



The Die-Hards

NEWSLETTER

No. 42

DECEMBER 1979

PRICE 25p

President: Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE

Chairman: Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE

Vice-Chairman: Col I. D. Brotherton, TD DL

Secretary and Editor: Maj A. E. F. Waldron, MBE.

FORECAST OF EVENTS 1980

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
<i>March</i>	10 Executive Meeting Regimental Association Committee, County Hall, London SE1.
	22 9th Bn Annual Reunion Dinner, Quality Inn, Victoria Street, London SW1.
<i>April</i>	26 1/7th Bn (1939-45) Dinner at TA Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey.
<i>May</i>	6 Middlesex Regt Golfing Society Spring Meeting, North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, Hants.
	16 Middlesex Regt Officers' Club Dinner, Cavalry and Guards Club.
	17 Afternoon—Albuhera Service of Remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral.
	Evening—Annual Reunion, TA Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.
	31 2/10th Bn Annual Luncheon at Victory Club, Seymour Street, London, W2.
<i>June</i>	4 Derby Outing.
<i>Aug</i>	3 Queen's Regiment Grand Reunion, Howe Barracks, Canterbury.
<i>Oct</i>	3 2/7th Bn Annual Dinner, Victory Club, Seymour Street, London W2.
	7 Middlesex Regt Golfing Society, Autumn Meeting, North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, Hants.
	19 Attendance at Church Parade, Royal Hospital Chelsea.
<i>Nov</i>	3 Executive Meeting Regimental Association Committee, County Hall, London SE1.
	8 Ceremony at Field of Remembrance, Middlesex Guildhall and Westminster Abbey.

Nov 9 1000 hours—Remembrance Day Service at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, followed by reunion at TA Centre, Edgware.

1045 hours—7th Bn Wreath Laying Ceremony at Hornsey Parish Church by the Hornsey and Enfield Branch.

1500 hours—2/10th Bn Remembrance Day Service at St Nicholas Church, Chiswick.

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

The Annual Ceremony at the Field of Remembrance took place on Saturday, November 10, and was well attended by many ex-members of the Regiment and civil dignitaries headed by the Deputy Chairman of the Greater London Council, Mr John B. Ward, JP. The following senior officers were present: Maj Gen Sir John Willoughby, KBE, CB, Brig D. B. Rendell, CBE, MC, Col I. R. Burrows, OBE, Col A. S. J. de S. Clayton, OBE, Col R. M. Cain, Col W. D. Ellis, OBE, TD, DL, and Col M. H. Summers, DSO, OBE, TD, DL.

The majority of the boroughs lying within the old county of Middlesex were represented. A short service was held at the County Memorial situated in the entrance hall to the Middlesex Guildhall, conducted by the Rev W. E. B. Jones, Vicar, North Wembley, Middlesex, and former Chaplain to the 1st Bn The Middlesex Regiment (DCO). A procession headed by Mr L. Plumb, followed by Mr A. A. Moody, carrying the Regimental Association Standard, escorted by Chelsea Pensioner, I/P F. Worton, formed up outside the Guildhall under the direction of Maj R. W. J. Smith, MBE, and moved to the Regimental Plot in the Field of Remembrance outside Westminster Abbey.

At the plot the President of the Regimental Association, Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE, after saying 'We plant these crosses today in memory of our fallen comrades of the Middlesex Regiment' planted the first cross. He then invited the Deputy Chairman

of the Greater London Council, Mr John B. Ward, JP, to plant a cross.

The Deputy Chairman was followed by the Rev W. E. B. Jones, the High Sheriff of Greater London, Mr Peter W. Kininmonth, escorted by Maj S. C. W. Weller, MBE, MM.

Members of the Regiment representing the following Battalions then in turn planted a cross: 1st Bn, Maj Gen Sir John Willoughby, KBE, CB; 2nd Bn, Col A. S. J. de S. Clayton, OBE; 3rd Bn, Mr A. Gale; 4th Bn, Mr W. A. Wright; 5/6th Bns, Brig D. B. Rendell, CBE, MC; 1/7th Bn, Maj M. J. Beaumont, TD; 2/7th Bn, Mr A. Allchorne; 8th Bn, Col W. D. Ellis, OBE, TD, DL; 9th Bn, Mr R. T. Meers; 10th Bn, Mr A. D. Scudamore, OBE; Band and Drums, Mr A. R. Drane; R. Irish Rangers, Mr P. J. Boyce, MBE, BEM (originally 6196099 Middlesex Regt).

Crosses were then planted by the civil dignitaries in the following order:

1. The Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet, Councillor J. P. Fitzgibbon, FHRS, FNDS, Dip. Hort., escorted by Capt P. I. Roberts.
2. The Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Ealing, Councillor Mrs Anita Fookes, BA, escorted by Lt S. A. Blausten.
3. The Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Enfield, Councillor Geoffrey Leigh, JP, escorted by Maj V. Williams, MBE.
4. The Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Haringey, Councillor Brian Bullard, escorted by Lt D. Harwood.
5. The Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Harrow, Councillor Mrs E. Davies, escorted by Maj F. Webb.
6. Councillor James Duffy of the London Borough of Hounslow, escorted by Maj M. L. Muirhead, TD.
7. The Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Hillingdon, Councillor E. A. Daniell, JP, escorted by Sqn Ldr R. J. Yerby, RAFVR.
8. The Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, Councillor P. J. Temlett, escorted by Capt W. B. Hammond, ERD, TD.
9. The Chairman of the Middlesex County Association, Mr R. C. Politeyan, MA (Cantab), escorted by Lt D. K. Wray.

The Chaplain then read the Collects of the Middlesex and Queen's Regiments and gave the Blessing.

After the ceremony the civil dignitaries and members of the Regimental Association attended a reception in the Middlesex Guildhall.

REGIMENTAL REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICE

Following our usual custom we combined with the Postal and Courier Depot, Royal Engineers and 12 Company Women's Royal Army Corps, for the Sunday Remembrance Service. This year the Service was held in the Gymnasium, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, and the congregation numbered over 500. This was followed by the ceremony at the Regimental War Memorial. Both services were conducted by the Rev David Parker, M.Theol, Curate of St Paul's Church, Mill Hill, assisted by Miss Margaret

Robertson. The bugler, Dmr G. Lord, Coldstream Guards, sounded 'Last Post' and 'Reveille'.

Wreaths were laid in the following order: Postal and Courier Depot, RE, by Col R. N. R. P. James; 12 Company Women's Royal Army Corps, by Maj Anne Brown; Regimental Association by Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE; 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Militia Bns by Col A. S. J. de S. Clayton, OBE; 'B' Coy (Middlesex) 6/7th (V) Bn The Queen's Regt by Maj M. Mercer; Mill Hill Branch OCA by Mr W. A. Wright; WOs and Sgts Branch OCA by Mr L. Shrubbs, MM; 9th Bn Branch OCA by Mr R. T. Meers; Hounslow Branch OCA by Mr J. Raby. The Standard bearer was Mr S. Hurlock.

At the march past which followed the laying of wreaths the salute was taken by Col R. N. R. P. James and Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE. The Middlesex Regiment contingent of Old Comrades was commanded by Mr L. T. Plumb. This contingent was the largest and smartest for many years. Well done Old Comrades. The saluting base was flanked by Chelsea Pensioners, I/P F. Worton and I/P Fullop.

The collection raised £80.17 and this has been forwarded to the Royal British Legion Earl Haig's Poppy Appeal Fund. Another record—more than doubled any previous collection.

After the parade those who had taken part or been spectators made their way to the TA Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, where a most enjoyable reunion was held.

Our thanks to Mr Tom Trebilcock who for more years than I can remember has always provided, without charge, the bus that conveys Old Comrades to Edgware. Your continued help, Tom, is much appreciated by us all.

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

This year the Secretary of the Regimental Association planted a Regimental Badged Cross on the FEPOW Plot and the Korean Plot.

ST PAUL'S CHURCH, MILL HILL

It has always been the custom to lay a wreath at our Regimental Memorial in St Paul's Church, Mill Hill, and this year the duty was again carried out by Maj R. W. J. Smith, MBE.

2/10th BATTALION (1914-18) REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The 2/10th Bn held their annual remembrance day service at St Nicholas' Church, Chiswick, on Sunday, November 11. The Service was very well attended by Old Comrades, relatives and 'Friends of the 2/10th', and was conducted by the Rev Patrick Tuft, MA, Vicar of Chiswick and Honorary Chaplain to the 2/10th OCA. During the Service a Tablet was dedicated commemorating Members and 'Friends' of the OCA, Maj Bernard K. Cattell (lately President of the OCA) who died in November 1978, after 64 years of incomparable service to the Regiment, the Battalion and the OCA.

Among those present were Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE, President of the Middlesex Regimental Association, Col and Mrs A. S. J. de S. Clayton, Maj and Mrs A. E. F. Waldron. Lt Col Chattey read the Lesson. Poppy wreaths were laid on the memorials

to the 1/10th, 2/10th and 3/10th Battalions and after the Service tea was served in the Church Hall.

A.D.S.

DONATIONS TO CHARITABLE FUND

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges the following donations to the Charitable Fund: 1/7th Bn OCA, 2/7th Bn OCA, Mr J. R. Barron, Mr A. W. J. Brown, Mr D. Cavill, Mr A. J. Chalk, Mr R. R. Chaplin, Lt Col T. W. Chattey, Mr A. G. W. Cooper, Capt J. H. S. Hudson, Mr A. J. Legg, Lt Col E. P. Shanks (in memory of the late Lt Col F. Gordon Parker), Mr S. R. Woolner.

FREE NEWSLETTERS

The Editor wishes to thank the following members for the generosity in paying extra subscriptions so that free copies of the *Diehards Newsletter* can be sent to deserving Old Comrades: Mr E. J. Bermingham, Mr A. W. J. Brown, Mr C. A. Brust, Mrs Blake Budden, Mr D. Cavill, Mr A. J. Chalk, Lt Col T. W. Chattey, Mr E. C. Colebeck, Mr A. G. W. Cooper, Mr F. G. Gurney, Mr F. Hennah, Mr E. Johnson, Mr A. Mason, Mr H. Oxley, Mr S. F. Sibley, Maj S. C. W. Weller.

CHURCH PARADE AT THE ROYAL HOSPITAL, CHELSEA

The annual church parade and service at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, was attended by the Regimental Association on Sunday, October 21, 1979.

Members attending, whose names I was able to record are Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE, President of our Regimental Association, Maj A. E. F. Waldron, MBE, Secretary of the Regimental Association, Maj R. W. J. Smith, MBE, Commanding the Die-Hard detachment, Capt W. B. Hammond, ERD, TD, Capt P. F. Murray, 10th (TA) Bn, who is domiciled in Australia, Lts J. P. A. Day, 2nd Bn and E. C. Graham, 1st Bn (original), Messrs Bob Ambler, 1st Bn, Charlie Ashby, 4th Bn, Tom Barnett, 1st Bn, David Bennett, 1st Bn, Tom Bridger, 2nd Bn, Archie Brown, 9th Bn, George Chacksfield, 1st Bn (original), Ernie Cummings, 9th Bn, Bob Drane, 2nd Bn, Albert Gale, 8th Bn, Charlie Garrard, 8th Bn, Stan Hurlock, the Standard ensign, Tommy Lack, MM, MX HG, Reggie Meers, 9th Bn, Bert Mellor, 1st Bn (original), Les Plumb, 1st Bn, Tookie Poole, 1st Bn (original), Bill Rawlinson, 1st Bn and Bill Wright, 4th Bn.

The Captain of Invalids commanding the parade was Maj S. G. Greenaway, MBE, who had seen service with the Scots Guards, Irish Guards and Royal Irish Rangers, both he and the Regimental Sergeant Major, RSM L. Lamb, BEM, late Lancashire Fusiliers, one of the Minden Regiments, paying compliments to our Regimental Association Standard as they passed by for the first time.

The verbal commands were augmented by tap of drum, the Drummer beating the Officers' Call, rarely heard nowadays on which call the ceremonial period began.

After inspecting the In-Pensioners, the Governor, General Sir Antony Reed, GCB, CBE, DSO, MC, who had served with the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, the first regiment to be con-

verted to Light Infantry by General Sir John Moore, inspected the Die-Hards, saying he was proud to do so. As a proud regiment we were also proud for him so to do. He spoke to practically every man on parade.

On marching to the Chapel, and the Governor compliments, I noticed that he was accompanied by the Quartermaster of the Royal Hospital, Lt Col T. T. Kelly, OBE, Irish Guards whose last official parade this was before his retirement.

The Reverend Walter Evans, MBE, Chaplain to the Royal Hospital, once again conducted the service in this beautiful building with its Grinling Gibbons carvings, we were entranced by the choral anthem by the choir, the congregation being able to sit back and enjoy the harmonious voices of both sexes. In his address he especially welcomed the Regimental Association.

Again this year, I was asked why we Die-Hards parade in file with no supernumary rank. My reply is always the same, in war we fight shoulder to shoulder and in peace when we meet as old comrades, we stand and march shoulder to shoulder. We are the Die-Hards, all one. That is now it should be.

After the service we adjourned to the Ladies Room of the In Pensioners' Club to partake of the Buffet arranged with the Royal Hospital Staff and to enjoy a drink and a chat with In Pensioner's Cater, Fulton and Worton.

MAJ DICK SMITH

LADY GROVER'S HOSPITAL FUND FOR OFFICERS' FAMILIES

Registered under the Friendly Societies Acts, 1896/1958

GRANTS are made towards nursing expenses incurred by the illness of dependants (as defined in the Rules) of serving or retired officers, provided within certain age limits. Widows and unmarried daughters (over 18) are eligible for membership for their own benefit.

RATES OF BENEFIT

up to the following maximum amounts
Scale 'X' Scale 'Y'

HOSPITAL or NURSING		
HOME	£65	£154 a week
NURSE employed privately	£49	£49 a week
CONVALESCENCE under		
medical advice	£42	£42 a week
HOME HELP	£20	£20 a week
Or a combination of these benefits up to a maximum of	£65	£154 a week

EX GRATIA payments, made at the discretion of the Committee, in exceptional circumstances. Benefit is only payable for the first week of illness where the illness exceeds a total of seven days. Maximum period for which benefit is payable in any period of twelve months is eight weeks (twelve weeks for home help).

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

According to Age:	Scale 'X'	Scale 'Y'
Under 35	£5	£10 a year
Over 35 but under 45	£6	£12 a year
Over 45	£8	£16 a year

BOOK OF RULES (18p incld. postage) apply to:
THE SECRETARY
LADY GROVER'S HOSPITAL FUND FOR OFFICERS' FAMILIES
58 TRENTHAM STREET, LONDON, SW18 5AR

THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

Since our last contribution, the 2nd Bn has established itself in Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester, following a two year tour in Gibraltar and, by April next, all three regular battalions will be stationed in the UK. But, such is the lot of the Infantry today that this statement is misleading: in fact, the 1st Bn (Canterbury in April 1980) will be off to Belize in October for six months; the 2nd to South Armagh (where the 3rd Bn suffered casualties in March 1979, including one soldier killed) in April for four months; and the 3rd Bn (Dover) is due for an exercise in Kenya in the late Autumn before starting its BAOR tour in March 1981.

Nevertheless, the massed Bands and Drums of all battalions will perform at the Aldershot Army Display in 1980 and we are planning a Grand Reunion, based on the 1st Bn at Canterbury, which will provide a focal point for a get-together of all Old Comrades, including all Die-Hards.

CORRESPONDENCE

Maj Gen C. M. M. Man, CB, OBE, MC, writes: I met Maj Gen Rowley Mans recently—the Colonel of The Queen's Regiment—and he gave me some very up-to-date news of the Regiment.

The 3rd Bn has just returned from a very successful tour in the sensitive border country of South Armagh; they earned much praise for their professionalism, including a 'Well Done' from the outgoing Chief of the General Staff, Field Marshal Sir Roly Gibbs. Old Die-Hards in the battalion are the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Gavin Bulloch, the 2IC Maj Peter Gybbon-Monypenny, and Maj Richard Graham who commanded 'A' Coy at notorious Crossmaglen.

The 2nd Bn has just returned from Gibraltar to Hyderabad Barracks at Colchester, where they are now part of the 7th Field Force.

The 1st Bn is looking forward to coming to Canterbury in April next year; they showed a lot of enterprise by sending a touring rugby side into the Regimental area during September and one of the games was played against the Mill Hill Club; the tour was organised by Maj Steve Dowse, a Die-Hard.

Gen Rowley told me that, with the three regular battalions based in England next year, he is planning a really grand reunion on a convenient weekend in the summer (date now fixed—Sunday, August 3) when the Regular and TA Battalions will 'At Home' to all Old Comrades of the Founding Regiments. This will be a wonderful opportunity for all of us to meet the Regiment in a very enjoyable atmosphere. Full details will be notified to all Branches of our Association.

Former Middlesex Regiment members have certainly played their full part in The Queen's Regiment. All three 2ICs of the regular Battalions are Die-Hards; Majs Peter Hubert (1 Queens), Buster Carlston (2 Queens) and Peter Gybbon-Monypenny (3 Queens). WO1 M. J. Aylward, MBE, is RSM of 2 Queens and WO1 T. S. Fisher, RSM of 3 Queens. In the younger generation of officers, the following have been selected for promotion to Lt-Col next year; Majs Peter Cheesman, Richard Graham, Mike Legg and Peter Packham.

DEPOT THE QUEEN'S DIVISION

Having served at the Depot now for the past 10 years I find myself continually saying hello and goodbye to people.

This period has been no exception. I made mention in the last notes of Maj Peter Cheesman's arrival at the Depot. He is shortly to leave on promotion to Lieutenant Colonel and is posted to the HEC in Mulheim until March 1981, to be followed by a two-year tour of duty at the German Staff College.

Maj Bob Bartlett arrived at the Depot in August and is in command of 'B' Coy. Bob joined the 1st Bn in 1961 and his last appointment in 1 Middlesex was Rifle Platoon Command. Bob lives in quarters at Basingbourn with his wife, Angela, and their three children. He still plays a good game of hockey and is currently representing the Depot.

The technical quartermasters chair is now occupied by Maj Ron Morris. Ron will be well remembered as the last QM of 1 Middlesex. After a lengthy tour of duty in Berlin he is finding life rather quieter here. Ron lives in quarters with his wife, Betty, and their youngest son Tim, who is now 13. Christopher, their eldest son, after four years as a Sapper Officer is putting his experience to good use as training manager for Nicholas Laboratories in Slough. Their second son Stephen is an area sales manager for Unilever.

Recently at a careers convention in St Neots I was approached by a 17 year old lad who was enquiring about a commission in the army. It transpired that his father is an old 'Diehard'. His father, Sgt John Redrup, enlisted at Mill Hill in 1957 and served until the end with 1 Middlesex. John, his wife Meriel, and their four children, Teresa, Christopher, Peter and Belinda, live at 58 Gordon Road, Little Paxton, Cambs. John is a prison officer. He would like to hear from old friends and in particular would like to know the whereabouts of Ex-Cpl Anderson who was the Officers Mess and Sergeants Mess cook for many years.

Lt Col John Pollard has been very ill but it is just great to see him out of hospital and looking so well. I know that everyone will join me in wishing him a complete recovery and an early return to the fold.

Another casualty has been Sgt Paul Daly who broke his leg playing hockey and has spent the last couple of months hobbling around barracks in a plaster cast. Happily he is now back to normal work.

Shortly after moving house to Royston I was visited by Ex-Cpl Mitch Fordham and his new wife Joana. Mitch served throughout his time with 1 Middlesex in the Battalion Orderly Room. He has given up his swimming pool business and is now a representative for a firm of marine suppliers. It is possible he may move from London to Royston and at the time of his visit he was looking at new houses.

I am feeling rather pleased right now having just been notified that my commission and appointment as army schools liaison officer has been extended to my 55th birthday. Therefore, all being well I shall be writing these notes for another six years.

Very best wishes for 1980 from 'Diehards' at the Depot to 'Diehards' everywhere.

K. E. BEALE

THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

The Queen's Regiment are holding a Grand Reunion, based on the 1st Bn stationed at Howe Barracks, Canterbury, Kent, on Sunday, August 3, 1980, from 1200 to 1800 hours.

For all Queensmen, past and present, old comrades of the founding regiments and their families.

The Outline programme is:

- Drum Head Service.
- Arena Display.
- Display of modern weapons and equipment.
- Beating of Retreat by Massed Bands and Drums.
- Bars and Refreshments.

This is a WARNING ORDER so that you can keep the date free.

Full details will be circulated to all members in the June 1980 issue of the *Diehards Newsletter*.

7th MIDDLESEX OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER

The 52nd Annual Dinner of the 7th Middlesex Officers' Club was held at the TA Centre Priory Road, Hornsey, London N8, on Thursday, November 8, 1979. Lt Col J. D. Gunnell presided and the guests were: Maj Gen B. P. Hughes, Maj Gen R. S. N. Mans, F/O J. A. Rook, Maj R. W. J. Smith and Mr G. Whittaker. The following members attended: Maj D. W. Adkins, Maj M. J. Beaumont, Lt S. A. Blausten, 2 Lt S. W. F. Borthwick, Maj H. E. Couch, Capt M. J. S. Doran, Capt S. L. le M. Enthoven, Col W. D. Ellis, Lt Col P. J. Hall, Lt D. Harwood, Maj S. L. J. Henshaw, Lt F. Holm, Maj R. J. Leighton, Maj D. J. Margand, Maj M. C. Mercer, Maj E. J. Naish, Lt P. J. Ottino, Lt Col J. C. du Parc Braham, Lt J. A. van de Pol, Capt P. I. Roberts, Maj B. St G. A. Reed, Lt Col G. C. D. Scott-Lowe, Lt Col D. E. Simpson, Capt J. Spencer Richards, Capt P. A. Stocken, Maj R. F. Sykes, Col D. R. W. Thomas, Capt R. G. C. Thornton, Maj F. Webb and Capt G. J. Young.

THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) ASSOCIATION

The Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) Association held their Bi-Annual Dinner at the Cavalry and Guards Club, Piccadilly, London, W1, on Friday, September 21, 1979. The Dinner was attended by:

Gen Sir John Archer, KCB, OBE; K. M. A. Barnett, OBE, ED; Maj C. J. Bellingham, ED; Lt Col J. W. Bell; Gen Sir Edwin Bramall, GCB, OBE, MC, ADC; D. C. Bray, CMG, CVO; Col R. M. Cain; Col S. Carter, OBE, MC; Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE; S. Collier; G. S. Coxhead; F. Crabb, OBE, ED; Lt M. A. Cummings; Maj M. L. de Hardingham, ED; K. W. Forrow, OBE; A. P. Jack, ED; Lt Col J. Laurence-Smith, OBE; Lt Col H. M. du V. Lohan; D. Marshall; Col A. T. P. Millen; M. R. Mitcheson; R. Oblitas, OBE, ED; Col H. Owen-Hughes, OBE, ED; S/Sgt J. Poon Hok-Kan; Col B. G. Pugh, TD; M. M. Swan; Sir David Trench, CCMG, MC; Maj T. J. Van Rees, ED; Maj A. E. F. Waldron, MBE.

KOREAN REUNION

The second reunion for those of the 1st Bn who served in Korea was held at Inglis Barracks, Mill

Hill, on Saturday, September 22, 1979. The reunion was organised by Bob Yerby. About 100 members attended, including Col Andrew Man, the Commanding Officer at that time; Maj Christopher Lawrence and Mrs Peggy Morden, who as a WVS member coordinated the collection of winter clothing for the troops. Brig Jack Bridge, now Director of Army Postal and Courier Service, Royal Engineers, looked in. The Brigadier, then a Lieutenant ran an Army Postal service in Korea. A splendid evening ensued which I am sure will be repeated.

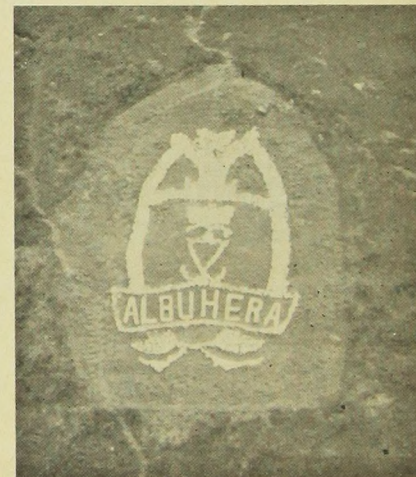
ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS BALACLAVA DINNER—OCTOBER 20, 1979

Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE, President of the Regimental Association attended the Balaclava Dinner of the London Branch of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders on October 20, 1979.

Over 170 attended the Dinner, some members travelling from as far afield as Plymouth, Manchester, etc. The menu included 'Haggis', whisky and Pipers.

Both the Chairman, Maj Gen J. B. M. Sloane, CB, CBE, DL, and Lt Col I. C. Purves-Hume, Commanding, 1st Bn The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, made kind references in their speeches to the close links between our two regiments; remembering with great pride the days when together we were the first and lone representatives of the British Army in Korea. Lt Col I. C. Purves-Hume reported that his Battalion, recently stationed in Hong Kong, had taken the opportunity to restore our regimental crest on the hillside at San Wai and also their own which lies to the left of our crest. They have now very thoughtfully provided a photograph of our badge which I hope will reproduce.

Lt Col Chattey has written to Maj Gen Sloane and to Lt Col Purves-Hume appreciating the invitation to represent our Association at the Dinner.



1/7th BATTALION (1939-45) OCA

A dozen or so members of the 1/7th Bn OCA assembled on the path once again at Hornsey Church for the Remembrance Service on the 11th.

There followed a Church Service in the temporary Parish Church, during which, and following tradition, wreaths were laid on behalf of the 7th Bn Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club by Lt Col D. E. Simpson and by Mr Les Hosslen for the Hornsey and Enfield Branch.

After the Service we retired as usual to the Drill Hall, Hornsey, where refreshments flowed in plenty and we were joined by a few more members and visitors from Mill Hill and Edgware.

We look forward to seeing more of the old faces next year and before then we hope many will turn up for the 1/7th Dinner—last Saturday in April 1980.

LES HOSSLEN

2/7th BATTALION OCA

As always on the first Friday in October we assembled at the Victory Club, Seymour Street, W1, for our annual dinner—this time on October 5, 1979, being the 33rd occasion on which we have met.

With 62 present we had our average attendance, but with nearly 40 apologies for absence I feel we really should be able to push our numbers a bit higher.

The ever-youthful Brigadier Flavell took the Chair in his usual felicitous manner and we were honoured and delighted to welcome as our guests Lt Col T. W. Chattey and Maj A. E. F. Waldron. We much appreciate their labours on our behalf with the Regimental Association.

Several members came from fairly far afield travelling from places as far apart as Gwyned, Worthing, Ramsgate, the Isle of Wight and Budleigh Salterton. Those of us who live 'on the doorstep' applauded the effort they make.

It was good to see several faces that had been absent for far too long—among them Ron Hammon, Bill Harris, George King, Ken Stebbings and Frank Vandercruyssen. Let's hope that this will encourage a few more to return to the fold.

We have come to expect a record collection and this year was no exception. Thanks in a large measure to the splendid contributions sent by post by those who could not attend we achieved £179.40, of which £50 was donated to the Regimental Association and the balance to the Battalion Benevolent Fund, which is used by our Trustees to provide a small measure of Christmas cheer to our less fortunate members.

RON TAYLOR

9th BATTALION OCA

It is with much regret that I have to announce the passing of two members of our branch, namely Lt Col Sam Moore and Maj Peter Sneath.

I wrote in our last letter of the funeral of the late ex-Sgt Bob Ryder, VC, who was laid to rest in Harefield Parish Churchyard, Middlesex. In the

notes relating to Bob in the *Die-Hards Newsletter*, it was mentioned that his Victoria Cross and his other medals had been given to the Imperial War Museum by his wife, Edna. Recently, I visited the Museum and saw Bob Ryder's decorations in a cabinet not very far from the main entrance. Near his Cross was the Victoria Cross won by 'Boy' Cornwall of HMS *Chester*. He gained this great decoration by keeping to his post, as the ships bugler, when the ship was sunk by the Germans during the first world war. Not many VCs are displayed in the Museum.

For the militarist and others who have served in the Services, this is a Museum to visit. From the Iron Rations, clothing, boots and other kits issued during the two world wars, to the huge naval guns, the army tanks and aeroplanes, can be seen with a good description and history of every exhibit. There is, in the basement, a cafe where good meals can be obtained, called Old Bill's Cafe, but it is far better than any he had out on the various fronts. The Museum is situated in Lambeth Road, SE1.

On June 23, at the Wembley Stadium, I witnessed the Sixth Military Pageant held there. Bearing in mind this is a bi-annual event it does show the popularity this Pageant has achieved. Actually over 30 bands took part and that does not include drum and bugle bands. The 3rd Bns Band of the Queen's Regiment took leading ranks in the great display. It was as in previous years, a great show and the Army Benevolent Fund will benefit from the tickets sold. Incidentally, our committee, at its last meeting, decided to send a cheque for £10 to the Fund, which was gratefully received. The next Military Pageant will be in 1981.

Our Dinner for 1980 will be Saturday, March 22.

R. T. MEERS

SIR OSWALD STOLL FOUNDATION FOR DISABLED EX-SERVICEMEN

This Foundation is situated at 446 Fulham Road, London, SW6 1DT, and has since 1919, been providing flats (138) for disabled Ex-Servicemen and their families, including also Railway, Postal, Municipal and Police Services. Clinic facilities where disabilities can be treated by nurses and physiotherapists are available.

At the moment they have a few vacancies and anyone interested can apply by writing to the Secretary at the above address.

CIVILIAN STAFF VACANCIES AT THE ROYAL HOSPITAL, CHELSEA

Frequently there are staff vacancies at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, with single board and accommodation if required. These cover a wide range of employment from administrative appointments on the Infirmary and Quartermaster's Staff to Patrol Watchmen and Royal Hospital Porters (ie, GD Men).

Preference is given to the ex-Regular Members of HM Forces. Application should be made to the Adjutant at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

PERSONAL JOTTINGS

A recent correspondent was Mrs Barbara Blake Budden who now permanently resides in Tenerife, Spain. Mrs Blake Budden was in England recently and underwent an operation for a detached retina. She is making good progress.

Mr Charlie Brust, Ealing Branch, now 87 years of age wishes to be remembered to his 'Diehard' pals.

Our congratulations to Lt Col Gavin Bulloch, Commanding 3 Queen's, on the award of a 'Mention in Despatches' for service in Northern Ireland between May 1 and July 31, 1979.

Maj A. H. Carter assumed command of 'C' Company, Depot Queen's Division on September 10, 1979. He was previously Staff Officer, HQ Osnabrook Garrison, BAOR.

Maj P. V. Cheesman at present 2IC Queen's Divisional Depot is to be GSO1 (DS and LO) at the German Staff College, Hamburg, in March 1981.

A new member of the Regimental Association is Ex Band Cpl Edward Bryan Crompton (22781520). He commenced his service with the Welch Regiment on October 29, 1952, and served with that regiment until January 1962, when he transferred to the 'Diehards'. He served with the 1st Bn until 1966 and then with the 4th Bn until August 1970 when he was discharged on reduction of the establishment. He now resides at Wychbold, Nr Droitwich, Worcs.

Maj Bob Cummins has retired after over 29 years service with Schroder Wagtail the Banking Corporation. He was for many years Head of the Premises Department and was made a Manager in July 1977. Bob recently visited Australia.

Ex WO2 John Dickens, PSI, 5 Queen's, Guildford, retired to pension on September 6, 1979. He will be residing in Guildford, Surrey.

Ex Band Sgt 'Mutt' Hazlewood has retired from Boosey and Hawkes the musical instrument makers. He will now have more time to find a 'winner'.

Lt Col J. M. Hewson, MC, assumed the appointment of AAG/CRLS, HQ, West Midland District, on August 28, 1979.

Another new member of the Regimental Association is Ex WO2 Reginald John Jenkins (6198493). He enlisted on August 28, 1928, and served with the 1st, 2nd and 9th Bns. He was commissioned into the East Surrey Regiment, retiring with the rank of Major in 1956. His younger brother Mr A. R. Jenkins served with the 1st Bn and was taken POW in Hong Kong. He has just won the first prize (£50) in the Christmas Draw of the Far East POW Club, London.

Ex Lt Col A. G. Legg (22157341) has just joined the Regimental Association. He was called up for

National Service on July 7, 1949, and was released on July 29, 1951. He served with the 1st Bn in Hong Kong and Korea. Now lives at Dagenham, Essex.

A newly joined member of the Regimental Association is Mr C. E. Lintott. He served with the 2/10th and 7th Bns during the 1914-18 fracas. He is now a young 85 years.

Maj A. E. McManus has recently assumed the appointment of GSO2 at the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield, Middlesex.

WO1 Jack Medland, an Ex-'Diehard', and RSM of the RAPC Depot, Worthy Down, sends his regards to all his friends in the Regiment. I had the pleasure of meeting him at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, when Lt Col Chattey, Maj Smith and I were visiting our In Pensioners. He was on the same errand.

Maj R. E. B. Morris has arrived at the Queen's Divisional Depot to take up the appointment of Quartermaster.

Sgt B. J. Mullender (23484136) has joined the Regimental Association. He enlisted on September 29, 1957, and served with our 1st and 4th Bns. From April 1970, until September 1979 he served with 2RRF. He is now serving with 5 Queen's at Canterbury, and will be leaving the army in March 1980 on completion of 22 years' service.

Maj P. F. Packham, MBE, is to command 2 Queen's in March 1981. In June 1980 he is to attend the JSSC, Canberra, with the acting rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

A recent correspondent was Mrs Margaret Pentony, mother of the late Cpl Pentony who was killed in Korea. She is a very keen regimental supporter and will shortly be moving from Bedford to Croydon but has promised to keep in touch.

All members of the Regimental Association were very saddened to hear that Lt Col John Pollard had been taken seriously ill. They are all very relieved to know of his steady improvement and wish him a speedy recovery.

Congratulations to Capt Alec Ramsay on being elected President of the Rugby Football Union for the season 1979-80. One of his pleasant duties is to act as host for the Inter Service matches at Twickenham.

Ex RSM 'Taffy' Roberts who has given so much of his time to the Army Cadet Force (Middlesex and Queen's) sends his regards to all his 'Diehard' friends.

Mr W. W. Rose (6198220) has rejoined the Regimental Association. He served with the 1st Bn at Catterick and the 2nd Bn at Madras during the period of 1927 to 1935. He resides at Harlow, Essex.

Another old 'Diehard' to surface is Mr A. V. Shalgrove (6194747). He served from 1924 to 1931.

Lt Col E. P. Shanks, has been elected President Old Millhillians Club.

A new name on the books of the Regimental Association is Ex-Pte Michael Mark Antony William Smith (24029149). This should differentiate him from the rest of the 'tribe'. He enlisted on August 31, 1964, and served with our 1st and 4th Bns until 1972. From then on he served with 2 Queen's until taking his discharge August 1979.

Congratulations to Ex-WO2 Tom and Heffie Steward on celebrating their silver wedding anniversary. They are having a party in Vienna.

The Venture Scout Troop from Aldershot have assumed the title of the 2nd Aldershot (Toye's Own) Venture Scout Group in memory of Capt Alfred Toye who won the Victoria Cross whilst serving with our 2nd Bn at Eterpigny ridge on March 25, 1918. Capt Toye was born at Stanhope Lines, off Queen's Avenue, Aldershot. He helped his father to found the 2nd Aldershot Venture Scouts. The Venture Scouts feel this is the best way they can ensure that the name of one of Aldershot's greatest heroes will never be forgotten.

A recently joined member of the Regimental Association is Ex-Cpl P. D. Tuffnell (22157378) who was called up for National Service on July 7, 1949, and released on July 29, 1951. He served with the 1st Bn in Hong Kong and Korea. He was a Cpl in Support Company. He had two brothers Geoffrey and Peter who also served with the 1st Bn. Mr Tuffnell is Cabinet Manager with Thorn Consumer Electronics, Enfield.

A recent correspondent was Ex-Bdsm C. W. Tulley (6201562) who enlisted at Mill Hill on August 16, 1934. He joined the 1st Bn in Egypt in 1935, travelling on to Singapore and Hong Kong, eventually being taken POW on December 25, 1941. He spent the majority of his POW time in Japan at a Camp near Tokyo. He returned to UK in 1945 and was discharged from the service on July 16, 1946. He has not been too well and is now in receipt of a 70% disability pension. This has caused to give up his employment and move from Willesden, London, to Wimborne, Dorset.

Maj F. (Gerry) Webb, 'B' Coy, 6/7th Queen's, Edware, has retired after 37 years of unbroken service.

Maj S. C. W. Weller, has retired from the Greater London TAVR Association. He will continue to act as Housing Manager to our Regimental Homes at Albuhera Close, Enfield. He has also just moved house from Mill Hill to Harlington, Beds.

Maj V. D. Williams was recently 'Dined out' by the Greater London Army Cadet Force North West sector after 41 years' service. Well done Victor.

Lt Col and Mrs Tossie Worton celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary on September 21, 1979. A telegram of congratulations was sent from all members of the Association.

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Curator, Maj R. W. J. Smith, MBE, 12 Devonshire Road, Mill Hill, London, NW7.

The following are recent acquisitions for the Museum:

Medals of Sgt C. W. Evans

The medals of the late Sgt Charles William Evans, G/1060, who died of wounds on September 22, 1917, whilst serving with the 13th Bn The Middlesex Regiment consist of the Queen's South African Medal with six clasps—Tugela Heights, Orange Free State, Relief of Ladysmith, Transvaal, Laing's Nek, Cape Colony; King's South Africa Medal with two clasps—South Africa 1901, South Africa 1902; 1914-15 Star, 1914-18 British War Medal, 1914-19 Victory Medal. The following documents were also presented—AFD.426 Attestation Certificate dated October 2, 1896, Character on Discharge dated June 8, 1903, AFB.104-82 Notification of Death.

Charles William Evans was born in the parish of Brentford, London, in 1877, and enlisted into the Middlesex Regiment on October 2, 1896. He served in South Africa with the 2nd Bn. He was transferred to the Army Reserve on October 1, 1903, on completion of seven years Colour service.

On the outbreak of the Great War he was called up for service and became Recruiting Sergeant at the White City, Shepherds Bush, London, W12. He volunteered for overseas service and was drafted to France and joined the 13th Bn.

The medals and documents were presented by his son, Mr L. C. Evans, 52 Beaulieu Road, Boyatt Wood, Eastleigh SO5 4PJ.

REGIMENTAL GOODS

The following regimental goods are available for purchase. These can be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Maj A. E. F. Waldron, MBE, Lynsore Bungalow, Upper Hardres, Canterbury, Kent, CT4 6EE. Cheques/postal orders should be made payable to the Middlesex Regimental Association.

Article	Price
Ashtrays, glass, crested Middlesex ..	£0.50 each
Badges, Blazer, Middlesex ..	£3.50 each
Cravats, Regtl, Old Pattern, Terylene	£1.75 each
Cravats, Regtl, New Pattern, Terylene	£1.75 each
Ice Buckets, miniature side drum with	
Regimental Emblazon ..	£7.40 each
Ties, Regtl, Old Pattern, Terylene ..	£1.25 each
Ties, Regtl, New Pattern, Terylene ..	£1.25 each
Ties, Officers' Club, Silk ..	£2.40 each
Heraldic Shields, Middlesex ..	£6.50 each
Christmas Cards:	
Steady the Drums and Fifes ..	£0.17 each
The Guardroom Scene ..	£0.17 each

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION INDUSTRIES

The Royal British Legion Industries employs disabled ex-servicemen under sheltered conditions

and following an expansion programme now has places to offer. Rates of pay are comparable with those in open industry and hostel accommodation is available for single men. A limited number of houses is also available for married men and their families following a qualifying period of three months. Application forms can be obtained from the Royal British Legion Industries (Preston Hall), Royal British Legion Village, Maidstone, Kent, ME20 7NL.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT GOLFING SOCIETY AUTUMN MEETING

The Autumn Meeting was held at the North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, Hants, on Tuesday, October 2, 1979. A total of 23 members took part.

The detailed results (each decided over 18 holes) were as follows:

Stableford Singles	Score
Mr H. Clayden (Winner Horton Cup)	35
Maj H. E. Couch (Runner Up)	29
Mr A. Torrie	28
Mr N. Taylor	28
Capt R. J. Tarrant	28
Lt Col T. W. Chattey	27
Lt Col C. N. Clayden	27
Mr G. Taylor	27
Mr M. R. T. Walden	25
Mrs D. Couch	25
Mr M. West	25
Lt Col H. M. du V Lohan	24
Maj A. R. Bisset	24
Capt P. S. Ingham	23
Mr C. Holdford	22
Mr J. Rogers	21
Brig G. Lerwill	21
Mr C. D. Matthews	17
Mr H. C. Lohan	17
Col I. R. Burrows (Divot)	12
Mr E. Johnson	NR
Mr H. T. Duffield	NR
Stableford Foursomes	Score
Capt R. J. Tarrant and Mr A. Torrie (Winners Jay Cup)	31
Maj H. E. Couch and Mrs Couch (Runners Up)	28
Lt Col C. N. Clayden and Maj A. R. Bisset	26
Brig G. Lerwill and Mr M. R. T. Walden	25
Mr N. Taylor and Mr G. Taylor	24
Mr J. Rogers and Maj P. D. H. Marshall	20
Mr C. Holdford and Mr M. West	19
Mr E. Johnson and Mr C. D. Matthews	17
Lt Col H. M. du V Lohan and Mr H. C. Lohan	17

Before asking Mrs Jean Clayden to present the prizes, Lt Col Tom Chattey thanked everyone for the support they had given to the meeting. He

gave a special thank you to those who travelled long distances, some leaving home at 4 a.m. He congratulated Lt Col and Mrs Tossie Worton on recently celebrating their Golden Wedding anniversary. Apologies were received from Mr Tom Jones, Lt Col Stephenson, Capt M. Flynn, Col Max Summers (who kindly gave a donation to expenses), Capt Don Carson, Mrs Nora Holdford, Capt and Mrs Gedye and Mr G. Clift. Lastly a very special welcome to our guests, Col A. S. J. de S. Clayton, Mr Jack Milroy and Mr Doug Matthews son (forgot his christian name—in trouble again).

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the following have died:

BALDWIN—On August 5, 1979, ex-C/Sgt C. F. Baldwin (6200569), aged 71 years. 'Badger' Baldwin enlisted into the Regiment at Mill Hill on July 7, 1932, being posted to the 2nd Bn the following April. The next month, he was appointed Lance Corporal and was one of the junior NCOs marked as prospective senior non-commissioned or warrant officer in 1940, when there was expected to be a major exodus of the 'Pontoon men' who had re-engaged in 1919. He qualified as an instructor at the Army Educational School, but after only a month in the Regimental School, he was sent on another course at the Royal Tank Corps, Lydd. He was one of those rare people with a driving licence. Returning to the Battalion, he became one of the team, the nucleus of the Battalion mechanical transport. This team consisted of Sgt Charles Donaldson, Cpl Baldwin and Ptes Ernie Hayes, Ginger Irons and Charlie Rimmer, the latter known as 'Petrol, oil and water'. With the Carden Loyd tracked vehicle and a few wheeled trucks this team trained the Battalion to become a mechanised unit.

Badger transferred to the Army Reserve in July 1938, but was recalled to the Colours on Friday, September 1, 1939. He was posted to the staff of the Machine Gun Training Centre, Mill Hill, promoted Sergeant, remaining there until 1941. Posted to the 2/8th Bn (later renamed 1st Bn), he was appointed CQMS of 'A' Coy by Lt Col Fanny Walden who was looking for able senior NCOs. With this Battalion he went to Normandy and served with them until September 1945, when he was released to Z Reserve.

He lived in Barnet, near to Whetstone where

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he was born and where his father was the well-known Blacksmith. Since his retirement, he spent many hours on his allotment and helping less able people with their gardens. No doubt that this attachment to the soil accounted for his placid and pleasing manner.

His funeral was at St Marylebone Crematorium, Finchley, on Thursday, August 10, when his coffin draped by the regimental flag, disappeared behind the shutters as the haunting notes of the Last Post were sounded as the farewell to a Diehard.

For his services during 1939-45, he was awarded the 1939-45 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal and War Medal.

MAJ DICK SMITH

BARRETT—On an unknown date during October 1979, Ex-Pte Timothy Barrett (6210517), aged 60 years. He enlisted on November 15, 1939, and on completion of initial training was posted to the 1st Bn stationed in Hong Kong. He was taken prisoner on December 25, 1941, and spent all his POW days in Shamshuipo Camp, Hong Kong. He was repatriated to UK at the end of 1945 and left the service on February 27, 1947. No other facts are available.

BELLERS—On July 21, 1979, Maj Richard Claude Hamon Bellers, aged 68 years. Maj Bellers was commissioned into the Regiment on January 29, 1931. He passed through the then Royal Military College at Sandhurst, where he became a Sergeant obtained his Blue for boxing and cross country running.

He joined the 1st Bn at Colchester in 1931 and served with that Battalion in Palestine, Egypt, Singapore and Hong Kong up to 1937, being appointed Signal Officer. From 1938 to 1939 he was serving in the Burma Defence Force as a Company Commander, A/Adjutant and then GSO3 at that Headquarters, passing the Staff College in 1939, and attending the second War Staff Course at Quetta in 1940. He was appointed Staff Captain and Brigade Major at HQ Rangoon Area 1940-42. Later he became GSO2 Operations in 1st Burma Corps and took part in that terrible retreat in which suffering from disease and casualties were widespread.

In 1942-43 he became GSO2 operations at HQ 17th Indian Light Division, and for a few months in 1942 became a temporary Lieutenant Colonel. In 1944 he was with the 10th Bn Lancashire Fusiliers as Second in Command. In 1944-45 he was a Brigade Major, HQ 134 Infantry Brigade in UK and then GSO2 Operations in Germany, where in 1945 he was BM in 131 Lorried Infantry Brigade. In 1946-47 he was on the Staff at the War Office in MT6 and Infantry (3) as a GSO2. In 1948 he returned to the 1st Bn at Hamburg and then commanded the Regimental Depot at Inglis Barracks 1949-50. He then rejoined our 1st Bn in Korea as a Company Commander. After that he became Second in Command of the 40th Infantry Battle School in Hong Kong 1951-52.

From 1953 until his retirement in 1955 he was

DAQMG (Mob) at HQ 1st AA Group. Maj Dick Bellers always regretted that he did not serve in the Second World War with the Regiment, although he saw a great deal of war service in those years. His father commanded the 3rd Bn in South Africa.

He is survived by his wife Betty and two daughters, Merryn and Judy.

The Regiment was represented at the funeral by Maj Gen Sir John Willoughby, KBE, CB, Col A. S. J. de S Clayton, OBE, Maj and Mrs P. G. V. Bellers.

CURD—On October 9, 1979, Ex-Pte Alan Curd (22312920), aged 48 years. Mr Curd was called up for National Service in 1950 and served with the 1st Bn in Hong Kong and Korea, leaving the service in 1952. Mr Curd was Regional Sales Manager, UK and Europe, for Air New Zealand.

CHAPMAN—On November 21, 1979, Ex-Pte Stephen Andrew Chapman (6192384), aged 80 years. He joined the Essex Regiment on June 26, 1917, and served with that regiment until demobilised on March 31, 1920. On April 9, 1920, he enlisted into the Middlesex Regiment and served in Germany, Gibraltar and Egypt, some of which was with the 3rd Bn until discharged on August 13, 1922, on reduction of establishment. He was a staunch member of the Mill Hill Branch of the OCA.

DALGARNO—On June 9, 1979, Mr V. G. Dalgarno. He was a member of the Central Branch. No other details are available.

DAY—On August 17, 1979, Ex-Pte Albert Edward (Toff) Day (6208238), aged 63 years. He enlisted into the Regiment at Mill Hill on November 15, 1939, and after completion of his recruit training was posted to the 1st Bn stationed in Hong Kong. He was taken prisoner on Christmas Day 1941. In 1942 he was moved to Japan and was in Osaka Camp until his release in 1945. He was repatriated to UK at the end of 1945 and transferred to the Army Reserve on April 23, 1946. News of his death only reached the Regimental Association recently.

EDWARDS—On August 21, 1979, ex-CSM Joseph William Charles Edwards (6200354), aged 66 years. 'Peter' Edwards enlisted into the Regiment, December 16, 1931, and, after completing his recruit training at the Depot Mill Hill, was posted to the 2nd Bn with which he served until a pre-release vocational training course from July to December 15, 1938, when he was transferred to the Army Reserve. During his Colour service he was employed as a transport driver and groom and later as a motor truck driver. Called up for service during the emergency in 1938, he served for 59 days from July 15.

Mobilised on September 1, 1939, he was posted to The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment four days later, where he served in the Labour Companies until these units were absorbed into the Royal Engineers, and Pioneer Corps in 1941. He remained with the Pioneer Corps until his

discharge on February 8, 1946, serving with the BEF in North Africa with the 1st Army, and NW Europe. In November 1945, his name appeared in the London Gazette in the list of personnel Mentioned in Despatches.

He was cremated at St Marylebone Crematorium, East Finchley, on Tuesday, August 28, 1979. In addition to members of his family, there were representatives of the Regimental Association, Maj Dick Smith, ex-CSM Alf Mason, Mr A. Moreton, friends he had known in Sappers Sergeants Mess since he was admitted as an Honorary Member, Capt A. Quinn, RE, SSgt N. Ingleby and Mr Clive Jones and his friends Mr C. Parker and Miss Olive Hamilton. The coffin was draped with the Regimental flag and the Last Post played at the end of the service.

MAJ DICK SMITH

FOOT—On December 2, 1979, Lt Col Patten Bowyer Drummond-Hay Foot, aged 90 years. Lt Col Foot served with the 10th Bn later the 1/10th, from July 27, 1912, until September 30, 1916. He was granted a regular commission in the Middlesex Regiment on October 1, 1916, in the rank of Captain. He transferred to the Royal Signals on formation in 1920. Promoted Lieutenant Colonel on May 20, 1933, and retired on November 20, 1937.

GROVE-WHITE—On October 25, 1979, Mrs Grace Ledlie Grove-White, widow of Maj Pierce Grove-White.

The late Maj Grove-White died on August 8, 1953. He gave 26 years service to the Regiment, serving with the 1st, 2nd and 4th Bns. He retired on January 9, 1929. His father, Col James Grove-White, CMG, JP, DL, had commanded both the 57th and 77th Bns.

The funeral was attended by Maj Gen Sir John Willoughby, KBE, CB.

HARRIS—On November 9, 1979, Ex-Sgt Cyril Percival Harris (5875252), aged 76 years. Cyril Harris served with the 1st Bn Northampton Regiment in the Band from 1918 until discharge in 1929. He then joined our 8th Territorial Bn in 1930 remaining until August 1951 when he became a member of the band of the 8th Bn Parachute Regiment until his discharge in 1957.

His medals were the 1939-45 Star, France and Germany Star, War Medal and the Territorial Efficiency Medal.

MAJ DICK SMITH

KERSWILL—On June 1, 1979, Ex-Sgt Stanley Kerswill (21192370), aged 51 years. Stan Kerswill served 19 years in the Territorial Army, his service terminating in 1966. Originally with the 9th Bn, he, early in his volunteer service, was posted to the REME (TA), finishing with 169 Infantry Workshop.

He was the youngest son of the late RSM 'Kicker' Kerswill, 3rd Bn, and grew up in the atmosphere of our Regiment.

A warm hearted, willing, public spirited man, he is sadly missed, especially by the members of the

Mill Hill Branch of the Diehards Club. Times without number, he would convey the more elderly members to their homes in his car, especially in inclement weather. Nothing appeared to be too much trouble for him if he could help his fellow-men.

For a number of years, he was the Standard Bearer of our Regimental Association Standard, his smart, erect figure leading us, especially on the Field of Remembrance Service from the Middlesex Guildhall to Westminster Abbey, the Saturday before Remembrance Sunday and at the Belgian National Day parade in July each year when we march from Horse Guard's Parade along Whitehall to the Cenotaph. Pride in the Regiment and the distinction of the job he was doing simply oozed from him on these occasions. He was a splendid figure-head and jaunty in carriage.

The last five years, he organised the branch Christmas Draw, the initial sheets for the current year having been prepared by him before his decease.

It is at this time of the year especially that he is missed. Not only to his family, but to us all, he was 'Our Stan' and for some time in the future will so remain.

He held the Territorial Efficiency Medal, and a Certificate of Appreciation for an admirable record of devoted service to the Middlesex Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association.

We, his comrades, also hold him in admirable memory for his devotion to all tasks given to him to help our branch run smoothly and happily. He is a great loss.

MAJ DICK SMITH

LOHAN—On July 14, 1979, Col Leslie Gordon 'Sammy' Lohan, MBE, TD. Col Lohan was commissioned to the Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment in May 1935 and served with the 'Kensingtons' until January 1940. As a Captain he served short periods with the 1/7th Bn and the Middlesex Company, MG Holding Bn during 1940. He then joined Special Operations and in 1943 was part of the paratroop drop on Algiers.

From 1946 until his retirement in 1967 he held a Short Service Extended Commission in the Regiment. All his appointments were with the Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Defence.

MILTON—On November 14, 1979, Mr Leslie Edward Milton (PS/823 and 21902 and 6191997). Mr Milton served with the 16th (Public Schools) Bn, 24th Bn and the 4th Bn.

MOORE—On a date near the end of October 1979, Lt Col S. A. Moore, aged 65 years. Lt Col Moore was RSM of the 9th Bn (126 LAA Regt RA) from 1942 until 1946. He was granted a regular commission in the RAOC on December 20, 1949, promoted Lt Col (Staff QM) on November 6, 1964, retiring on August 11, 1969. He was a staunch member of the 9th Bn OCA and regularly attended the annual dinner.

PARKER—On August 16, 1979, Lt Col Francis

Gordon Parker, aged 81 years. Lt Col Gordon Parker commenced his service in September 1914 and had Other Rank Service with the 5th and 28th City of London Regiment.

He was granted a temporary commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Middlesex Regiment on November 28, 1915, and posted to the 1st Bn. He was granted a regular commission with the Regiment on January 3, 1917. He was promoted Lieutenant June 4, 1918. Postings and promotions during his career were as follows:

Deputy Assistant Provost Marshal France and UK, February 1, 1919 to July 23, 1922.

Military Permit Officer BAOR, July 1922 to October 1923.

Joined 1st Bn Aldershot, October 1923.

Posted to Depot Middlesex Mill Hill, August 1925.

Adjutant 19th London Regt (T/Capt), October 1927 to December 1931.

Promoted Captain, December 10, 1928.

Rejoined 1st Bn Colchester, December 1931.

Assistant Provost Marshal Cairo, January 1934 to February 1938.

Joined 2nd Bn Gosport, March 1938.

Promoted Major, August 1, 1938.

Commanded Depot Middlesex, June 1939 to September 1939.

Commanded 1st Bn Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment, March 1940 (UK, France and Inter BNAF), to March 1944.

Promoted Lieutenant Colonel, October 22, 1942.

OC 'B' Rest Camp CMF, March 1944 to September 1944.

Commanded 11th Bn The Hampshire Regiment, August 1945 to April 1946.

Camp Commandant War Office, June 1946 to November 1948.

Retired, January 29, 1949.

Medals and awards: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal, 1939-45 Star, Defence Medal, War Medal. Mentioned in Despatches February 1919.

The funeral was attended by Col A. S. J. de S. Clayton, OBE, Lt Col and Mrs J. R. B. Worton, Maj J. W. Doyle, MC, Maj A. E. F. Waldron, MBE, and Mrs M. del Court.

PEARCE GOULD—On December 8, 1979, The Rev (Lt Col) P. L. Pearce Gould, OBE, MA, aged 60 years. Full obituary will be published in the next issue of the *Diehards Newsletter*.

DEDICATION OF THE REGIMENTAL CHAIR, ST GEORGE'S MEMORIAL CHURCH, YPRES

During the annual pilgrimage to Mons this year the opportunity to hold a service for the dedication of our Regimental Chair was taken.

Eight years ago, Maj Cecil E. E. Scott presented a chair plaque for the chair. Since that date, the chair has been housed in the vestry, awaiting the dedication service. This service was held on Tuesday, August 21, 1979, conducted by the Rev Tim Dugdale, the Chaplain, Ghent and Ypres.

In addition to four In-Pensioner's from the

PERCIVAL—On September 27, 1979, Mr J. A. Percival, aged 88 years. Mr Percival served with the 1/7th Bn (1914-18).

REID—On August 25, 1979, Mrs Barbara York Reid, wife of Col J. G. E. Reid.

ROME—On July 26, 1979, Maj C. E. Rome, MBE. The late Maj C. E. Rome retired on July 22, 1962, after 32½ years' service in the Army, of which 19½ years was spent in the Regiment. He was a Warrant Officer Class 2 in the Coldstream Guards when he was granted a Short Service Commission in the Middlesex Regiment in 1943. The following is an extract from a letter he wrote to the Depot whilst he was on terminal leave in 1962: 'It seems almost impossible to have served in a Regiment for nearly 20 years and never to have served with either a Regular or a TA Bn. Such is the post war army. Nevertheless I have held some very interesting appointments. My last one was Military Liaison Officer to the Director of Munitions Sales in the Ministry of Supply. This has entailed many visits to foreign embassies in London. The average over a year has been two per week. I have looked after visiting missions from nearly every "friendly" country in the world'.

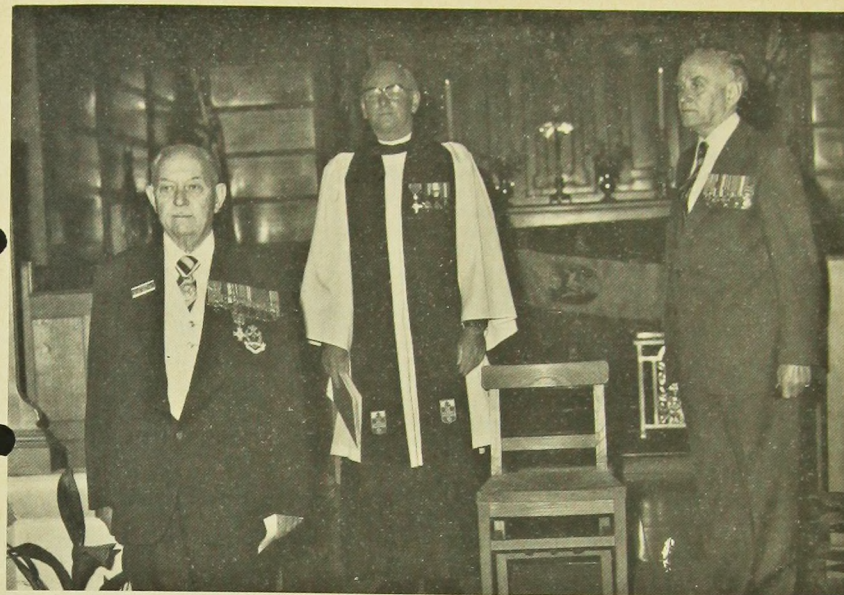
SANDER—On November 1, 1979, Capt Eric Sander, MC, aged 82 years. Capt Sander served with the 23rd Bn in the Great War and was awarded the Military Cross. In civilian life he was a dentist.

SCOTT-SIMPSON—On December 11, 1979, Maj Kennard Scott-Simpson. He enlisted in 1930 as a Private soldier and served with the 1st Bn in Egypt, Singapore and Hong Kong until taking his discharge in 1938. At the outbreak of the War in 1939, he was commissioned and later served for a time with the 1/8th Bn.

SNEATH—On November 19, 1979, Maj Peter Claude Sneath, TD, Croix de Guerre. Maj Sneath commenced his service with the 9th Bn in January 1938. At the outbreak of war he initially went to Stiffkey Camp and after a few weeks to Beacon Hill Camp, Attleborough. He later served in Holland and Belgium and was awarded the Croix de Guerre (1940) Chevalier de l'ordre de Leopold 11 (Belgium).

The funeral was attended by Lt Col G. L. Fox, Lt Col J. T. Dear and Wing Comd P. J. Cundy.

Royal Hospital, Chelsea, in their colourful uniforms and veterans of 1914-19 of various units, there were the following members of the Mill Hill Branch of the Regimental Association. Lt Col T. W. Chattey, Maj R. W. J. Smith, Sqn Ldr Jim Abell, Charlie Ashby, David Bennett, Archie Brown, Lt Sidney Butler, Alf Church, Charlie Garrard, Tim Harrison, Harry Hart, Tommy Lack and Maj Bill Lovell. Honorary members Tresham Green, David Marle, Bill Marshall, Capt Johnny Morris and



Maj R. W. J. Smith, MBE, Rev D. Dugdale, OBE, Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE

Trevor Morris were also in the congregation. The distaff contingent were Mesdames Milly Ashby, Rose Coombs, Jean Knight, Gilberte Lovell, Norma Norman and Dolly Smith.

A Belgian party of The Federation Nationale Des Volontaires de Guerre Comite Provincial du Hainaut under the direction of Lt Col de Reseserve Jacques Deweer, joined us in the service with numerous standards. These standards flanked the altar, our Association Standard borne by David Bennett and the Union Jack by Tommy Lack being placed on the altar.

The service was succinct, one for soldiers by a service padre and thoroughly enjoyed by all the congregation. The organist, Willy Dunn, who was recently honoured by the Royal British Legion, is known to all British visitors to Ypres where he has lived since World War 1, played the organ with feeling albeit he was suffering from a dreadful cold.

During the singing of the hymn, the chair was slowly and solemnly carried to the altar by Lt Col Tom Chattey, President of the Regimental Association and Maj Dick Smith. Here Col Chattey gifted the chair to the Church followed by the dedication by the Chaplain. At the end of the

PILGRIMAGE TO MONS, 1979

Elsewhere in this Newsletter is the account of the pilgrimage to Mons and Ypres, plus an account of the visits to various battlefields of Flanders and France so well known to the soldiers of the Great War.

service, Binyon's words, 'They shall not grow old' were declaimed by Maj Smith, followed by the 'Last Post' and 'Reveille' sounded perfectly by Sgt Ron M'Arde of the Irish Guards, wearing the full regimentals with bearskin of his regiment, permission having courteously been given by the Commanding Officer of the Guards Depot, Pirbright.

The service ended with the congregation, among whom were a number of the British residents domiciled in Ypres and Belgian towns adjacent, singing the National Anthem.

St George's Church, consecrated in 1929, hold relics and memories for our regiment. In addition to our chair, there is a large brass plate, recalling the service of the 46 battalions of the regiment of 1914-19, and the pew dedicated to Col F. G. 'Daddy' Poole, who had won the DSO as a subaltern during the Boxer Rebellion, an officer deeply admired by his soldiers of the 3rd Bn and well remembered for his humour at reunions and parades of veterans between the two wars. Our histories are also in the church library for visitors and students to peruse and know the reason we hold our heads high in pride.

MAJ DICK SMITH

Below, I give the address by M. Gerard Sercu, Deputy Bourgmestre of Ypres, who had a short time before the civic reception in the Cloth Hall, acted as driver of the bus which had taken the visitors to places of interest in the Salient. The guide on this occasion was Miss Rose Coombs of

the Imperial War Museum, whose illustrated guide to the battlefields of 1914-18 is superb. The title, 'Before Endeavours Fade', gives the visitor a complete pictorial route card of the British Expeditionary Force. The title with its initial letter is well chosen.

Also produced below is the speech by M. Rene Langouche, of Obourg, who as a boy, saw our regiment in action during the initial battle of 1914. He so often reiterates over the years how grateful are his townsfolk to our regiment, saying, 'You came to help us in 1914. Many of you remain here, in our soil. The jack-boot was not trampling over your back garden, it was trampling over ours. We are everlastingly grateful. We will never forget'.

I can assure readers that they do not forget.

The memorial he refers to in the sixth paragraph is on the wall of Obourg railway station. It says, 'Near this spot on August 23, 1914, the honour fell to the 4th Bn The Middlesex Regiment to fire the first shots of the Battle of Mons. On the roof of this building an unidentified British soldier made the supreme sacrifice in order to protect the retreat of his comrades'.

The following may be new to some readers and will refresh the memories of old soldiers who know our history:

In Saint-Symphorien Military Cemetery is a special memorial erected by the Germans that reads 'Here repose 46 English soldiers of the 4th Battalion, Royal Middlesex Regiment'. This cemetery was officially opened in 1916 by the Crown Prince of Bavaria and contains the graves of 135 identified soldiers and those of 64 not identified. One of those unidentified Die-Hards was a man whose deed is akin to that legendary Horatius Coclus who held the Bridge of the River Tiber.

The story, which is well known in Mons is related by M. Leon Boivard, once Chief Pioneer of Obourg Station, who was eye-witness of the scene. He describes it as follows:

'During the morning of August 23, 1914, the British troops had retired in the direction of Mons. One soldier however, remained behind and took up a position on the east roof of the station building. He built a parapet of sand bags round himself and then awaited the oncoming Germans. On two occasions two other soldiers—apparently his comrades—returned to the station and urged him to retire. This he refused to do, so finally they left him.

This position was well chosen as it commanded the Rue Beauval which crosses the canal and is the only approach to the station. It is joined at its northern end by Rue de St Denis, the distance from the station to the junction of two streets being about 100 metres.

The English soldier held up the Germans at that corner for almost two hours. Every German who showed himself in Rue Beauval fell, either killed or wounded. Many efforts were made to dislodge him but he maintained his position against all attacks.

He ceased firing eventually—apparently for want of ammunition and got down from the roof. Just at that moment a large party of Germans rushed round the fatal corner, so the soldier fixed his bayonet. Whilst doing so he was struck in

the head by a bullet and killed.

He accounted for 50 Germans—10 killed and 40 wounded.

The Germans allowed me to retain as a souvenir his razor; the shoulder straps bore the name 'Middlesex'.

Speech by M. Gerard Sercu, Deputy Bourgmestre of Ypres, on occasion of reception at the Cloth Hall after dedication of regimental chair in St George's Memorial Church:

'I am particularly pleased to welcome you in this town hall on the occasion of this visit. While meeting veterans, more than 60 years after the first War came to an end, some old comrades, visiting once again "the old places", we cannot but be impressed. We are deeply impressed indeed with such an infinite truth and faithfulness. I think it is not necessary to enter into particulars on the very reasons for that. Each of you has his own memories to recall—his own places he wishes to see again—a friend he lost here—his good and his bad recollections, while all of you have a part of their youth they left here in most tragic circumstances.

I would like to say: don't worry about one thing—be sure you'll always find good and grateful friends over here. Generally speaking it is a great pleasure to us whenever we have the opportunity of meeting visitors from Britain as it enables us each time to strengthen the close friendship between both our countries. In addition to this, every visit paid to us by some few of those who came over to help us in defending our freedom more than 50 years ago, has something touching to us: and we wish to avail ourselves of every possible occasion to express them our sincere gratitude. Why should we hide our sad feelings, thinking this could be the last time we meet. We however sincerely wish that strength and health might enable you to afford some more visits, in the years to come. In the meantime I would like to convince you that Ypres remain for ever the heart of the Ypres Salient, where the memory of those of your comrades or relatives who lost their lives, will always be honoured. This city that has been so deeply cherished by all of you will never forget.

Ladies and Gentlemen—with every good wish to all of you, I would like to say again how much we appreciate your friendship to us and your faithfulness towards our city'.

Reply by Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE, President of the Regimental Association.

Toast by M. Gerard Sercu to Her Majesty The Queen.

Toast by Maj R. W. J. Smith, MBE, to King and Queen of the Belgians.

Speech by M. Rene Langouche:

'Dear Old Soldiers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

65 years have passed since August 13, 1914, when the young soldiers of the 4th Middlesex Regiment came here in a heroic combat, to confront the enormous teutonic hordes overrunning our country, and to slow down for seven long hours the German march "nach Paris".

Alas, the valour, the stubborn resistance of these young heroes, cost the lives of many among

them, reddening with their blood the streets where we are now.

After 65 years, these brave soldiers lie in the military cemetery of St Symphorien; you return from having visited them.

It is to magnify their sacrifice, to honour their memory, that with their old companions in arms and the representatives of their glorious regiment, we find ourselves before this memorial showing their courage, their disregard of danger, giving to all a heroic example of the gift of self.

Honour to them, honour to all these brave men who we will never be allowed to forget.

This memorial, which we have every chance of being able to preserve as it is, and even to improve its appearance must remain, for the younger generation of Obourg and round about, the symbol of DUTY and SELF DENIAL. We will endeavour, the City of Mons assisting and following the local administration of old Obourg in this, to maintain it always in good condition.

To you, the old soldiers of the 4th Middlesex Regiment, goes our greatest admiration for the perseverance in returning each year, in spite of the distance, in spite of the years that pass. May I say to those brave men who are gone that time diminishes in no way the fervour which you attach to their names.

We thank you for this remarkable consistency. May I be permitted all the same, in these pious circumstances, to stress the presence of certain old soldiers who, always faithful, never miss the annual rendezvous, and among them notably Maj Dick Smith your guide who has become our very dear friend.

In a moment, observing the silence, we will ponder deeply before this memorial communing all together in the memory of all the brave men fallen at Obourg, Nimy and Mons 65 years ago.

To all here present, a great and sincere THANK YOU.

Long Live Great Britain—Long Live Belgium'.

UNVEILING OF THE HEADSTONE TO CAPT MICHAEL TROTBAS

For a number of years, a delegation from the Regiment, most of whom were friends of Michael Trotbas, have made the journey to Lille, to pay homage at the scenes of his gallantry, and to where he was killed whilst shooting it out with the Germans in a hand-to-hand gun fight and to the spot where the French have erected a large monument to him and his companions of the Reseau Sylvestre Farmer Group. He was killed on November 27, 1943, the 36th anniversary of his death being commemorated on Sunday, November 25, 1979.

Members of the Regiment present at the ceremony were:

Brig B. A. M. Pielow, Col A. S. J. de S. Clayton, OBE, Maj R. W. J. Smith, MBE, Maj W. H. Lovell, Messrs L. Arlington, D. Bennett who was the Regimental Standard Ensign, G. Hurlock, J. Milroy, SSgt M. D. Smith, 1 Queen's and A. Thomas. With the party was Capt R. C. Stevenson who dropped into France on 'D' Day whilst serving with the SAS, and who is an honorary member of the Mill Hill Branch of the Association.

Also attending were Mesdames Pielow, Smith, Lovell, Hurlock, Milroy, Smith (jr), Stevenson, Arlington and Norman.

The first ceremony was at the house where 'Capitaine Michel', his code name in the Resistance, fought his last fight. Here wreaths were placed on the memorial tablet on the wall, that of our Regiment being placed by Len Arlington who spent the years from Dunkirk to the Liberation in that area of France.

At this ceremony, the French Resistance representatives and the Middlesex Regiment representatives were joined by the Belgian contingent of No. 6 (WO Group) Resistance, their senior Officer being Lt Col Jacques Deweer. The Belgian Delegation were led by two young ladies wearing a most attractive national costume of their country, and marched with élan in front of their contingent.

Col Deweer is a very patriotic Belgian and friend of Britain, attending all our Regimental ceremonies in Belgium and France in addition to making a point of visiting England when we parade on Horse Guards Parade on the occasion of the Belgian National Day parade every July on the Sunday nearest to July 21.

At 11.15 am, after a religious service, the cortège headed by more than a score of standards, including our Regimental Standard and consisting of representatives of numerous Resistance Groups, Veterans Associations and the Companions of Capitaine Michel, moved towards the Monument erected to the Sylvestre Farmer Group and Michael Trotbas in Lille Sud Cemetery. The monument is a most imposing memorial and was inaugurated with great ceremony in December 1946. In the column were patriots who were with Michael Trotbas during the days he was showing so much initiative and heroism; that unassuming man Maj Arthur Malfait, who commanded the group after the death of Michael, Marcel Fertein, Commandant Julien Gerekens, and little Margaret Sobry as well as a number of the group who visited us at our Regimental Depot a few years ago.

The monument was flanked by an armed Guard of Honour from No 2 Group CRS, their Commandant, Col Robert Farret, a successor to the heroic Commandant Bayart, being with the leading rank. The steady crunch of feet of the long column over the gravel and pebbled cemetery path emphasised the solemnity of the occasion which has ceased to be a parade, and has become a pilgrimage. Passing the plot where so many victims of bombing during the war, bombs from Allied aircraft, plus the ornate sepulchres that abound in French cemeteries stressed the thoughts that this vast concourse were there to pay homage to a Diehard and his companions who had died to ensure that free people could live.

On arrival at the monument, the new headstone could be seen covered by the British Union Jack and the French Tricolour. The headstone is at the base of the memorial and it is due to the energy, and perseverance of Mr Stephen Grady, OBE, of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, who as a youth served with the Resistance, that, at last, a British memorial now stands in addition to that erected by the French.

Once the parade had taken its position around the

monument, Col Aymar Clayton and myself were invited to perform the unveiling. As the two national flags dropped, the unusual design of a Commonwealth headstone with two Regimental badges could be seen. This special concession is again due to the endeavours of Steve Grady, and we have reason to be grateful to him.

Col Clayton and Mr Grady then read an address each to the assembly, their bilingual abilities allowing them to do so perfectly without the assistance of an interpreter.

Address by Col Clayton:

'Each year on the nearest Sunday to November 27, you always gather here together around this monument to pay your humble respects and heart-felt homage to the memory of those great heroes and patriots of the Resistance who made the supreme sacrifice in the cause of freedom and who now lie in this cemetery.

It is, therefore, so very right and proper that this annual pilgrimage of remembrance should provide the occasion for the formal unveiling of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone to Capt Michael Trotobas—better known to you as Capitaine Michel.

You and we of the Middlesex Regiment, in whose ranks he learned and perfected the arts of war, appreciate his remarkable qualities to the full. He was a first rate soldier, a fearless fighter, an inspiring leader and a faithful friend. That, in any language, spells out that he was a real man in the fullest accepted sense of that word.

Maj Smith and I were indeed fortunate to have served with Michael in 2nd Bn The Middlesex Regiment in England in peacetime and in France in war.

We feel most humble yet filled with tremendous pride as we unveiled this headstone to a very gallant Officer'.

Address by Mr S. T. Grady:

'Thirty-six years ago, next Tuesday, Capt Michael Trotobas found a tragic death in the face of the enemy. Those sinister thugs of the German Gestapo probably celebrated that night at the thought that they had dealt a fatal blow to the movement Capt Michael had organised and of which he was the head.

How wrong they were, for not only the example of courage he gave us all during his mission out here and the heroic circumstances of his death in action ensured that others continued his dangerous work, but they carried the movement, the WO as we called it, to the front ranks of victory a year later.

This impetus still exists after 36 years, my dear friends, and thus, far from forgetting our heroic chief, here we are gathered again in homage to his memory.

After 36 years, the official commemoration of Capt Trotobas has been ensured by means of a standard Commission headstone which has just been unveiled by Col Clayton and Maj Smith. The standard headstone records full particulars

of rank, name, date of death and Regimental particulars. In this case, a special concession was obtained and the Regimental badges on the memorial stone are those of the Middlesex Regiment in which he served as a Regular and the Manchester Regiment in which he was commissioned upon volunteering for special operations in occupied territories.

The memorial also bears a personal inscription chosen by Capt Trotobas's father who at the age of 86 is unable to travel out to be with us today but who is kept fully informed of our devotion.

Thus, my dear friends, we are endeavouring to guarantee that this burial place will be preserved throughout history. May I express the hope that it will continue to be a shrine which people like ourselves will visit regularly not only to honour the memory of Capt Trotobas and of other patriots buried here with him, but to reaffirm the will to oppose aggression at all costs'.

As befits the memory of a soldier, the haunting notes of the Last Post and the resurgent call Reveille were sounded, excellently, by Sgt R. Smith, 1st Bn, The Queen's Regiment, our successors, who had travelled from Werl, Germany, for the ceremony.

Then the wreath laying ceremony. Brig Pielow, the British Defence Attaché in Paris, on behalf of the British Ambassador, Col Clayton on behalf of our Regiment, plus numerous representatives of Resistance Groups, headed by the Réseau Sylvestre and Compagnons du Capitaine Michel. Among those present were the Consul and vice-Consul, the latter, Mr Quinn, who has joined us for the last three years. At the end of the wreath laying, the steps at the foot of the monument were festooned with flowers and the red poppy wreaths we now use to commemorate the sacrifice of those of Britain and the Commonwealth who made the supreme sacrifice.

From the monument we marched to the British plot where our soldiers who fell in 1940 are buried. There are Diehards in this hallowed ground, 2 Lt K. D. Tarr of the 8th Bn and who was originally HAC, and 3957598 Cpl R. G. Empson of the 2nd Bn. At the Cross of Honour, found in all British Military plots, the Last Post and Reveille were sounded and Binyon's words of the exhortation extolled by Maj Dick Smith. The wreath bearer, SSgt Mervyn Smith, 1st Bn Queen's who had travelled from Werl, handed over two wreaths, the Diehards wreath to me and that of the Postal and Courier Depot, Royal Engineers, Inglis Barracks, to Maj W. H. Lovell. These, with other wreaths from our allies were then positioned on the memorial.

Maj Lovell will be remembered by readers who were serving with the 2nd Bn before the war as Cpl Lovell, one of the first instructors on the 2 pdr anti-tank gun when 'D' Coy was the A-T gun Company. During the war, he was transferred to the Sappers. Our Sapper comrades in our old Depot have joined us for the last two years at this ceremony.

'WE WILL REMEMBER'

MAJ DICK SMITH