



Royal Anglian *News*



Cover Image:

Pte Abigail Dowding, 5 Company, 3rd Battalion - Best Recruit, Basic Training-Bravo at ATC Pirbright

From the Colonel of the Regiment



REGIMENTAL BULLETIN

From the Colonel of the Regiment

Lieutenant General Ralph Wooddisse CBE MC

All of us in our Regimental family, the serving, the retired and our families, are watching the fast-moving events in Afghanistan with special interest. As we reflect, we know our soldiers served well, and with great professionalism. And all of us quite rightly felt we were serving in Afghanistan to not just help whilst we were there, but to also make a difference in the future. During nine tours by our Battalions, as well as all the many individual tours, members of the Regiment served with distinction and should be proud of their service. Of course, this all came at a cost. Lives were lost, and there were injuries, many serious. Not just the physical, but also those not immediately seen. Our families and our communities also did their duty, giving us wonderful, and unwavering support.

Part of making sense of all of this is to value our service. What we did to try and make Afghanistan a better place. So, looking at events unfold, it is natural to ask whether it was all worth it. Many of us will find this difficult, and some will need support to help them rationalise what they went through. But we rightly pride ourselves as being a strong closely knit Regimental family. So, we should all know that if anyone needs support all they have to do is reach out, and we will all look after each other.

We should be proud of our service. We helped Afghanistan for twenty years. We helped prevent the spread of terrorism. We did our duty, and what was asked of us by the Nation, and more. Nobody yet knows how events in Afghanistan will turn out, but as in all the past campaigns we have been involved in whether it was in Afghanistan, Iraq, The Balkans or Northern Ireland as a Regiment we did our best.



This message was circulated by RHQ on all Regtl Social Media Channels on 23 Aug 21

Regimental News



The Regimental Day, 1st September 2021 - The 57th Anniversary of the Regiment

Since our formation on 1 September 1964, The Royal Anglian Regiment can be judged a success. Consistently, over more than five decades, it has delivered, well manned, fully trained and well-motivated Regular and Territorial battalions to the British Army's order of battle. It has provided commanders in a wide variety of theatres with reliable, professional and focused support. Its units have achieved operational success in a variety of environments and scenarios. It has become recognised as the local infantry regiment in the ten English counties from which it recruits, and it has earned the support of the communities in those counties. We can be equally proud of our reputation as a very human regiment, that is open to all. Appropriately, our ethos was encapsulated by a mixed group of soldiers and officers in 2003:

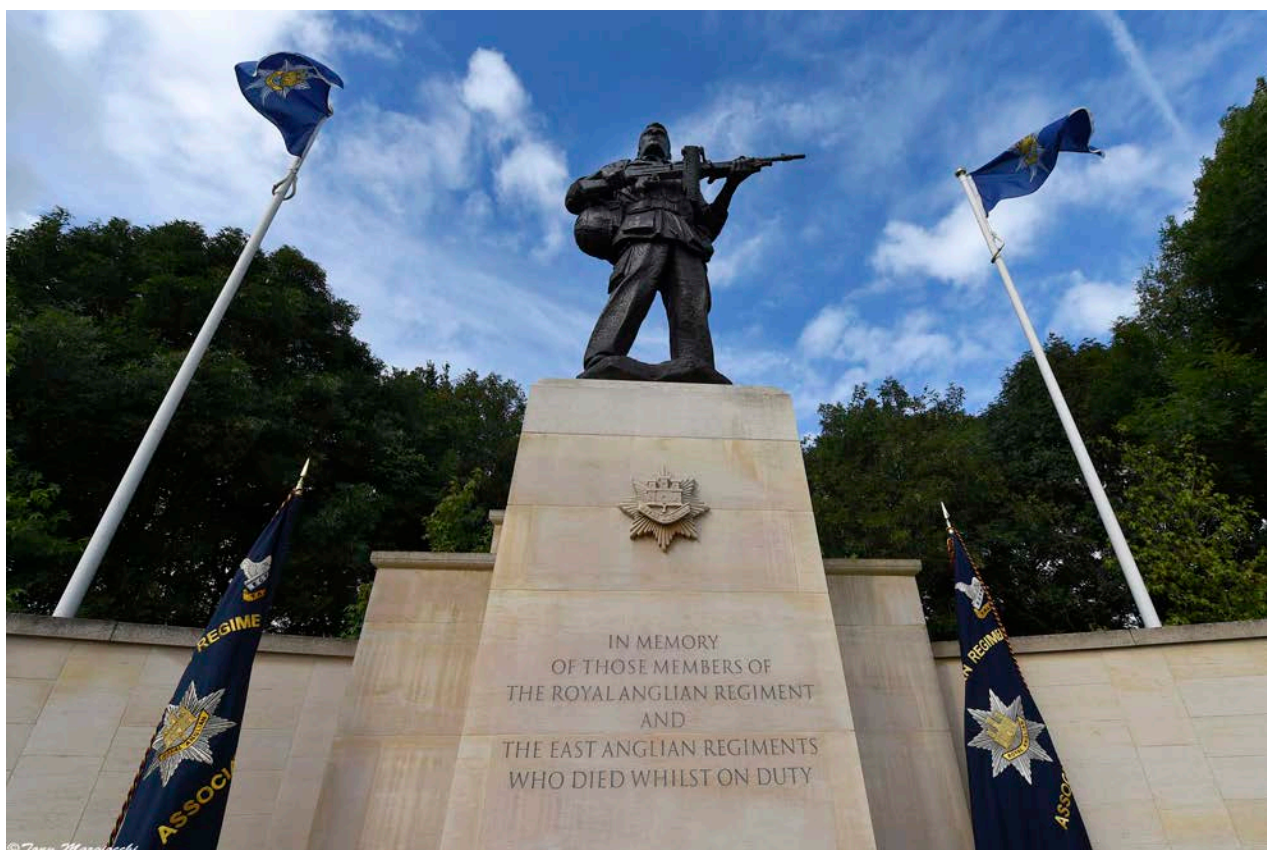
We are a county based Regiment, bound together by a closely-knit family spirit.

Our approach is classless, based on mutual respect and trust, where developing and believing in our soldiers is paramount.

We are a forward looking, self-starting, and welcoming team for whom the mission remains key.

As a regiment we remain justifiably proud of our heritage, today on the anniversary of our formation we can take time to reflect. Our roots go far deeper than the past 57 years, we follow in the glorious footsteps of the soldiers and officers recruited from our counties over more than 33 decades. The formation of the regiment is celebrated at Duxford on our Regimental Day, traditionally held on the first Sunday in September. All members of the Royal Anglian Regiment, both past and present are invited to attend. Details of this year's event on Sunday 5 September are available in the Royal Anglian News and from the website.

Programme for the Regimental Day at Duxford - 5 September 2021



All members of our Regimental family are invited to attend their Regimental Day which will take place at The Imperial War Museum, Duxford, CB22 4QR, on Sunday, 5th September 2021.

Music for the day is kindly provided by the Band of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

The outline timings are:

- 09:30 hrs **Gate 1 Open**, signed after the Staff Entrance (regrettably no dogs allowed).
- 11:00 hrs Muster for Drumhead Service, please be seated by 1115 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.

Further Details are available from RHQ, or from the two previous issues of RAN on the Regtl Website.

The Regiment bids a fond Farewell to Major Bob Grenfell After Half a Century of Fine Service



As a Regiment we are fortunate to have many fine soldiers and veterans who give long and distinguished service. As a closely knit family we particularly value quiet professionalism, getting the job done well and looking after our soldiers, and our families. Just occasionally in a generation, there is one who stands out, and for the many of us who have served with him, for some part of his fifty one and a half years of fine service to our Regiment, this is Bob Grenfell.

From taking the Queen's shilling in December 1969 to join as a Junior Soldier, until completing his handover as Assistant Regt Sec in September 2021, Bob has been serving his Regiment.

There are very few who have served the Regiment as selflessly, as well, and for as long as Bob Grenfell. He enjoyed the classic infantry soldier's career to RSM. Many were surprised at Bob's speed and agility as a soldier and as an all-round sportsman, and he really excelled as good infanteers should, at orienteering. But Bob was pretty good at everything.

He was ready to be RSM young enough to be lent to 1 QUEENS as their RSM before coming back to his beloved Battalion as RSM. In Bob's words, he was "not sure how it happened" but nobody else was surprised that he was commissioned and stormed on to be the QM of the 1st and then the 3rd Battalions.

Having completed 45 years in uniform by his 60th birthday, Bob joined RHQ. Some would have thought that leading the Regiment's financial and benevolence efforts should have been enough but typically, Bob took on many more projects including the Regimental Day and looking after our In-Pensioners at Chelsea. Bob has been a peerless friend, confidant and quiet, wise advisor to many in the Regimental Family, and we will miss him greatly. We wish Bob and Barbara and their family a long and happy retirement.

Veteran Tiger Honoured by France for World War 2 Service



At 1400hrs on Friday 6th August a gathering took place in Hinckley, home of Gordon Bennett, who served with the Leicestershire Regiment during the liberation of Europe in 1944/45. Many friends and family attended along with a strong representation from both the Tiger's Association and the 2nd Battalion with representatives from B (Leicestershire) Company giving up their POTL to be present on this special occasion.

Gordon Bennett, now aged 95, joined up late in the war when he reached the age of 18 and was soon sent to Normandy in the days immediately after 6th June as a Battle Casualty Replacement. Having moved up to the Front and linked up with the Battalion he soon saw action taking part in many fighting patrols around the port of Le Havre (there was enough Nazi war materiel in the port to extend the war by two years).

During one patrol his unit was ordered to capture a bridge that would take a vehicles weight. On arrival at the bridge there was no enemy presence. Suspecting a trap they deployed all round defence.

Gordon was in the lee of a large house with his Bren gun. The door to the house suddenly opened and out stepped a German soldier who walked over to Gordon's prone position, opened his flies and started to urinate on him. Gordon quickly got to his feet, yelled and pointed his Bren gun. With his hands high in the air the enemy soldier was grabbed by an experienced Sergeant and ordered to show where the rest of his group were. They were led to a cellar in the building. As they descended the steps, the prisoner, Gordon and his Bren Platoon Sergeant and a group from the fighting patrol were met with the sight of the bridge guard sat around tables.

Once captured the now prisoners were taken to the rear echelon. Gordon was later wounded by a sniper in Belgium, saved by the fact that the round glanced off his mess tin. He recovered and due to his ability to drive went on to transport driving munitions and supplies to the front. After the war Gordon went on to serve in Palestine for two years driving senior Officers.

Meeting in the Masonic Hall in Hinckley, Lt Col David Young as Deputy Lord Lieutenant read Gordon's citation, and then the French Honorary Consul embraced Gordon before pinning the Legion d'Honneur to his chest in recognition of his efforts in liberating the French people from the Nazis. Created by



Capt Alex Langley & CSgt Foley of B Coy, 2nd Battalion with former RSM, Roger Jones.

Napoleon in the eighteenth century the Order of the Legion d'Honneur is the highest award in France made for personal contributions other than gallantry awards. Following the presentation guests enjoyed refreshments and a Vera Lynn tribute act which was much enjoyed by all, but especially by our very own Tiger, Gordon Bennett.

6 August 2021 - The Regiment Warmly Welcomes Four New Officers



2Lt's Adam Moss and Harry Browne have commissioned into the 1st Battalion and 2Lt's Huw Davies and Dave Butler have commissioned into the 2nd Battalion. Colonel Simon Browne, Deputy Regtl Col welcomed the new officers, including his son Harry, on his last day in uniform. Also pictured are our Royal Anglian RMAS staff, Captain Matt Durkin and CSgt Dave Craycraft.

COMBAT2COFFEE - A Veteran Initiative

Combat2Coffee was formed 2 years ago by Nigel Seaman a 12-year veteran of the Vikings who also had a successful second career as a Prison Officer. The Community Interest Company was formed as a support outlet for veterans who may be struggling with life outside of service particularly those who may be in custody. It has since evolved to have a much wider remit also supporting serving soldiers, families and the wider community. The project is already helping members of our Regimental Family.



Support is provided through coffee shops in Ipswich, HM Prison Hollesley Bay and HMP Highpoint which create safe community and charity-led spaces where veterans, families and those struggling with PTSD and other mental health issues can go to feel supported and connected. Combat2Coffee have also entered a joint enterprise partnership with HM Prison Hollesley Bay to create a coffee roastery which provides training to those in custody in Barista skills and coffee roasting. A recognised qualification is awarded on completion of this unique programme.

Three members of the Regiment recently completed the Welsh 3000 challenge to raise funds towards opening a new Combat2Coffee shop in Bury St Edmunds. The challenge was to cross the 15 mountains in Wales that have a height of 3000 feet or more in under 24hrs, the total journey was 50km and included 4000m of ascent. The shop will be housed in the Constitutional Club on Guildhall street and following works to refurbish the kitchen, should be open by the end of Sept. A fuller report on Combat2Coffee will be included in the next Castle Magazine.

If anyone would like to donate to the project the just giving page for donations is still open
 Combat2Coffee - Bury St Edmunds or if you would prefer to help practically please contact Ian Robinson at lan.robinson893@mod.gov.uk



A gathering for Coffee in Ipswich to discuss the new Combat2Coffee Cafe in Bury St Edmunds

News from our Royal Anglian Outpost in East Africa

Capt Kyle Forsyth



Whilst readers may be aware of ongoing operations in Mali with the Poachers and recent training by the Vikings in Ghana, they may not be aware the East African flank is being secured by the Royal Anglian Regiment also!

Op TANGHAM seeks to support the Somali National Army (SNA) through tactical level training of SNA soldiers, along with operational support to the United Nations and the African Union to help achieve the strategic objective of a strong, stable and secure Somalia.

The forces are split between Baidoa, where the Somalia National Army Training and Advisory Team train the SNA and Mogadishu, where the HQ, United Nations Support Team and African Union Mentoring Support Team are based.

Currently in Somalia on Operation TANGHAM are Maj Adam Mackness (Chief of Staff), Capt Kyle Forsyth (Ops

Officer) and Pte Ramscar-Fabing (STAT Force Protection). Whilst Pte Ramscar-Fabing is currently attached to 2 PWRR on a Specialised Infantry posting he originally began his career in C (Northamptonshire and Rutland) Company 2 Royal Anglian where a Lt Forsyth was OC MG platoon. Even earlier into the mists of time, prior to his conversion to the Vikings and command of A (Norfolk) Company Major Mackness was the 2IC of C Company! Clearly they are ably assisted by a range of other cap badges but the Royal Anglians are key members of the Op TANGHAM team.

Outside of the operational tempo we have also completed a range of charity projects such as helping clear up plastic from the beaches and raising money for Headway (a Lincolnshire based charity for Head Injuries) by climbing the height of Mt Everest through relays of the stairs at the UK Forces camp, OB Shand.

The Regiment Warmly Congratulates the Following:

The following entries were listed in The London Gazette dated 19 Jul 21:

Second Lieutenant H J Gurney to be Lieutenant 14 Dec 2020 - Belated Entry

Second Lieutenant R W Simmons to be Lieutenant 14 Dec 2020 - Belated Entry

The following entries were listed in the London Gazette dated 9 Aug 21:

Lieutenant M J N Andrews to be Captain 14 April 2021

Lieutenant (Acting Captain) G R Liddington to be Captain 14 April 21

Lieutenant C Thompson to be Captain 14 April 21

Lieutenant (Acting Captain) J B Wright to be Captain 14 April 21

The following entries were listed in the London Gazette dated 3 August 2021

The undermentioned Captains to be Majors 31 July 2021 with seniority 31 Jul 2021:

Captain S A C Forse

Captain J S D Pugh

Captain D A Grice

Captain C Hopkin

The following entries were listed in the London Gazette dated 16 August 2021:

Short Service Commissions - to be Lieutenant 10 April 2021.

Second Lieutenant J R Bamford

Second Lieutenant C D Boffey-Rawlings

Second Lieutenant O J Bremridge

1st Battalion (The Vikings)



Vikings Hit the Ground Running, Swimming, Cycling and Rowing!

Events in Kabul will have been at the forefront of many minds over the last month. For The Vikings it proved the first test of our operational readiness in Cyprus. Having only recently arrived on island B (Suffolk) Company and A (Norfolk) Company found themselves at the forefront of the British Forces Cyprus contribution to Op PITTING, the evacuation from Kabul. This including having a platoon from B Company deployed to the United Arab Emirates to assist in the processing of personnel arriving there on RAF flights.

With the Battalion now complete in Cyprus, B Company will soon assume the mantle of Lead Company Group for the Regional Standby Battalion; The Vikings stand ready to respond to events across the globe.

Despite the high operational demands of the last few weeks the Battalion flag has continued to make excellent progress across Europe on OLYMPUSVIKING. Leg 2 of the epic journey saw a team of 7 swimmers complete a cross-channel relay in 12hrs 54mins (slightly quicker than the Battalion's last cross-channel swim in 2004) to hand over the flag to the cycling team on a beach in France.



The third leg saw the flag travel over 3500km on two wheels with a team of four crossing Europe through France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, and finally into Greece ending in Marathon. Despite tired legs (and sore backsides!) the flag has been handed over to the rowing team and is on its final leg, several days into a 600 nautical mile trip by rowing boat.



The flag will arrive in Cyprus after its monumental journey on 11 September being rowed directly onto the beach within Alexander Barracks. The Battalion will also take this opportunity to celebrate Minden Day, much belated by the unit move. All those who have taken part in Ex OV have shown grit and determination in difficult and arduous conditions, exemplifying the spirit and ethos of what it means to be both a Royal Anglian and a Viking.

So far Ex OV has raised almost £8,000 for charities including Combat Stress and the Regimental Benevolent Fund. Any further donations are welcome through the link below:



Crowdfunding to support these 4 outstanding charities: - Combat Stress - Royal Anglian Benevolent Fund - One Dream One Wish - Little Heroes on JustGiving

2nd Battalion (The Poachers)

A Global Summer - August was a Successful Month for the Poachers



D (Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire) Company continue to exploit the training opportunities offered during Op CABRIT in Poland. The Anti-Tank Platoon have recently conducted a Javelin Cadre, training alongside Polish and US forces. The arduous exercise was conducted over two weeks in Turun and introduced the platoon to a variety of Polish and American armoured fighting vehicles. Six Polish Territorial Defence Force soldiers were integrated into the Poacher platoon for the exercise. Training was supported by a number of Polish artillery units.

The exercise was tough, demanding, and testing for the new soldiers coming into the platoon. In total a further 12 new javelin gunners were qualified, reinforcing the capability and punch of the platoon significantly. In the margins around this, they have managed to enjoy some R&R back in the UK, and an interesting Battlefield Study in Poland. Major N Barron has also recently arrived and taken up the post of Officer Commanding D Company.

A (Lincolnshire) Company, currently deployed on Op NEWCOMBE in Mali have recently had further success. After an armed group carried out an atrocious massacre of over 50 civilians at Ouatagouna two weeks ago, the LRRG deployed over 150 km to the scene. Working alongside Malian and Nigerian troops from the UN Mission they responded rapidly at short notice. The LRRG were able to survey the site and report the facts to the UN. The LRRG also supported the bereaved, maintained a reassuring presence for the shocked inhabitants, and importantly, deterred any further attacks.

B (Leicestershire) Company have now largely completed their Post-Tour Leave and are now back in barracks. B Company deployed on the first rotation of Op NEWCOMBE, they have now regrouped back in Kendrew Barracks. The Company has grown substantially from when they deployed to Mali, with an influx of newly trained soldiers joining from ITC Catterick. The company's focus now switches to the task of reforming as a light-mechanised Company to be held at readiness for future operations. August saw them undertake a period of extensive training and range work to prepare for this role.

C (Northamptonshire) and HQ (Rutland) Companies continue their support to the rest of the Battalion, both in the UK on operations. We have seen soldiers deploy to support the other Companies on Op NEWCOMBE and CABRIT. In addition, we have also deployed soldiers on a wide range of tasks, including support to the Royal Gibraltar Regiment, Queens Division Courses, and Quarantine Support tasks to other units deploying on operations.

The Poachers have also conducted a Pre-PNCO Cadre, setting our senior Pte's up for success on FTCC. We have also managed to achieve some sporting success. The Battalion Rugby 7's team won the 7 Brigade competition and went on to a credible placing at the Army Championships.

3rd Battalion (The Steelbacks)

Steelback Bags Junior Leader of the Year Award



Private Ross McKenzie was recently awarded the title 'Junior Leader of the Year' award by Major General C S J Collins DSO OBE, the General Officer Commanding 1st (United Kingdom) Division, at the Rhino Awards 2021 ceremony at Imphal Barracks, York.

Private McKenzie is a Reservist serving with 4 (Lincolnshire) Company of the 3rd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment. Having discharged some six years earlier, he re-joined the Army Reserve in January 2020.

In April 2020, Private McKenzie volunteered to be mobilised on Operation RESCRIPT, leaving his self-employed landscaping business to do so. During this demanding period, his leadership of a Mobile Testing Unit (MTU) sub-team was recognised and positively commented on by his MTU Commander.

In September 2020, he attended and passed his Infantry Basic Radio User course; his first stage of gaining promotion. This was followed closely by his Potential Non-Commissioned Officer course in November to December 2020. From that course, he gained an excellent course report and was placed in the top 3 students out of a total of 16.

In January 2021, he was mobilised again and deployed to Kenya as part of the Temporary Deployed Staff for Ex ASKARI PHOENIX. Such was his contribution, he was awarded the Commander BATUK Coin for his work. His return was in April 2021; delayed by Covid.

He was still feeling the effects of Covid in May 2021 when he was a Fire-team Commander on the Battalion's Exercise STEELBACK CHALLENGE on Leek Training Area. During this exercise, he led and mentored a relatively inexperienced team across challenging ground and around a series of stands where the teams were tested in their Military skills. Private McKenzie's team was leading the competition until the final submission of the patrol report. Throughout the exercise he displayed leadership and command expected of a seasoned Junior Non-Commissioned Officer and he was the only Fire-team Commander of Private rank. As a result, he was presented with a special award by the Deputy Commander Reserves of 1 (United Kingdom) Armoured Division.

The Rhino award is well deserved and reflects a busy and successful year for Private McKenzie. It is also evidence that he sets a high standard for his peers to aspire to.

Warmest Congratulations to Pte McKenzie from all of the Royal Anglian family.

Steelbacks on Operation Cattalo - Force Protection Duties in The Oman

Army Reservists from the 3rd Battalion recently deployed to the Oman on Op CATTALO, to provide force protection to UK troops and contractors involved in the withdrawal of equipment from Afghanistan.

The Steelbacks were deployed across multiple locations throughout the operation, ensuring that UK personnel were able to carry out their tasks in a secure environment.



L-R Pte Tyler Leighwood (1 Coy), Pte Craig Johnson (5 Coy), Pte Nicky Bartlett (5 Coy), Cpl Lewis Dean (5 Coy), LCpl Ryan Burrell (5 Coy), and Pte Louis Jakubowski (1 Coy).

Visit of Lia Nici, MP for Great Grimsby



4 (Lincolnshire) Company were pleased to be able to host the local MP, Lia Nici, at their Army Reserve Centre in Grimsby. The visit included an inspection of the troops on parade, a tour of the Centre, a briefing on the Company, Battalion and Regiment and the Army Reserves in general. A demonstration of Army equipment and capability was also included in the MP's programme.

The evening ended with an informal conversation with the troops and a short speech of thanks from Lia Nici who showed genuine interest in the soldiers and all that she was shown.

[Photo shows Lia Nici speaking to Pte Katie Tourlamain about her upcoming Op Tosca tour in Cyprus]

The Band of The Royal Anglian Regiment

The Band Continues to Work Toward a Return to Public Performances

The Band has just finished its second week's Annual Deployment Exercise (ADX) at RAF Henlow. They spent the week building on the training that they undertook during their last visit in June. Training included further preparations of our new small playing out groups.

The Band's training programme continues to be hindered by COVID restrictions on indoor rehearsal space. That said, individual practice and collective training outdoors is ongoing.

We can all look forward to seeing our Regimental Band on parade at the Regimental Day at Duxford on 5 September.

Musicians Lucy Marshland and Hannah Burbridge are pictured playing during the Band Training Camp at RAF Henlow.



Once again we have been joined on our ADX by Royal Corps of Army Music recruit Nathaniel. RCAM has tasked the band with preparing him for his audition later in the year. Nathaniel has passed British Army selection so is just waiting for a successful audition to start his Army Music career. Here are some pictures of him being trained by Sergeant Neil Carey and Captain Peter Hudson earlier this week.

Minden Day - 1 August 2021

The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Suffolk) & The Suffolk Regiment Association Minden Day Reunion

After a year off due to the COVID situation Minden Day was celebrated in traditional fashion at the former Gibraltar Barracks, behind RHQ in Bury St Edmunds. There had been some concern that the event may have to be cancelled again this year but with the government roadmap progressing well and with support from the local council and West Suffolk College (who own the site) it was agreed to go ahead.

As is traditional the weather during the build up and on the day was unsettled but it did little to dampen everyone's enthusiasm to catch up with old comrades, remember those we have lost and generally have an enjoyable family day out. The day was well attended with a good mix of veterans, serving soldiers, families and members of the wider community including the Deputy Mayor of Bury St Edmunds Cllr Patrick Chung who alongside Brigadier Calder took the salute of the veteran's march past.



Thanks must go to the musicians who despite a lack of practice and the continued restrictions on their activity supported the event fantastically. The City of Ely Military Band supported the Drumhead Service and the Glen Moriston Pipe Band performed an excellent marching display during the afternoon. Particular thanks must go to the Veteran Corps of Drums who with no rehearsals brought members of 4 Corps together to not only lead the march past of old comrades but play throughout the day and provide a bugler for Last Post and Reveille, It's safe to say that without their support the event would have been much diminished. Thanks also to CO 3 RANGLIAN for the provision of the Colour Party who were a credit to the Battalion. The Colours added so much to the occasion. It's impossible to overstate the positive impact of seeing the them on parade, especially to the veteran community. The hard work of the Colour Party is appreciated by all.

We were well supplied with food and drink by a variety of local vendors selling Hog Roast, Burgers and homemade sausages. Unsurprisingly the bar did a particularly brisk trade ensuring more and more storytelling as the day went on. We were joined this year by Combat2Coffee a local not for profit which seeks to support Armed Forces Veterans who may be struggling with life after service. Combat2Coffee is run by a Viking veteran Nigel Seaman and currently has 2 coffee shops open in Ipswich with another one due to open in Bury shortly. The Suffolk Regiment museum was open throughout the day with around 250 people taking the opportunity to visit and both the Royal Anglian Regiment and Suffolk Regiment museums had display stands.

Over recent years we have attempted to make the event more family friendly with the introduction of face painting, bouncy castle and historical vehicles and weapons displays. The aim is to expand this further

over the coming years to encourage wider attendance from both the Regimental family and the wider community, we will include activity information on next years pre Minden Day communications.



Minden Day always takes place on the closest Sunday to 1 August, please get next year's date (Sun 31 July) into your diaries and make every effort to attend in whatever capacity you can. It would be great to have more Royal Anglian veterans on the march past but equally if you want to bring the children or grandchildren along and have a pleasant day looking at the stalls or catching up with friends over a beer or coffee that would be great too. It is only by supporting this event that we can guarantee its future. A final thanks must go to all those who volunteer their help to ensure a successful day, you know who you are, I will be in touch again soon.



We look Forward to Seeing You All in 2022!

Regimental Rugby 4 Sep 2021



Royal Anglian Regimental Rugby Team Still Going Strong After 21 Years!!

For the last 21 years serving soldiers and veteran's from all our Battalions have answered the call to gather once a year to reunite and remember those who have fallen. We include the families and the wider community that have all represented our fantastic Regiment; as the years tick by older Royal Anglian have been joined by their sons in keeping the tradition alive. Our ages now range from 16-66.

The driving force and motivation behind it all is Ian 'Wilky' Wilkins; who with the support of a dedicated and enthusiastic committee have arranged all these matches that have been played across the whole of our Regimental area, often drinking the bars dry, in true Royal Anglian tradition! (Belgrave, Camelot and Rochford RFCs can confirm).

The aim of the day is to reunite, play rugby, drink, laugh, and celebrate the lives of those no longer with us. We raise money for the Royal Anglian Benevolent fund and some chosen charities in the area where we play. We have raised around £20,000 since we launched the event over two decades ago.

This year we will also be raising funds for two local charities are 'Nelson Journey', who support children and young people who have experienced the death of a significant person. Also, 'Stand Easy', whose aim is to help veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

The game's preamble contains the reading of the Roll of Honour from the year 2000 which is a list of soldiers from the Regiment who have fallen in conflict. This is accompanied by a bugler playing the Last Post before a minutes silence is observed followed by Reveille calling all to wake. The game is played (well by some and less so by others).

The team are always well supported by a travelling group who are well behaved and dress in a special one off rugby shirt or polo for the event with the largest turnout exceeding 100 supporters. This supporting 'Army' are always thirsty and have the reputation of drinking clubs dry.

The 21st Regimental Rugby match will be on Saturday the 4th September 2021 with kick off being at 1300hrs v Wymondham RFC, located at Barnard Fields, Bray Drive, Wymondham, Norfolk, NR18 0GQ

The Royal Anglian Regiment Museum



August started off with the Museum joining in at the Minden day celebrations at RHQ in Bury St. Edmunds. It was a good day and the first time the museum had a stand there, but also a learning curve on what to bring and how to advertise for the years to come! We are thinking of bringing more nostalgic objects next year including our deactivated SLR, so long as someone doesn't get too nostalgic and try to take it home!

The months of July and August, we also busy, we had numerous cadet visits, which was lovely to see. We hope that they all enjoyed their visit to the museum. The 1st and 2nd Battalion engagement team have also been very helpful in making sure these have run smoothly and giving us their support.

The 2nd Battalion on Formation Day in Aden - 1 Sept 1964

We have also received some lovely new donations of pewter tankards that belongs to Colonel John Murray Petit commemorating his time in Borneo, as well as other framed photographs that were passed to us from the Suffolk Regiment museum.

We also found a very interesting banner from the INLA, which was handmade in the Maize prison. This is going to be lent to the Fitzwilliam Museum late next year for 6 months as part of a temporary exhibition about conflict and currency. We also may need to do some work on conserving it in the future.

The Museum will of course be open for the Regimental Day here at Duxford, which is free for the Regimental family. The Museum will have its own tent so please come and say hello if you get the chance. We would love to hear about your time as a Royal Anglian. If you want to donate to the museum collection, or share your memories, please email me at the address below.

Kozlenko at: royalanglianmuseumcurator@outlook.com



2nd (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire) Battalion THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

BATTALION REVIEW

Formation Day, September 1, found nearly all the Battalion dispersed on embarkation leave, so it was not possible to hold any ceremony to mark the event. The few remaining in barracks changed their badges and we changed our name, but we had to wait until a few days after our return, on September 22, for our formal parade, which was inspected by Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E., Deputy Colonel.

The advance party had already left for Cyprus by this time and the main body came out by air in early October, followed by the families. On arrival we found the situation very different from the holiday atmosphere of Felixstowe. Having become accustomed during our three months in England to leave, long week-ends and the life of a holiday resort, we found at first that the operational bustle of this island was a little strange. For the first few weeks we barely had time to think. Drawing up our new equipment, overhauling our organisation, learning about internal security duties in general

and our own tasks in particular, getting to know our areas and our opposite numbers, and shaking down on exercises took every available hour. Everyone worked with a will and we were fairly soon able to settle down to a fairly firm routine.

We live in the Eastern Sovereign Base Area and are not part of the United Nations Force. Basically our task is to ensure the integrity of the Base. At normal times this consists of guarding and patrolling vital installations, notably the water supply and the Ammunition Depot. Soldiers spend long hours in 40 foot high watchtowers or sandbagged emplacements on roofs in all weathers. Their cheerfulness and alertness is a constant source of amazement.

Rifle Companies normally each do a week of these duties followed by one week's training. There are good ranges and training areas nearby and we have been able to organise some interesting training. We hope in future to be able to get further afield, to the other end of the island and to North Africa for greater variety.



"C" Company, transported by R.A.F. helicopters, moves to cut off a fleeing enemy in a Cyprus exercise.

Regimental Bulletins

Number 144, Dated 30 July 2021 - Royal Anglian News, August 2021

Number 145, Dated, 30 July 2021 - Special Order for Minden Day

Number 146, Dated, 2 Aug 2021 - Application for Veterans Cenotaph Parade, Final Notice

Number 147, Dated, 10 Aug 2021 - Notification of the Death of CSgt Terry Smith

Number 148, Dated, 12 Aug 2021 - Special Order for Blenheim Day

Number 149, Dated, 12 Aug 2021 - Notice of The Regimental Day - 5 Sep 2021

Number 150, Dated, 12 Aug 2021 - Comments on Northern Ireland Command Paper

Number 151, Dated, 23 Aug 2021 - From The Colonel of the Regiment - Afghanistan

Number 152, Dated, 25 Aug 2021 - Notice for Regimental Rugby Match - 4 Sep 2021

Number 153, Dated, 31 Aug 2021 - Special Order for Anniversary of Formation Day - 1 Sep 2021

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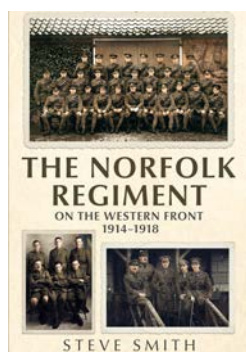
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Regimental Reading



THE NORFOLK REGIMENT

On The Western Front

By Steve Smith

We do try to vary the subject matter of the books that we review in the RAN, not too much focus on a single subject like the Great War for example. However, some books are just too good to hold back for a later issue. This latest release from Fonthill Media is a case in point. Steve Smith's work on the Norfolk Regiment is of the highest quality.

Often the best way to navigate the complex narrative of the Great War is to follow a specific regiment. This makes the history much more accessible, and therefore less intimidating. This latest contribution is a great example of accessible and engaging history.

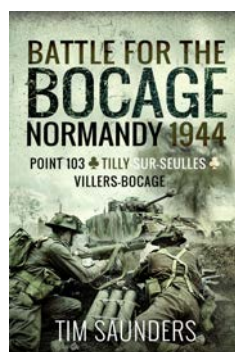
Steve Smith's research is exhaustive, almost forensic, this is the complete story of the Norfolk's experiences on the Western Front.

The author is also an accredited Battlefield Guide, he therefore knows the ground intimately. This knowledge combined with excellent maps, useful photographs, and advice on walking the ground, make this an all encompassing volume.

At first glance this appears to be an expensive book, it is however well worth investing in if you are interested in the Norfolks - Recommended!

Published by Fonthill Media Ltd

Hardback, pp383, RRP £35.00



BATTLE FOR THE BOCAGE

Normandy 1944

By Tim Saunders

The Regimental Battlefield Tour next year looks likely to return to the beaches and fields of Normandy. Hopefully we will also find time to look at the fascinating inland battles beyond the D Day beaches.

This new book on the fighting around Point 103, Tilly Sur-Seulles, and Villers Bocage takes the reader into the thick of the hard-fought battles to break out of the Normandy beachheads.

Tim Saunders clearly knows the terrain well, and understands the doctrine, equipment, and mindset of the day. This knowledge enables him to weave the relevant maps, documents, pictures and commentary into what is a well-rounded chronology of the British and Canadian Army's struggle against determined German resistance.

The individual actions are broken down into manageable, well illustrated chapters that make for absorbing reading. The sketch maps and anecdotal accounts add extra depth to the narrative.

If you are looking for some insight into the complexities of bocage battles, look no further. This new book is pitched at just the right level for the casual reader or the Normandy nut. It certainly brings the claustrophobic and attritional nature of the fight to life - Great Value.

Published by Pen & Sword Ltd,

Hardback, pp357, RRP £25.00