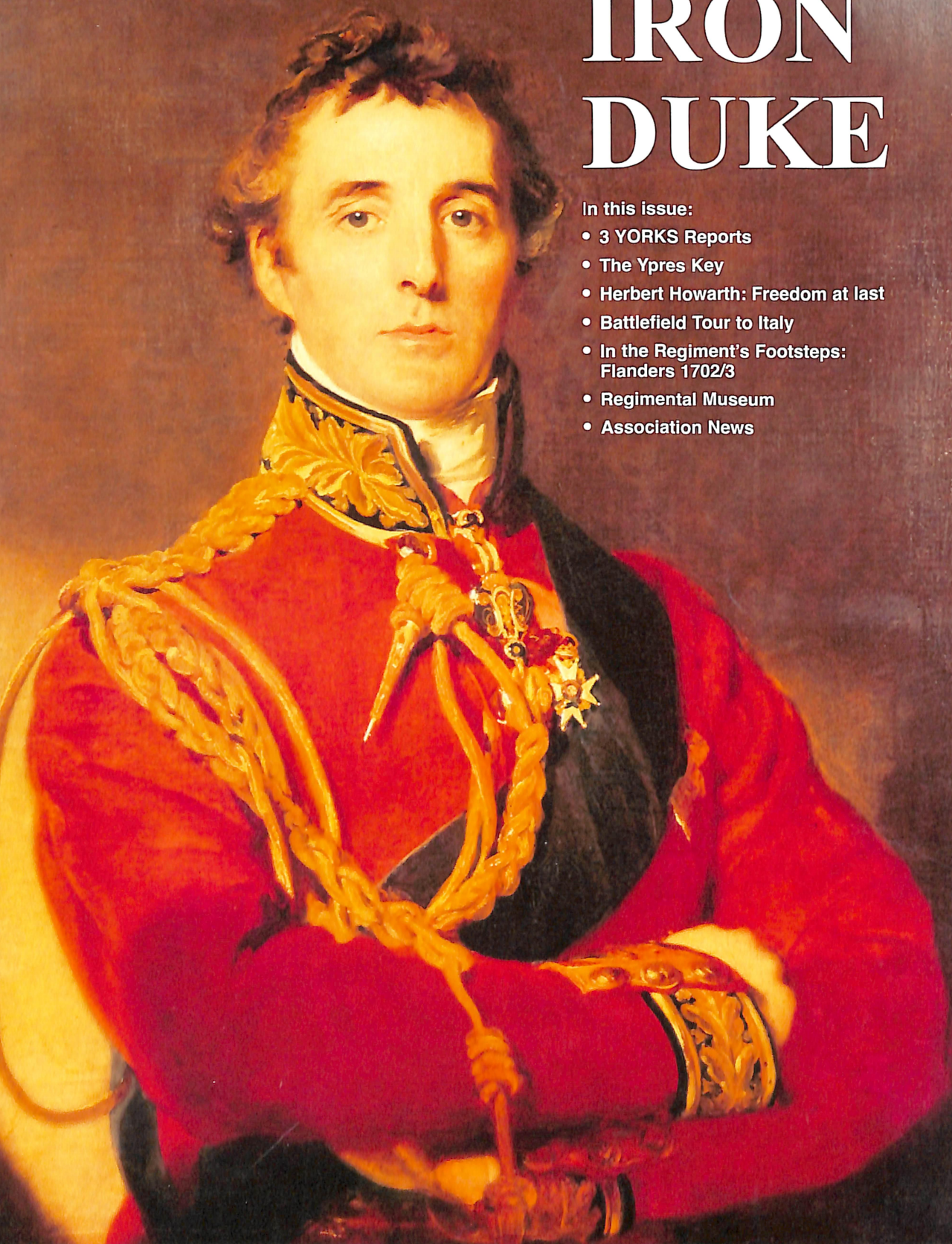


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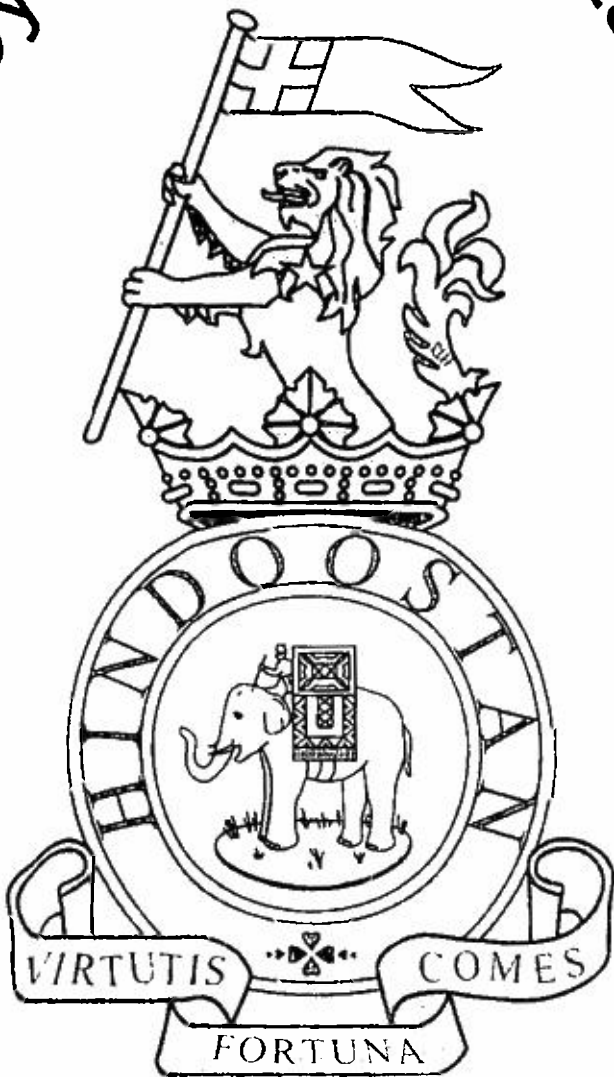
THE IRON DUKE

In this issue:

- 3 YORKS Reports
- The Ypres Key
- Herbert Howarth: Freedom at last
- Battlefield Tour to Italy
- In the Regiment's Footsteps:
Flanders 1702/3
- Regimental Museum
- Association News



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A statue from inside the Central Memorial at the NMA.

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
Abyssinia
Relief of Kimberley
Paardeberg
South Africa 1900-02
Mons 1914
Marne 1914, '18
Ypres 1914, '15, '17



Hill 60
Somme 1916, '18
Arras 1917, '18
Cambrai 1917, '18
Lys
Piave 1918
Landing at 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. LXXXVI

Autumn 2011

No. 271

BUSINESS NOTES

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NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM

Unveiling and Dedication of “The Keeper of the Souls”.

On Thursday 1st September 2011 the Yorkshire Regiment’s own memorial to men of The Prince of Wales’s Own, The Green Howards, The Duke of Wellington’s, and The York and Lancaster Regiments and the Yorkshire Volunteers – and more recently of the Yorkshire Regiment itself – was unveiled and dedicated at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire.

The service was conducted by the Regimental Chaplain, Reverend Canon DE Wilkes CB OBE, and

took place in the presence of HRH The Duke of York, the Colonel in Chief. General Sir Nicholas Houghton GCB CBE ADC Gen, the founding Colonel of the Regiment, and Major General GJ Binns CBE DSO MC were present, along with a good crowd of over 100 members of the antecedent Associations, with families and friends.

The memorial’s title is “The Keeper of the Souls” and Rev Wilkes told us that this is taken from the Lady



HRH The Duke of York reads the lesson



The Act of Dedication

HRH,
Gen Binns
and
Gen
Houghton,
after the
Service



Chapel at York Minster, where can be found the text “God the Father Almighty, the Keeper of the Souls”. As the photograph shows, the sculpture is a winged angel holding a shield which bears the Regiment’s crest; it stands on a column, around which are the badges of the Regiments named above.

Prayers were said; in a strong and clear voice His Royal Highness read a lesson (Isaiah Ch 2 verses 2-5); Canon Wilkes gave an address and then performed the Act of Dedication of the memorial; the National Anthem was sung; and the formal proceedings broke up and all crowded round the Memorial to examine it in detail.

The Memorial Arboretum

Many readers will no doubt have been to the Arboretum, so will have no need of the short description which follows. It was opened by HM The Queen in 2007. At its heart is an impressive, elevated memorial to all members of one or other of the Crown Services – of course including the Armed Services, but also a surprising number of other organisations – who lost their lives in the course of their duties since the end of the Second World War. This encompasses a long list of some 50 active operations, including: Palestine, Malaya,



The principal, Central Memorial

Borneo, Aden, Cyprus, Northern Ireland, The Falklands, Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan. Originally 15,000 names were inscribed leaving space for another 15,000, and subsequently 399 have been added for the years 2007 – 2010, and of course there are more to come.

For a full description of the origins and layout of the memorial, and a comprehensive list of the places and operations which cost lives, please visit the NMA’s website, www.thenma.org.uk.

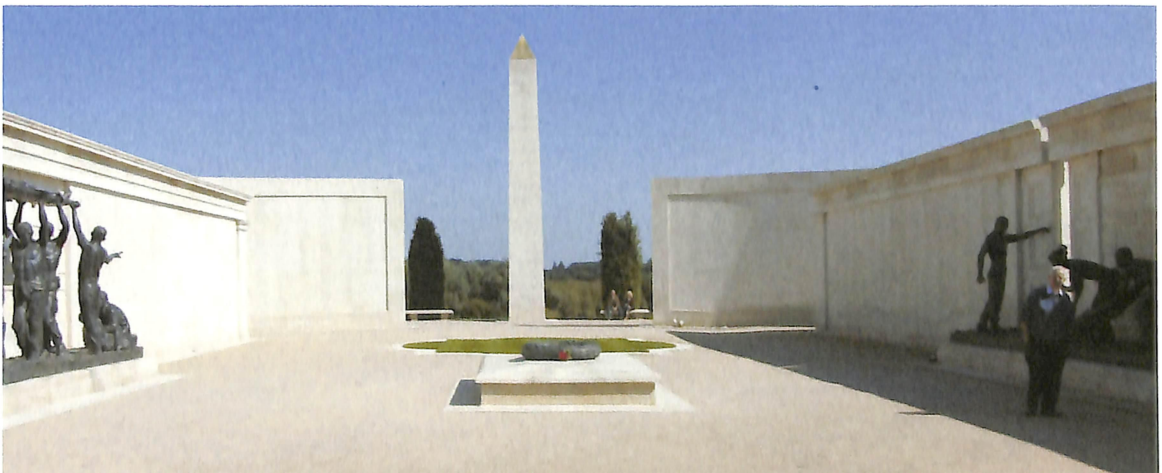
Other Memorials

A slightly strange feature of the considerable space surrounding the central Memorial is that many other



memorials are scattered, seemingly at random (which adds a certain charm, and the pleasure of discovery as you drift through the site) throughout the area. Close to the Reception and Tea Rooms is a splendid polar bear for 49 West Riding Infantry Division, which included 6 and 7 DWR, which saw service in diverse theatres in WW2, including Iceland, Normandy and the Crossing of the Rhine.

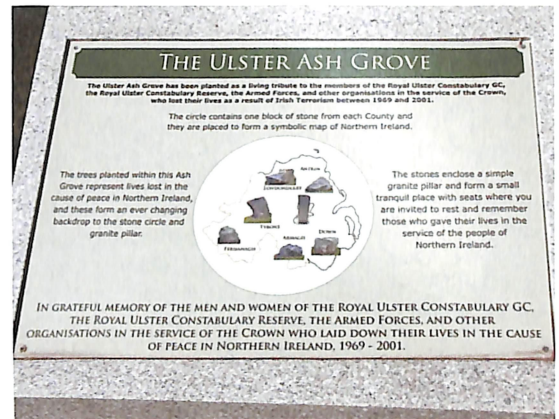
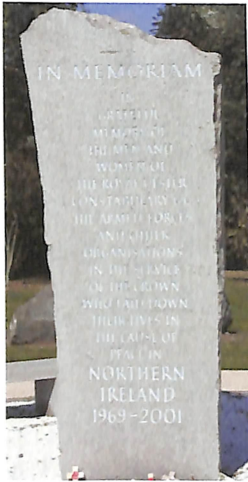
Amongst the most moving is the “Ulster Ash Grove”, dedicated to those members of the Armed Forces and



Inside the Memorial, names of those remembered are inscribed on the walls

the RUC, and other services of the Crown such as the NI Prison Service. There is a central memorial, consisting of large stones, each from one of the six counties. Deep inside the Grove is a line of saplings bearing the names of the Duke's soldiers killed in action in Northern Ireland.

The first tree below (front foreground, left) bears the name of Pte Erroll Price (16 Jan 1980, IRA gun attack, Belfast); then, with a spacing of 3 or 4 trees between them, taking the line along one o'clock from the first tree, are – Cpl Michael Ryan (17 Mar 1974, IRA gun attack in the Brandywell, Londonderry); 2Lt Howard Fawley (25 Jan 1974, IRA pressure mine, County Londonderry); LCpl Terence Graham and Private James Lee, (16 Jul 1972, IRA landmine near Crossmaglen, South Armagh); Pte George Lee (6 Jun 1972, IRA sniper Ballymurphy, Belfast). Elsewhere, with his Corps, will be a tree for WO2 David Bellamy APTC attached to 1 DWR (28 Oct 1979, IRA machine gun ambush outside Springfield Road Police Station, Belfast). If you



wish to find our row of trees I suggest you ask NMA Reception to show you a map of where to search for one small row of trees in a considerable grove of many hundreds of them.

There are memorials to WRNS (grouped around a large, sculpted wooden wren, of course); a BLESMA rose garden; many ships' crews, aircraft squadrons, and units of all sizes and functions. It is all very moving without being sad and a visit is strongly recommended. We make the boast that "we will remember them", but in the minds of many this is a reference to those who died in WW1 or WW2. The NMA helps us to realise that our servicemen and women walk a dangerous path, even in times of "peace".





YORKSHIRE REGIMENT NEWS

Fortune Favours the Brave

1 YORKS

In September 1 Yorks deployed to Afghanistan. The 1st Battalion completed the deployment phase from their base in Germany. Whilst on operation HERRICK 15 the battalion will split up, with A Company working with 3rd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland, Support Company with the Queen's Royal Hussars, B and C Companies with the Danish Army, and the Brigade Headquarters providing staff for Headquarters Task Force Helmand. Mobilized soldiers from 4 YORKS joined A, B and Support Companies in June ready for the tour.

2 YORKS

Now based in Cyprus, in Episkopi.

3 YORKS

See following reports.

4 YORKS

The 4th Battalion conducted their annual training

camp in Germany in September. It is the first time since 1995 that any of our TA units have deployed to Germany.

During their fortnight camp, the Battalion conducted a number of skills cadres, some adventure training and finished with a four-day exercise on Sennelager Training Area, near Paderborn. During the camp, Major General Grosvenor, Deputy Commander of Army Reserves and senior Territorial Army soldier, made a flying visit to address the Battalion about the Future Reserves 2020 review.

RHQ. New Regimental twitter and facebook details. Regimental Headquarters has recently tweaked our social networks. A new TWITTER account and FACEBOOK page have been created. These replace accounts that have been operating for the past two years. The new account and page, become the official voice of the Regiment on those social networks, supplementing this Regimental News page, the Regimental Journal and the RHQ E-Mail.

Keep in touch with the Regiment and your old service friends and colleagues through:

- The Iron Duke, the Journal for all who served with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. Published twice yearly, price £10 per year.
- The Duke's website, {<http://www.dwr.org.uk>'}, for latest news, historical information and an opportunity to comment through the forum. Contact {<mailto:editor@dwr.org.uk>} with your news.
- The Association's programme of events, Branch activities and a number of informal get-togethers. The current programme is inside the back cover of this issue.

The 3rd Battalion, The Yorkshire Regiment (The Duke of Wellington's)

BATTLEGROUP HEADQUARTERS

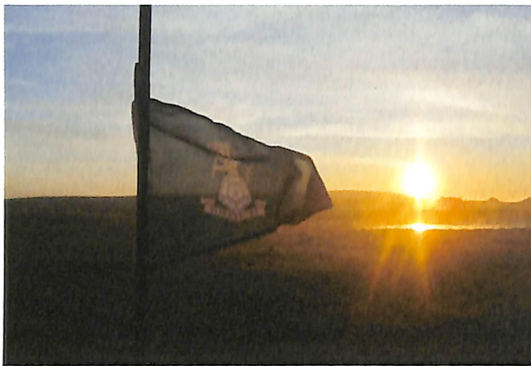
Commanding Officer	-	Lt Col Z Stenning MBE
Second in Command	-	Maj R Driver
Adjutant	-	Capt M Wade-Smith
Ops Officer	-	Capt DP Holloway
Intelligence Officer	-	Capt C Ibbotson

These are my first notes since assuming command and I would like to record what a privilege it has been to inherit such a strong, well drilled team who are eager for operational challenges. These firm foundations are the product of much hard work in BATUS over the Summer where the Battalion thrived and learnt much. I am particularly grateful to those members of the Battalion who did Canada exercises back to back; I know this resulted in much time away for you and your families, but it enabled the entire Brigade to achieve a similar training standard.

Our future is clear. The Battalion will deploy in Summer 2012 to Afghanistan; Battalion HQ, Alma, Burma and Somme Company will deploy as a Combined

Force (CF) Battlegroup whilst Corunna will deploy in early 2012 as the Armoured Infantry Company. I thought I would share my views on the approach/means with which the Battalion will prepare for its mission:

- **Approach.** We all recognise that the UKs combat Mission in Afghanistan is coming to an end in 2014 and that we are now 'shaping for transition' – handing over the lead to the Afghans. The end is an Afghan National Security Force (ANSF) capable of providing security to the Afghan people on its own. As such, 3 YORKS will train and prepare with a focus on building Afghan capability wherever we can, to enable our Afghan Warrior brothers to secure their population. The environment in Afghanistan will undoubtedly change over the coming months as we prepare and we will need to ensure that as it does, 3 YORKS remains agile in mind and structure. We must be prepared to change everything, including our orbits and tactical approach to achieve the Mission that is required as we actually deploy.
- **Training.** Training for Afghanistan will be progressive and demanding. Our mantra throughout training and operations will be LEARN/ADAPT/WIN. Given the demands of our specific AO and in light of the



transition mission, we will focus on developing strong multiples who can move, fight, communicate and enable the Afghans to secure their own population. Preparing for the latter activity will be critical. By the time this is read, the Battalion will have commenced its long 9 month force preparation cycle. This will see the Battalion training on ranges in Lydd, Field Training on Salisbury Plain, live firing at Castlemartin and test exercises in Norfolk. It will be a busy and demanding time. The emphasis before Christmas will be on building basic skills; after Christmas and following our recess to theatre, we will then focus on the specific demands required within our ground areas.

- **People.** Following much hard work by the Adjutant and wider Kings Division team (for which I am most grateful) I am delighted that the Battalion orbat for the tour is now set. I am particularly grateful to 2 LANCS who have provided the Battle Casualty Replacement (BCR) Platoon. This Platoon will train and prepare with 3 YORKS and then be positioned to support the Battalion if required next Summer. I fully recognise that the people within the Battlegroup are our most prized asset. We will achieve the best from our people by ensuring that everyone knows his or her job; ensuring that all Commanders really know their people and finally by managing our people correctly. The continued development of good people is essential for 3 YORKS and the Army and I place great emphasis on this.
- **Equipment.** We are already being issued with first class equipment to train for our mission in

Afghanistan. The QM and his team are working flat out to disperse the kit packs as they arrive, a not insubstantial task! The care and maintenance of the equipment will be critical for mission success next Summer. The QM has invoked a healthy inspection regime on field training which is designed to educate all of us that equipment care is a core soldier activity. It is part of basic battle discipline.

- **Balanced life.** Our greatest risk is that we arrive tired at the start of our tour next year. For this reason there is a healthy sprinkling of long weekends and a well deserved 3 week leave programmed for Christmas. We are also continuing to enter a number of sporting competitions, be that in Rugby Union, Rugby League, Soccer and Cross Country. I look forward to reporting our progress in the next issue. Finally, we have also had one Private Soldier reach the final of the X Factor; I suspect you will all know his name by now! We wish him every success.
- **Families.** The strength of our families community is humbling. Routed in deep Yorkshire traditions, the families and the team that support them, make everyone feel welcome. We will look after each other and our families in the coming months.

In summary, a busy time approaching for all in 3 YORKS. I am confident that our people will deliver what is required and that we will look after our families. Photo Col Zac, caption – Lt Col Stenning at the Officers' Dinner 2011, with Gen Sir Charles Huxtable and Col Nick Borwell.



Lt Col Stenning at the Officers' Dinner 2011, with Gen Sir Charles Huxtable and Col Nick Borwell.

ALMA COMPANY

Officer Commanding	- Major F Bibby
Second-in-Command	- Lt E Carter
CSM	- WO2 P. W. Simms
CGWO	- CSgt A MacGregor
Company Quartermaster Sergeant	- CSgt M. Roper
Fleet Manager	- Sgt Dangerfield

1 Platoon

2nd Lieut TH Fleccia
Sgt SBW Lynch

2 Platoon

2 Lieut D Arnold
Sgt L Burrows

3 Platoon

2nd Lieut OCJ Sparks
Sgt GD Thursby

The last six months for Alma have been extremely busy as the Hybrid Foundation Training year concluded with Exercise Prairie Thunder 2 in Canada. The build up for the exercise was intense with preparation ranging from Warrior live firing in Lulworth to cultural awareness training in camp. The Warrior live firing package in Lulworth was for many the first time they had fired live. CSgt MacGregor ran an excellent,



Platoon conducting compound clearance

progressive range that ensured all were re-acquainted with the weapon systems and crews gained confidence in working as a team. Time spent in the turret trainer in Warminster paid dividends as the company scored a 6; the highest possible score for the annual crew tests. Success was possible due to the hard work of the Warrior Sergeants - Sgt Moore, Cpl Moore and Cpl Hassanali. Following Lulworth, the company moved to Copehill Down for a week to concentrate on FIBUA skills, specifically compound clearance. For many this was a new skill that was taught from basics and progressed to conducting a company strike op on to a compound using Warrior.

Alma deployed to Canada in mid May. Due to an unusually wet winter, the Prairie was incredibly muddy providing challenging conditions to operate in terms of driving and living conditions. The first week of the exercise took the company through testing live firing ranges both mounted and dismounted from section to company level. For the Platoon and Section commanders it was their first opportunity to train with a full complement of soldiers, progressing quickly as they formed strong cohesive teams. The live fire training progressed further still as the company integrated with tanks from B Sqn KRH and assaulted complex objectives involving obstacle crossing and trench systems. While the dismounts fought the enemy and the crews fought the elements, it was the REME fitter section that kept the company on the road. SSgt Edwards and his men worked tirelessly, recovering and maintaining the fleet to ensure a high level of availability throughout the 21 day exercise. Following the live fire phase, the Battlegroup moved on to the TES phase, incorporating a live enemy in the form of the Grenadier Guards. This added complexity and a freedom of movement that further tested the abilities of the company. As Major Combat Operations moved into Stabilisation the emphasis changed to operating in villages amongst a population played realistically by Dari speaking Afghans. A training highlight was dealing with the aftermath of a suicide bomb which thoroughly tested the nerve and skills of young commanders and medics. LCpl Bruce, the company medic received particular praise from the BATUS staff for her reaction to the incident. The exercise culminated in a Battlegroup attack where Alma assaulted the main



Platoon in BATUS

objective defeating what remained of the Grenadier Guards.

Following the exercise a number of Alma soldiers tested themselves further on adventurous training from

white water rafting to sky diving. This was a good way to end a challenging and rewarding summer before moving into the new phase of preparing for HERRICK 16 next year.

BURMA COMPANY

Officer Commanding	- Maj RJ Singleton
Second-in-Command	- Capt RJ Taylor
CSM	- WO2 LP Seviour
WSM	- WO2 SJ Brighouse
Company Quartermaster Sergeant	- CSgt DC Wyeth
Territorial Quartermaster Sergeant	- Sgt A Marsh

4 Platoon
Lt R Townsend
Sgt S Pears

5 Platoon
2Lt JR Carter
Sgt M McConnell

6 Platoon
2Lt LTJ Mason
Sgt GM Marshall

Recent months have seen Burma Company prepare for and deploy on Ex Prairie Thunder 2 in Canada. This was a significant challenge as the previous 12 months had seen the company re-role from armoured infantry to light role. Another re-role was necessary for Canada as Burma's task in BATUS was the Protected Mobility Company in Bulldog. Unsurprisingly the company's main focus throughout the spring has been Bulldog conversion with many hours of hard work devoted to the growing of new drivers and commanders.

Within moments of the 'L plates' being removed crews were immediately put to the test on Ex Rangoon Lion where we quickly got to grips with the vehicles

and revised the intricacies of armored tactics. No sooner had we recovered from Salisbury Plain, we were further tested only this time in the virtual world of CATT. The crews performed well but virtual reality is no substitute for hands on field training which was desperately needed with BATUS fast approaching. Ex Rangoon Lion 2 and the culmination of this saw Burma complete a series of successful company/squadron battle runs. By chance the Light Dragoons were also on the Plain at the same time which allowed some integrated training and Coy/Sqn attacks with the same squadron with whom we would be paired in BATUS.



QBOs on Ex Prairie Thunder



The OC and CSM taking a knee

Easter saw the increasingly active Bulldog crews deploy for a live firing package at Castlemartin in Wales. For once the notorious Welsh weather abated and we were bathed in glorious sunshine whilst completing mounted and dismounted GPMG ranges. With all ranges completed ahead of schedule an opportunity arose to indulge in a spot of surfing. CSgt Wyeth headed up the new 3 YORKS surf team and led the way to the waves where he quickly demonstrated why he should not be considered for further selection.

With Bulldog conversion now complete the company was set for the Canadian Prairie and it was all hands on

deck for deployment. A physically demanding live firing phase in BATUS set the tone for what was to come and Burma didn't disappoint with an aggressive and determined performance. The conditions were tough and the Canadian weather did its best to make up for our lack of rain in Wales but wasn't enough to dampen Burma's spirits. The FOB live fire shoot; which integrated all weapon systems from SA80 through light, medium and heavy machine guns, to mortars, Warriors and the CR2 main armament was the culmination of live firing and marked the start of TESEX. The company was employed in a range of roles including integrating with medium and heavy

**2Lt Mason
maintaining
standards
with 6
Platoon**



armour and other units in a hybrid operating environment. As the 21 day exercise drew to a close Burma found themselves at the in the thick of the action where they were involved in a conventional mounted attack onto a well defended enemy FOB before defeating the all important enemy tank reserve and taking the final positions of the final objective.



Cpl Pugh dealing with the media – an added friction on Ex Prairie Thunder

Before returning from BATUS many undertook a week of adventure training in Trails End Camp completing activities such as horse trekking, rock climbing, white water rafting and sky diving. The company now looks forward to a well earned Summer leave period before attacking a demanding training program in advance of deployment to Afghanistan next year.



WO2 Brighouse thoroughly enjoying the weather and FOB life

CORUNNA COMPANY

Officer Commanding	-	Maj ERH Colver
Second-in-Command	-	Capt NA Ross
CSM	-	WO2 E Whitehouse
Company Quartermaster Sergeant	-	CSgt SD Kitridge
Wr Sgt Maj	-	CSgt Stroyan

7 Platoon

2Lt DP Brennan
Sgt Lightowers

8 Platoon

2Lt JN Kume-Day
Sgt PE Daniel

9 Platoon

2Lt CR Becher
Sgt AD Dixon

The last few months have been a constant state of flux for Corunna Company, with numerous people moving on whilst trying to balance the need to prepare for Ex Prairie Thunder (PT) 1 and 3, and keeping a watchful eye on the not too distant HERRICK 16. The months leading up to Christmas and into the New Year were spent preparing for an Easter deployment to BATUS on Ex PT1 with the KRH.

There were mixed feelings when we received the phone call, whilst still on leave and only days before deployment onto PT1, that the exercise had been cancelled due to poor weather. It seemed that the experience of an exercise dominated by mud would fall onto the rest of 3 YORKS, whereas Corunna would have several months in camp prior to deployment on PT3 with the KRH BG.

This prompted a number of changes, with OC, 2IC, WSM, CSM, CQMS and all Pl Commanders plus a Pl Sgt moving on within weeks of each other. The pause before deploying to Canada was not wasted and filled

with continuation training to maintain the high levels of readiness and some opportunities to do Adventurous Training (AT). Whilst some went to the beach to gain a basic qualification in kite surfing, the rest of the Company deployed to the slightly more austere surroundings of Brecon and conducted the 24 Km Fan Dance. This was a great opportunity for soldiers to test themselves on the route that is part of the Section Commanders Battle Course, and a rare opportunity for all to visit Brecon when it wasn't raining!

Finally it was Corunna's time to deploy to BATUS and as we arrived in Camp Crowfoot the rumours of terrible weather and knee deep mud proved entirely unfounded as we were faced by searing temperatures (and a constant stream of mosquitoes). The exercise was completely different to the previous experiences of Ex MED MAN and reflected the new focus on mixing major combat and stability operations in both live and blank firing exercises. This tested us all in a complex and unusual environment, with many facing new



CQMS providing instant morale with a never-ending supply of ice cream



Corunna's finest leading the charge

experiences operating out of FOBs, clearing and securing villages and dealing with various factions and militia, and often an equally militant media presence.

The exercise proved to be a valuable training experience and great opportunity for a new team to develop prior deploying to Afghanistan in February 2012. The exercise was not, however, all work and no play, with many getting away for some AT. The activities included ice climbing, mountaineering, canoeing, horse riding and skydiving. Those that

couldn't do AT in Canada had a chance to get into the Helicopter Underwater Escape Trainer. This was a great opportunity to put people outside of their comfort zone.

As summer leave beckons we reflect on what has been a busy and enjoyable few months. The Company has welcomed many new faces and has grown in size. After summer leave the focus will immediately switch to MST and looking forward to deploying on HERRICK 16 as the only Armoured Infantry Company within the Helmand Province.

**Live firing
FIBUA**



SOMME COMPANY

Officer Commanding	- Maj J Hinchliffe
CSM	- WO2 Cooper
OC Recce	- Capt A Bond
2IC Recce	- CSgt Burke
OC Javelin	- Capt B Obese-Jecty
2IC Javelin	- WO2 L Egbury
OC Mortars	- Capt C Dawson
2IC Mortars	- CSgt S Hay

Since my last submission Somme Company has been exceptionally busy finishing Hybrid Foundation Training (HFT) and starting the Individual Mission Specific Training (MST). As a company we achieved the start state requirement for BATUS early, with ease and prior to Easter leave. This gave time and critically training area space to rehearse operating Recce Platoon, Snipers and Javelin Platoon as one and forming the ISTAR group. It quickly became apparent the ISTAR group enabled better protection whilst in reconnaissance and with an improved strike force increasing our tempo in enabling activity such as obstacle crossing.

During and post Easter leave Somme became dispersed between UK and Canada as the requirement for activation of BATUS training fleet and the advance party transiting across the Atlantic. With a few extra weeks of activity to finalise our platoon and company



Snipers in action



Live FIBUA

training the majority of Somme Company deployed to Canada in mid May approximately two weeks before deploying into the field. On arrival it was clear to see that BATUS had re-organised its priorities for training but essentially remained the same since the Battalion last visited. Camp Crowfoot offered a valuable backdrop to shake out and form up in good order for the exercise to commence. Our hard work since November 2010 had paid off and Somme Company enjoyed a calm and measured start to the deployment without the need to complete last minute training to meet the start state. At this stage we had achieved our aim and set the tone for the rest of the deployment.

The BATUS exercise was a well thought out training progression taking the company from Specific to Arm (STA) training through to Battlegroup rehearsals and run outs whilst live firing and ending in a force on force TESEX against the COEFOR manned by the Grenadier Guards. On deployment the company broke down into its platoon and ISTAR groupings forming the ISTAR group and Offensive Support (OS) group with mortars an integral part to the Artillery combat support. The live firing STA phase was outstanding. It gave the platoons the chance to show BATUS staff and the wider training audience that Somme Company was at its best. Each platoon gave a fantastic display and gained much credibility within the battalion and Battlegroup. The Sniper Platoon, exceptionally well led by Sgt Senior, are worthy of special mention. They wowed the BATUS



Ready for action

Observer Mentors with their heightened fieldcraft and expert shooting skills. It was obvious from this point onwards that COEFOR were going to be smashed by our snipers.

During the TESEX, the ISTAR group gave the Battlegroup great reach and an additional strike force. With the might of the Javelin Platoon the fight was taken to COEFOR gaining the initiative and momentum immediately on every engagement. The Mortar platoon integrated with 5 Bty of 19 Regt RA from day one of the

exercise. Alma and Burma Company were well supported by the combined skills of the Fire Support Teams (FST), respect was mutual and the Mortars forged outstanding links which we will be exploited into MST and on operations next year.

Finally, with the best wishes of the Officers and all ranks of Somme Company we say farewell to Capt Obese-Jecty, Capt Dawson, Capt Bond, CSM Cooper, and Sgt McGinn. All have been outstanding, and we wish them all the best for the future.

HOOK COMPANY

Officer Commanding - Maj Martin Ness
CSM - WO2 Ian Lister

Since my arrival Hook Company has enjoyed an extremely challenging and rewarding period. Having had a well earned Easter break the Company's main effort was the preparation and deployment to Canada to participate in Ex Prairie Thunder, during which elements of the Company were either deployed onto the Suffield Prairie, for three weeks of intense training or

providing real time support in B Echelon based in Camp Crowfoot. The exercise was demanding for all concerned, in particular the Echelons, providing real time support to the Battle Group. The BATUS experience proved to be a real success, affording departments the opportunity to hone skills and work through newly acquired Tactics Training and



Adventure Training Hook Style

Procedures. Whilst in Canada the Company also had the opportunity to participate in Adventurous Training at Trails End Camp and for some luckier members, a period of R and R was organised. Following the recovery from BATUS, the Company organised some additional Level 2 Adventure Training in Cornwall, allowing those who were unable to participate in Canada the opportunity to enjoy trekking, abseiling, coaststeering and surfing.

As the Company heads toward a well earned summer break we are setting the conditions to embark on a period of intense training on return to work and the next stage of preparations for the Operational tour in 2012. The Company has welcomed and bid farewell to a few members, including CSM Walkinshaw who leaves the Army after 22 years of loyal service. We thank him for his dedication and genuine contribution to the Company and wish him and his family the best for the future.

CATERING PLATOON

WO2 - Mick Wilson

The Catering Platoon continues to provide an excellent service to the Battalion. Whether in barracks or deployed in the field, the standard of food has been exceptional. The Platoon recently entered a team into Exercise Iron Tiger, the 3/4 Division Catering Competition, lead by Cpl Thompson, comprising of Pte's Gitteh, McCoid and Cozens. From a total of 23

teams they came a very credible 4th, winning the prestigious Improvised Catering prize in the process, which was focussed on FOB cooking. The Platoon is looking forward to the Combined Service Culinary Challenge (CSCC) in September, where Sgt Marston, Pte Sharpe and Pte Gitteh will attempt to win Gold against a Tri-Service field of competitors.

MOTOR TRANSPORT PLATOON

MTO - Capt Lee Wildey

MWO - WO2 Dave Barton

2011 has so far been an extremely busy time for the MT Platoon, during which there have been several changes, both in personnel and process. The build up for BATUS and Op HERRICK has kept our focus firmly on driver training; Sgt McAllister and his team have worked tirelessly preparing the Battalion for additional driver capability. The Platoon deployed on Ex Prairie Thunder, leaving behind a small team to assist with an extremely busy rear party. The exercise saw the Platoon deployed as A1 Echelon; keeping the Battlegroup moving and supplied with logistical resources required to keep 1200 Soldiers and 400 +



The Old and Bold of A1 Echelon

vehicles on the move throughout the field deployment. No mean feat and all completed without the Platoon being 'contacted' by the enemy, despite having a 3km trail of vehicles within the Echelon.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS PLATOON

RSO - Capt Chris Ibbotson
 RSWO - WO2 Paul Bradshaw

On return from a well earned Christmas leave the CIS Pl launched straight into pre course training for the Regimental and Infantry Signals Courses. No sooner had the Platoon finished the second cadre it was straight into BGHQ planning cycle training, using ComBAT as the primary means of data communications. The Pl worked particularly hard to ensure that CAST and CATT ran smoothly for those involved in the Battle Group planning process. Ex Prairie Thunder was soon upon us, with the majority of CIS Pl deploying on the advance party. The two weeks beforehand were spent frantically preparing the vehicles' Communications Platforms to an adequate level, before they moved onto the Prairie. This proved to be a constant theme to the

exercise, as 'Tiger Teams', led by Cpl Pritchard and Cpl Mott were able to troubleshoot communications issues, in particular the difficulties experienced receiving data. The exercise was a great chance for the Pl to put the lessons learned in camp, CAST and CATT into practice, and although the learning curve was at times steep, the value gained from this training was immense. The Platoon have since bid farewell to RSO Capt Whitaker, but have recently welcomed Cpl Bingley from 1 YORKS and look forward to the return of Sgt Cartwright. We would like to congratulate Cpl Duckitt and Holly Duckitt on their marriage on the 29 July 11 and congratulate LCpl Stokes on promotion into the Cpls Mess.

QUARTERMASTERS PLATOON

QM: Maj Sean Cain
 RQMS: (M) WO2 Keith Yeadon

QM (T): Capt Mally Birkett
 RQMS (T): WO2 Paul Simms

The main emphasis for the QM's department from the beginning of the year was Ex Prairie Thunder in BATUS. The QM (T) along with the RQMS (M) and a band of brothers formed the Activation Party and deployed in early May to start the task of taking over Camp Crowfoot, the BG fleet and all relevant stores and equipment in preparation for the Battlegroup arriving some three weeks later. As a result of the hard work, it was rewarding to see the Battlegroup deploy complete with their vehicles and equipment to start the 21 day field exercise. So, after ten moves and 21 days on the Prairie, whilst still pouring with rain, the time came to

return to Camp Crowfoot and reverse our role, and hand back all the stores and equipment. This proved to be a thoroughly demanding yet rewarding experience for the entire department. On return to Warminster work continues to support the battalion with preparations for the Operational deployment next year.

Amongst all the work, fun and courses we are sad to say goodbye to two members of staff. Pte Brian Bolam who is leaving the army after nearly 22 years to become a Plant Operator and WO2 (RQMS) Chris Goddard who leaves the department on promotion to WO1(RSM) 4 YORKS. We wish them all the very best for the future.

FOOTBALL REPORT FROM THE INFANTRY AND ARMY CHAMPIONS

The 2010/11 season will live in warm memory for the 3rd Battalion the Yorkshire Regiment and particularly so for the twenty footballers and staff, known affectionately as the crazy gang. The reason we will remember this season for a long time is that we managed to set new records within Army Football. We broke new ground and set a new standard that will be hard to match; we are the first team to have managed to win the Army and Infantry cups in the same season in almost 120 years of the competitions. The Army stadium in Aldershot has not been a happy hunting ground for the Third Battalion; recently we have managed to lose a few rugby finals and more recently the Army Football final in 2008 where we lost to 9 Regt Army Air Corps. We watched 9 Regiment's progress this season with a keen eye and were eventually very happy that we would have the chance to put right the sad outing we had in 2008.

Firstly it is worth starting with the Infantry final which we had won in 2007 and reached the semi final stage in 2008 and 2010. This year our aim was to try and bring it back to the Battalion and there were some titanic battles along the way against 2 PWRR, 4 Rifles and a much fancied 1 SCOTS before reaching the final against the

Welsh Guards. A fixture against the Welsh always has that extra sparkle as the two battalions have met on the sports field many times with the cup normally heading back to Wales. This time we would show the Welsh how to play the game and whilst things remained competitive for around an hour, we absolutely demolished them in the final third. We are a noisy side and the Welsh captain came out of the dressing room after half time shouting "quieten 'em down lads!" He was fairly quiet whilst picking ball out of his net some five minutes later and quieter still when he had to do it a further three times after that. A record score line in the Infantry final was set at 5-1 and along with it a new bench mark.

With the Infantry Cup safely on the Commanding Officer's desk we could now concentrate on the Army Cup. We beat RMAS Permanent staff, 23 Pioneer, RMAS Cadets and 1 Royal Anglian and Hereford Garrison to set up a semi-final against the champions of Germany - 1 Logistic Support Regt RLC. The semi final was played on an unusually hot April afternoon and proved to be a physical encounter but we showed the right quality at the right times in front of goal and secured our second Army final in four seasons.

Getting the team fired up for the Army final was an easy task after our poor showing in 2008. Our will to win was apparent from the pre match national anthem which was being screamed out by the team. From the kick off it took just four minutes to take the lead from a well timed and industrious Danny Reid header. From here it looked as if we might kick on and score more but chance after chance was either saved or sent wide of the opposition net. Soon after, 9 Regt managed to level the score from an unmarked header from a corner in their first foray into our half. This was a thunderous start and we went after the lead again with many shots on goal, a 25 yard narrowly missed strike from LCpl Shinn being the pick of the bunch. The remainder of the half was a fairly attractive affair with plenty of chances and the occasional shot from 9 Regt which was ably guarded by our keeper Pte Paul Jones. The second half continued in the same vein for the first twenty minutes until it became clear that one goal would win the tie and inevitably things became tense with both sides keen to avoid mistakes.

As we headed to extra time 9 Regt were visibly tired and we went all out to win; a superb full volley from Reid forced a great save from 9 Regt and would have proved a fitting winner but for the athleticism of the

man in goal. Having spent much energy in the first period of extra time we were inevitably going to suffer in the second period. It would be from here that Pte Jones would secure his man of the match award as he was tested three times from good shots and each time he was unbeatable. After one hundred and twenty minutes of football it would come down to a penalty shoot out, so often decided by the quality of your keeper. Ours is ex Barnsley FC, Sheffield United and Manchester City so perhaps our confidence wasn't completely unfounded. He saved two penalties whilst we dispatched ours perfectly. When 9 Regiments fourth penalty was blazed over the bar Pte Jones was mobbed by the squad, the true hero of the day had been cool when the dramatic climax had demanded it.

This was a great day for the team and indeed the Regiment. We sealed a unique double. It capped off a fantastic season in which we set new records, and played some tremendous football. It is now time to take a break from the game whilst we prepare for Afghanistan, but as I started out; this will always live in warm memory. Winning does not come easily, it is brought about by hard work on the training pitch, usually on wet and windy days in winter. Well done the crazy gang.

RUGBY UNION

With the official rugby season complete it was important to keep the flame alive with a summer tour to the Stockholm 10s. With many key players unavailable due to half the Battalion being in Canada, selection options were limited but there was enough quality to mount a challenge for an international trophy.

Led and organised by Lt Oliver Sparks the squad arrived in Stockholm with high hopes. However the first match was lost 15 – 5 to an impressive Sweden U21 side, excelling in their home tournament. The second match was a different affair with Army scrum half Capt Martin turning on the style to inspire a 45-0 win over Linköping; another Swedish team. The final match of the pool stages saw the Dukes play a French side, Cote d'Azur, eager to spill English blood. However, guile

overcame brutality and the Dukes won 7-0.

Swedish night life was sampled in moderation before the second day where the Dukes lined up opposite Babbos, an Italian club side in the quarter finals of the plate. The hugely talented and speedy Lt Mason ghosted through the opposition on numerous occasions to help gain passage into the semi finals winning 40-7. This, alas, was as far as the team got. Another English team called Enebybergs, stuffed with classy players proved to be too strong in every area of the game running out 33-12 winners.

Swedish night life was sampled in less moderation the second night, knowing there was no more rugby to play. This was a fun trip away, leaving a taste for more rugby in September.



The Dukes Squad



On the charge

OFFICERS' MESS

Help for Heroes and ABF Charity Day 3rd Battalion, The Yorkshire Regiment (Duke of Wellington's)



The prize winners undertaking Warrior familiarisation

3 YORKS recently entertained 8 prize winners at Battlesbury Barracks in Warminster. They had each bid for a, 'Day in the life of the Army' at a charity auction in support of Help for Heroes (organised by a former Dukes Commanding Officer – Brigadier Johnny Walker) and the Army Benevolent Fund (ABF).

This day presented a great opportunity to give something back to two charities that are close to the Battalion's heart. Help for Heroes and the ABF have done a great deal for soldiers throughout the Army including soldiers from the Yorkshire Regiment. The visit also included lunch in the Corporals' Mess and an opportunity to talk to Cpl Reid who was injured in Afghanistan and understand what a difference the money raised has meant to him and his family.

A full timetable greeted the guests as they donned their combats and boots for the day and received an opening brief. An introduction to the Warrior AFV was



The new recruits conducting compound clearance

followed by weapons training and the opportunity to fire rifles on a virtual range in the Dismounted Close Combat Trainer (DCCT). Then a chance to see and interact with current operational equipment and vehicles at the Infantry Trials and Development Unit based in the Land Warfare Centre, Warminster.

After lunch there was a demonstration on compound clearance and an introduction to the Javelin, Mortar and Sniper platoons as well as an opportunity to drive and fire the Challenger 2 Main Battle Tank on the virtual trainer hosted by the RTR in the Land Warfare Centre Battlegroup.

The day was concluded with drinks in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess and a full Regimental dinner in the Officers' Mess. Brigadier Walker concluded the night with a speech of thanks before the guests retired for some hard earned rest before their game of golf the next day.

Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess

Recent busy times have not diminished the quality of events held by the mess. There was a fitting farewell to the RSM, WO1 Lee Wildey, who was dined out in the appropriate fashion by the mess and invited guests. WO1 Wildey received his Duke on Horseback presentation with great pride and delivered a speech which perfectly captured the spirit of the 3 YORKS Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. We wish him, Kerry, Amber and Dylan all the best for the future and look forward to working with him in his capacity as MTO. Shortly following this, WO1 (RSM) Darren Szymanski, was dined in with a unique meal of pie, chips and gravy served in the newest additions to mess silver; mess tins.

Having the Land Warfare Centre (LWC) on our door step provides a friendly rivalry between the two messes. Games nights have proved popular with events being hosted by both messes. All games are taken extremely seriously with the 3 YORKS mess members using all of their initiative and knowledge of how to bend rules to secure victory. The mess was instrumental in ensuring

that 3 YORKS deployed to BATUS with the right personnel suitably qualified and itching to take the fight to the enemy. The Battalion proved itself through its professional approach to all it does. While in Canada we managed to fit in a mess meeting followed by farewell drinks to one of the great characters of the mess, Sgt Chris Booth who is moving on to new challenges.

Immediately on returning from Canada there was a day at the races held at Sandown race course. The group of tight fisted Yorkshiremen, lead by Sergeant Humphries was very well looked after by the staff at Sandown, who provided an excellent service throughout the afternoon. The drink was flowing, but true to form, not much money changed hands. The mess members were holding on tight and managed to lose a whopping £6 throughout the day.

It is now mid summer and there are plenty of rumours circulating, and people treading very carefully as evidence to be used at the 'Ruperts' Christmas Panto begins to be collated. Hopefully the Officers' mess will improve on their efforts of the past few years and try and match the wit of the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' mess.

The Ceremony of Beating Retreat

On the 7th July 2011 The Battalion enjoyed a Beating Retreat ceremony on the front lawn of the Officers' Mess, the first such ceremony held by the Battalion for many years.

The event was an opportunity to host and thank many of the civilian community who support the Battalion both in the Warminster area and back in Yorkshire. Amongst the civic guests were Councillors Sue Fraser (Warminster), Shaun Wright (Rotherham), Chris Habron (Skipton), and Karen Dyson (Barnsley). After a

drinks reception on the front patio the guests were invited to take their seats under the marquee for the ceremony. Taking the Salute was the Colonel of the Regiment with 12 Brigade Commander, Brigadier J Maciejewski also in attendance.

The Battalion was fortunate to have the Band of the Prince of Wales Division directed by Capt Tony Williams working with our own drummers under Drum Major Oxley to put on an excellent display of music including of course Ca Ira and the Wellesley.



Beating Retreat

WILTSHIRE LIFE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 18 MARCH 2011

Wiltshire Life magazine celebrated the sixth year of its popular awards ceremony at Marlborough Town Hall on Friday 18th of March 2011. This year a new award of Armed Forces Hero of the Year was presented to the member of the armed forces residing in Wiltshire that in the judging panel's view best fulfilled the judging criteria. The Commanding Officer, Lt Col Vallings and WO1 (RSM) Szymanski accompanied two soldiers from 3 YORKS that were nominated for awards. They were Cpl Reid who has displayed incredible courage and tenacity in his rehabilitation after becoming a triple amputee during an IED strike, and LCpl Bolatagne who despite being injured himself and in the middle of his own CASEVAC had the situational awareness and clarity of thought to identify and engage an insurgent who surely would have caused further casualties.

The evening culminated with the award for Armed

Forces Hero of the Year, and all nominations received a standing ovation from the assembled audience. Runners up were Corporal Reid, who bravely walked with two prosthetic legs to the stage to collect his award, and Lance Corporal Bolatagne. Both of these soldiers display all of the qualities that are found in abundance across the Yorkshire Regiment and collected their awards with confidence.

The winner was Sergeant Gavin Harvey (REME) who said he was pleased to "get an award of this magnitude," but that he was accepting it on behalf of all those injured and who had given their lives. "This award is not for one individual," he said modestly. The standing ovation lasted five minutes. Sergeant Harvey served in Afghanistan but had to turn his life around after losing both legs. He is now an ambassador for ABF – The Soldiers' Charity.

THE YPRES KEY — By General Sir Charles Huxtable

In 1914 my father, Dick Huxtable, was working in London for his father. My father was actually born in Santander in Spain on 3 May 1896, although his birth was registered in France, and so was too young to enlist straight away. He therefore persuaded his father to swear an affidavit to say that he was born on 18 October 1895 in France. Needless to say this produced endless complications throughout the rest of his life. Apart from anything else he celebrated two birthdays every year!

He wanted to join up just as Kitchener's new army was being raised and at a time when the recruiters were keen to enlist recruits into the infantry. On my father reporting to the recruiting office he was asked by the Sergeant what he wanted to join. My father said that as he had been brought up on a farm in Devon and had ridden all his life he thought the cavalry would suit him well. The Sergeant agreed and suggested The West Riding. My father had never been far north of London in his life and had no idea that Yorkshire was divided into three Ridings so happily agreed. He was subsequently somewhat surprised to find himself in a Yorkshire infantry Regiment!



**Caption General Sir Charles Huxtable
and the Mayor of Ypres.**

He appears to have spent some time, initially, with the 2nd/ 7th before joining the 9th (Service) Battalion. The 9th Battalion was in 52nd Brigade along with The 9th (Service) Battalion, The Northumberland Fusiliers, 10th (Service) Battalion, The Lancashire Fusiliers and 12th (Service) Battalion The Manchester Regiment. They were part of 17th Northern Division. The 9th Battalion War Diary suggests that the most serious action the 9th Battalion took part in 1915 was on 18th/19th/20th December when they moved up to Ypres, (Ieper today) in support of the Northumberland Fusiliers and the

Lancashire Fusiliers. At about 4am on the 19th a very heavy bombardment, with gas mixed in, began on the city. The intensity of the bombardment did not slacken for some hours. At 6am two companies of the Dukes, of which my father was part, and the Grenade Platoon moved off following the Ramparts through the old Menin Gate and out on the Menin Road. They suffered heavy casualties moving through the city. (Incidentally there are three Dukes buried in the Ramparts Cemetery in Ieper.)

As they moved through the City the old Cloth Hall was burning, it was subsequently totally destroyed. My father went to have a look and saw a key in the door, took it and kept it as a memento. We have had it ever since. It held pride of place on my parents' mantelpiece and after their death it was on mine. However, we as a family felt that the time had come for the key to be returned to Ieper. I did not seem to be getting very far with making arrangements to do so until I mentioned the idea to Brigadier Johnny Walker. He, as is his wont, took up the baton and ran with it! He has a number of contacts in Ieper as a result of his guiding Battlefield Tours. Among them is a Rod Bedford, an ex-Grenadier Guardsman who is Chairman of the Somme Branch of The Royal British Legion and a splendid chap. Almost before we knew where we were they had made an arrangement that we should go to Ieper and hand over the Key to the Mayor of Ieper at a small ceremony.

Thus it was that on Friday 1st July Mary and I arrived in Ieper in the middle of a most glorious spell of summer weather, and checked in to the Arianne Hotel, within easy walking distance of all the points of interest in the City. We visited the Menin Gate, Tyne Cot Cemetery, Hill 60 and other cemeteries over the week-end, finding the names of many Dukes. On the Saturday we contacted Rod Bedford, who was very helpful, and discovered that it was a pretty busy week-end for the RBL as they were marking the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Legion and so there was a large contingent of members and Standards. Tea was served in the garden of St George's Memorial Church Hall at 3 o'clock where we met various officials from the RBL and many members making a pilgrimage to Ieper. There was then a service in the Memorial Church to mark the 90th anniversary and at 5.30 the RBL gave a reception in the Church Hall garden for everyone, including the Mayor of Ieper, M.Luc Dehaene. During the course of the Reception I made a small speech describing the history of the key and handed it over to the Mayor who seemed very pleased to get it back after 96 years! Finally, that evening The Royal Artillery Band beat retreat in the city's main square and we all moved to The Menin Gate for the Last Post ceremony and the laying of wreaths thus ending a moving and yet very enjoyable day.

I do not think that the key would ever have got home to Ieper without the enthusiastic help we had from Brigadier Johnny Walker, Rod Bedford and The Royal British Legion; I am very grateful to them all.

LIFE AS A PRISONER OF WAR (Part 3)

Bandsman Herbert Howarth 2/7th DWR



The story so far - 2/7th DWR were in the BEF and landed near St Nazaire in Brittany in April 1940. Their campaign was short and confused, taking casualties and moving around but doing little good. In Part 1 of this story Herbert, a young and inexperienced bandsman/medic, never issued with a rifle or other arms, was captured at Yvetot, some 30 miles East of Le Havre and 20 miles North West of Rouen. After an arduous overland journey he ended up in Torun in East Prussia (now Poland, North West of Warsaw).

In Part 2 he was transferred from camp to camp for a while until he settled in with a bunch of "bad boys" at camp 13, young men with criminal records who their German captors thought needed extra security. With a little ingenuity and disregard for the danger of discovery, locks were picked, routes in and out of the inner camp established, contact made with Polish girls, and a relatively soft day job of collecting stuff round town with a horse and cart offered lots of opportunities for fiddling. Some of these escapades became known to the authorities and Herbert was arrested by the Gestapo, questioned, and sentenced to nine months imprisonment at Graudenz Military Prison. But by Christmas 1944 he and fellow prisoners were told they were to move South, away from the advancing Soviet forces. There has been some minor abridgement of the original text.

We left Graudenz on 5 January 1945 to march across

Poland in temperatures of minus 10-20 degrees. On our usual ration of two slices of black bread and a bowl of soup per day this was not something to look forward to. Our destination was Hammerstein POW camp near Stetijn (Szczecin), a camp which housed US POWs. Each night en route we were ordered into a field, where we slept outside, in a huddle, taking it in turns to move from the outside to the centre of the group. This way we avoided some of us freezing to death during the night.

The only time we had a warm night was when we slept on a cattle ship. We milked some of them during the night to supplement our rations. On this march, with the aid of our friendly German guard, Verneh Escheiche who was married to an Englishwoman, we made an unsuccessful bid for freedom, managing to break away from the main column unnoticed and accompanied by our guard. We headed for an isolated farm but on arrival discovered that we had chosen the same one the Commandant of the march and his staff had chosen as their base. Fortunately for Verneh he was believed when he told the Commandant that we had become accidentally separated from the main column but were under his guard.

After the war I received a letter from Verneh's wife asking me to write and support her husband's claim that he had tried to help us escape. This I did but heard nothing more so I do not know the outcome.

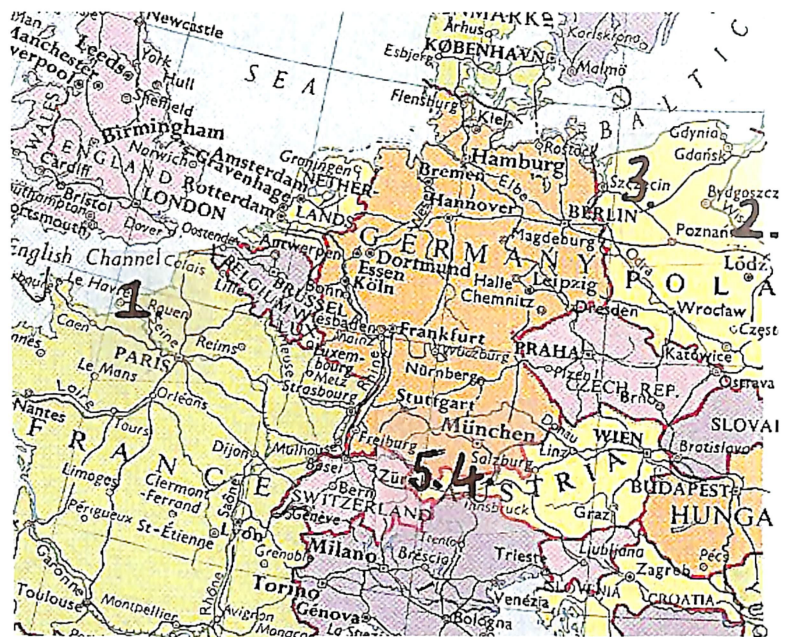
Whilst at Hammerstein Prison, after receiving some much needed new clothing in the form of an American army tunic, I was sent to Stetijn to collect rations. The city was absolutely flattened by allied bombing. Even by London blitz standards this degree of bombing was unknown to the people of the UK. We were only at this camp, which was on the Baltic coast, for a few days before continuing our march towards Donauworth on the Donau (Danube) River. We discovered that we were heading for the Brenner Pass in the Austrian Tyrol, just South of Innsbruck. Some of our journey was by rail but the trains were frequently attacked by allied aircraft, and on one occasion we just got clear of the train when it was blasted off the line by USAAF mustangs. On occasions we suffered the terrifying ordeal of being locked in the trucks during air raids. These cattle trucks were packed with prisoners, not only British but Indian, Commonwealth, Italian and French.

There was a wood fired stove in the centre of the truck where we cooked any food we had from red cross parcels. These contained tins of meat and "hard tack" biscuits a very hard biscuit which when soaked in water swelled into something resembling a muffin. They were quite edible. Canadian red Cross parcels were preferred to the British ones as they were wrapped and sealed better so the contents were in better condition.

One day we were ordered off the train and marched to an area where we spent two weeks making a runway for

The scope of Herbert Howarth's travels as a POW can be seen from this map.

1. is Yvetot;
2. is Torun;
3. is Szczecin;
4. is Memmingem;
- and 5. is Oberammergau.



aircraft. Then another rail journey and we off-loaded at Memmingen where we were engaged in logging operations. Horses were used to pull the logs and on one occasion when there was very little food one of the guards, without the slightest emotion, shot one of the horses. This act was distressing to the prisoners, it illustrated to us how easily and cold bloodedly we could have suffered the same fate had they felt it necessary.

We were later moved on to Füssen¹ which is just a few miles from Oberammergau. During the whole of this long journey over many weeks we were subjected to continual daytime bombing by USAAF aircraft.

It was now apparent, even to the Germans, that the war was drawing to a close. Along with our guard Verneh and two Italian POWs we attended a sick parade with the intention of making a second escape attempt. This time we were successful. We made our way up the Tyrolean mountains and came across a group of wandering German soldiers. They immediately surrendered to us and gave up their rifles. However being so used to seeing them carrying side arms it never occurred to us to totally disarm them or our guard Verneh. This almost proved fatal when we later encountered an American unit and attempted to hand ourselves and our prisoners over to them. The Americans understandably assumed we were all Germans as we all carried arms. Feelings were running quite high amongst the Americans at the time and they attempted to squash us between two tanks.

We eventually succeeded in surrendering and handing our prisoners over. After four years and forty three days I ceased to be a POW. I was free.

After a short stay with the US Army Herbert was handed over to the British authorities at Brussels who

flew him back to UK, landing at Brize Norton. After a medical examination and issue of a new uniform he was sent home to Delft on leave. He found it hard to settle in. Three weeks later he reported to Otley, was medically downgraded to B2, retrained and updated as a stretcher bearer and transferred to the RAMC, Boyce Barracks, Fleet, Hampshire. After an audition he was enrolled in the RAMC staff band, with which he toured Europe, including a concert at General Montgomery's HQ at Bad Salzungen. He returned home for leave in Christmas 1945, got married and rehearsed for the Victory Parade in London but was demobbed just before it took place.

Herbert spent most of his military career as a POW. When he went to receive his final Army severance pay, plus any arrears outstanding, he was offered nothing for his time as a POW being informed he had received camp money. This was for use only in the camp canteen. He was told that the reason he did not qualify for pay whilst a POW was that as a trained stretcher bearer with medical experience he should have worked in a hospital and not on a labour gang. Of course he had had no control over this; work details were organised by the Senior British Officer in each camp. Herbert never received full pay, but through the help of Major Partfitt, a Delph man who served in the Dukes, and signed references from three witnesses with whom he had worked on labour gangs as a POW, he did receive more than he was initially offered.

¹ It seems unlikely that there are two places called Füssen near Oberammergau. When the Dukes were stationed in Minden a company adventure training camp was set up in Füssen in (if memory serves me right) 1979, using some huts by the lake. It is not unreasonable to think that this might have been the camp that Herbert was confined in. TJN.

IN THE REGIMENT'S FOOTSTEPS: FLANDERS 1702/3

Footprints

The Regiment has been involved in many significant wars, campaigns and actions in Flanders. Are there still clear footprints on the ground to guide the visitor to the key places and features? Our Regiment saw service with Marlborough in 1702/4; with Wellington in 1815; throughout the horrors of the protracted campaigns of 1914 – 1918; in the retreat to Dunkirk in 1940 and the allied offensive across the Rhine in 1944. The Dukes have had many thousands of pairs of boots on the ground, and many of our young men lie forever under those fields and woods.

It is not the purpose of this series of articles to describe in any detail these actions; that information is easily found in our histories. My purpose is to attempt to marry threads of those histories with the current landscape, a landscape that has been hammered time and again by warfare but now comprises quiet, lush, rolling farmland, thriving small towns and villages and bustling, successful cities.

The British in Flanders

In a previous article in Issue 270 (Spring 2011) I wrote some background to British involvement in Flanders, and about the unfortunate propensity of the region to attract other peoples' wars and confrontations, from Julius Caesar to the Cold War. The Low Countries had the

benefit of access to important North Sea ports and rich farmland, and it lay adjacent to the two most powerful monarchs of the day, namely the King of France and the Holy Roman Emperor. Consequently the region was never allowed to go its own way, but was constantly in the minds of England/Britain, Germany, France and Spain, with part time involvement by Russians, Austrians and some of the Scandinavian states. Even those who had no ambitions themselves wanted to make sure that their rivals did not get their hands on the region. The Netherlands eventually tore themselves away from the dominance of others and set up the Dutch Republic; what was left, essentially modern day Belgium and northern France from about Boulogne to the Belgian frontier, was too weak to resist its powerful neighbours.

Throughout medieval and modern history France has had territorial ambitions in Central Europe, resisted by changing coalitions of allies who wished to prevent and repel these advances. For our purposes it is enough to know that Britain sought allies, signed treaties and went to war time and again to protect what it saw as its national interest in the region. Latterly, in the 20th century, it was Germany that tried to expand its borders, with the same bloody outcome. The raising of many of our famous British infantry and cavalry regiments is connected to one or other of these 17th and 18th Century campaigns.

Raising and First Deployment of the Regiment

The outbreak of the War of Spanish Succession, fought in many theatres around Europe from Italy to Flanders, was the spark that gave the Earl of Huntingdon the chance to raise a regiment. Recruited and trained in Gloucester the Regiment, comprising 37 Officers and some 800 men, first paraded as such in March 1702. In May it received orders to ready itself for deployment to join the Duke of Marlborough's army in the Netherlands. In June it sailed from London to the Hague and disembarked. It then marched 70 miles to join Marlborough at Duckenburg, near Nijmegen, one of 14 battalions of British infantry, in a force of some 60,000.

You have to wonder what those young men felt as they tramped along unfamiliar lanes towards their first taste of warfare. In these days of easy world travel it may seem of little moment to slip over the channel to Holland: not so then. A journey to the next town or village was unusual enough for most, let alone crossing a sea to a foreign country. Today the region is criss-crossed by motorways, with current, extensive highway construction round the Meuse towns and cities. Our men, in their new red coats, musket in hand and pack on back, would have had to stumble on rutted roads and tracks, competing for space with other slow moving traffic in a flat, extensively farmed countryside criss-crossed by waterways.

Had they any idea of the forces gathering throughout Europe to contest the issue of the Spanish succession? On the one side France, Spain, Bavaria, Savoy, Cologne and the realm of the Prince Bishop of Liège. On the other the Holy Roman (effectively German) Empire temporarily at peace with the Turks, the Dutch, English, and Austrians. The concurrent great northern war kept Poland and the Baltic and Scandinavian states busy enough to prevent them from taking sides, and the Russo-Turkish War kept those nations focused on their own affairs. Europe was seething with armed conflict and few of our men would have heard much more than the names, if that, of most of the countries engaged.

The War of Spanish Succession was, from the English and Dutch points of views, about maintaining and expanding economic and trade ambitions, which would be lost should France's determination to fill the political and territorial vacuum being created by the decline of the Spanish Empire in central and northern Europe succeed.

We should not imagine, though, that our recruits had been brought up in an entirely peaceful environment. There had been riots and disturbances in many towns and cities across England. This was the age of the mob; resentful tradesmen in fear of their livelihoods, apprentices, agricultural workers and the unemployed, all



Soldier of Earl of Huntingdon's Regiment 1702
 Reproduced by permission of the Artist, Alix Baxter

rampaged at one time or another, and there was a large and frightening sub-structure of criminality – highwaymen, pickpockets, thieves, muggers and so on – who routinely defied the law. Most government at every level was corrupt. Despite all the misery and confusion, Great Britain was a remarkably successful country, geared for war and used to winning, but it was not a very comfortable or peaceful place to live. There can be no doubt that whatever misgivings these young men on the march with Marlborough may have had about what the future held for them, for many the life they left behind was unlikely to have been such that they would miss it much. What's more, they would have expected, in a proper British way, to be victorious in the end. And indeed they were, in their first engagement at the siege of Venlo.

Venlo

The Duke of Marlborough and his Anglo Dutch Army have left no visible trace of their passing in Venlo, and from the evidence of a day's visit are little if at all

remembered. It is hardly surprising; the town went through many violent phases after the Duke ousted the French from the town in 1702, and it was virtually destroyed during the Allied advance to the Rhine in 1944.

Apart from the name what remains unchanged is the dominance of the Maas, or Meuse, on the region. It is a wide and fast flowing river, branching away from the Rhine just a few miles north of the town, energising agriculture and, as the industrial age gathered pace, economic expansion. In Marlborough's time the river would have been less well tamed. As it is, it takes miles of wooden and concrete riveting along the banks, and those of the many smaller but still impressive canals, streams and inland lakes that divert off it, and substantial other infrastructure – locks, bridges, flow control devices, even an active local customs presence, the officers hiding behind some convenient wood or building, the "Douane" marked Peugeot tucked out of sight from upstream traffic, but a boat ready to launch and a box of search tools to hand on the bank.

The French under General Boufflers had captured a line of fortified towns along the Meuse, and this effectively delineated the border between them and the Dutch Republic. Naturally this did not appeal the Dutch themselves, and Marlborough found himself at the head of an Anglo-Dutch Army, with a row of fractious representatives from the Dutch "Estates" (parliament) looking over his shoulder and querying his every move. Marlborough's handling of this unending interference, accompanied as it was by a high level of political fearfulness of the consequences of failure, alone mark out Marlborough as a great man. With patience, skill, some subterfuge, and the confidence of his troops, he got the job in hand done. Above all, he was successful.

During the War of the Spanish Succession (1702 – 1713) Marlborough waged ten campaigns, laid siege to over thirty towns, kept the Dutch and English monarchs and parliaments reasonably happy, and never lost a battle, nor even a skirmish. The English Army had been all but disbanded by negligently optimistic politicians who were foolish enough to believe that a peace treaty (Treaty of Ryswick) signed with France in 1697 would actually last and reduced the standing army to a shadow of its former self. Then Louis XIV, the Sun King in his shiny new Palace of Versailles, found himself facing the unexpected opportunity of putting his own protégé on the throne of Spain, and thus effectively bringing these two powerful nations, the one with its fortunes waxing as the other's waned, together. He was not the man to let such chances slip, treaty or no.

So, the French seized the forts along the Meuse and up came Marlborough to take them back again. And with him was the Earl of Huntingdon and his – our – regiment. This is how the Duke described the action at Venlo.

"The trenches having been rapidly pushed forward, the first attack was directed on the 18th of September against Fort St. Michael, which was connected with the place by a bridge of boats across the Meuse, and formed its principal defence. The assault of this work was intrusted to a detachment under Lord Cutts, consisted principally of English troops, and was executed with



Venlo in 1652.
50 years before Malborough's siege

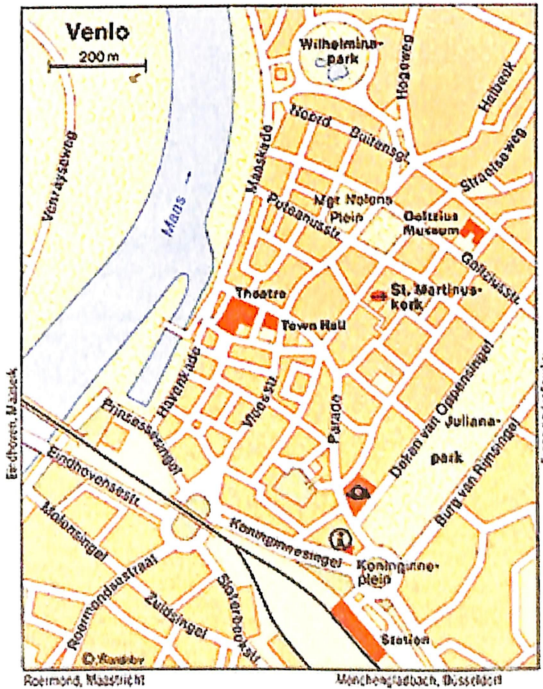
unusual spirit and success. The commander led his men to the attack, accompanied by Lord Lorne, Mr. Dalrymple, Sir Richard Temple, and other distinguished volunteers. Mingling with the troops, they stormed the covert way, and carried the ravelin sword in hand, notwithstanding the explosion of a mine. The Earl of Huntingdon, unable, from a weak state of health, to make the same exertions as his gallant comrades, gave money to the soldiers to assist him in scaling the breastwork. Encouraged by their success, the victorious assailants forced their way over a bridge, connecting the ravelin with the interior works, and carried the fort itself by storm. Of the garrison two hundred were made

prisoners, and the remainder, amounting to six hundred, were either killed in the conflict, or drowned in attempting to cross the Meuse.

The attack against the town was prosecuted with additional vigour and effect. Batteries were raised in the captured fort, and on the 23d of September, a tremendous fire of artillery was opened on the defences of the place. Before mid-day, an accessible breach being effected, the garrison were discouraged, and the burghers clamoured for a surrender. At this moment the news of the reduction of Landau reached the camp, and was announced by a volley of artillery. The first salute being considered by the enemy as the signal of assault, a flag of truce was instantly displayed, but remained unnoticed by the besiegers, whose attention was occupied with their own rejoicings. On the second discharge, the fears of the besieged being increased, white flags were hoisted on every part of the works. The signal was at length acknowledged, a capitulation arranged, and before the close of the day, the garrison quitting the breach with the honours of war, were conducted to Antwerp. "

On arrival in the town the first thing I was asked by a shifty cove who sidled up to me was if I wanted anything to smoke, nudge nudge wink wink. I then discovered that the only place I could get a cup of coffee at 9.30 am was Macdonalds. However, the town came to life an hour or so later, and was soon full of shoppers and bicycles in the centre, and traffic all round. The Limburg Museum on the edge of the old town is interesting, but its treatment of the region's history after Neolithic man and before the 19th Century is cursory at best.

The whole of the Dutch end of the Meuse, where it is



Venlo – town plan and the Stadhuis

called the Maas, is a joy for cyclists. Special lanes are everywhere, frequently enabling the cyclist to avoid traffic lights and other obstructions, and cyclists have a very high priority. They rarely bother to look as, for example, they approach a roundabout, as they assume the traffic will stop for them, as indeed it does. Having long since decided that the best way to see any town is on a bike mine went everywhere with me on its rack, and I much enjoyed this luxurious degree of precedence. The greatest danger is from other cyclists, and many a young person whizzes along, no hands, texting or chatting on a mobile phone, and certainly not looking out for other road users. Only in certain pedestrianised shopping streets, at lunch time, are bicycles forbidden. Otherwise almost all signs forbidding traffic to go, stop, turn or whatever, have the words "huit gezonderd" (ie excepted) appended, with a picture of a bicycle. As an aside, the word "gezonderd" homonymously describes how I felt at the end of a long day exploring on two wheels.

I have no doubt Venlo was well worth looting, although it seems likely that discipline was maintained as part of the terms of the capitulation. The old market square and a network of small lanes and streets date back to medieval times, and were full of merchants' and tradesmen's establishments. We can assume that something would have fallen off the back of a handcart to the troops' advantage. The town now is a substantial commercial centre, with light and some heavy industry, and little sign of being hit by recession, although it will have its share of problems. It has a good feel to it; organised, quite serious, community minded, openly governed.

I spotted a large poster simply saying in large print "Elke Donnertag" and below "Gangbang". I cycled by thinking good old Elke, sounds just the girl for the job, Huntingdon's lads would have been interested in that. On reflection I think that just means every Thursday.

Ruremonde

Marlborough went on to Ruremonde, which he captured on 6 October with the loss of only 60 men. It is smaller than Venlo, but still a sizeable town, with two cathedrals, a large market place and town hall, the last with a carillon on top, the bells ringing out the hour and the half hour. Ruremonde is a charming town with a helpful tourist office and much to look at and enjoy. No-one I could find to talk to had any knowledge at all of

The river
at
Ruremonde
is at its
widest



Ruremonde Main Square and Cathedral

Marlborough's siege 310 years earlier. Like Venlo, it was greatly damaged in 1944. This siege took much the same progression as the one before it. Out works assaulted and taken; walls beaten in and defenders intimidated by artillery; assault to the breach and carry the day with the bayonet. Bloody work, but effective.

Liege

Liege, the location of the next siege, was and is a much larger place than anything hitherto attempted by Marlborough. It lies today in Wallonia, French speaking Belgium, a big and very French seeming city, approached through widespread suburbs, with traffic arteries running alongside the Meuse. The traffic is dreadful and parking a nightmare, and only my ruse of parking well away from the centre and cycling in enabled me to get to where I wanted to go. But gone were the joys of cycling; most of the lanes, where there are any at all, are merely dotted lines painted along the edge of a main carriageway, ignored by the unending streams of fume dispensing vehicles.

Liege was under siege in 1914, and was vigorously defended by the Belgian Army. The defenders held on for 12 days and the city was pulverised by artillery. In 1940 the German Army again occupied Liege, this time in only 3 days. Once the allies recaptured it in 1944, it was a target for German V1 and V2 missiles, with an estimated 1500 landing in the city between September 1944 and the end of the war. Understandably there is nothing of the 1702 fortifications to admire. The capture of Liege by Marlborough was the end of this phase of campaigning, and brought the Duke substantial recognition and rewards. The Earl of Huntingdon's Regiment retired to billets near Breda, to pass the winter.

1703 – Huy

In February 1703 the Earl of Huntingdon "laid down" his regiment, and it was "given" to a Colonel Leigh. In August it was engaged in the capture of Huy, which appears to have been a difficult campaign, although



Huy from the "new" fortress

ending in success. I was unable to visit Huy. There is a rather jolly engraving in the Brereton/Savory history, which is reproduced here. It all looks very orderly, although crossing the wide and in places fast flowing river (which lay between the foreground batteries and the distant town) would have been a nightmare of organisation and execution.

Deployment to Spain

Thus concluded the "Dukes" first campaign. 6500 troops were required for deployment to the Spanish peninsula to further the war and the Regiment left Holland and disembarked in Lisbon in March 1704. What happened there is another story for another time. The next article in this series "In the Regiment's Footsteps in Flanders" will report on a recent visit to Wavre and Waterloo, followed by a rather different kind of journey to Passchendale.TJN



Siege of Huy

BATTLEFIELD TOUR TO ITALY - September 2011

Report by Brig John Greenway with photographs by Richard Harvey

On Monday 12 September 2011, Venice airport saw two separate groups of slightly bleary tourists from Leeds/Bradford and Gatwick emerge into the damp stickiness of the afternoon and converge gratefully onto a nearby air-conditioned coach. Webb-Carter/Heron Enterprises' sixth Battlefield Tour had begun. Most of us were probably unaware that British forces had fought in Italy during World War 1, but the next few days revealed that in 1917, on the Asiago Plateau, in the mountains north west of Venice, where the Italian forces were struggling to keep the German/Austrian-Hungarian alliance at bay, several British and French divisions became involved. These included the British 23rd Division, which contained 10 DWR. General Evelyn led us to the sites of several battles, in which officers and men had displayed great courage and endurance in rugged, mountainous terrain; many giving their lives in the process. We stood where Temporary Captain Henry Kelly, who had already earned the award of the VC in France in 1916, earned an MC in June 1918, going on to earn another on the Piave River in October. We came to appreciate, too, the enormous difficulties of logistic supply in the mountains, even with the help of mules. General Evelyn was, as ever, careful not to baffle his audience with opaque military terminology and ensured that the ladies who had not had the advantage of previous tours to Waterloo, Ypres, Anzio and Tunisia were brought up to speed on "enfilade fire", for example!

Despite the mixed emotions involved in studying warfare, it was a pleasure to be driven by our first class Italian driver, Luigi, through beautiful countryside to have a good, very hot, day in Venice, in which its Biennale celebrating the arts was in full flow.

Luigi then moved us south towards Florence to the

village of Palazzuolo sul Senio, which was to celebrate on 18 September its liberation by British forces in October 1944, when, after several attempts by other units, it was 1DWR that finally dislodged German forces from the top of Monte Cece, which looms above Palazzuolo. Here we were joined by William St Maur Shiel, his wife, Maggie and Lynne Burns, of whom more anon.

Friday 16 September had been scheduled as a free day in Florence. However, we learned en route from Asiago that the City Fathers of Florence had heard of our visit and wished to pay their Civic Respects to the Regiment. Accordingly, all of us made our way to the magnificent building between the Duomo and the Uffizi Gallery. There, on the fifth floor, looking out at the famous tiled dome of the Duomo, Mayoral and other speeches of praise for the Regiment were made and presentations were widely distributed. These were graciously acknowledged by our leader and then we were free to roam. It was impressive that the City, once an independent City State, should have reached out to the Regiment in this way.

Later we paid a short visit to the Florence Commonwealth War Cemetery, where William Shiel was able to visit his father's last resting place and we conducted a brief Ceremony of Remembrance.

On Saturday 17 September, we were driven to and up Monte Cece in Italian Army long-wheel-based vehicles. There followed a stiff scramble of several hundred feet to the summit, where stands a permanent Memorial to the successful operation on 8 October 1944 by A and C Companies of 1 DWR, which captured it from German forces. Representatives from Palazzuolo, and the Italian Forces attended at the summit and a short Ceremony was held which both celebrated the success and commemorated the fallen. Only weeks before the



The party in Asiago



At Barental Cemetery



Approach to lay the wreaths, front from L, Lynne Burns, Gen Webb-Carter, William St Maur Shiels



Joint Ceremony atop Monte Cece



The wording
on the
Memorial at
the top of
Monte Cece

**The steep face
of the Asiago
Plateau**



operation in 1944, command of 1 DWR had passed from Lt Col BW Webb-Carter to Lt Col FP St M Shiel and, sadly, the latter was mortally wounded whilst with C Company, when A Company passed through it to the final assault. Success had been achieved in large part due to the magnificent bravery of Private Richard Burton, who was awarded the VC, to the courage and leadership of Captain "Robbie" Burns, commanding A Company, who was awarded the DSO and to the bravery and leadership of an acting Platoon Commander, Sergeant Douglas Emery, who was awarded the DCM. Thus the moving Ceremony on 17 September 2011 was particularly poignant for Lynne Burns, wearing her father's medals, whose father survived the action, and for William Shiel, wearing his father's medals, whose father did not survive.

Return to Palazuolo led, the following day, to a formal town-centre Ceremony, with marching uniformed troops, a band, trumpeter/bugler, speeches and the laying of wreaths. All this followed by a sit-down meal in a marquee, which was truly generous hospitality from such a small community.

Early in the planning process, the Regimental Trustees had decreed that, if Regimental funds were to be provided to subsidise the cost of this Battlefield Tour, some young men from the serving Battalion should also attend. We were therefore delighted to find among us at Gatwick the Quartermaster, plus a Platoon Commander, a Platoon Sergeant, the Provost Corporal and a Section 2 i/c from 3rd Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment. We much admired the way they all fitted in with the much older fraternity and played a full part in proceedings, particularly when in uniform for the Parade in Palazuolo. Speaking of the older fraternity, we were also delighted to have with us Tom Moore,



Our leader receives his presentation in Florence

who joined 146 Regiment RAC (9 DWR) in India in the 1940s. He is now in his 90s and still bright as a button.

On one of our last evenings, David Peckover, musician and entertainer extraordinaire, led us in a traditional sing-song that had its roots in earlier Battlefield Tours in France, Belgium, Italy and Tunisia. David also sounded the Last Post and Reveille at the appropriate stages in the Cemeteries. During this cheerful evening we were glad to be able to thank General Evelyn publicly for his initiative, drive and sheer hard work in mounting and leading this and all previous Tours, charmingly supported by Celia and backed most competently by Bob Heron. He has always conducted proceedings with a light touch, which has ensured that every Tour has been not only informative, but also great fun too. We are most grateful to him.

SUBALTERN TAKE NOTE

Submitted by Brig Michael Bray

Below is an extract from Gallant Gentlemen by E.S. Turner, published in 1956 by Michael Joseph. I bought this book while at Sandhurst and it may explain why I started my commissioned service gaining extra duties for being improperly dressed, as explained in the Autumn 2010 issue of the Iron Duke.

Attributed to Francis Grose, a one-time adjutant of the militia, offering advice in 1782 to commanding officers on how to deal with subalterns, "whose failings change but slightly from one generation to another."

'The subalterns of the British army are but too apt to think themselves gentlemen; a mistake it is your business to rectify. Put them, as often as you can, upon the most disagreeable and ungentlemanly duties; and endeavour by every means to bring them upon a level with the subaltern officers of the German army.'

The writer then offers his advice to subalterns:

"The fashion of your clothes must depend on that ordered in the corps; that is to say, must be in direct opposition to it; for it would show a deplorable poverty of genius if you had not ideas of your own in dress.

"Never wear uniform in quarters, when you can avoid it. A green or brown coat shows that you have other clothes besides your regimentals, and

likewise you have the courage to disobey a standing order:

"If you belong to a mess, eat with it as seldom as possible, to let folks see you want neither money nor credit. And when you do, in order to show that you are used to good living, find fault with every dish that is set upon the table, damn the wine, and throw the plates at the mess-man's head.

"When ordered for duty, always grumble and question the roster. This will procure you the character of one who will not be imposed upon.

"Never read the daily orders. It is beneath an officer of any spirit to bestow any attention upon such nonsense.

"When on leave of absence, never come back to your time; as that might cause people to think that you had nowhere to stay, or that your friends were tired of you."

Further on in this piece, my eye was caught by:

"a general who inspected the Buffs in 1774 wrote in his report: 'The officers eat and live together in friendship, Major Nicholson excepted'. No clue was given as to why Major Nicholson was thus invidiously named. It may be that he had taken to himself a wife"

THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Recent Acquisitions

The following were donated to the Regimental Museum during 2010. On behalf of the Museum I would like to record our thanks to those family members who have generously contributed these items.

- Shell jacket worn by Corporal Dagley, 33rd Regiment. He was wounded at the Battle of the Alma in 1854. It is accompanied by his forage cap badge and a post-war photograph showing him with his medals.
- Mess jacket worn by Colonel Pickering, Colonel of the Regiment 1925-1927. He was wounded in the left arm while serving with 1/4 DWR in 1915 and the sleeve has been altered to accommodate this.
- Korean War Medal and U.N. Korean War Medal awarded to 22610628 Lance-Corporal Dunne, who fought and was captured at the Battle of the Hook. The donation includes Service papers and documentation relating to his capture and eventual return home.
- Insignia and ephemera relating to 204123 Private Harrison, 1/4 DWR. In 1918 he was severely wounded in the arm and leg, resulting in the amputation of the latter. They include an embroidery of the Regimental Badge worked by him in hospital

and an x-ray of his arm wound together with the shrapnel ball removed from it.

- Silver cup awarded by 3rd Volunteer Battalion DWR, possibly for target shooting. It was last awarded in 1913 to 412 Sergeant Roberts, 4th West Riding Royal Field Artillery, whose descendants felt it should return to the Regiment. Sergeant Harrison served with the 49th West Riding Division during the First World War and the donation included a trench lighter, a uniform recognition handbook and a copy of the Divisional newsletter.
- Embroidered table runner with Regimental crest, P.T. Manual 1944, Regimental histories and photographs relating to Sergeant Dyson, 2DWR c. 1930-1945. The photographs mainly cover pre-war India with a few showing North Africa and Palestine.
- Silver tankard presented to Francis Dyson by the Bradford branch of the Old Comrades Association in recognition of his service as chairman.
- Carved wooden figures depicting the three antecedent units of The Yorkshire Regiment made by Private Dennis Riley, a National Serviceman with the Dukes 1953-55. The 50 figures include the Duke on Copenhagen, Regimental Colour Parties, Drummers and representative soldiers from 1702 to 1953.

Corporal Dagley's Shell Jacket

This rare example of an early other rank's uniform was worn by 2324 Corporal John Frederick Dagley of the 33rd. Corporal Dagley sailed for the Crimea with the Regiment and was wounded in the leg at the Battle of the Alma on September 20 1854. He was the great great grandfather of Mrs Karen Woodhouse, who was given the jacket by her grandfather at the age of 8. Having carefully preserved it for many years, Mrs Woodhouse has now generously donated it to the Regimental Museum. It was accompanied by his forage cap badge and a post-war photograph showing Corporal Dagley proudly wearing his Crimea and Turkish Crimea medals.

The red wool shell jacket was introduced in 1830 to replace the white forage jacket which had been in use since the Napoleonic Wars. It was worn as barracks dress or on fatigue duties to minimise wear on the more expensive (and less comfortable) full dress coat.

In keeping with the traditions of the 33rd, the collar and cuff facings are of the same material as the jacket-madder

red for other ranks, scarlet for sergeants and officers. The epaulettes are white, again following the regimental distinction established in the 18th century. White worsted piping has been used to trim the jacket collar, cuffs and body and the buttons are the pewter pattern used during the Napoleonic Wars. The small pocket on the right held a pouch for the percussion caps which were introduced for use with the new 1842 Pattern Musket.

The faint remains of Dagley's initials and service number can be seen on the inside and the right sleeve carries his corporal's rank chevrons and a long service stripe, both in white worsted tape.

Its use was confirmed in the 1846 Dress Regulations, but according to Lee's history of the 33rd, in 1848 piping on other ranks jacket was forbidden. This suggests that this jacket was made between 1842 and 1848. It may, however, have been worn after that date. Hopefully future research will throw more light on both Corporal Dagley and his jacket



Above: Corporal Dagley wearing his Crimea and Turkish Crimea medals

Left: Corporal Dagley's Shell Jacket

Association News

President: Colonel Nick Borwell OBE.

General Secretary: Major R. Heron, Wellesley Park, Halifax, HX2 0BA.

BRANCHES

Halifax/Bradford: 7.00 for 7.30pm second Tuesday of each month in the Saville Room, North Bridge Leisure Centre, Halifax. *Secretary:* Mr P. R. Taylor, 7 Amy Street, Ovenden, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX3 5QB.

Huddersfield: 8.00pm last Friday of each month at WOs & Sgts Mess; TA Centre, St Paul's Street, Huddersfield. *Secretary:* Mrs P. Harley, 11 Wain Park, Berry Brow, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD4 7QX.

Keighley: 8.30pm last Thursday of each month at Pop & Pasty Public House, Bradford Road, Keighley. *Secretary:* Mr C. W. Akrigg, 14 The Poplars, Sutton-in-Craven, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD20 7PW.

London: 12 noon at the Union Jack Club; Sun 15 January, Sat 14 April (joint with PWO Association), Sun 17 June, Sun 16 September (AGM). *A/Secretary:* John Greenway, 35 Church Avenue, Farnborough, Hants. GU14 7AT. Tel: 01252 514786. E.mail: jbkandjpp@aol.com

Sheffield: 8.00pm second Tuesday of each month at WOs' & Sergeants' Mess, 38 Signals Regiment, Manor Top, Sheffield. *Secretary:* Mr C. Withers, 18 Wheel Lane, Grenoside, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S35 8RN.

Skipton: 8.00pm second Thursday of each month at The White Rose Club, Newmarket Street, Skipton. *Secretary:* Mrs M. Bell, 39 Western Road, Skipton, BD23 2RU.

York: 8.00pm first Monday of each month at the Post Office Social Club, Marygate, York.

TERRITORIAL AND SERVICE BATTALIONS' OCA 5th Battalion. *Secretary:* Mr J. T. Payne, 101 Bradley Road, Bradley, Huddersfield, HD2 1QU.

9th Battalion (146 Regiment) RAC. *Secretary:* Mr T. Moore, The Old Rectory, The Green, Marston Moreteyne, Bedfordshire, MK43 0NF.

News from Association HQ

Regimental Plaque and Armed Forces Day 2011

General Charles Huxtable wrote to members of the Regiment as follows - "Last Saturday morning, 25th of June

(Armed Forces Day) I, together with the Mayor of Calderdale, had the privilege of unveiling our new commemorative stone plaque at the entrance to our old



After
the
unveiling



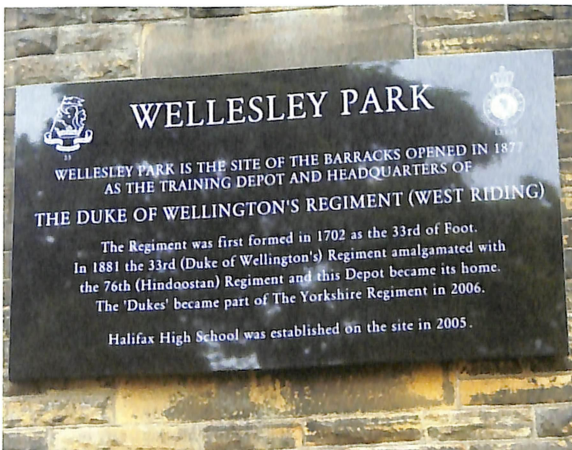
Dukes on parade and still looking good

Depot and home, Wellesley Barracks, in Halifax. The plaque, which is made from black granite and produced by a local stone mason, now hangs proudly on the sentry box wall, facing out into Highroad Well. It will be, I believe, a very dignified and lasting reminder that Wellesley Park, now a school, was the home of the Dukes for so many years.

The cost of the plaque, around £4,000, was originally underwritten by our Regimental Trustees, but I am delighted to inform you that thanks to your generosity

and the generosity of the wider Regimental family, the cost of the plaque has been completely covered by your voluntary donations. Thank you.”

Later at 1.00pm Dukes from across the West Riding joined with the ex-service community of Calderdale to parade from Halifax Town hall through the Town Centre to Halifax Minster, led by the Mayor of Calderdale. The parade was followed by a service in the Minster and finally a Dukes’ reception in Halifax Town Hall.



The Plaque



Parade to the Minster



The last Halifax Platoon

The last Dukes platoon passed out of the Barracks in April 1959. Photo Last Platoon. Attempts to name them have not been very successful; can you help? Known or believed names are

Back rank - Symonds, Fletcher, Bob Springer, Pete Turner, ?
 Centre rank – Burke, ?, ?, ?, ?
 Front rank – John O'Donnell, ?, Sgt Tug Wilson, ?, ?.

33rd/76th Club

About 100 people turned out for the appropriately named 'Over 33 and under 76 Club' social held on Saturday 28th May 2011 at Queen Elizabeth Barracks Strensall (QEB). For most the gathering started in the afternoon with some 'warmers' in the 6 Bells pub in Strensall Village, before a hasty change of clothes for the evening event in QEB. Another excellent event organized again by WO2 Reg Perrin – "thanks Reg". Even breakfast in the mess was a mini reunion and with a full English for £1.36, it made me want to re-enlist!

Elizabeth Cross Presentation

On the 19th May 2011 the Elizabeth Cross and scroll was presented to the family of Corporal Gordon Geoffrey Moody, who was killed in action on 27th May 1953, during the third Battle of the Hook, Korea. The presentation was made by the Lord Lieutenant of Lincolnshire in the Officers' Mess, Prince William of Gloucester Barracks, Grantham. Three of Gordon's brothers attended the presentation, and remarkably, so did the lady Gordon was engaged to at the time of his death, 58 years previously!

Honorary Citizenship - Keighley

On the morning of Saturday 9th July 2011 a large number of Dukes turned out with the general public of Keighley



Mayor and Deputy Lieutenant inspecting the parade

Victory Beatings



to watch and support a contingent from 3 YORKS, including Colour Party and drummers, to receive the presentation of the Honorary Citizenship of Keighley, on behalf of the Yorkshire Regiment, from the Mayor of Keighley.



Mayor presenting scroll

Association Annual General Meeting and Dinner Dance

The AGM and Dinner took place at the Bradford Hilton on Saturday 1st October 2011. The AGM was attended by around 40 people, and a full agenda of Association business was discussed. The Chair was taken by Major David Harrap as most unfortunately the President, Col Nick Borwell, was stuck somewhere in the Indian Ocean, his plane having been delayed. (The Trustees unkindly declared that if he had been taken by Somali pirates they would feel unable to fund the ransom!).

The meeting was told that the Yorkshire Regiment had provided funds for 235 members and families in the past 12 months, amounting to some £92,000, with the Army benevolent Society contributing a further £76,600. Association funds no longer have

responsibility for benevolence, having given £1M to the Yorkshire Regiment when that function was transferred. The Association has some £392,000 in its funds, which has enabled it to support a number of activities, both for the benefit of the Association and its members, and serving officers and soldiers.

142 members attended the dinner, with 40 or so eligible to attend the Minden 1976-1980 reception which preceded it. As usual the Bradford Hilton provided an excellent meal, and a disco played afterwards for those who wanted to dance, although the majority seemed content to head for the bars and chat.

The dinner next year will be at the same venue on Saturday 6 October.



Major Harrap, acting for the President, briefs those present on Regimental matters



Majors Harrap and Heron, under the watchful eye of a 3 YORKS subaltern, case the Colours afterwards



General view of the dinner

9 DWR Annual reunion Lunch



9DWR Reunion

L to R Bob Heron, Bob McIntyre, Tom Moore, Tom Dickson, Arthur Robinson, David Harrop, Scott Flaving

9 DWR became 146 Regiment RAC. It held its 64th Reunion on Tuesday 4 October at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, Leeds. The event was organised by Capt Tom Moore, aged 91, who has organised all the reunions. He was presented with a Regimental statuette of 2 Dukes soldiers, one about 1704 and the other modern, by Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter in 2009, in recognition of his amazing record – surely unique in the Army? – as a reunion organiser. In 2010 the event was attended by 4 members of 9 DWR, and also Major David Harrop, Major Bob Heron, Scott Flaving and Wendy Storey whose Father was Sergeant Major Gary Hall, who served in the Dukes from 1933 to 1947, and who always attended the reunions until his health failed.

Wendy Storey also wrote about her Father, Gary Hall. He joined the Dukes in 1933 in Pontefract, aged 20, on enlistment. He had been in care from the age of 5 as his Father died young and his Mother could not cope with 4 children under 5. He was sent from one children's' home to another, and although he passed the entrance exam for grammar school he was not allowed to go. He worked on a farm aged 14, staying in the area until he was able to enlist.



Gary Hall

The 64th reunion took place on 4th October 2011. Sadly, due to the ill health of two of the surviving members, only Tom Moore and Arthur Robinson attended, and Tom decided that next year would be the final reunion. Despite there being only two members of 9 DWR, it was a large and jolly party, with Wendy Storey and her sister, Tom Moore's daughter, grand-daughter and Tony Verity's daughter, grand-daughter and great grand-daughter, as well as David Harrop, Bob Heron and Scott Flaving.



9 DWR WOs and Sergeants' mess 1942, shows Gary Hall in the third row from the back, second from left.

Skipton Waterloo Dinner



From L to R; Gordon Bell, Pam Higson, Phil Chadwick, Andrew Drake, Julie Drake, Jill Quinn, Andy Quinn, Mary Bell

On Saturday 18 June the Skipton Branch of the Regimental Association held their Annual Waterloo Dinner at Skipton Golf Club, with the Chief Guest being Col Andrew Drake and his wife Julie. Also among the guests were the Deputy Mayor Mrs Wendy Clark and her Escort Mrs Pam Heseltine. We were also joined by the Chairman of Craven District Council Mr

Andy Quinn and his wife Jill.

Gordon Bell opened the Dinner and thanked everyone for coming. Col Andrew Drake gave a speech on his time in the Dukes, and also proposed the Regimental Toast. There was no band this year so the remainder of the evening was spent with the raffle and chatting with friends.

London Branch

Readers may like to be reminded of the continued existence of the London Branch of the Regimental Association. We meet, because we enjoy it, four times a year over lunch at the Union Jack Club, close to Waterloo Station, at a weekend in January, April, June and September. Ladies are welcome to attend. In addition, some of us get together at the Regimental Memorial Plot in the grounds of Westminster Abbey on Remembrance Sunday to pay our respects to the fallen.

Recently our April meeting has been held jointly with the PWO Regimental Association, which has added to the camaraderie and the noise of the occasion.

You will be likely to meet Dukes who served in India –

Fred Richardson, or Korea – Topper Brown, John Kelly and Mac Dowdy, with others of more recent service. Other members are sons/grandsons of Dukes. Do come and join us.

Further information can be obtained from John Greenway (Chair/Secretary) on 01252-514786.

Colonel Simon Newton

Until quite recently Colonel Newton was one of the Deputy Colonels of the Yorkshire Regiment, representing the interests of the Dukes' element. His 5 year term of office ended on 6 June 2011. He asks that this be noted as he continues to receive correspondence on Regimental matters which should perhaps be addressed elsewhere.

DOGS and DOLS



Lt Colonel Bob Tighe MBE writes – “I thought readers should be made aware of an informal ‘Dukes’ Officers’ Supper, which has taken place in May for the past 5 years and hopefully for a number of more years to come. Named suitably Dogs & Dols (Dukes old geezers & Dukes old ladies). The venue is The Ramblers’ Rest in Millington. The dress is informal (as you will note from the enclosed photographs). Angie who is the owner and chef of The Ramblers’ Rest allows us ‘Dukes’ memorabilia; (table mats, Regimental flag and a small statue of the Duke of Wellington mounted on his horse as the centre piece on the table) to give the apt ambience to the occasion.

There are no formal speeches, but David Harrap does give an update on The 3rd Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment. The evening finishes by raising ‘our glasses’ to The Duke of Wellington’s Regiment. Because of the seating capacity in The Ramblers’ Rest, attendance is limited to 19 members.

In attendance this May were: Dick and Jilly Mundell, George and Penny Kilburn, Tim Isles, Bob and Veronica Tighe, David and Meika Harrap, Mike and Penny Sherlock, Andrew and Julie Drake, Peter and Helen Robinson. And unable to attend were: David and Ann Pugh and Mike and Anne Carter.

Father Alberic (John) Stacpoole.

The Daily Telegraph’s Saturday magazine on 4 June 2011 carried an interview with writer and broadcaster Edward Stourton, who remembered winning a schools’ debating competition whilst a boy at Ampleforth in 1975. He wrote “I joined the lively debating society when I was in the Remove, the year before O-levels. We had a very fine monk for a debating teacher called Father Alberic Stacpoole, who had been a soldier before joining the monastery.”

2Lt John Stacpoole was in command of the Assault Pioneer Platoon IDWR in the Hook battle in Korea in May 1953. For his gallantry in Korea John Stacpoole was awarded the Military Cross. An extract from the citation reads; “On first going into the line his platoon were, of necessity, used as riflemen. Subsequently they were withdrawn for special training. From the time they were committed in their proper role the Assault Pioneers worked

continuously on mining, wiring and bunker construction. Much of this work was done at great personal risk and often under fire. He and his platoon earned the admiration and confidence of everyone in the forward companies.

When the battalion took over the Hook position on 13 May 1953 it soon became apparent that the enemy was preparing for a major assault. It was imperative that the maximum amount of protective wire should be erected as quickly as possible and that the Assault Pioneers were made responsible for wiring the most vital approaches. The task was extremely hazardous as it entailed working in bright moonlight very close to the enemy. Working parties were subject to continuous mortaring.

When the attack came it was proved beyond doubt that the main assault was, in fact, held up and finally broken on the wire erected under his direction.”

London Officers' Lunch 2012

Brig Michael Bray writes: The lunch next year will take place on Saturday 31st March 2012 at the East India Club in St James's Square, London. All officers, wives, partners, sons and daughters are welcome to attend. It is being held next year on a Saturday so that

working people can more easily attend.

If you wish to attend, or be provided with details with a view to deciding later, please get in touch with Michael Bray on mrnbray@aol.com or by post to Hill House, Hillhouse Lane, Rudgwick, West Sussex, RH12 3BD.

Major Alan Westcob

Alan Westcob was over from the USA for the wedding of his daughter Lisa at Dulwich College in July. It was a splendid day attended by many people who had known Lisa since the beginning of her

"regimental service" in Hong Kong. Brigadier Johnny Walker was there, and coincidentally is to be the next President of the Dulwich Old Boys Association.



**Lt Col Tim Nicholson, Major Alan Westcob
and Brig Johnny Walker**



Speech by the Father of the Bride

**Alan with
his daughters,
Mrs Alex May
Mrs Lisa Lane and
Ms Charlotte Westcob**



Officers' Dinner 2011



Seated at the top table – clockwise from: Col Borwell, Col Hall, Col Bruce, Brig Greenway, Col Newton, Brig Bray, Col Berkshire, Gen Huxtable, Lt Col Stenning.

The 2011 Officers' Dinner was held at the Naval and Military Club, St James's Square, London on Friday 17th June. 43 Officers were present, including

the CO 3 YORKS designate, Lt Col Zac Stenning. Colonel Nick Borwell, President of the Association, presided.



*Making your
Will?*

*Please don't forget
the Regiment*

The Friends of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment Fund was started in 1998. The fund has been and is an invaluable resource in helping to sustain and build the Regiment we are all so proud of and to foster the Regimental spirit it relies upon. There is much more we could and should be doing in the future and so ensure the Regiment retains its character and place in the Army as a living testimony to all those who have served in our ranks.

If you are able to help the fund through a bequest, or in any other way, please do.

The Friends of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment Fund is a registered charity and any bequests made to it are not subject to inheritance tax.

If you would like any legal help or guidance from the Regimental Solicitor in making a bequest please call RHQ on 10422 361671.

The Hindoostan Open

On 15 July 2011 the Dukes' London Group (DLG) held their annual golf day at the luxurious (and challenging) Goodwood course. Alex Liddle had volunteered to run the day and opted to take the Dukes to his club in order to raise the tone of the event following the previous year's outing to a course that resembled a farmer's field! Twenty willing and skilful golfers assembled for breakfast ready for the first tee time. The Dukes were on best behaviour and in their smartest rig in order to blend in with their luxurious surroundings. Toby Smart in his Dukes straw hat, John Greenway in his 1970s issue knee length green socks and Simon Morgan dressed as the man from Delmonte. You could sense the anticipation.

The group was divided into two once the handicaps had been discussed, traded and agreed. A small group of retired vets and those who were golfingly challenged selected to play on the Parks Course. 18 holes of open parkland in front of the majestic Goodwood House. The other group of athletic, professional golfers selected to play the Downs Course, which takes in 18 holes of golf up hill and down dale.

After 5 hours of spectacular golf the triumphant golfers returned to the clubhouse ready for a hearty lunch basking in the glory of their sun burn. Those on the Downs Course looked a little jaded on their return. The tabbing up and down the Downs and the challenging course had proved to be more of a challenge than they had expected. However spirits were high, everyone had enjoyed the golf and weather, and no clubs had been broken (however numerous golf balls had been lost!). During lunch Alex thanked everyone for coming, especially the guests, and awarded the prizes to the lucky few. Alex offered to host the 2012 event and hoped that support for this event would remain

strong now we are in the era of The Yorkshire Regiment. After lunch the 20 golfers departed for home and the joys of the M25 during Friday rush hour. Meanwhile the green keepers got to work, filling in a surprising number of divots and collecting a large number of lost balls.

Results:

Wooden Spoon

Winner: John Greenway

Longest drive: John Greenway

Nearest the pin: Liam McCormick

Silver Putter

Winner: Ed Rainsford (guest)

Longest drive: Pete Lee (one of only two to land on the fairway!)

Nearest the green!: Rob Harford"

Pete Lee, Convenor of the Dukes' London group, writes "Following the success of the DLG golf day which has been running for 3 years under the stewardship of Stu Dickson and Alex Liddle, we are forming a new society specifically for golfing DLG members. The reason for this move is to create a sub-group that takes the ethos and aims of the DLG and plonks them squarely on the golf course. We hope to meet informally for a few rounds a year (golfing and liquid) and will continue the main event of the golfing calendar which is the DLG Masters, traditionally held on the first Friday in July. Clearly the society will generate additional email traffic and a separate distribution list will keep this traffic away from DLG members who consider golf to be a good walk spoilt. The main DLG group will of course continue as usual. To this end please let me know if you'd like to join the DLG Golf Society. No need to respond if you played in the Golf day this year as I will automatically add you to the distribution list.

**Lunch
after a
hard day**



Project Hougoumont



**Butte
monument
to the
Price of
Orange**

Project Hougoumont is heritage project to save the Hougoumont Farm on the site of the 1815 Battlefield of Waterloo in Belgium. Its aim is to ensure that the site is sound and intact for the long-term future, with a view to attracting and educating more visitors. Hougoumont Farm is in a sorry state, and time is running out fast. The walls of the Great Barn are at risk of collapse, the loop-holed brick wall surrounding the orchard is falling down, and each passing winter brings

more damage through the penetration of water and frost. To date the chapel has been restored, and two of the gaps in the walls have been filled in temporarily to strengthen them.

More can be learned about what is planned and how people can help at www.projecthougoumont.com. The Waterloo battlefield is dominated by the vast Butte de Lion, a minor player in the affair. The fight for Hougoumont was much more significant.

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Obituaries

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

WOII (CSM) CMP SULLIVAN

(A brief notice of Mr Sullivan's death appeared in the last edition.)



Cornelius Michael Patrick Sullivan died on the 15th March 2011 at the age of 85.

A true Geordie, Con was born in Alnwick, Northumberland in 1926. He went to the Convent School in Alnwick, leaving at the age of 13 to go down the mines. In 1943 at the age of 17, he enlisted in the Army and joined the 5th Fusiliers. He also served with the Manchester Regiment and ACC before being demobbed in 1947 when he returned to the mines. In 1949 he re-enlisted in the 5th Fusiliers, then a Regiment of the Yorkshire and Northumberland Brigade at Strensall. He was re-badged to the Dukes in the same year and remained a Duke until the end of his regular service in 1969. During his service with 1 DWR, he will be best remembered as a member of Support Coy along with those other well known stalwarts of the time, Raymond Batty and Bob Spring.

Con also served with the West Riding Bn, DWR (TA) and was the PSI of D Coy at Mossley during the late 1960s. During his service, he attended a number of military courses and attained a “B” grading or better on all those courses. He finally left the Army in 1969 and had a five years spell in the pub trade before going to Nottingham Trent University in 1974 as Facilities Manager, a post from which he retired in 1991. During his time in Nottingham, he joined the Army Cadet Force as an adult instructor and after a short time was appointed the County RSM for Nottingham ACF.

When he retired, he and his wife Eleanor, whom he

married in 1946, lived in a number of places before finally setting in Melton Mowbray. They had five children, one of whom, Michael served in the Dukes. The funeral service was held at St John the Baptist Church, Melton Mowbray and was attended by many friends and family. The eulogy was given by son Leslie, daughter Margaret and a great grand-daughter Emilia Statham, the daughter of Jonny Statham of 3 Yorks. Con is survived by his wife, Eleanor and all his children.

NEIL BUTLER

Members of the London Branch were very sorry to hear from Renata that Neil had died suddenly in Edinburgh, after a short illness, on 12 June 2011, aged 76. Neil's early service had been with the Green Howards between 1953 and 1964. He transferred to the Dukes in October 1964 and subsequently served in BAOR, Cyprus, Hong Kong and GB, including two Northern Ireland tours. He completed his service as a Staff Sergeant in January 1978.

In 1992, the London Branch of the Regimental Association were lucky to find that he and Renata were living not far from London and Neil took over from Rodney Owers as a very competent Secretary of the Branch in September 1992. However, in due course the Butlers decided to move away from London and Neil relinquished his duties in September 1995.

Renata has told us that the family respected Neil's wish to have no fuss made about his death and they held a private Funeral Service for him in Edinburgh

Association HQ has been notified of the following deaths:

Mr Kenneth Sykes

Ken Sykes, who was a National Service member of the 1st Battalion 1954-56, died on 9th November 2010, at the age of 77. Ken served in Halifax, Gibraltar and Chisleton.

Mr Arthur Richardson

Arthur (Stripey) Richardson died on 13th April 2011, at the age of 89. Arthur first joined the army in 1942, serving in the RAOC, then briefly with East Yorks, before joining 2DWR in India in July 1945-January 1947 when he left the army. He re-enlisted into the 1st Battalion in May 1952 and went on to serve in tours of Germany (twice), Hong Kong, Korea, Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus and Kenya. He was finally discharged from the Depot at Strensall in December 1967.

Mr Eric Cannon

Eric Cannon died on 21st May 2011 at the age of 78. He joined the army in September 1950 and served with the 1st Battalion in Chisleton, Germany, Korea (Signal Platoon Corporal) and Gibraltar. He was discharged in September 1955.

Captain W R C Miller (of Pittenween)

William Ronald Crawford (Ronnie) Miller died in South Africa on 28th June 2011 at the age of 92. Ronnie was commissioned into the Dukes and joined the 1st Battalion in August 1940. He served with the Battalion throughout the war, including Tunisia, Italy and Palestine. At Anzio, as Mortar Platoon Commander, he was wounded during the advance to Campoleone Station in January 1944, returning to the Anzio Beachhead following convalescence in April 1944. He went on to command both Support and HQ Companies before being finally released in October 1946.

Mr Terrence Laherty

Ex Corporal Terry Laherty, who served in the 1st Battalion from the late 1950s – early 1970s, including the 1971 Belfast tour, as a Section Commander in B Company, died on 3 July 2011.

Lieutenant Colonel T D Lupton

Duncan Lupton died on 26th August 2011, at the age of 77. Duncan joined the 1st Battalion in Gibraltar in February 1954. He then went with the Battalion to Chisleton, Malta and Cyprus, serving as a Platoon Commander, before being attached to the Parachute Regiment 1957-60. Duncan returned to the Dukes in 1961 as a Captain. The Battalion was based in Colchester 1961-62, during which time they completed two emergency tours to Kenya. Duncan was Adjutant of the Battalion between 1966-67 in Osnabruck and Cyprus and OC Alma Company 1968-70 in Gillingham and Hong Kong. After leaving the Battalion in 1970, Duncan did a variety of staff/training posts in the UK

and Germany. He was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in 1977. Duncan retired from the army in March 1988. From 1988-96 he was employed as an Assistant Director of the Ex Services Mental Welfare Society.

Captain A S Binnie, MC

Captain Arthur Stewart Binnie died on 22nd September 2011, aged 90 years. Stewart's parent Regiment was The King's Regiment, but he was seconded to the 2nd Battalion of the Dukes in India and Burma in 1944. During his time with the Dukes in Burma he was awarded the Military Cross. His citation (below) is worth a read:

On the 19th March 1944, a Special Detachment was landed by glider in Central Burma with orders to blow up the railway bridge on the MANDALAY-MYITKINA line south of KAWLIN. The O.C. of the party was injured in a glider crash during the initial landing and was evacuated by air. Lieut. A.S.Binnie then took over command of the patrols and by his initiative and determination he led them to a successful conclusion.

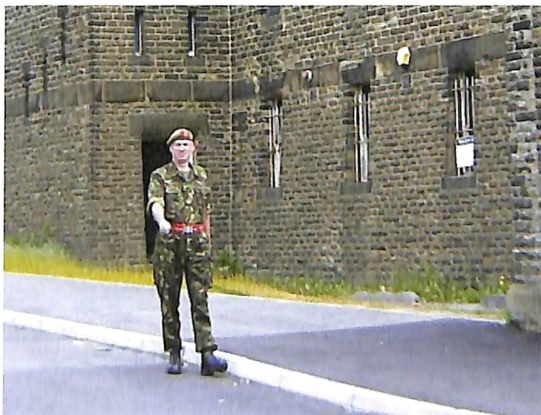
With forty men under his command on 30 March 1944 he not only wrecked the Railway Bridge, his objective, but also blew up the pumping station near the bridge. In order to contact our forces after this action, he led his force through waterless country for three days on very short rations. During this three day trek his force was ambushed by the enemy and Lieut. Binnie successfully extricated his exhausted troops from the trap with only three casualties (wounded). The fact that these were the only casualties sustained throughout the whole patrol which lasted for one month was largely due to Lieut. Binnie's unfailing cheerfulness and example and above all his excellent powers of leadership.

LETTERS

The Editor reserves the right to edit all letters in the interests of clarity and space.

From Mr Scott Flaving

Elsewhere in this edition will be a report on the unveiling of the commemorative plaque on the entrance to the old Halifax Depot, marking the long standing association of the Regiment with the town. According to



the Regimental histories, the 33rd (Duke of Wellington's) and 76th (Hindoostan) Regiments had been brigaded together under the Army reforms of April 1873 (later amalgamated in 1881) and in 1877 the 9th Brigade Depot opened on a rare (for Halifax) piece of flat land provided by Charles Musgrave in 1874.

On 29th August, 1877, the newly completed barracks was occupied by the Depot Companies of both the 33rd and 76th Regiments which had marched from the railway station with the band of the local TA unit leading them. In October of that year they were joined in the barracks by the Regiment's Militia Battalion.

Less well known is the fact that in June, 2006, the last uniformed 'Duke' to march out of the Depot site (unofficially) was myself, then a WO2 TA member of Leeds University Officers' Training Corps, prior to re-badging into the Yorkshire Regiment.

I served for 13 years with 1 DWR and had also joined RHQ DWR in Halifax in April 1993, moving to York in January, 2006, with Major David Harrap, to set up a new Regimental Headquarters for the Yorkshire Regiment.

From Mr Russ Rusby



These photos were passed on to me by the widow of the late WO1 Peter Quale, or George as most of us called him. They were taken on the battalion's first Kenya trip in 1960. From the photo on the right (Kenya 2) the only names I can recall are Cpl Quale, right marker second rank, John Dalladay one in, third rank in specs, and Dick Fenn CSM with mill board. In the other

photo I think the officer with the map case is the younger of the two Cumberlege brothers, Charles.

If the photos are published maybe other old sweats from that era can put names to more faces than I can. I recall a lot of the faces but after 51 years the little grey cells are in a state of decline and names are like history – in the past.

The Dukes' Regimental Association

FORECAST OF EVENTS 2011/12

Please keep the Editor informed of any changes or new activities

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 10 November 2011 | Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey |
| 11 November 2011 | Armistice Day |
| 13 November 2011 | Remembrance Day |
| 31 March 2012 | Officers' Lunch, London |
| 30 June 2012 | Armed Forces Day |
| 1 October 2012 | Association AGM and Dinner Dance; Bradford |

For further information on any of these events visit the Association's website
www.dwr.org.uk

RBL KYRENIA (NORTH CYPRUS) BRANCH LAUNCH WEEKEND

After two years planning and paperwork the first weekend of October 2011 saw the culmination of a determined committee's dream come true with the official launch of the Royal British Legion Kyrenia (North Cyprus) Branch. Two senior representatives from the RBL headquarters staff were in attendance; Mr Bob Gamble OBE head of RBL membership worldwide, and Mr Eddie Hefferman MBE the overseas membership trustee for the RBL, to offer their advice.

A VIP reception was held at the Celebrity Hotel on Saturday 1 October afternoon followed by an informal launch party that evening. The hotel owner, Gordon Kent, has kindly offered up the considerable sports and recreational facilities of the hotel to the Kyrenia Branch. It is located in Lapta 9 miles to the west of Kyrenia. Discounts to card carrying RBL members worldwide at both the bar on certain items and a 20 per cent discount on accommodation at the hotel are available.

In between champagne and canapés the guests were enthralled by a 15 minute formal ceremony where the standards of the RBL Limassol, Larnaca and Kyrenia Branches were brought on parade together, the first time that an international institution had done so in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. Well over a 100 invited guests were greeted by the first ever Branch President Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon GCB, CBE, ADC including His Excellency Matthew Kidd the British High Commissioner for Cyprus and his wife Carine, and the Bishop of Cyprus and the Gulf the Right Reverend Michael Lewis. His Grace the Duke of Wellington has also confirmed that he will take up the role of the first Honorary Life-President of the branch.

Mr Hefferman then formally handed over the 'Branch

Formation Certificate' to the Branch President before speeches were given, and large cake in the shape of a poppy was then cut by the President, Chairman and two RBL representatives. Lord Maginnis of Drumglass, a staunch supporter and member of the branch, was unable to get to the launch from the UK but sent a message of goodwill afterwards to the new Branch Chairman and ex Duke Major Brian Thomas BEM. The secretary of the British Cyprus Memorial Trust, Donald Crawford, also sent a goodwill message.

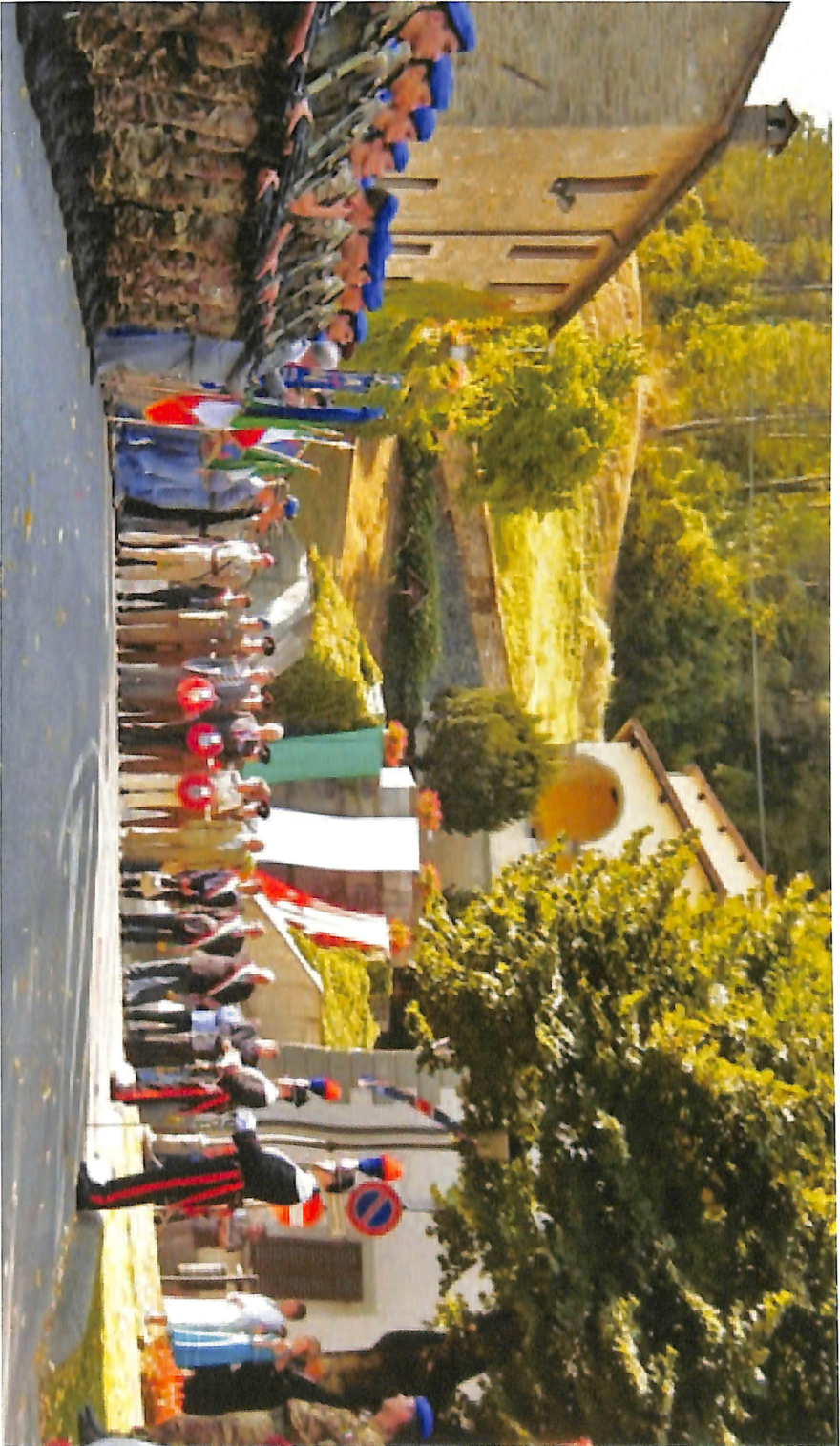
The Trust paid for the purchase of the branch standards and also donated £700 towards branch start up costs. The RBL Kyrenia Branch will now take over as custodians of the old British cemetery in Girne and the upkeep of the Memorial to the 371 servicemen killed in the Cyprus Emergency campaign of the mid 1950's.

The same evening then saw a packed out informal launch party, with most of the 256 new members in attendance, at the same venue with music and entertainment from two bands who both gave their services for free as a donation to the RBL of which they are all staunch supporters.

Monday evening (October 3) then saw the first ever branch meeting held with Mr Hefferman again on hand to offer advice and encouragement to the committee members. A total of 60 members attended and witnessed the branch officers' appointments being confirmed. Along with a varied calendar of events for the branch the three main events planned for 2012 are; The Queen's Diamond Jubilee at the beginning of June, a battlefield tour to Gallipoli in September and the Poppy Ball weekend in November where it is hoped that the central band of the RBL will be in attendance.



(From left)
Branch Chairman
Major Brian Thomas
BEM, Overseas
Trustee
Mr Eddie
Hefferman MBE,
Branch President
Air Chief Marshal
Sir Michael Graydon
GCB, CBE, ADC,
Head of RBL
Membership Mr Bob
Gamble OBE and
Branch Vice-Chairman
Mr Les Evans cut the
cake to formally
launch the branch



Formed up for the Ceremony in Palazzuolo – see Battlefield Tour Report