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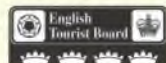
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June 1999  
Vol 11 No 1




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**Editor: Col AC Taylor**

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#### Front cover

Preparing for rural ops - the Vikings.

#### Back cover

Flying the flag in Cyprus - the Poachers.

#### Regiment and Museum Internet Website

[www.army.mod.uk](http://www.army.mod.uk)

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The Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.





The Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon.





The Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester.



## From the Colonel of the Regiment



**Gen Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE ADC Gen, Colonel of the Regiment.**

In the relatively short time since the last publication of *Castle*, the strategic and domestic military environments have changed significantly. The Balkans have flared up yet again, filling our television screens with scenes of humanitarian horror and the military endeavour trying to bring it to a halt. The Good Friday Agreement in Northern Ireland faces yet another hurdle, with no readily apparent means to clear it. These two theatres alone, could potentially commit British troops for longer and in greater quantity than had been expected or hoped for. Internally, the Army is implementing the Strategic Defence Review - as many would say, this is like trying to change the wheels on a moving train.

So how is all of this likely to affect the Regiment over the coming six months? The 1st Battalion is just beginning its tour in Londonderry - familiar territory for some of the old hands - and will be close party to the developments in Northern Ireland during the next nine months or so. For them it promises to be a long, hot summer in which the marching season, the establishment of the Assembly and the publication of the Patten Report on the future of the RUC will be crucial in progress towards peace. As they embark

on what will be a difficult time, we wish them every good luck and a safe tour.

The 2nd Battalion is just over halfway through its tour in Cyprus. As ever it is busy with the many commitments that fall to resident battalions there. While it is frustrating for some to be away from the latest action, they have the opportunity to build on their individual and collective skills this year, so that they are ready to face anything that they may be asked to do on their return to England. Sadly, our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief was unable to visit them this summer.

By 1 July, the East of England Regiment of the Territorial Army will be formed and beginning to develop its identity and capability. Our four Regimental companies are the major part of this Regiment and it is important that they fill their ranks with committed personnel. Sad though the changes have been, I would like to congratulate publicly those from our Regiment who have been instrumental in bringing the new Regiment together. Col Nick Kelsey, Lt Col Howard Gill and Lt Col Peter Holme deserve all our thanks for their efforts. We wish the new Regiment a happy birthday and a healthy future.



## The Regiment

### Colonel-in-Chief

HM Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother

### Deputy Colonels-in-Chief

HRH The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon  
HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester

### Colonel of the Regiment

Gen Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE ADC Gen

### Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment

The Rev MD Franks MBE

### Deputy Colonels of the Regiment

1st Battalion: Maj Gen JCB Sutherland CBE ADC  
2nd Battalion: Brig JC McColl CBE  
TA Sub Units: Col NH Kelsey OBE TD

### President of the Regimental Association

Maj Gen Sir David Thorne KBE CVO

### Deputy Honorary Colonels TA

Norfolk	Col PJS Child
Suffolk	Brig AJK Calder OBE
Cambridgeshire	Col PGR Horrell TD
Lincolnshire	Col RJM Drummond OBE
Leicestershire	Col JCD Heggs DL
Northamptonshire	Col FAH Swallow OBE
Bedfordshire	Col M Adkin
Hertfordshire	Col NG Halsey TD
Essex	Col RA Shervington TD

### Alliances

Australia	The Royal Tasmania Regiment
Barbados	The Barbados Regiment
Belize	The Belize Defence Force
Bermuda	The Bermuda Regiment
Canada	Sherbrooke Hussars
	The Lincoln and Welland Regiment
	The Essex and Kent Scottish
	The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment
Gibraltar	The Gibraltar Regiment
Malaysia	1st Battalion the Royal Malay Regiment
New Zealand	3rd Battalion (Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment
	5th Battalion the Frontier Force Regiment
Pakistan	First City Regiment
	Regiment de la Rey

The Regiment is affiliated to 158 (Royal Anglian) Transport Regiment RLC(V) and to the Worshipful Company of Poulterers  
1st Battalion has a Bond of Friendship with *HMS Norfolk*

## Civic Honours

The Regiment has been granted the honour of the Freedom of:  
Bedford, Boston, Brentwood, Bury St Edmunds, Cambridge, Chelmsford,  
Cleethorpes, Colchester, Dunstable, Ely, Grantham, Grimsby, Grays and Thurrock,  
Hertford, Hinckley and Bosworth, Ilford, Ipswich, King's Lynn, Leicester,  
Lincoln, Lowestoft, Luton, Newham, Northampton, Norwich, Peterborough,  
Romford, Southend, Sudbury, Watford, Wellingborough, Wisbech, Great Yarmouth,  
and the Colour of the Borough of Barking and Dagenham.

## Regimental Locations

### Regimental Headquarters

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN  
(Tel: 01284-752394. Fax: 752026/Colchester Military 5124)

**Regimental Secretary:** Col AC Taylor  
**Assistant Regimental Secretary:** Maj J Fisk  
**Regimental Careers Officer:** Maj RC Gould

**Area Office Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire**  
Britannia House TA Centre, 325 Aylsham Road, Norwich NR3 2AD  
Tel: 01603-400290  
*Area Secretary:* Maj WH Reeve

**Area Office Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire**  
Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton NN1 3RE  
Tel: 01604-635412  
*Area Secretary:* Col FAH Swallow OBE

**Regimental Information Team**  
Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn  
Tel: 011763-242271  
Capt TD Smith MBE

**Area Office Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex**  
Blenheim House, Eagle Way,  
Warley, Essex CM13 3BN  
Tel: 01277-213051

**Area Office Lincoln**  
Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY  
Tel: 01522-544886  
*Area Secretary:* Capt DJ Lee BEM

**Regimental Museum**  
Imperial War Museum, Duxford, Cambs CB2 4QR  
Tel: 01223-835000 Ext 313  
*Regimental Attendant:* Mr GA Boss

## Battalion Locations

1st Battalion,  
Ebrington Barracks, BFPO 807

Lt Col RJ Kemp MBE

2nd Battalion,  
Alexander Barracks,  
BFPO 58

Lt Col SL Porter  
(Des Lt Col AJC Wild MBE)

*(to Chepstow March 2000)*

East of England Regiment  
TA Centre, Blenheim Camp, Newmarket Road,  
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3SW

Lt Col AC Newell PWRR

## Regimental Representatives

**Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn:** Capt DJ Howson  
**Infantry Training Centre, Catterick:** Maj AW Price  
**RMA Sandhurst:** Maj STH Andrews



# Personalia

## Honours and Awards

Pte MJ Vranich 2nd Battalion is congratulated on being awarded the Joint Commanders Commendation in the Honours List published in May 1999.

## Senior Officers' Appointments

The following are congratulated on assuming senior appointments:

Maj Gen JCB Sutherell CBE ADC	as Comdt RMCS 12 March 1999
Brig JC McColl CBE	as ACOS Ops HQ Land 3 January 1999
Lt Col AJC Wild MBE	as Commanding Officer 2nd Battalion July 1999
Lt Col NG Burrell	as Commanding Officer 7th Irish August 1999

## Promotions

Lt B Allen	to Captain 10 February 1999
Lt IM Chance	to Captain 10 February 1999

## Commissioning

The following were selected for commissioning at the 1999 Board:

WO1 (RSM) DJ Stefanetti  
WO1 (RSM) FA Ralph

The following passed out of RMA Sandhurst on 9 April 1999 and joined battalions as follows:

2Lts A Briggs and DM James Roll	1st Battalion
2Lts CW Swallow and RH Whitham	2nd Battalion

## Postings

RHQ has been told of the following postings:

Col DJ Clements MBE	to CAFT(G) March 1999
Col DSB Phipps	to DGD&D 10 May 1999
Maj JM Woodham from HQ Land	to 2 Battalion January 1999
Maj JC Wiles from 2nd Battalion	to PJHQ October 1998
Lt Col RJ Ladley MBE from 2nd Battalion	to PE December 1998
Maj STH Andrews from 1st Battalion	to RMAS April 1999
Maj AJ Wadman from 7th Battalion	to BMM Kuwait May 1999
Capt AG Grinonneau from HQ BFFI	to ITC Warminster April 1999
Capt BN Downs from ARRC	to BMATT S Africa February 1999
Capt DA England from USA	to 1st Battalion April 1999
Capt G Morris from 7th Battalion	to 6th Battalion May 1999
Capt DJ Stefanetti	to 1st Battalion February 1999
Capt FA Ralph	to 2nd Battalion April 1999
Maj D J Gregory from ATRA	to ATC Bassingbourn May 1999
Maj SB Brunt from HQ SPTA	to HQ RSA July 1999
Maj JF Macdonald from PM NBC	to SO Wpns Projects September 1999
Maj GF Tomlin from 602 TACP(FAC)	to 609 TACP AMF(L) May 1999
Maj NFC Nottingham from Overseas Staff College	to 2nd Battalion August 1999

## Left the Army

The following are leaving, or have left, the Army

Capt DG Goude MBE	28 February 1999
Capt GT Corkery	20 July 1999
Capt AL Robbins	16 June 1999

## Regimental Matters

### The Regimental Reunion

The Regimental Reunion will be held at Bassingbourn Barracks on Sunday 25 July 1999. The format will be:

- 1000 Gates Open
- 1130 Drumhead Service
- 1215 March Past
- 1230 Bars, Kiosks and Stalls Open
- 1330 Static Displays, Side Shows, Shooting Competition
- 1500 Band Display
- 1730 Bars Close
- 1800 Barracks Close

We hope that even more serving and retired members of the Regiment and Association Branches with their Standards will attend this year. Packed lunches will not be available; you are asked to bring picnics or use the considerable refreshment facilities provided.

Entry passes will not be issued.

### MBNA International

#### - The Regimental Credit Card

For the quarter ended 31 December 1998 the Regimental Association received a Royalty cheque for £77 from MBNA International demonstrating the benefit to the Regiment of using the MBNA Card.



Please support the Royal Anglian Regiment Credit Card.

### Regimental Uniform Shop

RHQ operates a shop for officers uniform. Officers wishing to use this facility should contact Maj J Fisk, the Assistant Regimental Secretary.

### Regimental Briefing

A Regimental briefing at Oakington Barracks, Cambridge on 9 February 1999 was attended by over 70 guests from the Careers Advisory Service, the Army Cadet Force and the Recruiting organisation. Brig JC McColl CBE represented the Colonel of the Regiment and the 1st Battalion provided an informative presentation and various stands illustrating the working life of a soldier on duty in Northern Ireland.

### Regimental Shop

Details about the shop can be found on page 94. Prices have been reviewed and there are bargains to be had.

### The Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund

The Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund exists to help former members of the Regiment and their dependants who are in need of financial help to ease distress. Cases are referred to RHQ by SSAFA, The Royal British Legion, DSS, Blesma, Combat Stress and other similar organisations that look after the welfare of ex-Servicemen.

In the last year a total of 86 cases have been considered, 68 have been approved and £14,902.26 dispensed. Additional support has also been obtained from other welfare sources. The income for the

fund comes from the Day's Pay Scheme and the profits from investments.

Your contribution is essential to the future running of the fund. It will ensure that should you ever need the fund then there will be sufficient funds available.

If you have not joined the Day's Pay Scheme, contact the admin office today.

### Diary Dates

#### July

- 3-4 Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion, Northampton.
- 17 Essex Regiment Association Annual Dinner and Dance.
- 22 Peterborough Branch Northamptonshire Regiment Association barbecue, Stanground.
- 22 Salamanca Day, 1st Battalion.
- 25 Regimental Reunion, Bassingbourn.
- 27 Talavera Day, 2nd Battalion.
- 31 Suffolk Regiment Officers' Dinner, Bury St Edmunds.

#### August

- 1 Suffolk Regiment Minden Day Reunion, Bury St Edmunds
- 13 Blenheim Day, 2nd Battalion

#### September

- 1 Royal Anglian Regiment Foundation Day
- 4-5 Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Reunion, Lincoln
- 17 Regimental Golf autumn meeting, Flempton Golf Club Cambridgeshire
- 19 Regiment Association AGM, Ely
- 25 Royal Norfolk Regiment Association Dinner, Norwich
- 1st Battalion Royal Leicestershire Regiment (old 50th/8th Reunion, Leicester
- 26 Royal Norfolk Regiment Association Commemoration Service, Norwich

#### October

- 1 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club Luncheon, Warley
- 1-2 70th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion, Kettering
- 9 4th/5th Battalion Royal Leicestershire Regiment Officers' Dinner, Leicester
- 16 Peterborough Branch Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion Army Benevolent Fund Concert, Warley

#### November

- 5 Regimental Council Meeting
- Regimental Dinner, Army and Navy Club
- 11 Field of Remembrance, Westminster
- 14 Remembrance Sunday
- 21 Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association Reunion, Kempston
- 27 Sortie Day, RHQ and 1st Battalion

#### December

- 4 Royal Leicestershire Regiment Officers' Dinner Club Luncheon, Army and Navy Club

#### February

2nd Battalion from Cyprus

### Contributions to Castle Wanted

Why not write an article for *Castle* to record, with words and photographs, your experiences? Let everyone else share in your experience and laugh with/at you. Lay down for posterity your thoughts and activities. Such articles do not have to be tales of great bravery and derring-do. If it is something you would talk about over a beer, share it with a wider audience - the readership of *Castle*. So let's have your articles please.

Next Castle, December 1999

Contributions required by 29 October 1999

## Mainly about people



**HRH The Prince of Wales** visited the Falkland Islands in March, where he met members of B (Leicestershire) Company of the 2nd Battalion, who had arrived a few days before as the resident infantry company. The photograph shows the Prince talking to **Cpl Nick Vazquez**, **Pte 'Chops' Day**, **Cpl Pete Sweeney** and **Cpl Pete Gadsden**.

**Lt Col Trevor Veitch** left Bury St Edmunds in May 1998 after nearly two years as Regimental Secretary. Trevor had served the Regiment with total commitment, not only during his time in uniform, but prior to his stint at The Keep, when he was instrumental in raising the funds for and establishing the Regimental Museum at Duxford. That the funds were raised and the detail of the display at

Duxford came to fruition were, in a large measure, due to his singular efforts. The museum will forever remain a memorial to his endeavours on behalf of the Regiment. His time in post as Regimental Secretary was characterised by kindness and approachability and he was always to be seen across the Regiment and its territory dedicating his efforts to furthering the Regiment's cause. As he and Ushe begin a new episode in their lives we hope they will remain in touch with their many friends in the Regiment and counties. Indeed, as a fundraiser for military museums he is maintaining close and happy links with the Regiment and the former Regiments.

**WO2 Roy Watret** left the Army on 30 April 1999 after 37 years' service. He was the last serving ex-Royal Leicester, having joined the Forester Brigade in August 1962. He went with the Tigers to Hong Kong in May 1963 and then on to Borneo during Confrontation. Back in Somerset the Battalion rebadged becoming the 4th Battalion of the new Royal Anglian Regiment. When the Battalion was reduced in 1970 he joined the 3rd Battalion and served in Paderborn, Cyprus, Belize, Bulford and Northern Ireland both on resident and emergency tours. After Regular service he joined the Long Service List teaching Servicemen to use CCTV cameras. We wish him well as he begins his second career - as an MoD civil servant teaching (you guessed it) Servicemen to use CCTV.

**Maj Chris Wawn** and **Mr Martin Boswell**, below, recently met



**WO2 Roy Watret** pictured in Hong Kong, 1963.





up at the Regimental Museum. They had last seen one another in 1981 when Chris was an officer cadet and Martin a corporal with D (Cambridgeshire) Company of the 6th Battalion. Maj Wawn is now serving with the Gibraltar Regiment and at the time of his visit to the museum was leading a party from the infantry company who were carrying out their annual camp in UK.

Watching the Oxford v Cambridge boat race in April readers may have wondered whether the Stallard rowing for the victorious crew, Cambridge, had any Regimental connection. He has. David Stallard is the nephew of Lt Col Kit Stallard and the great nephew of Canon Stallard who was the padre to 5 Bedfords during World War Two.



Mr J Lindley MM, a regular contributor to *Castle* sent us this photograph of the tribute to the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment which is located in the reception area of the Union Jack Club. The photograph of Sgt Lindley was taken in 1945. Now in his nineties he is still an active member of the Association.

## Letters

I am sometimes asked why some contributions are not included in the journal.

Space in the journal is limited and in order to stay within budget it is not possible to include all the material we receive. I wish we could because, having been a contributor over the years, I know how much effort goes into producing articles and photographs.

Sometimes articles are excluded because they are too long, sometimes the subject is covered elsewhere or was covered in a recent issue and sometimes it is that the material included gets priority because it is valuable as a contemporary account of a recent operation. An example of this is the article in this issue by Capt Howson about his time as an OSCE observer in Kosovo in the period before the Nato bombing started.

Please keep the contributions coming.

The editor

I am trying to contact an old Army friend. We both served in 2 East Anglians in Osnabruck in 1961-64.

His first name is Raymond and his surname Allis, Ellis or Ellson, and his nickname was 'Alice'. I think he lived in Birmingham, near Scunthorpe.

I hope you are able to help.

AB Wright,

17 Willow Court, Washingborough, Lincoln LN4 1AJ

Can anyone help ...Ed?

## From the Padre



One of my favourite passages from scripture is the story of the two disciples walking along the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus, a journey of seven miles. They are feeling so depressed, unhappy and uncertain what the future has in store for them. The man they had given up everything to follow had been put to death, and had disappeared from the tomb in which he had been buried. As they are walking along they are joined by Christ, whom

they do not recognise. He enquires from them why they are so unhappy and depressed. They tell him the sequence of events which have taken place in Jerusalem. They encourage him to spend the night in the hotel with them, and while they are eating, he breaks the bread and blesses it and gives it to them to eat. They realise that it is the risen Christ. He leaves them at once after they have identified him.

How many times have we encountered a crisis during our lifetime? A broken marriage or relationship, the death of someone very dear to us, the loss of a good job, a serious accident resulting in a long spell in hospital and perhaps a disability. But we've overcome the crisis...how?...because walking unnoticed beside us, guiding and supporting us, has been the risen Christ.

During these last few weeks a war-like situation has developed in the former state of Yugoslavia. Thousands upon thousands have been forced to leave their homes. Families have become separated, many have seen their loved ones taken from them and their whereabouts unknown.

Many of you have already served in the area, in Bosnia, and you may be called upon again to protect those being persecuted and killed. You will become the 'stranger' walking beside them to encourage and guide them through these difficult times. May almighty God bless and protect you all.

Martin Franks

## Feet of endurance!



OCdts Hitching, Mella and Nicholas walked the West Highland Way from 10-16 April. They will be commissioned on 6 August and after attending the platoon commander's course at Warminster, will join their battalions at Christmas.

## The Vikings

### Exercise Viking Raid

The Battalion deployed to Sennybridge in December to practise the raider tactics which had been developed over the previous few months, on a ten-day Battalion-level exercise. Companies began with dry training for the first few days. This was a chance to refine their drills before the Battalion FTX. Each company also took part in a comprehensive live-firing package which practised the use of all platoon weapons including 94mm HEAT, grenades and RGGS.

The platoon attack ranges incorporated SF guns, 81mm mortar fire and Rarden cannon fire from the Scimitars of the 9/12 Lancers. This took place by both day and night and meant that the ranges were both realistic and enjoyable. The exercise culminated in the four-day Battle Group exercise. The enemy for the exercise was provided by the PNCO cadre which used the FTX as part of its final exercise. The exercise tested the Battalion in raiding, infiltration, obstacle crossing, surveillance and Obua skills. Having completed a highly complex Battle Group night river crossing and assault on village one, the Battle Group moved into defensive positions in Cellini village. Despite a sturdy defence by the Viking Battle Group, the PNCO cadre infiltrated and occupied most of the village before the Vikings conducted a counter-attack and destroyed the PNCO cadre. The exercise was enjoyed by both sides and showed the potential of the Vikings when using Raider Tactics.

### RAAT Tasks

When not carrying out warfighting training the Battalion has been busy with the constant flow of RAAT tasks into the Battalion 2IC's in-tray. In October, A (Norfolk) Company spent two weeks acting as Civpop for 2PWRR during its Northern Ireland training in Lydd. The soldiers particularly enjoyed



**Bunker busting.**

the chance to act as an unruly crowd during the riot training. The company also took the opportunity to send troops to France for day trips and fired an APWT on Hythe ranges. As well as providing realistic training for 2 PWRR the company gained a useful insight into Northern Ireland training in preparation for the Vikings' turn through Rype Village in March.

Another RAAT was the administration of Exercise Purple Sound, a major Permanent Joint Headquarters (PJHQ) exercise held at Chicksands. This was a large task taken on by B (Suffolk) Company, and gave an interesting insight into the workings of a tri-service exercise.

Straight after the Battalion returned from Christmas leave, most of the officers and SNCOs, along with the whole of C Company, were deployed to Salisbury Plain to act as instructors and demo troops to prepare 10 Regiment RLIC for deployment to the Balkans on Operation Palatine. Based in Copehill Down village, the Vikings produced a series of training stands, incorporating acting abilities worthy of an

Oscar. Concurrent to this was a comprehensive range package run on Bulford Ranges.

### PNCO Cadre

A Potential NCO cadre was run over a period of six weeks in November and December by Capt Alan Bowman and the Training Wing. The cadre started off with 56 hopefuls and was conducted mainly in the field, first at Pippingford Park then finishing at Sennybridge on Exercise Viking Raid. Those under training showed an enthusiasm and spirit which led to 44 out of 56 passing the cadre and being recommended for promotion. All 44 received their first stripe on the final day of the cadre. The Tomlinson trophy for the best PNCO was awarded to LCpl Moore from D Company. The trophy



**Pte Martin in Isawes equipment.**



**Sniper on Viking Raid.**

## The Vikings



**Pte Eggleton and Dmr Hanley on exercise.**

for best endeavour was won by LCpl Gorham of A Company, a superb achievement by an 18-year-old soldier who has been in the Battalion for less than a year.

### Recruiting

The Battalion's recruiting effort continued to roll at great speed with company-organised 'raids' to shopping centres and well-populated areas taking place throughout our counties as part of Operation Viking's Call. To date more than 700 committed recruit cards have been issued, of which many were to serious applicants who then went on to the next stage in enlistment.

Viking's Call is now being followed up by a new operation, known as Viking Encounter. This is run jointly with the Army Youth Team and introduces potential recruits to a day in the life of the Vikings. The intention is to convince those who have shown a desire to join to continue with their application. The first of these days was run by C (Essex) Company and was well

received by the 40 or so potential recruits who attended. The day involved a presentation on the role of the infantry and the Vikings in particular, followed by shooting, assault course, paintballing and much more. Since then, several further days have been held and all have enjoyed similar success. More Viking Encounters are planned for the future, (about one every two weeks, ) to maintain the links established on Operation Viking's Call and to ensure that those receiving committed recruit cards will eventually enter the gates.

The Battalion has now launched the final stage of its three-pronged recruiting campaign, Viking Future. This is a club designed to keep potential Vikings on-line, both prior to enlistment and during all stages of training until they arrive in the Battalion.

The Officers' Mess has also hosted potential officers for the Royal Anglian Regiment and those officer cadets currently in their first term at Sandhurst. A total of two potential officers and 13 officer cadets dined in the Mess, joined by officers



**Defeating difficult terrain on Viking Raid.**

currently posted to ATR Bassingbourn. The night was thoroughly enjoyable and succeeded in showing future officers the social side of holding a commission in the Regiment.

### Company training

In January the Battalion reorganised into its new Orbat for Northern Ireland training. The Close Observation and Intelligence Platoons formed up and began their specialist training. The rifle companies also began a period of individual training in preparation for Northern Ireland. In particular, each company carried out a range package in Colchester which was an opportunity to carry out APWTs and training with the baton gun and other specialist Northern Ireland equipment. B (Suffolk) Company also travelled to Thetford and made use of the aerial confidence course and orienteering course. Once complete the company returned to camp where it conducted a challenging OP exercise, designed to test junior commanders.



**Paintballing on Viking Encounter.**



**Potential Vikings learn the 94mm.**



## The Vikings



A potential Viking receiving his completion certificate.



Beasting up the Fan.

### RSM hands over

January also saw the handing over of RSMs. After successfully obtaining his commission, RSM Stefanetti handed over the reigns to RQMS(T) Prime. After a week-long handover, the chair was vacated by one scary man and quickly filled by another. The outgoing RSM was commissioned on 1 February and assumed the position of families officer, a busy task with the forthcoming move to Londonderry to prepare for.

### Commanding Officer's Commendation

Mrs Sandie Stefanetti, the wife of the new families officer, was awarded a

Commanding Officer's Commendation for her services to the Wives' Club. The award was in recognition of her selfless dedication to the club. The Commanding Officer described Mrs Stefanetti as the 'lynch pin' of the Wives' Club whose work could not go unrecognised. It is only the second time a Commanding Officer's Commendation has been awarded in recent years, and the first to be presented other than to a serving soldier.

### Vikings abroad

Several Vikings have had the opportunity to visit foreign shores. The Mortar Platoon sent Sgt Donnelly and Cpl Woodrow to Belize to act as instructors on the mortar

numbers cadre for the Belize Defence Force. Capt Smith, OC Mortar Platoon, left on New Year's Eve to go to Brunei for the six-week jungle warfare instructors cadre. B (Suffolk) Company sent a complete section to Exercise Grand Prix in Kenya, attached to the Cheshire Regiment. C (Essex) Company was also fortunate in securing eight places on the Army's annual skiing trip to Austria, called Exercise Winter Warrior. The overwhelming opinion was that it was the best adventure training ever experienced and well worth a couple of weeks on crutches for those who skied beyond their ability.

In October Capt Howson and Sgt Buxton volunteered for service in Kosovo as part of the British contingent of the OSCE monitors. They took part in a concentrated training package at South Cerney, and were then put on 48 hours' notice to move. After a period of uncertainty they were deployed as monitors. With the deepening international crisis in the Balkans, Capt and Sgt Buxton withdrew to Macedonia in April. They are now back with the Battalion.

### Regimental Briefing Day

On 9 February a Regimental Briefing Day was held in Oakington Barracks. Selected guests from schools and employment agencies around the Regiment's recruiting area were briefed on the Regiment and the challenges and rewards of a career in it. Brig McColl was the lead speaker in a multimedia briefing covering Regimental and Battalion life from a number of perspectives. After a period of questions the guests were escorted round a series of stands that highlighted the Battalion's Northern Ireland training. The demonstrations, orchestrated by Maj Simon Andrews, were well received by the guests who were able, at times, to participate in them. After an informal lunch, the day was rounded off with a further question session before our guests departed to spread the gospel of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

### Mountain Training

C (Essex) Company snatched some time away in February and headed to Scotland



RSM Stefanetti hands over to RSM Prime.

**The Vikings****Riot demonstration.**

for a week of mountain training. After a 12-hour coach journey they arrived at Kinlochleven, a Royal Marine Training Lodge close to Fort William. The company took part in lessons on rope work, navigation, route planning and cold weather first aid. Over the next two days each platoon carried out a series of long distance walks over the snow-covered mountains. After returning to base for a decent night's sleep, the next day the company, joined by the Commanding Officer and his driver, LCpl Ward, practised abseiling and river crossing techniques using ropes. Despite the harshness of the weather, the company thoroughly enjoyed this period of imaginative and challenging training.

**NI Training**

Training for Northern Ireland started in earnest in February, beginning with the in-barracks presentations by NITAT which was followed by the Commanders' Cadre and concurrent specialist cadres in Folkestone. This month saw the arrival of the

reinforcement platoon from the Poachers, commanded by Lt Nick Charlwood. The Poacher Platoon has formed the third platoon in A Company and is now fully integrated into the company and the Battalion. As might be expected, they have impressed all by their professionalism and commitment. Over the next two years selected Poachers will be trickle posted to the Battalion on a six-monthly basis. Several recces to Londonderry have taken place so far, each one being followed up with a briefing to the whole Battalion. All ranks are therefore fully in the picture on the situation we are likely to encounter when we deploy on our resident tour of Londonderry in May. This includes the families, as there has been a separate wives' recces and a several presentations on schools and job opportunities available in Londonderry.

Once the commanders had returned from the Commanders' Cadre and the other specialist cadres run by NITAT, they were able to get down to the business of training their troops. Each company has rotated

through its own company exercise in Longmoor village, beginning with A (Norfolk) Company on 1 March 1999. This has prepared us for the next stage of training which is the NITAT training at Lydd Camp. Each company will rotate through four three-day stands. These consist of ranges, urban, rural and public order packages. The latter is a new module which has been introduced at the request of the Battalion and reflects the likely emphasis of our operations in the period soon after deployment. After the main NITAT training the Battalion will deploy to Stanta at the beginning of April for the four-day rural exercise. Then it will be time to pack up Oakington barracks ready for the move to Londonderry in mid-May. Although many people will be sad to be leaving our recruiting area where we have spent several years, everyone is looking forward to the move and the Battalion's new role. Despite the changing political situation in Northern Ireland, it seems certain that we will have a busy and varied tour ahead of us.



**The base line stands fast.**



## The Vikings

### Sports news

The companies have battled it out in the various sporting competitions, notably the inter-company hockey competition, which was played at ATR Bassingbourn in October. Using the league system, it was D (Cambridgeshire) Company which was tipped to win from the start. The rifle companies put up a sterling defence but both D and HQ Companies were too strong. The battle for first place was decided in a D and HQ Company showdown, with the ability of D (Cambridgeshire) Company winning the game and the competition.

The Battalion also ran an inter-company orienteering competition in December. This was held in Brandon Country Park close to Stanta and comprised three separate courses of various distances and complexity to cater for all levels of experience. The overall competition winner was C (Essex) Company with a combined time some 200 minutes faster than the second place. The standard indicates that the Battalion orienteering team will continue to flourish as it has done for many years past. The individual winners on the various courses were: A Course winner - Maj Harris; B Course winner - Cpl Roach; C Course winner - Pte Shropshire.

Despite the hectic schedule, the Vikings still managed to couple together a four-man team to enter the Army skiing championships. Held on the slopes of Aviemore, 33 teams from units around the Army competed in the two-day slalom and two-day giant slalom competitions. The competition was the end of the six-week skiing competition season.

The Battalion is still fortunate to be represented at Army level by several sportsmen. Pte Challis departed for training with the Army judo team in January in preparation for major competitions, and Pte Castle from D (Cambridge) Company also left for Aldershot to train for the Army boxing team.



Questions at a vehicle check point (VCP).



Baton gunner ready for action.

## Suffolk Men Seek Work in Wales

*Lt PJ Messenger writes:*

On 23 November 1998 B (Suffolk) Company, along with the rest of the Battalion, deployed to Brecon for Exercise Viking Raid/Operation Revitalise. The exercise was split into three phases. Phase one company-level dry training, phase two live-firing up to platoon level and phase three the Commanding Officer's exercise. The company was below strength due to several injuries and the JNCO cadre, which was running concurrently with the exercise. This forced us to deploy with a two platoon Orbat. There were corporals acting as platoon sergeants and inexperienced lance corporals as section commanders, all excelling under the enforced pressure.

The weather for the time of year was excellent, with the majority of the training being conducted in dry but cold conditions. The terrain, typical rolling Welsh

countryside, is a far cry from the flat plains of Cambridgeshire. However, this proved to be the ideal ground to practise the Battalion's newly adopted raider tactics.

### Phase one: Dry training

The first phase of the exercise was an excellent opportunity for the company to work out and practise some SOPs with a two-platoon orbat. The main areas covered were the attack and obstacle crossing drills. This was also an ideal chance to practise both section and platoon-level drills in preparation for the fast approaching live-firing. The dry training package culminated in a 24-hour exercise, which was the first opportunity for all of us to practise raider tactics.

This started with four-man teams inserting to two different platoon objectives, which



Maj Simon Andrews, OC B Company.

## The Vikings



**Sgt Wright, 6 Platoon commander, 'blowing again'.**

were subsequently assaulted before moving to an RV some distance away. This was all done carrying full kit. Time was given to conduct proper battle procedure, and so it was possible to give a full set of orders at all levels. To that end the operation was a success, losing only four soldiers with a variety of lower leg injuries.

After a few hours' rest at the RV, the company prepared itself for a dawn attack on an enemy position located in some fairly dense forestry. The attack was a success despite the problems communicating in such close country.

The exercise culminated in a fighting withdrawal which highlighted difficulties of command and control. However, the lessons of passing information at all levels were quickly learned, and the exercise was a great warm-up for what was to come.

### Phase two: Live-firing

Phase two commenced with section attacks. This gave both platoon commanders a perfect opportunity to see their section commanders at work. Some attacks were better than others with many valid points coming out of all of them, as well as some very wet soldiers. The night activity consisted of a platoon ambush. The OC briefed the platoon commanders as to how he wanted the ambushes to be initiated. Now was our turn to perform! The ambush had support in the form of the Mortar Platoon and hence the ambushes were to be illuminated. The idea being that once the fire mission was sent and 'shot 23' given we had to count to 22 and engage the targets. The anticipated end result was a heavy weight of fire going down as the illum popped. All of which was to happen in a matter of seconds and of course in the correct order.

The platoon moved into position at 2100hrs and once settled the word was given for ambush set. At 2200hrs the warning was given by the left cut-off that the enemy was approaching. The fire mission was sent calling for the illum. Once the round was

heard leaving the tube, the count began and 22 seconds later the targets were engaged. The timing was immaculate and, with relief, the ambush worked perfectly.

The final day was spent on the platoon attack range. The attack was carried out over harsh terrain and in wet conditions. There were two main objectives for the platoon to assault, with mortars, SF and CVRTs in support. This was without a doubt the highlight of the live-firing package with all the various weapon systems being used to full effect.

### Phase three: Commanding Officer's exercise

The Commanding Officer's exercise started very early on the Sunday morning. B Company was tasked to secure both the home and enemy bank, in order to allow the Battalion to abseil down a rock face. The operation went well, even if we were delayed by several hours. After an assault on an enemy echelon site the company set off on what was to be a long and cold overnight tab. The Usk reservoir, the final destination, was reached several hours later. This was then crossed in assault boats before moving off to a company hide where preparations were made for the next phase. The hectic start dictated the pace of the next four days, which proved to be absolutely relentless.

The next phase was to be an OP screen with a few probing attacks by the JNCO cadre, to keep us on our toes. This phase went very smoothly for B Company apart from a few rogue troops deciding to move to a location where they could neither see the area they were tasked to observe nor communicate with anybody else. After several hours of relative inactivity the OPs were collapsed and the orders process started for the next phase.

The third phase of the exercise was to be a Battalion assault on Village One. B Company's tasks were to provide a feint at



**Pte Jones, 7 Platoon, B Company.**



**Lt Messenger, OC 7 Platoon at the top of the abseil on Viking Raid.**

one end of the village and fire support from the other. This was to allow A Company to make the break in. The assault was a success and the village was soon taken. The whole Battalion was then moved by TC vehicle to Cellini village. It was soon announced that a peace deal had been negotiated giving everybody a chance for some much needed rest.

Several hours later the peace deal was rejected and hence the fourth phase of the exercise began. This started with the Battalion defending the village with the JNCO cadre making a break in. They were then counter-attacked on several fronts and pushed back out of the village. The difficulties encountered here were being able to tell which houses belonged to whom due to them rapidly changing occupants. The other problem was in being able to successfully defend or assault houses with the low number of troops at our disposal. B Company's problems were further heightened by the enemy managing to obtain the company frequency and transmitting false messages and orders on the net. However, it was soon Endex and the cleaning process began in earnest.

The exercise was a great success, albeit hard work, and was an excellent opportunity to practise the raider tactics talked so much about. A number of points were highlighted during the course of the exercise, especially the importance of the role a junior commander plays in such operations. Commanders at all levels must show initiative and have total faith in their own decision making. However, any course taken must still remain within the orders given. Raider tactics have proved to stretch the concept of mission command to the limit. It is therefore important that commanders at all levels have total faith in the abilities of those under their command. Communication at all levels is vital, from information being passed within a four-man team to it being carried all the way up the chain of command. It was shown time and time again the importance that all men should have the ability to use a radio effectively and with confidence.



## The Vikings

### Exercise Mountain Eagle 31 January - 5 February 1999

*Lt Paul Muncey writes:*

Prior to commencing Northern Ireland training, C Company, embarked on a week-long adventurous training exercise in northern Scotland. The company travelled to the Royal Marine Mountain training Lodge at Kinlochleven near Fort William.

The first full day was partially spent drawing specialist mountain kit such as crampons, ice axes, ropes, harnesses and extremely stupid looking Arctic hats. The remainder of the day involved map reading and safety lessons in preparation for the rest of the week's activities. The men were then split in half under the command of Lts Muncey and Evans, the platoon commanders. The groups were then split into groups of four under the command of an NCO with each group then planning the first day's routes over the snow covered Munros.

For Lt Muncey's group the first day on the mountains was an arduous tri-Munro climb. It began with a gentle ascent to the snowline. Here Maj Harris, the company commander, gave a practical lesson in moving over the snow and emergency drills in the case of a fall. After this the group set off up the snowline towards the peaks. The going became increasingly difficult as snow gave way to large areas of ice and the weather at this height becoming extremely adverse. There were high winds and very poor visibility. At this stage crampons were fitted and ice axes drawn for the remainder of the day. As the group moved higher the risks

increased with cornices disguising the steep sides. Cornices are the drifted overhangs of snow, which often fool climbers and cause falls. In the hard conditions the cornices were very difficult to identify and so very slow progress was made especially along the ridges. Eventually the group negotiated the three Munros along the route and a steep descent was made. The day had rendered each team member very tired and not many beers were consumed that evening.

2Lt Evans took his group on a slightly lower route avoiding much of the snow. The route took them along a wide ridge at the western end of the Mamores range, over Stob Ban at about 1,000m and back down to the West Highland Way. It was not as technically challenging, however it was a longer and more rugged route which tested all team members. The initial ascent was slow, as some time was spent practising the use of ice axes. One of the team members also picked up an injury and had to descend, which delayed the initial meeting of the teams that had set off separately. Unfortunately the weather soon closed in on the summits, with vicious hailstorms and visibility often down to 20m. This made navigating extremely challenging, and was a real test for the JNCO team leaders, who led the whole group with guidance from Maj Patteson. Parts of the route became very treacherous due to a combination of reduced visibility and cornices, and because progress was slowing, it was decided to cut

the route short. It then became a race to get back to safer ground before the light was lost. It was with great relief, and an instant raise in morale, that the team broke out of the clouds and down the mountain onto the West Highland Way, and from there tabbed back to base.

Due to very severe weather conditions the second day was split with group two on the hills in the morning and group one doing the same in the afternoon. Here groups were taken onto a rugged mountainside to practise scrambling and rope work. Here teams were led on a difficult route up the hillside while roped together. This activity tested teamwork with some members having more difficulties with the height than others. The very wet conditions made the climb very dangerous.

On the third day the weather conditions again made high level walks dangerous so a team competition was organised in the area of Ben Nevis. Each team spent the day navigating from checkpoint to checkpoint over hills up to 500m. They then would conduct a team task such as traverse a river using ropes, abseiling using ropes with no harnesses, as well as more traditional climbing and abseiling using safety equipment. The competition pushed the teams to their limits. Everyone returned to the lodge feeling exhausted but for many these events were harder and more demanding than any that they had experienced before.

### Soldiering Under African Skies

*Pte De Mierre writes*

During the first months of this year, I, along with other members of the Battalion, was attached to the Cheshire Regiment for its overseas exercise in Kenya. It was to prove to be a great experience and one which fulfilled many personal expectations and ambitions. It has proved, so far at least, to be the highlight of my time in the Army.

Kenya was an experience. As soon as you leave the airport at Nairobi you are bombarded by all the different colours, smells and scenes that one can possibly associate with Africa. It was mind blowing. The impact of travelling through the shanty towns and seeing the poverty and street gangs left a sobering impression on everybody. I was moved by the optimistic attitude and friendliness of the locals and I think I made some good friends over there.

Many of you will be familiar with Exercise Grand Prix and the opportunities which it provides visiting troops. The live-firing packages were superb and it was hectic just to get to do everything. From the basic fireteam level up to company and battalion-

level training, everyone had the opportunity to train and test themselves. I particularly enjoyed the LAW 94mm and RGGs ranges. The amount of explosives going down the ranges was great and we all learned a lot.

Jungle training at Khatendeni was fantastic. It was all new stuff and presented many interesting challenges.

I learned the differences between primary and secondary jungle - and it is not all about bushes and trees! Spending a night in the jungle and listening to all the nightlife was different. It's noisier than my digs in barracks! The drills I learned certainly whetted my appetite and I'd jump at the chance to do some more jungle training, but I don't think there will be much chance in Northern Ireland...

The highlight of my time in Kenya was undoubtedly the adventure training and sightseeing. It was quite frustrating being at Nanjuki because we were gated and therefore unable to see around the local area. That all changed when we went down to Lake Naivasha for adventure training. There

we had the opportunity to do all the various adventure sports; rock climbing, mountain biking, canoeing, and also do a spot of wildlife watching in Hells Gate National Park. The chance to see lions, elephants, tigers and hippos up really close was breathtaking. It took a steady nerve to get up close to get the photographs.

All in all Kenya has been the best exercise that I have been on so far. It was a chance to practise my skills and drills in a totally new environment. It certainly beats Sennybridge and Stanta! It was also a good experience to work with other units as this gave me an insight into how other regiments do things. The Cheshires made us very welcome and I would like to work with them in the future, if only to beat them at football again! It lived up to expectations, and I will go back and see other parts of Africa someday. Hopefully courtesy of the Army. If there is anybody thinking about doing something similar my advice is to go for it. You won't regret it and you may even learn something from your host unit!

**From a Land Down Under***Capt Mick Aston writes*

I was delighted to hear on 4 June 1998 that I had been offered a commission in the Royal Anglian Regiment. It had only been some four months since I had sent my original letter to MCM Div to request an appointment in the British Army, and here I was with an offer from the Vikings. That was how everything started nearly a year ago.

At the time I was an instructor at the Royal Military College of Australia, Duntroon and was looking for opportunities for some operational service, something which is hard to come by in the small Australian Regular Army (ARA). My dog, Oscar, was the first member of the family to deploy and arrived in late September to begin what has proven to be a long and expensive internment in quarantine. My wife, Tanya, and I arrived in November to the start of the winter having just left the 30C heat of an early summer in Brisbane, Queensland. We both received a very warm welcome from all the officers in the Battalion and I was into the swing of things quickly with a ten-day deployment to Wales to acclimatise and meet the platoon.

There are plenty of witty anecdotes I could relate on things that have occurred since I have arrived, and numerous comparisons to make between the two armies. I would like to focus on the most unusual aspect of my transfer to the British Army and in particular the Vikings - the language barrier! As an

antipodean, (person from southern hemisphere, which is a polite way of saying *one from convict stock*), of which I am continually reminded, I cannot expect to have a good command of the English language, however many of my simple linguistic expressions create a variety of responses within the company and also the Mess. I thought it might be easiest to provide a quick translation of commonly used expressions/words for the rest of the Regiment should they stray into C Company, and come across 'that guy with the weird accent' as described by RLC soldiers during Bosnia TSG.

**The Diggers:** Private soldiers - the term derives from the landing at Gallipoli Peninsula in 1915 when soldiers were required to dig-in to cliffs of ANZAC Cove.

**Snakes:** SNCOs, who reside in the snake-pit (Sergeants' Mess).

**Out Bush:** On exercise.

**Turn it up!** A popular expression directed to anyone who is stirring the colonial, usually about being from the colony, which means 'keep it coming it doesn't worry me too much'. Usually directed at CSM C Company, anyone in the Mess and once or

twice to the RSM and Commanding Officer.

**Head like a robber's dog:** Unattractive.

**A shrimp on the barbie:** A term actually never used by Australians, like Fosters, a beer never drunk in Australia.

**Hootchie:** Poncho.

**A goffer or gumpy:** A soft drink or chocolate.

**Pushy:** Bicycle.

The above examples highlight but a few of the many differences there are in our languages, though I am reliably informed (by almost everyone) that we don't speak the Queen's English in Australia, hence my problems being understood. It is good to know that my fellow Vikings are very supportive and quite accepting of my colonial background and the differences it brings, particularly the cultural diversity now added to Officers' Mess.

Aside from the above my transition to the British Army has been very simple due to the similarities between the two forces. I am proud to say I am as Viking as the next bloke and look forward to a rewarding experience as a member the Regiment.

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**THE FIRST STEP**  
by a recent, young double amputee

## The Poachers

*The conclusion of the past six months has seen the Battalion complete its first year in Cyprus, and start its second (and last) year as a resident infantry battalion.*

*As if being deployed in the Near East were not enough, by the time this goes to press, there will also be Poachers deployed on training or operations in Northern Ireland (with the Vikings), North America (a training team with the Bermuda Regiment), the jungles of Brunei (the Reconnaissance Platoon), and the Falkland Islands (B Company as the resident infantry company). The next challenge is a battalion overseas training exercise in Jordan for five weeks in October.*

*Here then are some glimpses of life as an infantry battalion in Cyprus...*

### Christmas in the sun

WO2 (CSM) Heycock D (Sp)

Company writes

After a long very hot first year in Cyprus it fell to D (Sp) Company to man the battalion's operational commitments over the 1998 Christmas period. The popular pastime of allocating troops to task fell to me. CSgt Munroe, Sgt Rouget and 16 single soldiers volunteered to man Ay Nik, much to my relief. With 75 per cent of the company married, the thought of being filled in by gangs of wives and crying children on Christmas Day did not appeal to me! After the 20th detailed rotation program hit the photocopier, we were issued a new OC for the ops period. It worked out that each soldier in the company ended up with 12 hours on stag on either Christmas Day or Boxing Day and one patrol.

Christmas morning started reasonably early with myself, CSgt Saywell (CQMS) and Capt Johnson (QC) concocting the company's gunfire in the CQMS store, after a few tasters each, the CQMS issued us with our Santa hats! Then we were off, first stop was the guardroom, the troops on the main gate were also wearing a smart red Santa hat in place of their berets and had been doing so since midnight. Funny that, as I never noticed when I drove in, mind you it was 0515hrs. The resting troops in the guardroom were suitably impressed with the gunfire and even asked for second helpings due to the very cold weather. Well that was their excuse!

After a visit to the ops room, where we had great pleasure in waking Capt Smith, we then assaulted the company lines. With most of the company single soldiers at Ay Nik, very few soldiers got to taste the delightful content of our tea urns. Ptes Beardall and Clarke were outstanding in the sleepy ugly head competition. Within D (Sp) Company lines we also have a few refugees from C Company... needless to say we gave them a rude awakening too.

After a quick visit to the Officers' Mess where the gunfire went down particularly well and Capt Romilly proved to be a head above the rest! So to speak! At this stage we managed to cut Capts Mellor and Robbins from their mattresses to enable them to join us for the tour of Ay Nik.

At Ay Nik we were met by both the SNCOs and most of the single soldiers. They had already been visited by various members of the Signals Regiment, but seemed very



WO2 Tilley and Capt Worthy prepare to wake another poor, unsuspecting soul.

willing to try our gunfire! Obviously news travels fast! Next Black Knight where LCpl Cooley and his team were in splendid form, and the phone calls from the UK were rolling in.

With time pressing I made a mercy dash back to Alexandra Barracks just in time for me and the OC to go on stag on the main gate. A minor point, that I failed to mention

to the OC until we arrived at the guardroom, where he was unable to escape. After a two-hour stag and the morning almost over, the troops required feeding... next stop the main kitchen where most of the Battalion hierarchy served an outstanding Christmas lunch to the soldiers. With the soldiers' lunch over it was time to fall out and spend the remainder of Christmas with our families.



Christmas in the sun.



## The Poachers

### Been there, done that...

As I sit here writing this, it's been almost 12 months to the day since the Battalion took over the role of the Eastern Sovereign Base Area resident infantry battalion. Known to those in the know as the ESBA RIB (and to those even more in the know, and who will fight to the death not to be collectively known as a bunch of initials as the Poachers), we conduct 'operations'. And it is this subject of 'operations' that needs addressing.

Most of us remember 'operations' - simply ask a Poacher who has been in the Army for over three years what he recalls of being on operations, and his eyes will mist over and his heart will fill with the warm glow known only to those who have kept the peace or closed with and engaged for real, and done it well.

But the truth is that operations in Cyprus are a very different ball of chalk. Yes, we have a given mission statement, but the environment in which it is fulfilled is not a cold, wet Belfast street - it is not the baking, rolling hills above Sarajevo - it is not the flat, dusty desolate deserts of Southern Iraq. Instead, it is an environment that Thompson's would charge our counterpart over £600 to travel to (flights and beach included).

Let me try to demonstrate our 'mission environment' to you. It is a warm July evening, and the 84 Squadron Wessex touches down gently on the barracks pad. Hearts pounding, backs soaked with sweat under combat body armour, eight Poachers run towards the churning, grey beast. Seconds later, turbines straining, the helicopter lifts off. The odour of aviation fuel fills the crew compartment and the Wessex turns westwards into the setting sun.

Minutes later, the aircraft touches down some 2km east of Xylafargou. Troops deplane and scatter for cover. The aircraft departs hurriedly, and soon, as the thumping of rotors evaporates, there is silence. The



### Operations by land...

patrol commander kneels up, and raises his rifle to his eye. Scanning the horizon through his Susat, does he see an objective? A PVCP? An enemy defensive position? No...instead his Susat needle rests gently on a beach-scene. Inside his 177mm field of view, he picks up young girls in bikinis laughing, men in Bermuda shirts gently stoking a barbecue stand, children playing in the warm, lapping waters of the Mediterranean. Above the sound of the VHF squelch in his headset, he hears laughing, shouting and beer cans being opened. Warily, he turns his back on the holiday scene below him, and turns to start his four-hour patrol. Once again, the sun sets, as it has done for over 300 years, on Royal Anglians on operations somewhere in the world.

This is the environment in which the Poachers fulfil 'operations'. Our mission can broadly be broken down into two parts: firstly, protecting British strategic assets in the region, and secondly, displaying sovereignty.

Any mission containing the words

'protect' or 'defend' will always produce a reactive concept of operations. Has our concept worked? Well, in the 25 years since the Turkish invasion, no-one has ever tried to attack what we defend. So while it may be difficult to grade us for defensive play, we can be awarded full marks for deterrence.

The success of displaying sovereignty is also a very difficult operation to mark. No Brecon instructor is ever going to greet a returning patrol with the words: 'Well son, if you had to display that sovereignty again, what would you do differently?' And if that idea conjures up a ridiculous image in your mind, you should come over and see us - believe me, a fully armed Saxon armoured personnel carrier stuck in holiday traffic needs to be seen to be believed.

Yet in this environment, we also have to retain our conventional warfighting skills - not an easy task, with over 225 soldiers committed to operations in one form or other at any one time.

And while Cyprus could never be accused of having the most demanding training areas, it does act as a superb stepping stone for deployments elsewhere. Twice already have we deployed company groups to Jordan, and the Battalion deploys complete again later this year.

Our operations are one of the British government's highest priorities. The role we fulfil in supporting British strategic interests in the Near East can never be quantified. The entire Battalion is on anywhere between immediate and 24 hours' notice to move. This high state of readiness has rarely been called upon - but this in itself is proof of our success. Not an easy concept to get across the soldier who stands the line day in, day out. But this is another form of operations - it may not be traditional manoeuvre warfare involving 'heavy' armoured divisions - it certainly isn't the sudden, striking type of manoeuvre warfare conduct by air mobile units - but it is operations.

Yeah, I've been there and done that - no, I don't have a medal for it, but I do have a great tee-shirt tan...



...and operations by air.

## The Poachers

### 1998 Cambrian Patrol Competition - A commander's view

*Capt SW Romilly (Team Captain) writes*

The Cambrian Patrol is a patrolling exercise that takes place in Wales at the end of October each year. The Poachers entered. The exercise is open to Regular, TA and Nato units with total number of entries amounting to approximately 70 patrols.

The squad had six weeks of build-up training. This was, split down into weeks of selection and introductory training in Cyprus and four weeks in Wales. The Poachers squad was drawn entirely from volunteers from B Company due to the fact that the training period clashed with the other companies' deployment to Jordan.

Capt Romilly, Cpl Waghorn, Cpl Phillips, LCpl Harris, Ptes Broughton, Flitton, James, Kirk, Leach, Seymour and Stocks formed the initial squad.

This gave us the numbers required to make up the team, two drivers and one spare person in case of injuries.

Our arrival at Brize Norton saw us met by 1 R Anglian with transport to take us to Oakington. 1 R Anglian lent us everything from weapons and vehicles to Silva compasses. Without this great support service, life for the Poachers would have been vastly more complicated.

The squad arrived in Crickhowell Camp in Wales and started a hectic programme of tabbing and military revision. The programme aimed to see the squad tabbing in the mornings and conducting military training in the afternoons, with weekends off to get home and see family and friends. It was during this period that Cpl Waghorn (team manager) worked slavishly hard. He would drop the squad off in the morning, prepare the afternoon lessons, collect the squad and then teach the majority of lessons. This system allowed Cpl Phillips, LCpl Harris and myself not to worry about preparing lessons, allowing us to concentrate on fitness and the team selection.

The final team selection was unfortunately a self-eliminating process. The four weeks of preparatory fitness took its toll on the squad. This meant that come the day Ptes Broughton, Stocks and Thurman all had lower limb injuries which ruled them out.

The exercise started on Monday 26 October with most of Southern Wales under flood from the storms that had raged over the weekend. We believed the weather looked bleak for us. The weathermen said that it looked bleak for us. The reality was bleaker than we or the weathermen had expected. The weather was the factor that defeated most teams during the exercise period. When we finished, fewer than 50 of teams had completed the exercise.

The weather failed to defeat the morale of the team, although I cannot deny that it subdued us and added a considerable weight to the kit we carried. The exercise saw the patrol infiltrate thorough an enemy recee screen and be passed along a series of agents being tested on various skills along the way.



**The team before the start.**

The team worked exceedingly hard throughout the exercise period and all excelled in different ways.

Ptes Leach and James were the patrol signallers and at the point at which we finished, were the highest scoring signallers of any patrol to have gone through the exercise. Pte Flitton was the patrol's rear man, who, burdened with his LSW and bergen, spent most of the exercise running to keep up with the patrol to give him the time to cover our rear arcs. LCpl Harris was the patrol's lead scout, which, combined with his determination, saw the patrol maintain a good pace across every type of wet terrain we encountered. Pte's Kirk and Seymour came into their own at an incident in one of the farmhouses on the training area, where, as recently qualified team medics, they correctly identified and treated casualties and into the bargain identified a dozen foreign weapons to gain us some extra points. The patrol 2IC was Cpl Phillips who drove the team from rear, picked people up when they were down and proved to have an amazing map reading ability as check navigator to know exactly where we were without using the map.

The Cambrian Patrol finished at the Fibua village, Sennybridge Training Area. The team returned to Sennybridge camp to rest for two hours prior to prizegiving. This was the first real period of rest since Sunday and meant that for prizegiving the team had seized up and discovered that all the raw areas on their bodies were remarkably sensitive to movement, clothes and boots. Fortunately there was a minimal amount of drill involved in the awards ceremony, which was completely forgotten on being informed that we had been awarded the first gold

medal of the exercise. (The criteria for a gold award is to score an average 75 per cent in the patrol stands.) By the end of the 1998 Cambrian Patrol, only three gold medals had been awarded, including ours.

The Cambrian Patrol is a superb exercise that allows junior commanders to take a group of soldiers and train them to a standard that will be well tested by an external body. It builds teamwork and allows junior commanders the opportunity to pass on the knowledge they have assimilated on a variety of courses, in an era where the chance to carry out dedicated military training for a period of time is a rarity.

### A soldier's view

*Pte Leach (B Company and patrol signaller) writes*

The Cambrian Patrol is acknowledged as one of the best tests of a British infantry soldier, but to us it also meant six weeks' relaxed training away from the Battalion in the UK. The early stages of the team selection process were conducted in Cyprus and this saw the numbers thin out. This element of competition helped morale to remain high which, combined with fair weather on the hills during the second phase of training in Wales, led to an almost 'pleasant' atmosphere on the many different tabs that we carried out as the weight increased on our backs.

We were soon carrying the full kit that would be required for the exercise itself. The final bits of kit to be introduced were the two PRC 352 radios which saw the average bergen weight rise to 65lb. The team fell into place around about the time the radios were introduced, with a place around LCpl Harris as lead scout, commander and

## The Poachers



### Training.

Cpl Phillips as patrol 2IC.

Pte Flitton was soon discovered to have a built-in 'mileometer', which measured distances to the metre every time. This was particularly impressive considering the number of times he slid, tripped, rolled or fell over even with his size 13 boots which have more tread on them than a Bedford's spare tyre!

At night Capt Romilly would take the lead in the patrol due to the fact that communication and route selection became more difficult. This regularly left him up to his knees in bogs, often a source of great amusement. The squad also quickly learned the night recognition symbol for a fence, which was a howl of pain as Capt Romilly got cramp and fell in a cursing heap.

The training in Wales also gave us a chance

to play as hard as we trained. 'The Grasshopper' in Crickhowell became our local and Thursday night meant karaoke night. Cpl Phillips, LCpl Harris, Pte Stock and I became quite good at *American Pie*, accompanied by Pte James' dance routines. The squad very rapidly became Abergavenny's best fast food customers. Cpl Waghorn and Pte Seymour made every night an excuse for Chinese. This started with 'sit down Sunday' and 'take-away Tuesday' as the first compulsory fast food nights. The knowledge and history sessions that followed such evenings inspired a trip to a local pub quiz. Naturally we came last - if only they had asked one on NBC! Pte James did not mind this in the slightest as all team members, regardless of position, were entitled to free sausage and chips. The

weekends were left free to allow the squad to go home. Some of the squad were quick to abandon this in favour of staying down in the Brecon area and meeting the locals. Friday night in Brecon became the motivation for the week's training. There was only one occasion when disciplinary action was needed during the training and this was when Ptes Broughton and Kirk took it upon themselves to sing *Angel* by Robbie Williams.

The weather was to be worse than the team had feared. Over the weekend prior to the patrol starting out, South Wales experienced its worst flooding for 30 years. The rain carried on after the weekend and into and throughout our patrol. The exercise was hard. After two days and two nights' solid graft without a wink of sleep none of us could deny that we were physically exhausted.

The final stand was a section attack up a bog-covered hill at about 0215hrs (approximately 40 hours after we had started). The conclusion of the attack saw us once again met by an agent who moved us by vehicle into the Sennybridge Fibua village for the end-of-patrol kit inspection and debrief. The debrief found the patrol in one of the houses with the room lit by gas lamps and a small oil heater. Before long I was wishing that I had not put on all my warm kit as I drifted off into a coma.

Prizegiving was a shower and a change of clothes later. Out of the seven Regular Army teams in our phase, four had finished and were at the prizegiving. The Gurkhas achieved silver and the RAF Regiment and the Dutch Recce Battalion each took bronze awards.

We were the last result given and there was an audible sigh when it was announced that we had won a gold award, and the team took pace forward to receive their medals from the General.

## Conventional in an unconventional world

*Capt JR Sparks (2IC C Company) writes*

Tuesday midday 5 January 1999. Alexander Barracks, Cyprus. C Company harbour party await the order from the Battalion 2IC to move off. Less than 24 hours earlier I was savouring the last few moments of leave in London. Wearing combats, cam cream and donning respirator seemed rather surreal, like I hadn't been away. So off we went on the much publicised and talked about Battalion FTX. Potential for trouble from local demonstrators was thought to be high. Everybody less essential personnel were deployed for this one - it was big, in fact the first time the Battalion had exercised as a battalion since leaving Warminster.

The LIMA training area near Episkopi was to be our home over the next few days. For many of us it would be an all too familiar training ground as we had exercised there two or three times at company-level during the preceding year. On arrival at the Battalion admin area, my harbour party,



Cpl Batty and the cast of *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* - A Company on Exercise Poacher's Pride.



## The Poachers

consisting on this occasion of three runners, my radio operator, driver, the B MFC and Milan detachment commander, set to on positioning the company when it arrived. The layout had already been agreed as a company SOP. Vehicles would, however, need to be sorted out as in our current role we have 1 TCV and 1 LR per platoon plus the support elements.

At Battalion level the tempo of operations always appears slower. Indeed it was. However when the battle procedure started to happen it happened very quickly indeed. That evening we received orders for a move by foot covering some 10km with a Battalion assault at the end. The objective would be Paramali village. A feint would be organised by one of our own platoons while A Company put in the initial assault and C Company in the fire support role. B Company was unfortunately on operations in Dhekalia and therefore unable to take part, save the odd enemy soldier. After an interesting route we eventually turned up in our FUP, donned CBA and made our way towards the FS position. Having provided suppressive, timely and of course deadly accurate fire support onto the enemy we switched fire onto depth positions. OC C, Maj Hunter, then set about moving the platoons into a position from which to launch a second assault. The guns stayed with me providing fire support until the company had all but completed its mission. I then moved down into the village for the reorg. Having licked our wounds, called forward the CQMS and carried out a replen, the OC disappeared up onto a high feature north east of the village. Shortly afterwards I led the company up to meet the OC and platoon commanders to begin the defensive phase of the exercise. Feeling rather jaded at this point, we began the process of siting trenches, confirmatory checks, orders and digging in. It was quite an exposed hill and presented a challenge for resupplying the company, as the track leading up was impassable by TCV. Thankfully Milan and



Jean (WRVS) visits Pte Green and LCpl Herron at A1 Echelon.



Ptes Cass and Palmas getting to know one another...

the MFCs managed to negotiate their way up in their own LRs.

There then began the defensive phase. Radio orders were sent and resent. Routine was established. Trenches were dug and concealed. It all looked rather impressive,

although the feature itself was somewhat exposed. From this location we sent out standing patrols and set up observation posts. After preparing my own position and touring the company with the OC I set to on the reports and returns. Routine continued through until the following morning whereupon we were rudely awoken by the shouts of 'gas gas gas!' Half asleep I struggled into my respirator. Fortunately we had taken the decision to sleep in NBC clothing due to the threat. Confusion followed more confusion. Eventually we got the all clear and carried out our unmasking drills. The relevant report was filled out and returned.

Shortly afterwards the company executed one of the two planning options it had been given. Two platoons were withdrawn south west into the village while the heavy callsigns and the remaining platoon stayed on the high feature. We had several sightings of the enemy which went up the net to the ops officer. On command of a prearranged codeword I collapsed the remaining callsigns and RV'd with the remainder of the company.

On arrival at the village I was despatched by the OC to receive a company harbour



Lt Davies (2IC A Company) and Cpl Shaw (Assault Pioneers) on Poacher's Pride.

## The Poachers

location. After an uncomfortable journey in a respirator we met up with the Battalion 2IC who showed us our patch. Ten minutes later we had it all figured out as per the company SOP. Some essential admin then ensued, most notably lying on our backs in the glorious sunshine. Once the company had arrived the routine of the harbour was established. Soon afterwards the OC returned from main with orders for a company operation on Pyla! (some 80km away). Inside 40 minutes from delivery of a quick set of company group orders we were on our way by Chinook to Pyla. Shortly after debussing, the company launched a highly successful night attack onto the enemy by attacking from the rear and rapidly rolling him up.

On return again by Chinook to the Battalion square we debased to learn that the local community thought the Turks were invading again. The ops room phone hadn't stopped ringing and Larnaca airport had started to become very busy! The noise from our attack had obviously shaken up some of the locals!



The Battalion 2IC and ops officer guarding captured tea urns.

## No such thing as a free lunch

*Capt CD Davies (2IC A Company) writes*

'A visit to Cyprus?!...for free?!...surely not - I couldn't poss...oh go on then'. The business of hosting is a well practised Battalion art. In Warminster, displays such as the weapons effects demonstration were an attraction. However, the soft sand, clear blue skies and the unforgiving sun of Cyprus have washed away those rainy days. Worst case scenario...the weather during a Cypriot winter is marginally better than a good English summer. It is therefore no wonder that Costa del Dhekelia has become such a popular resort. Entertaining visitors well is important for a host of reasons which we should never forget. Bonding relationships with old friends or forming new ones improves community and military relationships. Let's take a look at the 1998/99 season so far.

During the season, the Poachers received guests from many different walks of life. Some, no doubt, wanting a break from their busy urban lives and some happy to simply relax and feel the warm air. Whatever the reason, they come. We've had mayors from all over the Poacher counties donning sunglasses and sleeveless shirts. Sheriffs have been let loose from their community stations to keep an eagle eye on the peculiar respect the law is given in this country. Old Comrades have had a regrouping and been shocked at the state of the modern Army. Whatever happened to 'batmen' and 'Bren guns' I heard one say.

As a tourist firm, we have tried to ensure that our guests see the best of the island. However, short of placing bags on their heads as they travel from Larnaca airport to Costa del Dhekelia, we cannot hide the fact that they are surrounded by a large building site. Harsh maybe, but the expectation of



Pte Vendyback (B Company) with the Mayoress of Hinckley and Bosworth.

sun, sea and beauty are often dashed by the realisation that Cyprus, at face value, is a workman's training centre. Of course, it is our duty to highlight the finer parts of the island - like the parade square or Naafi.

We are the last bastions of English civilisation. Views on the Battalion are interesting as we are perceived to be almost an island of sense and conformity within an island of spaghetti. But overall, we are in good form. Soldiers are chirpy, and regardless of personal problems, the pros and cons are advertised to all. 'Oh, how I wish I were young again' a couple would state, or... 'and you actually get paid as well?' is a frequent reminder of our situation.

At the end of the day we are seen to be enjoying life, keeping standards high and to the standard required in our contract. How well we are doing!

Of course, no-one goes on holiday without having a few dramas. I mean, to arrive late and find that all your baggage has gone to a different country, is a tour rep's nightmare - or the basis of a brilliant squaddie jibe. To be wearing a shellsuit to meet the Commanding Officer was not, I'm sure, the desired effect on leaving the sacred land of England. But then, what does a mayor look like? Have you ever waited at an airport and tried a bit of 'mayor recognition training'? It's hard and confusing. Waiting for the Mayor and Sheriff of Lincoln to arrive at Larnaca airport, I managed to attract a completely different mayor - the Mayor of Leeds! The problem was resolved, he was being looked after by a different firm. As a note, we did discover that the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Old Comrades' Association love their beer - need I say more? However, to break down halfway up Troodos mountain in a minibus was a sobering experience for them. One of our new reps, 2Lt Max Hucklesby (GYC), was found guilty, but invited to attend an Old Comrades' dinner on his return to the UK (a free dinner?!)

The non-stop whistle-stop of Cyprus has now rutted the roads. A Cape Greco, Troodos mountain, Larnaca, Paphos and garrison extravaganza has proved extremely popular. Cyprus is a beautiful country on the beach and behind the seaside resorts and it is appreciated. Special thanks to our tour co-ordinator (alias the Adjutant) for organising everything.

The business of 'there is no such thing as

## The Poachers

a free lunch' is, in fact, quite untrue. It is our duty to welcome our guests and entertain as best we can. We expect nothing in return, unless there are free holidays on offer in East Anglia, which of course we would politely decline. To receive guests, and let

them almost internally validate the Battalion's morale and condition, is potentially alarming but extremely reassuring when they all leave smiling and impressed. So, next year we shall be open for business again. No doubt bookings have

already been made. If we are lucky enough to have such guests this year as we did last, then roll on tourist season. Just remember though, Chepstow is prone to rain, snow, sheep, gales, floods, hurricanes, leaves on railways etc etc...

## Training in Cyprus - A trainer's point of view

*CSgt Bredin (Training Wing) writes*



**PNCO Cadre after their final attack on Paramali village.**

Midway through 1998, the Commanding Officer warned me that I would be running a tactics cadre for JNCOs in January 1999.

As I sat in my classroom back at Brecon contemplating planning a course on an island 2,000 miles away, I could barely remember what the Cyprus Training Areas looked like.

I arrived back at work on 14 January which gave me a total of three days to prepare for the course. With a little help from 16 Flight AAC, a Gazelle was booked to fly down to the training areas to conduct an aerial and foot recce so the sequence of events for each exercise could be put in place. The training areas on Cyprus are an ideal place to train for the dismounted infantry role with large rocky features and deep valleys, which enable a soldier's battlefield fitness to be tested to the full as well as his map reading. The start of the course arrived and passed

off without any problems. One thing about training in Cyprus is you will come across the most unusual problems which hinder training and will be totally out of your control. A good example of this arose during week three. While conducting a night fighting patrol on the southern most training area, we were to be inserted by helicopter, the only problem being the Wessex helicopter, it is as old as the island itself and is prone to break down at the most inconvenient moment. So as the first section was picked up and dropped at the HLS the Wessex went back to the PUP to collect the second section, as that section was inbound we got a message over the radio that the Wessex had developed a fault and was returning to RAF Akrotiri with our second section, so the state of play now was 1 Section securing the DOP, 2 Section RAF

Akrotiri and 3 Section securing the PUP, with the distance between sections a minimum of 30km. So the mission was aborted and I decided we would try again on the final exercise.

The next problem of training on Cyprus is a massive shortage of field firing areas. I intended to conduct a platoon live advance to contact including a helicopter air-to-ground shoot and the firing of a 94mm HEAT round. The evening was to consist of a platoon live-fighting patrol, so after all the preparation we arrived at the line of departure at 0830 awaiting to cross at 0900hrs, but the local potato pickers had other ideas. The problem was the fields were inside the range danger area and they were refusing to move even after the SBA police had tried to move them on. As the day wore on the exercise was put on hold but after a



**The instructors...**



**...and the students.**



## The Poachers

lot of phone calls and the Battalion 2IC attending a meeting with the locals in the afternoon the potato pickers finally allowed us to fire the following day, but they only allowed us four hours to complete our exercise. Needless to say the exercise passed off without a hitch and proved that the range could be used for a dismounted platoon operation.

Midway through the Tactic Cadre the Battalion 2IC issued me with a further warning order, containing much the same information as the last but to conduct a PNCO's cadre in April and May 1999. So at present I am going through exactly the same process to plan the PNCO's cadre. The hardest thing about conducting training in Cyprus is that nothing is easy. Once you have solved that problem another one will arise immediately, so you just have to work through the problem, keep smiling and then await the next one. But one bonus of training in Cyprus is that there is no requirement to pack your Gore-tex in your kit as the weather is very different to Brecon.

### The student's view

*LCpl Kirk (C Company) writes*

On 26 October I started my PNCO cadre. There were 32 people on the cadre who earned their place after a week pre-cadre. The pre-cadre itself started with 58 students and by the end of the first 24 hours, this was down to 40. The preparation for the cadre was essential. Personally, I started preparing about a month before going to Jordan, because the cadre started the week after I was due to return.

The first day of the cadre started with a BFL. Everybody turned up - some wearing the correct kit, some wearing the wrong kit. Capt Goude was not impressed, so he took us for a little run and a dip in the sea after the BFL. After that, we were told out of the blue to be ready to deploy on exercise by 0900hrs. We arrived and immediately had our kit inspected - it was the most thorough



**Pte (now Cpl) Sutherland looking for inspiration.**

inspection of my life. Once this was completed, we departed into the field for a week.

In that week, we carried out various command tasks and vigorous battleruns, all designed to test our leadership qualities. I was in about eighth position until the final day of the exercise. We then did a night navigation exercise, and I totally fluffed it up. I thought that was me off the cadre, but when I spoke to the training staff they told me I had to pull it back during the battle run back into camp. Luckily I managed to do this - I was staying on the cadre.

The next six weeks began with a cadre photograph, which when I look at it now, I realise how many were not to finish. After that, we were squadded off - luckily I was in a squad with some good friends. That day we also moved across into the cadre accommodation (a transit block in barracks). The locker layout was mad, but looking back at it, I can see the funny side to bullying up my black plastic mug!



**The author (bottom right) and his section on the PNCO Cadre.**



**The fight-through.**

The rest of the first week was learning how to take and give lessons and improving leadership skills. Week two went into battle exercises and lessons (BEs and BLs), and we had to prepare and give them both that week. The week also had lots of fitness, circuit training, battle runs and even boxing which most of us dreaded, as there were some good boxers on the cadre.

Week three contained teaching periods and NBC training. The NBC seemed to consist of pulling Land Rovers around camp in dress state 3 R (suits and respirators), which made you quickly realise how much of a strain it would be on wartime. The TPs were quite funny, watching your mates trying to give a lesson in front of you.

Week four saw the less motivated people disappear from the cadre. It was also orders week, and although initially confusing, most of us grasped it and delivered some good sets. Then into week five, the hardest exercise of my Army career. The training staff left everything to us, so we knew we had to perform all week, even if we weren't in a command appointment. The last attack came around - I was section commander, 2 Section. I received my orders from Capt Goude, took them back and issued them. They went well, and we went on the fighting patrol, which went even better. Early that morning, Endex was called (to a huge sigh of relief).

Week six was drill and fitness all week, which was hard on the feet, particularly after the exercise the week before. On Thursday of that week, we were all interviewed - I was the first in. I had it in my mind that I had passed the cadre but when Capt Goude told me I'd come first, I found it hard to believe. I walked out with a massive smile on my face, and then everyone else knew I'd done well.

The next day saw the passing off parade and the top three were promoted - it was the proudest day of my life. The parade finished, and we went off to the Sergeants' Mess for a couple of beers with the General!



**The author receiving his tapes from Maj Gen Ramsay CBE DSO CBF.**

## The Poachers

### The Poachers Platoon on Life with the Vikings

By Sgt Richards



#### Sgt Richards with multiple...

I arrived a week earlier than the rest of the platoon on Wednesday 3 February, just in time to go on a Battalion long weekend. I could get used to this, I thought, even more so when I remembered that work started at a normal hour and not in the middle of the night *a la* Cyprus. One problem though, bit nippy over here, best get to the clothing store and get us all some Combat 95 kit. Wrong answer! '...sorry mate you should have been issued that in Cyprus, you'll have to wait a couple of weeks'. Okay not to worry I've still got my tropicals and it's only about minus five.

And so started the Poachers Platoon attachment to the Vikings. The Poachers will be providing a platoon to the Vikings over the next 18 months changing over at approximately six-monthly intervals. Therefore 23 members of the platoon moved back from Cyprus in late January/early February and after a quick stint on leave the remainder of the platoon moved to Oakington on 10 February. Where we became 3 Platoon, A Company and met up with Lt Nick Charlwood who had arrived with the Vikings two months previously from ATR Bassingbourn. This gave the platoon a total strength of 24 making it the largest platoon in the Battalion.

Without further ado the platoon joined the rest of the Battalion the following day for the two-day Nitat presentation, and then on to the full Northern Ireland training package.

Members of the platoon have been fortunate enough to be involved with a number of functions since arriving at Oakington, however some confusion was caused when it was thought that one of the guests for the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess father-and-son night had arrived a couple of weeks early but all became clear when it was revealed that Cpl Ronnie Carter was in fact a member of the Poacher Platoon and not an SNCO's aged father.

There has also been the opportunity to catch up with some faces from the past from



#### A solid object and a tree! Pte Elston makes a new friend.

both the Poachers and for LCpl Cooley and myself from the Pompadours (all the fours). Other benefits of being with the Vikings are the ease in which we can get home and more importantly the chance to lead a normal

social life.

Overall it has been a very busy period and much has been learned. Life with the Vikings has been good and thanks must go to everyone here for making us all so welcome.



Poachers Platoon at Longmoor.

## The Poachers

### Poacher Sporting Activities

*Sgt (SI) Cocker APTC writes*

*Since the last sports article in Castle the Poachers have continued playing a large range of sports at unit level and have also completed the Commanding Officers' sports competition. At company level the Commanding Officer's competition could not have been closer with the following sports being contended since the last journal.*

#### Basketball

This was a hard fought event which showed that although it is not a battalion mainstream sport, budding NBA stars were more than ready to show us all some fancy footwork and ball skills. The competition started with A Company as favourites but was finally won by HQ Company. (Thanks to Cpl Nunley, A Company for a well organised event.)

#### Tug-of-War

This competition was organised, run and easily won by HQ Company with the majority of the team coming from the Battalion gym staff. The team didn't lose an end all day to make it three years on the trot. The event was full of fun and banter and



**C Company tug-of-war team.**

thanks should go to Capt Davies and Sgt Markham for taking defeat so graciously!

#### Triathlon

Organised, run and easily won, this time by C Company. This competition was a gruelling event with a swim, a 15-mile bike

ride and a 2.5-mile run. Organised by WO2 (Chunky) Hazelwood (CSM C Company), the event was full of flair and was a credit to him and all the competitors who gave the event their all.

#### Rugby

This event was organised by Sgt (Bilko) Urand (provost sergeant) and was a success both as an event and a rugby recruiting drive. The day had its usual share of cauliflower ears and broken bones and was closely contested by all the companies with the final winners being HQ Company.

#### Orienteering

Capt Pallant booked the hottest day he could find and looked for the biggest hills in Cyprus to ensure that this event was not for the weak-minded. The competition was run over two courses, the A course being 8.5km and the B course 5.5km. The A course was won by WO2 Martin (RQMS (T)) in a time of 68 minutes with Sgt Coupe (B Company) beating Maj Hunter (OC C Company) by eight seconds to win the B course with a time of 46 minutes and 36 seconds. The winning company overall was B Company.

#### Boxing

As you probably guessed this was the main event of the year with the companies pulling out all the stops to win this event. The competition ran over three days and was organised and run by Capt (Bomber) Brown (QM) and Sgt (Joe) Cocker (APTC). Two excellent days of prelims and semi-finals saw C Company with a boxer in eight of the nine final bouts with three from HQ Company, three from D (Sp) Company and four from B Company lined up to prevent a crushing victory by C Company. The bouts were won by the following companies. Bantamweight: Pte Wells, C



**Inter-company boxing finals. From left: Cpl Donovan, Sgt Motson, Dmr Jubb.**



## The Poachers



HQ Company boxing finalists. From left: LCpl Bracegirdle, LCpl Foote, Pte Roberts.



Inter-company football. Lt Rayment and the QM try a 'dirty looks' campaign against the ball.

Company; Featherweight: Pte Fox, B Company; Lightweight Pte Gillespie, C Company; Light welterweight: Pte Reed, C Company; Welterweight: Pte Beardall, D Company; Light middleweight, LCpl George, B Company; Middleweight: LCpl Foote, HQ Company; Light heavyweight: LCpl Bracegirdle, HQ Company; Heavyweight: Pte Atkins, B Company

At the end of the night Sgt Cutts led C Company out to claim victory.

### Inter Unit Football

At inter unit level all the companies have entered teams in the minor units football league, with HQ Company reaching the semi-finals.

### Cross Country League

The Cyprus Cross-Country League is one of the best supported and keenly contested sports on the island. The Poachers entered two teams (A/C Company team and B/D (Sp) Company team, with elements of HQ Company in each team) and after four months of competition the A/C Company team took the all-island minor units trophy back to camp, to put in the already full trophy cabinet.

### BFT Competition

This was the last competition and ran throughout the whole year. With very little between the companies, the winner of this competition would be the overall champion company for 1998/1999. As CSMs argued and OCs bit their nails, the ops officer collated the statistics and finally separated A and C Companies by less than half a per cent with A Company the victors.

The final scores for the inter-company sports competition were as follows:

Company	A	B	C	D	HQ
March and shoot	6	7	10	5	4
Battalion SAAM	7	5	6	4	10
BFT	10	6	7	5	4
Basketball*	6	5	7	4	10
Rugby	6	4	5	7	10
Football	Cancelled				
Softball	10	7	5	6	4
Athletics	10	4	5	7	6
Orienteering	7	10	5	4	6
Cross country	10	4	5	7	6
Boxing	4	7	10	6	5
Swimming	6	5	10	0	10
Tug-of-war	4	7	5	6	10
Triathlon	7	6	10	5	4
Iron man	10	4	7	5	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>Position</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>



Charity bike ride - Dhekelia to Episkopi. Cpl Mayall and his team (A Company).



The Poacher Harriers. The winning team with the garrison commander after the 1998 Dhekelia Dash.

**The Poachers****Poachers Rugby Club***By Sgt 'Bilko' Urand*

The Poachers Rugby Club is now coming to the end of a hard season with the club having played around 25 matches in Cyprus. The rugby being played on island has been at a very high standard with a lot of team members getting vital experience at garrison and Army level.

On 14 January the Battalion held the inter-company rugby tens. With an excellent day of rugby ahead of them, all five companies entered a team. Leading the teams out for the first match was LCpl Taylor (A Company) and Lt Otter (B Company). With A Company the favourites for the title this was going to be a hard battle. B Company fought hard but A Company ran away with a 22-3 victory. Next to take the field were C Company led by Lt Rayment and D (Sp) Company led by Sgt Simpson. C Company was out-played by a strong D (Sp) Company team, which went on to win the match 17-0. HQ Company led by Sgt Anderson (LAD) was the next to take on A Company. This was always going to be a hard-fought match as these teams had the bulk of the Battalion team. HQ Company managed a 15-3 victory putting them in contention for the title. Throughout the day a total of ten matches were played. The final match of the day was played between HQ Company and B Company. HQ Company won this match 19-0 putting them in first place. The Commanding Officer presented the rugby shield to Headquarter Company for the second year running.

Final Positions were: 1 HQ Company; 2 D



**LCpl Hughes (D (Sp) Company).**

(Sp) Company; 3 A Company; 4 C Company; 5 B Company.

On the garrison scene, LCpl Taylor (A), LCpl Ainge (RP Staff), LCpl Felstead (C), Pte Perry (D) and Pte Hughes (D) have all produced some outstanding rugby against the RAF and the UN for the Dhekelia Lions.

At the time of going to press Sgt Urand (RP Staff), LCpl Felstead (C), LCpl Ainge (RP Staff) and Pte Hughes (D) have all been invited to attend the Army (Cyprus) trials so we wish them well with the selection.

The Battalion team will now finish off the season with a trip to the UK at the end of April for the infantry rugby sevens at Warminster. Then a well-earned rest before the Akrotiri international floodlit in July and the tour to Canada in August.



**CO presents runners-up prizes to CSgt Limb (D (Sp) Company).**



**Cpl Marshallsay (A Company) on the break.**

## 6th Battalion

*The last six months have been a period of great change, frantic activity and preparation as a result of the Strategic Defence Review (SDR). This is the last issue of Castle in which former 6 R Anglian will appear as a unit. The final confirmation of SDR has brought together elements of the 6th and 7th Battalions and 3WFR into a new unit which is starting to take shape and which will be fully formed up by 1 July 1999. Former 6th Battalion elements within the new unit will be A Company based in Norwich with an outstation in Lowestoft and E Company (one time C Company) based in Chelmsford. The headquarters for the new unit will also be based at Bury St Edmunds and will be made up of individuals from all the component parts. D Company and the Wisbech Platoon have fallen victim to the review, as has the Warley Platoon, but the new unit is starting to forge ahead and create a new identity which encompasses the old and the new. The companies will retain their parent cap badge and the links with the counties and former Regiments.*

*Between camp and the Christmas holiday is traditionally a quiet period for the TA and this has been worsened by the uncertainty of SDR as many soldiers were unsure if their posts would still exist in six months' time. Despite this the behind the scenes work continued apace as arguments and justifications for the retention of personnel and the 6th Battalion identity flew up and down the chain of command. In traditional form the soldiers carried on with a very businesslike, professional attitude which has set the Battalion up to face the future from a very strong position.*

### Exercises and Training

Following camp the Battalion's first major training weekend took place at Colchester over the 31 October to 1 November weekend. The training consisted of a range package on Saturday at Finginghoe and Middlewick ranges including a GPMG introductory shoot for all non MG Platoon members. The background activities included a demanding Fibua package that utilised the skills house throughout the day. Training at Colchester always proves popular - or rather the opportunity to sample the nightlife always does - and Saturday night was no exception. Despite a day of hard work and appalling weather the Battalion still invaded Colchester in force. Sunday dawned with the horror of an orienteering competition combined with a few hangovers. The weather held off as the Battalion made its way around a demanding course organised by the Quartermaster, Maj Potter. The eventual winner was Maj Baker, despite appeals by the other OCs. Also a recruit training weekend took place under Capt Taylor (A) and WO2 Steel.

The next training event was a series of battlefield tours which were organised and run by the companies and saw the Battalion spread through France, Belgium and Holland. The research and work done by the individuals in preparation for the tours ensured that all ranks were involved and all learned a great deal from the experience. A brief report from C Company is featured later on in this article.

December featured training at company-level as the inevitable run of Christmas functions took its toll. The exception to this was the Battalion weekend at Thorpe Camp, Stanta. Saturday saw us running a number of one-day cadres on diverse subjects including navigation, first aid, driving, signals and a study day for the young officers. The evening gave way to the Christmas dinner and entertainment. A boisterous dinner went very well with most



**A quick map brief prior to future tasks.**

of the permanent staff escaping unscathed - however the Adjutant wishes to thank CSgt 'Sniper' Sykes for his accurate marksmanship. Despite the day's arduous training it was only as a result of the evening's entertainment that any casualties occurred. The hypnotist hired by the RAO was extremely good and appreciated by all except Lt Hall who was injured by a soldier who was convinced he was fleeing from a gorilla he had just met in the toilet! Concern was raised that if the injury was serious how was the Adjutant going to inform Brigade that a soldier fleeing from an imaginary gorilla had injured an officer! The following day saw the inter-company sports competition that included indoor hockey, football and volleyball. The eventual winners were C Company aided by some dubious refereeing.

January opened with the first training weekend being D (Cambridge) Company

travelling to RAF Marham. By this time it had been announced that D Company would not feature in the new unit and as the RAuxAF had places open, members of the Company used this opportunity to see if a move to the RAF Regiment would suit them. Fortunately the places existed and now we have a number of contacts within the RAF which have already proved useful in terms of joint training, a willing enemy and use of facilities.

The first training weekend for the rest of the Battalion, 23-24 October, saw companies spread from Oakington and Colchester to Lowestoft and Leek. A Company worked with HQ Company at Colchester ranges to complete any outstanding APWTs while the remaining elements worked out of Lowestoft TAC to complete bounty training. C Company travelled to a wet and windswept Leek Camp for a demanding patrols exercise which served as a confirmatory check for



**6th Battalion**

the month's detailed patrols training. The remaining D Company elements were based at Oakington Camp in order to complete any outstanding bounty requirements.

6-7 February was a further training weekend in order to allow final bounty tests to be completed and also saw a TA radio users (TARU) cadre being run by the Signal PSI, Sgt Rackham. In addition company training went ahead as did recruit training. The Battalion traditionally supports the Gibraltar Regiment when it trains at Stanta and this year was no exception with eight members of the 6th Battalion taking part in their camp as well as some support from the QM and Sigs PSI.

27-28 February was a Battalion field-firing weekend at Stanta and also saw the TARU continuing and recruit training. The ranges varied considerably in content but not in effectiveness and all who took part enjoyed and benefited. The weekend was based on a circuit which details progressed around. All firers started at the grouping and zeroing range and the individual battle shooting range (IBSR) before moving onto pairs and fire team ranges and 94mm ODT and HEAT.

13-14 March was limited in terms of training by the national TA open day. However, recruit training and pre-Brecon continued as planned but the next major training weekend took place over 26-28 March. Exercise Viking Charge I saw the Battalion deploy to an RV at Watton airfield on Friday night where orders were given prior to a helicopter insertion into an observation post (OP) screen on Stanta. Once the OPs were in place the 'enemy' ran a number of serials to test the reporting procedures and put the troops in the OPs under some pressure. In addition a gazelle was used to attempt to spot the OPs and test their cam and concealment. In the early hours of Sunday morning the OPs extracted and were ambushed while moving back to a

**FIWAF.**

central harbour. Once back in the harbour orders were given and a deliberate attack was launched onto the identified enemy position followed by a fierce counter-attack and a forced fighting withdrawal. At Endex the Battalion gathered for a centralised breakfast at which time Brig Calder presented commemorative statuettes to members of HQ Company. As the Gazelle was still with us and the pilot wanted to carry on flying, those personnel who had not flown in a Gazelle before had a chance to take a familiarisation flight.

April's main training weekend took place over 17-18 April with Exercise Viking Charge II and support to Exercise Combat Cadet. During Saturday Combat Cadet involved the Battalion in running a MG stand (Sat Collyer) and a fire control section in defence stand (WO2 Demeyer) and during the evening/Sunday morning a Navex (CSgt

Jolly). Simultaneously to Combat Cadet, Exercise Viking Charge II took place which saw an A Company group fly into Watton airfield by Chinook where they took on an enemy comprised of RAuxAF Regiment. Once this part of the operation had been completed the company group was flown out to RAF Barnham where it received further orders for a subsequent operation. The second operation involved the company group being flown to take on two separate enemy positions based around bridges in the north of the training area. The pilots added considerable realism with some spectacular and stomach-churning tactical flying which fired up the troops before launching into the attack. At Endex it was a quick change as all personnel became involved in assisting in the safe running of the night exercise. The weather changed from overcast to torrential downpour and



**Chinook pick-up.**

## 6th Battalion

hailstorms just as the cadets were setting out, but much to their credit they all launched themselves into the task with enthusiasm and good humour and arrived back relatively unscathed long hours later.

The training has been very varied and has offered personnel at all levels a degree of challenge and enjoyment and the Battalion now looks forward to the build-up for the annual camp at Sennybridge and Cinque Ports Training Area.

### Public Relations

Public relations is an ongoing operation fought at all levels but the Battalion's main effort during the last six months has been the national TA open day on 13 March. This involved all TA centres being open to the public following a national advertising campaign and saw imaginative displays throughout the region. The initial response seems to be very positive with the message getting through that the TA is still here and still recruiting.

At a different level the Battalion has continued to work closely with the ACF. Most exercises during the last six months have been made available to senior cadets and the response has been very favourable with a number now intent on joining the TA as the next step. To many who are considering an Army career the TA is an intermediate step before making a full commitment and it is hoped that in this way both the TA and Regular Army will benefit.

### Social Functions

The main social function was the Battalion's 'at home' evening at the Athenaeum in Bury St Edmunds. Invitations were sent to all the



**Running for cover.**

key figures in the region such as local MPs, mayors, business leaders and teachers as well as all those who had worked with or helped the Battalion over the previous year. The evening was very well attended and the Band and Drums gave an excellent performance with the Band providing a small dance band which proved very popular.

The last six months have also seen a Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess function at the Copdock Hotel and an

Officers' Mess Valentine's ladies' dinner night at Bury St Edmunds.

### People

There has been considerable change in the personalities during this reporting period partly due to the normal movement of permanent staff and partly due to SDR.

Lt Col HND Gill finished his ever-extending tour as Commanding Officer in April handing over to Lt Col CA Newell



**Typical en vehicles provided by members of the Battalion to add more realism to the exercises.**



An early morning advance to contact.

PWRR. Lt Col Gill left the Battalion after three years in post and his hard work has done much to ensure that the Battalion fared so well through SDR and has been handed over in a strong and healthy state.

Maj RH Lucas, the training major, left in May to become the staff officer to the Bermuda Regiment but not before he had issued the instructions for annual camp. Capt I Couch, the Adjutant, leaves soon, to be replaced by Capt G Morris from the 7th Battalion. WO1 RSM Keeble also left the Battalion in April and handed over to WO1 RSM Thomas from 7th Battalion.

There has been a complete change among the Regular PSIs:

A Company - CSgt Kerton replaced CSgt Sykes who returned to 1st Battalion; WO2 Knights joined as Mortar PSI.

C/E Company: CSgt Jolly moved from D Company; Sgt Collyer moved from 7th Battalion as MG PSI.

D Company: CSgt Thumbwood returned to 1st Battalion.

HQ Company: Sgt Rackham returned to 1st Battalion; Cpl Ward returned to 1st Battalion to be replaced by LCpl Branch

#### Conclusion

The Battalion has had a typically varied six months with some excellent training and a good blend of PR and social functions and the Battalion is drawing to a close in good form which is a credit to the hard work of all ranks. Looking ahead it is good to see that the Royal Anglian identity has survived SDR so well and that the companies will continue to wear the cap badge. The new unit will forge ahead but will always retain its vital links which offers a very promising future.

### Exercise Somme Eagle

*Capt Simon Watson C (Essex)*

#### *Company writes*

During the weekend 20-22 November 1998, 45 members of the company travelled to the Somme battlefields. Using Le Shuttle, we arrived at the hotel in Cambrai within four and a half hours.

Early on Saturday morning we were off having eaten the obligatory baguette dunked in chocolate. We followed the frontline from where the 30th Division went over the top on the first day of the Somme on 1 July 1916.

We veered south to Personne to visit the History of the Great War Museum. This modern museum gives a political and social history of the area as well as showing a wide range of the equipment used. In particular one display showed the full uniform and head-dress of an Essex Regiment soldier. This was a great hit with the troops.

After lunch we headed to the Lochnagar Crater, a monument to British attempts to remove a German stronghold on the first day of the battle by mining and using 60,000 tons of explosive. Here Maj Trott and the 2IC gave an account of the 'Great Plan', for the first day as well as a brief introduction to the lie of the land.

Moving onto Albert we visited a museum which stretches through tunnels under the centre of the town, the more interesting of the two museums as far as the soldiers were concerned. While the rest waited on the bus the Machine Gun Platoon posed for photos on the steps of the municipal town hall, the site of the Machine Gun Corps Monument.

With everyone in good spirits we went to

visit the Theipval Memorial to view it as the sun went down. Everyone was extremely moved by the sheer number of names and the scale of the place. The bus was very quiet on the way back to the hotel.

That evening had everyone socialising in fine form with many a sore head in the morning.

The last phase of the tour was to visit the Newfoundland Memorial near Beaumont-Hamel. Here all the trenches are still visible and were clambered over by the troops. Our guide was very well informed and gave a fabulous presentation. At the end of the presentation the company lined up in the position held by 1 Essex and walked through going over the top.

From there we moved to Knightsbridge Cemetery, where many of the Essex Regiment are buried. During a short but solemn service a representative of each rank laid flowers at the grave of a soldier of equivalent rank, after which a prayer was said at the cemetery's monument.

Once back on the bus the cry 'duty free' was heard and duly obeyed at Calais before boarding Le Shuttle and returning home, after a worthwhile experience and one which left us all subdued by the sheer scale of the losses.

*Editor's Note: Of the 110,000 who attacked on 1 July, 60,000 were killed or wounded. The memorial at Theipval records the names of 73,000 missing soldiers. They are missing because their remains were never found. Often, nothing of them remained to be found. Lt Paul Worthington of C Company of the Vikings also took a party on a Somme battlefield tour*



## The Tigers

*Once again, the Tigers find themselves preparing for a process of major change with the SDR reorganisation. We now know as we combine forces with 6 R Anglian and 3 WFR, that company headquarters locations will remain at Lincoln and Leicester, with platoon outstations at Grimsby and Northampton respectively with Hertford acting as a platoon outstation to Chelmsford.*

*After a dynamic start to 1998 with a firm focus on combined arms training at BBGT(N) and annual camp in Cyprus, the last six months have seen the Battalion's main effort switch back to the basics of individual and low level training. The highlights have included Battalion field firing, a Battalion Fibua training weekend at Copehill Down, the Battalion champion company competition, and the Battalion Skill at Arms Meeting (SAAM) at Strensall. A number of recruiting and general promotional open days have also been run.*

### Reorganisation

SDR has been a difficult period for the Battalion. However, the Tigers have risen to the challenge and are striving to readjust the companies to meet their new Orbats and establishments. A difficult time but one which so far has been completed with dignity. The new Battalion organisation has begun to take shape. The Lincolnshire Company remains the least changed sub-unit comprising two rifle platoons and the Recce Platoon, based in Lincoln and Grimsby. The duty of maintaining its high standards and high level of attendance and recruitment will soon be passed on from Maj de Planta to Maj Pook who takes command of A Company on 1 July 1999.

One of the toughest jobs in the new reorganised Battalion will be for Maj Ellis, formerly OC C (Northamptonshire) Company, as he and his team remould the company at Leicester from a headquarters company with its support platoons, into a rifle company (with the assault pioneers remaining as the company's support platoon). This task has been the focus of HQ and C Companies' training over the past few months, with many HQ Company personnel relearning old skills.

The Leicester Company will be augmented by a platoon from C (Northamptonshire) Company which unfortunately reduces to a platoon strength in the new Orbat. The Northampton Platoon has already combined with the Leicester Company to ensure it is fully prepared for its new task at an early stage.

Very sadly B (Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire) Company will no longer remain as an entity in itself, with the loss of its company headquarters at Hertford and the two platoons at Hemel Hempstead and Dunstable. However, they will provide a strong platoon to the new company headquarters based at Chelmsford (formally the Essex Company 6 R Anglian). B Company has already formally disbanded its platoons by 'marching out' of both Hemel Hempstead and Dunstable during March. The company held its final training weekend end in the last week of March and held a splendid farewell company function in Hertford.

The reorganisation is now moving rapidly ahead and the final implementation will be completed as at 1 June 1999 to enable the

new Battalion headquarters at Bury St Edmunds to fully take the reins prior to annual camp in early July.

### Recruiting

Despite the obvious reduction in the Battalion's manpower as a result of SDR, recruiting has continued particularly at Lincoln and Leicester. Joint recruit training is now being undertaken with 3WFR in the west and jointly with 6 R Anglian for Hertford Platoon recruits in the east. The recent recruiting drive culminated in the TA national open day, which proved a great success. Each TA centre, which will be part of the new Battalion, opened its doors to the public on 13 March 1999 from 1030—1530hrs. Each company set up displays in the TA centre and had soldiers at key points in the town and city centres to encourage shoppers to visit. The effort was extremely worthwhile and beneficial with a steady stream of interested people turning up at the centres, and more importantly a significant take-up of potential new recruits into the current recruit training cycles.

### Training

In November, a team under the training major, Maj Wadman, spent a day under the

guidance of the Fibua TT at Copehill Down in preparation for the Battalion Fibua training weekend later that month. The exercise worked up through drills and skills, culminating in company assaults, driven home with great success under the direction of the Commanding Officer and his staff on the ground. The C-in-C Land and Colonel of the Regiment, Gen Sir Michael Walker and Comd I Mech Bde and Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brig John McColl, visited the exercise on Saturday 28 November 1998.

Exercise Mechanical Tiger took place at Beckingham/Fulbeck. It is the annual opportunity for the MTO, Capt Kevin Martin, to put vehicle crews from each company through their paces in Land Rovers and four-ton Bedfords. Cpl Homer and LCpl McCarthy (B Company) were deemed the best Land Rover crew and LCpls Henderson and Long proved to be the best Bedford crew. The overall winners of the competition were B (Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire) Company, closely followed by HQ (Leicestershire) Company.

Signals Platoon ran a radio user cadre over two weekends, under the RSO and the Signals PSI, Sgt Welsford. Nine soldiers gained their TARU qualification and Cpl Prince of HQ Company is to be congratulated for achieving best student.



WO1 (RSM) Thomas, Lt Sommerville, WO2 (CSM) Pickett and Capt Shaw trying to look busy!

## The Tigers



**ATD training - APWT.**



**A Company firing the APWT.**

The Battalion continues to ensure that individuals develop their own individual careers whenever possible by attending external courses. To name a few, Capts Atkinson and Sutherland have recently completed JDSC, seven soldiers from the Battalion recently attended a Regimental Signals Course at Warminster, newly commissioned 2Lt Downes has just attended PCBC and Capt Pook and Capt Atkinson have attended the CATC company commander's course at Warminster.

The final Battalion field firing package was completed in October at Senta. Despite foul weather and 100mph winds, the Battalion conducted some excellent training and field firing, which included throwing a large number of grenades and firing 94mm HEAT. This was closely followed by the Battalion ATD weekend which gave the volunteers the final opportunity to complete their training tests for their bounty qualification.

### Battalion Skill at Arms Meeting

This year's Battalion SAAM took place at Strensall over 19-21 March. As usual it was well attended and well fought. Notable



**ATD training - Sgt Low (B Company) performing something on a Resus Annie!**

individual achievements were LCpl McCarthey (B Company), champion shot, Capt Sutherland (A Company), best officer shot, Sgt Thompson (A Company), best SNCO shot and Cpl Homer (B Company), best LSW shot. In the team events B Company won the best rifle and LSW and C (Northamptonshire) Company won the best overall team trophy. However, A (Lincolnshire) Company took the major honours of the Battalion SAAM Trophy, which ensured its retention of the champion company award for the fourth year in a row. Prizes were presented by Comd 49 (E) Bde, Brig WJ Hurrell CBE.

### Support to the Regular Army

A significant number of officers and soldiers are serving away from the Battalion, either on postings or exercise with our Regular Battalions, or in Bosnia. 2Lt Dart spent a week with 1 R Anglian during their work—up to Northern Ireland at Lydd and Hythe ranges.

The Tigers continue to support the Poachers in Cyprus with more soldiers posted on attachment. Ptes Ruddlesdin and McGarry from A Company have just been



**Capt Sutherland, 2IC A Company, receiving the Battalion SAAM winners' trophy.**



**B Company, the best rifle and LSW winning teams in the Battalion SAAM.**

## The Tigers

attached to the Poachers for six months and LCpl Percival has recently joined them as a chef. This now brings the total to nine soldiers who are currently serving with the Poachers in Cyprus.

In addition, the Tigers have LCpl Stratton, LCpl Peters still serving in Bosnia and Sgt Lovett, having just returned from six months in Bosnia, has recently joined 1 R Anglian on an 18-month S type for their forthcoming tour to Northern Ireland.

### The Local Community

On behalf of the Royal Leicester Regiment Association the Battalion, in conjunction with 158 (R Anglian) Regiment RLC, assisted in the relocation of two Crimean War cannons. The cannons had been resident at the magazine in Leicester but urgently required refurbishment. The task is now complete and they are now repositioned in the new Leicester City Museum at New Walk ready for the opening of the new Royal Leicestershire Museum. On 4 November the Commanding Officer and his team, accompanied by OC HQ Company, Maj GG Smith and representatives from the joint—services equal opportunities team visited Guru Amar Das Gurdwara in Leicester on the occasion of Guru Nanak's birthday. They were greeted and looked after with great warmth. The principal guest, the Brigade Commander, Brig WJ Flurrell CBE, presented a 'Tiger' on behalf of the Battalion to mark the occasion. The Gurdwara presented a traditional sword to the Brigade Commander. Not to be outdone the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brig JC McColl CBE, attended the Viasiki celebrations in Leicester on 11 April 1999 with a team from Battalion headquarters. The visit continues to demonstrate the extremely close ties that have been established over the last few years with members from the ethnic communities in Leicester.

On Remembrance Sunday the Battalion was on parade throughout its counties. The



**An A Company team after successfully completing the Parachute Cup.**

parade in Leicester incorporated a service at the Cenotaph, followed by the now traditional Officers' Mess curry lunch, at which the Lord Mayor, his staff and key officials, including the Worshipful Bishop of Leicester, and other military personnel were entertained.

### Social Functions

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess held its annual Christmas draw on 19 December. A great deal of credit for its success was due to WO (CSM) Pickett who organised a memorable function, which was well supported. Not wishing to be outdone the Corporals' Mess also held a splendid Mess dinner, with Sgt Nagra and Cpl Parker at the helm. The function was attended by the Commanding Officer, Adjutant and RSM.

A (Lincolnshire) Company upheld the tradition of the annual Sobraon Dinner at

Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln, with distinguished guests, including Col (Retd) Drummond, the Lincolnshire Company Honorary Colonel.

The final Officers' Mess black tie Battalion SAAM dinner was well supported and included all the company Honorary Colonels as guests. The padre, Maj Michael Woods, began the proceedings with one of his inimitable rhyming graces. 'Tigers' were presented to the Honorary Colonels, and the Commanding Officer made a speech, thanking his officers for their professionalism, hard work and commitment over the two years of his command. The dinner was the last official Officers' Mess function and it served as a fitting mass dining out for all those attending officers.

The Battalion will have its final farewell function on 8 May 1999 at the 1A Centre Ulverscroft Road in Leicester, when up to 40 distinguished guests will be entertained by all ranks of the Battalion and the Royal Anglian TA Band. The evening is planned to be a fitting tribute to the Battalion with an opportunity to thank all those who have supported the Battalion in its existence. Chief Regimental guests will be the Colonel and Deputy Colonel of the Regiment. Battalion memorial tankards, with the crests of the Battalion's former Regiments emblazoned on the side, will be presented to all those guests and hosts attending the function. With the demise of the Battalion, many of the Regular staff are being posted to other employments. The majority of the SPSIs/PSIs are being employed in the new Battalion, the Adjutant, Capt Gary Morris and WO1 (RSM) Thomas also move to the new Battalion. The Commanding Officer, Lt Col Peter Holme, moves to Warminster and the training major, Maj Andy Wadman moves to Kuwait in May 1999. The QM, Maj Bill O'Driscoll will oversee the drawdown of 7 R Anglian as OC rear party until early July when he moves to ATR Lichfield as OC HQ Company



**The Battalion headquarters and company team from Leicester on the latest visit to a Sikh temple as a part of the Battalion ethnic initiative.**



# Infantry Training Centre Catterick

## The All Arms Infantry Skills Course

*Cpl LJ Pearce writes*

The ITC doesn't just run Phase 2 training for the infantry. In fact several unusual courses are run at Catterick and I was recently selected to instruct on one of the more interesting. The All Arms Infantry Skills Course (AAISC) is run for members of all three services who are about to attempt SAS selection. It is a revision of basic infantry skills and was set up to assist in the preparation of special forces candidates in basic skills including fieldcraft and tactics. Most AAISC students are from a non infantry backgrounds.

In preparation for the course 22 SAS invites all instructors to spend a period of two days in Hereford in order to ensure they are introduced to the M16 A2 rifle; used by all students and instructors during the course. It also provides an opportunity to run through the training programme, answering any relevant questions and giving general input on how the course should be run. It's an eye-opening time with the finishing touch a detailed patrol into Hereford town centre in the evening!

The course was 21-strong broken down into three equal sections. The personnel ranged from an Adjutant of an infantry battalion to corporals in the RMP. It goes without saying that an entirely different approach was required to that of commanding a section of recruits. My section was made up of a captain, three sergeants, two corporals and an SAC in the RAF all of whom were, no doubt, very good at their own jobs. The basics were taught and practised and their enthusiasm was a refreshing experience.

After a period of basic instruction came Exercise High Walk; conducted in week three of the course. The exercise is an endurance march over Pen-y-fan known as the Fan Dance - 24km of slightly hilly terrain. It was voluntary for instructors and out of seven, three of us agreed to take part.



### Spot the instructor!

Up until this stage we had the upper hand due to us teaching what is to us 'bread and butter'. Now we were in their domain as these guys had on average been training for three months. The night before I listened as they discussed; what food and energy drinks they were going to take on board, various methods of strapping up, and detailed descriptions of every feature we were about to endure. Well, I had been an eavesdropper many times before listening to people talking a good fight so I settled down for the night with my three Snickers bars, packet of jelly babies and last but not least my council pop.

The next morning the coach journey to the infamous Beacons was surprisingly quiet, me included, my thoughts not on intakes or strapping up, no, just those extremely large features they had all been so eager to describe in detail. In total 25 potential SAS candidates set off with the SAS training wing instructors spread among the group. To my surprise as the test went on I found myself near the front of the group, not that I was hill-fit by any means; instead it was the constant thought of leading by example and vengeance for the exclusion of the previous

evening. After 24km I came in seventh with time to spare. Only four came in under the qualifying time of 4hrs 10 mins. However, this did not affect their application for SF selection.

The last phase of the course was the final exercise. This was conducted in Otterburn and concentrated on the skills we had taught, or in some cases revised. The officers were given command appointments since they would be in command in the jungle. At times some felt they were already in the SAS, whether by tactics or lack of equipment worn. This attitude had to be quashed and although some were not too pleased having a JNCO critiquing their performance it was accepted that we were the experts at teaching the basics of infantry soldiering.

The course was a pleasant change from normal Catterick training and ended my first year here on a good note. I thoroughly enjoyed the entire four-week period. I believe it helped me to learn how to adapt to various levels of instruction and it was an experience I was grateful for.

### Exercise Fledgling Ebor

It isn't all hard work at ITC Catterick. Capt Ian Chance, currently a platoon commander at the centre, wrote to tell us about an eight-day adventurous training exercise he had organised in Soll, Austria in early April. The aims of the exercise were twofold: to teach alpine ski techniques and secondly to introduce basic winter survival skills, mountain navigation and avalanche awareness. The plan had been to go to Italy but the tragic accident involving a USAF F18 and a cable car necessitated a rethink. Eventually the party of six set out by minibus - via the Dover-Calais ferry, Ostend, through Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany and finally to Soll in Austria which was reached at 0430hrs in heavy snow after a journey of 23 hours involving five drivers. The group was able to spend six and a half days out on the slopes, complete the exercise within its limited budget and be back at Catterick ready for work nine days after leaving the camp



From left: SMI Rodger APTC, Cpl Stockdale RRW, Capt Chance R Anglian (looking cool!), Cpl Ives R Anglian, Cpl McCreith RGJ, Cpl Carter Staffords.

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## Regimental Sport

### Golf

#### Spring Meeting- Richmond Park Golf Club Watton Norfolk - 16 April

*Maj John Fisk reports*

It was very nice to see 27 members and one guest, Alan Baker. We also received a visit from Mick Smith, ex 3rd Battalion, who lives just down the road at Swaffham. Among the 27 was a new face, WO2 Steve (Boris) Davis.

It was an enjoyable day out, at a friendly club, on a good course, in the best of company, and we were almost very lucky with the weather.

### Results

	Medal	Stableford
Morning	L Greenaway J Wilcox	R Allen R Travis
Overall	R Allen, L Greenaway 64/43 J Wilcox R Travis	
Afternoon	Four ball better ball C Tate/M Pye R Potter/ R Allen (on countback)	
Longest Drive	L Greenaway	
Nearest the Pin	T Wesley	

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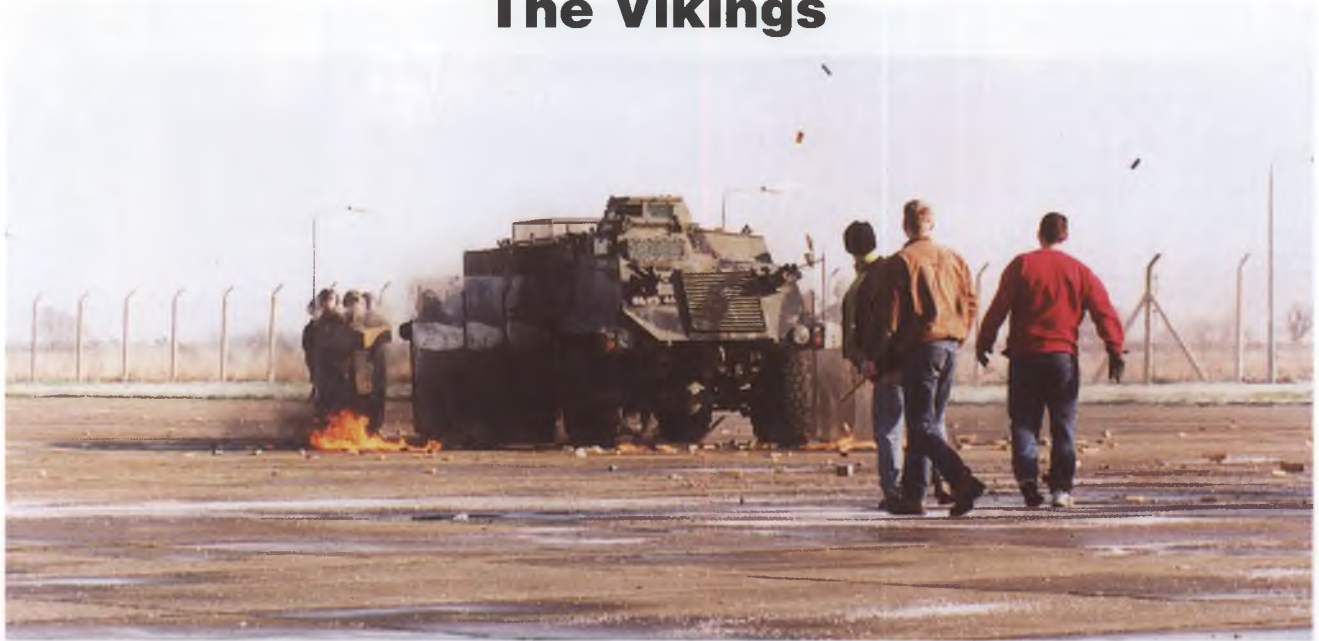
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## 1st Battalion The Vikings



Public Order Training in Oakington.





**1st Battalion**









## 2nd Battalion The Poachers



CBF inspects the successful students on the PNCO cadre.



Dmr Coleman in Syria.



Sniper cadre - Cpl Brownlie marks a student's location.



**2nd Battalion**

A Saxon patrol deploys during international security training.



PNCO cadre students and command tasks.



Milan Platoon ICFT.



OC B Company (Maj Hart) looking very pleased with himself - his wife looks less so.



Lt Otter and his team take a break during the patrols exercise.



## 2nd Battalion



The Battalion Colour Party for Remembrance Day.



Cpl Gadstone and his henchmen.



A team sets off for the next stand.



Sgt Sharp - smiling.



Cpl Phillip's section debates their next route.



## 2nd Battalion



The winning CO's bugler - Dmr Hume.



The winning Adjutant's bugler - Dmr Coleman.



The winning RSMs bugler - Dmr Stevens.



The Adjutant tries to quickly finish his sweet before the competition starts.



## 6th Battalion



Practising the last line of defence.



Working hard in Wales.



Ambush set.



Warrior familiarisation.



## 6th Battalion



Live-firing - most definitely not dry training in Wales.



Obua training.



Obua training.



Running into the attack.



Elements of A Company during a rapid air landing exercise.



**6th Battalion**

Fighting through disused hangars.



Clearing the ground after the battle.





## 7th Battalion



The Deputy Colonel of the Regiment on the Sikh march through Leicester accompanied by the Commanding Officer and Sgt Nagra.



Making entry on Exercise Urban Tiger.



WPte Norman (C Company) explains the new TA ethos at the TA national open day.



**7th Battalion**

Lcpl McCarthy receives the champion shot trophy from Comd 49 (E) Brigade.



The SF Platoon in action.



Cpl Brown (SF Platoon) malingering again!



Champion Company - A Company displays its wares.



## Vaisaki Celebrations



The Royal Anglian Regiment Band on parade at the Vaisaki Celebrations in Leicester, April 1999.

## TA Open Day



Pte Gormley (C Company) explaining the 5.56mm rifle to a potential recruit at the TA national open day.



LCpl Tucker (B Company).



B Company recruiting.



## Exercise Urban Tiger



The final company attack.



Colonel of the Regiment and CO at Copehill Fibua village.



Deputy Colonel of the Regiment talks to members of the Battalion at Copehill Fibua village.



In the assault.



## Exercise Urban Tiger



Sgt Rainey, PSI A Company, explains the finer points of explosive charges as a method of entry.



Deputy Colonel of the Regiment enjoying breakfast while chatting to the CO, Training Major and RSM.



## Battalion SAAM



The A Company shooting team, winners of the 1999 Battalion SAAM, Strensall Ranges, 21 March 1999.



Sgt Brett Thompson receives the Parachute Cup on behalf of the A Company team.



A Company's shooting team captain, Capt Nick Sutherland holds up the shield.



2Lt Alex Dart receives the champion company shield on behalf of A Company.



CO discovering the quality of Maj de Planta's 1999 confidential report.

## Special Features

### Down Under with the British Army

*Maj F De Planta writes*

*Army* - 'How do you fancy a month in Brisbane, Australia with the Army?'

*Frank de Planta* - 'It sounds brilliant but Suzie won't wear it, the Environment Agency won't wear it and I'm not even in your Brigade?'

*Army* - 'Buy Suzie off with something nice for Christmas, take time off as holiday from the Environment Agency and leave the Brigade business to me?'

*Frank de Planta* - 'OK, I'll do it but what does it involve?'

*Army* - 'You'll be working in a French Canadian Brigade Headquarters as an interpreter, explaining British Peace Support Operational Plans to them. Oh and by the way, we have six days' leave at the end to see some of Australia!'

After two years of planning and lots of build-up training at BBGT in Catterick, 120 officers and men from 15 (North East) Brigade Headquarters based in York flew out by RAF TriStar to participate in a joint American, British, Canadian and Australian (ABCA) Brigade-level exercise in Brisbane.

The aim was to practise interoperability between nations for peace support operations like those currently running in Bosnia.

The exercise was based on the four nations being tasked to re-establish political order and elections after a bitter, interfactional civil war on a fictitious island called Capricornia off the east coast of Australia. With so much of the Regular Army committed to the Balkans, I was selected because I spoke French, the Canadians were from Quebec and so conducted all their work within their own headquarters in French.

It was fascinating to witness the responses



**Cpl Marshall (Comd's driver), Brig Alan Deed (Comd 15 (NE) Bde) and Maj Frank de Planta (OC A Company 7 R Anglian) at the entrance to Gallipoli Barracks in Brisbane.**

of the different nations to exactly the same problems on the ground. Imagine the difficulties, with their diverse and often acrimonious histories, of trying to get the Americans, French Canadians, Australians and British to agree to anything! Throw in a whole host of non government organisations (NGO) and charities and you have a recipe for interesting training. That's what made it such a brilliant experience.

After the exercise, we managed three days trekking in the rainforests of the Tamborine Mountain National park followed by a further three days of snorkelling, cycling, surfing and the ubiquitous barbecuing on the beautiful sand island of North Stradbroke, off the coast of Queensland.

The moral of the story is: If you leave the Regular Army, try the TA and, for a change, get to choose where you go.

### French Staff College

*Maj N Nottingham writes*

'Enjoy Paris - the Army is in danger of putting a round peg in a round hole on this one' was how my then Commanding Officer put it when the staff list came out. Having a French degree under my belt, and having lived in France, the possibility of being sent to French Staff College had certainly crossed my mind. When the reality dawned, I found the prospect of not spending my staff college years in Shrivenham and Bracknell increasingly attractive.

I was to spend my time attending two year-long courses - the Cours Supérieure d'Etat Major (CSEM) and the College Interarmées de Défense (CID). The first is the army staff course, with many similarities to the old Camberley course. The second is the joint services course, akin to the JSCSC Bracknell, although it has been in existence for six years and includes students from the gendarmerie and the French defence procurement agency, together with about 70 foreign students from about 60 countries. On arrival in Paris, where my wife and I

were able to take over an apartment situated just 400m from the Eiffel Tower (as we were keen to point out to our friends), I started a preparatory tactics course at the Ecole Militaire, where both of the main courses took place. Distant memories of studying Montaigne, Molière or Maupassant were of little use as I struggled to get to grips with French tactical terms and staff procedures. I had been able to spend two weeks prior to the course with a French armoured regiment on exercise in their ageing AMX 30 B2 main battle tanks, which was of some help linguistically, but things took a while to sink in.

By the time the army staff course started I was fairly up to speed. Many of my colleagues had had no formal staff training, so at least my (limited) memories of JDSC were of some use. We were split into syndicates of 12, and for the key exercises at brigade, divisional and corps level we were given a large degree of autonomy (apart from COS/DCOS appointments we shared

the remainder of the work among ourselves). On the military side my memories of the first year revolve around several highlights. As well as 'conventional' warfare exercises at the levels mentioned above, which involved the usual detailed planning phases followed by a week of gaming them BBGT style (using Janus), multinational and PSO exercises played a key role.

I spent a week in March in northern France in a draughty aircraft hangar as part of a multinational land component headquarters which included students from the US, German and Spanish staff colleges. My syndicate also spent three weeks at the US Army Staff College - Fort Leavenworth in Kansas - where we formed a French brigade headquarters in a division also made up of 24 (Airmobile) Brigade from UK and a German headquarters consisting once more of Führungsakademie students.

The exercise - 'Prairie Warrior' - was the American students' final exercise, a multinational joint force projection



## Special features

operation situated in the Far East.

Highlights of the army course outside of the key exercises were numerous. I was able to take up an invitation by the Commandant of the Staff College to attempt the French brevet parachutiste. The winter months had seen me running around the Bois de Boulogne on endless runs with an uncomfortable French bergen on my back; the reward was two weeks at Pau in south west France. I was able to do 12 jumps, including a night jump, a couple with full kit and at the end a tandem freefall jump from 12,000ft attached to an instructor. There was something rather pleasant about taking a long lunch (washed down with local wine, *naturellement*), walking over to an aircraft, hauling on the necessary equipment and then several minutes later jumping out of it and watching the Pyrenees float slowly by. I suspect the RAF do things rather differently. In addition to the parachuting the army course also consisted of several visits: to the various arms schools, combined arms centres and headquarters, and also to one or two units. Other highlights included weapons effects demonstrations and a week spent with the media (my group visited the offices and worked with journalists from *Le Figaro*) and a weekend break in Malta, with our wives. In the final week the course held a cocktail party at Les Invalides, which was a fitting finale to a memorable year.

The joint services course began after the summer break. The differences were immediate: it was bigger, better funded, and much more diverse. I found myself in a group with a Moroccan naval captain, a mine clearance diver, two sappers, a foreign legionnaire, a cavalryman, a logistician, a Jaguar pilot, an aircraft engineer, a Puma pilot and a civilian armament specialist.

In common with Bracknell the course is largely joint, but in Paris the single service phases are rather shorter. All the exercises take place in the joint part and I learned much from planning the maritime and air aspects of the various fictitious operations we studied, usually under the watchful eye of a fellow student from the relevant service. Outside of the operational planning exercises there was much emphasis on geopolitics and political/military strategy; it seemed as if the entire French intellectual elite came to speak to us over the course of the year. My colleagues were for the most part in their late thirties (at 30 on arrival in Paris I was very much the baby). Having already succeeded in their key professional exams, they are guaranteed promotion to at least lieutenant colonel, and some sort of command. The net result was a much more university type atmosphere, with genuine time for private study of one's choosing, and little 'thrusting' between students for particular jobs at the end of the course. For the foreigners this ambience created a real opportunity to make lasting friendships, and to play a full part in all aspects of the course without fear of treading on anyone's toes. The written work demanded was quite heavy



Just prior to a two-hour flight in the back seat of a Jaguar.

- a 30-page dissertation on geopolitics is challenging in itself, let alone in French - but overall the course was well paced and even the foreigners were able to keep up (or at least of giving a reasonable impression of being able to).

Highlights of the course include the various visits. We were flown around in Transall transport aircraft to visit various naval and air bases, and royally entertained at each. When the destination is the Cote d'Azur life certainly takes on an agreeable hue. I also spent a very stormy few days aboard an anti-submarine frigate in the Bay of Biscay, and had a memorable two-hour flight carrying out simulated ground attacks in a two-seater Jaguar over the Massif Central. I resisted the very tempting urge to displace my food on both occasions; French cuisine is not to be trifled with after all. On these visits I witnessed a refuelling at sea operation between two warships, and a combat briefing by the Jaguar pilots - both in an entirely French context but both exclusively in English.

All staff college students now have to be linguist English speakers as a prerequisite, a significant change in policy and recognition of the increasing tendency to work within the context of Nato doctrine and procedures. At the time of writing the end of the course is still several weeks away, but visits are planned before then to various civilian businesses, to the French defence industry and at the end of the course to Egypt for 10 days.

It will have been a memorable and enjoyable two years. On the social side we

have been able to explore all around France during my periods of leave, usually with the regions vignobles in mind, and we have made many lasting friendships. I will never forget the traditional French dinner party: typically on arrival (in a suit) one is greeted by one's hosts and their children (all eight of them, each one trained to say 'good evening' in English before silently and miraculously disappearing to bed not to be heard of again).

Throughout the meal, which lasts at least five hours, Madame's immaculate cuisine is accompanied by marvellous wine in tiny quantities, and going to the loo is absolutely interdit. Enjoyable - but different. I never really came to terms with the French propensity for two-hour lectures, without a break and with little in the way of visual aids; somehow length tends to confer gravitas at the expense of pedagogical efficiency!

On the cultural side one quickly learns to shake hands with all and sundry each morning, and to remember those with whom one has done so (for to forget and offer one's hand a second time in the day is simply not done). I learned that to call people by their surnames is polite and not old fashioned. I once met two full colonels from the same intake at St Cyr, great friends who had served regularly together since, but of whom neither knew the other's first name). I had, in summary, the pleasure of serving among people who were unfailingly polite and courteous, and who hold us in high esteem professionally.

*Vive la difference!*

## Georgetown Revisited

*Lt Col (Retd) Patrick Macdonald writes*



**The Georgetown Club, Camp Street, Georgetown Guyana (fine old colonial style).**

1st Battalion, the 1st East Anglian Regiment was there 37 years ago. What was I doing there in January 1999 and what's changed?

I was invited to go to Guyana by the British Executive Service Overseas (BESO) a sort of geriatric VSO - to help the Guyana Relief Council. The council is a charity which exists to help anyone, anywhere in the country who suffers deprivation or loss as a result of disaster, God or man-made. They asked BESO for an adviser on fundraising and operational organisation. BESO found me, based on my experience with the Red Cross.

What's changed? Much and little. The Viking of almost 40 years ago would find many things familiar. The smells are the same; that hot damp smell. Remember the stench of the Sugar Factory at Diamond on the way to Atkinson (now called Timheri)? Still there! The loud music coming from everywhere? Still there; only now its heavy metal instead of calypso/twist/blues and the steel bands which we remember.

On the surface, the people seem the same cheerful, friendly and with that lilting accent. Beneath, things are not so well. There is still inter-racial hatred, greed, me first and to hell with you. 'Everyone wants to be in charge,' I was told. Much of this is the legacy of the widely disliked regime of the late Forbes Burnham.

### A few glimpses

The roadsides on the way to Atkinson are still littered with wrecked cars, vans and trucks. The difference is that they are now later models, but not much. The tarmac roads are just as full of treacherous potholes, mostly full of evil-smelling water. The packs of skinny warring dogs still rush around barking and yelling at each other. Scooters are 'in' with helmets optional. I saw one Rasta with an undersized helmet on top of

his locks and his knitted cap, another wearing a baseball cap under his skidlid; many with nothing on their heads at all. Cars, mostly Japanese, race around. Seat belts are sissy. I don't know how much work ever gets done - every street corner has a group of worthies arguing loudly and/or listening to one or more ghetto-blasters, all grinning at passers by. There are minibuses everywhere; the Japanese answer to the Espace! Radios blare from them and some passengers apparently ride only because the driver plays their kind of music. Travelling in one is a nightmare. The drivers seem to have no anticipation whatever and race each other from one obstacle to another. Unlit donkeys, horses and cows add a little zest. Red lights are pure decoration. Horns are blasted often but no one seems to take any notice.

One truly astonishing feature of Guyanese roads is the presence of current model Bedford/AWD five-tonne trucks (and some two-wheel drive) all ex-British Army; hundreds of them... literally hundreds. Most are still in their OD paint with the 'chalk no patches' on the doors. Some even have their Union Jack transfers. (Someone obviously bought an enormous job lot!) They are everywhere, driven at great speed and, usually, with one or more men riding on top of the load.

Everyone seems to smoke. Remember those Bristol cigarettes? Still very popular. Banks Beer remains the favourite, but it is still *the gnat's* that it ever was! And Rum, of course.

There's a new airport at Atkinson (sorry, Timheri) or, at least new buildings and called Cheddy Jagan International. The old American hospital/barracks is still there a little tattier with age. Now it houses the Guyana Defence Force (who look good). The swimming pool is derelict. 'No one

must swim in this pool until the water has been passed by the Medical Officer'. I seem to recall such a notice on the wire.

Remember the road building project from Mackenzie to Belem in Brazil along the old Rupunini cattle trail? It's still a road building project from Mackenzie to I'm told that 4x4s with patient and skilled drivers (in short supply there, as everywhere) can get through in about 18 hours. No facilities exist along the way. The mobile phone is the only hope of rescue.

The Hotel Tower lives on, boasting its ever-popular swimming pool. The Colgrain Pool is next door to me as I luxuriate in the dear old colonial Georgetown Club. The Palm Court Restaurant prospers but no longer the upmarket joint of 1962. Fogarty's is there but the other department stores are in new hands. There are thousands more roadside bars/boozers than I remember: most would, I think, daunt even the most determined of Viking carousers of today. The vacancies for signwriters and window dressers which existed in 1962 remain unfilled. Street cleaners would be popular too. I couldn't find all the well-known places where we all lived, but I found some: the YMCA, Camp House and Thompson's House (now part of the Guyana Police HQ), the Sergeants' Mess on Main Street. The golf course was converted into a city park after Independence, but the fairways and greens are still visible.

Many people remember us, or know of us: they've forgotten our names but they do remember the peace which we happy band of brothers and our successors brought to this would-be paradise all those years ago. I'm glad I came but, unless you're an adventurer looking for the excitement of the Rupunini or Kaiteur or the Mazaruni, it's not the ideal Caribbean holiday spot.

## Special features

### A View from Inside Kosovo on Secondment to the OSCE

*Capt DJ Howson writes:*

It came as something of a surprise when one sunny afternoon in October 1 was offered the opportunity to take part in the mission to monitor compliance with the ceasefire in Kosovo. I accepted my nomination without knowing much more than could be gleaned from reading the national newspapers. What has followed has turned out to be a mixture of excitement, frustration and sadness which has proven to be an outstanding experience for a young officer.

Despite being put on 24 hours' notice to move it was four weeks before I finally flew out from Gatwick Airport destined for Belgrade. In the interim period I had undertaken two separate training packages at South Cerney and had to endure what seemed endless political debates about the composition and deployment of the mission. I was accompanied on these training packages by CSgt Buxton, who along with myself, had also been nominated for the mission. Initially it was intended that we would be seconded to the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) who would conduct the Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) under the Holbrooke, Milosevic Agreement of 12 October 1998.

Unfortunately the mission was roughly seven times larger than anything the OSCE had conducted before and almost immediately logistical problems began to arise which threatened to delay the deployment. Consequently, as an interim measure to establish a presence on the ground we deployed under the grand title of the United Kingdom Kosovo Diplomatic Observer Mission (UK KDOM) which was responsible to the British Ambassador in Belgrade. The group initially comprised 57 British nationals who were split equally between serving military personnel and Foreign Office contractors, most of whom were retired officers.

It was therefore on 12 November 1998 that we arrived in Belgrade and within 36



WO2 Ralph being presented with the Nato Medal.

hours we had been deployed to the southern town of Prizren. Kosovo itself comprises an area roughly the size of Kent and is home to over two million people. 90 per cent of the population is ethnic Albanian with the remainder being Serbian. During the summer of 1998 the Province had been the scene of an offensive by the Serbian Security Forces against the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) which had led to the deaths of around 1,500 people and the destruction of massive amounts of property. Indeed the village of Malisevo in Southern Kosovo which had been home to 12,000 people was completely deserted causing a huge refugee problem. Therefore under the threat of Nato air strikes President Milosevic had accepted a ceasefire between Serbia and the Kosovo Liberation Army and agreed to the deployment of up to 2,000 international monitors from the OSCE to monitor and verify compliance with the ceasefire and associated UN Resolutions.

The task which the UK KDOM was set therefore was to establish a presence on the

ground in the Prizren locality to monitor the conduct of the warring parties and also to undertake a 'Hearts and Minds' campaign in order to reassure the local population. This was as a prelude to the OSCE taking over in December 1998. We were therefore paired off with a counterpart from the Foreign Office and tasked to different areas of Kosovo to establish our presence. We were also given the dedicated use of a local interpreter and a Snatch Land Rover painted in the fashionable colour of bright orange. Personally, I was partnered off with a retired superintendent from the Metropolitan Police who proved to be a useful operator, particularly when dealing with the Serbian Ministry of Interior Police or MUP as they are commonly known.

What we found on our travels was a local population of primarily ethnic Albanians who were willing to provide almost infinite information on the local situation. The Albanian population proved to be a resilient race who were deeply fearful of the Serbian Security Forces and particularly the MUP who had been instrumental in the summer offensive which had sought to eradicate the KLA strongholds. The UK KDOM also set about establishing contacts with the KLA who were still active in Kosovo and appeared to be well equipped with various weaponry although they lacked the armour and artillery that was possessed by the Serbian Security Forces. The KLA had also reoccupied some of the positions that had been relinquished under the ceasefire agreement. Relatively swiftly however the UK KDOM became familiar with the local population to the extent that we became recognised and trusted by villagers. The reception was not quite so warm from the MUP, who saw our presence as an interference in what they considered an internal security situation. The Yugoslav Army or VJ as they were commonly known



CSgt Buxton and his company car!



were at first rather ambivalent to our presence but they gradually began to recognise our value as verifiers of acts of aggression that they claimed had been committed by the KLA.

This pattern of operations continued until the UK KDOM was subsumed by the OSCE on 10 December 1998 and the Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) was established. There had so far been very little in the way of major incidents as Kosovo appeared to have slipped into an uneasy peace following the summer offensive. This may have also been due to the severe weather hampering military operations as it was not uncommon for 18 inches of snow to fall in less than eight hours. The local population appeared content that life in general had improved since our arrival although many at the time were fearful that the spring would bring further offensive action by the Serb authorities.

The change from UKKDOM to OSCE brought about a conversion to multinationalism as other countries began to match the UK's commitment. The OSCE, under its head of mission, Ambassador William Walker, then began establishing five regional centres in the major towns around Kosovo with regional centre Prizren, having been developed from the UKKDOM, being the first to be established. There was also the establishment of an OSCE induction centre in the ski resort of Brezovica although the centre gained almost instant notoriety when the presence of prostitutes was discovered in the hotel and subsequently exposed in *The Times*. The transition to the OSCE was somewhat difficult as some of the multinational element had problems communicating in English which was the dedicated official language of the OSCE. Also at this time more and more specialist people began to arrive as different cells were developed. These were primarily for the purposes of liaison and for monitoring human rights violations.

With the change to the OSCE also came an amendment to our mandate as we were also given the task of weapons verification similar to that which had been carried out in Bosnia under the Dayton Agreement. Unfortunately the Serbs proved to be somewhat less than compliant with their obligations under the Holbrooke-Milosevic Agreement as they steadfastly refused to allow OSCE personnel to enter any barracks to carry out weapons inspections. This meant that the task of verifying any Serb military build-up in Kosovo became extremely difficult.

The weeks proceeding the establishment of the KVM also saw an upturn in violence in the Province. Firstly, on 14 December 1998 OSCE personnel were asked by the VJ to verify 30 bodies close to the border with Albania. The deceased were all dressed in KLA uniform and had apparently been killed in an ambush while attempting to infiltrate across the border from Albania.

Secondly, as the other OSCE regional



**Evidence of ethnic cleansing.**

centres started to become established the Serbs began a Christmas offensive against the KLA in the northern town of Podujevo. OSCE personnel from Prizren were deployed to the area to utilise the armoured Snatch vehicles in what was a somewhat hostile environment with a large array of Serb armour and artillery being used. At this time I was tasked to establish an OSCE presence in the western industrial town of Djakovica which thus far had had no real contact with the OSCE. Again the Kosovar Albanians proved to be extremely welcoming and even the Serbs appeared to be coming to terms with our presence. Indeed the MUP went to great lengths to try and show us their impartiality and their willingness to liaise with the OSCE.

As January progressed the KLA had some success as they ambushed a MUP convoy to the north-east of Prizren, killing three policemen. Unfortunately this incident led to the infamous Racak massacre on 16 January 1999 involving the deaths of 45 ethnic Albanians. They were killed during the investigation carried out by the MUP into the ambush. The MUP claimed that the dead were KLA soldiers. There is little doubt however that the deceased were innocent civilians. The Serb authorities then compounded the issue by mortaring the village, in front of the world's media in order to clear it for their 'investigation' into the massacre.

It was at this stage of the mission that CSgt Buxton, who had remained in the UK on standby, was deployed to the previously mentioned Podujevo area in order to bolster the efforts of regional centre Pristina. CSgt Buxton was able to show his versatility by taking on an operations officer role in a regional centre where the British contingent was a lot smaller than it was in Prizren. The Podujevo area was often the scene of fierce fighting as the Serb Security Forces mounted

frequent operations against the KLA in what was considered to be one of their strongholds.

As January progressed the efforts towards a peaceful settlement in Kosovo began to gather pace as the international contact group for Kosovo put forward proposals to be discussed at peace talks to be held at Rambouillet near Paris. Such a settlement would essentially entail a large degree of autonomy for the ethnic Albanians followed in three years by a referendum on independence.

Unfortunately the move towards the peace talks was interrupted by the deaths of 24 ethnic Albanians and one MUP policeman in the village of Rogovo which is in between Prizren and Djakovica in south-west Kosovo. These men were killed in extremely violent circumstances as the Serbian special police carried out an ambush on a minibus full of suspected KLA men which had infiltrated across the border from Albania the previous night.

This event brought home to all in the OSCE the need to try and keep a check on the violence while the Rambouillet talks got underway. The threats of a Nato bombing campaign if the talks failed led, however, to a period of relative calm although the Serbs did use this period to fortify their positions in expectation of Nato action. Following the inconclusive end to the first round of talks at Rambouillet there was almost a sense of relief that a bombing campaign had put on hold as many in the OSCE felt that this course would have been disproportionate to the levels of violence taking place in Kosovo at that time. The talks were adjourned for two weeks as both sides consulted with their superiors.

During this time the tension in Kosovo began to increase, often with the KLA attempting to provoke the Serbs into an over-reaction which would be viewed

## Special features

detrimentally by the international community. Indeed during this period major conflicts were narrowly averted on several occasions. As we progressed towards the resumption of the talks it became increasingly evident that the Serbs were laying the foundations for a major offensive against the KLA.

The OSCE, in trying to monitor the military action, were being increasingly exposed to dangerous and unpredictable situations. The authorities also began to impose restrictions on the OSCE's freedom of movement and steadily they began to withdraw co-operation with the KVM. The presence of the OSCE was also limiting Nato's options as they were unable to bomb Serbia with 1,400 potential hostages from the OSCE still inside Kosovo.

With these three factors in mind it was therefore decided that on 20 March the OSCE would evacuate from Kosovo to the neighbouring state of Macedonia. Many were highly apprehensive at the risks inherent in an evacuation but in the event all personnel were able to leave Serbia safely. We were all in fact surprised at the co-operation we were given by the Serbs as around 500 orange OSCE vehicles crossed its border. The reasons for this co-operation became clear however as two hours after

the last OSCE vehicle had crossed the border, the Serbs, free from the monitoring of the OSCE, began a massive offensive against the KLA.

The feeling of relief that all had evacuated safely was quickly tempered when we realised that the notorious policy of 'ethnic cleansing' had begun. In particular there was grave concern for the large number of local employees that had worked for the OSCE as interpreters and general administration staff who we felt would be singled out for persecution. At the time of writing their fate is unknown.

The Nato bombing campaign and the refugee crisis that has developed has by now been extensively covered in the media. We followed this coverage while in Macedonia and as we did so it became increasingly obvious that a lengthy campaign would mean the suspension of the KVM for the time being. It was therefore with great regret that we were returned to our native countries on 1 April and were left to speculate on the fate of those people who we had lived among for nearly five months.

In conclusion it is often asked of OSCE personnel whether the KVM was a success and whether it made a difference to the people of Kosovo. In the opinion of those people who served with the OSCE the

answer is categorically yes. There were many instances of violence which were prevented from escalating due to careful mediation by OSCE personnel on the ground.

There were also many human rights violations that would otherwise have gone undocumented but for OSCE investigation. It is my firm belief that our time in Kosovo brought hope to its population and created an atmosphere in which peace talks could take place. It is only regretful that we were unable to influence those at the highest levels of the Serbian government to follow a path of peace rather than conflict.

From a personnel perspective the time spent in Kosovo was extremely rewarding both from a military point of view and as an opportunity for working in a multinational organisation. I would recommend that anyone offered the opportunity to undertake such a mission grabs it with both hands as it has provided for an excellent all-round experience.

*Editors Note: WO2 Ralph, currently serving as an SP5I with 7th Battalion, wrote an article about his experiences over the same period while serving on Operation Upholder in Macedonia near the Kosovo border. Space did not permit the inclusion of both articles.*

## They left as boys and came back as men

*John P Richards writes:*

It is hard to believe that before the Second World War and the Japanese invasion of Burma, Malaya and Singapore, the British Army never trained in the jungle because it was considered militarily impossible for any Army to fight in such conditions - particularly Europeans.

By 1946 all that had changed. The war was won but a substantial part of the British Army was still trying to contain relatively small numbers of very determined Communist terrorists up and down the Malaysian peninsula. These men (and women) had been sympathetic to the British cause during the war against Japan, but later switched their allegiance to support Communist ambitions in the Far East.

### Dangerous

The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment arrived in 1955 nearly 1,000-strong, around 85 per cent of them National Servicemen. That meant most of the Regulars were to be found among the more senior ranks: majors, captains, warrant officers and sergeants.

As Regulars, the Army was their career and the posting to Malaya seen as a means of broadening their experience. For the conscripts, however, it represented a period of compulsory service which took them away from home, relatives and friends, interrupting their working and domestic lives at a difficult time. In Malaya, it was also frequently dangerous, and nearly always uncomfortable.

My experiences there taught me to have nothing but the greatest respect for these

young National Servicemen.

Not soldiers by choice or inclination, they rapidly became highly professional jungle warriors. The nature of the 'war' in Malaya required that an infantry battalion such as the Lincolns split up into groups of company strength, often many miles apart and based on the rubber plantations. Jungle operations were usually conducted at platoon or even section level - a junior officer and about 36 men on the one hand, or a corporal and maybe 10 men on the other. Sometimes these platoons and sections ploughed through the jungle for many miles acting on a police tip-off or some form of military intelligence. They carried all their kit and rations on their backs in rucksacks which often weighed 60lb or more, and were resupplied by air drop.

At other times they were flown into deep jungle by helicopter, where they set up small camps, sent out patrols and prepared ambushes which required them to lie hidden alongside a track of suspected terrorist rendezvous for hours (and even days and nights); watching and waiting in the steamy vegetation and heat, in the hope of a positive contact. Clothes became soaked in rain and sweat; fair English skins were attacked by insects, leeches and various kinds of unpleasant fungus infections.

In one ambush that went wrong, a young National Service officer and several Malay pig-hunters were killed in a confused and deadly chance encounter. The Malays should not have been where they were; they had strayed into a no-go zone. In such

territory the only people around should have been either soldiers or terrorists.

The miracle for me was that no-one ever got lost for long. The jungle terrain was unbelievably difficult and could only be navigated painstakingly with the aid of compass and map - not that a map was much help. No signposts! No landmarks - except the odd stream or river, and they all looked much the same.

### Out on patrol

How does a young man of 18, a National Service corporal or lance corporal who may have lived in a small Lincolnshire village for most of his life, lead a section of men out on patrol and back from a tiny base camp in the middle of the Malayan jungle? His men are entirely dependent on him; if he makes an error of only 100 yards or so, he'll walk straight past his platoon camp without knowing it's there.

In Lincoln each year, about 200 former National Servicemen (who are not so young now) from the old 1st Battalion gather at Sobraon Barracks, in Burton Road, for the Malaysian reunion to share again the experience of a lifetime. They may not have enjoyed that experience at the time, but most recognise now that they left England as boys and came back as men.

*Editor's Note: Capt John Richards wrote a series of articles for the Lincolnshire Echo, to focus attention on the R Lincolns Museum Appeal. The appeal reached its target in March this year and work on the museum starts this summer.*

## Combined Cadet Forces and Army Cadet Force

### News from our CCFs

*Lt A Owen of King Edward VI CCF,  
Chelmsford writes*

We have been very busy over the past couple of years. We have over 80 cadets in the army section, 25 of whom are in the Corps of Drums. There are another 15 pre-CCF drummers.

During 1998 we carried out military and adventurous training at Warcop, with Berkhamsted School. Our annual camp was at Penhale in Cornwall where cadets participated enthusiastically in the rather arduous march and shoot competition - (a three-mile march along the coast road), and an assault course competition. In both events our cadets excelled themselves, and the atmosphere among the contingent was fantastic.

This year's annual camp is to be in Germany where we will be staying with 12 Regiment Royal Artillery in Sennelager.

The Corps of Drums parades on Tuesday and Friday evenings. For the past three years we have taken part in the Lord Mayor's Show. Last year, our Drum Major, 16-year-old Andrew Baggs led an 86-strong cadet corps. We have also performed at the Windsor International Horse Trials three times in front of HRH Princess Anne. The Essex Regiment Reunion at Warley is an important annual event as we still wear the Essex Regiment uniform, an honour bestowed on us in 1948.

A great honour for the contingent is that we have been asked to participate in the Royal Tournament at the final evening performance this year.

*Maj Susan Camp of Kimbolton  
School CCF writes:*

Who said that October to March was a quiet time for CCF activities? Looking back through my diary I find that we seem to achieve just as much during the winter as the spring and summer.

I was lucky enough to welcome three new officers into the Army section in September: Lt David Buckley ex Cheshire Regiment, 2Lt Chris Groom, Bandmaster, ex-Scots Guards and Lt Karen Morgan, who having been OC RN section at Langley School, saw the light and transformed herself into a 'lean, green fighting machine'. It does make running a thriving Army section so much easier with so much new expertise!

October half-term once again saw four of our best senior cadets on the excellent SCIC run by 2 CTT at Thetford. Kimbolton CCF having won awards for the last two years, Cpl Christine Hill kept up the good work by winning the prize for best Endeavour on the course. The support we receive from 2 CTT during the year is very much appreciated.

On Remembrance Day, 8 November, the Corps once again joined the Kimbolton branch of the Royal British Legion on their parade, always a very moving occasion, this



King Edward VI School parade.



King Edward VI at Penhale.

year highlighted by the presentation in the Castle State Rooms of the bar to the Cadet Force Medal to RSM Roger Watson - 20 years' service to the Corps! What courage! What fortitude! What cussedness!

January started with a visit by eight cadets and two staff to the Army Acquaint Day at Warminster - a very interesting day out with a most impressive WED in Battlesbury Bowl. Putting youngsters on a SAT range for the first time and bouncing them around in Warriors is a sure fire way of engendering interest, even if the strains of *Happy Birthday to You* sung to the OC all the way home in the minibus became a little tiring!

February half-term saw 16 senior cadets take part in Exercise Viking Chill at Stanta, our main infantry exercise of the year.

We carelessly 'lost' three cadets this year - one succumbed to flu, one discovered that headbutting a stone wall caused her more pain than the wall and one tore muscles in his chest heaving himself through a loft hatch. However some of those attending found the exercise useful in their training for this year's Combat Cadet competition. The team has been working hard and hope to improve on last year's placing. I wish

them good luck.

Once again, we were invited to take part in CUOTC's spring exercise, an occasion that we always enjoy. This year we acted as part of a composite infantry platoon and managed to finish the exercise without succumbing to hypothermia even though it was very wet and cold. Our thanks go to CUOTC for their ongoing support to Kimbolton.

The officers of the Corps enjoyed their annual dinner night held in the Castle State Rooms on 12 March, even though the guest of honour was unfortunately taken ill on the day and could not attend. He missed an excellent dinner.

*Cdt Sgt Andrew Gray of St Joseph's  
College CCF writes:*

There is much to be said for the old saying that it is the small acorns which grow into big oak trees. Nearly three years ago, the CCF was founded at St Joseph's College, Ipswich, and already they have made a big impression on the cadet scene. In the last six months alone, the contingent has been a hive of activity. The infrastructure has been honed down and completed, with the



## Combined Cadet Forces and Army Cadet Force

promotion of Sgt Matthew De Villiers to colour sergeant. Not only has Matthew achieved this but also took the award of best cadet during the recent senior cadet instructors course held by Two Cadet Training Team. Rigorous training is still the order of the day, with two (rather more than full strength) platoons of third year recruits being taught everything from basic first aid to map and compass work. Already they have changed from novices into confident young cadets. A large proportion have already passed their weapons safety test and are eager to try out their new skills on the firing ranges.

During the last half term, the assault course has been nearing completion involving some arduous work by the fourth years. The end result is worthy of much praise considering that the resources at their disposal were limited. The senior cadets have fitted in well to their roles as leaders of the third and fourth years; however, the main priority at the time of writing is to train for Combat Cadet. Thus a comprehensive fitness programme during lunchtimes has been introduced, as well as intensive extra training. However, it is not all work and no play. The contingent is set to visit Warcop and Proteus once more, and a trip to Spain with plenty of arduous water sports is on the agenda. The future could not look better.

### News from the ACF The Seven Sinners Are 4 Division's Best ACF!

*Maj GN Taylor writes*

4 Division held its annual cadet military skills competition at Longmoor and Bordon Training Areas over the weekend of 23-25 April 1999. The event comprised 10 disciplines: team assault course, individual obstacle course, leadership task, .22 shooting, day orienteering, first aid, military skills I, night navigation, military skills II and a march and shoot.

Seven cadets from Bedfordshire spent several weekends training for the event under the watchful eyes of Capt Dave Knapman, WO1 Charles Massie, CSgt



A welcome break! St Joseph's cadets at Folkestone last summer.



The Seven Sinners: Front from left: Cdt Welling\*, Cdt Orrow, Cpl Laycock\*, LCpl Sharp. Back: Cdt Parkes\*, LCpl Mason, LCpl Wallis\*. NB\* Kempston Detachment, badged Royal Signals, remainder Sandy Detachment, badged Royal Anglian.

Andre Clark and team captain WO2 Elaine Massie (all badged Royal Anglian).

The Seven Sinners (as they called themselves) were Cpl Angela 'Johnny B' Laycock, LCpl Arthur 'Plum' Wallis, Cdt

'Hans' Parkes and Cdt David 'Lizard' Welling all from Kempston Detachment (badged Royal Signals) along with LCpl Martin 'Pinky' Mason, LCpl Graham 'DS' Sharp and Cdt Brett 'Pringle' Orrow from Sandy Detachment (badged Royal Anglian).

The team left Bedfordshire on Friday afternoon in high spirits and arrived at Bordon with just enough time to set up camp before the torrential rain started! But spirits remained high!

Saturday's events went well, with only one main mishap - Pinky relying too heavily on a dead tree stump for support on the night navigation, resulting in a quick backstroke in a marsh!

Sunday also went well, even with the disadvantage of starting the 8km march (in full kit carrying weapons) in the midday sun. It had to be the hottest day for weeks. It turned out to be an excellent result - first out of the eight ACF teams and fourth overall out of the 27 ACF and CCF teams. Most importantly, all the cadets enjoyed themselves. Congratulations to the Seven Sinners.



Leicestershire ACF cadets training in Cyprus.



## The Regimental Museum

*Mr George Boss, museum attendant, writes*

Thank you to all those who wrote or phoned in with the names of people who served on board *HMS Carryfort* in 1961. The Bandmaster was WO1 Reg Brown.

Maj Gen KB Birch wrote in to say that the platoon commander of Gibraltar Platoon in 1956 at Warley was Lt PJR Alderton (Peter) and not Lt Hutchins. Gen Birch was the Adjutant at the Essex Regiment Depot at the time.

### Visitors

Ex Cpl Ken Reeve, 1 East Anglian and 1 R Anglian, who served in BAOR (Berlin) and the emergency tour of British Guyana and then to the depot at Bury St Edmunds. Ken brought in many photographs of the Aden campaign and the emergency tour in Guyana along with his cherished memories of those times. Ken wishes to be remembered to you all and if you are in and around the King's Lynn area keep your eyes open for the Rev Ken Reeve who has a parish there.

Ex WO2 Jim Pancoust. Poacher who came on a flying visit to dekit himself. Jim gave the museum many excellent photographs of his various tours around the world.

Maj and Mrs Martin Franks called in to pay their respects and to leave behind some very good artefacts for the museum in the way of accoutrements and very valuable photographs of some of his tours around the globe. Maj Franks is now the Rev Franks. He is the honorary chaplain to the Regiment.

Ex WO2 Graham Carter along with his daughters made his first visit as a civilian to see the museum. He provided valuable advice on the UN and Nato display case. Capt Peter Morling, who served with the Pompadours handed over some excellent reports from his tours in Belize and with the Monserrat Defence Force. Having read them one wonders if any of the recommendations were adopted, or have things remained just the same!

Capt David Whitehead, who is now with the Norfolk Cadet Force, donated his old respirator, which dates from the sixties.

The museum's collection is increasing all the time and we now have reasonable archive material for most of the tours, exercises and operations undertaken by the Regiment since its formation. However, we are always looking for more, so when you are turning out your attic or those MFO boxes at the back of the garage, don't forget your Regimental Museum.



**Mr George Boss, Pte Jefferies and Maj Chris Wawn.**

### Items Still Wanted

**Weapons and ancillaries**  
IWS, wooden built for L7A31.

#### Accoutrements

1 E Anglian hose tops and flashes;  
2 E Anglian hose tops and flashes;  
3 E Anglian hose tops and flashes;  
Brass belt buckles of Former Regiments;  
1960s webbing sling for SLR;  
Commonwealth Monitoring Force Plaque, Rhodesia;

#### Video footage

We are always looking for footage of your tours both overseas and at home.

### The Gibraltar Regiment

During their two-week annual camp in the UK the infantry company of the Gibraltar Regiment led by Maj Chris Wawn visited the Regimental Museum at Duxford. They posed with the 9.2-inch gun which most of them had last seen occupying Spur Battery overlooking the Straits of Gibraltar.

## Obituaries

### Brig Jack Wilkinson DSO



The last Colonel of the Royal Norfolk Regiment, Brig Jack Wilkinson, has died aged 95. Brig Wilkinson retired to North Walsham after proving himself to be one of the outstanding battalion commanders of the Burma Campaign, commanding the 2nd Battalion the Royal Leicestershire Regiment with the Chindits. After Gresham School, Holt and Sandhurst, Brig Wilkinson was commissioned into the Norfolk Regiment in 1924, and served for 14 years in the 1st Battalion in Jamaica, Cyprus, Egypt, Shanghai, Malaya and India. For three years he worked with the Palestine Police, supervising weapon training.

At the start of the Second World War he served with 2nd Queens, and then became 2IC of 2nd Leicesters where he was responsible for the intensive patrolling of no-man's land.

In January 1943 the battalion's move to India was followed by reorganisation into two columns prior to becoming part of General Wingate's Special Force for operations in Burma. In March 1943 Brig Wilkinson took over command of the battalion. He and his Leicesters were not to be stopped and they led the brigade around 150 miles to the Chindwin. The 600 men and 100 mules crossed by improvised boats and rafts, surviving on very limited rations.

The high morale of 2nd Leicesters is attributed to Brig Wilkinson - the man who led them. He battled with a smashed arm for much of the Indaw Battle, triumphing through sheer willpower, and remains a legend to his men. After 1944, Brig Wilkinson, who had been awarded the DSO, took over the command of Fergusson's 16th Brigade and then Calvert's 77th Brigade.

Finally he commanded 149th (West Riding) Infantry Brigade (TA) before retiring to his farm near North Walsham. During his retirement Brig Wilkinson served as Colonel of the Royal Norfolk Regiment. He and his wife Judith supported the church and North Walsham Rugby Club, and the Brigadier had a keen interest in animals.

### Maj TDB McMillen MC

Maj 'Tom' McMillen died suddenly on 18 March aged 79. He was commissioned into the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment from the Royal Military College Sandhurst on 26 January 1939, posted to the 2nd Battalion at Milton Barracks Gravesend and appointed 'horse transport officer'. On mobilisation he was put in charge of the anti-tank platoon which had been equipped with French one-pounder anti-tank guns.

The tale of Tom shooting down German observation balloons at Dunkirk is related in *Cap Badge* as are his feats as a glider pilot in the Sicily Landings and at the Rhine Crossings. He was awarded a well merited MC for the former action.

He had some interesting stories to tell of those events and he felt very bitter at the loss of so many friends in the Sicily fiasco.

He commanded Support Company at Goslar where, with Helen, he was a participating member of a happy Mess. Retiring in 1958 with the 'Golden Bowler' brigade he first took up an appointment in estate management. This was not really his forte and he left to take over as mess manager to the Royal Engineers Officers' Mess at Chatham. He brought to this task all his skills and energy and ensured the highest standards were set and maintained. He all but became an institution.

Tom, short of stature, was an ebullient character. He had a somewhat gruff manner which concealed the sincerity and kind heartedness of the man. Our paths crossed through the years and we were always pleased to enjoy quipping each other when we met.

It will not be the same now Tom has left us and I have lost an old friend going back to 1938. We send our heartfelt condolences to Helen, Wendy and the family at this time of grieving. They are in our thoughts and prayers.

### Cpl JG Rout



Cpl Jason Rout died in a car crash on Saturday 13 February 1999, outside March, Cambridgeshire. 'Harry' to his very many friends, joined the Army in 1991, trained at

the Queen's Division Depot, Bassingbourn, and joined the 1st Battalion in Colchester. After two months, he went on the first of a number of overseas postings and attachments when he went with the Battalion to Cyprus on Exercise Lion Sun. He served in West Belfast with 1 D & D, and went on two exercises to USA. He did a very wet tour to Croatia in August 1995 with his Battalion as part of the 94 Airmobile Brigade rapid reaction force.

He was promoted to lance corporal in October 1996, commanding a team on a second tour to West Belfast, this time with the 1st Battalion in late 1996. He was subsequently promoted to corporal in December 1998 after successfully completing his section commander's battle course. His training ability was well recognised, having assisted in the training of a Royal Artillery Regiment in its own preparations for a tour to Northern Ireland, as well as an attachment to the Bermuda Regiment in training its newest recruits.

His funeral, which was with military honours, took place in his home village of Emmeth, outside Wisbech on 22 February 1999. It is a mark of the man that so many felt they wished to attend, both family and friends around Wisbech as well as from his Battalion, with friends journeying from all over the UK and overseas.

Harry will be sadly missed. He was a young man of great promise and a limitless sense of humour. To his mother, father and family, and to his fiancée Clare we offer our heartfelt sympathy and support.

### Deaths

We also regret to record the deaths of the following:

**Sir Newton Rycroft BE** in February 1999 aged 80. He joined the Beds and Herts at the outbreak of war and later transferred to SOE and spent much of the war in Greece and Yugoslavia.

**Mrs Rosina Kinson** on 13 January 1999 aged 86, wife of Maj JAF Kinson.

**Mrs Catherine Jones** on 18 March 1999 suddenly at home, the wife of the late Maj MJ Jones, and mother of Edward and Veryan. Her funeral at Rickinghall was attended by many friends from the Regiment.

**Pte Richard Ebbs** on 13 December 1998 aged 51. He served with A Company of the 1st Battalion in Celle in the late sixties.

**Brig JAC Rowan** recently. An obituary will appear in the December issue.

We extend our condolences and sympathy to their families and friends.



## The Associations



### The Royal Norfolk Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Association (Norfolk)

#### Chapel

Our new Chairman, Canon William Sayer, has taken over the reins. Mrs Janine Raybould must be thanked for her floral work for the chapel. Both of our annual services were well attended.

#### Regimental Homes

All our homes are now full again with the new occupants, Mr and Mrs Ray Wright (June 1955 - June 1958 Bandsman) taking possession at the end of April of Mr Bert Yaxley's home as he had moved into a residential home on the Heartsease Estate in Norwich. To have your name put on the waiting list please write to the Regimental Secretary at Britannia House, Norwich asking for an application form.

#### Gorleston and Great Yarmouth Branch

On a sunny day in September 1963 the East Anglian Regiment was granted the Freedom of Great Yarmouth. This was received on the Regiment's behalf by the Band and Corps of Drums of the Regiment and two guards of the 4th Battalion Royal Norfolk Regiment TA.

On 15 May 1998, the 1st Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment exercised its right to march through the town for only the second time in 35 years. This brought back memories for Geoff Smith and Ray Pillar, as both were on the original parade in 1963.

#### Benevolent Work

We have had another busy year providing assistance to those ex-members of the Regiment and their families who have fallen on hard times. While the number of cases is slightly down, the overall amount of financial support obtained has increased.

The other aspect of this work which should be drawn to readers' attention is that as a result of setting ourselves targets we have decreased the length of time to handle the cases which must be good for those anxious to receive our support.

1998	Cases	Regt Funds	Almonised	Total
R Norfolk	54(69)	£4,652 (5742)	£2,9731(26,849)	£34,423(32,591)
Suffolk/Camb	56(49)	£4,407 (3,823)	£27,754(17,503)	£3,2161(21,326)

NB. 1997 figures in brackets

The 1st Battalion did the town proud. As they marched onto the Market Place to be inspected, the spectators burst into spontaneous applause and did so again when they marched off.

An old sweat said 'Don't they look young nowadays!' I asked 'How old were you, Jim, when you went to India as a boy soldier?' He smiled and nodded - he had forgotten how young he had been.

The parade was followed by receptions at the Wellington Pier and the town hall.

It has been a busy year for the branch with visits to Bassingbourn, Bury St Edmunds, Muckleburgh and a branch night out to Rockland St Mary to celebrate our tenth anniversary.

Our Christmas dinner and draw were again held at the Pier Hotel; 70 members and guests attended with 70 prizes in the draw. As this was our tenth year we had a special

cake made for the occasion. Our thanks go to Brian Beckett for his special noticeboard, table cards and seating plan, all done in the Regimental colours.

Maj Gen PPD Stone CB CBE honoured us by being our dinner chairman and we were pleased to see many old friends from Norwich, Luton, Lowestoft, Harleston, and especially Paul and Sylvia Garman, all the way from Fleet in Hants. Sylvia has promised to practise more so she can play the bagpipes better at this year's dinner.

Our dinner in 1999 is on 27 November. Anyone requiring details, please contact Ray Pillar 01493-601131 nearer the date.

Our meetings are held at the White Lion Hotel, Cliff Hill, Gorleston, on the last Wednesday of each month at 2000hrs. Anyone visiting the area is most welcome to call in for a yarn and a drink. You never know, you may meet an old friend.



### The Suffolk Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Suffolk)

#### The Suffolk Regiment

The Appeal has so far raised just over £50,000 from local authorities, businesses and private donations and a further £30,000 from other sources so the Trustees have £80,000 at their disposal and can match the funds being made available by St Edmundsbury towards the overall project.

St Edmundsbury still awaits a final decision on funding from the National Heritage Lottery Fund. This funding is needed to refurbish the Moyses Hall and create a space for the Suffolk Regiment collection. The hall is a scheduled ancient monument and a Grade I listed building and English Heritage has to be convinced that

the plan is suitable. This is all taking longer than expected and means that the new museum will not be ready by the Millennium, and it is not possible to forecast the opening date.

Fundraising goes on. Individual donations are still coming in, it is hoped that some more firms will contribute - so the target of

## The Associations

£100,000 is in sight.

### The Branches

The details of our eight branches are given elsewhere. All meet monthly and welcome guests, so why not make contact?

### The Chapel

The Queen's Colour of the 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment and the 5th Suffolk Colours are now in position. A

memorial window to Col Tony Heal is planned and the family of the late Lt Col Bertie Bevan have commissioned a new seat in his memory.

### Minden Day

About 1,500 attended last year. This year similar numbers are expected. The event is self-supporting thanks to the generosity of old comrades and their wives. This year four specific groups will be singled out for

the march past, to recognise special anniversaries, the veterans of D-Day, Malaya, Cyprus and amalgamation.

### Commemorative Tree

The War Memorial site on Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds is being redesigned. One of the trees marking the corner of the plot has been donated by the Suffolk Regiment and the 6th Battalion of the Royal Anglian Regiment. A suitable plaque will record this.



## The Cambridgeshire Regiment Association and The Cambridgeshire Branch The Royal Anglian Regiment Association

### Sergeants' Mess Dinner

A very successful sergeants' dinner was held on 26 September 1998 due to the hard work of Maj Ken Starling and his wife. He is now retiring after 14 years in the job and all concerned thank him for all his work. Col Elsdon has said that the RSM of the ACF will assist in future which is especially pleasing as it will be our 50th dinner in 1999.

It will be held on Saturday 18 September at Waterbeach and it is hoped that there will be good turnout from the dwindling numbers of our members and all guests will be welcome.

### The Cambridgeshire Regiment Collection

#### Chairman

*Capt P Leach, 45a Cambridge Road, Ely CB7 4HJ. Tel: 01353-662685*

Col Pat Macdonald reports that the collection at Duxford has been well visited this past year. While we can never sit back and say that the Collection is complete, we are content that we are presenting a fair view of the Regiment as the display stands now.

The only 'jobs' outstanding at the moment concern the displays on the graphics wall (opposite the display cases) and showing off our newly acquired World War One gallantry medals. We will add four more graphics: photographs of the Lyon Brooch, Capt James B Clinton MC, US Army (RMO) 1/1 Cambs 1917-1919, Lt Cols Beckett and Baker exchanging gifts (629 LAA Regiment days) and a montage advertising the new Regimental Guide (the price of which has been reduced to £4 each). We will also re-mount the badges to make more room in the medal case.

Now to these medals, we bought three very important sets at auction last December: those of Lt Col ET Saint DSO of Cambridge

and CSMS Fred Rowe DCM of Wisbech and Sidney Dockerill DCM and Bar of Little Shelford. The collection already includes a number of gallantry awards from service in that war, most of which are on loan from the recipients' families. The collection has now been enriched by the purchase of these important medals. They should be on display soon.

The cost of buying the three sets of medals has left our funds very low indeed. While we remain in this parlous state, the Royal Anglian Regiment Museum Trustees has kindly offered to take care of our routine expenses at Duxford. These come to about £700 a year. We do need to build up our bank balance, by any means and, although we have some ideas, fresh donations would be most welcome. A sales drive for the new Regimental Guide would help (Remember they are now £4 each).

I am about to hand over my duties as Chairman to Capt Paul Leach of Ely. I would like to close my final report with two messages. The first is to record how much I have enjoyed the challenge of my part in the setting up of the collection. The second is to point out how much we owe to Martin Boswell for his professional skill, drive and knowledge but, most of all, his love for all things Cambridgeshire Regiment.

### The Maj Michael Veal Memorial Fund

Maj Michael Veal and Sgt Jeremy Lander were tragically drowned on 18 December 1993. At the time Mike was commanding D (Cambridgeshire) Company and was also on the staff of the Cambridgeshire ACF.

Many people expressed the wish that Michael's contribution to the TA and cadets should also be commemorated in a tangible way for both his family and for his comrades. To this end a small committee was set up

under the chairmanship of Col Dick Shervington. There was a widespread and generous response to the ensuing appeal among those who had served with Michael. A unique copy of the Cambridgeshire Regiment brooch was commissioned for Mrs Diana Veal and the balance of the money raised (about £1,000) was placed in a memorial fund for the purpose of alleviating hardship among former members of D Company and the ACF.

The Regimental brooch was originally presented in the 1920s to be worn by the wife of the Commanding Officer of the Cambridgeshire Regiment in perpetuity. This privilege passed to the wives of successor units, culminating with D Company. It was therefore with Mrs Diana Veal at the time of her husband's accident and a slightly smaller copy was thought to be the best personal token of appreciation for her and the family.

### Help

Miss Phillipa McCarthy of 7 Paleworth Park (Top Flat), East Sheen, London SW14 8JQ is searching for any information of her great-uncle, **Padre Noel Duckworth**.

Mr J Christie of 31 Costead Manor Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4XU is looking for information of his grandfather, **RSM John Kidd**. He died in Kanchanaburi on January 3 1944. Mr Christie can be reached on Email - EMAIL EVERCHRISTIE@hotmail.com. His son is now serving with 1st Battalion Royal Anglian.

Marina Grant of D'arcy, Wickerstreet Green, Kersey, Suffolk IP7 6EY is trying to establish the movements of her father, **Pte Charles RL King**, prior to his death on 28 January 1942. She has seen his name in the Kranji War Cemetery and would like to know more about the move into Malaya and details of what occurred around 28 January 1942.

## The Associations

### Legion d'Honneur

On 14 January 1999 the Lord Lieutenant presented the Legion d'Honneur on behalf of the French President to Mr George Edward White. Mr White joined the Cambridgeshire Regiment at the age of 15 having lied about his age. He was sent to France in 1915 and fought at Ypres. His true age was discovered and he was sent back to England and discharged from the Army. He then worked on a farm until his 18th birthday when he was called up. During World War Two he served with the Fulbourn Home Guard. He never applied for his World War Two medals. This has been done and in addition to the presentation of the Legion d'Honneur he was also presented with the 39/45 Defence Medal.

### Deaths

We are sorry to have report the following deaths and express our deepest sympathy with the families.

**Bunkall:** Maj Derrick Bunkall died 6

January 1999. A private funeral was held at Syderstone Church on 9 January and a memorial service was held at Stanhoe Church on 20 February where the eulogy was given by Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Michael Beetham. He joined the Cambridgeshire Regiment in 1933 and was commissioned later that year and was a captain at the start of the war.

He was captured near Sanggarang and spent the next three and a half years as a prisoner. Whether in jail in Kuala Lumpur or Singapore or working on the railway in Thailand he always displayed a cheerful exterior. After the war he returned to the family business in King's Lynn and his country pursuits where he was affectionately known as the 'Sporting Grocer'. He was a great supporter of the Old Comrades Association and never missed the Ely Remembrance Service. He will be sadly missed not only by his family but also the Regiment.

**Clancy:** Lt PJ Clancy, who died on 21 February 1999, was a platoon commander

in B Company of the 2nd Battalion the Cambridgeshire Regiment. He joined the Battalion in late 1939 and after coastal defence duties and training in the Borders he sailed for the Far East. He was seriously wounded at Senngarang. He was taken prisoner along with the others and kept in the jail at Kuala Lumpur before being moved to Changi after the fall of Singapore. He stayed in Changi throughout his time as a PoW as his wound prevented him from taking an active part in any of the various jobs assigned to PoWs.

On his return home in 1945 he made a good recovery although he was to suffer much pain for the rest of his life. He devoted the latter years of his life to the care of his seriously ill wife, to whom he been married for 60 years and who pre-deceased him by a few weeks.

Many of his friends in the Regiment attended his funeral which was held in Histon Church. A close friend and fellow platoon commander, Tom Miles, gave the address.



## The Royal Tigers Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Leicestershire)

### Royal Tigers' Weekend

19/20 June 1999

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will take place at the TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road at 6.30pm on 19 June 1999. This will be followed by the 74th annual dinner at 7.15 for 7.45pm. On Sunday 20 June 1999 the Regimental Parade Service at the cathedral will be at 10.30am. Please be seated by 10.25am. During the service memorial plaques will be dedicated to all those killed during the Korean campaign and to Lt Col AWD Nicholls OBE MC. After the service the association will form up outside the cathedral and march to the town hall. The salute outside the cathedral will be taken by the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire. Following the parade, there will be a reception and lunch at the TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester. Entry to the annual dinner, the reception and the lunch will be by ticket only, so please apply to the area office in Leicester.

### Benevolence 1998

Benevolence continues to remain the most important part of the work of the association. Forty-eight cases were considered by the general committee of the association during 1998. A total of £6,157 was given in grants

during the year, a decrease of about £750 from 1997. In addition grants totalling £1,795, given by the Army Benevolent Fund to ex-Tigers and their families, were disbursed by the association. Both the Army Benevolent Fund and The Royal Anglian Regiment give considerable financial help to the Association, and we are most grateful to both organisations.

### Royal Tigers' Wood

Royal Tigers' Wood continues to go from strength to strength, with the bulk of the trees growing well and in extremely good shape. Two more of the original trees representing the most important Battle Honours of the Regiment that were planted in 1995 and which had died were replaced in March 1999, and the special arboretum is now generally looking all right. It is hoped to develop during the summer of 1999 a spring-fed pond near the top of the wood to assist the wildlife and increase the visual diversity. The committee is also considering the design and siting of some wooden benches. Members of the general committee continue to visit the wood regularly and report any problems. We remain grateful to Mr Maurice Pettifer, Chairman of the International Tree Foundation Leicestershire branch, for all his guidance

and advice and to the Woodland Trust for all their work in and around the wood, which is now a major feature of the National Forest in Leicestershire. Any donations towards maintenance and development of the wood will continue to be more than welcome and should be sent to the Regimental Secretary. It is hoped that those members who have not yet visited the wood will take an opportunity to do so and enjoy the occasion in good weather. It is a truly wonderful living memorial to The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

### The Royal Leicestershire Regiment Museum

By the time this is read, we should have celebrated the opening of Royal Tigers' gallery in the New Walk Museum, Leicester. The first outward manifestation of all the work that has been done by Lt Col John Wilson and his team over the last few years will be the relocation of the Sevastopol cannons on 18 April 1999 to their original home in front of New Walk Museum where they were first positioned in 1862. We are particularly pleased that the Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment has agreed to open the new gallery on St George's Day, and a full report will be in the next edition of *Castle*.



## The Associations

We are all delighted that the end of the period when the Regiment's treasures have been out of sight seems to be approaching. The new home of the Regimental collection will be in a prestigious museum of international interest, which will help to raise the profile of the Regiment and to preserve its memory for posterity.

### In-pensioners

It is nice to report that we now have another in-pensioner at the Royal Hospital to

accompany Cpl Myles Foster. Sgt GP Thompson, who served in the 1st and British Battalions, was admitted in February 1999 and is enjoying life in his new home.

### The First Knockout

It has only recently come to light that the person to have the distinction of knocking out the first enemy tank in World War Two was a member of the Leicestershire Regiment. On 23 April 1940, Platoon Sergeant Major John Sheppard of the 1st/

5th Battalion (now on the general committee of this association) knocked out not one, but two, tanks in Norway. As he described it: 'The tanks had laid an ambush for a platoon of Sherwood Foresters and I got them side-on with a .55 anti-tank rifle. They returned fire, but three rounds into each silenced them. Until now it had never occurred to me that I may have put the first dents into Hitler's Panzers. Now there's a thought!' Our congratulations to John Sheppard!



## The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Lincolnshire)

### The Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Museum

I am delighted to report that once grants promised by, among others, the county council and district councils are received, the first phase of the Museum Project (that is to raise £54,000 by way of partnership funding in order to secure a National Lottery Fund Grant of £165,000) will have been achieved. This magnificent response from the public, the business community, local government and charitable trusts of the county reflects the close link the old Regiment traditionally enjoyed with the local community. We can now look forward to the exciting task of refurbishing the Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Museum.

Indeed the second phase is already underway and a design company, based in York, has been appointed to prepare a detailed plan of the proposed displays and exhibits hopefully starting the rebuild in November with a possible opening date of April 2000. However, I must stress that while reconstruction can now proceed additional funds are still needed for the conservation, the computerisation of archives and the museum's comprehensive photographic collection. Any further donations, items for display, offers of practical assistance should please contact Capt Lee on 01522-544886.

### Grimsby Branch

Maj Gen REJ Gerrard-Wright CB CBE DL, the President of the Royal Lincolnshire and Royal Anglian Regiment Association was the guest of honour at the annual reunion luncheon held on 17 April 1999 at the Beacholme in Cleethorpes. The event was well attended and over 100 members and guests sat down to a magnificent meal. The committee is to be congratulated on providing such a well-organised event which was very much enjoyed by everyone who attended.



Lincoln Branch Standard and flag display.

### Scunthorpe Branch

We apologise to the readers of *Castle* for the absence of an article from the branch in the last issue. This omission was soon pointed out as the committee received numerous letters and phone calls asking for an explanation.

Nevertheless, membership continues to rise and consists of associated members from various outstations throughout the country, including new members whose parents and grandparents served with the Lincolns and who still wish to have some connection to the old Regiment.

Throughout the cold and dreary winter months the branch has remained in good heart with the usual social functions being very well attended. Now that summer is on its way and the racing season about to begin, branch members are looking forward to their annual trip to the races held at Market Rasen.

The next date for the diary is our birthday dinner and social to be held in the Drill Hall on Cottage Beck Road, Scunthorpe, on 4 June, where the guest of honour will be the Mayor of North Lincolnshire who has been instrumental in assisting us in raising funds for the Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Museum.

Mr Pearson, whose son Cpl M Pearson, is a serving member of the 2nd Battalion presently attached to the Special Training Wing at the ITC Catterick, was recently invited to attend the Royal Anglian Open Day in Scunthorpe to give a talk on the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment to a number of the recruits. In response Cpl M Pearson has been invited on 10 June to give a presentation to the branch on The Royal Anglian Regiment so that life within the Army of yesteryear can be compared with the Army of today.



## The Royal Anglian Regiment Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Association

Between April and October 1998, 14 requests were received and approved. Of these four were from widows, the lowest percentage for a long time. The average age of the recipients was 78.5, the highest yet, the youngest was 70 and the oldest 92. The total monies granted amounted to £2,528.91 which included £150 from the Army Benevolent Fund. According to the British Legion and SSAFA forecasts, we ought to be seeing an upsurge in the number of requests for help. However the number of applications received since the last meeting is exactly half the number for the previous period. Nevertheless, the amount of money disbursed is not far short of the amount given out during the last period.

### Wreath Laying Ceremony and Reunion

We were once again fortunate with the weather on Sunday 15 November 1998. Although it was cold the rain stayed away until later in the afternoon when most of those attending had left for home. As usual members and their wives not only came from the two counties but had travelled from far and wide to attend this annual event. Although it is always nice to see the old faces I am pleased to report that there were quite a few new ones on their first, and we hope not their last, visit. Members on arriving at the TA Centre found, as is always the case, a bar for those who required something a little stronger than the tea or coffee that was made freely available due to the good hospitality of 158 (Royal Anglian) RLC.

The activities started at 11.35 with the wreath layers and the Standards forming up. Besides all the Association Branch Standards there was the Norfolk Standard from its Gorlestone and Great Yarmouth Branch, two Suffolk Standards from their Beccles and Hemel Hempstead Branches and the Standard from the Korean Veterans Hemel Hempstead Branch - 13 Standards all told. These two groups marched to their positions on and in front of the Regimental War Memorial, escorted by the TA Corps of Drums, through the main gate of old Kempston Barracks. The main detachments, which seem to get longer each year, then marched to the front of the memorial with the Drums and Volunteer Band of The Royal Anglian Regiment leading. Unfortunately through illness our Association President, Maj Gen JA Ward-Booth OBE DL, was unable to attend this year's gathering, so

our Vice-president, Maj Robin Medley, accompanied by our Chairman, Brig Angus Robertson and the Mayors of Bedford and Kempston laid the first wreaths.

After the Act of Remembrance was read other wreaths were laid on behalf of the old Battalions of the Regiment, the branches and individuals. This was followed by the *Last Post*, silence and *Reveille*, prayers and Regimental collects. After the playing of the Regimental March and the National Anthem the parade marched past the saluting base with the Standards leading. The parade was then dismissed and members dispersed for luncheon in either the Keep or the TA centre and meeting old friends before saying farewell for another year.

It has been an active period for the Association's Regimental Museum, which has a gallery at the Luton Museum. The management committee voted that the contents and presentation of the collection should be improved and this should be initiating by mounting an appeal throughout the two counties. The National Army Museum has agreed to work with the Museum Trust to design and cost the intended display.

### News from the Branches

November, as always, is a busy month for the Bedford Branch. On the 5th the branch manned a table in Church Square, Bedford and collected £272.20 for the Poppy Appeal. The same evening there was the Festival of Remembrance at the Corn Exchange and on the 11th of the 11th at 11am there was a good crowd in Harper Square, Bedford, with the Standards and a two minute silence. On 13 1998, members attended the concert by the Minden Band at the Queensway Hall, Dunstable which was excellent. On 15 November the wreath laying parade and Reunion at Kempston, always a fine day. On 4 December it was the branch social evening at the Keep. During the evening a quiz was held which taxed members' brains, some even said some of the answers were wrong! The evening finished with a good old sing-song. On 12 December the branch had a table at Chapham Village Hall to sell bric-a-brac and raised £100 for the branch funds.

The Hertford Branch has been well represented at all the association functions in the last few months. On 4 December the branch held its dinner and dance at the Mayflower Place, Hertford which was attended by more than 70 of its members and their friends. At the present time

members are busy making arrangements for the Association's Dinner and Dance at the Castle Hall, Hertford on 17 April 1999 when the branch will look forward to meeting all its old friends from the Association and of course a number of others who support this event. A few months ago the Association Chairman arranged with Lt Col Simon Porter, Commanding the 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment, for members of the Association to visit them in Cyprus, and the Secretary of the Branch Mr Stan Mansfield was asked to organise the trip. Twelve members of the Association visited the Battalion and a report on this visit will be in the next issue.

In 1998 the St Albans Branch celebrated its 60th anniversary and it was a good year for the branch, although it lost two members it has gained some new ones, even one from New Zealand. The branch members are looking forward to the coming year's activities, first the association annual dinner and then the Regimental Gathering and ending with the Reunion at Kempston.

The Watford and Hemel Hempstead Branch organised a trip to the Royal Tournament on 25 July 1998 which proved to be an enjoyable evening. On 21 September there was a memorial service at Letchmoor Heath, Hertfordshire, for two brothers, one in the 2nd Battalion the Bedfordshire Regiment, who were killed in the First World War and due to a family dispute their names were never allowed to be inscribed on the village's memorial. All the Association Standards and some members of the Branch attended the parade and the service, as did most of the village with its scouts and guides. At the end of a very moving service the *Last Post* was played by a small lad from the local school band. Bill (WAM) Moody, the former RSM of the 1st Battalion the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in the Canal Zone, died on 12 October 1998. His funeral was attended by several members of the Regiment, mainly ex-Canal Zoners. The branch's Beds and Herts and Hertfordshire Standards were in attendance. The branch held its annual dinner/dance on 5 December. A different table formation was tried out and proved a great success and once again a good time was had by all. The branch meeting place, the TAVR Centre in Hemel Hempstead, is to be closed because of government cuts, and the last branch event at the centre was a race night on 23 January 1999 when a good profit was made for the branch funds. It proved a very enjoyable and well supported evening. The branch

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now meets at the Royal British Legion Club, Queensway, Hemel Hempstead on the third Monday of every month.

The Hitchin Branch held its AGM on 26 January 1999 when all members attended. Mr John Gorton was elected Secretary as Mr Brian Read had to resign for personal reasons. Among the items discussed were the events for the coming year which included an outing to Thursford which members have enjoyed in previous years. On Saturday 1 August 1998 the branch had made arrangements to have a barbecue in the grounds of Kingshot School, Hitchin. As usual with the British summer, it poured with rain but this did not deter the branch's spirits and everyone had a good time as the event was held in the school hall. Members and their wives held a nice friendly social evening with a buffet at the Radcliffe Arms, Hitchin on 1 December 1998. On Saturday 19 December the branch held its annual dinner at The Firs Hotel, Hitchin which was a very pleasant evening when all those present enjoyed themselves.

The Luton and Dunstable branch held a coffee morning at the Dunstable Methodist Church Hall on Saturday 19 October 1998 which, after a slow start, managed to clear £101 profit for its funds. The service at Letchmoor Heath for the two brothers killed in World War One was attended by branch members and our Standard. On Remembrance Sunday the Branch Standard was at the Luton Town service and a wreath was laid for the branch by Mr Charlie Baccus at the town memorial. A coach was laid on for members to attend the wreath laying service and Reunion at Kempston on 15 November and Mr John Russell laid the wreath on behalf of the branch. Refreshments were provided during the

branch grand Christmas draw which was held after its meeting on 9 December. On 11 December the branch held its annual dinner at the Royal Naval Club, Luton. It had been proposed at the September meeting that the dinner should be subsidised for members attending. This proved popular and 34 sat down to a very enjoyable meal and evening. Christmas gifts were delivered to branch members who unfortunately are unable to attend its meetings due to illness and old age. At the February 1999 meeting the treasurer gave a brief account of branch funds which are very healthy. The branch held its AGM at its March meeting.

There is not much to report for the Suez Canal Zone 1951-54 veterans in this issue. A wreath was laid on behalf of the veterans at the wreath laying ceremony at Kempston when many of the veterans attended, some for the first time. The fourth reunion of the Suez Canal Zone veterans will take place at 1900hrs on Saturday 4 September 1999, at a new venue, the Arlesey Town Football Club Function Hall, Arlesey, Bedfordshire. There is ample parking space, and there will be a bar, buffet and a raffle.

### Obituaries

The following members have died since the last issue: Capt P Bowing, 1st Battalion, Burma, India, Tripoli, Greece; Mr JW Crew, 1st and 2nd Battalions; Maj AAH Hopkinson, 1st Battalion, Palestine, Tobruk, Burma, India; Mr F Hull, 2nd Battalion, Italy; Lt G Macknight, 1st Battalion, Burma; Mr C Mackin, 1st Battalion, Burma; Maj TDB McMillen MC, 2nd Battalion, France, Dunkirk, Glider Pilot Sicily, 1st Battalion, post war; Maj WA Moody, 1st Battalion, Palestine, Tobruk, Burma, India, Tripoli,

Greece, Canal Zone; Sir David Muirhead, 2nd Battalion, France, Dunkirk; Mr A Reeson, 1st Battalion, Tripoli; Col C Simmons, Commanding Officer 1st Herts TA, 1st Beds and Herts TA 1961/62; Maj R Thompson, 5th Battalion, escaped Singapore, 1st Battalion, India, Burma; Mr G Walker, 1st Herts, Italy; Mr CJ Wicks, 1st Battalion, India; Mr G Wilson, Army Commandos, 1st Battalion, India.

### The Hertfordshire Regiment Association

The Hertfordshire Regiment Association's Reunion and Lunch at Sele School, Hertford on Sunday 1 November 1998 was attended by members and their families. Unfortunately, owing to the death of one of its musicians, the Volunteer Band of The Royal Anglian Regiment was unable to attend this event. Fortunately, the Gordon Jennings's Disco was able at very short notice to play background music during the meal. The association lunch for 1999 will be held on Sunday 7 November. There was a good turnout of members on Remembrance Sunday and the Association's Standard was carried on parade by Mr Den Corbett. A wreath was laid on the Hertford Town War Memorial which was followed by a march past, the salute taken by the Mayor of Hertford. A service of Remembrance was held in All Saints Church and a wreath was placed on the Regimental War Memorial in the church by a member of the association. Association members also attended the Remembrance Parade and Reunion at Kempston on the following Sunday. The annual general meeting was held at the TAVR Centre, Hertford on Wednesday 31 March 1999.



## The Northamptonshire Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Association (Northamptonshire)

### Field of Remembrance 1998

The following people attended the Field of Remembrance at Westminster on 5 November 1998: Col and Mrs P Worthy; Maj D Berridge MC; Mr Tom Culling; Mr Ken Huckstep; Mr R (Geordié) Lomas; Mr Tanky Turner; Mr Strutton (son of the late Sgt Strutton); Mrs Drinkwater. Apologies were received from Col FAH Swallow OBE and Mr AE Drinkwater.

### Officers' Lunch Party

The Officers' Dining Club held its annual lunch on 7 May 1999. The same venue as in

recent years was used - the magnificent and most interesting Officers' Mess of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Millbank, London, thanks to the kind hospitality of Col John Richardson who, when a young officer, served in the 1st Battalion the Northamptonshire Regiment. A splendid menu, impressive wines from the Mess cellar and the happy atmosphere made it another memorable occasion.

### Peterborough Branch

There was a tremendous attendance at the annual general meeting which we held again this year at the TA Centre in London Road,

Peterborough and our thanks to RSM Chris Longrigg of 158 (Royal Anglian) Regiment Royal Logistic Corps for allowing this. The attendance was the largest ever and a very fitting tribute to those who set up the Branch 45 years ago in 1954. The meeting received reports from the President, Treasurer, Secretary and Chairman and there was much input from members in planning and deciding upon the programme of events for the months ahead.

The Branch Standard has been on parade on many occasions during the year and was marched in at the annual dinner, on which occasion Regimental silver had been kindly



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brought over from Northampton to be put on display, and a good picture of members, supported by Gen Sir John Akehurst, appeared in the *Evening Telegraph*.

We do thank again our friends at the TA centre for their help in supporting us to mount this event, and we are so pleased to see that there are no reductions or cuts in their establishment, which gives us great confidence for the future.

Following our Christmas meeting, gifts were as always sent out to members' widows who, without exception, much appreciated this gesture.

Any readers of *Castle* are invited to contact branch officers for any further information as we shall be delighted for anybody to join us at any of our events.

Unfortunately this newsletter will be published after our visit to Duxford to see in particular the recently opened Burma Star Exhibition, but other forthcoming events are as follows:

Thursday 22 July: A joint barbecue with the Cambridgeshire Regiment at the Woolpack, Stanground at 8pm

Saturday 16 October: Annual dinner at Peterborough.

### Finedon Branch

Secretary: Mr RH Ogle, 44 Hayden Avenue, Finedon, Northants NN9 5ET.  
Tel: 01933-681525

The Branch has had a very busy and enjoyable time since the last newsletter, with an event held almost every month.

In October we visited Felixstowe for David Knight's Gathering. November saw the branch turn out wearing Regimental ties and blazer badges for the annual Remembrance Day Parade at Finedon. The wreath was laid on behalf of the Regiment by John Behan.

After the service, members and their ladies went to the Conservative Club in Finedon before enjoying Sunday lunch at the Millstone, Kettering. Christmas saw a large gathering at the Wellingborough Superbowl for a Christmas buffet and a game of bowls kindly arranged by Paul Hale. The event was most enjoyable, with part of the cost offset from branch funds.

In January the branch moved its location to the Conservative Club in Finedon and we have been made most welcome by Steve and Gail. In addition to these events we have accepted invitations from the

Normandy Veterans and Allied Combatants Europe for a function on Armistice Night and had a presentation given by John Wilson, a D-Day veteran.

All in all a very good time has been had by all. Membership continues to rise although not as quickly as one would wish.

Maj Tim Warr is organising a trip to Bletchley Park on 27 June 1999. We are already oversubscribed for a small bus. If any member is interested in joining us please contact the Secretary soon. If we get enough response we can book a larger coach.

### Legion d'Honneur

The Association sends its heartiest congratulations to one of the few remaining World War One veterans on his appointment as a Chevalier (Knight) of the Legion d'Honneur. This award was made by the President of the French Republic in November 1998 to mark the 80th anniversary of the Armistice and to mark his services to France as an allied soldier fighting on French territory in the First World War. Henry Chater, aged 102 received his medal from the Mayor of Northampton in the council chamber.



## The Essex Regiment Association and The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Essex)

### Legion d'Honneur

On 9 February 1999, Pte Albert Warren, aged 99, received the Legion d'Honneur presented by the French government to all surviving members of the First World War.

Surrounded by his children, grandchildren and great-great grandchildren, Albert Warren was received into the Order of a Chevalier of the Legion d'Honneur at the Whitchurch and Pensford Branch of the Royal British Legion. The presentation was made by Lt Col Mike Randall, late the Essex Regiment, and witnessed by Mr Brown, the French Consul in Bristol.

Albert served with the 2nd Battalion the Essex Regiment in France as an 18-year-old during 1917 and later in 1938. Although reticent to talk about his experiences in the trenches he did say how appalling the conditions were, with mud, mice and rats. After the war Albert was sent to Egypt where for 18 months he served with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

On 26 June Albert will be 100 and the association will be represented at his celebration.

Yet another world War One veteran, Mr Robert Jiggins, who served with the Essex Regiment, qualified for the medal.

Unfortunately he has now passed away but his medal is being handed over to the Essex Regiment Museum.

### Association Activities

In June a five-day visit will be made to Normandy and later in the year there will be visits to both Holland and Belgium. The arrangements for these trips are made by Harry Conn who should be congratulated on the work he does for the Association in this respect. Our annual reunion and service of remembrance takes place this year on Sunday 27 June and we expect the usual good turnout with some members coming from overseas especially for the event.

Our Salamanca Dinner and Dance, held once again at the County Hotel in Chelmsford, was a great success and 138 members and guests sat down to an excellent meal. This year the dinner will be at the Marconi Club in Chelmsford on Saturday 17 July.

A party of comrades paid a visit to the Royal Hospital Chelsea in November and after the parade attended morning prayer. We were very pleased to see the Rev Tom Hiney MC back in good health and wish him well for his impending retirement. We

now have two in-pensioners, Messrs Smith and Jaggard and we were especially pleased to see Mr Smith at our reunion.

It is with great sadness that we learned of the death of Jackie Isherwood. Jackie had worked as administrative officer at HQ The Royal Anglian Regiment, Warley, since 1994. She will be missed very much and we send our sincere condolences to her family.

### 4th Battalion Comrades Association

Our annual dinner-dance on 3 October was held at the TA Centre at Warley and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by the 120 comrades and guests attending. The Remembrance Parade at Ilford was held at St Mary's Church where once again the 'Pompadors' marched back to the TA Centre at Gordon Road (our old Drill Hall) where we were made most welcome as guests of 36 (Eastern) Signals Regiment in their Messes. Our Remembrance Parade seems to draw comrades from all over the country and we were particularly delighted to see Capt Maurice Mallet, who had travelled from Stamford in Lincolnshire to be with us.

Although the Comrades Council has been officially in recess for the months of January

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and February, much is going on behind the scenes. A full subscribers roll has been prepared and issued to every member and a full roll of honour for the Essex Regiment has been obtained from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, listing all casualties and the location of graves and memorials worldwide for World War Two.

### Chelmsford Branch

We always have a good turnout at the early November Memorial Service in Chelmsford Cathedral and the Trigno night - this year held, for the first time, at lunchtime.

### The Eagle and Gun Regimental Association

Our annual general meeting was held on 8 November 1998 and although some members often have other commitments on that day attendance was good. We had a short memorial service conducted by the Secretary, Mr Vic Foulsham, after which the business of the meeting was conducted. This was the 77th AGM of our association.

The committee was re-elected en bloc and 19 June was suggested for the next meeting and buffet. Despite our funds being depleted by postage and other expenses we still have enough to cover all costs for 1999.

### Thurrock Branch

The branch continues to meet regularly on the fourth Wednesday of every month. We hold our meetings in a pub in the village of Orsett, perhaps that is the attraction. Membership does not alter much, except for the one or two who fade away.

We still keep fairly active, attending most functions we are invited to, which include our own branch activities, those arranged by HQ Warley, and the functions of other associations in our borough.

Members of the branch attended Remembrance services at Warley Chapel, Chelmsford Cathedral, the Garden of



**Pte Bert Warren, 2nd Battalion the Essex Regiment.**

Remembrance Westminster, and in our own borough of Thurrock. We also attended a Festival of Remembrance at our civic Hall, and at our war memorial a service on Remembrance Sunday and the two minutes silence on the 11-11-11.

We travelled to the Royal Hospital Chelsea during November and paraded with the pensioners for a service of morning prayer in their chapel. We then spent a very enjoyable afternoon with them in their club

bar. Our thanks to Gordon Wren for arranging the trip.

In November we held our annual branch dinner-dance, a very good evening. Guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of Thurrock, association and branch presidents and the MP for Thurrock, all with their wives. Also attending was CSM T Jones of the 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment along with 133 other members and guests.

# EVERY YEAR WE HELP FIGHT 300,000 BATTLES.

Every year, thousands of widows, needy and disabled ex-Service people receive vital financial support from The Royal British Legion.

We also run seven residential and three convalescent homes for the old and infirm.

And by setting up associated companies we provide work for thousands of ex-Servicemen and women who might otherwise struggle to find work in civilian life.

As a direct result of our commitment to care, over 300,000 ex-Service people each year are now able to do more than just soldier on.

If you would like to know more, make a donation or become a member write to: The General Secretary, 48 Pall Mall, London, SW1Y 5JY or phone 0171 973 0633.

**THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION**



# The Royal Anglian Regiment

## Order of Battle

### 1st Battalion (The Vikings)

#### HQ Company

##### Battalion Headquarters

Lt Col RJ Kemp MBE  
Maj RCJ Goodin  
Capt DJ Ward  
Capt AHC Borgnis  
WO1(RSM) Prime SP  
WO1 Chapman CR  
WO2 Langley-Stevens R  
WO2 McIlroy A  
WO2 Robinson SD  
Sgt Patten PG  
Cpl Patrick JN  
LCpl Firth DL  
Pte Boyd J

##### Company HQ

Capt RP Grenfell  
WO2 Thumwood AJ  
CSgt Hale SC  
LCpl Stevenson TD  
Pte Best M  
Pte Ferrand JW  
Pte Johnson SL  
Pte Johnson MP  
Pte Liddell TC  
Pte Myall B

##### Signal Platoon

Capt DJ Moss  
WO2 Newman PS  
Sgt McGregor G  
Sgt Simpson M  
Cpl Baxter GRG  
Cpl Magee AJ  
Cpl Stringer GB  
LCpl Cavaliero DL  
LCpl Cole WE  
LCpl Ellis M  
LCpl Fosker S  
LCpl Kendall AB  
LCpl Mitchell DA  
LCpl Naylor JMH  
LCpl Rumsey SD  
Pte Bush SJ

##### Intelligence Platoon

Capt MG Powell  
CSgt Shaw RV  
Sgt Woods MI  
LCpl Franklin A  
LCpl Gomer WA  
LCpl Guy AW  
LCpl Jenkins IPT  
LCpl Jowett DV  
LCpl McGrath PG  
Pte Atkins AR  
Pte Blakemore MJ  
Pte Clarke MJ  
Pte Evans GJ  
Pte Gill ME  
Pte Goodall DN  
Pte Hills AD  
Pte Johnson TD

Pte Lewis AR  
Pte Seaman ND  
Pte Winstone WR

##### Close Observation Platoon

Capt DSJ Biddick  
WO2 Skelton N  
CSgt Marsh DJ  
Sgt Appleton A  
Sgt Clark D  
Sgt Roach ICJ  
Sgt Wilton SJ  
Cpl Chamberlain AJ  
Cpl Duggan BJ  
Cpl Eccles JR  
Cpl Faupel ARC  
Cpl Golubovik PL  
Cpl Harrod W  
Cpl Hill JJ  
Cpl Kulkarni CG  
Cpl Port ID  
Cpl Quittenton DA  
Cpl Shaw D  
Cpl Smith CR  
Cpl Thorn JG  
Cpl Wilcox M  
LCpl Bailey N  
LCpl Beer WDQ  
LCpl Bonham MJ  
LCpl Carter P  
LCpl Cranstoun G  
LCpl Glascodine SG  
LCpl Hassan JR  
LCpl Kearney PM  
LCpl McGee BJ  
LCpl Moore RW  
LCpl Morrison DJ  
LCpl Nunn S  
LCpl Owen DJ  
LCpl Thurston AD  
LCpl Ward PA  
LCpl Ward KAB  
Cfn Lovell DJ  
Pte Armon SE  
Pte Blackley MJ  
Pte Bye MJ  
Pte Cadwell M  
Pte Christie KSJ  
Pte Cloughton LM  
Pte Cooper AJ  
Pte Eggleton JS  
Pte Everitt J  
Pte Ewers JA  
Pte Field EP  
Pte Fox TC  
Pte Harris WR  
Pte Hoogendijk RW  
Pte Inglis T  
Pte Irving MR  
Pte Knights MP  
Pte Ling DW  
Pte Livingstone J  
Pte Marsh MC  
Pte McLaughlan RB  
Pte Moxey SH  
Pte Pindar AN  
Pte Procter AM  
Pte Rolls DP  
Pte Sell PR

Pte Shropshire B  
Pte Stewart SC  
Pte Tilley RH

##### Training Wing

Capt ML Elphee  
WO2 Soanes SV  
Sgt Marsh DJ  
Sgt O'Grady TM  
Sgt Riley D  
Cpl Watson JD

##### QM Platoon

Maj A Jones  
Capt SJ Nye MBE  
WO2 Mackness D  
WO2 O'Nions PM  
CSgt Dade AJ  
CSgt Groves JS  
CSgt Pattison K  
Cpl Chalkley P  
Cpl Howard JPS  
Cpl Le Blanc C  
Cpl Lennon DA  
Cpl Lovett LP  
Cpl Richardson BJ  
Cpl Stewart AH  
Cpl White I  
Pte Merton T  
Pte Skelton NA

##### MT Platoon

Sgt Harrison G  
Cpl Ball MW  
Cpl Pierce A  
Cpl Plant BJ  
Cpl Salmon MR  
LCpl Kimble JD  
LCpl McKenna JF  
LCpl Ward WP  
Pte Cunningham BK  
Pte Dellow GA  
Pte Fensome PA  
Pte Forsythe P  
Pte Hallam CC  
Pte Hutchinson AJ  
Pte Norman RCD  
Pte Stevens SD  
Pte Waters MD

##### Unit Families Office

Capt DJ Stefanetti  
WO2 Osborne RC  
Sgt Collins T  
Sgt Lemmon MC  
Cpl Buist D  
Pte Smith BA

##### Officers' Mess

Sgt Clarke LB  
Pte Castle SJ  
Pte Mackinnon JC  
Pte Mullen A  
Pte Risi DL

##### WO's and Sgts' Mess

CSgt James KJ  
LCpl Chandler DW  
Pte Foreman J

Pte Hatton DJ  
Pte Lewis KP  
Pte Pereira SJ

##### PR1

Cpl Dufosse PL  
LCpl Willars BR

##### Gymnasium

SSgt Clarke DE  
Cpl Johnson NG  
LCpl Lidlow DS  
LCpl Woods DLA  
Pte Holman RJ

##### Provost Section

Cpl Boreham MS  
Cpl Dungate N  
Cpl Patten JJ  
LCpl Barrs PS

##### Medical Section

Cpl Johnson SM  
Cpl Mathers HL  
Cpl Milne LA  
LCpl Mason NFJ  
LCpl Montgomery RG  
LCpl Peyton IJ  
Pte Baldwin L  
Pte Horn SC

##### Regimental Admin Office

Capt PC Weston  
WO2 Moore AJ  
SSgt Shipman RA  
Sgt Baxter AMR  
Sgt Blackman S  
Sgt Pincott DKJ  
Cpl Allen JD

### A Company

##### Company HQ

Maj RA Cook  
Capt PM Birch  
WO2 Wright CJ  
CSgt Buff AL  
Cpl Heal MJ  
LCpl Browne P  
LCpl Codling P  
LCpl Jones BA  
LCpl Neal A  
Pte Buckley PG  
Pte Cartwright GM  
Pte Haystead CJ  
Pte Knight SJ  
Pte Paterson S  
Pte Witte MG

##### 1 Platoon

Lt PC Worthington  
Sgt Clark S  
Cpl McMillan MJ  
LCpl Fordham IR  
LCpl Gorham M  
LCpl Rinder PJ  
Pte Aberly SJ  
Pte Borgenvik JC  
Pte De-Mierre PJ



## Order of Battle

Pte Foy JD  
Pte Frost AD  
Pte Godley NAJ  
Pte Harrison NJ  
Pte Hayward AM  
Pte Langston KR  
Pte Riley C  
Pte Rust RE  
Pte Turner GP

### 2 Platoon

Lt OCC Brown  
Sgt Curtis DR  
Cpl Ramm PJ  
Cpl Summerson JP  
LCpl Canning JE  
LCpl Lilley PS  
LCpl Page SD  
LCpl Stanton PJ  
LCpl Stewart G  
Pte Boyer BM  
Pte Brown C  
Pte Cobb JTN  
Pte Gibson MJ  
Pte Hill AR  
Pte Holmes CJ  
Pte Rowley SJ  
Pte Sayce GN  
Pte Simmons MP  
Pte Smith C  
Pte Smith DSF  
Pte Stephenson DL

### Poacher Platoon

Lt NDB Charlwood  
Sgt Richards GC  
Cpl Carter D  
LCpl Collins AS  
LCpl Cooley J  
LCpl Knowles D  
LCpl Squibb M  
Pte Bostock A  
Pte Brawn I  
Pte Cook C  
Pte Crawl P  
Pte Elston I  
Pte Garner DR  
Pte Gedney C  
Pte Harrell JL  
Pte Honeyball AP  
Pte Howard MC  
Pte Lawrance MJ  
Pte Sizer CC  
Pte Smith SP  
Pte Steel TJ  
Pte Sutcliffe M  
Pte Walters DA  
Pte Wheatley RJ

## B Company

### Company HQ

Maj STH Andrews  
Capt JD Carnegie  
Capt DJ Howson  
WO2 Hill RA  
CSgt Williams MA  
Cpl Hardy BP  
LCpl Bee SR  
LCpl Frith KP  
LCpl Stroud MV

LCpl Surette SJ  
Pte Andrews MG  
Pte Debuc RP  
Pte Ellis M  
Pte Jones DP  
Pte Medbury JJ

### 5 Platoon

CSgt Markham P  
Sgt Granfield DT  
Cpl Culshaw PS  
LCpl Hartland CC  
LCpl Lander MJ  
Pte Boston CG  
Pte Cleverley DN  
Pte Cole SA  
Pte Hall SRA  
Pte Hitchcock AJ  
Pte Hopwood MD  
Pte Lathangue SJ  
Pte Litchfield LA  
Pte McCluskey PJ  
Pte Petch ABJ  
Pte Revell BJ  
Pte Terry AJ

### 6 Platoon

2 Lt MS Woodeson  
Sgt Wright KM  
Cpl Penny CT  
LCpl Bale JC  
LCpl Harris N  
LCpl Nudds E  
LCpl Walker M  
Pte Allen JM  
Pte Boyle M  
Pte Dun JA  
Pte Eggleton PMG  
Pte Fletcher JP  
Pte Hodgson S  
Pte Locks AP  
Pte Moseley SP  
Pte O'Brien RJ  
Pte Powell KGA  
Pte Ribati DJ  
Pte Weaver MJ  
Pte Welch AD

### 7 Platoon

Lt PJ Messenger  
Sgt Cave GA  
Cpl Atherton SL  
Cpl Moller RCJ  
LCpl Dodd MJ  
LCpl MacDonald RDJ  
LCpl Martin SP  
LCpl Rayfield IM  
LCpl White CA  
Pte Bruce A  
Pte Cox CS  
Pte Earl LS  
Pte Gard DL  
Pte Hubbard WA  
Pte Jones TW  
Pte Luckman M  
Pte Patterson A  
Pte Ranson C  
Pte Sicklen BP  
Pte Smith DJ  
Pte Thorne S  
Pte Weekley AS

## C Company

### Company HQ

Maj JE Harris  
Capt MP Aston  
WO2 Jones T  
CSgt Tate CJ  
Sgt Carter PR  
Cpl Carter AA  
LCpl Baxter NS  
LCpl Galloway WJ  
LCpl Lorenz JD  
LCpl Winter CJ  
Pte Parker SW  
Pte Peters IS  
Pte Sullivan DJ

### 9 Platoon

2Lt MR Evans  
Sgt Taylor T  
Cpl Brooks GD  
Cpl Rix NJ  
LCpl Butcher MJ  
LCpl Mitchell AD  
LCpl Steel RJE  
Pte Allen PM  
Pte Conlon J  
Pte Fincham SCJ  
Pte Gardner MJ  
Pte Green IR  
Pte Gibbs AD  
Pte Hackett RE  
Pte Jellings W  
Pte Robinson ML  
Pte Sayce NA  
Pte Stubbs TG  
Pte Willcox M

### 10 Platoon

Sgt Goodman D  
Cpl O'Hanlon PJ  
LCpl Rice CM  
Pte Bullard GJ  
Pte Bushell JGR  
Pte Everitt MP  
Pte Hare BEL  
Pte Hunter TS  
Pte Pimm SG  
Pte Restall SJ  
Pte Sarling AJ  
Pte Smith MA  
Pte Trutwein JM  
Pte Tuppen MJK  
Pte Wand AR  
Pte Wolf SR  
Pte Worsley CB

### 11 Platoon

Lt PA Muncey  
Sgt French BS  
Cpl Head ST  
Cpl Neal S  
LCpl Browning WB  
LCpl Hales MA  
LCpl Hipperson JJ  
LCpl Lewis ST  
LCpl Syer DA  
Pte Craddock LW  
Pte Desborough BS  
Pte Hornsey JR  
Pte Jones RB

Pte Marsh JR  
Pte Meakin DS  
Pte Moulds SJ  
Pte Taylor AO  
Pte Turner SD  
Pte Ward JT

## D Company

### Company HQ

Maj ACE Marinos  
WO2 Athroll R  
CSgt Wilkins PRH  
CSgt De Bretton-Gordon DM  
Cpl Bloss IG  
Cpl Hogston DJ  
Cpl Turney MJ  
LCpl Bell CJ  
LCpl Morris RA  
Pte Back SJ  
Pte Challis DG  
Pte Copson BJ  
Pte Groves LL  
Pte Jackson RL  
Pte Jones NW  
Pte Mansfield BSS  
Pte Thain PJ  
Pte Wallace DJ

### Mortar Platoon

Capt PM Smith  
Sgt Freeman MA  
Cpl Evans AM  
Cpl Woodrow ML  
LCpl Gammage MR  
LCpl Garnham RV  
LCpl Morgan DJ  
LCpl Rice AP  
LCpl Shand CS  
Pte Anderton SE  
Pte Brand SG  
Pte Greensmith SL  
Pte Hemmins DJ  
Pte Martin GJ  
Pte Molloy CJ  
Pte Patterson DJ  
Pte Scattergood A  
Pte Sully JL  
Pte Whitelock LP

### Milan Platoon

Capt APR Bowman  
Sgt Keating GM  
Cpl Fay DC  
Cpl Hicks S  
Cpl Ratten J  
LCpl Blundell RK  
Pte Adderton RJ  
Pte Carpenter DTJ  
Pte Castle D  
Pte Harris JG  
Pte Loates JR  
Pte Mark JJ  
Pte Morcombe MJ  
Pte Morris NW  
Pte Mosley K  
Pte Petryszyn MP  
Pte Postle CAB  
Pte Price AT  
Pte Robnett SR  
Pte Rowley DJ

**Order of Battle**

Pte Saunders MJ  
Pte Toynton PM

**Drums Platoon**

C'Sgt Jewell CA  
DMaj Wildney MJ  
Cpl Morris MJ  
Cpl Self JE  
LCpl Brown GP  
LCpl Handley RJ  
LCpl Hudson PW  
LCpl Love NJ  
LCpl Phair RJJ  
LCpl Stewart G  
LCpl Willsher MI  
Dmr Burgess GA  
Dmr Davies I.W  
Dmr Eastwood M  
Dmr Gibbs EP  
Dmr Marke JW  
Dmr Smith PA  
Dmr Tulit ME

**2nd Battalion  
(The Poachers)  
Headquarter  
Company**

**Battalion Headquarters**

Lt Col SL Porter  
Maj MH Wenham  
Capt KR Copland  
Capt NA Johnson  
WO1 (RSM) Ralph FA  
WO2 (RAOWO) Price AP  
AGC (SPS)  
LCpl Wall A AGC (SPS)  
Pte Kennon DW  
Pte Maskell ML

**Company Headquarters**

Maj IRM Hall  
WO2 (C'SM) Good DG  
CSgt (CQMS) Warrener RW  
Sgt Lade T  
Cpl Keeble CD  
Cpl McCourtly SN  
Cpl Sayers RH  
Pte Blanchard D  
Pte Brown A  
Pte Connolly SJ  
Pte Marston W  
Pte Mayner LA AGC (SPS)

**Unit Families Office**

WO2 Beaumont FLJ

**Provo Section**

Sgt Urand MR  
Cpl Smith AG  
LCpl Askew SM  
LCpl Ainge DP  
LCpl Gelder CM

**MT Platoon**

WO2 (MTWO) Robinson DA  
Sgt Jones RD  
Sgt Mecklenburgh GC  
Cpl Bonsall MC  
Cpl Hunter EC

Cpl Piper AD  
Cpl Turner SJ  
LCpl Inglis MJ  
LCpl Smedley IT  
LCpl Wright RJ  
Pte Cooper BS  
Pte Crockett DJ  
Pte Heffer MW  
Pte Hunt WJ  
Pte Hutchinson AJ

**PATT**

Lt NJ Haden  
WO2 Thorpe M  
Sgt Charles  
LCpl Bond RM  
LCpl Hubbard SJ  
Pte Payne JL  
Pte Rooney PDH

**Assault Pioneer Platoon**

WO2 Brown SM  
Sgt Doucet VJ  
Cpl Shaw SA  
LCpl Clark S  
LCpl Elliot KAG  
LCpl Eratt KM  
LCpl Felstead M  
Pte Burgwin DB  
Pte Clarke  
Pte Crozier DF  
Pte Fleming RJ  
Pte Gage AMJ  
Pte Hudson-Bennett L  
Pte Martin GJ  
Pte Presley JR  
Pte Riggs KW  
Pte Thompson R

**Unit Families Office**

WO2 Beaumont FLJ  
Sgt Mutch AF  
Cpl Abreu JAA  
Pte Bonner DW

**Quartermaster's Department**

Capt (QM) RJ Brown  
Capt (QM (T)) AE Todd  
WO2 (RQMS (M)) Beighton TP  
WO2 (RQMS (M) des) Abbs MJ  
WO2 (RQMS (T)) Martin P  
Sgt Thorpe RJ  
Cpl Appleton TD  
Cpl Jones MA  
LCpl Goodman AH  
LCpl Haves RA AGC (SPS)  
LCpl Herron C  
LCpl Kokonas AN AGC (SPS)  
LCpl Rickman DJ  
Pte Green RJ  
Pte Murray DF  
Pte Otty AP  
Pte Selby RJ

**Intelligence Section**

Pte Hutchinson AJ  
Pte Jennings L  
Pte Lawrinson CA  
Pte Tomlinson CA

**Signals Platoon**

WO2 (RSWO) Brown PD

Sgt Smith MA  
Cpl Cross N  
Cpl Derbyshire C  
Cpl Hugill  
Cpl Lamb AB  
Cpl Singleton SL  
LCpl Rawlings DL  
Pte Cook SW  
Pte Drakes S  
Pte Francis CI  
Pte Gale JS  
Pte Latter AA  
Pte Lockwood T  
Pte Robertson DWG  
Pte Presley JR  
Pte Riggs KW  
Pte Thompson R  
Pte Trafford  
Pte Woolley JM

**Drums Platoon**

Sgt (DMaj) Embleton K  
Sgt Huggins SG  
Cpl Asker AL  
LCpl Griffin AJC  
LCpl Towe SW  
Pte Auckland MP  
Pte Brawn RM  
Pte Coleman K  
Pte Fluery CJF  
Pte Hume SJ  
Pte Hunt A  
Pte Jubb PL  
Pte Lang CF  
Pte Lindsay CD  
Pte Marshall M  
Pte Neilly SJ  
Pte Pass R  
Pte Simmons MP  
Pte Smith NM  
Pte Stephens D  
Pte Whittle MA  
Pte Wilson NP

**WOs' and Sgts' Mess**

Sgt Cole RJ  
Lt AIR Mayo Int Corps  
CSgt Elliott DJ  
LCpl Smith SC  
Pte Terry KJ

**Officers' Mess**

CSgt Hall  
Cpl Doherty  
Pte Mayes A  
Pte Oliver JR

**Training Wing**

WO2 Ibrahim S  
CSgt Bredin RJ  
Sgt Doctor RP  
Sgt Gray MJ  
Sgt Walker AR  
Pte Blair DM

**Gym Staff**

Sgt (SI) Cocker APTC  
Cpl Farrell DA  
LCpl Foote DG  
LCpl Johnson MK  
LCpl Rimmer PJ  
Pte McMillan G

Pte Turnell MJ

**Medical Centre**

Maj Swan RAMC  
Cpl Oxby KD

**RLC (Catering)**

WO2 (RCWO) Strickland MJ  
RLC  
Sgt Hammond KP RLC  
Sgt Humphreys TW RLC  
Sgt McCallion AJ RLC  
Sgt MacAleese PJ RLC  
Cpl Beatty NF RLC  
Cpl B-Rochard K RLC  
Cpl Lee AR RLC  
LCpl Behan MP RLC  
LCpl Johnson S RLC  
LCpl Kuczerepa A RLC  
LCpl McVay G RLC  
LCpl Percival CP RLC  
LCpl Pearson G RLC  
Pte Carr CJ RLC  
Pte Dewhurst DL RLC  
Pte Douce CJ RLC  
Pte Holland SD RLC  
Pte Ingham NJ RLC  
Pte Roberts AJ RLC

**Regimental Admin Office**

Capt AS O'Brien AGC (SPS)  
Lt LC Hurn AGC (SPS)  
WO2 (SQMS) Cheyne MA  
AGC (SPS)  
SSgt Marshall RW AGC (SPS)  
Sgt Casey SM AGC (SPS)  
Pte Tompkins  
DM Pte Westley JJ

**LAD**

SSgt Leighton DM REME  
Sgt Anderson NW REME  
Cpl Boynton GT REME  
Cpl Jones C REME  
Cfn Diver RJF REME  
Cfn Fletcher CR REME  
Cfn Povey SG REME  
Cpl Pearson S  
LCpl Pardy AS RAMC  
Pte O'Leary S  
Pte Packham DD  
Pte Walters MJ  
Cpl Brown JPT-AGC (SPS)  
Cpl Edwards P AGC (SPS)  
Cpl Kaye P AGC (SPS)  
Cpl McQuade S AGC (SPS)  
LCpl Bracegirdle N AGC (SPS)  
Pte Sheldon C AGC (SPS)

**A (Lincolnshire)  
Company**

**Company HQ**

Maj JM Woodham  
Capt CD Davies  
WO2 Humphreys PJ  
CSgt Thompson PS  
Cpl Nunley DJ  
LCpl Bliss N  
LCpl Hack K  
LCpl Walton M

## Order of Battle

Pte Bignell GK  
Pte Drew SJ  
Pte Hinchliffe N  
Pte Lawson MP  
Pte Newbury AJ  
Pte Piper S  
Pte Rimmer M  
Pte Scott (AGC Attached)  
Pte Smith DO  
Pte Young DJ

### 1 Platoon

2Lt AF Hawley  
Sgt Chillingsworth JB  
Cpl Gibson GV  
Cpl Mayall RC  
Cpl Sands SJ  
LCpl Beardley LM  
LCpl Morgan DR  
LCpl Smart ST  
Pte Arrand RJ  
Pte Howell PA  
Pte Cass NJ  
Pte Chambers GS  
Pte Doughty NJ  
Pte Dunstan DJ  
Pte Gorski M  
Pte Gratsa RT  
Pte Llewellyn SJ  
Pte Morgan JMD  
Pte Newark DA  
Pte Norris PN  
Pte Palmas MT  
Pte Parsons AJ  
Pte Stow LAH  
Pte Waddington WA

### 2 Platoon

2Lt SD Wilson  
Sgt Burt IJ  
Cpl Hall RN  
Cpl Marshallsay JR  
LCpl Jones EL  
LCpl Taylor S  
LCpl Tremain MD  
LCpl Waqairoba  
Pte Bissell JJ  
Pte Brooks DT  
Pte Dodd DM  
Pte Fleming TA  
Pte Horton PS  
Pte Killingsworth RK  
Pte Mason L  
Pte Mitchell MD  
Pte Parsons A  
Pte Peacock KM  
Pte Phipps T  
Pte Porter DJ  
Pte Price MJD  
Pte Robinson LP  
Pte Salt ML  
Pte Strong GJ  
Pte Wilkinson AP

### 3 Platoon

CSgt Dunn RD  
Sgt Bartlett A  
Cpl Dennis JJ  
Cpl Kavanagh TP  
LCpl Batty SK  
LCpl Dunn SM  
LCpl Saunders S

LCpl Shiels AR  
LCpl Sutherland MJ  
Pte Blair DM  
Pte Blower CP  
Pte Corstorphine AJ  
Pte Dreczewicz MJ  
Pte Dutka R  
Pte Freeman GC  
Pte Haines DA  
Pte Haydon RL  
Pte Heppenstall  
Pte Nanson KE  
Pte Quinn CST  
Pte Smith WT  
Pte Staniazawski D  
Pte Thornhill EL  
Pte Waddington WA  
Pte West OM  
Pte Wilkinson MA

## B (Leicestershire) Company Group

### Company Headquarters

Maj JJ Hart  
Capt SW Romilly  
WO2 Sinar R  
WO2 (CSM) Tilley P  
CSgt Keen KP  
CSgt Yeomans KET  
Sgt Chambers RRV  
Cpl Bannon MB  
Cpl Bradley M  
Cpl Coupland PC  
LCpl Bronsdon SR  
LCpl Chapman SL AGC(SPS)  
LCpl Correa LJ  
LCpl Rathie CS  
LCpl Revill MA  
Pte Appleyard A  
Pte Flynn R  
Pte Hart CJ  
Pte Hewitt DM  
Pte King DWJ  
Pte Latus G  
Pte Taylor KJ  
Pte Turner CJ

### 4 Platoon

2Lt STG Otter  
Sgt Riley S  
Cpl Deakin SA  
Cpl Rundle TA  
Cpl Waghorn LA  
LCpl Harris AP  
LCpl Picton RD  
LCpl Taylor AA  
Pte Ashpole D  
Pte Baird CD  
Pte Best JM  
Pte Bird DL  
Pte Gunn NJ  
Pte Johnson MR  
Pte Keeton MD  
Pte Knight BB  
Pte Leach CJ  
Pte Newcombe CJ  
Pte Newell PC  
Pte Pett LMJ  
Pte Seymour MJ  
Pte Shaw DS

Pte Smith PD  
Pte Stocks PE  
Pte Walker SM  
Pte Wheatley AN  
Pte Wood MA

### 5 Platoon

1Lt CBK Barry  
Sgt Sharp JW  
Cpl Gadsden PN  
Cpl Lewis BP  
Cpl Vazquez N  
LCpl Laird MS  
LCpl Mahoney IM  
LCpl Snook DJ  
LCpl Sweeney PW  
Pte Atkins RA  
Pte Brownsword JR  
Pte Buckle JD  
Pte Chester PJ  
Pte Cousin R  
Pte Day JD  
Pte Denton TI  
Pte Eglin DE  
Pte James KBJ  
Pte Johnson NJJ  
Pte Kirk AJ  
Pte Marot MK  
Pte Noton D  
Pte Phillips TSJ  
Pte Potter ND  
Pte Tompkins DB  
Pte Wardle KD  
Pte Wileman M  
Pte Wood MA

### 6 Platoon

CSgt Walker VJ  
Sgt Coupe DJ  
Cpl Grice DA  
Cpl Phillips JE  
LCpl George A  
LCpl Hardy DB  
LCpl Kennedy PJ  
LCpl Penrose T  
Pte Cook JL  
Pte Davies JR  
Pte Elkington AA  
Pte Fawcett TR  
Pte Flitton AG  
Pte Fox M  
Pte Ireland MT  
Pte Lambert JA  
Pte Martin DJ  
Pte Mercer R  
Pte Owen JW  
Pte Paddison JP  
Pte Riley JER  
Pte Routledge D  
Pte Thurman KJ  
Pte Turner JK  
Pte Vendyback LD  
Pte Wilkinson PEW

## C (Northamptonshire) Company

### Company Headquarters

Maj DGH Hunter  
Capt JR Sparks  
WO2 (CSM) Hazlewood

CSgt (CQMS) Adie D  
Cpl Foster AR  
Cpl Morrissey MJ  
Cpl Sumner ADW  
Pte Foster TJ  
Pte Marshall AL  
Pte Newland T  
Pte Roberts KL  
Pte Sweetland RJ  
Pte Kelleher L AGC(SPS)

### 7 Platoon

1Lt BJ Payment  
Sgt Hope M  
Cpl Mattingly PA  
Cpl Pulfrey SR  
LCpl Downey JW  
LCpl Gillespie SG  
LCpl Scott CM  
Pte Ashworth PL  
Pte Barfield MAP  
Pte Bellamy AJ  
Pte Butler MJ  
Pte Devine RJ  
Pte Djemal OA  
Pte Garrard PD  
Pte Green LJ  
Pte Jeennings JPE  
Pte McLatchie J  
Pte Merrill R  
Pte Mortimer CS  
Pte Paveley AC  
Pte Reid DS  
Pte Smith JRS  
Pte Swain DK  
Pte Wells SJ  
Pte Wolfe JC

### 8 Platoon

Capt PC Young  
Sgt Markham D  
Cpl Siney DP  
LCpl Crabbe TAR  
LCpl Greenhill JP  
LCpl Reeder NS  
LCpl Woods JT  
Pte Cantle THW  
Pte Furniss DP  
Pte Garbutt REA  
Pte Graham SD  
Pte Gray JA  
Pte Lang CL  
Pte Law LG  
Pte Macdonald IR  
Pte Mitchell PA  
Pte Murphy SMP  
Pte Payne NIJ  
Pte Richardson DJ  
Pte Sibbons WR  
Pte Spray DJ  
Pte Stow SP  
Pte Thomas GMA  
Pte Vincent SR  
Pte Wareham GE

### 9 Platoon

2LT EJ Belderbos  
Sgt Cutts S  
Cpl David MJ  
Cpl Horne AR  
Cpl Johnson AJ  
LCpl Brocklesby AB



**Order of Battle**

LCpl Felstead M  
 LCpl Kirk P  
 LCpl Melody T  
 Pte Boyall MS  
 Pte Brown SM  
 Pte Campbell KJ  
 Pte Day RJ  
 Pte Gibson A  
 Pte Holod ST  
 Pte Johnson C  
 Pte Kilby CL  
 Pte Knight PD  
 Pte Mavtavish SJ  
 Pte Raynes PM  
 Pte Richman P  
 Pte Smith RJ  
 Pte Strachan NR  
 Pte Thornton JJ  
 Pte Tipling DPM  
 Pte Wakefield BR

### **D (Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire) (Support) Company**

**Company Headquarters**  
 Capt SN Pallant  
 WO2 (CSM) Heycock  
 MS CSgt Saywell NA  
 Cpl Addison SJ  
 Cpl Whitehead AND  
 LCpl Franklin SP

Pte George MD  
 Pte Leeke BM  
 Pte King TL  
 Pte Lockwood M  
 Pte Glen LA AGC

#### **Mortar Platoon**

Capt SR Smith  
 WO2 Odell R  
 Sgt Baker M  
 Sgt Bonfield RJ  
 Sgt Curtis PRW  
 Cpl Booth DS  
 Cpl Brammer MG  
 Cpl Colbourne MJ  
 Cpl Donovan NR  
 Cpl Elliott RAA  
 Cpl Eaton D  
 Cpl Guppy PJ

#### **Recce Platoon**

Capt Mellor  
 CSgt Limb JA  
 Sgt Philpott MJ  
 Cpl Caine AC  
 Cpl Clarke M  
 Cpl Oldenburg F  
 Cpl Townsend C  
 Cpl Whiteley J  
 LCpl Rae SJ  
 LCpl Woolen SJ  
 Pte Allen LG  
 Pte Buff DL

#### **Milan Platoon**

Capt AL Robbins  
 CSgt Munroe S  
 Sgt Rouget S  
 Sgt Simpson SP  
 Cpl Auckland M  
 Cpl Jackson AC  
 LCpl Gallop SI  
 LCpl Gelsthorpe M  
 LCpl Jack JA  
 LCpl Symon T  
 Pte Bell CL  
 Pte Crafer RD

#### **Sniper Section**

Cpl Brownlie CJ  
 Cpl Caine AC  
 Pte Broughton K  
 Pte Buckle JD  
 Pte Latham SA  
 Pte Mackness BD  
 Pte Manning SJ  
 Pte Simms B  
 Pte Tambling MA  
 Pte Beardall KJ  
 LCpl Broomfield LC  
 Pte Coulbeck I  
 LCpl Day P  
 LCpl Fox C  
 LCpl McColm PA  
 LCpl Towler G  
 Pte Almond SD  
 Pte Borrill KS

Pte Crosby BPC  
 Pte Cruddace M  
 Pte Elton MJ  
 Pte Farrand M  
 Pte Gilbert DG  
 Pte Harrison AL  
 Pte Hughes GO  
 Pte Jolly LA  
 Pte Lomas GJ  
 Pte Marr JR  
 Pte Moore MJ  
 Pte Oliver LK  
 Pte Pickett SL  
 Pte Robertson MRD  
 Pte Seymour A  
 Pte Turner PD  
 Pte Vranich MJ  
 Pte Wingate SD  
 Pte Farrow D  
 Pte Lawson SP  
 Pte Martin RD  
 Pte Perry S  
 Pte Perry MA  
 Pte Rushby PS  
 Pte Day N  
 Pte Good D  
 Pte Harrison-Kerr TA  
 Pte Matthews L  
 Pte Midgely DM  
 Pte Peart SP  
 Pte Peacock JC  
 Pte Plummer KR  
 Pte Woods A

## **Births, Marriages and Deaths**

### **Poachers Marriages**

**Corstorphine:** On 28 November 1998, Pte Corstorphine to Leanne.  
**Waddington:** On 30 October 1998, Pte Waddington to Sally.  
**Gorski:** On 6 November 1998, Pte Gorski to Julie.  
**Barfield:** On 16 February 1999, Pte Barfield to Louise.  
**Woods:** On 25 February 1999, LCpl Woods to Nadeja.  
**Pulfrey:** On 2 January 1999, Cpl Pulfrey to Joni.  
**Smith:** On 25 January 1999, Pte Smith to Linda.  
**Ireland:** On 30 December 1998, Pte Ireland to Joanna.  
**Coulbeck:** On 2 January 1999, Pte Coulbeck to Karen.  
**Jubb:** On 29 December 1998, Pte Jubb to Dawn.

### **Births**

**Hack:** On 16 February 1999, to LCpl and Denise Hack, a son, Rhys.  
**Elliott:** On 17 November 1998, to Sgt and Joanne Elliott, a daughter Abigail.  
**Day:** On 28 December 1998, to LCpl and Lorna Day, a daughter Emily.  
**Crozier:** On 7 December 1998, to Pte and Jody Crozier, a son Declan.  
**Woodward-Hart:** On 15 February 1999, to Maj and Felicity Woodward-Hart, a son Robert.  
**Hall:** In early April 1998, to Cpl and Mrs Hall, a daughter Rachel Elizabeth.

### **Tigers Births**

**Shaw:** On 4 February 1999, to Capt and Pip Shaw, a son Cameron.  
**George:** On 3 April 1999, to Sgt and Lisa George, a daughter Megan Alice.

### **Vikings Marriages**

**Aston:** On 3 October 1998, Capt Aston to Tanya.  
**Carter:** On 9 January 1999, Cpl Carter to Rachel.  
**Eccles:** On 5 December 1998, Cpl Eccles to Vicky.  
**Fay:** On 30 January 1999, Cpl Fay to Kelly.  
**Ramm:** On 12 December 1998, Cpl Ramm to Jean.  
**Brown:** On 6 February 1999, LCpl Brown to Katrina.  
**Fosker:** On 27 October 1998, LCpl Fosker to Kay.  
**Rumsey:** On 24 October 1998, LCpl Rumsey to Lisa.  
**Back:** On 11 December 1998, Pte Back to Emma.  
**Borgenvik:** On 19 December 1998, Pte Borgenvik to Kelly.  
**Brown:** On 6 February 1999, Pte Brown to Gary.  
**Foreman:** On 5 December 1998, Pte Foreman to Daisy.  
**Lewis:** On 27 November 1998, Pte Lewis to Deanne.  
**Litchfield:** On 19 December 1998, Pte Litchfield to Tracey.  
**Robnet:** On 24 October 1998, Pte Robnet to Kathryn.

### **Births**

**Marinos:** To Maj and Mrs Marinos, a son Charles.  
**MacDonald:** To LCpl and Mrs MacDonald, a son Keiron Zak.  
**Back:** To Pte and Mrs Back a, a daughter Caitlin Louise.  
**Cadwell:** To Pte and Mrs Cadwell, a daughter, Tyler Victoria.  
**Cadwell:** To Pte and Mrs Cadwell, a daughter Brook Alicia.  
**Cox:** To Pte and Mrs Cox, a son Mason Lewis.  
**Waters:** To Pte and Mrs Waters, a son Liam James.

### **Deaths**

**Rout:** Cpl J 'Harry' Rout on 13 February 1999 in a traffic accident.

## Association Branches

### Norfolk

**HQ The Royal Norfolk Regiment Association and The Norfolk Branch The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Norfolk)**

Britannia House, TA Centre, 325 Aylsham Road, Norwich, Norfolk NR3 2AD Tel: 01603-400290.

**President:** Maj Gen Sir David Thorne KBE CVO.

#### King's Lynn Branch

Capt AA Hammond OBE, Sandena, Old Mill Road, Roughton, Norwich NR11 8PE.

#### Gt Yarmouth/Gorleston Branch

Mr RC Pillar, 16 Alder Close, Bradwell, Gt Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 8PD.

#### London Branch

Mr MJ Frances, 4 Kingswood Park, Hendon Avenue, Finchley, London N3 1UG.

#### Norwich Branch

Mr PE Boxall, 31 Breckland Road, New Costessey, Norwich NR5 0RW.

### Suffolk

**HQ The Suffolk Regiment Old Comrades Association and**

**The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Branch)**

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN Tel: 01284-752394.(Wednesdays only)

**President:** Brig WC Deller OBE.

#### Bury St Edmunds and District Branch

Mr J Gingell, The Willows, Depden, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP29 4BY.

#### Ipswich Branch

Mr R Garner, 24 Oregon Road, Kesgrave, Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 7EX.

#### Hemel Hempstead Branch

Mr RG Picton, 45 Paston Road, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 5AZ.

#### Beccles Branch

Mr ML Martin, 46 Fair Close, Beccles, Norfolk NR34 9QR.

#### Felixstowe Branch

Mr N Buckingham, Marahaba, 18 Fairfield Avenue, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 9JN.

#### Stowmarket Branch

Mr D King, 110 King Street, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1HT.

#### Leiston Branch

Mr T Stebbings, Coranette, 16 Westward, Leiston, Suffolk IP16 9HX.

#### Sudbury Branch

Mr D Land, 2 Pot Kiln Road, Gt Cornard, Sudbury CO10 0DA.

### Cambridgeshire

**HQ The Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades Association and the Cambridgeshire Branch The Royal Anglian Regiment Association**

c/o TA Centre, Coldhams Lane, Cambridge CBI 3HT

**President:** Lt Col WF Badcock MBE.

**Secretary:** Maj MA Jarvis 1 Witham Close, St Ives, Cambs PE17 6DY. Tel 014800-380234.

#### Cambridge Branch

Col DE Latchford, 48 Lode Road, Bottisham, Cambridge CB5 9DJ. Tel: 01223-811454.

#### Ely Branch

Mr HR Hitch, 7 Olivers Way, March, Cambs PE15 9PU. Tel: 01354-653058.

#### March and District Branch

Mr DWH Cox, 13 Fleming Court, March, Cambs PE15 9HD. Tel: 01354-52021.

#### Wisbech Branch

Mr RC Keating, 41 High Street, Sutton, Cambs CB6 2RA. Tel: 01353-778128.

#### Whittlesey and Peterborough Branch

Mr B Whitwell, 48 Coronation Avenue, Whittlesey, Cambs PE17 1XE.

### Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire

**HQ The Royal Anglian Regiment Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Association**

Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood, Essex CM13 3BN Tel: Brentwood 01277-213051.

**President:** Brig AFFH Robertson CBE  
Hertford Branch: Mr SR Mansfield, 1a Gwynne's Walk, Hertford SG13 8AD. Tel: 01992-581551.

#### St Albans Branch

Mr HR Howard, 24 Sherwood Rise, South Down, Harpenden, Herts AL5 1LU. Tel: 01582-621725.

#### Bedford Branch

Mr E Roberts, 3 Manor Close, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7AA. Tel: 01234-854507.

#### Hitchin Branch

Mr B Read, 12 Habey Drive, Hitchin, Herts SG9 4QN. Tel: 01462-450710.

#### Hertfordshire Regiment Association

Mr C Austin, 97 West Street, Hertford, Herts SG13 8EI. Tel: 01992-558757.

#### Watford and Hemel Hempstead Branch

Mr EG Owens, 37 Bidshall Crescent Dunstable, Beds LU6 3NF. Tel: 01582-665734.

#### Luton and Dunstable Branch

Mr S Chapman, 86 St Margarets Avenue, Luton, Beds LU3 1PQ. Tel: 01582-28976.

### The Essex and Royal Anglian Regiments Association

**HQ The Royal Anglian Regiment**  
Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood, Essex CM13 3BN. Tel: 01277-213051.

**President:** Col GCP Morgan DL.

#### 4th Battalion Comrades Association

Mr EB Hazle DCM, 11 Hunter Avenue, Shenfield, Essex CM15 8PE. Tel: 01277-214606.

#### 7th Eagle and Gun Regimental Association

Mr V Foulsham, 62 Armstrong Avenue, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 9PT. Tel: 0181-531-4808.

#### Chelmsford and District Branch

Miss S Ostler, St Michael's, 1 Gloucester Avenue Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9DP. Tel: 01245-358724.

#### Thurrock and District Branch

Mr P Giggins, 89 Salisbury Road, Grays, Essex RM17 6DG. Tel: 01375-378427.

### Lincolnshire

**HQ The Royal Lincolnshire and Royal Anglian Regiment Association**

The Keep, Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY. Tel: 01522-525444.

**President:** Maj Gen REJ Gerrard-Wright CB CBE DL.

#### Lincoln Branch

Mr HE Hill, 8 Westwood Drive Swampool, Lincoln LN6 0HT. Tel: 01522-878179.

#### Grimsby Branch

Mr D Carroll, 87 Manor Drive, Waltham, Grimsby, Lincs DN37 0NS. Tel: 01472-826953.

#### Grantham Branch

Mr JW Flatters, 17 Longcliffe Road, Grantham, Lincs NG31 8DZ. Tel: 01476-563548.

#### Spalding Branch

Mr A Waterfall, 26 Brewster Road, Boston, Lincs PE21 0DY. Tel: 01205-358565

#### Midlands Branch

Mr L Wood, 15 Lanchester Road, Radford, Coventry CV6 3EY. Tel: 01203-597815.

#### Stamford Branch

Capt WL Simpson, St Clement, 8 Barn Hill, Stamford, Lincs PE9 2YG.

## Association Branches

### Scunthorpe Branch

Mr C Bromby, 85 Southfield Road,  
Scunthorpe, South Humberside DN16 3BT.  
Tel: 01724-859253.

### Northampton

HQ The Northamptonshire Regiment  
Association and The Royal Anglian  
Regiment Association (Northampton)  
Gibraltar Barracks, Barrack Road,  
Northampton NN1 3RE. Tel: 01604-  
635412.

Chairman: Col P Worthy.

### Corby Branch

Mr KR Fordyce, 7 Motiston Close, Corby,  
Northants NN17 2JD.

### Finedon Branch

Mr RH Ogle, 44 Hayden Avenue, Finedon,  
Northants NN9 5ET. Tel: 01933-681525.

### Peterborough Branch

Mr D Allen, 10 Werrington Bridge Road,  
Milking Nook, Peterborough PE6 7PP. Tel:  
01733-810311.

### Leicestershire

HQ The Royal Tigers' Association and  
The Royal Anglian Regiment Association  
(Leicestershire)

TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester LE4  
6BY. Tel: 0116-2622749.

President: Maj Gen AJG Pollard CB CBE

### Wiltshire

#### Warminster Branch

The Royal Anglian Regiment Association,  
PO Box 123, Headquarters Infantry,  
Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 0DG. Tel:  
01985-219273 Ext 2211.

## Notices

### Kneller Hall Concerts 99

The Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall hosts a number of concerts each year to help in the training of bandmasters and musicians, these concerts are open-air and the setting is excellent.

With about 140 musicians taking part (two regular bands and 60-70 musicians under training at RMSM), it is probably the best concert band you will hear in the Army.

Prices for the concerts are £3.50 which can be purchased on arrival at Kneller Hall, gates are open from 1800hrs. Concerts start at 2000hrs and finish at approximately 2200hrs with fireworks during the finale.

Further information can be obtained by phoning WO1(SBSM) JR Milgate ex Pompadours on Mil 764 8660 (Civ 0181-898-5533 Ext 8660).

The bands for this year's concerts are as follows:

**23 June 1999**

Band of the Coldstream Guards  
Bundeswehr Band from Germany

**7 July 1999**

Combined Household Cavalry  
Royal Irish

**21 July 1999**

Lowland Band  
Highland Band

**29 July 1999**

Combined Concert, RMSM and Schools from the Middlesex Area  
**4 August 1999**

Band of the Welsh Guards  
Queens Div Normandy Band

## Book Reviews

### Brasso Blanco & Bull

by Tony Thorne

*No contest - the funniest book of the year*

*Hilarious memoirs of East Surrey National Servicemen*

*Foreword by His Grace the Duke of Westminster*

*Recommended by a host of ex-Service celebrities including Paddy Ashdown, Bernard Cribbins, Windsor Davies, Gen Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley, Leslie Thomas, Freddie Trueman*

*Rogerson Press, 5 Ark Cottages, Whepstead, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP29 4UB. Price £6.99 inc p&p.*

*£1 per copy will be donated to the Army Benevolent Fund.*





## Regimental Shop

Code	Item	Price £
A	Ash/pin tray	1.50
	Ash tray, presentation of Colours	1.50
B1	Badge, blazer	8.80
B2	Badge, cloth	0.50
B3	Badge, collar 1st Battalion (new stock), pair	18.30
B3	Badge, collar 2nd Battalion and 3rd Battalion, pair	16.00
B4	Badge, eagle (arm)	3.70
B5	Badge, lapel	1.80
B6	Badge, lapel boxed gold	4.75
B7	Badge, lapel Association	1.45
C1	Belt, stable XL,L,M	9.70
C2	Belt, trousers XL,L,M,S	5.50
	Book, <i>Cap Badge</i>	10.00
	Book, <i>Crater to Creggan</i> (damaged cover)	3.00
D1	Bookmark, leather, presentation of Colours	0.65
D3	Bookmark, leather, drummer	0.75
E1	Button, blazer gilt L,S (Star)	1.85
E2	Button, hat/mess kit (Tiger)	3.85
	Cap, baseball, navy, white badge	3.00
	Cassette, <i>Arrival</i> , Minden Band	6.00
	CD, <i>Arrival</i> , Minden Band	9.00
	Christmas card, Abbey Gate, Lge	0.90
	Christmas card, Cambs Regt (pack of 10)	2.75
	Clock, wall with Regimental badge	10.90
	Coaster, leather with Regimental badge	0.50
G2	Coffee mug, china, gold band, blue badge	2.90
G3	Coffee mug, black/yellow badge	2.90
	Cufflinks, gold plated, square	15.00
	Cufflinks, enamel	6.80
	Figure, pewter, drummer 5" on base	37.50
	Figure, pewter, patrol ord'r sldr 4" on base	25.25
	Figure, pewter, assault ord'r sldr 4" on base	22.50
H1	Glass with handle, one pint	1.95
H2	Glass, whisky	1.30
H3	Glass, straight, one pint	1.30
I	Ice bucket drum	24.25
J1	Ket ring, leather	0.45
J2	Key ring, belt colours	2.25
K	Pendant on gold chain	7.50
L	Pewter tankard, Regimental crest	17.50
L1	Pewter tankard, badged 1st Battalion	19.90
	Pewter tankard, badged 2nd Battalion	19.90
	Plate, china, 10.5" dia, Regimental crest	18.30
M1	Postcard, set of 16 (former Regiments)	1.30
	Postcard, set of nine (R Anglian)	1.60
M2N	Postcard, single	0.10
N	Print, set of eight former Regiments	5.10
	Print, single	0.65
N1	Print, drummer, large	0.30
O	Ribbon, 1.5" wide, as stable belt (per metre)	2.60
R1	Sticker 2"	0.80
R2	Sticker 4"	1.00
R3	Sticker 6"	1.20

**Regimental Shop**

R4	Sticker 12"	3.85
	Suit cover, blue pvc	4.80
	Sweater, navy, v-neck, embroidered badge	27.00
S	Sweatshirt, navy, white printed badge	
	XXL	13.50
	XL,L	12.95
	M	13.80
T	T-shirt, navy, white printed badge	
	XXL	5.75
	XL,L	5.50
	M	5.40
	S	5.25
U1	Table mats, former Regiments, red	33.60
U2	Table mats, former Regiments, dark blue	33.60
V	Tea towel, badges of the Army	2.20
V1	Tea towel, Royal Anglian 1st and 2nd Battalions	3.40
V2	Tea towel, Royal Anglian 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions	1.50
V1	Tea towel, Royal Anglian 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions	1.50
W	Thimble, china, Regimental crest, boxed	1.50
X2	Tie, polyester, striped	5.00
X3	Tie, silk, striped	16.50
Y	Tiepin/sweetheart brooch, gold boxed	6.90
	Tie tack on chain	3.80
Z	Umbrella	13.50

**Note**

Orders, together with remittance by cheque/postal order, made payable to *Royal Anglian Regiment Association* to be posted to RHQ The Royal Anglian Regiment, The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN. Please also include your daytime contact telephone number.

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# TOYS 'N' THAT

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**Postcards Postcards Postcards Postcards**  
All postcards advertised are a finished size of 6"x4" and will fit into most photo albums. If you would like to purchase any of the following postcards please make all cheques, money orders etc to TOYS 'N' THAT. Postage rates in the UK & Europe add 50p per 10 cards, rest of the world add £1 per 10. Please call or write if you need more information. Minimum order is 10 cards as a set or as single mixed cards.

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You Only Live Twice (Bath House) 1967	E000727
You Only Live Twice (Little Nellie)	E000728
On Her Majesty's Secret Service 1969	E000729
Diamonds are Forever	E000730
Live and Let Die 1973	E000731
The Man with the Golden Gun	E000732
The Spy Who Loved Me 1977	E000733
Moonraker 1979	E000734
For Your Eyes Only 1981	E000735
Octopussy 1983	E000736
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Thunderball 1965	E000743
You Only Live Twice (Little Nellie) 1967	E000744
On Her Majesty's Secret Service 1969	E000745
Diamonds are Forever 1971	E000746

The Man with the Golden Gun 1974	E000747
The Spy Who Loved Me 1977	E000748
Moonraker 1979	E000749

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007 is at it again! Hong Kong and the Far East play host to the holder of Licence to Kill Pierce Brosnan as James Bond.

Michelle Yeoh martial artist extraordinaire as Wai Lin, Dame Judi Dench as 'M' and Desmond Llewelyn 'Q' team up with Bond to take on Arch Villain Jonathan Pryce, Elliot Carver and Teri Hatcher as Paris Carver. Directed by Roger Spottiswood.

Teaser Poster UK version	E000701
Teaser Poster US version	E000702
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Bond, James Bond	E000704
James Bond Takes Off	E000705
James Bond & Paris	E000706
Bond, Commander Bond	E000707
Wai Lin	E000708
Bond & Paris	E000709
Elliot Carver	E000710
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Inferno	6
Timeflight	7
Android Invasion	8
Time and the Rani	9
Planet of Evil	10
Monster of Peladon	11
The Sea Devils	12
Pyramids of Mars	13
The Five Doctors	14
Evil of Daleks	15
The Three Doctors	16
The Tenth Planet	17
Doctor Who (The Movie)	18

The above postcards are available as a set of 18 price £9, or as single cards at 50p each

## The Professionals

Doyle known as the 'Bionic Golly', Bodie the 'Hard Man' & George Cowley alias the 'Cow' are 'The Professionals C15'. Troubleshooters with the accent on shooters! Fast cards and birds!

### Set one

Title Logo	GA2251
'Cover me!'	GA2252
C15 with shooters	GA2253
'You hit us, we hit you'	GA2254
'You're nicked'	GA2255
'You can shoot at me but mind the car'	GA2256
'It's my turn to drive!'	GA2257
'Toys! Tell me about it'	GA2258

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'Quentin who?'	GA2259	Let it be	X652
Set two		Anthology	X653
C15 Group #1	GA2260	Revolver	X678
'Be fair, you're the hand to hand expert'		Beatles	X679
	GA2261	Beatles	X680
	GA2262	Beatles	X681
	GA2263	Beatles	X682
	GA2264	Beatles	X683

'It's your round' 'He bought me a drink!'  
Bodie, the hard man  
'No need to ask what you spend your clothing allowance on this month'  
'What do you mean stones'  
'Life's a Cow'  
'SAS to C15 Easy'  
'On Guard' 'Tell me about it'

Above sets available at £4.50 per set or single cards 50p each

## The Avengers

British television classic starring Kitch and the Smooth. 27 designs including Pierre Cardin dressed, John Steed (Patrick Macnee), the feline Emma Peel (Diana Rigg), Cathy Gale (Honor Blackman) Tara King (Linda Thorsen) & original partner Dr David Keel (Ian Hendry)

### Set one

Emma Peel #1	LU601
Avengers opening credits	LU602
Steed & Peel #1	LU603
Emma Peel #2	LU604
Chess Board	LU605
Steed & Peel #2	LU606
Emma Peel #3	LU607
Emma Peel in Fire & Brimstone	LU608
Steed & Tara King #1	LU609

### Set two

Emma Peel, karate	LU610
Emma Peel #4	LU611
Steed & Jaguar	LU612
Steed with broly	LU613
Steed with Rolls Royce	LU614
Steed, Peel & Steed	LU615
Cathy Gale #1	LU616
Steed & Cathy Gale	LU617
Steed & Tara King #2	LU618

### Set three

Steed & Dr Keel	LU619
Cathy Gale #2	LU620
Emma Peel #5	LU621
Emma Peel #6	LU622
Steed & Peel #3	LU623
Steed & Peel #4	LU624
Vogue/Avengers Windows	LU625
Tara King #1	LU626
Steed & Tara King #3	LU627

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## The Beatles Postcard Set

Beatles for sale	X642
Abbey Road	X643
A Hard Days Night	X644
Magical Mystery Tour	X645
1962-1966	X646
With the Beatles	X647
Yellow Submarine	X648
Help	X649
Lonely Hearts Club	X650
Rubber Soul	X651

Let it be	X652
Anthology	X653
Revolver	X678
Beatles	X679
Beatles	X680
Beatles	X681
Beatles	X682
Beatles	X683

The above postcards are available as a set of 18 price £9.00 or as single cards at 50p each

## The Prisoner

This is the ultimate enigmatic and anarchic series, a classic of British Television. The subject of discussion throughout the 30 years since it was first broadcast. Eleven designs including the title art of the Penrynfarthing.

Penrynfarthing/Prisoner Title Art	PG2551
Information Taxi	PG2552
Queens' Pawn	PG2553
Rover and Penrynfarthing	PG2554
Vote Number Six #1	PG2555
Napoleon and Truth Test	PG2556
Number Six portrait #1	PG2557
Number Six portrait #2	PG2558
Number Six portrait #3	PG2559
Vote Number Six #2 (NEW)	PG2560
Lotus Seven KAR 120 C (NEW)	PG2561

Above cards available as a set price £5.50 or as single cards at 50p each

## The Prisoner

### New concept & video cards

To coincide with the 30th anniversary of The Prisoner, a range of six special designs built around statements made by The Prisoner are being launched as a new concept. Plus an extra four designs commissioned by Video Vision Ltd, for inclusion with the boxed video set and again using The Prisoner quotes and images.

I am a free man (red)	PG25262A
I am a free man (black)	PG25262B
Prisoner bars	PG25263
Penny farthing badge	PG25264
Negative face & quotes	PG25265
Prisoner 30 years	PG25266
The Prisoner quotes	PG25267
'I will make no deals'	PG25268
'I will not be pushed'	PG25269
'I am not a number'	PG25270

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Title Logo	NL1351
Lost in Space #1	NL1352
Dr Zachary Smith #1	NL1353
Lost in Space #2	NL1354
Lost in Space #3	NL1355
Lost in Space #4	NL1356
Lost in Space #5	NL1357
Lost in Space #6	NL1358
Smith, Dr Zachary Smith!	NL1359
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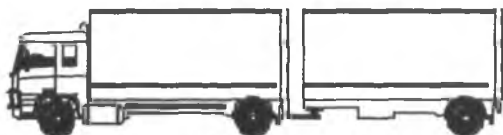
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# Switch on to Mr Electric

*A new franchise is filling the gap in the market for a national name in electrical work which is synonymous with quality, reliability and service*

**MR ELECTRIC** - the UK's first national electrical contracting group, which has enjoyed huge success in the US - has appointed its first franchisee to cover Dorset and the South West. Mike Wilkinson becomes the newest member to join Mr Electric, launched in the UK last year and specialising in domestic and light commercial electrical service, repair, installations and upgrades.

He started trading under the Mr Electric name at the end of April and is already looking for new staff to strengthen his existing team.

Before approaching Mr Electric, Mike ran a successful electrical contracting business in Weymouth, which has been going for ten years. Previous experience includes 12 years servicing helicopters for the Navy, working as the factory electrician for Bird's Eye and working as a sales executive at a major service engineers in the East Midlands. He believes he can further grow and strengthen his company by becoming part of the Mr Electric franchise. Said Mike: "The key

benefit of becoming involved with a large successful international company is the support system it offers. Mr Electric has provided excellent training, including operating manuals, which covers all aspects of running a well-organised and profitable business. It will allow me to run my business on a more professional and organised basis.

"There has been a big gap in the market for a national name in electrical work which is synonymous with quality, reliability and service. I believe Mr Electric is filling this gap by offering added value such as standardised price menus and 24 hour availability."

Commenting on his appointment, Clive Houlston, Franchise director at Mr Electric says: "Mike has all the essential qualities and exactly the right experience we are looking for to take the Mr Electric name across the UK. We are confident that we have a winning team combining his technical expertise and local knowledge with Mr Electric's business support structure."

MEB Contracting, a subsidiary of Midlands Electricity Plc has acquired the sole UK Master License for the Mr Electric brand and operates the franchise network from its

Midlands based headquarters. Adds Clive Houlston: "We have been overwhelmed by the extremely high response rate and peoples' enthusiasm for the Mr Electric concept. We have surpassed our early targets and with many new franchisees coming on board over the next few months we are well on the way to meeting our long term goal of covering the whole UK and the Channel Islands."

The Mr Electric franchise is already successfully operating in the US and Canada and will soon be running in New Zealand. It is part of a worldwide franchise system run by the Dwyer Group with 2,800 locations in 29 countries.

Mr Electric in Dorset and the South West is based at 305 Dorchester Road, Weymouth, Dorset DT3 5JA. Mike Wilkinson can be contacted on Tel: 01305 786777

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For more information contact Clive Houlston, Franchise Director,  
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