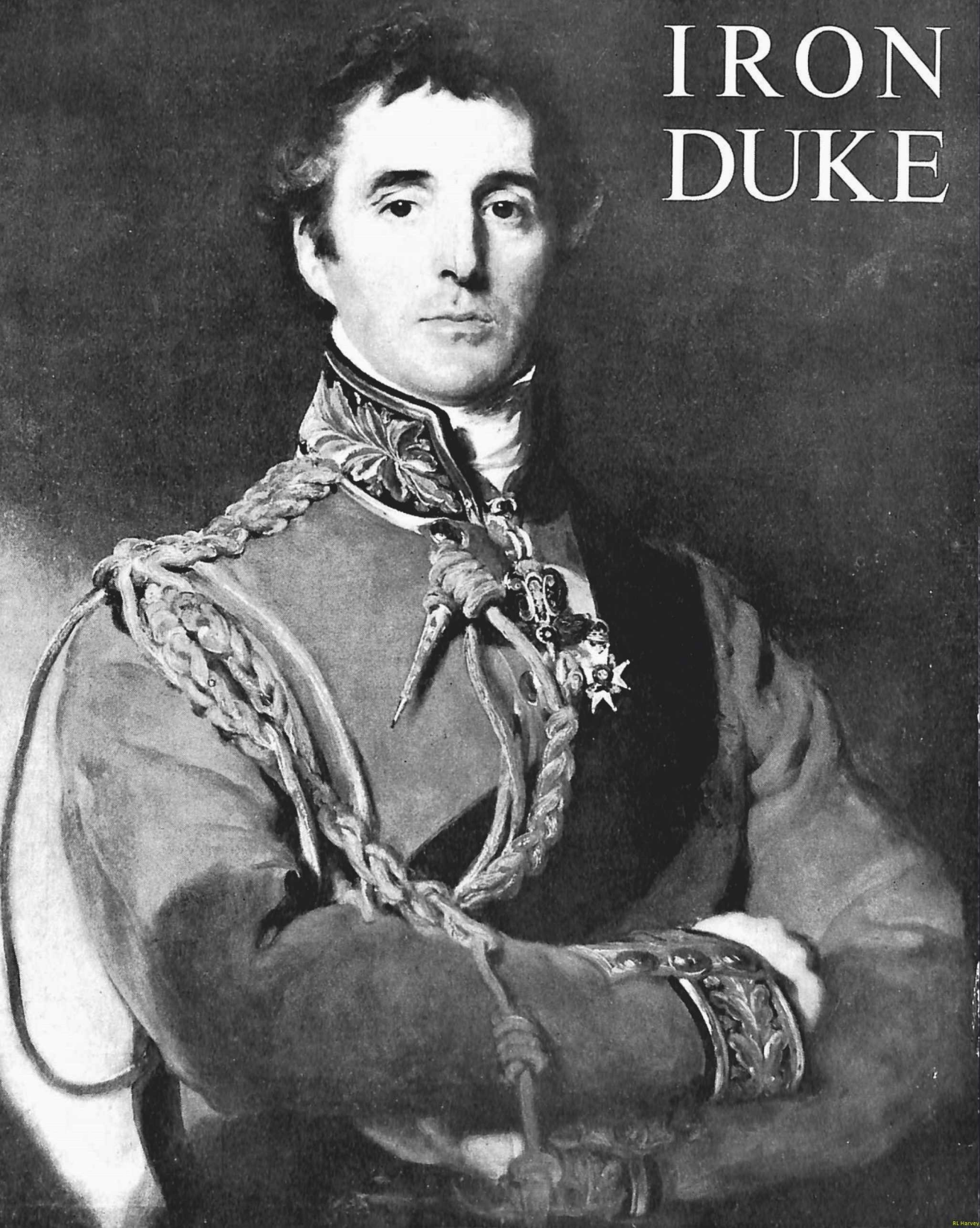


No.175 December 1977

THE IRON DUKE



THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

*Dettingen
Mysore
Seringsapatam
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 Suola
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

DECEMBER 1977

No. 175

BUSINESS NOTES

Published three times a year — April, August, December.

Annual Subscription—£2 payable in advance to the Business Manager on February 1.

*Editor and
Business Manager* : MAJOR J. S. MILLIGAN
WELLESLEY PARK, HALIFAX.
TEL.: 0422-61671

Acknowledgement

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
Rocliffe House, Easingwold, Yorkshire

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Wellesley Park, Halifax
Regimental Secretary: Major G. C. Tedd

THE 1st BATTALION

BFPO 29
CO: Lt.-Col. M. R. N. Bray Adjutant: Capt. J. R. A. Ward
RSM WO1 M. Carter

TERRITORIAL & ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE

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

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

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

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

ARMY CADET FORCE

Wellesley Company DWR, ACF. Major J. K. Tyler, 37 Woodside Road, Silsden, Keighley

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

EVEN BETTER TRAVEL BARGAINS FOR FORCES

Very much against the tide of rising prices Townsend Thoresen have actually **reduced** cross-Channel fares for Continent based British and Commonwealth Forces in 1978. Travel Townsend Thoresen and save when you spend your leave back home.

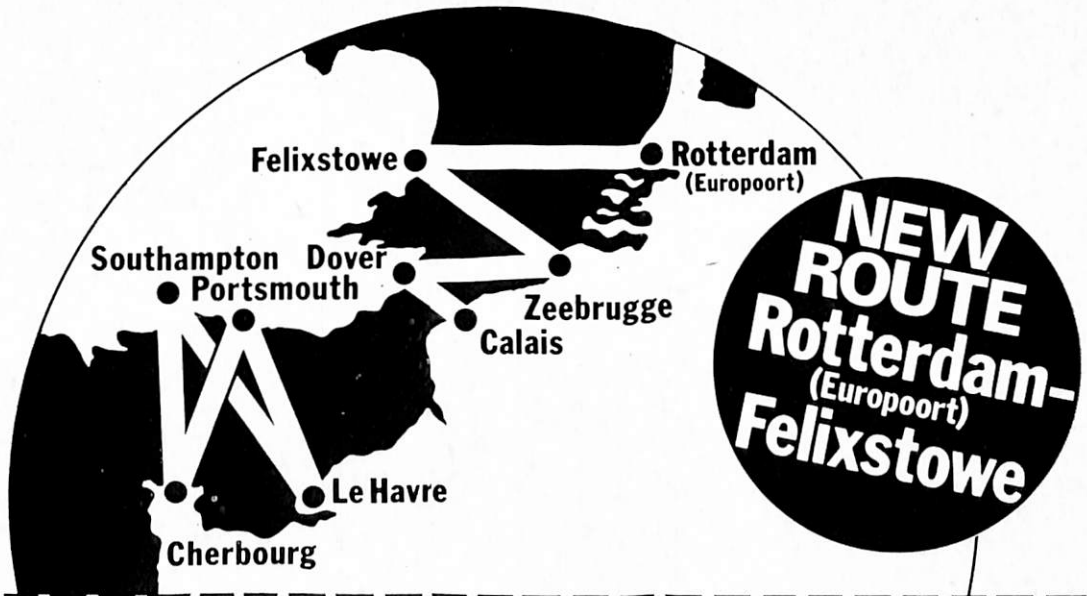
Forces concessional fares for cars are down!

Normal fares for cars for visits to the UK of over 5 days are also down! There are concessional fares for passengers all the year round. And, for the first time, there are dis-

counts of up to 50% on towed caravans and trailer fares, all year round!

There are also a new range of short trip bargains when you cross with your car. Spend 5 days in the UK and save up to 20 per cent on regular fares. save up to 35 per cent on a 60 hour stay, up to 50 per cent on a 24 hour stay.

Full details of the new reduced fares, sailing times are in our special 'Travel Bargains for Forces' leaflet. Get your free copy from your travel agent or send us the coupon.



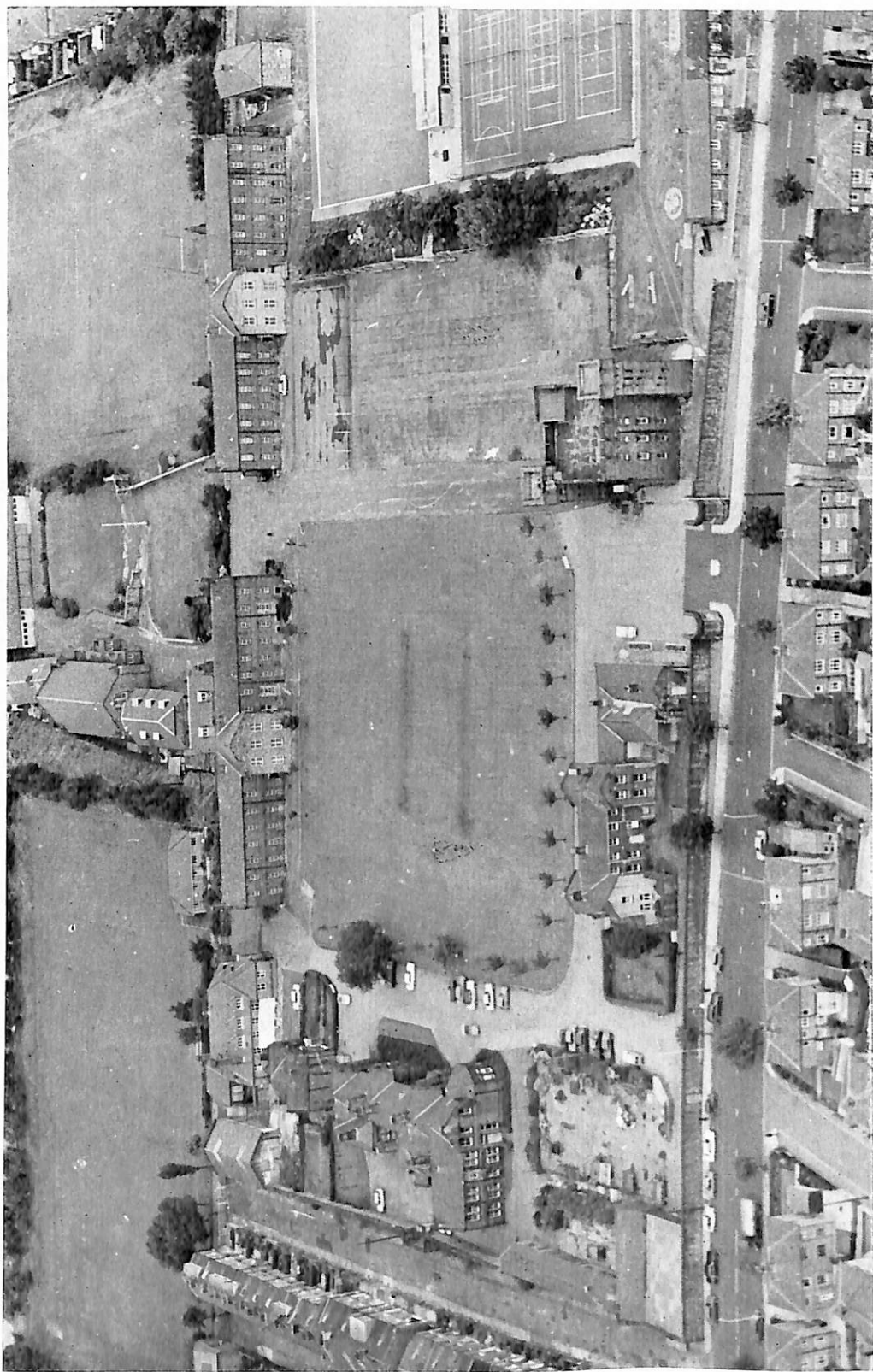
To: Townsend Thoresen Car Ferries, 4000 Dusseldorf 1, Graf-Adolf-Strasse 41 Entrance Karl-Rudolf-Strasse. Please send me your 'Travel Bargains for Forces' leaflet.

Name _____

Address _____



TOWNSEND THORESEN
The European Ferries



(Photo Halifax Evening Courier)

Halifax Barracks (Wellesley Park) 1877-1977
See page 201

Editorial

The very late publication of this issue is deeply regretted, the delay is due to industrial action at our Printers and is entirely beyond our control.

We can only offer our sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused and add that we are but one of many Regimental Journals so affected.

The period of delay has unhappily seen the death

of several well known members of the Regiment, the chief ones being that of Mr Harry Tandey, VC, DCM, MM, our most decorated soldier, and Cols 'Boy' Armitage and Bertie Beuttler. All are briefly mentioned in the Obituary Columns and it is hoped to include full obituaries in the April issue.

Regimental Headquarters

REGIMENTAL NOTES

APPOINTMENT

The Colonel of the Regiment has been appointed Honorary Colonel 3rd Bn The Yorkshire Volunteers TAVR with effect from November 23, 1977, in succession to Maj Gen R. M. Somerville, CB, OBE, tenure expired.

All members of the Regiment congratulate the Colonel on this appointment.

Readers will be pleased to learn that the Regimental Secretary, Maj G. C. Tedd, who suffered a heart attack in late July is now recovered and resumed work in mid-December.

OFFICERS DINNER 1978

May we again remind readers that the Officers Annual Dinner in 1978 will be held at the Gimcrack Banqueting Suite at York Racecourse on Friday, October 6.

The Dinner as in 1974 will be open to all officers who have served in the Regiment at any time. It is requested that all who wish to attend (other than members of the Dinner Club) forward their names to RHQ as soon as possible in order that we can notify them of the arrangements in good time. We would also be grateful if they could forward us the names of other ex-officers who they think would be interested in attending.

LES VOLTIGEURS DE QUEBEC

Maj M. A. Belanger, CD, has been appointed to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Commanding Les Voltigeurs de Quebec.

Lt Col P. H. Du Berger, CD, has been appointed Senior Staff Officer, HQ District No 3 (M) Quebec.

We congratulate Lt Col Belanger on his appointment in command and extend all good wishes from all Dukes for a successful tour in command.

We also extend a sad farewell to Lt Col Du Berger and wish him well in his new appointment.

WELLESLEY PARK, SEPTEMBER 1977

The Aerial view of Wellesley Park which forms the subject of the frontispiece will bring back memories to many readers.

This photograph, taken by the *Evening Courier*

Chief Photographer, David Green, shows the changes that have taken place since the barracks were taken over by Calderdale Council.

Across the lower part of the picture is Gibbet Street. The Barrack Gates have gone from the main entrance and to the right the Keep still stands, the long low building in the bottom right hand corner is the old Museum, now Regimental Headquarters and the only remaining MOD property.

Above RHQ can be seen the new tennis courts, bowling green and childrens playground on the site of the old married quarters and medical block.

The Barrack blocks are still in use for instructional purposes, which the old Sergeants Mess is now the Calderdale Music Centre! The gym, sports fields and cricket pitch are still in use as such.

The Officers Mess and QMs Married Quarter are used by the Development and Operations section of the Amenities and Recreation Department whose offices are in the old Depot HQ building. The Guard Room is now a store!

REGIMENTAL SERVICE

The Annual Regimental Service was held in the Regimental Chapel, York Minster on Saturday, October 29, 1977.

The service was conducted by the Rev Canon A. Widdess, Canon in Residence, and the Rev Canon R. I. J. Matthews, Chaplain of the Wellesley Coy, ACF.

The Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment, the Rt Rev Bishop Eric Treacy gave the address. The lesson was read by the Colonel of the Regiment.

A large representative gathering attended the service, having met for coffee in St William's College prior to the service.

As has been the case for the last few years the service was attended by members of Les Ancienne Combatants des Hem making their annual visit to friends in the Mossley Branch of the Regimental Association.

May we take this opportunity to remind readers that the Service next year will take place on October 7, 1978, and not on the nearest Saturday to All Saint's Day as is the usual practice.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE

**Regular Army
King's Division**

The undermentioned Lieutenants to be Captains July 30, 1977: J. Dowdell (491444) DWR; C. F. Grieve (490512) DWR; T. C. Sinclair (491533) DWR (LG August 2, 1977). A. D. Meek (490927) DWR, August 6, 1977 (LG August 9, 1977).

Maj (QM) J. M. Hall, MBE (469592) DWR retires on retired pay July 8, 1977 (LG July 8, 1977).

Maj C. D. d'E. Miller (424406) retires on retired pay September 1, 1977 (LG September 6, 1977).

Maj (QM) F. Nichols (482283) DWR retires on retired pay September 11, 1977 (LG September 13, 1977).

Maj M. G. L. M. Stacpoole (463399) DWR retires on retired pay September 26, 1977.

Lt M. A. Burton (499676) DWR resigns his commission August 20, 1977 (LG September 27, 1977).

Short Service Voluntary Commission

2 Lt P. R. S. Bailey (497882) 1 DWR to be Lieutenant October 1, 1977 (LG October 18, 1977).

King's Div TAVR

Maj Gen Donald Edward Isles, OBE (304096) Colonel Commandant The King's Div, Colonel The Duke of Wellingtons Regt (West Riding) is appointed Honorary Colonel 3rd Bn The Yorkshire Volunteers TAVR November 23, 1977, in succession to Maj Gen Ronald Macauley Somerville, CB, OBE (126254) tenure expired (LG November 29, 1977).

DUKES PUBS IN THE WEST RIDING

When Lt Col M. R. N. Bray took command of the 1st Bn The Duke of Wellington's Regt he felt that it was becoming divorced from its recruiting heartland in the West Riding. The Battalion only really gets back to the West Riding once a year and so opportunities to meet ex-Dukes on common ground are few and far between. With this in mind the Commanding Officer has introduced the idea of Dukes Pubs in Yorkshire. This is aimed at providing firm bases for social gatherings, unofficial reunions, parties, and more regular venues for ex-Dukes, potential Dukes and Dukes on leave. There have been inaugural parties in each pub as a sort of baptism for the landlords and staff.

ALL ARE WELCOME**The Old Cock Hotel**

Your Dukes Pub in Halifax
Your Host—Mr Jack Arrowsmith.

The Royal Unicorn

Your Dukes Pub in Huddersfield
Your Host—Mr Wally Gooding.

OTHER DUKES PUBS**The Glasshouse**

55 Brewer Street,
London W1.
Your Duke's pub in London.
Your Host—Mr E. Smith (ex-Cpl—MT).

The Lord Nelson

Your Duke's pub in Luddenden
Your Host—Mr Jack Scroby (ex-Cpl 1DWR).

QUEEN ELIZABETH MILITARY HOSPITAL.

This new hospital opened at Woolwich on June 25, 1977. It replaces five hospitals: The Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank; The Royal Herbert Hospital and Military Maternity Hospital, Woolwich; The Military Hospital, Colchester (to close in 1978) and the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley (to close in 1978).

The Army Medical Services have always been happy to give a service to retired servicemen and, where possible, their dependants. This service will be continued as long as there is room in the hospital for serving personnel.

The only requirement for an ex-serviceman to be seen is a referral letter from the patient's doctor—this is essential.

This service also exists at the Army's other two hospitals: Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot, and Duchess of Kent's Military Hospital, Caterick.

**ROYAL CAMBRIDGE HOME FOR
SOLDIERS WIDOWS**

We have been reminded by the Ministry of Defence of the excellent facilities offered by the above Home which occupies a very pleasant site at East Molesey. The Home provides accommodation for 30 widows. It has spacious public rooms and generally inspires a feeling of being a well run establishment offering a sheltered and happy environment for eligible widows.

Although primarily intended for widows of WOs, NCOs and soldiers of the Regular Army, Officers widows are also eligible for admission provided the greater part of the husband's service was before being commissioned.

Below are details of the Home. Further information may be obtained from the Secretary. It is understood that at present there is no waiting list for admission.

'This Home is primarily intended for elderly widows of WOs, NCOs and soldiers of the Regular Army, married whilst their husbands were serving but it will accept a number of other soldiers' widows when vacancies permit.

To be eligible to enter the home, the widow must be at least 60 years of age, and be passed by the Home's Medical Officer as capable of looking after her room.

The Home is at East Molesey, Surrey, and consists of two adjoining houses with a connecting wing and gardens. They have lifts, are centrally heated and each has its own dining room and sitting room with television.

Each widow has a furnished bed-sitting room with radiator, electric fire, boiling ring and fitted basin with hot and cold water.

There are Sick Wards with trained nurses in charge, and therefore widows need not leave the Home when ill or infirm.

Widows contribute towards their maintenance according to their Pension retaining sufficient money for their personal needs.

For further information, application should be made to:

The Secretary/Superintendent,
Royal Cambridge Home for Soldiers' Widows,
82-84 Hurst Road, East Molesey,
Surrey KT8 9AH.
Telephone: 01-979 3788.

8 DWR/145 RAC

The 33rd Annual Reunion Dinner of the Officers 8th Bn The Duke of Wellington's Regt/145 Regiment Royal Armoured Corps was held at St Ermins Hotel, London, on October 22. Col F. R. Armitage presided and the Guest of Honour was Reverend Father H. W. Higgins, our former padre.

This reunion dinner was another land mark in their post disbandment history and an attendance of 26 officers is a further tribute to the spirit of this unit, which existed for only 4½ years.

Although our membership list is being steadily eroded by deaths, illness and dispersion and there can be no new blood, there is every indication that the will exists for this function to continue for the foreseeable future.

F.R.A.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

13 Amhurst Court,
Grange Road,
Cambridge

Dear Sir,

From time to time, but not, I think for some years, there have been references in THE IRON DUKE to a wayside stone on a highland road, recording that the road was originally built by the 33rd Regt in 1754.

I recently drove this way and it may be of interest to record that the stone is now in good condition. At one time it was reported to be very decayed, with the inscription almost illegible. Now the letters are clearly picked out in black paint on a white ground.

The stone is on what is now the A939 from Ballater to Tomintoul. It is easy to miss, as driving north, it is on the left of the road, just round a sharpish left-hand bend—on a road which demands the driver's close attention. Immediately opposite, however, there is now a notice: 'Well of Lecht. Picnic Area'.

The inscription reads:

A . . . D. 1754
FIVE COMPANIES.
THE 33RD. REGIMENT.
RIGHT. HONLE. LORD.
CHAS. HAY. COLONEL.
MADE. THE. ROAD. FROM.
HERE. TO. THE. SPEY.

The sculptor was economical of his upright strokes. Thus 'THE', for example, appears as 'TH'.

From the Well of Lecht to the Spey at Grantown is a little short of 20 miles, and pretty wild and forbidding miles they must have seemed in 1754.

Yours faithfully,

R. G. TURNER,
Colonel

To The Editor,
The Iron Duke

21 Vivian Court,
128-134 Maida Vale,
London W9

Dear Sir,

Whilst on a visit to Gibraltar during the past two weeks, I had great pleasure in conveying the greetings of all Old Comrades, and in particular, the members of the London and Home Counties Branch, to Brig Tony Firth, who is still residing on the Rock and working in Fortress HQ. My wife and I were entertained at his home and had the pleasure of meeting Mrs Firth and their charming daughter.

Old 'Dukes' visiting the rock now will be vyer disappointed as all the old well known places are rapidly disappearing. They'll be pleased to know that the 'Bull and Bush' is still going strong, and yours truly was immediately recognised by the proprietor who has fond memories of the 'Dukes' stay on the rock.

Yours sincerely,

K. A. WATERMAN

Col P. A. Mitchell, OBE,
Procurement Executive,
Ministry of Defence,
PM MICV,
St Christopher House,
Southwark Street,
London SE1

The Editor,
The Iron Duke,

Sept 27, 1977

Dear Sir,

The purpose of this letter, which is written with the Colonel of the Regiment's blessing, is to establish whether there would be support for the formation of a Regimental golf team to take part in the Regimental competitions during the Spring and Autumn meetings of the Army Golf Society (AGS). These meetings are held at one of the great courses in England or Scotland—Royal Birkdale between May 6-12, 1978, when the Argyl and Sutherland Bowl will be competed for by Infantry Regt.

The broad rules of eligibility are:

1. Teams of four playing level.
2. All team members must be serving or retired *regular* officers.
3. All must be members of the Army Golfing Society (annual subscription £1).

Since the result is decided on the overall hole situation from the four matches, it is not necessary for the entire team to be single figure golfers with designs on the Amateur!

I should be grateful if any officer who is interested would write to me at the above address.

Yours faithfully,

PETER MITCHELL

Personalialia

APPOINTMENTS

Lt Col Barry Kavanagh writes to say he is changing his job. After 12½ years with the Recruiting and Liaison staff he has been appointed Area Organiser for the Save the Children Fund for North Yorkshire and Cleveland.

His new appointment, which he took up on December 1, enables him to work from his home, instead of travelling the 52 miles each way to his office in Catterick.

He feels that having travelled so much in his days in the Army and seen so much deprivation abroad, it will be a pleasure to help from this end.

We are sure all readers will join us in wishing Lt Col Kavanagh every success in his new vocation.

Brig A. D. Firth, OBE, MC

Brig Tony Firth writes from Gibraltar to say he is returning on November 15 and takes up a Retired Officers appointment at HQ Eastern District, Colchester on December 19.

During a recent holiday in Morocco, he visited the little English Church of St Andrew in Tangier. In the doorway there is a memorial to those who died in the first World War which includes the following:

'Robert*Eric Spinney of Mazagan
Lieutenant—West Riding Regiment
who was mentioned in despatches and awarded the DSO'.

In Marrakesh they had the pleasure of meeting Field Marshall Sir Claude Auchinlech 'who still has the piercing blue eyes, and firm voice as when we knew him as General Auchinlech'.

Sgt E. Bowden

We congratulate Sgt E. Bowden on the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal on June 21, 1976.

ENGAGEMENT

Capt T. J. Isles and Miss D. J. Knowison

The engagement is announced between Capt Timothy John Isles, the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, eldest son of Maj Gen D. E. Isles, OBE and Mrs Isles, of Rocliffe House, Easingwold, York, and Deborah Jane, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs J. M. Knowison, also of Easingwold.

Mr M. Winterburn and Miss Helen Newton

The engagement is announced between Michael, elder son of Mrs I. L. E. Winterburn, and the late Mr C. H. Winterburn of Sutton-on-Forest, York, and Helen, daughter of Maj and Mrs J. M. Newton of Hushwaite, York.

MARRIAGES

Mr A. Ince and Miss L. Bodle

On September 3, 1977, at St Peter and Paul, West Clendon, Anthony, son of Maj and Mrs R. H. Ince, to Lynwen, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Bodle.

Maj C. N. St P. Bunbury and Miss V. E. Fanshawe

The marriage took place on December 10, 1977, between Maj Charles Bunbury, MBE, The Duke of Wellington's Regt, son of Brig F. R. St P. Bunbury, CBE, DSO and the late Mrs Bunbury, and Veronica, daughter of Capt P. E. Fanshawe, CBE, DSO, RN, and Mrs Fanshawe.

BIRTH

To Lcpl and Mrs G. Earnshaw, a boy, Stephen John Warner, born at the BMH Rinteln, on August 20, 1977.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Maj C. D. d'E. Miller, 13 Chaucer Road, Bedford, Bedfordshire MK40 2AJ.

Maj and Mrs M. G. L. M. Stacpoole, Branscombe, High Street, Hindon, Wiltshire.

The Revd and Mrs D. I. Strangeways, The Chancellors Lodge, St Paul's Cathedral, Valletta, Malta GC.

Maj R. E. Sugden, c/o Mrs Frankland, Little Garth, Stillington, York YO6 1JS.

Lt Col and Mrs Stevens, 2 UDR, BFPO 803.

Mr G. C. Cooper, The Woodlands, Hanchurch Lane, Hanchurch, Stoke on Trent ST4 8RY.

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

Lt Col Owen Price, c/o Miss E. M. Price, CBE, Penridge, Church Lane, Blewbury, Oxon.

Maj and Mrs D. M. Pugh, 51 Strensall Park, Strensall Camp, York YO3 8FS.

Mr M. A. Burton, Church Farm, Wilberfoss, York YO4 5NS.

Capt P. T. Hirst, ACC Officers Mess, St Omer Barracks, Aldershot, Hants.

Maj and Mrs S. A. Berry, Dolphin House, Southfield, Hessle, North Humberside.

Mr W. L. James, 10 Moss Lane, Southport, Lancs PR9 7QR.

Brig and Mrs A. D. Firth, The Old Rectory, Chappel, Colchester CO6 2OE.

Brig F. R. St P. Bunbury, CBE, DSO, The Coach House, Rosley, Wigton, Cumbria.

Brig C. R. Huxtable, CBE, P.O. Box 897, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.

STOP PRESS

ARMY RUGBY CUP

BAOR Semi-final 1 DWR 36—QDG 0

BAOR Final 1 DWR 16—7 Sigs Regt 8

The Army Cup Final will be played in BAOR on 15 March 1978—1 DWR v 1 RRW.

Centenary of Halifax Barracks (1877-1977) (Wellesley Park)

September 3, 1977

Readers will recall that in the April issue of THE IRON DUKE, mention was made of the coming Centenary Celebrations of the opening of Halifax Barracks, planned for September 2-3, 1977.

Following several weeks of planning, complicated by the fact that the 1st Bn were serving in Northern Ireland and thus able to give only a small amount of help, the following events took place to mark the occasion.

The Colonel of the Regiment gave a Reception on the evening of September 2 for the Worshipful the Mayor of Calderdale (Alderman Eric Dennett) and the Mayoress accompanied by various Civic Dignitaries and senior members of the Staff of Calderdale Metropolitan District Council.

The Mayor and Council reciprocated on September 3 by giving a luncheon in the Town Hall at Halifax to the Colonel of the Regiment and a representative body of the Regiment. The following attended:

The Colonel of the Regiment and Mrs Isles.

Gen Sir Robert Bray, GBE, KCB, DSO, and Lady Bray, representing all previous Colonels of the Regiment.

Lt Col A. E. H. Sayers, OBE, and Maj A. C. S. Savory, MBE, representing all previous Commanding Officers of the Depot at Halifax and all ex-officers of the Regiment.

Maj D. M. Pugh, representing all serving officers of the Regiment.

CSM D. Hughes and Mrs Hughes, representing all serving soldiers of the Regiment.

Mr Arthur Wood and Mrs Wood, representing all ex-soldiers of the Regiment.

In the meantime, under sunny skies, proceeding had commenced in Wellesley Park at 1.30pm with the Calderdale Youth Concert Band giving a one-hour performance on the Cricket Square, at the same time the Wellesley Park Bowling Club's competition for The Duke of Wellington's Regt Centenary Trophy started. Old members of the Regiment visiting from afar were startled to find the Old Married Quarters and the Medical Block had gone and their places taken by three tennis courts, a bowling green, a putting green complete with a very modern pavilion and a childrens playground.

Other items provided by the Calderdale Metropolitan District Council as their contribution to



Centenary of Halifax Barracks
The Colonel of the Regiment and The Mayor of Calderdale touring the Static Displays

the festivities were: a Football Penalty Competition by Halifax Athletic AFC, Tennis Coaching and a Demonstration, Mixendale Royal's Jazz Band, a Netball display by Calderdale Netball Association and a PT Demonstration by Calderdale School of Education Display Team. These items being intended to emphasise how Wellesley Park is now used for public recreation, primarily for youth purposes.

The Military events consisted of: Platoon in the attack demonstrations by 'C' (DWR) Coy 3rd Bn The Yorkshire Volunteers, staged on the Rugby Field, Climbing Rescue Display by 10 Army Youth Team and Static Display by 'C' (DWR) Coys of 1st Bn Yorkshire Volunteers and 3rd Bn Yorkshire Volunteers, Wellesley Company Army Cadet Force, 10 Army Youth Team and the Main Recruiting Display of the King's Div.

At 4.45pm the Worshipful Mayor received the Colonel of the Regiment at the old barracks entrance and, in turn, was invited by the Colonel to inspect the Quarter Guard found by 'C' (DWR) Coy 1st Bn Yorkshire Volunteers, who impressed all the spectators by their turnout and bearing.

The Colonel of the Regiment and the Mayor then toured the Displays and took their place on the Saluting Base at 6pm.

There then followed the highlight of the afternoon, the Band of the 1st Bn in full dress marched on parade.

Unfortunately the Corps of Drums could not be present owing to duty in Londonderry and therefore the Ceremony of Beating Retreat could not take place. Instead, however, the Band gave a very fine Marching Display and marched off, the Mayor taking the salute, to enthusiastic applause.

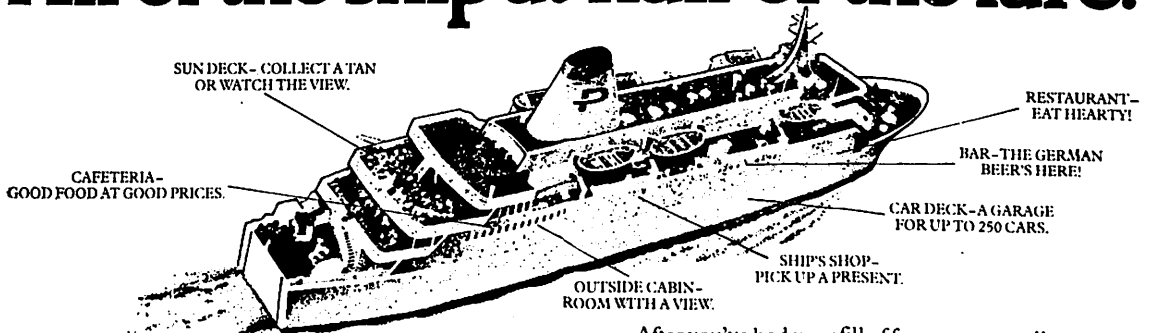
The final item of the afternoon was the presentation of the Duke of Wellington's Regt Trophy by the Colonel of the Regiment to the Mayor, who in turn handed it to the Chairman of Wellesley Park Bowling and Social Club.

In the evening the Mayor and Mayoress honoured us with their presence at the Regimental Association Dinner, details of which appear elsewhere in this issue.

All in all the celebrations of the Centenary attended by an estimated crowd of 6,000 had been a great success. We had been helped by the usual luck of the Dukes in that the weather was glorious, in spite of a poor week beforehand and a wet Sunday following.

If nothing else it served to show that the close tie between the Regiment and the District are as strong as ever, may they long continue so.

All of the ship at half of the fare.



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Karl Geuther & Co, 2800 Bremen 1 Märtinistrasse 58 Tel: (0421) 3 16 01

Joint Services Expedition Liverpool Land

BY CAPT R. C. M. HALL

'Liverpool Land! Where on earth is that?', most people would ask on hearing the Expedition's full title. As most atlases give Greenland only superficial treatment in favour of slightly more populated and popular islands it is often quite difficult to give an accurate answer, at least one that satisfies the questioner. 'A hundred square mile region of land on the Central Eastern Coast of Greenland, roughly 200 miles inside the Arctic Circle' would perhaps be a suitable description to give.

Although its discovery is also somewhat obscure, the story provides an interesting insight into the origin of the name Liverpool Land. An explorer by the name of W. Scoresby, Junior, first sighted the land on August 26, 1822, while searching for suitable whaling grounds. The terrain bore no relation to any of the maps or charts he possessed at that time. Fjords, mountain peaks of 3,000 feet or more, and massive glacial systems gave the land an awe inspiring appearance. In recognition of the famous Port from where Scoresby had begun his travels in the whale fishing ship, the 'Baffin', he called the coast Liverpool Land. Many of the geographical features of that region were named by Scoresby after his friends and supporters mainly from Liverpool, which was the reason why the coast line became known as the Liverpool Coast. Due to the accurate observation of his ship's position, Scoresby had put the Liverpool Coast firmly on the 'map' near to its correct position.

His initial description was also remarkably astute. A central mountainous ridge gives rise to complex icefields, many of which reach the sea only to disappear as over-sized ice cubes. Fjords and valleys out across the ridge to create some spectacular scenery. Scoresby also made comment on the wealth of plants and animals in such a seemingly hostile environment, 'Birds, reindeer and hares' were all to be seen in Liverpool Land.

It was this apparent wealth of wildlife that provided the main interest behind the Joint Services Expedition to Liverpool Land. Until 1977, the land had been largely ignored by explorers, geographers and scientists alike due to its 'out of the way' situation. Access and re-supply had always posed problems and consequently the area remained a relative blank on the map. It was therefore the main aim of the Expedition to fill in this blank. At first sight, perhaps a rather unusual task for a team of non-scientific servicemen. But a challenging task which so called 'amateur' naturalists would be ideally suited and 'out of their minds' servicemen would relish.

And so 14 soldiers, sailors and airmen assembled at Glasgow Airport on May 30, 1977, to begin the Joint Services Expedition. Travel to and from Greenland was by chartered aircraft and this aspect of the Expedition consumed most of the financial outlay. The first stop-over point was the

United States Air Forces Base at Keflavik, Iceland. It was here that all our clothing and equipment had been assembled and prepared under the guidance of two advance party members. The stop gave us our last chance to sample wholesome food and civilised cooking even though it was Waffles and Popcorn!

Our touch-down point in Greenland was to be Mestersvig, a small hamlet on the east coast, about 80 miles north of our intended base camp. Danish weathermen and radio operators, not to mention the occasional expedition, were the principle inhabitants of this hamlet on this 'Arctic Riviera'. On arrival, no time was lost harnessing the assemblage of equipment, about 2,500lb in all, on to the two Nansen sledges, and hauling ourselves southwards along the coastal pack—ice. It is said that there is no more strenuous exercise than man—hauling a sledge and! with the appalling snow conditions that were met, we certainly proved this to be true. What was planned as a week's journey turned out to be an 18-day trek! Melting snow caused miniature lakes to form on the ice within hours and floating sledges pulled by 'wet-footed' skiers were not an uncommon sight. Tidal cracks, ice pressure ridges and inclement weather all contributed to the delay.

However, base camp was eventually established and a long awaited air drop arrived by courtesy of the Hercules Squadron, RAF Lyneham. The arrival of our scientific equipment meant that projects could begin and July saw parties of four and five members venturing off to various parts of the area in search of plants and animals. The establishment of essential food dumps to re-supply such parties was a major task and caused a considerable number of days to be lost from the scientific programme. The weather gradually improved to bring sunny days which could be as warm as any English summer day. But the warmth soon brought out the mosquitoes in their hoards and many extra miles would be made to avoid their insatiable desire for human flesh.

For a part of the world seemingly so barren and hostile, the richness of life was astounding. As if by some magic, plants would suddenly appear to replace the melting snowfields with colourful meadows. The skies would become filled with the sounds of birds, returning to their traditional breeding grounds after a long migration. Even the large shaggy musk-ox, arctic hare with its pure white coat, and the beautifully coloured moths and butterflies brought life to this apparently desolate land.

They all gave us some aspect to study and even the most ignorant naturalist among us couldn't help but learn something. In addition, the terrain provided unequalled opportunities for skiing, mountaineering and walking . . . *ad infinitum*.

The last month of the expedition was devoted almost entirely to back packing essential stores out of the area, as well as walking ourselves back to

Mestersvig to catch the homeward bound plane. Even a place like Greenland is not free from 'industrial' disruptions and an untimely strike by the Danish radio-operators threatened our departure—a most unpopular action after three months of waiting! But, thankfully, our plane departed on time and as a final farewell flew over the land that had been our home for three months.

To conclude by saying the Expedition was an 'experience that few of us will forget' would be an apt but superficial comment. The comradeship, the training, the problems and solutions that were met and overcome, all contributed towards the success of the Expedition. It provided a superb opportunity to find out not only about the land one visited but also about oneself and one's fellow comrades. It held many surprises and any future ventures of the like can be heartily recommended to prospective expeditioners.

It only remains for me to offer my thanks to Lt Col Greenway and Lt Col Bray for giving me every encouragement, assistance, and above all, permission to 'escape' from my duties for the duration of the Expedition.

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1st Battalion

COMMANDING OFFICERS INTRODUCTION

As I write we are entering the fourth and final month of our tour in Londonderry; a tour, unlike most of its predecessors, that is proving remarkable for what has not happened rather than what has. During our first month there was no single incident of major significance and we were able to devote our time to acquiring a good knowledge of our area with emphasis on developing good relations with the local people. It was inevitable that there would be an increase in violence during August, the period of emotive anniversaries and marches and this year the Queen's visit. Despite some shooting and rioting events were skilfully contained by our men and we emerged from this difficult period with great credit.

We have had one tragedy. On August 26 Pte John from Huddersfield was shot in the head during an attack on one of the city checkpoints. He is still very seriously ill in hospital. To his parents, who spent nine days in Ulster and earned our great respect for their courage, and to his young sisters, goes our most sincere sympathy.

On September 1 a redeployment of units left us responsible for everything west of the River Foyle with Ajax Sqn 2 RTR and a company of 2nd Coldstream Guards under command. Thus for the first time in this campaign the City of Londonderry and the country between it and the border are under one battalion headquarters: a significant comment on the progress towards a restoration of peace.

Beneath the surface there is still plenty of potential for trouble which demands a high degree of alertness from our men. With little excitement, a very large number of static commitments, and patrolling methods designed to build good community relations rather than deter the terrorist, it is not easy to remain alert. However, we are not only doing so but doing so cheerfully, and there is a general acceptance that we have a challenging and worthwhile job to do.

For the future, because the RUC are not accepted in the Catholic estates, the Army is going to be here for longer and in greater numbers than the level of violence justifies. Thus we are faced with the dilemma of how, with our inappropriate organisation, training and operating methods, to become increasingly like a police force.

Lastly I would like to pay a special tribute to those who we have left behind in Minden, both wives and the men of the rear party. Countless activities have been arranged to keep everyone happy and judging by the almost total absence of problems a remarkable degree of success has been achieved. All concerned will deserve a well earned rest when we get home.

OFFICERS MESS

During the Londonderry tour the Mess has been

divided. In Echelon at Fort George the Q Staff have been subjected to the misery of living in a real Officers Mess with its own staff, kitchens and functions. All this courtesy of 1 RTR and later 2 RTR. John Dixon and Ewan Simmonds moved from Bridge and Waterloo respectively to take up regal residence at Fort George.

At Strand Road Tac HQ have entertained many visitors. These have included members of the RUC, local civilians and numerous official military visitors. Tac have also had the pleasant opportunity of entertaining several 'Dukes'. On September 12 we saw five 'Dukes' serving Lieutenant Colonels in the Mess. Lt Col Micky Bray decided it would be something of an occasion to host Lt Cols Rodney Harms from HQNI, Robin Stevens commanding 2 UDR, Jeremy Cumberlege commanding 7 UDR and Mike Campbell-Lamerton commanding 9 UDR. On September 23 Col C. R. T. Cumberlege father of the two serving officers came to lunch. It was good to see him again in the Mess. Cpl Hayton has, with able assistance from Pte Peake, looked after us all well and both deserves a pat on the back for their efforts.

Up at Creggan, where they are all suffering from altitude sickness, there have been some memorable evenings . . . apparently. However, since the PMC has not sent in his notes there isn't a great deal more to be said. The Combined Mess has, however, thrived and continues to do so.

The Masonic Gourmets have definitely achieved a name for themselves under the Haute Cuisine instruction of the gated Mike Stone (next Food Member in Minden). Stupid boy! He has been supported well by Cpl Kay and the boys in the Cookhouse. The many and varied guests to Masonic have all been highly complimentary about the standard of entertainment at Alma. PMC Tac HQ is not, however, convinced as to the foundation of such praises.

At Bridge we find the Londonderry High Tea Boys (LHTB). The Combined Officers/Sergeants Mess has thrived well on evening meals in the middle of the afternoon and an occasional beer.

When we return to Minden we will have a much larger Mess for here in Ulster we have welcomed Peter 'Dog Kennel' Harvey to Alma, Tim 'Sangar' Coburn to Burma and Malcolm Pake to Corunna. There will be others back from courses giving a total of 17 living-in members. Departures have on the other hand been few. Mark Burton left the Dukes in August for university and we wish him well.

We are all now looking forward to amalgamating once again in Minden and having a few good parties before going on Christmas leave.

SERGEANTS MESS

Since most of the period covered has been spent in Londonderry, news from the Mess is very sparse.

First of all we would like to congratulate the recipients of the Queens Jubilee Medal which included the following Mess Members: WO2 Graham Clarke, WO2 Frank Parkinson, Ssgt Mitch Shell Drake (REME), Sgt Brian Nash. A special Congratulations from the TQMS goes to Ssgt Sid Almond who received his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal on the same day. The medals were presented by the Colonel of the Regiment at Sennelager where it was discovered he had a taste for a certain RED Wine during a Saturday lunchtime social gathering.

With the pressures of Northern Ireland being so great, life in the location messes is very quiet. Although it is worth a mention that Echelon do try hard to keep the intake of draught beer up to an acceptable level, all other locations messes are on tinned beer (two cans a day). The Alma Coy contingent have been given the name of 'The Masonic Monk's', although a certain Staff Sergeant from there recently had an operation which was not quite in keeping with Monastic life.

CSM Alan Simpson, because this is his sixth tour in the province, was selected by the Commanding Officer to do an interview for the *Daily Mirror* on the day of the Apprentice Boys March. When the article eventually came to print he was called the 'Sad Sergeant Major'. The feeling amongst his fellow Mess members is that because he is having to do the duties of CSM and CQMS he hasn't got a great deal to smile about!

Life in the Mess at Tac HQ has been improved by the introduction of games of culture such as Bridge, Whist and Chess, the person responsible for this being an elderly Staff Sergeant who is deaf in his right ear.

On the promotion side congratulations are in order for: Alan Simpson, Geoff Cookson and Sam Basu to WO2, Geoff Robson, Vinny Pye and Dave Dickens to Staff Sergeant, Keith Lister, Barry Sherratt, Terry Butterworth and Colin Wykes to Sergeant.

Finally we would like to say farewell to: ORQMS John Russell-Manion, Ssgt Roger Weston (RAPC), Ssgt Vince Dykes (REME) and Sgt Brian Wilson who leave for civilian life, and Sgt Clive Austin (ACC) on posting.

TAC HQ

We have in this Portakabin Paradise an interesting collection of humanity. We are collectively called Tac HQ and are nothing less than the nerve centre of the Battalion known affectionately as base rats and other less endearing names. We are an unusual breed compared to the warriors.

We wear desert boots because 'boots urban' give us blisters. We have people working for us called PROs and CROs who are really army officers not members of the oldest profession and inmates of aviaries.

In the radio room we type out pornographic poems on highly sophisticated teleprinters. Thick Thack shows movies to late night junkies returning from the operations room where they have been subjected to an overdose of the Ops Officer and bleeps from the Bid (49 per minute).

In the Intelligence Section people crowd round the photocopier and mess it up. Emelet drives anyone verging on sanity into the welcoming arms of lunacy by walking up and down the echoing corridors in metal clipped leather soled shoes (a desert boot rebel).

We have a normal (?) Battalion HQ set up consisting of a well photographed CO and a re-structured 2IC and Adjutant. The RSM is also our search advisor and has only found himself a portacabin so far. This is now his office which he never uses. The Chief Clerk runs the dis-Orderly Room which is used mainly as a hiding place for the Officers Mess staff.

Anything goes here. Tac HQ Coy office is also a Royal Military Police re-arrest centre. As a result no one comes to see us (not even the Tac HQ Company Commander). Believe me folks there is no truth in the rumour that we run pre-Nettley training courses here.

The cookhouse contains ovens made in Canada which were destined for use in the desert, ended up in Ulster and can't be provided with spares. Oh! and they don't work—well, not very well anyway.

Our big day is Sunday. Church and clean sheets. Now and again and again and again we have visitors. Two of them left us jibbering, weak at the knees, curiously excited and puzzled as to what they were. Some normal human beings have since told us they were w-o-m-e-n (can't be sure of the spelling as it is so long since we have heard of this species).

We have been told that we are leaving London-derry in less than four weeks—cries of shame! shame! and go back to Minden. Tac HQ will be no more and we'll merge once again with Echelon and detachments to companies to become—wait for it—Hook Coy, great cheers and clapping and cries of more!

Guess what? we get two more platoons on restructuring. Real fighting troops in the form of Mortars and Anti tank platoons. Guess what happens then. We go on exercise and get split up again. You've got to believe it though—we're looking forward to it.

ALMA COMPANY

As Northern Ireland tours go this has been a quiet one, although I think Alma Coy can safely claim to have had to manage the busiest and most varied area of the three rifle companies. Not only do we have a 'hard area' but we also have the city and most of its many checkpoints with all that that implies—the bomb hoaxes because employees want to go home early, the nightly procession of drunks molesting soldiers and the more serious incidents, the genuine bombs and the shooting attacks, thankfully few so far. Being static locations the checkpoints and their personnel are easier targets which the terrorist know are always there. The terrorists can take their time on their reconnaissances, and choose their moment, in a way which is not possible when planning an attack on a patrol which is made up of several small groups of men, moving in a seemingly random way, at

unpredictable times, and in unpredictable places.

It was in such an attack on a checkpoint that the Battalion suffered its one serious casualty of the tour to date, the shooting of Pte Michael John, Alma Coy, in the head at the Butcher Gate Checkpoint. He remains very seriously ill. The company sends its deepest sympathy to his family and urges all ranks not to forget him or his family even though we are miles away in another country.

On the brighter side, we will be back in Germany by the time this edition of THE IRON DUKE is read. The tour will be history—except for those involved in the interminable court cases—and there

will be many memories. Will they be of the visits of those delectable birds, the reporter from Halifax and the Dukes pin up, who stole everybody's hearts, or will they be of the 72-hour cordon mostly in the rain, mounted on the bombed Gainsborough Bar?

With the restructuring of the Battalion to the 650 establishment there will be many changes in the Company. There are those, like the Mortar Platoon, who joined us just for the tour, and there are those who leave after many loyal years with Alma. To them all, too numerous to mention, farewell, and to those who are due to join, welcome.



Alma Company prepare for the Fray

Maj Johnny Walker 'briefing' members of Burma Coy



Burma Company CSE Show.
A welcome break to the
monotony



MORTAR PLATOON

Over the past few months the Mortar Platoon has found itself in the unusual position of having a rifle Company attached to it, namely the 'Alma'. So far the tour has had both interesting and quiet periods, both of which the Platoon has met with its usual efficiency. One of the highlights was the nights of rioting during early August. These were soon followed up by numerous retrospective arrests due to good recognition by certain Platoon members. (Not more arrests by the Mortars . . . !) We gather the TQMS spent many an hour trying to keep tally on the number of baton rounds fired by the platoon during the 'disturbances'.

We've all found many an amusing moment during the tour to keep morale sky high. To mention these would take up valuable space so we'll only recall one in particular. The section

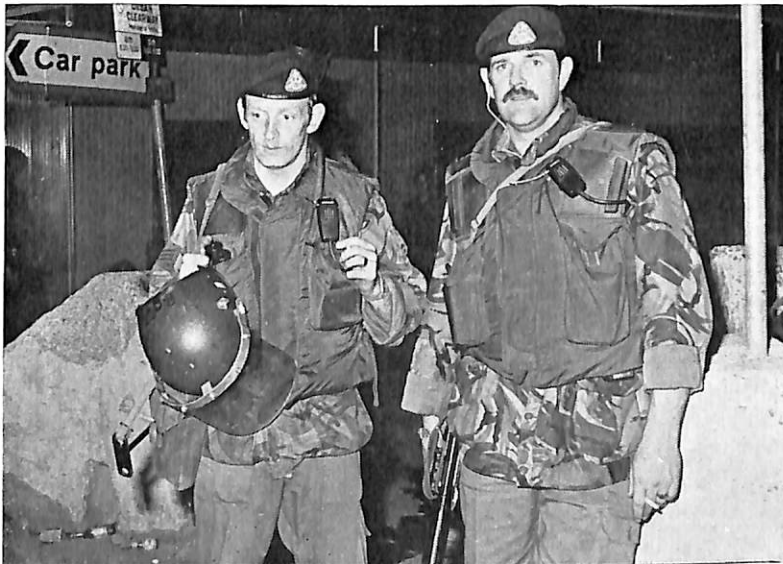
involved inevitably was 51C commanded by the one and only Cpl 'Doc' Sweeney. The scene is the Patrol stopping a 'gentleman' in a hurry, who was decidedly nervous and warranted (in the commander's opinion) 'P' checking.

Comd—'Just a moment could I have your name and address please'.

Paddy—'I'm in a rush to catch the 3.30 at Newbury'.

Comd—'Won't keep you a moment . . . providing you co-operate'.

The 'P' check was sent and eventually the 'gentleman' was allowed to go his merry way. On the following patrol the aforementioned commander was tapped on the shoulder by the same 'gentleman' with the remark 'Forty bloody quid your 'p' check cost me—seven to one .it won at!'



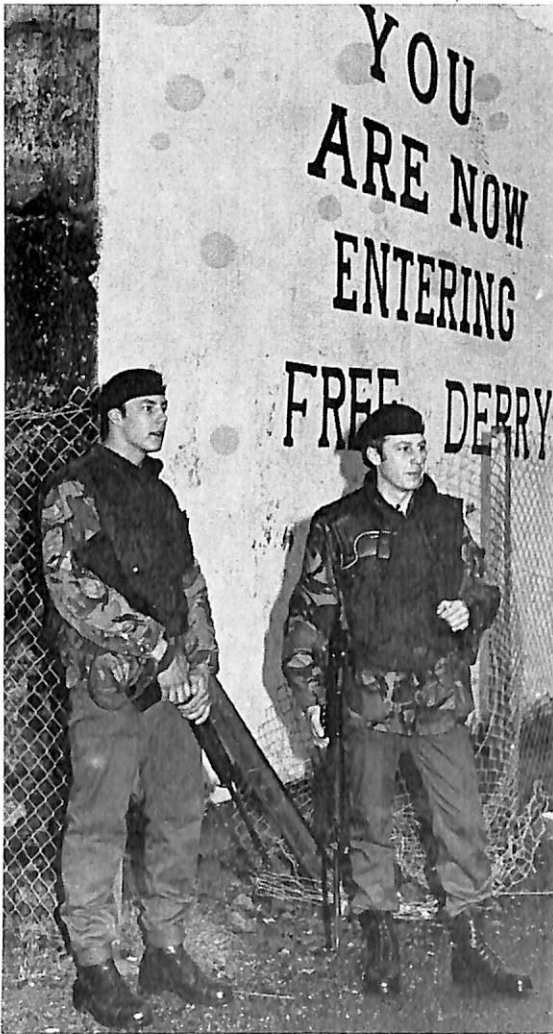
Sgt Terry Cooper and Ssgt Dave Dickens take a respite during the mini-riot in William Street

CORUNNA COMPANY

As these notes are being written Corunna Coy has only got four more weeks in the Brandywell before we return to Minden where our first priority will be restructuring; from the amount of paper produced by Battalion Headquarters and lengthy conferences which have lasted well into the early hours, restructuring will be more of a problem for us than the IRA were!

By way of a change each platoon in the Company has written notes which cover various aspects of life in Northern Ireland and include the training side as well.

Because of restructuring, we are not going to include a 'welcome and farewell' to the company as a lot of the facts may be out of date by the time THE IRON DUKE is published. However, we would like to say farewell and thank you to just one person—WO2 Toplis who is now CSM of Hook Coy.



2 Lt Peter Harvey celebrates his 21st Birthday with his Company Commander, Maj Peter Andrews

Finally we would like to congratulate Cpl and Mrs Elwell on the birth of their son Andrew Philip, Lcpl and Mrs Chapman on the birth of their daughter Rebecca.

Corunna Company's Tactical Area of Responsibility - by 7 Platoon

Nobody would pretend that the Brandywell is what it used to be in the reign of the present CO as OC Bridge camp. Machine gun battles raged regularly between the cemetery and Barrack Street. There is an old man in Windmill Terrace who will tell you that at one time (1914, 1916, 1921—one of those dates anyway) a 'Kietie regiment' used to put out seats on Barrack Street to watch the showdowns on Lecky Road. He tells of squads of IRA men marching down Carlisle Road with rifles at the high port, and soldiers lying in the roads firing wildly into the crowds. Nowadays one is lucky to get stoned by an eight-year-old.

With the lull in terrorist activity has come reconstruction in one of Londonderry's worst areas of slum housing. The new estates, Foyle Park, Ardfoyle, Quarry Street, Brandywell Court, Glendarra and Coshown have provided jobs for the boys and houses in plenty. The quality of accommodation is impressive. Meanwhile the old strongholds are decaying and with them the locals venom. Resettlement may not be the whole answer for tribal patches such as this, but you can't beat it for changing the shape of a hard area. Somehow terrorism and a comfortable house in the Ardfoyle don't go together.

But rehousing in the Well is not the end of it. The new Protestant housing project of the Fountains on the site of the old prison sits provocatively on the crest overlooking the Bog. The edge of the Foyle has been progressively cleared also, as the decline in shipping has made way for redevelopment.

The money seems to be ever available, even though jobs apparently are not. The 'brew' provides the national industry and as shirt factories close, and supermarkets take their place, Londonderry is less on the verge of an industrial boom than ever. To that extent things have not changed.

Cash after all is not hard to come by. There's the local councillor who, from his honest day's takings as a bus driver purchased two £20,000 coaches—with real live folding stuff! Only an Irish councillor though could set up the 'Brow O' the Hill' travel company in the depths of the Brandywell.

But while all this was taking place, whatever happened to the hard men? They huffed and puffed and plotted and planned, but beating apathy was not as easy as shooting the security forces.

Maybe they will be shooting one another next. We could set up those chairs on the new Barrack Street flyover with a hotline to the Brandywell Road bookies for the odds. Something dramatic must happen if local feeling is to be reinvigorated. It is too easy now to go into houses and talk where once a kneecapping was too much of a threat for that.

Brandywell people acknowledge soldiers cheerfully and there are hints of tea—stops on the horizon. At least they would be a novelty. Meanwhile the threat of a snipe from outside our area inwards has meant that no patrol could ever relax but the patch controlled by Bridge camp can not have known such a period of calm in years.

Static Duties by 8 Platoon

Much of the time of the Company is spent on so-called static duties. These are basically of two types—the papas (so called because of their radio call signs) and the border checkpoint. The papas check the movement of people and vehicles wishing to travel into the old part of the city of Londonderry which is completely encircled by the city walls. This part of the city is the main shopping precinct and in the past has been a prime target for terrorist car bombs and incendiary devices. As usual the task that faces the Army is not an easy one. Inconvenience to the ordinary citizen must be kept to a minimum yet the searching must be thorough enough to deter the wouldbe terrorist. Problems also arise with some of the shopkeepers who see the checkpoints as a mixed blessing since they both protect their property but perhaps also deter the shopper who finds it harder to find a parking space or move freely about the city.

Most of the searching is now done by members of the Civilian Search Unit which means that the Army's main responsibilities are reduced to overseeing the checking, and guarding the checkpoint. The citizens also find it less objectionable to be checked by a fellow member of the community rather than a member of the armed forces. Most of the checkpoints are manned 24 hours a day and, as you can imagine, life on the checkpoint can begin to lose its interest in the small hours when there's not a soul in sight and the rain has begun to fall. A shift system is worked so everyone gets their fair share. However, it is indeed an opportunity to meet a wide range of people some of whom ask for advice about parking cars or where a certain street is, or in contrast, the complete run down of the life history of someone who has had a little too much to drink!

Corunna Coy is also responsible for one of the vehicle checkpoints near the border with the south. The purpose of this checkpoint is to detain wanted people and identify stolen vehicles. Also by searching selected cars a look out is kept for illegal arms, ammunition, explosives and any other nasty equipment likely to be useful to the terrorist. Last and by no means least every effort is made to talk with the people who pass through the checkpoint to obtain information about terrorist activities. The checkpoint is manned by half a platoon and is self contained. A wider spectrum of people is encountered at this checkpoint including the local farmers, many of whom regularly pass through.

Training for Northern Ireland by 9 Platoon

Yes, the word got out from Minden, not only had most (some anyway) of the Dukes returned from leave but the following day had left camp in a convoy of buses, four tonners, cars and bicycles

to begin training for the Ulster summer campaign.

Corunna, with their customary ease, digested every word of the lectures of the NITAT team on all aspects of the situation in Londonderry. No doubt during the lectures the old lags found memories stirring of the many fond friendships they made in the Brandywell the last time they were there. Even better, the NITAT team assured us that the natives were even friendlier now!

Lectures over, the real work began. We then concentrated on the three most important aspects of our work in Ulster. (1) The preparedness of patrol commanders (bricks, ugh!) to react to all situations, (2) Ensuring that everyone had the ability and confidence to shoot straight when called upon to do so and (3) Practising the art of patrolling in an urban situation.

The task of learning such lessons was greatly eased by the tremendous facilities provided by NITAT at Sennelager.

Other lessons too had to be learnt. Have you any idea of the difficulty of trying to teach a Yorkshireman to say 'As a member of Her Majesty's Forces I arrest you'—it was like convincing a polar bear to take a holiday in the Sahara desert. Also the intricate wording of the Yellow Card had to be fully understood, a method of giving a description remembered and faces on photographs retained.

The most realistic piece of preparation was provided by the Quartermaster. He ensured that in common with Irish weather, we were provided with tropical sunshine, drenching rain, blinding lightning and deafening thunder throughout our training.

By the end of June, Corunna was ready to take on the world, so what hope was there for our many old friends in the Brandywell?

Life in the Camp by the Anti Tank Platoon

Bridge Camp will not be listed in Thompson's Holiday brochure for 1978 but due to a lot of hard work by members of Corunna Coy, it has been made quite comfortable and perfectly adequate for our tour in Londonderry. Life in the camp hinges around the platoon lines, where due to the amount of hours worked, a lot of time is spent either sleeping or relaxing. Each platoon block has a television, easy chairs and an area where cards or other table games can be played. With the continual change of shifts, noise is generally kept to a minimum so those who wish to sleep can do so without being disturbed.

Relaxation is not restricted to platoon lines as within the camp there are other forms of entertainment facilities. Five nights a week the cookhouse is transformed into a cinema and modern films are shown to a normally large and captive audience. Shopping trips into the town centre are now a part of camp life but soldiers have to go out in groups of four and are restricted to afternoon shopping only. On the sport side, Bridge Camp is fortunate in having a multi-gym which if used properly is a very good way of keeping fit or for letting off steam! There is also an outdoor volley ball court which when weather permits is in frequent use.

Within the camp there is also a small shop run by a group of Pakistani's who are affectionally known as the Chogi Wallahs. They provide a good service and stock a wide range of goods from cups of coffee to large cuddly toys. A review of life in the camp cannot be complete without a few words of praise for the ACC cooks who have managed to feed us in excellent style.

Sport in the Battalion

BATTALION SOCCER

After a successful season last year it was important that the preparation for this year was good, to continue our winning ways and make further progress. However, difficulties have been doubled by the fact that all preparations have taken place during a four month tour of Northern Ireland.

Training has taken place every Sunday, and Coys responded very well in releasing players for these training sessions. Morale has been high, partly due to success in three friendly games which were arranged. These were against the RTR, RUC and Coldstream Guards. The first two games turned out to be very easy indeed, and we won very comfortably by 17—1 and 10—1 respectively. After these two games, which served to build up our confidence, the game against the Coldstream Guards turned out to be more of a challenge and ended as a 2—2 draw.

The draw for the Army Cup, 1st Round, was eagerly awaited by all, however, the smiles were soon wiped from our faces when we were drawn against last years finalists, 1 Black Watch, away. This match was played at Ballykinler on October 7, and although the team never stopped running and trying throughout the game we lost 6—1 to a very good Black Watch team.

We are now in the last month of our tour here, and the team is looking forward to playing in the 4 Division Premier League North. This is the League we won last season, and we hope to do it again this season. We have also entered the 4 Division Cup and the Infantry Cup.

The month of November sees the departure of WO2 Lawrence to 1 Yorks, and WO1 (RSM) Hughes will take on the duties of Battalion Soccer Officer. We wish him every success for the coming season.

DUKES RUGBY

Battalion Colours for Season 1976-77

Maj Don Palmer, Lt Murray Colville, Cpl Deck Allen, LCpls Sam Fleary, Lee Patten, Pte Dexter Landell.

Dukes Rugby has got off to an excellent start this season despite being in Northern Ireland. The Commanding Officer has placed a high priority in winning the Army Cup this year. Maj Peter Andrews has been appointed Officer in Charge of Rugby, Capt Tim Sinclair has been appointed rugby Captain with WO2 Peter Robinson as his Vice-Captain. Capt Chris Gilbert has retired from rugby but has picked up the coaching mantle. TQMS Conley is the fixtures secretary.

So far this season we have played six matches and won them all. We have scored 264 points and conceded 45 points. The team is playing with more fire and determination than it has done for several seasons and we are looking forward with confidence to the first round of the Army cup in which we have to play the 2nd Bn the Coldstream Guards in Londonderry.

Results

- 1 DWR 82 pts—Water Rats 3 pts
- 1 DWR 26 pts—Ballymena A 17 pts
- 1 DWR 29 pts—Civil Service 12 pts
- 1 DWR 35 pts—City of Derry A 3 pts
- 1 DWR 32 pts—Coleraine A 7 pts
- 1 DWR 60 pts—Ulster Ancients 3 pts

SUB-AQUA

Having spent the last four months in Northern Ireland, a lot of people will be surprised to find these notes. Well, when you are as dedicated as we are, you will do almost anything.

Having gone to great lengths and used up a lot of favours, we managed to smuggle two sets of diving gear into the Creggan. To the rear of this notorious housing estate are two reservoirs. It was thought they might be used as a possible dump. Working on this theory, Sgt Twigg Hutchinson and Pte Les Cooper, working with 5 Platoon Burma Coy, went swimming. Seeing was believing, a pig unloading two figures in wetsuits and flak jackets on Shaws lane. The locals were, to say the least, surprised and a bit baffled. The search was carried out with one diver in the water and the other acting as tender to the life line ashore. Using this method both reservoirs were searched, to a depth of 25ft and about 25—30ft out from shore. A few interesting items were discovered, and numerous possible hides were located and logged.

The most significant find consisted of a variety of tools, a small wrist watch, and a rubber bullet. All were wrapped up in a tri-colour and secured in polythene. We also found a hatchet. The Drum Major, who was our outer sniper protection, reported this fact to C/S 2 saying, 'We have an atchet' a short pause C/S 2 replied 'Send date of birth of Miss Anne Atchet'. During this operation we earned our present radio appointment title of 'Water Babies'.

Still undeterred by inclement weather, Cpl John Cockshot and Sgt 'Twigg' Hutchinson managed to 'scrounge' a day off and visited some friends in Portstewart. Needless to say the diving equipment went along. As the afternoon brightened, the two were last seen entering the choppy waters of the Blue Pool, in Portrush. This turned out to be a most lively kelp bed. As they were examining a particularly large sea urchin. J.C. became very agitated, and began attracting attention to a rather large charcoal coloured tail. After a closer examination from a safe distance, it was discovered that they had stumbled on to a large conger eel. J.C. normally very curious and always poking things, decided (quite rightly) not to play with this very sharp toothed predator.

During the tour we have managed to make use of Ballykelly swimming pool, to get a few interested persons initiated in the art of surviving underwater.

In 1978 we can look forward to an interesting season, with expeditions to Denmark, though at the moment these are still in the planning stage.

OUR WONDERFUL WELLIE JILL MATHEWSON

Miss Duke of Wellington's Regiment for this year is Jill Mathewson aged 20 from Wibsey near Bradford. She was 'spotted' on Seaside Special and invited to become our Pin-Up. She works as a part-time secretary and fills the remainder of her time as a photographic model.

She was an instant success when she visited the Battalion in Londonderry in October. She visited all the Company Locations as well as Tac HQ and Echelon. She was invited to judge Alma Coys 'Mr Masonic' and 'Mr Knobbly Knees' Competition which she did with much muscle-feeling. She was taken up in Burma Coys helicopter and taken on a patrol by Land Rover courtesy of Corunna Coy.

She accompanied the Commanding Officer when he flew to Lisburn to watch the 1st XV play an Ulster Select XV. Having Jill on the touchline worked wonders for the team who ran out winners by 60pts to 3pts! She weathered the storm in the post-match celebrations and flew back to Yorkshire the next day, very tired after an extremely hectic visit. She will be visiting the Battalion in Minden in the spring.

In Civilian Life



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Our Wonderful Wellie—Escorted by Pte Miles (Corruna)

REGIMENTAL BAND

Summer 1977 has been a busy season for the Band. Apart from fulfilling Rear Party Duties, we have managed to fit in 60 concerts, two weeks in Sennelager rehearsing for the Jubilee Review of the Army, and a rapid tour of England and Northern Ireland.

The season began in April with two concerts in the Gymnasium for the entertainment of the young children from the local Army Schools. The next weeks were three concerts for the occasion of dining out our previous Commanding Officer, Lt Col J. B. K. Greenway, MBE. These concerts took place in, the Sergeants Mess, the Officers Mess, and the Brigade Officers Mess.

With the arrival of the month of May, the Band had two weeks leave and we all dispersed to various corners of Europe.

Upon our return, we performed early in June at the 'Miss BAOR Competition', in Elizabeth Barracks. At least, it guaranteed us a good view of the lovely ladies partaking in the show.

A trio of Massed Bands Displays was our next commitment. Hamburg on June 7, Hannover on June 8, and Verden on June 10. The parade at Verden unfortunately did not take place quite as planned. Due to inclement weather, a wet weather programme was provided which amounted to one Band performing a concert in the Officers Mess while the remainder of the Bands took refuge in the cellars of nearby buildings.

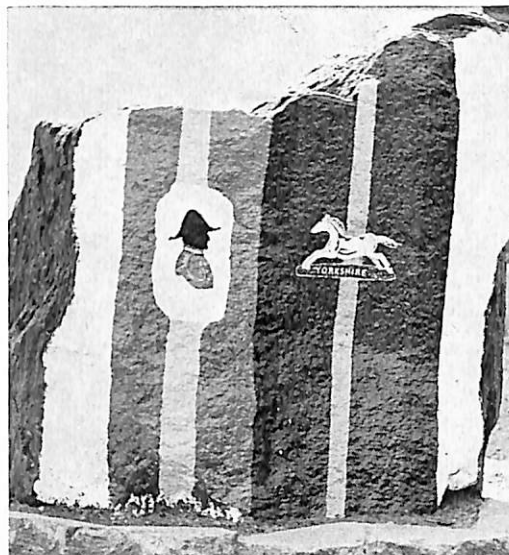
On June 19 we departed for Hannover again, this time to attend the Hannover Schutzenfest which turned out to be a very enjoyable day. Our large Dance Band travelled to Gottingen for an evening dance on June 24.

The following day, we marched around Leteln near Minden. This was another Schutzenfest engagement and we therefore received ample supplies of liquid refreshment to help us out on the long march. After the march, the Bandmaster was presented with a handsome trophy by the Chairman of the Shooting Club.

On June 26, we departed for a spell in the luxury of the Sennelager Training Camp. We formed a small section of the 700 musicians on parade for the Queen's Jubilee Review of the Army which took place on July 7.

A two day visit to Wilhelmshaven followed when the Band again formed part of the Massed Bands appearing in a Music Festival featuring many International Bands. Next came a concert in Lübeck, and two concerts at Bad Oeynhausen.

It was nice to see a Yorkshire football team in Germany. The occasion was a friendly match between the Army and Huddersfield which took place at Detmold at the end of July. We are not sure of the final score as it was necessary for us to depart after providing music at half time but in the first half, both teams seemed evenly matched and played some good football. Prior to the match, Bdsm Paddy Fairclough and John Arthington decided to revert to childhood and play on a nearby see-saw. Fairclough however being a little heavy managed to get Arthington about 6ft in the air clear of the see-saw. When he returned to earth



The Creggan Stone

(head first), we were almost minus one Bandsman.

More engagements followed. A day at Nienburg when the Band performed at an Anglo/German Fete. Another football match this time with Manchester United playing Bremen afforded the Band the chance to get a front seat for the game. Of course, we had to take our instruments also. Unfortunately, Manchester United lost 3 goals to 2, even though we played rousing music throughout the match.

On August 7, it was time to have a look at the East/West Border so we settled on a bus and travelled for six hours to the remote little village of Schnackenburg for an Anglo/German concert. The population of the village was practically doubled by the presence of the Band. After providing music for a couple of hours, we then settled back on the bus for the six-hour return journey, but alas! the bus died on us on the Autobahn and we had a three-hour wait for a replacement. All good fun really.

An overnight trip presented us with a problem. The Band had to perform a concert in Bad Lauterburg on August 13 in the evening. The following day we were working in Herborn. As both engagements happened to be in the same general direction, and a long way from Minden, it was decided to travel overnight on the bus. At about 6am, our German driver was amazed when we halted at Herborn to see the Band produce cooking stoves, frying pans, eggs and bacon and tea, etc. We did, however, manage to persuade him to join us for breakfast cooked at the side of the road.

Towards the end of August, we managed to fit in some more engagements. Two days for the Barkhausen Schutzenfest, one day at Stuttgart for the International Flower Show, and one day in Bielefeld.

Having finished in Bielefeld at 6pm on August 29, we then had to pack boxes the following morning and move to England for a few days. York was

our destination and once settled in, we commenced the tour with a Passing Out Parade at our own Divisional Depot, Strensall. September 3 was a special day for us as we attended the Centenary of the Opening of the Barracks, Wellesley Park, Halifax, our own Regimental Headquarters. The days events for us amounted to a Retreat Beating at Wellesley Park followed by a concert for the Old Comrades Dinner held in the Drill Hall. Our Dance Band provided music later on in the evening. It was nice to see so many of our former members of the Regiment in attendance.

On September 5 we departed for London in order to make a Record the following day. After a full day in the studio, the master tape was produced. Further details regarding the sale of the record will be issued when known. It is likely to be the end of the year before the record is released for sale. We are sure that all members of the Battalion will wish to place an order for a copy.

After the few days visit to England, it was a question of jump on a plane and arrive in Northern Ireland for a short visit. We travelled round all the Company locations providing concerts and backing for the cabaret shows which each Company produced. It was our pleasure to see the very high standard of the individual acts presented and it is obvious that there is a great deal of artistic talent

within the Battalion. We would like to offer our thanks to Maj (Padre) Peter Bailey for his participation in the shows throughout our tour.

We returned to Minden for Massed Bands at the end of September. This again was an Anglo/German Community Relations engagement and consisted of Bands, Corps of Drums, and decorated floats from the Regiments stationed in Minden. A procession through the streets of Minden in the morning was rounded off by a Floodlit Massed Bands Display in Westminster Barracks in the evening. Our own Bandmaster Mr Clarke had the 'pleasure' of organising the music and display.

We have recently said farewell to some old friends of the Band, Bdsms Paul and Linda Nicholson, Bdsms Kevin Fitzpatrick, and Lcpl Graham and Ann Irving. They have decided to try civilian life and we wish them all good luck for the future. Also Bdsms James and Jackie Dunning left us to join the 2nd Bn Royal Irish Rangers. We hope they are now settled in with their new Band. Bdsms Bob Mason has departed for a 12-month course at the School of Music, Kneller Hall. Finally, we extend our congratulations to Ssgt Keith (Sid) Almond on 'earning' the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, and last but not least, WO2 BSM Parkinson and Bdsms Barnes on being awarded a Jubilee Medal.

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

Since the last set of notes, our usual scribe, 2 Lt Robinson, has had an operation on his backside, from which he is currently recovering, and hopefully will be back in harness by the time this reaches print. It has thus fallen to my lot to write this issues newsletter, so here it is, blots, smudges, rubbings out and all.

Annual Camp was concluded by the Presentation of Colours Parade in York, which went amazingly well (must have been all the blood, sweat and tears we shed). The sun came out after the parade proper, which helped to create a wonderfully festive atmosphere, which honoured guests, relatives and friends appeared to enjoy immensely. Much has been written in other publications about the parade by journalists more skilled than I, so I am sure you need no more repetition.

Over the past few months we have provided many displays for local events and also taken part in the Centenary Celebrations of Wellesley Barracks, Halifax, thus doing our bit to keep the Army in the public eye.

In August we said 'Farewell and all the best for the future' to our Company 2IC, Captain, now Maj Mike Hawley, who has been posted to 'A' Coy (Keighley), and welcomed Lieutenant, now Capt Chris Bown, who is slowly being licked into shape and shows some promise, but only time will tell if he will make a Duke.

Our team is currently practising hard for Stainton Chase, and in September took part in the South Yorkshire March. This was run for the first time this year round the Barnsley area. Our team comfortably obtained their team award for the 20 mile march under the Divine Guidance of CSM Hickling.

Looking to the future a little. November looks pretty busy with yet another Bounty W/E at Strensall as well as the Masters Hike and Remembrance Parade in Huddersfield.

Decembers biggest event appears to be the posting in of our new PSI Ssgt Harding, when Ssgt Walker returns to the Regiment. Let's hope Ssgt Harding's reign will be equally successful.

Wellesley Company

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

Change of Command

Due to increasing business commitments, Maj Peter Tattersall has found it necessary to tender his resignation, and indeed his departure from Wellesley Coy coincided with the end of Annual Camp 1977. Maj Peter brought colour and flair into the Company and his tenure will be remembered for a long while by the incumbents of the Company—his contribution to the ACF has enriched the Force and we are grateful to him on behalf of members everywhere.

Maj John Tyler succeeds, and he is no stranger to the Company. He served with us up to some five years ago as Training Officer and Adjutant before departing to Bradford Area in a similar capacity. As a loyal 'Duke' he naturally remained badged as such and is now back in the fold and in the chair (or hot seat, as it has recently been suggested!). Maj Tyler is the Chief Quantity Surveyor to the Engineering Division of the City of Bradford Metropolitan Council, and has been overheard to comment that upon resuming his association with THE IRON DUKE, it is about time the ancient sport of Golf was featured in Dukes sporting circles—he promises to do his 'bit' (although one subaltern muttered something about 'we knew he'd be a handicap' the remark was allowed to pass for the time-being).

... other Comings and Goings

We say farewell to Capt Geoff Whittaker from Mirfield who resigns after some 23 years with the ACF; to Lt Ray Woodward and AUO John Davies who resign as Hipperholme Grammar School comes to close as a closed Unit; and finally to SI Paul Briggs from Keighley as he departs to join the Royal Engineers with a Commission in mind.

On the other side of the coin we bid an enthusiastic welcome to SMI Roughton (former Regular Army WO1) and SI Crampton who join Capt Douglas Bennett at Keighley, and to our former colleague SI Tom Gibson who returns to serve with our Skipton Detachment.

Annual Camp 1977

Camp for this year occurred at Haig Lines, Church Crookham, Aldershot, and another action-packed week emerged. Platoon training galore, 36-hour exercises, visits to Ghurka Units, shooting, Windsor trips, etc, brought a glow to the face and happiness to the 149 cadet ranks who came to share the event from Wellesley Coy. Being in the heart of Aldershot we had our share of VIP visits and the whole week was memorable. Ten keen and capable officers and 12 instructors of similar calibre made it their business to see that it was—171 on parade proves how the Company makes an impact wherever they are and whatever they do, but then, we are 235 strong numerically.

Company Training

Continues at the very high standard laid down by Capt Frank Fox our Training Officer. Lt Terry Bonds took a party to Bisley and a very creditable show was achieved. Halifax, Keighley and Thongsbridge represented the Area at the Yorkshire ACF Skill at Arms meeting during weekend October 1-2.

We were delighted to make our contribution to the celebrations designed to recognise the Centenary of the Opening and Occupation of Halifax Barracks and were most grateful for the opportunity afforded to us for our humble offering.

Cadet Walton of Halifax represented us and Yorkshire ACF in the Senior Pentathlon at Whitburn on October 1-2—a Regional meeting—well done young Walton your friendly personality and ability makes us proud of you.

Queen's Silver Jubilee

Lt Terry Bonds of our Halifax Detachment was selected by Calderdale Authority to attend the Dinner and Reception for Her Majesty The Queen and Prince Philip at Leeds Civic Hall on July 12. What a marvellous event for Terry and what a splendid ambassador for the ACF. Her Majesty spoke with him for quite a few minutes and was most interested in the swift precis he was able to offer. By coincidence so far as the Company was concerned, Maj Tyler was also at the Reception through a connection elsewhere in the County, and was able to share the occasion with his wife Brenda, Lt Col Kent of 4 (V) Bn The Parachute Regt TAVR, and Maj Chris Eager (then) OC of 269 Battery Royal Artillery TAVR from Leeds.

Keighley Detachment led by Capt Douglas Bennett joined 3rd Bn Yorkshire Volunteers in the Jubilee Parade at Bradford on September 3. The fact that the entire parade passed an 'empty dais' is now history but still occasions considerable embarrassment to the Official Party and most certainly created amusement for the onlooking public—let there be no doubt, the parade left exactly on time.

Company Band

'W' Coy are proud to announce their intention to resurrect the Band. SMI Brian Dolan, SMI P. Cole, Terry Bonds and others of the former Band are rallying round, and we have secured the agreement of Mr Jim Brooking to co-ordinate the tuition on a Sunday morning. Agreement is imminent at the time of writing these notes that the Mirfield Welfare Committee/Trustees will offer their Mirfield equipment on loan, and we are presently trying to locate other 'bits and pieces'. Items like mouthpieces are missing but we shall do our best to salvage anything going. If you have any band equipment lying around or any ancillary equipment then spare us a thought and ring the OC at Bradford

29577, ex 465—we'll collect from any Area of the country!

Clearly it will take us something like at least 12 months to teach basics, but have no fear we'll get

there on the good old principle of 'watch out there is a Duke about' and we mean business. Repeat—have you any old band equipment to give or loan us, we need your help very much.

NO 10 ARMY YOUTH TEAM

Since the last notes the 'Butlins Holiday Camp' in the Lake District has finished and its back to the task of going round schools and .22 shooting again. We appeared on television (well nearly, somebody nudged the cameraman and he looked the other way). We were attached to IRHA at the time (we're now all socially acceptable) on a pupil work experience week. A polite way of saying we played host to about 80 school children who were interested in joining the Army. It was an enlightening week but we had aged about 10 years by the end.

The highlight of September consisted of the centenary at Wellesley Park. Our main attraction was a climbing rescue performed by Cpls Anver and Hughes (see photograph). Quite a crowd appeared although they seemed more interested in the way Cpl Hughes was revived at the end of the rescue (beer of course).

No doubt many readers will have heard of the Youth Teams disbandment. This sad event happens to all Youth Teams by April 1978. At the moment we are still as busy as ever especially with schools around the Huddersfield and Halifax area.

Finally we would like to welcome Lcpl Butterworth who joined the Team in September and congratulate Lcpl Hughes on promotion to Corporal.



**Centenary of Halifax Barracks
'Cliff Rescue' by Cpls Anver and Hughes**

(Photo by kind permission of Huddersfield Examiner)

Soldiering in India—III

LIFE IN BARRACKS

Our return to Sandhurst Barracks from camp saw everyone engaged in the art of making the best of the facilities to hand. These were indeed few, if one considers the welfare and facilities provided in this day and age. There was no electricity and, as it became quite dark by 6pm lighting was one of our top priorities. The result was not dissimilar to that experienced in this country in 1974. Hurricane lamps, bedside lamps, petromax lamps (for the affluent of course), and paraffin lamps all very quickly disappeared from the canteen and the bazaar, some two miles away. The word 'canteen' keeps on cropping up so perhaps it had better be explained that in India the NAAFI was non-existent. The canteen was run by the Regimental contractor and later these various 'purveyors' of our needs formed the Canteen Contractors' Syndicate. They had a great affect on whatever money we had to spend. However, to proceed, it was not long before a 'table' appeared between each two bedcots, made up in the main from packing cases bought for a bargained price

from the canteen. One had to write letters home, to a girl-friend or one's homework from school. One had to shave unless the services of the 'nappi' (spelt phonetically) were engaged at a cost of four annas per week. Those barbers were super and many are the tales one could tell of their prowess, not only in shaving. Thus it was we made the barrack rooms more like 'home', for home it was in those days for a period varying from one's date of return to civil life or six years when one qualified for six months leave or transfer to the Home Establishment.

Sportwise we were lucky for we had an abundance of space. Each company had its soccer pitch. There were if again memory serves me well, three hockey pitches, a polo ground (for defaulters to weed and roll out). The Battalion parade ground also did duty for our athletic meetings and down in the Cantonment area there was a swimming pool, not quite as sumptuous as one could have wished but, for all that we held water-polo matches and competitions. For cricket, because of the nature of the

ground, coconut matting pitches were available. All in all we had nothing to complain of so far as sport was entailed.

There was a Regimental cinema which I believe was run by an ancient petrol motor, when it would start. Some weeks there were three different films, all 'silents' of course, and music was provided by a pianist and a violinist. The cinema cannot be passed over without mention of one particular incident. The regular pianist was unavailable so the violinist, who was quite good, 'talked into it' a substitute pianist, who was not so good. It was usual for officers, their wives and guests to sit on the 'stage' at the rear of the cinema and on this the piano was also placed. On the night of the 'incident' Lt (QM) Milner and his daughter and guests were present and seated on the stage. I repeat the violinist was good but the 'stand-in' pianist was pretty awful (downright rotten some said). It was usual for the music to fit the scene on the screen but the pianist was still playing the 'heavy' stuff from the 'Caliph of Baghdad' when the scene being shown was a hot love session. When the musicians next started up Mr Milner was heard to remark (in a truly ex-RSMs manner), 'Oh my god, not again' (exit the pianist for the rest of the night).

It was in the late evenings when darkness settled in that we all found that time hung heavily upon us. Now, after all these years, it seems ridiculous that grown men should be so childish as to play 'kids games'. But that is exactly what we did for one can read, study or write letters for only so long and then a change is needed. As many as a dozen of us would start a game of 'kick-it-and-run'. Do you know it? No, well times have changed. All that is required is an empty tin-can placed in a marked out circle or square and a person who is 'on'. Anyone takes an almighty kick at the can and the person who is 'on' has to retrieve it and place it back in the circle. Meanwhile the remainder of the players have run and found a hiding place. Having retrieved the tin-can the 'on' had to find the rest of the players. One night 'Joe' was on and some heathen had filled the can with small stones and Joe took the prescribed almighty kick at it. A couple of weeks or so afterwards he said it was a small price to pay for missing all parades and duties.

It was not all fun and games, however. Discipline was very strict, perhaps in some instances and circumstances more so than today. In the Band our various duties took up much of our time in preparing for them and carrying them out. Every Wednesday evening at 8pm we played at the Officers' Mess, and, were it a guest night, it may be two or two-thirty in the morning before we saw our beds. Monday night was the Gymkhana Club night and, of course, there were all normal Church, RSMs, Adjutants and COs parades along with an occasional route march thrown in for 'fitness' sake. Our boots which had been dubbined for camp were now to be, 'one pair dubbin and one pair highly polished for ceremonials'. This for many caused considerable problems, especially for those doing guards. Dubbin is grease and greasy boots just will not shine, no matter how much spit and polish

is used. One method to get rid of the dubbin was cover the boots in mud and put them in the sun to dry out. This over a period did extract a good deal of the grease but one had to rely on very understanding inspecting officers if one were not to be checked and collect the inevitable, 'seven days CB'.

Up to now the spirit of comradeship I have left unmentioned but without it no aspect of any type of service life would be complete. For a young soldier to be posted to the 'Duke's' 2nd Bn meant that he would serve the remainder of his 'Seven Years with the Colours' with them although he may move from one company to another. To live, eat, sleep and play with almost the same men for six or more years is a long time, no matter how independent one may wish to be. Comradeship I think was rife throughout the Battalion (and as each year has past since then the more I am convinced of it) and no man ever needed to be without a cigarette, a cup of 'char and a wad', a stamp to write home or simply someone to confide in. But 'comradeship' and 'friendship' are a little different I feel. A man may not have a so called friend in his company but, in a given set of circumstances, he would give his life for any man in that company. On the other hand friendships that I know of that were made in India 49 years ago still flourish. Happenings in war and peace may have interrupted them temporarily but they have taken up again where they were broken off—may have gained strength in fact by the interruption. Not all would agree with that reasoning.

At that period we were allowed, if one wished that is, to keep a pet. The 'pets' chosen were multi in number and variety. Some had monkeys of different sizes and types and some of these were, to put it mildly a nuisance in the extreme. One chap had one which stood about 2ft in height and built to measure—where he went the monkey went including the 'Wet Canteen' for a pint. Other chaps kept 'Homing' pigeons and it was not long before they had formed a 'Homing Pigeon Club' and had organised races. 'Tich' Chatfield and 'Johnny' Alton in the band were members of the club and, if I remember rightly they picked up a prize or two. Unfortunately a cat got into their pigeon cote one night and that was 'Ta-Ta' to the pigeons. 'Tich' also went into the chicken industry and made a few rupees on 'New Laid Eggs' until fowl pest took a hand in the game. Many chaps had pet dogs (of very doubtful lineage) but there were the odd one or two that were of good breeding. Our Lieutenant QM had a black spaniel which was really well trained and obedient. But the chap who really took 'the biscuit' was in the Drums and he was very aptly named 'Snakey'. At any one time he could be relied upon to have a collection (live) of centipedes, scorpions and an odd snake or two. Whether these could be termed 'pets' is debatable but one story regarding 'Snakey' that was reputedly authentic went like this. The Company Commander was carrying out his usual Saturday inspection of barrack rooms when coming to Snakey's bedcot he saw that the padlock was missing from his kit-box. This was unheard of, for we had to keep our rifle bolts and

magazines in the 'till' of the box, and was an offence certain to bring 'CB' at least. The officer asked the offender, 'Where is your padlock?' and the answer, 'I don't need it sir'. Whereupon the officer opened the box and immediately sprang back letting the lid fall with a resounding 'thwack'. For there, sure enough, nestling in the bottom of the box were a couple of snakes (afterwards 'Snakey' said, 'They were only whip-snakes'), and an assortment of centipedes and scorpions. He got seven days CB whether he needed a padlock or not—he also won a 10 rupees bet!

It would be unreasonable to close this short series without the mention of some of the Battalion's sporting achievements. These were the more meritorious because of the vast difference in the playing areas of India to the ones they had left behind in Singapore. At soccer the Battalion side twice reached the final of the 'Rover Cup' only to fail at the last hurdle as it were. Two years in succession the side won the Harwood League and the second time by winning all their 14 games. Such names as 'Studs' Sullivan, 'Tich' Knight, Cogan (in goal) and Alf Butterworth will never be forgotten by those who had the pleasure of seeing them play. The Battalion Cross-country team carried off the Deccan District Championship and on another occasion were 'runners-up'. At rugby our regimental side did quite well although, in those early years, they did not win a major trophy.

They did, however, reach the final of the All India Championship and the Poona Tournaments. Perhaps the most dramatic improvement in any sport was at hockey. The Indians at that time were supreme in the world of hockey and their dexterity and 'power' with the 'stick' was notorious. This of course 'rubbed-off' onto us at all levels, platoon, company and regimental sides all benefitting from playing against them. One of the then regimental side, 'Bobby' Byrne, was later capped for his country, Eire.

Having served in one capacity or another, since those early days, in peace and in war with other units of the 'line' I am firmly convinced that it was my very good fortune to be born in Halifax and therefore to join the 'Dukes'. But not all, by any manner of means, came from Halifax. When later Col Cox commanded the Battalion a soccer competition was run on a town basis. Sheffield had so many 'Townies' that they had a Sheffield Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and so on whilst the 'Cockneys' (I trust that they will forgive me) had Arsenal, Tottenham, Chelsea and others. Halifax, well we could just raise one team and went out in the very first round.

All in all they were happy enough days and ones which, Naturally, the good and happy days are long remembered. The 'not so happy' recede into the distance faster than 'Time' itself.

SAX

Obituary

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

Mr E. G. Jones, MSM

Mr Edgar Jones died suddenly at his home on September 18, 1977, at the age of 82.

Mr Jones, a native of Halifax, served with the 4th Bn in the first World War being awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, he was demobilised in the rank of Sergeant.

Edgar Jones was a prominent member of the 4th Bn Old Comrades Association and a past provincial rank holder in Freemasonry.

A district manager of the Halifax Building Society he retired in 1957.

He joined Halifax Special Constabulary in 1939 and became a divisional leader, succeeding Mr Fred Bentley as Commandant in 1949. He was awarded the British Empire Medal and the Special Constabulary Long Service Medal and bar and the Coronation Medal 1953 for his services.

Mrs O. Price

The death occurred on September 11, 1977, of Mrs Rose Margaret Price, wife of Lt Col Owen Price. Mrs Price was well beloved by many of the older members of the Regiment and had a great affection for the Regiment.

Mrs E. Lowther

Mrs Eileen Lowther, widow of Brig C. H. E. Lowther died at the home of her brother in Devon on October 8, 1977.

Mr J. A. Clegg

Mr John 'Archie' Clegg of 77 Snawthorn Grove, Castleford, Pontefract, died in Pontefract General Infirmary on October 25, 1977.

Archie Clegg was one of the dwindling band of ex-4th Bn soldiers who served in the first World War.

Maj T. Goodall, DSO, MC

Maj Tom Goodall died at his home, 22 Church Lane, Mirfield, on November 2, 1977, aged 95 years.

Maj Goodall had a distinguished career in the 2/5th Bn during the first World War being awarded the DSO and the MC. We hope to publish an obituary of the gallant officer in the next issue.

The funeral service took place at the Church of Christ the King, Battyeford, Mirfield, on Monday, November 7, followed by private cremation. The Colonel and all members of the Regiment were represented by the Assistant Regimental Secretary.

Maj A. Driver, DSO, MC

Maj Arthur Driver, of Flat 16, Briardene, Bolton Road, Silsden, Keighley, died on September 13, 1977, aged 87.

He served in the 2/6th and 9th Bns in the first World War reaching the rank of A/Lt Col and was awarded both the Distinguished Service Order and the Military Cross.

He was a member of the firm of Driver Bros Ltd, Silsden, and a director of the Silsden Building Society. Between the wars he was an inspector in the Special Constabulary and joined the Home Guard during the second World War.

He was a keen musician and a member of several local music societies.

Maj J. Pullan

Maj Joseph Pullan died at his home on September 20, 1977, at the age of 79.

Joe Pullan was educated at Clifton College and Royal Military College (as it then was) Sandhurst.

He joined the 2nd Bn in France and took part in the Battle of the Somme in 1916 of which he retained vivid memories.

After the war he was Signal Officer in the 2nd Bn at Collinstown, Co Dublin, during the Sinn Fein troubles of those days subsequently handing over to Lt Armitage. He resigned his commission in 1922 at the time of the Geddis Axe, and joined the Civil Service.

In 1940 he was recalled from RARO and joined the 8th Bn at Otley under Lt Col Armitage. He was soon promoted Captain and a few months later Major. On conversion to armour when the 8th Bn became 145 Regt Royal Armoured Corps, he continued to serve with them as OC HQ Sqn.

Joe Pullan was a good Regimental officer and it was probably a pity that he resigned his commission at an early age only to return in World War 2 when much older than most of his other brother officers.

He leaves a widow and two surviving sons.

Maj G. Parfitt, MBE, TD

Maj George Parfitt, of Delph Lodge, Delph, Oldham, died suddenly on December 7, 1977, aged 67. The funeral service held at St Thomas Church, Delph, on December 12 was attended by Maj J. S. Milligan, representing the Colonel in Chief, the Colonel and all members of the Regiment and many of his old regimental friends.

George Parfitt was a member of the Yorkshire Dragoons and was commissioned into the Duke of Wellington's Regt on the outbreak of War. He saw active service in Europe and served on Lord Mountbatten's staff in South East Asia, becoming an acting Lieutenant-Colonel and was awarded the MBE.

He joined the reformed 7 Bn The Duke of Wellington's Regt (TA) after the War and was awarded the Territorial Decoration.

We also regret to record the following deaths which have taken place since the date this issue was

due to be published. It is hoped to include obituaries of them in the April issue.

Mr H. Tandey, VC, DCM, MM

Mr Henry Tandey died at his home in Coventry on December 18, 1977, aged 86.

Col F. R. Armitage, OBE

Col 'Boy' Armitage died suddenly at his home in Camberley on December 18, 1977.

Col L. B. B. Beuttler, OBE

Col 'Bertie' Beuttler died suddenly at his home, Finca Villordo, Benalmadena, Pueblo, Malaga, Spain on January 20, 1978.

Maj T. Goodall, DSO, MC

Maj Tom Goodall died at his home in Mirfield on November 2, 1977, aged 95.

Maj C. S. Moxon, DSO

Maj Charles Stone Moxon died at his home in Huddersfield on January 5, 1978.

Mr W. H. Owens

Mr William Henry Owens died in the Royal Halifax Infirmary on December 11, 1977, aged 73.

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Footsteps**

**J/Ldr John Frear, son of Sgt
Bob Frear and J/Ldr David
Frear, son of ex-Lcpl Clifford
Frear**

Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion

SHORNCLIFFE

The middle of August indicated the end of a year's training for Dukes at the IJLB. On August 13 both Junior Leaders from Arnhem Coy and Junior Soldiers from Albuhera Coy passed out under the critical eye of the Vice-Chief of General Staff. After two weeks leave they were to report to the King's Division Depot prior to joining the rear party in Minden.

The highlight of the summer term was the three week battle camp at Otterburn, during which the final training and assessing, in both tactics and weapon handling, was completed. The climax was a five-day exercise which involved trekking round most of the training area, and was a test for the staff as well as the Juniors; as a bonus the weather was also miserable.

At the present moment the Christmas term is well under way. There are 15 Junior Leaders badged as Dukes at IJLB. Three of these are midway through their second term and spend much of the time away on External Leadership courses which are an integral part of their overall training. The remaining 12 are all in their first term and therefore are still deeply involved with basic training in and around the barracks.

The family connections with the Regiment continue to flourish. Junior Leader Terry is the nephew of ex-RSM Johnny Fee, who now manages a public house at Yeadon. J/Ldr Barker is the brother of Pte Dave Barker, who passed out from Shorncliffe in the summer, and the nephew of RQMS Bernie Coll. There are also two more

Frears here who are cousins. David, the elder in his second term, is the son of ex-Lcpl Clifford Frear who left the Dukes in 1974, and John is the son of Sgt Bob Frear who is serving with the Battalion. The remainder all have connections with the Regiment and come from the West Riding. We continually try to identify with the Battalion through photographs, newsletters and magazines and hope to arrange a visit sometime in the New Year.

DEPOT THE KING'S DIVISION

Living here at the Divisional Depot we are not limited in our experience to members of the Dukes, indeed we are obliged to work with members of every other Regiment in the Division, to my astonishment this task has not been too difficult. We do, however, have a fair number of Dukes here either as training staff or passing through on their way elsewhere. Amongst those posted here we have a few sportsmen of note, Lt Atkinson and Cpl Williams have helped to boost the Depot Rugby side and Cpl Lightfoot, though now somewhat overweight, has done some good for the Depot soccer team.

The task of training recruits remains stable, hard work but enjoyable, though it is true to say that almost everybody is looking forward to rejoining the Battalion.

Regimental Association

NEWS ITEMS—NOTES OF INTEREST

NOTICES

London and Home Counties Dinner, 1978

Saturday, May 13, 1978, at the Victory Club, Marble Arch, London, 7.30 for 8.0. Details and tickets (price will be £3.50) from Ken Waterman, 21 Vivian Court, 128-134 Maida Vale, London W9.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1977

1. The meeting this year, on September 3, was held in RHQ Wellesley Park, Halifax, during the afternoon of the Barracks Centenary Celebrations. The Colonel of the Regiment, Maj Gen D. E. Isles, OBE, presided.

2. Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held at Halifax, on Saturday, September 25, 1976 were read. It was proposed by Mr Horne and seconded by Maj McDonald that they be accepted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising. IRON DUKE.

The Chairman explained that ever rising costs of production had caused the Regimental Council and the Regimental Trustees to consider the question of reducing the number of issues to two per year. He requested the views of the meeting. The general opinion of the meeting was that the magazine should be kept at three issues per annum, if necessary with the help of Regimental Funds.

4. Accounts 1976-77

Copies of the accounts were available for perusal and had been circulated to Branches.

The Chairman reported they had been seen and approved by the Finance Committee and the Trustees.

Proposed by Mr Norman and seconded by Capt Rowlands that the accounts be passed.

5. General Secretary's Report

Mr Arthur Wood, the General Secretary reported:

(a) Welfare

131 cases had been helped during the year with grants totalling £4,325, an increase of 33 cases and £1,143 expenditure over 1976.

(b) OCA 'Special Allowance'

Six OCA members, or their wives, were in receipt of the 'special allowance' granted to members under the provisions of the Old Comrades Fund for ex-regular soldiers, or their widows, who had served with exceptional zeal during their service.

(c) Army Benevolent Fund Assistance

Aid in direct support of DWR totalled £3,747 against £2,158 in 1976.

(d) Holidays

Holidays for four ex-soldiers had been arranged at the Lord Kitchener Memorial Holiday Centre, Lowestoft.

(e) After-care—Soldiers invalided out of the Army and widows and dependents of those who die.

12 cases had been investigated during the year and help given in three cases.

(f) Finances

All funds were in a healthy state and this year's business had once again shown a surplus. Accounts had been checked and perused by the Finance Committee and the Trustees and all investments were at present being revised by a sub-committee with a view of transfers to better investments and investment of surplus cash. A copy of the audited accounts had been forwarded to all branches and further copies were available for scrutiny at this meeting.

(g) Branches and Branch Members

Branch activities and Regimental Functions, including the Reunion Dinner, London Dinner

Regimental Association Dinner

Left to right: Colonel of the Regiment, The Mayor, The Mayoress, Gen Sir Robert Bray

(Photo by kind permission of The Yorkshire Post)



and Regimental Service, had been very successful but there was still a poor response from the younger ex-soldier to join active branches. All members should try and introduce the younger ex-soldiers and get them actively involved.

ANNUAL REUNION AND DINNER, 1977

To round off the days celebrations to commemorate the Centenary of the opening of The Barracks, Halifax, over 200 members and friends sat down to dinner in Wellington Hall (Drill Hall), Prescott Street, Halifax, on September 3, 1977.

The President, The Colonel of the Regiment, Maj Gen D. E. Isles, OBE, was flanked by Regimental dignitaries including Gen Sir Robert Bray, Cols C. R. T. Cumberlege, J. Davidson, N. T. Bentley, G. Taylor, and a very welcome visitor Lt Col A. E. H. Sayers (OC Depot 1939-41). Representing the Metro Borough of Calderdale was the Mayor of Calderdale (Councillor E. Dennett).

Due to the hard work and efforts of Dave Hughes, soldiers and staff, the hall looked a fitting place for such a worthy gathering and the highlight of the day—our own 1st Battalion Band, under the conductorship of Bandmaster Clarke, in attendance.

Wined, splendidly fed and uplifted by the stirring music the gathering heard The Mayor, in proposing the Toast to the Regiment, say that

although he had served in the Royal Navy he was proud of the Dukes, his father having served with them. He spoke of the affection and esteem in which the people of Halifax regard their Regiment and how, throughout the years, they had proved their mettle both in peace and war.

The Colonel of the Regiment in his reply gave a report on the activities of the 1st Bn, now stationed in Northern Ireland, and of the links between Calderdale and our Regiment. He spoke of his younger days when playing rugby for Roundhay how the toughness of the Halifax/Dukes opposition impressed him and better 'if you can't beat em—join em'. (We all know his record from there.)

The Band resumed and the mood of the evening was started. As the tempo increased so did the laughter and cheers and when the Dance Band Section took over the room positively 'bounced' to their incredible sounds that soon had young and old alike shuffling/gyrating and shedding the years. The building, every bar, room and hall pulsed with an eager excitement of well-being radiated from the groups of 'humans' sitting, propping the bars, on the dance floor or just 'being there'.

The Centenary of The Dukes in Halifax, celebrated on September 3, 1977, ended with a befitting swing with the Old Comrades listening to 'The Wellesley' inimitably played by our own Regimental Band.

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