

The Grenadier Gazette

THE REGIMENTAL JOURNAL OF
THE GRENADIER GUARDS



2011

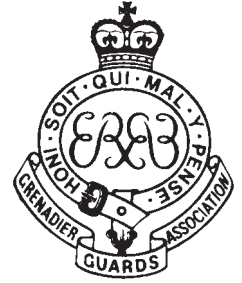


Issue No 34
Price £5.00





THE Grenadier Gazette 2011



THE REGIMENTAL JOURNAL OF THE GRENAДИER GUARDS

1ST BATTALION UPDATE

page 14



AALTEN – 65TH ANNIVERSARY

by Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter
page 32



US COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COURSE

by Major James Greaves
page 34



DEVOTION TO DUTY IN CHARGE OF A LEWIS GUN

page 37



CONTENTS

Page

REGIMENTAL NEWS

Regimental Headquarters	4
Sergeants' (Past and Present) Club	7
Regimental Band	8
14th Company	12
1st Battalion	14
Nijmegen Company	21

FEATURES

Horse Guards News	24
People	26
The 65th Anniversary of the Liberation at Aalten	32
US Command and General Staff Course	34
Bobsleigh – a review	35
Devotion to duty in charge of a Lewis gun	37
Fight to the Finish	38
A Crimean Christmas Dinner	40
General 'Boy' Browning	41

THE REGIMENT – Regimental Rolls	44
---------------------------------------	----

OBITUARIES	52
------------------	----

GRENAДИER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

Association Focus	66
Grenadier Cadets	67
News from the Dining Club	68
Branch Notes	85
Who, What, When, Where?	130

DIARY OF EVENTS	132
-----------------------	-----

The GRENAДИER GAZETTE is published annually in March.
EDITORS: Colonel DJC Russell Parsons and Major A. J. Green, c/o Regimental Headquarters, Grenadier Guards Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1E 6HQ (Tel: 0207-414 3225).
Email: regltreasurer@grengds.com

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

© Crown Copyright

Member of the Association of Service Journals

Printed by Healeys Print Group, Ipswich

Foreword by the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel

Whereas last year was dominated by the 1st Battalion's highly successful tour in Afghanistan, this year has been one where the whole Army has been braced for the outcome of the Strategic Defence and Security Review. While the Regiment has emerged from the autumn announcements unscathed, and rightly so given the prominence of the infantry and the Foot Guards in particular in the increasingly effective operations in Afghanistan, we remain alert for any emerging threats as the MOD continues to shape Defence to meet the future demands of operations within what is affordable. It has been heartening to hear the Chief of the General Staff re-affirm to the Army the value of ceremonial to the Monarchy and the Nation. Our twin role is thus properly acknowledged.

During this year all key elements of the serving Regiment will move to the barracks envisaged by the London basing plan developed by London District. The 1st Battalion will move out of Wellington to Lille Barracks in Aldershot. Thereafter, paired with the

Welsh Guards, they will rotate on a two yearly basis between Lille and Cavalry Barracks Hounslow as they swap between 12 Brigade and London District. Their departure from Wellington will mark the end of the Army having a formed Battalion based in London. Nijmegen Company will join the other two independent companies and all five Foot Guards bands in Wellington. It will be a great relief to have Nijmegen back in central London after a less than satisfactory period in Woolwich.

You will hear on a number of fronts of the continuing work that is being done by the President of the Association and many other willing hands to shape the Association for the future. I have been very clear that the current Association branch structure will continue for as long as its many devoted members wish it to. In parallel we are establishing how the Association will be able to be relevant to the current and next generation, recognising that while the central purpose of the Association will remain to enable Grenadiers to keep in touch with each other and to provide support to those who need it, the way that this is done will almost certainly change to meet the needs of this generation and the next. I am grateful for all those who have engaged so positively in this important work and I anticipate implementation of the first strands during the year.

EDITORIAL NOTES

What a year this has been. This journal needs more pages. The Battalion has contributed both to operations in Afghanistan up to April last year, as well as then being at the heart of public and ceremonial duty in London. And for those who were there, who will not remember the presentation of New Colours on a bright if chilly day both at Buckingham Palace and Wellington Barracks – a remarkable parade from a battalion which had so recently returned from Helmand, and which then went on to the Trooping in such style? It has probably set the benchmark at how much can be achieved so soon after a gruelling tour, just as they start preparing their thoughts to go back to that now familiar part of the world in 2012.

We are mindful of the cost of that 2009-2010 tour, 5 Grenadiers killed in action, with many more wounded, but also congratulate those singled out in the latest list for their gallantry: a Distinguished Service Order, a Military Cross, 5 Mentioned in Despatches (one of which was posthumous for Sgt Greenhalgh), as well as 2 Queen's Commendations for Valuable Service – quite a list in all considering that the threshold for formal



recognition is so high these days that so many other feats and such an amount of enduring leadership do not receive formal recognition. Capt Stumpy Keeley was then honoured with an MBE in the New Year's List with everything he achieved at home as Welfare Officer with the Battalion in Afghanistan.

Grenadiers are competing well across every field. Many, many congratulations go to both Majors Andrew James and Chips Broughton in last week's announcement on promotion to Lieutenant Colonel against such fierce competition across the Army, and on a list with such a drastic reduction in numbers. This follows the considerable success with commissioning, as well as such a talented crop of Grenadier WO1s going to influential jobs – you will read all about the individuals later in this edition.

Defence

Meanwhile it would be equally important to acknowledge the very considerable contributions made by other collective parts of the Regiment in 2010-2011. Readers will know about the headlines of the Strategic Defence and Security Review, and Defence having to take some very, very painful decisions into this year and beyond. Change programmes, early release schemes and redundancy all point to a very different Army after both this review and the latest planning round. Some of the original figures may be unaffordable still. This all has very uncomfortable downstream implications for Regimental business – a Regimental Headquarters under more pressure with less staff, more asked of more people with less, as well as some very uncomfortable changes and increases to the activity levels of the band. This is all difficult and the leadership challenges are considerable, especially when faced with a tsunami of information from different sources on change and drawdown. Those at the heart of both organisations deserve real acknowledgement for how traditional standards are being maintained despite such pressures.

Future of Gazette

This edition of our journal contains a real mixture of articles from both the serving and retired elements of our Regiment. I continue to be hugely grateful to everyone giving up their time in submitting articles and all other contributions. The result is a rich reflection of current and historical information, spiced up by some superb photographs and illustrations. There are one or two new contributors this year – thank you – and every submission has been carefully read. Readers will find a growing total of serving guardsmen contributing this

year. Limited space has meant that some have been edited a little. As ever, all Grenadiers, serving and retired, should know that they can write in at any time (regltreasurer@grengds.com).



It has been interesting to take stock of the Grenadier Survey (1185 responses received up to mid February) as a wonderful piece of free market research thank you to Robin Reames and team, and note the general feedback on the Gazette. It seems that a 'where are they now' item would be particularly popular. Current thinking with the Adjutant and in the Headquarters is that this could be achieved by a closed section of the Regimental website as a 'Linked-In' forum for retired Grenadiers. Some type of summary could then be produced for the annual journal. That said, the Gazette would be benefit from any volunteer keen to offer more on this front – your ideas would be very welcome on how best to get more news out on the success and whereabouts of individuals since they have left the Regiment. Your journal does need someone with a good handle on the myriad of different careers that Grenadiers are now embarked on.

Adieu

After so many years of being the stalwart Treasurer and co-editor of this journal, we say goodbye to Trevor Rolfe. On your behalf, we would wish him every success in his retirement and huge gratitude for his hours of diligence and care on all the Association sections of the Gazette. The Regiment is enormously grateful for his stewardship in this regard which sees the journal, and the Who, What, Where, When section, in fine fettle.

Regimental Headquarters

Despite best efforts, the faces in Regimental Headquarters have remained almost constant in 2011. WO2 (RQMS) Andy Hill completed another fine performance organising and running all Regimental events. He was behind the smooth operation of the Presentation of New Colours and I am sure is grateful that he will never have to spend hours discussing the voltage requirements of portable toilets for Buckingham Palace again. WO2 (RQMS) Hill retired from the Army this year and moved downstairs to a new office to take over as Regimental Casualty Officer, still in Regimental Headquarters. This is a role that will be paid for by the Colonel's Fund and will allow for much needed focus on Grenadier casualties in the longer term, removing many of the pressures from the Battalion Welfare Officer and allowing us to oversee bereaved families and injured soldiers from the heart of the Regimental system in Regimental Headquarters. He was replaced by WO2 (RQMS) Smith who managed to move in before having a tragic accident before his wedding and breaking his ankles. He has sadly been on sick leave for a while and will return afresh in the New Year to oversee the remainder of his time before soon moving off and taking over as The Sergeant Major of the All Arms Drill Wing. During this time, WO2 (RQMS) Hill was quickly brought out of semi-retirement to double hat both jobs and to oversee the smooth running of the stores. He has been greatly assisted in these tasks by LSgt Kevin Darke and Miss Linda Leppard and in the General Office by LSgt Terry Castles-Green and Mrs Jill Lindsay. Gdsm Robert Armour is the Regimental Headquarters Orderly/Driver and provides invaluable support. Captain Alex Forster continues as the Assistant Equerry to The Colonel and our Officer Recruiter. Captain Trevor Rolfe has run the very effective Association General Office and been Regimental Treasurer with LSgt Jay Ellingham and the wonderful assistance of Mr. George Turton. The Archives have had their busiest year yet under the watchful eye of Lieutenant Colonel Conway Seymour who is assisted as always by Major Phillip Wright and Mrs. Nayna Shah with Chris Sharp helping with the photographs. Regimental Headquarters has also recently seen the arrival of Major Andy Green to begin the task of taking over the reins from Captain Trevor Rolfe and welcomes Padre Peter Hewlett-Smith OBE as Regimental Chaplain to the Grenadier Guards. All of these have been guided, directed and supervised by the Regimental Adjutant who has somehow managed to make, what has been an incredibly busy year, happen.

The early part of last year was dominated by the 1st

Battalion's deployment. Regimental Headquarters worked tirelessly in support of the 1st Battalion where it was needed to provide as much support as we could to the families of those who were away and especially to those injured and bereaved families. We managed to present a number of Elizabeth Crosses during this period not only to the families of our Afghanistan fallen but also to those stretching back to the Northern Ireland Campaign. We soon welcomed safely back the 1st Battalion and had a wonderful medals parade in Wellington Barracks. This was a much quicker affair than when we did it back in 2007 as so many of the men on parade already had previous medals!



The three latest additions to the Headquarters Staff: Charlie Birch Reynardson, Captain Garth Banks as the Betty Blue Eyes team, and in the centre Regimental Affairs NCO, LSgt Green.

By far the biggest event of 2010 was the presentation of New Colours to the 1st Battalion. Over two thousand people watched as Her Majesty The Queen presented New Colours to an immaculate 1st Battalion in the Gardens of Buckingham Palace just six weeks after returning from Afghanistan. Everybody then retired to Wellington Barracks for a reception to mark this truly special day. Six weeks later the Battalion then trooped the New Colour on The Queen's Birthday Parade. A fantastic day that was made so much more special by the 1st Battalion's recent history. In October the Battalion's old Colours were laid to rest in Lincoln Cathedral, a city with close Grenadier ties and one which it was felt was most appropriate to lay them. With so much having taken place under those Colours, it was an emotional service made more so with a painful, two mile, uphill march.

The usual annual activities of Regimental Remembrance Sunday, the First Guards' Club and the Sergeant's Mess Past and Present successfully passed. Grenadier Day took place in Littlecote House, Berkshire and was an enormous success despite providing a number of logistical challenges for those organising it.

The Colonel's Fund has had a steady flow coming in despite ceasing to formally fundraise. Kind donations of both money and items to be auctioned has allowed us to engage in providing a large number of welfare grants and still have a considerable sum invested. The big event of 2010 was the Presentation at the Royal Geographical Society on the 13th May, in which the 1st Battalion talked about their exploits in Helmand Province on the previous tour. It was very well received and increased the understanding of the Afghanistan Campaign to a sold out audience. The next large event is a production of 'Betty Blue Eyes' on the 11th April. The employment of the Regimental Casualty Officer and use of grants has shown that over 2010 that the Colonel's Fund has proved a fantastic asset and given much needed assistance where needed.

Presentation of New Colours to the 1st Battalion

by The Regimental Adjutant

It was a sunny but chilly morning on the 11th May 2010 when HM The Queen presented new Colours to the 1st Battalion in the Gardens of Buckingham Palace. The Battalion was formed up in 4 Guards with the Regimental Band, and having marched off the old Colours, when Her Majesty, accompanied by The Colonel, came onto the terrace to be greeted by a Royal Salute. Following Her Inspection of the Battalion, Her Majesty presented the new Colours and the Battalion advanced in Revue Order. She then addressed the Parade to which the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel then replied on behalf of the Battalion. A rousing



HM The Queen presents new Colours to the 1st Battalion in the Gardens of Buckingham Palace.



Her Majesty arrives with the Colonel.

"Three Cheers" followed after which the Battalion marched off parade and returned to Wellington Barracks. It was generally thought by that hugely critical audience, the 1st Guards Club and the Association, to have been an excellent parade and many commented on the steadiness of the Battalion and the excellent arms drill; a superb performance, bearing in mind that six weeks earlier the Battalion had been in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

In Wellington Barracks, those on parade swiftly swapped rifles and bearskins for Forage Caps and took their places for a Battalion photograph for which they were joined by Her Majesty and the Colonel.

A Reception then took place in marquees which had been erected on the Square with both The Queen and The Colonel meeting many members of the Regiment as they walked through the marquees. At the end of the Reception Her Majesty returned to Buckingham Palace whilst The Colonel joined the Officers and members of the 1st Guards Club for lunch in the Officers' Mess.

In spite of the chill, it was a thoroughly enjoyable day which ran very smoothly, in no small part thanks to the herculean efforts of the staff of Regimental Headquarters and WO2 (RQMS) Andrew Hill who, with meticulous attention to detail "drove" the administrative effort.



WO2 (RQMS) Hill being introduced.

Laying up of Old Colours

by *The Regimental Adjutant*

*"A moth-eaten rag on a worm-eaten pole,
It does not look likely to stir a man's soul.
'Tis the deeds that were done 'neath the moth-eaten rag,
When the pole was a staff, and the rag was a flag."*

The Old Colours of the 1st Battalion were laid up in Lincoln Cathedral on Thursday 21st October. Why Lincoln, people may wonder? The reasons are firstly, that Lincolnshire is a Grenadier recruiting "heartland", secondly, the warm reception that the Regiment received when it was granted the Freedom of the City in 2008, and finally, because old Colours of the 1st Battalion were laid up in Lincoln Cathedral in 1968.

On the evening before the Regimental Band gave an excellent concert in the Cathedral in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund.

On the day itself, the Regiment exercised its Freedom



The Mayor of Lincoln, Councillor Geoff Kirby and Lord Lieutenant, Mr Tony Worth watch as the Battalion marches past to Lincoln Cathedral. The Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, Regimental Adjutant and President of the Lincoln Branch of the Association are in the background.

of the City by marching with Colours flying, drums beating and bayonets fixed through the City and up the hill to the Cathedral; although it was an extremely chilly day, the hill was also extremely steep and those on parade certainly weren't feeling the chill by the time they halted outside the Cathedral!

A most moving service followed, and the old Colours were laid up, handed into the care of the Cathedral by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Roly Walker, DSO. During the service, the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, Brigadier David Maddan, laid a wreath in the Cathedral's Military Chapel and the names of all those Grenadiers who lost their lives on active service during the time that the Colours were in service were read out.



The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Roly Walker DSO hands over the old Colours to the Canon in Residence of Lincoln Cathedral for safe keeping; the Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment, Padre Peter Hewlett-Smith OBE looks on.

That evening the Lincolnshire Branch of the Association held its annual dinner, preceded by a Beating Retreat by the 1st Battalion Corps of Drums in the grounds of Lincoln Castle. It was a most entertaining evening, attended by many Lincolnshire personalities.

All in all, it was a very enjoyable and successful two days and once again, our reception from the people of Lincoln was extremely warm and welcoming.

Friends of WO1 (RSM)

Darren Chant

Readers may be aware of the initiative to raise money (c. £10 000) to pay for a life size portrait of the 'Big Man', WO1 (RSM) Darren Chant dressed in the full glory of Home Service Clothing (Full Dress) as a Sergeant Major in the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards. As the Commanding Officer has written: "We have already commissioned the very talented Vivienne Francis to paint his likeness, which we expect to be ready in the next few months. You can view some of her work by visiting www.francisfineportraits.com. This is a private initiative for his many friends in the Grenadiers and across the Household Division, his former Officer Cadets and fellow Permanent Staff from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, contemporaries from his time with the Pathfinders and whilst attached to other Battalions

and Regiments in operational theatres, and the very many others who worked with him, trained with him, operated alongside him, drank with him and played hard with him, to honour his sacrifice so that generations to come will be able to see him in his prime, at the pinnacle of his career, with everything to look forward to but tragically denied.

The portrait will be hung in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess of the 1st Battalion and we hope you will join us for the unveiling, details of which will be sent to you when you make a donation. It will become a piece of Battalion Property for evermore.

Please make a donation, as individuals or as a collective. Cash and cheques (made payable to the 'Battalion Bank 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards') should be sent to Major Vince Gaunt OBE, Officer Commanding Headquarter Company, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, Wellington Barracks, LONDON SW1E 6HQ. A list of his friends who donated will accompany the portrait.

SERGEANTS' (PAST AND PRESENT) CLUB

President 2010 – Mr D Adkins
Vice President 2010 – WO1 (RSM) Farrell I
Hon Secretary – WO2 (RQMS) Hill A
Vice Hon Secretary – LSgt Castles-Greene T

Current Membership

Past 563, Serving 212, Honorary 20 – Total 795

This year's annual Sergeants' (Past and Present) Club dinner was held on Saturday 6th November 2010. The Marble Arch Thistle Hotel, London was again to be the venue for this major event in the Regimental calendar. The dinner was attended by 204 past and present members as an outstanding turnout by serving members. The event organisation was as usual handled by the Club Secretary and his team with their customary impressive attention to detail.

This year's guest of Honour was Captain Adam Holloway MP who currently sits on the Defence Select Committee. Captain Holloway was on fine form and gave a very fitting and relevant speech enlightening us as to his views on the way forward for the Army particularly in regard to Afghanistan.

The Regimental Adjutant, Major Grant Baker, gave his usual detailed update on the Regiment's activities since the last dinner (hasn't he used the parrot joke before?). His update encompassed not only the 1st Battalion but also included a brief on Nijmegen Company and the Regimental Band.

Throughout the dinner suitable music was played by

the Regimental Dance Band, who surpassed themselves playing golden oldies until the early hours when, those with the stamina retired to the 1st Battalion Sergeants Mess in Wellington Barracks where lamps were swung until the early hours.

The Annual General Meeting was held prior to the dinner and once the formalities were over the president handed over to WO1 (RSM) Farrell who will reign as President for the coming year.

The Committee now consists of:

WO1 (RSM) Farrell I	President
Lt Col (Retd) C E Kitchen MBE	Vice President
WO2 (RQMS) Hill A	Hon Secretary and Treasurer
LSgt Castles-Greene T	Vice Hon Secretary

Serving Committee Members:

WO2 (DSgt) Edgell S	1st Battalion
WO2 (BSM) Wood A	Regimental Band
WO2 (CSM) Boak MA	ERE
WO2 (CSM) Bearder T	Nijmegen Company

Non-Serving Committee Members:

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

The president would like to thank WO2 (RQMS) Andy Hill who will be 'stepping off' prior to the next dinner for the outstanding way he has carried out his duties as the Club Secretary. This vote of thanks extends to his team at Regimental Headquarters who work hard throughout the year, as with every year, on the club's behalf.

The 2011 AGM and Annual Dinner will be held at The Marble Arch Thistle Hotel, London on the 5th November.



WO2 (RQMS) Hill A, Captain (Retd) Adam Holloway MP, Mr Dave Adkins.

The Regimental Band

by Musician Ben Hull and
Lance Sergeant Sean Carey

The turn of 2010 saw the arrival of a new Director of Music, Major Kevin Roberts. We bid a fond farewell to Major Barry Wassell who, after a long and fulfilling career, finished his time as Chief Instructor at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall in August 2010. He has since moved to the sunnier climes of Abu Dhabi, with his fiancée Samantha, to instruct and train the military bands of the United Arab Emirates.



Major KFN Roberts, MMus, FLCM, LRSM.

Major Barry Wassell was not the only high profile loss to the band in 2010. Colour Sergeant James Trevaskis, Sergeant Sam Crooks, Lance Corporal Steve Kerr, Musician Mark Gibson and Musician Gareth Wynne have all moved on to pastures new. Colour Sergeant James Trevaskis has served 22 years with the Band.

Throughout 2010 we were fortunate to welcome some fine new players. Musician Anne Armstrong joins the percussion section, Musician Mattias Anderson joins the cornet section and Musician Ian Shepherd joins the tuba section, all from Phase 2 training. Musician Dawid Venter, flute, and Musician Ben Beavis, cornet, swell our Commonwealth contingent hailing from South Africa and Australia respectively. The trombone section received a boost as Lance

Corporal Simon Hall from the Band of the Royal Engineers and Lance Corporal Evatt Gibson from the Band of the Royal Logistic Corps arrived.

From the very start of the year the public duties commitment was very heavy and during this time the band undertook a very successful charity concert in Ascot, raising a considerable amount of money for the Colonel's Fund. Later in January the band was proud to march to Clarence House in support of a special Afghanistan medal ceremony hosted by Prince Charles.

We were soon into preparations for the Major General's inspection – which was very successful. Once again the band got stuck in to its annual spring drills and the President of South Africa made a visit to the United Kingdom in March, with the band supporting the Guard of Honour on Horse Guards Parade. The orchestra, led by Lance Corporal Andrew Houldsworth, had the privilege of playing during the banquet held at Buckingham Palace in honour of the visiting president.

The band had another excellent result in the Household Division Young Musician of the Year Competition this year, with Musician Dawid Venter and Musician Anne Armstrong securing 2nd and 3rd place respectively in a very strong field.

The presentation of New Colours for the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards was an auspicious occasion. The band led the Battalion from Wellington Barracks to the gardens of Buckingham Palace where assembled guests waited for Her Majesty the Queen. It was an outstanding event and the band were extremely proud to be able to support the Battalion.

The summer season is always very busy for the Bands of the Household Division and 2010 was no different. High profile events such as the State Opening of Parliament saw the involvement of four Household Division bands – including the Band of the Grenadier Guards – on parade outside Buckingham Palace. The year continued along its normal vein with rehearsals for Beating the Retreat running alongside preparation for the Queen's Birthday Parade.

This is always a highlight of the year and an experience that no band member would ever stop being proud of. It seemed like a case of going from the sublime to the ridiculous as two weeks later the band headed to Royal Ascot in support of the arrival of the Queen for each day of events.

We were also tasked to lead the Homecoming Parade through Winchester for 11 Light Brigade who were celebrating their return from Afghanistan. Whilst rehearsals were carried out in the roasting heat and lasted for an eternity, the event turned out to be one of the most humbling and poignant of 2010. Obviously the band performs to large crowds on a regular basis but this was different to the usual tourists watching the

Changing of the Guard Ceremony. From school children waving flags to British Legion members in their blazers and berets, the streets were lined with people wishing the troops marching behind us well. It was an amazing experience and one not to be forgotten.

June saw the band appearing in support of the Royal Regatta at Henley-on-Thames before moving on to support training at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall. The band assists in the training of potential bandmasters and performs charity concerts to the public. One highlight of the concert was the performance by Musician Ben Beavis (who was still in Phase 2 training at the time). He is a hugely talented instrumentalist and we were pleased to have him assigned to us one month after his performance.

Two weeks leave at the end of July prepared us for the long trip north to Scotland for the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo where we were joined by the Band of the Coldstream Guards. This prestigious and successful event is a sell out every year. The band was to spend the whole of August in Scotland and we used the opportunity to take sports equipment and bikes alongside the usual instruments and uniforms.

The rain seemed to start almost as soon as the coach crossed the Scottish border, but did not slow the pace of the first week which is non-stop rehearsals with a massive show cast – including an endless supply of bagpipers to rehearse the finale. It really was an international affair with bands from Poland, the USA, Jordan and New Zealand joining us on the Castle Esplanade. The jazz musicians in the band joined together with the members of the ‘other’ Guards band to form the Edinburgh Tattoo Guards Big Band. The standard of this ensemble was superb and they entertained a huge crowd before the start of each show.

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo has never been, and never will be, cancelled due to the rain. At times the rain was torrential, with tunics soaked and no chance of drying between the first and second performances. Once we settled into the routine of the performances the band used the sport facilities constantly; this included golf matches between the two Guards bands, mountain biking and swimming. Occasionally band personnel found themselves sitting on an exercise bike next to the former Prime Minister Gordon Brown, whose constituency includes Rosyth.

The band left Edinburgh and after a week’s leave returned to work to prepare for charity concerts in Thursford, Malvern and Southend. They were all very successful and raised over £30,000 for Service charities. These events were then followed by the Scarlet and Gold concert at the Royal Albert Hall (involving musicians from all seven Household Division Bands).

Both Lance Sergeant Michael Atree and Lance Corporal Anthony Sommerville featured as soloists in this hugely prestigious event.

At the end of September eleven members of the band set off to Capel Curig, Wales, for a week of adventurous training.

In the second week of October Lance Corporal Nathan (Jim) Bowen received the honour of a Commendation for exemplary performance as a driving instructor for personnel in London District requiring Category B and HGV licences; this included preparation of personnel for operational deployments as drivers.

October was also a busy month for our recruiting drive including a joint event with the Brentford British Legion Concert Band and a three day trip around East Anglia hosting workshops and concerts in schools, culminating in a spirited performance of the 1812 Overture at Gresham’s School in Norfolk.

The band was back on a coach the following week for a trip to Lincoln Cathedral for a remembrance concert and the Service for the ‘laying down’ of the Old Colours. We marched in front of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards through the city towards the Cathedral. The last leg of the journey was up an extremely steep hill, aptly named ‘Steep Hill.’ Not wanting to waste any opportunity the Director had organised a concert in Leicester for the way home.

The band was required to support the Guard of Honour for the State Visit from Qatar in Windsor before greatcoats replaced red tunics the following week. The annual preparations for the Cenotaph Service and Parade followed in early November. Some of the Band were utilised for the Festival of Remembrance while the majority led the Lord Mayor of London’s Parade through the City of London.

December began with the British Military Tournament, an Army revival of the ever-popular but defunct (since 1999) Royal Military Tournament, at Earls Court. It was a great success and the perfect opportunity to advertise the Massed Bands of the Household Division Beating Retreat 2011. The event raised more than £300,000 for the Soldiers’ Charity. The lead up to Christmas required the band to perform at many carol services, an excellent way to finish the year, in high spirits, with the band looking forward to a well deserved leave, bearing in mind next year we will be covering Christmas duties.

2011 is already looking like a busy but exciting year for the band. We will be celebrating our 325th anniversary, with concerts and an anniversary CD recording. The band will be at Tattoos in Windsor, Holland, Switzerland and Italy as well as the usual complement of public duties.

Look out for further news about up and coming events on our website, Facebook and Twitter pages.



Marching through the years – 325th anniversary.

Where to see the Regimental Band in 2011

11th-13th Jan	Recording for Band's 325th Anniversary CD 'Grenadiers'. Available from mid-April	29th Apr	Royal Wedding (Street Lining)
10th Mar	Adjutant's Inspection/Spring Drills – Wellington Barracks	11th Jun	QBP
14th-25th Mar	Roulemont Tour RMSM	17th Jun	Concert at Bristol Cathedral
30th Mar	Major General's Inspection, Woolwich Garrison	20th Jun	16 BDE Welcome Back Parade, London
11th Apr	Colonel's Fund at the Novello Theatre	29th Jun-1st Jul	Henley Royal Regatta
		4th-9th Jul	Modena Tattoo (Italy)
		11th-24th Jul	Basel Tattoo (Switzerland)

NB: These dates could change as a result of service commitments.

Adventurous Training by Musicians Dean Nixon and Alex Russell

The 11 of us set off for Wales in a minibus and a van looking forward to a week away from London. After arriving in Wales the lads got settled into their 1920s style cabin whilst Alex – the only female – headed off to a slightly warmer port-a-cabin with single room. Morning briefing was followed by a splitting of the group into teams of five and six. Who knew what a difference this would make to the week?

For the hill walkers it was supposed to be a relaxing four-hour walk up and down one of the local hills, Tryfan. We started off at a fast pace and despite the mist closing in we got to the top in just over two hours. Then came the adventurous part; our instructor decided not to follow the well worn track down and instead we spent two hours traversing up and down the hill. Eventually, having scaled heather and rock we made it down some 3 hours later than planned! Alan (Musician Alan Shellard) aka the 'Mountain Goat' was in his element but the rest of the group were not quite so happy. When swapping stories that night over dinner the mountain biking group had had a much calmer



Team 1 at the summit of Carnedd Llywelyn.

experience although watching Reg's (Lance Corporal Andrew Houldsworth's) head cam shots of Lawrence (Musician Lawrence Narhkom) and Ben (Musician Ben Hull) falling off you might not think so.

Tuesday dawned and Team 2 donned their walking boots hoping for a slightly calmer experience on the hillside and Team 1 squeezed into wet suits and splash decks for kayaking on the lake. The weather was good for both groups; the walkers avoided getting rained on and enjoyed some glorious views whilst we in the kayaks avoided getting too cold. It was a character-building day especially for Alex who did not enjoy the thought of getting trapped under her kayak.

By midweek the weather was turning nasty so it was decided that we would go kayaking and mountain biking. With a non-swimmer in their midst the kayakers braved the lake. Reg (complete with head cam) captured their funniest moment, namely his own capsize and that of the other guys who soon followed. It turns out Alex was not the only one swearing never to get in a kayak again by the end of the day. The bikers had a much more relaxing time and tackled the blue run at the outdoor track as well as some of the skills areas.

The final day of activities for the group saw us joining back together as 11 for the indoor climbing wall. Much fun ensued, especially with cameras

around to capture the evidence. The final activity was supposed to be kayak drills in the tiny indoor pool at the centre however this changed pretty quickly and turned into water polo/water bulldog/water football. The culmination of the week was the wonderful synchronised diving display by the lads captured by their trusty camerawoman.



Team 2 with their instructor on the 'Adam and Eve' stepping stones atop the Tryfan.

The Colonel's Fund

by *Patrick Holcroft, Chairman*

Readers will remember that the Colonel's Fund was established in 2008, in order to help those Grenadiers and where appropriate, their immediate families, who have been killed, or seriously injured as a result of operational service.

To date, total funds raised have reached approximately £1.8m and, after taking into account the cost of all fundraising efforts, we have invested around £1m with Cazenove Capital Management, in addition to making a series of grants over the last two to three years, all of which were assessed by the Regimental Welfare Committee.

To give readers a flavour of some of the grants, we have helped with the funeral arrangements and expenses of those killed in action; we have provided holidays for the seriously injured and their immediate families, as well as for bereaved families; we have helped with the rehabilitation of those who have lost arms or legs by providing things such as wheelchair access at home, non-slip driveways, bathrooms and motorcar conversions; and we have paid for professional financial advice so that those who receive substantial sums of money from the government can plan properly for their future. Finally, we have

underwritten the cost for two years of a new post at Regimental Headquarters, the Regimental Casualty Officer, whose principal role is to provide "aftercare" for bereaved families for as long as they wish for it, and to assist those who have been seriously wounded to get back to full health and active soldiering or to help them with the transition to civilian life.

Of course, we would like to do more, but the Regimental Trustees are mindful of the potential long term demands of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) which can sometimes take 10-15 years to develop; and, we have to remember that in the shorter term, the Battalion will return to Afghanistan next year and a further set of demands on our funds are, sadly, all too likely to follow.

So, we need to keep the funds rolling in, which brings me to this year's principal fund raising event – 'Betty Blue Eyes' at the Novello Theatre, London WC2 on 11th April, to which HRH The Colonel has kindly agreed to come. It would be wonderful if we could hit the £2m figure by the end of the evening and we hope many of you will be able to come to help us get there.

Finally, if anyone is aware of any individual case that has somehow slipped through the Regimental net, please get in touch with Regimental Headquarters and we will always try to help where we possibly can.

INFANTRY TRAINING CENTRE 24 Grenadiers serving in No 14 Company

by Captain Dave Groom

There are currently 24 Grenadiers serving in No 14 Company spread across the Infantry Training Centre at Catterick. The majority are employed in the Guards Training Company with the remainder at work and represented in just about every department including the Gym, Med Centre, RP Staff and the Army School of Ceremonial Drill. It is always extremely useful to have "the old boy network" at hand when trying to cut through a bit of red tape.

The Combat Infantryman's Course is constantly changing and improving in order to meet the demands of the Field Army. Operations in Afghanistan have a major influence in bringing in new tactics and drills and the introduction of new weapon systems and equipment. The main effort is "to train as we need to fight" however our eye remains firmly on the basic core skills: shooting, fitness, fieldcraft and ceremonial drill. One of the benefits of these changes in requirement is that all trainee guardsmen now spend the last two weeks of the course conducting driver training and arrive in

their Battalions with either a Cat B or C driving licence.

With manning across the Infantry reaching almost full capacity by April 10 the amount of recruits allocated to training was cut down quite significantly. Where as in November in 2009 Guards Company had 10 platoons in the training cycle, this is currently down to four. This is set to return to 10 platoons by March 2011. This gap created the opportunity for training teams to escape Catterick for a brief period. Lt Ollie Holcroft and LSgt Nicholson provided assistance to Eton College CCF on their annual exercise in Cyprus. LSgt Thomas D trekked to the top of Mont Blanc with several novice climbers from across the ITC. Lt Ollie Holcroft is set to venture into the other end of the spectrum as he and LSgt Mann deploy to Val d'Isere on Ex Frosted Blade in late November until early January.

As always there have been many arrivals and departures. We have said farewell to Captains Torp-Petersen and Harries, CSgt Mitchell, Sgts Owen and Davies and LSgts Nicholson, Dragon, Redgate and Thomas H. We have welcomed Lt Dobbin, CSgt Burns, Sgt Roper and LSgts Swift and Jones D to Guards Company and LSgts Cahill, Hill and Fulton to the ITC.

In July the Lieutenant Colonel visited Guards Company to take the salute on a passing out parade. After an outstanding performance on the square by Number 22, Platoon Brigadier Madden stayed for lunch and had the chance to catch up with members of No 14 Company. The usual cloud and rain that is a Catterick summer disappeared and the sun shone all day. CSM Hardy, Scots Guards, a keen amateur photographer snapped a super photo for the company album. In late September the Commanding Officer and the Sergeant Major stopped off en route to London from Battalion training in Otterburn. With this being the first opportunity since Op HERRICK 11 to visit No 14 Company the Commanding Officer spoke to a majority of the training staff and observed trainee guardsmen conducting weapon training. In early November the company commander and CSM of Nijmegen Company came



LSgt Swift explaining the finer points of fire and manoeuvre.

to visit trainee guardsmen about to pass out. This was a good excuse for a “Grenadier Gathering” at the local Indian restaurant in Richmond that evening. A formidable force of 22 Grenadiers made a sterling effort to drink and eat their way through the menu. The proprietor was a very happy man by the end of the night. It also gave us the opportunity to say farewell to CSgt Mitchell from the All Arms Drill Wing on his completion of 24 years’ service. A loyal Grenadier and a great character, we wish him well in the future.

The previous several years of intensive operational activity are evident when looking at the breadth of experience across the permanent staff in Guards Company. From the Company Commander down to the Barrack Room Instructor and in between all ranks have been involved at the sharp end of infantry soldiering on operations. The trainee guardsmen benefit hugely from this wealth of experience and understand that what they are being taught has been proven on the battlefield. Basic training remains as rigorous, demanding and challenging as it always was. It is, as always, the experience and character of the instructor combined with that unique and unmistakable Foot Guard’s style of delivery that remains constant.

Visitors, both serving and members of the Association, are always welcome to attend Guards Company Passing Out Parades. Anyone wishing to visit will be guaranteed a spectacle worthy of the trip and of course some good company and refreshment afterwards. Please contact the Second in Command.



The Lieutenant Colonel and members of No 14 Company, July 2010.

The Queen's Company

by *Captain Rupert Stevens*

A month of change for the Sovereign's Company. Up until now, the Company has been split between Lashkah Gar and the checkpoints in Basharan, with platoons and multiples rotating between the two locations for variety except for the Fire Support Group who were dedicated to Check Point North as their sniping and guided missile capability was essential on the FLET. Although the challenge provided by the Company split was wide and testing at times as the men were fleeing between dismounted infanteering, armoured mobile patrolling, stabilisation and securing the population, supporting the special forces and having the world's media on almost every Lashkah Gar patrol, which often resulted in direct engagements with the enemy and IED encounters, living from and defending the patrol bases, living from vehicles in the desert and surging from the relative comfort of the Provincial Capital. Now that the Company has settled for the final two months of the tour in one place a new focus has fallen upon the Monarch's Mob.



2nd Captain, Rupert Stevens.

The Company has moved complete into the patrol bases in Basharan in order to set the conditions for Left Flank Scots Guards to move a full company in with the next Brigade's rotation. The three bases were empty compounds but the ability of the men to make the fairly simple conditions into a homely and almost inviting environment is as strong as ever. Each patrol base holding approximately a platoon as well as Company Headquarters in Patrol Base Tapa Paraang also has an array of pets – dogs, cats and even ducks. The Afghan Army live and work alongside their British counterparts and the Afghan Police who have developed

remarkably quickly in the Basharan area also join the ANA and ISAF on the majority of the Company's patrols.

Working with the ANA and ANP has been hugely eye opening for all of the Company. Joint planning for the Officers has allowed trust and rapport to be built in each nation's ability. The sense of humour among our Afghan counterparts is similar to ours and the men have embraced the joint patrols, recognising that the ANA and ANP are infinitely better than we will ever be at gathering information and recognising when things are not right, although their laissez-faire approach and relaxed outlook on life often sends the driven British Non-Commissioned Officers into a (usually suppressed) blind rage.



The Captain briefs up his team before a town patrol.

Although the Company is almost complete in Basharan and hugely looking forward to working together for the last third of the tour, 3 Platoon and three or four others have been left in Lashkah Gar to work primarily with Special Forces and the ANP Development Headquarters. They will be missed in Basharan but their work will fly the Royal Crest high and proud in the city's District Centre and immediate surroundings.

Finally, our thoughts all go out to the family of one of our section commanders, LSgt Dave Greenhalgh, who tragically died in an IED strike on a Queen's Company Patrol on the 13th February 2010. Gdsm Davis was wounded and has been extracted to Selly Oak and should make a full recovery and Gdsm Pullin has been extracted to Camp Bastion with minor injuries. This incident, the third major one this year for the Company, has made it an even tighter group with more determination to do what is necessary to allow the Government of Afghanistan to take control of its own security as quickly as possible – a job the Company is proud to be doing.

No 2 Company

Having deployed to Afghanistan as a ground holding company in September, the Christmas period saw the Company well established within. Whilst those at home celebrated the Christmas period, the Company was as ever at the forefront of the ongoing Counter Insurgency operation. On Boxing Day 2009 No 2 Company took part in the highly successful operation (Op TOR SHPA'H) to clear Chah-e Mirza, an area in the North-Western corner of Nad-e Ali District, Helmand Province. The Company had been undertaking raids into the area for the last three weeks, in order to find the insurgents and destroy them. Now was the time to bring the area under the control of the government of Afghanistan. Chah-e Mirza consisted of four significant villages (Zorabad, Baluchan, Kakaran and Noorai) and for the previous 12 months had been a 'free movement zone' for the insurgents who had exploited and oppressed the locals in order to mount attacks on central Nad-e Ali, Afghan security forces and ISAF forces.

After the successful clear, which through clever messaging and engagement with locals had resulted in minimal resistance, No 2 Company set about turning Chah-e Mirza into a successful area, which was keen to support the Government and reject the Taliban. The next two months were the most stimulating of the tour as every man in the Company played a vital role in bringing on the locals and securing the area for redevelopment. A vast amount of money was spent on various projects, from schools, wells and electricity to providing gainful employment for the locals, however the real battle was in shaping the minds of the locals to get them to see the longer term future for them and their families. In changing their mindset from one of day-to-day survival to one of seeing the families thrive and their children educated and employed was of huge satisfaction to every man in the Company.

The time flew by and before we knew it the Company was on the move again. In late Feb 2010 we were moved from Patrol Base PIMON to join Battlegroup Headquarters in Forward Operating Base SHAWQAT. The last five weeks of the tour were completely different from our time in WAHID and PIMON, as the political landscape was far more advanced in the central belt of Nad-e Ali. We worked closely with the District Governor to drive forward change and had to work hard to ensure all the successes were seen to be achieved by the local Afghan authorities. The major success here was through the hard work of 6 Platoon, who managed to bring a village on the southern Patrol Base line on side and thus allowed us to increase our area of influence and deny the Taliban an easy route into the District Centre.

The Company returned home in early April 2010 and to see the whole Company singing as one during the decompression concert in Cyprus was a wonderful feeling and showed how strong a team No 2 Company had become. However, like the rest of the Battalion, there was to be no rest on our return to London. First order of business was a medals parade and uniform adjustments, the Master Tailor was under a huge amount of pressure and did a fantastic job. Next came two weeks of well earned leave, however it seemed to pass in a blur and before we knew it we were spending a week in the freezing cold on the drill square at Longmoor. A quick drill refresh and straight into the Gardens of Buckingham Palace for the Presentation of the New Colours. While everyone's head was still fuzzy from the Presentation of Colours we were on the coaches to start training for the Queen's Birthday Parade. No 2 Company provided No 2 Guard appropriately and under the expert guidance of WO2 (CSM) Boak put on a display that hopefully kept up the standards of previous Grenadier Troops; the fact that they had done it in a few weeks made the occasion even more memorable. As we marched down to Horseguards there was no doubt who was at the front of the men's thoughts: Guardsman Jamie Janes, who was the one fatality from the Company during Operation HERRICK 11.



The remainder of June and early July saw the Company on a number of Queen's Guards as well as the Officers and SNCOs flying down to Italy for an enjoyable battlefield tour of Monte Cassino and Anzio. The tour helped to put Afghanistan into a little perspective as we learnt about the massive sacrifices that our forebears in the Grenadiers made and how the lessons of 1944 are just as relevant now as they were then. On return the Company embarked on seven weeks of leave. On their return numerous personalities in the Company changed, including the Company Commander, Major Chris Sargent WG taking over from

Major Richard Green, who moved to become the Captain and WO2 (CSM) Boak moving to the RMAS and handing over to WO2 (CSM) Cox.

Since September the Company has had a busy period of Public Duties interspersed with Company and Platoon level exercises as well as Adventurous Training. The Company went to Aldershot and Otterburn in September to conduct live firing and dry training and for once were blessed with good weather. The dry training took the form of conventional training with the aim being to readjust personnel to high tempo conventional operations away from the current COIN-focused training. This was a great success and allowed members of the company to relearn and practise the art of conventional soldiering. The exercise ended with an insertion march and a classic company attack into one of the training area's notorious forestry blocks. Chaos ruled but valuable lessons were identified which will allow the Company to continue to develop and learn crucial tactical skills sets. October and November saw a focus on adventurous training with members of the Company deploying to Germany for freefalling (sadly hampered by the German weather!), Wales for paragliding and canoeing in North Wales. Adventurous training will continue with a number of the Company embarking on Ex Winter Warrior in the New Year. At the time of writing two members of the Company, Lt Stafford-Allen and Gdsm Martin are representing the Battalion in Val D'Isere at the Infantry Ski Championships; it is a tough life!

It has been a busy period and at the time of writing the Company are looking forward to a well-earned break over Christmas, before embarking on the preparatory training for Ex Prairie Thunder in July and the unit move to Aldershot. Many challenges lie ahead but the Company remains focused to meet these head-on.

Inkerman Company

The Inkerman Company waved goodbye to HERRICK XI at the end of March, leaving the small Afghan town of Sharzad and six months hard work and progress in the hands of Anzio Company of the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment. The world's most complicated relief in place saw the Company finally come together complete once again in Camp Bastion before our onward flight home via Cyprus.

In the rain at Wellington Barracks we were greeted by a hoard of families, lovers and friends for a long anticipated reunion. After a couple of nights in our own beds it was back to work for a series of briefings, the unpacking of freight and other important post-tour administration. During this time we were able to catch

up with other members of the Company who had left Afghanistan early, for one reason or another, updating them on the progress made right up to the end of what had been a busy tour.

After what felt like the shortest post-tour leave ever (two weeks, more was to follow) we found ourselves in Longmoor Camp in the capable hands of the Sergeant Major and his Drill Sergeants. We were all reintroduced to the drill square whilst squeezing in annual training round the edges. We conducted tests on weapons that had only the previous month been fired in anger. Under the ever watchful eye of the Company Sergeant Major the Company's drill muscle memory slowly returned and our 'strike' grew louder and timing more confident. Next the Presentation of new Colours was upon us. The parade went smoothly and a gentle sigh of relief could be heard from all involved. After the parade there was the opportunity to meet colleagues' friends and families and to share experiences from the tour and from the home front over some excellent food.

From one parade to the next, Trooping the Colour. The first of many rehearsals was upon us. We would form our Guard from the Company group that served in Afghanistan, our Fire Support Group attachments from Support Company rejoined us and the Company was again complete less a few notable absences. After the short sharp shock of Longmoor the prospect of countless laps around the infamous Pirbright Drill Square filled the Company with dread, but again the Sergeants' Mess with their unique blend of discipline and humour turned a dreaded task into an enjoyable period.

On the day the Company formed No 3 Guard with the added responsibility of opening to allow the carriages onto Horse Guards Parade and soon got over any nerves to get quickly into the Parade. It was a proud moment, made especially more so by the fact the Company had fought together in Sharzad for six months beforehand. It was a sharp turn around but one that all felt was rewarding and has set the bar for future parades.

Until the Troop we had very much remained as the Company Group from the Op HERRICK ORBAT, providing stability and continuity throughout one of the busiest periods of the year, but with the Troop complete it was time for a change.

The Company Commander Major Boanas (Irish Guards) who had successfully led the Company through the tour handed over to Major Green, the former taking a new post on promotion as SO1 Media at HQ Land Forces. WO2 (CSM) Walker left to become Drill Sergeant of the Princess of Wales Royal Regiment handing over to WO2 (CSM) Frith who had been with the Queens' Company throughout the tour. Captain Swanston the Second in Command demobilized and returned to the London Regiment and Captain Torp-Petersen arrived to take post. Captain Kuku left his



The Inkerman Company, Afghanistan.

post as Plans Officer and started his new job as Mortar Platoon Commander. Lts Rice and Bayliss had already moved to Nijmegen Company and Sgt Bennison to the Reconnaissance Platoon. Sgt Summerscales took up a post at OPTAG. Quite a turnover of personalities.

On our return further changes occurred with 19 Guardsmen heading off to Support Company and an influx of high quality new draft from Nijmegen. After a couple of days in camp reciting stories as to how people had managed to annoy their loved ones or what DIY people had managed to do with seven weeks of free time, the Company deployed on Ex GRENADIER GRASP. The exercise consisted of a week on Aldershot training area followed by two weeks in Otterburn where the Company completed dry and live training. The aim of the exercise was to remind and revise low level skills. Back to basics soldiering, ensuring the basics were done well. A demanding exercise that soon came to be known as the Green, Frith, Wellesley-Wood battle camp! The Company performed well integrating all of its new additions whilst being reminded how challenging the terrain and weather in Northern England can be.

October and November saw a return to Public Duties. With the Company warned off for an exercise in Canada as part of the KRH Battlegroup in April 2011. The training focus around duties has shifted to preparing to work with an armoured formation a task that has not been undertaken by a Grenadier Company for some time. We were also crowned the Battalion Drill Champions. Unlucky for the Queen's Company, up the Ribs!

What a difference a year makes. Inkerman Day 2009 saw call signs patrolling into the Company HQ FOB to have a fresh meal, for some their only fresh food of the tour. A year on and we were mounting Queen's Guard.

We were pleased to be joined by former members of the 3rd Battalion who had come to watch the Guard Mount and share experiences between the generations.

The Company proudly represented the Foot Guards at the Cenotaph Parade, a poignant moment for all, allowing everyone to reflect on fallen comrades. This time under the new Company Sergeant Major's guiding presence. It went well, of course, and was another parade to be proud of.

We are pleased to report that in the run up to Christmas the Company is in good order after an incredibly diverse, busy and rewarding year. The strength of the Company continues to lie in its professionalism, determination and humour. This is supported by our rich history and the pride we take in continuing to represent and honour the 3rd Battalion and its customs, within the 1st Battalion. At the time of writing we are looking forward to the thrilling prospect of Christmas at home.



Crossing a river to get to Yellow 12.

Impressions of a young officer on his first year in the Regiment

by Lt James Brown

Going through Sandhurst as an officer cadet from September 2008 to August 2009 there was never any doubt that the Army my fellow officer cadets and I had chosen to join was a busy one. Platoon commanding in the Foot Guards is a fast paced and varied life for young officers. Just how fast paced and varied I was to find out very quickly in my first year with the Battalion.

I was commissioned into the Grenadier Guards in August 2009. After completing a challenging but extremely fulfilling three months on the Platoon Commander Battle Course in Brecon I joined Nijmegen Company on public duties in London. This made for a sudden change from December in the Welsh mountains as I found myself mounting my first Queen's Guard two days after arriving in London. London life did not last long as, along with the two other officers who joined the Grenadiers with me, we flew out in the early hours of a January morning to join the 1st Battalion in Afghanistan. After a few days of in-theatre briefs and lessons the other two platoon commanders and I left to go our separate ways. This was a strange moment, probably the moment when it all became rather real for the three of us. We had gone through the whole of Sandhurst, the Platoon Commanders Battle Course and our introduction to public duties together. Going our separate ways, one to each company, in the middle of Afghanistan was a poignant moment. However the prospect of commanding a platoon of guardsmen on operations was outstanding.

I joined The Queen's Company in Lashkar Gah. On my first evening there and at the end of an enemy forces brief I was also given the news that I was likely to be the Ensign on the Trooping the Colour later in the year and to that end I should probably see the Company Sergeant Major about getting some sort of drill done! This was my first real experience of the two seemingly different worlds of the Guards coming together.

After a few days operating from Lashkar Gah, conducting joint security patrols with Afghan security forces, compound searches and reassurance patrols I travelled north to join the remainder of the Company, and importantly for me the multiple I was to take over. I moved up to one of the Check Points in the Basharan district and after spending a few days getting to know the guardsmen, the local population and the local

insurgents, I took over the Alpha multiple of 1 Platoon. The joy at being given a platoon of guardsmen properly for the first time made all those long days and short nights at Sandhurst and the blood and sweat on the Platoon Commander Battle Course seem utterly worthwhile. I moved back to Lashkar Gah with my multiple and began operating in and around the Bowan Desert and southern Basharan District. We spent most days and a good amount of nights disrupting insurgents attempting to lay improvised explosive devices and reassuring the local population in the area. We spent several mornings patrolling from laying up positions before sunrise with temperatures commonly of -4°C and -5°C . After a few weeks we moved to take over Check Point South, one of two key check points in the Basharan area. This check point would be shared with 22 members of the Afghan National Army.



The author with members of 1 Platoon, The Queen's Company in Check Point South, March 2010.

Check Point South was to become our home for the remainder of the tour. It was amazing to see how the guardsmen set about making this small set of compounds their own and building the vital relationship with our Afghan partners. In order to maintain the hard work of our predecessors and keep the insurgents on the back foot, a vigorous patrol programme was made, with at least two patrols per day, being common practice, some for eight hours or more. The time in between patrols was spent with our Afghan National Army (ANA) counterparts, conducting shuras and working with the local population in every aspect of providing security from construction to finance. This time also provided me with a wonderful opportunity to get to know the men I commanded. The guardsmen were brilliant throughout and the Non-Commissioned Officers made things happen efficiently, to a high standard and all seemingly without effort. Whilst this was hugely reassuring to a young platoon commander the ANA were often left in a state of utter confusion as to why these soldiers seemed to care so much about things being kept in a clean and serviceable condition!

As well as becoming fully embedded with the ANA we were also responsible for helping to train the Afghan National Police who worked in the area. Both of these tasks required different skills in negotiation and diplomacy, much the same as working with the local population. The difference that we were able to see in the lives of the local population and the abilities of the security forces made the hard work by the guardsmen extremely worthwhile.



The author with local children over the Afghan New Year having handed out radios and other presents.

It was a wonderful feeling being able to return to the UK with The Queen's Company. However within 24 hours of returning to the UK The Queen's Company was on parade in bearskins and tunics. This was a particularly strange experience for all those involved but it was also a sign of things to come. After two short weeks of leave there began a fast-paced set of training down in Longmoor camp in Hampshire to prepare for the presentation of New Colours. Having only had those first few weeks with Nijmegen Company doing public duties the prospect of being one of the Ensigns for the presentation of New Colours and then the Ensign on the Trooping of the Colour was, to say the very least, a daunting one.

The Trooping of the Colour brought with it many



After only six weeks training The Queen's Company as the Escort on the Queen's Birthday Parade June 2010.

more early morning rehearsals. The Battalion bussing down to Pirbright before first light to train and then on the days between mounting guard from Horseguards before attempting to fit in the day to day military training required to keep the Battalion up to standard. All the training and hard work of the weeks leading up to the Trooping of the Colour paid off on the day. It was a tremendous honour to be the Ensign on the parade and to carry the Queen's Colour. The day was made even more special as I knew the guardsmen who stood immaculately in bearskins and tunics had only a few weeks before been in dirty combats and body armour in the middle of Helmand Province, Afghanistan. I have truly seen the legendary ability of guardsmen to conduct operations in a challenging environment to incredibly high standard as well as perform with utter precision and style on the drill square. The team work, high standards, dedication and attention to detail learned in both environments has never been so strong. I have been extremely fortunate to work with some excellent Non-Commissioned Officers in my first year both on the drill square and on operations. Their patience and teaching ability on the drill square and their utter professionalism on operations has, I believe, developed me professionally and helped to make my first year with the Battalion so enjoyable.



Lt James Brown, Ensign on parade carrying the Queen's Colour.

My first year with the Grenadier Guards has been incredibly varied. I have been incredibly lucky and honoured to take part in some unique activities and it has been my greatest privilege to have had the opportunity to lead guardsmen on operations. As I reflect on the last year and look towards the future there is no doubt that the pace of life for any young officer joining the Army now will continue.

One year in the Battalion

by *Guardsman Dexter*

Upon leaving training at the end of May 2009 I was sent to the Grenadier Guards ceremonial company, Nijmegen Company. On arrival the Company was preparing for the Trooping of the Colour so I was involved in plenty of drill lessons.

However, when it came to being issued our home service clothing there were no tunics that fitted me, sadly meaning that despite all the training I was unable to take part in the ceremonial duties. This was not all bad as it meant that while the others were out on drill I could work on my fitness!

As the year passed by and the 1st Battalion deployed to Afghanistan, Nijmegen was preparing to send two 'waves' of soldiers to bolster numbers – one group leaving before Christmas and the other straight after. As luck would have it I managed to get out with my friends on the first group as with someone forgetting their passport a place opened up for me – I was off to the desert!



Quick break – lads taking a rest during a patrol.

Once I had arrived in Afghanistan and been transported into what was to become my Company – The Queen's Company – I think I can speak for everyone that was with me in saying we did not know what to expect. We had all our briefs and all our training but we knew few if any of the people we were now to work alongside.

However, despite all the original worries the weeks rolled by and we were welcomed into the company and helped massively by those with more experience. The tour flew by and throughout it I think we all experienced different things, some good, some bad, leaving us each with our own unique perspectives on the operations we had been a part of.

Then with April came the end of our time in Afghanistan, and it was time to return home. After two weeks leave it was straight from one extreme to another

as we moved into the rehearsals for 'The Trooping of The Colour 2010' where The Queen's Company was to provide the Escort to the Colour.

I think it is fair to say that morale was dented due to not a lot of leave before we were back to work and polishing boots, but in another way once the parade was over we all knew that we had seven weeks off over summer to look forward to! So heads down we worked hard and after what was said to have been a very successful parade we were off to lounge in the sun!

On returning from the summer the Battalion deployed onto a gruelling three-week exercise based in Aldershot and Otterburn. After seven weeks' leave even a week's exercise would have been demanding so it was a good wake up call and put us straight back in to the right mentality to do the job at hand, to soldier.

At the end of the exercise I was asked if I would be interested in attending the promotions course in January to promote to Lance Corporal, something which I am very excited about and cannot wait to do. I cannot believe it has barely been a year but it has been a good one and I cannot believe that I am now where I am today.

Exercise Cockney Manta Ray – Thailand, Summer 2010

Whilst deployed on Operation HERRICK 11, Exercise COCKNEY MANTA RAY came into being. A scuba-diving expedition to Thailand was the initial plan, however, this soon grew to include the aspiration to take up to five soldiers from the Battalion injured during the course of the operational tour. Whilst still deployed, interested soldiers signed up, and under the constant help of the Welfare Officer, Captain 'Stumpy' Keeley, in the UK five injured soldiers were identified and began the process of 'Try-dives' and medicals.

In the end, nineteen deployed on the expedition, based from Phuket, and boarding a Chinese 'Junk' for the five days of diving. Somewhat out of season, the weather was not great, and this limited visibility underwater, however that did not stop expedition members completing their diving qualifications, completing three day and one night dive each day. Spending a number of days in the area of Phi Phi, an area devastated by the 'Boxing Day Tsunami' in 2004 it was good to see that over five years on, the regeneration was complete. A few expedition members visited the Phi Phi Tsunami Memorial, just off the island.

The expedition also capitalised on their time in

Thailand, conducting day trips to Wat Chalong, a major Buddhist shrine in the Phuket area, and the Akenakkiri Buddha, a giant statue sat benevolently on a hilltop, and costing \$4m. An elephant ride and introduction to rice farming were also undertaken at a Thai 'theme park' highlighting the traditional Thai way of life.

In the end, only one injured soldier was able to come on the expedition, LSgt Cumberland from Support Company. He completed his Ocean Diver qualification with the help of the expedition's civilian instructor, and was an outstanding source of inspiration to all of us on the expedition.

The Sergeants' Mess

Since the last edition, the Battalion has continued with a busy State Ceremonial season with the Sergeants' Mess driving forward the Battalion as always.

After a spell of leave and after the Queen's Birthday Parade, the Mess led the way as the Battalion switched focus on to more ceremonial duties, balanced with some progressive foundation tactical training. Involved in the State Opening of Parliament, State Visits and routine Queen's Guards, the Mess has continued to focus on upholding standards of excellence. In October we also laid up our Old Colours in Lincoln Cathedral after a freedom parade. The 'engine room' is running on full steam and continues to take all tasks in its stride giving leadership and direction throughout.



WO1 (RSM) Farrell and WO1 (RSM) Gillham together in Afghanistan.

November saw the annual Sergeants' Mess Past and Present Dinner which was well attended and proved a successful evening, culminating in the small hours and producing some sore heads. The Mess will shortly bid a fond farewell to WO2 (RQMS) Hawkins, WO2 (RQMS) Hill, WO2 Hillier, and Sgt Golding after 22 years proud and loyal service. We wish them and their families every success and happiness in the future. They will always be part of the Grenadier family.

The current Mess Seniors are WO1 (RSM) I Farrell, WO2s G Snazle, D Westlake, D Taylor, R Marriott, S Edgell, R Day, S Williams, M Cox, P Downes, P Childs, J Frith, M Pollitt, and M Howlin.

NIJMEGEN COMPANY

Wellington Barracks, London

It has once again been a varied year for Nijmegen Company. The new Company Commander, Major Rupert King-Evans, had just settled in when there was a major change in the Company hierarchy in the opening months of the year. The Second-In-Command, Captain Tom Hamilton, left the Army and was replaced by Captain Rawlins from No 2 Company. The three new platoon commanders, Lts Bayliss, Hutton and Rice, returned from OP HERRICK 11 between January and April to take over their platoons.

After a typically wet exercise in Sennybridge, the first major event of the year was performing a Guard of Honour for the President of South Africa on a bitterly cold February morning. It is testament to the guardsmen that less than 72 hours later they were in

Kenya for EX GRAND PRIX, playing enemy for the Irish Guards Battle Group on their main pre-deployment exercise. For six weeks the Company deployed to the bush, first providing troops for Company level training and then culminating in a 'Free Play' enemy against the entire Battle Group. For two solid days, guardsmen fresh from training seemed to hold a Battalion off. However, in the end superior numbers (and perhaps OPTAGs help) won through and Nijmegen Company was defeated in a dawn attack on their 'Insurgent Village'. The experience was enjoyed by all and rewarded with a week by the pool on R&R.

As soon as Nijmegen Company were back from the equatorial sun (and rain), the Company were thrown straight back into the washing machine of Public

Duties. There were nine back to back Windsor Castle Guards for Easter Court and a healthy smattering of Queen's Guards. For this Company Sergeant Major Edgell became the Drill Sergeant for the Battalion and Company Sergeant Major Bearder joined the Company. Within a month of returning from Kenya the long build up to the Queen's Birthday Parade had begun. The Company soon got used to the parade square down at Pirbright and Horseguards itself. Despite the long build-up, the focus of the guardsmen remained steady throughout, with the event itself being widely praised by those that saw it. Providing Number 4 Guard for the 1st Battalion was special for all involved. It was also great for the junior guardsmen to see the professionalism of the Battalion and how easily they were able to revert from green soldiering to ceremonial duties. After the parade the Company pressed on with another month of Public Duties covering the 1st Battalion while they were on leave. However, there were some breaks with small groups able to gain some adventurous training qualifications in north Wales.

On returning from a well deserved summer leave in September, a small group from the Company set out to retrace the steps of 'Operation Market Garden' by bicycle. Led by the Company Commander, the team cycled from Brussels to Arnhem covering the 350 miles in 5 days. Despite Major King-Evans taking a serious tumble, the team made it to the end and in doing so raised nearly £10,000 for 'Help for Heroes'. The Company plan to follow up this great success with a ride from John O'Groats to Lands End next summer in aid of the Colonels Fund.

The rest of the year panned out in the more traditional form of a range concentration followed by a long patrols exercise with Number 7 Company, Coldstream Guards. Conducted over a week down on Bodmin Moor in some truly horrific weather conditions, sections raced across

the moors collecting unmanned checkpoints and undertaking tasks at manned ones. It was again credit to the guardsmen that they were able to apply themselves to this, days after coming off ceremonial duties. At the end of the year, a team went to Tignes, with some from the other Incremental Companies, to get both their basic and advanced ski proficiencies.

No one can deny that it has been a busy and varied year for Nijmegen Company. It has been a testament to the junior guardsmen that they have been able to adapt so well to the challenges thrown at them. 2011 promises to be the same, with a ski touring trip to Austria and a Guard of Honour to mark the 20th Anniversary of the Gulf War in Kuwait, already on the cards. It is good to see that with the Battalion already looking towards the next operational tour of Afghanistan, Nijmegen Company is busy with a diverse programme that gives guardsmen an exciting start to their military career.



Major Rupert King-Evans escorts President Zuma on his inspection of the Guard of Honour found from Nijmegen Company.

Exercise Telemark Titan 2011

On the seventh of January the team from Nijmegen Company deployed on Exercise Telemark Titan Twenty Eleven. We arrived in Rauris in Austria to be greeted by the Army Telemark Ski Association (ATSA).

When we first turned up on the slopes in the morning we had to do an initial assessment to put us into our different groups depending what stage we were at. Then you could go off into your specific groups to be trained accordingly. Gdsm Cox, Gdsm Elliott, Gdsm O'Keeffe were in group 4 under instruction by Bart Kuiper and Gdsm Wakeling in Group 5 under instruction of Martin and CSgt Heale in Group 2. After a while the groups dispersed and carried on with the lessons for the day, the normal timings were from 0845hrs until 1100hrs followed by a lunch break and then another further two

hours of lessons until the groups were free to ski or to go back to the hotel.

Over the next few days each group did a certain training course doing various exercises to work on all aspects of Telemark skiing, from balancing on either leg to keeping your upper body straight and to only move the legs. During the later stages of the week each group had developed well and had to move on to race training, which involved gate and jump training. The next day started with the Seeding Race which meant that every participant in this year's competitions had to complete two runs down a set course, where both of their times would be added together to make their given time, where penalties could be given if the turn was not executed correctly when passing through each gate, if the jump was not landed in a stable Telemark position and that the jump was not cleared by the required

amount. This would then mean that every person over a certain time would make it through to the championship race.

This race consisted of 55 people and an average of 30-40 gates on a red route which was made a lot harder by the weather. With no snow in the day and the cold temperature at night it made the skiing a lot harder, and the slope difficult to grip especially after it had been raced on before, causing ruts; a line made by previous racers could be costly to break and could cause you to fall off the course route, which makes a great difference in your finishing time. CSgt Heale finished 39th, Gdsm O'Keeffe finished 48th with Gdsm Cox finishing 50th, therefore dropping the two guardsmen into the Novice races.



Sunday brought the Novice Sprint where the racing conditions were becoming better throughout the course. The Novice Sprint again was done over two separate runs and then the two times combined, however this course had added elements. Competitors have to navigate through the gates up to the jump and in the tele position and into the next turn, where the gates would turn to yellow therefore enabling you to ski in your preferred way. Skiers had skate up to some poles laid out and complete a 360 degree turn and skate to the finish. The results were Gdsm Cox 2nd place, Gdsm O'Keeffe 7th place, Gdsm Elliott 15th place and Gdsm Wakeling in 31st place having fallen twice.

The Championship Sprint race was held on the Kreuzboden, the first run was harder and more challenging the second run was slightly easier due to the widening of the gates however there were still many fallers due to poor piste conditions. CSgt Heale finished 34th from 40th.

The Novice classic was held on the Tuesday and that consisted of 15 gates, a longer skating session and only one run down. Once the race had started there was a

great atmosphere as the championship racers were cheering on the novices. Once the race had finished there was a prizegiving in the cafe; Gdsm Cox finished 2nd and Gdsm O'Keeffe finished 3rd, Gdsm Elliott finished 7th, Gdsm Wakeling 23rd. The overall best improved novice skier throughout the competition was Gdsm Cox.

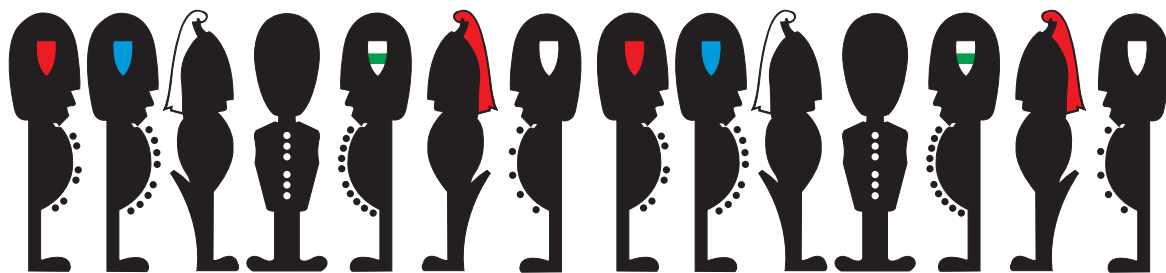


Gdsm Cox: As this was my second season of Telemark skiing I had hoped to do a bit better than the previous year. With race training complete I was feeling quite confident in my skiing, I was even more confident after my first race where I came first in the Telemark novice race and then second in the Telemark classic. I am hoping to try and make next year's

Telemark championship where I would like to move up to the championship races.

Gdsm Wakeling: I enjoyed my second year on Exercise Telemark Titan, even though I still haven't completely got the discipline. I find it unique and it is on a whole different level compared to alpine. The races I took part in were the novice races and they were quite similar to last year's courses. This year there were many more competitors which gave me a lot more incentive to win. Also this competition gave me a great chance to talk to other units in the Army and also different aspects of the Forces and I made some good friends to have a laugh with over the time I was there.





Horse Guards News

VIEW FROM HORSE GUARDS

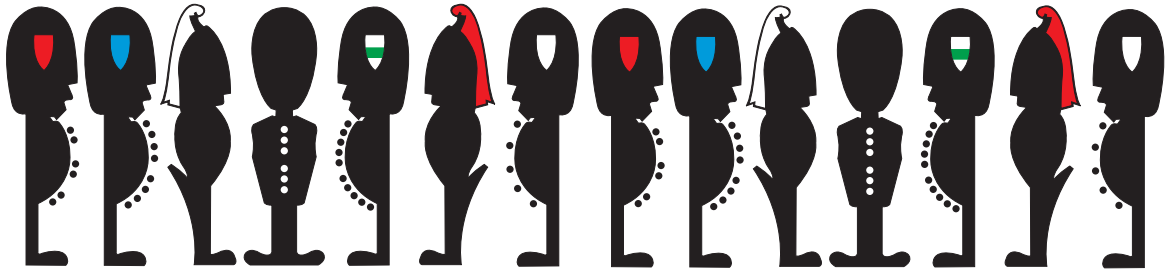
As was the case in 2009, the Household Division has continued to make a significant contribution to operations in Afghanistan in 2010. The early part of the year saw the Household Cavalry Regiment, 1st Bn Grenadier Guards and the 1st Bn Coldstream Guards continuing their hard but effective work in the ground holding role. They returned in April and were replaced by 1st Bn Scots Guards (as part of 4th Mechanised Brigade) who themselves were replaced by 1st Bn Irish Guards and D Squadron, The Household Cavalry Regiment; both parts of 16 Air Assault Brigade. The Irish Guards are providing both ground holding companies and Advisory Teams to Afghan Kandaks (Bns). The latter is particularly officer and senior non-commissioned officer heavy and the Battalion has, as a result, been reinforced from across the Division – a true blue, red, blue organisation. Sadly the fighting is no less fierce and there has continued to be a steady stream of casualties and the horrific injuries which many endure as a result of IEDs remain all too prevalent. Nonetheless the officers and guardsmen have been magnificent and the Household Division is justly proud of their courage, their fortitude and all that they have achieved. As a result it was particularly pleasing to see the Household Cavalry Regiment, 1st Bn Grenadier Guards and the 1st Bn Coldstream Guards rewarded for their tours with one OBE, an MBE, one DSO, one CGC, five MCs (one posthumous), nine MIDs; the MBE and four of the MCs from one company alone.

In keeping with the unique nature of our dual role, and despite the Division's contribution to operations, the Queen's Birthday Parade was a 'stormer'. The same character, application and leadership that saw 1st Bn Grenadier Guards through its tour was very much to the fore as it prepared and then conducted a wonderful parade, only six weeks after recovering

from Afghanistan. The Battalion were very clearly up for it and the result was vintage stuff; crisp arms drill, chests swelling with pride and a very, very smart 'Escort'. The BBC documentary that accompanied the parade helped to cement the achievement and made poster boys of a few, not least the Commanding Officer.

In other news and following on from the restoration of the Guards Memorial in Brompton Cemetery, Headquarters Household Division held a Service to Rededicate it in early May, based on the original 1889 Service of Dedication. All the regiments were represented. Meanwhile, the Household Division's Charitable Funds have been reorganised into a structure fit for the 21st century. Instead of the nine or ten different charitable funds there are now four: The Household Division Charity, the Guards Chapel, the Guards Museum and the Queens Guard Officers' Mess, with bulk of the funds and the grant making arm sat within the former. The re-organisation should make their administration easier and more efficient and allow greater flexibility when making grants. Change has also been a theme at the Guards Chapel where Major General Sir Robert Corbet has handed over the chairmanship of the Guards Chapel Advisory Committee to Major General Sir Iain Mackay-Dick after 18 years and Padre Clinton Langston has replaced Padre Paul Wright as the Senior Chaplain. The Chapel and the Headquarters are enormously grateful for their tremendous service, particularly during the last two years as the Chapel has catered to rather too many funerals of those killed on operations. On a happier note and in a new initiative, the Major General held a Captain's briefing day in late October at the Cavalry and Guards Club to which all serving Captains were invited with the aim of better informing them of what lay ahead both within and without the Army. The SO2 Foot Guards at the Army Personnel Centre arranged it and various speakers gave talks ranging from 'In vs Out',

Septem Juncta in Uno



'Living the Dream', 'Still In' to the imaginatively titled 'G Sqn 22 SAS'. It was followed by a late lunch at the Guards Museum. The day proved a success and there are hopes for more in the future.

Looking ahead and out the other side of the Strategic Defence and Security Review, it seems likely that Public Duties and State Ceremonial will continue on their current scale and in their current guise. There appears recognition that the effect that they have is a strategic one and needs to be maintained. Linked to this is the decision not to reduce the number of Infantry Battalions while we remain committed to Afghanistan. As a consequence the Headquarters is optimistic that the current Divisional structure will remain for the time being. Meanwhile the Arms plots due to take place this year

will go ahead as planned. In March/April this year 1st Bn Grenadier Guards will move to Lille Barracks in Aldershot, 1st Bn Welsh Guards to Cavalry Barracks, Hounslow and the Public Duties Incremental Companies will move to Wellington Barracks under the London Central Garrison which forms up on 1st April. In September 1st Bn Coldstream Guards will replace 1st Bn Irish Guards in Victoria Barracks, Windsor and the latter will replace them in Mons Barracks, Aldershot.

Finally, both the Major General and Brigade Major handover this year after just short of four years and just over 3 years in post respectively. They are to be replaced by Major General George Norton late of the Grenadier Guards and Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Speed SG.

Septem Juncta in Uno

Replacing the kneelers in the Guards Chapel

Visitors to the Guards' Chapel may have noticed that the Chapel's seat cushions are gradually being replaced. The architect Bruce George designed the 'new' Chapel which was completed in 1963, and past and serving members of the Household Division, with other benefactors, notably veterans of 6th South African Division, with whom 24th Guards Brigade served in the Italian Campaign (1944-45) subscribed money for the pews, screens, kneelers and other items. After nearly fifty years or so, however, the cushions and kneelers are in need of replacement.

Over the past three years, the Household Division has paid for new kneelers and seat cushions for the choir, and has begun an 11 year project to replace the 484 congregation seat cushions. To date 143 have been renewed and the Guards' Chapel Committee now wishes to start replacing the kneelers. Some were renewed about 15 years ago with attractive, machine-embroidered regimental ciphers, stars and badges, however, wear and tear and fire regulations relating

to furnishings mean that the existing kneelers will all have to be replaced in the medium term. The new kneelers will follow the pattern of those made in the 1990s.

The Household Division is therefore inviting individuals to 'sponsor' kneelers. It is hoped that individuals and battalions, independent companies, Household Division and regimental clubs, and Regimental Association branches will be prepared to contribute kneelers with their various cyphers, stars and badges. The broad intention is that each regiment should have 66 kneelers

Each kneeler will cost £140.00 (until late 2011); sponsors may ask for the old kneeler that they have replaced.

Please write to The Treasurer, Household Division Funds (Horse Guards, LONDON, SW1A 2AX) who will send an application form: it would be helpful if envelopes on this subject could be marked 'Kneelers'. Alternatively, potential sponsors can get in touch with the Treasurer by emailing LONDIST-SO3Accounts@mod.uk, and an application form will be returned.



WHERE ARE THEY THIS YEAR?

by Major Guy Stone, Welsh Guards

By way of introduction, I took over from Major Edmund Wilson, Irish Guards as the Foot Guards MS man in the Army Personnel Centre in Glasgow in April 2010 having been 1 WG's Second-in-Command. The post at Glasgow is an exceptionally enjoyable one which gives great access to the Foot Guards Regiments, Battalions and Incremental Companies. It a privilege to help manage the careers of the more junior Grenadiers (Majors and below) and indeed to write some Military Secretary notes for the Grenadier Gazette.

The Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, **Brig David Maddan**, continues in command of 15 (North East) Brigade which is currently based in York but is potentially relocating to Catterick over the next few years. He will shortly go to Afghanistan and handover his Brigade to **Brig Greville Bibby**, mentioned as a former Grenadier, although he now wears his buttons in pairs!

Brig George Norton will return from his tour in Afghanistan as Deputy Commander Regional Command (SW) in March and he assumes command of the Household Division as The Major General in July. He has selected **Capt Folarin Kuku** as his first Aide-de-Camp.

Col Richard Winstanley has been appointed AD Personnel at Headquarters Infantry following his two years in Glasgow as Colonel MS Officers (Combat). He will be missed in Glasgow but, as an Infantry Board Member, he will be back frequently to Scotland for promotion and appointments boards. **Col David Russell-Parsons** is Deputy Commander 38 (Irish) Brigade. The Comd is **Brig Ed Smth-Osbourne** so, with the two of them at the top, it is a good place for more junior blue-red-blue officers to work. **Col Robert Mills** is working in the Ministry of Defence.

Lt Col Tim Jalland was appointed Lieutenant Colonel Foot Guards in the Autumn and spends time on policy in Warminster with the Director Infantry and London with The Major General, as well as managing Late Entry Officers and Warrant Officers in the Regiments. **Lt Col Carew Hatherley** continued in his role as Team Leader in the Army Inspectorate until his retirement last year. **Lt Col Jerry Levine** is SO1 Information Management and Requirements at C2DC –

the Doctrine Centre, and **Lt Col Johnny Wrench**, having completed French Staff College, is SO1 G3 Operations Support at Headquarters 3rd (United Kingdom) Division. **Lt Col Richard Maundrell** is a SO1 at the Defence Academy having completed the Advanced Command and Staff Course.

Lt Col Guy Denison-Smith is turning everyone green with envy. He was selected for a SO1 appointment with the United Nation in Manhattan. So, with a New York apartment on 5th Avenue and a General's salary, he is not as popular as he was! **Lt Col James Bowder**, following an exceptional period as Chief of Staff 11 Light Brigade in Helmand, is currently studying on the Advanced Command and Staff College and will assume command of the First Battalion from **Lt Col Roly Walker** later in 2011. He will continue to prepare the Battalion for Afghanistan under 12 Mechanised Brigade with deployment currently planned for April-October 2012.

The Grenadier Guards have particularly capable Majors. **Major Andrew James**, following his three years as the Senior Major, takes over as Academy Adjutant at RMA Sandhurst in March. He has completed four operational tours in five years, so it will be a pleasant change for him and the James' family and many congratulations go to him on his recent promotion. **Major Martin David** has been selected for the French Staff College and avoids any language training as he is fluent; so he should be – he lives there! **Major Simon Soskin** has done exceptional work during a six month tour in the Falklands Islands. He was sent there unexpectedly to grip some operational issues and he returned in January and takes up his new appointment as SO2 G1 Personnel at Headquarters Infantry. **Major Mike Griffiths** deployed to Afghanistan with the Irish Guards in October as 'their man' in the Brigade Headquarters. He returns in March to take up a high profile appointment in the Land Warfare Development Group as their Executive Officer. In the technical world in Bristol, **Major Toby Barnes-Taylor** is a Chief of Staff until the summer. **Major Chips Broughton** is serving in Afghanistan. **Major Alex Cartwright** is studying at the Staff College in Pakistan and living in a large house with a swimming pool and a number of staff! **Major Marcus Elliot-Square** continues in PS12 where he has a range of responsibilities, including aspects of the Royal Wedding in April. He is the principal officer for repatriations from Afghanistan, a highly sensitive and demanding role in

which he has earned great praise and reputation. **Major Ed Paintin** is a key staff officer in Headquarters British Forces Cyprus and **Major Andrew Seddon** is student on the Intermediate Command and Staff Course (Land). Once complete, he will take up his initial SO2 appointment in Battlespace Management.

The Battalion's Company Commanders are an impressive team: **Major Richard Green** continues as The Captain until the summer when he will hand over to **Major Piers Ashfield** on his return from 1st (United Kingdom) Division in Germany. Number 2 Company is commanded by **Major Christopher Sargent WG** until late 2012. The Inkerman Company is commanded by **Major Jim Green** until he goes to Staff College in September and hands over to **Major Dominic Alkin** who will finish as Chief of Staff for the next generation of medium sized armoured vehicles in Bristol. **Major Simon Gordon-Lennox** will take Support Company through 2011 and into Afghanistan and **Vince Gaunt** continues in command in Headquarter Company with **Major Skid Dorney** and **Capt Gordon Gask** as the Quartermasters. **Major Rupert King-Evans** continues to command Nijmegen Company and will be very busy over the coming months with intensive State Ceremonial and the build up to the 2012 Olympics.

Major James Greaves is a student at Staff College in the United States and is due to return in summer 2012.

A number of captains are in key appointments outside the Battalion: **Capt Ben Jesty** is Adjutant of New College at RMA Sandhurst, **Capt James Shaw** is running the Northern Ireland desk in the Operations Directorate and **Capt Howard Cordle** is Adjutant of the Central London Garrison, a significant appointment as currently there is no Commanding Officer! **Nigel Torp-Peterson** will become Adjutant of The London Regiment in September. Within the Battalion, **Capt James Young** continues as Operations Officer and **Capt James Fox** hands over as Adjutant to **Capt Rupert Stevens**, who I will leave to tell you about the junior captains and subalterns!

So, there are Grenadier officers everywhere including Afghanistan, the United States, Cyprus, Germany, France and Northern Ireland, all in high profile appointments. Much work continues to ensure that Grenadiers secure some of the best appointments outside the Regiment, particularly the captains and majors, in order to ensure success as early as possible on the Beige and Pink Lists respectively. In addition, as you would expect, a very strong team is being developed for the next tour of Afghanistan in 2012.

Major Andrew Green



Major Andrew Green began life as a Grenadier in February 1976 when, during his time at the Recruit Selection Centre at Sutton Coldfield, and after a rather

persuasive interview by Captain JE Larkin (Coldm Gds) he was encouraged to join the Guards Division. The most vivid memory of his first day at the Guards Depot prior to being sent home with a short back and sides and a wallet full of fivers to wait for his squad to form up, was being required to get a move on his backside and off Sgt Major Barnes' Golden Acre.

A torrid few months in the hands of LSgts Beresford, McQuade and Harris amongst others saw him progress to the 1st Battalion and slip into the gentle company of Stan Allen, Andy Miles, Todd Yates, Rocky Mintern and Derek Rossi, the senior Sgts' Mess members of No 2 Company, then commanded by the enormous personality of Major EH Houstoun.

A tour to Northern Ireland, Public Duties, the Birthday Parade, the Presentation of New Colours, training in Otterburn and Exercise RED STRIPE in Jamaica preceded his promotion to LCpl and having then been promoted by General Sir Michael Hobbs into the Sgts' Mess sometime after a trip to the Sudan, the sights and sounds of Berlin loomed bright and loud. He became Platoon Sergeant No 4 Platoon in 1981 just prior to returning to Hounslow and during which time he benefitted from the enormous influence of contemporaries such as Paul Sellors, Danny Fishwick, Lawrence "Chalky" White and Ben Everist, whilst all

the time learning much about other aspects of life from "The Dark Seducer".

Two years as a member at Brecon preceded his return to the 1st Battalion and the attendance of a CVRT Commanders course. Posting to Munster soon followed as the Recce Platoon CSgt in the company of Barry Lawson, Wally Walsh, Chris Jones and the late and greatly missed Mark Thompson and then a short stint as CQMS 3 Company. He was then promoted to WO2 by the even more enormous personality of Lieutenant Colonel EH Houstoun. After a spell as CSMIM and a couple of trips to the Luneberg Extension with Greg Fenner, John Allen, Pete Aston, the Giant Taswell and a few dozen aspiring LCpls he was delighted to return to No 2 Company as CSM and the enigma that was and remains Paul Ladd.

His return to the Battalion in London as DSgt to Sgt Majors Savage and Beresford and the unpaid role as the straight man to DSgt Dave Barrett followed a tour at Sandhurst. Whilst working late one night in early 1993 on the Sgts' Mess accounts he was called to see the Commanding Officer, Colonel Robert Cartwright and told he was to be promoted to WO1 and to get his bags packed for a Loan Service posting to Zimbabwe. Nine

months in Africa soon passed and were exchanged in due course with time spent as the RSM at Beaconsfield prior to being appointed Sgt Major of the 1st Battalion in 1995 and further service in London and Northern Ireland prior to being commissioned in 1997.

After short tours as the Families Officer of 1st Bn Scots Guards and Second in Command of the Guards Training Company at Catterick he returned to the 1st Battalion in 1999 as Transport Officer. Between 2001 and his slightly early retirement in 2011 he was privileged to be appointed Technical Quartermaster and Quartermaster in the same battalion and then to command Headquarter Company. His final post at ERE was that of Camp Commandant HQ London District at Horse Guards between 2007 and 2009. Having completed 35 years service with the Regiment he now has the honour to have been accepted as the next General Secretary of the Association. Along the way he has been indebted to many more than just the few mentioned above for their advice, guidance and friendship and can only imagine that the speed at which the years have passed is due to having met and enjoyed the company of many, many more illustrious and deeply deserving men than he.

Captain Andy 'Stumpy' Keeley MBE



Captain Andy 'Stumpy' Keeley was employed as the Unit Welfare Officer throughout the Battalion's Afghanistan deployment on Op Herrick 11. Throughout this deployment he was not only charged with supporting the Welfare needs of the Battalion's families but that of the Battalion's many injured personnel and their dependants as well as providing support to the Battalion's bereaved families. Throughout the six month tour he was to 'clock up' some 30,000 miles

providing this support countrywide. For his efforts during this particularly testing period Captain Keeley has been awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours list 2011.

Captain Keeley joined the Guards Depot in November 1984 and was posted to London prior to embarking on the first of many tours of Northern Ireland, where on his last tours he served as a Controller in the Battalion's Close Observation Platoon and was awarded the Queens Commendation for Valuable Service. In 1998 he became a CSgt Instructor at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, and subsequently became the CSM of the Inkerman Company. In 2002 he was appointed Drill Sgt and was to be detached from the Battalion to become the Training Warrant Officer of 1 Close Support Medical Regiment in Iraq (OP TELIC 1). In 2006 he became the Regimental Sergeant Major of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards in Iraq (OP TELIC 8) and was the RSM for the Battalion's Afghanistan deployment (OP HERRICK 6) in 2007, prior to being commissioned in May 2008. On commissioning he was to be appointed as the Second in Command of Support Company prior to taking up the appointment of Welfare Officer in January 2009. Throughout his service he has served in Kenya, Canada, Hong Kong, Brunei, The Falkland Islands, and Botswana and has been on Operations in Northern Ireland, Iraq and Afghanistan. He is married to Samantha and they have a daughter, Alana who is seven years old.

Captain Trevor Rolfe – our long-suffering Association General Secretary and Regimental Treasurer retires

by *The Regimental Adjutant*



Many people will have different memories of Trevor Rolfe: the MT Warrant Officer of the late '70s who ruled his platoon with a rod of iron, the Company Sergeant Major of No 3 Company in Berlin who outlasted three Company Commanders, the immaculate Sergeant Major of the 2nd Battalion in Chelsea and Belize, the "Uncle Trevor" offering guidance to so many young officers in Munster as Families Officer, Transport Officer, Technical Quartermaster and Quartermaster and then finally as Association General Secretary and Regimental Treasurer at Regimental Headquarters.

And so, after seven years at Regimental Headquarters and over 40 years of service to the Regiment, Trevor is retiring to lead a life of leisure mainly at his home in the Dordogne in France.

And a thoroughly well deserved life of leisure it will

be after the gruelling years of Association Executive Committee Meetings and AGMs, Audits, Black Sundays, Grenadier Days, all requiring hard and detailed work, to say nothing of the relentless slog that is the daily lot of the Regimental Treasurer. In this latter capacity, he has overseen the dragging of Regimental Accounting "kicking and screaming" from the Stone Age into the 21st Century and it is greatly to his credit that this has been accomplished so smoothly.

In his capacity as Secretary to the Regimental Welfare Committee he always had a deft "feel" for the right way ahead, guided by the principle that it was the duty of the Committee only to grant welfare aid in circumstances of "need" rather than "want". A truly compassionate man, Trevor forged excellent relationships with the main Service charities, thereby ensuring that Association welfare funds were spent wisely and effectively.

He has been at the forefront of the organisation and execution of Regimental events with Regimental Remembrance Sunday and Grenadier Day being the routine annual fare; these events require an enormous amount of detailed work in planning, coordination and execution and the fact that all the events he organised were considerable successes, apart from when the elements truly conspired against him, is a true testament to his organisational skill.

All this hard work aside, Trevor has been an invaluable support to two Regimental Adjutants and countless RQMSs. A passionate man and an unswerving champion of causes he believes strongly about, he has never been slow to call a "spade a spade" and at times in the most straight-forward terms; he has always been a source of sound advice and, of course, beneath that granite exterior lies a gentle man with a true heart of gold. Never one to take life too seriously, Trevor has been great fun to work with.

Over the past two years, the MoD has put in place a civilian staff recruiting embargo which made it incredibly difficult for the Regiment to recruit a successor for Trevor; happily common sense eventually prevailed and Major Andy Green will assume the appointment on 1st March 2011, but this was not before Trevor, with typical loyalty, agreed to extend his retirement date from the end of July 2010 to the end of February 2011.

Thus, Trevor Rolfe leaves us after a lifetime of loyalty and service to the Regiment; we all have much to thank him for and I know that all our readers will join me in wishing Trevor and Mary a long, happy and busy retirement.

WO2 (RQMS) G Snazle



WO2 (RQMS) Glenn Snazle joined the Army in 1988 as a Junior Leader at the Guards Depot, Pirbright before joining The Queen's Company in Munster from where it was not long before he deployed on Op GRANBY.

He has enjoyed a widely varied and action-packed career: Promoted LCpl in 1992, Team 2IC in the Close Observation Platoon, Instructor at ITC Catterick and then Team Comd back

with The Queen's Company, Pl Sgt for overseas exercises in Norway and Canada and an operational tour in Belfast for which he received a GOC's Commendation as Acting Pl Comd. He was briefly CQMS of The Queen's Company before passing the RMAS Potential Instructor's Course and a tour at

Sandhurst as a CSgt Instructor. After his tour at RMAS from 2004 to 2006 he returned to join the Battalion in Iraq on Op Telic 8 as the Company Sergeant Major of The Queen's Company. Op TELIC 8 was swiftly followed by Op HERRICK 6. On return from Afghanistan and after a short period he was selected to go back to RMAS as a CSM where he had a highly successful tour and remained until May 2010.

WO2 (RQMS) Snazle "made his name" by earning a Distinction for both phases and the Director of Infantry's Bayonet on the Platoon Sergeants Battle Course at Brecon; a rare achievement.

He is currently the WO2 (RQMS) (M) of the 1st Battalion and has been selected for promotion to WO1 and is due to take over as the Sergeant Major 1st Bn Grenadier Guards in March 2011.

In his spare time he is an avid fan of London Wasps and the England rugby team and also likes to keep fit and play the guitar. A devoted family man, he is married to Nicola and with son, Joshua and daughter Olivia and they live in Aldershot, Hampshire.

WO2 (RQMS) MJ Smith



WO2 (RQMS) Matt Smith took on the role as Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant at Regimental Headquarters on 1st July 2010.

Prior to this he was the RQMS Maintenance of the 1st Battalion in Wellington Barracks and also Afghanistan.

He joined the Army in 1987 at Worcester and reported to the Guards Depot as a Junior Guardsman; following his basic training he was posted to Germany to join the 1st Battalion and within a short

time was promoted to LCpl and deployed on Op GRANBY. On return to London he had a quick stint of public duties followed by a tour of Northern Ireland with The Queen's Company in Crossmaglen.

Once back in England, Junior Brecon beckoned after which he was posted to ATR Pirbright as an Instructor. After an outstanding two years, he returned to Brecon to complete Pl Sgts Battle Course, returning to Nijmegen Company as a Gold Sergeant, just in time for Trooping the Colour and to be given the great honour to hand over the Colour to the Sergeant Major.

After completing the RMAS Potential Instructors Cadre, he spent two very enjoyable years at RMAS, teaching Officer Cadets and doing his much loved sport of pace sticking.

As CQMS of The Queen's Company he deployed to Bosnia and found Number 4 Guard on Trooping the Colour.

It was not long before he returned as a Company Sergeant Major for two more great years and then he returned to Wellington Barracks as RQMS (M) just in time for the tour of Afghanistan, where he was worked with the Afghan Police in the main headquarters as a military adviser to both the police and civilian companies.

In July 2010 two days before his wedding he fell 25 feet from a barn roof and smashed both of his heels, but it was not all doom and gloom, the wedding went ahead with him in a wheelchair!

A short time later he was selected for promotion to WO1 and will take over the appointment as the Regimental Sergeant Major of the All Arms Drill Wing in April 2011 as he is now on the mend and raring to get back to work.

But it's not all work, at home he likes to be the man about the kitchen armed with a cookbook putting something spectacular together for his wife Jody and two children Courtney and Troy.

WO2 (RQMS) A Walker



WO2 (RQMS) Andrew Walker took over as the Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant on Monday 17th January 2011. His career took a while to start to take shape, ranging from operational deployments, career courses along with a posting or two.

He joined the Army in 1987 at the Guards Depot in Pirbright before joining the 1st Battalion in Germany.

During Op Granby the liberation of Kuwait, he was a Warrior Gunner attached to the 1st Bn Staffordshire Regiment in an all Grenadier Section. He was lucky to be involved in numerous tours

of Northern Ireland with roles from the close observation platoon, team commander and Multi Commander. As a Platoon Sergeant he acted as Platoon Commander on the Queen's Company rapid deployment to Kosovo. On promotion to Colour Sergeant he was posted to the All Arms Drill Wing Pirbright. He returned to the Battalion as the CQMS for Number 2 Company and deployed to Afghanistan. As CSM The Inkerman Company he was deployed to Afghanistan and upon their return the Company was responsible for No3 Guard on the troop. He was posted to the PWRR as Drill Sergeant until being called back to the Regiment.

In between operational deployments and on tours he finds time to perfect his skills on call of duty.

A keen outdoors man he enjoys camping and walking in the Yorkshire Dales with his partner Julie. He is a devoted father to his daughter Mollie and son Torrey.

WO2 (RQMS) D Westlake



WO2 (RQMS) Darren Westlake enlisted into the Army in July 1989 commencing his basic training as a Junior Leader at the Guards Depot, Pirbright before joining No 1 Company of the 2nd Battalion in Caterham in July 1990, deploying almost immediately to Canada on Exercise Pond Jump West. Within a year he had been selected to attend the HDPRCC PJNCOs' Cadre and

on successful completion of this course was promoted to LCpl. After a short period of Public Duties and an overseas exercise to Botswana, he attended the Section Commanders Battle Course. He remained with No 1 Company until it was disbanded at the end of 1993.

On the amalgamation of the 1st and 2nd Battalions in 1994 he remained with No 2 Company, which remained in Caterham and formed Nijmegen Company. Shortly after this the Company moved to Windsor prior to an overseas exercise in Kenya on return from which he was promoted to LSgt. In 1998 he deployed to Ballykinler as a team commander attached to C Company, 1st Battalion Scots Guards. He returned to the Battalion in Pirbright in November 1998 and joined the Queen's Company, during this period he deployed on an overseas exercise to America and an Operational tour in Northern Ireland. On his return in January 2000 he attended the Platoon Sergeants Battle Course No 2 Company as a Section Commander and was subsequently promoted to Gold

Sergeant and became the Platoon Sergeant of Number 6 Platoon. During his time with the Company he deployed on a number of overseas exercises to Canada and Norway and an operational tour to Northern Ireland.

He was promoted to CSgt in 2003 and attended the Light Role Recce Commanders Course prior to a move to Support Company and taking over as the 2IC of the Close Reconnaissance Platoon. During his time with the Platoon he deployed to Kosovo and Bosnia as part of the Task Force Surveillance Platoon, for which the Platoon was awarded a Task Force Commanders Commendation.

On return from Bosnia he took over as the CQMS of Headquarter Company, deploying to Iraq on Op Telic 8 in 2006. During this tour he was successful on the WO2 promotions board and on return from Iraq took over as the Company Sergeant Major of No 2 Company. It was during his appointment as CSM of No 2 Company the Battalion deployed on Op Herrick 6 for which his hard work was recognised with the award of a Joint Task Force Commanders Commendation. On return from Afghanistan he was successful in selection for the appointment of a CSM at RMAS.

He is currently appointed as the WO2 (RQMS) (T) of the Battalion and has been selected for promotion to WO1 and is due to take over as the Regimental Sergeant Major, Old College, RMAS in the autumn of 2011.

In his spare time he enjoys keeping fit and spending time renovating his house.

A devoted family man he is married to Joanne and with son Alfie and daughters Pari and Charntel, they live in Farnborough, Hampshire.

The 65th Anniversary of the Liberation at Aalten in the Netherlands

by Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter

This account follows only two years after an article written by Mr Wim Rhebergen entitled “Report on the Bridge Naming Ceremony in Aalten the Netherlands on 5th May 2008.” It tells the story of a veteran of that battle who returned to Aalten to honour those who died 65 years ago. Mr Rhebergen in the meantime wrote a book about the liberation in time for this anniversary.

The liberation of Aalten took place on the 30th March 1945. The Guards Armoured Division had crossed the Rhine early in the morning of that day. The invasion into Germany began forthwith with the Grenadier Group leading; the advance guard was provided by the Kings Company 1st Battalion and No 2 Squadron 2nd Armoured Battalion. The Tanks were in the lead and in the road they encountered many obstacles, large trees felled across the road, huge craters and many mines all covered by fire.

The small town of Aalten was protected in the south by a canal called the Keiserbeck. On arrival the tanks on the centre line saw that the bridge had been destroyed. There were other bridges over the canal and Major Baker; commander of the King’s Company saw a small bridge still standing about 200 yards away. He did not think it was strong enough for tanks to cross.

It was therefore decided that the King’s Company would cross, supported by the tanks No 2 Squadron and establish a bridgehead. The company had not gone more than 200 yards before it came under intense enemy fire from 88 mm guns and machine guns. A very fierce battle ensued in which two officers and six guardsmen were killed. The Company Commander and many guardsmen were wounded. The company displayed great gallantry and Mr Wim Rhebergen in his book has paid due tribute to the bravery in the King’s Company. All the Grenadiers who were killed are buried in the Berkenhove cemetery in Aalten, with the exception of Lieutenant Andrew Duncan who died of wounds later and is buried at Kleve.

Mr Berghoef, the Burgomaster and the Aldermen of the municipality of Aalten, influenced by Mr Wim Rhebergen wanted to have some permanent memorial in recognition of the gallantry of the Grenadiers, and probably because of the King’s Company casualties they decided to call the bridge over the Keiserbeck the King’s Company Bridge. This ceremony was the subject of the article in the 2009 edition of the *Gazette*.

Liberation Day is celebrated throughout the Netherlands on the 5th May and the Burgomaster and Aldermen of Aalten decided to invite Lord Wigram as their Guest of Honour in 2010. He had been the commander of No 2 Company in 1944 but had not been invited to the 2008 ceremony so this was an opportunity to put the record straight. He was delighted to accept this invitation but owing to his age and arthritis did not feel strong enough to go alone. So he was escorted by me (his son-in-law) and his daughter Celia.

We went by car and had a most interesting and satisfactory journey. After spending a night at Folkestone we travelled via the Channel Tunnel and from Calais it was a drive of about 250 miles to our destination. My father-in-law was fascinated to drive through Dunkirk, La Panne and Furnes as they brought back memories of the Retreat in May/June 1940, when he was in the 1st Battalion. We reached Hotel Frerikshof at Winterswijk, about seven miles north east of Aalten, in time for tea. Also staying in this hotel were other visitors from Great Britain – relatives of some of those members of the King’s Company who had been killed on 30th March 1945 and also buried in the Berkenhove Cemetery in Aalten. They had come to honour the memory of Lieutenant Joly, Lance Corporal Clayton and Guardsman Horrex. The relatives of Guardsman Pepperall and of Lieutenant Spark, Royal Engineers were unable to be there in person but they sent messages by a DVD.



Mr Berghoef, the Burgomaster of Aalten looks on whilst Lord Wigram addresses the people of the town.

We had hardly time to unpack when Wim arrived to give orders for our attendance at the 4th May Memorial Service in Aalten. Lord Wigram and I wore “Black Sunday” order of dress – bowler hats and medals. The Burgomaster, the Alderman and many citizens of the

town marched slowly and silently from the Market Place to the memorial monument on Whemerstraat. I had to push Lord Wigram in a wheelchair, the journey took about ten minutes and the cobbled streets made it hard work.



Descendants of those Grenadiers killed at Aalten in 1945 visit the graves with Lord Wigram. L to R: Mr Clayton junior, Mr Robin Horrex, Mr David Joly, Celia Webb-Carter, Lord Wigram and Mr Clayton senior, the author.

At the memorial there were many speeches by the Burgomaster and other dignitaries. Then the representative of many organisations laid wreaths and flowers. I laid a wreath from the Regiment. There was a choir of ladies in traditional Dutch dress who sang some hymns. There then followed a concert but as it was nearly 9 pm we were excused that and returned to the hotel.

5th May 2010 Liberation Day – Festivities to celebrate what happened on 30th March 1945. The Market Place of Aalten was filled by about a thousand of its citizens and a small stage had been erected in front of the Town Hall. In the distance we heard the beat of a drum. This was a column of old World War II vehicles led by an enormous band consisting of musicians of all ages and sexes. They had come from Dinxperlo, a small town nearby in the municipality Aalten, which had been liberated by the 51st Highland Division.

Proceedings then began at Aalten. The Burgomaster welcomed everybody and was especially forthcoming towards the visitors from Great Britain. He reminded us that today was the 65th Anniversary of its liberation. Other VIPs also spoke and a nice lady gave an English précis of the contents of these speeches. Finally the choir of ladies in traditional Dutch dress sang and several hymns and songs.

Lord Wigram was invited by the Burgomaster to address the gathering and was assured that the great majority of the citizens at Aalten would understand

English. He spoke on behalf of the visitors and gave thanks for the very warm welcome which had been accorded to us. He told them that he himself was commanding the No 2 Squadron which liberated the town after the King's Company had captured the bridge. It was a slow business, many tanks were severely damaged by mines but they killed many Germans and took about sixty prisoners. He reminded them of the gallantry of Lieutenant Michael Stoop who with his troop of tanks captured another bridge North of the town and thus ensured an exit enabling the advance continue to Groenlo.

The morning's business was concluded by the Band playing the National Anthem of the Netherlands and of Great Britain. Then everyone sang Vera Lynn's famous song "*We'll meet again*".

We then all adjourned to the Community Centre "De Pol" where we enjoyed an excellent lunch, more speeches and particularly from Wim Rhebergen who introduced us to his book which was a history of the resistance and liberation of that area of Holland with special reference to Aalten. He then "launched" the book and very generously gave the first copy to my father-in-law.



The Burgomaster was also very generous and gave Lord Wigram a beautiful Blue Delft China Dish depicting a view of the Town Hall of Aalten.

So ended a most exciting and interesting day. We were all rather tired but happy. Lord Wigram in his speech had paid tribute to the very warm welcome, the great friendliness and the generous hospitality which the Dutch people had shown towards all members of the Guards Armoured Division whilst they were in their country for six months from 1944 to the end of March in 1945. These same sentiments can be attributed to the Dutch in 2010.

US Command and General Staff Course

by Major James Greaves

“The US Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC) educates and develops leaders for full spectrum joint, interagency and multinational operations; acts as lead agent for the Army’s leader development program; and advances the art and science of the profession of arms in support of Army operational requirements.”

To all prospective Grenadier Field Grade officers: US CGSC is within your reach! Two British officers per year are selected to attend, one for the summer course, beginning in June, the other on the winter course, beginning in January. Therefore four British Majors are in the system at any given time separated by six months. The US system offers in place of Intermediate Command and Staff Course (Land) (ICSC(L)) and the Advanced Command and Staff Course (ACSC), a two year educational program. The first year is called Intermediate Level Education (ILE) and the second year, the School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS). Both come under the umbrella organisation of the CGSC. In order to be selected for SAMS, an exam and an interview are taken during the first few months of ILE. Not including the British students, there are three other British officers posted to Fort Leavenworth; a Lieutenant Colonel who instructs on ILE, a Colonel who is the Senior British Liaison Officer to the US Commanding General (a three star appointment currently held by Lieutenant General Robert Caslen) and a second Colonel at the US War College at Fort Leavenworth on a year long Fellowship scheme.



Author with a US colleague.

Fort Leavenworth, located in Kansas, is one of the oldest Forts in the United States. In 1804 the explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark departed Washington under Presidential order to learn more about the land purchased from the French. They found the future location of the Fort whilst navigating the Missouri River. There was another Fort nearby that had been used as a trading outpost for hardy souls who had braved the Midwest before large numbers of colonists began the steady stream west on the Oregon Trail. Colonel Henry Leavenworth was dispatched in 1827 to develop the location as a military installation. Over the last 180 years and various iterations, Fort Leavenworth has become the Centre of Academic Excellence for the US Army. There are various courses run here apart from ILE and SAMS. The pre-Battalion Command Sergeant’s Majors Course for their Warrant Officer Class I equivalents.



Author with more US colleagues.

The course that I am part of has just over 1,100 American and 69 International Officers from 63 countries. It is an incredible mixture of experience and knowledge. It is a fully multinational and joint environment as noted in the Mission Statement. All International officers attend a pre-course immediately before ILE begins: the syndicate that I found myself in included field officers from Uganda, Tanzania, Germany, Turkey, the Ukraine and Thailand. On ILE, and if selected, SAMS, the US Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and other governmental agencies such as the CIA and the State Department send their best and brightest. It is not difficult to imagine that it is a thoroughly enjoyable course with a diverse spectrum of personalities from a vast array of backgrounds.

The Americans are fascinating from a military

perspective. Many of them have years of operational experience, up to and including the Divisional and Corps levels. Iraq is the prevalent operational theatre of knowledge; increasingly there are more US officers with Afghanistan experience. They have strengths and weaknesses, as we do. A particular strength, I believe, is their adaptability. They are robust, flexible and are able to conduct self-critical exercises to change the direction of their forces if it is required. Their Counter Insurgency Doctrine, written by General Petraeus whilst he was the Commanding General of Fort Leavenworth in 2006, is a case in point. On the other hand the US military system is a huge, and at times, unwieldy beast. There are many political and private interests that drive decision-making. The summer of 2010 saw Secretary of Defense Gates initiate a review of the defence budget and a decision to reduce spending by \$100 billion over the next five years was made public. This included the removal of Joint Forces Command. The slated wind down has encountered stiff resistance by all politicians within Virginia. Its potential removal will see the loss of many millions of dollars per annum to the State coffers. The decision is unpopular given the current economic climate and exacerbated by the lack of public support for the incumbent government. This says much about the nature of the State and Federal systems and how they come into conflict with one another: nothing is ever as simple as it seems.



ILE International Officers of Class 2011-01.

CGSC hosts many high profile visits during the academic year. One such officer was Brigadier General Larry Nicholson USMC, the Commanding General of the US Marine Corps Task Force during the Battalion's last tour to Afghanistan. At the beginning of the course General George Casey, the Chief of Staff for the US Army, spoke about a range of topics from the current "Long War", to the expansion of the US Army by some 70,000 personnel. The changes that the US Army have conducted in the last five years are incredible. Not only

have they been able to prosecute two large-scale wars, but also re-role 160,000 soldiers across all trades and branches whilst also conducting deterrence operations globally and humanitarian operations in countries as diverse as Haiti and Pakistan.

Eila and I are having a wonderful time. There is much to see and do in the Midwest. Many readers will have their own opinions about the region: we too had our own doubts. These were quickly laid to rest. The Leavenworth area is well versed in understanding the pressures of families moving into Kansas. Each International officer and their family are allocated three sets of sponsors from the local area to formalise the settling in process. They are also there to assist in the more mundane aspects of American life. Ours have been extremely generous; trips to American football games, basketball and baseball matches and dining out in Kansas City are regularly hosted. We have become active members of the Fort Leavenworth Hunt; it is the last military hunt in the US. The country that the hunt rides across is stunning. It is very similar to the British countryside; fortunately the fences are not as high or wide as they are at home! We have hosted family and friends from the UK and if there are any Grenadiers passing through the Kansas area there is always a place to stay here in the Midwest.

In conclusion, if you feel that the challenge of US CGSC is one you would like to take up, I can honestly say that it is an experience not to be missed.

Editor's note: Many congratulations go to Major Greaves on being selected for the Advanced Military Studies Course to stay on in Leavenworth.

Bobsleigh – a review of Britain's most successful winter team sport

by LSgt Lamin Dean

Bobsleigh is Britain's most successful winter team sport, although we have yet to repeat the Olympic gold medal achieved by Tony Nash and Robin Dixon (Grenadier Guards 1954-1966) in the 1964 Olympic games.

In November 2006 I was posted to Nijmegen Company after serving eight years with the 1st Battalion as a Mortar Fire Controller in the Mortar Platoon also as a Sect Commander in the Inkerman Company a Company PTI for five years. On arriving at the company it was go from the offset as I was straight into public duties and many other guards of honours.

The Company at that time commanded by Major Elliot-Square and CSM Smith was very keen on sport, which for me was a great plus side, as I have always been an all sports type of guy including boxing, basketball, football and athletics.

In May 2007 the Company were competing in the Army minor unit championships in Aldershot where at the time I was entered for the 100m sprint, but the morning of the race I did not feel up to it due to illness, and as the team had no replacement the team Captain (LSgt Castles-Green) entered me anyway without my knowledge which at the time was a very unfunny joke. So I was entered into the 100m sprint, spikes were on and not feeling 100 per cent but far too late now. The few seconds waiting for the starter pistol to sound, were like an eternity, and we were off, I gave all I had and finished third in the 100m finals. After the race I was approached by two members of the Army Bobsleigh team who asked me if I would be interested in trying out for the Army team to which I agreed instantly, of course checking with the Company Commander first, who was taking part in the 400m, or was it the hammer?



LSgt Lamin Dean.

Six weeks later I attended the section at the University of Bath which was a nerve-racking experience in itself for the fact that there were many well-tuned and experienced athletes and I had been tabbing around London carrying kit.

When the results of the performance testing was released I was in the top third of a field of 40 people and to add to my surprise it was a joint selection also

for the Great Britain Bobsleigh team and the next day I was told that I had made both teams, with great results.

In the time I have spent representing Great Britain, I have been all around Europe, North America and Canada, for my first year I was classed as a development brakeman (pusher) and the next two years I would fly up the ranks becoming one of the top athletes in the sport, but in November 2009 I was involved in a four-man Bobsleigh race in Winterburg Germany which was to cut the season short in the space of one tenth on a second, the driver made a mistake at the fastest part of the track going at 87mph.



LSgt Dean driving his Bobsleigh in training.

After the accident all members of the four man team were out of action for six weeks, with one brakeman still not back to normal fitness to date. This incident meant we could not take part in the selection for the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics which I had been working towards for the three previous seasons.



Cpl McGlaughlan (RAF) and LSgt Dean with their GB Bobsleigh.

After this season's disappointment I had to refocus and set new targets, so I decided to try my hand at becoming a pilot (bobsleigh driver) and had my first race at the Army Championships where I, LSgt Thomas and Gdsm Stokes took the gold medal and became Army junior champions to put the Grenadiers on the bobsleigh map once again.

As a new international bobsleigh driver, recently given the Great Britain two status I have taken part in eight European cup races, two Americas Cup races, two Inter Services and I am currently ranked 44 in the world from 135 drivers.

Bobsleigh is a very costly sport and when I am not in season I'm actively looking for sponsorship. The Regiment has helped me a great deal over the last four years to push me all the way to the top and to the next Olympic games in Sochi 2014 (Russia), this year I was also supported by the Infantry which was a great help and always welcome.

I hope to put the Grenadiers back on the sporting map once more and also do my country proud at the Olympic Games.

Devotion to duty in charge of a Lewis gun

by Major PAJ Wright, Grenadier Guards

Nicknamed "The Belgian Rattlesnake" by German troops who came up against the weapon in 1914, the Lewis gun was adopted as the standard issue British Army machine gun by the end of 1915. Initially each battalion had four guns, but by 1917 every section had its own Lewis gunner with battalions deploying 46 guns. The 3rd Guards Brigade moved up into the line in order to take part in the attack by the Guards Division on 31st July 1917. The Battalion Headquarters of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards were at Boesinghe Château. The front line was on top of the Yser Canal embankment within 50 yards of the enemy front. The canal bed was empty and overgrown with high grass and weeds. 3 Company were on the right flank separated by a gap of 40 yards from a platoon of 4 Company, 1st Battalion Irish Guards to their right.

At 1.55am on 14th July the Germans fired a "box" barrage of trench mortars, .77's and machine guns. Private S F Jefferies was No. 1 of a Lewis gun and had just taken over as sentry on the fire step on the right of the line. Other members of 3 Company took cover in dug-outs and tunnels in the canal bank as the large mortar shells, nicknamed "rum jars", exploded around

them. Jefferies later wrote: "Do not think I was feeling brave at that moment as I was far from it." During the bombardment he noticed in the light of the explosions an enemy raiding party crossing the canal in front of the Irish Guards. He immediately opened fire along the bed of the canal with his No.2 handing him loaded magazines of 47 rounds. An enemy machine gun opened fire on Jefferies and he had to divide his attention between it and the raiders. A bullet went through the casing of his gun. As the machine gun crew left their trench to cross the canal, he fired on them again and saw some of them drop.



Lance Corporal Jefferies wearing the DSM.

When the firing ceased, he had fired 48 magazines, about 1800 rounds, without a stoppage. An Irish Guards officer came along the trench to tell him that the machine gun crew had been found dead together with large numbers of the raiding party in the canal. A wounded German was captured. He had no marks of identification but said he belonged to a Schleswig regiment. The following morning Jefferies, much to



Lewis Automatic Machine Gun - "The Belgian Rattlesnake".

his surprise, was informed by his Company Commander that an Irish Guards officer and two other officers had recommended him for an award. Two weeks later he received the DCM ribbon from his Commanding Officer.

On 15th April 1918, Jefferies was wounded in the arm by shrapnel and evacuated home. At a Civic Reception given by the Lord Mayor of Bristol on 15th February 1919, he was presented with the DCM by Lieutenant General Sir Henry Sclater. His citation read: "For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in charge of a Lewis gun. Under heavy trench mortar fire he crept out from his post and attacked a hostile raiding party with enfilade fire, showing the greatest initiative and pluck in so doing, and bringing most effective fire to bear upon the enemy by his skilful selection of position. He has shown very great fearlessness and devotion to duty on many occasions."

Footnote: Lance Corporal Jefferies was a member of the Bristol Branch. He died in 1980 and in 2010, his medals were presented to the Regiment by his daughter, Mrs Marguerite Bowser.

Fight to the Finish

by Major Philip Wright

In November 1918, the Allied armies continued to press forward and the German retreat became more rapid. The advance by the Guards Division, culminating in the capture of Maubeuge, was so swift, the extent of ground covered so great, and the number of prisoners and guns taken so large, that there was little doubt that an armistice on any conditions was the only thing that could save the German army from absolute disaster. Everyone who went into the attack in November knew that it might be the last engagement of the war and that if he avoided unnecessary risk he would probably get through safely; if he took it, he might be throwing away his life. Despite this the attacks on 4th November by the 2nd and 3rd Battalion and by the 1st Battalion on the following two days, were carried out with a reckless courage that resulted in the award of twelve DCMs.

Rain during the night was followed by very heavy mist on the morning of 4th November. The 3rd Battalion, which had crossed the Rhonelle by a single plank bridge under heavy shell fire, continued the advance in touch with the 2nd Battalion on its left. The area over which they were attacking was enclosed with thick-set hedgerows that provided ideal cover for machine guns. The Battalion succeeded, however in driving the Germans out of Preux-au-Sart where some prisoners were taken. By 4.00pm, the leading

companies had reached the village of Gommegnies where they were checked by the fire of machine guns in the houses. As soon as it became dusk some more ground was gained. The 3rd Battalion had four officers killed and 100 casualties.



Distinguished Conduct Medal.

Three of the five DCMs awarded were for assuming command. Company Sergeant Major F Marks MM took over command of 1 Company when all the officers had become casualties and, after reorganising it, took a nest of machine guns in houses. Sergeant W Stevenson took command after his platoon commander had been killed and was himself wounded leading the attack against six machine guns. In the evening, with six men, he captured a group of houses. Corporal E Coultton MM led his platoon into the objective and when consolidating, forced more of the enemy to surrender. Private W Spouge MM, when all the officers and NCOs had become casualties, took command of his platoon and led it to its objective. He later dressed wounded men in the open under machine gun fire. A fifth DCM was awarded to Lance Sergeant HJ Norman, who although wounded, remained in command of his platoon throughout the day. He captured five field guns and a machine gun.



Thick-set hedgerows provided ideal cover for machine guns.

The 2nd Battalion carried forward the attack towards Wargnies le Petit on 4th November. It met with a great deal of opposition. The enemy's machine gunners in a wood south-west of the village delayed the attack for some time and it was only after vigorous fighting, which resulted in the capture of some prisoners and three machine guns, that the advance could be resumed. The Battalion lost three officers and 108 men. Among them was Company Sergeant Major TJ Wonnacott who, as a private, had been awarded the DCM at First Ypres for

shooting three Germans and capturing three others who had broken through the line. In 1917, he had been selected from all the Divisional Intelligence Sergeants to go to America as a sniping instructor.

Four DCM's were awarded. Sergeant E Carter led 4 Company into the attack when all the officers had been wounded or killed. When held up by machine gun fire, he organised and led a party to outflank the enemy, rushing the post and killing three of the enemy himself. Private CH Purnell continued to bring in and dress the wounded during the operation while the aid post was under heavy machine gun fire for several hours. He saved many lives. Lance Corporal G Randell worked about fifty yards ahead of his section and rushed a machine gun nest, bayoneting the crew and capturing the gun. Private CH Stannard, when his company was under fire at less than 200 yards range as well as being fired on by field guns and trench mortars over open sights, pushed forward his Lewis gun and knocked out a machine gun and several enemy posts. As a result his platoon was able to capture the position.



Operations from 4th to 7th November 1918.

The 1st Battalion with 3rd Guards Brigade was in Divisional Reserve at Villers Pol. Here orders were received that the Battalion was to pass through the 3rd Battalion and continue the advance at 6.00am on 5th November. Rain fell more or less continuously throughout the day. Progress at first was easy and Amfroipret was captured without any difficulty. Some delay was caused by enemy machine gun fire but the advance continued until Bermeries was occupied. At 6.00am on 6th November, a wet morning after a pouring wet night the advance was resumed. No opposition was encountered until the Battalion reached the high ground north-west of Mecquignies where it was temporarily halted by fire from German field guns and machine guns.

The grounds of Mecquignies Chateau were strongly held by machine guns but it was seized by the King's Company after a sharp fight. The fighting then became scattered among the orchards and fields of the Chateau. The 466th German Regiment, which opposed the advance, fought extremely well. It was cleverly handled

by its commander, who thoroughly understood how to fight a rear-guard action. The wet weather and the mud made these operations difficult for men who had had little training in close country fighting, but the discipline in the Battalion was so good that each platoon, however isolated, could be relied on to act intelligently.



Grenadiers entering Maubeuge on 9th November 1918.

Three DCMs were awarded. Near Amfroipret on 5th November, Company Quartermaster Sergeant AE Smith, a man who stood out by himself either on parade or in the trenches, brought up rations and water to his company under heavy fire from machine guns sweeping the approaches. Later he succeeded in going to a forward platoon although several runners had already been wounded attempting to do so. Sergeant HJ Charlton, when Second Lieutenant AD Anderson, his platoon officer, was killed, took command, driving out two strong posts, forcing the enemy to retire, and killing many of the garrison. Later when fired on by a machine gun, he rushed it killing the gunners and capturing the gun. Private AW Johnston, as No. 1 of a Lewis gun section, continually engaged enemy machine guns and, by suppressing their fire, enabled his platoon to advance. At one point he worked 200 yards behind some enemy posts, and, although wounded, remained on duty until ordered to the aid post.

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel WR Bailey, at the conclusion of a message to his Company Commanders wrote: "You have well kept up the traditions of the Regiment and maintained the Grenadier spirit – the most magnificent in the world. I congratulate officers, non-commissioned officers and men, and I know that you will never fail." On 11th November the cryptic news arrived: "Hostilities will cease at 11.00am today." The Armistice had been proclaimed. Just eleven days after the King decreed that a private of the Guards would henceforward carry the title of "Guardsmen" as "a mark of His Majesty's appreciation and pride of the splendid services rendered by the Brigade of Guards during the war".

A Crimean Christmas Dinner

The regimental Christmas card for 2010 showed the Christmas dinner in the tent of Captain George Higginson on the heights before Sebastopol. Readers might like to know something about it. The print was published on 22nd May 1855. Forty lithographs from drawings taken on the spot by William Simpson were published in 1855 in a portfolio entitled 'Simpson's War in the East'.

In the Christmas card the picture was advertised as being in 1855, by which time the war was over for all practical purposes, but in fact it was 1854, and thus less than two months after the big battle of Inkerman on 5th November. The Alma had been fought late on 20th September. The 3rd Battalion was enduring a gruesome winter in camp and the trenches, and not many were likely to have enjoyed a Christmas dinner on the scale pictured.

The officers (reading clockwise from the gentleman in front grasping the bottle) are: Frederick Bathurst, Sir Charles Russell VC, Charles Turner, Lord Balgonie, Edwin Burnaby, The Hon Charles Lindsay, Frederick Hamilton, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, George Higginson, Robert Hamilton, Sir James Fergusson and HW Verschoyle.

Higginson, the adjutant, who became a general and lived to be 100 years old, recorded the event in *Seventy One Years of a Guardsman's Life*, thus: 'In a large volume of sketches made by Mr William Simpson, an artist of considerable repute, there is a drawing entitled "A Christmas Dinner." The tent in that drawing was

mine. I had decorated it as best I could, so that I and my brother officers could celebrate Christmas with as much cheeriness as we might muster. We had secured from a French sutler at Kamyesh some fearful effervescing stuff which was called champagne, some scraggy fowls and a ham, and the evening passed with due conviviality, and interchange of those expressions of goodwill and friendship which only the strange tenour [sic] of our daily life could draw forth. I have often in subsequent years seen in London shop windows prints from this drawing, at the foot of which is given the names of all those who were present at our Christmas dinner in 1854. . . . Simpson, the artist to whose sketches I have referred, presented himself at a later period and we became great friends. . . . He appeared indifferent to danger when engaged with pencil and brush and was a cheery and welcome companion.'

When he wrote the above in 1916, Higginson was the sole survivor of the dozen in the picture. He does not mention the candles placed in upturned bayonets tied to the tent pole or that he used to heat his tent by placing an 18lb shot under the ashes of a fire, which gradually accumulated heat before being transferred inside.

Of the others present: Russell was awarded the VC at Inkerman (the Regiment owns his bearskin with bullet hole, revolver and a pair of red and white striped mitts knitted for him by Queen Victoria. Turner retired a year later in 1855. Balgonie died three years later in 1857. Hamilton became Sir William KCB the author of the history of the Regiment from its formation. Robert Hamilton was wounded at the Alma 1854. Verschoyle was wounded in 1855 and Fergusson was wounded at Inkerman 1854.

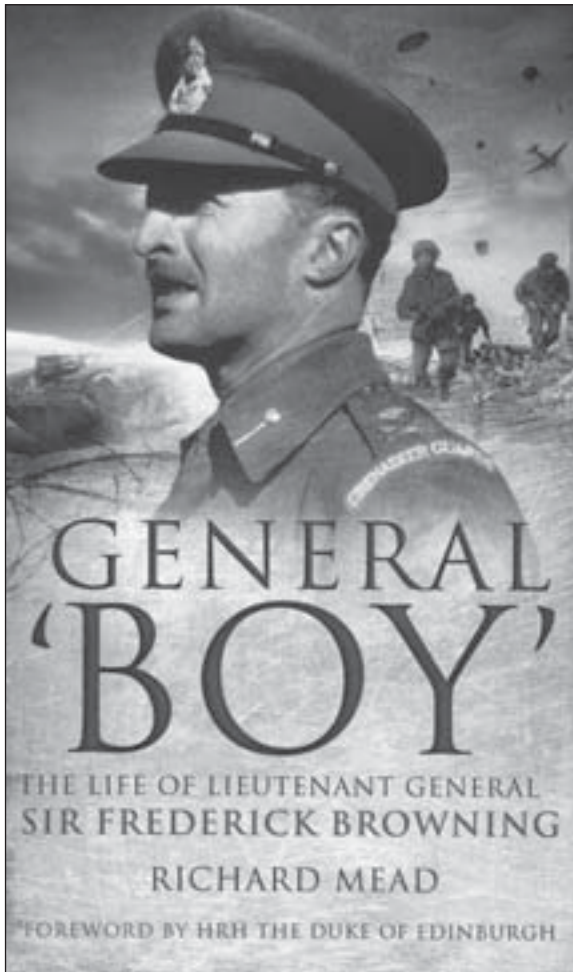
With grateful acknowledgement to Geoffrey Somerset and Philip Wright.



General 'Boy' Browning

Henry Hanning gives a warm welcome to an outstanding new book by Richard Mead

Forty-five years after his death a biography of 'Boy' Browning is timely, at the very least, and many will feel it long overdue. In Richard Mead it has found a most worthy author who has produced this fine and absorbing book (*published by Pen and Sword, £20 at latest call*).



There are few today who remember Boy, and fewer still who knew him well. The abiding general impression of him has been the confident, fine-looking figure, impeccably turned out whatever the circumstances and almost to the point of vanity, short and terse of speech, stern, unforgiving, distant, aloof and pretty frightening – almost the eternal adjutant. In fact,

as Mead shows, Lieutenant General Sir Frederick Browning GCVO, KBE, CB, DSO, DL was far more complex, interesting and agreeable, with many devoted friends and, as his decorations attest, much to his credit. And this was achieved against the background of persistent ill health, periodic nervous exhaustion and a difficult marriage.

Born in 1896, he was one of three Browning cousins to become Grenadiers. George later moved to the Welsh Guards and was severely wounded while in command of a battalion in Normandy. Denys was a clergyman who became the legendary chaplain to the 5th Battalion in North Africa and Italy. 'Boy', as he was always known, though 'Tommy' to his family, joined the Regiment in the middle of the First War and was soon in France with the 2nd Battalion. He won the DSO before his 21st birthday for his stirring leadership at Gauche Wood, part of the Cambrai battle in 1917. He and another subaltern, Guy Westmacott (also awarded the DSO) took charge of the whole battalion front after a spirited assault and held the position under heavy shellfire. They were exceptional awards for such young officers.

After the war his regimental career continued. In 1924 he became a memorable adjutant at Sandhurst. Mead produces a new and compelling version of the genesis of his first ride up the steps of Old College in 1926, initiating a custom which, though it lapsed in the 1930s, was resumed after the war and still continues. The story was found in the papers of Ruth Fanshawe after she died in 2007 at the age of 97. As Ruth Farquhar she had been a frequent visitor to Sandhurst. It was extraordinary that her son David, a notable Grenadier who was himself adjutant in the 1970s, commanded thirteen parades in which he had ridden up the steps without ever having heard his mother's story. In these years Boy also emerged as a formidable athlete, representing England over the hurdles and in bobsleighbing at the Winter Olympics in 1924 and 1928.

In 1936 he took command of the 2nd Battalion, which shortly afterwards was posted to Egypt, and in 1939 was promoted brigadier as commandant of the Small Arms School. He was in this post on the outbreak of war and during the Dunkirk campaign, after which he moved in succession to command 128 Brigade and 24 Guards Brigade. In October 1941 he was appointed GOC 1st Airborne Division. While Winston Churchill can more justly be described as the 'Father of the Airborne Forces' as Boy was often called, it was Browning who largely shaped their destiny over the following three years. This was no small undertaking, involving battles with the War Office, the RAF and senior commanders that required all his ingenuity and

energy to win. The landing of troops by parachute and glider had been employed by the Germans with mixed success but promised to pay dividends in Allied operations. Boy learned to fly as well as parachute and threw himself into the role with customary gusto. His guardsman's approach did not always go down easily. As Mead puts it: 'He was quietly but widely known as "Bullshit" Browning among those who found themselves subjected to his regime, but who failed to comprehend his motives.' But he was no snob: when doing business at a close and personal level with

men of all ranks he was far better understood and more successful.

In 1943 he went out to North Africa as adviser on the airborne contribution to the invasion of Sicily. Here relationships with the Americans and other commanders became difficult. The upshot was a disastrous air-landing operation, undertaken against Boy's advice, in which many gliders went down in the sea with heavy loss of life (glider work was exceptionally hair-raising at the best of times). The parachutists had better success and Boy returned home to be promoted lieutenant general and given command of 1st Airborne Corps as well as of airborne troops in general, including the SAS brigade. The landings in Normandy in June 1944 were successful on the whole, the glider-borne *coups de main* on two bridges being brilliantly executed. But then came the disaster of Arnhem.

Operation *Market Garden*, with its tragic climax, occupies some twenty per cent of the book, the author making an analysis of the principal decisions and actions, and focussing closely on Boy's own role. Mead reminds us of the high sense of optimism in September 1944. After a hard struggle in Normandy, the Allies had broken out and chased the German army out of France and Belgium in very short order. The time seemed ripe for a bold decisive attempt to end the war before the end of the year. Montgomery's plan was to cross river and canal lines in Holland by a deep, sharp movement and, by cutting off the industrial Ruhr, penetrate deep into Germany and ultimately to Berlin. By *Market* the airborne forces would take the water crossings and other prominent points, swiftly followed by *Garden*, in which the armour of XXX Corps (including the Guards Armoured Division) would punch through and secure a route for subsequent operations. Confidence was high



ISBN 184854181-7



9 781848 541817
www.pen-and-sword.co.uk

and the airborne divisions frantic to get to grips with the enemy, having been wound up for no fewer than 15 operations, all of which had been cancelled. Boy appeared shortly before the drop immaculate in specially tailored double-breasted battledress, wearing kid gloves and carrying a cane, and landed by glider with his headquarters south of Nijmegen and closely behind the US 82nd Airborne Division, which took the crossing at Grave and other strategic points. The US 101st Airborne Division took a number of crossings south of Grave. The lightly armed British 1st Airborne Division landed west of Arnhem, though too far away and in insufficient numbers. It included several Grenadiers, of whom there were two prominent figures: Sir William Des Voeux, Boy's adjutant to in the 3rd Battalion and to die of wounds commanding 156th Para, and Sergeant Major John Lord, later to distinguish himself in a prison-of-war camp and to become Sandhurst's most famous Academy Sergeant Major. A single parachute battalion took the northern end of the Arnhem bridge but reinforcement was too slow and German armour reacted with unexpected vigour and ferocity. Nijmegen was taken by the 1st and 2nd Grenadiers but it proved impossible to penetrate to Arnhem by the single narrow road before time and ammunition ran out and the remnants of 1st Airborne had to be withdrawn across the Lower Rhine.

Boy is still regarded by some airborne veterans as largely responsible for the debacle, though it is not a general view (the Parachute Regiment's Browning Barracks in Aldershot would hardly have been given his name had this been so). And his reputation was dealt a

heavy and most unjust blow by the filmed version of *A Bridge Too Far* in which, for the gratification of a mostly American audience, he was portrayed as vain, languid and uncaring. The film also infuriated his regiment by suggesting that the Nijmegen bridges had been taken by American parachutists before the Grenadiers arrived.

Richard Mead concludes his account by posing seven specific charges against Boy. In each case he examines the evidence and gives his verdict. On some counts he pronounces Boy guilty and on others he acquits him. Those deeply immersed in the intricacies of the story will form their own judgments, but it seems hard to challenge the general conclusion that Boy has been blamed for far more than he deserved. His misapprehension of the German ability to react, for example, was shared by almost every other senior commander. He felt the losses of 1st Airborne Division for the rest of his life, far more deeply than was necessary to repair damage to his own pride.

Boy moved on to serve Mountbatten in Kandy and Singapore. To be a highly successful chief of staff to the Supreme Allied Commander South-East Asia without the benefit of staff college training (denied him by poor health at the time) was no mean feat, particularly as his master was away on his travels much of the time, returning now and then only to stir up 'a lot of unnecessary turmoil about things that don't matter'. An important result of this appointment was a glowing recommendation by Mountbatten to his nephew Philip, recently married to Princess Elizabeth, which led to Boy becoming Comptroller and Treasurer to the Princess's household and, after her accession in 1952, Treasurer to the Duke of Edinburgh. Prince Philip's affectionate foreword to Mead's book speaks for itself.

Boy's troubled marriage to a famous popular novelist tells a fascinating story of its own. Daphne du Maurier showed very little interest in the life her husband had chosen to lead and pursued her literary ambitions to the exclusion of much else. Such a union was difficult enough to sustain in peacetime and by no means equal to the demands of war. Given the long separations, her erratic behaviour and the nervous exhaustion several times suffered by Boy (and usually invisible to his colleagues) it was surprising that it survived at all. But it did. Mead's account of Boy's breakdown, his painful last decline, Daphne's fierce defence of his reputation and her regrets in the twenty-four years that remained to her after his death, is a moving one.

This careful, closely considered life, lived in testing times by a truly exceptional man, of towering strengths and almost pathetic weaknesses, is a wonderful human story, beautifully told. It is not to be missed.



The FIRST or GRENADIER REGIMENT of FOOT GUARDS

2011

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

Colonel in Chief
HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

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

Regimental Lieutenant Colonel Brigadier DJH Maddan

Regimental Adjutant
Assistant Equerry
Director of Music

Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant
Regimental Treasurer and General Secretary Grenadier Guards Association
Honorary Regimental Archivists

Maj GVA Baker
Capt ACT Forster
Maj K Roberts MMus, FLCM, LRSM, PSM
WOII (RQMS) Hill A
Capt (QM) TA Rolfe
Lt Col CJE Seymour LVO
Maj PAJ Wright OBE

15th Company

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

LSgt TM Castles-Greene
LSgt JC Ellingham
Gdsm R Armour

REGIMENTAL STORES

LSgt KJ Darke

REGIMENTAL RECRUITING TEAM

LSgt G Nickelson
LSgt J Thomson
LCpl L McGovern
Gdsm A Clarke
Gdsm D Gomez
Gdsm T Hayward
Gdsm B Thomas

REGIMENTAL BAND

Maj (DOM) K Roberts
WO1 (BM) C King
WO2 (BSM) A Wood
CSgt D Buckles
Sgt I Ballard
Sgt J Pickin
Sgt R Plampin
Sgt R Plant
Sgt J Sharman

LSgt M Altree	J Burton
LSgt S Carey	N Penny
LSgt G Plant	J Smout
LSgt C Spencer	P Spilsbury
LSgt N Bowen	A Bradford
LCpl E Gibson	S Hall
LCpl L Henaghan	A Houldsworth
LCpl J Langford	A Snood
LCpl A Sommerville	E Whiston
LCpl S Aldridge	M Andersson
Musn M Armstrong	B Beavis
Musn B Cowley	B Hull
Musn L Narhkom	D Nixon
Musn S Petchey	A Russell
Musn I Shepherd	A Shellard
Musn C Smith	D Venter
Musn R Vint	

The Regimental Trustees

Brigadier DJH Maddan
The Rt Hon the Earl of Derby
Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter KCVO OBE
Colonel ET Bolitho OBE
Lieutenant Colonel PR Holcroft OBE
In attendance: President, Grenadier Guards Association

14th Company

INFANTRY TRAINING CENTRE CATTERICK

The 2nd Infantry Training Battalion, Guards Training Company

Capt D Groom
2IC Guards Company
Sgt D Roper
PL Sgt ITB Catterick
G Hudson
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick
DW Jones
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick
G Mann
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick
B Orrell
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick
A Parker
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick
SP Perry
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick
A Stott
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick
A Swift
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick
D Thomas
LSgt Instr ITB Catterick

The Infantry Training Centre

LSgt M Cahill
LSgt PTI ITC Catterick
L Fulton
ITC RMA
LSgt L Gartland
ITC Med Centre
J Hill
LSgt PTI ITC Catterick
P Monstad
ITC RSDC
LSgt E Redgate
LSgt PTI ITC Catterick
N Rowe
2 ITB DEMO
LCpl C Fairclough
Catterick BK Room Instr
LCpl A Thompson
2 ITB Demo Sect 2IC
Gdsm L Scanlon
2 ITB Rifleman

The Army School of Ceremonial

CSgt J Burns
All Arms Drill Wing

The Regimental Council

HRH The Colonel
Brigadier DJH Maddan
Commanding Officer 1st Battalion
Officer Commanding Nijmegen Company
Major General Sir Michael Hobbs KCVO CBE
Colonel EH Houston OBE
Grenadier Guards Association
Colonel DJC Russell-Parsons *Grenadier Gazette*
Lieutenant Colonel CJE Seymour LVO *Archives*
Major GVA Baker *Welfare*
The Rt Hon the Earl of Derby

1st Battalion

BATTALION HQ

Lt Col CRV Walker
 Maj AFR James
 Capt A Butcher
 Capt JOD Fox
 Capt Young
 WO1 IM Farrell
 WO2 R Day
 WO2 S Edgell
 Sgt Baley
 Gdsm R Brown
 Gdsm Burgess
 Gdsm Darkes
 Gdsm J Foulkes

CORPS OF DRUMS

Sgt JD Bennett
 LSgt A Pitters
 LCpl Goom
 LCpl M Moore
 LCpl Rodda
 LCpl Sutton
 LCpl H Thomas
 Dmr K Barker
 Dmr M Beasley
 Dmr A Bone
 Dmr J Childs
 Dmr L Coleman
 Dmr D Durie
 Dmr J Edwards
 Dmr P Ellis
 Dmr M Goom
 Dmr J King
 Dmr D Lawrence
 Dmr R Martindale
 Dmr J Moore
 Dmr M Paget
 Dmr S Rose
 Dmr C Scarrott
 Dmr L Seer Boylan
 Dmr G Smith
 Dmr S Tague
 Dmr G Vickers
 Dmr S Wells
 Dmr N Wintle
 Dmr A Wright

THE QUEEN'S COMPANY

Maj R Green
 Capt N Strachan
 2Lt N Wills
 Lt JD Brown
 WO2 S Williams
 CSgt I O'Brien
 Sgt C Shadrake
 Sgt J Stenton
 LSgt S Archer
 LSgt S Cathcart
 LSgt D Dragon
 LSgt M Hall
 LSgt P Laird
 LSgt G Nicholson
 LSgt AJ O'Brien
 LCpl S Beekman
 LCpl J Bronsdon
 LCpl L Davis
 LCpl J Dean
 LCpl A Finlan
 LCpl L Heatley
 LCpl B Marchant
 LCpl J McCormack
 LCpl B Middleton
 LCpl M Mooney
 LCpl M Moore
 LCpl T Reuben
 LCpl K Richards
 LCpl M Smith
 LCpl S Templeton
 LCpl M Wilson
 Gdsm D Adams
 Gdsm J Ashworth
 Gdsm M Avery

Gdsm L Badjie
 Gdsm S Bah
 Gdsm T Battison
 Gdsm J Brown
 Gdsm A Carey
 Gdsm L Carr
 Gdsm J Catling
 Gdsm LB Ceasay
 Gdsm M Ceasay Jnr
 Gdsm G Churchill
 Gdsm A Clark
 Gdsm DJ Clarke
 Gdsm A Cooper
 Gdsm S Cooper
 Gdsm R Crowley
 Gdsm M Dennis
 Gdsm J Denton
 Gdsm J Dexter
 Gdsm S Emmett
 Gdsm G Francis
 Gdsm AB Gallagher
 Gdsm SP Galvin
 Gdsm D Goddard
 Gdsm D Gomez
 Gdsm D Groom
 Gdsm N Hands
 Gdsm A Jallow
 Gdsm ML Jallow
 Gdsm CA Key
 Gdsm M Knott
 Gdsm C McKerral
 Gdsm DJ Meyers
 Gdsm LC Mitchell
 Gdsm N Newton
 Gdsm N Ngwenya
 Gdsm MPR Owen
 Gdsm C Pier
 Gdsm A Pugh
 Gdsm J Read
 Gdsm DP Rollason
 Gdsm M Rowland
 Gdsm P Sanigar
 Gdsm J Shadrake
 Gdsm K Simonaitis
 Gdsm T Smith
 Gdsm M Staple
 Gdsm J Sutherland
 Gdsm A Sylva
 Gdsm D Taylor
 Gdsm N Tufft
 Gdsm DS Turner
 Gdsm MR Turton
 Gdsm S Viggars
 Gdsm D Ward
 Gdsm J Warner
 Gdsm D Worman
 Gdsm T Yearley

HQ COMPANY

Maj M Gaunt
 WO2 P Childs
 CSgt M Betts
 Sgt C Gullely
 LSgt J Trousdale
 Gdsm MR Sanderson
 Gdsm D Sherwin
 Gdsm CJ Taylor

No 2 COMPANY

Maj C Sargent
 Lt R Da Gama
 Lt J Stafford-Allen
 WOII M Cox
 CSgt H Lawn
 Sgt C Dougherty
 Sgt M Hughes
 Sgt D Oliver
 Sgt D Walton
 LSgt A Harris
 LSgt P Hope
 LSgt D McCarthy
 LSgt V McLean

LSgt R Tracey
 LCpl N Davis
 LCpl L Dawson
 LCpl J Dicastiglione
 LCpl G Harper
 LCpl B Hollis
 LCpl I Maynard
 LCpl L McLoughlin
 LCpl T Mousley
 LCpl H Noorkoiv
 LCpl J Perriera
 LCpl J Thompson
 Gdsm R Addai
 Gdsm E Attuqayefio
 Gdsm L Bates
 Gdsm D Batten
 Gdsm J Bawden
 Gdsm S Bayameyame
 Gdsm G Beecher
 Gdsm A Bissett
 Gdsm R Blakeney
 Gdsm S Carter
 Gdsm T Checkley
 Gdsm R Chiswell
 Gdsm R Clarke
 Gdsm S Deakins
 Gdsm S Edis
 Gdsm W Flint
 Gdsm S Franklin
 Gdsm A French
 Gdsm P Frost
 Gdsm C Froude
 Gdsm V Goodman
 Gdsm D Harding
 Gdsm T Hawkins
 Gdsm B Hayden
 Gdsm S Howcroft
 Gdsm S Hubball
 Gdsm S Hughes
 Gdsm L Humphries
 Gdsm M Igbaifua
 Gdsm A Jarju
 Gdsm O Jeryo
 Gdsm M Jolley
 Gdsm B Jones
 Gdsm C Kiggin
 Gdsm D Leighton
 Gdsm B Limbani
 Gdsm B Lord
 Gdsm J Markey
 Gdsm DR Marshall
 Gdsm S Marshall
 Gdsm S Marsland
 Gdsm M Martin
 Gdsm R McDonnell
 Gdsm J McGrath
 Gdsm E Munezero
 Gdsm R Nassib
 Gdsm J Pearson
 Gdsm J Phelps
 Gdsm O Rosser
 Gdsm L Saho
 Gdsm A Scott
 Gdsm J Shelton
 Gdsm D Shelvey
 Gdsm D Shield
 Gdsm J Shields
 Gdsm L Stokes
 Gdsm B Sylva
 Gdsm H Sylva
 Gdsm C Taylor
 Gdsm K Timmis
 Gdsm G Tomkinson
 Gdsm N Walker
 Gdsm S Wilson
 Gdsm R Woodrow
 Gdsm C Wylie

INKERMAN COMPANY

Maj JR Green
 Capt ND Torp-Petersen
 Lt TR Hendriksen
 Lt AA Wellesley-
 Wood
 WO2 JH Frith
 CSgt SE Ross
 Sgt RL Owen
 Sgt R Shepherd
 Sgt R Wiseman

LSgt DP Bonsell
 LSgt SJ Castel-Nuovo
 LSgt B Gunning
 LSgt AT Jones
 LSgt DW Marsden
 LSgt T Mercer
 LSgt CJ Nicholson
 LSgt JEE Parker
 LSgt LN Walton
 LCpl S Blakeley
 LCpl M Davison
 LCpl ML Fogg
 LCpl KA Frimpong
 LCpl DA Langridge
 LCpl GL Quigley
 LCpl AWO Thomas
 LCpl ME Thomas
 LCpl NG Whieldon
 Gdsm AF Bance
 Gdsm PID Bance
 Gdsm JH Beardmore
 Gdsm DJ Boothe
 Gdsm CS Brierley
 Gdsm SR Brindley
 Gdsm JMA Browning
 Gdsm JD Challinor
 Gdsm MG Collins
 Gdsm L Darboe
 Gdsm KAT Davies
 Gdsm JFD Dawson
 Gdsm MG Dean
 Gdsm S Dodd
 Gdsm AP Douthwaite
 Gdsm NM Fairhurst
 Gdsm TL Gent
 Gdsm LT Hampson-Keeling
 Gdsm CC Heaton
 Gdsm PME Hemsley
 Gdsm RGA Hollis
 Gdsm C James
 Gdsm B Jobe
 Gdsm KM King
 Gdsm AM Kinsella
 Gdsm F Mabasa
 Gdsm SD Maher
 Gdsm CJ Makwero
 Gdsm J Mandaloma
 Gdsm CM McClendon
 Gdsm MA Nelson
 Gdsm J Newton
 Gdsm O Oloyede
 Gdsm AJ Osullivan
 Gdsm AA Oyenuga
 Gdsm BA Parker
 Gdsm S Quinlan
 Gdsm JCD Raspin
 Gdsm D Reed
 Gdsm kn Rowllatt
 Gdsm DV Ryan
 Gdsm E Sarpong
 Gdsm DE Smith
 Gdsm BS Sonko
 Gdsm LJ Steed
 Gdsm CA Strawford
 Gdsm SA Turner
 Gdsm T Walsh
 Gdsm DL Walton
 Gdsm JG Ward
 Gdsm JM Warren
 Gdsm C Wasswa
 Gdsm DT Wood

MANOEUVRE SUPPORT COMPANY

Maj SC Gordon Lennox
 Capt W Harries
 Capt FAO Kuku
 Lt J Taylor
 CSgt A Austin
 WO2 P Downes
 Sgt M Beasley
 Sgt D Bennison
 Sgt J Langdown
 Sgt M Lloyd
 Sgt D Moore
 Sgt R Pancott
 Sgt BJ Paterson
 Sgt M Robinson

THE REGIMENT

LSgt J Donavan
 LSgt K Dunk
 LSgt JE Garcia
 LSgt D Harrison
 LSgt J Hurst
 LSgt R Jackson
 LSgt T Loder
 LSgt C Moore
 LSgt D Norris
 LSgt M Oldham
 LSgt G Pendlebury
 LSgt S Perry
 LSgt J Rainima
 LSgt D Smith
 LSgt NAJ Smith
 LSgt M Williams
 LCpl J Lee
 LCpl T Love
 LCpl D Lyons
 LCpl M MacMillan
 LCpl M Morris
 LCpl J Pearce
 LCpl A Rigby
 LCpl C Rodda
 LCpl M Strydom
 LCpl H Sutton
 LCpl L Swan
 LCpl S Thorne
 LCpl S Turner
 Gdsm DT Clark
 Gdsm C Clarkstone
 Gdsm J Corfield
 Gdsm D Cosgrove
 Gdsm L Coulbert
 Gdsm AS Cowan
 Gdsm M Cox
 Gdsm S Crosbie
 Gdsm R Davies
 Gdsm S Davies
 Gdsm S Dent
 Gdsm A Deen Kamara
 Gdsm J Farmer
 Gdsm M Faux
 Gdsm R Fowler
 Gdsm HM Foxcroft
 Gdsm S Fredrickson
 Gdsm N Galley
 Gdsm L Green
 Gdsm D Hankey
 Gdsm J Haley
 Gdsm M Hawes
 Gdsm R Hayes
 Gdsm G Haynes
 Gdsm M Haynes
 Gdsm E Hennell
 Gdsm D Hill
 Gdsm S Holley
 Gdsm J Hovarth
 Gdsm S Husband
 Gdsm M Jallow
 Gdsm L Jarrett
 Gdsm S Jeffries
 Gdsm P Jeffs
 Gdsm SJ Keegan
 Gdsm S Lawa
 Gdsm C Livesey
 Gdsm CJ Lopez Moreno
 Gdsm A Lownds
 Gdsm J MacDonagh
 Gdsm D Malcangi
 Gdsm GP Margison
 Gdsm G Mason
 Gdsm E Matai
 Gdsm D McBride
 Gdsm DTA Mewis
 Gdsm D Morgan
 Gdsm MR Morris
 Gdsm S Morris
 Gdsm K Murray
 Gdsm J Neller
 Gdsm M Nyabally
 Gdsm B Painter
 Gdsm R Pampllett
 Gdsm J Pearson
 Gdsm S Pitt
 Gdsm J Plant

Gdsm A Pletts
 Gdsm D Poyser
 Gdsm D Quaye
 Gdsm M Rance
 Gdsm D Robinson
 Gdsm J Robinson
 Gdsm M Robinson
 Gdsm S Rose
 Gdsm R Rowbottom
 Gdsm B Russell
 Gdsm P Salt
 Gdsm SW Sambells
 Gdsm M Shaw
 Gdsm M Shearer
 Gdsm A Shepherd
 Gdsm J Sherlock
 Gdsm D Smith
 Gdsm DR Snyman
 Gdsm D Spencer
 Gdsm PA Steane
 Gdsm R Stray
 Gdsm S Swart
 Gdsm D Szabo
 Gdsm A Talbot
 Gdsm L Tatam
 Gdsm N Truman
 Gdsm J Tuicicia
 Gdsm M Wagstaffe
 Gdsm K Walkden
 Gdsm K Warde
 Gdsm A Wright
 Gdsm S Wright
 Gdsm AF Young

QUARTERMASTERS PLATOON

Maj R Dorney
 Capt G Gask
 WO2 G Snazle
 WO2 D Westlake
 CSgt R Devereux
 CSgt R Parkes
 Sgt Johnstone
 Sgt D Richardson
 Sgt J Truscott
 Sgt W Turner
 LSgt S Fry
 LSgt S Kidd
 LCpl G Blaney
 LCpl G Casburn
 LCpl Dodsworth
 LCpl Gillespie
 LCpl Maskell
 LCpl T McQueen
 LCpl S Taylor
 LCpl L Woodward
 Gdsm J Goucher
 Gdsm Loader
 Gdsm Sylva

SIGNALS PLATOON

Capt Gardner
 WO2 Pollitt
 CSgt P Churm
 Sgt P Rackley
 LSgt P Baily
 LSgt B Cobb
 LSgt P Duffett
 LSgt S Harrell
 LSgt S Truczynski
 LCpl P Lyons
 LCpl S Richardson
 LCpl A Scott
 Gdsm D Clayton
 Gdsm Dwyer
 Gdsm A Edwards
 Gdsm J Furniss
 Gdsm J Jeng
 Gdsm Jones
 Gdsm Parkes
 Gdsm A Sawo

MT PLATOON

Capt J Donaldson
 Sgt James

Sgt G Pitchford
 LSgt RI Dawson
 LSgt D Mitchell
 LSgt K Oldfield
 LSgt D Rideout
 LSgt Sneath
 LCpl Mitchell
 LCpl Palmer
 LCpl P Trussler
 Gdsm Adjei
 Gdsm L Ashford
 Gdsm M Bah
 Gdsm Cawdron
 Gdsm Ceasay
 Gdsm Collins
 Gdsm Cooper
 Gdsm Cowey
 Gdsm M Deacon
 Gdsm Farmer
 Gdsm G Greenhalgh
 Gdsm S Minteh
 Gdsm Priestley

TRAINING WING/ GYMNASIUM

Capt Stevens
 WO2 Howlin
 Sgt Claxton
 LSgt Nickless
 LCpl Culverhouse

MEDICAL CENTRE

Sgt Tack
 LSgt Squire
 LCpl Frimpong
 Gdsm Cheatham
 Gdsm Piantkiwskyj
 Gdsm Wells

REGIMENTAL POLICE

Sgt Roberts
 LCpl Haughton
 LCpl Plant

OFFICERS MESS

CSgt Luke
 Gdsm Cook
 Gdsm Marshall
 Gdsm Okoye
 Gdsm Willcocks

SERGEANTS MESS

LSgt Cooper
 Gdsm Fowkes
 Gdsm Hewitt
 Gdsm Scarrott

WELFARE OFFICE

Capt Keeley
 Sgt Edwards

Nijmegen Company

Maj R King-Evans
 Capt RD Hutton
 Capt A Rawlins
 Capt P Rice
 WO2 T Bearder
 CSgt J Bryne
 CSgt T Heale
 CSgt C Fiddy
 Sgt D Jones
 Sgt P Money
 LSgt B Brown
 LSgt A Bush
 LSgt Hall
 LSgt SJ Hughes
 LSgt I Norman
 LSgt M Parker
 LSgt J Worth
 LCpl T Bale
 LCpl G Davis
 LCpl L Dawson
 LCpl A Hendy
 LCpl B Marchant
 LCpl I Maynard
 LCpl J McCormack
 LCpl R Shean
 LCpl ME Thomas
 LCpl C Vincent
 Dmr D Barton
 Dmr JB Matai
 Gdsm MRD Aldridge
 Gdsm D Atkins
 Gdsm L Atterbury
 Gdsm J Attwood
 Gdsm UJ Atuanya
 Gdsm AR Barnes
 Gdsm E Barry
 Gdsm J Bentley
 Gdsm WG Bestwick
 Gdsm R Blakeny
 Gdsm G Bowers
 Gdsm MDJ Bradford
 Gdsm JW Brown
 Gdsm J Carr
 Gdsm S Constable
 Gdsm K Cooper
 Gdsm WJ Cooper
 Gdsm LMA Costello
 Gdsm J Cox
 Gdsm C Davis
 Gdsm R Elliott
 Gdsm S Freeman

Gdsm B Furneaux
 Gdsm J Gallett
 Gdsm J Gould
 Gdsm AD Harris
 Gdsm L Harrison
 Gdsm T Harry
 Gdsm R Holmes
 Gdsm S Jabbie
 Gdsm C Jackson-Smith
 Gdsm S Jefferis
 Gdsm JE Johnson
 Gdsm HJ Kendle
 Gdsm PT Kirk
 Gdsm R Langdell
 Gdsm R Lloyd
 Gdsm J Loftus
 Gdsm S McCash
 Gdsm J McEwan
 Gdsm S McMullan
 Gdsm C Meggit
 Gdsm P Moss
 Gdsm PN Ndungu
 Gdsm J O'Keefe
 Gdsm AJ O'Sullivan
 Gdsm M Ogden
 Gdsm J Raspin
 Gdsm J Read
 Gdsm D Reed
 Gdsm T Rees
 Gdsm SE Roberts
 Gdsm L Shears
 Gdsm D Sheehy
 Gdsm SL Sheldon
 Gdsm D Sherwin
 Gdsm D Shields
 Gdsm K Shine
 Gdsm DJ Spittle
 Gdsm M Stacey
 Gdsm J Stone
 Gdsm DV Story
 Gdsm A Swords
 Gdsm G Tucker
 Gdsm L Turner
 Gdsm K Wakeling
 Gdsm T Walsh
 Gdsm P Ward
 Gdsm K Whittle
 Gdsm L Whybrow
 Gdsm L Wordingham
 Gdsm E Wyatt

Officers

SENIOR OFFICERS

Brigadier DJH Maddan	Comd-CTAG-A
Brigadier GPR Norton CBE	Dept Comd JTF 7 South
Colonel AD Hutchison.....	CoS Project Hyperion
Colonel RD Winstanley OBE	Col. CBT APC Glasgow
Colonel RH Mills	Assist COS capability MOD A Block London
Colonel DJC Russell-Parsons	Deputy Commander 38 Irish Brigade

REGIMENTAL OFFICERS

Lieutenant Colonels

AGC	Hatherley OBE .....	.S01 AG Inspection Team
CVR	Walker DSO .....	.Commanding Officer 1st Battalion
TW	Jalland .....	.Lt Colonel Foot Guards
JTJ	Levine MBE .....	.S01 Info MGT & REQ C2DC LWDG
JDMcL	Wrench .....	.S01 G3/5 OPS SP HQ 3 (UK) DIV
GR	Denison-Smith .....	.S01 Tactical Systems CBM Branch
RT	Maudrell .....	.S01 INT/EXT Relations DA Shrivenham

Majors

ARG	Cartwright .....	.Pakistan Staff College
SG	Soskin .....	.COLL TRG STRAT Land Warfare Centre
AFR	James .....	.The Senior Major 1st Battalion
MA	Griffiths .....	.MSSG BG Planning Team 3
MP	David MC .....	.HQ DSF
TP	Barnes-Taylor .....	.DES-COO-LE-ICG-LWPD-ADW
JMH	Bowder MBE .....	.ACSC
The Hon	CL Broughton MBE .....	.Detached
MJG	Elliot-Square .....	.S02 Ceremonial Policy PS12 MOD
RJH	Green .....	.Captain of The Queen's Company
DJ	Alkin .....	.COS/SO2
EJ	Paintin .....	.S02 O&D Cyprus
PL	Ashfield .....	.S02 O&D Germany
JCM	Greaves .....	.US Staff College
JA	Seddon .....	.ICSC

Captains

JR	Green* .....	.OC The Inkerman Company
RE	King-Evans* .....	.OC Nijmegen Company
SC	Gordon Lennox* .....	.OC Support Company
JENB	Shaw * .....	.S03 NI Adt Desk Officer
PW	Russell .....	.S03 O&D Brecon
JOD	Fox .....	.Adjutant 1st Battalion
BJR	Jesty .....	.Adjutant, New College, RMAS
JM	Young .....	.Ops Officer 1st Battalion
AJ	Tiernan .....	.Detached
RMB	Stevens .....	.Training Officer 1st Battalion
HPCG	Cordle .....	.Adjutant Inner London Regiment
ACT	Forster .....	.Assistant Equerry to HRH the Colonel
FAOO	Kuku .....	.1st Battalion
WHL	Harries .....	.1st Battalion
ND	Torp-Petersen .....	.2IC The Inkerman Company
JM	Lindley .....	.JCTTAT
NA	Strachan .....	.2nd Captain

Lieutenants

OJC	Holcroft .....	.ITC Catterick
P	Rice .....	.Nijmegen Company
MOC	Dobbin .....	.ITC Catterick
RD	Hutton .....	.Nijmegen Company
CA	Shephard MC .....	.ATR Bassingborne
AWE	Bayliss .....	.Nijmegen Company
AA	Wellesley-Wood .....	.1st Battalion
GL	Banks .....	.Assit Adjt 1st Battalion
RC	De Gama .....	.2IC No 2 Company
JD	Brown .....	.1st Battalion
TR	Hendriksen .....	.1st Battalion
JE	Stafford Allan .....	.1st Battalion
JR	Taylor .....	.1st Battalion
CJD	Stevenson .....	.PI Comd Irish Guards

Second Lieutenants

	Wills .....	.1st Battalion
BMT	Pountain .....	.1st Battalion
AHM	Budge .....	.PCBC
HC	Cartwright .....	.PCBC
WLR	Harris .....	.PCBC
J	Hathaway-White .....	.PCBC
A	Stonar .....	.PCBC

Late Entry Commissions

Maj	AJ Green .....	.1st Battalion
Maj	VJ Overton .....	.LE Officer Instr RMAS
Maj	R Dorney MBE .....	.The Quartermaster 1st Battalion
Maj	EJJ O'Keefe .....	.QM/MTO 2 MI BN
Maj	M Gaunt OBE .....	.OC Headquarter Company
Capt	BF Broad .....	.Rehab
Capt	NA England .....	.1st Battalion
Capt	G Gask .....	.QM(T) 1st Battalion
Capt	DT Groom .....	.2IC Gds Company ITC Catterick
Capt	A Butcher .....	.RCMO 1st Battalion
Capt	A Keeley MBE .....	.Welfare Officer 1st Battalion

Director of Music

Maj	KFN Roberts MMus,	
	FLCM .....	.DoM Regt Band

RETIRED OFFICERS still in Military Employment or Occupation

Lt Col	CJE Seymour LVO .....	.Regimental Archivist
Maj	GVA Baker .....	.Regimental Adjutant
Maj	HA Baillie .....	.Warminster Training Centre
Maj	DNW Sewell .....	.HQ Foot Guards
Maj	Sir Charles Wiggin, Bt .....	.Warminster Training Centre
Maj	PAJ Wright OBE .....	.Regimental Archivist
Capt (QM)	TA Rolfe .....	.Regimental Treasurer
Capt	L Scholes .....	.216 Bty RA (V)

* indicates acting in the higher rank.

Grenadiers at Extra-Regimental Employment

WO1	DW	Andrews	.....HAC
WO1	S	Gillham	.....6TH (UK) DIV
WO1	S	Munro	.....RMAS RSM New College
WO2	M	Boak	.....RMAS CSM
WO2	J	Hawkins	.....CSM Camp Office Lond Dist
WO2	A	Levesley	.....RAF St Mawgan
WO2	M	Smith	.....RHQ Gren Gds
CSgt	J	Bastin	.....UOTC (TA)
CSgt	S	Brooks	.....INF BTLE SCH CSGT INSTR
CSgt	J	Burns	.....All Arms Drill Wing
CSgt	J	Byrne	.....NIJ COY
CSgt	G	Davis	.....FLD TRG GP (UK)
CSgt	C	Gillies	.....2 ITB CQMS
CSgt	S	Roughley	.....OPTAG Folkestone
CSgt	J	Summerscales	.....OPTAG Folkestone
Sgt	D	Bailey	.....SGT INSTR HDPGCC
Sgt	P	Boardman	.....AFCO Manchester
Sgt	G	Davis	.....AFCO Derby
Sgt	M	Ellmer	.....HQ INF COL FT GDS
Sgt	R	Golding	.....AFCO Grimsby
Sgt	P	Housby	.....PL SGT ATR Pirbright
Sgt	M	Johnson	.....Recruiter Nottingham
Sgt	M	Mitchell	.....All Arms Drill Wing
Sgt	T	Loder	.....PL SGT ATR Bassingbourne
Sgt	T	Saxton	.....AFCO Bristol
Sgt	J	Statters	.....D and M School
Sgt	D	Travis	.....16 CDT TRG Team
Sgt	C	Winfield	.....ATR(B)
LSgt	P	Ball	.....HDPGCC
LSgt	B	Bainbridge	.....ART 17 Stafford
LSgt	A	Bonsell	.....ACIO Wolverhampton
LSgt	R	Brooms	.....AFCO Nottingham
LSgt	L	Dawson	.....AFCO Stoke-on-Trent
LSgt	P	Fear	.....17 CDT TRG Team
LSgt	P	Hope	.....LSGT INSTR AFC Harrogate
LSgt	J	Hunter	.....Ordley Duke of Edinburgh
LSgt	J	Lockley	.....LSGT INSTR AFC Harrogate
LSgt	M	Martin	.....LSGT INSTR ATR Pirbright
LSgt	C	Moore	.....Sniper INSTR HDPGCC
LSgt	P	Newton	.....Storeman DVR HDPGCC
LSgt	P	Newton	.....HCAV Stables
LSgt	K	Partridge	.....Warminster SP GRP RP
LSgt	R	Pointon	.....LSGT INSTR ATR Pirbright
LSgt	M	Poxton	.....RCMT Chilwell
LSgt	C	Price	.....FLD TRG GP (UK)
LSgt	L	Richardson	.....HQ NI HOUSE SGT
LSgt	D	Sullivan	.....LSGT INSTR ATR Bassingbourne
LSgt	D	Thomas	.....PARA PL
LSgt	J	Thompson	.....AFCO Bristol
LSgt	P	Woodley	.....HQ DSF MT Storeman
LCpl	S	Blaney	.....REGT CDT LIAISON NCO
LCpl	J	Davis	.....5 REGT RLC Storeman
LCpl	K	Elasli	.....INF BTLE SCH Storeman
LCpl	J	Kemp	.....HQ 15 NE BDE (Brig Madden)
LCpl	L	McGovern	.....RST
LCpl	C	Mulqueeny	.....IBS WALES - SIG/DVR

LCpl	J	Neal	.....ART 14 Bassingbourne
LCpl	K	Newton	.....RMAS SIG/DVR
LCpl	A	Thompson	.....HQ ITC RP Staff
LCpl	T	Trimmins	.....ATR Winchester
Gdsm	W	Bawden	.....RRT
Gdsm	P	Bishop	.....ART2 Pirbright
Gdsm	L	Foxall	.....ART 23 Chepstow
Gdsm	P	Fydings	.....ART 20 Bicester
Gdsm	K	Harrison	.....ART 23 Chepstow
Gdsm	D	Harvey	.....JHSU (UKMF) (L) Basingstoke
Gdsm	D	Hodgeson	.....RMAS SIG/DVR
Gdsm	N	Kelly	.....CO Driver London Regt
Gdsm	R	Lloyd	.....ART 9 Preston
Gdsm	J	McGrath	.....RRT
Gdsm	J	Nuttall	.....RRT
Gdsm	M	Priestley	.....ART 13 Grantham
Gdsm	L	Redgate	.....St James' Palace Waiter
Gdsm	P	Shield	.....PARA PL
Gdsm	J	Swanston	.....RMAS SIG/DVR
Gdsm	R	Van Der Venter	.....Groom Lond Dist Stables

Warrant Officers

Warrant Officers Class 1

DW	Andrews	.....HAC
SJ	Bate	.....AFC Frimley
IM	Farrell	.....RSM 1st Battalion
S	Gillham	.....(DSM) 6 UK DIV
S	Mounro	.....RMAS RSM New College

Regimental Quartermaster Sergeants (WO2)

MJ	Smith	.....Regimental Headquarters
GJ	Szable	.....RQMS(M)
D	Westlake	.....RQMS(T)

Drill Sergeants (WO2)

R	Day	.....1st Battalion
S	Edgell	.....1st Battalion

Company Sergeant Majors (WO2)

T	Bearder	.....Nijmegen Company
P	Childs	.....Headquarter Company
M	Cox	.....No2 Company
P	Downes	.....Manoeuvre Support Company
JH	Frith	.....The Inkerman Company
S	Williams	.....The Queens Company

Warrant Officers Class 2

AK	Bissett	.....Fort Benning
M	Boak	.....Royal Military Academy Sandhurst
J	Hawkins	.....London District
AN	Levesley	.....RAF St Mawgan
A	Moores	.....IG
K	Pollit	.....Signals WO
A	Walker	.....2 (PWRR)
Z	Withers	.....Batuk

Marriages

Capt WHL Harries to Miss Alice Rose Williams
 WO2 S Williams to Miss Josephine Julia Fletcher
 CSgt A Austin to Miss Michelle Lindsay Barrow
 CSgt G Luke to Miss Fiona Barlow
 Sgt J Bennett to Lyndsay Ann Jones
 Sgt KJ Dunk to Miss Sarah Leillah Ellis
 LSgt M Lloyd to Miss Lindsay Claire Hewitt
 LSgt ML Williams to Miss Rachel Jane Wyeth
 LCpl DL Farrell to Miss Deborah Louise Haisman
 LCpl M Thomas to Miss Charlotte Harper
 Gdsm PID Barber to Miss Lyndsay Lewthwaite
 Gdsm L Darboe to Miss Awa Saine
 Gdsm A Jarju to Miss Aminata Jarju
 Gdsm O Jenyo to Miss Ibijoke Ajose
 Gdsm B Limbani to Miss Rabacca Kamphinda
 Gdsm F Mabasa to Miss Ivy Petudzai Chitanda
 Gdsm DR Marshall to Miss Justine Wilson
 Gdsm E Munezero to Miss Vivienne Nakyanzi
 Gdsm A Okoyo to Miss Nkechinyelu Chidebelu
 Gdsm DP Rollason to Miss Natasha Dayna William
 Gdsm S Rose to Miss Amy Louise Callan
 Gdsm D Staple to Miss Janique Staple
 Gdsm AF Young to Miss Gennaray Victoria Day

Births 2009

To CSgt Austin and Mrs Austin, a Son, Jack
 To Sgt Wiseman and Mrs Wiseman, a Girl
 To LSgt Bonsell and Mrs Bonsell, a Son
 To LSgt Castle-Nuovo and Mrs Castle-Nuovo, a Son
 To LSgt Williams and Mrs Williams, a Daughter, Eve
 To LCpl Trussler and Mrs Trussler, a Girl
 To Gdsm M Avery and Miss Robinson, a Son
 To Gdsm Cheetham and Mrs Cheetham, a Boy
 To Gdsm Cook and Mrs Cook, a Daughter
 To Gdsm Dean and Miss Amy Plaskitt, a Son
 To Gdsm G Harper and Mrs Allender, a Son
 To Gdsm S Hughes and Miss Sheridan, a Daughter
 To Gdsm M Igbaifua and Mrs Igbaifua, a Son
 To Gdsm J Read and Miss Wilson, a Daughter
 To Gdsm Rhodes and Mrs Rhodes, a Girl
 To Gdsm Sarpong and Mrs Sarpong, a Son
 To Gdsm B Sylvia and Mrs Sylvia, a Daughter
 To Gdsm S Wilson and Mrs Wilson, a Son

The FIRST or GRENADIER REGIMENT of GUARDS SERGEANTS' (PAST AND PRESENT) CLUB ROLL OF MEMBERS

2011

President
WO1 (RSM) Farrell I

Vice President
Lt Col (Retd) CE Kitchen MBE

Life Vice Presidents

Mr D Adkins	Mr VG Jewell LVO
Capt D Beresford	Major MJ Joyce MBE
Major D Bradley BEM	Capt JA Keeley
Capt B Broad	Capt DW Ling
Major RM Dorney	Mr DM McMahon RVM
Major BT Eastwood LVO OBE	Major S Marcham MBE
Mr J Ford	Capt M Nesbitt
Capt G Gask	Major VJ Overton
Major M Gaunt OBE	Capt TA Rolfe
Major AJ Green	Mr CC Savage
Major MB Holland	Lt Col S Tuck BEM
Capt A Holloway	Capt BE Thompson BEM
Mr R Huggins MBE	Lt Col DJ Webster
Mr LL Jeffrey	Lt Col GR Whitehead RVM

Honorary Members

Mr D Bilborough, Hants (REME)	Mr P Haigh, Hants
Mr E Bojtler, Kent (APTC)	Mr P Henessy, Kent (REME)
Mr AW Brooks, Hants (RAPC)	Lt Col PE Hills FICM psm
Mr RF Brown	Lt Col DR Kimberley MBE
Major D Burton ARCM psm	FTCL LRAM ARCM
Mr J Clarke, Middx (REME)	LGSM
Mr J Dorris, Surrey (ACC)	Mr R Millard, Surrey
Major P Ethics	Mr G Norton
Lt Col DR Evans, Powys (RAPC)	Major RJ Parker
Mr V Finan, Cheshire (ACC)	Major B Wassel ATCL psm
Major T Griffiths MBE ARCM, Spain	Lt Col S Watts LRAM, psm, OBE

Past Members

Mr D Abbott, Brecon	Mr AH Attenborough, Derby
Mr A Adie, Surrey	Mr Aurvoy, Windsor
Mr D Adkins, London	Mr S Austin, Surrey
Mr M Allison, Swansea	Mr A Axworthy BEM, Nottingham
Mr D Andrews, Norfolk	Mr C Ball, Swindon
Mr CT Angel, Redditch	Mr CA Bailey, Hampshire
Mr RJ Angell-Baker, West Yorkshire	Mr R Bailey, London
Mr J P Appleby, Humberside	Mr GH Baker RVM, Nottingham
Mr G Armstrong, South Australia	Mr AS Barrow, Worcester
Mr H Arrowsmith, Newport	Mr RF Barwick, Norfolk
Mr CW Atkins, Kent	

Mr RL Batch, Wiltshire	Mr T Cathcart, Cheshire
Mr B Batten, Middlesex	Mr H Chaffer MM, Northampton
Mr S Bayliss, West Sussex	Mr R Christer, Humberside
Mr MJ Beasley, Gloucester	Major JE Chappell, Lincs
Mr RA Bedford, Kent	Major FAO Clark, Suffolk
Mr AJ Beet, Kent	Lt Col WR Clarke OBE, Somerset
Mr D Bell, Mid Glamorgan	Mr HC Clements BEM, Devon
Mr PJ Bell, Kent	Mr PM Clements, Hertfordshire
Mr S Bell, Lincolnshire	Mr A Copley, Nottingham
Mr EH Bentley, Surrey	Mr RJ Coe, North Hampshire
Major D Beresford Derbyshire	Mr JE Colbourne, Kent
Mr BE Berry, Nottingham	Mr EV Cole, South Africa
Mr T Bingham, Nottingham	Major J Coleman, Shropshire
Mr D Blackford, Surrey	Mr R Coleman, Surrey
Mr M Blagden, Essex	Mr R Colley, Kent
Mr J Blay, Sussex	Mr J Connolly, Woking
Mr RA Bleadon, Bristol	Mr FWD Cook, Bedford
Mr B Bloom, Essex	Mr JH Cook, Staffordshire
Mr RE Bolan, Surrey	Mr N Cookson, Manchester
Mr HR Booth, Lancashire	Mr ED Cooper, Cornwall
Mr A Borland, Doncaster	Mr DW Coote, Surrey
Mr SP Boswell, Berkshire	Mr LM Cope, Nottingham
Mr D Boucher, Windsor	Capt F Corrigan, Swindon
Mr M Boulton, Bedford	Mr WB Cottingham, Surrey
Mr P Bowbanks, County Amagh	Mr DW Cousins BEM, Somerset
Mr I Bowden, County Durham	Mr D Cowley, Cleveland
Mr KA Bowen, Cornwall	Major AG Cox, Kent
Mr LC Bozeat MM, Surrey	Mr D Cox MBE, Stafford
Mr J Brackenridge, Cheshire	Mr PW Cox, London
Mr A Bradley, Surrey	Mr RE Cox, Kent
Mr BE Brenchley, Sussex	Mr T Cyrus-Hopewell, Nottingham
Mr K Brett, Kent	Mr GA Cross, Cheshire
Mr JC Brown BEM, Kent	Mr A Crowdy, Bedfordshire
Mr P Brown, London	Mr RJ Cunliffe, Chesterfield
Mr M Browne, Lancashire	Mr C Dalton, Kent
Mr A Buchanan, Nottingham	Mr D Dangerfield, Surrey
Mr RJ Bullock, Suffolk	Mr JF Daniels, Worcester
Mr AJ Burford, Sussex	Major G Dann, Hampshire
Mr MD Burke	Mr GS Darke, Co Antrim
Mr D Burnett, Yorkshire	Mr DT Davies, Essex
Mr P Burtoft, Portsmouth	Mr PJ Davies, London
Mr R Burton, Middlesex	Mr ST Davies, Oldham
Mr AS Cameron, Ipswich	Mr SWF Davies, Staffordshire
Mr J Campbell, Surrey	Mr R Davis, East Sussex
Capt B Carney, Gloucester	
Mr R Carter BEM, Hampshire	
Mr WE Carter, Germany	
Mr SP Cartwright, Surrey	
Mr JM Casey, Kent	

THE REGIMENT

Mr	E Dean, London	Mr	EJ Goodall RVM, Derby	Mr	S Higgin, Cumbria	Mr	J Kelly, Surrey
Major	SH Dehnel MBE, London	Mr	KJ Goodhall, Suffolk	Mr	AD Higgins, West Sussex	Mr	PA Kelly, Lincoln
Capt	BD Double, Essex	Mr	S Goode, Suffolk			Mr	MA Kenny, Surrey
Mr	D Dransfield, Warwickshire	Mr	B Goodson, Hertfordshire	Mr	A Higgins, Stafford	Mr	A Keogh, London
Capt	PJ Dunkerley MBE, Hampshire	Mr	J Gowers, Berkshire	Mr	J Higgins, Cumbria	Mr	B Key, Oxfordshire
Mr	R Duggan MBE, Surrey	Mr	D Grassick, Gullane	Mr	JE Higham, London	Lt Col	DR Kimberley MBE, Northampton
Mr	VB Dunne, Wiltshire	Mr	JF Greaves, Australia	Mr	KJ Hill, Surrey	Mr	MJ Kitchen, Devon
Mr	JS Durrant, France	Mr	EJ Green, Surrey	Mr	MJ Hill, Worcester	Lt Col	CE Kitchen MBE, Wiltshire
Mr	JH Dutton, Lancashire	Mr	G Green, Kiddminster	Mr	R Hill, Berkshire	Mr	K Kitcher, London
Major	BT Eastwood LVO, MBE, Hampshire	Mr	RP Green, East Sussex	Mr	R Hill, Nottingham	Mr	SI Knight, Hertfordshire
Mr	DR Ede, Sussex	Mr	M Greenberry, Lewes	Mr	S Hill, London	Mr	AL Knowles MC, Clywd
Mr	A Edge, Germany	Mr	ML Greenbury, Kent	Mr	AH Hilling, Buckingham	Major	P Ladd BEM, Somerset
Mr	A Edge, Munster	Mr	PV Greenwood, Berkshire	Mr	P Hillman, London	Mr	A Lamb, Chatham
Mr	G Eldershaw, Northants	Mr	CCK Griffiths, Chichester	Mr	RP Hinson, St Neots	Mr	R Lancaster, Berkshire
Mr	M Ellis, Fife	Mr	G Grimshaw, Lancashire	Mr	RW Hoad, Derby	Mr	D Landshaw, Buckinghamshire
Mr	M Elliott, Hampshire	Mr	JNJ Grocott, Derby	Mr	R Hobbs, Hampshire	Mr	J Lattimore, Surrey
Mr	S Elson, Surrey	Mr	NS Grumbar, Carmarthenshire	Mr	A Hodges MBE, Surrey	Mr	DA Lawrence, Northampton
Mr	C Entwistle, Australia	Mr	B Grummet, Nottingham	Major	P Hodginson BEM, Surrey	Mr	BW Lawson, Chertsey
Mr	D Errington, Gloucester	Mr	GJ Guest, Belize	Mr	DC Hodson, Nottingham	Mr	G Lawson, Essex
Mr	D Evans, Canada	Mr	KG Haddrell, Cheshire	Mr	MB Holland, Windsor	Mr	JC Leach, Somerset
Mr	G Evans, Hertfordshire	Mr	DA Haggarty, Guernsey	Mr	C Holland, Lincoln	Mr	RJ Le Louet BEM, Hampshire
Mr	JK Evans, Powys	Mr	D Hague, Nottingham	Mr	B Hollinshead, Worcester	Mr	
Capt	HM Everist, Berkshire	Mr	JD Haigh, Norfolk	Capt	A Holloway, Devon	Capt	J Lenaghan, London
Mr	Ewen, Northampton	Mr	P Haigh, Hampshire	Mr	JM Hooper, Lancashire	Lt Col	GF Lesinski, Somerset
Capt	K Fairchild, Northampton	Major	S Halford, Hampshire	Mr	N Hopkins, North Wales	Mr	BG Lester, USA
Mr	J Farmer, Bristol	Mr	I Hall, Surrey	Capt	DD Horn, Middlesex	Mr	J Lewsi, Mansfield
Mr	D Felton, Manchester	Mr	MS Hall, Warminster	Mr	D Houghton, Somerset	Mr	G Lightfoot, Lancashire
Mr	SP Fellows, London	Mr	W Hall, Avon	Mr	R Huggins MBE, Oxfordshire	Capt	J Lines, Glasgow
Mr	G Fenner, Essex	Mr	GE Hallam, Nottingham	Mr	A Hughes, Surrey	Capt	DW Ling, Berkshire
Mr	A Ferney-Hough MBE, Kent	Mr	PM Hallam, Nottingham	Mr	TJ Hughes, Hertford	Mr	G Lippiatt MSM, Bristol
Mr	VJ Finan, Chester	Mr	L Hammil, Hampshire	Mr	ETJ Hulbert, Bristol	Mr	CF Liqueurish, Kent
Mr	JK Finch, Cyprus	Mr	R Hampson, Uxbridge	Mr	RB Human, Hertfordshire	Mr	DF Lloyd, Hertfordshire
Mr	G Fishwick, Eastbourne	Mr	AM Harding, Bath	Mr	AW Humphreys, Berkshire	Mr	MS Lloyd, Essex
Mr	D Fitzgerald, Chilwell	Mr	MR Harding, Hampshire	Mr	T Humphreys, London	Mr	MC Loble, Lancashire
Mr	K Fitzgerald, Manchester	Capt	DJ Hardman, Wiltshire	Mr	PA Hunter, London	Mr	CM Lonsdale, Nottingham
Mr	DT Fleming, Bristol	Mr	PJ Hardy, Cambridge	Mr	DJ Huxley MBE MM, Surrey	Mr	FH Lovett MM, Essex
Mr	RA Fletcher, Leicester	Mr	M Hardwick, Slough	Mr	R Ibson, Hertfordshire	Mr	J Loveday, Tyne & Wear
Mr	S Ford, Yorkshire	Mr	CP Hares, Caterham	Major	BMP Inglis MBE, Dyfed	Mr	R Lovewell, Essex
Mr	T Foreman, Cambridge	Mr	DF Harris, Northampton	Mr	W Jacobi, Middlesex	Mr	FJ Lowe, Balham
Mr	D Foster, Middlesex	Lt Col	P Harris, Spain	Mr	ME James, Surrey	Capt	DR Loxton, Kent
Mr	S Foster, W Midlands	Mr	CJ Harrison, Salop	Mr	CM Jeanes, Avon	Mr	GE Machin, New Zealand
Mr	R Freeston, Essex	Mr	DA Harrison, Jersey	Mr	D Jelves, West Yorkshire	Mr	WD Mackay, Argyll
Mr	LP Gallagher BEM, Nottingham	Mr	MJ Hart, Dorset	Capt	HC Jenkins, Dorset	Mr	P Maher, Hertfordshire
Mr	DL Gatford, Eire	Mr	GW Harvey, Dorset	Mr	VG Jewell LVO, Scotland	Mr	GE Major, South Devon
Mr	K Gibbens, Surrey	Mr	K Hastin-Green, Hampshire	Mr	AJ Johnson, Westbury	Mr	M Male, Cleyland
Mr	G Gibson, Dunstable	Mr	S Hawes, Poole	Mr	S Johnson GM, Surrey	Mr	R Mann, Australia
Mr	B Gillon, West Midlands	Mr	G Hayes, Essex	Mr	R Jolly BEM, Tamworth	Mr	PS Manning, USA
Mr	C Gilpin, Cumbria	Mr	S Hayes, Dorset	Mr	A F Jones, Lincoln	Mr	HJL Mansell, Kent
Mr	K Girling, Nottingham	Mr	HJJ Hayes, Leicestershire	Mr	C Jones, Liverpool	Major	S Marcham MBE, London
Mr	JH Gittins, Shropshire	Mr	N Heard, Middlesex	Mr	KJ Jones, Cornwall	Mr	AJ Marshall MVO, Middlesex
Mr	JE Glanister, Northampton	Major	E Hemsall, Isle of Man	Mr	M Jones, Prestwich	Mr	WR Marsden, S-O-T
Mr	RH Glasspell, Essex	Mr	P Hennessy, Kent	Mr	RE Jones, Leicester	Mr	PD Marshall, Oxford
Mr	A Goddard, London	Mr	J Henningham, Co Antrim	Major	MJ Joyce MBE, Salisbury	Mr	TDJ Marshall, Yorkshire
Mr	N Godfrey, Lancashire	Mr	GRB Herring, Norfolk	Mr	PD Jupp MBE, Surrey	Mr	J Marvey, Leicestershire
Mr	RT Godfrey, Essex	Mr	G Hetherington, Kent	Mr	D Keenan, London	Mr	AE Maslin, Middlesex
Mr	S Goode, Suffolk	Mr	WE Hewitt, Chester	Mr	B Kelly, London		

THE REGIMENT

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

We Will Remember Them

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

2625169	D Addy	Caterham	24319135	K Cooper	North Staffs
22213362	E Allsop	Nottingham	2623272	P Cosh	Oxford
24021849	AJ Allsopp	2009	2614053	CFE Crickmore RVM	London
22955548	D Andrews	Norfolk	2627866	C Daff	Oxford
22213455	R Ashley	North Staffs	26135423	JCR Davies	Manchester
2625638	P Atkinson	Lincoln	2615919	R Dean	Manchester
22488422	HJ Balderstone	East Kent	22545270	C Dewhurst	Overseas
22213376	JE Barrett	Australia	Major	PJ Diggle	First Guards Club
2213153	JS Bellaby	Matlock	24632011	G Dixon	
23252372	BK Bishop	Wessex (2009)	2620880	RG Dunn	Shropshire
2627100	E Bloomfield	Suffolk	2614629	P Duval	Medway
2617354	CA Blunsdon	Oxfordshire	6399069	ET Evans	North America
2352929	AE Boden	Nottingham	Captain	CA Farquharson	Northumbria/FGC
2622116	J Bolton	Liverpool	2629310	NA Farquharson	London
2620892	J Bottomley	Liverpool	23509986	WJ Fear	Bristol (2008)
2622959	JW Boulton	Burton-on-Trent	2625431	FJ Ferris	Worcester & Herefordshire
2627082	F Bradshaw	Leicestershire	2625462	FJW Foster	Gloucestershire
22487975	MJ Briggs	Norfolk	2627654	JL Francis	
23280101	G Bromley	Manchester	2628126	L Frewin	Reading
Major Sir	Hervey Bruce- Clifton Bt	First Guards Club	21006014	DL Gatford	Overseas
23252350	P Bryan	Walsall	2623679	JE Gaunt	North America
14067580	DJ Bryer	Wessex	22451372	RJG Godden	East Kent
22106831	W Bull	Australia	2622236	DR Goulding	Manchester
22545482	S Bunn	Spalding	23509255	PC Green	
2625964	R Cambridge	Bristol	25124116	D Greenhalgh	Serving 1st Bn Afghanistan
Captain	JA Cannan	Gloucestershire/ FGC	22213324	JL Gregory	North America
22001733	G Canning	Oxford	23287450	DR Gudgin	Luton (Household Division)
2619439	CA Carter	Derby	23643927	SW Hall	North America
Major	JE Chappell	Lincoln	21006144	DW Hancock	Bristol
2628245	K Chatfield	March	1449828	J Harding	North America
	MW Clark CBE, DL Esq	Essex/First Guards Club	22581326	H Harman	London
23252553	GR Clarke	Gloucestershire (2009)	2621150	W Harper	Windsor
22545907	R Cleveland	Worcester & Herefordshire	23688549	MJ Harrod	
22955556	D Clews	North Staffs	2628033	P Haughey	London
Viscount	JMA Colville of Culross, QC	First Guards Club	2627142	AR Headland	Lincoln
Captain	MA Cooke	Oxford/FGC	2622040	C Hicks	
			2616196	S Higgins	
			14498727	A Hiley	Oxford
				F Hoare Esq	First Guards Club

OBITUARY

2621703	J Holmes		23879918	DR Rider	
2615783	GE Hope	Windsor	22158999	C Ridge	North Staffs
21006127	NT Horton	Nottingham	4975210	VH Rigley	Nottingham
2623968	J Ingram	Australia	2623596	LJ Roberts	Leicestershire
22213004	AF Jacques	Chelsea Pensioner	22483138	CG Roden	Aylesbury
2615812	CG James	North America	23509674	M Ross	
Captain	The Honourable George Jeffreys	First Guards Club	2616337	LAJ Russell	Reading
2626477	WA Johnson	Nottingham	23252068	MF Ruddy	Bristol
2627239	SE Kenealy	Liverpool	22213305	R Rydings	Nottingham
2622708	M Kirke		2618821	AF Saddington	Lincoln
22955780	AF Knox	Derby	222132064	DA Saunders, MBE	London
2618918	F Lance	Reading (2009)	24021137	C Schlarb	Windsor
	JWR Larken Esq	First Guards Club	2619324	P Schvier	Oxford
2623122	R Little	Caterham	2620701	R Sellars	Spalding
24185937	BAP Lyons	Medway	23252504	DF Shacklock	Derby
Captain	A Mackenzie-Smith	First Guards Club	2627646	AJ Shaw	Liverpool
2615440	LWC Maydon	Aylesbury	22955585	R Shaw	East Kent
23692806	AJ McClenaghan	Nottingham	14200237	RGT Sheppard	Essex
24021995	J McCormick		2625958	N Smith	North Lancashire
6286455	GH Meen BEM	Norfolk	23862953	PJ Smith	
2627167	G Millward	Wessex	2617234	L Spibey	2007
22545441	IJ Milner	Northamptonshire (2009)	23688434	K Standring	Sussex
2614428	E Mitchell	Norfolk	23382217	RK Stark	Liverpool
14760596	R Monckton	Spalding	261396	RE Stratton MM	Sussex
2621105	S Moore	Leicestershire	22545355	R Stubbs	North Staffs
23509526	D Morley	West Kent	22578864	TV Sumpter	
22955594	W Morris	North Staffs	2614208	DF Tarling	Gloucestershire
23509657	BT Mott		24457944	M Thompson	
866351	L Mountjoy	Manchester	2615216	JE Tilbury	London
2623397	EG Munday	London	5933106	JL Tingey	1992
22955634	JP Murphy	Manchester	23929589	J Varney	Lincoln
23509642	JW Nash		2617116	J Wadsworth	
2622538	RA Norris	Matlock	2623907	JE Wain	Nottingham
22767473	JF Oldroyd	Nottingham	Captain	CR St Q Wall	First Guards Club
4030761	FC Owen	Cambridge	2626240	J West	Medway
4806277	R Pearson	Cambridge	23117687	R Wharburton	North Staffs
2627242	G Peers	Liverpool	553774	RC Wheadon	Sussex
2629209	A Pigott	Lincoln	2627267	RA Wilcox	Northumbria
2615740	R Playford	London	23252988	HE Williams	Manchester
2617099	F Porter	Wigan	2616732	I Williamson	Aylesbury
2618115	GE Potter	Suffolk	The Hon	PPH Wills	First Guards Club
2628511	W Potts	Northumbria	2627802	B Wixey	Spalding
14498928	JH Randall	Sussex	23446395	RG Woodman	Bristol
2628535	FN Rann	Wessex	2629305	C Wooley	Yorkshire
Captain	J Renton MC	First Guards Club	22213171	V Wright RVM	North America
			2622009	JO Young	Leicestershire
			Major	AE Yuill	First Guards Club



Major Sir Hervey Bruce-Clifton

Sir Hervey James Hugh Bruce-Clifton Baronet of Downhill in the County of Londonderry was born in Pietermaritzburg in South Africa on 3rd September 1952 (not the 4th, Burke's Peerage is in error). His father, a former officer in the Scots

Greys, was a successful trainer, well-known in South African racing circles. With two elder sisters, Jamie used to say that it was amazing that he turned out as normal as he, in fact, was. He reckoned that he should be "psychologically scarred" since his big sisters used him instead of a doll and he was more often than not dressed up as a little girl.

After moving to England Jamie was sent to Prep School at Wellesley House and then to Eton where he was in M A Nicholson's House.

Young Bruce was keen to be a soldier. He was not sure whether to join the Foot Guards or the cavalry; generations of his family had served in both. In the event, Hamish Grey-Cheape, the Assistant Regimental Adjutant, persuaded him that the modern cavalry spent most of their time sitting in Germany for years wiping the bottoms of their tanks with oily rags and that it would be much more fun to be a Grenadier.

On 8th May 1971 he was commissioned into the Regiment. He joined the 2nd Battalion at Caterham from where it mounted Public Duties in the Capital. Almost straight away he discovered that being part of the family of the Household Division could be a lot of fun. Within 3 months he was attached to a company of Scots Guards serving in what was then British Honduras (now Belize) in Central America.

It was in 1971 that Jamie's father, the 6th Baronet, was killed in a traffic accident and he inherited the title. That title has always been the source of confusion. When Jamie was commanding No 2 Company of the 1st Battalion one of the lance corporals was heard to enquire of his platoon commander; "The Company Commander, Major Sir Hervey, Sir, is he a clarinet or a baritone?"

In 1973 Jamie deployed with the 2nd Battalion for the first of several tours he served in Northern Ireland, the home of his forbears. He always had

a strong attachment to that beautiful part of the world and it was a source of pain to him to see the strife that the people of the Province endured over many years.

Deployed with the 2nd Battalion to Hong Kong, while he was there, Bruce was appointed ADC to the Governor of the Colony – a splendid chap called Sir Murray MacLehose, a Scot who, because of his origin and surname, was affectionately referred to by Jamie as "Sir Jock the Sock"

Jamie was quite good at getting back to places. There followed another tour in Northern Ireland and then back to the tropics as a watchkeeper in the Headquarters in Belize. He even managed to get back to his old school when he was appointed Adjutant of the Corps at Eton in July 1979.

Then it was off to Germany and Cyprus under Anthony Denison-Smith who was commanding the 2nd Battalion. Subsequently, Jamie took over from Valentine Cecil in charge of training Guards recruits at the Guards Depot. He then went to the Staff College at Camberley for a year before returning to Germany with the 1st Battalion and another Northern Ireland tour. After a period as a staff officer in London and then as Senior Major of the 2nd Battalion, Jamie moved to Dorset to help train Royal Armoured Corps officers at Bovington. Then followed two years of loan service in Canada.

At this point Jamie decided it was time to "rug up". Having soldiered from Hong Kong to Canada, from the Falklands to the Arctic, after almost exactly a quarter of a century as a Grenadier he resigned his commission in May 1996.

Off to fresh woods and pastures new... The next phase of Jamie's life began with the purchase of "Oaklands" in KwaZulu Natal. Again, he was going back, on this occasion to the country in which he was born. He built up one of the most enchanting polo establishments in South Africa. It was at this time that he came into an inheritance from his cousin – Peter Clifton, and changed his name by Royal Licence. Married in turn to Charlotte, Anna and Caroline, he delighted in his daughter and three sons. It was a great joy to him that just before he died after a short illness they all came together at his bedside.

Jamie Bruce was a remarkable man. Seldom does one come across an officer who was held in such affection by guardsmen and non-commissioned officers. He was a Grenadier of immense honesty, loyalty, integrity and of honour. But the quality that made him such a special person was his effervescence and joie de vivre. His was a spirit which uplifted those whose lives he touched.



Major John Eric Chappell

John Chappell was born on the 28th June 1920 and spent his formative years in Southampton. He spent time in the Merchant Navy before taking the King's shilling on the 8th May 1939 when he became 2616385

Guardsman J Chappell Grenadier Guards, so began a military career spanning 36 years.

John was soon in action as part of the BEF, landing at Le Havre, later he was evacuated through Cherbourg in June 1940. LSgt Chappell went back to France as part of the newly formed Guards Armoured Division and was assigned to Support Company (Anti Tank). John landed on Gold Beach as part of Operation Goodwood on D Day + 2 the delay due to severe storms in the channel. John advanced to a place called Cagny where he was wounded on the 18th July 1944.

After a period of convalescence he returned to his Battalion in Holland where the Regiment fought hard at Nijmegen. Later as the Guards Armoured Division pushed into Germany John was again wounded by mortar fire, he was again shipped home with serious wounds, which affected him for the rest of his life.

John was no longer medically A1 and therefore his career changed; he remained with the Grenadiers in a clerical role until commissioned into the RASC, later the RCT. Service after the war took him to London working in the War Office, then service in Austria, Germany, India, Northern Ireland and various other UK postings. John ended his army career in 1975 holding the rank of Major. Although John left his beloved Grenadiers, however as they say once a Grenadier always a Grenadier and John's affiliation to the Regiment never waned. John was a dedicated member and Vice President of the Lincoln Branch, always to be seen at branch meetings, the Annual Dinner and Dance, Regimental Remembrance Day and Grenadier Day.

In 2009 John returned to Gold Beach, Cagny and Nijmegen to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the liberation, he said it was a most overwhelming experience with hundreds of people cheering and clapping, John said it was very humbling, he never felt he did anything special and was very modest regarding his wartime service. His very good friend Phil Clark accompanied him on this visit and afterwards wrote the following poem for John, which I am sure many from that time can relate to.

John passed away peacefully in the early hours of the morning on 20th October 2010, he will be sadly missed.

Going Back

He stands alone on the shore
This grey haired man, had been here before
When this was called Gold Beach in Forty Four
And he was a Grenadier aged Twenty Four

On his chest, his medals glinting in the sun
Testament to what he, and others had done
Young men had fought and died
Coming ashore on a fast running tide

Now this man is not alone
Strangely he feels at home
The guns on Gold Beach are silent and still
Happy voices chatter, and children shriek
In the ears of this man about whom we speak

Then quietly, individuals begin to ask
'Were you here Sir, on that day
What was your task, can you say?'
'Please may I shake your hand?'
'Thank you Sir, you bore the pain
Thank you for coming back again'

'May I take your photo please?'
Sir, may I stand beside you, and offer you my hand?'
'I am honoured to meet a man who fought for this land'
Photos, handshakes, words of thanks
So different now, No bullets, No guns, No tanks
We are proud John, Nicky and I, to have been with you
To share your memories, some sad times too.
As you stood at your comrades grave
To salute a friend who had fought and died
To place a cross, at his graveside
And have the chance to say goodbye

Sixty Five years have passed
You have returned at last
Paying homage to all brave men
Who fought and died back then
Who suffered wounds much like you
Young men then, Old Soldiers true
With memories of battles they all knew

Keep going back John, as often as you can
The appreciation is there in every shaken hand
Canadian, French, British, Dutch and Swedes
All said we thank you for your brave deeds

The scars of war are here to see
So to are those who fought for liberty
And on parade forever more
Those who died setting others free
Rest together in fields of peaceful tranquility
Now visitors come to enjoy this place
To pay their respects and give their thanks
To men like you who fought for peace
And set so many people free
Welcome back John to Normandy.



Captain George Jeffreys

George Jeffreys died unexpectedly on the 8th November 2010 after suffering a sudden heart attack which struck him without any warning signs. He came from a distinguished Grenadier family; his grand-

father "General Ma" Jeffreys was Colonel of the Regiment from 1952 to 1960, his father Christopher was killed at Furnes in Belgium in May 1940 when he was adjutant of the Second Battalion, and his elder brother, Mark, served for some years including a spell with the 3rd Battalion in Malta and Cyprus.

George served in the Regiment from 1960 to 1966 which included tours of duty in both battalions and the Junior Guardsman Company at Pirbright. His time in the first battalion included the tour of Cyprus and the United Nations. George was a good athlete, cricketer and golfer. As a runner he competed in the 1st Battalion's athletic team which reached the Army Finals. As a cricketer George played frequently for the Household Division's team at Burton's Court when his best score was 96 not out against the IZ. He also played in the Household Brigades tour of Jersey where one of the hospital residents agreed to accommodate some of the team as long as "Gorgeous George" was there!

George was also keen on horses and hunting; in addition he was a successful point to point rider on Tommy Toucan: his victories included the Jeffreys cup which had been presented by his grandfather. In the early '70s he owned a steeplechaser "Hal's Farewell" which won several races including the Grand Annual Two Mile Chase at Cheltenham. When playing for the Battalion's polo team in Cyprus against the Commander in Chief's team, George's pony, a stallion, stuck its teeth into the biceps of the unfortunate senior officer and galloped off down the pitch still attached. Remarkably the Air Chief Marshal, once he had recovered, bore no malice but gave the team a lunch party!

After leaving the Regiment George worked in the City for a Discount Broker and after that specialized world was reorganized substantially he moved with his family to Warwickshire where he took part in many horsey activities and local events. In addition, he was an active and persuasive fund raiser for many good causes – his meticulous book keeping was a much needed asset.

Our sympathy goes out to his family at the sudden and premature death of a popular Grenadier.

Quintessential Englishman

2nd December 1939 – 8th November 2010

*In celebration of the life of our Dad,
George Christian Darell Jeffreys
with love from Zara, Susannah and Christopher*

Quintessential Englishman; our very special Dad.
We'll always remember you, and the good times we had.
Noble head held high, distinguished, tall and proud;
Cutting quite a dash and standing out in a crowd.

Living free at Burkhams, you loved to practice cricket.
At Ludgrove and Eton, you'd quickly take a wicket.
On the drill square at Sandhurst, you started your career,
Following tradition to become a Grenadier.

At Willoughby House, on your 40th birthday,
So elegant and handsome in your black bow tie.
Courteous and charming, waltzing Mum through the hall,
The time of your life, Dad – having a ball.

Mowing lawns and trimming hedges with
military precision.

Order in the chaos was your ultimate vision.
Many pairs of shoes buffed to a brilliant shine.
All your jackets, ties and hats in a meticulous line.

Whenever out hunting, you always looked immaculate.
With dashing red tails, and a shiny top hat.
If racing past the post, winning was your art.
Whatever the occasion, always playing your part.

Habits, quirks and interests that lasted a lifetime:
Bendicks mints, marmalade, golf, and fine wine;
Relaxing in the evening, gin and tonic in your hand;
A passion for the countryside, and fighting for this land.

Thank you for your patience, and all the ways you
helped us.

Chauffeur, groom or handyman, you were always generous.
From many miles of driving, listening to the Archers,
To text book operations, and refuting traffic charges.

Keeping a stiff upper lip, looking stoic and brave,
With twinkling eyes, gracious smile and familiar wave,
In your beloved green coat, shirt, tie and tweed cap,
You'd tell your stories, and hold grandchildren on your lap.

What a precious gift were our last times together.
Something we'll remember, and cherish now forever:
Autumn walks in woodlands, under golden sun rays;
Our last day in the Chilterns, shooting at fast clays.

Resting here in Bentworth as the clock strikes noon,
Daddy we shall miss you; you've gone from us too soon.
May God bless and keep you, forever in your prime,
And help us laugh together, and make the most of time.



Captain John
Renton, MC

Captain John Renton MC, was born in Harrogate in 1923 and was educated at Eton. He was described by his housemaster as “North country, very tough and a born leader. Although he hasn’t all the polish of a southern Etonian, he has the gift of inspiring people.”

He was commissioned into the Grenadier Guards in 1943. He fought with the 6th Battalion in Italy and was awarded the Military Cross at Trimonsuoli on 30th January 1944. His citation read “This officer commanded the left platoon of his company in a dawn attack. During the attack he led his platoon with outstanding dash getting close up under the “murder” which the artillery were putting down, and getting in so quickly on its termination that he gained complete surprise and took some prisoners. However machine guns and mortars on his left flank made consolidation difficult. With complete disregard for his own safety and with the enemy only 400 yards away, he calmly directed the consolidation, and organised the return fire with 2” mortars and riflemen, knocking out a machine gun post and several snipers. Due to his energy in immediate consolidation under heavy and accurate fire he was able to break up a counter attack which developed shortly afterwards.” Ten days later he was shot through the chest and both lungs while leading a patrol in the olive groves in No Man’s Land at Minturno and was evacuated home.

He later served in Berlin and was granted a regular commission in 1946. However as a result of his wounds he was medically downgraded and retired from the Army. He graduated from Trinity College, Cambridge and became Headmaster of Stubbington Preparatory School in Ascot, ably supported by his wife, Ruth. In 1991, they moved to Waddington in the Ribble Valley. After she died, he remarried in 1994 and is survived by his wife, Ann. He played a prominent part in local affairs and was much loved and respected.



Company
Sergeant Major
Mark Thompson

Mark Thompson who died in late September aged 53, will be remembered by many as one of the great regimental characters of the last 20 years. A Yorkshire man by birth, ‘Thommo’ joined the Grenadier Guards in 1977. After short service in the Second Battalion, Mark joined No 2 Company of the 1st Battalion for their tour in Crossmaglen in 1978/79. As the Saracen Commander he was always on hand to offer some welcome armoured support and a hot brew to the town foot patrols.

Thommo’s mischievous sense of humour and legendary story telling ability was established during his time in the Battalion Shooting Team where this natural soldier became a positive influence on others. His self confidence, reliability and quiet, but flamboyant style soon marked him as a real character. Who could forget him in Berlin walking out dressed as a (smart) cowboy, complete with Stetson?. He met Janet, the love of his life in 1980 and they married in 1982. A bear of a man, never over-bearing, always approachable, but nonetheless a man to be reckoned with, he was after all the Battalion Heavyweight Boxing Champion. As a COP team leader in South Armagh his understanding of the countryside (he had been a herdsman on a Yorkshire farm) was a revelation to us all. Mark was the anchor man for a talented Recce Platoon in Munster where he never failed to raise a smile.

As a Platoon Sergeant in the Gulf in 1991 his character and pure invention entertained the members of No 2 Company for months. Only Thommo could procure a Second World War vintage greatcoat which he wore with great pride, knowing only too well that its very existence was a great irritation to the RSM of the Fusiliers. Many officer cadets benefitted from their contact with Mark during his time at RMAS as a CSgt instructor and he positively revelled in furthering the reputation of the Regiment even if his tales were at times rather tall and perhaps a little tongue in cheek.

Tommo later became the CSM of both the Queen’s and Nijmegen Companies where he was loved and respected by all he came into contact with. Before leaving the Army in 1999 he was dined out in the

Sergeants' Mess and was seen off by a staggering number of people who had travelled from far and wide, a measure of the very high regard in which he was held by all. Thommo never enjoyed civilian life and soon joined the ranks of the many ex-Household Division men working in the private security industry. He spent several years working in Baghdad and was held in equally high regard by his colleagues in Sierra Leone and Iraq. Always the outdoorsman, he managed to fulfil a long-standing ambition by walking the Appalachian Trail, a wonderful achievement only completed by the most adventurous and determined of people. Mark was tragically diagnosed with a terminal illness and his final months were short, but he was able to spend them with his family in Yorkshire where he was visited by scores of wellwishers. Dignified and uncomplaining until the very end, Mark was borne out of church on the shoulders of his oldest Grenadier friends and to the tune of the Grenadier's Return. Thommo leaves his wife Janet, sons Scott and Zac, daughter Zo and his beautiful granddaughter Lexi May. Sleep safe old friend we can never forget you.



Sergeant Major Darren Chant

There is a small nondescript empty building in southern Afghanistan, which stands slightly back from dusty road linking a village to its District Centre. The evidence of battle damage is all too clear for this once active dispensary, then temporary Police Station. Much like driftwood on a beach marks the high tide, this building bears witness to a former frontline between the Government forces and the Taliban in late 2009. The Taliban defence ebbed quickly when we pressed, which allowed the elders from the village to stand up to the insurgents when they tried to sneak back in. It's a tale of simple but effective counter insurgency by small teams of British soldiers working alongside the Afghan Army and Police, with the grain of the local community. Thankfully, it's also a rather common story in Helmand. Today the road

is a thoroughfare, is even being tarmaced, and is a bustling lifeline for commerce and redevelopment. But the building is vacant: the owner told me he wanted it to stay that way, such was the shame he and his village felt at what happened there on the afternoon of 3rd November 2009.

It was where WO1 (RSM) 'Daz' Chant died, along with four of his men, when an Afghan Police Officer they were working with turned, firing through the building with an automatic assault rifle before escaping. Within the hour, the position was under attack from Taliban fighters who kept up an assault into the dark hours. It was a shocking event, and so at odds with the success Daz Chant had achieved in the few weeks he had been there. He had volunteered to lead a small mentoring team to work with the local Police detachment in an effort to bring security to the area, and it was working brilliantly. Known as "Mr Daz" by the villagers, he was always surrounded by their noisy children on the many patrols he led. He became their sheriff, and their conscience. He was such a big man of character, stature, and example that it was no surprise to hear and see what a difference he was making. This is of little consequence to those who lost a husband, a father, a son, a brother, and a friend. But it is a small tribute to a born leader, a fighter, a loyal Grenadier, now lying in peace under the shade of the trees in Brookwood Military Cemetery.

Darren John Chant (born Walthamstow 1969, a Grenadier from 1986) was promoted to Warrant Officer Class 1 in 2008, and he was the epitome of a Foot Guards Regimental Sergeant Major: a rapacious thirst for detail, persuasive and imposing, almost subterranean gravitas, and razor-sharp wit. Unsurprising for a man who'd made his mark early in his career with impressive levels of fitness and skill as a runner, cross-country skier, and sportsman. He was equally prominent as a soldier of considerable distinction who had served in Kuwait and Iraq, Northern Ireland, the Balkans, and Afghanistan. His service with the Guards, Airborne Forces (he served with the Pathfinder Platoon of the 5th Airborne Brigade), and training establishments (he was a LSgt Instructor at the Infantry Training Centre Catterick, and CSgt Instructor then CSM at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst) gave him a texture and depth which marked him out as a man driven by conviction to try, learn, adapt, and succeed. His bravery was well known, but such was his humility he seldom spoke of how he'd saved his comrades from a burning Warrior in the Gulf War in 1991 or how he had carried a badly injured Guardsman off the Afghan battlefield in 2007

OBITUARY

and saved his life. He had applied for a Commission and had made it clear to all of us that, if successful, he wanted to return to Sandhurst as the Academy Sergeant Major. He was killed the day his Commission papers came through.

He leaves behind Sheenie, their infant son George, and his three children from his previous marriage, Connor, Adam, and Victoria. Our thoughts are with them all.



Sergeant Donald
(Don) Gatford
(21006014)

Donald Gatford was born in Brighton, Sussex on the 10th February 1930 and enlisted into the Regiment as a Regular soldier on the 20th August 1947 and after the usual training period at The Guards Depot and the Guards Training Battalion he was posted to the 3rd Battalion in Malaya, indeed he was mentioned by name in Oliver Lindsay's book "Once a Grenadier" albeit incorrectly, as a National Serviceman.

After the Battalion returned to England it was decided that a draft be sent from the 3rd Battalion to the 2nd Battalion at the time stationed at Nehaus in the large Sennelager Ranges area in Germany and Don was included in that draft. He stayed with the 2nd Battalion serving in the UK with a duty Company as Company Clerk until he went into the Orderly Room. The Battalion then went to Cyprus for six months during 1958, just a few weeks after returning to Lydd in Kent the Battalion returned to Germany again this time to Hublerath. He was then posted to the 1st Battalion before ending up as the Orderly Room Sergeant of the General Office at Regimental Headquarters in Wellington Barracks. He left the Regiment on the 31st December 1965.

After he left the Regiment Don was employed by ESSO as a storeman and after some initiation he joined an oil rig off Stavanger, Norway and from there to other parts of the world and at some time he joined Global Marine eventually becoming the area manager for stores in East Africa. He continued with the

company for some years but eventually had to give up full time working because of heart problems which meant he could not fulfil the necessary health and safety checks for working on the rigs that were required although he was called upon many times for consultancy work.

Don passed away on the 19th January 2011, just three weeks before his 81st birthday, near his home at Cobh, County Cork, Eire and leaves his widow Evelyn to whom he been married for 34 years.



Michael William
Clark, CBE DL

Michael Clark died on 27 July, aged 83. He was a proud and loyal Grenadier, who became deputy head of Plessey and was a very successful and innovative custodian of his family estate, Braxted Park in Essex.

His formative years were spent at Port Regis prep school, where his appreciation of music was born, holidays on the Mull of Kintyre where his loves for fly fishing and ornithology took hold, and at Harrow where his interests in history and art were nurtured. Fleet of foot, he was in both the Athletics and the Cross Country teams and was a swift wing on the Rugby field. He left Harrow with distinctions in History and Art – interests which are embodied in his magnificent art collections at Braxted Park.

Thence, in 1945, he joined the Grenadiers. Military service took him to post war Germany, back to London for public duties, and then to Palestine. He was sad to have missed the War, but was proud to have seen active service in Palestine where he was also able to indulge his passion for wildfowling.

Puckishly, he used to recount a little adventure in Tiberius at this time. Searching out the fleshpots one night with some fellow officers, unarmed and after curfew, he was arrested by the military police. He was duly hauled in front of the Adjutant and awarded 36 extra piquets which, in his words, should have gone into the Guinness Book of Records. Michael adored his short time in the Regiment and there is no doubt

OBITUARY

that his Army years had a great influence on his glittering career.

So, in 1950, after a two year apprenticeship, pounding the factory floors at Fords Dagenham and Bendix Radio in America, he joined the family business, Plessey, the electronics group. He was initially given a platoon sized command, dubbed The Electronics Division, employing a team of 30 based at Ilford in Essex. His first love as he called it! Over the next 30 years under his brilliant leadership this little platoon grew into arguably the most dynamic and effective industrial force in the field of military electronics in Europe. This remarkable success was achieved through Michael's unrelenting drive in the fields of research and development.

He joined the Board of Plessey in 1953, became Director of Corporate Planning in 1965 and Managing director of Telecommunications two years later. For 17 years, he was both Deputy Chairman and Deputy Chief Executive of the Group, as well as being head of the defence electronics division. He also took a public role in the industry being a member of three national electronics Councils. He sat on the Council of the Institute of Directors and was appointed Companion of the Institutes of Electrical and Radio Engineering. But, Michael will be chiefly remembered as the Founder and Chief Executive of Plessey's Defence Electronics business, his first love and his baby. On his retirement he left this wing of Plessey with an order book worth £1.5 billion, 15,000 employees from a start of 30 and owing not one penny.

He was appointed CBE in 1977 for his outstanding contributions to exports.

He retired from Plessey at 60 and turned his considerable energies to his family home, Braxted Park, with woods, lakes and a lovely old Georgian House to look after, a thousand acres of arable land to be farmed, a golf course to be run, a shoot to be commercialised, cottages and outbuildings to be converted and let and management controls to be introduced. In fact, he became his own Estate Agent and set about it all with great style.

At the same time he built five small art collections, created an exceptionally fine cellar, took vast numbers of photographs to illustrate his Sporting Chronicle, fished for salmon in Russia, Iceland and Scotland, for trout on the Test and bonefish from Mexico to the Caribbean and, being a good shot and excellent company, was a most welcome shooting guest at many estates across the United Kingdom.

He was proud of his County and did his stuff

accordingly. He was appointed Deputy Lieutenant, presided over the Essex Grenadier Guards Association and Essex SSAFA, was High Sheriff of the County and President of Essex Club. His loyalty to the Essex Branch of the Grenadiers was immensely strong and every year he would invite the Branch to hold its annual lunch at Braxted Park, always a very special occasion.

Michael's generosity of spirit and of substance is legendary. He was a wonderful host, who delighted in filling Braxted Park with his many friends. He was also very good with the young and much enjoyed passing on his wisdom and knowledge, and, of course, he was enormously proud of his 12 grandchildren.

In 1955, he married Shirley MacPhadyen, who bought into the family her son Matthew, whom Michael loved as his own. Together they had three children: Marion, tragically died, Miranda and Duncan. Then, in 1974, Michael also had to bear the early death of his beloved Shirley. He married secondly, in 1985, Virginia, Marchioness Camden, who shared his many interests, especially his loves of fishing and ornithology, good friends and family, and who survives him.

Michael was a brilliant raconteur and it is that irrepressible sense of humour for which he will always be remembered. Often he would weep with laughter at some joke he was telling well before he reached the punch line and of course had his audience weeping with laughter with him, unconcerned by the ending.

That infectious chuckle, that bubbling sense of humour, that consideration for others, that exceedingly generous nature, that charisma, that rich all embracing charm, those impeccable manners, that immense knowledge – it is hard to believe that his enormous personality is no longer with us. In sum, he was a highly intelligent, talented and extremely kind man, much loved and admired, who was, quite simply, enormous fun to be with.



GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

President: Colonel E.H. Houstoun OBE

General Secretary and Treasurer: Captain (QM) T.A. Rolfe

Life Vice Presidents:

Colonel A.G. Way MC

Captain H.C. Jenkins

Captain B.E. Thompson BEM

Colonel G.W. Tufnell CVO DL

Colonel D.V. Fanshawe LVO OBE

Colonel D.H.C. Gordon Lennox

Colonel A.T.W. Duncan LVO OBE

Lieutenant Colonel A. Héroys

Major General Sir Michael Hobbs KCVO CBE

Major General B.C. Gordon Lennox CB MBE

Captain J. Lenaghan

Brigadier M.S. Bayley MBE

Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter KCVO OBE

Captain B.D. Double

Major R.G. Woodfield MBE

Mr R.E. Jones

Mr H.J.L. Mansell

Mr L.R. Linford

Colonel E.T. Bolitho OBE

Lieutenant Colonel C.J.E. Seymour LVO

Mr M.S. Robbins

Lieutenant Colonel T.A. Tedder

Executive Committee:

The President (Chairman)

Lieutenant Colonel T.A. Tedder (Life Vice President)

Captain B.D. Double (Life Vice President)

Brigadier D.J.H. Maddan (Regimental Lieutenant Colonel)

Major G.V.A. Baker (Director of Welfare)

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

Lieutenant Colonel C.R.V. Walker (Commanding Officer 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards)

Major R.E. Kings-Evans (Officer Commanding Nijmegen Company Grenadier Guards)

WO1 (RSM) I.M. Farrell (Sergeant Major 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards)

Mr G. Severn (Chairman Finance Committee)

Mr J. Wilkinson (Northern Area Representative)

Awaiting Appointment (North Midlands Area Representative)

Mr R.E. Jones (Midlands Area Representative)

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

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

Awaiting Appointment (London and Kent Area Representative)

Mr G. Hallam (Eastern Area Representative)

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

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

Email: assnco@grengds.com

Website: www.grengds.com

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

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

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

OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

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

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

The following are the current rules concerning membership:

1 SERVING MEMBERS

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

2 MEMBERS

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

3 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Members of Associations of other Regiments of the Household Division.

4 HONORARY MEMBERS

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

5 SERVING MEMBERS ON LEAVING THE REGIMENT

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

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

6 ADMINISTRATION (AS FROM 1978)

1 Deeds of Covenant etc

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

2 Members' subscriptions, applications for membership etc.

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

GENERAL NOTE

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

ASSOCIATION SUBSCRIPTION RATES

ANNUAL MEMBERS

From 1 January to 31 December 50p

LIFE MEMBERS

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

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

BRANCHES OF THE ASSOCIATION

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

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

Overseas: North America; Australia; Middle East.

GRENADIER GUARDS RECRUITING STAFF LIST

REGIMENTAL STAFF

Recruiting Officer: Captain A Butcher.

Regimental Support Team: Capt A Butcher; LSgt J Thompson; LCpl L McGovern; Gdsm B Thomas; Gdsm T Hayward; Gdsm R Clarke; Gdsm D Gomez.

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

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

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

LSgt J Davis, ACIO, 3rd Floor, Sitwell House, 9 Sitwell Street, off Badington Lane, **Derby**, DE1 2JT. Tel. (01332) 345619.

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

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

Sgt P Boardman, AFCO, Peters Field House, 29-31 Peter Street, **Manchester**, M2 5QJ. Tel. (0161) 8358228.

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

LSgt R Broomes, ACIO, 7 The Parade, Market Square, **Northampton**, NN1 2EA. Tel. (01604) 633318/637518.

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

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

BRANCHES OF THE HOUSEHOLD DIVISION ASSOCIATION

The following shows the location of all Branches of the Household Division Association. Further details can be obtained from Association HQ on 020 7414 3285 or email assnnc@grengds.com

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

GRENADIER GUARDS ASSOCIATION

PRICE LIST AS AT 1st JANUARY 2011

Item	Price	Item	Price
ASH TRAYS (Association) – small	2.53	MODEL: ASSAULT SOLDIER	
BAND POSTER – large : (Assn Branches)	0.62	– PLCE-SA80 (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00
BAND POSTER – medium: &	0.54	MODEL: MINIMI GUNNER (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00
BAND POSTER – small : (Band only)	0.16	MODEL: UGL SOLDIER (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00
BELT – Webbing Blue/Red/Blue M/L/XL	11.48	MODEL: LSW GUNNER (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00
BLAZER BADGE (Association)	7.80	MODEL: FOOT PATROL – Afghanistan (Painted in Desert)	125.00
BLAZER BADGE (Regimental)	9.38	MOUNTED BEARSKIN	28.22 (P&P £5.00)
BOOK – ‘Once a Grenadier’	5.00 (P&P £5.00)	MOUNTED BERET	28.22 (P&P £5.00)
BOOK – ‘An Active Service’	19.95 (P&P £2.00)	Necktube	New Line* 11.55
BOOK – ‘The British Grenadiers’	15.00 (P&P £5.00)	NOTE PAD	2.85
BOOK – ‘The Shoe Shine Buff’	3.00	OFFICERS BADGE: CLOTH STARS	2.60
BOOK – ‘Grenadier Grins’	10.99 (P&P £5.00)	OFFICERS BADGE: CLOTH CROWNS	2.55
BOOK – ‘Guards VC’	13.00 (P&P £5.00)	OFFICERS BADGE: BRASS STARS	3.75
BOOKMARK (Leather)	1.34	OFFICERS BADGE: BRASS CROWNS	3.80
BOW TIE	7.50	OFFICERS BADGE: EMBROIDERED CAP BADGE	12.55
BRACES – Clip End	15.00	PENDANT – Cypher with fine silver chain	82.60 (P&P £6.00)
BRACES – Leather End	17.00	PENDANT – Grenade with fine silver chain	116.85 (P&P £6.00)
BRACES – Leather/Clip End	40.00	PEN – Regimental	3.20
BRANDY GOBLETS – engraved Cypher (Box Set of 2), Lead crystal	54.00 (P&P £6.00)	PLAQUE (Association)	36.80 (P&P £5.00)
BROOCH – Cypher	182.60 (P&P £6.00)	PLAQUE (Regimental)	37.00 (P&P £5.00)
BROOCH – Grenade	116.85 (P&P £6.00)	POCKET WATCH – Engraved Association Cypher	95.75
BUTTON Cap Strap 22 ligne	1.56	PRINT – Nine Cigarette Cards – OOD from 1938 Framed	7.00
BUTTON Small 26 ligne	1.71	PRINT – ‘The Drummer Boy’ by Hicks	2.50
BUTTON Medium 30 ligne	1.60	PRINT – ‘The Roll Call’ (35” x 21”)	48.75
BUTTON Medium 36 ligne	1.75	PRINT – Grenadiers c.1980 (Capt, frock coat; Gdsm, full dress) by Anderson. 12” x 8”	0.50
BUTTON Large 40 ligne	1.19	PRINT – Grenadiers c.1880 (Officer, Sergeant, Gdsm, Guards Order) by Simkin	6.21
BUTTON – Small 26 ligne – BRASS	2.20	PRINT – Grenadiers on Parade c.1895	8.56
BUTTON – Medium 36 ligne – BRASS	2.23	PRINT – LSgt Rhodes, VC, DCM and BAR	5.00
BUTTON – Large 40 ligne – BRASS	1.45	PRINT – Grenadiers of the Foot Guards 1880	8.68
CAP BADGE – Grenade	3.50	REGIMENTAL GREETINGS CARD – Each	0.90
CAP BADGE – Grenade (Black)	4.00	REGIMENTAL GREETINGS CARD – For 10	8.50
CAP BADGE – Gold Sgts	7.10	RIBBON (Regimental) Width 3cm, per metre	2.65
CAP BADGE – WO	17.15	SOCKS – Household Division	7.55
CAR BADGE – Association	13.30	STABLE BELT	23.00 (P&P £2.00)
CD – ‘To Your Guard’	12.00	SPECTACLE CASE	6.23
CD – ‘A Henley Bandstand’	12.00	<u>All Statuettes available in Bronze @ £85.00+£11.00 P&P</u>	
CD – ‘Regimental Music’	10.00	STATUETTE – Sgt Light Company, Waterloo – painted	125.00
CD – ‘Christmas with The Grenadier Guards’	5.25	STATUETTE – Gdsm SA80 – Painted-Guards Order painted	125.00
CAR WINDOW STICKER – Association	1.20	STATUETTE – Sgt c.1922-Painted	125.00
CLOCK – Digital, Multi-Functional	4.61	STATUETTE – Drummer – Painted	125.00
CRAVAT – Silk	21.85	STATUETTE – Gdsm SLR – Guards Order painted	125.00
CUFF LINKS – Spring bar, enamelled Cypher	47.30	TANKARD – Pewter – Pint – Engraved Cypher	23.96
CUFF LINKS – Torpedo chain, enamelled Cypher	86.90	TANKARD – Beer Glass – Pint	26.63
CUFF LINKS – Cypher	12.65	TANKARD – Glass – Pint – Engraved Cypher	31.00 (P&P £6.00)
CUFF LINKS – Knots	3.05	TANKARD – ‘Barrel’ Style, Crystal – Engraved Cypher	49.80 (P&P £6.00)
CUFF LINKS – Barrel Knots	3.35	TIE – PLUMED (Dark blue tie with a small Plume design on) Silk	16.00 (P&P £2.00)
CUFF LINKS – Grenade	8.20	TIE – PLUMED (Dark blue tie with a small Plume design on) Poly	6.50 (P&P £2.00)
CUMMERBUNDS – Flat, Silk	20.40 (P&P £2.00)	TIE – G.A.D Silk	21.60 (P&P £2.00)
CUSHION COVER – Cypher	35.00	TIE – Household Division Polyester	6.00 (P&P £2.00)
APOLLO CHINA CUP – 350th Anniversary	£5.00 (P&P £2.00)	TIE – Household Division Silk	17.00 (P&P £2.00)
DECANTER (Mini) with 2 glasses, lead crystal, engraved Cypher	28.35 (P&P £6.00)	TIE – Household Division Poly – CLIP ON	6.00 (P&P £2.00)
Additional glasses available for Mini Decanter Set	20.10	TIE PIN – Pearl	71.00
DOG COLLAR	10.50	TIE SLIDE Enamel Cypher Badge	5.72
DOG LEAD	10.50	TIE SLIDE – Grenade	8.20
EARRINGS – pearl (pierced or clip fitting)	125.40	TUMBLERS – Cypher Badge	12.64
GRENADIER GAZETTE	5.00 (£1.25 P&P)	WATCH STRAP – Household Division	6.23
GOLF UMBRELLA	15.00	WATER GLASSES x4 – Engraved Cypher	32.00
HANDKERCHIEF Pocket – Silk B/R/B	8.90	WATER GLASS x1 – Engraved Cypher	9.25
HIP FLASK PEWTER – Engraved	26.25	WHISKY GLASSES – Engraved Cypher (Box Set of 2)	47.50 (P&P £6.00)
KEY FOB – Metal Cypher Badge	1.50	WHISKY DECANTER SET – Engraved Cypher, Set of 2 lead crystal glasses + decanter	87.00 (P&P £8.00)
KEY FOB – Leather Back Cypher	3.00		
LAPEL BADGE – (Association) Large	2.68		
LAPEL BADGE – (Association) Small	2.68		
LAPEL BADGE – Regimental (enamel)	2.81		
LAPEL BADGE – (Association) Gilt enamel	6.15		
LAPEL BADGE – Grenade	1.75		
<u>All Models available in Bronze @ £95.00 + £12.00 P&P</u>			
MODEL: STAND TO SOLDIER – SLR (Painted in DPM)	125.00		
MODEL: GDSM NORTHERN IRELAND – 1965-SLR (Painted in DPM)	125.00		
MODEL: WARRIOR AFV (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00		
MODEL: PATROL SOLDIER – SA80 (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00		
MODEL: STAND TO SOLDIER – SA80 (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00		
MODEL: CROUCHING SOLDIER – SA80 (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00		
MODEL: AIMED KNEELING SOLDIER – SA80 (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00		
MODEL: PATROL SOLDIER – PLCE – SA80 – (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00		
MODEL: PATROL SOLDIER-MINIMI GUNNER – (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00		
MODEL: JAVELIN MAN – (Painted in DPM or Desert)	125.00		

All engraving on glassware is free. Please give at least three weeks notice when ordering statuettes. All jewellery sent by next day delivery.

These prices are subject to change if manufacturer's prices are altered. All goods are subject to postal and packing charge, please ring if you are unsure on cost. Please send all purchase requests to Association HQ in writing. Payment must accompany order.

Cheques/POs should be made payable to **‘Grenadier Guards Association’**
Grenadier Guards Association, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk,
London SW1E 6HQ. Tel: 020 7414 3285

Email: grenadierguards@btconnect Website: www.grengds.com

ASSOCIATION GOODS

PRI SHOP GOODS as at 1st JANUARY 2011



Cypher Brooch



Cypher Pendant



Grenade Brooch



Grenade Pendant



Grenade Lapel Badge



Grenade Tie Slide



Grenade Cufflinks



Cypher Cufflinks



Regimental Lapel Badge



Cypher Tie Slide



Keyfob



Regimental Dog Collar



Dog Lead



Barrel Knot Cufflinks



Household Division Socks

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA FOUNDERS' DAY PARADE 2010



HRH The Duke of Gloucester meets Colin McDonald.



Pictured right: Gdsm Pat Thompson.



HRH The Duke of Gloucester meets Dougie Huxley, MBE MM.

GRENADIER CADETS

209 Newman Catholic College (Grenadier Guards) Detachment Middlesex and Northwest London Army Cadet Force

Detachment Commander: CSgt Joe Lazell

Detachment Staff: Sgt Jesse Babri

Probationary Instructor: Jose DaGama

Army Cadets from 209 Newman Catholic College (Grenadier Guards) Detachment were among over five hundred teenage Army Cadets from all over North and West London who returned last Autumn from two weeks away at their annual Training Camp – this year at Knook Camp near Warminster in Wiltshire. Rock climbing and mountain walking in Wales, Clay Target shooting, Kayaking, and First Aid were just a few of the varied activities undertaken by the cadets over the two weeks of camp. Sports, target shooting and testing against the Cadet syllabus, military skills and many other stretching activities were also part of the programme.

During the two-week camp Cadet Lance Sergeant David Edmonds (17) of Waterford Way NW10, successfully completed the prestigious Senior Cadet Instructors Course, run by the attached Regular Army staff. It is a stretching and challenging course at the top end of a cadet's career which enables those successful cadets to instruct others. "What I've learned on this course" said David "is about confidence and enthusiasm for what you are doing – I enjoyed the teamwork very much" He has been a cadet for four years and plans an Army career in the future. He is pictured being presented with his SCIC certificate by Colonel Ian Denison.

Colonel Ian Denison, Commandant of the London Sector said "Over five hundred teenage Army Cadets from North West London have enjoyed a real opportunity to develop and hone their skills in the Wiltshire and Welsh countryside. It's been a really excellent two weeks camp and one which fully engaged the interest of our cadets and staff. It's the culmination of a lot of hard work throughout the year. Looking after all of

these young people is a challenging task and I am really very grateful to the permanent staff and the adult volunteers who give up their time so generously for our future citizens"

The Army Cadet Force (ACF) is the Army's national voluntary youth organisation with a membership of over 45,000 12 to 18 year old boys and girls. It operates in over 1700 locations all over the UK. Its aim is to inspire young people to achieve success in life, with a spirit of service to the Queen, country and their local community alike.

In Middlesex and North West London ACF there are 34 Detachments, with over 1000 cadets, which meet twice a week in locations all over the North West of London, from Barnet in the North to Victoria in the South and as far West as Staines. The cadets participate in a full range of activities which include sport, first aid, adventure training and community work, as well as military skills. The ACF are also major participants in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. For more information visit www.armycadets.com or call 0845 600 77 99 for an information pack.



209 Detachment Cadet Lance Sergeant David Edmonds being presented with his certificate by Col Ian Denison.

News from the Dining Club

Norfolk Branch Dining Club

2009 ended with a most enjoyable Ladies Night with just over sixty Club members, their wives, family and friends gathering for dinner, followed by an entertaining display of hand-bell ringing by a local ladies group.

2010 has been quite busy for the Club. In March the Club took itself to King's Lynn for the first of what we hope will become a regular feature. For some time we had been conscious that there were Grenadiers living in the west of the County who, for various reasons, were unable to attend evening dinners in Norwich. As a trial we organised a lunch at King's Lynn and were very pleased to gather eight new (or nearly new!) diners. Six of our regular evening diners made the journey from other parts and a very pleasant time was spent renewing old acquaintances and with much reminiscing. We hope the 'Lynn Lunch' will attract a few more from West Norfolk, south east Lincolnshire and north Cambridgeshire in time, but for the moment we have a second planned for 'Norfolk Boys' in November.

We were very pleased to welcome **General Sir**

Richard Dannatt as our guest for our April dinner. Quite prominent in Norfolk life since his retirement from the Army, his attendance had been postponed from last August when we had invited him to help us celebrate our 100th dinner. (That evening happened to coincide with his retirement dinner and he felt that should take priority!) He gave an interesting and entertaining talk on military matters, without being in any way political or controversial. Although not a Grenadier, he is very well connected with the Regiment with his son, **Captain Bertie Dannatt** recently retired and a father-in-law who served in the Regiment. The evening was very well attended with some notable attendees. The Smith family from far west Norfolk made a first visit to dine with us and brought with them **Derek Newton** from even farther west, Walsall! **2nd Lt James Stafford-Allen** became our first serving Grenadier to attend. We also welcomed Messrs. **Bartholomew and Waters**, recruits from our meeting them at last years Beating Retreat by the Regimental Band at Thursford, who had ventured up from Suffolk. We are pleased to say they have become regular diners.

On 11th May several of us moved ourselves sharply up to London to watch the Presentation of New Colours



Dining Club members at the inaugural 'Lynn Lunch', March 2010.

to the Battalion. It was pleasing to see our new Club member **James Stafford-Allen** marching off the Old Regimental Colour. A memorable morning followed by a most enjoyable get-together in Wellington Barracks after the event. It was also a great pleasure to meet up with **Patrick Flamey**, the present 'King' of the Archer's Guild of St. Sebastian, who gave us such a welcome when the Club visited Bruges three years ago.

brilliant. One must spare a thought for the personnel of our Band. Every time we see them in Norfolk they have been faced with a three-hour coach trip back to London. Leaving as they do late evening it means getting back to Wellington Barracks at 1:00am or later – probably to be on parade again by 10:00 – and they should know that their efforts are appreciated.



Dining Club group with General Sir Richard Dannatt, April 2010.

In June, a very small contingent made its way to Belvoir Castle for the Duchess of Rutland's 'Evening of Wine & Roses'. A beautiful evening in a beautiful setting with plenty of good Grenadier company. The Dining Club even managed to recruit another member, **Ron Fletcher** from Leicestershire, who visits Norfolk regularly, has since dined with us twice and looks like becoming a regular. The Regimental Adjutant gave a very stirring speech to close the evening and hopefully a lot of money came the way of the Colonel's Fund.

In October another small contingent attended a Concert given by the Regimental Band at Gresham's School in Holt. The Band had spent the day with the school's musicians by way of encouraging some of them to consider a career as military musicians. By all accounts the time had been well spent and certainly the joint concert given in the evening was

I think 2010 can be classed as a reasonably good year. We have collected several new members and made contact with several that we had not seen for some time. We also have a number of potential new members who have shown interest and there are others we have heard about and who we are now trying to entice into the fold. The organiser is also under considerable pressure to come up with a big dining trip for 2011 so please watch this space!

In closing, we reiterate our standing invitation to all Grenadiers, of whatever age or rank, if you can be in Norfolk for one of our Dining evenings, please come and join us. The dates for 2011 are: **February 11th, April 15th, June 17th, August 19th, October 14th and December 2nd**. Just give the Club organiser, Ross Donaldson, a call on **01692 598336** for all details. We really hope to hear from you.

REGIMENTAL REMEMBRANCE DAY 2010



Brigadier David Maddan The Regimental Lieutenant Colonel, lays the wreath at the Guards Memorial.
(Inset pic): Members of The 1st Battalion on parade.



Association Members 'Rolling back the years on the heel'.



Captain Trevor Rolfe General Secretary, Colonel Euan Houstoun OBE The President, Major Grant Baker The Regimental Adjutant and WO1 (RSM) Ian Farrell head the parade.

GRENADIER DAY 2010



Drum Major Jeff Burns leads The Band at Grenadier Day. (Inset pic): The Sealed Knot reenactment group.



The three wise men of Windsor, Major Jim Eastwood, LVO, MBE, Tony Steel, BEM and Mick Bullion, BEM.



Captain Trevor Rolfe takes the salute at his last Grenadier Day as the General Secretary.

GRENADIER DAY – 12th June 2011

Lille Barracks, Aldershot GU11 2NQ

Grenadier Day 2011 will be aimed at providing enjoyment and fun for our families and especially their children. It will as ever, provide the perfect opportunity in an ideal setting, for us all to meet our friends of today and those from the past.



Tom and Tily ▶
Turnip's
Tomfoolery
Day



◀ 3Sixty
Mountain
Bike Stunt
Show



Superjumper ▶
– Kid's Stuff



◀ Cyril the
Squirrel
Terrier
Racing



Thomas the ▶
Land Train



◀ SWAGS
Tea Tent

Shooting in the 1950s

by *SJ Clark*

2nd Battalion 1957-60

Upon joining the Grenadier Guards as a brand new recruit in 1957 at the Guards Depot Caterham, I envisaged the opportunity to expand on my interest in shooting; little did I know that musketry was not amongst the top lessons to be learnt during my stay at the Depot, the exception was one visit to the 25 yard range with the 303. The field craft and shooting had to wait until the training continued at Pirbright, Scarborough and Thetford.



The time on the range at Caterham is one of the three occasions that I can recall having a splendid time shooting with some rewards! On that occasion I was challenged by the Instructor to fire a five shot group with the prize of 2/6p (Half a Crown) in old money to the winner. I was lucky enough to win by obtaining the smallest group size and that paid for my supper in the NAAFI (when we were allowed to attend), a rare occasion for all.

During the final year of my three years with the Regiment, stationed in Düsseldorf Germany, we attended a local rifle firing range on several occasions. The second time, as best as I can recall, was when the Regiment was holding a shooting competition using such targets as Face in the Window, and the Pool Bull. I am sure many ex-soldiers can remember these particular targets.

The Pool Bull was taking all the money on that day, being five shots for 1 shilling. Not having a lot of money to spend in those days I decided to have a go. I can clearly recall seeing the white 4ft x 4ft target at 300 yards with a black bull in the centre measuring approx 18 inches in diameter, thinking to myself that cannot be too difficult to hit, what I was not told was that the scoring area was a one-inch circle/square in the exact centre of the target, needless to say my first attempt was not successful. However, I decided to give it a final go knowing very well it would be more than good luck on the day to hit such a small target. Having got myself in position I began to fire. After my third shot I saw a pair of flags raised in a crossed position across the face of the target, there was a loud cheer and some choice but friendly remarks. Asking the range staff what that meant, to my surprise I was told that I was the only one to win the Pool Bull on that day and had won a proportion of the money spent on the Pool Bull target. As can be expected, I and a few of my friends enjoyed a hearty supper in the NAAFI that night. The prize

money paid out was in BAFS and not Deutschmarks.

On the third occasion I was a member of the rifle team shooting against other British regiments, (there were also teams from different countries taking part, although I am not too sure of this as they may have been using the same range complex for similar reasons). This competition was shot over a weekend and comprised of different targets at various distances. I found that the most difficult practise was the Snap as the timings were very fast. To help us load and chamber a fresh round quickly after each exposure we had earlier cleaned the cartridges with metal polish to shine like a cap badge, they flew into the chamber without a stoppage. On that day each member of our team of four won a medal inscribed 4th Guards Brigade, Group Rifle Meeting 1959, something I cherish to this day with the fond memories that I have of that occasion.

When using MOD field firing ranges as a member of a civilian rifle club, we occasionally generate interest from serving soldiers who are amazed at the quality of our rifles and equipment by comparison, they are always eager to talk and exchange ideas as all are interested in shooting. I continue to shoot to this day using different bolt action rifles including the 50 calibre, a sport I recommend to all.



Your Military History Filmed for the Next Generation

The Legasee war veterans project is looking for volunteers who want to tell their stories. As part of an exciting social history project, the film company Legasee is looking for war veterans who would like to have their stories filmed for posterity. This footage will be used to launch a unique online archive of interviews for use by schools, colleges and members of the public.

To kick-start the project, they're looking for war veterans of any age who wish to recall their experiences in front of the camera for the benefit of future generations. It doesn't matter what campaign or country you served in, or what role you played. The Legasee war veterans project is completely free of charge, with any



ABF

THE SOLDIERS'

CHARITY



WHO ARE WE?

WE ARE THE SOLDIERS' CHARITY

WHAT ARE WE?

THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND RELIABLE
CHARITY FOR THE ARMY FAMILY



WHAT DO WE DO?

WE CURRENTLY HELP OVER 4,000
INDIVIDUALS ANNUALLY

WHO FOR?

SOLDIERS, FORMER SOLDIERS AND THEIR
FAMILIES IN NEED



HOW DO WE DO IT?

GRANT GIVING TO INDIVIDUALS IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH REGIMENTS, CORPS AND OTHER
SERVICE-RELATED CHARITIES

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

DONATING, VOLUNTEERING, LEGACIES, FUNDRAISING
EVENTS AND SPONSORSHIP



A LIFETIME OF SUPPORT

CALL 0845 241 4820 OR VISIT soldierscharity.org

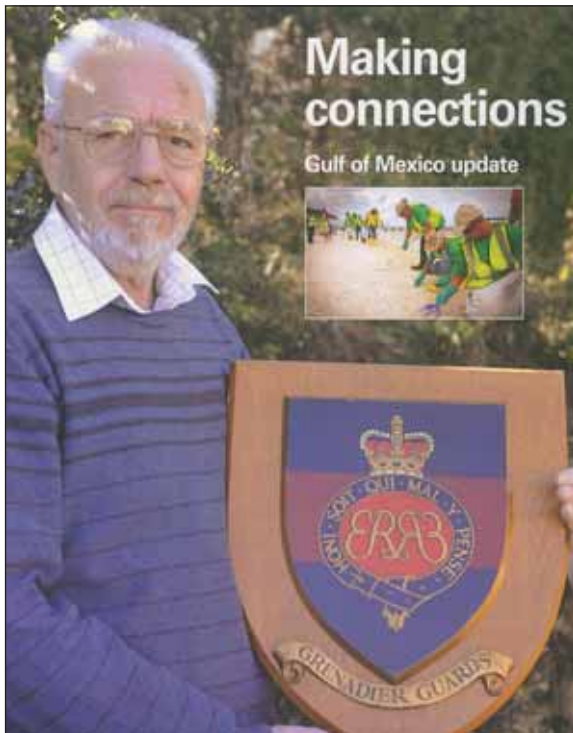
FOR SOLDIERS ▶ FOR LIFE

travel expenses paid – all you need is your knowledge, enthusiasm and a small amount of their time to take part in the filming.

If you are interested, please email Dave Player at dave@legasee.org.uk giving your name, age, daytime phone number and brief details of your wartime service so they can contact you to discuss it further.

The BP tanker British Grenadier

The photograph below is taken from the front page of a BP Newsletter of Autumn 2010. It shows Mr Colin Moore (no regimental connection as far as is known) holding a plaque which had been presented to the BP tanker British Grenadier in 1963. Mr Moore rescued the plaque as the ship was being scrapped in Taiwan.



The second photograph, from the article inside the magazine, shows the plaque being presented aboard the ship. It was supplied to the magazine by Mr Neil Mattson whose father William Eric Mattson was a serving Grenadier at the time. Neil discovered the photo in his father's house in Carleon, South Wales.

The article explains that the plaque was presented on the occasion of the ship's acceptance trials in 1963. The ceremony took place on the Clyde after the ship was completed by Vickers at Barrow. The plaque was presented to Commodore A Henney by a party of



The presentation on board the British Grenadier in 1963 by the late Nigel Clarkson-Webb.

Grenadiers comprising two officers and a number of other ranks.

Having seen the reference to the ship in a previous edition of the magazine Mr Moore explained that he had served on her when she was scrapped in Kaohsiung, Taiwan in March 1976 and the one thing that he rescued and still has to this day is the plaque. In a further coincidence Mr Moore now lives in South Wales and was keen to get in touch with the Mattson family to reunite William with the plaque. Sadly, however, William died before a reunion could be arranged although his son Neil has since acknowledged that his father would have loved to have seen it once again.



The British Grenadier at sea.

(The editor is indebted to Colonel Andrew Duncan and Mike Sterling of the London Branch for bringing this article to his attention).



Charity Registration:
Registered and Charitable for the purposes
of the Charities Act 2006
Number: 1043828

**Many of our heroes
can't help reliving
the horrors of war.**

Please help CombatStress.org.uk to help them.

BREAKING POINT

Managing the Aftermath of Combat and Service Life

by Major RM Dorney MBE
(Quartermaster 1st Battalion)

The management of psychological casualties on operations has historically been a controversial area. During both World Wars One and Two, it was not uncommon for commanders and psychiatrists to come into conflict over the best way to handle those soldiers who became distressed, and potentially operationally ineffective as a result of their combat experiences. The British Army is probably more psychologically aware now than ever before, nonetheless we continue to re-learn old lessons. The high tempo of operations has led to commanders once again finding themselves confronted by soldiers who struggle to come to terms with their combat experiences. There is a widely held view that Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) is a modern phenomenon. The reality is that almost every previous conflict has seen its own 'war syndrome'. Nostalgia, Soldiers Heart, Railway Spine, Neurosis, Shell Shock, Combat Fatigue, Old Sergeant Syndrome, Combat Stress and Post Vietnam Syndrome are all manifestations of the stress related illness that we now refer to as PTSD. The press will have you believe that the Army is overflowing with soldiers suffering from this disorder. The reality is somewhat different. PTSD remains a relatively rare diagnosis in the UK Forces; in fact statistically it comes some way down the list of mental health disorders that present at the military Departments of Community Mental Health. The reader should not confuse the UK statistics with those of the US which are markedly higher.

It is important to distinguish between those who have the symptoms of traumatic stress (in the short term there are many) and those who develop PTSD. One can argue that the former is a quite natural reaction to an abnormal event, indeed research suggests that for most people there are no long term debilitating effects after traumatic events (there are exceptions to the rule, e.g. rape victims) and that after 4-6 weeks most people have improved significantly (if not back to normal). There will of course be many soldiers who have painful memories and who grieve for lost friends. Old soldiers are prone to crying into their beer from time to time, but this is to a large degree quite normal and may not be PTSD. A smaller number of people may go on to develop more serious symptoms, which are both prolonged and profound. This group may need some form of medical

intervention. In recent years much attention has been given to Delayed Onset PTSD, that is to say symptoms that manifest themselves much later on. Recent research suggests that this is quite rare and in most cases it is the presentation that is delayed rather than the symptoms. Serving soldiers and veterans are frequently deterred from seeking help by stigma; the fear that they will be judged as 'weak or 'mad' encourages suppression or denial of problematic symptoms which may subsequently become unmanageable.



Officers and SNCOs from 7 Armoured Brigade conducting a planning exercise involving the management of the aftermath of a critical incident with mass casualties.

The Army now has much improved systems for the management of traumatic stress. For some years now the Trauma Risk Management (TRiM) system has been employed both on operations and at home. This is in effect a system of filtering after a traumatic event which is designed to identify those most at risk of going on to develop PTSD. Officers and NCOs are given specific training in how to manage stress and how to apply the TRiM system. TRiM isn't infallible, but used correctly it is a great aid to the management of stress; above all it has credibility in the Field Army, largely because it is flexible and peer delivered. TRiM is not counselling, nor is it a form of treatment for PTSD; treatment is left to the qualified medical professionals, although those in distress may be referred to the Medical Officer by the unit's own TRiM personnel. In the 1st Battalion the Welfare Officer is TRiM trained and has a major role to play, but on operations it is normally the Sergeant Major who coordinates the TRiM strategy. Readers may be shocked to hear that the Senior Warrant Officer in the Battalion is involved with stress management, but this is perhaps not surprising when one considers the importance of preserving the fighting power of the Battalion on operations. What more powerful way of reducing stigma than by having

the Sergeant Major himself involved? The management of stress is about good leadership, sound management and understanding. Denying the problem doesn't make it go away. We know that the best protective factors are good training, physical fitness, high morale and good leadership (the latter two being closely linked). That Great Grenadier, Viscount Lord Gort VC, gave evidence to the 1922 Southborough Committee, which was established to investigate the causes of the Shell Shock epidemic of the Great War. He insisted that in the face of strong discipline and good leadership, Shell Shock could be virtually eliminated. He was certainly correct that these were strong protective factors. The Army has introduced detailed guidance on Post Operational Stress Management; complimented by TRiM, these help our people to deal with the aftermath of combat operations.



Major Dorney conducting TRiM training in Basra 2008.

Thus far we have talked in some detail about PTSD, but as mentioned earlier in this article, PTSD is not at the top of the league table for mental health disorders in the military. So what is? I am afraid it is our old friend alcohol. More soldiers are being seen for alcohol related disorders than for PTSD, considerably more and this has been the case for many years. Sadly, booze is at the root of most of our problems and is linked to disciplinary problems, debt, violence and depression. It is easy to argue that the military drinking culture has ever been thus, but it need not be so. The Army has dealt with tremendous change in recent decades but little seems to have changed about our drinking culture. True, this is not unique to the Armed Forces, but the same patterns can be seen amongst veterans. Next in the league tables of mental health disorders, and still above PTSD is depression. Prevalent in the civilian population too, depression can be very serious. Depression and PTSD are both complicated by alcohol and many people have dual presentations which complicate treatment. Suicide

is often linked to depression and alcohol is a prevalent factor in attempted and completed suicide. Thankfully the suicide rate in the Armed Forces is markedly below the national average. There is no substantive evidence to show that these patterns are much different in most veteran groups but veterans have their own unique set of problems.

The transition to civilian life, as many readers know, can be difficult, especially for those who have given decades in service of their country and regiment. Readjustment to civilian life where there is often little commitment, loyalty or trust; where leadership is often lacking and dependable colleagues can be in short supply, is challenging indeed. Most veterans come through the transition relatively unscathed and go on to do well, but not all. Some of these veterans may well be carrying the long term effects of operational stress, self-esteem may have taken a knock and they may well become depressed. This group although small, is probably the most vulnerable in the regimental family and they deserve our support. In recent years the tempo of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan and the increasing casualty rates have seen a ground swell of support for the Army. Constant media coverage and support from charities have provided regular reminders of the difficulties we all face. This constant bombardment of media support may be bewildering to some veterans of past campaigns whose sacrifices have been every bit as painful as those of today. Whilst not one of them would begrudge the support given to the modern soldier, they may feel somewhat sidelined and confused by the media frenzy. This is perhaps an example of social pressure that may well add to the decline in the mental wellbeing of some people.

So what does all this mean? Are we better or worse off than our civilian counterparts? The answer is that in most areas we do pretty well, but our Achilles heel is the drinking culture that is so much a part of our lives. We have some people who are struggling to come to terms with their combat experiences and sadly many of these will not voluntarily present for treatment until they have no choice, by this time relationships and reputations may have been destroyed. Depression can follow making the problem complex. Whilst all this may sound fairly negative, it is worth remembering that most people recover on their own and go on to lead healthy and fulfilling lives. PTSD is treatable and there are some very effective 'fixes' out there. The earlier help is sought then the quicker people get better (generally). Depression and alcohol addiction can be effectively treated in the early stages too. It takes great courage to admit to having a problem and more to seek help, but those first steps are the key to recovery.



It is important for soldiers to talk about their experiences with someone they trust – two officers in Sangin, Afghanistan.

This article was aimed at raising some degree of awareness of the mental health of both serving soldiers and veterans. This is a subject that will remain prevalent for future decades. Mental health problems are not all, or perhaps even mostly related to combat experience. We can do more to discourage excessive drinking and can support those who may be depressed. A kind word, five minutes to listen, a simple call to the Association Welfare Representative, all can make a difference and could perhaps save a life. Serving soldiers or their relatives should contact the Unit Welfare Officer or Medical Officer for confidential advice. Veterans can seek help from the Regimental Association, The Service Veterans Welfare Agency, The Royal British Legion, Combat Stress or their own GP.

The Last Perilous Days

by Major Frank Clark

A tremendous flash, a shattering roar of an explosion inside the confined space of my Honey, a light reconnaissance tank. The floor had erupted beneath my seat in the lower compartment and it was almost torn out. I was acting as hull gunner, we took it in turns to drive and that day it was Bud Abbotts turn to drive so on the 27th April 1945, I was the hull gunner. The explosion propelled me upwards, smashing my head on the closed steel hatch above me. We were going at about 40 miles an hour, chasing a group of Germans who escaped from the village. The tank lost a track; it crashed through a hedge into a ditch, rolling on its side. We had driven over an anti-tank mine (tellermine) and it had ripped out the enforced steel floor out of my compartment leaving a vast hole below. Fortunately, I had been compromised by the loss of space and had packed my compartment floor with

sandbags, this saved my life. On the same day a friend and comrade Jack Barsby, suffered the same fate. His legs were ripped off and he bled to death in his tank. I remember how small the body under the blanket was when we buried him, when one of the Squadron fitters came running up with another blanket package with two legs sticking out. Strange, I was still in shock and I remember counting the missing studs' in the soles of his boots.

In my case, I got away with back damage and a bit of compaction of my spine, my backside was badly bruised. Later, still darn sore and as with all bruises, they began to change colour. My mates had a great time telling me my war wound was a baboon's arse as it had turned multi-coloured. Not something to write home about?

This was the end of a daring action. Our eight man team, Able Patrol, had fought and captured a village held by a company of German (Kriegsmarine) Sailors, who were acting in a ground role as infantry, even so, a stubborn force to deal with. Our patrol leader Sergeant (Timber) R Wood was awarded the DCM; we were proud because it was a team effort. He could not have done it without us.

Now, I tell this part of the story because the loss of my tank broke up the crew, our team. We had lived and fought together since the Battle of Nijmegen, in September 1944, until April 1945. We had become like brothers eating, sleeping and fighting together. With the loss of our tank, we had become just 'replacements', to be recycled into other crews, to fill the place of casualties. Corporal Les Fuller and I filled two vacancies in the second tank of Charley Patrol, and Sergeant (Timber) Wood replaced the patrol leader who had been severely wounded.

In the meantime intelligence revealed, to our front, a concentration camp at Sandbostel. The Irish Guards Group was tasked to relieve it but they were confronted by a strong force of the enemy, a fight took place in which a Victoria Cross was won. The task subsequently was passed on to the Grenadiers.

The King's Company and No. 2 Sqn were sent to deal with it but they were suddenly confronted with strong resistance. The Squadron with my new recce patrol of two light tanks, moved west to Sandbostel. Regardless of a few mines, the column passed quickly through two superseding villages but, as we approached Sandbostel, it came under heavy mortar fire and the leading tank was knocked out by a self-propelled gun. The village lay on a forward slope east of the Oste canal; on the far side lay the camp. From commanding ground it could be seen that all immediate bridges were destroyed. An assault crossing was impossible in daylight, even had boats been available; so a platoon and a troop were left to watch the position and the remainder withdrew about half a mile to plan a night assault. The sappers produced assault boats

and a bridging party, the leader was Lieutenant J Campbell, who made a very bold reconnaissance in daylight which was influential in earning him a Military Cross. Towards midnight, three platoons of the King's Company then crossed the river unobserved; they formed a bridgehead and the bridging party started work, but the ground was very boggy and it was soon realised that the bridge could not possibly be completed before daylight. As dawn came the Germans saw what was going on and heavily mortared the site, successfully preventing any further work. It became clear that the bridgehead was unsustainable and the three platoons withdrew. The two nearest the river got back all right in the half-light but the third was caught in crossfire; several men were killed and the platoon commander and a number of others were wounded; only twelve soaked and frozen men, all too helpless from exposure to stand, were found when their comrades reached them the next day. A solitary prisoner taken during the operation informed us that a company of SS men was defending the camp as well as a considerable number of inferior troops. It was plain that the task was too great for one motor company and would require the whole Grenadier Group.

During the morning and by the early afternoon the Grenadiers were ready. A strong artillery programme was arranged, avoiding so far as possible the immediate confines of the camp, and Nos 2 and 4 Companies crossed the Oste Canal opposite the village of Ober Ochtenhausen, more than a mile south of Sandbostel. Our patrol of two light Recce tanks also found and crossed over a weak wooden bridge, several miles away. By rushing it at speed we got over as the bridge sagged. The fields were water logged so we sped along the bank with great urgency. We reached an area near the camp gates and were able to report the position in the camp. We waited as the battle raged.

An eye witness, a British doctor, gave the following account:

'The attack went in at 1430 hrs. It was a fine sight - the waves of Grenadier Guards walking steadily toward the camp - no fuss, no hurry, they might have been on the parade ground. A few yards away a tank was giving supporting fire from its machine guns, and every few minutes a cloud of smoke would rise from a bursting shell. Yes, it was something to remember, this final attack on Sandbostel; but as we waited in the rain we felt no elation, for inside the camp we knew we should find an enemy far more deadly than any weapon devised by Man - TYPHUS.'

The Grenadiers then advanced on the camp from the south, supported by fire from the rest of the group across the river to the east. They were not detected until they neared the camp and resistance continued for some time. There were some wounded in a sharp skirmish with



The Last Recce Troop 2nd (Armoured) Bn Grenadier Guards Twisteren, North Germany, May 1945

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| (1) Cpl Jeff Hunter | (11) Frank Clark | (21) Laurie Lacy |
| (2) Doc Watson | (12) Jack Mock | (22) Tommy Cross |
| (3) Sgt Chez Allen | (13) Joe Potter | (23) Ace Diamond |
| (4) Sgt Wiggins | (14) Roy Gallager | (24) Lt PJ |
| (5) Cpl Les Fuller | (15) Sgt Doug Tambllyn | Brocklehurst OC |
| (6) Sgt Timber Wood | (16) Judson | (25) Wilf Oats |
| | DCM | (26) Les Fiddy |
| (7) Clanger Bell | (17) Swain | (27) Jackie Lay |
| (8) Sgt Ted Smith MM | (18) Price | (28) Bud Abbott |
| (9) Binny Barns | (19) Peter Weatherall | (29) Sgt Marrow MM |
| (10) Sidebottom | (20) Cpl Summerhill | (30) Cpl Cartwright |



SS guards, but the operation went smoothly to the accompaniment of a background of cheers from the prisoners of war.

It was now the 29th April, Charley Patrol, with me in my former position of hull gunner, was sent to patrol. That was a terrible, unnerving experience because the Germans in sheer desperation were now using sea mines from Cuxhaven, the Naval Base that was a few miles up

the road. We had all heard the massive explosions and when we arrived near the spot, all that remained of a 32 ton tank of the Coldstream Guards was one turret ring on which a gun turret had once turned. The rest, a five man crew of flesh, blood and 32 tons of steel had disappeared, reduced to scrap metal and gore spread far and wide. There were monster craters, they said eleven of them, so big that later the Royal Engineers put three Bailey Bridges across three of them and filled others by bulldozing buildings into them.

The next news received was to confirm that it was a prisoner-of-war camp combined with a concentration camp. This was most unusual it turned out to be two camps side by side. We had been tasked to liberate the camp and set the prisoners free. Later we were briefed that the camp, originally a PoW camp, was a camp with a difference. Recently it had been divided and most unusually part-filled with so-called political prisoners. The war was drawing to a close, only no one had told the Germans and they fought on as fanatically as ever.

So our Recce patrol had infiltrated across country and with a great deal of difficulty, crossed the canal well down stream in the form of a wooden bridge. Possibly, just possibly, it was suitable for a 12 ton light tank but not a 32 ton Sherman. We crossed by making a rush at it and we arrived at our position near the camp entrance without getting wet. Now we were secluded near the camp's main gate and set up an observation post (OP) of the camp and reported back. Inside the camp we could see a group; we could tell they were French officers by their caps. After waiting what seemed to be a very long time a British Jeep drove up and a medical officer got out. After a long pow-wow with Sergeant Timber Wood, Timber called out to Corporal Les Fuller and me as experienced foot patrollers. Timber knew I spoke German and he had a special job for me. We were to escort the medical officer into the camp. The MO's driver insisted on coming with us. He was the medical officer's batman (servant) and it was his duty to look after his officer. Apparently the doctor had orders to make an assessment of the camp's requirements. He needed an escort as it was not certain that all the SS guards had been driven out of the camp. There was a quick exchange with the French colonel who was apparently the senior prisoner-of-war officer. He quickly explained in broken English that the camp was really two camps in one. One was a prisoner-of-war camp of many nationalities, of which about were 320 British and Canadian and some American plus about 2,200 French and some other nationals, so about 3,000 to 4,000. The smaller camp had been crammed with political prisoners, from other camps in Poland and East Germany who had marched, despite their shocking condition, hundreds of miles to stop them falling into Russian hands. Some had been in the camp longer but these were added to as new groups arrived. On the big

wooden gate was a skull and cross bones and in large red letters 'Typhus'. This just about summed it up. We were instructed not to give the prisoners any food as it would kill them; not even boiled sweets as last time. We thought the Mercantile Marine camp was bad but this one was even more terrible.

'My God,' our crews asked us when we returned, 'You must have felt pity?' I searched my soul; I truthfully answered 'Yes, but also disgust.' Of course I should not have but I suppose I was emotionally deadened by the atrocious and disgusting sights I saw, I honestly felt nothing. We had seen the horrors of war, soldiers blown to bits and soldiers' bodies rotting on the battlefield but we expected that. What we saw were walking skeletons, living corpses. It was so unbelievable, so horrendous; it wrung all feelings of sympathy or pity out of me. I was emotionally dead. These political prisoners had no control over their circumstances. They had been reduced to a state, where they could no longer conform to human standards. I felt revulsion at the way they were; for being in a nauseating condition; just for being still alive; for having the audacity to survive. Of course, my thoughts at that time were totally irrational but there it was. I was psychologically distorted by the scenes I witnessed. It was so appalling; all feeling of sympathy or pity had been driven out of me and replaced by repugnance. These poor wretches were no longer humans, and for that matter neither now was I. My hands trembled and I don't think I could concentrate. I am sure I was shell-shocked. Today, they call it Post Traumatic Shock Disorder. The experience did something to me.

I was a young 20 year old soldier, a Reconnaissance Guardsman. I had seen all types of human disasters on my way from Normandy to now and I was totally numbed by the inhuman events I had witnessed in the camp.

We were inside this horrendous compound detailed to act as a bodyguard, escorting a young medical officer. He was to assess the medical needs of the camp. As the four of us made our way into the encampment, a tremendous burst of cheering exploded from the allied prisoners of war in their separate compounds, the smell of bacon frying floated in the air and tempted our nasal senses. They called out, 'Want a mug of char mates.' We smiled and declined.

This political compound was something totally different and so incredible I was quite unprepared for it. A few days before, our old Able recce patrol had bumped a camp holding about 3,000 captured merchant seamen, but this was something very different, behind wire in these other enclosures were people dressed in filthy striped pyjamas. Some tried to cheer but the most just stared, as if unable to understand what was happening. This was the political prisoner's compound of Stalag XB, Sandbostel, camp. The camp now had a double function;

on the one hand the PoWs were humanely treated, they received Red Cross parcels and there was no evidence of serious supply difficulties, and side by side with them, political prisoners from camps as far away as Russia and Poland, kept under conditions which defies description; these were poor wretches. I was required to speak very little German that day. Most prisoners looked at me in fear when I asked questions. The few German prisoners in the camp told me that they were arrested for being communists or socialists and they were prisoners for re-education but it did not matter, they were in the same disgusting state.

When the prisoners scratched themselves because of the irritation caused by the lice, the faeces were rubbed into the wounds and they were infected by typhus. This form of typhus typically affects large groups of people, as lice spread quickly in areas where people are crowded and unable to conduct basic hygiene, such as washing regularly. Suddenly, I selfishly mentally panicked. I suddenly itched. We had no DDT powder with us. Our anti-lice powder was back in our vehicles.

Then there was the stench; I can't attempt to describe it. It was revolting and remained in my nostrils for several days. Odd groups of creatures were outside the huts, some standing, others lying on the ground. One skeleton-like creature, whose skin seemed to be wrapped around his bones like thin parchment, gave a death grin smile and a wave feebly in slow motion. The young medical officer steeled himself. "What would I do if someone sprung at us?" he asked. "I will have to kill them". He nodded. After all, that was what we had been trained to do. We threw open the door of the first hut. The smell was overbearing. The room, contained about 30 or 40 men and only four bunks. About six of the men were certainly dead. The rest were lying on the floor or on the bunks, too ill to move; the rest sat or stood around the room. Little groups of the living and dying were huddled together for warmth, spring was late that year; about one man in four had a blanket. The floor was covered with filth. We closed the door and walked along the dark passage. The floor boards underfoot were slimy with excreta; rotted through. The MO stumbled over something in the dark. It was a corpse. "Careful" he called and pointed at the body. The next room, smaller than the first, was occupied. In one corner were two beings huddled close together with their arms around each other. Their great black rimmed eyes stared at us; there was no sign of recognition or emotion when I asked them who they were? On we went from room to room and hut to hut. In one place a man said he was English. He came slowly forward and shook the MO's hand; he did not have the heart to withdraw his hand. I thought again about the anti-lice powder.

Moving through the compound, in each room, each hut had some new horror. In some huts the inmates were

French, in others Russian, then Dutch, and so on. Every nationality was represented, including Germany. They were supposed to be political prisoners. A Dutchman said he was caught listening to the BBC; another because he was a Jew. Some did not know why they were there.

There were no sanitary arrangements at all in the political prisoner compound. If a man wanted to relieve himself he went outside if he was so inclined, otherwise he did it where he lay. His neighbours were beyond caring. Nearly everyone had diarrhoea, the type of watery diarrhoea caused by long starvation. The whole place was crawling with lice, but it was impossible to tell who had typhus and who had not. Outside the huts the ground was fouled by excreta, and corpses were lying all over the place. No attempt had been made to have them removed. They were dying at about 500 a day, we were told later. Many were still unburied. It was completely unreal; beyond ordinary human understanding. No animal could possibly have sunk to such depths of depravity. The young medical officer did not speak much. He said he was Jewish and was ashamed of being human. I remember nothing more. We were too shocked to speak.

Leaving the political compound at last, hurriedly I searched for somewhere to rinse my hands. In the end I found a puddle of filthy rain water before returning to our tank and the other two members of our crew. Anyhow there was not much sense in worrying with the Germans firing airbursts from the front line at the far edge of the camp.

We left the compounds. The young doctor saw he had lice bites on his hand. The one he had used to shake a prisoner's hand who claimed to be an Englishman. The doctor said he was young and fit if he caught typhus he would pull through. We gave up after about three hours, thank God. But we were only about halfway through. Back at our tanks Les Fuller and I covered each other with DDT issue powder and we both looked like two ghosts swathed in white powder from head to toe.

Later that day some Russians somehow broke out of the camp, they seemed stronger than the rest. Everyone was suspected of being infected with typhus and must be contained. These three were raiding local houses for food; we were ordered to round them up and sadly returned them to their hell-hole camp. They had killed a pig and were gorging on the entrails. They stank of that terrible stench as we took them back to the camp on the engine cover of our tank at pistol point. We sprayed ourselves again from head to foot in anti-lice DDT powder. This time the whole crew, all four of us. To die by a bullet is one thing a soldier accepts. To be struck down on the battle field by a deadly disease we did not expect.

We were told the following day, that the camp was now swarming with German women and nurses who had

come in from miles around to help and the hospital huts still contained about 2,000 cases. All the PoWs had been quickly sent to a special clearing station.

When we returned to our tank after nearly two to three hours, we had still not inspected the whole camp. We were emotionally shattered. My mates asked me what it was like; they of course had no idea. Les Fuller and I tried to explain and it was as difficult to do that then, as it is to try write about it now and do the place real justice. Words cannot express its true horrors.

Days later, we were informed that all fit prisoners had been evacuated. Many of those who remained still didn't behave or look human. Some of them we were told would pull their bedclothes off and wave their spindly limbs in the air. One poor wretch was wandering about stark naked making whining noises, with a bed pan in one hand and a roll of lavatory paper in the other. He didn't seem to have any idea what to do. The German doctors brought in were shocked at the actions of their own SS. Some went around asking the patients questions. Many of the latter had no idea why they were there, some had been anti-Nazis or had committed some trivial offence. Others were simply Jewish, gypsies or even gay. These following, are the facts about Sandbostel, related to us about the camp after we had been there. I did not see them but I can well believe it happening. There are many horrifying authenticated stories of cases of cannibalism, men's livers being cut out and gnawed raw before they were even dead; men's eyes being plucked out in struggles for bits of potato peel. My story was restricted to what I saw with my own eyes. I hold no brief for the German people but it is only fair to say that my considered opinion is that the vast majority of them knew nothing of the conditions inside concentration camps. These places were closely guarded by SS and no ordinary German was allowed anywhere near them. Those few people who were allowed out after serving a term were far too terrified of returning to relate their experiences. The terror of the Gestapo and SS is something which I hope we as a nation never experience.

So that's Sandbostel, as I saw it. It is not a pleasant story, but then it is not intended to be. It is something I have tried to forget but I constantly reflect back. Sandbostel will haunt my dreams until I die.

I have collected a few notes about Sandbostel from people who visited after I did. Lieut-General Sir Brian Horrocks and Major General Sir Allan Adair visited the camp and they both wrote the following in their books.

General Adair, commander of the Guards Division, wrote:

'Just short of Bremen, General Horrocks and I entered the Concentration Camp at Sandbostel. We found masses of barbed wire and corpses everywhere, with some starving, emaciated figures clad in their striped pyjamas, many too weak to walk. We approached it

with great caution because typhus had broken out. Sandbostel had been a military camp with 2,000 PoWs, but shortly before the liberation, surviving inmates from concentration camps were moved there, too. "Some were from Buchenwald, looked terrible and aroused horror," wrote Doctor Ian Doybrowski afterwards. He had taken part in the Warsaw uprising and had concealed his Jewish background from the other PoWs at Sandbostel as anti-semitism was rife among some right wing members of the Polish National Army. "The sight of these emaciated and helpless people was horrible. Two of the Polish soldier PoWs were distributing soup. Suddenly I noticed that one of the prisoners went away with empty hands. I went up to the two distributors and asked them 'What does this mean?' They replied 'They are Jews. That's why we did not give them soup.' "The Doctor threatened them with exposure after the liberation". By these means the soup was distributed more fairly.'

(*A Guards' General* The Memoirs of Major General Sir Allan Adair BT, GCVO, CB, DSO, MC, JP, DL edited by Oliver Lindsay FR Hist S published by Hamish Hamilton, London.)

Horrocks ordered the Burgomasters of all of the surrounding towns to supply a quota of German women to clean up the camp and look after the prisoners who were dying daily at an alarming rate. When the women arrived we never saw or heard one expression of pity from them. Whereas, when the British nursing sisters arrived, they were very distressed as so little could be done for the dying.

Lieut-General Sir Brian Horrocks, general officer commanding XXX Corps wrote:

'Up to now I had been fighting this war without any particular hatred for the enemy but just short of Bremen we uncovered one of those horror camps which are now common knowledge, but which at that time came as a great shock. I saw a ghastly picture when I entered with General Allan Adair, the commander of the Guards Armoured Division. The floor of the first large hut was strewn with emaciated figures clad in most horrible striped pyjamas. Many of them were too weak to walk but they managed to heave themselves up and gave us a pathetic cheer. Most of them had some form of chronic dysentery and the stench was so frightful that I disgraced myself by being sick in a corner. It was difficult to believe that most of these hardly human creatures had once been educated, civilised people. I was so angry that I ordered the burgomasters of all the surrounding towns and villages each to supply a quota of German women to clean up the camp and look after these unfortunate prisoners, who were dying daily at an alarming rate. When the women arrived we expected some indication of horror or remorse when they saw what their fellow-countrymen had been doing. Not a bit

of it. I never saw a tear or heard one expression of pity from any of them. I also brought one of our own hospitals into the camp and when I found some of our sisters looking very distressed I apologised for having given them such an unpleasant task. "Goodness me," they said, "it's not that. We are only worried because we can do so little for the poor things – many of them have gone too far." A somewhat different approach to the problem by the women of two countries.'

(*A Full Life* by Lieut-General Sir Brian Horrocks KCB, KBE, DSO, MC, LLD (Hon.) published by Collins, St James's Place, London, 1960.)

Lieut-Colonel JNR Moore, Lieut. A Breitmeyer and Major The Hon. FF Hennessy, of Divisional Headquarters, made a tour of Sandbostel Camp, accompanied by visitors from all levels of military dignity. Flags of the United Nations were flying at the gate when they arrived and the self-appointed French Commandant, Colonel Albert, had provided a guard of honour composed of prisoners from Great Britain, the United States and France. The party were told that originally Sandbostel had been a French prisoner-of-war camp; that after the crossing of the Rhine prisoners of all nationalities had been sent there; and that on the 5th April about a third of the camp had been taken over by the SS for political deportees, among them some French university professors, a Danish minister and a cardinal. There were now 8,000 prisoners of war in the camp and 14,000 deportees, although 2,500 people had died since the 5th of April. The party were informed that conditions in the military portion of the camp had been fairly good, thanks largely to Red Cross parcels. They could see for themselves that in the concentration side of Sandbostel conditions had been just as bad as in the more notorious camps at Belsen and Buchenwald.

From Grenadier Guards Regimental History:

(Authors note: Nothing could compare with the atrocious sights that greeted Corporal Fuller and me when we entered the camp with a doctor and his driver. The vision will remain with us for the rest of our lives.)

The night after the fantastic battle for Sandbostel had come to an end mercifully for the Grenadiers. Now the night of the 30th May; all through the night the Grenadier companies had to grapple with waves of civilian prisoners who kept breaking out of the camp in search of food, but by 4 o'clock in the morning the sappers had finished building the bridge and more tanks came up to help to restore order. Meanwhile, the records show that a doctor and interpreter (this was probably me as I was the only one who could speak German.) as part of the escort sent into the camp to investigate conditions and in the morning the prisoner-of-war and displaced-persons relief detachments arrived to take over. It did not take

them long to sum up the size or the urgency of the appalling minor Belsen.'

(*The Grenadier Guards in the War of 1939-1945 Vol I*, Patrick Forbes, published by Gale & Polden Ltd, 1949.)

Later our Recce patrol went off to fight a final battle before the war ended. I did not see the camp again until fifty years later when on a battle field tour of North Germany. Again I acted as interpreter when we visited the surviving huts.

As far as the Grenadier Group were concerned it turned out that liberating Sandbostel was their final mission of the war. For, although on paper the conflict went on for another seven days, and a few Recce Troop patrols were sent north during the next few days and did make contact with enemy rearguards, as regards serious fighting it was the end. On the 1st of May we moved to Mulsum, a village twenty miles east of Bremervorde, and it was here that they heard the official announcement of victory on the 8th May.

The Regimental History recalls 'We spent these last few days of the war removing some of the grime after our long trek across Germany. The Quartermasters started sending in enormous indents for polish, and soon rifles and equipment began to shine and trousers to be creased in a manner reminiscent of the Guards Depot. The vehicles were given similar treatment and before long they too began to lose some of the imprints which the past six weeks had left on them. In fact, by VE Day there was little to show that any of the Battalions had ever taken part in a campaign at all.

The non-fraternisation rule was difficult in this small village. Our padre was allowed to talk with the local vicar and he had a room at the vicarage. The children came to look at our tanks, and I remembered the children in Holland but we were not allowed officially to talk with them or offer them sweets but of course we did.

The young girls in the village paraded all in white for a confirmation service in the church. They followed a church band as it passed our tanks, with us pretending we could not see them.

Regimental History again, VE Day itself was an anti-climax. The 8th May was the victory day but no one felt really ecstatic. In Mulsum, a brave attempt was made to mark the importance of the occasion, and, after some neighbouring gunners had emptied their guns in a last outburst of fire, four old and rusty drummers sounded the "Cease Fire". There was a slight miscalculation on the part of the Sergeant Major. The drummers drummed a quarter of an hour too early – with a remarkable lack of unison – and the borrowed Union Jack that was run up a flagpole afterwards was far too battered to do justice to the occasion. Our War was over.

BRANCH NOTES

AYLESBURY & DISTRICT

(Formed 1929)

President: Major SIR PHILIP DUNCOMBE Bt. DL

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

Chairman: L JEFFERY.

Treasurer: L JEFFERY.

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

Email: rgbakker@aol.com

Our very successful 2009 lunch was held at the Masonic Hall Aylesbury on 1st November and helped celebrate our 80th anniversary. To mark the occasion we managed to obtain from Regimental Headquarters a copy of the first branch report relating to lunch that year, 1929, had taken place at the Bull's Head, Aylesbury (now long gone) on 6th April. There were about 25 Grenadier Guardsmen present. The then President was **Major HL Aubrey Fletcher, DSO, MVO**, the Honorary Treasurer was **Superintendent AC White** and the Honorary Secretary was **J King**. We would like to record our thanks to **Mick Britton**, Secretary of the Northampton branch who supported us at lunch this year with some of his members.

The President, **Major Sir Philip Duncombe Bt, DL** read the messages of loyal greeting and replies from The Colonel in Chief and The Colonel. We were honoured this year to have **Lt Col Simon Wilkinson TD, DL** as our guest of honour. **Major AJ Green** represented the Regiment and painted a very clear and down to earth picture of their timetable, which drew nods of acknowledgement from around the tables. **Mr L Jeffery** our Branch Chairman proposed the toast to our guests and then introduced **Sqn Ldr (Retd) RW Chevin RAF** who responded.

The town's Remembrance Service was a small affair but drew the attendance of our loyal branch members. The people of the town, who gave loud cheers and generous applause to serving and ex-serving members on parade, packed Aylesbury market square.

2010 has been a quiet year for the branch; we had no

garden party but decided to get our members to attend "The Grenadiers Return" (Grenadier Day) at Littlecote. The day itself was a great success and a few of our members managed to travel down to the event under their own steam. It was great for some members to meet other Grenadiers some of whom they had not seen for 40 years. We have to take our hats off and give three cheers to **Colin Knight** and **John Southern** (Cheltenham & District Branch) for all the hard work they put in during the organisation of a marvellous day and of course the Association Staff at Regimental Headquarters.

Sadly, we have lost one of our veteran members, **2615440 Sgt (Len) Maydon** passed away this year. On the 8th August 1963 Len, then a Police Sgt, was in charge of the information room at Aylesbury and received the first call made about the Great Train Robbery. The train robbers took control of the train at Sears Crossing between Leighton Buzzard and Ledburn and Len, in consultation with Scotland Yard, had to arrange for Policemen to be deployed to Ledburn. Finally, we send our thanks to Regimental Headquarters for their support and our best wishes to Grenadiers everywhere.

BATH

(Formed 1952)

President: Major HA BAILLIE.

Vice Presidents: Brigadier AG HEYWOOD CBE, LVO, MC; Lt Col THE LORD WIGRAM MC; Major General SIR EVELYN WEBB-CARTER KCVO, OBE; Lieutenant Colonel AC FORD.

Chairman: Mr R BELL.

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

Treasurer: PL HANNEY.

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

It with great sadness that we have to inform you all that this year **Norman Butlin** died on 25 April and **Percy Gregory** died on 8th September. They will both be sadly missed not only by their families and friends but also by this Branch.

Since the last Gazette, just where has the time gone? The spring lunch, a great success, has come and gone and we are now over half way through 2010. We are pleased to say that the hard core of members of the Bath Branch still find time to meet rain, hail or snow

and keep the Branch ticking along. What is even more pleasing is that members are bringing along their spouses. We still bang on about more members attending the meetings and are in grave danger of repeating ourselves but we could do with more members making the effort; please see the details of our meetings below.

As usual, and importantly, we try to put as much information as possible into these notes to keep those of you who still like to keep in touch, but are unable to attend meetings, abreast of what goes on in the Bath Branch of the Grenadier Family and these few paragraphs are a means of doing just that.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank **Mr John Ireland** who still produces and manages our own Branch internet page and we would like to get more information onto it, so if you have anything that you would like to contribute then please pass it to our secretary or **John** and we will be pleased to include it. It could be something that you want to get off your chest which could initiate a debate or you may just want to try and track down an old comrade. To access it just go to the following address: <http://www.grenadierguardsbath.co.uk>.

The Spring lunch this year was held on 25 April, at Cumberwell Park Golf Club. 67 Branch members and guests attended the lunch which, as usual was excellent. A big thank you has to go to **Peter Hanney** ably supported by his wife **Bernice** for organising this annual event to such a high standard.

As you are aware this year Grenadier Day was held at Littlecote near Hungerford on 26 June and was really well attended. You will also be aware that **Colin Knight** and **John Southern** helped to organise the event. From a Branch point of view and supported by all those that attended it was a well organised and great day out which was helped of course by good weather. We would like to take this opportunity to thank both **Colin** and **John** for all the hard work that they put in helping to organising the weekend and especially the excellent day itself. As an aside **Dave Pearce** talked about the 'Old House' and the museum dedicated to the US 101st Airborne Division. This house at Littlecote gets a mention in the Band of Brothers book by Stephen E Ambrose.

Being a relatively small Branch we do not do as many visits as we could which is mainly due to funding issues, however this year those members who attended the visit to the Armoured Museum at Bovington had a great day out. Any members of any Branch are more than welcome to attend any visits that the Bath Branch organises; just let our secretary or **Peter Hanney** know that you wish to attend. We are planning a future trip to London which will include a guided tour of the Houses of Parliament followed

by a trip on the River Thames from Westminster to Greenwich.

At the time of writing we are planning to hold our 2010 Christmas lunch at Cumberwell Golf Club on 5 December and we are hoping that the guest speaker will be the President of the Grenadier Guards Association, **Colonel EH Houstoun OBE**.

Arthur Pulham, one of the Branch's great characters has donated some of his WWII memorabilia, including his medals, to the Guards Museum. It is hoped that some of them will be on display in the not too distant future. Arthur is also a Dunquerque veteran (ask him to tell you about when he was shot by a Messerschmitt 109!). Arthur was due to attend the Dunquerque ceremonies held earlier this year and a couple of days before he was due to go he was knocked over by a car and was quite badly injured, however he has made a full recovery but unfortunately was unable to travel to Dunquerque. Maybe next time Arthur. We are sure that he will not mind us telling you but Arthur is 90 years young.

As some of you will be aware our secretary **Ron Kirkwood** still works full time and his company is sending him abroad for 12 months. During Ron's sabbatical **John Leach**, the Branch Assistant Secretary, will be carrying out secretarial duties. Ron hopes to take up the Branch Secretary post once again on his return next year.

We are a small Branch with a hard core of attendees who turn up every month to the meetings and for that we thank them sincerely as they are the life blood of this Branch. However none of us are getting any younger and we do need to see some new faces whether they be in the autumn of their years, freshly retired or still serving. Why not come along or if you are aware of Grenadiers who have nothing better to do once a month then please encourage them to come along too. We are sure we will enjoy your company and you may even enjoy ours!

Our monthly meeting is on the second Tuesday of every month in the Coombe Down Rugby Club, Coombe Down, Bath. Alternatively why not attend the AGM which next year will be held in April 2011 (exact date to follow). We look forward to seeing you at our meetings.



BRISTOL

(Formed 1914)

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

Vice Presidents: Lt Col THE LORD WIGRAM, MC; Lt Col ET BOLITHO, OBE; Lt Col PE HILLS, FLCM, psm; Lt Col LCA RANSON, TD; Maj JA SANDISON, MBE, QGM; Capt JW WALKER; DT GRIFFITHS Esq; J FROST Esq; Maj R DORNEY, MBE; C SAVAGE Esq.

Chairman: Mr K JONES.

Secretary: Mr M ALLEN, 51 Vowles Close, Wraxall, Bristol, BS48 1PP. Tel: 07500 822519.

Email: bristolsecretary@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.bristolgrenadiers.org.uk

Treasurer: Mr AF LOCK.

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

We are delighted to report that the last twelve months have been a very busy and successful period for the Bristol Branch; our Annual Dinner was very well attended with eighty Branch Members seated at the Long Ashton Golf Club on the South side of the City. It was our pleasure to welcome as guests, **Lt Colonel GF Lesinski, Major R Dorney MBE, Major D Alkin, LSgt Jay Ellingham and LSgt James Thompson** who was posted to Bristol as Recruiting Sergeant. We were also honoured to welcome **Colin Knight** from the Gloucestershire Branch and **Dave Bell** from the Surrey and East Hants Branch. After an excellent dinner the Branch President, **Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter KCVO, OBE** gave his customary address and thanked everyone present for supporting the Branch, especially those that had travelled from some considerable distance to be there. The President then proposed the Loyal Toasts. We were then honoured to be addressed by **Major Alkin** who gave a very in depth insight into current Regimental affairs and after a most interesting speech **Major Alkin** proposed the Regimental Toast. We were then treated to what can only be described as a thoroughly entertaining address by **Colonel Lesinski**, who was on fine form. Those present were suitably impressed that a speech regarding a Fortnum and Mason Avocado Pear could run for some 20 minutes. **Colonel Lesinski** also impressed upon his audience that “if you are going to drop names, drop big ones”. The dinner was judged to have been a huge success by all those present.

After the Winter recess, during which, it was decided that due to the harsh weather conditions in January the

Branch would no longer hold meetings for the rest of the month, the first event of the year for the Branch was Regimental Remembrance Day in May and we are pleased to say that this was better supported than what has become the ‘norm’ over recent years. We set off from Bristol somewhat earlier than usual to enable Branch Members to arrive in London in good time to find suitable lunch venues. After the Service and Parade most branch members availed themselves of the hospitality of the Sgts’ Mess. On the return journey we diverted off the motorway to join members of the Gloucestershire Branch for a fish and chip supper at the Guards Club in Windsor, our thanks go to the Windsor Branch for making us so welcome, the new arrangements were considered a success and will be put in place again next year.

June 26th saw a full coach of Branch Members heading for Littlecote House in Berkshire for Grenadier Day. We were fortunate to have glorious weather but unfortunately the Branch cider stall did not do very good trade, this was due to the owners of Littlecote House having their own beer tents which were selling chilled beers and lagers at very competitive prices. We also had a slight setback with the television raffle, the generator that we took with us to power the TV was not powerful enough and we had to abandon the raffle before it had even begun. The Bristol Branch entered two teams into the Boyton Cup which this year took the form of an archery shoot, Bristol ‘A’ led by the Secretary took to the range first and to much derision from Bristol ‘B’ returned what can only be described as a truly dismal set of scores. Bristol ‘B’ led by the Branch Chairman then took to the range and returned a far more impressive set of scores than the ‘A’ team. ‘Shot of the day’ went to the ‘B’ teams **Lance (Sir Lancelot) Cambridge**, who returned a most impressive score of thirty five out of forty, there was however a ‘stewards enquiry’ into the amount of arrows that Lance had actually fired but any suspicion of foul play was ruled out due to lack of evidence. Our congratulations go to the Manchester Branch who won the Boyton Cup. Despite the setbacks with the cider stall and TV raffle a thoroughly enjoyable day was had by all and we look forward to returning to Littlecote House should Grenadier Day be held there in the future.

On Sunday 18th June some Thirty Branch Members descended upon Shirehampton Park Golf Club for a very pleasant Sunday Lunch. This is the second time that we have used Shirehampton Golf Club as a venue for Sunday lunch and we were certainly not disappointed that we chose to return there, both the service and the food was of an excellent standard and we shall certainly return at some time in the future.

Sunday 15th August saw another coach load of Branch members departing Bristol, this time heading north to The National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas in Staffordshire. We stopped in Cheltenham en-route to pick up some of the members of the Gloucestershire Branch and arrived at the Arboretum in good time for the daily service which commenced at 11.00. After the Service we were shown around the arboretum by **Dennis Ward** who lives near to the site. Dennis is an absolute fount of knowledge on the arboretum and has dedicated a great deal of his time to various causes there. Lately, Dennis has spent a considerable amount of time arranging and coordinating the new Household Division Memorial, the fact that this monument exists at all is largely due to Dennis's tremendous efforts. After a hugely interesting and enlightening tour of the Arboretum we boarded our coach for the short drive to the Barton Marina where our illustrious Chairman had arranged a Lunch at the Waterfront Restaurant. This proved to be a very wise choice by the Chairman as the food and service were impeccable. We would recommend the Waterfront to any other Branches who may be planning a trip to the Arboretum. It was a late arrival back in Bristol but this was a small price to pay for such a memorable day out.

Since our last report, we are honoured to have appointed two new Vice Presidents by the Branch President. The Bristol Branch extends the warmest of welcomes to **Major R Dorney MBE** and **Mr Chris Savage**, I am sure that many of you will recognise these names as they are both well known members of the Regiment, **Major R Dorney MBE** has recently been appointed Quartermaster 1st Battalion and Chris was The Sergeant Major 1st Battalion before going to work for the MOD.

We have moved our Branch meetings to a new venue, we still meet at 20:00 on the first Monday of each Month but now at the new address of The Officers Mess, The Royal Artillery Grounds, White Ladies Road, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 2LG. Whilst this arrangement is still in its infancy it seems to suit the Branch very well, most of the regular attendees at the Monthly meetings seem to prefer a venue in central Bristol.

In closing our report this year, we must say that 'all in all' it has been a very good year for the Bristol Branch, all of our Branch events have been well attended and there remains a positive mindset within the Branch. We are delighted to have welcomed some new members into our ranks and inevitably we have said farewell to others, it is our sad duty to report the passing of Bristol Branch members: **23446395 Raymond G Woodman**, **23252068 Michael F Ruddy**, **Ms Sue Fleming**, **21006144 Douglas W Hancock** and **2625964 Ray Cambridge**.

BURTON-UPON-TRENT

(Formed 1934)

President: Lieutenant Colonel DJK GERMAN TD, DL, JP.

Chairman: D JOHNSON.

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

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

CAMBRIDGE

(Formed 1932)

President: Captain CNR BROWN.

Chairman: WH CLARKE Esq.

Secretary: Mrs P MASON, 20 Provence Road, Huntingdon, PE29 6UW. Tel: 01480 413175.

Email: patm.mason@tiscali.co.uk

Meetings: Second Monday Bi-monthly lunches: Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec In local hostelryes. 12:30 hours for 13:00 hours.

Well another year has flown by. We have had our usual bi-monthly lunches which have been a great success; we go from strength to strength and are very grateful to **Mick and Margaret Draper** for all they do to make them such a success. Our Christmas Lunch was very well attended and we had a collection from the members present and sent a donation to Selly Oak Hospital.

Our AGM in April was as usual held in Longstowe Hall by kind courtesy of our well loved Vice President, **Mrs Bevan**. It was well attended and after the AGM we had an excellent buffet lunch provided by the ladies and then it was time to have a walk around the grounds and into the beautiful gardens to finish off the day. It was great to see our Vice President, **Fred Owen**, our oldest member looking so well and taking an interest. He was looking forward to his 100th birthday in November but unfortunately he did not make it as he died on 12th July. Fred was a founder member of the Caravan Club and the branch members formed a Guard of Honour for him at the Crematorium. We shall miss him. We also lost **Mrs Penny Conquest**, who died in April, she was a staunch member of the Branch, her husband was **WO1 Terry Conquest** who died in 2006, he was Chairman of the Branch from 1977-79 and they were also founder members of the Caravan Club.

Several branch members attended the Presentation of Colours at Buckingham Palace and all said what a great day it was; so good to have the Battalion back home. I would also like to express our sincere best wishes and hopes for recovery to all the members of

the Battalion who have been injured and our hearts go out to the families of those who did not return. Some members went to the Birthday Parade or the Rehearsals, how well the Battalion did in such a short time. We were very proud of the Ensign who is the son of our President, **Captain Nigel Brown**. Watching the parade in the Mall was something I hadn't done for many years but it was such a wonderful sight. We were also so proud of our Vice President **Mick Draper** who carried the wreath on Remembrance Sunday along with **John Cross** from the Spalding Branch, and we would like to thank John who also drove his minibus and included several members from our Branch, for which we were very grateful.



Mick Draper, right, carrying the wreath on Regimental Remembrance Sunday.

Our Annual lunch was held at the Meridian Golf Club, Toft and was also very well attended. The club look after us very well. **Major and Mrs Andrew James** were our guests and Major James, the Senior Major of the Battalion, gave a very interesting insight into what the Regiment, the Band and Regimental Headquarters had been doing; a very busy time for all.

Through the friendship of the Windsor Branch I was lucky to attend Grenadier Day, which went very well in spite of the heat – how the Band coped in that heat and their heavy uniforms and did such a good job as always I don't know. I also, with the Nottingham Branch, attended the very pleasant "Wine and Roses" evening given by the Dowager Duchess of Rutland in aid of the Colonels Fund – that is true Grenadier friendship.

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking **Captain Trevor Rolfe** for his help and especially

L/Sgt Jay Ellingham for sorting out my problems and all at Regimental Headquarters for the support and help they have given me, it is much appreciated.



Fred Owen the oldest member of the branch sadly passed away on July 12th 2010.

4030761 FRED OWEN – 21st November 1910 to 12th July 2010.

Fred Owen was the oldest member of the branch and possibly the oldest member of the Association. Unfortunately he didn't quite make it to his 100th birthday which would have been in November, as he sadly died on 12th July 2010. He had attended our AGM in April looking very well and pleased to be with us. He had been in a nursing home for some time, since his wife died.

Fred wanted to join as soon as he left school but his Father asked him to wait for 12 months during which time Fred joined the Territorial Army (The South Wales Borderers). He joined the Grenadier Guards in 1929 and was on duty at Buckingham Palace at the time of the Edward and Mrs Simpson affair and at the Tower of London. He could tell many a tale of life then. He also played football and cricket for the Grenadiers. He left in 1933.

Fred then became a Policeman and as there were no vacancies in Shropshire he had to come to Huntingdon. He married **Dollie** in June 1936 and they had three sons, unfortunately one died the day before Fred came home from the war.

Fred was recalled to the Grenadier Guards when war broke out and he saw service in France, Palestine, Egypt, Italy, Greece and North Africa. He was at the Battle of El Alamein and was even captured by Field Marshal Rommel's Battle Group only to escape with the help of some ANZAC troops almost immediately. He was mentioned in despatches and badly injured after the truck he was driving hit a landmine and then needed a long recuperation in hospital. He received the Africa Star, 8th Army Clasp, and Italian Star.

After the war Fred returned to the Police Force and again he played football and cricket for the Hunts Police and was a good opening batsman. He eventually moved to the CID and became their Photographer. He retired from the Police as Acting Detective Inspector. He also had many funny stories to tell of his police exploits.

He then joined the Cambridge Branch of the Association and was co-founder of the Caravan Section which he and Doris thoroughly enjoyed and had many happy memories of their trips. Sadly in recent years he broke his elbow and his hip and had to have help in the home after always being so independent. Occasionally they both went into a nursing home for respite care in Oakleigh in Alconbury. In 2007 Dollie died after 71 years of marriage and Fred then decided to go and stay in Oakleigh where he was very happy and well looked after. He was an avid reader and loved to watch the football and cricket on the TV. They were very proud of their two cards from The Queen.

As his son said, "Fred was an opening bat, whose goal was always to score a century, sadly this time he was just one run short". We shall certainly miss him.

CATERHAM

(Formed 1971)

President: Captain PF RICHARSON.

Vice Presidents: Mrs P MASON; Mr JE MAYES.

Chairman: Mr L PAYNE.

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

Email: Bunyan@btinternet.com

Meetings: Third Thursday April and October at 20:00 hours, the Royal British Legion Club, Townend, Caterham, Surrey.

CHESTERFIELD

(Formed 1952)

President: Awaiting appointment.

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

Hon Vice Presidents: LADY WINIFRED HILTON, Dame St John, ATCL.

Chairman: J METCALFE.

Hon Secretary: D BRIGNULL, 85 Deerlands Road, Wingerworth, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S42 6UZ. Tel: (01246) 206054.

Email: d.brignull@yahoo.co.uk

Treasurer: D LEECH.

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

Sadly we have to begin this report with news of the sudden death of one of our senior albeit honorary members, **Jim Merchant**. Jim was invited to join the Association in 1974 and together with his wife **Mavis**, supported every event staged by the branch until a few months ago when he was prevented from doing so by the poor health of **Mavis**. Jim lost an arm in Holland in 1944 and for many years represented us at the Operation Market Garden reunion in Arnhem. All members will sorely miss him.

Unfortunately **Fred Neal** has been unable to attend our monthly meetings due to his continued ill health but both **Fred** and his wife **Di** have kept in touch with us throughout the year. **Dennis Thompson** is unable to travel the considerable distance to us but keeps in touch with us on a regular basis by telephone. **Richard Done** suffered a stroke earlier in the year but due to his determination is recovering well. We have no doubt that he has had a great deal of support from his wife **Pamela** and other members of his family.

Jean and John Metcalfe have not enjoyed the best of health this year but both of them managed to attend our annual dinner in October which was also attended by our ex chairman **Charles Limb** who arrived with members of his family. **Albert Perrins** of the Coldstream Guards, our oldest member, has recently suffered from a couple of falls but we look forward to his return to the fold in the New Year. On a brighter note, the transfer of **Peter Brown** from the Sussex branch has maintained our strength. We extend a warm welcome to Peter and look forward to seeing him regularly in the future.

As mentioned earlier, the branch held its annual informal dinner in October. The event was very well supported and the meal appreciated by all who attended. Our senior Vice President, **Michael Carnall** with assistance from **Enid**, arranged the dinner. It was particularly nice to see **Penny Osborne** and her daughter; **Charles Limb** accompanied by members of his family, and so many members of the Clan **Metcalfe** that it would be impossible for me to name them all. Everyone enjoyed the dinner and we look forward to the next one in 2011.

As usual the branch was represented on Black Sunday and **David Leech**, **Michael Garrett** and **Michael Carnall** took part in the Mayor's inaugural parade. They were all invited to refreshments with the Mayor after the parade whereupon **David** and **Rachel Leech** were presented with gifts from the branch as a thank you for their efforts in fundraising in the past and to commemorate **David's** services as treasurer, the post that he was obliged to relinquish last year.

The aforementioned gentlemen also took part in the Chesterfield Veterans Day celebrations and **David Leech** laid a Regimental wreath on Remembrance Day.

Michael and **Maureen Garrett** continued with their splendid fund raising at both Grenadier Day and the Alfreton Gala. Their efforts are greatly appreciated as is the support given to them by other members.

Finally I would like to thank both **Captain Rolfe** and **LSgt Jay Ellingham** for the support from Regimental Headquarters and to our Chairman **John Metcalfe**.

DERBY

(Formed 1914)

President: A ATTENBOROUGH.

Chairman: T SAVAGE.

Hon Secretary: I SUTTON, 9 Orchard Close, Boulton Moor, Derby, DE24 5AE. Tel: (01332) 755156.

Treasurer: J BUTLER.

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

To start on a personal note I ended last year on crutches after a road traffic accident and have been off work for ten months. Fortunately my roll was taken on board by our Assistant Secretary **Brenda Boulter**. Her dedication in my absence has kept the Branch going.

This has been a very sad year with the loss of both serving and retired Grenadiers. We started the year by attending the funeral of our eldest member **2619439 Cyril (Nick) Carter's** funeral. **Nick** who served through WW2 died just before his 96th birthday. Then the Branch attended the funeral of local serving Grenadier **LSgt Dave Greenhalgh**. This was a very sad day but those who attended felt honoured to be given the opportunity to say farewell to a fellow Grenadier.

Through the year **Brenda** continued to cover for me as my wife **Beverley** was diagnosed with cancer in March. **Beverley** loved helping the Association and was always at the front in organisation and raising Branch funds. She lost her battle at the age of 55 and died in June. It was her wish before she died that I continue as Branch Secretary.

We sent a coach to both Black Sunday and Littlecote. The cost of a seat remained at £10 after some clever negotiation by our Treasurer **John Butler**. He has also done a marvellous job of getting a really good deal for our annual luncheon in November.

Sadly we have ended the year with another funeral. In October **2622959 Joe Boulter** died. **Joe** joined in 1942, serving in the Kings Company and was well

qualified to do so at 6' 8". Although in the Burton Branch he regularly attended the Derby Branch annual dinners and will be sadly missed. Hopefully next year will be brighter for all.

EAST KENT

(Formed 1948)

President and Chairman: Major D BRADLEY BEM.

Vice Presidents: Major RM DORNEY MBE; WJT BROWN Esq; JG CLUFF DL Esq.

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

Email: secretary@ekb.org.uk

Branch website: www.ekb.org.uk

Meetings: Generally on the third Sunday of each month, except December (and often May). Held at the Conservative Club, Hythe at 11:00 hours. AGM here on the third Sunday in March at 10:30 hours.

Another full and varied year has flown by and many things have happened since our last branch report was submitted to Regimental Headquarters for inclusion in the 2010 edition of the Grenadier Gazette.

At our November 2009 branch meeting, the Branch President/Chairman, **Major Dennis Bradley BEM** and the Hon Secretary/Treasurer/Webmaster, **Bob Goodson Esq**, were overwhelmed by the generosity of members and Friends of the Branch, as many of them had clubbed together to purchase two lovely fob watches in recognition for the work they do for the East Kent branch and its members.

Neither **Dennis** nor **Bob** knew anything about this until it was sprung on them by one of our Honorary Vice Presidents, **Major Richard "Skid" Dorney MBE**. **Dennis** and **Bob** were of the understanding that **Major Dorney** and his wife, **Sue**, had made a long journey from their home in Surrey, in order to brief branch members on the activities of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards who were deployed on OP HERRICK 11.

Branch members were privileged to be able to attend the Presentation of New Colours at Buckingham Palace on 11 May 2010 and we were very pleased with member's support as we only had a couple of spare seats left on the coach. Apart from the biting cold and two of our members needing assistance from the ambulance crews on duty, we had a very enjoyable day.

A number of branch members attended either the 1st or 2nd rehearsal for the Queen's Birthday Parade and a few managed to secure tickets to the Birthday Parade itself. We all thought it was an excellent Troop and we congratulate all who took part. The Escort were

especially superb and all Grenadiers on parade were a credit to the Regiment with their professionalism and ability to change from being “green” soldiers, or for Afghanistan perhaps that should read “desert coloured” soldiers, into God’s finest “red” soldiers.

Late June we attended Grenadier Day and took a mini bus full of members and their ladies to Littlecote House for a very enjoyable, but tiring, day out together.



Grenadier Day 2010 – Open for business – Roll Up! Roll Up!

July saw an opportunity for us to attend a Garden Party at the St Margaret’s at Cliffe home of **Blondel** and “**Algy**” **Cluff DL**. We were most grateful for the invite and the copious glasses of champagne and wine, the lavish buffet, plus a super Regimental History quiz that ensured everyone had a very good time.



Garden Party – Members and their ladies at the Garden Party given by Algy and Blondel Cluff at their St Margaret’s at Cliffe home on 24th July 2010.

In late September we held a very successful Annual Dinner; 2010 being the 62nd year since the formation of the Branch. Entertainment was provided by the Regimental Trio from the Band of the Grenadier Guards. It was pleasing to see the majority of our Honorary Members being able to attend this year and we were also very well supported by our many Friends of the Branch. Our guest speaker was The Association President, **Colonel EH Houstoun OBE**, who attended with his wife **Joanna** and who updated us on Regimental affairs.



Branch Annual Dinner – The Hon. Secretary, Mrs Debbie Mason and WO1 (Bandmaster) Ben Mason enjoying the Annual Dinner.

The year ended with our Christmas Party in early December with entertainment from “One for the Road” and the Christmas Raffle.

Sadly during 2010 we have had to say goodbye to a higher than usual number of members, or their wives, who have passed away. They will not be forgotten. We are very grateful to our Branch Welfare Representative for the sterling work he is doing in supporting members and wives in such circumstances and for the quick feedback he gives to the branch committee and to members.

A number of regular attending members have elected to give up driving and are therefore unable to attend meetings and events. However, it is gratifying to see that they still wish to remain in contact and remain fully supportive of the branch and its activities. It is also pleasing to see that the number of members attending branch meetings remains high in relationship to our total membership figure.

During 2010 we have been successful in encouraging some new members and it is satisfying that we also have a young serving member of the Regiment who is very enthusiastic and attends our meetings when he is able to and is clear of duty.

Sales on eBay have been a great way of raising funds for the branch and we have been amazed that some

items we were going to send to the rubbish dump sold for lots of money. Most things we have sold were items that had been donated to the branch and therefore our income from such sales has been pure profit.

Our new newsletter, entitled, "Roll Call", has proven very popular and our branch website (www.ekb.org.uk) has had a rewrite and new layout. They have both demonstrated that they are great ways of passing information to members; especially the website with its "Members Only" area where messages and important notices can be quickly posted by the Webmaster so that registered branch members can read them at their leisure. Having the "Members Only" area has been extremely beneficial as it provides security to detail that might otherwise be difficult to get to registered branch members quickly.

We now look forward to supporting the many Regimental and Branch events that are planned for 2011.

ESSEX

(Formed 1946)

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

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

Chairman: MW GILES Esq.

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

Treasurer: Mrs LINDA LAND.

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

We have enjoyed a successful year although our numbers have fallen quite a lot with members moving from the area and, sadly, some members dying. Our Nominal Roll has now dropped to 180 and we have tried hard to recruit more members but it has not been an easy task. We can only keep on trying. We had five new members this past year which was good and hope we can encourage more younger members to join us.

Unfortunately for us the New Year started very sadly because **Mr Michael Clark CBE DL** became very ill in the early part of the year, his condition gradually worsened and he died on the 27th July 2010. **Mr Clark** was the President of the Essex Branch for many years. He was an exceedingly kind and generous man and attended every function he could. **Mr Clark** and **Mrs Clark** allowed us to use their home for our very special Branch Lunch for many years. He will be very much missed by us all and very noticeably when we held our Branch Lunch in October this year. It is with great regret that I have also to report the deaths of **Mr Ray**

Sorrell, Mr R Sheppard, Mr JS Sergant, Mr CJ Fox and **Mr FJ Regulous** all of whom were long standing members of the Branch and will be greatly missed. Our very deepest sympathy is given to all their families.

Our Annual General Meeting was held in April. We have appointed a new Treasurer, **Mrs Linda Land**, wife of **Mark Land** who served in the Regiment and we welcome her to the Branch. There are no other changes. We have continued with our usual events with great success and some of the Members went to the Grenadier's Return, which they enjoyed but did find it quite a distance to travel. We have also held our usual lunches at the hotel in a small village called Coggeshall; these take place about three times a year and are very popular.

We also held our usual Garden Party at the home of our President **Sir Anthony and Lady Denison-Smith MBE DL**; the weather was lovely but with an extremely cold wind. The garden is very sheltered so we were not blown about too much. We were able to hold our special Lunch at Braxted Park, which was very good and we had 79 people attend. The lunch was excellent and we were delighted to welcome our Guest Speaker **Lt Col CRV Walker DSO** who is The Commanding Officer of the Battalion. He spoke very eloquently on the life and dangers of the war in Afghanistan and told us how courageous our Guardsmen were. It was an extremely interesting and moving speech and gave us all a good picture of what life had been like out there. We do hope that **Lt Col Walker** will join us again.

The Essex Branch continues to thrive and we are planning next year's events which may include a visit to the Houses of Parliament which would be most interesting and different. I would like to thank the Members of the Branch for their help, support and encouragement.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

(Formed 1949)

President: Colonel L C A RANSON TD.

Vice Presidents: Lt Col THE LORD WIGRAM MC, DL; JGC WILKINSON Esq; Captain JGL PUGH; Captain MJ MACKINLAY MACLEOD; RDN FISHER Esq; WJ EYKYN Esq; Major THE HON ANDREW WIGRAM MVO; Lt Col JG PEEL TD, DL; Captain JA FERGUSSON-CUNINGHAME MC; Major S MARCHAM MBE; NJ SIMMS Esq; PGG WILLIAM Esq; Lt Col CJE Seymour LVO; DAE GEORGE Esq; Capt EC GORDON LENNOX; Col GW TUFNELL CVO, DL; Lt GL Banks; Sir Henry WG Elwes KCVO.

Chairman: PT JONES.

Secretary: COLIN KNIGHT, 'Ridgeway' Bream Road, St Briavels, Lydney, Glos, GL15 6TL. Tel: (01594) 530154

Email: grenadiersglos@tiscali.co.uk

Website: www.gloucestershiregrenadiers.co.uk

2010 was a very busy and active year for this branch. Unfortunately we lost **Don Tarling**, **Swaney Foster** and **Captain J Cannan**. We also lost a good Associate Member **Ted Pattenden**. We achieved a good turn out for each funeral and a Guard of Honour was provided when requested by the family on each sad occasion. Our membership has increased with several new Grenadiers and one Coldstreamer joining. We are fortunate to have a good assortment of excellent Associate and Honorary members who support the branch in many ways.

All meetings this year have been very well attended. For the March meeting we believe we achieved the highest attendance ever since the Branch was formed. On the subject of meetings we commence at 19:30 hours and normally conclude at 22:00 hours or later. To move forward we have been experimenting with serving complimentary hot pies during the interval. This has gone down so well that it has been proposed that we now make it a permanent feature at all future meetings. We are also endeavouring to make meetings more interesting by introducing a speaker from time to time. Recently a branch Coldstream member **John Welch**, who is an authority on World War One, gave a most interesting presentation. As a result we are now looking at putting together our very own Battlefield Tour. At the November meeting, **Don Freeman** a branch Grenadier who is an authority and a tour guide at Tewkesbury Abbey gave us a presentation on the fascinating history of the Abbey.

Our Branch is very proud of the welfare support it offers our members which is due in no small part to the great enthusiasm of our Welfare Officer **David Leighton**, now in his second year in office. David has done an excellent job making many visits, telephone calls and undertaking various tasks for those with a problem. We must not forget to mention his wife **Jeanette** who gives David great support. Christmas cheques were personally given to twenty of our more senior members to include some of those, who have not enjoyed good times of late.

Early December, for the fourth consecutive year, saw a "Full House" attend at Dumbleton Hall for a Christmas Lunch. **Derek Knott** who takes it upon himself to organise this, was chuffed to say the least, when he reported a sell out at the March Meeting. We sat down to a first class traditional Christmas dinner in lovely surroundings with a great atmosphere. On these occasions we are joined by children and grand children – a real Grenadier family occasion. Afterwards the Winchcombe Silver Band made an appearance and entertained us with carols and seasonal music. A public "Thank you Derek" for arranging this seasonal occasion for the members. Thanks must go once more to our Social Secretary **Alan Holford** ably assisted by his wife

Alice, for promoting our Christmas lottery. Once the tickets are issued no one escapes Alan chasing them to sell their allocation.

Our Informal Spring Sunday Lunch held at the Frogmill Hotel attracted a good attendance. Regimental Remembrance Day saw a good number on the coach to attend the parade. On both the outward and inward journey we stopped at the Guards Club, Windsor where we were well looked after. A Fish & Chip Supper was enjoyed by all on the return. Thanks to the Windsor Branch Secretary **Bob Gilbert** as we are always made welcome at the Club. May saw a large number of Branch members travel by coach to London for the Presentation of New Colours at Buckingham Palace. We stayed overnight at the Union Jack Club, attending the Palace the following morning. In June many branch members attended the splendid and very warm Grenadier Day at Littlecote House.

2010 was the sixth year we have organised a canoeing day. The turnout was good and the weather fine. It was a pleasure to have a branch serving Grenadier **Sergeant Michael Beasley** (senior) joining us together with his wife **Yvonne**. The organiser was **David Leighton** and afterwards we all enjoyed a picnic lunch at Mallards Pyke. Everyone had to be on their best behaviour as BBC Local Radio joined us for the day and conducted several interviews, many of them being broadcast live. The lady interviewer even joined us in one of the canoes for the duration.

Colonel Peel once more kindly invited members to attend his home and garden for a Barbecue. It was a most enjoyable day with a good attendance, the weather just held fine. The Chedworth Silver Band played during the afternoon and The England Glory Morris Dancers made a surprise appearance to entertain us. A day like this can never be undertaken without a lot of help and assistance and we thank **Derek Dean** and **Ivor Jones** for their duties as chefs, **John Carter** and **David Leighton** for looking after the liquid refreshments. **John Head** was always ready to assist with any task when asked. Many helpers assisted with the chairs and tables and the setting up and taking down of the various items needed for the day. Thank you everyone.

A full coach travelled to London for the Scarlet and Gold concert at the Royal Albert Hall. As we obtained our tickets within one hour of them going on sale we secured excellent seats. Prior to the concert we were invited to take tea at the London District Mess at Wellington Barracks. Branch member **Sergeant Michael Beasley** made the arrangements. As a matter of interest his son, also **Michael Beasley**, serves in the Regiment. Father and son both serving at the same time is certainly a first for this branch. Overnight we all stayed at the Union Jack Club which we highly recommend if you are staying in London.

Our Annual Formal Lunch was held at the Frogmill Hotel, near Cheltenham with an excellent attendance. We were privileged to have as our guest **Lieutenant Garth Banks** who attended to represent the Regiment. A well kept secret was revealed to guests during dinner (please see separate report in the focus section). **John Carter** spent a lot of time hand making and painting model Guardsmen Menu Holders for the top table. He didn't tell anyone just produced them and set them out on the day. It goes without saying that everyone was very suitably impressed.

Derek Knott, who is a glutton for punishment, organised a morning Branch walk, starting at Saul on the Sharpness Canal and was preceded with a good old full English Breakfast. It was amazing how many members turned up to exercise their limbs, or was it the attraction of the breakfast? A little surprise was that as the party approached the first lock on the walk, the lady Lock Keeper played the British Grenadiers on her accordion relaying it over the loudspeaker system, which echoed along the towpath. (You little rascal Derek for pre-planning this surprise).

John and Gill Carter continue sending a Birthday Card to each member for whom we have a date of birth. The scheme has been running now for over four years and has been well received by the membership. John and Gill not only produce the cards but also administer the records and posting. I am sure that all members would like to express a public thank you for the pleasure the scheme continues to bring to so many.

The entire committee is always ready to help when asked. It is the teamwork, enthusiasm and variety of ideas that maintains our camaraderie and they are the backbone of this successful Branch. The current committee has been together for so long that it will come as a great surprise should any one of them ever stand down.

Talking about our members, we have three World War Two men (The Three Musketeers) still very active namely **Ron Hill**, a committee member who seldom if ever misses a meeting and is always ready to give his input. **Edwin (Boxer) Brown** who accompanied by our Welfare Officer **David Leighton** travelled to Dunkirk for filming by the BBC which was consequently broadcast on both BBC One and Two on several occasions. Last but not least **Norman Mitchell**, now resident in the Royal Hospital Chelsea, but regularly in touch and attending branch functions from time to time. Earlier this year **Norman** read a very difficult poem live from Church, which was broadcast by BBC Radio Four. All who heard it agreed that it was a faultless performance. We must mention **Tom Breen** another World War Two man, who health permitting, never misses attending a meeting. He attends with a life long Coldstream friend **Jack Rowles**.

This branch has embraced modern technology and as I write we now have 127 members who we can communicate with by Email. Hardly a week goes by without members on line receiving some form of branch communication. Those without email had six newsletters sent to them by snail mail during the year. Keeping in regular touch, we believe, is one of the main ingredients of our success.

Colonel Lance Ranson our President has been very active and given the branch tremendous support throughout the year. I close this report by thanking him for his leadership and guidance as President. I reckon that he is just beginning to realise what he had let himself in for when he accepted the post. Many members from the branch are now in receipt of the newsletter from **Jim White**, who yet once more, is to be commended for his enthusiasm and very personal effort in undertaking this task on a weekly basis.

I would like to end this report by thanking the small staff at Regimental Headquarters, especially **LSgt Jay Ellingham**, who is very dedicated and gives his best to members at all times. We are also fortunate that **Captain Trevor Rolfe** agreed to stay on beyond his retirement date to ensure the smooth running of the association. Let us hope that by the time the Gazette is published, whoever is responsible for his successor has been allowed to effect a replacement. By way of advance information for 2011, we are already working, together with the Bristol Branch, to hopefully hold a Joint Branch Grand Formal Spring Lunch at Imjin Barracks.

I close by ensuring members that their Branch is looking forward to the challenges ahead and I am sure that there will be many in 2011.

KINGSTON & DISTRICT

(Formed 1935)

President: Captain DG BIBBY.

Vice Presidents: Major DR ROSSI MBE.

Chairman: LW SPENCER.

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

Email: john-lh-knight@lineone.net

Hon Treasurer: Mrs E JONES.

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

We are pleased to say that the branch enjoyed another good year. Although small we do have plenty going on during the year, a lot of which is due to our excellent secretary **John Knight** who has just spent three months in Australia and we welcome his return.

The main event in our calendar this year has been the

presentation of New Colours by the Queen to the 1st Battalion at Buckingham Palace. It was a wonderful parade and made one proud to be a Grenadier. After the parade, our President and his American daughter in law were fortunate enough to be presented to Her Majesty.



Beating Retreat after our 75th birthday lunch, Pirbright, 12th December 2010.

The other important events were our Summer and Christmas lunches. They were extremely well attended and included, we are pleased to say, some members of other branches. It was good to see them and made us realise what a large family the Association is. Although many people help on these occasions, we would like to make special mention of **Peter** and **Lyn Horsfield** who for many years have done the table decorations; they look extremely good and make a great difference to the appearance of the tables.



Major Derek Rossi cuts the branch 75th birthday cake.

We were able to have a table at “The Grenadiers Return”, held in the grounds of Littlecote House, Hungerford. Our stall looked very good and the whole event was much enjoyed. We would like to say how

much we appreciate the work done in preparing our stall by **Mrs Howell** and **Mrs Spencer**. They have done this with others for many years and it is greatly appreciated by the Branch. Mention must also be made of the wonderful door stops made by our Chairman. They are extremely good and in great demand.



Tables laid for the 75th birthday lunch, ASLS Students Mess, Pirbright.

Some of our members also attended the Remembrance Day service which is always extremely moving, particularly in these difficult days and it was good to see so many young Guardsmen present. We are pleased to say that on the welfare front progress is being made by those not so well. **Peter Horsfield** does a wonderful job here with his regular visits which we know are greatly appreciated. In particular it is good to know **Bob Burman** is making good progress and although **Doug Huxley** has a temporary voice problem, he is in good heart.

This year’s Christmas lunch coincides with our 75th birthday which we hope will be well attended and we count ourselves very fortunate that despite our size we have kept going for so long. There are obviously difficult days ahead which we will always do our best to overcome.

LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND

(Formed 1927)

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

Vice Presidents: SIR JOHN CONANT Bt; RE JONES Esq;
D TREDIHCK MP; J MORREY Esq.

Chairman: J COWLEY Esq.

Vice Chairman: L TABERER Esq.

Secretary: J MORREY, 28 Dumbleton Avenue, Leicester, LE3 2EE. Tel: (0116) 289 1169.

Treasurer: R FLETCHER Esq.

Meetings: Second Sunday of each month (Lunch available if ordered through the secretary) at Westcotes Lodge, 55 Westcotes Drive, Leicester at 12:30 hours.

Once again it is time for the Branch annual report. The past year proved to be a very good one socially and officially. Several members attended and enjoyed the Remembrance Service at the De Montfort Hall which was organised by The Royal British Legion with the band of the Blues and Royals in concert. It was a very pleasant evening. On Remembrance Sunday members decided to attend their local church followed by lunch at Westcotes Lodge.

During December 2009, we again held our annual Christmas raffle at Westcotes Lodge. It was a success in every respect with in excess of 25 prizes all drawn by our President **Lt RH Murray-Phillipson OBE, DL**. Later in the month we held our Christmas lunch and on both occasions the attendance was very good. Our thanks go to **Sue Turner** and team for supplying the buffet for the Draw and the delicious Christmas lunch.

January 2010 arrived and once again we looked forward to another year of social and official engagements. On Sunday 24th January the **President** and our **Chairman, John Cowley** attended a reception at Noseley Hall, home of Lord Hazelrigg, to present a cheque for £100 on behalf of the branch to the Coldstream Guards fund during a rest from their well-publicised charity walk from Coldstream to London. Well done to them all.



Grenadiers John Cowley and Charlie Cufflin with three Coldstream Guardsmen dressed in period costume.

In April the Branch was once again invited to the Notts Branch annual dinner. Several members and their ladies attended and enjoyed the evening very much and hope that it will be repeated in 2011. The first official event was Remembrance Sunday in May at Wellington barracks. This was again well attended by members who annually look forward to the service in the Chapel and the march with the band to the memorial on Horse Guards Parade. Unfortunately as the years roll by some members are unable to march so remain in barracks.

Grenadier Day was held at Littlecote House. The weather was glorious and the entertainment first class. Some of our members enjoyed not only Saturday,

but the whole three days and could not praise the entertainments enough. A big thank you goes to the organising committee.

Sandwiched between these official events was our own coach trip to York organised by our social secretary **John Cowley**. With so much to see of interest it was greatly enjoyed by members, ladies and the many friends who joined our outing.

Our annual garden party was held on a sunny August afternoon at Westcotes Lodge. With lots of games, stalls and raffle prizes, those attending had a very pleasant afternoon and included, for the first time, some Coldstream Guardsmen and their ladies from the local branch who acknowledged our invitation. Again thanks to **Sue Turner** and her team who provided the tasty buffet. Thanks also to our President for drawing the raffle and everyone else who made the event so successful.

In June, **The Dowager Duchess of Rutland** invited us to an evening garden party at her home in aid of the Colonel's Fund. The branch, together with other local branches attended with their families and were entertained by a trio from the Regimental Band and enjoyed the refreshments and the freedom to stroll round the Duchess's lovely garden. With Belvoir Castle towering above us and the magnificent views over the Vale it was a very memorable event.

In September our second coach trip was to the Black Country Living Museum, Dudley. Members and guests were free to wander down terraced streets and into corner shops where suitably attired guides talked of times when life was hard. It was a pleasantly nostalgic trip for many of us. Again thanks to **John Cowley**, our social secretary.

The local Korean Veterans Association invited us once again to attend their annual function at Oadby British Legion Club. This was a wonderful evening of music, dance, a buffet and a huge tombola stall. Our thanks go to the Korean Veterans for an enjoyable evening.

We end on a note of sadness with the passing during the year of **2623596 Leslie Roberts**.

LINCOLN

(Formed 1923)

President: Major D BRADLEY BEM.

Vice Presidents: Mr A HILL.

Chairman: JD MARSHALL.

Hon Secretary: Mrs AM MARSHALL, 84 De Wint Avenue, Lincoln, LN6 7DZ. Tel: (01522) 871184.

Email: marshall84@ntlworld.com

Treasurer: N CROWTHER.

Meetings: Third Friday of each month at MS Therapy Centre, Outer Circle Drive, Lincoln at 19:30 hours.

It is with great sadness that we must begin this report with notification of the passing of **2616385 Major JE Chappell** Vice President of this branch, on 30th October 2010. He was a dedicated member of the Branch, always to be seen at Branch meetings, the Annual Dinner and Dance, Regimental Remembrance Day and Grenadier Day; he will be sadly missed.



The Old Colours are marched to Lincoln Cathedral.

2010 started like any normal year, dates had been set for monthly meetings, Regimental Remembrance Day, Grenadier Day, the Annual Dinner & Dance and all was well with the world. Then on Regimental Remembrance Day we were approached by a Regimental representative, who enquired of us what the Branch would think about receiving the Old 1st Battalion Colours into Lincoln Cathedral, and our reply was that we would be honoured and suddenly everything changed. The date was chosen to coincide with a Regimental Band Concert in Lincoln Cathedral and organised by the ABF. To this was added a parade on the following morning and a hastily rearranged Branch Dinner. Members of Battalion exercised their right to march through the City, (the Freedom of the City was granted in 2008) all the way up to the Cathedral bringing a colourful and much appreciated spectacle to the City. Grenadiers from far and wide came and joined us for the Laying Up Ceremony and the celebration dinner which was held at The Lawns adjacent to Lincoln Castle that evening. Before dinner a Corps of Drums Beating Retreat was performed for the dinner guests. We were pleased to welcome **Brigadier DJH Madden**, the **Regimental Lieutenant Colonel**, and other Regimental personalities to our beautiful city and also the **Lord Lieutenant**, the **Mayor of Lincoln** and other civic dignitaries to all the events taking place. We also had guests from the London, Medway, Nottingham, Suffolk and Surrey & East Hampshire branches join us during this time, all were most

welcome. The help and support we have received from both our Branch members' friends and Regimental Headquarters during this time has been tremendous and we would like to thank everyone involved.



Grenadier Day at Littlecote.

Monthly meetings continue on the usual theme and we have a few new members thus increasing attendance slightly. As usual we travelled to Regimental Remembrance Day staying overnight so we had more time to catch up with friends and old comrades. We also attended Grenadier Day at Littlecote where everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable day, partly no doubt due to the glorious weather. We decided not to run a stall but to use the tent as a gathering place for Lincoln members and friends, when asked what were selling on our stall this year, we replied nothing, just giving out some hospitality. In June many branch members attended an "Evening of Wine and Roses" hosted by the **Duchess of Rutland** at Belvoir Castle in aid of the Colonel's Fund, a very pleasant evening wandering around the rose gardens listening to music by members of the Regimental Band.



Wine and Roses at Belvoir Castle.

We are also pleased to report the appointment of **WO2 (RQMS) A Hill** as Vice President of this branch, Andy was born in the county and for many years has had close links with our branch. He has just left the Regiment but continues to work closely with the Regiment as The Regimental Casualty Officer.

It is also with regret that we must also report the passing of **2629209 A Piggott, 23929589 J Varney, 2627142 AR Headland, 2625638 P Atkinson** and **2618821 AF Saddington**.

LIVERPOOL

(Formed 1920)

President: THE EARL OF DERBY.

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

Chairman: I GRIFFITHS.

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

Email: frankpennington@ntlworld.com

Meetings: Last Thursday of each month (except August & December) 20:00 hours at the 'Premier Inns, Vernon Street, Liverpool.

The Annual General Meeting took place on Thursday 28th January 2010, at the Premier Inn, Vernon Street, Liverpool City Centre at 8.00pm. Twenty members were in attendance and the Secretary reminded those present that this year the branch would celebrate Ninety Years (90) within the Grenadier Guards Association. The secretary informed the members present that he was sure that we could celebrate the fact at the Annual Dinner Dance in November. Before closing this meeting the Chairman spoke about **Mr G Hughes** who stepped down as Treasurer last year; a role he carried out for many years, and asked if he would accept being made a Vice President of this branch. **Mr Hughes** accepted and thanked the Chairman and all members present.

In March both the branch Chairman, **Mr Ivor Griffiths** and the Honorary Secretary, attended the Association Annual General Meeting at Wellington Barracks, and on return to Liverpool and the branch meeting of the 25th, a list was passed around the meeting for those persons wishing to order a beret, and cap badge. Sixteen names came forward and the berets were ordered, and issued complete at the April meeting ready for wearing at Regimental Remembrance in May.

A full coach set off once again this year to London for Regimental Remembrance Sunday, always a popular

trip and for the reasons. Forty-eight members, wives and friends left Liverpool on Saturday 15th May. We extended our stay to the Monday this year spending two nights at the Hilton Hotel, London Docklands. After a superb dinner in the hotel, we were invited to spend Saturday evening at the club premises of the Royal Hospital Chelsea. We arrived at the hospital and were welcomed into the club by the Secretary who made sure that the evening went well. We were even invited to take supper at 9.30pm with them and all of our members took up the offer. We departed the club at 11.15pm to make our way back to the Hilton hotel.

Sunday and after breakfast, we left our hotel to take in a one hour visit to Covent Garden and also a drop off at Buckingham Palace. The coach returned to Covent Garden to transport us over to Wellington Barracks for the Chapel Service and march to Horse Guards with the Regimental Band and also to lay the wreath at the Guards Memorial. As last year it was a very big parade with the full Battalion and Nijmegen Company in attendance as well as an excellent turnout from the Association branches. At the conclusion of the parade we returned to our hotel for a very welcome three course dinner, which members took at their leisure during the evening.

On Monday morning and after our breakfast, and a discussion with the group's manager to discuss rates for 2011, we left the hotel and commenced our journey home, taking in a two hour stop in Stratford upon Avon, before arriving in Liverpool at approximately 6.15pm.

At the branch meeting of the 27th May the Secretary was able to read out the quote from the Hilton Hotel for May 2011, with the hotel offering us the same deal as we had this year once again. This was put to the meeting and was accepted unanimously.



Three Liverpool Grenadiers at The Grenadier prior to The Queen's Birthday Parade 2010. From L – R, Frank Pennington, Les Edge and Ivor Griffiths.

The successful branch members who bid for the Queen's Birthday Parade tickets, were **J Edwards** and **W Bradley** who took in the Major General's Review, and **J Baxter** who took in the Queen's Birthday Parade on the 12th June. There were no bids this year for The Colonel's Review.

On Wednesday 22nd July, branch members **Ian Atherton** and his wife **Yvonne**, **Tim Fitzgerald** and his son **Dominic** and **Jeff Card** and his wife **Pauline** all attended a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace, organised by the Not Forgotten Association, for members who receive a war pension or have received compensation from the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme.

The Honorary Secretary was unable to persuade sufficient members to travel to Eastbourne in September on a five day coaching holiday with the Branch, so the trip was cancelled.

As I write we are into the final stages of arrangements for our Dinner & Dance which will be held on Saturday 20th November at the Thistle Hotel, City Centre. Our Regimental representative will be Captain **JA Keeley**, who is the Welfare Officer of the 1st Battalion, he is to be accompanied by his wife **Sam**.



Ivor Griffiths and Frank Pennington at the British Cemetery, Monte Cassino, Italy in 2010.

In closing I thank my branch Chairman **Ivor Griffiths** for all his help in the running of this branch, at meetings, and also with all the other daily aspects of branch activities. To the branch Treasurer, my wife

Barbara in this her second year, and to all members who have turned out to attend our monthly meetings (attendances are getting smaller but we still maintain approximately twenty persons at each meeting) and to those who support them most generously I also extend my grateful thanks.

It is with deep regret that we report the loss of the following members this year: **2620892 Bottomley J**, **2622116 Bolton J**, **2627239 Kenealy S E**, **2627242 Peers G**, **2627646 Shaw AJ**, **23382217 Stark RK** and **23637246 Warren E**.

LONDON

(Formed 1920)

President: Colonel ATW DUNCAN LVO, OBE.

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

Chairman: HJL Mansell Esq.

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

Email: mhunt98236@aol.com

Meetings: Third Wednesday of every month at the London District Sergeants' Mess, Wellington Barracks, from 19:00 hours, unless advised otherwise.

The London Branch celebrated the 90th Anniversary of its formation in 1920. Events were organised to recognise this important milestone in our history. The first of these, a Gala Dinner, held in the 1st Battalion Sergeants' Mess during the month of April. This was a night to remember, not only for the magnificent dinner, ample wines and port, but to enjoy the privilege of having 1st Battalion Mess Members in our midst, some having just returned from Afghanistan, as well as the company of **Lord Carrington** of Nijmegen fame who was to amuse the assembled members and guests with his anecdotes and humour.

Later in the year to further our celebrations we held a Cocktail Evening in the Guards Museum, courtesy of **Andrew Wallis**, the Curator. This was another occasion we were able to entertain Members of the Battalion, this time some of those who had been wounded in Afghanistan. With transport being arranged by **Captain Stumpy Keeley**, a number travelled up

from Headley Court, giving them some respite from their on going treatments, and other wounded that have now returned to Battalion and are still receiving medical care. Every endeavour was made that the visit would be remembered both by them and us alike, it made one proud to be part of our great Grenadier family.

Throughout the reporting year there has been much for the Branch members to avail themselves of. In addition to the Branch monthly meetings/gatherings (now more of a social event than a formal meeting), a number of these are held at lunch time, again to offer assistance to those who are reluctant to travel at night which gives them an opportunity to engage with the Branch. If we don't make these provisions then there is a tendency that these people become excluded. All Meetings, both evening and daytime, are held on the third Wednesday of the month in the 1st Battalion Sergeants' Mess or the London District Mess and we welcome guests from other Branches if they are in London for any reason.



Our Gala Dinner in 2010. L-R: The President, Mr M Mould, Lord Carrington, Bill Smith, WO2 (RQMS) Matt Smith, Mrs W Smith, George Turton, Phil and Mrs Lanes.

The Social Secretary has ensured that a full monthly events calendar has been available to the Membership. This year visits have been undertaken to The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery, on three occasions to the Tower of London for the Ceremony of Keys, Epsom for Derby Day, the Garter Service held in Windsor Castle, then there was Grenadier Day (Grenadiers Return) at Littlecote House at Hungerford. For those who enjoy Military music there was a summer concert at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall and, of course, the annual Christmas Draw and Lunch. Other visits were made to Buckingham Palace for the Presentation of New Colours to the 1st Battalion by Her Majesty the Queen, a magnificent spectacle and a memorable one for those fortunate enough to attend.

In addition to the above, Branch Members have been able to avail themselves of invitations to a number of

events hosted by the Not Forgotten Association. These have consisted of an invitation to Wimbledon for the all England Tennis Championships, a day trip to Worthing where they were transported by London Taxi cabs and after being suitably wine and dined returned to London by the same means. Another highlight of these invitations was a Reception and Concert in the State Apartments and Ballroom of Buckingham Palace. There was also a Veterans Lunch in a Mayfair restaurant on Armistice Day and a Christmas Party in St James' Palace as well as the Military Tattoo held in Earl's Court, London. The Branch has much to thank the Not Forgotten Association for. Their kind invitations and for the way they look after, and ensure the well being, of those that attend these functions are beyond compare.

We were well represented on Regimental Remembrance Day. Although it is noticeable that many find it difficult to march because of age and infirmity, something many Branches will recognise, many still turned up to support those that undertook the march to Horse Guards for the Wreath Laying Ceremony and the return to Barracks. Many members were also able to enjoy the Scarlet and Gold Band Concert held in the Royal Albert Hall which raised monies for Household Division Charities and was reported as the best Concert ever. Branch members also took advantage of the Regimental Headquarters' organised Battlefield Tour (Grenadiers Return) to Ypres, the Somme and the Ceremony at the Menin Gate. A memorable and moving visit and made even more special by having a former Grenadier as our Tour Guide, **Rod Bedford**, formerly of the 1st Battalion. All credit for the organisation of this trip to those at Regimental Headquarters, especially **LSgt Ellingham** who excelled himself once again.

A London Branch Lunch Club which was established this year has proved to be popular not only with our members but with those from other Branches and is firmly placed on the events calendar for the future. Held in the Union Jack Club it provides a reasonably priced three course meal, great company rounded off by the usual social interaction. All are welcome.

At the Annual General Meeting all Executive Officers were re-elected for a further term. **Phil Lanes** continues as the Social Secretary, **George Turton** continues with Welfare Matters and **Frank Hooley** as the Treasurer all continue to undertake their duties in commendable fashion. The strength of the Branch remains reasonably stable and although we have lost a number to the Holding Battalion we have been fortunate that some of those newly joining the Regiment have elected to become Members of the London Branch.

Again this year the Branch was represented at the National Remembrance Day Parades attending both the opening of the Garden of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey and at the Cenotaph Parade and march, offering

up wreaths in remembrance of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

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

Vice President **Major C Wade TD OSTJ, 23688522 Ashton L 22955262 Compton R, 2628033 Haughey P, 2615740 Playford R, 2628905 Reynolds R and 22213064 Saunders D MBE.** Subject to sufficient notice representation and/or Regimental Wreaths were sent. **LEST WE FORGET.**

Having received much support from both Regimental and Association Headquarters I take this opportunity to offer our grateful thanks to all those involved, especially **LSgt Ellingham** for his outstanding contribution to the needs of, not only this Branch, but others and wish **Captain Trevor Rolfe** a long and well earned retirement.

And I offer my gratitude to the President of the Branch, **Colonel ATW Duncan, OBE LVO** and my fellow officers for their support throughout what has been a tremendously busy year.

MANCHESTER

(Formed 1914)

President: Awaiting Appointment.

Vice Presidents: F GREEN; I WILLIAMS.

Chairman: I WILLIAMS.

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

Email: robert.fallon@talktalk.net

Treasurer: AE JENNINGS.

Meetings: First Tuesday of each month, (except August) Please ring the Secretary for details.

The Branch has enjoyed a very good year with full coaches for both the main events. Thankfully the weather was also very good to us so everyone who attended had a wonderful time.

Our trip to Regimental Remembrance Day was made even better by incorporating the Windsor Tattoo on the Saturday evening. All members agreed that it was as good as the Edinburgh Tattoo and may do the same again in 2011. The Secretary was fortunate enough to be taken for duty as the bearer for the President's Colour on Black Sunday, the first time it was seen on parade. He felt proud and honoured to have been selected. Our trip to Grenadier Day in June at Littlecote House saw the branch win the Boyton Cup for the first time in 23 years; maybe it should be archery every year!

Our Plans for 2011 are well underway and hope that

the interest shown will match that of this past year. The first event as always will be Regimental Remembrance Day in May and as previously mentioned we will again take in The Windsor Tattoo. We are also looking



The victorious archers from Manchester at Grenadier Day 2010.

forward to Grenadier Day which we believe will be at Lille Barracks.

The branch has suffered a recent setback as the Royal British Legion Hall where we used to hold our monthly meetings, has closed and is now up for sale. We now have to hold our meetings wherever we can get in. A new more permanent location will be found as soon as possible and all members will be informed.

Finally it is with great sadness that we have to report the passing of the following members; **22464474 Schofield J** on 5th November 2009, **23509177 Butterworth R** on 9th April 2010, **866351 Mountjoy L** on 9th June 2010, **23688576 Chesters J** on 16th September 2010 and **3603586 Jim Lane** who died on a cruise and his body had to be flown back to the UK for his funeral.

MARCH

(Formed 1968)

President: Captain CNR BROWN.

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

Chairman: C M WHITEBROOK.

Secretary: C M WHITEBROOK, 21 Davie Lane, Whittlesey, Cambs, PE7 1YZ. Tel: (01733) 350 059.

Email: whitebrook9834@hotmail.co.uk

Branch HQ: The Conservative Club, March.

Meetings: Second Wednesday March, April, June, August and October.

Another year passes, but where did the time go to? The turn out at Branch meetings is still low;

however the regular functions that are held are well supported by the many friends of the Branch who, as always, remain supportive and interested in the wider Grenadier family.

Branch members have between them, managed to represent the Branch at all of the major functions of the year, Black Sunday was again a tremendous start to the season, poignant, proud, jocular and solemn, a true day of mixed emotions. The Birthday Parade, one of the better "Troops", made particularly special by the Ensign being the son of our Branch President. Grenadier Day this year unusually being held in a non military environment was a superb day, and although it failed to please everybody, the organisation worked, and the great majority of those attending from this Branch enjoyed it very much.

An Evening of Wine & Roses held in support of The Colonel's Fund was a wonderful evening of relaxation, fun, conversation, reminiscing and food. Everybody who attended the Guards Polo Club (Past *vs* Present) were made extremely welcome and enjoyed a very fine lunch followed by an exciting match. For the uninitiated a useful commentary explaining the basic rules certainly helped in the overall enjoyment of the occasion. Reports on The Laying up of Old Colours received by the Secretary concerning this fine day at Lincoln have all been positive, once again proving that the Regiment organise and carry off such events so well.

This year we have welcomed back members who have not been able to attend for a number of years; it is good to see them again. We also welcome to the Branch **Neville Patter** and his wife **Ann**, who have moved into our catchment area.

Finally we are aware of the imminent retirement of our General Secretary, one of our own as a local boy, and we wish him well in the future and assure him that he still remains a "March" boy!

MATLOCK

(Formed 1955)

President: Awaiting appointment.

Chairman: W PICKFORD.

Secretary: F A KNIGHT, 9 Croft Avenue, Parwich, Nr Ashbourne, Derby, DE6 1QG. Tel: (01335) 390109.

Meetings: Last Friday of each month at 20:00 hours (except August and December), at the Conservative Club, Dale Road, Matlock.

Our humble little Branch comprises a dedicated Committee led by our Chairman **Bill Pickford**, combined with a loyal, enthusiastic and supportive Membership. This year we have experimented by

integrating two of our Meetings with a day-time social get-together. These gatherings took place on the 30th April and 15th September 2010 respectively. Members Wives/Partners were all invited and feedback proved very positive. Hopefully we will do more of the same in the future. Consideration is also being given to switching some of our Winter-time Branch meetings to lunchtime which appears to be more favorable to our Senior Members.

Once more our year started on Sunday 8th November 2009 with our Chairman **Bill Pickford** together with Assistant Secretary **John Wright** attending Edensor Parish Church, Chatsworth Estate, where during this particularly poignant Service a Wreath was laid on behalf of all the fallen. On 11th March 2010 our Chairman **Bill Pickford**, his wife **Vera**, Assistant Secretary **John Wright**, his wife **Margaret** and Member **Bernard Bonser** attended the Funeral of **LSgt David Greenhalgh** at St. Marks Church, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

Friday 19th March 2010 saw our Chairman **Bill Pickford**, Hon Sec **Fred Knight**, Assistant Secretary **John Wright**, Members **Michael O'Donnell** and **Michael Edge** attend and give their full support to the Freedom March through Matlock by the Mercian Regiment following their recent return from Afghanistan.

On Thursday 25th March 2010 our Chairman **Bill Pickford**, Hon Sec **Fred Knight** and Member **Andrew Bernie** represented the Branch by attending the Funeral of Former Branch Member **Reg Norris** who was 88 years old and late of 5, Coopers Garden, Ashbourne, Derbyshire. A letter has subsequently been received from Reg's daughter **Mrs. Elaine Holdsworth** in which she on behalf of her family expressed their sincere gratitude for the support given by the Matlock Branch.

By popular choice and thanks to our valued Member **David Rawson** assisted by his wife **Tina**, our Branch Spring Luncheon was once again held at the excellent venue of Bakewell Golf Club, Station Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire. **Colour Sergeant** (now **WO2** and **CSM** Nijmegen Company) **Bearder** who had recently returned from active service in Afghanistan gave an interesting and informative talk which sadly concluded by drawing our attention to the fact that our special guest from the previous year **Captain** (now Major) **Bernie Broad** had been the victim of serious injuries whilst in action; we wish him well. A collection at the Luncheon raised £85 for the Colonel's Fund.

On Thursday 30th September, 2010 our Chairman **Bill Pickford**, his wife/Treasurer **Vera**, **Fred Knight**, Members **Bill** and **Margaret Bishton**, **Bernard Bonser**, **Mick Ford** and **Michael** and **Enid Carnall**, attended the Funeral of Member **John Stanley Bellaby** (Service Number 22213153) who was 79 years old and a retired Police Officer. A lovely man who sadly

passed away on the 19th September following his long term battle with cancer, Stan was one of only six Members of The Queen's Company on duty in Westminster Abbey with Bayonets Fixed at the time of The Queen's Coronation. He was a true Grenadier and a Gentleman, we miss him.

The Autumn Luncheon organised by Assistant Secretary **John Wright** and his Wife **Margaret** and once more ably assisted by stalwart Member **David Rawson** and his wife **Tina** was held at the Devonshire Hotel, Baslow, Nr. Bakewell on Wednesday 20th October. We were very privileged on this occasion to have as our distinguished guest **Major Andy Green** who after being introduced by our Chairman **Bill Pickford** delivered a very interesting talk to the 45 Guests on the current Regimental situation and archive matters relative to our Branch. A sealed brown envelope collection took place during the function in aid of The Colonel's Fund. The proceeds surpassed all our expectations raising an amazing £331.00. The Matlock Branch total contributions to The Colonel's Fund to date now stand at £2200-00, a true reflection of the generosity of our Members. Also at this function our Treasurer **Mrs Vera Pickford** presented Senior Member **Dinah Twigg** (still working five days a week) with a bouquet of flowers in celebration of her 90th Birthday two days previously.

The Branch Meetings while slightly reduced in number continue to be warm and friendly. We think of those who through circumstances now find it difficult to attend, in particular Senior Member and ex-Branch Secretary **Ian Morton** who has not enjoyed the best of health in recent times. We wish both himself and his very supportive wife **Rae** well.

This report concludes with the information that at our AGM held on Friday 29th October 2010 the Committee agreed to remain in post unopposed for a further year. I thank everyone most sincerely who has supported the Branch in any way during the past year.

MEDWAY

(Formed 1976)

President: The Rt Hon The LORD KINGSDOWN KG, PC.

Vice Presidents: Lt Col P HARRIS MBE; Lt Col S TUCK BEM; Capt CD LEIGH-PEMBERTON; Capt AJH HOLLOWAY, MP; Mr AJ West BEM.

Chairman: PA FRANKS.

Hon Secretary: S VAUGHAN. Franwynne, Scarborough Drive, Minster, Isle of Sheppy, Kent, ME12 2LX. Tel: 01795 876935

Email: maureenk9mov@aol.com

Meetings: First Wednesday of each month at the Rochwood Club, HM Prison, Rochester, Kent.

We have had an interesting year which started back in April with a Quiz night held at The Mote Park Rugby Club organised by **John** and **Kay Chapman**. May was a busy month for us; thirty eight members traveled by coach to Buckingham Palace for the Presentation of New Colours which was a truly memorable day and enjoyed by all, even though it was extremely cold. Two days later we attended the funeral of **24185937 Brian Lyons**. **Brian** was the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal organiser and SSAFA representative for the Isle of Sheppey. There were over three hundred people at his funeral. Three days later, we had Black Sunday at Wellington Barracks. Four days after that some of us attended the funeral of **Emily Thomas**, one of our widows.

We had a good Grenadier Day at Littlecote in June, followed in July by a trip on a paddle steamer, the Kingswear Castle for an afternoon on the river Medway which was a splendid way to spend the afternoon with friends. In August the Branch played Petonque (which is like the French game of Boule) at the White House Pub in Maidstone and after a day of very warm weather, we enjoyed a roast beef dinner.

The Branch has welcomed **24738357 Chris Warden** who has volunteered to take over the role of our Welfare Officer. Chris has recently retired from the Army after being an instructor teaching troops how to deal with IEDs at the Royal Engineers Barracks at Chattendene, before going out to Afghanistan. We are also very pleased to welcome **Captain Robert Worthington** and his wife **Camilla** who have recently moved to the area and are expecting their first baby in January.

NORFOLK

(Formed 1938)

President and Chairman: Captain PJS Allen.

Vice Presidents: Captain TRE COOK; Major JFQ FENWICK QC; Captain DJT LENG; Captain H STRATTON; NHH NEWSUM Esq; JM BATTEN Esq; CHW MICHELL Esq; Mr BL BARBER; Lt Col HML Smith; Mr R.F. BARWICK.

Vice Chairman: J FEAKINS.

Treasurer/Secretary: CR WARREN, 10 Highland, Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7QU. Tel: (01508) 494379; Mobile: 07885 088387.

Email: christwrr@btinternet.com

Meetings: Last Friday of March (AGM), and September at the Royal British Legion, Aylsham Road, Norwich, at 20:00 hours.

Norfolk branch members continued to keep active during 2010 with a number of events, meals and trips out in conjunction with the dining club. We have 77 Grenadier members with eight associate and

honorary members together with 13 widows, making a total of 98 branch members. We were very pleased to recruit **24738152 WO2 (RQMS) James Hawkins** into the branch. I am sure we can find something for him to do when he finally moves our way!

Unfortunately we were saddened by the loss of two of our members during the year. In June, **22955548 Derek Andrews** passed away. The branch was very honoured to receive the collection for its funds. He served in Germany and the UK in 1955-58. The second Grenadier was **6286455 George Meen BEM** who joined the Buffs in 1937 before transferring to The Regiment a few months later. He served in the BEF in 1939 and later landed in Normandy. George lost a leg in July 1944, finishing his service in 1945. He passed away in July. Both men were well respected members who will always be remembered.

In May, colleagues attended the Black Sunday service, which continues to be an important and special event for the branch. We are, as always, grateful to **Chris Harrison** with his inside knowledge of coaches and driving for helping to keep costs to a minimum.

The annual luncheon also in May was held as usual at the Park Farm Hotel, Hethersett, which is a wonderful place to meet. Our President **Captain Allen** gave a comprehensive update on Regimental matters, including the plans for the Battalion in 2011. **John Feakins** our vice chairman and social secretary, who organises this and the Black Sunday trip, must be thanked on behalf of the branch. John, who also masterminded the raffle, raised £137 for branch funds. We are also grateful to **Ross Donaldson** for preparing and printing the luncheon menus to a very high standard. In 2011 the annual luncheon will move to September, as May is often crowded with events.

In September **Captain Tom Cook** very kindly invited the branch to a cocktail party at the lovely setting of Gately Hill. Captain and Mrs Cook laid on a wonderful spread that was thoroughly enjoyed by those attending. The branch is most grateful for this (second) wonderful gesture.

The dining club, which meets every two months, continues to thrive under the excellent stewardship of **Ross Donaldson**, who manages to keep costs to a reasonable level and think up new and exciting things to do. A real feather in his cap was to 'nab' **General Sir Richard Dannatt GCB, CBE, MC**, as a guest speaker who gave a splendid talk on the British Army during the four decades of his service.

At the most recent AGM in April the branch decided to move from four meetings to two meetings per year (March and September). This will mean fewer trips out in the horrible winter months and more business per

meeting. Once again we are as always grateful for all the help and assistance provided by Regimental Headquarters, particularly **LSgt Jay Ellingham** who must suffer a daily 'death by e-mail'.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

(Formed 1929)

President: Lt Col EHL AUBREY-FLETCHER.

Vice Presidents: Major THE LORD BRASSEY of APETHORPE OBE, DL; Captain THE HON TI BRASSEY; Major JCF MAGNAY; Lt Col JS SCOTT-CLARKE; Major JM HIRST; Major NJR DAVIES MBE ; Captain R WILLMOTT DL; C MANNERS Esq; J SPILLER DCM; C BROWN MBE; AE JARRETT; AJ CRAWLEY; Col REH AUBREY-FLETCHER; P GOUDIME JP.

Chairman: T FROST.

Vice Chairman: JM BAYLISS.

Secretary: MA BRITTON, 12 Raisins Field Close, Ecton Brook, Northampton, NN3 5LA. Tel: (01604) 416101; Mobile: 07760 178845.

Email: nhantsgrenadier@aol.com

Treasurer:

Meetings: First Thursday of each month at 20:00 hours at the Royal Naval and Royal Marines Club, Lorne Road, Northampton.

NORTH LANCASHIRE

(Formed 1953)

President: Mr JA WILKINSON.

Vice Presidents: D KING Esq; LAIRD G LOFTHOUSE Esq; Captain M OWEN; R PACKER Esq; J WHITE Esq; HG HENDERSON Esq.

Secretary: LADY R EMMONDS, Westview, 57 Aspen Drive, Brunshaw Park, Burnley, BB10 3FB. Tel: 01282 451208. Mobile: 07738 562357.

Email: rosemary.emmonds@nhs.net

Meetings: First Thursday in month (except January and August) at the Oakley Tavern Club, Whalley Road, Accrington, Lancs, at 20:00 hours.

The Branch began the year with Remembrance Day in Burnley. A Regimental wreath was laid at the cenotaph by the President **Mr J Wilkinson** with **Richard Packer** carrying the Standard. Members throughout the district joined the parade within their own towns and villages. After the parade a Sunday roast lunch was held at Rosehill House in Burnley. The Christmas gathering was held at the Moorcock Hotel Waddington where we also had the pleasure of Royal British Legion members joining us for traditional Christmas dinner.

A few Branch members supported the Coldstream Guards Annual Dinner which was held at Sparth House Hotel in Clayton-Le-Moors near Blackburn. The Branch Annual Dinner and Dance was again held at the Swallow Hotel, Salmesbury. Other guests included some Coldstream Guardsmen and the Chairman of the Sea Cadets. The meal was exceptionally superb this year with lovely music and magnificent company; a small gathering but an evening enjoyed by all those in attendance.

The annual Green Bowling Competition took place towards the end of September. Fortunately the weather was brilliant and sunny. The Coldstream Guards stole the show winning the trophy this year – well done to **James Singleton**.

Finally, we would like to record our thanks, to the team at Regimental Headquarters for their help throughout the year and particularly to the Branch members whose regular attendance and support is invaluable.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE

(Formed 1933)

President: AEH HEBER-PERCY LL, JP.

Vice President: Rev TM CARTER DL, JP; Major R WOODFIELD; M S ROBINS Esq.

Chairman: K WRIGHT.

Hon Secretary: D G ROBINS, Nabb Cottage, Nabb Lane, Alton, Staffordshire, ST10 4AY. Tel: (01538) 702 974; Mobile: 07968 037082.

Email: david.robins@hotmail.co.uk

Meetings: Please contact the Branch Secretary for details.

2010 has been a quiet period for the Branch but we continue to hold monthly meetings at the Milton Bowls Club in Stoke on Trent with, on average, eight or ten members present. Sadly we have lost six members to “the great parade ground in the sky” this year. The highlight of the year, as ever, was the trip to London for Regimental Remembrance Day. It is always something very special for those of us who attend. A number of members visited, and had a great day out, at Grenadier Day – Littlecote. Our AGM was, again, this year, held in the beautiful gardens of Hodnet Hall, the home of our President, **Mr Heber-Percy**, after which he and **Mrs Heber-Percy** entertained us to a splendid lunch.

Several members were on parade at the Stoke on Trent Armed Forces Day Parade, marching this year, behind the Pipes and Drums of the local branch of the Black Watch Association. We are becoming increasingly involved in welfare cases with both old and young

ex-Grenadiers and consider this to be the most important facet of the branch’s activities. Our bi-monthly luncheons continue to be a success. We are giving some thought to conducting Branch business at these events and cancelling the evening meetings as, getting to these presents some of our members with considerable problems.

During December the Branch entertained our most senior member, **Charles Howells**, to lunch at the BCMF Club on the occasion of his 89/90th(!) birthday, an event which was very much enjoyed by all who attended, especially Charles. Remembrance Day will see us at the National memorial Arboretum and in December we look forward to our Christmas luncheon.

We are, as ever, indebted to the Association team, (or is it trio?) at Wellington Barracks and thank them for their ongoing help and support. We send our best wishes to the Battalion and wish them the best of good fortune for whatever faces them in 2011

NORTHUMBRIA

(Formed 1926)

President: Colonel JM CRASTER MA.

Vice Presidents: THE DUKE OF ABERCORN (Lord Lieutenant of Co Tyrone); Major JHN PORTER; SIR HEW HAMILTON DALRYMPLE Bt, GCVO; Captain SIR CHARLES FERGUSON Bt; Major JD MAGILL CRICHTON MAITLAND.

Chairman: Mr A DANIEL.

Acting Hon Secretary: Mr JOHN KEEGAN, 12 Oaklea Close, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees, TS20 1HN. Tel: (01642) 556534.

Hon Treasurer: M SPENCER.

The twelve months since our last report have been, for a change, relatively quiet due to the illness of our long serving Secretary **Bill Potts**. Our year started on 6th November with a busy trip to London for the Remembrance Day and 18 made the journey to the London Hilton Metropole Hotel where we enjoyed a wonderful weekend. Friday evening we visited the Tower of London and witnessed the Ceremony of the Keys, before being entertained in the Officers Mess, where we enjoyed a delicious buffet and generous hospitality. On Saturday morning we had a guided bus tour of London before some of our party had the honour to attend The Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall. Following on from the service we adjourned to The Royal Hospital Chelsea where we were most warmly welcomed. On Sunday morning we attended Whitehall for the Cenotaph Service, all in all an excellent and most enjoyable weekend.

On 6th December for our annual Christmas Lunch,



Bill Potts.



2628511 Gdsm W Potts.

we again returned to the very popular venue of Darlington Masonic Hall. This was a joint venture as usual with a contingent of our loyal friends from the Household Division, Cleveland. The numbers were down from the year before but this did not prevent those attending from enjoying an excellent meal and having a festive time. The ever popular Raffle always adds much needed cash for our funds.

Our AGM had to be cancelled due sadly to the illness of and subsequent passing of our devoted Secretary **Bill Potts**, who passed away on 5th October 2010 after an illness so bravely borne. We ensured that we said goodbye to Bill and he was seen off in proper Grenadier fashion just as he would have wished. It was a fitting tribute to a Grenadier who gave and received so much from the Regiment in his lifetime. His family were very appreciative of the Grenadier representation at the funeral; we will remember him.

We look forward to seeing the branch to which Bill gave so much continue to grow. We give thanks to the members who continue to keep the branch running with their hard work, enthusiasm and commitment. In conclusion we thank **Captain Trevor Rolfe, LSgt Jay Ellingham** and all the staff at Regimental Headquarters for their continual support.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

(Formed 1914)

President: Awaiting Appointment.

Vice Presidents: VE AXWORTHY BEM; G SEVERN. Sir ANDREW BUCHANAN Bt.

Chairman: JW RAYNOR MBE.

Secretary: V BRADLEY, 47 Willerby Road, Woodthorpe, Notts, NG5 4NZ. Tel: (0115) 926 6721.

Email: vic.bradley@tiscali.co.uk

Website: www.grenadierguardsnotts.org.uk

Treasurer: Mr R Topley.

Meetings: Second Friday each month at The Victory Club, Church Drive, Daybrook, Nottingham.

It is customary to open our report with the names of all the new members who have joined during the current year and we have the pleasure to welcome **22955233 C Parker**. Unfortunately we have lost nine members who have passed away and their names are recorded in the Roll of Honour at the end of this report. During the year, our Chairman, **Mr TC Hopewell**, had to retire because of ill health and we elected by due process, **Mr JW Raynor MBE** who is settling in nicely.

Our main occupation for the year has been raising money for The Colonel's Fund. Several members had various ways of doing this and very successful they were too. We were advised that one of our local choirs had an annual concert to raise money for charities, and we approached them on behalf of the Fund and were pleased to be accepted. The concert took place on 17th April at The Albert Hall, Nottingham and was a brilliant success and we record our special thanks to those members of the branch who assisted on the evening as stewards. We are pleased to report that the sum of £2,000 was later presented to our Secretary at a later concert, where he was asked to make a small speech to the audience regarding the actions of the Regiment in Afghanistan and the reasons for the Fund. It was very well received.

Another good fund raising event was held on Sunday 20th June by **Her Grace, Frances, Duchess of Rutland** at her home, Belvoir Lodge, where she held "A Wine and Roses" evening which included a delicious "Hog Roast". There was a surprise ending to the evening when we were suddenly entertained by a Fly Past by the Royal Air Force "Red Arrows" display team.

On Saturday 24th April, we held our Annual Dinner and Dance at a new venue, The Welbeck Banqueting Rooms and were delighted to be joined by our President, **Colonel and Mrs EH Houstoun OBE**. We also welcomed many members of the Leicestershire Branch, and other friends from the Barnstone British Legion with whom we have a long standing association. The raffle was an outstanding success. In June, a number of us travelled to Littlecote House, Hungerford where we enjoyed a splendid weekend in glorious Summer weather. The Grenadiers Return was a spectacular event and we all enjoyed the entertainment that was laid on for us.

It was with deep regret that we learned of the loss in action of Lance Sergeant **Dave Greenhalgh**, a local lad, early in the year. His funeral was held in Mansfield and many of us attended the local church for the service. There was a very good turn out for such a sad occasion.

Every year on Remembrance Sunday we join our friends of The Royal British Legion, Granby and Barnstone District, which are two separate villages where we alternate the service in turn. During the service they read out a list of their war dead, and now

OXFORDSHIRE

(Formed 1936)

President: Colonel ET HUDSON CBE.

Vice Presidents: Lt Col. RH HEYWOOD-LONSDALE MBE, MC, ERD, DL; THE HON MRS RS TYSER; Captain MA COOKE; Major AH GRAY; LORD WATERPARK; SIR JOHN GRAHAM Bt, GCM; Major GIM STROUD; THE HON GEOFFREY SOMERSET; THE VISCOUNT ESHER; Captain JRH WILLS; Major DPG IRVINE; D MASON Esq; Major General THE LORD ALVINGHAM CBE, DL; Major PFL KOCH de GOOREYND; M COCHRANE Esq DL (Scots Guards); D PALMER Esq DL; Major RT MAUNDRELL; C DAFF; Major RM POTTER (Scots Guards).

Chairman: D THOMPSON.

Hon Secretary: PL COOK, 37 Glebelands, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7EN. Tel: (01865) 451714.

Email: Pelecoglebe@yahoo.co.uk

Treasurer: Mrs J SHAYLER.



Vic Bradley receiving a cheque for £2000 on behalf of The Colonel's Fund from the secretary of the Carlton Male Voice Choir.

since our losses in Afghanistan, they also add those of the Regiment that have fallen.

Now that we are into Autumn, we have just celebrated the Veterans Luncheon; again at The Welbeck Banqueting Rooms. On this occasion we do see some of the elder members who cannot make the monthly meetings and it is nice to renew old acquaintances. Along with the Christmas Lunch that we celebrated in December, it does keep the family together. Also in December we had a Christmas Draw where much work was undertaken gathering together as many prizes as we could manage.

Christmas also brings about the delivery of The Widows Christmas Gifts and this gives us a chance to keep in touch with them. I know that those that I call on are always glad to see someone from the branch, and how much they appreciate how the Association remembers them at this particular time.

Finally it is our sad duty to publish the names of those who have died since our last report. They are: **2627992 Bradford J; 23252689 Jago JR; 2623907 Wain JE; 23252929 Boden A; 22213362 Allsopp E; 22213505 Rydings RH; 21006127 Horton T; 2626477 Johnson W; 22767473 Oldroyd JF and 23692806 McGlenaghan AJ.**

The Annual General Meeting was held again at the TA Centre, Edward Brook Barracks near Abingdon on the 13th April. The Chairman welcomed and thanked those attending. Sadly there appears to be fewer members attending this event yearly but, all business of the Branch was dealt with. The only change to the Committee was that **Doug Rothery** decided that the time had come to retire as he would soon be ninety. It was also discussed and decided that the Branch should investigate the possibility of having a Website and it was hoped that by the time of publication of this Gazette it would be up and running.

Unfortunately again a venue was not found for the Branch to hold its Annual Garden Party, however it is hoped that we may be holding a Branch event in 2011 at a venue to be announced that may involve The Regimental Band.

Several Branch Members attended Grenadier Day at Littlecote. Again we had a stall with **Keith Lewis** his



Branch President and Major David Irvine.

wife, **Peter Brooks** and his friend being in attendance to assist the Secretary and Vice-chairman **David Wright** and his wife **Kate**. A small amount of money was raised for the funds.

In May several Members were present at Buckingham Palace when the Battalion received its New Colours from our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty The Queen. All were extremely impressed by the standard, smartness and perfection of the drill by those on parade. This once again showed the quality of the young men serving in our Regiment today especially considering that a few weeks earlier they were on active service in Afghanistan. Our thanks go to all at Wellington Barracks for the Buffet Lunch and for the courtesy that the Serving Members showed to us.

Once again a few Members attended the Major General's Review however, those who were hoping to attend the Colonel's Review and The Troop were disappointed because the tickets were mislaid by the Royal Mail and no replacements were available.



Peter Cook, Peter Brooks and Janet Shayler discussing Branch matters.

We must thank **Peter Brooks** for organising The Branch Dining Club and are pleased that he has made a good recovery from a long spell of ill health. The Dining Club is thriving and we have forty plus attending the Lunch venues chosen by Peter which is always a good social event. Members of the other local Household Division Associations also attend and are made most welcome; we thank them for their continued support.

We were hoping to hold our Annual Luncheon at a different location but due to a conflict in the booking arrangements we had to return to The Freemasons Hall at Banbury. The Luncheon took place on Sunday 31st October and commenced with the Branch President welcoming those present and introducing the Regimental Representative **Captain Andy Butcher**. Before lunch was served Captain Butcher introduced and showed a short film depicting the actions of the Battalion whilst serving in Afghanistan. Seventy-two

Members and friends dined and enjoyed another excellent meal. After the Loyal Toasts **Captain Butcher** then gave us a resume of the present state of the Battalion and Regiment and concluded with a short and interesting talk about The Army Benevolent Fund with which he is involved, he then proposed the toast of The Association. **Don Thompson** the Branch Chairman then spoke and thanked the following for attending and their support, **Mr Bill May** a Vice-President of the Reading Grenadier Guards Association and Chairman of the Reading Guards Association and his wife **Lesley**, **Mr Laurie Jeffrey** Chairman of the Aylesbury Grenadier Guards Association and his wife **Enid**, **Mr Kieron Mallon** Chairman of the Banbury Household Division Association, **Mr Barrie Padwick** Secretary of the Reading and Oxford Coldstream Guards Association and Secretary of the Henley Guards Association and his wife **Pat** and **Mr Roy Ibson** who always supports Branch functions from the Grenadier Guards Association Norfolk Branch and the grandson of the Ex Academy Sergeant Major **Ray Huggins** MBE who attended in his Naval uniform with the rank of Ensign. Don also gave our best wishes to **Mrs Sheila Huggins** and **Mrs Kate Wright** who due to feeling unwell could not attend. On leaving, Members made a small contribution to The Army Benevolent Fund by putting monies into a bucket that had been strategically based near the door.

Sadly we have to report the deaths of the following, Vice-Presidents **Lt Colonel RH Heywood-Lonsdale MBE, MC, ERD, DL**, **Major G Stroud**, **Captain M Cooke**, Members **Mr Peter Cosh (2623272)**, **Mr A Hiley (14498727)**, **Mr C Blunsden (2617354)**, **Mrs Howe** widow of **Arthur Howe**, **Mrs Spencer** widow of **Dennis Spencer** and **Jo Jones** the wife of Member **Keith Jones**, both Keith and Jo were Committee Members retiring only a few years ago. Where possible the Regiment and Branch were represented at their funerals, we send our condolences to their families and friends.



Janet Shayler and Captain Andy Butcher.

We wish to express our thanks for the courage and determination shown by our younger Members who served with the Battalion in Afghanistan and welcome their safe return, also for the way they performed at The Presentation of New Colours and The Troop.

In closing I would like to thank the Branch President **Colonel ET Hudson CBE**, our Vice-Chairman **David Wright**, **Peter Cook** The Secretary, Treasurer **Janet Shayler**, Accountant **Mr Colin Hessey** and all Members of the Committee for their help during the last 12 months.

READING

(Formed 1913)

President: Lt Colonel H S HANNING.

Vice Presidents: Major General BC GORDON LENNOX CB, MBE; Major G V A BAKER; The Hon Mrs Jeremy Monson; JG SOUTHERN Esq.; D McMahon Esq., RVM; G Slade Esq.; WJ May Esq.

Chairman: Mr P FLOWERDEW

Secretary: THERESA DAY, 1 Harness Close, Reading, Berks, RG2 8PF. Tel: (0118) 9868328.

Email: t.day661@btinternet.com

Treasurer: Mr J HARRISON

We held our AGM in March and were very pleased that **Lt Colonel Hanning** and all the committee remained in post and thank them for all the support they give to the Branch. We welcomed some new members to the Branch this year including two serving Grenadiers. This year the Branch joined forces with the other Household Division Regimental Associations in the area and visited the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. Everyone contributed to the purchase of a bench and the plaques of all our Regiments on the bench were donated by a member of the Reading Branch. The bench is situated in the area of the memorial to the Household Division for visitors to rest and reflect on all the memorials in the Arboretum. We held a short service and laid wreaths – it was an emotional day for all of us but after a meal in the restaurant of a nearby marina and many of us going home with raffle prizes we all agreed it was a great day out. We extend our thanks to **Barrie Padwick** our Coldstream friend, for organising this event. Thanks also to **John Southern** for giving us the idea for this visit and for organising the fantastic raffle.

The Presentation of New Colours at Buckingham Palace in May was a great day for the Regiment. The time and effort put into preparing for this occasion,



The Reading Branch visit to The National Memorial Arboretum.

Black Sunday and the Queen's Birthday Parade so soon after the Regiment returned from Afghanistan paid off a thousand fold. The Secretary was very honoured to be chosen to be presented to HRH Prince Philip in Wellington Barracks together with one of his sons after the event.

Grenadier Day at Littlecote House this year was again most enjoyable especially with so many Grenadiers staying at Littlecote for a long Grenadier weekend. It must have been the hottest day of the year but we had lots of visitors to the Reading Branch stalls. **Richard** and **Derren White** our new honorary members brought their model soldiers and put on a great display of the Presentation of New Colours, a scene from Afghanistan and a raffle in aid of branch funds – we thank them very much. Many thanks also



Mrs Rolf (centre) with her family.

to **Phil and Pam** and their family for their stalls – Phil’s paintings and **Pat McSweeney’s** cartoons are very popular. Thanks also to **Hazel Rolf** and her family who support the Branch every year with homemade jams, plants and pictures and also to **David Beard** and **Robin Kellow** on the memorabilia stall which seems to become more popular as the years go by.

We again had an invitation from the Not Forgotten Association and this year it was to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. One of our vice presidents, **George Slade** attended with the son of **Bill May** a vice president. It was indeed another hot day but much enjoyed by both of them.



L-R: Captain Christopher Morgan-Smith, Mrs Joanna Houstoun, Colonel Euan Houstoun, Colonel Michael Hickey and Mr TB Cubitt at lunch in September.

Our Branch Lunch in September was again a great success with 79 guests attending. We were very honoured to have **Colonel and Mrs Euan Houstoun** and **Colonel and Mrs Michael Hickey** as our guests this year. The guests listened to excellent speeches on the Regiment and the Association and Colonel Hickey’s talk on his army career flying helicopters with Regiments of the Household Division. It was such a pleasure to welcome four Chelsea Pensioners to our Branch Lunch; they are very popular and add so much to the event. Three were Grenadiers, In Pensioners **Norman Mitchell, Colin MacDonald, Alan Goddard,** and **John Shuter,** Royal Artillery, we thank them for coming to our Lunch. The Reading and District Branch are very fortunate to have marvellous support from all the other Household Division Associations and from the Royal British Legion at Wootton Bassett.



L-R: In pensioners Alan Goddard, Colin MacDonald, John Shuter and Norman Mitchell.

Sadly **2616337 Jack Russell** a WWII veteran passed away in July 2010 and members of the Branch attended his funeral.

We thank Regimental Headquarters for their help and support especially **LSgt Jay Ellingham** who answers my emails so promptly – it is greatly appreciated. We send all good wishes to all other Branches for a happy and successful 2011.

SHROPSHIRE

(Formed 1927)

President: W S I KENYON-SLANEY OBE, KstJ, DL. Esq.

Vice Presidents: AEH HEBER PERCY Esq; Major RG WOODFIELD MBE; Captain D VERNON; C BECK Esq; Lt. Col. F S ACTON; Mr G PRITCHARD; H W SPENCER; Major G INGLIS-JONES; Captain G WHITAKER.

Chairman: HW SPENCER Esq.

Secretary: C BECK, 133 Victoria Road, Bridgnorth, Shropshire, WV16 4LL. Tel: (01746) 761 501.

Treasurer: F DAWE.

We started 2010 by holding our AGM at the Lord Hill Hotel in Shrewsbury, I am sorry to report that on this occasion we had the lowest attendance since I became secretary in 1993, only 11 attending with eight apologies, although a good lunch followed the meeting with 38 members and guests attending.

Our first event of the year was the Garden Party held at the home of **Major and Mrs G Inglis-Jones** in early June, 31 members and guests attended on what turned

out to be possibly the hottest day in June, but everyone enjoyed the day in excellent surroundings and our heartfelt thank you must go to our hosts of the Garden Party, **Major** and **Mrs Inglis-Jones** for making it such a wonderful day for all who attended. The raffle held at this event raised £212.50, and it was agreed that the £212.50 and it was agreed that it be sent to RHQ for the Colonel's Fund. I must also thank Committee member **Dan Powell** and **Major Sadler** for supplying the marquee for the garden party at no expense to the Branch.

We did not arrange any transport for Regimental Remembrance Sunday or Grenadier Day, members who did attend these events said they enjoyed both, in particular Grenadier Day at Littlecote, those who stayed at Littlecote had a very enjoyable weekend and hope Grenadier Day may take place there again, in the near future, I would like to thank all at RHQ, **Colin Knight** and **John Southern** for their hard work in making Grenadier Day such a success.

We held a lunch on September 5th at The Park House Hotel in Shifnal, this was organised by **Mrs Jean Wright**, widow of **23509190 Keith Wright**, 3rd Battalion, 21 members attended and enjoyed an excellent meal at what was a very good venue. We will keep the Park House Hotel in mind for another lunch sometime in the near future, I would like to thank **Jean** for organising the lunch and making it such a success.

2010 turned out to be a sad year for the Branch, one of our staunchest members, **Mabel Pierce**, who had since 1985 been instrumental in raising funds for the Branch by organising the raffles at the Branch lunches, and also in later years took on the post of Branch Welfare Officer, passed away on July 12th 2010, aged 88. **Mabel** was the widow of **2619091 Les Pierce** who was the Branch treasurer up until his death. We send our condolences to **Mabel's** family and it was testament to **Mabel's** popularity that the Church was almost full, with members attending from long distances. She will be sadly missed. In the same month we also lost **2620880 Reg Dunn**, who had until his illness some years ago been an active branch member and former Secretary and Vice President and it is believed a member of the Windsor Branch many years ago. His funeral was very well attended by the branch and our condolences go to his wife and family.

In closing this report I would like to thank my President, **Mr WSI Kenyon-Slaney**, and all members of the Shropshire Branch for all their help and support during my time as Secretary, and to thank all at RHQ who have helped me during my years as Secretary of the Branch. To all Grenadiers and their families, we in the Shropshire Branch wish you a Merry Christmas, Prosperous New Year, and above all may you always enjoy good health.

SPALDING

(Formed 1954)

President: Major SJE TURNER (Scots Guards).

Chairman: ROY STOCKER Esq.

Hon Secretary: MR STEVENSON, 30 Crown Drive, Spalding, PE11 2HU. Tel: (01775) 725 535.

Meetings: Last Thursday of each month at Royal British Legion Club.

Greetings from the heart of rural Lincolnshire where the standard of The Grenadiers is being kept flying high. Numbers are decreasing due to the passage of time but never the less a small but dedicated band of members are keeping the spirit and traditions of the Guards to the forefront. As a Grenadier family we have shared the family emotions of joy, sorrow and pride.

Members joined together for a very successful luncheon earlier in the year and in July were guests at the home of our President, **Major Simon Turner** and his wife **Annetta**. We enjoyed lunch in lovely surroundings in the company of good friends who also included guests from the local Royal British Legion and The Parachute Regiment Association with whom we have strong links. We also have links with the Spalding detachment of The Army Cadet Association and each year we donate a shield for turnout, the young cadets earning marks at each weekly meeting. Three of our members attended the awards evening and for the first time the winner was a young lady – sign of the times! In August we were represented at the Annual Peace Parade by **Brian Gedney** and **Don Thomas** who did the Branch proud. We also held a collection at the local supermarket for The Army Benevolent Fund, The Soldiers Charity and with the help of our friends from The Royal British Legion managed to break our previous record for the amount raised.

This year for the first time in Branch history one of our members carried the wreath on Regimental Remembrance Day, we were formed in 1954 so we had waited most patiently! Our very smart wreath bearer was a long standing member **John Cross** and his pride knew no bounds. Our Secretary too was extremely proud when he was presented to our Colonel in Chief on the occasion of the Presentation of New Colours in May.

It is our sad duty to report the death of two of our veteran members **Dick Sellars** and **Ron Monckton** who were stalwart supporters of the Branch until age took its toll; we remember them with affection. We also suffered the shock of the sudden death of one of our most loyal members **Stan Bunn**, Stan was a local man and an early member of the Branch. After he moved



John Cross, left, carrying the wreath at Regimental Remembrance Sunday.

to work in London with his wife **Maureen** he became an active member of the London Branch and regular worshipper at the Guards Chapel. On retirement they returned to Spalding and rejoined us. The shock was compounded when Maureen herself died suddenly five days later; this was all the more poignant as they had celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary only a month before.

At the request of members we now hold a minutes silence at the start of the meeting for all personnel killed on active service. During a holiday to Normandy this year our Secretary **Malcolm Stevenson** and his wife **Josie** visited a museum in the village of Saint Martin De Becases; this museum is devoted to Operation Bluecoat and especially the Guards Armoured Division. It is an excellent museum with a most knowledgeable English curator and we recommend a visit if anyone is in the area. We then went on to the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery at Saint Charles de Percy which mostly contains the graves of members of the Household Division. As those of today these are brave warriors who have our utmost respect.

We close by offering our thanks to all those members who have given unfailing support and encouragement this year and also to those at Regimental Headquarters who are always there for help and advice. We look forward to a good 2011.

SUFFOLK

(Formed 1926)

President: Colonel DHC GORDON LENNOX.

Vice Presidents: His Grace THE DUKE of GRAFTON; Major CXS FENWICK LVO; Major FAO CLAKE.

Chairman: FA WALLACE.

Secretary: AE JONES, 7 Flemying Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3UZ. Tel: (01284) 755 856.

Treasurer: P WOOD.

The Branch was well represented on Regimental Remembrance Sunday, by a coach of Suffolk Grenadiers and their families. A pleasant day was spent meeting old friends.

Our trip to Grenadier Day at Littlecote was somewhat of a disaster in that we were at the mercy of the traffic. It took six hours from Suffolk to reach Littlecote arriving at 2.30pm and because the drivers, these days, are strictly controlled in their driving time, we had to leave at 5.15pm, we were only able to spend just over two hours and 30 minutes before we found ourselves required to make our tedious journey back home. It was a great disappointment.

Our annual summer lunch was a little strange this year, in that because of a lack of a suitable venue at a weekend, we had to resort to mid week. We returned to our old venue, the historic Haughly Barn and to avoid the wedding parties, we held it on Wednesday 15th September. Numbers were slightly down but for all that it was as usual a very pleasant occasion.

As we approached the National period of Remembrance in November as usual a poppy cross was laid by someone unknown on the Branch's Waterloo Veteran's grave in the Great Church yard in Bury St Edmunds. It happens every year but the person laying the poppy cross remains unknown

Our Christmas Dinner and Draw was held on 5th December at the Cedars Hotel Stowmarket. This year without the support of Major Frank Clark who was in hospital having his old war wound sorted out.

We lost one member this year; an 82-year-old 2nd Battalion man, E Pilbro. He died and was buried in late November 2010.

It was reported by a Coldstream Guardsman that

the lone Grenadier cross to two farm boys killed in the 1914-18 war, located on the East Yorkshire moors had several wreaths placed on it. This cross was re-discovered by Sid Kenworthy of this branch who is a fell walker.

SURREY AND EAST HAMPSHIRE

(Formed 1931)

President: Lieutenant Colonel JOHN SMILEY Bt.

Vice Presents: General SIR DAVID FRASER GCB, OBE; Lt Col HMP DeL'ISLE; Lt. Col. TJ TEDDER; Lt. Col. DJ WEBSTER; Lt. Col. GR WHITEHEAD RVM; Major AR TAYLOR MBE; Captain CH COX TD; Mr. S KEYWORTH MBE; Mr. P HODGKINSON BEM; Mrs P DOWLAND; Col. EH HOUSTOUN OBE.

Chairman: Mr A REID.

Secretary: Mr RN BALL, Westfield, 63 Horndean Road, Emsworth, Hampshire, PO10 7PU. Tel: (01243) 375068.

Email: bobball291@msn.com

Welfare Officer: Mr RN BALL.

Treasurer: Mr T TAYLOR.

Committee: Messrs P HODGKINSON BEM; W SEWELL BEM; N MILLER; Mrs P. DOWLAND; Mr N NICHOLLS; MRS B REID.

Meetings: Third Wednesday of each month apart from December at 19:30 hours at the Sergeants Mess, ATR, Pirbright, Surrey GU24 0QQ.

I am pleased to report that during my first year as Secretary of the Branch and at the time of writing there have been no obituaries of Grenadiers although we sadly saw the passing of **Mrs E Johnson**, one of our widows. The Branch continues to be active and well supported as it has been for a number of years following the solid foundations that have been laid by previous officers and members since it was formed in 1931. The monthly meetings are held in the Sgts' Mess of ATC Pirbright, formerly the Guards Depot and we thank the new Mess President **WO1 (RSM) John Appleby, Royal Logistic Corps** for his hospitality. We continue to be a very friendly, social and welfare orientated Branch who all enjoy the comradeship that the Association affords us. It is not uncommon to have 25 plus members present at our monthly meetings. All members receive the minutes of our monthly meetings as well as being apprised of forthcoming events each month. There are also Sunday lunches held on the last Sunday of each month at various restaurants, a BBQ in the summer, our Annual Dinner, a Tea Party for the widows and elderly members, Christmas Lunch and Draw plus

Branch excursions. All these events are well attended and supported by members, their families and friends.

I thank the previous Secretary **David Bell** assisted by his wife **Sally** for all their hard work during his three years in post. I think it might have been an understatement when **David** told me the secretary's duties only took him 10 to 15 hours a week! Thanks also go to **Alan Hughes** for his hard work over the years as our former Entertainments Officer and Welfare Officer. We have an active Committee and Treasurer in **Terry Taylor** assisted by **Sam Keyworth MBE** who ensures that we remain financially secure producing first class accounts. Special thanks must go to **Pat Dowland** who, despite being a very young 90 years of age, continues to organise and run our raffles with **Elsie Beale**, another active 90 year old. The raffles are an essential source of income for the Branch. Our Chairman **Andy Reid** and his wife **Babs**, who are staunch supporters of the Branch, also produce our quarterly magazine, *The Informer*. Without their hard work and support over the past year my role would have been very difficult and much more time consuming.



Peter Isgar – wishful thinking!

Let's start in January 2010: The AGM took place on January 17th when the current officers and committee of the Branch were duly elected and I became the secretary. Later in the month 15 members and guests enjoyed a very interesting and informative visit to HMS ILLUSTRIOUS whilst she was being refitted in Portsmouth Dockyard.

Lt Penny Armond-Smith RN acted as our guide; it was pleasing to see evidence of the official affiliation between the Regiment and the Ship displayed in the wardroom for all to see. When we were shown the Bridge and Captain's chair, it was mentioned that the chair was for the Captain only, needless to say one person could not resist the temptation of sitting in it

and **Peter Isgar** subsequently lost his name! An Association plaque was presented on behalf of the Branch by **David Bell**, which is now displayed in the ward room. A more detailed account of the visit is included in this Gazette by **David Bell**.

During **February** I suddenly realised that I was no longer retired and even thought I might be a Sgt in Waiting again whilst I acquainted myself with the Secretary's duties and relevant paperwork. Many thanks to **David Bell**, **Sam Keyworth MBE** and **Terry Taylor** for a smooth handover of the paperwork and their guidance on Branch business. We also started to update our records by getting members to supply more details of their service in the Regiment. I also wrote to serving members of the Branch in Afghanistan and received some very interesting and informative replies with regards to the activities of the 1st Battalion. The majority of the month was taken up by the preparation and planning for future events.

In March I attended the Secretaries' meeting at Wellington Barracks. During the course of the meeting two excellent presentations were given by **Captain Keeley**, the Welfare Officer, on Welfare issues and **Lance Corporal Lyons**, who gave a "hands on talk" of what equipment and kit was being used by the Regiment in Afghanistan. The later presentation included showing us all the various kit and equipment used. Lance Corporal Lyons was a credit to the Regiment and he was able to answer searching questions from many members of the audience most professionally whilst demonstrating the equipment and kit.

On the 18th April the Chief Constable of Surrey Police, **Mark Rowley**, kindly allowed 14 members to visit the Surrey Police HQ Mount Browne visiting the Dog Training School and the Force museum. Members were shown around the School, introduced to the dogs with a thorough explanation of their various abilities



Bernie Garland, Andy Reid, Peter Isgar, David Bell, Fran Isgar, Sue Morris and Babs Reid.

and training required and a first class display of them actually working. There followed an interesting visit to the force museum and a tour of Mount Browne itself. The sun shone and all members commented on what an enjoyable afternoon it was. I am pleased to report there were no casualties or expense claims as a result of being bitten by a dog! Another detailed report is in this issue.



Dave Oxford, Sir John Smiley Bt and Bernie Garland.

The Branch Annual Dinner took place on Saturday 1st May at The Holiday Inn Lynchford Road, Farnborough, Hampshire. The Dinner was organised by **Alan Hughes** and **Peter Hodgkinson BEM** together with members of the entertainments committee. The venue was superb in every respect affording members and guests who stayed overnight all the amenities of a well run hotel inclusive of a swimming pool and well stocked bar. A brass quintet from the Regimental Band was in attendance, the guest speaker was **Colonel Houstoun OBE**. There were a total of 74 members and guests who attended, many of whom kindly donated raffle prizes. The food and service were first class and an excellent meal was enjoyed by all accompanied by the sounds of the Regimental Band throughout. The Branch President **Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Smiley Bt** proposed a toast to the Regiment and then read out the replies to the loyal greetings sent by the Branch from our Colonel, **His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh** and our Colonel In Chief, **Her Majesty The Queen**. The President then gave the loyal toast accompanied by 16 bars of the national anthem, after which he kindly proposed a toast to our guests. **Colonel Houstoun OBE** replied of behalf of the guests and gave a very interesting and information speech informing all present of the current activities of the 1st Battalion and their recent Operational commitments in Afghanistan. **Colonel Houstoun OBE** then gave his vision for the future of the Association and thanked the members for being so active and

supportive. Our Chairman **Andy Reid** presented **Mrs Houstoun** with a bouquet of flowers before thanking in particular **Alan Hughes** for all his hard work in arranging the Dinner. There followed a raffle which was organized and run by **Elsie Beale, Pat Dowland**, (pictured), **Sally Bell** and **Babs Reid** with a wonderful selection of prizes. It was a most successful and enjoyable evening and would not have been possible



Elsie Beale and Pat Dowland.

without the planning and hard work of those mentioned. In addition particular thanks must be recorded to **Andy Reid** for the excellent menu and place settings, **Sam Keyworth MBE** for the candelabra, **Terry Taylor** our Treasurer and **David Bell**.

On 11th May several members attended the presentation of New Colours to the 1st Battalion at Buckingham Palace and were treated to a spectacular parade. All credit to those who took part in view of the limited time to prepare for such a parade. On the 13th May **David Bell** and I attended the "From the Horse's Mouth" lecture at the Royal Geographical Society given by serving members of the Regiment in aid of The Colonels Fund. There followed what can only be described as a fascinating and informative account of the Regiment's recent tour of Afghanistan delivered by a selection of ranks from the Commanding Officer to Guardsmen. On Sunday 16th May Regimental Remembrance Day, 14 members attended the service in the Guards Chapel and then paraded for the march to Horse Guards. Prior to the march to Horse Guards **Len Bozeat MM** attended a wreath laying ceremony at the Mareth Cross with other veterans of the battle. It was good to see friends old and new whilst paying our respects and remembering former members of the Regiment.

On Wednesday 23rd June 2010, 25 plus members of the Branch turned out in style in Winchester to the Welcoming Home Parade for 11 Light Brigade following their tour in Afghanistan. Several thousand members of the public lined the streets witnessing the Regimental Band with a full company of Grenadiers leading the parade as they marched through Winchester to the delight and cheers of the crowds. A lunch was held after the parade, with a large number of members present. Unfortunately I was unable to attend due to a funeral. I

was however, informed by **Colonel Bill Stevens OBE**, who is the Secretary of Havant SSAFA Branch that he was most impressed by the members of the Branch he spoke to in terms of turnout, a credit to all those who attended.

Grenadier Day was held on 26th June at Littlecote House with perfect weather. **Andy** and **Babs Reid** together with **Malcolm** and **Dolly Hammond** and **Terry Taylor** quickly erected the stalls. They were joined by **Terry** and **Janet Taylor** and the 250 plus teddies waiting to escape from the confines of their car! The attention to detail with regards to the new display stand and tombola drum was perfect. A display of Teddies adorned the adjoining stall and everyone with an individually named ticket won a teddy! **John** and **Janet** worked flat out and promptly sold the lot. In between both stalls was a magnificent display of freshly



Branch members who supported the 11 Light Brigade parade in Winchester.

baked cakes and drinks looked after by **David** and **Sally Bell**. Many thanks to all who contributed prizes, cakes and in particular **Ruth Denton** and **Babs Reid** for the numerous cakes/sponges, **Pat Dowland** and **Elsie Beale**, who were unable to attend but generously gave donations in lieu of cakes. There was a good crowd and trade was brisk, which enabled the Branch to sell all that was offered. The events in the arena and static displays were excellent as was the temporary campsite erected by our **Treasurer Terry Taylor** against the side of his motorcycle nearby (he clearly had attended several survival courses whilst serving!) **Terry** kindly took my dog for a walk returning an hour later with both of them smelling of cider, I wonder where they had been. The Boyton Cup this year was an archery competition, the team consisted of the appropriately named **David "Friar Tuck" Bell**, **Bob "Robin Hood" Ball**, **Windy "Little John" Miller** and **Paul "Will Scarlet" Morris** as pictured. The team came third out of ten teams entered, well done to all, unfortunately **Windy** lost his name due to the manner of his dress or should I say lack of it as depicted! It was good to see

Sid Claridge, Len Bozeat MM and Jim Howland, our more senior members of the Branch in attendance. All in all we had a wonderful day out, hectic, but very enjoyable. Next year we shall have a hospitality tent adorned with memorable photographs where members of the Association, friends old and new can relax and enjoy each other's company over a beer or cup of tea! Please do drop in and see us next year, you will be made most welcome.

On Sunday 4th July the **Bob Bennet** Charity fishing match took place at Shawfields lake Aldershot. This match was instigated following the death of our late Chairman **Bob Bennet**, who loved fishing and supported the RSPB. Four teams took part, the weather was perfect and it was an ideal venue. **Andy Reid, Peter Hodgkinson BEM, Pip Payne, Nigel Crowdy**



The branch archers.

and **David Bell 2083** represented the Branch. **Sir John** and **Lady Smiley** strolled around the lake and were talking to all participating teams. Although the fish were few and far between for our team, a thoroughly enjoyable day was had by all resulting in a win for the Surrey Police team.

On 25th August our President **Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Smiley** and **Lady Smiley** hosted a Tea Party at their house for the widows and elderly members of the Branch. The venue was superb as were the sandwiches, tea and cakes supplied by **Lady Smiley** and were enjoyed by all. **Sir John** welcomed all the guests personally and later in the afternoon made a short speech on behalf of the members after which we were treated to an impromptu song by our own male version of Vera Lynn, **Mr Sid Claridge!** Despite the terrible weather 40 members attended and a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon was had by all. The Branch's special thanks go to **Lady Smiley** for her generosity and organisation of a truly memorable afternoon which we hope will be repeated next year. Thanks also to **Andy Reid, Sam Keyworth MBE** and **Richard Burrows** for erecting the gazebo, **Babs Reid, Maureen Webster** and **Sandy Howland** for all their

hard work helping **Lady Smiley** in the kitchen and serving tea during the afternoon.



The President's tea party.

On Sunday 5th September we held the Branch BBQ, which was organised by **Andy** and **Babs Reid** at the ATC Sgts' Mess. 40 members and guests attended and were treated to a wide selection of spectacular food. The venue was superb and a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon was had by all. The raffle raised a record £140 for a lunch. On Saturday 11th September **Paul Morris** and **Andy Reid** represented the Branch at the Northern Ireland Veterans Association Parade at the National Arboretum. Both laid wreaths, **Andy** on behalf of the Branch and **Paul** on behalf of the Solent Branch of the Household Division Association (see picture). On Sunday 14th November 2010 **Andy Reid, Alan Hughes, Len Bozeat MM** and **Neil Miller** represented the Branch and marched with the Association at the Remembrance Day Parade at the Cenotaph. Members of the Branch and the committee are now preparing for our Christmas Lunch and Draw, which is being held in the ATC Sgts' Mess on Sunday 19th December 2010. This is the last draw which **Pat**



Paul Morris and Andy Reid.

Dowland is organising on behalf of the Branch. **Pat**, over the years together with her late husband **Sid Dowland BEM**, has supported this Branch for 51 years. On behalf of all the members, a big thank you to **Pat**!



The Northern Ireland Veterans Association Parade.

We are at the time of writing considering sponsorship of a tree in the approach road to the Household Division Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum known as The Mall.

The Welfare of Branch members is of paramount importance and to this extent we do pride ourselves on being very welfare orientated. The Branch supports the Colonels Fund yearly and also adds to the Christmas gifts received from RHQ. Welfare and social visits are carried out each month. In addition we have a good support network with other members already involved in the voluntary sector playing an important part in helping out. There are even elderly members, who also visit those who are ill or just fancy a chat. Over the course of this year I have met some wonderful people, great characters who have been immensely proud to have served or are connected to the Regiment. Names are too numerous to mention here, suffice to say that I am sure that they will know who they are. To me that demonstrates the strong bond of comradeship, friendship and care which exists in this Branch. The quote of "Once a Grenadier always a Grenadier" has never been so true.

In conclusion, the Branch continues to thrive due to the fantastic support and attendance of the members, I thank you all. Many thanks also to **Captain Trevor Rolfe** and **Lance Sergeant Jay Ellingham** for their guidance and support during the year. Our Branch, like many other Branches is always actively seeking new members, more so of the younger generation. Next year we face new challenges, we become the "Host Branch" for the 1st Battalion upon their move to Lille Barracks, Aldershot. We look forward to being able to forge a link with those who are serving and afford them the opportunity of discovering the pleasures and benefits of our Branch membership and that of the Association.

SUSSEX

(Formed 1947)

President: Captain JR GREENWOOD MBE, DL.

Vice Presidents: Lt Col TEM DONE; Captain JS GREENWOOD; AD MAYHEW Esq.

Hon Vice Presidents: Colonel JC RICHARDSON.

Chairman: MW BRACKSTON.

Secretary: DG MONEY MBE, 42 Orchard Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex, RH15 9PL. Tel: (01444) 243284.

Email: grengdsassn@uwclub.net

Meetings: Formal meetings on the second Thursday in the month at lunchtime (11:15 hours-14:30 hours) except in January and February when there are no meetings and also in April which is the month of the Branch Annual Dinner. Meetings are held at the Royal British Legion, Lancing. Contact the Branch Secretary for further details.

Our monthly meetings are still being held at The Royal British Legion club in Lancing although we do in fact only hold nine meetings each year, (normally the second Thursday of the month) excluding January and February in the event of inclement weather which might make travelling difficult and also in April which is the month we hold our annual dinner. Our formal meetings take place in March (AGM), June and October and the other meetings are just social occasions. Of late we have had some pretty good turn-outs and we always seem to split into two groups with the men in one group and the ladies in the other. I don't know why this is, it just seems to happen. As far as the men are concerned out come the photographs which are passed around and most of us make comments about them which leads us off in other directions. At other times we put the world to rights but no one seems to take any notice of us which, I suspect, is the same for you all. When it is time to fall out we always come away feeling that it was a good meeting and well worth the effort of getting there. Any members of the Association who might be holidaying in the area of Worthing or Brighton will be most welcome to come along and join us, bring your wife or partner of course.

We have had just one new member **24521937 Mr James Stobart** join us since our last report, James formerly of the 2nd Battalion lives at Ferring which is situated at the far end of Worthing, but to balance that we have had one member, **24281477 Mr Peter Brown** leave us on transfer to the Chesterfield Branch.

Our well established Branch Dinner in April was again well attended to welcome our Chief Guest **Mr Guy Harwood** a well know personality in the Horse Racing world from Pulborough, not too far away and from the Regiment **Captain Alex Forster** who hails from the County of Sussex. Guy Harwood's speech was

interesting and amusing whilst Captain Forster's speech was interesting and informative from the Regimental point of view and of course we are always pleased to hear what the Regiment will be doing over the coming months. As is usual we had good service and good food from the hotel where we have held our dinners every year since 1995. Our President gave his thanks all round and after the formal proceedings we conducted the rather large raffle draw with a new system which seemed to work well and shortened the time it normally took after which some people headed for home whilst others mingled with friends to chat and have a few drinks. We have already made a booking for our 2011 dinner which will take place on Friday 29th April, slightly later in the month than usual but we hope to have a good turnout again. Our Guest of Honour for this occasion has not been finalised yet but I am sure it will be an interesting choice. If you might be in the area of Worthing at this time and would like to attend you can always give the Secretary a call. We do obtain special room rates at the Hotel if you want to stay and you would be very welcome.

A few Sussex Branch members, with their wives, attended the Presentation of New Colours to the 1st Battalion in May and what a wonderful parade it was. I am sure that all those who attended felt very proud to witness the Presentation in the gardens of Buckingham Palace and then to make their way across to Wellington Barracks for the reception. Just a few weeks later and the Battalion had the honour of Trooping their new Colour on the Birthday Parade and what a good parade it was.

There is always talk about "Grenadier Weather" and it certainly worked again for the March to Horse Guards Parade and return to Wellington Barracks. As we formed up on the square after the Regimental Remembrance Day service in the Chapel we thought "Oh, it is going to rain," but it held off and indeed the march was more pleasant for not being so hot. On our return to Wellington Barracks we found that the Regiment had provided a very welcome cup of tea and a few biscuits and this was much appreciated by all.

For those of you who attended Grenadier Day at Littlecote House you may have wondered how it could have been so hot. Some like it hot we know but it was far too hot for some and, probably, for those who were on the branch stalls on the road side of the arena and it was not easy to attract customers this year but nevertheless we made £186 which increased after donations of £180 made by our members and widows who told me to "put it in with Grenadier Day" were added on. We have had a branch stall at Grenadier Day since 1981 except for the three years when it was not held and over the years help to run the stall has diminished and so our Chairman and Secretary have

agreed that 2010 will be our last stall unless one of our younger members wants to take it on. We must now wait to see if we get a volunteer.

We are very pleased to report that, at the time of writing, I have not been required to place any of our Branch members in the Obituary List although we do have a number who are not on parade, sick or bedded down and of course we wish them well and look forward to seeing them up and about very soon.

Jay Ellingham at Regimental Headquarters is still giving all of the Branch Secretaries his unstinting support for which we thank him so much. On behalf of all Sussex Grenadiers I send warmest good wishes for a good New Year and in the future to all Grenadiers and their families everywhere.

TAMWORTH

(Formed 1965)

President: Awaiting Appointment.

Vice Presidents: A W Wale.

Chairman: B WATTON Esq.

Secretary: PETER MAGUIRE. Tel: 0121 354 1331.

Meetings: 2nd Sunday of the Month.

WALSALL

(Formed 1974)

President: Major EBM VAUGHAN ERD.

Vice Presidents: M DOYLE; G PHILLIPS.

Chairman: B DOYLE.

Treasurer: F BALL.

Secretary: FRED BALL, 106 Hough Road, Walsall, WS2 9BE.
Tel: (01922) 631853.

Email: fredball102@btinternet.com

Meetings: Second Wednesday of each month at Short Heath Royal British Legion Club, Church Road, Willenhall, WV12 5PT.

Readers may have noticed from our list of Branch Officials that we have had a change of Secretary. This is due to the sad loss of our previous Branch Secretary **Peter Bryan** in February. Peter was much loved by his family and all who knew him. Peter joined the Regiment as a boy soldier and spent all of his service with the Corps of Drums of the 1st Battalion. A very accomplished musician and very keen on jazz, he played in many well known bands, both whilst serving and on leaving the Regiment.

In true Peter style the music on departure from his

funeral service was “Fool” by Absolute Innocence featuring Peter on the saxophone. To his wife Eileen and his family we send our condolences. We shall not forget him.

Also lost in 2010 were **23444978 Terry Perks** and three associate members **Roy Oversby, Bernard Dodge** (Welsh Guards) and **William Farrell**. May they all rest in peace.

Having got the bad news out of the way what have the Walsall Branch done over the last 12 months. By our standards it has been a very quiet year. We start in November 2009 at the local Remembrance Parade, still marching behind our Standard proudly. Not so many as in previous years but still getting the applause of the crowd. After the Parade a fine lunch was had at the Terrace Restaurant. Later in November saw us back at the Terrace for our Annual Dinner. 130 sat down for an excellent meal. Unfortunately we did not have a guest speaker from the Regiment, but all was not lost our Chairman and Secretary regaled us with their exploits. Enough said!

On 3rd December 2009 a party from the Branch travelled up the A38 to the National Memorial Arboretum for a service of dedication for the Household Division Memorial. In attendance was His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. Despite the blustery weather the service went smoothly. December also saw us hold a Christmas social at the Royal British Legion Social Club, (Shortheath). Everyone had a good time and the food provided by the “Ladies Section” was most enjoyable. All went home looking forward to Christmas and the New Year.



Grenadiers at the annual dinner in November, from L to R: Sgt Roy Shepherd, Gdsm Luke Steed, Chris Brierley, Gary Haynes, Colonel Houstoun, Gdsm Anthony Talbot, Sgt Martin Grant and WO1 Sean Bate.

In May 2010 a full coach headed to Buckingham Palace for the presentation of Colours by her Majesty The Queen. How marvellous She was to withstand the bitter cold. I think we all appreciated the hot cups of tea waiting for us at Wellington Barracks. This presentation was later aired on television in the lead up to Trooping the Colour.

Regimental Remembrance Day saw another full coach heading down the motorway to Wellington Barracks. Those able to march did so, whilst others watched the parade. It is always a great occasion to meet up with old friends and remember those no longer with us.

What a fine Grenadier day we had. The sun was shining and the setting was magnificent. The arena displays were excellent and the car driving around on two wheels was reminiscent of the MT as I knew it! The Branch stall did good trade, thank you to all who purchased raffle tickets. The “pensioners” outing in July was a trip to Bristol, with free time to do as you please. The secretary toured the SS Great Britain and noted what a fantastic job they have done to the exhibit.

In October 2010 we held a social evening at The Royal British Legion Club (Shortheath), and after a very short meeting we got down to doing what we do best - enjoy ourselves. Once again the ladies excelled themselves with their culinary expertise.

All that remains for us to do is thank every one of the members of the Branch for their loyalty and attendance over the year. I would also like to thank **Captain (QM) TA Rolfe** and his very helpful staff at the Regimental Headquarters for their support. We send greetings to all Grenadiers and their families everywhere on behalf of members of the Walsall Branch.

WESSEX

(Formed 1949)

President: Lt Col A C McC. MATHER CVO, OBE.

Vice Presidents: JTS BOWER Esq; DC GORE-BROWNE Esq; Captain MW GRAZEBROOK MC ERD; Captain CJ HOPE; Lt Col A HEROYS; Major RW HUMPHREYS; MFMO JODRELL Esq; THE LORD MONTAGUE OF BEAULIEU; Captain (QM) BE SHEEN; Major TTR LORT-PHILLIPS; Colonel DV FANSHAWE LVO, OBE; Major MJ JOYCE MBE; HGW SWIRE Esq MP, Major PH CORDLE; Lady Clare LINDSAY; Capt CTF FAGAN DL; Capt CR ACLAND.

Chairman: B FLEMING. Tel: (01425) 615673.

Secretary: Mrs JANICE MASLIN, 16 Nightingale Drive, Broadwey, Weymouth, Dorset, DT3 5SU. Tel: (01305) 814555.

Email: janmaslin@goolemail.com

Hon Treasurer: Mrs A CREW.

Welfare Co-ordinator: G MILLWARD.

Meetings: Third Monday; January to November, at 20:00 hours at the Ringwood Conservative Club, 22 Christchurch Road, Ringwood. (Except August/October)

We held our Christmas Draw in mid-December 2009 which was well attended and organised, as always, by **Bill and Glenda Butt**. Lots of lovely food

was to be had which was provided by members. We were entertained at the organ by **Alan Maslin**, who played a selection of popular songs along with traditional carols. This was followed by the Branch draw.

At our AGM in February we were delighted to hear that the Committee would be continuing for a further year. **Barrie Fleming** as Chairman; our Treasurer **Ann Crew**; Welfare matters by **George Millward** and **Bill and Glenda Butt** for all our draw and raffle needs!! Thanks to everyone for all their support and continued hard work. Our Secretary, **Kathleen Wilcox** stood down in March due to ill health. **Kathleen** had worked hard for the Branch over a period of nine years. **Janice Maslin** took over the role with effect from April.

Both our President, **Lt Col Anthony Mather** and Chairman **Barrie Fleming**, along with their wives attended the presentation of New Colours at Buckingham Palace on the 11th May 2010. Our President also attended the presentation by the 1st Battalion of their experiences during their tour in Afghanistan at the Royal Geographic Society. This gave an intriguing insight into the conditions our troops work under out there. It was interesting watching the programme 'For Queen and Country' on the Battalion's tour of Afghanistan, being aired on BBC1 on 7th June. It was fascinating seeing everyone going about their everyday lives in such a hostile environment. It was very moving being reminded of the loss of life during this tour and we would like to say our thoughts are with those families and also for those brave men who were injured.

The Trooping the Colour ceremony itself was, as always, spectacular and particularly poignant with new Colours being trooped by the 1st Battalion. Congratulations to all who took part – particularly with such a short time to get things right. We were pleased



Mike and Anne Sperrin.

to see that the Commanding Officer mastered the art of walking his horse backwards! Our congratulations also go to those members of the 1st Battalion recognised in the Operational Awards List.

What a special day Grenadier Day was, really well I supported and with such wonderful weather. Several Branch members went along for the three-day event at Littlecote. What a delight it was being entertained by the Regimental Band on the Saturday evening, along with the other excellent entertainment over the three days. Other Branch members attended for the Grenadier Day having travelled to the venue by car. Our thanks go to **Colin Knight** and **John Southern** for their help in organising this event. Thanks also to **Mike Sperrin** for organising the Wessex Branch hamper of wine, cheese and chocolates, ably assisted by his wife, **Anne**. We are pleased to say that we raised £152 on the day. **Peter Durrant** had a magnificent selection of squad photographs which drew much attention to the stall.



Members at the Pot Luck lunch in August.

Our **Chairman** visited the National Memorial Arboretum in August and was very impressed with an avenue of 50 trees, to be called 'The Mall' which is to represent the Household Division. He made enquiries about dedicating a 'London Plane' tree and plaque to the Wessex Branch at a cost of £350. This is now going ahead with a plaque being prepared.

Our popular Pot Luck Lunch event took place in August and was hosted by **Lady Clare Lindsay**, the wife of our former President. Thirty guests from the Branch attended and as always there was lots of lovely food on offer for us to enjoy. The weather was fine, the venue was perfect – what more could one ask for. Our thanks to **Lady Clare** for welcoming us to her lovely home. Also on the day, one of our members,

Sid Hawes, was presented with two cakes, one of a Grenadier and the other a train to celebrate his 90th birthday during August. **Sid** worked on the railways for many years after leaving the Regiment.

Our annual luncheon was held at the Marsham Court Hotel, Bournemouth in October. This event was well attended by members, their wives and guests, and, as always, our thanks go to **June Fleming** for organising this. Our guest of honour was **Major General Sir Simon Cooper GCVO**, who gave us an insight into his time in the Household Division. We also received an update on Battalion matters by Major Richard Green. During the luncheon, Our **President** presented **Kathleen Wilcox** with a Certificate and grenade pendant on behalf of the Branch for all her hard work as **Secretary**. We would all like to wish **Kathleen** the very best for the future.

We have unfortunately, lost two members of the Branch since the last publication; **Bramwell 'Bram' Bishop (2325372)** who sadly passed away in December 2009 – a proud Grenadier and **Frederick Rann (2628535)** who passed away in January 2010 after a long battle with cancer. Our thoughts and best wishes go to their families.

The Branch continues to be well supported at our monthly meetings which make for a nice social gathering along with being updated on Association matters. Our thanks go to **Lt Col Anthony Mather**, our President, and his wife, **Gaye**, for their continued support at these meetings. Any current or former members of the Regiment who wish to be involved with the Branch please contact the Secretary. New members are always welcome!

Finally, our thanks to **Jay Ellingham** at Regimental Headquarters for all his valued support on Association matters during the year.

WEST KENT (TUNBRIDGE WELLS)

(Formed 1951)

President: Major THE VISCOUNT DE L'ISLE MBE, DL.

Vice Presidents: K RICHARDSON Esq; C WELLINGS Esq MM.

Chairman: C WELLINGS MM.

Hon Secretary: W FULLER, 18 Sheffield Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 0PD. Tel: (01892) 518029.

Email: bill.fuller@hotmail.co.uk

Meetings: The Constitutional Club, Sandrock Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, on the first Thursday in every month at 19:45 hours, October to December, also February to May inclusive.

WIGAN, ST HELENS AND DISTRICT

(Formed 1974)

President: Captain L SCHOLLES.

Vice Presidents: Captain (QM) TA ROLFE.

Chairman: Mr. A PRICE.

Secretary: GRAHAM YOUNG, 18 Hesketh Meadow Lane, Nr Warrington, Cheshire, WA3 2AJ. Tel: (01942) 605401

Email: gyoung24433@blueyonder.co.uk

Well this makes a change we usually start our jottings with the AGM, but the year started early for the branch this time with a trip on 9th December to the National Memorial Arboretum for the unveiling of the Household Division Memorial by HRH Prince Philip. About ten members made the trip. The secretary was carrying an injury (broken ankle) and with it being so wet under foot there was no way he was going to make the service until one of the volunteers at the Arboretum said "you will go to the ball" and gave him a lift down on a golf cart were he was driven straight to the front (he would like to point out that the cast on his ankle was blue red blue). After the service The Colonel approached him and asked if he had sustained his injury whilst on duty to which he embarrassingly replied "No sir decorating". The Colonel's reply was "Well I believe that can be dangerous work as well". All in all a good day was had by all our members.



Members of the Wigan & St Helens Branch visiting the Guards Memorial at the National Arboretum.

The next get together was the now annual Christmas dinner at the Robin Hood with thirty members and partners sitting down to a excellent meal. The raffle prizes this year were shared equally instead of going to

the usual suspects who seem to win every year (**Barry Taylor**). In January we held the branch AGM with the committee being stood down only to find themselves voted back on for another year. April saw another good turnout for the branch as we gathered again at the Robin Hood to celebrate Saint St Georges Day. Another fine meal was had with the branch subsidising the cost to all members which made it taste even better. Our chairman gave a talk on St George (and nearly six months on our Secretary is still waiting to use some of what he learnt in a pub quiz). A good afternoon was had by all and our thanks must go to **Eric Radcliffe** for organising the event.

A few of our members travelled with the Liverpool branch down to London for the Black Sunday parade which saw them meeting up with old friends and swapping stories and no doubt, a few beers. Thank you to the Liverpool branch for accommodating our members at such short notice. In June some members travelled to Littlecote for Grenadier Day, a good day but a bit heavy on the pocket. The members that remained behind took part in the Veterans Day Parade. The march took us through the town of Leigh and on to the Leigh sports village (home of the Leigh Centurions). Whilst waiting to take part in the march past an ex Royal Navy man tried to tell six Grenadiers how we were to march. He was very quickly given *his* marching orders and left with his bell bottoms neatly tucked between his legs and very sore ears.



Keith Taylor carrying the Branch Standard at the 2010 Veterans' Day Parade.

The Branch's next venture was a trip down to London to watch the Scarlet and Gold concert at the Royal Albert Hall. We were set to leave from the Leigh sports village at around 10am on the Saturday but were missing the three amigos (**Eric, Norman and Ken**) they did turn up albeit late for parade and each blaming the other. So it was we set off for our last two pickups in

Manchester. With the Liverpool branch already on board we totalled 21 Grenadiers and partners. We stopped on the way down for a spot of lunch provided by **Amanda Taylor** and consisting of a cheese or ham barmcake (barm being a Lancashire term for bread rolls). **Amanda** however found extra meat in her barm and found herself eating a wasp along with her lunch resulting in a very ugly reaction and within minutes left her looking like Mrs Blobby. A few antihistamines were administered and it all settled down!

The massed bands gave a top class performance with everyone coming away still tapping their feet and humming the tunes. Everyone found the coach except, yes you guessed it, the Three Amigos. With everyone finally back on board it was back to our hotel for a nightcap with **Mr John Cooper** to keep us entertained with his trusted mouth organ. On the journey home the next day we called in at the Arboretum to lay a wreath at the Guards Memorial. A big thank you must go to **Mr Barry Taylor** for organising a fantastic trip and to **Amanda Taylor** for passing on her cold to everyone on board.



Ken Smith and Eric Radcliffe enjoying a meal before heading off to the Scarlet and Gold Concert.

On the 9th October the Branch held its annual dinner and dance with 77 members (not bad for a small branch) and guests sitting down to an excellent meal provide by Lindley's catering. Our guest speaker was **Captain Dave Groom** who gave one of the best speeches and updates on the Regiment the members have had the pleasure of listening to. We were entertained by a superb duo, Blue Indigo and were kept dancing until the early hours by award winning Radio Warrington DJ Dennis Hammond. As for next year's dinner we could be at a new venue as the local authority are thinking of closing the Civic Hall. We will try to keep you informed via the branch website www.wigansthelensgrenadierguards.co.uk.

To bring this report to an end we must thank all members for supporting the Branch, it is because of them that we remain such a positive and active Branch. We would also like to say a big thank you to all the ladies of the Branch for all the all work they do behind the scenes and for supporting the Branch so well.

WINDSOR

(Formed 1926)

President: Major BT EASTWOOD LVO, MBE.

Vice Presidents: Major MB HOLLAND; Major E HEMPSALL; Lt Col SIR JOHN SMILEY Bt; Captain DW LING; R MURCOTT Esq; Major General SIR MICHAEL HOBBS KCVO, CBE; Mr JA STEEL BEM; RA DOBSON Esq; Mrs SR HOWELL.

Chairman: JA STEEL BEM.

Secretary: RC GILBERT, 84 Kennel Lane, Warfield, Bracknell, Berks, RG42 2EX. Tel: (01344) 485307.

Email: gilbert@suebob.fsflife.co.uk

Meetings: First Wednesday of each month, at the Grenadier Club, Maidenhead Road, Windsor, at 20:00 hours.

The 12 months since our last report has been a very busy time for the Branch. We ended 2009 as normal, with a December full of activity. BLESMA held their Christmas party on Saturday 5th and our friends from the Royal Berkshire Association held their Christmas Lunch on Thursday 10th. The Branch Christmas Draw was held on Saturday 12th. There was a variety of prizes which had been donated by local firms and many other people. We would like to thank all those who supported the draw by buying and selling tickets and donating prizes. On Saturday 19th, members and friends enjoyed their usual Christmas Dinner which was followed by a disco. On Saturday 13th February we held a Valentines Dinner followed by entertainment. This is a great way to thank our wives and partners for all the support they give us throughout the year.

Our AGM was held on Wednesday 7th April. The Secretary gave an over-view of the past years events and the Treasurer, **Sheila Howell**, produced the Branch and Club audited reports that were accepted. The President **Major BT Eastwood LVO, MBE** addressed the meeting and gave thanks to the Chairman **Mr Tony Steel BEM**, and the Committee, for the hard work they had put in over the last year in keeping the Branch and Club functioning. There was then a short break, where Members enjoyed a buffet provided by the ladies. The Chairman, Branch Officers and Committee were re-elected for the next year and **Bob**

Oakley-Watson was also voted on to the Committee.

A small number of Branch Members attended the Regimental Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade in London. Most people returned on the coach, except one. Sadly, that was **Alan Hill** who had fallen out of the parade, without permission, and was rushed to hospital. We are glad to report that after a few days in hospital Alan was allowed to return home. We are pleased to report that he is now well enough to attend the Branch Meetings. The Gloucestershire Branch called in for their usual lunch on their way to London and then, on the way home, for a fish and chip tea. We were happy that the Bristol Branch was also able to join us on their trip home. On Saturday 5th June we took a full coach of members and friends to the Epsom Derby. The weather was very hot with sunshades and sunglasses a necessity. We had winners and losers but all in all a great day out was had by all.

The Friday evening before Grenadier Day we had the company of our friends from the Manchester Branch plus other Grenadiers that were in the area. On the Saturday the Branch had a full coach to travel to Littlecote House, Hungerford. It was a very sunny and hot day but we were lucky that the branch stall was set up under a row of trees alongside the arena. It was an enjoyable day meeting up with friends from the past. Members felt that the arena events were better than previous years.



The Christmas Draw Prize display for December 2010.

We held our Annual Dinner and Dance, in the club, on Saturday 3rd July. We sat down in the marquee to a superb four course meal, provided by outside caterers, and then moved into the club to enjoy the disco. We were privileged, to have as our guests of honour, **Major** and **Mrs Barnes-Taylor**, Major Barnes-Taylor updated members and guests on the Regiment. We also had the pleasure of the company of **LSgt** and **Mrs**

Ellingham. The numbers that attended this year were disappointing with only 47 members and guests.

The next large event in the Club was arranged by **Sylvia Bullion.** This was The Autumn Dinner which was a Country and Western Night. Guests were entertained with live country music while enjoying a western meal of sausages, beans and mash.

The club continues to hold the Friday night Bingo sessions, with a Quiz Night on the last Wednesday of the month which includes a Fish and Chip supper. The Club is also open Saturday nights 19:30 hours to 23:00 hours and Sunday Lunch times 12:00 to 15:00 hours. If any members of the Association and their families are in the area, you are more than welcome to visit the club.

It is with deep regret that we report the sad loss of our members **2628575 Mr R Newman, 2615495 Mr D Parrott, 24021137 Mr C Schlarb, 261150 Mr W Harper and 2615783 Mr G E Hope.**

WOLVERHAMPTON

(Formed 1917)

President: Major EBM VAUGHAN ERD.

Vice Presidents: WSI KENYON-SLANEY OBE, KstJ, DL.
Esq. S. BENNETT, Esq F WHITE, Esq.

Chairman: Mr L THOMAS.

Secretary: JENNY SNEAD, 92 Van Diemens Road, Wombourne, Wolverhampton, WV5 0DE. Tel: (01902) 896547.

Email: jenny.snead43@yahoo.com

Meetings: Last Wednesday of each month, at RAFA Club, Goldthorn Road, Penn, Wolverhampton, WV2 4PN.

This year we have been very pleased to welcome members from the Birmingham Branch which has now closed.

Our Dinner and Dance in November 2009 was a great success, **Major Martin David MC** was our speaker and he updated us on the activities of the Battalion and their role in Afghanistan, the proceeds from our raffle helped our Branch funds. Many of our members attended the Dedication of the Household Division Memorial at the National Arboretum on 3rd December 2009 and were proud to be part of this event.

At our Branch AGM we were pleased that our President and Chairman together with other committee members agreed to continue in office and we were pleased that **Alan Wilson** became our Welfare Officer.

Our President, **Major Vaughan** celebrated his 90th birthday in June and we presented him with a birthday gift. He is only the second President we have had – the

first being his father. Our Chairman **Len Thomas** and his wife, **Phyllis** had cause for celebration this year too – their Diamond wedding anniversary.

Our members, with family and friends, meet up for Sunday lunch at The Bell, Trysull every three months which makes an enjoyable social event. We were pleased **Mr Kenyon-Slaney** and his wife were able to join us for our Christmas lunch. We attended Regimental Remembrance Day in May where our members were able to meet up with old friends. We all also enjoyed a rather damp Major General's Review!

Grenadier Day was on a glorious June day at Littlecote. **Mrs Christine Oakes** and her daughter **Barbie** provided an extensive range of hand made greeting cards for sale, which together with **Bob** and **Ann Stevens's** jewelry sales boosted our branch funds. The Scarlet and Gold Concert at the Royal Albert Hall provided a lovely day out for us all – stopping en route in Oxford for an enjoyable lunch.

One of our members, **Jack Snead** represented our Branch, by carrying the branch standard, at the RAF 70th Anniversary Parade and Service of Dedication commemorating the Battle of Britain in Wolverhampton.

Finally we would like to thank everyone at Regimental Headquarters in London for all their help throughout the year.

WORCESTER & HEREFORD

(Formed 1923)

President: Captain HL GRAY-CHEAPE JP, DL.

Vice Presidents: Lt Col PR HOLCROFT OBE; Major DJC DAVENPORT CBE, DL; THE Rt HON LORD SANDYS; Lt Col K EDLIN MBE; Lt Col LCA RANSON TD; Major RG WOODFIELD MBE; Col SIR THOMAS DUNNE KCVO; Lt Col TW JALLAND; D SPENCER Esq; GJ ROSE Esq; JA BARTLET Esq; Esq; Capt D MORGAN; M BRINTON LD, LT.

Chairman: REG SEALE DL.

Secretary: TERRY HEWLETT, 12 Sheldon Park Road, Bevere, Worcester. WR3 7YA. Tel: (01905) 452159, Mobile: 07962 25677.

Email: terryhewlett@gmail.com

Treasurer: DC SPENCER.

Once again it has been a very good year, membership has increased and all events and meetings have been well supported.

We held our Annual General Meeting on Sunday 15th February at the Worcester Rugby Club with 48 members attending. We are thankful that all the officers of the Branch agreed once again to continue in

Office. The meeting was followed by an enjoyable lunch. We had a reasonable turn-out for Regimental Remembrance Sunday in May and for Grenadier Day in June members and their families had an excellent time at Warner's Hotel at Littlecote, Hungerford. The weather was good and those who attended said the Regimental Headquarters staff should be thanked for putting on an excellent show. However, considering the size of the Branch we would like to be able get more members to attend these two important Regimental events.

In April we were invited by 214 RA (volunteers) to use their firing range to shoot for the Branch Boyton Cup which this year was won by our Secretary, the ladies shield being won by **Mrs Carol Wright**. The evening proved a great success with one of the best turnouts for some considerable time.

In May 44 members were privileged to attend Buckingham Palace for the presentation of New Colours to The First Battalion. In August 45 members paid a visit to The National Memorial Arboretum Alrewas, Staffs. This turned out to be third time lucky with the weather so a full day was spent viewing without any interruptions weather wise. Most members noted the progress still to be made to the area around the Guards Memorial. We completed the day by going to the Waterfront Marina for a meal.

After the summer break, we prepared for our Band Concert. This was held at the Malvern Theatre on 10th of September. The evening was a great success with an audience of 500 being entertained by the Regimental Band and the Kidderminster Male Choir. A big thank must go to **Major Kevin Roberts** the Director of Music, not only for the music played but also for acting as compare for the evening.

On Sunday 3rd October Eighty-five members and friends attended our Annual Lunch at the Chateau Impney Hotel Droitwich. Our guests of Honour were **Lt Col Patrick Holcroft** who in the absence of our President presided at the Lunch, **Major General John Holmes DSO, OBE, MC** formerly of the Scots Guards and 22 SAS and **Major Cassian Roberts** Irish Guards.

Our very busy year was completed when 94 members and their families attended a Christmas lunch held at The Chateau Impney Hotel Droitwich. This was not a formal lunch just a nice time to get together before the seasonal rush.

Sadly the year has once again taken its toll on members. It is our sad duty to report the death of **2625431 Francis Ferris**; our condolences go to his family.

Finally we would like to thank everyone at Regimental Headquarters in London for all their help and to members of the Branch, especially the committee members and their ladies, for all their support.

YORKSHIRE

(Formed 1948)

President: THE LORD HOTHAM DL.

Vice Presidents: THE Rt HON THE EARL OF HAREWOOD; PHD HIELD Esq; P STANLEY Esq; LR LINFORD Esq; THE MOST HON THE MARQUESS OF ZETLAND; D BURNETT Esq; Brigadier DJ MADDAN; W WALL Esq.

Chairman: A DANIEL.

Treasurer: Mrs A FLANAGAN.

Secretary: GEORGE FLANAGAN, Bartindale Farm, The Row, Hunmanby, Filey, North Yorkshire, YO14 0JD. Tel: (01723) 892479.

Email: aniceflanagan@hotmail.co.uk

AUSTRALIA

(Formed 1971)

President: ALAN TALMARSH.

Vice Presidents: G. RILEY Esq; E. BADLEY Esq.

Secretary: PATRICK O'DONOGHUE, 67 Victoria Street, Howlong 2643, New South Wales, Australia.

Email: patrick17@bigpond.com

Welfare Secretary: Mrs A. BARNEY.

Greetings to all Grenadier Guardsmen and best wishes from the Australia Branch. 2010 has been hard on branches throughout the world to maintain membership. We in Australia, as in other parts of the world are no different with the aging of our members. The financial problems, the cost of living, the very poor state of the pound and the high Australian Dollar have all added to this difficult position.

We in the Australia Branch are determined to keep the flag flying at all costs. We who are elected by the membership have the responsibility to do everything in our power to keep the branches operating as it is not just our members who need us but also their families. In Australia we rely on the internet via skype and Email (patrick1771@gmail.com) and would be pleased to hear from anyone.

Finally we would like to take this opportunity to thank the General Secretary of the Grenadier Guards Association, **Captain Trevor Rolfe** for his assistance and advice in general and willingness to help in these difficult times.

A belated Merry Christmas for 2010 and Best Wishes for the future.

NORTH AMERICA

(Formed 1972)

President: Major J WHYTE (Queen's Own Rifles of Canada).

Chairman: A WALMESLEY Esq.

Vice Chairman: Vacancy.

Secretary: Mrs E PICKERING, 45466 Thomson Line, Belmont, Ontario, N0L 1B0. CANADA.

Email: rpickering@wwdc.com

Hon Treasurer: BJ HARDING Esq.

Sgt In Waiting: D MILLS Esq.

This past year has been one of change for the Branch. At the Annual General Meeting in April 2010, the Chairman **Eric Powis**, resigned for medical reasons. Eric has served the Branch well for the past 19 years and we wish him all the best as he takes a well-earned rest.

There were only two nominations for the position of Chairman and we are pleased to announce that **Tony Walmesley** was duly elected. Tony has been a member of the Branch for the past 32 years and we wish him success in his new role. He previously served as Chairman from the Fall of 1983 until winter 1985.

Another change is related to the Vice-Chairman. **John Gaunt (2623679)** had been in the position since 1995 and unfortunately passed away in August 2010 following a lengthy illness. John will be missed for his sense of humour and his active participation in meetings and events. This position is still awaiting a new appointment.

Regretfully, four other Grenadiers have also died since January 2010, namely:

2363927 Sydney W Hall, 2615812 Charles G James, 22213171 Victor Wright RVM and 63399069 Thomas Evan 'Tom' Evans.

Our ranks are, therefore, getting smaller but it's not a situation peculiar to this Branch. Old age is catching up with everyone, particular those who served in WWII.

Two of our members from British Columbia, namely **Ian Kelly** and **Des Rollings** attended Grenadier Day and the reunion at Littlecote, which by all accounts was very successful.

In September, the Grenadiers were represented at the Scots Guards Annual Dinner held in Cobourg, Ontario. In fact, the only Regiment which was not represented that evening was the Irish Guards. As it was a Scots Guards event the meal started with the obligatory 'haggis, neeps and tatties' – very enjoyable. We also heard the address to the haggis which none of the Sassenachs present could understand! The final social event of the year is the annual Christmas Brunch held in early December, hopefully, before the

snow flies. Again, all Regiments are represented and the Branch will be making a presentation to the outgoing Chairman.



Taken early in December the presentation of 'The Certificate' by Tony Walmesley (left), the current Chairman of the Branch to our outgoing Chairman, Eric Powis.

In closing, thanks are conveyed to **Captain Trevor Rolfe** and **LSgt Jay Ellingham** for their helpful advice and communications from Regimental Headquarters. The efforts of **Jim White** and his weekly email 'blast' are also appreciated.

Best wishes from North America to all Guardsmen worldwide.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

President: Brigadier DH FUMBLE-POTTINGSHED-FUMBLE OBE MC.

Chairman: HARRY STEADFAST MM.

Secretary: ALISTAIR CAMERONIAN, 9 Bamboo Terrace, Caicos Island, C15 9XZ.

Email: Turks&urks@assnhq.com.cai.

Meetings: At each Full Moon or whenever hungry.

Assm and Arsm

We have been giving close attention to recent proposals for the development of our beloved Association and have enjoyed the regional maps (Northern, Southern, Eastern, Western and Midlands) and the list of posts to be filled. Without consulting him we volunteer **John Southern** of Reading to run his personal region and hope that others will be found to follow his example. **North** and **Eastwood** should be easy enough, a bite-sized edition of **Alston-Roberts-West** and perhaps **Middleton**.

But we are dismayed to notice that dear old Association Headquarters have once again failed to spot the obvious solution to all their problems. Never mind presidents, chairmen, secretaries and so forth. What we need, to instil a healthy sense of fear and trembling among members, are sergeant majors. Let us therefore have an **Association Sergeant Major (ASM)** and **Regional Sergeant Majors (RSM)**. We wouldn't dream of suggesting they might be known (though not to their faces without running some risk) as *Assum* and *Arsum*. The obvious man for ASM is England.

Regimental Standing Orders can quickly be adapted to the purpose, thus:

- It is his duty to know well the character of all branch officers under his care and to assist them with his own knowledge, experience and advice, which they are to take without any beefing whatsoever.

- He is responsible for the proper conduct of General Secretary's and President's Memoranda and will ensure that there are always plenty of candidates for punishment.

- He is responsible for framing charges against members and will make up the evidence as occasion requires.

- He is to investigate any complaint against himself or the ASM/another RSM and dismiss it immediately.

- He is responsible for the standard of drill in the Association. In conformity with the geographical nature of the regions he will test the intelligence and knowledge of members by orders such as; *Move to the East in threes and in alphabetical order... Number!*

- He shall rift the junior officer members (under 80 years old) on the square and report any who fail to attend branch functions and buy large quantities of raffle tickets.

- He is responsible for ammunition issued to branches, bearing in mind that it is chiefly for deterrent purposes, as illustrated by the Polish admiral*.

- He shall wear a bowler hat and carry an umbrella tipped with poison which, while not fatal, must be extremely painful. He shall use such umbrella on any past Grenadier outside the Association who shows any sign of reluctance to join it.

- He shall not grow old, die or fade away before the General Secretary has finished with him.

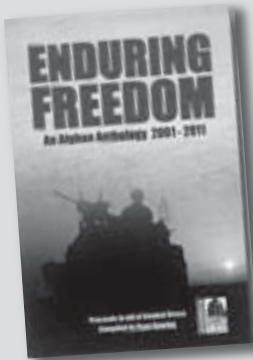
* This was a fierce Polish disciplinarian who fled his country in 1939, joined the Royal Navy and eventually became an admiral. A visitor to his ship once found him alone on his bridge. 'Where are all your officers?' 'Below. In irons.' 'But why?' 'Because under English law I'm not allowed to shoot them.'



John Southern (3rd from right) and members of the Reading Branch discussing the Regional approach.

Books

If you are not already supplied you are reminded that the following books are available:



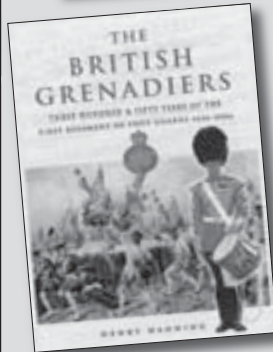
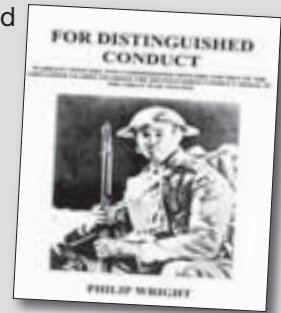
Enduring Freedom

An Afghan Anthology

In support of Combat Stress

For Distinguished Conduct

Philip Wright



The British Grenadiers

350 Years of the First Regiment of Foot Guards 1656-2006

Henry Hanning

Excellence in Action: A Portrait of the Guards

Rupert Uloth



An Active Service

The Remarkable Sid Dowland 1935-1958

Richard Dorney



Afghanistan

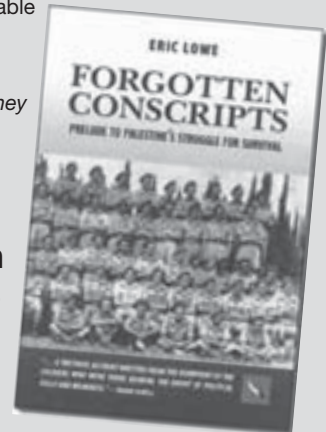
A Tour of Duty

Captain Alexander Allen

Forgotten Conscripts

Prelude to Palestine's Struggle for Survival

Eric Lowe



Pathfinder Company: The Philistines

Graham Gillmore



In the 1970s Graham Gillmore served with The Queen's Company and was a member of the 1st Battalion shooting team; he was a sniper and qualified signaller. In 1977 he left the British Army joined the Rhodesian Light Infantry becoming their Signals Troop Sergeant. With the fall of Rhodesia he was recruited into the Pathfinder Company in the South African's 44 Parachute Brigade for operations into Angola.

This unit of professional soldiers became legendary for its aggressive fighting record. The full story of the unit is now told in Gillmore's book The Pathfinder Company, 'The Philistines', illustrated throughout in full colour.



Gazette 2010 – Who? What? When? Where?

Top left: Captain (QM) Fred Clutton MBE MM and the Pioneer Sergeant, “Castro” Robinson marching with the 1st Battalion to Lincoln Cathedral.

Bottom left: A photograph taken in 1956 in Malta when the 3rd Battalion was waiting to go to Suez showing four Grenadiers of HQ Company. Lower left is Roy Forrest; to his right is one of the Battalion cooks. The other two are believed to be batmen, one to Captain

Fred Clutton who took the photograph. These three remain unidentified and any further information would be appreciated. The children shown all lived on a local farm.

Top right: 23862829 LSgt Richard Godfrey having returned to Llanelly Barracks, Hubbelrath, Germany in November 2008 over 47 years after first being posted there with the 2nd Battalion.

Who? Where? What? after a day's training.



When? Where? What? on the High Seas.



Who? When? Where?



DIARY OF EVENTS

As at 1st February 2011

This list covers events, which have been notified to the General Secretary at the time of writing, and therefore this Diary of Events is far from complete.

2011

- | | | |
|-----|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Feb | 19 | Birthday of Prince Andrew The Duke of York (1960) |
| Mar | 10 | Birthday of Prince Edward The Earl of Wessex (1964) |
| | 12 | North Lancashire Branch Dinner |
| | 23 | Finance Committee Meeting |
| | 26 | Association AGM |
| Apr | 01 | Northampton Branch Dinner |
| | 05-09 | Band Tour – Tulip Time Tattoo – Netherlands |
| | 08 | March Branch Lunch |
| | 09 | Nottingham Branch Dinner |
| | 11 | Betty Blue Eyes – Colonel’s Fund Event |
| | 13 | Service of the Royal Victorian Order – Windsor Castle |
| | 16 | Surrey Branch Dinner |
| | 21 | Birthday of Her Majesty The Queen (1926) |
| | 23 | Manchester Branch Dinner |
| | 29 | Royal Wedding – HRH Prince William of Wales & Miss Catherine Middleton |
| May | 06 | Sussex Branch Dinner |
| | 08 | March Branch Lunch |
| | 09-14 | Band – TRBL Windsor Castle Royal Tattoo |
| | 15 | Regimental Remembrance Day |
| | 16 | First Guards Club Dinner |
| | 22 | Association Western Area Lunch |
| | 28 | Major General’s Review |

DIARY OF EVENTS

- | | | |
|------|-------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| June | 04 | Colonel’s Review |
| | 10 | Birthday of The Duke of Edinburgh (1921) |
| | 11 | The Queen’s Birthday Parade |
| | 12 | Grenadier Day – Lille Barracks, Aldershot |
| | 21 | Birthday of Prince William of Wales (1982) |
| | 29-03 | (July) Band – Henley Regatta |
| July | 02 | Windsor Branch Dinner |
| | 05-09 | Band – Modena Tattoo – Italy |
| | 11-23 | Band – Basel Tattoo – Switzerland |
| Aug | 15 | Birthday of The Princess Royal (1950) |
| Sept | 11 | Norfolk Branch Dinner |
| | 15 | Birthday of Prince Henry of Wales (1984) |
| | 14-23 | Battlefield Tour Grenadiers Giro d’Italia (Italy) |
| | 25 | Gloucestershire Branch Lunch |
| Oct | 02 | Essex Branch Lunch |
| | 09 | Wessex Branch Lunch |
| | 15 | Wigan & St. Helens Branch Dinner |
| | 15 | Medway Branch Dinner |
| | 30 | Oxford Branch Lunch |
| Nov | 05 | Sgt’s Past & Present Dinner |
| | 10 | Field of Remembrance |
| | 12 | Festival of Remembrance |
| | 13 | Cenotaph Parade |
| | 14 | Birthday of The Prince of Wales (1948) |
| | 25 | Derby Branch Dinner |
| | 26 | Wolverhampton Branch Dinner |
| | 26 | Liverpool Branch Dinner |



MAPPIN & WEBB



Carrington at Mappin & Webb
132 Regent Street London W1B 5SF

Special Commissions, Regimental Jewellery, Silver Figures
Valuations for Insurance Purposes and Expert Repairs

Contact: Victor Barley Tel 0207 478 8733 or Karl Bailey Tel 0207 478 8740
corporate@aurumholdings.co.uk

