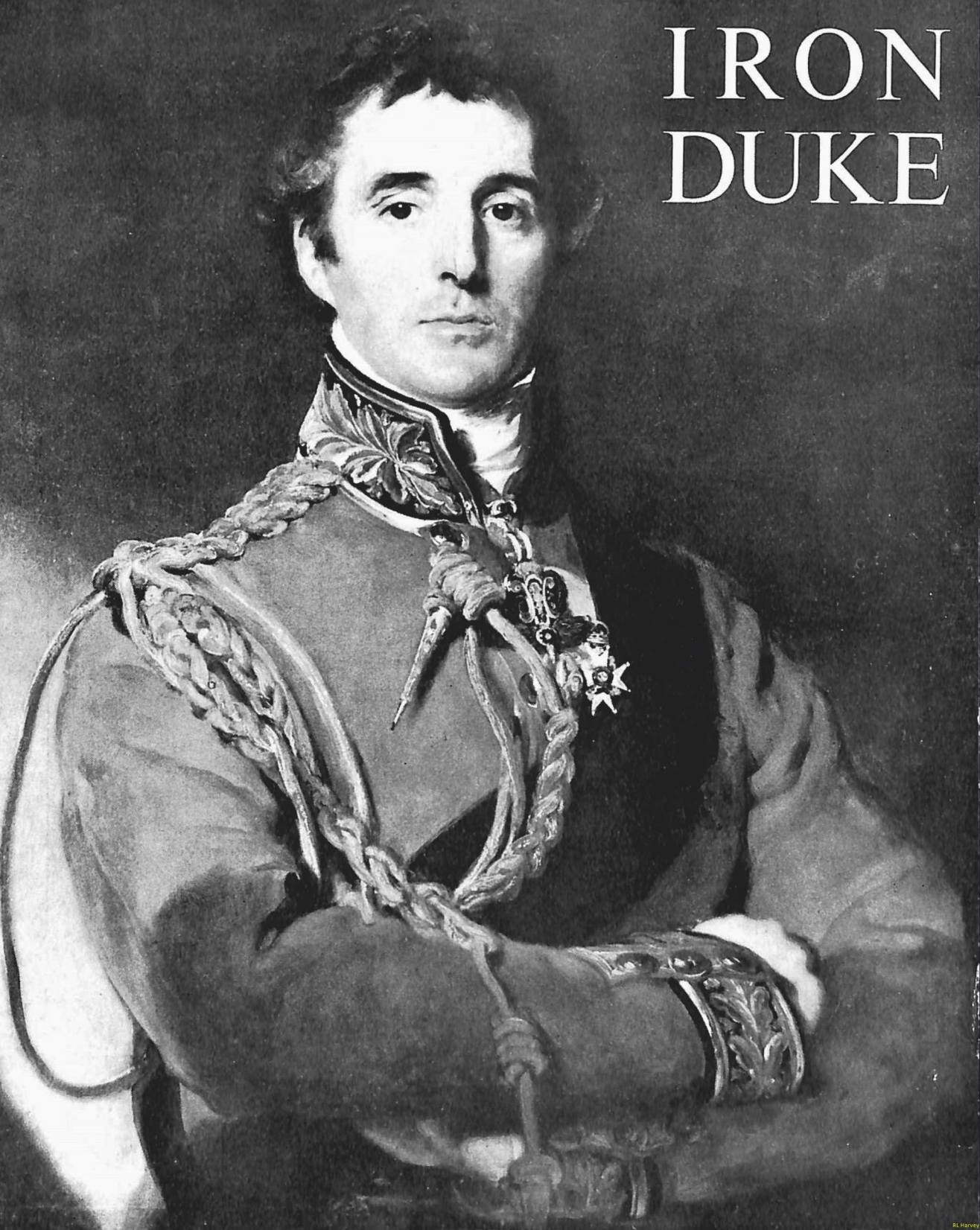


No.171 August 1976

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 Suva
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. LI

AUGUST 1976

No. 171

BUSINESS NOTES

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The portrait of The Duke by Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A. (Canvas 1814), is reproduced on our cover, without fee, by kind permission of the Director of the Wellington Museum, Apsley House.

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THE REGIMENT

Colonel-in-Chief

BRIGADIER HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, MVO, OBE, MC, BA

Colonel of the Regiment

MAJOR-GENERAL D. E. ISLES, OBE
Roccliffe House, Easingwold, Yorkshire

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Wellesley Park, Halifax
Regimental Secretary: Major J. H. Davis

THE 1st BATTALION

Mons Barracks, Aldershot
CO: Lt.-Col. J. B. K. Greenway, MBE Adjutant: Capt. J. R. A. Ward
RSM WO1 M. Carter

TERRITORIAL & ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE

1st BATTALION THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS "C" COMPANY (THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S)

Wellington Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax
Commander : Major K. Marsh

3rd BATTALION, THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS "C" COMPANY (THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S)

St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield
Commander : Major C. M. B. Bateman

ARMY CADET FORCE

Area Commander, DWR, ACF. Major P. R. Tattersall, AMBIM, 90 Dalton Green Lane, Huddersfield

AFFILIATED C.C.F.

Giggleswick School CCF, CO: Capt. N. J. Mussett

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Patron

Brigadier His Grace The Duke of Wellington, MVO, OBE, MC, BA
President : Major-General D. E. Isles, OBE
Vice-President : Colonel J. Davidson, *Mount House, Terrington, York*
General Secretary : Mr. A. Wood, *Wellesley Park, Halifax*

Regimental Headquarters

Retirement of Regimental Secretary

The Regimental Secretary who retired on June 30 thanks all those who have given him help and support and particularly the RHQ Staff, past and present, who added so much to the pleasure of this most enjoyable post since the formation of RHQ on August 10, 1959.

He takes this opportunity to welcome as his successor his old friend Maj Graham Tedd.

Birthday Honours List

We congratulate the following for their awards in Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday Honours List:

Col (now Brig) C. R. Huxtable, CBE, Mr J. E. Horne, MBE (President Huddersfield Branch British Limbless ex-Servicemen's Association).

Award of Long Service and Good Conduct Medal 22843519 Sgt Lofthouse J. K., June 28, 1974.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE King's Division

Regular Army

Maj G. C. Tedd (156235) retired on retired pay February 21, 1976 (LG, February 24, 1976).

Capt (QM) S. H. Kirk (482281) DWR to be Major (QM) March 15, 1976. (LG, March 16, 1976).

The under-mentioned 2/Lts to be Lieutenants, March 9, 1976. G. A. Kilburn (497450) DWR, G. D. Shuttleworth (497508) DWR (LG, March 8, 1976).

Regular Army Reserve Officers Short Service Commission

Lt M. T. W. Jenkins (495632) DWR from Active List to be Lieutenant March 10, 1976 (LG, March 23, 1976).

Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve

Capt (Acting Major) K. Marsh, TD (471089) 1 Yorks to be Major, January 25, 1976, with seniority May 28, 1975. (LG, March 29).

Appointments

Lt Col R. L. Stevens has been appointed to Command the 2nd Bn Ulster Defence Regt with effect from June 20, 1976.

Maj S. J. Nash has been appointed GSOII SD/Trg HQ the King's Div with effect from May 28, 1976.

The following Officers have been selected for the Staff College, Army Staff Course No 12 Div 3 commencing October 24, 1977.

A/Major A. R. Redwood-Davies, MBE, Capt P. D. Gardner.

Bandmaster F. A. Renton, bandmaster of the Gordon Highlanders, has been appointed Band-

master of the King's Divn Depot w.e.f. June 1976 and has been transferred to the Duke of Wellington's Regt.

Mr Renton played with the Black Dyke Mills Band at the age of 12. He then attended the Royal Manchester College of Music in 1957 and joined the band of the Royal Horse Guards (The Blues) in June 1959.

He went to the Royal Military School of Music in 1967 as a student Bandmaster and was appointed to the Gordon Highlanders in 1969.

Regimental Dates

The Annual General Meeting of the Regimental Association and Dinner will be held in Wellington Hall, Halifax on Saturday, September 25.

Regimental Order of Merit

Maj A. C. S. Savory has kindly presented to the Officers of the 1st Bn the Regimental order of merit presented by the first Duke while commanding the 33rd to Sgt Young in 1798, the year before the battle of Seringapatam.

Maj Tom Milner's salver

Mr Bob Milner very kindly presented Regimental Headquarters with the silver salver given to his father in April 1928 on promotion from RSM to Quartermaster. The salver is of particular interest in that it has facsimile signatures of the officers serving with the 1st Bn at the time.

Museum Acquisitions

The last few months have seen a number of important additions and donations including the following.

The Crimea War Relics including medals, helmet plates, drum, bugle and insignia which had been on loan were acquired with the help of a grant from the Army Museums Ogilby Trust.

A portrait of an officer of the 33rd about 1780 presented by Col R. G. Turner. This interesting portrait of an unknown officer is the earliest example we have of the dress of this period. It is painted on wood with considerable artistic skill though the hat appears as if it might be a later addition. This at present is under examination by the Courtauld Institute of Fine Art.

Lt Col E. C. Boutflower's medals and an Afghan tribesman's saddle bag captured by 1 DWR in the 3rd Afghan War 1919. Presented by Mrs Boutflower.

The Waterloo medal of Sgt R. Leaver, 33rd Regt of Foot presented by Maj P. Bruce-Lowe.

A sword with sword belt and slings formerly the property of Lt Col E. F. Chadwick who commanded the 33rd Regt of Foot 1878-79 was presented by his son Brig E. W. Chadwick.

German 1914-18 war mask formerly the property of Lt G. W. Hanna, MM, 2 DWR presented by his sister Mrs E. P. Hall.

The 1914-18 war medals of Sgt F. Wood, DCM, MM, presented by his son.

10th Bn Baluch Regt

The Baluch Regimental Centre recently sent us their most interesting April 1976 newsletter giving details of their highly successful 1975 reunion.

News of the doings of our allied Regiment of the Pakistan Army is very welcome.

RHQ Cocktail Party

The St George's tide party attended by the Col and Mrs Isles was a success.

Among the guests was an old friend, now the head of the Lancashire CID, Detective Chief Superintendent Joe Mounsey who will be remembered by those in Cyprus in 1956-57 as the special branch man who accompanied the Battalion on a number of its operations.

MAJ J. H. DAVIS

Maj John Davis retired from the post of Regimental Secretary on June 30, 1976, having held the appointment for almost 17 years.

John was born on June 20, 1916, and was educated at Wellington. On being commissioned from Sandhurst in August 1936 he joined the 2nd Bn in India remaining with them until seconded to the RWAFF in September 1939.



Acknowledgments: J. Greaves, Halifax

Major J. H. Davis

He served with 1st Bn Nigeria Regt in E Africa, Abyssinia, India and Burma returning to the UK in September 1945.

After a spell at the School of Infantry and the War Office he became training officer of 33 (DWR) PTC, leaving in December 1948 to attend the Staff College. There followed a series of staff appointments in Germany and NATO HQ in France prior to becoming OC the reopened Depot in April 1952. In September 1954 he was appointed GSO 2 HQ British Commonwealth Forces Korea in Japan. He joined 1 DWR at Chisleton in February 1956, later to become second-in-Command. From December 1957 to his retirement in July 1959 he was on the staff of HQ Northumbrian District at Catterick.

Following his retirement he was re-employed in a Retired Officer capacity to form and become RO2 I/C Regimental Headquarters at Halifax. He has served three Colonels of the Regiment with loyalty and understanding. Among his many achievements at HQ was his groundwork in persuading the City Fathers of Halifax to take the Regimental Museum under the wing of the Halifax Museum at Bankfield.

Devoted to the Regiment, John has spared no effort on its behalf during his period in office and to him and Isabel we extend the good wishes of the Regiment for a happy retirement at Botany End.

At a small representative gathering of serving and retired regular and TA officers held at RHQ on July 1, the Colonel of the Regiment presented Maj Davis with a silver salver suitably inscribed, the gift of all officers of the Regiment.

Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps Museum Appeal

The above appeal, published in our last issue, has raised the sum of £35.00.

The Colonel-of-the-Regiment wishes to thank those who responded to this appeal.

VACANCIES FOR CHELSEA PENSIONERS

A number of vacancies for In-Pensioners exist at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

To be eligible for admission an applicant must be in receipt of a service or disability pension awarded in respect of military service and be at least 65 or unable to earn a living though generally able to look after himself.

If unable to earn a living an applicant should be not less than 55 unless in receipt of a pension for an Army disability, and in each of the foregoing cases be free from liability of supporting a wife or children. In exceptional cases the Commissioners may admit a man younger than 55.

Further information may be obtained from The Secretary, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London, SW3 4SL.

1st Battalion

COMMANDING OFFICER'S INTRODUCTION

Aldershot; an evocative name that must conjure up many a military memory. Indeed the Officers' Mess possesses a picture which depicts a row or two of wooden huts under several inches of snow which is captioned: 'Officers' Quarters, South Camp, Aldershot 1870'. Sadly there will be no one left today who served in those days, nor even anyone who might have been born in the then equivalent of the Louise Margaret maternity hospital; otherwise there would doubtless be tales to be told of the Regiment's previous tour here.

As far as the 1st Battalion is concerned, our tour in Aldershot has, overall, been a happy and, I believe, a successful one. We have been made more than welcome by the successive Commanders and by the staff of Headquarters 16th Parachute Bde and we have been given all the support we have asked for. The occasional flurry of fisticuffs in the town (now a thing of the past) served to indicate the degree not of animosity, but of natural rivalry which is bound to exist between two proud regiments; that rivalry has turned, I like to think, into mutual respect.

The eight or so months that the Battalion served away from Aldershot provided, in Cyprus,

some of the perks that are depicted in the recruiting brochures and, in Northern Ireland, some up-to-date operational experience which should stand us in good stead in the future.

Being so centrally placed we have been able, as is doubtless reflected in the various Mess notes, to see a large number of past and present Officers of the Regiment as well as a good many OCA members and their wives. Perhaps the Cricket Weekend in celebration of Waterloo Day 1976 deserves particular mention; apart from expressing our gratitude to Brig Geoffrey Howlett and to Col Peter Mitchell for raising XIs which tactfully conceded defeat, I believe it is worth recording that 24 Dukes Officers, past and present, played on one side or another that weekend, with a further three standing as umpires.

Another advantage of Aldershot has been its proximity to Stratfield Saye and the opportunity this has given us to welcome the Colonel-in-Chief to the Battalion. On one occasion he was witnessed attaining a 4-in group in his first-ever shoot with a SLR, thus displaying commendable prowess; on another occasion he was, regrettably, witnessed pushing a reluctant staff car down the A323, subsequently, judging by the continuance in office of the Commanding Officer, displaying commendable restraint.



The CO and RSM welcome
C-in-C UKLF General Sir
Edwin Bremall, KCB, OBE,
MC

We have had many other visitors, but in May we were particularly pleased to welcome Sir Denis Hamilton, who is now Chairman and Editor in Chief of Times Newspapers Ltd, but who will be better known to many as the Commanding Officer of the 7th Bn in 1944/45.

We now look forward to joining 11th Armoured Bde in Minden; to taking over our tracked armoured personnel carriers; to map reading at 30mph instead of 3mph; and to communicating at all levels by means of high-speed radio; in short, we look forward to a thoroughly challenging tour in Germany.

Our departure for Minden coincides with the departure from the Battalion of WO1 J. P. Collins, who moves North to serve his last six months in the United Kingdom before retiring. Probably

only my predecessors in command will really appreciate the unique bond which links a Commanding Officer and his Regimental Sergeant-Major; and only they will know the full extent to which the former relies upon the experience and the wise counsel of the latter. I willingly acknowledge my own debt to WO1 Joe Collins and I am glad to have this opportunity both to thank him for his loyal support and to wish him and his family well in the future.

I regretfully record the death in hospital in May, after a mercifully short illness, of Pte Walter Fothergill. To his widow we extend every sympathy. Several of us have learned much from Mrs Janice Fothergill, who exhibited great courage in her loss and perfect manners in the charming letters that she took the trouble to write after her husband's funeral.

News from the Messes

OFFICERS' MESS

It is pleasant to be able to report that we have remained based in Aldershot for over four months. We celebrated our return to Mess life with a Steak Night in April and this was followed by a Regimental Guest Night in which we entertained our present Brigade Commander Geoffrey Howlett and the former Commander David O'Morchoe. The numbers living in have never risen for long

above 10 as many of us have been away on our BAOR Conversion Course.

A highlight during May was the Regimental Ladies' Lunch Party which took place in the Mess before the Officers' Dinner the same evening. Over 100 were present and all seemed to enjoy themselves.

In June we had, for the first time in many years, a Cricket Weekend and a party in the Mess on the Saturday night. It was good to see so many old friends, especially David Gilbert-Smith and his wife, Chris Fitzgerald, Col Roger Southerst, James Faithful and his wife, Jim Shenton, Col Dennis Shuttleworth, the Hardys, Reids, Nicholsons, Roberts, Westcobs, Bests, Mitchells, Meeks and Mike Jenkins. It was a very pleasant way to say our farewells before leaving for Germany. Paddy McDaid, who is at Sandhurst came to the cricket in order to make his number. We look forward to his posting in about October.

We have said farewell to Alan and Gell Westcob, who have left us for IJLB Shorncliffe, and George Kilburn to Strensall, and we welcome back Murray Colville and our latest arrival Mike Stone. Our paymaster has changed over and so sadly we say farewell to Ernie and Kath Bousefield but welcome in their place Ewen and Jenny Simmonds.

Finally, congratulations to the Pitchers on producing a baby boy.

Presentation by Major John Davis

Thanks to some swift communication between Maj Vernon Davies, who is already in Minden, and the Battalion, we have recently managed to lay our hands on a valuable original Snaffles caricature of an Officer of the 76th. Some additional swift communication then took place with RHQ over the small matter of raising the money for the picture, when John Davis decided to buy it and present it to the Mess as a leaving present.

This is a most generous gesture which is,

**J. Dege
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**THE DUKE OF
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16 CLIFFORD STREET, SAVILE ROW,
LONDON W1X 2HS, TEL: 01 734 2248

naturally, very much appreciated by us all. We look forward to displaying the picture in Minden and we hope that he will visit us to view it.

This is clearly an entirely appropriate moment to thank John not only for the picture, but also for his many years of service at RHQ. We wish both him and Isabel a long and happy retirement.

WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS MESS

It seems only a short while ago since reading the last edition of the IRON DUKE notes. A short tour once again in Northern Ireland followed by three weeks' rehabilitation leave until the end of March set the new theme for preparing for Germany. April seemed loath to get under way as regards Mess entertainment, although the continuing presence of enthusiastic car salesmen providing free barrels of beer for the Friday evening happy hour, which kept a few of us smiling. Mainly (TQ)!

Things soon sprang to life on April 25 when a Regimental Mixed Dinner was held and we had the

pleasure of entertaining RSM Mick Barham, Sgts Yeadon and Logan, from 1 Yorks Volunteers, who were down in our area for the Orienteering Competition.

This was quickly followed by the much looked forward to OCA Weekend, May 8-9. A coach of some 30 Mess members from both Sergeants and Corporals' Messes attended the London Branch Dinner at the Victoria Club on the Saturday evening, followed by a curry lunch and Band concert in the Sergeants' Mess on Sunday for both the Yorkshire and London contingents, the highlight of which was a presentation of silver to CSM and Mrs Bill Norman on his retirement. We all wish you both, once again, all the very best.

Lastly we rounded off the month of May with an all-Stars Cabaret Night which was an enormous success with a variety of sketches complete with props and costumes.

In concluding, we would like to say welcome to all newly-promoted or posted-in members and to wish those departed all the very best in their new posts.

From the Companies

ALMA COMPANY

In contrast with our notes in the two previous editions in which, because of our Cyprus tour, public duties in London, NATO exercise and an emergency tour in Ulster we may have given the impression of Alma Company living out of its suitcases! We can report that, for once, the Company has remained based in Aldershot for four whole months.

The planned reshuffle of personnel, which was delayed because of Ulster, took place in April with many old Alma faces moving to the Signals, Mortar, Anti-Tank and Recce Platoons. Those remaining spent the following six weeks concentrating on individual training and the Company strength seemed to become smaller and smaller. However, this was not to last and during May many new faces began to appear, joining us from Strensall or Shorncliffe (via Strensall).

The second phase of our summer in Aldershot had begun and it consisted principally of conversion training for our new mechanised role in Minden and preparing for the move. Almost every Officer and NCO was required to attend two or more short courses and many of the old Alma faces were taught to drive. Most passed their tests while some had difficulty in telling their left from their right and that resulted in a couple of accidents!

CSM Wilkinson and his clerks Robinson and Hays are to be congratulated in that their hair did not turn grey in spite of the near chaos on the Company manning board.

Now that this fraught period is over it is to be hoped that we are ready for our new role in Germany—if we are not then it's too bad because the advance party have left us and all that remains

for us is to complete the inter-Company sports competition and finish our personal packing.

To all who left Alma during this period thank you for your loyal service and friendship and welcome to the new soldiers.

1 Platoon

Since the Platoon returned from Ulster, life here in Aldershot has been rather hectic! We have not had the chance of working a great deal as a platoon because of the involvement of various cadres within the Battalion, which included six weeks of centralised training which we have recently completed.

During the last few weeks the Platoon orbit has changed somewhat because of postings within the Battalion, and new additions from the Depot.

We say goodbye to Sgt Harston, and wish him all the best in his new position and welcome Sgt Hayes to the Platoon. We are now looking forward to the move to Germany in August, but the last few weeks we have left in Aldershot will involve a great deal more training and hard work in preparation for our conversion to the Mech Role.

It will all be interesting, and we hope, rewarding once we arrive in Germany.

Three's up

For an infantry soldier perhaps one of the most rewarding and satisfying skills to master is the ability to shoot well and consistently. And rightly so, for that is surely his main 'trade' on the battlefield. For the fortunate few it is a skill which is easily gained but for the vast majority it is one which only comes with considerable practice and determination. This year the Battalion skill at arms camp at the Ash ranges provided us all with the

opportunity to raise our standards of shooting, no matter how good or bad they previously were. It also gave those 'fortunate few' the chance to show their worth prior to Bisley.

For 3 Platoon it was a particularly successful week with the individual SLR prize being taken by Pte (Chalky) Crawford and the Section SLR team, led by Cpl Ijeh, coming high in the final placings. Well done to all concerned! For those of us not destined to reach such heights there was the personal satisfaction of knowing that one's shooting has improved. Even if a 24 in group had only been reduced to 12 in it was at least, a step in the right direction, Pte . . .! Perhaps the two factors which helped to make the shooting an enjoyable as well as a beneficial event were the weather and the Colour's soggy fish and chips. They're great, Colour, but thank God we only get them once a year!

Unfortunately, the camp was to be the last occasion when the Platoon would be together before Germany. The mechanised training for BAOR has resulted in the disappearance of many of the Platoon's old faces but once the Battalion is settled in Minden they will probably reappear from dark and dubious corners to welcome in the latest recruits.

BURMA COMPANY

The 2IC breathed a sigh of relief, as he is not required to write the IRON DUKE notes on this occasion. Not that he usually does, anyway, but he is saved the job of delegating to the Platoon Commanders to produce something decent! So c/s 29 has taken up the pen as part of his farewell gesture to the Company.

Having taken on the task of writing these notes I appealed to my Company 'O' Group for any ideas or suggestions they might have, to put them in note form and to leave them in my in-tray. My in-tray is by no means empty. The Bn 2IC and Adjutant see to that (they have shares in a papermill and intend to make sure they maintain their value). Alas, nothing from my 'O' Group. This chapter of the continuing saga of 'Burma Battery' is therefore my own.

I regrettably have to start with the sad and sudden death of Pte Fothergill, who died suddenly from cancer after a short illness on Saturday, May 29. 'Walt La Hat', as he was known throughout the Company, re-enlisted back into the 'Dukes' and joined 'Burma' Co in August 1975. He went into 6 Platoon but the word soon got around that with his past experience in the business world before rejoining he would be the ideal replacement for the Company Clerk when Cpl Greenwood was moved on. He was despatched on a Clerks' Course before Christmas and returned with a 'B' Grade. He took over as Company Clerk in February 1976, prior to our return from Northern Ireland. After only a short period he went into hospital, never to return to work.

I know I speak on behalf of the whole Company when I say that our heart-felt sympathy went out to his wife, Janice Fothergill, during her bereavement, which she withstood well, and set a good

example to us all throughout her ordeal.

In our last notes we made emphasis on the mobile role the Company had whilst on Spearhead, in Northern Ireland, also the hard work which still had to pay off. In our last month in Northern Ireland it did. The Company carried out a successful covert OP Operation which led to the arrest of two suspect IRA-ASU members; in addition we had a number of 'finds'. 5 Platoon set the pace when Cpl Porter found two rifles and some ammunition. 4 Platoon raced out the next day and found 50 lb of explosive and 35 ft of Cordtex. The scene was set when the Company was rented out to the 15/19 Hussars. It was Company HQ that struck first, a 'find' of 500 rounds of SA ammo; this really stirred the Platoons into action, who commenced moving around like 'blood hounds' with Platoon Sergeants urging them on, and the word 'Winthrop' was on everybody's lips. 4 Platoon struck again with a 'find' of 13 detonators. OC 6 Platoon by now was in a complete frenzy. 'What had happened to 6 Platoon?' We need not have worried. Later the same day Pte Grundy detected an exceedingly well-camouflaged hide. This hide revealed a .38 pistol, a short range transmitter, and a quantity of small arms ammo, of which 60 were brand new armalite rounds. During these operations we learnt a few old lessons. Not to take vehicles off tracks. 4 Platoon spent a day with the REME Section getting one of their Saracens back on to the track. The Company was recalled to spend the last five days with the Battalion before being flown back to Aldershot on March 9. The Company's transport followed by sea a few days later. Our Land-Rovers were noticeable by the fact that every one had a dent on it somewhere. They had travelled miles; I should not like to recall the number of places we went to. The largest period we spent at Mahon Barracks was five days. Then we were off again.

Before we went on some well-earned leave, we had to say goodbye to some of the older soldiers in the Company who were to try their hand at 'Support Weapons' and the Signal Platoon! This is a sad time as some of the Company spirit built up over the last two years goes as well. The cycle starts again with the influx of recruits from the Depot. A challenge, of course, for the Officers and NCOs, who will be aiming to do even better than our previous record.

After a week's leave we returned to Mons Barracks on April 29. The next week was spent in carrying out our annual personal weapons tests on rifle, GPMG, and SMG. Mr Newton was delegated the responsibility for the organisation of this venture, with a view to selecting the Company Shooting Team for the Inter-Company Rifle Meeting to be held at the end of the week, as a climax to the week's shooting. The range organisation went smoothly. Although the final scores were for some reason considered 'Top Secret' and nothing short of a direct order could persuade OC 6 Platoon to part with them. We did not win the Inter-Company Rifle Competition, but Pte Jackson got the highest individual score on the SMG and 6 Platoon and 4 Platoon came first and third on the Inter-Platoon Rifle Shoot. The Company was to spend the next month doing Centralised Training.



4 Pl's Find.

(Left to Right): (Kneeling) Ptes Edley, McKnight, Peace, Smith. (Standing) Pte Ashton, Cpl Mortimer, LCpl Marshal

This proved to be a successful period. The soldiers enjoyed themselves, moving around visiting the other two rifle companies who put them through their paces on the various subjects that they were taught. Burma Coy covered map reading, patrolling, and defence. The highlight of the map reading was a 36-hour exercise in the New Forest. Although there were plenty of blisters on the feet, the soldiers enjoyed the scenery and managed not to get themselves lost. We got around the problem of teaching defence by spending one day at Cove, and by kind courtesy of 3 Training Regt RE used their training ground and stores. We also borrowed Sgt Lowney from the Assault Pioneer Platoon. Patrolling was covered by showing some films and a couple of realistic night exercises. During one of these exercises the simulated counter-bombardment sounded so real that the RMPs were waiting for us when we came off the training area to find out whom we were trying to annihilate!

During the period we had practically all our NCOs on a cadre, and a number of soldiers learning to drive. One of our drivers (he will remain anonymous) managed to hit not one, but two parked cars on the square while under training, before he finally successfully passed his test.

Immediately the Centralised Training finished the Company laid on a demonstration for the Police Staff College from Bramshill. The theme was the role and versatility of the Infantry. After a short lecture the Police Officers were given the opportunity to handle and fire some of the weapons. This included the rubber bullet gun and the 1½ in gas pistol. They were also invited into the gas chamber for a whiff of the old CS! Finally, they were

taken for tea to the Officers' Mess, where the Regimental Silver was on display for them. We received a letter of appreciation afterwards saying how much they had enjoyed themselves.

At present the Company is 100 strong, but we are doing well if we can muster 40 men each day. The vast majority being on 432 drivers' conversion courses, GPMG Turret Courses, The Kape Tour, or involved with the Aldershot Show. What is left are getting fit and practising for the 'Friendly'!!! Company Sport Competition which takes place in the last week of June. Personality wise we welcome into the Company, CSM Robinson. He has been involved in rugby, some cricket and also the organisation of an Air Defence Cadre. He has still to get the Company together (which will not be until we get to Germany) for him to get to grips. Sgt Theodore arrives from the Recce Platoon to take over from Sgt Craven who departs for the Junior Leaders at Ripon in August. Lt Grieve, the Company 2IC, also leaves after nearly four years with the Company to show the Army Cadet Force how to soldier. He will be long remembered for his most recent exploit in Northern Ireland when he moved the Company from Dungannon to Lisnaskea during a full-scale blizzard in February. Veterans from this move liken it to the 'Retreat from Moscow'. Congratulations are in order to Cpl Hayes on his promotion, he has moved across to join Alma Company; to Cpl Mortimer on achieving first place on the JNCOs Cadre; on promotion for Cpls Whitworth, Porter, Spencer and Lcpls Corr, Marshall and Acklam; Sgt (Psycho) Sykes, Sgt Hey and Cpl Porter on achieving good gradings on the Platoon Sergeants Course at Brecon; to Cpl Morton for his 'A' Grade on the First-Aid Instructors' Course; to Ptes Pugh and Hardy on achieving first and second places on the Signal Cadre. Finally, a soldier's farewell to the following who are leaving the Company to face the challenge of civilian life: Cpl Spencer, Lcpls Tooley, Parkin, and Farrar. The best wishes of us all go with you.

CORUNNA COMPANY

Our last notes were written shortly after Corunna Coy arrived in South Armagh and shortly before Maj Westcob baled out, leaving his successor a remarkable store of reminiscences and 'scandalous insights' (plus an excellent handover of course!).

Apart from being a sobering reminder of the sad affairs of South Armagh, in terms of actual incidents directly affecting us our nine-week tour was distinctly uneventful. Our primary role was to restore the confidence of the local population after the January massacres. We did this by constant talking, patrolling, checking and searching. There were enough panic moves and threats to move to keep us on our toes; and although we did not actually have a single contact with the IRA we like to think that this was in no small way due to the pressure we maintained, and that we did what we were sent for.

Our thanks go to 2 UDR who put up with us in their centre at Glenanne, to 1 Royal Scots who treated Corunna as one of their own Companies, and to all those who were attached to us (sometimes at very short notice) from Hook Coy.

As will have been reported elsewhere in these notes the Northern Ireland tour has cut short the time available to train for BAOR. The time in Aldershot has been spent in individual training. This has covered almost every aspect of the Infantryman's tasks. No attempt has been made to train as a Company and all ranks have been encouraged to get away and do their thing before we go to Minden. Consequently the Company is now scattered to the four winds indulging in such pastimes as KAPE, Driving, Signalling, Free-Falling, Canoeing, Education, Skill-at-Arms, GPMG (SF), Air Defence, courses etc (the cry 'battle groups and combat teams' has even been heard in the Company Office). The result being that at the time of writing Corunna's in-camp strength is one Coy Comd, one CSM and eight. We aim, however, to all meet in Minden.

Finally a warm welcome is due to WO2 Toplis, our new CSM, and *au revoir* to WO2 Hodkinson, who is now leaving the army. Our thanks go with him for all he has done for the company during his short stay, and we wish him and his family the best of luck in their new venture. CRC

Company HQ

Enough has been said in our last notes about Glenanne without doing a complete re-hash, but there are some points that should be made.

On the morning of January 26 Cpl Huxley found an Armalite stock, hidden under a bush. Capt Thorn, on receiving the said stock, examined it and declared: 'Yes, that's 'C' Coy's first find, it's definitely an Armalite stock'. To those who said it was the cowling from a Mini steering column, we can only say 'Keep quiet'. The fact that the Armalite stock was made at Cowling Works, for British Leyland, has no bearing on the matter whatsoever, and Capt Thorn will personally bruise anyone who disagrees with him.

We would also like to clear up the story of an officer (don't blush, Mr Saville) who checked his platoon weapons on no less than three occasions prior to leaving Glenanne for the boat home, only to find out when he was three miles from home that . . . he'd forgotten his weapon. It was just a deliberate mistake.

There is also an ugly rumour going round that Sgt Robson fought tooth and nail to drive the OC's convoy to the ferry, because he knew the way. Well done, 'Robby Boy', but was it really necessary to get the entire convoy into the cul-de-sac in the Falls Road?

Sgt Budden, our able Intelligence Sneak, found out on our return to Aldershot that the black thing on the front of the camera is called a lens cover; now he wants to go back to Glenanne to photograph some green sheds!

Since our return from Ulster, we have had some changes in Company HQ. First, we are happy to welcome Maj C. R. Cumberlege, as the new OC. CSM Hodkinson has now handed over to CSM Toplis, BEM, who now sits in the hot seat, Lcpl White has gone to greener pastures in the QMs, from where he constantly sends rude letters to all the CQMS's. Pte Ware is now gainfully employed

in the Company Office and spends the entire day smiling at the Company Commander. Pte Johnson has now taken up residence in the Company Stores and his favourite saying is 'Sign here'. It's rumoured that the CQMS even signed for his own stores.

We are on the verge of saying farewell to Ptes Perry and Melson, who are joining the Civilian Light Infantry, and in their place we have received Pte Knowles, back from a long spell in hospital. Now it's all systems go for Germany, and everyone is muttering '432' in their sleep.

7 Platoon

Glenanne, thank goodness, is behind us, but, reflecting on our two-month excursion into 'Bandit Country', I think we can allow ourselves the feeling of satisfaction that comes with the job well done. Many of the Platoon were new to the situation and even those battle-scarred veterans of Ballykelly had to change their ideas owing to the different circumstances facing one in South Armagh. Everybody pulled their weight and the result was a clean sheet. True, there were no spectacular incidents; however, this in itself is a victory. Oh, yes, we also had the only find of the tour, 12 '22 rounds (no, contrary to popular belief, I did not plant them!). On the Int side we were also invaluable having the ability to tell an Armalite stock from a Mini steering wheel column—Yes, Capt Thorn, you may well blush. Our trip back went smoothly (what would we do without the RAF) and I feel everybody thoroughly enjoyed the well-deserved leave that preceded our return to

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Sgt Exley and Lt Savile
searching a tea urn

normal Battalion training.

The Platoon has been in a state of flux since our return from Northern Ireland. Cadres and courses seem to have been the order of the day and many is the morning muster parade where the Platoon has been represented by a Lance-corporal and one! Germany now looms on the horizon and we are looking forward to our new role, after all, as the old saying goes, 'A change is as good as a rest'.

I would also like to say a word of welcome to our new members Ptes Wilson, Morgan, and Lcpl Williams; let us hope their stay will be a happy one. Finally, a word of thanks to Sgt Exley, and Cpl Lightfoot, who have served the Platoon well over the past months and we wish them all the best in their new appointments.

P. J. Y. S.

8 Platoon

Since our last issue of the IRON DUKE notes there have been quite a few changes within the Platoon. We say a sad farewell to Ptes Oddy, Preston, Baily, and Barber, who have embarked on a new career with Signals, Recce, Anti-Tanks and Mortar Platoons. We wish them all the best in the future and thank them for their hard work.

We would like to welcome Lcpl Lawrence from Burma Coy and Ptes Knowles and Walker (29). Also several new lads from the Depot. Ptes Barr, Ellis, Oliver, Maskill and Sharp. We hope they enjoy their stay with 8 Platoon.

We say a sad farewell to Mr Arthur Peacock, who takes his place in the big bad world. Thanks for all the things you have done (and didn't do).

Congratulations go to Sgt Fred Kendrew on his promotion to Staff-Sergeant and to Pte Chapman on his recent marriage.

At the present time, most of the Platoon are away with KAPE on tour in Yorkshire. Even so life in 8 Platoon still continues, Mr Burton makes life bearable for those who are left behind, and with only a short time before we move to Germany, there is still a lot of work to be done.

Since our return from Glenanne life has been very

hectic, with courses, cadres and centralised training causing the Platoon to be split up. Lcpls Frear and Jones were away on a JNCOs' cadre and Pte Chapman on a Potential NCOs' cadre.

Centralised training took most of the Platoon to the New Forest, which was very enjoyable, the weather was fine, and fortunately no fires were caused.

At the present moment the Platoon are getting back together but, even so, we will not be complete until Germany. I think it is fair to say we have really enjoyed our training and everyone is looking forward to Germany.

9 Platoon

It hardly seems possible that the time could pass so quickly, that our Platoon notes are due again.

We completed our tour in Glenanne giving useful help to the Jocks, particularly as a reserve for Newry and countless area searches. It was all good training as we had a few members of the Platoon who had not been in 'choppers' before and, even more, who had not been to Ulster before. However, we returned mid-March to a well-earned leave and then threw ourselves into the centralised training.

This had meant that the Platoon has been spread to the four winds with NCOs on courses, and Privates doing various upgrading tests. In amongst all this, we had the Battalion Rifle Meeting, and for good measure, a KAPE tour.

This entailed marching through Huddersfield and Halifax with the Colours flying, bayonets fixed, and Band playing. At the same time, there were a number of static displays and live events, ie a mock battle, a gun race, and a PT display, in which we played our part.

We have had a few changes in the Platoon and we welcome Lt Colville, who takes over from Lt Atkinson. Rumour has it, he's down on Salisbury Plain doing a map reading course. Sad farewells to Ptes Melson and Perry, who have gone to the CLI; our best wishes go with you.

SOMME COMPANY

Since returning from Ulster we have had about 50 new faces joining the Company. The resultant training is described in the Platoon notes and I can only stress that the stories about long and hard hours are completely true. Great credit is due to everyone concerned that we will be operationally ready for BAOR by the end of August.

The level of activity has been such that no platoon has been complete since mid-April. It is with this in mind that one can understand how difficult it has been to organize other events and, indeed, forecast the future for individuals. For those who found themselves on courses or leave at one day's notice our abject apologies. However, the reasons were normally because of our failure rate for the various driving tests and the subsequent need to find replacements at the last moment.

During this period the Company inevitably won the inter-Company Shooting Competition (without practice) and held a very successful fete. The latter consisted of free food, cheap beer, 14 sideshows, inter-Platoon games and free dancing. How the CSM managed to organize the 12 hours of non-stop activity and retain some composure when the late night revelry (Anti-Tank Platoon?) began is a question we are all asking. We would like to congratulate Cpl Newton and Lcpl Clarke on their promotions and Lcpl McCarthy on his face lift. His recent nose operations now leaves the OC well ahead in this particular field!

Recce Platoon

Since returning from South Armagh life has been eventful. Ssgt Basu and Sgt Theodore have moved on to greater things and Sgt Parrott, after much speculation has also left the Platoon. We welcome Sgt Brennan, Sgt Hutchinson and Pte Furness; Lcpl Smith also paid us a fleeting visit. Congratulations to Sgts Frear and Hutchinson and Cpl Barlow on their promotions. There are also rumours of greater power for Lcpl Pemberton and Ptes Austin and Logan. (This is confirmed as true at going to press.)

Moving on to less tangible things, our last few weeks in Ulster, although tense, were largely uneventful. That is unless your name happens to be Sgt Theodore, who can tell a very interesting story of a booby trap which failed to explode. Well, at least, he found some explosives. He now vehemently denies that he is living on borrowed time. Upon returning to Aldershot we found that the accommodation had not been improved at all, but even so it was nice to be back.

The OC went off to Netheravon to learn how to operate ZB 298 and other magic pieces of kit. Meanwhile the real work went on back in Aldershot. Lcpl Ciritis, Ptes Zabrocky, Wallace, Wilson, Stewart, Hunt and Williams all went on the Grade 2 Signals Cadre and proceeded to do better than all the prospective signallers. The Recce Cadre under Sgt Brennan went well, except that the early-morning aerobatics were not the most popular pastime. The cadre was concluded by two exercises. The first was in conjunction with the Junior NCOs' Cadre and was a good dress rehearsal for

the final exercise on Salisbury Plain. The Platoon arsonist found out that bonfires can cost up to £10 to put out. Pte Lee can tell an interesting story about a dog, a loaf of bread, the Commanding Officer and extra orderly officers. Pte Lee is at present down for a transfer to the Siberian long-range patrol group. Overall, the exercise (blisters apart) went very well and everyone worked hard in a very professional manner.

Camp soldiering always seems very 'bitty' and these last couple of weeks have been no exception. Padre's hour provided some light relief, with Lcpl O'Garro informing us all that too much sex can have a detrimental effect on a marriage, and he's single! With Germany getting nearer courses abound and the Platoon is widely dispersed at the moment. However, we managed to get together for a Somme Company social one sunny Sunday. Mustapha Stiffy was a great attraction, as was the Recce Platoon train.

When we get to Germany we are taking over seven Ferrets and one APC, so we have all got to learn to be mechanics in the next few weeks. So goodbye Aldershot and hello Minden.

Mortar Platoon

We last 'had words' with the IRON DUKE at the latter end of our tour in South Armagh. Fortunately the remainder of the tour was relatively uneventful and we all came away in one piece, more than ready for our two weeks' leave.

Back at work again in Aldershot the first week was devoted to a battalion skill-at-arms meeting, culminating in the inter-company shooting competition, won by Somme Company, of course. Cpl Allen, having excelled, has since then hardly been with us, devoting his energies towards Bisley.

The much-delayed cadre at last had a chance to get underway with the arrival of all the new members to the Platoon from the Rifle Companies. All in all the cadre was a great success, even though we were, at times, short of instructors with Sgt Frear doing EPC, Sgt Cooper the Mortar Instructors' Course at Netheravon and Cpl Sherratt the FV 432 Drivers Instructors' Course at Bordon. Helped by the fine weather we managed to get in plenty of work outside on the training areas. The occasional hiccup being caused by the pyromaniacs amongst us who at least showed an ability for not only starting fires but putting them out in a hurry.

The climax to the cadre came with the week of live firing on the Salisbury Plain Artillery Ranges. Initial problems with the sights caused a certain amount of difficulty, otherwise it was a very successful week. The highlight was a day of live firing from mortars mounted in the FV 432 kindly provided, with instructors, by the Royal Irish Rangers. It was impossible to keep some people away, notably Ptes 'Tracker' Oakley and 'Clipper' Lee, who every time we looked round were stoking another round down the barrel. It whetted everyone's appetite for our new mechanised role in Germany. The Platoon nearly returned without a Platoon Commander, 2IC, driver and storeman after being involved in a traffic accident on their way to the ranges. Pte Farrell is to be awarded his



Lcpl Cole, Pte Gorringe
No 1, Pte Peace No 2, Pte
Horsfield No 3

para wings for his dive and roll from the back of the $\frac{1}{4}$ -ton FFR Land-Rover while carrying a C42 radio.

Congratulations to Pte Jarman on coming top of the cadre.

Back in Aldershot the whole Company got together for an excellent sports and social day. It is good to see all the wives and children taking part in a purely 'Company day'. The single men were in their element with beer at 16p a pint. The dishevelled 'Mrs' Chapman and misbehaving 'baby' Ross bounced away with the inter-Platoon bonny baby competition to win a lollipop each.

We now move into an unsettled period in the life of the Platoon with 90% away on various courses and cadres in readiness for our move to Germany. Once there we have two-and-a-half months' intensive preparation for the Divisional Mortar Concentration in November.

Anti-Tank Platoon

In the last IRON DUKE notes we left you with two weeks still to go in Northern Ireland. Happily nothing untoward happened. The Platoon arrived back in Aldershot tired and glad to be home. We then had a well-earned leave during which we relaxed and generally enjoyed ourselves. However, all good things come to an end. The Platoon was brought firmly down to earth with the thoughts of the forthcoming cadre.

Most of the training during the cadre was fairly straight forward and both the NCOs and the soldiers worked very hard. The last two weeks of the cadre was a different story. It was then that the final exams took place, followed by a 36-hour exercise culminating in five days' firing on Salisbury Plain. The final exams were no problem. During the first day of the exams 'the boss' decided to recce the training area for the forthcoming exercise. He took with him Sgt Templeman, Lcpl 'Stretch' Harrison and 'Swithy' Swithenbank (the drivers). The

weather had been dry with little rain and nearly all streams and bogs had dried up. 'The boss' with the help of 'Swithy' managed to find a swamp and bogged the vehicle down. Three hours later the vehicle was well and truly stuck and Capt Sherlock had to walk three miles to the telephone and ring for recovery. In no time at all the word was round the Battalion and it is rumoured that Capt Sherlock is in the running for the 'Rupert of the year award'.

The exercise thankfully went off without any snags. We had a few problems on the range but all of them concerned the ammunition, which were soon rectified.

After the range work, the KAPE tour started. We produced three detachments under the command of Cpl Derek Dent. The actual KAPE tour was from June 7-16, and proved to be both enjoyable and rewarding.

Germany is now drawing even nearer and we have to start thinking about packing kit ready for hand over.

We bid farewell to the following and wish them well wherever they are going: Sgt Sellars, Somme Coy MT Sergeant; Cpl Birks, Lcpl Silcox, and Pte Thompson, on becoming civvies.

After the cadre a number of new faces have joined the Platoon and we bid them welcome: Lcpl Nutter, Ptes Bailey, Beardmore, Craven, Conlon, Grundy, Lawrence, Russell, Tordoff and Woolhouse.

Assault Pioneer Platoon

The last three-month period has been one of the most hectic in living memory as far as the Assault Pioneer Platoon is concerned.

The Battalion returned from leave at the end of March and started a period of cadres, courses and centralised training in which the Platoon was involved down to the very last man. We managed to get four people on to the MT cadre and one on the Potential NCOs' cadre. Meanwhile Cpl Woodward

C-in-C meets the A Tk Pl

successfully completed a 432 Instruction course at Bordon and is now involved in teaching future 432 commanders.

The soldiers from the Rifle Companies who were not involved in the specialist cadres underwent centralised training which included mine warfare and field defences and the Platoon NCOs came into their own as instructors in their field.

Finally, a word about Pte Drakes. We have not seen him since Ulster but believe he has passed his HGV test and is now attempting to master the Stalwart. 'Fortune favours the brave'.

While these events were taking place we had to prepare equipment for UEI, attend study days and fit in harness training and voice procedure. Not to mention the preparation involved for the Kape Tour. All in all a very busy period.

The next couple of weeks will see us packing up for our move to BAOR and getting everything in order for the handover. We are all looking forward to our tour in Germany, its unrivalled training facilities and large portions of LOA . . .!

We finish up by congratulating our Platoon Commander on his promotion—well done, Staff.

HOOK COMPANY**Drums Platoon**

Although the Platoon has had a strenuous past few months I can safely say we've all enjoyed the work we've done.

The period started with individual training when we were attached to Burma Coy for three weeks. This proved to be the lull before the storm as we started rehearsals for the KAPE tour in early May. During training the D/M went to Bordon to become an APC driving instructor. On his return we were whisked away to Yorkshire with the Band for a strenuous two-and-a-half-weeks' tour.

While on the KAPE tour we did a job at Barnard Castle where Ptes Casey and Barraclough were asked to judge the Drum Majorettes Contest. Why

these two were requested we still cannot understand.

On another engagement, in Ilkley, the bus broke down on Hollins Hill so the side-drummers plus the band had to be ferried by four-tonner. Cpl Shinn would like to thank the staff of Harry Ramsden's chippy for serving him eight meals of fish and chips during his wait of five hours for the transport to retrieve him. The day after our return to Aldershot we performed at the Aldershot Show and, as senior Battalion, we had the honour of being positioned on the left flank.

The Platoon would like to send their congratulations to: Mr and Mrs Ben Casey on the birth of their son Sean Paul and to Pte Brayshaw on his well-earned promotion. Farewell to Cpl 'Tex' Gowing, who has gone to the Depot. We hope you can turn out some good drummers, 'Tex'.

Also farewell to John Taylor, who has gone to join the stench of the dole queue in Halifax and we also lose Pte (Gums Teacher) Phillips to civvy street in July.

Signal Platoon

The new RSO joined the Signal Platoon after spending a holiday at Warminster (while we were getting on with the job in Northern Ireland), with the cry of 'I can receive morse at 12wpm'. We have never seen this miracle performed as he is always telling us how busy he is. He has not been the same since being introduced to the Morse Code, and can be seen every lunchtime running around the arena with a bergen on his back, saying 'Never again'. Does this mean no more running or no more morse?

The Standard II cadre has recently finished and we were pleased with the results. The students needed a weekend pass, as they all looked pale, and complained of writer's cramp. Welcome to the madhouse!

No sooner had the Standard II cadre finished than we found ourselves rehoused in Warminster. The aim was to practice all Commanders and drivers

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in harness training. Whilst engaged in fault finding one Corporal from Burma Coy, who shall remain nameless, reported that he had checked all the faults on the radios but they still refused to work. It was then suggested to him that it would help if he switched them on!

We no longer place signallers on report but simply condemn them to the Harness Room at Warminster for eight hours doing exercise Mad Monitor. The crime rate has fallen dramatically.

The Platoon at the time of writing these notes are busy painting, cleaning etc, ready for handover and the Unit Equipment Inspection. The cry from the stores from Ssgt Shaw now is 'No, you can't have or sign out any kit'; most people grumble but they really heave a sigh of relief.

Ssgt Shaw will soon be departing to the Echelon at the Yorkshire Volunteers and so we take this opportunity of wishing him and his wife all the best for the future. See you in two years, Staff—in Minden.

Two of the Signal Platoon are now instructing at Bordon; they are Sgt (Tom) Shadbolt and Cpl (Shulz) Brook. They are two of the Battalion's experts and are now after completion of their courses teaching the rest of the Battalion how to drive (with a bit of luck) and service the Iron Monsters which we will all become accustomed with over the next few years. For Cpl Brook, we hope you keep the 432 as per CES.

The RSO, after many weeks of 'I've still got that Orbat for BAOR', has finally finished; we are all waiting now to see whether it will work or not. But we have faith in him, which is more than can be said of the RSO and the Ferret allocated to him for BAOR. We all hear his endless cry of 'I am having a Land-Rover', we shall have to wait and see what Sgt Shadbolt can scrounge (when he arrives).

Bor(ing) Notes

Are you sitting comfortably, then I will begin. Once upon a time there was a small band of men whose only aim in life was to ensure the smooth running and efficient organization of the Battalion. Unfortunately, as I said, that was in times gone by and is nothing to do with these notes, so let's get down to the nitty gritty.

The 2IC and Adjutant have purchased new cars (duty-free, of course). They even get a chance to drive them—wives permitting. There is a rumour going round that once the tank full of petrol they got with the cars runs out the cars will have to go back to the garage. This is further substantiated by the fact that the Adjutant has started using the duty vehicle to bring him into work.

The Chief Clerk is still his smiling, happy-go-lucky self! His ulcers only recur every four hours these days—not bad considering he was on 14 attacks a day.

As for yours truly, well, after putting up with me for almost three years—longest stay I have done with the Battalion and still no recommendation for BEM (tut-tut)—I am to be posted across the water, complete to CES—wellies and all.

Sgt 'Speedy' Nuttall has gone to work with the Movements Cell—Rhodesia, here we come (never

was any good at geography).

Cpl 'Ken' Greenwood is congratulated on his promotion—you will notice that I did not put 'well deserved'—after all, he only had to type the application to Records, mind you he did get it right first time.

Lcpl 'Titch' Waller is now within days of completing his Army Service and will have left by the time you read these notes. Come to think of it, so will 90 per cent of the Battalion—sorry about that, Ed. Good luck to him and Chris in civvy street.

Lcpl 'Smudge' Smith is about to be posted to APRE, Farnborough, to undergo trials on equipment for Pallatoy—can't remember whether they make Action Man or Joe 90!

Pte 'Mick' Goult (country of origin not known) gets browner every day—and it's not the sun!

Pte 'Ian' Beck (lovely lad, shoulders back) is in love—unfortunately it's with the new ORC and I can't print the sordid details in this family journal.

Lcpl 'Tony' Cooper (PPDBSLEGMG)—bet all married couples remember that at the back of their letters—is fed up of seeing orders for CHIP's at the back of letters, and walks round all day muttering things like BOLTOP, ITALY, ELVIS etc.

Almost forgot—Brian Wilson, Brian Wilson, Brian Wilson. Sorry about that but he did ask me to mention him in my notes (all say 'Ah'). Seriously, though, we are happy (especially me) to welcome back Sgt 'Brian' (Ahmed) Wilson, who is now married, and we hope Avril (rhymes with something that) and Brian have a happy stay.

Well, that's it. I hereby hand over the pen to my successor, and the ulcers, frustration, bald patch—it's really quite a good job.

A roar of thunder erupted from the distance and he was gone into oblivion.

REGIMENTAL BAND

In February the Band left for Yorkshire on a KAPE tour which turned out to be very hectic. We played at two schools each day in the Halifax, Huddersfield and Bradford areas. It was particularly enjoyable as we were housed in hotels in Bradford.

Returning from Yorkshire we played at Aldershot at the UK Rugby Final which the Dukes won.

In March eight members of the Band returned from Northern Ireland and so we were all together again after a lapse of three months so celebrated by playing at Twickenham for the Army v Navy rugby match.

After a well-earned leave we played for The Regimental Association Dinner at the Victory Club, London, and on the same day BdsM Fitzpatrick entered and came second in a piano playing competition. Well done and keep up the good work!

Some of the highlights of the last few months have included Margate, where Ssgt (Frank Sinatra) Almond sang two arrangements for Military Band by Cpl Cringe Jackson (My Way and Didn't We); and Stratefield Saye, for the Duke of Wellington's estate's open day when the celebrity was none

other than Eric Morecambe. Then following on our own marching display we were asked to play for the British Airways Drum-Majorettes, who, as they march faster than we, Sgt/Cpl Yoyo Harrison was on his chin strap.

After this it was a case of back to Bradford and thence to Strensall for another KAPE tour. All went well till on the way to the Ilkley Show the coach broke down but, luckily, we had a four-tonner which ferried us there. However, we were without the Corps of Drums at the start of the procession, until half-way round, when we stopped to let them join us! Whether the lady who runs the coach hire firm is still a very good friend of the Bandmasters we cannot say!

Lastly, congratulations to Bdsn Mears who was married on June 5 and Bdsn Wedgwood who surrendered to his wife Janet, a clarinet player in the WRAC Band—their marriage should start on a good NOTE!

KAPE OR KEEPING THE ARMY IN THE PUBLIC EYE

As most people know, the Regiment moves to Germany in August for four years. Ours is a unique connection with the old West Riding of Yorkshire, so it was decided to conduct a tour of the Regimental area before our departure.

The paper work and reconnaissances for the tour started in April; many people forget the amount of planning that has to be completed before a tour of this size can even start to work.

Capt John Thorn was placed in charge of the tour and during May he and Capt Mike Sherlock spent four days in Yorkshire on a detailed reconnaissance making final arrangements.

The beginning of June saw the assembly of the team and the start of rehearsals. The tour consisted of two parts; an Arena Display, which we all hoped would be a crowd puller, and a Static Display. The Arena Display lasted about 75 minutes; it started with a display by the Band Drums, which was followed by a PT and Trampoline Display, an Anti-Tank Gun Race and, finally, a mock section attack.

The Static Display consisted of eight different stands each depicting a different aspect of the Battalion. It was intended that after the arena display, spectators should walk around the static display, handle the equipment and talk to the soldiers.

All the rehearsals were completed and the team moved up to The King's Division Depot at Strensall. The Band and Drums had started their tour a week earlier and so had already played at a number of functions.

The first display was booked for the morning of June 8 at a school just outside Skipton. Now we would see if all the hard work had been worth while. A few harrowing moments were spent ensuring that the convoy moved through York in one piece. Fortunately we arrived in Skipton with plenty of time to set the stage. Some members of the team were a little nervous, but, to our relief, the first performance proved to be a success. Most of our performances were aimed at schools; these took

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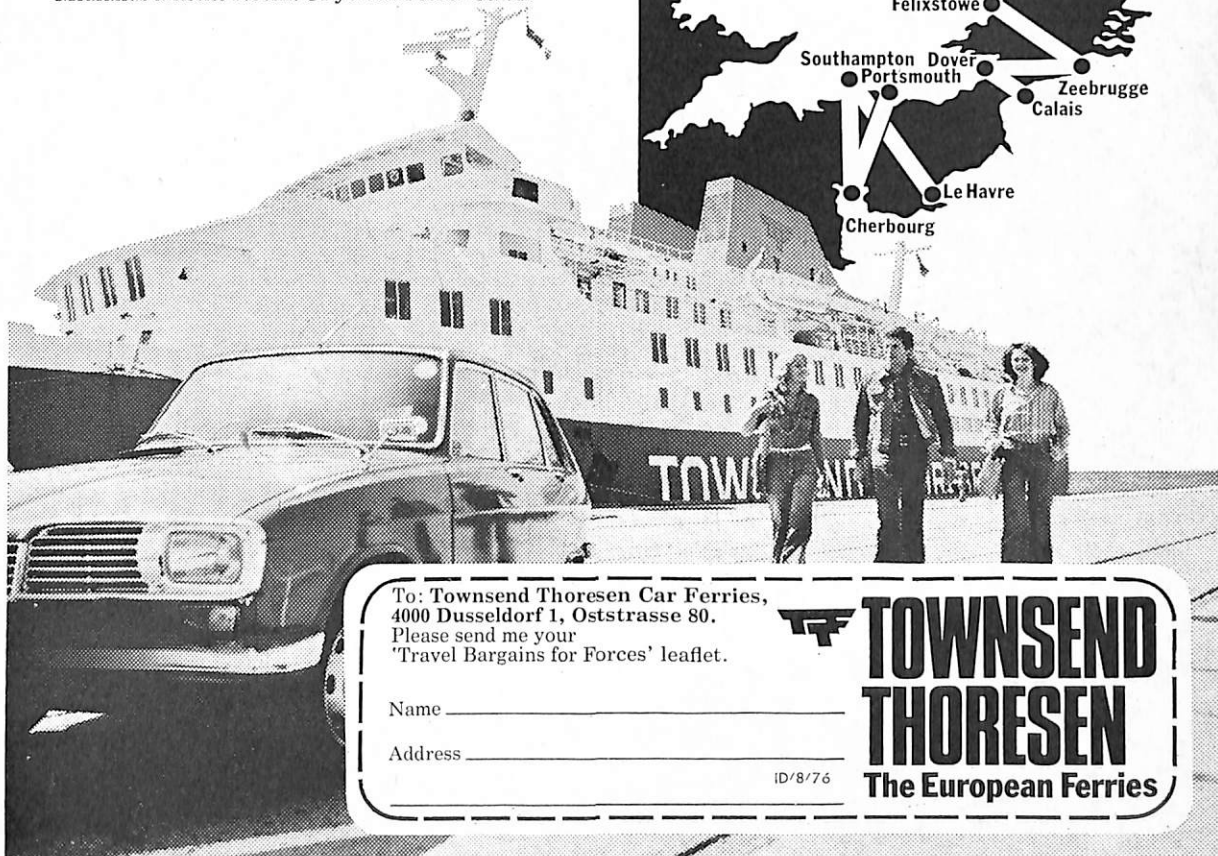
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place in Settle, Keighley, Leeds, Halifax, Hebden Bridge and Huddersfield; although we produced five other performances for the public.

School children are probably the most difficult audience to perform for, because they become bored easily. However, every school gave us a marvellous reception and the morale, the confidence of the team improved with each performance.

On June 11 the team, reinforced by Maj Bob Tighe, a Colour Party and a further 50 personnel from Aldershot, exercised the Regiment's right to march through Huddersfield (now the Borough of Kirklees), with 'bands playing, bayonets fixed and colours flying'. The Mayor, Councillor Mr A. Alastair Mason, was kind enough to entertain the Officers and Senior Ranks after the march. The march was a great success, especially as it had been timed to coincide with people shopping in the city centre. That evening the team performed in Greenhead Park before a crowd of some 4,000 people. We felt that this was a great success, as we were spurred on by a friendly and appreciative audience. It was very satisfying too to be able to talk to so many Old Dukes after the performance.

The same programme was planned for June 12, but this time the march was through Halifax (now the Borough of Calderdale). After the march the lady Mayor, Councillor Mrs M. R. Mitchell, OBE, was so generous as to give a reception for the whole marching party.

During the afternoon the display team was a guest attraction at the Halifax Gala. The crowd was estimated at some 25,000 and the displays

rose to the occasion. Many of us will never forget the friendliness and overwhelming support we received at Halifax.

Sunday afternoon saw us at Barnsley with a crowd of about 10,000 to cheer us on.

By that stage we were brimming with confidence. However, we still had to cover a number of schools and one more public display in Bradford, so we could not afford to relax.

The final performance was at Bradford on the evening of June 15 where we had a crowd of about 4,000 to watch us, again including many familiar faces of ex-Dukes.

The enthusiastic reaction that we were given led us to believe that our tour was well worth the hard work that had been required from all ranks who took part. Surprisingly, considering the hundreds of pairs of hands which handled the static display, we returned with our inventory of equipment intact. The tour was not without incident, perhaps the most notable being the inexplicable way in which a smoke grenade, which was adding a little realism to our section attack, took off from the grounds and smothered both a section of the crowd and Capt Sherlock, the commentator, at Barnsley.

We feel the tour was a success and we are grateful for all the support we received in Yorkshire. Everyone in the team worked hard, but none harder than Ssgt Kendrew, our backstage administrator, and Sgt Craven the team Sergeant.

Finally, we would like to thank all the people who made the tour such a success.

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Sports and Clubs

CRICKET

The Battalion has been unable to play serious cricket for a number of years, because of Northern Ireland and Cyprus tours. It soon became apparent, however, that we have a wealth of talent not only amongst the officers but senior and junior other ranks as well. If anything has been unsatisfactory about 1976 cricket it has been our inability to find opposition up to our standard! We have so far played six matches and won them all. We are, however, only half-way through the season and we intend to keep the movement going in Minden.

The highlight of the season has been the cricket weekend. On June 19 we played Lt-Col Peter Mitchel's XI—full of present and past Dukes; some known for their cricket and some for other abilities. The match was notable for a number of reasons. Firstly for the appalling weather which forced the players into the bar within 20 minutes of the start. Play eventually restarted and, thanks to Charlie Grieve and our tail being as consistent as ever, the present Battalion officers XI mustered 154. By this time the astonishing noise from the Mess tent had subsided a little as children's bedtime approached, and Alistair Roberts (40 and Ian Reid (46) all but pulled off a victory for the visitors. Lcpl Jones, our secret weapon who has consistently broken threatening stands, John Thorn

and Bill Atkinson all helped to achieve a memorable win by 15 runs.

After a very late do in the Mess on Saturday night we could have done without again being forced into the bar on Sunday when we played Brig Geoffrey Howlett's XI. By 2 o'clock we had more or less soaked up the water on the wicket and some of the alcohol in our blood. The Brigadier had reputedly brought a very strong batting side and a little bowling. Our second senior pro (Thorn) made quite certain that the skipper said the right thing if he won the toss, and so it was that we batted. We distinguished ourselves. Grieve score 70, Mark Burton 82, Philip Jenkins 31, Guy Shuttleworth 24 and the skipper a duck. We totalled 248, which must be the highest score by a Battalion XI for many years. Thanks to some devastating bowling by Messrs Thorn, Landell and Shuttleworth our opponents scored 73 all out.

Our cricket has been fun and successful. In the next issue of the IRON DUKE we hope to relate the impact we intend making on BAOR cricket.

ADVENTURE TRAINING

Exercise 'Hard Duke' was held during the last 10 days of May in Devon. A small party of 15 representatives from all Companies and four instructors were accommodated at the Royal Marine Barracks,



DUKES OFFICERS CRICKET MATCH: SATURDAY, JUNE 19 1976

From Left to Right.

Back Row: Jim Shenton (Umpire), James Faithful, Mike Jenkins, Dennis Shuttleworth, Andrew Meek, Tim Nicholson, Alistair Roberts, Peter Mitchell, Keith Best, John Thorn, Alan Westcob, Charles Cumberlege, Charles Bunbury, Paul Saville, Bill Atkinson, Richard Ward (Umpire)

Front Row: Ian Reid, David Gilbert-Smith, Guy Shuttleworth, John Greenway, Charles Grieve, Mark Burton, Tim Sinclair

The following Dukes also played on Sunday June 20: Mike Hardy, Roger Southerst and Philip Jenkins, Dick Mundell also kindly contributed by umpiring

**The Run Down
Pte Martin**



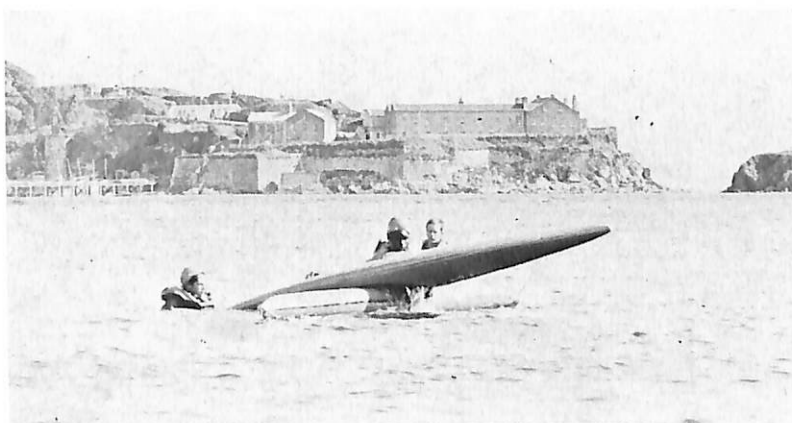
Stonehouse, in Plymouth. The period was divided equally into four days abseiling and rock climbing and four days canoeing.

The first day was spent adjusting to heights and exposure on a useful cliff which provided some entertaining abseiling. After some hesitation (understatement of the year?) and 'soft as my face' encouragement from Capt Palmer and Sgt Swap everybody successfully completed a free abseil

without a safety rope. Confidence was improved and some actually said they enjoyed it and appeared to be telling the truth.

The next three days produced interesting results as well. Following an introduction to single pitch and short, problem climbs on Sheeps Tor we graduated to harder single pitch grades on the Dewerstone and finally to multi-pitch climbs on the last day. To start with most people were some-

**Lcpl Williams and Pte
Edley perform in deep
water rescue**





The canoe party on Long Beach

what nervous. To be frank, if everybody had stood together and had had a collective shake someone somewhere would have recorded an earth tremor. At the end of each day we managed to introduce something completely different—in the way of going up and down a rock face that is. Heat was generated in unmentionable areas when everyone had an opportunity to perform the classic abseil. Everyone else got their own back by laughing at other unfortunates. Genuine fear was recorded on many faces when the run down was first practised. This is a means of descending a rock by running face down. One's speed is controlled by the friction of the rope passing through a single turn on the waistline carabiner. Once initial fears were overcome it was impossible to keep up with the demands for more. In fact, at the end of the climbing phase five enthusiasts had

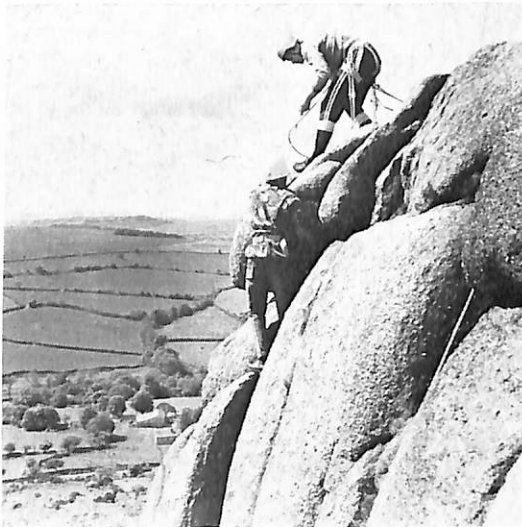
led their first climb. Judging by the thanks being offered to some chap with a four letter name at the end of the climbing phase there were some who were not over enthused.

More fun was to come during the canoeing. The Royal Navy allowed the use of their swimming pool aboard HMS *Drake*. For all landlubbers HMS *Drake* is what we would call a barracks and going aboard it means going into the barracks. The pool was needed to rehearse capsize drills, rescues and basic strokes. This was also the first encounter for some of aquatic panic. However, after a day in the pool (above and below the surface) and a day's strenuous paddling on the sea most people if not prepared, knew what to expect in the surf.

Without exception everyone capsized, including Capt Palmer and Sgt Swap. The latter managed to maintain their one upmanship, however, by rolling their boats up without leaving them. Phew! Cheers of delight from the shore died to moans of displeasure when the instructors were seen to be still in their boats. In spite of the cold water and strong winds during the surfing it was pleasant to see the particularly resilient and enthusiastic performance from a waterlogged but jubilant Messrs Dobson and Watson.

It should be mentioned before closing that the most dangerous events of the exercise were the warm-up football matches on the beach during the surf canoeing phase. They were designed to get the blood flowing. This it did internally and externally. Martins Marauders were twice victorious over Bogles Bashers (in spite of some filthy play by the aptly-named Bashers—no names mentioned, Sgt Swap or Lcpl Williams!).

In a serious vein, however, Exercise 'Hard Duke' went well. We found potentially good climbers and canoeists. It is now hoped that we will be able to start flourishing climbing and canoeing clubs in BAOR with hopes of exacting mountaineering and white water conditions and ultimately of exciting expeditions.



Sgt Swap advising

10 Army Youth Team

Wainhouse Tower—Footnote

The abseil from Wainhouse Tower, which was amply reported on by the ACF in the last edition, has sparked off an immense amount of interest. The Duke of Wellington's Youth Team now has a certain spectacular appeal about it—a notoriety one might say—such that all our 'customers' now know exactly who we are, and how efficient and safety conscious is Army Youth Team work. It has been a marvellous boost for the Regiment and the Huddersfield Area ACF.

Winter 1975-76

The winter period was taken up with Mountain Leadership Courses being run for schools, Youth Club activities—Sgt Kelly in particular is making great headway with Mixenden Youth Club and their Boxing—and Small Bore Shooting Team training has been carried on as and where practical, indeed a lot more has been possible this winter due to the mild, dry conditions. Capt Gilbert has been playing rugby for the Army, whilst Lcpls Lomax and Pennington have been regularly featuring for their respective football clubs on Saturdays and Sundays.

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Spring 1976

Spring, as far as the West Riding was concerned, officially began on April 9. The Youth Team ran their own climbing course for other Yorkshire based Army Youth Teams at Stanedge, near Sheffield from April 9-15. The aim of the course was two-fold. To teach those unaccustomed to climbing, the rudiments of safety and ropework, and for those with varying degrees of experience, to enable them to further increase their ability in an environment totally dedicated to climbing. Fifteen people attended the course which was most successful. The only casualty was a 13/18th Hussar, who mysteriously twisted his ankle whilst walking!

Summer

To date the team has been busily employed with short expeditions, schools outings and camps. June 1-14 sees the Regimental KAPE, thence until July 2 we are assisting in a Companies Camp at Kirby Moorside. July 5-12 is the Catterick Army Show. July 12-16 is the Great Yorkshire Show, at each of these we will be assisting in the Adventure in the Army stands. We have leave during the last two weeks in July. July 30 will see us and the Heckmondwike GS ACF detachment performing a sponsored abseil for an old peoples home from Sugden's Mill in Brighouse, and then its off to Otterburn—remember winter 1966—for the ACF Camp. Another normal summer!

Finale

The restrictions upon entry into the West Riding are becoming increasingly tighter and more secretive So that prospective applicants can more clearly complete their entry forms, a simple language test has been published. It is set out below.

10 correct answers—Go back to where you came from, you'll find life easier!
25 correct answers—Stick around—20 years more will help!
40 Correct answers—You must come from Barnsley!
All correct—The Queen's English can be studied at night school.

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|----|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Intitot? | 29 | It dunt marrer |
| 2 | Giuzit | 30 | Lerrues guttat pixchers |
| 3 | Summatsupeer | 31 | Astagorratanner? |
| 4 | Gerritetten | 32 | Eenose nowt abarit |
| 5 | Supwidee? | 33 | Eez gonna gerra lorra lolly
forit |
| 6 | Gerartnit | 34 | Lerrer gerrontbus |
| 7 | Smarrerweeem? | 35 | Eedursnt purrizead undert
watter |
| 8 | Iampgorrit | 36 | Oowurreewee? Wirree
weeizen? |
| 9 | Azeegenitter? | 37 | Eesezeandaddit |
| 10 | Geeitmester | 38 | Ateldim—bureewunt lissen |
| 11 | Eezgooinooam | 39 | Lerrim purrisatton |
| 12 | Astha gorrit | 40 | Assel clah't thee iftha
duntgior |
| 13 | Isthemum? | 41 | Tintintin |
| 14 | Astha gorrit reight? | 42 | Gerrarry tergithia andweeit |
| 15 | Purrimineer | 43 | Eez goross atooam |
| 16 | Ayampt eared nowt | 44 | Thawanster wesh thi eeroils
aht |
| 17 | Thalalfter gerra newun | 45 | Midadz gorrajag |
| 18 | Eezestintiz burraberritiz | 46 | Thakkan iftha wants |
| 19 | Lerrus gerrus andzwehit! | 47 | Eez nobutta babbi |
| 20 | Summonemz gorragerroff | 48 | Tantad nowt dunnatit as I
nozon |
| 21 | Weev gorra gerrus imbux | 49 | Cantha kumto owerowse
tuneet? |
| 22 | Thamun gerrit learn't | 50 | Werzt gaffer? |
| 23 | Shut thigob | | Note: 'g' is always hard as in 'got' |
| 24 | Owzeeno? | | |
| 25 | Aberritinterz | | |
| 26 | Nardendee—
woidardooing? | | |
| 27 | Astha seenim ont telly? | | |
| 28 | Corlforus arpastate
itmorning | | |

Personalia

Capt Gilbert is still OC, to be replaced by Capt Michael Sherlock in February 1977. To Sgt Kelly and Lcpl Lomax has been added Lcpl Hughes.

P.S.—Mr David Pennington, now employed by Pullen's of Halifax, wishes to be remembered to those of you old enough to remember him! He holds audiences at the Bull Inn, Halifax each Saturday from 11.00 hr.

'C' Company (DWR), 1st Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers

Quite a lot has been happening to the company since the last issue of the magazine.

Firstly, under the general heading of 'Comings and Goings', we have recently said goodbye to WO2 Mick Reddy who has now been promoted to civvy street but as he is living in the area he has promised to keep in touch. I am sure he will at least keep in touch with the sergeants mess bar and should the need arise we will be able to contact him there.

In return, we welcome to the company two new PSI's, namely WO2 Hughes who has joined us from the Duke of Wellingtons Regt and Csgt Boocock who hails from 1 PWO. We wish them both a happy stay with the company.

We have also recently bade farewell to Lawrence Wright who has been transferred, on commissioning to 'E' Coy in Leeds in return for 2/Lt Chris Lake, another newly commissioned officer. We are sure that they will both enjoy their postings, being in command of a platoon for the first time and will, in the fullness of time, be repatriated.

Our recruiting campaign which took place over February and March has been quite successful and we welcome to our ranks about 30 new recruits. It is nice to have a full complement once again and we are currently achieving about the highest turnout in the Battalion on weekend training. At the rate we are going, most of our recruits will soon be fully trained.

This year we have once again triumphed on the shooting scene, winning the 1 Yorks inter-company shooting competition for the third year running. We asked if we could now keep the trophy but got a very negative response! The results were as follows: SMG first; CPMG first; Pistol first; rifle second; Section Match third.

Sgt Maj Phil Berry is to be congratulated for these excellent results, having coached the team and organised most of the practice weekends. The Shooting Team have progressed in leaps and bounds under his watchful eye.

Finally, a word to those who have not visited Prescott Street T&AVR Centre for some time. You won't recognise it! We have had the painters and decorators in, not to mention having the place completely rewired. We now have brilliant strip lights in place of the old electric bulbs and after having the floor of the main hall sanded down and finished with polyurethane, it looks more like an ice rink than a drill hall. Arrangements have now been made to have the outside sand-blasted which we hope will make the TAVR Centre what we think it should be—the mecca of Halifax.

WOs and Sgts Mess

The last few months have seen quite a number of changes in our midst. PSI's have come and gone (more later), and the Drill Hall has had a rather expensive facelift. The highlight of our social calendar, the St George's Ball took place in York at the Gimcrack Rooms, York Racecourse on April 17, and it was very nice to see so many old friends, Dave Peckett, Geoff Holliday, Arthur Westerman, to mention but a few. Many congratulations go to Sgt Jack Simpson on being awarded the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for his service, Jack has seen many years with the TAVR, and it's nice to note that his service has been rewarded. It is sad to have to report the departure to civilian life of Mick Reddy and his wife Pat. Mick has been PSI with the company for four years and during that time has become an integral part of the company, both in our training and our social life. However, it is not altogether goodbye to Mick as he has settled in Halifax and we still see quite a lot of him. Our thanks and good wishes go to him and Pat. The .22 rifle which he presented to us on his retirement will be greatly treasured.

Having said goodbye to Mick it seems the proper time to welcome Dave Hughes and Ruth from the 1st Bn. Dave has taken over from Mick and we wish him good fortune for the next two years here (hope he doesn't go too grey).

We have also had an increase in our PSI ranks, Ssgt Steve Boocock and wife Brenda have joined us from 1 PWO and he has settled down to his job as training PSI.

It's only fair that our other PSI Ssgt Ken Leachman should get a mention (we won't get fed if he doesn't). Congratulations go to Ken and Veronica on the birth of a son, Darren. Ken is very busy these days training Darren to tear telephone directories in half.

It was very nice to see so many of our honorary members at the last social and we hope they can get in to see us at more of our socials. Now that the re-decoration is finished we should manage one every month.

The sale of tickets for the Christmas Draw is going very well and this year looks like being another great success.

That's about all from the mess apart from taking advantage of the fact that we have a PWO in our midst and getting him to say a few words about training a Dukes unit.

'Being a member of the 1st Bn Prince of Wales Own Regt of Yorkshire and trespassing on Dukes Country was at first strange to say the least but I was soon made welcome by the stalwarts of the

mess, especially Csgt (mess tins, food and socks) Ken Leachman who will not let me forget that I am not a Duke. However, I think and certainly hope that I have been accepted and I am sure that I will enjoy my stay here in Halifax (Dukes' not Luke's King-

dom). My only consolidation is that the RSM 1 Yorks is a PWO also, but being 45 miles away I don't see me getting much support there. But seriously I would like to thank all mess members for making me welcome.'

'C' Company (DWR), 3rd Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers

The notes for the last edition of the IRON DUKE were tucked away in 2/Lt Robinson's briefcase and consequently they did not get typed out and sent off to the editor before the deadline. The following notes go back to October 1975—the last two weeks in October being the setting of our Annual Camp at Otterburn.

The whole of the first week was taken up by the nationwide mobilisation exercise 'Inside Right' in which all members of the Company were pushed to their limits under adverse weather conditions especially Sgts A. and P. Beaumont (known as Sgt Alan and Sgt Philip for the duration of camp to stop any confusion) who were promoted to platoon commanders for camp as we had no junior officers for the second week of camp. O Cdt Croft could not attend camp but he passed out from RMAS in January. We now have two subalterns and one O Cdt on Company strength.

The second week of camp was taken up by short exercises, range courses, sport and admin.

The Camp at Otterburn was the last for Ssgt Alan Simpson who shortly after left 'C' Coy to return to 1 DWR. It was the end of November when the Company 'dined out' Staff Simpson in what was the best kept secret in the Bn as the regular PSIs are usually the first to know what's going on in the Bn. He was presented with a shotgun and an inscribed pocket watch.

Ssgt J. Walker took over 'C' Coy in January 1976 and he appeared to have brought the bad weather along with him. After two-and-a-half years without the weather affecting a training weekend we had four out of the first six weekends badly affected by rain or snow, but things are back to normal now and we have had no bad weather since.

The Spring recruiting campaign brought the Battalion to full strength and recruits form a high percentage of the Company strength and the Company training programme has had to be re-arranged for them. A Regimental recruits Camp was held at Strensall in May and a Battalion Recruits Camp will be held at Dibgate, Folkestone, for the last week of July and first week of August. The potential recruits are still coming in on Tuesday drill nights, keeping the Company Clerk Cpl Senior very busy. More often than not he has to be called out of the OR's canteen after the drill night has ended to complete a new recruits documentation.

One one drill night near the end of April, the soldiers were split up into groups of three-four with an NCO in charge and taken out to do a map reading/observation test around the Golcar area. At 2115 the exercise ended but the main man was missing—the ORs barman Cpl Clarke had got his

little group lost, and so Sgt Alan Beaumont had to manoeuvre his 4-tonner through the narrow streets of Golcar looking for the team. They finally arrived back at the Drill Hall at 2220, the Company was dismissed and the bar opened.

During the last weekend June 13-14, a few members of the Company were camping at the base of Snowdon. They were acting as referees for an attempt to break the three Peaks record (Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon) where 2/Lt Robinson found out how not to make coffee. The drinks were brewing when Sgt Morgan passed over an open can of what he thought was instant milk from a 10-man composition pack. 2/Lt Robinson put two teaspoonsful in each cup and commented that the milk was not very good; in with another couple and stirred—still no colour. It was then that Cpl Ellis put his finger in the powder and tasted it and said that it was not instant milk but instant mash.

The next weekend, June 19-20, will be a visit by HRH The Duchess of Kent to Strensall, where the Company will be running a football event and the grenade golf course.

Looking to the future, this years Annual Camp will be at Lydd, nr Folkestone for the first two weeks in August. The 1977 camp will be the presentation of Colours to the Bn.

Promotions

Cpl A. C. Morgan, promoted Lsgt; Lcpl J. F. Ellis, promoted Cpl; Pte J. Mitchell, promoted Lcpl; Pte C. Manhertz, promoted Lcpl; Pte C. E. Dobson, promoted A Lcpl.

SOS to Regular Army

Pte Nicholaides to DWR; Pte Ward to DWR; Pte Roberts to DWR; Pte Manks to RRA; Pte Tyrell to RCT.

Courses

The below mentioned have successfully completed courses: Cpl D. Hellawell, PT Leaders Course; CSM O. Hickling, Drill Course; Maj C. M. B. Bateman, NBC Course.

THE IRON DUKE (DEC 75)

Correction

Page 105 of December 75 issue of IRON DUKE had an article on 'British Army Motor Association Trial-O-Test'. Unfortunately the placings listed are incorrect and should read: 1st Sgt Grimwood, 2nd Lcpl Garner, 5th Lcpl Thackeray, 7th Lt Hall.

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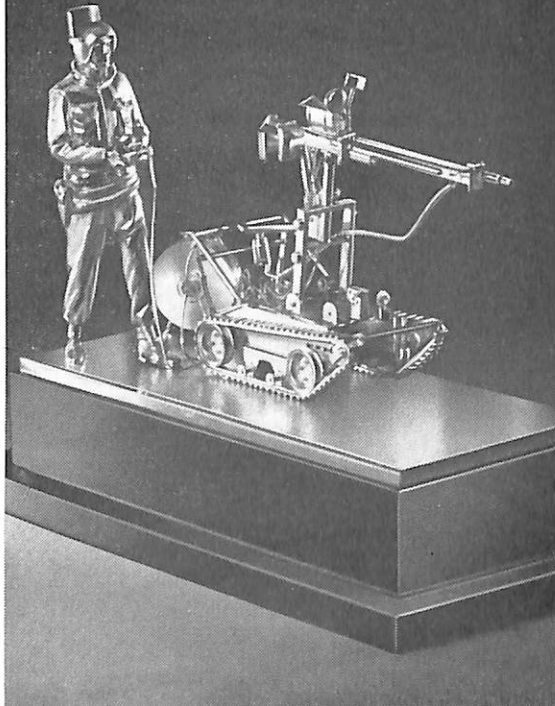
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Huddersfield Area—The Duke of Wellington's Regiment Yorkshire Army Cadet Force

By the very nature of events this week in the Area, these notes must be somewhat terse and not written in the flowing style to which you must now have become accustomed. Amongst all his other duties the ATC must now try his hand at composition, something he has not done since his days in college.

The reasons are quite simple, Peter Tattersall has broken his wrist; he did this by quite simply falling off the Area bike! When one remembers that Terry Bonds rode the same machine round Holland at this time last year, our Peter had only to try it out for half a day and he came a cropper! He did mutter something to the ATO about the front brake being a 'bit on the sharp side'. The thought of seeing Peter fleeing his office at Storthes Hall, complete in his natty gents suiting and arcing an almost perfect parabola before hitting the surface of a very hard road, leaves little to the imagination. The comments in the Area Office and the Mess were funny, sarcastic and rather rude. Peter did say something about a moral in this incident, something about a Rover being much more suitable transport for an Area Commander. He should leave bikes to our lads!

However, before that event, the Dukes Cadets have been very busy, and in their own small way have helped to make a small contribution to military history.

On Friday, June 11, cadets from the Huddersfield Detachment paraded with the Battalion through the streets of Huddersfield, behind the Band, and most important historically, behind four Colours. The RSM, Mr Collins, remarked to the cadets after the parade that this was an event of some significance, and was warm in his comments and congratulations to the cadets. They did indeed put on an impressive performance and the good citizens of Huddersfield clapped and cheered as they marched past. On the Thursday evening John Thorn had laid on a KAPE demonstration for the cadets from the whole area at Carr Green School in Rastrick, about 150 cadets were delivered by transport provided by our 'Uncles' in 1 Yorks and 3 Yorks, and a large

number of people from Rastrick turned up to watch too. We are very grateful to John and the KAPE team for coming to Rastrick, and realise that a great deal of effort went into the demonstration for the cadets; it was much appreciated.

Two week-end camps have been held at Proteus, and we are off there again later in June, this time with Bradford and Leeds areas.

Our next week-end will be spent preparing for Annual Camp, this year to be held the first week in August at Otterburn. Geoff Whitaker who went on the recce says it's a marvellous place for a week's camp, at least he's very enthusiastic, of course he is not on the Area Staff!

We have not seen much of Doug Bennett and Terry Bonds on Area week-ends lately, they've been off to Strensall shooting, and are soon to enter teams in the cadet NE District shoot.

Eight lads from Huddersfield, Mirfield and Halifax are off this week-end to the NE District Athletics meetings in Co Durham, still keeping the athletics flag flying.

The Heckmondwike cadets are helping this week-end with a parade to be held in the Spen Valley of the newly formed Spen branch of the Burma Star Association, and are shortly to assist at the 'Jim Grim Gala'.

A splendid social gathering was held in the 3 Yorks Sergeants Mess a few Saturdays ago, to say an informal goodbye to Jack and Kate Fitton. We had previously dined out Jack at Proteus, but at Huddersfield we had a gathering to which we invited the ladies, and an excellent buffet was arranged by the Huddersfield Detachment Parents Committee. We presented Jack and Kate with a 'Teasmade', and Jack was seen going round the Mess later trying to find a plug!

The Area has had a busy period lately, near to camp it will get busier, but we plod on and life is never tedious.

We must express our appreciation to the Regiment for the privilege of permitting the cadets to parade with them, we are very proud to have been able to take part, and we do not think we let you down.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Maj J. S. Milligan, 2 Foster Park Grove, Denholme, Bradford BD13 4BQ. Tel: Bradford 833366.

Maj D. S. Gilbert-Smith, MC, Whitehall Farm, Upper Ferry Lane, Penalt, Monmouth NP5 4AN. Tel: Monmouth 2090.

Maj F. J. Reynolds, 3 Park Lane, Highfield Road, Rosebank, 7700 Cape, South Africa.

Maj J. H. S. Lane, 6 Four Oaks, Tubbs Lane, Highclere, nr Newbury, Berks.

Maj Gen R. K. Exham, CB, CBE, MC, Tall Trees, Beech Hill, Mayford, Woking, Surrey GU22 OSB.

Lt Col D. Booth, 22 Humber Way, COD Donnington, Telford, Shropshire TF2 8LJ.

Maj P. J. Puttock, c/o School of Electronic Engineers, Arborfield, Berks.

Mr J. W. Woodhead, 19 Lennox Close, Hunmanby, Filey, North Yorkshire.

Mr E. Smith, 23 Bridge Road, Charmouth, Bridport, Dorset DT6 6QS.

Maj G. C. Tedd, 130 Heathleigh, Skircoat Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX1 2RE. Tel: Halifax (0422) 63761.

Maj-Gen and Mrs. D. E. Isles, Rocliffe House, Easingwold, Yorkshire. Tel: Easingwold (0347) 21239

Brig and Mrs. C. R. Huxtable, HQ Dhofar Brigade, c/o RAF Salalah, BFPO 66 (from September 5). Letters franked 'Forces Air Mail' with 1st class stamp.

THE OFFICERS' DINNER CLUB

The 73rd Annual Dinner took place at the Officers Club, Aldershot on Friday, May 21, 1976.

The Colonel of the Regiment presided and the Colonel-in-Chief and 79 officers were present.

The following message was received from Her Majesty the Queen in reply to a message conveying the loyal greeting of the Officers of the Regiment.

'Brigadier His Grace the Duke of Wellington, MVO, OBE, MC, BA. Colonel-in-Chief The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

'Please convey to the Officers of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment assembled at their Annual Dinner at the Officers Club, Aldershot, this evening, Her Majesty's sincere thanks for their loyal greetings which she deeply appreciates.'

Most unfortunately, owing to an error by the GPO the message was not received in time to be read out at the dinner.

The Luncheon was held in the Officers Mess of the 1st Bn at Mons Barracks, Aldershot the same day.

Those who attended the two occasions were:

The Dinner

Brig. His Grace The Duke of Wellington

(Colonel-in-Chief)

Maj Gen D. E. Isles

(Colonel of the Regiment)

Maj Gens: J. D. Lunt, G. F. Upjohn

Brigs: A. D. Firth, B. W. Webb-Carter, F. R. St. P. Bunbury.

Cols: F. R. Armitage, C. R. T. Cumberlege, J. Davidson, C. R. Huxtable, D. W. Shuttleworth, R. G. Turner, E. M. P. Hardy.

Lt Cols: M. R. N. Bray, J. B. K. Greenway, R. M. Harms, A. B. M. Kavanagh, A. E. H. Sayers, R. G. Southerst, J. H. Dalrymple.

Majs: P. D. D. J. Andrews, P. Bruce-Low, J. E. V. Butterfield, C. N. St P. Bunbury, R. H. Burton, W. F. Charlesworth, C. R. Cumberlege, J. H. Davis, C. F. Grieve, P. B. L. Hoppe, R. H. Ince, R. H. Jago, L. F. H. Kershaw, S. H. Kirk, J. H. S. Lane, T. D. Lupton, P. J. Mellor, J. S. Milligan, W. R. Mundell, T. J. Nicholson, D. M. Pugh, W. F. C. Robertson, M. G. L. M. Stacpoole, R. E. Sugden, R. A. Tighe, G. C. Tedd, D. H. Wood.

Cpts: D. Battye, M. P. C. Bray, C. J. W. Gilbert, D. L. J. Harrap, T. J. Isles, J. Lattimore (Tech QM), L. Linskey (QM), G. I. McGlynn, J. A. d'E. Miller, A. D. Meek, N. J. Newell, A. D. Roberts, M. S. Sherlock, T. D. Sugden, J. M. Thorn, J. R. A. Ward.

Subs: R. M. L. Colville, A. H. S. Drake, J. H. Gladwin, C. F. Grieve, R. C. M. Hall, P. M. Jenkins, G. A. Kilburn, S. C. Newton, T. Pickersgill, T. C. Sinclair, J. A. Shenton, D. G. Massey, M. A. Burton, P. J. Y. Saville.

The Luncheon

Brigadier His Grace the Duke of Wellington and Her Grace the Duchess, Maj and Mrs P. D. D. J. Andrews, Col and Mrs F. R. Armitage, Gen Sir Robert and Lady Bray, Lt Col M. R. N. Bray, Capt and Mrs M. P. C. Bray, Mrs V. Boutflower, Mrs K. W. Brown, Mrs J. E. V. Butterfield, Maj and Mrs P. Bruce-Lowe, Mr and Mrs J. E. Cameron, Maj and Mrs W. F. Charlesworth, Col and Mrs C. R. T. Cumberlege, Maj and Mrs C. R. Cumberlege, Lt Col J. A. Dalrymple, Col and Mrs J. Davidson, Maj and Mrs J. H. Davis, Maj and Mrs St J. T. Faulkner, Brig A. D. Firth, Miss R. Firth, Lt Col and Mrs J. B. K. Greenway, Mrs K. D. Grimley, Col E. M. P. Hardy, Maj and Mrs P. B. L. Hoppe, Mrs A. Huxtable, Col and Mrs C. R. Huxtable, Maj Gen and Mrs D. E. Isles, Mrs F. M. Ince, Maj and Mrs R. H. Ince, Lt Col A. B. M. Kavanagh, Maj and Mrs L. F. H. Kershaw, Maj and Mrs S. H. Kirk, Mrs J. H. C. Lawlor Mr. and Mrs D. G. Massey, Capt and Mrs G. I. McGlynn, Maj and Mrs J. S. Milligan, Maj and Mrs W. R. Mundell, Mrs T. J. Nicholson, Mrs V. Orr, Miss P. A. Ozanne, Mrs V. Paton, Lt Col and Mrs O. Price, Maj and Mrs D. C. Roberts, Capt and Mrs A. D. Roberts, Maj A. C. S. Savory, Lt Col and Mrs A. E. H. Sayers, Capt M. S. Sherlock, Col D. W. Shuttleworth, Maj and Mrs R. W. Simmonds, Maj R. E. Sugden and daughters Rachel and Victoria, Maj G. C. Tedd, Capt and Mrs J. M. Thorn, Maj and Mrs R. A. Tighe, Col R. G. Turner, Capt and Mrs J. R. A. Ward, Brig B. W. Webb-Carter, Maj and Mrs D. H. Wood.

THE 76TH ARE WELL ENTERTAINED

I have come across an anecdote about the 76th Regt which was new to me and may be so to other 'Dukes'. It is in a fairly recently published book: 'A Matter of Honour: an account of the Indian Army, its officers and men.' by Philip Mason (Cape, £5.75).

Of the authorities quoted in the following extract, Sita Ram was an old subadar who, being enlisted in 1814, served 48 years in the Bengal Army. Sir William Sleeman was the author of a 'tract', published in Calcutta in 1841, entitled 'On the Spirit of Military Discipline in the Native Indian Army.'

R.G.T.

'Others besides Sita Ram mention friendliness between British soldiers and sepoys but they give a slight impression that it was an exception . . .

Sleeman, making the point that active service together made for friendliness, tells of a battalion of sepoys who had served in Lord Lake's campaign alongside HM 76th. When peace was established, the sepoys invited the 76th to a party they wished to give them. The 76th accepted, on condition that they should be taken home. They came, got 'gloriously drunk, and woke up next morning, each on his own cot in barracks', though with no recollection of how they got there. They had been carried home by sepoys—who were surely most unusual in their tolerance of a vice they not only did not share but regarded, in the case of an Indian, as a mark of the lowest of outcasts.

7th Bn DWR (TA) Reunion

A highly successful reunion took place at Huddersfield on Saturday, July 5, at which about 80 members were present; these included three from the First World War. Walter Downs was both organiser and host and Col. G. B. Howcroft proposed a vote of thanks to Walter.

Correspondence

1 Meynell House,
Idlethorpes Way,
Thorpe Edge,
Bradford, West Yorkshire

Dear Sir,

Whilst looking at THE IRON DUKE April 1971, I saw a small notice asking for 'Hellish Moments' or 'Happy Memories', if you still want them, I have some to tell.

I joined the army in 1962 for nine years, I went to Strensall where I met a man who was to make me into a soldier, his name Sgt R. Stewart (Bob). What he did to us poor boys was 'hellish', but I made it to the end and passed out.

I hoped I'd seen the last of Bob, but no, he came to Germany and became my platoon Sergeant, again it was 'hellish' what he did to us poor lads.

But sadly Bob is not with us any more and even to this day I miss him. I remember him shouting at me, praising me and he's even thanked me, sure he was a B . . . , but I'll never forget my passing out day.

My mother came and brought my niece with her.

All went well till the final parade, we were formed up in threes and Bob called us to attention, my niece walked up to Bob and pulled his pant leg. He looked down and said 'Yes love' she answered 'You swore at my Daddy Harry'. I thought trouble and with only hours to go.

But no, all he said was 'Show me where your Daddy Harry is' she did and he handed her over to me. Ever since that day, he always asked about her.

These and a lot of other things he did and said are 'memories'.

'Memories' I would not change, for to me, my nine years in the army, gave me 'hellish moments' but it left me with some very wonderful 'happy memories'.

Yours sincerely,
Harry S. Flynn (Ex 23935243).

'TAXI'

Last June, whilst attending an auction in the room where we used to dine in the Hyde Park Hotel, I had

the good fortune to meet a very attractive German girl who over a drink after the sale told me that she was pacifist at heart and could not understand how one could be a soldier. Having lectured her on the matter and made much of our Regimental system particularly emphasising the happy relationships that exist between men of diverse rank, the finishing touch to my propoganda was achieved through a remarkable coincidence.

Reluctantly, I led my companion to the door and hailed a taxi to return her to her husband. As I was opening the door I was astonished to be greeted by the taxi driver, 'Mr Bray, Sir, my name's Juggins, Officers' Mess cook 1958'. And a finer advertisement for the Regiment one could not hope to meet.

Having impressed and delivered our German friend, we retired to a pub. Mr Juggins, who displayed a remarkable memory of, and enthusiasm for, his days as a Duke, has been driving a taxi for 15 years in London and has picked up five of our officers in that time, Messrs Kavenagh and Shenton being the most recent. Some of his comments may amuse our readers:

'Did Mr Huxtable marry that girl he was always out with? . . . thought he would . . . proper gentleman though, only one of you that always remembered to book out for dinner'. Comes with practice, perhaps!

'I enjoyed exercises. Fell in a big wet ditch once and Mr Campbell-Lamerton lent me some dry denims. Only needed the trousers, though, tied them under my chin!'

'Mr Hoppe was my favourite'. Many of us will remember our 'you've never had it so good' food member. If one didn't agree, one was out for the count.

Mr Juggins, who now lives at 42 The Glade, Clayhall, Ilford, Essex, works nightshift from 8pm to about 4am. If you ever want a taxi in that period in London, dial 01-272 3030 (radio taxis) and if callsign M59 is available you will have the privilege of meeting a man who combines all the charm and wit of a Cockney with the loyalty of a Duke. M R N B

'EYES DOWN'

'I couldn't do that in a million years!' The first scream of anguish from a dozen voices at once, then we were taken in hand by a very competent instructress. The room was silent—until a single sigh broke the stillness—'I can't see this diagonal you keep on about'. Silence once more, broken this time by the instructress 'No, over 4 back 2 and pull it tighter'. The quiet was suddenly shattered by an unprintable expletive, followed by 'I can not get back to where I began and never will—'I'm going home'. At this moment, charged with frustration and a feeling of incompetence verging on despair, a lunch-break was announced. All and sundry breathed sighs of relief and chatter broke out all around. While we munched our sandwiches and tried to forget the formidable task for which we had volunteered.

At the call to order we renewed our efforts, long

silences, interspersed with 'Oh! dear', and 'That's not right, take it out and make sure you miss two every time', 'Two north, two west, two south, two east'. 'How many threads for dark red?' Lots of deep sighs, and thoughts of signing the finished work with RIP as we could not entertain the idea that we might ever complete the work in our lifetime. At the end of the day, after much patience, on the part of one instructress we were despatched home to practice what we had learnt.

The next meeting began with a greater feeling of

hope as we assembled, clutching our 'apprentice pieces' proudly. We were then promoted to the 'real thing'—it looked daunting, a vast empty expanse to be filled by our efforts. However, we were very determined, our counting improved, and the cries of 'It's wrong, oh! Hell! I've got to unpick it all' were less frequently heard. By the end of lessons three and four it looked as though, in spite of the early 'Blood, Sweat, and Tears', we might achieve the tapestry Kneelers for the Chapel in the Minster after all!

P. R.

Obituary

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

Maj S. G. Dunn

Maj Stephen Gerald Dunn died at his home, Walnut Tree Cottage, Fordwich, Canterbury on May 7, 1976.

The funeral service followed by cremation was held at Fordwich Church on May 13.

Lt Col R. W. Nicholson represented the Colonel and all Ranks of the Regiment.

An appreciation of Maj Dunn will be published in our next issue.

Maj G. A. Fontes

Maj Gerald Alexander Fontes died on April 6, 1976, aged 69 years.

Gerry Fontes joined the 7th Bn soon after the outbreak of hostilities in September 1939.

He quickly rose to be Company Commander and his enthusiasm and dedication to duty made 'C' Coy one of the best in the Battalion. He was always a good companion and had a sense of humour and even during periods of stress could always be relied upon to deal with a situation in a calm and collected manner. He was a very popular member of the mess and will be remembered by his colleagues for the very happy times we spent together. T.W.H.

Mr A. E. James

Mr Arthur Edward James of 14 Spencer Street, Hinkley, Leics, died in hospital on March 11, 1976, aged 83 years.

Jimmy James went to France as a Lance-Corporal with the 2nd Bn in 1914 and was wounded and taken prisoner during the first battle of Mons. After repatriation in December 1918 he was married in Dublin to Grace Batwell. They went abroad with the 2nd Bn in 1922 serving in Egypt, Singapore and India. He returned to be RSM of the 4th Bn TA until he was discharged in 1931.

He volunteered in 1940 and was granted an Emergency Commission the same year. He served with the 5th India Div in the Desert campaign and the first siege of Tobruk where he was wounded. He later served in Kenya returning to the UK in 1943. He was demobilised in the rank of A/Major.

Maj P. Hirst

It was a great shock to learn of Paddy Hirst's death at his home, Weavers' Cottage, Knook, near Warminster, on March 20 last, aged 70 years.

Paddy was born in Huddersfield and educated at Huddersfield College School and entered into business with his father as woollen manufacturers' agents.

In 1928 he enlisted into the Queen's Own Yorkshire Dragoons and subsequently was commissioned into the 7th Bn in 1933. On the outbreak of war he mobilised with HQ 147 Inf Bde serving in Iceland for two years, back to the Battalion at Crickhowell and then on the General Staff at HQ Northern Command York until the end of the War. His long TA service earned him the TD plus two clasps.

In 1937 he married Mary, elder daughter of Col Robert Taylor, TD, of Golcar one time Adjutant and CO of the 7th Bn. Of their two children, Caroline is now married and lives in Sweden and Patrick who served with the 1st Bn is now with the Army Catering Corps, married and serving with the Junior Leaders Regt at Taunton.

After the war Paddy moved into the Warminster area and was a director of Laverton's, Westbury woollen manufacturers until the firm closed down some years ago. He had many interests, notably the British Legion of which he was Chairman and President of the Heytesbury Branch and a member of the Wiltshire County Executive since 1952. He was awarded the gold medal for his services to the welfare side of the Legion's activities. He was a keen follower and supporter of the School of Infantry Beagles, organising secretary of the Wessex area Save the Children Fund Walks and an industrious and skilled gardener.

Paddy was small and slightly built, very dapper and with a delightful sense of humour. I remember his kindness and concern over a draft of Dukes I took to Iceland in 1940. Later at the 49th Div Battle School where, very much my senior, he showed tremendous guts and determination to overcome the then fashionable 'torture' meted out by our instructors.

Lastly in better times I recall the way in which we were all welcomed by Paddy and Mary to their home and the interest he maintained in the Regi-

ment. There will be many who have served at the School of Infantry in recent years, who will, like us miss his presence.

H. S. LeM.

Pte W. Fothergill

On Saturday, May 29, after a short illness, Walter Fothergill of the 1st Bn. A re-enlistment he joined Burma Coy and became Company Clerk. He leaves a widow, Mrs Janice Fothergill.

Wing Commander H. A. Crommelin

Wing Commander Henry Arden Crommelin, AFC (late the Duke of Wellington's Regt) died at his home in Tetbury on July 10, 1976.

The funeral took place on July 15. Maj St J. T. Faulkner represented the Regiment.

An obituary of Wg/Comd Crommelin will be published in the December issue.

Mrs O'Kelly

Mrs Ellen (Nellie) O'Kelly, widow of the late Mr F. A. 'Jock' O'Kelly, MM, died peacefully in Halifax on May 25, 1976, aged 81. The O'Kelly family had Regimental connections back to 1871. Jock served with the 2nd Bn from 1904 until 1927 and from 1948 until 1961 was employed in the Depot Officers' Mess in a civilian capacity.

AN APPRECIATION

Major D. S. D. Brisbane-Jones-Stamp

A number of people thought that his obituary in the last copy of the IRON DUKE did not do full justice to Douglas Jones-Stamp.

In 1937 Douglas joined the Regiment from Tonbridge and Sandhurst, where he was a good average rugby player.

In due course he joined the 2nd Bn and served at Multan and Delhi.

He got the most out of this brief interlude in pre-war India, and helped the writer to do the same. Even a subaltern could have the use of several government horses for hunting, playing polo, pig-sticking or just hacking along the famous 'Ridge' at Delhi before breakfast or after tea. Douglas acted as one of the Whips to the Delhi Hounds and he did a lot of work and organisation. The Dukes' motor transport consisted of two vehicles, and the one and only lorry was used to take the hounds to the meet at dawn on Sunday mornings. If things went wrong the repercussions were viceregal! 'Joonastam Sahib' was not, perhaps, an olympic horseman, but he was extremely keen, competent, and quite fearless. He was also very strong. You had to be to hold those 'seven-eighters'.

Douglas was the Transport Officer and, for a time, the Machine Gun Platoon Commander. Some of the finest senior ranks in the Regiment were in, or had been in, the 'Gunners'. Jock Hamilton, later to get a commission, springs to mind, and others. Douglas took tremendous pride in the gleaming equipment, and the perfection of the animals' health and turnout.

Douglas went 'home' to the war which had not yet reached India. He joined the 8th Bn shortly before it converted to 145 Regt RAC and was

training with the tanks at Langholm Lodge Camp, Dumfriesshire when he met his wife 'Tush'. She was the daughter of Capt and Mrs Alastair Monro of Craigcleugh, Langholm and grand daughter of Lieutenant General Sir Spencer Ewart, KBE, a former Adjutant General and GOC-in-C, Scottish Command. Douglas is survived by 'Tush' and their two daughters, Charlotte and Caroline.

Col Armitage recalls that he became a Troop Commander. All the tanks were named with the initial letter 'D' for 'Dukes' and his was, of course, Douglas. Subsequently, he was promoted Captain and, not surprisingly, all the scout cars had their names changed to those of famous hunts, overnight.

Later, he joined the 1st Bn in North Africa and arrived with them in Italy in December 1943. He was wounded in the Anzio Beachhead and was later taken prisoner. He was in Oflag 79 until April 1945.

The writer's brother John was with him in the POW camp. John's socialist, intellectual, artistic 'Group' lampooned the hard riding, sporting 'Group' to which Douglas belonged. On the day they were all liberated Douglas released his inhibitions by seizing the camp cess pool waggon, drawn by two horses, and galloping it round and round the camp with wild cries!

In 1945 Douglas was in the Transjordan Frontier Force and wore a dashing uniform with cossack-style sheepskin headdress (Kalpaki), shining leather ammunition belt, and so on. 'Tush' was with him in Palestine, and they saw something of the 1st Bn at St Luke's Camp, Haifa.

He rejoined the Dukes in Khartoum 1946-47 and became GSO3 HQ Troops Sudan. He was Adjutant of the 1st Bn at Strensall in 1947-48. In 1950 he went to Staff College (naturally he ran the Staff College Drag Hounds).

He rejoined the 1st Bn for the Korean War in 1953 and served in Gibraltar 1953-55 where, it can be reliably recorded, his memory lives on.

After various staff appointments in Germany he saw active service again with the Aden Protectorate Levies in 1957. His reputation as a *bon viveur* was not diminished in those wild mountains. He became DAAG at HQ Yorkshire Bde before going to ERE.

He was a permanent President, Army Courts Martial in Aden, Cyprus and Singapore. The officer he relieved in Aden had a black patch on one eye and an eye-glass in the other, but the opposite way round to Douglas! (This shows that there is perhaps a flicker of humour left in the MOD postings branch!) A 'whiz kid' young horse gunner in Aden was once heard to remark—"I'll say this for Douglas—his sentences were good, sensible, Regimental sentences".

Douglas was a very keen regimental soldier and all through his service was untiring in trying to make sure that everything was done right. He was an authority on everything from buttons to baked beans (not allowed in an Officers' Mess). A regiment relies on the one or two people who take immense trouble over minutiae, though small is the credit they get for it. Slowly he became one of those great British Army institutions, a regimental 'character', the sort of person one discusses round the camp fire—loyal, generous, amusing, energetic,

knowledgeable, innovating—these 'characters' are a happy part of the Army which nowadays is diminished, but not extinct. For perhaps the character of a regiment is the sum of its regimental characters, and much depends on their quality.

An RO sitting in the corner of a mess occupied by a succession of famous regiments has a unique opportunity of observing this truth.

Douglas knew regimental soldiering from A-Z and loved it all. The Gibraltar interlude was per-

haps his finest hour, in this respect.

Douglas was business manager of the IRON DUKE from 1974 until just before he died, after a varied and interesting service life. He was a Liveryman and Freeman of the Skinners Company in the City of London.

A great regimental soldier whom those of us of his time will remember, and miss, as someone who cheered us all up, made life brighter, and prevented us from becoming too uncouth. A.D.F

Personalialia

BIRTHS

Pitchers

At the Louise Margaret Maternity Hospital, Aldershot, to Claire (nee Lewton Brain) wife of Capt Anthony Pitchers, DWR, a son, Douglas Anthony born May 15, 1976.

Stevens

At the Laga Valley Hospital, Lisburn, to Jane, wife of Maj R. L. Stevens, DWR, a son, Thomas Lynn born January 30, 1976.

Stacpoole

To Sarah (nee Bagnall) wife of Maj M. G. L. M. Stacpoole, DWR, a son, Richard Humphrey born July 10, 1976.

MARRIAGE

Maj P. B. L. Hoppe and Capt S. LeMasurier, QARANC

The marriage took place on Saturday, May 1, 1976, in the Regimental Chapel York Minster between Peter son of Mr and Mrs H. L. Hoppe of Pickering, Yorkshire and Susan, daughter of Sir Robert and Lady LeMasurier, of La Ville a'L Eveque, Trinity, Jersey.

Mr Arthur Burns, DSO, Chief Constable of Suffolk, retired from the Force on June 30, 1976.

Those who served in the 1st Bn in Italy will recall that Capt Burns was awarded the DSO for outstanding leadership and personal bravery when commanding 'A' Coy at Monte Cecco in October 1944.

The full citation can be found on page 93 of the June 1945 issue of the IRON DUKE.

Maj F. J. Reynolds writes with news from South Africa. He retired from active hotel work in 1973 and, following a spell in Industrial Catering is now Catering Manager at 'Bishops' (Anglican College) a well-known boys school in the Cape Town suburbs.

He recently visited Mrs A. Crofton, the widow of Capt Cyril Denman-Jubb who was killed in 1914.

He found her a very remarkable lady of 95 who

despite being confined to bed with bronchitis, gave him a very warm welcome and chatted for some 45 minutes on her experiences with the 2nd Bn in India and Dublin after her marriage in 1907. She retains a very soft spot for the Dukes.

Maj Reynolds also ran into Col Maurice Davie in Cape Town and found him fit and well.

Lt Col John Coulter, a friend from my days in Australia, was 80 on June 9. Having written to congratulate him, I received a lively reply which clearly demonstrated that he is well and still very much interested in Regimental affairs. He and his wife, May, send their regards to old friends. His address is: Flat 5, 31 Faversham Road, Canterbury 3126, Victoria, Australia. MRNB

Major Johnny Walker writing from the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College says 'I have been very fortunate to visit a large amount of North America stretching from the Arctic to El Paso in Texas but one of the most interesting visits took me, with Sue, to Quebec City. Having been there before in 1968 I was very pleased to be able to make my number once again with Les Voltigeurs de Quebec. We were entertained in the Officers Mess at the Armoury by Lt-Col Paul Du Berger and his wife Vivien, and several of the Voltigeurs officers. We were both presented with regimental mementoes. The following evening we were entertained privately by Paul Du Berger and his wife. They are all very proud of the affiliation they have with the Dukes and are looking forward to celebrating the 25th anniversary of the affiliation next year. They hope to invite some officers of the regiment to attend. On July 26, I have been invited to a luncheon in Toronto to meet our Colonel-in-Chief who is now a regular visitor to Toronto.

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Both Col Turner and Capt B. G. Baxton sent in a letter which appeared in *The Times* correspondence about errors in addressing clergymen and which is reproduced here. Stephen Chase in fact won the 7th Bn's first MC on Waterloo Day at the Battle of Point 102, in Normandy, 1944. He and his companion the RMO, Capt A. U. Summerville, were the most caring and delightful of people and did more than their fair share in the maintenance of the Battalion's morale.

From the Rev S. H. Chase:

Sir, Surely, few can rival my claim to temporary reverend fame.

When serving in Holland in 1944, as Chaplain to the 7th Bn, The Duke of Wellington's Regt, a parcel of games and other comforts arrived from a well wisher at home.

The parcel was addressed to 'The Rev The Duke of Wellington', and without a moment's hesitation was handed to me.

Yours etc.,

Stephen Chase
Alfrick Rectory,
Worcester.

Regimental Association

General Secretary's Musings

Standing at the bottom of Rawson Street, Halifax, opposite the GPO, awaiting a visitor, I was watching the people pass by—young, old, well-dressed, dowdy—looking for a happy smiling face. Where! I came to the conclusion after several minutes that everyone must have been reading the papers, listening to the radio or TV and hearing all the moaning, complaining, contradictory and confusing statements that appear to beset us from every angle these days. My face, I suppose, matched theirs. Like a flash, as a scene from a speeded-up movie, cars shot around corners, people smiled and greeted each other, the air was filled with excitement and expectancy, Commercial Street traffic and pedestrians hurried with a purpose and the sun was bright. I found myself smiling. A young soldier, in uniform, with a girl clinging on his arm, had just walked, nay, skipped, past—their faces aglow, not a care in the world, oblivious to everything but their togetherness. Contagious! infectious!—can't really tell, but that small, ordinary event changed the whole world.

'Nay, Arthur', I can hear you asking, 'what has this got to do with the Regimental Association?' Summing it up I knew it was the young soldier and his carefree attitude that had dispelled the grey of the moment and my thoughts strayed back to my soldier pals and our then approach to difficulties and problems, when defeat was never even considered. Dick, Bert, Norman, Harold, Trevor, Drummy etc . . . what a tonic!

Keep these friendships alive—and what pleasanter means than by joining one of our branches which are at:

Place	Contact RHQ or Secretary
Halifax	H. Rowlands, 41 Haugh Shaw Road, Halifax
Huddersfield	H. Dyson, 397 Scar Lane, Golcar, Huddersfield
Keighley	W. G. Smith, 1 Beech Street, Steeton, Keighley
London	Ken Waterman, 21 Vivian Court, 128/134 Maida Vale, London W9
Mossley	T. Hallas, 32 Wyre Street, Mossley, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs

Meetings and social evenings are held monthly and Regimental events attended.

If you do not live in any of these areas please contact RHQ if you require any information about Regimental matters and send to us any items of interest, incidents wise, or foolish, that would enliven our Regimental journal, *THE IRON DUKE* (published thrice yearly).

RHQ address is: RHQ, DWR, Wellesley Park, Highroad Well, Halifax HX2 OBA.

AGM and Reunion Dinner 1976

Halifax again—In the Drill Hall (Wellington Hall), Prescott Street, Halifax, on **Saturday, September 25, 1976.**

AGM 6.30, Dinner 7.15.

Usual after-dinner entertainment—between drinks!

London and Home Counties Branch Dinner 1976

Carisbrooke Hall at the Victory Club will re-sound again to revelry and *bonhomie* on May 7, 1977.

Further details will appear in the December issue of this journal but Ken Waterman, the London and Home Counties secretary, would like to hear from any Dukes within the area at any time.

Halifax Branch

As of yore, other than our domestic activities, the year under review has been punctuated, as it were, by three main events. The Annual General Meeting and reunion dinner at the St Paul's Street Drill Hall, Huddersfield; the All Saints' Day service at York Minster and subsequent visit to Strensall and our annual trip to London for the London and Home Counties annual reunion dinner—in that order.

Our domestic activities comprise our monthly meetings-cum-socials and have been, in the main, well attended and consequently the branch has managed to pay its way and put a little money into our fund. This, in this day of ever-rising costs, is an achievement in itself and our thanks are largely due to our ladies' section. I believe there are movements in hand to add to these activities,

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but at this stage these I will leave until they have materialised. The last meeting of the year was the branch's AGM and quite an interesting and lively one it turned out to be. However, it cleared the air on many points and I feel certain all will benefit from it in the months ahead.

The Regimental Association AGM and reunion dinner has already been reported in this journal so that I need only add that the Halifax branch attended in full strength and a good time was had by all—what the effects were to some on Sunday morning one can only guess at, but I am sure well worth it.

Thanks to Mr Arthur Wood our trip to York went without a single hitch and coaches from Halifax ('picking up' *en route*), Huddersfield and Mossley all 'rendezvoused' 'on the dot' at St Williams College, York, for the pre-service coffee and biscuits and general get-together. All attended the following service prior to proceeding to Strensall and meeting once again the many friends we have there. Yet, again, the RSM and Mess members, the cooks and their staff and the waiters did us really proud and no praise is too high for the effort they put into making our lunch and subsequent buffet supper and entertainment a joy and a memory long to be remembered. Thank you all.

Earlier in this epistle I made mention of ever-rising costs and this particularly affects our trip to London each year. However, after a spot-check of this year's participants—they, of course, include the Huddersfield and Mossley contingents—it was agreed to go ahead with arrangements for next year. This year we had 41 members embussed and 'raring to go' for what, again, promised to be a really good week-end. The weather was glorious and from leaving Halifax, picking up at Huddersfield, the coach door and all means of ventilation were open and yet there were many who complained of the heat. In fact, the coach was the only fly in the ointment and was not the type which had been ordered. Still we reached London safely and shortly before 7pm Friday evening, May 7. The rest of the evening and Saturday up to 7pm our party went their various ways and generally enjoyed themselves.

The primary reason for our trip is, of course, the London and Home Counties annual reunion dinner and was again held in the Carisbrook Hall in the Victory Services Club, Seymour Street. The dinner was 'chaired' by the Colonel-of-the-Regiment, Maj Gen D. E. Isles, OBE, and it was good to have with us Gen Sir Robert Bray, GBE, KCB, DSO, his predecessor. The 1st Bn were also represented by officers, RSM Collins and members of his Mess along with two in-pensioners, resplendent in their red coats and medals, from Royal Hospital, Chelsea. Indeed, it was a good cross-section of the present and yester year and Ken Waterman and Bob Ballard of our London Branch are to be congratulated for their joint efforts and successful arrangements.

Once again, by kind permission of the Officer Commanding, Lt Col J. B. K. Greenway, MBE, we had the pleasure of the Regimental Band under the masterful baton of Bandmaster A. Clarke to

play us in to dinner and entertain us splendidly throughout the meal. After the meal and a speedy removal of tables by the Victory Club staff—and many eager and impatient volunteers—the 'Dukes' own dance group made things really go with a swing. Finally, and all too soon, so it seemed, we came to the 'Dukes are marching o'er the hill, Lads' and I noticed many knuckles being surreptitiously rubbed across eyes. To Mr Clarke and his band a very sincere thank you for a splendid night. Sadly it cannot be repeated for some time to come because of the 'Dukes' move to Minden. But our week-end was not yet quite over.

On Sunday morning at 9.50am we embussed for Mons Barracks, Aldershot, to honour the very kind invitation of RSM 'Joe' Collins and members of his Mess to visit them. It was a glorious morning, beautiful sunshine, warm and a cloudless sky. When we arrived many Mess members, their wives and children were already on the lawn and ere long, when suitably 'armed', many of our party joined them. The diehards stuck to the mess and in close proximity to the bar. Our hosts—and may I add our hostesses—mingled with us and in no time at all Ahmednagar, Malta, Cyprus, Northern Ireland, Aldershot and Strensall were all main topics of conversation, each vieing with the other in merit or demerit. Eventually the buffet was open to all and quite a spread it was (how do you and your staff do it, Joe?). Curry and rice, ham, chicken and all manner of good things, and all was done full justice to. We, the visitors, had a time-table to stick to to enable members to arrive at their various localities. Prior to our departure a presentation of silver was made to Bill Norman by RSM Collins, but this, I am sure, will be reported elsewhere. Eventually, we were ready for leaving, and what a 'send off' we were given. Every Mess member, their wives, children, Mess waiters and cooking staff were there, all singing to the utmost limit of their lungs—need I write it?—'If the RBs want the cup, they'll have to buck up, for the 'Dukes' are taking it away'. Thank you, Mr Collins and Mr Clarke, your Mess members and staff and your band for an especially good weekend'.

Well that was 'it' for another year and we look forward with equal gusto to next year.

London and Home Counties Branch

Much of these notes must be taken up with a report on our annual reunion dinner and dance, held at the Victory Services Club on Saturday, May 8, 1976. Without doubt, it was one of the most successful functions ever held by the London Branch. Presided over by the Colonel-of-the-Regiment, Maj Gen D. E. Isles, OBE, over 130 people sat down for dinner. Forty-six attended from the Yorkshire Branches, 37 Regular Soldiers from the Officers', Sergeants' and Corporals' Messes of the 1st Bn, and the remainder made up by various members and their guests. We also welcomed two Chelsea Pensioners, both representing Yorkshire Regiments.

The Branch President, Maj 'Tony' Savory, pronounced Grace, and proposed the toast to

'The Queen'. George Woodward, in a few choice words, proposed the toast to 'The Regiment' and the assembled company was treated to a spirited rendering of all the four Regimental marches. The Colonel of the Regiment replied to this toast, and gave an interesting account of the Regiment's activities. As Gen Sir Robert Bray was also present, we were told we had the distinction of having the oldest and youngest Generals in the Army dining with us at the same time. The Branch report was then read by the Secretary, who, as usual, screamed for more members of the London Branch to stand up and be counted.

The Regimental Band, under the direction of Mr Alan Clarke, played us an excellent programme during the dinner, and the Dance Band (or the 'Blue Syndicates' as they are now called. No, not the Havercake Hurricanes) kept us thoroughly entertained for the rest of a very good evening.

The annual raffle was an enormous success this year. Lots of our friends turned up with raffle prizes, including the usual beautiful tea service from Jacky Horne, and various bottles of this and that from members of the Branch. As usual George Woodward did his usual prodigious feat of extracting much blood from many stones and the raffle produced over £50.

Mrs Tilly Waterman and Mrs Edie Kennedy were presented with bouquets to recognise their services to the Branch.

On the Sunday morning some of us went to the Sergeants' Mess in Aldershot and joined the Yorkshire contingent in a rip-roaring session. We are going to miss these trips when the Battalion moves from Aldershot. Thanks, Joe, and all your members, for some lovely memories.

Should these notes make any ex-Duke living in the London and Home Counties area feel nostalgic, we meet on the last Monday of every month and talk things over. You'll be very welcome.

Contacts

During a recent tour the Colonel-of-the-Regiment met an old 'Duke'—Mr F. Berry, Flat 3, Kilworth Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex. Mr Berry served with the 2/7th Bn and was captured at St Valery in 1940.

Mr H. S. Flynn, who served with the 1st Bn 1962-71, would like to hear from any of his soldier pals. His address is 1 Maynell House, Idlethorpe Way, Thorpe Edge, Bradford BD10 9HL.

First Battle of the Somme, July 1, 1916

The Regimental Association Secretary, Mr A. Wood, at RHQ, would be grateful of knowledge of the whereabouts of any surviving 'Dukes' who took part in this battle.

MBE for Jackie Horne

The many kindnesses, work and non-tiring efforts has been justly acknowledged with Jackie being chosen by HM The Queen to become a Member of the British Empire in her Birthday Honours List June 12, 1976.

We add our sincere congratulations to Jackie (and Rose) and our grateful thanks for all that he (they) have done, and are still doing, for members of 'The Dukes' (and others).

Mr Jackie Stead, DCM, MM, and his wife, Annie, wish to thank members of the old 1st and 2nd Bns and other friends for the goodwill messages received on the occasion of their 62nd wedding anniversary, which took place on May 22, 1976.

Regimental Secretary

Maj John H. Davis retires as Regimental Secretary on June 30, 1976.

His successor will be Maj Graham C. Tedd.

A garden seat for his garden at home in the Yorkshire Dales has been presented to Maj Davis by the members of our Association. We all wish Maj and Mrs Davis a long and happy retirement and are grateful for the help and support given by him to the Regimental Association over the last 17 years.

Change of Editor

Please note that all
articles and
correspondence are in
future to be sent to
Major J. S. Milligan
at Regimental
Headquarters