



Royal Anglian News

November 2018

Regimental Remembrance Service

The Regimental Memorial was the very moving setting for the annual Regimental Service of Remembrance, some 350 members of the Regiment, serving, veterans and the bereaved families attended the service.



Armistice Anniversary Dinner Trinity College Cambridge

Armistice Dinner

A military dinner was recreated at Trinity College on the eve of the Armistice Centenary in honour of the Royal Anglian Regiment. The Hall at Trinity College was filled with soldiers from the Regiment echoing the time, a hundred years ago, when the College was the HQ of the Royal Army Medical Corps and soldiers ate their meals in the Hall every day.

Sponsored by Catherine Jones of Cambridge, guests of honour included The Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Mrs Julie Spence, General Ralph Wooddisse MC CBE, Colonel of the Regiment, Sir Greg Winter CBE, Nobel prize winner and Master of Trinity College, The High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire Dr Andy Harter CBE and 50 men from the Regiment.



Wayne Harrod and his partner enjoying a glass at the dinner.



The Hall at Trinity College Cambridge, 1914 - 1918.



The Hall at Trinity College Cambridge 2018.

General Andrew Graham CB CBE, a Trinity graduate, movingly remembered the 619 men of the College who lost their lives and recalled his grandfather, also a Trinity man, who was awarded a VC in World War I.

'At Catherine Jones," said Vanessa Burkitt, the company Managing Director 'we are proud to support the work of the Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Charity. They support the needs of their men, their families, dependents and the bereaved. At this poignant time of remembrance it is a privilege to give a little help.'



Members of the Regiment at the dinner.



Maj Bob Grenfell accepting the top raffle prize and smiling!

Field of Remembrance

Fittingly, the Regiment was well represented at the Centenary of the Armistice gathering in the garden of Westminster Abbey this year on Thursday 8th November with members of the Regiment and our forebear regiments attending in good numbers. A beautiful day greeted us all as we arrived in good time and had a chance to catch up with old friends and familiar faces. Just back from his overseas trip to the southern hemisphere, HRH Prince Harry attended and following the short service of Remembrance during which Parliament Square fell silent and all traffic stopped, he carried out his usual walk about. CSM Cousin represented the 2nd Battalion on behalf of the Regiment. Freddie Grounds representing the Cambridgeshire Regiment is seen having a word with Prince Harry after which we all retired to the Farmers Club for our customary lunch thanks to Sam Luckin who organises this for the Regiment with great aplomb. The College of Colonels will consider at next year's County Colonel's Conference whether or not to consolidate the Regimental Plot into one while retaining individual Badge Crosses for each of our former County regiments.



Regimental Matters

London Gazette Extracts - October 18

The Regiment congratulates a number of Officers who have been awarded the Long Service & Good Conduct Medal, the full and quite extensive list is on the final page.

Cenotaph Remembrance Parade 100



Twenty veterans from the Regiment took part in the Cenotaph Parade 2018. It was regretted that this was our full allocation having applied for 50 places.

A Regimental Bulletin will be sent out towards the end of Summer 2019 as a 'Calling Notice' for Cenotaph Parade 2019 for those who may wish to apply.



Diary Dates

December 2018

8 Regt Carol Service St Mary's Church BSE

January 2019

6 Chapel Sunday - Warley

1st Battalion (The Vikings)

Sea of Shrouds at the Olympic Park's Arcelor Mittal Orbit tower



The remains of 72,396 men still lie undiscovered in the fields of Northern France where their bodies were swallowed in mud. A team of 25 soldiers from the Vikings and volunteers has taken 500 man hours to lay the shrouds over an area of grass 137 metres by 30 metres at East London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, for the public to view for free until November 18.



Under leaden skies, the last of the 72,396 figures was set down by a soldier who served in the Falklands and Africa. Lance Corporal Joe Woolley, of the Vikings, placed the final 12 inch figure on the field, while carrying a flag that covered the coffin of a soldier whose body was flown home from Afghanistan ten years ago.

2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

Poacher Remembrance Parades



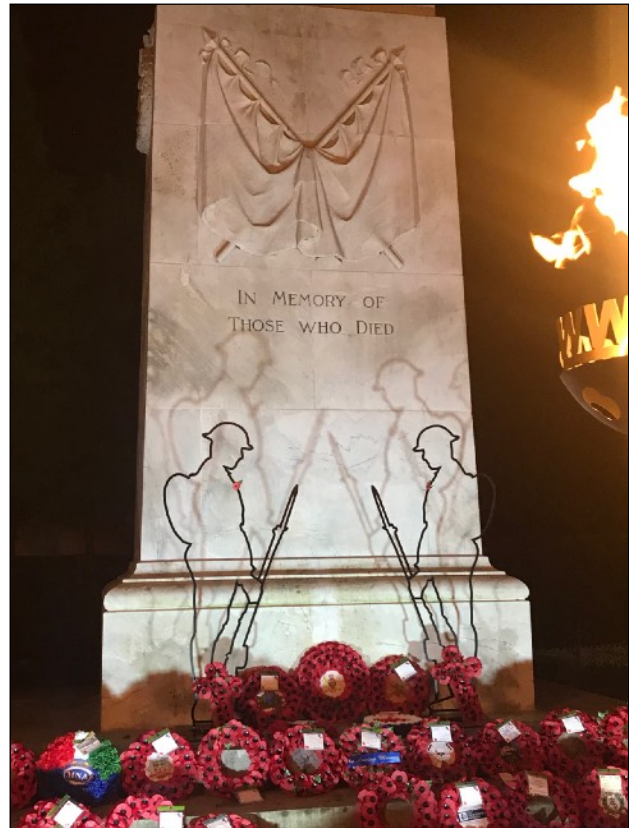
The Poachers have marked the 100th anniversary of the Armistice with services in Cyprus and Leicester.



3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

Remembrance Parade

On Saturday 10th November the first ever Tri-Service Parade took place in Lincoln city centre with a joint Company of over 30 men formed from the Poachers B (Leicestershire) Company from Cyprus, and No 4 (Lincolnshire) Company of the Steelbacks. The event was a huge success and enjoyed excellent support from the people of Lincoln who turned out in great numbers to watch. After the parade, which was led by our own Major Mitch Pegg, the Steelbacks split up to attend FA Cup matches at both Scunthorpe and Grimsby football grounds where they were on the pitch with players and officials (and mascots!). The Grimsby Remembrance ceremony even featured on BBC's Match of the Day 2 on Sunday night (you may be able to see it on iPlayer). On Sunday, the troops were reunited for a march and parade in Grimsby – after which a meal and use of the bar facilities in the ARC was made available for local dignitaries (including a DL, the Deputy Mayor, MP for Grimsby, Council CE, Council Leader and Chief Constable) and many veterans and families.



Museum News

Following the new HSE registration that needed to be done, I have been on some radiation training courses. It has been really interesting to learn about all the properties of certain materials, how to detect them and store them. Going forward the HSE has been doing spot checks as this new registration of materials has come in. Although we have done well with our records, the training has made me confident that our collection of these materials will be in line with the new regulations set out by the HSE.

New volunteers have started and are more than happy to undertake most tasks, and even sit in the Museum while working and answer any questions which would be great to add to our presence down in the Land Warfare Hall. Another volunteer will start next week and help me give a tour to a group I have coming in. He is leading battlefield tours in his retirement and wants to help with education, which would be great for airshows and the Cadet education plans that I want to pursue.

I have also had a meeting with the director of the learning team this month, which gave me some ideas about how to approach working with the IWM and supporting them on education so that we can raise our profile on site. However she is leaving and I will need to meet again with the new director as he has been briefed more specifically on the future plans for the IWM. I think it looks promising and hope we can develop something together in the future.

I have had more cadet groups and am currently working on adding to that offer in the future by including an on site mapping activity using old maps of the airfield. I think it will nicely tie us in to the IWM and could also be used in the future perhaps to fulfil part of the national curriculum.

I have had meetings with the IWM to make a concrete plan for the cadets to come through the visitors centre entrance as the schools do. Schools don't pay to come on site but the IWM simply hopes they will spend money in the café and the shop, so if our cadet groups enter the same way then we can easily show the IWM how we have improved their business. Also the age range the cadets fall into is a very hard age to appeal to in site so we would be improving the diversity of their visitor ages by in this way.

I have been working on more trails for the museum that are laminated and to be done in the museum. The paper ones are great but I need to replenish them a lot. I have bought some plush rabbits like the one that is featured in Aden to Afghanistan and based a trail around them. Something to appeal to the younger audiences but also applicable to the regiment. We have also installed our new donations box made from a 25-pounder shell casing.

Tony and I have finished the Collections Audit. Besides some thing being slightly moved I'm glad to say most of the collection is exactly where it should be. Our next step is to identify any gaps in the collection from this and look to fill those gaps.



Finally, it was lovely to attend the Remembrance day at the memorial at Duxford. Good to see so many people turning up and also in the galleries afterwards for a chat. I enjoyed being part of the day in my small way and was happy with comments I received about the galleries.



Beds and Herts Remembrance Parade

Beds and Herts Remembrance & Reunion Parade and Plaque Unveiling Ceremony

On Sunday 18th November old comrades, serving officers and men, cadets and members of the public attended the final November Re-Union Parade at the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment's Memorial outside the Keep in Kempston. A bright sunny day welcomed all with a nip in the air as contingents and wreath layers took up their positions. The Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Colonel Chris Sharwood-Smith, took the salute with the Mayor and other Councillors also laying wreaths. A small ensemble of the Band of the Royal Anglian Regiment played during the Service of Remembrance and for the March Past in front of the Keep. Following the parade a small ceremony was held in the Garden of Remembrance behind the Memorial to unveil a plaque recognising the merging of the former Associations of first the 16th of Foot, then the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regimental



Old Comrades march past

Association into what is now the Royal Anglian (Beds and Herts Branch) Regimental Association. An excellent buffet lunch in the Keep allowed the large turnout of veterans from both Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire to enjoy themselves at this final gathering. In future, there will only be one annual event and this will be Blenheim Day which in 2019 will be on Sunday 11th August with a service at the Church of the Transfiguration in Kempston followed by a gathering at the Memorial and lunch in the Keep afterwards. Particular thanks and recognition go to Basil Hirniak who as always did a superb job in organising and executing a splendid day for us all to enjoy and remember.



Dipped Standards in front of the Grade 2* Listed War Memorial to the men of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, The Bedfordshire Regiment and The Hertfordshire Regiment



Colonel Sharwood-Smith DL unveils the plaque in the Garden of Remembrance.

Regimental Association Cambridge

On Tuesday 13th November 2018, a small ceremony was held at the Wisbech General Cemetery. A local project, supported by a Heritage Lottery Grant, has recovered the now disused General Cemetery and Chapel in Wisbech. The cemetery, which dates from the early 1800's, contains many unmarked graves. During this restoration process, a number of WWI war graves were uncovered but which were unmarked by the Commonwealth War Graves (CWGC) whose has the responsibility for the marking and upkeep of War Graves. The restoration society contacted the CWGC who identified 11 individuals, 10 of whom were WWI victims and one who was a victim in WW2. Of note to our Regimental Family, were 2 x Cambridge Regiment soldiers, 1 x Suffolk Regiment soldier and 1 x Essex Regiment soldier.



The CWGC had War Grave headstones made for each of the soldiers and at a ceremony on 13th November, conducted by Rev Robin Hine, the soldiers names were read out over each grave and local school children recited the Kohima Epitaph and placed poppy crosses. A contingent of Royal Anglian soldiers, led by RSM Hume of 3 R Anglian, and consisting of representatives of all 3 Royal Anglian Battalions, attended the ceremony. The ceremony included the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Mrs Belinda Sutton, the Mayor & Mayoress of Wisbech, Cllr Peter Human & Mrs Janet Tanfield, and the Royal Anglian County Colonel for Cambridgeshire, Col David Denson.

Chelmsford Remembers Them

A Violin that went to the Western Front with a young soldier was played again in a special free concert in Chelmsford Cathedral to mark the centenary of the Armistice. A collection for the Regimental Benevolent fund made £803 for which the Regiment is thankful for.

Born in Walthamstow, Albert Edward Edward Burchell enlisted into the Essex Regiment in December 1914 at the age of 17. In 1916 he was posted to the Western Front as part of the Hertfordshire Regiment, carrying with him his treasured violin, on which he scratched his Army numbers, units and some of the places he served in.



Private Burchell survived to see the end of the First World War and lived to the age of 86. After his death, his family donated his family violin to the Essex Regiment museum. The violin was played once more as part of a free concert arranged by Chelmsford City Council in collaboration with Essex Music Education hub and Orchestra Live.

London Gazette Extracts - Oct 18

Long Service and Good Conduct Medal (LSGCM)

LSGCM (with 3 stripes)

Lt Col M H Wenham

LSGCM (with 1 stripe)

Brig R W Wooddisse

Brig J M Woodham

Lt Col S T H Andrews

Lt Col A C E Marinos

Lt Col J C J Wright

Lt Col A J Wylie

Maj A G Grinonneau

Maj F J R Grounds

Capt N Vazquez

LSGCM

Lt Col B M Allen

Lt N D B Charlwood

Lt Col G B Foden

Lt Col P J Messenger

Lt Col T P D Morris

Lt Col P C Moxey MBE

Lt Col B D Weston

Lt Col A P Wolfe MBE

Lt Col M S Woodeson

Maj A Biggs

Maj P M Birch

Maj T G B P Coleman

Maj M R Cook

Maj A K Dart

Maj T Jones

Maj A I Maclay

Maj W J Meddings

Maj M C Melia

Maj S R Milsom-Smith

Maj P A Muncey

Maj O B Ormiston

Maj S F Roberts

Maj D J Robinson

Maj S Thomas Maj A P T Wilde

Capt J A Perring

CSgt K J Price

Cpl I K Strike

1st Clasp to LSGCM

Lt Col D Mackness

Maj A J Buxton

Maj B S French

Maj D T Granfield

Maj A J Penn

Maj I J Robinson

Maj L A Waghorn

Capt D A Grice

Capt M J Ielden

Capt K Main

1st and 2nd Clasp to LSGCM

Maj P N Blanchfield MBE

1st Clasp to VRSM

Lt Col T M B Smith

VRSM

Cpl C J Dring