

THE IRON DUKE



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Westminster Abbey Gardens 10th November 2016.



1917
The village of Fampoux, east of Arras, where 2 DWR fought in April 2017 during the Battle of Arras. On the right of the map, between D42 and the railway line, is Brown's Copse Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery, where 37 men of the Battalion lie.

The photograph at the bottom of the front cover shows HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in front of the (from right in the photo) Dukes, Green Howards and PWO plots at Westminster Abbey Gardens during the Annual Service and Act of Remembrance held on 10 November 2016, being as usual the Thursday before Remembrance Sunday and the Parade passing the Cenotaph".

THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

(WEST RIDING)

*Dettingen
Mysore
Seringapatam
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*

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Editorial

This edition of the Iron Duke

This issue covers a lot of historical ground, and is something of a “bumper” edition. The story of the Dukes in the Great War continues with six of our battalions engaged in the Battle of Arras in Spring ‘17, and we have the first part of the story of Major Tom Goodall, who was in that fight. We continue the campaign against the Mahrattas with the 76th and General Lake, this time in a battle just outside Delhi, where once again the Regiment displayed great courage and discipline, and Dixon Pickup recounts how he added a 76th Shako plate to his collection and adds a great deal of fascinating information about the Regiment. David Gascoigne contributes another account of his experiences in Korea. Evelyn Webb-Carter tells of the links between the Regiment and the Chapel at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and Michel Bray writes of the Honourable Artillery Company’s association with the Dukes. There is further information about the Korean War in Tom Nowell’s obituary, and historian Martin Stoneham helps us to use the Commonwealth War Graves Commission’s very detailed database. And there are lots of other pieces intended to inform and entertain.

Obituaries

Sadly, we also carry a fair number of obituaries of officers and men of our Regiment. Whilst widely differing in time and length of service, rank and their experiences in the Dukes, they all shared a deep commitment to our badge and our history, and all will be missed and none must be forgotten. I am very grateful to those who have sent me information about Dukes who are no longer with us, and please will everyone – I have said this before and will probably say it again - see it as their duty to old friends and comrades to ensure they get a decent mention in these pages, with a photograph or two. Obituaries offer more than just the story of a man’s life (thought that is usually interesting enough) but also an insight into regimental soldiering during a particular period, and all make very worthwhile reading.

Remembering our fallen in Northern Ireland

Two people have independently suggested to me that it is time we reminded ourselves of the seven men of our Regiment who lost their lives due to terrorist action in Northern Ireland. (Nine others died from other causes during their service in the Province.) The idea is that we not just relate the bald facts but ask if anyone who was on the ground at the time with those men can tell us a little about their experience.

We remember them all with pride. The men were, with date and place of death:

Private George Lee 6 June 1972, Ballymurphy, Belfast.

Lance Corporal Terence Graham 16 July 1972, South Armagh.

Private James Lee 16 July 1972, South Armagh (same incident as Corporal Graham).

Second Lieutenant Howard Fawley 25 January 1974, County Londonderry.

Corporal Michael Ryan 17 March 1974, Brandywell, Londonderry.

Warrant Officer 2 David Bellamy APTC, 28 October 1979, Springfield Road, Belfast.

Private Errol Pryce 16 January 1980, Macrory Park, Belfast.

Were you there? Please tell us all what happened, in your own words.

Moving house is no fun.

Who knew there were so many jobsworths, desk jockeys and paper-shufflers who get themselves involved in the sale and purchase of houses? Well, everyone who has ever bought or sold a house I suppose, and I have been reminded of it, and indeed am in the middle of it as I type, with a Grade 2 listed property at both ends of the deal, both needing work, to add complication!

After 21 years rooted to the same spot, the scars of 20 or so previous moves had been forgotten. A smooth transfer of ownership up the chain? Not quite. But, by the time you read this we will have moved out of the sticks and a couple of miles down the road to our little, and delightful, town of Cranbrook where our three children all went to grammar school, the first in 1983 so we go back a bit round here. Not only will we be able to walk to the pub, the barber, the dentist and a variety of villagey shops and a small supermarket, there is an undertakers just a few doors down so the next and last move will be a short one.

I mention this not just to let off steam but also because I am absolutely sure that no one will have noticed my change of address on the first page of this edition: please take note. Email and phone have not change unless BT fail me.

The President's Column



Brigadier Andrew Meek CBE

I write this at a time when the Association Office is undergoing much change all of which has been publicised electronically so what follows may well be news to many but I assure all it certainly is not fake news! Major Bob Heron is in the process of handing over responsibility for the office to Captain John Hogg who very generously agreed to take on the role. At the same time new volunteers have come forward to help with the running of the office and the maintenance of the archives. As far as the latter is concerned I am hugely grateful to Major Peter Cole for agreeing to take on this essential task. As I expected when we were planning these changes, it has not been possible to find volunteers for all areas of our work and thus it has been decided to contract out the book keeping function which will be done by Joanne Bratley of Hawley Business Solutions of Northowram, Halifax. Of interest Joanne's uncle was Rueben Holroyd who served with the Dukes in Korea and whose firm published the Iron Duke for many years.

Once the new team is fully in place we will review all aspects of the work of the Association but readers can rest assured that the reunions already being planned for this year will go ahead including the gatherings in Halifax in April and October as well as the 33/76th event in Strensall in June. Full details of all these events will be sent out separately. We are also planning to hold an officers dinner in London on 6 October.

In terms of the history of the Regiment the centenary of World War One has meant a real increase of enquiries to the Association office for details of those who served in the Regiment as well as interest from other quarters. Quite out of the blue we recently received notification of the intention of Haucourt Commune to erect a plaque in memory of Lt Huffam VC. The action that resulted in the award of the VC occurred during the period 29 August to 1 September 1918 when the 2nd Battalion was fighting along the Arras/Cambrai road. As the Regimental history records "there was a sharp fight over the enemy strongpoint of St Servin's Farm, near Harcourt, capturing 45 prisoners, nine machine guns and one field gun, for the loss of seventeen all ranks killed and 36 wounded. For his conspicuous bravery during this engagement Second Lieutenant J P Huffam was awarded the VC." Although there is much planning still to be done, I anticipate that the family of Lt Huffam as well as the Association will be invited to a ceremony at which the commemorative plaque will be unveiled in Haucourt next year.

Further to this has been work being led by Mr Alistair Fraser of Durham University to locate the burial place of 19 British soldiers interred in a mass grave by the German army following the battle at Erquinghem-Lys on 10 April 1918 at which Pte Poulter was awarded the VC. In all likelihood those buried were from 1/4th Bn DWR. This project is at a very early stage and it could take well over a year before we gain any definitive evidence of the grave site. If it is found there will be a need to have the bodies reinterred and this would then become the responsibility of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Readers will be aware of the proposal to have a fitting memorial to the Regiment. This project is now under way although it is still at the very early stages of development. We have a Project Committee and have spent quite some time setting out what the memorial is to achieve in terms of properly reflecting the 300 plus year history of the Regiment. Further to this we quickly realised that given the scale of the undertaking we needed to have the services of a professional fundraiser and I am delighted to report that Caroline Cary has been appointed as our fundraiser. Caroline has worked successfully for many years as a fundraiser for The Soldiers' Charity as well as for the National Memorial Arboretum. But of greater significance for us is the fact that her grandfather served in The Dukes in World War 1 and at the outset of World War 2 was the Commanding Officer of our Depot in Halifax. Over the coming months I anticipate that this

initiative will gather pace and thus there will be much more to report on this subject in the next issue.

I will conclude this piece with my usual plea: the Association is important to us all and in order for it to

function we rely on individuals coming forward to offer their time to the cause. If you feel that you would like to contribute to the work of the Association do not hesitate to get in touch - we would be delighted to hear from you.

Dukes News Round-Up



Cornwallis was here! Major Alan Westcob found this photograph whilst playing golf with future son-in-law at Pudding Ridge, North Carolina. Surprisingly it was in the middle of the 17th fairway, but accuracy is important and if that is where he was, that is where the sign has to be.

Pudding Ridge has associations with frontiersman Daniel Boone, but its main claim to fame is that given on the sign. In the winter of 1781 General Charles Cornwallis and his forces were marching to overtake the troops of General Nathaniel Greene who had crossed the swollen Yadkin River in heavy rain. The British travelled north into Davie County looking for a more suitable place to cross the river. They crossed Dutchmen's Creek at a rocky ford near here where Bryan's Branch enters the creek. (Bryan's Branch had been named for the family of Rebecca Bryan, wife of Daniel Boone, pioneer and folklore hero. Daniel and Rebecca's first cabin also stood near here. Boone is recorded as saying that all you need for happiness is a good gun, a good horse and a good wife. He also claimed that in all his travels he had never been lost, but admitted that he had been confused for several weeks.)

On February 6, 1781, Cornwallis traversed this site. Tradition has it that the consistency of the mud so reminded him of English pudding, that he named the hill Pudding Ridge, a name that has survived for over two hundred years.

The Havercake Lads.

Chris Jowett reports. Most members of the Dukes will be aware of the iconic picture of a nineteenth century recruiting sergeant with a havercake on his sword encouraging would-be recruits to join up. The picture shows a tavern called 'The Lord Wellington' and most of the men appear the worse for wear, no doubt because of the free ale being dispensed by the sergeant. The link to the havercake resulted in one of the Regiment's nicknames, the 'Havercake Lads'.



To find out more about the Havercakes Lads, I ventured from my home in the Ryburn valley above Halifax to Golcar in the Colne Valley above Huddersfield one snowy Sunday to visit the Colne Valley Museum. The journey took 30 minutes despite the snow and ice. In the early part of the nineteenth century this would have taken at least half a day, which shows how difficult travelling was and how isolated towns and villages were in bygone days.

Before the industrial revolution, cloth making was truly a cottage industry and the museum shows how the family who lived there spun wool and weaved cloth on hand operated looms. The family prospered and eventually had a textile mill in the area.

On my visit the museum was having an exhibition about havercakes and the 33rd. In the kitchen ladies were making havercakes from oatmeal, water and salt. The oatcakes were the size and shape of today's pancakes (as shown in the picture) and cooked on a griddle. The result was like a large biscuit and the taste just like a modern oatmeal cake.



Men of the 33rd re-enactment company on parade at the Colne Valley Museum.

The museum's display about the 33rd included the contents of a typical soldier's knapsack at the beginning of the 19th century which would be familiar to a modern soldier.

My visit coincided with a parade of a detachment of soldiers of the 33rd who, despite a slippery road surface, gave a drill display. The detachment is part of the group of military enthusiasts representing the 33rd who take part in military re-enactments throughout the country.

The Cobb Collection – Update by Scott Flaving

In the Spring edition of *The Iron Duke*, Autumn, 2016, page 5, David Harrap reported the handing over of some papers that had been discovered in the offices of Grays Solicitors in York that had been entrusted to Major William Cobb, formerly of 1/7th battalion, DWR. Major Cobb had been a partner in Grays for many years, with an office very close to York Minster. Many of the papers relate to the origin of the DWR Regimental Memorial Chapel in York Minster, amongst other topics. I have had the pleasure of cataloguing and indexing what has proved to be a fascinating collection of papers, as well as transcribing some of the more important and interesting letters and pamphlets.

The collection, five old files and a map tube, comprises some 400 documents, diagrams and account ledgers, covering a period from 1902 (South Africa and Halifax Memorials Fund Account Book) to 1949 (Order of Service for the Dedication of the Book of Honour and

Memorial Gifts for the 1939-45 War). The topics start with the origin of the idea from which our Regimental Chapel in the Minster was created (in a letter from Dean Norris to General Belfield, Colonel of the Regiment, dated 19th December, 1919) and cover some thirty subjects as diverse as the creation of the Minster Chapel as a shrine, and the chattels therein; the Royal Military College Memorial Gates; the Memorial Pension Fund (which eventually became the Benevolent Fund); the administration and publication of the Bruce Regimental History and a myriad of documents dealing with the formation and running of various Committees, sub committees, schemes and funds.

The scope of the Collection can be gauged from a small selection from the catalogue:

19.12.1918 Initial notification of scheme to create a memorial for Yorkshire Troops in the Lady Chapel, York Minster

27.12.1918 Letter requesting views of Yorkshire Regts to Cols of Regts - Y&L, E Yorks, KOYLI, Yorks & W Yorks R

05.6.1919 Press Release for opening of Minster War Memorial scheme

07.6.1920 Regrets that the original County scheme is dead, offer of DWR Memorial Chapel

13.6.1920 2 DWR view of Stone cross near Depot and Rolls of Honour in Halifax Parish Church & York Minster

12.7.1922 visit of Mr Tapper (architect) to York Minster

12.5.1923 Dedication of War Memorial Service brochure, York Minster

18.12.1924 Colours of 2nd Bn returning to UK for 'Afghanistan 1919' to be emblazoned

24.2.1926 Brochure for Reception of Regimental Colours

05.5.1928 Gift of memorial lamp to Dean of York Minster, with names of Offrs' present

24.12.1929 origins of Screen and Gate, and affect on design & width of Gate

14.8.1930 successor to Col Gibbs, following his death, for Memorial Chapel

25.7.1931 report on running of Memorial Chapel & siting of offertory box onto the Screen

25.10.1938 detailed Invoice for Chair and Kneeler for DWR Chapel

15.7.1946 resumption of normal routine with DWR Chapel, with Wm Cobb, (nephew of Harold Cobb, 2 DWR)

01.11.1949 Order of Service for Dedication of Book of Honour and Memorial Gifts for 1939-45 WarAs examples, a few of the interesting 'snippets' to be found in the collection are published below. The first is a reply from Sir Herbert Belfield to Dean Norris' initial letter enquiring as to the feasibility of a Yorkshire Regiments' Memorial Chapel:

24 December, 1918

Dear Sir,

I beg to thank you for your letter of the 19th December, regarding the erection of a Memorial to Yorkshire troops in York Minster. I am sending a copy to the Colonels of other Yorkshire Regiments but we really represent only the regular battalions, in addition to which are the Territorial Units, Service Battalions and locally raised Corps, all of which should be taken into consideration if the Memorial is – as I think it should – take the comprehensive form contemplated in your letter.

In these circumstances we must, I think, look to the senior (or other) Lord Lieutenant to take the first steps to call a meeting to discuss matters. I have not yet heard from

Lord Harewood on the subject.

The scheme appeals to me very much and I trust there may be no opposition to setting up a Memorial to cover those of all creeds and denominations in a place of such exceptional distinction as the Minster.

Yours very truly,

HB

*The Very Rev W F Norris DD
Dean of York*

An invoice from 1938 shows some of the administration required in the running of the Chapel:

YORK MINSTER

Clerk of Works Office
Deangate, York

1st April 1938

Duke of Wellington's Regt, Memorial Chapel
(All Saints Chapel)

1937

To New Parapet, Carved Cresting & Arcade Head

£90 1s 0d

Cleaning Old Colours £4 4

Decorating Shield & Bosses in Colour £26 17s 6d

Cleaning Vaulted Ceiling, ribs and Walls £16.1s 10d

Total £194. 8s 1d

And the letter which mentions the arrival of William Cobb, ex 7th (Territorial) Battalion DWR, to the fold:

Hambleton 25

Fawley Lodge
Henley on Thames
15 July 1946

My dear Cecil [Ince],

Thanks for yours of the 8th. Thomlinson seems to take a great interest in the Minster Chapel and he is ably assisted by William Cobb who served in our 7th Battalion. He is a nephew of Harold Cobb who was Adjutant of the 2nd Bn in Rangoon when I joined it. William Cobb is articled to his father's firm Gray, Dodsworth and Cobb, Solicitors, of York.

Benjamin Dodsworth is the senior partner and he is also the Treasurer of a Society known as the 'Friends of York

Minster'. Christison is an ex-officio member of the Committee. He wrote me a short time ago suggesting that we should apply for what he called Corporate Membership. I have written to BD asking for particulars.

I think that in future we shall have to call more and more on our Territorial Officers. We have some very good and able fellows who I think would feel honoured by being brought into the fold. I therefore put forward this suggestion – that we run our Chapel Fund by a Committee consisting of yourself as Chairman with Thomlinson and Cobb as members, and we ask Cobb to take over the duties of Treasurer. In effect this would mean you have two members on the spot doing the job, and whatever they do would only require your concurrence or otherwise. This keeps you in the picture all the time. Let me know what you think of this idea. I had a talk with Cobb at the OCA Dinner.

I will go into all the points you raise regarding the War Memorial. It will be a difficult job as no two persons think alike at the moment.

I have a meeting at Halifax on 29th – the first meeting of the new Regtl Assn Cttee.

Boy Armitage has now taken over the 2nd Bn at Meerut.

Yours ever,

C J Pickering

It will be immediately evident that the challenges of the past are still with us - identifying volunteers to run the various Regimental Association committees to ensure the health and well-being of the wider Regimental Family; the problems associated with looking after Memorials and the ever present search for funding to carry out all the business required for the good of the Regiment, all very relevant today!

Private Ivor Greenwood

Scot Flaving writes, acknowledging the help of the Huddersfield Family History Society.

Once a 'Duke' Always a 'Duke'. Pte Ivor Tempest Greenwood, of Keighley, joined the Duke of Wellington's Regiment in September, 1914, to 'do his bit' as part of the national upwelling of patriotism as a result of Britain's declaration of war against Germany in August.

Sadly, he died three weeks later of typhoid fever and pneumonia, as recorded in the Keighley News. He was buried locally and commemorated on the Highfield

Church War Memorial Window. However, until the Men of Worth Project volunteers discovered he was not commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, he had no national memorial and was not in any Regimental records. Due to their efforts, the CWGC has added him to their Roll of Honour and provided a new official headstone to mark his last resting place. A special commemorative event is planned in early 2017 for members of the family who may still be living in the area.

He is now properly remembered as a proud 'Duke' and is included in our electronic Roll of Honour.

Defence Discount Scheme

Colonel Peter Mitchell writes: I was recently told about the Defence Discount Service, which I have joined. It occurs to me that it may not be widely known and so I am sending you the attached in case you feel it appropriate as an item for the Iron Duke.

From: Defence Discount Service
comms@defencediscountservice.co.uk

Date: 27 January 2017 at 10:05:07 GMT

Subject: Welcome to the Defence Discount Service

Reply-To: contact@defencediscountservice.co.uk

Thank you for signing up to the Defence Discount Service, your membership has now been approved. We hope that you enjoy using the service and get the most out of the savings. We are working the behalf of the Armed Forces Community to get offers for you so please remember to keep checking back for new offers as we are constantly updating the website with new offers to help you save both online and on the high street. We have included a little information on how it works below to help you to get the most out of the service

Online

Online offers allow you to use voucher codes, landing pages or booking lines to save on your online shopping. The code or how to save will be listed in the how to use section in the offer details. To find out more please log in to the website and click How To Use where details of all the services we offer are listed.

Defence Privilege Card

The Defence Privilege Card allows you to save in high street stores, venues and restaurants. The Defence Privilege Card was launched by the Prime Minister and is available for £4.99 for 5 years. In order to request a card please login to the website and click on the Privilege Card link on the navigation.

Gift Cards

Gift Cards are a great way to make extra savings on the high street and are not just used as gifts. There are gift cards available with many top brands and supermarkets. You are able to buy gift cards at a discounted rate and can use this to do your normal shopping in store. For example if you buy a Sainsbury's gift card and wanted to put £100 on the card you would pay only £96 but still have the £100 credit on the card and can use this to pay at the tills.

To find out more please log in to the website and click How To Use where details of all the services we offer are listed.

Enjoy using the service and if we can help in any way please do get in touch via the Help Centre

Defence Discount Service Team
www.defencediscountservice.co.uk

Please help spread the word and send the link below to friends so they can benefit from the service. You can see which friends have signed up by clicking the Tell a Friend link once logged in.

The Veterans' Gateway.

In the last edition there was a short piece about the Defence and National rehabilitation Centre, and the possibility of people being confused with the very great number of service charities, reportedly around 2000 large and small. It is therefore encouraging to learn that some of the principle charities are setting up a scheme called the Veterans Gateway. The aim is to have a single point of entry for veterans and families in need, from whence their case will be forwarded to whichever organisation is best placed to deal with it.

This is extract tells what it is all about.

“What is the Veterans' Gateway?”

In November 2016 the Ministry of Defence announced £2 million of funding from the Covenant Fund for a one-stop service to better support British Armed Forces veterans in need. The service responds to calls from veterans' charities and groups for help in navigating the wide range of services and organisations set up to support those who have served in the Forces.

The service will be the first point of contact for veterans and their families to access information, advice and support on a range of issues including healthcare, housing, and employment. It will allow information and services from partners to be accessed from one place and all enquiries will be followed up to ensure that veterans receive the right support.

The Veteran's Gateway will provide website, online

chat, phone line and text message services available to any veteran, from anywhere in the world, 24 hours a day. Veterans can access face-to-face support through the Veterans' Gateway network of partners and organisations across the UK and overseas.”

26 “referral partners” are now signed up, including the British Legion, Help for Heroes, SSAFA and Combat Stress, and more are expected to do so as the scheme develops. The key question, of course, will be “how do I make contact?” There should be a great deal of publicity surrounding the launch of this new service, so keep an eye open for it, but of course the details will appear in the Iron Duke when known.

Who when and where?

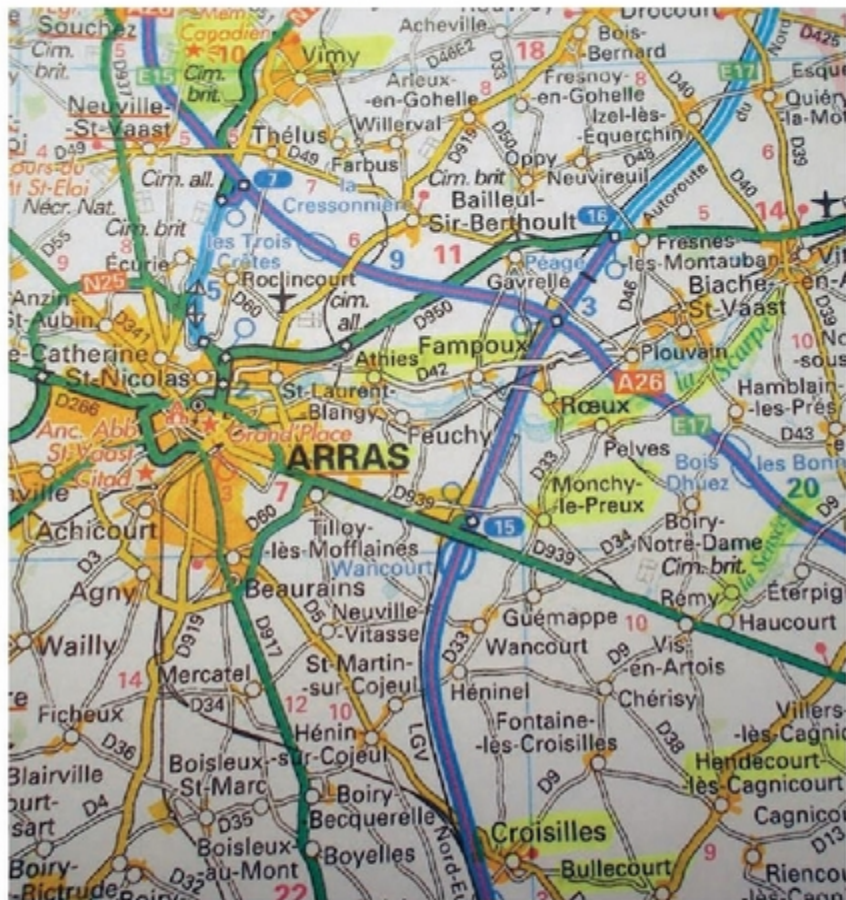


On page 12 of our last issue a photograph of four somewhat furtive and dishevelled men appeared (above), captioned by the above question. The answer comes from ex Lance Corporal David Normanshire, who remembers them from his own National Service days in 1959/1961, and was even able to quote the Iron Duke volume XXXVII, number 119 dated January 1961. Not surprising perhaps, as he was one of those in the picture; they are (from left) Lance Corporal Ecclestone, Lance Corporal Leach, Lieutenant Charlesworth and Lance Corporal Normanshire himself. They were at Gillmans Point on Mount Kilimanjaro.

Mr Normanshire may be pleased to hear that contrary to his understanding Mr Charlesworth is still with us and looking hale and hearty last time he was seen by this Editor. He thinks that Mr Ecclestone may have passed away, but if either of the others wish to get in touch, the Editor is authorised to release David's contact details.

The Dukes in the Great War - Spring 1917

The Battle of Arras



The Arras front on a modern map, with some of the places named in the narrative below highlighted

On November 13 1916 the Battle of the Ancre began, the last major engagement of the Somme before winter closed down all but routine operations, although that battle was resumed in February '17, not concluding until mid-March. For the loss of 415,000 allied casualties up to seven miles of front had been gained, and the Germans were prevented from reinforcing their formations at Verdun. Had the French been overwhelmed there – and they would not have abandoned their defence until they had thrown even more men into that dreadful mincer, drawing them away from the Somme and other areas – who can say that this would not have decisively increased the likelihood of a quick German victory?

By November 1916 the Germans could begin to see that ultimate victory on the Western Front was slipping out of their grasp, and the morale of their troops in that

sector had taken a serious knock. However, on the Eastern Front Germany had done much better, with a successful campaign which regained most of Romania, and the ensuing six months would see large reinforcements for the Western Front German armies coming in from the east.

Over the winter of 1916/1917 the enemy was busy 15-20 miles further east. The Germans were preparing a new defensive line, using the lessons they had gained; siting on reverse slopes, providing strong protection against artillery, favouring a deep, strongpoint defence strategy over linear lines of defensive trenches, each point protected by triple lines of wire, on a plan that would be seen fully developed later in the year at the 3rd Battle of Ypres. This was the Hindenburg Line. The Germans began their withdrawal to it in February 1917. Between

their old and new positions they blew up bridges, blocked roads, poisoned wells, set booby traps and generally made the sector uninhabitable and caused maximum devastation to hinder any allied advance.

The Dukes' Territorial 186 Brigade, which had only arrived in France on 10 January 1917, had to advance through the devastation. This is what the 62 (West Riding) Division's history records about the advance to the new enemy positions east of Arras:

"The 62nd Division ... had not a more difficult task than in following up the enemy's retirement during those hard days of March 1917. For as the troops advanced the roads had to be rebuilt, which necessitated the accommodation of large numbers of working parties close up to the front line. At night time it was impossible to find shelters for them, and many had perforce to sleep in hastily erected shelters, which in many places consisted of tarpaulins stretched above excavations in the muddy ground or over piles of stones: some men were in tents. The weather was abominable – sometimes cold and frosty and at other times wet and muddy, which impeded progress and called for superhuman efforts in moving up guns and stores and all the impedimenta of a division on the advance."

Elsewhere the narrative continues. "There were many fires burning when we occupied the village (Gomicourt) and as they were still burning we tried to put them out. The junction of every road in the village had been mined

and blown up and everything of value had been destroyed. All fruit trees had either been pulled down or an incision made round the barks so that the sap could not rise. All wells had been blown in and one had been poisoned with arsenic, so the RE officer told me."

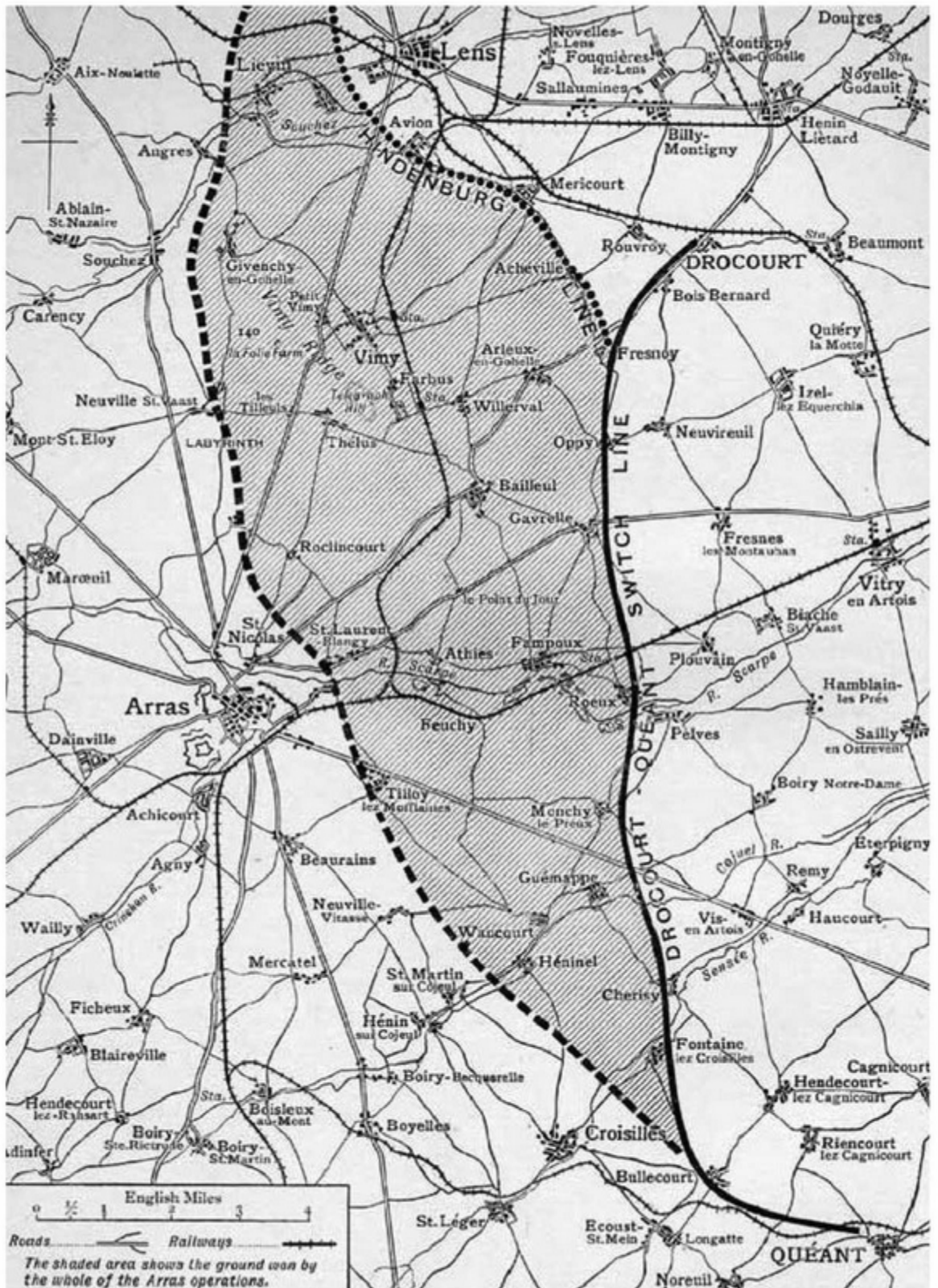
So it was that by April 1917 the Germans were dug into strongly fortified positions along a broad frontage on the eastern side of Arras. Perhaps unsurprisingly – the area is, after all, only just "up the road" from the Somme – the two battle areas have much in common, apart from the coal mining areas in the extreme north below Lens. Few major towns, but many small villages, almost entirely occupied with agriculture. Mostly rolling hills, with long fields of view and fire, and yet with many folds, spurs and little valleys in which men can hide. Some sharp inclines, too – the Canadians attacking Vimy Ridge had a slog up a long, steep hillside under intense fire.

The ground favours the defender; he can see far out and bring down accurate artillery fire, and his machine gunners can cover long, overlapping beaten zones from the flanks. Conversely, attacking troops must leave the shelter of their positions and traverse open slopes. Modern soldiers know the difficulties encountered by operations in darkness, despite night vision and overlook technology – how much harder 100 years ago when the Mark One Eyeball and a pair of binoculars were all that were available.



THE GERMAN RETREAT TO THE HINDENBURG LINE.

TREES WERE FELLED BY THE ENEMY AND PLACED ACROSS THE ROAD TO OBSTRUCT THE ADVANCE OF THE BRITISH.



The Arras battle zone, east of the City. The shaded area is the ground that was fought over.



The Arras CWG cemetery and memorial. The names of those killed at Arras having no known grave are inscribed on the walls of the buildings on the left. There are 726 Dukes names on those walls, and six named headstones in the cemetery

The River Scarpe runs east from the city, then turns north east. Its marshy valley, with lakes and ponds, together with an elevated railway embankment along much of its length towards Douai, offers a serious obstacle. The 4th Division's line of advance extended either side of these obstacles. Elsewhere, the ground is mostly open, although there are other, smaller rivers, notably the Cojeul, the Sensée and the Hironnelle.

Meantime the French, under the new leadership in the field of General Nivelle (whose promotion was founded on his perceived success at Verdun) had embarked on a new offensive in the hills and forests of eastern Champagne, a line known as the Chemin des Dames. It failed with many casualties, costing Nivelle his job and



elevating Petain to command. Once more the French High Command insisted that Britain and its allies should open a new offensive further north, against the Hindenburg Line, to relieve the pressure.

Surely there must have been a feeling of "here we go again", pulling French irons out of the fire. But there was a war to fight so they probably thought that they had better get on with it, whether here and now, or somewhere else a bit later.

Arras had an extraordinary network of tunnels, which enabled thousands of men to stay safe underground, and to get east of the town on their way up to the front.

The broad assault on 11 April quite quickly became a series of actions, at best loosely linked, but reflecting the strength of the opposition in each locality, and the determination of and level of support given to, the attackers. After some initial success the action bogged down into another attritional struggle. One of the difficulties was that when a formation made some progress but the formations on either side did not, the forward attackers were exposed to heavy MG fire from one or both flanks. Tanks were deployed in some numbers to support assaulting infantry, but were very slow and unreliable, often not even getting as far as the start line.

The Iron Duke's coverage of these times, as the centenary of each of the major Great War engagements passes, reminds us what it was like for our predecessors in those days. Six of our battalions were engaged at Arras: 2 DWR, 9 DWR, and 2/4, 2/5, 2/6, and 2/7 DWR, those last named four battalions formed as 186 Brigade in 62 (West Riding) Division. This issue of your Journal carries an account, largely using his own words, by Lieutenant Colonel Horsfall, commanding 2 DWR, 12



Brigade in the 4th Division, of the action at Fampoux. We then have 9 DWR, 17 (Northern) Division, 52 Brigade, in the two Battles near the Scarfe River and beyond Monchy Le Preux. And finally the story of 186 Brigade, 62 (West Riding) Division, in the advance to and the attack on Bullecourt. All went bravely forward, but with little sustained success and heavy casualties. 844 of our men lost their lives between 1 April and 19 May 1917 and lie in the region's cemeteries or are names on memorial walls. Our coverage concludes with the memoirs of Major Tom Goodall, who served in

2 DWR at Fampoux.

The account of Lieutenant Colonel AG Horsfall, Commanding Officer 2 DWR.

Editor's note. The author was killed by a bullet through the heart leading his companies into position near Langemarck on 9 October 1917, during the Passchendaele action. He came to the 2nd Battalion from the 1st in India to get into the war, and was CO through 10 months of almost continuous action on the Somme and here at Arras. A remarkable man and a true hero.



LIEUT.-COLONEL A. G. HORSFALL, D.S.O.

See also Sandhurst Chapel article on page 30

The 4th Division had been in reserve to the west of Arras, then came forward and passed through the 9th Division which had captured the ground as far as the Brown Line. "We took part in the big show on April 9th. It

was, I think, the most spectacular battle ever fought. Another Division was to take the first three German systems (Black, Blue and Brown lines), then our Division was to go through and capture Fampoux, and dig in about 300 yards beyond it.

"We marched at 5.15 am in a snowstorm to the assembly area about 5 miles away, where we had a hot meal and a rum ration, and picks and shovels were drawn. The last mile or so up to this place we were passing through continuous heavy guns and howitzers, all firing hard; you never heard such a row. We passed streams of wounded, and dense columns of prisoners kept coming in. During our halt we had one man hit by a stray bullet – Lord knows where it came from. We heard the Black line was captured before we moved off; we then went up the Athies/Plouvain Road, gangs of sappers were already hard at work on it.

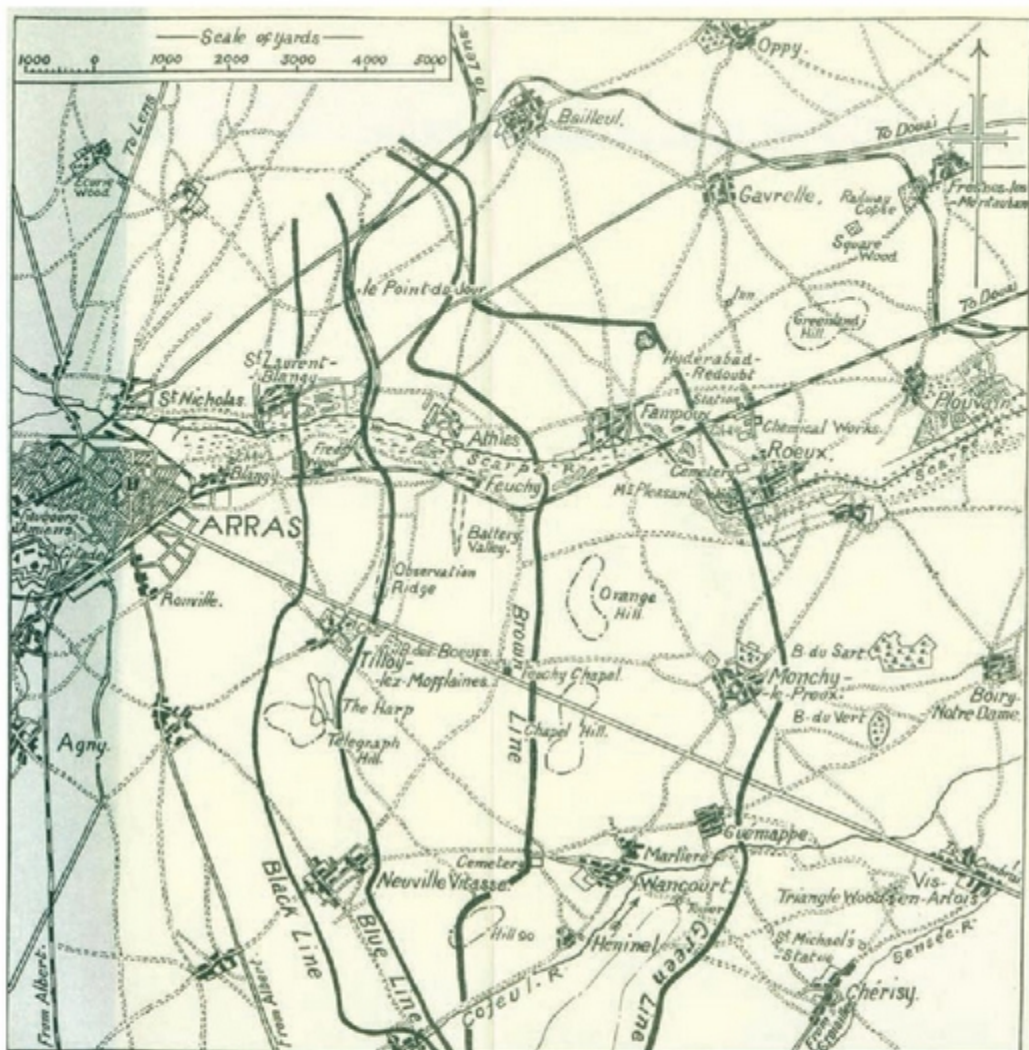
"The enemy barraged the road and the 1st KOs (King's Own Royal Lancasters) ahead of us lost heavily, but we kept a bit to the south and got to the Blue line (which had been captured in the meantime) with only one other man hit.

"The Blue line here was an enormous railway embankment, we sat on it and watched our heavies strafe Athies and the Highlanders take the place – just like a cinematograph – then moved on and got into our positions of readiness while our guns hammered the fourth German system. The advance from here was in artillery formation of section columns and was done just like a drill movement, every section in its proper position moving steadily on.

"The German position was just over a ridge, and we did not know we were so close to it when suddenly a hare got up and came dodging in and out of the columns. All the men cheered and watched it while the Boche with his



The rather splendid Mairie at Fampoux. Unlike some of the Arras villages today there are no obvious memorabilia of the war 100 years ago.



Note the lines with names of colours that were the progressive objectives, from black, through blue and brown, to green, the envisaged initial limit. On 2 DWR's line of advance the coloured map lines were mostly crests on the ground.

hands up came streaming out to us; but no one cared a damn for them compared to the hare. It was lucky the Boche had the wind up, as their wire was hardly touched and their trenches intact.

"From here we pushed on to Fampoux. On the right, south of the (River) Scarpe, our attack had not got forward so well and the Boche MGs kept going hard at us but I don't think anyone was hit, thanks to the very long range they were firing at. We had to wait for some time for our heavies to paste the place; (as a matter of fact they did very little damage, but the Boche guns during the next few days practically flattened the place out).

"During this halt a few Boche guns got onto us and a subaltern was killed close to me and several men wounded. We fairly rushed the village, which was a very big one; luckily for us the enemy was a bit on the run and it was not until we got near the far end that we had any real fighting; here we had to bomb them out of one or two houses.

"The Boche made a stand beyond the village, holding a railway embankment on our right, several trenches, and a line of houses beyond, with MGs. Trying to advance to the Green line we lost about 80 men and 6 officers in two or three minutes; the survivors had to lie flat, any man showing himself the slightest bit being shot to pieces. I decided that without artillery support we could not push



The river runs broadly north to south where it goes under the railway line, and the Dukes were over it, but the assault on their right flank was not, hence the incoming MG fire from elevated positions.

further, so we dug in along the forward edge of the village.

“It was a rather anxious time for a bit as south of the river on our right a heavy Boche counter-attack had gone clean past and about three-quarters of a mile behind us; and on our left, where we were warned an attack was expected, the rest of the Brigade had not come up into line. So we were just holding the forward edge of the village and a bit either side of it with both flanks in the air. However I managed to get a company of the LFs (Lancashire Fusiliers) to join up on our left, and the rest of the Brigade came up into line – or rather part of them did during the early hours of next day, and I got the KOs who were in support to hold a bridge over the river for us (in our rear).

“The next day we were warned to attack the buildings in front of us without a barrage. Fortunately I told our Brigadier that it would be simply murder to take men out to do so, and they then said the cavalry would charge the trenches between us and the buildings and we would go

in support. However the cavalry jibbed, and nothing happened.

“Luckily our GSO1(I) came up to see the situation and I took him round as much of the front line as it was prudent to get to; by an especial mercy the Hun was barraging every street with MGs and really pasting the village with HE, and it rather impressed the GSO1(I) who even told me he thought it foolhardy to move about the village, but I rubbed it in that the infantry had no choice.

“The next day we and the KOs went over the top, but instead of attacking the buildings in front were to do a right incline, crossing the railway embankment diagonally and attacking buildings well south of it. The ground beyond the village was deep mud and swamp, and the barrage very thin and far too quick and the men could not keep up. They captured some German trenches held by Prussians of a fresh division, and then, while they were climbing up a high embankment the barrage got a long way ahead.

"Only about 50 men of the two battalions got across, with most of the officers; then had to get under cover and lie there all day; the enemy holding a strongly fortified point beyond. Another brigade was to have been on our left but must have misread its orders, and only one platoon of it ever came south of the Athies/Plouvain road (now the D42). The result of this was that a great part of the railway embankment, a lot of the Boche trenches and all the buildings between the railway and the Athies/Plouvain road were never attacked, and all were stiff with MGs.

"Seeing the attack held up I went up into the line. We tried to turn the strongpoint along the river but were held up by swamps and lack of cover. The CO of the KOs and I had a consultation. He thought the brigade on our left had gone through, and wanted to attack the buildings north of the railway. I went forward a bit and did a reconnaissance and also got reports from one platoon of ours that had gone well forward and had to fall back, and from the platoon of the brigade on our left, and thought we would have no earthly hope of getting in; and so I said I would take my Battalion forward if he ordered it but was against doing so.

"He then asked what I suggested, so I said we must hold the captured trenches. They were not continuous and we had a lot of digging to do, but finally got a continuous line. It was now snowing like blazes. We held from the road to the railway, and then back along the railway to a point where we joined the corps south of the river. The LFs had come into the line by now. Just then the enemy made a counter-attack and got clean round on our left flank, which merely rested on the road and was actually within bombing distance.



Brown's Copse Cemetery lies at the heart of the 9 DWR battlezone, taking the ground of both assaults, on Fampoux (9 April) and the Chemical Works (3 May, see below), together. The ground between there and the village, and then from there to the chemical works, is shown on the next two photos.



Between Fampoux and Brown's Copse.

"We held the left and the KOs the embankment. The men were beat to the world and their rifles all clogged with clay and snow, and for some time a Company Sergeant Major with a Lewis gun and myself with a rifle held the line. I forgot to say we were counter-attacked twice the previous night, and since 5.15 am on the 9th our men had practically no rest and no sleep, had taken part in two attacks, had dug in twice and been heavily shelled and fired at by MGs all the time. Finally the men got going and we beat the Boche off. (The General was very good to me about it and I got the DSO and the CSM the MC).

"I set out to look for the brigade on our left and finally found they had taken a real knock and were back in our jumping-off trenches a long way behind us. I finally got one company of them into some trenches north of the road which the enemy had abandoned, and soon after dark the rest came into line and the 4th battalion of our Brigade filled up the gap between us.

"The next day the Higher Command put in a fresh brigade of another division to attack the buildings north of the railway. They put in a whole brigade and told them they had a soft job and gave them a really good barrage. Poor devils, they were absolutely wiped out, about 100 men surviving. The next night we were relieved and went into reserve for a week or more, and were told we would go over the top again but were suddenly taken out for a rest. Our casualties were I think, 1 officer killed, 10 wounded, and about 185 other ranks killed and wounded. Our rest consisted of marching and counter-marching with 4 days' halt in one village. During those 4 days one had to train Lewis gun teams, bombers, grenadiers etc, besides generally reorganising. Luckily we got some top-hole drafts."

Colonel Horsfall's direct account finishes there, but the Battalion was by no means finished with fighting. On the night of April 30th/May 1st 2 DWR came back again into much the same area; during the interval two divisions had



Forward from Brown's Copse to the Chemical Works. The visible building arc, of course, not those of the 1917 Works.

been practically wiped out trying to take those buildings. After two days in the trenches the Battalion went over the top again on 3rd May. This time the line of the assault was just south of the railway and the final objective was a line about 2 miles beyond the buildings. The Battalion did magnificently, but at ruinous cost. They went through together with some men of another brigade and reached the second objective about 2000 yards away. There all the surviving officers were casualties and the remnants of the Battalion fell back to the Black line, about 1000 yards ahead of the jumping-off trench.

At this point the Battalion was heavily swept by machine-gun fire, both frontal and enfilade. The remnants, in company with the remnants of different units of the 10th and 12th Brigades, about 100 men in all, dug in. Meanwhile the attack on the left had also failed completely, and even lost some of the front line trench, and though some men of the Brigade on the right had gone on they never mopped the chateau and other buildings near it. Consequently 2 DWR moved into the Chemical Works with orders not to go beyond it, but to hold firm on the buildings. They held all day but under constant enemy MG fire from buildings on either side. Reinforcement was too slow in coming and later that evening a heavy German counter-attack pushed everyone back behind the Black line.

That night, exclusive of signallers and HQ staff, the Battalion total was 16 effectives, rising to just over 50 as

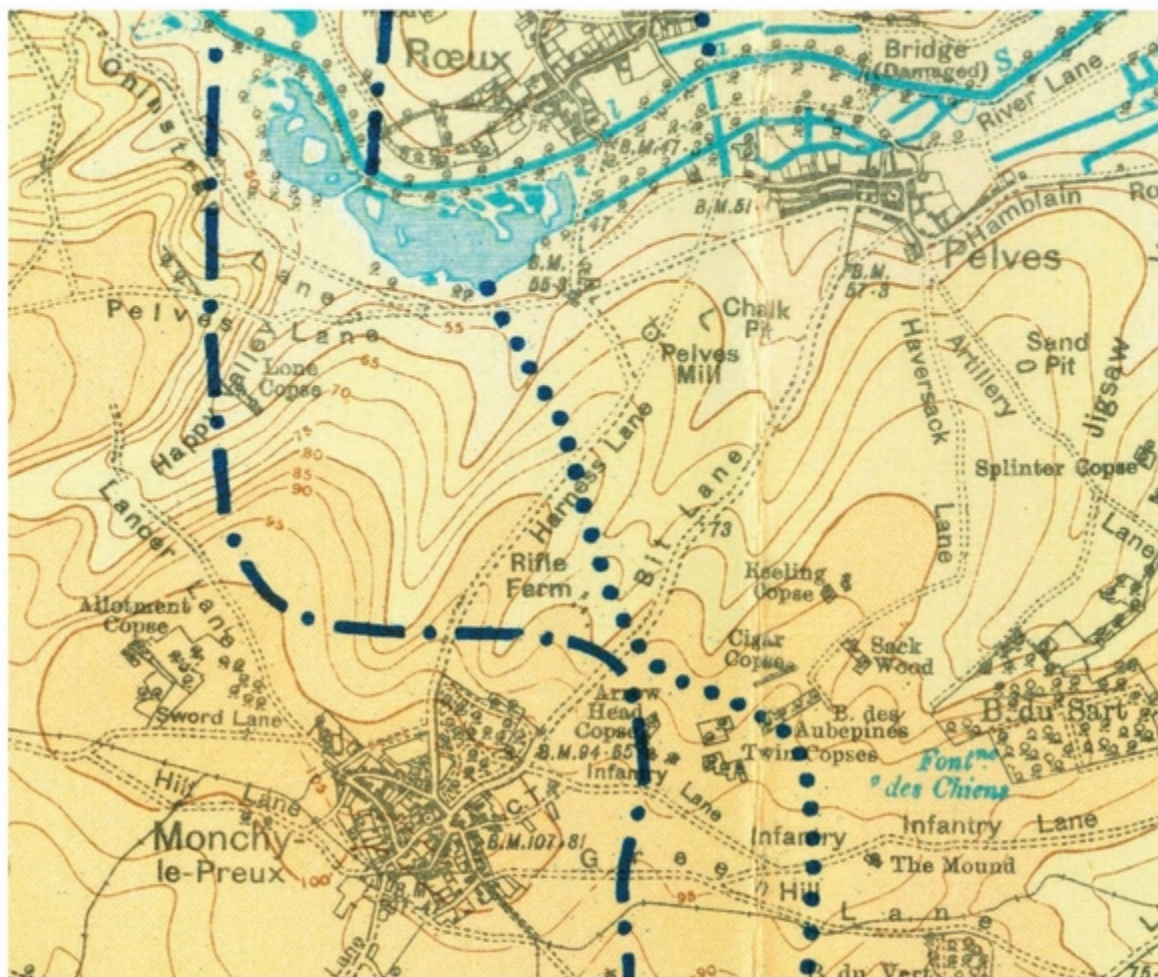
men trickled in from around the battlefield. After a short period in support what was left formed up as two platoons attached to the LF and were in close support when the other two battalions in the Brigade assaulted again. Another 1 officer was killed and 11 other ranks were either wounded or missing, or both. The remnant came out of the line for rest and reinforcement.

The Battalion's Roll of Honour shows that 306 men were killed in the early part of 1917, the great majority in April and early May.

9 DWR and the Battles of the River Scarpe.

17 (Northern) Division was in reserve when the offensive started. It became part of the thrust (known as the first and second battles of the Scarpe), to capture the ground between the Cambrai road and the River Scarpe, with the principle objective being Monchy Le Preux. It spent 11 to 19 April in cold and wet trenches roughly along the line of the Monchy to Fampoux road, shown as Lancer Lane on the map below, whilst other divisions fought to take this heavily defended fortified stronghold. It returned to billets at Arras until called for, then went forward again on the 24th to assault along the line (see map) from west of Rifle Farm towards Keeling Copse.

The first task was to take a defensive line called Rifle Trench, which they attempted with A and D Companies, commencing on 25th April at 0320 hours, advancing from Orange Hill behind a barrage, but under artillery fire



from enemy guns. The men walked steadily forward until they were about 100 yards from the enemy trench when they were hit by massed machine gun and rifle fire.

They fell back to their start line, where they reorganised and were strengthened by two platoons from C Company, and advanced again. On the right of their line a few men got into the enemy trench, and held out all day, even though the rest of the attacking force had again been driven back, although they made a third attempt. After a fourth attempt to gain their objectives, with all companies in the assault by now, but with the same bloody outcome, it was called off. Those who made the German lines and survived withdrew under cover of night, having been there, under fire, all day. The Battalion was pulled out and returned to Arras.

Amongst the wounded was Lt Huxtable, the Father of General Sir Charles Huxtable. One might imagine that he felt lucky; there are 724 Dukes named on the Arras Memorial, 80 of them from 9 DWR killed in April 1917,

and many more in the small, scattered cemeteries in the countryside east of Arras.

186 Brigade and the Fight for Bullecourt

The Brigade's difficult advance from its positions on the Somme, last near Beaumont-Hamel, has been mentioned earlier in this article. Casualties had been incurred on the march, from artillery, snipers and booby-traps. Elements of enemy remained along the march long enough to engage the advance, but rarely stayed to take on determined opposition. Nevertheless the 62nd Division lost 35 officers and 300 other ranks killed, wounded and missing; for example there are 44 Dukes interred at Achiet Le Grand, west of Arras.

As their history says "following a retreating enemy is not always a bloodless victory". The Division arrived in the front line, somewhat west of Bullecourt, by 5th April 1917. It had the 4th Australian Division on its right, and 21st Division on its left. It was, therefore, the southernmost British formation alongside the

northernmost allied formation, with all the potential for mis-communication that that situation holds.

Each Brigade had attached to it a Machine Company, comprising 16 guns and around 100 men to fire, control and support them. The MG companies doubled the machine gun firepower of the divisions they supported. Also about this time the machine gun sections of battalions were taken away for extra training and some re-equipping. At last there was an effective response to the German MG power on the battlefield, although the guns were of course most potent when carefully sited in defence, whilst the allies were almost always in the assault, or hastily fending off counter-attacks.

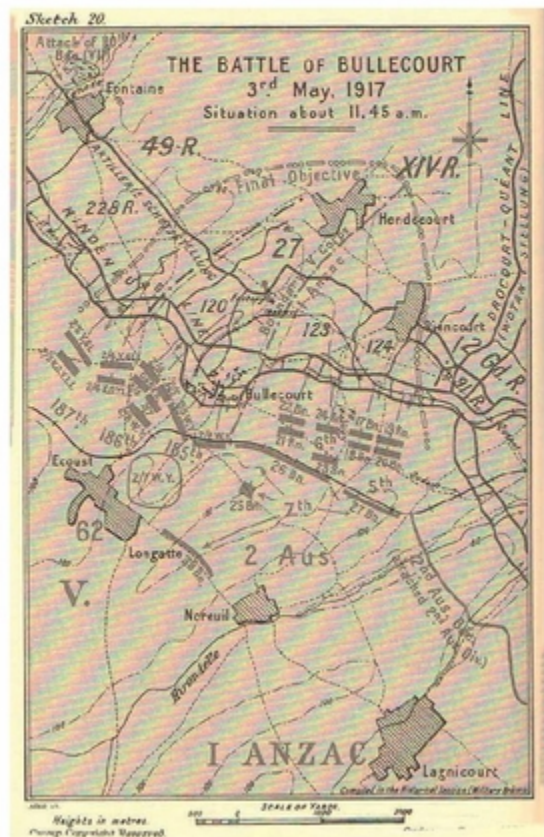
The village of Bullecourt formed a strong salient in the Hindenburg Line, at its southern end. There was a well-constructed trench on the west, south and east sides of the village, protected by three formidable belts of wire, each 10 to 15 yards wide. MG emplacements were sited to provide enfilade fire along its whole length. A second trench line ran through the middle of the village itself, and a third line, heavily wired, lay along the northern outskirts.



Achiet Le Grand CWGC Cemetery.

Faced with a warning order to prepare to attack the village – which as yet had been little affected by gunfire, with the wire all intact – there was some understandable consternation amongst commanders. A barrage was laid down when darkness fell on 5th April, and 185th Brigade, comprising four battalions of West Yorks, advanced. There was some success, and with the guns continuing to pound the enemy's trenches this was taken to be a promising start. On 9th April a general attack along the Arras front began (see 2 DWR above), and Vimy Ridge was taken by the Canadians with British support, a remarkable feat as anyone who has approached that feature from the back (west side) will vouch.

However the 62 Division attack on 9 April was cancelled, although the next day strong, battalion sized, patrols were ordered to push forward, supported by tanks



Bullecourt, showing the main wire and other obstacles in and around the village. The position of the Dukes' Battalions was to the left front of the village, between the tank routes marked along the steep sided east/west track. The ANZAC troops were to the right of the village. A larger version of this map will be found inside the back cover

and Australian units on their right. German MGs opened up a murderous fire, neither tanks nor Australians appeared, and a costly withdrawal of the patrols was ordered (2/7 West Yorks alone took over 100 casualties). It transpired that the 10 April attack had been cancelled, but not before 185 Brigade's troops (the West Yorks battalions) had crossed their start lines. At 4.30 am the next day the attack was again mounted, this time with all concerned apparently ready for the advance. Gas had been discharged in the village the previous night.

Once again no sign of the Australians was seen, though it transpired that they had attacked, and been counter-attacked, and withdrawn and most of the tanks had been immobilised. This time it was 2/6 West Yorks who bore the brunt.

The Division held its ground in the face of counter-attacks until 3rd May, when the assault on Bullecourt was

renewed. By this time some progress had been made along the Arras front, in, amongst others, the battles of the Scarpe and Monchy-Le-Preux. The final battle for Bullecourt was the last major allied offensive in the spring of 1917. The village had been continuously shelled from early April through into May and was by then practically flat, although the German trenches and obstacles stubbornly remained both usable and formidable.

The three West Riding Brigades were ready to advance on 3 May, with 185 Bde (West Yorks) to take Bullecourt; 186 Bde (Dukes) to overwhelm the enemy forward positions on its front, and then push on to take Hendecourt, the next village along the line of advance. Then 187 Bde (Y&L and KOYLI) would come forward. They crossed the start line at 0345 hours. It did not go well; most battalions got into the first line of enemy trenches but found that much of the wire was uncut, and enemy shell and MG fire made further advance impossible. Furthermore it was a very dark night with all the dust and dirt of the shells, and battalions lost their direction. By midday most of the men were back on the railway line, with small forward parties unable to go forward or back and taking cover in shell holes.



Believed to be the pre assault position of 2/5 DWR, with the village of Hendecourt, the second phase objective, in the far distance, and the village of Bullecourt on the right. 185 Brigade (West Yorks) faced the village itself.

One reason for this failure was that there was no effective coordination on the right flank, and the British and Australian assaults did not take place together. Thus 185 Bde on the right was under intolerable enfilade fire from heavily defended positions that were not engaged until the ANZAC troops came up, by which time it was too late. As it could not get forward, so the troops to their left were also exposed. The Division was relieved in the line, and pulled back a few miles to recover and reorganise.

On 7 May a further assault on Bullecourt was mounted by 7 Division (who relieved the 62nd) and the Australians; a footing in the village was gained, which counter-attack

failed to dislodge. On 13 May 2/7 DWR was sent forward to support 7 Division units in an attack on a strongpoint called the Crucifix, which had beaten off many an assault over the previous few days.

Bullecourt did not fall until 17 May, by which time a third division (58th) had come up and taken the lead role, although West Riding units, now often amalgamated to cover for their heavy casualties, were still involved in the fighting. They were all pulled out and back to positions south west of Arras. It should not be thought that it was the infantry alone that bore the brunt. The gunners maintained fire throughout, and counter-battery fire took its toll, with both HE and gas shells raining down. The Division as a whole had over 3000 casualties.

Bullecourt changed hands 19 times during 1917 and 1918. There are a number of memorials to be seen, as shown below.



Flagpoles and memorials outside the church.



Memorial tablets showing the divisions engaged in the Bullecourt battles

Messines Ridge and the Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele)

The Dukes contribution to these bloody actions in the second half of 1917 will be the topic of our Great War 1000 years on commemorative coverage in the Autumn edition.

Major Tom Goodall DSO MC
 Compiled by Scott Flaving

2/5 DWR – World War One: Home Guard – World War Two

Major Tom's story will appear in three instalments. This first one covers the period up to May 1917 and the attack on Bullecourt, as described above.

Tom Goodall was born in Slaithwaite on 3rd October, 1882, the son of Dick and Elizabeth Goodall. His father was a commercial traveller and by 1891 the family resided at 6 Providence Terrace, Mirfield. Tom was the sixth child of seven and his younger brother had been born in Mirfield in 1889. At the age of 18 Tom is recorded as working as a solicitor's clerk and in 1909 Tom was admitted as a Managing Clerk at E B Wilson & Topham. By 1929 the firm was known as E B Wilson, Topham & Goodall.

Tom was commissioned into the local Territorial Force (TF) unit on 10th December, 1914, not long after the outbreak of war. Mirfield, was home to a Company of the Huddersfield-based 5th Battalion, and he was posted to H Company of the recently formed Second Line TF Battalion, the 2/5th Battalion (this was later amalgamated into D Coy).

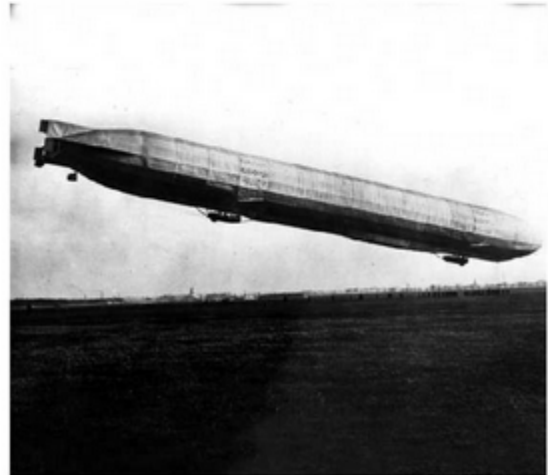
The second line units of the 2nd West Riding Division were to be disappointed at not being embarked for France until 1917. Kitchener's New Army units took priority over the 2nd Line Territorials for uniform and equipment, despite there being very few officers or men with any experience in their ranks. The second line TF units of 2nd West Riding Division were moved round England for coastal defence and training for 17 long months.

On 13th September, 1915, Tom is recorded as being on leave in Mirfield, and was a witness to the marriage of his brother John, 35 and Annie Greenwood. John was also a commercial traveller.

After training in Yorkshire and Derbyshire, the Bn was sent to Newcastle on coastal defence duties. Following further intensive training at Larkhill, near Salisbury, Tom records the excitement of their time on coastal defence, near Southdown in Suffolk:

"During the months of July, August, September and October 1916, particularly the two latter months, the Bn had several very exciting times during German air raids, as many of the Zeppelins came inland over the bay at Southwold and appeared to follow the course of the River Blyth there. The Zeppelins also returned by the same route, leaving the coast at Southwold. This was noticed

and remarked upon many times during the Zeppelin raids. One bit of good work could be seen from our Camp. The searchlights located a Zeppelin coming inland and the anti-aircraft guns shelled it. Several shells burst very near the Zepp and the following day a Gondola was found which had been shot off the Zepp." Eventually, the Battalion moved into billets at Bedford, from whence they entrained for Southampton on 10th January, 1917, bound for Le Havre, France, disembarking there in the early morning of 12th January.



A German zeppelin of c. 1915.

On arrival behind the front line in January, a programme of trench warfare instruction was conducted for all members of the Battalion, now part of 186 Brigade, 62nd (West Riding) Division, in the Hebuterne area. They then took over a section of the line in the Beaumont Hamel area. On 27th February the Battalion attacked and captured Orchard Alley, which compelled the enemy to withdraw from the village of Puiseux. After successful actions at Achiet le Petit on 17th March, and Gommecourt on 18th March, the Bn was occupied in training and working parties, at which time Tom was wounded on 31st March 1917.

By May, he had rejoined the Bn and they were holding the front line on the flank of the newly constructed Hindenburg Line.

The first major action of the Battalion was on 3rd May, 1917, at Bullecourt. On 11th April, 1917, an attack by 4th Australian Division against the Hindenburg Line to the East of Bullecourt had made some small gains, which were reversed by a major German counter attack by four Divisions on 15th April. It had been planned for the 62nd

Division to take part in the original attack to support the Australians, supported by the Tank Corps who were to mount a flanking attack against Bullecourt from the east. The flank attack did not materialise, but the British High Command was committed to keeping up pressure against the Germans to prevent them from taking advantage of the precarious state of the French Army at this time. After the disastrous Nivelle Offensive along the Chemin des Dames many units of the French Army had mutinied.

The 6^{2^d} Division was ordered to attack to the West of Bullecourt early on 3^d May. The attack was repulsed, with 170 dead and missing, with many more wounded. Captain Goodall recorded the action:

“Zero was at 3.45 am and the barrage opened promptly then. It was something never to be forgotten. Shells of all sizes screamed through the air and bullets from our machine guns sped towards the enemy lines. The noise was deafening and appalling. Then the tanks went forward to do their part in the attack. I went to the top of the railway embankment but could see nothing but a dense cloud of smoke and dust, lighted here and there by bursting shells. Hundreds of ‘verey’ lights and coloured signals were sent up by the enemy all along his line. Watched the timing of the barrage carefully and noted that after the Company should have been in the enemy second line trench, enemy lights were still being sent up from that direction. Got no news or reports from any Company Commanders or other Officers all day.

Took out six posts at night. The enemy machine gun fire and shelling continued throughout the night.”

With the 76th in India – the Battle of Delhi

“The Governor General in Council, under the strongest impressions of public gratitude, notifies to the Army his unfeigned admiration of the distinguished conduct of the forces employed under the personal command of His Excellency General Lake in the gallant and successful assault of the strong fort of Ally Ghur..... It is with the greatest satisfaction that the Governor General in Council expresses his applause of the bravery, discipline and steadiness of the men of His Majesty’s 76th Regiment.....”

The Governor General was lavish in his praise of those who took part in the capture of this strong fortification on 4 September 1803, as described in our last edition. And well might he be; it was bravely done. But Lake’s force had by no means finished. They did not loiter, but on 7 September set off to march the 75 miles to Delhi.

Having marched most of this distance by 11 September (don’t forget those 100,000 pack bullocks and a similar

Only six of the 24 Stretcher Bearers who went over the top with the Battalion that day returned.

During the Summer months the Battalion was in the front line, support or at rest. The London Gazette of 1st August, 1917, shows Lt T Goodall was promoted to be A/Capt whilst commanding a Company, from 29th June, 1917.

Italy 1917

In the next Journal, as we deal with the events of the second half of 1917, we will come across the deployment of 10 DWR to Italy. Here is a taster.

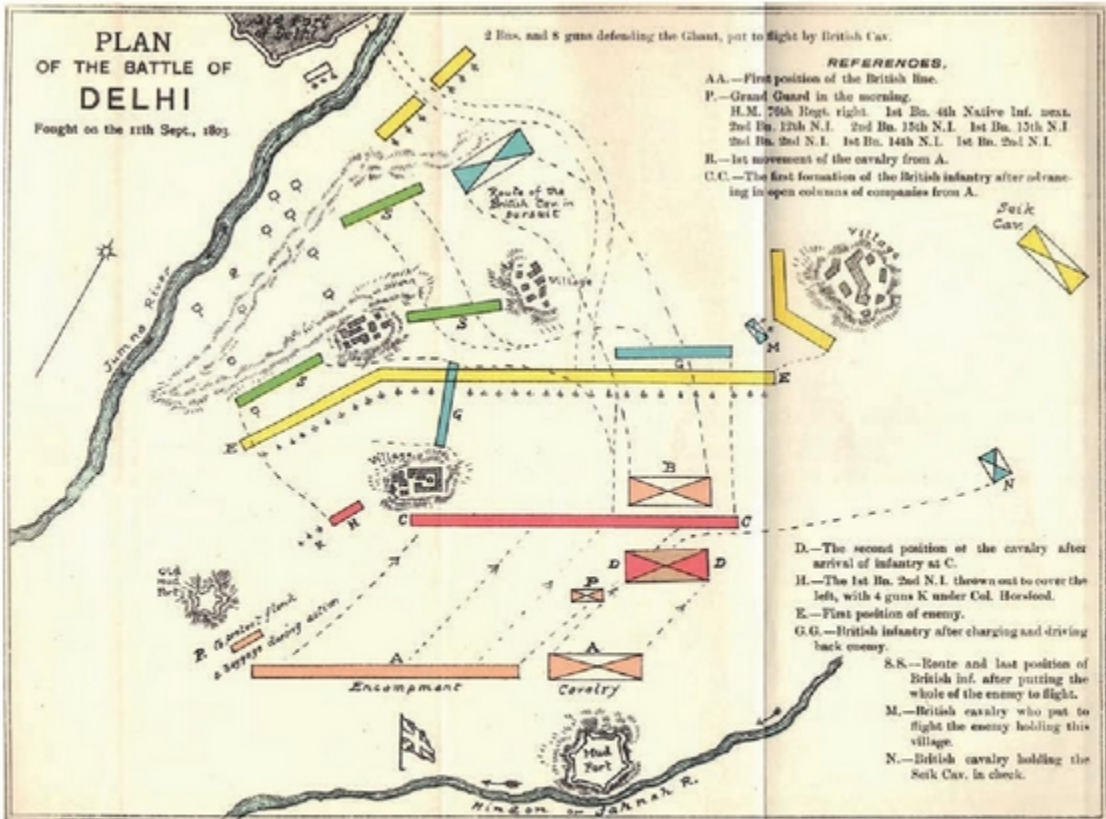
“A brass band had been started only a very short time before (we entrained for the journey to Italy) and, indeed, half the instruments arrived only arrived two days before we left France. One of the officers went to London on one day’s leave. He hied him to Hawkes & Sons, one of whose partners had served in the 10th, and, guided by their advice, brought back large and fearsome brazen forms. He was a Scotchman, one of the persistent sort. Surely none other could have got these great packing cases passed the RTO at Victoria (station, in London) on to and off the ship and into a motor “wangled” for the occasion. Anyhow, the band practised in the train, and when the left half Battalion caught up with the right half at Les Arcs all the Frenchmen in the station were ecstatic at its rendering of the ‘Marseillaise’. Puffed up by this, it essayed the Italian National Anthem a day or two later at Parma, and had to run after the train which was leaving without it. Possibly the railway people did not recognise the air.”

number of camp followers) in very hot conditions, the army arrived at the Hundun River somewhat weary and settled in to rest for a while. No sooner had the men relaxed than the alarm sounded. Picquets placed well out (General Lake was a consummate professional leading a well-trained and disciplined army) saw troops ahead. The General went forward with the cavalry and discovered the enemy drawn up on rising ground some two miles in front. The position was protected on its flanks by swamps, and a line of entrenchments protected their front. As soon as Lake’s cavalry was seen, the enemy’s guns opened fire.

Orders were sent back for the infantry to come up, leaving their tents and all else standing. As before, the 76th and the 27th Light Dragoons were the only King’s Regiments, but the Force had seven Native Infantry Battalions, two Regiments of Native Cavalry and Company’s artillery as well. Total fighting strength was about 4,500: the enemy was 19,000 strong, and was



General Lake at the Battle of Delhi



commanded by a Monsieur Louis Bourquien, another Frenchman. An hour later (good going one might think) the infantry, with its guns, came up to the field of battle, although still out of sight of the enemy.

The cavalry had been under artillery fire all this time, and Lake had a horse shot under him, so it was warm work, and none too soon for reinforcement. The General reasoned that his Army would not be able to dislodge the Mahratta force from its position, so he resolved to try a very old trick, the feigned withdrawal, used in countless battles through the ages, the cavalry to fall back as if in disorder. Seeing their opponents pull back, the enemy advanced to complete the rout. The cavalry, still going backwards, opened out and let the arriving battalions through, and fell in again behind them. This manoeuvre required a high order of skill, practice and discipline.

And it proved a magnificent success. The Mahratta Army charged forward to rout the fleeing British and Native cavalry, then, when the cavalry peeled away to the flanks, saw the infantry steadily advancing. The enemy halted to observe the oncoming regiments deploy into line and shake out their guns, which opened heavy fire of "round, grape and chain-shot", after which they advanced without firing a musket shot until they got within 100 yards. A single volley, and at them with the bayonet! The enemy broke and ran, the British cavalry and its galloper guns on its heels. About 3000 of the

opposing forces were killed.

58 guns, 37 ammunition tumbrils and (glory be, again!) two "tumbrils of treasure" were captured. The 76th had 34 killed and 108 wounded; Lake's army as a whole had 485 killed. Rather drily my book tells me "the cavalry, as usual, covered themselves in glory"! Take that as you will.

The outcome of this battle was that M. Bourquien gave up the struggle and presented himself with his staff to surrender and the Mahrattas evacuated Delhi Fort. It was this action, following the taking of Ally Ghur, that led to the following despatch: "In testimony of the peculiar honour acquired by the Army under the personal command of His Excellency General Lake, the Governor General in Council is pleased to order that honorary colours, with a device properly suited to commemorate the reduction of the fortress of Ally Ghur on the 4th and the victory obtained at Delhi on the 11th September, be presented to the corps of cavalry and infantry (European and Native), who have fallen in the public service during the present campaign. The honorary colours granted by these orders to His Majesty's 27th Regiment of Dragoons and to the 76th of Foot, are to be used by these corps while they continue in India, or until His Majesty's most gracious pleasure be signified through His Excellency the Commander in Chief".



The Honorary Colours flank the Queen's and Regimental Colours on parade in Keighley in 2011

76th (Hindoostan) Regiment of Foot, Other Ranks' Shako Plate, Battalion Companies 1807-1812 & Other Ranks' Fur Cap Plate Grenadier Company 1807-1814.

By Dixon Pickup.

The current series of articles in the 'Iron Duke' recording the regiment's extraordinary achievements in the series of battles and other engagements 1803-1806 has brought to mind how quickly the hard won honours were exhibited on the regiment's appointments. In October 1806 the Directors of the HEIC had placed a submission before His Majesty King George III detailing these achievements. The King was pleased to endorse this submission and in February 1807 Horse Guards formally published the details, in brief, awarding the honorary badge of the Elephant and the honour Hindoostan, these signal honours were now to be placed on the Colours of the regiment. Accordingly these details were also applied to the insignia of the regiment, and the title, '76th (Hindoostan) Regiment' appeared in the Army List until 1812.



Illustrated is an excavated example of the shako plate worn by the other ranks of the Battalion Companies (and the Grenadier Company when not wearing their fur caps) 1807-1812, it is a remarkable departure from the standard pattern officially entitled 'the trophy plate', introduced in 1800 for use on the first pattern shako worn by British Infantry. Indeed the only elements that are consistent are the size (10.2 x 15.8cm) and the outline shape. The

'standard' pattern displayed the crown over trophies of colours and weapons, upon these appeared a circular Garter Proper enclosing the 'GR' cypher, at the bottom appeared a standing Lion of England upon an heraldic bar. Those infantry regiments that already possessed a 'special badge' were permitted to display them, 1st 2nd & 3rd Foot Guards, 1st - 9th Regiments of Foot, 21st, 23rd, 27th, otherwise the 'standard' pattern was to be worn. All the plates for the other ranks were made in thin gauge die-stamped brass. The officers of Line Infantry regiments did not wear the 1800-1812 pattern shako.

For the 76th, St. Edward's crown and what remains of the 'GR' cypher appear on a 'sunburst', then the trophies which apart from the 'British' colours have a distinctive Eastern flavour, Indian bows, fighting axes and one stave-like weapon too little of which survives to identify. These are overlaid with a circular strap inscribed "Hindoostan", in the centre an Elephant complete with howdah and cloth plus the mahout (driver), from the howdah two grenadiers discharge their muskets on the enemy. Below are sprigs of laurel and palm (victory and peace), in the centre of these a ferocious Indian Tiger can be seen retreating under a canopy. Finally, at the base the Roman numerals 'LXXVI'. The plate fitted to the shako via two sets of thin wires set in solder bases. Another astonishing feature is that the Elephant faces in the wrong direction, this is the only instance ever noted on a headdress badge of the regiment and may well have been amended fairly quickly. This plate was excavated either in Jersey where the regiment was stationed in 1807-1808 or the Colchester area (May-September 1808). This pattern of plate and the shako were replaced in 1812 by the so-called 'Belgic' pattern.

At the end of the Peninsula Campaign and following the abdication of the French Emperor in late April 1814, the Regiment soon received notice of embarkation for Canada to assist in the American War commencing in 1812. Upon landing the Regiment soon formed part of a column based in Montreal under the command of General de Rottenburg, from whence the intention was to invade the state of New York. In those days the only road was flanked by Lake Champlain, a vast expanse of water, consequently whoever controlled the water controlled the road. The column made good progress and was on the point of capturing Plattsburg when news was obtained that the British flotilla on the lake had been totally destroyed and the commander, Captain Downie, killed. Retreat was now deemed necessary and the ensuing overall loss was very great, a large quantity of ammunition and stores being thrown into the River Richlieu to aid the speed of the retreat.

Some 200 years later, two amateur but very experienced divers in the Richlieu River began to discover military items amidst a large variety of 18th century and early 19th century domestic wares. These were mainly located in the attendant soft mud banks, initially, buttons of various regiments were found including near mint state pewter examples to the 76th (1807-1816 pattern) but two later larger finds to the 76th were of much more significance. Through a stroke of good fortune the present writer made contact with these gentlemen and was delighted to obtain the item shown below.



This is the frontal plate from the full dress fur cap worn by the Grenadier Company of the regiment, again as can be seen a major variance from the standard pattern authorised in 1768, which mainly featured the Royal Crest 'GR' cypher and the Hanoverian Motto, 'Nec Aspera Terrent'. Only this latter feature is retained on that worn by the 76th, 'Hindoostan' the Elephant (facing the right way!) with cloth and castelled Howdah, the two grenadiers blasting away at the enemy are quite clearly portrayed as wearing their pointed fur caps. The number and laurel sprays complete this wonderful display (16.5 x 12cm). The material is again thin gauge die-stamped brass finished with a gilt wash and as can be seen the badge is in a near relic state, but surely a miracle that it has survived at all. A better example had already been sold by the finders.

These stores must have formed part of the manifest from Bordeaux and therefore the Grenadiers' fur caps must have accompanied the regiment throughout their service in the Peninsula. Perhaps worn on the rare occasion of a General Review or Sovereign's Birthday Parade. Though some distinctions for Grenadier and Light Company personnel of Line infantry regiments continued until 1858 when these specialist companies were abolished, the fur caps were most probably not worn much after 1830.

Commonwealth War Graves Commission on-line database.

By **Martin Stoneham** MInstRE

Martin Stoneham is a military historian and researcher with a special interest in the Corps of Royal Engineers. His website can be found at www.stoneham.org. He is a member of the ABF The Soldiers' Charity Kent Committee.

I suspect that most users see the CWGC database as the place to find information about an individual or a cemetery. It is, however, possible to extract detailed information about an entire regiment. This can then be downloaded and analysed using a spreadsheet [references below are to Microsoft Excel 2010].

The first and important step is to ensure that you identify the description of the regiment as used by the CWGC correctly. The easiest way to do this is to search for soldier who you know served in the regiment you are interested in. Go to the CWGC web site: <http://www.cwgc.org/> and enter the casualty name and initials in the box marked Find War Dead on the front page. Click on Search.

This will return a list of all those who have the name and initials entered. For example if you enter 'Abra J' you will get 225 records. For the purposes of this article I am looking for Abra, G, Private, 266933 of the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) who served in the First World War.

The screenshot shows the CWGC website interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text 'Find War Dead'. Below the search bar, there are several tabs: 'Home', 'Find War Dead', 'About Us', 'Contact Us', and 'Help'. The 'Find War Dead' tab is selected. The search results are displayed in a table format. The table has columns for 'Name', 'Rank', 'Service Number', 'Service Dates', 'Age', 'Regiment', 'Service Location', 'In what Theatre/Region', 'Cemetery Reference', 'Cemetery Name', and 'Gravesite'. The search results show two entries for 'Abra J' in the 'Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment)'. The first entry is for a Private, 266933, who died on 14.11.18 in France. The second entry is for a Private, 266933, who died on 14.11.18 in France.

| Name | Rank | Service Number | Service Dates | Age | Regiment | Service Location | In what Theatre/Region | Cemetery Reference | Cemetery Name | Gravesite |
|--------|---------|----------------|---------------|-----|---|------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Abra J | Private | 266933 | 1870-18 | 21 | Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) | France | 14.11.18 | Abra J | Abra J | Abra J |
| Abra J | Private | 266933 | 1870-18 | 21 | Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) | France | 14.11.18 | Abra J | Abra J | Abra J |

To see a list of all of the members of this regiment you need to modify your search by making the following changes in the section on the left side of the web page headed **Filter Results**.

Delete Abra G in the Full Name box.

Scroll down and select First World War.

Served with: Tick United Kingdom Forces.

Served in: Tick Army.

Regiment: start typing Duke of W and then click on Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment)

Scroll back to the top and click on Refine Search.

You will now get a refreshed view of the Find War dead page with all the names listed [8,391 records].

Click on Download Results.

When prompted Opt for Open with [Microsoft Excel (default)] and click OK.

The file will open on your screen in

Excel.

Immediately go to File; Save As and save the file to your

You have searched for War: **First World War**, Served in: **Army**, Served With: **United Kingdom Forces**, Regiment: **Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment)**

Export search results in a spreadsheet

1 record(s) match your search criteria

| File | Rank | Service Number | Date of Death |
|----------------|---------|----------------|---------------|
| TIBELL, THOMAS | Private | 30032 | 12/01/1915 |

Opening CasualtySearch_24_20_2016_01_44.csv

You have chosen to open
 CasualtySearch_24_20_2016_01_44.csv
 which is in Microsoft Excel Comma Separated Values File (2.0 MB)
 from: <http://www.cwgc.org>

What should Firefox do with this file?

Open with Microsoft Excel (default)

Save File

Do this automatically for files like this from now on.

OK Cancel

Documents folder so that you can easily find it again. In the Save as type box select Excel Workbook (*.xlsx). Click OK to save the file.

Documents Library

Search: CasualtySearch_24_20_2016_01_44.csv

Documents

CasualtySearch_24_20_2016_01_44.csv

You can now make use of Excel's data management functions to refine your search.

Click on surname.

In the Menu ribbon go to Data and click on the funnel

icon Filter. You will now see a little down arrow in each column of the first row.

| Surname | Forename | Initials | Age | Honour | Date of Birth | Date of Death | Rank | Regiment |
|---------|----------|----------|-----|--------|---------------|---------------|---------|---|
| ABBOTT | FRANK | F | 22 | | 14/05/1917 | | Private | Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) |
| ADBY | ALBERT | A | 22 | | 10/12/1918 | | Private | Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) |
| ANARO | FRED | F | 21 | | 14/03/1918 | | Private | Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) |
| ABRA | GEORGE | G | 23 | | 28/08/1918 | | Private | Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) |

In the Menu ribbon go to View. Click on little down arrow in Freeze Panes and select Freeze Top Row – the top row then remains in view as you scroll down the spreadsheet.

Tidy up the column widths by double clicking on the junction between columns to increase their width.

You can now start analysing the data. Clicking on the down arrow by a heading gives you various options.

You can sort the spreadsheet in say date order – Oldest to Newest or vice versa or refine it down to a date – eg 24 August 1914.

Select Clear filter to revert to the full list.

Try the honours column. Click on Select All to clear the ticks and then select 'DCM, MM and Bar'. One name Kane M Corporal will be shown.

Click on the honours column again and select Clear filter to revert to the full list.

Now try this column again but tick all the options with DCM to see all of those who won a DCM.

Click on the honours column again and select Clear filter to revert to the full list.

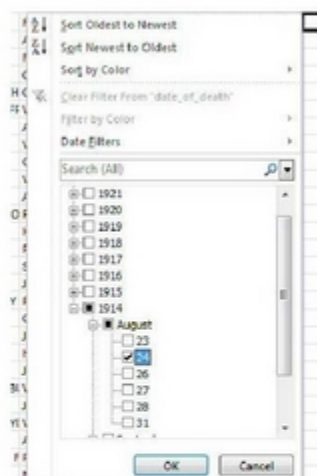
The search possibilities are endless. For those with more analytical minds the Data menu also offers a Sort facility so that you can select data from more than one column and put it into the order you wish to see it.

Finally on the Home ribbon the spreadsheet also has a Find function to search out someone by Name.

Finally another potentially interesting area of research is soldiers who were exhumed after the war from the battlefield or other cemeteries.

Go onto the CWGC site and do a search for Private L Brown 3/9817 of the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) who died on 15 April 1915.

Look at the detailed record and click on the Concentration tab.



SHAPED CHARGE - Och'on, Korea, Winter 1952/3

By D N Gascoyne

David Gascoigne was a platoon commander and brigade liaison officer with 1 DWR during the Korean War.

"Cody found it under a bush Sir, just this side of 3 Charlie - leas'tways, he didn't so much find it, he fell over it!" Knowing Cody I was not surprised.

'3 Charlie' was a night-time standing patrol position among a group of ancient burial tumuli near the foot of our hill, from which the three apparitions standing in my platoon Command Post (CP) bunker had just returned. Apparitions, because the first snows of the Korean winter had fallen and the men wore white camouflage suits over their heavy parkas and combat clothing. Snow, as if freezing temperatures and howling winds hadn't been enough to contend with. Ice glistened in their eyebrows and eyelashes and around the edges of their parka hoods.

"Seeing as you're interested in Chinese weapons Sir, I thought you might like it." 'IT' thudded on to the home-made table beside me, whence it rolled off on to the earth floor. The corporal finished making his report, then led the other two back up the CP entrance tunnel and along the ring trench to the platoon cookhouse bunker. There they would huddle round the stove, gradually loosening articles of outer clothing as they slowly thawed out. The thawing out process would be aided by mugs of hot sweet tea, liberally laced with Navy rum. The rum was something of an embarrassment to me.

During the winter months every man was entitled to one tot per day and the ration came down from Company HQ in old beer bottles plugged with waxed corks. The majority of the men didn't much care for it neat, far preferring the Asahi beer which they'd been allowed in

This reveals the Pte L Brown's body was exhumed from map reference 28.I.29.c.95.25 [I is a capital i], which is Hill 60, together with an unknown soldier of the Bedford Regiment and an unknown British Lance Corporal.

Given that some unit War Diaries can be rather vague about where a battalion was on a particular day you can by reference to a contemporary trench map get a reasonable fix on the location of the 2nd Battalion on 15 April 1915.

the autumn. Thus, in spite of the quantities which ended up in the tea dixies there was always a surplus, for which I was responsible. At one time I had three bottles full of the stuff in a box under my improvised bed. It was almost certainly against Queen's Regulations to hoard liquor in this way, but when the opportunity arose it was a valuable currency in the widespread barter market which existed among the diverse components of the United Nations Command. 'Exchange Rates' were particularly favourable in dealings with the American Army. American rations, whilst not as superior to ours as was popularly supposed, did contain tins of frankfurters, hamburger chunks, fruit etc which helped to make menus for the platoon a little less tedious. The trade was not confined to food items; rumour had it that the going rate for a jeep was eight bottles but I'm not aware that anyone ever put that to the test. However, I digress.

With the standing patrol out of the way, I picked 'IT' up off the floor. Made of grey-painted sheet metal, it was shaped like an elongated pear about fourteen inches long, with a tubular handle at the 'stalk' end trailing four long canvas streamers. The fat end was hemispherical and some four inches in diameter. I reached for my little red book. No, not Chairman Mao's masterpiece, but the American Army's, "Handbook of Foreign Materiel and Equipment", the 'bible' for every serious student of the diverse Chinese weaponry. Right then; Grenades; Section 6. Yes, there was its picture and description on page 79. "RPG-6 Hand Grenade (Soviet). This shaped-charge hand grenade is designed primarily for anti-tank use, although, because of its secondary fragmentation effect, it can be used as an anti-personnel weapon. For this reason, it should always be thrown from behind cover. The grenade is effective against armor up to four



A Russian RPG 6 Grenade. The designation RPG stands for Ruchnaya Protivotankovaya Granata, and not the modern abbreviation of Rocket Propelled Grenade.

inches in thickness. When the grenade is thrown the arming lever flies off, and a stabilizing device contained in the handle is exposed. The device consists of a weight and four canvas streamers, which guide the grenade to the target at the right angle to ensure maximum effectiveness." I hefted the grenade in my hand. Pretty heavy; it must weigh at least 3 pounds, so you'd have to get quite close to the tank; almost a suicide mission. My eyes drifted back to the Handbook.

"NOTE! Duds are dangerous and must be destroyed where they lie, as they cannot safely be picked up!" I froze, then with infinite caution put the grenade back on the table. Now that I came to look at it more closely in the flickering candle light I could see where some areas of paint had been freshly scraped off at the nose end. It looked as though the corporal had been dragging it along the ground behind him by its streamers - three hundred yards of bumpy frozen track!

Well, it was here now, so what to do with it? After a few moments consideration I decided to pass the buck. I picked up the field telephone. "I want to speak to the Company Commander if he's available." Major Rudolf Austin came on the line. "Yes, David?" "Hello Sir, I've got an unexploded RPG-6 here that my blokes picked up at 3 Charlie tonight." "What on earth's that when it's at home?" he asked. "I've just looked it up in the handbook, Sir; it's a Russian anti-tank grenade. It can't have been there very long because there's no rust on it. It's a weapon we haven't come across before, so what do you suggest I should do with it?" "Hang on to it for tonight and talk to the IO in the morning," he replied.

Early next morning I rang the Battalion Intelligence Officer, Lt Rodney Harms, and repeated the story. "No, not interested," he said, "I should ditch it." I was still considering the best way to dispose of the thing ten minutes later when the phone rang. "David? Rodney here. Have you still got that RPG thing? Yes? Good; *don't* ditch it, Divisional Intelligence are interested in the detonator. They think the Chinese have set up a cottage industry in North Korea making new detonators to refurbish old Russian weapons, and hope yours might have one. Just take the det out and send it to them in a matchbox or something." "That's all very well Rodney," I said, "but it says in the handbook that duds are dangerous, do not touch!" "Sorry about that old man, but I've promised it to the chaps at Div now. I'm sure you can figure out some way of doing it."

I was not happy. Although fully armed, if left alone the grenade was probably reasonably innocuous - after all, it had received some pretty rough handling last night without exploding - but trying to dismantle it was a very different and potentially lethal proposition. I sat and pondered the problem. It looked as though perhaps the handle might unscrew from the body as a first step. There was a break in the thick coating of varnish over the junction between body and handle, which suggested to me that at some time since its original manufacture someone had had the two apart - perhaps to insert a new detonator. I sent everybody else out of the CP, then gingerly, holding the grenade down on the table as firmly as I could with one hand, I strained to rotate the handle with the other. No movement. Perhaps I was trying to turn it the wrong way - did the Russians use left-handed threads? With a heart-stopping jerk it suddenly twisted, and I remembered very vividly certain passages in Nigel Balchin's novel, "The Small Back Room." I very slowly unscrewed the handle. What if this didn't expose the detonator? Worse still, what if my actions released a striker! Why didn't the Americans give a cutaway drawing in their wretched book? Oh well, here goes - -

The handle came free at last and I reached back and placed it on the bed behind me. Ah, good; there was the detonator, sitting in the fuzewell of the grenade body. I carefully tipped it out into the palm of my hand and gently deposited it in a mess tin. Larger than I'd expected, it looked like two copper top hats joined end to end by their brims, about half an inch in diameter and some inch and a quarter long. It looked very new, bright and shiny, certainly not at all in keeping with the faded stencilled markings on the grenade body, which appeared to show a manufacturing date of 1943.

As I contemplated it there was a sudden 'ping' from behind me, as the striker shot out of the handle and thudded against a tin mug next to it. If that had happened

a couple of minutes earlier - - ! Shaking, I sat down on my bed. Uncharacteristically, I reached under it for a rum bottle and poured myself a stiff drink.

With the detonator safely on its way to Div HQ (I half hoped it would explode on arrival) I turned my attention to the now relatively harmless body. "Shaped charge," the book had said, "effective against armor up to four inches in thickness." I had a sudden flash of inspiration. We were too far from the rest of the Company to avail ourselves of their central cooking facilities and so were completely 'self-catering' with two Korean cooks; an invalided-out army NCO and his young nephew. This was a distinct advantage in that we were able to set our own mealtimes and eat the food hot, but it caused us serious waste disposal problems. Despite having several former coal miners in my platoon, ever since the winter had set in we'd had trouble digging adequate trash pits for the Cookhouse rubbish in the increasingly frozen ground. Now, if this grenade could penetrate all that steel armour, surely it would punch a hole deep into the frozen earth and loosen the surrounding soil sufficiently for us to quickly shovel out a large pit, without having to spend long dangerously exposed periods in the open hacking away with pickaxes.

In preparation I rammed a blob of plastic explosive into the bottom of the vacant fuze well of the grenade, followed up by a standard demolition detonator into which I'd crimped four feet of safety fuse. The whole was tamped in with chewing gum (another bonus of trade with Uncle Sam).

I selected a suitable site near the cookhouse and instructed everyone in the vicinity to go under cover. Because the long communication trench back up the hill to the rest of the company ran close by the cookhouse, I sent a man up to the top end to act as a sentry to prevent anybody coming down. Giving him ten minutes to reach the top I climbed out of the trench and stood the grenade, fat end down, on the site of what was surely going to be the finest trash pit in the battalion. I lit the fuse, dropped back into the trench and retired to the CP to await the explosion.

It was quite a loud bang. I was just going out to inspect the results when Captain John Milligan, the Company Second-in-Command, ashen faced and panting, staggered down the entrance tunnel and almost knocked me flying. "My God, that was a near thing! Nearly got me. Didn't hear it coming - must have been a mortar bomb. Big one too, shouldn't be surprised if it was a 120mm. Exploded right alongside the trench. Couldn't have been much more than ten feet from my head!" (He was right about the distance, and it was my turn to go pale.) He spotted the rum bottle from my earlier nerve calming exercise. "Ah, that's what I need!" he gasped. I poured us two very large tots and decided *not* to disillusion him regarding the true source of the explosion.

During the course of our subsequent conversation John unwittingly provided the answer to the question which was uppermost in my mind but obviously couldn't ask: how had he got past my sentry? Halfway down the communication trench was a short dog-leg spur which led off 30 yards or so to an old disused weapon pit. The pit was too isolated to be of any real defensive value, so we'd simply filled it with scrambled coils of barbed wire to keep the enemy out. Apparently, whilst on his way down to us for an admin visit John had briefly diverted from his route, curious to see where the spur led. Whilst he was in there, hidden from the main trench, my man must have hurried past. Moments later John had resumed his walk, oblivious to what lay ahead.

I never did pluck up the courage to tell him the truth, even years later after I'd left the Army and occasionally chatted to him at Regimental HQ in Halifax, via the safety of two hundred miles of telephone line.

And the trash pit? You may well ask. Instead of the anticipated easy digging, the total result of that nerve-shattering episode was a smoking hole in the still solidly frozen ground, an inch in diameter and some twelve inches deep; at least, that was as far as we could push a stick in.

Oh, and one other thing. About a pound of soot, dislodged by the explosion from the roof timbers of the cookhouse bunker, fell straight into a freshly brewed dixie of rum-laced tea.

SANDHURST CHAPEL AND "THE DUKES" By Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter

I was christened in the Royal Military Chapel at Sandhurst in 1946 when my father was at the Staff College as a student on what he called "The Backward Boys" course. By then he was 46 had commanded the 1st Battalion and was wearing the rank of Colonel. He had just returned to England having commanded the 1st

Battalion for the second time in The Sudan. He clearly had to show again! So the Chapel always had something of a special place in my latent memory. I was at Sandhurst in the mid 60's and attended like everybody else each Sunday and as ever my mind would have wandered to the obvious connections with the Dukes that

were in evidence in the chapel. I grew up with the badge on carpets, silver, books and of course within my mother's brooch.

I have been back several times to the Chapel but never delved into the detail and origin of the Dukes connections. But first let me explain a bit of wider history. The original chapel to the Royal Military College was the Indian Army Memorial Room in the Old College Building as we know it today. As the Royal Military College expanded there was a need for a larger chapel and this, Christ Church, was constructed in the 1880's behind the Old College Building. It was built by the Royal Engineers in a style copied from a church in Florence. It is constructed mainly in red brick, with terracotta mouldings, large interlocking pediments and massive corbels (smart word for a bracket). At the end of the First World War it was decided to build a larger "Memorial" chapel. In 1919 the architect Captain Arthur C. Martin designed the new building in a Byzantine style, changing the orientation of the chapel from South East to North East. It was duly consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1921, although work continued on the new West End for a further 16 years. King George VI dedicated the new Chapel on 2nd May 1937 on completion of the final phase of the building programme that transformed the building into the Chapel we know today.

Within the original chapel there were few memorials to officers in the 33rd or 76th and the only one of note is the one to those Gentlemen Cadets who lost their lives in the Crimea. This was probably placed in the "Christ Church", although it could have been in the original chapel. For the 33rd Lieutenants LR Heyland and HS Marsh are remembered. Langford Heyland was killed in the assault on the Redan in June 1855 but there is an interesting story here. A soldier, Pte Richard Worrell, who had been beside Heyland in the assault went back to find him but sadly was killed in the process. As Lee, Regimental History says "*Worrell left a lasting memorial of a soldier's fidelity and affection, thus manifesting to all the strong bond of union that exist between British soldiers and those who lead and guide them. Lieutenant Heyland had received six wounds.*" Hans Marsh was shot in the head a week later. He had been five times wounded at the Alma and was a particularly gallant officer and on his death Lord Raglan mentioned him in his despatches to Horse Guards.

Gentlemen cadets who were killed in The Great War are remembered on a large panel as are all from all regiments. The panels are made of white marble and the names are well engraved and enamel painted. Most of the regimental panels are placed on the marble pillars without any framing. However a number



The Crimea memorial.

including the Dukes panel are framed in oak at ground level but rather stuck away and difficult to see. This caused some concern in the Regiment at the time. However work was completed in 1923 and the Dukes panel is one of those and includes 20 names of which three are Lieutenant Colonels and one a Brigadier General.



The Great War Memorial for Dukes' officers.

Lieutenant Colonel Tyndall died of wounds having commanded the 2nd Battalion at Hill 60 and is buried at Brookwood cemetery. Bowes-Wilson was killed whilst commanding a Battalion of the York and Lancasters and the third Lieutenant Colonel was AG Horsfall about whom later. Brigadier General De Gex was on the staff and was commanding the base at Rouen when he died on 2 April 1917 aged 55 probably of a heart attack. He had commanded the 1st Battalion the Bedfordshire Regiment before the war. His service in both Battalions is not commented on in the Regimental Histories (Bruce or Lee) but we know he was a company commander in the Boer War and was wounded at Modder River and later at Paardeburg.

In a separate part of the chapel there is a small memorial to Frederick Harvey King of the 1st Bn West India Regiment, who was killed commanding "D" Company of the 2nd Battalion. Bruce tells us that he joined at Ypres in August 1916 whilst the Battalion was taking a break away from the The Somme. However in October the battalion returned there and took part in a Corps attack at Lesboeuvs during which Lieutenant King was killed. He was just 27 and is commemorated also on the Thiepval Memorial.



The chapel gates and the Regimental badge

In 1937 the Regiment presented a further memorial and this is a much more prominent feature of the chapel and compensates for the remoteness of the main memorial panel. . At the entrance to the side chapel, known then as The South African War Chapel and which was the apse for the original "Christ Church", is a wrought iron gate.

This is resplendently decorated with the Dukes badge. I remember admiring the gates when I was at the Academy. It is further enhanced with marble steps leading to it and which has the inscription:

THESE STEPS AND THE GATES
WERE PRESENTED BY
THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT
IN MEMORY OF THEIR FALLEN COMRADES

Finally there are the Horsfall candlesticks which adorn the altar. These magnificent items were presented by the family of Lieutenant Colonel AG Horsfall in his memory. "Pusher" as he was known was killed on 9th October at Poelcapelle during the 3rd Battle of Ypres whilst commanding the 2nd Battalion. He was 41 years old and had already won a DSO. A Mr Charles Steed who had been a private soldier in B Company on that day recalled in 1967 after visiting Bard Cottage Cemetery "...It is a morning I shall never forget. Colonel Horsfall was leading the attack and when the hour arrived he led us forward as calmly as if going for a stroll, walking stick in hand. As he was turning to give orders to a runner he was shot clean through the heart and killed instantly. A brave and gallant "Duke".



The Horsfall candle sticks on the altar

Shortly afterwards the Adjutant, Capt. Ernest Coke, wrote to "Pusher's" widow explaining the sad circumstances of his death "...then at about 6am the whole attack was held up and your husband was with me in a shell hole and several others of our headquarters party. A man was shot in the back and we pulled him down into the shell hole and I and the Sergeant Major

were dressing his wounds when the Colonel started off with his servant and two runners to try to get forward and see if we could overcome the enemy who were holding us up but he had only gone 15 or 20 yards when a bullet hit him. I ran to him and we managed to get him into a shell hole as the enemy swept the open ground with machine guns. He was shot in the abdomen and died almost at once. He never spoke a word or showed any sign of pain or anything at all. The attack could not go forward as the enemy shot anyone who showed himself, so we lay in the same shell hole till night. As soon as it was dark we got the Colonel's body back to good cover and then it was taken down to our transport to be buried in a proper cemetery." This account being written very soon after the event is probably more accurate.

[Editor's Note: readers will have seen Colonel Horsfall's account of the fighting at Fampoux in April 1917 in an earlier section of this issue.]

Fifty men died that morning and 105 were wounded. His widow, Phyllis, married another Duke in 1920, Brigadier General WM Watson who had commanded the 1st Battalion in India 1912 to 1915 and died in 1940. Many Horsfalls have served in the Regiment; a descendant of "Pusher" tells me that Horsfall is a comparatively common name in the North. Fourteen Dukes with the name died in the Great War mostly private soldiers but three officers including "Pusher". The other strong Horsfall connection in the Dukes are the baronets whose family contributed five officers to the Dukes serving in both world wars but there is no apparent family connection. Many of us may remember Sir John who always appeared at Dukes events in Skipton. His son, the current baronet, now lives in Gloucestershire close to us.

The Chapel at Sandhurst is interesting with its many memorials and I am always glad to be there for a service and think back to those heady days as an Officer Cadet when my mind was too easily distracted by matters "Dukes" or anything else for that matter!

The Honourable Artillery Company and the Dukes

By Brigadier Michael Bray

The HAC is a unique organisation, based in London, created by Henry VIII in 1537 as a company under Royal charter. Throughout its history, it has been a charity, with the unusual purpose of "attending to the better defence of the Realm". For its first 250 years it was an infantry unit; there were no gunners, in the modern sense of the word. "Artillery" meant any weapon which launched a projectile, like an arrow or a musket. Over the years it acquired gunners, light cavalry, reserve policemen and

the Company of Pikemen and Musketeers, who provide the Lord Mayor's bodyguard: all of which it has today. There are some 2500 members, nowadays including women, and they are called "Active" if they serve in the Company's Regiment in the reserve Army, or veteran if they have done so but now take part in the many other activities of the Company.

Because the Company recruits mostly people working in post graduate employments, a high number of them have the potential to be officers. Thus for both World Wars, the Company recruited, trained and commissioned about 4000 officers, most of whom went on to serve in other regiments, including the Dukes.

When I joined the Company in 1992 as Chief Executive, there was a distinguished group of ex Dukes still there as veteran members: Peter Faulks, who became a judge; Richard Davies, married to Prime Minister Atlee's Daughter; Tony Randal, a noted golf player; Fred Huskisson; and Michael Goodman-Smith, the last of the line, whose obituary Evelyn Webb-Carter contributes to this Journal.

Most of these names will be lost in history for most readers, but the story of Fred's joining the Army will please all Dukes.

Armoury House, 1939, Fred appears before the MO for his enlistment medical. The MO seeing a tall, thin, scaggy looking youth, says:

"Young man, do you think you are fit enough to be a soldier?"

Fred: "I don't know, sir, but I am playing rugby for England, if that helps."

MO: "You're in!"

Blake Hall – The Regiment's Links with the home of the Brontes

By Scott Flaving

A chance enquiry from a friend, as to whether I might be interested in a nominal roll of the Officers of the 3rd Militia Battalion in 1894, led to a remarkable discovery of a link between the Regiment and a famous literary family living and working in the heart of the West Riding in the 19th Century.

The list duly arrived and proved of immediate interest, forcing a new evaluation of our Militia officers at that time. Because of the distances involved, it had been assumed that the Halifax-based Militia officers would have been local men of substance and wealth. The



Blake Hall

nominal roll showed that, besides the Surgeon, only two of the officers were from within the 33rd District recruiting area. The others were from all over the country, the second in command was from Reading, many were from London and the Home Counties and three came from Devon or Cornwall. Only one officer, a subaltern, was from Halifax and another, 2Lt Edward Gerald Ingham, lived at Blake Hall, Mirfield.

The Mirfield link proved to be most interesting when a friend there provided some genealogy details of the family who inhabited the Hall in the early 1890s. The 1891 census showed that Edward Theodore (1847 – 1918), married to Frances Anne Wheatley, was the head of household, and their 16 year old son, Edward Gerald, attended Harrow School. Edward Theodore's brother and sister in law, "living on their own means", were also shown as residents and the two families were looked after by a small army of servants – including a cook, a serving maid, a house maid, an under house maid, a kitchen maid and an under kitchen house maid. In addition, a gardener and his family, a butler and his family and a coachman and his family lived in cottages in the grounds of the estate. Edward Theodore was the proprietor of the family colliery.

Edward Gerald (born 17th February 1875, died 1955), joined the 3rd Battalion on 3rd February, 1894, his enlistment papers being signed by Lt Col F C Wemyss

and the Adjutant, Capt P B Smithe.

However, it is Edward Gerald's uncle who is the most interesting character in this tale and provides the direct link to Howarth. Joshua Cuncliffe Ingham, born in 1832, was seven years old in 1839, with four surviving siblings, Mary, 6; Martha, 5; Emily, 2 and Harriett, 1 (who sadly died on 1st December, 1839). Their father, Joshua Ingham (1802-1866) was a colliery proprietor and Justice of the Peace, and his wife, Mary Cuncliffe (nee Lister), were in need of a governess and hired the services of a young girl, the youngest of three sisters, from Howarth who had been educated at Roe Head School, two miles from Blake Hall. The school favoured Mirfield Church, although further away than the church where the Rev Bronte was curate, due to the headmistress being related to the Mirfield curate, where the schoolgirls would have met the Inghams.

Anne Bronte attended the school between and in April, 1839, was hired as the governess to the five Ingham children who were, "desperate little dunces", according to Anne, writing later. Her eldest charge was a particular torment to her and ended up featuring in her novels, 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall'; and as Master Tom in 'Agnes Grey'. In both books her descriptions of cruelty towards the local wildlife had to be defended as 'only what she had seen herself' in later life. However, she only lasted nine months at Blake Hall, her services 'no longer



required' after the Christmas break of 1839, as she was apparently unable to control her charges, much less educate them. Anne returned home to the parsonage at Howarth and then had a further period as a governess to a local parish priest before writing her two amazing novels, alongside her sisters, in an age where female writers were very uncommon. Incidentally, Charlotte Bronte was a great admirer of the Duke of Wellington, writing about him in some of her early papers.

Joshua Cunliffe grew up and joined the 57th Regiment of Foot on 23rd November, 1852, as an Ensign (by purchase, as was usual at that time), and had a distinguished career in the Crimean War, arriving at Sevastopol on 18th November, 1854. He took part in both of the disastrous attacks on the Redan at Sevastopol, on 18th June and again on 8th September, 1855; alongside the 33rd Regiment of Foot which also participated in both battles. Furthermore, he took part in a minor, and little known but highly successful, action at the bombardment and seizure of Kinburn Fort on 17th October, 1855, at the North West tip of the Crimea, close to the confluence of the Bug and Dneiper Rivers. This was in preparation for an attack on Nicolaiev on the mainland coast of Russia, north of the Crimea. The end of the war closed that theatre of operations before the main offensive could be mounted.

Joshua spent one year and four months, out of his four year's service, abroad. He was awarded the Crimean

Medal, with clasp Sevastopol, and the Turkish Imperial Order of the Medjidie, 5th Class, "for distinguished service before the enemy in the Crimea". There is no record of his hunting prowess, but it was a common pursuit of British officers when out of the line, as described by Lt T B Fanshawe, of the 33rd, who wrote home to his family in Dagenham with some details of his hunting adventures. Presumably Joshua had by then given up torturing the animals, as gruesomely described by his old governess.

Joshua resigned his commission, having purchased his promotions to Captain, on 10th November, 1856, and returned to Blake Hall. His father, also named Joshua, died in 1866 and the son took over the Hall until his death in 1877; he is commemorated on the East window of St Mary's Church, Mirfield.

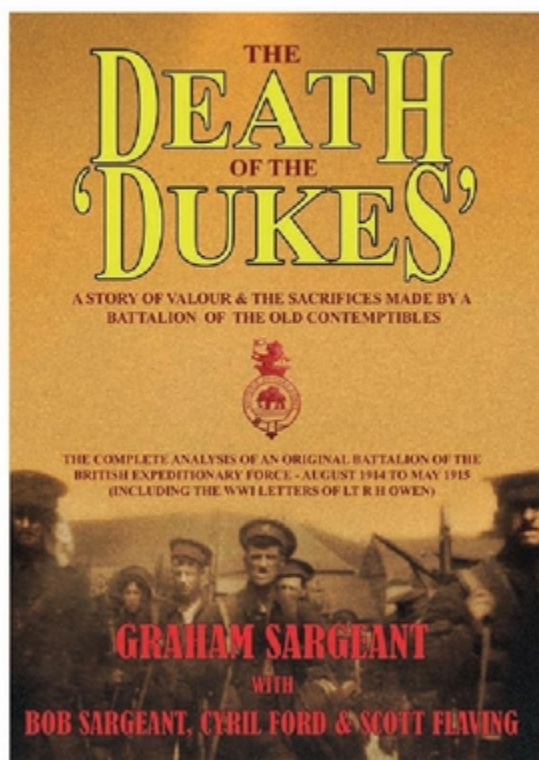
The Hall then went to his younger brother, Edward Theodore, Edward Gerald having been born in February, 1875. 19 years later Edward Gerald joined the 3rd (Militia) Battalion of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment and is recorded as having attended two annual training camps. From details gleaned from Moore's History of the 3rd Battalion, it would appear that Edward resigned in 1896. In the same year he married Amy Maude Evans and they went to live in New South Wales, Australia, where he died in 1955, leaving a son and three daughters, his wife having died in 1943.

Previously, two of his uncles had gone to Australia, Thomas Lister Ingham went to New South Wales, briefly, but returned to England. William Bairstow Ingham went to Queensland, where he became a Government Agent but was eaten during a trip to New Guinea at the age of 28, his nephew being three years old at the time. He left the legacy of the township of Ingham being named after him, not long after his untimely and unusual death.

A link between the Regiment and one of the most famous literary families from the West Riding in the 19th Century is an interesting sideline, perhaps, in the footnotes of history. The main link with Howarth is, of course, the old Drill Hall of G Company of our 6th Battalion, for many years.

"The Death of the Dukes"

There is to be a launch of Graham Sargeant's book, title above (perhaps a little flamboyant for the Editor's taste, given that we were still here until 2006) the result of many years of detailed research, on 8 April 2017, at much the same time that this Iron Duke will be published. A review and more background of the research will appear at some future date, when the book is available for general readership.



The book traces the fortunes of each of the 1,022 officers and men of the 2nd Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment who went off to the First World War from Dublin in early August 1914. The foreword was written by Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter, and is reproduced below.

"Several years ago I led a group from the Duke of Wellington's Regiment Association to the battlefields of Mons and Le Cateau and some years later a similar one to Ypres. Rowland Owen whose story through his many letters home is the thread of this book fought in all these battles and it was at Ypres, on Hill 60, that he lost his young life. Looking back on those two tours I wish I had had the benefit of the rich archive that this book represents. Although I knew something of the young Rowland Owen I was not privy to the insight of his character which his letters provide us. In many ways he is a typical example of the charming and decent middle class officer of his age who went to war in August of 1914, believing in God, King and Empire. His humour, optimism and irony shine through his letters with only the occasional cynical remark to bring reality to the tale. The photographs show a clean boyish look with ever the hint of a smile and it is tragic to think he and so many like him were not to live a full life that so many of are now able to do.

This book by Graham Sargeant is a labour of love in

the name of his grandfather and it is a remarkably comprehensive, unique and well-illustrated record of the original 2nd Battalion of the Regiment. It has made use of all conceivable sources including other accounts (and I am amazed how many Graham has found), newspaper cuttings, the War Diary, surprisingly incomplete as they often are, and official records. He has uncovered many inconsistencies and notably the sad conundrum surrounding Rowland's grave and those to do with the actions of the Dukes and others at Wasmes. I too used the sketch map made by Colonel Gibbs when researching for my tour and was also confused, so I found Chapter XXII particularly fascinating.

I feel vicariously close to those events of 1914 because not only have I ridden along the long line of the Mons retreat with my good friend, historian Richard Holmes, but also my two uncles who perished in France were about the same age and from a similar background as Rowland Owen and through Rowland's letters and comments I gain a better understanding of their attitudes to the war and for that I am grateful.

This book represents an enormous amount of research encompassing every feature of the Battalions life until all those who had marched out of Portobello Barracks one hundred years ago, on 13th August, were no more. Like so many of the Regular Battalions at this time their ranks were in future to be filled by new volunteers and the Territorial Force. For anyone wanting to get under the skin of a Regular Battalion in 1914, one of the Old Contemptible battalions, this is the book for you but the thoroughness of the research also makes it a veritable archive and will be available for those who wish to delve into the lives of any of those 1000 men who went to war in the sepia tinted world of faith, loyalty and optimism that was never to be seen again.

Association News

President: Brigadier AD Meek CBE.

General Secretary: Major R Heron, Bankfield Museum, Boothtown Road, Halifax HX3 6HG.
Telephone 01422 356795.

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, 55 Daws Royd, Almonbury, Huddersfield HD5 8SN.

Keighley: Details of Branch meetings can be obtained from the Branch Secretary, Mr Dave Connor, 07258 672114.

The President's Announcement

The President of our Association wrote to all members (or perhaps only to as many as the Association has email addresses for) in February to explain his plans for the Association. He has amplified some of the information below in his piece at the beginning of this Journal, but any readers who had not seen the original letter may wish to read it.

"Last year Major Bob Heron decided that the time had come for him to hand over the reins of looking after our Association affairs and the Halifax office although he generously agreed to remain 'in harness' until a successor had been found. I am extremely grateful to Bob for staying on as it has enabled a proper plan to be thought through and put into effect. I am writing now to let you know what will be happening.

I am delighted to say that Captain John Hogg has agreed to oversee the running of the office. John will be well known to many of you and thus needs no introduction from me other than to say that he had a distinguished career in The Dukes and served for over 29 years in the army retiring in 1994 since when he has run his own business. He has recently retired fully and has now, very generously offered to look after our Association affairs in Halifax. John will not be on his own: there will be two other volunteers who have agreed to help and they are Irene Crowther and Linda

London: The London Branch has formally closed, due to small numbers attending meetings. However, any queries or questions about southern based Dukes and activities may be referred to the Editor of this Journal, contact details on Page 1.

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: Details of Branch meetings can be obtained from the Secretary, Mrs Mary Bell, telephone 01756 790155, email m_bell@talk21.com.

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

Butterworth both of whom will I am sure be known to many of you. This new team come not only with an abiding interest in The Dukes but also with a variety of skills that I know will be of real benefit to our Association.

Further to this the Trustees decided last year that, with Bob retiring, the time had been reached to contract out the day to day management of the accounts of the Regimental Trust Funds. The requirements placed on charities to have their finances well run (and thus in good order) means that, without a volunteer available with the required knowledge of bookkeeping, this is the best way forward. Following a selection process, that included interviews, the decision was made to give the contract to Joanne Bratley of Hawley Business Solutions of Northowram, Halifax. Of interest Joanne's uncle was Rueben Holroyd who served with the Dukes in Korea and whose firm published the Iron Duke for many years. Joanne will be responsible for running the accounts only: the Trustees will continue to have full responsibility for and control of all investments. This new way of managing our financial affairs will begin with the start of the next financial year (1st April 2017) when Bob Heron will formally hand over the running of the office to John Hogg.

One other important piece of news is that Lieutenant Colonel Peter Cole, for many years one the leading lights in the Army Cadet Force in the West Riding and a cap

badged 'Duke', has volunteered to oversee the archives. Peter has had a life long interest in The Dukes and is thus an ideal person to take on this vitally important task. He will be assisted by Margaret his wife together with 'Dinger' and Mary Bell who have very kindly offered to continue to look after our archives together with Peter.

Thus there will be much change to the office team in Halifax in the coming months but I am confident that our Association will continue to be as well administered by the new team in the future as has been the case over the many years years Bob has been responsible for it. Finally, on behalf of us all could I offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks to Bob for all those years of service. He has looked after our affairs with outstanding loyalty, care,

diligence and commitment. We could not have asked for more."

Letter

From Joe Bailes

I have just been informed that my old friend and sniper sergeant Tom Nowell MM has just died. (See obituary below). When he lay up on the Chinese hill, I lay for hours with my sniper rifle to give him covering support if need be. Luckily it was not required.

Are there any of Colonel Bunbury's Bisley Team 1951/52 still alive?

Best wishes. Once a Duke always a Duke.

Editor's note – please reply to Joe's question through this Journal.

Obituaries

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

Colonel Charles (Charlie) Robert Cumberlege

This eulogy was given by Richard Abbott at Charlie's funeral in Warminster church on Friday 16 December 2016. He died on 28 November 2016.



Born in 1939 – what a man he was to become! The third son of Colonel Dick Cumberlege, Duke of Wellington's Regiment. His mother, Constance, was left for 6 years to bring up three sons: the late Jeremy, Michael and baby Charlie, while their father went to do his wartime duty.

There have been many tributes to Charlie since he died at the end of November and it's a great honour to talk about his life.

He attended St Neots Prep School, after which he and I met at Bradfield College 64 years ago. We were in the same form (in the lower stream!). However, we each managed a few O-Levels. They were difficult to come by in those days! His brothers, Jeremy and Michael, were also at Bradfield, but rather senior to us! Charlie and I played soccer for the 1st XI. He was a superb goal keeper and saved many a ball, which had probably slipped past me at Right Half! He was an excellent all-round sportsman, especially keeping wicket for the First XI. I could, however, run faster than him! We became friends and exchanged visits home in the holidays to Yorkshire and Norfolk.

After Bradfield had made a man of him, Charlie was called up for National Service in 1957 and joined the 1st Battalion the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, following his father who had previously commanded the Dukes during the war. Charlie's brother Jeremy was also in the Battalion and in due course his son, Jonathan, joined too; three generations of one family in a close knit regiment.

There's a whiff of irony in Charlie joining a regiment

so famous for rugby, having been to a soccer school! He made up for that, representing the Battalion at Soccer, Cricket, Squash and Golf while in command, which must be a record!

He commanded the Battalion in Gibraltar where their good works, in support of the local people, earned them the Wilkinson Sword at the end of his tour. This was entirely Charlie's initiative and, as expected, he drove it enthusiastically. On a personal level, he and Jo were ideally suited to the social microscope, which was Gibraltar. The Dukes' Facebook page currently contains many posts in memory of Charlie from all ranks; a great tribute to a traditional soldier in this modern age. He was much loved by his regiment, as is demonstrated by the presence of so many Dukes today.

Charlie served in various appointments: Jamaica, Kenya, Cyprus, Hong Kong (such hardship postings!). He also attended Staff College, where he and Jo made lifelong friends. But undoubtedly, his most enjoyable and rewarding post had been commanding The Dukes. At the aged of 49, he left the army after a distinguished career of 32 years service.

At this point he joined Fletcher King, a Property, Fund and Asset Management company, during the recession in the nineties. His main responsibility over three years was to make 121 staff redundant, the last of whom was Charlie! He was held in high regard and was ideally suited to carry out this difficult task with empathy and care.

There followed fourteen years at Heseltine Lake in Bristol as Director of Administration. The company dealt in **Intellectual Property**. That's a far cry from Bradfield! Charlie led the transition from old management style to a more modern structure, using his talent for organisation and his ability to get the best out of colleagues with diplomacy, energy and enthusiasm.

Finally Charlie became Company Secretary and, at times, Acting Director of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law in London. He organised Trustees' and Members' meetings, looked after the bricks and mortar and dealt with accounts. Most especially, he is remembered for frequently lending a broad shoulder for unhappy members of the staff, mostly female, to cry on! He was universally popular with his colleagues, despite being twice the age of most, and worked closely with one of the trustees, the late Lord Bingham, Senior Law Lord. It's true that Charlie '*could walk with Kings, nor lose the common touch*'. Thus ended four stages of a remarkable and varied career.

Of course, throughout his life, he held his family closest to his heart. He was even canny enough to marry

a brilliant bridge partner and he and Jo celebrated their Golden Wedding last year with all their family. They shared a life time of love and support for each other and as we all know: behind every great man.....! Charlie was also a wonderfully loving and caring father to Nessie and Jonathan, sharing advice and guidance with them, and he gave Nessie unflinching support in her fight for full health after her accident. He also took a very active role as a grandfather to five grandchildren, three of whom we share!



Charlie and Jo

Jo, Nessie and Jonathan would like to thank you all for your wonderful support, letters and messages. They have been moved by the kindness of so many of Charlie's friends, relations and colleagues. Jo would also like to thank her three very kind friends who have so beautifully arranged the flowers for Charlie and in the Church.

On retirement, Charlie became very much involved with village affairs, first in East Woodlands, (where, as an early adopter of Internet Technology, he was known as their Internet Service Provider!), latterly in Red Lion Cottage, East Knoyle. His favourite expression '*you've got to have a plan*' really came into its own as he threw himself into supporting local organisations: The Village Shop, East Knoyle Church, the revival of the annual village Flower Show, after a generation without it, and the Services Fly Fishing Association. Everything to which he turned his hand was undertaken with efficiency and diligence.

Charlie's artistic bent became evident too. He joined a very select art class and demonstrated considerable talent; perhaps more in the style of Constable than Picasso!

He was also an avid gardener and created a very pretty garden at Red Lion Cottage and took particular pride in his vegetable plot. In East Woodlands he led the charge in today's fashion for Dahlias; Monty Don followed his lead!

Charlie was a great golfer, and he regularly played with a syndicate here at West Wilts Golf Club. As frustrated opponents missed their putts he was, as often as not, heard to say 'Bad luck old boy!' I'm pleased to report that the last time we played together, only a couple of months ago, he beat me. We shall all miss his regular games filled with fun and humour ---- most of time!

He wouldn't claim to be a wine buff nor a foodie; he was quite content with simple fare, as long as Branston Pickle or HP sauce was at hand! Not one to dress to impress, Charlie was more Squires of Shaftesbury than Jermyn Street. Well-worn pink trousers were his preferred dress code, but he kept his enviable head of thick hair to the end.

Never one to pass up the opportunity of a challenge, since his first serious illness, Charlie has skied, travelled to India and Canada and also followed the Lions' Tour to South Africa. While on holiday with Jonathan's family in Australia, he climbed Sydney Harbour Bridge, surfed with sharks at Coogee, walked the circumference of Uluru and explored Tasmania. All this in addition to jaunts closer to home – Cornwall being a particular family favourite.

One of Charlie's greatest loves was a pretty black lady - Teazel, his spaniel. He kindly offered me a lift to golf one day and, having made myself comfortable in the front, I was joined by Teazel who sat on my lap. When I suggested that she should ride in the back, Charlie replied 'No **you** can sit in the back!' He **loved** that dog.

For the past thirteen years, Charlie has been fighting Cancer. He endured 4 major operations, two of which were hip replacements. Not one to waste a useful artefact, he kept the discarded stem from his hip revision in his greenhouse it had become his garden dibber! During this long period of illness NOT ONCE did I hear him complain. He tackled it head on, maintaining his sense of humour, familiar smile and dignity. Throughout these difficult times Jo, Nessie and Jonathan have been unstinting in their support to their husband and father, and to each other. Their love and care has enabled Charlie to enjoy a happy and prolonged life with his devoted family and friends. Everyone here today will

have a host of happy memories of Charlie. During fifty-one years of marriage, the Cumberlege family unit has been steadfastly firm, and will remain so, I'm certain.

I'd like to read you a tribute to Charlie from General Sir John Wilsey, which paints so accurately the picture of the man we all know and love.

'What attributes were possessed by Charlie that made him my best friend? Beloved by Jo and his family and very popular with his friends, he and I became chums in our early forties; we remained so ever since.

During that time I saw his commitment to principle and his personal and wholehearted involvement in many aspects of life in the army and beyond. His charm, good humour and kindness, particularly to me in recent years, were unstinting. He was a frequent visitor to Windmill Farm and was selfless in the time he afforded me. I admired him tremendously and I shall miss him dreadfully'.

Thank you John.

You will all know that Charlie was a man of integrity, impeccable manners, courageous, kind, wise, and modest. He would be **astonished** to see so many people here today. With his wry sense of humour and a twinkle in his eye he was in the words of another close friend the ² *'parfit, gentil knyght'*.

He left his mark on everyone he met and we shall all miss him.

God Bless Charlie.

¹ Rudyard Kipling: If.

² Chaucer's Tales: Prologue

General Sir Charles Huxtable recalls -

In 1967 the Battalion was deployed to Cyprus as part of the UN force. Charlie joined C Company as Operations officer. The Company was 180 strong and was stationed in Kophinou, a pretty hot spot at the time. A quote from the Company Commander's diary for 22 May 1967 reads. "Charles Cumberlege is a joy to have around. Always cheerful, helpful, friendly, and full of ideas. He keeps me sane."

A tribute from Alistair Roberts.

The Roberts and Cumberlege families have been very closely linked for nearly 80 years, initially through the Duke of Wellington's Regiment – Dick (Charlie's father) Cumberlege's signature is on our parents silver salver wedding gift; Dick was my father's CO, my father was

Charlie's CO at the Depot; Charlie was my CO when I was a Company Commander; and Jonathan was joining the Regiment when I was CO! One of my first recollections as a toddler in Strensall was when this big boy on a bike ran me over – Charlie! I don't think it was deliberate and things between us did get better!

After the inevitable turbulence of Army life both sets of parents settled close to each other in Yorkshire so, as we were growing up, we were very much part of the same social scene particularly my sister, Jackie, and then, when the Sheppard family appeared in York, she became the greatest friends with Jo at the start of what became that legendary partnership - Jo and Charlie; Charlie and Jo; whichever way you say it, it rings true and is synonymous with a joy of life, a joy of a family, a joy of being around people.

Like me Charlie went to a soccer school, in his case Bradfield. This could have been terminal for an officer joining the Dukes, but sheer force of personality made him hugely popular in the Regiment with both the officers and the men. His annual appearance in goal for the Officers v Sergeants Christmas soccer match was always a favourite cameo. He was also, putting Rugby aside, an extremely accomplished all round sportsman, representing the Battalion at soccer, cricket, squash, golf, etc, etc. When CO in Gibraltar he would ring me several times a week and order me to be on the squash court in 15 minutes. We had immense battles (Murray/Djokovic bear no comparison) which he always seem to win 9-7 in the fifth!

I mentioned Gib. He was the ideal CO for the social microscope that was Gibraltar. Charlie and Jo set the gold standard and their house and the Officers Mess were the place to be seen from the Governor, Admiral Sir David Williams who became lifelong friends of the Cumberleges, to the Chief Minister and all key Gib players. It was a great tour, culminating with winning the Wilkinson Sword Award for the good works the Battalion did for the people of Gib, entirely through Charlie's initiative and his enthusiasm. Charlie and Jo are still held in high regard and with enormous affection there.

We cannot let Gib go by without one final anecdote, probably exaggerated, but so what! Prince Andrew was visiting on HMS Illustrious (?) and as usual the Navy held a party. Nessie attended and promised to be back at midnight. At about one minute to the bewitching hour, the Cumberlege phone rang and a voice said "it's Prince Andrew here and I wondered if it was OK to bring Nessie back at 0200?" Charles said something sleepily along the lines "and I'm Mickey Mouse, tell her to get back immediately!" When the truth dawned, a compromise was reached – Nessie was back in reasonable time and

Charlie kept his career!

What a truly lovely man and wonderful colleague who always had a smile and who bore his illness with the greatest fortitude.

A tribute from Peter Gardner, Second in Command in Gibraltar.

Gibraltar was also very much a military microscope, comprising one 4 star (Governor and CinC), one 2 star (RN) and two 1 star (Army and RAF) HQ's, all within this tiny enclave.

Thus the battalion, the only regular major unit, was subject to daily tri-service scrutiny, whether it be ceremonial duty, operational duty (it was just post-Falklands and both HMG and the MOD were sensitive about Gibraltar, so much so that when each rifle company deployed to Portugal for annual training a replacement company was flown out from the UK), formal and informal band engagements, adventurous training at the watermanship centre, routine training and duties as well as sporting events and off duty downtime.

Needless to say potential pitfalls, poo traps and trip wires abounded.

I also well recall occasions when the overstuffed Fortress HQ (Army) with time on their hands attempted to micro manage 1 DWR, only for this unwarranted attention to be deftly played by Charles to the fine leg boundary.

Through his own tireless example, encouragement and outstanding leadership Charles, hugely supported by Jo, ensured that 1 DWR always successfully played to the top of its game in every facet of the unique military, diplomatic and social life that was Gibraltar.

The Editor Remembers.

In 1968 the York and Lancaster Regiment disbanded and I was sent to the Dukes in Hong Kong. Charlie Cumberlege was the Adjutant. No doubt he had many things on his mind because he came into the Stanley Fort Mess that evening, after I had struggled with all my kit by taxi, ferry and another taxi to make my way to a place whose name I hardly knew some distance, partly across water, from the airport, to say hello, and how sorry he was that he had forgotten to send any transport to Kai Tak airport to collect me! I think he might even have bought me a beer.

We played quite a lot of sport together. We played hockey together in Hong Kong, cricket in Bulford, and

we were the oldies' representatives at the Dukes' London Group golf encounters at Bearwood Lakes GC. We also left the Army at about the same time and set out into new careers, and met occasionally to swap stories and ideas for getting on in the strange and unstructured world of civilian employment. In fact he contributed to my getting a job at all, as a few months earlier he persuaded me to go with him to night school in Salisbury to learn how to make money (or the theory of it, anyway) from investing in stocks and shares, and that must have cut some ice when I presented myself for a job at the London Stock Exchange.

He was charming, amusing, kind and good at just about everything he put his hand to, in every way a good and true friend. We will miss him a lot.

David 'Tiny' Carter

David Carter, known in the Regiment as 'Tiny' because he was anything but, was a natural soldier's soldier – the sort you always want on your side when there's trouble about albeit, he was often the one to generate it since trouble frequently followed in his wake. He lived the soldier's life to the full never ducking a challenge, particularly if there was fun to be had.

David was born in Bradford and attended various schools in the city at each of which his mother became a regular visitor to the headmaster's office. At 17, unbeknown to his parents, he opted out of school and walked into his local recruitment office to join the Army and with this the 'Dukes'. He found in the Regiment a life he loved not least because of the friends and vigorous lifestyle he readily fitted in with. He first joined B Company and completed the 1979/80 Belfast tour. On return to Minden he threw himself into boxing winning his weight in the inter-company boxing. It was in Minden that the first signs of the osteoporosis that was to severely impact on his health later began to be felt albeit, with his typical fortitude, he did not let this intrude on his life as a soldier.

On the battalion's move to Catterick in 1981 he joined the Mortar Platoon and continued his boxing reaching the inter company finals. And it was in the mortar platoon that he built the life long friendships that were to stay with him for the rest of his career in the Army and beyond not least with two fellow partners in crime Kev Dooley and 'Goz' Gorrings who shared a sense of humour and a propensity for trouble – particularly when it came to upholding the honour of the Regiment. It was this quality that, on the battalion's move to Gibraltar, persuaded the new RSM Bob Heron to appoint Tiny, Kev Dooley and Jock Lindsey to his RP Staff on the basis that 'It takes a thief to catch a thief' and a bit of responsibility

was the best way to keep them out of trouble. All worked well till the day they heard a fracas had kicked off downtown and some 'Dukes' were in harms way. The three RP staff immediately rushed to their 'duty' and the RSM came back to find the local police had returned his three RPs for custody in their own gaol.

It was in Gibraltar that Tiny sustained a severe injury to his back on the assault course, exacerbated by the osteoporosis he was suffering from, and he was medically discharged on the battalion's return to Bulford in 1987.

Following his return to civilian life, with his natural and easy charm, he embarked on a life of wheeling and dealing primarily in cars. As time progressed though his health deteriorated and he became confined to a wheelchair which meant he had to give this up. However he was fortunate in having a strong, supportive and caring family around him from whom he derived great satisfaction and reward. He leaves behind his wife Tracey and three children Daniel, living now in New Zealand, Megan studying to be a teacher and the 'chip off the old block' Connor.

Tom Nowell MM.



Tom Nowell was born in 1922 one of 4 brothers and 4 sisters. He left school at 14 and went to live in London with his favourite elder brother George who was a soldier in the Guards and who Tom idolised. He worked there as a delivery boy, equipped with a large and heavy bicycle, for a cheese and wine merchants in Kensington. A principal delivery destination was Clarence House. Tom returned home to Goldthorpe, near Barnsley, just before the beginning of World War 2 to work in the mines.

Because coal mining was deemed vital to the war effort it was classified as a Restricted Occupation, and miners could not leave, even to enlist in the Armed Forces, without special authority. With this restriction on him Tom volunteered to serve in the Home guard where he was promoted to Sergeant and later commissioned as a Lieutenant. Tom used his time and connections in the Home Guard to acquiring a Nissan Hut, have this erected in Goldthorpe and from this built up a thriving local Cadet Force. He married Lil in 1945 and his daughter Pam was borne during the depths of the very cold 1947 winter.

When the Reserved Occupations status was finally lifted from mining after the war, Tom decided to join the army enlisting first into the York and Lancaster Regiment in 1948. His basic training was completed at Strensall where the 1DWR was providing the training for all recruits joining the regiments of the Yorkshire and Northumbrian Brigade. On completion of his training Tom was kept on as an instructor at Strensall with the Dukes and soon afterwards promoted to Corporal. In late 1950, when the 1st Battalion was reformed as a Field Force Unit, by which time his shooting skills were well recognised, he was promoted to Sergeant as the battalion weapon handling and sniper instructor.

1DWR moved to Minden in Germany in December 1951 where he temporarily took on the job of Officer's Mess Sergeant. But when in early 1952 the battalion was warned for service in Korea, he was quickly reverted to his old role of Weapons Training and Sniper Sergeant training new recruits for his section. Meanwhile

Tom's shooting skills earned him his place in the Battalion Shooting Team and he competed at Bisley in the Army Championship in 1950, 1951 and 1952. The team won the Salisbury Plains District Championship in 1951 and they were BAOR Champions in 1952.

The Dukes moved to Korea in late 1952 to join 29 Infantry Brigade as part of the British Commonwealth Division. At this time the front line was fairly static. Both sides were well dug in, with deep trenches, bunkers and fighting bays with overhead protection. There was regular shelling and mortaring with much patrol work, especially at night. The battalion took over a fairly quiet sector of the line in November before moving in early December to a more active area known as Naichon overlooking the Samichon Valley which formed the no-man's land between them and the Chinese. Very soon after their arrival the sniper section began their daily routine working in pairs to observe and report on key enemy positions and, where necessary, taking out enemy snipers. They earned themselves the nickname "Pest Control".

That December Tom, and his sniping partner Private Seymour, noted that the Chinese were digging what appeared to be a tunnel in a re-entrant to their front line. Tunnels had previously been used to shelter extra troops prior to an attack or for increased patrol activity. It was decided that Tom and Second Lieutenant Ian Orr should go out to have a closer look. Moving forward at night, avoiding minefields and enemy patrols, they reached a position near the tunnel and within the enemy lines. There they split up and built themselves hides from small firs and shrubs cut with their jack knives from which they could watch the tunnel the next day. When daylight came Tom found his hide was much closer to the tunnel entrance than he had expected - so close that when one of the enemy tunnelers found the need to relieve himself he did so against used the firs covering Tom's hide. That day alone in his hide with the temperature below freezing with no scope for moving, eating or drinking without risk of betraying his position proved a stern test. But Tom's observation of the size of the timbers being used and the amount of spoil removed indicated the tunnel was of a substantial size. Tom's experience as a miner no doubt helped with his assessment. When night and darkness eventually arrived, despite an enemy patrol waiting near the tunnel ready to set out, the pair were able to cautiously withdraw and get movement back into their stiff and frozen limbs before making the return journey while avoiding a nearby Chinese patrol.

With the information they brought back it was decided to send out a larger, dual role patrol including a reconnaissance group to enter and examine the interior of the tunnel to assess its size and possible use along with a second group whose role was to kill or capture any defenders or tunnelers while also protecting the 'close' recee group. Second Lieutenant Orr led the group entering the tunnel and Tom led the fighting group. The patrol left the front line under cover of darkness and made good progress across the valley. As it neared the tunnel its occupants could be seen fleeing towards their own lines, perhaps having spotted the approaching patrol or evading diversionary fire from our artillery. Tom's party followed the escaping Chinese for some way up the spur but had to abandon the chase to return and cover the other group now inside the tunnel. Following a thorough examination of the tunnel interior they returned to their own lines without further contact.

With the tunnel details now known it was decided that it should be destroyed. A daylight raid, with full artillery support, was mounted on 24 January 1953. It was commanded by Lieutenant Rodney Harms, supported by Second Lieutenant Orr and fifteen soldiers including a member of the Royal Engineers with enough explosives to do the job. Tom was bitterly disappointed that he was not allowed to go on this operation, but it was probably

decided he had done enough already. The raid was a complete success with no casualties to the Dukes. The tunnel was destroyed, a number of the enemy were killed and a wounded prisoner, thought to be a Political Officer, was carried back to the Dukes lines where he was found to be dead on arrival. Lieutenant Harms and Second Lieutenant Orr were both awarded the Military Cross for this operation and Tom was awarded a well-earned Military Medal for his part in the activities leading up to the raid.

At the end of January the Commonwealth Division was relieved by an American Army Division and the Dukes moved to a rest area south of the Imjim River where they were able to celebrate a late Christmas with a traditional turkey dinner. The Division returned to the line in early April when 29 Brigade took over the left of the Divisional front including the key position, of 'The Hook'. The Black Watch, with one company of the Dukes known as 'The Black Dukes', were initially responsible for the Hook position. The rest of the battalion were just behind in Brigade reserve. Following a heavy attack on the Black Watch, the Dukes, plus a company of 1 Kings, took over the Hook position on the night of 12/13 May. Intelligence reports and an increase in enemy artillery fire indicated that a further major attack was pending. This attack by hundreds of Chinese troops, preceded by an artillery barrage of unprecedented intensity, came in during the evening of 28 May. On the night of the battle Tom was sent to guide a platoon of the reserve company up to the rear slope of the Hook so as to be available for immediate support. Having got them there he stayed on to help with the withdrawal of the wounded. With massive support from our own artillery and mortars and an RTR tank nearby, the Dukes held the position, but with the loss of 150 men missing, wounded or killed and much of the defences destroyed or damaged.

The battle was followed by a short period in Brigade reserve, during which time casualty replacements were received, before the battalion moved back once more into the line. By now the peace talks, which had been going on for some considerable time, were finally beginning to bear fruit and on 27 July 1953 a cease fire was agreed. As a very hot summer passed into Autumn Tom's time in the Army was coming to an end and in October he boarded a troopship in Pusan for the long journey home and de-mob by Christmas. The battalion left Korea on 13 November for Gibraltar where it was to spend the next two years.

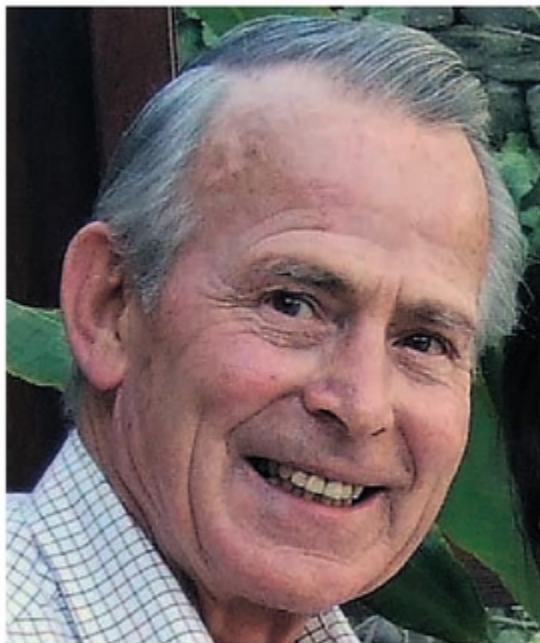
Beside Tom's awarded of the Military Medal was also awarded a MID for distinguished service during the tour. Tom was honoured to receive his Military Medal from the Queen Mother on 23rd March 1954 accompanied by his wife and daughter.

Tom's military career was not fully over when he left the Dukes. In August 1956, during the Suez crisis he was called back into service as a reservist. He landed at Suez with the West Yorks, but the war was stopped due to international pressure and he was released again in December of that year.

On return to civilian life Tom worked first as a door to door salesman before securing a job with British Nylon Spinners, later to be acquired by ICI, where he remained until his retirement in 1980 having become his floor supervisor. On Tom's retirement his great friend Bill Norman, knowing from their time in Korea what a good shot he was, persuaded him to join the Brockholes Shooting Club where he was to remain a member for 37 years. Over those 37 years he averaged 20 championship shoots each year and won the 'F' Class (long range 1000 yards with optical scope and bipod support) club championship in 2005 at the age of 83. He also shot 58 maximum scores the last one being at the age of 89. There would have been more had not his eyesight deteriorated.

Tom was a dedicated soldier with exceptional marksmanship skills. He was also a deeply modest and considerate man with quietly held strong religious and moral principles which he did not seek to impose on others but rather he set an example and with this drew the best from all those around him. He was unfailingly a true gentleman.

Trevor Carter



Trevor Carter.

Dr John Carter writes. It is with great sadness that I write to inform you of the death of my father on January 24th at the age of 83. He was extremely proud of his time with The Duke of Wellington's Regiment and read The Iron Duke from cover to cover.

At his Memorial Service Dr Paul Carter, John's brother, said; "It would be remiss of me not to pay tribute to Dad's National Service which he looked back on with - quote - 'everlasting pleasure'.

He was almost 22 when he first reported for duty at the Barracks in Halifax - the home of the 'Duke of Wellington's Regiment'. After completion of his training he joined the 1st Battalion in Chisledon, Swindon before spending 4 months in Malta in 56, then 10 months in Cyprus as Platoon Commander, 6 Platoon B Company.



Taken at Millkouri, April 1957. Operation Lucky Dip. Trevor and CQMS Arundel

In his notes, Dad lists 14 separate operations in Cyprus which he was involved with - names such as 'Operation Green Dragon', 'Black Velvet' and 'Whisky Mac' to name but a few. The Battalion returned to England in August 1957 and TT Carter 23189563 was officially 'demobbed' back at Halifax barracks in September 1957.

My father, like his older brother Reg - took great pride - quite rightly - in having served with such a fine Regiment and stated on many occasions that it was one of the most valuable experiences of his life.

It was fitting that in May 1960, my parents were married by the Reverend Mathew Byrne, who was Padre with the Battalion when Dad was in Malta and Cyprus striking up a lasting friendship"

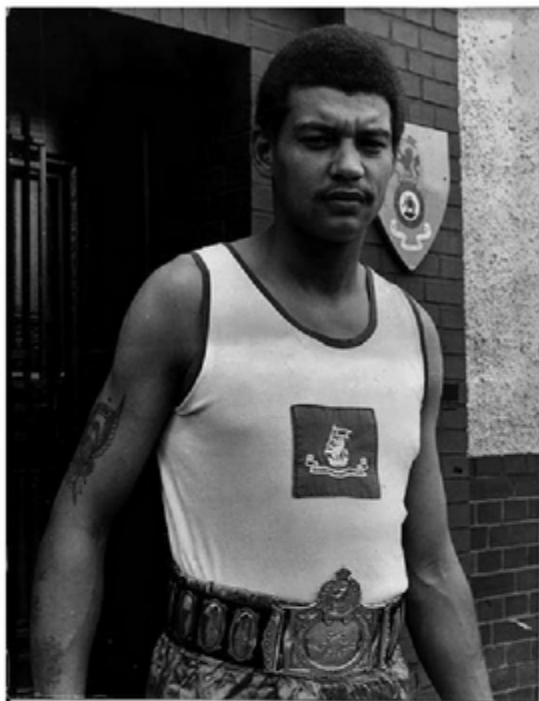
He is survived by his wife Josephine, his three children and six Grandchildren. He went on to have a successful career as the CEO of Kaye and Co Ironfounders, Huddersfield.

Herbert (Bert) Ackroyd.

Bert Ackroyd who served in the Mortar Platoon of the 1st Battalion in Korea and Gibraltar died in the Calderdale Royal Hospital, Halifax, on the 14th of January 2017, aged 83. Having been called up for National Service he signed up as a three year regular. His funeral service was held at the Park Wood Crematorium, Elland on the 2nd of February, when the chapel was full with standing room only for some. He was a popular member of the Halifax branch of the Regimental Association and of the Korean Veterans' Association. Both organisations were well represented at the service. Bert is survived by his wife Maureen, daughters Deborah, Dawn and Michelle, six grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Eric was born in 1957 in Halifax to a hard working African father and was 1 of 4 boys. With their mother soon leaving the home life was tough for them all. Nevertheless Eric still found the time while he was growing up to explore the world and push its boundaries particularly so with his Dad having to work evenings to provide for the family.

Eric Juma



Eric Juma

At just 14 Eric, accompanied by friends, resolved to learn how to drive. Not being of legal driving age they decided the best they could do rather than buy a car was

to nick one! A Porsche, a Merc, a Jag? No, it was Mr Myles old banger from down the road. Needless to say they didn't get far.

From a young age he learnt he had to be tough to survive. Many will know Eric for his boxing skills. A story often repeated in the family was how he met his lifelong friend Chris Greenwood. Chris aged 10, was walking to the shops one day when this voice appears from above him. "Do you wanna fight?" Chris looked up and to see a 10 year old Eric Juma sitting on a milk float. He thought "Yea alright" until the 10 year old boy jumped down to the ground and stood facing him at nearly 6 foot tall! Chris quickly declined Eric's offer, they shook hands and the two remained good friends for over 40 years.

Aged 16 he left Halifax and made the long trip to Brighton. While there he put his fighting skills to the test and joined a boxing club a sport he was to excel at.

In 1977, now 19, he decided to join the army and the Dukes. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

Eric began army life on 5 August 1977 and joined the battalion in Minden on 8 May 1978. There, in the NAAFI, on his first day he met Alwyn Chapman; this was the start of an enduring friendship that was to last throughout the remainder of Eric's life. The following day Eric was in the boxing squad! His first fight was at heavyweight against Corporal King from 2 Para in the Olympic stadium. Although his opponent was twice his size, Eric quickly knocked him out.

Not a natural heavyweight, Eric had to slim down from 199 pounds to 178 pounds to fight at light heavyweight – his fighting weight for the remainder of his boxing career, during which he had only one defeat; this was in the Army Championships when he lost to Corporal Trevor Arthy, who went on to box in the ABA semi-finals. Whilst representing the DWR boxing squad, Eric never lost a fight.

The boxing squad's (named below) greatest triumph came in 1978 when, although assumed to be the underdogs, the boxing squad won the Army Cup, beating 2 Para in an epic final. The DWR squad were 3-2 down with two boxers left to fight; Eric had to win to level the match, a feat he achieved after some "gentle" pre-bout encouragement from his friend and fellow boxer Cedric "Tracker" Oakley. It was down to Tracker to finish the job; beating Corporal Fox in the final bout. The rest, as they say, is history and their victory was celebrated in true regimental style! The squad went on to win the cup again the following year.

Although Eric played other sports, boxing was always

his first love. Starting as a teenager with Halifax Star Boxing Club, through clubs in Brighton and Berlin and, after leaving the army, back to his roots at Halifax Star – Eric and boxing went hand in glove.

Army life, of course, was not all sport and Eric served with the Regiment in Germany, Canada, Portugal, Gibraltar and two tours of Northern Ireland.

After 7 years in the Regiment Eric decided it was time to leave and start a new chapter in his life.

After leaving Eric was given the opportunity to work in insurance. By going around the football and rugby clubs and signing up many names, he quickly realised he could make a healthy living. Until one day, Eric decided to play a harmless game of football. What could go wrong? Halfway into the game the insurance man, got a broken leg!! And guess who had no insurance!!

Meanwhile Eric never lost touch with the friends he made in the Regiment, particularly those from the boxing squad*. On 7 April 2001, the day that Red Marauder, a 33-1 outsider, won the Grand National in the rain, the very first "unofficial" Halifax Reunion was held with some 20 or so friends from the boxing team turning out. It went so well that they decided to do it again 6 months later!

The Halifax Reunion continues twice yearly to this day, always on the first Saturday in April and the first Saturday in October. However these days it's not unusual to see 200+ "Dukes" from far and wide turning up at Wetherspoons for a good day out; meeting old and new friends, sharing memories and experiences, acknowledging those who sadly have lost their lives in service and celebrating the lives of Dukes who now "stand easy".

In more recent years the Halifax Reunion has held collections to give financial support to the 1 Yorks Families. With the drinks flowing freely and the twisting of an arm or two, some £4000 in total has been raised so far (a cheque for £1261 raised at the last reunion will be presented in April).

While serving in Gibraltar, Eric met Linda, got engaged and married in 1984 just as he was leaving the Army. Two years later his son Jordan was born but sadly the marriage did not last.

Nevertheless that didn't stop Eric and Jordan having a close, strong relationship. Jordan in his eulogy spoke of his memories as a small boy every Sunday running to the bottom of the street seeing "this giant of a man" with his big smile walking towards him and just diving straight into his arms. During these years they would go bowling

together, play some snooker and by the age of 13 Jordan could name every single pub in Halifax.

In June 2002 Eric became a father for the second time with the birth of his daughter Alyssa who he loved dearly and was hugely proud to see grow up into a beautiful young lady.

At 55 years of age Eric finally decided it was time to give up on being a loveable rogue and settle down with Linda who he had met in March 2012. They had over 4 fantastic years together, shared some special memories with each other and in December 2014 they got engaged.

Eric was a man who lived the life he wanted. There were bad times and good times, shared with many, many friends. Testimony to how many of these he enjoyed was the 800 plus from the Regiment as well as from Halifax and beyond who packed Halifax Minster to say farewell to him at his funeral. What would have particularly warmed his heart was the resounding rendering at the wake of "The Dukes are coming up the Hill". He would have been immensely proud to have heard it sung with the well-oiled vigour that he knew so well from the Wetherspoons reunions - not least the last one he had attended with such determination only two weeks before he died to make his last farewell to the Regiment and all his friends in it.

*Boxing squad members: Cedric "Tracker" Oakley, Errol Bogle, Billy Smith, John Swain, Mick Doyne, Ian Bakes, Pete Wagstaff, Brian Lawrence, Chris Smith, Leroy Salmons, Paul McAllister, Alan Rose, Billy Birch, Dave Maskill, "Smokey" Bacon, Eric Adamson, Shane Adamson, Tony Williams, Phil Brandon, Dale Gowdall, Ramsay "The Hand", Nick "Radar" McConnell, Phil Hawsworth, Gary Broadhead, Dave Weatherall, Russell Rhodes, Alwyn Chapman (coach), Bill Swap (coach).

MICHAEL GOODMAN-SMITH 1921 – 2016

Michael Goodman-Smith who served with the 1st Battalion in North Africa and Italy died at home at the eleventh hour on 11 November. Michael was educated at Colet Court, the prep school for St Paul's and St Paul's itself and then went on to learn French at the Lycée in South Kensington and he maintained his fluency in that language all his life. He was a keen Boy Scout and was made a King's Scout. After St Paul's he found a job making lampshades in Mitcham.

He was serving as Territorial in the Honourable Artillery Company (HAC) and was actually in the Long Room when war was declared in 1939 and he was soon commissioned into the Dukes and his talents in lampshade making were lost to the world. He fought with the 1st Battalion in Tunisia, Italy and Palestine.



Michel Goodman-Smith.

During the Anzio campaign he served in Brigade HQ and would have witnessed most of the drama related to that grim battle. Conscientious and committed he was 'mentioned in despatches' twice. He was a constant attendee at the 1st Bn 1943-45 Dinner Club which was established because Territorial Officers in those days were denied the privilege of being members of the Regimental Officers Dinner Club.

After the war he re-joined the HAC and in due course joined the Company of Pikemen and Musketeers and took part in thirty three (appropriately) Lord Mayor's Shows. Later he was secretary of the HAC Mess Club which holds a series of Dinners in Armoury House over the year. All went well until one day he arranged for the diners to have grilled ostrich steak for the main course! This did not go down well. It was about that time that I first met Michael when I was GOC London District and I remember how very friendly he was to me as he had served in Africa and Italy under my father. His life was much influenced by his association with the HAC and much fun was had over the many years. Indeed it was just after a New Year's Ball at the HAC Ball that he proposed to his future wife.

Michael was married for 60 years, was proud of his

long and happy marriage so he was much distressed by her death. Living as long as he did his family grew and in due course there were three more generations to oversee and advise. He was recently thrilled by the arrival two new great great grandchildren. Such are the benefits of a long life. Michael was a prodigious letter writer and was always keen to engage with all the people he met, young or old. Jolly, interested and charming he took a lot of care with those younger. He delighted in his friendships and would hold long telephone conversations once he was less able to travel to London and elsewhere. He much believed in Winston Churchill's comment on his great friend Lord Birkenhead; "he banked his treasure in the hearts of his friends".

After the war Michael went up to Oxford to study law and in due course qualified as a solicitor which he remained for his working life becoming a partner in Sedgwick Turner in Watford.

Michael was a character and one who welcomed me into the Regiment with affection on account of my father. I mourn his death but he had had a good innings and Michael Bray and I were honoured to be at his funeral in Royston on the 28th November. He would have approved of the timing of his death and in Valhalla no doubt he will be regaling his predecessors in the 33rd of this achievement.

Robert Taylor

Ken Keld writes: I wish to report the death of Robert Taylor from Scarborough who passed away on 12 January 2017, aged 87 years his funeral was held at the Scarborough Crematorium on Wednesday 25th January, the Regiment was represented, by Hedley Rutherford, Christopher Toal, John Elliott and Ken Keld.

Bob as he was known was a National Serviceman and served with the 1st Battalion East Yorkshire Regiment in Berlin before being transferred to the Dukes in Minden. In Korea he served with 11 Platoon D Company.

Maurice Chappell

Maurice Chappell, who carried out his National Service in the Dukes and served in the Signals Platoon of the 1st Battalion in Korea, died on the 25th October 2016 age 83 in a nursing home near his home in Hipperholme, Halifax. In Korea, as a Lance Corporal and Signals Clerk, his main task was to run the daily battalion SDS (Special Dispatch Service) normally by "jeep" which involved the collection and delivery of all official correspondence, documents and packages, between battalion headquarters, companies and departments. A little known role for the Signal Platoon in the field.

On leaving the army he worked for many years in the office of the Mackintosh Sweet Company but in the sixteen years prior to his final retirement he was employed as the civilian clerk to the TA Company in the Halifax TA Centre. The funeral service held at Park Wood Crematorium, Halifax, on the 3rd of November, was attended by his wife Margaret, son Craig, daughter Lynne and many other family members and friends. Lieutenant Colonel Walter Robins represented the Regiment.

Albert William Bowen

Bill Bowen who served in the 1st Battalion during WW2, in North Africa and Italy, died in Birmingham on the 23rd November 2016, at the age of 93.

Michael Hugh Doyle

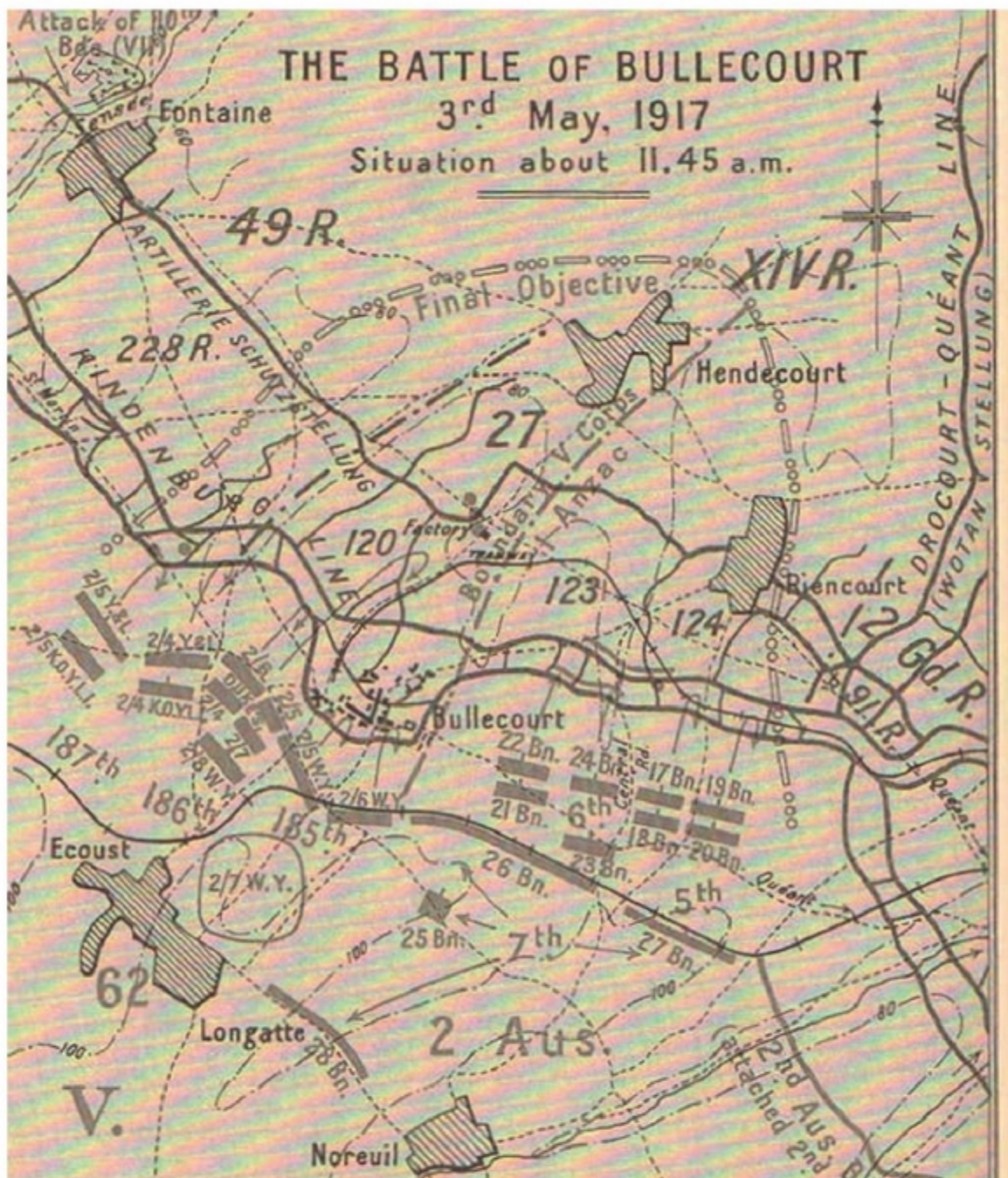
Michael Doyle who was a National Serviceman with the 1st Battalion 1959 - 61, died on the 9th January 2017, at the age of 79. He served with the Battalion in Northern Ireland, Brentwood, Colchester and Kenya. Michael was a long standing member of the Dukes Association in Skipton.

John Frederick Parker

John Parker who served in the 1st Battalion in the 1960s and early 70s, mostly in Support Company, died on 31st January 2017, at the age of 73. John died in Canada, where he had lived for many years.

Jack Parkinson

Jack Parkinson who served with the Dukes between 1958 - 82, died on 16 February 2017, at the age of 74. Jack's service included tours in Kenya, Norway, UN Cyprus, Northern Ireland (3), Hong Kong and Germany. Most will remember Jack from his days in the Assault Pioneer Platoon, where he became the Assault Pioneer Sergeant.



Map of the Battle of Bullecourt in May 1917, in which four Dukes territorial battalions, with brigades made up of West Yorkshires, York and Lancasters and Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry battalions, took part and suffered heavy casualties. Full story inside on page 19



The Regimental badge on a gate inside the Chapel at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Story inside on page 32