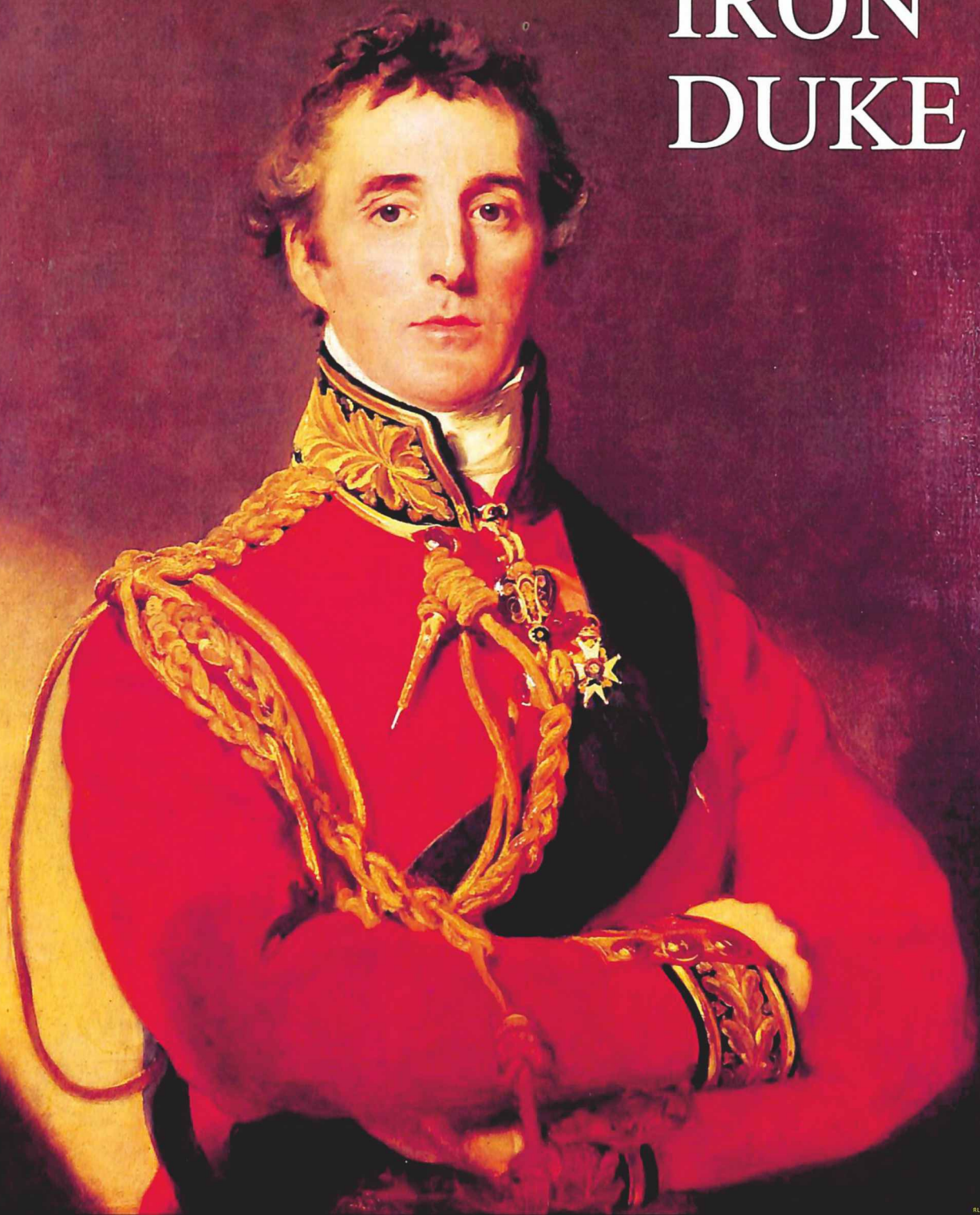


No.216 Autumn 1991

THE  
IRON  
DUKE



# THE IRON DUKE

*The Regimental Journal of*

## THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

(WEST RIDING)

Dettingen  
Mysore  
Serlingapatam  
Ally Ghur  
Delhi 1803  
Leswarree  
Deig  
Corunna  
Nive  
Peninsula  
Waterloo  
Alma  
Inkerman  
Sebastopol  
Abysinia  
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 Suvla  
Afghanistan 1919  
North-West Europe  
1940, 1944-45  
Dunkirk 1940  
St Valery-en-Caux  
Fontenay-le-Pesnil  
Djebel Bou Aoukaz 1943  
Anzio  
Monte Ceco  
Burma 1942, '43, '44  
Sittang 1942  
Chindits 1944  
The Hook 1953  
Korea 1952-53

Vol. LX

Autumn 1991

No. 216

### BUSINESS NOTES

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The opinions expressed in the articles of the journal are those of the  
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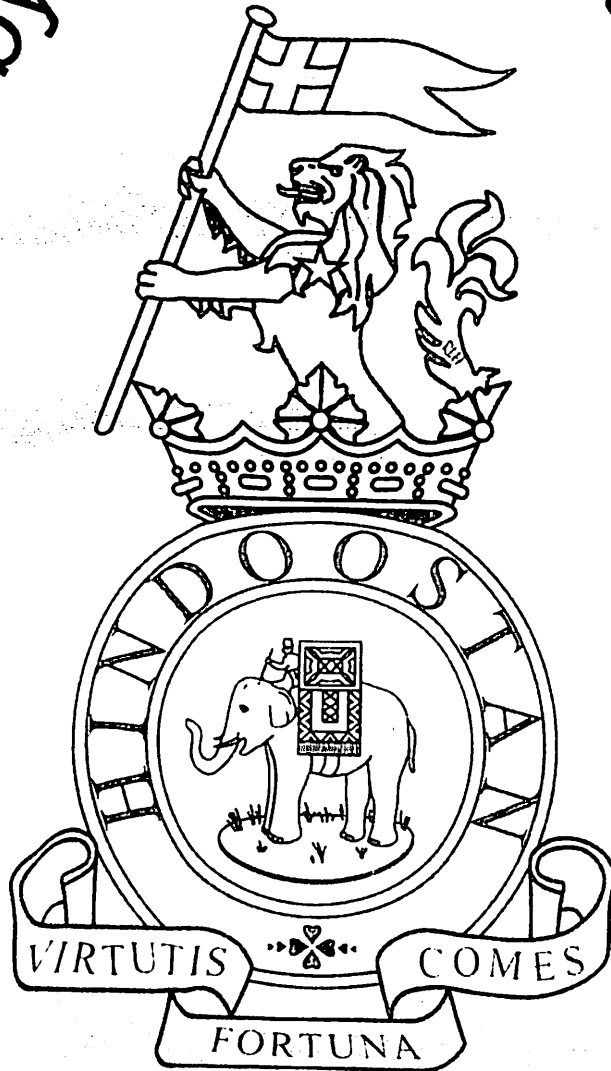
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# THE REGIMENT

## *The Colonel-in-Chief*

BRIGADIER HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, KG, LVO, OBE, MC, BA, DL

### *Colonel of the Regiment*

Brigadier W. R. Mundell, OBE  
*Headquarters North East District and Headquarters 2nd Infantry Division,  
Imphal Barracks, Fulford Road, York, YO1 4AU.*

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

Regimental Secretary, Lieutenant Colonel W. Robins, OBE  
Assistant Regimental Secretary, Major C. D. d'E. Miller

**1st Battalion**  
*Picton Barracks,  
Bulford,  
Salisbury, SP4 9PF*

Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel A. D. Meek  
Adjutant, Captain S. R. Neath  
Regimental Sergeant Major, P. Ennis

### AFFILIATED COMPANIES OF 3rd BATTALION YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

**"C" (DWR) Company,**  
**3rd Bn Yorkshire Volunteers,**  
*St. Paul's Street,  
Huddersfield, HD1 3DR*

Officer Commanding, Major P. D. Buczko

**"D" (DWR) Company,**  
**3rd Bn Yorkshire Volunteers,**  
*Wellington Hall, Prescott Street,  
Halifax, HX1 2LG*

Officer Commanding, Major C. S. Garrad

### "D" COMPANY YORKSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE

**Wellesley Company**  
**Affiliated Detachments**

Halifax Heckmondwike Mirfield Thongsbridge  
Huddersfield Keighley Skipton

DWR Liaison Officer and OC "D" (Wellesley) Company: Major D. L. Bennett ACF

### COMBINED CADET FORCE

**Giggleswick School CCF**  
Officer Commanding, Major N. J. Mussett

**Leeds Grammar School CCF**  
Officer Commanding, Squadron Leader R. Hill

### ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE CANADIAN ARMY

**Les Voltigeurs de Quebec**  
*Manège Militaire,  
Grande-Allée,  
Quebec, Canada*

Honorary Colonel: Colonel J. T. P. Audet  
Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel A. Gauthier CD

### ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE PAKISTAN ARMY

**10th Bn The Baluch Regiment**  
*Malakand Fort,  
Malakand, NWFP,  
Pakistan*

Colonel: Brigadier Syed Sarfraz Ali, SI(M)  
Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Jehanzeb Raja

### AFFILIATED SHIP OF THE ROYAL NAVY

**H.M.S. York**  
*BFPO Ships*

Captain R. A. G. Clare RN

### THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Patron:  
President:  
Vice-President:  
General Secretary:

Brigadier His Grace The Duke of Wellington, KG, LVO, OBE, MC, BA, DL  
Brigadier W. R. Mundell, OBE  
Brigadier D. W. Shuttleworth, OBE  
Major C. D. d'E. Miller, *Wellesley Park, Halifax, HX2 0BA.*





*Honorary Citizenship of Skipton*  
The Mayor of Skipton, Councillor F. Armitage, handing over the Honorary Citizenship Scroll to the Colonel of the Regiment.

## MESSAGE FROM THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT

On the 23rd July 1991, the Secretary of State announced the Army Board's plans for the reduction in the army resulting from their Options for Change study. By now you will know that there is to be no change to our Regiment, and that the 1st Battalion is to remain in the order of battle of the British Army. I am absolutely delighted, particularly for the serving officers and soldiers, that for the foreseeable future our existence is confirmed. The West Riding is to retain its Regiment.

You will have heard also the sad news of the reduction of one regular battalion of the Royal Irish Rangers. I am sure that all Dukes will join me in expressing our regret to their Colonel and all Rangers. We will all be involved in the restructuring that will follow this reduction. Any member of that famous Regiment that may have to join the Dukes will be made most welcome into our regimental family.

Whilst there will be much talk of contraction and redundancy in the media, I want you all to be quite clear that there must be no relaxation in our recruiting

and retention efforts, for both officers and soldiers. We moved to Bulford in August to a larger establishment and need to build the Battalion up to strength as soon as possible. Thereafter in this leaner army, the priority must be to keep our Battalion fully manned in the years ahead.

By the time this is printed the Battalion will be in Bulford, settling down to its new and demanding role with the Allied Mobile Force. This role, on the flanks of NATO and Europe, demands that the Battalion will need to be resilient, fit and tough. I have no doubt that the Dukes, as always, will rise to the occasion and set the highest standards.

*Dick Russell*

## Regimental Headquarters

### Regimental Notes

#### HONOURS AND AWARDS

Major C. F. Greive was awarded the MBE in the Honours List published on 29 June 1991 for services in support of operations in the Gulf

#### APPOINTMENT AND PROMOTIONS

Lieutenant Colonel A. D. Meek to be promoted colonel in 1992.

Lieutenant Colonel T. J. Isles for SO1/BLO Infantry School Federal Republic of Germany December 1991.

Lieutenant Colonel R. A. Tighe MBE retired 31 March but continues in the post of Principal Families Housing Welfare Services Officer HQ NEDIST as a retired officer.

Major N. G. Borwell and Captain D. S. Bruce have been selected to attend Staff College Camberley in 1993.

Lieut A. J. D. Wheatley became the first officer in the Regiment to qualify as an army pilot when he completed the Army Air Corps Course at Middle Wallop in May. He was also awarded the trophy for best student on his course by the Colonel Commandant of the Army Air Corps, Lieutenant General Sir John Learmont.

#### 1st BATTALION

The 1st Battalion has moved to Bulford. The Battalion's address is:

1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment  
Picton Barracks  
Bulford, Salisbury, SP4 9PF.

#### GENERAL SIR CHARLES HUXTABLE, KCB, CBE

General Sir Charles Huxtable became President of Combat Stress, the Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society, in May 1991 in place of Vice Admiral Sir David Williams.

#### USE OF REGIMENTAL CHAPELS IN YORK MINSTER.

The Chapter Clerk of York Minster has recently issued a reminder of the policy for the use of Regimental chapels in the Minster.

Regimental chapels of regular regiments may be used as follows on the request of the regimental authorities:-

- Marriages and blessings of marriage - serving officers and soldiers only.
- Baptism - children of serving officers and soldiers.
- Memorial Services - for former serving officers or soldiers.

The Yorkshire Volunteers Chapel may be used for baptism (two per battalion per year).

#### HONORARY CITIZENSHIP OF SKIPTON

In the ceremony outside the Town Hall on 4 May 1991, the Mayor of Skipton, Councillor Fred Armitage, on behalf of the town council conferred on the Regiment the Honorary Citizenship of Skipton. This distinction bears the same rights and privileges associated with a "Freedom" which may now only be granted by a District or City. On parade for the ceremony were the band, drums, colours, three guards and vehicles from the 1st Battalion, detachments from

Giggleswick School CCF (who are badged to the Regiment), and the DWR element of 'D' company Yorkshire ACF. The band was supported by musicians from the band at the Yorkshire Volunteers and 3 YORKS provided two Recce platoon vehicles for the parade. A large contingent of Old Comrades also paraded outside the Town Hall along with their Branch banners.

The Mayor, in his speech prior to handing the Honorary Citizenship Scroll to the Colonel of the Regiment, spoke of the local pride in the long established links between the town of Skipton and the Regiment and the service of many local men in the Regiment during the Boer War and both world wars. Following the handover of the scroll the parade fixed bayonets and the colours were uncased. In reply, the Colonel of the Regiment thanked the Mayor and the people of Skipton for the great honour bestowed on the Regiment and spoke of the historical links going back over 200 years.

The Mayor then presented a banner to the newly formed Skipton Branch of the Regimental Association after which the parade marched through the town while the Mayor reviewed the Old Comrades. Afterwards the Mayor took the salute as the parade passed the Town Hall.

A display of weapons, equipment and other activities established on the Bailey was open to the public from 11.00 a.m. and was visited by the official guests during the afternoon when they were also given tea. At 5.30 p.m. the band beat retreat which was followed by a reception in the Town Hall hosted by the Town Council. During the reception the Colonel of the Regiment presented to the Town Council a

silver salver, and in response the Mayor presented to the Regiment a silver wine taster.



*Honorary Citizenship of Skipton*  
The silver salver presented to Skipton Town Council by the Regiment



*Honorary Citizenship of Skipton*  
The 1st Battalion colour party passing the saluting base

### PROPERTY AND PICTURES

The Regiment has acquired an original Simkin water colour of the 33rd charging the Chasseurs à Pieds at Waterloo which will be hung in the officers' mess of the 1st Battalion.

An interesting pen, ink and water colour sketch of an officer of the 33rd 1800 by Godfrey Brennan has also been acquired. The detail for this sketch was taken by Brennan from a hand coloured engraving of

an officer of the 33rd contained in the British Military Journal 1799 - 1801. This picture is to be hung in the office of the Colonel of the Regiment.

A copy of a black and white engraving of the 76th in barracks with their families at Christmas by W. Sharp, published in 1858, has been acquired and is hung at Regimental Headquarters.

All these items were purchased from the Hodgson Trust of the Central Officers Mess Fund.



The 33rd (or 1st Yorkshire West Riding) Regiment - charging the Chasseurs à Pieds. Waterloo, 1815.

### LEEDS GRAMMAR SCHOOL CCF: Squadron Leader C. Templeman

The affiliation between the Regiment and the army contingent of Leeds Grammar School Combined Cadet Force has existed since the 1950s. However the link was firmly and officially established in 1981 when the Colonel of the Regiment, an old boy of the school, was commanding the 1st Battalion. At about the same time Squadron Leader Chris Templeman took command of the Leeds Grammar School CCF since when the affiliation has flourished. One result has been that a number of old boys have received commissions in the Regiment. Chris Templeman has now handed over command of the CCF. His successor is Squadron Leader H. Hill, a retired officer of the RAF.

### REGIMENTAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

Recent acquisitions include:

- From Mrs E. J. Marsh, the World War I diaries of her father, Lieut Colonel B. J. Barton DSO. Mrs Marsh also presented the Regiment with her fathers

DSO, which he won at Le Cateau while serving with the 2nd Battalion, and the Abyssinia medal of her grandfather, Colonel B. J. Barton ADC, DL, whose letters written during the Abyssinia campaign were published in the winter 1990 issue of the 'Iron Duke'.

- From Mrs D. Austin, the widow of Major R. E. Austin MC, his uniforms and maps and papers relating to the Korea war.

- From Mrs C. A. Evans, a number of photographs and a Regimental Christmas card which belonged to her father Sergeant Evans, of the period prior to World War I, when the 1st Battalion was stationed at Ambala, India.

- From Mrs Marriner of Halifax, photographs of the Regimental police of 3 DWR, taken during World War I.

- From Major Ronnie McDuell some Regimental photographs of 1883 and World War I. Major McDuell, a friend of Brigadier Denis Shuttleworth, regularly sends the Regimental photographs, which he has obtained from one source or another.

# The Regimental Council

The Regimental Council met at Apsley House on 7 June 1990. Present were the Colonel in Chief, the Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir Charles Huxtable, KCB, CBE, Major General D. E. Isles, CB, OBE, DL, Brigadier J. B. K. Greenway, CBE, Brigadier E. J. W. Walker, OBE, Colonel A. D. Roberts, MBE, Lieut Colonel Robins, OBE, Lieut Colonel A. D. Meek and Major K. M. McDonald, TD, JP, BA, Major A. C. S. Savory, MBE, and Major C. D. Miller were in attendance.

The Colonel of the Regiment informed the Council of the present state of officer and soldier recruitment. The quality of both was excellent. Officer recruitment was very satisfactory but the recruitment and retention of soldiers still gave some cause for concern. To improve this situation an Army Youth team, based at Huddersfield, had been formed and another KAPE tour in the West Riding and South Yorkshire was currently in progress. The Regiment had also spent £4800 on the production of recruitment literature and a video of which £1500 will be refunded from public funds through H.Q. King's Division.

## Options for change

The Colonel of the Regiment gave members of the Council an up to date briefing on the likely effect of the various possibilities that could arise when "Options for change" was implemented. A lengthy discussion then followed concerning the various permutations that could arise and their effect on the Regiment.

## New Regimental History

Major General D. E. Isles, Chairman of the History sub-committee, reported that the author (Major J. M. Brereton) had now completed the major part of his work and that the twenty chapters he had written were now being edited by Major A. C. S. Savory. In view of the contribution being made by Major Savory it had

been agreed that he would be the joint author of the history. Most of the maps required to illustrate the history had been completed. Some of the appendices had still to be written and a selection of suitable illustrations had yet to be made. General Isles informed the Council that the anticipated date for completion of all the outstanding work, including the preparation of the index, was the end of 1992.

## Friends of the Regiment fund

In the financial year ended 31 March 1991 the fund showed an excess of income over expenditure of £4535. The total assets of the fund amounted to £30,552. The Colonel of the Regiment commented that the fund was now an important factor in the administration of the Regiment, since it provided the means to meet expenditure outside the scope of other Regimental funds.

## 'Iron Duke'

Major C. D. Miller, the Business Manager, reported that for the year ended 31 March 1991 there was an excess of income over expenditure of £36 in the 'Iron Duke' trading account. He also reported that a recent increase in the amount of advertising space being sold would lead to a significant increase in the income of the account in the current and subsequent years.

## Officers Dinner Club: 1992

It was decided that the dinner would take place in London, at the Army and Navy Club, on 5 June 1992.

## Regimental Chapel: York Minster

It had been hoped that the new alter cloth would have been ready for the Regimental service on 2 November 1991. This was now unlikely. The Colonel of the Regiment informed the Council that he had seen the work so far carried out and was most impressed with its quality.

# 1st Battalion

## Commanding Officer's Introduction

Although as a Battalion we have not had any major task, all the companies have been extremely busy over the past few months. Alma Company had an excellent exchange exercise to Jamaica although days and days of tropical rain meant the island was not nearly as idyllic as described in the tourist brochures. The Jamaican company who were hosted by Corunna Company learnt that their winter is considerably warmer than our so called summer of '91! RAAT commitments have continued to fill the programme: in April Burma Company ran the UKLF Cadet Leadership Camp at Stanford which was extremely well received by all the participants. And at present we are providing CIVPOP for a Northern Ireland exercise (over 100 men) as well as manpower for an RAF exercise in Wales, and drivers for a Sandhurst exercise. All these tasks are time and manpower

expensive and of limited value to the Battalion in training terms, yet the soldiers tackle every one with enormous enthusiasm and commitment. Despite these frequent calls on our time and resources, many members of the Battalion have participated in adventure training activities this spring. The PT staff organised and ran a most successful camp for both Burma and Corunna Companies in North Wales which introduced many to the delights of getting wet, cold and tired in lakes, on mountains, or in the sea!

But the highlight of the year so far was undoubtedly the Honorary Citizenship Parade in Skipton on Saturday 4 May. For the Battalion it was a memorable day for many reasons: the welcome given by the town, the large number of spectators both on the parade as well as the display site, and the generosity of the Town Council at the end of the day





# How do you feel about leaving the Army?

As you're well aware, serving in the Forces isn't just a job. It's a way of life. So, it's no surprise, that after leaving, many people feel as though they're high and dry, like a fish out of water.

But there's no need for you to feel this way. It's perfectly possible for you to keep up with old friends, make use of the unique skills you've acquired, and make a vital contribution to the nation's defence into the bargain.

How? Simply by becoming a member of the Volunteer Forces, which make up a third of our Army and represent a significant part of our commitment to NATO.

There are three options open to you.

Firstly, you can join one of the Territorial Army Independent Units based in the TAVRA region in which you have decided to settle. An ideal route for those leaving Infantry or Cavalry regiments.

Secondly, if you are leaving a Corps, you could retain your capbadge and become a member of either an Independent Unit or a TA Specialist Unit. In either, you can maintain and extend the special skills that you have learned.

Thirdly, you could join the HSF, which fulfils a vital

role in our home defence, and in particular is suitable for people with limited spare time.

You can contribute as much time as you want in any one year. The minimum that we ask is that as a member of the Independent TA you complete 6 weekends, a two-week Summer Camp and some weekday evenings. As a Specialist we ask only 15 days training and two weekends.

And, as a member of the HSF, 6 to 10 days training and one evening per month.

In return you will receive payment equivalent to the rates paid to Regular Army soldiers plus an annual tax-free bonus.

If you would like more information about how you can stay in the swim of things, write to the address below, giving details of which option you are interested in, your current age and address, your intended county of residence, and of the regiment you have left or are leaving.



The Territorial Army, Freepost, 4335 (Ref: 9000), Bristol BS1 3YX.

with the reception in the Town Hall. The event further cemented the ties between the Battalion and our cadets as well as with the Yorkshire Volunteers. Furthermore it provided an excellent start to the activities of the KAPE Team which has promoted the Regiment in Yorkshire for more than 40 days since then. There was also much news media interest and the spin-off has been notable, not least the live show broadcast by Radio Leeds from Tern Hill on 17 June. The other Regimental event of note was the Open Day we had on 15 June for the OCA which was a success despite the weather: the sight of the band and drums beating Retreat in a hail storm will stay in everyone's minds for a long time!

We are now busily packing MFO boxes in preparation for the move to Bulford in early August. Once there we will have 4 weeks to get ourselves ready for our first exercise with the AMF(L), Exercise ACTION EXPRESS. This takes place in September in Denmark and our preparations for the exercise have begun already with a week at the Battle Group Trainer: a most useful package for the Battalion Headquarters.

After we arrive in Bulford there is an open invitation to all those members of the Regiment who live in the south of England to visit us while we are there.

### REGIMENTAL BAND: OPERATION "GRANBY"

For many years now army bandmen have been trained as medical orderlies. The very important secondary role has been very much in demand of late, either on training exercises or during national emergencies.

In early December the news came that we would form up at Church Crookham, Aldershot, as part of the RMA element of 28 Gurkha Ambulance Group. In addition to the Regimental band, the group included the bands of 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, the Peninsula band of The Royal Green Jackets and the staff bands of The Royal Army Ordnance Corps and The Brigade of Gurkhas.

On arrival in Saudi Arabia in early January, we were taken to a holding area where we spent several days on personal administration and preparing supplies before our deployment into the desert.

Separation from the Ambulance Group came quite soon. On 13 January the Regimental band was deployed to the two forward dressing stations of 1 Armoured Field Ambulance; Dressing Stations 1 Alpha and 1 Bravo. Deployment to these two dressing stations was due to a shortfall of RMA's being identified in 7 Armoured Brigade, of which 1 Armoured Field Ambulance formed part. This gave us the right to wear the famous 'Desert Rat' flash on the right shoulder of our uniforms.

Our role was to provide medical care for casualties during evacuation to a field hospital. Each bandsman was assigned to a vehicle, each with two drivers from 54 Squadron of the Royal Corps of Transport. Close bonds were soon formed as each bandsman integrated quickly into these small mobile teams.



#### *Operation 'Granby'*

The members of the band who served in the Gulf War

Left to right:-

WO1 (BM) C. North, LCpl S. P. Brookes, Bdsman P. Wood, Cpl D. J. Bryssau, Csgt P. Clough, Bdsman J. Alcorn, Sgt D. L. Cropper, LCpl P. J. Wollers, Cpl N. J. Wainwright, Cpl P. J. Cropper, Cpl P. Foxton, LCpl J. D. Davies

In the early hours of Thursday 17 January we woke to the news that 'Desert Storm' had begun, with massive allied air strikes against targets in Iraq and occupied Kuwait. During the early days of the war, we received numerous red alerts for possible enemy air attacks into Saudi Arabia. Fortunately no threat materialised. 'Scud' missiles were launched by Iraq into Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states with limited success, mainly due to the accuracy of the American 'Patriot' anti-missile system. Many of these attacks took place at night. We were often able to observe interceptions, as mighty flashes ripped into the dark night sky.

The threat that Iraq might use chemical weapons against the Allies remained serious throughout the war. Full I.P.E. (Individual Protection Equipment) was carried by everyone and everywhere at all times, and this practice became second-nature within days. NAPS (Nerve Agent Pre-treatment Sets) were issued and were taken three times a day. These tablets are designed to give a limited protection against nerve agent poisoning. Fortunately their effectiveness did not have to be tested.

As British and American units moved closer towards the Saudi/Iraq border, so did the dressing stations. Flexibility was most important as the whole camp was frequently 'dropped' at a moment's notice in order to move to a new location. All moves were made in convoy on designated tracks and very few roads. Due to the lack of landmarks, desert navigation was sometimes difficult to facilitate. However, many units, including ours, were issued with the new 'Magellan' satellite navigation system. These handsets enabled convoy leaders to reach 8 figure grid references with pinpoint accuracy by day or in the majority of cases, night.

At mid-day on Sunday 24 February we finally crossed the border into Iraq, courtesy of U.S. 1st Infantry Division, 'The Big Red One'. From this point

on things moved extremely quickly. It was soon established by the medical services that to remain effective we would have to keep 'on the road' as the allied advance kept moving forward. Due to the small number of allied casualties, the majority of casualty evacuations were made by helicopter, while field surgery teams gave tailboard treatment to minor casualties en-route. Stops were only made for several hours each time, at each point we only fixed up essential tentage in order that technical staff could work. During these occasions we often found ourselves receiving surrendering Iraqi soldiers who all appeared hungry, tired and extremely relieved to be out of the conflict. Those who required medical treatment were quickly processed and evacuated, the remainder were looked after by a detachment of pioneers, who duly packed them off to P.O.W. camps in Saudi Arabia.

By Thursday 28 February our unit had arrived in Kuwait which had by now been liberated. We were now at last able to fix up the dressing stations fully, ready to receive a steady flow of injured Iraqi P.O.W.'s. The conflict was now drawing to a close and it was not long before we were recalled back to 28 Gurkha Ambulance Group in Saudi Arabia. After only three weeks of the end of hostilities we flew back to Brize Norton on Monday 18 March. Our welcoming committee back at Tern Hill consisted of our wives and families. This was obviously quite an emotional moment for everyone, especially in the case of LCpl Phillip Wollers, whose wife, Jackie, had presented him with a baby son, during his tour of duty.

We were later welcomed back to the Battalion by the Commanding Officer, officers and men, with parade in our honour. We donned our desert combats for the very last time, and we all felt extremely proud that the band had been chosen to represent the Regiment on Operation 'Granby'.

### EXERCISE "RED STRIPE"

Exercise RED STRIPE was the Jamaican leg of a reciprocal UKLF/Jamaican Defence Force (JDF) exercise. It involved some 120 Dukes, mainly from Alma Company, between 8 May and 5 June. The exercise was based around the town of Port Antonio on the north western coast of the island.

The aim of the exercise was to promote an exchange of training ideas and methods between the exercising units and to that end a platoon of the 1st Battalion The Jamaican Regiment was attached to the company.

After an uneventful flight (for quite a few their first!), we landed in Kingston and as the doors opened were met by a wall of heat. By the time we had cleared customs most of us were melting and just needed to collapse on our pits - but that wasn't to be, we first of all had to endure a 5 hour bus journey across the mountains, in buses that must have been borrowed from the Keystone Kops! By the time we arrived at our new home we were mentally and physically exhausted.

It wasn't really until the next morning that we got a proper look at our home to be for the next 4 weeks. This was based around the ruins of the disused Reef Hotel in Titchfields, Port Antonio which was built by Errol Flynn. Most of the company were under canvas,

but all the amenities were in the 'hotel' which had been reroofed by the JDF. The camp was ideally sited within 20 metres of the sea.

After a 3 day period of acclimatisation in which we were subjected to temperatures averaging between 80 to 100 degrees fahrenheit and a regular fitness programme, we started training proper. This began with a 3 day rotational programme, interchanging with an initial jungle instruction period, the community relations project and an adventure training package. The adventure training package made use of our ideal situation and consisted of such sports as canoeing, snorkelling, diving, windsurfing, waterskiing and offshore sailing. The Jamaican coast guard provided us with a 48 foot sloop and crew and also a 200 horsepower speedboat for waterskiing.

The second three day package meant working at the local infirmary helping to maintain and clean up most of the buildings. The physical appearance of the infirmary was such that one of the soldiers commented, "This place looks like Steptoe's junkyard." The infirmary was in an extremely bad state of repair and provided little in the way of home comforts for the patients, many of whom were



*Exercise 'Red Stripe'*

Private Shirt preparing his 'A' frame while at the Jungle Warfare School

terminally ill or with little hope of proper care in a hospital. We set out to at least make the surroundings pleasant and livable. This involved clearing away rubbish, painting and a good deal of carpentry. The whole place was an eye opener and an experience that many of us will remember for a long time.

The final 3 days in the rotation were under the instruction of our illustrious jungle instructors. This entailed living in the jungle for a short period and learning the fighting drills that are essential to survival in the jungle. This prepared us for the platoon and company exercise we were about to embark on.

With these 9 days completed, we took off to sort ourselves out and prepare to go back into the jungle. That was when it started to rain, and when I say rain I mean rain. It rained solidly for nearly 4 days. In one 12 hour period we had 20 inches of rain. The exercise had to be delayed as most of the island was immobilised and inoperable. All effort was on disaster relief and we played our part, sending medics to the scene of a horrific crash which saw 50 people on the back of an open lorry going over the side of a cliff.

We eventually made it into the jungle, where the platoons were left to their own devices for 5 days, implementing many of the skills which had been learned at the jungle school. The exercise was a great success and ended with the company coming together for a grand finale. This involved such delights as ultra low level helicopter insertions in Heuys and beach landing from a coast guard patrol boat.



*Exercise 'Red Stripe'*

Members of 3 Platoon hard at work cleaning the Infirmary

With a great deal of hard work and suffering behind us we embarked on R & R. After an 8 hour bus journey we settled into what can only be described as luxury accommodation. The first night we were invited to a

"Fête in de Field", at which for a minimum fee you could drink and eat as much as you desired. The remainder of R & R was spent sunbathing and experiencing the delights of Montego Bay.

### EXERCISE 'CALYPSO HOP'

The month of May marked the arrival of the Jamaican Defence Force on an exchange exercise with Alma Company. 1 DWR and Corunna Company were given the pleasure of hosting them.

Along with the officers and NCO's of Corunna Company, a grey and rather wet cloud greeted the Jamaicans at Tern Hill. There was a look of disbelief on many of their faces as they stepped off the bus and it dawned upon them that they were going to have to forget their customary Caribbean sunshine and adapt rather quickly to the mixed British summer - it was the day the Battalion went into Shirt Sleeve Order!

The following morning the Jamaicans were issued with clothing including heavy wool jumpers and gloves which were hardly removed throughout their stay. No sooner had they put them on they found themselves on coaches to the ranges. Prior to firing, the JDF had to undergo conversion from SLR to SA80 rifle drills. Apprehension showed on many of our NCO's faces as lessons began. However, everyone coped with the day and their shooting improved greatly with practice.

The instructors had just enough time to calm their nerves down before the next phase of the JDF visit

began, field firing with the climax being live section battle drills at Warcop. Surprisingly the weather at Warcop was relatively kind and this eased their transition to conventional warfare. The week was of great value to our visitors and some of their section commanders showed great ability and professionalism. After this hard week came a week's adventure training package at Rhyl in North Wales

The most enjoyable and amusing part of the visit came next: FIBUA training in Sennybridge. Everyone enjoys the 'cowboy' aspect of this phase of war, but here we were treated to some 'vintage John Wayne'. It was obviously very different to the normal JDF training, hence great enthusiasm was shown by all and we had a very rewarding couple of days and the Corunna NCO's were again required to use their best instructional techniques.

The exercise was a success - the Jamaicans enjoyed the different training experiences and also their R & R visits to their many cousins around the country, but they were clearly ready to return to warmer climates after 4 weeks.

M. Whitley.

### EXERCISE 'PEAK GROUGH'

In late May most soldiers of Burma Company and a few from Corunna Company saw parts of North Derbyshire and South Yorkshire that they would prefer not to see again - especially at night! They undertook to march the Watershed Route that forms the skyline surrounding the Derwent River and reservoirs, to the west of Sheffield. The area is often referred to as the High or Dark Peak, and the latter is more appropriate. The total distance was 40 miles of some of the worst going to be experienced in the U.K., taking in the high gritstone moorland with such features as Kinder Scout, Bleaklow Moor, Howden Moor, Stannage Edge, Mam Tor and Snake Pass.

The purpose of the exercise was to test the capability of participants to march 40 miles across rough terrain in 24 hours. Such endurance marches, considered by many to be the 'bread and butter' of the infantry even in this mechanical age, are rarely undertaken. As all learned, the type of fitness required is not that needed for BFT or CFT, and it requires prolonged determination and resistance of fatigue, plus the need to look after the feet.

Also participating were the Signal and Recce Platoons, who made the whole thing possible by manning checkpoints and providing radio communications. Indeed the exercise was a good chance for the signallers to sort out their manpacking procedures and practice their navigation. Communications worked well - even from the wrong

places - and all had faith in the safety net they provided. Likewise medics were in demand for their chirophy skills, and rumour has it that OC Burma called out the medics to one of his team at 0530 hrs just to boost morale.

So, having established the checkpoints, admin base and communications, teams of 4-6 soldiers set off from two startpoints (Snake Pass and Yorkshire Bridge) in clockwise or anti-clockwise directions. There was much debate as to which startpoint and direction were the best, as all wished to get the worst leg (Bleaklow and Howden Moors) done in daylight. Most set off at a cracking pace with notions of completing it and being back before the pubs shut. All were sadly disappointed some 12 hours later to find themselves only half way round, with the remainder of the route clearly stretched out before them and darkness falling. However, all but 7 soldiers completed the course, and were back in time for breakfast the next morning.



### UKLF CADET LEADERSHIP COURSE

Burma Company was given the task of running the UKLF Cadet Leadership Course at Stanford PTA between 6 and 13 April, when 240 British and Canadian cadets were put through a week of military activity, designed to bring out qualities of leadership.

The course put cadets into situations requiring self-reliance, initiative, physical and mental courage, foresight, organising ability, oral expression, co-operation and endurance. Although based around basic infantry skills such as shooting, patrolling, navigation, etc, various initiative tasks were put in. The method was to give them a little knowledge and guidance, then let them get on with it as teams, while the staff stood back to see who emerged as the organisers, problem solvers, leaders and, of course, clowns.

A secondary purpose of the course, which is considered the ultimate in cadet courses, was to give cadets contact with the regular army. Although recruiting was not the sole purpose, favourable contact with soldiers of a not so different age group was seen as likely to encourage them to consider a services career.

What benefits did we get from the course? Firstly, the JNCO's were delighted to have an enthusiastic and willing audience for their lessons and gems of military experience. Secondly, as a result of observing a group of generally talented individuals, many actually contemplated the meaning of leadership for the first time. Finally many were impressed by the performance of the female cadets who were totally integrated into the platoons.

### EXERCISE 'IRON DUKE 1991'

Exercise 'Iron Duke' is an annual competition run by the 1st Battalion for the Army and Combined Cadet Forces of Yorkshire. Originally intended for the Dukes cap-badge detachments, the competition, now in its fourth year, has been opened up to non-Dukes cap-badged guest teams with the result of much greater numbers and competition.

Exercise Iron Duke 1991 took on extra significance due to the appointment on 22 October 1990 of Brigadier W. R. Mundell, OBE as Colonel of the Regiment, as it was the Brigadier who originally instituted the idea.

Between the 8th - 10th May, Coronna Company was given the task of organising this year's event, which saw the number of entrants double and ACF and CCF detachments new to the competition compete for the first time. Apart from the obvious aim of entertaining, instructing, testing and coercing the young visitors for the weekend, there was the problem of accommodating and feeding 120 cadets.

Due to the increased number of teams and especially the presence of non-Dukes cap-badged detachments, the aim this year was to give a deeper insight into today's infantry whilst at the same time maintaining the competitive spirit of event. Consequently a series of instructional stands ran concurrently with the main competition activities throughout the weekend.

On the Saturday each team was assessed on its ability to perform various military skills. The enthusiasm of the cadets was demonstrated on the battle exercise stands which included bunker busting and casualty

evacuation, whilst the three command tasks that had to be completed produced some varied and very interesting solutions! Competition points were also scored, or in some cases lost, on the assault course and the weapon training tests. In between their competition activities the cadets were given instruction by Somme Company on Milan, MIRA, Mortars and GPMG in the sustained fire role, and introduced to the LAW 80 Indoor Trainer and the role and skills of the sniper. Whatever their reaction to the uncompromising approach of the instructors, all enjoyed their time on the bayonet fighting stand!

As in previous years the main competition event was the march and shoot and this took place on the Sunday morning, running concurrently with a presentation of the Regimental silver, an introduction to signals in the infantry and a presentation on the AMF(L) arctic role that the 1st Battalion is soon to undertake.

The march and shoot took the form of a short but in the event demanding cross-country route with a number of obstacles to negotiate, followed by a straight competition shoot.

Throughout the competition it was obvious that every team had put in a lot of effort and preparation and all left having done themselves credit. The Keighley detachment of the Yorkshire ACF emerged as clear overall winners of the competition and was presented with the Iron Duke Trophy by Lieutenant Colonel Rawlinson, Deputy Commandant Yorkshire ACF. Halifax came in second with Giggleswick CCF coming third on their first visit.

### BATTLE GROUP TRAINER 10th - 13th JUNE

Group Trainer (B.G.T.) is a voluntary exercise designed to test the procedures in Battle Group Headquarters. In many ways it was very realistic. The Headquarters sat in quiet surroundings craving for information and eager to please. Next door the lower controllers fought a fierce battle striving to make themselves heard over the noise of others persuading the movers that everyone had been annihilated.

Some were more successful than others. Officer Commanding Alma Company achieved the swiftest of massacres and subsequently received the "speedy Gonzales" award. However the Recce Platoon Commander was posthumously awarded the surprise-surprise award for failing to recognise enemy tanks. Orders in pubs, rides in helicopters, frayed tempers, poor communications and awful tea all contributed to the realism.

## EXERCISE "DUKES MARCH" (The Pennine Way)

After leaving Tern Hill in the early hours of Thursday morning a bleary eyed group of men arrived at a wet and windy Mountain Rescue Post in the quiet village of Edale, Derbyshire, the start of the 'Pennine Way'. From there the Recce Platoon set off to walk 265 miles, taking in some of the toughest terrain in Britain in just 10 days. The platoon left in groups of 4 at 20 minute intervals. Each group carried safety bergans, plenty of warm clothing, and huge quantities of foot powder. After leaving a rain swept Edale we climbed until we reached the snow covered tops of Kinder Moore. Legs aching, clothes dripping, fingers freezing we battled on through the now driving sleet knowing we only had 261 miles more to go. Ten wet and cold hours later we found ourselves at the place of our first night's rest. After a couple of beers (medicinal purpose only) and the best spaghetti bolognese north of Sheffield we settled down for the night with the thoughts of only 9 days left to push.

Five feet blistering days later of much the same: wet weather, big hills, aching limbs, the platoon

descended on the highest pub in Britain, 'The Tan Hill'. After filling the visitors book with witty comments and trying a couple of pints of 'Old Perculior' we set about entertaining the locals with the Recce version of a Kariokee night. With heads banging and feet now numb we left Tan Hill the next morning with only 130 miles to do.

After passing the old bobble-hatter hiker taking in some of the best views in Britain (so they informed us) such as High Cup Nick, Hadrian's Wall etc, we finally climbed the great Cheviot Hills and there it was - 'Bonny Scotland' and the small village of Kirk Yetholm, the end of the Pennine Way. After 10 days, 265 miles and numerous blisters we had done it, we had finished the Pennine Way. One consolation was that it had all been for a good cause: The Platoon had raised over £500 for the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association.

Cpl Hollinshead.

*Exercise 'Pennine Way'*

The members of the Reconnaissance Platoon who took part in the exercise.

Left to right, back row:- Cpl Hollinshead, Capt Norman, Pte Spillicorn, Pte Kennedy, LCpl Steves, LCpl Shepard, Pte Wilson, Pte Taylor, Cpl Patton. Front row:- LCpl Stannard, LCpl Bradby, Pte McGee, Pte Nellist, Pte Jones.

## FRENCH EXCHANGE

From 7 May to 4 June the Battalion took part in an exchange with the French Armed Forces: the Dukes were hosts to an officer from the French army and Lieut Pinder was sent over to France to spend 2 weeks with the French regiment.

Lieutenant Hugues de Roquermaurel, a cavalry officer serving with a marine infantry regiment, arrived at Tern Hill wondering how he would be spending his 2 weeks in England. He had been warned that previous visits had varied between a fortnight's

holiday playing polo with cavalry regiments, to 2 weeks live firing with gunners; how would he be received in a regiment which bore the name of his predecessors' chastiser? In the event the Battalion was able to produce a very diverse programme of both professional and social interest.

Following an introduction to our weapon system and a guided tour of the new FIBUA village on Salisbury Plain, our French officer partook of officers' mess guest night, before moving north to watch the visiting Jamaicans working hard at Warcop ranges, under the watchful, if somewhat apprehensive eyes of Corunna Company's safety staff!

The French unit visited by Lieut Pinder was the Regiment de Marche du Tchad, a marine armoured infantry regiment with a solely out of area role. Unlike the British way of doing things, the regiment is effectively a self-contained battlegroup, containing a squadron of AMX 3- tanks; consequently the unit calls for cavalry officers and artillery officers for the platoon of 120mm mortars.

There was little chance to see the French operating in any tactical setting, and most days were spent with the paperwork of a large exercise clean-up. Towards the end of the visit, however, the opportunity arose to visit a commando training centre at Le Rousses, a tiny village about 30 miles from Geneva. These 2 days proved to be the most fruitful. The centre is situated in a large 19th century barracks or chateau surrounded by spell-binding countryside and ski-slopes. The course itself consists of numerous aerial confidence tests, (which range from moderate to stomach-churning!), instruction in explosives, mines and booby-traps, unarmed combat, and urban warfare. The courses could be made very demanding. However, with a large percentage of their establishment being conscripts, candidates tend to be rushed through and win their "Commando Brevet" after only 3 weeks. Unfortunately there were only 2 days available for this visit.

Lt. S. Pinder.

### OFFICERS' MESS

During the last few months we have acquired a lot of new property; for example a painting of the 1981 Presentation of Colours Ceremony, a revamped painting of the Colonel in Chief, brought up to date by the addition of the Sash of the Order of the Garter, as well as several excellent reproductions of past Colonels of the Regiment, splendidly framed, and an original Simpkin portraying the 33rd charging the Chasseurs à Pieds at Waterloo in 1815.

In addition we are now the proud possessors of some of the 2nd Battalion silver, including the centre-piece. All this has greatly improved the atmosphere of the mess.

We continued to have a large number of young officers living-in (19 at the last count) which makes for a lively mess. Social events have included: the formal dining in of the new Colonel of the Regiment, and visits by CinC UKLF, Commander ACE Mobile Force (Land) and Commander U.K Field Army, all of which have involved lunchtime entertainment in the mess. A Ladies Dinner Night and a number of informal theme parties also took place, as well as a farewell cocktail party and Beating of Retreat to say goodbye to all those who have been most helpful during our tour in Tern Hill.

### SPORTS, GAMES AND RECREATION

#### Rugby

The 1990/91 rugby season has to be recorded as yet another disappointment because we again failed to win back the Army Cup. We also lost in the final of the Shropshire Cup but we were able to win the Army Sevens competition. We have had a full season of fixtures and have participated in some excellent games of rugby against some good clubs. We started the season running regular 1st and 2nd XV fixtures but, as ever, military commitments started to get in the way and 2nd team matches became more intermittent. Even so a large number of different players of all ranks played for the 2nds. We did, however, manage to get together and hold together a 1st team squad of about 22 players, all of whom were genuinely competing for places. We trained hard and had a healthy squad spirit with a competitive edge. There were a considerable number of new faces, both officers and soldiers, whose range of experience varied greatly. I wish to make particular mention of 3 who have made the greatest progress - Pte 'Brooko' Brooks in the 2nd row and Ptes Roy July and Dave Nettleton on the wings, none of whom had played much before. Our flankers are also noteworthy, Lt. Gary Knight as team captain and

WO2 'Black Willy' Williams who was as fearsome as ever.

In the Army Cup we beat 8 Sig Regt in the 2nd round, and then received a walkover in the next when Tps Hereford had to withdraw. A good performance in the semi-final against 1/3 Trg Regt RE meant that we again met 7 RHA in the U.K. final. It was as hard as ever with the forward battle being particularly gruelling. We certainly had our chances and it was a game which we could, perhaps should, have won but eventually lost 10-12.

In the Shropshire Cup, for the first time since being in Tern Hill we managed to field a strong team, though we did little preparatory training. Thanks to an outstanding performance by the backs we beat Shrewsbury in the first match in an excellent game. We were then due to meet Bishops Castle in the semi-final, the date for which was fixed and clashed with the Wales and Western Districts 7s competition which we had to win to qualify for the Army 7s. We sent 9 players down to Chepstow who duly won the 7s and then drove 2½ hours back to play in the cup game in the evening. We won comfortably but there were some weary limbs that night. In the final we played a strong

Whitchurch XV, cup winners for 9 of the previous 10 years and champions of their league. Despite some good patches, we were largely outgunned up front and Whitchurch deservedly won 13-6.

In the Army 7s we won our morning league games comfortably enough without looking particularly convincing. However, it started to come together in the quarter final against the BAOR champions 35 Engr Regt who were well beaten. We then had a hard game against RSA Larkhill in the semi final before meeting 1 RRW in the final. The Welsh were the defending champions (we were not able to enter last season) and had flown back from Hong Kong for the occasion. A skillful and spirited performance resulted in a sweet and deserved 18-14 victory. Soon after we also took part in the Headingley 7s during which we managed to beat Halifax before succumbing to the might of Harlequins.

A number of players represented the infantry and the army during the season, but unfortunately nobody played in the inter services matches, although Lts Chris Buss and Simon Pinder were on the bench. The former was very unlucky not to be selected and the latter was reserve to 2Lt Brett Taylor who is a Duke currently on a university cadetship.

### Football

Trying to run a sporting team in a modern infantry battalion almost drives one to distraction. The spirit is there, the skills and dedication are there but regular programmes where league fixtures and team strengths are important are almost impossible to keep up.

As ever, we started well this season by winning the Wales and Western District '6' a side competition. We were strong contenders for the league and are now recognised as a side capable of winning the Infantry Cup and doing well in army competitions.

Because of the way sub units of the Battalion are deployed in this station the unit is seldom at anything like full strength. In our new role most of us will spend a lot of wintertime away and therefore regular sporting events will be hard to sustain.

In an effort to provide for the instability, in terms of team training and selection procedures, we are to start a 'Youth Side' next season. Youth meaning those young soldiers with talent who, through lack of experience, weight etc. are frustrated in their efforts to gain first team places. By entering this team into competitions and leagues we are hoping that when the inevitable shortage of the gladiators happens, replacement players will be of an ability which will allow the team to perform at a level capable of maintaining Dukes standards.

### Exercise Copenhagen

The second in the series of "Copenhagen" sail training exercises took place from 22 to 28 March 91.

Crew:-

Skipper	WO2 (RQMS) Paul Hutchinson, DWR
Mate	WO1 (RQMS) Lyn Ivin, Staffords
Navigator	Corporal Phil Draper, DWR
Bonsun	Sergeant Nigel Godfrey, Crew Guards
Purser	Captain S. J. Lee (WRAC), RACO

*Friday 22* - The mate and bosun arrived at JSASTC and took over the Contessa 32 "HMSTY FLUTER".

The purser and I showed up at 1800. About 2330 hours, Phil Draper arrived.

*Saturday 23* - A sunny day with a nice force 3 breeze blowing from the north east, perfect conditions to sail round the seaward side of the Isle of Wright via St. Catherines Point. After a pleasant trip of 50 miles we arrived in Yarmouth at teatime a little wind blown but quite happy.

*Sunday 24* - Lyn awoke with a swollen jaw, an abscess was developing and he was in acute pain. We abandoned our plan to head west and sailed back to JSASTC to allow Lyn to return to Deepcut for treatment.

After a snatched lunch at JSASTC the reduced crew of 4 set sail for Brixham, Torbay. With the wind still N.E. force 4 we made a very fast run, 90 miles in 16 hours. The night was crystal clear with all the lighthouses along the coast clearly visible for their maximum distances which made navigation very easy. As we arrived in Brixham at 0600 on Monday 25th, the wind had increased to force 6 and was still rising. We developed an engine fault during the night which had discharged the batteries. As we ran down into a "Lee shore" I called Phil to start the engine by hand and we then motored in without incident.

*Monday 25* - Brixham marina was very comfortable, there was gale force 8 winds forecast from the North East, our return trip was going to be due east. Decision - stay put.

*Tuesday 26* - The forecast said more gales, so we postponed departure yet again. By lunchtime the wind had moderated and we decided to leave. S.J. prepared a meal and made up sandwiches as cooking at sea was definitely going to be a problem. We departed Brixham at 1500 hrs and steered a course due east. The wind was from the N.E. and the seas were still rough. Not good, and I had first watch, with visibility down to 2 - 3 miles we soon lost sight of land, a careful plot of our course on the chart was now essential. At the change of watch Phil made a study of the chart, dressed very quickly and came on deck in a hurry. I was under the impression he was about to impart some information of great importance. Wrong Phil made a bee-line for the stern and proceeded throw up everything he had eaten during the last 24 hours. The rest of the crew looked on, felt a bit queasy and hung on to their food.

With visibility so bad we were pleased to make a landfall of Portland Bill at 0100 hrs Wed 27th. Our progress against the wind was slow but we managed to keep up to our predicted timetable and the little crosses marched steadily across the chart.

*Wednesday 27* - Dawn saw us looking into the gloom expecting to see Anvil Point. Just as I was plagued by a niggling doubt there was a shout of 'Land ho' - right on target, right on time. Full of confidence we sailed into Poole Bay.

The tide was now against us and progress was slow, the wind, still N.E. had dropped to force 3, so we put more sail on. By 1400 hrs we saw the Needles, skirted the shingles bank and cut through the North Channel round Hurst Castle and into the Solent just as the tide had turned in our favour. Perfect timing! The day had cleared and, now in glorious sunshine, the wind

rose to force 4 again as we made our way up the Solent, 20 miles to Gosport and JSASTC. The electrical fault was still with us - no power, no engine. We arrived off Gillkicker Point at 1700 hrs, tried to crank the engine and failed.

Dusk was only 1 hour away and we had to sail into one of the busiest harbours on the south coast with no lights. To use the main channel would take 2 hours, so we decided to use the 'Swashway', a narrow, very

shallow channel along the foreshore. We worked out that at the shallowest point we would have half a metre of water under our keel, with the shore on our left and a large sand bank on our right there was no room for error. After a tense 30 minutes we burst out of the swashway and into the harbour - success

Full of pride and flushed with confidence we made a textbook approach under sail and secured alongside JSASTC at 1800 hrs, just as dusk was setting in.

#### OCA VISIT

The visit of the OCA to the Battalion on 15 June was as near to Waterloo Day as possible.

We were able to borrow a 'Noddy Train' and so had transport to ferry visitors to various parts of the camp where events were laid on. With shooting, clay pigeon, archery, golf pitching and the like off site and with main arena events programmed together with sideshows, displays, a bar-b-que and of course a drinks bar, we reckoned that all visitors would be kept busy, old and young alike.

The labour bill was a large one, twenty five senior ranks were tasked to head the various facilities and sixty fatigue men allotted supporting roles. We had painters, carpenters, electricians, tent erectors, salesmen, cooks, barmen etc. all working feverishly to complete arrangements and then perform on the day.

We were aware of 140 or so OCA visitors coming, our wives and families and of course the single soldiers together with ex-members of the Regiment arriving individually, a total of about a thousand spectators and participants.

The great day arrived, so did the rain. The weather was cold, wet and not particularly conducive to merriment.

Thankfully, the spirit was there. We did have to reprogramme quickly and with a deal of event changing and unexpected hospitality from the sergeants mess the OCA members were entertained in a fashion they appreciated.

The final event, beating retreat, went on despite a hailstorm and another downpour of rain, with a good crowd, in good humour.

### 4th BATTALION YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS (South Yorkshire)



Her Majesty The Queen inspects the Guard of Honour accompanied by Major A. J. Podmore (Guard Commander) and Lieutenant Colonel J. Fox (Commanding Officer) on the occasion of her visit to South Yorkshire



## ‘D’ COY YORKSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE (WELLESLEY COMPANY)

On the evening of 8 March, cadets from all the detachments of the company assembled at Tern Hill to compete for the Iron Duke Trophy. This was the 4th competition and the third to be hosted by the Battalion at Tern Hill. It was the first time Giggleswick School C.C.F. had joined us and also cadets from South Yorkshire badged to the Yorkshire Volunteers. Cadets from the Royal Artillery Detachments that make up the rest of ‘D’ Company (Wellesley Company) took part for the first time.

Lt. Col. A. F. Rowlinson Deputy Commandant, who visited us on the Sunday, was very impressed with everything he saw and remarked on the wonderful relationship with the Battalion and the help that is so

freely given. This has made us the envy of the other cadet companies in Yorkshire.

The company camped at Leek over the weekend 20/21st April, Csgt James and Cpl Devaney took charge of training, producing an excellent exercise for the cadets. On the Saturday morning a party of cadets visited Tern Hill to rehearse under R. S. M. Ennis for the Freedom Parade at Skipton. The cadets were very proud to have been able to take part in the parade and acquitted themselves very well.

A very successful visit to the Junior Infantry Battalion at Ouston was organised for us by Csgt Barraclough of Halifax Careers Office during June.

## THE GREAT WAR EXPERIENCES OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL B. J. BARTON DSO

### PART 1

*Among the papers preserved in the archives at Halifax is an account of the experiences of Lieut Colonel B. J. Barton, DSO, during the Great War. Baptist Johnston Barton was the eldest son of Colonel B. J. Barton, DL, ADC, 33rd Regiment. Extracts from the letters he wrote to his mother and sister during the Abyssinia campaign were printed in the Winter 1990 issue of the ‘Iron Duke’. Lieut Colonel Barton was commissioned into the Regiment in 1896 and spent most of his service with the 2nd Battalion until retiring in the rank of captain in 1911. During the war he served with the 2nd Battalion on the Western Front and was awarded the DSO in 1915. He subsequently served with 8 DWR for a short time before being promoted to command a battalion of KOYLI in May 1916. By the time of the Armistice he was commanding 2nd Battalion Newfoundland Regiment. In 1918 he was awarded a bar to his DSO. After the war he retired to Donegal and, like his father, became a DL of the county. He died in 1944.*

#### The first four weeks of the war in England

The prospects of war, except between Ireland and England, were not considered very seriously in North Donegal in the summer of 1914, so our orders to mobilise took us somewhat by surprise. However, 6 August found me en route for Halifax, to join the 3rd Battalion The Duke of Wellington’s Regiment. Most of the Yorkshire reservists had joined before I arrived, and a large draft had gone to join the 2nd Battalion, excluding officers. The mobilisation arrangements worked wonderfully smoothly and by Saturday, 8 August, the Battalion was ready to move. So, in a thunderstorm, which drenched us all to the skin, we entrained for an unknown destination. After an all night journey we arrived at Sunderland about 10.00 a.m. on the Sunday. Here no arrangements had been made for our reception. After some delay my company - “C” - was ordered to take shelter in a parish hall; after much argument with the caretaker I arranged with him to provide some tea for the men, when we were ordered to move at once to the docks. Here at last we saw some rations, uncooked, our first

for nearly 24 hours. After dinner I was given a second company, and told that I was O.C. Harbour Defences. Great excitement was apparent on the part of the local officials - chiefly from fear of spies, and most stringent orders were given as to admitting unauthorised persons to the docks. Soon after posting my sentries, in the dusk, two of them observed a boat creeping in the shadow towards the dock gate. Disobeying the sentry’s call to stop, the boat’s occupants received 20 rounds rapid at 15 yards range. Possibly highly strung nerves accounted for the fact that, except for smashing one man’s foot, no harm was done. There was, of course, a row and an enquiry, when it turned out that the boat contained Harbour Police, who declined to take orders from soldiers! Later in the night the same sentries arrived from their post in great excitement to say that they could see signals in morse being sent to a ship at sea and being acknowledged by her, from the top floor of a large warehouse, in which we were billeted. Unfortunately though they could make out the ‘dots’ and ‘dashes’, they could not read the message. Efforts to get a party to go and search the top floor were futile; not a man would go unless I went first; so with drawn revolver, and men with fixed bayonets - I made them unload their rifles - behind me we set out. Before we had gone many yards an alarm was raised that a man had rushed downstairs and broke through the cordon I had placed round the building but, as we were on the only staircase, this seemed impossible. Floor by floor we searched the place, and in the topmost room we found the spy, an old man mending some machinery by the light of a flickering candle. Other spy alarms took place during our two days in Sunderland.

On Tuesday we marched to Gateshead, where we were left in peace till the Friday, and then through Newcastle to Earsdon. So far the population had evinced little interest in us, but at Earsdon they were decidedly hostile; doors were locked and windows barred on our appearance, and it required all the efforts of the local policeman to secure our billets. For three days my party was billeted in a school in great

discomfort. On the 17 we moved to East Holywell, about a mile away, and took up our abode in the chapel. I had the vestry to myself. We weren't well received at first, especially as I had a beer canteen just outside the chapel, but we gradually made friends with the inhabitants, and before I left I had been invited to conduct the Service on a Sunday when the Minister was away - one of the greatest compliments, I considered, I had ever been paid.

Our chief occupation was the construction of defences, varied by spy hunting - one night a civilian brought news that a noted spy, with a £10 reward for his capture, had been located in a shed near us. He was a dangerous man, and the locals refused to tackle him alone. Again my people refused to go without me, so, much against my will, we started off. The door was covered by picked shots, men with fixed bayonets supported them, and a couple of the bravest prepared to break down the door. They rushed at it with a battering ram, found it unfastened, and disappeared inside, where they found - emptiness. On our way home Herepath's (a) Company, for some reason, opened fire on us, but only succeeded in killing a horse, the responsibility for whose death was sill being argued when I left. The spy fever became too much of a good thing, and eventually I had to make my subalterns report to me at Company Orderly room, salute, and say 'I must not get wind up', daily. This had an instantaneous and salutary effect. A breeze with the local staff enlivened my last few days in England. At a court martial we sentenced a prisoner to what we decided was the correct punishment. The general, a peppery old gentleman, ordered us to give him a different one, which we refused to do. A further order from him led to our appealing to the Commander-in-Chief, for which he, the local general, ordered us to apologise: this we wouldn't do, but as I was overseas at this point, I never heard the end of the episode. On Friday 4 September, orders came for a draft of officers for France.

### The Aisne

We had a most uncomfortable voyage on the "Kingstonian". The steward offered to mess us and we paid him about £1 a piece to buy supplies. When the time arrived for the first meal we were told that there was nothing for us, and beyond some bread, which I took from the captain's table, and a little bully beef and whisky, we starved from Tuesday till the Friday, when we disembarked at St. Nazaire, where we spent the day, entraining for the front on the Saturday evening.

At dusk on 16 September we went with the transport to the Battalion at Missy. Its position was, on paper, about as unpleasant as can be imagined, Missy lies in a bend of the Aisne, on the German side - the garrison was the only British troops on the north side of the river in that neighbourhood, and the bridge in our rear was broken, while the Germans were in force in a strong position on the Chivres ridge a few hundred yards off. But I had a really good time there. The Germans were so near us and the slope so steep that few shells fell in the village, and as they did not attack us, our lack of support and way of retreat did not trouble us. We did not arrive a moment too soon. The Battalion had been knocked about a good deal at Mons, and was temporarily commanded by about the

most inefficient man, from a fighting point of view, that I have ever come across, and his adjutant was little better. I shall never forget my first night in Missy. It was late when we arrived and we were put to sleep on bundles of straw in a large room which was used as Battalion Headquarters. An intermittent rifle fire was going on, and at each outburst the C.O. and Adjutant sprang up and rushed out, tumbling over, and waking up, anyone unfortunate enough to be in their way. In the intervals they lay down, and if anyone so much as moved a muscle he was sworn at for disturbing their rest. With such an example, the state of nerves the men were in can be imagined and it took many days hard work to get them into proper fighting trim again. The authorities must have had an inkling of the state of affairs, for a day or two after my arrival both officers were sent for from Brigade Headquarters, and then packed straight off to England. No doubt they had had a trying time, but as neither had appeared in France since, nerves scarcely seems an adequate excuse for them. Umfreville (b) now assumed command. No army list was available, and the question of seniority was unfathomable, so Umfreville, as the oldest soldier, undertook the job, most successfully as it turned out. When an Army list was forthcoming we found that four of us were above him, but as this wasn't discovered till long after, no complications ensued. I was posted to 'C' Company, and was lucky in finding it in the best state of the four. I also had an A.I. acting C.S.M. in Metcalfe, the Drum Major, and two first class subalterns in Henniker (c) and O'Kelly. (d) Henniker had been in my company in the old days, and O'Kelly was a natural soldier. Joining the Battalion very shortly before the war, he came overseas with the Battalion to fill a vacancy in the establishment, and within a very few days had gained a D.S.O.. He was born a looter, and very quickly collected round him a party of real toughs who would go anywhere and do anything with him. On one of their marauding expeditions, well into German territory, they spotted some motor cars flying the German ensign. O'Kelly and his party held them up, captured the lot, and drove them into our lines. They turned out to contain the whole personnel of a German cavalry brigade, with their documents, etc., complete.

Our duties in Missy were entirely passive outposts, with one company in support. The right section, where 'C' Company spent most of its time, included the Mairie, a comfortable house with a large and deep cellar, and a couple of other buildings, joined up by trenches. The inhabitants had all left this part of the village. The centre section ran along a wall, which was loopholed and strengthened, and the garrison shared some cellars with the inhabitants. The left section defended the north flank of the village. In no-mans-land, about 200 yards in front of our lines, was an unoccupied farm. Here O'Kelly had collected quite a string of horses, which he visited and fed nightly. He had also captured a milch goat and discovered a pen of pheasants, and as there was a well stocked cellar in one of the houses, our menu compared favourably with that of the others, who lived mainly on biscuit, bully, and milk-less tea.

During my second night in Missy we had a somewhat amusing experience of what over-wrought nerves will do. A heavy burst of fire from 'A'

Company on our left was followed by a message that the Germans were attacking them in force. We could see or hear no enemy, so, except for the men who couldn't be restrained, we held our fire and waited for them to charge. After a while the firing died down, and there was silence except for a most melancholy noise, as of someone in great pain, a short distance in front of 'A' Company. This continued till dawn, 'A' Company, in the meantime, being immensely proud of its defeat of the German attack, when instead of files of German dead we saw (i) a dead cat, and (ii) a dead donkey, with her badly wounded foal, the cause of the alarm and the subsequent noise. O'Kelly had to crawl out in day-light and put it out of its misery.

One of our amusements, invented, I think, by either O'Kelly or Umfreville, was to run across an open gateway, on which a sniper was firing - the object being to see how little we could miss the bullet. If foolish, it was certainly exciting, and luckily no one was ever hit.

We stayed in Missy till the night of 24 September, when we were relieved. Our departure was not devoid of excitement. To begin with, while we were packing up, we tied our goat to a ladder. Getting bored, she managed to pull the ladder down, and started to walk down the street, the ladder clattering behind her. Just at the corner she met a company from another brigade on its way up the front line. With a cry of "the Germans are on us" the whole lot turned and ran, never stopping till they reached their Brigade Headquarters. The result for the officer in command was, I believe, unpleasant. Having recovered the goat and got our mess cart packed, and yoked, I started them off and paraded the Company; I then started for the pontoon by which we were to cross the Aisne. On the way I heard a commotion, and going to find out the cause, I discovered that the goat, which was in the cart, had again become bored, and had been baa-ing so loudly that 'A' Company, who was passing, was afraid that the Germans would hear and shell them. They consequently upset the cart into the ditch, and all the contents of our cellar was scattered on the road. To make matters worse, the escort consisted of some of O'Kelly's toughest toughs, who could be trusted to fight anything living, and to drink for as long as they could see. We were like the fox, the goose, and the bag of corn; I could not leave them with the drink to go to help, they didn't know where to go to for it, and we had no means of mending the cart, so for a couple of hours I had to keep them entertained and frustrate their attempts to slip away and crack another bottle. At last O'Kelly, having missed me, came back to look for me, and, with his help, we were able to salve the cart and its contents.

We crossed the Aisne without further mishap, and arrived at Gobine Wood in the small hours of the morning. After the comforts of Missy I found sleeping in the open in the early hours of a September morning most unpleasant. O'Kelly, always original, invented a way, reprehensible but effective, of securing us bedding. He would go up to a sleeping man and gently remove his ground sheet. If the man woke he would say "are you Q.M.S. Parker?", and when it turned out not to be Parker he would apologise and try the next man. He 'made' about six sheets for each of us, and we finished the night in comparative comfort.

### Givenchy and Festubert

On 12 October we proceeded to Annequin. Here things seemed to be moving. There were a good many French troops about; cavalry on the most miserable chargers I have ever seen, and some infantry, and a number of wounded being brought back in horse carts, carts drawn by dogs, in wheel-barrows, and on one another's backs. We quickly took up a line in front of the village, lining the further bank of the stream, with a rise in front, and proceeding to dig in. Orders were received that we were to attack at 3 p.m., but no further particulars were given, and no action was taken. A good many shells came over, but most of them were well over our heads, and fell in the village, or near Battalion Headquarters in a farm a few hundred yards in our rear. One 'short', however, set fire to a haystack just in front of our lines, and its heat was most acceptable. Next morning we were again ordered to attack somebody, but again no one took any notice. The day, except for shell fire, was quiet, but during the night troops on our left were attacked, the Germans talking English, and pretending they were British troops, but they were severely handled by the K.O.S.B.'s and West Kents. During the night we found the five men in one of our posts asleep. I sentenced them to be shot, and they remained with us, as they thought, under sentence of death, and looking very unhappy, for a week, when I forgave them. The French whom we had relieved, were under orders to move elsewhere, but their C.O., a most accommodating and charming old gentleman, was persuaded to disobey them, and kept his Battalion to support us, for which we were devoutly thankful, no other reserves of any sort being available. On Wednesday night we were relieved by the French. This was my first meeting with their admirable troops, and certainly their ways were not our ways. Our reliefs were carried out, so to speak, on tip-toe, and no-one spoke above a whisper. The French, on the other hand, could be heard a mile away. When they reached the trenches a council, in which all the officers and N.C.O.'s, and some of the men, seemed to join, was held on the parapet, all talking at once, at the top of their voices, and once in the trenches, with cries of 'Vive la France', they let off a couple of volleys into the darkness. We were frightened out of our lives, as we had to march away through the shelled area, but probably the Germans were too surprised to do anything and we got away safely, back to Bethune.

I had raised a cart but could not find a horse, so our mess stuff was pushed along behind the company by defaulters. I found the supply of these rapidly diminished, and eventually had to fall back on volunteers. On the Friday and Saturday we were in Divisional reserve, spending the day at Festubert, and sleeping in billets at Gorré. On the Sunday - the 18th - we marched to Rue D'Ouvert - an unpleasant journey. We were shelled on the way, and, I was commanding the Battalion and riding in front, I was ashamed to get off, and each shell felt as if it was only inches over my head. At least one distinguished officer fell off into the ditch. Rue D'Ouvert turned out to be quite comfortable; I found a good cow in a deserted farm, which we kept for some time, a sentry staying with her when the company was out on duty. On one occasion we forgot to relieve him when we came back, and the poor man was left standing by the door for 18 hours;

however he was rewarded with milk in his tea for a week.

We dug trenches on Monday and Tuesday, generally under shell fire. On Wednesday, the 21st, we had a rest, and it being my birthday, we managed to prepare a banquet, 'D' Company - Langdale (e) and his subalterns joining us. Our music must have been more powerful than we thought for we had a deputation from the Norfolks next door, asking us to stop, for fear of bringing the Germans down on us. On the 22nd we were ordered to support an attack by the Dorsets, which apparently did not develop. We dug in, and spent the day under intermittent rifle and shell fire. Orders to retire were given which never reached us. Luckily we discovered that the troops on our right had gone (they omitted to tell us they were going) before the Germans did, and we got away alright.

At dusk I was ordered to take the company and deliver a counter attack. No one could tell me when or where, but someone seemed to have decided that the Germans were going to attack, and that a counter attack would be a good thing when they did. So off we started, my only orders being to "go over there". I left the men hidden in a ditch, and a small party of us went out to prospect towards Rue d'Ouvert, but beyond some dead Germans, we found nothing. I now got a message to say that the Germans would attack 'B' Company during the night, but as I wasn't told where 'B' Company was, I wasn't much the wiser. It began to rain in torrents, and we spent the rest of the night in our ditch, I getting what shelter I could under an umbrella which O'Kelly produced from somewhere. The German attack did not come off. About this time Harrison (f) arrived to take command. He is one of the very few men I have seen devoid of any signs of fear. His previous fighting experience had been entirely against savages, whom one tackled hand to hand, and his idea of tactics against the Germans seemed to be on similar lines. It was popularly supposed that he went every day to the Brigade to ask that the Battalion might be allowed to make a charge, and during the fighting at Ypres, when the Battalion was almost annihilated, he is reported to have strolled about in the thick of the fighting armed only with a walking stick. Curiously enough he was one of the very few who came out of the battle untouched.

### First battle of Ypres

We entered Belgium on 4 November and billeted at Dranoutre, a filthy hole. I slept under a haystack, our farm being quite uninhabitable. We got to Ypres on the 5th, and I was detailed to accompany a staff officer to reconnoitre our trenches. Ypres itself was quiet, but the moment we passed the Menin Gate we came among the shells, and after riding for about half a mile in fear of our lives, we turned the horses loose, and completed our journey on foot. I did not like leaving my mare, an old hunter of whom I had grown very fond, but my groom managed to retrieve her somehow, though I didn't see her again till several months later. We found the brigade we were to relieve - the 22nd - in Hooge Woods. It consisted of the brigadier, four subalterns and some 600 rank and file. After looking at the position I went back and met the Battalion on the Menin Road. The fire had considerably slackened, and they got to their position without casualties. We were attached to another brigade, and the Brigadier set us a good example when

shelling commenced the next morning by vacating his Headquarters and taking a platoon from our small force to make him a safe one further back. Soon after this a couple of battalions in front of us took fright and came through us in crowds, many jumping into our trenches and hiding there. I had to order all my men out and walk along the top with a shovel, hitting some of the occupants on the head, which was the only way to dislodge them. Those who hadn't stopped in our trenches were rounded up by a general and police, and I saw them later being marched back without rifles or equipment, which they had thrown away in their panic.

I had quite a comfortable Headquarters: a trench about 4 feet wide, and 8 feet deep with some branches and earth on the top. Storks (Langdale) had come in to have lunch with O'Kelly and myself, and we were lying on the floor, Storks and I on the side next to the enemy, and O'Kelly beside me, when a shell burst bang on the roof. Storks and I missed most of it, though he had a leg broken, and I got my ankle crushed, but O'Kelly came in for the main force of the explosion, and was badly knocked about, and has never been fit for active service since. He exchanged into the A.S.C. later, where his gift for obtaining rations under any circumstances should prove of great benefit to the country. He had after Le Cateau been cut off behind the Germans for four days. When he rejoined the regiment (having been given up) he expressed the view that food was no problem. My servant, Piper, who was just outside, and a good deal shaken up, managed to dig us out and get some stretcher bearers, but we couldn't be moved till dark, so we had several hours of discomfort first, though we all agreed that we had come off uncommonly luckily; much of our equipment, which was piled up in the vacant corner, was cut to pieces, and an unopened bottle of wine had its cork blown out by the explosion. At dusk four poor stretcher bearers had to carry me two miles on a very wet and dark night through the mud and shell fire to the Regimental Aid Post at Hooge. I was devoutly thankful to get there. Several times I thought my bearers would give up. I had put on a stone in weight since I landed in France, which with my clothes must have brought me up to 17 stone, no mean weight to carry under the circumstances. Storks and O'Kelly were sent on the same night: the former was not thought to be much the worse, but some complication ensued, and he lost his leg. Transport was short, so I spent the night in Hooge in a comfortable bed, but with a few shells unpleasantly near. It was the next night before any transport could get to Hooge, and about ten o'clock I got started in a horse ambulance, which moved very slowly to Ypres, where I was unloaded at the Field Ambulance. Here I had the pleasure of seeing my valise looted by some RAMC men under my very nose, I not being able to move to stop them.

On Sunday morning I went in a motor ambulance to Poperinghe, where the hospital train was waiting. We slept in this station, and went on to Boulogne next day; here I spent a night in the casino, which had been turned into a hospital, and on Tuesday, 8 November was carried on board a hospital ship, and started for England. I hadn't left Ypres a moment too soon. Almost before I had left Hooge, the Germans attacked, and the poor 2nd Dukes were kept in the thick of it, till scarcely any of them were left. Like

nearly everyone else, they put up a great show, and there were many fine acts of individual heroism. Harrison walked about with a walking stick in his hands and managed to avoid getting hit. Boffin, leading his company in a charge, came to some wire; by chance he struck a gap, and, not noticing that the company was held up, he entered the German trench alone. Here he bayoneted the first German he met, leaving his bayonet in the body; the next one fired at him at point blank range, grazing his temple, and then came at him with his bayonet. Boffin dodged him just enough to escape with a scalp wound, and, closing with him, killed him with his hands. More Germans coming along, he hid under the body till dusk. Thinking it a pity to return empty handed, he hunted out and captured a huge Prussian guardsman, and arrived back in our lines looking like nothing on earth, bringing his prisoner with him. 'C' Company too did great work.

In many ways I enjoyed my first trip to France the most. There was, underlying the fighting, a more or less pic-nic feeling, an absence of red tape, and interference, and always the expectation of the war ending very shortly. The country was unspoilt, and the inhabitants hadn't started profiteering; on the other hand one was generally in danger and usually in a

tactically very insecure position, as well as always at work. The staff, when one came across them, still exhibited much of their pre-war aloofness, and lack of sympathy; this, however, one was accustomed to of old, and it was easy, as a rule, to avoid them. Just one word of praise for the magnificent work of the Medical and Commisariat departments, neither of which ever failed us, even in the most, apparently, impossible situations.

*To be continued*

#### Notes:

- (a) Herepath: Lieutenant Colonel L. Herepath CBE. Commissioned into the Regiment in 1900. Died 1934.  
 (b) Umfreville: Lieut Colonel H. K. Umfreville DSO. Commissioned into the Regiment in 1895. Died 1956.  
 (c) Henniker ('Boffin'): Lieut Colonel Sir Robert Henniker bart MC. Commissioned into the Regiment in 1908. Died 1958.  
 (d) O'Kelly: Lieut Colonel H. K. O'Kelly DSO. Commissioned into the Regiment in 1914. Died 1975.  
 (e) Langdale ('Storks/Stalky'): Major C. A. J. S. Langdale. Commissioned into the Regiment in 1900. Died 1961.  
 (f) Harrison: Lieut Colonel E. G. Harrison CB, DSO. Commissioned into the Regiment in 1885. Died 1947.

## BOOK REVIEW

"THE MULE" by Lorraine Travis. (J. A. Allen). Price £10.95 from The British Mule Society, Hope Mount Farm, Alstonfield, Ashbourne, DE6 2FR.

The Chindit Memorial records a campaign embracing the last extensive use of mules in war. The mule was not included among the other heroes, there identified in Portland stone, yet the Assyrians commemorated their pack mules, in bas relief, at Nineveh.

As a rule, British armies have an instinctive loyalty and sentimentality towards animals, however small, who have shared hardships of bivouac and battlefield. Behind many an early barrack block can be found a neat stone with an inscription as "Here lies Patch, faithful friend of 136 Sqn R. E. Malta 1938-43".

General Wingate's mules were overworked, inevitably overloaded, lacked veterinary care, adequate rest, rations, and water. They were flown in Dakotas and gliders, dropped by parachute, and devocalized. Saddlery deteriorated and spares were difficult. The acute agony of saddle sores became largely unavoidable. When, totally worn out or mortally wounded, they lay down and died, in emergency they were eaten.

To put the record right, as it were, an interesting book has now been written by Lorraine Travis, the Secretary of the British Mule Society, who owns and loves mules. It is dedicated to the many millions of mules who for centuries have toiled for men with little reward but death. The chapters most recommended deal with the origin, history, and military use of mules.

Mules probably originated in Nubia in 1750 BC and spread very quickly to the Middle East. There are frequent references in the Bible. The Hittites were suppliers of mules. King David was mounted on a

royal mule. Absalom rode a mule under that fateful oak tree. Mules became fully used by the Greeks. There was a mule cart race in the Olympic Games of 500 BC. The Romans used mules for pack and tractive power and almost certainly took mules to Britain. The prophet Mohammed (A.D.567) rode a mule in battle. Marco Polo thought much of the Turkoman mules he encountered in central Asia in 1274. The Spanish took mules to help to loot and destroy the frail beautiful civilizations of South America. In North America, mules were introduced to solve the enormous transportation problems of opening up the West.

The mule has a fundamental place in military history. Early cavalry used mules. Alexander rode his horse Bucephalus, but his generals rode mules. The Greeks and Romans used them for armoured fighting two-wheelers. It was mainly as pack animals that Wellington used ten thousand mules in the mountains of the Spanish peninsula. Mule ambulances helped Florence Nightingale in the Crimea, before a formal transport train was established, initially based on the mule. Buffalo Bill Cody rode a little mule called 'Mouse' that outtrots the 7th Cavalry in the Black Hills in 1870, to the envy of General Custer. The pack mules of the British and Indian armies on the Afghanistan frontier were immortalized in Kiplings "Screw Guns". The barrels unscrewed in half to break down into mule loads.

Many stories are included to illustrate the noble and admirable character of the mule. He is not stubborn if properly trained and handled intelligently. He is not bad tempered but, prompted by a powerful sense of self preservation, feels threatened by fools, or carelessness. He is steady under fire.

Gilders were used to insert Chindits and their mules deep into Central Burma, behind Japanese lines..



John Masters writes of the mule's bleak, soldierly, sense of humour:

"The glider pilots had a difficult task landing on the makeshift air strips... This one landed in the exact centre of the strip, and going the right way; but when he reached the end he was still doing 40 mph. Again the horrible splintering and the pistol-shot crack of boughs as the wide-winged beast plunged into the thicket at the end of the strip.... after five minutes we

found it, on its back, a twisted mass of wreckage... A British private climbed out, said, 'F' without emphasis, and turned to help us. One by one five other soldiers and an officer followed, each making the same comment. Finally we dragged out the mules. Being devocalised they could not say anything, but one of them tried to bite me in the arm, and I don't blame him."

A. D. Firth

## VIEWS OF THE PAST

*Reproducing photographs from the Regimental archives to illustrate aspects of soldiering in past years.*

### 2. The 2nd Battalion at the funeral of King Edward VII, 20 May 1910

Since 1908 the 2nd Battalion, under the command of Lieut Colonel F. A. Hayden DSO, had been stationed at Tidworth. King Edward VII died on 6 May 1910 and the 2nd Battalion was moved to London to line the route during his funeral. The funeral took place on 20 May and the photograph on the page opposite shows the 2nd Battalion lining the route in front of Apsley House. The Battalion paraded with the honorary colours as well as the regulation colours.

In 1901, while stationed in Rangoon, the officers mess had been destroyed by fire together with almost all its contents, including both stands of colours. Subsequently the Battalion moved to India where new colours were received. However, it was decided to defer their presentation until the Battalion returned to the U.K. which took place in 1905. The Battalion was posted to Lichfield and there, in October 1906, the 4th Duke of Wellington presented new regulation and honorary colours. Both stands were consecrated by the Bishop of Lichfield. This is the only occasion that the honorary colours are known to have been consecrated (a). It would appear that it was from about this time that it became the custom to carry all four colours on parade. It is possible that the decision to do so was influenced by Major General Herbert

Belfied who had previously commanded the 2nd Battalion and had assumed the appointment of Colonel of the Regiment in August 1909. Prior to that time the evidence suggests that the honorary colours were treated as valued mementos of the campaigns the 76th Regiment had fought in India under General Lake. They might be present on parade e.g. at the saluting base, but they were not carried in the ranks.

In 1911 the 2nd Battalion was again in London for the coronation of King George V. As for the funeral of King Edward VII all four colours were carried.

#### *Note:*

(a). In 1808 the East India Company presented a stand of colours to the 76th which bore the battle honours gained during Lord Lake's campaigns in India. The stand was consecrated. However as it was the only stand carried by the Regiment for the next 22 years it cannot be described as an 'honorary' one. In 1830 the stand had to be replaced. However when the new colours arrived they were of the regulation pattern and did not have any of the Indian battle honours emblazoned on them. The commanding officer therefore wrote to the East India Company which provided the Regiment with a stand similar to that of 1808. Therefore from 1830 the Regiment became the possessor of two stands of colour.

## THE BATTLE OF BRANDYWINE: 11 SEPTEMBER 1777

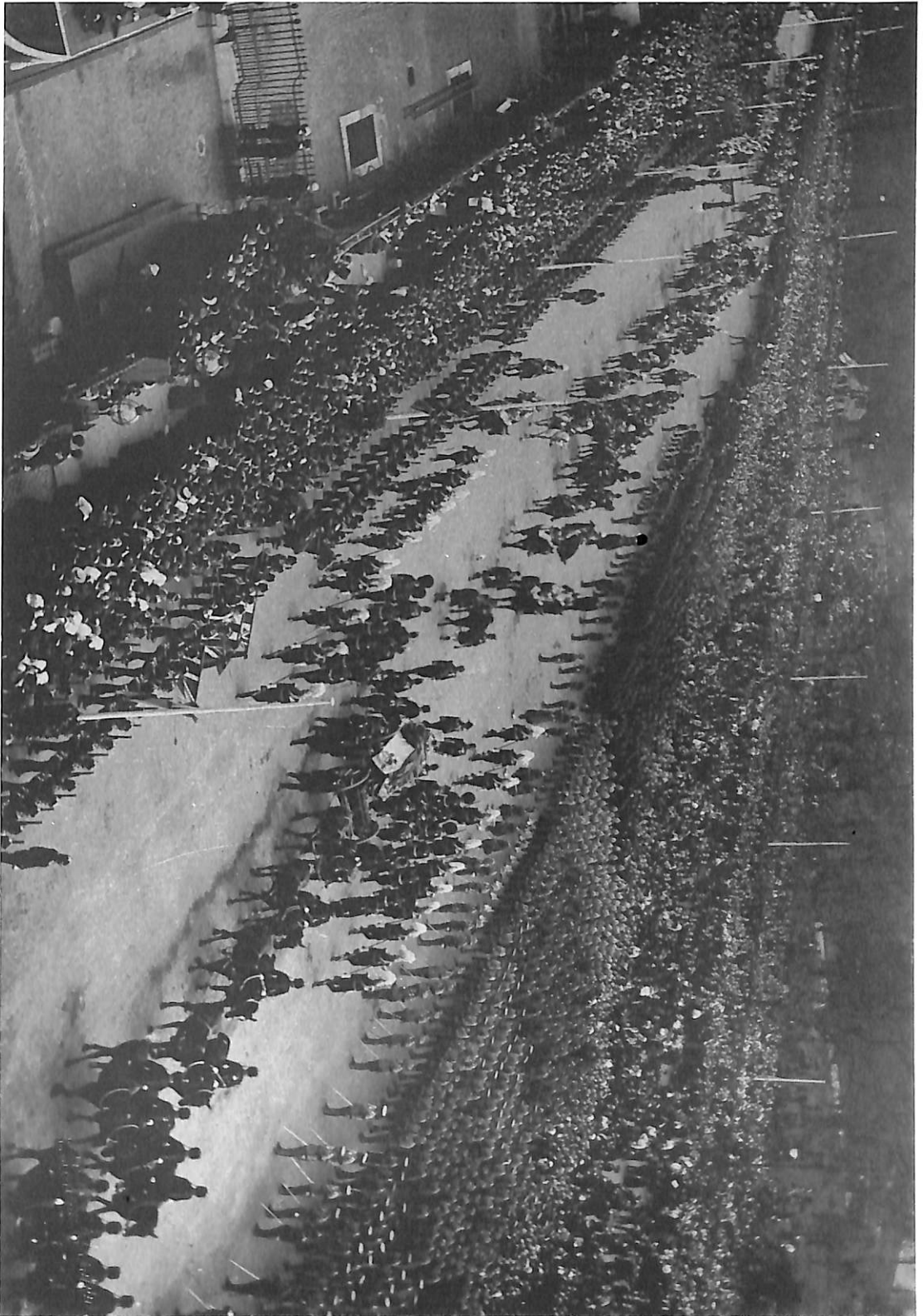
"Loose files and American scramble"

HQ Kennet Square 10 September 1777: Orders after evening gun firing. "The army will march in two columns at 4 o'clock tomorrow moving and receiving their orders of march from their respective Lt Generals, His excellency Lt Gen Knyphausen (a) and Lt Gen Earl Cornwallis."

"The Army", composed of about 13,000 men, was landed at the head of the River Elk, Chesapeake Bay, on the morning 25 August 1777. Its objective was Philadelphia, the largest city in the British Empire at that time. After three weeks manoeuvring and skirmishing the two sides met at the confluence of two streams known as Brandywine.

The battles of the American War of Independence were still fought using the linear system of training and tactics. The inaccuracy of the musket dictated

that this should be so. Despite the myth of the American sharpshooter the practice of advancing large bodies of men to within 100 yards of each other before firing one or more volleys and then charging with fixed bayonets was common to both sides. However, ranks in battalions were reduced from three to two, Light companies were well used and sub units, even individuals, moved and fought with an independence which was foreign to the accepted parade ground drill of the great pitched battles of Europe. The nature of the ground along the eastern seaboard of America made the use of cavalry very difficult. Artillery was not yet the potent force it was to become in the Napoleonic wars and manpower shortages, particularly on the British side, meant that battles were small affairs, determined by the



Funeral of King Edward VII, 20 May 1910. 2nd Battalion lining the route at Apsley House.

individual infantry battalions. Engagements during the war saw no more than 15,000 troops on either side.

The battle of Brandywine was fought by the British under Howe and the Americans under Washington. At day break on the 11th the British army advanced in two columns, the right commanded by Knyphausen and the left by Cornwallis. The right column took the direct route to Chad's Ford, the enemy being on the opposite side of the river. The other column, under Cornwallis, took a circuit through the forks of the Brandywine in order to turn the enemy's flank. His force included two battalions of light infantry (b), two battalions of British and three of Hessian grenadiers, two battalions of Guards and the 3rd and 4th Brigades. The 33rd was in the 4th Brigade together with 37th, 46th, and 64th regiments. (c) At about noon Washington discovered this movement and detached General Sullivan with about 10,000 men to protect his flank. The British halted to refresh the men after a march of 12 to 14 miles before forming up in three lines. In the first were the light infantry and grenadier battalions and the two battalions of Guards. In the second was the 4th Brigade. The 3rd Brigade formed the reserve. Joseph Townsend, a local farmer, described the scene:-

"Our eyes were caught by a sudden appearance of the army coming out of the woods into the fields belonging to Emmet Jeffers on the West side of the creek above the fording place. In a few minutes the fields were literally covered with them and they were hastening towards us, their arms and bayonets being raised shone as bright as silver, there being a clear sky on a day exceedingly warm". He goes on to describe Cornwallis, "He was on horseback, appeared tall and sat very erect. His rich scarlet clothing loaded with gold lace, epaulettes etc. occasioned him to make a brilliant and martial appearance".

Ahead of the leading troops was an advanced guard of two companies (the 17th and 42nd) of the 1st Light Infantry Battalion and some mounted Jaegers under command of Captain Evalt. An officer who was present described their movements:-

"Having advanced less than a mile, Capt. Evalt proposed charging a party of dragoons in the wood, provided we secured the left flank. This was agreed to and the two companies quit the road for this purpose to gain an orchard on the flank. They received a fire from about 200 men in the orchard which did no execution. Companies ran up to the fence but halted as it was evident, though the enemy fell back, that it was well supported. Lord Cornwallis' ADC came to order the advance guard to halt."

By about half past three Cornwallis's column had fanned out into three divisions on Osborne's Hill and commenced its advance:-

"As soon as the line approached the advanced guard, Lt Colonel Abercromby ordered the 17th Company to form on the right of the Battalion, the 42nd on the left - as soon as the line came up to the Dilworth Church the enemy opened fire from 5 field pieces, the church yard wall being opposite the 17th Light Company. The captain, determined to get over the fence into the road lodged the men without the loss at the foot of the hill onto which the guns were firing. The hedge on the left side of the road was cut with the grape shot. By a bend in the hill I had a view of part of the enemy's line opposite the Grenadiers and opened fire from about half the company on it, no

more being able to form on the space. Presently joined by the 38th Company. Some of these gallant soldiers wanted to ascend the hill immediately, I objected as this being too imprudent. The 33rd Company joined immediately afterwards, the men of the three companies calling out up the hill. At their summons we ascended the hill and had a glimpse of the enemy's line as far as the eye could see to the right and left, but as yet the heavy fire of musketry had not begun".

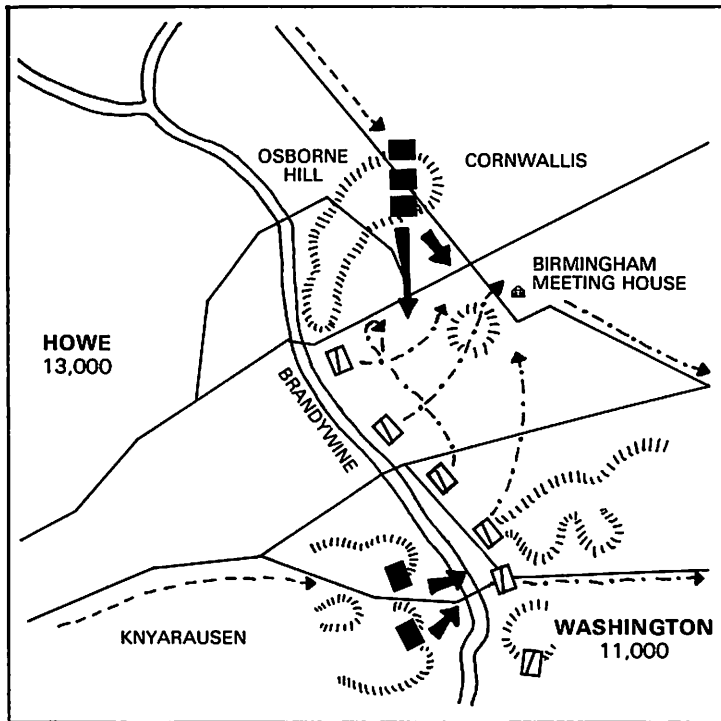
"Their line advancing on us we were compelled to throw ourselves on our knees and bellies and keep up a fire from the slope of the hill. The enemy repeatedly attempted to come on but were always drove back by our fire although their General (Lincoln) very much exerted himself. At this time a most tremendous fire of musketry opened from both lines. I looked back to see how far the Grenadier line was off from which alone we could receive immediate support. To my surprise I saw close to me Major Stewart of the 43rd whose Regiment being at Rhode Island attended the Army as a spectator. Recollecting the 43rd Grenadier Company was the left of their line, we persuaded Major Stewart to run down the hill and prevail on that Company to hasten to our support. He did so but before he could return, to my inexpressible joy I saw Capt. Cochrane of the 4th Company on my left throw up his cap and cry victory! - and looking around saw the 43rd Company hastening to our relief. We dashed forward past the five pieces of cannon which the enemy had abandoned and made some few prisoners, the enemy running away from us with too much speed to be overtaken. The men being blown, eventually halted and formed to a fence where we were immediately joined by the 2nd Grenadiers to our right, our own Battalion kept away more to the left. As soon as the men were fit to go on, out of gratitude to Major Stewart we desired to elect him our chief and meant to have gone on under his command but before we could move Lt. Col. Abercromby galloped to us and we joined the Battalion. A British Brigade got into action with the enemy reserve which terminated the battle on the left. The column on the right as soon as our fire was heard, crossed the river and drove the enemy from their works".

The British Brigade to which the officer refers was that of which the 33rd was part - To its front were the American troops of DeBore's Brigade consisting of three Maryland Regiments. Their position was as Captain Montresor tells us "numerically strong having a large body advanced with small bodies still further advanced and with their rear covered by a wood where their main body was posted with a natural glaces of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile".

Despite this with the concentrated advance of the British the American line withdrew. Sullivan tried to reform them "but in vain" he says "no sooner did I form one party than that which I had before would run off". The men fought "muzzle to muzzle in such a manner that General Conway who has seen such service says he never saw so close and severe a fight". A captain of American infantry commented "cannon balls flew thick and many and small arms roared like the rolling of a drum".

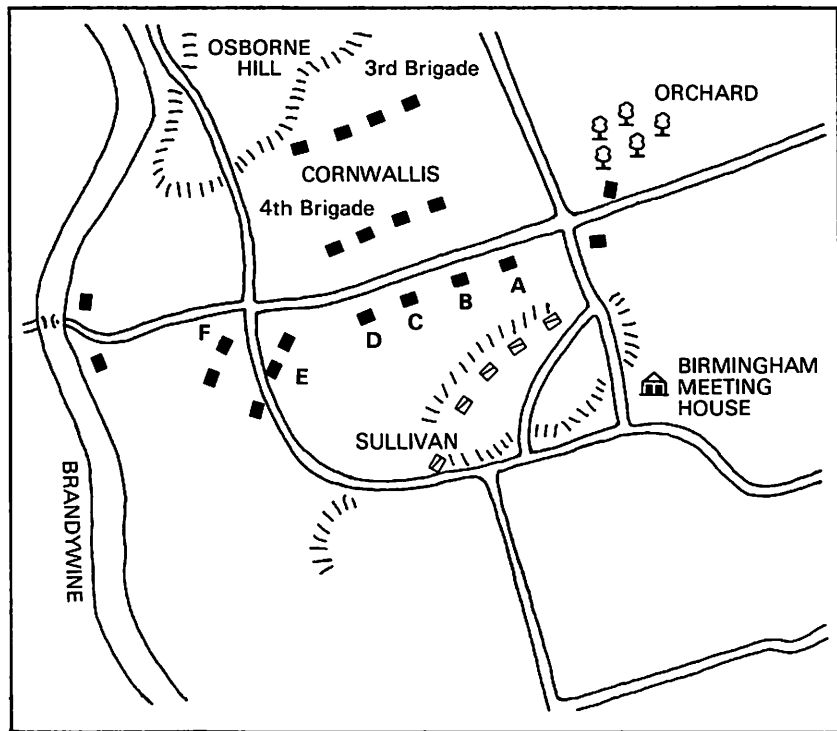
As a British officer describes the action "there was a most infernal fire of cannon and musketry most incessant shouting incline to the right! incline to the left! halt! charge etc. The balls ploughing up the ground, the trees cracking over ones head. The

THE BATTLE OF BRANDYWINE: 11 SEPTEMBER 1777



**KEY**

- BRITISH
- AMERICAN
- - - BRITISH MOVEMENT
- · · AMERICAN MOVEMENT
- ⋄ HILL
- ROAD



**KEY**

- A 1st Light Infantry
- B 2nd Light Infantry
- C/D 1st & 2nd British Grenadiers
- E Guards
- F Hessian Grenadiers

DETAIL OF ATTACK

branches riven by the artillery the leaves falling as in autumn by grapeshot”.

H.Q. camp on the field on heights of Brandywire 12 Sep 1777 evening gun firing.

“The acknowledgements and thanks of the Cin-C to the General Officers and soldiers of the Army in general and to the advanced corps in particular, very weakly expresses the sentiments he entertains of their very gallant and spirited behavior in the general engagement of yesterday by repeatedly charging and routing under a very heavy fire the enemy posted to the greatest advantage”.

Such was a typical engagement of the war. The Battalion companies of the 33rd though not heavily engaged, lost 1 man dead 1 sergeant plus 11 soldiers wounded and 1 missing.

After the war Cornwallis, while watching Prussian troop manoeuvres in 1788, observed, “their manoeuvres were such as the worst General in England would be shocked at for practising. Two long lines coming up within six yards of one another and firing until they had no ammunition left, nothing could be more ridiculous”.

Unfortunately when the war again broke out in 1792, British troops were again kitted out with a stiff parade uniforms of 1775, even Prussian drill had returned (in the form of Dundas’ reforms) though there were many who disagreed with them.

General William Harcourt doubted whether British officers were capable of appreciating Prussian order and discipline, “and upon the whole whether loose files and American Scramble would not have been preferred.”

M. A. Lodge.

Notes:

(a). Lieut General Knyphausen. A German general. There was a large Hessian contingent serving alongside the British regiments.

(b). The 1st Light Infantry Battalion consisted of the Light companies of the 4th, 15th, 17th, 23rd, 33rd, 38th and 42nd Regiments.

(c). According to the ‘History of the British Army’ by Hon J. W. Fortescue the 33rd was in the 3rd Brigade. Fortescue’s history was published in 1908. Later research has established that the 33rd, in fact, was in the 4th Brigade.

## SOLDIERING ON . . . WITH 2 DWR IN INDIA . . . BACON BUTTIES

*In March 1934 the 2nd Battalion was posted to Nowshera, on the North West Frontier of India, where it joined a brigade commanded by Brigadier H. R. L. G. Alexander (later Field Marshal Lord Alexander of Tunis). Early in 1935 there was an uprising of some Pathan tribesmen which led to the Loe Agra and Mohmand campaigns and in which 2 DWR took part. In September the Pathans decided to settle for peace terms and by 5 November 2 DWR was back in barracks*

Back in Nowshera we soon slipped into our old routine. I had now completed five years service, two of them in India, and was fast becoming an old soldier, which means in army terms, one who takes advantage of all the perks. One thing we most missed in India was bacon. Because of the Hindu’s religious belief the pig was considered unclean and no part of the animal was included in our diet. Pig fat, it was claimed, had set off the Indian Mutiny. One day Jim Hammond was reading the “Times of India” and called my attention to an advert for bacon by post. It was about this time that Jim and I had launched ourselves into business. A mug of tea and a scraped off slice of bread was the unvaried tea meal, which most soldiers considered not worth going over to the cookhouse to collect. Jim and I had taken advantage of this situation with the outlay of a primus stove and eggs from the bazaar, which we boiled or fried and sold to our comrades. Eggs, boiled or fried, however, soon became as monotonous as bread and jam, but bacon butties? That was a different proposition. It was this idea that led Jim to read the advert to me, “Why don’t we do bacon sandwiches they would sell like hot cakes,” Jim said. The idea appealed to me at once. I could see the long queues forming as we fried the bacon on our hissing stoves, in the makeshift kitchen in the corner of the barrack room. But we had forgotten the smell.

The smell of frying bacon was the problem, everyone would smell it for miles around, frying it in

the barrack room was out of the question.

“What about the den?” I said, “you take the orders, and I’ll fry the bacon and make the sandwiches in the den.” The den, I must explain, was a mud hut Jim and I had built, where we kept pigeons for the table, and which became a hideout for us when we wanted to be private. It stood some distance from the barracks, and we reckoned it was far enough away for the smell not to attract attention.

We decided to try it first for our own delectation and an order for a sample was despatched. Our first bacon banjo was heaven, but should we really share the treat with our comrades? Avarice and the success with the egg trade had gone to our heads and a few of our regular customers were let into the secret.

The result was as predicted. Word got around, and from all over the camp they came. Even when we upped the price we could have sold twice as many as we could provide. It was the success of the venture that eventually killed it, and it was perhaps just as well, for as I sweated over the stove, and Jim beat a well worn path to the den, our venture became a labour, all be it a profitable one. Jim and I were doing too well and there were mutterings. It may have been the success of our venture or the smell of the bacon, or even the frequency of bacon parcels from Bombay that put the provost staff onto us, I’ll never know.

We knew what a risk we were running, and when I received a friendly tip to expect a visit from the Provost Sergeant it was all we needed to end the operation. When the provo did arrive he found nothing in the den that could incriminate us, though the lingering smell gave a lie to my protestations. He really had no case, but the den had to be pulled down as we had built it without permission. After that we stuck to boiled eggs cooked in the barrack room.

Ahmadin (the Regimental contractor) could sleep soundly again.

S. F. Swift

## FRIENDS OF THE REGIMENT FUND

Income for the year ending 31 March 1991 was at the record level of £6,122. Expenditure in support of a number of worthwhile projects during the year amounted to £1,586, leaving an excess of income of £4,535. The total assets as at 31 March 1991 amounted to £30,522. Expenditure in the current year has been high with support to the Honorary Citizenship of Skipton ceremonies and for Regimental recruiting literature and a recruiting video.

The fund depends to a large extent on the generosity of ex members of the Regiment. Ideally support should be in the form of an annual donation, £5 to £20 is adequate, by Deed of Covenant. The Regimental

Secretary will provide the necessary forms and further information on request. Donations and/or bequests are also most welcome.

Recent additions to the regular subscribers include M. R. N. Bray and C. R. Huxtable. Donations have been received from:-

6 DWR OCA in memory of C. Dinsdale, P. R. Tattersall, A. Jacobsen, G. Schofield, Mrs. H. Snow, P. F. Connolly, C. Robinson, Julian Sykes, P. B. L. Hoppe, Giggleswick School CCF, J. Fickling, The Colonel in Chief, 1 DWR Wartime Officers' Dinner Club in memory of Major Bruce Hindley and J. Wilson.

### FRIENDS OF THE REGIMENT FUND ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 1990 TO 31 MARCH 1991 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

<b>Expenditure</b> Copying of photographs for archives ..... 233.11 Recruiting Posters ..... 300.00 Travel Expenses Ex Long Look ..... 290.00 Photographs Imp War Museum ..... 18.05 Donation of Regimental Museum Fund ..... 150.00 Conservation of Colours Halifax Parish Church ..... 363.00 ACF Ex Iron Duke Prizes and Engraving ..... 134.48 Flute for Depot King's Division ..... 75.00 Tax Recovery Charge ..... 23.00      1586.64  Excess of Income over Expenditure .....      4535.60  Total <u>£6122.24</u>	<b>Income</b> Subscriptions by SO ..... 1246.00 Tax refund on Subs ..... 383.40 Tax refund on Div ..... 62.11 Donations ..... 541.91 Donations in lieu of Flowers Brig F. R. St. P. Bunbury ..... 563.00 Interest CDF ..... 2213.94 Investment Income ..... 1111.88      6122.24          Total <u>£6122.24</u>
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### BALANCE SHEET

<b>Value of Fund as at 1 April 1991</b> Cash at Bank or on Deposit ..... 13359.07 Market Value of Investments ..... 12098.80      25457.87 Increase in value of Fund during period .....      5064.57  Total <u>£30522.44</u>	<b>Value of Fund as at 31 March 1991</b> Cash at Bank or on Deposit ..... 17894.67 Market Value of Investments ..... 12627.77      30522.44          Total <u>£30522.44</u>
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## BOOK REVIEW

**NORMANDY TO ARNHEM** by Brigadier T. Hart-Dyke, DSO

The book, which was first published in 1966, tells the story of the Hallamshire Battalion TA on active service with the 49th (West Riding) Division in North West Europe during 1944/45. Both the 1st/6th and 1st/7th Battalions of the Dukes served in the same Division.

The 4th Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers have recently arranged for the book to be reprinted. The cost is £5.99 plus 68p postage. Copies may be obtained from 4 YORKS, Endcliffe Hall, Endcliffe Vale Road, Sheffield, S10 3EU. Cheques should be made payable to: PRI 4 YORKS.



# Regimental Association

Patron: Brigadier His Grace The Duke of Wellington KG, LVO, OBE, MC, BA, DL  
 President: Brigadier W. R. Mundell OBE  
 Vice-President: Brigadier D. W. Shuttleworth OBE  
 General Secretary: Major C. D. Miller, Wellesley Park, Halifax HX2 0BA

## BRANCHES

**Bradford:** 8.30 p.m. 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month at RAOB Lodge, Hallfield Road, Bradford.

*Secretary:* Mr. C. Frear, 13 Edward Street, Little Town, Liversedge.

**Halifax:** 8.00 p.m. 2nd Tuesday each month at Sergeants Mess, The Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax.

*Secretary:* Mr. D. Stephenson, 13 St John's Lane, Halifax.

**Huddersfield:** 8.15 p.m. last Friday each month at Turnbridge WMC, St. Andrew's Road, Aspley.

*Secretary:* Mr. J. Howarth. 32 Deercroft Crescent, Salendine Nook, Huddersfield.

**Keighley:** 8.30 p.m. last Thursday of each month at Sergeants Mess, The Drill Hall, Lawkholme Lane, Keighley.

*Secretary:* Mr. C. W. Akrigg. 10 Eastfield Place, Sutton-in-Craven, Keighley.

**London:** 8.00 p.m. last Monday of each month at Strand House, 7 Holbein Place, Nr Sloane Square.

*Secretary:* Mr. R. Owers. 12 Waterfall Road, London, N11 1JD.

**Mossley:** 1st Wednesday of each month at Mossley Conservative Club, Mossley.

*Secretary:* Mr. D. Herod. 41 Westfield Drive, Woodley, Stockport.

**Sheffield:** 8.00 p.m. 2nd Tuesday of each month at Sergeants Mess, 4 Yorks Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield.

*Secretary:* Mr. S. Thompson. 64 Kilvington Road, Sheffield.

**Skipton:** 8.00 p.m. 2nd Tuesday of each month at Royal British Legion Club, Newmarket Street, Skipton.

*Secretary:* Mrs. M. Clegg. 44 Church Street, Gargrave, Skipton.

**York:** 8.00 p.m. 1st Monday of each month at Post Office Social Club, Marygate, York.

*Secretary:* Mr. J. Hemming. 6 Yearsley Crescent, York.

## TERRITORIAL AND SERVICE BATTALION'S OCA

**5th Battalion.** *Secretary:* Mr. L. Brook, 1 Hollin Terrace, March, Huddersfield.

**6th Battalion.** *Secretary:* Captain J. H. Turner. The Nook, Church Street, Gargrave, Skipton.

**8th Battalion (145 Regiment) RAC.** *Secretary:* Mr. A. T. E. Duncan, Millmore, Killan, Perthshire.

## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION: AGM AND DINNER

The Regimental Association Annual General Meeting, dinner and dance will be held at the Pennine Hilton National, Ainley Top, Huddersfield on Saturday 12 October 1990. The AGM will start at 6.30 p.m. in the Norfolk Suite and will be followed by the dinner at 8.00 p.m. Music will be provided by the Regimental Band.

Tickets at £12.00 each can be obtained from Branch Secretaries and Regimental Headquarters. Cheques and POs should be made payable to DWR Management Fund. As the dinner was over subscribed last year, applications will be restricted to serving and ex-members of the Regiment and a partner.

The Pennine Hilton is offering accommodation with breakfast at reduced rates for the weekend. Bookings should be made direct with the hotel (Telephone No. 0422 75431).

## REGIMENTAL SERVICE: YORK MINSTER

The annual Regimental Service will be held in the Lady Chapel, York Minster at 11.30 a.m. on Saturday 2 November. Prior to the service, St. William's College will be open at 10.30 a.m. for coffee and biscuits, to which everyone will be welcome. A lunch is to be arranged after the service. Details may be obtained from RHQ.

## CHRISTMAS CARDS

Regimental Christmas cards, of the same design as last year, are available from RHQ. An order form is printed in the Notice section. Payment must include the appropriate amount in respect of postal charges.

## GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT:

April 1991 - June 1991

### April

The Colonel of the Regiment visited the monthly meeting of the York and Sheffield Branches where he formally handed the branch banners to the chairmen. There was a good turn out of members at each branch and excellent buffets were arranged.

In April Mr Ken Willoughby, the Chairman of the Bradford Branch, asked the Bradford Telegraph and Argus to publish his recruit platoon photograph of 1952 taken at the Depot, Halifax. He has had quite a number of replies. The platoon commander of that platoon was 2Lt. S. G. Metcalf, who is now managing director of Rank, Hovis, McDougall plc.

The London Branch annual dinner and dance took place in April. Yet again it was a great success in all aspects - dinner, dance and raffle. A party of 23 travelled down from Yorkshire. The London Branch has asked me to remind readers that its AGM will be

held at the Park Court Hotel at 1100 hrs on Sunday 29 September. This will be followed by a buffet lunch at £3 a head. Please contact Rodney Owers for further details.



**Four ex Dukes, who are members of the British Korean Veterans Association, marched with the Newcastle Branch on St. George's Day 1991**

Back row:- Mr. George Tully (D Coy), Mr. Bob Ridley (Mor Pl), Front row:- Mr. Tom Gunn (A Coy), Mr. Jack Lowery (B Coy)

### May

On the first weekend was the "Skipton Parade". David Normanshire was the Skipton Banner Bearer and he received his branch banner from his Mayor. When he returned to his parade position, all the Regimental Association Branch banners were on parade at the same time in the same place for the first time. In the evening, the Old Comrades met at the Rose and Crown for a drink and buffet supper. Frank and Janet of the Rose and Crown looked after us very well. Janet had made a large Regimental cake for the occasion. The first slice was cut for us by the Mayor who joined us after his own reception had finished.

The Huddersfield branch, under the chairmanship of its recently elected chairman, David Helliwell, met for the first time at its new venue, the Turnbridge WMC. The facilities are excellent and, with the meeting being on a Friday, the attendance was almost double the number of recent meetings.



**The General Secretary, the Regimental Association, introducing the Mayor of Skipton to Pensioner CSM Bob Peel after the Citizenship Parade**

### June

On the 6th I attended the Founders Day Parade at the Royal Hospital Chelsea, where this year Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, was the reviewing officer. Pensioner Bob Peel led his company with great precision and smartness. Four members of the London Branch were present and I almost met ex Bandsman Terry (Rocky) Rochelle whose father is an in pensioner and an old soldier of Border Regiment.

In the middle of June the Regimental Association and families visited the 1st Battalion at Tern Hill for a day, and, in spite of the awful weather we had a great time. We arrived for a drink before being posted to a host company for a barbeque lunch. The Battalion PRI benefited from the inclement weather and did a roaring trade at their shop. Then at 5.30 p.m., we went to the soldiers dining hall for a tea meal which was much appreciated for both the quantity and the quality. Some of the older ex-soldiers, who had not visited a military unit since leaving the army at the end of the last war, were quite astonished by the excellence of the meal. Then we returned to the sports field where the Corps of Drums and Regimental Band beat retreat with great gusto and spirit despite a very heavy rain shower. My abiding memory of the day was of Old Comrades who were not originally Dukes but came to us and have remained loyal to the Regiment ever since.

During the month we had a letter from Mr Allan Goldsbrough whose aunt is the widow of Colour Sergeant Goldsbrough who, as a sergeant with the 1st Battalion was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal in North Africa in 1943. Mrs Goldsbrough who is now in her seventies and lives in Preston still has fond memories of her ties with the Regiment.

In early June I met Mrs. Nellie Dippnall, Huddersfield. I was able to help her get in touch with the Royal British Legion Pilgrimage Department so that she could visit the grave of her father whom she never saw. Her father was Private Walter Wadsworth who died at the Battle of the Somme in 1916 whilst serving with the 8th Battalion.



Mrs Nellie Dippnall at the graveside of her father in France. 1 July 1991



Messrs Jack Ferguson (left) and Jack Ripkin, ex 1/7th Battalion escorting the Normandy Veterans Association standard bearer at Jonkerbos Cemetery, Holland in June this year. They are standing behind the grave of Private Roy Dearing - 1/7th DWR, who was killed in action on 4 December 1944



The Chindit Memorial, the Embankment, London

#### BISLEY 1991

Under the captaincy of Derrick Wood the Dukes entered a team in the "Rifle Club" match at the National Rifle Association 1991 Target Rifle Imperial meeting. Although the team did not get a high position - or even expect to, it was an achievement to enter a team. No other regiment does so.

The match, which is shot concurrent with the opening stage of the "Queen's Prize", consists of seven shots to count at each at 300, 500 and 600 yards. The bull scores five points and a possible score is one hundred and five. The results were as follows:

D. Wood	97
T. Lehmann	102
W. Norman	90
T. Nowell	76

The excellent shoot of Toby Lehmann got him into the second stage of the competition: one of the 300 out of some 1500 to do so. He did not quite make the final Queen's Hundred. Tommy Nowell, ex-sniper sergeant of the Korea days, was suffering from an acute spinal complaint on the day of the shoot and it was a gallant effort on his part that he shot at all. The total score was not enhanced when the oldest soldier put a bull on the wrong target. Why is it always bull if you shoot at the wrong target? All being well the team will be having another go next year.

### A MEMORIAL AT MARSDEN

Walter Horne MC, TD, was serving in the 2/7th Battalion at the outbreak of World War II when he and his colleagues were literally called from their workplaces to take up local sentry duties. Because the IRA had been active, one of the tasks given to the 2/7th was to guard the Standedge railway cutting near Marsden in the Colne Valley. Guarding the tunnel shafts, in round the clock shifts, was often a cold and wet experience especially for the first two or three

weeks before bell tents were erected for shelter. "There was a lot of tramping up and down the hills," Walter recalls. "We wore civvy overcoats and just 50 rounds of ammunition for each post. The only person we arrested was a tramp." Walter has now erected a cross a 1000 feet above the Standedge cutting in memory of the 214 men of the 1st/7th and 2nd/7th who gave their lives during the war. The photograph was taken on the occasion of the dedication of the cross.



The Vicar of Huddersfield, the Rev Brian Maguire, dedicates the cross on Marsden Moor, watched by (from left), David Armitage, Walter Downes, Roy Dyson, Lieutenant Colonel Walter Robins, Major David Miller, Councillor Dorothy Lindley and granddaughter, Walter Horne and Willie Matley (President Marsden Royal British Legion)

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS/\*NEW SUBSCRIBERS

- \* Mr H. Hewitt: 11, Woodfield Road, Armthorpe, Doncaster, South Yorkshire, DN3 3LQ.
- \* Mr W. A. Proom TD: 15 The Hawthorns, Sutton-in-Craven, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD20 8BP.
- Mr C. R. C. Barnes: 110 Beanfield Avenue, Coventry, CV3 6NX.
- \* Mr D. L. Roast: 32 Hillside Crescent, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 2LE.
- Mr G. K. Lawrence: 27 Endwell Road, Brockley, London, SE4.
- \* Mr J. G. Richards: 711 Carmarthen Road, Gendros, Swansea, SA5 8JN.
- \* Mr J. P. Knight TD: Greenbank, West Burton, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 4JX.
- \* Mr W. I. Willetts: 48 West End, Strensall, York.
- \* Ms M. C. Robertson: 12 Bude Close, Crewe, Cheshire, CW1 3XG.
- \* Mr P. E. Humphreys: 8 Williamson Street, Halifax, HX1 5PP.
- Mr J. P. B. Golding: Thorn Bank, New Road, Luddenden, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX2 6RA.
- \* Major D. A. Ross: BMH Iserlohn, BFPO 24.
- \* Mr. T. H. Harper: Flat B, 2 Thorney Crescent, Morgan's Walk, London, SW11 3TR.
- \* Mr D. Hughes MBE: 2 Park Grove, Huntington Road, York, YO3 7LG.
- \* Mrs M. Clegg: 44 Church Street, Gargrave, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 3NA.
- \* Mr A. Carter: 84 Sycamore Road, Birstall, Leicester, LE4 4LU.
- \* Mr R. Ridley: 87 Gerald Street, Benwell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE4 8QH.

- \* Mr D. Grayson: 12 Paisley Place, Armley, Leeds LS12 3JZ.
- \* Mr W. L. Harrison: Fort Horn, Thornton Steward, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 4BD.
- \* Mr G. O. Billings: 3 Harbour View, South End, Bedale, North Yorkshire, DL8 2DQ.
- \* Mr. M. Simpson: Oakdene, Wensley, Leyburn, DL8 4HP.
- \* Mr. F. Armitage: R39 Overdale, Trailer Park, Skipton, North Yorkshire.
- \* Mr B. A. Young: 1 Overend Close, Sheffield, S14 1JG.
- \* Mr. E. White, 35 Merrivale Road, Exeter, Devon, EX4 1PX.
- \* Mr J. Donkersley: 56 Lawn Closes, Alt Estate, Oldham, Lancs., OL8 2HB.
- \* Mr D. Bell: Lower Garden House, Spennithorne, Leyburn, North Yorkshire.
- \* Mr J. T. Dawson: 6 Victoria Road, Glusburn, Nr. Keighley, West Yorkshire.
- \* Mr C. Brook: 33 Bryn Mor Drive, Flint, Clwyd, CH6 5RZ.
- \* Mr. P. K. Roberts: Bridge End Cottage, Burn Bridge, Harrogate, HG3 1PB.
- \* Mr T. B. Musgrove: Felley House, 238 Forest Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 5HS.
- \* Mr A. Aryes: 170 Keldergate, Bradley, Huddersfield, HD2 1TE.
- \* Mr D. W. Higson: 2 Regent Drive, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 1AY.
- \* Mr B. Dalton, 7 Rawshaw Drive, Skipton, North Yorkshire.
- \* Mr G. Webster: 16 The Close, Skipton, North Yorkshire.

- \* Mr E. Stead: 10 Stead Road, Bradford, BD4 6QX, West Yorkshire.
- \* Mr I. Cardwell: 5 Ivy Terrace, Lightcliffe, Halifax, HX3 8BD.
- \* Mr C. M. Tate: 59 Victoria Mount, Horsforth, Leeds, LS18 4PX.
- \* Mr M. P. Rawlins: Arle Cottage, 23 North Strand Road, Petersfield, Hants, GU32 3PP.
- \* Mr J. L. Thompson: 31 Keighley Road, Crossflatts, Bingley, West Yorkshire, BD16 2HB.
- \* Mr B. Brearley: 72 Firth Street, Aspley, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD1 3BN.
- \* Mr. D. Birch; 80 Hurrs Road, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 2JF.
- \* Mr E. Smith: Odd Fellows Arms, 72 West Hill, Dartford, Kent, DA1 2EV.
- \* Mr D. Birch: 80 Hurrs Road, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 2JF.
- \* Mr. E. Smith: Odd Fellows Arms, 72 West Hill, Dartford, Kent, DA1 2EV.
- \* Mr J. Shraw: 19 Overend Drive, Gleadless Valley, Sheffield, S14 1JH.
- \* Mr S. E. Webb: 24 Polstead Way, Clacton on Sea, Essex, CO16 7AJ.
- \* Mr I. C. Edwards: 33 St. Wilfred's Road, Strensall, York, YO3 5SN.
- \* Mrs Rose Horns: Fairholme, 37 Southgate, Honley, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD7 2NT.
- \* Mr Redford Polinski: 1333 No Sweetzer Avenue, Apartment 2D, West Hollywood, CA 90069, U.S.A.
- \* Mr D. Hopewell: 56 Woodholme Road, Sheffield, S11, South Yorkshire.
- \* Mr C. Withers: 18 Wheel Lane, Grenoside, Sheffield S30 3RN, South Yorkshire.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

It is essential that subscribers, including serving members of the Regiment moving on individual postings, advise the Business Manager of their change of address without delay. Use the tear off slip printed below.

To:- The Business Manager, 'Iron Duke' Magazine, RHQ DWR, Wellesley Park, Halifax, HX2 0BA.

From: .....

Please note that from ..... my new address will be

.....

.....

Date ..... Signed .....



## Obituaries

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

### Mr. B. Noon

Mr Bernard Noon died on 19 March at the age of 81. Mr Noon served in the Regiment and was a member of the Huddersfield and District Army Veterans Association. The funeral service took place at St. Joseph's Church, Almondbury on 22 March. The Huddersfield Veterans formed a Guard of Honour at the Church. The Assistant Regimental Secretary represented the Regiment at the service.

### Mr. D. T. Noon

Mr Donald Noon died on 21 March at the age of 74. He joined the Regiment as a boy drummer and served with the 2nd Battalion in India. He was taken prisoner by the Japanese at the time of the withdrawal from the Sittang River in Burma in 1942. He left the regular army after World War II and enlisted in the 7th Battalion with whom he stayed through its various amalgamations and changes of name. His last appointment with the Regiment was that of Drum Major of the West Riding Battalion.

The funeral service took place at St. Patrick's Church Huddersfield and was attended by a large number of relatives and friends. Major C. D. Miller, who read the lesson, represented the Regiment.

### Mrs. T. W. Haggie

Mrs Nellie Haggie died on the 26 March 1991 at the age of 84 years. Mrs Haggie was the widow of the late Thomas William Haggie who, in his time, served in the 1st, 2nd and 2/7th Battalions of the Regiment.

### Mr. J. H. Bains

Mr Jack Bains who died on 20 May 1991, served with the 1st Battalion in Tunisia in 1943. The Rev Tom Richardson, at that time Padre to the Battalion, recalls "Jack was very seriously wounded whilst on a patrol and reported as missing, killed in action and I wrote a letter of condolence to his wife. Six months later, she received a postcard from Jack to say he was a POW". He is survived by his widow Kathleen, thirteen children and many grandchildren.

The funeral service, which was attended by a large number of friends and relations, took place at St. Andrews Reform Church, Stainland. Major C. D. Miller and the Rev Tom Richardson represented the Regiment.

### Mrs V. Paton

Mrs Violet Paton, the widow of Lieutenant Colonel Duncan Paton died on 9 May 1991. The funeral was at St. Mary's Church Wylde and Majors R. H. Ince and J. D. P. Cowell represented the Regiment.

### Mrs P. J. Puttock

Penny, the wife of Major Patrick Puttock, died on 2 April 1991. A funeral service, which was attended by the Colonel of the Regiment and many other friends, was held at Salisbury Crematorium on 11 April 1991.

Major Puttock and Penny joined the Dukes in Hong Kong in 1979 on transfer from the York and Lancaster Regiment. They also served with the 1st Battalion in Gibraltar before moving to Germany in 1985.

### Mrs Angela Ince

Angela Ince, the wife of Major Dick Ince, died at the Macmillan Hospice, Midhurst on 16 July 1991. The funeral service was held at Guildford Crematorium on 23 July. Among those present were: Major General G. F. Upjohn, Major General D. E. Isles, Brigadier and Mrs A. D. Firth, Lieut Colonel and Mrs H. S. LeMessurier, Major and Mrs J. L. Streatfeild, Major and Mrs L. F. H. Kershaw, Colonel and Mrs R. G. Southerst, Brigadier P. P. de la H. Moran, Major A. C. S. Savory, Colonel M. J. Campbell-Lamerton, Major W. Blakey.

### Mr W. H. Glue

In Pensioner 'Sticky' Glue died at the Royal Hospital on 6 July 1991. An obituary will be published in the next issue of the 'Iron Duke'.