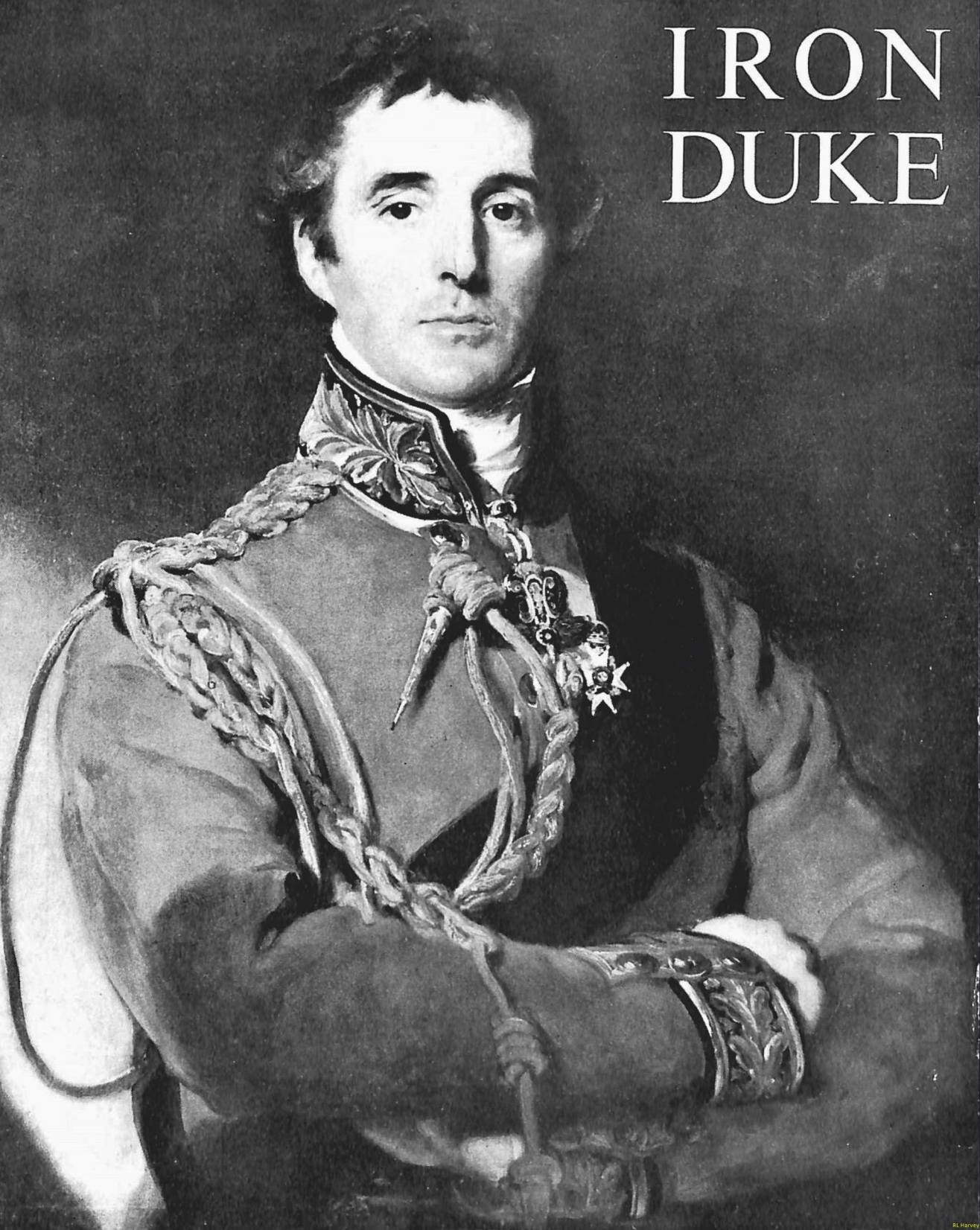


No.180 August 1979

THE  
IRON  
DUKE



# THE IRON DUKE

*The Regimental Journal of*

## THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

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



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

Vol. LII

AUGUST 1979

No 180

### 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,  
WEST YORKSHIRE HX2 0BA.  
TEL.: 0422-61671

Copy for the December 1979 issue should reach the Editor by October 15, 1979.

#### *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.

### CONTENTS

Notes and News	PAGE
<i>Regimental Headquarters</i>	168
<i>Regimental Notes</i>	168
<i>Personalia</i>	172
<i>1st Battalion</i>	174
<i>Rugby</i>	184
<i>Depot, Kings Division</i>	188
<i>'C' (DWR) Company, 1st Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers</i>	189
<i>'C' (DWR) Company, 3rd Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers</i>	190
<i>Wellesley Company ACF</i>	191
<i>Giggleswick CCF</i>	193
<i>Obituary</i>	194
<i>Days of Yore</i>	196
<i>Regimental Association</i>	197
<i>PRI Order Form</i>	204

# Travel Bargains with the Forces Favourite

Travel home the British way—with Townsend Thoresen.

If you're in the British or Commonwealth Forces based on the Continent you can take advantage of our Travel Bargains.

There are special low fares for passengers all year round and reductions on cars during the Winter. We even offer a discount of up to 50% on towed caravans and trailers on certain sailings throughout the year.

## Pop-Home Bargains

If you've only time for a short trip home we can help you save. Spend five days in the U.K. and save up to 20% on regular fares. Save up to 35% on a 60 hour stay; up to 50% on a 24 hour stay. Travel Bargains all the way on Townsend Thoresen.

You'll find full details of routes, fares and sailing times in our special "Travel Bargains for Forces" brochure. 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 Please send me your "Travel Bargains for Forces" brochure
Name _____
Address _____
ID 8/79
 <b>TOWNSEND THORESEN</b> The European Ferries

# **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, CB, OBE  
*The Laurels, Denton, Grantham, Lincolnshire*

## **REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS**

*Wellesley Park, Halifax*

Regimental Secretary: Major G. C. Tedd  
Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major J. S. Milligan

## **THE 1st BATTALION**

*BFPO 29*

CO: Lt.-Col. M. R. N. Bray      Adjutant: Capt. A. D. Meek  
RSM: D. Hughes

## **TERRITORIAL & ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE**

### **1st BATTALION THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS**

#### **“C” (THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON’S REGIMENT) COMPANY**

*Wellington Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax*

*Commander : Major J. W. Garner, TD, BA*

### **3rd BATTALION THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS**

#### **“C” (THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON’S REGIMENT) COMPANY**

*St. Paul’s Street, Huddersfield*

*Commander : Major M. Hawley*

## **ARMY CADET FORCE**

### **WELLESLEY COMPANY (THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON’S REGIMENT)**

Huddersfield area 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, CB, OBE*

*Vice-President : Colonel J. Davidson, Mount House, Terrington, York*

*General Secretary : Mr A. Wood, Wellesley Park, Halifax*



Lt Col W. R. Mundell

# Regimental Headquarters

## The Colonel of the Regiment

The Colonel of the Regiment completed his tour as Colonel Commandant, The King's Division on June 30, 1979. His successor has not yet been appointed.

The Colonel of the Regiment took his last parade as Colonel Commandant, The King's Div at a large Passing Out Parade of three Platoons at the Depot, The King's Div, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall on Friday, June 29, at 2.30pm, prior to a farewell ceremony.

Gen Isles inspected a Quarter Guard on his arrival at the Depot. After drinks in the WO and Sergeants Mess and lunch in the Officers Mess, the General reviewed the Parade commencing at 2.30pm. He was accompanied throughout by the Commanding Officer Lt Col B. G. Johnson of The Green Howards.

The General inspected 100 or so men on parade, reviewed a march past and presented prizes to nine recruits. He also presented a Long Service and Good

Conduct Medal to Ssgt Norman Stewart of The Royal Army Pay Corps (RAPC).

The Parade was commanded by Maj M. F. D. Kelly of The King's Regt who is the Company Commander of 'Y' Coy which contained the three Platoons passing out. Two of the Platoons consisted of ex-Junior Soldiers who had spent a year at the Depot and the third was an adult recruit Platoon which had completed 18 weeks of hard basic infantry training.

After the Parade, Gen Isles took tea with the 300 or so parents who attended, prior to a farewell ceremony when the officers said farewell to the General before he drove out of camp. The route was lined by 100 or so Sgts and Cpls who gave three cheers and waved farewell to the General.

The Colonel of the Regiment was appointed to the Board of Directors of British Manufacture and Research Co Ltd on May 2, 1979.

## Regimental Notes

### LT COL W. R. MUNDELL

Lt Col W. R. Mundell succeeded Lt Col M. R. N. Bray as CO of the 1st Bn on August 10, 1979.

Born at Horsforth near Leeds in 1938 Lt Col Mundell was educated at Leeds Grammar School and Sandhurst. His first connections with the Regiment were through the school CCF who are badged DWR. Commissioned in December 1958 he joined the 1st Bn then in Holywood near Belfast, and served continuously with the Battalion from early 1959 to 1964 serving in Ireland, Kenya, British Honduras and UK, in appointments of Platoon Commander, IO, and Asst Adjt.

In 1964 he served a tour as the Regimental Recruiting Officer based in Halifax, returning the same year to the 1st Bn in Catterick then to Osnabruck in Germany, as Regimental Signals officer—succeeding Lt Col Michael Bray in that post. His appointments since then have been—Signals Instructor at the School of Infantry Hythe 1966–68, GSO3 at HQ 48 Gurkha Inf Bde in Hong Kong 1968–69, student at the Staff College Camberley 1970, then a return to the 1st Bn as a Company Commander 1971–72 based at Catterick and covering two tours in Northern Ireland. In 1973 he was

selected as an Instructor (GSO2) at the Junior Division of the Staff College at Warminster, and he returned to the 1st Bn in 1974 as 2IC serving in Aldershot, Cyprus and Minden. He was promoted Lt Col in June 1977 and took up the appointment as MA (GSO1) to the C-in-C BAOR in May of that year.

Lt Col Mundell is a keen sportsman. He was twice the undisputed winner of the officer's annual golf competition for the silver putter, and he has been known to run 800m and throw the hammer for the Battalion, and to play squash. But his main activity and main contribution to regimental sport has been on the rugby field. He played in the Battalion XV continuously from 1959–66, and again on his return in 1972. He captained the side for two seasons 1964–65 and 1965–66—both seasons in which the Battalion won the Army Cup. And altogether he received six Army Cup finalist medals—three winners and three losers. He played also for BAOR and captained the BAOR XV in 1965–66.

In June 1967 Lt Col Mundell married Jilly Kelly. They have three sons, Timothy aged 11, James aged 9 and Barnaby aged 5.

## The Officers' Dinner Club

The 75th Annual Dinner took place at the Army & Navy Club on Friday, July 13, 1979.

The Colonel of the Regiment presided and the Colonel in Chief and 45 Officers were present.

The Guest was Commander R. O. I. Borradaile, MBE, VRD, MA, RNR, Commanding Officer, Wellington College Combined Cadet Force.

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

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

Please convey to all Officers of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, assembled tonight in London for their Annual Dinner, The Queen's thanks for their message of loyal greetings, which Her Majesty much appreciates.

Those who attended the Dinner were:

Brigadier His Grace The Duke of Wellington  
(Colonel in Chief)

Major General D. E. Isles  
(Colonel of the Regiment)

General Sir Robert Bray

Major General J. D. Lunt  
Major General G. F. Upjohn

### Brigadiers

A. D. Firth  
D. W. Shuttleworth

C. R. Huxtable

P. P. de la H. Moran  
B. W. Webb-Carter

### Colonels

P. G. L. Cousins  
R. G. Turner

J. Davidson

P. A. Mitchell

### Lieutenant Colonels

M. R. N. Bray  
C. W. Ivey  
J. H. Dalrymple

J. R. P. Cumberlege  
W. R. Mundell  
W. Robins

J. N. K. Greenway  
J. E. Pell

### Majors

P. D. D. J. Andrews  
C. F. Grieve  
R. H. Ince  
P. J. Mellor  
A. D. Roberts  
G. C. Todd  
D. R. D. Newell

C. R. Cumberlege  
B. Hindley  
J. H. S. Lane  
J. S. Milligan  
W. F. C. Robertson  
E. J. W. Walker  
D. G. Massey

P. R. Faulks  
T. F. Huskisson  
K. M. McDonald  
D. M. Pugh  
A. C. S. Savory  
A. R. Westcob

### Captains

D. Battye

The Lord Savile

### Lieutenants

J. H. Gladwin  
S. C. Newton

### Guest

Commander R. O. I. Borradaile

### THE REGIMENTAL TIE

The question of the manufacture, supply and pattern of the Regimental Tie was discussed by the Colonel of the Regiment with the Regimental Council at the meeting held towards the end of 1978. The reasons for the question being raised were two fold—first, stocks held by our regimental tailors had run out or were on the verge of running out and no further stocks from the original suppliers were available; and second, the original manufacturers and suppliers had gone out of business. A decision was therefore required as to a policy for the future.

In the meantime, over the last few years the Regimental Association at RHQ had been obtaining a steady supply of Regimental Ties, of practically the same pattern and colour as the previously approved pattern from a manufacturer in Manchester at a very competitive price. Whereas this tie was being provided initially and essentially for members of the Association, more and more serving officers and soldiers were buying this tie from RHQ, and not the ties from the Regimental Tailors—and it was clearly becoming more popular and the preferred tie.

With this background in mind the Colonel and the Council decided the following policy shall now apply:

- (a) The officially approved pattern and colour of the Regimental Tie shall be the tie as currently obtained by RHQ (Regimental Association). It is of man-made fibre (terylene warp/crimplene weft) and is currently selling at well below £2.00.
- (b) There shall be only one manufacturer/supplier of the tie.
- (c) The official manufacturer/supplier shall be—Universal Club Colours Ltd of Manchester—and they shall be officially notified of their appointment. (After note—this has been done.)
- (d) The outlet for sale of this tie shall be restricted to the Regiment—ie RHQ, Regimental Association Branches and the 1st Bn.

A final point of interest, not concerning the Regimental Tie itself, is that we are concentrating the manufacture/supply of our two other ties in the Regiment—the Regimental Sports Colours Tie and the Officers Dinner Club Tie—with the same manufacturer in Manchester.

### THE NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM Oman gift makes new museum extension possible

One of the best-kept museum secrets of modern times lies behind the recent announcement of a £600,000 extension to the National Army Museum.

When Phase I of the museum in Chelsea was finished in 1970 a huge gap remained between the amount in the Building Appeal and that needed for completion. Fund-raising continued during a period of rising construction costs but, although the Appeal achieved a measure of success, it was not until the Sultan of Oman made a personal donation of £150,000 last year that the Museum Council was able to commission the new building.

HM The Sultan Qaboos bin Said received part of

his education at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. There, and during the bitter fighting in the southern province of Dhofar, Britain earned the Sultan's respect and gratitude. In making this substantial gift to the National Army Museum, His Majesty expressed the hope that it will confirm the strength of the comradeship between the Omani Army, which the Sultan himself commands, and the many officers and men of the British Army who helped in their training and shared their battles against a skilful and determined enemy.

Last spring, during a visit to Oman Field Marshal Sir Gerald Templer, Chairman of the Building Appeal and William Reid, the museum's director, told the Sultan how the history of the British Army as told in the museum would be continued from 1914, where it now stops, up to the present. This will include an account of the 40-odd armed conflicts in which the British Army has been engaged since 1945.

From mid-June 1979, building work will affect the areas of the museum adjoining the new wing. As a result the Reading Room will be closed from Monday, June 11 to Friday, June 15. From June 16 until further notice, space for readers will be much reduced and access will be by appointment only (tel 01-730 0717, ext 24).

Readers are warned that building work will be going on in close proximity to the reading room and that conditions may not always be conducive to quiet study.

Further information from Miss E. Talbot Rice, Research and Information Officer, National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea, London SW3 4HT (tel 01-730 0717, ext 22).

### SERVICE DRESS

Anyone wishing to dispose of a Service Dress. 40in chest, 34in waist, 30in leg. Please contact Mr Con Sullivan, 2 Holme Farm, Holgate, Clifton Village, Nottingham.

### One of us!

We much regret the second instalment of Capt Lappin's impression of Service with 7 DWR in NW Europe has had to be held over until our next issue.

### ANOTHER ALBERT HALL CONCERT FOR SSAFA

Following the resounding success of last year's 'Evening of Nostalgia' at the Royal Albert Hall, Richard Baker and the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, conducted by Lt Col James Mason, are staging a 'Family Favourites' evening to recapture the songs we've been singing, the tunes we've been whistling in the happy moments of our lives.

The date is Thursday, October 4, at 7.30, the place the Royal Albert Hall and once again in aid of SSAFA, with guest artists, an even better chance to join in the singing and a super programme.

The Box Office is now open at SSAFA, PO Box 5, London SW1 (telephone 01-222 9221; Ext 65).



# Personalia

## The Rev G. A. Reddington

We hear from Gerald Reddington that he was ordained Deacon on July 15.

Many will remember him as a NS Officer with 1st Bn in Gibraltar and a keen TA Officer in the 7th Bn.

We wish him fulfilment and every happiness in his new vocation.

## APPOINTMENTS

Lt Col W. R. Mundell is appointed CO 1st Bn The Duke of Wellington's Regt, wef August 10, 1979.

Lt Col T. D. Lupton is appointed CO Warminster Support Unit, School of Infantry, wef June 1, 1979.

Maj A. R. Westcob is to be GSO2 (Air) HQ NORTHAG, wef October 1979.

Capt K. Best is to be Adjt 1st Bn Yorkshire Volunteers, wef March 1980.

Capt T. C. Sinclair has been appointed OC 10 CTT, April 1979.

Capt R. C. M. Hall leaves the 1st Bn July 1979, and is for transfer to RAEC August 1979.

Capt (QM) A. J. Welsh has been appointed Tech QM with 1 Green Howards, wef June 18, 1979.

## RETIREMENT

Maj J. D. P. Cowell retired from the Active List, wef July 14, 1979.

## NEW OFFICERS

2Lt R. J. M. Pugh, SSC, ex-Sandhurst, December 1978—joined 1 DWR March 1979.

2Lt M. Chapman, Reg C, ex-Sandhurst June 1979—joins 1DWR July 1979.

2Lt M. White, Reg C, ex-University July 1978 and ex-Sandhurst July 1979—joins 1DWR August 1979.

Lt P. R. S. Bailey, SSC, ex-SSVC officer, and ex-Sandhurst August 1979—is posted to the new Junior Soldiers' Battalion in Taunton in August 1979.

## EXTRACT FROM LONDON GAZETTE

To be Additional Officer of the Military Div of the said Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:

Lt Col Michael John Campbell-Lamerton (LG March 26, 1979).

## Regular Army

2Lt (on Probation) P. P. DeNiefte (500814) DWR Commission Terminated December 11, 1979 LG April 3, 1979).

## King's Division

### Short Service Commission

The undermentioned 2Lts to be Lts April 8, 1979: S. H. Dixon, DWR; M. J. B. Drake, DWR (LG May 1, 1979).

Capt (QM) R. A. Tighe (486473) DWR to be Major (QM) April 1, 1979.

## TAVR

### Group A

Maj A. Wilson, TD (460541), 3 Yorks to be Lt Col March 1, 1979 (LG May 1, 1979).

Congratulations to Lt Col M. J. Campbell-Lamerton on being awarded the OBE.

Congratulations to Maj (QM) R. A. Tighe on being promoted to Major.

Congratulations to Capt C. J. W. Gilbert on being selected to attend the Staff College, from October 1980 at Shrivenham and then to Camberley in January 1981.

## Award of LS and GC Medal

WO Class 1, without gratuity, 23785390 A. Clarke DWR 1.12.77.

WO2 and NCO, with gratuity:  
23833544, J. A. Toplis, BEM, WO2 DWR 1.12.77.  
22136462, J. Hemmings, Sgt DWR 1.12.77.  
23743374, J. W. Vaughan, Sgt DWR 1.12.77.  
23935710, G. A. Waterhouse, Cpl DWR 1.12.77.  
23916262, W. Eaton, Lcpl DWR 1.12.77.

Clasp to the LS and GC, without gratuity:  
LS/15000478, T. V. Garrity, Sgt DWR 1.12.77.

LS and GC Award List No 119:  
February 16, 1979.

## ENGAGEMENTS

### Mr P. J. Harvey and Miss E. M. Morgan

The engagement is announced between Lt Peter John Harvey, the Duke of Wellington's Regt, eldest son of Wing Commander and Mr J. D. Harvey, British Embassy, Oslo, and Elisabeth Mary, only daughter of Mr and Mrs D. A. J. Morgan of Lower Hogley Farm, Holmfirth, West Yorkshire.

### Capt M. J. Stone and Miss K. A. Vernon

The engagement is announced between Capt Michael Stone the Duke of Wellington's Regt (West Riding) elder son of Mr and Mrs A. J. Stone, of Frederikstadt, Norway, and Kay Angela, only daughter of Mr and Mrs B. H. Vernon, of West Germany.

## MARRIAGES

**Maj P. J. Mellor and Miss P. M. H. Carter**

The marriage took place on May 19, 1979, of Maj Peter James Mellor, The Duke of Wellington's Regt, son of Brig and Mrs J. F. M. Mellor of Muckleburgh, Holt, Norfolk and Sasha, daughter of Sir Derrick and Lady Carter of Withington House, Withington, Cheltenham, Glos.

**Mr A. D. Pawson and Miss S. M. Sargeant**

The marriage took place on May 5, 1979, at the Garrison Church, Strensall, of Mr Andrew David Pawson, son of Mr and Mrs H. Pawson of New Earswick, York, and Susan Marie Sargeant, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. E. Sargeant of Stockton-on-the-Forest, York.

## BIRTHS

**Bray**

On July 18, 1979 in York, to Judith and Martin Bray, a son, Edward.



# L. B. HOLLIDAY & CO. LTD.

**Manufacturers of Dyestuffs  
for ALL Purposes**

**HUDDERSFIELD,  
Yorkshire, England**

**Telephone: 0484-21841  
Telex: 51433**



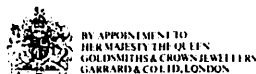
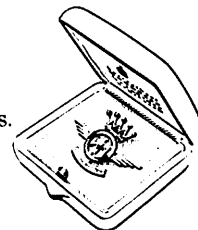
## One badge that Garrard will never make

In fact it's just a flight of fancy by the Garrard military department – a composite badge representing all three Services.

If such a badge did exist, Garrard would of course be delighted to reproduce it as a brooch, tie-pin or cuff-links. In gold and enamel, or silver, or set with gems.

Garrard already do just that for every regimental badge in the British Army. Not forgetting the Navy and Air Force too.

Jewellery from Garrard, based on the badge you are proud of, makes a perfect gift. Ask the Military Department for more details.



BY APPOINTMENT TO  
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN  
GOLDMITH & CROWN JEWELLERS  
GARRARD & CO. LTD. LONDON

# GARRARD

The Crown Jewellers

112 REGENT STREET · LONDON W1A 2JJ  
TELEPHONE: 01-734 7020

# 1st Battalion

## VISIT OF THE COLONEL-IN-CHIEF OF THE REGIMENT

The Battalion was very pleased to be visited by the Duke and Duchess of Wellington on May 10-11 this year, in the Duke's capacity of Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, the post which he holds uniquely as the only Colonel-in-Chief of a Regiment who is

not a member of the Royal Family.

The Duke and Duchess arrived on the 10th to attend a Guest Night in the Mess attended by the Officers and their wives and our other special guests, the Mayor of Calderdale, Cllr. Richard Deadman,



### VISIT OF THE COLONEL IN CHIEF

The Colonel in Chief presents a Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to Cpl Jim Whiteley, during his visit to the Battalion. Cpl Whiteley has been in the Regiment for 16 years

**VISIT OF THE  
COLONEL IN CHIEF  
The Duchess and Mrs Bray  
visiting Lancaster School,  
Minden**



and the Commander of 4 Armoured Div, Maj Gen R. M. H. Vickers. Over the two days of their stay, the Duke and Duchess followed busy programmes which were designed to give them as much of the flavour of the Battalion's life in BAOR as possible, without undue ceremonial or fanfare. The Duke visited each company in turn, and ended by presenting LS & GC Medals to WO2 P. Hewson, Sgt S. Kelly, Cpl P. Whiteley and Cpl G. Bell. The Duchess took tea in the WOs/Sergeants Mess and visited Lancaster School and the White Rose Club where she met soldiers' wives and families with the Duke.

In his closing address to the Battalion on the square the Duke spoke of his pleasure at finding the Regiment in such good heart especially in view of the growing complexity of equipment and vehicles with which the soldier is required to cope, and looked forward to meeting the Battalion again before too long.

The last word, however, belonged to a small child in the school who had obviously heard of the Iron Lady as well as the Iron Duke. The Election having been the week before. As the Duchess and Mrs Bray were leaving a classroom a small voice was heard to say, 'which one is Mrs Thatcher?'

### COMMANDING OFFICER'S INTRODUCTION

It is a frequent complaint of the Army in Germany that there is too little time to train, which is an understandable view but one worth analysing because on the one hand it is vehemently expressed by many from corporal to colonel and on the other it must be acknowledged that we spent most of our lives training, and much of it, if not all, is excellent value.

The fundamental difficulty, which we sometimes forget, is that of combining tours in Ulster with the mechanized role in BAOR. Although an Ulster tour is only four months, when preparation and leave are added the time taken out of the BAOR calendar is eight months. Add to this some re-training for the mechanized role and we finish up one year later back where we started. We only come to Germany for four years and it is therefore easy to see what a dominating part two of these one-year Ulster cycles

play. The affect of this is that there is very little opportunity left for us to control our own programmes, and there is too little time available for some aspects of low level infantry training especially cadres and upgrading. In our four years the only period when the CO has any real control over the programme is November 1978-July 1979 and since you will be reading this just after that period I will tell you how we have spent it.

I have called this period the Year of the Platoon Commander and our aim has been to develop leadership and robustness in our platoons and concentrate on basic infantry skills. On small arms training we were able to have a sensible progression leading up to our annual camp at Sennelager where our results were excellent. We had a very tough two-sided inter-platoon patrol exercise in the snow, mentioned in the last IRON DUKE. The climax to

our inter-platoon competition was our annual inspection which came at the end of two weeks hard training in poor weather at Vogelsang. Our GOC, Maj Gen Vickers, who some will remember with the Royal Tanks in Korea, invited us to design our own tests and so we ran a competition for our platoons which put each through a demanding 36-hour test consisting of 13 stands. The clear winners were 2 Platoon (Lt Simon Dixon) with an outstanding performance, with second and worthy winners of the overall inter-platoon competition, 4 Platoon (2Lt Johnathan Wood).

As I write we are in the middle of the adventure training phase. Each platoon commander has been encouraged to take his platoon away for two weeks on some adventurous pursuit, and those that don't find something special to do go to Bavaria where we have hired a large building in an ideal spot for climbing, sailing, canoeing, swimming and walking in the mountains. Lastly, before we start summer leave and Ulster training we go to Soltau to round

off this period of mechanized training.

Remembering that in 1978 we enjoyed the best possible mechanized season with training in Canada, and 1977 was mostly Ulster which in its way is excellent training, the Battalion may at times feel frustrated by not having enough time to achieve the standards we strive for but we have, during our first three years in Germany, certainly had variety and excellent training. And the result is illustrated by an extract from the GOC's formal report on our annual inspection:

'On top of the thoroughly sound practical performance in foul conditions on a very demanding, unseen, and varied competition the outstanding impression of the visit was the dogged determination the quietly humorous enthusiasm, the unwavering persistence, and the outstanding physical toughness of every competitor. This was robustness in its true sense. I fought with them with complete confidence on the Hook and I would be proud to do the same today'.

### OFFICERS MESS NOTES

The Officers Mess has been in full swing as usual despite exercises and weeks away adventure training. The most important functions of this period were the Rugby Centenary and the visit of the Colonel-in-Chief.

The Rugby Centenary as the name suggests enabled the Battalion to celebrate 100 years of Dukes Rugby. It covered the complete weekend beginning March 30. The Friday evening consisted of meeting the guests, many of whom travelled from the UK, and introducing them to their hosts. The list of guests was enormous but included the Colonel of the Regiment and the Mayor of Kirklees, and many former players of repute who have served the Battalion well in the past.

On the Saturday the 1st XV played the C-in-Cs select XV consisting of a number of internationals and Dukes who were away from the Battalion at the time.

In the evening the Centenary Dinner was held in the Sergeants Mess and carried on well into the Sunday morning. Sunday lunchtime saw the Officers Mess hosting a curry lunch which finished at about 6 o'clock and ended as a fitting climax to the weekend's activities. It was very hard work but worth every minute.

Our next major event was the occasion of the visit of the Duke and Duchess. We had a splendid ladies dinner night on May 10.

The following night we entertained 3 Armd Div Engineer Regt after BAOR Novices Boxing Final. The Duke's won of course (although it was a close match). For the first time the ladies joined us after the boxing and everyone thought this was a good move.

A special thank you should go to the Mess staff during this period especially during the Rugby Centenary, when they were literally run off their feet.

It has been a busy period and in between the major functions we've had boxing evenings and Sunday lunches. The next period looks like being equally busy with summer now being upon us. During the period the PMC has tried very hard to break the bank and keeps turning up with little bits and pieces which go to making it more homely. Also during the period we had two splendid table lamps given by the Colonel of the Regiment and these will shortly appear on the dining table when they return from the engravers. We are all very grateful for such a generous gift. Finally, talking about new acquisitions, the Duke has left us a boars head on loan. It is huge and prompted one of the Mess staff to ring the PMC when it arrived and say, 'Sir, I thought you said the Duke was giving us a Boars head' PMC—'That's right'. Mess staff 'You'd better come quickly then because there's been a mistake, it's a b——y elephant!'

### WOs AND SERGEANTS MESS

Since the last notes and Ex Snow Boot, yet again we have had a busy quarter, firstly ISSAC and the Battalion Shooting Match. Once again the Sergeants Mess defended well (and won) the falling plates competition against the Officers Mess. Followed by a Games Night against 1 Royal Anglians Sergeants Mess members who were at

Sennelager at the same time.

We then had a fairly quiet period in terms of Mess functions in preparation for the Rugby Centenary dinner. To ensure we got it right, a Regimental Dinner night was held the Friday prior to the Centenary Dinner to practice waiters and staff, plus the oiling of vocal chords for members.

The Centenary Dinner went exceptionally well, thanks to Vinney Pye and his organisers, and the Mess was very proud to be able to supply the venue for such an occasion. Guests included some Rugby internationals from other countries plus some old Duke's, whom we thank for coming to see us again and joining in the celebrations for 100 years of Duke's Rugby.

Then followed a Ladies Dinner night in mid-May which all our ladies enjoyed, thanks again to the organisers for a well presented evening. At the time of writing these notes, the Mess is light on the ground, due to adventure training with many senior ranks being sent to all points of the compass with platoons and departments to canoe, rock

climb and surf sail in Bavaria, Holland and Norway.

On promotion into the Mess we welcome Sgts Les Birks, Derek Dent, Frank Hanley, Steve Mortimer, Len Hepworth, Tex Woodward and Jim Whitley, congratulations to Sgt John Hogg on promotion to Ssgt.

We welcome back into the fold WO2 Bob Heron and WO2 Sam Basu from postings away from the Battalion. Farewell to WO2 Pete Rawcliffe and WO2 Phil Hewson who are posted out of the Battalion for a couple of years and also Sgt Bob Blackburn on leaving the Army for civilian life. Farewell to Sgt Bill Swap, APTC, and welcome to QMSI Dave Bellamy, and also goodbye to Ssgt Taffy Price and Sgt Taffy Davies both of the LAD.

### ALMA COMPANY

The frequency with which one is asked to write Company notes for THE IRON DUKE is generally an accurate indication of how busy life over the past four months has been—I thought we forwarded our last notes the week before...? the CPX? (which one) no it must have been just before Sennelager, or was it before Vogelsang? It was definitely not after Bavaria! The clerk thought he typed them during Ex Snow Boot. Yes, the pace of life in the Alma does not change thanks largely to the willingness, enthusiasm and determination of its members. The Battalion forecast of events may also be a contributing factor!

In summary we have completed a successful Skill at Arms Camp, achieving a 100 per cent pass in the SLR and SMG APWT. This was followed by two CPX's involving elements of Company HQ. Preparation for Vogelsang and the ARU was our main concern during April before we turned our attention to adventure training in Bavaria during a glorious sun-soaked fortnight in May.

The summer months ahead include various sporting days, a site guard and a two-week training period at Soltau prior to our leave period of three weeks in August. By then a refreshed and sun-tanned Alma will take on the challenging prospect of a four-month tour of duty in Belfast. Ex Crusader 80...? What...? NEXT YEAR...? No problem.

#### Marriages

Congratulations to Pte and Mrs Narey, Pte and Mrs Bland and Pte and Mrs Hirst.

#### Births

Congratulations to Pte and Mrs Blackham on the birth of their son, to Cpl and Mrs O'Garro on the birth of their daughter and to Pte and Mrs Silcox on the birth of their son.

#### Farewells

Thank you and good luck to Messrs McNichol, Gray, Machin and Steel.

#### Sport

Congratulations to:  
Pte Brown on becoming the Army Novice Bi-

athlete and being selected for the National Olympic 'B' Squad.

Pte Landell on winning the BAOR 100m in an unrated time of 10.61sec (Army Record for 100m is 10.8sec). We hope this time will be repeated in Aldershot later this year.

Alma's members of the BAOR Champion Novice Boxing Team were Lcpl Rose, Ptes Bacon, McAllister, Rhodes and Juma.

Our rugby stars, who sometimes soldier with us, have been Lt Dixon, Cpls Bucknor and Jones and Ptes Landell and Blackham.

### SENNELAGER

Every year the Battalion moves down to Sennelager for two weeks field firing, culminating in the Skill at Arms Meeting. This year was no exception. Having had little time to recover from Ex Snow Boot we started on our specialist weapon cadres. Each Company was nominated to run a cadre and Alma's was the L37 turret gun. Two days were spent dry training before moving to Sennelager where there was a two-day period of field firing. The weather was not very helpful (visibility was down to 400m on the first day) but we did manage to zero the guns and fire a few rounds. The second day was spent moving between a static and a moving range. The APCs were allowed to fire on the move which is what the weapon was designed for.

Having finished with the specialist cadres the Company concentrated on all aspects of field firing. We started with the basics and eventually platoon attacks and platoons in defence. We also managed a section night ambush which included enemy defensive fire simulated by plastic explosive (very realistic and caught everyone unawares). The weather throughout was anything but hospitable and due credit must be given to the soldiers and instructors alike for putting up such a good performance.

After the field firing the Battalion moved back to Minden and commuted to Sennelager daily to fire the annual personal weapon tests. Alma came out of this very well gaining 100 per cent passes on the SLR and SMG. We thought at this stage that we must be favourites to win the Battalion Skill at Arms Meeting. However, this was not to be. Our

saving grace was the Company Commander, Maj Gardner, who gained the highest score in the Officers Shoot and the 2IC, Capt Sherlock, who came third and blamed it all on his sight misting up!

### VOGELSANG AND THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF UNIT

At the end of April the whole Battalion moved down to Vogelsang for a two-week training period. April showers were certainly the order of the day as we experienced some foul weather conditions. Indeed on some days we were subjected to heavy showers of snow. However, the adverse weather was not to put a stop to some worthwhile training which took place.

We lived in tents on a very exposed but firm piece of ground, which proved ideal as we watched the other Companies turn their areas into mud ponds. We made our area as comfortable as possible and we even managed to stretch the facilities to include a film night and a barbeque. Also now that the Drums Platoon have settled in Alma Coy we used the bugle to the best possible advantage on virtually every occasion.

For the first week we were involved in Company training and we had to cover both the mechanised and dismounted role. The training was long and hard but much was achieved to help us in the ARU which was to follow. Between the ARU and the Company training we had a Battalion counter-penetration exercise which lasted two days. The exercise took the form of a long night move across country with basic equipment and weapons. The rations for the exercise included live rabbits and raw carrots and some managed to find the time to pay

attention to both. There were a good deal of enemy patrols and Alma Coy did well to have virtually the whole Company at the final RV before putting in an attack on an enemy headquarters location.

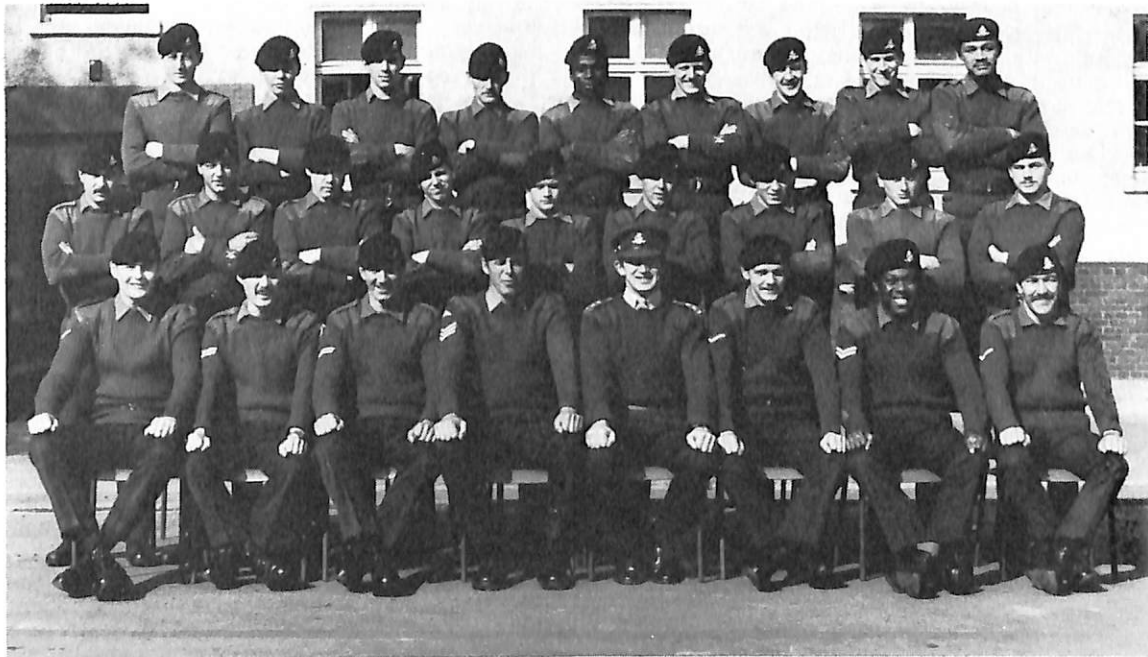
The final stage of the Vogelsang training was the ARU which took the form of an intensive two-day test period for rifle platoons. Platoons were put through a circuit which included a mounted attack, 84mm and 66mm shoot, an initiative test, fault finding on vehicles plus weapons, first aid, NBC, SLR and GPMG shoot, driving skills, night hides, night patrolling, a dismounted attack and finally an inter-platoon battle run.

Perhaps the most testing and enjoyable stands were the tactical ones in which Alma Coy did extremely well. It was run as a competition and scores were kept on the performance of each platoon. 2 Platoon finished first and 3 Platoon were third, the Drums finished down the field but were in no way disgraced. Indeed they were placed 2nd in the anti-armour test, 3rd in the First Aid and Dismounted Attack and 4th in the Mechanised Attack—perhaps four of the most important Rifle Platoon skills required for our BAOR role. In all a hard vigorous exercise enjoyed by everyone who took part and very satisfying to do so well.

### ADVENTURE TRAINING—BAVARIA

A week after completing Vogelsang training the intrepid Alma Coy had a rapid turn around when we found ourselves Bavaria bound. The adventure training period lasted two weeks and provided a very welcome break for us all after our hard and highly successful ARU.

We arrived expecting to find a primitive log cabin



ANNUAL REVIEW OF UNIT—VOGELSANG 1979  
No 2 Platoon 'A' Coy—The Champion Platoon

perched on a mountain side. Instead we found a very reasonable hostel. It was clear that this would not be as gruelling as we had anticipated.

The first week was spent on a number of activities to introduce us to the various aspects of adventure training. Each group spent two days on canoeing, sailing and walking. The canoeing proved very popular, Cpl John Cockshot ably instructed budding canoeists. The first day was spent on the lake learning basic skills and on the second on rapids and white water. The canoeing was not without mishaps, however, which Capt Mike Sherlock with great style proved after having gone over a weir. With suspected cracked ribs he spent the rest of the day being X-rayed at the local Krankenhaus; comments about the 'ribbing' he was given from the rest of the Company were not appreciated. Cpl Tony Kenny had an altogether more serious accident. He capsized in a stopper (swirling water which gives a washing machine effect) and he emerged badly bruised and semiconscious. Thanks to the prompt action of Pte Bicknell he was immediately pulled to the river bank. Cpl Kenny is now fully recovered and is looking forward to his next white water adventure. The climbing went very well with the soldiers enjoying the various climbs and abseiling.

Lcpl Jones and Pte Bent were enthusiastic assistants to Sgt Steve Kelly and Cpl 'SAS' Tooley. We had many more converts to this exciting and challenging sport thanks to them. The other activities of walking and sailing were popular. The walking involved a day trip up a local mountain only to descend via the cablecar and was led by the OC or by our very own Colonial Sgt Rick Huxley.

Our sailing was restricted to the lake on our doorstep where sadly there was little or no wind. The Windsurfers fared better and Pte Varley eventually became more accomplished than his civilian instructors. Usually windsurfers and the boats could be sailed to the far end of the lake but had to be paddled back.

On the last two days hired bicycles were used in a 70km day tour. This idea was introduced by Lt Simon Dixon who led his party into Austria. Later 2Lt Nick Borwell and party toured around Bavaria. All returned having had a great time but everyone had tell-tale 'John Wayne' walks and were saddle sore! Whilst the adventure training did little more than graze the surface of many of the activities it proved to be highly instructional and what is probably more important was a great deal of fun.

## BURMA COMPANY

As I was walking up the stair  
I met a man who wasn't there.  
He wasn't there again today.  
I wish he'd go away.

In Burma Co we know how the man that wrote those lines felt. My theory is that the author was running up and down the stairs so fast that he kept meeting himself going up when he was coming down. And vice versa.

I have a lively fear that one day, as the front of the Company column of vehicles is leaving Clifton Barracks for, say, Soltau it will find the back still coming in from, for example, Vogelsang. Or Munster and Sennelager. Or Obernkirchen and Wolfenbittel. Or the Solling Forest. Or... oh shut up man. They've got the message by now. We travel a lot, OK?

'It ain't what you do' goes the old song 'it's the way that you do it'. I suggest that Burma Coy, in its own way, does things pretty well. A bit of style is what we try for; a little zip, a scoop of oomph, a hint of sparkle. Even our disasters have a touch of class.

To live at this pace under many difficult circumstances and keep smiling, Burma Coy NCO's and soldiers have to be, and are, just that little bit special. Pedestrians with panache.

### This month's quote

'Do you remember Capt Isles, Sir?'

'Yes'.

'Mad keen on cars he was. Does his dad own a garage or something?'

No names, no pack drill.  
(Pssst—it was Pronto).

## TURBULENCE CORNER

### Promotions

Cpl Teall, Lcpls Lawler, Irving, Marshall, Benson, Carter.

### Welcome to:

Sgt Woodward, Ptes Brogden, Acklan (another one), Chin Chan, Hirst, Kelly, Robinson, Woods.

### Postings

Sgt Mortimer—Recruiting.  
Sgt Lister—Sandhurst Selection Course.  
Sgt Holmes—10 CTT.  
Sgt Hall—Milan Platoon.  
Lcpl Whelan—Corunna Coy.  
Lcpl Broadhead—Corunna Coy.  
Lcpl Benson—Taunton.

### Farewells

Mr Holden, Mr Bakes, Mr Edwards and Mr Luty, former soldiers of this Company who left for civilian life. We've kept your bedspaces warm lads. Let us know when you're coming back.

### BORDER PATROL—MAY 9-11, 1979

On Wednesday, May 9, 4 Platoon set off for a small town close to the border, called Wolfenbittel. The task we had to do was patrol sector 3 of the East German border.

On arrival we had the rest of the day free.

At 0830hrs the following day we set off in 2 by 1 ton Rovers and 1 by  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton. With us we had a Lt and a Sgt from the Belgian Army. We went to a RV where we met our guide for the day.



The first stop was at a stand which looked over the top of the fence. From here we could see the East Germans. The guide pointed out where the mines were. Also the Scatter Guns (SM70s) which were fixed to the inner fence.

Throughout the day we saw the East German Guards taking photos of us, and taking notes. Some of the time we were followed round.

Friday morning proved to be more interesting. We moved up the border just overlooking Checkpoint Alfa. Here the East German guards were smartly dressed (ie No 2s). These guards took photos, also looking in a book for which Regiment we were.

The only Russians we saw were at the Air Corridor. Most of us in the Platoon expected to see BRDM's, ZSU23's and T62's, but all we saw was relief wagons and motor bikes with side cars.

Overall it was a very interesting patrol and a very enjoyable three days.

### THE BLACK WATCH MARCH

The Black Watch March was held in Hoogeveen, Holland, on May 12, 1979, to celebrate the liberation of the town by the Black Watch of Canada.

Twenty-five members of the Company set forth under their faithful guide 2Lt Watt. On arrival we found that our accommodation was to be a factory for the disabled and after the 20km march I felt that we were aptly placed.

Having endured the stress and strains of a competition march around the town, we were faced with a fate worse than death, the butchering of the compositions by Lcpl Benson, a task not even our hardened eaters could face.

The march had over 30 entries from units all over BAOR, and I am glad to say that the two teams entered by the Company came a very respectable 4th and 6th much more by luck than judgment.

### CORUNNA COMPANY

It is always difficult to start off Company notes without giving a training area travelogue, recounting the incredible pressures one has endured, blowing ones own trumpet and cracking parochial funnies. No doubt a chronological list of activities undertaken by the Battalion can be found in several parts of this issue and I fear that certain references to them are going to be made here also. These activities have been labeled in characteristic form with military abbreviations. A member of Company HQ thought he heard someone say 'Eh? are you Isaac?' but it was only the Company Commander muttering about ARU and ISAAC (Annual Review of Unit and Individual Skill at Arms Camp). He was muttering because at that stage he could find no one within the Garrison who could decypher BSE and NSI, two other little jaunts headed in his direction. Training this year has, however, been sensible and we have concentrated on Platoon work. It has been valuable for all concerned and enjoyable too.

#### The Travelogue etc

Since the strenuous but successful inter-Platoon patrol Ex Snow Boot in which Corunna Platoons

performed very creditably to come 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th (the anti-tank Platoon was attached to us making up our 4th Platoon) we have spent a fortnight in Sennelager (that's ISAAC) and another in Vogelsang (that's ARU). At the time of writing we are two thirds of the way into the Battalion adventurous training period. We then depart for two weeks mechanised training in Soltau preceded for some of the Company by the occasional site guard, Corps Reinforcement Unit (CRU would you believe?), CPX (not a washing powder secret added ingredient but a . . . wait for it . . . Command Post Exercise).

### SPORTS REPORT

Whether it was rugby, football, skiing, boxing, cross-country, cricket or tiddlywinks we certainly have had our share of sport this year. Invariably Companies are plentiful with exceptional individuals but usually the most rewarding results are those that come from team effort.

We have supplied players to the Battalion rugby, football, skiing and boxing teams, and one only has to look at those results to see the justification in encouraging more participation in them. Skiing absorbed the largest number of individuals. Grahame Smith, Dave Roche, Mick Jones and Mick Sweeney all performed excellently.

Billy Smith boxed with much 'Yorkshire grit' in the final of the BAOR Championship and never can a man have taken so much punishment to come back and knock his opponent out.

Our Company rugby XV performed very well and our aim in finding new talent was achieved. We hope to provide more players to the rugby squad next year.

We had an excellent win in the inter-cross country. Everybody ran well. In particular Sweeney (Capt), Lcpl Marshall, Bogle and 2Lt Wood came within the first 10 runners home.

In all other forms of sport we put up spirited performances and the Company on the whole showed enormous enthusiasm and creditable results. Keep it up.

Let's look at ISAAC . . . why not indeed? At Sennelager the Company covered the complete spectrum of shooting standards. Amongst the successes were Capt Sinclair (best pistol shot), Sgt Wood (best SMG shot) and Pte Holliday (best young soldier). In addition we were also victorious in the inter-Company SMG team shoot.

Now what of the ARU? Well for a start the period we spent in Vogelsang was a meteorologists nightmare. It rained and blew in preparation for the blizzard we received on the official first day of summer. Then the snow continued until we left.

The climax of the two weeks was an inter-Platoon competition which formed a major part of the ARU. Each Platoon produced performance peaks in different activities although 7 Platoon should be congratulated in being the top overall Platoon in the Company. The various 'stands' were much enjoyed by all because of the wide variety of basic training skills demanded at each. Of particular note was the initiative test in which Cpl Smith bruised his bones and 2Lt Kilburn bruised his backside (but not his pride). Both in spectacular free fall descents better known as ugly falls.

By way of a change from Platoon training half way through our time in Vogelsang the whole Company took part in an infiltration exercise. The aim was for independent groups of three or four men to make their way undetected over a 30km distance to a final RV whereupon they would regroup as a Company for an assault on an objective indicated by a friendly partisan. This latter embellishment involved the Company Commander being kissed on both cheeks by an ever enthusiastic WO2 Vinny 'Pierre le partisan' Pye. The 'infiltration' methods adopted by the groups were many and varied. The OC deserves special mention for his original idea. In spite of colourful reasoning from the CSM he decided to march. Not a popular move. Many albino rabbits survived to tell the tale (they were our rations by the way) but some were less fortunate and to use Cpl Smith's description 'We necked ours straight off'. Thank you Smudge.

The lasting memory of Vogelsang apart from the ARU must remain stories of our trusty pay corporal Cpl Pendlebury. Whilst deputising as radio operator he asked for a radio check on instructions from Cpl Blisters-White. On receiving the reply 'difficult' he turned to Blisters (another 30km veteran) and in indignant mood asked 'Why call me difficult? I'm very easy to get on with?' Another Pendlebury announcement over the air when one of his clients failed to recognise his voice (or possibly procedure) and demanded 'Authenticate, over', was the reply 'Pardon me?' 'Authenticate, over' persisted the other call-sign. Cpl Pendlebury in his wisdom then passed the handset to Blisters saying 'I think it's for you'.

Adventurous training has been going for some time and each Platoon has been doing its own thing. The notes are given below.

On the sports scene the results have been satisfying. So far we have come second in the inter-Company rugby sevens and hockey six's with 8 Platoon through to the final of the inter-Platoon soccer. Our boxers are to be congratulated with particular reference to Pte Wagstaff for a good, brave fight in the BAOR novices final.

Amongst the many comings and goings in Corunna there have been two changes in the hierarchy. Lt Shuttleworth has replaced Capt Sinclair as 2IC whilst WO2 Cookson replaces WO2 Leachman as CSM. Thank you for all you have done Messrs Sinclair and Leachman and welcome Messrs Shuttleworth and Cookson.

The Company would like to record its congratulations to Pte Dobbs on his marriage and Pte and Mrs Gardner on the birth of their daughter. Sadly we

also record our sympathies to Pte and Mrs Loft-house and Pte and Mrs Young on their recent bereavements.

## ADVENTUROUS TRAINING

### 7 Platoon

With both Platoon Commander and Platoon Sgt absent on courses, 7 Platoon has had understandable difficulty in organising an independent trip. For this reason they are about to depart for the sun and mountains of Bavaria. They will go as part of Somme Coys' package to the NATO sports centre. There, like Alma and Burma Coys Platoons before them, they will for two weeks participate in four pursuits. Namely rock climbing, white water canoeing, hill walking and sailing . . . both dinghy and sail surfing.

This is a full but enjoyable venture with advanced trips at the end for those who enjoy a particular aspect. There are also sightseeing trips, glorious weather, friendly locals and lively nights out for those who can afford it. As they say in the states . . . 'Have a nice day.'

### 8 Platoon

The aim of 8 Platoon's adventurous training was to achieve a maximum number of passes at inland canoeing proficiency standard. This was done using Pte Suttcliffe, a British Canoe Union instructor of Somme Coy, the Battalion canoes (both double and single) and a stretch of the river Waal in Holland. The plan was simple. Following a detailed recce we departed on May 11 for a campsite on the river bank at Beuningen near Nijmegen. We were to spend our first four days there before working our way downstream staying at different river campsites en-route.

The campsite at Beuningen offered ideal conditions for swimming tests, capsiz drills and learning the basic strokes. We had calm Ox-Bow lakes, plenty of sunshine and an adjacent riding school. As we were limited to one instructor and therefore himself and eight others in the water at once we had to find alternative activities for those ashore. Later this was easy as land parties had to move campsites and rotate with canoeists. In the first four days, however, this was not the case and we went pony trekking.

This pursuit proved more useful than we first imagined. There were females, and friendly ones too, at the stables. We held a barbeque by the river bank, confirmed acquaintances and ensured a social life for the rest of our stay in Holland and in some cases for a little longer. Not bad on an egg-banjo and a bag of burnt potatoes.

Pte Firth deserves a mention for his willingness to demonstrate his capsiz drills and Pte Van Eda thoroughly deserved the nickname 'Tonto' after his equestrian exploits. He learnt, however, that the use of reins is more effective than cries of 'Whoa'? Pte Birch is also worthy of a note. He became a 'nose surfer' when he stopped but his mount continued at full gallop. Not a pretty sight.

Back to the boats. After a successful basic period we continued downstream managing to battle up-current at night in the buses for Nijmegen and the arms of our horsey friends. The river Waal was fast

flowing, choppy and full of very big barges. It was not exciting in a white water sense but definitely proved adventurous canoeing. The Platoon Commander should be recorded for his efforts to involuntarily board the *Queen of Holland* (a 60ft barge) which resulted in his unexpected introduction to a brace of bream.

Pte Graham found the anchor chain of a crippled barge irresistible on one stage of our trip down the Waal. Throwing away his paddle and grabbing the chain he was astonished to see his canoe ripped away. The paddle and canoe were rescued down stream by the Platoon Commander and none other than the OC who had joined the party for the day. Pte Graham, however, hung on doggedly to the chain before being introduced to the river police. They took the waterlogged Pte Graham and his canoe off to the next campsite (much against our wishes) happy but using words like mad and crazy and British.

The programme came to an end on May 22. We were sad to leave Holland but we did so with everyone gaining his proficiency award. Thank you Pte Suttcliffe. We had had some long gruelling trips and a lot of good times. Why did all the single men in 8 Platoon go to Nijmegen for Whit Weekend?

### 9 Platoon

Since the OC only managed to secure one special expedition in Norway and not the three he had hoped for originally 9 Platoon Commander wasted no time in asking for the trip. He got it. On May 23 the second day of the expedition 2Lt Kilburn wondered if he had done the right thing. The expedition consisted of five days mountain walking followed by five days canoeing down the fjords in

double kayaks.

After a 24hr bus and boat journey to the British Outward Bound Centre in Kristiansand we were equipped and sent to the schools Mountain Centre in Gaulestad. After a good night's sleep we started our walk. The end of the day saw us 2,000m higher and only 15km further on. The rain and boggy conditions made going difficult. However, our instructor from BOBC Sgt Tommy Martin (Hot Shot) made sure that we didn't slacken the pace. There were bridges to build over hair raising obstacles and fast flowing streams to be forded. This set the scene for the full five days. It was hard but enjoyable and we all learnt a lot about each other.

At the end of the five days we met up with the other special expedition doing the course the other way round. They were a party from 25 Field Regt, RA. Handover completed we set off in the boats recently vacated by the gunners averaging about 20km a day carrying all our tentage, rations and clothing in the canoes. Again the days were tiring but enjoyable and far less taxing on the feet. We were in touch with civilisation on the canoe trip unlike the walking stage. The weather too had improved to bring sunshine and smiles. Fishing and swimming became popular pursuits whilst 'Hot Shot' with his local knowledge indulged in a little fishing of his own. His catches were more numerous than ours.

Our last night was spent in classic outdoor style. The bonfire was lit, the beers cooled and our bivouacs established. We returned to Kristiansand the next day for a few hours only before commencing the long return to Minden. Although the weather had been poor for our first few days we all enjoyed our arduous but rewarding special expedition.

## DRUMS PLATOON

The highlights within the last three months have been ISSAC, Vogelsang, The Centenary rugby, the boxing finals and the Bielefeld Massed Bands.

The Centenary rugby match on March 31 started off by a 30 minute parade given by the Band and Drums. Sadly the weather was not good but it did not stop the spectators from enjoying the parade and the match. Following the Rugby Dinner, held in the Sergeants Mess, a concert was given by the Band and the Side Drummers carried out a victory beating display which was enjoyed by all.

The BAOR Novice Boxing Final opened with the Drummers giving the victory beating display

and I'm glad to say that our team was in good form for the night. The Drums took part in the Bielefeld Massed Bands display with rehearsals starting on May 14. The Platoon worked hard for the whole week, not arriving back in Minden until 0030hrs each morning. The parade was a great success on both performances, so the hard work was well worthwhile.

We are now practising for the Schutzenfests at Barkhausen and Wupertal, the Retreat Beating on the 17th in camp. In the long term we are preparing for the Commanding Officers Drum and Bugle Competition which is being held on July 25.

## SOMME COMPANY

With the reforming of Somme Coy as the support weapons Company the Battalion was beginning to look like its old self again. When Dettingen Coy was first formed it proved itself by winning the Annual SAA 1978 meeting and it was the first major event in the Somme Coy calendar for 1979 after it had defrosted itself from Ex Snow Boot.

Unfortunately history did not repeat itself but then throughout the weeks down in Sennelager

both the Mortars and Anti-Tanks were perfecting their skills with their own weapons. However, the Company were unlucky to come 3rd. We were in the running all the way and only a disaster with one of our GPMGs finally dashed our hopes of a win.

Also at Sennelager under Somme Coys wing were the Training Wing running a pre-Brecon Cadre for Junior and Senior Brecon NCOs and the Battalion 84mm Cadre. The Brecon boys knuckled down to

their training very well and it was with confidence we let them leave for England and their course. Sadly the old Brecon bogey remains and we did not achieve the results that we'd hoped and trained for. Congratulations must go to Cpl Johnson (Senior) and Lcpl Williams (Junior) on finishing their courses and commiserations to Sgt Laws on a broken ankle just when he'd got to the easy part.

The 84mm cadre was spread over four days, two days in Minden and two days in Sennelager. This was again a successful cadre with some good shooting as we used up the Battalions yearly allocation of TPTP and HEAT rounds. At the end of Sennelager the Commanding Officer laid on a 84mm competition. It was a speed test for each pair to crawl under wire and then fire four TPTP, two with respirators on. The shooting was going well until the Brigadier arrived and then we hit a bad patch. Luckily it didn't last long and soon we were getting four out of four hits again. Brig Walker being a tank man watched with critical eye and was impressed.

Between Sennelager and Vogelsang each Platoon went off to do a period of shooting. The Mortars went to fire in the 3 Div Mortar Concentration and had a very successful shoot. They were also impressed with their new CVR(T) vehicles not least because the MFCs can now keep up with the tanks. The anti-tanks went up to Bergen to fire for probably the last time with the Wombats as they are now in the process of moving over to Milan. Lt Kilburn, OC Anti-Tanks, and his hierarchy have just returned from their Milan course at Netheravon spouting forth about this brilliant new anti-tank weapon and as Lt Kilburn put it, I quote, 'Even a half blind gorilla can hit a target almost 2km away' I now know why he was made OC of Milan Platoon!

Then came Vogelsang—three weeks in the rain and mud. Whilst the rifle Coys went about their training both Platoons went through upgrading training for which there is little time in barracks. This resulted in a boost in pay to many of the soldiers.

When the ARU came around the Company provided enemy, ran the Mechanised Platoon Attack and Initiative Tests and provided most of the assistants on the other stands. The initiative stand which was devised by the OC against the advice of the Anti-Tank Platoon, involved the Rifle Platoons in getting a Wombat and themselves and some stores down a precipice and then across a small river valley. Sheerlegs were already set up over the river and the Platoons were required to hook up the gun and move it and themselves across. Naturally some classics occurred which will last for quite a while in the memory of those running the stand. Cpl Tooley (on loan from us to Burma) misunderstood his instructions from the beginning. Man-

handled the gun down the hill meant handle it, not free wheel! Sgt Hepworth instead of sliding it across the ravine, bounced it which as an ex-anti-tank man brought him in for a lot of 'stick'. 2Lt Kilburn has now realised that if you are going to fall 15ft it is better to land on your feet than spread the impact—'How's your back, Jack'. Finally with Cpl Smith (C) breaking a collarbone you can imagine it was quite a test.

Although we did not do the tests on the day, the two Platoons had acted as the guinea pigs for most of the activities prior to the ARU. Despite the weather we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and were grateful to the Rifle Platoons for some of the best laughs in ages.

At the moment we are in barracks awaiting our turn for adventurous training in Bavaria and the issue of Milan. We are greatly looking forward to both. The Company Club has recently reopened under the new name dreamed up by the OC in one of his sharper moments—'The Somme't and Now't' and we are hoping to organise some social functions in due course.

People come and go with monotonous regularity and in this period we have welcomed Csgt Robson and Sgt Hall and said farewell to Sgt (now Csgt) Sellars to ITD, Sgt Blackburn to Yorks Vols and then retirement, Csgt Walter to Families Office, Csgt Coates to PCD Warminster and Lcpl Leigh, Ptes Stone and Kenrick to civvy street. Last but not least we have said a sad farewell to WO2 Hewson who has gone to 1 Yorks.

WO2 Hewson has been a tower of strength as CQMS and then CSM of Dettingen Coy and latterly as CSM of the reformed Somme Coy. No one worked harder for the benefit of all ranks in both Companys and he was much respected and will be sadly missed. We wish him the very best of luck in his new appointment and look forward to seeing him back in a couple of years. He would be the first to say that it was a team effort and our thanks also go to Sgts Sellars and Blackburn who in their own way contributed to a most effective and happy team. As one team breaks up so another must form and this is well in hand. We are grateful to WO2 Shaw who is holding the fort until the arrival of WO2 Basu in July and we hope he enjoys his short stay with us.

Finally if there are any former Somme Co personnel who would like to buy a very smart Company sweatshirt we have them on sale for adults and children alike with or without hoods. They are very smart in the Company colour of yellow with the regimental badge and the words Somme 1916-18 in small letters above the badge. They sell at £6.50 for the children (hooded) and the adult standard pattern and £9.50 for the adult hooded variety and can be obtained through the Company Office.

## Rugby

The most recent event covered in the IRON DUKE was the Army Cup Final which needs no further mention except to say its good to still have the cup in its rightful place. On returning to Germany we had a fairly quiet spell with most players either playing for the Army or for BAOR. Cpl Garston Williams represented the Army and also attended the England Under-23 Final trial. For the season 1977-78 Capt T. Sinclair and WO1 P. Robinson have recently been awarded BAOR caps. For most of the BAOR games this season we had about eight players in the team and they enjoyed matches against Holland, RAF Germany, French Armed Services and the Army losing only once to the French. We once again took part in the Courage Army Sevens in Aldershot but due to training commitments and injury could only field a weak side and were unfortunately knocked out in the early stages. We also took part in the Heinekin Interna-

tions Seven-a-Side Tournament in Amsterdam which again proved to be a thoroughly enjoyable event. During the Easter period we hosted three touring sides from Lisburn, Malvern and Old Olavians. A great deal of rugby was played over the holiday weekend under brilliant sunshine, good spirit was evident both on and off the field. We have also staged the inter-Company rugby event which Alma Coy won comfortably, it also proved a good competition for talent spotting for next season.

So while the sun beats down and the cricketers do their stuff we look forward to September and another season. Unfortunately players and staff will have unavoidably moved on, Maj V. Davies the coach and Capt T. Sinclair the captain being the two most noticeable members to leave the Battalion. We welcome Capt C. Grieve as the new skipper and look forward to the challenge of a season in Ireland.



**THE ARMY RUGBY UNION CHALLENGE CUP**

First won by the Regiment in 1907 and subsequently in 1914, 1931, 1933, 1958, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1972, 1975, 1978, 1979.—The cup surrounded by the 13 winners replicas



#### ARMY CUP FINAL 1979

A line out in the dying moments of the game—the final score is already on the board!

#### DUKE'S RUGBY CENTENARY 1979

A hundred years after they first took to a rugby pitch, the Duke's faced the Commander-in-Chief's BAORs Invitation XV as holders of both the BAOR Cup and the Army Cup itself, won three days earlier for a record 13th time. It was fitting that a Regiment in this unique position should meet the quality of opposition of Gen Scotter's select XV. Amongst the C-in-C's XV were Ken Stewart, Lyn Davies and Terry Morrison all of New Zealand, Ken Kennedy of Ireland and the British Lions, Jan van Altena, Holland's most celebrated player and his compatriot Pieter Paul, Horst Kemmeling and Gunther Brand of West Germany, and guests from BAOR and Duke's serving away from the 1st Battalion such as Capt Andrew Drake and RSM Peter Robinson who themselves have a firm place in Dukes Rugby history. In addition we welcomed back Paddy McDaid and Sam Fleary, recent Duke's cap winners.

Opponents of this calibre brought the crowds to Clifton Barracks on Saturday, March 31 expecting the entertainment to outweigh the gloomy weather. Both sides were full of the spirit of the occasion and from the outset played fast open rugby. The wet took its toll in handling mistakes but the pace of the game and the dramatic turns of the tide of play gripped the imagination of the crowd. The sight of Terry Morrison outstripping friend and foe alike

down the touchline will be a long-standing memory for all who watched the game. There was an intriguing battle taking place in the front row where Capt Tim Sinclair fought for possession with the vast experience of Ken Kennedy, and four props who play or have played in the front row over the last two seasons had the chance to best each other out. But speed and flair were the eye-catching features of a thrilling match. Young Steve Grogan



WO1 Peter Robinson and Ssgt Dave Dickens holding the Army Cup



#### DUKE'S RUGBY CENTENARY

The visitors who came from far and near to watch the match

**Front row L-R—**Councillor T. Cliffe (Leader of Kirklees District Council), Maj C. F. Grieve, Lt Col J. B. K. Greenway, Gen Sir Robert Bray, The CO, The Colonel of the Regiment, The RSM, Maj C. C. Kenchington (Mayor of Kirklees) Lt Col W. R. Mundell, Maj E. J. W. Walker  
**Back row L-R—**Mr A. Wood, Mr Brian Curry, Mr Norman Field, Maj K. M. McDonald, WO2 John Hemmings, Mr J. P. B. Golding, Mr Jack Scroby, Mr Arthur Keegan, Mr Tom Waquabaca

opened the scoring for the Dukes with a solo run, and Terry Morrison scorched his path to a hat-trick in reply before half-time. Steve Mortimer came back for the Dukes but the guests responded with a score by Ken Stewart and the warmly acclaimed try of RSM Peter Robinson. Gunther Brand converted this try for the C-in-C's XV. But the Dukes had the last word with tries by Skipper Tim Sinclair, captain for two cup-winning seasons, and again Grogan. The final scoreline of 32—16 to the C-in-C's XV reflected the enthusiasm with which both sides rose to the occasion.

For the celebrations of the weekend in every way illustrated the unique record of Dukes rugby and we were host to a very distinguished body of guests, both from within and outside the Regiment. Gen Sir William Scotter, KCB, OBE, MC, Commander-in-Chief BAOR and President of the Army Rugby Union was the principal guest, and we welcomed our own Gen Bobby Bray, Maj Gen Donald Isles and His Worship the Mayor of Kirklees, Maj Cyril Kenchington, MBE. The gathering that sat down to the superb Centenary dinner also included the Burgermeister of Minden, Brig Walker and a host of names well-known as Dukes or rugby players past and present. It was a pleasure to welcome back Maj Charles Grieve of Scotland and the British Lions, Jack Scrobie, Norman Field, Arthur Keegan and Brian Curry, our Rugby League stars.

Arthur Wood from RHQ and Tom Waquabaca and SM John Hemmings of enduring rugby fame. Mention has already been made of RSM Peter Robinson and we show him here with Csgt Dave Dickins holding the Army Cup which they have both helped to win in five Cup Finals of the record-breaking 13. Among the non-regimental guests were Lt Col Norman Bruce and Lt Col John McDonald both former Scottish internationals and Lt Col Ralph James the Army selector. The success of the weekend was in large part due to the enthusiastic support of the large England contingent who travelled overland or by air to join us and make the Rugby Centenary the singularly Regimental celebration that it was.

#### INTER-SERVICES CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES

**Royal Navy v Army (Mar 8, 1980)**

**Army v Royal Air Force (Feb 23, 1980)**

Admission prices:

West stand, all ranks—Reserved £1.75

Other £1.00

Tickets available from the Secretary ARU: Lt Col P. E. Y. Dawson, Army Sports Control Board, 'M' Block, Clayton Barracks, Thornhill Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2BG. Or at the turnstiles, Twickenham.

**ARMY RUGBY UNION—FIXTURES 1979-80  
1979***October*

Thur 18 ARU Preliminary Trials—H

*November*

Wed 21 RMAS—A

Sat 24 Ebbw Vale—25 Brecon—A

Wed 28 RMCS—A

Thur 29 Aldershot Services—H

*December*

Wed 12 Lydney—A

Sat 29 Blackheath—A

**1980***January*

Wed 2 Hampshire—A

Sat 5 Harlequins—H

Wed 9

Sat 12

Sun 13 Leicester Barbarians—

Wed 16 Surrey—H

Sat 19

Wed 23 Oxford University—A

Sat 26

Wed 30 Rosslyn Park—A

*February*

Sat 2

Wed 6 United Hospitals—H

Sat 9

Wed 13 Cambridge University (Trg)—A

Fri 15 Llanelli (Trg)—H

Wed 20

Sat 23 Royal Air Force—T

Tues 26 Bristol—A

*March*

Sat 1 PSW (Trg)—H

Sun 2 (Trg)

Wed 5 ARUCCC Minor Units UK Final—H

Sat 8 Royal Navy—T

Wed 12 TAVR—H

Sat 15

Wed 19 ARUCCC Major Units UK Final—H

Sat 22 Royal Navy v Royal Air Force—T

Wed 26 Civil Service—A

ARUCCC Minor Units Final—H

*April*Wed 2 ARUCCC Major Units Final—BAOR  
Tour

Wed 23 Courage Army Sevens—H

UK Semi Final

Feb 27, 1980 Feb 20, 1980

UK Final

Mar 19, 1980 Mar 5, 1980

Final

April 2, 1980 Mar 26, 1980  
(in BAOR) (in UK)*Internationals*

Wales v France

England v Ireland

} Jan 19, 1980

France v England

Ireland v Scotland

} Feb 2, 1980

England v Wales

Scotland v France

} Feb 15, 1980

France v Ireland

Wales v Scotland

} Mar 1, 1980



**RUGBY FINAL—ALDERSHOT**  
The Captain of the Duke's XV holds the cup aloft  
in triumph

**ARUCCC**

	<i>Major Units</i>	<i>Minor Units</i>
1st round completed	Oct 31, 1979	Oct 24, 1979
2nd round completed	Nov 14, 1979	Nov 7, 1979
3rd round completed	Nov 28, 1979	Nov 21, 1979
4th round completed	Dec 12, 1979	Dec 5, 1979



## Depot, King's Division

Is it true, or just a rumour, that the Depot is becoming a good place to be? Over the past two months, about half of the 1st Bn seem to have passed through in one way or another. Most of the CTTs and TAVR units in the vicinity are run by Dukes. The Battalion shooting team are visiting at the moment and the KAPE crowd are about somewhere.

We were all pleased to see Lt Col Bray at the King's Div meeting and he managed to get all the Depot Dukes together for a Regimental chat and put us in the picture as regards Battalion news.

Training is in full swing as ever with a new emphasis on the shooting standard of recruits which will no doubt please Platoon Commanders in the Battalion.

There is a new Dukes PR craze at the Depot. One subaltern is often seen aboard a butcher's bike (complete with basket) rather well decorated in Regimental colours. The other one tears about in the Regimental KAPE van—I have it on good evidence that he even tries to claim MMA whenever he uses it! (By the way the 'thing' on top could well be a howdah or a Harrier launching pad!).

There was a gathering of the clans in the 'Old Cock' at Halifax last week which was said to be, 'one of those awful nights!'—again!

### DEPOT LOCATION LIST

Maj Burke—QM  
 Maj Bray—OC 'W' Coy  
 Lt Harvey—Platoon Comd  
 Lt Coburn—Platoon Comd  
 WO2 Toplis—CSM 'Y' Coy  
 Sgt Hutchinson—Platoon Sgt  
 Sgt Wallace—Draft Sgt  
 Cpl Cole—NCO Instr  
 Cpl Cooper—Ord Room  
 Cpl Connolly—NCO Instr  
 Cpl King—NCO Instr  
 Cpl Norton—NCO Instr  
 Cpl Pierce—NCO Instr  
 Cpl Warrior—NCO Instr  
 Cpl Wright—NCO Instr  
 Cpl Whitworth—Trg Wing  
 Lcpl Carbine—MT  
 Lcpl Dickinson—Ord Room  
 Lcpl Eaton—Arms Storeman



**DEPOT KING'S DIV  
 SHOOTING TEAM**  
 Front row left is Cpl B. Whitworth, DWR who is on the staff at the Depot

## ‘C’ (DWR) Company, 1st Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers

### Notes from the Officer Commanding

The past few months have been very busy and eventful for the Company. The recruiting has gone ‘wild’, I am delighted to say at the time of writing we are 172 strong, that is quite an achievement and congratulations to all those who have helped to make us the ‘top’ unit in the country.

Now that the weather has improved we have at last managed to get away at weekends. In particular we had a mini-camp at Fort Tregantle, Plymouth. It turned out to be an exceptional week. The fort built in 1860 overlooks the beaches on the coast about 5km from Plymouth over the ferry. We took 154 men to camp and the weather was absolutely first class uninterrupted sunshine. We had three days adventure training, canoeing, climbing, swimming/gym for which the Royal Navy supplied the instructors and we used HMS *Drake* Plymouth, gym and pool. The instructor for the gym and pool was a very charming Wren rating but looks deceived the beauty, she was a terror with the boys. They came out absolutely shattered and worn out. The next few days were taken up with GPMG (SF), 84 and 66mm and shooting team practices. The signal section and MT cadre HGV had some very good training. In addition we trained 41 of our own recruits and here I would like to thank some of the staff from Kings Div Depot for their help, in particular Sgt Hutchinson who gave up his Easter holiday to come with us.

As you might expect the camp was very successful including the night life in Plymouth. The officers and WOs and sergeants took along their wives who stayed at a farm cottage ½km from the fort. So it seemed everyone was happy. Congratulations are extended to Pte Holden the winner of the best recruit award who has now transferred to the ACC with us—once we found out he was an ex-Royal Navy cook he turned out to be the ‘find of the year’. Pte Kenyon won the Company Commander’s prize for the best overall effort during the course.

The next happy occasion was my visit to Minden where I saw 1 DWR win the BAOR boxing championship once again—but it was a very closely contested match this year. On my return to the UK the KAPE team arrived and I hope we made them comfortable even if they did recruit some of this Company. The send off party we gave them lasted until 3am so it seems it was good enough for them to stay.

The curry supper in June went exceptionally well and we are selling the Company to the town. It is my intention to invite most of the ‘captains of industry’ over the year to forge good working relationships and to cement good ties with the local

authority. Our CO Col Ivey at last managed to get to our curry supper, we have always succeeded in finding a date to prevent him from coming. This time it was a question of upsetting the Lord Lieutenant or the CO with the clash of dates, I prefer to be a coward in these matters and Col Chuck came along. We were given a splendid display by our Corps of Drums on the night. Incidentally, the Yorkshire Volunteers Band has cut its first LP record and it is very good. Should anyone like a copy the cost is £3.00. I would be delighted to forward a record upon receipt of your remittance.

We have been very busy on the sporting scene, the sports night is going well on Wednesdays, Capt Newcombe and Csgt Ashton have been selected for the Bisley team—we wish them well. We took 18 of the Company parachuting on June 9–10 and they really enjoyed it. I went myself and as we were all first timers it was quite an experience, especially when one had to climb out on to the wheel at 2,500ft and when the engine was cut throw oneself backwards and hope for the best. However, it couldn’t have deterred us as we are all going back next month to jump again. The weekend course costs £35 and thereafter £4 a jump.

May I again make a plea for any soldier, NCO or officer coming out to come along on any Tuesday night to have a look at us and if you like what you see—join us. We are all a little excited at the proposed new bounty which could be £400 tax free. This would make it financially worthwhile as well and if you add up the paid training days it means over £1,000 a year—think about it.

With our weekend training we are trying to involve the DWR ACF and DWR CCF Giggleswick and I am delighted to say they have responded well. In addition we are working alongside RCT, RA and RE. The RE have taken our Assault Engineer Platoon away on mine warfare training which is going well.

### OFFICERS MESS NOTES

First and foremost our mini-camp at Fort Tregantle, Cornwall, mention of which was made in the last IRON DUKE.

Maj McClay, the Battalion 2IC, came to visit us, and his guided tour included the subalterns billet—we didn’t believe that human beings could live in such conditions either. Rumour has it that Capt Tim Newcombe attended the mini-camp too. He was seen once—leaving the young officer’s accommodation, considerably blacker than when he entered.

Highlight of the week was a visit to HMS *Amazon*

one of the Navy's newer ships. 2Lt Andrew Carlin declined the invitation, preferring to remain and assist in the instruction of his recruits, or so the OC told him!

The shooting team did not do particularly well this year. New rules for the Nedsam meant that most of our better and experienced shots could not participate. Congratulations go to Capt Newcombe, however, for gaining a medal in the individual pistol competition, NE District.

On June 5 the Mess once more held one of its famous 'Curry Suppers' where directors and managers of local businesses have the opportunity of seeing that the Dukes TAVR still survives in Halifax. Again we can record another successful event, and there is now even talk of the Halifax Building Society opening a branch at the Drill Hall. The guest list included the Lady Mayor, Lt Col C. Ivey, Mr J. P. Crossley of Crossleys Carpets, and Mr Thayre, Chief General Manager of the Halifax Building Society.

#### **WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS MESS NOTES**

Due to the hectic happenings within the Company, ie recruiting, reorganising and training, Mess life seems to have been a little sparse. We have, of course, had our major social event of the year; the St George's Ball. This year the ball was held in the Endcliffe Hall at Sheffield and everyone agreed that it was an excellent setting for such an event. It must have been an enjoyable occasion, judging by the number of revellers who stayed for the champagne breakfast.

During the Easter period, the Company were at Tregantle Fort, near Plymouth, and this gave us an opportunity to set up our own Mess which boosted

the social life somewhat.

As usual, we have maintained our monthly social evenings and on the last occasion we had the pleasure of entertaining RSM Hughes and the KAPE team. We trust that they had an enjoyable evening.

We have recently decided to open the Mess on the second Friday evening of each month. The pattern has been to invite some outside organisations and challenge their prowess at darts, dominoes, carpet bowls and .22 shooting. Up to press, we have entertained the police, the British School of Motoring and Websters Brewery (all are eagerly awaiting the return match with Websters).

In closing these notes, we once again invite any Duke or ex-Duke who is in the area to call into the Mess and have a pint. A warm welcome is assured to all.

#### **WELLINGTON CLUB NOTES**

With the recent influx of recruits the Wellington Club is invariably full on drill nights and on Sundays after weekends away, with the pool table attracting the younger lads and the beer which is a few pence cheaper than normal public houses attracting the older end of the Company. Cpl Eric Moyers is in charge of the bar and has always been popular within the Company. He is also in charge of the Club committee and organises a social evening about once a month on a Saturday night with a disco, supper, and a raffle etc which prove very popular. We are all grateful to Eric for his work on our behalf.

Lcpl Whale has had a recent addition to his family, his wife having had a baby boy a few days ago and both baby and mother are doing fine. Congratulations from us all Ian.

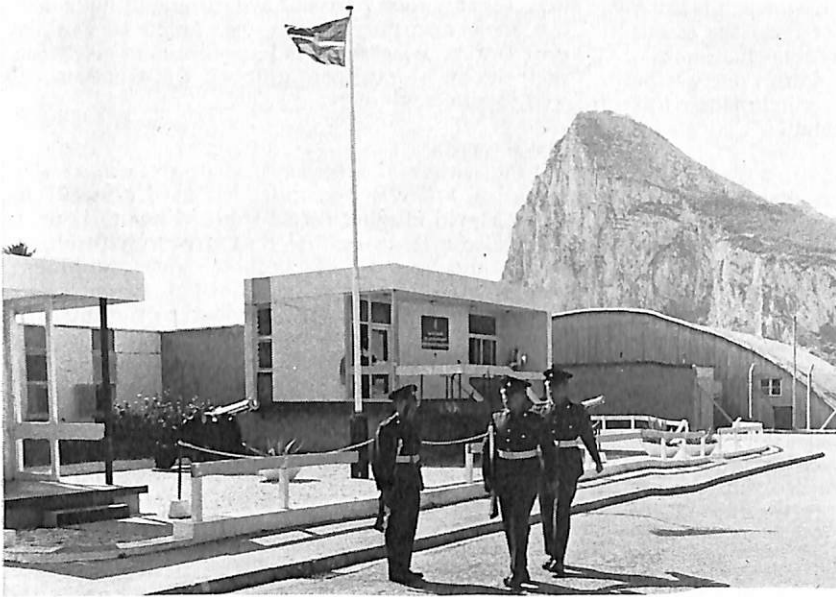
## **'C' (DWR) Company, 3rd Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers**

We may not have appeared in these pages for some months, but this does not mean that we have been idle.

The high spot of this year so far must be the two-week camp in Gibraltar in April. A composite Company formed from all four Companies in the Battalion and named the West Riding Coy moved out to Gibraltar on Saturday, April 14 to take over from a Company of 2 Queens, during their annual training in UK. Activities ranged from providing the border guard at the Spanish frontier and the guard on the Governor's house, to trying out water-skiing and sub-aqua diving. A few ventured across to Morocco during their time off. All those involved

came back with a super sun-tan, raising the envy of all of us who stayed behind! We are now looking forward eagerly to our trips to Gibraltar and the United States, planned for 1980.

On Sunday, March 25, the Battalion was honoured to receive the Freedom of Kirklees. Many hours of preparation went into this occasion, which went off splendidly, in spite of deep snow only the week before preventing us from rehearsing. After a Church Service at the Parish Church, our Honorary Colonel, Maj Gen D. E. Isles received the Freedom from the Mayor, Councillor Cyril Kenchington. We then exercised our Freedom by marching through the town 'with bayonets fixed,



### 3 YORKS GUARD THE ROCK

A composite Company of the 3rd Bn The Yorkshire Volunteers, 130 strong, spent a fortnight in April this year attached to the 2nd Bn The Queen's Regt, thus allowing a Company of the Queen's to be flown to UK for training. Soldiers of 3 Yorks changing guard at the Four Corners Guard Room, Gibraltar, well remembered by those members of the 1st Bn who served in Gib.

colours flying and bands playing', and the day finished with a lunch for all the Battalion and their families.

We recently received a visit from the DWR KAPE team as a result of which four of our soldiers have enlisted in the Regular Army—their gain, but our loss! On the plus side, 'Stumpy' Sullivan, ex-DWR has recently joined us. We say goodbye to

Capt Cris Bown, on his posting to 'B' Coy and Lt Barry Robinson who has been posted as Ops Officer and Assistant Adjutant. As 2IC, we welcome Capt Diana Bull, who must be the first lady ever in a DWR unit.

We are now going full steam ahead on preparations for Annual Camp which this year is at Lydd in Kent.

## Wellesley Company

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

'In media res' our scanty Latin describes Wellesley Coy getting 'into the midst of things' grabbing 1979 by the scruff of the neck and trying to make our mark on yet another ACF year.

### Maj Roger Sugden

Roger Sugden had died—we miss him dearly. Roger was of course the Cadet Executive (Training) for Yorkshire Army Cadet Force. Most of our readers will identify him if I say that he was a very kind and warmhearted man who gave his whole to help his neighbour. Loved by countless Army Cadets and adults alike he was a friend to us all, eager to advise and share our load. Men like Roger Sugden are never replaced; life was enriched for his journey with us. Wellesley Coy will commemorate him in our own little way.

### Comings (and at last . . . no goings)

Welcome aboard to Tony Wood (son of Capt

Wood, Bradford Area) as he joins us at Heckmondwike in the rank of Sgt Instructor. He teams up with Lt Douglas Woodhouse who transfers as OC Detachment from Halifax (to the chagrin of Lt Terry Bonds who thought that at last he had acquired a side-kick) to replace Brian Dolan promoted to RQMSI. Delighted we are for Tony Russell and Stephen Baker who pass District Boards and receive TAVR Commissions and posted to Huddersfield and Heckmondwike Detachments respectively. To complete the moves Capt Peter Turner transfers to Thongsbridge to stimulate them with his infectious enthusiasm.

### Annual visits

The Annual Visit programme for Wellesley Coy was brought to a climax by the visit to Huddersfield Detachment of Brig Dennis Shuttleworth, the Divisional Brigadier. Taking a most detailed interest in the detachment activities and successes

the Brigadier's knowledge and insight of the ACF bordered on the uncanny. All of the visits to our seven detachments have generated much awareness by ACF personnel of our role, and this one was no exception; we are delighted for confirmation that we are heading in the right direction.

#### Weekend camps

An avalanche of Duke's cadets descended upon Anzio Camp, Blackshaw Moor, Leek, for the period April 27-29. Very much a 'physical' weekend we stretched the endurance of our cadets to the limit on very exhausting training areas. Such is the nature of energetic youngsters they lapped it up leaving the adults in varying states of collapse while the kids pleaded for more. Each and every one is a bundle of energy and we are proud of them all.

Following Leek up very swiftly, our own Cadet Training Centre at Strensall hosted the next weekend in mid-May, and super weather supplemented super training on very familiar terrain. Always popular with the cadets this superb ACF centre minimises our administrative problems and Strensall has a military flavour which stimulates the young and not so young in our ranks—due to no small extent by the flair of Maj Derick Roberts who has his finger on the pulse of Yorkshire ACF.

Back to Strensall for the Annual Skill at Arms meeting during June 1-2, an event which Wellesley Coy turn into a mini weekend camp. Five of our

detachments took part and a sixth would have done but for a transport hiccup. We failed to win any pots but at least they had to eliminate us before their sticky little fingers grabbed the trophies—ah well maybe next year.

#### DWR visits

June witnessed a series of visits by a most alert group of 1 DWR personnel led by Lt Stark and RSM David Hughes direct from Minden. Touring three of our bases at TAVR centres they produced a splendid display of weapons and equipment, including £18,000-worth of Clansman, together with films of modern quality. The degree of enthusiasm by every member of the display team was truly unbelievable; our kids goggle-eyed drank it all in like nectar and voted this tour an outstanding success. Thank you most sincerely all at 1 DWR.

Following on from this visit, we look forward to saying hello to the CO Designate Lt Col W. R. Mundell when he visits Huddersfield (including the Detachment) on July 10. We shall report on this visit in the December IRON DUKE.

#### Army Cadet Sunday

Another revival for Wellesley Coy was when 120 Army Cadets plus some 95 adults, spouses and guests attended for Divine Service at Huddersfield Parish Church on June 17. Preceded by a formal parade, the Salute was taken by the County Com-



# J. DEGE & SONS LTD.

Incorporating

## ROGERS, JOHN JONES

Regimental Tailors by appointment to:

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S  
REGIMENT

16 Clifford Street, Savile Row, London W1X 2HS. Telephone: 01-734 2248

mandant Yorkshire ACF, Col C. G. Delaney supported by Lt Col J. Howarth. Canon I. C. Knox in conjunction with Canon R. I. J. Matthews, Padre to Wellesley Coy, conducted the service and yet another milestone surely emerged.

Meanwhile 10 representatives attended the Calderdale Civic Service to Halifax Parish Church on June 10, thus maintaining a Duke's presence in Halifax parades.

#### Gibraltar—Ex Marble Tor

Four very bronzed Cadet NCOs returned from a marvellous attachment to 3 Bn Yorkshire Volunteers in Gibraltar and what a whale of a time they have had. They can't stop talking about the two week visit nor do we want them to stop. 3 Yorks hospitality was great; they gave our four the visit of a life-

time; and Duke's everywhere will be pleased to note that they kept the flag flying in jolly good style.

#### Events galore

Capt Doug Bennett and his Keighley Detachment made yet another conspicuous entry into the Keighley Gala procession whilst Huddersfield Detachment led by 2Lt Tony Russell offer the annual military display at Longley School for the Handicapped. West Riding Cheshire Homes benefit from assistance by the ACF with their annual Flag Day and we hope to emulate the £250 we recently raised for another worthwhile local cause.

Wellesley Coy are out and about whilst preparations formalise themselves for our annual camp at Otterburn in Northumberland. To you all, happy soldiering, see you in December.

## Giggleswick School Combined Cadet Force

Throughout the past winter we have completed the basic training with the recruits, nine passing with either Credit or Distinction. There was a large cadre course this year, keeping us well supplied with NCOs. 2Lt Peter Ford introduced some unarmed combat and the life saving section, which ran for most of the winter terms, was again extremely successful. A total of 33 RLSS awards were gained, including Teacher's and Advanced Teacher's Certificates. The Junior and Senior teams performed well at the Cadet Leadership weekends at Welbeck College. We have renewed our contact with 'C' (DWR) Coy the 1st Bn, The Yorkshire Volunteers at Halifax, and are currently planning to join them on a training weekend exercise.

Undoubtedly, the highlight of our training year has been the attachment to the 1st Bn in Minden, April 3-26. We last visited the Regiment in BAOR in 1965 and so it was with eager spirits that we travelled to Minden at the beginning of the Easter holidays. Four officers and 18 cadets attended, the latter billeted in Somme Coy. The Battalion did everything possible to welcome us and to plan a varied programme. We familiarised ourselves with the APCs and Clansman radios and we were particularly pleased to renew acquaintance with Capt David Richardson, himself a former Giggleswickian. Visits were made to the East German border and to Belsen. We were given a talk on the history of the Regiment and the cadets had the



**VISIT OF GIGGLESWICK SCHOOL CCF TO 1 DWR**  
The CO presenting trophies to the winners of the Drill Competition, Cadet NCOs Hughes, Perkins and Harris

opportunity of seeing the Colours and Regimental silver in the Officers Mess. Our training activities reached a climax on our own 36-hour patrol exercise on Minden south area. Being in Minden for the Rugby Centenary was an added bonus. Our week ended with a drill competition, won by CSM Harris and Sgts Hughes and Perkins. Lt Col Bray presented these cadets with a pewter statuette prior to our departure. We are much indebted to all

members of the Battalion for their efforts and hospitality during our stay.

As a follow up, the KAPE team visited us on June 4, led by Lt Stark and RSM Hughes. The films and demonstrations proved interesting to the contingent as a whole and we hope that when the Battalion returns to UK next year we shall have the opportunity of seeing them more frequently.

N.J.M.

## Obituary

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

### **Mrs E. G. R. Ackroyd**

On May 4, 1979, suddenly, Evelyn Geraldine Ruth Ackroyd, *nee* Wellesley. Evelyn (Pig) Ackroyd was the daughter of the late Lt Col F. H. B. Wellesley, and the sister of the late Maj F. H. V. (Ginger) Wellesley. The funeral took place on Wednesday, May 9, 1979, at Bishopthorpe near York.

### **Maj A. Dennison**

On Wednesday, June 6, 1979, the death in action in Rhodesia of Maj Andre Dennison was reported in the National Press. Andre was commissioned into the York and Lancaster Regt in 1955. He served with his Regiment for two years before seconding to the Parachute Regt. He then returned briefly to his Regiment before another secondment, this time with the Special Air Services. In June 1964, he joined the 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regt in Osnabruck. After a short spell in Alma Coy, he became 2IC of Burma Coy. He played rugby for the Duke's and was a member of the team which won the BAOR sevens in 1964-65. In July 1965 he was seconded to the Malaysian Rangers. His farewell gift to the Bn was a set of silver bayonet covers which are used on the bayonets of the escorts to the colours. Andre never served with the Duke's again, although he transferred to the Regiment when the 1st Battalion The York and Lancaster Regt disbanded in 1969. After his tour with the Malaysian Rangers, he returned to 1st Battalion the York and Lancaster Regt, which was followed by tours with The Malawi Forces, the CBGL Gp on HMS *Ark Royal*, and finally with 6 UDR. In May 1975, he resigned from the British Army and went to live in Rhodesia where he joined their Forces.

Andre was very much an outdoor practical and fighting soldier; throughout his career he never once did a desk job. In the field, he was extremely competent and highly thought of. In the *Yorkshire Post* a brother officer in Rhodesia is quoted as saying

that Andre was aggressively unconcerned for his own safety. 'One thing you can't take away from him' the officer said 'he was one of the best fighting officers in this army'.

Although his death is very sad, it would be true to say, that given a choice Andre would have selected to end his life this way. He was operating in an environment which best suited and appreciated his many qualities. He was made a member of the Legion of Merit in Rhodesia and earlier this year was awarded the Bronze Cross for Gallantry.

### **Mrs A. A. Lennon**

Mrs Alice Anne (Nan) Lennon, widow of the late Maj J. A. Lennon, DSO, MC, died suddenly on April 11, 1979 at her home.

### **Lt Col O. W. Price**

Lt Col Owen William Price died on April 13, 1979 at the home of his sister, Miss E. M. Price, CBE, with whom he had lived since the death of his wife, Margaret, in 1977.

Owen was born on May 15, 1893, and was educated at Radley College and Oxford University. He was commissioned into the Territorial Army on January 21, 1913, and into The Duke's on August 5, 1914. He joined the 2nd Bn and embarked with it for France in the BEF on August 15. He was taken prisoner at Mons on August 24 and spent the rest of the war in captivity.

While a prisoner he learnt Russian and, after repatriation in 1919, spent some months as an interpreter with the British Force in North Russia. After that he spent the rest of his service at regimental duties, mostly with the 1st Bn, until he retired as a Major in 1937. He was, however, one of the minority who saw active service during these years, being with the 2nd Bn during the Mohmand operation on the NW Frontier in India in 1935, and Acting CO of the Battalion during the last mopping-up operation.

He was recalled to the Colours in June 1939. He rejoined the 1st Bn at Bordon, embarked for France with it, as OC 'B' Coy, in September, and became 2IC of the Battalion in December. This time he returned safely to England and spent the rest of the war in various training appointments. At the end of the war he was posted to command 51 POW camp.

After the death of Col O'Kelly in 1975, Owen was the last survivor of the officers of the Regiment who fought at Mons. Owen, himself, was not one to boast of any such claim. Nor, I think, would you have learnt from him that he was the only officer of the Regiment who had embarked with it in the expeditionary force at the start of both world wars. He was a retiring and unassuming man, kind and friendly, with a quiet but lively sense of humour.

He was the editor of THE IRON DUKE for eight years, from 1950-58 when, sadly, failing eyesight forced him to give it up. From the start of the magazine in 1925, poems by 'O.P.' had been a frequent and distinguished feature. Owen had real talent as a writer of light verse and could have made a name for himself in a wider field than a regimental magazine.

In addition to his increasing blindness and the death of his devoted wife, Owen's later years were saddened by the death, in 1966, of his only son, Peter, who was a doctor of political science at Geneva University.

The funeral service took place at Oxford Crematorium on April 20. Maj W. F. C. Robertson represented the Regiment.

R.G.T.

#### **Maj R. E. Sugden**

Maj Roger Ernest Sugden died suddenly on May 9, 1979 in York General Hospital following a second heart attack. He had suffered a severe heart attack some weeks earlier but had returned home and appeared to be well on the way to recovery.

Roger Sugden was commissioned to the Supplementary Reserve in November 1934 and later, in the Regular Army in the Duke's in October 1936. He saw service in India with the 2nd Bn returned to the 1st Bn in England and France in 1939-40 and was wounded at Dunkirk. In succeeding years he was in various parts of UK and in Burma with the Nigeria Regt. After the War a short spell in the Middle East was followed by return to UK to the 1st Bn in 1948 as a Company Commander. Two further terms abroad followed, first with the Somaliland Scouts and then the 2nd Bn Nigeria Regt in West Africa—rejoining the 1st Duke's in Cyprus in 1956. On return to UK (Northern Ireland) he became 2IC of the 1st Bn and took early retirement in 1959.

On retirement he was appointed Cadet Executive Officer of the West Yorkshire ACF, later the Yorkshire ACF with a special responsibility towards training and sport—helping to stage several ACF National Finals.

In later years he also became Secretary of our York Minster Chapel Committee, organising the annual service and its attendant functions with his usual efficiency.

He was a great stalwart, helpful and liked by all. He was above all a great hearted, proud, outspoken Yorkshireman. He had four great loves in his life—Yorkshire, his Regiment, his church—and above all his family. To those of us who counted ourselves privileged to be his friends, we shall miss him—and to his three daughters Rachel, Isobel and Victoria goes all our sympathy.

The funeral service took place at Shipton Parish Church and cremation at Bishopthorpe on May 14, 1979 and was attended by many friends, relatives, representatives of the Regiment, ACF, Royal British Legion and other organisations with which he was associated. G.C.T.

#### **Mrs M. E. Smith**

Mrs M. E. Smith, wife of W. G. Smith, 1 Beech Street, Keighley, Chairman of the Keighley Branch OCA, died in the Sue Ryder Nursing Home, Oxenhope on June 14, 1979, aged 71.

#### **Mr R. Charnock**

Mr R. Charnock of 13 Acton Road, Burtonwood, Warrington, died very suddenly on May 14, 1979.

Sgt Charnock who will be remembered by all who served in the 1st Bn in Italy and Palestine, leaves a widow.

The funeral took place at St Michael's Church, Burtonwood on May 17. Maj B. L. Ellam represented the Regiment.

#### **Mr F. Binns**

Mr Frank Binns died suddenly on June 18, 1979.

Frank was a very popular Signals Instructor and canteen steward in the 5/7 Bn. The funeral took place at Huddersfield Crematorium on June 22. Mr Arthur Wood represented the Regiment.

#### **Mr A. James**

Late 4614574 Sgt A. James (1st and 2nd Bns) of 97 Durants Road, Enfield, Middlesex, died aged 73, on March 7, 1979.

#### **Mr Harold Beverley**

Harold, a Halifax Duke, drummer and boxer, who enlisted in 1922 died at Gosport, Hants in March 1979.

#### **Maj P. A. Haigh**

Maj P. A. Haigh died suddenly at Almondbury, Huddersfield on June 25, 1979, aged 60.

Maj Haigh served in the 2/7 Bn in the early part of the last war before transferring to the Intelligence Corps.

Maj B. L. Ellam represented the Regiment and the 2/7 Bn at the funeral.



## Days of Yore

Two or three weeks ago my wife and I were watching 'Emmerdale Farm' on the tele when there was a knock on the door. She, being a little more sprightly than myself, went to see who our caller was. I heard some muttering and then my wife said, 'There's someone to see you', and led the 'someone' into our living room. To say that I was amazed would be an understatement but, as one character I knew would have put it, 'Y'could 'ave knocked mi dahn wiv a fevver'. But let me start at the beginning . . . . .

In October 1924 at the Regimental Depot of The Duke of Wellington's Regt a new 'Squad' was being formed of the latest recruits and, from thenceforth, the members of it would say, 'I was in the 1924 October Squad'. Often it was said boastfully because of their achievements 'on the square', on the soccer fields or in the 'ring'. The Officer Commanding was, at that time, Maj J. C. Burnett, DSO, with Capt Oliver as his 2IC and RSM W. Callaghan, MC, DCM as their 'righthand man'. The squad instructors were (but not necessarily in this order of seniority) Sgts Thomas, Sunderland, Sturgeon and, the one and only and never to be forgotten, 'Matty' Clinch. There were also junior NCOs, Admin staff and a Depot bugler, 'Ted' Monaghan (a story went to the effect that one morning he was late out of bed and, dressed only in vest and underpants, he threw open the barrack room window and blew 'Reveille' through the open window).

Depot Training lasted 26 weeks and at the end of that time they were 'trained soldiers' in the weaponry of the day, in squad discipline, in cleanliness of self, kit and barrack room and out of it all was being engendered 'Espit de Corps'. Some members of that squad were Ptes Raynor, Pratt, Patterson, Ludlam, Welch, Welburn and 4607708 who is the chief character of this narrative (I cannot divulge his name but of a surety his contemporaries will recognise him). Discipline in those days was far more 'tight' than it is today mainly, I think, because in the 20s and early 30s things were themselves tight. Add to that the general unpopularity of the soldier with the general public. There were no 'Civvy Passes' or 'Blue Patrol' uniform. In other words once a recruit had been issued with his uniform he was *always* in uniform. It needed only one man in 'Khaki' to cause trouble, of any kind, and the whole of the Depot's inhabitants were bad eggs for a long time. 'Confinement to Barracks' and 'Detention' were the official punishments but far more dreaded, by the offending recruit, was the unofficial 'collective' punishment of the whole squad. Many were those who suffered at the hands and feet, of their squad mates.

They had arrived at the Depot from various walks of life: ex-miners, labourers in the building trades, farming or on the highways, the 'dole' queue, true 'wanderers' (tramps) or, perhaps they had been captivated by, the then, 'Join the Army and see the World' posters. To these latter it was the call of

adventure and so it is not surprising that, after three or four weeks of Depot life they changed the wording to read, 'Join the Army, see the World and "Scrub" it'. However, 26 weeks is not a lifetime and so it was that 'October 1924 squad' left Halifax for service with the 1st Bn at New Barracks, Gosport in May 1925. There the squad lost its identity and the men were posted to the Companies designated by the powers that be. There they then found that there was much more to learn: Battalion drill is a far different 'kettle of fish' to squad drill. In early December 17 members of October 1924 squad were amongst those named to be drafted to the 2nd Bn in Cairo at Kasr el Nil barracks . . . their first look at 'The World'.

Once again they had to learn new aspects of 'soldiering'. There was a 'Signal Section' (no W/T in those days), a Vickers MG Company and all manner of fatigues, regimental duties and 'regimental employments', officers 'batmen', school orderlies, cooks, officers mess servants and many others. One of those 17 was my 4607708 and he found that life, as a soldier, was very irksome and frustrating indeed. He was far from home and he had learned that, unless a miracle happened, he was 'stuck' overseas until his 'Seven Years with the Colours' expired. In that he was right, and even the news that the Battalion was shortly moving to Singapore did nothing to cheer him. To him it only meant that he was going to have to do some more 'scrubbing'.

Discipline, as such, he had managed to put up with but the 'Bull', in his view, which emanated from NCOs, of whatever seniority, was anathema to him. He truly disliked (perhaps 'hated' would better sum up his feelings for them) those people with 'stripes' who, at a whim could say, 'Do this, do that', 'Take that bucket and clean it', 'Don't just stand there, move yourself' etc, etc. Much later he once confided to me that one of his 'buddies' on being made Lcpl had said to him, 'Now watch it, I've got the whole War Office behind me'. I cannot repeat '7708's reply. I first heard of him when I too joined the 2nd Battalion in February 1928, on 'Boys Service' (we were kept strictly isolated from the 'Men'), but my first real contact with him was in Ahmednagar, India. It was a night of the Inter-Coy Knockout Boxing Shield and '7708 was sitting next to me. A chap of 'A' Coy made (we afterwards learned) an improper suggestion to him. '7708 hit him once but what a blow it was and he was in the Guard Room in no time at all. The next morning he could, I suppose, in his defence have told the CO what had been suggested. He did not do so and consequently he went 'over the wall' for 14 days.

After that I saw him occasionally around barracks, on the sports fields, on guard mounting or in the canteen but we never got 'pally' or conversed together. Having written all those derogative things about him please let me turn the 'coin' over and take a look at the other side. He represented the 2nd

Battalion at soccer, he was more than a useful athlete and hockey player and, maybe it is hard to believe, he was popular and if I may use a well known couplet from a military ballad, 'For all his foolish pranks, he was worshipped in the ranks'. Most importantly he was, in my opinion, one of the smartest and cleanest soldiers it has been my pleasure to see. When he 'mounted guard' he was always the 'Stick Man' (CO's orderly for the day and he got his night in bed) and it counted as a guard duty on the duty roster of his Company. And so I come back to the knock on our house door.

The caller was of course '7708 (I was not then aware of his Regimental number) and with him he had brought a couple of books and a packet of Manikins. I repeat that I was amazed but I was also very thankful for his coming. After a few minutes my wife effaced herself from the scene and '7708 and I started our very first conversation. What a conversation it turned out to be; what names and happy and unhappy incidents were touched upon.

After all, here we were some 6,000 miles from where we had first met and 50 years on in time. Never had I dreamed that '7708 would one day sit in my home. Never had I thought that this man would one day replace, in essence, a reunion dinner which I was due to miss. When we were eventually called to order by 'She who must be obeyed' (with apologies to Rumpole of the Bailey) it was almost 11pm, three-and-a-half hours of real 'nitty-gritty' old sweats talk and comradeship. He is now, needless to state, a regular caller and if, in the course of our 'nattering' a few ears burn, it is not by any manner of means all 'cut-throat' talk.

He is 72 years of age now, works part-time, is as straight and erect and equally as smart as ever he was in his 'Dukes' blazer and tie, highly polished shoes and nearly trimmed hair. Surely out of our Regimental Depot, the 'irksomeness', the 'Bull' and the 'drudgery' was born an Old Comrade.

Sax

# Regimental Association

## NEWS ITEMS—NOTES OF INTEREST

### AGM and Reunion Dinner, 1979

Halifax, Prescott Street Drill Hall, Saturday, September 29, 1979. AGM, Sergeants Mess 6.30pm. Dinner 7.30 for 8.00pm. Tickets £4, from RHQ or Branch Secretaries.

### Regimental Service, York Minster, Saturday, November 3, 1979

All meet in St William's College (behind East of Minster) at 1030hrs for coffee and biscuits. Service in the Minster 11.30hrs. Other activities on that day are not yet finalised but will be notified to Branches when firm.

### London and Home Counties Reunion and Dinner 1980

Saturday, May 24, 1980, in the Carisbrooke Hall, The Victory Club, Marble Arch, London. Tickets £5. All details from Mr Ken Waterman, 21 Vivian Court, 128-134 Maida Vale, London W9.

## NEWS

### Branch Notes

Meetings are held, socials enjoyed, 'governments' changed, but throughout, that military bond of comradeship, the feeling of 'belonging' to something 'larger', undefinable and unexplainable keeps the wheels turning, maybe slowly at times but always with the secure knowledge that any problems or demands can be met, dealt with, then—'unload', 'as you were' situation all round.

Huddersfield are expanding and increasing their membership. Socials, fund-raising activities and outings keep diaries full. There is an excellent

relationship and co-operative spirit with the local branch of the Dunkirk Veterans Association (who are mainly Dukes anyway!) and the branch's officials and Committees vie with each other to keep interest alive and gatherings increasingly pleasurable.

**Halifax.** At the AGM on June 9, 1979, Capt (Sax) Rowlands informed the meeting that through health reasons he was relinquishing the appointment of Secretary/Treasurer after 17 years service with the branch. Although this did not come as a complete surprise, when realisation dawned, there was a 'void' and missing quantity that could be felt. It was a sad and moving moment for Harold, especially when the presentation of a clock was made to him by members of the branch in appreciation of all the hard work he had done over the years. Mrs Rowlands (Pat) was presented with a bouquet to show esteem to the 'woman behind the man'. We hope that Sax and Pat will long continue to attend our meetings and social functions and that they both enjoy the relaxation of retirement.

Mr Ernest Hale was appointed Secretary/Treasurer vice Captain Rowlands. Mr Bill Holt continues as Chairman.

Mossley are already preparing to meet their guests from HEM (France) who this year will be arriving on November 2 returning November 5—to get ready to receive their Mossley guests in France from November 9-12, 1979. In the meantime Mossley branch are setting the wheels in motion for another of their Grand Socials in the Greenfield Social Club on Saturday, September 8, 1979.

### 'Get-together'—Sheffield Area

During the recent KAPE tour by members of the 1st Bn I visited the newly appointed Dukes Pub in Sheffield—The Horse Shoe, Bellhouse Road, Sheffield S5.

There is great potential here and excellent facilities for a real lively 'get-together' of Dukes, York and Lancasters, Korean Veterans, Association members and friends of the Regiments.

A seed has been sown and the General Secretary at RHQ DWR would be grateful for any ideas or suggestions from interested persons who would enjoy a real old meeting and reunion (and within easy reach on the M1, Junction 35).

### Trip to Fleetwood

Huddersfield Branch are organising a summer trip to Fleetwood where they will visit the Association branch of the King's Own Royal Border Regt.

Our good friend Sid Code, who now resides nearby in Preesall, did some very useful 'spadework' on our behalf.

### Personalia

Ex-Csgt Colin (Pop) Coates formerly of The York and Lancaster Regt, The Dukes and a former training instructor at Strensall in the late 40s and early 50s, together with his wife, are hoping to attend our annual reunion and dinner in Halifax on September 29, 1979.

Now aged 70, he and his wife reside at Flat 63, Porterbrook, Sharrow Vale Road, Sheffield S11 82J.

### Michael John

Michael, who was very seriously wounded whilst serving with the 1st Bn in Northern Ireland on August 26, 1977, is making a near miraculous recovery. Discharged from the Army and hospital he is now living with his parents at 113 Rawthorpe Lane, Rawthorpe, Huddersfield.

### Bequests

The late James Ivan Hewitt (formerly 4613515) 2 DWR has bequeathed £1,000 to the Regimental Benevolent Funds (OCA Fund).

The late Lt Col Owen Price (obituary in this issue) has bequeathed £100 to the Regimental Benevolent Funds (OCA Fund).

The late Mr Tom Miller (obituary in the April 1979 issue) has bequeathed £100 to the Regimental Benevolent Funds (Regimental Association Fund).

### Enquiries

A relative, living in New Zealand, is enquiring about the history and Army service of Lt Alexander Osborne Bonnar who enlisted in the 6th Bn (T) Duke of Wellington's Regt on June 5, 1915.

Would anyone who may have knowledge of this officer please contact RHQ DWR.

Mr James Denton of 12 Manor Close, Sheffield S21 WR, who served in the 2nd Bn in India and Burma during World War II, would like to get in touch with any comrades who served in the Battalion with him, and who live in the Sheffield area.

### Jobs

The Royal British Legion Attendants Company Ltd have vacancies for worthwhile employment for ex-Forces personnel working in security and car parking, commissionaires and admission duties. Details from RHQ DWR. A.W.

### SHADES OF INDIA

In my quest for interesting news for this journal, Harry Haldenby (4612170) 1st and 2nd Bns, 1934-46, brought in three photographs:

1. A large Company group of 'C' Coy 2nd Bn, February 1940 with OC Coy Capt J. Dalrymple, CSM Larry James etc.
2. The Choir, including Harry, outside the church in Multan, India, October 1939, after the christening of Lt Col M. R. N. Bray.
3. The Arras Squad on parade at the Depot, Halifax 1935.

Also a report on a route march is republished 'uncut' to jog a few memories.

It was April 1936, the 2nd Bn were due to move from Nowshera to Cherat. Lt Col Cox who was commanding the Battalion decided it would be a good idea to march up the hills, so together with Lt Moran, the Adjutant and RSM Brenchley the plans were laid.

The coys 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'HQ' would parade on the square at 05.45hrs ready to move off at 06.00hrs in the cool of the morning.

Capt Sayers and CSM Stannard led off 'A' Coy towards the foothills, the appointed place where the Bobagies? had proceeded to prepare breakfast at 08.00hrs, the remainder of the Battalion following. This part of the march was easy and of course was reached without incident so breakfast of sausage, bacon and beans was taken in good style. Of course the usual 'Kite Hawks' had a good breakfast also.

When breakfast was finished the order to move off was given and the hazards of the march began to appear; the expected road disappeared and instead it became a single file track on treacherous ground of loose rocks etc. As we went round each bend we could clearly see the white church at the top and the all too familiar saying of 'It is just round the next bend' was repeated by NCOs Cpl Jickells, L/Cpl Crowther, Kenny, Cpl Kennedy, Sgts Bell, Wardle, Love—together with CSMs Dalton and James urging us along as the Battalion strung out. Water bottles were emptied and thirst was beginning to take its toll as we struggled round each bend looking up at the church again only to find it seemed as far away as ever and to hear again 'It's only round the next bend!'

By now the usual 10min halt in the hour had gone by the board, the Battalion was so long strung out it was impossible to keep control, the marching order we were carrying became heavy, so we began to sit and rest awhile then carry on a bit further. Instead of the rifles being carried in the slung position they were laid to rest on top of the pack across the shoulders. Needless to say whenever a spring of water appeared great gulps were taken. Eventually the last bend came where plenty of



WHERE ARE THEY  
NOW? NO 2  
Another of Mr A. G. Dale's  
photographs of the pre-  
war 2nd Bn

water was produced in baths, men and horses drinking from them—this of course was brought to

the top of the hills by the married ladies—Mrs's Kennedy, Love, Wardle, Bell, Lyons etc. (H.H.)

## Lady Grover's Hospital Fund for Officer's Families

Founded by Lady Grover in India in 1911, under the title of the 'Officers' Families Hospital Fund', its purpose was to help officers meet the heavy costs of hospital treatment for their families, there being no free medical service for them in those days.

On the premature death of Lady Grover in 1912, the Fund adopted its present title in her memory. Initially membership was restricted to officers serving on the Indian Establishment, but in 1923 membership was opened to serving and retired regular officers of all three Services, wherever they were living or serving, for the benefit of their families. This is still the position.

Below are details of the current benefits and scales of subscription. The Fund has never sought to cover all the costs of hospital treatment, but *to help* towards them. It does provide benefits which some other public schemes do not, such as home-help after a wife or child has come out of hospital, and convalescence away from home, and the annual subscriptions, which cover the subscriber's wife and all his dependant children are extremely low compared with other schemes. Officers' widows can become members in their own right.

In spite of the introduction of free medical services for the families of serving officers, the National Health Service, and the several major provident insurance schemes, this small Fund—brought into being 68 years ago, well in advance of current thought—is still going strong. The Committee believe it would be going even stronger if more people knew of its existence.

### Lady Grover's Hospital Fund for Officers' Families

(Registered under the Friendly Societies Acts 1896-1974)

#### Benefits and subscriptions

- The purpose of the Fund is to *help* regular officers, serving or retired (and including the womens Services), meet, for a *very low annual subscription*, the often heavy and unexpected costs of the illness of a dependant member of their family:

Benefits	Maximum grant per week	
	Scale 'X' £	Scale 'Y' £
Private nursing treatment in hospital or nursing home	65	154
Temporary Employment, at home of a qualified nurse	49	49
Convalescence away from home	42	42
Temporary employment of a home help	20	20

Benefits are granted for a maximum of 8 weeks (12 weeks for home help) in a period of 12 months. They may be combined provided the total for any one week does not exceed £65 for Scale 'X' members and £154 for Scale 'Y' members.

Subscriptions	Per calendar year	
	Scale 'X' £	Scale 'Y' £
Under 35 years of age	5	10
Under 45 but over 35 years of age	6	12
Aged 45 and over	8	16

Subscriptions may be paid quarterly or half-yearly for a small extra charge.

**Special features**

2. Officer subscribers are *not* themselves eligible for benefits but their single annual subscription, at Scale 'X' or 'Y', covers, subject to certain conditions of age, their wife and all dependant children.
3. Widows of regular officers are eligible for membership in their own right and are also eligible for benefits for themselves.
4. The Committee of Management is empowered to make ex-gratia grants beyond the benefit entitlement in cases of special financial hardship and uses this power freely.
5. The Fund may be used in conjunction with BUPA and similar schemes to provide the best possible cover for dependants at the lowest possible cost.

**Management**

6. The Fund is non-profit-making, and is administered by a Committee of serving and retired officers of all three Services. The Committee includes representatives of other Service charities and senior officers of the three Medical Services and Personal Services.

**Information**

7. For further details and a form of application for membership please write to: The Secretary, Lady Grover's Hospital Fund for Officers' Families, 58 Trentham Street, London SW18 5AR, or phone 01-874 2901.

**THE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

**THE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**, 28 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QE, relieves distress among ex-officers or their widows and dependents, with financial grants, help in finding places in Residential Homes for the elderly, Nursing Homes and Convalescent Homes and, if necessary, assistance with fees. It has a Country Home in South Devon for active elderly male ex-officers of limited means, and a bungalow estate in Hertfordshire for disabled ex-officers and their families. It gives help and advice regarding retired pay and pensions and in the preparation of appeals regarding Disability or War Widows Pensions. It has a Clothing Store for ex-officers in need. The Resettlement and Employment Department is part of the Regular Forces Resettlement Service and helps any unemployed ex-officer to find employment.

If you hear of any ex-officers or officers' widows in distress, please tell them to write to The General Secretary, The Officers' Association, 28 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QE (01-235 8112).

# Keeping in touch

The 'Evening Courier' keeps the people of Calderdale in touch with their community- & their Regiment.

**EVENING COURIER**  
**King Cross St, Halifax.**  
**Telephone 65711**

Digitised by The Regimental Archives

