



The Die-Hards

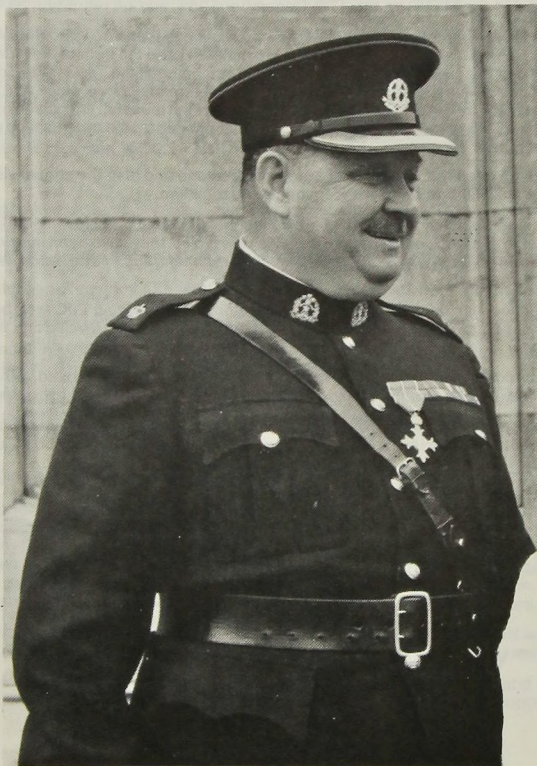
NEWSLETTER

No. 61

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PRICE 25p

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MAJOR R.W.J. SMITH, MBE

SMITH – On 5 June 1989, Major Richard Walter John(Dick) Smith, MBE, (274022), aged 84 years.

Dick enlisted into the regiment at the age of 14 years on 18 March 1919 and joined the Band of the 2nd Bn. Service on the Rhine, Cairo, Singapore, Sudan and India followed until the 12 December 1932 when the 2nd Bn reverted to Home Establishment. Colchester was the first home station and he was now a L/Sgt with the Band. Now was the time to consider his future and he left the Band, and in early 1933 was posted to the Depot as a recruit instructor where he remained until 1935, rejoining the 2nd Bn in time to move to Portsmouth and on to Gosport in 1938. In October 1938 the new rank of WOIII(PSM) was promulgated and Dick was promoted. In 1939 he proceeded with the 2nd Bn to France and was involved in the evacuation from Dunkirk. In 1942 he joined the 8th Bn and was promoted WO1(RSM) serving under the late Lt-Col M. Crawford. On 26 April 1943 he was granted an Emergency Commission and was posted to the 2/7th Bn as Quartermaster. He proceeded with this Bn to North Africa in May 1943 and returned to the UK on 15 March 1944 after being wounded. He was then taken on the Held strength of the 26 MGTC until 5 March 1945. A few days later he was promoted to Captain and posted to the 9th Australian Division in Borneo. He returned to the UK on 20 July 1946. On 12 July 1946 he joined 57 Primary Training Centre at Mill Hill as the Adjutant remaining until 7 July 1949. On 1 April 1949 he was granted a Short Service Commission and he was posted to the Royal W African Frontier Force on the Gold Coast returning to UK on 8 December 1953. During this time he was promoted to Major. The next two years was spent at the Depot and his final posting was to the Federated Malay Forces. He was awarded the M.B.E. on the 17th December 1957, and he retired on 31 March 1958.

Dick who was always interested in the history of the regiment, then accepted the task of setting up the regimental museum. He was allocated a room at the Depot Mill Hill and the birth of the museum began. When the Depot closed in 1961 Regimental Headquarters came into being at the TA Centre, Edgware, and a large room was allocated for the museum. A search for more suitable premises took place and finally the museum was moved to Bruce Castle at Tottenham. The official opening of the museum took place on 10 October 1969 and for the next 20 years Dick was the official Curator and responsible for the organisation and presentation of the regimental memorabilia.

For many years he attended the Battle of Mons celebrations and also the annual visits to Lille. He was also Chairman of the Mill Hill branch of the Regimental Association.

He was a true and dedicated Diehard who extolled the virtues and achievements of the Regiment on every possible occasion. He was nobly supported by his wife Dollie, they have been married for 55 years, and his daughter and two sons. The youngest, Mervyn, joined the regiment, and this meant that 4 generations of the family had served the Diehards.

The funeral service was held at the Hendon Crematorium and at least 200 members of the regiment attended. A bugler from 5 Queens, C/Sgt Whitton, sounded Last Post and Reveille and the Regimental Flag draped the coffin.

Our sincere condolences go to Dollie and family for the loss of a fine husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He will be sadly missed by all members of the regiment and his numerous friends.

He was in possession of the following medals: M.B.E., 1939-45 Star, Pacific Star, Defence Medal, Victory Medal 1939-45, General Service Medal(clasp Malaya), Long Service & Good Conduct Medal.

Finally, Dollie would like to thank all Diehards and friends for their kind messages of condolence, beautiful floral tributes and moral support throughout.

FORECAST OF EVENTS 1989 and 1990

- 23 September Korean Club Reunion at the Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2, at 6.30 p.m.
- 5 October 2/7th Bn (1939-45) Luncheon Club, at the Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2, at 12 noon.
- 11 October Housing Sub Committee Meeting at Cadet Officers Mess, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3, 6.45 p.m.
- 13 October Queen's Regimental Association Meeting, Duke of York's HQ Chelsea, London SW3, at 1400 hrs.
- 14 October Queen's Regiment WO's and Sgts Past and Present Dinner at Basingstow.
- 29 October Party from Regimental Association attend Royal Hospital Church Parade – assemble 10.30 a.m.
- 9 November 7th Middlesex Officers' Club Dinner, Stationer's Hall, Ave Maria Lane, London EC4.
- 11 November Ceremony at Field of Remembrance, Westminster, 10.30 a.m.
- 12 November Remembrance Day Service at Inglis Barracks, London NW7, at 10.15 a.m. followed by reunion at TA Centre, Edgware.
- 2/10th Bn (1914-18) Remembrance Service at St Nicholas' Church, Chiswick, London W4, at 3 p.m.
- 7th Bn Remembrance Service at the Memorial Chapel, St Mary with St George Parish Church, Hornsey, at 10.30 a.m.
- 1990**
- 26 March Regimental Association Executive Meeting at Conference Room, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3 at 6.15 p.m.
- 28 April 1/7th Bn (1939-45) Luncheon Club at TA Centre, Hornsey, assemble 12 noon.
- 11 May Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club Dinner – venue will be announced later.
- 12 May Albuhera Service of Remembrance, St Paul's Cathedral, commencing 2.30 p.m.
- Annual Reunion at the Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2, commencing 6.30 p.m. Annual General Meeting 7.30 p.m.
- 15 May 9th Bn Officers Annual Luncheon, The Royal Overseas League, Park Place, St James's St, London SW1, assemble 12.15 p.m.

BENEVOLENT CASES

During the period 1 January to 30 June 1989 the sum of £7358 has been spent from the charitable fund in assisting 38 members of the regiment and their families. As a result of recommendations by the Regimental Association the Army Benevolent Fund trustees have contributed the sum of £2184 to assist with the shortfall in nursing home fees for five widows and one widower, contributing £7 per week in each case for one year. This is renewable providing the regimental association recommends the application. The A.B.F. are also making a supplementary allowance of £4 per week for one year to 3 elderly members in need.

The Army Benevolent Fund by the terms of their Deed of Trust are unable to deal with applications from individuals and all applications are required to be vetted and recommended by regimental associations.

The Army Benevolent Fund hold many events during the year to raise funds and I ask all members to support this great organisation in every way possible. Remember in the end they support you.

REGIMENTAL HOMES ALBUHERA CLOSE, ENFIELD

For some time we have had a problem with the poplar trees at Albuhera Close, they have been growing for nearly 40 years and are causing damage to the gardens and our houses and adjoining properties. The Army Benevolent Fund have once again responded to our problems and have allocated £3000 to be used to alleviate the cost, which is in the region of £6000.

DONATIONS TO THE CHARITABLE FUND

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges the following donations to the regimental charitable fund:

- a. A donation of £200 from the Lilley Benevolent Trust – £100 for the Regimental Charitable Fund and £100 for the 9th Bn Museum Fund.
- b. A donation of £30 from Mr Brian Gostick (a guide at St Paul's Cathedral) and also from Capt P.J.T. Lane
- c. A donation of £25 from members of the 1/7th (1939–45) Dinner Club.
- d. Donations of £25 from Mr E.J. Collier, Mr A.J. Briggs (in memory of the late CSM Bill Williamson), Lt-Col R.T.D. Hicks (in memory of the late Major R. Bartram).
- e. Plus donations from: A.N. Anonymous (2), Mr C.D. Barratt-Pugh (in memory of his brother 6207834 Pte A.S. Pugh, a FEPOW), Mr L.C. Bennett, Major K.A. McK Biggs (in memory of the late Col J.G.E. Reid), Mr T. Bryant, Mr A.F. Burrell, Mr A.J. Chalk, Major B.K. Clayden (in memory of the late Major R.w.J. Smith), Mr L.H. Crook, Mr L.H. Faiers, Mrs R. Green, Mr A. Gumburd, Miss P. Harrison (in memory of her father 6202330 Pte E. Harrison, a FEPOW), Capt F.S. Mayman, Mr L.C. Moore, Mr R.R.A. Padley, Mrs D. Pike, Mrs D. Polley (in memory of her father the late Mr H.J. Seaman), Mr D.R. Richardson, Mr M.D. Thomas, Mr R.S.R. Turner, Mr A.E. Tuthill, Mr F.A. Webb, Major M. Wild.

FREE NEWSLETTERS

The editor wishes to thank the following members for their generosity in donating extra subscriptions so that free copies of the Diehards Newsletter can be sent to deserving Old Comrades and Widows:

A.N. Anonymous (2), Mr R. Ashton, Mr T. Barnett, Mr R. Bartle, Mr V.E. Barley, Mr J.W. Barton, Mr D. Baston, Mr E.J. Bermingham, Mr A.B. Birch, Major F.H. Blackburn, Mr A.J. Briggs, Mr C. Burgess, Mr A.F. Burrell, Mr E.B. Byatt, Major D. Carson, Lt-Col S.F. Caulfield-Kerney, Major J.C. Clark, Mr J.C. Clements, Mr W.H.D. Coxhedge, Mr T.H. Davis, Mr R.E. Dodkins, Mr M.A. Elston, Mr T. Emerson, Mr J.H. Farmborough, Mr H. Foakes, Mr J.G. Forgham, Mr C. Frenchum, Mr A.W. Gibbs, Mr R.G. Gilbertson, Mr S. Gumm, Mrs R. Hale, Capt J.P. Hamill, Major G. Hartley, Major S.L.J. Henshaw, Mr G.C. Higgins, Mr J. Horn, Mr K.M. Horton, Mr C.J. Howrihane, Mr A. Hughes, Mr G.V. Johns, Mr E. Johnson, Mr R.G. Jognson, Mr R. Kendall, Mr R.M. Lawford, Major D.V. Littlejohn, Major W.H. Lovell, Mr R.T. Marshall, Mrs M. Matthews, Mr H.J. Mellor, Col H.J.A. Moor, Mrs P. Morden, Mr J.W. Morgan, Mr D.P. Norris, Mr R.R.A. Padley, Mr L.C. Page, Mr A. Parrott, Major A.W.F. Pe, Mrs D. Pike, Mr A.A. Pilfold, Mr J.M. Pullen, Mr C.W. Quickenden, Mr W.E. Rawlinson, Capt F. Redpath, Mr D.R. Richardson, Mr W.A. Robertson, Mr A. Rose, Mr H.J. Seldon, Mr S.A. Shawyer, Capt G. Simmons, Mr R. Smith (RAOC), Mr E.J. Soden, Mr C.H. Stevens, Mr W.R. Stone, Mr E.J. Stubbings, Capt A.F.A. Sutherland, Mr K.R. This, Mr R.S.R. Turner, Mr W.J.E. Turner, Mr J. Warner, Mr J.A. Webb, Mr D.P. Weller, Mr S.A. Wells, Mr C.A. White, Major M. Wild, Mr W.J. Wright, Mr R. Yerby, Mr F.M. Young.

DONATIONS

The following donations have been made during the period 1 January to 30 June 1989:

- a. A donation of £400 to the Middlesex and North West Sector of the Army Cadet Force League.
- b. The annual subscription of £25 to the 'Friends of St Paul's Cathedral'.

ALBUHERA SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

The annual Albuhera Service of Remembrance was held at 2.30 p.m. in the Regimental Chapel of St Paul's Cathedral.

We were once again honoured by the presence of The Very Reverend T.E. Evans, M.A., The Dean of St Paul's Cathedral, Cannon Peter Ball, The Reverend Patrick Tuft, M.A. Vicar of St Nicholas and St Mary Magdalene, Chiswick (honorary Chaplain to the 2/10th Bn 1914-18) and our own Rev W.E.B. Jones, M.A. Col A.M. Man read The Lesson. The Rev Patrick Tuft preached the Sermon and many complimentary remarks were received. The Service was exceptionally well attended and this was the largest congregation we have had for some years. This year the hymns had not been previously used and I am sure this kept the attention of the congregation. The flowers in regimental colours were exceptionally well presented and gave that personal touch to the Service. The sound system seemed adequate for the majority but a few members were doubtful. The acoustics in St Paul's are difficult to overcome. From the remarks I received from our members I was satisfied that they all enjoyed the occasion and will come again next year.

As usual our three stalwarts paraded at the entrance to the Cathedral gave pleasure and colour to our members and the public visiting St Paul's. Thank you Les Plumb, Bob Yerby and Les Loomes. The photographs of these three handsome Diehards must now adorn the albums of tourists all over the world. If they only knew!

OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER

The annual dinner was held at the Naval and Military Club (In and Out), 94 Piccadilly, London WC2, on Friday 12 May. Lt-Col T.W. Chattey presided and 67 members with wives and relatives attended. Major C. Bellingham, The Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) was the principal guest. The following attended:

Official Guests:- Major and Mrs Colin Bellingham, The Rev and Mrs W.E.B. Jones, Mrs A. Bennett, Miss Jean Bower, Mrs A. Hutchings, Mrs S. Charrington, Mrs D. Pike, Mrs F. Jennings and grand daughter Miss Waud, Mrs C. Pollard.

Members and Private Guests:- Lt-Col and Mrs T.W. Chattey, Brig and Mrs D.B. Rendell, Brig B.H. Marciandi, Col I.R. Burrows and Miss B. Colley, Col and Mrs R.M. Cain, Col and Mrs A.S.J. de S. Clayton, Col and Mrs R.H. Graham, Col A.M. Man, Col H.J.A. Moore, Lt-Col and Mrs B.A. Carlston, Lt-Col and Mrs C.N. Clayden with guests The Rev and Mrs Roland Desch, Lt-Col and Mrs R.D. Fisher, Lt-Col and Mrs J.M. Hewson, Capt and Mrs K.E. Beale, Capt and Mrs M.J.S. Doran, Major M.P.D. Eastap, Major and Mrs H.J. Evans, Capt R.M. Fox, Major and Mrs F.K. Gladden, Capt D.A. Hawkins, Major and Mrs S.L.J. Henshaw, Capt and Mrs P.J.T. Lane with guests Major and Mrs R. Ellis, Major and Mrs C.L. Lawrence, Major I.M.E. Lloyd, Major and Mrs A.E. McManus, Major and Mrs R.E.B. Morris, Major and Mrs A.E.F. Waldron, Major R. Ford, Major and Mrs D.M. Falcke and Lt J.P.A. Day.

Apologies were received from: Maj Gen Sir John Willoughby, Maj Gen C.M.M. Man, Brig G. Lerwill, Major P.D.H. Marshall, Major H.E. Couch, Major W.G.A. Crumley, Major P.D.J. Clarke and Major V. Williams.

Brig B.A.M. Pielow telephoned on the morning of the Dinner from Portugal to say 'Best wishes for a successful dinner – visiting Albuhera tomorrow'.

The venue of the Dinner in 1990 is still to be arranged.

ANNUAL REUNION

The annual reunion was held at the Victory Services Club, in the Carisbrooke Hall, on Saturday 13 May, commencing at 6.30 p.m. with the bar closing at midnight.

This was the best reunion ever and the attendance was the highest we have had for some years – the band played the right music and the buffet provided was excellent. The cost was £6 per head and the Victory Club must be congratulated on the way the hall was laid out and the excellent service provided. The Annual General Meeting is a necessary task and my thanks to those who so willingly attend and ease my burden. It is a great pity that I cannot get a separate room but it is not possible to do so. My only solution is to hold it at 6.45 p.m. before the main body enter the building but one must give everyone the chance to attend. I will ponder on this problem.

For the first time I was able to organise a pre-war 1st Bn FEPOW table and the following attended – Alf Burrell, Frank Wookey, Ted Collier, Jack Milroy, Jimmy James, Harry Foakes, Bert Mellor, Reg Smith, Alf Ellis and myself. John Soden, Ian Abercrombie and Ron Smith (RAOC), Johnny Bull were unable to make the reunion but attended the St Paul's Service. The following officers attended and this is most encouraging. Lt-Col Tom Chattey, our President, Col Richard Graham (still serving and now a Deputy Colonel of The Queen's Regiment), Col Andrew Man, Lt-Col John Hewson, Lt-Col Andrew Cowing, Majors Ian Lloyd, Chris Lawrence, Ron Morris, Tony McManus, Pat Donovan, Jimmy Wild, David Falcke, Capts Tom McMillan, Ken Beale and Roy Scott. Maj Gen Sir John Willoughby sent his apologies. Attending for the first time were Bill Males and family and now I have forgotten who the others were – sorry.

Many members of the Regimental Association are members of the Victory Club and it is most important that you book your room early – I suggest you do so in February, you can always cancel if necessary. The reunion next year is on Saturday 12 May. Our reunion clashes with the Cavalry weekend so do make the effort and get in first. We cannot have these cavalymen beating us to the punch.

My apologies to those whom I have not mentioned but your turn will come. My thanks to Les Loomes who is now booked as doorman for the next 20 years. Sadly Mrs Phyllis Brooks who handled the job for 41 years died.

Brig Tony Pielow, our Chairman, was unable to be present – he was on duty with the Automobile Association in Portugal and on Albuhera Day took the opportunity to visit Albuhera. He assures me he will be present next year.

THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT



REGIMENTAL PERSONALITIES

On 1st January, Major General Mike Reynolds CB took over as Colonel of the Regiment from Brigadier Charles Millman OBE. On the same date one of our four Deputy Colonels of the Regiment, Colonel John Holman CBE, handed over his Deputy Colonelcy to Colonel Richard Graham MBE, a former Die-Hard who is currently Commandant of the Junior Division of the Staff College at Warminster. Colonel John Holman has been selected as next Commander of 2nd Infantry Brigade and Dover/Shorncliffe Garrison and takes up his appointment in the rank of brigadier in October. Colonel Paddy Panton OBE, another Queensman, will succeed him as Colonel The Queen's Division at Bassingbourn.

THE DANISH CONNECTION

Several events are reminding us that 1989 is the 300th Anniversary of the Regiment's earliest links with the Royal House of Denmark. Last November, Colonel Jorgensen of our affiliated regiment, the Royal Danish Lifeguards, visited Canterbury and Tidworth and presented the Regiment with a fine statuette of a Danish Lifeguard which had previously belonged to Prince Georg of Denmark, Honorary Colonel of our 5th (Volunteer) Battalion until his death in 1986. Then, on 5th December there was the great day when HM Queen Margrethe, our Allied Colonel in Chief, honoured our 1st Battalion with a visit to them in Tidworth, only a few months after she had met the battalion on exercise in her own country. In addition, this year and next, our Regimental free-fall display team 'The Flying Dragons' is appropriately sponsored by Danepak. Looking ahead, it is hoped that the Colonel of the Regiment will be able to call on Queen Margrethe later this year and plans are being made for the Albuhera Band to Beat Retreat before Her Majesty and play at the Aarhus Festival, having travelled from Minden to Denmark for these important engagements.

NETHERLANDS DECORATIONS

Brigadier Charles Millman OBE and Colonel John Francis, our Regimental Secretary, were both presented with Grand Crosses of Honour in the Crown Order of the Netherlands by HRH Princess Juliana, our other Allied Colonel in Chief, during their visit with Major General Mike Reynolds CB to Her Royal Highness in Holland on 15th December.

REMEMBRANCE DAY IN LONDON

On Remembrance Day last November Brigadier Charles Millman OBE headed a Regimental contingent at the Cenotaph ceremony in Whitehall. This was the first time that the present Regiment has been represented there and it is planned that this should become an annual event for all Queensmen living in or close to London.

NEWS FROM THE REGULAR BATTALIONS

Our 1st Battalion had only just narrowly missed victory in the Army UK Grade 2 Boxing Finals at the end of January before they left Tidworth for four weeks training in California. When they returned in early March, all ranks voted the exercise one of the best ever in every respect, from military training and overseas experience, right through to the adventurous training phase at the end. Meanwhile the 2nd Battalion had made its name in Germany with three notable successes. Their teams won the Infantry Cup at the Biathlon Meeting (and came 12th in the National and Army Championships), won the BAOR Squash Cup and won the BAOR Major Unit Small Bore Shooting Cup. The 3rd Battalion has also been hitting the headlines having won the Northern Ireland Inter-Unit Football, and the Northern Ireland Fitness Competition and been runners up in the Northern Ireland Hockey and Boxing Competitions.

REGIMENT ON TV

The December Newsletter gave details of our 1st Battalion team which is participating in Exercise Combat 89. It is hoped that they will be seen on the ITV programmes starting in mid May. The Regiment will also be featured later in the year in a BBC TV series entitled 'Army Lives'. Filming has taken place in several of our battalions, in Regimental Headquarters and of family experiences. It is hoped that this programme will give a good overall picture of life in the Army in the late 1980s.

FREEDOM CEREMONIES

On 13th May a contingent from the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion, led by the Kohima Band, exercised the Regiment's Freedom of Tonbridge. On 24th June, a 1st Battalion contingent with the Quebec Band on parade will be present when the Colonel of the Regiment accepts, on behalf of all Queensmen, the Freedom of Crowborough. This will be the 20th Civic Honour held by the Regiment. The earliest of these, the 'Privilege' of marching through the City of London dates back to 1672 and it is hoped that the Regiment will be able to exercise this 'Privilege' in the not too distant future.

2/10th BN THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DCO) OCA, 1914-18

The 61st annual luncheon of the 2/10th Bn Old Comrades Association was held at the Victory Services Club, London W2, on Saturday 20 May, to commemorate the 74th anniversary of the Landings on the Gallipoli Peninsula in April and August 1915. Mr A.D. Scudamore, OBE, presided, a veteran of this campaign. Col A.S.J. de S. Clayton, OBE, was the principal guest; Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, the Rev Patrick Tuft, MA, (Vicar of Chiswick), Capt David Hawkins and many 'Friends of the 2/10th' attended. We were delighted to have with us Mr Albert Coombes and Mrs Coombes, who had travelled 6,000 miles from British Columbia to be with us on this occasion; a veteran of Gallipoli, this was our first meeting for 70 years, surely and all time record! The Spirit of the 2/10th' is obviously still very much alive!

Our customary Remembrance Service will be held at St Nicholas' Church, Chiswick, at 3pm on Sunday 12 November and all members and 'Friends' will be most welcome.

A.D.S.

1/7th BN (1939-45) DINNER CLUB

The 27th Annual Reunion and Luncheon was held at the T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, on Saturday 29 April. Major Alan Carter was in the Chair. Our guests were Lt-Col David Simpson, Major Frank Waldron, and Major K.I.a. Carter, who commands B(Albuhera) Company 8th (V) Bn The Queens Regiment. It was good to see Col Andrew Man, Lt-Col G.C.D. Scott-Lowe, Major Dick Bartram, Capt J. Dare, Capt J.H. Clark, Major L.F. Baker and Capt P.E. Edwards. Our numbers show an increase to 63 this year and we welcomed some new honorary members, these were the last wearers of our capbadge. For this we are indebted to Major D. Harwood who circulated them on our behalf. They all expressed their pleasure in coming and look forward to next year. Looking round the table that the caterers had made look a real picture, it was hard to realise that events that were being relived and discussed happened almost 50 years ago! It must be the Diehard spirit that lives on to sustain us. We did miss some old faces absent through ill health. We wish them a speedy recovery. I must confess that in my sitrep I did include some irreverent stories but I think they went down well. I still have my appointment. See you all next year.

Tony White

9th BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DCO) T.A.

Officers Annual Reunion Luncheon

The fourth annual luncheon took place on Tuesday 9 May, 1989 at the Royal Overseas League, SW1, which was attended by 10 Officers and one guest. Col. H.H.W. Gray was in the Chair and the guest was Major A.E.F. Waldron.

The Officers who attended were: D.A. Bond, P.J. Cundy, J.R. Doyle, D.E. Dowlen, H.W.W. Gray, P.W.S. Hodge, E. Howkins, B.P. Hughes, A.M.H. Jones, D.V. Littlejohn.

The following Officers being unable to attend sent their apologies and best wishes to all for a successful occasion: B.T. Davis, J.T. Dear, A.G.B. Drabble, H.G. Hansen, H.J. Hesketh, W.D. Hiddleston, R. Hughes, W. MacGregor, E.C.M. Palmer, K.O. Sayers, J.E. Slack, D.C. Tomlins, F.H. Tyler, N.B. Wallis, R. Wheatley.

Col. Gray proposed a loyal toast and a short informal speech was made by D.E. Dowlen, the Lunch Secretary, during which he read the text of a loyal message which had been sent to Her Majesty the Queen, Her Majesty's reply.

He advised with regret, the passing of Brian MacFadden and Bill Grayburn, and proposed a toast to 'Absent Friends' to which all raised their glasses.

He said that it had again been possible to provide free pre lunch drinks - thanks to the generosity of a number of officers who being unable to attend had sent a subscription as well as several attenders who had sent extra money. Also, the Regimental subsidy had been very helpful.

The attendance this year was the lowest to date and it is obvious that with the passing of time the numbers physically able to attend are greatly reduced. It is important in future that as many of those physically able to come to the lunch make a special effort.

The enquiry into the possibility of an occasional dinner had resulted in clarification that the demand for such an event was minimal, and the subject had therefore been dropped.

Col. Gray thanked D.E. Dowlen for making all the arrangements and this vote was supported by all concerned.

The date for next years lunch has been fixed for Tuesday 15 May, 1990, and everybody is asked to make a special note of this date as there will be no further reminder until the usual notice is sent out next Spring.

D.E.D.

THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) ASSOCIATION

The Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers), London Branch, held their annual dinner on Friday 2 June, at the Cavalry and Guards Club, London W1.

Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, OBE, and Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, attended.

ALBUHERA DAY

The Mill Hill Branch held their usual Albuhera ceremony at the Regimental Memorial, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, on Tuesday 16 May. Former WO2 R(Bob) Cubitt laid the regimental wreath and Lt-Col F.H. Lee laid the R.E. Postal and Courier wreath. Mr Les Loomes carried the regimental standard. 24 members attended. After the parade the Mill Hill branch members were invited to the Officers Mess and were given drinks and a buffet lunch.

The Regimental Flag flew above the Mess and also over Enfield Town Hall.

MILL HILL BRANCH

With the very sad demise of Major Dick Smith the Mill Hill Branch will have to close down. As you all know the branch was run without a committee, Dick being Chairman and Treasurer. Mr Les Plumb who was the

Secretary is no longer willing to carry on. For the last two years attendance at the monthly gatherings has been decreasing monthly.

All members of the branch will be placed on the Central Branch register and will receive the Diehards Newsletter twice a year and information about functions direct. Subscriptions for 1990 will be payable to the Regimental Association and should be sent to myself at Canterbury. My address is on the front of the newsletter. The funds of the Mill Hill Branch will be held in the Regimental Association account separately pending consideration by the Regimental Association Executive Committee at their annual meeting in March 1990.

Our very sincere thanks go to Les Plumb for all his work with the Mill Hill branch which is very much appreciated.

51st (HIGHLAND) DIVISION

The 83rd London reunion dinner of the 51st(Highland) Division Dinner Club, held at the Army and Navy Club on Friday 28 April was attended on behalf of the 1/7th Bn by: Col A.M. Man, Major A.B. Carter, Capt J. Dare, Capt H.S. Abbott. Also present for the first time were - Col B.R. Wood, Major G. Kent and Lt-Col E.P. Shanks, of The Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment.

KOREAN CLUB

On Saturday, 11 March, sixteen members of the Korean Club met their President, Col Andrew Man, DSO, OBE, at the National Army Museum, Chelsea to view the Exhibition of the Korean War.

The day started with three Club members meeting Col Man at St Paul's Cathedral where he arrived with a coach party from the West Wales Branch of the BKVA, of whom he is also President. They had travelled to St Paul's to pay their respects at the Korean War Memorial which is situated in the Crypt. The Cathedral authorities had kindly closed the Crypt to the general public to allow the party to pay their own personal respects. The Exhortation was said by the Secretary of the West Wales Branch, followed by Col Man laying the wreath. A wreath was also laid by Mr Tony Eagles on behalf of the South London Branch of the BKVA.

The three of us Club members who travelled to St Paul's, plus my wife, then travelled in the coach to the National Army Museum where we were met by a further thirteen members of the Korean Club. Both groups merged on a tour of the exhibition. Although there were several large blown-up photographs which had been reproduced from our Club photographs, the lack of exhibits regarding 27 Brigade were much in evidence by their absence.

Following the tour of the Museum a group of our members accompanied by Col Man and several members of the Welsh party retired to a local hostelry which resulted in a very friendly occasion!

The arrangements we made as a Club were done rather hastily but the response from those members who attended was very commendable. Of the twenty members I contacted only four were unable to attend. I felt it showed a great deal of admiration for their ex-Commanding Officer. I know the visitors from Wales were very impressed with the turn-out.

J.A.L.

SAN WAI RE-VISITED

Whilst on holiday in Hong Kong in January 1989, I took the opportunity of visiting San Wai. The main aim of the exercise was to climb Lamb Hill at the back of our former camp to inspect the Regimental badge.

In 1952 - A coy 1MX was responsible for making the badge. The photograph shows the badge under construction. Today 37 years on, it is in very good order and exactly as we left it. The hill however seemed steeper than when I used to shin up and down it as a 21 year old!

Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories are hardly recognisable. The colony is now covered by literally thousands of skyscraper blocks of flats and business buildings. A paddy field is hard to find and one could travel all day without seeing a Hakka lady in traditional black dress and round straw hat with black fringes.

Rickshaws and bicycle taxis belong to a bygone age and even the aroma is less pungent.

Fanling resembles a mini New York but the settlement nearest to San Wai camp, Luen Wo is still more or less as we knew it. The market with all its memorable smells is still held daily. The pub-restaurant known as the "Better Ole" has relocated from the ultra modern Fanling station to Luen Wo.

As I stood by our badge looking down on San Wai Camp memories, particularly of people, came flooding back. The distant parade ground is the only recognisable feature the remainder of the camp having been completely rebuilt. However nothing could detract from what was a nostalgic visit.

K.E. Beale



MIDDLESEX REGIMENT GUILDHALL MUSEUM

A permanent display of Regimental memorabilia has now been installed in the entrance hall of the Middlesex Guildhall in Parliament Square, Westminster. This has come about as the result of the initiative Major General Sir John Willoughby with the senior staff of the Lord Chancellor's Office who have now taken over the Middlesex Guildhall and converted the interior into eight Courts with judges chambers, barristers consulting rooms etc., and restaurant facilities for the public.

The South Eastern Circuit of the Lord Chancellor's Department which administers the Guildhall, have had a most excellent showcase constructed in stained mahogany wood framework with special security glass and diffused internal lighting which is next to the existing Middlesex war memorial. The regimental crest has been incorporated in the wooden frame above the main show cabinet.

The items placed on show include the Duke of Cambridge in his full dress Field Marshal's uniform and there are numerous smaller items from our regimental museum collection which all contribute to a most attractive and impressive display commemorating the history and preserving the memory of our famous regiment.

The Guildhall is open to the public on five days a week and members are thoroughly recommended to view this regimental display which they will find of the greatest interest.

PERSONAL JOTTINGS

Received a nice letter from former Bdsn David Bolam (6201280) who is in bad health and not mobile. Our sincere best wishes to him and his family during a very trying period.

Former Cpl Rodger Bourne (23967921), 4 Queens and 2 Queens 1963-70, who has resided in San Antonio, Texas, for some years informs me that he will be in UK during July and he is looking forward to the Queens Regiment reunion at Bassingbourn.

Lt-Col B.A. Carlston having completed his tour on the staff at the R.M.A. Sandhurst is now working at the Ministry of Defence, Northumberland House, London WC2. This posting will allow him to continue as a rugby referee.

Major Donald Carson, now Head of Wind (makes the mind bogle) at Dulwich College informs me that Ralph Cowan (son of Major and Jill Cowan) is now a Master at Dulwich College. Ralph is a fine cricketer and obtained a Blue. Age has taken its toll on Donald - he now plays golf and umpires at hockey - I know the feeling.

A warm welcome to Capt J.H. Clark, MC, 1/7th Bn, who has been traced and attended the 1/7th Bn Luncheon and also joined the Officers' Club and the Regimental Association.

Major W.G.A.(Gordon) Crumley, recently retired and is taking up a RO2 appointment at Western District, Shrewsbury. Our very best wishes to Margaret, Gordon and family.

Our very sincere congratulations to Capt Bill(Willie) and Dorothy Fletcher who will be celebrating their Diamond Wedding anniversary on Thursday 29 June. He sends his good wishes to all Diehards and asked me to mention Col Desmond Ellis. Willie now in his 90th year, was Quartermaster of the 2/8th(1st Bn) from 1939 to 1945. His other rank service commenced in June 1918 and lasted until 1939 - all with the 2nd Bn. He was RQMS from 1929 to 1939. The Regimental Association sent a bouquet and a suitable message for this happy occasion.

Former Private T.G. Forester (6207314), who served with the 1/7th Bn (QM's office) 1939-45, informs me that he has emigrated to Australia and lives at East Cannington, Perth.

Capt J.P. Hamill has obtained a NRPS Quartermaster Post with HQ 144 Field Ambulance RAMC(V) and is stationed at the Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea.

It was very nice to receive a letter from Jeep Hanshaw (6203241) who tells me that he has difficulty in getting around as the old legs are not what they used to be.

Miss Pamela Harrison, the daughter of 6202330 Private Edward Harrison who died in Kobe House on 28 October 1942, recently went on a Royal British Legion and Government sponsored War Graves Pilgrimage to Hong Kong and Japan, 11 to 19 March 1989. She was able to visit her father's grave in the Yokohama British Commonwealth War Cemetery and very kindly laid a poppy cross on behalf of the Regimental Association on each of the 59 graves of Diehards in this cemetery. Pamela also photographed each gravestone and I now have copies which will be placed in the Museum. She also visited Sai Wan Bay Cemetery, Hong Kong. Pamela attended the annual reunion and showed me the portfolio she had compiled of her visit. The album was very well put together and is something she will treasure for the rest of her life. Well done, we are proud of you.

Our sincere congratulations to Lt-Col R.E.(Roger) Lowans, TD, on the award of the O.B.E. He recently completed his tour as Commanding Officer 6/7th(V) Bn The Queen's Regiment and previously commanded B(Albuhera) Company at Edgware.

Mrs Peggie Morden sent me a newspaper article from Jersey about the background of Captain Alastair McReady-Diarmid, who won the Victoria Cross whilst serving with our 17th Battalion. At school he was simply known as 'Drew'. This very interesting article will be placed in the archives of the museum.

I was very pleased to hear from C/Sgt J.(Molly) Morgan (6201818). He was hoping to be able to attend the reunion this year but his wife is not too well and he could not make it. He assures me he will try again in 1990.

Ex Cpl G.J.(George) Newell (5247), now 93 years of age who served with the 2nd Bn 1914-19, informs me that a party of 50 friends attended his birthday celebrations. Despite his age he is a freelance physiotherapist handling 7 cases a week on a purely voluntary basis, and has been doing so for some 60 years. He is also a very active angler who is president of the Hanwell Prince of Wales Fishing Club plus the cricket and football clubs. He is a member of the Hounslow Branch.

Mr D.S. O'Brien informs me that he is retiring from his post as Head of the Mathematics Department at the Royal Hospital School, Ipswich, a Ministry of Defence Establishment. Dennis served with the 2nd Bn 1947-49.

Our congratulations to Ethel and Ralph Otto, Signal Section 2/8th(1st Bn) on celebrating 45 years of wedded bliss on 5 February 1989. Ralph told me that for the occasion he borrowed from Cpl Smith a set of 'Blues' and they have proved to be a lucky charm as far as his marriage was concerned. Can anyone produce the address of Cpl Smith. Ralph also wonders if anyone can remember the show 'Spotlight on Khaki' produced by the Bn when stationed at Portrush, Northern Ireland.

Former P.O.W's who were in Kobe House will be sad to learn that our Naval doctor, Captain John Page, died recently aged 81. His patients regarded 'Pagey' as both a surgeon and a Saint. He suffered innumerable beatings from his Japanese guards for refusing to agree that sick prisoners were fit for work. His courage, resourcefulness and devotion to those in his care eventually became famous in the camps, where many owed their lives to him.

Our best wishes to Frank Penman residing at 3 Albuhera Close, Enfield, for a speedy recovery after a nasty spell in the local hospital.

Mr Arthur Pretlove (6199003) who served with the 1/7th Bn tells me his family were 13 strong, 9 boys and 4 girls. All the boys with the exception of Harry who was a coalman, served in the forces. 4 boys were Diehards. Can any regimental family surpass this record?

I recently received a letter from Capt Jim Ramsbottom who landed on D Day with the 2nd Bn. He recently visited Caen and Collerville.

Major B. St G.A. Reed has been elected Vice President of the Royal Warrant Holders Association for 1989.

Mr Reg Weedon, now 93 years of age, our only Old Contemptible, who served with the 2nd and 3rd Bns of the regiment as a Cpl, recently returned from a Battlefield Tour of the 1914-18 areas. The tour was organised by the Littlehampton Town Council for 20 veterans of World War 1. I have arranged to show Reg round our Regimental Chapel in St Paul's Cathedral on 4 July.

Our very best wishes to Major General Sir John Willoughby for a speedy recovery from his recent operation. He is at present convalescent at Osborne House, Isle of Wight.

The following have joined the regimental association:

Sgt P.H. Adams (6205497). Served from 1940 to 1959. C, S' HQ Coys, 2nd Bn and 1st Bn Austria and Cyprus - MT Sgt.

Private D.F. Alder, BEM(6216720). Served 1941 to 1946. Commenced his service in 1942 with A Company 70th(Y.S.) Bn and then drafted to the Royal Signals.

Private C.J.M. Algar (6207707). Served B, C & HQ Coys 1/7th Bn 1939-45.

Private J.A. Bastow (6216630). Served 70th(Y.S.) Bn 1942. Transferred to Royal Signals and 1 Parachute Brigade until 1946.

Private E. Boden (6201455). Served 2nd Bn 1934-35, 1st Bn 1935-46. FEPOW Shinagawa Camp. Signaller in HQ Company under Capt A.W.F. Peal.

Cpl A.B.S. Broadbent (49395), 90 years. Served 1915 with 13 Royal Sussex Regiment and from 1916 to 1919 with A Company 25th Bn Middlesex Regt.

Private T(Tom) Bryant (23433556). Served as a National Serviceman from 1957-59 with A, B, D & HQ Companies 1st Bn. On completion of his service he joined H.M. Diplomatic Service and is at present Deputy British High Commissioner, Kenya. His grandfather served with our regiment in 1918 and his uncle was Private W. Bryant (6208393) who served with the 1st Bn in Hong Kong and lost his life when the Lisbon Maru was torpedoed on 2 October 1942. Suddenly I placed him - I unearthed a photograph and realised he was a member on my HQ2 hockey team in 1959 when we won the competition.

Major G.C. Dawson has recently been on a cruise with the P & O ship, Sea Princess and will be calling at Hong Kong, Shanghai, Nagasaki, Pusan, Darien, Tiensen and Peking.

WO2(CSM) A.F. Burrell (6199276). Served from 1929 to 1952, 1st Bn. Was a FEPOW and held in Sakurajima Camp, Osaka.

Private O.J. Collins (14671080). Served with 4 Cheshires 1943-44, 2/8th(1st Bn) 1944-46, Royal Signals 1946-47.

Cpl A.A. Desborough (6201199). Served from 1933 to 1946. 7th Bn and D Company 1/7th Bn. In the 1930's he was a very good Middle Weight boxer who represented the 7th Bn in Bn and Brigade competitions.

Private A.H.M. Egleton (23678284). Served with 7 Mx(TA) 1958 and 1964-67 with 5 Queens.

L/Sergeant A.J.(Snowy) Elliott (6203546). Served with B Company 2nd Bn 1937-45 and with B Company 1st Bn 1945-46. He emigrated in 1970 and now resides at Oshawa, Ontario, Canada. His brother-in-law, T.W. Roberts (6204426) is also a Diehard.

L/Cpl J. Doran (6215906). Served with 70th(Y.S.)Bn 1941-42. Transferred Royal Signals until 1946. Later served with the T.A. and reached the rank of WO2.

L/Cpl G.A. Fickling (6209784). Served from 1939-44, with 6 Platoon, A Company 1/7th Bn. He was a Blacksmith by trade and was transferred to Class W(T) TA Reserve on 16 June 1944 to continue with his trade.

Private R.F. Hill (6852427). Served from 1940-46. 1/8th and 8th Bn 15 Platoon Mortars D Company. He is anxious to hear from his old comrades. Give him a call on 0304-368356.

Private B.V. Kellerman (6202446). Served 1935 to 1938 with B Company 8th Bn, Depot Mill Hill and B Company 2nd Bn. Embodied 1939 and served with S.L.I., Airborne Forces, 7th Para Regiment and 8th D.L.I.

Private F.J. Legge (2037545). Served A Company 1/7th Bn 1939-44. He will be very pleased to hear from his old comrades. Ring him on 01-429-2896. He lives at Pinner, Mx.

Private C.G. Madge (5615815). Served Devonshire Regiment 1928-39. Embodied in 1939 and was a Sgt with 1/7th Bn at Dunkirk and wounded. Service with the 2nd Bn followed and then posting to the 1st Bn in 1941. He became a FEPOW and was held in No. 3 Camp Tokyo.

Cpl J.M. McKenzie (23638980). Served 1959-61, National Service, Mortar Platoon, S Company 1st Bn. Now Assistant Manager, Lloyds Bank, West Smithfield Branch.

WO2(CSM) J.C. Martin, MM, (22309544). Served with 1st Bn, Queens and Royal Engineers 1950 to 1971. Earlier this year suffered a severe stroke but is making a recovery.

Cpl B.J. Moore (23581642). Served with A Company 1st Bn NS 1958-60.

Sgt L.G.V. Miller (2685). He served with the 12th Bn and A Company 1914-19, joining the Bn when it was formed at Mill Hill in 1914. He is now 92 years of age. He was serving when Private Ryder and Edwards were awarded the Victoria Cross.

Sgt W.A. Phipps (6200505). Served 1932-39 and then 1939-46, HQ and A Companies 2nd Bn. His father was a regular soldier with our 4th Bn in WW1.

Private J.T. Read (23480904). Served with B Company 1st Bn 1956-59. He was a member of the Bn Boxing team and driver to Major John Doyle and the late Lt-Col Roy Hutchings.

Cpl R.G. Rogers (6209725). Served with A and B Companies 1/7th Bn 1939-46.

Captain G.A.(George) Simmons (496453). Served from 1948 to 1980, D and C Companies 1st Bn, Depot, HQ & B Companies 1 Queens. He was commissioned 30 July 1973. He lives at Sutton Valence, near Maidstone, Kent. I have sold him a blazer badge, not easy and I have put out some snares, so it will not be long before he is in the net and attending the annual reunion.

Former Sgt Peter Stewart recently received his 'Rooty' gong (LS & GC Medal) 10 years after leaving the service. He enquired about the medal some 3 years ago. The wheels of officialdom move slowly.

Private C.F. Stone (6459574) would be very interested to hear from anyone who served with 13 Platoon, D Company, 1/7th Bn in North Africa and Sicily. Give him a bell on Royston 243718.

Sgt W.R. Stone (6201255). Served 1933-46. 2nd Bn 1933-36 and 1st Bn 1936-46. FEPOW Shamshuipo Camp Hong Kong. He was badly wounded in the legs. On leaving the service he served for 28 years with the Corps of Commissionaires retiring with the rank of Sergeant Major.

Cpl M.D. Thomas (6211932). Served 1940 to 1946, A Company 2nd Bn 1940-45, 1/7th Bn 1945-46. Was MT Tech Cpl.

Private E.R. Venison (14483704). Served 1st Bn 1944-48.

Private J. Whittingham (14418659). Served A Company 2/8th(1st Bn) 1944-45 and B Company 2nd Bn 1945-47.

Cpl V.J. Williams (23965724). Served 1963-1970 with 1st Bn in Northern Ireland, Guyana, Gibraltar and Warminster.

Private J.S. Wright (22641647). Served 1952-55, S Company 1st Bn.

WO2 F.M. Young (6215654). Served 70th(YS) Bn 1941-42. Posted to Royal Signals until 1945. Re-enlisted as PSI with T.A. - last posting Recruiting Warrant Officer at Canterbury until medically retired 1973.

OBITUARY

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

BARTRAM - On 10 June 1989, Major Richard(Dick) Bartram, TD, aged 82 years. Dick was granted a T.A. Commission with the 7th Bn on 28 November 1928, serving with C Company at Hornsey. When the 7th Bn was converted to two Bns in 1939 Dick joined 1/7th Bn. He was with the Bn at Dunkirk and in 1942, just prior to Alamein, was transferred to REME and eventually commanded No. 1 Tyre Workshops at Tel-Et-Kabir Egypt. He regularly attended the 1/7th(1939-45) Dinner Club functions and in 1988 was Chairman. In civilian life he was with the Dunlop Tyre Retreading Department. Dick was an excellent shot and recently presented to the museum his shooting medals. He was champion shot of

1/7th from 1931 to 1935. He was also a life long supporter of the Old Albanian Club. Dick was a staunch Diehard and very proud of his service with the 1/7th Bn. Lt-Col Derek Scott-Lowe, Lt-Col J.D. Gunnell, Major Allan Carter and Mr Stan Lewis attended the funeral. The Regimental Flag draped the coffin.

BENNETT – On 28 January 1989, Major Frederic John Bennett, aged 73 years.

Major Bill Bennett died at his home in Cumbria. The origin of this nick-name is not known, but he was always a sociable and out-going person with a bright and cheerful personality. After leaving school, Bill started a career in the City but sensing that war was in the offing, he joined up in the ranks of the 1/7th Middlesex Regiment, TA at Highgate in 1937. He quickly gained a commission and following mobilisation of the Bn at Salamanca Barracks in Colchester, he crossed to France with the 1/7th in January 1940. He remained with the Bn throughout the early days of the war in France and Belgium until the Bn was evacuated through Dunkirk. He was then posted to the Royal Fusiliers and, apart from rejoining the 1/7th for a short period in North Africa, he served with that regiment for the remainder of the war. He suffered a head wound in action whilst in North Africa but made an excellent recovery. In 1946 Bill applied for and was granted a regular commission in the Middlesex Regiment, and the same year he attended the Staff College. After a spell at regimental duty, during which he became a temporary Major, he took up a staff appointment with the Military Secretary branch at GHQ, Middle East Land Forces in Egypt. He returned to the UK in 1951 and then spent the next two years with the Home Counties Brigade Depot at Canterbury. In 1954 Bill was posted to the 1st Middlesex and joined the Bn in Austria as a Company Commander. He remained with the Bn until the move to Cyprus when he became a DAAG on the staff of HQ Cyprus District. He came back to the UK again in 1958 to take up his last appointment as DAA & QMGat HQ Cheshire Area before retiring from the Army in December 1960. Taking up civilian life, Bill then obtained an administrative appointment with Border Television in Carlisle where he remained for several years, living in the attractive village of Aglionby where he finally retired. Bill was always interested in cars, particularly quality cars, and possibly his greatest delight was making an annual motor trip across Europe to Greece to visit relations of his charming wife Ana, whom he married in 1951. Bill was a man of many qualities and perhaps the most memorable was his happy and generous nature. There was always a warm welcome for his many friends who visited him at his home at Aglionby. At all times he was good company, and even in his latter years when he struggled with a persistent heart condition, he retained his good humoured and optimistic outlook.

BRIDGE – On 9 June 1988, Private Kenneth Allan Bridge (6202378), aged 67 years.

He enlisted on 27 August 1935 as a boy soldier and joined the Band of the 1st Bn in Hong Kong during 1937. He was taken POW on Christmas Day 1941 and later moved to Japan after surviving the sinking of the Lisbon Maru. On return to UK in late 1945 he was discharged as medically unfit. For the past 9 years he has been in the British Home and Hospital for Incurables.

BROOKS – On 14 February 1989, Mrs Phyllis Brooks.

Phyllis Brooks commenced working for the Regimental Association in 1947 and carried on until retiring in 1963. She continued to assist with the administration of the reunion and helped right up to 1988. Mrs Brooks was known to the majority of Diehards and her passing was a sad thing for the regiment.

BROWN – On 13 June 1989, Sgt A.T. Brown (Archie), TF/1367, 265317 and 6205970, aged 91 years.

Archie Brown gave many years service to the 9th Bn. Full details of his service will be published in the December issue of the newsletter.

CLARK – On 5 April 1988, Private William Richard Sidney (G893329), aged 89 years.

He served with the 2nd Bn from April 1917 to January 1919 and was taken POW during the battle of the Somme.

ELLIOTT – On 25 April 1989, Private Robert Elliott (5258), aged 97 years.

Robert Elliott served from March 1916 to October 1919 and was with A Company 25th Bn. He was a survivor of the mining of the troopship 'Tyndareus' off the coast of Capt L'Agulhas, South Africa, on 6 February 1917, by the German Minelayer 'MOEWE'. The 25th Bn were en route Hong Kong to become the garrison Bn. The 25th Bn served in Hong Kong from 1917 to 1919 and then moved on to Siberia. He was a great collector of regimental memorabilia and about 6 months before his death passed his collection to me for inclusion in the archives of the museum.

ELLIOTT – On 22 April 1989, in South Africa, Private William J. Elliott, aged 69 years.

Bill Elliott served with the 1/7th Bn from 1938 to 1946 and immediately after his discharge emigrated to South Africa. He visited the U.K. in 1986 and met many of his old comrades.

EVANS – On 16 May 1988, Private Cyril (Taffy) Evans (6211208), aged 70 years.

Taffy Evans enlisted on 15 January 1940 and served with 7 Platoon, B Company, 1/7th Bn. In 1944 he was badly wounded and had his leg amputated and he was awarded a 100% disability pension. He was medically discharged on 7 June 1944. In civilian life he became a technical storeman. Taffy and his wife lived at Albuhera Close, Enfield. He regularly attended the 1/7th Bn Dinner/Luncheon at Hornsey and was a long standing member of the regimental association. My sincere apologies to Bessie, his widow, for failing to publish this obituary in my last newsletter. It was an unintentional oversight – my wife and I attended the funeral and I just cannot explain how this error occurred.

GARRETT – On 3 May 1989, Major R.G.(Peter) Garrett, TD, aged 63 years.

Peter Garrett joined the 7th Bn as a Lieutenant in July 1950 and became PI Comd of the 3-in Mortar Platoon. In June 1960 he was commanding HQ Company with the rank of Major. He was a dedicated T.A. officer and was highly regarded by his fellow officers and the men in his company.

GOODGE – On 24 August 1988, WO2 Arthur Goodge (4267949) aged 72 years.

Arthur Goodge enlisted on 19 January 1931 into the Northumberland Fusiliers as a boy soldier joining the Corps of Drums. On the 30 October 1935 he transferred to the Middlesex Regiment. I have no details of his service from 1935 to 1950. Over the years he rose to the rank of WO2 and his last posting was to the 7th Bn as PSI in 1959. He retired on 14 June 1960.

HILL – On 30 May 1989, Private Sydney Ernest Hill (6193715), aged 86 years.

Sydney Hill enlisted into the regiment on 3 January 1921 and after his recruit training joined the 1st Bn at Dover. Continuous service with the 1st Bn followed – Ireland, Germany, Aldershot, China and Catterick. He was transferred to the Army Reserve 2 January 1928. During World War 2 he served with the Royal Navy as a Gun Layer from 1942 to 1945. At the end of his army service the late Lt-Col W.A. Stewart helped him get a job with London Transport and he stayed with them for 40 years. He was a keen member of the regimental association.

HORROCKS – On 26 May 1989, Lady Nancy Horrocks, widow of Lt-Gen Sir Brian Horrocks who died on 4 January 1985. The funeral was attended by Colonel W.D. Ellis who represented the regiment and Mr and Mrs E.J. Soden.

KENDALL – On 30 March 1989, L/Cpl Alan William Kendall (20332156), aged 51 years.

Alan Kendall was a National Serviceman from 1957 to 1959 serving with the 1st Bn in Cyprus. He was a glazier by trade and was snapped up by the QM(myself) and joined the Pioneer Section. This section of dedicated tradesmen made sure the Bn left Cyprus without paying any barrack damages. Not easy when we were leaving a new barracks at Dhekelia after a short stay when every defect was obvious. Very sad to see him die so young after his stalwart work.

LEWIS-LLOYD – On 9 February 1989, The Reverend George Lewis-Lloyd, MBE, aged 84 years.

He was formerly the Vicar of Chiswick Church and for 20 years Honorary Chaplain to the 2/10th Bn (1914-18) Old Comrades Association.

LIDDINGTON – On 19 June 1989, Corporal George James Liddington (L/15888), DCM, aged 90 years.

He served with the regiment from 1914 to 1923. He was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal on 27 August 1919 whilst serving with No. 1 Special Company at Koikori, Murmansk.

MALLEN – On 25 November 1988, WO2 Joe Mallan (6203485) aged 66 years.

He commenced his service with the Middlesex Regiment in 1938 but transferred to the Parachute Regiment in early 1942 and fought with them in Italy, Greece and the invasion of Southern France, finally retiring on 27 February 1959.

MACFADDEN – On 30 January 1989, Colonel Brian Arthur Gibson MacFadden, TD.

He commanded the 9th Bn from 1953 to 1955.

MOLZ – On 30 April 1989, Capt Frederick Elen (Freddie) Molz, aged 92 years.

Freddie passed the course at Sandhurst in January 1916 and was posted to the 5th S.R. Bn stationed at Chatham. In July 1916 he was posted to the 1st Bn serving under Lt-Col Elgee until he was wounded on 23 April 1917 at the battle of Arras. On discharge from hospital and sick leave he joined the Depot at Mill Hill in May 1919, and after a few weeks joined the 3rd Bn at Chipstone Camp, moving with the Bn to Maida Barracks, Aldershot and was eventually medically discharged in 1920. In a letter he wrote to me in June last year this is how he described Col Elgee. "Col Elgee was quite a character. Tall with bushy eyebrows, rather heavy moustache and when he 'choked anyone off', his moustache bristled, his eyes glared and he always seemed to blow sparks out of his pipe – a fearsome sight! He never smoked

cigarettes which he classified as 'Damn stationery'. Take no notice of what these damn doctors tell you my boy." He also said he was a great friend of Capt H.W.M. Paul - who later changed his name to Steward and commanded the 1st Bn at the fall of Hong Kong. During World War 2 he formed and commanded 'N' Garrison of No. 11 Coy, 23rd Middlesex Home Guard. He had been a member of the M.C.C. for 60 years.

- MOORE** - On 11 May 1989, Sgt Samuel Joseph (Pony) Moore (6196908), aged 83 years. He enlisted on 9 September 1925 and served with the 1st Bn until 1926. From 1927 to 1937 he was with B Company 2nd Bn. He was then discharged on completion of his 12 years with the Colours. In September 1939 he was recalled and in 1941 was posted to the 1st Bn in Hong Kong. He was taken POW on Christmas Day 1941 and was held in Shamshuipo Camp, Hong Kong until repatriated to UK in 1945. In 1946 he was medically discharged and suffered continuous ill health and was awarded a 100% disability pension. At the time of his death he was blind and a member of St Dunstons. Five months before his death his leg was amputated. A staunch member of the regimental association who suffered so bravely for such a long period. The Regimental Flag draped the coffin.
- MORRISON** - On 18 February 1989, Private Joseph Herbert Morrison (6198906), aged 78 years. He served from 27 March 1929 to 26 March 1936 with the 2nd Bn. He was called up on 1 September 1939 and was invalided out on 11 March 1941 after Dunkirk.
- MUSSETT** - On 26 January 1989, Sgt Thomas Henry Mussett (6211640), aged 71 years. He was called up for service on 17 January 1940 serving with the 2nd Bn and the 2/8th(1st Bn) and served in Northern Ireland and Germany. He was discharged in 1946 with an exemplary character.
- NUNN** - On 21 November 1988, Miss Una Nunn. Miss Nunn was the daughter of the late Major F.J. Nunn, MC, who served with the regiment from 1916 to 1945. He died on the 17 August 1970. She always kept in touch and was a member of the regimental association. In her will she bequeathed her late fathers medals to the museum.
- OVERY** - On 18 March 1989, WO1(RSM) Richard George Overy, BEM, (6199260), aged 82 years. Dick Overy commenced his service with the regiment on 2 December 1929 and served at home with the 2nd Bn until 22 December 1937 when he was drafted to the 1st Bn in Hong Kong. He was a popular member of the 1st Bn and enjoyed all sports and in 1939 was awarded the Tidbury Cup. He was taken POW on Christmas Day 1941 and was a member of the group of POW's being moved to Japan on the Libon Maru. He survived the sinking and was taken to Shanghai where he was very ill indeed. The Japs decided that he and 6 others were too sick to proceed on and we left the party behind. He recovered and was repatriated to UK in 1945. He was marked fit in 1946 and allowed to re-engage to complete 22 years service. He was posted to the 1st Bn and promoted to WO1(RSM) and became the first RSM of the re-activated 7th Bn which was on 1 March 1947. He remained with this Bn until 1 March 1949 when he was posted to No. 8(Basic Trade) Training Bn REME. He retired on 1 December 1951 having completed 22 years service. In 1954 Dick joined the Army Cadet Force and remained with this organisation until 1971. For his outstanding work with the ACF he was awarded the British Empire Medal. He had a particular interest in rifle shooting and regularly and successfully coached the Somerset Cadets team to National finals to win every major national trophy. He continued coaching even after he had officially retired. He was also awarded the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for Meritorious service. Our sincere condolences to his widow Evelyn and his son Norman. The son retired from the Army Air Corps in 1987 having attained the rank of Lt-Col. Major P. Donovan represented the regiment at his funeral.
- PEAPER** - On 30 August 1988, Mr Donald Clifford Peaper, aged 58 years, who was the son of Cpl W.F. Peaper (6204522), who died of wounds on 5 June 1940 whilst serving with D Company 1/7th Bn. Donald was just 9 years of age at the time. The 1/7th Bn (1939-45) Dinner Club made him a honorary member and he became a regular attender at all their functions together with his wife and son.
- POCOCK** - On 26 May 1989, WO2 George Goodwin Pocock (6189323), aged 88 years. He enlisted at Mill Hill on 12 January 1917 as a boy soldier and joined the Corps of Drums. In 1919 he came on man's service and served with the 2nd Bn in North Russia, Egypt, Singapore, India and China and on 12 December was discharged on termination of his engagement with an exemplary character. He was C.O.'s Bugler on many occasions. One month later he enlisted into the T.A. and joined our 9th Bn with whom he served until 1939 rising to the rank of WO2. At the outbreak of WW2 he was embodied serving in the UK only with the 9th Bn Middlesex Searchlight Regiment, the Depot at Mill Hill and as PSI to the Home Guard 2nd City of London (Civil Service) Bn. He earned numerous commendations. In retirement he lived at Sudbury, Suffolk.

- REGESTER** - On 6 March 1989, Sgt Edwin Edgar Regester (6200492), aged 75 years. Sgt Regester served with the 1/7th Bn from 1939 to 1946. He was a long standing member of the regimental association.
- ROBINSON** - On 3 March 1989 Capt Quentin Thomas(Robbie) Robinson. He joined the 7th Bn at Hornsey as a Private soldier in March 1939. In June 1939 he was granted a T.A. Commission and joined the 2/7th Bn on their formation in 1939, remaining with the Bn until June 1942. For the next 9th months he was in hospital and on sick leave. From February to July 1943 he served with 50th(YS) Bn. He was posted to the 2/8th(1st Bn) until November 1944 and he was again in hospital until February 1945. He was then posted as GSO3, Liaison to the Belgian Forces, Northern Ireland and finally discharged in November 1945. In civilian life he was a Master at Highgate School and later on the Editorial Staff of Argosy. He was the son of the Artist Heath Robinson.
- SEAMAN** - On 20 May 1989, Private Henry John Seaman(S/6910), aged 95 years. One day short of his 96th birthday. He joined the regiment in 1910 at the age of 17 years and during WW1 served with our 2nd Bn. He took part in the battles of Mons, Loos, Hill 60 and the Somme. He expressed a wish to be buried with full military honours - this is not allowed, but the Casualty Department of the Ministry of Defence arranged for 1 Queens at Tidworth to supply a bearer party and a bugler. The Regimental Flag draped the coffin.
- SHEFFIELD** - On 5 May 1989, WO2(CSM) Leonard Henry Sheffield(Shiny) (6197361), aged 83 years. He enlisted on 23 August 1936 and in April 1927 joined the 2nd Bn China and then on to India in October 1927 till April 1931. The 2nd Bn then moved to the Sudan until December 1931 when the Bn reverted to Home Establishment. He did not come home with the Bn but joined the 1st Bn on their arrival in Egypt on 2 December 1931. Service in Singapore and Hong Kong followed and he was selected for posting to the Depot in August 1939. However, on arrival at the Depot he was immediately posted to the Royal Fusiliers and discharged from that unit on 28 June 1942, on ceasing to fulfil army physical requirements. He had served for 15 years 310 days. He occupied one of the Regimental homes at Albuhera Close, Enfield, for many years, but a couple of years ago he was taken ill and gave up his quarter when he could no longer look after himself.
- TURNER** - On 8 May 1989, Major William Francis (Bill) Turner, aged 69 years. Bill joined the 10th Hussars as a Trooper on 23 January 1939. He was with B.E.F. in France and was evacuated from the Cherbourg peninsula in June 1940. Service followed with the 1st Armoured Division in North Africa as part of the 8th Army, attaining the rank of Sgt. He was selected for OCTU and subsequently commissioned into the Middlesex Regiment on 4 November 1944 and seconded to the Royal West African Frontier Force. He returned to UK in late 1946 and was posted to the Depot at Mill Hill and appointed Personnel Selection Officer for the period 1947 to 31 August 1948, when he was discharged with the rank of Major. On 26 July 1951 Bill rejoined and was granted a Short Service Commission and rejoined the Middlesex Regiment as a Lieutenant. He was seconded to the Gold Coast Regiment and eventually rejoined the 1st Bn in Austria in 1954. He moved with the Bn to Cyprus and was discharged in May 1956 on completion of his commission. Shortly afterwards he was granted a T.A. Commission serving as Camp Commandant of the 44th Independent Parachute Brigade Group T.A. until final discharge from military service in 1960. Bill Turner was a splendid chap and well liked and popular with all ranks. His son, John, served with the regiment from 1960 to 1969, attaining the rank of Sgt.
- TYLER** - On 23 May 1989, Captain Frederic Henry Tyler, aged 78 years. Freddie Tyler served with the 9th Bn but I have no details of his period of service.
- WARNER** - On 20 April 1989, Cpl James Albert Warner (6206570), aged 72 years. Jim Warner joined the 7th Bn during April 1938 and on mobilisation was posted to the 1/7th Bn. He went overseas with the Bn and whilst serving with 4 Platoon A Company, was badly wounded at El Alamein and suffered the loss of his left leg and was subsequently invalided out in June 1944. His Platoon Commander was Lt Allan Carter who always kept in touch with him. Jim was a good correspondent and always kept in touch with the regimental association.
- VOLLER** - On 6 February 1989, Cpl Gordon Charles Voller (3224 and 204912), aged 93 years. George Voller served with our 1/8th Bn from 1914 - 1918. During the last few years he made contact with our Hounslow Branch and attended a number of their meetings.

PEACE OVER GALLIPOLI – 1988

by Penelope Teesdale

On a cold, very blustery day at the end of November, under a bright blue sky and in brilliant sunlight, I stood on Brighton Beach and could easily imagine how vagrant currents could have swept the cutters off course and carried them unsuspectingly into the cover ringed with high cliffs that helped write the name of Gallipoli into the history books.

From the pleasant little town of Canakkale I crossed the Strait of the Dardanelles at its narrowest point, beckoned by the huge and impressive plaque lying across a high tree-covered hillside depicting a soldier with upraised arm and the challenging words, "Stop O Passerby, This earth you thus tread unawares is where an age sank, Bow and listen, this quiet mound is where the heart of a nation throbs." A small motor boat with space for just four cars and a tiny cabin for other passengers carried us across, and in fifteen minutes we had left Asia and landed in Europe at Kilid Bahir, meaning "Lock on the Sea", with its imposing 15th century fortress at the water's edge.

A large part of the Peninsula is now a National Park and is very well cared for, and planted with lots of trees and pine forests. There are 31 cemeteries, large and small, dotted about, but because of the predominance of Australians and New Zealanders visiting the area, the local travel agency concentrates its tours around the main points of interest to them.

However, as it seemed I was going to be the only customer on the day I planned to go, I told the director and guide of the agency, who is also the author of a local book on the campaign – Huseyin Uluaslan, that I particularly wanted to include the British sector at the tip of the Peninsula as well, and for a somewhat exorbitant (I thought) price, he drove me around in his own car for the day but did bring along a picnic basket packed with lunch for us.

I had promised an old family friend that I would look for her brother's name at Gallipoli who, with his life, helped make "that part of a foreign field that is forever England." I unwittingly had no details other than his name, and I suddenly began to feel that finding it was going to be an impossible task. After numerous unproductive phone calls made by Mr. Uluaslan, he said we must drop in at the Kimikli rest house not far from Anzac Cove to track down the keeper of the key to the archive, a tiny wooden bungalow in one part of the garden where all the official registers are kept, and fortunately we were successful.

With numbed fingers we both leafed through many slim volumes with soft covers, broken down by cemetery, which are said to list the names of every fallen comrade-in-arms. I was amazed at last to find the name of "Lt Walter Alfred Leland, 10th Bn Bedfordshire Regt. attached 1st Bn Royal Dublin Fusiliers, family's name and address, died 4 June 1915, Age 22," set out on one of the pages in one of the volumes on the Helles Memorial, Memorial Register No. 4.

Which is the reason I was at the toe of the Peninsula at Cape Helles, where the waters of the Strait meet the Aegean Sea, being nearly blown off my feet by a cruel and bitter wind, walking round and round the base of the tall Obelisk that honours the British dead. Unlike some of the other cemeteries, there are no individual headstones here; the monument is in memory of those whose remains could not be identified or were not found, but each and every one of their names is individually commemorated, carved under each of their regiments on large stone sections that are placed all along the high walls that form its square base.

So it was that during my search for Walter's name, on the back wall I unexpectedly discovered among those listed the name of the Middlesex Regiment. With the walls seeming about ten feet high and the wind tugging at my arm and not having the most sophisticated lens, I am sorry that the photos I took lack the clarity I would have liked; and having now seen the terrain and learnt the rigours of the campaign, I am fearful that the regimental motto of "Die Hard" became a terrible reality for those remembered here.

After going three times around, having missed it twice, I also had a great feeling of accomplishment when I eventually found "Leland, W.A." etched into the stone.

We crisscrossed the narrow strip of the Peninsula, only about 12 miles at its broadest point, but we didn't travel as far north as the town of Gallipoli itself, which one soon realizes was not really involved in the thick of the battles, nor did we seem to have enough time to visit all the cemeteries, which, following the course of the fighting, are mostly on the Aegean side of the Peninsula, along its shores and on the crests above.

After visiting some of the Australian grave sites lying peacefully by the sea – the one near Brighton Beach with the grave of John Simpson who became famous with his donkeys for the wounded, and another at Ari Burnu farther along the coast, we drove up to the Summit, the highest point at 1,000 feet up, and the Sari

Bair range, and on the crests is the New Zealand memorial at Chunuk Bair where you can also see some of the reconstructed trenches and where Ataturk stood his ground, and the Anzac's Lone Pine Cemetery where I was glad to observe they had a lone pine planted in place of the original one and so kept in tune with history. Also at Chunuk Bair, near to a cliff edge with the Salt Lake and Suvla Bay in the distance, is a Turkish memorial with its five stone walls recording the events of that battle.

On our way down on lower ground we went to the Peninsula's museum in a large round white building and I found its contents a little sparse and disappointing, except for the photographs and letters, when compared to the Ataturk museum in Canakkale.

On leaving the Helles memorial and taking a photo of the lighthouse marking the entrance to the Dardanelles, we sought refuge in the small Casino in the nearby village of Sedd-el-Bahr overlooking its cove on the Strait for our lunch, and enjoyed the warmth of the pot-bellied stove sitting in the middle of an unadorned square room with plain tables and chairs and shared it with some local inhabitants drinking their tea and playing cards. Our picnic meal was typically Turkish, a loaf of fresh French bread, tangy sheep's milk cheese, black olives, fresh tomatoes, and Mr. Uluaslan also brought some fresh walnuts grown in his own garden; and the casino served us with small glasses of piping hot tea.

Afterwards we drove up to the mammoth, severe, 135-foot high Turkish Memorial to all the Martyrs perched on a hill overlooking the gateway to the Dardanelles, and it was from there that I had to make do with just seeing the tall white monument to the French standing farther inland.

Our last stop was at the small, oddly named Skew Bridge Cemetery, where there is a headstone to the memory of the youngest casualty of the campaign, Drummer J.A. Townsend of the East Lancashire Regt. who was killed on 18 May 1915 at age 15.

Across the Narrows at Canakkale there is a sister fortress to Kilid Bahir standing guard, and high on a hillside not far away is another enormous plaque, this time proclaiming "18 March 1915" which commemorates the day the British/French naval attack on Canakkale was defeated; and to this day, that date is celebrated as a victory day in Canakkale every year. The Fort and its pleasant surrounding grounds jutting out into the Strait is now an Army and Navy Museum with lots of old guns on display, one dated 1916, and visitors are allowed to walk around freely. At the water's edge is a replica of the Turkish minelayer Nusret, the hero of the day, and nearby is an attractive square house with a collection of Ataturk memorabilia, but even more, it has a wealth of relics from the Gallipoli battlefields (far more than the museum on the Peninsula). I sat out on a bench by the water in warm sunshine and stared out at a peaceful scene and let my mind wander on how different it was from the tumult of the past.

During my visit I was surprised at the magnanimous attitude of the Turks towards the violation of their territory and the grievous loss of life inflicted on them. There seemed to be no lingering bitterness, as is epitomized by the words of Ataturk himself in 1934 which are now inscribed on a stone monument erected at Anzac Cove:

"Those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives . . . You are now lying in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore rest in peace. There is no difference between the Johnnies and the Mehmeds to us where they lie side by side here in this country of ours . . . You, the mothers, who sent their sons from far away countries wipe away your tears; your sons are now lying in our bosom and are in peace. After having lost their lives on this land they have become our sons as well."

For me, there was a pastoral tranquility on the Peninsula, a remoteness even from the hurly-burly of modern life, and a stillness that reminded me there are people sleeping here.

Miss Penelope Teesdale is the sister-in-law of Lt Col T.W. Chattey, and resides in New York. Space did not permit the publication of the photographs, but these will be placed in the museum archives.

REGIMENTAL GOODS

The following regimental goods are available for purchase. These can be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, Lynsore Bungalow, Upper Hardres, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6EE. Postage and packing is included in the price. Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to the Middlesex Regimental Association.

Blazer Badges	£ 6.50 each
Ice Buckets, miniature side drum with regimental emblazon	£16.00 each
Ties Regtl Old Pattern Terylene, (Maroon and Old Gold)	£ 2.50 each
Ties New Pattern Terylene	£ 2.50 each
Ties Offrs' Club Silk	£ 5.50 each
Wall Plaques, Middlesex Regiment	£13.00 each
History 'Diehards in Korea'	£ 5.00 each
Christmas Cards - Steady the Drums & Fifes	£ .20 each
Card 6" x 4" embossed badge & Regtl Ribbon	£ .30 each
Middlesex Cap badges - not originals	£ 2.50 each

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