



Royal Anglian *News*



July 2021

Cover Image:

Op NEWCOMBE - The 2nd Battalion continue to operate in support of the UN, MINUSMA Mission in Mali. Battalion HQ and A (Lincolnshire) Company have relieved B (Leicestershire) Company and have commenced long range patrol operations.

Regimental Day at Duxford - 5 Sep 21



Programme

All members of our Regimental family are welcome to attend their Regimental Day which will take place at The Imperial War Museum, Duxford, CB22 4QR, on 5th September 2021. It is hoped the Government's Road Map will continue and allow the event and that there are no further restrictions.

Music for the day is kindly provided by the Band of the Royal Anglian Regiment and the Corps of Drums of the Essex and Cambridgeshire ACF. The outline timings are:

- 09:30 hrs Gates Open. (regrettably no dogs allowed).
- 11:00 hrs Muster for Drumhead Service, please be seated by 11:15 hours.
- 11:20 hrs Standards March On.
- 11:30 hrs Drumhead Service at the Regimental Memorial.
- 12:00 hrs Bars and Stalls open, picnic tables will be available.
- 13:00 hrs Musical Recital by the Regimental Band and Corps of Drums in the picnic area.
- 15:30 hrs Flag Lowering Ceremony in the Marquee Area.
- 16:00 hrs Bars and Stalls close.

At the Flag Lowering ceremony in the Marquee Area all are asked to stand.



The Royal Anglian Benevolent Fund

There is no charge for your entry to the Regimental Day, which is funded by the Royal Anglian Benevolent Fund. It is estimated to cost £10 per person to put on this prestigious event. There will be an opportunity for the Regimental family to donate generously at various points throughout the site towards the Royal Anglian Benevolent Fund. All donations would be gratefully received.

It is politely requested that no other collections take place.

The Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund exists to provide financial assistance to past and present members of our Regiment and its forebear Regiments, their spouses and dependents, when they find themselves in need, hardship or distress. If you find yourself in this situation get assistance for a RBL of SSAFA Caseworker who will pass the information to the Benevolence Committee in confidence.

The Royal Anglian Regiment Museum

In addition to access to the Royal Anglian Regiment Museum in the Land Warfare Hall, visitors will also be able to view a marquee display set up on the day within the Regtl picnic area.

Regimental News

London Gazette

The following entries were listed in The London Gazette dated 24.05.2021:

The Regiment Warmly Congratulates the Following:

Officer Cadet David Marston – Brown Royal Anglian Regiment 30233373 from The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst to be Second Lieutenant 10 April 2021

Officer Cadet Paul Andrew Phillips Royal Anglian Regiment 30268822 from The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst to be Second Lieutenant 10 April 2021

1st Battalion (The Vikings)

The Vikings Head for Cyprus - The Hard Way!

The Vikings have spent the month of June recovering from a very successful Battalion level Exercise which tested all levels of the Battalion and a video of what Ex VIKING STORM involved, can be found on our Social Media. Once re-grouped at Woolwich, the Battalion has set about completing the task of the unit move to Cyprus, a G4 education that our junior officers have relished. Concurrently to the packing up of accommodation, equipment and loading ISO containers, Battalion HQ successfully completed a CAST Exercise.

The Vikings are also preparing and training for Exercise OLYMPUS VIKING, a charitable physical challenge across Europe to our new home in Cyprus. Once the Battalion flags are lowered in Woolwich they will be carried by soldiers and Officers of the 1st Battalion all the way across the continent to be raised in Cyprus. The challenge will be completed in four stages, with four teams completing a different event during each stage. To kickstart OLYMPUS VIKING, the Viking Running Team will be running from Woolwich to Dover, a total distance of seventy miles. Once in Dover, they will hand over to the Swimming Team for



The Viking Rowing Team Preparing for Their Challenging Stage

the second stage, who will be swimming the channel to Calais. The Cycling Team will be waiting for them in France, ready to take over the challenge and cycle an average of one hundred and thirty miles a day across Europe to Marathon. The final stage will be conducted by the Rowing Team who will row from Marathon to Cyprus, a fantastic way to complete the event. OLYMPUS VIKING looks to be a fantastic experience for all those involved. However, more importantly, it will raise funds for several charities which are The Army Benevolent Fund (The Soldiers Charity), Combat Stress, One Dream Wish and Little Heroes. If you would like to donate please watch out for updates on how to do so on our social media sites.

2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

The Poachers Maintain Momentum on Operations in Africa and Poland



The Euro 2021 Championships offer a link to UK and a respite from Patrolling

June has seen A (Lincolnshire) Company and Battalion Head Quarters complete their handover in Mali and take up the lead for the Long Range Reconnaissance Group. While the beginning of the month saw the main body of the company in quarantine prior to arriving in Mali, the advance party started to soak up the



lessons learned from B Company, took over the many vehicles and deployed out on a short handover takeover patrol.



Long Range Patrolling in such austere conditions offers a unique set of challenges

A Company's takeover in Mali signalled the end of an arduous but rewarding 6 months for B (Leicestershire) Company. They have now returned home and are enjoying some well-earned time off. They have now had their medals parade, albeit one in reduced scale as a result of the ongoing restrictions.

The battle continues for D (Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire) Company in Poland as they continue to get stuck into the training opportunities that come with being deployed on Op CABRIT. June saw them build from the live firing exercises of May, with the Anti-Tank Platoon continuing to fire Javelin, and the Recce Platoon conducted some further training cadres.

Back in the UK, C (Northamptonshire) Company deployed on Exercise WESSEX STORM on Salisbury Plain, as the enemy company for the Royal Irish and Scots Dragoon Guards Battlegroups. The enemy company

consisted of elements of a conventional fighting force alongside a militia platoon, all coming together to fully test the exercising battlegroups. With lots of opportunity to experiment with unconventional tactics and greater freedoms than usual, it proved an interesting exercise.

3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

By chance, whilst most of East England endured rain, 3 R ANGLIAN conducted 9 days of Adventure Training in a mostly dry and sunny Peak District. Based out of Totley Camp near Sheffield, activities included Canoeing, Hill Walking, Rock Climbing, Mountain Biking and Caving.

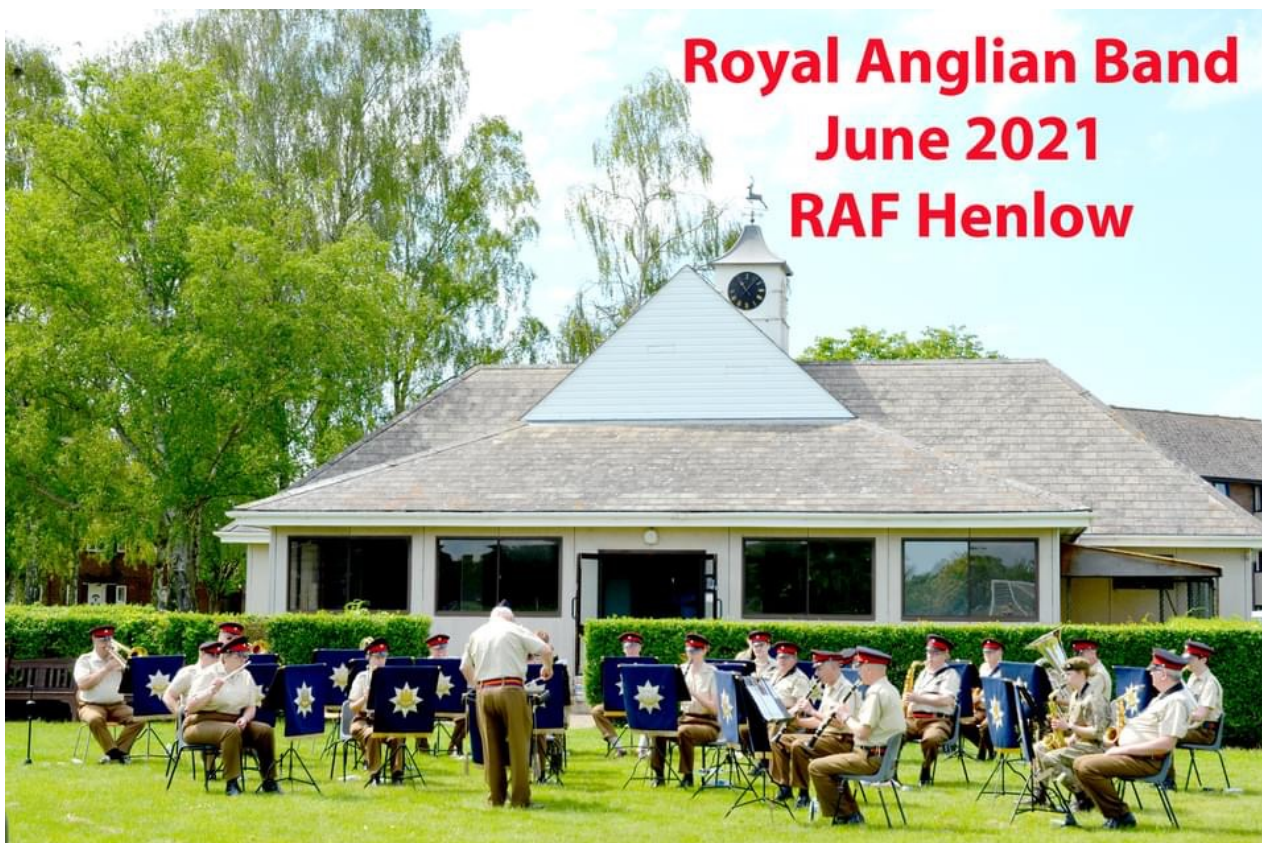


The first week brought together our Permanent Staff from across the Battalion and the second week, our Reservists.

Some activities presented more of a challenge than others with the Mountain Bike topping the list for endurance and most scrapes/scratches. Whilst the Rock Climbing and Caving tested individuals' aptitude for heights and confined spaces. On the Paddle Boards sense of balance proved troublesome with most failing to avoid the inevitable cold dip into Tittesworth Reservoir.

Overall, a successful, and enjoyable two weeks with all participants meeting all challenges.

The Band of The Royal Anglian Regiment



The Regtl band performed its first engagement since December 2019. The event was the RAF Henlow families day. RAF Henlow have hosted us for our week's ADX and it was good to do something in return.



The band enjoyed being together and training again, we spent the first part of the ADX week regaining and refreshing our skills. We are now looking forward to a busy summer which includes another visit to Henlow in July. We were also pleased to welcome Nathaniel playing trumpet on work experience for the week. He is auditioning to join the Royal Corps of Army Music later this month, so good luck to him.

Salamanca Day - 22 July 1812

44th and 56th Foot, the Essex Regiment and the Battle of Salamanca



Following the French Revolution in 1789, Great Britain was at war with France for most of the period 1793-1815 as Napoleon Bonaparte, seizing power in 1799, attempted to dominate the whole of Europe. Much of the action was at sea, but the Peninsular War, from 1808-1814, was the setting for the Army's major contribution to Napoleon's eventual defeat. For most of the time the British forces in the Peninsula were under command of General Sir Arthur Wellesley, later to become the Duke of Wellington, fighting alongside Portuguese and Spanish allies.

On 22 July 1812 at Salamanca north-west of Madrid, Wellington's army, from a strong and well concealed defensive position, was able to launch a surprise attack on the flanks of the French forces. After repeated assaults the whole French army was driven back in confusion, and the way was open for Wellington to advance on Madrid.

The 2nd Battalion of the 44th (East Essex) Regiment of Foot, which had been raised in 1803, played a significant part in the battle and Lieutenant William Pearce captured the Eagle Standard of the 62nd Regiment of the Line. The 1st Battalion of the 9th (East Norfolk) Regiment of Foot, the 1st Battalion of the 48th (Northamptonshire) Regiment of Foot, and the 2nd Battalion (Rutlandshire) Regiment of Footwear also involved in the action and, like the 2/44th were granted the battle honour 'Salamanca'.

Subsequently, the 44th Foot, as the 1st Battalion of the Essex Regiment, adopted an eagle as their badge. The tradition was continued during the further reorganisations so that today the Regimental Colour includes an eagle and all ranks of the regiment wear an eagle on the upper left arm in formal dress. Salamanca Day itself is marked by the 1st Battalion. The Salamanca Eagle is displayed in the Essex Regiment Museum in Chelmsford, and from time to time is taken to appear on formal parades with the 1st Battalion.



Talavera Day - 27 July 1809

48th and 58th of Foot, the Northamptonshire Regiment and the Battle of Talavera



The 48th (Northamptonshire) Regiment of Foot close with the French bayonets fixed!

Talavera was a battle of the Peninsular War. Wellington had advanced into Spain with the intention of bringing to battle a large French Army. On 27 July 1809 his forces occupied high ground at Talavera; south west of Madrid, alongside a large Spanish force. Late in the evening the French attacked, before the left of the British line was properly in position, and occupied an important hill. A swift counter attack, in which the 1st Battalion of the 48th (Northamptonshire) Regiment of Foot played a prominent part, drove the French off the hill, and other troops, including the 2nd Battalion of the 48th, came up to help secure the position.

A large scale French assault the following morning was repulsed, but later in the day when the French attacked the centre of the British line a dangerous gap was opened up. Wellington summoned the 1/48th to plug the gap, which they did with great dash and bravery. In his subsequent dispatch Wellington wrote, 'The battle was certainly saved by the advance position, and steady conduct of the 48th Regiment.'

Talavera Day was celebrated with the Northamptonshire Regiment and the 2nd East Anglian Regiment. Today it remains the the Regimental Day of the 2nd Battalion.

The Royal Anglian Regiment Museum

Since the Museum opened up, we have been incredibly busy, it's great to get back to seeing visitors again. Over July and August we will be hosting 400 cadets, hopefully teaching them all something new and inspiring. Some of the groups are quite large and our volunteers are really stepping up to lend a hand. The Museum is so grateful so many people who served with the Regiment who want to continue to help preserve its history. If you are a cadet leader, Royal Anglian cap badged cadets are free of charge, so get in touch if you would like to book a visit.

The Museum, supported by the 3rd Battalion also went up to Lincolnshire for Armed Forces Weekend. Although the events were curtailed slightly because of Coronavirus, we still managed to get a day in at a local park to talk to people about the Regiment. Once again it is just great to do some outreach after a year of being cancelled.

We also had a visit from the Malayan veterans at the end of May. It was lovely to see them and the Museum, RHQ and volunteer Matt Gadsby put on some tea, coffee and cake to welcome them back which they really appreciated. We even managed to win in their raffle!



Furthermore, we heard some stories from the veterans about their time in Malaya, and even about having to be airlifted out of the jungle on a make-shift platform and received this picture! Its always great to hear these reminisces of jungle operations in Malaya.



In other news, our reserve collection is getting ready to be stored much closer to the Museum! We have been packing and getting everything ready for the move, but at the moment, is it over an hour away from the Museum. This will bring it on site and allow us access on a daily basis if need be, which will be great for us, and volunteers and researchers who want to access it. We could even have controlled open days to bring more of what we can't fit in the galleries to show visitors.

With airshows coming up, and lockdown being fully lifted (hopefully) next month, I'm sure we will only get busier and we look forward to it! **Melissa Kozlenko at: royalanglianmuseumcurator@outlook.com**

Our Veteran Community

Royal Anglian Veteran and Paralympian, Steve Gill is Aiming High for the Future.

I started archery in 2013 where I went on to compete in the first ever Invictus games where I earned a bronze medal as an individual recurve archer.

From there I was picked up by Archery GB to be a part of their Para Academy with the aim of progressing to compete in the Paralympic Games. This is where I found my love of the sport and made my way to being ranked 4th in the country for para-recurve archers.

I narrowly missed out on competing in the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games but I went as part of the Paralympic Inspiration program which allowed me to experience the games but not as an athlete. From then I knew I wanted to compete, I wanted to be a Paralympian.

In 2017 it was suggested that I change bow styles to train as a compound archer (as pictured) which although may look similar, I had to relearn my whole shot process and essentially start from scratch. I did not let this deter me and I have been training 6 days a week since then in the hopes of competing in the 2020 Tokyo Games.

Once the COVID pandemic hit I was unable to train at my regular outdoor range and have had to make do with a target in my garage. This, along with the deterioration of my equipment, made it much harder for me to keep up to the standard needed, however, I persevered and as soon as the training venue was allowed to reopen, I was back to training almost every day.

I missed out on the 2 available compound slots for Tokyo by only 1 point but this has not stopped my passion and drive and with the help of the Royal Anglian Benevolent Fund sponsoring some new equipment I am confident that I will be at the standard needed to compete in the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games.



Regimental Bulletins

- I22 Dated 6 May 21 - Death of Sgt Matthew Slater
- I23 Dated 14 May 21 - Death of Major Ken Mayhew
- I27 Dated 7 Jun 21 - Death of SSI John Gooding
- I29 Dated 2 Jun 21 - Royal Anglian News June Edition
- I30 Dated 8 Jun 21 - Cancellation of the Regtl Battlefield Tour & Pilgrimage
- I31 Dated 8 Jun 21 - Death of David Mason
- I32 Dated 9 Jun 21 - Job Vacancy Admin Assistant
- I33 Dated 23 Jun 21 - Death of Col Richard G Wilkes CBETD DL
- I34 - Dated 25 Jun 21 - Special Order of the Day - Royal Tigers Day
- I35 - Dated 25 Jun 21 - Regimental Day 5 Sep 21 (Warning Order)
- I36 - Dated 28 Jun 21 - Vacancy Notice Chief Executive, RFCA East Midlands

RHQ Diary Dates

2021

- 29 Sep RHC Chelsea Chapel Sunday. Cancelled
- 05 Nov Officers Dinner Club – The Rag.
- 11 Nov Field of Remembrance – Westminster
- 14 Nov Regimental Remembrance Service **2022**
- 04 Sep Regimental Day Duxford
- 30 Sep Royal Hospital Chelsea Chapel Sunday.

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A percentage of all profits go to the Regimental Trust and is used to support the welfare and benevolence activities of the Regiment.

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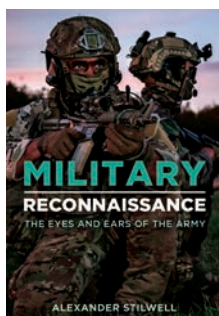
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Regimental Reading



MILITARY RECONNAISSANCE

The Eyes and Ears of the Army

By Alexander Stillwell

This is a fairly wide ranging portrait of the role and application of military reconnaissance through history. The author does focus entirely on military reconnaissance and the role that it has played in a broad spread of battles and campaigns.

Technology and its impact on the way in which recon troops have been employed features prominently in what is an informative narrative. The reader is guided from the early deployment of human scouts, to the use of drones and other sensors.

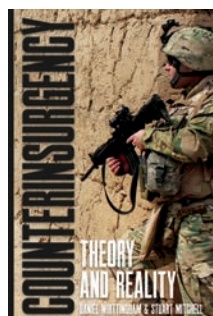
What is also of interest is the way in which notable commanders have made use of, or failed to use the valuable intelligence gathered by their respective reconnaissance assets.

This is by no means a comprehensive examination of the subject. It is however a useful, accessible overview of the subject.

If you are looking for an introduction to the evolution of military reconnaissance, the technology, and tactics employed to maximise the recon capability on the battlefield, this would be a good place to start your own recon of the subject area.

Published by Casemate UK Ltd

Hardback, pp172, RRP £20.00



COUNTERINSURGENCY

Theory and Reality

By Daniel Whittingham & Stuart Mitchell

Many in the Royal Anglian community will need no reminder of the nature of counterinsurgency. Often described as, efforts to defeat and confine a rebellion against a constituted authority. While it has become a buzz word over the past twenty years, it is as old as society, and warfare itself.

This book is a concise introduction to modern counterinsurgency, involving the methods and tactics that those currently serving will immediately recognise. The narrative does however reach back over two hundred years to examine the origins of modern insurgency.

The author initially examines the the concept of small wars, and colonial warfare. We then move into the post 1945 era and the way that Western Armies adapted to their role in counterinsurgency operations. The content ranges from the French experience in colonial Algeria to US operations in Vietnam.

These modern campaigns are compared with British campaigns and counterinsurgency operations in Malaya, Kenya, Cyprus and Northern Ireland. All of which will resonate with our own veteran fraternity.

Finally, the book concludes with recent operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. This is a fairly academic overview of the subject, but it's concise format ensures that the tempo of reading remains manageable.

Published by Casemate UK Ltd, Hardback,

pp164, RRP £19.99