tel: 01693 889449  
Fax: 00353 1853 1392



## BARNARDISTON HALL PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Nr Haverhill, Suffolk

Tel 01440 786316 Fax 01440 786355

Co-ed - IAPS - 290 pupils

Day / Weekly / Full Boarding. 85 Boarders 5-13 years

Based on country house in 16 acres

less than 30 minutes from Honington

Newly opened Junior Boarding Wing for 5-7 year olds

Quality all-round education in small classes

Strong academic tradition in a caring and  
disciplined environment

Wide range of sports, clubs, music and  
adventurous pursuits

French at 5, Snowdon at 7, Paris at 9

Escorted airport transfer service

Fees based on BSA

**You are most welcome to visit us with  
absolutely no obligation**

**Please contact the Headmaster  
Col Keith Boulter MA (CANTAB)**

## Wansfell College



Weekends and midweek adult residential  
courses in friendly and comfortable  
surroundings.

Choose from the Arts, Crafts, Literature,  
Languages, Current Affairs and more!

A weekend with award winning image consultant  
28-30th January 2000

**The Image Factor**  
Fee £89.00 inclusive

*Theydon Bois, Epping, Essex CM16 7LF*  
*01992 813027*

## MORETON HALL PREPARATORY SCHOOL

### SCHOLARSHIP MORNING

**Tuesday 21st March**

followed by our

### OPEN DAY

**Saturday 25th March**

**10am to 1pm**

and

### 'IOLANTHE'

by Gilbert and Sullivan

**23rd, 24th, 25th March at 7pm**

For reservations please contact:

The Secretary, Moreton Hall Preparatory School,  
Mount Road, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP32 7BJ  
Tel: 01284 753532 Fax: 01284 769197



*'Traditional values with  
a forward thinking  
approach'*

Co-educational  
3-13 years  
I.A.P.S.

Moreton Hall School Trust Ltd.  
(registered charity No. 2809276)

# COMPUTER TRAINING

*17 Years' Experience*

**1 & 2 Day Intensive Tuition**

- Intro to PC's • Lotus Smartsuite
- Windows • Microsoft Office
- Word Perfect • email



**ABAL COMPUTER SERVICES**

**TEL: 01787 374138**

Unit 4, South Suffolk Business Centre,  
Alexandra Road, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 2ZX  
email: [pupshon@abal.sagehost.co.uk](mailto:pupshon@abal.sagehost.co.uk)  
Internet: <http://www.abal-computers.com>

## LIKE TO WORK WITH COMPUTERS?

CLAIT IBT 2 & IBT 3 Courses

**Interested?  
Phone 01206 868707**

***Delcombe***  
**Training Ltd**

*training for the 21st century*

259 Greenstead Road  
Colchester  
Essex CO1 2SJ

Tel: 01206 868707  
Fax: 01206 866662

## Looking for additional income? Do you have odd days to spare?

We require **Category C, C+E** and **Non LGV Drivers** in the **Thetford, Bury St Edmunds** and surrounding areas.

Work is available **Monday to Sunday** each week but we are able to offer drivers regular work on a part time or full time basis enabling you to work around your current commitments.

**We offer**  
**Excellent Rates of Pay**  
**Holiday Pay**  
**Free Uniform**

**For more information or an informal chat call**  
**CONTRACT PERSONNEL LTD on (01842) 750222**

*The friendly, efficient agency that cares*

# HANGING UP YOUR BOOTS?



## WE NEED YOUR EXPERIENCE

If you're about to leave the Regiment, but want to stay part of the great British Army, why not join the Territorial Army?

Or use your experience to help 13-18 year old boys and girls of the ACF gain the abilities they need to make them better members of society.

To make sure your well-earned experience doesn't go to waste, call your local Reserve Forces Association on the number below, NOW.



**BE THE BEST**

**EAST MIDLANDS      EAST ANGLIA**  
**0800 783 3139    01245 354262**

## Interested?

- Practical Welder Training and Approval
  - Resistance Welding    ■ Structural Integrity
- Aerospace NDT    ■ General NDT Application
  - Radiography    ■ Surface Testing
- Ultrasonic    ■ BGAS-CSWIP
  - International/European  
Welding Federation diploma
- Welding Inspection and Quality Control
  - Welding Metallurgy
    - Welding Procedures and Approvals
  - Welding Technology and Design
- Corrosion Engineering    ■ Structural Integrity
  - Underwater Welding

*and much more from  
TWI Training & Examination Services*



Training & Examination Services  
Granta Park, Great Abington, Cambridge, UK  
Tel: +44 (0)1223 891162 Fax: +44 (0)1223 891630  
E-mail: trainexam@twi.co.uk

## P&O Transport Training

LGV Driver Training

Fork Lift Truck Training

ADR Hazfreight Course

CPC National & International

Road Haulage RSA Examination

Instructors  
DSA & RTITB Registered

**Tel: 01394 674139**  
**Fax: 01394 675569**

Sub-Station Road, Felixstowe IP11 8SE

**NATIONWIDE**

# **DRIVERS A REFRESHING CHANGE OF GEAR**

***(and we don't just mean the uniform)***

**DAYS/NIGHTS**

There's something very different about a driving job with Nightspeed. That's because with the UK's leading secure express parcel carrier, you can contribute just as much outside your van as you can behind the wheel.

As part of our driving team, you'll be collecting and delivering time sensitive parcels between depots and/or customer sites. It's hugely responsible work in which you'll add real value through your customer-focused approach, attention to detail and careful administration of our sophisticated 'package tracking' system.

We now have a variety of opportunities available for reliable and flexible Drivers with plenty of energy and a real sense of customer care.

## **LGV DRIVER**

Working nights, you will possess a Class 1 Licence and should have experience of Tachographs.

## **LGV DRIVERS**

### ***(CLASS 2 LICENCE)***

You'll already have a class 2 Licence and you'll be ready and willing to train to Class 1

## **DRIVERS**

Openings are always available for energetic individuals with a full Driving Licence (with no more than 6 points), to work as multi-drop collection and delivery drivers on day shifts.

To change your career prospects, please send your CV to: The Personnel Manager, Nightspeed Services Ltd, Vaughan Trading Estate, Sedgley Road East, Tipton, West Midlands DY4 7UJ. Fax: 0121 557 3025. Alternatively, phone on 0121 522 3335.

The logo for Nightspeed, featuring the word "NIGHTSPEED" in a bold, italicized, sans-serif font. The text is white and set against a black background that is shaped like a rounded rectangle with a slight shadow effect.

***The Overnight Sensation***

# National First

## Training and Consultancy in Health and Safety

Quality training at affordable prices for serving and ex-service personnel

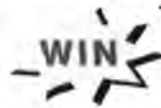
- Health and Safety Training - CIEH approved
- Risk Assessment Training
- Needle Search Training
- First Aid - HSE and NCMA/PLA approved
- Fire Awareness and Control
- Manual Handling for Care and Industry
- Manual Handling - Train the Trainer
- Food Hygiene - CIEH approved
- Training and Development NVQ's
- NVQ Assessor Training

*Our trainers and consultants are approved/registered by HSE, IOSH, IIRSM, CIEH, City & Guilds plus many others*

*We can help make the move into civilian life just that little bit easier by offering relevant and nationally recognised qualifications*

For all your Health and Safety training needs please contact us at Clacton on 01255 479090

## Do you want the chance of having £1 million under your Christmas Tree?



Two prizes of the new mind-boggling puzzle Eternity, where a completed game can win you £1 million.

Dubbed as the 'Rubiks Cube of the Millennium' Eternity-mania has certainly erupted since its launch and it hasn't stopped and is set to dominate the Christmas best sellers list.



So, this Christmas, get the family round and solve the 209 piece puzzle by simply fitting the shapes into the grid. Alternatively, why not try smaller puzzles, Heart, Meteor and Delta with their 20, 14 and 10 pieces where completed puzzles will give clues to the £1 million puzzle. Games are available from all good toy and game stores.



If you would like a chance of winning the puzzle Eternity, simply answer the following question...

**'How many pieces does the puzzle Eternity have?'**

Send in your answers with your name and address to:

Eternity Competition  
Forces and Corporate Publishing Ltd  
Hamblin House, Hamblin Court  
92-94 High Street, Rushden  
Northants NN10 0PQ

Closing date: 31 January 2000

Terms and conditions of entry:  
• Entries must be received by 31 Jan 2000  
• Include your name and address.  
• There will be two winners receiving a puzzle each.  
• Editors decision is final.  
• Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

# F. A. STONE & Sons

NORWICH

SAVILE ROW

ESTABLISHED 1874

BESPOKE TAILORS & GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTERS

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS 1874-1999

OFFICIALLY APPOINTED TAILORS TO

**THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT**

SERVICE DRESS NO.1 DRESS MESS KIT  
MILITARY TIES & BADGES ALL MILITARY ACCOUTREMENTS  
MEDAL MOUNTING & REPAIR SERVICE ALTERATIONS

**TRADITIONAL HAND BUILT BESPOKE TAILORING**  
**DISTINCTIVE MADE TO ORDER SEASONAL RANGE OF CLASSIC CLOTHING**

SPECIAL CORPORATE RATES PRIVILEGE CARD SCHEME VISITING SERVICE  
SUBSCRIPTION TERMS AVAILABLE

**17 TIMBERHILL NORWICH NR1 3JZ**  
ALSO BY APPOINTMENT AT  
**12 SAVILE ROW LONDON W1X 1AE**  
TELEPHONE 01603 488861 FACSIMILE 01603 488862

**THE BEST FROM THE PAST TAILORED TO THE PRESENT**

# SEVEN YEARS A GRENADIER

This book is a compelling memoirs of the author's time in one of England's finest Regiments, the Grenadier Guards.

Written from grassroots level, this is the first hand account of a young guardsman's experiences in those early years.

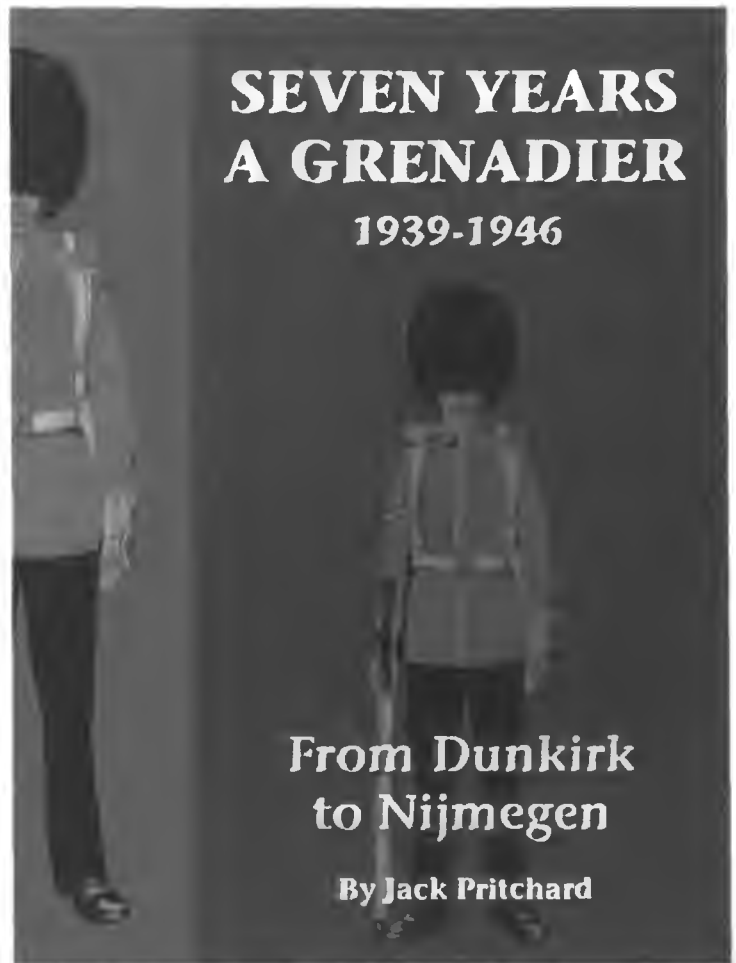
The book's success is its authenticity. No works by social historians, professors or anyone else about the period can do the same job as a first-hand unprejudiced and natural account such as this. If anyone wants a picture of what it really was like in these times, then there is no substitute for the authentic memories of the participants.

Follow the author Jack, through his training and then see for yourself what it was like to live and fight during the second world war from Dunkirk to Nijmegen.

His prose, as well as being very readable, is richly textured; as such, it lends his descriptions an impressive and entirely fitting dramatic immediacy. In short, this is a well-written and intrinsically engrossing piece of work.

*Approx 128 pages with 28 photographs and 3 maps in perfect bound, board gloss colour cover. Book size 148mm x 210mm.*

*ISBN 0-9529597-4-7. Price £8 + £1 p&p*



by  
**Jack Pritchard**

## ORDER FORM

To: Mrs Lynne Pritchard, 14 Edinburgh Drive, Willenhall, Wolverhampton WV12 4SA

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copy(ies) of SEVEN YEARS A GRENADIER at a cost of £8 + £1 postage and packing.

I enclose a total remittance of £ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to W J PRITCHARD

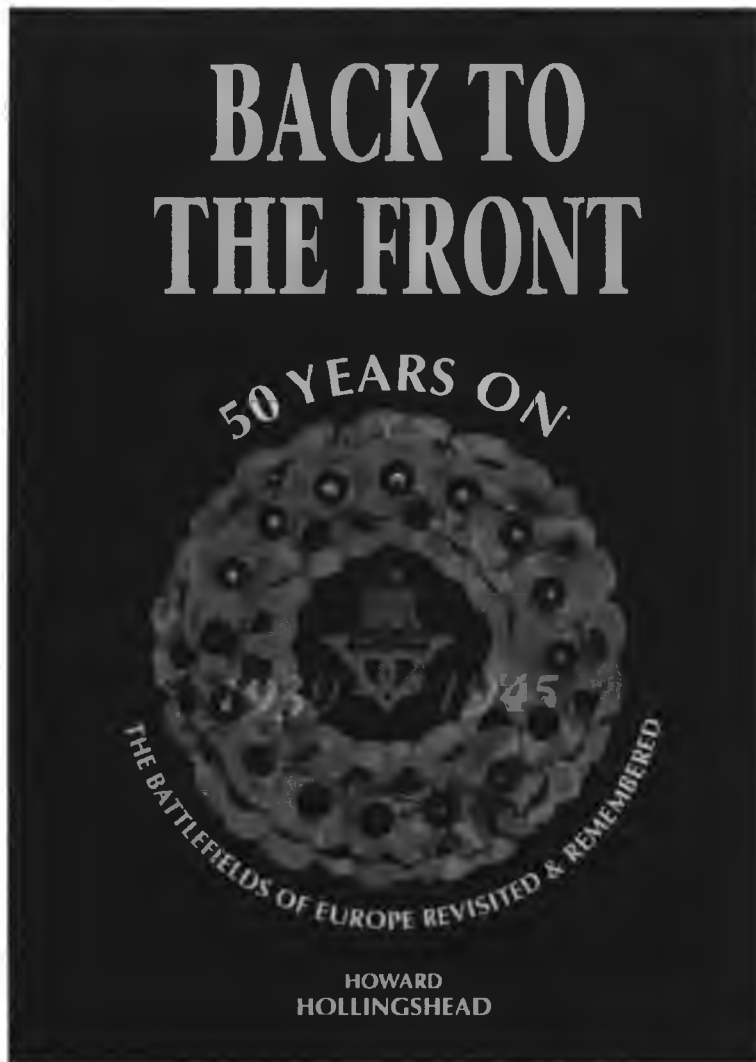
Name (block capitals please): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

# BACK TO THE FRONT

## 50 YEARS ON: THE BATTLEFIELDS OF EUROPE REVISITED & REMEMBERED



This is a heartfelt, personal account of a soldier's return to the World War Two Battlefields, fifty years on.

Howard Hollingshead attended the 50th anniversary commemorations of most of the major conflicts of the Second World War, in many of which he had participated. The anniversaries triggered moving memories of a boy living in innocent, but more disciplined pre-war days when everything had its correct place, and of the life of a serving wartime soldier in the proud regiment, the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards.

Howard's reactions to the ceremonies and his wise comments will be of value and interest to students, to military historians, members of the general public and, of course, to fellow veterans who wish to perpetuate the memory of those stirring days.

*Approx. 200 pages with 16 colour plates, 60 photographs and 8 maps in perfect bound board gloss colour cover. Book size 148mm x 210mm. ISBN 0-9529597-2-0. Price £9.50 inc. postage & packing*

### PUBLICATION DATE: 1 FEBRUARY 1998

#### ORDER FORM

To:- H. Hollingshead, 4 Goodwood Close, Morden, Surrey SM4 5AW

Please send me ..... copy(ies) of BACK TO THE FRONT at a cost of £9.50 inclusive of postage & packing.

I enclose a total remittance of £.....

Please make cheques payable to H. HOLLINGSHEAD.

Name (block capitals please) .....

Address .....

.....Postcode.....



