



Regimental Matters

The Royal Anglian Regimental Chapel Laying Up Of The Queens Colour 1st Battalion (The Vikings)

The Regimental Chapel at Warley was presented with the 1st Battalions (The Vikings) Queens Colour that was in service from 29th April 1995 until 31st August 2014. The event was attended by the County Colonel for Essex, The Lord Lieutenant of Essex and the High Sheriff of Essex. CO 1 Royal Anglian and Officers and soldiers from C (Essex) Company and a Colour Party were also present for this very historical event.



Appointments

Brig R W Wooddisse MBE MC:Asst Chief of Staff J3 PJHQ Aug 15

Ipswich Bus Named after Sergeant Saunders VC The Suffolk Regiment



The Mayor was joined by family members of Ipswich's two Victoria Cross winners Sergeant Arthur Saunders and Private Samuel Harvey to unveil 2 new state of the art buses which have been named in memory of these two great Heroes of Ipswich. These buses will run on Route 9:

- 3/10133 Sergeant Arthur. F. Saunders VC
- 9th Service Battalion The Suffolk Regiment

Citation reads:

On 26 September 1915 near Loos, France, "When his officer had been wounded during the attack, Sergeant Saunders took charge of two machine-guns and a few men and, although severely wounded in the thigh, closely followed the last four charges of another battalion, giving them all possible support. Later, when the remains of the battalion which he had been supporting was forced to retire, he stuck to one of his guns and in spite of his wound, continued to give clear orders and by continuous firing did his best to cover the retirement."



Connaught Burial

A soldier from Cambridgeshire who died in one of the First World War's bloodiest battles was given a burial with full military honours nearly a century after his death.

The body of the unknown soldier from Cambridgeshire Regiment was discovered among two others by French workmen in 2013 and was finally laid to rest by a burial party from the county's D (Cambridgeshire) Company, 1st Battalion Royal Anglian Regiment in October.



His link to Cambridgeshire was only made because his regimental insignia was still visible, which is rarely the case for fallen soldiers discovered so long after the Great War.

He fell while fighting in the Battle of Somme campaign at Schwaben Redoubt, the German stronghold near the village of Thiepval which Cambridgeshire soldiers played a key role in capturing and defending.

Officers' Dinner Club

The Royal Anglian Regiment Officers' Dinner Club meeting is to be held on Friday 6th November 2015, the calling notice has been sent out by email. Members who wish to attend and who are not in receipt of the calling notice are requested to contact RHQ.

Diary Dates

November

- 5 Field of Remembrance Westminster Abbey
- 6 Regimental Council Meeting
- 6 Officers' Club Dinner
- 8 Regimental Remembrance Service IWM
Duxford
- 11 Poppy Dinner Cambridge University

1st Battalion (The Vikings)

Viking Medal parade

On 14th October, at Royal Artillery Barracks, Woolwich those troops are at last all home, reunited with their families and their comrades; and their efforts were rewarded with a special medals parade and party which involved everyone, even the soldiers' children, who received their own medals.



Viking Homecoming Parades



The Battalion exercised its right to march through St Neots with rifles, bayonets fixed and swords drawn. This time honoured tradition expressing the Freedom of St Neots is the highest honour any council can bestow on a Regiment. A truly humbling experience. St Neots being in the heart of the battalion's recruiting grounds has never failed to provide hardy and motivated recruits to the Battalion. Mrs Eilean Guy, mother of deceased Alex Guy MC inspected the soldiers on parade, a proud moment for all.



We would like to thank the many spectators and supporters who came out to support us on our first Freedom parade. On Wednesday they marched through Norwich and on Thursday they visited Harlow. All the Homecoming Parades were extremely well supported and it was an honour to march through our county towns.

2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

Ex JERBOA PATROL



The rolling hills and moorland of the Peak District challenged the soldiers of 7 Infantry Brigade as they pitted themselves against each other in the military patrol competition: Ex Jerboa Patrol.

Setting off at 7.00 am to begin the challenge, the teams were tested in combat fitness, military and leadership skills. The aim of the event was to offer Brigade units the chance to demonstrate their military skills. It also acted as training for Exercise Cambrian Patrol - NATO's toughest military skills competition which will be held in Wales later this month.



The competition saw the soldiers march at speed across the Peak District carrying 20 – 30 pound packs being assessed at a series of military stands along the way. These included a river crossing without boats or bridges and a medical stand. The teams were also tested on their communication and navigation.

Points were awarded for the time it took to complete the route and teams were scored on their command and leadership.

The Poachers scooped Bronze and the 3rd Battalion, the Regiment's Reserve Unit, took the title of Best Reserves.

It was the first time 7th Infantry Brigade and Headquarters East had used the Peak District for military training. The competition will now become a key event in the Brigade calendar. 'Northamptonshire and Rutland' Company with attachments from D 'Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire' Company finished Ex WESSEX STORM this month. They performed exceptionally well on the exercise, identifying a huge range of lessons which may be adopted as best practice for the use of the new Light Mech vehicles.

FIRIC

A "Lincolnshire" Company and members of D "Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire" Company have been busy in the Falklands conducting a number of different activities. Patrols a cross both East and West Falklands have continued. In between this, our soldiers have conducted bayonet training and live firing in preparation for their final exercise this month. They also hosted members of the RAF and Royal Navy for a familiarisation day where they were shown the different weapon systems a Rifle Coy has at its disposal.



3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

Ex TRIGLAV STAR - Cambrian Patrol Team in Slovenia

The Steelbacks Cambrian Patrol Team conquer Mount Triglav in Slovenia (2864m).



Employers Breakfast

2 (Leicestershire and Lincolnshire) Company conducted an Employers Breakfast this week in conjunction with East Midlands RFCA (Reserve Forces and Cadets Association). Martin Gibbons, IT Director for a Leicestershire based food manufacturing company said, "This was a great opportunity to understand more about what my Reservist does when he's away with the military".

