



# Royal Anglian *News*



May 2022

**Cover Image:** Rounds Down Range at Castlemartin (Credit Trig Point Pictures)

## REGIMENTAL NEWS



### Regimental Council Gather at The Royal Hospital Chelsea

The Regimental Council met at the Royal Hospital Chelsea on Friday 6 May 22. The meeting was a huge success, with the added bonus for the Deputy Colonels of the Regiment, and the Commanding Officers, of the opportunity to meet three of our own In-Pensioners. Pictured in the hospital grounds are L-R: CO 3rd Bn - Lt Col Dave Haggar, Brig Rich Lyne, Brig Olly Brown, In-Pensioners, Mick Riley, Fred Dymond and Dougie May. To the right of Dougie are, CO 2nd Bn, Lt Col Ben Hawes, Brig Dom Biddick, and CO 1st Bn, Lt Col Graham Goodey.



## Launch of the Leaf Yard Mental Wellbeing App for the Royal Anglian Family



Our Regiment is a large, united family, and we should look after one another accordingly. We are therefore delighted to offer Leafyard 100% FREE and on a totally anonymous basis for you, and up to four members of your family.

You can also request a card to gift to a Royal Anglian mate in need of a little extra support.

### Backed by science

Science has proven that there are many things we can do to improve our mental fitness: good habits, diet, sleep, exercise, relationships, changing your thought patterns. The problem is, we don't take action when we feel down. We don't actually \*do\* the things that make us feel better.

### Take action

In reality, there are people out there, every single day, who are recovering from anxiety, stress and depression. Leafyard shows you the science behind the things they did to feel better. If you do the same things, you stand every chance of feeling better too.

### How to gain access for free

To request a gift card for you, a member of your family, or a fellow Royal Anglian please email **RHQ@royalanglianregiment.com** because no Royal Anglian should ever feel left behind. There is also a film explaining more about Leafyard on the Regimental website.

## Regimental Band Grand Charity Concert in Bury St Edmunds - Saturday, 14 May 2022



The Band of the Royal Anglian Regiment will perform a Grand Charity Concert on Saturday 14th May in St Mary's Church Bury St Edmunds starting at 3pm. Entrance will be FREE and open to all, with a retiring collection for the Regtl charity. The concert will include a full programme of solos, a Jubilee celebration, and a selection of foot tapping music, leaving you time to go on into Bury St Edmunds for post concert dinner and a few drinks with your friends.

Captain Peter Hudson will step down from his role as Director of Music after the Concert in May

May 2022

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

## Royal Anglian Cricket is Back for Summer 2022!



On Friday 15th July, a Royal Anglian XI will play a 20:20 cricket match against the Barmy Army at Cambridge University Cricket Ground, Fenner's, Cambridge. This event was last held in summer 19. It attracted sizeable crowds and interest, as well as raising a significant amount of money for the Royal Anglian Regt Benevolent Charity. Any interested players are kindly requested to get in touch with Capt Sam King – [samuel.king125@mod.gov.uk](mailto:samuel.king125@mod.gov.uk)

## Royal Anglian Starts for the Army at the Army Rugby Sevens



This month saw the recommencement of the Army Rugby 7s season. Having been one of the standouts from last year's successful season Pte Tulele was a natural choice for the Army team to call upon once more. The season kicked off with a bang at one of the country's oldest rugby tournaments, the Melrose 7s. The Army team picked up where they left off last year quickly defeating teams such as Stirling, 43-14, and Currie Chieftains convincingly 36-5.

The competition quickly heated up as the Army team progressed into the knockout stages however there was no problem in reaching the final against the infamous Samurai Sevens. Pte Tulele once again starred for the Army 7s running out eventual victors 26 – 14. Pte Tulele will now return to Cyprus to join the Vikings Rugby team as they look to continue their so far undefeated season in both the 15s and 7s format.

## Rounds Complete - Ready for Battalion Life!



### INFANTRY BATTLE SCHOOL Platoon Commanders Division Platoon Commanders Battle Course 2103 The Royal Anglian Regiment 16<sup>th</sup> January - 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022



L-R 1st Battalion: Lts Harrison Bussandra and Ben Jooste-Jennings, Maj Mackness, 2nd Battalion: Jack Rice.

### Edgar Mobbs Memorial Rugby Match 2022

On Wednesday 13th April the Regiment again supported the much treasured Edgar Mobbs Memorial Rugby Match held this year at the home of Northampton Saints after a three year absence due to Covid. An Army XV lined up to take on a Saints 2nd XV in a warm up for the Army Vs Navy game on 30th April. The Regiment took 3 tables at the pre-match dinner which was well supported by the Poachers, and in particular by C (Northamptonshire) Company just prior to their departure to Norway for a NATO led exercise.

It was a great pleasure and opportunity for the new Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion, Lt Col Ben Hawes, to host not only the Brigade Commander, but also members of the Bourne RFC, local business owner and ex-Poacher Craig Morris with some of his colleagues, as well as the 3rd Battalion's RCMO, Neil Johnson, whose son was on the bench for the Army. The County Colonel for Northamptonshire, Robert Blomfield, the Northampton retiring Branch Chairman, Richard York, (both Season ticket holders at Franklin's Gardens) and the Area Regimental Secretary, Tim Brown, made up the party of 30 who all enjoyed a cracking night of rugby and very positive community engagement in one of our most popular recruiting areas.

# 1st Battalion (The Vikings)



## Exercise Zeus - Vikings Forge Special Partnership



After an arduous and rewarding 2-week Bn exercise on Ex ARES STORM, soldiers from the Close Reconnaissance Platoon (with support from other D Coy elements) had the fortunate opportunity to conduct training with the Cyprus National Guard's (CNG) Land Special Forces Unit, 33MK. The 3-day joint package would see UK and Cypriot soldiers training together to develop and understand each other's TTPs in a controlled environment before conducting the co-operative planning, rehearsal, and execution of a raid onto a complex urban area; no small feat within such a condensed period.

Pic - LCpls Josh Fremantle and James Bell Descend the Abseil Tower.

**On our first day**, we were met by a highly professional, well-turned out and motivated 33MK who were clearly equally excited for the upcoming training opportunity. Upon arrival, we split into two groups; group one would conduct weapon and capability demonstrations whilst group two underwent some vigorous abseiling and fast roping training (much to the surprise of the I R ANGLIAN soldiers). A worthwhile day getting to know our Cypriot partners concluding in a fantastic fast roping demonstration from the Cypriot SF in full kit.

**Day two** was all about the raid. Planning and rehearsals took place atop a picturesque landscape in the Troodos mountains, conducting a joint estimate with the Cypriot Commanders in a picnic area; very different to the wet and miserable Brecon Beacons British infanteers are conditioned to. Despite the foreign setting, the planning process was smooth and offered insight into our similarities and differences. With the plan in place, and support from three Cypriot Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs), the

makeshift Company stepped off at last light to conduct what was ultimately a successful and enjoyable deliberate action onto a former military barracks, a great location to conduct urban training.

**After an eventful second day**, spirits were high as we returned to 33MKs camp to conduct an After-Action Review (AAR) with the support of SAAB and their TES system. From the AAR, it was clear that despite the minimal training time the two armies had together, the result was still successful due to the professionalism of all soldiers involved, sharing a common intent, and supporting each other. The final day was rounded out by an exchange of gifts and a promise to play each other at a game of football in the near future.

A thoroughly enjoyable experience for all involved, underpinned by good training and mutual respect for our Cypriot partners which will hopefully lead to further opportunities in the future.

### Exercise Alpine Viking

This year The Vikings embarked on Exercise Alpine Viking, a two week ski trip in Tignes. Each week 30 soldiers took part in some challenging adventurous training that either saw them learning to ski from scratch, or working to improve from previous courses.



The Advanced Skiers taking a break from Ski Touring (L-R Sgt Macaleese, Capt Toby Reid, Capt Dickie Ledsham, Lt Will Bagnall)

The majority of those on the exercise were completing their Ski Foundation 1 and therefore were, for the most part, new to skiing. Some took to it quickly, whilst others had a harder time getting to grips with it a new skill that at times can feel frustratingly counterintuitive. However, all persevered and many laughs were had watching the falls and tumbles that inevitably occur when learning how to ski.

In the second week, there were two groups who took on some slightly more demanding ski training. Those on Ski Foundation 2 saw some testing skiing both on and off-piste, and had a short introduction to touring which left them keen for more. Those on Ski Foundation 3 had the opportunity to plan and conduct some longer tours which, although physically demanding, gave them the opportunity to do more exciting off-piste skiing.

This was a challenging exercise for the Vikings that took part, no matter what their level of skiing was. It was great to see all those that took part getting stuck into all the wonderful activities that a week of skiing has to offer, and enjoying the demanding training that adventurous activities provide.

**Royal Anglian DIRECT**  
The Official Online Store of The Royal Anglian Regiment

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

**ALT-BERG<sup>®</sup>**  
**DESERT MICROLITE**  
**MOD BROWN BOOT**

Extremely lightweight and breathable, yet tough, Desert boot – tried, tested and refined since 1994 – in Oman, Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan.

**NOW ONLY £165.95**

**SHOP NOW**

[www.royalangliandirect.co.uk](http://www.royalangliandirect.co.uk)  
[shop@royalangliandirect.co.uk](mailto:shop@royalangliandirect.co.uk)

**LAYBUY**  
BUY NOW, PAY LATER  
0% INTEREST, NO FEES!

### Royal Norfolk & Royal Anglian Regimental Association Officers' Lunch

The Royal Norfolk and Royal Anglian Regimental Association Officers Lunch will be held at The Norfolk Club, Norwich on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Anyone wishing to attend should complete the booking form available from the Regt Website and email it to Miss Helen Bibby using the email address [helenbibby@royalnorfolk.plus.com](mailto:helenbibby@royalnorfolk.plus.com)



## 2nd Battalion (The Poachers)



### Aggressive Poachers Tackle Sun, Sea and Snow



The Battalion has returned from a few weeks of leave and following on from the handover of command from Lt Col Will Meddings to Lt Col Ben Hawes we are straight back into our training cycle.

Alongside other commitments such as supporting the Op Newcombe MRX and finalising preparations for Exercise Thunderbolt in Norway, The Poachers have deployed on Exercise Aggressive Poacher. An Infantry Field Firing Camp (IFFC) and sees the Bn deployed en masse to Castlemartin in Wales; conducting dismounted and mounted ranges, culminating in integrated firing by night. The weather has been excellent in comparison to the Battalion's previous outing in February 2021.

**Picture** - A Coy SNCOs overwatch the Section Attack lanes to ensure a high output.

The Battalion Headquarters staff have also been developing the grey matter, conducting multiple planning cycles with the support of the Joint Fires Cell from 4 RA and Military Intelligence Analysts from 2MI under the watchful eye of Command and Staff Training Team based in Warminster.

The weekends in Wales have afforded us the opportunity to conduct Adventure Training, sports and other activities, such as mountain biking, coasteering, krav maga, go-karting and golf. Visits from Brigadier Guy Foden, Comd 7 Brigade and Brigadier Ollie Brown, Deputy Colonel of the Regiment have showcased the Battalion's strong and continued efforts as we prepare for Exercise Wessex Storm this September, and more widely as the LMI Bn held at readiness to respond across the globe.

## Exercise Thunderbolt - C (Northamptonshire) Coy, Report From Norway



The initial recces have returned, the Coy deploying complete in early April. The scale of opportunity is immense. The training area, near Skjold provides an austere and challenging environment to sharpen the fieldcraft skills and battlefield discipline of the Company. The fleet of FOXHOUND vehicles are performing well in these unfamiliar conditions and provide a level of sustainment, at reach, that would otherwise be unachievable.



C Company will conduct a Battlegroup level CALFEX with host nation partners as well as other visitors to the exercise, including Holland, Germany, and the USA. Alongside this C Coy will also continue to work on Section and Platoon SOPs and have the opportunity to conduct some adventure training and R&R prior to their return to the UK in May.

# 3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)



## Exercise Ares Storm - A Reservist's View



My name is Private Joseph Clifford, I'm a member of No 2 (Corby) Company, 3 Royal Anglian (Reserves). For the past month however I've been a member of 10 Platoon, C Coy, 1st Bn, Royal Anglian deployed on Ex Ares storm. I say a member, because that's exactly how they made me feel from the moment I got off the bus. I was immediately introduced to rest of the company and shown the ropes on how to fit into the team, and this carried on for the duration of my stay.

As a Reservist in the Infantry, you join with the idea of doing all the cool stuff the recruiters sell to you and for the first year during training it's easy to get sidetracked and forget about what was offered. My experiences I gained on Ex Ares Storm were the exact reason I joined the Infantry.

In the weeks leading up to me going to Cyprus I took part in Ex Blade 1-2 here in the UK, where we visited both familiar and unfamiliar territory, from grass roots, basic soldering to FIBURA. Doing all this in the months before was definitely a big help. Once deployed on Ex Ares Storm, these were all the skills, I was able to call on. It was amazing for me to be able to slot into a regular Platoon and be confident that the skills and drills I knew were all compatible, and that when needed we can integrate quickly to help our Regular counterparts get the job done.

Ex Ares Storm had several lanes designed to push us as a Platoon. The aim was to see what we could do, and re-affirm everything we'd previously been taught. The training ranged from Attack lanes over some of Cyprus's most rugged terrain, to a 48-hour Defence and a Raid into a village, all at Company level. For the final stage we carried out a Battlegroup assault onto the same village. A large amount of planning had gone into the battlegroup phase, and it was amazing to see it all come together on the ground.

All of this was an amazing experience, and I learnt things I'll take through my career such as TEZ training, passing the GPMG WHT and getting hands on with both a TEZ NLAW and AZUM. I've also made a lot of new friends across the Regiment now in another Battalion. As a newly trained Soldier, I loved having the opportunity to go overseas and get stuck in. It's just what we sign up for and I recommend it to anyone.

## Exercise Steelback Challenge

Soldiers from across 3 R ANGLIAN took part in Exercise Steelback Challenge on Leek Training Area over the May Bank Holiday Weekend. Teams Attempted a series of stands which included Ammunition Resupply, Section / Fire-team Attack and First Aid amongst others. The victorious Fire-team was from 5 Company, led by 2Lt Dominic Bradley.



Bank Holiday Weekend Champions - The Victorious Fire Team from 5 Company!

The weekend was also attended by our Op Shepherd recruits who undertook basic infantry skills lessons under the newly appointed Officer Commanding of the Regimental Recruiting Mentoring Team, WO2 Si Towe.



## Masters Clay Shooting Competition – Essex

Well done to CSgt Kieran Hunt, SPSI of 3 Company, 3rd Battalion who represented the Battalion at the Essex Masters Clay Shooting Competition. Sgt Hunt achieved a respectable 148 points out of 200, as a novice at the event.

# Royal Anglian Regiment Museum



## A Fond Farewell to Major (Retd) Peter Williamson

It has been a month of some yearly and quarterly checks to make sure everything is safe and looked after properly. We had our radiation check this month, which was fine, all of our objects are ok. We could commit to another emergency kit just in case of breakage as our collection is spread over site. We also did our quarterly pest traps to make sure nothing is eating our textiles or paper collections.

Sadly, we are soon going to be saying goodbye to one of our long standing trustees, Major Peter Williamson. Peter has done countless tasks for the museum, working tirelessly in the archives, galleries, and lent a willing hand whenever and wherever needed, even at Air Shows!

Peter will be missed greatly, and I already feel a little lost without him. Personally this curator has known him for over a decade and he has enthusiastically supported my career from the very beginning. He will be popping into the Museum for some months wrapping up projects that he was steering, and in typical Major Williamson style, making sure all details are attended to before his departure. Of course, he will always only be a phone call away if needed and I'm sure will stay connected to the Regimental family.



At the end of this month and next, we also prepare for education and outreach! Saturday the 30th we have a cadet group, This Monday May the 2nd, we will also be at the Royston Fair with handling and outreach objects, and we will also be out with our collection and some kids activities at Duxford on the 7th of May as they have a flying showcase. So come visit if you are in the area.

Full details of Museum opening times, and how to book your visit to the Regimental Memorial at Duxford are available from the Curator at the email address below:

**You can contact our Curator, Melissa Kozlenko at:** [royalanglianmuseumcurator@outlook.com](mailto:royalanglianmuseumcurator@outlook.com)

# OUR AFFILIATED CADETS



## Gresham School CCF - A Royal Anglian Family Connection



The CCF was delighted to welcome Colonel Paul Morris of the Royal Anglian Regiment as Inspecting Officer for the Contingent Review, the first that has been held for several years.

Colonel Morris was greeted at midday by all three sections smartly turned out on parade, with the newly formed contingent band providing some military music and a guard of honour commanded by Cadet CSM Dally presenting the salute.

Colonel Morris also enjoyed a full tour of training in the afternoon seeing a wide range of activities including the RAF section flight simulator, Royal Navy Field Gun team and Army section patrol competition. The cadets and NCOs all delivered an excellent display of what is offered through participation in the CCF.

A highlight of the day for Colonel Paul was the chance to inspect his daughter Georgie, a Cadet Corporal in the Gresham Detachment.



---

# Our Regimental Heritage

---



## REDEDICATION OF WW1 GRAVES 20-24 JUN 22

The Regiment will be participating in the rededication services outlined below during the week Monday 20 June – Friday 24 June in conjunction with members of The Rifles. The Poachers' Padre and a junior Officer will be attending. Should any old comrades wish to attend under their own steam you will be most welcome. Details are set out below, and queries should be directed to Major Tim Brown, Area Regimental Secretary 2, [timothy.brown133@mod.gov.uk](mailto:timothy.brown133@mod.gov.uk)

**Monday 20 June** - Travel to France, staying in Arras.

### Tuesday 21 June

a.m. A rededication service for Second Lieutenant Osmund Bartle Wordsworth of 21<sup>st</sup> Machine Gun Company, KIA 2 April 1917, at HAC Cemetery. (He was previously buried as an unknown Officer of The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry back in 2015 by a party from The Rifles. Members of the Machine Gun Corps Association will be in attendance.)

### Wednesday 22 June

a.m. A rededication service for Serjeant Arthur Harry Morton of 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, KIA 9 April 1917, at Cojeul British Cemetery.

a.m. A rededication service for Captain Vivian Hastings Clay of 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion The Wiltshire Regiment, KIA 18 October 1916, at Warlencourt British Cemetery.

p.m. A rededication service for Second Lieutenant Ernest Lockett Cole of 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment, KIA 27 September 1916, at Owillers Military Cemetery.

Relocate to Amiens

### Thursday 23 June

a.m. A rededication service for Serjeant Ernest Edward Harris of 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion The Essex Regiment, KIA 8 August 1918, at Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery.

**Friday 24 June - Return to the UK.**

---

# Regimental Bulletins Register

---



## **Regt Bulletins Issued Since the Issue of RAN April 2022:**

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-29 - Dated 13 April 22 - Service of Remembrance N I Veterans Assoc

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-30 - Dated 14 April 22 - Celebration of the Life of Capt Steven Bowns

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-31- Dated 25 April 22 - Special Order of the Day - Battle of Almanza

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-32- Dated 26 April 22 - Death Notice - Lt Col Thomas (Tim) Finch

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-33- Dated 3 May 22 - Rededication of Regtl FWW War Graves

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-34- Dated 4 May 22 - Death Notice - Richard Wraight, WW2 Essex Regt

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-35- Dated 9 May 22 - Royal Norfolk Regt Association Lunch

Regimental Bulletin Number 22-36- Dated 11 May 22 - Death Notice - George Charles Trudgill

---

## London Gazette

---

**The following entries relevant to the Regiment were listed in The London Gazette dated 11 Apr22:**

### **ARMY RESERVE**

#### **Awarded Volunteer Reserves Service Medal -**

CPL P L Evans 30160810

#### **Awarded the Volunteer Reserves Service Medal –**

CSgt T Taylor 24686559

Awarded the 3<sup>rd</sup> Clasp to the Volunteer Reserves Service Medal –

LCpl E C Auffret W0834014

Sgt M R Auffret 24464562

LCpl J C Hobson 2494109

Capt P C H Hudson 24385404

#### **Awarded the 2<sup>nd</sup> Clasp to the Volunteer Reserves Service Medal -**

Cpl C Ainley W0473313



Sgt M R Auffret 24464562

LCpl E C Auffret W0834014

Cpl J A Blackman 25150109

Sgt N J Carey 24735026

LCpl P G Fairhall 25207845

Capt P C H Hudson 24385404

LCpl S J Humphrey S8131411

Cpl L Lawrence 24933066

MUSN L Marsland W1047301

MUSN G A Mills 25197689

MUSN S T Ormerod 30082895

LCpl T D Proudfoot W1042598

Cpl J L Smith W0817185

**Awarded the Volunteer Reserves Service Medal**

LCpl S J Humphrey S8131411

**The following entries relevant to the Regiment were listed in The London Gazette dated 14 Apr 22:**

Lieutenant ( On probation ) C R Smith 24818546 is confirmed as Lieutenant 31 March 2021 ( Belated Entry )

Second Lieutenant ( On probation ) M J Blayney 30039849 is confirmed as Second Lieutenant 3 August 2013 ( Belated Entry )

**The following entries relevant to the Regiment were listed in The London Gazette dated 25 Apr 22:**

Second Lieutenant J C A Heal 30182746 to be Lieutenant 15 December 2019 ( Belated Entry )

Second Lieutenant M J Blayney 30039849 to be Lieutenant 28 May 2014 ( Belated Entry )

**The following entries relevant to the Regt were listed in The London Gazette 29 April 22 :**

Lieutenant J C A Heal 30182746 to be Captain 15 December 2021

Lieutenant D A Kitchen 30288637 to be Captain 15 December 2021