



The Die-Hards

NEWSLETTER

No. 50

DECEMBER 1983

PRICE 25p

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THE MEMORIAL AT ALBUHERA
Visit by Captain D.E.M. Kidd, 2/7th Battalion.

FORECAST OF EVENTS 1984

- 19 Mar Regimental Association Executive Committee Meeting at County Hall, London SE1, at 6 p.m.
- 20 Mar Meeting of Regimental Museum Trustees at Bruce Castle, Tottenham, London N17, at 2.30 p.m.
- 28 Apr 1/7th Bn (1939-45) Dinner at TA Centre, Hornsey, N8.
- 11 May Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club Dinner, Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly London WC2.
- 12 May Albuhera Service of Remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral commencing 2.30 p.m.
Annual Reunion at the Victory Service Club, Seymour St, London W2, commencing 6.30 p.m. Annual General Meeting will be at 8 p.m.
- 13 May Inspection of Albuhera Close by Housing Committee.
- 26 May 2/10th Battalion Annual Luncheon at Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2.
- 15 Jul Queen's Regiment Reunion to be held at Depot The Queen's Division, Basingbourn, commencing 11.30 a.m.
- 18 Sep Middlesex Regiment Golfing Society Meeting, North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, Hants.
- 5 Oct 2/7 Bn Annual Dinner at the Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2.
- 6 Oct Queen's Regiment Past & Present WOs and Sgts Dinner at Depot the Queen's Division, Basingbourn.
- 10 Oct Housing Sub Committee Meeting 6.15 p.m. Venue later.
- 12 Oct Queen's Regiment Officers Club Reunion at Haberdasher's Hall.
- 21 Oct Regimental Association Church Parade with the Chelsea Pensioners at Royal Hospital Chelsea.
- 8 Nov 7th Middlesex Officers' Club Dinner, TA Centre, Hornsey N8.
- 10 Nov Ceremony at the Field of Remembrance, Westminster.
- 11 Nov Remembrance Day Service at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, at 10 a.m. followed by Reunion at TA Centre, Edgware.
7th Bn Remembrance Service and wreath laying ceremony at the new combined Church of St Mary with St George at 10.20 a.m.
2/10th Bn Remembrance Day Service at St Nicholas Church, Chiswick, at 3 p.m.

NEW YEAR HONOURS LIST

We send our heartiest congratulations to the following who received the awards stated in the recent New Year Honours List.

O.B.E.

Colonel R.M. Cain, Middlesex and North West Sector Cadet Force.

M.B.E.

WO2 D. Cadywould, B Company, 6/7th(V) Bn The Queen's Regiment.

BENEVOLENT CASES

During the period 1 January to 31 December 1983 the sum of £5197.96, including £400 from other benevolent sources, has been spent from the Association's charitable funds on assisting 83 members of the Regiment and dependents. This is almost the identical amount that was disbursed last year in helping almost the same number of cases, and it shows therefore that there is no diminishing of the need for this work and that the calls for our assistance still remain remarkably consistent over the

years. This might seem surprising in view of the fact that we are no longer an active regiment but few of the recipients this year are recurrent from last year and quite a high proportion are new cases requiring our aid for the first time.

The following is a summary of the cases which have been dealt with this year:-

Type of assistance	1914-18	1921-67
Home repairs/maintenance	2	1
Heat, light and power expenses	9	14
Telephone installations/accounts	1	4
TV and radio	5	3
Food - special diet costs	3	3
Hospital - nursing expenses	-	2
Convalescent holidays	4	4
Furniture - bedding etc.	1	9
Rent	-	6
Provision of medical - safety equipment	2	2
Miscellaneous	7	1
Total	34	49
Overall total	83	

Most of these cases are brought to our notice by welfare organisations such as SSAFA, Forces Help Society, War Pensions Welfare Service, Royal British Legion, and some through individual members of our Association, but no matter from what source a case is reported every one is very carefully gone into and followed up by our Secretary. Please contact him at once if you should know of any Die-Hard or dependent who needs help.

Twenty members of the Regiment were sent a Christmas card and a £5 note.

DONATIONS TO THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FUND

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges the following donations to the Charitable Fund:

- Donations totalling £410.76 were received in the memory of the late Major H.K. Hardcastle, T.D.
- Donations totalling £291.00 were received in the memory of the late Colonel Clinton Nolda, OBE, MA.
- A donation of £200 from the Lilley Benevolent Trust - £100 for the Association Charitable Fund and £100 for the 9th Bn The Middlesex Regiment Museum Fund.
- A donation of £25 from members of the 2/7th Bn collected at their annual dinner.
- Individuals donations from:

A.N. Anonymous, Mr E.J. Bermingham, Mr A.W.J. Brown (2/7th), Mr C.F. Farley, Mr A.E. Freeburne, Mr C. Holdford (Son of the late D/Maj C. Holdford), Mrs Tilly Jones, Mr J.C. Leat, Major L.F.E. Nichols, Mrs M. Pentony, Mrs C. Pollard (in memory of the late Major John Durnell), Capt J.R.C. Riseley, Lt-Col E.P. Shanks (in memory of the late Major Henry Page), Mr E. Wilson and Mr L.F. Woodman.

FREE NEWSLETTERS

The Editor wishes to thank the following members for their generosity in donating extra subscriptions so that free copies of the Die-Hards Newsletter can be sent to deserving Old Comrades:

Mr E.J. Bermingham, Mr C.C. Bradish, Mr D. Bradnam, Mr A.W.J. Brown (2/7th), Mr D. Cavill, Mr R.R. Chaplin, Major J.G. Chiverall, Major A.R. Cooper, Col W.D. Ellis, Major R.A. Elson, Mr C.F. Farley, Mr C. Holdford (Son of the late D/Maj C. Holdford), Lt-Col M.D. Legg, Mr A.L. Page, Mrs M. Pentony, Capt J.R.C. Riseley, Col J.N. Shipster and Mr L.F. Woodman.

DONATIONS AND GIFTS BY THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

The following donations/gifts have been made by the Regimental Association:

- A donation of £10 made to The Armouries, H.M. Tower of London, to help save for the nation the personal armour of the patron of William Shakespeare, Henry Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton.
- Presentation to Lt-Col P.J. Calvert, RNZA, who commanded 16th Field Regiment, New Zealand Army. Our 1st Bn provided flank protection during their withdrawal south to Kapoyong during the Korean War. Lt-Col Calvert is establishing a Korean Room. The items presented were:
Regimental Plaque, Cap Badge, Pair of Titles and Four Regimental Buttons.
- A Middlesex Cap Badge to the Korean War Museum, Yoido, Seoul, Republic of Korea.

COLONELCY AND DEPUTY COLONELCY OF THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

With effect from 1 January 1984:

- Brigadier H.C. Millman, OBE, ADC, succeeded Major General R.S.N. Mans, CBE, as Colonel The Queen's Regiment.
- Colonel J.C. Holman, OBE, succeeded Brigadier H.C. Millman, OBE, ADC, as Deputy Colonel The Queen's Regiment.

THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

The 1st and 2nd Battalions have completed (or nearly so) their first year in Ulster as Resident battalions, the former in Omagh and the latter in Londonderry. At the time of writing, we regret to announce the death of Pte Alan Stock of the 2nd Bn in an IRA ambush on 15 Oct.

The 3rd Bn (Fallingbowl) will be embarking on a four-month tour in Belfast from Feb 84 with a new CO - Lt Col David Beveridge MBE. In July, the Colonel of the Regiment paid them a visit whilst they were training at Sennelager.

On 27 Sep, General Rowley had an Audience with HRH the Princess Juliana, at Soestdijk Palace, accompanied by Col George Langridge, President of The Royal Sussex Association (of which HRH is Patron) and Lt Col Richard Graham, CO 3 QUEENS. All three were honoured by awards of The Orange Order. On 2nd Dec, our other Allied Colonel-in-Chief, HM Queen Margrethe, visited Canterbury to present to the Regiment a new portrait of Herself, commissioned by the Carlsberg Foundation and painted by a well-known Danish artist. The Colonel and Deputy Colonel, together with a representative element of senior serving officers and members of RHQ and their wives entertained Her Majesty at a luncheon party held at HQ 5 QUEENS (V) to mark the occasion.

Both the Grand Reunion of the Regimental Associations and the WO's & Sgts Annual Dinner were held at Bassingbourn this year, and were very well supported, despite the relative distance from our traditional Regimental area.

G U W

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

The annual ceremony at the Field of Remembrance took place on Saturday morning 12 November 1983. Owing to the closure of the Middlesex Guildhall for extensive alterations it was not possible to hold the usual Remembrance Service nor could we hold the reception at the end of the service. So with the greatest reluctance it was decided that it would not be possible to invite the Chairman of the G.L.C. and Borough dignitaries as we would be unable to host them correctly.

An abbreviated form of service took place and regimental members formed up outside the Guildhall and proceeded to the Regimental Plot led by CSgt B.G. Williams, B(Middlesex) Company 6/7th Queens followed by the Regimental Standard borne by Mr Alan Moody, escorted by In Pensioner Sgt C. Painter.

The Service commenced with Prayers by the Rev W.E.B. Jones, former Padre to the 1st Bn. Lt-Col T.W. Chattey then read the Exhortation which was followed by the Two Minutes silence.

Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, President of the Regimental Association, after saying "We plant these crosses today in memory of our fallen comrades of The Middlesex Regiment, planted the first cross.

Crosses were then planted by: The Rev W.E.B. Jones; Brig B.A.M. Pielow, JP, Chairman Regimental Association; 1st Bn Maj-Gen Sir John Willoughby, KBE, CB; 2nd Bn Col A.S.J. de S. Clayton, OBE; 3rd & 4th Bns Mr A. Bailey; 5th & 6th Bns Mr A. Rose; 1/7th Bn Mr S. Platten; 2/7th Bn Lt A.E. Allchorne; 8th Bn Col I.R. Burrows, OBE; 9th Bn Mr A. Brown; 2/10th Bn Mr A.D. Scudamore, OBE; 13th Bn Mr A. Lewin; 18th Bn Mr H. Hart, MBE; B(Mx) Coy 6/7th Bn Queen's Regt 2/Lt S. Ostacchini; The Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Ealing and the Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Harrow.

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

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

On Thursday 10 November 1983 the Secretary planted a Middlesex Badged Poppy wreath on the Far East Prisoner of War Plot.

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

The Regimental Remembrance Day Service was held at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, on Sunday 13 November 1983, and commenced at 10 a.m. The Service was attended by the Postal and Courier Depot, Royal Engineers, 12 Company W.R.A.C. and a contingent from B(Middlesex) Company, 6/7th(V) Bn The Queen's Regiment. The Service was held in the Gymnasium and the congregation numbered about 500. The second part of the service took place at the Regimental War Memorial. Both services were conducted by the Rev G.H. Roblin, AKC, CF, Warden Royal Army Chaplains' Department Centre, Bagshot, assisted by Deaconess P.H. Masterman. Major S.M. Bishop, WRAC read The Lesson.

Following the sounding of 'Last Post' and 'Reveille' wreaths were laid by:

Postal & Courier Depot RE
Regimental Association
12 Company W.R.A.C.
B(Middlesex) Company 6/7th Queens Regt.
Mill Hill Branch
9th Bn Branch
Hounslow Branch
Middlesex Home Guard
Korean Club

Col D.L. Streatfield
Brig B.A.M. Pielow, JP
Major S.M. Bishop
Capt S.A. Blausten
Capt W.H. Claydon
Mr A. Brown
Mr R.G. Roberts, MBE
Mr A.E. Sills
Mr W. Rawlinson

The Regimental Standard Bearer was Mr S. Hurlock.

At the March Past the salute was taken by Col D.L. Streatfield, Commandant Postal & Courier Depot RE, Brig B.A.M. Pielow, JP, Chairman Middlesex Regimental Association and Major S.M. Bishop, Commanding 12 Company Women's Royal Army Corps.

The saluting Dias was flanked by Chelsea Pensioner Sgt C. Painter. As usual former Sgt L.T. Plumb commanded the Regimental Association marching contingent.

The Church Collection amounted to £149.67 and a cheque for this amount was forwarded to the Royal British Legion Earl Haig's Poppy Appeal.

The following senior officers were present - Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, Brig B.A.M. Pielow and Col and Mrs A.S.J. de S. Clayton.

At the end of all this hectic activity we all moved on to the T.A. Centre, Edgward, to look after the inner man.

THE MIDDLESEX OFFICERS CLUB

The 56th Annual Dinner of the 7th Middlesex Officers Club was held at the T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey N8, on Thursday 10 November 1983.

Lt-Col J.D. Gunnell presided and the guests were: Maj-Gen B.P. Hughes, Mr G. Brawn, Capt I. Picken, Dr. P.L.W. Ribet, F/O J.A. Rook, and Major R.W.J. Smith.

The following members attended: Major M.J. Beaumont, Capt S.A. Blausten, The Right Rev. Mgr R. Brown, 2Lt K. Carter, Major H.E. Couch, Capt M.J.S. Doran, Capt S. le M. Enthoven, Lt-Col P.J. Hall, Capt

D. Harwood, Major S.L.J. Henshaw, Lt D. Herriott, Capt J.K. Laurence, Major R.J. Leighton, Major R.E. Lowans, Capt D.O. Mansfield Thomas, Capt T.J. Medcalf, Major E.J. Naish, Lt P.J. Ottino, Major B.A. St. G. Reed, Lt-Col G.C.D. Scott-Lowe, Lt-Col D.E. Simpson, His Honour Judge John Slack, Capt J. Spencer Richards, Major R.F. Sykes, Col D.R.W. Thomas, Major F. Webb.

The 1984 Dinner, the 57th will take place on Thursday 8th November.

KOREAN CLUB

The 3rd annual reunion of the Korean Club was held at the Viking Club, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, on Saturday 17 September 1983.

Among the guests were Maj-Gen Peter Baldwin who during the Korean War was the 27th Brigade Signals Officer, Brig and Mrs Ann Pielow, Major and Mrs Grace Waldron, Chairman and Secretary of the Regimental Association, Major Dick Smith, Chairman of the Mill Hill Branch OCA, Mrs Margaret Pentony, mother of Cpl Joe Pentony who gave his life during the Korean War and last but not least two lovely Cpls of the WRAC Philatelic Bureau who stamp our Commemorative Covers.

220 members attended and a most enjoyable band together with a very tasty supper was provided.

During the evening the second edition of "The Die-Hards in Korea" was on sale at £5.00. Major Barry Reed arranged for this book to be reproduced by his firm the Austin Reed Group and I am sure that all club members are most grateful for this generous gesture. All profits going to club funds.

Congratulations are due to Syd Webb, Secretary of the Korean Club, on the award of the South Korean Ambassador's "Peace Medal". This was presented to him during the evening by Colonel Andrew Man, President of the Korean Club and, of course, Commanding Officer during the campaign.



Presentation by Colonel A.M. Man, DSO, OBE, of the "Peace Medal" to Mr. Syd Webb.

2/10TH BN THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT 1914-18 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

The Old Comrades Association of the 2/10th Bn held their customary Remembrance Day Service at St Nicholas' Church, Chiswick, on the afternoon of Sunday 13th November. The Service was very well attended by Old Comrades, relatives and 'Friends of the 2/10th' and was conducted by the Revd Patrick Tuft, M.A., Vicar of Chiswick and Honorary Chaplain to the 2/10th OCA. Lt-Col Chattey read the Lesson.

Among those attending were - Lt-Col and Mrs T.W. Chattey, Brig and Mrs B.A.M. Pielow, Col and Mrs A.S.J. de S. Clayton and Major and Mrs A.E.F. Waldron. Poppy wreaths were laid on the Memorials to the 1/10th, 2/10th and 3/10th Battalions and after the Service tea was served in the Church Hall.

ADS

2/7TH BATTALION REUNION

Friday, 7th October, 1983 saw us assembled once more at the Victory Club for our 37th Annual Reunion which turned out to be a highly successful evening. Our total attendance of 67 was our best for a number of years and our collection reached an all-time high of £343, which included no less than £228 subscribed by those old comrades who tendered their apologies at being unable to attend.

Brigadier Flavell took the Chair and we were delighted once again to welcome Lt Col Chattey and Major A.E.F. Waldron as our guests. The latter was also delighted at the number of regimental ties he was able to sell!

Sid Bester, Tony Gray (who came down from Bowness-on-Windermere), Jim (J.W.) Smith and Ron Stevens all attended for the very first time and were received enthusiastically by their old friends. Two others who had not been for some years were Tommy Bice from Bournemouth and Bill Jones from Anglesey, and we were delighted to see them once more.

Our congratulations went to Major Gilbert Jenkins and Captain Michael Brock on their most recent distinctions which, I understand, are recorded elsewhere in this Newsletter.

If there is anyone reading this who served with the 2/7th during 1939-1945, but who has hitherto failed to attend any of our reunions, do please come along next year on 5th October, 1984 to the Victory Club. I can assure you, you will not be disappointed.

RHT

REUNION

Mr Roy Bishop who served as a Sgt with our 8th Bn (resuscitated 1st Bn) 1944-46, and with D Company, will be circulating members in 1984, suggesting a reunion (combined with the Regimental Annual Reunion) to be held at the Victory Club, Seymour St, London W2, on Saturday 12th May 1984, commencing at 6.30 p.m. He will also be suggesting as an alternative a luncheon at the Victory Club for those not wishing to attend the reunion in the evening. Members may also like to consider attending the Regimental Albuhera Service in St Paul's Cathedral in the afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

Make a note of the date and I am sure Roy will be pleased to hear from you with any ideas you may have. His address is - 45 Shermanbury Road, Worthing, W. Sussex BN14 7HR.

KOREA REVISITED

On 28 September 1983 a party consisting of Bob and Nancy Paternoster, Ron and Connie Vann, Robin Wilson, Bob Gilbertson, Nick Hutley and Tony Lofts, went on a revisit to Korea organised by the B.K.V.A.

The visit was a great success and the majority hope to return again in 1985. Places of interest visited include, Yoji, Kapyong, Taegu, Pusan, Uijonbu, Seoul and many others too numerous to mention. The most memorable and moving day of our stay was the trip to the United Nations Cemetery at Pusan, situated on a beautiful and peaceful slope just outside the city. Here we were able to lay poppies on the graves of 31 of our fellow Die-Hards who gave their lives for the course of freedom.

This was a most sentimental occasion, and it was indeed a great privilege to be there and pay our respects.

The photograph was taken by Reg Vann

Tony Lofts and Reg Vann



REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Trustees : Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, OBE, Chairman
Maj-Gen Sir John Willoughby, KBE, CB.
Maj-Gen B.P. Hughes, CB, CBE.
Lt-Col J.D. Gunnell, TD.
Douglas Clark, Esq., Haringey Borough.
Major W.G.A. Crumley.
Major C.L. Lawrence, MC.
Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, Secretary.

Curator : Major R.W.J. Smith, MBE.

Slow but steady progress has been made in the re-arrangement of the Regimental Museum. Over the last six months our Curator, Major Dick Smith and his assistant, Mr David Whybrow, have been working almost unaided in moving and preparing the exhibits in their new showcases, and the result is that the main room, which depicts the history of the Regiment, and the new medal room are now very nearly completed.

The Trustees met at Bruce Castle on the 13 December to view these two displays and have given their unanimous approval and support to the overall concept and display. The Museum has also been visited by the Secretary of the Army Museums Ogilby Trust. A third room of miscellaneous regimental memorabilia is now to be added, and it is expected with some confidence to open the whole for future viewing early in the New Year. A re-opening date will be announced and it is hoped that as many as possible Old Comrades will then make a special effort to visit their Regimental Museum.

ACQUISITIONS

British War Medal 1914-18, Victory Medal 1914-19 and Bronze Memorial plaque of G24897 Private G.H. Harrison killed on 16 August 1917, whilst serving with 16th(Public Schools) Bn. Also photograph of his grave.

Presented by his daughter Miss E.I. Harrison.

Sword of late Lieutenant Donald McDonald, 11th(Service) Bn 1914-15.

Presented by his widow Mrs Amy G. McDonald.

Narrative - Home via La Panne and Dunkirk with the 1/7th Bn The Middlesex Regiment (DCO), The Die-Hards, May - June 1940, by No. 7602501 Private F.R. Farley, Light Aid Detachment RAOC, Attached.

Presented by Mr. F.R. Farley, 19 Oakleigh Close, Backwell, Bristol BS19 3JX

British War Medal 1914-18, Victory Medal 1914-19 and Defence Medal of the late Doctor (2Lt) N.E.D. Cartledge, Middlesex Regiment 1914-19.

Presented by Dereham Branch, Royal British Legion, Norfolk.

Relics of Capt John Nicholson who was killed at the Battle of Inkerman "The Soldiers' Battle", 5 November 1854.

- (i) Pair of Grenadier Company shoulder wing epaulettes.
- (ii) Daguerreotype portrait of Captain Nicholson in the uniform of Grenadier Company, 77th Regiment.
- (iii) Water colour sketch of the original graves of Captain Nicholson and Lieutenant Arthur Maine with the outline of the Fortress of Sebastopol in the background.
- (iv) Pair of epaulettes for undress uniform.
- (v) Pair of spurs.
- (vi) Brief family record.

Purchased by the Army Museums Ogilby Trust on behalf of the Middlesex Regimental Museum, the cost being shared equally.

Stand of Colours of the 2nd/2nd Cadet Battalion The Middlesex Regiment(DCO), consisting of the Queen's and Regimental Colour.

Presented by The Rev Richard Hayes, Vicar of St Peter's Church, Ealing.

MIDDLESEX REGIMENT GOLFING SOCIETY

AUTUMN MEETING AT THE NORTH HANTS GOLF CLUB, FLEET - 4th OCTOBER 1983.

The 13 regular playing members who came to support the Autumn Golf Meeting this year were rewarded with a splendid day's golf in most excellent conditions. There was little wind and although the sun came out only intermittently, it was dry and warm all day - in fact warm enough to play in shirtsleeves, which is unusual for our Autumn fixture - and the course was playing really well.

The stableford singles competition for the Horton Cup took place in the morning and the handicap prize was won by a guest player, Mr. Barnfield playing off 20 handicap, with the excellent score of 40 points. The Cup itself, which can only be won by a regimental member, was won by Alan Bisset who with a handicap of 26 returned a score of 31 points. He also took the handicap runner's-up prize, but only just as there were three members just behind each on 29 points.

The Jay Cup was played for after lunch. This is a stableford handicap foursomes competition and was won by the combination of Colonel Tom Chattey and Alan Bisset who returned a score of 34 points. Tom Jones and Alec Torrie were the runner's-up with 32 points.

So this was really Alan Bisset's day because he was the winner of both the Cups, and everyone was extremely pleased as he has regularly supported our meetings over many years. Brigadier Godfrey Lerwill qualified for the Divot prize this time.

Everyone was particularly delighted to see Colonel John Worton back on the course and playing again, and looking very fit and well. In the afternoon he played 12 holes singles with Colonel Ian Burrows and they had a most enjoyable game.

The prize giving took place after tea, when Colonel Tom Chattey thanked everyone for taking part. He particularly welcomed Mrs Nora Holdford and made special mention of Mrs Merle Miles who, although not able to come to this meeting, has happily made a full and excellent recovery from the most unfortunate facial accident which she suffered at the Spring Meeting. Colonel Tom also mentioned some of the absentees, notably Colonel Norman Clayden who is recovering from a hip operation and Captain Bob Tarrant, one of our keenest supporters, who is now seriously ill in hospital. A special message is being sent to Bob with everyone's best wishes for a speedy recovery. The prizes were presented by Colonel John Worton, who asked for a special vote of thanks for Major Frank Waldron, our Secretary, whose excellent administrative arrangements and untiring efforts do so much to make this such a thoroughly successful and enjoyable occasion.

After the prize giving there was a discussion in follow-up to the Chairman's letter concerning our future golf meetings. Most of those present felt that we are now unable to get sufficient support for two meetings a year and Brigadier Lerwill proposed that one meeting only should be held in 1984, after which the matter should again be reviewed. This was agreed and later the Secretary announced that next year's Meeting had been arranged for Tuesday, 18th September. It was also suggested and agreed that in future the Horton Cup should be played as a singles handicap bogey competition, which then can take place concurrently with the medal competitions for the Transvaal Cup and the Darjeeling Cup.

All members please make a special note now of the date for our one and only Meeting next year. It is important that we get a really good attendance from all our regimental golfing members.

CHURCH PARADE AT THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA

A party from the Regimental Association attended Church Parade with the In Pensioners of the Royal Hospital on Sunday 9th October 1983.

On parade were Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, President of our Association, Major and Mrs A.E.F. Waldron, Majors R.W.J. Smith and R.G.C. Thornton, Capt and Mrs C.G. Webber, Capt W.B. Hammond, Lt E.C. Graham and friend, Lt and Mrs A.E. Allchorne, Lt J.P.A. Day, Mr and Mrs Rose, Mr and Mrs Pile, Mr and Mrs Platten, Mr and Mrs Rawlinson and Messrs Ambler, Lloyd, Barnet, Hurlock, Windows, Eggleton and Archie Brown(9th)

Major R.W.J. Smith commanded the parade of Old Comrades which was inspected by the Lieutenant Governor of the Royal Hospital, Maj-Gen P.A. Downward, CB, DSO, DFC. The Royal Hospital Padre, The Rev A.D. Bartlett, MA, conducted the Service assisted by The Rev T.B. Hiney, MC, whose father served as a Die-Hard in World War 1. Stan Hurlock was our Standard Bearer.

After the Service we moved to the Ladies Room in the In Pensioners Club where a buffet had been organised. Here we met In Pensioners Charlie Painter, George Fulton and Fred Cater.

Once again a most enjoyable function.

ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA

On Tuesday 20 December 1983, Lt-Col T.W. Chattey and Major A.E.F. Waldron visited our In Pensioners in the Royal Hospital Pensioners Club for a Christmas drink and to give them each a Christmas present. A most enjoyable lunch time session.

THE ROYAL STAR & GARTER HOME, RICHMOND

Mr James George Hillier, a resident at the Royal Star and Garter Home, Richmond, celebrated his 100th birthday on Friday 2 December 1983. James Hillier served in the Middlesex and Northamptonshire Regiments and was wounded on the Somme. He is the home's first centenarian.

A celebration party was arranged by the Royal Star and Garter authorities and during Friday morning a stream of visitors wished Mr Hillier a happy birthday. HRH Princess Alexandra, President of the Home paid a surprise visit to meet Mr Hillier. There were also greetings from Prince Charles and from Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary and many others.

As Secretary of the Regimental Association I was very pleased to be invited to be present.

PERSONAL JOTTINGS

Former Sgt Charles Henry Barnes (22246963) who enlisted in 1948 and served until 1969 has joined the Regimental Association. From 1948 to 1964 he served in A, B and S Companies of the 1st Bn. From 1964 to 1967 he was with 5Mx/10 Queens and became Recruiting Sgt at Wembley from 1967-69. On leaving the army he joined the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority Constabulary. He is now a Chief Inspector and lives in Chester. Our congratulations to him on his success.

A recent correspondent was former ACC Cook, Private John Barton (7893384) who was attached to B Company 1st Bn (2/8th) from July 1944 to July 1945.

Colonel and Mrs Ian Batty have recently left on a three month trip to Australia where they hope to make contact with a few Die-Hards.

Captain Ken Beale tells me that he will be retiring from the army in April, after 35 years service, but assures me that he will keep in close touch. Whilst on a recent visit to Cyprus he met Capt John Doran, a former Die-Hard now serving with the Royal Pioneer Corps at Episkopi.

Mr C.C. Bradish, 1st Bn (2/8th) tells me that he was recently knocked over by a motor cycle and suffered a broken arm. Thankfully he is now fully recovered. During the war whilst working in the cookhouse his company named him 'Soapy' owing to the tea having a peculiar taste.

Capt Michael Brock, CBE, MA, F.R.Hist.S. (2/7th), made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature following the publication last November in London of "H.H. Asquith: letters to Venetice Stanley". Also published in New York in March.

Major Arthur Cooper, now 84, who served with the 2nd Bn 1917-19, despite the loss of a leg two years ago tells me that he feels on top of the world. He lives at Ammanford, Dyfed.

Another old Die-Hard to surface is former Sgt H.H. Du Jardin (6196195). Known as 'Duleep' he served in the regiment from 1924-36. At the outbreak of war he was in a reserved occupation. In 1940 this occupation ceased and he was recalled and served with the Die-Hards until 1941 when he transferred to the RASC and served until 1949 when he was discharged on completion of engagement. Sgt Du Jardin will be remembered for all his work in the Bn School assisting members of the regiment to obtain their 3rd, 2nd and 1st Class education certificates. He sends his regards to all his old friends and would be very pleased to hear from any who care to write.

Major Philip Elliott who joined the 8th Bn as far back as 1924 and who served with HQ Company of the 2/8th at the outbreak of the war is a recent correspondent.

Gus Farley, 1/7th Bn, head groundsman at Lords Cricket Ground retired last November. He tells me that he is looking forward to retirement and promises to attend the 1/7th Bn Dinner in April.

Capt(QM) Mick Flynn serving with the 2nd Bn Royal Regiment of Fusiliers at Goose Green, Falkland Islands, writes to say that he will be returning to the U.K. from the South Atlantic in March and that he looks forward to meeting a lot of old friends. In May 1983 he was stationed in Berlin and arranged a Die-Hard reunion on Albuhera Day.

Lt-Col G.L. Fox, 9th Bn, has been admitted to hospital for a check-up. We wish him a speedy and complete recovery.

Ex Private Richard Dixon Girdler (22138776), has joined the Regimental Association. He was a National Serviceman 1949-51 with the 1st Bn.

In early November I wrote to Dougie Goddard, a former 1st Bn stalwart of Hong Kong and told him

that a former 90 year old Die-Hard who served with our 13th Bn lived near him in Armagh. The name of the Die-Hard was George Freeburne who told me that he had never met another member of the regiment since 1918. Dougie Goddard paid him a surprise visit which they both enjoyed. I was also able to put George in touch with George Pegrum who for so many years was the Secretary of the 13th Bn OCA.

Rhoda Hale, wife of Percy tells me that over the Christmas period she heard from the following widows, Mrs Ramsey, Mrs Kifford, Mrs Kruck and Mrs Northcott, whose husbands were all well known and respected Die-Hards. Percy is now housebound but remains cheerful and interested in all regimental activities.

Major George Hartley who served with the 8th Bn writes to say that he is very disappointed that so little news of members of the 8th Bn is reported in the newsletters. Major Clive Summers also mentioned this very same point recently. I have some good news D Company of the 2/8th are hoping to get a party to join in the annual reunion in May. George Hartley also tells me that he was in Hong Kong last year and visited the military cemetery at Stanley and that he was most impressed by the care and attention given to the cemetery.

A recent correspondent was Lt-Col A.S. Hewson, 9th Bn, who is now living at Wallingford near Oxford.

Ex Private John Selway Horton (6206255) has joined the Regimental Association. He enlisted into the 8th Bn T.A. on 24 April 1939. John suffered severe gunshot wounds to the chest and elbow whilst serving with the 1/8th Bn at Dunkirk and was invalided out of the army on 3 September 1941.

Les Hosslen, 1/7th Bn, has retired and moved to Frome, Somerset. We wish Les and Val a long and happy retirement. They will now be able to keep Rocky Knight in check.

Lt-Col Peter Hubert takes over command of 6/7th(V) Bn The Queen's Regiment next month. Our sincere congratulations to him on his appointment and we hope to see him in May during the Albuhera weekend.

Major Tiggitt Hughes represented the 1/7th Bn at the funeral on 30 August 1983 of Maj-Gen D. Wimberley, CB, DSO, MC, DL, who commanded the 51st Highland Division at El Alamein in 1942.

Our congratulations to Major Gilbert Jenkins, MC, (2/7th) on the award of the O.B.E. for services to the Sea Scout Association granted in the Birthday Honours List.

Eddie Johnson, 1/7th Bn, recently fell off a roof that he was repairing and suffered considerable damage. He has had quite a spell in hospital but is making good progress.

Capt Paddy Kenrick and former R.S.M. who on leaving the service became Assistant Secretary at St Andrews Golf Club, Fife, has recently retired and moved back home to County Tipperary. He tells me that he is determined to make a 'pilgrimage' in 1984 to see us all. I have alerted his Die-Hard friends.

A new member of the Regimental Association is ex Private Walter Ernest Landers who served with the 6th Bn from 1917-19. He is now 87 years of age and confined to his house in Rochester, Kent. He tells me that he looks forward to the newsletter so that he knows what is going on!

I was very pleased indeed to hear from former Sgt Jeff Leat who sadly lost his wife recently. Jeff Leat will be well remembered by members of the 1st Bn as Drum Major and Officers Mess Sgt and also for his sporting prowess. He is mine host at 'The Old Inn' near Salisbury, Wilts, so if you are in the area give him a call.

Lt-Col Mike Legg who is Defence Attache, Vienna, was a recent correspondent. He sounds very happy and content.

Former WOII Bob Lomax (6197213) has joined the Regimental Association. Bob served from April 1926 until August 1950. His service details are - 1st Bn 1926-27, 2nd Bn 1927-36, Depot 1936-37, 1st Bn Hong Kong 1937-1841, POW Japan 1941-45, 1945-49 Chester, Depot, N.W. Europe, Chelsea and Depot, 7th Bn 1949-50. Bob survived the Lisbon Maru and was a POW in Kobe. He was a great friend of Percy Hale and the late Charlie Holdford. On leaving the service Bob became a local government officer. He lives at Preston, Paignton, Devon. We hope to see something of him in the future.

Major Norman McL Martin tells me that he has recently remarried and moved to Upton-by-Chester.

Major Tony McManus recently retired and I am awaiting further news.

Ex Private Jack Meadows (6196067) sends his regards to all his friends of the 9th Bn, especially

to Colonel Graham Fox.

Former Die-Hard Sgt Jack Medland who transferred to the R.A.P.C. and reached the rank of WO.1 has recently retired after 37 years service. He is now employed in the Officers Mess RAPC, Worthy Down.

Former Sgt Gordon Thomas Moore (14402034) has joined the regimental association. He served from 12 August 1942 until 21 June 1947. He served at Training Company Chester 1942, 70th Bn Hounslow December 1942 until July 1943, 8th Bn D and HQ Company 1943-44 and on arrival at Blaon Camp Chester in 1945 transferred to the RAEC. He is now a Schoolmaster. For further details see the article on Books elsewhere in the newsletter.

Major Adrian Peal tells me that he is in touch with Lt-Col Blanco Whiting who settled in San Francisco. Lt-Col Whiting is hoping to visit the UK in 1984.

Our Chairman, Brigadier B.A.M. Pielow, was appointed a Justice of Peace, on 14 October 1983.

Former Officers Mess Cpl, 1/7th Bn, Frank A. Rowe, has recently retired and moved to Bisley, Surrey. He recently had a letter from Barry King who was the Officers Mess Cook but now resides in Australia. Barry sends his regards to all his old friends in 1/7th, especially Rocky Knight, Blanco White, Micky Mann, Chalkie, Keith Rump, Ted Allen and many others.

Former CSM and Mrs Heffi Steward recently visited Larnaca, Cyprus. They reported that the old part of the town is almost unchanged. The post card of Larnaca sea front brought back very happy memories.

Colonel Max Summers writes to say how sorry he was that he could not make the Field of Remembrance in November. He hopes to attend next year. He has recently moved from Maidenhead to Gerrards Cross.

Capt Bob Tarrant is now on the road to recovery after his recent illness.

A newly joined member of the Regimental Association is Capt G.J. Thompson-Gordon who served from 1942-46. He was with the 2nd Bn from January 1944 to July 1944.

I was recently sent a newspaper cutting showing Major Bill Ward, MM, celebrating his 90th birthday. In 1931 Bill Ward was transferred from the Grenadier Guards to the Die-Hards, posted to the 2nd Bn and promoted WO(RSM). He was an outstanding RSM and for the next seven years remained with the 2nd Bn. In April 1938 he was promoted Lieutenant (Quartermaster) and posted to the 8th Bn T.A. At the outbreak of war in 1939 he became Q.M. of the 1/8th, eventually retiring in 1949 having seen service in two World Wars. On retirement he went into the hotel business, finally retiring to Wallasey. He still indulges in his favourite pastime of making wine.

Capt G.C.D. Wheeler who served with the 1st Bn in Hong Kong and Korea 1951-52, has joined the Regimental Association. He was with Support Company - Mortars. He was Officer i/c Boxing on the 'Empire Fowey' when the Bn left Hong Kong for UK. In 1957 he joined the 7th Bn T.A., followed by service with the 8th but left when that Bn disbanded.

Ex Private Norman Sidney Yates (22180434) has joined the Regimental Association. He was a National Serviceman who served with the 1st Bn in Korea 1951. With S Company - Assault Pioneers.

OBITUARY

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

CHINNERY - On 28 November 1983, Ex Cpl Albert Chinnery, aged 93 years. Served with the 4th Bn at Mons.

CUBITT - On 6 March 1983, Lt-Col Denzil Yonge Cubitt (20050), aged 82 years. He was commissioned on 24 December 1920 into the Middlesex Regiment, serving with the 1st Bn in Germany, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Palestine, Egypt and the UK. He transferred to the Royal Army Pay Corps with the rank of Captain in November 1935. He retired from the RAPC on 30 November 1957 at Lt-Col (Staff Paymaster 1st Class). On retirement he made his home in Canada where he died.

DILLY - During the early months of 1983, exact date not known, Ex Private William John Dilly (G/6968), aged 87 years. Served from 1914 until 1919 with the 5th(Special Reserve) Bn and the 2nd Battalion.

DURTNALL - On 12 November 1983, Major Richard John Durnell, aged 50 years.

John was commissioned into the Royal West Kent Regiment on 12 February 1954 and retired Queens on 1 April 1969. He served with our 1st Bn from 1960 to 1964 and was with C Company.

EVANS - On 13 August 1983, Ex Private Edward William (Lofty) Evans (6198493), aged 74 years. Lofty Evans enlisted into the regiment in 1928 and served with the 1st Bn at home and overseas. He was the Bn Heavyweight Boxing Champion for 5 years and also Egyptian Command Champion. I do not think he ever lost a fight. An excellent all round athlete excelling at all field sports, especially the Hammer, Shot and Discus. He returned to UK in 1935 and was transferred to the Army Reserve. At the outbreak of war in 1939 he was recalled for service, and not being a trained machine gunner, was posted to the Royal West Kent Regiment with whom he served until 1945.

The name of Lofty Evans is remembered with pride by all pre-war members of the 1st Bn.

GERAGHTY - On 16 December 1983, Ex Private George Christopher Geraghty (6205015), aged 63 years.

Served 1939 to 1942 with the 2nd Bn and was with them at Dunkirk, where he was wounded. At that time he was known as Michael Jones.

HAMMOND - On 15 July 1983, Ex C/Sgt Francis Charles William Hammond (6198040), aged 75 years.

Frank Hammond served from 30 September 1927, at home, Palestine, Egypt, Singapore and Hong Kong. He was posted to the Home Establishment in August 1939 and joined the 1/7th Bn with whom he served in the Middle East, N. Africa and Sicily, when he was wounded and taken POW. Escaping, he rejoined his unit but was posted home for medical treatment. On 27 August 1944 he was posted to the 2nd Bn East Surrey Regiment serving with that unit in Palestine until being discharged to pension on 15th January 1949. A nice clean and pleasant man, he was popular with his fellow men, trusted by his seniors and admired by his subordinates. An able instructor with an understanding manner that produced excellent results.

HARDCASTLE - On 10 November 1983, Major Horace Kenyon Hardcastle, TD, aged 81 years.

Major Ken Hardcastle commenced his service with the regiment and the 9th Bn in 1921. An appreciation of his long service by a brother officer appears at the end of the obituaries.

HIGGINSON - On 3 October 1983, Ex Lt Brian Higginson (449142), aged 46 years.

Brian Higginson, a very popular young officer, completed his National Service with the 1st Bn, serving in Cyprus during 1956 and 57. He was with A Company.

HOWELL - On 15 October 1983, Lt-Col Harry Alfred Adrian Howell, MBE, aged 85 years.

Lt-Col Howell was commissioned into the regiment on 24 April 1918, proceeding to France immediately, where he was wounded. With the 2nd Bn he went to Egypt in 1919 and on to Malaya in 1922. He moved to India in 1924 but returned to Malaya the same year as Assistant Staff Officer, Local Forces, Malaya. In 1928 for his services in Malaya he was awarded the MBE (Military). In 1931 he transferred to the Royal Army Pay Corps. He retired from the Army on 13 July 1949. Lt-Col Howell was a very public spirited man and was a member of the Chester City Council for 23 years, serving on numerous committees. He was also Sheriff in 1964-65 and Mayor of the City of Chester 1965-66.

HURLOCK - On 10 December 1983, Ex Sgt Stanley Hurlock (6200777), aged 69 years.

Stan Hurlock enlisted in early 1933 and on completion of his recruit training was posted to the 2nd Bn. In 1935 he was posted to the 1st Bn then in Egypt and service in Singapore and Hong Kong followed. In April 1940 he was a member of a special draft which left Hong Kong under the command of Captain Vic Cooper and eventually arrived in Egypt where they became a composite Bomb Disposal Team. The official Bomb Disposal Team arrived from UK in late 1941 and this resulted in Stan and the members of the draft being sent to the re-inforcement unit at Moascar. They were dispersed to all kinds of units and being regular soldiers and already having served abroad for 6 years the majority were repatriated to the UK. Stan eventually joined the 2/7th Bn and proceeded with this Bn to North Africa. He was wounded at Anzio and invalided to the UK, followed by medical discharge in June 1945. Stan was a most loyal and dedicated Die-Hard who for many years regularly carried the Regimental Standard on our parades. Nothing was ever too much trouble for him and he would give his time unstintingly to help others. He gave comfort and sound advice to many and was a good family man. As Secretary of the Regimental Association to me he was a stalwart and I shall miss him tremendously. The esteem that he generated was shown by the very large attendance at the funeral service.

JACKSON – On 10 October 1983, Ex Private Reginald Jackson (6199849), aged 70 years.
Reg (Jacko) Jackson enlisted into the regiment early 1932 and on completion of his recruit training and a short spell with the 2nd Bn was posted in 1933 to the 1st Bn then in Egypt. Service in Singapore and Hong Kong followed. He was taken POW at the fall of Hong Kong and was also a survivor of the sinking of the Lisbon Maru. He arrived back in UK in November 1945 and took his discharge in early 1947. He was for many years Q.M. Storeman in the 1st Bn, a prestige job with much responsibility. Jacko was a good all round sportsman and well known as the Bn soccer goalkeeper taking over from L/Cpl Hartley.

For a time he had the nickname of 'Stork' – he always kicked the ball with his left foot. He was also a good hockey player and I was always thankful that we were in the same team. A very popular man of sterling qualities which came to the fore when the chips were down during the POW days. Always exceptionally smart and clean and willing to help others. On leaving the service he found employment with the REME Workshops at Mill Hill, in the Instruments Department. Another good Die-Hard who will be sadly missed.

JENKINS – On 11 August 1983, Ex Cpl Alfred Jenkins (408668), aged 65 years.
Alf Jenkins commenced his army service in 1934 when he enlisted into the 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards stationed at Colchester. His brother Reg was then a Sgt with our 2nd Bn at Colchester (later to be commissioned with the East Surrey Regiment and to retire with the rank of Major). Eventually he became 'saddle sore' and decided that his future would be more comfortable as a Die-Hard. Reg claimed him and in early 1935 Records approved the transfer. In 1938 he was placed on a draft to the 1st Bn, then in Hong Kong, and was of course put in the bag. He was moved to Japan in 1942 and was at Sakurajima Camp, Osaka, working at the Copper mine and at the Shipyard. He returned to the UK in late 1945 and was transferred to the Reserve. After his discharge he joined the Fire Service and was a fireman at Horley Fire Station for 25 years. In 1980 Alf revisited Hong Kong to pay tribute to his comrades who had died in the defence of Hong Kong. He wrote a very nice article about his visit which was published in the December 1980 edition of the newsletter. Another good Die-Hard who will be sadly missed.

LOW – On 16 October 1983, Ex Private Edmund Low (6193855), aged 80 years.
George Low served from 1921 to 1926 with the 1st Bn and then transferred to the RASC.

MOLE – On 11 November 1983, Ex L/Bdr Herbert Ernest Mole (1626330), aged 72 years.
Served with the 9th Bn and was a member of their Old Comrades Branch.

MURRAY – On 17 October 1983, Captain Philip Frederick Murray, aged 87 years.
Captain Murray served with the 1/10th Bn The Middlesex Regiment 1914-16, 2/90th Bn Punjab 1916-19 and the 8th Bn The Middlesex Regiment T.A. 1921 - 1938.
In later life he moved to Australia but was a regular correspondent and about 3 years ago on a trip to UK found time to attend the Officers' Club Dinner. He was very proud of his regiment which was a great part of his life.
His only son, Doctor Patrick Murray, resides at Toowoomba, Queensland, Australia.

NOLDA – On 20 November 1983, Colonel Clinton Nolda, OBE, BA, aged 66 years.
Colonel Clinton was commissioned into the regiment on 27 January 1938 joining on 9 September 1939. He served with the 1st Bn in Korea 1951-52 and commanded the 1st Bn in Cyprus and Germany from July 1957 to November 1959. An appreciation of his service appears at the end of the obituaries.

POPE – On 24 December 1983, Mrs Doreen Pope, aged 53 years.
Mrs Pope was the widow of the late Private Pope (6213579) who died on 11 February 1968 and was a POW with the 1st Bn. Mrs Pope occupied one of the Regimental Flats at Albuhera Close, Enfield.

PRIDY – On 22 September 1983, ex C/Sgt Lawrence Ivor Priddy (6195275), aged 77 years.
Laurie Priddy enlisted into the regiment on 13 February 1922, and on completion of his recruit training was posted to the 1st Bn with whom he served at home, Germany and at Aldershot. He proceeded to China with the Shanghai Defence Force in 1927 returning home in 1928. In December 1931 he proceeded overseas with the 1st Bn serving in Palestine, Egypt, Singapore and finally to Hong Kong until November 1941. On 5 November 1941 he left Hong Kong on a special draft to India and finally ended up at the Bush Warfare School Burma (Chindits) where he remained until 1 July 1942. This was followed by posting to the 13th King's Liverpool Regiment until 24 December 1942. After a stay with the 142 Commando Company, 77 Indian Brigade, he was repatriated to the UK. On arrival he was posted to the 24 MGTC and then on to 26 MGTC and

finally an attachment to the King's Shropshire Light Infantry on POW duties. He was discharged to pension on 11 November 1945. His medals were – 1939-45 Star, Burma Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939-45, Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal. He became a civil servant. His wife died in 1981. He was admitted to the Royal Hospital Chelsea on 1 March 1982 and regularly attended all regimental functions. He became a very popular member of the Royal Hospital. Always smart in appearance, polite and gentlemanly. His funeral was attended by many members of the Regimental Association and the Royal Hospital.

ROCHESTER – On 25 August 1983, ex Private Arthur Rochester (6192416), aged 82 years.
Arthur Rochester enlisted at Mill Hill on 22 April 1920 and joined the 2nd Battalion in Germany on 27 August 1920. He became a battalion signaller and remained so during the whole of his service spent in Singapore and India. A good sportsman especially at hockey and football. He transferred to the Army Reserve on 18 December 1927.

RODELL – On 11 July 1983, ex Cpl Stanley Evelyn Rodell (6200109), aged 71 years.
Cpl Rodell enlisted on 14 April 1931 and saw service with the 1st Bn in Palestine, Egypt, Singapore and Hong Kong. Towards the end of 1938 he returned to the UK and was transferred to the Army Reserve. For many years he was the ration storeman and batman to the late Major (QM) 'Nobby' Clark. He was called up for service in 1939 and again served with the regiment until posted to the Manchester Regiment for period 17 June 1944 – 8 December 1945. In 1979 he had a leg amputated and finally in 1983 the second leg suffered the same fate and he died after a long and painful illness.

SHERBROOKE-WALKER – On 23 October 1983, Ruth Ellen Sherbrooke-Walker, wife of Colonel R.D. Sherbrooke-Walker, OBE, TD, DL.

TEMPLER-SMITH – On 21 October 1983, Lady Madge Templer-Smith, aged 91 years, widow of Sir Harold Templer-Smith. No other details are available.

WALDEN – On 14 August 1983, Mr. Michael Richard Tillyer Walden.
Michael was the nephew of the late Colonel 'Fanny' Walden. He was a regular competitor at our Regimental Golf Meetings and will be sadly missed.

WEBB – On 21 October 1983, Ex Cpl Alan Arthur Webb (23160440), aged 47 years.
Alan Webb served from 9 August 1955 to 8 August 1958 and was promoted to substantive Cpl within one year of enlistment. The majority of his service was with the 1st Bn in Cyprus where he was a very efficient member of the Intelligence Section.

WILDE – On 3 December 1983, Ex Craftsman Robert Wilds (14254440), aged 59 years.
Bob Wilde served with the 1/7th Bn 1944-45, where he was the Armourer Sgts driver mechanic and he was also a vehicle mechanic with the 2nd Bn in Palestine 1945-46.
A regular supporter of all regimental functions.

WOOLCOTT – On 11 August 1983, ex Cpl Edward Woolcott (61976980), aged 75 years.
Cpl Woolcott served from 18 January 1927 until 18 January 1948 and was with the 2nd Bn during the invasion – 6 June 1944.

WORTON – On 22 July 1983, Mrs (Tossie) Evelyn Worton, aged 85 years, wife of Lt-Col J.R.B. Worton.
Tossie Worton regularly attended all Regimental Golf Meetings and will be very sadly missed by us all.

MAJOR H K HARDCASTLE, TD

Ken Hardcastle was the first officer to be commissioned to the 9th Bn after World War I. He was educated at Uppingham, lived at Harrow on the Hill where doubtless he met Jack and Lionel Hewlett who both served in the Volunteer Battalion subsequently to become the 9th Bn T.A., and they both served with the Bn throughout World War I. It so happened that Lionel Hewlett was a solicitor in their family firm Hewlett and Co and Ken was articled to Lionel. Hence his introduction to the 9th Bn.

Early on after joining the battalion he had special leave from his T.A. duties for quite a period because he was reading honours in law. He always aimed high, as the Bn discovered later when he went on an Army Course, for he invariably got a 'D'.

During the General Strike of 1926 the 7th, 8th and 9th Bns formed a composite battalion which was embodied for the emergency. Col C.H. Pank a famous product of the 7th was the C.O. and Ken served under him at Hounslow Heath. Col Pank told the C.O. of the 9th that in Ken he had a winner. So it

proved for he was a tower of strength to the Bn throughout his service. In 1938, when the Bn was required to take on the Searchlight role, Ken was Second in Command and he immediately took a Searchlight Course of instruction and returned with a 'D'.

When the Bn was embodied a year later for World War II it occupied quite a large area of Norfolk but Ken did not remain with the Bn for long as he volunteered to transfer to a Regular Searchlight Regiment which was proceeding to France to join the Expeditionary Force. Most unfortunately, the formation in which his regiment served were cut off at Rouen and Ken became a P.O.W.

After the war Ken had a difficult task on return to civil life. There was much to sort out but he faced it all with his usual determination and overcame his problems. At that time his son Tony was at Rugby School or about to go there and in due course when Tony's period for National Service arrived he was commissioned into the Regiment and spent most of his National Service with the 1st Bn in Korea.

For many years Ken was on the Committee of the Regimental Association as legal adviser. His predecessor in that office being Col W.P. Hewett of the 9th. He was still functioning as such when the Queen's Regiment was created and his contribution legally at that stage was invaluable to the Regimental Association as it was in the intervening years.

Ken was an outstanding personality, whose integrity was absolute and friendship far more than worthwhile. A very loyal Die-Hard held in high regard by the Regiment.

His second wife Pam, to whom he was married shortly after the war, helped him unstintingly during his difficult years after the P.O.W. period, a most devoted partner. They had twin sons. To them all we express great sympathy in their loss which the regiment shares.

The funeral service was attended by Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, Col I.H. Battye, Lt-Col G.L. Fox, Capt R.M. Fox and Capt and Mrs A.M. Hendry.

G.L.F.

COLONEL DENZIL CLINTON LESLIE NOLDA OBE BA

Clinton Nolda died suddenly at his home at Walford, near Ross on Wye on Sunday, 20th November, 1983, three weeks short of his 67th birthday.

He was commissioned into the Regiment from Cambridge where he had graduated as a Bachelor of Arts, at the outbreak of the war in 1939 and served with the 2nd Battalion and at the Depot until July 1940 when he rejoined the 2nd Battalion. In August 1941 he was appointed Adjutant. In October 1943 he went to the Staff College, Camberley on a short war time course for six months. When that ended in March 1944 he joined 1st Manchesters and served with them in Normandy and throughout the North West Europe campaign, first as a company second in command and from October onwards as a company commander.

When the war in Europe ended in May 1945, Clinton was posted out to India as the Brigade Major, Sialkot Area.

On return to the UK in 1947 he joined the Home Counties Brigade Training Centre at Shorncliffe and commanded No 5 Company until he was posted abroad again in 1949 as DAAG, Singapore. From there he joined the 1st Battalion in Korea and served with them until they returned from Hong Kong in 1952.

In 1953 he was at the Military College of Science, Shrivenham and from there he went to the War Office as GSO2, MT3.

In June 1955 he rejoined the 1st Battalion in Warley when they returned from Austria, prior to moving to Cyprus where the EOKA troubles were just starting.

In 1956 he was appointed second in command of the Battalion and took over command when John Ormiston was invalided home, on 16th July 1957. He continued in command when the Battalion returned to the UK in 1958 and went to Germany. He handed over to Ian Battye in November 1959. During his period of command in Cyprus, the Battalion was fully committed in operations against EOKA in which they acquired a well earned reputation and fully upheld the traditions of the Diehards. Much of this success was due to Clinton's drive and determination and the detailed planning which preceded any operation. For his services in Cyprus he was awarded the OBE.

On return to Germany, he was quick to appreciate the problems which raced him. Since its return from Korea and Hong Kong, the 1st Battalion had been largely engaged in garrison duties in Austria, with little scope for battalion or formation training and on Internal Security Operations in Cyprus which,

exacting and demanding as they might be, required specialised training which bore little relevance to the training required for war in North West Europe apart from the individual skills required of any good infantry soldier. The crying need was for a period of company and battalion training so, when it was proposed to move the battalion to Berlin, where they would have been engaged once more on garrison duties, Clinton resisted vigorously and successfully, which success, although to the immense benefit of the Regiment did not necessarily enhance his personal popularity with higher commands.

There then began a period of arduous and intensive training to bring the battalion to a state of readiness for a limited nuclear war which demanded new tactics and new techniques on the battlefield which, saving the outbreak of war itself would be tested in the Rhine Army manoeuvres in the following autumn. It says much for Clinton's foresight and drive that after many hiccups during the lead up period the Battalion acquitted itself with considerable credit in those major formation exercises.

After he relinquished command, he held two 1st grade staff appointments as GSO1 Training at Headquarters Western Command and as AAG Land Forces Hong Kong and then became Commandant of the Sennelager Training Centre, BAOR in the local rank of Colonel, from which he retired from the Army on 6th July 1967. He was a Diehard to the extent of chauvinism, and woe betide anyone who did anything which might prejudice the reputation of the Regiment. He set extremely high standards for himself and expected similar standards from others but he had a deep concern for the welfare of all who were within the scope of his command. Those who had genuine personal problems could be assured of his interest and support. In his private life, with his family to whom he was devoted, and friends, he was relaxed and with an acute sense of humour, a most entertaining companion.

He retired to one of the most beautiful parts of the Wye valley with a view over the river up to Goodrich Castle. There he spent a couple of years when in between renovating his house and creating a lovely garden with his own hands, he coached, on a part time basis, candidates for the Staff College entrance examination who were taking correspondence courses with one of the crammers.

He then became the local field officer for the Country Landowners Association, still on a part time basis, and was so successful in gaining new members that he was invited to take up a full time appointment with the Association as the Director of Recruitment.

Unfortunately he developed Meunieres Syndrome which affects the sense of balance and he had to give up driving. This meant that Joan, his wife, had to act as his chauffeuse and rather than inflict this upon her he retired in 1979.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Joan, Charles and to Rosemary.

The funeral was attended by: Maj-Gen Sir John Willoughby, Lt-Col and Mrs T.W. Chattey, Brig B.A.M. Pielow, Brig B.H. Marciandi, Col I.H. Battye, Lt-Col and Mrs R.D. Hutchings, Major P.D. Marshall, Major and Mrs J.W. Doyle, Major and Mrs G.G. Norton, Major C.L. Lawrence, Major G.O. Porter, Major J.G. Chiverrall, Capt J.S.C. Flavell, Mrs Carol Pearce-Gould and Major A.E.F. Waldron.

R.D.H.

LETTERS

The following very interesting letters are republished for the enjoyment of Die-Hard readers:

From: Capt D.E.M. Kidd
Stangrave Hall
Surrey.

5 September 1983

Dear Ron (Secretary 2/7th)

Many thanks etc etc.

I am also enclosing for your files and exhibition where requested, a snapshot of the Memorial at Albuera (No "H" you notice) raised to the memory of the "Valiantes" who fell there on that May day in 1811. Having read the letter from WO2 J.P. Hamill published in the December 1981 copy of "The Die-Hards" Newsletter I felt that it was a shame that a former member of the 2/7th Bn who spends so much of his time (winterwise) in Spain, and who has seen so much of that country, had not found time to visit the area where his predecessors had covered themselves with glory. It is now the greatest wonder of all to me, and to my wife and friends who made the 1200 miles pilgrimage with me, that any battle was possible at all! The area is laced with Rivers and their tributaries and during the three or four days we spent in the Extramadura, so much fog prevailed that it was almost impossible to see anything more than

100 yards away before mid-day on any day. We were informed also that this weather was quite normal. However, having convinced the very aged proprietor of the village Bar that the battle took place on 16 May 1811 and not on 11 May 1816 (unless the Spaniards arrived late as usual) we groped our way to the square and finally obtained the enclosed. You will no doubt observe that the crowds, like the fog, had dispersed somewhat, and like us, were to be found in another Bar having coffee and a Boccadillo. No mention of any unit involved in the battle but it contains the Bust of the Commanding General (Spanish of course) plus the names of the Spanish Generals (6) and those of their distinguished allies Portuguese (1) and British (5). We departed, feeling no doubt like the gallants who fought there, that there was nothing, territorially speaking, to hang around for! On my return to the U.K. I prevailed on my guest, a retired regular officer, to look up the details of the Battle. He confirms that the Duke was not there and that like so many of my ex-colleagues at times, his movements were well covered by a smoke screen. So much for Albuhera. It is strange, however, the way things keep cropping up. I was at Clandon Park near Guildford a couple of weeks ago and saw that they had a Regimental Museum for the Queens Regiment in the basement. Whilst walking round I saw a notice saying that they were adopting the Battle of Albuhera as the major battle honour of the Regiment and to quote them "The Buffs, and the 57th of Foot, afterwards known as the Middlesex Regiment, both now incorporated into the 'Queens' also took part in the Battle with considerable distinction." So much for my long cherished impression that we did it alone!!!

Yours sincerely

(Sgd) Douglas Kidd

From: Ex Die-Hard R.J. Weedon
Old Contemptible
81 Nettleton Court
Upper Hollingdean Road
Brighton

18 August 1983

Dear Major Waldron

I have much pleasure in sending £1 towards the cost of our Regimental Newsletter. Also many thanks for sending it to me, as I really appreciate reading all those interesting and memorable articles of our beloved old Regiment, Pride of the British Army and Tower of the World. That's what I told the late H.M. Queen Mary in June 1917. I was with a wounded New Zealand soldier who asked me to take him to Hampton Court, we were both in Tooting Grove Hospital at the time - I came home wounded in March 1917 and we met Queen Mary, Princess Mary and the late Prince of Wales as he then was. Queen Mary was very charming and insisted in staying to talk to us. I was thrilled when she said, you are the Middlesex Regiment Corporal, so I duly obliged and said so, she shook hands and wished us good luck. It was a beautiful warm summer day and when we arrived back at the hospital about 5.30, all the nurses knew about us meeting The Queen. How fast did news travel. I was particularly moved about the Service at our old Church at St Paul's Mill Hill, I would love to have been there but at 87 years old travel is a burden. How the college lads at Mill Hill School used to cram the gates watching us going to the church in our scarlet uniforms. Funny enough years afterwards I met a Colonel of the London Scottish in our branch of the Old Contemptibles and he used to tell me how he and the boys used to watch our regiment parade on Sundays. What happy days they were in dear old peaceful Mill Hill. I remember reading an article in the London Evening News in 1911 about our Depot and it stated that Mill Hill Barracks was a show piece barracks for the army, and so it was. All good wishes to all Officers and Other Ranks of the old Die-Hards. God bless em. Enclosed is a photograph of The Ridgeway, Mill Hill 1912.

(Sgd) R J Weedon Ex 14843 served with
2nd and 3rd Bns 1913-19

BOOKS

PRELUDE TO BATTLE by Gordon Moore (Midas Books) £7.50.

This book is recommended for two reasons. Firstly it provides an excellent reminder what life was like for a young soldier being posted to the infantry in the middle of the last world war. For all those who served Gordon Moore's factional (mixture of fact and fiction) autobiography will bring back strong memories of comradeship, discipline, growing up pains and the courting of young ladies.

Secondly the author commenced his service at the Training Company Chester in 1942, then with the 70th battalion at Hounslow December 1942 until July 1943 and finally with the 8th Bn The Middlesex Regiment, D and HQ Companies 1943-44. In 1945 he transferred to the RAEC and was discharged on 21 June 1947. Profits from the sale of this book will be donated to the Earl Haig fund, our Regimental Association and local service charities.

Copies of this book can be obtained by writing direct to Gordon Moore, 4 Barrel's Pitch, Chipping Campden, Glos GL55 6HP. Price £7.50.

THE DIE-HARDS IN KOREA

The second edition of "The Die-Hards in Korea" is now on sale at £5, including postage and packing.

Copies can be obtained from the Secretary, Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, Lynsore Bungalow, Upper Hardres, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6EE. Cheques should be made payable to the Middlesex Regimental Association.

REGIMENTAL GOODS

1. Can anyone help? A member requires two large embossed blazer buttons and two small embossed blazer buttons. If you can help please inform the Secretary.
2. The following regimental goods are available for purchase. These can be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, Lynsore Bungalow, Upper Hardres, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6EE. Cheques should be made payable to the Middlesex Regimental Association.

Badges Blazer, Middlesex	£5.00 each
Ice Buckets, miniature side drum with regimental emblazon	£10.50 each
Glass, Whisky tumbler engraved Middlesex Regt badge	£4.00 each
Ties Regtl Old pattern Terylene	£1.75 each
Ties Regtl New pattern Terylene	£1.75 each
Ties, Officers' Club Silk	£2.50 each
Wall Plaques, Middlesex	£9.50 each

Postage is included in the price.

D. Isom (Printers) Ltd.,
Herne Bay, Kent.