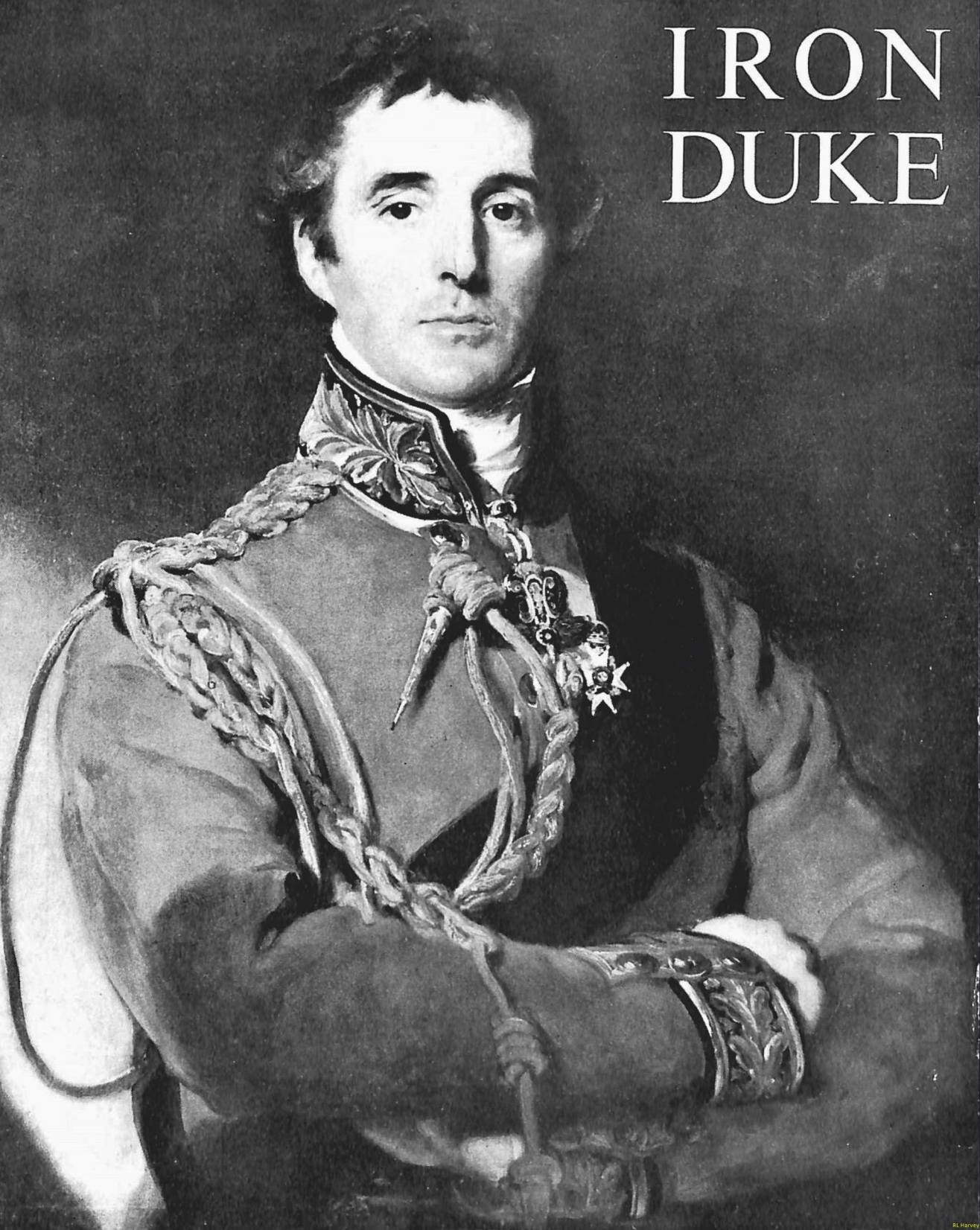


No.161 April 1973

# THE IRON DUKE



# THE IRON DUKE

*The Regimental Journal of*

## THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

*Dettingen  
Mysore  
Seringapatam  
Ally Ghur  
Delhi, 1803  
Leswarree  
Deig  
Corunna  
Nive  
Peninsula  
Waterloo  
Alma  
Inkerman  
Sevastopol  
Abyssinia  
Relief of Kimberley  
Paardeberg  
South Africa 1900-02  
Mons 1914  
Marne 1914, '18  
Ypres 1914, '15, '17*



*Hill 60  
Somme 1916, '18  
Arras 1917, '18  
Cambrai 1917, '18  
Lys  
Piave 1918  
Landing at Suwa  
Afghanistan 1919  
North-West Europe  
1940, 1944-45  
Dunkirk 1940  
St. Valery-en-Caux  
Fontenay-le-Pesnil  
Djeboul Bou Aoukaz 1943  
Anzio  
Monte Ceco  
Burma 1942, '43, '44  
Sittang 1942  
Chindits 1944  
The Hook 1953  
Korea 1952-53*

Vol. XLIX

APRIL 1973

No. 161

### BUSINESS NOTES

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#### *Acknowledgement*

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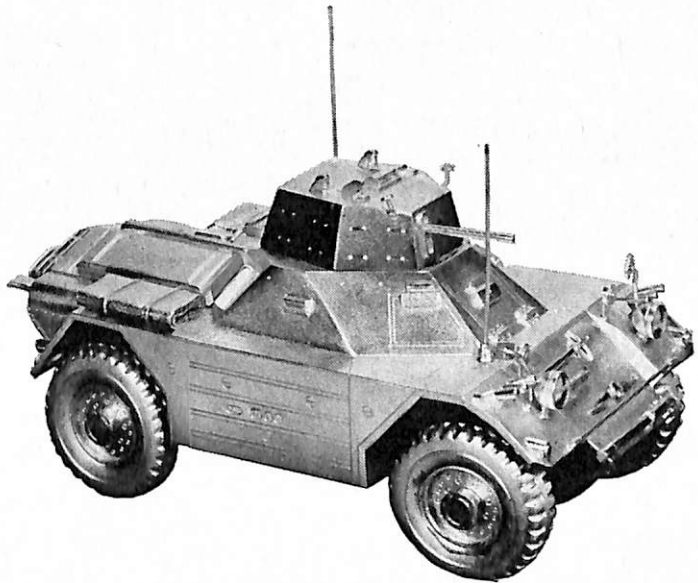
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*BFPO 801*

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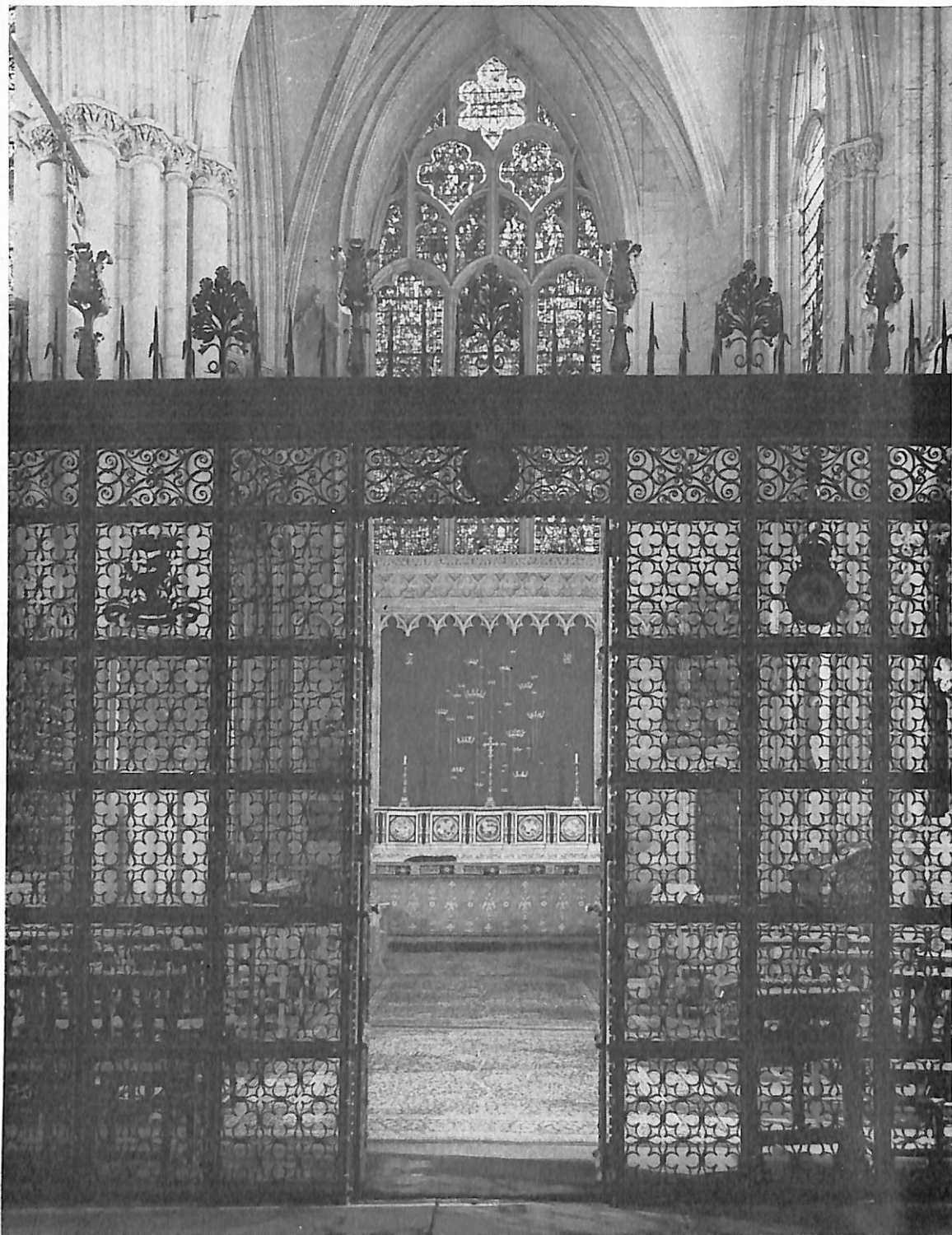
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**YORK MINSTER  
ALL SAINTS CHAPEL**

# Editorial

When the Colonel of the Regiment wrote some months ago asking me to take over the editorship of *THE IRON DUKE*, I confess I at once thought of any number of people better qualified to take on the job. On reflection I realised that here was a splendid opportunity to keep in touch with the Regiment and so, selfishly, I accepted.

Last month at his home in Cambridge, Col. Bobby Turner organised a 'crash course' to teach me the business for which I am most grateful. By the end, in a state of near panic, it was crystal clear how great a debt we all owe to Col. Bobby and how hard it will be to maintain the standard he has set.

There will, I hope, be little need for editorials to be written except on special occasions or to draw attention to some matter or other of singular interest.

Readers will wish to congratulate Capt. M. G. L. M. Stacpoole and Cpl. A. Franks who have been mentioned in Despatches. The news came in after the Battalion notes had gone to print and may be found under *London Gazette*.

Finally, please write in with your ideas to improve the content of *THE IRON DUKE* and continue to send in short articles, or series, light-hearted or otherwise, which I shall always try to use.

## Regimental Headquarters

### Rugby

The games played by 1 DWR on their way to the UK final are reported elsewhere so this comment is from the point of view of the touchline supporters for whom the games against the Guards Division Depot at Catterick and the Royal Welch Fusiliers at Preston were both protracted marathons of exhausting anxiety and anticipation.

A veteran supporter at the Catterick game was Maurice Hoole who has among his earlier memories the celebrations for the relief of Mafeking. Later he was a member of the 2nd Battalion team which shortly after the 1914-18 war won the 4 Infantry Division Cup at Lille in 1919. This and the presentation medal for the game impressed members of our present team few of whom had been born before the 1939-45 war had ended.

### Spode Plate

The Spode factory have produced a limited edi-

tion of 500 plates for the Cheshire Regiment and the Green Howards.

The next plate in this series featuring those Regiments who have survived disbandment and amalgamation is to be for The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

A leaflet giving details will be sent to all readers on or about Waterloo day this year though it is not expected that the plate itself will be available until the latter end of 1973.

### The Officer's Dinner Club

In the article on the Officers Dinner Club, which appeared on page 120 of the December 1972 issue of *THE IRON DUKE*, the venue and date of the next dinner were given as The Army and Navy Club on July 15, 1973. The date was, of course, a misprint. It should have been July 13, 1973.

## From the London Gazette

*Infantry*  
D.W.R.

### Mentioned in Despatches

The Ministry of Defence announces the following awards for Service in Northern Ireland between May 1 and July 31 last year:

Capt. M. G. L. M. Stacpoole.  
Cpl. A. Franks.

### Regular Army

Maj. P. A. Mitchell to be Lieutenant-Colonel, Dec. 31, 1972, with seniority June 30, 1972.  
Lt. D. Battye to be Captain, Nov. 30, 1972.  
Anthony Jack Pitchers (University Candidate) to be 2nd-Lieutenant (on probation), Dec. 11, 1972.

Lt. J. M. Thorn to be Captain, Dec. 16, 1972.

Lt. C. J. W. Gilbert to be Captain, Dec. 16, 1972.

Andrew Herbert Schofield Drake to be 2nd-Lieutenant, Dec. 16, 1972.

2/Lt. Andrew Donisthorpe Meek from Short Serv. Comm. to be 2nd-Lieutenant, Dec. 22, 1972.

2/Lt. J. Dowdell to be Lieutenant, Jan. 30, 1973.

2/Lt. C. F. Grieve to be Lieutenant, Jan. 30, 1973.

2/Lt. T. C. Sinclair to be Lieutenant, Jan. 30, 1973.

### Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve

Major K. M. McDonald, TD, 3 Yorks, retires Sept. 30, 1972.

Capt. P. D. Green, 3 Yorks, to be acting Major, Oct. 1, 1972.

Capt. P. J. Mortimer, 3 Yorks, to be acting Major, Oct. 1, 1972.



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# 1st Battalion

## Sub-editorial

Compared with recent issues, this sub-editorial is unable to remark upon any great excitements. The last few months have seen us reorganise, train and generally prepare for the next 18 months in Northern Ireland.

The period under review started with the departure of Col. Charles Huxtable after 2½ years in command. We congratulate him on his promotion and wish him well in his new and exacting appointment in MOD.

The notes given elsewhere in this issue give an indication of the hard work put in by everyone, not only in preparation for Ballykelly but in making sure that the normal life of the Battalion has continued on its even course. We have been pleased to accept a large number of visitors all of whom have been good enough to say kind things about us.

It is sad to report that the 1st XV have lost the Army Cup, being beaten 19—3 by 1 Welsh Guards in the UK Final. After so many years of success it is a bitter pill to swallow, but the fact is that the team is getting old and we must now build a new side on the younger talent which is coming in. We must also make a determined effort to interest more young soldiers in the game as a team built on officers and senior NCOs has enormous difficulties in these turbulent times.

The soccer team has done well despite losing so many of its stars recently, and it is to be hoped that the arrival of Sgt. Cross, our new PTI, and himself an Army soccer player, will give the team that high-class experience that has been lacking.

It is nice to be able to report that our young and enthusiastic cross-country team came third in the 3 Division Championships and did well in the local league.

Our next issue will be written from Ballykelly where we shall be arriving in time for the Border Referendum and publication of the White Paper. We are doubtless faced with a busy and demanding future. It is to be hoped that some glimmer of light will soon appear at the end of the tunnel down which Northern Ireland has travelled for so long.

We congratulate Ptes. English and Cockshott on the award of GOC's Commendations recently. Pte. English for service in Northern Ireland during the last tour, while Pte. Cockshott gallantly assisted the Civil Police in Skegness.

We shall, in March, be saying farewell to our doctor, Capt. Roger Jago, who has been with the Battalion for the past two years. During this time he has completely identified himself with The Duke's and will be sadly missed. His relief, Capt. Tim Barber, has already visited us in Catterick and will be joining us in Ballykelly.

## NEWS from the MESSES

### OFFICERS MESS

These notes, written at the beginning of February cover the period since the end of October 1972. At the time of writing, the events of last year seem distant. It can only be hoped that in reading of them in April the dust of time will not detract from their interest.

The dining out of Lt.-Col. Huxtable and Capt. Robins on November 2 was the social highlight of the autumn. The Colonel was presented with a silver Quache (Celtic toasting cup) and the QM with a tankard. In return, the Officers Mess received the silver goblet originally used as a pattern for the present range of goblets used in the Mess. A historic piece of silver held in the Huxtable family for nearly a hundred years; a prized heirloom and indeed a generous gift. Capt. Robins gave two attractive pictures of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh and these now hang in the dining room.

On November 6 the Huxtables held a farewell party for the officers and their wives. Nearly every room in 66 Haigh Road was thrown open for the occasion. The regimental dance group beat the rhythm out in their dining room whilst the barmen wrestled beer pulls and wine corks in one of the bed-

rooms. A buffet was served at half time which briefly eased the demand on drink, whilst dealing a deft blow to existing hunger. The evening was a tremendous success, proving regrettably that in one respect its content was far in excess to that of the regimental dinner. Finally, in November the Mayor of Spensborough came to lunch. This notable occasion revived memories of Burma Company's KAPE tour and the hospitality they had received in Spensborough.

Prior to Christmas the Mess had a disco evening and the Ladies Guestnight at which the regimental dance group played. Both occasions went off well and served as admirable "warmers into the bank" before the Battalion dispersed for 10 days Christmas leave.

The Mess have had a number of guests to lunch or dinner during the past two months. Lt.-General Jackson visited the Battalion prior to relinquishing his command of Northern Command as did Brigadier Guy shortly after his arrival to take over 24 Brigade. In the last week of January a guest night was held at which the Colonel of the Regiment was present. Major-General Majury, Brigadier Guy, Lt.-Col. Kavanagh and Dom Alberic Stacpoolle

were the guests. It was with particular pleasure that we welcomed Don Alberic and hoped he found the Mess not too different from the days when he last knew it. A farewell cocktail party was held on February 2 to which some 130 guests were invited. This social occasion developed into a disco, over which the popular and now familiar disc jockey from Leeds presided. Capt. Jago had organised the evening's entertainment and as on the three or four previous occasions it was a great success and a good time was had by all.

Now we look forward to handing over the Mess in Catterick to the Green Jackets and receiving in exchange their Mess in Ballykelly. Mess life in future will be somewhat unsettled for most of us and for the remainder a world shared with others from elsewhere.

### WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS MESS

Soon after the last notes were written, December and the Festive Season was upon us with the usual round of parties and functions.

Christmas dinner was served to the troops in the evening and was, as usual, an excellent meal. Afterwards the stalwarts of the Mess joined by a few of the hardier Officers Mess Members returned to the Mess to continue the movement. Conviviality and *bonhomie* reigned for the rest of the evening.

This was followed by the annual Officers v. Sergeants football match, a more serious event these days. We won and, to show no hard feelings, were invited back to the Officers Mess for drinks

and eats afterwards. There was a short recess after this, perhaps a good thing, it gave time to regroup and reorganise for the Christmas Draw in the evening. Joe Collins very sportingly came back from York to see through the Draw which he had started way back in Ireland. All went well: Chiefly Hartly won the star prize but the RSM won nothing. Perhaps the organisation was slightly amiss.

January was somewhat uneventful, New Year was "Let in" or "First Footed", depending on one's birthplace, in the time-accustomed manner. But, after that there was a general steadying of the social whirl. We had several high-ranking visitors, one of whom, Major-General Majury, we entertained to lunch. The meal was excellent, many thanks to the cooks. These occasions are rare, in fact the RSM can only remember three all told.

Earlier in the month we hired a bus and made a perilous journey across the Pennines to watch the semi-final of the Army Cup. We were met at the gates of Fulwood Barracks by Bernard Coll who took us to the Mess. After watching a very tight game we returned to the Mess for more drinks and a buffet. We left at half-past-six, picked up a few stragglers and eventually found ourselves in Ripon. There we recharged our batteries and finally arrived back in Catterick at about half-past-ten.

There is little left to do now but pack up and go. We may manage a trip to Aldershot for the Final. In fact, one way or another we must get there. The Green Jackets are slowly filtering in and The Duke's are slowly filtering out. In fact, as this is being written the "Q" Advance are on their way.

## SPORT

### RUGBY

Since the last notes, which ended with a short mention of the 1st round of the Army Cup, the team has now progressed to the UK final of the Army Cup. This match is to be played at Aldershot on Wednesday, February 7, and our opponents are once again the redoubtable Welsh Guards.

Our progress to this point has been punctuated with disrupted training, injuries to key players, and an inability to play as well as we can. The 2nd round of the Army Cup was against the Royal Hussars at Tidworth, an unknown quantity who for 10 minutes pressed us hard but lacked a defence anywhere when pressure was exerted on them. The forwards soon dominated matters and both they and the backs broke through at will which had the score mounting quickly till we eventually ran out winners by 77—6. This game told us very little and proved nothing except that if we played to form then a side below par in defence would be in serious trouble.

The 3rd round was a bye, and the 4th round match was against the Guards Depot. A home match which seemed on paper to be a game we could win if we played reasonably well. Injuries forced the threequarters into a new formation, and disaster struck in the first minute or two when we gave away a soft try. This was followed by a penalty goal, and we found ourselves down 7—0. Although we got a penalty back before half-time, our play

outside of the scrum was so jittery that the opposition had no difficulty in snuffing out our attacks at source. Tribute must be paid to the Guards pack who were strong, hard, and full of fire, and their backs who were uncompromising in defence. However, some semblance of togetherness in the backs would have undoubtedly helped our hard-pressed forwards who at this stage were carrying the team.

The second half started like the first, and it was only through the efforts of the forwards who wore down the opposition, giving the backs a little more room, that the side was able to regain some poise. A try by 2/Lt. Grieved converted by Cpl. Cuss put us in front, and frenzied Duke's attacks finally made the Guards pack give away a penalty in front of the posts which Cpl. Cuss slotted over to give us victory by a margin of five points which frankly flattered us. We missed penalties galore, too, which was disturbing.

The Christmas leave disrupted training for the UK semi-final against 1 RWF at Preston. Injuries were still prevalent and again we were below form on the day. We had a very considerable territorial advantage which, for one reason or another we could not turn into account. Missed penalties again were crucial and on the turn round the scores were level at 0—0. It was a more even second half where opportunities again came our way to put the issue beyond doubt but were not taken. Five minutes



before the end a penalty awarded against us gave the 1 RWF a chance to put us out of the competition, but this was fluffed even more badly than our own efforts, and last-minute pressure by The Duke's saw a penalty awarded in a very kickable position which Cpl. Cuss put over for us to win the match 3—0.

It is probably carping to criticise a team which has reached the UK cup final, but it is well to remember that although the history of the sixties may disagree, winning the Army Cup is not a matter of divine right. Any side which for good reason or bad fails to produce its form will find that good opposition will gleefully knock them out of the competition. The Duke's this year have played below standard both up front and behind. That injuries and a very busy working year have played their part in this does not hide the fact that we have made very heavy weather of the last two games. We must become much sharper in thought and deed and produce a greater cohesion, forcefulness and higher work rate all round to beat a powerful Welsh Guards XV. It's there on paper, and it is up to each one of the team to produce a memorable performance at Aldershot.

### Rugby Notes Postscript

It was the end of an era at Aldershot on Wednesday, February 7, 1973, when 1st Battalion The Welsh Guards defeated The Duke's by 19—3. It was a sad day, but one cannot argue with the result which was a convincing win for opponents although, judging the game territorially, perhaps a shade flattering.

An initial penalty goal by The Duke's was answered by two very well-taken drop goals after considerable pressure on The Duke's line. A penalty goal by 1 WG ended the scoring in the first half. On the restart the WG again dominated proceedings and one of the threequarters was caught offside in front of the posts. Slow moving and thinking enabled the WG to take a short penalty, and they crashed over under the posts to score a try, which was easily converted to make the score 15—3. The Duke's really pressurised their opponents for the next 20 minutes and came near to scoring on at least two or three occasions. However, it was not to be, and the WG came back, and weak defence on the touchline allowed a forward to run 30 yards to score in the corner. This is how it ended—19—3.

The plain simple facts were that the WG played a very strong, well-knit, attacking game of rugby at a speed which the Duke's could not match. Their back row was the cornerstone of their victory, being first class in attack and defence whether driving forward on their own, supporting their backs or covering across to their wings. In the second half The Duke's backs threatened several times, cutting through with surprising ease, but the Guards cover seemed to take anything, mainly through lack of pace on our wings. The forwards improved steadily throughout the game, but could not match the overall fire, speed and togetherness of the Welsh Guards.

Still it has been a wonderful decade of "Duke's rugby" with four Army Cups, and two Far Eastern

Championships under our belt. Several players, notably S/Sgt. Hall, Sgt. Dickens, Sgt. Robinson, Cpl. Waqabaca and Major Reid, were there from the beginning. Certainly the time has come for new blood in the side, and one hopes that it will not be long before we are back in a challenging position for the cup. One must congratulate the team in getting to the UK final, and remember that it is quite a feat, anyway, to do this under the very difficult circumstances which we have been faced with this season. A word of special thanks to Major Campbell-Lamerton for his tremendous endeavour and coaching in the last 10 days which we are only sorry did not produce the required result. However, The Duke's never gave up and fought to the very end, which is all that can be asked of any side in any game.

### SOCCER

Despite some notable gaps in the team by the departure of some of our long-service players as reported in our previous notes, we have still managed to win the Northumbrian District Major Units League quite convincingly.

We won all our matches, the best result being a 12—2 win away, against 1 QDG. L/Cpl. Sollitt and Lightfoot scored six goals between them in this match and together they have notched up two-thirds of the goals scored by this unit this season.

Two months earlier we were lucky to force a draw against the same team, full marks, therefore, go to CSM Collins (now promoted to RSM with the Yorkshire Volunteers). Congratulations on his vigorous training methods and to all the players, who always played hard and well. None of our players have even been cautioned, which is something of a novelty in present times.

L/Cpl. Marr and L/Cpl. Elvidge have recently left us to become civilians. We wish them both the best of luck. L/Cpl. Marr has been the team skipper and has played outstanding soccer for the Battalion for a number of years.

L/Cpl. Lomax is attending a three-months PTI's Course. Consequently, to fill their places a number of newcomers have had to be blooded. Ptes. Buckner, Warencia, Hatton and Washington have all slotted in very well.

On our annual visit to Inverness to play 1 Gordons, this time in one of the earlier rounds of the Army Cup, we unfortunately lost by two goals to one. It was a blustery day and rather cold for us Sassenachs. Also the Jocks won the toss so we started with a wind of almost gale force behind us. Having scored the first goal the Gordons drew level just before half-time. In the second half they soon scored their second goal and deservedly won the game.

Sgt. Cross of the APTC has now joined us and as an Army player and qualified coach we are certainly delighted to see him.

S/Sgt. Stansfield has been filling in for the departed RSM Collins and relieving the soccer officer of all the administrative problems.

Sgt. Garrick of the REME has also joined the Unit as the Attached Tels Mechanic. He has been playing his soccer for the permanent staff of the JTR Troon. So we have something to the credit.

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We are scheduled for yet another trip over the border on February 13. This time to play the Argyll's at Kirknewton where they are currently stationed, in the second round of the Infantry Cup.

In addition to this match, we have a fixture in

North East District against the King's Division Depot at Strensall, York.

After this we shall be on our way to the Emerald Isle. Where, despite other activities, we hope to be able to train occasionally and perhaps win something big.

## Company Notes

### WATERLOO (COMMAND) COMPANY

"A damned close-run thing" said the Duke of Wellington referring to the battle of Waterloo. The same might well be said when trying to squeeze notes from the departments of Waterloo Company to meet the editor's deadline. Even as I write the introduction to the notes of the departments others are hastily writing the events of the last four months. To confuse foreign intelligence gatherers we have changed the name of the Company to Waterloo. However, it is comforting to know that, however much the readership of THE IRON DUKE may dwindle, there will always be three regular subscribers in the Eastern *bloc* embassies. They may now amend their files and also record that there is a new Company Commander, Capt. Stacpoole. Lt. Ward has now moved to Somme Company to take over the "Forkhill Mob". Exercise "Disco III" has come and gone. The Company was much involved. Recce watched the comings and goings in Huds- well Grange through every conceivable type of optical device. Those wives who heard their husbands murmur "Twiggy" whilst tossing in their beds need not worry. They had not fallen in love with a flat-chested bean pole, but were dreaming of a gadget with which to watch the nocturnal habits of the Drums Platoon. Once more CSM Kelly produced his amazing graph and managed to conjure soldiers out of thin air to do camp duties whenever the rifle companies went "walk-about".

Shortly after Disco III we had a small company exercise at Barford Camp. This time the Drums Platoon with one section of Recce, acted the part of security forces. Cpl. Adams, Pte. Stagg and Smith, all experienced "plastiquers", provided the bulk of the IRA. Cpl. Adams, like Queen Victoria, was not amused when lighting a small petrol bomb to receive a rubber bullet on his eyebrow. There is a man in the Drums who cannot sleep in his bed of nights since Cpl. Adams has sworn vengeance.

L/Cpl. Hayes got promotion, L/Cpl. Dent has completed his course with the RMPs and did well. Congratulations to both.

### A few notes from Seagull

There has been a great deal of posting in and out of late. No apology is made for any omission to the following lists but we do welcome, say goodbye or congratulate anyone who has been missed out.

*Arrivals:* We welcome to the Company Drum Major Gregor who came to use from 3 RRF, Sgt. Spearman and his dog section. S/Sgt. Martin and his assault pioneers. Unfortunately, most of them

left within a fortnight. L/Cpl. Hayes and Pte. Dyke came to the Provost Staff, Pte. Sullivan as ambulance driver, Cpl. Lyons to the Recce Platoon, Cpl. Tolley and L/Cpl. Willetts as PRI Clerk and projectionist respectively, and lastly Sgt. Garrick, REME, as Tels Tech.

*Departures:* Goodbye and best wishes must be said to Drum Major Lever, Cpl. Barnett and Cpl. Brennan who have ventured into the cold cruel, world of civilian life. Cpl. Hall, Pte. Earnshaw, Sgt. Sobey and Sgt. Taylor are either posted or are to be in the near future. Perhaps a special mention should be made of Sgt. Bob Kench who has served the Signal Platoon so long and so well. He has not yet left us but it is only a matter of days before he changes uniforms and becomes a policeman.

*Promotions:* Congratulations to the following on their promotions.

Cpl. Goddard to Sergeant, L/Cpl. Ijeh to Corporal, Ptes Thackeray, Anver, Lomax and Cooper to L/Cpl.

*Births:* We congratulate Sgt. Shaw, Pte. Ankers and Pte. Welburn on the birth of their sons.

Finally, to all those of the Company who have left us to serve with the rifle companies during the Ulster tour we say good luck. No doubt they will return to the fold after the tour is ended.

### Recce Platoon

The Platoon is having a new sign painted—Rent an Enemy, having acted as enemy for most companies and a few neighbouring units in the past four months. We even supplied live targets for a forward air controllers' exercise around Senny- bridge, it was quite an experience to have Harriers and Buccaneers driving at us.

An incident the Platoon prefers to forget, which doubtless the MTO will not, occurred the other day, whilst on a map reading/radio exercise in vehicles. A certain section commander got bogged down trying to take a short cut across the training area. A second vehicle got bogged down in front of the first trying to tow it out, and a third in front of the second. As night fell an embarrassed Recce Platoon were rescued by the MT recovery vehicle.

A comedian in the Drums, who provided the enemy for exercise "Disco III" was heard to say that Hudswell Grange will be central heated next year. The Platoon spent four very cold days and nights watching the activities of the Drums in the building prior to the Battalion cordon and search. The temperature dropped below 12 degrees of frost on one night.

### Sport

Having drawn with 8 Platoon twice already we still have to settle the semi-final of the inter-Platoon soccer knockout competition. Ptes. Attiwell and Cockshott both represented the Battalion in the 3 Div cross-country. Attiwell maintaining the Battalion's name by coming 33rd—on foot.

### Personalities

We say farewell to S/Sgt. Stansfield who has taken over as CQMS of Waterloo Company. Sgt. Heron on posting to JIB Shorncliffe and Cpl. Hall to the Infantry Display team, Warminster; thanking them for their service and wishing them all the best in their new appointments.

We welcome Cpls' Parrott Lyond and Pte. Squires.

### Births

Congratulations to Pte. and Mrs. Ankers on the birth of their son—Anthony.

### Awards

Congratulations to Pte. Cockshott on receiving the GOC's Commendation for Bravery.

### Signal Platoon

The return from Christmas and New Year leave once again sees the Platoon dispersed, in detachments, to the rifle companies. This time the detachments are to remain with the companys for the duration of the N. Ireland tour.

For the last month or so the Battalion has been training hard for N. Ireland and immediately we returned from leave the N. Ireland Training Team gave us a great week of films and lectures in the Classic Cinema at Catterick Camp Centre.

The training was rounded off with exercise "Disco III", on which the BHQ element of the Platoon were involved in setting up and running the radio room. This brought back many memories of Ulster Ops rooms with Capt. Fitzgerald at the helm.

Prior to exercise "Disco III" the leadership of the Platoon changed hands with Capt. Gardner taking the seat. He immediately set out to prove some of his Warminster theories by coating radio masts in "Dayglo" tape, basically to "ward off" low-flying helicopters. Some other ideas on the "Dayglo" tape were that it acted as a beacon for wayward radio waves in distress. Judging by the good communications and the fact that all masts were standing at the end of the exercise, it could be said that the "Dayglo" was a success on both counts.

To say that the enemy were in our midst during exercise "Disco III" is putting it mildly. Two members of 2 RRF/IRA casually walked into the Signal Stores and (after getting authorisation from the RSO) signed out a complete A41! (We've got the signatures to prove it! ! ) They're still debating who is to get the "chop".

Of other incidents we had better keep quiet, but one worth mentioning was "Woody's" discovery of a "bomb" in the radio room. He furtively removed it to the toilet and then re-discovered it for ATO to deal with.

We would like to say farewell at this point to



Pte Cockshott receives his GOC's commendation from the Colonel of the Regiment.

Lt. Ward, who takes command of the A/Tk Platoon after two years as PRONTO; best of luck for the future sir! On the same note we bid welcome to Capt. Gardner, long may his "Dayglo" shine!

Goodbye, alas, to Bob Kench who has been with the Platoon for nine years. He intends joining the Bradford Constabulary and we hope to see him again (but not in his official capacity). Best of luck, Bob! Farewell to Sgts. Bill Taylor and "Taff" Sobey whom we leave behind and to L/Cpl. Steve Blagbrough who goes to 10 AYT in Huddersfield.

Congratulations to L/Cpl. Thackeray on his promotion (you've made it at last "Thack"). Also to L/Cpl. Dave Cusworth on passing his RSI Course at Warminster. Unfortunately, one member of the Platoon will not be with us for some time as he is in hospital, get well soon, Pte. Brian Wolstenholme.

Finally, congratulations to Sgt. Shaw, Ptes. Welburn and Hollis on the births of their respective children and well done L/Cpl. Les Brook, whose status as a bachelor is in jeopardy (at last).

### Training Wing

The Training Wing has witnessed a great deal of to-ing and fro-ing over the past few months but nonetheless an atmosphere of organised chaos has pervaded. WO2 Conley left the fold and is now in Corunna Company. His replacement, WO2 Quayle, arrived in October and had no difficulty



both in mastering his and the Training Officer's job while the latter was immersed in the study of Strategic Theories and International Relations.

In late November Cpl. Wilkinson appeared and announced that he was going to step into Cpl. Pollard's shoes as the new ammunition storeman. It would have to be his shoes as anything else, despite the much publicised diet, would be a trifle too large! In N. Ireland Cpl. Pollard will be entering show business as the Camp Cinema Manager.

In N. Ireland the future of the Training Wing is uncertain. The Training Officer and the Training Warrant Officer become the Ops Officer and the Operations Warrant Officer respectively. However, as the tour progresses so the need for more cadres will grow. This may result in the reforming of the Training Wing.

### ALMA COMPANY

One of the chief snags of our profession is the number of courses we are encouraged to attend in order to keep up with the mass of specialisations and qualifications thrust upon us. It would appear too easy to keep the Company split up for ever while we coursed, educated and qualified each other for skills for which we are never allowed time to practise. Our masters are aware of this danger; in fact they sent an officer to do a survey here, to establish the main causes that keep us from company training. One of the answers he received was "Visiting officers who remove us from training to answer questions for surveys". After a week he went away—but nothing has changed.

During November and December Major Stevens and Lt. Meek returned from Warminster, full of artillery fire plans, APC tactics, nuclear know-how, divisional tactics and advanced weapon handling. We are assured this does not represent a change of tatics in Ulster. Also, and in random order so as not to give away their strange skills, CQMS Simpson, Sgt. Noble, Cpl. Raine, Cpl. Frear, Cpl. Hey, Cpl. Ryan, Cpl. Timson, Cpl. Fereday, L/Cpl. Waller, Pte. Villanyi, Pte. Hunter, Pte. Farrell and

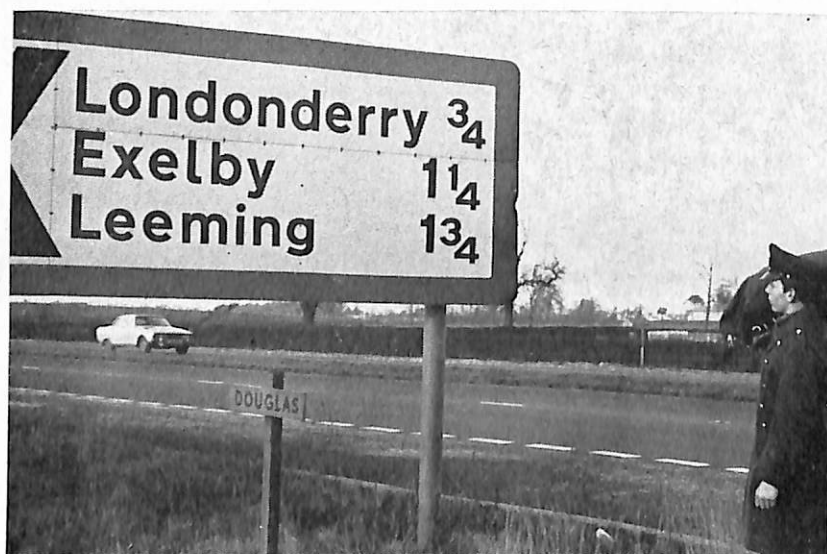
Pte. Moran all took part in such things as Sniper Training, Radar Operating, Intelligence Gathering, Skill at Arms, Gelignite Hunting, House Searching, Clerking, Education and, for all we know, advanced dog skinning. A large-scale Junior NCOs cadre mopped up many more, either to teach or be taught.

Towards the middle of December we drew together for our Company Party, planned for late July! Many ex-Ballymurphy-ites gathered to see the CO present 3 Platoon with the Inter-Platoon Shield, to watch the CSM distributing free beer tickets, to see Cpl. Bowden dance and to listen to The Duke's group. A stripper also attended.

Internal Security Training started in the last working week of December. One ability we have developed from our Ulster days is how to organise a riot. Our casualty rate is higher than reality—Pte. Bohannon has a fine plaster on his foot and L/Cpl. Bailey some needlework in his scalp. Three night exercises upon a deserted village revived memories of the problems of night search and lift operations—the niceties of distinguishing between the belligerent guilty and the furious innocent.

Finally, exercise "Disco III" tied it all together in a series of realistic events in town and country settings. Our town enemies were rapidly rounded up, but our rural ones proved more elusive. Back to the drawing board. . .

Welcome to 2/Lt. Drake and Pitcher—even if they must go away again so soon on courses. Welcome to S/Sgt. Stewart, Sgt. Grey, and our incoming assault pioneers, signallers, drivers and medic, plus L/Cpl. Uttley back from Oswestry. Congratulations to L/Cpl Best, Ptes. Moran and Hunter on their several marriages; to Cpl. Ryan and L/Cpls. Bailey, Waller, Porter, Gerke on promotion; to the Feredays, Farrells and Heaths on the birth of their sons and daughters and to Cpl. Watermans' emergence from plaster. (He broke an arm AND a leg. Very careless.) Farewell to Cpl. Timmins, L/Cpl. Elvidge, Ptes. Wain, Robinson and Cordingley to the ranks of the civilians. Thank you for your support in difficult times. A temporary



The wrong Londonderry.  
Pte. Robinson, Alma Com-  
pany, ex 'Disco III'





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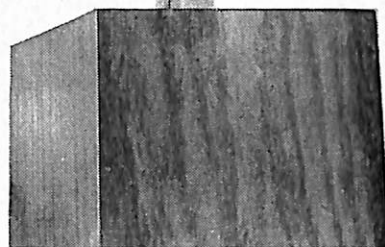
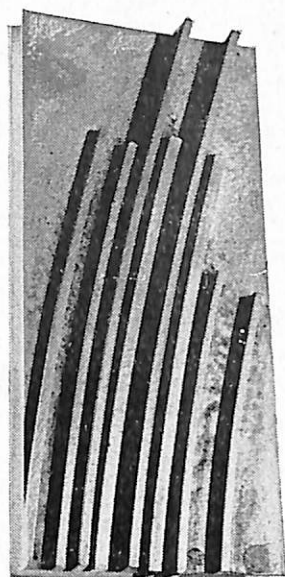
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farewell to Cpl. Wood who is now instructing at the Depot. And, finally, a big HELLO to Ulster. . .

### BURMA COMPANY

The last notes saw the Company having finished classification and the Battalion rifle meeting. For the next two months most of the Company were involved in various Battalion and Company cadres, namely NCO, Trained Soldier's and Company Upgrading. In December the company acted as enemy to three TAVR Companys who were on a weekend airportable exercise. The Company Commander, much to his dismay, was umpire to one of the Companys and spent much of his time travelling by Land Rover between Catterick and Newcastle. After this exercise the Company started on its N. Ireland training and, just prior to the Christmas break, a very useful week was spent under the direction of the N. Ireland Training Team.

Christmas came and went in a flash; immediately afterwards N. Ireland training started in earnest culminating in the Battalion exercise "Disco III" which was mainly spent in intensely freezing weather at Wathgill and Barford camps; Wathgill acting as the rural base and Barford as the Urban.

The new "heavies" of the Company, Major Ivey and CSM Lindsay have swung into action, that is when the Sergeant Major is here between drill courses and environmental intelligence courses.

At the present moment we are in the process of carrying out last-minute training for Ireland and also packing up, and in fact the first party has already departed. The next note will be despatched from sunny Ireland!

It is with mixed feelings that we view our forthcoming tour in Ulster. There can be no doubt that it will be a worth-while task, as peace-keeping always is—irrespective of where. We expect to be very busy, both operationally and with all the amenities available to us in Ballykelly. The word is out that Burma's Go-cart, suitably painted in the Company's colours, will be a "hot car" favourite with many bachelors. The married members will probably prefer the sauna bath—thus removing the excess weight caused by good home cooking.

Inquiries have already been made over the availability of good fishing waters locally and it would appear that we shall be able to form a fishing club. More news on this to follow!

### Personalia

*Promotions:* we congratulate the following on their promotion:

Sgt. Rochester, Sgt. Cook, Cpl. Briston, Cpl. Stoniland, Cpl. Elgar, L/Cpl. Jackson, L/Cpl. Marks, L/Cpl. Peel, L/Cpl. Crowther, L/Cpl. Downs, L/Cpl. Sutton.

*Marriages:* we congratulate the following on their marriages:

L/Cpl. Peel, Ptes. Barron, Pickersgill, Denton.

*Postings in and out:* there have been quite a number inter-company postings, rather too many to mention, but we would especially like to welcome into the Company the following recruits from the Depot:

Ptes. Sparks, Teall, Beecroft, Oakley, Sheard.

*Births:* we congratulate Cpl. Barker and Mrs. Barker on the birth of a daughter (belated entry

I'm afraid) and also L/Cpl. and Mrs. Sutton, also a daughter.

### CORUNNA COMPANY

#### All change

At Christmas time there was a complete change around of chiefs within the Company. Major Mundell departed to instruct at the Junior Division of the Staff College, CSM Collins to be RSM of 1 Yorkshire Volunteers, C/Sgt. Hughes to command a platoon in Somme and Lt. Isles departs to Sandhurst before we go to Ireland to do the new course for short service officers who change to regular. (Meanwhile he has been lumbered with doing Battalion baggage officer.) To all those stalwarts, and their wives, who have served Corunna excellently, our thanks. They have seen the Company successfully through two emergency tours of Ulster and other such varied tasks as Public Duties and amphibious exercises in Scotland and the Caribbean. It has been a good two years for Corunna.

Major Bray has taken over command of the Company and Capt. Gilbert has joined from Somme as our 2IC. CSM Conley is our new Sergeant-Major and we are delighted to have newly promoted C/Sgt. Leachman in our stores and Sgt. Arrowsmith as our Int Sgt. in place of Sgt. Nash. Also newly promoted we welcome S/Sgt. Robinson to command 9 Platoon. 7 Platoon is now commanded by Sgt. Basu bolstered by a Platoon Sergeant's course in Wales and a charming Welsh wife, and usually a hole in his head from a Welsh boot (no connection with wife). So only 8 Platoon has remained intact.

#### The Catterick Scene

Autumn was a time of cadres, courses and individual training but we also survived the third and final of Major Mundell's famous Muji Kas exercises designed to practise conventional warfare. Despite the attentions of an enemy force led by the awesome MTO (Capt. Battye) the exercise was easier than its predecessors probably because we were lucky with the weather. However, we did have to transfer Cpl. Lyons to the Recce Platoon for inability to tell north from south. The medical comforts left over went some way towards lubricating all concerned in December at a stag night run in the Band Social Club to say goodbye to the chiefs. We also nearly had to say goodbye to Cpl. Blackburn who was almost written off by C/Sgt. Hughes with a spoon. Cunning chaps these Qs.

In January, the new chiefs started us on our preparation for Ulster once again. We spent a very busy 36 hours at Barford Camp, Barnard Castle, on a Company exercise where each Platoon went through nearly all the IS possibilities using Saracens and helicopters and, as the enemy, the Band, Somme Company and a larger-than-life Rent-a-Tartan-Gang who were a great help to us. Fortunately, despite some very realistic riots casualties were slight: one of Somme was poleaxed by a rubber bullet (they got even by winging Cpl. Franks later), and one whose head was split by a brick thrown by one of his own side at a snatch party.

Soon after this followed the Battalion week-long Ulster preparation exercise which posed us some problems. Our new C/Sergeant, ably assisted by his stalwarts, performed some remarkable feats. In a



**Pte. English receives his GOC's commendation from the Colonel of the Regiment**

very cold building where we had our CP, he produced a solid fuel stove, lit it, and then left in search of a chimney. If battleships laid smoke screens that stove would have been at sea, and by the time he came back it was impossible to see the stove, the ceiling or his partner in crime, L/Cpl. White. To cut a long story short, we finished with a masterly piece of improvisation which kept us warm on the coldest night of the month and allowed us to enjoy his never-ending supply of salmon (smoked, of course) sandwiches in comfort.

We have laid great emphasis on rifle shooting and, in addition to a lot of time on the range, we have had a very useful officers and NCOs study day on the rifle. CSM Norman very kindly came up and joined us for this; he gave us an excellent lecture and helped us on the range. When he has finished recruiting we would like him back in the Battalion!

### **Sport**

Sad though it is to have lost the Army Cup rucker match for the first time in 10 years some will appreciate what we mean when we say "Every cloud has a silver lining"; in Corunna the 2IC and all three Platoon Commanders are in the 1st XV. On a brighter note we congratulate Ptes. Elwell and Walker on being selected for the Junior Army team to play the Navy.

All sports have suffered from the intensive training period in preparation for Ulster but we have arranged some soccer. Our Company team is in the knock-out final versus Waterloo and 8 Platoon have successfully gummed up the Platoon competition by drawing twice with the Recce Platoon in the Platoon semi-finals. Ptes. Lightfoot, Furness, Warenycia, O'Garro and Silcox represent the Battalion.

In the very successful Battalion cross-country team we have been well represented by Ptes. Priestly, Halton and Beck.

Last, but by no means least, congratulations to Sgt. Kelly on being runner-up in his weight in the Army boxing.

### **Personalia**

Departures—with our best thanks and good wishes: Cpl. Lyons, Ptes. Grinsdale, Harris, Whitely, Allen, Wizzard, Cowling, Pawson, Pelucci, Hoyland 73, Hoyland 36, Simpson, Downing and Doran.

Arrivals—we welcome: Cpl. Morton, L/Cpls. Williams, Kennedy, Bagshaw, Ptes. Bray, Threlfall, Furness, Pawlowski, Vokes, Kemp, Frear and Carroll.



### **Alma on patrol**

*Photo Corunna OP.*

(See competition corner).

### Corrunna Competition Corner

1. *The Alma Patrol* (see photo). Can you name the members of the patrol? What was the mission? Answers on page 23.

2. *Extras*. Which CSM recently got seven extra baby sitters for taking his four-week-old son boozing in the Mess while his wife was shopping? First correct answer to Corrunna Company office will get a surprise.

### SOMME COMPANY

Because of the very considerable changeover in personnel and the re-emergence of Somme Company as a rifle company these notes will cover all the Platoons' activities. We hope to revert to Platoon Notes once again for the next issue of THE IRON DUKE.

This last period has seen an immense amount of change and activity for the Company. First of all the Mortar and Anti-Tank Cadres under Capt. Redwood-Davies and Capt. Gilbert came to a successful conclusion, the results being good in the Platoons both from a theoretical and practical point of view. The Vigilant Platoon fired most successfully at Otterburn in November scoring more hits than expected, and producing a few problems for the boffins. Lt. Thorn seemed on a few occasions to produce a potentiality in his missiles for a ground to air role—not considered as yet by the designers !!

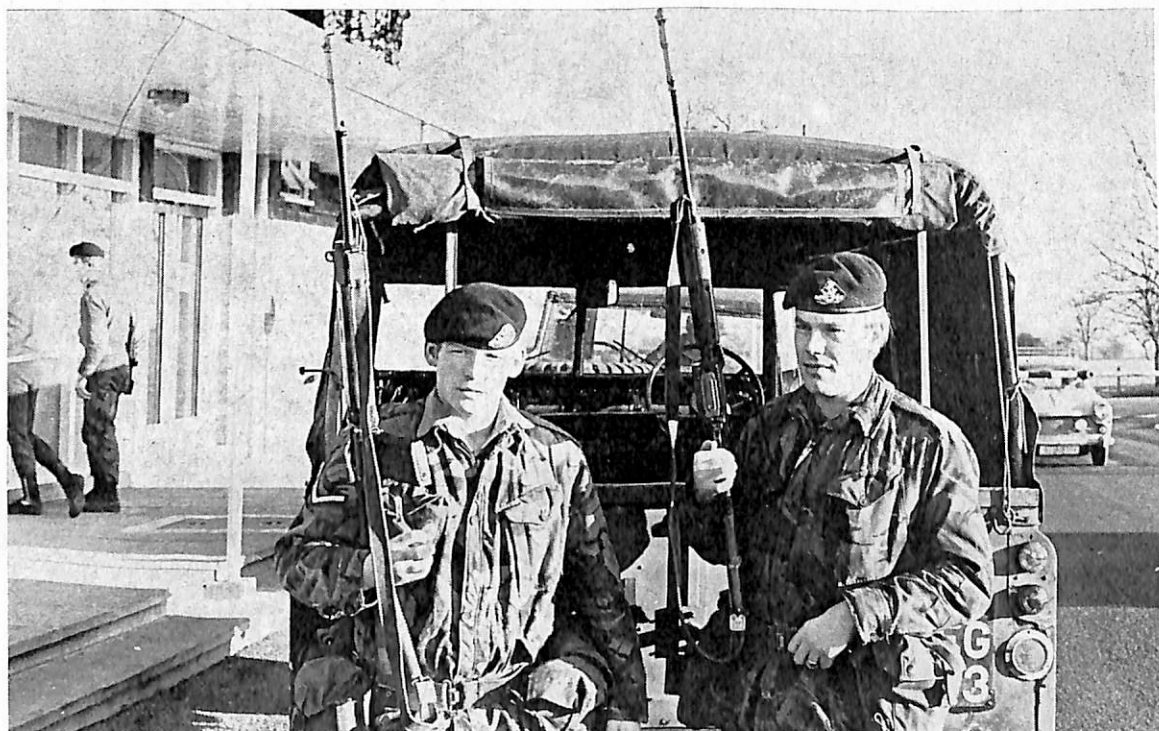
At the end of November, the structure of Somme Company was markedly changed in preparation for N. Ireland training. Vigilant Platoon disbanded, the Assault Pioneers were split between Companies,

and drivers from the Mortars, A/Tank and Vigilant were centralised in the MT. This dismemberment cut down our strength by nearly 50%—a frightening thought. The Platoons have now been redesignated 10, 11, and 12 Platoons for N. Ireland.

Training for N. Ireland cracked off in early December, and all the well-known cries of VCPs, Riot Drills, Intreps, etc. were once again heard. We had three short exercises locally in which the company went through most aspects of training. A welcome, Christmas leave embracing New Year provided a short break from the training, and our efforts were redoubled during January leading up to "Disco III". Somme Company enjoyed themselves right up till the final morning of the exercise when they found themselves as the outer cordon for a Battalion Cordon and Search Operation. Five minutes crouching in ditches was sufficient for all and sundry to realise that it was as "parkie" a morning as one could remember, and the zombie-like movements of Platoons when the exercise finished were amusing except that it hurt when you laughed!

The Company is now preparing to move to N. Ireland in three stages throughout the next five weeks. As usual C/Sgt. Hall will pave the way in his own inimitable style and look after our interests. His departure on February 5 is followed by the "heavies" on February 20. The main body moving between February 28 to March 10.

Earlier it was stated that there had been considerable changes within the Company. We have said farewell to Captain's Gilbert and Thorn and S/Sgt. Martin (OC A/Pioneers Platoon) who inci-



READY TO GO.

[L/Cpl. Evans and Pte Potter, Somme Coy.



dentially served us well as acting CSM in WO2 Carter's absence with the Woodentops. Sgt. Minto has also departed for recruiting, and Sgt. Hewson has been whisked off to "A" Company. In their places we welcome Lt. Ward (A/Tank Platoon) 2/Lt. Dowdell (Mors) and S/Sgt. Hughes as OC 12 Platoon. We also welcome Sgt. Ineson in place of Sgt. Minto.

New arrivals to the Company are Ptes. Priestly, Paylor, Slater 15, Morley, Horsley, Atkinson and Hand from the Depot King's Division, who we hope will enjoy their stay with Somme Company.

Congratulations to the following on promotion: Cpl. Cooper, L/Cpl. Coulson, Evans and to those who have increased their families and therefore responsibilities: L/Cpl. and Mrs. Coulson, Pte. and Mrs. Evans on the birth of boys, Pte. and Mrs. Garner on the birth of a girl.

### HOOK COMPANY

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| OC                | Major Pugh        |
| CSM               | WO2 Clarke        |
| CQMS              | S/Sgt. Hodgkinson |
| Clerk             | Cpl. White        |
| Armoury           | L/Cpl. Broadbent  |
| Storemen          | L/Cpl. Richardson |
|                   | L/Cpl. Frear      |
|                   | Pte. Evans        |
| Clerk in training | Pte. Phillip      |

Another rather hectic time for Company Headquarters made rather more difficult by the OC taking over the PRI. We found ourselves putting up the Christmas decorations, organising the Battalion Children's Party, and other such tasks one associates with the festive season.

The week before Christmas we had a visit from the N. Ireland training team and we were amazed at the numbers who left their offices, stores, etc. to learn the latest and newest ideas from Ulster.

The comings and goings are too numerous to mention from a company of 190 strong but nearly all the ACC have changed over and the MT is nearly 60 strong.

We must welcome L/Cpl. Bradley, who it will be remembered lost a leg in Ulster. He is back with us and is employed in the Officers Mess. We are now finishing off the packing for Ulster and in between still finding time to shoot, in fact, all the Company have now classified which is something of an achievement.

Looking ahead to Ballykenny there will soon be some more departures as both the OC and CSM will be leaving for a tour at Strensall.

### MT

Life is normally hectic in the Battalion these days, and if there are any quieter periods they are never apparent to us down the in MT lines. There was one week in December when all was strangely peaceful; I think that quite by chance the rifle companies all claimed their normal three weekdays off for every weekend day worked all at the same time, if you see what I mean.

There was a complete reorganisation of MT in December, as a result of which most of the ex-Vigilant and A/Tk drivers came into Hook Com-

pany. They are all good men and we are very pleased to have them. Private Wilson 14 is perhaps not quite typical. In the one month he has (a) passed his HGV cadre and test, (b) learned to type in order to take over as MT Clerk, and (c) found himself a wealthy young woman with whom he is now honeymooning in the Mediterranean.

Driver training has gone on relentlessly in preparation for Ballykelly; since September we have managed to licence 17 new drivers and convert nine older ones to HGV. The final pre-Ulster basic cadre is in progress, and at the end of the month 10 of the newer drivers go to the MT School at Bordon for "Pig" training. The Corporal Instructors are to be congratulated on their hard work throughout the year, as are those professional Testing Officers, S/Sgt. Pearson, Sgt. Rawcliffe and Sgt. Pye.

I mentioned that memorably quiet week in December. In five days we managed to get every one zeroed, and completed our PRE tests in the gym (PI average "B"). We also managed to beat strong Burma and Waterloo Company sides at football, and are planning to find the time for another football match some time during 1973.

The REME detachment continued to provide their normal excellent service in spite of comings and goings. Cfn. Bramley and the famous Peter Henry departed, to be replaced by one Farley from Arborfield; he has started off very well indeed. The annual vehicle inspection starts next Wednesday, and so more than ever were are in the hands of Sgt. Plomer and his gang.

Sgt. Pye is away at Bordon on an MT Accounts course. His return is the signal for Sgt. Rawcliffe and the "Q" advance party to depart for Ballykelly from where our next "Notes" will come.

### Quartermaster's department

There have been several publications of THE IRON DUKE since our last contribution, due mainly to the absence of our scribe on duty elsewhere at the time when pen should have replaced the sword. For this, we humbly apologise.

The first and most important report we have to make to the world at large is that we are now under new management and hope that our services will continue as normal. Capt. (QM) W. Robins, MBE, vacated the hot seat on November 16, 1972, after some seven eventful years and has been replaced by Capt. (QM) W. Burke until recently the Technical Quarter-Master. Capt. Robins is now serving a staff appointment with HQ 44 Para Bde. (V) in London, and we wish him, Rita, and family good fortune for the future.

We have suffered our share of the trials and tribulations which now seem the daily life of a Field Force Unit. Emergency tours in Ulster, exercises, Spearhead Duty, you name it !!! The change over of Commanding officers set a few problems in that we had to *prove* that the items listed in our ledgers were, in fact, in store, and that we *had* disposed of all stores brought back from Waterloo! (Souvenir-hunter please note.)

Boxing, banging and banding occupies most of our present day in preparation for the next move,



almost imminent, to somewhere in the United Kingdom, a short sea crossing is involved. The new duty station will be interesting but no doubt exacting, we are all set for the challenge. On our departure from Catterick we say goodbye to the many friends we had made during our stay and thank them for the way they have looked after us.

In our personality parade we mention the following:

Lt. J. Tetlow (QLR) doing a magnificent job as Tech QM and shortly to return to civilian life. Pte. Diffy Davis who has deserted this department after all these years to become a waiter in the officers mess. Ptes. Walton and Armitage recently joined our happy band of Pioneers under the now beardless Sgt. Tommy Jackson (he claims the reason for shaving off was that the opposition would recognise him). RQMS Ashby is due to, or trying to, obtain a post in Recruiting; with his fund of experience both on and off duty he should do extremely well. Sgt. Webb has made the finest decision so far in his career in that he has applied and been accepted for service beyond 22 years, we are most happy to keep him. L/Cpl. Toddy received a labourer under command towards the closing stages of 1972 by the name of Pte. Phillip—well—what with all the packing, painting and preparing to move Toddy thought that this lad had been accidentally packed, we haven't seen him since the dawn of '73. He has been assured now that Pte. Phillip has been trying desperately to take over the duties of CSM Hook Company but failed, so he will be amongst us again shortly.

To all Personalia mentioned above we wish the appropriate greetings for their past present and future.

NOW—WHERE'S ALL THE £&/\*" KEYS GONE FOR SOMME BARRACKS?

### THE BAND

It is always a pleasure to visit the town of Halifax, and so, with a light heart and full of vigour, the Band boarded a luxury coach and set off to Halifax on the evening of October 14. The Civic Theatre was our destination and the task was to perform an evening concert. After what turned out to be a long, hard blow, we managed to finish just in time to catch a last pint in the local, and much to our surprise and delight, we met up with one of our old comrades, Cyril Bell. Cyril, who spent a great number of years with the Band, and eventually finished up as Band S/Sergeant, was his usual cheerful self and between shouts of "Bingo", "House", etc. we managed to remind each other about some of the good old days.

Church parades are quite a normal part of the Band's activities. However, on October 22, the whole Battalion paraded for a special Service of Remembrance at St. Martin's Garrison Church in Catterick, to pay homage to those gallant members of the Regiment who lost their lives in Ulster.

In spite of the Space Age and scientific advancement, it sometimes happens that the Royal Air Force gets into difficulties, and so it came to pass that on November 3, the Band were invited to attend a Pass-Out Parade at RAF Topcliffe. There was, however, just one stipulation, "bring your

instruments". The weather turned out to be a little wet and so the parade had to be held in one of the large hangars, but undaunted, the airmen managed to put on a fine parade.

Scientific tests are always making the news and Army Physical Training is not exempt from them. A new series of stamina tests have been devised, and the Band, along with the Battalion, volunteered to undertake the exercises specified. We are not sure whether the tests were tough, which resulted in failure, or whether the men enjoyed doing them, but it is a notable fact that large numbers of personnel volunteered to undertake them a second time.

With the arrival of December, it was time to dig deep into our music library and sort out some festive music. On December 9, the Band and Corps of Drums attended the All Blacks v. Northern Counties rugby match at Bradford, and in spite of severe cold and drizzle, managed to keep the music flowing. At one stage, Bds. Bradwell, suffering from exposure went down on one knee, but in keeping with good order and discipline, he went down playing his trombone and continued to do so. After the match, a quick move back to Catterick was required to enable the Band to perform in the WOs/Sgts Mess for a Ladies Dinner Night.

Massed Bands in concert are a fine spectacle for anyone to witness and on December 13, the Bands of the 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, the 1st Queen's Dragoon Guards, and The 2nd Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers all combined to produce a concert in Baghdad Gymnasium, Catterick. The musical side and presentation were all first class, but regrettably, the audience was very small, in fact smaller than the numbers in the Bands, and so what could have been a worthwhile venture, was instead rather a disappointment.

December 16 was the day for the Battalion children's Christmas Party and the Band provided carols during the tea. The same evening, we played in the Officers Mess for a Mess dinner and dance. Other activities just prior to Christmas included a Carol Service for the Garrison Schools, and another for the RCT in the garrison dining hall. This latter one started at 1800 hrs. and at 0100 hrs. the next morning some of the Band were still there, due to the kind hospitality of the RCT.

Our annual Band Christmas Draw took place on the night of December 21. A number of guests from the Battalion attended and we think most of them enjoyed themselves. Certainly Major Pugh must have done as he won one of the star prizes, "A Pair of Socks", and Major Miller won £5 cash. A footnote is added here. The Bandmaster did not have a single winning ticket. We offer our thanks to the committee who organised the Draw.

After a few days' leave, we travelled to York to attend a parade for the closing down of Northern Command and opening of HQ North-East District. This took place on January 1. A detachment from the 2nd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers (TAVR) formed the guard.

Four trumpeters from the Band played fanfares in Leeds on January 2 in aid of the Fanfare for Europe celebrations.

It is always a pleasure to play for the old age pensioners and so, on January 9, we gave a concert

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at Barnard Castle. The audience entered into the spirit of things and assisted the percussion section during one of the items on the programme. One enthusiastic elderly gentleman conducted the Band through that grand march "Old Comrades".

Quite often the married families tend to be forgotten throughout the course of the year. It was decided to hold a Married Families Dinner at the Black Lion Hotel in Richmond on January 13. The evening was a great success and we offer our thanks to Bds. Dermott who organised the event.

Our dance band has remained active throughout the past few months and should continue to do so.

It is often very difficult to fill in time between musical duties and medical duties, so we naturally jumped at the opportunity of joining the Battalion for an exercise, "Disco III". The Band, at the invitation of the Commanding Officer, were allotted the task of forming part of the enemy. This involved using their private cars as hiding places. However, it soon became apparent that so many objects were being found concealed in the cars (due to the efficiency of the Battalion patrols) that so much time was being consumed with the Band alone, thus preventing the real part of the exercise from taking place. Understandably so, the order came down the line to ease up. S/Sgt. Frank Parkinson acting as a marshall will certainly remember one incident. After having briefed Bds. Fairclough to rig up an explosive device to be stowed in a safe place on Bds. Fairclough's car, S/Sgt. Parkinson decided to check on the progress of the exercise. What a shock he had when, upon being stopped by a patrol, they discovered the same device in the boot of his car. After about 2½ hours questioning he was released and is now back at work.

WO2 (BSM) Bernard Cooper has recently left the Band to take over the post as Band Sergeant-Major at KDDY. No finer tribute can we say than that "As long as there has been a Duke's Band, there has been Bernard". He will certainly be missed by us all. We wish him and his wife, Jean, every success for the future. Cpl. McArthur has also moved to the Depot to fill the post as a Cpl. Instructor. Bds. Dawson has left the Band for a career in civvy street. We wish him and his wife, Hazel, every success.

Finally, we extend our congratulations to the following members of the Band who recently had increases to their families: L/Cpl. Sollitt, Bds. Williams, and Bds. Bowes.

### THE CORPS OF DRUMS

Since our last notes we have had a major change in the chain of command. We said farewell to Drum Major Lever, to whom we wish the very best of luck in the big world of civilian life and welcome to the mace Drum Major Gregor who came to us from the 3rd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers at Colchester. We hope he enjoys his new life with The Duke's.

We have only done two jobs as a Corps of Drums since the KAPE tour, both of them were at York. On New Year's Day we played at the closing of Northern Command HQ. We were then asked to play at the Depot for a passing out parade under the strict tuition of RSM Welsh.

Most of our kit is now packed ready for the move to N. Ireland once again, and we are training once more as a rifle platoon. On the Battalion exercise "Disco III" we became wanted men as we were chosen for the enemy. Never has been seen a rougher looking bunch of IRA hard-core regulars. Paddy Thompson (L/Cpl. Giles) a really shady character, refused to shave for a whole week, and when accused by the security forces of being an IRA member became quite annoyed. (Rumour has it that he was restrained with the minimum amount of force by a soldier who will remain nameless for security reasons.) Michael Murphy's section were a bit annoyed when they walked into an ambush

sprung by Sgt. Dickens' patrol. Murphy's men had just been involved in a gun battle at Wathgill Camp and were on their route home when they got caught. They found it quite amusing mucking the army about until the order came "Take off your boots and socks, you're marching back to Wathgill" (about 1 mile away); it felt like three.

#### Marriages

We congratulate the following on their recent marriages.

Pte. Smith 53—Marion, Pte. Reynard—Gail, Pte. Sutton—Maralyn, Pte. Winstanley—Elizabeth. Good luck, lads.

## 'C' Company (DWR) 1st Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers

The last Company notes recorded changes in the Company's personalia. This time there are more, changes to report, but they are at a higher level namely Battalion HQ.

On Saturday, December 3, the Officers Mess dined out a number of members, principally the CO, Lt.-Col. I. G. Norton, TD, and the Training Major, Major A. G. Burke, MC. Such occasions always have their sad side, but in spite of that, largely due to the excellence of the Band, not to mention the fare, it was greatly enjoyed. Also present enjoying the unusual privilege of dining in the Officers Mess, as a small token of the esteem in which he was held, was the RSM, WO1 Dillon.

"Where have they gone?" "Who has replaced them?" are the questions which spring to the reader's mind. Col. Norton, as he is now properly known, has become TAVR Colonel for the County. This is the absolute summit that a Volunteer Officer can attain in peace-time, and is usually, as in the present case, richly deserved.

The new CO is like two of his three predecessors, a Regular. He is Lt.-Col. Harry Ford, formerly of the East Yorks Regt. and PWO.

Major Burke has gone to HQ 1 Br Corps in BAOR where he will be fair game for any passing Yorkshire Volunteers needing a local guide. His replacement is Major John Jackson one of the trans-Pennine soldiers of King's Division, of the King's Own Border Regiment.

RSM Dillon has gone to be RSM of his own Battalion, 1 PWO, in Northern Ireland, where he rejoins a former Training Major of ours, who is now C.O. Lt.-Col. David Hanson, MBE. Our new RSM is a "Duke", WO1 J. P. Collins, who was until recently CSM of "Corunna" Company, 1 DWR. We welcome him and the previously mentioned newcomers, and hope their service with us will be a happy experience for them as well as for us.

As to the activities of "C" Company itself, the members, following the spate of inspections in October until December, carried on with training in Battalion Cadres. Since the New Year a new monthly training cycle has been evolved. Each month each Company has one CO's training weekend, one Company Commander's weekend, and one

Admin and Social weekend. Outings to date are a Company weekend at Warcop on January 12 to 14, when the weather was most kind, and the following weekend at Strensall along with and competing against "D" Company from Sheffield on a CO's weekend when the weather was just the opposite. In spite of the weather, everyone professed to enjoy it.

There is new emphasis on physical fitness (very important in view of the prospect of a fortnight's training in Cyprus in August) and there is every prospect that attendance will be good for future training in the field.

#### SERGEANTS MESS

Since our last notes we have had a Steak Night, November 18, 1972, which went down very well with all who turned up, approximately 80. We had wine, cheap, I might add, which went well with the meal. December brought on our Christmas Draw and approximately 120 people enjoyed themselves on a night with around £200 worth of prizes on view. It's rumoured that Phil Berry is selling footballs after the result of that Draw! How he won them all I don't know. Yours truly, the PMC, did well again. However, I don't pull out the numbers, which is a good thing! Last month, January, we had another Bier Keller night which also went down well with all who put in an appearance. Don and Chekita were the artistes and they really made the night swing. We had them at the last Keller night and I thought we would ask them back for this one, much to the pleasure of all. We now look forward to our February effort, the Sgts Mess dinner at Kershaw House, Luddenden, near Halifax, when our guests will be the present CO, Lt.-Col. Ford, our former CO, Col. Norton, and the OC, Major Tetlow, all accompanied by their wives. Here's to the success of the occasion. Our March "do" is a Chicken Night with wine if required on March 10. So let's hope the occasion merits with previous nights in the Mess, although the last Bier Keller night is regarded as the best up to now. Perhaps the appearance of the RSM and his good lady made it. I am sure they both enjoyed themselves, and that they will both come to many

# *Conway Williams*

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more, if possible.

At the present time the winners of the doubles in the Carpet Bowls competition is not known, but for the singles, it's our old friend Brian Howell the champion who beat "Roger" in the final.

The OCA still operates on the first Saturday in the month, any old codgers not on view will be most welcome.

The FEPOW hold their meetings on the last Friday of the month and are always "game" for more members. Any offers?

### CORPORALS' CLUB

*"Quis Separabit"* or something.

For those less informed, this means "Try and separate us" and this being the first Corporals Club in the 1st Battalion, this is our motto.

The occasion being celebrated by holding a St. Valentine's Dance on Saturday, February 17. What a success it was. Personnel present included the RSM, our Company officers and Sergeants, with Kenny Ryan and Jock Gillespie doing the "waiting on". I must say we are looking forward to many more evenings like this one. Apart from the Corporals and members of "C" Company, people came from far and near. RSM Collins and his good wife came all the way from York.

Camp last year was taken in Otterburn, Cyprus, and Deutschland. All being well we should be altogether in Cyprus during August this year, although we think a lot of the chaps would like to return to the Rhineland, because a good time was had by all. I wonder why!!!

Classification has been held up by things beyond our control, but no doubt "C" Company will shine again, as always.

We welcome the arrival of Mick Reddy, pardon the familiarity, but this is one of the things that our PSIs must adjust to. Congratulations to Geoff Holliday on attaining the esteemed rank of WO2. (He still hasn't bought the full Corporals a drink yet.)

There is no doubt that their services will prove invaluable, as always with our PSIs. We seem to get a good selection.

We started with the Corporals, so may we end with them.

"Bless their little hearts".

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Major R. H. Burton, 33 Dyer Street, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 2PP.

Lt.-Col. M. M. Davie, c/o Barclays Bank Ltd., 1-3 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, London SW3.

Major-General K. G. Exham, CB, DSO, 5 Cotmore House, Near Bicester, Oxon.

Col. C. R. Huxtable, OBE, Flat 2, Latimer House, 54 Kensington Park Road, London W11.

Major R. H. Ince, DWR, 21 Stroatley Rise, Bunch Lane, Haslemere, Surrey.

Lt.-Col. J. E. Johnson, 105 Chandos Court, Bedford.

Major D. Marsay, DWR, 15 The View, Roundhay, Leeds LS8 1HQ.

## C(DWR) Company— 3 Yorkshire Volunteers

The OC's hat passed last October from Major Keith McDonald to Major Peter Green. Major McDonald is well known in regimental circles and it was with considerable sadness that the Company said farewell to him. As cadre commander prior to the reorganisation of the TAVR in April 1971, he had the unenviable task of creating a full company from a starting point of eight men—all ranks! He succeeded so well that by the time he retired the Company numbered six over establishment. We wish him and his wife all the best for the future and look forward to seeing him as (we hope) a regular visitor.

His departure meant that the officer strength of the Company was reduced to the OC and the Keighley Platoon Comd. However, early this year, three of our men have passed their board and are now officer cadets. We congratulate Gordon Lightbody, David Massey and Stephen Armitage and hope they will have an enjoyable and successful career as TAVR officers.

The Company is now going through a period of reorganisation, the main task being the weeding out of those who will not make good soldiers and their replacement with good-quality recruits. It is planned to start an intensive local recruiting campaign to coincide with the national campaign in the spring with the aim of being up to full strength again by camp.

Our camp this year should be an interesting experience. It is to be an itinerant camp and all we have discovered so far is that we shall be on St. Martin's Plain, Dover, during the middle weekend, at Warcop, Cumberland, during the second week and visting Proteus, Notts., with some bivouacking the first week. Between these points we have the impression we shall be covering a large part of England and Wales.

Major J. N. H. Naughton, 503 Hürth-Hermülheim, den, Weyerweg 11, Germany.

Major F. J. Reynolds, "Green Erin", Roodebloem Road, Upper University Estate, Cape Town, South Africa.

T. C. Sinclair, Esq., DWR, 7 Alder Lea Close, Gilesgate Moor, Durham.

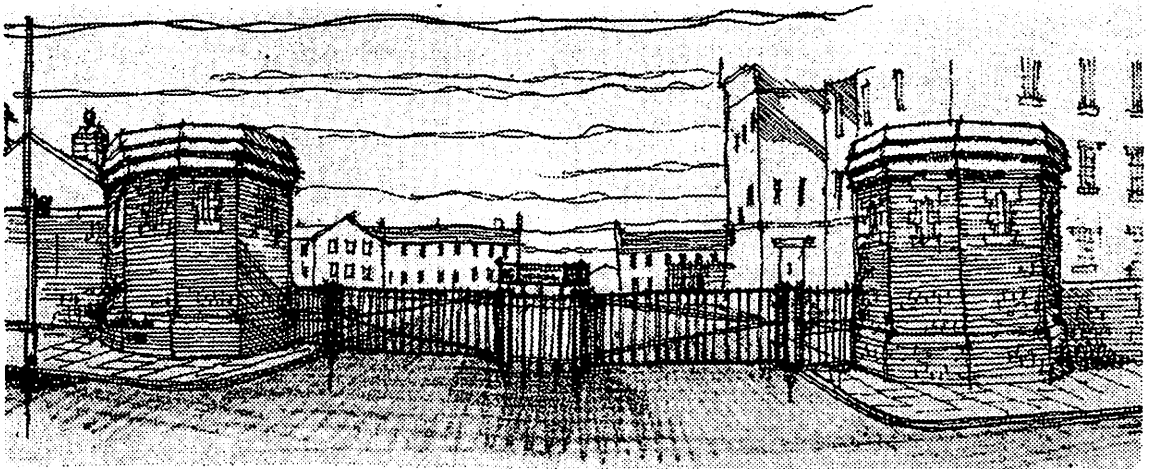
Mr. E. Smith, DCM, c/o 49 Heworth Village, York.

### Answers to the Alma Patrol (see page 16)

Composition of the patrol—front to back Major Stevens, CSM Middleton, Sgt. Brennan, S/Sgt. Stewart, Lt. Meek, Coy Clerk Heath, 2IC Capt. Bray.

Mission: Looking for Tweed (the OC's dog).





An Architect's impression of the New Gate and lower wall at Wellesley Park

*Courtesy of Halifax Courier*

### Wellesley Park Recreation Scheme

We are indebted once again to Mr. George Beddoe and the *Halifax Courier* for allowing us to quote from an article on the Wellesley Park Recreation Scheme. Also for kindly providing the block to reproduce the picture accompanying the article. It will be of great interest to all old "Dukes".

Government approval has been given for a £10,000 recreation area scheme for Wellesley Park, Halifax. And members of the town's Amenities Committee heard that 75% of the cost will come from the Exchequer under the "Operation Eyesore" scheme.

The work involves the demolition of the medical,

NAAFI, and education blocks, and the old married quarters at the park, which was once used by the Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

In their place will go a recreation area which will include facilities for bowling and other sports.

In addition, the perimeter wall adjoining Spring Hall Lane, and the part of Gibbet Street on the bottom side of the main gates to the park, is to be lowered to between 3ft and 3ft 6in.

New gates are to be fitted to give one-way entry and exit for vehicles to the park, which has now been extensively developed by Halifax Corporation for both offices and leisure use by various organisations.

### BLESMA

#### "I WAS LUCKY . . . I ONLY LOST HALF A LEG"

"I was lucky . . . I only lost half a leg." Those are the words of L/Cpl. Robert Bradley of Willowfield Crescent, Rochdale Road, Halifax, a 26-year-old victim of N. Ireland, still serving with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. He was to have married in August last year, but having been blown-up in July, he did not finally make it until December.

It was on July 16 last year that Robert Bradley was on a border patrol near Crossmaglen. The first of the vehicles in his patrol took a bend in the road and when it was some 75 yards on, Robert Bradley's vehicle reached the bend, but it got no further. Says Robert, "Unknown to us, 150lb of explosive had been packed into a drain underneath the road and as we passed over it, a terrorist some 700 metres away on the border, at the end of a wire to the bomb, decided to blow it. The vehicle took-off, went clean right across the road, over a two-foot wall without touching it and landed 20 yards further on. My two mates in the front of the vehicle were both killed instantly and I was blown straight out

of the back and landed in a thorn bush with a branch sticking right through my rear end. My left leg was blown off from the middle of the shin downwards and was just hanging on by the skin. Within the hour I was in a helicopter on my way to Musgrove Park Hospital in Belfast where my leg was amputated and I was unconscious for four weeks. At the Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, I realised how lucky I was when I saw the cases one hell of a lot worse than mine—I only lost half a leg".

But Robert Bradley's story has a happy ending. With the recent fitting at Roehampton of his artificial limb, after months of hobbling around on a pylon (a peg leg), and his marriage to his 21-year-old sweetheart, Dorothy Bentley, at St. Paul's Church, Halifax, "Brad" is truly back on his feet again. Referring to the fact that originally they were to have been married on August 12, Robert said, "I wasn't going to let this little mishap delay our plans for too long".

However, not everybody is as fortunate as L/Cpl. Bradley and many, after leaving the Services, turn for help to the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association (BLESMA).

# The King's Division

The operational news, from the Division's point of view, is still dominated by N. Ireland and the continuing, exasperating and tragic events there. The second half of the year ended with four of our Battalions deployed in that unhappy Province—1st Battalion The King's Own Royal Border Regiment and 1st Battalion The Prince of Wales Own Regiment of Yorkshire as resident battalions and 1st Battalion The Green Howards and 1st Battalion The Queen's Lancashire Regiment each on yet another emergency tour. During the first quarter of 1973, 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment join our other two battalions for their own residential tour.

## Appointments and Promotions

The following have been announced:

Col. M. H. H. Collins, MBE, late QLR, to Brigadier in 1973, and to be Divisional Brigadier The King's Division, June 1973.

Lt.-Col. (A/Col.) C. R. Huxtable, OBE, late DWR, to Colonel in 1973, Col. GS MOD (MO4), Dec. 1972.

Lt.-Col. (A/Col.) E. M. P. Hardy, DWR, to Colonel in 1973, and to be Col. GS(W) HQ RMCS Shrivenham, Mar. 1973.

The following provisional selections for promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel in 1973 have been announced:

Major J. E. Pell, DWR.

Major R. Glasebrook, MBE, PWO (late 2IC 1st Battalion).

The following appointments have also been announced:

Major J. B. K. Greenway, DWR, to be 2IC 1 PWO. Sept. 1973.

Major D. Marsay, DWR, Adj. 23 SAS(V), Oct. 1972.

Major W. R. Mundell, DWR, GSO2 (Instr.) Junior Division, Staff College, Warminster, Jan. 1973.

Capt. C. N. St. P. Bunbury, DWR, GSO3, HQ 8 Inf. Bde, Mar. 1973.

Capt. G. J. W. Walker, DWR, GSO3 (Plans), HQ N. Ireland, May 1973.

Capt. R. A. Tighe, DWR, SMAF, Feb. 1973.

Capt. M. P. C. Bray, DWR, Adj. 1 Yorks (V), Sept. 1973.

Capt. J. M. Thorn, DWR, to be OC 10 AYT, May 1973.

Lt. T. J. Isles, DWR, Pl. Comd. JIB Shorncliffe, Sept. 1973.

2/Lt. J. T. Sinclair, DWR, to Durham University (Degree Course), Oct. 1972.

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# Depot The King's Division

Despite the essentially static nature of the Depot's role our calendar remains sufficiently full and varied to ensure that boredom can never be a problem. There is always a danger that those who have never served at the Depot do not realise the amount of activity that goes on in addition to the training of recruits. Figures will invariably invite suspicion but our all-up strength (on February 13, 1973) of 681 compares with any battalion. Although we are unlikely to achieve the enormous numbers of recruits that were undergoing training at this time last year there are enough in the pipeline to ensure a reasonable supply for all. For the last few weeks DWR have had priority on uncommitted Yorkshiremen, but 1 DWR will not necessarily see the result immediately because about half of those badged to The Duke's will not be 18 (the minimum age for service in Ulster), when they pass out. We are pleased to be able to report that we now have a handfull of R Irish recruits and juniors. They are most welcome, despite looking somewhat strange and out of place in their befathered green bonnets.

Despite anti-flu injections a large number of the Permanent Staff caught the dreaded bug over the Christmas holiday. However, as they say, it's an ill wind that blows no good; not a moment of training time was lost. As if that was not enough, a quantity of empty cartridge cases was taken on Christmas Eve. The Adjutant, Capt. Nicholson, had prudently taken himself off to Scotland for Christmas and missed these stirring events.

RSM Welsh has firmly established himself and involves himself in all aspects of Depot life. The camp has taken on a brisk soldierly appearance which is very much to his credit.

We welcome a number of new faces to the Depot staff. WO2 Keily has moved across from the Recruiting Office to one of the hottest seats, that of CSM Z(HQ) Company. In his charge are not only all the recruits forming up and awaiting posting, but also 100 or more "holdees", an ubiquitous name covering all and sundry who cannot be with their battalions. WO2 Cooper arrived from 1 DWR on December 10, 1972, to be our new Band Sergeant and he was just preceded by Cpl. McArthur. The latter relieved Cpl. Haigh, who will shortly be

leaving the Army for a new career with the Metropolitan Police. We wish him the very best of luck. Cpl. Wood has recently joined W (Trg) Company at Ripon, and Pte. Simpson is giving invaluable support in the Training Wing. Cpl. Bagshaw left us for 1 DWR on February 13, 1973 and we wish him and his wife a happy tour with the Battalion.

Sgt. Blood also deserves special mention for the tremendous support he has given the Depot over the past two years. There can be no doubt that he will be an asset to 1 DWR, to whom he has returned. Five "Dukes" Junior Soldiers also deserve a mention for their sporting achievements. J/L/Cpl. O'Keefe (Band) runs the cross-country team and is in the soccer team. J/Bdsm. Henry runs for the cross-country team, and also for the York Youth team, with whom he won a silver medal last month. J/Bdsm. Knapper is another runner. J/Bdsm. Mann keeps goal for the soccer team, and is in the basketball team, and so is J/Bdsm. Rimmer who, at 6ft 4in, hardly needs to jump to put the ball in the basket. The Depot soccer team, captained by Cpl. Smith, DWR, is having an excellent run in the UKLF Minor Units Championships. The next match, the semi-final, is on February 21 against Depot, The Prince of Wales's Division at Crickhowell. Having won our last two matches 12-0 and 6-0 respectively we are reasonably confident of reaching the final. Cpl. Haigh, Cpl. Whittaker and L/Cpl. Pennington (serving with 10 AYT) have all been key members of the team, and they helped to beat 1 DWR 5-0 some time ago. Still on sport, Major T. D. Lupton, OC Training Wing, is to be congratulated as being runner-up in the North East District Individual Squash Championships.

We look forward to having the band of 1 DWR to stay from May until September, while they carry out engagements not only in Yorkshire but all over the country. No doubt in a future issue we will be recording our thanks to them for the help they have given to our Junior Band.

Finally, all the staff at the Depot, not only "Dukes", would like to wish the 1st Battalion every success, and a lot of luck, for their forthcoming 18-month tour in Ballykelly.

## 10 Army Youth Team

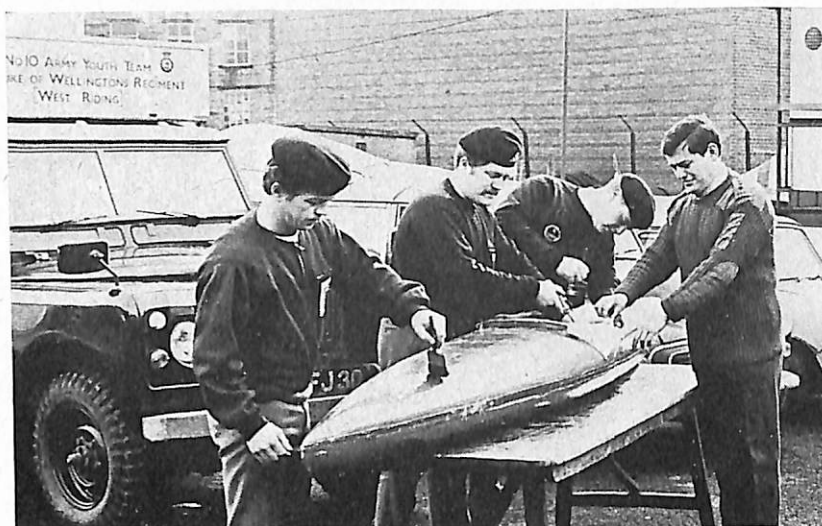
The days are getting longer and warmer once more. The pace is quickening and the Youth Teams diary is filling fast.

Many activities have already been planned including hikes and walks, galas, fetes, camp on Exmoor, in Scotland, the Lake District and Wales along with a visit to the south of England. During this particular visit 40 Cadets from the area will see the Army's ships and boats along with a visit to the Royal Armoured Centre at Bovington.

During the winter months the Youth Team have been recovering from a rather hectic summer that never seemed to end; however, we still kept up our programme with youth clubs and schools along with the shooting which we run for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

The Army Youth Team have also been kept busy repairing and checking their equipment so that it will be ready for the summer.

During this period Capt. D. W. Wonson went off



**No. 10 AYT at work**

*Courtesy Huddersfield Examiner*

to Cyprus on an exercise, unfortunately not as part of the Army Youth Team activities, although he is said to be trying to work out something like that. Sgt. C. Howard is in Antwerp at the moment for a short period of duty but will be returning to the fold soon.

L/Cpl. D. Pennington is about to take up fencing to add to his soccer talents. L/Cpl. I. Verrall has

been busy getting married and L/Cpl. P. Sugden is unfortunately returning soon to the Regiment.

We are expecting newcomers to the Army Youth Team soon, namely, L/Cpl. Blagborough who is replacing L/Cpl. Sugden, and Capt. J. Thorn replacing Capt. D. W. Wonson who will be the first AYT Commander to actually go back to The Duke's for quite some time.

## The Army Cadet Force Huddersfield Area (DWR)

By the time these notes are printed it is certain that our 1st Battalion will be in the midst of its protracted tour in N. Ireland and the very best wishes for a safe and successful stay is the wish of all the members of the Huddersfield Area Army Cadet Force. To all we say, come home safe and soon!

Whilst talking about the 1st Battalion may I say how good it is to see Lt.-Col. Mitchell as its new Commanding Officer.

### Promotions

Lt. John Evans, who commands the Huddersfield Detachment, is promoted to Captain w.e.f. February 1, 1973, congratulations to you, John, it is much deserved.

### Changes of command

Changes of command have occurred at the following units within the Huddersfield Area. Capt. Doug. Bennett has taken over the running of Keighley Detachment, this is due to the retirement of Capt. Johnson who has given 28 years of his spare time to the ACF, truly a record to be proud of, George.

Skipton Detachment is now commanded by 2/Lt. Steve Lancaster who was previously 2IC at Keighley.

And, finally, Thongsbridge Detachment is now commanded by Capt. Geoff Whitaker, an ex-RA officer who has seen the light and re-badged to DWR. Rumour had it that he either became a "Duke" or all the "Dukes" became "Gunners"; we won!

### Annual visits

At the time of writing these notes, all but two of our inspections will be completed and it is with confidence that I predict a good year in Huddersfield Area. Cadet training and our adult cadres have been well attended and in all cases our aims have been achieved, this is due mainly to three things. 1. The acute enthusiasm of the officers and instructors of the area. 2. The unselfish devotion of 10 AYT under the leadership of Capt. David Wonson, DWR; and 3. The excellent quality of instruction given by 10 Cadet Training Team which is commanded by Capt. Pat Puttock, DWR.

### Bisley 1972

The following two reports have now been compiled so here they are in print. For the first time in a number of years The Duke's Cadets were represented at the Cadet National Meeting at Bisley. Four

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cadets from Heckmondwike Grammar School Detachment, who shot themselves into second place in the West Riding County ACF meeting in June went along with four cadets from "G" Barnsley Hallams.

The party travelled to Frimley Park, the Cadet Training Centre, for a week's shooting course prior to the Bisley meeting. The Cadets were accommodated at Frimley and the adults at the Garrison Mess in Aldershot. Sunday evening and Monday morning were spent on theory and demo, and from Monday afternoon the remainder of the week was devoted to Century Range.

For the boys who had never seen this range before it was quite a sight, very impressive and quite awe-inspiring. The cadets quickly settled down to serious practise during the week, and with breaks for visits to Fultons for badges, scorebooks and various other items, the week seemed to pass very quickly. On Friday we left Frimley to take up residence at Bisley for the meeting proper, and the cadets were now able to see the opposition.

The weather throughout the week had been ideal for shooting and Saturday was to be the same. If the smpty Century Range had been awe-inspiring, the eight of 100 shooters from Sea, Air and Army Cadets was something none of our cadets will ever forget. Conditions for shooting were ideal, but the ammunition and butt marking left a great deal to be desired, although the cadets shot well they came

nowhere near the opposition and they left on Sunday, without cups, medals or trophies but with a tremendous experience behind them.

#### **Best Cadet of the Year competition**

Another event which has gone without mention so far was the Cadet of the Year competition which is held at Bellerby every April. Each unit in the West Riding ACF was asked to send its very best cadet to compete. Huddersfield Duke's were again well represented with two cadets from Mirfield and one from Halifax.

The competition consists of tests in map reading, field craft, weapon training, full bore and LMG shooting, two written tests on general aspects of the ACF and one on the West Riding ACF, and a night orienteering exercise, the latter certainly sorted out the contestants and strained the adults to the full, particularly when one of the cadets walked out of the course and had to be collected from the RMPs in Catterick at 02.30 on the Sunday.

The winner of the competition was, of course, a "Duke", Cadet S/Sgt. Hartley from the Halifax Detachment. He led throughout the competition and received as his prize a visit to a unit serving in Cyprus. S/Sgt. Hartley was promoted to Cadet Sergeant-Major in time for camp '72 and is now one of our cornerstones at Halifax. Cadet CSM Hartley has an elder brother serving with the 1st Battalion DWR.

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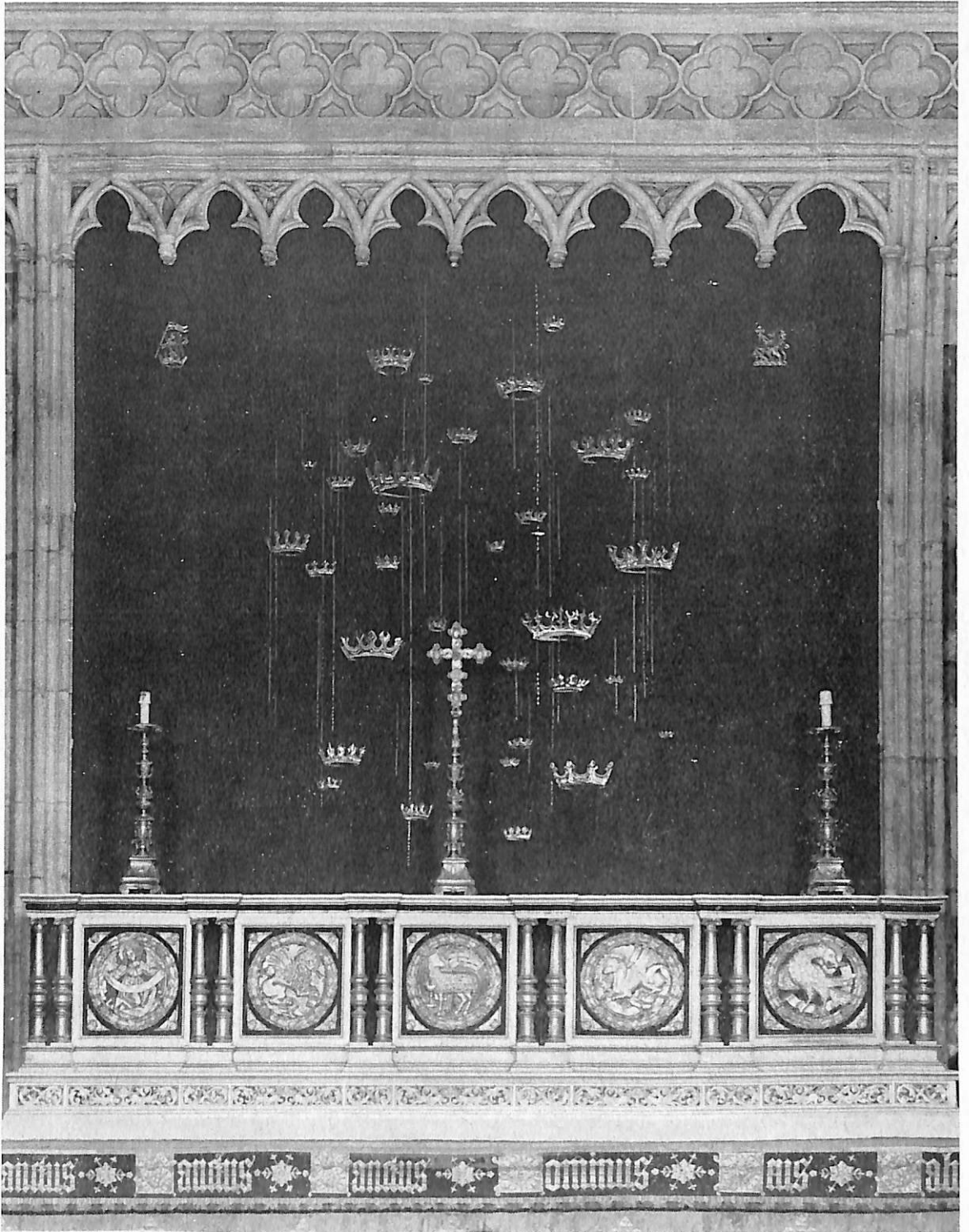
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THE DOSSAL

# All Saints Chapel, York Minster

## The Regimental Chapel

### Dedication of a New Dossal

(*Oxford Dictionary: 'Dossal—An ornamental cloth hung at the back of an altar or at the sides of a chancel'*)

When the Regimental Chapel in York Minster was dismantled for the recent restoration work, the existing dossal was found to be in a poor state, and the Dean and Chapter decided that a replacement was necessary. At about the same time, and by a happy coincidence, the Regiment was negotiating with the Dean and Chapter for a suitable memorial to the late Major-General W. M. Ozanne to be placed in the chapel. The Regiment proposed, therefore, that a new dossal might be a suitable memorial, and it was agreed by all concerned that this would be most appropriate.

The new dossal which now hangs in the Regimental Chapel has been presented to the Minster jointly by the Regiment and by General Ozanne's three daughters. It is thus a memorial to the General, and a contribution by the Regiment towards the adornment of the Minster. A carved stone, recording the gift, has been set into the south wall of the chapel.

The dossal is a striking thing. It is of heavy-quality red Thai silk, worked with a design of gold Gothic crowns, "for all the Saints", in various sizes, in what might be described as a free and harmonious grouping. Near the top left and right corners are the Regimental badge and the crest of the Ozanne family respectively. The design is by Miss Joan Freeman, an acknowledged expert in art and design, who lives in Hertfordshire but who came originally from Strensall, and was stitched and worked in a work room in the Deanery by some 15 ladies of the Minster Broderers' Guild under the direction of Miss Jennifer Watson-Hall of Beverley. Work on the dossal started in the spring of 1972, and it was completed and hung six months later, in

October.

The dossal was dedicated, appropriately, at the Regiment's annual All Saints Day service on Saturday, October 28, 1972, in the presence of the Colonel of the Regiment and some 250 past and present members of the Regiment and their families, including contingents from the 1st Battalion and from the Depot at Strensall.

The dossal was dedicated by the Dean of York, The Very Reverend Dr. Alan Richardson, the Lesson was read by the Colonel, and the sermon was preached by the Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment, The Right Reverend Dr. Eric Treacy, Bishop of Wakefield.

The guests of the Regiment at the service were General Ozanne's three daughters, Mrs. Alan Richardson, Mrs. Treacy, Miss Freeman, Miss Watson-Hall, Brigadier and Mrs. Loring (Chapter Clerk to the Dean and Chapter), and representatives of the Broderers' Guild.

For the members of the Regimental Chapel Committee the dedication service was the culminating point in a year's happy and rewarding association with the Minster authorities and with all those concerned with the creation of the dossal. It seems appropriate, therefore, to end with the words of Mrs. Richardson, taken from her article in the recent issue of the *York Minster Newsletter* in which she wrote about the dedication service: "It was a very happy occasion, marking the conclusion of many months of skilled work by the embroiderers, and also of a happy and fruitful collaboration which had involved the Regiment, the Dean and Chapter, the Broderers' Guild and the Minster stoneyard staff. It is our hope that the dossal will prove an inspiration to those who see it for many years to come". (Photo—see *frontispiece Ed.*)

G.C.T.

## Obituary

### OBITUARY

We deeply regret to record the following deaths and, on behalf of the Regiment, offer our sincere sympathy to those bereaved.

#### Mr. T. Evers, MBE

Thomas Evers died in Staincliffe Hospital, Dewsbury, on December 15, Before his conscription into 9 DWR in July 1940, he was a bus conductor, working for Dewsbury. Some two years later he was commissioned and served with 2nd/7th DWR in Hunstanton until his transfer to the Staff. He finished his war-time service in the Middle East as a Lieutenant-Colonel, Chief Welfare Officer in

Egypt.

During the period from 1951-66 he was a member of Dewsbury Town Council serving as mayor in 1959.

The illness contracted in 1966 was fought with courage, even contesting a bye-election for Dewsbury council from his wheel-chair to which he was permanently confined.

#### John Raynor Ackroyd, MM

Jack Raynor ("Smack On") Ackroyd, MM, died in Halifax Hospital on October 24, 1972 aged 70.

"Smack On" (a term he always used to denote when things were to his satisfaction) had a varied

and colourful military career. Enlisting for 7 and 5 in the 2nd Battalion at Halifax in 1920 he served in Egypt and Palestine and after Reserve Service re-enlisted in the TA in May 1939. He served with 2/7 DWR in France in 1940, for which service he was awarded the Military Medal. He later served as Ship's RSM on troopships.

After the war, in 1947, he re-enlisted in the TA. As CSM "Sp" Company his military knowledge, infectious humour yet firm discipline helped mould our present "Reserve Army" Battalion.

When the 1st Battalion Band toured Halifax last summer "Smack On", resplendent with tie and medals, if seated in a wheel-chair, saluted his

comrades and friends. Raynor Ackroyd was intensely proud of his Regiment and his medals, cane, stick, badges and head-dress still occupy a special place of honour on the wall of Mrs. Ackroyd's cottage in Rippenden.

#### **Mrs. Elizabeth Annesley**

Mrs. Elizabeth Annesley of 31 Harewood Avenue, Highroad Well, Halifax, died on January 8, 1973, in a Dublin hospital. She was the widow of the late RSM Joe Annesley, who it will be recalled, died suddenly in June 1971.

## Personalia

### **BIRTHS**

#### **Imray**

At Falkirk, on January 15, 1973, to Eleanor, née Findlay, and Patrick, a son, Malcolm. Grandson for "Imray", The Duke of Wellington's Regiment 1934-66.

#### **Gaskell**

At Oswestry, on January 7, 1973, to Jacqueline, née LeMessurier, and Jeremy, a daughter, Joanna Louise.

### **ENGAGEMENTS**

#### **Pearson-Adams—Davidson**

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hilary Pearson-Adams of Stearsby Hall, York, and Celia, younger daughter of Col. and Mrs. J. Davidson of The Mount House, Terrington, York.

### **MARRIAGES**

#### **Roberts—George**

The marriage took place on Saturday, November 25, 1972, at St. Iltyd's Church, Llantwit Major, Glamorgan, between Capt. Alistair Roberts, MBE, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, son of Major and Mrs. D. C. Roberts of The Hollies, Hutton's Ambo, York, and Carolyn, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Graham George of Pembroke Dock, Pembrokeshire.

#### **Webb-Carter—Wigram**

The marriage took place on Saturday, January 20, 1973, at the St. John Baptist Church, Cirencester, between Capt. Evelyn John Webb-Carter, Grenadier Guards, younger son of Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, DSO, OBE, and Mrs. Webb-Carter of Ashton Cottage, Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire, and Anne Celia, younger daughter of Lt.-Col. Lord Wigram, MC, and Lady Wigram of Poulton Fields, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

In our last issue we mentioned that Major-General Kenneth Exham had sold Brynglas Hall, his home in Wales, and that during the time that he

was house-hunting, he could be contacted through the Army and Navy Club. He has now set up home again and his address is 5 Cotmore House, near Bicester, Oxon.

Brigadier Ramsay Bunbury, who was on a visit to relations who live in Yorkshire, dropped in at the RHQ recently. He recalled his days at the Depot, 1937-40, when he was Adjutant and lived in a large house in Park Road for a rent which he described as nominal in comparison with what is asked today. He dearly wished that he could have travelled over to York to see some of his old friends there but he regretted that the journey would have been too much for him.

Major Dick Ince remains on at the Support Weapons Wing, School of Infantry, Netheravon, until his retirement in June this year. He hopes then to find employment as a RO in Aldershot and, in preparation, he has had a house built at Haslemere. His address is: 21 Stootley Rise, Bunch Lane, Haslemere, Surrey.

It was a pleasant surprise to hear from Major Gerry Fontes after so many years. He was last in uniform when he commanded "B" Company, 6 DWR, in Sobroan Barracks, Colchester, in 1945. The Battalion, whose role was to re-train released prisoners of war from Europe, was commanded at the time by Col. Dick Cumberlege. The names that come to mind are Majors Tony Savory, Derek Roberts, John Milligan, "John Willie" Williams, Ted Manning, Paddy Bryan, Tom Chadwick, Lts. Jimmy Green and John Feather, RSM Edwards (Green Howards), RQMS Fitter, the late RSM Jackson, then CSM "B" Company, and Sgt. Ancill.

Col. "Swazi" Waller, who has been a RO in York for a great number of years, has now retired. His retirement coincided with the disappearance of HQ Northern Command and the emergence of HQ North East District on January 1, 1973. He will now be able to devote even more time to the Race courses in the north of England!

Major Nick Naughton wrote from Germany just after Christmas to say that at long last they had moved into their new house and that their address is: 503 Hürth-Hermülheim, den. Weyerweg 11. This is two miles south of Cologne and visitors are very welcome.

Major Jeff Reynolds has written saying that he left the Rhodesia by the Sea Hotel at Simonstown, Cape, South Africa, which he was managing, as the hotel was bought up by the South African Navy as an officers Mess and Training Establishment. This gave him and his wife, Marjorie, the opportunity to come over to England for three weeks, when they were able to visit a few members of the Regiment who live in the south. He is now managing a hotel in Cape Town and living in his own house: "Glen Erin", Roodebloem Road, Upper University Estate, Cape Town. He mentioned the marvellous weather they were having, days and days of clear blue skies.

Those who were serving in 1 DWR in 1944 will remember Major Bruce Hindley who was Adjutant at the time. He normally lives and works in London but he is now in Brussels on a two years appointment.

Major Tony Burnett, the Unit Paymaster with 1 DWR for a number of years, is recovering from a cartilage operation at the Royal Herbert Hospital. He says "I hope to be able to play a bit more cricket around June or July but it may prove troublesome!" Nowadays, he is stationed at Bedford where he is Paymaster to the Central Volunteer HQ RCT.

We are sorry to report that Col. "Tuppence" Harvey has been not so well again and "has been under doctors orders and not starter's orders since last October", as he put it. He never loses his cheerfulness and we trust he has made a good recovery.

Another who has been in the hands of the Doctors is Major John Williams, known in 2 DWR and 6 DWR as "John Willie". He wrote "I have been incommunicado for the past six weeks, having had a coronary attack, but I am glad to report good progress which has satisfied the heart specialist. He says he will probably allow me to start work again in the New Year. What a to-do! Please give my salaams to any old friends of mine you may chance to meet."

We had a nice letter recently from Mrs. Majorie Crofton in which she said: "I am always so interested in the Regiment as my first husband, Capt. Cyril Denman-Jubb was Adjutant in Dublin and was killed at Mons in 1914". She lives at Rondebosch, Cape Town.

We are very pleased to report that Mr. Arthur Wood, our General Secretary of the Regimental Association, returned to work in the middle of

January. Readers will know that he underwent a big operation on his heart last October, and the fact that he is back in his office once more and so soon is due entirely to his great determination and will to recover.

A few words of appreciation are due to Major Keith McDonald, who resigned his TA commission on September 30, 1972. It was in February 1955, after coming down from Durham University, for whom he had played both rugby and cricket, that he joined 7 DWR and during the next 17½ years, despite amalgamations and changes, he has continued first in the 5/7 DWR, next in the WR Battalion DWR, then in command of the WR Battalion DWR Cadre and finally as OC "C" (DWR) Company 3 Yorks (V). Those associated with him know the loyalty, keen interest and enthusiasm he showed throughout his service and the fact that, on expansion, his Company was quickly filled and brought up to strength was the result, in large measure, to his drive and ability. It is fair to add, too, that these same qualities must have led to his election to the captaincy of the Halifax Rugby Union Football Club in his playing days and to his advancement in Ollerenshaw Ltd., Halifax, sewing thread manufacturers, where he is now a director. We wish him much happiness and further success in the future.

Col. R. G. Turner received a long and interesting letter from Brigadier Donald Isles living in some luxury not far from the Pentagon. He likes the job and the place and his first three months have coincided with great events, Nixon re-elected, peace in Viet-Nam and so on. His car, like the Pentagon, is enormous, does seven miles to the gallon and parking it is a hideous problem! He and Sheila are well and he hopes to be over for the lunch and dinner in July.

We have also heard from Mr. J. G. Jones of 111 Central Road, Partington, Urmston, Manchester. He joined the Regiment at Halifax in 1923, subsequently was posted to the 1st Battalion in Gosport and in 1924 drafted to the 2nd Battalion in Cairo when Col. Turner was one of the draft conducting officers.

THE IRON DUKE gives Mr. Jones great pleasure and interest. Having been employed in the Officers Mess of the 2nd Battalion from 1927-29 he sees many distinguished names who were subalterns in his day. Unfortunately, his ill health keeps him housebound. He asks for news of anyone who may have served with him, including Mr. Love of Gosport who soldiered with him in No. 12 Platoon.

The following promotions and appointments are announced:

WO2 Collins, J. P., to WO1 and appointed RSM of 1 Yorkshire Volunteers, Jan. 1973.

WO2 Kelly, R., to Depot The King's Division, Jan. 1973.

WO2 (BSM) Cooper, from Band 1 DWR to Band, Depot King's Division, Dec. 1972.

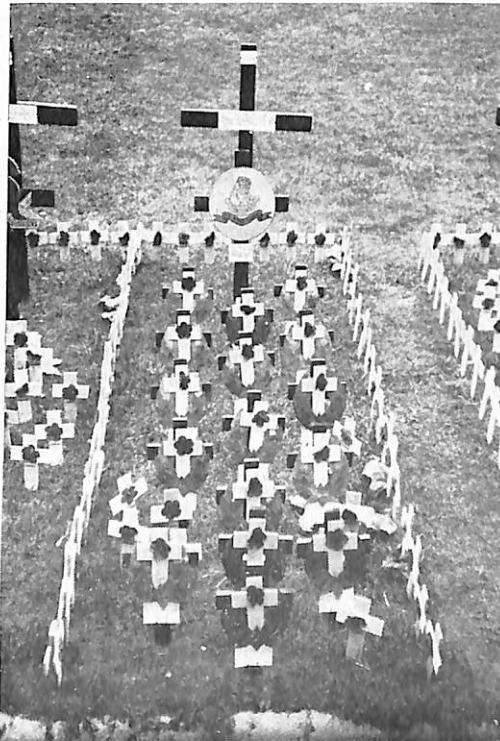




Left to right:  
Miss L. M. Savory, R. H.  
Temple, Miss L. Smith, Mrs.  
E. Smith, R. D. Benson

#### The Field of Remembrance

Major A. C. S. Savory very kindly wrote and enclosed photos taken at the Field of Remembrance in November last year. So very few of us are able to be in London then that many will not know what the regimental photo looks like.



The Duke's plot, Field of Remembrance

## Regular Forces Employment Association

(National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen)

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The Association works in close co-operation with the Services, the Ministry of Defence and the Department of Employment, and operates through 43 Branches covering the United Kingdom, each of which is run by an Employment Officer who has been in the Services himself and is in close touch with local employers.

The Association is at your service. The addresses and telephone numbers of its Branches can be obtained from Corps and Regimental Associations, from Post Offices and from Employment Exchanges.

During 1972 the above association found employment for 15 soldiers of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment on their return to civilian life.

# The 33rd at Bokstel

BY COL. S. J. WATSON, MBE, MA (Retired)

On September 15, 1794, a skirmish between British and French troops took place at a village called Bokstel, or Boxtel, in Flanders. At the time it was considered of so little importance that the British Commander-in-Chief mentioned in his despatches neither the name of the place nor the units engaged there. Nevertheless, this episode was destined to prove a notable landmark in military history which is of special interest to the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. Not only was it the first time that the 33rd Foot engaged the enemy after an interval of 13 years following the capitulation at Yorktown in 1781, but it was also the first time that two future Colonels of the Regiment went into action: they subsequently became famous as the first Duke of Wellington and as General Sir John Sherbrooke. Among the junior officers with the 33rd on this occasion was Lt. John Byng, who later became Field-Marshal the Earl of Strafford. It is therefore worth studying what did, in fact, take place at Bokstel and what, in particular, were the parts that Wellington (then Wesley) and Sherbrooke respectively played.

## Sherbrooke and Wesley

John Cope Sherbrooke had transferred from the 85th Foot to the 33rd as a captain with effect from June 23, 1784. The Hon. Arthur Wesley, MP, five years younger than Sherbrooke, had only recently joined the 33rd from the 18th Dragoons as a major, by purchase, in the spring of 1793; and on September 30 he had bought the lieutenant-colonelcy vacated by John Yorke after a long and distinguished tenure of command.

Sherbrooke, "a short, square, hardy little man" (1), was the honest-to-goodness son of an English country gentleman, competent in his profession and devoted to his regiment. Plain of speech and fiery in temperament, his anger when aroused would burst like a summer's thunderstorm; but never did the lightning linger, nor the clouds return after the rain. Wesley, a spare figure of medium height, was the son of an Irish peer aloof in manner and cool in temperament. A slight lisp did not inhibit him from speaking his mind; and his measured, scathing rebukes were as icily devastating as a winter's frost.

Sherbrooke might well have resented the arrival of Wesley, a younger man with less military experience, to purchase promotion over his head: but, by great good fortune, each seemed to respect the qualities of the other. When in 1794 a second lieutenant-colonel was added to the establishment of infantry regiments, Wesley was happy that Sherbrooke should accede to that vacancy; and their friendly and fruitful partnership was to last, on and off, for the next 16 years on three different continents.

Wesley's social and political connections undoubtedly assisted his dealings with higher commanders whose outlook he perfectly understood. On the other hand, because of his Irish upbringing, he was less at ease with the British rank-and-file. Here, happily, Sherbrooke felt thoroughly at home for most of the 33rd came—like himself—from the north and midlands of England. He had known the men ever since they had joined, and found no difficulty in managing them. So Wesley was well assured that, should he ever be detached from the 33rd, the Regiment would come to no harm in Sherbrooke's hands.

## Contemporary records

In September 1794 the Allied forces under HRH the Duke of York were withdrawing from Flanders, pausing on successive river lines. On Sunday, September 14, the French surprised and cut off a contingent of 1,500 Hessians, and captured the village of Bokstel which commanded the British positions along the River Dommel. The sequel is described by the Duke in a despatch to the Secretary of State for War dated September 17, from his headquarters at Grave:

"I therefore ordered Lieutenant-General Abercromby to march with the reserve during the night with directions to reconnoitre the position at daylight and to act as he should judge best from what he should discover of the force of the enemy.

"Lieutenant-General Abercromby, having advanced as directed, found the enemy in such strength as left little doubt of the proximity of their Army, and he accordingly retired but in such good order as prevented the enemy from making any impression" (2).

The Casualty Return for the 33rd, dated September 15, shows 1 Sergeant and 1 Other Rank as missing. The total casualties for this engagement were also accurately reproduced in the earliest book published on this campaign (3), amounting to 6 Other Ranks killed; 1 Officer taken prisoner; 2 Officers, 6 Sergeants and 80 Other Ranks wounded and missing. The only other contemporary reference occurs in a letter from Wesley to the Earl of Mornington dated September 19 from "Camp near Grave":

"After I had closed my letter the other day General Abercromby called to desire that I should communicate the Duke of York's thanks and his to the 33rd for their good conduct on the 15th" (4). No doubt the previous letter, which Wesley mentions, contained an account of the action of Bokstel; but this has not survived.

## Early published accounts

The earliest life of Wellington was written by W. H. Maxwell between 1839 and 1841. It contains an elaboration of the Bokstel engagement, based presumably on contemporary recollections:

"On clearing the village of Schyndel (5), the

(1) "Narratives of Some Passages in the Great War with France", by Sir H. Bunbury, p. 218.

mounted pickets of the enemy were observed, drawn up upon a plain of considerable extent, skirted by a thick grove of fir-trees. The English dragoons advanced to drive them in, supported by the two Regiments of Guards, with the 33rd and 44th—the 12th and 42nd being held by Abercrombie in reserve. The French hussars retired leisurely, and the British as boldly advanced, until the opening of a numerous artillery, which the Republicans had marked within the fir-wood, betrayed the immediate presence of the enemy in force, and, of course, rendered it necessary on the part of the assailants to fall back on their reserve.

"At first the regressive movement was steadily effected; but, as the ground became more difficult and the road narrowed, the light cavalry got mobbed with a household battalion, and the whole was thrown into confusion. The French hussars advanced to charge; and, for a minute, the situation of the embarrassed troops was most alarming.

"Perceiving the disorder, Colonel Wellesley deployed the 33rd into line, immediately in rear of the household troops. Opening his centre files, he permitted the broken cavalry to retire, and then closing his ranks again, occupied the road and held the enemy in check. The French advanced with their usual confidence; and the 33rd, reserving their fire, waited coolly until the enemy were forming for a charge. At that moment the regiment received their Colonel's order, and delivered a close and searching volley, that fell with murderous effect in the crowded ranks of the Republicans; and their rapid and well-directed fusillade completed the enemy's repulse" (6).

Subsequent biographers have made extensive use of Maxwell's work, and are unanimous in assuming that it was Wesley who commanded the 33rd and who gave the orders that repulsed the enemy. It is, however, noteworthy that Wellington himself, in his later years, was far less definite. Memories of a soldier's first time in action are generally both vivid and persistent. Yet Wellington, when asked in 1850 by Sir Harry Verney, Bt about the 33rd's action at Bokstel, advised that Lord Strafford (who, as has been mentioned, had fought there as a subaltern) "could give more correct information on this point than anyone else" (7). What Strafford had to say has not apparently been recorded.

More specific information is to be found in a book which was published some 19 years earlier than W. H. Maxwell's biography, and was written by an officer of the 42nd Foot who had fought at Bokstel:

"The enemy having obtained possession of Boxtel on September 14, General Abercromby with the reserve was ordered to force them from this position. The third brigade, *now under the command of the Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Wesley of the 33rd regiment*, marched at four in the morning of the 15th and joined the brigade of guards. When they approached Boxtel, the enemy was discovered to be in too great a force to be attacked with any prospect of success" (8).

Wesley being the Brigade Commander, the 33rd Foot would then have been under command of Sherbrooke. This is confirmed by a manuscript among the family papers of Rear-Admiral R. St. V. Sherbrooke, VC, CB, DSO, LLD, now Lord-Lieu-

tenant of Nottinghamshire. It is dated 1830, the year of General Sir John Sherbrooke's death, and is entitled "Memoir by a Friend." The handwriting seems to be that of Sir John's sister-in-law, Mary Pyndar:

"When he had obtained the rank of Lt.-Col., he served under the Duke of York in Flanders, and during his unfortunate and memorable retreat, the 33rd was appointed to cover it. . . Two regiments of French Cavalry were seen coming down with the intention of charging the 33rd and as they imagined of cutting them to pieces. Col. Sherbrooke faced his Regt. to the rear, and gave the word '33rd Steady'.

"In this awful crisis not a man moved, but with determined fortitude they awaited the attack. When the first French Regt. was within 50 yards the command was given to 'Fire!'—the steady coolness of the men gave it full effect and scarcely a musket was fired in vain—men and horses were precipitated to the ground—those who were neither unhorsed nor wounded, halted and attempted to retreat, but before they had gained a very short distance, a second volley completed the work of destruction, and the whole Regt. lay stretched on the ground. The second Regt. after witnessing the dreadful overthrow faced about and were seen no more. This brilliant action Sir John always declared was more satisfactory to him, and he took more pride in it, than any affair in which he ever was engaged" (9).

#### Later campaigns

During the next five years Wesley was frequently called upon to act in higher command, leaving the 33rd in Sherbrooke's capable hands. But, whereas Sherbrooke showed himself well able to exercise command in the absence of Wesley, it is evident that Wesley in the absence of Sherbrooke proved less successful. During the Seringapatam Campaign in 1799, when Sherbrooke left the 33rd to command a brigade of his own, Wesley's relations with the Regiment became far from happy. Major John Shee, who then took over the 33rd, resented any interference by Wesley from Brigade Headquarters, and there was an unedifying exchange of written discourtesies between them on the march to Malavelly (10). Worse still was the outcome of a night attack on Sultanpettah Tope on April 5, 1799, when Wesley, without Sherbrooke, took direct command of the 33rd with disastrous results. Finally, after ill health had compelled Sherbrooke to leave India, the discipline of the 33rd went from bad to worse; and in 1802 Wesley—now Major-General Sir Arthur Wellesley—felt obliged to arrange with the Marquess Cornwallis, Colonel of the Regiment, that the next commanding officer should be found from another unit.

Sherbrooke's health never wholly recovered. He

(2) Public Records WO1/170/438.

(3) "Historical Journal of the British Campaign of 1794," by Capt. L. T. Jones (1797). This gives no account of the actual engagement.

(4) British Museum Add. MS 37305 f 15.

(5) A hamlet near Bokstel itself.

(6) "The Life of Wellington," by W. H. Maxwell Vol 1 (1839) pp. 17-18.

(7) "Journals and Correspondence of General Sir Harry Calvert," edited by Sir Harry Verney (1853): p. 327.

(8) "Sketches of the Highlanders of Scotland," by Col. David Stewart, Vol 1 (1822), p. 401.

nevertheless served with success as a Major-General under Sir John Moore in Sicily and Egypt; and, as a local Lieutenant-General, he was Wellington's second-in-command in the Peninsular Campaign of 1809 when he was made a Knight of the Bath. In 1811 he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia where he had first served with the 33rd in 1784. In 1816 he became Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of Canada until, two years later, ill-health again obliged him to return home. But the honour, which he prized above all others, had already come to him when, on January 1, 1813, he had been chosen to succeed Wellington as Colonel of the 33rd. He was promoted full General on May 27, 1825, and died five years later, at the age of 65, on February 14, 1830.

(9) This account was included, without attribution, in "Life and Letters of Viscount Sherbrooke," by A. Patchett Martin, Vol. 11 (1893), pp. 540-1.

(10) "Supplementary Despatches of the Duke of Wellington," Vol. 1, pp. 202-3.

This article was written in 1971 and not used before now for lack of space. In a covering letter Col. Watson refers to Lt. Byng at a skirmish at Bokstel on September 15, 1794: The Army List shows his promotion to Captain w.e.f. May 24, 1794. As the regimental returns of the day still show him as Lieutenant in September 1794 either his promotion was back-dated or news of his promotion had not reached the Regiment.

Brigadier Webb-Carter notes that Col. Watson has made a good case that the Second Lieutenant-Colonel—Sherbrooke—actually commanded at Bokstel. That Wellesley was a bad CO and that the discipline of the 33rd was such that he had to ask Cornwallis to import a Commanding Officer from another unit is rather less well founded. (Ed.)

## The Regimental Association

### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

#### London and Home Counties Branch Dinner

The annual reunion and dinner will be held this year on Saturday, May 12, 1973, at the Queen Victoria Rifles Association, 56 Davies Street, Berkeley Square, London W1. Meet in lounge 6.30 p.m. Dinner 7.30 for 8 p.m.

Applications for tickets, price £1 each, should be made to the secretary, Mr. R. H. Temple, 59 Burnfoot Avenue, Fulham, London SW6 (tel: 01-736-7339).

#### AGM and Reunion Dinner

The AGM and Reunion Dinner, followed by a dance, will be held in the Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield, on Saturday, September 29, 1973. AGM 6 p.m., dinner 7.15 p.m.

Tickets £1 each obtainable from the general secretary at RHQ Halifax or from Branch Secretaries.

#### Regimental Service, York

The service this year will be held in York Minster on Saturday, November 3, 1973, at 11 a.m.

#### Regimental Sweepstake 1973

The St. Leger this year will be run at Doncaster on Saturday, September 15.

As for many years past, a sweepstake will again be organised and some lucky persons will win £100, £50, £25 and £10 with £1 for every runner—also £5 to the seller of the winning ticket. Tickets 5p each, books 50p, will shortly be sent out to known ticket sellers. An appeal for more ticket sellers is made. If you have not previously received books to sell and you are willing to do so, please inform the General Secretary at RHQ DWR, Wellesley Park,

Halifax. Last year a profit of £225 was donated to Regimental Funds.

#### Preamble by the General Secretary—Arthur Wood

Halifax Barracks, February 1973 lunchtime. Snow on the ground, the sun shining brightly from a clear blue sky. Behind my office the old square, barrack blocks, offices, sports fields, Messes, canteens, married quarters. Outwardly all appears "as was" but as one looks and listens there's a great "something" that's missing—where is the shouting, the rushing or the strolling, the laughter, the swearing, the military atmosphere and general comradeship (whatever may have been said to the contrary in times of anger!)? I suppose there are "ghosts", chuckling, climbing over the illicit gates in Thackray Street and Spring Hall Lane as midnight approaches.

It feels good to be back at work, to walk around and share in the work-a-day life of folks of all types with "Duke's" military connections (which, quite definitely, eases communications, aerial and underground, to help keep this "freemasonry" of both old and present-day soldiers alive). If I did not feel good I should have betrayed the many friends who wrote to me in hospital wishing me well. Each card, each letter, had the strength of a tonic booster.

Special thanks to Dave Barnett, Bill Norman and all Branch secretaries who kept the wheels turning, and, of course, to RHQ staff.

My fervent hope, and I know I can say this on behalf of every serving and ex-serving soldier in the Regiment, is that our soldier/diplomats of the 1st Battalion will help pave the way to a peaceful settlement of the N. Ireland problems and that they all have a safe and successful tour.

Pen to paper, my notes commence—Ali won last night, England beat Scotland at soccer; the gasmen are angry; even the Civil Servants are cross; the pay freeze is on, weather to match, but the sun still shines so let's forget the obstacles and read of more pleasant events that I hopes these notes will record.

### Regimental Service and visit to Strensall—1972

On Saturday, October 28, 1972, approximately 100 members of the Regimental Association from the Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford, Leeds, Keighley, and Mossley Branches proceeded to York for the Regimental Service in York Minster which included the Dedication of the Dossal in the memory of Major-General W. M. Ozanne.

After an early-morning bus journey from our home districts, and before the service, we were served coffee and biscuits in St. Wilfred's College at the Minster—a very welcome greeting.

After the service we proceeded to Strensall where we were welcomed on the Barrack Square by RSM J. Welsh ex-1st Battalion, who has just taken over the duties of RSM Depot, The King's Division, and a toast was given to the Regiment and later in the Sergeants' Mess we were greeted by our old friend Bob Keilly with a glass of punch. Lunch was then served in the usual efficient way and, as always, an excellent meal.

Most of us then spent the afternoon in York sightseeing, etc. and then back once again to Mess for an evening of fun and games.

One of the main attractions of the evening was the "Miss Strensall" competition ably compared by the RSM whose comments on the vital statistics and beautiful charms, etc. of the three contestants had to be heard to be believed.

I was most surprised to be called to the phone, wondering who could be wanting me at Strensall. I wasn't left long in doubt from over in Ireland that well-known "Duke", Johnny Sargeant, was wanting to know how it was going and sending his regards to all, and the hope that our General Secretary, Arthur Wood, was getting well. Thanks, Johnny. More fun and games, a really excellent buffet, and then our thanks and a chorus of The Duke's "Coming up the Hill", and we were on our way back.

May I, on behalf of all, thank RSM Welsh, CSM Keilly, the PMC and members and the staff for another great day.

F.H.S.

### Halifax Branch Notes

Many are the calls on "Sax" to describe in his own inimitable way an event, happening, or probe down memory lane, but the gem of our notes in this issue must be a report of Sax's and Pat's ruby wedding celebrations.

In true Sax style we were given ample warning that on January 13 the Rowlands were celebrating their fortieth wedding anniversary. No leakage; jungle telegraph, sweeper or genned-up bloke had warned us of what was in store and, as usual, to our

monthly meeting we wended our way to the Sergeants Mess at Prescott Street, looking forward to the usual natter over a glass of ale and the women-folk a-bowling on their carpet green, being called together for a game of bingo and being bulldozed into buying raffle tickets—bric-a-brac (to help the funds). More drinks, eating, music and dancing—higgledy-piggledy evenings where time flies and all too soon we're approaching the following day.

Not so, Pat and Sax's "do"—Ladies and Gentlemen please be seated! And all sat down to a sumptuous meal after which, cigars lit and toasts given, we heard of the trials and jubilation of this errant "Duke" and the woman who has loved and "suffered" him throughout the years. More toasts—but the male-dominated speeches left us in no doubt that boredom would ever dim this marriage and we returned to the ante-room where celebrations continued at rather a faster pace than usual with the excuse that we were either drinking to Pat and Sax, their sons, brothers, any relations would do, and the host himself responded gallantly. The hostess, surrounded by the ladies, were engrossed in what must have been "women's talk" by the looks of awe, astonishment and expressions of amazement, intermingled with smiles, laughter and often outbursts of polite screams. (It makes one wonder what women do talk about—I don't think we'll ever know!)

Not approaching, but well into the following day, we drifted away—a happy crowd—warmed and exhilarated after an exceptionally pleasant and important evening.

### London Branch Notes

Bob Temple, enjoying his retirement, writes of his morning strolls in and around London and how, when on a visit to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, accompanied by Dave Benson, they met Harry Barron in Sloane Square and the group chatting there were joined by Capt. Walter Robbins at present serving with the Para Brigade. Later in the Mess at the Royal Hospital they had a drink with Nobby Clarke who says he keeps himself fit by helping the RSM. They also visited Oliver Ramsbottom with whom Bob served as a Sergeant when Oliver was a CSM in the 1920s. Time certainly marches on, noticeably so when Bob writes of his son who will be leaving the Army next year with over 25 years' service. (I think that Bob and Jackie Horne are competing with each other for "fatherly soldier figure".)

Bob, along with Dave Benson, sound to be loyal Fulham supporters with active attendance on the terrace side, yet their sporting activities, coupled with welfare investigations and liaison with local welfare organisations, has not prevented them from making the necessary arrangements for this year's annual reunion and dinner. It will once again be held in the Drill Hall of Queen Victoria Rifle Association, Davies Street, London W1, on Saturday, May 12, 1973. (Full details appear elsewhere in these notes.) Bob would like any ex-"Duke" who has not previously attended and would like to do so, to contact him.



### Keighley Notes

At their AGM in November last Bill Smith, who has served the Branch so well during the past many years, handed over the reins of secretaryship to Tommy Gibson. Not that Bill is leaving—far from it—for at that meeting he was appointed a Life Trustee of the Branch and his advice and knowledge will always be available when required, or at any meeting. Tommy, with youth on his side, has entered into his new appointment with zest and there's a hearty welcome waiting for both serving and ex-serving "Dukes" either residing or visiting Keighley area. Tommy's address is 5 Bankfield Drive, Braithwaite, Keighley, Yorkshire.

On January 6 a party was held to celebrate Bill and Mrs. Smith's 40th wedding anniversary and although no detailed report of this party has been submitted the sub-editor can say without doubt that it "went with a swing" (Keighley Branch can celebrate "this" or "that" on any evening of any day if need be). Plans are afoot arranging the attendance of some of their members to the London Branch Dinner in May.

The Branch lost one of its founder members and willing worker on the death of Jack Blenkarn on November 16, 1972. Jack will be sadly missed.

Most of the Branch members, along with representatives of his old TA unit, attended the funeral.

### Bradford Branch

Bradford branch report that their fortnightly meetings are still well attended by the faithful "hard core" but although "Tich" Deighton is prevented by illness from attending he is very much in contact with this invaluable advice and influence.

Bert Copley, Eddie Hewison, Fred Stringer and Jackie Horne travelled to Preston to watch the 1st Battalion beat the Royal Welch Fusiliers in the semi-finals of the UK Army Cup competition. All went well until the return journey when, after dropping Jackie at Slaithwaite, the car refused to start and the journey home had to be by bus.

Bert has been making enquiries about a trip by Branch members to Holland but rapidly rising costs of travel are making such projects too expensive; however, a magic genie may appear some day and new plans can be made.

### Mossley Branch

ECC. In the August issue we reported the inclusion of our Branch members at a party given by the Mayor and Mayoress of Mossley to the Mayor and Mayoress of Hem, the French "twinning" town.

The return visit by officials of Mossley Corporation to Hem is now being arranged and will include the secretary of our branch, Mr. T. Hallas.

At the request of an old member of our branch to find the location of the grave of his brother-in-law, Pte. Stephen Milhench, who was killed in action whilst serving with The Duke's during World War I in France, information was obtained from the War Graves Commission and recently the branch received a letter from Pte. Milhench's sister-in-law, Mrs. Emma Milhench of Mossley, thanking them

for their efforts and telling of an incident resulting from the finding of the grave. Mrs. Milhench's son, also called Stephen, is at present living in Hamburg. When he heard that his uncle, who died in 1917, was commemorated by name on the Tyne Top Memorial, Passchendale, Belgium, he made up his mind to visit the spot. Now he has peace of mind after seeing the grave of the uncle after whom he was named, and Mrs. Milhench expresses the sentiments of them both in her comment to the Old Comrades that it is good to know that someone cares.

Since our last notes it is with regret that we must record the deaths of three of our members. Mr. T. Higgins, a World War I veteran who also served with the 7th Battalion for a number of years on its re-formation. Mr. Frank Mayall, who died on New Year's Eve, joined the 7th Battalion as a Drummer in 1928 and was with the Corps of Drums until they disbanded during the war. Frank, however, stayed with the Battalion until the end of the war. Joe Norcliffe, another World War I veteran who continued with the 7th Battalion as a Vickers Gun instructor in peace-time, died aged 77.

### Joe's 80th (by T. Hallas)

Sunday, January 21, 1973, was the 80th birthday of Mr. Joe Caddick our most popular member.

On Saturday evening of the 20th a social evening was held with invitations to all Branches. The weather that night was atrocious, a blizzard blowing over the hills and hopes of a successful evening were almost at rock bottom, but amongst the first to arrive was Jackie Horne and three other stalwarts from Huddersfield later followed by Mr. and Mrs. Bill Smith from Keighley, both parties having braved the Pennines through the blizzard.

The evening started with a surprise presentation to Mr. Caddick of the Long Service Award of the Conservative Party, followed by the presentation of a silver tankard by the local District Association of Conservative Clubs. Mrs. Caddick was given a bouquet of flowers. After refreshments had been served the Mayor of Mossley on behalf of Mossley Branch, presented Mr. Caddick with a briar pipe, tobacco and a birthday cake (specially made by Mr. J. Powell's son). The Mayoress presented Mrs. Caddick with a bouquet of flowers. Next, with a warm speech of appreciation for the services and pleasure Mr. Caddick had given them at Huddersfield, Mr. Jackie Horne presented Mr. Caddick with a cheque on behalf of the Huddersfield Branch. Lastly, amidst loud applause, Bill Smith of Keighley came forward and presented Joe with a bottle of champagne.

Replying, Joe said he was bewildered and overcome by such a show of appreciation and declared it was the finest birthday party he had ever known and he was proud to belong to such a wonderful organisation as the Regimental Association of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

The evening ended with the usual songs and chorus and culminated with Joe and his brother John, singing a duet of Caran O'Connor's "Strolling Vagabond"—a fitting end to a very memorable evening.

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