

# The **Royal Anglian** REGIMENT



NEWSLETTER

September 2013

## Regimental Headquarters

### Royal Anglian Benevolent Charity

The Regiment is very lucky to have such fantastic support from organisations and individuals for its Benevolence.

The All The 4s Big Drop was a hugely successful event, which saw the team of 12 complete their tandem parachute jumps to raise money for this important charity.



 [royalanglianregiment.com](http://royalanglianregiment.com)

 [facebook.com/theroyalanglianregiment](https://facebook.com/theroyalanglianregiment)

 [youtube.com/theranglian](https://youtube.com/theranglian)

### Royal Anglians in the News

#### Lincolnshire's Poachers are bound for Afghanistan

<http://www.granthamjournal.co.uk/news/politics/politics-news/lincolnshire-s-poachers-are-bound-for-afghanistan-1-5511712>

#### Freedom of the Town of Harpenden

[http://www.stalbansreview.co.uk/news/1068849.Special\\_meeting\\_held\\_in\\_Harpenden\\_to\\_discuss\\_town\\_s\\_freedom/](http://www.stalbansreview.co.uk/news/1068849.Special_meeting_held_in_Harpenden_to_discuss_town_s_freedom/)

#### County soldiers get ready to fly out to Afghanistan

<http://www.granthamjournal.co.uk/news/politics/politics-news/lincolnshire-s-poachers-are-bound-for-afghanistan-1-5511712>

#### Getting reserves ready for battle!

<http://www.thisisleicestershire.co.uk/Getting-reserves-ready-battle/story-19753009-detail/story.html#axzz2i72HkdyC>

#### Long-serving soldier retires from Norfolk's Army Cadet Force

[http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/long\\_serving\\_soldier\\_retires\\_from\\_norfolk\\_s\\_army\\_cadet\\_force\\_1\\_2873115](http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/long_serving_soldier_retires_from_norfolk_s_army_cadet_force_1_2873115)

#### Ex-soldier in coma after motorcycle crash in Thailand

<http://www.thisisleicestershire.co.uk/Man-seriously-injured-motorcycle-crash-Thailand/story-19941319-detail/story.html#axzz2i72HkdyC>

### Service of Thanksgiving 27<sup>th</sup> September

The Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Maj Gen JB Dye CBE MC DL was held at Framlingham College, where Maj Gen Dye had been a governor for many years. The service, in a full chapel, reflected all aspects of Maj Gen Dye's life. Mrs Jean Dye

asked for her thanks to be passed to all the members of the Regiment who supported the service.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (The Vikings)



The last two months have seen a step change in the momentum of Bn activity as we begin on our road to deployment to Kenya on Ex Askari Storm 5 in January 14. This has involved Live Firing, overseas deployment in support to other units training and as much Adventurous training as we can fit in around the edges. We even managed to get the a large group of officers and SNCOs out to Monte Cassino on a Battlefield study. We have also welcomed a new CO, Lt Col Biddick MBE MC taking over the reins from Lt Col Aston DSO MC who we wish well in his next job.

B (Suffolk) Company as part of their preparation for deployment to Canada were given the opportunity to support Ex Lions Strike, the Company Commanders Course final exercise. It was an great chance to get stuck into some fast paced urban ops training and as you can see they got some brilliant training.



Cpl Sullivan continues to run the Bn Football and has had some great early season success with a 6-1 win over the local REME Bn rivals. A great team performance from what promises to be a very good Vikings team.



A (Norfolk) Company got in some great Adventurous Training as they deployed to Canada to support the KRH Battlegroup on exercise. This saw them mountaineering, climbing, parachuting and horse back trekking through the Rocky Mountains.



C (Essex) Company just got back from the notorious Brecon Beacons where they had been live firing as part of their shooting progression. This saw some complex and technical fire team and section ranges being taken on, one even involved infil by Chinook Helicopter.



In August Sgt Colby and Sgt Watts took 15 Vikings up to the Scottish Highland for what proved to be some cracking Mountain Biking. Such was the improvement of many of these novice riders that we had them getting some 'air' by the end of the week".



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion (The Poachers)

This month has seen the Battalion continue to deploy with many elements now in Afghanistan and the remainder due to arrive shortly. The highlight of the month was undoubtedly the celebration of Talavera Day. This was held as a function for the soldiers and their families. The day began with fancy dress PT; exceptional effort being made by members of C Company who constructed their own 12ft 'Trojan Horse' out of cardboard boxes. It was followed by a more formal parade and concluded with a barbeque and social event enjoyed by all.

### FSU Lashkar Gah (A Company)

A Company will take over responsibility for Forward Support Unit Lashkar Gah (FSU LKG) in October. September saw them complete the Final Training Exercise (FTX) as the conclusion of Mission Specific Training. This 2 week exercise took place on Salisbury plain and saw them occupy a FOB and confirm the skills learnt over all the previous pre-deployment exercises. Routine was a smattering of vehicle borne IEDs, shoot and scoot attacks and indirect fire attacks. The end state was the Company performed to an excellent standard and the soldiers can be confident their skills will serve them well on the coming tour.

### BOC (C Company)

The Company proved itself highly capable on the FTX, conducting several Helicopter Assault Force (HAF) on to targets with great success. The Brigade Operations Company will continue to ensure the skills learnt remain current so they are ready to deploy. This will see them conduct a number of exercises over the coming months.

### LTC (D Company)

Elements of D Company have taken full command of the Lashkar Gah Training Centre (LTC). This is where training for members of the Afghan National Police (ANP) is conducted. They have already run 3 courses enabling the ANP to develop their skills in a number of areas. These include evidence handling, discipline and biometric enrolment. All essential in ensuring the long term competence of the Police and by virtue the security they can provide to the local population. Those who find the degree to which computer knowledge is needed in the UK to conduct any normal business frustrating may find it interesting that one of the courses run was computer training for the ANP. This was aimed at qualifying members of the ANP as instructors in using word processing and presentation tools. Even the Afghans have not been able to escape the computer revolution.

### OCCP (B Company)

Members of B Company have now taken full command for the Operation Coordination Centre Provincial (OCCP) based in Lashkar Gah. They are working closely with senior members of the Afghan National Police and have already conducted a number of shuras including a Disengagement Shura with the I Bde Comd. They are a small team and they live with their Afghan counterparts. This is allowing them to experience full integration with the Afghans including trying out local culinary delicacies.



### 10 Platoon (D Company)

10 Platoon deployed earlier this year to Kabul as part of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (RSDG) Battlegroup. They are responsible for providing Force Protection and are benefitting from experiencing life in the capital of Afghanistan. They have spent a lot of time transiting the city and building their knowledge of the area. Currently, during their rest periods, they are preparing for the Kabul Fittest Man Competition. This is an informal multi-national event to run at their base location, where the Poachers will be competing against not just members of the RSDG, but also Americans, Afghans and Italians.

### ROG (HQ Company and Uncommitted Reserve)

The Rear Operations Group (ROG) has taken on the responsibility for the running of those members of the Battalion not currently deployed. This is quite a substantial number as the ROG is supplemented by the normal contingent and also what is termed the Uncommitted Reserve (UCR). These are soldiers who may deploy in the future as those in theatre are required to return for careers courses, postings or any other reasons.



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion (The Steelbacks)



It has been a quieter month as the Battalion returns from ADX in Croatia to the Autumn training cycle and future planning for FR20 transition. Nonetheless, the Battalion has still kept active and managed to enjoy itself; the Officers' Mess celebrated their Ladies Dinner Night at the Victory Services Club, London and members of the Battalion enjoyed a Battlefield study to Flanders visiting Ypres and the Menin gate for a act of remembrance. The Battalion also welcomed back the return of Maj Chris Wright from his tour of Afghanistan and welcome Maj Paul Munccey as Training Major handing over from Maj Phil Birch completely by the start of October.

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September members of the Battalion participated in a charity event at RAF Lakenheath. Called the "Ruck March" the aim of the event was to aid the USAF MIA / POW awareness and is run at American airbases worldwide. Pte Johnson, LCpl McGarrell and Pte Allen took part along with Sergeant Major Smith from the Vikings.



Cpl Catchpole finally completed his charity parachute jump to help raise £1600 for the Regimental Benevolent Charity as part of the "All the 4's Big Drop".



LCpl Dowling, B (Lincolnshire) Company's medic enjoyed a change of pace from

inspecting feet on ADX and attended a week long Army Surfing course in RAF St Mawgan, Newquay, reinforcing the Battalion's work hard, play hard ethos.

