

THE IRON DUKE



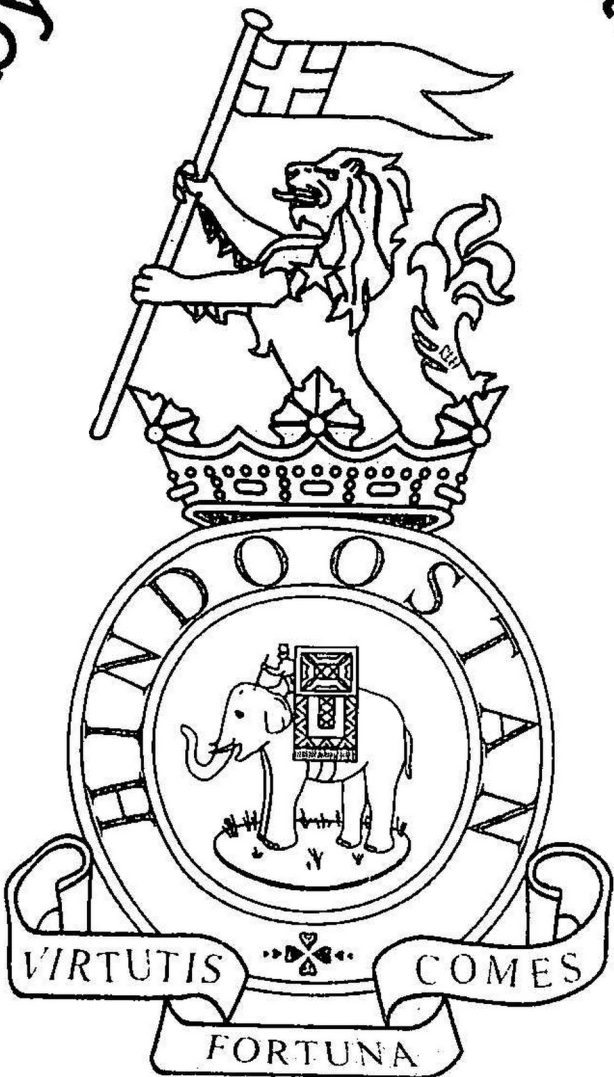
In This Issue

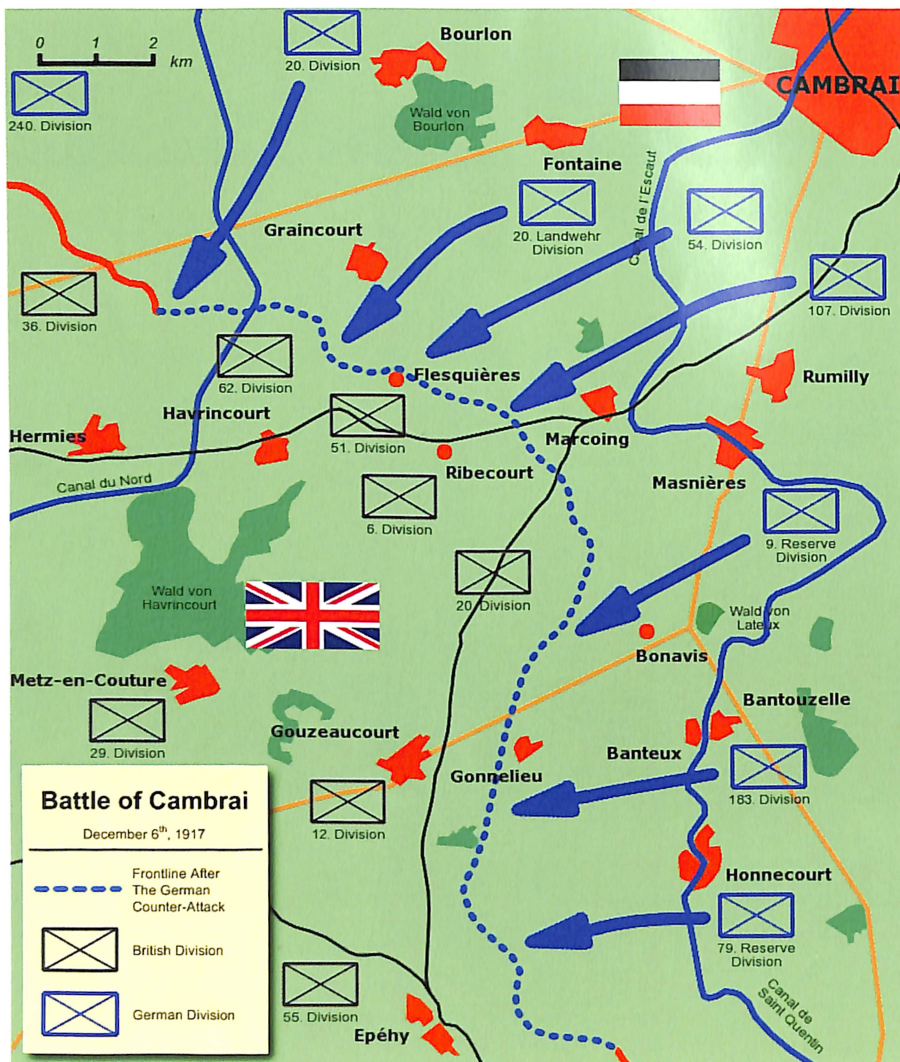
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- Arnold Loosemore VC DCM.
- The City of Ypres today.
- With the 76th in India.
- A Brush with the Law.
- Association News.
- Obituaries.



The medals and other regimental regalia of Private Alfred Henry Harrison.

Digitised by The Regimental Archives





Map of the German counter attack at Cambrai in December 1917, showing, unusually, German forces in blue and British in black. Note 62 (West Riding) Division just above Havrincourt, right in the path of the onslaught.

The photograph at the bottom of the front cover shows the medals and other regimental regalia of Private Alfred Henry Harrison, who served with the East Yorkshire Regiment in Normandy in June 1944 and with the Dukes in Korea in 1953. Obituary on page 42 of this edition. Left to right 39-45 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 39-45, GSM Palestine 45-48, Queen's Korea Medal, UN Korea Medal 50-53, Legion d'Honneur. The last was awarded by the French Government, initially only to those who landed on D Day itself, but then extended to all those who took part in the liberation of France in 1944/45. To be correct the Legion d'Honneur should not be worn as part of the row, but on the other side. Just visible in the bottom right corner of the photograph is the Korean War Veteran Medal, issued by the Government of the Republic of Korea.

THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

(WEST RIDING)

*Dettingen
Mysore
Seringsapatam
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

Legacy

The Dukes served Crown and Country from 1702 to 2006, and then hung on in a somewhat diluted form for another few years before it was three Yorkshire battalions into two, and the loss of the old titles. Importantly, though, our old Regiment is very far from being forgotten, and so long as there are men still alive who wore that cap badge it never will be.

But that, in the perspective of time passing, will not be for long. Shall we say around 2080, perhaps a touch later, until our own "Harry Patch", an 18 year old private soldier in 2006, is the last man to have served in the Dukes. And then what?

Our Regiment deserves better for its 304 years of campaigning all over the world than to be forgotten. How to prevent that? Something solid, as permanent as anything can be, and an object to be admired both for its form and its meaning, will have to deliver the legacy when all the Dukes old comrades are gone. An impressive, eye catching memorial. And the time for it is now. (The other strand of the legacy would be a fully modernised and time-proofed archive, including all copies of this Journal searchable but that is a story for another day).

This edition of the Iron Duke carries information from the Association President and others, about what is intended. The point this editorial makes is a simple one: we can all help in some degree. When we go out to a wider public and ask for contributions, let us be able to say that we, the regimental family, is setting a fine example when it comes to fund raising. We can hardly expect the Regiment's legacy to be secured unless we put our shoulders to the wheel and help. It is up to us.

An old Soldier

A funeral took place in Chiswick a couple of weeks ago (obituary of Alfred Henry Harrison in the usual place at the end of the Journal). He joined the East Yorkshire Regiment in time to land in Normandy a few days after D Day, and he fought with them until the end of hostilities, stayed for a tour in Palestine, and was then "demobbed". In 1950 he decided to join the Dukes, just in time (he was either very lucky or very unlucky with his military timing, depending on how you look at it) to be sent to Korea.

It has proved very difficult to find out anything other than that "he was there". He was accompanied on his final journey to the cemetery by a nephew, a great nephew and a great niece, members of the British Korean

Veterans' Association – which, despite being disbanded as a national organisation still exists as branches in parts of the country – and of the Hounslow Royal British Legion. The Yorkshire Regiment and our Association HQ ensured proper representation, and a young Irish Guards bandsman, complete with bearskin, played the Last Post and the Reveille. A local police constable, and ex-Duke, who had helped Alf when he found him one day a bit lost, buzzing along on his mobility scooter, also came to pay his respects.

There are very few of these gentlemen with this experience of war around these days, and I was glad to have been there to witness that the proceedings were carried out with respect, great care, and a genuine sense of loss amongst those with whom he had spent his final years, telling old stories and having a pint or two. His family now have his medals and his badges and bits of militaria (shown on the cover page) ensuring that he, for a few generations anyway, will not be forgotten.

The Great War

In this issue we remind ourselves of the Regiment's involvement in the Third Battle of Ypres, otherwise known as Passchendaele, and also of some action in northern Italy.

In our accounts of this war we have already had to remember some dreadful, almost unimaginably awful, phases of this long and costly conflict. The young men of Europe were being slaughtered in a struggle that never moved far in four years, just shifting a mile or two within a very limited war zone known as the Western Front in France and Belgium, in keeping with the ebb and flow of commanders' plans and initiatives, and the fluctuating pressure of enemy action. Now we are back with the main focus on Ypres, and (again) a need to relieve pressure on the French along the Chemin des Dames front further south, and to push the Germans off the high ground around the Ypres Salient, where they had been since early 1915.

As there was for the Somme there has been some useful and informative coverage in the media. One word has probably been used more than any other; mud. For the combatants on both sides the conditions were terrible beyond imagining. After five months the allies arrived at the top of the Salient, inch by inch, two forward one (or more) back. Whatever thoughts we may have about many aspects of this battle, no one can question the courage of the men that fought at Passchendaele.

Northern Ireland

The plea for first-hand accounts of events leading to the death of our soldiers in Northern Ireland has produced some interesting results. There is always a risk that painful memories will be stirred amongst family and friends, but the general view is that these men must not be forgotten, and if we are to achieve that, we need to remember what happened to them. If anything in this edition stirs your memories, please get in touch.

Our Journal

Every time I start to put together another issue of the Iron Duke I wonder if there will be enough content to justify the cost of printing and distribution. And just as often I am surprised to find that there is. Please keep it coming in.

The President's Column



Brigadier Andrew Meek CBE

From the previous edition of the Iron Duke readers will be aware of the intention to have a memorial to the Regiment. Plans have now developed further so this seems an opportune moment to remind everyone of the rationale for the memorial, its purpose and to give an overview of the whole project.

It is now over 11 years since The Duke of Wellington's Regiment left the Army's order of battle and, whilst a number of plaques and other mementoes have been unveiled in West Yorkshire, there is no single or formal memorial to reflect the totality of the Regiment's 300 years of loyal and conspicuous service to the Crown. Our numbers are not increasing, rather the reverse, and thus the time is now right for the creation of a significant and permanent memorial to the Regiment. Missing this opportunity would result in the Regiment and its legacy being relegated to footnotes in the history books and I

for one do not wish this to be the case.

The purpose of the memorial is far greater than simply a statement that the Regiment existed and that 'we were different'. We know we were genuinely different and this is sufficient reason for there to be a memorial. But there is more to it than simply reflecting a certain uniqueness: the memorial will honour all those 'Dukes' who gave their lives; it will commemorate our heritage; acknowledge all those who served in all battalions and, importantly, the families that supported those men; and it will recognise the county from which the majority came. Furthermore the memorial will be situated in the very heart of Halifax, home to the Regiment for over 200 years, and which still views 'The Dukes' as their Regiment. And the really good news is that this project has the wholehearted support of Calderdale Council which has already been hugely helpful in identifying a site for the memorial right in the middle of the town centre and will I am certain continue to be hugely supportive as the project develops. As an aside I should also point out that the memorial will be the first of any sort on Halifax town centre - we shall thus have pride of place in our home town.

As I write this at least 5 sculptors/designers have confirmed that they will submit their concepts for the memorial the requirements for which have been set out by the small working party overseeing the project. It is our intention to select the preferred design by the middle of November which will then be followed by seeking (and of course gaining) planning permission from Calderdale Council. This is a vital step in the whole process which should be successfully completed by March next year. It is our intention to unveil the completed memorial before the end of 2018 and as soon as the date is known it will be widely published.

We do not underestimate the challenge we have set ourselves in raising the required funds to bring this vision of a memorial to reality. His Grace The Duke of Wellington has kindly agreed to be the Patron to this appeal and our Vice Patrons are: General Sir Charles

Huxtable, Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter, Colonel John Barkshire and Colonel Charles Dent. Further to this we will be organising certain events to help raise the funds including an official launch event at Apsley House in the spring of 2018 which The Duke has generously agreed to host.

But as with any appeal of this nature the key to success will lie in the support from all those who have a connection to the Regiment. And thus I am asking everyone who has a connection with the Regiment to make a contribution to the Appeal: I am quietly confident that members of the Association will support this request generously and details of how you can give to the Appeal are on the dedicated webpage on the Regimental website, and in this Journal. The page includes the various means

by which you can give as well as the all-important Gift Aid declaration (which increases gifts by 20%). For those without access to the internet and who would like details of how to contribute to the Appeal please contact our fundraiser, Caroline Cary, on 01980 611211, for details.

I am conscious that we are all inundated with appeals from all sorts of organisations, but for everyone within The 'Dukes' family this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to support the placing of a fitting memorial to our Regiment right in the heart of our historic home. Please spread the word throughout the Regimental family and support the Appeal as best you can: thank you.

Details of how to donate and the form are at the back of this edition.

Dukes News Round-Up

Wreath Layed in Memory of Private Henri Harpin on the Centenary of his death in the Battle of Bullecourt by his daughter Margaret Harpin



Private Henri Harpin

On 3rd May 2017 on the centenary of her father, Henry Harpin's, death his daughter, Margaret Harpin, laid a wreath in his memory in the Huddersfield Drill Hall below the 5th Battalion Memorial Boards where his name is recorded. Margaret was born on 10th March 1917 two months before her father was killed on 3rd May 1917 in the Battle for Bullecourt (see the last edition of the ID for the story of the battle). Margaret will be among the very last children of soldiers who gave their lives in the Great War to still be with us.

Henri was born in Huddersfield on 19th October 1888. His family home was barely half a mile from the Drill Hall. He was educated in Huddersfield and became an engineer. He married Flora Frudge just before the beginning of the war. Notwithstanding his newly married



General Evelyn enjoys a cup of tea with Margaret Harpin

status, he enlisted with the 5th Battalion DWR on 4th August 1914, six days after the declaration of war. The 5th Battalion was a Territorial Force battalion whose headquarters were in the Drill Hall. In September 1914, to meet the needs of a rapidly expanding army, the Territorial Force battalions were divided to form two battalions. The 1st line battalions were deployed to France early in the war while the 2nd line battalions spent a frustrating 2½ years training and providing reinforcements while priority was given to equipping and deploying the Kitchener New Army battalions. The 2nd/5th Battalion, including Henri, finally embarked for France on 12th January 1917 as part of the 62nd West Riding Division.

The division was committed soon after to the Arras

Campaign of April and May 1917. The campaign was an attempt to break out of the long stalemate of trench warfare by breaching the German Hindenburg Line of defences and, with this, allow a move into more mobile warfare. Bullecourt was a strong point in the Hindenburg Line. Henri lost his life on the first day of the 62nd Division's attack on Bullecourt.



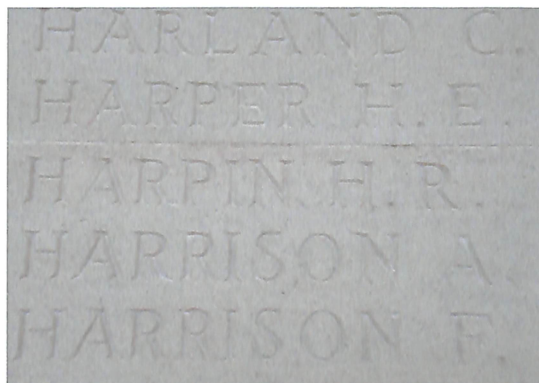
A wreath is laid in front of the Huddersfield Drill Hall Memorial Board

Henri's body was never recovered. He has no known grave and the only memorial in the UK where his name is recorded is in the Drill Hall on the 5th Battalion Memorial Boards. His name is also recorded in France on the Arras Memorial to the Missing alongside 165 of his comrades with no known grave and lost too in the battle for Bullecourt. Those numbers bear testimony to the scale of loss on that fateful day and what tragedy it would have brought to so many families in Huddersfield.



The Drill Hall Memorial Board showing Private Henri Harpin's name

Flora, Henri's wife, never remarried. She trained as a nurse and in 1920 became the district nurse for Kegworth, near Nottingham, a post she held for 49 years until her retirement in 1969 at the age of 72. Margaret became an ophthalmic nurse and served with the 8th Army in Egypt in the 2nd World War.



Henri Harpin's name on the Arras Memorial

It was in 1999 that David Harrap, as Regimental Secretary, first came into contact with Margaret when she wrote to him asking for advice on what to do with her father's single WW1 medal. She explained that she was the last in her family line and wanted to ensure Henri's medal found a home where it would be honoured and kept safe. David replied that they would, of course, take it into the Museum where it now is. Margaret was subsequently a regular attendee at the annual Regimental Services in York and Halifax. During this time it also became apparent just how carefully she had, over the years, quietly followed the fortunes of her father's old Regiment of which she was immensely proud.

She too grew to know General Evelyn well and rather like Evelyn's famous 'red book' in which he kept track of nearly every officer and SNCO in the Regiment she too had her book of cuttings of the Regiment's (and Evelyn's) affairs. So it was a particular pleasure for her that General Evelyn and Celia were able to be in the Drill Hall to honour her father's sacrifice in 1917.



The Arras Memorial



Wellington College events

Michael Bray reports.

Remembrance Day

At mid-morning break on 11th November, the whole College community assembled for the 11 o'clock ceremony. The CCF Colour party and Corps of Drums were on parade. The Master laid a wreath on behalf of the College and Brigadier Michael Bray laid one on behalf of the Regiment. Relatives of OWs killed in 1916 placed candles and were entertained to lunch.

The Officers Lunch

The annual lunch for officers and their families took place for the second time in the grand surroundings of Wellington College on April 29th.

Sixty six people attended, of whom ten were our guests. The latter included Caroline Cary, our Memorial Appeal fundraiser and her husband Richard; Murray Lindo, Head of the Wellington College Community; and representatives of the CCF, Lieutenant Commander Ian Frayne, the CO, Clare Edwards, winner of the Regiment's prize for a member of the Common Room who makes an outstanding contribution to the CCF, and the Cadet RSM, Tom Hince.

It was great to have present for the first time, a major turnout of Peter Robinson's family, John and Marilyn Hogg, and Jack Scrobie, famous rugby league player from National Service days, who happened to be staying in a nearby village with his son and was brought along by Wellington's admirable Catering Manager, Philip Stockwell, who again provided us with an excellent lunch.

Peter Bayley, who many will remember as our Padre in Minden in the late 1970s, was invited but he is now in a wheel chair with MS, living in Newcastle Under Lyme

and was unable to make it. Peter was famous for writing graces appropriate for the occasion and sent us this one:

Thank God for this memorial feast
 With comrades here and in our hearts.
 The road behind has memories
 Of battles fought and trophies gained,
 The Dukes move on to unknown land
 Those White Rose Men, that happy band.
 Whichever memories you save
 Fortune will always still favour the brave.

Peter would be pleased to be in touch with old friends through his wife, Valerie; v.c.bayley@keele.ac.uk

A guided tour was provided for those who had not previously been to the College. The Corps of Drums and Bugles of the CCF entertained us before lunch. The Master, Julian Thomas, just back from completing Les Marathon des Sables, spoke to us and Brigadier Andrew Meek gave his annual report on the Regiment's affairs.

A very happy time was had by all, greatly enhanced by the excellent Wellington staff, who could not have been more helpful. Last year, they met Don Palmer's dietary requirement of "more chips" by providing him with a bowl full. This year Simon Dixon got his "spotted dick".

You are encouraged to **note next year's date: Saturday 17th March 2018.**

Speech Day

The day started in an enormous marquee, seating 3500 people, with the Corps of Drums, wearing our uniform as ever, marching in. There in the front rank was the Master, Julian Thomas, dressed as a drummer beating the base drum; great recruit for the Dukes!

Lieutenant Colonel Richard Sugden.

Peter Cole, our man at the Regimental Museum at Bankfield, reports that on 19 July 2017 Mr Keith Sugden of Denham, Buckinghamshire brought his Father's, Lt Col Richard Sugden of Brighouse West Yorkshire, photo album, into the association headquarters for the archives. Col Sugden was in 1/4 DWR from 1928 and the album has many photographs from 1934 until 1940. The album includes many names of many of those who are in the photographs, which should be of great use in the DWR archives



Keith Sugden, centre, handing over the album to Peter Cole with Gordon Bell looking on

Hindoostan Shooting Club Goes From Strength to Strength.

We are delighted to announce that HRH The Prince Philip is now an honorary member of the Duke of Wellington's Officers' shooting club, known as the Hindoostan Shooting Club.

As a background, club captain, Major Adam Brown, instructed the HSC Admin Wallah – (Andrew McNeilis) to extend an open invitation to the Prince Philip, in recognition of his retirement from Public Duties and the potential need for a few hobbies.

Andy McNeilis met with the Queen and HRH The Prince Philip at Buckingham Palace (representing his employer, Phaidon International who were awarded the Queen's Award for Enterprise, Services to Overseas

Trade.) During the reception he was able to present the Duke with an HSC Honours Cap and a letter explaining our Club and regimental heritage.

As can be seen from the letter below, the Duke was delighted to accept this honour!



From: Brigadier Archie Miller-Bakewell
Private Secretary to H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

17th July, 2017

Dear Mr McNeilis,

The Duke of Edinburgh has asked me to write and thank you for your letter dated 11th July, regarding the Hindoostan Shooting Club, with which you also enclosed a Club honours cap.

You kindly extended the offer of Honorary Membership to His Royal Highness, and I am glad to say that Prince Philip would be pleased to accept this invitation. His Royal Highness has, however, asked me to say that he is no longer shooting, so his role with the Club will sadly not be an active one.

Nevertheless, this letter comes with Prince Philip's best wishes to you and all members of the Hindoostan Shooting Club.

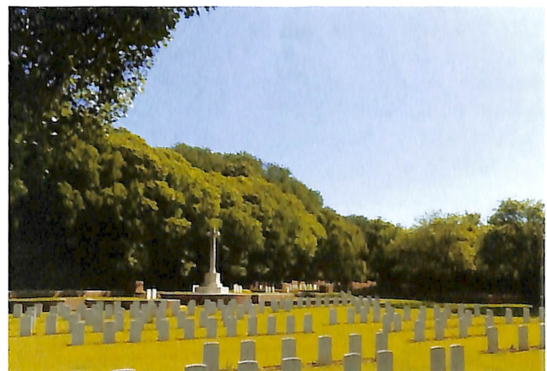
Yours sincerely,
Archie Miller-Bakewell

Andrew McNeilis, Esq.,
Administrator Wallah, Hindoostan Shooting Club

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, LONDON, SW1A 1AA
TELEPHONE: 020 7938 4332 FACSIMILE: 020 7938 5422

Private Richard Howard

On 8th June the Daily Telegraph carried a report about Richard Howard who was conscripted into 10 DWR in 1915, at the age of 35. He was a luthier, someone who builds or repairs stringed instruments and in his case he built violins, and a music hall performer. He died on 7th June, the first day of the Battle for the Messines Ridge, and is interred at Woods Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery.



CWGC Woods cemetery

Richard started making a violin before he was called up, but what became of it until 2009, when it was bought by Sam Sweeney of folk band Bellowhead is not fully known. It had been auctioned, and bought by Oxford luthier Roger Claridge, who completed the build in his workshop. When Mr Sweeney acquired it, it appeared to be brand new, but a label inside it was dated 1915, with the name Richard S Howard. Eventually its origin was uncovered.

One hundred years after its maker's death, Mr Sweeney played the violin at Richard Howard's grave, with 100 people, including some of Richard's relatives, looking on, including his granddaughter.



Sam Sweeney plays Richard Howard's violin at his grave side at Woods Cemetery, and the violin resting on the headstone

Andy Reid – The Warrior Challenge

In July Frontline magazine carried a report on triple amputee Andy Reid, who was himself the victim of a landmine in Afghanistan, who, with WO2 Glen Hughes, intended to cycle 400 miles, then kayak 125 miles, in memory of the six Dukes soldiers who died when their Warrior armoured vehicle was blown up in Afghanistan in 2012. The cycle route started in Lytham St Annes, Lancashire, and finished at Westminster Bridge in London, and passed the graves of the six soldiers.

The men were serving with what was then 3rd Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment (Duke of Wellington's). They were Sergeant Nigel Coupe of the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment, attached 3 YORKS; Corporal Jake Hartley; Private Anthony Frampton; Private Christopher Kerhaw, Private Daniel Wade and Private Daniel Wilford. Iron Duke Number 272, Spring 2012, provides an obituary for each of these young men, tragically killed in action.

Information on the Warrior Challenge can be found at www.warriorchallenge2017.com.

Lieutenant Douglas Mackintosh.

The Halifax Great War Heritage Society, as reported in the June Halifax Courier, uncovered the story of Douglas Mackintosh who was wounded and missing

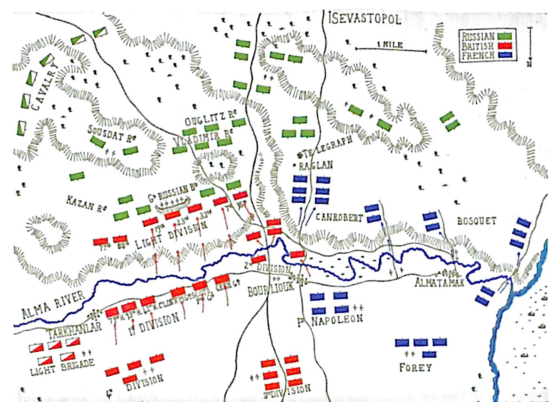
after the action (reported in the last Iron Duke) with 1st/4th DWR at Bullecourt I May 1917. He was later declared killed. However it later transpired that he had been captured by the Germans and managed to send a postcard home to say that he was in a German hospital in Lubecke, having been wounded in both ankles, and saved by a sergeant who dragged him into a shell hole.

After the war Douglas came home and lived until 1981.

Douglas was the second son of "Toffee King" John Mackintosh, who opened a sweet shop in Halifax in 1890, and expanded into a wider market. The business was merged with Rowntree to form Rowntree Mackintosh in 1969, and was then bought by Nestle in 1988.

The Battle of the Alma

On 20th September it will be the 163rd Anniversary of the Battle of the Alma, in which the 33rd distinguished itself. The Russians had taken up position on what they thought was an impregnable position on the River Alma, with 37,000 men and 96 guns. Across the fast flowing river from the advancing allies rose a steep rocky ridge nearly 500 feet high, at the top of which the Russians had not even bothered to prepare proper defensive positions, so confident were they that no-one could climb up to them under fire.



The 33rd were in the Light Division, 1st (Fusilier) Brigade

The waist high river was forded with some casualties, then the heights were scaled, and, once at the top, the order was given to fire a volley and charge with the bayonet. The Russians took to their heels, but not before shocking casualties were taken by the 33rd; 239 all ranks killed or wounded; the highest of any allied unit on the battlefield. Given the debilitated state of the British infantry, already racked by disease and lack of proper provisions and shelter, this was a magnificent achievement, but so disordered was the Light Division

after its labours a Russian counter-attack partially succeeded, but was eventually pushed back by the Grenadiers and the Coldstream, and finally the Highland Brigade completed the victory. The Allies lost 3326 (1983 British) killed and wounded, and Russian losses were estimated at 4600.

The Battle Honour on our Colours was well earned.

Dukes London Group (DLG) Meeting and Golf Day.

The Summer Meeting.

Forty Four people attended the Dukes' London Group at the "Cheesegrater", more formally the Aon Building, in Leadenhall Street in the City of London on 23 August, kindly arranged and hosted by Ian Martin. The DLG Convener Rob Douglas skilfully introduced a variety of topics, also allowing job seekers a brief moment to introduce themselves to potential employers. Aon's hospitality with regard to drinks and eats was impeccable and we were all most grateful. "If there's owt for nowt, gi' us a shout" as the saying goes!



The DLG Meeting attendees at the Cheesgrater

Golf at Bearwood Lakes

21 Dukes and "friends of..." were lucky enough to play for the Hindoostan Cup at Bearwood Lakes, Berkshire, surely one of the best courses in the area, on Wednesday 23 August. Dan Holloway once again organised an excellent day, and the weather was benign.

Ed Colver ran out the winner for the second year running with 41 points (scrutiny of handicap required for next year), Jim Hutchinson was second with 39 (ditto), and Luke Mason came third, sharing a score of 37 (hmm) with Mike Shipp but edging ahead on count-back.

Jim Hutchinson also won the longest drive and Dan Brennan the nearest the pin. The Wooden Spoon became the property of Sean Bowman, achieving 5 points for his entire round. Sean is to be congratulated for sticking to the task in hand against impossible odds. Perhaps next year he will push his PB up to six?



Dan Holloway strides purposefully to execute some vital task, whilst other players demonstrate support, or something, and dreadful taste in shorts



L to R Edward Keelan, Ed Carter, James Young, Richard Trounson, Simon Morgan, Andy Brewer, Tim Nicholson, Baz Barrett, Mick Shipp, Dan Holloway, Sean Bowman, Ed Colver, Ben Brading, Rob Douglas, Tom Steele, Dan Brennan, Pete Lee, Jason Hopkinson, James Hutchinson, Luke Mason & Rob Taylor.

Just the one then.

Alex Liddle reports an unofficial Dukes' gathering to mark Waterloo Day, although not quite on the day itself it was at least in June. He writes - The recently returned to London Alex Liddle hosted a most convivial soiree of some fortunate, if not brave, DLG alumni at 67 Pall Mall ("London's first club for wine lovers" no less). Billed as an unofficial Waterloo Day celebration, it wasn't on the 18th, but we did at least manage to hit June and as the recee trained will have already noted, class appears to be holding beers not wine, but they were at least French beers. Things did improve as Directing Staff Liddle talked us through the subtleties and complexities of a 1966 Chateau Bel Orme. However I fear that his willing students didn't fully grasp the detail, and three Freddie's were awarded. Re-show it is then.....don't mind if I do.....



L to R Rob Harford, Rob Palfrey, Alex Liddle, James Charlesworth

Mr Rob Gray

Rob Gray served with 1 DWR in Northern Ireland, and took exception to the treatment being handed out by an ungrateful government to Army veterans who are being chased down by the Northern Ireland Police Service. Mr Gary saw that Jeremy Corbyn would be in York on the stump on 11 May and thought it would be a good idea to ask him for his views on the matter.



Rob Gray confronted by a Corbyn "heavy" in York.

Mr Corbyn ignored him so he wriggled his way forward until he could no longer be ignored. Mr Corbyn still did not answer the question, but Mr Gray says he agreed to talk to him after his speech. A member of the Corbyn team in a suit and sun glasses then blocked Mr Gray as he pushed through to the front to talk to Mr Corbyn, who had just left in any case.

The story was picked up by the York press, and then by national papers and television. Well done Mr Gray.

The Power of Music

Michael Bray writes to say that courtesy of NHS miracles, born to Sophie Bray, daughter of Michael and Anne, twin boys on 18th August 2017, four weeks premature. Because both grandparents have The Wellesley March as the ring tone on their mobiles, these boys heard the Regiment's March in intensive care, four weeks before they should have been born. Is this a record?

Congratulations.

Once a 'Duke' Always a 'Duke'.

Scott Flaving writes –

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.

The Dukes in the Great War

By Autumn 1917 100 years ago the war had been waging for over 3 years, and had another 1½ years to go. The small cadre of BEF professional soldiers who were hurried out to France in 1914, and who fought at Mons, Le Cateau, on the Aisne and the Marne, returning to the Ypres area at the end of 1914 to engage in the First Battle of Ypres into the beginning of 1915 are, those that then survived such as Loos, the Somme and Arras, by now very thinly spread through the old BEF's units, mostly manned with new men, alongside the Service Battalions and Territorials, some of which are still arriving on the Front and experiencing their first taste of the war.

1917 was a momentous year for many reasons not directly connected with the Western Front. In the first months of the year Germany had resumed unrestricted submarine warfare. 500,000 tons of shipping were sunk in both February and March: 600,000 in May and 700,000 in June. Against his will Admiral Jellicoe was forced to change his strategy and organise shipping into convoys, which quite quickly reduced the losses.

In Ireland Sinn Fein began to win bye-elections and disturbances on the streets of Dublin and elsewhere led up to the Easter Rising and subsequent consequences. Around 230,000 Irishmen were serving with the Allies in the Great War, and the news from home must have been of great concern, not least as the north/south protestant/catholic divide was becoming more and more prominent, and many regiments and thousands of men came from both sides of this divide.

In Russia the Tsar had been forced to abdicate in March, and the new rulers had little interest in continuing the war against Germany. By November 1916 Russia is believed to have lost 1.6 million men, killed, and 5 million wounded, and these appalling casualties were one of the main causes of the revolution. A government of moderate socialists ruled after a fashion until October, when the revolution put Lenin into the Kremlin. His "Decree of Peace" that same month effectively ended Russian engagement, although this was not formally resolved until the Treat of Brest Litovsk in March 18. The upshot, of course, was the release of huge reinforcements for the war in the west.

All the manpower resources of the Allies are now in-country, and reinforcements would become harder to come by, although conscription produced a steady flow onto the battlefield. In April 1917 the United States declared war on Germany, although it would be some considerable time before American soldiers would engage the enemy. It was, nevertheless, an important boost to the Allies – and an equal blow to German morale

– that they were coming, and would inject new energy into the conflict.

This Iron Duke covers a few aspects of the fortunes of our battalions through the second half of 1917 and into the very beginning of 1918. No attempt is made to give a full picture of the entirety of our Regiment's considerable involvement. It might, though, help readers to have an overview of where the battalions were in this period. I apologise in advance for the variable spelling of some of these place names. In general I have used the modern names, but where that would simply confuse us (Mesen for Messines, Ieper for Ypres) I have stuck to the familiar option.

Summary of Dukes' Battalions locations and activities June to November 1917.

Regular Battalion, 2 DWR.

2 DWR, after Arras and the Scarpe battles around Fampoux in May, came out of the line. On 20 September it moved into the Ypres sector, exchanging comfortable and relatively safe billets for awful conditions and a dangerous environment. On 9 October the Battalion took part in the offensive on Poelcappelle. In that fight the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Horsfall (see last issue) was killed.

Service Battalions, 8, 9 and 10 DWR

8 DWR was engaged in the successful attack on the Messines Ridge near Wijtschate, in June. The next major action was in August crossing the Yser Canal. It was pushed back to the Canal, and here Private Loosemore won his Victoria Cross, covering the withdrawal. Later in the Passchendaele battle 8 DWR fought at Langemarck, St Julien, Polygon Wood, Broodseinde and Poelcappelle.

9 DWR remained in the Arras sector until 12 October, then was moved up to take part in the Ypres Salient battles. It was in action in the 1st and 2nd Passchendaele battles in October and November.

10 DWR played a part in the attack on Messines Ridge in June. From September to October the battalion fought for the Menin Road Bridge, Polygon Wood and Passchendaele. In November it was pulled out of that battle and was part of a five division reinforcement of Italian forces under attack from Austro-German in the Dolomite's, in the north east of the country.

The Territorials

49 (West Riding) Division, including 147 Brigade (1/4, 1/5, 1/6 and 1/7 DWR) went into action on 9 October in an assault on Belle Vue Spur getting to just over a mile from Passchendaele, and remained in the Ypres sector until 2nd November, when the Brigade took part in the Cambrai offensive.

62 (West Riding) Division, including 186 Brigade (2/4, 2/5, 2/6, 2/7 DWR) remained in the Arras sector. After the unsuccessful attacks on Bullecourt in April and May, described at some length in the last Iron Duke, it faced several months of trench warfare. It was then very involved in the Cambrai offensive from November,

taking on objectives just a little further east of those it strove for, at such heavy cost, in May. The second account of Major Goodall's service, including the death in action of the Commanding Officer, Lt Col TAD Best, at Havringcourt tells the story.

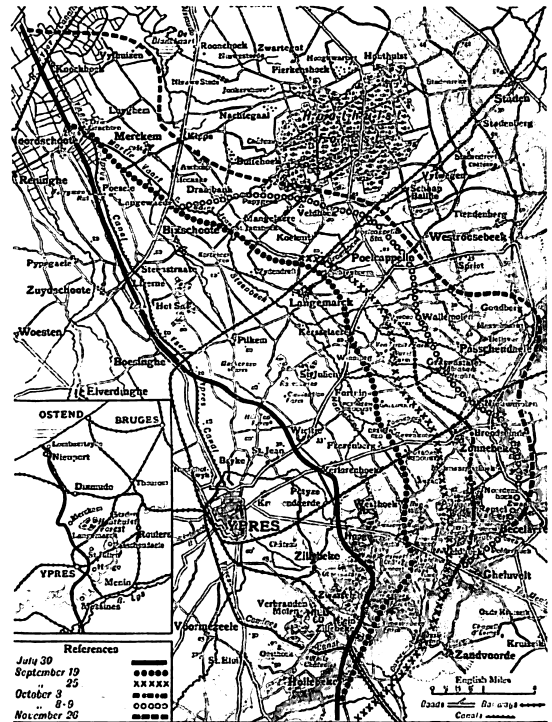
Some 10,000 Dukes in 13 Battalions were in action in this phase of the war. Seeing that number, we might want to recall that 7422 members of our Regiment, killed in action or died of wounds in France and Belgium in the Great War, lie in Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemeteries in those countries (out of a total of 8392 in CWGC sites in all WW1 cemeteries world-wide).

Passchendaele

The Third Battle of Ypres lasted from 31 July to 10 November 1917, with the assaults on Passchendaele, the name mostly used now to embrace the whole campaign, starting on 9 October. The timing was partly dictated by French lack of success along the Chemin des Dames further south (again a plea for some relief from pressure by opening a new offensive front was acceded to) and also because our Second Army (General Plumer) had been overlooked from the high ground around the Salient since early 1915, and here was an opportunity, at last, to take the initiative and push them off the ridges. In May and June large parts of the French Army were in revolt, putting yet more responsibility for the conduct of the war onto the British Allies.

It was Plumer's initiative to attack along the Messines Ridge on 7 June, as a preliminary action which would make further success much more likely. It took another six weeks for everything to be ready, then on 31 July the main offensive started. It needs to be borne in mind that the village of Passchendaele itself was the furthest point of the advance, not reached until November, by stages. The map below shows what progress was made, and when.

(There used to be a wonderful painting in the old Yorkshire Brigade Mess at Strensall of 1st Bn The York and Lancaster Regiment in long lines of men in red tunics advancing with bayonets fixed against Zulu Impis. At the back was a small figure with sword drawn, blade pointing forward, as though to say "That way chaps". It purported to be the Adjutant, Captain Herbert Plumer. It was used as a Christmas card by the Battalion once: very festive. Lest disrespect is detected, the author considers Plumer to be one of the best British generals in the Great War).



On the Yser Canal

The Canal had been fought over by both British and French forces in 1914. By August 1917 allied troops were back on the line of the Canal. 8 DWR carried out some preliminary raids towards Langemarck. CSM Miles describes one: "(We are...) back on the canal bank after one of the prettiest little stunts you can imagine. We advanced from the farm in extended order, but went too far ahead and had to retire to keep in touch with our companies on our left and right. It was then that a Lewis

gunner of ours, named Loosemore, committed a very brave act; he certainly saved a very awkward situation. He stayed in a shell hole and covered our retirement with a Lewis gun. Well, this gun got put out of action but Loosemore hung on and kept the advancing Germans at bay with his revolver. When that gave out, he threw his disabled gun at the remaining German and fled back to where we had consolidated. I reported the incident to the Company Office, as did a number of other men, and he will get the DCM, if not the VC". The citation for Loosemore's VC says that he also brought back a wounded comrade under fire.



Private Arnold Loosemore VC DCM. He served in both the Y & L (in Gallipoli) and DWR in the Great War, survived and is buried in All Saints Churchyard, Ecclesall, Sheffield. David Harrap's article on Arnold Loosemore is at the end of this Great War section

On 9 October the 8th Battalion took part in the attack on Poelcappelle. CSM Miles again. "Well, we captured Poelcappelle alright, at least what remained of it (a heap of bricks and innumerable shell holes). There was once a church but all that remains now is a bit of a cellar in which we make our Battalion headquarters. What a desolate spot this is. I shan't be sorry when we get relieved. We have lost plenty of good lads on this last stunt and we have not had any reinforcement since we got up here. There are not many of us left -15 of us in my company, including one officer, Captain Durrant."

The Battalion was in action several more time between October 1917 and January 1918. In February orders were received that it was to be disbanded; brigades were to reduce to three battalions only. 34 officers and 700 other ranks were transferred, all to other Dukes battalions, 200 to the regular 2nd, 250 to another service battalion, the 9th, and 250 spread amongst the territorial battalions of 147 Brigade in 49 (West Riding) Division. The String Band was sent to 2 DWR, by special request! As CSM Miles wrote "What an inglorious ending!"

Veldhoek.

10 DWR took part in the attack on Messines Ridge in June, and in July on Hill 60 (long since regained by the Germans, see ID 277, Autumn 2014). Both were great successes, although casualties were heavy. Lieutenant Colonel Lethbridge, a veteran of Gallipoli where he commanded a company of the 8th Battalion with great gallantry, took command.

This Commanding Officer's account of an attack from Railway Dugouts towards Veldhoek gives a good idea of the kind of action taking place at this time. "The four companies of this battalion which had to go through Inverness Copse had a pretty heavy barrage put onto them and suffered considerable casualties and arrived at the jumping off point at about 9.10 a.m. with B Company having lost all its officers except Lieutenant Anderson who, with his platoon, had lost direction somewhat and got to the right of A Company, and who arrived in a somewhat disorganised state. But this was pulled together by Captain Payne and the whole line advanced punctually at about 9.53 am. when our men disappeared through the smoke and dust of the shells (which) made it difficult to see details but it was obvious all was going well. Northampton Farm on the left proved no obstacle to speak of but, just beyond, a line of over a dozen concrete dugouts and pill boxes were heavily armed with machine guns which, together with the enemy shells, caused a great many casualties to our B and D Companies.

These dugouts were eventually cleared by our Battalion Companies, whilst others to the left were dealt

with by the 8th Yorkshires and these companies took up a line in the dug outs with posts 75 to 100 yards in front which were well dug in within an hour. Meanwhile there was some stiff fighting for some of the concrete dug outs in the village of Veldhoek but these were cleared by some fine manoeuvring....As A and C Companies attacked the last line of concrete dug outs on the Green Line CSM Parker, observing that the dug outs on the left front of the 13th Durham Light Infantry were holding them up, attacked from the flank and rear and captured them.”

Italy

The 10th Battalion were sent to Italy in November. The long journey was taken at a leisurely pace, or at least the trains used appeared to only move at a few miles per hour, scarcely quicker than was achieved in the inevitable marches that became necessary between trains along the way. Almost everywhere the troops were greeted with huge enthusiasm by the Italian population. “On the second day we marched through the streets of historic Mantua, the home of Virgil, one of the fortresses of the Austrian Quadrilateral, with its two lakes and encircling the River Minzio. We were received as if we had won the war rather than just arrived. Chrysanthemums, postcards, cigarettes etc were showered on us; the Italian flag was waved in the faces of restive horses; Vivas resounded, and the stimulus to Italian morale, which was no doubt one of the reasons for our march, was manifest.”

The Battalion moved into the front line. “The Italian papers at this time had headings such as “Eighth day of Piave battle – British still holding on with great gallantry”. In reality we were undergoing a rest cure.” There was some patrol action, and a great deal of shelling by Austrian gunners, but few casualties.”

Transferred in March 1918 to another front, at Asiago, the pace of action picked up somewhat. Reconnaissance and fighting patrols were stepped up, a few casualties were taken and medals gained. In June a major assault by fifty divisions of Austrian troops on a 75 mile front was repulsed, on the Battalion’s front, “with great slaughter”. The offensive was initially successful with risk of a break out in to the plains, but Italian reinforcements and the destruction by floods of the bridges over the Piave upon which the Austrians relied, resulted in those Austrian divisions forward of the Piave being cut off, and those behind unable to come to their aid. Italian estimates of Austrians’ casualties were 56,000 killed, 240,000 wounded and 24,000 prisoners taken.

In subsequent actions the 10th were signally successful in large scale raids and assaults on the enemy positions

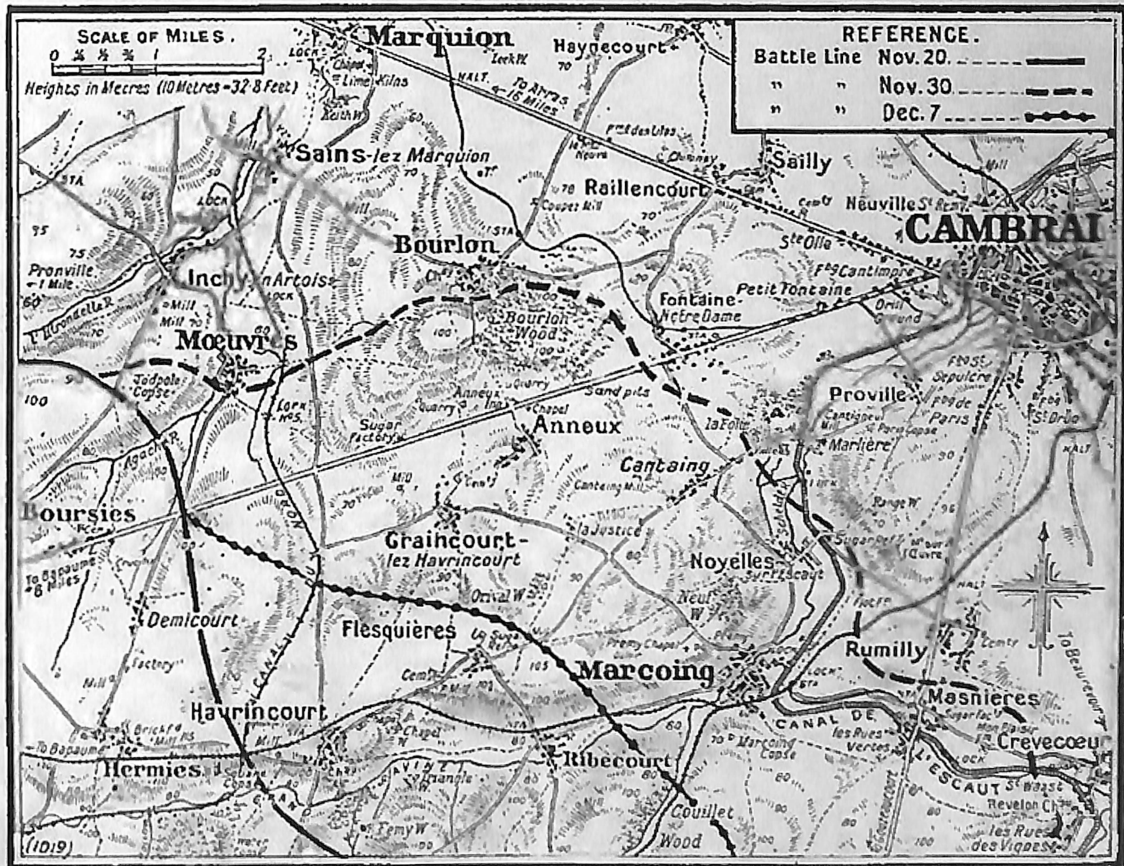


in front of them. Prominent was Captain Kelly VC, who earned himself a bar to his MC. Colonel Lethbridge was awarded the Italian Silver Medal for Valour, see photo above.

This Journal will return to 10 DWR in Italy, as they fought in that theatre until the end of the war.

Major Tom Goodall DSO MC (part 2)

Compiled by Scott Flaving.



Cambrai

In the first extract from Scott Flaving's account of Major Goodall's service in 2/5 DWR in the last Journal, the fight for Bullecourt was described. The next major effort was at the Battle of Cambrai from November, 1917.

On November 20th, 1917, the Battalion attacked Kangaroo Alley at Havrincourt. Sadly the Commanding Officer, Lt Col T D Best DSO, was killed as the lead companies approached the village, being met with a storm of machine gun fire. (The Brigade Commander, Brigadier General Roland Boys Bradford, was also killed at about this time. See note at the end of Scott Flaving's account of Major Goodall's service).

Captain and Adjutant H S Jackson took command of the Battalion. Captain T Goodall, Officer Commanding D Company, entered Havrincourt Wood to locate the point from which the casualties were being inflicted and,

having done this, signalled to Lieutenant D Black to advance with his other Platoon. The strongpoint was rushed and one Officer, 58 Other Ranks and two machine guns were captured and a British Officer and NCO were rescued. A considerable number of the enemy were killed and, by the end of the day, the Battalion had captured 353 prisoners, 15 machine guns and one trench mortar. The Battalion's total casualties were three Officers killed, one wounded; and 10 Other Ranks killed, 55 wounded and four missing. This attack was, at that time, a record for penetrating the enemy trench system in depth in one day. The 2/5th Battalion, with the 2/7th and 2/4th Battalions on their right, advanced 7,000 yards from the original British front line.

Captain Goodall was cited in September 1917, for a gallantry award for his action during this attack and a Military Cross was awarded in the New Year's Honours list in January, 1918, the citation reads:

“Consistent good work as a Company Commander from January, 1917, to present date. This Officer has invariably shown a fine example of coolness and resource and devotion to duty at all times. On 17 3 1917 he carried out an excellent night march from ACHIET le PETIT and seized and consolidated GOMIECOURT, driving off two hostile machine guns holding the village.”

On 6th December, 1917, the Battalion was reorganised on a three platoons per Company system and as part of the reorganisation Captain Goodall was promoted Temp Major and appointed Battalion 2i/c.

On 4th February, 1918, the award of his DSO was announced in the London Gazette, the citation being published on 5th July, 1918:

“For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When an attack was held up by heavy machine gun and rifle fire, the Commanding Officer being killed, and heavy casualties being sustained and there was grave danger of disorganisation he went forward amid a hail of bullets to locate the enemy and signal back to a platoon of his Company to attack. With one man, he dashed into a strong point killing several of the enemy and thus enabling the platoon to capture an officer and 58 other ranks and two machine guns and to rescue an officer and an NCO who were prisoners in the hands of the enemy. He showed magnificent courage and determination.”

Further reorganisations of the Army reduced Brigades from four to three Battalions in January, 1918. The 147th Brigade of the 49th (West Riding) Division lost the 1/5th Battalion, Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and the majority of the officers and men from that unit were sent to reinforce the 2/5th Battalion in 62nd (Pelican) Division, which became the 5th Battalion. In the 186th Brigade, the 2/6th WRR was disbanded. The Brigade now consisted of 2/4th, 2/5th and 2/7th Battalions of the Regiment. However, in June, 1918, the 2/7th Bn was turned into a training cadre battalion, being replaced in the Brigade by the 2/4th Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment.

In the meantime, the German troops who had been suddenly released by the collapse of Russia following the Revolution of October, 1917, had been redeployed to the Western Front and trained in Shock Troop tactics for a final push against the Allies before the American forces could take to the field in strength.

On the night of 24th March, the 62nd Division was engaged at Achiet le Petit and was in action until the end of the month in the area between Bucquoy and Puisseaux. They were withdrawn into rest on 1st April, having suffered some 215 casualties, of whom 9 were officers.

Tom was wounded again on 29th Mar 1918 and also mentioned in General Haig's Despatches of 7th April, published in the London Gazette of 24th April, 1918, as deserving of special mention.

There will be one further instalment of Major Goodall's story in the next edition.

Brigadier “Boy” Bradford VC MC.



Bradford was, at 25, the youngest Brigadier General in the Army. Age 24 he had commanded 9 DLI, winning his VC by showing great courage and determination taking command of a second battalion that was on his flank which had got into trouble, and bring both through the action at Eaucourt L'Abbaye in October 1916.

He was promoted to command 146 Brigade on 13 November 1917, and was killed in action by a stray shell just ten days later. He was one of four brothers. Three died in the war; one of them, Lieutenant Commander George Bradford, was killed in the Zeebrugge Blockade in April 1918, being posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross (they were only brothers to receive the highest award for courage), and the third who lost his life in action was James, who died of wounds in May 1917, having been awarded the MC. A fourth brother served throughout the war, earning a DSO, and survived.

Roland Bradford is buried at Hermies CWGC Cemetery; 12 Dukes also lie there.

The Tunnellers.

Several of the articles and illustrations in our coverage of the Dukes in the Great War have referred to mining and the war beneath the surface of the battlefield. For example, the detonation of three huge mines beneath enemy positions as a preliminary to bombardment and assault was a particular feature of the attack on Hill 60 in 1916, and again at Messines Ridge. Many of those craters are still there.

The effect of mining operations on the infantry was significant. Considering that some defensive lines and positions were held for many months, sometimes years, subjected to frequent assaults from the air and on the ground, it is hardly surprising that thought turned to ways to, quite literally, undermine the strength of these positions from below. This applied equally to both sides.

Infantry in long held trenches lived in and with the fear of explosion from beneath, which sapped morale and the will to fight. In the early days units with men from mining areas devised listening devices to help them detect activity below them, to provide assurance to their colleagues alongside in the line and, if mining was detected, to get something done to countermand the threat.

A fair number of books and articles have been written on the subject, and one that deserves recommendation is "Beneath Flanders Fields" by Peter Barton (who presented a BBC TV series on the subject two or so years ago) and Peter Doyle with photographs by Johan Vandewalle, printed by Spellmount Ltd in 2004. The Iron Duke is not the medium for more detailed coverage, but it is important that we keep in mind this constant, unseen, insidious threat to men in their trenches.

As listening devices grew more efficient, and those who used them more proficient, the war underground expanded beyond simply putting explosives under enemy positions, though that remained the major task. Underground listening posts gathered information about enemy build ups and movements much need by commanders; German shafts were intercepted and destroyed, with great care being taken to ensure that maximum casualties were caused (and little or none to our side – it was a dangerous business and could be a two-edged sword); and the allies gradually achieved dominance underground added to the eventual victory.

The successful allied assault on Messines Ridge on 7th June 1917, referred to elsewhere in this issue, is a classic example of what mines could achieve. 19 mines were exploded beneath the enemy positions, causing huge damage and thousands of casualties. Although the mines were supposed to be detonated at the same time, this did



not happen giving unexpected benefits, as the German soldiers in their trenches could see these vast explosions going off on either side, not knowing when it would be their turn, but certain that their turn would come. According to prisoners taken in the battle, this reduced many men to a state of abject fear. Once the mines had all gone up the German defences simply ceased to exist. It is estimated that 20,000 Germans died.

We should also be aware that the infantry played a very large part in the tunnelling operations themselves. The Royal Engineers led these operations and the men who did the digging were trained for the job, but a very large unskilled labour force was required to bring up timber, explosives and other stores, and to cart away the huge amount of spoil that came out of the workings, to dispose of it in shell holes or wherever it would not be seen. It could not just be thrown to one side on site; surprise would be lost as enemy spotters would see it and bring down a bombardment which could destroy the work in hand as well as cause casualties.

The tunnellers were brave men, operating in cramped, often wet, and horrible conditions, doing a job which was dangerous enough without the added risks and pressures of warfare. Their contribution to the war effort was essential and without a doubt many Dukes soldiers came through the war and returned to their families who would not otherwise have done so without it.



Sir John Norton-Griffiths. Norton-Griffiths was an entrepreneur, MP, and millionaire businessman, who had the nickname of "Empire Jack". He ran away from school to start a life of adventure in Africa initially as a trooper in the Royal Horse Guards, seeing action in the Matabele Wars, then the second

Boer War, became a gold prospector, and finally turned into an engineer with construction activities in many countries.

He was a man of enormous energy and drive; nothing could stand in his way and if he thought it should be done it was done, regardless of obstacles. His achievements were many but the one that concerns us here is that he almost single-handedly persuaded "the authorities" to take tunnelling seriously. Once he had support he recruited miners and engineers (he called them his "moles"), trained, equipped and organised them, and laid down the strategy and tactics for use of this new asset.

It is fair to say that without him the allies would at least have taken longer to achieve victory and would have taken many more casualties.

A Tunnellers' Memorial

At a memorial to 177th Tunnelling Company Royal Engineers in Railway Wood, pupils of Darton College, Barnsley had left a memorial card for a former member of their school, not one from the Great War, but a territorial volunteer Yorkshire Regiment soldier killed in Afghanistan.



This card was left at the base of the Memorial, commemorating the death of Private Matthew Thornton of 4 YORKS, serving with 1 YORKS in November 2011. He was killed by an IED during a fire fight whilst on foot patrol in the Lashkar Gah District

Sheffield City Council Lays Paving Stone to Honour Arnold Loosemore VC DCM

Report by Major David Harrap

On 11th August 2017, the centenary of the action for which Arnold Loosemore was awarded the VC while serving with the 8th Battalion of the Regiment, a paving stone was laid in his honour front of Sheffield's Cenotaph. Arnold was one of only three people from Sheffield to have been awarded the VC and one of only

two to have both been born and died in Sheffield the other being Sergeant James Firth. James Firth was also a "Duke" serving with the 1st Battalion and was awarded his VC in 1900 for his actions in the Boer War.

The Ceremony was led by the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Councillor Anne Murphy. The Yorkshire Regiment was represented by Colonel George Kilburn, ex "Dukes" in his capacity as Deputy Colonel of the Yorkshire Regiment and the paving stone was unveiled by the Lord Lieutenant for South Yorkshire, Andrew Coombe. The Regimental Association Standard was carried by Dave Woolley. Fifteen members of the Loosemore family attended the unveiling.

Arnold Loosemore was born on 7th June 1896 in Ecclesall, Sheffield. He was the 6th of 7 children. He left school at 14 to work first as a farm labourer tending cows. He enlisted in the Army on 2nd January 1915 aged 19 years and 7 months. He was a man of slight build, his army papers show him as being only 5 feet 4½ inches tall with a chest measurement of 32 inches.

He initially joined the York and Lancaster Regiment, on 3rd July 1915 and served first in the ill-fated Gallipoli campaign. He survived this and on return to the UK trained to operate the newly issued Lewis machine gun and in July 1916 he was drafted to the 8th Battalion of the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment then embroiled in the Battle of the Somme.

On 11th August 1917 the battalion was fighting in the battle for Langemarck, near Ypres, itself part of the wider Passchendaele Battle. During an attack on a strongly held enemy position, his platoon having been held up by heavy machine-gun fire, Arnold crawled through partially cut wire, dragging his Lewis machine-gun with him and single-handedly dealt with a strong party of the enemy, killing about 20 of them. Immediately afterwards his Lewis gun was destroyed and three of the enemy rushed at him, but he shot them with his revolver. Later he shot several enemy snipers, and on returning to their original post he brought back a wounded comrade under heavy fire. He was awarded the VC for his exceptional bravery.

On 17th August he was promoted to corporal by his Commanding Officer for his gallantry in the field. He was presented with his V.C. by King George V at Buckingham Palace on 2nd January 1918. He was given a public welcome the following day at Sheffield Town Hall by the Lord Mayor in front of 2000 cheering citizens.

In May the next year, 1918, Arnold was promoted to sergeant. Shortly afterwards, on the 19th June, at Zillebeke in Belgium, when out with a fighting patrol, he

again displayed exceptional bravery and powers of leadership after his officer was wounded and his platoon scattered by hostile bombs. He rallied the platoon and brought them all, together with their wounded, back to their own lines. On a subsequent occasion he once again led the platoon with great leadership and skill, and with a complete disregard of his own danger under heavy machine gun fire, to capture an enemy post which they were attacking. His conspicuous gallantry was recognised with the award of the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM).

On 13th October 1918, just 23 days before the Armistice, Arnold was badly wounded by machine gun fire at Villers-en-Cauchies in France. His injuries led to the amputation of his left leg and the loss of the calf muscles of his right leg. The casualty clearing station he was taken to undoubtedly saved his life.

On 13th May 1920, having been treated for his extensive injuries, he was discharged from the army and returned to Sheffield for further treatment there. It was in Sheffield that his DCM was then presented to him by King George V in the Sanctuary of the Victoria Hall.

On 26th June 1920 he attended a garden party at Buckingham Palace given by the King for all V.C. holders. For this he marched on crutches from Wellington Barracks to the Palace together with 309 other V.C. holders and with them was presented to the King that afternoon.

On 24th August 1920 he married his childhood sweetheart, Amy Morton, at St. Andrews Church, Sharrow, Sheffield and the following year they had a son named Arnold after his father.

Disabled and increasingly unwell he tried poultry farming but this was too exhausting and he found the stairs of his tiny house increasingly difficult to climb. Hearing this, in 1923 the Rotary Club of Sheffield provided Arnold with a large wooden hut which was built onto the back of his house. After Arnold's death the hut was moved to the Derbyshire village of Shatton. Later still the bungalow was dismantled and erected again at the Rotary Centre in Castleton, Derbyshire, where it stands today still providing holiday accommodation for disadvantaged children.

Unfortunately Arnold was not able to use his bungalow much. With his health undermined by war wounds, Arnold died the following year, on 10th April 1924 at home from tuberculosis aged 27. His military cortege, with his coffin mounted on a gun carriage drawn by six horses, was watched by thousands who were lining the route to the graveyard. This military grandness though concealed deep poverty. His destitute wife was refused a

War Widow's pension on the grounds that the marriage took place after his discharge from the Army and that she knew of her husband's ill-health before she married him. This was the harsh national practice of the day with a financially overextended government trying to repair its finances after the war. More heartless though was that, shortly after the funeral, Amy, his widow received a bill from the City Council requiring her to pay for the funeral costs.

To save money in the family's straightened circumstances Arnold was buried in a shared grave of three. A fund for public subscription though, was initiated by the Lord Mayor of Sheffield to help Amy's finances. £1,000 was raised and this generated an income of £25 per year for which she was always grateful.

She died on 10 February 1956 still living in the home she shared with Arnold 36 years before. On 15 February 1956 she was buried alongside Arnold in the same, already shared, grave with the words "awaiting reveille" beneath their names.

Arnold Loosemore's Victoria Cross citation:

"For most conspicuous bravery and initiative during the attack on a strongly held enemy position south of Langemarck, Flanders, on 11th August. 1917. His platoon having been checked by heavy machine-gun fire, he crawled through partially cut wire, dragging his Lewis gun with him, and single handed dealt with a strong part of the enemy killing about twenty of them, and thus covering the consolidation of the position taken up by his platoon. Immediately afterwards his Lewis gun was blown up by a bomb. And three of the enemy rushed for him, but he shot them all with his revolver. Later he shot several enemy snipers, exposing himself to heavy fire each time. On returning to the original post he also brought back a wounded comrade under heavy fire at the risk of his life. He displayed throughout an utter disregard of danger. (London Gazette, 14 September, 1917)

Ypres

Ypres (Ieper to the people who live there now) is an interesting Belgian town. It was culturally and economically well established by the beginning of the 12th Century, its location being a hub for trade routes from Roman times. By 1260 the population had grown to 40,000, making it an important place.

In British minds the name is synonymous with war, especially the First World War, during which it was all but totally destroyed. In the Iron Duke of Autumn 2011, number 271, General Sir Charles Huxtable told the story of his Father saving the key to the famous Cloth Hall as the building was burning in December 1915, when he was serving with our 9th Battalion. The key was formally



Ypres is visible for miles from the higher ground in the Salient, which created a permanent hazard for the Allied Forces that held the town and its surrounding area from 1915 until the end of Passchendaele

returned to the Mayor of Ypres on 1st July 2011.

The town is well worth a visit. Every evening at 8.00 pm there is a ceremony of remembrance at the Menin Gate, a War Memorial to 55,000 missing allied soldiers who were killed in battle in the Ypres Salient prior to 15 August 1917 but have no known grave (after which their names were recorded a mile or two out of the town at Tyne Cot). The Cloth Hall contains an interesting museum, and a few hundred yards away is the St George's Memorial Church, built to commemorate the 500,000 allied soldiers who died in the three Ypres Battles between 1914 and the end of the war. The Church opened in June 1929. The ramparts make an interesting

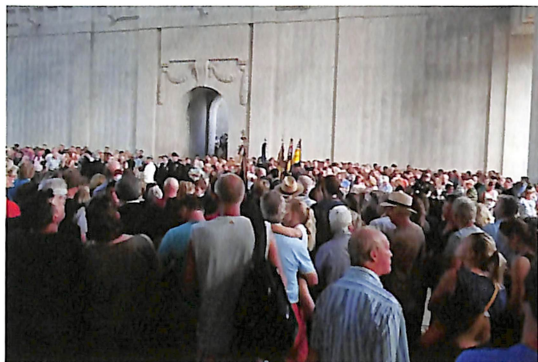
and unusual walk, and there is a CWGC Cemetery up there as well. There are plenty of places to eat, drink and stay.

Given its history of conflict and loss, it is a town that seems comfortable with itself and its past; indeed tourism, especially WW1 tourism, must be a significant contributor to its financial well-being. There is a practical blend of respect for the past and provision for citizens and visitors today. This short collage of Ypres photographs may whet the appetite for any reader who has not been, or indeed those who might be considering going back again. (Gentlemen, the ladies' volleyball is not a permanent feature!)

"We can truly say that the whole circuit of the earth is girdled with the graves of our dead. In the course of my pilgrimage, I have many times asked myself whether there can be more potent advocates of peace upon earth through the years to come, than this massed multitude of silent witnesses to the desolation of war."

KING GEORGE V, TYNE COT CEMETERY, 11 MAY 1922

A wall plaque inside the Tyne Cot Visitors Centre – which stands on the site of a German WW1 bunker – from the speech of King George V when he visited in 1922. And see photo inside the Back cover



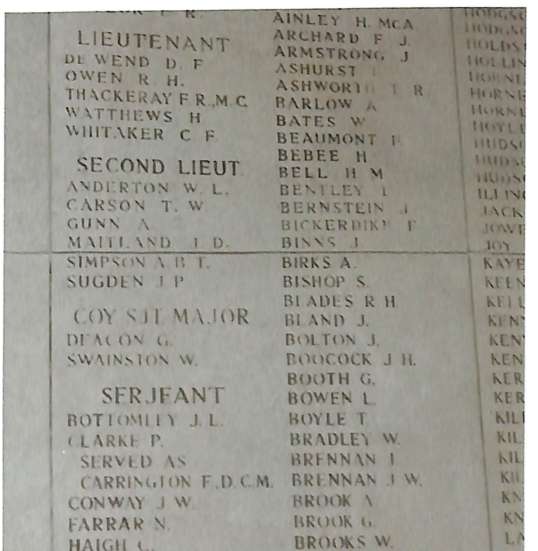
A ceremony of remembrance is held here every evening at 8.00pm. It is on every British and Commonwealth visitor's schedule and there are many from Germany and other nations who attend as well. It gets incredibly crowded almost every day, but especially so from Spring to Autumn.



The Grote Markt (Grande Place, Main Square) from the top of the Museum. The Menin Gate is at the furthest end, in the centre, and the volley ball courts below



The interior of St George's Memorial Church. The Dukes' panel is hard to find; it is tucked away at the bottom to the right of the altar, and to see it one often has to undo a rope preventing visitors from encroaching too near the altar



The names are recorded by regiments; this is part of the Dukes' panel.



The CWGC Cemetery above the Lille Gate on the Ypres Ramparts. Three of our men lie there, all from the 2nd Battalion, one from March 1915 and two from April 1915.



Something to entertain visitors with a little time on their hands

The Ypres Museum – The Posters War

Posters were an important communications tool in the Great War, and were also used for propaganda. A few interesting examples from the Ypres Museum, are shown here.



A French soldiers wrings the neck of a German eagle



One of several posters featuring Lord Kitchener



These appeals to young men in Britain were answered by tens of thousands of volunteers



The French portrayed German soldiers as strutting bullies and cowards



German soldiers using women and children as shields. The caption asserts this was a typical German tactic.



A photo that caught the author's eye; what signal platoon commander would not be envious of having such transport? It contained not just pigeons, but flags, wire and field telephones, lights, a bicycle and all manner of communication tools.

Remembering our Fallen in Northern Ireland.

In the last Iron Duke readers were asked to send in their recollections of the deaths of our soldiers by terrorist action in Northern Ireland. The seven men were listed in the Editorial on page 2 of ID Number 282, Spring 2017. This edition remembers three of them.

There was a good response, and some of it is collated below. It is no-one's wish to cause distress to families and friends, but many years have passed and it is hoped that what follows will simply inform, rather than upset. Editorial discretion has been used to edit some of the perhaps too explicit details.

Lance Corporal Terence Graham and Private James Lee – 16 July 1972

Former Corporal "Lofty" Coatesworth writes:

"I was stationed at Newtownhamilton police station.

It was while I was at the police station that I survived a bomb attack after a car bomb had been placed under my observation post. I had rang down to the office and was informed that they knew about the car and were sorting something out. To say I was panicking is an understatement as all sorts of things were going through my head. If the bomb went off, would I be blown to bits, would anyone find all of me or just pieces? As I was thinking this a voice behind me cried, "what about you?" It was a UDR soldier who had come to relieve me. I was so elated at seeing him, and I said "hi" and immediately climbed down the steps of the op and got to a safe distance and then called up to him, "do you know about the bomb in the car below you"? He stared at me, "you're a liar?" I informed him it was true. He immediately got on the phone and then seconds later not using the ladder he jumped to the ground and got to a safe distance, he was sweating profusely. Later the bomb was dealt with safely, and apparently it was when the car had gone over the speed ramp, the jolt had stopped the time mechanism, which if it hadn't, I guess the police station would have disappeared as well as any sentries in the op's.

On the 16th July 1972 our section was ordered to Crossmaglen. We set off in two armoured pigs. On our way there, we were told to check both sides of the road for IED's. We were informed that we would be met approximately half way by a section who were heading to Newtownhamilton, and they would be clearing the road from Crossmaglen to our meeting point. This would save a lot of time and effort in the journey and both sections could take it easy for a while. It escapes me as to the reason we had to go to Crossmaglen, but I guess we had to pick up some more supplies.

We set off and it was slow and laborious checking everything on each sides of the road, but we had to search thoroughly as our lives depended on it. Every so often we stopped when we came across something that we thought was out of place, and this took a while until we could give the drivers of the two armoured pigs the okay to carry on.

Eventually we heard on the radio from the section that was heading in our direction, so we knew that we were nearing our objective. When we finally arrived we could see the occupants of the other two armoured pigs facing us were in a jocular mood and we were soon all ribbing each other. After a while it was time for the two sections to go their separate ways, when for a reason unbeknown to me the section from Crossmaglen had been ordered to return to base. Ah this could be a problem as four armoured pigs all together on the same stretch of road was not allowed. I guess there would not have been enough protection or overhead cover. So if I remember correctly, there was a toss of a coin and the Crossmaglen section won the toss to take the route that they had just



The pig lies on its side

cleared. We had to take a route that had not yet been cleared, which meant it was going to be a long time before we're going to be fed. After waving and the other section giving us a bit of banter, we set off on our different ways. Approximately two minutes after we had set off, there was a huge explosion behind us and we immediately knew that it could only be the lads from Crossmaglen who were in trouble. While the radio operator was trying to make contact and get information, we raced back to where we could see a plume of smoke.

We were shocked at the scene in front of us, the last armoured pig was on its side in a garden of a house. Chaos was taking place as the lads from the first armoured pig were trying to save their comrades and also give protection in case they were attacked. There was Pte Bradley who was in a small tree screaming, and besides the screaming engine, quietness from the commander of the pig, Lance Corporal Terence Graham, who was hanging half in half out of the commander's position, and the driver, Private James Lee, who was still in his driver's seat. A couple of men went to help where they could, while others took up a defensive position. Radio operators had their hands full trying to get help and at the same times listen to orders being given by the other commanders. It wasn't long before help arrived and medics were doing their best for their comrades. Suddenly out of nowhere, a huge helicopter came flying in and landed immediately, and after a few minutes was away high in the sky. As far as I remember the only

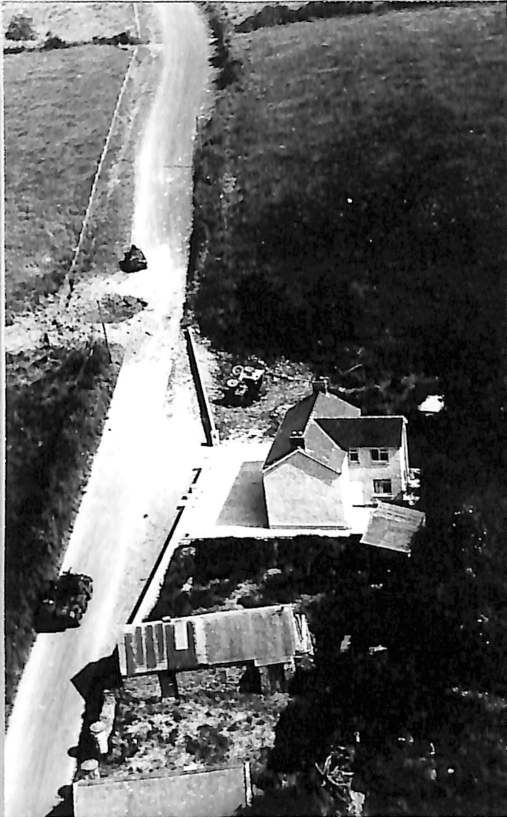
passenger, was Private Bradley, who had lost a leg. Lance Corporal Terence Graham and Private James Lee were placed into the back of the military ambulance. Our section was ordered to escort the ambulance back to base.

That was the only time that I felt thankful that I lost the toss of a coin, but so sorry for the dead and wounded.

Captain Roger Jago RAMC, the Battalion MO, records the incident. The photographs are his.

"On the 16th July the I.R.A. detonated a large culvert bomb in Cullyhanna with perfect timing and stopped the Pig it was aimed at dead in its tracks and threw it backwards some 30 yards over a garden wall. The vehicle Commander, L/Cpl T. Graham and his driver Pte J. Lee were killed instantly and L/Cpl R. Bradley the rifleman riding shotgun in the rear of the vehicle was thrown clear. He was severely wounded, but was destined to survive.

By the time I arrived at the scene the locals were burning two piles of old rubber tyres, the separate palls of black smoke informing the bombers that they had made a double kill. The atmosphere was very tense and most of the rifles in the cordon were levelled at the crowd and not held at the high port as was the order of the day when not being fired. I rapidly assessed that Graham and Lee were dead and was about to move across to treat Bradley when my driver Pte Greenhow looked down at the body of his mate Lee and said: - "Bloody hell Sir, that



Arrowed support - after the event



The house was empty - the occupants knew what was going to happen!

Two photographs of the scene of the explosion. Note the distance between the pig and the crater

made his eyes water"! His black humour immediately relieved the tension, the rifles barrels again pointed skywards and it was business as usual. The Company Colour Sergeant, Matt Hall had done a good job keeping Bradley alive, but I had to cut off the remnants of his lower leg in order to stem the haemorrhage and stabilise him before we casevaced him by helicopter to the Military Wing in Belfast.

Bradley made a miraculous recovery and became the star of the limb fitting centre at Roehampton, where he instructed other amputees how to walk on their prostheses. Two months later, while we were on a K.A.P.E tour ("Keep the Army in the Public Eye") he hobbled into the T.A. Drill Hall in Halifax on his first rocker with two crutches. From across the floor one of the Sergeants shouted at him: - "Cpl Bradley - throw the crutches away man, you're a Duke not a bloody cripple". He did just that, shuffled the 25 yards to join us at the bar and gratefully took hold of the pint that was being held out to him as a carrot. He never used his crutches again. He was re-employed as the barman in our Officer's Mess and the only time I heard him complain was when one

of the young subalterns kicked his tin leg from under him during an improvised football game in the back yard.

Second Lieutenant Howard Fawley

Peter Mitchell, CO 1 DWR in 1974, writes. "During the evening of 24 January 1974 a land rover mobile patrol from Alma Company, then based in Magherafelt



A wider aerial view of the scene

County Londonderry, was attacked by a rocket whilst driving along a road close to Lough Neagh. No damage was caused and no casualties were suffered. In itself this was not an unusual event as during the 18 month tour the Battalion experienced 201 shooting and 162 explosive device incidents – the vast majority of which caused no injury to our soldiers.

The Company Commander, Major Robin Stevens, sensibly decided that a follow up operation should be delayed until the following morning, since any action taken during darkness was likely to be both dangerous and unproductive.

As it happened, the Colonel of the Regiment (General Sir Bobby Bray) was visiting the Battalion and I had arranged to take him on a tour of the County locations, Kilrea, Maghera, Toomebridge and Magherafelt, on the morning of the 25th.

Quite early on in our trip I received a message that Alma Company had sustained a casualty during the follow up and we immediately drove to the location. On arrival we found that the operation had been a sweep uphill from the road through fields lined with hedgerows, looking for any evidence which might help to identify the previous; night attackers.

Great care had been taken while clearing the hedges on both sides, and the fields were being cleared by a line of troops cautiously advancing. Second Lieutenant Fawley was in the middle of the line and a few yards into this field had detonated a landmine and it was clear that he had been killed instantly. It is likely that the device was a homemade pressure mine similar to the one shown in the photo which had been discovered and neutralised during another operation.

This attack showed that the PIRA had analysed our



post incident tactics and while the tragic outcome owed much to luck, it became necessary to re-think our procedures to prevent a recurrence.

Howard Fawley had only joined the Battalion in September 1973, but had settled in well and showed promise of becoming an excellent young officer. This was our first operational death during this tour, and was to be followed shortly after by the killing of Corporal Michael Ryan in the Brandywell area of Londonderry.”

Murray Colville, a platoon commander in Alma Company at the time, writes: “Howard was posted to A Coy in Ballykelly in the late summer of 1973

Since this was long before NITAT had been thought of, myself and Bill Atkinson were tasked with giving him some NI training and we had great fun firing plastic and rubber bullets at Howard sheltering behind a riot shield on the 25m Range. He was a quiet, thoughtful young man whom we all liked instantly. Happily engaged he was starting to embrace life in the Dukes.

On A Coy's deployment into the County Howard and his Platoon were tasked to support Magherafelt with Coy HQ.

My memory is that his double mobile were fired upon near Lough Neagh early one evening at dusk from a tree line overlooking the road. I believe they were told to secure the area and early next morning a sniffer dog was sent into the field between the road and the firing point, however discovered nothing.

Howard and his Platoon then spread out along the roadside and advanced towards the firing point. Not far into the field his Platoon Sergeant, Sgt Exley, saw Howard stop and bend down to pick something up. As he did he triggered a pressure plate which detonated a powerful explosion directly underneath him.

My platoon and I were in Kilrea, some 20 miles to the north and, already on stand-by, we were immediately tasked to go and recover the body and assist the platoon in sweeping the area. When we arrived Sgt Exley was still on the ground and despite being desperately shocked briefed us as did the Coy Comd.

I have long held the view that we were not sufficiently trained in NI tactics and procedures as it was before NITAT came into being and we were all very much feeling our way.

Geoff Russell, a member of Howards' platoon, writes: “In my mind Howard was a nice guy with LOADS of hope for the future in the Dukes for his platoon and his own service.

My section was out on a mobile and while on the patrol we came under contact fire from RPG 7 and gunfire. We



This purports to show General Arthur Wellesley leading his forces at the Battle of Assaye. When the news got back to England of a victory, competing printers would rush to put up for sale hastily and imaginatively drawn pictures like this, and maps when they could, depicting a successful action. They were very popular with the public, if not often strictly accurate

dismounted and took up position and from the area of the gun fire came the sound of an old VW beetle engine which was driving away from our position. Most of my men shouted "give us the order Geoff", as you could make out its brake lights, a good target for them to aim at.

I'm glad I gave no order to open fire, look how police are hounding the ex para lads now and it's not finished.

Well after a quick contact report and being relieved we returned to Magherafelt for debrief then bed ready for a check of the whole area the next day (early). This was done under the command of the Platoon Commander, Mr Fawley (the boss). I was to do C42 (radio) duties by the vehicle.

At one point the boss was called over to the C42 to give a sitrep to CO (sunray) so I had to go to a position in the next field to where the main search party had got too.

I had just started to shout "BOSS YOU ARE REQUIRED ON THE" radio and boom, it looked like to me that he was bending down and was pulling something. I knew some of the lads needed help and I had to get to the radio, Next day after the blast we were

all back on patrol. "

The death of Howard Fawley was a great shock, and his loss was keenly felt by the whole Regiment.

Further memories of these events will be published as they become available.,

With the 76th in India – Agra to Deig

In our last Journal the 76th success at the Battle of Delhi was recorded, along with the award of the Honorary Colours. That battle concluded on 14th September, after which the men were allowed ten days to regroup and do what soldiers do in lulls in the action. On the 24th the Battalion set off towards Agra. It is worth noting that the day before, the 23rd, Major General Arthur Wellesley defeated another Mahratta army at Assaye.

On 2nd October General Lake's army stood before the walls of Agra, facing a strong detachment of enemy in the town, and concealed in ravines which made approaches difficult. However six battalions of native infantry – by now veterans of several major engagements, in all of which they had made an important contribution, displaying great energy and courage – swept this opposition aside, clearing a way to the fort itself.

After an attempt at negotiation, during which the besieged behaved rather badly, firing out at the besiegers during a truce, Lake's gunners moved up to within 350 yards of the fort and commenced firing. A breach was inevitable followed by a bloody forced entry, so the 5000 strong garrison marched out, leaving the fort to the British force. Although the garrison was allowed to depart unmolested, it left behind 176 guns and 24 lakhs of rupees (valued then at £240,000, an enormous sum).

Those who have been following the story of the 76th in India are now asked to refer to ID 280, Spring 2016, where the Battle of Leswaree was described, because that action comes next, after Agra, in this record. In the following Journal the author explained that after offering that account to readers he realised that he had started the tale in the middle, and proposed to go back to the beginning in subsequent editions of our Journal. Leswaree was fought on 1st November 1803.



Yashwantrao Holkar. Lake described him as a “turbulent spirit who was urged on by the madness of his ambition

The 76th took time to recover from the battle, moving from place to place, frequently preyed on by local tribes, who stole animals, including at least one elephant, and killed a number of outlying workers, such as grass cutters and carriers. On one occasion a man of the 27th Light Dragoons was found murdered, and General Lake ordered that the village should be burned. By June the Commander judged that his force had had enough of the increasing heat, shortages of fodder and water, and the effects of a long campaign, and led the way back to Cawnpore (now Kanpur. The city's website claims that it is the “Manchester of India”).

To quote the Regiment's history “The campaign lasted nearly eleven months and during that period the Regiment had marched hundreds of miles, stormed one strong fort, assisted to capture a second, fought two decisive battles, and lost over 16% of its strength through enemy action, sunstroke, heat apoplexy and other diseases”. Tough times for all.

In September 1804 General Lake was forced to again march his army towards Agra to deal with enemy actions led by Yashwantrao Holkar, the Maharaja of Indore, one of five virtually independent rulers within the Mahratta Confederacy. Holkar laid siege to Delhi, so Lake hurried after him and raised the siege (17th October).

He then detached a force under Major General Fraser, which included the 76th, the flank companies of the 22nd Foot (later the Cheshire Regiment), six battalions of native infantry, two regiments of native cavalry, and a detachment of artillery. It was later reinforced with the 1st Bengal European Regiment (which would become the 101st Foot and much later again the number was granted to the Munster Fusiliers).

This force discovered, after some weary marching, that Holkar's main force was in camp at Deig, with 24 battalions, 160 guns and a considerable number of cavalry. Arriving at night, the Commander decided to delay his attack until the next day. Before dawn on 13th November 1804 Fraser's men advanced, skirting round a village, marked as *B*, and a large area of marsh on its right flank, *L*.

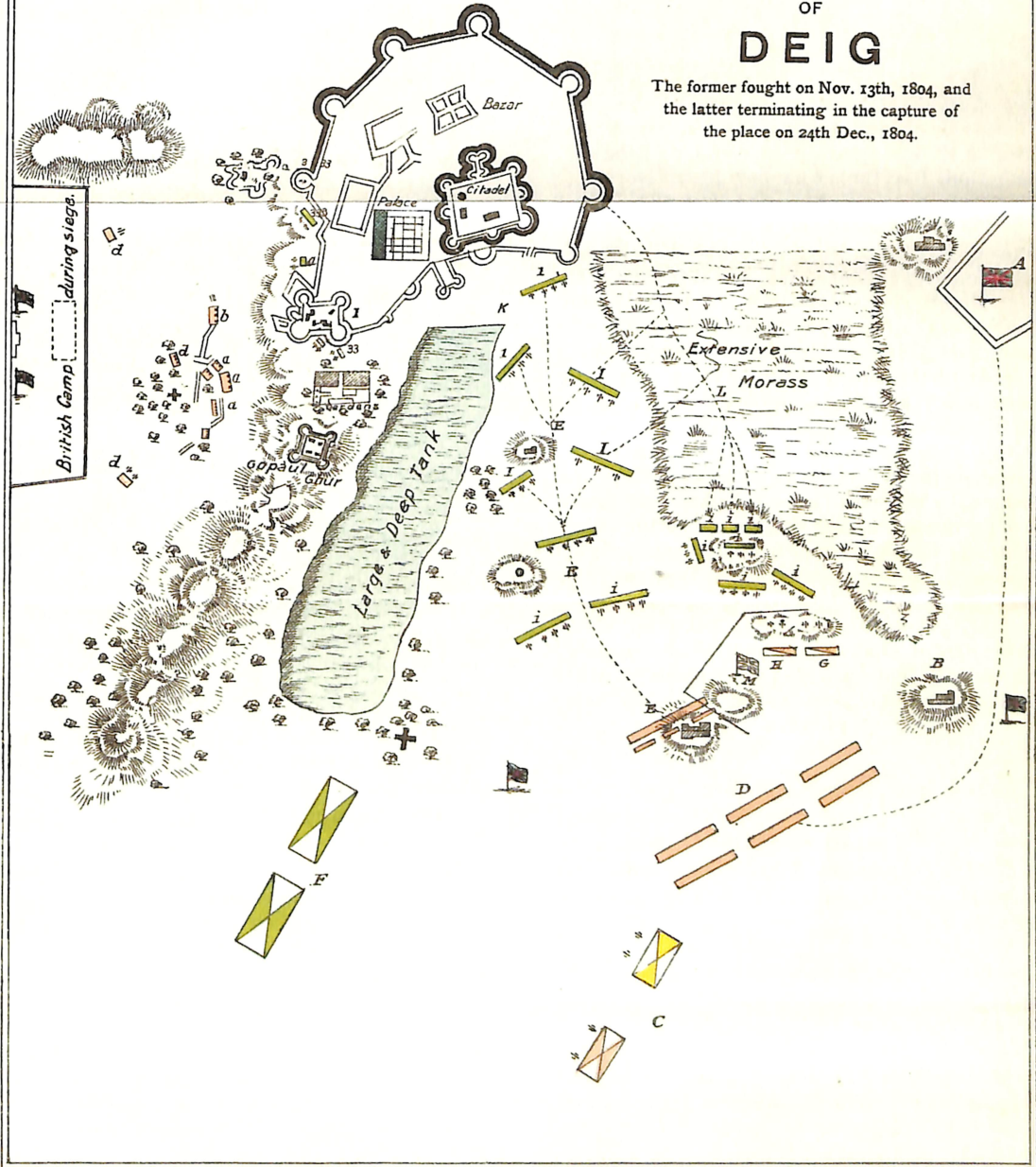
The conduct of the battle is easier to follow on the diagram. At about daybreak Fraser's leading units met a reinforced village *E*, and wheeled out of column into two lines, with the 76th and two battalions of native infantry leading, and the remaining infantry in the second line. The 76th took the bayonet to the defenders of the village, and ran straight through them to attack the guns at *i*. The gunners took flight as they came near, left their guns, but ran back to a further gun line and opened fire. General Frazer lost a leg and Colonel Monson of the 76th (who commanded a brigade in the Force) took over command. Frazer's leg was amputated and he died of his wound three weeks later.

The battle was not straightforward. During an extended two mile advance against gun lines and enemy infantry, Monson's men failed to sweep all the enemy. Consequently a body of Holkar's cavalry came in from a flank and recaptured the first line of guns, and turned them round to fire from behind the British Force. Captain Norford of the 76th turned round his 28 men to drive them off, and did so at the cost of his own life.

The 76th were now within range of the Fort's guns, so Monson pulled them back to defeat enemy elements still on the field of battle. Calling up his own artillery he

**PLAN
OF THE
BATTLE AND SIEGE
OF
DEIG**

The former fought on Nov. 13th, 1804, and
the latter terminating in the capture of
the place on 24th Dec., 1804.



Frazer's Army is in red, Holkar's in green



The Army of India Medal was approved on 21 March 1851 as a retrospective award by the Honourable East India Company to survivors of various actions during the period 1803–1826. This period encompassed four wars: the Second Mahratta War (1803–04), the Gurkha War (1814–16), the Pindaree or Third Mahratta War (1817–18), and the First Burmese War (1824–26), together with the siege of Bhurtpoor (1825–26). Each battle or action covered by the medal was represented by a clasp on the ribbon and twenty-one were sanctioned. While the maximum awarded to one man was seven, most medals were awarded with a single clasp. The medal was only awarded to survivors on the date of issue and, as such, there are substantially fewer medals issued when compared with the number of men who served during this period. This was largely due to the extreme lapse of time between the wars commemorated and the issue of the medal—forty-eight years had passed between the first battle commemorated, Allighur in 1803, and the date of issue, 1851. A total of 4,500 medals were awarded. The clasp AVA was only awarded to Europeans who were present at the last battle, Ava, in Burma

moved round the left flank then drove the enemy into the marsh. Some 2000 were killed and many more wounded, and 87 guns were captured. Survivors took refuge in the Fort. Monson (who had had a horse killed under him) encamped his force at point *M* on the diagram, with a cavalry outpost at *O*.

The battle was won; but the Fort had yet to be subdued. Colonel Monson, upon who command had again devolved, judged this next task to be beyond the capability of his small force, and withdrew to Muttra, where he was joined by General Lake, with his full complement of guns, infantry and horse. Major General Fraser, from his sick bed, wrote that “he felt it impossible to express his high sense of obligation to the whole of the troops under his command, for their undaunted courage and gallantry, particularly to His Majesty’s 76th Foot, who have on this occasion, as on every other, done

honour to themselves and their country”, which was extremely fulsome of a man dying of wounds.

With all his troops collected, Lake advanced towards Deig on 1st December. The enemy horse were very active, picking off strays and parts of the baggage train, so Lake ordered an unusual but effective order of march, which put the vulnerable parts of his command – he had an estimated 200 elephants, 2000 camels and 100,000 bullocks, with some 60,000 non-combatants of all kinds – into a protected box. A final position before Deig was taken up on 13th December.

The Deig Fort was strongly defended, with walls, towers and ramparts, and was surrounded by a deep ditch. The men immediately got to work and by sunrise on the 14th a 300 yard long trench enabled an assault party and breaching guns to get close enough to the walls to begin to reduce the defences. By the 21st a breach was made big enough for the three pronged storming party, which of course had the 76th at its head, to rush through and the outer defences were taken moonlight.

Lake’s men now gathered themselves for the final assault on the Citadel, but the enemy had had enough, and made off towards Bhurtpore, which was to be the object of the next assault. Given that Lake had 7,800 fighting men of all arms and ranks, and the Bhurtpore Garrison numbered 50,000, this was never going to be easy.

To be continued.

Regimental Memorials

Brigadier Andrew Meek reports earlier in this issue on the plan to create a Dukes’ Regimental Memorial, to stand in Halifax. Choosing a design to please everyone will be a tricky, not to say almost impossible, task.

Below are a selection of existing memorials. Some are to be found at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alweras, Staffordshire; others stand on the regiment’s “home turf”, as ours will in Halifax, and one in Belgium. These memorials serve a number of purposes: some to commemorate a particular battle or campaign, in one case here for a single battalion; some to cover a war, with the Great War the most common; it appears to be quite unusual for a regiment to erect a memorial to represent the whole of its service to monarch and country”.

If the author might voice a personal opinion, it is that several of these are fairly dull, and after a time do not catch the eye and demand attention. A memorial to soldiers killed in battle is of course bound to be different to one serving the purpose of commemorating over 300 years of service world-wide, for which a much broader range of style might be considered.



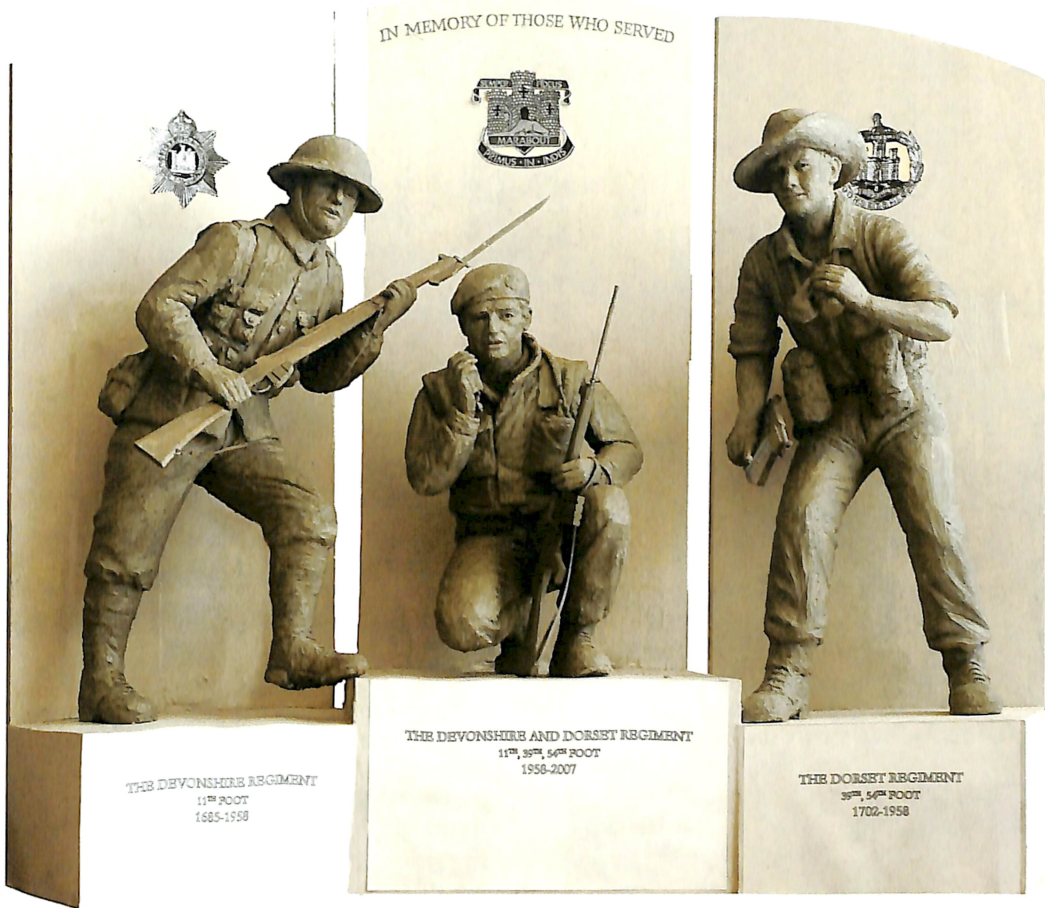
This is a new memorial for the Queen's Regiment at the NMA, a similar concept to the Yorkshire Regiment one at the same place. They serve the new Regiment and not the antecedents



Memorial to the Middlesex Regiment, at Mill Hill, North London



The Royal Leicestershire Regiment Memorial at the NMA



Devon and Dorsetshire Regiment Memorial at the NMA. Single, and relatively modern, figures for both antecedent regiments, and one for the merged regiment.



This memorial is to a battalion of the Hertfordshire Regiment and is at St Julien, Belgium. After its attack at St Julien all the officers and three quarters of the men were casualties



The Yorkshire Regiment Memorial, on the day of its unveiling, with the Duke of York and Major General Graham Binns



The Sherwood Foresters were the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment. This Memorial Tower stands at Crich, south of Matlock



This memorial to the Tank Regiment stands in Whitehall Court, just behind the MOD in London.



This splendid memorial to the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) stands in Glasgow



Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment's Memorial to their dead of both World Wars, one Obelisk for each. It is situated outside Kempston Barracks in Bedfordshire.

A BRUSH WITH THE LAW

Andrew Meek recalls taking on the the Judiciary.

As the junior subaltern in the Battalion I quickly realised that it was a distinct disadvantage not owning a car, a state of affairs reinforced most Monday mornings on arriving in the company office. For most weekends I was stuck in Catterick (are there worse places to experience a winter's weekend I wonder) whilst everyone else skidded off to various parts of the country for yet another exciting social event which inevitably meant a late return to barracks. Thus more often than not on a Monday morning I was the only officer in sight and would be greeted by the dulcet tones of the Sergeant Major asking me if I knew how to get to a certain magistrates court because yet again a member of the company had misbehaved over the weekend and was due in front of the beak that day and I was required to represent him. As ever I was reminded that the reputation of the Regiment depended in my performance. Consequently I got to know most of the courts between York and Darlington as well as many others in the West Riding itself.

I was reminded of one of these jaunts the other day, in fact on the 12 August which as readers will of course know is the opening day of the grouse season. The day recalled would prove to be a very long one thanks to the vagaries of the English court system. Let me explain. The soldier I had to escort to court was not a member of my platoon so I had to quiz him during the trip over to Leyburn Magistrates Court, a task made somewhat challenging by the fact that the MT Platoon had provided us with a FFR Land Rover: many of you will recall these wonderful examples of the best in British engineering and the 'Fitted For Radio' version had what can only be described as a large set of meccano separating the front seat passengers from those in the back which meant it was well-nigh impossible to have meaningful conversation between the compartments. However by the time we got to Leyburn I had grasped the gist of the weekend's activities. Basically the Lance Corporal in question (for reasons which will be obvious I will not reveal his name) had been caught red-handed poaching on Bellerby Moor and such were the circumstances of his crime he was going to plead guilty. This sounded all very straightforward and I looked forward to getting back to camp before lunchtime.

Arriving at Court with 10 minutes to spare I approached the duty police sergeant to ask which in which court we would be required at the same time thinking that for a town the size of Leyburn, two Magistrates Courts seemed excessive unless there was a small crime wave in that part of North Yorkshire.

Anyway I digress because I was brought quickly to my senses by the sergeant when he said that we were scheduled for Court 1 but Lord xxxx was sitting that day in that Court and he could not possibly hear the case. In my innocence I asked why this should be relevant when the Lance Corporal piped up "he's the man what owns the moor." I felt this called for some initiative on my part so I asked whether we could be moved across to Court number 2. "Not a chance" said the policeman "Her ladyship's chairing the bench on No 2 Court and naturally she cannot hear it either." I offered the solution of having the hearing delayed to a day when neither Lord or Lady xxx were sitting only to be told that "we pride ourselves at Leyburn in dealing with all cases on the day. I'll take advice and let you know" at which point the sergeant disappeared to the back of the complex. This was a slight blessing because the delay meant that I could ask the accused more questions about exactly what happened in order for me to have the full picture and thus be in a position to represent him properly.

"You see I'd just got a new shotgun and wanted to try it out so I went up to Bellerby Moor, at the back of the ranges - you know where I mean Sir? Anyway there was no-one up there so I got the gun out the car, loaded it and waited to see what I could have a pop at. Well blow me down if the place weren't alive with birds so I banged away for a few minutes and then collected 4 dead uns at which point I saw a Landrover coming across the moor towards me. Thinking it would be nice to have a chat with someone, I waved him over and once he got to me he asked if I had heard any shots. Of course I said it were me and showed the man the birds whereupon all hell broke loose. I hadn't realised that he was the game keeper and the birds were grouse." I asked what happened next to be informed that the Lance Corporal was initially taken by the game keeper to his Lordship's residence and then on to Leyburn police station where his gun was confiscated and he was formally charged. If I recall it correctly there were three charges: the first poaching; the second having a shotgun without a license (this fact had failed to be divulged earlier in the day); and the third was the small matter of car insurance but this seemed a very minor aspect when compared to everything else.

As I was digesting the full story and its possible implications, the sergeant returned to say that we would have to wait until all other business had been concluded and then a new court would be convened involving neither Lord nor Lady xxx. This meant I had some three hours to think of what to say in support of the soldier and thus by the time we were called into Court (the new Bench having being sworn in) I had my part off pat: he was an excellent soldier with an unblemished record; this misdemeanour was completely out of character; he had

a most promising career ahead of him; and was a key member of the Regimental shooting team (I just hoped I was not going to be quizzed too closely on this one)! Not wishing to blow my trumpet in any way, I was somewhat pleased with my performance and felt distinctly vindicated in this view when the Bench returned to deliver their sentence. As might be said in footballing circles, the Lance Corporal got a result: fined £100 for poaching, another £50 for having no gun licence and a further £50 for no insurance on the car plus loss of the gun with instructions to the police to destroy it. There was no mention of any custodial sentence let alone being

bound over for any length of time.

As we left the Court I could not help noticing the guilty man smiling broadly so I asked what he had to be so pleased about given that he had lost the best part of two month's pay. "Well I were expecting to go down for a stretch because you see when I were with his Lordship he said I could have his house, I could have his wife but god help me if I had any of his grouse!" I couldn't really respond to that with the result that the return journey was a silent one.

Regimental Association

President: Brigadier AD Meek CBE.

General Secretary: Major J Hogg, 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.

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.

Obituaries

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

Jack Robins.

Ex Corporal R.J (Jack) Robins.

Jack Robins died in Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport, on the 2nd of May 2017 age 79. He suffered a severe stroke some years ago which left him with serious disabilities from which he never really recovered. Initially he was cared for at home but later had to be moved to a Residential Nursing Home with regular spells

in hospital as his condition deteriorated. The funeral service, which was well attended by his family and many friends, was held in the Buxton Methodist Chapel on 22nd May, followed by a family only cremation. He is survived by his wife Marjorie, sons Paul and Clive, their wives and seven grandchildren. His son Paul is an ex police officer, now retired. His son Clive served in the Royal Military Police for thirty years and retired as a LE Major.



Jack Robins

Jack did his National Service with the Dukes during 1957-58. After initial training at the depot in Halifax in early 1957 he joined the 1st Battalion in Cyprus and was posted to Alma Company. The battalion was employed on anti-terrorist operations in the Troodos Mountains and elsewhere on the island during the EOKA Campaign. Towards the end of 1957 the battalion moved to Palace Barracks, Northern Ireland. Where he was promoted to Corporal and finished his time.

He was the younger brother of Lieutenant Colonel (ret'd) Walter Robins.

Michael Granger

John Golding writes

Michael was born 13th February 1936.

He went to school at Blundell's school in Devon and then, in 1954, Michael was posted as a Duke to the Halifax Depot as Private 23029052. He was sent to York for the potential officers' platoon. Later that year, he

passed his WOSB (War Office Selection Board) and went to Eaton Hall officer cadet school. In 1955 he was commissioned into The Dukes no. 439662 and was posted to Gibraltar as Platoon Commander of 11 Platoon, D Company with Sgt Arundell and Cpls Bailey MM and Bohan. Major Emmet was OC with CSM Jobling. In April 1956 he was joined by Sgt Wood and Cpls Hawshaw and Harris, Other Subalterns during his time, were Fred Rawson, Geoffrey Cooper, Dick Birch, Raymond Green and Reg Carter.



Michael Granger, on the right

In 1956, the Battalion came back to Chiseldon in Wiltshire and Michael was then sent on the Civil Defence Course which was held in Epsom.

Michael was a great sportsman and very competitive, in fact Fred Rawson remembers him having the nickname of 'Vital Michael' having played, at the battalion level, for the 1st X1 cricket in 1955 and then 1st XV rugby in 1956. At the Company level, his 11 Platoon won D Company Athletics championship with Michael winning the Hurdles, the 100yds and second in the long jump. When at Chiseldon, Mike regularly played for Bath RUFC 1st XV.

He was discharged from the Army in August 1956. He then moved up to Halifax where he became a Trainee Manager with Crossley Carpets. He joined Halifax RUFC, where he met John Golding, Graham Allan and Ted Duckney, among others, who later, also, became Dukes. He captained Halifax in 1957-58 and 1958-1959. Graham Allan writes "Michael was, by nature, a leader and enjoyed two very successful years with Halifax where he created a strong team who won the majority of its matches during that period. Mike was a gregarious character and enjoyed the full support of his team mates. Mike was a memorable character who is sadly missed."

After Crossleys, Mike took a job at Kirby Coopers, a sugar and glucose distributor to the food and allied trades. It was clearly a good decision as he worked for them until his retirement.

He moved to Gatley, near Manchester, as a result of

his appointment with Kirby Cooper in the summer of 1961 and remained there for the rest of his life. He joined Sale RUFC and played his first match against Halifax!

Mike married Barbara Hunt in July 1961 at St Mathews Church, Lightcliffe, Halifax.

They have two children. Kathryn, who is a Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and James is an Architect. Jim who, like Mike, also played at full back for Halifax and captained the club and are the only Father and Son who share this distinction.

His last Dukes attendance was at the Waterloo Celebrations in Manor Heath Park, Halifax 2015 with Barbara, Graham and Di Allan and John Golding.

Mike died after a short illness on the 10th May 2017 aged 81. His funeral was held at Altrincham Crematorium and was attended by many people.

Clifford Morton



Clifford Morton died on 16 May 2017 peacefully at home, aged 83. His funeral was conducted at Park Wood Crematorium, Elland. The coffin was draped with both the Regimental and the British Korean Veterans Association (BKVA) flags, and members of the Branch attended, with the Branch Standard.

Clifford was a long-standing member of the Halifax Branch of the Association. He trained as a recruit at the

Regimental Depot, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax, with further training at the Depot at Strensall, near York. He served in Korea, and was a member of the BKVA. He leaves his wife, Brenda, daughter Wendy, son Stephen and family.

Sergeant Albert William (Bill) Bowen



Bill Bowen was born in Aston Birmingham on 31st July 1923.

Below is a short article he wrote last year on his service in the Regiment.

"I volunteered in 1942 for service in the army. Originally I was with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment which was based in the town of Warwick, Warwickshire. This was a holding regiment used to make up and replace other regimental casualties.

I was transferred to the Duke of Wellington's Regiment based in Halifax, Yorkshire. I joined the regiment in North Africa towards the end of the North African Campaign. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment was part of the British 1st Division. The Division consisted of three Brigades, each Brigade consisting of three Battalions of approximately one thousand soldiers. The Division totalled upwards of nine thousand men plus Headquarter staff.

We landed in Anzio from Sicily three to four days after the initial landings. We dug in and prepared for the German response. The German bombardment was quite heavy but eventually settled into a stalemate. Casualties on both sides were heavy. The Regiment lost eighty per cent of its force, either killed, wounded or were taken as prisoners of war. I was wounded by shrapnel from a German 88 artillery gun. The shrapnel passed straight through my arm. I was very lucky that my injuries were not more life threatening or even fatal. The Germans had a very large artillery gun, which was affectionately named "Anzio Annie" and was frequently fired into the Port.

I was flown back to Sicily in a Dakota which carried the injured for treatment. I was returned to Anzio in time for the breakout to take Rome. The British First Division was now under the wing of the American 5th Army under the command of General Mark Clarke. He was desperate to be the force responsible for capturing Rome. His desperation caused many American and British casualties! I celebrated my 21st Birthday just outside Rome where I heard of the landings in Normandy.

We fought up Italy as far as Bologna and we were then pulled out of the line for a rest. The 'rest' consisted of travelling by ship to Damascus, Sinai and stopping the Arabs and the French from shooting each other, dealing with Jewish terrorists in Palestine and dealing with local troublemakers in Egypt.

I joined the army as a Private and came out as a Sergeant (dead men's boots). I was very lucky.

In 2005 I went back to Anzio with my partner, my daughter and her two sons visiting the Anzio Museum dedicated to the WW2 landings and the war graves where I located some of my comrades in arms who didn't make it. We also visited Monte Casino and Rome. It was a very moving experience."

His partner Barbara Terry wrote:

Bill was a very fit man and Rugby was his passion. He had played Rugby for his school and also when he was in the Regiment. He was mentioned in 'The Iron Duke' VOL XXII No. 64 where there is a picture of the 1st Battalion Rugby Team that played 2nd Foresters. Bill is fifth on the back row from the left. The article reports "Rugby in Egypt was played on grass pitches, but the posts would be removed overnight as wood was scarce in Egypt. Fixtures included two trips to Cairo. Thirty players were called on over the season, including Sgt. Bill Bowen. Versatile Sgt Bowen played at Full Back."

In later life he was an avid follower of the 6 Nations

on TV as well as the World Cup.

When Bill left the Army he went back to work for Birmingham City Council in the Finance Department where he became an accountant. Later he worked for Intermit, then Accles & Shelvoke Ltd as company secretary. He became part owner of Accles & Shelvoke when there was a management buyout and he was the Finance Director. The company eventually being sold to Eley Ltd part of IMI plc. Accles & Shelvoke were manufacturers of Humane Slaughter Pistols used in Abattoirs both home and abroad. Afterwards he became company secretary of his son's company Midhire where he worked until he was 81. Bill and his wife Irene had a daughter and a son. He lost his wife in 2000.

I first met Bill when I went to work for him at Accles 1963 to 1965 leaving to have my second child. Later I returned to work for him both at Accles & Midhire. After his wife died and I was already divorced we became friends and later partners. He was a wonderful man, a true gentleman, kind, generous and considerate and will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

Ron Barlow

Written by Kevin Barlow.

Ron, Ronnie, **Ronald Barlow**, Dad, came from humble beginnings; the eldest of five children, leaving school aged 14. He initially followed his father's footsteps into the coalmines before joining the Army in October 1959, aged 18, serving six years with the York and Lancaster Regiment in Germany, Swaziland, Aden and a brief exercise in Jamaica until being demobbed in October 1965.

Dad had always been a keen boxer during his youth, passionately taking up the sport with great success in the Army and representing his regiment on many occasions; only removing his gloves for the last time when his first born, Wendy, arrived.

Dad applied himself to various jobs during his brief time out of the army in October 1965. During this time he met and married my mam, Trish, before deciding to re-join the Army, returning to his old regiment who were stationed in Cyprus at the time with Mum joining dad a few weeks later to live briefly in Limassol just before the Turkish-Cypriot war broke out. The regiment was posted back to England and sadly disbanded in December 1968. In January of 1969 Dad transferred to the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, who happened to be stationed in Hong Kong.

Over the years serving with the Duke's Dad served in Hong Kong, Northern Ireland, Germany, an exercise in



Ron Barlow

Canada and again deployed to Cyprus before being demobbed for the second time in 1983.

Dad continued his links with the Army serving in the Yorkshire Volunteers (TA) in York from 1983 through to 1991 at the rank of Colour Sergeant.

After his demob from the regulars dad trained and became a driving instructor before turning his skills and

interest to running his own glazing business until his retirement in the early 2000s.

Dad was a family man and spent time with mum travelling and living in New Zealand visiting his daughter, myself and five grandchildren. On a personal note, Dad was a happy man and full of optimism in life. He loved to crack the jokes and have a laugh. He always returned what he knew to anyone less fortunate. He loved his years in the Army and talked about his Army buddies like they were family. Dad had a clever, inventive and methodical mind, always one with the solution rather than any problem.

It must be noted that dad was a brilliant map-reader, especially useful in BATUS and Northern Ireland. I remember his accounts whereby the Wessex would fly them into rough terrain in the dark. The OIC would provide a 6 figure grid reference en route. Dad was respected and entrusted by his commanding officers of the day and fellow colleagues to lead their squad to any reference point; in difficult or barren terrain, day or night resulting in accurate time and location arrival. I'm blessed to have been taught by the best for my navigation skills today. Thanks Dad.



Belfast 1971 - Ron is second from the left

We were all blessed by dad's amazing ability to capture an audience when telling his many fascinating tales from his years of experience both in and out of the army. I will describe my father as the best dad in the world. He is loved and sadly missed by us all.

Ron is survived by his wife Trish Barlow, daughter Wendy and son Kevin. Contact is available through Kevin at kandjbarlow@hotmail.com

Ken Beaumont

The Association has been advised of the death of Ken (Blossom) Beaumont, ex Corunna Company, in the 70's. Ken passed away on Monday 16th of January, in the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, from multiple organ failure.

Ken's funeral took place at the Park Wood Crematorium, Halifax (HX5 9HZ), at 11:15am on Wednesday 1st February, followed by a reception at Hillcrest Bowling Club.

Patrick David Horsfall

Patrick Horsfall, who died on 27 January 2017, was granted a Regular Army Emergency Commission in 1941. He served with our second Battalion in India and Burma. The Horsfall family have a long history of service with the Army and the Regiment. Sir John Horsfall, 2nd Bt, was a captain in the 6th West Riding Regiment. His brother Cedric served in the 10th Battalion the Parachute Regiment, and was killed at Arnhem. Sir John Musgrave Horsfall, 3rd Bt, fought in Burma in WW2 with the West Yorkshire Regiment, and was awarded an MC in 1946. He received his TD in 1949, as a major in the West Riding Regiment. Sir John's brother, Donald Horsfall, joined 6 DWR in 1938, and landed in Normandy and fought through to Germany. His Father in Law, Colonel F Longden-Smith, served in 1/6 DWR in WW1 and commanded that Battalion 1929 - 1932.

Tragically Patrick David Horsfall died on the same day as his wife of 70 years, June, daughter of Captain Sam Clough DWR. She had been a member of the code breaking team at Bletchley Park. They leave two children, Christopher and Carol.

Rosemary Le Messurier

Rosemary Le Messurier, the wife of Colonel Hugh le Messurier (probably now the Regiment's "senior soldier"), died on 18th February 2017, just five months short of her 100th birthday.

Throughout the war, after trainings with the Red Cross, she worked in and for a variety of aid posts, convalescent homes for servicemen, ambulance services and hospitals, and then in 1943 she joined the Catholic Women's



League providing canteen and rest facilities for troops. She landed in Rangoon at a time when British and Commonwealth PoWs from Japanese hands were being re-patriated. She also served in Calcutta briefly before



Rosemary Le Messurier in Tel Aviv, Palestine in 1946

being posted to Egypt (where she met Colonel Hugh) and thence on to Palestine.

She was very proud to be part of the Dukes' family, playing an important part in ensuring the welfare of soldiers and their families. She as a model of a Dukes' officer's wife, having a natural instinct to help others, and taking hands on roles in cases where she could help. She was always kind and open to the young, especially young wives, as they sometimes struggled to find their feet in regimental life.

Stephen Blagbrough (Blaggy)

On the 18th of July 2017 Stephen (Blaggy) Blagbrough passed away in Calderdale Hospital.

He grew up in Halifax and served with the 1st Bn, The

Duke of Wellington's Regiment from 1963 – 1986. Army life took him all over the world and he had postings in the UK and overseas including Catterick, Aldershot, Germany – 2 tours, Hong Kong, and Gibraltar. He also did several tours in Northern Ireland and Cyprus under the United Nations. His various roles included the Army Youth Team, Regimental Policeman, and Post Cpl.

When he finished his Army career at Strensall, York his Commanding Officer described him as conscientious, dependable and hard working. His Military Conduct was Extemporary.

'Blaggy' will probably be remembered by his comrades as someone who enjoyed letting his hair down with a beer in one hand and a cigarette in the other. He will be sadly missed by his daughter Donna and Son Dale who grew up experiencing the adventures of a military family life.

Bryan Richardson

The Association has been advised of the death of a former Duke, who served in 146th Regiment RAC (9th DWR), during the Second World War. The 9th Battalion was converted to Armour, along with the 8th Battalion (145 Squadron RAC), in 1940.

The 8th Battalion was posted to India and saw service in Burma, during the Arakan Campaign, from 1942-43. After the war it was posted to Sumatra.

Bryan's Funeral was held on the 25th of August at the East Riding Crematorium, Driffield.

Les Tolley

Malcolm Leslie Tolley Former Sergeant Malcolm (Les) Tolley passed way on the 7th of August, aged 78, following an eight month illness with Pancreatic Cancer.

Les first served with the York and Lancaster Regiment, from 1956 to 1958, then transferred to The 'Dukes' and served with them until 1979. During his time with 1DWR Les served in the Drums Platoon. In 1967, during the Battalions tour in Osnabruck, Les was presented with the Commanding Officers bugle.

Les's Funeral was held on the 8th of September at Sheffield (Hutcliffe Wood) Crematorium

Alfred Henry Harrison

Alf's funeral is described in the Editorial. His close friend in later life Brian Briers said this about him.

"I first met Alf on Remembrance Sunday 1992 at the Brentford Library Memorial. Afterwards we retreated to the Inverness Lodge. It didn't take long to move to the Beehive as they didn't have the liquid he liked. Over the



years we had quite a few discussions on his military service. Except Korea.

He joined the Middlesex Regiment, transferring to the East Yorkshire Regiment. Then later after WW2 he took the bounty, joining the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, for Korea, serving on the Hook.

I had been with him on several occasions (on visits to) the Normandy beaches. At the "lookout bunker" in Ouistreham Alf looked at the D Day map showing 8th Assault Division of 3rd Division, Monty's 1st Corps. The 8th consisted of 1st South Lancers, 1st Suffolks, and 2nd East Yorks, who were (on) Queen Red Beach. The assistant showed Alf a newly printed book costing an arm and a leg. Alf looked for the Regiment which showed some of what happened. He asked and pointed out an omission asking 'where are the four bunkers we took?' After discussion the assistant took us to where Alf had identified they should be. They couldn't be seen as they were covered in undergrowth and trees. Found and identified Alf pointed out the one where he had thrown a grenade.

Further into Belgium we arrived at the village where the Regiment had rested. Alf looked for the family with whom he had stayed; they had moved. Hearing Alf's story at a hostel we were hosted well and accommodated, leaving with two large bags of walnuts. The trees grew profusely in the village.

Another stop was in Holland, Overloon onto to Venray, to the (River) Maas, the Muhlen-Fleuth Bridge, now the Yorkshire Bridge, an area where there were many casualties. Yes Alf had tears remembering this action. We eventually stopped at Arnhem.

Later he asked me to become involved with his branch of the BKVA, In 2002 I went with him and eventually became their Treasurer. Taking Alf many times to meetings I met some wonderful gentlemen and listened to their stories of Korea. As I have mentioned, Alf never talked to me about Korea."

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Return forms and cheques to DWR Memorial Appeal Office, The Close, Boscombe, Wiltshire, SP4 0AB.



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The walls of Tyne Cot Memorial, near Ypres



An artist's impression of the 33rd at the Battle of the Alma on 20 September 1854. The Regiment stormed the heights above the River Alma to capture Russian guns