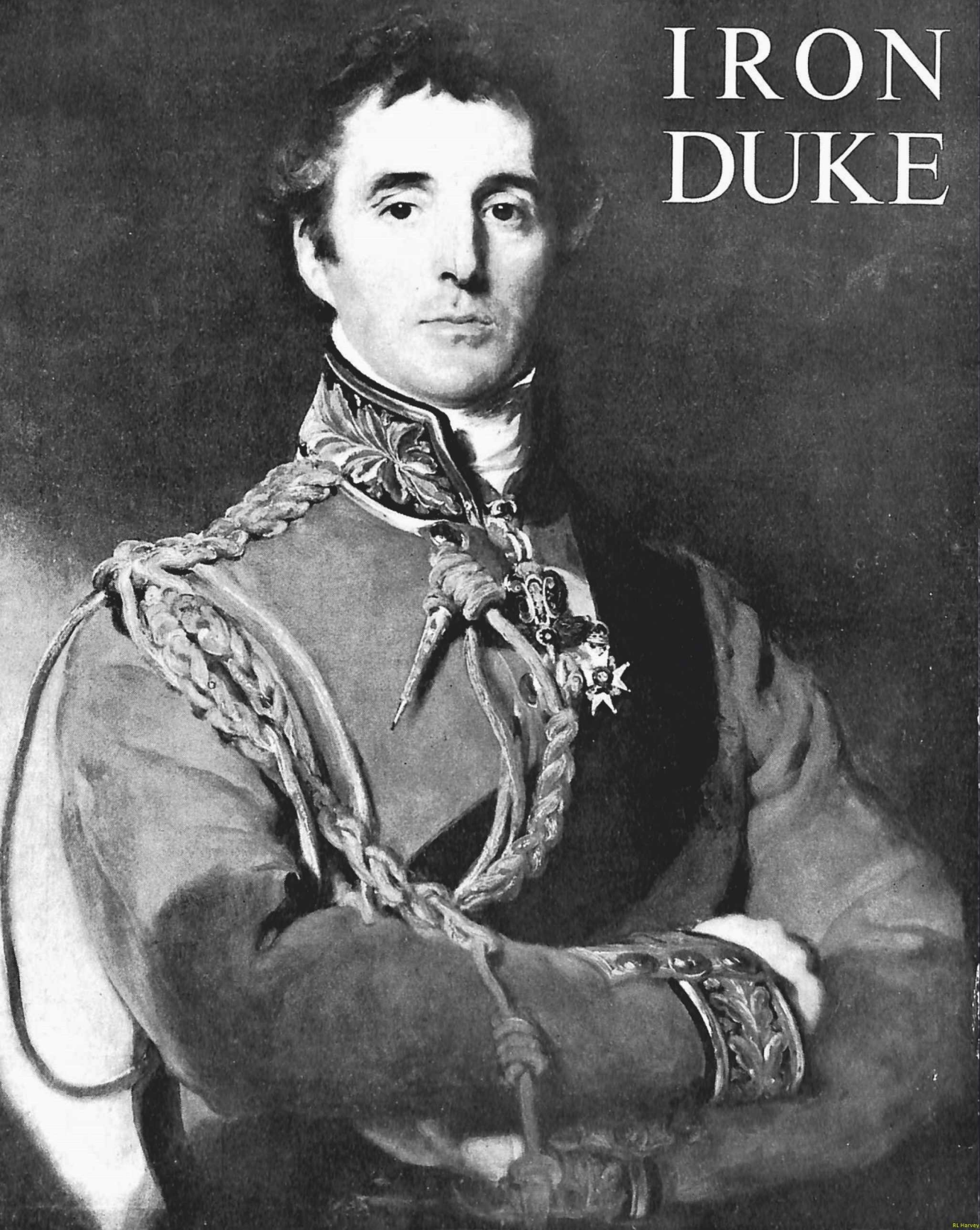


No.181 December 1979

# 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

DECEMBER 1979

No 181

### 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*

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WEST YORKSHIRE HX2 0BA.  
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Copy for the April 1980 issue should reach the Editor by February 14, 1980.

#### Acknowledgement

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

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To mark the 300th anniversary of the first-ever award

## The Battle Honours of Britain's Fighting Regiments 1680-1980



To mark the 300th anniversary of the British Army's first battle honour – at Tangier in 1680 – the Naval & Military Gallery announces publication of a remarkable and historic military fine-art print collection: The Battle Honours of the British Army 1680-1980.

The complete collection – the first of its kind anywhere in the world – will comprise one hundred fine-art military prints, covering every war and campaign, and representing every regiment of the British Army.

Here, of course, are the great victories which are ever familiar: Blenheim and Balaclava, Quebec, Khartoum, Waterloo and a score of others. Here, of course are the two great world wars from the Retreat at Mons in 1914 to the advance into Hitler's Germany in 1945. But here, also, are all those "little wars" which once maintained and expanded the British Empire. In India and Africa, in China and Russia.

Together, this long roll of battle honours represents the proud traditions of almost a hundred cavalry and infantry regiments – names which in so many cases have now sadly passed into history.

The Battle Honours of the British Army is a 300th

anniversary tribute which will be sought all over the world. But to underline its importance, and to emphasise its value, each battle print in the collection is being restricted to only 500 numbered copies worldwide.

Each limited edition print can be bought singly, or in combination; sets can be built up to commemorate the honours of an individual regiment, or of a particular campaign. And, for the very few, there is the complete collection itself: one hundred great battle honours – in a collection which will be recognised as an outstanding acquisition.

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two years, the Battle Honours of the British Army represents a rare opportunity to build, step by step, a personal regimental collection of exceptional and wide-ranging interest, or a definitive complete collection of a kind otherwise unobtainable. And all at a comparatively modest cost.

Advance reservations are now being accepted – subject to the limits of 500 only per print. For details and a full descriptive brochure, please write or telephone now.

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collection of one  
hundred fine-art  
prints. And a  
tribute to the  
proud traditions  
of your regiment.



The Naval & Military Gallery, 16 Albermarle Street, London W.1. Telephone: 01-493 3264

# 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 NG32 1JZ*

## REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

*Wellesley Park, Highroad Well, Halifax HX2 0BA*

Regimental Secretary: Major G. C. Tedd

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major J. S. Milligan

## THE 1st BATTALION

*BFPO 29*

CO: Lt.-Col. W. R. MUNDELL      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 HX1 2LG*

*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 HD1 3DR*

*Commander : Major M. Hawley*

## ARMY CADET FORCE

### WELLESLEY COMPANY

#### (THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT)

Huddersfield area ACF

*Commander : 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 : BRIG. D. W. SHUTTLEWORTH, OBE, HQ The Kings Div., Imphal Barracks, York YO1 4HO*

*General Secretary : Mr A. Wood, Wellesley Park, Halifax HX2 0BA*



LT. COLONEL E. M. LIDDELL, OBE.

Lt. Col. M. R. N. Bray, representing the Colonel of the Regiment, presenting Colonel Liddell with a Bronze Statuette from the 1st Bn and a cheque from the Regiment on his 100th birthday. Also in the picture are Colonel Liddell's wife and grandson.

# Regimental Headquarters

## Regimental Notes

### Lt Col E. M. Liddell, OBE

On 5th November 1979 a landmark in a personal history and in our Regimental history was achieved. For on that date Lt Col Eric Liddell became 100 years of age. He is the regiment's oldest surviving officer, and we are, and he must also be, justly proud of his having achieved his century.

We have had some problems in putting together his 'record of service,' but by taking the shortest route possible, the direct line of communication with the help of Major John Davis, direct to the Liddell family, we managed to obtain details of Eric Liddell's service.

He was originally in the Militia, presumably in the Militia Battalion of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment; as we learnt only recently that his father was a businessman in Huddersfield, and was an officer in the VI West Yorkshire Rifle Volunteers the forerunner of the 5th Bn DWR (TA)—indeed we understand he was one of the founder members of the 5th Bn Officers' Dinner Club. And there is an extant menu card of 1919, the year of the founding of that club, which bears his signature.

Eric Liddell was born on 5th November 1879—a year in which both the 33rd and 76th were in existence as separate regiments. He was commissioned into the Regular Army on 4th April 1900 in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and joined the 1st Battalion at Bloemfontein (shortly after the battle of Paardeburg). He had already been out in South Africa for some time with the Militia Battalion. Eric Liddell quotes his pay then as being 3/6d a day, the same as at the time of Waterloo!

He continued to serve with 1st Battalion throughout the Boer War, being wounded at a place which he describes as Waterfall North! Later he joined 'H' Company of the 15th Mounted Infantry, and later, one of our first Commandos. He returned to UK with the 1st Battalion to York in late 1902.

Eric Liddell accompanied the 1st Battalion to India in October 1905, to Darjeeling. He became Adjutant of the battalion in 1906—following the then Capt R. N. Bray (father of Sir Robert and grandfather of Michael and Martin)—and in 1906/07 season played in the battalion side which

won all the three trophies, Calcutta Cup, Bombay Cup and Madras Cup. He also played in the battalion polo team in 1907/08.

From 1910 to 1915 Eric Liddell was Adjutant of the North Bengal Mounted Rifles, and twice during this period ventured into Tibet visiting various posts and establishments. We understand, although he himself doesn't mention it, that he took part in the Younghusband expedition into Tibet in 1905/06 and is one of the last, if not the only, survivor of that expedition. On a personal note, Eric Liddell mentions the great hospitality and friendship he received from some of the old and great princes of India of that time—Cooch Behar, Dabanga and Nawa Nugger.

In 1912 Capt E. M. Liddell, as he then was, and representing the 1st Battalion was a member of the Committee which met at the Union Jack Club in London on 4th October of that year which founded the Old Comrades Association of the Regiment. Thus, he was a founder member of our current Regimental Association, and is the sole survivor of that Committee.

During World War I Eric did not serve with the Dukes but with other regiments; but, as he said in a recent letter, 'I was always a Duke's man, from start to finish.'

During 1914–18 he served with various regiments taking part in, amongst others, the actions at Beaumont and Thiepval. In 1917, whilst commanding 7th Bn The Royal West Kents near Arras, he was badly wounded and lost the sight of his right eye. Later that year he became CO of a Service Bn of the Queen's Regt at Passchendaele. From 1918–19 he ended the war as Commandant at Folkestone Garrison, and retired in 1919. He tells us that he was recalled in 1920 and 1926. He was awarded the OBE for his services towards the end of the war.

So, we salute a gallant and experienced old soldier whose handwriting and mental alertness belie his age. Indeed, earlier this year (1979) he had a fall and broke his thigh. In his own words, thanks to the devoted nursing and care of his beloved wife he came through and is now active and walking again.

## Vice-President of the Regimental Association

Colonel J. Davidson has retired as Vice-President of the Association after many years contiguous and devoted service. The Regiment as a whole and the Association in particular are very grateful to him for all he has done. He has been succeeded as Vice-President by Brigadier D. W. Shuttleworth, OBE.

It is also interesting to note that Col Davidson retired from his position as an RO, serving in the Manning & Records Office (North) in York, this year. He had served the Crown as a serving officer and as a retired officer, continuously, for over 44 years.

## The McGuire Bate Fund

The last notice about the McGuire Bate Fund appeared in the Iron Duke nine years ago and the Colonel of the Regiment and the current Chairman of the Committee consider that it is time once again to draw attention to it.

The Fund exists to assist officers of the Regiment, together with their wives, widows and children, who may find themselves permanently or temporarily in difficult financial circumstances or be actually suffering hardship.

Whilst the Welfare State does an enormous amount to mitigate distress, there will always be some cases which do not come within its terms, a great deal of difference, and it is such cases as these which the Committee would like to know about.

The Committee, consisting of three officers of the Regiment, serving or retired, are not do-gooding busy-bodies, eagerly probing into the private affairs of people who would far rather sweat it out on their own. They do not distribute colour TV sets—and the licence fee—though they might very well provide a decent radio for a bed-ridden old lady with failing eye-sight, and they might be able to help, at least to some extent, in ensuring that the education of a likely boy was not jeopardised by the untimely death or illness of the bread-winner.

Most people are very diffident about asking for help, with the praise-worthy feeling that there are probably others in even greater need than they are themselves. Whilst this attitude is understandable and even admirable it is also misguided, since the fact remains that the Fund exists to give help

whenever a genuine need is disclosed. The annual income is not large by present day standards but we have lived within it for some years and have been in a position to re-invest the balance. This is not an excuse for profligacy but it does mean that we can and will help to the best of our ability any deserving case that is brought to our notice, and in this way continue to fulfil the admirable conception of the late Major McGuire Bate when he bequeathed the basic capital to establish the Fund.

It is scarcely necessary to add that all enquiries and requests and all subsequent correspondence are absolutely confidential. The composition of the Committee (of three) is in the hands of the Colonel of the Regiment and members hold office for three years or for such longer period as they are prepared to make themselves available and subject always to the right of the Colonel to make such changes as he sees fit.

The Regimental Secretary acts as Secretary of the Committee and it is worth noting that at Regimental Headquarters there is a great deal of knowledge and experience in these matters. Thus, advice is always available on other possible sources of assistance to supplement that which the Fund itself is able to provide.

Applications for help, or indications from friends where personal knowledge shows that help is needed and would be welcome should be addressed in the first instance to:—

Regimental Secretary,  
RHQ The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

## The Halifax Club

The Halifax and Borough Club is due to close its doors for the last time in March 1980.

Formed as St James' Club in 1868 with premises in Crown Street, it moved to its present site at Barrow Top in 1882 and became known as The Halifax Club. Ever since the end of the last war—one might say since the emancipation of women—the Club, in common with similar institutions throughout the country, has steadily declined in membership and useage. All sorts of ideas and efforts have been tried out by the various committees, culminating in a merger in 1973 with The Borough Club. The Borough—which was founded in 1890—was suffering in the same way as ourselves. Unfortunately decreasing membership and the consequent decrease in finances has continued and closure has become inevitable. The Club has acted as host to countless officers of the Dukes during their sojourns at The Depot or as Adjutants and Staff Officers to the various TA Battalions, and I am sure that many of the older members of the Regiment will look back on many happy hours spent within its portals.

Two of the best remembered regimental characters were 'Boffin'—the late Sir Robert Henniker—during his tour as Adjutant of the 4th Battalion in the middle twenties and again during the time when he returned to Halifax shortly before his death in 1958. A caricature of him partaking of an early morning 'Ebenezer' graced the walls for many years until—along with all the other caricatures—it was taken down and in this particular case, handed to his daughter Anne.

Rupert Carev on his retirement came to live in the district and up to the time of his death was an almost ever present, more than useful snooker player and a very charming character. He was greatly missed by all members.

The Albany Club will shortly be the sole survivor of this particular type of club in the Halifax district. The Regimental Secretary has joined along with the bulk of the remaining members of the Halifax and Borough. I am sure that all Officers of the Regiment finding themselves in Halifax will be given a warm welcome to their premises.

N.T.B.

## Museum/Archives Acquisitions

There have not been many acquisitions to the Museum since the last list was published in the Iron Duke in August 1976. However, to keep up to date the following is a list of donations, gifts or purchases accepted for the Museum, Archives or RHQ over the last three years or so.

### Medals of:

Col L. E. BISHOP—MC, 1914/18 War Medal and Victory Medal, 1939/45 Defence Medal and War Medal.

Pte E. VARY—1914/18 War Medal and Victory Medal, 1939/45 Defence Medal and War Medal, George V Jubilee Medal, LS and GC Medal.

Lt E. WILSON—MC, 1914/15 Star, War Medal, Victory Medal.

Lt Col H. HARVEY—OBE, MC, 1914/18 War Medal, Mercantile Marine Medal and Victory Medal, 1939/45 Star, Italy Star, Defence Medal, War Medal, Cadet Forces Medal. Donated on long loan by Mrs Harvey.

Pte P. WATERHOUSE—Military Medal.

Sgt A. WHITTAKER—Military Medal, 1914/15 Star, 1914/18 War Medal and Victory Medal.

### Other Items

Fragment of hair, believed to be from the mane of Copenhagen, The Duke of Wellington's Charger. Donated by Mrs Kay Williams.

Photograph album of pictures collected by Drum Major F. C. Richardson, 2nd Bn, when the Bn was serving in the West Indies and Nova Scotia in the 1880s/1890s.

Album of photographs collected by Sir William Fenton, ex 4th Bn, of scenes and individuals during World War I. Donated by his son.

Papers, document, diaries and other relics of Lt Col F. Longden-Smith, ex 6th Bn, donated by Mai C. M. B. Bateman.

Diaries and his own War Diary of Col Keith Sykes, ex 5th Bn.

Scrap books, books and varied papers of Brig Gen P. H. TURNER, ex Col of the Regt. Donated by Col R. G. TURNER.

Papers, diaries, scrap books and similar souvenirs, sword and scabbard, lace sword slings, helmet chin scales and several uniforms of Lt Col A. G. HORSFALL who was killed commanding the 2nd Bn in France in 1917. The uniforms include pre 1914 RMC Cadets Full Dress Tunic, 1912-16 pattern SD Tunic, two post 1905 Full Dress Tunics, Mess Dress jacket, two white tropical mess dress jackets with stand up collars, white mess dress waistcoats, blue frock coat, blue patrol jacket, two pairs blue overalls.

Copy of the discharge papers and associated documents of Drummer M. Magner, VC, 33rd Regt—obtained through a Mr John Winton of Denbigh in Wales who holds the originals.

Officers Scarlet Tropical tunic with white facings. Probably post 1902 but pre 1905. Pur-

chased from Wallis & Wallis by the Museum.

Perhaps the most important and significant acquisitions are two items of uniform purchased with the help of a grant from the Army Museums Ogilby Trust. The first is a scarlet coatee of the period 1829-1855. What makes it interesting is that the buttons on it are 'silver' and are those of the 76th Regt. There is no lace on the coatee so we cannot ascertain if it was silver or gold. If it was silver, which the 'silver' buttons suggest it was, it narrows the dates considerably, as regiments were instructed to change to gold lace and buttons in 1830. The other item is a pair of shoulder wings of a subaltern of a flank (Light) company, with 'silver' chain crescent and bullion. Each has a button of the 76th Regt which indicates they were of the Regiment, but there is nothing to indicate, or authenticate they belong to this coatee. However, the period and pattern is right, and there are holes in the shoulders of the coatee which indicate the wearer wore flank company wings at some stage. There are many intriguing features about these two items—and because of that they are being examined in detail by our Museum Staff and it is hoped to produce a separate article, with photographs, in the next Iron Duke. (The buttons bear the elephant looking rather like a pig (hence one of the nicknames of the 76th—the Pigs?) and the title HINDOOSTAN and the Honour PENINSULA.



A silver button on the Scarlet Coatee of the period 1829-55 recently purchased for the Regimental Museum

(Photo: Western Museum & Art Gallery Service)

**The Officers' Association**, 28 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QE, relieves distress among ex-officers or their widows and dependants, 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).

## Personalia

### PROMOTIONS

To Lt Col 31 December, 1979—Maj C. R. Cumberlege.

To Lt Col 31 December, 1979—Maj W. F. Charlesworth.

To Major 30 June, 1979—A/Maj M. P. C. Bray.

To Major 31 December, 1979—A/Maj J. R. A. Ward.

### APPOINTMENTS

Lt Col J. B. K. Greenway—GSO1 DPS (B Team) MOD, August 1979.

Lt Col M. R. N. Bray—GSO1 (DS) National Defence College, September 1979.

Lt Col C. R. Cumberlege—GSO1 (Ops/Int/Sy) HQ SE District, January 1980.

Lt Col W. F. Charlesworth—Selected to attend NDC Latimer January to August 1980.

Maj P. B. L. Hoppe—to 1 DWR May 1979.

Capt C. J. W. Gilbert—selected to attend Staff College ASC No. 15, Div III—RMCS Shrivenham October 1980, Camberley January 1981.

Capt A. J. Pitchers—for Coy Comd in Royal Brunei Malay Regt January 1980.

Lt P. R. S. Bailey—to Junior Soldiers Bn Taunton, August 1979.

Lt P. J. Harvey—for 1 DWR from the Depot March 1980.

Lt T. J. Coburn—for 1 DWR from the Depot March 1980.

Lt J. A. C. Kilburn—for the Depot March 1980.

2 Lt N. G. Borwell—for the Depot March 1980.

### RETIREMENTS

Lt R. M. L. Colville, retired from the Active List 31 August, 1979.

### NEW OFFICERS JOINING THE REGIMENT

2 Lt (On Probation) A. J. Brear, who was granted an Army Scholarship in early 1977, has been awarded an Army Cadetship as a graduate entrant. He is currently attending Durham University, and has been commissioned 2 Lt (On Probation) in DWR wef 31 August 1979.

### PRIZES

Lt P. R. S. Bailey, is to be congratulated on being awarded the Ansor Memorial Prize, the 1st Prize for Military Knowledge, on his recent course at Sandhurst.

### MARRIAGES

**Captain T. C. Sinclair and Miss P. B. Speedei**

The marriage took place on 17 August 1979 at Kircaldy, Fife between Captain Timothy Collier Sinclair, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, sone of Mr and Mrs A. V. Sinclair of Harvel, Kent and Patricia Bruce Speedei, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. W. Speedei of Kircaldy.

**Pte P. Elliott and Miss P. Smith**

The marriage took place on August 17, 1979 at Rotherham Registry Office, of Pte P. Elliott and Miss Pamela Smith.

**Pte K. A. Hansell and Miss C. Thomas**

The marriage took place on August 11, 1979 at Minden Garrison Church, of Pte K. A. Hansell and Miss Caroline Thomas.

**Pte G. R. Tattersall and Miss Schuhmacher**

The marriage took place on September 7, 1979 at Bradford Registry Office, of Pte G. R. Tattersall and Miss Christel Schuhmacher.

**Pte P. Calvert and Miss J. Bramwell**

The marriage took place on August 11, 1979 at St Anne's Church, Dewsbury, of Pte P. Calvert and Miss Jean Bramwell.

**Lcpl A. R. Rose and Miss C. Harrison**

The marriage took place on August 13, 1979 at Huddersfield Registry Office of Lcpl A. R. Rose and Miss Christine Harrison.

### BIRTHS

**Dobbs:**

On July 19, in Germany, to Pte and Mrs D. Dobbs, a son, Christopher David.

**Wright:**

On July 23, in Germany, to Cpl and Mrs C. Wright, a daughter, Loise Michelle.

**Jarman:**

On August 13, in Germany, to Cpl and Mrs M. C. Jarman, a daughter, Zoe Colleen.

**Osadzenko:**

On August 13, in Germany, to Pte and Mrs S. A. Osadzenko, a son, Lee.

**Kirby:**

On August 7, in Germany, to Bdsman and Mrs D. Kirby, a daughter, Simone.

**Hunt:**

On July 28, in Germany, Lcpl and Mrs S. M. Hunt, a daughter, Zillah Jane.

**Frear:**

On 20 May, at Rinteln, Germany, to Cpl and Mrs Frear, a son, Timothy Mark.

**Mace:**

To Lcpl and Mrs Mace, as son, Christopher David.

**Wilkinson:**

On August 6, in Germany, to Lcpl and Mrs W. Wilkinson, a son, Liam.

**Turner:**

On September 3, in Germany, to Cpl and Mrs M. Turner, a daughter, Kelly-Ann.

**Lofthouse:**

On August 31, in Germany, to Pte and Mrs J. K. Lofthouse, a daughter, Susanna Marie.

**Hoyland:**

On September 14, in England, to Lcpl and Mrs W. Hoyland, a daughter, Julie Ann.

**Slater:**

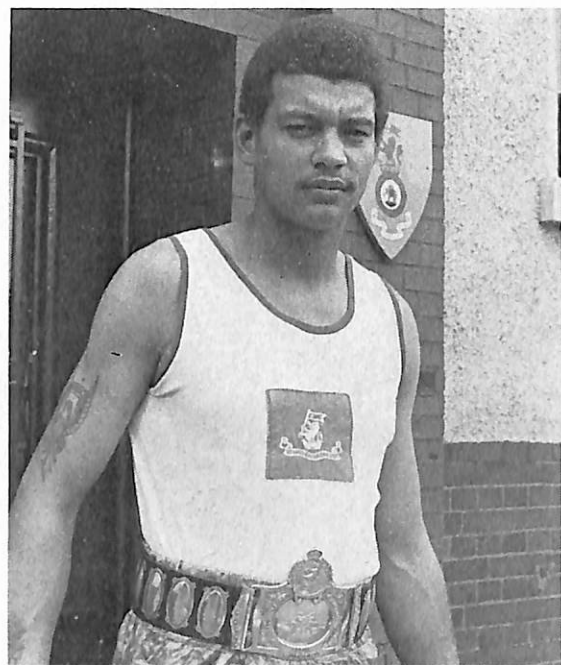
On October 1, in Germany, to Pte and Mrs S. P. Slater, a daughter, Kelly Louise.

**Wrightson:**

On September 28, in Germany, to Pte and Mrs C. Wrightson, a son, Stuart Lee.



**J/CSM Kay**  
J/CSM Kay passed out of the Infantry Junior Leaders Bn at the end of the summer term 1979. Having won the Commanding Officer's Prize and the King's Division Prize. He has now joined the 1st Bn



**Pte Eric Juma displays the 'Duke's' Boxing Challenge Belt. The belt is awarded to the most improved boxer of the season and was won by Pte Juma for the 1978-79 season**

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Major C. M. B. Bateman, 117 Main Street, Haworth, Keighley.

Lt Col M. R. N. Bray, 1 Hunters Close, Bovington, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

Mr and Mrs S. F. Bruce-Lowe, 80 Holly Avenue, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 2QA.

Sgt P. Coates, School of Infantry (Tac Wing), Derring Lines, Brecon, Powys LD3 7RA.

Lt Col J. H. Dalrymple, OBE, 58 Hurlingham Court, Ranelagh Gardens, London SW6 3UP.

Lt Col J. R. P. Cumberlege, 63 Strensall Park, Strensall Camp, York YO3 8SB.

Major T. F. Huskisson, MBE, MC, Bwlch-Y-Mor, St Dogmaels, Cardigan, Dyfed, Wales.

Mr W. H. James, 15 Whitby Avenue, Crossens, Southport, Lancs.

J. Lobanov-Rostovsky, Esq, 66 Hightrees House, Nightingale Lane, London SW12 8AH.

Major D. R. D. Newell, 30 Sudbury Park, Sudbury, Derbyshire.

Major C. D. d'E. Miller, White Gate Farm, Wheaton Aston, Stafford.

Lt Col and Mrs J. E. Pell, 15 The Grove, National Defence College, Latimer, Chesham, Bucks.

Mrs E. W. Sevens, 11 Magdalin Drive,  
Woodbridge, Suffolk.

RSM and Mrs B. Stansfield, 40 Carr Green  
Avenue, Rastrick, Brighouse, W Yorks.

R. M. L. Colville, Esq, 8 Woodbank, Glen Parva,

Leicester.

Mr G. Hayton, C/o Normanby House,  
Normanby, Sinnington, York YO6 6KH.

Capt and Mrs J. R. A. Ward, 135 King's Ride,  
Camberley, Surrey.

## Book Review

WATERLOO. Battle of Three Armies. Edited by  
LORD CHALFONT. (Sidgwick and Jackson £8.95).

In his prologue to this beautifully produced book Lord Chalfont poses the question 'What is the justification for one more book on Waterloo?' His answer is that, up to now, no book on the battle has incorporated accounts from authorities of all three nations involved. He has, therefore, descriptions of the campaign from a Frenchman exhilarantly called Jacques Champagne — a German Eberhard Kaulbach and an Englishman, William Seymour.

Of the three M Champagne's account, seems to this reviewer, the least valuable. As any visitor to the battlefield of Waterloo will know, after being exposed to the full blast of Napoleon's propaganda displayed there, the French have an obsession that the battle was really a French victory. Even so, it is surprising to read in a serious contribution to a study of the campaign that Napoleon won the battle not once but twice on that 18th of June. The Allies were presumably not sophisticated enough to realise the fact and M Champagne admits finally that the French Army dissolved in defeat and ruin at the end of the day. Most apologists for Napoleon state that his curious uncharacteristic ineptitude in his tactical handling

of his army was due to his failure in health. He is alleged to have suffered from piles, that the cancer that finally killed him was already sapping his powers. M Champagne discards these excuses. Napoleon, he writes, 'was 46 years old. His first rate mental powers were unimpaired. He was in astonishingly good physical health. . . .'

He gives full and well deserved credit to his idol for his masterful strategy in the opening phases of the campaign. Napoleon's concentration of his forces under a cloak of complete secrecy, his sudden attack at the junction point of the Prussian and Anglo-Belgian armies and his achievement of surprise to both Wellington and Blucher. The account deteriorates when M Champagne reluctantly comes to the complete debacle of the French army at the end of the day and makes the odd claim that the hero of the battle was General Cambonne who after defying exhortations to surrender his square of the Old Guard ('The Guard dies but does not surrender!') was rather tamely taken prisoner.

The British contribution to this book by William Seymour is accurate, well written and well researched. Necessarily it must—to British readers—be the least original. He describes the various phases of the battle we all know so well. He dwells on the defence of Hougomont where his old regi-



**The Defence of  
Hougomont**  
One of the illustrations  
from 'Waterloo'. The pic-  
ture is in The Scottish  
United Services Museum  
(Photo: Tom Scott)

ment, the 3rd Guards, distinguished itself so much. In all Seymour gives a vivid and imaginative account which seems to merit no criticism.

Eberhard Kaulbach's version of the Prussian contribution to the victory is extremely interesting. British historians of the campaign have devoted comparatively little attention to the extreme difficulty facing Marshal Blücher in his loyal determination to fulfil his promise to Wellington by assisting him with at least one corps. The general feeling is that the Prussian arrival was tardy and far from urgent. One thinks of the inept British officer, when introduced to the present Prince Von Blücher, breezily asked 'any relation to the chap who was late at Waterloo?' In fact, it was only by the most stupendous effort and great personal leadership by the Marshal that the Prussian army entered the battle in the late afternoon. This army, badly shaken by its defeat at Ligny on the 16th and consisting largely of raw conscripts, was in no state to undertake a forced march to the Waterloo battlefield from Wavre where it had halted to reform after its retreat from Ligny. There is considerable criticism that the van of the army was made up of Bulow's IV Corps which was the most distant. It was however the one Corps not engaged on the 16th and thus still up to strength and not affected by defeat.

The Prussian advance, against the grain of the country and along excruciating tracks which steadily deteriorated as the columns traversed them, was

appallingly difficult and only achieved by the remarkable leadership and exhortations of the Marshal commanding. It is pretty generally accepted that the Prussian Chief of Staff, Gneissau, did all he could to prevent his commander from marching to the assistance of the British, mainly from a profound but mistaken distrust of Wellington. Kaulbach loyally denies this but not very convincingly. The book concludes with extracts from three novels concerned with the battle—Victor Hugo's 'Les Misérables,' Georgette Heyer's 'An Infamous Army' and Thackeray's 'Vanity Fair'—the latter by far the most moving.

A question remains. Who was the hero of Waterloo? Colonel McDonnell of the Coldstream who commanded so gallantly at Hougomont? Cambronne in his square of the Old Guard? Blücher, stiff and bruised after being unhorsed and ridden over at Ligny, but still at 72 years of age, personally leading his troops to Wellington's relief? The Great Duke himself probably the most exposed individual on the Allied side as he rode quietly along the ridge of Mont St Jean all that fatal day?

In this reviewer's mind the answer is a collective one, what the Duke called 'That best of all instruments, the British infantry.' Those stolid devoted soldiers who stood in square all day, decimated by artillery fire and engulfed in swarms of cavalry.

This is an admirable book splendidly produced and extremely well illustrated.

B.W. WC.

## ALL QUIET ON THE IRRAWADDY

J. (T) FINNERTY—New Horizon

This does not pretend to be a great literary work. It is the well told story of a man and a vivid account of his war; but he is a special type of man and he experienced a horrifying war. There is appeal for all particularly to anyone who regards himself as a soldier for it is written by and about a person who personifies the attributes of a proper soldier. Those whose number began with 461 and served with the Second Battalion will have a special interest, but it is a story for soldiers of all time. It starts with the very young man who leaves the South of Ireland with nothing but a basic education instilled, robustly, by the Christian Brothers, and his Faith. He joins the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and describes how, in the thirties, the Regular Army was trained and moulded in body and spirit on principles matured through centuries of war and peace. It is a relief to read a book totally free of underlying messages of envy, subversion and change. His code was to obey and cheerfully to accept and understand the reasons for obedience. He is the true historian who keeps the facts in their context. The way things were justified the system because in a far from perfect world, which nobody could change completely, the system worked, and up to that point, had always worked. 'Cribbing' was not a military attribute.

The critics may shake their heads because, they will say, those were the sad days, before the invention of the 'thinking soldier!' But would they be right? It was a life full of opportunity, and the author seems to have reached the rank of Warrant Officer Class 2 in eight years. It shines through strongly that the private soldiers did know and understand exactly what was going on, in the world, in the Army, and in their Regiment, in peace and war, and there is no shortage of often amusing anecdotes to emphasise this.

Morale within the regimental 'family' was high. The relationship between Officer and other rank was well understood and did not have to be constantly rehearsed or even thought about very much. In fact each knew a great deal about the other—more than was even guessed on either side.

Having, as it were, set the scene, the story plunges into the middle of Burma at the height of the retreat in 1942 when the 2nd Bn of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment had already been in action for over three months, and were closing up on PROME.

The Inniskillings took part in the battle of the SCHWEDAUNG road block alongside the 'Dukes' but their most extensive battle was at YENANG-YANN oil field where they suffered heavy casu-

alties and lost their second Commanding Officer. There is an excellent account of this battle. The author is wounded and captured. Then follows his memorable, almost incredible, description of the Japanese treatment of prisoners of war in the field and, finally, in Rangoon Jail. There is a special tribute to the private soldiers, the doctors, and a Chinese General and the inspiring way in which they all reacted. There is never a hint of bitterness but a message of how training, courage and comradeship stood up to the test so long as the individual human body, often crippled with wounds, could survive.

After his release the author is thrust back in to the outside world, still at war. He finds that in three years many prewar Army methods and concepts had already been swept away, never to return. He is horrified to see a full colonel helping to arrange chairs for a military lecture, and sad that the scars of war extended to the very fabric of the Army he had joined and loved. He makes no mention of his decorations, and the subsequent success of his continued career, as an officer.

A simple tale well told by an unassuming hero of a Far Eastern battleground. A fine Army, a cruel terrain, a cruel climate, a cruel fate, and an enigmatic, and vicious enemy.

A reminder of what ensues in a conflict in which neither side had anything in common, in language, religion, race, human values or ideology.

Tiger.

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# 1st Battalion

## COMMANDING OFFICER'S INTRODUCTION

Like my predecessor I write my first CO's introduction in a tent in Sennelager whilst we train for Northern Ireland. There are however two differences; firstly it is October, not June, with the damp, cold Northern German autumn descending on the camp each night, and secondly we are destined for Belfast not Londonderry.

I am aware that when this article is read our tour in Springfield Road will be half over, indeed Christmas will be on us and our families no doubt will be looking forward to the return of their husbands, fathers and sons. We deploy to West Belfast on the 22nd of October. Alma Company to Ballymurphy (a few may remember the tour there in 1972), Burma Company to Turf Lodge to share a basecamp with the Tac HQ of our neighbours 2 Division Engineer Regiment, Corunna Company to Lower Falls, Divis and Clonard, and Somme Company in the middle at Whiterock/Beechmount. Battalion Headquarters will be in the Springfield Road RUC Station and Echelon to our north in Flax Street Mill. We return to Minden in mid February.

The Falls Road, our area, is perhaps the 'hardest,' most Republican urban area in Northern Ireland. Certainly judging from the previous six months it is the most active. The Provisionals have reorganised into smaller, tighter and more secure cells, and as such are both dangerous and difficult to catch. The RUC now patrol throughout our patch, but in many areas they still require strong overt military assistance. We are going to Belfast weaker in manpower than our predecessors 1 KOSB, who as a UK based battalion do not require as large a rear party as ours. With this background it is going to be a tiring and demanding four months. Our rear party looking after our

families, 432s and accommodation in Minden, pruned to the minimum, will also be more than fully occupied. However I am confident that our Yorkshire soldiers will rise to the occasion and ensure that our tour will be a success. I pray that it will be safe.

To date 1979 has been the year of the sportsman. You will know of our successes in Rugby, Boxing and Skiing. We have also won the 4th Division Trampoline, and even Table Tennis! This list of successes was capped by Captain Keith Best and his Cricket XI in September. Our team were truly amateur: military training and block leave denying them much of a chance; but a certain eye for the ball and determination won through and it was a very humble Signals side that congratulated the boys on becoming BAOR Cricket Champions. I very much regret that Northern Ireland will prevent us from defending our skiing and boxing titles, but Staff Sergeant Hirst and Private Brown will keep the Battalion's name going in the skiing world in the national B side and hopefully our rugby talent will win through the early rounds of the cup whilst we are in Belfast.

Looking forward to next year, on our return from across the water our sights are set on Exercise CRUSADER the major Corps Exercise of the decade; as a finale in BAOR. We then hand over to the Green Jackets and move to Catterick at the end of the year.

On the personality side, I must say how delighted I am to see Major Peter Hoppe back with the Battalion. As 'Father Hunter' he organised our 'civilian' population for Northern Ireland training and if his performance there is anything to go by



Among the visitors to the training at Sennelager was the Divisional Commander Maj Gen J. B. Akehurst, here being shown round by the CO

I know that the rear party are in good hands! Finally I must thank Lieutenant Colonel Michael Bray for handing over such a fine Battalion—however he ought to have told me what to win

next!

I wish all Dukes and their families in Belfast, Minden or Yorkshire a Happy Christmas and a rewarding 1980.

### OFFICERS' MESS

What with training at Soltau and Sennelager, and three weeks leave, this has not been an especially busy time socially for the Officers' Mess. On 20 July the gladiators assembled for the annual Silver Putter competition, the principal opponents being for a change, the Sennelager Golf Club's management rather than fellow officers. Lt Col Bray misused his influence to become Wooden Spoon winner, whilst Charles Bunbury was rewarded with the Main Trophy.

What had been originally conceived as a curry lunch and car rally found itself, two days later on 22 July, into a tennis and croquet championship with barbecue. Liz and Keith Best won the croquet handsomely, whilst Colonel Michael again cheated his way to victory in the tennis by refusing to consume alcohol during play. Thus laden with honours the Commanding Officer decided it was time for him to leave us, and he was dined out of the Mess on 26 July. He generously gave two further silver lamps to the Mess, and we in turn presented him with a picture.

We have also said goodbye to a number of other old friends. Vernon Davies has now left us for another lucrative appointment in BAOR. We hope we will see Vernon and Mary back here often. Bob Stark has gone to become a solicitor, proving himself to be indeed a silver tongued orator at his dining out. John Sandison, EME for short, presented the Mess with a very fine and unusual clock which we will certainly treasure, despite being convinced that it was made in his workshop from melted down APC components. Richard and Janet Ward have left to set the Staff College alight, and Bob Hall has turned in his faded beret and red backing in favour of the burning beacon of the RAEC. To all of you we wish the very best of good luck, lots of happiness, and please (those who have gone for good as it were), pop in and see us sometime.

### WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS MESS

To commemorate the Battle of Waterloo a Battalion Weekend was held, the highlight of which was the Beating of Retreat on the sportsfield. The band and drums combined to put on a magnificent display of marching, counter marching and the Drummers call. Afterwards we held a social in the Mess, this was a great success, a fitting climax to a wonderful weekend.

On the following weekend the PEC arranged a boat trip along the Weser. Unfortunately it rained all the time, but even the rain could not dampen the spirits. Dancing was to a small group from the band but due to the weather they were not fully used. Thanks lads you did a great job. Our very welcome guests were Tom and Glad Jackson

To the Mess we welcome back Peter Hoppe, and hope that he and Sue are now enjoying another tour with the battalion. Nigel Lloyd has left off counting socks in the RAOC for the duration of our NI tour, and is 'going straight' with Somme Company. Mark White and Mike Chapman have recently joined us and in a few days will be commanding 1 platoon (Drums) and 6 platoon respectively in West Belfast. And finally Denis Whittaker has arrived from 1 QLR as Assistant Adjutant, lending, and not a moment too soon some would say, an air of confidence and calm to Seagull's office. To celebrate, Andrew Meek has acquired a new pair of spectacles behind which to conceal his effervescent enthusiasm for the manning plot.

On 1 Sept we had the pleasure of entertaining most of the officers and their wives of 1 RRF. The Fusiliers have replaced 1 Cheshire in Minden. On 13 Oct we have been invited to play a return date at their Mess 'en masse,' and we hope that this social interchange will assure a happy relationship between the two battalions. Lt Col Mundell presided over his first Guest Night as Commanding Officer on 7 Sept, when Brig Emsden, Brig Inf BAOR, was chief guest. The evening culminated with a game of mess rugby which measured a record 16.4 on the Richter Scale in Tokio university. Peter Gardner really must try and break the habit of putting his shirt into Penny Sherlock's dustbin after dinner nights. People will begin to talk. And anyway it takes up space which Penny needs to put Mike in. Finally those wishing to subscribe to the George Kilburn Fund (people biting his head so that he bleeds on the carpet, prevention of) should send donations direct to the Medical Centre.

The Officers' Mess will be celebrating Christmas quietly this year.

(Dukes of many years) who were their old selves. We know they enjoyed the evening as it is fact that Tom was worse for wear next day! Before they departed for the UK the RSM, on behalf of the Mess, presented Tom with some Regimental Wine to help keep out the cold on a winters night. It was good to see them both looking so well; don't make it so long before coming to see us again.

In mid July we held a 'Happy Hour' for the 1 Cheshire WOs and Sgt's Mess, who have left BAOR for the UK. A buffet was provided and everybody enjoyed themselves. We wish them well in their new environment.

Col Bray has come to the end of his tour and handed over command to Col Mundell. The Mess

Dined Out Col Bray on the 25 July. During the course of the evening Col Bray presented the LS and GC to WO2 Frank Parkinson (wish these sort of people would let on how they managed 15-18 years undetected crime). On behalf of all Mess members the RSM presented Col Bray with a beautifully engraved Silver Coffee Set. Needless to say the Colonel was taken aback by such a splendid present, but it was no more than he deserved for all his hard work during the last two years.

In return the Colonel presented the Mess with his famous owl and the autographed ball signed by all players taking part in the Rugby Centenary match. Both these gifts will have a pride and place in the Mess.

On a Sunday in mid August the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers WOs and Sgts Mess invited 12 members and their wives to a cocktail party in their Mess. The RRF made those who attended very welcome, though there was a slight dialect problem. One Mess member was heard to say 'I'm OK they talk as fast as I do.' As a result of this meeting Dukes and RRF have met on Company level at football and basketball which is not a bad thing. We look forward to a happy relationship with the RRF.

These members who have served with Col Mundell before will know of his staying power which was shown on the evening of his Dining In. After a splendid meal Col Mundell spoke of his ideas and thoughts during the next two years, leaving us in no doubt of his requirements from

the Mess. Needless to say there were numerous thick heads the next morning after an excellent evening which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who attended.

There is one aspect of Mess life which we do not really appreciate, and that is our long suffering wives! To try and compensate for our neglect and our OP Banner Tour we held a Ladies Dinner Night. Owing to the large numbers attending it had to be held in the main kitchen, not the most ideal place, but the only place in camp big enough. It was very well decorated for the Dinner and the meal as always was excellent. Afterwards a cabaret and disco was held in the Mess, a small thank you to some lovely people.

When one has invited a group, cabaret act etc, into the Mess one tends, once they have finished to pay and forget. This cannot be said of a duo called Norman Castle and Jill. They have appeared twice and have never failed to make the evening go with a swing. So it again proved, when they appeared before the Battalion left for Sennelager. It is a good job the roof was fastened down, the amount of singing and clapping would have raised it had it not been. Many a sore throat but an excellent evenings entertainment.

Promotions since our last notes are:—

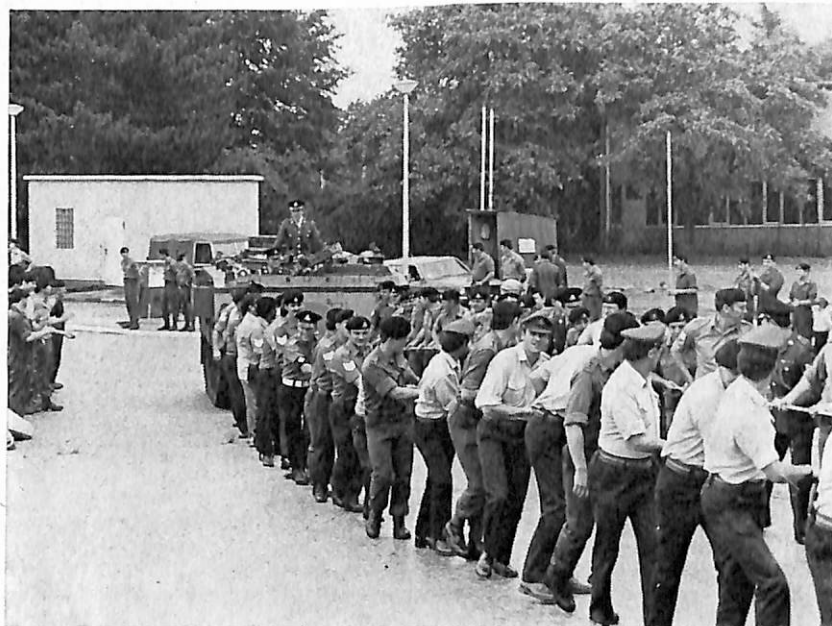
To C/Sgt, Brian Noble, Terry Cooper, Keith Lister, Colin Fleming and Malcolm (Doc) Budden.

To Sgt, 'Paddy' Enniss, 'Benny' Coroner and Tony Sweeney.

### ALMA COMPANY

Alma Company have had a most successful period of training in the past few months. July was devoted to Soltau training in the main. Once

more the intrepid Alma mounted their war chariots and were plunged into the desolate, dusty wastes of Soltau training area. We were very fortunate



Lt Col Michael Bray is 'towed out' by the Officers, Warrant Officers and Senior NCOs in an AFV 432 at the end of his tour of command



Lcpl Charles Tait talking to Commander, Minden Garrison, before departure for Northern Ireland. Twenty-four hours later Lcpl Tait was involved in a shooting incident as he was leaving Springfield Road police station in a 4-ton vehicle. Although injured himself by several pieces of shrapnel, he was able to pull the badly hurt driver from the vehicle and render first aid until the Medical Officer arrived. Lcpl Tait was later comfortable in Musgrave Park Hospital and was able to speak to his wife in Sheffield on the telephone

with the weather and a Vogelsang style 'mud-flood' never looked like developing. The training period involved two weeks of platoon, Company and finally Battalion exercise. All of these were strenuous and demanding and even though we all knew it would be our last mechanised exercise for some time it did not impair the enthusiasm or efficiency of the Alma.

Indeed probably due to the good weather and a families visit on the middle Sunday of the period, good humour was definitely the order of the day. The families arrived and were shown around the 'Soltau Hilton' and had lunch complete with table cloths and napkins—all very civilised. Maj Gardner then tasked one subaltern (who shall remain

nameless) to organise an attack in which the families would comprise the assaulting troops. This all worked out well and the 'enemy' under Sgt Bailey, were routed, and who can blame them. After Soltau we put our 432s in mothballs and set about training for Ireland. The Battalion had a well deserved block leave and were then set about six weeks' Northern Ireland training culminating in our two weeks down at Sennelager.

Overall, Sennelager provided us all with valuable pointers on how to operate. By the time this article comes to press Alma Coy will be truly 'stuck into' the Ballmurphy and we are looking forward to a successful and safe tour.

### LEAVE IN CANADA

After a full training programme, summer leave I'm sure was welcomed by all ranks. I was especially looking forward to the break because my wife and I were going to stay in Toronto with friends for two weeks.

The restful break started with an all night drive to Vlissingen in Holland, followed by a crowded, noisy, rather sleepless ferry crossing to Sheerness, rounded off with another long journey, finally arriving in Yorkshire 25 hrs later tired and disillusioned.

Two days later, however, we were in high spirits as the flight desk at Manchester Airport called the passengers forward to board the British Airways 747 Jumbo. Once on board the aircraft it was not hard to imagine you were still in the airport passenger terminal.

The flight was very comfortable and included in-flight films plus meals which were excellent. The first stop was in Prestwick, Scotland, to pick up more passengers, and finally after seven hours we arrived at Toronto Metro airport.

The first thing that hit us was the hot, humid

climate which was a far cry from the weather left behind in Manchester.

We linked up with our friends and got into their car which seemed to be twice the length of the average UK vehicle and cruised off on highway 401 which is a mere 500 miles in length.

Our first few days were spent adjusting to the heat and getting over a slight attack of jet-lag.

After last year's exercise in Alberta it was hard to think you were in the same country as countryside and accents were so different.

The whole of Toronto is dominated by the CN tower which is the largest free standing structure in the world, and has the highest observation deck in the world.

After much gentle coaxing and a large amount of pushing and pulling we managed to get our wives into the glass fronted lifts that took us up to 1,300ft in less than a minute to the lower observation deck. However the Girls would not go an extra 300ft up to the space deck. The view was magnificent and on a clear day, at a distance of just over 100 miles, the mist from Niagara falls

can be seen. We spent a day in the city centre looking around the Museums and City which all are very well presented and interesting, it was pleasant to see how the Modern Skyscrapers and Old Churches have been blended amongst each other.

'The Honeymoon centre of the World,' said the signpost as we entered the City of Niagara. The falls, both American and Canadian are very much one of the World's main tourist attractions and are a sight worth seeing if you are in Canada. There are also countless Museums showing daring escapades of people crossing the falls in barrels and on tightropes.

The average way of life is very similar to Germany and almost every evening we were entertained by different people at garden barbecues, however the hamburger takes preference over bratties.

Sports play a big part of the N American life

and golf courses are around just about every corner along with swimming pools. The great lakes of course offer the facility of every kind of water sport. Our friends introduced us to a family called the 'ski-ing McLintocks' who are all expert water skiers so of course we spent a day mastering the art. We thought we were doing well until Joel McLintock showed us how it should be done, and after his display it quite put us all off. (He is at present the world's top water-skier.)

After two weeks of travelling, sightseeing and visiting, alas it was time to return to sunny England; the flight home of course did not seem quite so cheerful despite champagne being poured down all the passengers.

Canada, even though one of the biggest countries in the world, still has a population only half that of the UK. The people's friendliness, the country's beauty spots and cleanliness ensures that it is always well worth the visit.

## BURMA COMPANY

As I write, 6 members of the Company are already in Northern Ireland. All our thoughts and training have centred around the job to be done in West Belfast and so, as always, it is difficult to think back beyond the time that this strong theme of life dominated anything else.

### Soltau

There was a 3 week July training period in Soltau of course, though were it not for the photographs we would be hard pushed to remember anything about it, it seems so long ago. Thanks to SSgt Smith and our admirable company fitter section, aided by the professionalism of our drivers, we never had a tracked vehicle 'off the road, for more than a few hours, a performance equalled earlier in the year at Vogelsang when the first day of spring brought blizzards instead of primroses. At Soltau we dug trenches which enables, we hope, infantrymen to fight from under overhead protection (Cpl Giles holds the record for the most frequent trench cave-ins—he dug three in one day). Platoons contacted, out flanked and assaulted every position until orders became nearly unnecessary, and indeed on occasions the OC found the Company at the RV before he had even confirmed its selection. And how can we forget the battalion withdrawal, at night, in contact, for which the CO's orders were reduced to a 'Move now.' So we did. Let Ivan tremble.

### Leave

Leave, 3 weeks in August, came at just the right time and was thoroughly well deserved. Within 24 hours we were spread across Europe, some getting fat on West Riding Ale, some on supermarket plonk in the South of France. On return we faced a complete change of direction, with many new faces about us.

### People

WO2 Alan Simpson left to be Ops/Trg WO. Both as CQMS and CSM he gave unswerving loyalty and service to the company, until a Burma without 'Dino' was almost unthinkable. Such a contribution cannot be fully rewarded with mere thanks, but words are all we have. So; well done Sergeant Major and thank you. You kept Burma's star up high and your continuing support is much appreciated. WO2 Bob Heron is now in the chair and we welcome him and his wife and children to the company.

2 Lt Nick Watt, having decided to go for a regular commission in the Green Howards, exchanged 6 platoon for university and 2 Lt Mark White has taken his place. Capt Richardson has become 2 IC/IO for the Belfast tour. SSgt Craven has deserted us to become IO for Somme Company, so Sgt Woodward has been thrown into the deep end as acting CQMS.

### Northern Ireland

The rifle platoons have absorbed their new roll and now, after our Sennelager NI training, they really are the cohesive teams that all soldiering is based on. There is a spring in their step and more than a bit of swagger as they march about the camp. Which is how it should be after 3 days in 'Tin City' where nearly every imaginable incident, and combinations of incidents, was hurled at us, followed by a further 10 days of work on the specialised NI ranges.

But enough of NI training, for by the time this is read Burma will have been in Fort Monagh for 2 months and Sennelager will be as far from our minds as Soltau is now. The lessons we have learned we must keep with us, and the determination to get the job done professionally and without fuss. We take over Turf Lodge from the KOSB and

next year in February we handover to more Jocks. We English are the Turf's Christmas Parcel, but any who are ill disposed towards us are advised to go with care for the package is a Pandora's box. It contains peace for those who look for it, but fast aggression for the guttersnipe gunman.

### The Ladies

To our wives, fiancées, mums, sisters, and girl friends—HAPPY CHRISTMAS. Please continue to give us your support; we need it. In two months we will be home.

### 4 PLATOON (THE CHAMPION PLATOON)

We're off again to Soltau Plain, the hour is five, the wagons gleam.

Weser, Minden Nienburg, 21, at that time still full of steam.

Our drivers dirty, worked overnight, in fury scream and shout.

Commanders everywhere uptight, should 'Stop, get out! Get out!'

Strip wood is gone, we're home again to admin strife,

With time to think of things we've done. My God, is that the wife?

From leave renewed and feeling fit, the boys return, too late,

For Blighty, girls and Tetley's beer, till Feb they'll have to wait.

Yes men, a tour of Belfast now—the wives and kin behind.

It's training, training good and hard, no favours there we'll find.

The Herc was grey, it's belly full, the RAF have done their wack,

It's up to us now 4 Platoon, in February we're back!

### 5 PLATOON

Since the last IRON DUKE notes there have been various comings and goings in the platoon. We are now starting our own band with the arrival of Cpl Giles, and yet again Brendan Doyle, who returns in a different role, he can't seem to keep away.

Life continues to be very varied. From Bavaria

we were into Site Guard and then Soltau. And no sooner had we come back from our 'well deserved' leave than we were straight into Northern Ireland training.

That is the outline of the activities that have kept us very busy. Firstly Bavaria, a strenuous two weeks adventure training which saw bulges added to waistlines rather than muscles.

A year could not be complete without our two weeks of training in Soltau. This was the first opportunity for many to sample modernised training, unfortunately there were no tanks but the 16/5 Lancers made up for this loss. Unlike Bavaria there was no lake to look across during breakfast, no disco to go to at night. In fact there was very little except the hair raising driving of Messrs Summersgill and Corey, and of course, the 3 hour drive around the area at the beginning of the Bn exercise—who said there was a fuel shortage?

The four vehicles of 5 Platoon limped home, and we very smartly accelerated into leave. Leaving our girl friends at home with little but memories, we found ourselves back in Minden.

Where to next? Watch out N. Ireland, here we come!

### 6 PLATOON

6 Platoon has been extremely busy over the last few months as we have been preparing for our forthcoming tour of Northern Ireland. The lads have taken on a whole host of new tasks in what, for the majority, is a completely new role. It has been a very interesting period for everyone because each soldier has had to become skilled in a large range of new subjects, from powers of arrest to searching.

The culmination of our Op Banner training was a 3 day exercise in the infamous Tin City at Sennelager. Lcpl Hargreaves distinguished himself gallantly as he charged into a house in hot pursuit after a shooting incident straight into a booby trap! His reply to this indignity was heard through a cloud of smoke; I think it was something to the effect of 'Oh S\*.\*' (A good job it was only an exercise and I'm sure that the lesson was learned).

Sgt Hepworth was a real TV star appearing twice on the Training Team video show; I wonder if he's got an actors union card?

### CORUNNA COMPANY

The platoon notes tell their own tale. The pattern of life has remained hectic with sufficient disruptive ingredient to keep us on our toes. Our itinerary since the last notes has included:—

Battle Group Training in Soltau.

Loss of soldiers to specialist platoons.

Many and various courses for Northern Ireland.

Waterloo Day.

Restructure of Corunna to a Northern Ireland Orbat or an idiot's guide to performing miracles.

Bisley (for our regular shots).

A Company party.

and . . .

LEAVE! (When was it?)

then . . .

Non-stop Northern Ireland training.

At the time of writing we have just finished our Sennelager training for Northern Ireland. The Company worked hard and did well. This was reflected by the excellent performance of Lcpl Chapman and his four man brick (what one used to call a patrol) in winning the Battalion inter-brick competition. There were 64 bricks competing. The advance party leaves tomorrow for North

Howard Street Mill in Belfast. The main body follows a week later.

Any Questions?

### 7 PLATOON

To be able to write these notes is something of an achievement for the hierarchy of 7 Platoon. Although both Platoon Commander and Platoon Sergeant have been with the Platoon since the beginning of the year, courses and leave have meant that for much of the time 7 Platoon was operating under a variety of potentates but nonetheless efficient for all that. Block NI leave is now over and new roles have been taken on so that there may be some gaps in the narrative from the last edition of these notes. However with apologies to anyone who might be missed out here goes.

Highlights of the period have been Soltau and digging in whilst the Royal Armoured Corps continued its summer—long Pimms party! Also the training for our Op Banner tour to North Howard Street in West Belfast. This promises to be a most eventful and interesting tour in which the many newcomers to the Province should get first hand experience of what is going on. Training for the tour got underway just before block leave and on our return started in earnest. We now find ourselves at the culmination of our NI training at Sennelager with a chance to put all that we have learnt into practice. The inter-brick competition which was devised to bring a competitive element into the training was 7 Platoon's primary goal. This goal reached fruition in the form of Lcpl Chapman winning the inter-brick competition. Well done Lcpl Chapman, Pte Dobbs, Gale and Carter. Above all we have had the chance to ensure that both Commanders and commanded are fully aware of the problems they may encounter and how to deal with them. The next edition of these notes may have more stirring news to impart.

### 8 PLATOON

Over the last four months the Platoon has seen many changes.

Somme Company headquarters has been through a minor facelift since the last IRON DUKE was published; Major Ward and Company Sergeant Major Hewson being relieved by Captain Harrap and Company Sergeant Major Basu. The Fijian war cry of 'Move your body you idle young man' soon became a familiar sound to all members of the Company. Our readers may rest assured that the familiarity has not lessened the effect. Captain Kilburn has left the MILAN Platoon for the duration of our coming tour to take over as Company Second in Command. However he is still keeping an ear very close to the ground on the goings on in his temporarily ex platoon.

The changeover of command has been accom-

panied by a change in role for the company. The support weapons have been put into grease and mothballs for our coming tour of Northern Ireland and the company has re-formed into three rifle platoons. Many of our NCOs have moved elsewhere for the tour to bolster up such organisations as the Intelligence Section and the Close Observation Platoon, the latter having been made part of Somme Company for their Northern Ireland training. We trust it is their training that has enabled them to maintain such a low profile for such a long time! Perhaps their platoon IRON DUKE contribution will enlighten us all as to what they have been up to for the past five weeks while the rest of the company has been most obviously and

We won't bore you with Soltau, as the Platoon Commander didn't know where he was most of the time so he can hardly describe it. The only person who showed promise on the exercise was Pte Oldroyd who achieved a high standard of camouflage and concealment whilst trying to skirmish through a three-foot-deep mud-filled puddle. He has given us up and taken up photography for Ireland instead.

The Platoon enjoyed a pleasant weekend together at the 'Blue Sea' near Hannover and showed considerable resilience by pirating the lake in paddle boats.

We look forward to four months in Belfast after our Sennelager training.

PS—Contributions to the Platoon Commander's car fund are welcome after his recent contretemps with a German police car!

### 9 PLATOON

Period June–September 1979

Again the Platoon entered into a very busy period with our annual training at Soltau and the hand-over of Commanding Officers, taking up much of the time. Our pre-Soltau preparation was mainly and vainly devoted to vehicles. Amongst the many events the fire in the Platoon Commander's vehicle remains firmly fixed in the Platoon Commander's mind. In fact our Coy LAD were in despair with our Platoon vehicles which caused many a late night for them.

From Soltau we went straight into the handover period which took most of the hierarchy away. The Platoon meanwhile, was heavily involved with bringing the vehicles up to scratch (again) before leave. The main topic of conversation was what we were going to do, on our well earned leave. The Spangled Bull (public house in Earlsheaton) seemed a popular idea amongst certain elements in the Platoon.

After leave we became entirely Northern Ireland conscious. Without exception we all look forward to a successful tour in Belfast.

### SOMME COMPANY

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energetically training for our coming tour. The Company Northern Ireland training reached its climax with three days hard graft at Sennelager. Here the worth of our experienced soldiers and

NCOs showed. It was an extremely valuable exercise at the end of which we left feeling confident in our ability to deal with the coming problems of Northern Ireland and looking forward to the tour.

### THE MORTAR PLATOON—AN INSIDE VIEW

Immediately following our Summer block leave the mortar platoon got off to a good start back in sunny Minden with an almost one hundred percent parade state the next day. At long last the arrival of our new, if not totally unknown platoon commander, Captain Stone was upon us. It made a nice change to have somebody (especially an officer) coming to the platoon instead of going. After his long and no doubt sunny vacation on the prairies of Canada he was full of life and raring to go. I'm sure that one or two of our more senior and less athletic Corporals will endorse this!

Our Northern Ireland training started with a very skillfully wangled 2 days in Sgeven Camp at Celle during which time the platoon practised its Patrol and Reaction drills and the Platoon Commander not only saw our obvious skills in these aspects but also on the football field and pool tables where he was sent packing with his tail firmly between his legs.

Once back in Clifton Barracks a busy two weeks followed until all too soon it was time for Sennelager and the final phase of pre Northern Ireland training. After the first week of what can only be called 'intensive' range work we left for the urban training part of the two week package with declarations of 'No live rounds or empty cases in my possession Sir' (or in 'Chappies' case 'me neither'), ringing in our ears.

This turned out to be 3 days of hard, but very rewarding work with a number of platoon stars coming up with choice phrases which I feel unable to repeat in such a prestigious magazine as this! I think we left there with both the female and male soldiers who played such a splendid part in acting as the civilian population breathing big sighs of relief. Needless to say we are all ready now for Ireland and by the time this IRON DUKE is published should be looking forward to the final two months of our tour.

### CLOSE OBSERVATION PLATOON

The Close Observation Platoon (COP) has been formed for the Duration of the Op Banner tour. The more experienced soldiers see it as a re-titled and very select Recce Platoon. The platoon was chosen, in competition with the Milan Platoon, 10 days before Soltau training. After a full week of selections we finished up with some rather surprising candidates. The tests were both physical and intellectual and by the end of the week we had a group of 28 soldiers to start intensive training out of which the final requirement of 24 would be chosen.

The type of training to most of the soldiers was new. The equipment they were dealing with, many had never seen before. The most problematic piece was the camera and for a time this looked as though it would be our down-fall.

Despite interruptions to training caused by leave and the handover of Commanding Officers, the soldiers knuckled down well and soon we came to our final training time at Sennelager. Each brick (4 man patrol team), spent 48 hours in an observation post and although things were not perfect, many lessons were learned, especially on the photographic side.

The soldiers in the COP have put in a lot of hard work on aspects of military life which have previously been totally alien to them and have achieved good results. We are now off to Ireland to put into practise what we have learned in theory. You will hopefully not hear much about us but you can be assured that we will be heaving away as part of the battalion effort in Belfast.

### ANTI-TANK (MILAN) PLATOON(S)

Much hard work at all levels has enabled us to acquire enough men and equipment to produce three-quarters of a Milan Platoon (this is the new title for what was previously known as the Anti-Tank Platoon). The equipment is as different as chalk from cheese. Many people will be sorry to see the old battalion anti-tank guns go, but we are now in the missile age and progress is necessary. One horrifying aspect of Milan is the cost. Each firing post is worth in the region of £30,000. Damaging a part usually results in the wrath of the Platoon Commander, Technical Quartermaster,

Company Commander and Commanding Officer all coming down at once.

Having ended our Milan training with a high spot we all went on block leave. Immediately after leave we had to think Northern Ireland. The platoon, split into two, became 11 and 12 platoons. Csgt Robson and Sgt Birks were attached to the intelligence section (somebody has a sense of humour), and we had drafted in an attached Ordnance Officer, Lt Nigel Lloyd. We also had a Mortar NCO posted in, Sgt Sweeney.

We are now nearing the end of our pre Northern

Ireland training and most of us now want to get over there and get on with it. My next contribution to this journal will almost certainly consist mainly of Northern Ireland stories. I will therefore finish with a small note on Milan. Those who read the

last Somme Company article in the IRON DUKE will have noticed that we claimed that a half blind, one eyed guerilla could achieve a hit with this weapon. This was proved on 18th July when Sgt Birks had a hit with the only round he fired!



**Sport with 'The Dukes'**  
Individuals representing some of the wide range of sporting and adventure training activities enjoyed by the Battalion. The 12 cups on display are the major trophies which the Battalion has won during the past year

#### REGIMENTAL BAND

Prior to taking some leave in May, our last engagement was attending the Braunschweig Police Music Show. On this occasion we performed along with three German Bands, each Band in turn playing music appropriate in keeping with its image. The Bands also combined to perform several numbers, mainly German Marches which we had not heard of before but we took to them immediately and as a result of this, our music Library has now increased.

Following leave we were quickly back in the swing of things with a three day Schutzenfest at Barkhausen. Each day the Military Band and Dance Section performed during the day and evening. On the last day, it was with some alarm that we realised we would not get any sleep that night. The Dance Band finished playing at 4 am Tuesday, and the Military Band at 5 am then ended the Schutzenfest with a one mile march.

At the end of July, we travelled to Bricquebec in France for a few days. Having spent 14 hours on the Coach trip, it was with some relief that we finally arrived exhausted at our destination. A couple of hours rest however and a few litres of French Beer soon put us right to perform the following day. Our participation in this Folk Festival consisted of Marching Processions, Concerts, and a Church Service. We even managed a five minute live broadcast on French Radio.

In September we set off to Detmold on a nice clear day to take part in an International Music Festival. At lunchtime, the sky had become over-

cast and by 2.30 pm, just as we marched into the Arena, down came the rain. At the end of our display, instead of receiving the command 'Quick March,' it was more a case of 'Quick Swim' as we floated off the Arena. The rain continued throughout the day and by 6 pm when the engagement finished, our uniforms were wet through. Normally this would not present a problem however on this occasion the following morning we had to depart for Bonn at 5.30 am and due to 'heating economies' we were unable to get dried out. Our motto is of course, 'The show must go on' and so donning our wet uniforms we carried out the movement.

Many times it has been our policy to have a Guest Conductor from the audience to help out the Bandmaster. As a result of an event which took place in Bielefeld, we are now having to review our policy. As we were setting up the Concert kit, a friendly looking German informed us that he had been a Bandmaster for many years and so rising to the occasion, we decided to make use of him. Having placed him on the rostrum to conduct a good old 'German March,' we felt we had done our little bit to promote good Anglo/German relations. The act however backfired when after the third number, we could not get him off the rostrum. Our own Bandmaster naturally faced with the threat of redundancy consulted his rule book and was about to call us all out, when to our relief, one of the show organisers came to the rescue and coaxed the man to leave the stage. We found out later that he was a bit eccentric and

regularly tried to get in on the act. Our main concern now though is that he may one day turn up at the camp gates raring to have another go.

Upon completion of a Schutzenfest engagement in Edewecht, we were invited by the Burgermeister (Mayor) to visit his Weekend Residence for a meal and guided tour of the property. We were amazed at the magnitude of all this. A massive house old in style with outhouses, Boating Lake, Watermill, Windmill, etc, etc. One outstanding feature was the old Brick Ovens used for baking Bread which we were informed are still in use today. Having surveyed all this, one could not help wonder what the Burgermeisters normal residence would be like.

To sum up our Summer Season, we have visited so many places that to try to explain one half of them would result in pages and pages of places, dates, and times. We are now looking forward to a quiet time during Winter when it may be possible to fit in some rehearsal time.

### THE QUARTERMASTER' PLATOON

**TQMS.** 'Sir, the QM's outside. He's going on about us all being "one platoon".'

**TQM.** 'I suppose he's trying to get his parka exchanged again, find out what he wants and tell him if we are all one platoon, it's his turn to write the IRON DUKE Notes.'

It is in fact true, as anyone who has read the 'blue book' on re-structuring of the Mechanised Battalion. The book also shows a split into two sections, Admin (Boots and Socks) and Tech (Nuts and Bolts). It's simple really. Boots and socks looks after the soldier. Nuts and bolts looks after the equipment and vehicles. Therefore if you want a pair of coveralls who would you go and see? No. you've got it wrong. Coveralls come from the Tech stores. OK then, NBC equipment is held by the Tech stores. Let's say you have dented your canister in training and want to exchange it . . . ? Wrong again, clothing stores. Let's try again. You

On the 4th September we held a Social Evening to say farewell to Major and Mrs G. V. Davies. Major Davies had been Band President for 6 years and during this period had devoted a great deal of time to solving both individual problems and matters affecting the Band in general. We offer Major and Mrs Davies our sincere thanks for their fine work and wish them every good wish for the future.

We welcome our new Band President, Major P. B. L. Hoppe who has now taken over and we hope he will have an enjoyable tour of duty with the Band.

Congratulations are extended to Lcpls Kirby, Fairclough and Clough on their recent promotion to Lcpl.

Additional congratulations are given to Lcpl and Mrs Kirby who increased their family with the birth of a daughter in August.

have lost your steel helmet; now that's a catch question. You get the outside from the Tech stores and the inside from the Admin stores! Let's have one more go. MFO boxes. Another catch question. Is it full or is it empty? Full one to the QM—empty one to the TQM! Procedures in the QM's Platoon are straightforward. Everyone in the QM's Platoon is personally responsible for the running and organisation of an account, in some cases two. RQMS CONLEY is now the longest serving member of the Platoon and will see the battalion into Catterick as his final mission in November next year.

Our latest recruit is Pte BENT who is employed on the Tech side as the FAMTO storeman and he is very busy trying to find the 5,000 items he is responsible for issuing. Still, he will get lots of help—after all—we are one platoon!

## 'COME FLY WITH ME'

### Battalion Hang Gliding Club

A lot has happened on the battalion hang gliding scene since I last wrote my IRON DUKE contribution. One of the most exciting events in the long term was the purchase, by the battalion, of a Vortex 120 hang glider. This puts our fleet up to three strong and has taken some strain off my own glider!

The club has had a good summer season and has enjoyed good flying. Just before Easter I took a party down to Hammelburge for a combined weekend of hang gliding and canoeing. This was made possible with the help of Cpl 'Windy' Gale who was staying with a group of Dukes on special duties in the area. The weekend was good for both

sports. Ptes Adrian Sutcliffe and Tage Sulich managed successful flights from a 400 foot hill. I put in a star performance when, in an attempt to turn and soar the ridge, my glider stalled and I flew straight back into the hill. Capt Tim Taggart, the Chairman of the Briforge Hang Gliding Association and Club, kindly sorted out my damaged glider and five days in a German hospital sorted out my damaged body. Time alone can heal my damaged pride!

Pte Shaun Dean wangled the best deal of the year by going on Exercise Drachen Locksmith. This, would you believe, was a hang gliding exercise held 150 kilometres north of Marseilles



**Cpl John Cockshot approaches for a thorny landing**

in France. The 10 day exercise gave him the highest grading in the club—and this after only taking up the sport in February this year. The high level of interest and good support by both unit clubs and British Hang Gliding members made the whole thing worthwhile. Our thanks also to Colonel Bray and Captain Taggart for their support. Pte Shaun Dean, needless to say, came back at 5000 feet and did nothing else but bore us with all the details. He did however break the Dukes record by staying aloft for 30 minutes after one launching—but he wasn't allowed to boast

about this for long.

Another exciting event this summer was our adventure training camp in Bavaria. Pte Adrian Sutcliffe and myself took time off to fly a site over 5000 feet above sea level. If you want one of the best sights in Germany this is the way to do it! The cable car takes 15 minutes to get to the top and some of us took six minutes to get down. People watching, although giving us support, openly declared that we were mad! On our last day I took off like an old man and quite alarmed the crowd when I made a somewhat erratic start to my flight. Luckily I landed safely and sent the glider back to the top for Pte Adrian Sutcliffe to make his descent. What a treat that was. He took off and hogged the air for a full 40 minutes. He came in to land looking pale and when asked what was wrong, replied that he had become air-sick! And so Pte Shaun Dean's record was smashed. Well done Adrian—hope you learned something while you were up there.

Our next big event was to have been the Triangular Competition at Dover. I say 'was to have been' because it became a non-event. Due to bad weather only one flight was managed—and this proved to be a wash out in every sense of the term. Pte Adrian Sutcliffe unfortunately landed in the sea! A pity that our unit photographer couldn't have snapped what would have been an interesting photograph.

During our last leave we got three more Dukes away on the course in Sheffield. Pte Danny Wilkinson and Pte 'Punk' Barker both passed while Pte 'Bozo' Galtress missed a day and therefore failed to qualify. This now gives us five pilots with hopefully more to come.

Looking to the future the next main event is the third Triangular International Competition to be held at Trier in November. Sadly most of the club will be away for the event but once again Pte Sutcliffe will be representing us with the battalion glider and we hope for some success. Best of luck!

J.C.

## SUB AQUA CLUB

Without doubt the highlight of club activities during this year was the expedition to King Henry VIII's famous warship, the MARY ROSE which sank before the Tudor King's very eyes in 1545.

After 433 years beneath the mud of the Solent, just off Portsmouth, this unique and magnificent English fighting ship is to be completely excavated from the inside and then brought to the surface empty.

This will be the most formidable underwater archaeological operation of all time and will represent a triumph for British divers who are providing the bulk of the labour force. During the whole of the summer, and on until the end of November no fewer than 30 divers a day have been required to work on a three shift basis. The work will con-

tinue on into 1980 at the end of which it is hoped that the contents of this historic four masted carrack, still in a marvellous state of preservation, will have been removed prior to the raise.

These contents represent a complete cross-section of Tudor life from the belongings of the Admiral of The Fleet, Sir George Carrew, who perished in the sinking, to those of the humblest seaman. They are the personal effects of something like 700 men.

When the raise is completed, the MARY ROSE will be displayed in a Tudor Ship Museum in Portsmouth.

Built in 1509/10 by order of King Henry VIII as a four masted Carrack of 600 tons she was the first English warship to carry complete batteries of siege artillery on the main deck, a revolutionary



**HRH Prince Charles, President of the Mary Rose Trust, visits the workshop. Pte Shaun Dean (extreme left) enjoying the occasion**

innovation. Later she was rebuilt at Portsmouth and listed at 700 tons with a mixed armament of 91 muzzle loading and breach loading guns and a crew of 200 mariners, 185 soldiers (archers and pikemen) and 30 gunners.

In 1545 she set sail with the English fleet to engage the French off Portsmouth, while acting as the Vice-Flagship of Sir George Carrew. Her listed complement was 415 men, but she is believed to have been carrying nearer to 700 on this occasion. It is probably due to this overmanning that she capsized and sank stern first in full view of King Henry and his court. Less than three dozen men survived and both the Admiral and Captain Roger Grenville died.

So much for the history lesson! Now for what we did. We asked Margaret Rule, the archaeological expert and person in charge, if we could send a team of divers to work on the ship for two weeks from 20th July. She was delighted with the offer and an application was made to Headquarters BAOR to mount the expedition. Authority was received and the venture was given the grand title 'Lucky Strike.'

Out of the ten divers to whom the idea was originally put, four finally agreed to take part. These were: Cpl John Cockshot the expedition leader, Lcpl Paddy Fairclough the Dive Supervisor, Lcpl Danny Wroe the equipment supervisor and the youngest member of the team Pte Shaun (Bright Eyes) Dean. We also invited two German divers from the Minden Dive Club to come along. They jumped at the offer and made their own way to meet us everyday at the boat.

We did our first dive, called 'the cooks tour' on which we were shown the layout of the ship and told what we were expected to do. The tools we

had were a trowel, a bag to put our finds in and an Air Lift which resembles a giant vacuum cleaner. When we were not diving we remained on standby and spent our time making out reports of areas covered and items found.

The whole expedition was very interesting and not without mishap. Cpl John Cockshot, on his second dive, became so carried away that he quite lost track of time and eventually ran out of air. Fortunately he didn't panic and did a free ascent from 45 feet.

A second incident involved Pte Shaun Dean who failed to clear his mask on his way down (equalize the pressure inside his mask to the water outside). This caused 'mask squeeze' and burst blood vessels in his eyes. The doctor stopped him from diving for four days and Shaun acquired the name 'Bright Eyes!' All together the team logged 108 dives totalling 64 hours and 52 minutes.

On the next to the last day the President of the Mary Rose Trust came to see how things were progressing. He is no less a person than HRH Prince Charles. He stayed the whole day and did two dives after which he had a meal with the team.

At the end of a very well worthwhile two weeks we had all gained some good diving and archaeological experience on a warship that has made history. During our stay we saw a large bronze cannon, two skulls, eight gold coins, one gold ring, 20 Tudor arrows, six longbows, three loaded guns and various items of rigging. Best of all we have been invited to take part in next year's programme and hope, on that occasion, to take a full team of ten divers.

J.C.

## **Territorial Army**

The Volunteer Reservists of all three Services are to receive increased and tax-free annual bounties, rising to a maximum of £300 a year depending on role and length of service. This implements

in full a recommendation of the Armed Forces Pay Review Body. Other changes to training arrangements and conditions of service are to be made to reduce the rate of manpower turnover, and

the name Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve (TAVR) is to be dropped in favour of the traditional and popular Territorial Army (TA).

The Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Francis Pym, issued the following statement during his visit to the 3rd Yorkshire Volunteers at Lydd on 6 August:

'The volunteer Reserves have a fundamental role to play in our nation's defences and the Government is determined to do all in its power to maintain their efficiency, improve their equipment and to encourage recruitment and prolongation of service. The Reserve Forces are fully integrated with the Regular Forces in our operational plans. They are a particularly efficient way of using our manpower and financial resources.

The Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve numbers some 60,000 men and women and, in an emergency, would make a major contribution to the reinforcement of BAOR as well as to security within the United Kingdom. The Royal Naval Reserve is about 5,500 strong and has a key role in mine countermeasures and in filling vital posts ashore in emergency. The 800 members of the Royal Marine Reserve are available to support the Commando forces. Three new Royal Auxiliary Air Force Regiment squadrons have recently been formed for airfield defence tasks. The remainder of the R Aux AF together with the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, although not numerous, provide valuable support for the RAF. Women play a full part in the Reserves and there are, at the moment, some 5,000 female volunteers.

Although the strength of the TAVR has remained relatively stable in recent years this conceals the fact that the annual rate of turnover is over 30%, with the result that a high proportion of volunteers would be less than fully trained if they were called out. The problem of high rates of manpower wastage in the TAVR was studied in detail by the Shapland Committee which reported in June 1978. I am glad to say that I can now announce a number of changes as a result of the Shapland Committee's recommendations.

The most important change concerns the level of bounties for training and call-out liability. In accordance with a recommendation from the Armed Forces' Pay Review Body the dual bounty system will be replaced with a single tax-free Training Bounty at increased rates. For example a member of the TAVR with a training commitment of 15 days at camp and 12 days' additional training will, on completion of this training to an appropriate standard of efficiency, receive a tax-free bounty of £100 in his first year, £200 in his second year and £300 in his third and subsequent years. In addition a TAVR soldier will continue to receive taxable pay, which has recently been increased in line with the pay of

the Regular Forces. Twenty-seven days' training would bring a trained private soldier £272, as well as his bounty, and he could earn more. The new bounties will be payable irrespective of rank. All training from 1st April 1979 will count towards them. Bounties for the Royal Navy, Royal Marines and Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserves and for Army Volunteer Reservists with a lesser commitment will be increased on a similar pattern.

Other changes affecting the TAVR will include:

- (a) a three-year minimum engagement instead of two years. This means that training can be geared more easily to the three-year cycle undertaken by most TAVR units;
- (b) a simpler process of enlistment;
- (c) more opportunities for units to undergo overseas training and better overnight accommodation in TAVR centres;
- (d) measures to improve the standard of general and recruit training including additional paid voluntary training days each year and the creation of specialist training teams.

I am particularly pleased to announce also that the traditional and well understood name of Territorial Army is back from today. The present title of Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve introduced in 1967, has never really caught on and the Shapland Committee recommended that the old title of "Territorial Army" be introduced. This decision implies no change in the role of force and no return to the concept of a part-time "citizens' Army." The Territorial Army will continue to be a trained Volunteer Reserve fully integrated into the country's defence plans.

The Government is fully committed to maintaining strong, well trained and well equipped Volunteer Reserves. My Ministerial colleagues and I will be working to boost both the strength and the morale of the Reserve Forces as a whole. A major recruiting drive will be launched early in the autumn. The Reserve Forces, and in particular the Territorial Army because it is the largest, offer challenging opportunities to our young people to develop high standards of self-discipline and leadership as well as making an important contribution to national defence. The Government is conscious of the personal sacrifices required of Volunteers and their families, and of the valuable part played by many employers in allowing extra time off work for service with the Reserves. I hope that other employers will recognise the importance and value of service in the Volunteer Reserves and will encourage their employees to enlist. I am confident that the measures I have announced today will increase the strength and operational effectiveness of the Volunteer Reserves who make such an important and economical contribution to our defence.'

# ONE OF US

(Continued from the April 1979 Issue)

After the big patrol we returned, screened fortunately by four foot standing corn, to the comparative safety of our firm base in the farmhouse cellars, where were not bothered too much by the enemy's retaliatory mortar fire.

Having completed our allotted time on patrol, we prepared to be relieved, and were delighted to receive a strong relief party led by Barry in the Company carrier, with a strong party of lads. I then had to collect my rather confused impressions of the past night. Everyone seemed very 'chuffed' and I found myself a bit of a celebrity overnight. I remember feeling rather embarrassed at what seemed to me, in my innocence, to have been what I had thought was a fairly routine night patrol.

Once back in the Company area, I was summoned to report to the CO to tell my story direct to him. On my way I met several fellow Dukes from other companies, including Hugh Le Messurier, 2 IC 'A' Company, who later became a true friend, especially during the Autumn when I was recovering from wounds in the 9th Canadian Hospital in Antwerp and when he and the CO got around the regulations so that I returned unofficially direct to the Bn, instead of to an RHU, and then on to some strange unit who happened to need replacements at the time.

I was expecting a reserved reception as, although we inflicted considerable casualties on the enemy, our original objective of bringing back a live prisoner for questioning failed. The CO however was anxious to have eye-witness details, and I then realised that our little effort involved not only support from neighbouring Bns on our flanks, but also Duncan Ross, commanding the Bn 3in mortars, and the whole Div Artillery and heavy mortars. So after a period of relative inactivity, we had succeeded in dominating our front and bringing back uniform descriptions which indicated that the position opposite, us had been taken over by a Panzer formation, which was later identified as two SS PZ—a real combined operation.

Back then to the Company, where we soon dropped back into the routine of being shelled and mortared and of providing nightly patrols to keep Jerry on the defensive and were delighted to hear

Cpl Jimmy Simpson had been recommended for the MM for being in the spearhead of all the main patrol activities. One of the sad things I found about such actions later was that there were never enough decorations awarded. Although Cpl Simpson earned and deserved his MM, I would have felt better if Sgt Bill Davison had been suitably honoured for his invaluable work and support and in my opinion as 'mentioned' would have been a fair reward. Bill was one of those fine chaps who could always be relied on in any crisis, but didn't seem to 'hit the headlines.' Ah well, that's life! An Army reporter arrived to take 1st hand eye witness accounts from every one involved. The balance sheet looked reasonable with several estimated killed and wounded on the other side, while we all managed to get back safely without serious casualties.

All the events which had happened so abruptly over the last fortnight or so since joining the Battalion made me feel more and more a real 'Duke' and accepted as such, despite my relative experience. One felt really proud to wear the Regt badge and shoulder flashes now.

You may well wonder how I remember all these details of event which happened on what is now the '33rd' anniversary of my 'bleeding' in the Regt, but my dear old father-in-law can vividly describe personal details of his experiences, at the age of 89 years, while serving with the 51 HD 60 years ago on the Western Front. He tells me that the memory sharpens as the years slip by and of course, one has more time to think back to the past.

The shattered Normandy Farmhouse in our Platoon area was used by The Gunners as an OP and was consequently a regular target for enemy artillery and mortars. Mind you, one of the advantages was that a lot of the stuff sailed safely over us and landed somewhere among the unfortunate troops in our rear.

Platoon Sgt Bill Middleton became very close as we shared the Pl HQ command trench. I had my head up while he had his down—when we got the fleeting opportunities that came along. No separate messes for different ranks, as we all shared and ate the same 'Compo' rations.

(To be continued)

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

### Notes from the Officer Commanding

Times are still hectic with recruiting, training, courses etc and sometimes I concur with the remarks of the PSI, CSM Lowney, that it is more like a regular company than a TA company.

However, I am sure everyone here will agree it is better working hard than having nothing to do. Recruiting at the moment is tremendous and at the time of writing, counting those in the pipeline we are up to the 200 mark, not bad in 18

months.

We took 139 to annual camp, 115 to our mini-camp at Easter, and sent or are sending 45 on courses so this will give some indication of how busy we are. I do know both our clerks Mr Maurice Chappell and TA Sgt Bailey have been run off their feet. Their principal task it seems is to find a doctor to do all the medicals.

The parachuting is still going well although the weather is beginning to have its effect. The Drill Hall floor is currently due for replacement and we shall then have two badminton courts, a volleyball court, and a basketball court. This will make our sports nights more flexible. We already have a thriving karate club on Wednesday under black belt LCpl Beaumont who has recently returned from Tokyo having improved his own standard. Since his return his prowess has cost him £24 for the hole which he kicked in the classroom wall.

We have also had installed a new cine .22 range which is providing good fun and greatly increasing the shoot to kill ability of the company.

Annual Camp was at Thetford and was a very demanding time. We combined our training with Regimental and social dinners, it certainly sapped the strength of some of us. In the second week we were on a district exercise which was equally demanding. I am certain the CO can only pronounce 'C' Company as we were simply run off our feet in both weeks. I shall have to teach the CO to say A, B, D, or E so that we can have a rest. We were visited by Brigadier Shuttleworth, Lord Clythron from MOD, General Woods the GOC, and our honorary Colonel the Earl of Scarborough. 1 RAA QOY, 72 Engineer Regt, 655 AAC, RAF, 217 RCT, 6RRF, 5 LI, and 4 SBS (RM) all took part in the exercise which was really enjoyed (when it was finished). We also had attached to the company Lt Egon Schieber of the German Reserve Forces and a return visit is planned.

Our Engineer Platoon undertook demolition, mines, field defenses so well in fact that on one task when the company was bridge demolition guard the engineer platoon were rigging the bridge themselves for demolition. They are going away next week on watermanship training so things are looking well in that direction.

We hosted the Duke's Reunion Dinner on 29th September which was extremely well attended 250 seated for the meal and a total of 400 altogether in attendance. I believe we entertained them very well. It was nice to see all the old and new faces once again. Speaking of new faces we now have with us 2 Lt Dan Hackston an accountant lecturing at Manchester Polytechnic, he will be useful in more ways than one. I have made few changes now with the officers, Lt Martin Walker now commands the Engineer Platoon, and 2/Lt Hackston has taken over 7 Platoon. We wish them well in their new commands.

In August we had our first Officers, WOs and

Sgts Regimental Dinner with our ladies. Our only guests were the CO and RSM. We seated 50 and an enjoyable night was had by all. The setting with parachutes, camouflage nets and candles gave a good atmosphere with the 'Iron Duke' in silver as the centre piece.

The October Curry Supper was a success with our guests including Maj General Isles, Brig Shuttleworth, Col Bentley, Col Chuck Ivey (yes I got him again), Majors David Pugh, Martin Bray, Keith MacDonald, Graham Tedd, John Milligan. The night seemed more of a follow up to the Dukes Reunion. The leader of the council, Councillor John Bradley came and promised us two silver bugles for our Corps of Drums so it was an eventful night. It certainly has not done the company any harm as some of the civilian guests, our 'Captains of Industry,' were won over to our side.

November sees the Battalion Cocktail Party at York with over 150 guests and this should prove an enjoyable weekend for all.

It was nice to see Lt Denis Whittaker peering round my door. The 1 DWR PRO and assistant adjutant he tells me. I was delighted to see him and hope we can have more contact with our 1st Battalion in the future.

We are getting ready for the Stainton Chase March & Shoot Competition which is being led this year by 2 Lt Andrew Carlin and Sgt White. We wish them all the very best and I am sure they will not let us down as the competition is for regular as well as TA units.

Another competition we are entering in October is 'Black Dragon' a UKLF driving competition covering 269 miles in 24 hours around Wales. The MT Cpl Collins and two crews are going to represent us in this first attempt from the company and battalion.

The pay for the TA soldier is now very lucrative for officers NCOs and privates and can easily exceed £1,000 a year. So can I have a commercial break here and send out the message to anyone coming out of the Regular Army. We need time-served experienced soldiers for this very young company. Give us a try, it is good fun, hard work, well paid, and all worthwhile. Remember—Once a Duke always a Duke. We are open Tuesday nights 1930 or drop us a line before coming out.

### Annual Camp Report

C Coy main body left Halifax on Saturday, 8 September for two weeks trg at Thetford in Norfolk. We spent Saturday afternoon and evening settling in and familiarising ourselves with our new surroundings then started training in earnest on Sunday morning.

Our training covered all aspects of war in which we might be expected to participate and included MSR, Bridge Demolition Guard, Heliborne and anti-heliborne operations.

The coy level training culminated in the annual Duchess of Kent Competition an arduous exercise

designed to test the infantry soldier in basic military skills. The coy acquitted itself well and LCpl Longbottom is to be congratulated in coming runner-up in the Soldier of the Year part of the competition. We must, alas, bid LCpl Longbottom a fond farewell as he is leaving us to join the Parachute Regt.

Cpls Swift and Crilley gained valuable experience as instructors on the Bn recruits cadre and 29 recruits were put through their paces under their watchful eyes. Congratulations to Pte Payne who obtained the best recruit award on the cadre. Well done lad, you could have a good future.

The final week saw the coy deployed on MSR protection duties on ex Northern Foray. This was a most interesting phase of annual camp during which the coy were kept constantly on their toes, repelling airborne and ground attacks. We even had fifth column infiltration to deal with and spent most of the time in Noddy Suits as the umpires obviously had managed to corner the whole North East District allocation of gas grenades.

On reflection annual camp was a great success with everyone at all levels learning a great deal. What is most heartening is that our young recruits having been subjected to a most arduous exercise and being at times totally ignorant of what was

going on thoroughly enjoyed themselves and are still coming back for more.

#### Wellington Club News

The Duke of Wellingtons Reunion Dinner and Dance was held in the Drill Hall on Saturday, September 29th, 1979. Member of the Wellington Club staffed the bar and acted as waiters.

The clubs last disco evening was a great success due to the 'Airborne Disco' who played records to suit the mood of the guests, and also to the efforts of Cpl Swift and his brother Keith who organised the games.

Cpl Swift has been nominated to teach drill to female cadets (alas, under the age of 14) of the British Red Cross.

Congratulations to Cpl Foster whose marriage took place on 29th September and to 2 Lt Williams who is getting married on 13th October, 1979.

We welcome Pte Shaw, R. who joins us after a spell with 1 DWR.

We say farewell to Lcpl Longbottom and Pte Rowe who are leaving us to join the Regular Army. We wish them well.

Also leaving us in February 1980 is Albert Eyre who retires after 10 years as civilian storeman with 'C' Company. All the best from us all Bert.

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

Life in the TA in Huddersfield certainly doesn't seem to slacken—we seem to be running twice as fast just to stay in the same place! The luxury of a free weekend is becoming more unusual every month as we try to fit in all the varied events which come up.

In July we received a visit from Lt Col Dick Mundell who spent a Drill Night with us and renewed his acquaintance with RSM Stansfield, Sgt Charlie Dobson, Ssgt (since promoted WO2) Harding and of course 'Stumpy' Sullivan. We are still losing a steady trickle of soldiers to 1 DWR. The latest enlistments into the Regular Army are Lcpls Sammy Sanerson and Andy Greaves, and Pte McConnell (True Grit) all joining the Dukes. Pte 'Swiftie' Swift has also left for the regulars but he has decided to go in as a tankie. We shall miss them all but wish them the best of luck.

Annual Camp this year (at which C Company had the best attendance in the Battalion) was back at Lydd, familiar to many of us from 1976. The emphasis during week one was on shooting, making use of the splendid Hythe ranges and also on basic Infantry skills at section/platoon level. The middle weekend was marked by the Honorary Colonel's Parade, taken by Maj Gen Isles who travelled down to see us for 24 hours. Free from Saturday lunchtime until Monday a number of us took the opportunity of a trip to

Boulogne on the 'disco boat' and a night in France.

Back in camp on Monday, and some of us feeling the worse for wear, we went straight into preparations for the main exercise of camp 'Exercise Cyclops Hammer.' What had been expected to be a normal exercise developed into something rather different with the announcement that Mr Francis Pym, the Secretary of State for Defence, was to visit us. This visit coincided with the announcement of the new conditions for the TA, which we heard in the field. On the day of the visit the CQMS, Csgt Philip Beaumont, suddenly found himself, at a few hours notice providing a midday meal for 150 including the Defence Secretary. Needless to say, he rose to the challenge in magnificent style, ably assisted by the cooks and by Ssgt Joe Cotton.

The arrival of Mr Pym signalled the time for the rain to start. It threw it down on and off for the following 36 hours, and the final phase of the exercise, live firing on the ranges, had to be called off because of the nil visibility. We squelched back into camp and—inevitably—within an hour the sun was shining. Only one day remained before we moved back to Huddersfield, a day for the Tickle Fitness Test (gruesome the morning after the Company Smoker's!) and packing up.

Meanwhile, back in Yorkshire . . . the preparations for South Yorkshire March were going on.

Once again we fielded a team who completed the eight mile route as a speed march in preparation for Exercise Stainton Chase. Congratulations to all concerned and especially to the OC and Csgt Beaumont who completed the 28 mile route. The 2 IC and a team of half-a-dozen ran the check point at Hoyland Swain.

Well done to Sgt Ron Bentley and Cpl 'Wozzy' Warencya just back from Brecon. Some of us are convinced that Sgt Bentley is quieter since he went there and are wondering what they did to him. (Sgt Bentley is famous for the 'Quote of Camp' on being asked at an 'O' Group what he was trying to say, he explained—'I'm just trying to speak between the words'). Well done also to Lcpl

Atkinson, newly promoted after his RSI's course at Warminster. And while we're mentioning promotions, congratulations of course to WO2 Geoff Harding on his promotion. Best wishes to Sgt Trevor Payne and Rita who were married on the 22nd September.

This piece is written while in the throes of training for Stainton Chase March and Shoot Competition. We have marched and shot unceasingly until we never wish to hear of Stainton Chase again, but so far we have been doing well and leading the rest of the Battalion by a respectable margin. News of how we fare will have to wait for the next issue.

## Depot, King's Division

### DEPOT NOTES

Firstly, may I say that there is no truth in the rumour that CSM Toplis was executed by firing squad at dawn, one day last week!

Perhaps one of the most important items to mention is the success of the Depot Rugby team. CSM John Toplis is team secretary, Lt Tim Coburn, team captain and WO2 John Hemmings is coach. The team have been doing extremely

well so far this season with all matches won. Hopes run high for the Army Minor Units Cup. Unfortunately, Sgt Steve Mortimer was injured in one of the first games of the season and will not be fit to play again.

There have been a number of Regimental functions lately around the area and most local and Depot 'Duke's have got together and enjoyed themselves.

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There is a general feeling that the standard of recruit entrant has fallen lately and it is certainly becoming a harder task to get a good end product, especially with Platoons of 75 strong!

We welcome to our outpost, Cpls Smith and Ellwell from the 1st Battalion and say farewell to Cpl King and Major (QM) Bill Burke who retires

from the Army in December to take up the post of County QM with Major Derek Roberts and the Yorkshire Cadet Force HQ in Strensall Training Camp.

Lastly it remains for me to say, from all Duke's serving at the Depot, we wish the 1st Battalion the best of luck in their forthcoming Ulster Tour.

## Wellesley Company

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

### Personality Parade

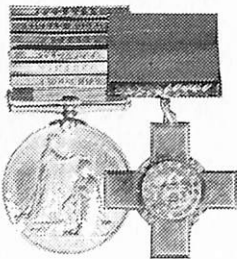
Hurrah for Paul Briggs on being granted a TA (B) Commission for service with Yorkshire ACF; a keen athletic young subaltern bringing great enthusiasm to Skipton Detachment. . . . Congratulations to 2 Lt Tony Russell on achieving the double with the birth of twins (yes, one boy one girl) . . . meanwhile Captain John Trigg goes steadily about his business as Area QM quietly guiding us in the mystic ways of stores control chastising as necessary but a pillar of strength nevertheless. Captain Terry Bonds (well deserved promotion at last) attended his Sandhurst Course

during period 8-14 July bringing new developments and ideas to the fore. . . . 2 Lt Keith Roughton and SI Tom Gibson prepare to depart to the ACF Cadet Training Centre at the magnificent Frimley Park in Camberley Surrey, on KG VI and Instructor Courses respectively—we wish them well on these exacting training and look forward to their return with all the right ideas.

### Weekend Camps

Proteus Training Camp at Ollerton Near Nottingham formed the backdrop for a North West Sector (Leeds and Bradford Areas together with

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Wellesley Company and City of Leeds School) weekend camp with annual camp preparation specifically in mind. Good weather, good company and good training proved the right formula for this 'first and 350 Cadets and 60 Officers/Instructors shared another memorable event.

The Cadet Training Centre at Strensall welcomed the Company in September and we were pleased to introduce our ATC neighbours to the various delights of camping with 'The Dukes'—their verbose thanks and subsequent letter proved that they had enjoyed a weekend with a difference.

### Annual Camp 1979

The 'run up' at Proteus proved its value when Wellesley Company camped with Yorkshire ACF at Otterburn in Northumberland and a super time emerged. Training of all kinds emerged and in particular a 36 Hour Exercise devised and controlled by Captain Tim Sinclair and his team went off without a hitch and never an officer nor instructor in sight! (Was a lesson being learned?) 20 anxious little faces were however sighted over the horizon watching the proceedings but things will never be the same.

A splendid Dinner at the Otterburn Tower Hotel was enjoyed by all and the 'Dukes' reputation for good conviviality was enhanced yet further. The County Commandant thoroughly enjoyed himself and we look forward to having Colonel Gerry at our next little beano.

The week was surmounted by a trip to Whitley Bay where fish, chips, pop and comradeship prevailed.

To round off this excellent camp, it was your own Duke's Cadets who won the new exacting March and Shoot Competition in no uncertain manner. As one young adult commented rather cockily, 'The emphasis was on training with the Duke's therefore we won the "one that mattered".'

### Officers Ladies Guest Night

On Saturday, 8th July a Dinner was held in the Officers Mess at Huddersfield at which function Brigadier and Jean Shuttleworth along with Colonel and Joan Delaney were the principal guests. The atmosphere was right, the wine flowed, and at 2.30 am Mrs OC was observed sorting out mountains of crested cutlery whilst Mr OC was noted to be standing (not helping) muttering 'I've signed for this lot, recheck please.' Yes indeed a thoroughly good time was had by all and we've another in December on the strength of it.

### I Bn Yorkshire Volunteers

Whilst commenting on the socialising aspect, mention should properly be made regarding the excellent Supper Night to which the OC and Capt Terry Bonds were invited at TA Centre Halifax in September. Col Ivey and Major Garner together with all the Company Officers were splendid hosts and it was good to share their company good humour and comradeship—how lucky we Yorkshire ACF are.

### Visits

Once again the cycle of Annual Visits appears on the horizon, and at the time of writing the AAG HQ Kings Division is in telephonic contact and arrangements made to visit Skipton Detachment next week. Details in the April IRON DUKE.

Major Graham Tedd the Regimental Secretary is the next prominent 'Duke' to prepare for a tour of our seven detachments and we look forward to escorting him and seeking his valued precis of how Dukes cadets are operating. We shall respond to his advice and will view the tour as a strengthening of the foundations upon which we stand.

Area HQ Staff and Huddersfield Detachment were delighted to be in attendance when Lt Col W. R. Mundell (then CO Designate 1st Bn DWR) visited the TA Centre Huddersfield. Within (literally) 30 seconds of meeting the Company OC, Col Mundell had invited a party of Wellesley Company to visit the Battalion in Minden BAOR during April 1980. If clearance can be obtained we shall jump at the opportunity but many bridges have yet to be crossed.

### DWR OCA

We look forward to sending a small party (small due to transport problems) to Mossley on 4 November complete with Company Buglers to share the Remembrance parade at the Cenotaph with Mossley Branch and their Hemm comrades.

Major John Tyler, Lieutenant Steve Lancaster and 2 Lt Paul Briggs had a most excellent dinner at Skipton with the 6th Battalion DWR OCA. The Regimental Secretary Major Graham Tedd was the principal guest. The Regimental Cadets were given a prominent mention in Major Graham's speech and we were very warmly welcomed by Dukes of glorious past—this family circle has no boundaries.

### Company Band

SI Brian Wood is still not well and so therefore we pick up the threads of our band reformation under the skilful musical eye of Sean Fitzgerald Junior our civilian instructor assisted by his talented father SMI Bill Fitzgerald and others in the Company having the requisite skills. We look forward to making progress and meanwhile if you have any old band equipment to donate . . . hmmm . . . we shall be grateful.

### Recruiting

Without apology, I do some blatant advertising . . . we need more officers in the Yorkshire ACF (preferably Wellesley Company but if you live further afield then there is Scarborough, Northallerton, Leeds, Bradford, Doncaster, Dearne Valley, etc, etc) and if they have a Duke's background then quality knowledge and good fellowship will abound. If interested, drop a line to the OC his address is on Page 207. Happy soldiering and a very Merry Christmas to you all.

J.K.T.

to London, enabled Bull to play for the US Portsmouth, one of the strongest sides in the country, and also the occasional game for the Harlequins (based at Twickenham) of which Bull was already a distinguished member. Bull was already an outstanding prop-forward being very fast and very strong, and a unique catcher of the ball from the kick-off. During this period 1924/25 Bull was awarded the first of his three England caps.

Two interesting facts regarding Bull's rugby career are that he never played for the battalion in an army cup final owing to injury, but he achieved a record in that he played in two winning County Championship XV's, Hampshire and Yorkshire respectively. He qualified for Hampshire when serving at Gosport from 1924-26 and Yorkshire when posted to the Depot at Halifax in 1926 for a two year tour of duty.

Bull's sporting achievements do not begin and end with rugby football; he represented the battalion on numerous occasions as the heavyweight in the Army Inter-unit championships, and once fought in the final of the Army Officers Individual Championships at the Albert Hall in 1930.

In 1931 Charles Faithfull was stationed at Aldershot and in July that year married my sister Airlie Beatrice Dalrymple.

Bull's next move was to be December 1933 when he was appointed adjutant to the 6th Bn DWR (TA) at Skipton. This was a most popular appointment as from his previous tour 1926-28 at Halifax he had become much respected and loved in the county.

Bull had hardly settled down than tragedy struck in that Airlie died on November 4th, 1934, while giving birth to a son, James.

One feature of Bull's pre-war Army life cannot escape mention and that was his love for and dedication to rifle shooting; the 1st Bn's performance improved beyond all credence under his expert coaching. He, himself, managed on at least one occasion to gain a place in the coveted Army 'Hundred' at Bisley. In October 1937 Charles Faithfull received orders to join the 2nd Bn in India, but before leaving Skipton, luck had already turned his way in that he had married Jane Bliss who was not only his inseparable and loving companion throughout his life but also a devoted mother to his five children.

At the end of 1937 Bull arrived in India and for the next 18 months followed the usual pattern of life in an Indian Cantonment. However, in April 1939 he was appointed Staff Captain Ghilum Brigade in Northern India, rejoined the 2nd Bn in 1940 and in February 1942 he was second in command to Lt Colonel Basil Owen at the start of the Burma withdrawal, but Basil was killed early on and Bull was ordered to take command which he virtually retained until the Battalion reached Assam. The withdrawal was extremely difficult and hard in every respect and Charles Faithfull displayed his usual courage and determination in extricating the Battalion from some very difficult situations. Shortly after reaching Assam the 2nd Battalion was sent to Southern

India to reorganise and refit.

In May 1944 Bull was appointed to command 1 Wilts operating in the Arakan and he retained this command until the end of the war.

Bull returned to UK in 1946 and thereafter held a number of Staff appointments until he retired in 1955.

Charles Faithfull was a particular inspiration to all young officers, and his loyalty and gallantry were much respected by young and old. Characters such as 'the Bull's' are rare and can ill be spared: needless to say Charles Faithfull will be more than just missed by all who admired and knew him.

J.H.D.

At the family request donations in lieu of flowers were made to the McGuire Bate Fund in memory of Bull.

The amount subscribed was over £208.00.

Mrs Faithfull wishes to express her grateful thanks, and those of her family to those who subscribed so generously.

#### Mr F. Bentley

Mr Fred Bentley of 18 Stafford Avenue, Halifax died in Hospital on September 6th in his 84th year.

He was a very well known member and a former treasurer of the 4th Bn Old Comrades' Association having served in the Bn through the First World War.

Fred was a native of Halifax and joined the Halifax Building Society as a junior clerk in 1911, rising to General Manager in 1949, a post he held until 1956 and was appointed a director in 1957. He was chairman of the Building Societies' Association from 1956 to 1958 and in the Second World War he was Commandant of the Halifax Special Constabulary.

#### Robert Appleby

Robert, who served as Band Sergeant with the Duke's from 1946-1955 died recently in Keighley.

#### Mr J. Wilson

Mr John Wilson died at his home in Emsworth, Hants on August 15th, aged 75.

He was born in the Regiment at Fulford, accompanied his parents to India on board HMT Plassey in 1905. He later served as a Drummer in the 2nd Bn and left the service about 1929.

#### Mrs J. Battye

Mrs Julie Battye, wife of WO2 (now Captain, Giggleswick School CCF) R. S. Battye died in hospital on August 11th after a long illness.

#### Sgt. R. Lawrence

Sgt Rodney Lawrence was killed in action while serving in the Rhodesian Army on anti-terrorist operations.

A Halifax man, Sgt Lawrence joined the Regiment as a junior at the age of 16 and served for two years before being given a compassionate discharge on the death of his widowed mother. He joined the Rhodesian Army some three years ago.

**Mrs E. Clarke**

Mrs Elsie Clarke, wife of Lcpl B. Clarke died on July 14th after a short illness.

**Mr E. Stead, DCM, MM**

Mr Ernest ('Jackie') Stead died in Bradford on 24th July 1979.

Jackie enlisted 1913 and served in World War I during which service he was awarded the DCM, MM and Mentioned in Despatches.

In the 1920s with 1st Battalion, he served in Ireland, Egypt, Palestine, Turkey and Gibraltar. During this period he played with the BN XV and was awarded two caps. He served in India from 1929 with 2nd Battalion, later transferring to the Army Recruiting Staff in 1934 with whom he stayed until his retirement in 1958.

To quote the words of an old soldier who served with Jackie, 'He was a real soldier and a Christian to boot.'

## Regular Forces Employment Association

This Association is part of the Forces Resettlement Service. It exists to help the non-commissioned ranks of the three Services to resettle in civilian life when they leave the Forces, and in particular to help them to find suitable employment. It also takes a long term interest in ex-Regulars, who may use its services as often as they wish.

The Association has 42 Branches covering the United Kingdom, and its Employment Officers—all ex-Servicemen—are in close touch with employers. It provides all its services free. Addresses and telephone numbers of Branches can be obtained from Corps and Regimental Associations—or from Post Offices, Employment Offices or local telephone directories.

# Regimental Association

## NEWS ITEMS—NOTES OF INTEREST

### NOTICES

**London and Home Counties Dinner—1980**

Saturday, 24 May 1980, in the Carisbrooke Hall, The Victory Club, Marble Arch, London 7.30 for 8.00 pm. Tickets (£5) and details from Mr Ken Waterman, 21 Vivian Court, 128-134 Maida Vale, London, W.9.

**FUTURE DATES****Regimental Association Annual General Meeting, Dinner and Reunion—1980**

Provisional dates 27 September 1979 or 4 October 1980 at St Paul's Drill Hall, Huddersfield. Firm date and full details will be published in the April 1980 issue of this journal.

**Regimental Service—York Minster—1980**

Provisional date 1 November 1980. Firm details in April 1980 issue of this journal.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—1979**

The AGM was held in the Sgts Mess 1 Yorks Vols before the Annual Dinner on Saturday, 29th September 1979. The Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General D. E. Isles, CB, OBE, presided. He opened the meeting by welcoming all present (47) and said that this Reunion could well be a record attendance as some 250 had booked for dinner and more were expected afterwards.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved on the proposal of Major K. M. McDonald, seconded by Colonel J. Davidson. There were no matters arising.

**Accounts**

Copies of the accounts were available for perusal. The Colonel informed the meeting that they had been approved by the Finance Committee and had been available for inspection by Secretaries of Branches at the last Management Committee Meeting. They would be seen by the Trustees at their meeting on 26 October next. The reason that the Trustees had not seen the accounts before this AGM was that it had not been possible for him to arrange a meeting before then.

On the proposal of Mr J. Horne, seconded by Mr W. G. Smith, the accounts were accepted subject to any observations by the Trustees.

**Other Business**

The Colonel informed the meeting that Col J. Davidson was retiring as Vice-President of the Association. He had served in that capacity under three Colonels of the Regiment and the Colonel himself expressed his own gratitude for the help and advice he had received from him. The Colonel was sure the meeting would wish to record its own thanks for Col Davidson's service to the Association and this was unanimously supported and applauded. The Colonel announced that Brigadier D. W. Shuttleworth would become Vice-President and he was grateful to him for agreeing to take over the appointment.

**Legacies and Gifts for Association Funds**

The Colonel informed the meeting that the



Lt Col M. R. N. Bray and ex-Pte Michael John photographed together at the Regimental Association Dinner

Readers will remember Michael John was shot in the head at point blank range in Northern Ireland in August 1977 and was very seriously wounded. He has made a remarkable recovery and is now living at home, although still under treatment

following legacies or gifts had been received into Association funds:—

Legacies—	Lt Col. Own Price	£100
	Mr Tom Miller (ex 4th Bn)	£100
	Mr Hewitt (ex 2nd Bn)	£1000
Gifts—	In memory of his late wife (Evelyn Wellesley) from Mr Akroyd of York	£100
	In memory of Lt Col Faithfull, in lieu of floral tributes	£184
	(later donations have increased this amount to £198)	

#### GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT— 31 MARCH 1979

Mr Arthur Wood in his report stressed the need for RHQ to be told of cases where ex-members of the Regiment might be in need of help.

##### Welfare

During the year 106 cases had received financial assistance with grants totalling £5142. This was an increase of four cases more than the previous year and an increase in monetary grants of nearly £1000.

##### OCA 'Special Allowance'

This allowance consists of a grant of £60 per annum and has been made to six ex-Regular soldiers or their widows. It is for ex-Reg soldiers who have served with exceptional zeal during their Army service and nominations can be submitted to the Committee at RHQ for their consideration. One soldier recipient died during the year and another ex-soldier has been added to the list. Nominations may be submitted, from any source, under strict confidence.

##### Army Benevolent Fund Assistance

Aid in direct support of DWR during the year totalled £1556.

This fund can be called upon in addition to, or in lieu of, aid given from our own resources. All business is done through the Regimental Association and not direct with the ABF.

##### After-Care

Soldiers invalided out of the Army and widows and dependants of those who die.

Seven cases had been investigated during the year and financial assistance given to three of them.

##### Holidays

Four ex-soldiers had enjoyed a two-weeks' holiday sponsored and arranged by our Association.

##### Accounts

The accounts displayed at this meeting have been inspected by the Finance Committee and will be reviewed by the Trustees at their meeting on 26 October 1979.

The year's business leaves us with an excess income over expenditure and this surplus has been invested in Government stocks giving us an increased annual income. Taking into account inflation, the increasing age of many WW2 soldiers this increase in income is necessary so that we are in a state of readiness to meet any emergency that might arise.

##### Branches

**Halifax.** 'Sax' Rowlands, after 17 years, retired as Secretary recently. His health has not been too good but he hopes to be here tonight (he was). His successor, Ernest Hale, is already beaver away organising the North's contingent to attend the London Dinner on 24 May 1980.

**Huddersfield.** This thriving branch leads in Membership numbers and their activities increase. They have a good relationship with the Sgts Mess, 3 Yorks Vols in St Paul's Drill Hall, Huddersfield and their Entertainments Com-

mittee keep members' diaries pretty full.

**Mossley.** Still remains a male dominated body, yet in their mysterious way excellent socials are arranged, they entertain their Old Comrades from France and make a reciprocal visit each Armistice Day. Meetings are held in the Friendship Hotel on the first Wednesday of each month.

**Keighley.** At the time of this report this Branch, which operates from the Drill Hall, Lawkholme Lane, Keighley, is in need of members with organising ability. Bill Smith, now over 70, has retired and our condolences go out to him on the recent loss of his wife.

#### ANNUAL REUNION AND DINNER

**HALIFAX—29 SEPTEMBER 1979**

Wellesley Hall (Drill Hall) Prescott Street, Halifax housed a gathering of over 300 at this year's celebrations. 250 sat down to dinner presided over by the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General D.E. Isles, CB, OBE.

After an excellent meal, Colonel Davidson, proposing the Toast to the Regiment, on this, the eve of his retirement as Vice-President of the Association, said and quoted incidents, how The Dukes

were held in high esteem throughout both military and civilian circles. He spoke of the help he had received during his tour in office and the pride he had having served in such a fine Regiment.

The Colonel of the Regiment replying, gave greetings to all present from the Colonel-in-Chief and the 1st Battalion. He spoke of the activities of the 1st Battalion, of their success once again on the rugby field, the centenary match and celebrations and of their imminent move to Ulster and, looking ahead, to their return in the late 1980s to Catterick. The much-delayed Presentation of New Colours would take place on 4 April 1981.

He thanked the Band of The Yorkshire Volunteers, the staff of 'C' (DWR) Coy 1 Yorks Vols for all the work and help they had so readily given to help make the night a success, also to Mr T. Mawson for his annual generosity providing the floral decor.

The after-dinner activities continued with the usual inimitable happy sounds when groups and individuals of like minds meet, much elbow raising in a background of nostalgic music with dancers in tone.

We'll all meet again next year—in Huddersfield—either 27 September 1980 or 4 October 1980.

## News from Gosport

A recent visitor to Gosport was that well known ex-Duke WO2 JACKIE HORNE from Slaithwaite. He needs no introduction as he spent all his life with the Duke's, going to India at the age of 3 years, enlisting in 1917; was severely wounded in Normandy but is still very active at the age of 76.

During his visit I was able to run him around to meet some old Duke's and he requested that I write about them so that other old comrades have news of friends they have not seen for 20 or 30 years. I have included some details of their service so that they may be recognised.

Myself—4610310 Csgt F. GILL enlisted as a drummer boy at Devonport in 1929, served continuously with 1st Bn until demob in 1946. Rejoined in 1947, serving at Colchester, Halifax and Strensall, then 3½ years with 1 Green Howards in Malaya, finishing at Mons Officer Cadet School, Aldershot in 1956.

4609245 WO2 W. H. P. WILSON joined as drummer boy in 1927 from the Duke of York's School, Dover, served with 1st Bn until taken POW at Anzio. A well renowned cricketer for the Bn. He now resides between Fareham and Southampton.

4602728 Drummer LAWRENCE a tenor drummer and CO's bugler in the early days at Gosport. His son married Ruth Lewcock whose father Pte Lewcock was in the horse transport 1924/5.

2208037 WO1 Bill Hollis, another ex drummer who was recalled in 1939, wounded at Dunkirk, subsequently transferring to the Indian Army.

4602158 WO2 Chinny Holder, another well known Duke of the 1920's and 1930's. He now lives opposite the North Star Public House as you enter Gosport from Fareham.

Cpl John Gill (son of Csgt Gill) joined as a band boy 1951, attended School of Music, Kneller Hall, then served as MT Corporal in British Honduras and Germany leaving the Army in 1966.

These are the ex-Dukes Jackie Horne met, three other calls were made to Mrs HIRON whose husband JOHN was in India with 2nd Bn, unfortunately John was in hospital having recently had operations.

A call was made to Ginger Lightowlers last address, we were informed he had left and now resides with his son in Staines. 'Ginger' was a well known runner and rugby player, leaving the Duke's in the mid 20's to play for Bradford Northern.

The death of ex-drummer Harold Beverley was published in the August issue. Harold's widow is the sister of Csgt Gill's wife and way back in 1924 at Gosport, Jackie Horne was the best man at their wedding Jackie and his wife Rose were pleased to meet Mrs Beverley after so many years.

Another sad story is the death of John Wilson (WO2 WILSON's brother) only a week before Jackie came to Gosport. John lived at Emsworth and was a special friend of Jackie's as their parents were in the Duke's together and in India as school-boys. Jack and John were inseparable chums. However when we visited Tug Wilson, John's widow came over to meet Jack.

A call to WO1 Jim Myath's house revealed that

he is now in Australia with his daughter. Jim was a great footballer and played in the Army Soccer Cup Final in 1932.

Jack also had tea with Mrs Love whose husband Jack Love died about 12 months ago.

This article deals with Jackie's visit to Gosport. I have news of a few Duke's in Hampshire, so I hope to write about them in the next issue.

On closing I should mention that eight years

ago I had my voice box removed, similar to the operation Jack Hawkins had. However apart from not being able to use the 'phone I live a normal life and retired from my job last June at 65 years.

CHINA GILL

Mr Gill's address is:  
78 Layton Road,  
Gosport, Hants PO13 0JQ

## Field of Remembrance

The following members of the London Branch attended the ceremony on 11th November 1979:—

Mr Ken Waterman  
Mr Bob Temple  
Mr Bob Ballard

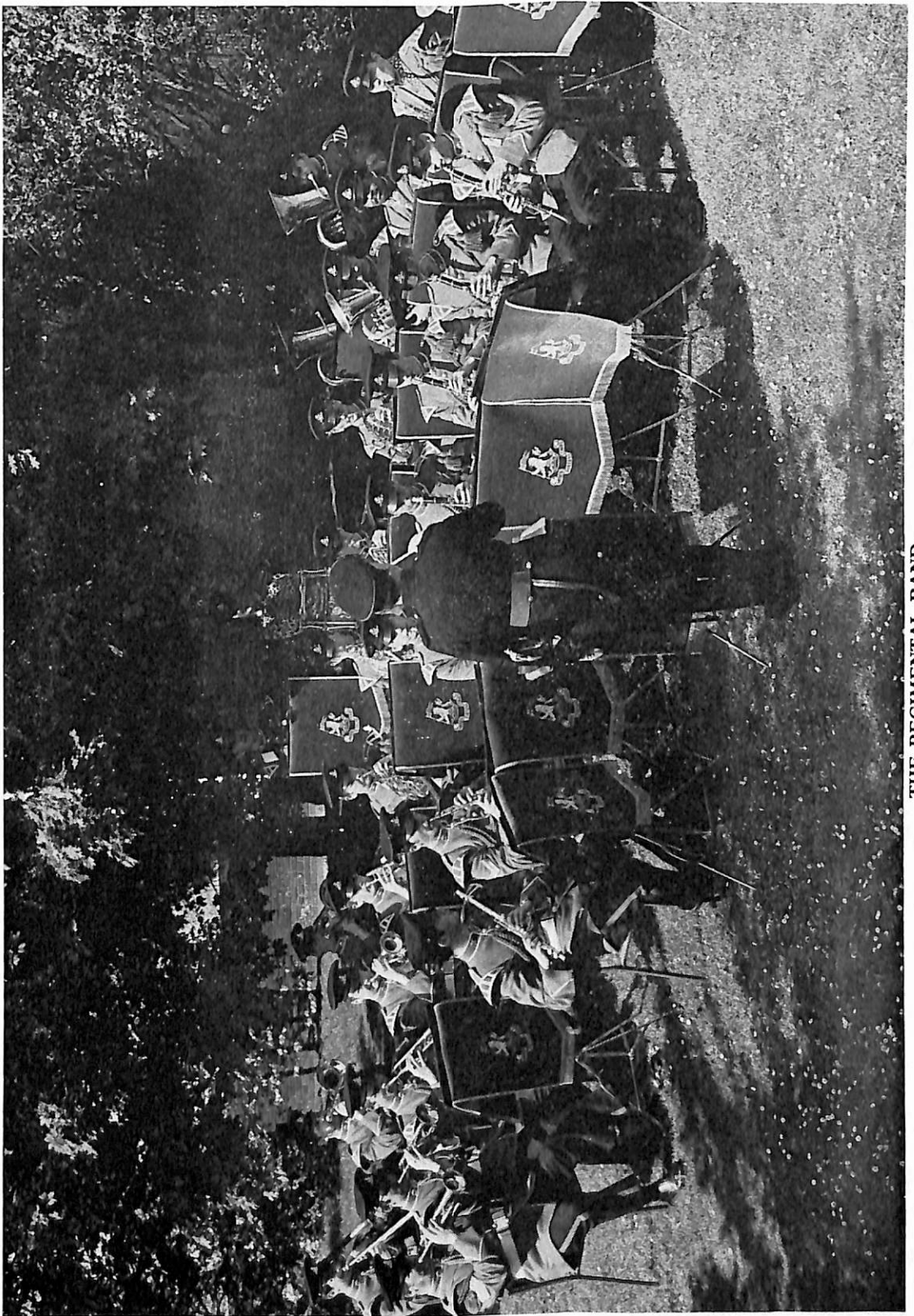
Mr Fred Richardson  
Mr Rod Owers  
Mr George Woodward  
Mr Charlie Cossins  
Mrs Bradley and family

## Information

A request for the present address of Sgt Walter (Wally) Backhouse, former Cook Sgt with the 2nd Battalion in India 1937–1944 has been received

from a solicitor with good news to impart. Any information to RHQ, Halifax, please.

**A Merry Christmas**  
**and a**  
**Happy New Year**  
**to all our readers**



THE REGIMENTAL BAND  
The Band of the 1st Bn playing in Minden during the summer

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