

The **Grenadier Gazette**

THE REGIMENTAL JOURNAL OF
THE GRENADIER GUARDS



2012



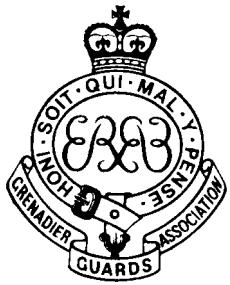
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THE Grenadier Gazette 2012

THE REGIMENTAL JOURNAL OF THE GRENADIER GUARDS



THE CANADIAN GRENADIER GUARDS

by Lieutenant Colonel Michael Canavan

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GRENADIER RECOLLECTIONS OF THE BATTLE OF OMDURMAN

by Major Piers Ashfield

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AFFILIATION FORGED IN BATTLE

A Visit to the 19th Lancers in Pakistan

by Major Alexander Cartwright

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CHURCHILL AND A TRENCH RAID

by Major PAJ Wright OBE

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Opposite photo: Dusk over Batus. Back cover photo: The Three Peaks Challenge – Nijmegen Company on the top of the final of the three mountains, Mt Snowdon Summit on 3rd May 2011.

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EDITORS: Colonel DJC Russell Parsons and Major A. J. Green, c/o Regimental Headquarters, Grenadier Guards Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1E 6HQ (Tel: 0207-414 3225).

All contributions to Regimental Treasurer. Email: regtltreasurer@grengds.com

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EDITORIAL

Foreword

by the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel

The First Battalion is now in Afghanistan for what will in all probability be its last tour during Operation HERRICK. The Army's contribution to combat in Helmand will reduce fairly sharply in 2013 in step with the American drawdown and following the handover of security lead from NATO to the Afghan Army and Police. Each of the Battalion's three tours have been very different from each other and this one will be characterised by supporting the Afghan security forces as they assume control of Central Helmand. Much has been achieved over the years in Helmand and there is significantly improved security, better governance and greatly expanded economic activity; we will hand over to the Afghans a security situation that their young security forces have the ability to control.

Editorial Notes

At the time of writing, this comes with all best wishes for 2012 to all readers of this journal from Regimental Headquarters and your Editor. The headline is that this year may not be comfortable in terms of Army drawdown, redundancy and cuts, all set against Defence Reform, reorganisation and changes to pensions and conditions of service. Readers will find some abridged notes from the Major General later in these pages, and he is realistic about some of the immediate implications for the future of the Regiment and Nijmegen Company in particular, especially when set against the background of the Army losing 20% of its strength over the next few years. Such news may well trigger alarm in some quarters and the beginning of a new year is a good point, despite the extraordinary achievements of the Regiment, to acknowledge that those serving are not exempt from the numerous changes necessitated by the economic downturn and this age of austerity.

However, it is the happy duty of this journal to report on those considerable achievements in 2011 and look forward to the future whatever it holds. Away from home, the 1st Battalion return to Afghanistan in 2012 after a very short tour interval, and can look forward to the ongoing success there, certainly with the latest phase of transition which has just been announced and the positive news that violence levels are decreasing year on year. And in the year of the Diamond Jubilee, we can rest assured that despite the absence of the 1st

Afghan politics will however be the key determinant of the future. All of us wish the Battalion every success and a safe return. With the First Battalion in Afghanistan, Nijmegen Company and the Regimental Band will provide the Regimental contribution to Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations as well as potential involvement in the Olympics.

My thanks to Colonel Richard Winstanley for standing in as Deputy Lieutenant Colonel during my absence in Afghanistan last year. Congratulations to Major General George Norton who has taken over as the Major General, the first Grenadier to fill that post since 2000.

The Gazette this year once again provides an excellent variety of articles covering our history, Association news and aspects of life for the serving Regiment. My thanks once again to the Editor and all the contributors for their outstanding work.



Lieutenant Colonel Roly Walker DSO being presented a Battalion Drum on his departure.



HRH Prince Philip visits the Battalion for its Afghanistan training.

Battalion, the Regiment will be very much in the eye of the public within the Household Division programme, which looks suitably full over that period. The Regiment is not yet sure what detailed part it will play in and around the Olympics, and that detail may follow soon.

And yet it has been a pleasure to edit this year's journal again because it maintains our faith in exactly what has been achieved at every level. You will read much of the Battalion's programme, and see exploits expertly captured with some good photographs. Whether it is on operational training, or in ceremonial preparation and duties, Grenadiers and musicians never seem to let up their breakneck pace. But it is reassuring that they can let off some steam as well – you will read about some of the excellent adventure training that has happened over the last 12 months. Grenadiers also continue to be officially recognised for going the extra mile – many, many congratulations go to both Lieutenant Colonel Andrew James and Toby Barnes-Taylor on their award of MBE in the recent New Year Honours List. And our congratulations go to Major Simon Soskin who promotes to Lieutenant Colonel in 2013.

In terms of contributions, we are still falling short in encouraging new authors to come to the fore, and have instead relied on the trusted skills of a few and published Grenadiers. This is with the notable exception of Major Piers Ashfield and Major Alex Cartwright who with their pieces are becoming the next Philip Wright, Henry Hanning or Frank Clark, who continue to adorn this journal with interesting historical pieces. Our thanks go to those who have risen to the annual challenge of reflecting on this last year without using the forbidden phrase of how 'busy' this



Let the games begin...

period has been'. Well done to the Battalion, (particularly when championed and edited by Lieutenant Colonel Skid Dorney, and all our congratulations go to him on his promotion), the Band and Regimental Headquarters for their articles. I would want to thank the current Brigade Major, Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Speed, as well as Major Alex Cartwright, for their notes. Readers will also see a unique contribution this year from the Canadian Grenadier Guards. We will see whether we can encourage similar and interesting pieces from our other affiliated Regiments next year, the 1st Battalion of the Royal Australian Regiment, and the 1er Regiment of La Garde Republicaine in Paris.

As we launch into another year of commitments and reflect on what has been achieved this year, do make use of this journal, your magazine. Tell us what else is happening, and what we have missed this year. You will realise that there is already quite a lot of material on the cutting room floor as we have squeezed every last bit into this edition.

As ever, all Grenadiers, serving and retired, should know that they can write in at any time (regltreasurer@grengds.com).



The Rt Hon Hugo Swire, Minister of State for Northern Ireland (and a former Grenadier), visiting The Memorial Garden at the Palace Barracks, Holywood, Belfast 21 Nov 11. He is with the commemorative plaque for the Grenadier Guards who served in Northern Ireland.



This was not what the Battalion's operational equipment table was designed for but it does the job.

It has been another busy year at Regimental Headquarters with several changes in personnel. In December 2010, RQMS Walker joined the team having previously been Drill Sergeant of the Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment. LSgt Terry Castles-Green has left the Army and was replaced by LSgt Chris Green as the Regimental Affairs NCO and LSgt Kevin Darke handed over to LCpl Lee McGovern to assist Miss Linda Leppard with the Stores. Mrs Jill Lindsay provides valued experience and continuity in the General Office and Gdsm Robert Armour gives invaluable support as the Regimental Headquarters Orderly/Driver. Capt Richard Hutton took over from Capt Alexander Forster as the Assistant Equerry to The Colonel and the Officer Recruiter. Capt Trevor Rolfe retired as Regimental Treasurer and Association General Secretary at the end of March 2011 and was replaced by Major Andy Green who is greatly assisted by LSgt Jay Ellingham. We have just finished developing the online Regimental Shop, helped by Charlie Birch Reynardson, which now has a larger range of items for sale and is a great deal more 'user friendly'. The Archives continue to be run by Lieutenant Colonel Conway Seymour who is ably assisted by Major Phillip Wright and Mrs Nayna Shah with Chris Sharp helping with the photographs. Regimental Headquarters sails forward under the watchful eye of the Regimental Adjutant, Major Grant Baker.

The year started off with the move of the 1st Battalion from Wellington Barracks to Aldershot and the arrival of the Public Duties Incremental Companies leading to the creation of a 'London Central Garrison'. Regimental Headquarters (along with the other Regiments) helped furnish the Garrison Headquarters and the Officers and Sergeants Messes with paintings and silver. The Garrison is a huge success and already has a collective atmosphere that is reminiscent of a Battalion. The Messes are thriving and even the Guardsmen seem to be living together harmoniously! The first big test for the Garrison was the Royal Wedding, where it found itself the focal point of the military involvement. It was a hugely enjoyable day for all involved and one that will stay in their memories for a long time.

The major event for Regimental Headquarters in the first part of the year was the organisation for 'Betty Blue

Eyes'; this was the latest 'Cameron Mackintosh' musical and took the form of a private showing for the Regiment, in aid of The Colonel's Fund, at the Novello Theatre on the 11th April. Planning for Betty Blue Eyes began in November under the project managers, Charlie Birch Reynardson and Capt Garth Banks, the aim being

to fill the 900 seats of the theatre with Grenadiers and the wider Regimental family and to give, those who wanted it, supper at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel next door to the theatre. The project team co-ordinated the entire event from selling tickets to arranging the provision of drinks and 'eats' during the interval; it was a mammoth task and greatly to their credit that when the great day came, everything went smoothly and everybody had an enjoyable evening, even if the general view was that the Regimental Band's moving

Overture at the start was outstanding and the performance itself left something to be desired. (The show closed after a short-ish 'run'!!) The Colonel attended the performance, meeting a number of past and present members of the Regiment beforehand and during the interval and then visiting the cast backstage afterwards, when he seemed to enjoy meeting his 'stage double'. Most importantly, the event raised just over £90,000 for The Colonel's Fund, a magnificent achievement.



His Royal Highness The Colonel meets the cast of 'Betty Blue Eyes'.



Tom and Tilly Turnip at Grenadier Day.

The annual activities of Regimental Remembrance Sunday, the First Guards Club Dinner and the Sergeants Mess Past and Present Dinner took place as usual. The RHQ Team organised Grenadier Day which

took place in Lille Barracks and was an enormous success despite a monsoon downpour in the middle of the day. It certainly would have been a 'Wet Mount' and the sight of 'Tom and Tilly Turnip' gallantly doing their bit in torrential rain was a memorable one!

The Association organised a very successful Battlefield Tour to Italy in September which needs no further comment as it is covered in detail later in the Gazette.

The 1st Battalion are in the midst of a comprehensive Pre-Deployment Training package for Op HERRICK 16 which finishes in the New Year. With the lead elements deploying to Afghanistan in January, Regimental Headquarters will step up to help the 1st Battalion's Rear Operations Group provide support to the families of all those who have deployed.

As the 1st Battalion deploys on operations, 2012 promises to be a challenging year for the wider Grenadier Family. The Colonel will be visiting Regimental Headquarters, Nijmegen Company and the Regimental Band on a morning in March as well as attending Regimental Remembrance Sunday in May. He will also visit the Rear Operations Group and Families at Lille Barracks in July.

Grenadier MOD Warriors



From left to right: Major James Shaw: NI Desk Officer, UKCT Ops; Major Andrew Seddon, Dept of CGS, Equipment Strategy; Major Marcus Elliot-Square, PS12 Ceremonial Policy; Major Richard Green, MA/ACDS Log Ops, Capt Will Harries LO to the Defence Olympic Intelligence Cell.

The Regimental Casualty Capability

*by Andy Hill
Regimental Casualty Officer*

In the summer of 2010 a Regimental Casualty Capability (RCC) was established in response to the Regiment's recent number of operational casualties and I was appointed Regimental Casualty Officer (RCO) operating from Regimental Headquarters. It is my responsibility to manage the delivery of enduring

Regimental support to wounded (both physically and psychologically) Grenadier soldiers, their families, and families of the bereaved.

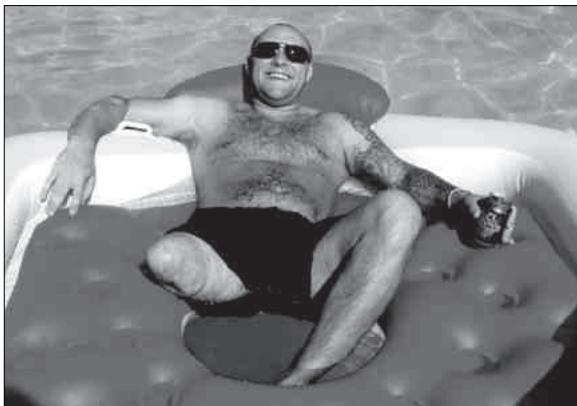
One of my tasks as RCO is to liaise with the Army Recovery Capability (ARC) to ensure that the Regiment is involved at every stage of a wounded Grenadier's rehabilitation. I monitor their recovery pathway to ensure that they have access to the key services and resources required to help them either to return to duty or to make a smooth transition into an appropriately skilled civilian life. This involves having a strong working relationship with the 1st Battalion's Unit Welfare Officer (UWO) plus maintaining and developing a network of serving and retired Grenadiers, charities and the commercial sector to identify sources of support. When required I can draw on the Colonel's Fund to give financial assistance in providing advice, welfare and benevolence quickly to the point of need. As RCO I also coordinate holiday offers, sporting and adventure training opportunities and other generous offers of help, all of which are geared to aiding recovery.

Grenadiers with long term injuries are assigned to the ARC and come under command of one of 11 Personnel Recovery Units (PRUs) which are based at Regional Brigade Headquarters throughout the UK. The PRUs are responsible for creating an Individual Recovery Plan (IRP) for each soldier to ensure that, as well as addressing his clinical needs, a pathway is designed with an defined outcome so that whatever his injuries, he is able to realize his potential. IRPs include work placements, educational and life skills courses, adventure training and residential periods at one of four Personnel Recovery and Assessment Centres (PRACs) which have been constructed in partnership with Help for Heroes and the Royal British Legion. They provide on-going support for the wounded after rehabilitation at Headley Court with state-of-the-art facilities, allowing individuals to overcome where possible the challenges that their injuries present. The RCO remains constantly alert for opportunities to upgrade the IRPs with practical and financial help from either the Colonels Fund or the ABF 'The Soldier's Charity' Operational Fund. Examples of this are the provision of funding for training courses, specialist orthopaedic beds, exercise bikes and light weight wheelchairs.

A real concern for all those involved in the welfare aspect of a Grenadier's recovery are the mental health



L Sgt Nathan Cumberland.



LCpl Scott Blaney.

difficulties that are not necessarily Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), although sadly we have had a few cases of this, but the general mental wellbeing of individuals that have been exposed to traumatic events or life changing injuries. It has been my experience that soldiers will, through their determination to succeed, overcome the physical challenges of their injuries but struggle to deal with the on-going complexities of life with which they now face. At some point in his recovery process an injured soldier may have to accept that his future now lies outside the Army and have to deal with all those 'unknowns' of becoming a civilian with the inherent challenges of identifying a new career, having to deal with bureaucratic organizations, finding suitable housing, and coping with feelings of vulnerability. It is not surprising therefore that a soldier's mental health can take a turn for the worse when suddenly faced with a future he neither planned for nor wanted. It is here that the position of the RCO makes the most impact through effective mentoring and being a dedicated and trusted ally, who will help individuals explore new ideas for the future. I am the constant in their rehabilitation journey back to soldiering or transition into civilian life. It is a long term relationship that looks to encourage, support and empower a soldier to fulfil his potential, and which goes beyond any discharge date. I am able to provide the reassurance that they have the full support of the Regiment behind them, and highlight the benefits that this brings. This bespoke support helps build self esteem, mental strength and resourcefulness so when individuals are feeling low or depressed they continue to positively engage with the chain of command. Prevention, as always, is better than the cure.

Another important area of my work is to support bereaved families through their time of need. Initially managed by the UWO they will at an appropriate time become the responsibility of the RCO to give the enduring Regimental support for as long as they wish for it. I act as a Regimental point of contact, offer reassurance, give confidential advice, sign-post, and

actively seek opportunities for their lives to be enhanced as they recover from their loss. The role has seen me assist the families in various ways supported by appropriate financial assistance from the Colonel's Fund. A 'nothing is too much trouble' approach from all Grenadiers has helped to build a strong connection with the families concerned for which they often express their gratitude, and we are proud to have them continue as members of our Regimental family.

Going forward, I plan to continue to build up relationships with stakeholders ensuring that Grenadiers and families affected by operations are getting access to all the services that are on offer. This year will see a number of our operationally wounded discharged from the Army. Readers can be reassured with the knowledge that they will do so having received the best possible support, and with the Regiment continuing to provide them with assistance if required. It is a sad reality with the 1st Battalion now deploying back to Afghanistan that there will probably be other Grenadiers and Grenadier families requiring our help in the future. You can be confident that the Regiment is providing the appropriate support whenever and wherever it is needed, and in doing so upholding its great traditions.

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SERGEANTS' (PAST AND PRESENT) CLUB

*President 2011 – Capt IM Farrell
Vice-President 2011 – Lieutenant Colonel (Retd)
C E Kitchen MBE
Hon Secretary – WO2 (RQMS) Walker A
Vice Hon secretary – LSgt Green C*

Current Membership
Past 565, Serving 214, Honorary 20 – Total 799

This year's annual Sergeants' (Past and Present) Club dinner was held on Saturday 5th November 2011. The Marble Arch Thistle Hotel, London was the venue for this major event in the Regimental calendar. The dinner was attended by 192 past and serving members, which was particularly well supported by the Battalion. The organisation was, as always done to perfection by the team at Regimental Headquarters.

This year's Guest of Honour was Colonel CRV Walker DSO, who is currently the Chief of Staff for 3 (UK) Division. Colonel Walker was accompanied by his wife Kate, and was on fine form for the evening. His words were inspirational as he spoke of his admiration, and were particularly well received many of the past members who had not had the honour of serving with him.

Sadly the Regimental Adjutant was unavailable to give his normally in depth, detailed Regimental update, so the President deputised and informed all in attendance the activities have kept all aspects of the Regiment occupied over the last 12 months and what the future holds.



WO2 (RQMS) Walker, Colonel CRV Walker DSO, and Capt IM Farrell.

The Regimental Dance Band played fantastically throughout the dinner, and continued into the small hours for everyone's entertainment. The final stalwarts left the venue in the silent hours after an outstanding evening.

The Annual General Meeting was held prior to the dinner and on completion of formalities the President handed over to Lieutenant Colonel (Retd) Kitchen MBE, who is the president for the forthcoming year.

The Committee now consists of:

Lt Col (Retd) CE Kitchen MBE	President
WO1 (RSM) Snazole G	Vice President
WO2 (RQMS) Walker A	Hon Secretary and Treasurer
LSgt Green C	Vice Hon Secretary

Serving Committee Members:

WO2 (DSgt) Williams S	1st Battalion
WO2 (BSM) Wood A	Regimental Band
WO2 (CSM) Boak M	ERE
WO2 (CSM) Bearder	Nijmegen Company

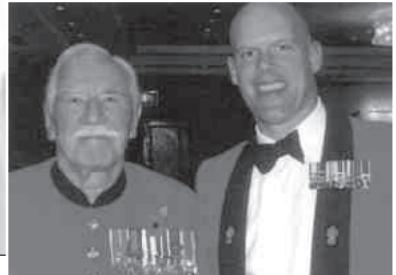
Non Serving Committee Members:

Capt (Retd) J Lenaghan	Committee Member
Mr G Fenner	Committee Member
Mr P Jupp MBE	Committee Member
Mr M Mayoh	Committee Member

The President would like to thank WO2 (RQMS) Walker, and LSgt Green for their tireless efforts, and attention to detail whilst ensuring the evening was such a success. Also for their continued hard work and efforts on behalf of the Club.

The 2012 AGM and dinner will be held at The Marble Arch Thistle Hotel, London on Saturday 3rd November.

Below: The epitome of The Sergeants' (Past and Present) Club – Regimental Sergeant Majors, Ray Huggins MBE and Glenn Snazole.



THE REGIMENTAL BAND

Adventure Training – Kinlochleven September 2011

by LCpl Anthony Sommerville
Band of the Grenadier Guards

The 4th of September had been playing on my mind for the best part of a few months having been tasked to take 27 members of the Grenadiers band, including a brand new, fresh Director of Music, into the highlands of Scotland to bruise themselves on granite and ice!

Having loaded 30 odd bags filled with our food for the week onto the van the first transport made its merry, if somewhat laboured way up the M6 to arrive a short 12 hours later at our destination, Kinlochleven, around 20 miles south of Fort William.

Having found our relevant rooms in the MOD Lodge that was to be home for the next five nights and taken in the fabulous scenery that surrounded us it was decided that we should have pizza, to be cooked by LCpl Simon Hall. Simon never cooked again that week having burnt 24 pizzas, 12 of which were to be consumed by 13 hungry guys arriving at 0100hrs. Good job they stopped at *Burger King* for a 'nourishing' feed en route! Highlights so far – LCpl Evatt Gibson opening the midget-laden window that stated: UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES OPEN. ALARMED. Good start.

Day 1 began with our instructors LSgt Andrew Crew and Musn Mark Skinner (both of the Welsh Guards Band) and myself briefing the four teams on their week's activities. Over the next four days the teams of six were to cover three days of level three mountaineering, a half day's ice climbing at the *Ice Factory*, the world's largest indoor ice climbing centre and mountain biking, including a mad dash down the Fort William 'World Championship Mountain Biking Course'. My own team's doubts of high level Scottish mountaineering were put to bed on the mighty 'Aonach Eagach' route with the crazy 'Pinnacles'. This has to be one of the best UK mountain days out and all the team got a real buzz out of being on and doing that particular route in Glencoe. Lunch on the day was an interesting affair, a packed meal prepared by LCpl Andy Bradford who had actually created a few more hills of his own through the medium of sandwich! It was unanimously decided that everyone would take charge of his/her own sandwich creations for the rest of the week. First day highlights included: Musn Ben Hull's face on seeing the first 'crazy pinnacle' (I had no idea there was a shade of see through like that!); Musn Sam Petchey's cracking home made curry and a rare moment of



Scotland Ice Climbing: LCpl Whiston, LCpl Bowen, Sgt Pickin, Musn Greenhalf, LSgt Penny and WO2 (BSM) Wood ice climbing at the Ice Factory in Kinlochleven.

genuine concern from our Band Sgt Major as to my group's whereabouts having not returned until 2100hrs.

Tuesday was spent doing slightly lower level walking due to the low cloud base level of 500 metres. The weathermen proved to be painfully accurate and we all received our first of many welcome highland soakings. Most of the day's walks were cut short by mid afternoon due to the torrential rain and wind, but spirits remained very high. Our evening was then to be spent in the local and world famous *Clachaig Inn* where a fine meal and the local brew *Sheepshaggers* was enjoyed by all.

Day 2 highlights included watching the surf pick up on Loch Leven!

Day 3 saw a few reluctant sleepy heads drag on their boots and trudge towards yet more grey skies. Fortunately the wind had calmed and I took my bushy tailed group onto the *Buachaille Etive Mor*. Another thrilling ascent with backing vocals from Musn Paul Cowley provided a great afternoons ambience surrounded by firstly rain, then hail, then sunshine and to top it off – two bright clear rainbows following the valley floor of Glencoe. Sausage and mash for supper. My turn to cook. Best meal of the week by far (apart from Monday's, Tuesday's, Thursday's and Friday's) Day 3 highlight – LCpl Nathan Bowen's unique layering system which had to be seen to be believed but included the use of a black bin liner!

The last day saw two of the teams ascend Ben Nevis for the first time on a bright clear day. My team achieved a high level ridge walk in Glen Roy in which our team experienced, first hand, the delights of trudging on steep heather for two hours. Joy! A gentle jog back to the minibus met us with some of the other groups to recount some of the day's 'goings on' on Fort

William high street. Another group took on the mountain bike course with Musn Ron Vint coming off second best when challenging a large tree, situated at the bottom of a steep bank, to a duel using his head. Fortunately he survived but his helmet was not so lucky. Last day highlights: Musn Ian Crispin Shepherd 'So what group am I in?' (Day 4); Musn Mattias Andersson's unique approach to revive a drowning ram; and finally Sgt Andy Crew's daring dash up Ben Nevis for the second time in a day to be told at the halfway point that his services were not required! The tiring but highly enjoyable week was rounded off with an excellent pasta dish cooked by Musn Shepherd.

Any band wanting a very good level three Adventure Training week need look no further than the Kinlochleven Lodge. Our hosts were happy that a unit our size had paid a visit and were only too pleased to suggest that any other band would be welcome for a stay.



Scotland – Trumpet on Ben Nevis: LSgt Penny sounding 'Grenadiers Return' on the top of Ben Nevis. Note to QM: it is a private instrument.

Grenadier Guards Band trip to the Modena International Military Tattoo and Basel Tattoo – July 2011

*by Musn Laura Coe
Band of the Grenadier Guards*

After what had been an already hectic summer schedule the Band packed its bags and departed for Italy to take part in the Modena International Military Tattoo followed immediately after by two weeks in Switzerland for the Basel Tattoo. Upon arrival in Modena it was straight into rehearsals for the opening ceremony of the Tattoo with the five other bands that were taking part. This was quickly followed by a three hour bus trip north to the town of Alexandria to perform at a packed-out open-air concert with the Scots Guards Pipes and Drums. The following day we had a morning full of rehearsals and it was only then that we realised just how hot the weather in Modena really was, with midday temperatures reaching 45°C. Luckily we had time to go to the outdoor swimming pool for a few hours for a bit of sunbathing and swimming before going back to get changed for a marching parade around the town. This finished in a park where we performed some more music to the audience that had gathered there. It was then time for food which was served at the Italian version of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst and consisted of a three course meal with lots of bread, pasta, meat and salad which definitely satisfied everyone's appetites. That evening was the Tattoo's opening performance followed by all bands marching through town to the Grand Piazza. It was then the brass quintet's turn to participate in a midnight concert in the middle of the town for people that were enjoying a few cooling drinks after the show. The next day was slightly less hectic with just a morning rehearsal followed by a bit of free time for some Italian ice-cream and then an evening gala concert featuring all the participating bands, each band playing 15 minutes of their own music, then a combined band finale. Saturday turned out to be another busy day with the rehearsals for the show's finale in the morning and in the afternoon we had another very hot marching parade through the town. In the blazing heat we marched to the Grand Piazza where all the bands gathered and took it in turns to play a piece each to an awaiting audience that filled the square. After the parade we had our final meal, a quick ice cream and then we were ready for the Tattoo finale which this time included a number of massed band pieces. After the show it was time to pack up our kit and get on the road for a six hour bus journey

through the beautiful mountains of the Alps to Basel, Switzerland.

Upon arrival in Basel we were able to enjoy some free time to recharge ourselves before rehearsals began for the Tattoo. Luckily for us this was the hottest few days we were to have whilst out there and most went off to the pool or to explore Basel, including the Rhine river swim where you jump in the water at one end of the city and let the river carry you along back to the centre. On our second day in Basel we were joined by the Coldstream Guards Band and their Corps of Drums so we could begin rehearsals. Some members of the band had a very busy rehearsal schedule, as in addition to our own display with the Coldstream Band and the combined tattoo opening and finale sequences, we were also assisting the Band of the Royal Regiment of Scotland with their display accompanying some Highland dancers. The weather became very overcast so it wasn't as hot and sweaty as expected. After the rehearsal days it was then show time! Overall we did two dress rehearsal shows and thirteen official shows with two of the evening shows being filmed for Swiss TV. Our display was based around a medley of *Queen* songs (*One Vision*, *Somebody to Love*, *Radio Gaga* and *We Are The Champions*) arranged by CSgt Desmond and LSgt Scott from the Coldstream Band, showing off soloists from both bands including a sax solo from our very own Musn Dean Nixon in *Somebody to Love*. The first of the two evening performances didn't start till 1730hrs so we had most of the day to ourselves so do some sightseeing, shopping and lots of ice cream eating. After the late evening show it was time to hit the 'cast bar' which was open until early-o'clock for an after show drink and entertainment which was provided by a different band each night. On our last day in Basel all the bands and dancing groups came together with other marching bands and dancers from around Basel. We participated in a parade through the centre of the city for about 1.5 kilometres, the streets were packed with people from all over Switzerland coming to watch. It also was the only day when the sun decided to come out so it was very hot and sweaty. That night we did the final two closing shows and that was it. The last show finished at 2330hrs and by 0200hrs we had packed up all the kit, were back at the hotel and then on to the coach ready to leave for our 12 hour bus journey back to Wellington Barracks. The journey back was made more comfortable as the coach was one of two used by the England football team, so we had lots of tables, plenty of leg room and lots of confused looks from tourists!



Photographs taken by Benno Hunziker.

Solo Recital Tour of South Africa - August 2011

*by Musn David Ventor
Band of the Grenadier Guards*

In August of this year, I had the privilege to be brought out to South Africa to do a recital tour with one of South Africa's foremost pianists, Ben Schoeman. Sacrificing what little summer was to be had in England, we nonetheless revelled in visiting some of the most beautiful corners of my home country. The tour commenced in the Western Cape and included concerts in Hermanus, Knysna, Humansdorp, the Baxter Theatre in Cape Town, and the Linder Auditorium in Stellenbosch. It was in this picturesque old Cape Dutch town where I was born and spent many happy years as a music student.

We performed two programmes, the first consisting of J.S. Bach's *Sonata in e minor*, *Sonatine* by Henri Dutilleux, *Suite for Flute and Piano* by Charles-Marie Widor, *Chant de Linos* by André Jolivet, and the *Sonata for Flute and Piano* by South African composer Hendrik Hofmeyr. We were grateful that this prolific composer honoured us with his presence at the recital in



Stellenbosch. In Cape Town, we performed the second programme consisting of J.S. Bach's *Partita in c minor*, the Poulenc *Sonata for Flute and Piano*, François Borne's *Fantaisie Brillante based on themes of Bizet's Carmen*, Henri Dutilleux's *Sonatine*, Pierre Sancan's *Sonatine*, and the *Suite for Flute and Piano* by Widor. Everywhere, we were hosted with true South African generosity and met with wonderfully appreciative audiences.

The tour concluded in the North with concerts in the main recital halls of Johannesburg and Pretoria. These concerts were in themselves great highlights and received positive reviews. It was a profound joy to have the opportunity to tour so extensively with Ben Schoeman, who happens to be my brother-in-law and who lives in London, pursuing a career as a concert pianist.

It is important to me to continue to perform intellectually and technically challenging repertoire, and in my choice of programme I decided to revisit the object of my studies in Paris, that is, French flute music from the late 19th to early 20th centuries or as I see it – the golden age of the flute. Throughout, I felt proud to call myself a member of the Grenadier Guards Band and hope that I have honoured their high standards.



Musn David Ventor (flute) and Mr Ben Shoeman (piano)
on a recital tour in South Africa.
Photograph: Dawid Ben Konsettoer

Exercise Cockney HM Jollies – Sept 2011

by LSgt Chris Spencer
Band of the Grenadier Guards

The Grenadier Guards Band's post summer season adventurous training was split into two groups. Whilst the majority of the Band went to Scotland on an

outward-bound week, a group of seven of us were lucky enough to secure the use of the Household Division yacht 'Gladeye', a 37 foot sail boat that can sleep up to nine crew, for Ex COCKNEY HM JOLLIES.

After a stop at the supermarket in Gosport to buy our week's provisions we arrived at Fort Blockhouse in Portsmouth and met Gladeye's boatswain skipper LCpl Minns from the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards. With a fairly grim meteorological situation forecast, a plan of what could be achieved for the week would prove difficult. However, after a thorough safety brief, and with the crew ever mindful of the weather, the skipper made a plan to acquaint the crew with Gladeye by practising mooring at various points whilst still in the marina and to get us used to moving around on board. By 1730hrs that evening there was a slight lull in the wind so we headed for Cowes under motor. Once out of Portsmouth harbour the full force of the wind was felt from the west making for a not so comfortable passage to the Isle of Wight. We arrived at our berth in Cowes at 2030hrs and after mooring we sat down to our evening meal, which was greatly enhanced by some fresh vegetables brought with us on the trip from Sgt Plampin's allotment.

Due to heavy winds no passage was possible on our second day, however, soon after breakfast the skipper and LSgt Hardy (Coldstream Guards Band and first mate) put a lesson plan together to teach some basic skills to the crew. This included: knowledge of sea terms, naming parts of the boat, navigation, rope work and passage planning. Our morale was kept high throughout the day by LSgt Burton's tea making skills, LSgt Altree's wife had made some chocolate brownies and Musn Smith and five year old son George had made some flapjacks and chocolate tiffin for the exercise.

On day 3, Wednesday, the crew all awoke early as they were desperate to get out and sail and by 0930hrs Gladeye had slipped Cowes. Weather warnings were still in place for the country however the immediate weather in the Solent was better than it had been on Tuesday. As a result Wednesday proved to be a crash course in sailing for the novices. The original plan was to head towards Yarmouth and then after lunch to Lymington, hoping to go through the needles on Thursday and sail on towards Weymouth. Within an hour of leaving Cowes the wind picked up and we sustained a small amount of minor damage to Gladeye. We turned about, sailing downwind to the shelter of Southampton Water, so that we could experience the wind without the rough seas. This proved useful for helping the guys with little or no experience to get to grips with sailing as the rougher seas were not conducive to this. We moored in the Hamble River at 1730hrs and the skipper called Shipwright in from Gosport to assess the damage sustained to Gladeye.



Members of the Grenadier Guards Band Sailing Crew 2011.

Having been given the all-clear, Thursday was to be a long day as the crew wanted to make the most of a break in the weather, having already lost Tuesday. We sailed into Southampton Water where the skipper gave us all the opportunity of helming and generally getting a feel for Gladeye. This was a fantastic experience for both LSgts Hardy and Spencer to guide the crew and, in essence, skipper the boat whilst knowing that LCpl Minns was at hand should we need him. We spent the whole morning practising then following lunch the crew competed in a race around three buoys set by LCpl Minns. After a very tough competition the final results read as follows:

Serial	Rank	Name	Time (Min + Sec)	Ranking
1	LCpl	Minns	18:38	7 th
2	LSgt	Spencer	17:48	6 th
3	LCpl	Henaghan	14:07	4 th
4	LSgt	Burton	16:28	5 th
5	LSgt	Altree	14:03	2 nd
6	LSgt	Hardy	DNF	NA
7	Sgt	Plampin	13:25	1 st
8	Musn	Smith	14:06	3 rd

On finishing the racing LSgt Spencer took Gladeye out of Southampton Water to the Bramble Bank, where Musn Smith then took over taking her all the way to Cowes, into the Medina river and on to the *Folly Inn* where we stopped for our exercise crew meal out.

On our final day Gladeye slipped *Folly Inn* at 1000hrs.

Friday was a beautiful sunny day with lighter breezes allowing for a fabulous morning's sailing and we arrived back in Gosport at 1230hrs. Gladeye was cleaned thoroughly and after a final debrief and Log Book signing the crew said its goodbyes to the skipper and headed back to London. All of the crew stated how much they had enjoyed sailing on Ex COCKNEY HM JOLLIES, and all were keen to sail again. We are hoping to organise Ex COCKNEY HM JOLLIES 2 in September 2012 on Gladeye, this time hopefully for two weeks.



A worried looking Musn Smith looks on as Sgt Plampin steers 'Gladeye'.

Infantry Training Centre

by Major Simon Gordon Lennox

As the seasons roll on, in the case of Catterick, to yet another arctic winter, so does No 14 Company at the Infantry Training Centre. It is with great sadness that we inform those readers not already aware of the death of LSgt Gartland, a memorable figure not only in the Regiment but also at the Infantry Training Centre, who died last Summer in a road traffic accident alongside Pte Austin of the Royal Logistics Corps whilst returning from providing medical support to Guards 18 Platoons' Live Fire Tactical Training.

A lot has changed in Catterick over the last few years, especially with regards to the approach taken to training and motivating recruits to get the best out of them. This is a by-product of not only efficiency, but because Battalions now required Guardsmen passing out to know more in the modern era. If I may, I would like to focus on a few key aspects of the change, whilst explaining what it is that make the Foot Guards Combat Infantryman's Course (CIC) unique to the others.

Firstly, a reminder of the bigger picture. The Guards Training Company sits in the 2nd Infantry Training Battalion (2ITB). The other Training Companies here in Helles Barracks with us are the Paras (with whom we have a particularly healthy working relationship), the Gurkhas, P-Company and the Gurkha Language Wing¹. We have ten Training teams (the most out of all the companies), and as with the other 2ITB Units we have our nuances that make our

course two weeks longer than the Line Regiments. Over the road in Vimy Barracks is the 1st Infantry Training Battalion (1ITB), where the Line Infantry Divisions are trained², as well as housing the Infantry Training Centre Support Battalion and Headquarters School of Infantry³.

On to the course itself. The end of 2011 saw the introduction of the new Combat Infantryman's Course (Extended). This is the product of months of planning, the main driver being that the previous course was starting to give way with the numerous additions thrown its way under Op Entirety. Whilst these additions were and still are necessary, there was very much a feeling of these elements having been simply 'bolted on', without the ability to give due provision to efficient course programming. The net result was as one could imagine: Platoon Staff working extremely hard just to ensure their Platoons could keep pace with the training programme, with multiple changing parades on a daily basis and frequent '2-Milers' just to get to the next lesson on time; the list goes on. Whilst this may be amusing at a reflective or anecdotal level, it was extremely tiresome for the staff and created unnecessary friction in an already high tempo programme.

So, the revamped version of the Combat Infantryman's Course has been extended by two weeks (resulting in a 26 week CIC for the Line, and a 28 week CIC for us) to incorporate tuition on the General Purpose Machine Gun (up to weapon

handling test only for the moment – watch this space), the increasing use of Helmet and Rifle Mounted Night Vision systems, Counter Improvised Explosive Device training, greater emphasis on equipment care, and



Lt Wellesley-Wood issues Orders to 18 Platoon on their final Exercise.



Grenadiers at the ITC – The Major General's Inspection.

Rear Rank: LSgt Monstad (ITC Spec Trg Wing), LSgt Bonsell, LSgt Fulton (ITC Med Centre), LSgt Laird, LSgt Hall, LSgt Rowe (2ITB Trg Sp Sect)

Middle Rank: Gdsm Bowyer (Coy HQ), LSgt Swift, LSgt Parker, LSgt Perry, Gdsm Muga (Coy HQ), LSgt Mann, LSgt Jones

Front Rank: WO1(RSM) Smith (AADW – Standing), Sgt Lloyd, Capt Kuku (ADC), Major Gordon Lennox, The Major General, WOII (CSM) Downes, Lt Wellesley-Wood, Sgt Roper, CSgt Burns (AADW – Standing)

Absent on Duty: Lt Brown, CSgt (CQMS) Gillies, LSgt Jones D, LCpl Swart



ITC Parade Square. Gds Trg Coy Practice for the Major General's Inspection with a 1TB Line Infantry Division in the Centre of the Square.

more progressive physical training to reduce injuries. As well as these extra parts, the extended course still incorporates all of the basics, however they are (supposedly) laid out in a more logical order, and are therefore easier to teach with more time between lessons. It retains the classics of room inspections, drill tests, bayonet fighting and exercises. Readers will be pleased to hear the infamous Tactical Exercise 3 (Digging down) stays for now. For us in Guards Company it remains two weeks longer to maintain our higher standard of drill⁴, and it also has two weeks of driver training at the end to fulfil the Infantry's requirement to man their own protected mobility. It shows no sign of encroaching on to the hallowed turf of Mission Specific Training, with subjects such as Electronic Counter Measures and operational specific tactics being left well alone to be taught once in Battalion. In short, we continue to train Recruits for '*a*' War, not '*the*' war. All credit though must go to the training teams and especially the Section Commanders who, as ever, go above and beyond the call of duty at the coal face to ensure the standard of recruit passing out remains high.



Moving to the Line of Departure during a Section Attack at Otterburn.

Although life is indeed busy, it is not all work, LSgt Bonsell has managed to take up fly fishing and LSgt Jones D has been able to get away Nordic Skiing. There have been entries in to the Para 10 competition, giving the Parachute Regiment a run for their money (the Ft Gds team was 'beaten' by the P-Coy Team by a whisker) and upcoming events like the Great Manchester run aim to raise money for charity and keep Guards Company in the spotlight. The Major General's visit incorporated a Three-Platoon

pass off that garnered praise from all following our own 'Silly Season' rehearsal period under the Company Sergeant Major. In addition, we are not immune to the trawls that persist throughout the Field Army, and so it is on occasion that we are able to send Instructors on short postings to Jordan and Saudi Arabia to train their troops.

The future at Guards Company looks bright with nine platoons currently undergoing training in early 2012. At the time of writing Sgts Roper and Lloyd are setting the tone, the former being put through his paces by WO1(RSM) Smith and CSgt Burns at the All Arms Drill Wing in Vimy Barracks, the latter having just started a Junior Entry course (13 weeks) of Recruits who have finished at the Army Foundation College In Harrogate. LSgts Mann and Perry start a Senior Entry Platoon at the end of January, following LSgt Jones (the not as tall) new Platoon with Lt Brown. LSgts Jones D (the taller) and Parker deploy on their final Exercise shortly, with LSgt Swift's Platoon having just returned. LSgt Laird's lot (under the leadership of Lt Wellesley Wood) are approaching the end of Phase 1 – as are those of LSgt Hall, and LCpl Swart has just arrived as a Barrack Room Instructor. Concurrent to this we have started to identify the fittest recruits as candidates for P-Company⁶ with a view to up-manning Guards Parachute Platoon, and we eagerly await upcoming events such as the pace sticking competition and importantly the return of the slightly warmer months they call a Catterick summer.

As the Battalion's deployment on Op HERRICK 16 fast approaches, the Guards Training Company Contingent wishes them good luck and God-speed. Although frustrating to see friends and colleagues deploy in to danger without us, it is left to us to ensure the future of the Regiment by providing, as has always been the case, fit, confident, smart and proud Guardsmen who can do the basics to an extremely high standard.

¹ 1TB also administers the Parachute Training Support Unit (PTSU), otherwise known to all as 'the Jumps course'. This sub-unit is permanently based at RAF Brize Norton.

² 1TB comprises the SCOTS, RIFLES, KINGS, QUEENS and PRINCE of WALES Divisions. Although all 1TB Divisions have their own Company headquarters, they will 'marry up' into a 'company' of three Platoons from different Divisions for the duration of the course, so a Training team will effectively be the servant of two masters: their own Divisional Coy HQ for routine G1 et al, as well as their Training Coy HQ for all matters arising from the course. All the Line Infantry courses are identical.

³ HQ 'SCHINF' commands the Infantry training Centre (ITC) in Catterick, the Infantry Battle School (IBS) in Brecon, and the Support Weapons School (SWS) in Warminster.

⁴ It is entirely appropriate that we view our extra 2-weeks as a result of our extra Drill. The Ft Gds CIC contains 134 Drill periods, which compares rather starkly with the Line Infantry's course which contains 67 Periods.

⁵ The Para CIC is three weeks longer than the conventional CIC to allow for P Company, and the Gurkhas have a completely different course set up to everyone, with two intakes a year following a rigorous selection and filtering process. Needless to say, their CIC pass rate sits at 99%.

⁶ At time of writing, five Gds have been accepted onto All Arms Pre Parachute Selection (AAPPS, aka P-Company), having gone direct from Passing out of the ITC to HDPCC in Pirbright for their 'Beat-Up' Course.

1st BATTALION

Battalion News

'Turning on a Sixpence'

The phrase 'exceptionally busy' has been frequently applied to the Battalion's activities in recent years, but is perhaps no longer appropriate. The frantic pace of life has become the norm and what was exceptional is now not only accepted but expected. 2011 has met expectations in this regard and great flexibility and foresight has been required to keep the ship on course. The dual requirement to meet public duties commitments in London District and to prepare the Battalion for its move to Aldershot proved as challenging as anticipated. This was complicated by the requirement for the battalion to meet its collective and individual training obligations before joining 12 (Mechanised) Brigade during a very busy exercise period. A complicated three way move was undertaken which saw the battalion replace the Welsh Guards in Aldershot whilst at the same time facilitating the establishment of the Central London Garrison in Wellington Barracks. Even as the move was underway, sub units were still training and using the ranges. The arms plot move was nonetheless completed in good order and the battalion immediately re-focussed on the next challenge, which was to prepare for a series of exercises in Canada throughout the summer. On arrival in Aldershot WO1 (RSM) Ian Farrell was succeeded as the Sgt Major by WO1 (RSM) Glenn Snazle.

12 (Mechanised) Brigade is the largest brigade in the Army, consisting of no fewer than eight Battle Groups in a mix of armoured, mechanised and light role units. The Brigade training plan for the armoured and mechanised elements saw consecutive exercises planned for the Canadian Praire at the British Army Training Unit Suffield (BATUS), in Alberta. Grenadier (Light Role) rifle companies were to be attached to Battle Groups (BG) of the Brigade for consecutive exercises and a final concluding exercise would see the 1st Battalion BG exercised with all of its armoured and mechanised attached elements. A detailed recce was conducted in Canada and preparations moved on, ready for the first company deployment immediately after Easter leave. As the brigade advance party deployed to a still snow bound Alberta, it became obvious that the plan was not going to work. The weather remained too bad on the prairie for an armoured exercise and the Brigade Commander ordered a rethink. Frenzied planning and staff work eventually resulted in a decision to cancel the third BG exercise, which meant that there would now be no opportunity for the battalion

to exercise its own HQ in a combined arms environment with all of its troops and assets under command. Worse still the rifle companies now had to re-subordinate to other Battle Groups and deploy to differing (and shorter) time lines. The battalion headquarters, elements of Support Company and a small echelon was now required to provide the HQ and administrative support for the Contemporary Operating Environment Force (COEFOR), effectively the enemy forces, for the entire duration of the brigade exercise season (9 weeks). Together with the Queen's and No 2 Companies (who were now attached to the 3 YORKS Battle Group) they were to deploy with a little over three weeks notice. To make matters worse the exercise was still classed as 'winter' requiring the issue of cold weather equipment and the Battalion was about to depart on two weeks Easter leave. In spite of the very short notice and complete reorganisation of the Battalion, both the COEFOR and detached rifle Companies got away in good order, with no sign of panic and with all of their required equipment. That such a complete re-focus could be achieved with relative ease is perhaps a sign of the times and testament to the levels of operational experience in the Battalion.

April saw the Battalion HQ, the Recce Platoon and the Grenadier COEFOR elements on the prairie in pitched battle with the Warriors, tanks and attached Grenadiers from the Queen's and No 2 Companies. At home the Inkerman Company used the time to conduct some intensive training for their own forthcoming exercises and the rear party prepared to support Grenadier day in Aldershot. The Commanding officer and the COEFOR HQ gave the 3 YORKS BG a testing time on a series of closely controlled scenarios which also allowed the rifle companies to practice their skills. Both conventional warfare and counter insurgency tactics were tested during the exercise with all elements of the Battalion acquitting themselves well. The complexities of trying to integrate light role soldiers into an armoured BG caused some frustration, but the endeavour was worthwhile in terms of its training value. At the end of the exercise a good number of men were able to take time out for some adventure training in the Rockies before returning to the UK. Lieutenant Colonel Roly Walker and a couple of key players flew back for a few days in the UK to check on the remainder of the Battalion before returning to Canada for the second round of BG exercises, this time with the Kings Royal Hussars (KRH) BG. The Inkerman Company now integrated into the KRH followed in the footsteps of the other two companies and were again given a royal run around by the now experienced COEFOR. The

climate in Canada can be extreme and the cold, rain and mud encountered by the Queens and Two Companies in the early spring, had now turned to severe heat and dust of summer. For dismounted infantrymen running around in such conditions, life is very challenging and a number of men succumbed to heat exhaustion. The realism of the training was brought home when LSgt Smith of the Queen's Company was shot during a live firing incident. He had been acting as a safety supervisor and was tragically severely wounded. The Canadian exercises were nonetheless satisfactorily concluded and in late July the battalion was reunited in Aldershot for the first time since Easter. Lieutenant Colonel Roly Walker DSO, having completed a very busy, eventful and successful period in command handed over the Battalion to Lieutenant Colonel James Bowder MBE.

The focus once again changed and after a period of well earned summer leave the Battalion turned its attention solely to Afghanistan and Mission Specific Training (MST). Much of the Battalion having been deployed to Canada since arriving in Lille Barracks, there was a huge amount to do. This was further complicated when it was announced that the role previously given to the Battalion was to change. The Battalion would now deploy as a complete battlegroup and would take over a challenging area of operations in central Helmand. The Brigade Commander informed the officers and seniors that he had selected the Grenadiers because they were experienced and had shown such flexibility and adaptability during the exercise period. This announcement once again led to a reorganisation of the Battalion and much uncertainty

was created by the inevitable lack of available information about the task. Another sharp turn and reorganisation was successfully completed and concentration now returned to preparation for deployment. There was a frantic period of individual and collective training, interspersed with mandatory courses in everything from driving, specialised medical training, and weapon handling to cultural awareness and language training. BG HQ was tested at the Combined Arms Staff Trainer and at the Combined Arms Tactical Trainer before more exercises in Norfolk. The Battalion, having ticked all of the required training boxes, returned to Aldershot in early December and managed to squeeze in the traditional Christmas social events before retiring, exhausted on to a well earned period of leave.

Early in January the Company Commanders departed on their own reconnaissance to Afghanistan and were followed in the middle of the month by the Commanding Officer, his Tac Group, the Quartermaster and a skeleton echelon who deployed to start a nine month tour. Unusually, the bulk of the BG HQ will be deployed in theatre for two months before the main party. The Senior Major was left holding the fort in Aldershot as the companies carried out their final deployment training and preparation. At the time of writing the main party is deploying to Afghanistan, where the companies will be widely dispersed albeit under Grenadier Command. The summer of 2012 looks to be a challenging one as full transition moves ever closer. This year the Battalion has shown that it is operationally experienced, capable and flexible; these are all qualities that will be required in abundance over the coming months.

The Queen's Company

by 2Lt Alexander Budge

On arrival with the Battalion as one of the five new platoon commanders, I think we all felt as though we had jumped in the deep end. We congregated in the Mess on Sunday evening to prepare ourselves hurriedly for the first inspection by the Adjutant the next morning. Needless to say it went reasonably smoothly but the information about The Queen's Company's advanced parties' deployment to Canada the following Sunday, of which I was to be a part, was a bit of shock.

The week before our flight had been very busy – meeting the personalities of the Regiment and coping with last minute admin. Sunday soon arrived and the bus whistled its way to Brize Norton. After a flight to Calgary and bus journey east, with the Rocky Mountains looming to our rear, the prairie landscape opened up before us. Treeless and seemingly devoid of life the endless expanse of open grassland brought images of

John Wayne and Clint Eastwood movies to mind, for this was most definitely cowboy country.

Crowfoot Camp was basic but functional, and was to be The Company's home for the next month, even though the time we would spend there was minimal. Vehicles were the main priority as the Company was to be attached to an Armoured Battlegroup and our ability to manoeuvre at speed was paramount. Once all parties were present and the vehicles finally ready to go, we moved off as a packet to Komati, a small detached training area to the east of the South Saskatchewan River.

Under the direction of Callsign 3 we carried out the live firing ranges, building up from individual fire and movement to company level. During the first evening in Komati there came a moment that I believe most platoon commanders must feel at some point – the realization that we were no longer in training, but finally doing the job we joined to do, after 15 months in the 'factory'. Looking down on the company laager with the sun descending to west and the river peacefully meandering past there was a feeling of relief but also of impending



The Queen's Company laager at Komati.

responsibility and duty, as the guardsmen administrating themselves in the laager below would more than likely be the guardsmen we would lead on operations in Afghanistan the following spring. On completion of the company ranges in Komati, the Company moved to join the rest of the 3 YORKS Battlegroup on the main training area.



The Company Sergeant Major briefs The Queen's Company on the first day.

After a well needed maintenance day, more company ranges and a FOB stage were conducted. This included the increased complexity of integrating armour, a concept very new to most of the company, and working within a civilian population. The highlight from the guardsmen's point of view was the new 360° kill houses that gave them a unique training opportunity, as it is only found in only one other training establishment in the British Army.

Finally the TES phase was upon us, in essence a more updated version 'Laser Quest'. With all relevant attachments fitted and now working as a complete Battlegroup we started exercise Prairie Storm, the culminating all arms fight against the aggressors, the Northern Democratic Federation and the insurgency of the Berian Islamic Army. The tempo of operations was high and the understandable difficulties of integrating a light role infantry company with armour, without the use

of air assets, was prevalent. Nonetheless The Queen's Company led from the front when it was possible and performed admirably in all aspects. One of the most enjoyable moments being The Company leading the assault on the replica Afghan town of Hettar, in the driving rain!

I must add at this point that throughout the exercise the weather played its own part. The prairie has a very unique characteristic, not unlikely our own beloved Sennybridge.

This was its own unique micro-climate and in the rain the prairie would turn into a boggy mire and thwart the plans of both wheeled and tracked vehicles. The return to camp after the final attack was just one of those days, and the progress was slow and hazardous but reaching the tarmac for all was a great lift to morale, especially for the guardsmen who had spent the best part of 20 days in the back of the TCVs. Once rested, the Company personnel dispersed, some on adventure training in the Rockies, other to Calgary for a bit of blow out. On their return the majority of the Company joined Coefor, which played the enemy for the KHR Battlegroup. A few of the Sergeants and I returned as safety staff on Exercise Prairie Thunder 3. Sadly, this is when an incident occurred with LSgt Smith. All our thoughts are with him and his family over this difficult time. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

There is no question that the exercise has left lasting lessons with the Company. In particular, the new concept of working with armour and understanding how it can be used to produce the desired effect on the ground. Prairie Thunder 2 marked the start of training for Afghanistan, and with Mission Specific and Pre-deployment training starting after summer leave, we look to be in for a busy and exciting few months.



Company seniors.

No 2 Company

The crump of mortars being fired, somewhere south of Patrol Base Shingle, is heard and a shout of 'IDF' streams from guardsman to guardsman through the remote, multiple strength check-point. All of the sandbagged position's 15 occupants take what cover they can as the sound of mortar rounds crashing around them fills the air. Dust blows in through the loop holes in the patrol base's walls, and a thick pall of smoke falls over the small ISAF force, disorienting and choking them. After a short 'soak period' Gdsm Sylva gingerly stands up in his sangar and checks his arcs, only to be confronted by a complex Taliban attack from multiple firing points. This, however, is not Afghanistan, but the Platoon House Defence shoot on Lydd ranges, Kent, where No 2 Company were live firing, and honing their skills in September, a vital part of their pre-deployment training.



LCpl Hollis with insurgents and locals.

The Company's highly successful time in Canada provided an excellent start point from which to launch into training specific to the challenges of Helmand province in 2012. Plenty of time on the ranges combined with a more Afghanistan-oriented approach towards physical training has resulted in a highly effective and engaging training program. The constant round of exercises has provided Company Headquarters with plenty of planning, and the platoons busy developing and practising their Standard Operating Procedures and, vitally, learning to combat the ever present IED threat. All of this work culminated with a testing exercise at the end of October on Longmoor Training Area, where the

Company lived in the new Forward Operating Base facility, and the Spartan conditions of the training areas 'rustic' patrol base. Ambushes, attacks and strike ops were all seamlessly interspersed with Local National 'Shura' and cultural serials, reflecting the complex and ever changing situations that guardsmen will face in Helmand Province next year.



Jonny – Sunrise in Canada.

No 2 Company at BATUS

by 2Lt John Hathaway-White



2Lt Hathaway-White.

A bolstered No 2 Company arrived in an exceptionally hot Camp Crowfoot, the transit accommodation 'tin-city' for exercising Battle Groups training at BATUS, to throw itself into Exercise PRAIRIE THUNDER 3. The Pay Sergeant had deployed some days ahead of the main body with his advanced party, and had done an exceptional job of managing and organising the freight, which meant that on arrival there was little administration to be done, allowing the Company to go to the Crowfoot Café and pour countless thousands of dollars into the Canadian economy through the mass purchase of gallons of Ice Slush drinks!

The Company had five days before deploying onto the prairie, which stretched into the endless distance from the back gate of camp and loomed ominously throughout the Company's build-up training. A series of Afghan compounds was constructed out of fork-lift pallets for the

Company to hone its clearance drills in, and due to the high armour threat posed by the enemy, anti-tank drills were practised until perfect. The main effort for these first few days, however, was on working out how to skin-the-cat that was BULLDOG. Bulldog is an AFV, with which No 2 Company was totally unfamiliar. So, it was on D-Day that Light Role Grenadier Guardsmen, working in Armoured Fighting Vehicles, driven by 3rd Battalion the Yorkshire Regiment personnel, as an armoured Protective Mobility Company (for which no doctrine yet existed) under the command of the Kings Royal Hussars rolled onto the prairie!



Bulldogs moving into Hettar.

The first phase of the exercise was live firing, building from Section, through Platoon and Company level, to Battle Group. The pace was relentless, with BATUS Observer/Mentors issuing full and frank After Action Reviews, allowing training to focus on areas for improvement. When not charging through another set of bunkers, the company spent time practising fighting from our new armoured chargers; the Bulldog. Time for this, however, was limited due to the vast numbers of man-hours spent fighting fires on the tinder-like prairie, which seemed to erupt in flame at the merest hint of a tracer round.

The Company moved into a Forward Operating Base (FOB), along with the Inkerman Company, for a three day period of framework patrolling and FOB defence. The FOB was called FOB SOMME, which may have been a portent of things to come for no sooner had we arrived than the heavens opened and we were up to our ankles in mud. The rain persisted for the duration of our time there, lifting just in time for us to fight our way out and take part in a final Battle Group level advance to contact across the prairie. As a final fling on the live firing phase the entire Battle Group fought its way across two notional rivers, negotiating the curiously complex art of the Armoured Battle Group obstacle crossing along the way.

When all was done fighting conventional operations in the live firing phase, No 2 Company moved on to the



Sgt Swan patrolling through Hettar.

TES phase to combat the Queen's Company and Light Dragoons, where lasers and sensors decide on victory. The Battle Group deployed to a troubled province dominated by two large towns and a number of villages, all authentically recreated through the means of cunningly painted iso-containers, in order to counter the insurgency there. The district was populated by genuine Pashto speaking civilians and we were provided with

a Local National Army and Police force, who were briefed to be uncooperative and incompetent, a role that the Queen's Company were very comfortable with!

Again, operations were carried out at all levels, Platoon to Battle Group, with the TES vests registering who the casualties were, allowing Platoons to sink or swim by their own skills and drills. The Company Commander was able to see the whole No 2 Company war machine working in every echelon on several occasions. He did this through his commitment to ensuring that the CASEVAC chain was sound, a process that he personally experienced on several occasions. The frequency of Major Sargent's presence in the CASEVAC chain must surely be attributed to a faulty TES vest... surely.



OC No 2 Company asking for directions.

Suffice it to say that order in this province was restored, and the insurgency stamped out in double quick time, the finale being a Battle Group attack onto the final enemy stronghold where 4 Platoon won laurels for the destruction of the enemy's

Generalissimo (The Commanding Officer) and his number two (The Sgt Major)!

No sooner had ENDEX been called, then wacky-races (the gallop back to Camp Crowfoot) began. Company Groups thundered across the prairie back to the tank park where a 24 hour cookhouse and days of cleaning and administration awaited them. No-one slept until every nut, bolt and track was sparkling and ready to hand over to the next Battle Group. Despite the deep exhaustion brought on by three weeks of solid exercising the Company still found the energy to visit the hot-spots of Medicine Hat, the local town, before going our separate ways onto Adventurous Training, flights home or out into the wilds of North America.

In summary, the Company dodged Rattlesnakes, Challenger Tanks, Bulldog AFVs and TES lasers for three weeks, and in so doing gave an outstanding account of itself. Having arrived well prepared for BATUS, the company still continued to develop and grow throughout the exercise and came away with an excellent launch-pad from which to start Mission Specific Training for Op HERRICK 16.

Adventure Training

Prairie Thunder 3 provided the perfect launch pad for the men of No 2 Company to conduct some post exercise adventure training. The Company was able to provide adventure training spots for almost thirty Guardsmen, on activities ranging from climbing glaciers to freefall.

As the coaches made their way from BATUS towards Trails End, the closed eyes and occasional snore indicated that the exercise had been a demanding one for most of the boys. It perhaps also indicated that the endlessly straight roads, and somewhat featureless countryside did not provide the most thrilling of journeys. That changed the moment we closed on Trails End Camp; the bendy road leading up to the camp shook the Guardsmen awake, and they began a week of challenging and enjoyable activities.

Adventure training forms a very important and often overlooked part of personal development; it challenges the participant's core values and develops their ability to work within a team. Furthermore it can aid in finding a *raison d'être* for many of the young guardsmen, who will find subsequent lifelong fulfilment from following up an interest developed on adventure training. Adventure training is significant in allowing men and women to reach their full potential, and as a result the Army can only profit.

Sky diving was perhaps the most flashy of the activities available, however it proved an amazing experience for the guardsmen of No 2 Company. It was



Cpl Moffat pre skydive.

great to see the courage of the young guardsman as he climbed onto the plane, and even better to see his face as he was about to let go of the wing. Seven jumps later and the likes of LCpl Moffatt, Gdsm Hawkins and Gdsm Marshall were positively buzzing as they lined up for their next jump.

Meanwhile the likes of Guardsman Sargeant was indulging in a week of water sports, with kayaking being the primary activity. This particular activity challenged the guardsman in both aspects of teamwork, and being calm under pressure as well as developing confidence in the water. Concurrent to

this Capt Da Gama led a hardened crew of guardsmen from No 2 Company across the Glacial Sheet not far from Trails End, and Gdsm Jenyo launched with enthusiasm on a week's trekking with ponies.

The adventure training experience in Canada was for many, with the current hectic operational climate, the first adventure training they had conducted since leaving Catterick. It was superb.



Comrades Walker and Snazle add a different flavour to playing the enemy.



The Inkerman Company.

The Inkerman Company

by 2Lt Hamish Hardy

July saw The Inkerman Company engaged on Prairie Thunder III during the fantastically pleasant Canadian summer. There was some good training value gained as the Company was operating with The Kings Royal Hussars Battle Group as the light role attachment. The exercise was comprised of a progressive live firing package culminating with ranges alongside Challenger 2 main battle tanks. This training was then reinforced in the TES phase whereby members of the Queens Company acted as our enemy, and allowed us to focus on our bread and butter whilst incorporating a Middle-Eastern scenario with a number of Afghans playing local civilians.

The end of July saw the return of the majority of the Company to Aldershot. With just two weeks to the start of leave, we eventually recovered all personnel and equipment from Canada, and administration was at the fore of our activities. It was during this period that the Company said their farewells to Major Jim Green and Capt Nigel Torp-Petersen and welcomed Major Dom Alkin as the new Company Commander, and Lt Tom Hendriksen stepping up from 10 Platoon Commander to Second in Command. A well earned summer leave took the members of The Inkerman Company to many a distant shore, making the most of the time given.

All were back to work in September and with the new 'term' came the arrival of some new faces. 2Lt Hamish

Hardy assumed command of 10 platoon and a week later the company was joined by a multiple from the Irish Guards, commanded by 2Lt Freddie Simpson.

The All Ranks Briefing, followed by the Tactical Commander's Cadre, regained our focus post leave, before we headed to the ranges for our annual weapon tests allowing us to progress onto the more complex shoots at Lydd and Hythe during a week long range package. The package was rounded off with Sgt Walton running a simulation range where the Company Second in Command showed a worrying knack for the 'shoot and scoot' technique as he acted as the insurgent, assisted by a brace of equally eager Guardsmen! The Company performed very well on these diverse and challenging ranges, and it was excellent to have the Fire Support Group and the Irish Guards properly integrated by the end of it.

From Kent, the Company then moved into the cascade training period, with those who had been away on various courses passing their knowledge on to the rest of the Company. Whilst this was occurring the Command group was called away to complete CAST and CATT in Warminster. The Company Headquarters received some valuable training time, and with a fully functioning Afghan operations room, it meant all involved in the Company environment were able to gain greatly from the experience. We are currently looking forward to the rest of the mission specific training and the pre-deployment exercises over the coming months and into the New Year.



by Major James Fox

2011 has been a typically varied and busy year for Nijmegen Company. Most importantly the Company has moved from Napier Lines, Woolwich, back to Wellington Barracks. With the Company's arrival back in Central London came the slow realisation of how unsatisfactory our previous arrangement had been! Now the ease of mounting duties were a stark contrast to the early morning roll calls followed by a slow coach ride across London to make the Queen's Guard rehearsal.

In removing the Battalion from Wellington Barracks an institution known as London Central Garrison (LCG) was created in replacement. LCG's composition broadly follows a scaled down Battalion Headquarters with the majority of its supporting elements such as a Quartermaster's Department, MT Platoon and Admin Office. The LCG now run and manage the real estate as well as providing many other supporting functions for the three Incremental Companies and all five bands who make up the majority of the inhabitants of LCG. With Lieutenant Colonel Tim Jalland (Grenadier Guards) as Garrison Commander and Capt Howard Cordle (Grenadier Guards) as Adjutant the Garrison Headquarters are distinctly Grenadier in its composition, which always helps!

In late February 2011 almost the entire Company departed through Heathrow Terminal 5 for a week in Kuwait. The Company was tasked with representing the British Army in the 20/50 Celebrations (20 years since the Gulf War and 50 years of Kuwaiti independence).

Given the Grenadiers' involvement in the war this was a fitting task for the Company. The focus for the week was a large scale parade involving a large portion of the Kuwaiti Armed forces as well as detachments from the

US Army, French Foreign Legion and of course the British Army. Throughout the week there were many smaller engagements, this included a small Guard of Honour for the Prime Minister when he visited the Emir of Kuwait at his royal palace. Given the expression on the Prime Minister's face, I do not think he expected to be received by a brace of smart Grenadiers as he arrived.

On 28th April the Company was delighted to find Numbers One to Four Half Company of street liners for the Royal Wedding. With the service proceedings being relayed over the Royal Parks trough an extensive speaker

network the atmosphere was magical. Despite the officers' words of command having to compete with the crowds and booming speakers, the Company performed their duties immaculately and all were proud to have taken part.

No sooner had the tunics been hung up from the Royal Wedding then the Company were preparing for an early Monday morning departure for the 'Three Peaks Challenge'. This was an ambitious plan where the entire Company were to climb the three highest peaks in the UK within 24 hours (Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike and Snowdon). This was a considerable challenge given the number of soldiers involved. With only a few individuals retiring, the Company reached the summit of Snowdon just prior to the 24 hour mark. This was a hugely rewarding and challenging exercise which was a welcome break from London and Public Duties.

After the Three Peaks Challenge focus was once again turned to all things ceremonial as preparations for the Queen's Birthday Parade began in earnest.

This year the Company found Number Four Guard while the 1st Battalion Scots Guards Trooped their Colour. After the Queen's Birthday Parade, attention was quickly diverted to the impending bike ride from Land's



The Three Peaks Challenge – Scafell Pike Summit at 0700 on 3 May 11, L-R Gdsm Bowers, Gdsm Whittle, Gdsm Carr. Front Gdsm Ogden.



The Company make their final snowy steps up the summit of Ben Nevis in the low afternoon sun on 2nd May 2011.

End to John O'Groats. On the morning of the 26 June 2011 a team of thirteen cyclists departed from Land's End. With overnight stops planned in a mixture of private houses, campsites and Territorial Army Barracks, the trip was completed in the allotted eleven days. With a total of 77 hours cycling and 896 miles covered the team raised just over £12,000 for the Colonel's Fund. According to those that took part it took a good few weeks before any of them wanted to see another bicycle let alone ride one!



At the Start of The Land's End – John O'Groats Cycle Ride!



At the Finish! Team at John O'Groats 11 days later.

The year would not be complete without a good company level exercise. This year we took the Company to Sennybridge, Wales. The reputation of Sennybridge held up and did not disappoint; the company was greeted with lashing rain and a thick hanging mist. After an initial four days of training the 'exercise proper' started. This coincided with a turn in the weather and the platoons were soaked through within an hour of departing. Over the following five days the platoons were well tested over several phases of operations,

ending with a fantastically choreographed Company attack. It was a rewarding and challenging exercise which saw the Company tested at all levels in extremely challenging conditions.

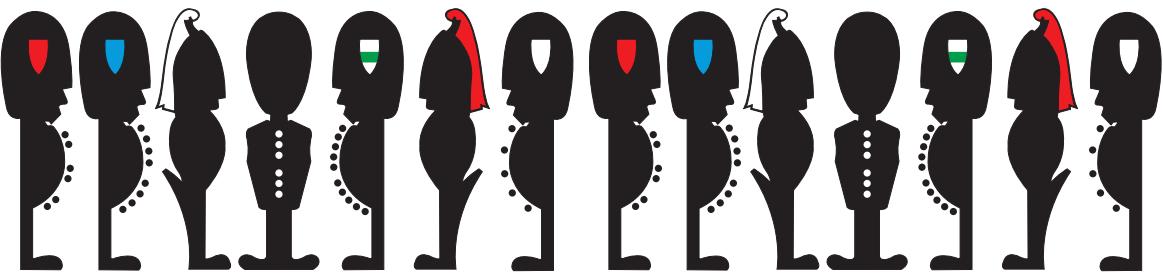
The Company has had many and numerous successes on the sporting front this year. The highlight was the incremental company boxing which saw No 7 Company, Coldstream Guards pushed out in the preliminary stages and as a result the LCG boxing night saw only F Company, Scots Guards and Nijmegen Company fighting for the title. After a spectacular final fought in the heavyweight category Gdsm Froggert defeated his opponent and ensured Nijmegen Company walked away as the overall winners after many courageous performances from all fighters.



Inter-Increment Company Boxing Champions, Wellington Barracks.

In January 2012 the Company will send 20 individuals along with members of the other incremental companies to Val d'Isere, France for a week of alpine skiing. With help from the Household Division and Regimental Headquarters we are able to get our young Guardsmen away to learn to ski and sample life in an alpine resort. All this is achieved at a very low cost for what will be a memorable experience for them.

As ever the Company is kept youthful and vibrant through a steady flow of guardsmen from basic training. This is met with a regular turnaround of officers and Non-commissioned Officers. In July Major James Fox took over command of the company. WO2 (CSM) Bearder remains the Company Sgt Major. Newly promoted after a spell as Platoon Commander with the 1st Battalion Irish Guards in Afghanistan, Capt Christopher Stevenson has taken post as Company Second in Command. The Company has also recently received CSgt Summerscales as the Company Quartermaster Sargent from the Operational Training Advisory Group where he was an instructor. The Company has said farewell to Major King-Evans who goes to Support Company Command and CSgt Byrne who has been promoted to WO2 and has taken over as Company Sgt Major Inkerman Company, both in The 1st Battalion.



Horse Guards News

Her Majesty The Queen appointed Major General George Norton, Grenadier Guards, as the successor to Major General Sir William Cubitt as the Major General Commanding the Household Division on 8th July 2011. Interestingly, General Cubitt served in the post for just over four years which made him the longest serving Major General Commanding the Household Division ever, though Major General Trotter (Grenadier Guards) completed four and a half years in command of the 'Brigade of Guards' in 1902.

Operations and Deployment

2011 has seen a large number of Divisional troops return from Afghanistan whilst a significant number gear up to go again. D Squadron Household Cavalry Regiment and 1st Battalion Irish Guards deployed in the autumn 2010 and returned home in April. Additionally, the Guards Parachute Platoon was deployed with 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment. Now, for the first significant period since 2007, there are no Household Division regiments deployed on operations overseas until 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards and 1st Battalion Welsh Guards deploy in Spring 2012. Also preparing for operations this year is 1st Battalion Scots Guards who will deploy on HERRICK 17.

The Major General has been able to report very favourably on the performance of those regiments on operations. Sadly, there has been a human cost: since June 2010, five members of the Household Division have been killed in action and 44 wounded. It is telling to note that the last Major General's tenure saw all of the Divisional regiments being deployed on operations twice during a four year period. They have shown great professionalism and valour but sadly the Division has suffered a total of 42 dead and 237 wounded. No one can suggest that the Household Division has not played a full part in the Army's main effort. Once again, the Regimental Headquarters, rear parties and families have played a key part in supporting operations, showing great resilience and spirit.

The Army's arrangements for handling casualties and their aftercare are now greatly improved. It is

inevitable that some of the wounded will no longer be able to serve in the Army but there is confidence that the process whereby they leave will be collaborative with them and will prepare them for civilian life. The spirit of the wounded is an example to all.

State Ceremonial

2011 saw 1st Battalion Scots Guards troop its Colour. This is significant as it is normally based in Catterick and there was a risk that it could become isolated from its ceremonial role. Another very special addition to the programme this year was the wedding of Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. This involved some 1500 troops, mostly from the Household Division, and 170 horses. It was a great honour and a pleasure for all ranks to be involved, and it went extremely well. With 2 billion people watching worldwide, 24 million of whom were in the UK, and with universal applause, it was also a very timely demonstration of the value of State Ceremonial to the nation.

Looking ahead, it is clear that the Diamond Jubilee and Olympic year will involve further ceremonial occasions. It is planned that 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards will troop its Colour on The Queen's Birthday Parade.

Manning

The Household Division as a whole is 95% manned, though there are differences between regiments. This is less than last year and is a result of the reduction in the Army's intake imposed in order to keep the Army within its manpower ceiling. Nevertheless, it is a reasonably healthy situation. Fatigue from operations, an upturn in the economy or a perception of reducing prospects in the Army could lead to manning difficulties in the future but, for now, recruiting and retention are holding up.

Representation

The Division had three Lieutenant Generals in 2011: Lieutenant General Sir William Rollo (Deputy

Septem Juncta in Uno

Chief of Defence Staff Personnel), Lieutenant General Sir Barney White-Spunner (Commander Field Army until retirement in late 2011) and Lieutenant General James Bucknall (Deputy Commander of the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan). It also has two Major Generals and eight Brigadiers. The Household Division provides 39 members of staff at Sandhurst which represents a highly valued contribution by the Division to officer training, as well having eight officers and 20 other ranks in The Special Air Service and Special Reconnaissance Regiment.

Basing

2011 has seen the finalisation of the plan to gather those who do the most dismounted ceremonial (these three companies and the five Foot Guards bands) in Wellington Barracks which is the most central barracks. This plan involved retaining and improving the barracks in Hounslow, moving the Battalion out of Wellington Barracks to make way for the independent companies, and establishing a so-called 'Guards Corridor' of married quarters across West London, Windsor and Aldershot that would enable families to remain in one place while the battalions moved in and out of London. Soldier accommodation in Hounslow has been largely rebuilt to the most modern standard, with one listed Victorian block still to be modernised. The Hounslow quarters are also being significantly refurbished. 1st Battalion Welsh Guards moved into the barracks in March 2011. Wellington Barracks houses the three independent companies, the five Foot Guards bands, the five Foot Guards Regimental Headquarters, the Messes, the Guards Chapel, the Guards Museum and a selection of minor units. It is the dismounted ceremonial mounting base. Additionally, The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery will deploy through the barracks for duties from when it has moved to Woolwich (December 2011); bespoke temporary stabling has been produced for this.

The absence of a battalion command and support structure in Wellington Barracks has necessitated the creation of a new organisation, known as London Central Garrison. This is commanded by a Foot Guards Lieutenant Colonel (Currently Lieutenant Colonel Tim Jalland, GREN GDS). The barracks had an excellent run-out of its capability as a mounting centre for the Royal Wedding. Thus the Foot Guards battalions currently in London District are 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards in Windsor and 1st Battalion Welsh Guards in Cavalry Barracks,

Hounslow. 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards and 1st Battalion Irish Guards are in Aldershot. The Guards Parachute Platoon remains in 3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment in Colchester. The London Regiment has continued to provide the bulk of the London Territorial Army infantry for operations. In 2012, it will be the focus for the mobilisation and deployment of the entire Territorial Army infantry contingent for one of the Afghanistan deployments, thus contributing strongly to operations.

The Bands

All Household Division bands remain extremely busy and working out of poor facilities. We have been able to give the Foot Guards bands more space in Wellington Barracks but it does not make up for the lack of a new complex that was cancelled two years ago. The quality of the musicians and the bands remains very high but recruiting and retention are both problematic when the package involves such an intensive programme and poor facilities. The situation is not helped by impending further cuts to the Army's musical manpower which means the Major General has had, once again, to argue for the retention of sufficient posts for the State Ceremonial duties. There does however seem to be recognition of the importance and requirements of the State Bands so there is reasonable confidence of a favourable outcome. The 2011 Trooping saw around 180 musicians in the Foot Guards bands on parade plus the Pipes and Drums of the Scots Guards, members of the Pipes and Drums of the Irish Guards, and the Corps of Drums of the Coldstream and Welsh Guards, making a total of some 240 musicians.

The Future

Despite worsening financial pressures the Division has so far fared well. Unfortunately however, the Army has determined that the post of Commander Household Cavalry will be cut after the current incumbent – Colonel Stuart Cowen – which means the adoption of a slightly different arrangement for overall command of the Household Cavalry and the position of Silver Stick.

It is obvious to most that Nijmegen Company Grenadier Guards, 7 Company Coldstream Guards and F Company Scots Guards will be considered for disbandment as part of the Army's reduction in size by 7000. However, it is pointless to speculate further on the outcome of the review by General Carter on how the Army will be reduced.

The Canadian Grenadier Guards

by Lieutenant Colonel Michael Canavan

The Canadian Grenadier Guards, a primary reserve unit, located in Montreal, Canada, continue as they have done for the last 100 years this April, to uphold Guard customs and traditions. On 15th of April 1912, the designation 'Prince of Wales Fusiliers' was changed to the '1st Regiment The Grenadier Guards of Canada', an anniversary the Canadian Grenadier Guards is looking forward to celebrating this year. Since 1912, members of the Canadian Grenadier Guards have continually demonstrated the degree of loyalty, duty, professionalism and pride in oneself and Regiment expected of a Grenadier; 2011 was no exception.



His Excellency, The Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, receives military honours as the Ceremonial Guard and The Canadian Grenadier Guards marches past in Ottawa, Friday, July 1. Photo by Sgt Serge Gouin.

Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada, and thousands of Canadians and visitors attended the Canada Day Noon Show on Parliament Hill. The Ceremonial Guard is a composite Canadian Forces Unit. On Parade this day are the Canadian Grenadier Guards from Montreal, Quebec.

In the spirit of keeping regimental ties with our Sister Regiment in England, the Canadian Grenadier Guards had the pleasure of hosting the Commanding Officer Grenadier Guards Lieutenant Colonel Roly Walker and the Regimental Sgt Major Ian Farrell during the annual Regimental Ball in March. Their insight as to what a guardsman was, and the sharing of their experience was greatly appreciated by all, and most certainly resonates to this day with the officers, non-commissioned officers, and to a very high degree the guardsmen. The notion

that 'You're twice the man in the Guards' clearly defines what is expected of our members, not only striving to perfect their skills in the field and drill on the parade square, but in all aspects of life. This is especially daunting for members of the CGG who also must strive for perfection in their civilian careers. We look forward to future training opportunities and experiences on both sides of the Atlantic. These experiences without a doubt help to enrich and maintain a Grenadier standard amongst our members.

In line with the above, the Canadian Grenadier Guards continue to provide soldiers to Ceremonial Guard in Ottawa for public duties every summer. Our Colours are marched in the streets of Ottawa, Canada's Capital, with bayonets fixed underlining these traditions. As shown in this recent photo, on July 1st 2011, we celebrated Canada's birthday where we had the honour to march past our Colonel, His Excellency, The Right

Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, in the presence of Their Royal Highnesses, The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, and the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada.

The Canadian Grenadier Guards also provided emergency support during a domestic operation in St-Jean-Sur Richelieu, just outside of Montreal, aiding local residents deal with a major flood that destroyed many dwellings and displaced the local population. Dykes were rebuilt and repaired, sandbags were placed around residences and food and water was made available where necessary.

One of the most important highlights of this past year was our welcoming back to Home Station the remaining guardsmen who had volunteered to support the Regular Force as individual augmentees in Kandahar, Afghanistan. The experience gained by our reserve soldiers during the time Canada conducted its mission in Afghanistan is irreplaceable, and has visibly added to the wealth of knowledge inherent in the Regiment. The participation in Kandahar of our members and the vigour in which they were supported by those who

remained behind are testament to the dedication, loyalty and sense of duty members of the Canadian Grenadier Guards portray on a daily basis. This was noted in particular, by the various units our soldiers served under, whether in the battle group or in headquarter positions, our members showed the same Grenadier spirit we would expect of them while serving. It is also important to note that our members, who remained at home, especially those in the junior ranks, supported our men and women overseas with zeal, enthusiasm and with

pride. Although Kandahar was not the first mission the Canadian Grenadier Guards has sent our part-time soldiers to, and it certainly will not be the last, as evident with the current mission Canada has undertaken in Kabul. Many lessons have been learned with regards to the reintegration of our reserve soldiers upon their return, outside a base context, in a large metropolitan region such as Montreal. Many troops have returned home and found it difficult to reintegrate into their civilian occupations and families, often deciding to join the Regular Force and commit to serving on a full time basis. Almost all who return home find it difficult to relate to other members of the unit, who due to many circumstances, have not had the chance to serve overseas. The Regimental family will continue to work dutifully to ensure our members who return home are given the support they deserve.

In September the Canadian Grenadier Guards conducted their change of command parade between Lieutenant Colonel Henry Gourdji, CD, ADC and myself Lieutenant Colonel Michael Canavan, CD, along with the change of Regimental Sgt Major between Chief Warrant Officer David Edwards and Master Warrant Officer Robert Kingsley. It was said by many of the guests that the soldiers put on a fine parade and of a calibre to which is seldom seen in this day and age. Senator Jacques Demers, former Head Coach of the Montreal Canadians Hockey Team and who knows a little about team work, was tremendously impressed by the discipline and team spirit that he observed both on parade and on his visit to the messes.

The Canadian Grenadier Guards look forward to continuing to uphold the Grenadier spirit, customs and traditions during our Centennial year, both abroad and at home, on public duties and in the aide of our citizens during times of crisis.



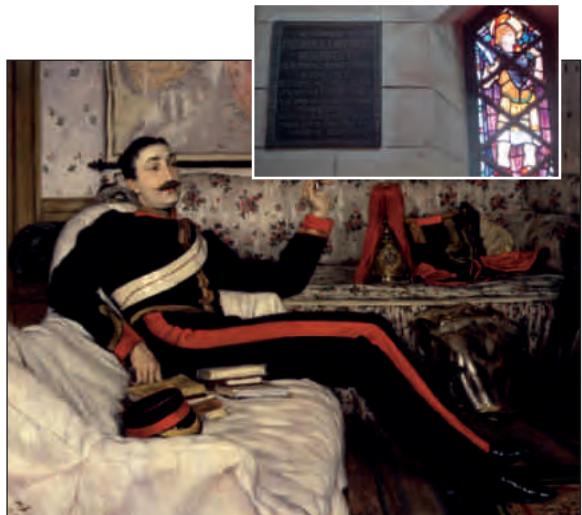
From left to right: Cpl Vladimir Vari, Cpl Laurie Chabot, Cpl Marie-Anne Hardy and Sgt Dave Morrow. All four guardsmen in the picture were members of the Information Operational Team while deployed to Kandahar Province Afghanistan. Behind the Canadian Grenadiers is the memorial at KAF honouring all those that made the ultimate sacrifice.

Grenadier Recollections of the Battle of Omdurman

by Major Piers Ashfield



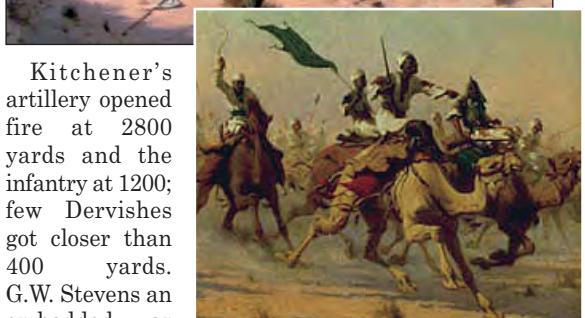
Sudan is an unlikely destination for an Easter holiday but in April of this year I found myself visiting an old friend in Khartoum. It is a city of contrasts. Khartoum's beauty does not lie in great monuments or glorious buildings that typify European capitals but its allure lies in its diversity. The city lies strategically placed on the confluence of the Nile and is the confluence of cultures; Arabic and African, religions; Christian and Muslim and histories; colonial and indigenous. These shared histories led me to the battlefield of Omdurman, in Karari just outside Khartoum.



In January 1885, the Madhi army defeated the British relief expedition at the battle of Abu Klea. The celebrated Colonel Frederick Gustavus Burnaby of the Royal Horse Guards was killed in this battle and his memorial window survives in the Anglican Church in

the grounds of the Presidential Palace (General Gordon's old residence). Several weeks later General Gordon, the Governor General of Sudan stood on his palace steps, resplendent in his white uniform as the Dervishes of the Mahdi army overran the Khartoum defences, massacring everyone they encountered. The Dervishes decapitated General Gordon against the Mahdi's orders and the Mahdi took control of Sudan. The Mahdi died unexpectedly five months after coming to power and his successor Abdullahi, the Khalifa ruled Sudan for the next 13 years.

The British Government beset with home pressures authorised General Kitchener to reconquer Sudan. He set about the task meticulously. On 1st September 1898 Kitchener camped on the bank of the Nile about 8km North of present day Khartoum. The gravel plain that led from the city to the British camp has barely a fold in the ground that would afford the Dervish army any cover from the firepower of the most modern Army to take the field. The Anglo-Egyptian army comprised nearly 26,000 highly trained soldiers armed with 44 guns and 20 machine guns supported by ten gun boats mounted with another 36 guns and 24 machine guns. Among the Order of Battle was the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards and throughout the General Staff were officers from The Life Guards (including Lt Grenfell, General Kitchener's ADC), Royal Horse Guards, Grenadier, Coldstream, and Scots Guards. The Dervish army comprised about 60,000 of which 14,000 were armed with old-fashioned Remington rifles. Had they attacked by night they may have overrun Kitchener's force but they advanced the next morning in broad daylight across the plains.



Kitchener's artillery opened fire at 2800 yards and the infantry at 1200; few Dervishes got closer than 400 yards. G.W. Stevens an embedded war

correspondent describes the scene in *With Kitchener to Khartum No white troops would have faced that torrent of death for five minutes. It was the last day of Madhism and the greatest*. Having shattered the initial attack Kitchener moved forward to occupy the complex terrain of the city before the remaining Dervishes could retreat. He encountered an uncommitted force of 35,000 lead by Yakub, the Khalifa's brother. They advanced in perfect

formation under the Khalifa's black flag but the hail of rifle fire they met devastated their ranks. Eventually three men remained, surrounded by their dead and dying comrades, still protecting their Colour, holding it aloft. Two of them fell, and the last shouting in defiance hurled his spear at his distant foe and collapsed, riddled with bullets, under his crumpled flag. Going over the battlefield I was shown the site of the famous charge of 21st Lancers. This costly blunder that unexpectedly led the Regiment into a wadi packed with Dervishes cost most of the British casualties. Winston Churchill then a subaltern took part in the charge and is the keenest witness to the battle in his book, *The River War*.

The final toll was 11,000 Dervishes killed, 16,000 wounded and 4000 taken prisoner. The Anglo-Egyptian army suffered 48 casualties and 434 wounded including Capt The Honourable W.L. Bagot

Grenadier Guards with a bullet wound to the chin and four Grenadier guardsmen with superficial bullet wounds.

G.W. Stevens paid the Dervishes the following tribute *'the honour of the fight must go to those who died ... the Dervishes were superb, beyond perfection. It was the largest, best and bravest army that ever fought against us.'* A solitary memorial bears witness to this terrible sacrifice. I laid a wreath to remember the fallen in an uncomplicated ceremony with Staff Sgt Bobo Adam Mohammed of the Sudan Defence Force. Inscribed on the memorial in both Arabic script and English are the words of Winston Churchill, *'They were the bravest people to ever set foot on the earth. We did not defeat them in Karari. We only destroyed them with the power of weapons and fire.'*

The sense of tragedy one feels on reading accounts of the battle is as acute as the Sudanese pride in the accolades of their British conquerors. Instinctively British, I felt a true affiliation with the underdog and found myself sympathising with the Dervishes, magnificent in their savage heroism.



Affiliation Forged in Battle A Visit to the 19th Lancers in Pakistan

by Major Alexander Cartwright

As the aircraft circled Sukkur and I looked across the plains of eastern Pakistan I was reminded of how military officers would describe this ground: it was perfect tank country... a cavalryman's dream. Nearing the end of a year at the Pakistan Command and Staff College in Quetta I was keen to visit the 19th Lancers, not only because visiting units complemented our studies of tactics and doctrine, but because of the special affiliation that tightly binds the Grenadiers and Lancers.

Regimental affiliations have been born from remarkable circumstances over many decades, but I doubt that many are as special as the link between our two regiments. It was forged during the battle of Cambrai in 1917. Grenadiers were right of their brigade and the 18th Bengal Lancers of the Indian Army (later to become the 19th Lancers) were left of theirs. The 2nd Battalion under Lieutenant Colonel Guy Rasch was tasked to clear Gauche Wood – what we would now call 'Key Terrain'. In the confusion of counter-attacks and heavy shelling the regiments became merged, shared trenches, and due to heavy casualties the Lancer officers took command of many Grenadiers. A Bengali said, 'One of the proudest moments of my existence has been lying alongside and defending the same trench as these fellows'. A special bond was forged and the regiments subsequently exchanged silver and each year 1st December is Gauche Wood Day. Telegrams are exchanged – now replaced by e-mail.

On arrival I was greeted by the Commandant of the Regiment, whom we would call the Commanding Officer. I hope that Lieutenant Colonel Imran Naqvi would not mind if he is described as a cross between the greatest qualities that one associates with a Pakistani gentleman and a British cavalry officer: charming and hospitable with a deep love for his unit and men; it was clear that he had built a team around him that lived and breathed for 'Nineteen'.

A generous reception followed with plenty of food (kebabs of course, Pakistan's equivalent to the staple army curry) and an opportunity to meet all ranks of the Regiment and some from brigade. All were more than familiar with our link and were keen to hear the Grenadier news. I swapped stories with the recently appointed second in command. Major Hassan had completed a six month tour commanding a team on the Siachen Glacier. Widely known as the highest battlefield in the world the glacier is in Kashmir, straddling India and Pakistan. Since it was occupied by

soldiers in the mid-1980s casualty figures have become the subject of myth and legend, reported to be well over 2000. The harsh conditions at over 20,000ft mean that the climate and avalanches are a greater threat than enemy action. He had spent six months in an eight man outpost with no post . . . I did not ask about internet access or e-blueys.



Barrel cleaning the Al Khalid Main Battle Tank: the author earns his lunch (the Commandant is on the left).



The Commandant (on the author's left) with officers and NCOs of 'Nineteen'.

An evening of Pakistani hospitality would not be complete without the customary exchange of gifts. On behalf of the Regiment I presented a sketch of the Colonel in Chief that was drawn by the local artist to the Staff College in Quetta.

The following morning began with an office call with Lieutenant Colonel Naqvi at his desk. The Regimental Colour was on his left and on the right was the National Standard. By no means a 'given', the Standard was awarded in 2004 and is achieved only after certain standards have been reached.

The Regiment had recently returned from its summer training so some were on leave with many putting the tanks through deep clean. The Regiment has 44 of the top Pakistani tank, the Al Khalid, named after the legendary Muslim general Khalid ibn al-Walid. It was much in favour with the troops due to the uplift in power and increased accuracy that it delivers. Maintenance was a time consuming labour of love and many an eyebrow was raised when I spoke of Whole Fleet Management. Great pride and long hours went into preparation for the training cycle that was to begin with squadron training: every officer and soldier will do anything to not be responsible for the tank that broke down – as the Grenadiers with mechanised experience will testify.

The last Grenadier visitors were General Webb-Carter and Lord Wigram who visited in the mid 1990s. Lord Wigram presented a uniform which was on display outside the tea bar where the officers meet. It was proudly displayed by the senior regimental orderly who was responsible for its upkeep. The tea bar was home to a stunning collection of regimental silver and memorabilia . . . not to mention the odd trophy. Above the door was the Grenadier silver bugle that was presented to the Regiment after the battle of Cambrai, the Grenadiers receiving a stunning silver Lancer that is in the Regimental Adjutant's bunk.

One of the significant changes since the last Grenadier visit is the ethnic composition of the Lancers. In the mid 90s the Regiment was three quarters Punjabi to a quarter Sindhi. An initiative to bring the province of Balochistan closer to the rest of the nation means the Regiment is now made up of 10% Balochis, 40% Sindhis and 50% Punjabis. The Grenadier recruiters would be jealous of the response enjoyed by the Lancers's recruiting staff: the 2IC reported that if he advertises 100 jobs in the Punjab he will have to stop registration at a few thousand applicants. In Balochistan it was not long ago that the Army had to pursue recruiting initiatives in order to convince young Baloch men to apply for the Army – times have changed.

As I drove back to the airport we passed over the Sukkur Barrage, a spectacular dam that regulates the flow of water down the Indus – an impressive example of engineering from early last century. The barrage and memories of the visit to a regiment forged in the British military tradition were reminders of the legacy of 'the Britishers', as we are still known in Pakistan.

'Nineteen' reminded me of the Grenadiers in so many ways. Above all they were a Regiment steeped in family links, tradition and ways of business and values that had been tried and tested by time and conflict . . . and on the other hand they were forward looking and keen to embrace what advancement had to offer. The regimental spirit of the Lancers was as high as I have seen it anywhere.

A Welsh Corporal called Williams

*by Major PAJ Wright OBE
formerly Grenadier Guards*

The Guards Division was heavily engaged during the battle of Loos beating back German assaults on 18th October 1915. Two days later, Lieutenant Colonel G D Jeffreys, Commanding 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards, was determined to take an enemy bombing post by surprise and to bomb up the trench as far as possible. Lt H A Clive, commanding 1 Company, was selected for the task and the attack was carefully planned and explained to everyone taking part.



An enemy bombing post.

Second Lt H G W Sandeman commanded the party but Lt J C Craigie, the Bombing Officer, led the way. It was a pitch dark night illuminated every few minutes by flares. Thirty crawling figures went slowly out, and made their way through the long grass. Fifteen minutes later Jeffreys, using a field telephone, asked Clive why the attack had not begun, at which point the first bombs exploded. Craigie had attacked the German bombing post and blew his whistle, which was the signal for Lt E W M Grigg to come forward with a chain of men carrying more bombs. The Germans were taken completely by surprise and retreated, pursued by Craigie and Sandeman, up the trench. Having got 150 yards up the trench Craigie sent back for reinforcements and Clive himself came up with another platoon carrying picks and shovels to consolidate the position.

Craigie, who had already been wounded three times that year, was wounded again by a piece of bomb in his leg. He had led from the front throughout and was awarded the MC. Four DCMs were awarded. The first went to Sgt G H Miller, for his good work since the beginning of 1915 as bombing sergeant. He had trained the bombers and trench mortar men, and commanded them in dangerous places, always showing marked coolness and courage under fire. LCpl J Parker also displayed great coolness and tenacity in building a



Williams as a Liverpool Policeman in 1931.

barricade to block the captured trench.

Private J W Lyes advanced through a shower of bombs up the enemy trench. He greatly contributed to the success by untiring and accurate bomb throwing throughout the night, both in the advance and during the enemy's counter-attacks. The final DCM was

awarded to Private W Williams. His citation read: 'For conspicuous gallantry and good work as a bomber, when advancing up a German trench. He subsequently carried back two wounded men over the open to avoid blocking the narrow trench and hindering the supply of bombs and reinforcements.'

A few days earlier on 27th September, Lt M H Macmillan had received an excruciating bullet wound in his right hand and a minor but painful head injury at Loos while serving with the 4th Battalion. Having been in hospital for three months, he returned to the front in April 1916. This time he joined the 2nd Battalion in the trenches in the Ypres Salient. On the night of 19th July Macmillan went on a patrol with two men, one of whom he referred to as a 'Welsh Corporal called Williams.' The patrol managed to get quite near to the German line, but ran into some German soldiers digging a sap. A German threw a bomb, the explosion from which wounded Macmillan. Despite wearing a steel helmet, he was severely concussed and suffered minor facial injuries. The third man of the patrol was also slightly wounded. It was Williams who fought off the Germans: 'My Corporal struck my assailant with one of the clubs with which we had been served out. His helmet fell off and Corporal Williams struck him again. In the affray another German was killed or wounded.'

When the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel C R C de Crespigny, asked what had happened after Macmillan had been wounded, Williams said: 'Begging your pardon Sir, it was one of those Germans. So I hit him with my club. Then I hit him again and the back of his head came off.' Macmillan commented subsequently: 'Begging your pardon Sir,' as if it was rather bad manners. Macmillan had obtained the information he wanted, and he and his patrol were commended by Brigadier General C Pereira, commanding 1st Guards Brigade: The Brigadier wishes Lt Macmillan and his patrol on 19th inst to be congratulated on their excellent report and the most useful information which they brought in.

Williams was first given the Guards Division certificate for gallantry, which was then superseded by the award of the MM on 16th November 1916. Macmillan paid Williams the highest compliments, referring to him as: 'worthy of the VC and a brave, intelligent man, well aware of the dangers he was running.' In January 1917, William Williams transferred to the Military Foot Police, where his work later brought him the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) to add to his DCM and MM. It was a logical step as, born in 1888 in Bodfari, Denbighshire, before the war, he had joined the Denbighshire and later the Liverpool Police after three years service with 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards from 1909.

The late Earl of Stockton, PC, OM, as Harold Macmillan, was



Lt Macmillan and his patrol were congratulated.

He concluded 'If you are going to fight you might at least have the thing properly done. You know that your men will turn up on parade and you know throughout these incidents, it's ten to one that, owing to the system and the pride they have and what they have been taught, it will work....All the successes I've had afterwards in life can be put down almost entirely to the good luck to find myself connected with the Grenadier Guards and the Brigade of Guards generally.'

Churchill and a Trench Raid

*by Major PAJ Wright OBE
formerly Grenadier Guards*

Early in 1918 the strain on manpower was such that Trench raiding in the Great War was an often brutal feature of trench warfare. Like medieval warfare, it was fought face-to-face with crude improvised weapons such as trench knives and short wooden clubs. Typically trench raids were carried out at night by small teams of men who would navigate across no-man's land and infiltrate enemy trench systems before returning to their own lines. They were lightly equipped for quiet, unimpeded movement and swift and silent killing. The intention would be to kill or capture enemy troops and to destroy, disable or capture high value equipment such as machine guns.

In December 1915, the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards, as part of 1st Guards Brigade, were in trenches near Le Tilleloy. Lieutenant Colonel G D Jeffreys was the Commanding Officer. Major the Rt Hon Winston Churchill, having resigned from the Government, was serving a brief attachment to the Battalion to learn the ropes' before assuming command of his own battalion. In a letter home to his wife, Clementine, he wrote: 'I am not going to be in a hurry to leave the Regiment while it is in the line, as its Colonel is one of the very best in the Army and his knowledge of trench warfare is complete and profound. All his comments and instruction to his men are pregnant with military wisdom, and the system of the Guards – discipline and hard work – must be seen at close quarters to be fully admired as it deserves.'

The trenches were in very bad condition and incessant shelling and cold weather, with snow at intervals, made conditions unpleasant. In another letter Churchill wrote: 'The Guards are cleaning everything up and work day and night to strengthen the parapet and improve the shelter. The neglect and idleness of the former tenants is obvious at every step. Filth and rubbish everywhere, graves built into the defences and scattered about promiscuously, feet and clothing breaking through the soil, water and muck on all sides and about the scene in the dazzling moonlight troops of



Churchill in his French steel helmet.

enormous rats creep and glide to the unceasing accompaniment of rifles and machine guns and the venomous whining and whirring of bullets which pass over head.' On 12th December he described his headdress: 'My (French) steel helmet is the cause of much envy. I look most martial in it – like a Cromwellian – I always intend to wear it under fire – but chiefly for the appearance.'

It was suspected that the Germans were digging a mine shaft and on 13th December, the decision was made to send out a party to find and destroy it. Lt the Hon W A D Parnell, Sgt J Lyon and eleven men volunteered for the task. It was a frosty night and as soon as the moon had gone down at 12.30am they set off over the parapet and advanced cautiously through the long grass which separated the two lines. They had to cross a stream composed of water pumped from the enemy's trenches, but found a shallow place to wade through. On arriving at the German trenches they cut the wire and dropped one by one into the trench. No one was to be seen, and it was not until they went down a communication trench that voices were heard. Satisfied that there was no mine shaft entrance in the trench they returned by the same route and reported what they had seen to the Commanding Officer.

On the following night of 14th December, two patrols were sent out to explore the same enemy trench. Parnell



Lt Parnell volunteered for the task.

and Lyon with the same men from the Battalion plus a machine gunner and a sapper from the Royal Engineers Mining Company and a second party from the 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards set off at the same time. No rifles were carried but each man was armed with an eighteen inch wooden club with an iron ring around the head. Two men carried six bombs each. On arriving at the German trench the Grenadiers went to the left and the Coldstream to the right.

The Grenadiers had gone about four hundred yards when they saw a faint light from a dug-out. Parnell halted the party and Lyon crept forward to see if there was a sentry. He discovered that not only was there a sentry, but on either side of the trench there were two hollowed out cavities with a man in each. Lyon reported what he had seen and the whole party then attacked. Lyon flung himself on the sentry and bound and gagged him. One of the other Germans in the hollow was killed silently but the other managed to fire his rifle before he too was clubbed to death. This one shot alarmed the whole German line and soon the trench was in an uproar with parties advancing from all directions. The Grenadiers returned the way

they had come as quickly as possible with the loss of one man, Private C R Maiden, who was mortally wounded when the alarm was sounded. The Coldstream patrol reported it had gone some way down the German trench, but had seen nothing.

Churchill, writing to his wife on 15th December, described the incident as follows: 'Ten Grenadiers under a kid went across by night to the German Trench which they found largely deserted or waterlogged. They fell

upon a picket of Germans, beat the brains out of two of them and dragged a third triumphantly home as a prisoner. The young officer by accident let off his pistol and shot one of his own Grenadiers dead: but the others kept this secret and pretended it was done by the enemy – do likewise. Such men you never saw. The scene in the little dugout when the prisoner was brought in surrounded by these terrific warriors, in jerkins and steel helmets with their bloody clubs in hand – looking pictures of ruthless war – was one to stay in the memory. C'est très bon. They petted the prisoner and gave him cigarettes and tried to



Sgt Lyon carried out a reconnaissance and removed a German flag.

cheer him up. He was not very unhappy to be taken and know he would be safe and well fed until the end of the war.' Clementine Churchill wrote back on 18 December: 'It fills me with great pride that you have won the love and respect of those splendid Grenadiers and their austere Colonel.'

Parnell was awarded the MC for conspicuous gallantry. He was killed, aged 22, on 25th September 1916 during the final assault on Lesboeufs. This was one of the Guards Division's most successful operations during the war. He and two other officers were killed cutting gaps in the wire under fire to enable the advance to continue. He is buried in the Guards' Cemetery at Lesboeufs. Lyon was awarded the DCM. In July 1916 the following year, he won the MM for carrying out a three-hour reconnaissance in no man's land completely alone. He succeeded in removing a German flag from a tree despite being shot at by both sides. He was killed in action at Ginchy during the first battle of the Somme Offensive on 15th September 1916 and is 'Remembered with Honour' on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing. Maiden is buried in the Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery near Souchez.

A Raid Repulsed

Early in 1918 the strain on manpower was such that brigades had to be reduced from four battalions to three. On 11th February the 4th Battalion Grenadier Guards and the 2nd Battalion Irish Guards left the Guards Division, being played out of Arras by all the pipes and drums of the division, and joined the newly formed 4th Guards Brigade. Although leaving the Division, all ranks of the Battalion still had the divisional order for trench warfare firmly fixed in their minds:

'The word retire is never to be heard in a trench. If the enemy should succeed in penetrating our trenches, the men in the neighbouring trenches must not give up the fight. A counter-attack must be made immediately. The usual procedure will be a bomb attack from the flank, combined with a bayonet attack from the rear. Blocking the trench with sandbags should only be resorted to to gain time for the counter-attack to be organised. The main front line of trenches must be held to the last. If any trench is blown up, the crater must be occupied at once.'

A week later, the Battalion took over the front line from 18th Battalion Durham Light Infantry. The Grenadiers had been warned by the outgoing troops that a recently captured prisoner had stated that the presence of the Guards Brigade in the sector was already suspected and that a raid to obtain positive identification was being prepared by the enemy.

Practice trenches made from aerial photographs had been dug and the raiders were rehearsed in detail in their task. The men taking part in the raid had been withdrawn from the line for three weeks and were well fed and cared for. They were the pick of the 469th German Infantry Regiment selected for their physique and courage. Their high quality equipment consisted of a short light rifle of 1917 pattern with a leather sling, a trench dagger, an automatic pistol, wire-cutters, a watch and a canvas bag for carrying stick bombs. The raid was carried out in two sections, each consisting of an officer and 28 men.

The Battalion had been in the line for two days holding a 2000 yard frontage known as the Arleux Post. It ran east of Arleux-en-Gohelle and consisted of a series of posts, the derelict trenches between them being filled with wire. At 8.00pm on 19th February a concentrated artillery bombardment of all calibres of guns was put down by the enemy on the forward outposts held by the Grenadiers. It was of such intensity that sections of the trenches were completely obliterated. Shortly after the enemy's barrage was put down, the men in one of the outposts saw a strong party of Germans advancing down the front trench from the left and a fierce fire fight began. As they were heavily outnumbered they slowly fell back towards the neighbouring post on the right.



2Lt Wrixon shot dead the first man he saw.

2Lt M P B Wrixon, who had been despatched from No 2 Company Headquarters to find out what was

happening, took charge of the two NCOs and 12 men from both posts and concentrated them in Beer Trench. The Germans split into two parties; about twenty continued to bomb up the trench while the majority charged across the open ground towards Beer Trench. Private G Fletcher saw them coming and, although surrounded and heavily bombed, mounted his Lewis gun on the parapet and opened fire inflicting several casualties. The remainder of the enemy retired carrying their wounded with them.

No sooner was this party disposed of than Wrixon saw a fresh group of men coming stealthily down the trench in front of him. Advancing down the trench he shot the first man he saw dead with his revolver. The next man threw a bomb at him, which burst a few feet away slightly wounding him. Private Coles, who was just behind Wrixon, shot the man dead with his rifle at point blank range. Fletcher, on his own initiative, had joined a party of bombers in repelling the attack. He moved along the top of the trench in the open, bombing the enemy in it. A bugle was blown and the enemy withdrew.



Private Fletcher mounted his Lewis gun on the parapet.

At the start of this fight, when his post was falling back, Private W Taylor was sent back to fetch some bombs, which had been left behind. He met a party of the enemy on the way and was disarmed and taken prisoner. He was ordered on pain of death to guide them back in the direction of their own lines. Taylor agreed, but instead of doing so, led them towards Beer Trench. When he was within a few yards he shouted a warning and flung himself to the ground. His warning was heard and bombs were thrown in the direction of his voice. The Germans fled, abandoning their prisoner. Unfortunately one of the bombs wounded Taylor in two places, but he was finally rescued by Private J Cunliffe, a stretcher-bearer, who had already brought in a number of the wounded under heavy shell fire.

Meanwhile, an equally vigorous struggle was taking place at Alton Post further to the left, where there was

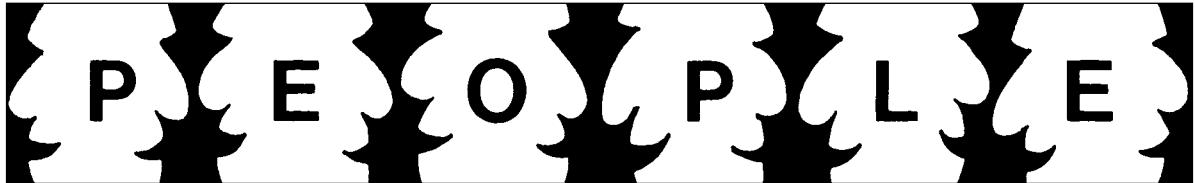


Grenadier stretcher bearers preparing a casualty for evacuation.

a machine gun dug-out protected by a bombing party under Lt W B Ball. The machine gun itself had been put out of action by a shell from one of the enemy's trench mortars and a small party of Germans immediately afterwards emerged from the darkness and rushed at the post. Cpl M Horan, who was in charge of the post, disabled three of them with well-directed bombs, but one very tall German, followed by some others proceeded to throw bombs down the dug-out. Private Moore, who closed with the leading German, was stabbed to death. Horan then came up and shot the tall German dead. With their leaders killed the remainder of the enemy withdrew back into the darkness.

Although some of the enemy casualties were carried off, two killed and five wounded were left behind. Four of the wounded subsequently died. The Grenadier casualties were two killed, two died of wounds and five wounded. It was an unfortunate raid for the Germans, who despite a determined and elaborately prepared attempt to penetrate the line, not only suffered heavy loss but failed to capture a prisoner or obtain identification of any kind.

Two days later Brigadier-General Lord Ardee, Commanding 4th Guards Brigade, received the following message: *The Corps Commander requests that you will convey to the officers and men of the 4th Battalion Grenadier Guards his high appreciation of the gallant and successful resistance put up by the garrison of Arleux Post on the night of February 19-20.* Wrixon was awarded the MC and Fletcher, Taylor, Cunliffe and Horan the DCM for their courage, determination and contempt of danger. Coles was awarded the MM and six months later, as a Sgt with the 1st Battalion, the DCM for leading his platoon with great skill and capturing over 50 prisoners and several machine guns. 4th Guards Brigade had made a good beginning.



WHERE ARE THEY THIS YEAR?

by Major Alex Cartwright
Grenadier Guards

After some years of the Glasgow SO2 Foot Guards being steered by a Welsh Guard, an Irish Guard and a Coldstream Guard it has returned to the Grenadiers. This post gives a fascinating overview of Foot Guard Regimental, Battalion and Incremental Company business and it is hugely satisfying and rewarding to be involved in the management of Foot Guard careers (Direct Entry Major and below).

Major General George Norton returned from Afghanistan to be General Officer Commanding London District and the Major General Commanding the Household Division. At his right hand side is **Capt Falorin Kuku** his first Aide-de-Camp. The Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, **Brigadier David Maddan**, is Commander Combined Training Advisory Group in Afghanistan having handed over 15 (North East) Brigade to **Brigadier Greville Bibby** (who in a former life wore a white plume before exchanging it for a red one).

Under the move from a Headquarters Infantry to a Combat Capability Directorate **Colonel Richard Winstanley** becomes Colonel Infantry. **Colonel David Russell-Parsons** is Deputy Commander 38 (Irish) Brigade where he keeps a keen eye on **Capt Jonathan Linley** who is applying his cognitive power as SO3 G3 O&D in HQ 19 Bde. **Colonel Roly Walker** has exchanged command of the 1st Battalion for promotion and the post of Chief of Staff of 3 (UK) Division.

Lt Colonel James Bowder has been Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion since completing the Advanced Command and Staff Course. He takes the Battalion to Afghanistan on Op HERRICK 16. No doubt his tenure as Chief of Staff of 11 Light Brigade on Op HERRICK 11 will have served as a good warm-up.

Lt Colonel Tim Jalland commands the long awaited London Central Garrison with the Public Duties Incremental Companies firm in Wellington Barracks. **Lieutenant Colonel Andrew James** is Lieutenant Colonel Foot Guards and **Major Chips Broughton** is attending the Advanced Command and Staff Course. He is in good company with **Major Jim Green** at the Intermediate Command and Staff Course.

Major Martin David is strengthening cross-channel relations at the French Staff College while **Major**

Simon Soskin strengthens Infantry manning as SO2 G1 Pers Ops in the newly formed Combat Capability Directorate. He promoted on the recent Pink List to be a Substantive Lieutenant Colonel in 2013. **Major Marcus Elliot-Square** continues to be the rock of PS12 having overseen over 100 repatriations. **Major Ed Paintin** is in Cyprus as SO2 J3 Training and **Major Andy Seddon** is SO2 Battlespace Management having attended the Battlespace Technology Course.

The 1st Battalion ORBAT is set for the coming tour. **Major Piers Ashfield** took over as The Captain from **Major Richard Green** who is MA to ACDS Log Ops. No 2 Company is commanded by **Major Christopher Sargent WG**. He hands over to **Major James Greaves** after the tour, James joining the Battalion mid tour to apply all he has learnt at the United States Command and General Staff Course and School of Advanced Military Studies. **Major Dominic Alkin** has finished as Chief of Staff in the technical world and commands The Inkerman Company. **Major Simon Gordon Lennox** commands the Guards Training Company having taken Support Company to Canada and handed over to **Major Rupert King-Evans**. Rupert moved from Nijmegen Company that is now benefitting from the ex-Adjutant experience of **Major James Fox**.

Major Ben Jesty has handed over New College Adjutant and is now Training Major of the London Regiment, seeing much of **Capt Nigel Torp-Petersen** who is the Adjutant. **Capt Howard Cordle** is the Adjutant of the London Central Garrison with the less than simple task of keeping the Public Duties Incremental Companies and Wellington Barracks running smoothly. **Capt Paddy Russell** is SO3 O&D in HQ 160 (Wales) Brigade. Back in the Battalion **Capt Jim Young** is the Operations Officer with **Capt Rupert Stevens** hurdling the G1 fences as Adjutant. **Capt James Shaw** has returned to the Battalion as the Support Company Second in Command after a spell in the MOD as Aide-de-Camp to the Chief of the Defence Staff and in the Operations Directorate.

Major Skid Dorney moves from the Intermediate Command and Staff Course to Andover as an SO1. **Major Vern Overton** has spent the past two years passing on his experience as Directing Staff on the Late Entry Officer Course. **Major Vince Gaunt** steers the LONDIST G4 while **Capt Gordon Gask** and **Capt Dave Groom** manage the Battalion G4 as QM and QM(T). **Capt Stumpy Keeley** is the MTO and **Capt Andrew Butcher** the RCMO. **Capt Ian Farrell** is experiencing managing and motivating of a very

different kind as he makes the leap from Sgt Major to UWO. **Capt Chris Gillham** is the Training Officer.

Be it the wet slopes of Brecon, classrooms of the Defence Academy, dust of Afghanistan or corridors of London there is a Grenade being worn over the left eye. We are delighted to have a good Grenadier showing on

the recent Beige List.

Serving officers may have heard of the Army Personnel Restructuring – from January 2012 the SO2 Foot Guards moved to the fourth floor with a different e-mail address and different telephone number do check the MS Web for details.

The Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel James Bowder MBE



James Bowder commissioned from Sandhurst in 1996. He served at Regimental Duty until 2003, a spell that concluded with two years as the Adjutant of the 1st Battalion. In this last post he worked under two Commanding Officers:

the current Regimental Lieutenant Colonel and the current Major General. He moved from Adjutant to the Ministry of Defence as the Assistant MA to the Assistant

Chief of the General Staff, Major General David Richards (now Chief of the Defence Staff). This was followed by promotion to Major and attendance on the inaugural Intermediate Command and Staff Course at the Defence Academy. After this he returned to London as a staff officer in the Directorate of Joint Commitments (DJC – the erstwhile Directorate of Military Operations). For his tour in DJC he was appointed an MBE. He commanded Number 2 Company in Afghanistan on Operation HERRICK 6 and then moved to become Chief of Staff of 11 Light Brigade based in Aldershot. The Brigade deployed to Afghanistan in late 2009 for six months with eight Battle Groups under command including our 1st Battalion, 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards and the Household Cavalry Regiment. On promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in 2010 he attended the Advanced Command and Staff Course at the Defence Academy before taking command of the 1st Battalion in August 2011. He is 38 years old, and married with four children.

The Senior Major Major David Kenny Royal Irish Regiment



It is extremely unusual if not unprecedented for a non-guardsman to be appointed as the Senior Major of a Grenadier Battalion, but this was the situation. **Major David Kenny** found himself early in 2011. The position of Senior Major is now boarded

which means that only the very strongest candidates from across the Army are selected for this challenging and important role. The Battalion is fortunate indeed to have this capable and experienced officer on board. David joined the Army in 1995 and had early contact with the Grenadier Guards at RMAS in the form of two well known Grenadiers, CSM Vince Gaunt and CSgt Neil

England. Commissioned into the Royal Irish Regiment in 1996 as a Platoon Commander, he was posted to the Depot R IRISH in 1998 as a recruit instructor. There followed more regimental service in various posts including Training Officer and Signals Officer, which saw him serve in Northern Ireland and Sierra Leone. He was posted to RAF Cottesmore as a Ground Liaison Officer for a Harrier GR7 Squadron and soon found himself briefing aircrew in Kuwait during the 2003 invasion of Iraq. A subsequent SO3 post followed, this time in the HQ of 4th (Armoured) Brigade, where he again found himself deployed to Iraq.

After successfully completing the Intermediate Command and Staff Course in 2006, David commanded a Rifle Company in 1 R IRISH. He deployed his company to Afghanistan as OMLT Mentors based in Musa Qala and completed the tour there with them. In 2008 he was based at Abbey Wood as the Chief of Staff for the Battlefield Infrastructure and Engineering Group, before being appointed as MA to COS ISAF. This post saw him return to Afghanistan at the HQ IJC in Kabul. His deployment with the 1st Battalion will be his third tour in Afghanistan. David is married to Anna-Marie and has two children; Myles (4) and Maeve (3).

Sergeant Major Glenn Snazle



Originally from the Cambridge area, **Regimental Sergeant Major Glenn Snazle** joined the Regiment as a Junior Leader in 1988. After passing out from the Guards Depot, he was posted to the 1st Battalion in Munster, Germany.

Having been carefully measured and found to be well over the required six feet tall, he was duly posted to the Queen's Company where he spent much of his early career.

In 1991 he was deployed to Saudi Arabia with the rest of the Queen's Company for Operation Granby now remembered as the First Gulf War. Sgt Major Snazle served with distinction in Iraq and Kuwait before returning to Germany. Later that year he was selected for promotion from a very strong peer group (his previous two predecessors as Sgt Major were serving in the

Queens Company at the time) and was promoted to LCpl.

During the eventful tour of South Armagh in 1993-94 he was selected to serve in an exceptionally strong and successful Close Observation Platoon before again returning to the Queen's Company. After a successful tour as an instructor at the Infantry Training Centre Catterick, Sgt Major Snazle attended the Platoon Sergeants Battle Course at Brecon. He achieved the extremely rare and exceptionally difficult honour of passing both weapons and tactics phases of the course with distinction and won the Director of Infantry's Prize as best student. More service in the Queen's Company followed and after a successful tour as a Platoon Sgt he was appointed CQMS

In 2004 he followed the footsteps of many distinguished Grenadiers and was selected for service as a Colour Sergeant Instructor at RMAS. In 2006 he again returned to the Queens Company, this time as CSM, completing very challenging tours in Iraq in 2006 and Afghanistan in 2007. There followed tours as a CSM at RMAS and as the RQMS of the 1st Battalion before appointment as the Sgt Major and the deserved fulfilment of a long held ambition. The Sgt Major is married to Nicola and has two children, Joshua (14) and Olivia (9). He is a keen fan of rugby union as well as being an accomplished player.

Lieutenant Colonel Richard (Skid) Dorney MBE



The 2011 board for promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 2012 produced the news that **Skid Dorney** was to join the distinguished list of Grenadier Late Entry Lieutenant Colonels. Skid joined the Regiment as a junior Leader in September

1976 and was posted to the 1st Battalion in 1978. Much of his career was spent in the Queen's Company with a spell at RMAS and as Drill Sgt at the ATR Pirbright. He was Drill Sgt and RQMS of the 1st Battalion before being appointed as the Sgt Major in 1999. Since commissioning in 2001 he has filled all of the traditional LE Officer jobs in the 1st Battalion as well as being the Quartermaster of Basra Air Station.

After completing the Intermediate Command and Staff Course (Land) at Shrivenham he was posted to the HQ of the Army Medical Directorate as the SO2 Trauma Management Coordination. In this role he spent three years setting up and rolling out the British army Trauma Management programme. This initiative represented a dramatic shift in the Army's approach to the management of operational stress and has proved to be highly successful. He was the Army's subject matter expert in this field and holds an M(Sc) in War and Psychiatry from King's College London in addition to a certificate in Psychotraumatology.

He has seen service in Northern Ireland (six tours) where he was awarded a Queen's Commendation for valuable service, the first Gulf War, Bosnia, Iraq (twice), and Afghanistan. He was made MBE in 2008 and in 2010 received the rare distinction of being made a military member of the Order of St John of Jerusalem. Skid is a keen military historian and is a published author. He retains a passion for football and is a very keen supporter of Tottenham Hotspur FC. His last three years of service are to be spent at the HQ of the Army Recovery Capability at Andover.

WO1 Ron Smith – The End of a Long Grenadier Career



WO1 Ron Smith joined the Grenadier Guards on 24th August 1972 at Scunthorpe recruiting office and was told to report to Pirbright to carry out two years of junior soldier training. On asking where Pirbright was he was told it was near the bright lights

of London! His Platoon Sgt during that time was Steve Tombs who he recalls as a 'top bloke' along with the 14th Company Arms Storeman, Trained Soldier Les Scholes. Ron always wanted to join the Army, the seed being planted by his father who also served in the Regiment.

From Pirbright he was posted to the 1st Battalion in Munster along with Kev Walsh, Derm Elliott, Dave Errington and Paul Sellors. All the other Grenadiers from training were posted to the Sunshine Battalion in Hong Kong! He served in the 1st Battalion from 1974-89 and then after the amalgamation with the 2nd Battalion as Drill Sgt between 1994-95.

Prior to attending his Corporals Course he had attended the 14 week PTI's course at Aldershot and was looking forward to working in the Gym with aspirations of transferring to the PT Corps only to be persuaded (told) by his Company Sergeant Major, who had a big influence on him, that he would be going on the Battalion Corporals Course followed by the All Arms Drill, Weapons and Tactics course. Not what he had in mind but like most Grenadiers the reply 'Sir' still comes to mind. The course was a memorable one with Senior Sergeants Swanwick and Haigh lending a hand. All went well until the time he led a Recce Patrol and decided to have his Final RV in the enemy's location, not a good plan!

His posting to Berlin between 1979 and 1981 with the 1st Battalion was one of the highlights of his career. The Berlin Wall, the road and rail Corridor and Check Point Charlie are memories that will live long for him. In 1989 he joined the 2nd Battalion as CSM Support Coy taking over from Les Scholes with Major Tim Breitmeyer in command. He also remembers most notably from this time in Support Company Dickie Dower, the late Ben Lawrenson, Vince Gaunt, Dave Groom, Pete Brown, Spud Murphy and Terry Humphries – a most enjoyable time. A two year tour of Sandhurst followed and then he was back to the 2nd Battalion as Drill Sgt where he teamed up with WO1 (RSM) Sam Swanwick and the Assistant Drill Sgt Reg Sergeant where they became affectionately known as 'Reg and Ronnie'. It was during

this period that a very short trip to the Falkland Islands was undertaken. He was part of a Recce Party that flew down to the South Atlantic only to be told in mid air that the planned exercise had been cancelled. However, this did not prevent trips to Stanley and Goose Green prior to recovery four days later.

During his time with the Regiment Ron also served in Germany and Northern Ireland, twice to Crossmaglen and once to Newtown Hamilton. He trained in Canada, Kenya and the Sudan. He also has vivid memories of Jamaica where he carried out his Corporals Course Tactics Phase under instructors Spud Murphy and Richard Dransfield and a notable and well earned R&R on Ocho Rios beach with the likes of Kenny Stone, Piggy Johnson, Al Merry, G Walker and Andy Green. Throughout his career he also became renowned for his sporting achievements in football, squash and athletics and was awarded Army colours. Many will remember his ability to complete 90 minutes in midfield for the Sergeants' Mess in Munster without disturbing a single hair on his head!

Having served the Regiment for 24 years, Ron left the Battalion to become the Garrison Sergeant Major (GSM) York Garrison and HQ 15 (NE) Brigade on the Long Service List (LSL). During his time in York he organised the Normandy veterans, Burma and Heavy Ack Ack (RA) Parades and was appointed the GSM for the Normandy Veterans Parades in Normandy for the 60th Anniversary which was a great honour for him. He was also posted to British Forces Cyprus and to The Army Foundation College Harrogate where he saw out his final tour of duty. During his time on the LSL he has been a long standing committee member of the ABF (NE) and for his outstanding charity work and commitment was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

Ron is married to Jan and they met whilst he was serving at Chelsea Barracks in 1976, Jan worked at the MOD alongside a young Capt Webb-Carter who told Jan that he was just the tea boy! They have been married for 35 years and have a daughter Jade who having attended University now lives in Sheffield. After a very successful and much travelled 39 years Ron and Jan will now settle in Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

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The Master Tailor CSgt Stephen Devereux



There can be few in the Regiment who have not encountered this exceptional Master Tailor who will leave the Regiment this year after completing more than 24 years of loyal service. **Stephen Devereux** joined the Regiment in 1988 and after training at the

Guards Depot was posted to the 1st Battalion which was based at Oxford Barracks, Munster. Whilst serving in No 3 Company he developed an appetite for adventure training, trying his hand at both skiing and parachuting. Regrettably this ended in a broken leg which saw him sidelined for a while. Undeterred he was soon back on the adventure training circuit and he found that he had a talent for rock climbing which has remained with him. Stephen left his beloved 9 Platoon in 1991 and was attached to right Flank Company of 1st Battalion Scots Guards in Kuwait during the First Gulf War. After three years he decided that a new challenge was required and he volunteered to join the Tailors Shop just before the

First Battalion returned to London in 1991.

1993 saw Stephen attached to the Queen's Company for their eventful tour in Crossmaglen, where he was attached to the Company Headquarters. During the six month tour he saw more than his fair share of action as the base and town were regularly attacked. Operational tours were interspersed with frantic tailoring activities, as time after time the Battalion swapped green for red and the return to public duties. It was during these busy periods that he learnt his trade as a Tailor. Stephen has repeatedly demonstrated his flexibility: intelligence collator, 'Buzzard' and tailor with operational tours in Iraq (2008) Afghanistan (2007 and 2008).

Having been promoted to LSgt he returned to the Battalion in time to join them on their 2004 tour in Bosnia where he once again changed hats and returned to the Intelligence Cell. He was appointed Master Tailor in 2005 and set about the always challenging task of fitting a Battalion out for public duties. Ever since, he has been a familiar face to Quartermasters reliant on his knowledge and the odd shaped masses who have needed his tailoring expertise. Although he will be remembered as a very notable Master Tailor whose knowledge in the field is unsurpassed, there are few Sergeants Mess members who can boast as many medals. He has been married to Dawn for the past 18 years and has two children Alexander (17) and Edward (14). We wish them a deservedly relaxing retirement.

CSgt Matthew Ellmer



Another long serving and fiercely loyal Grenadier, **CSgt Matthew Ellmer** joined the Regiment at the tender age of 16 in 1984. After completing his training at the Guards Depot, he took part in one of the largest passing out parades of that era in September

1984. Training as Drummer in the Guards Depot Corps of Drums followed and after an additional nine months at Pirbright, he was posted to the 2nd Battalion in April 1986. His Drummer's skills were put largely on hold as he joined Support Company for a two year tour of Northern Ireland. He also deployed to Kenya, Canada and the USA on exercises during this period, found the time to get himself promoted and to attend career courses at Brecon. Just before the 2nd Battalion was placed into suspended animation in 1994, he found himself as the acting Drums Sgt handing over the Battalion's Drums for the last time, a sad occasion indeed.

Having joined the 1st Battalion in Wellington Barracks, the next six years were taken up with more public duties, overseas exercises to Kenya, USA and operational duty in Northern Ireland. In 1999 he was appointed as the Drum Major and was awarded a Royal Warrant as the Drummer to the Royal Household. At the end of 2000 he was posted to 3 Cadet Training Team in Colchester but was later diagnosed with a serious illness, which tragically restricted his service.

Never a man to be thwarted, he was posted to HQ Infantry where became the right hand man to successive Colonels as CSgt Foot Guards. During this time he set up the retention plan for the Household Division, looking after Foot Guards Recruits undergoing training. Based at Warminster, he spent years travelling between the Army Training Regiments at Basingbourne, Winchester and Catterick as well as the Army Foundation College at Harrogate. His influence has undoubtedly been a key factor in the retention rates for the Division and the successful model he set up has been adopted by other divisions of Infantry. Matthew has completed a little shy of 28 years loyal service and has served in no fewer than seven of the Regiment's companies. He lives in Northamptonshire with his wife Averil and has four daughters and four grandchildren, more than enough to occupy him in his retirement. We wish him well.

Sgt Joey Truscott – ‘Outstanding Pioneer Sergeant’



Anyone who has encountered him will remember **Sgt ‘Joey’ Truscott**, the indomitable Pioneer Sergeant who will shortly leave the Regiment on completion of his service. Joe joined the Army at the tender age of 16 in 1987. On completion of his Junior Leader training at the Guards Depot, Pirbright, he was posted to the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards stationed at Caterham. His talent was quickly spotted and he was sent to the MILAN Platoon, where he stayed until 2002. Joe served in Kenya, Belize and Cyprus with the 2nd Battalion. During the early part of his career he enjoyed boxing for the Guards Depot and for the Battalion. He was selected for the JNCO Course in 1991 and found himself serving alongside three future Grenadier Sgt Majors; Darren Chant, Ian Farrell and Darren Westlake. On the amalgamation of the Battalions Joe remained in the MILAN Platoon of the 1st Battalion and undertook tours of Northern Ireland, USA, Canada and the Falkland Islands. He was promoted to LSgt in 1997.

In 2002 Joe donned an apron and took up an axe to become the Battalion Domestic Pioneer Sgt. He has enjoyed an exceptionally busy nine year period in this post which has seen him undertake tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. He found the time to complete a two year college course and obtained a City and Guilds qualification in Carpentry and Joinery. This enabled him to refine his skills to high standard and to undertake some ambitious projects. Some of these were unique in their nature: the construction of the Windsor Castle Officers bed and the refurbishment of the RMAS Sgts Mess Bar. His most rewarding challenge to date was the building of the Liki Village Orphanage in Nanyuki, Kenya. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2005 and has established himself as one of the essential Battalion characters. He often deployed to the most inhospitable and at times dangerous places to improve the lot of those working there. No one who served in Sangin will forget the five star wooden toilet he constructed for the exclusive use of Grenadiers or the luxurious outdoor tub enjoyed by those in Camp Shorabak. Joe retained his passion for boxing and coached the Battalion in various Army Boxing Competitions. He was a familiar figure in the corner at any boxing event involving Grenadiers.

Joe leaves the Regiment after 25 years service to settle down in Orpington, Kent with his two sons Nathan and Nicolas. He hopes to spend more time indulging in his hobbies of fly fishing and watching boxing. He will be remembered as one of the very best Pioneer Sgts the Regiment has produced and we wish him well.

Sgt Wayne Turner – ‘Ever Reliable’



Sgt Wayne Turner will leave the Army early in 2012 and will be remembered as a professional, flexible and reliable man who could turn his hand to anything. After training at the Guards Depot, Wayne joined the 2nd Battalion at Caterham in 1988 where he

earned his spurs on a heavy period of Public duties before being sent to Kenya and Canada on exercise as well as completing a four month tour on South Georgia. After successfully completing the Cororals Course, he was posted to 140 Army Youth Team in 1993. 1996 saw him join the 1st Battalion at Ballykinler where he became a member of the Intelligence Cell for the next two years.

Further postings followed to the AFC Harrogate, initially as a Regimental Policeman and then following promotion to LSgt, he became an instructor in Waterloo Company and saw his Platoon pass out as ‘best platoon’.

After a further tour in Northern Ireland, this time in Belfast, Wayne was posted to Catterick as the Platoon Sergeant of the Training Support Platoon. Nijmegen Company presented itself as the next challenge and after time spent in both Jamaica and the Falkland Islands as a Platoon sergeant, he was made Acting Colour Sergeant. As the CQMS of Nijmegen Company he had the honour to be the left guide for Number Five Guard on the 2008 birthday parade. Returning once again to the 1st Battalion he was made technical sergeant for camp Bastion in Afghanistan. He is an avid Manchester United supporter and keen footballer who has played at both company and battalion level. Sgt Turner has proved himself to be a most flexible and reliable man, especially during his last years in the Quartermaster’s Department where he was the real ‘utility player’. He is married to Nicola and has two children Paige (9) and Airon (7). We wish them all the very best for their future in civilian life.

LSgt Ian Edwards – ‘The Singing Grenadier’



LSgt Ian Edwards, ever a stalwart of HQ Company, recruiter extraordinaire and great singing talent, will be known by anyone who has served more than five minutes in the Regiment. ‘Eddie’ joined the Regiment in May 1988 and after completing adult recruit training at the Guards Depot, was posted to Number One Company of the 2nd Battalion at Caterham in October the same year. In 1989 he was posted to the Guards Depot as a Barrack Room instructor but his talents were quickly spotted and he was promoted to LCpl and sent to be the Officers Mess Manager, a post that he filled for two years. His time at Pirbright was extended by two years and he returned to the 2nd Battalion who were still

at Caterham. Eddy soon found himself joining the MT platoon and then moved across to join the 1st Battalion on amalgamation. It was in Ballykinler that his singing talent was identified and the ‘Singing Grenadier’ was born. There followed many successful recruiting tours and KAPE visits where Eddie’s voice was able to attract large crowds who were quickly exploited by eager recruiters who ‘slipped them the shilling’. This tactic proved to be a vital element in a highly successful revised recruiting strategy. Eddie’s approachable manner and persuasive techniques made him a perfect recruiter and he completed back to back tours at the recruiting offices in Oxford and then Northampton.

He returned to the 1st Battalion in 2006 and joined them for the tour of Iraq where he was promoted to Gold Sergeant, subsequently joining the QM dept as the USA NCO. In Afghanistan in 2007 he was attached to the Bastion Support Group and in 2009 he filled the vital role of Battalion Technical NCO in both Afghanistan and the UK. In 2010 Eddie was appointed Battalion Welfare NCO. He has been married to Tina for 25 years, has 4 children Kerry (25), Jodie (22), Sophie (19) and Oliver (9), he is also grandfather to baby Oscar. We wish Eddie and all his family the best for their transition to civilian life.

LSgt Jason ‘Trousers’ Trousdale – A Signals Platoon Stalwart



A familiar face around the Battalion and particularly in the Signals Platoon, **LSgt Jason Trousdale** joined the Regiment in 1986 at the age of 16. After a tough year’s training at the Guards Depot he was posted to the 1st Battalion at Oxford Barracks, Munster, where he joined No 3 Company in October 1987. He was quickly introduced the Battalion’s main workhorse the AFV 432. This was an exciting time; the Cold War was at its height and armoured exercises were being held all over Germany. The 1st Battalion was also the first unit in the British Army to receive the new series of ‘Warrior 510’ armoured vehicles.

In 1988 Jason volunteered for his first tour of Northern Ireland with the 1st Battalion Scots Guards. He had an

eventful tour and was involved in multi-weapon shoots and explosive finds. He returned to Munster in time to witness the run up to Operation Granby and the frenzied and fragmented departure of the 1st Battalion to war in the Persian Gulf. Jason found himself deploying with No 2 Company who were attached to the 3 RRF Battle Group and he saw action with them at the Wadi Al Batin and elsewhere. After the Gulf War the Battalion returned to London and Wellington Barracks. More tours in Northern Ireland followed, including two years at Ballykinler. After promotion to LCpl and periods as a signals Det Commander, he was posted to the Signals Wing at RMAS. He rejoined the Battalion in Windsor for a six month winter tour in Bosnia which was followed rapidly by a hot tour in Iraq. Jason was with the Battalion for its biggest test until that time and joined them on the 2007 tour in Afghanistan. He was detached with 27 or so others to the London Regiment and took part in all manner of operational tasks, but most notably in the heavy fighting around Rahim Khalay. ‘Trousers’ was appointed as the Signals Stores Sergeant for two years and finished his time in the Army as the welfare NCO. He is a well known and popular character whose jolly smile and Lancashire accent we will all miss. We wish him the very best of good luck for the future.

The FIRST or GRENADIER REGIMENT of FOOT GUARDS

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Musn	A	Armstrong	
Musn	B	Beavis	
Musn	L	Coe	
Musn	P	Cowley	
Musn	T	Greenhalf	
Musn	B	Hull	
Musn	L	Narhkom	
Musn	D	Nixon	
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Capt	JENB	Shaw
Capt	R	Stevens
Capt	J	Young
WO1	G	Snazle
WO2	S	Williams
WO2	Z	Withers
LSgt	E	Barnett
LSgt	D	Lyons
LSgt	J	Thompson
Gdsm	K	Cooper

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LSgt	C	Rodda
LSgt	H	Sutton
LSgt	G	Thomas
LSgt	A	Pitters
LCpl	J	Moore
LCpl	N	Wintle
Dmr	K	Barker
Dmr	M	Beasley
Dmr	J	Childs
Dmr	D	Durie
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Dmr	R	Martindale
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Lt	N	Wills
2Lt	A	Budge
2Lt	FCB	Moynan
WO2	M	Howlin
C/Sgt	G	Davis
Sgt	R	Archer
Sgt	C	Shadrake
Sgt	B	Patterson
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LSgt	A	Hendy
LSgt	M	Mooney
LSgt	AJ	O'Brien
LSgt	J	Rainima
LSgt	H	Sutton
LSgt	D	Tucker
LSgt	M	Wilson
LCpl	N	Atanga
LCpl	RM	Ball
LCpl	S	Beekman
LCpl	M	Bent
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LCpl	DJ	Clarke
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LCpl	A	Pletts
LCpl	A	Pugh
LCpl	T	Reuben
LCpl	J	Read
LCpl	A	Shepherd
LCpl	S	Templeton
Gdsm	D	Adams
Gdsm	S	Bah
Gdsm	T	Battisson
Gdsm	R	Bligdon
Gdsm	N	Brookes
Gdsm	T	Burges

HQ COMPANY

Maj	RM	Dorney MBE
WO2	P	Childs
C/Sgt	M	Betts
Sgt	C	Gulley
LSgt	K	Newton
LSgt	D	Hock
LCpl	HJ	Cook
Gdsm	MR	Sanderson
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NO2 COMPANY

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Capt	P	Horwood
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2Lt	W	Harris
2Lt	JJ	Hathaway-White
WO2	M	Cox
LSgt	R	Pointon
LSgt	J	Shields
LSgt	R	Tracey
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Cpl	M	Baker
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LCpl	E	Munezero
LCpl	C	Taylor
Gdsm	R	Addai
Gdsm	RD	Aldridge
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Gdsm	S	Bayameyame
Gdsm	T	Checkley
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Gdsm	A	Froude
Gdsm	J	Gould
Gdsm	J	Hardling
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Gdsm	S	Hubball
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Gdsm	CJ	Igbaifua
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LCpl	G	Quigley
LCpl	KN	Rowlett
Gdsm	J	Attwood
Gdsm	DG	Boothe
Gdsm	CS	Brierley
Gdsm	JMA	Browning
Gdsm	CL	Carrol
Gdsm	JR	Cornish
Gdsm	L	Darboe
Gdsm	JFD	Dawson
Gdsm	CM	Davis
Gdsm	S	Dodd
Gdsm	AP	Douthwaite
Gdsm	D	Downie
Gdsm	P	Fitzgerald
Gdsm	TL	Gent
Gdsm	DA	Gordon
Gdsm	LT	Hampson-Keeling
Gdsm	J	Harris
Gdsm	PME	Hemsley
Gdsm	RGA	Hollis
Gdsm	MJ	Holmes
Gdsm	C	James
Gdsm	B	Jobe
Gdsm	KM	King
Gdsm	J	Ledgerwood
Gdsm	C	Leonard
Gdsm	F	Mabasa
Gdsm	SD	Maher
Gdsm	CJ	Makweru
Gdsm	AJM	Mccormack
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Gdsm	DE	Smith
Gdsm	BS	Sonko
Gdsm	MC	Stacey
Gdsm	CA	Stratford
Gdsm	LS	Tatem
Gdsm	JS	Tighe
Gdsm	C	Wasswa
Gdsm	DT	Weir
Gdsm	LB	Whybrow
Gdsm	DL	Walton
Gdsm	MW	Wright

SUPPORT COMPANY

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Capt	M	Dobbin
Capt	R	DaGama
Capt	PJ	Rice
Capt	N	Strachen
Lt	BMG	Pountain
Lt	J	Taylor
CSM	H	Lawn
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Sgt	M	Poxton
L Sgt	L	Dutton
L Sgt	K	Dunk
L Sgt	C	Freiss
L Sgt	D	Harrison
L Sgt	W	Holdcroft
L Sgt	J	Hurst
L Sgt	R	Jackson
L Sgt	T	James
L Sgt	M	Oldham
L Sgt	B	Orrell
L Sgt	G	Pendlebury
L Sgt	J	Rainima
L Sgt	L	Swan
L Sgt	D	Smith

THE REGIMENT

LSgt	M	Strydom
LCpl	T	Arnold stronge
LCpl	J	Ashworth
LCpl	M	Bailey
LCpl	R	Ball
LCpl	D	Bakewell
LCpl	A	Beeby
LCpl	M	Bent
LCpl	M	Bunyan
LCpl	J	Bull
LCpl	DL	Farrell
LCpl	HM	Foxcroft
LCpl	J	Goggins
LCpl	S	Harvey
LCpl	M	Haynes
LCpl	M	Jallow
LCpl	S	Lawa
LCpl	CJ	Lopez Moreno
LCpl	T	Love
LCpl	J	Macdonagh
LCpl	M	Morris
LCpl	R	Pamflett
LCpl	J	Pearce
LCpl	A	Pleets
LCpl	M	Shaw
LCpl	A	Shepherd
LCpl	S	Thorne
Gdsm	J	Adom
Gdsm	L	Atterbury
Gdsm	E	Barry
Gdsm	A	Beckham
Gdsm	D	Bentley
Gdsm	S	Birch
Gdsm	R	Bligdon
Gdsm	N	Brookes
Gdsm	S	Brown
Gdsm	G	Bowers
Gdsm	A	Bone
Gdsm	T	Burgess
Gdsm	C	Burgess
Gdsm	P	Bullivou
Gdsm	J	Carty
Gdsm	J	Carr
Gdsm	C	Clarkstone
Gdsm	A	Cowan
Gdsm	C	Cosgrove
Gdsm	J	Corfield
Gdsm	S	Constable
Gdsm	L	Coulbert
Gdsm	J	Cox
Gdsm	S	Crosbie
Gdsm	R	Davies
Gdsm	S	Dent
Gdsm	A	Deen Kamara
Gdsm	C	Fairclough
Gdsm	J	Farmer
Gdsm	E	Fowler
Gdsm	L	Foxall
Gdsm	S	Fredrickson
Gdsm	B	Furneaux
Gdsm	T	Harry
Gdsm	D	Hill
Gdsm	R	Holmes
Gdsm	R	Horvath
Gdsm	S	Husband
Gdsm	E	Hennell
Gdsm	J	Haley
Gdsm	D	Hankey
Gdsm	G	Haynes
Gdsm	S	Holley
Gdsm	A	Lownds
Gdsm	J	Loftus
Gdsm	P	Jeffs
Gdsm	SJ	Keegan
Gdsm	G	Mason
Gdsm	S	Mcash
Gdsm	D	Mcbride
Gdsm	E	Matai
Gdsm	D	Mewis
Gdsm	S	Morris
Gdsm	N	Neller
Gdsm	B	Painter
Gdsm	J	Plant
Gdsm	S	Pitt
Gdsm	D	Poyer
Gdsm	J	Pearson
Gdsm	T	Rees
Gdsm	M	Robinson
Gdsm	B	Russell
Gdsm	R	Rowbottom
Gdsm	S	Rose

Gdsm	M	Rance
Gdsm	P	Salt
Gdsm	S	Sambells
Gdsm	S	Scarott
Gdsm	J	Shadrake
Gdsm	M	Shearer
Gdsm	L	Shine
Gdsm	M	Shears
Gdsm	D	Snyman
Gdsm	D	Spencer
Gdsm	R	Stray
Gdsm	A	Swords
Gdsm	M	Talbot
Gdsm	N	Truman
Gdsm	A	Waller
Gdsm	K	Walkden
Gdsm	K	Warde
Gdsm	G	Wint
Gdsm	A	Wright
Gdsm	D	Quaye
Gdsm	A	Young

QUATERMASTERS PLATOON

Gdsm	J	Cawdron
Gdsm	A	Ceesay
Gdsm	S	Cooper
Gdsm	C	Cowey
Gdsm	G	Greenhalgh
Gdsm	S	Minneh

TRAINING WING/ GYMNASIUM

Capt	S	Gillham
Sgt	P	Roberts
LSgt	T	Nickless
LSgt	M	Parker
LCpl	L	Culverhouse

MEDICAL CENTRE

Sgt	J	Tack
LCpl	K	Frimpong
Gdsm	R	Cheetham
Gdsm	M	Plantskiy
Gdsm	K	Wells

REGIMENTAL POLICE

LSgt	K	Plant
LCpl	R	Haughton
LCpl	C	Thompson
LCpl	J	Tuicicia

OFFICERS MESS

CsGt	G	Luke
Gdsm	G	Challinor
Gdsm	N	Okoye

SERGEANTS MESS

LCpl	M	Bowman
Gdsm	L	Badjie
Gdsm	C	Newton

WELFARE OFFICE

Capt	I	Farrell
WO2	J	Bastin
Sgt	I	Edwards
LSgt	J	Trousdale
Gdsm	T	Hayward

Nijmegen Company

Maj	JOD	Fox
Capt	C	Stevenson
2Lt	MWS	Dobson
2Lt	JAL	Garton
WOII	T	Bearder
CSgt	JP	Summerscales
Sgt	D	Jones
Sgt	G	Hudson
Sgt	S	Cathcart
Sgt	C	Nicholson
LSgt	B	Brown
LSgt	A	Bonnell
LSgt	A	Harper
LSgt	MA	Macmillian
LSgt	T	Mercer
LSgt	I	Norman
LSgt	M	Parker
LSgt	J	Worth
LCpl	RFJ	Blakeney
LCpl	D	Bramley
LCpl	G	Davis
LCpl	L	Dawson
LCpl	M	Deacon
LCpl	M	Faux
LCpl	B	Marchant
LCpl	I	Maynard
LCpl	M	Morris
LCpl	A	Smith
LCpl	R	Shean
LCpl	G	Stocker
LCpl	GJJ	Vicker
Drm	JB	Matai
Gdsm	R	Ashley
Gdsm	E	Attuquayefio
Gdsm	M	Avery
Gdsm	J	Barber
Gdsm	T	Batty
Gdsm	G	Beecher
Gdsm	JCL	Bestwick
Gdsm	WG	Bestwick
Gdsm	R	Bibbings
Gdsm	P	Bishop
Gdsm	JAG	Boardman
Gdsm	D	Bowyer
Gdsm	MDJ	Bradford
Gdsm	SR	Brindley
Gdsm	J	Brinkworth
Gdsm	JW	Brown
Gdsm	BB	Bull
Gdsm	S	Carter
Gdsm	J	Claridge
Gdsm	LMA	Costello
Gdsm	C	Drew
Gdsm	KP	Doyle
Gdsm	LMA	Foulks
Gdsm	D	Frank
Gdsm	R	Froggatt
Gdsm	SJ	Garratt
Gdsm	MC	Gorton
Gdsm	AD	Harris
Gdsm	J	Hubbard

Officers

SENIOR OFFICERS

Major General GPR Norton CBE	Major General London District
Brigadier DJH Madden	Comd-CTAG-A
Colonel RD Winstanley OBE	AD Pers DInf
Colonel RH Mills	Assist COS capability MOD A Block London
Colonel DJC Russell-Parsons	Deputy Commander 38 Irish Brigade
Colonel CRV Walker DSO	Chief of Staff 3 (UK) Division

REGIMENTAL OFFICERS

Lieutenant Colonels

JMH	Bowder MBE	Commanding Officer 1st Battalion
TW	Jalland	Lt Colonel Foot Guards
JTJ	Levine MBE	SO1 Info MGT & REQ C2DC LWDG
JDMcL	Wrench	SO1 G3/5 OPS SP HQ 3 (UK) DIV
GR	Denison-Smith	Deputy Mil & Police Advisor, UK To the UN
RT	Maundrell..	Commanding Officer Belfast University OTC
AFR	James	Lieutenant Colonel Foot Guards

Majors

ARG	Cartwright	SO2 FtGds, APC Glasgow
SG	Soskin	SO2 G1 Pers Ops DInf
MA	Griffiths	MSSG BG Planning Team 3
MP	David MC	French Staff College
The Hon CL Broughton MBE*	ACSC Student
MJG	Elliot-Square	SO2 Ceremonial Policy PS12 MOD
RJH	Green	(MA, Cos AGCS)(LOG)
DJ	Alkin	OC The Inkerman Company
EJ	Paintin	SO2 O&D Cyprus
PL	Ashfield	The Captain
JCM	Greaves	US Staff College
RJH	Green	MA, CoS AGCS LOG

Captains

JR	Green *	ICSC
SC	Gordon Lennox*	OC Gds Coy ITC Catterick
RE	King-Evans*	OC Support Company
JENB	Shaw*	(NI Deck MOD Main Building)
PW	Russell	G3 Ops SO2 160 Bde
JOD	Fox*	OC Nijmegen Company
JA	Seddon	ICSC
BJR	Jesty	Adjutant New College RMAS
JM	Young	Ops Officer 1st Battalion
AJ	Tiernan	Detached
RMB	Stevens	Adjutant 1st Battalion
HPCG	Cordle	Adjutant (LCG)
ACT	Forster2ic Nijmegen Company
FAOO	Kuku	ADC Major General Household Division
WHL	Harries	SO3 Olympics
ND	Torp-Petersen	Adjutant London Regiment
JM	Lindley	SO3 G3 O&D 19 Bde
NA	Strachan	2nd Captain
RD	Hutton	(Assistant Equerry)
GL	Banks	(Rehab)
P	Rice	Mortar PI Comd
MOC	Dobbin	Recce PI Comd
AWE	Bayliss	Int Officer 1st Battalion
CA	Shephard MC	PI Comd Gds Para
RC	De Gama2IC No 2 Company

Lieutenants

OJC	Holcroft	PI Comd Support Company
AA	Wellesley-Wood	PI Com ITC Catterick
JR	Taylor	Sniper OC
TR	Hendriksen2ic Inkerman Company
JE	Stafford Allan	PI Comd Nijmegen Company
JD	Brown	PI Comd ITC Catterick
CJD	Stevenson	PI Comd Nijmegen Company
N	Wills	PI Comd The Queens Company
BMT	Pountain	PI Comd Inkerman Company

Second Lieutenants

AHM	Budge	PI Comd The Queens Company
HC	Cartwright	PI Comd Two Company
A	Stonar	PI Comd Inkerman Company
WLR	Harris	PI Cond Two Company
J	Hathaway-White	PI Comd Two Company
H	Hardy	PI Comd Inkerman Company
MWS	Dobson	PI Comd Nijmegen Company
JAL	Garton	PI Comd Nijmegen Company
FCB	Moynan	PI Comd The Queens Company

Late Entry Commissions

1st Battalion		
Maj	VJ Overton	INSTR LEOC RMAS
Maj	R Dorney MBE	OC Headquarter Company
Maj	EJJ O'Keefe	QM/MTO 2 MI BN
Maj	BF Broad	Rehab
Maj	M Gaunt OBE	SO2 G4 Ops London District
Maj	G Gask	Quartermaster 1st Battalion
Capt	DT Groom	QMT) 1st Battalion
Capt	NA England	SO3 G7 Training RMAS
Capt	A Butcher	RCMO 1st Battalion
Capt	A Keeley MBE	MTO 1st Battalion
Capt	S Gillham	Training Officer 1st Battalion
Capt	I Farrell	Welfare Officer 1st Battalion

Director of Music

Capt	M Smith MMus, FLCM, LRSN, PSM	DoM Regt Band
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RETIRING OFFICERS still in Military Employment or Occupation

Lt Col	CJE Seymour LVO	Regimental Archivist
Maj	GVA Baker	Regimental Adjutant
Maj	DNW Sewell	HQ Foot Guards
Maj	PAJ Wright OBE	Regimental Archivist
Maj	AJ Green	Regimental Treasurer
Capt	L Scholes216 Bty RA (V)

*indicates acting in a higher rank.

Grenadiers at Extra-Regimental Employment

WO1	S	Munro	.RMAS New College
WO1	D	Westlake	.RMAS Old College
WO1	M	Smith	.AADW
WO1	S	Bate	.Frimley CTC
WO2	M	Boak	.RMAS CSM
WO2	P	Downes	.ITC Catterick CSM
WO2	J	Frith	.RMAS CSM
WO2	L	Cope	.Office Manager ACIO Carlisle
WO2	N	Bould	.Episkopi Station Housing And Welfare
WO2	A	Richards	.HQ RG G4 Staff East
WO2	M	Davies	.MOD-AMD Trim Team
CSgt	J	Burns	.AADW
CSgt	M	Hughes	.OPTAG
CSgt	C	Gilles	.ITC CMGS
CSgt	C	Dougherty	.RMAS Instructor
CSgt	P	Rackley	.PSI London Regt
CSgt	B	Devall	.FSG GP Warminster
Sgt	D	Bailey	.Sgt INSTR HDPRCC
Sgt	D	Walton	.Sgt INSTR HDPRCC
Sgt	P	Boardman	.AFCO Manchester
Sgt	M	Ellmer	.HQ INF COL FT GDS
Sgt	T	Saxton	.AFCO Grimsby
Sgt	P	Housby	.PL Sgt ATR Pirbright
Sgt	N	Johnson	.AFCO Nottingham
Sgt	T	Loder	.PI Sgt ATR Bassingbourn
Sgt	J	Statters	.D and M School
Sgt	D	Travis	.16 CDT TRN Team
Sgt	D	Thomas	.PARA PLT
Sgt	A	Clark	.AFCO Coventry
Sgt	M	Beasley	.13 CDT TRN Team
Sgt	M	Lloyd	.ITC PI Sgt
Sgt	D	Roper	.ITC PI Sgt
Sgt	P	Easters	.AFCO Oxford
LSgt	M	Hall	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	D	Jones	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	G	Mann	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	P	Laird	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	S	Perry	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	A	SWIFT	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	A	Harris	.AFCO Derby
LSgt	D	Bonsell	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	J	Parker	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	A	Jones	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	J	Hill	.ITC PTI
LSgt	M	Cahill	.ITC PTI
LSgt	N	Rowe	.ITC Demo
LSgt	L	Fulton	.ITC Medic
LSgt	M	Williams	.ATP (P) Instructor
LSgt	S	Struczynski	.AFCO Birmingham
LSgt	L	Deen	.Army Winter sports team
LSgt	D	Rideout	.ART Pirbright
LSgt	S	Cooper	.Storeman HDPRCC
LSgt	B	Bainbridge	.ART 17 Stafford
LSgt	J	Garcia	.ACIO Wolverhampton
LSgt	C	Price	.Field TRN GR Salisbury
LSgt	R	Brooms	.ACIO Northampton
LSgt	J	Dawson	.ACIO Stoke
LSgt	P	Fear	.17 CDT TRG Team
LSgt	P	Hope	.LSgt INSTR AFC Harrogate
LSgt	J	Hunter	.Orderly Duke of Edinburgh
LSgt	S	Hayes	.AFCO Bristol
LSgt	J	Lockley	.LSgt INSTR AFC Harrogate
LSgt	M	Martin	.PTI Pirbright
LSgt	D	Marsden	.LSgt INSTR AFC Harrogate
LSgt	P	Newton	.HCAV Stables
LSgt	D	Sullivan	.LSgt INSTR ATB Bassingbourn
LSgt	G	Nicholson	.RST Comd
LSgt	D	Norris	.Pathfinder Platoon
LCpl	K	Elasli	.INF BTLE SCH Storeman
LCpl	L	Woodward	.ART Stafford
LCpl	M	Goom	.RST
LCpl	J	McCormack	.RST
LCpl	G	Neal	.ART 14 Bassingbourn
LCpl	T	Timmins	.RP ATR Winchester
LCpl	M	Thomas	.ITC Demo
LCpl	S	Rigby	.ART 9 Preston
LCpl	S	Taylor	.ITC SP Battalion
Gdsm	D	Smith	.RST
Gdsm	B	Thomas	.RST
Gdsm	D	Marmion	.HAC Driver
Gdsm	S	Bloomer	.RST
Gdsm	P	Rydings	.ART 20 Bicester
Gdsm	K	Harrison	.ART 23 Chepstow
Gdsm	D	Harvey	.JHSU UKMF
Gdsm	L	Redgate	.St James Palace Waiter
Gdsm	P	Shield	.PARA PLT

Gdsm	A	Murphy	.ART 20 Bicester
Gdsm	J	Markey	.ART 23 Chepstow
Gdsm	J	Swanston	.RMAS SIG/DVR

Warrant Officers

Warrant Officer Class 1

S	Munro	.RMAS New College
M	Smith	.AADW
S	Bate	.Frimley CTC
G	Snazle	.1st Battalion
D	Westlake	.RMAS Old College

Regimental Quartermaster Sergeants (WO2)

A	Walker	.Regimental Headquarters
M	Pollett	.RQMS(M)
R	Day	.RQMS(T)

Drill Sergeants (WO2)

S	Williams	.1st Battalion
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Company Sergeant Majors (WO2)

M	Howlin	.The Queens Company
M	Cox	.No2 Company
H	Lawn	.Support Company
P	Childs	.Headquarter Company
J	Byrne	.The Inkerman Company
T	Bearder	.Nijmegen Company

Warrant Officer Class 2

J	Bastin	.Welfare Warrant Officer
M	Boak	.RMAS Company Sergeant Major
P	Downes	.ITC Company Sergeant Major
J	Frith	.RMAS Company Sergeant Major
L	Cope	.Office Manager ACIO Carlisle
N	Bould	.Episkopi Station Housing And Welfare
A	Richards	.HQ RG G4 Staff East
M	Davies	.MOD-AMD TRIM Training Cell
Z	Withers	.Ops Warrant Officer

Marriages

2Lt Hathaway-White	to Miss Rebecca Sebag Montefiore
Sgt Archer	to Miss Danielle Hanafin
Sgt Shadrake	to Miss Angie Sayers
Sgt Paterson	to Miss Becky Bond
Sgt DA Richardson	to Miss Zoe Knowles
L Sgt Donovan	to Miss Roselyn
L Sgt Mooney	to Miss Lorna Hayward
L Sgt Hendy	to Miss Hayley Cowlishaw
L Sgt Rodda	to Miss Charlotte Dickinson
L Sgt Harrison	to Miss Cerrianne Copps
L Sgt Smith	to Miss Natasha Sherwood
LCpl Lawa	to Miss Elina Mawamawa
LCpl K Maskell	to Miss Sarah Dorrain
Gdsm Ceesay	to Miss Isatou
Gdsm Gomez	to Miss Malen
Gdsm Moss	to Miss Katie Sadler
Gdsm Durie	to Miss Clementine Ham
Gdsm Walkden	to Miss Haley Capper

Births 2010

To CSgt Parkes and Mrs Parkes	a daughter, Lucy
To LSgt Gunning and Ms Hayley Gibbons	a daughter, Ava.
To LSgt Kidd and Mrs Kidd	a son, Keiron
To LCpl Cook and Mrs Cook	a son, Fion
To LCpl Tuccia and Mrs Sarah Lee	a daughter, Jasmine
To Gdsm Adjei and Mrs Adjei	a son, Jayden
To Gdsm Sylva and Mrs Sylva	a son, Joseph
To LCpl Munerzero and Mrs Munerzero	a son Dylan
To Gdsm Timmis and Miss Natasha Seaman	a son Charlie-George
To Gdsm Checkley and Miss Felicity Dunn	a son Harvey
To LCpl Moore and Miss Chalk	a daughter Lily-May
To Gdsm Staple and Mrs Staple	a son Omari
To Gdsm Ceesay and Mrs Ceesay	a son Haddy
To Gdsm Galvin and Miss Jade Mandara	a daughter Scarlett
To Gdsm Whittle and Miss Zoe Salim	a daughter Grace
To Gdsm Moss and Mrs Moss	a daughter Lili
To Gdsm Rollason and Mrs Rollason	a daughter Layla
To LSgt Thomas and Mrs Thomas	a daughter Poppy-Anne
To Gdsm Dodd and Mrs Dodd	a daughter Maddy
To Gdsm Strawford and Miss Aston	a son Oliver
To Gdsm James and Mrs James	a son Allessia
To Gdsm Martindale	a daughter Analeigh

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2012

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WO1 (RSM) Snazle G

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Major BT Eastwood LVO OBE	Mr DM McMahon RVM
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Mr J Ford	Major VJ Overton
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Mr	EJ Dean, London	Mr	RT Godfrey, Essex	Mr	S Higgin, Cumbria	Mr	A Keogh, London
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Mr	GB Edmunds, Northampton	Mr	ML Greenbury, Kent	Mr	R Hobbs, Hampshire	Mr	DA Lawrence, Northampton
Mr	G Eldershaw, Northants	Mr	PV Greenwood, Berkshire	Mr	A Hodges MBE, Surrey	Mr	BW Lawson, Chertsey
Mr	M Ellis, Fife	Mr	CCK Griffiths, Chichester	Mr	P Hodgkinson BEM, Surrey	Mr	G Lawson, Essex
Mr	NC Edwards, Glasgow	Mr	G Grimshaw, Lancashire	Mr	DC Hodson, Nottingham	Mr	JC Leach, Somerset
Mr	M Elliott, Hampshire	Mr	JNJ Grocott, Derby	Major	MB Holland, Windsor	Mr	RJ Le Louet BEM, Hampshire
Mr	S Elson, Surrey	Mr	NS Grumbar, Carmarthenshire	Mr	S Holland, Maidenhead	Capt	J Lenaghan, London
Mr	C Entwistle, Australia	Mr	B Grummet, Nottingham	Mr	C Holland, Lincoln	Lt Col	G F Lesinski, Somerset
Mr	D Errington, Gloucester	Mr	GJ Guest, Belize	Mr	B Hollinshead, Worcester	Mr	BG Lester, USA
Mr	D Evans, Canada	Mr	KG Haddrill, Cheshire	Capt	A Holloway, Devon	Mr	J Lewis, Mansfield
Mr	G Evans, Hertfordshire	Mr	DA Haggarty, Guernsey	Mr	JM Hooper, Lancashire	Mr	G Lightfoot, Lancashire
Mr	JK Evans, Powys	Mr	D Hague, Nottingham	Mr	N Hopkins, North Wales	Capt	J Lines, Glasgow
Capt	HM Everist, Berkshire	Mr	JD Haigh, Norfolk	Capt	DD Horn, Middlesex	Capt	DW Ling, Berkshire
Mr	Ewen, Northampton	Mr	P Haigh, Hampshire	Mr	D Houghton, somerset	Mr	G Lippatt MSM, Bristol
Capt	K Fairchild, Northampton	Major	S Halford, Hampshire	Mr	R Huggins MBE, Oxfordshire	Mr	CF Liquorish, Kent
Mr	J Farmer, Bristol	Mr	I Hall, Surrey	Mr	A Hughes, Surrey	Mr	DF Lloyd, Hertfordshire
Mr	SP Fellows, London	Mr	MS Hall, Warminster	Mr	TJ Hughes, Hertford	Mr	MS Lloyd, Essex
Mr	D Felton, Manchester	Mr	W Hall, Avon	Mr	ETJ Hulbert, Bristol	Mr	MC Lobley, Lancashire
Mr	G Fenner, Essex	Mr	GE Hallam, Nottingham	Mr	RB Human, Hertfordshire	Mr	CM Lonsdale, Nottingham
Mr	A Ferney-Hough MBE, Kent	Mr	PM Hallam, Nottingham	Mr	AW Humphreys, Berkshire	Mr	J Loveday, Tyne & Wear
Mr	VJ Finan, Chester	Mr	L Hammil, Hampshire	Mr	T Humphreys, London	Mr	FH Lovett MM, Essex
Mr	JK Finch, Cyprus	Mr	R Hampson, Uxbridge	Mr	PA Hunter, London	Mr	R Lovewell, Essex
Mr	G Fishwick, Eastbourne	Capt	AM Harding, Bath	Mr	R Ibson, Hertfordshire	Mr	FJ Lowe, Balham
Mr	D Fitzgerald, Chilwell	Mr	MR Harding, Hampshire	Major	BMP Inglis MBE,Dyfed	Capt	DR Loxton, Kent
Mr	K Fitzgerald, Manchester	Capt	DJ Hardman, Wiltshire	Mr	W Jacobi, Middlesex	Mr	GE Machin, New Zealand
Mr	DT Fleming, Bristol	Mr	M Hardwick, Slough	Mr	ME James, Surrey	Mr	WD Mackay, Argyll
Mr	RA Fletcher, Leicester	Mr	PJ Hardy, Cambridge	Mr	CM Jeanes, Avon	Mr	P Maher, Hertfordshire
Mr	S Ford, Yorkshire	Mr	CP Hares, Caterham	Mr	D Jelves, West Yorkshire	Mr	GE Major, South Devon
Mr	T Foreman, Cambridge	Lt Col	DF Harris, Northampton	Capt	CJ Harrison, Salop	Mr	M Male, Cleyland
Mr	D Foster, Middlesex	Mr	P Harris, Spain	Mr	DA Harrison, Jersey	Mr	R Mann, Australia
Mr	S Foster, W Midlands	Mr	DAJ Jenkins, Dorset	Mr	VG Jewell LVO, Scotland	Mr	PS Manning, USA
Mr	R Freeston, Essex	Mr	M J Hart, Dorset	Mr	AJ Johnson, Westbury	Mr	HJL Mansell, Kent
Mr	LP Gallagher BEM, Nottingham	Mr	G W Harvey, Dorset	Mr	S Johnson GM, Surrey	Major	S Marcham MBE, London
Mr	DL Gatford, Eire	Mr	K Hastin-Green, Hampshire	Mr	R Jolly BEM, Tamworth	Mr	AJ Marshall MVO, Middlesex
Mr	K Gibbens, Surrey	Mr	S Hawes, Poole	Mr	AF Jones, Lincoln	Mr	WR Marsden, S-O-T
Mr	G Gibson, Dunstable	Mr	G Hayes, Essex	Mr	C Jones, Liverpool		
Mr	B Gillon, West Midlands	Mr	S Hayes, Dorset	Mr	KJ Jones, Cornwall		
Mr	C Gilpin, Cumbria	Mr	HJJ Hayes, Leicestershire	Mr	M Jones, Prestwich		
				Mr	RE Jones, Leicester		
				Major	MJ Joyce MBE, Salisbury		

THE REGIMENT

Mr	PD Marshall, Oxford	Mr	AD Peachey BEM, Sussex	Mr	W Scully, Devon	Mr	J Upton, London
Mr	TD J Marshall, Yorkshire	Mr	J Pearce, New Zealand	Mr	REG Seale DL, Worcester	Mr	JMN Upton, Surrey
Mr	J Marvey, Leicestershire	Mr	MM Pearce, Essex	Mr	RS Senior, Hampshire	Mr	A Urvoi, Windsor
Mr	AE Maslin, Middlesex	Mr	L Perkins BEM, Kent	Mr	T Sentence, Kenya	Mr	S Vaughan, Kent
Mr	DJR Masterman, London	Mr	RAJ Phasey BEM, West Mids	Mr	S Sergeant, Aldershot	Capt	D Vernon, East Sussex
Mr	FA May, USA	Lt Col	K Pickering, London	Mr	J Seymour, Northampton	Mr	P Wakelin, Cheshire
Mr	WJ May, Berkshire	Mr	J Pimlott, Canada	Mr	P Sharman, Surrey	Mr	W Wall, Halifax
Mr	JE Mayes, East Sussex	Mr	C Plant, Berkshire	Capt	A Sharman, Surrey	Mr	GR Wallace, London
Mr	M Mayoh, Stalybridge	Mr	HN Plater,	Mr	B Sheen, Isle of Wight	Mr	T Walmsley, Scarborough
Mr	AJ McClenaghan, Nottingham	Mr	I Plotter, Barnstaple	Mr	P Shelbourn, Glamorgan	Mr	JG Walmsley, Middlesex
Mr	T McDermott, Northampton	Mr	A Pollitt, Swindon	Mr	J Sheldon, Derbyshire	Mr	G Warner BEM, Kent
Mr	DM McMahon RVM, Berkshire	Mr	J Poole, Lancashire	MR	RG Sheppard, Suffolk	Capt	RJ Warwick, Berkshire
Mr	R Mearing, Exeter	Mr	G Price, Manchester	Mr	C Short, Linc's	Mr	GJ Waters, Suffolk
Mr	R Millard, Surrey	Mr	A Prentice, Hertfordshire	Mr	JN Simpson, Middlesex	Mr	BEM Watson, West Midlands
Mr	EH Miller, Merseyside	Mr	PD Price, woking	Mr	J Singlehurst, Bristol	Mr	M Watts, Cambridshire
Mr	NJC Miller, Surrey	Mr	DC Pritty, Lancashire	Mr	A Slack, Chatham	Mr	MS Watts, St Neots
Mr	AB Mills MM, Suffolk	Mr	W Quinn, Berkshire	Mr	G Sly, Essex	Lt Col	SA Watts OBE, Hampshire
Mr	OM Mills, Ipswich	Mr	R C Radford, Totton	Mr	G Smith, Staffordshire	Lt Col	DJ Webster, Surrey
Mr	RJ Milnes, Manchester	Mr	C Ramsay, Mansfield	Mr	GE Smith, Yorkshire	Mr	D Wedge, Surrey
Mr	P Mizzi, Hampshire	Mr	D Randall MBE, Cornwall	Mr	KR Smith, Bristol	Capt	ASW Wedlock, Essex
Mr	DG Money MBE, Sussex	Mr	EF Randall MBE, West Sussex	Mr	RC Smith, Attleborough	Mr	DJ Welling, Merseyside
Mr	B Moore, Hampshire	Mr	M Reed, Hertfordshire	Mr	J Sneath, Wolverhampton	Mr	NJ Westwood
Mr	J Moore, Shropshire	Mr	J Regan, Gloucester	Mr	G Sneath, Nottingham	Mr	JP Whelan, Yorkshire
Mr	WH Moores, Coventry	Mr	G Reincke BEM, Suffolk	Mr	DS Sneller, West Sussex	Mr	JA Welton, Hampshire
Mr	K Moores, Guernsey	Mr	B Reynolds, surrey	Mr	A Souster, North Devon	Mr	P Wheller, East Sussex
Mr	CD Morgan, Cheshire	Mr	A Richards, Dover	Mr	J Southern, Berkshire	Mr	WJH Whitbread, Dyfed
Mr	P Morgan, Essex	Mr	J Richards, Huntingdon	Mr	DR Sparkes, Dorset	Mr	DJ White, Hampshire
Mr	JR Morrey, Leicester	Mr	A Richardson, Cheshire	Mr	AO Spencer, Kent	Mr	J White, Preston
Mr	DJ Moss, Cheshire	Mr	CF Richardson, Surrey	Mr	KM Spencer, Cheshire	Mr	L White, Caterham
Mr	W Mottershead, Maccesfield	Mr	DJ Riddler, Peterborough	Mr	LW Spencer, Surrey	Mr	CM Whitebrook, Cambridge
Mr	JF Mundy, Cornwall	Mr	GNH Rimell, Gloucester	Mr	C Spiers, New Zealand	Lt Col	GR Whitebread RVM, Surrey
Mr	M Munroe, Surrey	Mr	DF Roalfe, Slough	Mr	R Springall, Australia	Mr	PB Whorton, Berkshire
Mr	PJ Munro, Lancashire	Mr	KT Roberts, Surrey	Mr	J Stanyard, Surrey	Mr	I Whyte, Northampton
Mr	P Murray, Leicester	Mr	RD Roberts, Gwynedd	Mr	L Starks, Hertfordshire	Mr	D Wilkinson BEM, Swansea
Mr	J Morris, Somerset	Mr	MS Robins, Staffordshire	Mr	A Steed, Nottingham	Mr	MM Wilkinson, East Sussex
Mr	IJ Nash, Berks	Mr	BN Robinson, Staffordshire	Mr	H Stern, Essex	Mr	CJ Wills (418), West Midlands
Mr	N Nash, Swindon	Mr	DJ Robinson, Suffolk	Mr	C Stocker, Surrey	Mr	SS Wilson, Middlesex
Mr	C Newens, Kent	Mr	S Robinson, London	Mr	JB Stevens, Sussex	Mr	W Wilson, Essex
Mr	RS Nightgale, Nottingham	Mr	JH Rogers, Avon	Mr	S Stringer, West Midlands	Mr	J Winterbottom, Lancashire
Mr	JA Noakes, Bedfordshire	Capt	TA Rolfe, Alfershot	Mr	S Swanwick, Nottingham	Mr	AE Wood, Lincolnshire
Mr	B Norris, London	Mr	JH Rooney, Yorkshire	Mr	D Tanner, Middlesex	Mr	MG Woodgate, Hertfordshire
Mr	B Oakley-Watson, Berkshire	Major	DR Rossi MBE, Surrey	Mr	Tate-Williams, Milton Keynes	Major	RG Woodfield, Shropshire
Mr	DH O'Coffey, London	Mr	M Rossi, Surrey	Mr	BAM Taylor, Bradford	Mr	JD Woodhouse, Northumberland
Mr	J O'Connor, Middlesex	Mr	JA Rowe, Hertfordshire	Mr	J Taylor, Hants	Mr	DJ Worsford BEM, Surrey
Mr	M O'Hara, Bolton	Mr	MR Rowe,	Mr	AJ Thomas, Annenford	Mr	Wotherspoon, Lincoln
Mr	W Orton, Surrey	Mr	West Midlands	Mr	DA Thomas MBE, Berkshire	Mr	A Wright, Gwynedd
Mr	G Oxford, Hampshire	Mr	ARJ Russell, Huddersfield	Capt	BE Thompson BEM, Blackpool	Mr	K Wright, Staffordshire
Mr	JE Page, Hertfordshire	Mr	P Salt, London	Capt	RHL Thompson, Berkshire	Mr	RA Wyatt, Wiltshire
Mr	RC Page BEM, Lincoln	Major	JA Sandison MBE,	Mr	KL Thomson, Swindon	Mr	VJ Young, Berkshire
Mr	D Paine, Kent	Mr	QGM, Chepstow	Mr	RJ Thompson , Essex		
Mr	H Parker, Kent	Mr	R Sergeant BEM, Stafford	Mr	JE Tilbury, Surrey		
Major	RJ Parker, Hampshire	Mr	RF Saunders, Milton Keynes	Mr	C Till, Somerset		
Mr	N Parr, Milton Keynes	Mr	CC Savage, Cambridge	Capt	CJO Tilly, Essex		
Mr	JB Parrott, Devon	Mr	L Scholes, Bolton	Mr	NR Townsend, Berkshire		
Mr	L Payne, Surrey	Mr	M Scott, Gwynedd	Lt Col	S Tuck BEM, London		

We Will Remember Them

The Executive Committee deeply regrets that notification has been received of the death of the following Grenadiers.

23509411	CW A'Court	Wessex	22545499	RE Cutler	Medway
23509717	KE Aldred		2624094	JF Daniels	Worcester & Hereford
23688522	AL Ashton	London (2010)		RK Day, Esq	First Guards Club
2624399	CW Atkins	London	23129795	J Dennison	Medway (2001)
22545949	AV Axworthy, BEM	Nottinghamshire	2619530	V Doxey	Matlock
5498689	JAB Barnes	North American	2623720	H Doyle	North Lancashire (1998)
23094061	PE Bartlett	Manchester		Major Sir Philip Duncombe, Bt, DL	Aylesbury/First Guards Club
2627249	CG Beckworth	Nottinghamshire		Captain (QM)	
2628963	GE Bell	Devon & Cornwall		P Dunkerley, MBE	First Guards Club
24753205	JP Bennet	Nottinghamshire	22545815	GH Dutton	Devon & Cornwall
2620945	H Bent	Spalding	23071181	R Edmunds	Gloucestershire
Captain	D G Bibby	Kingston/First Guards Club	2624082	GF Elliott	Lincoln
2627726	NJ Blay	Manchester 2611452	2622507	W Entwistle	North Lancashire (2010)
	E Bolan	London/Chester Pensioner	14894415	JW Etherington	Surrey & E. Hants
24706408	SP Boswell	London	2622509	R Fallon	Windsor (2007)
23252140	C Bowdeen	Windsor (2009)	2620570	HF Farnsworth	London
2626576	BR Bowler			The Hon. Sir Desmond Fennell, OBE, QC	Aylesbury/First Guards Club
2627294	R Braysford	North Lancashire	2623740	SA Foster	Wolverhampton
2614187	T Breen	Gloucestershire	23252354	J Galpin	Nottinghamshire
588411	R Butcher	Northamptonshire	2617965	GE Garland	Manchester
2623800	NG Butlin	Bath (2010)	25003897	D Gartland	Manchester – Serving
23509177	R Butterworth	Manchester (2010)	22516588	R Goddard	Cambridge
22213411	DJ Byford	London	2628273	WJ Gough	Gloucestershire
2626119	W Cain	Walsall		The Duke of Grafton, KG, DL	Suffolk/First Guards Club
23252247	JH Carswell	Worcester & Hereford		Major	MW Grazebrook MC, ERD
Sir Roger	Cary Bt	First Guards Club			Wessex/ First Guards Club
22481822	K Caunt		2623408	PG Gregory, MM	Bath (2010)
22472434	AH Cawthorne	London	2616952	WSG Gunshon	Nottinghamshire
2618520	H Charge	1999	2622807	DA Haggarty	General
23688576	J Chesters	Manchester (2010)	2622810	FW Hales	
24385061	D Clapton	Nottinghamshire	2626938	R Halliwell	Wigan & St. Helens
2616384	GS Clowes	Australia	23252469	J Hare	Windsor (2009)
22545405	R Cockerill			The Earl of Harewood	Yorkshire
22545372	CG Cole	Suffolk	2627414	DJ Harrington	
22545111	A Collins	Surrey & E. Hants			
23862889	CAB Collins	London			
2628665	R Cox	Nottinghamshire			
23410509	G Critchley	Manchester			
2616126	GA Cross	General			
22955211	B Crowther	Wolverhampton			

OBITUARY

2620848	WR Harrington	London	2627705	GS Ratman, DL	London (2010)
241164832	CP Haverson		22486958	CJ Regelous	Essex (2010)
23252187	R Heathcote		2619736	J Rogerson	London
22213352	RW Heather	General	2615652	DLA Rothery	Oxford
24428515	RA Hill		5734303	PG Rowley	Windsor
2627194	RJ Hill	Derby	22213480	TP Sargeant	General
2615782	R Hillins	Windsor	2629012	F Sargeant	Essex (2009)
2627565	AF Hodgson		22464474	J Schofield, RVO	Manchester (2010)
22393910	T Hodson	Shropshire	Major	MR Scott-Hopkins, MBE	
22955557	TC Hopewell	Nottinghamshire			First Guards Club
2615322	D Huxley, MBE, MM	Kingston	22955797	RC Senior	Spalding
2254646	FW James	Worcester & Hereford	2624857	K Sharples	Wigan & St. Helens
2627882	RH Johnson		23509799	DB Sherlock	
24441345	M Jones	Lincoln	23929425	AJ Simmons	Medway
Captain	JH King	First Guards Club	2623234	QR Simmons	North America
22955229	J Knight	Gloucestershire	2623549	WR Simons	Nottinghamshire
2620526	D Knights	General (2010)	23509648	J Skelton	Sussex
2623586	L Lacey	Essex	23509360	AT Sleight	Lincoln
3603586	J Lane, MBE	Manchester (2010)	22213275	ECT Smith	London
23862946	RE Lavender	Worcester & Hereford	23509166	GE Smith	Yorkshire
2623093	WH Lennox	East Kent	2624497	AA Smith	Suffolk
2616227	ECT Lister, MM	Sussex	2616704	R Sollitt, MM	Windsor
23757536	R Littlehales	Manchester	2622318	N Steele	
2627299	G Lofthouse	North Lancashire	22545831	R Steele	
22213319	CM Lonsdale	Nottinghamshire	2628844	J Stickland	
Captain	BJA Lowe	First Guards Club	261396	RE Stratton, MM	Sussex
2627359	R Maguire	Liverpool		OP Stutchbury, Esq	First Guards Club
2624981	NS Major	Sussex	2629125	D Tanner	London
23509884	JN Marsh	Lincoln	24220756	M Taylor	
22213567	F May	Nottinghamshire (2009)	Major	AR Taylor, MBE	Surrey & E. Hants
2629295	JE Mayes	Caterham	21006010	J Thomas, MBE	Surrey & E. Hants
23252380	A McLennan	General (2010)	2623225	F Troughton	Derby
2627797	C Miller	Nottinghamshire	Major	EBM Vaughan ERD	Wolverhampton/ First Guards Club
2619154	RG Modlin	Liverpool	2615579	R Vincent	North America
2619168	JR Morris	Bristol	Major	CC Wade, TD	London/First Guards Club (2010)
22671458	PG Nott	London	22955026	TA Walker	Manchester
24378807	CJ Oliver	Liverpool	2616274	JCM Warwick	Reading
22955539	R Painter	Gloucestershire	2620907	F Waters	Aylesbury
2628267	AG Palmer, MBE	March	22545548	B Weaver	Aylesbury
2628795	D Palmer, MBE		22596167	T Westwell	Burton-onTrent
2623278	WH Parsons	North America	22545264	LG White	
22955750	MF Pates	Nottinghamshire	2571178	J Wilkinson	Lincoln (2006)
2628353	JB Phelan	Windsor	22545418	C Wills	Wolverhampton
2629118	EJ Pilbro	Suffolk (2010)	22165211	RA Wolstenholme	Yorkshire
2626187	PJ Preston	Norfolk	2617491	SA Wright	Derby
2624526	WM Price	Nottinghamshire	4042829	LA Wright	London
2628679	D Puckett	Surrey & E. Hants			



Sir Desmond Fennell

Sir Desmond Fennell, QC, OBE, was born on September 17th, 1933, and in a long career had a significant impact in areas as diverse as the maintenance of the law, the preservation of the Vale of Aylesbury and safety on the

London Underground. Ending as a High Court judge, he was part of the prosecution team in the trial of the great train robbers and led the inquiry into the 1987 fire at King's Cross Tube station.

John Desmond Augustine Fennell was born in Sheffield in 1933, the son of a doctor, whose practice later moved to Lincoln. In his schooling at Ampleforth he found a spiritual home and secured the foundations of an enduring faith. At Corpus Christi College, Cambridgeshire he read economics and law, and then went on to do his National Service in the Grenadier Guards, where he received the Sword of Honour in his officer training. Called to the Bar by the Inner Temple, of which he was later to become a bencher, he entered the distinguished chambers of which he was destined to become the head. Two senior silks, Geoffrey Lane (a future Lord Chief Justice) and Arthur (later Lord Justice) James, led him as part of the prosecution team in the trial of the great train robbers in 1964. Fennell became a Queen's Counsel in 1974, and for five years from 1983 he was a popular and effective leader of the Midland and Oxford Circuit.

When a fire at King's Cross Tube station in November 1987 cost the lives of 31 people, a public inquiry was quickly ordered and, to some surprise, the task of leading what was sure to be a lengthy and technically detailed investigation was given to Fennell rather than – as had been expected – to an established senior member of the judiciary. He was deeply moved when he visited the scene of the disaster soon after his appointment and throughout he demonstrated compassion, clear-headedness and a mastery of the technical complexities involved. His report earned widespread praise but was outspoken in its criticism of the management of London Underground.

In 1989 he became chairman of the General Council of the Bar and it was little surprise when, in 1990, he was appointed to the High Court Bench and knighted.

Away from his legal career, Fennell developed a strong love of the Buckinghamshire countryside in which he and his wife Susan had made their home.

He was involved in local politics, serving as chairman of his local Conservative Association, and was on the shortlist to fight the Lincoln seat in 1972. He was appointed OBE for services to politics in 1982. In April

1991, at the age of only 57, Fennell suffered a stroke which forced his resignation from the High Court Bench after little more than a year in office and prevented him from continuing the active life which he had so richly enjoyed. His response to this blow, sustained over a period lasting 20 years, was an inspiring example of humility, acceptance, courage and humour.

With the support of his wife and family, he developed the strength to return to his role in the leadership of good causes by his outstandingly successful chairing of the appeal for the new burns and wounds research unit at Stoke Mandeville Hospital which is now known as Restore. One of his most impressive achievements may turn out to be the hope he has provided for those who suffer sudden disability in mid life and mid career. Sir Desmond Fennell died June 29th 2011, and is survived by his wife, Susan, whom he married in 1966, and by their son and two daughters.



Colonel A G Way MC

Colonel A G Way MC, who has died aged 91, was born in Winchester on 5th November 1920 and educated at Stowe. Commissioned into the Grenadier Guards in 1939, he fought with 3rd Battalion at Mejez-el-Bab in

Tunisia, its first battle since leaving the beaches of Dunkirk. At Bou Arada on 22nd January 1943, he led his company in extended line up a bare hillside, being shelled and mortared as they went. 16 of his Guardsmen were killed before the German attack was halted and he was Mentioned in Despatches for his courage and leadership. During the winter and spring of 1944, he was with 3rd Battalion in Italy as it fought its way northwards. He was awarded the Military Cross at the battle of Monte Grande which was fiercer than any in which the Battalion was engaged throughout the campaign. His citation read: 'During a battalion attack by 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards on Monte Grande on the night 27th/28th May 1944, Major A G Way commanded Number One Company (the left forward company). The Company had to fight its way up the hill for 1,500 yards. Major Way commanded his Company with great determination, personally leading three local attacks on machine-gun posts. Before reaching the objective he was hit by a burst of machine-gun fire, six bullets entering his abdomen. He continued to give out orders and encourage his company while lying on the ground. His personal courage was a great inspiration to

all ranks and enabled the objective to be reached. Major Way's conduct while commanding a Company on many previous occasions, both in Italy and Tunisia in the winter of 1942 – 1943 has always been outstanding and his devotion to duty of the highest order.' After the war, he served in Tripoli, Egypt and Cyprus as well as at home. He was the last Commanding Officer of 3rd Battalion and as such commanded the Queen's Birthday Parade in 1960. He bade farewell to Her Majesty The Queen on behalf of the Battalion on its final parade before it was placed in suspended animation. His last appointment in 1961 was that of Lieutenant Colonel Commanding the Grenadier Guards and he became a Vice President of the Grenadier Guards Association. He was a member and Standard Bearer of Her Majesty's Bodyguard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen of Arms for 18 years and worked for the National Playing Fields Association. In retirement he moved to Perthshire and enjoyed living on and managing his estate. Tony Way was an outstanding leader of men who took the fight to the enemy and whose courtesy and kindness will be remembered by all who served with him. He married Elizabeth Richmond in 1946 and they had two children, Bertie and Lulla. After she died he married Anthea Methven in 1986 and is survived by her and by his two children and his step-daughter.



Major Michael Scott-Hopkins MBE

Michael Scott-Hopkins died on the 15th May 2011, aged 63, after a brave fight against cancer.

He was born in London, but was brought up in North Cornwall, where his father was the local MP. He was educated at Stone House in Kent, and at Harrow School where as head of the Corps he commanded the Guard of Honour at Winston Churchill's funeral. He was also a Triple House Blood, having been given his House Colours in all three major sports, cricket, rugby, and Harrow Football. He always wanted to be a soldier.

Michael's connection to the Regiment was through his mother's side, his maternal grandfather Lieutenant Colonel 'Black Jack' Hargreaves, and three uncles all served in the Regiment. It was from the eldest son, Michael Hargreaves, who was killed at Anzio with the 5th Battalion, that he took his Christian name. His second Uncle, David Hargreaves, who later became The Lieutenant Colonel, was his godfather.

Michael was commissioned into the Regiment on 25th July 1969. He joined the 2nd Battalion, and went almost immediately to Northern Ireland. This was at the very beginning of the Troubles, and he was deployed into a bus depot in the depths of Belfast, a rude awakening for a new young officer. He was to return to Belfast with the 2nd Battalion in 1973, but in the interim short four years he completed his Platoon Commanders Course at Warminster, the Jungle Warfare Course in Malaya, a tour in Sharjah with No 2 Company commanded by Dermot Blundell and attached to 1 SG, and finally a tour with the Battalion in British Honduras. In the middle of all this he somehow managed to find the time to court Audrey Haynes, and they were married at Ringwood Church on 9th Sept 1972, although the original date of July 8th had to be slipped due to Regimental commitments.

Michael always had a great love of all things mechanical, he liked to take car engines apart for a hobby, so it was no surprise to his friends and family that he applied and was accepted for the Army Pilots Course with the Army Air Corps. He later decided to leave the Regiment and transfer to the Army Air Corps. He wrote in a letter to the Lieutenant Colonel dated 22nd June 1979 'In my heart I will always be a Grenadier', but he loved flying.

Michael was an early convert to Information Technology, and a noted gadget expert, which led him in the latter stages of his career into running the Army Aviation, or Air Crew Tasking Trainer. He was in at the start of the project, and due to his enthusiasm and determination built a fine Simulation System, which is now admired by both the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force. He was made MBE for his success, which was one of the most deserved and popular awards within the AAC.

Michael loved the outdoors, he was Vice Commodore of Rock Sailing Club in Cornwall where he was a member for many years, having sailed the Camel Estuary since he was a boy. He raced all kinds of different craft, but was probably most attached to his Flying Dutchman. He was also an accomplished horseman, having been a keen competitor, and an enthusiastic follower of hounds as a boy, he ended his years hunting regularly with the Wilton Pack on his enormous, much loved steeds Rafferty and Cruz. He always promised that he would rear horses in his retirement, and at the end he enjoyed rearing and managing New Forest pony youngstock at his home near Ringwood, which with the care of his hunters somewhat dominated domestic routine.

Michael was an intensely loyal, hard working, gentle man, who was hugely respected by those with whom he worked. He was much loved by his family and many friends. His wicked sense of humour and cheeky sense of fun will be missed greatly. He is survived by his wife Audrey, and by his son and daughter, Richard and Catherine.



Major Ronnie Taylor MBE

Ronnie Taylor was a born soldier. He went to Winchester, where he was a particularly talented as a sportsman. As a cricketer he was in the Winchester XI and was also a good tennis player, golfer and left-handed racquets player. The

Grenadiers accepted his wish to join them, but allowed him first to go up to Trinity at Oxford for a limited period; from there he obtained direct entry to RMA Sandhurst, where he won the Sword of Honour as the best cadet of his intake.

In October 1941 he was posted to the newly formed and inexperienced 5th Battalion of the Grenadiers, and was made the Battalion's Signal Officer. The Battalion was part of the 24th Guards Brigade and after their intensive training in Scotland, in early 1943, the Brigade was sent to take part in the final attack on Tunis. The Brigade task was to capture the open and rocky ground which dominated the northern main road to Tunis, so that two armoured divisions could capture the city itself. During a very fierce battle lasting three weeks and at the cost of 400 casualties, Ronnie was always in the thick of it, frequently under intense artillery and mortar fire, and at one time engaging with the Germans with an automatic weapon, and having his soldier servant killed beside him whilst he was repairing a telephone line. When eventually the British and American armies took Tunis three weeks later, with the Germans surrendering, Ronnie Taylor was made Adjutant of the Battalion.

The Battalion was then ordered to take part in the forefront of the Anzio landing; The new Signals Officer, Bill Sidney (later Lord De Lisle and awarded a VC), and Ronnie Taylor each with a small section, using rapid fire, and grenades, prevented the Germans crossing any of the three possible crossing points of a key ditch during the battle for the bridgehead. Moreover, on the next day, the Germans attacked on a slightly different axis, and this attack was only stopped by Ronnie having the presence of mind to call down a massive artillery barrage.

Ronnie Taylor always realised the importance of discipline, the need for leadership from the front, self-discipline and the determination never to let down a comrade or the Regiment; his own courage and conduct under fire was formally recognised and he was Mentioned in Despatches and was made MBE. After the war, he was posted into the War Office, and among other jobs, was an Instructor at Sandhurst and was then sent as Major to be a Company Commander in the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, when the Battalion was posted to Palestine. It was here that he had his first and painful stomach

problems before being sent home on a hospital ship.

Then, in 1951 he was passed as fit again for active service, and he was selected to go to the Army Staff College in 1952. Thereafter, he was selected to be the Brigade Major to the 32 Guards Brigade in the Canal Zone in Egypt, at a time when the Nasser situation was tense, and there was some low level terrorism. Thereafter for family and health reasons he left the Army.

He went into the Insurance world in Lloyds and was immensely successful ending up as Chairman of Willis Faber. He remained devoted to the Regiment, exemplified not least by his generous annual financial support to the Regimental Charity. In Hampshire, he was a successful farmer, a friend to many people, a most charming host and with a wonderful family.

Ronnie was someone who, through his service throughout the North African and Italian campaigns showed that he could have been a very successful senior soldier had he not had appalling problems with his tummy. However, his success in the City, showed what an able, brave, firm and charming person he always was.



Major Edmund Vaughan ERD

Edmund Vaughan has died aged 91. He joined the Grenadiers in 1939, following in the footsteps of his father ENM Vaughan DSO, who served in WW1. The family lived at Blackladies, near the famous Boscobel Oak.

Edmund was commissioned in 1939 and served with 7th Guards Brigade in 1940. He served in North Africa with the 6th Battalion, and was wounded at Mareth and twice in Italy. After the war he was Adjutant of the HAC before joining the 2nd Battalion in Germany, where he remained for seven years. In 1955 he joined the 3rd Battalion, serving in Malta and Cyprus.

After leaving the Army in 1958 he lived in Wolverhampton, where he worked for a large local company. In the early 70s Edmund and Jean together with their three children moved to The Bath Farm, which they rented from Peter Giffard, a fellow Grenadier. Edmund's passion was shooting. He built up the Grindle beat on the Apsley Estate into an outstanding partridge shoot. He continued to shoot until his 80th birthday, and was looking forward to picking up in his 91st year. He was an excellent shot. A devout Catholic, he was a charming and gentle man. He was President of both the Wolverhampton and Walsall Branches of the Association until his death. Jean died a few months before him.



Captain Derek Bibby

Derek Bibby, who died in July 2011, began his military career at the Guards' Depot, Caterham in May 1945. He joined the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards in BAOR seven months later and after a year in Berlin he returned with the Battalion to Chelsea Barracks. He served in Palestine with the 3rd Battalion in 1947 and left the Regiment from Victoria Barracks, Windsor in October 1948. Although he only spent a relatively short time in uniform, his service to the Regiment and the Household Division spanned his lifetime.

Born on 18th September 1926 and educated at Wellington College he followed his father, Major Ken Bibby, into his beloved Regiment. As a keen golfer Derek will be remembered by many for his services to Guards' golf. He represented the Foot Guards on the golf course for over 50 years during which time he held most of the appointments on the Guards' Golf Committee, including Captain twice for a total of 10 years. He was the driving force behind Grenadier golf and it was only in his last year, four weeks before he died, that he missed the annual Grenadier meeting which he organised for as long as anyone can remember. For many years he was the mainstay of the highlight of the Guards' golfing calendar, the Autumn Meeting at Royal St Georges, Sandwich. Quite apart from his enthusiasm for anything to do with the game, which included refereeing at a number of major competitions, he will be remembered for his charm and wicked sense of humour both on and off the course. His legacy will live on for years to come.

In many ways his service to golf was dwarfed by his service to the Kingston and District Branch of the Grenadier Association. Again following his father's example, he was a lifelong member of the Branch. He was Secretary for 10 years from January 1955 and he was appointed President in April 1971, an office he held until his death 40 years later. Rarely did a first Monday of each month go by when he did not attend the Branch meeting; indeed his last outing, one week before he died, was their monthly meeting. He was fiercely loyal to his members and his commitment to their welfare and wellbeing was humbling.

The other legacy Derek leaves is his extensive portfolio of drawings and paintings; he had a rare talent and was a prolific artist. His love of art began at Wellington and he subsequently sketched and painted all his life. He worked in charcoal, pencil, oil, water colour and, in his later years, acrylic so he could see the colours with his failing

eyesight. Derek's business life had its ups and downs and covered everything from surveying the water depth of Australasian harbours, where he met his New Zealand wife Jeanette in 1955, to selling toys, including Sindy Doll for which he was described by a woman's magazine in 1966 as: 'The man who made a million little girls happy.'

Derek was never happier than when he was in Cornwall with his family, if not on St Enodoc golf course in Rock, then attempting to ride the surf at Polzeath on a piece of plywood he called a surf board. This had to be followed by a warming pasty and a mandatory trip to one of his many favourite pubs. He was married to Jeanette for 56 years and outlived her by 18 months. They are survived by their four children: Philippa, Greville, Henrietta and Brodie.



Captain (QM) Peter Dunkerley MBE

After battling and initially appearing to overcome a severe illness which resulted in a three month period of hospitalisation, Peter Dunkerley passed away on 11th May 2011; he was 68. Peter was born in Manchester and on leaving school he was undecided on which career path to take. After experiencing life in the construction industry, followed by a period employed in a factory, exposure to the civilian workplace failed to inspire the young Dunkerley and, convinced that there must be more to life, on 8th December 1961 the Regiment had a new recruit.

On completion of his training he joined the 1st Battalion at Tidworth. Apart from tours of duty in Manchester with 26 Cadet Training Team, as a CSM at the Guards Depot and Garrison Sgt Major Hong Kong he remained with the 1st Battalion for most of his service; being the CQMS and then CSM of The Queen's Company and, during the Battalion's deployment to Berlin, the RQMS. Peter was commissioned in 1984 and returned to the 1st Battalion in Munster as the Families Officer and then the Technical Quartermaster. In 1987 he was selected to be the Quartermaster of the 2nd Battalion. He brought to this role a wealth of experience and as a result of his commitment and dedication in this key appointment he was awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours 1990.

A big man in every sense: stature, personality and character, one could never tire of being in his company. His overwhelming sense of humour and camaraderie was

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ever present in everything he did and touched everyone he came into contact with. Peter's robust and vibrant character could not fail to make a great impression on everyone he met; his warm, considerate and approachable nature will long be remembered. These virtues enabled him to achieve results where others might well have failed.

On leaving the Regiment in 1989 he joined the Hedley Foundation as the Company Secretary. Working in this highly regarded Charitable Trust organisation, with its strong regimental links and the hustle and bustle of the City suited him enormously and he remained in this role for 17 years. On his retirement in 2006 Peter and Gaynor moved back 'up north' to Poulton-Le-Fylde – that little bit closer to his beloved Manchester United. He will be missed by countless people from all walks of life; anyone who met him formed an instant affinity with him, a man of charm and compassion with an infectious sense of devilment.

Peter's funeral mass took place on 25th May 2011 at St John the Evangelist Church in Poulton-le-Fylde. It will not come as a surprise to anyone that the church was packed to capacity with his many friends who had travelled far and wide to pay their last respects to such a warm and endearing friend. Peter was strongly supported throughout his career by his wife Gaynor and we extend our sincere condolences to Gaynor and Peter's two sons Christopher and Robert and their families.



Captain Michael Grazebrook MC

Capt Michael Grazebrook, MC, was born in London on 27th June 1917. He was educated at Eton before going up to Trinity College, Cambridge. At the outbreak of war, after joining the Grenadier Guards, he went to

France with the BEF and took part in the evacuation from Dunkirk. In March 1943, he was with 6th Battalion in Tunisia on the Mareth Line. That winter, after the battalion landed at Salerno, he was involved in the assault on Monte Camino. In January 1944, he was with 6th Battalion close to the mouth of the River Garigliano. On 29th January, at Tremensuoli, he took over command of 2 Company and was ordered to make a night attack on high ground to their front. They had to feel their way forward guided by wireless messages from the rear and firing in front. Just before dawn Grazebrook linked up with 4 Company. They had ten minutes to form up for a joint attack but a rolling artillery barrage came down at just the right moment. As they surged up the hill, they

were met by very heavy fire from six Spandau posts. He gave the order to charge and led his men straight at the posts. The hill was captured together with 46 prisoners, 12 machine guns and a large number of mortars. Shortly afterwards the Germans counter-attacked and Grazebrook was wounded in the leg. He said later, 'We managed to hold them off as it is very boring to have to take a thing like that twice.' He was awarded an immediate MC and spent three months in hospital. On his return to England, he was based at Windsor Castle and acted as adjutant to the Eton College OTC. He was Vice President of the Wessex Branch of the Grenadier Guards Association. In 1951 he married Patience Spencer and is survived by her and their son and daughter.



Captain Basil Lowe

Basil Lowe, who died in February, aged 98, joined the 4th Battalion Grenadier Guards on its reformation in October, 1940. The Battalion was part of the 32nd Guards Brigade, and was stationed at Wanstead, to guard the Eastern perimeter of London against possible invasion. He stayed with the Battalion when it was converted to Churchill Tanks and remained with it until the final victory.

Basil was a quiet, unassuming officer, who was greatly respected by his men. Pre-war, he had been a notable athlete; a good cricketer, he excelled, for the most part, at rugby, where he played at near international level as Captain of London Welsh. This was only discovered when we were training on Salisbury Plain, and he used his influence to organize a rugby game between the Wasps and the Brigade. Helped by an Irish international from Brigade Headquarters, and a battalion of the Welsh Guards, he achieved a notable victory 40-0. With the re-organisation of the Guards Armoured Division and the subsequent loss of the Irish international and the Welsh Guards, the least said, the better, about the return match.

After a peaceful landing in Normandy, Capt Lowe, as he was then, was with the leading Squadron in the breakout at Caumont, in July 1944. From then on he served from the Bocage, through Holland, into Germany until the end of the war, when the Battalion had reached the Baltic.

After the war he returned to his accountancy business, and rugby union. Sadly, in his last years, he was afflicted with total blindness. He is survived by his wife Pamela, a daughter and a son.



Ted Bolan – The 'Kodak' Drummer

Ted Bolan, well known from the iconic image described as the 'Kodak Drummer', passed away peacefully at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital on the 14th December 2011, aged 98 years.

He was born on the 27th May 1913 to Irish parents living in Shirebrook, Nottinghamshire. His father served in the 2nd Battalion from 1906 to 1916. Although Ted did well at school, the hard times and dark situation presented him, at the age of 14, with a stark choice of a life in coal mining or in the armed forces. On 25th August 1928, he joined the 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards as, initially, a tailor's boy until a vacancy was available in the Corps of Drums. A vacancy became available in 1930 when he joined the Corps of Drums.

The Battalion soon settled into duties around London District. Prior to the King's Birthday Parade ceremony, at 0830 hrs, on Wednesday 9th June 1937, Ted, about to beat 'Stand To Arms', was photographed on the square at Chelsea. The photograph subsequently won 1st prize in the Military Section of Kodak's Photograph of the Year Competition and was used for recruiting purposes and to advertise Kodak film worldwide.

Ted was not only an extremely well educated man, but also he excelled at sports. He was a modest fellow and never sought, despite much encouragement, any promotion. In 1939, at the outbreak of War, he finally accepted promotion to Lance-Sgt and became a squad instructor at the Guards Depot, Caterham and subsequently, at its wing at Chelsea Barracks. When the Depot wing was dissolved, he was offered a significant opportunity with promotion to Gold Sgt at Sandhurst, as a training instructor, but he declined on the grounds that he 'could never look a man in the eye whom he had trained for battle, without having played an equal role himself.' Instead he requested to rejoin his much-loved 3rd Battalion. He was however, sent to the 2nd Battalion for a while and finally to the newly formed 6th Battalion. They joined the 201st Independent Guards Brigade as part of the 8th Army at Medenine fighting on the formidable Mareth Line. Towards the end of the African Campaign, shortly before Tunis was taken, the Battalion moved to the 1st Army alongside the 3rd Battalion Grenadiers. They then moved to Tripoli to prepare for the landings in Italy. At this time, the 201st Guards Brigade, which included the 6th Battalion, along with the 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards and 2nd Battalion Scots Guards, had transferred to the American 5th Army

and were fully engaged in the landings at Salerno, which proved so costly to the Allies. Thereafter in the fighting near the town of Minturno, Ted was wounded in the right arm by machine gun fire. He returned home from Naples to Avonmouth on the HS Somersetshire with his right elbow shattered. In April 1945, after three months in hospital, Ted was discharged to civilian status and acquired employment with the Ministry of Defence, serving in various posts in Bath, London and Portsmouth until he retired in 1978.

Ted always attended as many Association events as he could. He was always enormously proud, as his family was, of his 16-year career in the Grenadier Guards. His Service Record is stated throughout as 'exemplary'. His comrades always described him as not only the best drummer they had ever known, but also the smartest and most inspirational of Guards Sergeants. The late Dougie Wright MM said of him, 'He was the best sergeant I ever knew and the coolest under fire'. He was a real inspiration to all of us'. After his devoted wife Eileen passed away in 1994, Ted moved to the beautiful Cotswold town of Chipping Campden to be near his son, Sean. His other son Michael, who briefly served in the Grenadiers, now lives in Tasmania. In November 2005, Ted finally moved from Chipping Campden to the Royal Hospital Chelsea. He was very well read. He taught himself to speak fluent Italian. He had a great love of music, particularly Italian opera and remained a keen jazz fan to the end. His passion for Ireland, and its history, remained undimmed. For all his achievements in life, Ted Bolan was a dignified, modest and popular man until the end and will be equally missed by family, friends and those whose lives he touched.





LSgt John Mayes

John joined the Grenadier Guards in July 1947 at the age of 17 ½ enlisting for five years with the Colours and seven years on reserve. After basic training at Caterham and Pirbright, he joined the 2nd Battalion at Dempsey Barracks, Sennelager and was promoted to LCpl in April 1948, serving both in Germany and back at Pirbright.

On leaving the Army he joined the Croydon Fire Brigade. Later on in his working life he became a Training Officer for a large Company, teaching HGV drivers, also teaching and examining fork lift drivers.

John joined the Caterham Branch of the Association when it first started in 1971 and was the Entertainments' and Social Secretary for many years. He later became Chairman until his move to Sussex in 1998, when he was made a Vice President of the Branch. John, who was always supported by his wife Sheila, was married in June 1950, and both worked hard for the Branch over the years.

John sadly died on February 8th 2011 after bravely battling cancer for seven years. He was 81.



Robert Day

Bob Day was a highly successful schoolboy at Sherborne, from where he was recommended to the Regiment by John Buchanan, himself a distinguished wartime Grenadier. A promising games player, he was the only boy in the history of the school to play cricket for the 1st XI as a colt. Years later, when asked by his grandson which was his best shot, he replied that it was the forward defensive. Nevertheless, in 1950 he headed the Public Schools batting averages. In the holidays he played for the BaBe's in Kent, playing with or against three future England Captains including Colin Cowdrey, with whom he once shared a century partnership.

At Eaton Hall he was rated 'outstanding in every respect', was SUO and won the Medal of Honour. He joined the 2nd Battalion in Krefeld but within six weeks he was involved in an accident while in a training exercise with the Belgians and lost a leg to a grenade. His platoon was taken over by Andrew Duncan. The incident and subsequent inquiry had wide repercussions even to the level of questions asked in Parliament.

In later years he spoke warmly of the support he received from the Regiment while he was recuperating.

For a time it was one of the duties of the picquet officer to visit him at Roehampton, where over a bottle of champagne many a nurse found herself with a date. Among the many dignitaries wheeled out to visit him at Roehampton were Field Marshal Slim and Douglas Bader but he especially recalled the support of Neville Wigram, then Adjutant.

On recovery he went up to Trinity College, Oxford, thereby becoming one of a small band of one-legged, Grenadier Trinity men, the others being Sandy Ramsay and Dukey Hussey, albeit of different generations. Although unable to take the playing field he maintained his interest in games. He was elected a member of Vincent's (the blues club) and famously on one occasion, while umpiring at square leg, took a full length diving catch and gave the batsman out, 'Deserved to be'. He read Medieval French, from which his spoken French never really recovered and often caused surprise in supermarkets in France. From Trinity he won a travel scholarship to South Africa where he met Philippa, his future wife, who was not a cinema usherette.

He worked first for the Bristol Aeroplane Company who dispatched him to a pre-revolutionary Cuba to try to sell aeroplanes. Having failed with Batista in Havana, he somewhat optimistically hired a jeep and set off into the hills to try his luck with the rebels. Although he didn't find Fidel Castro he did briefly meet Che Guevara: sadly no sale resulted. He also failed to establish a successful system at roulette but did learn to waterski barefoot on one leg.

He subsequently spent his working life with Turner and Newall, finishing by running their African operations from Johannesburg. Taking early retirement, he and his wife drove home to Cheshire, the journey taking 18 months and his spare tin leg proving the safest of hiding places for his cash when crossing remote borders in Africa.

He spent an active retirement in Cheshire and latterly in Lincolnshire. He leaves his wife, Philippa, and four children, the oldest of whom, William, also served as a Grenadier in the early 1980s.



Christopher Anthony Barry Collins

Born in Sussex May 1944, educated in Rye, East Sussex. Christopher attended Hastings School of Art and Brighton College of Art, where he studied the full range of art, design and sculpting. Christopher's parents realised early on that he had a talent for painting and drawing and encouraged him in this field.

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Coming from a military family, his father was a Second World War Grenadier who made Gold Sgt in less than two years with the Regiment, saw active service with the Guards Armoured Division during the capture of Nijmegen Bridge and was chosen to drive Winston Churchill in an armoured half-track during the Berlin victory parade. Christopher had always been attracted to the detail of ceremonial, but even so it was with surprise to his contemporaries when he decided to make a drastic change of direction and join his father's old Regiment. This brought him into close contact with the details of ceremonial equipment, badges, buttons, horse harness, and it was not long before he was being asked to record in watercolour paintings of regimental occasions.

For five years he served with distinction as a boy soldier and then with the 2nd Battalion on ceremonial duties in London and Windsor, at the state funeral of Sir Winston Churchill and a posting to British Guiana (Guyana), South America.

After 5 years he returned to the art world as a Heraldic and Military Watercolour Artist, his watercolour paintings and prints hanging in many Regimental Messes. He was first employed by Henry Potter & Co (Drums) Ltd. as artist, hand emblazoning drums for British Forces and the American Army before becoming freelance. During his career he had emblazoned the drums of almost every Regiment and Corps in the British Army and the American Army including those of West Point, the 82nd and 101st US Airborne, the Canadian Guards and the Swedish Life Guards.

He was a very skilled Heraldic Artist and was the personal Artist/designer to Garter Principal King of Arms at the College of Arms in London (Garter Principal King of Arms is responsible to Her Majesty The Queen for all heraldry in Britain and the Commonwealth.) Garter is also the Inspector of Army Colours and Badges. It recently came to the notice of MOD that a number of old badges had never been officially registered to enable copyright to be protected. Amongst these was our principle badge known by all Grenadiers as The Royal Cypher. Thus it was that in 2004, some 348 years after the Regiment was formed, that Christopher illustrated the official version of our premier badge, which was duly approved and signed by Her Majesty The Queen, and is now lodged at the MOD.

Christopher was rewarded for his exceptional works by many Heads of foreign states. He was the holder of the rank of Commander of The Royal Household Order of Tonga, presented personally by His Majesty in 2010, as well as similar awards from Antigua, St Lucia and Ethiopia.

Christopher is survived by his wife Cheryl. Our sympathy goes out to her and his daughters Amanda and Claire at the premature loss of a very talented Grenadier and a perfect Gentleman who will be sadly missed by all those who had the good fortune to have known him.



Earl of Harewood KBE

The Earl of Harewood KBE, who was a first cousin of the Queen, was born in 1923, the eldest son of Viscount Lascelles and Princess Mary, King George V's only daughter. His father was twice wounded, awarded the DSO, and commanded 3rd Battalion, Grenadier Guards in the Great War. His godparents included General Sir George Higginson, then 96, who had been adjutant of 3rd Battalion in the Crimea.

Educated at Eton he was commissioned into the Grenadiers and joined 3rd Battalion in Tunisia in June 1943. In August, he escorted 1500 Italian prisoners of war by train to Algeria and suffered a bout of pleurisy. In February 1944, 3rd Battalion disembarked from a troopship in Naples. After holding positions on the Garigliano River, there were frequent opportunities to go to the opera in Naples.

While on night patrol near Perugia on 18th June, he was shot and wounded in the stomach and both legs. Although he took cover in a ditch, the Germans found him early next morning and he was taken prisoner. Coincidentally, it was also on 18th June that his ancestor, the second Earl, had been wounded at Waterloo. His capture was announced with triumph on German radio the next day and he was taken to various hospitals and prisoner of war camps before ending up in Oflag IVc Colditz in November.

He spent the rest of the war in Colditz classified as one of the 'prominent', prisoners of political value, who the Germans considered using for propaganda purposes. His companions included, Lord Haig, Lord Hopetoun and the Master of Elphinstone. He developed his enthusiasm for opera by studying and assimilating Grove's Dictionary of Music 'as far as the letter T.' In May 1945, he was released to the United States 7th Army and returned home.

At the end of the war he became ADC to the Earl of Athlone, Governor General of Canada. In May 1946 he travelled across Canada to San Francisco and Los Angeles where he danced with Ginger Rogers. He retired in December that year as a Captain and went up to King's College Cambridge. He achieved great success in his career in the music world and restored Harewood House. He was appointed KBE in 1950. He was Vice President of the Yorkshire Branch of the Grenadier Guards Association and attended its annual dinners.

GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

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General Secretary and Treasurer: Major A.J. Green

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Captain H.C. Jenkins	Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter KCVO OBE
Captain B.E. Thompson BEM	Captain B.D. Double
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Colonel D.V. Fanshawe LVO OBE	Mr R.E. Jones
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Major G.V.A. Baker (Director of Welfare)

Lieutenant Colonel P.R. Holcroft OBE (Financial Adviser)

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Major J.O.D. Fox (Officer Commanding Nijmegen Company Grenadier Guards)

WO1 (RSM) G. Snazle (Sergeant Major 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards)

Mr G. Severn (Chairman Finance Committee)

Awaiting Appointment (Northern Area Representative)

Awaiting Appointment (North Midlands Area Representative)

Mr R.E. Jones (Midlands Area Representative)

Mr D.G. Money MBE (Southern Area Representative)

Major R.G. Woodfield MBE (Western Area Representative)

Mr S. Vaughan (London and Kent Area Representative)

Mr G. Hallam (Eastern Area Representative)

Association Headquarters: Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1E 6HQ

Tel: (020) 7414 3285 Fax: (020) 7222 4309

Email: assnncogrengds.com

Website: www.grengds.com

Hon Solicitors: Wrigleys Solicitors LLP, 19 Cookridge Street, Leeds LS2 3AG

Bankers: Lloyds Bank plc, Cox's & Kings Branch, 7 Pall Mall, London SW1

Auditors: Messrs Saffery Champness, Lion House, Red Lion Street, London WC1R 4GB

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. To maintain connection between past and present members of the Grenadier Guards, and thereby promote their mutual interests and the welfare of the Regiment generally.
2. To grant financial assistance to needy members or their widows, or on behalf of their children, provided their adverse circumstances are of an unavoidable nature and that the funds of the Association permit.
3. To circulate information concerning the Regiment and the advantages of service therein, and to encourage desirable candidates to join.
4. To arrange meetings in London or such other place as may help to promote the objects herein before.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

The following are the current rules concerning membership:

1 SERVING MEMBERS

All Serving Officers. Serving Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Guardsmen who have completed recruit training.

2 MEMBERS

- a All Officers who have formerly served in the Regiment
- b Officers and Soldiers of other Corps or Regiments who have formerly served in the Grenadier Guards and the Regimental Band.
- c Discharged Soldiers, provided they have completed their recruit training in the Regiment and have been awarded a character assessment of not less than 'SATISFACTORY'.

3 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Members of Associations of other Regiments of the Household Division.

4 HONORARY MEMBERS

Ladies and Gentlemen who have not served in the Grenadier Guards, but who have given outstanding service to the Regiment (ie. Medical Officers, Chaplains etc.) and others as described in the By-Laws for Branches, Section II, paragraph 2.

ASSOCIATION SUBSCRIPTION RATES

ANNUAL MEMBERS

From 1 January to 31 December 50p

LIFE MEMBERS

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| A. Up to the age of 55 years | £5.00 |
| B 55 years of age or over | £3.00 |

All subscriptions should be paid to the local Branch Secretary or Treasurer, and the monies will be retained in Branch funds.

5 SERVING MEMBERS ON LEAVING THE REGIMENT

Serving Members who have completed their Colour Service will be eligible for continued membership as follows:

- a A Serving Member who has subscribed to the Days Pay Scheme for a minimum period of two years shall be given Life Membership.
- b A Serving Member who has not subscribed as in sub-paragraph 5(a) above shall be invited to take up membership in accordance with the rules in force at the time.
- c A Serving Member must have been awarded a character assessment of not less than 'SATISFACTORY' to be eligible for membership under subparas (a) and (b) above.

6 ADMINISTRATION (AS FROM 1978)

1 Deeds of Covenant etc

All donations to the Central Fund of the Association, by way of Gift Aid and legacies will continue to be transacted through the Association office.

2 Members' subscriptions, applications for membership etc.

Members' subscriptions, and donations to Branch funds should be sent direct to the Branch Secretary concerned. Branch Secretaries will also deal with all applications for membership, and will keep a record of the subscriptions paid by the individual members concerned. Subscription monies etc., will be retained in Branch funds.

GENERAL NOTE

The effect on individual members is that no longer will it be necessary to correspond with the General Secretary – all membership payments, queries or problems should be taken up direct with the Branch Secretary.

BRANCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

The following shows the location of all Branches of the Association. The address and telephone numbers of each Branch Hon. can be obtained from Association HQ on 020 7414 3285 or email assnnc@grengds.com or on the Regimental website www.grengds.com

Aylesbury & District; Bath; Bristol; Burton-on-Trent; Cambridge; Chesterfield; Derby; Devon & Cornwall; East Kent; Essex; Gloucestershire; Kingston & District; Leicestershire; Lincoln; Liverpool; London; Manchester; March; Matlock; Medway; Norfolk; Northamptonshire; North Lancashire; North Staffordshire; Northumbria; Nottinghamshire; Oxfordshire; Reading; Shropshire; Spalding; Suffolk; Surrey & East Hampshire; Sussex; Tamworth; Walsall; Wessex; West Kent; Wigan, St Helens & District; Windsor; Wolverhampton; Worcester & Hereford; Yorkshire.

Overseas: North America; Australia.

GRENADIER GUARDS RECRUITING STAFF LIST

REGIMENTAL STAFF

Recruiting Officer: Captain A Butcher.

Regimental Support Team: Capt A Butcher; LSgt G Nicholson; LCpl M Goom; Gdsm B Thomas; Gdsm T Hayward; Gdsm S Bloomer.

LSgt D Struczynski, AFCO, 46 The Pallasades, **Birmingham**, B2 4XN. Tel. (0121) 6336461.

LSgt S Hayes, ACIO, 3rd Floor 4 Colston Avenue, **Bristol**, BS1 4TY. Tel. (01179) 262638.

Sgt A Clarke, ACIO, 60 Hertford Street, **Coventry**, CV1 1LB. Tel. (02476) 225644.

LSgt A Harris, ACIO, 3rd Floor, Sitwell House, 9 Sitwell Street, off Badgington Lane, **Derby**, DE1 2JT. Tel. (01332) 345619.

Sgt A Saxton, AFCO, 241 Freeman Street, **Grimsby**, NE Lincs, DN32 9DW. Tel. (01522) 524097.

Sgt P Easters, AFCO, 35 St Giles, **Oxford**, OX1 3LJ. Tel. (01865) 515989.

LSgt D Richardson, AFCO, Peters Field House, 29-31 Peter Street, **Manchester**, M2 5QJ.
Tel. (0161) 8358228.

Sgt N Johnson, AFCO, Victoria Centre, 70 Milton Street, **Nottingham**, NG1 3QX. Tel. (01159) 473629.

Sgt P Roberts, ACIO, 7 The Parade, Market Square, **Northampton**, NN1 2EA. Tel. (01604) 633318/637518.

LSgt J Dawson, ACIO, 36-38 Old Hall Street, Hanley, **Stoke on Trent**, ST1 3AP. Tel. (01782) 212070.

LSgt J Garcia, ACIO, 43A Queen Street, **Wolverhampton**, WV1 3BI. Tel. (01902) 423892.

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GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

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The Royal Hospital Chelsea Born 1692 and Still Going Strong

**by Norman Mitchell
Grenadier Guards and Chelsea Pensioner**

In the heart of London, amid all the busy life of this great city, is a quiet oasis which is the 'Royal Hospital'. Although numbers vary (for obvious reasons) approximately 300 I/Ps (In pensioners) live in and among the splendid buildings designed by Sir Christopher Wren at the behest of King Charles II. Pensioner membership is restricted to ex-army men and women only and prospective applicants must satisfy three conditions – to be least 65 years of age, have no one dependent on them and (normally) to be in receipt of a service pension and/or disability pension due to army service. An application in writing produces a date for the applicant to come for a 4 day period to assess mutual approval. With suitability confirmed a date is set for entry into the honourable state of In Pensioner.

Accommodation is in the long wards and although some have been converted into a modern, fully en-suite state, the majority at present, are much as the original (although enlarged). However, conversion of all berths (rooms) has already commenced but will, of course, take many months to complete and a great deal of expenditure (currently estimated at £30m). Although there is a grant from government for upkeep, that alone would not provide the excellent level of comfort and service we enjoy. Fund raising by a very efficient team has already provided the splendid infirmary – named as 'Margaret Thatcher Infirmary' in recognition of Lady Thatcher's unfailing patronage. Some 80-85 I/Ps in varying stages of disability live in en-suite rooms under constant care. To provide medical care in general we have a resident doctor with an ex-service matron overseeing the medical staff. In contrast to life 'outside' – a call to our out patients desk for an appointment means that we see the doctor that same morning. Also we now have an excellent new café and the I/Ps club has, this year, undergone a complete refurbishment to a very high standard.

Although we surrender our army pension, we keep our state pension, any other private income and we can look

forward to very happy, later years. We pay no bills and yet we enjoy a wide range of facilities all free of charge. We come and go as we please and can take up any of the stream of invitations to many types of events, all with transport provided. Our meals are all multi-choice and taken in the magnificent great hall, served by a team of delightful ladies from all parts of the world. Other facilities on site are a 'Cyber café' dancing, bridge and whist club, bowling on our own green with home and away fixtures, handicrafts, our own band and a well-stocked library – the list is endless. There are several 'jobs' open to I/Ps such as tour guides, chapel orderlies, mail room, library etc, all of which help the smooth running of the hospital.

We are only invited or asked to attend events with the exception of our Founders Day Parade in June, when we parade, wearing a spray of oak leaves to celebrate the escape by King Charles II from his enemies by concealing himself in an oak tree. That is an 'order to attend' day. This briefly, gives an idea of the life of a Chelsea Pensioner and to write a full account of this wonderful place and the people in it would become of book proportions. Quite simply it is incomparable.

Grenadier In-Pensioners

Patrick Thompson
Norman Mitchell
Alan Swain
Colin McDonald
Alan Goddard
Ray Huggins MBE



The magnificent Great Hall where the Chelsea Pensioners have their meals.



Proof – REME soldiers never lose it - the chance to speak to (chat up) a lovely lady – Mrs Karen Boswell

....but these two soldiers just happen to be the charmingly smooth Norman Mitchell and Ray Huggins showing the REME how it should be done.

News from the Dining Club

Norfolk Branch Dining Club

Another lively December Dinner ended 2010 in style. Unfortunately the weather went rather wrong the day before the evening and several people were prevented from attending at the last moment. Nevertheless 59 members and their family and friends made it and we can only sympathise with those who did not. Thankfully no-one actually got stuck anywhere. Even the Barbershop Singers got through and gave a few songs to cheer us for Christmas. They wouldn't risk singing the 'British Grenadiers' despite being provided with words and music well beforehand. Something about thinking we would be very sensitive if they got it wrong!

We had several plans for Days Out during the year but for one reason or another we only managed one, to the Imperial War Museum at Duxford. Messrs Ayres, Ford, Hilton, Willsher, Chandler, Feakins and Goffin together with Maureen Willsher to keep us in order, entrusted themselves to the Secretary and a rented mini-bus.

The photograph shows the group waiting for the bus home. The weather was just

perfect and the day was much enjoyed by all. We were very pleased to be spotted and challenged by George Evans, now gainfully employed at the Museum, who could hardly miss all those Brigade Ties waving in the breeze! We hope we have recruited him to the Dining Club. The day was rounded off with a very enjoyable meal at Hingham on the way home, in a pub run by the 'Flying Kiwi' of TV cooking fame. (We are a Dining Club after all!). We had plans for a visit to the National Memorial Arboretum followed by Dinner at the Lord Leycester Hospital in Warwick where Colonel Gerald Lesinski is the Master. Unfortunately it meant an overnight stay which, with the expense of a coach for two days put the project out of reach financially. There's always next year!

We have been very pleased to welcome several new members this year. Henry Ford who has been hiding not a couple of miles from where the Secretary lives, was

given away by our shared nurse at the local Doctor's surgery! By chance her father is Lieutenant Colonel Keith Edlin MBE, late of the Regiment. Ron Fletcher (Chairman of the Leicester Branch) a regular visitor to Norfolk has now dined with us several times and we hope will continue to do so. We have discovered Steve Tuck trying to retire to Wells-next-the-Sea and are very pleased to have him join us too.

Members agreed that the Club should sponsor two new kneelers for the Guards Chapel which we understand have just been delivered and are now in use. We look forward to seeing them. Mrs Chris Anderson, widow of the late Gavin Anderson, very kindly donated several of his books on the Regiment and the Household Brigade to the Club in the hope we could 'find a home for them' and we are now offering them to members on a Library loan basis which seems to be working well and we are very grateful to her.

We welcomed Mr Jack Woods as our Guest at the October Dinner. Jack is the Chairman of the Norfolk area of the Normandy Veterans Association. He gave a very interesting account of the landings and the advance through France and Holland and made us realise just how much work is, and always will be needed to provide assistance of different sorts to men returning from active service.

The Lynn Lunches have become established as twice a year occasions, when the Dining Club takes itself to King's Lynn for a carvery lunch with Grenadiers from the west of the County. We would welcome other Grenadiers from surrounding Counties so if you are within sensible driving distance of King's Lynn and fancy a convivial Grenadier lunch, usually in March and November, please give us a call. We would love to see you.

In closing, we reiterate our standing invitation to all Grenadiers, of whatever age or rank, if you can be in Norfolk for one of our Dining evenings, please come and join us. The dates for 2012 are April 20th, June 15th, August 17th, October 19th, and December 7th. Just give the Club organiser, Ross Donaldson, a call on 01692 598336 or e-mail ross@ross-donaldson.com for all details. We really hope to hear from you.



Dining Club Members waiting for the bus at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford.

REGIMENTAL REMEMBRANCE DAY 2011



Clockwise from top: Wreath bearers Bob Fallon & Ian Sutton, Colour points Mick West & Andy Baines; The General Secretary, The President and The Regimental Adjutant head the parade; The Deputy Regimental Lieutenant Colonel lays the wreath at the Guards Memorial; Serving and Association Members of the 1st Battalion.



GRENADIER DAY 2011



Main image: Surrey & East Hants Branch, victors in the 2011 Boyton Cup shoot, receive the Cup from the President; Grenadier Day 2011; The Band take shelter from the elements; The Household Division Corps of Drums are made of sterner stuff; Major Mick Holland takes cover!!



GRENADIER DAY – SUNDAY 8th JULY 2012

Lille Barracks, Aldershot GU11 2NQ

Grenadier Day 2012 will be aimed at providing enjoyment and fun for our families and especially their children. It will, as ever, provide the perfect opportunity in an ideal setting, for us all to meet our friends of today and those from the past.



SWAGS
Tea Tent



IMPS
Motorcycle
Display
Team

Circus Whiz ↴



Portsmouth Area
Cadet Corps-Field
Gun Display



Honour The Brave

Association Battlefield Tour of Italy 13th – 23rd September 2011

This tour to honour the memory of the 'D-Day Dodgers' (Lady Astor MP 1944), long in the planning, began at the Officers Mess at Wellington Barracks late in the evening of Tuesday 13th September. Picking our way through all the decorators' equipment on the ground floor, we gathered in the ante room on the first floor, mostly old friends, but including some very welcome new faces.

The comfortable coach, from Marshalls of Leighton Buzzard set out at 2245hrs for Dover, and most of us were glad to leave the driving to our three drivers, all named John! as we passed through South East London and on to the motorway, either dozing or catching up with the news.

The passport controls at both Dover and at Calais are very light these days, and by 0400hrs continental time we were on the French motorway system, heading south for Lake Como and our very comfortable and welcoming hotel, the Le Torrette, situated right on the lake shore with lovely views and a menu that included freshly caught lake fish.



Well rested, well fed and about to depart for Cassino.

Another comfortable day travelling on Thursday brought us to the main hotel for our stay – the Hotel Rocca at Cassino, near the foot of Monte Cassino, with fine views of the great monastery perched on its summit, and famous for both its military history – destroyed four times, most recently during WWII and rebuilt each time in its original style. It is also famous for its religious history as the site of Saint Benedict's first monastery and last resting place of the Saint and his twin sister Saint Scholastica. We visited the monastery later in the tour and were impressed first, by its military potential with a



The tour party at Pompeii with Mt Vesuvius in the background.

wide view high over the surrounding countryside, its rugged construction, and by its religious monuments. It took several months of aerial and artillery bombardment, and very costly infantry attacks, to subdue it and continue the allied advance north towards Rome, which was not captured until June 1944.

To return to our tour, on Friday 16th we set off from the hotel after breakfast for the ruined Roman city of Pompeii, buried by an eruption of Vesuvius in AD79. Its citizens were overwhelmed by the gases escaping from the volcano and then buried in its ash, so that they are 'frozen' in the attitudes they were in at the moment they were overcome. The visitor gets a clear impression of life in a Roman city with its amphitheatre, bakery, bathhouse, house of pleasure (!) etc., most in an excellent state of preservation with some really beautiful mosaics.

Lunch followed in a very pleasant open-air restaurant on the site, 'Camping Zeus' and then a short coach journey to the Royal Palace of Caserta. This was built in the second half of the 18th century for the Bourbon kings of Naples and in a word it is...vast! For size it rivals Versailles and is larger than Schonbrunn; its extensive lake fed by a cataract high on a distant hill. For visitors who are perhaps not as agile as they once were, there is a horse and carriage service to the boundary and return; a very comfortable and civilised way to see a large site like Caserta. It was the Allied HQ during the early part of the Italian campaign and its lake was used to practise river crossings, but the calm and peaceful lake wasn't really much like the fast flowing rivers Volturno and Garigliano, part of the Gustav line, the crossing of which exacted heavy causalities in mid January 1944.

From Caserta we went onto the Hotel Rocca at Cassino; Major Green and LSgt Jay Ellingham get a credit for choosing the hotel on this tour – clean,



WO2 (RQMS) Johnny Walker and LSgt Jay Ellingham at Caserta.

comfortable and with excellent food and service. At Hotel Rocca we also first met Dr Danila Bracaglia, our tour guide. Danila is a jolly little Italian lady, perhaps 5'4" who laughs a lot and knows a lot about Italian history and, especially WWII as it affected Italy. Right at the end of the tour, we delivered her with some regrets to her Mum and Dad's home in Frosinone.

They had laid on an absolute feast for us all; it was delicious, typically Italian, and with all the extended family there, including a granddaughter aged three, who wanted to show everyone her new shoes. A fitting finale to our tour which we shall all long remember.



The Assn NCO and RQMS at Rocca D'Evandro.

To return to the tour and Saturday – day four – one of the most solemn days. We made the short journey by coach to Rocca d'Evandro and marched to the War Memorial. Here we were joined by George Booker, 93, a Camino veteran, who emigrated to New Zealand after the war, and looks as well as we all wish we felt. We also met Colonel Andrew Duncan, who assumed command of our group, Mrs Jacqueline Duncan, Mike Sterling an Honorary Member of London Branch, whose uncle died on Camino, and Bill Smith, Honorary Secretary of London Branch and Marion, his lovely wife, and adjutant(!) The RQMS, ‘Johnnie’ Walker, and Jay Ellingham had meanwhile blossomed in tunic and bearskin, which again deserves credit in a temperature which had now reached +30°C. Jay was to sound the calls, which were the climax of the very moving Service of Remembrance for the Soldiers and civilians who died at Rocca d'Evandro and Monte Camino, which followed.

It was especially moving to see the beautifully behaved and beautifully turned-out boys and girls of the Rocca d'Evandro junior school, and most of the citizens of Rocca who took part in the service. The Mayor of Rocca spoke; one didn't need a translation to pick up the eloquence, and gratitude for the liberation, in his voice. A priest concluded the service with prayers and a blessing.



Colonel Duncan with the Mayor of Rocca D'Evandro.

We then moved to the Civic Centre, where a really scrumptious buffet lunch was laid out, the weather was so warm and sunny that most of us didn't have a huge appetite. There was an exchange of gifts between the town and the Regiment, speeches by the Mayor and Colonel Duncan, and a contribution by George Booker, by now the star of the show, and a favourite of both the ladies of Rocca and the Grenadier ladies. He lapped it all up and presented the Mayor with an illustrated book about Christchurch, his home town in New Zealand, and another about the recent severe earthquake there.



Mr George Booker.

After lunch and affectionate farewells to the good people of Rocca (until next day that is) we drove to the Cistercian Abbey of Casamari where Danila, our guide, came into her own with a really comprehensive talk about the Abbey, its history and where it fitted into Italian and European history; it functions in somewhat the same manner as an English public school nowadays. Presumably because the school holidays were still on, there was no sign of the boys, and only one monk of a community of some twenty to be seen. The architecture is relatively severe, relieved by a cloistered garden courtyard at the centre of the complex.

We were all glad to get back to our 'base' at Hotel Rocca in time for a shower and a rest before having dinner together; the group had bonded well by now, a bit reminiscent of a squad at the Depot, though the beds were more comfortable and the discipline slightly less intrusive!! Various 'characters' were emerging too; Miriam, wife of Nat Beech (Windsor Branch), a kindly and welfare oriented lady. Then there was Peter Brooks (Oxford Branch), theoretically sitting at the back of the coach, but actually to be seen all over, including sleeping on the floor. We are all very glad that he has been given the 'all clear' by his consultant after a recent serious illness. He has an attentive carer (or is he a keeper) in his constant companion, Roy Ibson (Norfolk Branch), a real Grenadier mate to him.



Julie Green commemorating the fallen at the Cairn above Formella.

Sunday 18th was the real climax of the tour. We made our way by road to the village of Formella and then on foot to the Memorial Cairn, part way up Monte Camino. There had been some misgiving, in the group, as to

whether we should all be able to reach the Cairn but, thanks to some more Grenadier mates, carrying other people's packs, and some more (kindly) pushing, shoving and pointing out easier routes, we all made it. One reflected that, taxing as it was on a warm peaceful Sunday morning, what must it have been like on a cold, dark, wet night with the Germans throwing everything they had got at you from the surrounding hills, some higher. One knows that a number of Grenadiers suffered frostbite from exposure on Monte Camino. A well earned Battle Honour for George Booker and his comrades.



Mike Sterling explains the Grenadier action at Monte Camino.

Another sincere and eloquent speech from the Mayor of Rocca and a commentary on the action by Mike Sterling, and Last Post and Reveille sounded by Jay in tunic order (another credit, Jay). We then moved down the hill to where tables and benches had been laid with a picnic lunch. We met the townsfolk of Rocca and Formella, including Giovanni, who had been acting as interpreter for the Mayor and Colonel Duncan, and who lived in Accrington for some years and so speaks Italian and English with a Lancashire accent! It all helped with the language problem, which we hardly noticed anyway, and the feeling of mutual goodwill between townsfolk and visitors helped things go with a swing.

After lunch, we said an affectionate goodbye to the people of Rocca and Formella, with whom we had formed a bond of shared memories of harder times and left for Minturno which is the site of one of the largest Commonwealth War Cemeteries in Italy with more than 2000 graves, mainly of soldiers killed in the crossing of the Garigliano. Many readers of the Gazette will remember Major Penn, MC Regimental Adjutant just after the war, who won his Military Cross and was severely wounded at the crossing of the Garigliano. Later, he was a Lieutenant Colonel and a long serving senior member of the Lord Chamberlain's Office, as well as a much loved and respected President of the Suffolk Branch.



Minturno Cemetery.

We laid a wreath at the Cross of Sacrifice and said the words of the Exhortation, followed by several moments of reflection in this lovely quiet place with the mortal remains of all these brave men around us. We then moved to the archaeological site next to the Cemetery, that is, apart from two idle Guardsmen who opted for a nap on the coach and went unnoticed by the drivers, who switched off the ventilators, locked up and went on the trip. You've heard of dogs locked in closed cars on hot summer days, haven't you? We nearly lost two anonymous Guardsmen accidentally locked in a coach on a hot Italian afternoon, nearly, that's all.



The Castle at Rocca D'Evandro.

Our final fixture in Rocca d'Evandro was a dinner at the castle, given by the Mayor; access to the castle was somewhat steep and stony but it proved well worth it.

The tables were laid in the open quadrangle in the centre of the castle, for a typical Italian meal, a pasta dish with generous sauces – and washed down with generous helpings of the local wine. The Mayor and Colonel Duncan spoke during the meal; the Mayor with his normal eloquence and sincerity, and Colonel Duncan paying tribute to Mike Sterling, who had done so much over the years to further the friendship between Rocca and the Regiment. Colonel Duncan also mentioned Lady Astor's now infamous remark of 1944 about 'D Day Dodgers' and how inapt it had proved to be. Finally, he made reference to the incident of vandalism at the Memorial Cairn on Monte Camino and expressed the hope that the perpetrators would be detected and punished.

On Monday, we had an insight into the Italian contribution to the campaign to liberate their country after the fall of Mussolini and his Fascist government in the summer of 1943. We visited Mignano Montelungo with its Italian War Cemetery on a prominent hillside site and Military Museum opposite. There are several hundred tombs each containing several graves; architecturally a step up from the standard Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone; one up to the Italian army. The museum had a comprehensive collection of infantry weapons, and of photographs and documents relating to Italian aspects of the war, which jolted (schoolboy) memories in some of us.

Photographs of Mussolini and his son-in-law, Count Ciano, reminded us that they both came to a sticky end.

Later that morning we arrived at the village of San Pietro Infine where Danila, our guide, explained that the village was totally destroyed during the war, whilst the villagers sheltered in nearby caves which they had dug out themselves. The museum conveys a graphic impression of life in San Pietro before and during the war.

The exhibits include a film made at the time by John Huston, the Hollywood director, who was attached to the United States Army during the war. The film was thought to be too harrowing for the public to see in 1943 and was withheld until the 1970s.

The village has now been rebuilt further down the valley, and all that remains on the original site are the museum and a comfortable hotel and bar.



San Pietro Infine.

That afternoon was devoted to the great monastery complex on Monte Cassino, which is approached by the steepest road, with more sharp hairpins bends, than one can remember anywhere else on the tourist itinerary. It is briefly described at the beginning of this article, but it is difficult to do justice to it. The sadness of the Polish military cemetery near the summit, the magnificence and solidity of the buildings (yet so often destroyed in wars), the breeze at sea level which becomes a howling wind at the top of Monte Cassino combine to form an unforgettable experience.



Cassino Cemetery with the Abbey in the background.

On Tuesday we set off for Salerno, where the Allies made the war's first large-scale opposed landing in September 1943; the town has been rebuilt after the fierce fighting that wrought such destruction. The landing went very badly at first, and only devastating Allied naval gunfire saved the day. The main traces of the battle are to be seen on and behind the coast road with the usual bunkers and fortifications. We stopped for refreshments at a sea-front cafe, where a local man told us that his father witnessed the fighting as a teenager in 1943, and would like to meet us; this was arranged to take place at our visit to the Salerno War Cemetery later that day.

Before that we visited the Buffalo mozzarella factory in Paestum; the buffalo is a bovine animal closely related to the cow, and its milk is used in Italy to make mozzarella cheese. The owner and staff take a great pride in their farm and factory and took pleasure in showing us around both; the dairy was very hygienic and gave one confidence to tackle the cheese-oriented lunch which followed. Once again, the visit was so full of interest that we had to forgo our scheduled visit to Paestum and its three vast Roman temples, in order to be able to visit the Salerno War Cemetery where, once again we followed the simple but solemn service of laying a poppy wreath and reciting the Exhortation. We also met up again with our friend of that morning, who had brought his 85 year old father to meet us.



David Wright, Danila Bracaglia and our Italian eye-witness.

By dint of some pidgin-English (his), some pidgin-Italian (ours) and a great deal of gesturing (both) we got a schoolboy impression of the events of nearly 70 years ago. Among the burials at Salerno is Henry, sixth Duke of Wellington, a Captain in the Regiment that bears his name.

On Wednesday, our last full day, we set out from the hotel to the nature reserve of Tor Caldara; as well as a nature reserve the area is the site of the British operation at Anzio on 22 January 1944. Looking at the landing beach one can only be thankful that it was a successful surprise landing as behind the beach are low cliffs which nonetheless would have formed a formidable obstacle, if manned. The slaughter of the ANZACs at Gallipoli in WWI came to mind. The advantage of the surprise landing was largely lost in the following days whilst resources were built up for an advance inland.

This delay enabled Kesselring, the German commander, time to regroup his defences and to bring up several Panzer Divisions. It was at Anzio, of course, in the Carraceto Gully that Major Sidney, as he then was, won his Victoria Cross, bravely supported by Regimental Quartermaster Sgt George Armstrong, a noted marksman, who gave Major Sidney covering fire as he threw his grenades. George was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal; he ended his military career as Regimental Sgt Major at the School of Infantry at Hythe. Major Sidney became Viscount de Lisle and Dudley VC KG owner of Penshurst Place, and a noted figure in the City.

After lunch we visited the Italian war museum which is on a large site at Piano delle Orme, and again gives a clear impression of the war though Italian eyes. The huge collection of weapons and equipment, and other exhibits in some dozen large buildings comes to an end with a shop, also huge, selling war surplus clothing and other memorabilia.

We then took Danila to her home at Frosinone where we met her family and enjoyed a really great party, covered earlier. A highlight of the tour, and it intensified our regret that the tour was coming to an end.

On Thursday, we left Cassino and the Hotel Rocca for a first days return journey to Lake Como and the Hotel 'Le Torrette, where we spent another comfortable night, then on through Switzerland, so clean, such wonderful scenery and so expensive! Finally through France to arrive at Calais Ferry Terminal very early on the Saturday, straight through British passport control and on to an early ferry, arriving at Wellington Barracks before the first bird song! Regimental style until the end!

We said goodbye to old and new friends and set off home, with a heightened appreciation of what our Grenadier forefathers suffered and achieved, and a

heightened appreciation, too, of what we gain from belonging to our regimental family.



The Cross of Sacrifice at Anzio.



The Party outside the home of Danila's parents in Frosinone.

Mountaineering with a Dirty Grenade

by 24417868 'Fingers' Worsfold

In 2009 I was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. A bit of a body-blow but also in a way a blessing in disguise. Sure, I would one day be consigned to a wheelchair and become a doddering, dribbling old fool, but then some of my comrades would say I was always like that. Maybe I was always suffering from this dreadful disease and, maybe, that is why my drill was so bad.

Once over the initial shock I decided that I had better get on with my life, whilst I still could. My younger brother suggested I put together a 'bucket list' of things I wanted to do and hence a plan to climb Mount Kilimanjaro was hatched. Having been involved with the charity 'Save the Rhino' through the late patron and author Douglas Adams, I turned our adventure into a fund-raising scheme. Save the Rhino organise annual treks's up Kilimanjaro and it seemed natural that I should first turn to them.



Fingers Worsfold on top of Africa.

A friend of ours mentioned that her father had climbed 'Kili' a few years before and gave my daughter a souvenir 'Guardsman Teddy Bear' to give to me to take to the summit. This I duly did and as I left to catch the flight to Nairobi I dug out my old beret and took that too. I suppose I thought it would make a good photo opportunity. However, I didn't pack any Brasso and what with the humidity of equatorial Africa and the fact a water-bottle leaked all over it during the five day ascent, my grenade was severely tarnished by the time I reached at the summit. I am sure 'Ross the Boss' (and others) will be looking on in scorn, but I was secure in the knowledge that due to the lack of oxygen at 20,000 ft

no-one was going to give me a good rifting. Suffering from altitude sickness, a wind-chill of -29 and collapsing comrades there was little I could do about it at the time.

Many moons ago whilst undergoing a certain gruelling course across the Brecon Beacons, I came across another Grenadier undergoing the same rigours. At one point, much to the amazement of the Directing Staff we were seen to do a mini 'Troop' on the top of Pen-Y-Fan. On the summit of Kilimanjaro I recalled this memory and wondered if anyone had climbed it in full Tunic & Bearskin. Now there is a challenge ...

Postscript: Since this trip I have been looking at other challenges. Hopefully in the summer of 2012 and partially in aid of the Colonel's Fund the same team intend to 'bag' Mont Blanc too. To be continued...

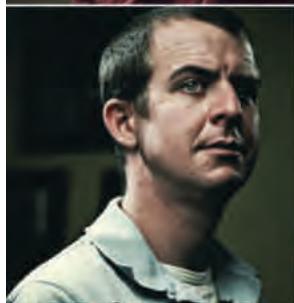
Sobering Thoughts in a Benidorm Bar

The Cumberland Bar in Benidorm held Remembrance Services on Friday 11th & Sunday 13th November in order that British Expatriates and holiday makers were able to pay their respects to British servicemen who had paid the ultimate sacrifice.

The Service was conducted by bar owners Nigel & Yvonne Turner and included Hymns and war poetry with the two minute silence observed at 11am. Nigel, who served a total of 26 years with the Grenadier Guards, first began the Remembrance Services in 2009 and this year over the two days a total of 250 people were in attendance. A collection taken on the door in aid of Help for Heroes raised €530 together with generous donations in aid of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Although living in Benidorm Nigel is a member of the Gloucestershire Branch and keeps in regular touch by e-mail communication.



Left to Right: Nigel Turner, Yvonne Turner, Jack Johnson, Chairman RBL, Roger Forder, Vice Chairman RBL.



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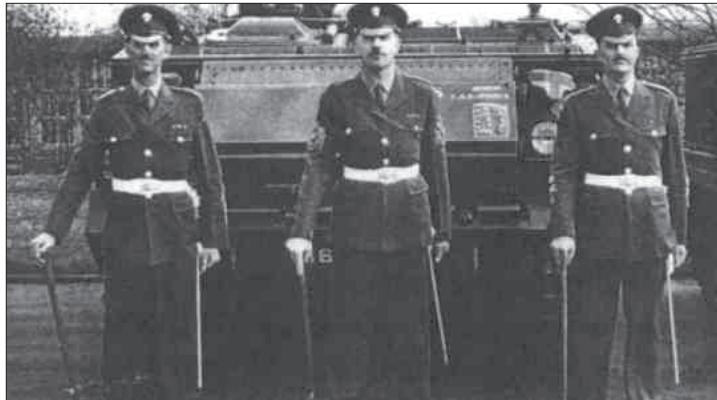
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The 2nd Battalion Triumvirate – Wuppertal 1967



One dictionary definition of the word triumvirate is 'a group of three people who jointly share some responsibility, authority or power'. In this case the triumvirate above are, from left to right: **WO2 (DSgt) Jack Thomas, WO1 (RSM) Ray Huggins and WO2 (ADSGt) Bob Woodfield.**

The picture was taken in Harding Barracks and was sent to us by Bob Woodfield with some further personal memories on those pictured which will be of interest to many of our readers.

Ray Huggins enlisted into the Regiment aged 17 in 1945 and saw service in Germany, the Middle East, North and West Africa and South America. Ray as many will know was appointed Academy Sgt Major at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst in 1970 and remained in post until he retired from the Army in 1980. Following his retirement from active service he was appointed Deputy Administrator at Blenheim Palace with Sheila, his late wife who became the Blenheim Gardens Secretary. They both retired in 1993.

Ray Huggins was appointed a Member of the British Empire in 1973 and the following year received the Meritorious Service Medal. In addition in 1976 he was awarded the Cross of Recognition by the French Army and in 1978 he was appointed an Admiral of the Texas Navy by the Governor of Texas. In his younger days Ray was a great sportsman, in 1951 he was a member of the Army rugby team that played against Malta and in 1962 against Trinidad. In 1950 he became the Regimental Light Heavyweight boxing champion and later qualified as an Army Boxing Judge. Raymond Huggins is now an In-Pensioner at The Royal Hospital Chelsea.

Jack Thomas enlisted into the Regiment in 1947 and saw active service in Malaya, Tripoli, Egypt and Germany. During his service he served twice in all three battalions. He also saw service at Eaton Hall,

Mons Officer Cadet School and completed three tours at RMAS Sandhurst and qualified as a parachutist. Jack's final posting prior to discharge in 1970 was as the Sgt Major, Victory College after which he was also appointed a Member of The British Empire.

For 23 years after he retired from the Regiment Jack worked in the security industry and then for four years for the City and Guilds Institute as an external NVQ verifier. Jack Thomas passed away at home in Sandhurst on 08 November and his funeral took place at St George's Church Sandhurst on 25 November 2011.

Bob Woodfield enlisted into the Regiment in 1948. After a posting from the 2nd Battalion in Krefeld to the Guards Depot as a Squad Instructor he rejoined the Battalion for Public Duties at Chelsea

where he was involved in the Coronation prior to his appointment as MT Sgt and a two year tour to Egypt. He then served at The Royal Military Academy between 1957-58 before joining the 1st Battalion as a CQMS.

In 1959 he found himself in Ghana on a six month secondment preparing the Army for their independence ceremonies. This involved various drill courses and two Presentation of Colours parades. He returned to the 1st Battalion in time for a tour to the Cameroons as CQMS No 2 Company. He was then promoted to WO2 and posted as a CSM to Mons Officer Cadet School prior to being appointed CSM of the Guards Independent Parachute Company from 1963-66 which involved a short tour in Cyprus and two tours to Borneo. From 1966-69 he held the appointment of Assistant Drill Sgt and on promotion to WO1 he was posted to the Army Apprentice College at Arborfield.

Bob was commissioned in 1971 and appointed MTO of the 2nd Battalion before a posting to Belize as an Admin Officer for 15 months. Prior to retiring in 1983 he conducted two tours to Belfast, served with the 2nd Battalion in Hong Kong and 8 UDR as Training Officer and as the Recruiting Officer at RHQ. He will also be remembered for his time with the 1st Battalion in Berlin. His final posting as a serving officer was to the ACF Training Centre at Frimley Park.

From 1983 to 1996 he was employed as the Cadet Executive Officer for Shropshire ACF. Throughout his career Bob demonstrated a keen interest in sport, particularly athletics, fencing, football, cricket and squash. For many years he was heavily involved as an Army football referee and boxing judge. In 1996 he was appointed a Member of The British Empire for services to the youth of Shropshire. He was twice Mentioned in Despatches for service in Northern Ireland.

Coronations and Car Boots

*by Bill Marshall
East Kent Branch*

When I attended a recent boot fair I came across a copy of the Overseas Daily Mirror and Sunday Pictorial – Coronation Souvenir, dated 4 June 1953.

This is a compilation of different editions of the Daily Mirror from pre and post Coronation Day.

You can imagine my surprise when browsing through the pages to recognise a picture of myself (right hand man) on page 13 of the Friday 29 May 1953 edition.

I was on the way to post troops from Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) who took a turn at guarding Buckingham Palace on Thursday 28 May 1953.

The troops from Ceylon took over from the Australians and then the New Zealanders.

It reminded me of another press cutting I have that shows me as one of the last Guardsmen on sentry outside Buckingham Palace in the days leading up to the Coronation.

You can see the picture (below) shows me handing over number 4 post (outside the railings of Buckingham Palace) to one of the 54 Australians chosen to mount guard.

It was reported that crowds cheered and clapped as the Australians slow-marched into position to the music of 'Waltzing Matilda'.



Memories from Jack Dutton A Grenadier in The Holy Land 1948

The 3rd Battalion moved into the Manshiya quarter between Jaffa and Tel Aviv on 12th January 1948; only three days later we lost Gdsm L C Taylor to the deadly sniper fire of Haganah. Battalion Tactical HQ came under frequent sniper fire and Capt Sewell, then Assistant Adjutant, became so exasperated by one sharpshooter that he took an anti-tank team and demolished the entire position. I was a sergeant at the time and a member of the anti-tank team; we decided to use the PIAT (Projectile Infantry Anti-Tank) in the anti-tank or block busting role instead of the mortar role – a Jewish school lay behind the target and if one of our bombs had over flown and hit the school, the Grenadiers would have been classed as murderers by the Jewish community.

The team headed for a derelict house near the sniper position and I clambered onto the roof, where the PIAT and six bombs were handed up to me. I fired six bombs into the target. Capt Sewell then asked 'How many bombs have you got left?' I replied 'none' at which he said 'Then get down quickly they are firing at you'. As an obedient Grenadier I made a swift, if not especially elegant, descent to the ground floor.

On patrol next day we inspected the sniper's position; the floor of the room from which he had fired was blood stained, and marks in the dust on the floor indicated where a body had been dragged out. After this our sentries were no longer troubled by sniper fire. Our time in Palestine was not always taken up by actions like this, and all the other internal security duties against terrorism.

I was fortunate enough to attend a five day pilgrimage organised by the Church Army and was able to visit many of the Christian holy places such as Jerusalem, Nazareth, Bethlehem and Galilee. It was a moving experience to walk the same path as Our Lord where he carried His cross to the place of His crucifixion, and to see the Garden of Gethsemane, and the priceless works of Christian art in the churches of Jerusalem, such as the painting of the Last Supper by Michelangelo. What a pity that such a beautiful and historic country has been the scene of war and terrorism throughout its history.

The King's African Rifles in Kenya

I was seconded to the King's African Rifles (KAR) in November 1959, joining their 11th Battalion at Langata Camp, Nairobi. I was posted to D Company, the recruit Company; the KAR did not have a Depot as all Battalions trained their own recruits. The recruits were usually enlisted from remote areas of Kenya and included men from various tribes such as the Wakamba, Masai, Samburu, Turkana, Nandi, Boran and Somali from the NFD. Mostly they arrived barefoot and wearing just one blanket; if there was a gust of wind all would be revealed.

The basic training of an Askari would take six months and by the time of the Passing Out Parade of my first intake, I thought that they had achieved a good standard of turnout, although I was less happy about their drill. When the day of the Parade arrived, the Brigadier mounted the saluting base and the Company presented arms. I could not believe my ears – the Present Arms, and the arms drill throughout the parade was excellent, and my Askaris had performed as well as any parade at Caterham or on Horse Guards.

Exercises in the KAR were always called safaris and



March past in Nairobi.

indeed they were safaris of a kind, because you could see various forms of wildlife in their natural habitat whilst carrying out military exercises; in the time I was there I saw lion, giraffe, rhino, gnu, zebra, gazelle, baboon, colobus monkey, cheetah and various other animals. The camp at Langata was especially interesting because the perimeter wire bordered the Nairobi Game Park and, during a drought period, it was reported that the fence had been breached by a herd of zebra trying to reach water in the nearby reservoir.

One night, whilst I was duty European, the African Orderly Sgt phoned to say that the sentry on the gate had heard lions nearby; he requested permission for the sentry to get into the nearby truck if the lions were near. Not wanting the sentry to be devoured by lions, I gave permission and suggested that he issue the sentry with

a thunderflash to frighten off the lions. He said that a thunderflash would only anger the lions and they would charge; he asked if he could issue a whistle instead. I asked why a whistle, to which he replied 'that it would offend the lions ears and they would run off'. Having heard that, I always took a whistle on safari but I never did learn if a blast on a whistle would frighten off a lion.



Guard of Honour at Nairobi Railway Station.

During my Army career, I had been involved in a few scary times, such as being ambushed, or shot at by snipers, but it was whilst serving with the KAR that I experienced the most terrifying moments ever. The three-tonner I was travelling in, as the co-driver, careered through some bushes and plunged several



Getting the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal Presented by Brigadier Fitzalan-Howard.

hundred feet down a steep escarpment. I hung on grimly to a bar above the door as the lorry somersaulted on its way down, shedding its load of Askaris, stores and a trailing water cart. I felt I was being shaken and tossed around the cab like a dice in a crap game. I am not ashamed to say that un-Grenadier like, I closed my eyes and said a fervent prayer. I must have been knocked out for a few moments, and I came to lying across the engine cowling with my head lying on the driver's seat. The lorry had come to rest; the driver was nowhere to be seen, and I could only presume that he had been catapulted out of the cab.

The engine was still running and I quickly jumped out in case the lorry burst into flames. It was then that I noticed that the lorry had come to rest at the side of a young tree; this had prevented it from falling another few hundred feet. Looking back up the very steep incline, I could see the rest of the Company, looking like small ants. I had had a lucky escape suffering only a badly strained arm and shock; two Askaris had been killed and others injured. Apart from that moment, the rest of my three year secondment had been a very interesting part of my Army career.

The significance of the Tiled Panels in the Guards Chapel at Chelsea Barracks

*by Major PAJ Wright
formerly Grenadier Guards*



The Guards Chapel is the only remaining building from the original Chelsea Barracks designed by the architect, George Morgan, in 1859. It was de-consecrated in the 1990s and stripped of seating, font, organ, bell, altar and stained glass prior to disposal of the site. In March 2011, the chapel was designated Grade II listed by Heritage Minister John Penrose, who reversed the 2009 decision against the listing after reviewing significant new evidence of its historic merit from English Heritage. The minister's decision recognised the architectural and historic interest of four gilded and hand-painted Victorian memorial tile panels inset on the nave walls. These commemorate men of 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards and 1st and 2nd Battalion Scots Guards who were stationed at the barracks and died between 1885 and 1888.

The panels depict David, Joshua, St John and St James. The panel with the image of Joshua



bears the names of 16 soldiers from 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards who died from 1885-88. The St James panel lists 16 soldiers of 1st and 2nd Battalion Scots Guards who died from 1885-87. The other two panels have blank spaces, presumably intended for further names. Although they are officially recognised as war memorials the cause of death was mainly pneumonia or bronchitis.

Memorials to named private soldiers were uncommon in the late 19th century and the tile (adjacent to the hilt of Joshua's sword) to the memory of Drummer G Jeffray, 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards, illustrates how the most junior ranks in the Victorian Army were gradually being accorded the respect of remembrance. Jeffray joined as a 12-year-old boy in 1874. He became a drummer in 1879 and in 1882, took part in the expedition to Egypt to help the Khedive suppress an insurrection demanding 'Egypt for the Egyptians'. In the brilliant victory at Tel el Kebir, 60 miles from Cairo, 2nd Battalion were clothed for the desert in scarlet serge jackets, blue tweed trousers with a red stripe and pith helmets. Jeffray was awarded the Egypt medal with Tel el Kebir clasp and the Khedive Star. Four years later in 1886, he died of bronchitis aged 23, having served for just over 11 years.



English Heritage said: 'Commemoration on memorials of private soldiers by name began around 1850 but was still relatively unusual in the 1880s. It is our view that the tiled panels constitute significant military memorials and that they enhance the case for listing the chapel.' English Heritage also gave other reasons for listing saying: 'This is a pleasing, well-composed example of a mid-19th century barracks chapel, relatively unusual for its Romanesque-Byzantine style. The chapel is valuable as the last remaining building from a prestigious inner London barracks and offers a tangible reminder of the military presence in Chelsea.'



In future, Drummer Jeffray and his thirty one comrades should be remembered, not only for their military service in the late 19th century, but also for the significant role they have played in providing extra protection for the chapel against inappropriate alteration or redevelopment in the 21st century.

The Regiment needs to salute Drummer Jeffray and his comrades for preventing the demolition of the Chapel.

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BRANCH NOTES

AYLESBURY & DISTRICT

(Formed 1929)

President: Awaiting Appointment.

Vice Presidents: Major THE RT HON LORD CARRINGTON KG, CH, GCMG, MC; DH MILLER Esq; Major GAG SELBY-LOWNDES; Colonel REH AUBREY-FLETCHER; Capt SIR BEVILLE STANIER Bt (Welsh Guards); M FINDLAY Esq (Household Cavalry); Capt I DUNCAN-SMITH MP (Scots Guards); SIR ANDREW HUGH-SMITH (RHG); Major HW FREEMAN-ATTWOOD; J JUDD Esq (IG).

Chairman: Mr D. DOVER

Treasurer: Mr D. HIBBLE

Secretary: Mr RG BAKER, 48 Somerville Way, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP19 7QT. Tel: (01296) 426506

Email: rgbakker@aol.com

Our 81st Annual lunch in 2010 was cancelled due to our President **Sir Philip Duncombe** having an unfortunate accident. We were of course all looking forward to getting together and welcoming our guest from Regimental Headquarters, **Major Grant Baker** the Regimental Adjutant; another time!

The Branch had a bit of a setback in 2011 when our Chairman **Mr Laurie Jeffrey** resigned from his post to spend more time with his daughter in Spain. We must however thank Laurie for organising our lunch at the Masonic Hall in Aylesbury for the past two years. **Mr Don Dover** is expected to take over as Chairman and this is very welcome news. With a little bit of arm twisting **Mr Dave Hibble** has kindly agreed to take over the accounts. We were unable to organise anything for 2011 as the Branch was in effect inactive until these posts were filled. We are now in a position to properly show our faces again and must assure the readership that we had no intention of doing a disappearing act and intend to retain our identity as a properly functioning Branch.

Regimental Remembrance Day again saw our loyal Branch members showing their support. **Mr Norman Hinds** one of our staunchest supporters and an ex King's and Queen's Company man is pictured below talking to **Major General Christopher Airy** Scots Guards. Christopher Airy served with the Grenadiers and when with The Queen's Company the Branch Secretary happened to be his orderly in 1971 for just over a year. It was a pleasure for them to meet once again and catch up on old times; they last spoke in Germany in 1972!



Grenadier Day was disappointing due to the unsettled weather we had to endure, but it did not stop Grenadiers and their families turning up at the event. Our Secretary travelled down with two fellow Grenadiers in his car; **Mr Norman Hinds** and **Mr Michael Gough** (Windsor Branch) and spotted three more members of the Branch who had travelled under their own steam. It's always a pleasure meeting up with Grenadiers from other branches and especially the lads we served with, even the rain couldn't prevent us from doing that

Sadly, since our last report we have lost five veterans, 2620907 **Fred Waters**, 2616732 **Ian Williams**, 22483138 **Cyril Roden**, 22545548 **Brian Weavers** and Vice President **Sir Desmond Fennell OBE, QC**. Sir Desmond chaired the public enquiry into the fire on November 18th 1987 at King's Cross Underground Station; he was born in Sheffield in 1933. A memorial service was held at the Temple Church, London EC4Y 7BB on 16th November 2011, **Sir Philip Duncombe** and past Chairman **Mr Paul Goudime** attended.

BATH

(Formed 1952)

President: Major HA BAILLIE.

Vice Presidents: Lieutenant Colonel THE LORD WIGRAM MC; Major General SIR EVELYN WEBB-CARTER KCVO, OBE; Lieutenant Colonel AC FORD.

Chairman: Mr R BELL.

Secretary: Major (Rtd) Ron Kirkwood, 27 Jasmine Way, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 7SW. Tel. (01225) 769859.

Treasurer: Mr PL HANNEY.

Meetings: The second Tuesday of every month at Coombe Down Rugby Club, Bath.

Our Secretary took a work related leave of absence from October 2010 till June 2012 and would like to offer his sincere thanks to **Peter Hanney**, **Roger Bell**, **John Leach** and our President, **Major Hubert Baillie** for between them fulfilling the tasks of the Secretary. He is now firmly back in the saddle!

The Branch had a day out at Portsmouth on 4th September. It turned out to be great day and enjoyed by all those who attended. Although the sun didn't bless us with a visit and it did rain, it did not dampen the enjoyment by all those attending whether they went shopping or spent all day taking in the history that this historic site has to offer.

Visit to Houses of Parliament. The Branch is in the process, via our local MP, of organising a tour of the Houses of Parliament in early 2012. If you would like to attend then let our Secretary know even if you are not a member of our Branch. You can get his details from the Branch website <http://www.grenadierguardsbath.co.uk/>



Peter thinks that he is better being a Guardsman than a sailor as the ceilings are too low and the beds are just too short!

Our AGM this year was held on 8 March 2011. The following Officers were elected:

President:	Major HA Baillie
Life Vice President:	Lt Colonel AC Ford
Branch Chaplain:	The Rev Adrian Pollard
Chairman:	Roger Bell
Vice Chairman:	Leslie Hardwick
Secretary:	Major Ron Kirkwood
Assistant Secretary:	John Leach
Treasurer:	Peter Hanney
Assistant Treasurer:	Duncan Blake

Readers will all be aware that, although lots of fun, the Nijmegen Marches involve four days of marching or walking through and around Nijmegen and is indeed an endurance event and over the years to successfully complete one or two or even ten marches is indeed a great feat. Well, **Don Cowan** has completed his 48th march this year! Well done Don, what a fantastic achievement.

Well that is it for another Gazette entry and I hope that we have given you some useful information about our Branch and helped you keep in touch with our Branch members. Of course you could do this in person by coming along to the monthly meetings, second Tuesday of every month in the Coombe Down Rugby Club, Coombe Down, Bath. We would look forward to seeing you there.



Peter and Bernice Hanney with their guest on board HMS Victory.

BRISTOL

(Formed 1914)

President: Major General SIR EVELYN WEBB-CARTER KCVO, OBE.

Vice Presidents: Lieutenant Colonel THE LORD WIGRAM, MC; Lieutenant Colonel ET BOLITHO, OBE; Lieutenant Colonel PE HILLS, FLCM, psm; Colonel CA RANSON, TD; Major JA SANDISON, MBE, QGM; Capt JW WALKER; DT GRIFFITHS Esq; J FROST Esq; Lieutenant Colonel R DORNEY, MBE; C SAVAGE Esq; K JONES Esq.

Chairman: Mr K JONES.

Secretary: Mr M ALLEN, 51 Vowles Close, Wraxall, Bristol. BS48 1PP. Tel: 07891 238866

Email: bristolsecretary@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.bristolgrenadiers.org.uk

Treasurer: Mr AF LOCK

Welfare: Mr A DANE

Meetings: Committee meeting will be held on the first Monday of each month (Excluding January & August) in The Officers Mess, The Royal Artillery Grounds, Whiteladies Road, Clifton, Bristol

2010 ended on a very positive note for the Bristol Branch with some eighty Branch members seated at the first dinner to be held at our new home at The Royal Artillery Grounds in Clifton, Bristol. We were delighted to welcome **Capt Falorin Kuku** from Support Company, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards as our Regimental speaker. **Capt Kuku** gave us a very amusing and extremely enlightening insight into Battalion life. We were equally delighted to welcome Branch Life Vice President **Lord Wigram** who unveiled the Branch Household Division Plaque board which he had originally unveiled some thirty years before and which has now been fully refurbished by the Branch Chairman **Keith Jones**. Keith had recently rescued it from the attic at the Royal British Legion building in Kingswood where it had languished in a state of some disrepair since the Branch moved from there some years ago. Lord Wigram said how delighted he was to see the plaque board again and commented on what a magnificent job Keith had done.

The Branch President, **Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter KCVO, OBE** made his customary address and thanked all present for attending and supporting the Branch. In particular the President thanked **Colonel and Mrs Hills** and **Stan and Dorothy Tucker** for travelling from Cornwall, **Colonel Lance Ranson TD** and **Colin Knight** from Gloucester and **LSgt and Emma Thompson** for travelling from Aldershot, where they are now stationed with the 1st Battalion. All Branch members attending the dinner agreed that it had been resounding success

and called upon **CQMSI Alan Chick**, our resident Grenadier at the Artillery Grounds to make the necessary arrangements for us to return there next year.



Lord Wigram with the Household Division plaque board.

After the 'Winter recess' St George's Day saw the inaugural competition for the newly commissioned St Georges Cup, this was to be in the form of a skittles match between ourselves and the Bristol Branch of the Coldstream Guards Association. It had been decided that the venue for the competition would be the Port of Bristol sports and social club in Shirehampton, this was in effect home ground for the enemy as this is where they currently hold their monthly meetings. As we assembled in the very hospitable and extremely reasonably priced bar it became obvious to the Grenadiers that we would not be disadvantaged as the 'away' team as we clearly outnumbered the Coldstreamers by some five or six to one. At precisely 1400 battle was joined in the skittle alley, the Grenadiers led by team captain **Terry Dray** won the toss and decided to 'bat' second.

The Coldstreamers took to the alley and looked worryingly impressive as they started clattering skittles left, right and centre. After the first of four sets the Grenadiers were alarmingly ten points down and fearing the worst. The second set saw the Coldstreamers unleash their 'big guns' in the form of a rather large LSgt who was still serving with the Regiment. Whilst lining up his opening ball the NCO was heard to mutter that this was 'going to be as easy

as knocking out Grenadier teeth', the young LSgt then went on to bathe himself in glory by missing with all three balls of the first hand, the hoots of derision from the Grenadier contingent could probably have been heard for many miles. The second set saw the Coldstream advantage reduced to three points and in the third set team captain Terry took full command of the game and we were four points ahead going into the final set.

It was a mere formality for a captain of Terry's calibre to see off the foe and win the Tournament by ten points. The Coldstreamers were extremely gracious in their defeat, despite what must have been a bitter disappointment for them they mustered three cheers for the victorious Grenadiers and their captain presented Terry with the trophy. A fantastic Day's entertainment was had by all present. Those Branch members who were unable to attend missed a really good day out. Watch the calendar for next year as I am sure the Coldstreamers will have the bit firmly between their teeth and we will need all the support that we can muster.

May 15th saw some 40

Branch members boarding the coach for Regimental Remembrance Day, the first excursion of the year for the Branch. Following the timings of last year we arrived in London in good time for Branch members to find suitable lunch venues before the formal proceedings of the day began. This has proved to be a popular change to previous year's timings as some Branch members were going most of the day without meal breaks. After the march back from Horse Guards the President of the Association, **Colonel E H Houstoun OBE** gave his customary rousing address to the massed ranks of Association members and called for three cheers for the serving members of the Regiment, these were duly delivered with immense gusto. Bristol Branch members, as has become the custom then repaired eagerly to the extremely hospitable surroundings of the Sergeants' Mess to catch up with old friends from other Branches. On the return journey to Bristol we availed ourselves of the hospitality of the Windsor Branch and enjoyed a delicious fish and chip supper at their magnificent premises just off the M4 in Windsor.

The second trip 'up the M4' of the year came on Sunday June 12th when a full coach of Branch Members

set off for Aldershot for Grenadier Day. The Branch Secretary and his good lady, **Gaynor**, had formed the advance party and set off from Bristol some hours before the coach with the Branch stall and cider. The coach left the M32 and joined the M4 under leaden skies and as we progressed east the skies became darker and the rain began falling, a phone call to the Secretary, already in Aldershot, confirmed that it was raining quite heavily there as well. Upon arriving in Aldershot we were delighted to find that the rain had stopped and the Secretary and his wife had the stall ready to open for business. We enjoyed a couple of hours of brisk trading on the stall before the rain returned, at first a light soaking, soon to progress to a heavy downpour

and then to conditions which can only be described as monsoon like. In conditions that were truly appalling most Association Members present sought sanctuary in the NAAFI which was soon full to capacity of dripping and soggy Branch Members, even the Regimental Band sought refuge in the beer tent but gallantly the Association Corps of Drums took the arena and gave a magnificent display to the few people

who had not taken shelter elsewhere. All credit to our own **John Morgan** who most certainly did look like the proverbial drowned rat.

Despite the most appalling weather in memory, the Branch still made a profit on the cider which should keep the Branch Treasurer quiet for the next few months. It should be noted that the cider sales were boosted enormously by **Steve Greenaway** who as we were closing, was despatched to the stall by an obviously very thirsty **Mrs Greenaway** with clear and precise instructions not to return without a glass of our cider for her. On being told that we were closing and could not open a new barrel just to serve one drink Steve tried to explain his predicament and explained that when Mrs Greenaway asked for a drink, Mrs Greenaway got a drink and he could not possibly return without the glass of Bristol cider.

Sales executive and Skittle team Captain, **Terry Dray** offered him a very reasonable deal on a full barrel and hands were shaken. An abiding memory of Grenadier Day 2011 is Mush Greenaway walking across a soggy field in the pouring rain with a barrel of Thatcher's cider on his shoulder, priceless!



The Branch President shares a story with Colonel Hills at the Branch Dinner.

It will have been noticed at the beginning of this report that you are reading about the Branch Dinner held in 2010 and you are reading this in 2012, this is due to the timings for the Branch Dinner and also the deadlines for these Branch reports to submitted to RHQ. With these deadlines and the inclement weather in late November in mind, the Committee of the Bristol Branch decided to bring the date of the 2011 dinner forward to October 1st when, we returned to the Royal Artillery Grounds in Clifton for another highly successful evening overseen by the ever scrupulous **CQMSI Alan Chick** whose attention to detail left no stone unturned. With some 65 Branch members in attendance a thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all, we were most fortunate that Branch Vice President **Major Richard Dorney MBE** was able to attend; Major Dorney who was then Quartermaster 1st Battalion gave a very interesting and amusing insight into Battalion affairs. **Chris Savage** did a remarkable job as Master of Ceremonies and ensured that the evening ran smoothly.

The Branch President thanked all for attending and supporting the dinner then singled out the Branch Chairman for particular praise. **General Webb-Carter** reminded all present of the tremendous amount of time and effort that the Chairman, **Keith Jones**, had put into the Branch over a period of many years, The president recalled the occasions that Keith had served the Branch as Chairman and Secretary and indeed general dogsbody and bottle washer.

General Sir Evelyn went on to say that, given Keith had indicated his intentions to step down at the next AGM, in his considered opinion Keith was eminently eligible to be made Vice President of the Branch and duly bestowed this field promotion upon the somewhat speechless Chairman. From all within the Branch, well done Keith, thoroughly deserved. As is normal for the Bristol Branch some of our members made a great effort to attend the dinner and travelled great distances to do so, mentioned in this despatch – **Colonel and Mrs Hills** and **Stan and Dorothy Tucker** from Cornwall, **Dave and Barbara Scolding** from Birmingham, **Keith and Anita Jones** from Yate and of course our Life Vice President **Lord Wigram** who would not miss a Branch Dinner under any circumstance.

The committee of the Bristol Branch would like to thank all Branch members who have helped to support the Branch over the past 12 months, without their help the Branch would not be the success that it is. Their continued help and support is appreciated. We would always like to see Branch members who have not been in touch for some time, by all means come along to our meetings or one of our events, you will always be welcome.

In closing this year's report it is our sad duty to report the passing of **2619168 John Morris**. John was one of

the oldest members of the Bristol Branch and had served as a LSgt with the Regiment during the Second World War, He saw action in the major campaigns of the early forties and found himself in Tunis in 1942 where on St George's Day he received severe machine gun wounds to both legs. John then spent several years in hospitals and convalescent homes recovering from his injuries and was to spend the rest of his life disabled and unable to walk without the aid of his sticks. John believed that his injuries were what made him the man he became John Morris passed away peacefully in hospital two days after his 91st Birthday, an impeccable Grenadier to the last.

BURTON-UPON-TRENT

(Formed 1934)

President: Awaiting Appointment

Chairman: D JOHNSON.

Secretary: Mr G COXAN, 60 Cumberland Road, Stapenhill, Burton on Trent. DE15 9JS. Tel (01283) 564795

Meetings: First Friday in every month at Marstons Sport and Social Club Shobnal Road, Burton-upon-Trent.

CAMBRIDGE

(Formed 1932)

President: Capt CNR BROWN.

Chairman: Mr D CLARK

Secretary: Mrs P MASON, 20 Provence Road, Huntingdon.

PE29 6UW, Tel. 01480 413175,

Email: patm.mason@tiscali.co.uk

Meetings: Second Monday Bi-monthly lunches: Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec In local hostelries. 1230 hours for 1300 hours.

We say it every year – where has this year gone? We have had our usual bi monthly lunches which continue to be well attended, good atmosphere and a good chance to get together and we are very grateful to **Mick and Margaret Draper** for all they do to make them such a success, together with our Treasurer **Peter Sanderson** for all he does. Treasurers don't have an easy task and we appreciate all that Peter does for us and the support he gives us. Our Christmas Lunch as always was very well attended with a good jovial atmosphere. We had previously agreed that instead of sending each other Christmas Cards we would have a collection and send a donation to the Colonels Fund.

Our AGM in April was held in Longstowe Hall again

by kind courtesy of our well loved Vice President, **Mrs Bevan** and was well attended. Sadly **Bill Clarke**, who has been our excellent Chairman for 29 years, decided it was time to retire and a presentation was made to him and his wife **Sally** who has always supported him. **David Clark** agreed to take on the position, we are glad to say. After the AGM we had an excellent buffet lunch provided by our ladies which gives us time for a chat and then a walk around the lovely gardens.

Several members attended Remembrance Sunday and one or two members joined the Suffolk Branch coach to go to Grenadier Day. **Mick and Margaret Draper** went on the Association Trip to Italy – which they thoroughly enjoyed. Our annual luncheon was held at the Meridian Golf Club, Toft, in October and was also very well attended. **Capt Brown** gave us an interesting talk on all that is happening with the Regiment and the Association.

Sadly, **Mrs Mary Fuller**, the widow of **Laurence Fuller** who was our Chairman from 1965-77, died in April. Mary was a good supporter of the Branch and always enjoyed coming to our lunches. Also on October 17th 2011 we sadly lost 22516588 **Ray Goddard**, previously a member of the Band who died after a short illness. He did manage to attend our annual lunch with his wife **Barbara** just before and we were all so pleased to see him. Such a gentle man, he will be missed.

We have been very pleased to welcome two new members to the Branch, a rare occasion for our area – 2430676 **Graham Wallace** and 24506699 **Peter Hardy** and we look forward to meeting 2392590 Paul **Cullen** who has recently joined the Branch, at our Christmas Lunch.

April 2012 will be the 80th Anniversary of the formation of the Cambridge Branch and we hope to have a special luncheon to celebrate the occasion – watch this space! Finally we would like to take the opportunity of thanking **LSgt Jay Ellingham** for all he does for us and the help he gives, together with **Major A Green** and everyone at RHQ.



22516588 SGT RAY GODDARD

Ray attended the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall as a Junior Musician between 1953 and 1954. On completion of his training he joined the 15/19th Kings Royal Hussars Band as a cornet player and stayed with them until he transferred to the

Grenadier Guards Band in 1964. He travelled the world with the Band and was promoted to Gold Sgt just before he retired at the end of his 22 years in 1975.

On return to Cambridgeshire Ray and his wife Barbara became members of the Cambridge Branch of the Association in 2002 and have been good supporters of the branch. Sadly Ray died on October 17th 2011 after a short illness. He did manage to attend our Annual Lunch with Barbara just before he passed away and we were all so pleased to see him. Such a gentle man, he will be missed.

CATERHAM

(Formed 1971)

President: Vacant

Vice Presidents: Mrs P MASON.

Chairman: Mr L PAYNE.

Secretary: Miss M ANDREWS, 22 Park Ave, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 6AH. Tel (01883) 343161.

Email: Bunyan@btinternet.com

Meetings: Third Thursday April & October at 2000 hours, the Royal British Legion Club, Townend, Caterham, Surrey.

Branch Closed December 2011

With no President, no-one coming forward to replace the treasurer and with dwindling numbers the Caterham Branch had to make the painful decision to close at the end of December 2011. To ensure that the branch and the Grenadiers long history in Caterham is not forgotten, a memorial bench has been placed in front of the cricket pavilion.



Members of the Caterham Branch with their Bench in front of the pavilion.



The Caterham Branch tree and plaque at the NMA.

January saw the annual New Years dinner and although it was a success it was sad not to see some of the regular members there due to illness. A tree dedicated to 'All the Guardsmen who marched through Caterham' has also been planted at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire in the Household Division section displaying the 'Seven into One' badge to acknowledge members of the Caterham Branch from all the regiments.

As a final social event before the branch closed at the end of the year a dinner dance was held for members and families at the Reigate Manor Hotel and at the time of writing we hope this will be a good send off for the Branch.

CHESTERFIELD

(Formed 1952)

President: Awaiting appointment.

Vice Presidents: M CARNALL; D LEECH; C LIMB.

Chairman: Mr J METCALFE.

Hon Secretary: Mr D BRIGNULL, 85 Deerlands Road, Wingerworth, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S42 6UZ. Tel (01246) 206 054.

Email: d.brignull@yahoo.co.uk

Treasurer: Mr D BRIGNULL

Meetings: Second Monday of each month at the Welbeck Inn, Soresby Street, Chesterfield.

We have enjoyed a good year with regard to Branch strength with meetings well attended by a hardcore of members but no change to our overall numbers. Unfortunately we still have several members who are unable to meet with us due to long-term sickness; **Fred Neal, Richard Done, Dennis Thompson and Charles Limb** but we keep in touch with all of them by visits and the telephone. **Richard Done's** progress was hampered earlier in the year by a fall but we are pleased to report that he is now recovering and hopes to join us again next year. **Albert Perrins**, of the Coldstream Guards has not been able to attend as much as he would have liked this year, but he too will be back with us in the near future. We must correct some inaccurate information published last year; **Albert Perrins** is not our oldest member, **Charles Limb** beats him by a very short head, our apologies to these gentlemen.

As a Branch we were well represented at Black Sunday and, despite the appalling weather at Grenadier Day, **Mike and Maureen Garrett** still managed to generate a substantial addition to branch funds. The storms put paid to their gazebo but they were invited to 'dry off' in **Mike and Enid Carnall's** motor home and managed to complete the day in reasonable comfort. **Mick Garrett** laid a wreath on Remembrance Sunday at Clowne and both he and **David Leech** attended the Mayor's inaugural parade in Chesterfield. Both of these members also represented the branch at the local Veterans Day activities and our thanks go to all the aforementioned for their efforts over the past year.

An informal lunch was held in October, which was very well attended. It was a great pleasure to welcome members and friends of the branch to this, now annual event. **Charles Limb**, with help from his family, was in attendance and looking very well in his advanced years. It was also a pleasure to see **Penny Osborn** and her daughter, several members of **John Metcalfe's** family, including his wife **Jean** and **George and Kath Elliott**. Our thanks to **Mike and Enid Carnall** for their work in organising this event and to all those people who helped to make the dinner a success.

Unfortunately, at our October meeting, **John Metcalfe** announced that he would retire at the end of the year due to his continued ill health. John assured us that he would continue to attend meetings whenever he feels able. John will be sorely missed as his style of chairmanship added a great deal to the monthly event. Our best wishes to him for the future. All that remains is to thank all the staff at Regimental Headquarters for their continued support during the year.



DERBY

(Formed 1914)

President: A ATTENBOROUGH.

Chairman: Mr T SAVAGE.

Hon Secretary: Mr I SUTTON, 9 Orchard Close, Boulton Moor, Derby DE24 5AE. Tel: (01332) 755 156.

Treasurer: Mr J BUTLER.

Meetings: Every third Wednesday of each month starting 2000hours at 'The Station Inn' Midland Road, Derby. (Opposite the Royal Mail Sorting Office).

The past year has again been one of sadness with the Branch providing a guard of honour for the last journey of four Grenadiers. In early December 2010 we travelled to our neighbouring Branch at Burton on Trent to say farewell to 2622959 **Joe Boulbee**. Joe was a member of the King's Company and well qualified at 6' 8'. We then went to Nottingham for the funeral of our second oldest member 2617491 **Arthur (Syd) Wright**. Both Joe and Arthur (who lived on the Derby/Nottingham border) were regular attenders to the Derby Annual Dinners. We then sadly lost two Grenadiers at the end of July, 2627194 **Reg Hill** and 2623225 **Frank Troughton**. Frank was quite active in the Branch and had been in good health. Frank had two very successful careers firstly leaving the Regiment as a CSgt after serving from 1942 to 1947 and he then joined the Police Force reaching the rank of Superintendent. After leaving the force he devoted tireless energy to charity work giving a considerable amount of time to the Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre in Skegness. Within the local community recently his village Church at Horsley held a Memorial Service of thanksgiving in his Memory. For those that marched to their final parade during the last year, we will remember them.

We again managed to nearly fill coaches for Black Sunday and Grenadier Day. This year at Black Sunday **Ian Sutton** had the misfortune to lose a button on his blazer. To overcome this mishap he went to Association

HQ for a safety pin. On arrival the General Secretary asked him 'Are you employed'? Not quite understanding why such a question had been posed and not wanting to give the impression of being out of work, quick as a flash he replied 'Yes Sir, I work for Royal Mail'. As soon as the words came out of his mouth he realised the stupidity of his answer. **Major Green** then proceeded to recruit him as one of the two people required to carry the wreath. It was a great honour for him and possibly the first time this had been done by a member of the Branch. Although a proud moment it was also a very sad one in that Ian's late wife **Beverley** had died of cancer the previous year and missed his day of glory.

Following Grenadier Day we then hired a minibus and went to the Buxton Tattoo. This was a great day out and of equal calibre to the Edinburgh Tattoo. In August we held a summer Dinner and were lucky to

have **L Sgt Sutton** (no relation to Ian) and **L Sgt Parker** join us. Not only did they bring some colour to the evening (in mess dress) they gave us an update of the Regiments future commitments. They also left with a Coldstream Guard gnome that we understand might have ended up in the Sergeants' Mess.

The year has ended with three Remembrance Services. Firstly on the 10th November our Secretary had the privilege of being the Parade Marshal for a Remembrance service and parade in Chaddesden. This event involved a mixture of local veterans and six local junior schools. We were also very fortunate to have several members of the British Legion Motorcycle

Club join us. After the service we marched past a memorial with the Bikers leading followed by the veterans and then the children. The next day on the 11th, he helped at the Armistice Service at the National Memorial Arboretum. Firstly as the Wreath Marshal and then taking a pipe band, standards and veterans on the march past. It is not often we get the chance to attend an event with a Lord-Lieutenant, a Bishop, a Member of Parliament, and to jointly salute a Lieutenant General a Vice-Admiral and an Air-Marshall.

Even though we had a stall on Grenadier Day and



Ian Sutton (right) in his moment of glory.

held a fund raising coffee morning the Branch is financially just keeping its head above water. We would like to take this opportunity to thank **John Butler** our Treasurer for keeping the books and ensuring we don't go in the red. We are now looking forward to celebrating our Centenary in 2014. May we wish all our readers the very best for 2012.

EAST KENT

(Formed 1948)

President and Chairman: Major D BRADLEY BEM

Vice Presidents: Lieutenant Colonel RM DORNEY MBE; WJT BROWN Esq; JG CLUFF DL Esq

Secretary, Treasurer and Webmaster: RC GOODSON Esq.
Tel (01303) 263958

Email: secretary@ekb.org.uk

Welfare Officer: W MARSHALL Esq.

Honorary Branch Chaplain: Reverend Canon HWJ HARLAND.

Branch website: www.ekb.org.uk

Meetings: Please see the Branch website or contact the Hon. Secretary for details.

The very heavy snowfall we experienced in East Kent at the start of December last year prevented driving on anything but the major gritted roads. As a consequence, on Thursday 2 December 2010 the committee were forced to take the decision to postpone our Christmas Party planned for Saturday 4th December as it was too dangerous to drive, the snow was very deep and the caterer was unable to get stock in.

The snow was still there late on Friday night, but when we woke on the morning of the scheduled party, the snow had nearly all thawed and the roads were once again easily passable. However, it was too late to change plans and we therefore converted the Christmas Party into a Spring Party and held it on the first Saturday in April when the weather was much better. A very good night was had by all who attended and our entertainment, 'One for the Road', was once again nothing short of excellent.

A few of our members and their ladies were able to attend a very wet Grenadier Day at Lille Barracks, but reported that they enjoyed the day despite the weather and were able to raise some funds for the Branch.

In late October 2011 we held our Annual Dinner; 2011 being the 63rd year since the formation of the Branch. Our entertainment was provided by LSgt Joey Snout, LCpl Jon Langford and Musn Sam Petchey; a Trio from the Band of the Grenadier Guards. It was pleasing to see some of our Honorary

Members being able to attend the dinner again this year and we were also well supported by our many Friends of the Branch. Our guest speaker was **Major Richard (Skid) Dorney MBE**, who attended with his wife Sue, and updated us on Regimental affairs.

Sadly during 2011 we have had to say goodbye to some of our member's wives, who have passed away. They will not be forgotten. We are very grateful to Bill Marshall, our Branch Welfare Officer, for the sterling work he does in supporting members and wives in such circumstances and for the quick feedback he gives to the branch committee and to members.

We look forward to supporting the Regimental and Branch events that are planned for 2012.

ESSEX

(Formed 1946)

President: Lieutenant General SIR ANTHONY DENISON-SMITH KBE.

Vice Presidents: Capt BD DOUBLE; MW GILES Esq; GL LYSTER Esq DL; G COURTAULD Esq DL; Major TH BREITMEYER; Capt CIT WHITE-THOMSON.

Chairman: MW GILES Esq.

Secretary: Mrs JOAN KIMBERLEY, Alderbrook, Worlds End Lane, Feering, Colchester. CO5 9NJ. Tel: (01376) 571 650.

Email: j-kimb@tiscali.co.uk

Treasurer: Mrs LINDA LAND

Meetings: Royal Air Force Association, Hall Street, Chelmsford.

It has been a very good year for the Branch although rather different than usual, certainly a quieter one as far as events were concerned. It was decided quite a while ago that we would concentrate on functions that were enjoyed the most by the members and this we have done with great success. We try to hold our events during the day so that our members do not have to drive at night especially during the winter months. After last year's winter with so much ice and snow, driving to events has become a very important part of our planning. We are still holding our lunches in Coggeshall and at the time of writing we are looking forward to our 2011 Christmas meal at the beginning of December, which is a good way to start the Christmas festivities.

Unfortunately, like a lot of the Branches our nominal roll has dropped to 160 and although we have tried very hard to recruit new members it has not been an easy task but we can only keep on trying. In fact, we have had no new members during this past year but we keep hoping we can encourage younger members to join us.

It is with great regret that we have to report the deaths of **Mr David Pendle**, **Mr Charles Regelous**,

Mr Robert Bumpstead, Mr W Cook, Mr J P Driscoll, Mr Edward Day and Mr Bernard Bloom all of whom were long standing members of our Branch and will be greatly missed. Our very deepest sympathy is extended to all their families.

Our Annual General Meeting was held in April. Unfortunately, very few people attended which seems to be the pattern for this event. We have continued with our usual events with great success and we held our Garden Party at the home of our President – **Sir Anthony Denison-Smith**, the garden looked as lovely as always and we actually had some sunshine which was great! We held our very special lunch at Braxted Park which was excellent and we were delighted to welcome **Major and Mrs Grant Baker**. The Regimental Adjutant spoke very eloquently about the Colonel's Fund and various other subjects. It was a very interesting and entertaining speech and we hope it will not be too long before they visit us again.

The Essex Branch still continues to thrive and we are now working on our plans for 2012. We have now organised our visit to The Houses of Parliament which should be very interesting and we hope will be enjoyed by all. We are, of course, planning our usual events and have one or two new ideas. We would like to thank all our members for their help and support over the last 12 months.

Gloucestershire

(Formed 1949)

President: Colonel L C A RANSON TD.

Vice Presidents: Lieutenant Colonel THE LORD WIGRAM MC, DL; JGC WILKINSON Esq; Capt JGL PUGH; Capt MJ MACKINLAY MACLEOD; RDN FISHER Esq; WJ EYKYN Esq; Major THE HON ANDREW WIGRAM MVO; Lieutenant Colonel JG PEEL TD, DL; Capt JA FERGUSSON-CUNINGHAME MC; Major S MARCHAM MBE; NJ SIMMS Esq; PG GWILLIAM Esq; Lieutenant Colonel CJ SEYMOUR LVO; D A E GEORGE Esq; Capt E C GORDON LENNOX; Colonel GW TUFNELL CVO, DL; Capt GL BANKS; Sir Henry WG ELWES KCVO.

Chairman: PT JONES

Secretary: COLIN KNIGHT, 'Ridgeway' Bream Road, St. Briavels, Lydney, Glos, GL15 6TL. Home Tel: (01594) 530 154

Email: grenadiersglos@tiscali.co.uk

Web Address: www.gloucestershiregrenadiers.co.uk

2011 has been, once more, a very busy and active year for this Branch. Unfortunately we lost **Tom Breen** a Branch founder and **John Gough**. We achieved a good turnout for each funeral and a Guard of Honour was provided on each sad occasion.

The nominal roll has held well, in fact it has increased, with several new Grenadiers and one Honorary member. We are fortunate to have a good assortment of excellent Associate and Honorary members who support the Branch in many ways. All meetings this year have been very well attended. On the subject of meetings we commence at 1930 hrs and normally do not conclude until 2200 hrs or even later. To move forward we serve complimentary hot pies during the interval, this innovation has proved very popular.

We endeavour to make meetings more interesting by introducing a speaker from time to time. Recently **Sgt Michael Beasley** (Serving) attended together with his wife **Yvonne** and gave us a presentation on Facebook. This is a medium that this Branch has accepted as we now have our own page and as a means of communication can only grow over time. On the subject of communications we have now purchased our own substantial sound system which we use at meetings and functions. With a roving microphone this really helps at meetings especially if we have a soft spoken Grenadier (Did you know that there are indeed soft speaking Grenadiers?).

Our Branch can pride itself for yet another year where any item to do with welfare has been undertaken with great enthusiasm by our Welfare Officer **David Leighton**, now in his third year in office. David does an excellent job making many visits, telephone calls and undertaking various tasks for those with a problem. We must not forget to mention his wife **Jeanette** who gives David great support. Christmas Cheques were personally given to 20 of our more senior members to include some of those, who for whatever reason have not enjoyed good times of late.

Early December, for the fifth consecutive year, saw a 'Full House' attend at Dumbleton Hall for a Christmas Lunch. **Derek Knott**, who takes it upon himself to organise this, was chuffed to say the least, when he reported a sell out for the 2011 lunch at the January Meeting. We sit down to a first class traditional Christmas Dinner in lovely surroundings with a great atmosphere. On these occasions we are joined by children and grand children, a real Grenadier Family occasion. Afterwards the Winchcombe Silver Band makes an appearance and entertains us with carols and seasonal music. Father Christmas also visited us, 'Yes the real one!' A special '**Thank you Derek**' for arranging this seasonal occasion for the members.

Thanks must go once more to our Social Secretary **Alan Holford** for Promoting our Christmas lottery. What he would do without the assistance of his wife **Alice** we will never know. Once the tickets have been issued no one, and we mean no one, escapes Alan getting on to them to sell their tickets, the sales of which held well. Let's hope we can achieve the same result this year. Alan is full of enthusiasm in his

appointment and with his connections with Classic cars, he has a Triumph Mayflower, he endeavours if he can, to include them in the itinerary.

The Branch Christmas Social, which concluded our calendar for 2010, was well attended. We are fortunate to have the Victory Club in Cheltenham to hold our meetings together with our Christmas Social, the facilities on offer are first class. We hold the Christmas Social during the daytime on a Sunday which appears to be favourable with the membership. A hot two course lunch is provided together with a host of interests to keep the audience on their toes. The same format is to be repeated again this year.

Regimental Remembrance Day saw a good number on the coach to attend the parade. Both on the outwards and inwards journey we stopped at the Guards Club, Windsor where we were well looked after. A Fish & Chip Supper was enjoyed by all on the return when we joined up with the Bristol Branch. Thanks to the Windsor Branch Secretary **Bob Gilbert** and his team we are always made welcome at the Club.

For the first time for a long time numbers attending Grenadier Day from the Branch were well down. We travelled with only a part coach full instead of the normal full coach. This year it was appreciated that the horrid weather that prevailed on the day put a damper on it to say the least; however at a following meeting, members were of the opinion that if Grenadier Day was to survive into the future then perhaps an alternative format be considered. How about a Household Division Day was an idea put forward with a very favourable response. Is there anyone out there who can come up with any cost effective sensible suggestions or ideas that could be put forward for consideration?



The Gloucestershire Branch spreads itself out throughout the county on Armistice Day. This photograph shows David Leighton laying a wreath on the cenotaph in the small hamlet of Upleadon. No crowds just a solemn act of remembrance.

Colonel Peel once more kindly invited members to attend his home and garden for a Barbecue. It was a most enjoyable day with a good attendance and excellent weather. The Chedworth Silver Band played during the afternoon. A day like this can never be undertaken without a lot of help and assistance. A few names to mention are **Derek Dean** and **Ivor Jones** for their duties as chefs and **John Carter** and **David Leighton** for looking after the liquid refreshments. **John Finch** not only is a musician in the band that play for us, but also together with his wife **Yvonne**, run the Treasure Hunt which greatly helps to offset the costs for the day. Many helpers assisted with the chairs and tables and the setting up and taking down of the various items needed to make the day the success it was. Thank you everyone.

Our Annual Formal Lunch was held at the Frogmill Hotel, near Cheltenham with an excellent attendance. We were privileged to have as our guests the Association President **Colonel and Mrs Houstoun** together with **Lt Hamish Hardy** who represented the Regiment. **Derek Knott and David Leighton** organised a morning Branch walk in the Spring to see the Daffodil Woods. Afterwards a local pub furnished us with a well deserved lunch.

John and Gill Carter continue sending a Birthday Card to every member for whom we have a date of birth which is the majority. The scheme which has been running now for over five years is well received by the membership. **John & Gill** not only produce the cards but also administer the records and posting. Not many days go by that a card or two has to be popped into the Post Box. We are sure that all members would like to express a public 'Thank You' for the pleasure you continue to bring to so many.

The entire committee is always ready to help when asked. It is the teamwork, enthusiasm and variety of ideas that maintains the camaraderie and they are the backbone of this successful branch. The current committee, with the exception of **George Rimell** who unfortunately had to stand down, have been together now for a long time. Fortunately **Ivor Jones** was a willing replacement for George.

Norman Mitchell our member now resident in the Royal Hospital Chelsea keeps regularly in touch and is always full of the joys of spring. He tells us that he is up early every morning for a cross country run. 'We do not believe you Norman'.

This Branch has embraced modern technology and as I write we now have 130 members who we can communicate with by e-mail. Seldom has a week gone by without members on line receiving some

form of branch communication. Those without e-mail had five newsletters sent to them by snail mail during the year. Keeping in regular touch, we believe, is one of the main ingredients of our success.

Colonel Lance Ranson, our President, is always very active and gives the Branch tremendous support throughout the year. I am sure that all members thank would like to thank him for his leadership and guidance as President.

Many members from the Branch are now in receipt of the newsletter from **Jim White**, who, once more, is to be commended for his enthusiasm and very personal effort in undertaking this task on a weekly basis to keep the Grenadier Spirit very much alive.

Together with the Bristol Branch we endeavoured to arrange a Western Region Grand Formal Spring Luncheon in the Officers Mess at Imjin Barracks. The mess can accommodate in excess of 300 guests. Unfortunately, apart from our Branch, the response from the remaining Branches in the region was poor leaving us unfortunately having to cancel the arrangements, a great shame. We are also disappointed that the idea of Regional Branches, to run alongside existing Branches, appears to have been dropped or postponed. We as a Branch were more than willing and eager to respond to this challenge.

We can assure members that this Branch is looking forward to the challenges ahead, and we are sure that there will be many in 2012. Speaking of 2012, this is the year that our Colonel in Chief Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth celebrates her Diamond Jubilee. We hope to celebrate this unique occasion with a large function just prior to the date of the official celebrations. As this report is written (early November 2011) ideas and arrangements are being considered and formulated for a Celebration Luncheon. We intend for this to be an occasion that will be remembered for a long time. The venue we have in mind is large and we hope to be in a position to invite members from surrounding Branches. *Watch this space.*

The National Memorial Arboretum has grown substantially since our last visit. To afford members the opportunity to view all the new features that are now there, we intend to arrange a visit for September 2012. Thanks to **Dennis Ward**, our member who lives close to the Arboretum, who is kindly making the arrangements for us, we will be able to dine at the Pavilion at Branston. We dined there on our last visit and enjoyed a really first class lunch. The venue is large and we hope that perhaps several other branches will be able to arrange a visit on the same day, meeting up at The Pavilion after leaving the Arboretum.

We would like to end this report by thanking the small staff at Regimental Headquarters, especially **LSgt Jay Ellingham**, who is very dedicated to his position and gives his best to members at all times. We are also indeed fortunate to have **Major Andrew**

Green following in the worthy footsteps of **Capt Trevor Rolfe**. We wish **Major Green** well with his appointment and trust that **Capt Rolfe** will enjoy his retirement.

KINGSTON & DISTRICT

(Formed 1935)

President: Major DR ROSSI MBE.

Chairman: PWF HORSFIELD

Hon Secretary: JLH KNIGHT, 228 West Barnes Lane, New Malden, Surrey. KT3 6LT. Tel: Home (0208) 336 1884.

Email: john-lh-knight@lineone.net

Hon Treasurer: Mrs E JONES

Meetings: First Monday of each month at The Royal British Legion Club, St Mary's Road, East Molsesey, Surrey.

This has been a year of transition and some sadness for the Branch. In July 2011 we were informed of the death of our President, **Capt Derek Bibby**. Derek was appointed President in 1978 following the death of his father who had until then held the post. He was always active and present at all of our activities attending most meetings even after his move to Bereleigh in East Meon and despite his failing eyesight.

To compound our sadness, on the day of Derek's funeral, the death of our long term friend ex Regimental **Sgt Major Douggie Huxley MBE MM** was announced. One of our longer serving members, Douggie had continued attending regularly even after his move to The Royal Hospital following the death of his wife Peggy. He was a good and loyal friend. On his move to Chelsea I asked him whether he wished me to announce his transfer to another Branch 'Oh no I'm a Kingston man through and through' was his reply. May they both now rest in peace. We stay in touch with Douggie's sister-in-law Vi who continues her interest in branch affairs.

On a happier note I am able to announce the appointment of our new President **Major Derek Rossi MBE** Major Rossi has been a member and Vice President of the branch for many years and despite his home being on the Isle of Wight he has graciously agreed to lead us. December 2010 marked the Branch's 75th anniversary and we celebrated with lunch at the A.S.L.S. where we welcomed the Regimental Adjutant, **Major Grant Baker**, as our guest. The staff at Bereleigh baked a presentation cake which was cut by Major Rossi. The First Battalion Corps of Drums beat retreat for us after the meal which was an unexpected surprise for many of the guests!

Our December meeting is always given over to our

bring and buy sale which takes the form of an auction and is always good fun, but hard work for our President and our Chairman who act as auctioneers. **Mark Worsfold**, together with others, made the climb to the summit of Kilimanjaro in February. He reported himself for a tarnished cap badge at the summit.

The usual venue for our summer and Christmas lunches has been the A.S.L.S Students Mess at Alexander Barracks, Pirbright. This was previously the All Arms Drill Wing. On 3rd May **Peter Horsfield, Lyn Jones** and the Honorary Secretary travelled to the A.S.L.S. to present a framed print of The Drummer Boy to the retiring **Sgt Major Gary Erskine** of The Royal Regiment of Scotland. Gary had been a good friend to the Branch during his time in post at Pirbright.

Our summer lunch was held at Pirbright on 26th June and at which we welcomed as our guest the A.S.L.S Regimental **Sgt Major Jock Erskine**, who had recently taken post. We also welcomed back to our table **Bob & Joan Burman**, Welsh Guards. They had been absent from our ranks for some time for health reasons but it was good to see them back. The lunch was a great success and the Mess staff congratulated on a much enjoyed meal. **Luke and Maureen Spencer** were presented with a decanter and glasses to mark Luke's retirement from his post as Chairman. Following the meal **Maureen Spencer and Liz Howell** did all the hard work selling raffle tickets.



John Knight presents the 'Drummer Boy' to RSM Erskine.

As an innovation this year a party of twenty three, including friends and family, took the opportunity to avail ourselves of one of the London Duck Tours. This takes the form of a tour of some of the London Tourist destinations in a WW2 DUKW. The tour finishes with splash down in the Thames for a short ride on the river. Afterwards we managed a table of ten at the Slug and Lettuce for a late lunch.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to our Christmas Lunch again at Pirbright on 11th December (2011) and, probably in the early summer of 2012, a trip to the Isle of Wight.

LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND

(Formed 1927)

President: RH MURRAY-PHILLIPSON OBE, DL, Esq.

Vice Presidents: SIR JOHN CONANT Bt; Capt RT CONSTABLE-MAXWELL; RE JONES Esq; D TREDITHICK MP; J MORREY Esq.

Chairman: Mr J COWLEY

Vice Chairman: Mr JR MORREY

Secretary: RON FLETCHER, 32 Main Street, Thorpe Satchville, Melton Mowbray. LE14 2DQ. Tel (01664) 840653

Email: gillm.c@btinternet.com

Treasurer: Mr R FLETCHER

Meetings: Second Sunday of each month (Lunch available if ordered through the secretary) at Westcote House, 55 Westcotes Drive, Leicester at 1230hours.

Again it is the time of year to put pen to paper and report the Branch activities during the past 12 months. Unfortunately we start on a sad note with the death of **Mr Frank Bradshaw** (86). A former chairman of the Branch, he was liked by all for being jolly and recounting comic anecdotes from his many holidays. The funeral took place at Gilroes Cemetery Leicester on 9th December 2010 and was very well attended by members of the Branch. On a brighter note we welcome two new members; **Mr Brian Heath** an ex member of the former Birmingham branch and **Mr Kevin Harvey**.

On the 14th December 2010 we held our popular Christmas Raffle at Westcotes House which was again well attended. There were in excess of 25 prizes to be won and our thanks once again go to the President **Mr Murray-Phillipson** who drew the winning tickets. A buffet was provided and was enjoyed by all. Our Branch Christmas lunch was held on 19th December which was well attended by members and partners and enjoyed by everyone. Our thanks go to our caterer **Sue Turner** for providing the buffet for the Draw and the Christmas lunch.

Enter the New Year and our Social Secretary, **John Cowley** was busy again thinking of attractions for the coming year. Prior to our meeting and lunch on 13th February, John suggested, as it was close to St Valentine's day, each of the ladies present should receive a red rose. Our ladies appreciated this gesture with many thanks. Our AGM was held on 13th March when it was announced that our Secretary **Mr John Morrey** would be stepping down and as a result, **Mr Ron Fletcher** became the new Secretary. John served the Branch for a long while so it was considered appropriate that Members rewarded him for his dedication. At our April meeting a Whisky Decanter Set

engraved with the Royal Cypher together with a bottle of malt with which to christen it and a beautiful bouquet of flowers for **Joy**, his partner were presented to John in recognition of 11 years dedicated service to the Branch, by the Chairman **Mr John Cowley**. Many thanks also go to our Members for their generosity.



John Cowley presents a well deserved gift to John Morrey (left) in recognition of his long and dedicated service to the branch.

Several Members accepted the kind invitation of the Nottinghamshire Branch to attend their annual Dinner and Dance. Always an enjoyable event and we thank them for their kindness. Some Members attended Regimental Remembrance Day at Wellington Barracks although those who are able to march are now down to two. The service in the Chapel is always a rewarding part of the day. The band was excellent and a pleasure to march with whilst playing 'Run, Rabbit, Run' etc.

May saw the first fruits of the Social Secretary's planning when a coach full of Members and guests spent an enjoyable and interesting day at Chester. Grenadier Day unfortunately was disappointing due to poor weather. Nonetheless, members and guests enjoyed themselves particularly in the beer tent where the band entertained them and also watching the Household Division Corps of Drums during their marching display. The Dowager Duchess of Rutland again invited members of the Branch to an evening of Wine and Roses in aid of SSAFA. With good weather it was a pleasant evening and enjoyed by all. Saturday 25th June was Veterans Day parade and service at Leicester cathedral. Members marched together with the Coldstream Branch to the town hall for the official salute.

Our annual Garden Party took place at Westcotes House on Sunday 14th August. The attendance was very good and boosted by the local Coldstreamers. Several attractions entertained those present including a very good Raffle. **Sue Turner** and her staff provided the Buffet and our president **Mr Murray-Phillipson**

drew the Raffle. New to the event was a fascinating working model of fairground entertainments provided freely by a guest and friend, **Mr Horobin** which proved very popular. Donations made were for the Colonel's Fund which amounted to £55.00 which was duly sent to RHQ for the fund and many thanks once more to **Mr Horobin**.

Our Social Secretary organised a final outing on 15th September, this time to the Severn Valley Railway. Members and guests travelled by coach to Kidderminster then boarded the train which took them through the beautiful Severn Valley to Bridgenorth. The party were able to refresh themselves, explore the town before the bus journey to David Austin rose gardens and then home. The weather also contributed to make the day a success. Our many thanks go to the staff at RHQ especially **LSgt Jay Ellingham** whose help is invaluable and much appreciated.

LINCOLN

(Formed 1923)

President: Major D BRADLEY BEM.

Vice Presidents: Mr A HILL.

Chairman: Mr JD MARSHALL.

Hon Secretary: Mrs AM MARSHALL, 84 De Wint Avenue, Lincoln. LN6 7DZ. Tel (01522) 871 184.

Email: marshall84@ntlworld.com

Treasurer: Mr N CROWTHER.

Meetings: Third Friday of each month at MS Therapy Centre, Outer Circle Drive, Lincoln at 1930hours.

A quieter year than 2010 but the branch continues to be active and very well supported at all events. Monthly meetings are held on the third Friday of each month at the MS Therapy Centre, Outer Circle Drive, Lincoln. The Branch Annual General Meeting is held in March each year, and the committee were all reinstated with no opposition at the last AGM.

Each year Branch Members attend the Remembrance Day Service in Lincoln Cathedral followed by Sunday lunch at a nearby venue. We are pleased to report that from the original four, the numbers have more than trebled in the 15 years or so since we first organised this. The Branch was well represented at Regimental Remembrance Day in May, some travelling down for the day and others travelling together by minibus and staying overnight. Those who stayed overnight were very pleased to be joined by friends from other Branches, thereby extending the day's camaraderie through the evening and into Monday morning before saying our goodbyes until we meet again at Grenadier Day.

We also attended Grenadier Day at Aldershot, again some Branch members joined together and travelled down for the day by car. For the majority as in past years, the Branch organised a coach with an overnight stay the evening before, thereby cutting down the travelling time on the day. This allowed everyone to arrive more refreshed and relaxed to enjoy the day's events and also giving the committee and helpers more time to set up gazebo and stall. We set off from the hotel in reasonably good weather, unfortunately by the time we reached the barracks the rain was pouring down. We had a good return on our stall items, and despite the weather the general consensus was that we had all had an enjoyable day, although for the first time ever we did pack up and leave early.

The Branch Annual Dinner and Dance was held at the Bentley Hotel, Lincoln on 7th October. In the absence of our President the dinner was overseen by our new Vice President, **Andy Hill** with **Capt Ian Farrell** as the Regimental guest. We were particularly pleased to welcome **Ian and his wife, Sarah**, as they are both from the county. We were also pleased to welcome **Major Andy Green**, the new Association General Secretary and LSgt **Parker** and Gdsm **Ferneaux** from Nijmegen Company. We were also joined by guests from the Nottinghamshire, Suffolk, and Surrey & East Hampshire Branches. The Branch has kept strong links with the City Council since the Granting of the Freedom of the City in 2008 and the Laying up of the Old Colours in Lincoln Cathedral in 2010 and as is our usual custom we invited the Mayor of Lincoln, **Councillor Kath Brothwell** who gladly accepted our invitation. Also in attendance were several other Councillors including two past Mayors.



Trevor and Janet Holmes, Bill and Ann Crook after the Annual Dinner.

LIVERPOOL

(Formed 1920)

President: THE EARL OF DERBY.

Vice Presidents: Capt AD ANGUS MC; W NOLAN; G PEERS; WF PENNINGTON; Mr C YATES; Mr G HUGHES; Mr GH NORRIS.

Chairman: Mr I GRIFFITHS.

Secretary: Mr WF PENNINGTON, 11 Stretton Avenue, Wallasey, Cheshire. CH44 5UZ. Tel: (0151) 200 2261.

Email: frankpennington@ntlworld.com

Meetings: Last Thursday of each month (except August & December) 2000hours at the Premier Inns, Vernon Street, Liverpool.



Richard and Fiona Golding.

Without wishing our life away we now look forward to the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations in 2012 and following that the events planned for 2013. It is with regret that we must sadly report the passing of 2624082 **Elliott G F**, 24441345 **Jones M**, 23509884 **Marsh J N** and 23509360 **Sleight A T**.

Our 90th Anniversary Dinner and Dance was held on Saturday 20th November 2010 at the Thistle Hotel, Chapel Street, Liverpool. 107 people attended but the Branch President **Lord Derby** was unable to be present due to other commitments that evening. Our regimental representative was **Capt JA Keeley MBE**, the then Welfare Officer, of the 1st Battalion, and he was accompanied by his wife **Sam. Paul Jupp MBE** and his wife **Dawn** travelled up from Morden in Surrey thus keeping up their long tradition of attending our branch dinners. They spent two nights in Liverpool taking in the shopping and sightseeing experience.

The Oxfordshire Branch secretary **Peter Cook** and his wife **Margaret** came for two nights along with their Branch Treasurer Mrs **Janet Shayler** who attended with her husband **Roy**, also staying over for two nights. The North Staffs Branch was well represented by **Mr & Mrs Albert Gregory**, **Mr & Mrs B Almond** and **Mr and Mrs K Hodson**. **Timber Woods** and his wife also came in from Grimsby for two nights as well as a contingent of ex-Queen's Company lads and their wives

including **Skid Dorney MBE** and his wife **Sue**. We thank them all for taking the time and making the effort to travel into the city to support this Branch.

The evening before the event a three course Christmas dinner was booked by the Branch at the 'Liverpool Pub' in James Street for those who had travelled into the city to stay over. 11 people sat down and enjoyed a very nice meal amongst friends in their own private room. A total of 28 rooms were occupied over the two nights at the Thistle, a nice hotel in a prime position for all the amenities of Liverpool. To raise funds the branch organised two raffles, the Brown Envelope raffle had two prizes on offer. The first prize, a Christmas Hamper donated by **Frank & Barbara Pennington** was won by **Mrs Gladys Higginson**. The second prize, a tower of confectionery donated by **Bill Nolan** was won by **Mrs Janet Shayler**. The Brown Envelope raffle made a total of £132.10. The Normal draw had over 33 prizes on offer; monies taken for this raffle totalled £404.90 making a grand total of £537.00 raised between the two.

A big thank you must go to **Mrs Pat Saignes**, **Mrs Joan Rice**, **Mrs Doreen Tuohay**, **Mrs Margaret Burns**, **Mrs Linda Baker** our ticket sellers and to all the ladies involved in the folding and preparation of the tickets for the draw. Our thanks also go to **Ms Emma Partridge** for her help with the running of the two raffles. This year a disco played after dinner music of our choice, from the 50s, 60s and so on and the dance floor was well used at all times. Final thanks go to **Colin Roberts**, **Nick Woodland** and **Ivor Griffiths** for their help with setting up the tables and again to **Ivor** for the prayer before dinner. We especially thank all our members for making it a most enjoyable and very successful occasion during which a small memento was presented to all of them that were present.

Our Annual General Meeting took place on Thursday 27th January 2011, at the Premier Inn, Vernon Street, Liverpool at 8.00pm. 24 members were in attendance with apologies for another 14. It was good to note that two of our younger members have taken up office as auditors, other than that we run for another year with the same officers in place.

The Branch chairman **Ivor Griffiths** and secretary **Frank Pennington** attended the Association Annual General Meeting in Wellington Barracks on Saturday 26th March 2011 and as well as discussing many items regarding the Association and the Regiment it also gave them the opportunity to wish **Capt Trevor Rolfe** farewell as he stood down from his role as General Secretary. He departed not only with our good wishes but also with many gifts.

The Branch has been running without a Welfare Officer since 2008 but at the monthly meeting of 28th April, **George Hughes** came forward to offer his services. George was our Branch Treasurer for a number

of years until his workload and other commitments forced him step down from that office. We are glad to report that he is doing a very good job for us.

We can report another full 48 seat coach for the branch's three day visit to London for Regimental Remembrance Weekend, the Chapel Service and Parade. We left Merseyside on Saturday morning 14th May arriving at our hotel in London Docklands in good time. After our evening meal we visited the Tower Of London and its Mess courtesy of **Simon Dodd** who gave our group a superb evening and at 9.30pm we were taken to watch the Ceremony of the Keys, after which we returned to the Mess before leaving for our hotel at 11.40pm. On Sunday morning and after a superb breakfast, we attended Covent Garden and after a short stay the coach then transported us onto Wellington Barracks for the service and parade. Another large parade from Wellington Barracks to Horse Guards and back and it is always a special occasion especially with the rain failing to materialise. It's always good to see people that you served with and even to march with; it brings all the old memories back. At the conclusion of the parade we arrived back at the hotel for 5.30pm with all members resting up and taking the evening dinner at their leisure. On Monday morning and after another sumptuous Hilton hotel meal, we left London and enroute to Liverpool we stopped over at Stratford upon Avon for two hours finally arriving in Liverpool by 6.30pm.

The successful Branch members who bid for The Queen's Birthday Parade tickets were, 1st Rehearsal Tickets: **J Edwards**, 2nd Rehearsal Tickets: **J Coates** and for the parade itself: **J Baxter**.

On Wednesday 10th August 2011, ten Branch members were invited by the Not Forgotten Association to join them on a three hour river cruise on the River Mersey, **Ivor Griffiths**, **Tim Fitzgerald** and his son **Dominic**, **Phil Jackson** and a few carers attended. Due to engine trouble on the Royal Daffodil (our ferry boat) we never set sail, but **Rosie** who organised the trip for the Not Forgotten Association settled for a Three Hour 'Free Bar'.

At the time of writing we are finalising all the details for the Annual Dinner & Dance which is taking place on Saturday 26th November 2011, with the regimental guest being **Major GVA Baker**, the Regimental Adjutant who will be attending with his wife **Tess**. Numbers for the function are promising at this time and applications for overnight accommodation are in great demand, more on this in our next report.

In closing we thank the Branch Chairman **Ivor Griffiths** for all his help in the running of this Branch, at our meetings and also with all the other daily aspects of Branch affairs. Our thanks must also go to the Branch Treasurer, **Barbara Pennington**, now in her third full year, and to all members who have turned out to attend our monthly meetings in good weather and

bad. Attendances are getting smaller but we still maintain approximately 18 to 20 members in attendance each month and who also support each meeting most generously by buying raffle tickets and also bringing the raffle prizes. We welcomed one new member this year, **23865180 Craige W J.**

Finally and with deep regret we report the very sad loss of the following members this year: **2619154 Modlin R G**, **2627359 Maguire R** and **24378807 Oliver C J.**

LONDON

(Formed 1920)

President: Colonel ATW DUNCAN LVO, OBE.

Vice Presidents: Capt SIR JOHN LAMBERT KCVO, CMG; Brigadier MS BAYLEY MBE; Capt I REED MA; Major THE LORD FORBES KBE, DL, JP; Capt THE HON JONATHAN FORBES; Lieutenant Colonel PR HOLCOFT OBE; Major TH HOLBECH MBE; Capt DD HORN; Lieutenant Colonel RG CARTWRIGHT LVO; Capt RAC DUNCAN; Capt CAG KEELING; Capt TBCW WOODS; Capt J LENAGHAN; HJL MANSELL Esq; GV FRANKLIN Esq; Capt JWH BUXTON; Capt A CLUFF; Major THE LORD GLENTORAN CBE, Capt R J B PINFOLD; Major PAJ WRIGHT OBE.

Chairman: HJL Mansell Esq.

Secretary: WH SMITH, 2 Coppens Green, Wickmeadow, Wickford, Essex. SS12 9PA. Tel: (01268) 735 911.

Email: mhunt98236@aol.com

Meetings: Third Wednesday of every month at the London District Sergeants' Mess, Wellington Barracks, from 1900 hours, unless advised otherwise.

In preparation for writing this report and looking back the realisation has dawned as to how quickly time has passed and how much has been put into that time.



HRH Prince Philip sharing a joke with Branch members at the Cocktail Evening.

The Annual Christmas Draw and Lunch, a Cocktail Evening, the AGM, Black Sunday, Grenadier Day, Rehearsals for Queen's Birthday Parade, Founders Day, Garter Ceremony, Ceremony of the Keys, Wimbledon, Lords, Garden Party, and the Battlefield Tour to Italy, all interspersed with our usual monthly gatherings. The Christmas Draw and Lunch, the first function of the Reporting Year, was a most enjoyable day but was somewhat tinged with sadness, as this was the last time that the Branch would be able to hold an event or function in the Battalion Sergeants' Mess in Wellington Barracks. For, following the move of the Battalion to Lille Barracks, Aldershot brings to an end after 173 years the presence of a Foot Guards Battalion in Wellington Barracks which is now home to the Incremental Companies and the Regimental Bands.



HRH Prince Philip together with the President of the Branch, Colonel A T W Duncan LVO OBE and Branch Secretary Bill Smith at the London Branch's 90th Anniversary Cocktail Evening at the Guards Museum.

The highlight of this reporting year was the Cocktail Evening. On the evening of 3rd Mar 2011, the **Colonel of the Regiment, His Royal Highness, Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh** attended a Cocktail Evening and Reception to celebrate the Branch's 90th

Anniversary, at the Guards Museum, Wellington Barracks. This was a most successful evening with His Royal Highness expressing his pleasure in speaking to so many members of the Branch and their guests. In response to his visit a letter was received from Buckingham Palace stating how much His Royal Highness had enjoyed the Reception and he went on to thank all who played a part in making it so successful.

We are indebted to the Not Forgotten Association who yet again have been most generous in inviting Branch Members to Wimbledon for the All England Tennis Championships, to Lords to witness the inter-services T20 Cricket which unfortunately was



The Colonel in conversation with the Executive Members.

interrupted by heavy rain, but the Lords Taverners Bar did good business! Further visits to Buckingham Palace for a Garden Party were also arranged as was our visit to Founders Day at the Royal Hospital Chelsea where the Old and Bold put on their usual style to march past **HRH Prince Harry** who took the salute, and a Concert and afternoon tea at the Royal Marines Reserves, (City of London) premises.

For the first time in many years regrettably our Secretary was unable to attend Regimental Remembrance Day (Black Sunday) through illness although he was reliably informed, the Parade, although down in numbers this year, was typical for showing our respect to those former members of the Regiment who have made the ultimate sacrifice in their Service of their Sovereign and Country.

Grenadier Day this year, one has to say was a wash out, the weather having been the worst for about three months, with most of those attending at Lille Barracks being forced into the Beer Tent for most of the day. Although we did manage to get the stall up and running, thanks to the help of a number of willing volunteers, the visits we had were infrequent and short but our disappointment must be nothing compared to that of the organisers, logistics and Battalion Rear Party whose dedication deserved better.

The Queen's Birthday Parade saw history being made this year, with three generations of Regimental Colonels being on Parade for the first time ever, **HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, Grenadier Guards, HRH Prince Charles, Duke of Cornwall, Welsh Guards, and HRH Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, Irish Guards**. Although there was a noticeable absence of The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery, being unable to parade because of a virus affecting their horses, this was made up for by the three Incremental Companies whose drill movements had been honed by the **Garrison Sgt Major Bill Mott, OBE, Welsh Guards**, which augurs well for their respective Regiments.

The Battlefield Tour to Italy saw a small party of Branch members which included the President and the Secretary, travel to Italy where they took part in a

ceremony commemorating the Liberation of the town of Rocca d'Evandro by 6th Battalion Grenadier Guards in 1943. During our stay in Italy we were to visit the War Grave Cemeteries of Cassino and Minturno where we were to honour those Members of the 6th Battalion who had made the ultimate sacrifice by placing poppies on their graves. As we have done in previous years, Branch Members attended the National Remembrance Day Parades in November, both at the opening of the Garden of Remembrance at the Regimental plot at Westminster Abbey and in making up the Grenadier contingent leading the Household Division Marching Party at the Cenotaph Parade.

At the AGM and following the Officers' Reports we sadly acknowledged the loss of two esteemed Members of the Executive Committee. After many years **George Turton** has decided the time is right to hand over the Welfare portfolio. George has always been dedicated in ensuring help got to where it was needed, his quiet unassuming manner getting the right results. Thanks George you have done us proud, the Branch is indebted to you. **Phil Lanes** has reluctantly given us 12 months notice of his impending retirement as Social Secretary, a position he has held in excess of 25 years. During this time he has given much pleasure to countless numbers of members and guests at a variety of functions and jollies of all descriptions. He is going to be a hard act to follow. We are extremely lucky that we think we have found a suitable replacement for Phil in **Andy Johnson** who has expressed a desire to take on the role.

The Branch has increased its strength this year by the introduction of 75 Serving Members of the 1st Battalion who have selected London as their Association Branch. We welcome them, as we do 2615420 **Riley G**, 25014291 **Laker N**, 22213022 **Taylor D**, 2628421 **Huggins R P, MBE** and 23509693 **Sylvester B**. May they all enjoy a long association with the Branch.

It is with much sadness that we have to report the following have joined the Holding Battalion: 2624399 **Atkins C W**, 22213411 **Byford D**, 23862889 **Collins C**, 2620570 **Farnsworth H**, 26208481 **Harrington W**, 2628033 **Haughey P R**, 2267145 **Nott P G**, 2627705 **Ratman G S**, 2619736 **Rogerson J**, 2626512 **Whillock R** and 4042829 **Wright L**. Our thoughts go out to respective families for their loss. Subject to sufficient notice representation and/or a Regimental Wreath were sent. *Lest We Forget*

We would like to take this opportunity to offer our grateful thanks to the team at Regimental Headquarters, especially **LSgt Ellingham**, who is always there at the end of a phone offering help, guidance and support. We also offer our grateful thanks to the President of the Branch, **Colonel A T W Duncan, LVO OBE**, fellow Executive Officers and those ever loyal Members of the Branch who show their continued support by attendance.

MANCHESTER

(Formed 1914)

President: Awaiting Appointment.

Vice Presidents: Mr F GREEN; Mr I WILLIAMS.

Chairman: Mr I WILLIAMS

Secretary: Mr R A FALLON, 58 Newhouse Road, Heywood, Lancs. OL10 2NU. Tel (01706) 360818.

Email: robert.follon@talktalk.net

Treasurer: AE JENNINGS.

Meetings: First Tuesday of each month, (except August) Meetings held at Ardwick Barracks, Ardwick Green, Manchester.

The last 12 months have been good for the Branch with the turnout for all our trips and functions remaining high. The two coach trips down to Grenadier Day and Regimental Remembrance Sunday had 39 members and guests on board for two excellent weekends. Once again we incorporated the Windsor Tattoo into the trip for Black Sunday, which this year had a French theme and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Our secretary had the honour of being the wreath bearer on the Remembrance Parade and thankfully the weather was once again good to us. The trip to Grenadier Day was somewhat more eventful and looked more like the day we had in Manchester in 2006. Someone did remark that day in Manchester that they had never had a day as bad as that in the south, well now they have, but let's not dwell on that.



Bob Fallon (left), the Branch Secretary at The Guards Memorial on Regimental Remembrance Day.

Our two dinners this year were attended by 80 members and guests. Although we didn't get a guest from the Regiment for our annual dinner, both the dinners went very well. We have changed the venue from Buile Hill Park to the Britannia Country Park

Hotel, near Sale. The reason for this is purely economic, Buile Hill became too expensive and the Britannia gave us a great deal on food and accommodation. We have to look after the money after all.

Our membership numbers are still falling as the older Grenadiers become frailer and the younger generation of Grenadiers concentrate on blending back into civilian life. We understand they are facing huge changes to their family, work and social life but all Grenadiers have been through that process; maybe they could find some useful help or advice from us old comrades. A lot of members have their own businesses or are in a position to help Grenadiers leaving the colours, so come and see them, you never know until you try!

On Monday 10th October 2011 the branch attended the funeral of **LSgt Dave Gartland** and he was given a true Grenadier send off. Coaches came from Catterick and Aldershot swelling the numbers to over 200. I'm sure there will be more in depth reports of this funeral so I will just say it made us all proud to be Grenadiers.

MARCH

(Formed 1968)

President: Capt CNR BROWN.

Vice Presidents: Capt (QM) TA ROLFE; Mrs M BEVAN; W GIBBS; Mrs P MASON.

Chairman: Mr N PATTER

Secretary: Mr C M WHITEBROOK, 21 Davie Lane, Whittlesey, Cambs. PE7 1YZ. Tel: (01733) 350 059.

Email: whitebrook9834@hotmail.co.uk

Branch HQ: The Conservative Club, March.

Meetings: Second Wednesday March, April, June, August & October.

The first event in this reporting period was Remembrance Day 2010 and the Branch wreath was laid with the help of an Army Cadet from the town. The Christmas lunch was well attended, lots of friends joined with the members to start the season with a hearty feast. As always our hosts at the Conservative Club looked after our needs very well and again the caterers produced a meal of the highest standard

It was a pleasure to attend the AGM at Wellington Barracks, not only to say farewell to our own **Trevor Rolfe** as General Secretary but also as an opportunity to welcome **Andy Green** as his replacement. His support of the Branch was evident before he took up the post as General Secretary and we look forward to working with him in the future.

The Annual Lunch was graced with the presence as our guests of **Colonel and Mrs Joanna Houstoun**.

They were both in good form and had the attention of so many friends and members who had gathered for this occasion. They also did a very good job of persuading **Neville Patter** that he should take on the role of Branch Chairman. The secretary's placement of people at respective tables often produces the required results!

Regimental Remembrance Day, The Birthday Parade and Grenadier Day were well supported but the Secretary **Chris Whitebrook** however does have a sneaking feeling that some members are saving their strength for a particular anniversary coming up. **Gerry Graham** and **Bill Gibbs** seem to have found a second wind wanting to try and get to everything which is good to see.

The last event of the Branch year now becomes the Sausage & Mash Lunch. This year new 'friends' of the Branch were welcomed and helped swell the numbers. It is pleasing to report that two of our vice presidents are on the mend having both suffered earlier in the year with poor health, they being **Mrs Mary Bevan** and **Mrs Pat Mason**.

The search for new members continues and the existence of the Branch continues to be advertised through Council corridors and publications and we hope to go on growing in spirit and numbers. It is wonderful to report not only a returning member to the Branch in the shape of **Eddie Salmon**, but also a new member **Des Pritchard**, a Grenadier from the 60s who laid the Branch wreath on Remembrance Day 2011.

MATLOCK

(Formed 1955)

President: Mr D RAWSON

Chairman: Mr W PICKFORD

Treasurer: Mrs V PICKFORD

Secretary: Mr F A KNIGHT, 9 Croft Avenue, Parwich, Nr Ashbourne, Derby. DE6 1QG. Tel. (01335) 390109

Assistant Secretary: Mr J WRIGHT, 37 Davian Way, Walton, Chesterfield Derbyshire. S40 3JE, Tel: 01246-239445

Email: wrightjohn4@sky.com

Meetings: Last Friday of each month at 2000hours, November, January, February & March Meetings 1230hours (except August and December), At 'The Boat House Hotel' 110, Dale Road, Matlock. Derbyshire. DE4 3PP

'SIZE MATTERS' – Or so they say! However we would challenge that in relation to individual Association Branches. We at the Matlock Branch might be small and shrinking, but I am happy to report we still have good attendances and an active Calendar of Social Fund Raising Events. What follows is a soupcon taken from the Branch Diary over the last twelve months.

Once more our year started on Sunday 14th November 2010 with our Chairman **Bill Pickford** together with Assistant Secretary **John Wright** attending Edensor Parish Church, Chatsworth Estate, where a Wreath was laid on behalf of all the fallen. On Wednesday 26th January 2011 we had an excellent turn out by Members and their Wives to a Combined Lunchtime Meeting incorporating a carvery meal which proved to be very successful and most enjoyable.

Monday 28th March 2011 was a very sad day when our Chairman **Bill Pickford**, Secretary **Fred Knight**, Members – **Mick Ford**, **Bill Bishton** and **David Rawson** attended and laid a Regimental Wreath at the funeral of our Senior Branch Member **Victor (Vic) Doxey**. Vic who saw action in the Second World War was a real gentleman, a very proud Grenadier and a stalwart Member of The British Legion. We miss him. A letter of appreciation has been received from Vic's widow Mrs **Bertha Doxey** thanking the Branch for their support in the past and on the day.



The late and much missed Vic Doxey.

On Wednesday 27th April 2011 we held our Branch Spring Luncheon which was attended by 34 guests and held at the Ashford Arms in the picturesque village of Ashford-in-the-Water. This function was arranged by our special member **David Rawson** and his wife Tina, a big thanks to both of them. The Raffle for Local Funds raised £125.00. Wednesday 28th September 2011 was 'A

‘DAYS COACH OUTING’ and again was organised by **David Rawson** to The National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. This was a wonderful Day spent in wall to wall Sunshine. The party included our Senior Member **Bill Bishton** who by coincidence celebrated his 85th Birthday that day.

Our Branch Autumn Luncheon was held on Wednesday 26th October 2011 and by popular choice we once more returned to the Bakewell Golf Club. The event was organised by **David Rawson** and his wife **Tina** with the administration coordinated by the Assistant Branch Secretary **John Wright** and his wife **Margaret**. We were grateful to our distinguished guest Company Sgt Major **Tylee Bearder** for paying us a return visit, this time accompanied by his charming wife **Paula**. The occasion was a great success raising £205.05 (rounded off to £220.00) for the Colonel’s Fund.



WO2 (CSM) Tylee Bearder, his wife Tina and members of the Branch at our Autumn Luncheon.

Our Branch Meetings remain a joy to attend. We owe so much to such dedicated people as our Chairman **Bill Pickford**, his wife **Vera** and our Secretary **Fred Knight** for the sterling work they continue to do in keeping this Branch so vibrant. Not forgotten are those Members who through circumstances now find it difficult to attend, in particular Senior Member/ex-Branch Secretary **Ian Morton** who has not enjoyed the best of health for quite a while, Mr. Norman Taylor Founder Member and ex-Treasurer and finally Mr **Derek Brown**. We say to you all hurry up, get well soon, we miss your input at our Branch Meetings.

We conclude our Annual Report with the information that at our A.G.M. held on Friday 28th October 2011 the Committee as per the heading of this report agreed to remain in post unopposed for a further year. One new appointment we are pleased to report is that of Mr **David Rawson** to the position of President. We thank everyone most sincerely who has supported the Branch in any way during the past year.

MEDWAY

(Formed 1976)

President: Lieutenant Colonel P HARRIS MBE.

Vice Presidents: Lieutenant Colonel S TUCK BEM; Capt CD LEIGH-PEMBERTON; Capt A J H HOLLOWAY, MP; Mr AJ WEST BEM; Capt RC WORTHINGTON.

Chairman: Mr PA FRANKS.

Hon Secretary: Mr S VAUGHAN. Franwynne, Scarborough Drive, Minster, Isle of Sheppey, Kent. ME12 2LX. Tel. 01795 876935

Email: maureenk9mov@aol.com

Website: medwaygrenadiers.co.uk

Meetings: First Wednesday of each month at 2000hrs at the Warren Wood Social Club, 99B Warren Wood Road, Rochester, Kent. ME1 2XA.

It's that time of year again to look at what's been done and dusted. Back in March our shooting club, run by John Chapman closed because of the cost of insurance and range expenses continue to rise year on year. Also in March we started our Sunday Lunch Club. We usually go to various pubs on the third Sunday of the month and have had some very nice outings. The venue is decided at the Branch meeting at the beginning of that month.

Andy Baines from the Branch did us proud on Regimental Remembrance Day after being nominated as a Colour Point Marker. He was awarded two credits and three extra days leave for being so smart! In April we held our postponed Christmas Draw (put off by the bad weather in December) it went off extremely well with more than 80 attending. In July some of the Branch took our Golf Challenge to the home of our President **Lord Kingsdown**, who opened his magnificent gardens at Torry Hill, Nr Sittingbourne, in aid of Help for Heroes. It was opened by the Mayor of Swale and attended by the Sittingbourne Carnival Queens. The weather was beautiful and with the fifteen or so other groups and organisations, a good sum of money was raised for that charity.



Sittingbourne Carnival Queens and escort at Torry Hill.

Other events have been a Sunday playing Petanque followed by a meal and an enjoyable Quiz Night held at the Maidstone Rugby Club, organised by **John Chapman** and **Tony West** and then a visit to The Tower of London with a guided tour watching the Ceremony of The Keys, followed by drinks and buffet in the Warders Mess. We all thanked our tame Yeoman Warder, **Kev Kitcher**, **Mike Gear** and **Andy Baines** for organising the trip.



Members of the Branch get together for a game of Petanque.

We had our Annual Dinner at the Grange Moor Hotel in Maidstone on the 15th October which was attended by 68 members. Our Guest Speaker was **Colonel Richard Winstanley** who gave an excellent talk on what the Regiment is doing and after dinner he managed to circulate and talk to almost everyone there. We also had our new President, **Lieutenant Colonel Paul Harris** and his wife **Pauline** come over from their home in Spain. He has taken on the task after our previous President, **Lord Kingsdown** said that at 86 years old and being our President for the past 19 years, he thought it time for someone a little younger to take on the role. We can only say thank you to him for sticking at the job for so long and also welcome **Lieutenant Colonel Paul Harris** to the next 19 years!

Finally, it is with regret that we have to report the passing this year of 23862953 **Pete Smith**, 2626240 **Jim West** and 23929425 **Allen Simmons**.

NORFOLK

(Formed 1938)

President and Chairman: Capt PJS ALLEN.

Vice Presidents: Capt TRE COOK; Major JFQ FENWICK QC;
Capt DJT LENG; Capt H STRATTION; NHH NEWSUM Esq;
JM BATTEB Esq; CHW MICHELL Esq; Mr BL BARBER;
Lieutenant Colonel HML SMITH; Mr R.F. BARWICK.

Vice Chairman: Mr J FEAKINS.

Treasurer/Secretary: Mr CR WARREN, 10 Highland,
Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7QU. Tel: (01508) 494 379, Mob
07885 088387

Email: christwrr@btinternet.com

Meetings: Last Friday of March (AGM), and September at Dereham Town Football Club, at 2000hours.

The Branch now has 77 Grenadier members with eight associate and honorary members together with 13 widows, making a total of 98. **Dennis Back (22955591)** from King's Lynn has recently joined up. He served in the 2nd Battalion in the UK and Egypt during 1955/58. Another new joiner is **'Henry' Ford (22213140)** from Potter Heigham who served 1948 to 1955 in the 3rd Battalion, RHQ and the 1st Guards Brigade HQ. He also served overseas in Malaya and MELF.

Sadly we have lost two members since the last gazette entry. **Ed Mitchell (2614428)** our senior man passed away in December 2010 and **Morris Biggs (22487975)** in January 2011. Morris had only recently joined the Branch and Ed will be remembered for his very interesting autobiography that was sold for charity. We will, of course, remember these fine Guardsmen.

In May, **Capt Vaughan Smith** very kindly agreed to host a cocktail party at Ellingham Hall, near Bungay Suffolk. (The location may now be familiar with many of you from the news!) About 30 members and guests enjoyed drinks and nibbles in a superb setting with wonderful views across a lake on the Norfolk/Suffolk border. Interestingly, Capt Smith has twice accompanied the Battalion to Afghanistan as a journalist and has also covered recent events in the Balkans. Also in May the Branch sent a contingent to London for the Black Sunday service and parade.

Once again our annual luncheon was held at Park Farm Country Hotel, Hethersett, and this time in September rather than the usual May, to avoid clashes with other events. 43 Grenadiers and guests sat down to a superb meal in the lovely surrounds of the hotel. **Major Andy Green** attended as our guest speaker, sang for his supper and was very well received. **John Feakins** ably assisted by his wife **Janet**, who organise the luncheon and raffle, must both be congratulated for a smashing day out for the branch, which also raised £206 for the coffers.

As a result of requests from members, the September half yearly meeting was held away from Norwich at the Dereham Town Football Club. There was a lovely bar for the pre meeting drink and a substantial snack during the meeting. My thanks must go to **Roger Smith** for suggesting this new and more central location for our members. It was interesting to see two of our members parading in their very fine Grenadier Polo shirts but alas they did not go for a run around the pitch!

Chris Warren will be standing down as secretary in March 2012 and would like to pinch a few column inches to thank all members for being supportive of the branch and in various ways helping to keep the branch alive as an active and going concern. He is sure his successor will continue to take the branch forward and develop new ideas. His particularly thanks go to **Brian Barber** for his guidance on secretarial and regimental matters, **John Feakins** for his role as vice chairman and organiser of the luncheon and trips out. **Russell Barwick** for rising to the challenge of the band concert. **Terry McClenahan** and **Ross Donaldson** for their various times as treasurer. **Colonel Smith** and **Capt Allen** as past and current Presidents and finally all the staff at Regimental Headquarters, particularly **Jay Ellingham** for keeping him in step.

All members and colleagues have ensured that his time as secretary has been an enjoyable experience as he returned to the Grenadier family after a 30 year absence. He learned more about the Regiment during the past eight years than he did when serving for just three, where he was more concerned about the bottom of a beer glass and a sun tan in Belize. One of the special perks of the job is attending the national AGM at Wellington Barracks, which is usually coupled with a lovely walk through St James Park and a pint and lunch in the Sergeant's Mess. He relates that the park is always covered with Daffs in full bloom and the pint is (probably) the cheapest in London.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

(Formed 1929)

President: Lieutenant Colonel EHL AUBREY-FLETCHER

Vice Presidents: Major THE LORD BRASSEY of APETHORPE OBE, DL; Capt THE HON TI BRASSEY; Major JCF MAGNAY; Lieutenant Colonel JS SCOTT-CLAKE; Major JM HIRST; Capt R WILLMOTT DL; Colonel DJC RUSSELL-PARSONS; C MANNERS Esq; J SPILLER DCM; AJ CRAWLEY; Colonel REH AUBREY-FLETCHER; P GOUDIME JP.

Chairman: T FROST.

Secretary: MA BRITTON, 12 Raisins Field Close, Ecton Brook, Northampton. NN3 5LA. Tel: (01604) 416 101

Email: nhantsgrenadier@aol.com

Treasurer: R LINES.

Meetings: First Thursday of each month at 2000hours at the Royal Naval and Royal Marines Club, Lorne Road, Northampton.

In April 2011, 55 Grenadiers, families and friends of the Northamptonshire Branch met to celebrate the Branch's 82nd Anniversary dinner. Following the loyal toasts, the Branch President **Lieutenant Colonel EHL Aubrey-Fletcher DL**, outlined the current activities of the Branch.

On Regimental Remembrance Day, members of the Northamptonshire Branch journeyed to Wellington Barracks to pay their respects to members of The Regiment, and hoping to see former colleagues. Our party arrived at the Barracks at 11:30am. The ceremony at the Guards chapel seemed more poignant this year, remembering those who fell in Afghanistan, as well as those members of the Regiment who were lost in earlier conflicts.

Again, 2011 wasn't without its challenges, but the Northamptonshire Branch is alive and well, as this report clearly shows. All members of the Northamptonshire Branch are working hard to increase membership and to organise social events for the members to enjoy. Members of The Regiment, past and present, from the Northamptonshire area who have read this article, don't just mark time – please contact the Branch, any current or former members of The Regiment, or family members, who wish to be involved with the local Branch, please feel free to contact the Secretary.

All our members look forward to a successful 2012 and we would welcome any useful information and ideas from other Branches on what they are doing to assist us with our event planning.

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NORTH LANCASHIRE

(Formed 1953)

President: Major M OWEN

Vice Presidents: R PACKER Esq; J WHITE Esq;

Secretary: LADY R EMMONDS. Westview 57 Aspen Drive
Brunshaw Park Burnley BB10 3FB. Tel 01282 451208. Mob
07738562357.

Email: rosemary.emmonds@nhs.net

Meetings: First Thursday in month (except January and August) at the Hapton Inn, Accington Road, Hapton, Lancs BB11 5QL at 2000hours.

The North Lancashire Branch has had an eventful year beginning with Remembrance Day in Burnley with **Richard Packer** carrying the Banner. Members from various Associations joined the parade. The day stayed dry with the occasional glimpses of the suns rays on the cenotaph.

A Christmas gathering was cancelled due to the heavy snow making it very difficult for many Branch members to meet. But early in January a few members gathered together to celebrate the New Year.



New Branch President Major Michael Owen.

promoted to LCpl in 1984 whilst serving in Hounslow. He then married and moved to Munster, Germany in 1985 where he served for five years. During this time he served in Northern Ireland for a second tour and was promoted to LSgt. During 1990, he was deployed to Granby as a Section Commander. On returning, he moved with his family to London District where returned to public duties and also served in the close observation platoon in Northern Ireland. He was then

In March the Branch held their AGM which later resulted in **Major Michael Owen** being elected as the new Branch President. The process took several months before the position was finally made official. **Richard Packer** regained his seat as Chairman.

Major Owen joined the 1st Battalion in 1983 and was posted to The Queen's Company. He then served in Crossmaglen Northern Ireland as a rifleman. He was

appointed CSgt Assistant Instructor at the RMAS for two years. In 1997 he moved to Ballykinler to serve with the Battalion as the CQMS of The Queen's Company. In 1998 he was appointed Recce Platoon Colour Sgt. He was later promoted and assumed the appointment of Company Sgt Major of Nijmegen Company for two years. In 2001 he was selected to be the Chief of the General Staff's Warrant Officer on his briefing team. In 2002 he commissioned into the RAMC as a Captain. He has subsequently served as S03 Med in Iraq, an Adjutant in a medical regiment, training officer and he has force generated two field hospitals to Afghanistan. He is now serving at Headquarters Land Forces as S02 Med Collective training. He is married to **Bernadette** and has three children; Nikita, Sacha and Jack. He also has a beautiful granddaughter Madison.

The Branch Annual Dinner was again held at the Swallow Hotel, Salmesbury during March. Guests included **Wilf Robinson** from the Welsh Guards in Blackpool, and the Chairman of the Sea Cadets in Blackburn. The meal was exceptionally superb this year with lovely background music and magnificent company; a small gathering but an evening enjoyed by all those in attendance. The Coldstream Guards unfortunately could not join us this year as they were also celebrating their annual dinner held at the Sparth House Hotel in Clayton-Le-Moors near Blackburn. Next year, the North Lancashire Branch members will be celebrating their Branch 60th Anniversary. A Mass was held at St Alban's Blackburn to mark the 5th anniversary of Laying-Up of the Standard at the end of April with two honorary members representing the Branch.



Chairman Richard Packer handing over the trophy to James Singleton.



From left to right: Peter Emmonds, Richard Packer, Lady Emmonds, Graham Young (Branch Secretary) and Barry Taylor (Branch Chairman).

Branch members were cordially invited to a celebratory dinner which was held in the Masonic Hall in Clayton-Le-Moors on Saturday 24th September 2011 to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the founding of The Royal British Legion (national) and also the 90th anniversary of the Clayton-Le-Moors Branch. The evening was enjoyed by all those who attended.

The annual Green Bowling Competition took place towards the end of September. A good turn out supported by families, friends and a few Westfield Bowling Club members. The day began with rain with the thoughts of having to rethink the schedule. Fortunately the weather came good and turned out to be a brilliant sunny day. The Coldstream Guards stole the show once again by winning the trophy – well done to **James Singleton** who won it last year too. The picture shows the Chairman **Richard Packer** handing over the trophy to **James Singleton**.

The Wigan & St Helens Branch held their annual dinner at the Leigh Miners Welfare Club on Saturday 15th October 2011. What a fantastic evening with entertainment by **Phil Wylie** – highly recommended! A brilliant time was had by all those attended.

The Sea Cadets held their Trafalgar Annual Dinner at Somme Barracks on Saturday 22nd October 2011. It has always been a lovely evening and this evening was no exception. This year, the Sea Cadets provided excellent entertainment which had the special guest of the North Lancashire Branch, **Harry Briggs** from The Royal Navy now aged 91 years, singing and dancing the night away.

It is with great sadness that we report the loss of four Grenadiers: 2622507 **William Entwistle**, 2627294 **Ronnie Braysford**, 23252575 **John Parker** and 2627299 **Laird George Lofthouse**. **William (Bill) Entwistle** was a veteran of the Second World War and rubbed shoulders with royalty at a gala event in July of 2009 for wounded service people at Buckingham Palace meeting the **Duke of Kent** and forces' sweetheart **Dame Vera Lynn**. Bill served on the African and Italian fronts with the 6th Battalion after signing up in 1941. **Laird George Lofthouse** served in Germany and founded the Burnley & Blackburn Branch in 1952. George was also a great comedian with a giggle. They will be sadly missed.

Finally, we would like to record our thanks, to the team at Regimental Headquarters for their help throughout the year and particularly to the Branch members whose regular attendance and support is invaluable especially from **Ernest and Edna Reid**.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE

(Formed 1933)

President: AEH HEBER-PERCY LL, JP.

Vice President: Rev TM CARTER DL, JP; Major R WOODFIELD MBE; M S ROBINS Esq.

Chairman: Mr K WRIGHT.

Hon Secretary: Mr D G ROBINS, Nabb Cottage, Nabb Lane, Alton, Staffordshire. ST10 4AY. Tel: (01538) 702 974, Mob: 07968 037082

Email: david.robins@hotmail.co.uk

Meetings: Please contact the Branch Secretary for Details.

The Branch remains in good heart but all of our 'active' members now move in slow time, we would certainly benefit from an infusion of new blood. We continue to meet on a monthly basis and spend enjoyable evenings together. Every other month we meet for lunch at a local hostelry, taking advantage of special rates and enjoy much lamp swinging.

Trips to London and Aldershot for Remembrance and Grenadier days were again highlights of the year. These are now annual pilgrimages for several members but sadly travelling long distances is becoming a problem

for some. We made it to one band concert which was a wonderful outing and many congratulations to the Band – long may they survive.

Welfare continues to be an important part of our agenda including visiting those that are not too well and some in hospital. We are thankful that we have been able to be of some assistance during the past year to younger Grenadiers in our area.



Members of the North Staffordshire Branch and their partners on the occasion of their visit to Hodnet Hall, the home of Branch President and Mrs A. E. H. Heber-Percy.

Our AGM and annual luncheon was once again held at Hodnet Hall, the home of our **President and Mrs Heber-Percy**. We enjoyed their excellent hospitality and a stroll around the beautiful grounds. Their ongoing support to our branch is greatly appreciated.

We also much appreciate the help and support that we receive from the small team at Regimental Headquarters. We finish wishing good luck and Godspeed to our Battalion wherever they find themselves during the next 12 months and pray that they come home safely.

NORTHUMBRIA

(Formed 1926)

President: Colonel JM CRASTER MA.

Vice Presidents: THE DUKE OF ABERCORN (LL of Co Tyrone); Major JHN PORTER; SIR HEW HAMILTON DALRYMPLE Bt, GCVO; Capt SIR CHARLES FERGUSON Bt; Major JD MAGILL CRICHTON MAITLAND.

Chairman: Mr A DANIEL.

Hon Secretary: Mr JOHN KEEGAN, 12 Oaklea Close, Norton, Stockton-On-Tees. TS20 1HN, Tel: 01642 556534

Hon Treasurer: Capt DE GARDNER

The Branch has had a quiet year due to reorganisation since the loss of our Secretary. We did not hold an AGM or any functions in 2010 due the Secretary's ill health; however we did have a Christmas Lunch and Committee Meeting on Sunday 12th December 2010 at the Marton Hotel and Country Club, Middlesbrough to determine the future of the Branch. We are pleased to advise that at that meeting **Mr Tony Daniels** agreed to take on the Chairman's position from **Mr John Keegan** and **Mr Keegan** agreed to take over the vacant Secretary's position, both were elected along with four new Committee Members.

Although the Branch lay dormant for most of the previous year we have got back in the swing of things and along with our local Household Division Association have enjoyed functions held to celebrate St Georges Day and on 22nd May 2011 we had our AGM at Billingham Golf Club. David Gardner took over the vacant Treasurers position and a vote of thanks was recorded for **Michael Spencer** for all his previous hard work in that position, he was also presented with a Grenadier tie pin to mark our appreciation.

On Sunday 17th July 2011 we held a family fun day at Redcar races in support of Help for Heroes and on 10th September we held our Annual Dinner. At the time of writing we are looking forward to our trip to London for Remembrance Weekend and our Christmas lunch on 11th December at the Marton Country Club. We also have plans, with the Scots Guards from Catterick, on 28th January 2012 to celebrate the day with a Burns Supper.

Our thanks once again go to our long established supporters who keep our Branch alive and to **Major Andy Green, LSgt Jay Ellingham** and all the staff at Regimental Headquarters for their continued support. Finally we offer our best wishes to everyone for 2012.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(Formed 1914)

President: Awaiting Appointment.

Vice Presidents: G SEVERN; Sir ANDREW BUCHANAN Bt.

Chairman: JW RAYNOR MBE

Secretary: V BRADLEY, 47 Willerby Road, Woodthorpe, Notts. NG5 4NZ. Tel: (0115) 926 6721.

Email: vic.bradley@tiscali.co.uk

Website: www.grenadierguardsnotts.org.uk

Treasurer: Mr R TOPLEY.

Meetings: Second Friday each month at The Victory Club, Church Drive, Daybrook, Nottingham.

As usual we start our report with a welcome to the following new members who have joined us this year, 2295533 Parker C, 25048653 Clifford N P,

23688499 **Clemmit D**, 24633655 **Bexon G** and 24306180 **Johnson T**. Unfortunately in the same period we have lost 14 members whose names appear at the end of this report in 'The Roll of Honour.' On the whole it was not such an eventful year as the previous one but began with our Annual Dinner and Dance on Saturday 9th. April. Since we are still lacking a President his duties were taken over by one of our Vice Presidents, **Gerald Severn**. He managed very well to steer himself through his duties, particularly the Loyal Toasts. We were delighted to welcome The Regimental Adjutant, **Major Grant Baker** and his delightful wife **Tessa** who enlivened the proceedings. He gave his report on The Regiment which was well received by all in attendance. We also had two young serving Guardsmen who added a bit of colour to the evening. We hope that they enjoyed themselves and were not overcome by all the 'Old Soldiers' and their stories.

In May a trip was organised to The National Memorial Arboretum in conjunction with The Calverton and Woodborough Royal British Legion. Several of our members took advantage of this offer to visit this memorable site. On the 25th June a new War Memorial was officially opened in Mansfield which is a small town adjacent to Nottingham. Many of us went to celebrate this occasion and to see a Regimental Wreath laid by the mother of **LSgt Dave Greenhalgh** who was recently killed in Afghanistan. There was a very big turnout particularly from the local Branches of The Royal British Legion and their Standard Bearers. The day was very breezy and one of the bearers was blown over. He soon recovered and the ceremony carried on. The reason that this is mentioned is because of the great respect we have for these mainly elderly gentlemen and ladies who turn out on these occasions and always carry their banners with such pride.

It is now, with great regret that we report the death on 23rd August of one of our Vice-Presidents **Vic Axworthy BEM**, a long standing stalwart of the Branch for many years. Although suffering terrible disabilities he soldiered on raising funds and helping in any way that he could. He will be sorely missed. Our thoughts go out to his wife **Jill** and his family. We must also thank to Jill for all the good work that she has put into Branch business.

Now as the year comes to a close we are looking forward to joining our friends of The Granby Barnstone British Legion to celebrate Armistice Day at their local village church. When they read out the names of the locals who lost their lives in two World Wars, they also make a point of reading out the names of Grenadiers who have fallen in recent conflicts. So now it leaves us to look forward to our Branch Christmas luncheon on Saturday 10th December when we assemble to sample some fine Christmas Fayre and to remember those who

have left us: 4975210 **Rigley V H**, 2628665 **Cox R**, 2624526 **Price W M**, 24753205 **Bennett J P**, 24428515 **Hill R**, 23252354 **Galpin J**, 2622318 **Steel N**, 2623549 **Simmons W**, 2616952 **Gunshon W**, 2627249 **Beckworth C G**, 22213319 **Lonsdale C**, 22955557 **Hopewell T C** and 22545949 **Axworthy A V, BEM**.

OXFORDSHIRE

(Formed 1936)

President: Colonel ET HUDSON CBE.

Vice Presidents: THE HON MRS RS TYSER; Major AH GRAY; LORD WATERPARK; SIR JOHN GRAHAM Bt, GCM; THE HON GEOFFREY SOMERSET; THE VISCOUNT ESHER; Capt JRH WILLS; Major DPG IRVINE; D MASON Esq; Major General THE LORD ALVINGHAM CBE, DL; Major PFL KOCH de GOOREYND; M COCHRANE Esq DL (Scots Guards); D PALMER Esq DL; Lieutenant Colonel RT MAUNDRELL; Major RM POTTER (Scots Guards).

Chairman: D THOMPSON.

Hon Secretary: PL COOK, 37 Glebelands, Headington, Oxford. OX3 7EN. Tel: (01865) 451 714.

Email: pelecoglebe@yahoo.co.uk

Treasurer: Mrs J SHAYLER.

The Association Annual General Meeting took place towards the end of March, the Secretary did not attend due to being out of the country. The Branch was represented by our Vice-Chairman **David Wright** and committee member **Peter Brooks**.

Our Annual General Meeting was held at The Four Pillars Hotel, Abingdon Road, Oxford on Tuesday the 3rd, May at 1100hrs prior to one of our Branch bi-monthly luncheons. These bring together some 40 or so Branch members, associate members and friends and this brought a larger attendance to our meeting. All items on the agenda were dealt with and the Branch officers and committee was elected en bloc.

Peter Brooks was elected to be the Branch social secretary and continues to organise the bi-monthly lunches which go from strength to strength. They are well supported by our members and our friends from other Household Division regiments who are associate members of the Branch. We thank them all for their continued support not only for attending on these occasions but also supporting us all year round. Branch members also attended Wellington Barracks for Regimental Remembrance Day meeting friends of long ago.

Later in the year some members attended the Major General's Review and all those who requested tickets were lucky enough to get one. The Branch vice-chairman and his wife were away on holiday for Grenadier Day at Lille Barracks, the secretary also had

a morning commitment so the new social secretary was left to arrive early and set up the Branch stall. The weather on the day was atrocious, rain and strong winds causing problems with the gazebo. On the arrival of the secretary and his wife after mid-day the sun shone giving a little respite. This however did not last and the rain and wind returned with a vengeance and we closed the stall early. With the extreme weather lasting for such a long period Regimental Headquarters, The Regiment, The Band and those providing the entertainment should be applauded for all they achieved on the day.

For some years we have not had an annual garden party which had always been well supported and something our members looked forward to. The Branch president **Colonel Edmund Hudson CBE**, suggested he would like to have a Band concert picnic in the early autumn similar to the one we had held previously to raise money for Regimental Charities. So on the evening of the 29th September we were very fortunate and honored to have the Regimental Band visit us at the University Press sports and social club North Oxford. The weather could not have been better, a real Indian summer beautiful clear sky and the evening sun shining on all the visitors who supported us on such an occasion. The Band gave us 45 minutes of light music and a sing along which everyone enjoyed. After a break for refreshments and a visit to the bar the entertainment continued with some counter marching, then they Beat Retreat concluding with the Evening Hymn and Last Post just as the sun sank behind the trees. Those present who had served in the Regiment felt very proud when they left the field marching to The British Grenadiers.

We must thank our president **Colonel Edmund Hudson CBE**, who arranged the event with the support of the social secretary **Peter Brooks**, Vice-Chairman **David Wright**, the secretary **Peter Cook** and other members who gave up their time to assist on the day and prior to the event. A special thank you must go to one of our associate members and a member of the Reading and Oxford Coldstream Guards Association **Mr Roger**

Coppock who worked extremely hard selling tickets and raised a large amount of money. Over one hundred people attended and we will be supporting The Colonels Fund and Help for Heroes Fund with the monies raised.

The Branch annual luncheon was held this year at new location, The Banbury Cricket Club, Bodicote, near Banbury, Oxfordshire, on Sunday 30th October. It was organized for the first time since his appointment as social secretary by **Peter Brooks**. 85 Members, guests and friends sat down to a most enjoyable meal provided

by Mrs **Joanne Higgs** and her associate Mrs **Nikki Giles** and their staff. The Branch president welcomed and thanked those present for attending. **Colonel Hudson** read the loyal messages and toasted The Colonel in Chief and our Colonel. This being our 75th anniversary year we were pleased to welcome the new Association Secretary **Major Andy Green** who was visiting the Oxfordshire Branch for the first time, his speech was much appreciated by us all. We had great pleasure to welcome **Major Maurice Joyce MBE**, a vice-president of the Wessex Branch and his wife **Nancy**, also regular visitors Mr **Laurie Jeffrey** chairman of the Aylesbury Branch and his wife **Enid**, Mr **Kieron Mallon** chairman of the Banbury Household Division Association, Mr **Barrie**

Padwick secretary of the Reading and Oxford Coldstream Guards Association and secretary of the Henley Guards Association with his wife **Pat**, Mr **John Southern** vice-president of Reading Branch and his wife **Christine**, Mr **Roy Ibson** and two friends who always support the Branch functions from the Norfolk Branch who had travelled from Hertfordshire. Mr **Ron Fletcher** treasurer of the Leicester and Rutland Branch and his wife **Jill**. Also present since being promoted were serving Branch members **Capt Seth Gillham** and his lady and **Regimental Sgt Major Mathew Smith** who had travelled down from Yorkshire where he is presently posted as The Sgt Major of The All Arms Drill Wing.

This year for the first time in many years we had





The Branch enjoy their annual lunch in October.

three of our Branch widows with us, **Mrs Bowen**, **Mrs Griffin** and **Mrs Cosh**. We also had a former Branch member present who, following his beloved wife's death has relocated to the London Branch having moved to The Royal Hospital, Chelsea becoming In-Patient 51. It was of course Academy Sgt Major **Ray Huggins MBE**, dressed in his scarlet uniform he added a welcome splash of colour and will always be warmly welcomed at our Oxfordshire events.

Last year we reported that at the Annual General Meeting **Mr Douglas Rothery** had resigned from the committee. Sadly this year I have to report that after a short illness Doug passed away in his ninety-first year. He had joined the Regiment in the late thirties, being part of the expeditionary force at the outbreak of World War Two and was evacuated from the Dunkirk Beaches. He returned to Europe shortly after D-Day and was wounded in the advance across France. Although suffering from severe deafness as a result, Doug served on the Branch Committee for many years and was always the life and soul of the party. He was always smartly turned out and a true Grenadier, he will be sorely missed by us all. The Regiment and Branch were well represented at his funeral. We send our condolences to **Pat** his wife and all the family.

Also the death was reported of **Mr Gerald Canning**, we send our condolences to all his family too.

We at the Oxfordshire Branch, which no doubt is like many other Branches in the Association, would like to see some of the many younger members who we have on the nominal roll attending the next Annual General Meeting. In closing I would like thank the Branch President **Colonel Hudson CBE**, our Vice-Chairman **David Wright**, **Peter Cook** the secretary, treasurer **Janet Shayler**, **Peter Brooks** the social secretary, accountant **Mr Colin Hessey** and all members of the Committee for their help during the last twelve months.

READING

(Formed 1913)

President: Lieutenant Colonel H S HANNING.

Vice Presidents: Major General B C GORDON LENNOX CB, MBE; Major G V A BAKER; The Hon Mrs Jeremy MONSON; J G SOUTHERN Esq.; D McMAHON Esq., RVM; G. SLADE Esq.; W J MAY Esq.

Chairman: Mr P FLOWERDEW

Secretary: THERESA DAY, 1 Harness Close, Reading, Berks, RG2 8PF. Tel: 0118 9868328.

Email: t.day661@btinternet.com

Treasurer: Mr J HARRISON

Our Branch AGM was held at the beginning of April at the Calcot Hotel in Reading. We were very pleased that our President, Chairman and all committee members agreed to serve for a further year.

Grenadier Day was held on the 12th June at Lille Barracks on one of the worst days for wind and rain we have ever known. We arrived to see our Honorary Members **Richard and Derren White** trying to rescue their Gazebo which had blown over the top of their van holding their wonderful display of model soldiers. Our three gazebos were up but we had to anchor them to the ground to stop them blowing away. We thank **Mrs Rolf** and her family for running their stall once again – and for her donation from the sales from their stall. As always the memorabilia stall run mainly by **David Beard, Robin Kellow and Pat McSweeney** is very popular and we had new photographs this year from members including those from **Bob Wood**. Phil's paintings and Pat's cartoons are very popular and many thanks to Phil, Pam and to their family who support us every year also to **Evie** our new Honorary Member who always helps at our events. Even the Regimental Band had to shelter from the rain and wind in the beer tent! I think **Pat McSweeney's** cartoon below sums up the day very well!



On the 7th July the Branch had a very relaxing trip down the River Thames to Mapledurham and back with tea on board organised by **Dorothy Beard**. We were

well supported again by our friends from the Household Division. It is a really nice way to meet up with friends and especially as the weather was kind to us and it was agreed we should hold this event again in 2012 – hopefully organised by **Dorothy** again.



On the way to Mapledurham we passed the Devon Belle one of the Dunkirk Little Ships, 60 years after Dunkirk she is still taking passengers on a cruise down the Thames.



David Beard.

The Not Forgotten Association again invited two of our members to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on the 15th July. **Bob Wood** and his son **John** and **David and Dorothy Beard** attended and they all thoroughly enjoyed themselves on a beautiful summer afternoon. We thank the Not Forgotten for sending the Branch an invitation every year.

Our Annual Lunch was held in September and once again well attended with 77 guests. This year we were fortunate to have two Guest Speakers, **General Sir Jack Deverell K.C.B. OBE** Wiltshire County



L-R: Robert Wood, John Wood, Dorothy Beard.

President of the Royal British Legion and **Mr Trevor Orton** (Steve/Doc) RTD Medical Colour Sgt 2nd Battalion. Both very interesting and amusing speeches and we also had news of the Regiment from The Regimental Adjutant. We had great pleasure in welcoming four Grenadier Chelsea pensioners, **Norman (Mitch) Mitchell, Colin MacDonald, Alan Goddard and Ray Huggins MBE**; we thank them for coming to our Lunch. The Reading and District Branch are very fortunate to have marvellous support from all the other Household Divisions in the area and from the Royal British Legion at Wootton Bassett.



Pictured above our Welfare Office Robin Kellow and Chelsea Pensioner Ray Huggins.



L-R: Colin MacDonald, Victor Tosh, Ray Huggins, Norman Mitchell, Alan Goddard, Terry Wiltshire, Steve Orton.

Sadly **2616274 John Warwick** a WW2 Dunkirk Veteran passed away in June. John was a staunch supporter of the Branch and served on the Committee for many years. Members of the branch attended his funeral. R.I.P

Once again we thank RHQ for their help and support especially **L Sgt Jay Ellingham** who answers my emails so promptly – it is greatly appreciated. We send all good wishes to all other Branches for a happy and successful 2012.

SHROPSHIRE

(Formed 1927)

President: W S I KENYON-SLANEY OBE, KstJ, DL, Esq.

Vice Presidents: AEH HEBER PERCY Esq; Major RG WOODFIELD MBE; Capt D VERNON; C BECK Esq; Lt. Colonel F S ACTON; Mr G PRITCHARD; H W SPENCER; Major G INGLIS-JONES; Capt G WHITAKER

Chairman: HW SPENCER Esq.

Secretary: Major Bob WOODFIELD, MBE, 11 Chantry Crescent ALCESTER Warwickshire B49 5BT Tel: (01789) 766217

Email: robert.woodfield@tesco.net

Treasurer: F DAWE.

Our 2011 AGM was held at the Lord Hill hotel, Shrewsbury on Sunday 10th April and was followed by an excellent lunch. The turnout did not reflect the strength of the Branch but it was nice to see so many widows of former and associate members.

Having indicated his intention at the AGM in 2010 it was with great sadness that we heard that our secretary, **Chris Beck** had finally decided to stand down. In this position and one which he had held for 18 years, Chris had been the mainstay of the branch and was greatly assisted by his wife **Janet**. The loss of Chris as our secretary is sad but understandable news. Having handed over to Chris in 1983 and with no other volunteers it was left to **Major Bob Woodfield** to once again take the reins and hold the fort until a long term replacement comes forward.

At the time of writing the Branch Chairman, **Bert Spencer**, is organising our Christmas lunch which is due to be held on Sunday 11th December at the Brookfield Golf Club, Hankelow, Audlem, Cheshire. Looking forward to 2012 we are planning to combine with the North Staffs Branch for a Garden Party at Hodnet Hall by kind permission of their President **A E H Heber-Percy LL, JP**. Our 2012 AGM is planned for Sunday 1st April again at the Lord Hill hotel.

Along with many other branches we find it difficult to attract younger Grenadiers and would very much

welcome all serving and retired local members of the Regiment to support us in the future, we would love to meet them all.

SPALDING

(Formed 1954)

President: Major SJE TURNER (Scots Guards).

Chairman: ROY STOCKER Esq.

Hon Secretary: MR STEVENSON, 30 Crown Drive, Spalding. PE11 2HU. Tel: (01775) 725 535.

Meetings: Last Thursday of each month at Royal British Legion Club.

The Spalding Branch has always been a small one and these days has become even smaller but the one thing that it has never lacked is the enthusiasm and hard work of its members. The fewer members the more work to be done and my job is made so much easier by the generosity of spirit that emanates from all our members. The friendship and involvement given makes Spalding a truly great branch.



The chairman, Roy Stocker, presents LCpl J. Barton with the Grenadier Shield for the best turned out cadet.

This year we have worked hard to encourage the lads in our local unit of The Army Cadets. The Chairman and I went along to their presentation evening where a very smart young man was presented with The Grenadier Guards Shield for smart turnout, an award worked for over the previous year. He was also pleased to receive the winner's cheque for £25! We also sponsored three lads who travelled to Lesotho to work on various projects within the Kingdom. Members were pleased to be invited, together with members of our local Para Association, to an evening when they each spoke of their experiences and it was obvious the trip had proved

memorable and thought provoking. Our latest project is the purchase of a cup to be awarded to the cadet who shows the most improvement during the year. We never fail to plug the Regiment at every opportunity!

The Branch has also made its presence felt at events held in the town over the year. The Remembrance Day parade was well attended with the salute being taken by our local Member of Parliament and the Market Place was full of townsfolk. On St. George's Day our friends from the Parachute Association organised a parade to mark the occasion; as well as many ex-service men present the service is attended by the children of the nearby school who gave a presentation on what they had learned about Arnhem. This was very apt as the Paras had been stationed in Spalding prior to going to Holland. Tying us all together is our local hero Sgt Major Lord who had been a Grenadier prior to joining 3rd Battalion Parachute Regiment. He married a local girl and became Academy Sgt Major at Sandhurst. In August we joined several Regimental Associations for the Peace Parade in Ayscoughfee Gardens, once again this was well attended and our two plaque markers were our chairman **Roy Stocker** and our Welsh Guards member **Don Thomas**.

Earlier in the year we attended a luncheon kindly organised by **David Higgs** and his wife **Angela**, it was a most enjoyable event, something we hope to repeat. In July my wife and I were privileged to be invited to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace we thoroughly enjoyed our day which was the culmination of thirty years service as secretary.

I now with deep regret announce the death of three loyal members. **2620945 H. Bent**, **2627802 B. Wixey** and **22955797 C. Senior. Horace, Bas** and **Colin** had things in common, they were overwhelmingly proud of having served in the Regiment, they served the Branch most faithfully and could always be relied on when help was needed. All members will miss them but have the memory of many happy times to remember.

Now I must say my thanks, the Branch is only running smoothly and actively because of the help I receive. **Major Turner**, our President is always at the end of the telephone for advice and encouragement we could not manage without him although as a Scots Guardsman I am sure the Grenadiers sometimes cause him to despair! **Roy Stocker**, our chairman and **John Cross** our treasurer are invaluable and all members greatly contribute to the running of the Branch. Most importantly I must thank the staff at Regimental Headquarters, I am sure they will not mind me singling out **Jay Ellingham** for special mention now, he is someone without him the task would be impossible. I thank him for his patience and knowledge. Finally the Spalding Branch sends best wishes to all Grenadiers especially our serving members who we hold in great admiration.

SUFFOLK

(Formed 1926)

President: Colonel DHC GORDON LENNOX.

Vice Presidents: Major CXS FENWICK LVO; Major FAO CLAKE.

Chairman: FA WALLACE.

Secretary: AE JONES, 7 Flemyng Road, Bury St. Edmunds. IP33 3UZ. Tel: (01284) 755 856.

Treasurer: P WOOD.

SURREY AND EAST HAMPSHIRE

(Formed 1931)

President: Lieutenant Colonel SIR JOHN SMILEY Bt.

Vice Presidents: General SIR DAVID FRASER GCB, OBE; Lieutenant Colonel HMP DeLISLE; Lt. Colonel. TJ TEDDER; Lt. Colonel. DJ WEBSTER; Lt. Colonel. GR WHITEHEAD RVM; Capt CH COX TD; Mr. S KEYWORTH MBE; Mr. P HODGKINSON BEM; Mrs P DOWLAND; Colonel. EH HOUSTOUN OBE.

Chairman: Mr A REID.

Secretary: Mrs BABS REID, 71 Wyke Avenue, Ash, Aldershot, Hants, GU12 6EA, Telephone: 01252 316757

Email: babsrgga@yahoo.co.uk

Welfare Officer: Mr S KEYWORTH MBE

Treasurer: Mr T TAYLOR

Committee: Messrs P HODGKINSON BEM; W SEWELL BEM; N MILLER; Mrs P. DOWLAND; Mrs B REID; M HAMMOND; A HUGHES; S COOPER.

Meetings: Third Wednesday of each month apart from December at 1930hours at the Sergeants Mess, ATR, Pirbright, Surrey GU24 0QQ

The past year has been a very successful and interesting one for the Branch. Sadly we have to report the passing of **22545111 Mr Alec Collins**, **2628679 Mr Donald Puckett**, **14894415 Mr William John Etherington** and **21006010 Mr Jack Thomas MBE** together with Honorary member **Mr Nigel Nicholls**, our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends. Our monthly meetings continue to be held in the Sgt Mess of the ATC Pirbright on every third Wednesday of the month except December and are well attended. In November 2010 four members paraded at the Cenotaph and marched with the Household Division contingent, **Len Bozeat MM** was the left hand marker.

In December 2010 we held the Branch Christmas Lunch and Draw at the Sgts Mess ATC Pirbright by kind permission of **RSM John Appleby Royal Logistic**

Corps. 93 members and guests attended and enjoyed a first class lunch although some members certainly lacked carving skills required to carve the turkeys on their tables, enough said. The raffle was organized by **Pat Dowland**, **Babs Reid** and **Sally Bell**, many thanks to all the others who assisted and those who donated prizes. January 2011 saw the AGM and the news that **Pat Dowland** after over 50 years dedicated and loyal service to the Branch was quite rightly made a Vice President.

During February the Branch completed the sponsorship of a London Plane tree in what is known as 'The Mall' at the National Arboretum. In April we were arranging future functions and visits for the remainder of the year. At the monthly meeting members were treated to the black and white film showing of 'All the Queens Men' which brought back many memories of the Guards Depot at Pirbright.

On Saturday 16th April we held our Annual Dinner at The Hogs Back Hotel Farnham, 94 members and guests attended including serving members and **Major Andy Green**, **Major R Dorney MBE** together with **RSM John Appleby Royal Logistic Corps**. The Regimental Band was in attendance and entertained us during and after dinner. The replies to our loyal greetings were read out by the President **Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Smiley Bt** followed by a very interesting and informative after dinner speech by our guest speaker **Major R Dorney MBE**. During the evening the previous secretary **David Bell** was presented with a certificate of service by **Sir John**. The raffle raised nearly £500. Special thanks must go to **Andy Reid**, **Babs Reid** and **Sally Bell** and other members of the committee for organising the same and general help.

May was spent preparing for Grenadier Day, many thanks to all the members who loaned photographs for our display. Following the monthly meeting, members and several guests from Windsor, Kingston and Reading enjoyed a presentation entitled 'The History of the Regimental Band'. The presentation was given by **Musns Alan Shellard** and **Alexander Russell** and accompanied by music and slides.



The Boyton Cup winning team with The Association President, Colonel Euan Houstoun OBE.

Grenadier Day saw one of the wettest days of the summer fall upon us, despite the rain we set up our hospitality tents and stall. First and foremost many thanks to the following; **Sam Keyworth MBE**, **Terry Taylor**, **Windy Miller**, **Dennis Warby**, **John & Janet Taylor**, **Malcolm & Dolly Hammond**, **Andy & Babs Reid**, **David & Sally Bell** and **Jilly Lee** for all their hard work in atrocious conditions getting the tents up and manning them. To all the members who brought

along their photos for display and finally to all those members and other Grenadiers who ventured out and attended. Many friends and association members from other Branches commented on what a wonderful display we put on and how welcome they were made in the hospitality area. Congratulations must also go to **Windy Miller**, **Nigel Crowdy**, **Paul Morris** and **Andy Reid** as members of the Branch shooting team who won the Boyton Cup. We are reliably informed by **Pat Dowland** that she has never known the Branch to win it before and she has been involved for over 50 years!

After our meeting in June members and guests were then given a presentation by **Major R Dorney**



David Bell being presented with his Certificate of Service by the Branch President.

MBE on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Trauma Risk Management Training. It was a most interesting and informative presentation accompanied by slides. It did give all members an insight into the problems of those returning from Operations

On the Thursday 30th June 2011 **Major R Dorney MBE** kindly arranged for the Branch to visit Lille Barracks. We attended a lecture given on the role and changes to the Regiment today as opposed to when we all served. It was then off to the cookhouse for a first class lunch, **Peter Isgar** lost his name for failing to put his left hand holding KFS behind his back on route to the cookhouse! In the afternoon we were split into three groups alternating between various displays of kit and weapons currently used on operations. We were immensely impressed by the professionalism of those members of the Regiment whom we met. Later in the afternoon we enjoyed tea and cakes in the Sgt's Mess. Many thanks to **Major R Dorney MBE** for arranging the visit and to those serving members who assisted and demonstrated the kit and weapons whilst making us feel very welcome.



Tin Tin (or maybe it should be Capt Haddock) at work.

The Branch also enjoyed a coach trip to the National Arboretum, 28 members and guests attended. Upon arrival members made their way to the Household Division Memorial where **Windy Miller** read the Regimental Collect and placed a wreath on behalf of the Branch. Members then made their way to 'The Mall' where we gathered around the Branch Plaque and the tree that we had sponsored. Our thanks go to **Windy** for arranging for and driving the coach on the day. Following our July monthly meeting members were treated to a presentation by one of our senior members **Mr Warren Sewell BEM**. Warren spent the majority of his service with armoured vehicles and then worked at the Armoured Vehicle Research Establishment at Chobham for many years, it was fascinating listening to him.

After our October monthly meeting members enjoyed a presentation given by **Sgt Lindsey Price** and **Cpl Alexis Noble** from the Royal Army Medical Corps on Casualty Evacuation from the Battlefield and Operational Theatre. Both are fully trained and have completed tours in Afghanistan. The presentation included a film show and was well received and very interesting

On Remembrance Day Branch members paraded at Brookwood Cemetery with the ATR and other units. The Branch wreath was laid by **Mr Len Bozeat MM**. After the service members retired to the Sgts Mess at Pirbright and enjoyed a lunch as guests of the Mess.

Throughout the year members have also continued to meet on the last Sunday of every month to have lunch together, these lunch's are very popular and also raise funds for the Branch. There is no doubt that short formal meetings followed by break with light refreshments and a presentation film are proving popular. As you can see it's been an enjoyable year for members .Our thanks go to **Major Andy Green** and **LSgt Jay Ellingham** for all their hard work and sterling support throughout the year. Finally, next year we hope to run our hospitality tent again complete with memorabilia at Grenadier Day, please feel free to call in and introduce yourselves.



A display stand during our visit to The 1st Battalion at Aldershot.

In July the Branch organised a self drive canal boat trip on the River Wey starting at Godalming. Ten members of the Branch were joined by ten members of Solent Branch of the Household Division inclusive of some of our members. Unfortunately it rained most of the day however everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves on the two canal boats having a picnic on route and visit to a waterside pub. Needless to say despite thorough instruction at the boatyard a rope managed to wrap itself around the propeller. The Branch Treasurer and Survival expert from Grenadier Day 2010 **Terry Taylor** investigated the problem. Our prudent Treasurer fearing he might lose the deposit of £150.00 promptly stripped off, got into the water and sorted the problem out as can be seen.

SUSSEX

(Formed 1947)

President: Capt JR GREENWOOD MBE, DL.

Vice Presidents: Lieutenant Colonel TEM DONE; Capt JS GREENWOOD; AD MAYHEW Esq.

Hon Vice Presidents: Colonel JC RICHARDSON.

Chairman: MW BRACKSTON.

Secretary: DG MONEY MBE, 42 Orchard Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex. RH15 9PL. Tel: (01444) 243284.

Email: grengdassn@uwlclub.net

Meetings: Formal meetings on the second Thursday in the month at lunchtime (1115hrs-1430hrs) except in January and February when there are no meetings and also in April which is the month of the Branch Annual Dinner. Meetings are held at the Royal British Legion, Lancing. Contact the Branch Secretary for further details.

Another year and another report; we hope that the members of the Association who buy the Gazette read, as we do, all the Branch reports each year for we are sure that we are looking for names or events that will bring back memories of long ago or perhaps more recently. When the Secretary and **Mrs Money** are travelling around Sussex visiting our older members and widows we often talk about the people we visited at the places and roads which we pass and over the years we have been doing this we can recall a great many. We still do some visiting although not as much as when we first started for our branch numbers are dwindling.

Our meetings are still going well with a loyal core of about 16 members, plus a couple of widows who still enjoy being part of our Grenadier family. We have a jolly couple of hours or so each month but because of our ages we decided quite some time ago to give up the meetings in January and February to take account of any inclement weather and from the forecast and the number of berries on the trees it looks like we might be in for a hard winter which, by the time you are reading this report, will have passed. Repeating what is written each year, if you are holidaying in the area of Brighton or Worthing at the time of our meetings and feel that you might like to meet up with the Sussex Grenadiers then you could give **Derek Money** a telephone call to confirm the meeting. We shall be most pleased to see you and will give you a warm welcome. We welcomed a new member this year 23865175 **Peter Cash** who lives in Brighton although he originates from the Midlands. He served in No 2 Company of the 1st Battalion between 1962-74. He is making himself at home with the members and his wife Lizzie is doing the same with the ladies.

Our Branch Annual Dinner in April was attended by our usual number of members, their ladies and guests, and our Chief Guest on this occasion was **Colonel John**

Richardson, late RAMC, who is also an Honorary Vice President of the Branch. Some of you who are reading this report might remember him as a very young Medical Officer of both the 2nd and 1st (in that order) Battalions of the Regiment. He gave us a really good talk which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. He was followed by The Regimental Adjutant, **Major Grant Baker** who brought us up to date with all that was going on in the Regiment and made some asides which were quite amusing. Both the food which the hotel served and the prizes on the Raffle Table were up to the usual high standard and all who attended the dinner felt that it had been a most enjoyable evening. The following day was, as most Branch Secretaries will agree, clearing up day when we have to write our thank yous and what you might call the bread and butter letters, to our guests and to the hotel and indeed to book the venue for the following year and sometimes it is difficult to get the exact date we would like for these days as they are booked up for weddings a long time ahead. Anyway in 2012 our Dinner will be held on Friday 27th April 2012. Our Chief Guest has not yet been finalised but if you might be in the area at the end of April and would like to attend the dinner then just give **Derek Money** a call to arrange it. We can assure you that you will be made very welcome.

There were the usual few members from the Branch who attended Grenadier Day at Lille Barracks, Aldershot and this was an occasion when we were not blessed with the usual 'Grenadier Weather'. We did not have a Branch stall for the first time for many years, as it had been decided that the Chairman and Secretary would give it up after 2010, and as there were no younger members who wanted to take it on it would cease. It felt a bit strange just wandering about watching the arena events and meeting and chatting to people we knew.

It is sad to report that there have been five members of the Branch who have passed away since the previous Branch report was written and also one of the Caterham Branch members who lived here in Sussex. The first was 2624517 **Mr John Randall** of Chichester a 3rd Battalion man (11 Dec 2010), 5527774 **Mr Roy (Lofty) Wheadon** who lived in Powys and a long time member of the Regimental Band (25 Dec 2010), 21006014 **Mr Donald Gatford** from Eire but originally from Brighton and a personal friend of our Secretaries who served in the 3rd, 2nd, 1st Bns and RHQ (19 Jan 2011), 261396 **Mr Robert Stratton, MM** of Bexhill of the 5th Battalion who was awarded his MM during the advance through Italy in June 1944 (24 Jan 2011) and a well known member of the Caterham Branch 2629295 **Mr John Mayes** of Bexhill and a 2nd Battalion man. More recently 26116227 **Mr Eric Lister MM** of Peacehaven yet another 2nd (Tank) Battalion man who was awarded his MM in July 1944 during the advance through Holland/Germany (30 Jun 2011) and finally (at the time

of writing) 23509648 **Mr John Skelton** of Broad Oak, Nr Rye a 2nd Battalion man who after his service in the Regiment gave long service in the Devon and Cornwall Police (12 Aug 2011).

There were representatives from the Branch at nearly all the funeral services unless time and distance did not permit. Incidentally and concerning the funeral service of **John Skelton, Derek and Mrs Money** attended the service in the very small village of Udimore close by Broad Oak and during his burial it was pointed out that another Grenadier had been buried some few weeks previously. When asked, the Vicar said that it was **Christopher Collins**, a member of the London Branch, and perhaps many of you will recognise the name as that of the Grenadier who was known for painting the Household Division Drums and who painted the originals for a number of the Regimental Christmas Cards. His father **Bert Collins** was a member of the Sussex Branch when **Derek** took over as Branch Secretary; how fitting that two Grenadiers should be buried side by side in such a small village churchyard. In addition to the members who have passed away there have also been a few of the branch widows and to all of these departed we say 'we shall remember them'.

At the conclusion of this report I would like to thank **Jay Ellingham** at Association Headquarters for his usual quick and helpful responses to my queries and to add that it will be a sad day when we no longer have his help and advice to fall back on. Thank you also to our new General Secretary **Major Andy Green** who has quickly settled into the General Secretary's Chair and we hope that he will be there for guidance for many years to come. Finally to all Grenadiers and their families everywhere our very best wishes for this New Year of 2012.

TAMWORTH

(Formed 1965)

President: Awaiting Appointment.

Vice Presidents: A W WALE.

Chairman: Mr B WATTON.

Secretary: PETER MAGUIRE, Tel. 0121 354 1331.

Meetings: 2nd Sunday of the Month.

GRENADIER SHOP

Order online at

www.grengds.com



WALSALL

(Formed 1974)

President: Awaiting Appointment.

Vice Presidents: M DOYLE; G PHILLIPS

Chairman: B DOYLE.

Treasurer: F BALL.

Secretary: FRED BALL, 106 Hough Road, Walsall. WS2 9BE.
Tel. (01922) 631853

Email: fredball102@btinternet.com

Meetings: Second Wednesday of each month at Short Heath Royal British Legion Club, Church Road, Willenhall, WV12 5PT.

We have to start on a sombre note following the death of our President **Major EMB Vaughan ERD** on 21 September 2011 aged 91. Always a stalwart supporter of the Walsall Branch, he served in the Regiment from 1939 to 1963. A good turnout of members attended his funeral; he was laid to rest with his late wife in the churchyard at Brewood in Staffordshire. He will be missed. Leaving us in August was 2626119 **William Cain** (Bill) a quiet member of the Branch with a dry humour. When asked if he was in the Army he retorted 'certainly not, I was a Grenadier Guard'. Again another fine turnout at Sandwell Crematorium. To both families we extend our sympathy. The Branch has suffered its fair share of sickness with hip, knee, heart surgery and other age related ailments. Our very own Reverend **Eric Davies** spent 16 weeks in hospital with eye and heart problems, fortunately he is now home and on the way to full health. To him and all the others on sick parade we wish you all a speedy recovery.

Our reporting year starts with the local Armistice Day parade. Due to infirmity and sickness we took the view that if we could not march like Grenadiers then we had best not march at all. Instead we made our way to the Cenotaph and fell in for the service; our wreath was laid by **Bill Bakewell**. Our Annual Dinner was held on 19 November 2010 at the Terrace Restaurant, with 137 people sitting down to enjoy fine food, wine and good company. Eight serving members of the Battalion and Nijmegen Company along with their partners joined us for the evening. The speaker was none other than **Colonel Houstoun OBE** who brought us up to date on all things Grenadier and his thoughts for the future. Unfortunately on this occasion his wife **Joanna** could not accompany him due to a prior engagement (but perhaps next year sir?). Our Christmas social was held in December with everyone seemingly enjoying themselves and looking forward to Christmas and the New Year.

Like all Branches, apart from the monthly meetings (always well attended) nothing really happens until

Regimental Remembrance Sunday, when 32 members travelled by coach to Wellington Barracks. As for Grenadier Day, what can be said about it, God was certainly not on our side with the weather. It curtailed what should have been a grand day; nevertheless with raincoats on we did our best. The stall made a modest profit, thanks to all who supported us.

A river cruise on the River Trent in Nottinghamshire with a two course meal was thoroughly enjoyed by 50 members on the free pensioners outing on 14 July 2011 (hands up all of you that are not pensioners). The weather was fantastic, with all enjoying themselves, especially the riverbank entertainers whose display was a bit much for the eyes of the delicate ageing Grenadiers, but that's another story. The Branch organised no holidays or theatre trips this year, so next year when the excused boots and sick parade are all fallen out we will start again. It will be a good build up to 2013.

All that is left for us to do now on behalf of the Walsall Branch is to welcome our new Association General Secretary **Major Andy Green** and wish him well in his new post and to say goodbye and good luck to **Trevor Rolfe** in France. Lastly we must not forget **LSgt Ellingham** for his efforts on our behalf. All members of the Walsall Branch send greetings to all Grenadiers and their families everywhere.

WESSEX

(Formed 1949)

President: Lieutenant Colonel AC McC MATHER CVO, OBE

Vice Presidents: Capt CR ACLAND; JTS BOWER Esq; PH CORDLE Esq; Capt CTF FAGAN DL; Colonel DV FANSHAWE LVO, OBE; Lieutenant Colonel A HEROYS; CJ HOPE Esq; MAJOR RW HUMPHREYS; MFMO JODRELL Esq; Lady Clare LINDSAY; Major TTR LORT-PHILLIPS; THE LORD MONTAGU OF BEAULIEU; Capt (QM) BE SHEEN; HGW SWIRE Esq MP

Chairman: MR B FLEMING. Tel (01425 615673)

Secretary: MRS J MASLIN, 16 Nightingale Drive, Broadwey, Weymouth, Dorset, DT3 5SU. Tel (01305) 814555

Email: janmaslin@googlemail.com

Hon Treasurer: MRS A CREW

Welfare Co-ordinators: MR B and MRS O SAWYER

Meetings: Third Monday of the month: February – to July, and September at 2000hrs. The Conservative Club, 22 Christchurch Road, Ringwood, (No meeting in August/October). The meetings in January and November to be held at a venue to be determined during the year.

Our annual Christmas Draw took place in December 2010, fortunately before the bad weather set in. This,

as always was well attended by members and their wives. There was lots of food to be had which was provided, as usual, by members. **Alan Maslin** entertained us on the organ with a flow of popular melodies and carols. The Draw was run by **Bill and Glenda Butt** and the time they put into this every year is very much appreciated and also for running the raffles at our monthly meetings. Our AGM was held at the Conservative Club, Ringwood, in February and the Committee were re-elected for a further year. **Barry and Olivia Sawyer** took over the role of Welfare Co-ordinators.



Members by the Household Division Memorial-National Memorial Arboretum.

We made a trip to the National Memorial Arboretum in May. This was a very successful visit by the Branch – where we were joined by some fellow Coldstreamers. The long journey to the Midlands was very worthwhile; a wreath was laid at the London Plane Tree by our Chairman **Barrie Fleming**, which had been dedicated to the Wessex Branch and is located near to the Household Division Memorial. Our thanks go to **Gary Crew** for 'getting us all there, and getting us all back'! We hope to make a further visit to the site in a couple of years' time when the section has had a chance to mature.



The Chairman laying the wreath at the London Plane Tree, dedicated to the Wessex Branch, at the National Memorial Arboretum.

Having had such beautiful weather what a shame that Grenadier Day turned out to be somewhat different. We had a mixture of rain and wind (which did wonders for the gazebos!!). However, under the circumstances, we had a few members who met up with former colleagues and had a good old chat. The tombola stall was run brilliantly by **Mike and Ann Sperrin**. It was much appreciated that



Branch members at our President's home for the summer Garden Party.

they turned up to the venue at 0900 hrs in such adverse weather. We were very pleased to say that all the prizes went and we managed to raise £113.70 on the day. All proceeds from this event went to the Colonel's Fund. Thanks to **Peter and Brian Durrant** for their albums of squad photos – again this proved to be a popular draw. A great time was had by all at the Garden Party in August which was held at the home of our President, **Lieutenant Colonel Mather** and his wife, **Gaye**. It was a perfect summers day, with lots of lovely food, what more could one ask for!! Our thanks go out to our President and his Wife for opening their lovely home to us.



Our President flanked by our guest speakers at the Annual Luncheon in October.

Our annual luncheon was held at the Days Hotel (formerly Marsham Court), in Bournemouth in October. This very popular event was attended by some 70 members and guests. Our thanks go to **Ann Crew**, our Treasurer, for organising this and selecting a lovely menu – for the same price as last year – can't be bad!! **Major General Brian Pennicott**, CVO, talked about his time in the Royal Artillery and gave us a fascinating insight into the Argentine surrender at Port Stanley. **Major Andy Green**, General Secretary of the Grenadier Guards Association, provided us with an update on Battalion matters with particular reference to the forthcoming tour of Afghanistan in early 2012 and also updated us on Association matters. Our thanks go to them for their time

and support. As always, the after-meal raffle was run brilliantly by **Bill** and **Glenda Butt** with some lovely prizes to be had. We made £191.00 from the raffle with proceeds from this being donated to The Colonel's Fund.

The Committee and members' of the Wessex Branch wish to thank our President, **Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Mather** and his wife, **Gaye**, for their continued support, which is much appreciated by us all. The help support and advice received throughout the year from **LSgt Ellingham** at RHQ is also much appreciated.

We were pleased to welcome several new faces this year – long may this continue. Our thanks go to those members who attend the Branch meetings, 'come rain or shine' – their support is much appreciated. These are held in Ringwood, at the Conservative Club, on the 3rd Monday of the month, (Jan-July, September and November). We will, however, be experimenting with a lunchtime meeting for November/January, to be held at a local garden centre throughout the area. If you are interested in becoming part of 'Wessex', please do not hesitate to contact the Branch Secretary, details above. Everyone most welcome.

It is with great sadness that we have to report the passing of the following members: 14067580 **Douglas 'Dougie' Bryer** who served with the Regiment from 1945-52 and left us in December 2010. **George Millward** – 2627167 – December 2010 who was a staunch supporter of the Branch having served as both Chairman and Welfare Officer also passed away in December 2010 and 23409411 **Charles A' Court** who died in May 2011. Our condolences go out to family and friends. Finally, our thoughts and prayers go with the Battalion on their forthcoming tour of duty in Afghanistan. God bless and keep them safe.

WEST KENT (TUNBRIDGE WELLS)

(Formed 1951)

President: Major THE VISCOUNT DE L'ISLE MBE, DL.

Vice Presidents: K RICHARDSON Esq; C WELLINGS Esq MM.

Chairman: C WELLINGS MM..

Hon Secretary: W FULLER, 18 Sheffield Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. TN4 0PD. Tel: (01892) 518 029.

Email: bill.fuller@hotmail.co.uk

Meetings: The Constitutional Club, Sandrock Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, on the first Thursday in every month at 1945hours, October to December, also February to May inclusive.

WIGAN, ST HELENS AND DISTRICT

(Formed 1974)

President: Awaiting Appointment

Vice Presidents: Captain (QM) TA ROLFE.

Chairman: Mr. B TAYLOR.

Secretary: Mr GRAHAM YOUNG, 18 Hesketh Meadow Lane,
Nr Warrington, Cheshire. WA3 2AJ. Tel. (01942) 605 401

Email: gyoung24433@blueyounder.co.uk

Meetings: Last Tuesday of the month 1945hrs at The Old Pear Tree 44 Frog Lane, Wigan. WN1 1HG.

This year has been a busy one on the Branch welfare side with one of our members **Mr Lawrence Hooson** having to go in to hospital to have his second leg amputated (having lost the first some seven years ago). A big thank you from the Branch must go to our chairman **Barry Taylor** for all his hard work in visiting and helping Lawrence in moving from his 1st floor flat to a more adequate ground floor one. I believe Barry has done more miles in visiting Lawrence and arranging his move than he did in all the time he was the MT Sgt. A thank you most go also to RHQ for all their support in this matter too.

The first Branch get together since our last report was the Branch Christmas dinner 2010 which was held at the Robin Hood (same place as always but why go elsewhere when the food and service is very good). Around 36 members and their partners sat down to another excellent meal and a good time was had by all.

In January 2011 the branch held its AGM with the committee being stood down and **Mr Barry Taylor** being voted on officially as Branch Chairman, there being no fresh volunteers the old guard was voted back on. The Chairman then read a letter from our President announcing he was stepping down from his post due to

work commitments and could not give the Branch the time it deserved .The chairman did reply and thanked **Capt Les Scholes** for the work he had done for the Branch and hoped we would see him at future Branch meetings and social events.



Dave Welling and his wife with Mrs Lynda McNeil from Canada.

Our St. George's Day lunch was held at The Robin Hood Restaurant and Grill on Sunday 17th April 2011. This was the week before St George's Day because the actual day fell during the Easter weekend. 31 members and guests dined with representatives from Branches of the Household Division Associations of Manchester & Warrington. The Chairman spoke about the history of St George's Day both at home and abroad and thanked the staff at The Robin Hood for an excellent meal. He also gave thanks to our Treasurer **Eric Radcliffe** for the work he had put in to ensure a great day. The Chairman then introduced two new members, **Ray Corps** who was present and **Wilf Hodgkinson** who was unfortunately laid up with 'Montezuma's Revenge'. There were 11 prizes in the raffle of such a variety that it took almost all afternoon for some winners to choose one. All prizes were donated by Branch members so all raffle proceeds went to offset the cost of the day which was also subsidised by the Branch; all in all a good meal in good surroundings with good company.

The organising of the dinner dance started early this year as we had to find a new venue due to the local council selling



Graham Young and Eric Radcliffe checking the weight of Chairman Barry Taylor at the start of his sponsored slim.

off the civic hall. So off went the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer on the hunt for a new venue. Finally they settled on the Leigh Miners Welfare Club. It turned out to be one of the best dinners the Branch has held. With around 55 members, wives and friends, and members from the North Lancashire Branch along with members from the Blackpool, Manchester and Warrington Household Division Association. With no guest speaker it was left to the Secretary **Graham Young** to inform the diners as to what the Regiment had been up to for the past year and what lay ahead. He did a good job but may not be asked back for next year! After his spot in the lime light it was up to the Chairman to present a gift to the Branch Padre. Having served the Branch for 15 years the **Reverend Derek Mellor** was retiring not only as Branch Padre but also from his duties with the church. The Branch wishes him and his good lady a happy and long retirement. After all the formal toasts we were entertained by an excellent solo artist **Mr Phil Wyle** and DJ **Dennis Hammond** with the majority of our members and guests staying until the last dance of the night (around 1.15am) Our thanks must go to our chairman and his wife **Adel** and the Treasurer **Mr Eric Radcliffe** for making the dinner such a great success.

At the Branch meeting in October our chairman decided he needed to lose a few pounds and has gone on a sponsored slim and at the time of writing he has raised over one hundred pounds (Sterling). The Branch has now started planning for next year's trip down to London for Regimental Remembrance Sunday so if there are any ex-Grenadiers in the North West who wish to join us please contact the Secretary for more details. On a final note the Secretary would like to thank all members of the Branch and their partners for their fantastic support; without it the Branch would not be as strong as it is.

WINDSOR

(Formed 1926)

President: Major BT EASTWOOD LVO, MBE.

Vice Presidents: Major MB HOLLAND; Major E HEMPSALL; Lieutenant Colonel SIR JOHN SMILEY Bt; Capt DW LING; R MURCOTT Esq; Major General SIR MICHAEL HOBBS KCVO, CBE; Mr JA STEEL BEM; RA DOBSON Esq; Mrs SR HOWELL.

Chairman: JA STEEL BEM.

Secretary: RC GILBERT, 84 Kennel Lane, Warfield, Bracknell, Berks. RG42 2EX. Tel: (01344) 485 307.

Email: gilbert@suebob.fslife.co.uk

Meetings: First Wednesday of each month, at the Grenadier Club, Maidenhead Road, Windsor, at 2000hours.

We ended 2010 with our friends from the Royal Berkshire Association meeting in the club for their Christmas Lunch on Thursday 9th December. The Branch Christmas Draw was held on Saturday 11th. Members had a chance of winning any of the 102 prizes on display; local companies had again been very generous, by donating many of them. We would like to thank all those who supported the draw by buying and selling tickets and donating prizes. On the evening of Friday 17th the committee members set up tables and chairs ready for Saturday night's Club Christmas Dinner. Unfortunately due to a very heavy snow fall on the Saturday afternoon, the caterer was unable to make the short journey from Henley. This left the Chairman **Tony Steel BEM**, the Secretary **Bob Gilbert** and the Treasurer **Sheila Howell** making phone calls three hours before the intended meal time informing members that the dinner was cancelled. The Dinner was rearranged for 15th January when members and friends enjoyed the meal which was followed by a disco.

Our AGM was held on Wednesday 6th April 2011. The Secretary **Bob Gilbert** gave an over-view of the past years events, the Treasurer **Sheila Howell** produced the Branch and Club audited reports that were accepted. The President **Major B.T. Eastwood LVO, MBE** was unable to attend the meeting and **Major Mike Holland**, standing in, thanked the Chairman **Mr Tony Steel BEM**, and the Committee, for the hard work they had done over the last year in keeping the Branch and Club functioning. During a short interval Members and guests enjoyed a finger buffet. It was time to elect the Officers to manage the Branch and Club. The Chairman **Tony Steel BEM**, Secretary **Bob Gilbert** and Treasurer **Sheila Howell** were all re-elected. **Mike Bullion BEM** stood down as the Branch Welfare Officer and **Sylvia Bullion** as Club Secretary so they could spend more time at their caravan on the Isle of Sheppey, now that Sylvia has retired. **Major Mike Holland** thanked them both for their loyal and hard work in helping to run the Branch and Club. **Peter Penny** has taken on the position as Branch Welfare Officer and **Sue Gilbert** as Club Secretary. The remainder of the Committee were re-elected for the next year.

Branch Members attended the Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade in London. The Gloucestershire Branch called in for their usual pit stop lunch on their way to London and then, on the way home, for a fish and chip tea, joined by the Bristol Branch before continuing on their way home. On Saturday 4th June we took a full coach of members and friends to the Epsom Derby. The weather again was good and all enjoyed a great day out.

The following Saturday **Bob Fallon** and the Manchester Branch made their annual visit to the club before Grenadier Day, an event we would not wish to cancel. The next morning a full coach of branch and club

members made the short journey to Lille Barracks in Aldershot for Grenadier Day. **Bob and Sue Gilbert** made their own way and erected the gazebo in the drizzling rain, ready to set up the branch stall of 'roll the dice for a bottle of wine', 'trash and treasure' and 'tombola'. It was nice to meet up with old friends, but the weather was awful all day and before the end of the afternoon we had members holding on to the gazebo preventing it from flying away.

We held our Annual Dinner and Dance, in the club, on Saturday 2nd July. Due to the numbers attending we had no marquee and all sat down inside the club to a superb four course meal, provided by the outside caterers, 'Linda's Kitchen', and then enjoyed the remainder of the evening dancing to the disco music. We were privileged, to have as our guest of honour, **Colonel Richard Winstanley OBE**, who updated members and guests on the Regiment. We also had another guest, the new Association General Secretary **Major Andy Green**. We were very pleased to be able to welcome them to our Annual Dinner.

We host the Corps of Drums Association practice several times a year. This is usually on a Sunday. Although we have not held any other major events, the club continues to hold the Friday night Bingo sessions, with a Quiz Night, on the last Wednesday of the month, with a Fish and Chip supper. We also hold monthly Car Boot Sales to help with the running costs of the club premises. The Club is also open Saturday nights 19.30hrs to 23.00hrs and Sunday Lunch times 12.00 to 15.00 hrs. If any members of the association, and their families, are in the area, you are more than welcome to visit the club.

It is with deep regret that we report the sad loss of the following members during the last year: **2616704 Mr R. Sollitt MM, 2615782 Mr R. Hillins and 5734303 Mr P. G. Rowley.**

WOLVERHAMPTON

(Formed 1917)

President: Awaiting Appointment

Vice Presidents: WSI KENYON-SLANEY Esq. OBE, KstJ, DL. S. BENNETT, Esq F WHITE, Esq.

Chairman: Mr L THOMAS.

Secretary: JENNY SNEAD, 92 Van Diemans Road, Wombourne, Wolverhampton WV5 0DE. Tel: (01902 896547).

Email: jenny.snead43@yahoo.com

Meetings: Last Wednesday of each month, at RAFA Club, Goldthorn Road, Penn, Wolverhampton WV2 4PN.

2011 was an active year for the Branch. With deep regret we report the sad loss of our members:

22955211 **Brian Crowther**, associate member **Joe Banks**, and both our President **Major EBM Vaughan ERD**, and his wife **Jean**. **Major Vaughan** enjoyed a distinguished military career and was awarded the American Silver Star for gallantry in action on 2 October 1944. **Major Vaughan** had been our President for 72 years; a true Grenadier. Our Branch provides excellent welfare support to our members through our Welfare Officer **Alan Wilson**, telephoning and visiting members who need our support.



Branch members Alf Simcox, Fred White, Mervyn Rowe and John Symons.

Our 2010 Dinner and Dance was a great success, our guest of honour was **Lt Richard Da Gama** who updated us on the activities of the Battalion. An enjoyable evening was had by all. We had our Annual General Meeting on 23 February 2011 and we were grateful that all the officers of the Branch agreed to continue in post. Our members, with family and friends, meet up for Sunday lunch at The Bell, Trysull, every 3 months, which makes an enjoyable social event. **Mr Kenyon-Slaney** and his wife were able to join us for our Christmas lunch.

Black Sunday was well attended by our members and is a good opportunity for members to meet with old friends. We also had a good trip to the Major General's Review in May, accompanied by members of Wolverhampton Royal Marines Association. Grenadier Day, Lille Barracks – what can we say? A wet and windy day to say the least! Regardless of the weather our stall did very well with the sale of greetings cards handmade by **Mrs Christine Oakes** and her daughter **Barbie**, and fancy goods supplied by **Bob and Ann Stevens**. A team from our Branch entered the Boyton Cup and to their delight they came second.



Jack and Jenny Snead with the Australia Branch Secretary (right) Patrick O'Donoghue.

Jack and Jenny Snead (Branch Secretary) enjoyed a visit to Australia during 2011 and met up with **Patrick O'Donoghue** secretary of our Australian Branch, he was delighted to welcome us and supplied a delicious buffet. Patrick would welcome contact from any ex Grenadiers. Some members attended the Royal event at Royal Wootton Bassett in October and found it a very moving experience. Finally we would like to thank everyone at Regimental Headquarters in London for all their help.

WORCESTER & HEREFORD

(Formed 1923)

President: Capt HL GRAY-CHEAPE JP, DL.

Vice Presidents: Lieutenant Colonel PR HOLCROT OBE; Major DJC DAVENPORT CBE, DL; THE Rt HON LORD SANDYS; Lieutenant Colonel K EDLIN MBE; Colonel LCA RANSON TD; Major RG WOODFIELD MBE; Colonel SIR THOMAS DUNNE KCVO; Lieutenant Colonel TW JALLAND; D SPENCER Esq; GJ ROSE Esq; JA BARTLET Esq; Capt D MORGAN; M BRINTON Esq LD, LT.

Chairman: REG SEALE DL.

Secretary: DALE CARTER, 43 Birmingham Road, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. B61 0DR. Tel (01527) 877749 Mob 07747 0367081

Email: grengdsassworcs@hotmail.com

Treasurer: DC SPENCER.

All of our meetings are held at the Worcester Rugby Club just off junction 6 of the M5 Motorway

commencing at 1930hrs. It is good to report that once again this year we have had a good attendance at each meeting and we look forward to the future with confidence. We welcomed 24164973 **David Williams** a former 1st Battalion (Anti Tank Platoon) LCpl to the Branch this year but sadly we have lost some fine Grenadiers and good friends over the course of the last year; 22545907 **Roger Cleveland** was our Minutes secretary and Coach Master, we lost Roger in late December 2010. The Branch and the Police Association turned out in large numbers for the funeral in Rogers's home town of Evesham. The former LCpl and Worcestershire Constabulary man will be missed by many but always with a smile, he was never anything other than huge fun. 23862946 **Ron Lavender** was a really strong Branch member and died in March 2011, although Ron had been ill for a long time his death was still felt heavily by the Branch. It is a measure of the strength of feeling and respect that the Branch had for Ron that 28 members attended his funeral and gave the former Queen's Company man a good send off.

2624094 **John Daniels** was a veteran of Nijmegen. He had spent his last few years being nursed at the Lawns nursing home in Worcester and our thanks go to the nursing staff that looked after him until his death in April 2011. John's Funeral was attended by the Chairman and Hon Secretary which was appreciated by his family. 22545646 **Fred James** was lost in June 2011 and due to the Branch not learning of his death until the day before his funeral our thanks go to **Tony Willmore**, **Dave Wilks** and **Ken Allen** who quickly organised themselves into a Guard of Honour. Sadly we also lost two of our widows; **Mrs Pullen** and **Mrs Anslow**, we hope they now rest in peace with their Grenadier husbands.

Our Honorary Secretary **Terry Hewlett** stood down at the Branch AGM in February after 11 years' service in that role. The Branch would like to express their thanks to Terry for such a tremendous job done so consistently. The new Honorary Secretary **Dale Carter** is now in post. Unfortunately due to the re-location of Worcester TA Centre, there was no range available for us to use for our Boyton Cup Shoot this year but we are assured that this will take place in April 2012 at the new Centre. The Branch attended Black Sunday at Wellington Barracks in May and as always enjoyed a good turnout and fine parade. Members of the branch attended both the Colonel's Review and the Queens Birthday Parade in June. Also in June a few members managed to attend Grenadier Day at Lille Barracks.

Our Annual Lunch took place on Sunday 18th September at the Chateau Impney Hotel, where we were joined by **2Lt Hamish Hardy** of the Inkerman Company who spoke to us about the buildup training then taking place in the Battalion in readiness for

Afghanistan in 2012. We send him and his fellow Grenadiers all our best wishes and hope they all return safely and are able to tell us of their achievements later this year. We also honoured **David Spencer** our Treasurer for his service to the Branch in this role for 25 years. We are all amazed that David still manages to balance the books but seriously proud of how he has served us.

YORKSHIRE

(Formed 1948)

President: THE LORD HOTHAM DL

Vice Presidents: PHD HIELD Esq; P STANLEY Esq; LR LINFORD Esq; THE MOST HON THE MARQUESS OF ZETLAND; D BURNETTT Esq; Brigadier DJH MADDAN; W WALL Esq.

Chairman: A DANIEL Esq..

Treasurer: W WALL Esq

Secretary: MICHAEL SPENCER, 52 The Grange, Woodham Village, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham. DL5 4SZ, Tel: 01325 321218

Email: michael-spencer2@sky.com

Wow! Another year has absolutely flown by again. The Secretary remembers when he left the Regiment in 1973 and joined his first branch meeting in Leeds in March 1974. Being the youngest member at 23, he brought the average age of the membership down to around 60! Obviously, he was unsure about his future with the Association after that first meeting, as everyone there was recalling their memories of times before he was born. Interesting to start with – but old stories are not enough to keep a young lad interested for long. However, the personalities and hospitality of the members and their ladies, and the friendliness kept him attending. As the years passed he became more and more keen and an enthusiastic member of the branch and what the Association stood for. Yorkshire Branch members – we thank you for your encouragement in those earlier years and your support during the last five years as your proud branch secretary. A message to all serving members too: the Association is a marvellous extension of the comradeship that you will miss when you leave the Regiment. It will help you maintain that family that you will undoubtedly miss on your move into civilian life. Support your local branch – it really is worth it.

The committee has met regularly to steer the branch this year. Our AGM in April was well supported and following the meeting an enjoyable lunch was had. In October the Annual Luncheon was well attended at the Majestic Hotel in Harrogate and it was good to see, once

again, a regular contingent from the Durham branch of the Scots Guards Association. **Lt Adam Wellesley-Wood** from Catterick addressed us with an interesting update on Catterick for our trainee Guardsmen and also what was happening back in the Battalion.

Committee member **John Fear** (despite his obituary noted in the 2011 gazette!) organised a lunch followed by an afternoon of indoor bowls in October. A good time was enjoyed by those attending. Hopefully this will become an annual or more frequent event. November also saw our branch join with the Durham branch of the Scots Guards Association at our annual Ripley Castle Remembrance Day Parade. An excellent three course lunch was enjoyed by all at the Three Horseshoes Inn at Killinghall near Ripley Village.

Sadly we have to report the loss of Branch Vice President **George Lascelles the Right Hon the Earl of Harewood**, 22165211 Alan Wolstenholme, 23509166 **Gordon E Smith**, and **Mrs Ivy Butler** whose daughter **Elaine** and son-in-law **Graham** always support the Branch. Our prayers and thoughts are with their families. On a happier note we welcome 24096270 **Dave Holdsworth** (67-74) of Halifax, **Michael Spencer** of Northumbria and 25091340 **Stephen Hurst** of Mirfield.

May we take the opportunity to thank our branch President **The Lord Hotham**, Chairman **Anthony Daniel**, members of the Committee and those members and their ladies who have been a great support over the last year. Many thanks also to **Trevor Rolfe**, **Andy Green**, **Jay Ellingham** and all staff at RHQ for their great support throughout the year. Good luck to **Trevor and Mary Rolfe** for their retirement in France.

AUSTRALIA

(Formed 1971)

President: ALAN TALMARSH.

Vice Presidents: G. RILEY Esq; E. BADLEY Esq.

Secretary: PATRICK O'DONOOGHUE, 67 Victoria Street, Howlong 2643, New South Wales, Australia.

Email: guardsod17@gmail.com

The past three years have seen our membership decline because of age and members passing on. Most of our members are 80 and above, our President Alan is eighty and the Secretary close to seventy three. There are many members in nursing homes and retirement villages. The Branch was finding it hard to keep our heads above water but with the help of Major Green at Regimental Headquarters we are able to return to serving our members again.

The new ways that you can contact the Secretary are on his mobile 0409 678 652, by land line 02 6024 8147 or via Skype at patrick17463. Anyone without a computer at home can always use their local Library. The Secretary is on call 24/7 so please feel free to contact him or **Alan Talmash** on 03 5682 2180. Our best wishes to all Grenadiers and if you happen to come down under give us a call. We accept snail mail as well.

NORTH AMERICA

(Formed 1972)

President: Major J WHYTE (Queen's Own Rifles of Canada).

Chairman: T WALMESLEY Esq.

Vice Chairman: D MILLS Esq.

Secretary: Mrs E PICKERING, 45466 Thomson Line, Belmont, Ontario. N0L 1B0. CANADA.

Email: rpickering@wwdc.com

Hon Treasurer: P DABBS Esq.

Sgt In Waiting: D MILLS Esq.

hope for a good working relationship with him. As usual thanks are due to **Jay Ellingham** for his efforts and continued contact with Branch Secretaries. A number of our members are on **Jim White's** e-mail list and occasionally we see them in print. Jim is to be commended for what must be a rather onerous task. On behalf of all Grenadiers in North America, best wishes are conveyed to all Guardsmen world-wide.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

President: Brigadier DH FUMBLE-POTTINGSHED-FUMBLE OBE MC.

Chairman: HARRY STEADFAST MM.

Secretary: ALISTAIR CAMERONIAN, 9 Bamboo Terrace, Caicos Island, C15 9XZ.

Email: Turks&urks@assnhq.com.cai.

Meetings: At each Full Moon or whenever hungry.

The Branch continues to flourish, although the past year has again been one of change. In December 2010, our long-time Treasurer and stalwart member 14498928 **Brian Joseph 'Joe' Harding** sadly died. Joe had served as the Treasurer from 1987 until the time of his death. A memorial service was held in London, Ontario in May 2011 and was attended by Guardsmen from all Regiments. The following members have also died within the last twelve months; 22149277 **Colin Cowell**, 2623278 **William H. 'Bill' Parsons**, 2615579 **Ronald Vincent**, 54986889 **John (Jack) A.B. Barnes**, and 2623234 **Quintin Robert Simmons**. We have enrolled one new member, 22955883 **Anthony B. Turney**, plus two members have returned to the Branch, 22545862 **Ray Brown BEM** and 262883 **Pat King**.

At the AGM in May 2011 **Derek Mills** was appointed to the position of Vice-Chairman and **Peter Dabbs** assumed the role of Treasurer. The usual social events have taken place, the Christmas Brunch and the Annual Dinner with members of the Scots Guards. Both are enjoyable occasions but not strictly Grenadier. In September, 2012, the Branch will celebrate its 40th anniversary and it's unlikely that we will be around for many more 'big' ones. The plan, therefore, is to hold a dinner in the Officers Mess at Wolseley Barracks in London, Ontario. We hope to be able to encourage some of our long distance members to attend and possibly to have representation from RHQ so that if necessary we can go out with a bang!

We are pleased to welcome **Major Andrew Green** as the Regimental Treasurer and General Secretary and

A Russian sofa for the baby?

The marriage of Prince William to Catherine Middleton, and their elevation to Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, has put this branch into a tremendous historical frame of mind. So much so that we are tempted to churn out some *proper* history rather than the usual nonsense from our diseased imagination.

Very old members indeed may recall that Russia once had emperors, known as Tsars or Czars (a title now strangely assumed by specialist British government functionaries such as 'drugs tsar'. The last Tsar of Russia was Nicholas II, whose empress was Alexandra. In the Russian Revolution of 1917 they were held prisoner by the Bolsheviks and eventually, with their whole family of four daughters



Stuffing in waiting.

and one son, and a number of their household, slaughtered in a cellar in Ekaterinburg. It was one of the most vivid horror stories of a particularly horrible century.

The Crown Prince or heir to the throne, the Tsarevitch, was Alexis. When he was born Russia was at war with Japan so every member of the Army and navy was made an honorary godfather to him. He was the youngest of the family and a delicate child who suffered from haemophilia. The Imperial Guard, however, determined that he should be a fine, virile soldier and, by way of encouragement, gave him as a christening present a cushion stuffed

with hair from their whiskers. Alas, it failed in its purpose – and the war was lost too.

But what a wonderful idea! And how could Her Majesty's Guards Division do better than to give serious forethought to the expectation of a small Cambridge by laying their plans in a similar direction? And why stop at a cushion? A huge leather sofa, such as is seen in the adverts, would be better still. Every man of the division would resemble a pioneer sergeant and set about growing like mad, in order to achieve a really memorable feat of stuffing. The lady musicians will just have to do their best.

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Gazette 2011 – Who? What? When? Where?

Bottom left: from left to right are Roy Oakes, Keith Pearson, John Evans, Ken Jordan, Bill Short, Fraser Simpson, Don Bourne and Chalky White having enjoyed a spot of map reading at Vogelsang, Germany.

Top right: Sleeping accommodation on the hangar deck of HMS Illustrious in 1950 transporting the Guards Division to Suez. 1st Class and all inclusive but have we got the correct year?

Bottom right: Members of No 3 Company at Kajang, Selangor State, Malaya we believe in 1949. No 7 Platoon with Sgt Ginger Dyer were on detachment to Kachau and other members of the Company were probably out on patrol at the time, but those pictured on the front row are, left to right: Gdsm Smith, LSgt Eddie Harris, Sgt Baker, Major Jock Rowan, Capt Jim Scott, CSM Cole, LCpl Don Nash and Gdsm Hill.

Who? Where? What?



When? Where? What?



ASSOCIATION DIARY OF EVENTS 2012

APR	04	The Guards Chapel – Easter Choral Concert	23	Reading Branch Lunch – Calcot Hotel, Bath Road, Reading
	21	Birthday of Her Majesty The Queen	30	Essex Branch Lunch
	21	Nottingham Branch Dinner	30	Norfolk Branch Lunch
	23	Officers Ladies Lunch (Cavalry and Guards Club)		
	27	RMQDM Dinner (Cavalry and Guards Club)	OCT	Medway Branch Dinner
	27	Sussex Branch Dinner	17	Association Finance and Executive Committee Meeting
	28	Manchester Branch Dinner	27	Wigan & St Helens Branch Dinner – Leigh Miners Welfare Club
	28	Surrey & E. Hants Branch Dinner		
	29	March Branch Lunch	NOV	Sergeants Past & Present Club Dinner
MAY	20	Regimental Remembrance Day	03	
	21	First Guards Club Dinner	08	Field of Remembrance (Westminster)
	22-26	Royal Windsor Tattoo	10	Festival of Remembrance
JUN	02	The Major General's Review	11	Cenotaph Ceremony Parade
	03	Jubilee Pageant	14	Birthday of The Prince of Wales
	05	Jubilee Service at St Pauls	17	Liverpool Branch Dinner
	09	The Colonel's Review		
	10	Birthday of The Duke of Edinburgh	DEC	Wolverhampton Branch Dinner
	13-14	Beating Retreat		
	16	The Queen's Birthday Parade <i>(This year will be Trooped by 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards)</i>		<i>This list covers events which have been notified to the General Secretary prior to publication.</i>
	21	Birthday of Prince William of Wales		<i>If you wish to add an event please email LSgt Ellingham at assnnco@grengds.com</i>
	27	Armed Forces Day Parade, Worcester (Nijmegen Company and the Regimental Band)		
JUL	01	Bath Branch Lunch		
	08	Grenadier Day – Lille Barracks, Aldershot		
	28	Windsor Branch Dinner		
AUG	15	Birthday of The Princess Royal		
SEPT	15	Birthday of Prince Henry of Wales		
	22	Battlefield Tour 'Guardsmen down Peninsular Way' (to 1st Oct)		

2012 Regimental Christmas Card



Available online from October 2012



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