



# Royal Anglian *News*

July 2020

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# Regimental Matters

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## Virtual Regimental Day 2020

Work on the Regimental day is gathering pace and we would like to thank those who have contributed to it so far, especially the Regimental Museum at Duxford and its brilliant curator - Melissa! As a reminder it will be available online at 1100hrs on Sun 6 Sept 20. The Regimental family are invited to send any photos or video clips of veterans, past or present, for inclusion in the production to the project lead [timothy.brown133@bc.mod.gov.uk](mailto:timothy.brown133@bc.mod.gov.uk)

## Brigadier DSJ Biddick MBE MC to become ACOS Fd Army

The Regiment congratulates Brig Dom Biddick on his appointment as ACOS Fd Army as he hands over from a busy command of 20 AI Bde, including the move back from Germany.



## Lt Col G Goodey MBE achieves top student

The Regiment congratulates Lt Col Graham Goodey on being awarded the best Land Student on the Advanced Command and Staff Course.

## Command Board 2020

The Regiment congratulates Maj B Hawes MBE and Maj D Haggart on selection for promotion to Lt Col and command of the Second and Third Battalions respectively.

## APC appointments published

APC Glasgow has also just released the following appointments, we wish them all the best in their new posts;

Maj Mackness to COSTANGHAM HQ on OPTANGHAM in Somalia

Maj Ginns to SO2 BAME at HQ 7x in Kendrew Barracks

Capt Ryan to SO2 Plans at ITG in Pirbright

Capt Duncalfe to SO2 CBT Plans at Director Capability in Andover

# 1st Battalion (The Vikings)

## MST AND MINDEN DAY

This month has seen the majority of the Battalion continuing to prepare for the upcoming deployment to Afghanistan on Op TORAL II later in the year. The month began with the All-Ranks Brief delivered in Woolwich to the Battalion by the Mission Training and Mobilisation Centre. The week-long event included a range of theatre specific briefings and a daylong Tactical Commanders Cadre. This set the scene for the upcoming deployment and provided a foundation of knowledge on which to continue building with more focussed Mission Specific Training.



Following the All-Ranks Brief the Companies went on to a mix of ranges and local exercises. A, B and C Companies conducted range packages which saw the soldiers refreshing their skills on the rifle, pistol, sharpshooter rifle and General Purpose Machine Gun before progressing to honing their Close Quarter Battle shooting skills and shooting from Foxhound Vehicles.

The Companies also took turns to run through Ex KABUL HORIZON to practice their future role in Kabul. The exercise simulated an Advisor Force Protection mission which will make up the majority of their role on Op TORAL II. The Multiples moved in vehicles around London making use of local Army Reserve Centres to practice their skills in a busy city environment.



Members of all Companies continue to attend Foxhound and Civilian Armoured Vehicle commander and driver courses as well as numerous other specific courses to develop the skills needed for the upcoming deployment. Training in the Foxhound vehicles around camp and the local area has taken up much of the spare time this month and along with the wider training conducted this month will set the Battalion up well for the upcoming Mission Rehearsal Exercises in the coming months.

Soldiers from C Company also joined Major Chris Brannigan as he marches the length of the country barefoot to raise money for charity researching his daughter's rare disease. The leg the members of the Vikings joined him on finished at No. 10 Downing street where Major Brannigan handed in his petition and Company Sergeant Major Matt Willan presented him with a cheque for £500 towards his cause.

At the time of writing the Battalion is preparing for Minden day which will be celebrated this year on the 31<sup>st</sup> of July. Although the celebrations this year will be somewhat limited by COVID 19 restrictions it is nonetheless a day that the Battalion is looking forward to and which will see the return of the Officers vs Warrant Officers and Sergeants Mess cricket match before the Battalion breaks for summer leave.



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## 2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

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### Op NEWCOMBE PREPARATION AND SUPPORT TO MTU

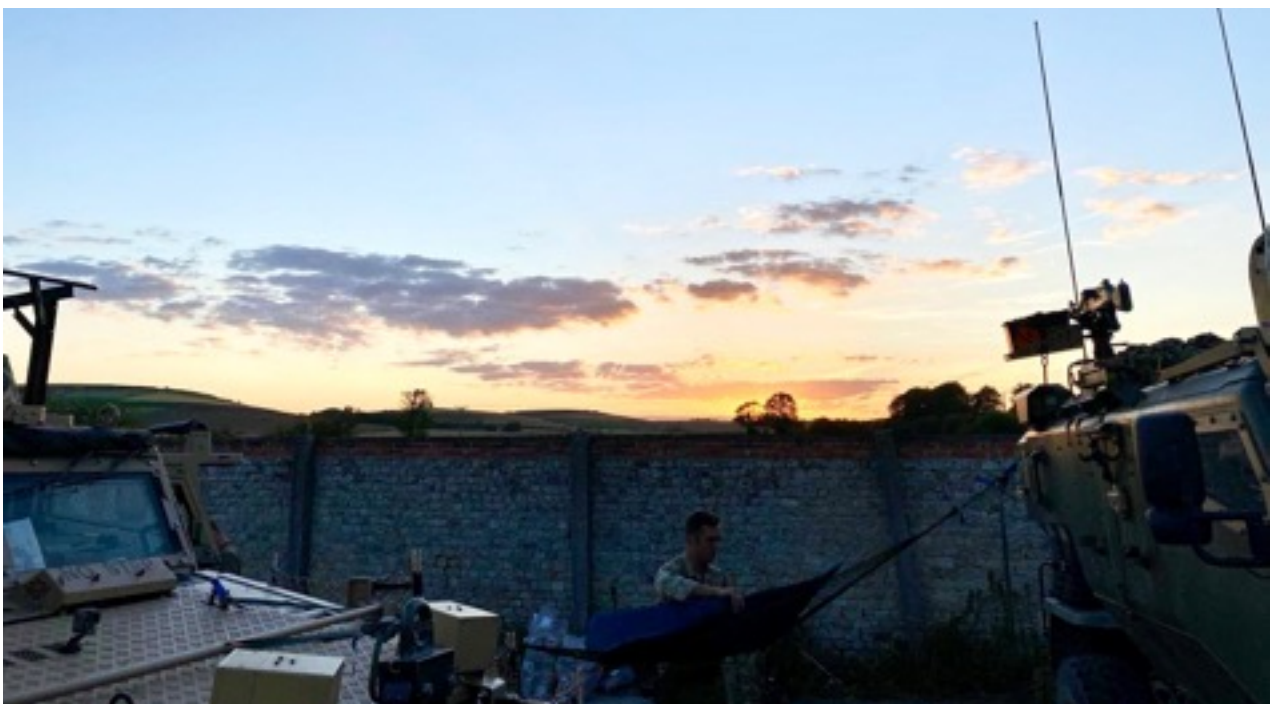
The beginning of the month saw A (Lincolnshire) & C (Northamptonshire) Companies deployed on the ever-present Mobile Testing Units as part of the COVID Support Force (CSF). The army's contribution to the battle against COVID has been immense, with 750,000 tests conducted with a daily testing capacity of 87,200.



Elsewhere in the Battalion, B (Leicestershire) Company deployed onto Salisbury Plain Training Area with their Foxhound and Coyote vehicles on an integration exercise with the Light Dragoons Battle Group in preparation for Operations in Mali later this year. The start of a four- week stint on the plain began with a virtual exercise testing the command and control of the battle group, ahead of deploying proper into the field. The exercise provided realistic training revolving around long range patrolling and operating in austere environments.

D (Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire) Company sharpened their marksmanship skills with Ex STAGS EYE which saw them deploy to Beckingham ranges and fire all platoon weapon systems up to their Annual Combat Marksmanship Test.

Continuing in the background to all the training the companies have been conducting, the Battalion has been part of an Optimising Human Performance pilot scheme which is the only one of its kind in the Army. The aim of this is to increase deplorability across the army by improving physical and mental well- being.



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## 3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

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### STEELBACKS CONTINUED GROWTH TRAINS ON EX DAGGER

The with constant influx of new recruits and soldiers the training looked back at the basics, the principles that all other tasks in the Infantry grow from. The first being the ability to operate from a bergan in the field, and the second being able to find the enemy. In socially distanced platoon ‘bubbles’ the Battalion moved to STANTA to set themselves up, ensuring that there was no cross contamination. Whilst this added an administrative burden to the exercise it proved that training in this environment is still, not only possible, but practical, and credit should go to 4 Company who took the lead on running this exercise.

With a deep dive on patrol harbours the platoons set about digging shell scrapes and moving into routine, ensuring that they could operate effectively, refreshing and rebuilding faded skills. From there it was time to move into the ‘find’ part of the Infantry Battle, with Sections receiving orders to conduct recce patrols. And as darkness fell these patrols silently left their harbours to search out the enemy across the AO. The ghostly and hidden movements of the sections gave the unnerving feeling of always being watched, knowing that someone was out there, and struggling to find them. Even with the addition of night viewing devices identifying patrols was made difficult by intelligent selection of routes and movement.



A successful first weekend back for the Steelbacks, a chance to invigorate core skills, and build in preparation for our ADX in early September. It is critical that we all retain the core basic skills of Infantry soldiering, and it never hurts to spend time focusing on how to do them properly. A great exercise, and it was great to see the Battalion back together.

Maj Rhys Little

OC 3 (Essex & Herts) Coy

# Association News

## Royal Anglian Regiment Museum

The most exciting news about the Museum for this month is that it will be opening again on August 1<sup>st</sup>! We are happy to be seeing the public in again, but of course will be taking all precautions to make sure it is a safe environment. The handling collections will be coming out, and the Museum will miss the many pictures that are sent to our Facebook of smiling families donning various kit.

Working from home, the museum has continued to look through various Regimental magazines and archival material that can be seen digitally on our website. There has also been an effort to post in the 'Museum News' section of the website.

Although working from home has allowed the Museum to get work done, we are excited to get in and clean and prepare some new temporary exhibitions for the museum, hope to see you all there in the near future! In the meantime, here are some of our favourite pages from the archives and Castles we stumbled upon while working:



### Poachers' appetites

It may interest readers to know the amount of food consumed by the 2nd Battalion while training at Sennelager between 26th May and 8th June, 1973. Since officers and senior NCOs fed in their own Messes except for lunch in the field, these figures are mainly the achievements of Corporals and soldiers. 4,400 lb. of meat (of all types)—or 3 tons—is a lot of meat.

Beef	2,086 lb.
Mutton	256 ..
Pork	536 ..
Sauzages	740 ..
Bacon	465 ..
Lamb	600 ..
Chicken	835 ..
Liver, Kidney, etc.	400 ..
Turkey	214 ..

Two ex-soldiers who served in NI and Afghanistan agreed to have their legs waxed to raise money for the Royal Anglian Memorial Appeal.

First battalion 'taking a break' Castle, June 2001

E (Chelmsford) Coy, trying out some new ammo, Castle, June 2001

List of how many pounds of meat the Poachers ate in Sennelager, 1973

That's all for now!  
The Curator,  
Royal Anglian Regiment Museum

## BULLETINS

RHQ circulated seven Regimental Bulletins in July which are also on the Regimental Website:

- Bulletin 53-20 Job - Nationwide Security
- Bulletin 54-20 RHC Update
- Bulletin 55-20 Spec O of Day Salamanca
- Bulletin 56-20 Cancellation RHC
- Bulletin 57-20 Request Leadership Literature
- Bulletin 58-20 Spec O of Day Talavera
- Bulletin 59-20 Spec O of Day Minden

## Diary Dates - Spring and Summer 2020

The Regiment regrets that our major Regimental events for this Spring were cancelled. During the Coronavirus crises our policy has been to cancel major events three months in advance of the event: before invitations are issued and before Regimental funds have been committed. Current plans are to have no major Regimental events this Summer, in August, September or October. As soon as we are able to resume our programme of events safely, we will do so. Updates of Regimental Events in November and beyond will be in August's *Royal Anglian News* and in Regimental Bulletins.

## FULL TIME RESERVE SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AT BASSINGBOURN BARRACKS

The Mission Training and Mobilisation Centre (MTMC) is being established at Basingbourn Barracks. The MTMC are advertising 40 Full Time Reserve Service (Home Commitment) jobs at Basingbourn Barracks. These range in rank from JNCO to Station Support Officer. Full details are available from RHQ.

## **Bolt & Magill** **Lincoln House | 5 Pump Court | 9 Bedford Row**

This is the second in a series of articles by Sarah Magill and Matthew Bolt, two barristers who specialise in defending members of the Armed Forces. They will explain how your approach to navigating the military and civilian legal systems can affect you and your families both during your careers and afterwards.

*Bolt & Magill*

### **SPEAKING TO THE CIVILIAN POLICE**

At some point in your career you may find that the police want to talk to you. In this article we tell you what to expect and what might happen. Every case is different, and you should take legal advice about the specific situation you find yourself in, but these are the basics.

#### **Why do the Police want to talk to me?**

This is your first question, and it is an important one. The police might want to speak to you as a potential witness to a crime or death, or they may want to interview you as a suspect. The way they approach you does not always make this clear. Them saying they would like you to 'just pop in for a chat' can still mean that you are a suspect.

The best way to work out the reason for the meeting is to ask them directly – am I under suspicion? If you are not comfortable doing this and would prefer someone else to do the leg work, you can contact a Solicitor.

#### **The Police have said that they want to speak to me as a witness. Do I have to speak to them?**

No, but you may be happy to be a witness. If you are feeling unsure and would like advice on your options, speak to an independent Solicitor first.

#### **Does instructing a Solicitor make it look like I have something to hide?**

Not at all. The police are used to dealing with Solicitors. The police will automatically offer you a Solicitor if you are a suspect, it is against the law for them not to. When police officers are interviewed as suspects, they are always represented by specialist lawyers. This is a good example of why you should be, too.

#### **How much does it cost?**

If you are being interviewed as a suspect, whether attending voluntarily or under arrest, it is free under legal aid. It is not means assessed, so representation is free even if you are a millionaire.

If you are being spoken to as a witness, this is different and there may well be a charge. You should ask the Solicitor before you commit to using them. They should be clear and upfront about any cost to you.

#### **What is the difference between a voluntary interview and an interview under arrest?**

In both, you are a suspect. In terms of the content there is no difference. A voluntary interview takes place at a time and date suitable to you. If you have a Solicitor, they will organise this on your behalf. You can leave a voluntary interview at any time and unless something goes terribly wrong, you will be going home afterwards to await the results of further investigation, and a final prosecution decision.

If you have been arrested the police will ask you if you would like to be represented by a Solicitor. If you don't know any, the police have access to the 'Duty Solicitor Scheme'. Local independent Solicitors based



near your barracks take turns on a rota to ensure local police stations are covered 24/7 by specialist lawyers who can defend you at short notice.

It does not matter whether the interview is voluntary or under arrest, you have an unassailable right to be represented by a Solicitor.

### **Should I use the duty solicitor scheme, or someone else? How do I know who to pick?**

Duty Solicitors have taken extra exams, meaning they are experts at police interviews. Firms based near your barracks are likely to be familiar with the military environment and the impact of a conviction on your career. If you would prefer to choose your own, you can do so. There are firms who specialise in defending service personnel. If you have already had your interview, it is not too late to change your Solicitor, or to instruct one.

### **Should I just go in on my own to get it over with, and answer questions?**

Going into an interview without a Solicitor is like going into battle without any ammo. You are putting yourself in a position where you are more likely to be prosecuted than if you had taken legal advice and dealt with the interview in a different way.

The law says that the police must provide you, or if you are represented your Solicitor, with some information before any interview. We call this 'disclosure'. This disclosure includes the evidence they have against you. The police should give you information that undermines the case against you, too. In other words, evidence or facts that help you.

In our experience, if you have no Solicitor you are likely to be given very little, if any of this information. Having a Solicitor will ensure this is obtained, and if the police do not provide enough disclosure, how this affects interview tactics.

### **What will the Solicitor do that I cannot do myself?**

Besides obtaining disclosure, a Solicitor will advise you what the offences mean, any defences available and your options, including any potential out-of-Court disposals available to you.

They will listen to you and write down your account of what happened. They may take notes of potential defence witnesses, and they may make notes of locations where evidence such as CCTV can be checked. They will explain what the caution means.

Solicitors will ensure that you only go into an interview if you are fit to be interviewed. In some cases, people then go directly to hospital and are not interviewed until they are better.

### **Interview Strategy**

The caution, given by the police at the beginning of the interview, is important. It shapes your defence strategy. The caution says *'you do not have to say anything, but it may harm your defence if you do not mention when questioned something which you later may rely on in Court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence'*.

The Solicitor will tell you what needs to be said in the interview. This is because the interview becomes evidence against you.

There are four ways a Solicitor might advise you to approach an interview:

1. They may advise you to refuse the interview, instead making some representations on your behalf that secure your release.

2. They may listen to what you say and advise you that some of it is not helpful and should not be repeated, but some of it needs to be said. The Solicitor is an expert in this sort of tactical analysis. They may advise you to put forward a 'prepared statement', which they will write with you.
3. They may advise you not to answer any questions at all. This might be because there is no evidence you have done anything wrong, or there is insufficient evidence to prosecute you, but if you say something, you might give the police evidence they didn't have. It may also be because you do not have a defence.
4. They may advise you to answer questions. They will help you prepare for this.

The Solicitor is trained to stop the interview so that they can speak to you to discuss the case in private. This means they can change your strategy dynamically as the interview progresses, and the police reveal more information about their case. They can also intervene to stop the police asking inappropriate or irrelevant questions, repeating themselves, taking too long or behaving in a hostile manner.

### What happens afterwards?

One of the following will happen:

- Released Under Investigation: you are not being prosecuted, but the case has not been dropped. There may be further interviews.
- Released on bail: you must return on a date and at a time dictated to you by the police. There may be further interviews.
- Charged and bailed to Court: you must attend the Court stated on the date and at the time stated. You may have been charged with offences that are different to the ones you were arrested for. You should check what you need to do next in the June 2020 issue of Royal Anglian News.
- Charged and remanded: you will be held overnight (over two nights if it is a Saturday) and your case will be heard by the next available Court.
- Released No Further Action: the case is over, you are not being prosecuted.
- Conditional Caution: this stays on your criminal record. It is conditional because there is a condition attached to it, such as taking part in a course or returning an item. A caution requires you to accept that you committed the offence. You are not prosecuted and do not attend Court, unless you fail to comply with the condition(s). You cannot be subject to Major Administrative Action in relation to that incident if you are cautioned.
- Caution: You are not prosecuted and do not attend Court. It goes on your criminal record. You cannot be subject to Major Administrative Action in relation to that incident if you are cautioned.
- Police Disposal: different forces have different names for this, some call it 'restorative justice'. No entry is left on your criminal record. You are not prosecuted and do not attend Court.
- Reported for Summons: this happens after a voluntary interview. You are not on bail, but you may receive a Postal Requisition telling you to attend Court on a specific date. You must attend as directed. You should check what you need to do next in the June 2020 issue of Royal Anglian News

In an article to follow, we will explain how long cautions and convictions stay on your criminal record in civvy street, and how they can affect your employment after the military.

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*Matthew Bolt practices across the UK from 5 Pump Court in London. BoltandMagill@gmail.com*

## **COVER PHOTO**

Viking soldier practicing Pistol marksmanship on the range.