



# The Grenadier Gazette

# 2013

THE REGIMENTAL JOURNAL OF  
THE GRENADIER GUARDS



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## IN MEMORIAM



### Gdsm Michael Roland

Gdsm Michael Roland died on Friday 27th April 2012 as the result of a gun shot wound sustained in Afghanistan whilst serving with the Queen's Company in the Nahr-e-Saraj District, Helmand. He suffered the wounds whilst on a three day operation to push the insurgents away from the city of Gereshk and provide greater safety for the local people.

Born on 5th August 1989 in Worthing, Sussex, Gdsm Roland was a sparky and diligent soldier with a bright future ahead of him. Respected and liked by all, he was a model Grenadier to which all Guardsmen should aspire.

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### Gdsm Jamie Shadrake

Gdsm Jamie Shadrake of the Reconnaissance Platoon, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, died on the 17th of August 2012, of gun shot wounds sustained when his checkpoint was attacked by insurgents in the Nahr-e-Saraj District of Helmand Province.

Gdsm Shadrake was born on the 14th of Aug 1992. He was an impressive soldier with a huge number of friends. Full of energy, enthusiasm and possessing a great sense of humour, he was a key ingredient in his tight knit unit. On the door-step of becoming a JNCO, he was a truly talented soldier with an abundance of passion and ability.

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### Gdsm Karl Whittle

Gdsm Karl Whittle of the Queen's Company, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards died on the 7th of September 2012 in Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, of gun shot wounds sustained when his checkpoint was attacked by insurgents in the Nahr-e-Saraj District of Helmand Province.

Gdsm Whittle was born on the 26th of January 1990. One of the leading lights of his Company, he was compassionate, selfless and, despite his comparative inexperience, a figure others would turn to in the face of adversity. Gdsm Whittle was a soldier whose presence inspired confidence in all who were fortunate enough to know and work with him.

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### LCpl James Ashworth

LCpl James Ashworth died on the 13th of June 2012 as a result of small arms fire and a grenade explosion whilst on a deliberate operation with the Reconnaissance Platoon of 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, in the Nahr-e-Saraj District of Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

Born on the 26th of May 1989 in Corby, Northamptonshire, he died leading his soldiers from the front and showing extraordinary courage against a determined enemy. His utter professionalism under pressure and selfless commitment marked him as an exemplary junior leader.

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### LCpl Duane Groom

LCpl Duane Groom of The Queen's Company, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards was killed in action on the 14th September 2012 by an improvised explosive device in the Nahr-e-Saraj District of Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Deployed on his second tour of Afghanistan he gave his life whilst protecting his Afghan and British colleagues as they extracted from a successful operation.

Born in Suva City, Fiji, on the 7th of April 1980; he joined the British Army in 2007 and quickly established himself as an excellent soldier in every respect. He was tough, keen, and unflappable; always willing to help others, he possessed a great sense of humour and always had a smile on his face.

# Never forgotten



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THE REGIMENTAL JOURNAL OF THE GRENAДИER GUARDS

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Back cover photo: The 1st Battalion in Aldershot courtesy of Tempest Photography.

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The opinions expressed in the articles of this magazine are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy and views, official or otherwise, of the Regiment or the MOD. This publication contains official information. It should be treated with discretion by the recipient.

## Foreword

*by the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel*

What a year 2012 has been. As is well covered within this year's excellent Gazette, the First Battalion completed a long, hard but satisfyingly productive tour of Afghanistan, which saw them back in the Upper Gereshk Valley for between 6 and 9 months, realising a level of Afghan governance and security that was little more than a dream when it operated over the same ground in 2007. The focus of this latest tour (which is probably their last, at least for this campaign...) was the gradual and continued transition of security responsibility to the Afghan forces, and there is a legitimate expectation that the Afghans will be in a position to assume this mantle in Helmand by the end of 2014. The First Battalion has good reason to be proud of a job well done, but I know that Grenadiers far and wide are conscious of the sacrifice that has been made in its fulfilment. Thanks to the work of many, not least that of Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Holcroft, whose selfless efforts were recognised by the appointment of LVO in the New Year's Honours List, the Colonel's Fund is well placed to support Grenadiers and their families in the months and years to come; to that end I would draw your attention to the 'Wellington Barracks to Waterloo' sponsored bicycle ride, which will take place in September and needs your support, whether on or off a bicycle.

Back at home, Nijmegen Company and the Regimental Band have played a central part in Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, and continued to 'show the movement' in one capacity or another throughout the startlingly successful Olympic and Paralympic Games which dominated life in London for the latter part of the summer. Looking forward, the First Battalion resumes the role of State Ceremonial and Public Duties in the summer when, I have no doubt, we will witness a similar display of excellence on the parade ground to that so unequivocally demonstrated in Helmand over three successive tours.

As for the future, a number of Grenadiers and Guardsmen of 'buttons various' have been engaged in the work known as 'Army 2020'. This has involved the development of a plan for the restructuring of the Army within its new all-up strength of 82,000 Regular soldiers and 30,000 reserves. The essence of the plan is a concept for a future integrated Regular/Reserve force designed to fulfil three separate but inter-related functions: first the provision of a contingent capability for defence and deterrence that will enable us to respond to the sort of state-sponsored, hybrid and evolving threat which we

have become familiar with over the last decade; second, a force capable of delivering the sort of overseas engagement and 'capacity building' that our grandfathers would have recognised; and third, a force designed to fulfil the demands of UK engagement, standing commitments (which include Public Duties) and homeland resilience. The concept envisages a structure based on 'Reaction' forces designed to operate at high readiness, and 'Adaptable' forces to meet the challenges of upstream capacity building (which in simple terms means training and supporting armies overseas), follow-on peace-keeping, and national resilience.

The Household Division will play a full part in this new structure and will continue to look much as it does now, with the Household Cavalry Regiment and the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment; the five Regiments of Foot Guards; and three Public Duties Incremental Companies remaining on the Army's order of battle. The Foot Guards will have two battalions and three incremental companies committed to public duties, balanced by three battalions with an operational focus based in barracks to the south west of London. While the detail of the basing plan is still to be announced, the Army Command Group's vision is for the five Foot Guards battalions to rotate through roles and barracks, with the families quartered between them so as to minimise disruption for our families. So we have much to be pleased about, both as a Regiment and as a Division, but we should not under-estimate the pain involved in reducing the Army by 20%, and be quite clear that we will bear the pain of this reduction as much as any other part of the Army, even if structurally we will remain largely unaltered. That pain not withstanding, the model we have been given as part of 'Army 2020' appears to deliver two essential elements which are fundamental to us as Guardsmen: first, our dual role as operational and Household troops is secure. And second, against the odds we have maintained our uniquely homogenous 'blue-red-blue' federation. With all of the above in mind, I judge that we are well set up to develop and adapt into the future, and that the opportunities presented will ensure that the Household Division, in all its guises, remains alongside the very best that the Army has to offer.

Finally, I would not want to miss the opportunity of recording our thanks to Brigadier David Maddan who has done such a sterling job as Regimental Lieutenant Colonel over a period characterised by intense operational commitment and high casualties. It is my enormous pleasure and honour to succeed him as Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, and in that capacity to thank for the first time the Editor of the Gazette and all its contributors for their outstanding work.

## Editorial Notes

### Afghanistan

Another year passes and this journal aims to reflect on all the very considerable achievements of the Regiment, and the 1st Battalion in particular after their last, very successful but exceptionally hard tour of Afghanistan.

Once again, this conflict has demanded hard sacrifice, and it has taken 5 Grenadiers killed in action, as well as a very heavy toll of appalling injuries and battle wounds, 46 cases in all, including permanent blindness and 11 amputations. This journal will always remember that sacrifice, just as the wider Regiment will. For those who are not aware already, the families of all 15 Grenadiers killed in the last 3 tours of Afghanistan have given their blessing to how their sons can be remembered in the commissioning of kneelers for the Guards' Chapel. It is a laudable and important initiative started for the Regiment by Ross Donaldson. And you are encouraged to support it in every way possible so that our fallen can be remembered in a meaningful manner in our spiritual home.

### Centenaries

As 2013 passes without a major centenary for the Regiment, we can look forward to a mini succession of days of remembrance from next year, starting with the First World War (4th August 2014 as the beginning of the conflict), 18 June 2015 as the bicentenary of the Battle of Waterloo (where the Grenadier, Coldstream and Scots Guards will be combining their collective imagination and resources to celebrate such an important historical milestone appropriately), before two additional days of remembrance on 1st July 2016 (100 years from the opening day of the Somme), and 11th November as the



**After 3 tours, the 1st Battalion will leave the security of Afghanistan to its Afghan partners.**

final day of national commemoration of the end of the First War. To preempt the beginning of that war's commemorative programme and for wider interest, a Regimental roll of officers serving in all the Battalions is included at page 39, with an ongoing request for unpublished material should any reader want to share their photographs, letters or any other personal record which may be of interest as the national centenary galvanises both wider interest and commemoration.

For those with a more immediate interest in the Battle of Waterloo, you should be aware that the Regiment is the first to celebrate the bicentenary in its organisation of the fundraising Bicycle Ride, Wellington to Waterloo, running from 23–27 Sep 2013, hoping to raise £1,700 for each of the 300 cyclists participating, to take total contributions to the Colonel's Fund to well over £2m.

### Contributions – your help required

And on the subject of literary rather than financial contributions, we offer our gratitude to those who have stood tall on contributing to this journal. Philip Wright remains an incredibly loyal contributor with a passion for sharing historical and Regimental insights of wider interest, as does Henry Hanning (who we thank expressly for bending his shoulder to the wheel again over such a fascinating subject, while we wish him our very best). Lieutenant Colonel Richard Maundrell, Major Alex Cartwright (his last article before retirement) and Major Jonathan Lindley have all put their shoulders to the wheel too, with fascinating perspectives from Northern Ireland. Capt Richard Da Gama is showing huge promise as a potential editor already by coordinating such an important, large and varied series of contributions from the Battalion. And with so many Grenadiers working in HQ Household

Division in Horse Guards (such a strong combination on Major General, Brigade Major and the Staff Captain), we should be getting plenty of material from the seat of Blue Red Blue power this year when there is so much more at stake for basing and future Army decisions. That said, every single Grenadier, serving or retired, is strongly encouraged to bombard Major Green and myself with material to maintain this journal as an historical, digestible and very readable Regimental record.



**The Commanding Officer's Tactical HQ for this last Afghanistan tour.**

# REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Wellington Barracks, London

During the year, there have been one or two changes in staff: LSgt Damian Bakewell replaced LSgt Chris Green as Regimental Affairs NCO, Mr Tony Johnson replaced Mrs Jill Lindsay as Admin Clerk, Mr Matthew Ellmer replaced Mr Andy Hill as Regimental Casualty Officer, and LSgt Rob Broomes replaced LSgt Jay Ellingham as the Association NCO. We are very grateful for all the help and support that Jay gave and wish him well in the future. Andy Hill did an outstanding job in setting up the job as Regimental Casualty Officer; he has left to fulfill a long-standing ambition to become a policeman in Lincolnshire – STAND BY any Lincolnshire miscreants when the Niffmeister is about!

The year started with a flurry of Royal activity. The Colonel visited the Regimental Band, Regimental Headquarters, and Nijmegen Company last March. He chatted to lots of people and presented a number of awards, including the Meritorious Service Medal to both Capt Ian Farrell and CSgt Matthew Ellmer. After his illness over Christmas, it was wonderful to see The Colonel on excellent form. On the 13th March The Queen and The Colonel attended a small Regimental Lunch Party at the Cavalry and Guards Club; it was a happy event, marked by the presentation to Her Majesty of the Regiment's Diamond Jubilee Present to Her Majesty which was a rug embroidered with the Royal Cypher Reversed and Interlaced in the centre, and with the badges of The Colonel, The Queen's Company, Nijmegen Company and the Inkerman Company in each corner, thereby representing

each Battalion of the Regiment serving during Her reign.

The Regimental 'silly season' came and went without mishap and after the thrills of the Diamond Jubilee and Queen's Birthday Parade, Grenadier Day was well attended. A huge amount of effort is spent organizing Grenadier Day, and we should all be grateful for the hard work of the Regimental Headquarters Team, in particular Major Andy Green, RQMS Johnny Walker and LSgt Jay Ellingham, as well as Major Dave Groom. Summer and early Autumn passed in the grip of Olympic fever and September saw the launch of the First Guards Club Cocktail Party and, unusually, the Queen's Company Dinner; this latter task came about because the Regimental Adjutant realised that it would be impossible for the Captain to organize the dinner from the wastes of Helmand Province, and so 'volunteered for the Guardroom'. It was attended by The Queen and The Colonel, took place in the Cavalry and Guards Club and seemed to be enjoyed by everyone. In the midst of all this social activity, the idea of the Wellington to Waterloo Bike Ride became a project with Charlie Birch Reynardson (who organized 'Betty Blue Eyes' in 2011) at the helm, this time with Major Stephen Dehnel.

The major Regimental Event for 2013 will be the Association Centenary Garden Party in Buckingham Palace Gardens, which will include The Queen's Inspection of The Queen's Company and Her Presentation of new Colours to Nijmegen Company. It promises to be a wonderful Regimental afternoon, for which planning is now starting in earnest.



Top Row Left to Right: LCpl Lee McGovern, Regimental Property and Stores NCO; LSgt Damien Bakewell, Regimental Affairs NCO; Tony Johnson, E1 Admin Clerk Regimental Headquarters; The Regimental Adjutant Major (Retd) GVA Baker. Bottom Row Left to Right: The Regimental Association team, Major (Retd) Andy Green, General Secretary and Treasurer, and LSgt Rob Broomes, Association NCO; Major (Retd) Stephen Dehnel MBE and Charlie Birch Reynardson working on the Wellington to Waterloo bike ride event.

## WO2 (RQMS) Steve Williams



**WO2 RQMS Steve Williams** joined the Regiment, from the Luton area, at the Guards Depot in February 1993, passing out as his Platoon's best recruit. He was posted to No 2 Company, 2nd Battalion in Caterham, under the watchful eye of

Company Sergeant Major Sellors BEM. When the Battalion was placed into suspended animation he joined Nijmegen Company for the next three years, during which time he attended the UKLF Sniper Concentration twice and a Junior Non-Commissioned Officers Cadre at HDPRCC where he was promoted to LCpl and awarded the Sir Eric Penn Award for the top Grenadier student on the course in 1995.

He then joined The Inkerman Company in Pirbright under CSM England and deployed to East Tyrone in 1999 where he was promoted to LSgt. On return and after passing the Guards Depot Potential Instructors Course,

he was posted to ATR Pirbright as a Sect Comd. Two years and two Pacesetting pocket watches later, he returned to The Inkerman Company.

In 2004 he was posted to the Battalion as The Queen's Company Ops Sergeant for the operational tour in Bosnia. On return in 2005, the RQMS successfully attended the RMAS Instructors Cadre, and went to the RMAS as an Instructor in September where under his guidance, his Platoon won the coveted Sovereign's Banner.

Two years later, he joined No 3 Company on Op HERRICK 6 where he was injured as a result of an enemy RPG blast. He was then evacuated to Lille Barracks and was then posted to Nijmegen Company as the CQMS.

In 2009 he was promoted to WO2 and became CSM of The Queen's Company in Wellington Barracks, where his tour of duty included Op HERRICK 11 and the Escort to the Colour for the Queen's Birthday Parade in 2010. In 2011 he handed over as CSM and became the Drill Sergeant and Rear Operations Group Warrant Officer for Op HERRICK 16. He has just assumed the appointment of RQMS RHQ.

RQMS Williams has a son Andrew (12) and is a keen fan of Arsenal FC and participating in Triathlons around the country.

## 24840452 LSgt Jay Ellingham



**Jay Ellingham just prior to joining the Regiment.**

**Jay** enlisted into the Regiment on the 2nd May 1988. Having completed his basic training and passing out from the Guards Depot he stayed on for an additional nine months to complete the Drums Training Course and was then posted to the 2nd Battalion at Caterham.

After joining the Corps of Drums and meeting all the very friendly drummers in the Tally Ho! in Caterham his skills as a drummer began to shine though. He attended his Corporals Course and was promoted to LCpl in 1990. He also deployed to Canada and the USA on exercise during this period and many a KAPE Tour around the UK.

When the 2nd Battalion was placed into suspended animation in 1994 he joined the 1st Battalion in Wellington Barracks. The next 9 years were spent mainly with the Corps of Drums as an SF and Rifle Company Section Commander deploying on overseas exercises and three tours of Northern Ireland, one being a two year tour with the Queen's Company. He also held the local rank of Sgt for two years as Drum Sgt and led the Bands of the Household Division on Guard Mount and The Queen's Birthday Parade.

After 13 years in the Corps of Drums Jay moved across to No 2 Company and as the Admin Sgt for the Company he deployed on a four month tour of the Falkland Islands. Then in October 2003 he received his posting order to Regimental Headquarters as the Association NCO to work alongside the then General Secretary Capt Barry Double who at the time was handing over to Capt Trevor Rolfe. Jay spent the next eight years looking after Sir Trevor's filing and admin!

During those eight years they pulled the Association into the 21st Century with Jay playing a major part in the planning of all Regimental events including the very successful organisation of six Battlefield Tours ranging far and wide from France & Flanders to Nijmegen and latterly to Italy.

As the Association NCO, Jay has been the first point of contact for all Members over a wide and varied range of responsibilities and the General Secretaries he has served have all been well aware of the outstanding contribution he has made to our Association. Safe to say he is very highly regarded by all the staff at RHQ and is owed a great debt of gratitude by all those in our Association who have benefitted from his loyalty and hard work. He left the Regiment on 7th February 2013 and will take up employment as Pte Ellingham with the Military Provost Guard Service (MPGS) in Berkshire from 1st April.

Jay is married to Siobhan (aka Bonnie) and has two children Luke (17) and Jodie (14).

## SERGEANTS' (PAST AND PRESENT) CLUB

*President 2012 – Lt Col (Retd) CE Kitchen MBE*  
*Vice – President 2012 – WO1 (RSM) Snazle G*  
*Hon Secretary – WO2 Walker A*  
*Vice Hon Secretary – LSgt Bakewell*

### **Current Membership**

*Past 533, Serving 192, Honorary 20 – Total 745*

Last year's annual Sergeants' Mess (Past and Present) Club dinner was held on Saturday 3rd November 2012. The Marble Arch Thistle Hotel was again the venue for this fantastic event in the Regimental calendar. In attendance there were 69 serving and past members which represented fantastic support considering the Battalion had just recently returned from Afghanistan. Once again, Regimental Headquarters provided an exceptional service from planning through to execution with WO2 (RQMS) Walker at the helm.

This year's guest of honor was The Major General Commanding the Household Division, Major General GPR Norton CBE. The Major General was on good form all evening and gave an exceptionally stirring speech on his life as a Grenadier, the sterling work and reputation the Battalion was building on operations and a bright look forward for the Regiment. His words were inspirational and moving to both young and old. The Regimental Adjutant kept the club updated on the Battalion's activities of the past 12 months and what was in store for the future. Once again, the Regimental Band played

exceptionally throughout dinner and into the night for everyone's entertainment. The usual faces kept the dance floor occupied until the small hours, rounding off a wonderful and successful evening.

The Annual General Meeting was held prior to the dinner and on completion the President handed over to WO1 (RSM) G Snazle, The Sergeant Major, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards who is to be the President for the following year.

### **The Committee now consists of the following:**

WO1 (RSM) Snazle G	President
Mr P Jupp	Vice President
WO2 (RQMS) Williams S	Hon Secretary and Treasurer
LSgt Bakewell D	Vice Hon Secretary

### **Serving Committee Members:**

WO2 (DSgt) Howlin M	1st Battalion
WO1 (BSM) Wood A	Regimental Band
WO1 (RSM) Pollitt M	ERE
WO2 (CSM) Lawn H	Nijmegen Company

### **Non Serving Committee Members:**

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

The President would like to thank WO2 (RQMS) Walker and his team for their assiduous efforts and attention to detail which all ensured the success of the evening. The 2013 AGM and dinner will be held at the Marble Arch Thistle Hotel, London on Saturday 2nd November 2013.



The Regimental Lieutenant Colonel at the Olympics with Commander Bob Broadhurst QPM, Gold Commander.



## The Colonel's Fund Grenadier Guards



[www.wellington2waterloo.com](http://www.wellington2waterloo.com)

*Once a Grenadier, Always a Grenadier*

## Wellington 2 Waterloo Fundraising Bicycle Ride

The Colonel's Fund Grenadier Guards is undertaking a major fundraising Bicycle Ride - taking 300 cyclists from Wellington Barracks, London to Waterloo, Belgium from 24-27 September 2013.

Taking part is open to all members of the Grenadier family:

**Serving and retired Grenadiers**

**Families** of serving and retired Grenadiers

**Friends** of serving and retired Grenadiers

This will be a true Grenadier Event. It will be unique in our own special way and something you can tell your children and grandchildren about in years to come.

**JOIN US** – don't miss out on this epic event. Bear in mind there are many ways you can get involved;

- Ride a bike
- Get a member of your family to take part
- Get your friends to take part
- Sponsor a rider
- Lend us your own unique skills as part of the support team
- Run your own fundraising events
- Help us get corporate sponsorship

The Bike Ride is made up of many events including:

23 Sept: Fundraising Cocktail Party at The Guildhall, London

24 Sept: Regimental Breakfast / Start at Wellington Barracks, London

24 Sept: Public Band Concerts in Maidstone and Ashford in Kent

25 Sept: Cross Channel Ferry Band Concert

25 Sept: Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate, Ypres

26 Sept: Public Band Concert in Oudenarde

26 Sept: Public Band Concert at Waterloo

Visit [www.wellington2waterloo.com](http://www.wellington2waterloo.com) for all the detail, registration form, training advice, links to social media, fundraising ideas and help. Alternatively you can email: [charliebirchr@wellington2waterloo.com](mailto:charliebirchr@wellington2waterloo.com)

**24th to 27th September 2013**



## THE REGIMENTAL BAND

### Band of the Grenadier Guards in 2012

by *LSgt Chris Spencer*

It has been an extremely exciting and busy year for the Grenadier Guards Band. Our first major engagement, a concert to a capacity audience at the Watford Coliseum, raised money in aid of The Colonels fund, Grenadier Guards. Sponsored by Lord Charles Cecil, the High Sherriff for Hertfordshire, the performance was greeted with critical acclaim. The programme consisted of wind band works both old and new along with a Big Band showcase and solo performances from some of the younger talent in the band.

The summer season started as always with our annual Spring Drills with WO2 (RQMS) Walker from Regimental Headquarters. He put us through our paces on the Drill Square prior to the annual Regimental Adjutant's inspection. During this, we also received a welcome visit from The Colonel. As always, taking a keen interest, Prince Philip commented that the standards of his Regimental Band were still of the highest. During the



The Band leaves Buckingham Palace under the critical eye of past members.



Drum Major Staite putting band members through their paces during the annual Spring Drills.



**Members of the Band, both past and present, enjoying the Band Reunion at Wellington Barracks.**

visit LSgt Joey Smout was presented with his Long Service and Good Conduct medal by the Colonel. Shortly after this we said a sad farewell to Sgt Ian Ballard, LCpl Adrian Snood, LCpl Evatt Gibson and LCpl Erica Whiston. All was not lost however as we also welcomed CSgt Richie Maddox, LSgt Tony Johncock, LCpl James Thompson, LCpl Martin Leach and LCpl Jonathan Lockwood Musn Philippa Matthews.

Following an enjoyable performance at the 2012 BASBWE Conference we began rehearsing for the Queens Birthday Parade and Beating Retreat, though we did manage to fit in our biennial Band Reunion. This began with ex members meeting for Coffee and looking through a selected display of Band archive items. They were then able to see the band Change the Guard at Buckingham Palace before attending an open rehearsal. Lieutenant Colonel Stuart Watts OBE conducted two items, bringing with him inspiration, charisma and enthusiasm. Many of the younger members had not encountered the ex PDOM(A) before and came away truly enthused by his energy.

Principal Clarinettist LSgt Chris Spencer also had the great privilege of sharing the Solo Clarinet stand with his father Tony, a former Solo Clarinettist in the

Grenadiers until 1988. The band practice was truly memorable for all involved and the band sounded on top form. Shortly after the rehearsal everyone moved across the road to the Adam and Eve pub for drinks and food.

The weekend following the reunion saw London take on a party atmosphere as we celebrated The Queens Diamond Jubilee. The fanfare team joined forces with the other Foot Guards and took part in the Diamond Jubilee Concert in support of Robbie Williams's performance. The concert was set around the Victoria Memorial (Birthday Cake) outside the Palace. The team was thrilled to be involved and to have the opportunity to mix with celebrities whilst representing the Household Division and Army Music on a Worldwide Platform, viewed by millions across the world.

Then came the Diamond Jubilee Procession. We marched around London to warm up the crowds before taking our place on the Mall at Marlborough Road. A mixture of traditional marches and pop tunes were performed which truly added to the party atmosphere before the National Anthem, a Royal Salute as Her Majesty the Queen passed us. The atmosphere was electric and was certainly an engagement to remember.

With only a short time to re-group, rehearsals began



An informal gathering and opportunity for the Duke of Edinburgh to meet members of the band, here seen talking to Drum Major Staite.



Capt Smith, the Director of Music, explaining the intricacies of the new marching display.



Musn Smith showing The Colonel his trombone.

for the Queen's Birthday Parade and Beating Retreat on Horse Guards. The Fanfare team was again utilised during Founders Day at The Royal Hospital Chelsea and preparations began for our part in the London 2012 Olympics. In-between playing for events held on the Mall, St James Park and Horse Guards we prepared in secret for our appearance at the Closing Ceremony. It consisted of four bands simulating double sentry drill as seen by the Guardsmen at Buckingham Palace to the music of Madness, Blur and then the Pet Shop Boys. Although only a short appearance, it was an incredible and memorable experience.



The Band taking in the enormity of the crowds whilst accompanying Madness!



LSgt Spencer performing with the Massed Bands during the 2012 Olympics Closing Ceremony.

By mid-August we were all ready to go on our summer leave prior to flying to Canada to play at The Spruce Meadows Masters and to provide musical support to BATUS. As well as our musical duties, the Band was given the opportunity to undertake Adventurous Training, including white water rafting, mountain biking and mountain climbing. All in all, 2012 has been our busiest year for some time and included some of our most memorable engagements. The band now look forward to a slightly less eventful 2013 but with many more challenges ahead.

## Infantry Training Centre

by Capt Christopher Stevenson

As one of the wettest years on records drew to a close, Guards Company took stock of a challenging yet fulfilling year. Whilst the media focus in 2012 was predominantly on the drawdown of combat operations in Afghanistan and the beginnings of the implementation of the Army 2020 structure including merging of Regiments and redundancies, the pace of life at the Infantry Training Centre only seemed to increase. Whilst Guards Training Company did not escape unscathed from the changes one would be hard pressed to observe any ill effects. The Household Division influence within the Infantry Training Centre remains as strong as ever and with an imposing Grenadier presence across ITC and the School of Infantry readers would be right to assume that the future of the Infantry is in very capable hands. Major Ed Paintin with WO2 (CSM) Downes at his side, head an ever increasing contingent of Grenadiers within Guards Training Company. Brigadier David Madden is now well established as the commander of the School of Infantry, Capt Frost SG, WO1 (RSM) Smith GG, WO1 (Sen Drm Maj) Roberts CG, CSgts Bailey GG, Gundall CG, Woodall SG and Fagan IG all continue to ensure that the high standard Drill is maintained at the All Arms Drill Wing and Drumming Wing. LSgts Cahill and Foxcroft GG and McGhauglin SG continue to ensure that all Trainee Guardsmen and permanent staff are fit and able in the Gym. WO1 (RSM) Greison SG, WO2 (DSgt) Roberts SG, WO2 (RQMS) Jewson CG, Sgts Wiles CG and Bunn CG, LSgts Fulton CG, Monstad GG, Green GG, Owen CG, Mitchell CG, Burn CG, Hogan IG and Geoffrey IG all keep a watchful eye on the activities of the line regiments and continue the enduring task of maintaining standards across the Infantry Training Centre.

Having learnt from the mistakes last time large cuts were made to the Armed Forces in 1994, recruiting is being maintained at the same level and in some cases is increasing. This increase of recruits coming through ITC will be particularly noticeable in Guards Company. As the

largest company at the Infantry Training Centre, Guards Company are always at the forefront of the training environment. At present there are 5 Guards platoons in training with a total of 180 Trainee Guardsmen; come April it is expected that there will be 8 platoons running at once, increasing to 10 in May, with the aim of training upwards of 400 new Guardsmen a year. The constant challenge of a training environment is that of reaching the required high numbers of new soldiers whilst also maintaining the highest of standards expected of Guardsmen and the Household Division. That the Company reached 80% of its required pass out numbers of new Guardsmen in 2011–2012 is a credit to all within the Company.



TGdsm Pearson conducting bayonet training.

As the wider Army begins to change and adapt, training methods must adjust and evolve too in order to produce the higher calibre of soldiers that is demanded by 21st Century Warfare. Readers will be well aware of the changes that have taken place to the Combat Infantryman's Course over the past few years in order to ensure that the soldiers that are passed out are of the high quality that is demanded in what is and will continue to be complex warfare situations. Guided by Brigadier Madden's directive

of *Think and Train Beyond Afghanistan*, platoons that formed up from December 12, including Guards 19 Platoon started on the new Combat Infantryman's Course (CIC) 12. This course builds on the continuous improvement theme, ensuring that the training is more progressive and the change from civilian to soldier is less extreme over such a short period of time, thereby hopefully reducing the numbers of wastage or outflow from the courses through injury or voluntary discharge. Within the Infantry Training Centre, it is those who are at the proverbial 'coal face' who have the largest input into the adaptation of the training. Over the past few months members of Guards Company have been heavily involved in this process using their experience of continuously turning out high quality Guardsmen. The freedom and flexibility now afforded to the platoons, particularly those within Guards Company ensure that the training is current as well as demanding and imaginative. This is an environment in which the outstanding Lance Sergeants of the Division and

Regiment thrive and shine above their peers from the rest of the Infantry.

Guards Company continue to employ the Values Based Leadership theory with which to encourage, motivate and lead the recruits through the challenging course. This focuses on the moral component of leadership and fighting power for both the recruit and trainer and it is through this that the great ethos of the Household Division is instilled in the new recruits. Regular visits from the 1st Battalion and Nijmegen Company during the course as well as various Regimental personalities present at pass off parades continue to breed and infuse the feeling of a wider Grenadier family within the Division, thereby greatly aiding our retention. Indeed there have been a few occasions over the past 12 months where a Trainee Guardsman from our esteemed brothers in the Second Regiment of Foot Guards has pulled his feet into CSM Downes' office asked for 'leave to transfer to the Grenadier Guards, Sir, please?' the day before passing out of Catterick! Many Grenadiers will also be pleased to know that there are anecdotal reports from the Coldstream Guards that a few newly arrived Guardsmen have turned up and when asked what their Regimental motto was, had replied: 'Second to One'. Needless to say Regimental rivalry is fierce up here in the North.

With the 10 platoons that form Guards Company



**TGdsm Punter prepared for a tactical exercise, namely digging!**

spread across ITC, it is a challenge for Company Headquarters to keep track of all that goes on in the fast paced world of the ITC. Being such a large part of the establishment has some associated issues which make life a little more colourful for the Company. The platoons are currently divided between Helles Barracks, where the accommodation is excellent, and Wakenshaw block in Vimy Barracks where the quality of the accommodation is left somewhat wanting. With very little monies left in the pot to upgrade the Wakenshaw Block, the section commanders have added their own Regimental touches in an attempt to self improve the facilities. This has mainly entailed a touch up of blue and red paint which has gone some way in covering up the cracks and brightening up the accommodation. However, the 'Room of Blue Red Blue Reflection' is something to behold and the brainchild of Sgt Lloyd who has used it as a means to inspire greatness amongst the Recruits.

The Training and Recruiting world is an ever-evolving beast and with the introduction of the Regimental Incite Course which is due to be run from ATR Pirbright, formerly the old Guards Depot, and ITC Catterick, and the privatisation of Army Recruiting, the future is looking at the very least, interesting. Whatever the future holds, the Company stands prepared and ready to train the next generation of Grenadiers in keeping with the fine traditions of our Regiment.

Despite a high pace of life, there is still time for personal and professional development. LSgt Parker was part of the ITC team that took the slopes of Val D'Isere for 6 weeks of Alpine ski racing over Christmas and New Year and despite suffering a knee injury, still managed to thoroughly enjoy himself. There is a steady stream of Grenadiers undertaking all the requisite courses in preparation for attendance on PSBC, SF Selection and the RMA Sandhurst Instructors cadre. LSgts Bonsell and Jones are currently braving the ravages of the cold winter in Brecon. LSgt Hall is currently doing well on the SF Selection course and Sgt Lloyd has returned enthused and prepared for the RMA Sandhurst selection cadre.

The welcome return of the 1st Battalion in September from Operations has seen a large turn around of Grenadier personnel within the Company. Lt Stevenson and LSgt's Finlan, Langridge, Richards and Thomas have all joined the Company to help shape the future generation of Grenadiers coming through the Infantry Training Centre. Capt Wellesley-Wood and LSgt's Jones 52 and Perry have returned the 1st Battalion, LSgt Mann has moved to Nijmegen Company on promotion and LSgt Swift has called time on his military career to pursue life out of uniform; the Company wishes them all well. We also sadly say goodbye to Trina whom many a Grenadier will remember from their time in Catterick, who has retired after 10 years of loyal service and hard work. Her knowledge and efficiency will be sorely missed but we wish her well in her new job.

# 1st BATTALION

## Battalion News

by *Lieutenant Colonel James Bowder MBE*

The last 12 months have been fascinating, challenging and fulfilling in equal measure. Operation Herrick 16 took the Battalion back to Afghanistan for a third time. It was an unusually long tour – more than eight months for some – but as with Operation Herrick 6 and 11, a great deal was achieved, and the sense of progress was palpable.

The aim of the deployment was to set the Afghan Government and the Afghan National Security Forces, or ANSF, up for medium term success. Or put another way, to give them a good chance of prevailing after the British and US contribution to major combat operations in the South of Afghanistan ceases at the end of 2014. Our judgment was that in our District the medium term interests of the Afghans were best served by handing over responsibility for security of the District from us to them by the end of the tour. By completing this handover in 2012 it would enable the Afghans to get into their stride as the principal security providers in 2013 and 2014 i.e. whilst there are still enough British forces available to get them out of trouble if they stumbled.

In order to hand over the District to the ANSF we needed to increase the will and confidence of the Afghans to a point where they would agree to take it on. Given that the District was the most violent in the whole of Afghanistan, this was no small task. We built the ANSF's confidence by increasing their capacity through mentoring, and by taking the fight to the insurgents in his erstwhile safe havens. This drew the enemy away from the areas that mattered most to the Afghan people and their Government, and that we were due to transfer to the ANSF. Given the marked reduction in violence in these places that our offensive action in depth precipitated, the ANSF gradually agreed to take them on. By the last week of the tour, the whole of the Battlegroup's area of operations had been passed to the Afghans leaving our successors from 40 Commando



**Commanding Officer taking over from the Danish Battle Group.**

Royal Marines to work in the background helping the ANSF to bed-in to their new battlespace.

This success although dramatic, was hard won. The determination and unswerving commitment of every soldier in the Battlegroup was extraordinary. Sadly, we had six men killed, five of them Grenadiers, and many men wounded in action including almost 50 Grenadiers. We continue to work hard with the broader Regiment and Army to ensure that the bereaved families, and the wounded and their families, receive exemplary support not just in the short term, but for the long haul.

We are now into 2013 and have an exciting and varied programme stretching out ahead of us. In late March we leave 12 Mechanised Brigade and re-subordinate to London District. During our period with London District we aim to do public duties and state ceremonial faultlessly and with style, but to remain concurrently tough, fit, no-nonsense soldiers capable of anything. Given the quality of the Guardsmen, the Sergeants' Mess and the Officers within the Battalion, I am confident that we will pull this off.

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## The Queen's Company

by *Lt Freddie Moynan*

The year preceding the tour was filled with exercises ranging from a stint at BATUS in Canada to the obligatory test exercises in Thetford, Salisbury and Wales. Even with such a busy pre-deployment timetable

there were opportunities to relax though with the Company travelling to Bruges en masse two months before the tour. Here we conducted battlefield tours of both Waterloo and Ypres with the guide masterfully retracing the steps that Grenadiers had played in both battles. It was welcome respite after so much training, a highlight being treated to a beer in the morning by the 'Guild of Saint Sebastian' where Capt Wills showed off his indoor archery skills by beating the reigning Guild

champion on his home turf. With the training finished there was time enough for a few weeks with families before the tour began.

The Queen's Company deployed to Afghanistan at the beginning of April 2012 to be based out of Main Operating Base Price and assuming the role of operations Company for the Upper Gereshk Valley. It was an exciting prospect as the tour now promised to be just as challenging but perhaps more varied. The Company was extremely well prepared for such a role with Officers and Guardsmen alike agreeing that the pre-deployment training had been better than on previous tours, as such there was a quiet confidence tempered with a degree of trepidation.



**Alex Budge and the Captain, Piers Ashfield having the customary 'end of Operation cigar'.**

After the short stay in Bastion and a final re-zeroing in Main Operating Base (MOB) Price The Queen's Company turned their minds to the task in hand. The focus for the company in the first three months of the tour would be to conduct the depth battle to the east of the PB Line in The Kakaran Gap and beyond in order that the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) had the space and time to build confidence in their own abilities. To achieve this we actively sought out the Taliban by occupying temporary checkpoints deep in the green zone, aggressively patrolling into insurgent havens, disrupting the resupply network and drawing the Insurgents into fighting on ground of our choosing. The Company planned complex operations in advance and so often had the use of Chinooks for their insertions, granting us the element of surprise. On the occasions that we were not afforded an air insertion we had the opportunity to visit the other companies at their bases on the edge of the green zone: The Inkerman Company in Patrol Base (PB) Clifton and No 2 Company in Forward Operating Base (FOB) Rahim. This was always a welcome opportunity to catch up with friends and a good excuse for the extremely accommodating Pay Sergeants to put on a barbeque for the nomadic company.

The first operation was mounted from PB Clifton and saw perhaps the most sustained and complex attack of the tour in which Gdsm Roland was sadly shot and killed. It was a difficult start to the tour and hit The Queen's Company particularly hard given Gdsm Roland's popularity and standing. The firefight in which Roland was killed revealed a well co-ordinated and aggressive enemy who The Queen's Company would fight regularly over the following six months. Further Operations demonstrated the tactical knowledge of the



**The Queen's Company in Rahim after two weeks in The Green Zone.**

enemy in which co-ordinated and complex attacks were commonplace; their accuracy with grenades fired from under slung Grenade Launchers (UGL) was a hallmark of their modus operandi and resulted in numerous Grenadier casualties throughout the tour. Roland's was the first of three deaths in The Queen's Company. Gdsm Whittle was shot and severely injured whilst defending a temporary checkpoint from an aggressive attack; he died three weeks later after a hard fight against overwhelming injuries. LCpl Groom was killed whilst detached from the Company when his Jackal fighting vehicle was struck by a powerful Improvised Explosive Device (IED) when supporting a Brigade Operation in Pulpazay. The three are sorely missed.

The Queen's Company was fortunate in its position as the Operations Company and throughout the tour the



**Company Sergeant Major, WO2 Martin Howlin.**

spectrum of operations ranged from the 'Find, Feel and Understand' to company-level Strike Operations. The Capt, Major Piers Ashfield, The Second Capt, Capt Ollie Holcroft and Company Sergeant Major Howlin had their work cut out when it came to planning: often with only a two day turn around before mounting another week-long operation in a completely different area. This tempo and variety saw operations in Zumbalay, Yakchal, Pulpazay, the Kakaran Gap, Adin Zai as far

north as Budwan and as far south as Nahr-e-Saraj South once the battle space had merged under 40 Commando command in October. Material success were seen when 250kg of Homemade-Explosives and 17 Pressure Plate IEDs were seized on a short notice operation and a two week operation in Budwan to 'block' the enemy allowed an Afghan National Army Battalion to clear 6km of Green Zone unhindered and allow the establishment of the Adin Zai Checkpoint by No 2 Company in the heart of Taliban-influenced ground.

With the aid of the Fire Support Team headed by Capt Will Bailey of the Royal Artillery the company was able to inflict significant casualties on the Taliban, an F-16 strafing resulted in three enemy KIA and a captured machine gun was perhaps the most memorable of numerous successful strikes throughout Herrick 16. Will Bailey was supported by Sgt Smith of 3 Rifles who proved invaluable for CASEVAC, re-supply and insertion and extraction by air. We were also often assisted by the Danish and their Leopard II Tanks who engaged individual insurgents on many occasions when we were under attack and would rarely miss, even hitting an IED-emplacer in Zumbalay at a range of almost 2km.

Among many of the most memorable moments of the tour was the return from a triumphant two week operation in Budwan where an unnamed platoon had become flea-infested. The return to Price would mean a precautionary period of isolation for the entire company while clothes and equipment were boil-washed and 'flea-bombed'. This gave rise to an impromptu fashion parade as clothes were replaced by black bin liners: Alex Budge, having spent two weeks scaring the enemy with his hair and his David Niven-esque dodgy facial growth rather predictably fashioned a dress out of his bin liner and lit a cigarette: *I feel like Audrey Hepburn from Breakfast at Tiffany's*. Nico Wills also looked good in his sunliner – very tanned and having built himself a sun shelter within his compound his men referred to him as Mr Grylls rather than Mr Wills.

For the officers in MOB Price there were some notable highlights. Sharing a camp with The Light Dragoons and The King's Royal Hussars gave way for an enterprising cavalry Officer to speak to The Cavalry and Guards Club and ask them for a favour. Thus became 'The Cavalry and Guards Club MOB Price' replete with crested t-shirts. May saw the inaugural drinks and nibbles party in The Cavalry and Guards Club Afghanistan which had been built by The Light Dragoons and The King's Royal Hussars in their abundant spare time and a jolly good evening it was too. The outside had Union Flags and the inside was adorned by Country Life 'Babes of The Month', we toasted The Company Commander with non-alcoholic beer and enjoyed Alex Budge's sunburn. It almost felt like home.

After almost seven months in the Upper Gereshk Valley The Queen's Company returned after a hard-fought and successful tour. The culmination of over a year's training



**The Queen's Company swoop on an IED Factory.**

and, for some, perhaps the only time in their careers that they would complete an operational tour, let alone see combat there was a deep sense of achievement for job well done. Despite the keenly felt losses of three men from The Queen's Company and the two Reconnaissance Platoon soldiers who used to be in the company, LCpl Ashworth and Gdsm Shadrake, The Queen's Company achieved a great deal in inhospitable conditions and in the face of a determined and intelligent enemy.

The focus turns now to the bereaved families and those injured and to the future. 2013 will be a busy year with public duties from April onwards and an overseas exercise in Kenya towards the end of the year. In the meantime will be a trip to Val d'Isere where many will ski for the first time and more adventure training throughout the year.



**The Officers of The Queen's Company mid 'de-fleaing'. Audrey Hepburn far right.**



**4 Platoon on an early morning VCP.**

## **No 2 Company**

*by Lt Will Harris*

With an enjoyable Christmas and pre-tour leave complete the soldiers of No 2 Company eagerly awaited their flight to Afghanistan. The previous months had been spent conducting pre-deployment training teaching us all we needed to know, but had also left little doubt in anyone's mind that we were facing a challenging tour in the Upper Gereshk Valley. The Company had been understrength prior to mission specific training but

was bolstered by members of the Territorial Army who rapidly integrated into the team and proved to be valuable assets in the months to come.

After a short stay in Camp Bastion to complete final training, No 2 Company deployed forward to Rahim Kalay where we would spend the next five and a half months. The Company was placed in charge of a large central Company location, Rahim and two smaller check points, Manzira and Rargay. These positions were often held by only a multiple to allow the Company to generate enough fighting power to aggressively patrol into the green zone to prevent the insurgents intimidating the local population. These patrols were normally



**Gdsm Tomkinson sits in contemplation after an operation into the Green Zone.**

accompanied by soldiers from the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF), who occupied a number of local check points and who were ably mentored by Sgt Dacey.

The Company were welcomed by the local community, possibly as the result of the Company Commander, Major Sergeant of the Welsh Guards, who was able to relate to the locals fondness of sheep and provide some truly admirable insight into their care, for which the local community were extremely grateful. It also became quickly apparent that the locals saw our arrival and relative inexperience within the area to exploit our generosity for anything they could get. To counter this,



**LCpl Taylor keeps watch over Mr Garton, Sgt Gunning and the rest of his Platoon.**

the Company quickly began to cultivate local support, Sgt Bennison building a football and cricket pitch and organising sports fixtures with the locals; until one black night the ALP liberated the goal posts to make garden furniture!

During the tour various operations were launched to disrupt the insurgents and allow the ANSF

to build confidence and capability in a more benign environment. This saw No 2 Company pushing deep into insurgent held areas and establishing check point Adinzai only 200 meters from the normal insurgent meeting point. This quickly evoked the response the Company were seeking, drawing large numbers of insurgents onto ground of our choosing and allowing us to prosecute targets whilst providing space to the ANSF. These operations whilst successful were also extremely treacherous, the push into insurgent territory resulted in a greater number of improvised explosive devices being laid to target us and it was with tremendous sadness that we sustained a number of casualties during this time.

Whilst visiting Rahim a number of guests remarked about how well they were hosted on arrival and the exceptional food the lads enjoyed whilst in from the patrols; this was undoubtedly the hard work of PaySgt Brooks and his teams, who work tirelessly throughout the tour. It wasn't long after arrival that a swimming pool was constructed using material liberated from various sources and the company began to enjoy post patrol baths. This was a welcome break from the 50 degree heat of the Afghan summer and although there was a distinct lack of bikini clad ladies, the soldiers managed to find some interesting and diverse ways to enjoy the occasional pool party.

In the first week of September, having handed over Rahim Kalay, No 2 Company was complete in MOB Price with a new role as an Operations Company. The air



**6 Platoon on patrol back after a run in with insurgents.**



**5 Platoon in the downwash back.**



**Illumination goes up in support of Op Qalb 8.**

conditioning was a refreshing change of environment and the boys were able to appreciate luxuries such as ice slushy's and fresh Danish coffee. Before long though the Company was deploying onto Op Qalb 8 and assisting in the clearance of Yakchal. Fighting in the desert was an intense and new experience for us, but again the soldiers of No 2 Company demonstrated their fighting prowess and ability to overcome any adversity. The tour finished with a short and insightful attachment to support the Royal Marines, who whilst extremely hospitable, insisted in growing moustaches and speaking in a completely different language, much to the bewilderment of the men of No 2 Company.

On a damp October evening, No 2 Company rolled through the gates of Lille Barracks to be greeted by family and friends who had patiently waited for their safe return. After a few days back in camp routine the boys were released into the wilds of Britain for some much needed and well deserved post-tour leave.

The Company has much to look forward to on its return to work; No 2 Company will be subject to a major command makeover with the departure of Major Sargent and Company command moving to Major Greaves. Company Sergeant Major Cox will also be leaving us with Pay Sergeant Brooks assuming the mantle on promotion. There is also some great training in the pipeline, a joint live firing exercise alongside the French Army in Otterburn will allow new commanders a good opportunity to get to know there soldiers before the long awaited Company adventurous training in May. The Company has worked tirelessly over the past 12 months demonstrating time and again its professionalism and capability, it is now looking forward to the future and the new challenges of ceremonial duties and setting its normal high standards in every task.



**Platoon commanders Lt Harris and Lt Cartwright with Major Sergeant.**

## The Inkerman Company

by Lt Hamish Hardy

The autumn of 2011 saw The Inkerman Company embark on the mission specific training packages in preparation for deployment. These exercises allowed the company to progress from the basic soldiering skills through to the Afghan-centric components of training, such as counter-IED and partnering of Afghan National security forces. With three healthy platoons, including the newly formed 11 platoon, commanded by Lt Freddie Simpson of the Irish Guards, the Company was able to prepare for our role as a ground holding unit. In addition to the multiple of Irish Guards, the Company also gained a Fire Support Group under the command of Sgt Pancott, who were to be mounted in Jackals for the tour. The training delivered to us by OPTAG was very useful and even gave those who would be deploying to Afghanistan for the third time new things to learn. With the constant evolution in equipment, operating environment and the tactics, techniques and procedures used the Company was still able to deploy earlier than expected in March, happy in the knowledge that we were prepared for the challenges that lay ahead. It is to the credit of the Company Headquarters as well as those individuals responsible for the delivery of training both within and outside the battalion that this was the case.



Supper with the newly formed ALP.

The Company arrived in Camp Bastion to the already intensifying heat. Within two weeks, the company had completed the RSOI training package and arrived at our new home for the next six and a half months – Patrol Base Clifton. Clifton sat overlooking the green zone at the most northern edge of the patrol base line, which lay east of the bustling markets of Gereshk district centre. From here the company was responsible for aiding the 2nd and 3rd Tolays (Companies) of the 3rd Kandak (Battalion) in the defence of the Patrol base line. We took over PB Clifton from Charlie Company of the 1st Battalion, Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment, who had done a brilliant job in subduing the area to the west of the patrol base line. However, the east remained a very highly contested area and so we began patrolling with immediate effect. Our Afghan allies proved to be brave and of huge tactical benefit on patrol. This relationship was eased by the presence of a Grenadier advisory team under Lt Ben Pountain, CSgt Ross MC and Sgt Scott (of the London Regiment). With the advisors assistance the Company was able to really get to understand the dynamics of our allies. This led to a huge increase in both their effectiveness and that of the Company when working alongside them.

The area east of the Patrol Base line was used as the fighting ground for the insurgency and they had heavily seeded the area with IEDs. Despite becoming increasingly efficient and reducing this threat as well as finding the devices, we sadly still began to suffer casualties. However, with both No 2 Company and the Queens Company arriving in April we were able to begin to really put pressure on the insurgency. No 2 Company worked to the east of our area of operations and with the Queens Company often forward mounting to both PB



10PI-LCpl Heaton and local children.



**Major Alkin assumes command of PB Clifton in March.**

Clifton and to PB Rahim, we were able to dominate the ground effectively. This crucially bought the ANSF the breathing space to gain both confidence and security around the PB line. Due to the busy patrol schedule, often staying in the green zone for anything from a night to a couple of weeks, time flew and before we knew it we were handing over security to the ANSF. This presented many of its own challenges, again falling on the shoulders of our tireless advisory team, in consultation with the Company commander, Major Dom Alkin. It felt that no sooner had this process begun that our relief started deploying, in the form of Delta Company of 40 Commando, The Royal Marines. The tour had been an incredibly successful one for The Inkerman Company and had also, due to its non-stop schedule, gone mercifully quickly!

Following our returning to the UK, we were able to look forward to the future. Post tour leave, followed by numerous social events have left us only a little time to begin to plan adventurous training as well as getting back into our normal cycle of ranges, fitness, exercises and courses, all due to start in the New Year. At the end of this busy year, we also say goodbye to many of the key characters who have been such an integral part of the company over the last 12 months. Lt Freddie Simpson

and his multiple returned to The Irish Guards, having proved such fantastic soldiers all the way through their time with the company. Sgt Wiseman has gone back to Support Company to take over the Recce platoon whilst Lt Alex Stonor has moved to London in order to be a platoon Commander at Nijmegen Company. Company Sergeant Major Bryne moves onto become Company Sergeant Major Headquarter Company, with Pay Sgt Roughley, now promoted, taking his place. Capt Tom Hendriksen has been posted to London to take up the post of Assistant Equerry to the Duke of Edinburgh. He has been replaced by Capt Stafford-Allen across from Support Company. Finally Major Dom Alkin is to be replaced by Major Rupert King-Evans as Company Commander, as he moves onto a staff job posting. He has been a brilliant company commander, on tour and in barracks, and will be sorely missed by all. The Inkerman Company moves on, and we look forward, with the new team, to the totally different challenges of 2013.



**LCpl Rowlatt.**



**You can't stop a guardsman ironing.**



Nijmegen Company await the arrival of the Indian Army CGS on Horseguards.

## *by Major James Fox*

2012 always promised to be one of the busiest years in recent memory for Nijmegen Company and on reflection I can confirm it did not disappoint!

We watched with trepidation as the forecast of events filled with commitments to the State Opening of Parliament, Diamond Jubilee Celebrations, Freedom Parades, Olympic commitments, Armed Forces day parades and Festival of Remembrance – to mention a few of the highlights, on top of the routine Public Duties and State Ceremonial tasks which usually keep us busy.

We were ever mindful of our 1st Battalion's deployment on Op HERRICK 16. No one was under any illusion that this was going to be a difficult and hard-fought tour. Crucial to the 1st Battalion's success would be the quick replacement of any battlefield injuries with a fit ready and trained individual who was ready to deploy at a moment's notice. It was with sad but confident prediction that the 1st Battalion would soon run out of their assigned fully manned Platoon who had been set aside as dedicated Battle Field Casualty Replacements (BCRs).

All too quickly our predictions had been proved and the dedicated BCR supply was soon exhausted. As a result Nijmegen Company was to prove critical in providing an arterial flow of much needed manpower in a quick and timely fashion. This kept the 1st Battalion as well manned as could possibly have been expected and left them and us grateful of the huge benefits having an incremental company brings. In total Nijmegen Company sent over 50 individuals to join the 1st Battalion on operations as BCRs over the course of the tour.

Whilst always having half an eye on what the 1st Battalion was doing in theatre, Nijmegen Company had an important role to play representing the Regiment 'on the line' in London. The year started in fine form and 40 members of the Company attended the annual Incremental Company ski trip in Val d'Isere, France. Aside from the skiing the year started slowly with first major event being the freedom of Birmingham on 21st March. Although Regimentally the Grenadiers already have the freedom of the city the freedom was granted by the Mayor to the Foot Guards Regiments. This prompted a large freedom parade with representative detachments

from all five regiments and two bands marching round the city centre after an address at the City Guild Hall.

A couple of weeks' steady routine followed by a week of Easter leave and the Company returned to preparations for the State Opening of Parliament. This coincided with our initial training for the Queen's Birthday Parade. The Company briefly put Birthday Parade training on hold for a second time a couple of weeks later to prepare for its involvement in the Armed Forces Muster on 19th May. This saw every cap badge in the Army and contingents from the Navy and RAF march through Windsor Castle as part of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. It is safe to say that despite the early state of Birthday Parade training the differing standards of drill, turnout and general steadiness on parade from across the different services, and indeed cap badges, was nowhere better observed! The Armed Forces Muster was followed by Black Sunday on 20th May which saw the whole of Nijmegen Company marching which was given extra importance and relevance through the 1st Battalion's deployment.

The Guard Mounts from Horseguards followed in quick succession but once again the Diamond Jubilee Weekend (2–5th June) saw us switching focus from Birthday Parade Training to street lining for Her Majesties' Precession to St Pauls on 5th June with the early morning rehearsal and the day itself straddling the Major General's Review – no mean feat as it was a challenge for the junior elements of the company as maintaining the two ceremonial events in their minds can be difficult! With a last minute change of appointment on the day of Her Majesties' Precession, Capt Stevenson took Major Fox's place on the day as number one half company commander as Major Fox's daughter was born that afternoon!

The Birthday Parade itself on the 16 Jun and this like the preceding reviews went, as ever, like clockwork which

ensured all who took part could enjoy the day as well prepared as they could expect be. It was a fantastic day and Nijmegen 'Trooped' as Number 4 Guard.

After the Birthday Parade the Company left for a much needed week of leave which seemed to be over in a flash. Activities resumed at pace on return and the entire Company attended the Armed Forces Day Parade in



**6PI slightly ahead of 4PI on a gruelling casualty extraction after the coy attack on day nine of Ex GRENADEER STAG.**



**The Company Commander congratulates the Company on the close of a successful and challenging week in Sennybridge.**

Worcester on 27th June. This saw the Company, along with the Regimental Band, exercise their Freedom of the City and march around the town centre. After the parade the Mayor in conjunction with the Worcester Racecourse owners, hosted everyone who participated in the parade, as well as a selection of Association members, to lunch and drinks at the racecourse.

A period of stability finally returned and the company eased itself into a week's leave which coincided with the arrival of the Olympic Torch at the Tower of London. It seemed a good period to get away as we once again drew breath prior to what would be another busy period.

The company returned to work on 31st July as the capital was in the initial grip of Olympic fever. The company had been lucky and had not been drafted into assist in the many security tasks which was so publicly carried out by members of the armed forces. Instead, the three Incremental Companies were tasked with

maintaining the 'Foot Guards presence in London' and in particular on the Forecourt of Buckingham palace. This was easy enough a task but due to the fact all other units had been taken for security roles the burden of Public Duties fell almost solely the three Incremental Companies which made for a pretty busy period.

The Olympics came and went and by late September the company was ready to get out of London and get some much needed 'green soldiering' done. The annual nine day exercise in Sennybridge was exactly what was required to redress the balance of a busy ceremonial



**Nijmegen Company pose with the Winners Shield after their successful defence of Inter Incremental Company Boxing accompanied by Pro Boxer Tim Witherspoon WBA and WBC World Heavyweight Champion.**

town's liberation during WW2.

The final success of the year was the company's triumph at the Inter Incremental Company Boxing Competition which saw Nijmegen Company win resoundingly for a second year running. After the boxing on 10th December the company departed on some early Christmas leave prior to duties over New Year.

The New Year will bring many changes for the company. The Company Commander, Major James Fox Hands over to Major James Young. Major Fox will leave the Army once he has handed over. The Company Sergeant Major, WO2 T Bearder is moving back to the 1st Battalion as one of

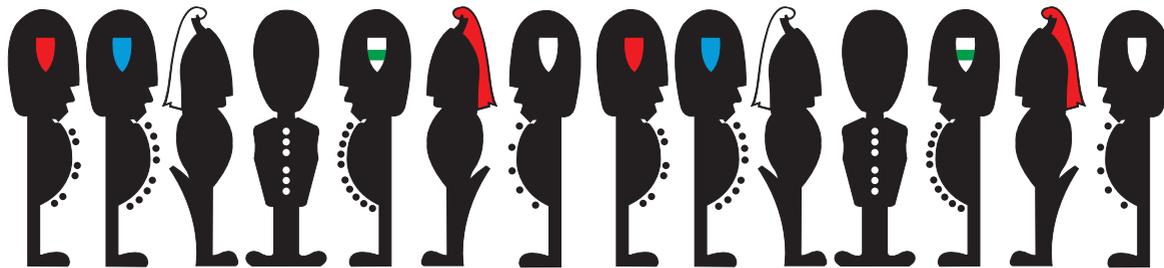
the Drill Sergeants and he hands over to WO2 H Lawn. The Company Quarter Master Sergeant, CSgt J-P Summerscales returns to the 1st Battalion as the Company Sergeant Major Support Company and he hands over to CSgt J Bennett. The company also has a large turnaround at Platoon Commander and Platoon Sergeant level. And the Company says farewell to LSgt Brown after this 22 years' service in the Regiment.

period. The weather was unusually kind for Sennybridge which was ably compensated for by the demanding tempo set by the company Second in Command, Capt Christopher Stevenson. The conventional exercise saw the Platoons tested in Advance to Contacts, Ambushes, Recce Patrols, Observation Patrols and the exercise finished in a large Company level deliberate attack. Needless to say the company returned to London a little weary but glad for the 'run out' and refreshed by the change of scene.

Despite our commitments over what has been an undoubtedly busy period we have worked hard to maintain the crucial work/life balance. The commitment we undertake to show our young soldiers the balance of military life is such that we have still managed to undertake the following: a week's sailing out of Gosport on Gladeye, attendance at the Household Division Regatta, a week's surfing in Newquay a further week's sailing and two separate Platoon level multi-activity weeks in Snowdonia Wales. I am told the most memorable activity was the white water rafting for all the wrong reasons – it was November and December after all! Further to this we honoured our now annual commitment to travel to the French town of Pont-à-Marcq for their liberation celebrations which celebrates the actions of both the 1st and 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards and their part in the



**CSgt Summerscales being presented his Long Service and Good Conduct medal by The Colonel.**



## Horse Guards News

### Army 2020 – The Winter ‘Sitrep’ from the Major General

Those of you who read the Autumn edition of the Guards Magazine may recall that I outlined the Chief of the General Staff’s plans for the restructuring of the Army, and what this meant for the Household Division. Whilst I was able to tell you that the Division would continue to look fundamentally as it does now, the combat roles that our Regiments and battalions would be allocated and where we would be based to carry out these roles, was still to be decided. The mist has lifted a little since then, so I write to tell you of our roles and the broad intent with regards to basing, and where I sense this leaves us.

So what roles has the Army Command Group apportioned to us? For the Household Cavalry, in addition to the ceremonial Mounted Regiment, an Armoured Cavalry role equipped with CVR(T), and subsequently with ‘Scout’ when it comes into service. This places the Household Cavalry Regiment within the Reaction Force, and being Armoured rather than Light, means that it will be sufficiently large in terms of manpower to sustain the Mounted Regiment: good news, therefore.

For the Foot Guards, all 5 battalions will rotate through our allocated operational and ceremonial roles. Operationally we will have one ‘Heavy Protected Mobility’ battalion (equipped with Mastiff) in the Reaction Force; and one ‘Light Protected Mobility’ battalion (equipped with Foxhound) and one Light Role battalion in the Adaptable Force. Fulfilling State Ceremonial and Public Duties we will have two further Light Role battalions serving alongside the 3 Public Duties Incremental Companies in London. As for tour lengths, all 3 light battalions will remain in role for 3 years at a time. The two Protected Mobility battalions will meanwhile remain in role for 6 years in order to ensure that they are truly competitive with their infantry counterparts in the wider Army who don’t rotate roles at all.

Although basing is yet to be confirmed (and won’t

be until March at the earliest), for the Household Division it is potentially more straightforward than for others so I will mention it in general terms. We are hopeful that the Household Cavalry will be confirmed as remaining in Windsor and Knightsbridge. For the Foot Guards, the Army Command Group has stated its intent, subject to Ministerial approval, for our 5 battalions to be based west of London. This will allow many of our families to be based permanently in this area, with all that this entails, and we are seeking now to influence the detail of where Service Families Accommodation will be allocated and exploring the opportunities for longer term stability.

Where does this leave us? There is much to be pleased about, and I judge that this allocation of combat roles will maintain our stake at the top end of the operational output of the Army. The biggest change is that we have been directed to give up the Armoured Infantry role, since it would require permanent basing around Salisbury Plain and is judged to be incompatible with rotation. Whilst this involves our relinquishing an attractive capability, and asking Guardsmen who have invested their careers in that platform to make a big change, I do not believe that it will jeopardise our place at the operational heart of the British Army or undermine our unique ‘offer’.

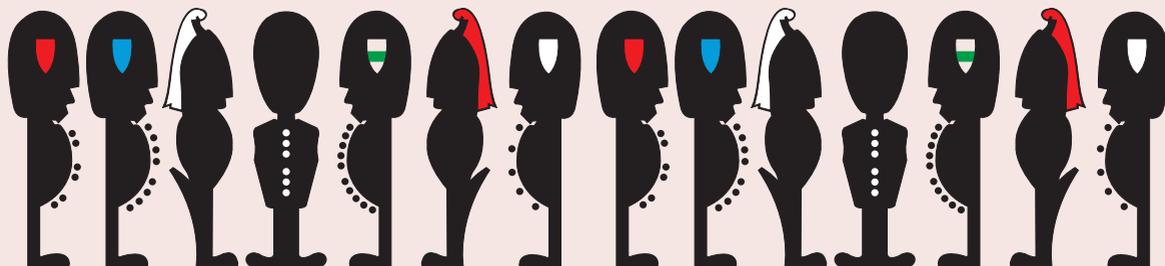
On a separate but related note, I know that some will be concerned that only one of our battalions is planned to sit within the Reaction Force, and that as a consequence we may lack the desired exposure to high quality collective training and readiness to deploy on operations. Whilst I understand the concern, as the A2020 model is developing, it seems decreasingly as if there will be the hard distinction between the Reaction and Adaptable Forces that initially appeared to be the case, but rather that future operational deployments will consist of elements of both. And rather than our Light Protected Mobility battalion being less deployable than the heavier variant, it may

*Septem Juncta in Uno*

well prove to be more so given the lower political and financial thresholds for use. As a consequence we should be pleased, at least for the time being, to have a 'rotational foot' in all camps.

So in sum, while the proof of the pudding will, as always, be in the eating, the model we have been given appears to deliver two essential elements which are fundamental to us as Guardsmen: first, our dual role as

operational and Household troops is secure. And second, against the odds we have maintained our uniquely homogenous 'blue-red-blue' federation. With all of the above in mind, I judge that we are well set up to develop and adapt into the future, and that the opportunities presented within the A2020 model will ensure that the Household Division, in all its guises, remains alongside the very best that the Army has to offer.



*Septem Juncta in Uno*



## The Grenadier Guards Afghanistan Commemorative Kneeler Appeal

To Grenadiers everywhere...

We are asking you all to help us raise funds for fifteen new kneelers for the Guards Chapel to commemorate the Grenadiers who died in the three tours of Afghanistan.

These will be embroidered with the Regimental crest and each one will bear a name. A fitting tribute which will last for many years.

Please send whatever you can, however small, to support this effort.

Please make cheques payable to: "The Treasurer, Household Division Funds: Guards Chapel Trust"  
and send to: The Appeal Co-ordinator. Stubb House, Hickling, Norwich, Norfolk. NR12 0BW  
For online payment options or more information please contact:  
Ross Donaldson t: 01692 598336 e: ross@ross-donaldson.com



## OTC Command CO Queen's UOTC in Belfast

by *Lieutenant Colonel Richard Maundrell*

At a time when some of the talk in military circles is negative or downbeat – with themes of reductions and redundancies – it is great that there are still jobs which are genuinely and simply good fun; being the Commanding Officer of an Officer Training Corps (OTC) is just such an appointment. What a privilege to shape and develop the emerging talent of selected university students and contributes to their development and employability – whether it be inside or outside the Army. Even though the majority of those that join an OTC during their time at university do not go onto join the Army on Graduation; they are all positively influenced and leave well-disposed to support the military – perhaps as the employers of Reservists – something which is going to be increasingly important as we move towards Army 2020.

This role of influence is central and underpins the investment made in the current 19 OTCs across the country. However this contribution of influence is not restricted to those that join; instead there is an increasing requirement on all OTCs to contribute more widely to the universities we serve. Queen's University OTC, based in central Belfast, is uniquely placed in that we are the single unit in Northern Ireland and cater for 40,000 students equally divided between the two universities –



**Queen's UOTC main building in the centre of Belfast with the protected guardroom in the foreground.**

Queen's University Belfast and the University of Ulster.

Many will be aware that the role of OTCs have recently been reviewed and their purpose re-evaluated. The outcome has been some structural changes which will see a number of the current OTCs merge to form single Officer Training Regiments (OTRs). These enlarged training organisations will also subsume the Regional Training Centres, which up to the review conducted the pre-RMAS training of those TA potential officers selected from the ranks of the TA. With this more unified structure all officer training will now be conducted within the OTRs, and for a CO this provides a larger and more demanding command. Included in this rationalisation is the brigading of all OTCs and OTRs under the 2\* command of Commandant RMAS; with the Regional Brigade Commanders providing the local support. To date two of the OTCs have merged in a trial to validate the new OTR concept; with Manchester and Liverpool OTCs merging to form the new Northwest OTR; and Leeds and Sheffield OTCs joining to form the new Yorkshire OTR. Wider implementation for others will follow, perhaps as early as October 2013; but it is not a model that will suit all – and perhaps, for example, isolated OTCs (such as Queen's UOTC in Northern Ireland) will simply merge with our Regional Training Centre, and become a single unit OTR.

Generating 'greater bang of the buck' underpinned the OTC Review, and central to it has been



**Lieutenant Colonel Richard Maundrell receiving the Licence to operate the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award from The Colonel (with Brigadier Rob Thomson, Commander 38 Brigade in attendance).**



**Lieutenant Colonel Richard Maundrell, CO Queen’s UOTC with Major General Tim Evans, Commandant RMAS at the Queen’s UOTC Annual Dinner.**

the requirement to expand the influence piece. Arguably those that join – an average of 200 officer cadets per unit – are largely already ‘influenced’; and it is incumbent on us all to expand our influence to a wider non-OTC student audience. This has been a theme I have been particularly keen to embrace. Buoyed up by the enthusiastic support of the two Vice Chancellors in Northern Ireland – Professor Sir Peter Gregson at Queen’s University Belfast and Professor Richard Barnett at the University of Ulster, we have had the opportunity to deliver some of our leadership training and education within the universities lecture halls, to those who would not normally have exposure to either the military or our approach to developing leadership.



**Major Colin Sykes, Company Commander, gives OCdt Sam Taylor some advice as he leads the platoon attack.**

The Vice Chancellors have been keen to support this initiative because they can see the benefits to the employability of their students; which is increasingly the benchmark of success within the academic community. This has been a particularly enjoyable aspect of my role which has also included my appointment as a Visiting Professor at the University of Ulster – something which is a rather ambitious step from my three ‘C’s at A Level.

The context of Northern Ireland, with its lingering security legacy issues, certainly provide an additional testing dimension. While a constraint at times, it is something that has to be sensitively managed to maintain the safety of our staff and students, while ensuring our training outputs are achieved. While some in the wider community with

whom I engage are inevitably shackled to the past, it is encouraging that an ever increasing majority are looking to the future and are not constrained by previous prejudices. Great potential therefore exists.

While our external influence is increasingly evident – and perhaps even a template to others – it is our contribution to those that join which is our primary focus. For our Officer Cadets, they can complete the Military Leadership Development Programme 1 and 2 over their first two years of service, and this gives them a solid grounding in basic military training. This is delivered during training nights each Wednesday evening during term time and training every other weekend. This culminates with a short concentrated training camp at the end of the Christmas and Easter terms and a longer training camp during the summer vacation. In addition the Officer Cadets have the opportunity to play sport each week, use the onsite gym and undertake adventure training abroad. Recent expeditions have included skiing in France, sailing off the Spanish coast and trekking, canoeing and climbing in Canada. The development of leadership is not restricted to the strictly military context and during the Annual Camp in the summer, a community engagement project is undertaken. Recent examples have included the refurbishment of a parrot sanctuary on an isolated Scottish island and the creation of a community garden in Okehampton. Each recognises that such civilian projects demand similar skills of leadership and they can be developed through a variety of mediums. Importantly, they also help capture the imagination of the Officer Cadets and a sense of fun. Equally, what we offer appeals

to those with a more green focus and they are given similar opportunities to develop. Recent examples include completion of the Belfast Marathon, earning the coveted 'Maroon Beret' through Airbourne Student and successful completion of the Cambrian Patrol competition, which tests the skills of the unit's teams in perhaps the Army's most demanding patrols competition. These range of experiences can build towards a Level 5

Diploma in Leadership from the Institute of Leadership, the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award and the extra-curriculum degree award from their own universities. For all these activities they are paid £45 per day – which in itself is an additional incentive to join.

So, there are many opportunities for all – and it is a tremendous privilege to help our Officer Cadets reach their potential.



**CSgt Hanthorne (PSI) guides OCdt Wharton during a command appointment.**



**Officer Cadets Micheal Bush and Sam Taylor who are both due to embark on the Commissioning Course at RMAS.**

## With the Army in Ireland

by Capt JM Lindley

Before an agreeable but unexpected postings conversation with the Foot Guards Desk Officer, I had never given much thought to Northern Ireland. I was more concerned about my GCSEs than the Good Friday Agreement, and with a career previously split between the 'Foot Guards Corridor' and hot and dusty places, Northern Ireland was not on my radar.

### The Army in Northern Ireland Today

For the British Army Northern Ireland remains a busy place. The province hosts two infantry battalions (Mercians and Rifles) and an Engineer Squadron. Until March 2013 it also hosted a deployable brigade (19 Light Brigade) with associated supporting elements. Although by the time of publication this will be gone, disbanded under the general defence cuts now taking place, the infrastructure remains and the hot money is probably on it being filled by units returning from Germany. Most of these units have deployed personnel to Afghanistan or in support of the Olympics in the past two years. These elements are in the province on the grounds that as Northern Ireland is a 'normal' part of the United Kingdom, it is 'normal' that the Army should maintain a garrison presence.

However, this normality is bounded. 38 (Irish) Brigade and its supporting Air Corps, RMP, Signals et cetera

elements are both regional brigade and 'deployable' brigade. Statements like this are frequently bluster, but 38 (Irish) Brigade can back it up with the C2 and G1 facts that reveal where power and influence lie. The brigade HQ has direct access to Army HQ, bypassing the usual divisional level of command or Support Command for NI issues. It is manned in many ways like a deployed deployable brigade – the full colonel Deputy Commander is the most obvious sign. Finally, by the end of 2014 it is likely to be the only UK brigade conducting sustained operations against an enemy who still retains a lethal intent.

### Working in Ulster

Northern Ireland remains professionally interesting. Northern Ireland counter terrorism is fully integrated into the overarching, cross-departmental CONTEST strategy. Notwithstanding the public disorder surrounding the City Hall flags issue, the record on preventing identified credible terrorist threats from dissident republicans makes counter terrorism in Northern Ireland one of the most successful lines of UK counter terrorism policy.

Furthermore, it is impossible for a Grenadier who feels he has a stake in the regiment to be disinterested in the events that, prior to the Yugoslav Wars, shaped the regiment's and wider army's character and experience. The continual asides, mess conversations or guest speakers were collectively more informative than any formal officer education course I have participated in. Furthermore, with proper security precautions it was



**Londonderry: 'The Bogside, Londonderry – with security precautions'.**

possible to mount a battlefield tour of Ulster, including Londonderry, Operation Motorman and Warren Point. It is easy for we officers of the Afghanistan generation to be dismissive of the Northern Ireland tours vicariously remembered from the latter days of Op Banner. But comparing peak with peak, Northern Ireland employed three times as many British Brigades as Afghanistan and twice as many troops. It included clearance operations in major cities utilising Centurion variant armoured vehicles and naval support, and a degree of political scrutiny that produced some of the longest public enquiries into army actions in British history. Although variable, the threat was real enough to cause 50% more British Army deaths than Afghanistan to date. We may not wish to hear them from hoary OPTAG instructors, but professionally we have a lot to learn from the experience of Op Banner, and the human story of the conflict is as compelling as any.

**Lifestyle**

The province has a lot to offer. Belfast feels like a major, prosperous northern city – a peer of Leeds or Manchester – but with the striking setting of Belfast Lough limiting the urban sprawl, the industrial Victoriana lending a cultural depth and the architectural feel of a capital city. But Northern Ireland remains an overwhelmingly rural society. Access to field sports is plentiful, with snipe particularly strong. The North Antrim Coast, whether for summer surfing or the

atmospherics of a blustery, windswept cliff top castle looking over towards the Campbell Peninsula, was a particular favourite. Another key change over the past 15 years is the ease of access to the south – Dublin is a couple of hours by train, and the west coast is accessible in your own car to an extent that RyanAir from Stanstead cannot replicate.

There are still security constraints on normal social activity and it would be disingenuous or irresponsible not to mention them. West Belfast remains out of bounds, as do a number of other pockets, and one would be ill advised to be too open about the nature of one's employment. A number of businesses are also out of bounds. For families, with wives working for local firms or children at school, this can be somewhat onerous. However, for a single or unaccompanied officer or soldier, these constraints do not bite too deeply – when living in any major city, there are large areas that one has little cause or will to venture into. It is more the stakes, than the constraints, that are higher.

Finally, for those occasions when only the King's Road will do, a posting to Northern Ireland is not the rustication it once was. With BA flying into Heathrow 7 times a day and the relative efficiency of Belfast City Airport it is possible to get back to London on a Friday evening significantly quicker that you can from Catterick. Furthermore, with an entitlement to 12 free return flights per year and a time spent in southern England on duty, there is a fair chance getting back will be cheaper too. The continuing Northern Ireland Residents' Supplement is also a pleasant extra.

Northern Ireland has a lot to offer. It remains professionally interesting, offers a lifestyle that can sit well with London ties, and is more of what makes us what we are as Grenadiers than I appreciated.



**Gaelic Football: 'British Army team enter Irish Services Gaelic Football tournament, Dublin'.**

## Brigade Advisory Group

by *Capt Richard Da Gama*

Operations in Afghanistan have increasingly become focused on the development of the Afghan National Security forces (ANSF). As such the Brigade Commander chose early in mission specific training (MST) to make ANSF development his main effort and to resource this vital area with a select group of Officers and experienced None Commissioned Officers to form the Brigade advisory group (BAG). The Grenadier Guards were requested to provide a strong advisory team headed by Major King-Evans which for the duration of the tour would operate as Advisor 30. Whilst the Grenadier contingent came under the Command of 3 Rifles, we were fortunate to be positioned within Grenadier Guards Battle space, providing us with plenty of friendly faces and ample support whilst we trained the Afghan National Army (ANA).



**Lt Pountain on Patrol with ANA.**

Due to the success of our predecessors we inherited one of the best ANA units within Helmand; as such we were able to focus on enhancing the strategic and long term capabilities of the ANA rather than on low level tactics. To achieve this, Adv 30 split down into two man team with an Officer and Sergeant attached to each Afghan Company and spread across the entire of the Upper Gereshk Valley; including Lt Taylor and LSgt Fiddy being sent to forward operating base Ouellette to assist the Royal Welsh. The necessity of this force lay down meant that Advisors were often expected to operate on their own initiative to drive the mission forward to achieve the Commanding Officers intent.

Over the course of the tour Adv 30 conducted numerous tasks to support and develop the ANA; from

developing new training to planning and executing operations alongside Afghan Warriors. Operationally the ANA developed quickly under their advisors tutorage, gaining confidence with each successful mission. This led to a number of significant first steps over the course of the tour; daily patrols begin to push further afield and ANA reliance upon British soldiers begin to diminish as their Officers felt able to deal with any situation. This in turn led to security in Gereshk being handed across to the ANSF before the end of the tour, a significant step on the path to British withdrawal. In addition four major ANA Brigade planned offensive operations occurred during our tour; planned entirely by Afghan Officers with only limited support of their Advisors. A momentous achievement was the ANA's first night helicopter launched Brigade operation, clearing a key Taliban held village. The development of ANA training packages was equally significant to reducing Afghan dependency. Advisors focused on developing Afghan instructors in a number of areas including weapon systems and countering the improvised explosive device threat. These instructors were supported with training material and post lesson debriefs building their confidence and developing their teaching style before being provided with training certificates. This will allow the ANSF to continue to grow capability after the British withdrawal, allowing a continuation of skills that would otherwise have diminished without British instructors.



**Company Commander, Major King-Evans and Capt Da Gama at lunch.**

Whilst working with the ANA often proved to be challenging it was also tremendously enjoyable and rewarding; the ANA Officers showed quickly upon our arrival that, whilst our cultures were very different, soldiers the world over are very similar. Advisors were regularly invited to dinner by their ANA counterparts and we rapidly discovered the Afghan's have a brilliant sense of humour and a keen interest in the wider world.

The Afghan Warriors also took a keen interest in the Advisors, with highly contested volleyball and football matches solidifying the mutual respect founded in joint patrols and the instruction received from Advisors.

Overall, the tour was a significant success with a huge amount gained by both the ANA and their Advisors, interestingly many of the Advisors have remarked since

our return to the UK that we feel we learnt as much working with the ANA as we were able to teach. Advising was a unique experience and extremely gratifying, it has undoubtedly developed all those within Adv 30 and will provide brilliant memories and a solid set of skills for future military occupation.



The Advisor 30 team.

## Guards Parachute Platoon 2011–2012

*by Capt C A Shephard MC*

The Guards Parachute Platoon continues to operate within B Coy 3 PARA and has had a busy and rewarding year. The Airborne Task Force continues to develop and refine best practice with a real focus on ability to conduct operations with limited support. Much of what we have done this year has purposefully been with solely bergan's to help us best prepare for short notice, overseas deployments to any of the numerous global hotspots covered in the media of late. Several training exercises have been completed covering everything from live company group night attacks, through to deliberate detention operations on disused airfields. Resources and opportunity to conduct activities with a distinctly airborne theme are on the rise and 3 PARA has been a challenging and entertaining place to be around.

B Company was lucky enough to deploy to the Falklands at the height of the Southern Hemisphere



Capt Shephard Recce on Radar Facility.

winter! Once we got our heads around the snow and gale force winds we managed to achieve new training objectives many of us had not touched on before. Mounting joint air and sea-borne patrols was particularly rewarding with HMS Clyde acting at times as our base of operations. Section Commanders were tasked with 5 day patrols across both East and West Falkland to dominate the ground and reassure the local



**Helicopter support onto HMS Clyde.**

On our return we began to focus on the New Year and support to 2 PARA's air borne task force commitment in 2013. Before we could get too carried away with the training bill for this task, 16 Brigade gave B Company an early Christmas present. We were to deploy to Spain to conduct a joint overseas airborne exercise alongside Spanish Paratroopers. The Company participated in a live firing Brigade exercise, parachuted on a joint sortie using a British C-130 *and* managed to see Real Madrid in action! This two-week exercise was thoroughly enjoyed by all and was definitely worth all the effort to get us there.

The future of the Platoon is hopefully more secure than it has been in recent months. Both The

population. This was the first time the Islanders had seen 3 PARA back on the Falklands since the 1982 war and the sections were well looked after (and fed)! The final exercise was especially testing due to the weather and the distances we planned to cover. We launched from HMS Clyde into a 54km march from Port San Carlos waters all the way across to Teal Inlet settlement carrying our kit and equipment. This covered the same route as best we could to that taken by 3 PARA on the way to securing the final objectives in 1982. This was followed by a 15km insertion onto a company night attack across a mountain ridge top similar to that experienced on Mount Longdon all those years ago; it was a fitting end to our deployment to the Falklands. Our presence in Stanley on the 30th Anniversary itself was also very special and there were many other highlights on what was a demanding, but engaging 2 months away.

Major General and Colonel Commandant the Parachute Regiment have signed off the new Guards Parachute Platoon Charter, which should result in more manning moving across to bring the platoon back up to strength. What is now required is for Guardsmen to volunteer to be a part of this unique opportunity that exists within the Household Division and attempt P-Company. With the right preparation the course is achievable and indeed current members of the platoon will do all they can to assist those that are interested in joining. Capt Felix Wright (Welsh Guards) has now taken over as Platoon Commander and is keen to hear from anyone who is interested in joining.



**Members of the Platoon on top of Mount Longdon; Gdsm Ong Coldm Gds, LSgt Hill Gren Gds, Capt Shephard Gren Gds, Gdsm Cooper Coldm Gds & LCpl Majkut Coldm Gds.**



**Major Hargreaves, Capt Shephard and Pte Barrow at the War Memorial.**

## ABF – The Soldiers Charity



by *Capt Richard Da Gama*

Capt Andy Butcher has been working with the ABF for almost 5 years. He became involved after Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter suggested at a First Guards Club dinner that he should get involved with the development committee, a small branch of the organisation tasked with taking the charity forward.

Serving at the time as the recruiting Officer for the Battalion Capt Butcher quickly identified that a close relationship between the Battalion and the ABF could be mutually beneficial. Since then he has assisted in raising an average of £15,000 a year.

This year he intends to do even better! With the help of another late entry Officer Capt Ian Farrell, the aim is to run the London Marathon in April (as a warm up event), before completing three triathlons, culminating with the

London triathlon in September. In between they will be competing in several endurance races just to make sure they don't get bored! This is clearly a huge personal undertaking; they are already training 6 days a week and both are looking leaner and fitter than some of the Officers newly arrived from training.



**Capt Ian Farrell and Capt Andrew Butcher in Afghanistan pre patrol.**

The reason they are committing so much of their personal time is that they feel passionately about raising money for this most noble cause; helping injured soldiers and their families get their lives back on track. They would ask that if you feel inspired by what they are doing then you can follow their progress on twitter, @tri\_grenadier. Equally if you would like to support the fundraising effort you can donate and leave messages of support on 'virgin money giving' entering 'Grenadier' into the sponsor your friend section.

## Exercise Frosted Blade

by *Lt Jamie Garton*

Exercise Frosted Blade is the Infantry Alpine Skiing Championships held annually in the French Alps in which regimental teams from across the Infantry compete. The Grenadier team consisted of Lt Garton, LCpl Kotze, LCpl Mcloughlan, LCpl Pletts, LCpl Lee, Gdsm McMillan, Gdsm King and Gdsm Bestwick, which would allow us to enter two teams of four.

The competition starts with the slower and more technical discipline, slalom; however, as the week progressed we picked up the pace in giant slalom, before culminating in the 'descente,' where the widely spaced gates are placed only to keep you on the piste and where racers regularly exceed 70mph!

As a team we were placed 8th of the 17 Regular Army Battalions in attendance. Within the novice category LCpl Mcloughlan finished first in the giant slalom and descente races and second in the super giant slalom, winning the overall novice competition. LCpl Pletts came first in the slalom and second in the overall competition, and Gdsm McMillan was third in the descente and third overall novice. As the overall winner LCpl Mcloughlan was awarded the Lance Corporal Groom Memorial Champion Novice Trophy; awarded for the first time this year in memory of LCpl Duane Groom who was sadly killed on Operation Herrick 16. It was very fitting that its first victor should be a Grenadier.

On completion of the Infantry Championships, four of the team qualified to compete at Exercise Pipedown, the



**Frosted Blade team 2012.**

Divisional championships, where there was a significant improvement in the standard of competitors. At the end of the completion after stiff competition Lt Garton and LCpl Mcloughlan finished 29th and 35th respectively out of 97 racers which earned them a place in the Army championships.

The Army championships were once again a step up in the standard of racing and the difficulty of the courses. Our mixed Infantry team came 7th, whilst in the individual final ranking Lt Garton finished 54th of 114 racers and LCpl Mcloughlan was placed 64th, a very respectable result; particularly as one of only 14 novices to have qualified for the Army Championships.

The Battalion ski team enjoyed a thoroughly successful season, this year choosing to take the opportunity to introduce new individuals to ski racing. All those involved worked hard and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

## A Tragedy in Tunisia

by Major P A J Wright OBE  
formerly Grenadier Guards



Map of Tunisia showing expedition route 14th-19th June 1943.

3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards sailed from Scotland with 1st Guards Brigade to join First Army in Algiers on 8th November 1942. They crossed into Tunisia and fought their first battles since leaving the beaches of Dunkirk around Medjez el Bab. These were followed by the most violent of their North African battles at Djebel Mansour in February 1943. The Brigade nicknamed 'The Plumbers' were called upon to plug leaks as the Germans attempted to break out from encirclement. They were stopped and pursued over the Kasserine Pass towards Tunis. Complete victory came with the joining up of First Army with



Gdsm Howland, 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards.

Eighth Army and in May, the final battle leading to the fall of Tunis. The Battalion spent June and July at Sousse awaiting orders to embark for Italy. The heat, up to 120 degrees in the shade, was crushing and fortunately they were bivouacked under fig trees close to the sea.

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel A G W Heber Percy, a man of tireless energy and constant inventiveness, organised rest centres and expeditions to give the men relief from camp life. On 14th June, with his orderly Gdsm Howland and driver Gdsm Starling, he organised and personally led an expedition to revisit the battlefields and sights of Tunisia. He was accompanied by Capt A G Way with his driver Gdsm Fox, two more drivers Gdsm Ashford and Preston, an interpreter René Helling 'transferred' from the French Foreign Legion and 13 LSgts. They packed Heber Percy's Humber 'Box' staff car and three 15 cwt trucks with supplies the night before and started early to get as far as possible in the cool of the morning.

Good progress was made and, having reached Kairouan, they pushed on to Fondouk, revisiting the



Commanding Officer's Humber 'Box' staff car.



15 cwt truck with Grenadier officer and driver.

ground which the Battalion had fought over on 19th April. At Sbeitla they watched the Americans repairing the railway bridge and station. Fruit and vegetables were bought at the market and Helling exchanged French notes into Tunisian currency. They visited the magnificent yellow sandstone Roman remains before driving on to reach Kasserine by mid-day. Heber Percy described the events before, during and after the battle before they had lunch in a small French café by the side of the road. It was refreshingly cool and swallows flew in and out nesting in the ceiling.



The yellow sandstone Roman remains at Sbeitla.

On the way to Gafsa they passed the Ferriana oasis with water running either side of the road and fig and olive trees for about a mile. They pushed on at speed along a tarmac road through the debris left from fighting between the Americans and Germans. Having covered 200 miles, the trucks were filled up with petrol and they washed themselves under a pump. The road



An oasis near Tozeur.

deteriorated and it was a relief to reach the Krill oasis with a pool of clear water, palm trees and assorted birds flying about. Half an hour later they arrived at Tozeur and were astonished to find a 50 bedroom hotel 'Transatlantique' with electric lights and hot and cold water in every room. They were the first troops to visit since the end of the campaign and the Controller Civile, in turban, long robe and plus fours greeted

them in the hotel courtyard. They gave their rations to the hotel and dined that night on French cuisine before retiring early.

The following morning, Ashford's truck refused to start but, after a gourmet breakfast, the remainder carried on 100 miles south to El Oued crossing the border into Algeria. Further progress was halted by large sand dunes blown across the track and they returned via Nefta to Tozeur. Reunited with Ashford and having paid the exorbitant hotel bill they headed due east towards Kébili, soon reaching the De Gache oasis. There was a large herd of camels and dromedaries resting under the palm trees and another pool of clear water with small fishes in it. The whole party was refreshed and in excellent spirits.

In holiday mood they turned south east to cross the largest salt lake in the Sahara, Chott Djerid, 60 miles long, dry and shimmering white. The staff car was in the lead travelling at speed when it struck a soft patch of salt. It was extricated and the driver, Starling, assisted by Howland, a good mechanic, decided to check the carburettor which was faulty. Ashford's truck, with four LSgts on board, was also not running properly and he was told to push on slowly following the concrete posts that marked the route. The remainder watched his truck disappear into the distance when a loud explosion was heard and it was seen lifted high in the air before tumbling down.



Chott Djerid the largest salt lake in the Sahara.

When the party got to the scene they were horrified to find Ashford's truck upside down with bodies, clothing and equipment all round it. The horn was still blaring away and it was apparent the truck had struck a mine. Ashford was dead as were LSgts Radley and Williams. LSgt Barker was still alive and tried to rise to his feet, but fell back dead with a broken back. LSgt Rush was hardly breathing and unconscious. He was put in the staff car to be got to the French hospital at Kébili as quickly as possible, with the other two trucks following as best they could.



**Desert debris.**

The onward route became a suspected minefield and the trucks were driven some distance from and parallel to the concrete posts. On the far side of the lake Way spotted a large minefield and it took considerable time to work

around it and erect warning signs for the two following trucks. Kebili was reached at nine o'clock that night and Rush was given morphine by a French doctor. There were no facilities to treat someone with such serious injuries and they were advised to drive on to Gabes, 150 miles away. Nearing El Hamma, they went through the battlefield of the New Zealanders and Afrika Corps. The road was pitted with craters and there were minefields and the twisted wreckage of burnt out tanks and vehicles on either side. Astonishingly they were halted by the Staffordshire Yeomanry doctor, whose car had broken down. He had been sent to photograph the graves of men in his regiment. He treated Rush and gave him another dose of morphine.

Gabes was reached at midnight and Rush was admitted to the Civil Hospital where a French surgeon diagnosed a haemorrhage of the brain with no hope of recovery. Starling discovered a British casualty clearing station nearby and Rush was transferred to it by ambulance. One of the Medical Officers, Capt Schmeldt, had operated on Heber Percy's arm when he was wounded by a mortar shell at Bou Arada. At 1.30am the remaining two trucks arrived and the whole party was fed and given beds. The following morning of 16th June, LSgt Williamson and Preston drove the four dead bodies back to Sousse, and on to Medjez el Bab for burial in the Battalion cemetery.

Heber Percy, known for finishing whatever he started, decided that, as no more could be done for Rush, the expedition should continue. The party visited the Mareth battlefield where 6th Battalion had suffered dreadful losses and went on to Ben Gardane, near

the border with Tripolitania to replenish supplies. The Battalion had previously captured a strong box containing pay for the Italian Army and liras were exchanged for Tunisian currency. They then turned north to visit the island of Djerba. The ferry was a small boat but the owner was prepared to take vehicles perilously balanced on planks. As there was a queue, the trucks were left behind and other vehicles used as transport to the Hotel du Lotus in the capital, Houmt Souk, which was reached in moonlight. Rations were handed over to be cooked with fresh fish and vegetables in the French style.

Two days sightseeing in this peaceful town did much to restore their spirits before returning to Gabes to learn that Rush had died without regaining consciousness. Capt J G C Jameson from his company had collected his body to be buried at Medjez el Bab. On the return journey to Sousse, Fox had his windscreen torn off by a passing American dredger. Had it not been for his skilful driving those sitting behind could have been injured or killed. They arrived back at camp at 8.00pm, having covered a thousand miles. All types of terrain from the richest oases to barren desert had been seen and historic sights and battlefields visited. However, the memory of their five comrades, who were killed when spirits were at their highest, remained uppermost in all their thoughts.

Note: The author is indebted to Mr Jim Howland, formerly Grenadier Guards, for his recollections of the expedition. At the age of 97, still with the upright posture of a Grenadier, he lives on his own maintaining an immaculate house and garden.



**Medjez el Bab War Cemetery.**

# GREAT GRENADIERS

## General Sir Charles Fergusson – scourge of field marshals

by *Henry Hanning*

General Sir Charles Fergusson GCB, GCMG, DSO MVO was reputed to be, in the words of his son Bernard, the fiercest Adjutant and Commanding Officer than even the Grenadiers had ever known. Born in 1865 he rose to be the youngest Major General in the Army by three years. Before then he had served for seven years in the Egyptian Army, commanding a Sudanese battalion at the battle of Omdurman in 1898 and being so severely wounded in a subsequent skirmish that he was actually being buried before a well-timed grunt indicated to his grave-diggers that they were being premature. As a brevet colonel he returned to command a company in the 3rd Battalion before taking over the battalion itself.

In 1912 he went to Ireland to command the 5th Division at the Curragh, a few miles from Dublin. Here he became embroiled in the ‘Curragh incident’ when



Saved from an early grave by a well-timed grunt: Fergusson in around 1926.



Still terrified of Sir Charles Fergusson  
*Patrick McSweeney.*

most of the officers of the cavalry brigade in his command opted to resign their commissions rather than march on ‘loyalists’ who were threatening serious disturbance. Although much of the difficulty was down to misunderstanding Fergusson took a robust line with the cavalrymen and brought the rest of the division on to his side. The matter quietened down but many of the cavalry

arm never forgave him and his eventual prospects were probably damaged.

In 1914 he took his division to war and led it in the retreat from Mons and the battle of Le Cateau. He subsequently commanded with distinction first the 2nd Corps and then, until the end of the war, the 17th Corps. After becoming military governor of Cologne and, in 1921, being promoted to full general, no further post was found for him and he retired. From 1924 to 1930 he was governor general of New Zealand, a post filled by his father before him and to be occupied later by Bernard. He died in 1951 at the age of 86.

Bernard became even more eminent and better known than his father. Commissioned into the Black Watch he had a glittering career in which being Chindit commander in Burma, traveller and author accounted for only part of his diverse activities.<sup>1</sup> In *Travel Warrant* he gave some engaging glimpses of his father:

‘... as for his standards perhaps I can best illustrate them by recalling that when in 1931 I passed out of Sandhurst third out of 150, having originally passed in

second, and thought I had done pretty well, he asked me quite seriously why I had dropped a place.’

‘When I was an instructor at Sandhurst in 1938, one of my brother officers told me that a man called Kew, the Foreman of Indoor Servants, had a tale that would interest me. I got him to come and see me in my quarters, and found him a pleasant, shy, modest man: it was not until afterwards that I discovered that he held the MC, the DCM and the MM. His story was that in 1916, during the war, a man had been left out wounded in no-man’s-land during a night patrol; that next morning he had seen the man’s arm sticking up, and had crawled over the parapet, to find him in a shell crater actually within the German wire, suffering from multiple wounds.’

It was a difficult job to get him out of the wire, but eventually I put him on my back and started back. On my way I heard somebody calling. I looked up and saw someone coming over our parapet with a stretcher and I got the shock of my life when I saw it was General Fergusson. When he reached me, he opened the stretcher and I placed the wounded man on it. I remember telling

<sup>1</sup> Brigadier Bernard Fergusson (1911–1980) later Lord Ballantrae KT, GCMG, GCVO, DSO, OBE.

the General we had better get a move on, because the enemy were sniping us and I was afraid the General would get hit. Anyhow we reached the trench safely. Our doctor was there to attend to him, but unfortunately he died soon after.

‘The foregoing is the account which Kew wrote out at my request, but he omitted one detail. He told me that when he first saw my father he mistook his grey hairs for a white bandage, and was bowled over when he realised who he was.’

‘This story, too, I retailed to my father, half expecting him to deny it . . . He said at once: ‘I remember it well. I remember arriving at a point in that trench, and seeing a lot of people looking through periscopes. They told me that there was a man out there trying to bring in a wounded man, and not a soul was trying to give a hand. It was a disgraceful performance.’ ‘ . . . So much for the tales one often hears: that Generals in the First War never went round their trenches.’

‘Even the greatest wilted at his potential wrath. Lord Chandos in his memoirs described an occasion in 1915 when, as Oliver Lyttelton, he was ADC to Lord Cavan,<sup>2</sup> a former Grenadier commanding a division in my father’s corps. He wrote of my father:

. . . the very image of a Guardsman, tall, good-looking, beautifully turned out, white moustache and a quilt of medals. One day, Sir Charles came into our HQ, and I saw him take the major-general to one side. I could not help hearing that he was taking the general’s name for wearing the gold spurs of a Guardsman. ‘You are no longer a regimental officer, please remember that, Fatty.’<sup>3</sup>

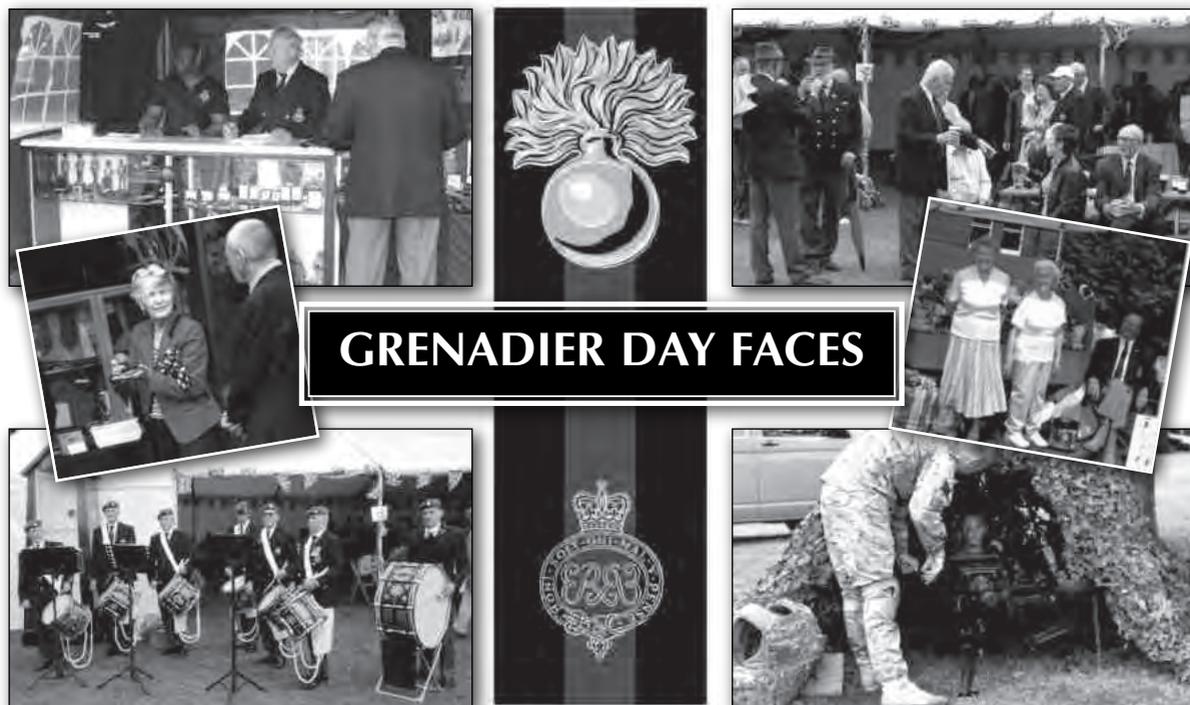
‘Twelve years later, when my father was Governor-General of New Zealand, the Duke and Duchess of York paid a royal visit to that country. Lord Cavan was head of their suite, and among the junior equerries was Tim Nugent of the Irish Guards: one of the best-loved men who ever lived. The day before the party, travelling in HMS *Renown*, was due in that country, Tim had occasion to put his head into Lord Cavan’s cabin, and was horrified to find him polishing his boots.

‘Good heavens, sir!’ he said: ‘you shouldn’t be doing that. Can’t I get hold of your servant?’

‘Now don’t laugh, Tim,’ said Cavan. ‘I know it’s absurd. I know I’m a Field Marshal, and that I’ve been CIGS; but the fact is, I’m still terrified of Sir Charles Fergusson, and I’m not going to entrust my boots to anyone else!’

<sup>2</sup> Later Field Marshal the Earl of Cavan (1865–1946) KP, GCB, GCMG, GCVO, GBE, Chief of the Imperial General Staff 1922–1926

<sup>3</sup> ‘Fatty’, ‘Fat Boy’ and ‘Bulgy’ were nicknames that Grenadiers rejoiced to give three of their most eminent officers, Cavan, Lord Gort and Sir Andrew Thorne. All three were in fact exceptionally fit and active men.



## Grenadier Names from the First World War

Whether or not the Grenadier baton has been passed faithfully between generations to the present day can be seen from the record of serving officers in 1916. You will find several familiar names of interest within the rolls.

If readers do have family records (unpublished diaries

or memoirs) of any of those 1916–17 officers, and would be keen to see them used for academic and research reasons, please do get in touch with either the Editor or the Regimental Archivist, Lieutenant Colonel (Retd) Conway Seymour.

Hugh Sebag-Montefiore (sebags@hsmontefiore.com), who is currently researching the 1916–17 Battle of The Somme and other WW1 battles, would also very much welcome contact from anybody with relatives' records of that era.

### 1 Grenadier Guards

HL Aubrey-Fletcher  
 RF Cavan, Earl of-/S  
 AVL Corry  
 WJ Dashwood  
 WD Drury-Lowe  
 EHJ Duberly  
 RFW Echlin  
 LG Fisher-Rowe  
 CV Fisher-Rowe  
 NAC Flower  
 VCH Gordon-Lennox  
 AC Graham  
 KO'G Harvard  
 L de J Harvard  
 CHC Healy  
 EGL King  
 RD Lawford  
 Llewellyn  
 WH Lovell  
 ME Makgill-Crichton-Maitland  
 GF Pauling  
 PJS Pearson-Greagory  
 BG Samuelson  
 CCT Sharp  
 E Sheppard/Shepherd?  
 EB Shelley  
 LGE Sim  
 PM Spence  
 OF Stein  
 RHPJ Stourton  
 CT Swift  
 AFAN Thorne  
 RP le P Trench (Tench?)  
 ENEM Vaughan  
 HB Vernon

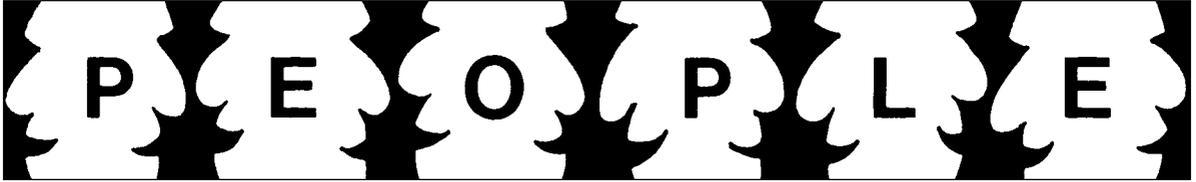
### 2 Grenadier Guards

E Acraman  
 AV Agar-Robartes  
 JA Andrews (medic)  
 GA Arbuthnot  
 J Arbuthnot  
 HL Aubrey-Fletcher  
 Hon WR Bailey

I Barrington White  
 Prince AA Battenburg  
 FG Beaumont-Nesbitt  
 WH Beaumont-Nesbitt  
 RAW Bicknell  
 Ld Fredrick  
 THT Blackwood  
 Ld Basil GT  
 Blackwood  
 FAM Browning  
 JN Buchanan  
 CC Carstairs  
 DW Cassy  
 RHV Cavendish  
 CR Champion de Crespigny  
 G Clive  
 Hon EM Colston  
 TA Combe  
 CE Corkran  
 JC Cornforth  
 WEW Cottle  
 HFC Crookshank  
 CC Cubitt  
 AKS Cuninghame  
 IO Dennistoun  
 WHS Dent  
 WH Diggle  
 WD Drury-Lowe  
 M Earle  
 EC Ellice  
 CEM Ellison  
 EGA Fitzgerald  
 Lord ALC Forbes  
 LC Gascoigne  
 Hon JF Gathorne-Hardy\* /S  
 JV Gort  
 LM Gregson  
 EWM Grigg  
 IFS Gunnis  
 Lord CN Hamilton  
 GC FitzH Harcourt-Vernon  
 KO'G Harrvard  
 D Harvey  
 A Hasler  
 TC Higginson

GE Hope  
 JF Hubbard  
 AF Irvine  
 JH Jacob  
 GD Jeffreys/S  
 N McK Jesper  
 Lord JP Jolcey-Cecil  
 ROK? Kenyon Slaney  
 A de P Kingsmill  
 MA Knatchbull-Hugessen  
 Viscount HGC  
 Lascelles  
 A McW Lawson-Johnston  
 FHG Layland-Barratt  
 Hon PW Legh  
 RD Leigh-Pemberton  
 Sir WPC Lethbridge  
 MKA Lloyd  
 ED Loch  
 MH Macmillan/TM  
 Hon FH Manners  
 TW Minchin  
 RGC Napier  
 CN Newton  
 GGB Nugent  
 REH Oliver  
 T Parker-Jervis  
 Hon WAD Parnell  
 WT Payne-Galwey  
 AH Penfold  
 AH Penn  
 JA Prescott  
 GEC Rasch  
 JS Reeve  
 ATA Ritchie  
 I Rose  
 CS Rowley  
 Hon AVF Russell  
 JWF Selby-Lowndes  
 EW Seymour/S  
 DA Smith  
 EO Stewart  
 EG Stirling  
 J Tabor  
 R Terrell

Hon MHEC		BN	Sergison Brooke	BGH	Maclear
	Towneley Bertie	WA	Stainton	HCS	Maine
GGM	Vereker	Hon RP	Stanhope	C	Mitchell
HD	Vernon	EO	Stewart	JA	Morrison
V	Vivian/S	WA	Stewart	EW	Nairn
CFA	Walker	AFAN	Thorne	CS	Nash
PM	Walker	A	Thorne	Hon FE	Needham
AFR	Wiggins	N	Thornhill	AF	Newey
HM	Wilson	JNL?	Thoseby (medic)	GHT	Paton
R	Windram	M	Thrupp	MHF	Payne-Gallwey
JDC	Witton	PM	Walker	WS	Pilcher
RBB	Wright	GH	Wall	JNF	Pixley
		AO	Whitehead	MH	Ponsonby
<b>3 Grenadier Guards</b>		H St J	Williams	JWF	Selby-Lowndes
Hon AG	Agar-Robartes	R	Wolrige-Gordon	Ld HC	Seymour
F	Anson	JF	Worsley	GE	Shelley
R	Asquith	EG	Worsley	FOS	Sitwell
C?H	Bedford	EHJ	Wynne	GC	Sloane Stanley
GP	Bowes-Lyon	Hon AEF	Yorke	HH	Sloane Stanley
JN	Campbell			LA	Smith
CC	Carstairs	<b>4 Grenadier Guards</b>		EG	Spencer-Churchill
DW	Cassy	LR	Abel Smith	EO	Stewart
W	Champneys	AC	Adams	WAL	Stewart
GM	Cornish		Armagh-Corry	Hon EW	Tennant
JC	Craigie	CE	Benson	RFC	Thomson
CC	Cubitt	JP	Bibby	EH	Tuckwell
JC	Cragie	CL	Blundell-Hollinshead-	HG	Wiggins
M	Duquenoy		Blundell	M	Williams
Hon HE	Eaton	FG	Bonham-Carter		
Hon FOH	Eaton	HJ	Boyton	<b>Staff</b>	
ERM	Fryer	CR	Britten	M	Arnold Foster
CG	Gardiner	JBM	Burke	A	Benyon
CG	Gordon	B	Burman	W	Cohie
GG	Gunnis	M	Chapman	CE	Corkran*
CN	Hague	DO	Constable	W	Cottle
CA	Hall	AR	Ellice	JB	Dollar
FJ	Heasman	R	Farquhar		Gilbert-Hamilton
GFR	Hirst	AC	Flower	Count	Gleichen**/S
L	Holbech	RA	Gault	Prince G	Gmevetiusky
SP	Hope	CG	Goschen	JSSPV	Gort/S
FJVB	Hopley	N	Grellier (med)	HH	Harter
GD	Jackson	CH	Greville	E	Heneage
CF	Johnston	GC	Hamilton	RH	Herman Hodge
AMcW	Lawson-Johnson	Hon AHL	Hardinge	Prince G	Imevetinsky
AT	Logan (med)	BJ	Hubbard	HG	Ruggles-Brise**/S
O	Lyttleton	IH	Ingleby	E	Seymour
AK	Mackenzie	CE	Irby	Hon FC	Stanley/S
ME	Makgill-Crichton-Maitland	JFJ	Joicey-Cecil	PK	Stephenson
WWSC	Neville	CG	Keith	GF	Trotter
WG	Orriss	RYT	Kendall	ACC?	Williams
W	Parker	RS	Lambert	JDC	Wilton
RW	Parker	BC	Layton		Wyndham
AH	Penfold	RGH	Leveson-Gower		
GEC	Rasch		Llewellyn		
I St C	Rose	E	Ludlow		



## WHERE ARE THEY THIS YEAR?

*by Major Alex Cartwright  
Grenadier Guards*

The customary update on who is doing what and where must begin with the news that the Grenadiers continue to reign in the Army Personnel Centre, Glasgow. By the time you read this **Major Alex Cartwright** will be well on the transitional route to civilian strasse and **Major Dom Alkin** will have his grip firmly on the career management tombola.

Having juggled Army 2020, the Queen's Jubilee and the Olympics **Major General George Norton** hands over the reins GOC London District in July when he moves to Milan as Deputy Commander of the NATO Rapid Deployment Corps (Italy). **Brigadier David Maddan** keeps men half his age on their toes in the hills of Brecon as the Commandant of the School of Infantry. **Colonel Russell-Parsons** goes back to school at the NATO Defence College while **Colonel Roly Walker** keeps the home fires (and staff officers' keyboards) burning as COS HQ 3 Div. We bid a fond farewell to **Colonel Richard Winstanley** who moves from Colonel Infantry to 1 UK Civ Div.

**Lieutenant Colonel James Bowder** remains at the helm of the 1st Battalion with **Lieutenant Colonel Chips Broughton** waiting in the wings to take over. Our Lieutenant Colonels have done well on the travel front with **Lieutenant Colonel Andrew James** shortly handing over Colonel Foot Guards to become the DA in Vienna, **Lieutenant Colonel Guy Denison-Smith** is in New York working with the United Nations and a prime performance at French Staff College sees **Lieutenant Colonel Martin David** rewarded with a newly established post in Paris. So there is your incentive to be a Lieutenant Colonel... Vienna, New York or Paris, not bad. **Lieutenant Colonel Richard Maundrell** recently handed over the enviable task of commanding the Queen's Belfast University Officer Training Corps to instruct on ACSC while **Lieutenant Colonel Jerry Levine** tackles a post with a long title worthy of an Olympic tongue-twister in the Info Capability Directorate. **Lieutenant Colonel Simon Soskin** is the Brigade Major with **Capt Paddy Russell** as the Staff Capt.

**Major Rich Green** shortly hangs up his MoD MA spurs to take over as Senior Major with **Major Dave**

**Kenny** Royal Irish heading off on promotion. **Major Piers Ashfield** continues to be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Monarch's Mob and **Major James Greaves** commands No 2 Company after deploying his fresh USA Staff College wisdom with the Battalion in Afghanistan. **Major Chris Sergeant** WG says farewell to No 2 Company before heading to Sandhurst as Academy Adjutant. **Major Edward Paintin** sends a steady stream of trained Guardsmen as the Company Commander Guards Training Company, replacing **Major Simon Gordon Lennox** who is being injected with wisdom at the Defence Academy. He is in the good company of **Major Ben Jesty** and **Major James Shaw**. The Captain Platoon Commander with the Guards Training Company is **Capt James Brown** who said farewell to **Capt Adam Wellesley-Wood** who heads south to take over as the Mortar Officer, with the secondary responsibility of Officers' Mess stilton. In the world of staff **Major James Green** is an SO2 G3 at 3 Div and **Major Andy Seddon** works at DCI(A).

Returning to regimental duty **Major Rupert King-Evans** commands Support Company and **Major James Fox** recently handed over Nijmegen Company to **Major James Young**. **Capt Andrew Tiernan** enjoyed a busy tour in Afghanistan while **Capt Rupert Stevens** and **Capt Howard Cordle** have handed over their adjutant duties, the former moving into the Ops Directorate and the latter helping out with the Olympics, ably in tandem with **Capt William Harries**. **Capt Nigel Torp-Petersen** has also handed over Adjutant of the London Regiment, shortly heading to Afghanistan to exchange the G1 for the G3. He may well bump into **Capt Falorin Kuku** who has passed the London luxuries of being ADC to the Major General to **Capt Johnny Hathaway-White** and taken on the gritty hardships of staffing infantry doctrine in Afghanistan. He could be well advised to swop notes with **Capt Jonathan Lindley** who is working on future plans for developing the Afghan Forces.

**Capt Neil Strachan** is the keystone of battalion planning as the Operations Officer with fellow G3 warriors **Capt James Taylor** heading the Sniper Platoon, **Capt Michael Dobbin** the master of 'recce pull' and **Capt James Stafford Allen** commanding the Anti-Tank Platoon. It is reported the 'anti-tankers' fire missiles that cost as much as a family car. As a tax payer I am glad to report that they hit first time... mostly. The deployment of such a valuable asset is heavily influenced by the crystal ball assessments of the Intelligence Officer **Capt Alexander Bayliss** with any firer who misses

being dealt with by the Adjutant **Capt Paddy Rice**. **Capt Richard Da Gama** is the Training Officer, **Capt Oliver Holcroft** is The Second Captain and **Capt Craig Shephard** claims he lends Grenadier grace and sophistication to 3 PARA while commanding the Footguards Parachute Platoon. The Temporary Equerry to The Colonel is **Capt Tom Hendriksen**.

While writing another book, supporting Tottenham Hotspur and being promoted, **Lieutenant Colonel Skid Dorney** has found the time to run the Army Recovery Capability. Having warmed up as the Quartermaster

**Major Vince Gaunt** is the SO2 G4 at HQ LONDIST, soon to be overseeing the logistical wizardry of the Quartermaster **Major Gordon Gask** with **Capt Stumpy Keeley** as the Technical Quartermaster and **Capt Andrew Butcher** as the Transport Officer. **Major Dave Groom** commands Headquarter Company and **Major Vern Overton** commands a company at the Army Foundation College. The mantle of Welfare Officer has passed to **Capt Steven Munro** with **Capt Ian Farrell** mastering the career planning spread-sheets of the Regimental Career Management Officer.

## Lieutenant Colonel The Hon Charles Broughton MBE



**Lieutenant Colonel The Hon Charles Broughton MBE** was commissioned into The Grenadier Guards in 1996. He served two years in Ballykinler, Northern Ireland with No 2 Company before

being posted to ITC Catterick as a Platoon Command instructor. In 1999, he returned to the 1st Battalion as the Reconnaissance Platoon Commander during the Battalions tenure in 12 Mechanised Brigade.

From 2001–2005 he served at ERE in Iraq and Afghanistan, and again at ERE between 2009–2011 focussing more specifically on Afghanistan. He is currently working at MOD A Block. The intervening period was spent at Staff College, 16 Air Assault Brigade and a one year return to the 1st Battalion as Company Commander of The Inkerman Company in 2008.

He is married to Mem (Nicola) and has three daughters. He is a skiing and field sport enthusiast.

## WO2 RQMS (M) Matthew Boak



Originally from Oldham area in Greater Manchester, Warrant Officer Class Two RQMS (M) **Matthew Boak** joined as Junior Leader in 1989. After passing out from the Guards Depot he was posted to the 2nd Battalion based in

Caterham in 1990, joining No 2 Company as part of 4 Platoon where he spent the first 4 years of his career.

In 1991 he joined a multiple of Grenadiers attached to the Coldstream Guards, for a tour of South Armagh, spending 7 months in Forkhill. On returning from this

successful tour and having gained a new air of confidence he quickly demonstrated the potential for promotion. After many pre-cadres, under the watch full eye of CSM Sellers BEM, he was selected for the Battalion drill phase and following its completion sent down to Pibrigh for the tactics course.

Achieving a strong pass in both he was promoted to LCpl and immediately given command of a section within No 2 Company. It was during this time that the 2nd Battalion was placed in suspended animation and despite feeling the loss keenly LCpl Boak, as he was at the time, had the singular honour of being the last escort to the Colour for the 2nd Battalion and the first for Nijmegen Company. In 1998 he was posted to The Inkerman Company and having attended both section commanders battle course and Jungle warfare instructor's course was sent on an instructional detachment as a LSgt. During this time he was responsible for training soldiers in the art of jungle warfare in both Belize and Jamaica before being posted to the infantry training centre Catterick (ITC). After 2

years as a Section Commander at Guards Company ITC he successfully completed Platoon Sergeants battle course, returning to ITC as a Platoon Sgt.

Following his return to the 1st Battalion, The Inkerman Company were deployed to Bosnia, under the watchful eye of the late Sergeant Major Daz Chant. In 2005 following in the footsteps of many other distinguished Grenadiers Sgt Boak was posted to The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst as a CSgt instructor. With the Battalion deploying on Herrick 6, CSgt Boak was recalled from Sandhurst to assume the role of Platoon Sgt with No 3 Company, however quickly distinguishing himself, CSgt Boak was asked to cover as CSgt for The Queens Company and did a short spell as the Company Quartermaster Sergeant for the Brigade Recce Force. On return to the UK having demonstrated his ability he completed a quick stint

in The Inkerman Company Pay Sgt, including a deployment to the Falkland Islands, before promotion to Company Sergeant Major No 2 Company for Herrick 11.

Following a successful tour and a dazzling display of style and panache during the 1st Battalion's Trooping of the Colour, Company Sergeant Major Boak returned to Sandhurst inspiring the next generation of young officers. On returning to the Battalion in 2012 he was appointed Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant (RQMS) where he continues to serve.

RQMS Boak has two children Josh (17) and Cerys (12). He enjoys watching most sport, but particularly motorsport, playing cricket and throwing golf clubs around. His passion is his Ducati motorbike, but he says that he only gets the chance to ride it when the sky is completely clear.

## WO2 RQMS (T) Robin Day



**Robin Day** is originally from Essex; he joined the Regiment as a Junior Gdsm in 1988 at the Guards Depot Pirbright. On passing out of training he was posted to the 2nd Battalion in Caterham, Surrey. Having spent a very short period in No 1

Company he then moved to the Mortar Platoon within Support Company, where he spent the majority of his career serving. In early 1991 he promoted to LCpl spending the next three years with the 2nd Battalion on tours and training exercises around the world including Kenya, Canada, America, the Falkland Islands and Botswana.

After the amalgamation of the 1st and 2nd Battalions the now RQMS(T) volunteered to join the Irish Guards on a East Tyrone tour in 1995. After a successful tour as a team Commander he rejoined the 1st Battalion as a LSgt and multiple commander within Support Company in time for a two year tour of Ballykinler. On the Battalion's return to Pirbright he remained within Support Company, spending nearly a year seconded to BATUS, Canada, before volunteering for a second six month tour of East Tyrone in 1999 as Multiple Commander.

The Battalion returned to the United Kingdom and the move to Windsor for public duties saw LSgt Day promoted to Gold Sergeant and deployed to Belfast with Support Company on Op Faction in 2001 as the tower commander in Woodbourne OP. In 2004 after a long spell of public duties Sgt Day deployed on Op Telic 4 with the Household Cavalry Regiment as Multiple Commander and Intelligence Senior NCO, before rejoining the Battalion in Windsor just in time to deploy to Bosnia for a 6 months at the LOTT House in Bosanska Gradiska and the following rapid deployment to Iraq on Op Telic 8. During this operational tour Sgt Day was promoted to CSgt and following the Battalion's return to the UK left Support Company after 17 years to take over as CQMS of The Inkerman Company for Pre deployment training and Op Herrick 6.

After nearly two years as CQMS of the Inkerman Company, he was feeling withdrawal symptoms from Support Company and in 2006 managed to move back, this time originally as the CSM and eventually leading the Mortar Platoon during the build up and deployment onto Herrick 11. On returning to the UK after the tour and the return to public duties he was appointed Drill Sergeant, before in 2011 being appointed Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant Technical and deployed on Op Herrick 16 for the 9 month tour in NES (N) in the Joint Operations Cell in Camp Bastion.

As a RQMS (T) who has never been posted at ERE, he states that he 'enjoys the Battalion life very much' with ten operational tours under his belt with over seven year's operational experience to look back on.

He is a keen clay pigeon shooting enthusiast, enjoys keeping fit and a keen lover of motorbike and motor sports.

## Sgt Chris Gully (Pioneer Sgt)



Originally from the small town of Ivybridge in South Devon. **Sgt Chris Gully** joined the Army in September 1998. He began with phase one training in ATR Pirbright, followed by phase two training at ITC Catterick where he

completed the Combat Infantrymen Course. He passed out of training in June 1999 and joined Nijmegen Company as based at Victoria Barracks in Windsor.

In September 1999 he joined the Inkerman Company, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards on their 6 month tour of Northern Ireland. On return to Pirbright, Gdsm Gully performed several public duties and completed his class 3 PTI course. This meant a change of role and move into Headquarter Company working in the gymnasium.

In 2000 the Battalion moved to Victoria Barracks in Windsor where Gdsm Gully completed his Cpl Course successfully following which LCpl Gully went on to do his class 2 PTI.

In 2001 LCpl Gully did a six week tour of Batus Canada, where he spent his time at Trails End Camp working as an Adventurous Training Instructor. In 2003

he completed an eight week tour of Kenya, leading adventurous training.

In 2004, he was promoted to LSgt and posted to ITC Catterick as a PTI for Guards Company, where he successfully trained a number of platoons to go and join the Regiment. Due to the local surroundings LSgt Gully was able to continue with his Adventurous Training qualifications and obtained his JSRCI.

On return to Battalion in 2007, LSgt Gully was posted back to the Inkerman Company, where he went on to successfully complete Section Commanders Battle Course on the completion of which he joined the Inkerman Company on Op Herrick 6 as a section commander.

On return from tour, he went on to successfully complete Platoon Sergeants Battle Course, where he attained an instructor recommendation. Rejoining the Battalion on their move to Wellington Barracks in the middle of 2008, he was promoted to Sgt and shortly after deployed for 8 weeks to exercise Grand Prix in Kenya. On return from Kenya he was cross posted to Nijmegen Company where he conducted public duties.

In 2011 Sgt Gully returned to Battalion where he took up the appointment of Admin Sgt for Headquarter Company, shortly before the Company deployed on Op Herrick 16. Following a successful tour Sgt Gully took up the appointment of the Pioneer Sergeant, where, much to his peers' disbelief he has succeeded in growing a most flourishing beard.

Sgt Gully's main interests are rugby and shooting along with his family, his wife Heather, and their three children, Hannah 13, Adam 9 and Rhys 4.

## Sgt Joe Tack



Originally from Northamptonshire, **Sgt Joe Tack** joined the Regiment as a recruit in Oct 1991. After passing out of the Guards Depot he was sent to No 3 Company, 1st Battalion based in Wellington Barracks. After a busy period of Public

Duties he was posted with the Battalion to Forkill, South Armagh, Northern Ireland for a six month tour in 1993. After a successful tour he was posted to the Signals Platoon where he became a class 1 Signaller. He spent the next 4 years as a Guardsmen within the Signals Platoon which included exercise Grand Prix in Kenya in 1995 where he was attached to Support Company at Archers Post.

He married his wife Claire in on 17th June 1995, the same day as the Queens Birthday Parade that year but was given leave by the Commanding Officer and as such was excused the necessity to assist with street lining. In 1996 he was posted with the Battalion back to Northern Ireland for a two year tour in Ballykinler, the first year spent in the Operations Room in the Signals Platoon with the second year joining the MT Platoon.

Having successfully completing his JNCO Cadre he was promoted to LCpl in 1998 and was given the job as Details NCO within the MT. During his time in the MT he was deployed again with the Battalion to Dungannon Northern Ireland, on Exercise in America and Canada where he was promoted to LSgt.

LSgt Tack then enjoyed a short period of non Public Duties in Pirbright and was posted to Nijmegen Company in 2001 to run the MT, a role he enjoyed so much that he stayed for another four years before being posted to Regiment Headquarters in 2005 as the Regimental Affairs NCO. Whilst at RHQ he helped organise the Regiments 350th Events in 2006 as well as organising the First Guards Club Dinners, Sergeants'

Past and Present Club Dinners, memorial services for the likes of Lord Litchfield and Lord Hussey to name a few with obvious Royalty attending both. He was also involved in the planning for HRH the Princess of Wales' Memorial Service held at the Guards chapel.

In 2009 LSgt Tack was posted back to the 1st Battalion as the MT Sgt, having just found his feet he was made Acting Gold Sergeant and deployed on EX Grand Prix Kenya and Op Herrick 11. After a successful tour of Afghan he was promoted to substantive rank in 2010.

Having got the MT Platoon through a busy and demanding period, Sgt Tack decided to have a complete change of direction and was given the role as the Medical Sergeant in May 2011. A Battalion Staff appointment, so far during his time with the Medical Centre Sgt Tack has completed his Regiment Combat Medical Technicians Class 2 course as well as his Battlefield Advanced Trauma Life Support Course, a course not normally undertaken by newly qualified Class 2 medics and passed with flying

colours in true Grenadier fashion.

On returning from his stint on courses Sgt Tack along with the RMO Major Kara Watters trained and successfully took the Battalion's medic's on Role 1 Validation and achieved the highest pass mark in 12 Bde, a fact that Sgt Tack likes to make known to all the other unit's Medical Sergeants. During our recent tour on OP Herrick 16 Sgt Tack was based in MOB Price where he ran the medical trauma facility mainly dealing with the Casevac of Afghan Security Forces as well as local civilians and the occasional ISAF soldier to the Role 3 Hospital in Camp Bastion. Sgt Tack has two boys Christian aged 9 and Kaidan aged 6 and lives in Bexleyheath, Kent. He has completed 2 London Marathons the last one being in 2008 where he raised money for the Colonels Fund. Although he likes a steady jog he has now decided to take up road cycling as it is easier on his knackered knee joints.

## Master Tailor LSgt David Kidd



**Master Tailor Kidd** originally hails from St Mary, Jamaica. Enlisted in the Army in June 2002 from his home of Birmingham, in the following year he completed the six months Combat Infantryman's Course at the Infantry Training Centre in North

Yorkshire. After passing out of training on the 19th May 2003, he joined the 2nd Battalion's Nijmegen Company based in Wellington Barracks, London. During this period he was swiftly thrown onto the line conducting ceremonial and barrack duties and day-to-day exercises locally and in Kenya.

After spending 8 months in Nijmegen Company he joined the First Battalion based in Windsor in the summer of 2004. Upon arrival he was posted immediately into Headquarter Company where he worked as a Regimental Tailor in the Quartermaster's Department.

With a great deal of experience in tailoring from his civilian life, he achieved his All Arms Tailor Basic and Advance Tailoring Course with in the same year. Throughout this period the Battalion had completed pre-deployment training for a six month tour of Bosnia.

Unfortunately due to his tailoring courses he was unable to deploy. However, the then Quarter Master Sergeant, WO2 Hammond, seeing his disappointment at not deploying with the Battalion offered to take his mind off the problem and promptly set him to the task of completing the Battalion's medals ready for their return.

Following the tour to Bosnia, the Battalion rapidly deployed on a four month tour in Iraq in 2006. During this tour LSgt Kidd was attached to the Corps of Drums Platoon where he acquitted himself well. On return from tour he was selected to attend the Cpl's course following which he was promoted to LCpl in December 2006.

The 1st Battalion were now a part of 12 Mechanised Brigade who deployed to Afghanistan in the middle of March 2007. A select group of regular and TA were brought together for the tour to form Somme Company, during the tour this group were required to conduct both routine and more difficult tasks such as mentoring the Afghan Police and conducting hearts and mind operations with the local population.

After these two successful tours he was promoted to the rank of LSgt in the summer of July 2009, only just in time to get his mess dress ready for the Sgts' Mess winter ball. With the move to No 2 Dress and the Queens Jubilee Medal requiring attention LSgt Kidd was unable to deploy on Herrick 16. However, his constant hard work and ruthless efficiency in ensuring the Battalion was constantly immaculate on parade earned him the promotion to Master Stitch in November 2012. The return to the public duties has seen his department as busy as ever, with his team working relentlessly to ensure the Battalion is once again immaculate on parade.

# The FIRST or GRENADIER REGIMENT of FOOT GUARDS

at December 2012

*Tangier 1680; Namur 1695; Gibraltar 1704-5; Blenheim; Ramillies; Oudenarde; Malplaquet; Dettingen; Lincelles; Egmont-op-Zee; Corunna; Barrosa; Nive; Peninsula; Waterloo; Alma; Inkerman; Sevastopol; Tel-el-Kebir; Egypt 1882; Suakin 1885; Khartoum; Modder River; South Africa 1889-1902; Marne 1914; Aisne 1914; Ypres 1914, 1917; Loos; Somme 1916, 1918; Cambrai 1917, 1918; Arras 1918; Hazebrouck; Hindenburg Line; France and Flanders 1914-1918; Dunkirk 1940; Mareth; Medjez Plain; Salerno; Monte Camino; Anzio; Mont Pincon; Gothic Line; Nijmegen; Rhine; Gulf 1991.*

## Colonel in Chief

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

## Colonel

FIELD MARSHAL HRH THE PRINCE PHILIP DUKE OF EDINBURGH  
KG KT OM GBE QSO AC

Regimental Lieutenant Colonel Major General GPR Norton CBE

Regimental Adjutant

Assistant Equerry

Director of Music

Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant

Regimental Treasurer and General Secretary Grenadier Guards Association

Honorary Regimental Archivists

Major GVA Baker

Capt TR Hendriksen

Capt M Smith

WOII (RQMS) A Walker

Major (QM) AJ Green

Lt Col CJE Seymour LVO

Major PAJ Wright OBE

## 15th Company

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

### REGIMENTAL

#### HEADQUARTERS

WO2 (RQMS) A Walker  
LSgt D Bakewell  
LSgt R Broomes  
Gdsm R Armour

#### REGIMENTAL STORES

LCpl L McGovern

### REGIMENTAL

#### RECRUITING TEAM

Capt A Butcher  
LSgt G Nicholson  
LCpl J McCormack  
Gdsm Avery  
Gdsm Viggers

#### REGIMENTAL BAND

Capt (DOM) M Smith  
WO1 (BM) N Skipper  
WO1 (SBSM) A Wood  
CSgt D Buckles  
CSgt R Maddocks  
Sgt J Pickin  
Sgt R Plampin  
Sgt R Plant  
LSgt M Altree  
LSgt N Bowen  
LSgt J Burton

LSgt L Henaghan  
LSgt A Johncock  
LSgt N Penny  
LSgt J Smout  
LSgt J Thomson  
LCpl A Bradford  
LCpl S Hall  
LCpl A Houldsworth  
LCpl J Langford  
LCpl M Leach  
LCpl J Lockwood  
LCpl A Shellard  
LCpl C Smith  
Mun S Aldridge  
Mun M Andersson  
Mun A Armstrong  
Mun L Barrigan  
Mun B Beavis  
Mun H Clvering  
Mun P Cowley  
Mun T Greenhalf  
Mun B Hull  
Mun L Narhkom  
Mun D Nixon  
Mun P Matthews  
Mun J McElroy  
Mun S Peachy  
Mun A Russell  
Mun I Shepherd  
Mun D Venter

### The Regimental Trustees

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## 14th Company

INFANTRY TRAINING CENTRE CATTERICK

### The 2nd Infantry Training Battalion, Guards Training Company

Maj J Paintin  
OC Gds Coy ITC Catterick  
Lt JD Brown  
PI Comd ITC Catterick  
CJD Stevens  
PL Comd ITC Catterick  
WO2 P Downes  
2 ITB CQMS  
CSgt C Gillies  
CQMS Guards Company  
Sgt S Cathcart  
PLT Sgt ITC Catterick  
Sgt M Loyyd  
PLT Sgt ITC Catterick  
LSgt L Finlan  
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick  
LSgt M Hall  
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick

LSgt P Laird  
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick  
D Landridge  
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick  
LSgt J Parker  
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick  
LSgt K Richards  
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick

### The Infantry Training Centre

LSgt H Foxcroft  
PTI ITC Catterick  
LSgt L Foulton  
ITC RMA

### The Army School of Ceremonial

WO1 M Smith  
All Arms Drill Wing

### The Regimental Council

HRH The Colonel  
Regimental Lieutenant Colonel  
President, Grenadier Guards Association  
Representative of the Regimental Trustees  
Commanding Officer 1st Battalion  
Officer Commanding Nijmegen Company  
Chairman, The Colonels Fund Committee  
Editor, The Grenadier Gazette  
Regimental Archivist  
Regimental Adjutant (Director of Welfare)

# 1st Battalion

## BATTALION HQ

Lt Col JMH Bowder MBE  
 Maj D Kenny  
 Maj JENB Shaw  
 Capt R Da-Gamma  
 Capt IM Farrell  
 Capt P Rice  
 Capt G Scott  
 Capt N Strachan  
 Capt J Young  
 WO1 G Snazle  
 WO2 M Cox  
 WO2 M Howlin  
 WO2 Z Withers  
 Sgt J Thompson  
 LSgt C Fiddy  
 LSgt D Lyons

## CORPS OF DRUMS

Dmaj JD Bennett  
 LSgt C Rodda  
 LSgt DP Thomas  
 LSgt G Thomas  
 LCpl J Moore  
 LCpl S Wells  
 Lcpl N Wintle  
 Dmr K Barker  
 Dmr M Beasley  
 Dmr A Bone  
 Dmr A Brown  
 Dmr Z Biddulph  
 Dmr J Childs  
 Dmr A Corbett  
 Dmr D Durie  
 Dmr J Edwards  
 Dmr P Ellis  
 Dmr M Hadfield  
 Dmr J King  
 Dmr R Martindale  
 Dmr M Paget  
 Dmr J Ramsbottom  
 Dmr S Rose  
 Dmr L Seer'Boylan  
 Dmr D Silverman  
 Dmr P Skellern  
 Dmr G Smith  
 Dmr J Walker

## THE QUEEN'S COMPANY

Maj P Ashfield  
 Capt O Holdcroft  
 Lt A Budge  
 Lt M Dobson  
 Lt F Moynan  
 WO2 G Davis  
 CSgt J Burns  
 Sgt R Archer  
 Sgt J Donovan  
 Sgt A O'Brien  
 Sgt C Shadrake  
 LSgt A Bush  
 LSgt A Finlan  
 LSgt B Middleton  
 LSgt M Mooney  
 LSgt D Tucker  
 LSgt M Wilson  
 LCpl N Atang'a  
 LCpl S Beekman  
 LCpl J Bronsdon  
 LCpl D Clarke  
 LCpl L Davis  
 LCpl L Dawson  
 LCpl J Dean  
 LCpl J Dexter

LCpl G Francis  
 LCpl S Galvin  
 LCpl A Hendy  
 LCpl M Jallow  
 LCpl C Kotze  
 LCpl O Lee  
 LCpl D Meyers  
 LCpl A Pugh  
 LCpl J Read  
 LCpl T Reuben  
 LCpl S Templeton  
 Gdsm D Adams  
 Gdsm S Bah  
 Gdsm T Battisson  
 Gdsm J Boardman  
 Gdsm M Bradford  
 Gdsm J Catling  
 Gdsm M Ceesay JNR  
 Gdsm G Churchill  
 Gdsm A Clark  
 Gdsm A Cooper  
 Gdsm S Emmett  
 Gdsm R Froggatt  
 Gdsm A Gallagher  
 Gdsm D Gomez  
 Gdsm N Hands  
 Gdsm J Johnson  
 Gdsm C Keay  
 Gdsm H Kendall  
 Gdsm M Knott  
 Gdsm J Lloyd  
 Gdsm C McKrall  
 Gdsm S McMillan  
 Gdsm J Milburn  
 Gdsm L Mitchell  
 Gdsm P Moss  
 Gdsm N Ngwenya  
 Gdsm T Smith  
 Gdsm J Sutherland  
 Gdsm A Sylva  
 Gdsm S Taylor  
 Gdsm N Tuft  
 Gdsm K Wakeling  
 Gdsm J Warner  
 Gdsm A Wates  
 Gdsm T Yearley

## NO2 COMPANY

Maj J Greaves  
 Lt W Harris  
 Lt H Cartwright  
 Lt A Garton  
 WO2 S Brooks  
 CSgt G Owen  
 Sgt D Bennison  
 Sgt B Gunning  
 Sgt D Oliver  
 LSgt A Davis  
 LSgt J Perriera  
 LSgt L Shields  
 LSgt JR Tracey  
 LCpl M Baker  
 LCpl J Dicastiglone  
 LCpl S Franklin  
 LCpl V Goodman  
 LCpl B Hayden  
 LCpl B Hollis  
 LCpl S Howcroft  
 LCpl L Humphries  
 LCpl B Jones  
 LCpl L McGloughlan  
 LCpl B Moffat  
 LCpl T Mouseley  
 LCpl E Munezero  
 LCpl D Samuel

LCpl C Taylor  
 Gdsm R Aldridge  
 Gdsm L Bates  
 Gdsm D Batten  
 Gdsm S Bayameyeme  
 Gdsm J Bestwick  
 Gdsm D Bowyer  
 Gdsm J Brown  
 Gdsm T Checkley  
 Gdsm R Chiswell  
 Gdsm R Cunstable  
 Gdsm L Costello  
 Gdsm S Deakins  
 Gdsm S Edis  
 Gdsm W Flint  
 Gdsm A French  
 Gdsm S Garratt  
 Gdsm J Gould  
 Gdsm J Harding  
 Gdsm A Harris  
 Gdsm T Hawkins  
 Gdsm S Hubball  
 Gdsm A Igbaifua  
 Gdsm O Jenyo  
 Gdsm R King  
 Gdsm P Kirk  
 Gdsm R Langdell  
 Gdsm D Leighton  
 Gdsm G Lord  
 Gdsm D Marshall  
 Gdsm S Marsland  
 Gdsm M Martin  
 Gdsm P Ndungu  
 Gdsm I Payne  
 Gdsm K Rosser  
 Gdsm L Saho  
 Gdsm E Sergeant  
 Gdsm D Shelvey  
 Gdsm J Stone  
 Gdsm B Sylva  
 Gdsm H Sylva  
 Gdsm G Tomkinson  
 Gdsm N Walker  
 Gdsm A Wiggins  
 Gdsm M Willsin  
 Gdsm J Woodrow  
 Gdsm N Wylie

## INKERMAN COMPANY

Maj D Alkin  
 Capt J Stafford-Allen  
 Lt A Stoner  
 Lt H Hardy  
 WO2 J Byrne  
 CSgt S Roughley  
 Sgt R Shepherd  
 Sgt L Walton  
 LSgt M Fogg  
 LSgt D Harrison  
 LSgt S Hepburn  
 LSgt A Pitters  
 LSgt A Thomas  
 LCpl J Bently  
 LCpl S Blakeley  
 LCpl M Davison  
 LCpl R Elliott  
 LCpl C Heaton  
 LCpl C McClendon  
 LCpl G Quigley  
 LCpl K Rowlatt  
 LCpl C James  
 LCpl C Wasswaa  
 LCpl B Limbu  
 Gdsm J Attwood  
 Gdsm D Boothe  
 Gdsm C Brierley  
 Gdsm C Carroll  
 Gdsm J Cornish  
 Gdsm L Darboe

Gdsm C Davis  
 Gdsm S Dodd  
 Gdsm A Douthwaite  
 Gdsm P Fitzgerald  
 Gdsm T Gent  
 Gdsm L Hampson-Keeling  
 Gdsm R Hollis  
 Gdsm B Jobe  
 Gdsm K King  
 Gdsm F Mabasa  
 Gdsm S Maher  
 Gdsm A McCormack  
 Gdsm J Mcewan  
 Gdsm A McLaughlin  
 Gdsm M Nelson  
 Gdsm J Newton  
 Gdsm A Ngum  
 Gdsm M Ogden  
 Gdsm J Robinson  
 Gdsm D Ryan  
 Gdsm B Sonko  
 Gdsm M Stacey  
 Gdsm A Tatum  
 Gdsm L Whybrow  
 Gdsm D Walton

## SUPPORT COMPANY

Maj R King-Evans  
 Capt M Dobbin  
 Lt B Pountain  
 Lt J Taylor  
 WO2 H Lawn  
 CSgt D Moore  
 Sgt T Loder  
 Sgt V Mclean  
 Sgt B Orrel  
 Sgt R Pancott  
 Sgt B Paterson  
 Sgt M Robinson  
 Sgt R Wiseman  
 LSgt K Dunk  
 LSgt L Dutton  
 LSgt C Friess  
 LSgt S Harvey  
 LSgt W Holdcroft  
 LSgt J Hurst  
 LSgt R Jackson  
 LSgt G Pendlebury  
 LSgt C Price  
 LSgt J Rainima  
 LSgt M Strydom  
 LSgt L Swan  
 LSgt S Thorne  
 LCpl M Baily  
 LCpl R Ball  
 LCpl A Beeby  
 LCpl R Blakeney  
 LCpl M Bunyan  
 LCpl J Browning  
 LCpl L Coulbert  
 LCpl S Dent  
 LCpl D Farrell  
 LCpl M Haynes  
 LCpl M Jallow  
 LCpl S Lawa  
 LCpl J MacDonagh  
 LCpl M Morris  
 LCpl R Pamflett  
 LCpl J Pearce  
 LCpl A Pletts  
 LCpl M Shaw  
 Gdsm J Adom  
 Gdsm L Atterbury  
 Gdsm E Barry  
 Gdsm T Batty  
 Gdsm D Bently  
 Gdsm S Birch  
 Gdsm R Blingdon  
 Gdsm L Bowers

Gdsm J Brinkworth  
 Gdsm N Brookes  
 Gdsm S Brown  
 Gdsm T Bulivou  
 Gdsm T Burgess  
 Gdsm G Carr  
 Gdsm J Carty  
 Gdsm C Clarkstone  
 Gdsm D Cosgrove  
 Gdsm J Cox  
 Gdsm R Davies  
 Gdsm A Deen-Kamara  
 Gdsm L Foxall  
 Gdsm R Fowler  
 Gdsm S Fredrickson  
 Gdsm R Froggatt  
 Gdsm B Furneaux  
 Gdsm J Haley  
 Gdsm D Hankey  
 Gdsm L Harrison  
 Gdsm T Harry  
 Gdsm R Hayes  
 Gdsm G Haynes  
 Gdsm E Hennell  
 Gdsm D Hill  
 Gdsm R Holmes  
 Gdsm J Horvath  
 Gdsm S Keegan  
 Gdsm J Loftus  
 Gdsm A Lownds  
 Gdsm J Lunn  
 Gdsm T Lyons  
 Gdsm E Matai  
 Gdsm D Mcbride  
 Gdsm S McCash  
 Gdsm D Mewis  
 Gdsm J Neller  
 Gdsm B Painter  
 Gdsm J Pearson  
 Gdsm C Pendergast  
 Gdsm J Plant  
 Gdsm J Read  
 Gdsm T Rees  
 Gdsm M Robinson  
 Gdsm S Ross  
 Gdsm R Rowbottom  
 Gdsm B Russell  
 Gdsm A Salt  
 Gdsm S Sambells  
 Gdsm L Scanlon  
 Gdsm M Shearer  
 Gdsm L Shears  
 Gdsm S Sheldon  
 Gdsm K Shine  
 Gdsm D Spencer  
 Gdsm A Talbot  
 Gdsm N Truman  
 Gdsm K Walkden  
 Gdsm C Waller  
 Gdsm L Walshaw  
 Gdsm K Warde  
 Gdsm G Wint  
 Gdsm A Wright  
 Gdsm A Young

**HQ COMPANY**

Maj D Groom  
 WO2 P Childs  
 CSgt B De-Vall  
 LSgt S Cooper  
 LSgt K Newton  
 Gdsm T Hayward  
 Gdsm D Sherwin

**QUATERMASTERS PLATOON**

Maj G Gask  
 Capt J Keeley  
 WO2 M Boak

WO2 R Day  
 Sgt S Fry  
 Sgt C Gulley  
 LSgt G Casburn  
 LSgt L Findler  
 LSgt D Fry  
 LSgt D Kidd  
 LSgt L Richards  
 LCpl J Goucher  
 LCpl L Heatley  
 LCpl L Humphries  
 LCpl K Maskell  
 LCpl T McQueen  
 Gdsm S Loader  
 Gdsm G Sylva

**SIGNALS PLATOON**

Capt T Gardner  
 WO2 S Ross MC  
 Sgt B Cobb  
 Sgt S Harrell  
 LSgt P Baily  
 LSgt P Duffett  
 LSgt L Mann  
 LSgt D Monstad  
 LSgt M Poxton  
 LSgt P Struczynski  
 LCpl S Richardson  
 LCpl S Scott  
 Gdsm U Atuanva  
 Gdsm E Banda  
 Gdsm A Clayton  
 Gdsm T Dwyer  
 Gdsm A Edwards  
 Gdsm J Furniss  
 Gdsm M Haws  
 Gdsm D Harvey  
 Gdsm S Hodgson  
 Gdsm M Jeng  
 Gdsm G Jones  
 Gdsm D Parkes  
 Gdsm A Sawo

**MT PLATOON**

Capt A Butcher  
 Sgt R Dawson  
 Sgt M James  
 LSgt D Mitchell  
 LSgt G Neal  
 LSgt K Oldfield  
 LSgt M Sneath  
 LSgt P Trussler  
 LCpl M Bent  
 LCpl C Mitchell  
 LCpl D Munezero  
 LCpl M Palmer  
 LCpl C Thompson  
 Gdsm L Ashford  
 Gdsm M Bah  
 Gdsm A Ceesay  
 Gdsm L Ceesay  
 Gdsm S Holley  
 Gdsm S Minth  
 Gdsm J O'Keeffe  
 Gdsm A Saho  
 Gdsm D Sheehy

**TRAINING WING/ GYMNASIUM**

Sgt D Claxton  
 Sgt A Haswell  
 LSgt D Sullivan  
 LCpl L Culverhouse  
 LCpl A Lopez-Moreno  
 LCpl D Taylor  
 Gdsm S Pitt

**MEDICAL CENTRE**

Sgt J Tack

LCpl K Frimpong  
 Gdsm K Wells

**REGIMENTAL POLICE**

Sgt M Oldham  
 LCpl R Haughton  
 LCpl T Love  
 LCpl M Moore  
 LCpl J Tuicicia

**OFFICERS MESS**

Sgt J Langdown  
 Gdsm J Addai

**SERGEANTS MESS**

Sgt D Johnston  
 Gdsm A Folks  
 Gdsm S Husband  
 Gdsm M Rance

**WELFARE OFFICE**

Capt S Munro  
 WO2 J Bastin  
 Sgt P Easters  
 LSgt K Plant

**Nijmegen Company**

Maj J Fox  
 Capt C Stevenson  
 2Lt R Budge  
 2Lt C Sanford  
 2Lt T Simpson  
 WO2 T Bearder  
 CSgt J Summerscales  
 Sgt A Bonsell  
 Sgt S Castle-Nuovo  
 Sgt G Hudson  
 Sgt M Parker  
 LSgt B Brown  
 LSgt A Harper  
 LSgt J Lockley  
 LSgt M Macmillan  
 LSgt B Merchant  
 LSgt M Morris  
 LSgt I Norman  
 LCpl R Ashley  
 LCpl J Booty  
 LCpl J Claridge  
 LCpl G Davis  
 LCpl M Deacon  
 LCpl M Faux  
 LCpl I Maynard  
 LCpl P Steane  
 Drlm G Vickers  
 Drlm D Barton  
 Gdsm R Bannister  
 Gdsm N Batchelor  
 Gdsm S Baxter  
 Gdsm R Bibbings  
 Gdsm D Boyes  
 Gdsm P Brady  
 Gdsm C Brand  
 Gdsm B Bull  
 Gdsm W Butler  
 Gdsm N Caiger  
 Gdsm S Carter  
 Gdsm J Castle  
 Gdsm J Charman  
 Gdsm J Coldron  
 Gdsm R Collins  
 Gdsm K Cooper  
 Gdsm B Cordwell  
 Gdsm R Cornell  
 Gdsm C Doak  
 Gdsm C Drew  
 Gdsm N Eamer  
 Gdsm O Few  
 Gdsm N Fletcher  
 Gdsm H Fowler  
 Gdsm D Frank  
 Gdsm B Fulton  
 Gdsm M Grove  
 Gdsm G Hatt  
 Gdsm L Hendry

Gdsm T Herbert  
 Gdsm J Hewson  
 Gdsm A Hinton  
 Gdsm S Holmes  
 Gdsm J Hubbard  
 Gdsm W Hurst  
 Gdsm S Jabbie  
 Gdsm C James  
 Gdsm D Jones  
 Gdsm E Jones  
 Gdsm L Kellie  
 Gdsm P Koritala  
 Gdsm J Lambert  
 Gdsm J Lewis  
 Gdsm B Limani  
 Gdsm J Logan  
 Gdsm J Mack  
 Gdsm J Marsay  
 Gdsm A McDermittroe  
 Gdsm L McDonald  
 Gdsm M Meakin  
 Gdsm N Mercer  
 Gdsm J Millerchip  
 Gdsm D Mitchell  
 Gdsm R Morris  
 Gdsm N Muga  
 Gdsm L Nicholson  
 Gdsm R Nightingale  
 Gdsm F Nelson  
 Gdsm M Owen  
 Gdsm E Owusu-Appiah  
 Gdsm J Pearson  
 Gdsm P Pearson  
 Gdsm K Peters  
 Gdsm J Poole  
 Gdsm R Punter  
 Gdsm M Rosser  
 Gdsm D Reed  
 Gdsm A Samateh  
 Gdsm N Simmons  
 Gdsm D Smith  
 Gdsm D Sherwin  
 Gdsm B Shingler  
 Gdsm W Slater  
 Gdsm D Spittle  
 Gdsm A Swinford  
 Gdsm K Taslim  
 Gdsm N Thompson  
 Gdsm R Thompson  
 Gdsm L Thornicroft  
 Gdsm J Tuckwood  
 Gdsm A Turay  
 Gdsm S Turner  
 Gdsm P Viggars  
 Gdsm T Wallace  
 Gdsm J Williams  
 Gdsm A Wingate

# Officers

## SENIOR OFFICERS

Major General GPR Norton CBE .....	GOC London District
Brigadier DJH Maddan .....	Comd ITC – HQ School of Infantry
Colonel CRV Walker DSO .....	Chief of Staff 3 (UK) Division
Colonel DJC Russell-Parsons .....	Senior Joint Operations Officer SHAPE, Mons

## REGIMENTAL OFFICERS

### Lieutenant Colonels

JMH	Bowder MBE .....	Commanding Officer 1st Battalion
The Hon CL	Broughton MBE .....	MOD A Block
JLJ	Levine MBE .....	.SO1 Interoperability, CD Info
RT	Maudrell MVO .....	Commanding Officer Belfast University OTC
AFR	James MBE .....	Lieutenant Colonel Foot Guards
SG	Soskin .....	Bde Major HQ London District
GR	Denison-Smith .....	Deputy Mil & Police Advisor, UK to the UN
MP	David MC .....	.c/o British Defence Staff, British Embassy, PARIS

### Majors

ARG	Cartwright .....	.SO2 Ft Gds, APC Glasgow
EJ	Paintin .....	.OC Gds Coy ITC Catterick
RJH	Green .....	.ACDS Log Ops – MA
DJ	Alkin .....	.SO2 Ft Gds, APC Glasgow
PL	Ashfield .....	.The Captain
JCM	Greaves .....	.OC 2 Coy
JA	Seddon .....	.CGS Eqpt Strat A, BM, SO2a
SC	Gordon Lennox .....	.SO2 Infantry CAST (N)
JR	Green .....	.SO2 (W) G3 NBC/LD
RE	King-Evans .....	.OC Inkerman Company
JENB	Shaw .....	.ICSC Jan 13

### Captains

PW	Russell .....	.Staff Captain, HQ London District
JOD	Fox* .....	.OC Nijmegen Company (Handing Over)
BJR	Jesty* .....	.Training Major LONDONS
JM	Young .....	.OC Nijmegen Company (Taking Over)
AJ	Tiernan .....	.Detached
RMB	Stevens .....	.SO3 CT&SFLO, DIS, MOD
HPCG	Cordle .....	.Detached
FAO	Kuku .....	.SO3 Infantry Doctrine NTM-A Kabul
WHL	Harries .....	.BRF – Germany
ND	Torp-Peterson .....	.F Coy Scots Gds 2i/c
JM	Lindley .....	.SO3 G3 O&D 19 Bde
NA	Strachan .....	.Ops Officer
GL	Banks .....	.REHAB
PJ	Rice .....	.Adjutant
MOC	Dobbin .....	.Recce PI Comd
AWE	Bayliss .....	.RSO
CA	Shephard MC .....	.Detached
RC	Da Gama .....	.Int Offr
JE	Stafford-Allen .....	.2i/c Inkerman Company
TR	Hendriksen .....	.Assistant Equerry
JD	Brown .....	.PI Comd ITC Catterick
OJC	Holcroft .....	.2nd Capt
N	Wills .....	.2i/c Nijmegen Company
AA	Wellesley-Wood .....	.Mortar Platoon Commander
JR	Taylor .....	.Sniper PI Comd

### Lieutenants

JJ	Hathaway-White* .....	.ADC to GOC HQ London District
CJD	Stevenson .....	.PI Comd ITC Catterick
BG	Pountain .....	.PI Comd ITC Catterick (wef Feb 13)
AHMC	Budge .....	.PI Comd Nijmegen Company
HC	Cartwright .....	.PI Comd Nijmegen Company
A	Stonor .....	.PI Comd Nijmegen Company
W	Harris .....	.2ic 2 Company
H	Hardy .....	.PI Comd Inkerman Company
MWS	Dobson .....	.PI Comd The Queen's Company
JAL	Garton .....	.PI Comd 2 Company
FCB	Moynan .....	.PI Comd The Queen's Company
RH	Budge .....	.PI Comd 2 Company
CHP	Sanford .....	.PI Comd The Queen's Company
TJC	Simpson .....	.PI Comd Inkerman Company

### Second Lieutenants

AJP	Shirreff .....	.PI Comd 2 Company
HR	Waterfield .....	.PI Comd Inkerman Company
BG	Conway .....	.PI Comd The Queen's Company
DR	Welham .....	.PI Comd Nijmegen Company

### Late Entry Commissions

#### 1st Battalion

Maj	R Dorney MBE .....	.SO1 ARC
Maj	VJ Overton .....	.OFC – C Coy OC
Maj	BF Broad .....	.REHAB
Maj	M Gaunt OBE .....	.SO2 G4 Ops London District
Maj	G Gask .....	.QM 1 GREN GDS
Maj	DT Groom* .....	.OC HQ Coy
Capt	NA England MBE .....	.SO3 G7 Training RMAS
Capt	A Butcher .....	.MTO 1 GREN GDS
Capt	JA Keeley .....	.QM (T) 1 GREN GDS
Capt	IM Farrell .....	.RCMO 1 GREN GDS
Capt	S Munro .....	.Welfare Officer 1 GREN GDS

### Director of Music

Capt	M Smith MMus, FLCM, LRSM, PSM .....	.DoM Regt Band
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### RETIRED 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

\*Indicates acting in a higher rank.

## Grenadiers at Extra-Regimental Employment

WO1	D	Westlake	.....	.RMAS Old College
WO1	M	Smith	.....	.AADW
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	Richrds	.....	.HQ RG G4 Staff East
CSgt	D	Benison	.....	.OPTAG
CSgt	D	Lawrenson	.....	.DSI Chicksands
CSgt	D	Patterson	.....	.FSG Instructor Warminster
CSgt	D	Baily	.....	.AADW
CSgt	C	Dougherty	.....	.RMAS Instructor
CSgt	D	Roper	.....	.RMAS Instructor
CSgt	P	Rackley	.....	.PSI London Regiment
Sgt	D	Claxton	.....	.HDPGCC CQMS
Sgt	E	Barnett	.....	.DSI Chicksands
Sgt	P	Money	.....	.IBS Assault Pioneer
Sgt	D	Walton	.....	.Sgt Instructor HDPGCC
Sgt	B	Cobb	.....	.ECM Instructor Tidworth
Sgt	P	Boardman	.....	.AFCO Manchester
Sgt	T	Saxton	.....	.AFCO Grimsby
Sgt	C	Nicholson	.....	.PL Sgt ATR Pirbright
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 PLT Sgt
Sgt	S	Cathcart	.....	.ITC PLT Sgt
Sgt	D	Smith	.....	.AFCO Oxford
LSgt	M	Hall	.....	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	L	Finlan	.....	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	K	Richards	.....	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	P	Laird	.....	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	S	Perry	.....	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	D	Landgridge	.....	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	A	Harris	.....	.AFCO Derby
LSgt	D	Bonsell	.....	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	J	Parker	.....	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	A	Jones	.....	.ITC Instructor
LSgt	J	Foxcroft	.....	.ITC PTI
LSgt	N	Rowe	.....	.AT Insructor Capel Curig
LSgt	L	Fulton	.....	.ITC Medic
LSgt	M	Mooney	.....	.ATR (P) Instructor
LSgt	D	Struczynski	.....	.AFCO Birmingham
LSgt	L	Deen	.....	.Army Winter Sports Team
LSgt	J	Shields	.....	.Guards Para PLT
LSgt	P	Duffett	.....	.IBS Signals Wing
LSgt	M	Decon	.....	.ATR Pirbright
LSgt	J	Garcia	.....	.ACIO Wolverhampton
LSgt	J	Dawson	.....	.ACIO Stoke
LSgt	P	Fear	.....	.17 CDT TRG Team
LSgt	P	Hope	.....	.AFC Harrogate Insructor
LSgt	J	Hunter	.....	.Orderly Duke of Edinburgh
LSgt	S	Hayes	.....	.AFCO Bristol
LSgt	M	Martin	.....	.PTI Pirbright
LSgt	D	Marsden	.....	.AFC Harrogate Instructor
LSgt	P	Newton	.....	.HCAV Stables
LSgt	G	Nicholson	.....	.RST Comd
LSgt	D	Norris	.....	.Pathfinder Platoon
LCpl	K	Elasli	.....	.INF BTLE SCH Storeman
LCpl	M	Goom	.....	.RST
LCpl	J	McCormack	.....	.Rst
LCpl	T	Timmins	.....	.RP ATR Winchester
LCpl	M	Thomas	.....	.ITC Demo
LCpl	S	Rigby	.....	.ART 9 Preston
LCpl	S	Taylor	.....	.ITC SP Battalion
Gdsm	K	Harrison	.....	.ART 23 Chepstow
Gdsm	L	Redgate	.....	.St James Palace waiter
Gdsm	P	Sheild	.....	.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

M	Smith	.....	.AADW
G	Snazle	.....	.1st Battalion
D	Westlake	.....	.RMAS Old College

### Regimental Quartermaster Sergeants (WO2)

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

### Drill Sergeants (WO2)

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

G	Davis	.....	.The Queens Company
S	Brooks	.....	.No2 Company
H	Lawn	.....	.Support Company
P	Childs	.....	.Headquarter Company
J	Byrne	.....	.The Inkerman Company
T	Bearder	.....	.Nijmegen Compny

### Warrant Officer Class 2

J	Bastin	.....	.Welfare Warrant Officer
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

## Marriages

CSgt Dan Moore to Mrs Kelly Moore (Dallison).  
 LCpl Samuel to Ms Yasmin Bone.  
 Gdsm Hollis to Jane Wildgoose.  
 Gdsm Keegan to Ms Kate Louise Cole.  
 Gdsm Ndungu to Ms Esta Njeri Mahungu.  
 Gdsm Nicholson to Ms Rosanne Sheldon White.

## Births

### 2012

To DSgt (WO2) Howlin and Kelle Howlin a Daughter.  
 To CSgt Dan Moore and Mrs Kelly Moore a son, Finley John Moore.  
 To LSgt A Bush and Mrs Kay Bush a daughter, Layla.  
 To LCpl Elliot and Ms Sophie Wilkinson a daughter, Rubi.  
 To LCpl A Hendy and Mrs Hayley Hendy a son, Alfie.  
 To LCpl Matthew Morris and Miss Stacey Leanne Cliff a son, Zack Matthew James Morris.  
 To LCpl Samuel and Mrs Yasmin Samuel a son, Alfie.  
 To Gdsm Ebrima Barry and Mrs Rugiyatou Barry a son, Sheikh Tijan Barry.  
 To Gdsm McDermottroe and Ms Amy Scholfield a daughter, Mia Rose.  
 To Gdsm Ngum and Mrs Ngum a daughter.  
 To Gdsm Jeffery Owusu-Appiah and Miss Akua Tiwaa a daughter, Dora.  
 To Gdsm Plant and Ms Samantha Plant a daughter, Isla.  
 To Gdsm Salt and Ms Carly Warman a son, Logan.  
 To Gdsm T Smith and Miss Lisa Herrod a son Billy.  
 To Gdsm Chris Waller and Miss Sara Jackson a son, Bradley Waller.  
 To Gdsm Walton and Miss James a daughter.

### 2011

To Sgt Chris Price and Mrs Claire Price a son, Jacob Christopher Price.

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2013

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WO1 (RSM) Snazle G

**Vice President**  
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Capt G Gask  
Major M Gaunt OBE  
Major AJ Green  
Major MB Holland  
Capt A Holloway  
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Mr	A McDermott, Northants	Mr	G Price, Manchester	Mr	RG Sheppard, Suffolk	Mr	GJ Waters, Suffolk
Mr	DM McMahon RVM, Wokingham	Mr	A Prentice, Hertfordshire	Mr	C Short, Lincoln	Mr	NM Watts, Cambridgeshire
Mr	R Mearing, Exeter	Mr	PD Price, Surrey	Mr	JN Simpson, Middlesex	Lt Col	SA Watts OBE, Berkshire
Mr	EH Miller, Liverpool	Mr	DC Pritty, Lancashire	Mr	A Slack, Kent	Lt Col	DJ Webster, Surrey
Mr	NJC Miller, Surrey	Mr	R Radford, Nottingham	Mr	G Sly, Essex	Mr	D Wedge, Surrey
Mr	S Miles, Birmingham	Mr	CA Ramsay, Nottingham	Mr	KR Smith, Bristol	Mr	DJ Welling, Mersyside
Mr	AB Mills MM, Suffolk	Mr	D Randell MBE, Cornwall	Mr	DS Sneller, West Sussex	Mr	AJ West BEM, Kent
Mr	DM Mills, Ipswich	Mr	EF Randell MBE, West Sussex	Mr	J Snead, Wolverhampton	Mr	JE Weston DCM, Hertfordshire
Mr	RJ Milnes, Manchester	Mr	MG Reed, Hertfordshire	Mr	R Smith, Norfolk	Mr	NJ Westwood, Dorset
Mr	P Mizzi, Hampshire	Mr	J Regan, Burton-on- Trent	Mr	GJ Sneath, Nottingham	Mr	PS Wheeler, East Sussex
Mr	DG Money MBE, West Sussex	Mr	GE Reincke BEM, Suffolk	Mr	A Souster, Devon	Mr	JP Whelan, West Yorkshire
Mr	BR Moores, Hampshire	Mr	B Reynolds, Surrey	Mr	J Southern, Reading	Mr	WJH Whitebread, Carmarthershire
Mr	J Moores, Shropshire	Mr	JM Richards, Cambridgeshire	Mr	DR Sparkes, Dorset	Mr	CM WhiteBrook, Cambridgeshire
Mr	K Moores, Channel Islands	Mr	A Richardson, Cheshire	Mr	AO Spencer, Scotland	Mr	DJ White, Hampshire
Mr	WH Moores, Coventry	Capt	PF Richardson, Surrey	Mr	LW Spencer, Surrey	Mr	J White, Lancs
Mr	CD Morgan, Cheshire	Mr	DJ Riddler, Peterborough	Mr	R Springall, Australia	Mr	L White, Surrey
Mr	P Morgan, Essex	Mr	GNH Rimell, Gloucester	Mr	JW Stanyard, Surrey	Lt Col	GR Whitehead RVM, Surrey
Mr	J Murrey, Leicester	Mr	DF Roalfe, Slough	Mr	L Starks, Hertfordshire	Mr	PB Whorton, Windsor
Mr	J Morris, Somerset	Mr	KT Roberts, Surrey	Mr	A Steed, Nottingham	Mr	I Whyte, Northants
Mr	W Mottershead, Macclesfield	Mr	MS Robins, Stoke-on-Trent	Mr	H Stern, Essex	Mr	DE Wilkinson BEM, Swansea
Mr	JF Munday, Lincoln	Mr	BN Robinson, Staffs	Mr	J Stevens, East Sussex	Mr	MM Wilkinson, East Sussex
Mr	M Munro, Surrey	Mr	DJ Robinson, Suffolk	Mr	G Stevenson, Spalding	Mr	CJ Wills, West Midlands
Mr	PJ Munro, Lancashire	Mr	PT Robinson DCM, Essex	Mr	S Stringer, West Midlands	Capt	W Williams BEM, Surrey
Mr	IJ Nash, Berks	Mr	JH Rogers, Avon	Mr	S Swanwick, Nottingham	Mr	SS Wilson, Middlesex
Mr	N Nash, Swindon	Capt	Rolfe, Hampshire	Mr	BW Sylester, Llanrhos	Mr	WE Wilson, Essex
Mr	C Newens, Kent	Mr	JH Rooney, North Yorkshire	Mr	RJ Szymczak, Kent	Mr	J Winterbottom, Lancashire
Mr	D Newton, Walsall	Major	DR Rossi MBE, Isle of Wight	Mr	D Tanner, Middlesex	Mr	AE Wood, Lincolnshire
Mr	RS Nightingale, Nottingham	Mr	JA Rowe, Hertfordshire	Mr	Tate-Williams, Milton Keynes	Major	RG Woodfield MBE, Warwickshire
Mr	JA Noakes, Bedford	Mr	MR Rowe, Shropshire	Mr	BAM Taylor, West Yorkshire	Mr	MG Woodgate, Hertfordshire
Mr	B Norris, London	Mr	P Salt, London	Mr	J Taylor, Hants	Mr	J Woodhouse, Northumberland
Mr	B Oakley-Watson, Berks	Major	Sandison MBE OGM, Gwent	Mr	AJ Thomas, Ammanford	Mr	Worsfold BEM, Surrey
Mr	DH O' Coffey, Berkshire	Mr	R Sergeant BEM, Stafford	Capt	BE Thompson BEM, Lancashire	Mr	Wotherspoon, Lincoln
Mr	J O'Connor, Middlesex	Mr	RF Saunders, Milton Keynes	Mr	RHL Thompson, Berkshire	Mr	A Wright, Gwynedd
Mr	MP O'Hara, Lancashire	Mr	CC Savage, Bristol	Mr	RJ Thompson, Essex	Mr	K Wright, Staffordshire
Mr	MP O'Hara, Lancashire	Mr	L Scholes, Bolton	Mr	KL Thompson, Wiltshire	Mr	RA Wyatt, Wiltshire
Mr	W Orton, Surrey	Mr	W Scully, Devon	Mr	Tomlinson, East Yorkshire	Mr	VJ Young, Berkshire
Mr	JE Page, Hertfordshire	Mr	M Scott, Gwynedd	Mr	C Till, Somerset		
Mr	RC Page BEM, Lincoln	Mr	REG Seale DL, Worcester	Capt	CJO Tilly, Essex		
Mr	D Paine, Kent	Mr	Rs Senior, Hampshire	Lt Col	S Tuck BEM, Norfolk		
Mr	CM Parker, Wiltshire	Mr	T Sentence, Kenya	Mr	N Turner, Spain		
Major	RJ Parker, Hampshire	Mr	J Seymour, Northants	Mr	J Upton, Surrey		
Mr	JB Parrot, Devon	Mr	A Sherman, Horley	Mr	JMN Upton, London		
Mr	N Parr, Milton Keynes	Mr	P Sharman, Surrey	Mr	A Urvoy, Berkshire		
Mr	RJ Patrick, Leighton Buzzard	Mr	K Sharples, Lancashire	Mr	S Vaughn, Kent		
Mr	L Paynes, Surrey	Capt	BE Sheen, Isle of Wight	Capt	D Vernon, East sussex		
Mr	W Paynes, Hampshire	Mr	P Shelbourn, Mid Glamorgan	Mr	P Wakelin, Cheshire		
Mr	AD Peachey BEM, West Sussex	Mr	J Sheldon, Derby	Mr	J Walker, North Lincolnshire		
Mr	MM Pearce, Essex	Mr	AN Shrratt, Surrey	Mr	W Wall, Halifax		
Mr	LFH Perkins BEM RVM, Kent			Mr	GR Wallace, Cambridge		
Lt Col	RAJ Phasey BEM, West Midlands			Mr	T Walmesly, Ontario		
Mr	J Pimlott, Canada			Mr	JG Walmsley, Middlesex		
Mr	C Plant, Berkshire			Mr	AVE Warner, Lancashire		
Mr	HN Plater, Walsall			Mr	G Warner BEM, London		
Mr	J Poole, Lancashire			Capt	RJ Warwick, Berkshire		

## OBITUARY

# We Will Remember Them

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

22213883	ASJ Absolom	Sussex	22955999	WS Cook	Essex (2011)
23172738	R Algar	Cambridge	2625997	JR Cooke	Windsor
2615640	J Allen	Worcester & Hereford	22149277	C Cowell	North America (2011)
23509928	B Almond	Shropshire (2011)	23158358	D Cresswell	Gloucestershire
23146319	SJ Anstee	Windsor	22545065	J Crosbie	Bristol
2616939	DE Arnold	Nottinghamshire	22545920	SWF Davies	North Staffs
25228593	JTD Ashworth	Serving 1st Bn Afghanistan	23255869	FE Davis	Nottingham
			26227347	R Davis	North America
2620980	HF Bailey	Wessex (2009)	22228075	CG Davis	
24042291	R Ball	Surrey & East Hants	24306870	SH Davy	Bristol
23023828	WP Barker	North Staffs	22632699	T Denson	
2626270	RD Barnes	Sussex	2626336	D Desmoulin	Wessex
2616618	WP Barraclough	General (2010)	22213768	R Devereux	Nottinghamshire
2616080	DL Bayliss	Lincoln	2624718	CR Dixon	Lincoln
23272521	D Beard	Reading	22309448	MW Dixon	
23290882	H Belcher	Manchester	2623000	WH Dobbins	Worcester & Hereford
2624275	GA Berryman	Wessex	23509318	RE Dodd	
22487975	M Biggs	Norfolk (2011)	22213438	M Doyle	Walsall
2624199	B Bloom	Essex (2011)	2627651	JP Driscoll	Essex (2011)
2623694	D Blount	Nottinghamshire	2625259	KS Drury	Leicester
22545335	B Blowers	Suffolk	2623259	L Dunlop	Northampton
2622959	J Boulton	Burton on Trent (2011)	2622671	CT Edge	Lincoln
2627082	F Bradshaw	Leicestershire (2010)	2624715	GJS Edwards	Aylesbury
22213763	G Brady	Manchester	23688224	S Emery	North Staffs (2011)
22635053	GW Brown		26224085	M Endersby	Cambridge
23509356	KJ Brown	Suffolk	23122855	WE Ernest	North Staffs (2011)
22955561	DC Brown	Matlock	21006191	LOV Evans	Nottinghamshire
22545281	DT Brown		Colonel	DV Fanshawe	First Guards Club/Wessex
14067580	D Bryer	Wessex (2010)			
22646404	D Bullock	Gloucestershire	2623415	GE Fisk	Norfolk
2628627	R Bumpstead	Essex (2011)	22137991	KW Fitch	Sussex
2617830	GN Burgess	Leicestershire	23688465	FM Ford	Matlock
22607801	J Burke	Manchester	2064155	RG Fox	North America
2622848	K Burke	Manchester	General Sir	David Fraser CBG, OBE, DL	
22001733	G Canning	Oxford (2011)			Surrey & East Hants/FGC
22213958	JA Capindale	Lincoln	2628437	T Frost	Northampton
23252247	JH Carswell	Worcester & Hereford	21006014	DL Gatford	Sussex (2011)
2617696	W Chance	Bath		AJ Gilbey Esq	First Guards Club
22545537	I Charters	Australia	2617536	C Gilpin	General
2625038	W Clarke			DC Gore-Browne Esq	First Guards Club
2627953	I Clay	Nottingham	30061830	D Groom	Serving 1st Bn Afghanistan
23688499	D Clemmitt	Nottingham	Colonel	N Hales Packenham Mahon	
23252849	RT Cleveland	Worcester & Hereford			Windsor/FGC
22545907	DWR Cleveland	Worcester & Hereford (2010)	23688528	AR Hamilton	Manchester
2625131	JB Click	Gloucestershire	5498648	SWA Hammond	Australia
2620436	GW Cole	Oxford			

# OBITUARY

22545976	P Hanney	Bath	2626187	PJ Preston	Norfolk (2011)
14498928	BJ Harding	North America (2010)	22955868	KRJ Radford	Nottingham
2624336	WE Hardy	Overseas	2624517	J Randall	Sussex (2010)
22545666	LJ Harrison	Gloucestershire	2622048	GH Randell	Windsor
2626541	PR Harvey	Australia	22545256	JW Raynor MBE	Nottingham
2628003	PR Haughey	London (2011)	23865182	A Repper	Bristol
2622001	SEJ Hawes	Wessex	2625984	J Richards	Derby
22213638	G Hayes	London	22545033	K Riding	Manchester
22213687	HG Henderson	North Lancashire	4975210	VH Rigley	Nottingham (2011)
2616692	CH Henshaw	Nottingham	22483138	C Roden	Aylesbury (2011)
2624977	RF Hibbitt	Windsor	23252991	I Rogers	Walsall
2623226	JF Holloway	Oxford	30097225	MJ Roland	Serving 1st Bn Afghanistan
2624584	JE Holmes	Gloucestershire	2612349	JW Rolfe	Sussex
22213866	R Holt	Windsor (2010)	22213972	JD Rooks	Overseas (2010)
2614057	JA Hunt	Australia	22545448	A Rushby	
2624569	K Inwood	Walsall	23167420	CJA Scarlett	Nottingham
2619076	LL Johnson	Windsor	2623134	AH Seale	Surrey & E.Hants
22363966	J Joule	Australia	2628621	W Sewell BEM	Surrey & East Hants
22545611	PB Joyce	Nottingham	30081290	J Shadrake	Serving 1st Bn Afghanistan
23969822	KN Kelly		22545276	RG Slade	
2629197	H Kibble	March	23304461	R Smith	Manchester
Capt	AH Kinsman	First Guards Club	23862953	P Smith	Medway (2011)
22213713	PJ Langridge	Sussex	22213306	DAE Snook	Suffolk
2628190	H Langton	Wigan & District (2010)	23149629	GG Starkey	Manchester
22545273	P Lee	Gloucestershire	23509282	M Starkey	
22545975	TM Long	London	2626216	A Streeter	London
	GF Lorriman, Esq	North America	22545594	GL Stubbs	Matlock
22545302	G Lyndo	Leicester	22213926	HV Sudlow	Gloucestershire
22955664	RL Marsh	Wigan & District	22907938	N Tatlock	North Lancashire
23969988	WF Massey	Manchester	23688554	FT Taylor	
23509918	EWJ McGregor	Cambridge	2620748	R Taylor	Leicester
23865039	M Metcalfe		23862857	RW Tinsley	
22698290	PJ Millington	East Kent	22955272	N Townsend	Reading
2625068	C Mills	Gloucestershire	23583473	EL Tracey	East Kent
2627167	DG Millward	Wessex (2010)	2628188	PWS Walby	Gloucestershire
2614428	E Mitchell	Norfolk (2011)	Colonel	AGR Way, MC	
2627591	T Moore	Liverpool		MGT Webster Esq	First Guards Club
2623985	A Murray	Wessex (2010)	24306844	AT Wedesch BEM	
2627193	JD Needham		2626240	J West	Medway (2011)
23929427	S Newton	2011	5527774	R Wheadon	Sussex (2010)
22213563	W Nolan	Liverpool	2626512	R Whillock	London (2011)
22955717	D Oxford	Surrey & East Hants	30098977	KLW Whittle	Serving 1st Bn Afghanistan
2612804	RJ Page	(2009)		Major	Sir Charles, Bt. Wiggin, JGC Wilkinson, Esq
23252575	J Parker	North Lancashire (2011)			Gloucestershire
2623879	RH Parker	Windsor	2628443	PG Wilks/McConn	Medway
23627346	M Parker		2616732	I Williams	Aylesbury (2011)
5826184	EH Peck	Norfolk	Capt (QM)	W Williams, BEM	Surrey & E.Hants
23252062	D Pendle	Essex (2011)	23509464	A Wilson	Wolverhampton
24125376	I Piggott		2627802	B Wixey	Spalding (2011)
2619518	H Pilling		2617151	H Worthington	
24891823	M Plumridge	Windsor	22213583	BH Young	Aylesbury
23158642	AW Porter	Windsor (2011)			
23688405	T Porter	Reading (2010)			



**General Sir  
David Fraser  
GCB, OBE, DL**

As a descendant of General Alexander Fraser, Lord Saltoun, who commanded the light companies at Waterloo, General Sir David Fraser, who died aged

91, was deeply steeped in Grenadier tradition. Born on 30th December 1920, he was educated at Eton and Oxford. He was injured, although not seriously, by a German bomb dropped on Sandhurst. He was commissioned into the Grenadier Guards in 1941, the regiment of his father and grandfather, and fought with 2nd (Armoured) Battalion as a troop commander from Normandy to the Baltic. Thereafter, his career advanced at speed, his exceptional ability proved in regimental and staff appointments. Immediately after the war, as Adjutant, he had the task of changing 2nd Battalion from war to peace, which was exacerbated by the large number of Reservist NCOs who left on demobilisation and the absence of specialist infantry skills. In 1948 he was commanding the Grenadier Training Company at Pirbright when the three senior squads were ordered to 3rd Battalion to form a No 4 Company as reinforcements to Malaya. The Battalion was very quickly on operations with Fraser as Company Commander. After Staff College followed by an appointment in the Directorate of Military Operations, he commanded a company in 3rd Battalion in Egypt before returning to the staff as Brigade Major, 1st Guards Brigade, also in Egypt. In 1954 he returned yet again to 3rd Battalion to command No 1 Company on Public Duties in London and Windsor. As Regimental Adjutant, together with Sir Arthur Bryant, he wrote the pageant for the Tercentenary of the Regiment in 1956. He was also instrumental in reforming the multiplicity of Regimental trusts so that finances of the Regiment were secured for years to come. After a tour as Senior Major, 2nd Battalion, he took 1st Battalion to the British Southern Cameroons in 1961. His directive concluded: 'I wish all ranks to understand that this may be the last appearance of British troops in this part of Africa; and by their bearing and attention to duty to create a respect that will last the centuries. What matters most in the long term is that when it is asked in the far future 'What sort of people were the British?' the answer should be such as to give us pride.' His lucid post tour report on this operational tour was written on the troopship home, out of his head and without a single correction. He was appointed OBE in 1962. In 1963 he commanded 19 Brigade in the UK Strategic Reserve and took Brigade HQ to Sarawak during Indonesia's 'confrontation' with

Malaysia. 1965 was spent at the Imperial Defence College. He was Director of Defence Plans (Army) from 1966 to 1969 when the final withdrawal from East of Suez was being decided and the Services reshaped for a predominantly European role. In 1969 he was appointed to command 4th Division and train it to be fit for war. His German helped to establish close relations with his Bundeswehr colleagues and the local people. He returned to the MOD in 1971 as Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff (Policy). On promotion to Lieutenant General two years later he joined the Army Board as Vice-Chief of the General Staff. His primary task was to direct the 1975 Defence Review as far as the Army was concerned and to ensure that regiments were not destroyed by the 'scissors of the ignorant' and that manpower savings were achieved by reorganisation rather than by disbandment. Promoted to general, his final appointments were as UK Military Representative to NATO and as Commandant to the Royal College of Defence Studies. He was knighted in 1973 and advanced to GCB on leaving the Army in 1980. In retirement he completed a much-acclaimed biography of Alanbrooke, followed by his highly regarded *'And We Shall Shock Them'* and a social history *'The Christian Watt Papers'*. These were followed by ten historically based novels. Subsequently, he published biographies of Rommel, William Douglas Home and Frederick the Great, the latter acknowledged as probably his finest work. He was known to Grenadiers as 'The Razor' for his exceptionally sharp mind, his piercing eye and the menacing intake of breath with which he was apt to greet idle work or sloppy thinking. However, his memoirs *'War and Shadows'*, published in 2002, reveal a man more sensitive than his public persona. His powerful intellect and sense of history were combined with kindness, generosity and a robust sense of humour. He was an ADC General to the Queen, 1977–80 and Colonel of the Royal Hampshire Regiment, 1981–87. He was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire in 1982 and served as Vice-Lord Lieutenant of the county, 1988–96. His first marriage, in 1947, to Anne Balfour was dissolved. His second, in 1957, was to Julia de La Hey, who survives him with their two sons and two daughters and a daughter of his first marriage.





**Colonel David V Fanshawe LVO, OBE**

**D**avid Fanshawe, who has died aged 78, was born on 1st November 1933 and educated at Stowe. He was commissioned from Sandhurst into the

Grenadier Guards in 1953. He served with all three battalions during tours in Egypt, the Cyprus emergency and BAOR. In 1956 he was attached to 3 Kings African Rifles in Kenya. The following year, he was with 2nd Battalion at Windsor when a bull escaped from the Slough cattle market and ran amok. The police telephoned and appealed for the help of a marksman. Officers went to assist and the Commanding Officer ordered 'Fanshawe shoot the bull.' He did and it was swiftly despatched. He returned to Africa in 1961, as Adjutant, 1st Battalion, on operations in the British Southern Cameroons where violent incursions mounted in a push to independence. On patrol he was charged by two rogue elephants. Two Guardsmen saved his life by each firing 20 rounds from their self-loading rifles. Both were invited to his wedding in 1963. His next posting was with the British Army Staff in Washington, which was followed by command of No 2 Company, 1st Battalion in BAOR and with the United Nations in Cyprus. He was a member of the polo team which won the Inter Regimental Tournament there in 1965. His next tour, with the Guards Company at Oswestry, coincided with an outstanding generation of Junior Leaders, a number of whom became Warrant Officers in the Regiment. From 1968 to 1970, he was a highly effective and respected commander of the Guards Independent Parachute Company during its conversion to parachuting from Hercules aircraft, in Hong Kong and on operations in Northern Ireland. The Company was put in a particularly difficult area of Belfast, which they controlled firmly and with a great spirit of relaxed confidence. From 1970 until 1973, he was Adjutant at Sandhurst during a complex period of transition. As Commanding Officer, he took 2nd Battalion to Hong Kong on 'the tour of a lifetime' from 1974 to 1976. Under his leadership, the battalion had probably never been so fit, nor the training so realistic. He was appointed OBE in 1977. After a staff appointment at the Ministry of Defence, he was appointed Lieutenant Colonel Commanding the Regiment. His final years of service were as Defence Attaché in Sudan where the whole structure of the country was crumbling. The British Embassy in Khartoum occupied the top floor of a derelict Shell building. Huge fluorescent letters proclaimed this

as 'Shell House'. After the 'S' was carried away in a sandstorm, there was no suggestion to replace it. He retired in 1983 and was a member of Her Majesty's Bodyguard of the Honourable Corp of Gentlemen at Arms from 1986 to 2003 and became Lt. He was appointed LVO in 2003. He was a director of the Hedley Foundation and Chairman of the Dulverton Trust from 2000 to 2007. The Trust awarded an exceptional grant to the Charities of the Grenadier Guards as a valedictory award in recognition of his dedicated service. He was an enthusiastic sailor, knowledgeable ornithologist and a devoted supporter of the parish church of Sydling St. Nicholas in Dorset. David Fanshawe was an outstanding leader and distinguished Grenadier, who led by example and, despite his many achievements, was always modest, kind hearted and courteous to others. His integrity, wisdom, zest for life, high standards and physical fitness will be remembered by all who served with him. He married Sheila McNeill in 1963 and is survived by her and their three sons, Angus, Robert and William.



**Colonel Nick Hales Pakenham Mahon**

**N**ick Hales Pakenham Mahon, who has died aged 86, was born on 23rd February 1926. A scion of the Barons (later Earls) of Longford, he was raised at

Strokestown House in Southern Ireland where his ancestor and namesake, Nicholas Mahon, had settled in 1662. He was educated at Winchester and commissioned into the Grenadier Guards in 1945. Having served with both 1st and 2nd Battalions, he joined the Guards Independent Parachute Company in 1951. On exercise in Egypt his parachute failed to open properly. Those watching were convinced he could not have survived the landing. However the medical recovery team were greeted by Colonel Nick with 'Oh dear I did land with a bit of a bump'. He was on duty with 2nd Battalion at the Coronation of the Queen in 1953 and served with 3rd Battalion during the Cyprus emergency. After Staff College in 1958, he was posted to HQ 4th Division in BAOR. In 1961, he commanded No 3 Company with 1st Battalion on operations in the British Cameroons close to terrorist camps in the Cameroun Republic. When a distraught planter reported that 12 of his men had been murdered. Colonel

Nick, in order to get the terrified plantation workers back to work, arranged for a 'Wild West' film to be shown, which proved to be irresistible. After a posting to the Guards Depot he returned to Cyprus on the staff in 1966. This was followed by two years with the Defence Intelligence Staff in London where he was particularly successful in handling the problems of the military attachés from all over the world. He managed to win their confidence and establish excellent relations with the majority of them. As Commanding Officer, he took 1st Battalion to Londonderry in 1970 where it had to cope with violent rioting, which left over half the battalion suffering from cuts and bruises. As an Irishman, the irony of the situation was not lost on him, and in 1979 he was instrumental in selling Strokestown House. He was appointed Lieutenant Colonel Commanding the Grenadier Guards in 1973 and after a final staff appointment as Colonel AQ North East District, he retired from the Army. He became President of the Grenadier Guards Regimental Association, which in 1988, celebrated its seventieth anniversary with a garden party at Buckingham Palace where he accompanied the Queen, its Patron. At one of the many branch dinners he attended his name card was shown as 'N Hales Pakenham MA Hons'. Prince Philip, Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, was represented at his memorial service and the large attendance reflected the esteem he was held in by his friends and the Regiment. His infectious charm and great sense of humour never deserted him even in sometimes trying circumstances. He married Jennifer Batten in 1953 and she was a wonderful support to him throughout his life. He is survived by her and their daughter Etta and son Hugh. Another daughter, Nicola, predeceased him.



### Major Michael G T Webster DL

Michael Webster was born in May 1920 and died on 26th October, aged 92, after a long illness. He was commissioned into the Grenadier Guards in 1940 and served in the Regiment until 1946, when he returned to the

family brewing business.

What stood out in Michael's character was his genuine interest in other people and their welfare, whatever

their age. This included the members of his beloved 2nd Battalion Reconnaissance Troop, whom he led throughout the war and with whom he enjoyed its annual reunions held until recently, as time slowly took its toll on the veterans.

He established the troop from its chaotic early days in 1940, when it was equipped with Bren-gun carriers, to the formation of the Guards Armoured Division 1941, when it was upgraded to M5A1 Stuart tanks; these armoured vehicles were always known by their American nickname, 'Honey', because as a tank with an innovative automatic gearbox they were considered to be a 'honey' to drive even if in other ways it was obsolescent. However, used in the reconnaissance role they were still very successful. What the 'Honeys' lacked in armour and firepower they made up for thanks to their speed and mobility.

As a result Michael's troop were able to play an important and gallant part in the armoured thrust across Europe probing, patrolling, gathering intelligence and acting as radio links. In doing so the Troop's members were awarded one Distinguished Conduct Medal, two Military Medals and two Mentions in Despatches. A senior officer is reported to have said that anyone who served in Reconnaissance deserved a medal. Michael had certainly developed his troop into a slick, highly efficient team.

Michael's troop of 44 men experienced a very high casualty rate. Their catchphrase was 'Out in front and God help us'. In Normandy he witnessed the death of many of his men. Two were killed and this was quickly followed by the decapitation of the Padre just after he had buried them.

One of Michael's patrols bounced elements of 712th German Infantry Division at a large crossroads at Heesch in Holland as they were trying to retreat to Germany. The patrol, commanded by Michael's second in command, encountered a German Anti-tank gun. In the fight that followed Lt Richard Edward-Collins's tank was hit and two of its crewmen were killed. Richard managed to crawl to a nearby house with a leg badly fractured in many places. He was looked after by the Dutch and was able to write a note, giving valuable information about the enemy positions. This resulted in a party, commanded by Michael, finding the house and rescuing Richard even though the Germans still occupied half of the house. The Troop's action prevented the German division from reaching their homeland and so deprived Hitler of a much needed formation. Both officers were mentioned in despatches for their actions on that hazardous day.

After the war Michael had a successful business career, becoming the Chairman of Watney, Combe and Reid and then Chairman of Watney, Mann and Truman Holdings. He was the Master of the Brewers' Company in 1964. Apart from being a keen family man his great interests were fishing, shooting, golf, reading music and keeping

## OBITUARY

in touch with the members of his Reconnaissance Troop. In 1971 he was appointed High Sheriff and later, in 1975, a Deputy Lieutenant of Berkshire.

Michael married Margaret Bucknill whose husband had been killed during the war, leaving her with two daughters by her first marriage. Michael and Margaret went on to have three daughters of their own and enjoyed a long and happy marriage. Michael was a well loved man who will be sorely missed.



### Capt Anthony Kinsman

Capt Anthony Kinsman died aged 90 on 6th February 2012 after a short illness. At Oxford he kept a greyhound with the local butcher. He was commissioned into the Grenadier Guards in 1941 and joined 6th

Battalion. In Egypt he came second in a camel race, but could not get the camel to stop until it ended up in its home village four miles away. He transferred to the Long Range Desert Group and was wounded and taken prisoner with another officer at Shwayrif in Libya on 15th January 1943. Sent to an Italian POW camp at Fontanellato in Italy, he began work on an escape tunnel, which the Italian Armistice of September 1943 made redundant. When the prisoners were informed that the Germans were coming to take over the camp, they marched out of the gate and dispersed. Kinsman and a fellow Grenadier officer, Kelpie Buchanan, headed into the Apennines and began the long journey south to try and link up with Allied Forces. On their way they were fed and sheltered by Italian farmers, charcoal burners and a former housemaid from the Hyde Park Hotel. They were also helped by a band of Partisan students who were killed by the Germans only days later. In the foothills above Florence, they came to a bungalow occupied by Madame Tilche, an elderly French woman, her daughter Doudette and Maria, their maid, who took them in at great personal risk. Soon after, the house was commandeered by the Germans for use as an artillery headquarters, and the two young officers had to hide in the attic for three weeks being occasionally fed through a trapdoor by the three woman. When British troops arrived in the area Kinsman and his companion made contact with a patrol and were repatriated in 1944. He was posted to the Windsor Castle Defence Company and then 1st Battalion in

Berlin where he carried the King's Colour on the British Victory Parade on 21st July 1945. After a tour with 3rd Battalion in Palestine he left the Army in 1946, with his beloved Saluki, Mustapha. A charming, dapper man with a great sense of style, he married Daphne Graham in 1951 and they had two sons and two daughters.



### Capt Walter (Wally) Williams BEM

Capt Walter (Wally) Williams BEM, who has died aged 86, was born in Birmingham on 9th January 1926. Having been a railway fireman working on the footplate of steam engines, he joined the Grenadier Guards in 1947 and served with 3rd Battalion in Tripoli and Egypt. In 1956 he was in Malta in preparation for the Suez operation. This was followed by a tour in Cyprus during the emergency. He was always immaculately turned out and excelled as an instructor and trainer, with no less than five tours at the Guards Depot. In 1961, 3rd Battalion, after a parade at Buckingham Palace, was placed in suspended animation. Wally was appointed the first Company Sergeant Major of the Inkerman Company, which was formed with officers and men from the Battalion and transferred to 2nd Battalion in BAOR. On 30th January 1965, he led the Bearer Party from 2nd Battalion, which carried the flag-draped coffin at the State Funeral of Winston Churchill held in St Paul's Cathedral. In carrying out this duty with such great dignity and bearing they attracted tributes from all over the world and were awarded the BEM. In 1969, he became a particularly successful Regimental Sergeant Major of 1st Battalion which, in the following year, carried out its first operational tour in Londonderry, Northern Ireland. In 1971, he was commissioned and put in charge of the Household Division Recruiting Staff at Pirbright. Afterwards he became Assistant Regimental Adjutant and an active and popular General Secretary of the Grenadier Guards Association. He retired from the Army in 1979 and within a year was employed as Centre Manager for the newly opened Friary Shopping Centre in Guildford. Wally was always cheerful, in good spirits and gave of his best whatever the nature of the job. He regarded his service as a privilege and was an outstanding ambassador for the Household Division and the Regiment, and a shining example to all who knew

## OBITUARY

him. He was married to his devoted wife, Phyllis Waters for 48 years. She predeceased him in 1996, and he is survived by their son, Barry and five grandchildren, who he loved dearly. Lieutenant Colonel David Webster, who served with Wally and knew him well, writes: 'I will always remember Wally as one of the nicest men I have ever met. You knew exactly where you stood with him. He was firm fair and friendly. Should you have to see him for a rollicking it was always terminated with that characteristic smile, which indicated end of conversation but get it right in future. I count myself very fortunate to have known this wonderful man and am honoured to say he was my friend.'



### David Gore Browne ESQ

David Gore Browne died on the 12th August 2012. I think it is fair to say that David was a reluctant soldier. He was a very private man who preferred his small close circle of friends and his family, and avoided

parties like the plague. But the Brigade was in his blood; his father Tommy had been a Grenadier, wounded in Italy in WW2. So, on leaving Eton, David went to Mons and signed on for a Short Service Commission. I met him on his first day at Chelsea Barracks where he greeted me with the comment 'only another 1,095 days to do!' He served in the 1st Battalion in Chelsea, Germany and Londonderry, always in No 3 Company, and had a largely peaceful career but had a very popular ability for collecting extra picquets. On leaving the army, he worked hard on selecting a profession that would allow him to pursue his passions – Sailing, he was a terrible navigator and all who sailed with him got an intimate knowledge of the Solent sandbanks; Rough Shooting, with his unruly but energetic dogs, when the best days were the ones with the smallest bags; Fishing with his own tied flies and always with a poachers rod in his car; Cricket where he was an MCC member; and collecting Water Colours. He decided to become a Land Agent specialising in Forestry and trees, so no one ever knew where he was! But David was, above all, a family man. He loved his wife Diana, and his 3 children and never missed an opportunity to be on the touch line for a match, whatever the weather. He died much too young and we will all miss this eccentric and intensely private, but loyal husband, father, godfather, brother, uncle and, above all, friend.

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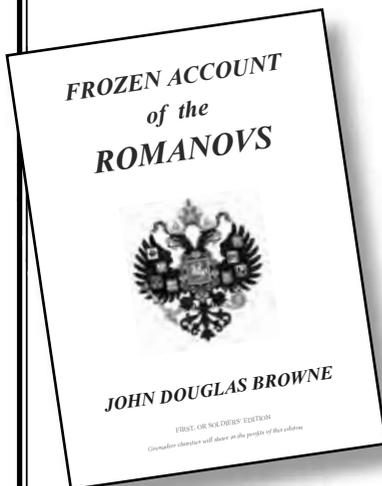
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Email: [assnco@grengds.com](mailto:assnco@grengds.com)

Website: [www.grengds.com](http://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

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> | <p>nature and that the funds of the Association permit.</p> <p>3. To circulate information concerning the Regiment and the advantages of service therein, and to encourage desirable candidates to join.</p> <p>4. To arrange meetings in London or such other place as may help to promote the objects herein before.</p> |
|---|--|

## 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.

### 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.

## 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.*

**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 can be obtained from Association HQ on 020 7414 3285 or email [assnco@grengds.com](mailto:assnco@grengds.com) or on the Regimental Website [www.grengds.com](http://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.

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Birmingham; Blackpool; Chester; Cleveland & South Durham; Colchester; Louth; Luton; Manchester; Morecombe Bay; Reading; Solent; Telford; Warrington; Wiltshire; Wolverhampton; North Yorkshire; Household Division Corps of Drums Association.

**GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION**

PRICE LIST AS AT JANUARY 2013

<b>APRON</b>	<b>£6.95</b>	<b>CAR STICKER (Assoc)</b>	<b>£1.25</b>	<b>NI SLR Painted</b>	<b>£175.00</b>	<b>SPECTACLE CASE (leather)</b>	
<b>ASH TRAY</b>	<b>£2.60</b>	<b>CLOCK (Digital)</b>	<b>£4.75</b>	<b>Patrol – PLCE –</b>			<b>£6.35</b>
<b>BAG</b>		<b>COL'S FUND</b>		<b>SA80 Painted</b>	<b>£175.00</b>	<b>STABLE BELT</b>	<b>£25.00</b>
Shopping	<b>£6.95</b>	<b>POLO SHIRTS</b>	<b>£50.00</b>	<b>PLC SA80 Patrol Painted</b>		<b>STATUETTE</b>	
<b>BAND POSTERS</b>	<b>65p</b>	<b>CRAVAT (Polyester)</b>	<b>£21.85</b>		<b>£175.00</b>	<b>Gdsm SA80 Bronze</b>	<b>£132.00</b>
	<b>20p</b>	<b>CUFF LINKS</b>		<b>UGL Painted</b>	<b>£175.00</b>	<b>Gdsm SLR Bronze</b>	<b>£132.00</b>
	<b>55p</b>	Barrel	<b>£4.00</b>	<b>MOUNTED BEARSKIN</b>	<b>£28.65</b>	<b>Drummer Painted</b>	<b>£175.00</b>
<b>BELT – TROUSER</b>	<b>£15.35</b>	Cypher	<b>£18.75</b>	<b>MOUNTED BERET</b>	<b>£28.65</b>	<b>Gdsm SA80 Painted</b>	<b>£175.00</b>
<b>BLAZER BADGES</b>		Grenade	<b>£12.85</b>	<b>NECK TUBE</b>	<b>£11.75</b>	<b>Gdsm SLR Painted</b>	<b>£175.00</b>
Association	<b>£7.95</b>	Oval Chain	<b>£50.00</b>	<b>NOTE PADS</b>	<b>£3.95</b>	<b>Sgt 1925 Bronze</b>	<b>£132.00</b>
Regimental	<b>£9.55</b>	Oval Chain BRB	<b>£50.00</b>	<b>OFFICERS BADGE</b>		<b>Sgt 1925 Painted</b>	<b>£175.00</b>
<b>BOOKS</b>		Spring Bar Cypher	<b>£60.00</b>	Brass Crown	<b>£3.85</b>	<b>Sgt Light Coy, Bronze</b>	<b>£132.00</b>
An Active Service	<b>£20.00</b>	Torpedo Cypher	<b>£60.00</b>	Brass Star	<b>£3.85</b>	<b>Sgt Light Coy, Painted</b>	<b>£175.00</b>
British Grenadiers	<b>£10.00</b>	<b>CUP (Royal Cypher)</b>	<b>£5.10</b>	Cloth Crown	<b>£2.95</b>	<b>Sgt 1908, Silver Plate</b>	<b>£499.00</b>
Guards VC's	<b>£13.00</b>	<b>CUSHION COVER</b>	<b>£37.00</b>	Cloth Star	<b>£2.95</b>	<b>Crimea Silver Plate</b>	<b>£529.00</b>
Once a Grenadier	<b>£5.00</b>	<b>DECANTER</b>		<b>OVEN GLOVES</b>	<b>£8.95</b>	<b>TANKARD</b>	
Shoe Shine Buff	<b>£3.50</b>	Wine 4 glasses	<b>£175.25</b>	<b>PEN (Standard Biro)</b>	<b>£3.25</b>	Barrel	<b>£65.00</b>
Twice The Man	<b>£16.75</b>	Whisky & glass	<b>£118.25</b>	<b>PENDANT</b>		Beer Glass (Cypher)	<b>£38.95</b>
<b>BOOKMARK (Red or Black)</b>	<b>£1.40</b>	Whisky	<b>£89.95</b>	Cypher, fine chain	<b>£139.00</b>	Pint Glass Straight (Cypher)	<b>£33.00</b>
	<b>£7.65</b>	Crystal ships, silver collar	<b>£345.00</b>	Grenade, fine chain	<b>£92.50</b>	Pewter	<b>£24.35</b>
<b>BOW TIE</b>		Crystal Brandy, silver collar	<b>£315.00</b>	<b>PICQUET CANE</b>	<b>£116.50</b>	Crystal & Silver	<b>£165.00</b>
<b>BRACES</b>				WO	<b>£116.50</b>	<b>TEA TOWEL</b>	
Combination	<b>£40.00</b>			<b>PLAQUE</b>		Old images	<b>£4.95</b>
Clip end	<b>£17.25</b>			Regimental	<b>£40.00</b>	Modern images	<b>£4.95</b>
Leather end	<b>£18.93</b>			Assoc Glass	<b>£34.95</b>	<b>TIE</b>	
<b>BRANDY GOBLETs</b>		<b>DOG COLLAR</b>	<b>£11.40</b>	<b>POCKET WATCH</b>		B/R/B Polyester	<b>£7.60</b>
Pair	<b>£59.75</b>	<b>DOG LEAD</b>	<b>£16.20</b>	Grenade	<b>£98.50</b>	B/R/B Silk	<b>£17.25</b>
<b>BROOCH</b>		<b>DOG LEAD (Handmade)</b>	<b>£17.95</b>	Association	<b>£98.50</b>	Flat Silk	<b>£6.43</b>
Cypher	<b>£185.00</b>	<b>EAR RINGS (Pearl)</b>	<b>£139.00</b>	<b>POLO SHIRT (Loom)</b>	<b>£15.25</b>	Plumed Polyester	<b>£6.60</b>
Grenade	<b>£148.50</b>	<b>GAZETTE</b>	<b>£5.25</b>	<b>PRINT</b>		Plumed Silk	<b>£15.00</b>
<b>BUTTONS</b>		<b>GOLF UMBRELLA</b>	<b>£15.25</b>	LSgt Rhodes	<b>£5.00</b>	Polyester Clip on	<b>£6.00</b>
22 Ligne Brass	<b>£1.65</b>	<b>HANDKERCHIEF (Silk)</b>	<b>£9.00</b>	The Drummer Boy	<b>£2.50</b>	<b>TIE PIN</b>	
22 Ligne SB	<b>£1.65</b>	<b>KEY FOB (Leather Back)</b>	<b>£3.10</b>	The Roll Call	<b>£48.75</b>	Pearl	<b>£74.95</b>
26 Ligne SB	<b>£1.80</b>	<b>KEY RING (Rubber)</b>	<b>£2.50</b>	1980, frock coat, Gdsm	<b>50p</b>	Stick pin	<b>£1.42</b>
26 Ligne Brass	<b>£2.45</b>	<b>LAPEL BADGE</b>		Grenadiers c.1880	<b>£6.30</b>	Sterling Silver 2 Co	<b>£47.00</b>
30 Ligne SB	<b>£1.65</b>	Association	<b>£2.75</b>	Liberation Somme Valley	<b>£47.35</b>	<b>TIE SLIDE</b>	
36 Ligne SB	<b>£1.75</b>	Association – Gilt	<b>£6.15</b>	Uniforms 1968-88 Print 1	<b>£3.00</b>	Grenade	<b>£12.35</b>
36 Ligne Brass	<b>£2.30</b>	Grenade	<b>£1.80</b>	Uniforms 1968-88 Print 2	<b>£3.00</b>	Enamel Cypher Badge	<b>£5.80</b>
40 Ligne SB	<b>£1.30</b>	Regimental	<b>£2.85</b>	Uniforms 1968-88 Print 3	<b>£3.00</b>	<b>TUMBLER</b>	
40 Ligne Brass	<b>£2.50</b>	<b>MEDAL HOLDER</b>	<b>£5.00</b>	Uniforms 1968-88 Print 4	<b>£3.00</b>	Cypher Badge	<b>£29.99</b>
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Music Grenadier Guards	<b>£12.20</b>	Warrior Bronze	<b>£132.00</b>		<b>95p</b>		
To Your Guards	<b>£12.20</b>	Kneeling-SA80 Painted	<b>£175.00</b>	Pack of 10	<b>£8.75</b>	<b>WATCH STRAP</b>	<b>£6.35</b>
<b>CALENDAR</b>	<b>£15.00</b>	Assualt – PLCE – Painted	<b>£175.00</b>	<b>RIBBON (B/R/B)</b>		<b>WATER GLASS</b>	<b>£29.99</b>
<b>CAP BADGES</b>		Foot Patrol Afghan Painted	<b>£175.00</b>	3cm wide	<b>£2.75</b>	<b>WATER GLASS</b>	<b>£110.00</b>
Black	<b>£4.10</b>	Javelin Man Painted	<b>£175.00</b>	<b>SCARF (Fleece)</b>	<b>£14.90</b>	<b>WEE DRAM SET</b>	
Gold Sgt	<b>£7.20</b>	LSW Painted	<b>£175.00</b>	<b>SOCKS H.D (B/R/B)</b>	<b>£7.65</b>	Crystal, 2 Glasses, Cypher	<b>£52.50</b>
Black Gold Sgt	<b>£7.20</b>	Mini Gunner Painted	<b>£175.00</b>			<b>WEE DRAM GLASSES</b>	
Grenade	<b>£4.10</b>						<b>£29.99</b>
Officers	<b>£13.10</b>					<b>WHISKY GLASSES (Pair)</b>	<b>£59.75</b>
WO	<b>£17.40</b>					<b>WRIST BANDS</b>	
<b>CAR BADGE (Assoc)</b>	<b>£13.50</b>					Handmade	<b>£5.00</b>
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## News from the Dining Club

### Norfolk Branch Dining Club

The Dining Club ended 2011 in good style with a very well attended Ladies Night. Norfolk Grenadiers were well outnumbered by family, friends, other Branches and even other Regiments, with a gathering of 68 people. We held another amazing raffle with a few feathered (still warm!) prizes to add interest to the usual very generous range of bottles and boxes.

The surprise of the evening was one **John Crowley** who had offered to provide some light after dinner entertainment without actually specifying what it would be. 68 people jumped in unison when he slipped into the room, almost unnoticed, very improperly dressed in striped shirt and forage cap and bellowed something along the lines of 'now listen 'ere you 'orrible lot'. He then sang an excellent rendering of the 'Sergeant Major'.



**John Crowley as The Sergeant Major – with the Colonel looking on somewhat amused!**

Having left the room to rousing cheers he then reappeared dressed as a Chelsea Pensioner and sang 'My Dear Old Dutch', this time accompanied by most of the assembled diners over 60 (and that is most of them!).

In November the two new kneelers that the club had sponsored for the Guards Chapel were delivered and the Club Secretary made the arduous trip to London to present them formally after Morning Service one Sunday. They really do look impressive. But more of kneelers in the New Year!



**The two kneelers presented to the Guards Chapel by the Norfolk Dining Club.**

We had decided that the April Dinner should, unusually for us, be a 'Black Tie' evening, as our celebration of the Diamond Jubilee and we had the added pleasure of the company of **Major Andy Green** as our guest. The photograph below shows how smart we can look when we try!

For the June Dinner we invited **Fergus Williams**, late Welsh Guards and now working for the Walking with the Wounded Charity based here in Norfolk. He gave a most interesting slide show and talk on both the Arctic Challenge of 2011 and on their attempt at Everest which had sadly just been called off. He was ably assisted by **Tom Allen**, who had been one of the support party which had reached Base Camp and had just returned from the Expedition. They showed some very impressive pictures and we will be following their next project – The South Pole 2013! Tom is the son of the Norfolk Branch President **Capt Tom Allen**.

The **Lynn Lunches** continue but in an effort to attract even more Grenadiers from the surrounding Counties we have held one in Lynn and one in Thetford. Both were very well supported but we know there are Grenadiers in our area who we never see and several who are not even known to us.

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 future Dining Evening dates for **2013** are: **April 19th, June 14th, August 16th, October 18th and December 6th.**

Alternatively the next lunch at King's Lynn will be on **May 8th** and at Thetford on **November 6th**. Just give the Club organiser, Ross Donaldson, a call on 01692

598336 or e-mail [ross@ross-donaldson.com](mailto:ross@ross-donaldson.com) for all details. We really hope to hear from you.



Major Andy Green helping the Dining Club to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee.

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## A Very Generous Gesture

Mr (24865040) Martyn Dunn who previously served in the regiment (as did his father), turned 40 last September and decided to try and raise some money for the Colonel's Fund to mark the occasion. He had a party where instead of gifts he asked his friends and family members to donate to the fund. He also held a raffle and managed to raise £812.00. Substantial as this was Martyn then raised his sights to see if he could reach £1,000 and set up a collection stall, with the help of his Dad, at his local supermarket in Nantwich. He tells us that people were so generous and showed a genuine interest in what the fund was all about. We are heartened to report that the total he has raised to date stands at £1,050.25 and it does not stop there as he has further plans to increase this already very worthy total.



## GRENADIER DAY 2012



Clockwise from top: The Medway Branch, Boyton Cup winners, receive the trophy from Colonel E H Houstoun OBE; The IMPS motorcycle display team who proved to be the star attraction; the very impressive Portsmouth Area Cadet Corps Field Gun Display during a gun run; the ever popular 'refreshment' tent and Capt Andy Butcher keeping the whole thing on track as usual.



## REGIMENTAL REMEMBRANCE DAY 2012



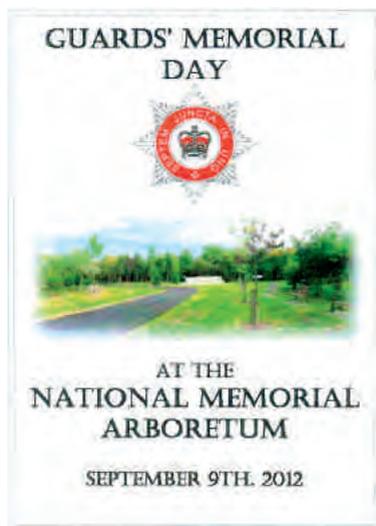
Clockwise from top: Colour Points Dale Carter & Chris Quinlan with Wreath Bearers Ed Salmon & Andy Baines; The Colonel arriving at the Guards Chapel being met by The Lieutenant Colonel; The Colonel acknowledges the fallen at the Guards Memorial and Colonel E H Houstoun OBE reading the messages of Loyal Greeting.



## A Strong Gathering at the National Memorial Arboretum

by Colonel Henry Hanning  
(photographs courtesy of Mr Mike Twigg)

On 9th September 2012 guardsmen converged in considerable numbers for the first special memorial day for the Household Division at the NMA in Staffordshire. Several branches of regimental associations came in coach-loads, some making a very early start. Grenadiers were strongly represented. On arrival a few hours were available to visit the striking central Armed Forces Memorial and some of the great number of individual memorials spread over 150 acres of parkland. It would take several visits to do justice to this extraordinary place, to which new memorials are constantly being added. There are already well over 200, set among thousands of maturing trees.



The Household Division Memorial itself was of course the focus of the day. It was dedicated in December 2009 by HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Originally the surroundings were rather bare and unimposing but much good work has been done since to smarten them up, with a good approach road in the form of an avenue and an excellent descriptive board. Ranged behind the memorial are five Wellingtonia trees, which in years to come can be expected to grow to a great size and form a magnificent backdrop. These were given by Dennis Ward, a former Grenadier who set up the memorial day in an impressive feat of organisation.

After lunch the parade of 114 veterans, including five mounted on mobility scooters, formed up. Carrying 12 standards and banners and accompanied by the Household Division Veteran Corps of Drums of 36, they marched to the memorial where a short service was conducted by the Reverend Tony Luke and wreaths laid. The parade then returned past a saluting base where the salute was taken by Her Majesty's Vice Lord Lieutenant of



Grenadier branch presidents with the notables on the start line: Colonel Lance Ranson (Gloucestershire), Colonel Michael Beatty, Rt Honourable Andrew Robathan MP, Lieutenant Colonel Henry Hanning (Reading).

Staffordshire, Colonel Michael Beatty CBE TD DL and the Rt Honourable Andrew Robathan MP, Minister of State for the Armed Forces and a former Coldstreamer. The spectators numbered around 200. After a well-received recital by the Corps of Drums outside the reception centre many of the whole party then travelled

to the Branston Golf and Country Club where 175 sat down to an excellent meal, which went on to almost 7pm. It was a long and, for some, a taxing day but judged to have been thoroughly worthwhile and successful.

Although a good many veterans would like to see a regular such event in future years it is hard to see how it could be arranged on the same scale without considerable official support – and subsidy. The site itself, which has already been attracting around 300,000 visitors a year, is being expanded further and large improvements are hoped for by the autumn of 2014. It is suggested that, for the time being at least, visits by individuals and smaller parties would be most worthwhile. These can be tailored to the needs of the visitors. **Dennis Ward**, who has been closely concerned with the Household Division Memorial since its inception and knows a great deal about the NMA as a whole, has offered his services as a guide. He can be contacted on 01283 701244 or [dennis@gpanet.co.uk](mailto:dennis@gpanet.co.uk) and it is very well worth doing so. A visit to this remarkable place and to our fine memorial in particular is not to be missed.



Striding out: drummers, standard and banner bearers and veterans on the march.



Wreaths laid: the fine memorial framed by trees.



Cooling off: LSgt Ellingham wishing perhaps that he could strip down like this warm gentleman, WO2 (RQMS) Walker enjoying a light moment with Dennis Ward, mover and shaker of the day.

## The Blackpool Reunion

by *Les Scholes*

I first thought of the idea of organising a reunion in 2000 after attending a golf reunion at York that was organised by Ron Smith, and attended by approximately 25 Grenadiers and guests. I remember how good it was to meet up with people I had not seen in the 7 years that had passed since I left the regiment in 1993. It was a fantastic couple of days and that gave me the idea of trying to organise something similar, but on a bigger scale, without the golf, open to anyone who served in the regiment during 1970–2000, mainly because that was the time period that I served. However, now it is open to any Grenadier irrespective of when they served.



**Ken Blanchard, Dave Parkman, John Wall.**

A friend of mine informed me that the Norbreck Castle hotel in Blackpool ran military reunions so I contacted them and they sent me details and dates of availability. After visiting the hotel and speaking to the event co-ordinator I was really impressed and booked the first reunion for May 2001. The reason for choosing Blackpool was that it was local for me, the hotel could cater for what we required and what we got up to, i.e. drinking and being a little loud. Parking was not a problem and there was plenty to do during the day away from the hotel, so it ticked a lot of boxes.



**Kev Taylor, Tom Shardlow, Phil Shelbourn, Mush Godard, Lester Piggott, Mick Harris John Blay, Les Scholes.**

In the early years we were getting over 140 people attending and for quite a number of years we were being sponsored for entertainment for the Gala Dinner which allowed me to book tribute bands. Over the years we have had the Drifters, Queen, Dave Berry, ABBA, the Temptations and Take That tribute bands. I would like to thank the three men who are all Grenadiers for making it possible, they are Don Trayner, Jeff Greenwood and Mike Rossi; thanks guys it was greatly appreciated.



**Scouse Barcus and Steve Austin.**

The average attendance at the reunion is approximately 100 of which the majority return every year, I find this amazing when I think that the next reunion will be our 13th and initially I only did it as a one off.

In outline the weekend usually runs as follows: people arrive at the hotel on the Friday and can book into their rooms from 1500hrs onwards and then they normally hit the bar and to be honest stay there until late o'clock. The Saturday during the day is free to explore Blackpool and the surrounding area and in the evening we have a Gala dinner in the Boston Suite where we have a 3 course meal followed by a disco until late. The Sunday is when we say our goodbyes and return home.



**Mush Goddard.**

I am aware that a lot of people think that the reunion is for the 2nd Battalion and that is totally wrong. Admittedly the majority of those that attend served in



**John Hodgson, Pete Nash, Caz Carre Tom Cooke.**

2nd Battalion but there are people who served in the 1st Battalion and a lot who served in both.

Let me make one thing quite clear; there is no place for rank at this reunion, it's about serving in the regiment and being a Grenadier, sharing all our experiences, and getting to know people who you served with but did not really have a chance to know because of rank. I have got to know and become great friends with a lot of people that I did not get a chance to when serving, irrespective of which Battalion they served in.

The reunion has grown over the years. We have collected monies for various charities and helped people with welfare problems when we can; we have become one big family even our ladies, the majority of whom were never army wives enjoy meeting up each year, the reunion also gives us a chance to remember our comrades who have sadly passed away. It also gives us a

chance to relive those 'when I' stories, you know the ones that makes us laugh and those that make us cry. The reunion is not everyone's cup of tea, but it is mine and that of many others.

For those of you who do social networking such as Facebook you can find more information on the Reunion at the group, 1970-2000 Grenadier Reunion and an event for next year's reunion called Grenadier Guards 2013 Blackpool Reunion, feel free to join. The dates for the next reunion are 30 May-03 June 2013.



The 2002 Reunion.



**GRENADIER DAY FACES**



## The Old Farts' Golf Society

*by Les Scholes*

The Old Farts' Golf Society was formed in 1997; the idea being that a small group of Grenadiers and their guests would get together every year and play two days of golf, drink plenty of beer, and remember the old days.



**Right to Left: Ron Smith, Geoff Fishwick, Reg Sergeant and Kev Annable.**

For the first three years it was held at York and organised by Ron Smith who was then The Garrison Sergeant Major of York Garrison. Now it is held at a different place each year, with a member of the society volunteering to organise the event at a place of his choosing and with the consent of the members. In 2004 the event moved to Bolton and was run by Les Scholes who was a Capt PSAO at 216 Battery RA (V). The event was run in Bolton for the next five years other than in 2007 when it was held on the Isle of Wight. In 2009 it moved to Blackpool organised again by Les Scholes and in 2010 at Nottingham organised by Kev Annable. Last year it was held in a very wet Harrogate and organised by Ron Smith. In 2013 the event will be held at the Trethorne Golf Club, Launceston, Cornwall between 22–24 September and organised by Dave Parkman.



**Right to Left: Ron Smith, Reg Sergeant, Wayne Turner and Dave Evans.**

As time has gone by the society has got bigger and the golf has got more serious, what started as 6 people has now risen to 30 Grenadiers and their guests and there are four trophies played for over the two days which are; The Griff Trophy, open to Grenadiers only, The Dougie Blackford Trophy, open to all and played for on day one. The Memorial Trophy and the Team Cup are open to all and played for on day two. In addition to the trophies there are prizes, kindly sponsored by Dougie Blackford. For those of you who do social networking such as Facebook you can find out more information on this fantastic couple of days at the group Old Farts Golf and an event for next year's golf called:– Old Farts Golf 2013, please feel free to join.



**Isle of Wight 2007.**

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## Memorial Column at Aalten

*In Memory of Lt Andrew Duncan,  
Number 4 Platoon, The King's  
Company, Grenadier Guards*

*by Wim Rhebergen*

On 12 June 2012 a memorial column was unveiled at the general cemetery Berkenhove in Aalten, Holland. For the third time in four years the town commemorated the British soldiers who were killed in action on 30 March 1945. In 2008 a bridge over the 'Emperor's Creek' was renamed after the King's Company, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards. The Burgomaster and King's Company veteran Walter Price unveiled the plaque. In 2010 Aalten celebrated the 65th Anniversary of Liberation, and the book 'British Scars in Aalten's Soil' by historian and author Wim Rhebergen was launched. The first copy was presented to Lord Wigram who at the time led Number 2 Squadron of the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards. Their attack passed through the town thereby liberating Aalten.

In direct exchanges of fire and explosive devices, 13 British soldiers died during the liberation on Good



**Lt Andrew Duncan.**

Friday 1945; among them two Irish Guardsmen and two Royal Engineers. The King's Company suffered heavy losses; nine soldiers lost their lives. Apart from Number 4 Platoon Commander, Lt Andrew Duncan, all soldiers are buried at Aalten. Andrew Duncan fought very bravely and was leading the fight and injured twice. He died of his wounds in a military hospital outside Aalten and is

laid to rest in the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery at Kleve, Germany.

His first cousin, best friend and naval veteran Kenneth Scott from Port Hope in Canada, felt Andrew should be memorialised with his fallen comrades in Aalten. Through Wim Rhebergen he requested the Municipality of Aalten to place a memorial in the cemetery. Aalten finds it important to keep the history of the Second World War, and the role its liberators played in it, alive. The town decided to place a memorial column that permanently remembers those who died for freedom and informs the people of the circumstances under which they lost their lives. In total there are 18 official war graves located at the cemetery. Buried next to the soldiers of the Grenadier and Irish Guards and the Royal Engineers are five British airmen who died when their Stirling bomber crashed in June 1943. Finally, a Dutch resistance fighter Cornelius Ruizendaal, who was the leader of the local assault group, is also laid to rest there; he died during a firefight with the SS after being betrayed.

Prior to the unveiling all guests were welcomed with coffee and tea at the Aalten Historical Museum which presents the life of the community during the five dark years of occupation. In the museum the war can be experienced under one roof, in a house where a family lived in hiding, the German Ortskommandant took up quarters. Relatively speaking, Aalten had the highest number of persons in hiding in the Netherlands. After a reception at the funeral parlour with music by the Brass Band of the Corps National Reserve of the Royal Army and an explanation of the initiative for a memorial column by Burgomaster Berghoef, those invited were accompanied

to the graves by two pipers of The Royal British Legion of the Netherlands.

Wim Rhebergen spoke about the text and the photographs on the column. He ended his speech with:

*'Today we pay tribute to Lieutenant Andrew Duncan in particular. His first cousin and best friend Kenneth Scott will honour his memory and by doing so, the name Andrew Duncan shall forever be associated with the liberation of Aalten on this particular spot'.*

Wim then gave the floor to Kenneth Scott, Lt Commander Royal Canadian Navy (Ret'd). Kenneth said:

*'I call this the cemetery of heroes. They are all heroes. They gave their all'.*



**Kenneth Scott next to the memorial column.**

He continued to talk about the role of Andrew Duncan during the war and said:

*'I know when he left me in Canada where we had been evacuated at the beginning of the war. Andrew came to me one day and said I'm off to England. I have managed to get a flight due to my mother who worked in the British Embassy in Washington. Andrew came back to England, finished school and joined the Grenadier Guards. I find it very fitting that in Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee Year, we are*

honouring Andrew because his first posting after he had received his commission was to Windsor and one of the last letters I received from him before he joined the regiment, told me about how he dined with Queen Elizabeth, when she was Princess Elizabeth, Princess Margaret and Lady Pamela Mountbatten'.

'We did everything together in our short life. He was a professional soldier and had he lived, I dare say he would have risen to high rank. This place is incredibly important to me. I would like to just close by asking you to bow your heads'.

Kenneth ended with the words of the famous poem 'For the Fallen':

*'They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them'.*

After a musical contribution by the Band of the Royal Army, the Regimental Adjutant, Major Grant Baker made a speech:

*'Today marks another milestone in the story that started with the occupation of the Netherlands in 1940 and for the Grenadier Guards here in Aalten on the 30th March 1945. The Mayor, Wim Rhebergen and Kenneth Scott have spoken eloquently about the memorial and what led to it being created. And Kenneth Scott has also painted a very vivid picture of a young platoon commander in the Grenadier Guards at that time. The Dutch people endured unbelievable hardship during the war years and those involved with the Resistance carried out many acts of great courage and bravery doubtless exemplified by the exploits of Black Kees (Cornelius Ruizendaal). I know this too from my own experience because my Mother was Dutch and, living in The Hague with an SS Officer billeted in her parents' house on the Lange Voorhout, she used to carry messages for the Resistance. The Grenadier Guards came to Aalten after the fierce Battle for Nijmegen and the*

*exceptionally harsh winter that followed. After the King's Company battle at 'King's Company Bridge', No 2 Squadron cleared the Town of the Germans. It marked a violent day for the Grenadier Guards in the closing weeks of the war in Northwest Europe, but a happy day for the town of Aalten to be finally free from the German invaders'.*



**The Regimental Adjutant making his speech.**

'As Kenneth Scott so eloquently said Andrew Duncan was looking forward to it all ending and being able to go home. I don't know a great deal about Andrew Duncan or Robert Joly apart from what I have heard. But I do know, because I have a letter from my father written to the Grenadier Guards expressing his sorrow not only for those young fine officers, and those are the words he used, but also for the other Guardsmen and Non-

*Commissioned officers who were killed here on that day. I might say that my father was also very badly wounded, being blow up by a German mortar bomb. A Canadian stomach surgeon in the field hospital saved his life. Today for me back here in Aalten it is good to see that the town is still thriving'.*

Major Baker finished his speech by saying that the last time he was in Aalten, The Queen's Company was serving in Afghanistan.



**Kenneth Scott saluting the memorial.**

*'And so it is again at the moment and it has already suffered the loss of one man killed in action and a number of others seriously wounded'.*

The speech by Major Baker was followed by the unveiling of the memorial column by Kenneth Scott and Mr M B Ruizendaal, son of the resistance fighter. Relatives took the opportunity to place flowers with musical accompaniment by the Band. Major Baker laid a poppy wreath on behalf of the Grenadier Guards. After one minute's silence the piper of the Royal British Legion played a lament, followed by the National Anthems of Great Britain and the Netherlands. At the end the C-47 Dakota of the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight based at RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire did four fly pasts! It was a magnificent salute to those who made the supreme sacrifice. The Burgomaster concluded the official programme and the pipers of the Royal British Legion accompanied the guests to the Berkenhove Funeral Parlour for an informal conclusion with a drink and a snack. It was an enjoyable day for everyone and a moving ceremony. For Kenneth Scott in particular, it was wonderful to see the honour and respect that his cousin Lt Andrew Duncan was held in. His name will forever be associated with the liberation of Aalten at Berkenhove Cemetery.



**Kenneth Scott and the author Wim Rhebergen.**



**The Dakota fly-past.**

## Remembrance & Battlefield Tours with the Heroes Return 2 grant scheme



The Heroes Return 2 grant scheme can assist WWII Veterans, their partners and a carer with free travel grants up to £5,500. From a personal journey tailor made for individuals or families to larger groups for like-minded people. We can also arrange tours for regimental or local associations. We are here to help.

Call 01634 233785 or visit us at

[www.spiritofremembrance.com](http://www.spiritofremembrance.com)



## Photographs – History in the Making and a Missed Opportunity to Celebrate a 100 Year Anniversary

### THE PHOTOGRAPHS

At the Suffolk Branch function at Saxham Hall on 26th June 2012, Associate Member Mrs Gill Welton showed Derek Beaumont (Suffolk Branch Secretary) some photographs which her late father had given her. He had served in the Grenadier Guards in the 1930s, but having left the Regiment, was recalled to the colours with the advent of WWII. His Battalion fought a rear-guard action to secure the evacuation from Dunkerque, but he lost his life in the ensuing action. Two of the photographs depicted a Regimental Funeral; the first of a coffin being carried on a gun limber drawn by horses and escorted by a bearer party of Grenadiers; the second, of the coffin being removed from the limber in preparation for carriage into the church.

A closer examination of the photographs lead Derek to believe that the buildings associated with the church in question were located at Bramford Suffolk, a village about two miles west of Ipswich. Having a collection of books containing photographs of Ipswich and the surrounding area, past and present, he was pleased to find an identical picture of the Grenadier bearer party removing the coffin from the limber. On the same page in the book<sup>1</sup> was another photograph of a Grenadier Company slow marching behind the cortege, arms reversed.

Accompanying the two photographs in the book<sup>1</sup> was a brief explanation that the funeral was for Capt Eustace Loraine of Bramford, who had been killed on 5th July 1912 when the Nieuport plane in which he and a SSgt Wilson were flying had crashed. Derek was intrigued to find out the circumstances of the crash; how two soldiers came to be in the plane at the time of the crash and if it was a military or civilian aircraft. Little had he anticipated the outcome of his research.

### EUSTACE BROKE LORAINE

The Loraine family lived at Bramford Hall, inherited by Lady Frederica Mary Horatia (née Broke) from her uncle Sir George Broke of Nacton (Suffolk). Lady Frederica was married to Rear Admiral Sir Lambton Loraine, 11th Baronet of Kirkharle in Northumberland, an estate which the family had owned since the 15th century. Sir Lambton and Lady Frederica had four children, Eustace, the eldest who was born in



**Eustace Broke Loraine.**

London on 3rd September 1879, and was heir to the title and the estate; then Percy, Jacqueline and Isaura. Capt Eustace Loraine was educated at Eton and Sandhurst, and was gazetted as a 2Lt with the Grenadier Guards on 5th July 1899.

### Service in Africa

A month after his arrival in South Africa in May 1900, he was promoted to Lt, where he served until May 1902, having been awarded the Queen's Medal with three clasps and the King's Medal with two. Having been wounded in 1903 he almost left the army but was persuaded to remain and take the post of Assistant Commandant of the South Nigeria Regiment. He had a striking appearance being 6 feet 3 inches tall with red hair, this combined with his lively personality and intelligence made him popular with his colleagues. He then returned to England where he served as Adjutant, Grenadier Guards from July 1905 until September 1906, when he

was awarded the Distinguished Service Order. In 1908 he was promoted to Capt and spent two years in the West Africa Frontier Force where his commanding officer was Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Hugh Trenchard of the Royal Scots Fusiliers. In 1909 whilst Loraine was still in Nigeria, reports reached him of Louis Blériot's flight across the English Channel. This news stirred Loraine's curiosity and he decided to find out more about flying.

### Pioneer Aviator

The War Office was content to pay for Loraine's flying



<sup>1</sup> Ipswich at War by John Smith, Neil Wylie, Robert Malster and David Kindred.



training and he was seconded from the Grenadier Guards in order that he might learn to fly. He successfully completed his flying training and was granted Royal Aero Club certificate number 154 which was dated 7 November 1911. He was in correspondence with Trenchard, who was now serving in Ireland, and he kept him informed about his progress as an aviator. On one occasion in spring/summer 1912, Loraine wrote to Trenchard urging him to learn to fly. Trenchard was greatly impressed by Loraine's words which read 'You've no idea what you're missing . . . Come and see men like ants crawling'. At that time Trenchard was looking for a new direction and after reading Loraine's letter he decided to try and learn to fly. Trenchard went on to command the Flying Corps in France during World War I and then serve as the Royal Air Force's first Chief of the Air Staff. At some stage in 1911 or early 1912, Loraine was attached to No 2 Company of the Air Battalion which was based at Larkhill on Salisbury Plain. On 13 May 1912, with the establishment of the Royal Flying Corps, No 2 Company was redesignated No. 3 Squadron RFC and Loraine remained at Larkhill.

### The Air Crash

Less than two months later, on the morning of Friday 5th July 1912 and exactly 13 years since he joined the Army, Capt Loraine was at Larkhill Camp on Salisbury Plain helping to test fly a Nieuport monoplane. During the flight, some initial problems were experienced and he returned to base for adjustments to be made. On taking off for a second time the plane climbed, banked to turn,

but immediately fell to the ground. His companion, SSgt R H V Wilson was killed instantly and Capt Loraine although speedily transported to Bulford Hospital in a horse-drawn ambulance, succumbed to his wounds only a few minutes after arriving at the Hospital. Loraine and Wilson were the first Flying Corps personnel to die in an aircraft crash while on duty. Later in the day an order was issued which stated 'Flying will continue this evening as usual', thus beginning a tradition.

His body was returned to Bramford Hall on 8th July and on Wednesday 10th a funeral cortege proceeded through the village, accompanied by a detachment of Grenadier Guards, to Bramford Church where he was buried with full military honours.

### The Crash Site

The site of the crash at Greenlands Bottom, near the intersection of the A344 and the A360 roads and less than a mile west of Stonehenge, is now known as 'Airman's Cross'. The stone cross memorial stood in the middle of the grass island at the junction and its inscription read:

*'To the memory of Capt Loraine and Staff-Sergeant Wilson who whilst flying on duty, met with a fatal accident near this spot on 5 July 1912. Erected by their comrades.'*



**The unveiling of the memorial in July 1913 with Loraine family on the left.**



In January 2010 the Council granted permission for the Grade II listed memorial to be removed and on 25th June 2012, the Royal Engineers

assisted English Heritage to remove it from its roadside position to make way for a new roundabout that will eventually lead to a proposed visitor's centre at Stonehenge. The Memorial will be kept in storage at the Royal Engineer's barracks at Perham Down. English Heritage has stated that the memorial will be reinstalled in a prominent position within the precincts of the new visitor centre before it is opened to the public, predicted date 2013. At the time that Gill showed Derek the



photographs it was almost 100 years to the day that the crash had occurred. Sentimentally, it was a pity that the memorial could not have remained in situ for another ten days to complete the hundredth anniversary; but the removal would be considered progress in these days of the hallowed motor car! However, on 5th July 2012 soldiers from 32 Regiment Royal Artillery, the Wessex Gunners, who are based at Larkhill in Wiltshire, commemorated the centenary of the first aviation deaths in the history of the Royal Flying Corp., with a church parade.

Set within the shadows of St. Mary's Church Tower Bramford are three graves, those of Sir Percy Lyham Loraine (on the left); Capt Eustace Loraine (centre) and the family grave of Rear-Admiral Sir Lambton Loraine, his wife Frederica Mary Horatia and daughter Isaura Frederica (on the right). The gravestones of Sir Percy (left) and the family (right) are readable, but it is impossible to decipher any of the writing on the gravestone dedicated to Eustace; it is assumed that the small stone at the foot of the grave may well have set out the circumstances of his death. Inside the church are two large tablets the first reads:-

19 (Coat of Arms) 50 *In loving memory of REAR ADMIRAL SIR LAMBTON LORAINÉ XIth Baronet His wife FREDERICA MARY HORATIA Heiress of the BROKES of NACTON in this County Their Son Captain EUSTACE BROKE LORAINÉ Grenadier Guards and Royal Flying Corps. One of the Pioneers of British Military Aviation Their daughter ISaura FREDERICA LORAINÉ Who have been laid to rest in the churchyard This tablet is dedicated by The Right Honourable SIR PERCY LYHAM LORAINÉ XIIth Baronet Of Kirkharle County of*



**The Loraine family graves and the large tablets situated in the churchyard.**

*Northumberland A KNIGHT GRAND CROSS Of the Most Distinguished Order of ST. MICHAEL and ST. GEORGE.*

The second reads:-

*In loving memory of PERCY LORAINÉ P.C., G.C.M.G; 12th and last Baronet of Kirkharle (1664) 1880-1961. Soldier and Diplomat; Hon. Lieutenant Imperial Yeomanry Boar War 1901-1902. H.M. High Commissioner for Egypt and the Sudan 1923-1933. H.M. Ambassador to Turkey 1933-1939. H.M. Ambassador to Italy 1939-1940. And of his beloved wife LOUISE VIOLET BEATRICE 1893-1970. It is said that the first Loraine to settle in England came from the Duchy of Lorraine with William the Conqueror. His successors served England and the Crown with devotion and loyalty.*

### ST. MARY'S CHURCH APPROACH YESTERYEAR AND TODAY



**In 'Today's' photograph the old Mill (large building on the right side of the 'Yesteryear' photograph) has given way to modern housing.**



**The white house remains unchanged, but the gravelled road is now metalled.**

## A Wartime Princess

by Major PAJ Wright  
OBE formerly  
Grenadier Guards

The Duke of Connaught, who had been Colonel of the Grenadier Guards since 1904, died aged 91 on 16th January 1942. He was the great-great uncle and godfather of Princess Elizabeth, and the suggestion that she should be invited to take his place was met with immediate acclaim by the Regiment. She was nearly 16, and her appointment as Colonel on 24th February signified her emergence from private to public life. To mark the occasion, the Regiment presented the Princess on her 16th birthday with a blue enamel and diamond brooch in the form of the Regimental Cypher. It was presented on 21st April, just before a parade of detachments from all eight Battalions of the Regiment at Windsor. The Princess in her reply spoke of her pride in the Regiment she had already learnt to love. Accompanied by the King and Queen, she took the salute from her new Regiment on her first public engagement.



**The Colonel inspecting her new Regiment on her 16th birthday in 1942.**

Throughout the war, the Royal Family refused to move to greater safety than their subjects, and a company of the Training Battalion provided their protection at Windsor Castle. It was reported that Princess Elizabeth



**Cecil Beaton's charming portrait of Princess Elizabeth as Colonel of the Grenadier Guards.**

attended a soldiers dance, closely chaperoned and with all her dancing partners carefully lined up and instructed. However, a young drummer, of about her age, boldly crossed the floor, came straight up to her and asked her to dance. She accepted graciously and they had a delightful turn around the floor. He brought her back and dismissed himself with perfect courtesy.

6th Battalion, Grenadier Guards, was raised at Caterham Barracks in October 1941. From the start they were a motor battalion suited for operations in desert warfare. In May 1942 the Battalion, the youngest of the Regiment, was honoured by the first visit which their new Colonel had paid to any of her battalions. On 14th June they left Caterham for Liverpool on the first stage of the journey to join the Middle East. 4th Battalion's

201st Guards Brigade in training for armoured warfare had involved a major transformation. In 1943 they were re-equipped with Churchill tanks and were visited by Princess Elizabeth on 13th April on Salisbury Plain – her first solo public engagement. The Battalion, as part of 6th Guards Tank Brigade, set sail for France in 1944.

Princess Elizabeth was presented with her Colonel's Colour on 21st April 1944, her 18th birthday. 1st Battalion was billeted at Hove and 2nd Battalion at Brighton as part of the Guards Armoured Division. Both were completing their final preparations for the invasion and landings on the Normandy beaches in June. On 17th May, Princess Elizabeth made her first inspection as Colonel. A site was found on a sports pitch on top of the steep hill overlooking Hove and the sea. The Welsh Guards Corps of Drums provided the music. At 11am 1st Battalion was drawn up in review order for inspection. The Colonel



**Princess Elizabeth was presented with her Colonel's Colour by Colonel J A Prescott on her 18th Birthday, 21st April 1944.**

was greeted by a Royal Salute, and then walked along the ranks speaking to all the officers and many of the old soldiers. The Battalion finally marched past, after which the officers of both Battalions entertained their Colonel to lunch at the Dudley Hotel. In the afternoon she inspected 2nd Battalion, while 1st Battalion lined the streets for her departure.

In March 1944, due to casualties and the lack of reinforcements, there were insufficient Grenadiers to maintain six battalions, and 6th Battalion were removed from operations. The majority of officers and men were transferred to reinforce 5th Battalion and provide a pool of reserves. A nucleus of eight officers and 100 other ranks sailed from Naples to England. They were welcomed home at Windsor by Princess Elizabeth. At the beginning of May the veterans of Mareth and Monte Camino mounted the King's Guard at Buckingham Palace. The Battalion was formally disbanded at the end of the year. In December 1944, 1st, 2nd and 4th Battalions spent Christmas close to the German frontier involved in blocking the Ardennes offensive. However, every single man sat down to a Christmas dinner of pork, roast beef and tinned turkey, at least three vegetables, and Christmas puddings provided by Princess Elizabeth.

For the same reasons that had led to the disbandment of 6th Battalion, 5th Battalion



**Princess Elizabeth arriving to inspect the 1st Battalion at Hove on 17th May 1944.**



**Princess Elizabeth accompanied by Major Nigel Baker, MC, The Capt of the King's Company talking to RSM F Dowling MC at Hove. His Guards Armoured Division badge was blotted out by the censor**

followed. In March 1945 the nucleus left Naples, docked at Birkenhead and were taken to Chelsea Barracks and sent on three weeks leave. When they reassembled it was to wind up the Battalion formally at a parade in Wellington Barracks on 7th May, which was inspected by Princess Elizabeth. Four days later 5th Battalion was officially disbanded. It was the eve of the end of the war in Europe.

In 1945 Princess Elizabeth convinced her father that she should be allowed to contribute directly to the war effort. She joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service (ATS) where she was known as Second Subaltern Elizabeth Windsor. Her training was with No 1 MT Training Centre at Camberley. She qualified as a driver and mechanic



**Second Subaltern Windsor of the ATS working on a vehicle engine in 1945.**

and was promoted to Junior Commander. On VE day, 8th May 1945, Princess Elizabeth appeared in ATS uniform, with her parents, sister and Churchill, on the balcony of Buckingham Palace. A few weeks later the war was over. During the celebrations on VJ day, she and her sister, escorted by three Grenadier officers, slipped incognito into the enormous crowds celebrating in Trafalgar Square and Piccadilly. They ended outside Buckingham Palace calling for the King and Queen to appear on the balcony.



**The Royal Family's appearance on the balcony at Buckingham Palace was the highlight of VE day on 8th May 1945.**

Princess Elizabeth became Colonel of the Grenadier Guards in wartime aged 16. As Queen, she then became their Colonel in Chief. Her Diamond Jubilee on the throne is her Platinum Jubilee as a Grenadier and her close personal interest in 'my Grenadiers' has remained undiminished throughout 70 years. Prince Philip, the Queen's Consort, marked his 37th year as Colonel in 2012. The historical attachment of Grenadiers to the person of their monarch could hardly have endured in more decisive form.

## 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, DL; 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:** D. DOVER Esq.

**Treasurer:** D. HIBBLE Esq.

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

**Email:** rgbakker@aol.com

It is with great sadness that we record the death of our Branch President **Sir Philip Digby Pauncefort-Duncombe Bt DL**, who passed away in hospital at Milton Keynes on the 22nd December 2011. **Lady Rachel** had informed the Branch secretary a week before that 'P' was in hospital. A private family service was held in the morning at St Mary the Virgin Great Brickhill on Friday 13th January 2012, a Memorial Service was held in the afternoon and the church was absolutely full; the overspill were ushered to the marquee on the Duncombe ground by the church, waiting for them were seats and two flat screens which showed the service inside the church. Many dignitaries attended including **The Rt Honourable Lord Carrington KG CH GCMG MC, Sir Nicolas Bonsor Bt DL, Colonel Tom Hall CVO OBE**, President of the Association **Colonel E H Houstoun OBE**, Branch members and many more. The family invited those who attended to join them for tea in the marquee after the service.

We are pleased to report that we have a new Chairman, **Mr Don Dover**, and Treasurer, **Mr David Hibble**. Our Chairman arranged a small affair at his home with tea for our members, his wife **Ann** laid on an



**Sir Philip Duncombe.**

excellent spread which we all enjoyed. This has been the third year in succession that we have not held our usual annual luncheon. Previously held in November we will consider a switch to a more favourable month to see if we can encourage members to attend.

Over the Christmas period our Branch Secretary delivered by hand the customary gifts to our widows; their gratitude for the thought and help at this time of year was evident. Gifts for those living further a field are posted to one of our members, **Mr Vernon Martin** who also takes the trouble to pay personal visits to hand deliver the gifts. Sadly we have lost another veteran, **2624715 Geoffrey John Stanley Edwards**, a wreath was sent on behalf of the Aylesbury & District Branch.

### BATH

(Formed 1952)

**President:** Major HA BAILLIE.

**Vice Presidents:** Lieutenant Colonel THE LORD WIGRAM, MC; Lieutenant Colonel. Sir ANDREW FORD, KCVO.

**Chairman:** Mr L. HARDWICK.

**Secretary:** Major (Retd.) RON KIRKWOOD, 27 Jasmine Way, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 7SW. Tel: (01225) 769859.

**Email:** wkirkwood@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** Mr M. JACKSON.

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

We say this at the start of every Gazette report but it truly does sadden us to start the Branch entry off with bad news, but, for those of you who don't know **Peter Hanney** passed away earlier this year. Not only was **Peter** the main stay of the Branch and the Treasurer but he was also a great personal friend to all of us. He will be sadly missed. As with all other Branches our thoughts and condolences go out to all the friends and families of Grenadiers who have been killed or wounded in action in Afghanistan. We try to put as much information into the Gazette entry to keep those of you who still like to keep in touch with what goes on in the Grenadier family but are unable to attend meetings and this Gazette is the only way that you are able to keep in touch. So here we go again.

Our Branch 60th Birthday Jubilee Lunch was attended by over 100 members, guests and families. It was a resounding success with Cumberwell Park entering into the spirit of the event by decorating the dining room with Union Flags and bunting. Our new treasurer **Malcolm Jackson** made Grenadier flags and

Union flags which were placed on each table. Pictured right are the ladies and gents pins that were presented to all who attending lunch.

This was the first lunch that **Malcolm** organised and stepping into **Peter Hanney's** shoes and organising such a special occasion was not easy, however **Malcolm** stepped up to the plate and did a great job. Well done and a hearty thank you **Malcolm** from all the Branch members.



Our outing to the Houses of Parliament on 22 August was again another great event with 53 members and their families and guests attending. It was an early start, 0730hrs from Bath, but to make the most of the day and to get to Westminster on time in the coach this was a necessity. The visit was organised through the office of **The Rt Hon Don Foster MP**, the MP for Bath. The visit consisted of a guided tour of the Palace of Westminster including both Houses. The members attending were impressed by the knowledge of the guide although eagle eyed members did notice a few minor mistakes when describing some pictures containing Grenadier Guards!

Very worthy of a mention again this year is our Branch internet site. **Mr John Ireland** is still the guru when it comes to the internet and he still produces and manages our own Branch internet page. This year **John** has added more space for information onto the web page. Please if you have internet access have a look at the web page now and again to keep yourself up to speed as to what is going on in our Branch. If you have any information that you would like to see on the web page then please pass it to **Ron Kirkwood** and he will get it added. This could be something that you want to get of your chest which could initiate a debate or you may just want to try and track down an old comrade. The link to the web page is: <http://www.grenadierguardsbath.co.uk>.

Most of you will be aware that our Chairman **Roger Bell** has had to give up the Chairmanship due to illness. We would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of everyone to thank **Roger** for his dedicated Chairmanship over the past years and wish him all the very best for the future. **Les Hardwick** has bravely taken up the Chairmanship and again on behalf of the members we thank him for volunteering. As mentioned above **Malcolm Jackson** volunteered, yes he did, no coercion or anything like that, to become the new Branch Treasurer and he is doing a fine job. Welcome **Malcolm**.

Well that is it for another Gazette and we hope that we have given you some useful information and helped



A couple of posers at lunch.

Even though we didn't have **Peter** at this very special event, **Bernice** still did her usual thing with the raffle and organised **Malcolm** and **Ron** into ensuring that the raffle was, as usual, a great success. **Bernice** thank you very much.



Lester puts the Regimental Adjutant right on a few points!



A few of our members and guests.

you keep in touch with what is going on within the Bath Grenadier family. 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 at 1930hrs. We very much look forward to seeing you.

## BRISTOL

(Formed 1914)

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

**Vice Presidents:** Lieutenant Colonel THE LORD WIGRAM, MC; Colonel ET BOLITHO, OBE; Lieutenant Colonel PE HILLS, FLCM, psm; Lieutenant Colonel LCA RANSON, TD; DT GRIFFITHS Esq; J FROST Esq; Lieutenant Colonel R M DORNEY, MBE; C SAVAGE Esq; K JONES Esq.

**Chairman:** Mr C SAVAGE.

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

**Email:** bristolbranch@grengds.com

**Website:** www.bristolgrenadiers.org

**Treasurer:** Mr AF LOCK.

**Welfare:** Mr R BLEADEN.

**Meetings:** Committee meeting will be held at 1530hrs on the last Sunday of each month (Excluding January & August) in The Officers Mess, The Royal Artillery Grounds, Whiteladies Road, Clifton, Bristol.

2012 began with an air of change for the Bristol Branch, the Branch Chairman, **Keith Jones**, as expected stood down at the Branch AGM in March. **Keith** had served the Branch in numerous capacities over a period of many years having held the office of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Welfare Officer, some of these posts on more than one occasion. **Keith** will continue to keep a very close eye on the Branch in his new capacity as Vice President. The vacant Chairman's position was taken over by **Chris Savage**, another Branch Vice President; Chris brings a wealth of experience and knowledge with him, as a previous Regimental Sergeant Major of the 1st Battalion and a serving Yeoman Warder of the Queen's Bodyguard, Chris is very well placed to keep the Branch on the straight and narrow. Also at the AGM, Reg Bleaden was appointed to the position of Branch Welfare Officer after it became vacant when Andy Dane stepped down. During 2012 the Committee decided to move the monthly meetings from the traditional Monday evening to Sunday afternoons, this has proved to be a popular decision as we are now seeing an improvement in the number of Branch members attending the meetings, the Branch now meets at the same venue as before but on the last Sunday of each month, excluding August and January at 1530hrs. 2012

also saw Branch Vice President '**Skid**' **Dorney** promoted Lieutenant Colonel and the Branch extends its heartfelt congratulations to him.

It was a dismal start to the 2012 events calendar for the Bristol Branch when on a cold and wet Saturday afternoon in April we were soundly thrashed by the Bristol Branch of the Coldstream Guards Association at the 2nd running of the St Georges Cup competition, the Branch had excellent support for the event at the Port of Bristol social club in Shirehampton but unfortunately the many Branch members who attended witnessed the Branch skittles team being soundly beaten in every set of the match. The team captain **Roy Godwin** was magnanimous in defeat and as he handed the cup to the Coldstreamers he made it clear that he intended to reclaim the trophy in 2013. The 2013 competition will take place at the same venue on Saturday 20th April at 1300hrs, all Branch members are encouraged to come along and support the team, a very reasonably priced bar and complimentary buffet lunch will be available.

May 20th found a full coach of Branch members departing Bristol for the first excursion of the year along the M4 to London for Regimental Remembrance Day. After a brief diversion off the Motorway to pick up Branch members in Swindon we arrived in London in good time for everyone to find suitable lunch venues



**Bristol Branch team Captain, Roy Godwin (left) and the Coldstream Captain before the St George's Cup competition 2012.**



**Bristol Branch member Chris Quinlan looking respectful on Colour Point Duty at Regimental Remembrance Day 2012.**

before the formalities of the afternoon began. Many Branch members attended the Church Service in the Guards Chapel before joining the Parade for the march to Horse Guards to lay the Regimental Wreath. The more eagle eyed will have spotted our very own **Chris Quinlan** on Colour point duty, **Chris** looked every inch the perfect Grenadier and discharged his duties with all the flair and panache expected from a Bristol Branch man. **Chris** will be Wreath Bearer at the 2013 parade, where we expect him to discharge his duties to the same high standards. After the parade most Branch members repaired to the Sergeants' Mess to take advantage of the very reasonably priced bar. On the return to Bristol we were once again made very welcome at the Guards Club in Windsor for a Fish and Chip Supper, many thanks to the Windsor Branch for their excellent hospitality.

Grenadier Day in July and another full coach left Bristol en-route to Aldershot, after the now customary diversion into Swindon we arrived in Aldershot to find that the Branch Secretary and **Keith Channell** had been extremely busy and had the Cider stall and the television raffle set up and ready to start trading. Thankfully the weather was a vast improvement on the year before and we enjoyed brisk trade at the cider stall, unfortunately the Boyton Cup team did not fare very well and had to settle for last place. Congratulations to the Surrey and East Hants Branch who were victorious. The television was won by **Mrs J Fox** from Newport. We were fortunate that the rain held off and a very enjoyable day was had by all. The Bristol Branch extends its thanks to all at Regimental Headquarters who work extremely hard to make this event worthwhile and enjoyable for everyone. In August another large number of Branch members took to the M4 bound for London, this time for a visit to the Houses of Parliament. This visit was kindly arranged by **Mr Jack Lopresti**, MP for Filton and Bradley Stoke. An early start was required as

we had to be in central London in time for our 1015hrs tour. All Branch members attending agreed that the 6am start was well worth it as this proved to be one the most interesting Branch trips ever, we were fortunate that Parliament had risen for the Summer recess and we therefore had access to both the Commons and the Lords debating chambers, a fascinating tour was had by all attending and this was thanks in no small part to the very knowledgeable guides that were assigned to us. After the tour we dispersed to find lunch venues before the journey back to Bristol; it is rumoured that the Wetherspoons premises on Whitehall benefited immensely from this arrangement.

In September several Branch members set off to visit the Small Arms School Museum in Warminster, the museum boasts a collection of every weapon known to man, everything from the first Longbow right up to the most modern weapon is on display and Branch members were able to get 'hands on' with a lot of the exhibits. After the tour of the museum we retired to the Sergeants' Mess for an extremely acceptable lunch. All due thanks go to our own **WO2 Alan Chick** for arranging this trip for the Branch and making sure that we had a fantastic day out in Warminster.

On the 20th October 2012 some 80 Branch Members gathered at our Branch HQ on Whiteladies Road in Bristol for the Annual Dinner, we were delighted to welcome **Lord Wigram** and the Branch Presidents wife, **Lady Celia Webb-Carter**. **Colonel and Mrs Hills** made the long journey from Cornwall as did **Mr and Mrs S Tucker**. **Mr and Mrs D Scolding** travelled from Birmingham to attend. The Branch guest at the Dinner was **Mr Jack Lopresti MP**, who had kindly arranged the Branch trip to the Houses of Parliament earlier in the year. We were brought up to date with Regimental affairs by Branch Vice President **Lieutenant Colonel Dorney** who had taken up the mantle of Regimental Speaker. We were then entertained by our guest speaker, **Mr Michael Dabbs MBE** who, as a previous Regimental Band Sergeant Major, had a wealth of humorous stories to tell us. For the first time in living memory we were honoured to welcome a detachment of Coldstreamers who had attended the Dinner to invite us to mount a challenge for the St Georges cup in 2013, an invitation that we readily accepted and informed the Coldstreamers of the need for them to practise as we intended to retake the trophy



The 'new look' Bristol Branch Cider stall at Grenadier Day 2012.

at the next competition. We also held a prize draw at the Dinner which proved to be very popular and resulted in some Branch members going home at the end of the evening having bagged some very desirable prizes such as lead crystal wine glasses engraved with the Royal Cypher, champagne and truffles, chocolates, wine and one lucky 'punter' went home clutching a signed copy of **Lieutenant Colonel Dorney's** latest publication, 'The Killing Zone'. The success of last year's Dinner was due mainly to the hard work of our resident Grenadier at Whiteladies Road, **Alan Chick** and the Branch extends its thanks to him for his tremendous effort in making the dinner such an enjoyable event for all who attended.

In 2012 we joined the Coldstream Association in a fund raising effort on behalf of the Somerset Legion House in Weston-Super-Mare. The Somerset Legion House is a purpose built facility situated on the sea front in Weston and offers its facilities to serving and ex-serving members of the armed forces so that they and their families can enjoy a few days respite from the stresses of everyday life. As a Branch we mustered the fantastic sum of £650.00 in individual donations and when this was combined with the overall total we presented a cheque exceeding £2000.00 to the Somerset Legion House last December; on behalf of the benefactors, a big thank you to all concerned.

The Bristol Branch extends its thanks to the Officers and Committee of the Branch for their tireless work on behalf of the Branch and also, to all Branch members who have supported the Branch during the past twelve months. In closing this year's report it is our sad duty to report the passing of Bristol Branch Members, **22545065 J Crosbie** and **24306870 S Davy**, impeccable Grenadiers both. Lest we forget.

## BURTON-UPON-TRENT

(Formed 1934)

**President:** Awaiting Appointment.

**Chairman:** D JOHNSON.

**Secretary:** Mr T GILMAN, 31 Dovecliff Crescent, Streeton, Burton on Trent, DE13 0JH.

**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:** D CLARK Esq.

**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 hostelryes. 1230hrs for 1300hrs.

This is the 80th year since the Branch was formed. Like many other branches Cambridge had a large membership. The father of our present Social Secretary, **Mick Draper**, was a founder member of the branch. Our President then was **Capt Briscoe MC MP** and two of the Guests at the first Annual Lunch on 21 May 1932 were **Colonel the Viscount Gort VC CBE DSO MVO MC** and **Major General Lord Loch CB CMG DSO MVO** President of the Association.

In 1966 **Capt Michael Bevan** became our President and over the years many well attended social gatherings were held in their home at Longstowe Hall. We are very pleased to say that **Mrs Bevan** our Vice President still takes an active part in the Branch. The Caravan Club used to visit there and they always helped out with the local Village Fete and cricket match held on the May Bank Holiday. On our 50th Anniversary the celebrations were superbly organised by our present Treasurer **Peter Sanderson**, who was then the Branch Secretary. These were a great success and included a visit by the Grenadier Guards Band.

Sadly, our membership now is small and our activities are restricted. We are very grateful for the good friends who come and support us at our bi-monthly lunches which are still very popular. These have been organised



Left to Right: Terry Foreman, Graham Wallace, Harry Gelsthorpe, Gerald Payne, Nigel Brown, Peter Brooks, John Wilkins, Peter Hardy, David Plumb, Roy Ibsen, David Clark and Mick Draper.

for a total of 21 years by our Social Secretary **Mick Draper**, who was the Branch Secretary for 17 years. His wife **Margaret** is a great support to him and we are very grateful for all they have done. Now our Chairman, **David Clark** has taken over this task.

The photograph above shows members of the Branch and visitors from the Norfolk and Oxford Branches who joined us for this year's Annual Lunch, held at the Arundel Hotel in Cambridge. Unfortunately **Bill Gibbs** our Vice President who was Branch Secretary for many years and **Bill Clark** Vice President who was Chairman for 29 years, were unable to attend due to ill health along with our Treasurer, whose wife had sadly just died. All of our committee members and others have worked hard over the years to keep the branch going and maintaining the comradeship of the Association. Our President, **Capt Brown** gave an excellent speech after lunch with up to date details of Regimental activity.

We have sadly lost two members of the branch this year, **26224085 Maurice Endersby** of the 5th Battalion who died in February and who had been a great supporter of the branch and **23509918 Ted McGregor** 2nd Battalion (1958–60), who died in Spain in August where he and his wife **Jenni** had moved to around three years ago, several members attended the laying of his ashes here in Cambridge. Also very sadly **Shirley Sanderson**, the wife of our Treasurer **Peter**, died in August after a battle with ill health, she was very brave and was very involved in whatever went on in the Branch and gave great support to **Peter**. All will be missed.

On a happier note, we are pleased to welcome back to the branch **23420210 David Plumb** 3rd Battalion (1957–59). We would like to take this opportunity to express our very sincere thanks and those to **Jay Ellingham** for all his help and support and we wish him every happiness in his 'retirement'!! He will be very much missed. We would also like to wish **LSgt Rob Broomes** the best of luck in his new position. Our thanks also to all at RHQ and how good it is to see our fine Battalion back home after their tour. We are so proud of them all.

## OBITUARY

### MAURICE ENDERSBY 1924–2012

**M**aurice Endersby was born on 12th December 1924 in Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, the eldest of three sons. He enlisted in the Grenadier Guards as soon as he could after the outbreak of World War II, at the age of 18, and after training joined the 5th Battalion. In January 1944, he took part in the Anzio Landings as a Bren Gun Carrier Driver/Gunner. He fought throughout the Italian Campaign in the most trying



conditions with the 5th Battalion, which suffered greater losses than any other Battalion in the Regiment. He rarely spoke about the campaign but his war experiences marked him ineradicably for the rest of his life.

One night with the South African Armoured Division, 32 Grenadiers went out on patrol and only Maurice and one other returned. What was left of the Battalion was billeted at Piano Di Sorrento where they were made up to strength with the remnants of the 6th Battalion. Then the 24th Guard Brigade, of which they were a part, joined the 6th South African Armoured Division and fought in the vanguard from the breakthrough at Cassino to Monte Sole in the mountains north of Florence. Finally at the end of the year, the battalion was disbanded, some returning to England and some to join the 3rd Battalion.

Maurice went back to Italy on several occasions to visit the graves of his comrades and decided that on his death, he wished to be returned there to rest with them. This request is now being implemented. On the 50th Anniversary of the Anzio Landings, he donated his personal possessions from the Regiment along with two photos, one taken in 1944 in Italy and one taken on a later Heroes Return visit. His pack, books, standing orders and mess tins are now in the museum at Anzio.

Maurice and Pat his wife were regular supporters of the Cambridge Branch, part of the Caravan Club and enjoyed meeting up with their friends and reminiscing. Maurice suffered serious health issues five years ago but still enjoyed life. Unfortunately he had a fall in November 2011, suffering a broken hip. Having undergone surgery and whilst in rehabilitation he fell, breaking it again. This proved too much and on February 21st 2012, he lost his final battle. His wife Pat was his great strength and a wonderful support to him throughout his life.

## CHESTERFIELD

(Formed 1952)

**President:** Awaiting appointment.

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

**Chairman:** D LEECH.

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

**Email:** d.brignull@yahoo.co.uk

**Treasurer:** D BRIGNULL

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

**T**he year's activities, covered by this report, started with wreath laying ceremonies on Remembrance Sunday 2011. **24281477 Peter Brown** laid the

Regimental tribute in Chesterfield and **22894448 John Metcalfe**, **23444637 David Leech** and **23135571 Mick Garrett** performed a similar duty at Clowne.

The idea of a commemorative tree at the National Arboretum, to remember Derbyshire Grenadiers was, originally, the brainchild of **23862880 Mick Carnall**. In early 2012 the Chesterfield and Matlock Branches, after much discussion and liaison with **Dennis Ward** and staff at the Arboretum, decided that both Branches would go ahead and order a tree. May 10th was reserved for the dedication ceremony and on that day members from both Branches joined together for the event. Two weeks prior to the date the area was flooded by unusual storms but, on the day, the weather was kind to us and the event was greatly enhanced by the attendance of three serving soldiers; our grateful thanks to Regimental Headquarters for organising this. It was a great pleasure to meet up, after many years, with **24141734 P Carnall** who moved from our area some time ago. The day was voted a great success, due in no small way, to the efforts of **23763321 John Wright** from Matlock and **Dennis Ward**. Without their help the occasion would not have progressed as smoothly as it did and we extend the thanks of Chesterfield members to them both.

At our January meeting, **David Leech** was installed as our chairman, **John Metcalfe** having had to relinquish the post due to bad health. Meetings throughout the year were well attended by a hard core of members. We still have, unfortunately, a number of members on the sick list; **22947001 Richard Done**, **Albert Perrins** (Coldstream Guards), **2626625 Charles Limb**, **22648847 Dennis Thompson** and **2629256 Fred Neal** are all unable to attend at present but they all keep in touch with us and take an interest in Regimental and Association activities. Our best wishes to them all.

The Chesterfield branch was well represented at various functions during the year. **David Leech**, **Mick Garrett**, **Fred Neal** and **Peter Brown** were all on parade on Black Sunday. **Fred** accompanied by his wife **Di** and several members of his family, were celebrating 65 years since he joined the Regiment and, although not in the best of health and travelling in a wheel chair, he enjoyed the occasion immensely. **Peter Brown** took on the responsibility of pushing **Fred**, in his wheelchair, on the parade, which completed a memorable day for all present.

On Grenadier Day **Maureen** and **Mick Garrett** were in attendance on the branch stall and made their usual superb contribution to branch funds. This will help us to continue to support Branch and Regimental charities. Veterans Day in Chesterfield is well supported and **David Leech** and **Mick Garrett** represented the Branch, this year, and these two members, together with **Peter Brown** took part in the Mayor's annual inauguration parade through the town. In September we joined with many others of the Household Division at the

National Memorial Arboretum. A parade had been organised by **Dennis Ward** (Gloucester Branch). It is to be hoped that this very successful event will become an annual meeting. Unfortunately, due to lack of support, the informal annual dinner, arranged for October, had to be cancelled. In the main, the drop in numbers could not be attributed to a lack of interest, but was mainly due to poor health. It is, therefore, hoped that the dinner might be revived in the future.

In conclusion we must thank, all those members that to continue to give their considerable support to our branch, together with Vice-Presidents **Mick Carnall** and **David Leech**. We are also gratefully aware of the support from Headquarters due to the efforts of **Major A J Green** and **LSgt Jay Ellingham**. May we take the opportunity to wish Jay and Bonnie a long and happy retirement.

## DERBY

(Formed 1914)

**President:** A ATTENBOROUGH.

**Chairman:** T SAVAGE.

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

**Email:** ian.sutton80@ntlworld.com

**Treasurer:** J BUTLER.

**Meetings:** Every third Wednesday of each month starting 2000hrs at 'The Station Inn' Midland Road, Derby. (100 paces directly in front of Derby train station).

We managed to send a coach to both Black Sunday and Grenadier Day but sadly the number of empty seats is increasing each year. We also attended **Gdsm Michael Roland's** funeral in strength as it was held in our neighbouring county of Nottinghamshire. This was a very moving day and our Secretary was able to carry the Derby Branch Banner around the village of Tollerton and then lower it before the service and after the gun salute. The wake held at The Air Hostess pub was movingly filled with pictures and tributes to Michael. Our thoughts remain with his and the other families who have lost loved ones. Lest we forget.

Whilst the Battalion were away in the hot zone we managed to send a few comfort boxes to the Derby lads. Unfortunately we did not send as many as during previous tours or as many as we would have liked. Sadly we had to say farewell to our Assistant Chairman **22574895 Joe Ford**. **Joe** served in the 1950s in the 3rd Battalion and was recalled for the Suez campaign. He attended monthly meetings without fail and will be greatly missed by the Branch. Lest we forget. We are now looking forward to celebrating our Centenary in 2014 and wish our fellow Grenadiers all the very best for 2013.

## EAST KENT

(Formed 1948)

**President and Chairman:** Major D BRADLEY BEM.

**Vice Presidents:** Lieutenant Colonel R M DORNEY MBE;  
WJT BROWN Esq; JG CLUFF DL Esq.

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

**Email:** eastkentbranch@grengds.com

**Welfare Officer:** W MARSHALL Esq.

**Honorary Branch Chaplain:** Reverend Canon HWJ HARLAND.

**Website:** www.ekb.org.uk

**Meetings:** Held at the Royal British Legion Club, St. Leonards Road, Hythe, Kent, CT21 6EN. Please see the Branch website or contact the Hon. Secretary for details.

At the end of 2011, the Branch was notified that the meeting place we had used for many years was to close. Members quickly set about locating two different temporary meeting venues that allowed us to hold meetings at the start of the year, but we are pleased to be able to report that we are now meeting at the Royal British Legion club, in Hythe, on a permanent basis.

The closure of our old meeting location further impacted on the events we held during the year and so, our Annual Dinner was held more centrally in East Kent and we dined at the Kent and Canterbury Club. A smaller venue than usual, but a perfect size for the numbers attending and the food, wine and hospitality were excellent. Our entertainment was 'One for the Road'; a very talented keyboard player and singer. Our guest speaker for the dinner was **Major Andy Green**,

the Association General Secretary and Regimental Treasurer, who updated us on Regimental affairs. We were delighted that **LSgt Jay Ellingham** and his wife, **Bonnie**, were able to join us for the evening so that the Branch could say thank you to **Jay** for the sterling work he has done at Regimental Headquarters whilst Association NCO.

In September, we were able to meet up with some of the Medway Branch members for a BBQ lunch at the Tickled Trout in Wye. Although it was a cold and overcast day, all those from the East Kent Branch enjoyed themselves and we are very grateful to the Medway Branch for organising the event. We are very pleased to report that we have some new members attending meetings and events, but on a sad note, 2012 was another year that we had to say farewell to some of our members who passed away.

The Branch is currently busy organising a charity fundraising band concert that will be given by the Band of the Grenadier Guards and which will be held at the Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, on Saturday 27 April 2013 – 7:30pm start. Shepway District Council has been very supportive and allowed us a 'free use day' and this will allow more of the money raised to be donated to charity instead of going on venue hire. If you are able to attend the concert, please order tickets direct from the Leas Cliff Hall Box Office – 0844 871 3015.

### SERVICE PICTURES

**George Pritchard**, a member of the East Kent Branch, has sent us some pictures taken between 1947 and 49 whilst he was a serving Grenadier (2628726) and we hope they will be of interest to our readers.



Left to Right: George Pritchard – Guard duty – Palestine 1948. George Pritchard – Return from Tel Aviv 1948. George Pritchard – St James's Palace Detachment of the Queen's Guard 1947.



**Dismounting guard – Buckingham Palace 1947 George is the second Guardsman nearest the front of the picture.**

## ESSEX

(Formed 1946)

**President:** Lieutenant General SIR ANTHONY DENISON-SMITH KBE, DL.

**Vice Presidents:** Capt BD DOUBLE; MW GILES Esq; GL LYSTER Esq DL; G COURTAULD Esq DL; Major TH BREITMEYER DL; 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

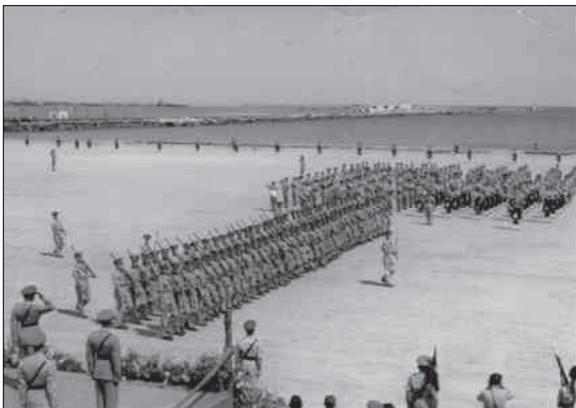
**Treasurer:** Mrs LINDA LAND.

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



**Support Company – Tripoli 1948 X (first left on rear row) marks George Pritchard.**

Another 12 months has passed since our last report and we are pleased to be able to say that the Branch is going strong and holding its own. There is a great deal of support in the Branch especially with all the various events concerning the Olympics and Her Majesty's Jubilee celebrations. It has all been quite exciting. Unfortunately, although we have enjoyed another successful year our numbers continue to fall. Our nominal roll has now dropped to 150 and we have tried hard to recruit more members but it has not been an easy task. We can only keep on trying.



**Trooping the Colour – Tripoli 1949.**



**Branch members at the Palace of Westminster.**



We had a very good Jubilee Lunch at a hotel in Essex which was delightful with plenty of flags and various other decorations; everyone thought it was great. About 40 people attended and at the time of writing we were looking forward to an even better attendance for our 2012 Christmas lunch. We paid a visit to The Houses of Parliament at the end of July. It was a fantastic day out and enjoyed by everyone, so much so that we are having another visit in 2013. We spent so much time enjoying the House of Lords that we never had time to visit the House of Commons!



The Branch pause for a moment in front of the recently named Elizabeth Tower.

In addition to the various lunches we hold, we held our usual Braxted Park Lunch on 30th September. This is our special lunch and our Guest of Honour Major Andy Green who made an excellent speech about the Regiment. Everyone found it most interesting and we hope he will soon join us again. We held our usual garden Party at the home of Mrs and Mrs George Courtauld and we were so lucky because the weather was superb. We were able to enjoy wandering around the various gardens without worrying about getting wet. We have successfully continued with more of our usual events and our lunch before Christmas 2012 we hope will finish the year nicely.

Our Annual General Meeting was held in April and there was no change in appointments to any of our Branch officers. Our programme for 2013 is being planned with one or two new events as well as the tried and tested ones. On reflection we have had a very good 2012 and **Joan Kimberley** our Secretary would like to thank all Branch members and supporters for their help and encouragement.



## GLOUCESTSHIRE

(Formed 1949)

**President:** Colonel L C A RANSON TD.

**Vice Presidents:** Lieutenant Colonel THE LORD WIGRAM MC, DL; 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; P G GWILLIAM Esq; Lieutenant Colonel CJE Seymour LVO; D A E GEORGE Esq; Capt E C GORDON LENNOX; Colonel GW TUFNELL CVO, DL; Lt G.L. Banks; Sir Henry W.G. 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

**Website:** www.gloucestershiregrenadiers.co.uk

2012 has been once more, a very busy and active year for this Branch. Unfortunately we have lost more than our fair share of members to the Higher Parade Ground namely **John Wilkinson, Vincent Sudlow, Peter Lee, David Cresswell** and **David Bullock**. We achieved a good turnout for each funeral and a Guard of Honour was provided, where possible, on each sad occasion. During the ceremony for **Vincent Sudlow** in the actual Churchyard, a large Welsh Male Voice Choir sang around the graveside. To say that this was most moving would indeed be a great understatement.

The nominal roll holds well despite the loss of members and fortunately we have had several Grenadiers together with other members of the Household Division join us. We are fortunate to have a good assortment of excellent Associate and Honorary members who support the Branch in many ways. We are pleased to report that once more, meetings for the year have been very well attended. On the subject of meetings we commence at 1930hrs and normally do not conclude until 2200hrs or even later. Complimentary hot pies served during the interval prove popular. We endeavour to make meetings more interesting by introducing a speaker from time to time.

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 fourth 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. **David** and **Jeanette**, also from time to time, invite members to their home for a meal and a few drinks. Afterwards the guests do not leave empty handed as they are given a bag of fresh produce from their large garden and greenhouse. 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 2011, for the sixth 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 lunch by early March. 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 grandchildren, a real Grenadier family occasion. Afterwards the Winchcombe Silver Band made an appearance and entertained us with carols and seasonal music. Father Christmas also visited us, 'Yep 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, we are pleased to report, held well. Let's hope we can achieve the same result this year as the income from this assists greatly with the sustainability of the Branch which does not levy any fee for membership. **Alan** is full of enthusiasm for his appointment as he is for his classic Triumph Mayflower car, 'the old banger' we refer to if we want to get one back at him.

The Branch Christmas Social, which concluded our calendar for 2011, 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 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 except that we are going to experiment by holding it on a Saturday instead of the traditional Sunday.

Regimental Remembrance Day 2012 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 very welcome at the Club. Numbers



**Keith Jones and LSgt Ellingham at the NMA on 9th September.**

attending Grenadier Day from the branch were well down. We travelled with only a part coach full instead of the normal full coach. Perhaps it was the horrid weather that prevailed last year and a not too good forecast again for the day that was a factor. However, all of our branch who attended thought that the arena events were the best for some time.

We achieved a good gathering for a lunch at a Ghurkha Restaurant run by one of our Honorary Members Keshar Shercham. Yes you've guessed correctly, a former member of the Royal Ghurkha Regiment. Something different always has an appeal; 'Thank you' **David Leighton** for the idea and taking on the responsibility. Due to circumstances beyond our control our Annual Garden Party at the home of **Colonel Peel** did not take place. This was the first time in 28 years that the day did not go ahead. At the time of writing arrangements are already in hand to visit Dudgrove in August 2013.

On a glorious sunny day on the 9th September 2012 a full coach made its way to the National Memorial Arboretum for a pre-planned day, the brainchild of Branch member **Dennis Ward**. What started off as a Branch visit turned into a much larger occasion and was boosted by the attendance of many hundreds of members from other branches of the Household Division. The Household Division Corps of Drums entertained before and after the parade and played during the parade as well. Where do they get their stamina from? Afterwards 170 of us made our way to the Branston Pavilion for a fine lunch. **Dennis**, what might you have started?

Our Annual Formal Lunch was held at the Hatherley Manor Hotel near Gloucester with an excellent



On the left is David Leighton our Branch Welfare Officer. Chatting with Capt Ian Farrell is Alan Holford our Branch Social Secretary.

attendance. We were privileged to have as our guests **Capt Ian Farrell** from the Regiment and **John Thurston** a Deputy Lieutenant of the County. To conclude 2012 we still have the Dumbleton Luncheon and the Christmas Social to look forward to. **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** and **Gill** not only produce the cards but also administer the records and posting. Not many days go by that a card or two does not have to be popped into the post box. All members would like to express a public 'Thank You' for the pleasure **John** and **Gill** 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, have been together now for a long time. **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 PT followed by a cross country run, 'Now then **Norman!**' This Branch has embraced modern technology and we now have 130 members with whom we can communicate by email. Seldom does a week go by without members on line receiving some form of branch communication. Those without email have had five newsletters sent to them by snail mail during the past 12 months. 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. All members 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. 2013 is of course the year that our Association celebrates the 100th anniversary of its foundation. We hope to celebrate this unique occasion with a suitable function; ideas and arrangements are being considered and formulated for a Celebration Luncheon. We intend for this to be a day that

members will remember for a long time. We were intending to hold a Grand Luncheon this year to celebrate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. Eventually it was decided that with like celebrations all around the same time and the Olympics, we were better scrubbing the idea and instead concentrate on a 100th Anniversary Association Celebration Lunch.

We would like to end this report by thanking the small staff at Regimental Headquarters, especially **LSgt Jay Ellingham**, who has been very dedicated to his position and has given his best to members at all times. By the time this Gazette is published Jay will have passed back into civilian life and we all wish him well. His successor **Rob Broomes** is already in place. **Rob** you have a hard act to follow and we wish you well. We are also indeed fortunate to have **Major Andrew Green** steering the ship thus ensuring that the Association continues to run smoothly.

## KINGSTON & DISTRICT

(Formed 1935)

**President:** Major D.R. ROSSI, MBE.

**Vice Presidents:** Brigadier G.K. BIBBY, CBE; L.W. SPENCER.

**Chairman:** PWF HORSEFIELD.

**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 Molesey, Surrey.

The reporting year commencing the first of November 2011 started quietly. Aside from Branch meetings the first event of note is our Bring and Buy Sale which replaces our December meeting and which takes the form of an auction. **Major Derek Rossi MBE** and **Peter Horsfield**, with adept use of linguistics, managed to prise open wallets and purses resulting in a welcome increase to Branch funds. **Major Rossi** thanked **Liz Howell** for providing a buffet. Christmas lunch was taken at what has become a second home at the Army School of Leadership Skills, Students Mess, Alexander Barracks, Pirbright where we welcomed our recently appointed **Vice President Brigadier G K Bibby CBE** to our table. After the meal Brigadier Bibby gave us an update on the 1st Battalion's activities and presented the Branch with a framed photograph of his father, **Capt Derek Bibby**, our late and much lamented President. The print has subsequently been hung in our meeting place at the Royal British Legion Club in East Molesey.

We also welcomed **Major Angus Harper** attending for the first time with two cadets, **Cadet Corporals B Bourne** and **E Pearce**, from Reed's School CCF. The unit



**Brigadier G K Bibby CBE presents the photograph to Major D R Rossi MBE.**



**Christmas Lunch 2011.**

is badged to the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards. **Liz Howell** and **Maureen Spencer** organised a raffle for which **Major Rossi** thanked them on the branch behalf.

On 20th April **Peter Horsfield** and **Lyn Jones** attended a band concert in Staines arranged by **Sgt Jason Pickin** of The Regimental Band. The programme of music featured both The Regimental Band and The Staines Brass Band. We managed a good turn out on Black Sunday with several members marching. **Peter Horsfield** and **Lyn Jones** were presented to The Colonel.

Despite a declining membership we still managed to run a stall on Grenadier Day. This year there were two themes; firstly soft toys for which we are indebted to the membership as a whole. On the day the stall was staffed by **Peter Horsfield, Lyn Jones** and **Joy Jones**. The second theme, a wine tombola, was organised and staffed by **Liz Howell, Luke** and **Maureen Spencer**.

With everyone else we enjoyed much better weather this year but had had the foresight to provide shelter in the form of two gazebos. All the work of erecting the shelter fell to **Lyn Jones, Peter Horsfield, Mark Worsfold** and **Freya**. (Oh I (JK) may have had a hand in that myself).

Our summer lunch at ASLS, students Mess was well attended and a good meal was enjoyed by all. We remain active in our welfare efforts. Our Welfare Officer, **Peter Horsfield** maintains regular contact with less active members. We end the year looking forward first of all to Christmas and a busy year of Regimental events in 2013.

## LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND

(Formed 1927)

**President:** RH MURRAY-PHILIPSON OBE, DL, Esq.

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

**Chairman:** J COWLEY Esq.

**Vice Chairman:** JR MORREY Esq.

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

**Email:** gillm.c@btinternet.com

**Treasurer:** R FLETCHER Esq.

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

Hello again to all Grenadiers past and present. It's time for us to inform you of the activities of our branch during 2012. Events to the end of 2011 began with the Festival of Remembrance held at Leicester Cathedral for the first time on the evening of Saturday, November 5th 2011 where the Sid Lawrence Orchestra provided entertainment. Several members attended and with the exception of one or two teething troubles, the evening was a success. On December 6th 2011, we held our annual Christmas raffle. Our President **Mr Robin Murray-Philipson** was on hand to make the draw and our Chairman **Mr John Cowley** distributed the numerous prizes to the winning participants. Everyone enjoyed the excellent buffet provided by our caterer **Sue Turner**; thank you Sue. Sunday December 18th 2011 was the occasion of our Christmas Lunch. The Chairman welcomed all present, thanking them for their support throughout the year and a jolly good time was had by all. **Sue**, the caterer and her staff were each given a small gift as a thank you for their services during the year.



**Guard of Honour making their way into position for the Queen's visit to Leicester on 8th March 2012.**

2012 began slowly, not much happened during January. When the news was announced that Her Majesty would be starting her Diamond Jubilee year with a visit to Leicester on March 8th, our Chairman **John Cowley** came up with the idea that it would be appropriate for ex-Guardsmen in the county to form a Guard of Honour upon Her Majesty's arrival in the city. After a lot of discussion with the Lord Lieutenant's Office, it was decided that eight Grenadiers, eight Coldstreamers and eight Royal Leicestershire members would form a Guard of Honour at the Magazine in the Newarke where the Queen would visit De Montfort University on her first engagement. This was accomplished and enjoyed immensely by all in the Guard of Honour. Well done, Mr Chairman.

The next social occasion was the Nottinghamshire Branch annual Dinner and Dance that took place on Saturday, March 21st 2012. Our members were again cordially invited to join them for the evening. Those who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Our thanks go to the Nottinghamshire Branch and we hope that the

occasion continues long into the future. Our first annual outing for 2012 was a nostalgic return trip to the Severn Valley Railway, this time reversing the journey from Bridgnorth to Kidderminster. This visit was mainly due to requests from the coach party to be able to spend more time in Bridgnorth before travelling to Kidderminster. Our social secretary, **Mr Cowley**, duly obliged. We also spent a little time in Bewdley before heading home. These trips are useful for members to liaise with the guests who may know of ex Grenadiers and tell them about our Branch. We again thank the Social Secretary and wonder what he has up his sleeve for the next outing.

On Thursday, May 17th, 2012 a boat trip on the River Trent including lunch on board, was organised by the Whitwick, Leicestershire Branch of The Royal British Legion. They kindly sent an invitation to the Branch to join them for the day. This was accepted and about 20 of us joined our hosts to spend an interesting and enjoyable

day out. Our thanks go to the Whitwick Branch of TRBL for their invitation. Sunday, May 20th 2012, Remembrance Day at Wellington Barracks was well attended by the Branch. Although a solemn occasion, it is always a pleasure to attend the Service and march to the wreath laying at the Guards Memorial and afterwards to enjoy a little refreshment in the Mess.

This year was special for two members of the Branch, **Peter Hayles** and **Carl Mucklow** who were selected, along with others, to meet the Colonel after the Service.

The Armed Forces flag raising ceremony took place this year at County Hall, Glenfield, Leicestershire, hosted by the Lord Lieutenant, **Lady Gretton**. The flag was raised by a veteran of Arnhem, **Mr Lew Kemp** (Parachute Regiment). Our Vice-Chairman, **Mr John Morrey**, represented the Branch. The Armed Forces Day celebration for Leicestershire took place on Saturday June 23rd 2012 with a service at the Cathedral, followed by a march through the city led by the Pipe Band of the Seaforth Highlanders to the Clock Tower where the Lord Lieutenant took the



**R Jones, R Bignall, J Morrey and R Fletcher acknowledging the enthusiastic crowd during the Queen's visit.**

salute. Members of the Branch who were there agreed it was a grand occasion.

On Sunday August 12th, the Branch held its Annual Garden Party at the West Leicester Conservative Club. This year we incorporated it with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. We were joined again by our friends from the Coldstream. A reporter from the local Press attended and a photo of our Chairman, **Mr Cowley** and the Secretary of the Coldstreamers, **Mr Hamore** was taken at the Rifle Range depicting the friendly competition between us. Everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon, which was enhanced by good weather. Finally our thanks go to **Sue Turner** once again for preparing a superb buffet.

On Sunday September 9th 2012 several members and partners of the Branch attended the Household Brigade Remembrance day at the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA). They all enjoyed the beautiful day and wonderful



**Mr J Cowley, Grenadier (left) and Mr J Hamore, Coldstream (right) at the rifle range engaging in friendly competition during our Garden Party in August.**



**Grenadiers and partners arriving at the NMA, Alrewas for the Brigade Remembrance Service in September.**

parade by members to the Service at the site of the Brigade Memorial. We agreed that it would be nice to make it an annual event where we could again meet up with old friends. Thank you to all organisers for a truly memorable day out.

**LEST WE FORGET**

It is with sad regret that we have to announce the death of three members during 2012.

- 22545302      Mr G Lyndo**
- 2625259      Mr K Drury**
- 2620748      Mr R Taylor**

Finally, members of the Branch wish to send their thanks and best wishes for his future in civilian life to the retiring Association NCO **LSgt Jay Ellingham** and his wife **Bonnie** when he leaves the Regiment in 2013. Last but not least our thanks go to the Staff at RHQ for their continued help and support.

# LINCOLN

(Formed 1923)

**President:** Major D BRADLEY BEM.

**Vice Presidents:** Mr A HILL.

**Chairman:** JD MARSHALL.

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

**Email:** lincolnbranch@grengds.com

**Treasurer:** N CROWTHER.

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

Once again it is time to write the branch report, it seems to come around a little quicker each year. Unfortunately we have lost a few members but also gained a few new ones thereby keeping our numbers pretty steady. The monthly meetings continue to be held on the third Friday of each month at the MS Therapy Centre, Outer Circle Drive, Lincoln. The numbers attending are not large but they are always well supported by our usual loyal members and consist of a short formal meeting followed by a social event. The Branch Annual General Meeting is held in March each year, and the committee were all reinstated with no opposition. The only new appointment was **Roger Gardner** who was elected to serve as the entertainments representative to keep us all entertained following our monthly meetings.

A private members club in Lincoln to which the Chairman, **Joe Marshall** and Treasurer, **Neil Crowther** belong held an auction in October 2011 to raise money for Help for Heroes. The Branch committee decided to donate two tickets to the 2012 Trooping the Colour for this auction. I am pleased to report that the tickets made in excess of £100 all of which helped towards the grand total of £4,500 raised during the



**Branch members in Lincoln Cathedral.**

evening. As is our usual practice Branch members attended the Remembrance Day Service in Lincoln Cathedral followed by Sunday lunch at a nearby venue. Again our numbers for this event seem to be increasing each year. Our thanks go to **Roger Gardiner** for parading the Branch banner and **David Janes** for laying our poppy wreath during the service.

This year we decided to try a new venture, an informal, casual get together on a Sunday lunchtime, all in the hope of recruiting some new and hopefully younger members to the branch. A series of dates was arranged with a lunch date set each month from April to October (excluding May as this was a busy month with other planned events), Sunday lunch is optional so you could just pop in and join us for a drink if you wished. As Lincolnshire is quite large we decided to visit a different area of the county each month to try and encourage more people to attend. On the whole these have been well attended and everyone has had a very enjoyable afternoon, we have gained some new members but unfortunately no younger ones. However the general consensus is that these should continue through to next year – so please if you're in the area on one of these Sunday lunches please pop in and say hello.

In May we organised a trip to the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) and 20 or more members attended. We had an enjoyable day and managed to take a look at the Guards Memorial during our visit. We were also lucky with the weather, a very mixed day with a little sunshine, some cloud and a little windy but thankfully no rain. Our thanks go to **Neil Crowther** and **Roger Gardiner** for driving the minibuses.



Branch members at the NMA.

The Branch had a tea party at the Chairman's house to celebrate HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Unfortunately this time the weather was not quite so kind to us and part of the day had to be spent indoors. Thank you to everyone for their support.



Guests at our Tea Party.

As is our usual practice most Branch members attended Regimental Remembrance Day in May and travelled together by minibus. We set off early Sunday morning arriving at midday having time to book into our hotel before strolling over to Wellington Barracks for the day's events. Once again our regular friends; **Steve and Mo Vaughan** and **Andy and Babs Reid** joined us from the Medway and Surrey & East Hampshire Branches respectively. We all went out for dinner together extending the day's camaraderie through the evening and into Monday morning before saying our goodbyes until Grenadier Day.

Branch members attended Grenadier Day at Aldershot and once again some Branch members joined together and travelled down for the day by car. However the secretary organised a coach for the majority of those wishing to attend which included an overnight stay close to Aldershot the evening before. This allowed everyone to arrive more refreshed and relaxed to enjoy the day's event. A big thank you to everyone for their support and to all those who helped in whatever way they could with the day's events. We were pleased to welcome **Keith Melbourne** and **Dave Groom** and their wives on this trip, both are members of our branch, although



**Major Dennis Bradley, Branch President & Councillor  
Karen Lee, Mayor of Lincoln.**

they live out of the county and are unable to attend Branch meetings, they always support the Branch Dinner and other events whenever they can. We had a good return on our stall items and a thoroughly enjoyable day.

The Branch Annual Dinner and Dance was held at the Bentley Hotel, Lincoln on 28th September 12. The dinner was overseen by our President, **Major Dennis Bradley** and our Vice President **Andy Hill** was also present. **Major Andy Green** was the regimental guest and we were also pleased to welcome Capt **Ian Farrell** and his wife, **Sarah** back to their second Branch dinner. We invited **LSgt Jay Ellingham** and his wife, **Bonnie** to thank him for all his work on behalf of the Association and mostly for his help and assistance to our Branch during his tenure at Regimental Headquarters. The President presented him with a port decanter engraved with Lincoln Cathedral and **Bonnie** with flowers. We were also pleased to welcome **LSgt Rob Broomes**,



**Major Dennis Bradley, Branch President & LSgt Jay Ellingham.**

**Jay Ellingham's** replacement and again we were well supported by our local Army Cadet Force and various members of the local council including the current Mayor of Lincoln, **Councillor Karen Lee** thus continuing our links with the City Council. We were also joined by our regular guests **Mr and Mrs Bill Crook** from the Suffolk Branch and

**Mr and Mrs Andy Reid** from Surrey & East Hampshire. Unfortunately we were unable to procure the services of the Regimental Dance Band but were very ably entertained by local group, Gingersnap.

Sadly since our last report we have lost 5 members: **2616080 Bayliss D**, **2624718 Dixon C**, **2622671 Edge C**, **22213958 Capindale J** and **2309448 Dixon M**. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families and friends. Please check our website [www.grenguardslincoln.co.uk](http://www.grenguardslincoln.co.uk) for up to date information on forthcoming events. Finally the committee would like to thank everyone, too numerous to mention, for the help and support given during the past year.

#### OBITUARY

**2616080  
DOUGLAS LESLIE BAYLISS  
2nd October 1920–  
12th January 2012**

**D**oug was born in Lavister near Wrexham and joined the Grenadier Guards in 1938. He was posted to London and Windsor before being sent to France at the beginning of the Second World War later serving in Africa, Italy and at Dunkirk. Although he would enjoy meeting up with former colleagues and would attend Remembrance Day services, like so many others he would never talk openly about his wartime experiences.

A regular member of the Lincoln Branch of the Grenadier Guards Association, Doug also presented a banner to the Newport Detachment of the Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force when they were re-badged as Grenadiers in 2000.



**Doug Bayliss (right) presenting a banner to the Newport Detachment.**

On leaving the regiment in 1946 he joined the Lincolnshire Police Force attaining the rank of Sergeant and was highly respected in his work by all his colleagues. Amongst other things Doug represented Lincolnshire Police at shooting, fishing and bowls. In 1974 he became Chauffeur to the Chairman of Lincolnshire County Council and served a number of Chairmen, earning their gratitude and respect for his work. Doug is survived by three children from his previous marriage. In his later years and throughout his final illness Doug was fully supported by his partner Val, who cared for him until his death.

## LIVERPOOL

(Formed 1920)

**President:** THE EARL OF DERBY.

**Vice Presidents:** Capt AD ANGUS MC; WF PENNINGTON; C YATES; G HUGHES; GH NORRIS.

**Chairman:** I GRIFFITHS.

**Secretary:** 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) 2000hrs at the Premier Inn, Vernon Street, Liverpool.

Our 2011 Dinner and Dance was held on Saturday 26th November 2011 at the Thistle Hotel, Chapel Street, Liverpool. 109 members and guests were in attendance, but the Branch President Lord Derby was unable to attend due to other commitments that evening. Our regimental representative was the Regimental Adjutant, **Major G V A Baker** and he was accompanied by his wife **Tessa**. They both enjoyed the evening and spoke very highly of their visit to Liverpool visiting many of the museums and tourist attractions of this great city.

**Paul Jupp MBE** and his wife **Dawn** travelled up from Surrey; once again they spent two nights in Liverpool taking in the shopping and sightseeing.

The Oxfordshire Branch Secretary **Peter Cook** and his wife **Margaret** came for two nights, as did **Mrs J Lee** and **Mrs M Rothery**. Also in attendance was their branch Treasurer **Mrs Janet Shayler** who attended with her husband **Roy**, also both staying over for two nights. The North Staffs Branch was represented by **Mr & Mrs Albert Gregory**, **Mrs K Hodson**, and **Mrs D Clark**. An ex-Queens Company **LSgt** (whom our Secretary served with) **LSgt Bill May** and his wife came in from the Reading Branch to sample the delights of Liverpool. **Timber Woods** and his wife also came in from Grimsby for two nights, and finally from the Royal Hospital Chelsea, **Sergeant Cass Butler** (Welsh

Guards), and his lady friend **Shirley** attended for two nights. Serving member **LSgt John Shields** attended with his girlfriend Bev and his parents.

On the Friday evening before, a three course Christmas dinner was booked at the 'Liverpool Pub' in James Street and 12 of us sat down for dinner. We enjoyed a very large meal amongst friends in our own private room. A total of 26 rooms were occupied over the two nights at the Thistle Hotel; a nice hotel, in a prime position on the waterfront and convenient for all the local amenities. We would like to thank them all for taking the time and effort to travel into the city to support this Branch. To raise funds the Branch organised two raffles held during the function, the first prize, a Christmas Hamper donated by **Frank & Barbara Pennington** was won by **Mrs E Duggan**. The second prize, a bottle of malt whisky donated by **Ivor Griffiths** was won by **Mr Brian Kenyon**. The Brown Envelope raffle made a total of £128.00. The normal draw had a good selection of prizes on offer and monies taken on this raffle totalled £343.00 making a grand total of £471.00 for the two raffles. A big thank you to all our ladies who sold tickets and prepared them for the raffles. This year a disco played after dinner music of our choice from the 50s and 60s and the dance floor was well used at all times, in fact the disco was extended until 12.30am due to its popularity. We add our thanks to **Nick Woodland** and **Ivor Griffiths** for their help with the set up of tables, to **Ivor** for the prayer before dinner, and especially to the 109 persons in attendance for making it a most enjoyable and very successful occasion.

Our Annual General Meeting took place on Thursday 26th January 2012, at the Premier Inn, Vernon Street, Liverpool City Centre at 8.00pm. 23 members were in attendance with apologies from another 15. Branch Officer appointments remain unchanged from the previous year. On 24th March the Branch chairman **Ivor Griffiths** and our Secretary **Frank Pennington** attended the Association Annual General Meeting in Wellington Barracks and many items regarding the Association and the Regiment were covered. The Grenadier Gazettes were parcelled up and sent from the orderly room by post rather than **Frank** carrying them back home. Also ordered on the day were our Trooping the Colour tickets for each parade. It was also pleasing to see how well our General Secretary of one year **Major Andy Green** conducted the meeting.

On Saturday 19th May, 46 of us travelled from Merseyside for the Regimental Remembrance Day service and parade at Wellington Barracks. Our hotel was again the Hilton at London Docklands, a very nice hotel where we are made very welcome. This year was our third consecutive visit and our early plans for 2013 are that we will seek overnight accommodation there again. On Saturday evening we enjoyed a very nice social evening in the club premises at the Royal Hospital

Chelsea; the club recently having just been renovated and the entertainment provided for us was very good. On Sunday we again visited Covent Garden (for the ladies) and then travelled onto Wellington Barracks. **G Hughes, C Yates, I Griffiths and L Edge** had the honour of being presented to the Colonel of the Regiment after the chapel service and before the marching parties moved off from barracks to Horse Guards Parade. On Monday we left the hotel and travelled to Stratford upon Avon before arriving back on Merseyside by 6.30pm. The Chairman and Secretary met with the group sales rep in the hotel and negotiated a further deal for next year.



**Members of the Branch at the Hilton Hotel during Regimental Remembrance Day weekend.**

**J Edwards** was successful in a bid for The Major General's Review tickets and **R Thompson** for the Queen's Birthday Parade itself. **Barbara and Frank Pennington** flew out to Tunisia in early June thus escaping the rain and storms for at least two weeks and prior to a meeting on the 28th June where a letter written by the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion was read out detailing each company's role in the deployment to Helmand Province. At the time of writing we are finalising all details for the Annual Dinner & Dance this year for 2012 which is taking place on Saturday 17th November when our guest will be **Major Andy Green**, the Association General Secretary; more to follow in next year's report. We welcomed as new members this year **223252262 Thomson R M** and **22677833 Foster E** but with deep regret have to report the very sad loss of **261715 Worthington B** and **22213563 Nolan W**.



## 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 HOLCROFT, LVO, OBE; Major TH HOLBECH MBE; Capt DD HORN; Lieutenant Colonel RG CARTWRIGHT LVO; Capt RAC DUNCAN; Capt CAG KEELING; Capt TBCH 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:** HNL 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 1900hrs, unless advised otherwise.

Reflecting on the past 12 months we are able to report that we are still marching in step but at a somewhat slower pace and must confess that walking sticks etc do not make for good foot drill. We continue to tick over with the old and bold ensuring attendances at meetings and gatherings and social functions are maintained to a reasonable level. Regrettably the infusion of new blood so desperately needed to ensure the future of the Branch still eludes us, which is always a cause for some concern. At the Annual General Meeting held in April 2012, **Phil Lanes** who had served the Branch for over 25 years as the Social Secretary handed over the portfolio to **Andy Johnson**. Otherwise all other Executive Officers were re-elected for another year reflecting the general satisfaction of the membership of the governance of the Branch.

The Branch was to herald the new reporting year celebrating the Annual Christmas Draw and Lunch. A most enjoyable and entertaining event held at that time in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, Knightsbridge Barracks, home of the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment where 110 members and guests were to enjoy not only the ambience of the Mess, but lunch (liquid or otherwise) plus the usual good humoured banter that is a pre-requisite of this function.

Moving in to 2012 we realised that organising social functions this year was somewhat challenging, what with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Olympics and Paralympics all taking centre stage in London. Nevertheless, a calendar of events to complement these prestigious events took place. These included an All Battalions Reunion Jubilee Lunch held in the Union Jack Club where a large turnout of members and guests were to enjoy an excellent lunch accompanied by wines and port for the loyal toast with speeches kept to a

minimum contributing to the pleasures of the day. It was a pleasure to see members from other Branches in attendance. Taking on board the number of compliments that were made about this lunch and requests for this to be an annual event we will have to give this some serious thought.

Our usual visits to the Tower of London for the Ceremony of the Keys continued to be very popular, not only with the members, but especially guests. In July the visit, as always, was hosted by Yeoman Warder, **Simon Dodd (Doddy)**, our resident impresario who said as a special treat he was going to provide additional entertainment for those who were attending. This came in the form of a barge arriving at Tower Bridge with the giant Olympic rings followed by a fireworks display. (If ever a man was a thespian he is!). As is customary the Branch stall was opened for business on Grenadier Day, although the weather on the day was reasonable, impending doom and gloom spread by various media weather forecasters, combined to keep attendance figures down on previous years which was a shame because of all the hard work that had been put in by the Rear Party, Battalion and logistics team.

Once again we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of The Not Forgotten Association who have played hosts on a number of occasions this year. These include an invitation to Founder's Day at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, following a dinner and overnight stay at the Union Jack Club with transport to the hospital. On another occasion a number were to take up the offer to attend a boat trip and concert up the Thames from Runnymede. The Colonel's Review of the Queen's Birthday Parade was also attended. The Annual Garden Party at Buckingham Palace was also the venue for another visit by members of the Branch, as was St James' Palace for the annual Christmas Party. For those with sporting interests a visit to Wimbledon for the All England Tennis Championships and a day at Lord's for the Clydesdale Bank Fifty Overs Final, which included entertainment in the Lord's Taverners Bar.

A contingent of the Branch was to parade and march to Horse Guards following the Service in the Guards Chapel on Regimental Remembrance Day. Others, like our Secretary who are unable to march for various reasons, attended as spectators. The Branch was represented on the National Remembrance Tide Services, the Opening of the Garden of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey and the Service and March past at the Cenotaph. At the time of writing this report we welcome home the Battalion from their deployment in Afghanistan. A deployment sadly that was not without its losses. We send our commiseration to the families who lost loved ones and to those individuals who came home with battle injuries, some of them life changing.

It is with sadness that we have to report that the following have joined the Holding Battalion: **2611452**

**Bolan E, 22213638 Hayes G, 22545975 Long T, 2626216 Streeter A and 2629126 Tanner D.**

**George 'Gabby' Hayes** has also joined the Holding Battalion. He served with the 2nd Battalion in the early 50s reaching the rank of LSgt. On leaving the Regiment he subsequently became the Secretary of the Essex Branch, a position he held for approximately 10 years. He subsequently relocated to the London Branch. It was testament to George's service to both Regiment and Association by the number of people who attended his funeral service. **Albert Streeter** had been a long standing member of the London Branch and held the position of Treasurer for a number of years, he was also a member of the Guards Museum volunteer staff, a position he loved. He was a true and dedicated Grenadier. Lest We Forget.

We take this opportunity to offer our appreciation for the help and guidance we receive from Regimental Headquarters especially **LSgt Ellingham**, always there, always helping, always offering advice, for that is Jay. Bill Smith will miss his 'Good morning Mate, How are you?' Our Branch wishes him well on his retirement from the Regiment. He will always be remembered, not only as a personal friend to many but as a friend of this Branch.

The Branch Secretary would like to conclude this report by offering his grateful thanks to the President, **Colonel A T W Duncan LVO OBE**, his fellow Executive Officers and the loyal Members of the Branch.

## MANCHESTER

(Formed 1913)

**President:** Awaiting Appointment.

**Vice Presidents:** F GREEN; I WILLIAMS.

**Chairman:** I WILLIAMS.

**Secretary:** R A FALLON, 58 Newhouse Road, Heywood, Lancs. OL10 2NU. Tel: (01706) 360818.

**Email:** robert.fallon@talktalk.net

**Treasurer:** AE JENNINGS.

**Meetings:** First Tuesday of each month, (except August)  
Meetings held at Ardwick Barracks, Arddwick Green, Manchester.

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The Manchester Branch is still going strong with lots of fund raising and a good turnout for all our trips and functions. The annual dinner and dance saw 119 members and guests sit down for a superb meal with our regimental guest the Regimental Adjutant, **Major Grant Baker**, who seemed to enjoy himself very much. The venue for this occasion was the Britannia Country House Hotel in Didsbury, Manchester and we must report that the service and quality of the food was first class.

Regimental Remembrance Day and Grenadier Day were both well attended by our Branch, and our new



**The Manchester Branch with the Household Division on parade 11th November 2012.**

gazebo made an impressive location for our branch stall. On the 8th September the Household Division organised a parade at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire and 19 members of the Branch went down to help swell the numbers. We did hear the officer in command say that we should make this an annual event, so be prepared for the call up. On Saturday 20th April 2013 the Manchester Branch will be celebrating the centenary of the Grenadier Guards Association at the Britannia Country House Hotel, Didsbury, Manchester, and we are setting places for 200 members and guests. Anyone who would like to join us, please get in touch with the Branch Secretary as soon as possible.

It is with great sadness that we have to report the deaths of the following members: **2617478 Eastwood W M, 23304461 Smith R, 22213763 Brady G, 23688528 Hamilton A R, 22545033 Riding K, 23149629 Starkey G G, 23290882 Belcher H, and finally 23969988 Massey W F.** Lest we Forget.

## MARCH

(Formed 1968)

**President:** Capt CNR BROWN.

**Vice Presidents:** Capt (QM) TA ROLFE; Mrs M BEVAN; W GIBBS; Mrs P MASON.

**Chairman:** TBA.

**Secretary:** 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.

eyesight means that traversing the Fen roads can be dangerous and that will preclude attendance at Branch meetings, however failing to awaken in time from the post lunch nap for a 7.30pm meeting takes a little understanding. Regrettably Branch meetings have not been well supported; the social side of the Branch however is a different story. The functions held during the year continue to receive the support of members and friends of the Branch.

On Remembrance Day **Des Pritchard** laid the wreath on behalf of the Branch, a willing volunteer to complete this task. He represents the Branch at the ceremony in the town. The Secretary had, as usual attended the Service and Wreath Laying at Peterborough Cathedral. When such a large City and Unitary Authority Area lie within the district covered by the Branch every effort must be made to advertise its existence.

The first of the social functions, the Christmas Lunch, was again extremely well attended, with new faces in the crowd, people who wish to be friends of the Branch. The Secretary, **Chris Whitebrook**, is mindful of the need to vary the menu; the thought of too many turkey dinners in the Christmas Season is not too attractive, but everybody seemed to enjoy themselves immensely. Attendance at the AGM at Wellington Barracks was a welcome opportunity of meeting our new Association NCO, **Rob Broomes**. We look forward to working as closely with him as we have been able to with his predecessor **Jay Ellingham**.

The assembled members and friends attending our Annual Lunch were encouraged by the presence, as guest, of **Capt James Brown**. The Branch President, **Capt Nigel Brown**, on this occasion a proud parent, was as pleased as all those present to hear his report on the Regiment, and particularly the training side at Catterick. Those of us who remember Capt James as a schoolboy were left feeling that little bit older. The Regimental Adjutant, **Major Grant Baker**, had willingly stepped aside as representative of the Regiment in attending this function, on the proviso that he would receive an invitation to attend in 2013. This was readily agreed upon.

Black Sunday was well attended and prior to events taking place **Eddie Salmon** was enlisted to be one of the Wreath Bearers. He was offered the opportunity of visiting the Association Shop to purchase a Beret; however he politely informed the Association Secretary, **Major Andy Green**, that the March Branch does not wear Berets. Needless to say that neither of the Wreath Bearers wore Berets on this occasion! The rehearsals for the Birthday Parade and the day itself were supported in the usual manner by the Branch, as was Grenadier Day. The last social event of the Branch year, the Sausage & Mash Lunch was, once again, well attended. Following the meal and the subsequent raffle nobody seemed to be in a hurry to go home and the conversations were ongoing for quite some time.

**A**s we all get older so there are more pressing reasons for not being able to get there! Obviously failing

Although the social functions continue to be well attended, great fun and attracting new 'friends' regrettably the attendance at the bi-monthly meetings has declined throughout the year. Members and friends receive two Newsletters in the year and this seems to satisfy the need for information for most of the Branch members. The cost of committee room hire, for the attendance of the Secretary, Treasurer, perhaps two branch members and one wife is hardly justified. A decision had to be taken to reduce the Branch Meetings to an AGM and the two newsletters. Anything urgent that crops up will be communicated at social functions or over the phone to those who might be interested.

## MATLOCK

(Formed 1955)

**President:** D RAWSON Esq.

**Chairman:** A BIRNIE Esq.

**Treasurer:** A BIRNIE Esq.

**Secretary:** 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:** 1230hrs for 1300hrs on the last Friday of each Month (With the following exceptions) NO MEETINGS – August and December, VENUE – The Boat House Hotel, 110, Dale Road, Matlock, Derbyshire. DE4 3PP.

Hotel, Near Bakewell. It was arranged by **Mr John Wright** (Assistant Secretary) and his wife **Margaret**. Invaluable assistance was also given by the Branch President **Mr David Rawson** and his wife **Tina**. A Star Raffle Prize was generously supplied by our very valued member and newly appointed Chairman **Andrew Bernie**. The early hours of the 22nd April 2012 saw the start of a very sad day when we learned that one of our members, **Frank Michael (Mick) Ford** had passed away after his long and brave battle with cancer. At his funeral on the 8th May 2012 at the request of his wife **Lynn** an Association Wreath was placed on the Coffin and a Guard of Honour was formed at the entrance to All Saints Church, Bradley, Ashbourne by the following Branch representatives; **David Rawson** (President), **Bill Pickford** (Chairman), **Fred Knight** (Secretary), **John Wright** (Assistant Secretary), **Bill Bishton**, and **Andrew Bernie**. The wives of all the aforementioned were also present in the congregation. Half of the very substantial church collection taken at the service on the day was very generously donated by Mick's family to the Matlock Branch.



The late **Frank Michael (Mick) Ford**.

This last year has been a real mixture of highs, lows and change. On 13th November 2011 our Chairman **Mr Bill Pickford** together with Assistant Secretary **John Wright** attended the Remembrance Sunday Service at St Peters Parish Church, Chatsworth Estate, where an Association Wreath was laid on behalf of the fallen. Our Secretary **Mr Fred Knight** once more kept up his tradition of many years by leading the Remembrance Day Parade in his home Village of Parwich, Nr. Ashbourne. On 25th November 2011 our Branch incorporated its monthly meeting with a carvery meal. A combined total of 15 members, wives and partners attended. This was a very successful occasion.

On the 11th April 2012 our 'Spring Luncheon' attended by 33 members and guests took place at The Ashford



The inauguration of the 'Derbyshire Plaque' at the NMA on 10th may 2012.

The 10th May 2012 saw the inauguration of the 'Derbyshire Association Tree and Plaque' at the National Memorial Arboretum, Alrewas, Staffordshire. This was a very special day and came about as a result of the combined efforts of the Matlock and Chesterfield Branches. Our thanks go to our President **Mr David Rawson** for arranging transport on the day. We were very privileged to have this occasion enhanced by the attendance of the following Nijmegen Company men dressed in Home Service Clothing; **CSgt Sam Castel-Nuovo**, **Gdsm Liam Walshaw** and **Gdsm Daniel Mitchell**.

Tuesday 7th August 2012 marked yet another sad loss within our Branch when we learned of the death of another of our members, **Derek Charles Brown** aged 75 and late of Ashbourne. At his funeral on the 22nd August 2012, in response to a request from his family (**Mrs Gillian Brown**) Branch members **David Rawson** (President), **Bill Pickford** (Chairman), **Fred Knight** (Secretary), **Bill Bishton** and **Andrew Bernie** were proud to accompany **Derek** on either side of his coffin as he was taken down the Chancel of St. Oswalds Church Ashbourne. A letter of appreciation has been received from Mrs Gillian Brown. The contribution of both of our recently lost members will be sadly missed.

Sunday 9th September 2012 saw the 'Guards Memorial Day' at the National Memorial Arboretum. Our Branch was represented by **Bill and Margaret Bishton** and **John and Margaret Wright**. At our Branch meeting held on the 26th September 2012 our Chairman for the last 12 years, **Mr Bill Pickford** and his wife **Vera** (our Treasurer for the last 5 years) announced their intentions of stepping



The late **Derek Charles Brown**.

down from their respective positions at the next AGM in October 2012. **Bill and Vera** have both done a fantastic job. In addition to their official duties they have hosted Summer Garden Parties and always worked tirelessly on Branch welfare issues and they will be a very difficult act to follow.

On Wednesday 24th October 2012 a total of 27 guests attended our Branch Autumn Luncheon which was arranged by Assistant Secretary **John Wright** and his wife **Margaret** at the Biggin Hall Hotel, Near Ashbourne. During this delightful function, presentations were made by our President, **Mr David Rawson** and his Wife **Tina** to our retiring Chairman **Mr Bill Pickford** and his Wife and former Treasurer **Mrs Vera Pickford** in gratitude for their dedicated long term

service to the Branch. Our Branch AGM on Friday 26th October saw several changes in the Committee and our meeting times. The revised details are shown in the Branch header above. We wish both **Andrew** our new Chairman and his wife **Rosemary** all the very best in their respective new roles.

We conclude by recording a big Thank You to our Secretary **Mr Fred Knight** and his wife **Ann** for their contribution in keeping the Branch vibrant. We also pass on our sincere best wishes to all those members who for reasons of ill-health no longer find it possible to attend our meetings. We miss you and your valued input at our meetings.

## MEDWAY

(Formed 1976)

**President:** Lieutenant Colonel P HARRIS MBE.

**Vice Presidents:** The Rt. Hon. The Lord Kingsdown, KG.; Lieutenant Colonel S TUCK BEM; Capt CD LEIGH-PEMBERTON; Capt A J H HOLLOWAY, MP; Mr AJ West BEM; Capt RC WORTHINGTON.

**Chairman:** 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:** www.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.

The Branch has had a good 2012. Sadly our Vice-Chairman of many years, **Len Ross** stood down due to health reasons and we welcomed **Colin Brown BEM** into that position. We are pleased to say that attendance at our monthly meetings has increased. We have had several speakers give presentations to the Branch on subjects as varied as a lady who explained the benefits of Aloe Vera, a Waterloo Medal Collection and the history to each medal and a Hypnotherapist who talked about phobias and how to cure them (although nobody would look him in the eye when asking questions!). On the third Sunday of each month we have a lunch club usually attended by about 20 members of the Branch. We have been to various pubs around the county and we have found some very nice places that we otherwise wouldn't have known existed.

In April, our Social Secretary **John Chapman** and his wife **Kay** organised a successful Quiz Night which was fully booked and enjoyed by all. Then in May we went Greyhound Racing at Sittingbourne Race Track and only one of our group came away with less money than they started with. What began as dreadful weather on the

journey to Grenadier Day thankfully brightened up when we arrived at Aldershot. The Branch took our Golf Challenge and after several pay-outs of £5, £10 and £20 to lucky winners, we still managed to come away with cash for the pot. Most members said that they saw more old friends this year than in previous times and what a pleasure that was. We were also the proud winners of the Boyton Cup.



The winning Boyton Cup Team of John Chapman, John Taylor, Steve Vaughan and Tony West being presented with glass tankards by Colonel Houstoun.

In August we visited Kingsnorth Power Station to find out just how electricity is produced. We all learned something new and had a lovely day as well. Later that month 24 of us played our annual Petanque match, which was won by **Des Flynn** and that was followed by a Sunday roast. This is the third year we have played and we have ended up with sunburn every time.



The Branch Petanque players.

September saw members meet with some of **Bob Goodson's** East Kent Branch at Wye, Nr Ashford for a BBQ lunch. It was cool but dry and we didn't depart until late afternoon after all of the war stories had been told. We followed that in October with our Annual Dinner at the Grange Moor Hotel, Maidstone. We were very lucky to have **Colonel Houstoun OBE** as our guest speaker who, in his usual form, gave us the latest news of the Regiment. It was a really enjoyable evening with a very full house attending and was followed with Micky Blue Eyes who played a variety of instruments and sang just the right songs for us, while we danced the night away until midnight. At the time of writing we still have our Christmas Draw to look forward to in December 2012. We would like to make all readers aware that the Branch has its own website: [medwaygrenadiers.co.uk](http://medwaygrenadiers.co.uk) where you can find out more about the Branch. However if you would like to contact us about Branch business please email us at [medwaybranch@grengds.com](mailto:medwaybranch@grengds.com).

Finally, the whole Branch send their heartfelt sympathies to the families of Grenadiers lost in Afghanistan on this last tour, especially to Branch member **Duane 'Ash' Ashworth** and his wife **Caroline** who lost their son **LCpl James Ashworth** in July.

## NORFOLK

(Formed 1938)

**President and Chairman:** Capt PJS ALLEN.

**Vice Presidents:** Capt TRE COOK; Major JFQ FENWICK QC; Capt DJT LANG; Capt H STRATTON; NNH NEWSUM Esq; JM BATTEN Esq; CH MITCHELL Esq; Mr BA BARBER; Lieutenant Colonel HML SMITH; Mr R.F. BARWICK.

**Vice Chairman:** Mr J FEAKINS.

**Treasurer:** Mr CR WARREN, 10 Highland, Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7QU. Tel: (01508) 494 379, Mob: 07885 088387.

**Email:** [christwrr@btinternet.com](mailto:christwrr@btinternet.com)

**Secretary:** Mr T.A. McCLENAHAN, 7 Crowes Loke, Little Plumstead, Norwich, Norfolk, NR13 5JB.

**Email:** [terry.mcclelahan@btinternet.com](mailto:terry.mcclelahan@btinternet.com)

**Meetings:** First Friday of March, and 3rd Friday of September at Dereham Town Football Club, at 2000hrs. These dates are flexible due to venue.

Our new Branch Secretary begins his first report on a note of sadness. We have lost three of our comrades in the last year **263415 Mr George Fisk**, **5826184 Mr Edward Peck** and **Mr Peter Preston**; gone but always remembered.

The Norfolk branch is still going strong with 75 members, 4 associate members, 4 honorary members and 13 widows. The year has been quiet in Norfolk with a handful of actives to coast us along. After the winter our

first wake-up call was the AGM in March. This was well attended at our new venue The Dereham Town Football Club. Our thanks go to **Roger Smith** who found us this great venue. The AGM saw **Chris Warren** our Branch Secretary and Treasurer of 8 years stand down to allow **Terry McClenahan** to take his place as Secretary. **Chris** will carry on his good work and continue as Branch Treasurer.

On Black Sunday a small bus load of Grenadiers, their wives and our widows ventured out from Norfolk to London to attend our Regimental Remembrance Day. The weather, for a change, was kind as we normally get wet first, have a good day, and get wet again on return. The day was enjoyed by all and we look forward to attending next year. At the end of September 55 Grenadiers, families, and friends, attended our Branch Annual Luncheon which took place once again at Park Farm Country Hotel, Hethersett, Norwich. All present enjoyed a fine lunch, which was followed by the loyal toasts. Our guest speaker this year was **Colonel Houstoun OBE**, who was accompanied by **Joanna** his wife. As expected the Colonel gave us an amazing insight into the Association and, of course, the regiment and was very well received. **Mrs Houstoun** was presented with a bouquet of flowers by **Talia McClenahan** the Secretary's granddaughter.



**Mrs Houstoun being presented with a bouquet of flowers by Talia McClenahan.**

Again this year the luncheon and raffle was arranged by **John Feakins** and his wife **Janet**. The raffle was well supported and during the afternoon **Sandra McClenahan** and granddaughter **Talia** helped all to obtain their raffle tickets. The draw took place at the end

of the luncheon with our guests doing quite well and in all we raised £227.00.

All our members look forward to 2013 and its challenges and anyone who finds their way to Norwich, do come and see us, you would be made very welcome. We have one of the best Grenadier Dining Clubs in the country run by **Ross Donaldson** and while the men attend in their dining room, some of their good ladies attend in another.

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

(Formed 1929)

**President:** Colonel EHL AUBREY-FLETCHER DL

**Vice Presidents:** Major, The Lord BRASSEY OBE JP DL; The Honourable TI BRASSEY; Major JFC MAGNAY; Lieutenant Colonel JS SCOTT-CLARKE; Major JM HIRST; Capt R WILLMOTT, DL; Colonel DJC RUSSELL-PARSONS; C H MANNERS Esq.; AJ CRAWLEY; Colonel REH AUBREY-FLETCHER; P GOUDIME Esq JP.

**Chairman:** G STANGER.

**Secretary:** MA BRITTON, 12 Raisins Field Close, Ecton Brook, Northampton. NN3 5LA. Tel: (01604) 416 101.

**Email:** nhantsgrenadier@aol.com

**Treasurer:** R LINES robertlines1@sky.com.

**Meetings:** First Thursday of each month at 2000hrs at the Royal Naval and Royal Marines Club, Lorne Road, Off Barrack Road, Northampton.

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**I**n April 2012, 45 Grenadiers, families and friends of the Northamptonshire Branch met to celebrate the Branch's 83rd Anniversary at 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 11:15am. 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.

Two river boat cruises and a Sunday luncheon were arranged during the year, with all three events well supported. Our annual dinner is to be held on 12th April 2013 and further details of this are available from the Branch Secretary or Treasurer. 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. All of our members look forward to a successful 2013 and we would welcome any useful information and ideas from other Branches on what they are doing. Finally, 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.

## OBITUARY

### TOM FROST 1928–2012

At their Annual Dinner in April 2012, the members of the Northamptonshire Branch of the Association stood to remember their Chairman, Tom Frost, who had died in February of that year. Tom Frost served in the Regiment from October 1945 until August 1953, in the United Kingdom and in the Middle East. During that time he became Soldier Servant to **Major General Gregson Ellis** who was then Commanding Home Counties District and based in the Constables Tower of Dover Castle. Later, he became Soldier Servant to **Major General Julian (later Sir Julian) Gascoigne** and was involved in the running of the London home of the Major General Commanding London District. In this role he was promoted to LCpl and was described by General Julian as 'capable, versatile and a very good cook'. Tom, who was also a notable raconteur, had a fund of stories about his time there.

Tom became a member of the Northamptonshire Branch in 1953 and was a memorable figure within it. To say that he was a 'character' requires that word to be spelt in Capitals! At one Branch Christmas Draw, when a game pie was being auctioned, he described it as being 'made from **Lady Macdonald-Buchanan's** Fighting Cocks in Newmarket'. He was for a time Butler to **Sir Reginald and Lady Macdonald-Buchanan** at Cottesbroke Hall in Northamptonshire.

After years of loyal service to the Branch, in 1998 he was elected as Chairman after the retirement of **Jack Spiller** who was a redoubtable figure and a hard act to follow. Tom took on this role with his own special style and was greatly loved by all members of the Branch. He served as Chairman for 14 years. When he died, whilst asleep in his chair at home, all members of the Branch felt his loss very deeply. He is greatly missed.

## NORTH LANCASHIRE

(Formed 1953)

**President:** Major M OWEN.

**Vice Presidents:** R PACKER Esq; J WHITE Esq.

**Secretary:** Mrs 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 2000hrs.

## NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE

(Formed 1933)

**President:** AEH HEBER-PERCY LL, JP.

**Vice Presidents:** Rev TM CARTER DL, JP; Major R G WOODFIELD, MBE; M S ROBINS Esq.

**Chairman:** K WRIGHT.

**Hon Secretary:** 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.

We continue to hold monthly meetings at the Milton Bowls Club in Stoke on Trent; they are excellent hosts and look after us very well. Numbers are still on the low side with several members spending more time in the M.I. room than at Branch meetings of late. We have, sadly, lost a number of good friends recently including **Stuart Davies. Stuart**, at various times over the years, has been both Secretary and Chairman of the Branch; he was one of four brothers who served in the Regiment. He was given a good send off at his memorial service which was attended by many ex-Guardsmen. He and our other comrades will be sorely missed.

At our December 2011 meeting the mince pies were enjoyed by all. At the time of writing we are hoping that our Chairman will be back to full fitness to bake some more for December 2012. But did he really bake them himself? In November, joined by pupils from his old school, we placed a Regimental Wreath on the '**LSgt John Rhodes VC**' memorial – an annual pilgrimage.

The highlight of the year, as ever, was the trip to London for Regimental Remembrance Day. It is always something very special for those of us who attend. Members visited Grenadier Day, credit to the organisers and those lucky enough to obtain tickets attended the Birthday Parade. In July, to celebrate Jubilee Year, our President and **Mrs Heber-Percy** invited the branch and our friends from The Shropshire Branch to luncheon at their home at Hodnet Hall. It was the most splendid of days, the hospitality was wonderful and even the sun came out – for a while.

Earlier in the year a calamitous fire almost destroyed the home of one of our Branch members. Unfortunately the Branch Banner resided with him – to say that it was 'well done' would be an understatement. We were able, eventually, to obtain a new one through the good offices of **John Southern** and a good insurance policy. At the lunch event, referred to above, we held a short Drum Head service where the new Banner was blessed by the Reverend Mark Carter, an ex-Grenadier and Branch

Vice-President. Casual lunches are still enjoyed and members had a great evening at **Charles Howells** 90th birthday party.

We continue to be involved in welfare cases and consider this to be the most important facet of the branch's activities. Thanks to all at Head Office for their on-going help and support and we particularly thank **LSgt Ellingham** for all the assistance that he has given us for a long time. We wish him good luck and every success in a 'civvy suit' (whoops – forgot he's been wearing one for years!).

## NORTHUMBRIA

(Formed 1926)

**President:** Colonel JM CRASTER MA.

**Vice Presidents:** THE DUKE OF ABERCORN (Lord Lieutenant of Co Tyrone); Major JHN PORTER; Major 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.

**Email:** johnkeegan1@virginmedia.com

**Hon Treasurer:** Capt DE GARDNER.

The Branch has had a very busy year, combined with our local Household Division Association. We held our AGM at the Billingham Golf Club on Sunday 6th May 2012 where the Branch officials and committee were returned unopposed. In March 2012 we held a committee meeting to determine the functions for the forthcoming year and decided to organise a number of events on behalf of our members.

On Saturday 24th April we held a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee and St George's Day Celebration Dinner at Billingham Golf Club. Our Annual Dinner was held on Saturday 7th July at Hartlepool Historic Quay in the Sir William Gray Suite, entertainment by the (Rat Packers), tribute band to Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr with a little help from others. The venue was so good we have re-booked for this year's Annual Dinner on Saturday 13th July 2013 to celebrate the Grenadier Guards Association 100th Anniversary.

On Sunday 22nd July we organised a family fun day at Redcar Racecourse in support of Help for Heroes, unfortunately the meeting was cancelled due to the course being waterlogged. Friday 9th November saw a party of 16 travel down to London, staying at the Kensington Close Hotel & Spa. We visited an old Branch member and good friend **Bob Hoggarth** (a former Blue) on Saturday 10th at the Royal Hospital Chelsea. The Branch would like to thank **Sergeant Major Pearse**

**Lally IG** for the hospitality shown to us. On Sunday morning we attended Whitehall for the Cenotaph Service.

We sat down to a lovely Christmas Lunch on Sunday 16th December at the Marton Hotel and Country Club and as this report is written we are very much looking forward to our Annual Burns Supper in 2013 to be held at the same venue. We would like to take this opportunity to wish the best of luck to the 1st Battalion Scots Guards, who at the time of writing are on a tour of duty in Afghanistan; hopefully we will be welcoming some members of the rear party to our Burns night.

The Branch is very much looking forward to Wednesday 26th June 2013 when Her Majesty the Queen will carry out her inspection of the Queen's Company, present new colours to Nijmegen Company, and attend the Association Centenary Garden Party. Finally we would like to take this opportunity to offer the Branch's best wishes to everyone for 2013 with special thanks **LSgt Jay Ellingham** and his able replacement **LSgt Rob Broomes** and in conclusion we thank **Major Andy Green** and all the staff at Regimental Headquarters for their continual support.

## NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(Formed 1914)

**President:** Awaiting Appointment.

**Vice Presidents:** Mr G SEVERN; Sir ANDREW BUCHANAN Bt.; Mr R.L. SHARPE; Mr G.E. HALLAM.

**Chairman:** Mr S.H. DAVIS.

**Secretary:** Mr G. E. HALLAM 14 The Lawns, Whatton in the Vale, Nottinghamshire, NG13 9EZ.

**Email:** nottinghambranch@grenngds.com

**Website:** www.grenadierguardsnotts.org.uk

**Treasurer:** Mr R Topley.

**Meetings:** Second Friday each month except December, at The Victory Club, Church Drive, Daybrook, Nottingham.

As is the custom the following new members were welcomed to the Branch during 2012; **24599044 Greenberry M R** (Hon), **22170525 Redfern K A**, **24607406 Weston A** (Ass), **22545753 Stevenson K** and **LSgt Brian Brown** (on transfer from the Matlock Branch). The Branch had a difficult period in 2011 with the added shock in February 2012 of the sudden death of our late Chairman **Mr J W Raynor MBE**. However, since the AGM in March things have progressed well with support from all of our members. A new team headed by **Mr Stuart Davis** as Chairman has been formed. **Geoff Hallam** became Secretary after 26 years as the Assistant Secretary, **Jeff Smith** became his Assistant and with two new Vice Presidents and two Committee members the future of the Branch is

hopefully assured. The Branch still awaits the appointment of a President to give it the authority it justly deserves.

The Regimental Dinner & Disco (music by a Grenadier, Graham Bexon) took place at the Welbeck Banqueting Suite, West Bridgford on the 21st April 2012. There were 67 in attendance with the Guest of Honour being **Capt Steve Munro** of the 1st Battalion. The meal was excellent and everyone enjoyed themselves. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of a Statuette by **Capt Munro to Vic Bradley** to mark 16 years as Branch Secretary; a wonderful achievement. There was virtually a full coach to Black Sunday with some members travelling by car. Unfortunately there was insufficient demand to warrant a coach for Grenadier Day.



The Nottingham Branch Stall at Wollaton Park.

The year continued with the Flag Raising ceremony at Nottingham Castle to mark the start of Veterans Week and a very successful weekend 30th June & 1st July at Wollaton Park where the Branch had a stall manned on both days by the usual stalwart team and their ladies; particular thanks to **Jeff Smith** and **Patrick Martin**. The efforts of the few raised a goodly amount both for Charity and Branch Funds. Two more lunches at the Welbeck Banqueting Suite were held in 2012 namely the Veterans Dinner on the 6th October which did not receive the anticipated support it deserved and the well-attended

Christmas lunch (a full blown 5 course Christmas dinner) which took place on the 8th December.

The penultimate social event was on the 7th December at Branch HQ when the prize draw took place. Our ladies again provided the buffet to accompany this feast of food, pleasure and camaraderie. It is hoped that all the work put in by **Patrick Martin**, the organiser, will once again raise more funds for charity and the Branch. On a more sombre note some Branch members attended Remembrance Services and parades all over the County but in particular Granby, Barnstone & District RBL Parade at St Andrews Church Langar and a similar event at St Peters Church, Tollerton where a plaque was laid on the local War Memorial by the parents of **Gdsm Michael Roland** who was killed in Afghanistan in 2012. At each Service the names of Grenadiers killed on active service in recent times were read out.

The Branch roll of Honour this year, to whom we pay our sincere respects, includes **22955868 Radford K**, **24220756 Taylor M**, **2616939 Arnold D E**, **22545256 Raynor J W MBE**, **2616634 Scarlet C J A**, **30097225 Gdsm Roland M**, **2616692 Henshaw H C**, **23255869 Davis F** and **23688499 Clemmit D**.

## 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 COCHANE Esq DL (Scots Guards); D PALMER Esq DL; Lieutenant Colonel RT MAUNDRELL, MVO; Major RM POTTER (Scots Guards).

**Chairman:** D THOMPSON.

**Hon Secretary:** PL COOK, 37 Glebelands, Headington, Oxford. OX3 7EN. Tel: (01865) 451714.

**Email:** pelecoglebe@yahoo.co.uk

**Treasurer:** Mrs J SHAYLER.

The Association Annual General Meeting took place towards the end of March 2012 but our 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**.

The Branch Annual General Meeting was held in 2012 at the Plough Public House on the 7th March prior to one of the Dinning Club lunches. Both were well attended by Branch members and friends. All items on the agenda were dealt with and the Branch Officers and Committee were re-elected en-bloc. Again my thanks go

to those who always seem to attend the Annual General Meeting and those who attended because of the lunch. Unfortunately we still do not appear to be able to get our younger members to attend and one wonders what will happen when the old and bold who regularly attend are no longer in a position to do so.

Grenadier Day was held at the Battalion's home at Lille Barracks, Aldershot and we would like to thank the Vice Chairman **David Wright**, Social Secretary **Peter Brooks**, their ladies and others who attended and helped raise some money towards Branch funds. For some unknown reason this year's tickets for the Troop reviews that were requested by the Branch were not forthcoming which caused disappointment to some members. For some years we have not had an Annual Garden Party which had always been well supported and something our members looked forward to. We hope that in future years we will resurrect some form of like event. In October the Branch Treasurer **Mrs Janet Shayler** attended a Treasurers meeting at Wellington Barracks. The Dinning Club has been very successful, organised by the Branch Social Secretary **Peter Brooks** and our thanks go to him for finding the different locations within the County and also those that support these events especially members from the other local Household Division Regimental Associations; they are always most welcome.

The Branch Annual Luncheon was held again at The Banbury Cricket Club, Bodicote, near Banbury, Oxfordshire on Sunday 28th October and organized again by the Social Secretary **Peter Brooks**. Over 70 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 year our guest speaker was **Mr Richard Adams** who served as a Lieutenant in the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, he gave a brief talk on his Regiment's and our Regiment's role in the Battle of the Marne in the First World War and the visits he organises to that area in the early part of September each year, the time the battle took place. The Regiment was represented by The Regimental Adjutant **Major Grant Baker**, who gave us an update in the activities of the Regiment.

We would like to thank the following people who supported us and had travelled some distance to attend; for the second year running **Major Maurice Joyce MBE**, a Vice President of the Wessex Branch and his wife **Nancy**. **Mr Barrie Padwick** Secretary of the Reading and Oxford Coldstream Guards Association and Secretary of the Henley Guards Association and his wife **Pat**, **Mr Bill May** a Vice President of the Reading Branch of the Grenadier Guards Association and his wife **Lesley**, who have for several years given us their support. Also for the second time **Mr Ron Fletcher**

Secretary of the Leicester and Rutland Branch and his wife **Jill**. **Major Mould** a member of the London Branch was a first time visitor this year. **Mr Roy Ibson** a member of the Norfolk Branch who always attends our functions was once again able to be with us. It was also nice to see two Branch widows **Mr Cosh**, her daughter and **Mrs Fay** and her friend.

Sadly we have to report the death after a short illness of Branch member and World War Two veteran **Mr George Cole (2620436)** who passed away the night before the Annual Luncheon and **Mrs Rosemary Austin** the widow of the late Michael Austin.

On ending this report 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 whom we have on the nominal roll attending the next Annual General Meeting. In closing we 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, our accountant **Mr Colin Hessey** and all members of the Committee for their help during the last 12 months.

## READING

(Formed 1913)

**President:** Lieutenant Colonelonel 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 Veary.

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. On March 25th Members attended a church service for the Dedication of Branch Banners at St Mary the Virgin Church, Kidlington. It was a lovely service and well attended. Thanks here go to **Barrie Padwick**, Coldstream Guards and all his helpers both from the Grenadiers and Coldstream Guards for this marvellous event.



**Our Dedication celebration cake.**



**Banner Parties outside the church in Kidlington.**



**The Band leaving Wellington Barracks.**

The Regimental Remembrance Service held in London on the 20th May was again extremely well attended as always and it was so good to see Nijmegen Company with so many members of the Association taking part.

The Not Forgotten Association kindly invited four guests from our Branch to attend their Annual Buckingham Palace Garden Party in May and this year **John** and **Christine Southern** and **Jim Veary** and **Margaret Rogers** enjoyed the occasion on a lovely Summers day.

Grenadier Day was much better weather wise than last year. Our Honorary Member **Derren White** together with a friend brought along their marvellous display of military model soldiers this year marking the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. We had a very popular homemade cake stall which of course sold out! Our memorabilia display always has visitors browsing through the albums and records. It did rain towards the end of the afternoon and we had to quickly gather it all up. The stalls this year were run by **Phil** and **Pamela** and **Jim** and **Margaret** – we really do need more help from Branch Members.



**Left to Right: Jim Veary, Margaret Rogers, Christine Southern and John Southern.**



**Pamela Flowerdew in charge of our Grenadier Day stall.**

On the 9th September we visited the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) and joined other members of the Household Division attending a Service and Parade which was supported by all the Guards Regiments in our area. Thanks to **John Southern** for organising this event.



**Grenadier and Coldstream Banner Bearers at the NMA.**



The Veteran Corps of Drums at the NMA Parade.

We held a very successful Annual Branch Lunch at the Calcot Hotel in Reading on the 23rd September. We had two speakers, **Major James Fox**; Company Commander of Nijmegen Company brought us up to date with Battalion news and **Flight Sergeant Tiny Russell**, a Load Master in the Royal Air Force. We also had as our Guests three Chelsea Pensioners, ex Academy Sergeant Major at the RMA **Ray Huggins MBE**, **Norman Mitchell** and **Dorothy Hughes** who was in the ATS during the war. Nearly eighty attended as the Branch is so well supported by other Guards Associations in the area.



On the right Philip (Our Chairman) and Pamela Flowerdew and on the left Keith and Bruni Lewis from the Oxford Branch.



Some of our many guests who joined us for lunch.

Sadly two of our Branch Members have died this year. **David Beard** one of our committee members died in May and **Neville Townsend** in October. R.I.P

Finally, we really do need members to support the Branch and join the committee. We have about 60 members roughly half of which are mainly widows and a few honorary members. Our committee consists of **Philip and Pamela Flowerdew**, **John Southern**, **Jim Veary**, **Robin Kellow**, **Ken Stokes** (Scots Guards), **Richard White** (Honorary member) and **Theresa Day** – four of us are over 70. **Theresa** is pleased to continue for one more year but will step down as Branch Secretary at the end of 2013 when she will be 75 but will be happy to serve on the committee thereafter. Please help us to keep the Branch going for the foreseeable future.

Finally many thanks to **Jay Ellingham** who has been a great support to all Branch Secretaries for many years and we are very sorry that he is leaving for civilian life. We look forward to all Association events and meeting **Jay** again in 2013.

## SHROPSHIRE

(Formed 1927)

**President:** Major G V INGLIS-JONES.

**Vice Presidents:** AEH HEBER PERCY Esq; Major RG WOODFIELD MBE; Capt D VERNON; C BECK Esq; Lieutenant Colonel F S ACTON; Mr G PRITCHARD, Esq; H W SPENCER, Esq; Capt G WHITAKER; W.S.I KENYON-SLANEY OBE, KstJ, DL, Esq.

**Chairman:** HW SPENCER Esq.

**Secretary:** C. BECK, 133 VICTORIA ROAD, BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE, WV16 4LL. Tel: (01746) 761501.

**Email:** [chris40beck@googlemail.com](mailto:chris40beck@googlemail.com)

**Treasurer:** F DAWE.

We can only begin our report this year by recording a huge thank you to **Major Bob Woodfield MBE** for the excellent way he carried on the work of Branch Secretary after **Chris Beck** stood down at our 2011 AGM. His task was made more difficult by having to travel from his home in Warwickshire, quite a distance to come to Branch activities but he has done a marvellous job and each and every one of us are very grateful for all that he and his wife **Joan** have done for us over the years. We must also record a vote of thanks to our outgoing President **Mr WS Kenyon-Slaney** who during his period in office along with his wife has worked tirelessly for the Branch. He has now handed over to **Major Giles Inglis-Jones** who we are certain will also be an excellent President.

The Branch held its AGM on the 1st April 2012 at the Lord Hill Hotel in Shrewsbury. **Chris Beck** had made

it known that if no one came forward as Secretary he would once again take on the job! Chris was unable to attend the meeting and selected for another term in his absence! The attendance at 22 was once again was way below expectations for a Branch with a membership of 98 and we would like to see more at our AGM and our events although we are fully aware that due to the high cost of lunches, family and work commitments many members find it difficult. The Branch was kindly invited by **Mr Heber Percy**; President of the North Staffordshire Branch to join them to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee by having a garden party at his home at Hodnet Hall on the 1st July, the event was also used to dedicate their new Banner. The weather was fair and everyone from both branches enjoyed a good day out with a very good lunch and a look round the beautiful gardens at Hodnet Hall. Our thanks to **Mr & Mrs Heber Percy** for their hospitality, and to **David Robins**, Secretary of the North Staffordshire Branch, whose organisation made it such a lovely day for those of us who attended. With insufficient members showing an interest in hiring a coach for either Regimental Remembrance Sunday or Grenadier Day it was decided not to hire a coach, those who wished to attend made their own travel arrangements and enjoyed both events.

It is with great sadness to have to report on the death of **Bernard Almond**, who was a long serving member of the Branch, In closing our report we would like to wish all Grenadiers and members of the Association good health and happiness in 2013, and please come and see us in Shropshire where you will get a warm welcome!

## 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.

**Email:** josiemalcolm50@talktalk.net

**Meetings:** Last Thursday of each month at Royal British Legion Club.

In a quiet backwater in rural Lincolnshire a band of tireless volunteers are working to fulfil the aims and objectives of the Association and to promote the Regiment wherever possible. In some respects this is an easy task as the Regiment and the Armed Forces in general are held in high esteem in the town but this is due in no small way to the various events held in the town by the Branch and the other Associations we work with.

In the Spring time we held another collection at our local supermarket for The Army Benevolent Fund, this

we could not have done without the help of members of the Royal British Legion and true to form townspeople gave generously and a good sum was passed on for this worthy cause. We continued our link with the local Army Cadet Force. Having for many years presented the Grenadier Shield for Turnout we decided to donate another award this time a statuette of a Guardsman and after careful thought agreed this would go to the most improved cadet, giving a chance to those who strive all year through without a chance of winning the top award. It was to their credit that both awards were won by young ladies, members enjoyed attending a presentation evening and meeting the recipients.



**The Branch Secretary presents Cadet Emily McLoughlin with her award.**

In the summer **Major and Mrs Turner** kindly invited members to a luncheon in their lovely garden, unfortunately the rains came with a vengeance but it is amazing what Grenadiers and a good gazebo can overcome. We were luckier when all Associations came together for the annual service in the Peace Gardens, the sun shone and many people came to join in, our smart plaque markers were our chairman **Roy Stocker** and our Welsh Guards member **Don Thomas**. Members were also on parade for the Remembrance Day Service and Parade in November. It was a large parade and participants were met with enthusiastic applause as they arrived to take the salute in the Market Place.

None of this could happen without the help of members volunteering to do various jobs. After over 30 years in post the Secretary feels the time has come to thank all those who have volunteered for a myriad of things to ensure that the Branch runs so smoothly. The dictionary defines

volunteering as 'the sense of carrying out tasks or providing services without recompense, the just reward being self-worth and respect'. Our Branch is made up of all kinds of people with the one aim; we have ex HGV drivers, security guards, nurserymen, shopkeepers and policemen. Thus making the point that we are all laymen who are pleased to give our time to the cause and this can be multiplied many times up and down the country. We were all working for The Big Society before it had even been thought of! **Malcolm Stevenson** would like thank all of you and your wives whose help is invaluable. An important vote of thanks goes to **Jay Ellingham** who retires imminently, without his help and patience our work would have been impossible, we wish his successor all the best. Finally our thoughts and best wishes go to the young men of the Regiment who have proved themselves brave and fearless, we think of them constantly and pray for their safety.

## SUFFOLK

(Formed 1926)

**President:** Colonel DHC GORDON LENNOX.

**Vice Presidents:** Major CXS FENWICK LVO; Major FAO CLARK; C. DEARING.

**Chairman:** P. G. D. T del c NISBETT, Esq.

**Secretary:** D.C. BEAUMONT, 6 WAREHAM AVENUE, IPSWICH IP3 8QD. Tel: (01473) 729524.

**Email:** ggasuffolk@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** RL NETTLETON, 126, KINGS ROAD, GLEMSFORD, SUDBURY, SUFFOLK, CO10 7QZ. Tel: (01787) 282187.

The Annual General Meeting held in April 2012 heralded a change of the Committee. **Capt F A Wallace** (Chairman), **Albert Jones** (Secretary) and **Peter Wood** (Treasurer) stood down, to be replaced by **Capt P G D T del C Nisbett** (Chairman), **Derek Beaumont** (Secretary) and **Richard Nettleton** (Treasurer). The retiring officers were thanked for their services which had spanned several years.

There is no doubt that 2012 was a year to remember in more ways than one; Her Majesty The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Olympic and Paralympic Games and all those events associated with the Regiment and our Association. Many fine orators and commentators have adequately described the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and the Olympics, but it's good to look back with some pride at the events which the Branch participated in. Sunday 20th May witnessed a good turn out for Regimental Remembrance Day, when old friendships were rekindled once again. Members had travelled from all points of the County to London by coach and two stallwarts **Laurie**



**Hancock** and **Linden Stewart** were introduced to His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh.

On Saturday 26th May the Band of the Honourable Artillery Company performed a concert at the Spa Pavilion Felixstowe in aid of Military Charities. Those members of the Branch who attended found the evening very enjoyable. The 'jewel in the crown' for the Branch was no doubt its celebration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, with an excellent buffet lunch held at Saxham Hall on 26th June, by kind permission of the Branch President, **Colonel D H C Gordon Lennox** and **Mrs. Gordon Lennox**. 73 Members and Guests assembled that day, and following a formal photograph, members and guests wandered through the well groomed grounds.



Mid November found individual members and their wives returning to London, this time to see 'Scarlet and Gold', a concert by the Massed Bands of The Household Division, in support of military charities. The venue was the opulent Central Hall Westminster, the building itself worth a visit. With six Directors of Music applying their own interpretation of their style of music, little wonder the evening passed so quickly.

The Branch activities for the year concluded on Friday 7th December with the Annual Christmas Dinner at the Cedars Hotel Stowmarket; where 68 members and guests were in attendance. Mainly due to the generosity of Members and Guests and those Members unable to attend providing prizes for the draws and items for the auction, the Dinner was run at a profit.

# SURREY AND EAST HAMPSHIRE

(Formed 1925)

*note: as Caterham Branch then in 1931 it changed names to Surrey Branch, then again in 1986 to Surrey & East Hampshire Branch.*

**President:** Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Smiley Bt.

**Vice Presidents:** Colonel E. H. HOUSTOUN OBE; Lieutenant Colonel R M DORNEY MBE; Lieutenant Colonel HMP De L'ISLE; Lieutenant Colonel T.J. TEDDER; Lieutenant Colonel D.J. WEBSTER; Lieutenant Colonel G.R. WHITEHEAD RVM; Capt C.H. COX, TD; Capt R. HUTTON; Mrs P. DOWLAND; Mr S. KEYWORTH MBE; Mr P. HODGKINSON BEM.

**Chairman:** Mr Andy REID.

**Secretary:** Mrs Babs REID, 71 Wyke Avenue, Ash, Aldershot, Hants, GU12 6EA. Tel: (01252) 316757.

**Email:** babsrga@gmail.com

**Welfare Officer:** Mr Sam KEYWORTH MBE.

**Treasurer:** Mr Terry TAYLOR.

**Meetings:** Third Wednesday of each month apart from December at 1930hrs at the Sgts Mess, ATR, Pirbright, Surrey, GU24 0QQ.

Having stood in as acting Secretary for a very dear friend **Mr Bob Ball** while he battled with his illness and finally taking over as Branch Secretary when Bob tendered his resignation due to ill health **Babs Reid** starts her first report by sadly having to report the loss of five Branch members since January 2012. **General Sir David Fraser GCB OBE DL** (a previous Branch President and Vice President), **Capt Walter (Wally) Williams BEM** (a previous Association General Secretary), **Mr Robert (Bob) Ball 24042291** (our previous Branch Secretary), **Mr Warren Sewell BEM 2628621 (V)** (a previous Branch Chairman), **Mr Albert Henry Seale 2623134 (V)** and **Mr David Oxford 22955717** 'Lest we Forget'.

On a much happier note we are very pleased to report that we have had the pleasure to welcome some new members. After an invite from our Branch President (**Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Smiley Bt**) to become Vice-Presidents of our Branch two serving Officers **Lieutenant Colonel Richard Dorney MBE** and **Capt Richard Hutton** joined us. We are also joined by **LSgt Jay Ellingham** who left the Regiment in February 2013 after 24 years service, nine of which had been dedicated to the Association. Also **WO2 Martin Howlin 25041631**, **Mr Nick Davis 25124122**, **Mr Adam Ball 25132988**, **John Goggins 25123855**, **Shaun (Chalky) White 24815229**, and **Mr Frank Hooley 24060528**. Finally, last but not least, we welcome back a lost member after having caught up with him at Grenadier Day and he is **Mr Bill Leddington 24048649**. The Branch continues to be very active and one of the things still going well

after its introduction a few years ago are the Sunday lunches held once a month where we have had between 15 to 30 people attend. They are normally held at the Lakeside International Hotel in Frimley, Surrey on the last Sunday of each month.

On Wednesday 25 April, 32 members of the Branch and guests were given a tour of the Army Training Centre (*or as some of you will remember it The Guards Depot, Pirbright*). Rather than repeat what has already been written for *The Informer* (*our Branch magazine which is produced twice a year and sent to all our members*) **Alan HUGHES** reports that unfortunately, heavy rain fell from the gloomy grey sky but our spirits were lifted as we all met in the Sgts' Mess for coffee and biscuits. We were then given an excellent presentation by **RSM Scott Grey** of 7 Para RHA on the workings and operations of the ATC. The main task of the ATC is to take the Recruit off the street and then over the next 14 weeks prepare them for Phase 2 of their training. Over 5,000 Recruits passed out from the ATC in 2011 and of all the Recruits who enter the ATC, 90% pass out. Once the Recruits have passed out they move onto Phase 2 which will last 28 weeks before he or she joins their main Unit. The tour included St Mary's Church which contains the Colours of the 3rd Battalion.



The 3rd Battalion Colours hanging in St Mary's Church.

We moved from there onto the gym and this is where you see the first of the major changes with 36 PTI working hard at getting the Recruit fit. In the old Depot days the gym was equipped with wall bars, ropes and very little else. Today the Recruit has a modern up-to-date gym with all the necessary equipment. We then moved into the next gym and watched the Instructors preparing for the Pace Stick competition. Our next port of call was the Square. Gone are the days of 8 or 10 Squads moving at 120 paces to the minute with a Drill Instructor (in forage cap, buff belt and highly polished boots) shouting 'one,

two, three one' and all overseen by the Drill Sgt. Now we have one Squad on the Square with the Instructor dressed in Combat Dress and rubber boots. The Square remains the third largest owned by the Army and is still used today by the London based Battalions for rehearsals for the Queen's Birthday Parade.

We then moved on to the ATC HQ building which has Honour Boards on the walls. What was noticeable about them was that very few Guardsmen hold senior positions at the ATC. We were then shown the Recruit accommodation. Each section is accommodated in one

room which is split into 4 areas with its own bedside built-in locker. Their fears and doubts remain the same except for one major point: we did not know what the future would hold for us they however have a very good idea of what it holds for them. Due to the weather the visit to the Ranges was cancelled and we returned to the Sgt Mess for a lunch of pie and chips. Our Chairman **Andy Reid** then made a presentation to the RSM and his staff. What conclusion could we draw from our visit?

Many things have changed however one thing remains the same: the professional manner and approach taken by the Instructors. Their aims are identical to ours when we were Instructors. The same words are still used to inspire the Recruit of today; comradeship, trust, spirit, skill, honour and (last but not least) mates! These qualities are still as prevalent today as they were in 1656. What has changed is the method of achieving them. Some may think it is softer than in our day and, if you asked any Recruit today, you may get a different answer (we did not have to think about Health and Safety as they do now). **Alan HUGHES** was a Drill Instructor at the Depot as well as a member of the Depot Pace Sticking Team.

Our Annual Dinner was held on 28th April 2012 and it was with deep sadness that the Branch learnt of the death of **Gdsm Michael Roland** of The Queen's Company the day before; a minute's silence was observed in his memory. Our President **Sir John Smiley Bt** then welcomed everyone to the Dinner held in the Hampshire Suite at the Holiday Inn, Farnborough. It was very nice to see members from the Lincoln, Medway and Windsor Branches as well as members from the Scots Guards Association Surrey Branch, all giving us their support.

It was also a huge pleasure to welcome three members of the Battalion and their ladies plus our guest speaker **Capt Richard Hutton**. The excellent meal (which varied from farmhouse pate to grilled salmon fillet to sticky toffee pudding) was served on time by a very keen, smart and professional team of staff. After dinner, our President formally welcomed our guests and the toasts were made accordingly. He then introduced **Capt Richard Hutton** who gave an interesting speech that brought us up to date with the Battalion's activities.

The Raffle was then carried out and proved a great success, raising the grand total of £440. Consequently the Committee would like to thank **Mrs Sally Bell** for all her hard work in organising the Raffle and to everyone who took the trouble to bring prizes. This year we used fresh flower arrangements as table decorations which were arranged by **Mrs Margaret Hughes** using 'Blue Red Blue' roses and gerberas. The flower arrangements were given to members and guests at the end of the evening. Many members and guests took full advantage of the advantageous rates



**Annual Dinner top table from left to right around the table are Mrs Pat Dowland, Lady Smiley, Mrs Elsie Beale, Lieutenant Colonel Richard Dorney MBE, Capt Richard Hutton (Guest Speaker) our President Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Smiley Bt, Mr Eric Robinson, Mrs Silvia Nicholls & Mrs Kate Robinson.**

offered to us by the Hotel and stayed overnight. At 0200hrs we were asked by Hotel staff if they could close the bar . . . reluctantly we conceded as some members were going swimming at 0700hrs!

On Thursday 7th June we had our Branch boat trip. Arriving at Farncombe Boat House in Godalming at around 0800hrs members quickly loaded our two boats Saxon & Roman with supplies needed for the outing while **Andy Reid** booked in at reception and handed over the required deposit on each boat. After a quick crash course on how to handle the boats and locks, what to do, and what not to do, we were soon on our way. All seemed to be a repeat of last year the weather could not make up its mind and we had sun and rain all day. There were no dramas this year with the ropes as everyone kept hold of them and made sure they did not fall in the water. **Malcolm Hammond** had the foresight to bring a pop up gazebo for our picnic which was just as well because when we decided to stop for lunch the heavens opened up. However, after putting up the Gazebo and table we did manage to lay out all the excellent food provided by **Malcolm & Dolly Hammond** and there was more than enough to go round. We did though have to eat in the shelter of our boats and not on the grass as

we had hoped. While moored up for our picnic we had the normal raffle which proved to be fun with poor old **Malcolm** and **Paul Morris** running between boats shouting out numbers and then distributing the prizes. All in all we had a great day despite the weather and the day just flew past as we made our way back down the river to the boathouse in order to hand the boats back still intact and with relief **Andy** was able to collect all our deposit money back. After unloading our boats, everyone thanked **Dolly & Malcolm** for the wonderful food they had prepared for us. On saying all our goodbyes everyone was asking when the next trip would be!



Keys set ready to let the water out of the lock with a family and dog looking on from the bridge. Left to right **Peter Payne, Malcolm Hammond & Sue Morris.**

Each year since the death of **Bob Bennett** in 2007 (a member who was voted in as Branch Chairman and died before taking his first meeting) the Branch has held a memorial Charity Fishing Match in his memory on the first Sunday in July. This is amongst groups of people who **Bob** had a close connection with, they are the Grenadier Guards Association Surrey & East Hampshire Branch, The Surrey Police, The Environment Agency and the Aldershot Garrison Angling Club each of which have to form teams of five people. This year the match was held on 1st July at Shawfield Lake, Ash.

All fishermen assembled at 0800hrs for team briefings and Pool participation under direction of the Environment Agency and after paying their entrance fee which was £10.00 per person and drawing their peg numbers, the match commenced at 1000hrs. The day's weather was bright and sunny and allowed everyone to enjoy a good days fishing. The match continued until 1500hrs and after the final whistle was blown weighing in and recording under Environment Agency guidance took place. Everyone then moved to the Lion Brewery, Ash where prize giving, raffle and pools payouts took place followed by a hot buffet meal for anglers and their guests. We are sorry to report that the Grenadier team did not win the Cup; this honour went to the Surrey Police. The Cup and prizes were presented by members

of **Bob's** family who have come along each year to do the honours. This year the proceeds of the day amounting to £270 went to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds which was **Bob's** favourite Charity.

We would like to thank everyone who helped make our Grenadier Day stall such an outstanding success. We had a wet start but the sun did come out and our stall was soon very busy making a profit and by the end of the day we had made around £575 for the Branch. A special thanks goes to **Dennis Waby** who always seems to pop up when help is needed, to **Janet and John Taylor** and their family who raised lots of money with their teddy stall and especially as **Janet** was not feeling well on the day, to **Dolly & Malcolm Hammond** for running the Tombola stall, to **Windy Miller, David and Sally Bell** for running the Picture Raffle, to **Alan Hughes** who was given the microphone and Arena for five minutes to do the introduction and commentating on the Horse Racing, all of which was to raise money for the Rowens Hospice in memory of **Bob Ball**, and finally two of **Alan's** daughters **Sally and Allison** for running the Horse Race Stall; the final amount raised for the Rowans Hospice was £82. I am pleased to report that the Branch managed to put two shooting teams into the Boyton Cup this year and although we did not win we did come second and third and we know one of our members was very pleased with his score. Our congratulations go to the Medway Branch who proved worthy winners.

Having suffered the loss of Grenadiers, family and friends to cancer and now also having her sister fighting the same disease **Babs Reid** and her husband **Andy** decided that they would take on the challenge of a long distance walk in the South of England called The South Downs Way which is 100 miles long and follows the old routes and droeways along the chalk escarpment and ridges of the South Downs from Winchester to Eastbourne. The reason was to help raise funds for Cancer Research UK. After finding sponsorship from within the Branch, other Branches of the Association, our business customers and suppliers, families and friends they set off from Winchester on Wednesday 20th June on their walk staying overnight at B&B's along the way and eight days later they arrived in Eastbourne. With the help of all those people that kindly sponsored us they managed to raise £3,657.25 for Cancer Research UK. Quite by chance and by extraordinary coincidence they found out that the South Downs Way was opened to the public 40 years ago; **Andy and Babs** married 40 years ago. So they celebrated a Double Ruby Anniversary as they did the walk along the Way... how fitting was that? On behalf of Cancer Research UK and all the people that this money will help to benefit **Andy and Babs** wish to thank everyone who supported them by making a donation. If you have access to a PC and the internet you can read all about their walk in their blog at <http://andybabs.blogspot.co.uk>.



**Babs & Andy Reid at the start of their walk standing just in front of King Arthurs Statue in Winchester.**

On March 9th 2012 two former Grenadiers and long term friends along with their partners set off for France. Not loaded down with webbing and ammunition and marching into the sunset but in two motor caravans and with the hope for fair weather. **Dennis Waby** (of our Branch) accompanied by his partner **Jacquie Summerfield**, **Stuart Davis** (from Nottingham) and his wife **Pat**, were off into previously uncharted territory, for them anyway, to see where some of our forefathers of the Regiment had fought and died. Having located themselves at Peronne they went in search of the two known Guards cemeteries and the Divisional memorial known to be located on the Somme. Firstly they visited the Guards cemetery at Combles. A small cemetery located on the edge of the village. Not easy to find without local knowledge but they were lucky enough to find a local gentleman who managed to understand what they were looking for. Generously he conducted them to the gates, shook hands, and went off back into the village.

Being a small CWGC site it has a small number of Guards headstones in place, mainly Coldstreamers. What it does have is a stone of a soldier from the RHA with the number 111111. The cemetery was first set up by the Guards in 1916 but of course over the ensuing years of the war although other graves were set there it still retains its name. Next they were able to locate the second cemetery just outside the small village of Lesbeoufs, nicely signposted on the road to the next village, Ginchy. This is a much larger establishment of over 3,000 headstones. The cemetery holds mainly Commonwealth and divisional combatants, including a lot of Grenadiers, of the actions that took place in the area in September 1916. Just up the road about half a mile is the Guards Division Memorial. It seems a little lonely in its placing but was erected to commemorate over 7,000 Guards related deaths in the battles around that area. Dennis had had the foresight to take with him a Poppy wreath from the Branch which was placed at the Guards Division memorial as they paid their respects. The Division at that time had 4 Battalions of Grenadiers,

3 Coldstream, 3 Scots, 2 Irish and 1 Welsh. All in all visiting such places is without doubt a very moving experience especially when relating to their own time with the Regiment and how lucky they were. They also came across the grave of **Raymond Asquith** son of the Prime Minister at that time, who was a member of the 3rd Bn. Buried in the same row was **'Bim' Tennant** an officer of the 4th Battalion (mentioned on the Association website). They were also able to take in a visit to the Thiepval memorial; an astronomically sized Memorial to the fallen of the Somme who have no known grave. The Grenadier tablet takes up the space equal to the one that commemorates the whole of the other divisional regiments. They visited the huge Lochnagar crater left by the underground mine that was exploded there on the morning of 1st July 1916 (the first day of the Battle of the Somme). It was a tremendously moving and perhaps enlightening experience that only took in a very small fraction of what there is to see, but well worth the visit and it left room for much more. We hope their visit inspires some of you to do the same.



**From Left to Right: Dennis Waby, Jacquie Summerfield, Pat and Stuart Davis after laying the Branch wreath at the Guards Division Memorial.**

In looking forward to 2013 and at the time of writing our Entertainments Officers **Mr Alan Hughes** and **Mr Peter Hodgkinson BEM** have been busy planning ahead and already we have 33 events on our calendar for 2013, so our branch continues to be very active. It is hoped that we can continue to share some of these events with other branches as we have done in the past. Well ladies and gentlemen we may have taken up more space than we should so we will sign off but not before saying a big thank you to our President, our Committee and members of our branch for their support and to everyone at Regimental Headquarters for their continued help, without which we would not have been able to achieve all that we have done – thank you everyone. On behalf of all the members of our branch, we wish to thank **LSgt Jay Ellingham** for his nine years of service to the Association and in particular for all the help and advice he has given us. We know we speak for everyone in wishing him and his wife **Bonnie** all the very best for the future.

# 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, MA (RAMC).

**Chairman:** MW BRACKSTON.

**Secretary:** DG MONEY MBE, 42 Orchard Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex. RH15 9PL. Tel: (01444) 243284.

**Email:** sussesxbranch@grengds.com

**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.

As this report is written it is Christmas and indeed the New Year of 2013 is almost in sight. We are always being told that as one gets older the months and years slip by and that is quite believable for it does not seem all that long ago since we were enjoying the festivities of last Christmas.

We are a branch consisting of members of senior age spread all over the county and this does, of course, affect the attendance at our meetings and other functions both local and national. It is however good to see a loyal band of those same members who mostly attend our monthly meetings. Occasionally we get some who attend as a one off and it is particularly pleasing to see **Roger Lovewell** popping in now and again. **Roger** is quite a busy chap because he is a watch leader in the Brighton and Hove Fire Brigade as well as being a Retained Fireman in Seaford where he lives. We wonder if he particularly comes along to chat to **Lew Laws** and **Jim Stevens** who were both pretty senior firemen before they retired. During the meetings the photographs of former comrades come out and we talk of former friends and times in the Regiment and then the lamps begin to swing.

We still occupy the Turner Room at the Royal British Legion in Lancing for our meetings on the second Thursday each month (except January, February and April) the first two because of possible inclement weather and April because that is the month when we hold our Branch Annual Dinner. Anyone who might perhaps be in Brighton or Worthing on holiday on those second Thursdays of the month would be very welcome to come along and have a chat, a drink and a sandwich with us. Our ladies are very welcoming so bring your ladies with you too. Just give our Secretary a call to confirm the meeting.

The month of October was one of the three formal meetings each year and having written the minutes for this meeting our Secretary **Derek Money** was inserting these into the minutes folder and was looking back to the

beginning of that particular file (1982) and the numbers attending meetings then were about the same, although having said that, some of the names appearing in those older minutes were quite different. **Derek** and his wife **Eileen** were thinking about those names of members who have long gone and indeed as they travel around and pass by the homes or streets where they lived they bring back many happy memories of those they visited, had a chat and probably a cup of tea with.

Anyway back to the present and the future. We have welcomed the following as new members to the branch since our report in the last Gazette **2628549 Hubert Novis** who lives not too far from Hailsham and who served in the 1st Battalion during 1949–53 then we had **22467255 John Norris** of East Preston, between Worthing and Littlehampton, who was a 3rd Battalion man from 1951–54 and one of those recalled for the Suez crisis all those years ago. Next up was **24096380 Max Burton** of Hove a 2nd Battalion man between 1967–71. We welcome these new members to our branch and hope that they will be able to come along to our meetings and the national functions of the Association. Already two of the three have attended our meetings and one of them attended the Annual Dinner.

Our Branch Dinner in April was again held at our usual venue in Worthing and we sat down a total of 75, we lost a few regular faces but gained others and therefore we were about the same as previous years. Our Chief Guest was **Desmond Pelly DFC**. He was a member of Bomber Command and indeed flew Lancasters. He and his crew then became part of the Pathfinder Force on missions over Germany during the war. He gave us an excellent talk about those days and his experiences as a young 20ish year old pilot of a large aircraft. Sadly we did not have a representative from the Regiment but **Capt Simon Greenwood** stood in well by reading from a brief supplied by the Regimental Adjutant and covering those details about the Regiment about which we are all interested. Again we issue an invitation to all Grenadiers and their ladies to come along to our Branch Dinner on Friday 12th April 2013 probably very shortly after you are reading this report but you can contact the Secretary for further details. Our President is working on a Chief Guest at the present time and we can but hope he will be successful.

Some of our members did make it to Regimental Remembrance Day in London and again to Grenadier Day in Aldershot but our attendance at these functions is not good and one can possibly say that it is age related or due to lack of suitable transport or the cost of the same. Perhaps 2013 might be better. The best time to find former comrades is at Regimental Remembrance Day at Wellington Barracks when one forms up with your preferred Battalion group. The Horse Guards Parade gets that bit further away each year but the lure of marching with the Regimental Band makes one want to attempt the march down Birdcage Walk and back.

Coming towards the end of this report it is sad to write that since the report last year the following members of our branch have passed away. The first was **2624981 (LSgt) Norman Stuart Major** (4 Dec 2011) of Brighton who served in the King's Company of the 1st Battalion. He caught up with the Battalion at Bentheim in Germany. He returned, with the Battalion, to the UK in 1947 and left the Regiment in 1948. **22213713 Mr Peter Langridge** (13 May 2012) of Goring by Sea, a Branch Committee member, who after he left the Regiment had a career in the City of London Police and retired in the rank of Detective Superintendent of the Fraud Squad. **22137991 Mr Kenneth Fitch** (23 May 2012) of Peasmarsh, Nr Rye served in the 2nd Battalion and after his release did very well in the pharmaceutical business. He was originally from Nottingham but settled in Sussex many years ago. **22213883 Mr John Absolom** (5 June 2012) who actually died on his 77th Birthday was from Easebourne, Nr Midhurst. He served in the Drums of the 1st Battalion before being posted to the 2nd Battalion as a dog handler. In addition to these members the following Branch Widows also passed away during the year. **Mrs Dorothy Honebone, Mrs Lillian Mortland, Mrs Lillian Reynolds, Mrs Marion French and finally Mrs Cecilia Holehouse.** There was a poppy wreath and representation at all the services for the members and representation at most of the widows services. They will all be remembered. RIP.

Concluding this report we must give thanks to the Headquarters Staff for all the good work they do in keeping all branches supplied with information and help so efficiently. In particular **LSgt Jay Ellingham**, who by the time you are reading this, will have completed his service in the Regiment, and for the last nine years as the Association Clerk. We wish him and his family well in civilian life and in the future. In his place we welcome **LSgt Rob Broomes** and hope that he will soon settle down to his new position and be happy in his work over the coming years. Thanks also to our General Secretary, **Major Andy Green** who has already made his mark with the current branch secretaries. To all Grenadiers and their families everywhere the members of the Sussex Branch send you our very best wishes for this New Year of 2013 and beyond.

## GRENADIER SHOP

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## TAMWORTH

(Formed 1965)

**President:** Awaiting Appointment.

**Vice Presidents:** AW Wale.

**Chairman:** B WATTON Esq.

**Secretary:** PETER MAGUIRE. Tel: (0121) 343 2356.

**Email:** tamworthbranch@grengds.com

**Meetings:** 2nd Sunday of the Month at Royal British Legion, 11 Aldergate, Tamworth, Staffordshire, B79 7DL 1230hrs.

Members of the branch attended both the Colonel's Review and the Queen's Birthday Parade with two American guests. A great day was had by all. Unfortunately for another year running, we were unable to attend Black Sunday due to rail repairs.

Members of the Branch also attended The Guards' Memorial Day at the National Memorial Arboretum in September. The event was organised brilliantly by **Denis Ward**, 3rd Battalion Grenadiers with some last minute assistance from **Major Andy Green** at RHQ and **LSgt Jay Ellingham** who also attended the event. Later in October two members attended the treasurers' training day at Wellington Barracks which was extremely helpful.

## WALSALL

(Formed 1974)

**President:** Major J. COLEMAN.

**Vice Presidents:** G PHILLIPS; Mr C JONES; Mr R JOLLY, BEM.

**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.

The Branch AGM was held in January 2012 with all officers being re-elected. The Branch does however, have a new President in **Major Joe Coleman**. Joe is a local man so it is fitting for him to be bestowed the honour. **Bob Jolly BEM** has joined Joe as our new Vice President and we welcome both to the fold. It has been a quiet year for the Branch with no Branch holidays arranged. At the time of writing however we are planning for a group of 40 to go to Eastbourne in March 2013. Our monthly meetings have been well attended throughout the year with an average of 35 members at each. On Black Sunday a coach headed down the motorway to Wellington Barracks allowing members to pay their respects to our fallen. At Grenadier Day the Branch ran

its usual stall and we would like to take this opportunity to thank **Glynn Phillips** and **Kath Collins** for their efforts in running the stall and sourcing the prizes.

Each year the Branch run a free outing for our pensioners. Back by popular demand was a 'Cruise and Dine' on the River Trent at Nottingham. With the prospect of a free meal and drink a full coach of 50 availed themselves. This year by way of a change the Branch Annual Dinner was held in August. 109 members, friends and family sat down for a splendid meal. Our guest speaker, **Major Green** updated us on all things Grenadier. It is normal that a raffle is held at the annual dinner however, this year as well as the raffle an auction was held for a day of golf for 4 people at a local Golf Club. This prize was kindly donated by a new member, **Graham Cadd**. The lucky bidder was Major Green and we hope you will enjoy your game Sir!



**Members and guests at our Annual Dinner, Left to Right: The Reverend Eric Davies, Major Joe Coleman, Major Andy Green, Mr R Smout, Mr C Jones, Mr B Doyle (Chairman), Mr T Rose, Mr G Phillips, Mr F J Ball (Secretary).**

In September a contingent attended the National Memorial Arboretum for the first Household Division day. There was a good turnout, but with Grenadiers in the majority let's hope this will expand. Remembrance Sunday was observed at the local cenotaph in Walsall Town Centre with the wreath being laid by **Bill Bakewell**. In January 2013 we hope to have had a joint social evening with the North Staffs Branch and the Parachute Regiment Association; the promise of a good night here. Sadly, during the year we have lost four valuable members; **2213438 Martin Doyle**, **2624569 Ken Inward**, **23865070 Ivan Rogers** and **22375239 Geoffrey Davies**.

As some of you may know, Martin Doyle was our Secretary for 25 years until illness overtook him some five years ago. Ken Inward was one of a very few Grenadiers who saw service in Korea. After war service he was demobbed only to be recalled, attached to the Military Police and sent to Korea. Looks like he drew the short straw.

It leaves us now to say a big thank you to all at RHQ and to welcome **LSgt Rob Broomes** in his new post taking over from **LSgt Jay Ellingham**. 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; 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; The Rt Hon. HGW SWIRE Esq.

**Chairman:** MR B FLEMING. Tel: (01425) 615673.

**Secretary:** MRS J MASLIN, 16 Nightingale Drive, Broadway, Weymouth, Dorset, DT3 5SU. Tel: (01305) 814555.

**Email:** janmaslin@gmail.com

**Hon Treasurer:** MRS A CREW.

**Welfare Co-ordinators:** MR B and MRS O SWYER.

**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.

We are always lucky with many attending the Branch Christmas Social and 2011 was no exception. After the lovely food, which was brought in by members, we had a quiz followed by the raffle and Christmas Draw. There's a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes in organising the Draw, and our thanks go to **Bill and Glenda Butt** for their enthusiasm in running this along with the raffles throughout the year. Our AGM was held in February 2012 and the Committee were re-elected for a further year. The role of Deputy Chairman was proposed and the position was taken on by **Ian Stannard**.

In celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee some 19 members went along to see 'There'll Always be an England' at the Pavilion Theatre, Bournemouth, in May. The show was filled with music that the audience was able to participate in with flag-waving along to music from The Proms and songs of yesteryear.



**Members leaving the Pavilion Theatre, Bournemouth after the show, 'There'll Always be an England'.**

In keeping with celebrating The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the June meeting was themed 'A Jubilee Celebration' and held at lunchtime at our normal venue, The Conservative Club, Ringwood, where we all enjoyed a buffet. There were 32 members, wives and a couple of guests from Australia, who were over in the UK visiting family. We had a 'Jubilee raffle' which raised £37.00 and a 'Royal Quiz'. We listened to a variety of music spanning 60 years! – a good time was had by all. It was such a relief that the weather behaved itself a little better on Grenadier Day compared to last year – at least we were able to watch the wonderful Grenadier Guards band performing in the arena – what a treat! Our new gazebo proved a winner with members who attended and it soon filled up with everyone ready to enjoy the day. We were pleased to have raised £140.00 on the stall raffle with monies being donated to The Colonel's Fund.

Our thanks go, as always, to **Mike and Ann Sperrin** for manning the stall and again for arriving early to erect the gazebo. Also thank you to **Joy Clowes** for making 'Grenadier' Cards – these sold out virtually in one go. We will certainly have to see if we can persuade **Joy** to make more for 2013 (particularly in light of the fact that it is the Association's centenary!). Our wonderful albums of squad photographs were on display again and proved to be as big a draw as ever and our thanks go to **Peter and Brian Durrant** for putting together such a collection – the hours of work that go into compiling these is always much appreciated.

We are always fortunate with the weather when we hold our annual Garden Party in August and this year was no exception. It was a beautiful day, in a beautiful setting at the home of our President, **Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Mather** and his Wife **Gaye**. We would like to thank them for their hospitality and their continued support of the Branch. There were around 36 members and wives thoroughly enjoying the day with lots of wonderful food brought along by members.

Our annual luncheon was held in Bournemouth in October. This is one of the highlights of the calendar year with 60 members and guests attending. We would like to thank **Ann Crew**, our Treasurer, for putting in a lot of time in organising the event and selecting an enjoyable menu for the occasion. We had as our guest speaker, **Colonel Roly Walker DSO** Chief of Staff 3rd (UK) Division and former Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, who spoke on wider military issues and the Battalion's role in Afghanistan. He also made reference to the Battalion's role during a busy 2012, with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and the very successful London Olympic Games. One of the Branch serving members, **CSgt Steve Ross MC**, gave us a little insight into his role working alongside Afghan personnel during the recent tour of duty. Considering he had only returned to the UK two days previously, we were pleased that he was able to be with us. Our thanks go to them both for giving up their time and joining us on this



**Our August Garden Party at the house of our President – a great time was had by all.**

occasion. After the luncheon we had a raffle which was run, as always, so successfully, by **Bill and Glenda Butt**. Our Chairman, **Barrie Fleming** and his wife, **June**, were not present as they had a 'previous engagement' – they were cruising the high seas on the Queen Mary 2 – wonder whether they were missing us!!

Our Nov 2011 and Jan 2012 Branch meetings were held at lunchtime as a trial run and these proved to be a popular move with members. They were both held at a local garden centre restaurant and there was a good turn out on both occasions. This theme will continue for the foreseeable future as it avoided members having to travel long distances in the evening during the winter months when we are likely to have adverse weather conditions. We would like to thank **LSgt Jay Ellingham** for all the support he has given us over the years, always with enthusiasm and a 'cool head'. We wish **Jay** and his family well for the future.

With great sadness we have to report that the following have passed away:

#### 2011

Capt Michael Ward Grazebrook MC (Vice-President) – November

Veronica Jodrell (wife of our Vice-President, Michael Jodrell) – December

#### 2012

Sid Hawes – January

David Desmoulins – January

Colonel David Fanshawe (Vice-President) – June

David Gore-Brown Esq (Vice President) – August

Lest we forget

May we offer our prayers and condolences to the families and friends of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice whilst serving in Afghanistan and our thoughts and best wishes go to those members who sustained injuries. Finally, if you are interested in becoming part of 'Wessex', please contact the Branch Secretary, details above. Everyone is most welcome.

## 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

**Treasurer:** Michael Link

**Email:** linkmrj@yahoo.co.uk

**Meetings:** The Constitutional Club, Sandrock Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, on the first Thursday in every month at 1945hrs, October to December, also February to May inclusive.

## WIGAN, ST HELENS AND DISTRICT

(Formed 1974)

**President:** Mr Barry Taylor.

**Vice Presidents:** Capt (QM) TA ROLFE.

**Chairman:** Mr A PRICE.

**Secretary:** GRAHAM YOUNG, 18 Hesketh Meadow Lane, Nr Warrington, Cheshire. WA3 2AJ. Tel: (01942) 605 401.

**Email:** gyoung24433@blueyounder.co.uk

**Meeting:** Last Tuesday of the month 1945hrs at Whelley Ex-Servicemen's Club, 180 Vauxhall Road, Wigan, WN1 3LU.

The branch this year has grown in stature and also in members, a rare thing considering we can only recruit from one Battalion now. Some new members have found us through our Facebook page. The branch would like to welcome all its new members with a special welcome to the new branch padre Father Ron McGivern who is also a Grenadier. He joined the regiment on 5th June 1952 serving two years with the 2nd Battalion in Chelsea before his de-mob. The first branch gathering was the Christmas lunch with over 35 members and guests sitting down to an excellent dinner with top class service provided yet again by the staff at the Robin Hood Inn Pennington. We will not name the members and guest who yet again won the raffle (you know who you are). At the branch AGM in January it was proposed to the members present that we move the AGM to a later date in the year due to members being unable to attend because the weather, all were in favour of a move to April.

In March we had the good news from RHQ that **Mr Barry Taylor** had been accepted as our new branch President. Members would like to congratulate **Barry** on his appointment and know he will do a sterling job for the

branch. Also in March **Barry** (in his new role), his good lady **Adel** and **Eric Radcliffe** (Treasurer) attended the North Lancashire Branch annual dinner where they were warmly greeted and looked after in true Grenadier fashion. The AGM at RHQ took place in March when we were sad to be informed that it would be LSgt Jay Ellingham's last before leaving the Regiment in 2013. Jay has done a fantastic job for the Association so from all here at the Wigan & St Helens Branch we wish him and his family the best of luck in whatever the future holds.

On April 22nd 38 members including members from the Household Division Warrington, North Lancs, Blackpool and Manchester Branches sat down to what is now an annual and most popular event; our St Georges lunch at the Robin Hood. Unfortunately this was the last time we were to use this venue but the St Georges Day lunch will continue (please see dates for your diary), we all leave with happy memories of lunches we have had there and would like to thank **Eric Radcliffe** for organising this annual lunch. Two new guests actually won the raffle this year and there was some suggestion there had been some fixing by the committee from the usual winners (only joking). Also In April with our new president in place and at our new venue, Welley Ex-Servicemen's club Wigan, the AGM was held. It was well attended supporting the decision to move the date. We have a new president and a new venue, the old committee stood down but all were voted back into office again so no changes to the committee to report on.

May saw members from the branch, their partners, members from North Lancashire, Liverpool and Manchester head off down to London for the Black Sunday Parade. The trip was well organized by **Barry** who had booked us into the Bull Hotel in Gerrards Cross, a great hotel with very good food. Saturday evening we all visited the Windsor Club exchanging stories and catching up on what happened since we last met. An impromptu game of Bingo ensued and never have the patrons of the Windsor Club had to ask for translation to understand the caller; a fine Lancashire lad. There were empty shells and lumpy sand bags all over the club by the time we left. Sunday morning everybody was on to the coach for the journey to Wellington Barracks. On arrival it was not long before old friendships were renewed and new ones forged. After an excellent parade some retired to the Sgts' Mess to quench the thirst from the march. After a couple of hours of exchanging stories of times gone by it was time to once again leave the sandbags and return to the hotel for our meal and a relaxing evening. On our journey home on Monday we stopped at Stratford-upon-Avon where we had a couple of hours to look round this historic market town which was made even better by the Liverpool branch having the same idea. **Graham and Amanda Young** and **Barry Taylor** found a lovely little pub for a bite to eat and then sat in the sunshine just watching the world go by. On behalf of the branch **Barry** thank you for an excellent

weekend and to **Amanda** for your help with the packed lunches for the journey down.

At our June meeting one of our members, **Carl Howarth** arranged for the Olympic torch to pay a visit.



**The Wigan Olympic pie eating team 2012. Back Row Left to Right: Peter Johnson, Ken Smith and Carl Howarth. Front Row Left to Right: Barry Taylor, Graham Young, Norman Ball, Eric Radcliffe.**

In September the branch took a coach of 38 Wigan, N Lancs, N West & Yorkshire Household Cavalry Branch and Warrington Household Division Branch members down to the National Memorial Arboretum for the first ever Household Division Association memorial day. The day was cool but dry and the turn out was excellent with members from the Household Division coming from all over the country. History was made for **Graham Young** that day as for the first time in all his years as a Grenadier he was made the right hand man for the march back from the Household Division Memorial and he has **LSgt Ellingham** as his witness!

7th October saw the Branch annual dinner with 71 members and guests sitting down at Leigh Cricket Tennis and Bowling Club to an excellent meal provided by Cheshire Catering. Our Guest speaker was **Major**

**Edward Paintin** Company Commander of the Guards Training Company at Catterick. He gave an interesting account of the past year and the future; well done and thank you Sir. The entertainment was provided by a superb female vocalist **Louise Rochell** what a voice on such a little lady. She had us all up dancing well into the small hours. A great night was had by all.

November was a sad month for the North West Branches as we said goodbye to a great man and a stalwart Grenadier, **Walter Massey**. **Graham Young**, **Peter Johnson** and **John Barkley** were honored to be pall bearers for **Wally**, lest we forget. Remembrance Sunday saw the Branch spread far and wide across the District with members representing the Branch at St Helens, Wigan, Warrington and Leigh. **Graham Young** was at the cenotaph in London representing HM Prison Service as well as the Branch. We would like to thank all members of the branch for their support throughout the year, all the wives and partners without whom this branch would not be as strong as it is. A big thank you also to the members and friends of other branches who have supported our trips and functions, making them even more enjoyable. Thanks go to **Amanda Young** for all the unseen work she does for the branch and also a big thank you to **Adel Taylor** for supporting **Barry**, for all her knitted Grenadiers (how many battalions so far Adel?) and for the butties at every meeting, speaking of which if you wish to come to our meetings they are on the last Tuesday of the month (except December) at the address and time above. Please make a note of the following Branch diary dates:

- 21st April 13 St George's Day Lunch
- 30th April 13 AGM
- 18/19/20/ May13 Black Sunday
- 26th June 13 Association Garden Party
- 12th October 13 Annual Dinner, Rose Centre Lowton  
(formerly Lowton Civic Hall)
- 8th December 13 Christmas Lunch



**Our Annual dinner, Left to Right: Sally Walker, Barry Taylor, Jim Wilkinson, Megan Hartley, Graham Young and Eric Radcliffe.**



**LSgt Jay Ellingham and his wife Bonnie.**

# 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:** windsorbranch@grengds.com

**Treasurer:** Mrs S R Howell.

**Email:** sheila439@btinternet.com

**Meetings:** First Wednesday of each month, at the Grenadier Club, Maidenhead Road, Windsor, at 2000hrs.

On Sunday 13th November a small number of Branch members attended the Service of Remembrance at the Holy Trinity Garrison Church in Windsor. The wreath party consisted of **Major Mike Holland, Peter Penny** and **Alan Urvoy**. After the service members met at our Club with members from other local Associations based in Windsor.

The Branch held its Christmas Draw on Saturday 10th December. Those who purchased tickets had a chance of winning any of the large number of prizes on display. Some of the prizes were donated by local companies. We would like to thank all those who supported the draw by buying and selling tickets and donating prizes. During the evening we enjoyed a finger buffet that was prepared by **Sheila Howell** and **Fred Deacon**. The following Saturday saw us hold the Club Christmas Dinner. 63 members and friends enjoyed a traditional Christmas meal which was followed by a disco.

Our AGM was held on Wednesday 4th April. The Secretary **Bob Gilbert** gave an over-view of the years past events. The Treasurer, **Sheila Howell**, produced the Branch and Club audited reports that were accepted. The President, **Major B T Eastwood LVO MBE** 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 now time to elect the Officers to manage the Branch and Club. The Chairman **Tony Steel BEM**, Secretary **Bob Gilbert**, Treasurer **Sheila Howell**, Welfare Officer **Peter Penny** and **Sue Gilbert** as Club Secretary were all re-elected. The remainder of the Committee were also re-elected for the next year.

This year the club held a St Georges Day Dinner on Saturday 21st April. Everyone who attended agreed that the meal was very good and that it had been a great night. On the Saturday evening before Regimental

Remembrance Sunday we were pleased to be joined by friends from the Wigan, St Helens and District Branch and also the Manchester Branch. The following lunch time the Gloucestershire Branch called in for a refreshment break on their way to London. The Bristol Branch and The Gloucestershire Branch called in for a fish and chip tea before continuing on their way home.

We started celebrating The Queen's Jubilee Weekend with a coach full of members and friends going to the Derby at Epsom. Her Majesty the Queen arrived with lots of members of the Royal family and they were given a rousing welcome by the huge crowd that was in attendance. What a great way to start the Jubilee Celebrations.



**Tony Steel, Alan Merry, Mick Williams, Dave Boucher and Bob Oakley-Watson at our Cocktail Party.**



**Bob Gilbert – it must be Pimms O'clock!**

On the Monday we held a cocktail party for all Branch, Widows, Club Members and guests. Drinks and canapés were served and later we were entertained by the Corp of Drums Association who gave a marvellous display in the garden. We finished the evening disco dancing and having a few more drinks.

A coach full of Branch and Club members made the short journey to Lille Barracks, in Aldershot, for Grenadier Day on Sunday the 8th July. Anticipating poor weather the Committee decided not to run a Branch

# WOLVERHAMPTON

(Formed 1917)

**President:** Mr L THOMAS.

**Vice Presidents:** WSI KENYON-SLANEY OBE, KstJ, DL, Esq.; S BENNETT, Esq.; F WHITE, Esq.

**Chairman:** Mr M ROWE.

**Secretary:** JENNY SNEAD, 92 Van Diemens Road, Wombourne, Wolverhampton WV5 0DE. Tel: (01902) 896547.

**Email:** wolverhamptonbranch@grengds.com

**Email:** jenny.snead@sky.com

**Meetings:** Last Wednesday of each month, at RAFA Club, Goldthorn Road, Penn, Wolverhampton WV2 4PN. (Except March, June, September and December when we hold a Sunday lunch. Please contact the Secretary for further details).



**The Corps of Drums Association playing during our Cocktail Party much to the enjoyment of our guests.**

Stall. It made a pleasant change to be able to enjoy the day walking around visiting other branch stalls and meeting old friends. We held our Annual Dinner and Dance, in the Club, on Saturday 28th July. We sat down to a superb four course meal, provided by our outside caterers, 'Linda's Kitchen', and then enjoyed the remainder of the evening dancing to the disco. We were privileged, to have as our guest of honour, **Colonel E H Houstoun OBE** and his wife **Joanna**, who updated members and guests on the Regiment. We were very pleased to be able to welcome them to our Annual Dinner.

The months of August, September and October were quiet with no major functions. However we still continue to hold regular Bingo sessions and quiz nights. We also hold occasional Car Boot Sales to help with the running costs of the club premises. The Club is currently open on Friday nights 1930hrs to 2300hrs and Sunday Lunch times 1200hrs to 1500hrs. If any members of the Association and their families are in the area, you are more than welcome to visit the club. Our thanks go to our loyal Branch and Club supporters who keep our Branch alive and to **Major Andy Green**, **LSgt Jay Ellingham** and all the staff at RHQ for their continued support.

Finally It is with deep regret that we report the sad loss of some members during the last year: **2628353 Mr J B Phelan**, **23158642 Mr A W Porter**, **2623879 Mr R H Parker** and **23146319 Mr S J Anstee**.

**Mr Len Thomas**, previously Chairman of our Branch for 15 years has been appointed our new President. **Mr Mervyn Rowe** was appointed Chairman at the AGM in February 2012.

We feel it important to mention Chasetown Football Club who work tirelessly for the Colonel's Fund, and at a home game on 17 December 2011 their chief executive **Mike Joiner** presented a donation of £1,200 to our Chairman **Mr Mervyn Rowe** a former Chasetown manager and to our Treasurer **Mr Brian Gillon**. This donation takes the total raised for the charity by Chasetown Football Club to over £8,000. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

It is with great sadness that we have to report the passing of the following members: **Cliff Wills (22545418)**, **Stan Foster (2623740)** and **Stewart Davies (22545920)** who was a loyal associate member. The memorial service for **Stewart Davies** was particularly poignant, as three members of the Regimental Band were in attendance. The service was also well attended by ex-members of the MT platoon that served with **Stewart**.



**Lt Chris Stevenson presenting Jenny Snead with her bouquet at the Branch Annual Dinner.**

Our Dinner and Dance held at the end of November 2011 was a great success, our guests of honour was **Lt Stevenson** and **WO1 Sean Bate**. Our Vice President **Mr Kenyon-Slaney** and his wife were in attendance. The Deputy Mayor of Wolverhampton, **Ms P Bradley**, was on hand to present certificates to the members of our Boyton Cup shooting team.



**Branch members at our 2011 Dinner and Dance.**

Our members and guests enjoy our regular Sunday lunches held at The Bell at Trysull. Everyone enjoyed our trip to Black Sunday to meet up with old comrades. The Major General's Review was well attended by members, families and friends. Everyone especially enjoyed seeing the decorations and the atmosphere around London for the jubilee celebrations. Grenadier Day was another enjoyable event with decent weather this year! Our members attended the Guards Memorial Day at the National Memorial Arboretum on 9 September and our Banner was on parade on this glorious sunny day. Several members of our Branch were invited to attend with our Banner at the RAF Battle of Britain Day held at the Wolverhampton Branch of the Royal Airforce Association.



**Jack Snead and Alan Wilson at the National Memorial Arboretum 2012.**

We would like to thank everyone at Regimental Headquarters in London for all their help and we wish **Jay Ellingham** a hearty farewell from everyone for a job well done. We welcome **Rob Broomes** and wish him well in his new role.

## WORCESTER & HEREFORD

(Formed 1923)

**President:** Capt HL GRAY-CHEAPE JP, DL

**Vice Presidents:** Lieutenant Colonel PR HOLCROFT, OBE, LVO; Major DJC CAVENPORT CBE, DL; THE Rt HON LORD SANDYS; Lieutenant Colonel K EDLIN MBE; Lieutenant 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; Esq; Capt D MORGAN; M BRINTON LD, LT; T W HEWLETT Esq.

**Chairman:** REG SEALE DL

**Secretary:** DALE CARTER, 4 Beacon Close, Rednal, Birmingham. B45 9DA. Tel: (0121) 2430751. Mob: 07747 0367081.

**Email:** worcesterbranch@grengds.com

**Treasurer:** DC SPENCER.

All our meetings are held at the Worcester Rugby Club just off junction 6 of the M5 motorway on the first Tuesday of every other month starting in May at 1930hrs. It is good to report that once again in 2012 we have had a good turnout attending each meeting and we look forward to the future with confidence. We welcomed **Graham Terry** who made contact with us last June and also **Taffy Clayton** who has joined us from the Manchester Branch.

Our Annual General Meeting and lunch took place at Six Ways Rugby Centre on Sunday 19th February 2012. There were no changes to the committee and the Branch officers remain as follows:

President:	Capt H L Gray-Cheape JP DL
Chairman:	R Seale DL
Vice Chairman:	D Turney Esq
Hon. Secretary:	D Carter Esq
Treasurer:	D Spencer Esq
Minutes Secretary:	B Baylis Esq
Coach Master:	K Allen Esq

On Tuesday April 10th the branch had a trip to Windsor to visit the Household Cavalry where we had lunch with the Troopers and saw the Household Cavalry museum, the horses, uniforms and scout vehicles. The people that attended all had a good day; a Credit for the Coach Master. In May we were back at Wellington Barracks for Black

Sunday. The Branch Secretary was honoured to act as one of the Colour Points on behalf of the Branch.

On June 27th we were able to march with Nijmegen Company and the Regimental Band through the streets of Worcester, followed by an afternoon at the races. What a way to celebrate our Freedom of the City. Thanks to all who marched and **Roy Routledge** for Banner bearer duties. Grenadier Day at Lille Barracks was unfortunately affected by the weather, however the busload from Worcester enjoyed a good day out. **Bruce Bayliss** and his eager helpers, wife **Veronica**, **Mike Sheridan** and **Patricia Smith** did a fantastic job on our branch stall. Our shooting team came 5th out of 11 teams, scores as follows:

<b>George Green</b>	3 Targets 0 rounds left.
<b>Ken Allen</b>	3 Targets 0 rounds left
<b>Dale Carter</b>	3 Targets 0 rounds left
<b>Robert Carter</b>	5 Targets 3 rounds left

Although the Branch was not invited to be involved in the Royal Visit on July 11th, the Chairman was invited to Lunch at the Guildhall with Her Majesty and the Colonel. **Ken Allen** was invited to the Cathedral and 5 members attended at the Cathedral outside.

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## OBITUARIES

### 22545418 CLIFF WILLS

We sadly lost Cliff just before Christmas 2011; he bravely battled many different cancers over the last few years. He was a long term member of both Worcester and Wolverhampton Branches of the Association.

We have lost the following Grenadiers since January 2012:

### 23252247 CARSWELL J

#### 2615640 ALLEN J

James Allen was badly burned in Caen 1944 after the Germans blew his tank up. He died in June and his funeral was attended by many members of the Branch; he was carried shoulder high by six Grenadiers to Scipio at Worcester Crematorium. He leaves his wife **Ethel** after 71 years of marriage.

#### 22545907 CLEVELAND DRW

David Cleveland was a very active Branch member, many of the Branch turned out at Stourbridge Crematorium to give David a very well attended send off. We send our condolences to his wife **Eileen**.

#### 2623000 BILL DOBBINS

Bill was a Normandy and Nijmegen veteran who attended many Branch events over the years and sadly his last visit was with us for Regimental Remembrance Day in 2011. Bill died in August 2012 after another brave battle.

# YORKSHIRE

(Formed 1948)

**President:** THE LORD HOTHAM DL.

**Vice Presidents:** LR LINFORD Esq; THE MOST HON THE MARQUESS OF ZETLAND; D BURNETT Esq; Brigadier D J H MADDAN; W WALL Esq.

**Chairman:** A DANIEL Esq.

**Treasurer:** VACANT.

**Secretary:** MICHAEL SPENCER, 52 The Grange, Woodhan Village, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham. DL5 4SZ. Tel: (01325) 321218.

**Email:** michael-spencer2@sky.com

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We have enjoyed a relatively quiet but good year with regard to Branch strength with meetings being well attended by the stalwart members but no change to our overall numbers. In November 2011 our Branch Secretary **George Flanagan** and treasurer **Anice** announced they were leaving the country to warmer climes in Gambia after serving the Branch for five years. Our President the **Lord Hotham** presented **Anice** with a bouquet of flowers and **George** with four tumblers which were engraved with the Grenadier crest.

On 24th April our AGM was held in The Masonic Hall Pontefract, which proved very popular with an extremely good buffet lunch which gave us time to chat amongst the jovial company present. **Bill Wall** was appointed to the position of Treasurer and Michael Spencer as Secretary. Sunday 20th May saw the Branch well represented at Regimental Remembrance Day and our Chairman **Tony Daniel** together with **John Fear** and **George** and **Joyce Kent** met with **The Colonel, HRH The Prince Philip, KG, KT**. The Not Forgotten Association held their Annual Garden Party on May 24th which was attended by **Mrs June Rylatt** and **Mrs Mary Wilkinson** as her escort and they enjoyed a most memorable day.

The Branch Annual Luncheon was held on 6th October at the Majestic Hotel, Harrogate with an excellent attendance of members and guests which boosted our funds. **John Fear** organised a Family Indoor Bowls day at Selby on 25th October with lunch. A fantastic Day's entertainment was had by all present. 11th November saw the Remembrance Day Parade at Ripley Castle and service in All Saints Ripley which was well attended by our members. Sunday lunch followed at the Three Horse Shoes Inn, Killinghall near Ripley Village and was a good opportunity to meet with old friends.

In closing this year's report it is our sad duty to report the passing of **Tom Vernon (3710365)**, **Ruby Daniel** the wife of our Chairman **Tony** and **Mrs Pauline Hague** the wife of the late **Jim Hague**. Our prayers and thoughts are with their families. At the time of writing we are looking forward to the 90th Birthday celebrations

for **Les Linford 2621423** which will be held at The Fox & Grapes Inn, Potterton on Saturday 24th November 2012. Thank you to **John Fear** for his tireless work for organising the bonus ball which continues to support our much needed funds.

We would like to take this opportunity to offer our grateful thanks to the President of the Branch the **Lord Hotham**, fellow Executive Officers and the loyal members and wives of the Branch who show their continued support by attendance at our functions. We would like to thank the small staff at Regimental Headquarters, especially **LSgt Jay Ellingham**, who is so very dedicated to his position and gives his very best to members at all times. We wish **Jay** and his wife **Bonnie** enjoyment in his retirement. Many thanks also to **Major Andy Green** whose assistance is invaluable and very much appreciated.



**Les Linford in his younger days and Les Linford today.**



**Angie Barney our Assistant Secretary, our Musical Director and Branch Secretary Patrick O'Donoghue.**

Here in Australia we feel that the use of Skype, Email, DVDs and the phone in helping us to communicate over long distances is providing a real service and sense of closeness to our members and the help we receive from RHQ to enable us to do this is really appreciated. As we are all getting on in years the sick list is large so rather than mention them all we wish all members good Health and Happiness in 2013.

Kind Regards to all Grenadier Guardsmen and Association members from all of us down under.



**Ann & Alan Hutchings, Ian Schirmer, Alan Talmash our President, his son Darrell, wife Sheila and Branch Secretary Patrick O'Donoghue.**

## AUSTRALIA

(Formed 1971)

**President:** ALAN TALMASH.

**Vice Presidents:** G. RILEY Esq; E. BADLEY Esq.

**Secretary:** PATRICK O'DONOGHUE, 67 Victoria Street, Howlong 2643, New South Wales, Australia.

**Email:** guardsod17@gmail.com

While we are all getting older we are still strong and at the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee at Saint Matthews Church Albury NSW we were so proud to see our President **Alan Talmash** at the age of 82, presenting our Colours at the altar. The escort was made up of two Grenadier Guardsman, **Capt Lisa Ride** of the Australian armed forces and **Eddy Augustine** a Vietnam veteran. Over 140 people attended church including members of the general public.



**Ann and Alan Hutchings, Patrick O'Donoghue and Eddy Augustine.**

## 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:** lon.rpickering@imag.net

**Hon Treasurer:** P DABBS Esq.

**Sgt In Waiting:** D MILLS Esq.

The past year (2012) was a significant one for the North America Branch during which it celebrated its 40th anniversary. On the 15th September (exactly 40 years) a number of members dined in the Officers' Mess at Wolseley Barracks, London, Ontario. Some two days earlier, members in Vancouver and the Lower British Columbia Mainland area had met for lunch.

Present at the dinner in London and the only founding member still living, was **22545862 Ray Brown BEM**. Ray was the first Chairman of the Branch. Also present in London was **Mrs Jean Bonham-Lovett** whose late husband James was the first Secretary of the Branch.

On the 16th September 2012 the Annual General Meeting was held. There was no change to any of the Executive positions. The number of members has declined somewhat this past 12 months with the loss of the following: **2064155 Ronald G Fox** and **265227347 Richard Davis**. Like all Branches our members are getting older and unfortunately there are no younger people to replace them. A number of members are expressing interest in making the trip 'across the pond' for the events celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Association.

In an effort to reduce printing and postage costs, consideration is being given to circulating the 'North American' electronically. It is not being well received in some quarters and we have to consider those members who do not have Internet access; an interesting time. In closing we send best wishes to all Branches and members wherever they may be.

## TURKS AND CAICOS

**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.

## Going Berserk – Bearskin Man Loses His Rag

Here in our balmy islands we are more than happy to go berserk from time to time. Sometimes there is so little to do that it adds a touch of spice, certainly unpredictable spice, to life. But only recently have we come to realise the true meaning of the term. It is all about bearskins.

A thousand years ago there were very worrying people living in Scandinavia. They were known as Vikings, Norsemen or Danes and they terrified the wits out of those whom they decided to beat up. In their delightful society murder, rape and pillage were the way to get on and they set about it with enthusiasm. They rampaged about the British Isles and at one time took over large tracts of the country.

The fiercest of these took to wearing animal skins, particularly bearskins, as a means of adopting the savage characteristics of those creatures. The bearskins were berserks, the wearers berserkers and when properly dressed and tanked up they went berserk. They seem to have worked themselves into an uncontrollable rage by various means: eating drugged food, sinking massive amounts of alcohol and chewing the top edge of their shields (whatever they may have been made of). The result was a fit of uncontrollable and explosive fury which made them loot, plunder and kill with complete abandon.

This occurred not only in the heat of battle but also during laborious work. Men who were thus seized performed feats which otherwise seemed impossible for human power. The condition is said to have begun with shivering, chattering of the teeth and chill in the body, and then the face swelled and changed its colour (it does bring to mind certain sergeant majors we have known). This boiled over into a great rage, under which they chewed their shields, howled like wild animals and cut down whoever got in the way, friend or foe, with utter recklessness and total disregard of their own life or of wounds.

There was inevitably a hangover, described as a great dulling of the mind followed by feebleness which could last for several days. And no doubt a headache.

The bronze plate pictured shows one of these attractive gentlemen. The berserker is on the right, well turned out in bearskin greatcoat and bearskin cap with teeth. He seems about to slaughter his nervous companion for being short of a stud in the left boot



and having his horns in a twist – the local variety of Coldstreamer maybe. What are we – or rather you – to make of all this? It is no doubt a charming piece of history but should you be worried about the effect on a sentry at Jimmy's whiling away the tedious hours by communing with his inner bearskin? If he starts to chew his sentry box not even the Tower will contain him.

# Who? What? When? Where?

## Gazette 2012

This photograph was taken at Crossmaglen SF Base during the 78/79 tour by the 1st Battalion. The 4PL Multiple shows (as far as is known):



**Front row Left to Right:** Joe Coleman,

Gary Barnett and Gaz Rowlands

**Middle row Left to Right:** Sid Hudson, Gdsm? Bailey, Gary Glasspool, Dave James, Gdsm? Tilley and Dave Romans.

The two men at the rear are believed to be Gordon Walker and 'Mary' Deacon.

A peeress outside Westminster Abbey at the conclusion of the Coronation of King George V. She is escorted by a Grenadier Guards Officer, one of the 50 gentlemen summoned as 'Gold Staff Officers' by the Earl Marshall, organiser of the Coronation, to usher guests to their places in the Abbey.



His gold staff is under his arm and he smokes a no doubt long-anticipated cigarette. It is either Turkish or Egyptian – Guards Officers do not smoke Virginia cigarettes. At the time of Edward VII's Coronation the peeresses petitioned the King for permission to wear their tiaras as well as their coronets, as this lady does here. (From An Independent Eye).

## Who? Where? What?



Mr Gary Smith, the Grandson of **2618681 Gdsm Lawrence Frederick Smith** and his family have been connected with the Regiment for over 100 years. Gary tells us that Lawrence served with the 3rd Battalion from 1940 to 1942 and then with the 5th Battalion. He took part in the landing at Anzio in January 1944 where he was injured and subsequently captured. He was then a POW at Stalag XIA Altengrabow in Eastern Germany. The photograph above shows Lawrence in the 2nd row

from the rear, 4th from the right but Gary is unsure of the date but feels it may be between 1940–2 with the 3rd Battalion but equally it could be later during his service with the 5th Battalion. He has asked for anyone who can shed any light on this photograph to get in touch with him at 42 High Ridge, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1YF and also to see any other photographs that include his Grandfather.

# ASSOCIATION DIARY OF EVENTS 2013

<b>JAN</b>	26	Northumbria Branch Burns Supper	<b>15</b>	<b>The Queen's Birthday Parade</b> This year will be Trooped by 1st Battalion Welsh Guards
<b>FEB</b>	19	<b>Birthday of Prince Andrew The Duke of York</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>Birthday of Prince William of Wales</b>
	24	Worcester Branch AGM & Lunch, Worcester Warriors Rugby Club	<b>26</b>	<b>Association Garden Party</b> The Queen's Company Inspection and Presentation of Colours to Nijmegen Company, London
<b>MAR</b>	10	<b>Birthday of Prince Edward The Earl of Wessex</b>		
	13	Association Finance & Executive Committee Meetings	<b>JUL</b>	13 Northumbria Branch Assn 100th Anniversary Dinner, Hartlepool
	23	<b>Association Annual General Meeting</b>	<b>AUG</b>	15 <b>Birthday of The Princess Royal</b>
	23	Nottinghamshire Branch Dedication of New Branch Banner, St Leonard's Church, Wollaton, Nottingham, NG8 2AF at 11am	<b>SEP</b>	01 Reading Branch Centenary Celebration Lunch, Bradfield College, Reading
	24	Suffolk Branch Spring Lunch, Hintlesham Hall Golf Club, IP8 3JG		06 Lincoln Branch Dinner, Bentley Hotel, Lincoln
	30	Nottinghamshire Branch Tree Planting (by the Lord Mayor of Nottingham) ceremony, Nottingham Arboretum Park, Waverley Street, Nottingham, NG7 4HF at 12 midday. Finger Buffet to follow at the Belgrave Rooms 25 Goldsmith Street, NG1 5LB.		06 Walsall Branch Dinner, the Terrace Restaurant, Brownhills, Walsall, WS8 6JR at 1900hrs
<b>APR</b>	12	Sussex Branch Dinner, Worthing		15 <b>Birthday of Prince Henry of Wales</b>
	19	Gloucestershire Branch Regimental Band Concert (details to follow)		24-27 <b>Colonel's Fund Bike Ride – Wellington to Waterloo</b>
	20	Manchester Branch Centenary Dinner, The Country House Hotel, Didsbury, Manchester, M20 2WG		24-27 TBC Battlefield Tour – To run along with the above.
	20	Surrey Branch Centenary Dinner, Macdonald Frimley Hall Hotel & Spa, Lime Avenue, Off Portsmouth Road, Camberley, Surrey, GU15 2BG	<b>OCT</b>	06 Wessex Branch Lunch – Days Hotel, Bournemouth
	21	<b>Birthday of Her Majesty The Queen</b>		16 Association Finance and Executive Committee Meeting
	27	East Kent Branch Regimental Band Concert, Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone, Kent. Box Office – 0844 871 3015.		27 Oxfordshire Branch Annual Lunch
	28	March Branch Annual Lunch	<b>NOV</b>	07 <b>Field of Remembrance (Westminster)</b>
<b>MAY</b>	19	<b>Regimental Remembrance Day</b>		09 <b>Festival of Remembrance</b>
	20	<b>First Guards Club Dinner</b>		10 <b>Cenotaph Ceremony Parade</b>
<b>JUN</b>	01	<b>The Major General's Review</b>		14 <b>Birthday of The Prince of Wales</b>
	08	<b>The Colonel's Review</b>		23 Liverpool Branch Dinner & Dance, Atlantic Towers Hotel, Chapel Street, Liverpool, L3 9RE
	10	<b>Birthday of The Duke of Edinburgh</b>	<b>DEC</b>	14 Manchester Branch Christmas Dinner, The Country House Hotel, Didsbury, Manchester, M20 2WG
	12-13	<b>Beating Retreat – Horse Guards</b>		

*This list covers events which have been notified to the General Secretary prior to publication.*

*If you wish to add an event please email LSgt Broomes at [assnco@grengds.com](mailto:assnco@grengds.com)*

