



TAVR

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magazine



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COVER PICTURE

CSgt Rolfe and Lt Col Foster Herd celebrate with champagne after the former won the SE District Pistol Competition. Lt Col Herd, CO 6/7 Queen's, hands over the reins (after two and a half years) to Maj Mike Dudding at the end of this year.

NOTE TO CONTRIBUTORS

Contributors sending in material for publication are asked to have it typed, double spaced and on one side of the paper only. Reports of current events should be submitted as soon after the event as possible. **Pictures must (repeat must) be sharp, black and white. We cannot use coloured prints.** The TAVR Magazine does not necessarily assume responsibility for the statements or views of its contributors.

OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND OTHER THINGS

At the bottom of the left hand side of this page is a 'Note to Contributors'. It says, among other things, 'Pictures must be sharp black and white. We cannot use coloured prints.'

Although this appears every month, we still get correspondents sending in photographs in colour, and often very good ones too. Unfortunately we can't use them, we can only return them. This is a dead loss all round because in most cases there is no time left to get black and white prints made and the story loses something by not being illustrated.

Pictures contribute a lot to the attractiveness of a magazine, and we want plenty of them. Please see that they are properly captioned. If they are photographs of people, say who they are. Readers like to know, and it is our aim to please our readers.

Now let us turn to the stories. We try and publish everything we get, but not necessarily in the form in which we get it. Reports of camps, exercises and other unit activities, we like. But we like them short and to the point. However, apart from reports of normal activities like camps, the TAVR is full of news and we would like more of this. TAVR chaps and girls are often doing something, perhaps completely outside their TAVR commitments, which is eminently news-worthy and this we want to know about. In particular we want news of military aid to the civil community. This is, we suppose, a TAVR commitment, but it is out of the ordinary and very well worth reporting. A good example of this is the story which appeared in our February issue under the heading 'We found it under a bush', an account of how a REME unit rescued an ancient trolleybus from a field in Crawley and delivered it to Eastbourne.

So please keep your eyes and ears open for the unusual and when you come across it, tell us. Variety of material and width of coverage are the life blood of any publication. So let's go on being lively — with your help.

AFTER THE RIVER RESCUE

FIRST AID ON THE MOTORWAY

Only seven weeks after L/Cpl Walmsley of the 4th (V) Bn The Parachute Regiment dived twice into the icy river Laver to save two journalists from drowning, for which he received a certificate of commendation, four other members of the same unit rushed into action to give first aid to 13 men and women seriously hurt in a mini-bus crash. Now these have also been awarded certificates of commendation for their action. They are Capt T. E. Pollak, Sgt P. A. Gee (31) an accountant from Middleton, Pte W. Baxendale (28) a welder from Stockport, and Pte N. Hand (22) a labourer from Rochdale.

The four were among 18 members of the unit travelling in a 4-ton vehicle on a motorway outside Bradford on 3 June when they saw a civilian mini-bus go out of control in front of them.

It crashed through the central reservation injuring the driver and 12 passengers.

Capt Pollak immediately deployed his men to give first aid to the injured and prepared the speedy evacuation of the most seriously injured prior to the arrival of police and ambulances. The citation says he acted in "a calm, competent manner which transmitted itself to his men" and greatly reduced the hysteria of the injured.

Sgt Gee organised the removal of injured people from the mini-bus, and the immediate control of traffic on the motorway. Then he assisted in the general treatment of the injured. Of him the citation

says: "His cheerful and relaxed approach was a great help to those young soldiers suddenly presented with a frightening and grisly scene."

Pte Baxendale was given the task of ministering to the most seriously injured casualty, a man who had extensive back injuries and respiratory damage. He applied mouth-to-mouth resuscitation when appropriate. According to the citation says he "showed remarkable calm and carried out his task with great assurance, thus undoubtedly saving the life of the injured man."

Pte Hand was given the task of treating a woman whose shoulder had been torn from its socket and was bleeding profusely. He stopped the bleeding and strapped the shoulder to minimise further damage. The citation says he acted throughout the incident "in a compassionate and efficient manner and was a great comfort to the injured person."

MIDLAND MEDICS MAKE OUT



Members of the 222 (East Midlands) Fd Ambulance RAMC (V) from Leicester who beat units from Nottingham, Sunderland and Dundee at the finals of the Connaught Cup at RAMC training centre at Aldershot.

Participants braved driving wind and rain in axle deep mud to 'rescue' casualties under gas attack.

The gruelling course also included a rifle range shoot, tactical road accident exercise and the recovery of 'casualties' from an armoured personnel carrier.

The shield was presented by Maj Gen T. S. Hart, Director of Medical Services, UKLF. (Left to right, back row): L/Cpl Ralph Tompkin, Maj Paul Wakely (Team leader), Pte Burns, Cpl Chalky White, Pte Mick Squires, Col Bill Charlton (unit CO), Dvr BAZ Poria, Pte Austin, Cpl Read. (Front row, kneeling): WO2 Ron Harrison BEM, Cpl Tony Thomas, L/Cpl Paddy McAllister, Pte Walker.

QUEEN'S MAN MAKES IT WITH REGULARS



Lt Piers Storie-Pugh, by profession a stock broker, decided earlier this year temporarily to hang up his bowler and broly and give it a try with the 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment on a SSVC.

He joined B Coy 6/7 Queen's (V) at Edgware about two years ago where he soon established himself as a Battalion 'character'. He moved over to our 1st Bn on 1 February this year and after a quick introduction to his new colleagues was promptly sent on a Platoon Commanders Battle Course at the School of Infantry at Warminster where he made an excellent impression. The first paragraph of his Course Report reads:

'Lt Storie-Pugh was much older and more mature than the average student with a most pleasant manner and engaging sense of humour. His boundless enthusiasm and determination to do well set a high standard for the rest of his syndicate to follow and he was an example to all. In many ways his attitude set the tone for not only his syndicate but also the course and the fact that he was TAVR as well was a salutary reminder to some of the regulars that they should have been better than they were. He worked really hard throughout the course and he has qualified at above the average standard.'

On returning to his Battalion he was first posted as a Coy 2IC but has now been given his own Platoon. He is now in Northern Ireland where he says work is hard but exciting.

This is an instance of yet another 6/7 Queen's officer making his mark with the Regulars. He is enjoying his stay with them so much that he has asked for a nine-months' extension to his original SSVC of 1 year, and this has been approved.

PLEASE NOTE

The editor is always pleased to receive news of TAVR personnel serving with the regulars. Unfortunately they seem to hide their light under a bushel, so if your unit has anybody in this category, please tell us all about him — or her.

NAAFI MARCH TO VICTORY

Don't think it's all beer and skittles being a member of NAAFI staff. They have six TAVR Units (RAOC/EFI) numbering 381 officers and men, and as with all other corps in the logistic chain, they are training in peace time for their war time role. During this year they have provided stores, shops and services on all exercises including those overseas such as the recent Bold Guard, and start again in Norway next year.

Personnel for EFI (Expeditionary Force Institutes) is drawn from all grades and all trades and NAAFI have personnel in Germany ready to fill war time establishments. An example of their war time efficiency is shown by the fact that, after the D-Day landings in 1944, when troop movement was fast and sometimes unpredictable, 300 canteens were closed and 350 opened in new sites within a month, and they had 'set up shop' within three days of the Sicilian invasion.



Two teams from NAAFI's TAVR Unit — RAOC EFI — took part in this year's RMP and City of Chichester international march, and their 'A' team, competing over the 40km route collected the TAVR award.

Competing on the 30km and 40km routes over the South Downs were teams from all three services, other TAVR units, police, scouts, civilian walking clubs and military police units from Belgium, France, Germany and Canada. The march followed last year's highly successful RMP centenary march and ended with a full dress march past through Chichester.

Above, NAAFI's winning team sets out.

Below, The massive thirsts of some of the 3000 marchers being quenched in the NAAFI marquee where men of the RAOC EFI ran the bar.



6/7 QUEENS SHOOT TO WIN

*Fourth
Consecutive
Victory*

Since forming the Battalion Shooting Team 3 years ago much hard work on practice weekends by both the team and the "admin" experts has paid off. Our "Shooting Year" got off to a good start when D Coy (Wandsworth) retained the Wandsworth Cup for the fourth year in succession in a fiercely contested competition held in March between all TA units based in the London Borough of Wandsworth.

In April the action moved to Pirbright and the joint London and South East Districts' SAM where the Bn came first overall in the Major Units in SE District and third overall in the combined Major Unit Championship.

At this Meeting C/Sgt Rolfe, D Coy, won the South East District Individual Pistol Competition — he also won 2nd place in the SMG Individual Competition and came 2nd with Capt John Cannon, Insurance Broker of A Coy, in the Team Pistol Event. Cpl Blockley, Aircraft Technician of D Coy, was 2nd equal in the Individual Rifle Championship and Pte Thomas of C Coy was 2nd in the Young Soldiers Championship.

At Bisley the team strove to improve on their 21st overall place last year and they did so with notable success. Under the new rules of the TARA Meeting which dictates each team having only 8 members a considerable load is put on the shoulders of a few good shots. However, the team did well and came 9th in the Section Match out of 79 teams; 5th in the Wessex Volunteers Cup (Snapshooting); 11th in the Converted Gallery. By steady, consistent shooting the team came 14th overall in the Dragon Trophy. A further improvement of 7 places next year — watch out 10 PARA! At the same Meeting WO 2 John Day, CSM A Coy and Rubber technologist by profession, came equal third in the Roupell cup — a very good shoot.

Shooting must, essentially, form a vital part of any Battalions activities and it does in 6/7 Queens where almost every Volunteer must be a good shot. The team is given every encouragement and the very strong additional support of the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Foster Herd TD who never misses a practice weekend or a Competition. The team is run by the Bn 21C, Major Richard Putnam, and the RSM, WO 1 MD Maloney BEM, who both spend a lot of time ensuring that Ranges are booked and all the necessary administration is up to scratch. Rifle and HQ Coys share the load of running the butts and ranges all of which ensures the team gets maximum 'firing time' during practice weekends. It also keeps the team to the forefront of Bn life and there is now fierce competition, particularly among the younger soldiers, to get into the team. A good omen for the future.