



The Die-Hards

NEWSLETTER

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LAYING UP OF COLOURS IN ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

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

The Die-Hards laid up their last Colours at the Albuhera Service of Remembrance held in St Paul's Cathedral on Saturday, May 18. These Colours were:

1. The finial of the Colours of the 1st Battalion which were buried in Hong Kong in 1941 and recovered by Major H. Marsh in 1945. This finial is all that remains of the Colours presented by HRH The Prince of Wales at Colchester on October 21, 1931.
2. The Colours of the 1st Battalion which were presented by Field-Marshal Sir John Harding at Zeltweg, Austria, on September 27, 1953. It was a sad and very moving occasion.

The service was held in the Cathedral and the congregation of about 1,000 filled the dome and extended into the main aisle.

In the front pew were Major-General C. M. M. Man, CB, OBE, MC, the last Colonel of the Middlesex Regiment (DCO), and Mrs. Man, and Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, OBE, DL, Deputy Colonel (Middlesex) The Queen's Regiment, and Mrs. Clayton. Both Major-General Man and Col. Clayton were to take an important part in the service.

Amongst the congregation were the following official guests:

The Deputy Chairman of the Greater London Council and Mrs. Fielding, escorted by Major-General Sir John Willoughby, KBE, CB.

The Director General and Clerk to the Greater London Council and Mrs. Swaffield.

The Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman and Mrs. Hart) of the London Borough of Barnet.

The Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. W. J. Dromey) of the London Borough of Brent.

The Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. E. J. Hartnett) of the London Borough of Harrow.

The Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. T. A. Bligh) of the London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames.

Prebendary G. A. Lewis-Lloyd, MBE, Hon. Chaplain to 2/10th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, OCA, and Mrs. Lewis-Lloyd.

Major-General R. S. N. Mans, CBE, Deputy Colonel (Surrey) The Queen's Regiment, and Mrs. Mans.

Brigadier R. E. Loder, CBE, DL, Deputy Colonel (Sussex) The Queen's Regiment.

Brigadier M. J. A. Clarke, MBE, Divisional Brigadier, The Queen's Regiment, and Mrs. Clarke.

Lt.-Col. M. V. Hayward, OBE, Commanding 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment, and Mrs. Hayward.

Lt.-Col. J. M. Hewson, MC, Commanding 6th (V) Battalion The Queen's Regiment, and Mrs. Hewson.

Major T. A. Coombs, Commanding Highgate School CCF, and Mrs. Coombs.

Mr. G. H. Dufton, Hon. Secretary, The Middlesex Association, and Mrs. Dufton.

Mrs. A. M. Toye, widow of Brigadier A. M. Toye, VC, MC.

Dr. and Mrs. C. T. Newnham, son and daughter-in-law of the late Col. L. A. Newnham, GC, MC,

Mrs. G. Edwards, widow of Sgt. F. J. Edwards, VC.

Special seats were reserved for the following who

were closely connected with the Colours to be laid up:

Col. M. Crawford,
DSO, DL, JP ... Colour Ensign at presentation in 1931
Major J. I. D. Pike, MC ... Colour Ensign at presentation in 1953
Major H. Marsh ... Recovered the finial in 1945

On this sad occasion the Colours were carried by:
Finial ... Lt. D. R. Pollard
Queen's Colour ... Lt. A. H. Carter
Regimental Colour ... Lt. D. C. N. Polden
and were escorted by WO2 G. W. N. Holland, C/Sgt. A. Burford and C/Sgt. R. Dickens.

The service was conducted by the Canon in Residence, the Rev. Canon Douglas Webster, assisted by the Succentor, the Rev. S. R. Cutt, and the Rev. E. M. Fortune, Rector of Berrow, near Malvern, who had been Chaplain to the 1st Battalion at Zeltweg, Austria, when the Colours now to be laid up were consecrated in 1953.

During the singing of the opening hymn, "Praise my soul the King of Heaven", the Colours were carried in slow time to the High Altar.

The colour party having reached their places before the High Altar the Canon in Residence said:

"We are gathered together in this Cathedral Church of St. Paul to lay up these Colours of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment. No more fitting place could be found wherein to deposit these emblems of duty and service than the House of God, where praise and prayer are wont to be made".

Then Major-General C. M. M. Man, CBE, OBE, MC, the last Colonel of the Middlesex Regiment,

said:

"This finial which is all that was recovered in 1945 from the consecrated Colours of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment buried in the gardens of Government House, Hong Kong, before the Colony was captured by the Japanese in 1941, I now deliver into your hands for safe custody within these walls".

Then Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, OBE, DL, Deputy Colonel (Middlesex) The Queen's Regiment, continued:

"These consecrated Colours of the 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment, formerly carried in service of the Queen and Commonwealth, I now deliver into your hands for safe custody".

The Colours, having been handed over, the Canon in Residence, replied:

"I receive these Colours for safe custody within this cathedral church".

After the Colours had been placed on the High Altar, Major-General Man, Col. Clayton and the colour party returned to their places.

Following prayers, which included the Middlesex Regimental Collect and a special prayer for those who fell at the Battle of Albuhera, and the singing of that well-known hymn, "Fight the good fight", an excellent and most appropriate address was given by that most loyal of Die-Hards, the Rev. Peter Pearce Gould, OBE, MA, who is now Rector of Backwell, Bristol.

This memorable service, which we are sure is unlikely to be forgotten by those who attended it, ended with the singing of that famous hymn, "O God our help in ages past", followed by the Blessing and the National Anthem.

PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

Troops of The Queen's Regiment gave a really royal welcome to their Allied Colonel-in-Chief, Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, when Her Majesty presented new Colours to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th (V) Battalions on Saturday, May 4. The ceremony at the Honourable Artillery Company's Headquarters at Armoury House in London was watched by more than 5,000 spectators.

Chief guests were the Ambassador of the other Allied Colonel-in-Chief, Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, the Lord Lieutenants and High Sheriffs of Greater London, Surrey, Kent and Sussex, the Lord Mayors of London and Belfast, The Constable of the Tower of London (Field-

Marshal Sir Richard Hull), the Colonel Commandant of the Honourable Artillery Company (General Sir Rodney Moore) and the Mayors or Council Chairmen of 15 boroughs in Surrey, Kent, Sussex and Middlesex, all of whom have honoured The Queen's Regiment by the grant of Freedom or adoption.

As the 2nd Battalion is in Germany and the 3rd Battalion in Gibraltar, the four guards on parade were made up from the 1st and 5th (Volunteer) Battalions under the command of Lt.-Col. M. V. Hayward. The parade entered the parade ground led by 160 musicians from the four bands and corps of drums of The Queen's Regiment, under the



The Trooping of the old Colours before being marched off for the last time. The Colours from left to right are 1st Queen's Surreys, 1st Queen's Own Buffs, 1st Royal Sussex, 1st Middlesex and 4th Buffs.

With acknowledgements to the Kentish Gazette.

command of Capt. D. E. Pryce, the Director of Music.

Queen Margrethe, wearing a scarlet coat and royal blue bonnet, was received with a Royal Salute. Then, accompanied by Prince Henrik and the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General Fergus Ling, Her Majesty inspected the parade.

The inspection over, there came an emotional moment as the five stands of old Colours were trooped and marched off for the last time. They were the 1st Queen's Surrey (presented in 1960), the 1st Queen's Own Buffs (presented in 1962), the 1st Royal Sussex (presented in 1954), the 1st Middlesex (presented in 1953) and the 4th Buffs (presented in 1960). It was hard not to weep as the 10 Colours and their escorts slowly progressed down the ranks in single file.

The new Colours were then uncased, laid on the drums which had been piled on the parade ground, and consecrated in turn by the Chaplain-General, the Venerable Archdeacon J. R. Youens.

Queen Margrethe presented the Colours and, in reply to Her Majesty's address, Major-General Ling said that all ranks of the Regiment were proud and delighted to welcome her.

With the parade re-formed and the drums unpiled, the Colours were received with a general salute and marched to the centre of the parade. Then followed the march past in quick time and the advance in review order.

After the Royal salute the troops gave three cheers for Queen Margrethe and the parade moved off to exercise the Regiment's privilege of marching through the City of London "with colours flying, drums beating and bayonets fixed". The Lord Mayor took the salute at the Mansion House.

ALBUHERA DAY

The following customs were again observed on Albuhera Day this year:

A floral wreath in memory of those who fought at Albuhera was laid on our regimental memorial at Inglis Barracks by Col. F. Walden, deputising for our Deputy Colonel.

The Middlesex regimental flag was flown from the Middlesex Guildhall in Parliament Square throughout the day.

REGIMENTAL DERBY SWEEPSTAKE 1974

The Derby sweepstake organised in aid of the Regimental Association Charitable Fund was extremely well supported this year.

Whilst each year there has usually been an increase in the sale of tickets and donations over the previous year, the increase this year has been a record—£65 in fact more than last year. This is most encouraging and is due mainly to the keenness and enthusiasm of the team of helpers at the County Office at Edgware.

The receipts from the sale of tickets and donations, and the distribution of the prize money, were as follows:

Receipts and Expenditure			
	£	£	
Received from sale of tickets and donations		250.93	
Less: Printing and Stationery	32.49		
Postage	7.00		
Registration Fee	1.25		
Administrative Expenses	2.00		
		42.74	
Available for distribution		208.19	
Distribution			
	£	£	
Association Charitable Fund		104.10	
(50% of net proceeds)			
Prize Money:			
1st prize (25% of net proceeds)	52.05		
2nd prize (15% of net proceeds)	31.22		
3rd prize (10% of net proceeds)	20.82		
		104.09	
Total		208.19	
The following were the prize winners:			
1st—Middlesex Regimental Association (per A. N. Other)			
2nd—Capt A. F. Hill			
Hill House			
6 Albemarle Street			
London W1X 3HF			
3rd—Mr C. Taylor			
17 Mayfield Avenue			
Southgate			
London N.14			

Since 1967, when these Derby sweepstakes were organised, a total of £741.27 has been handed over to the Secretary of the Regimental Association. This magnificent bonus should please those members of the Executive Committee who are responsible for the finances of our Association.

F.W.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT GOLFING SOCIETY

SPRING MEETING 1974

A most enjoyable meeting was held on the course of the North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, on Friday, May 3, in dull but good conditions.

A total of 23 took part—one less than last year—and we were particularly pleased to have with us Major Philip Marshall, who had not taken part in our meetings for some time, and his son, Nicholas.

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

Medal Competition—Scratch and Handicap			
	Scratch	H/cap	Net
Mr. N. A. Taylor (winner handicap and Darjeeling Cup)	92	22	70
Lt.-Col. J. R. B. Worton (runner up handicap)	88	17	71
Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey (winner scratch, and Transvaal Cup)	84*	12	72
Capt. R. J. Tarrant	97	24	73
Major J. I. D. Pike	99	24	75
Mr. M. R. T. Walden	92	16	76
Master Howard Clayden	100	24	78
Mr. G. Taylor	100	22	78
Mr. T. F. Jones	80	10	79
Capt. M. S. Gedyne (runner-up scratch)	84*	4	80
Mr. C. Holdford	104	24	80
Capt. P. S. Ingham	91	10	81
Major A. R. Bisset	93	12	81
Lt.-Col. C. N. Clayden	106	20	86
Mr. D. Gretton (Guest)	111	24	87
Lt.-Col. J. M. Hewson	117	24	93
Mr. N. Brooks	121	23	98
Mr. Nicholas Marshall	124	24	100
Major P. D. H. Marshall	131	24	107
Mr. B. Millard (Guest) (Divot)	136	24	113
Major R. C. H. Bellers	NR	23	NR
Major S. E. Honess	NR	24	NR
Mr. E. Johnson	NR	24	NR

*The winner of the Scratch competition was decided on the score over the last six holes.

Stableford Foursomes

	Points
Mr. T. F. Jones and Master Howard Clayden (winners, Cooper Cup)	30
Capt. P. S. Ingham and Mr. N. A. Taylor (runners up)	26
Capt. M. S. Gedyne and Mr. C. Holdford	24
Messrs. G. A. Taylor and Nicholas Marshall	24
Mr. N. Brooks and Capt. R. J. Tarrant	23
Lt.-Col. J. R. B. Worton and Major A. R. Bisset	22
Mr. M. R. T. Walden and Major J. I. D. Pike	20
Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey and Major P. D. H. Marshall	19

Before asking Mrs "Tossie" Worton kindly to present the prizes Lt.-Col. Tom Chattey thanked all those present for supporting the meeting.

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Curator: Major R. W. J. Smith, MBE, TAVR Centre, Deansbrook Rd., Edgware, Middx.

The following are recent acquisitions for the museum:

- Medals of Lille, Roubaix and Wattrelos.
- Commissions of Lieut-Colonel Frederick Graham.
- Queen's South African Medal.
- Relief of Ladysmith Ribbon.
- History of 16th (Public Schools) Service Battalion.

Medals of Lille, Roubaix and Wattrelos

The ceremonies telling of the presentation of the three medals to the regiment was published in the *Die-Hards Newsletter* of March 1974. Illustrations of the obverse side of these are shown on page 7.

The medal of Lille measures 4 cm in diameter, bearing the arms of Lille on the obverse and on the reverse side are bas-reliefs of notable buildings and engraved wording "Au Middlesex Regiment le 25 Novembre 1973" on the exergue. The city has a long and interesting history, the original spelling being "L'Isle", after the castle of Count Baldwin of Flanders. A notable son of the city in more recent times was the late Charles de Gaulle, whose birthplace it was. One of the most highly industrial regions in France, it suffered great economic damage during the two German wars, especially the last war from Allied air raids on railways and industrial installations. On September 4, 1944, the city was "captured" by three British soldiers who found the FFI (Forces Francaises L' Interieur), already in control, the main German force having withdrawn. 'Isle thread, originally made in Lille, is derived from the old spelling of the name of the city.

The medal of Roubaix measures 7.5 cm in diameter with the arms of the obverse and on the reverse side a circle within a wreath with the wording "La Ville de Roubaix" in bas-relief and engraved the words "au Middlesex Regiment 24.11.1973". It is a splendid gilt medal, the work of M. Dudois.

The Medal of Wattrelos is 5 cm in diameter and, as for the two medals above has the arms on the obverse, the reverse having in bas-relief, "La Ville de Wattrelos and engraved, the words "au Middlesex Regiment 24.11.1973".

The largest concentration of industrial population in Northern France is the Lille-Roubaix-Wattrelos district, the three names as written above often being shown hyphenated.

The medals along with the certificate and the insignia of the Croix du Capitaine Michel presented to the regiment will be suitably mounted and displayed together in a special case.

Presented by the Mayors and citizens of Lille Roubaix and Wattrelos.

Commissions of Lieut-Colonel Frederick Graham

The four parchment commissions of Frederick Graham are those of Ensign, 1868, Lieutenant 77th Regiment, 1871, Captain 1879 and Adjutant of Militia 1882. Two bear the autograph signature of Queen Victoria and two of HRH The Duke of Cambridge, who held the appointment of Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief.

Frederick Graham was the son of Major-General Stewart Frederick Graham of the Bengal Army who was the fifth son of the 8th Baronet of Esk. His steps in promotion were as follows: Ensign, 6-1-1868; Lieutenant 28-10-1871; Captain 15-11-1879; Major 21-12-1885; and Lieut-Colonel 21-12-1893.

After service with the regular forces from 1868 to 1882, he joined the 4th Battalion (Militia) The Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment). His Commanding Officer was Lieut-Colonel Frederick Robertson Aikman, VC, who was awarded the Victoria Cross during the Indian Mutiny when serving with the 3rd Sikh Cavalry. With a hundred men he attacked 500 infantry, 200 horse and two guns who were assisted by the guns of an adjacent fort. He routed the enemy, driving them into the Goomtee, the river on which Lucknow stands. During the melee, he was slashed across the face with a sabre and disfigured for life, a life which closed in October 1888, he having dropped dead at a ball in Scotland.

Major Graham's term as Adjutant of the 4th (Militia) Battalion expired in October 1886, three months after Colonel Aikman retired from command. The Adjutancy was taken over by Captain F. D. Lumley, also a 77th officer, who during 1914-18 was the Brigadier-General commanding the 1st Thames—Medway Reserve Brigade in which his old Militia battalion under its new designation was serving. Both Brigadier-General Lumley, CB, CBE, and Lieut-Colonel Graham saw the 4th Battalion (Militia) become the 6th Battalion (Militia) in 1900 when the 4th—Regular—Battalion was raised.

As adjutant of a Militia unit, Major Graham proved an excellent disciplinarian, Militia units being infamous for the trouble they caused when they descended on a town for their annual training. The following letter from the lessee of Hounslow Heath, written July 25, 1884, shows the high standard of the unit after his two years as Adjutant, "Dear Sir, Your men have behaved so well, and they have been kept to the camp ground, that if you will accept the £2, to be given as a prize at the sports today which you agreed to pay me for allowing them to bathe in the river, I shall take it as a favour, and

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should like you to call it the Hounslow Heath prize. With regard to making up the hedge I will have that done. And I have to thank you for the way the men have been kept from doing any damage on the heath.

I am yours truly, J. Marshall.

Not only did the Adjutant of a Militia unit in those days have to be a firm disciplinarian, he also had to feed the regular forces with able officers and soldiers. One of these officers was Lieutenant N. W. Massey who was killed in action whilst serving with the Egyptian Army under Hicks Pasha, when the force was betrayed by their guide and annihilated at Kordofan in 1883. A "cheese" pattern side-drum used during this campaign was later recovered by the avenging army and given to the battalion in memory of Lieutenant Massey. This side drum can now be seen in the regimental museum.

Presented by Mrs. Fergus Graham, widow of Commander Fergus Graham, RN, and daughter-in-law of Colonel Frederick Graham.

Queen's South Africa Medal

This medal was issued to 4785, Private C. Greenhead of the 2nd Battalion of the regiment. It has seven bars, including a date bar and three "State bars". The date bar is "South Africa 1901", and the State bars are "Cape Colony", "Orange Free State", and "Transvaal". The other bars, those for a specific action, are "Tugela Heights", "Relief of Ladysmith" and "Laing's Nek". The medal is that of the second striking as are all others issued to our regiment. The original striking bore the dates 1899-1900 on the reverse and the wreath of Britannia points to the "R" in Africa whereas it points to the "F" in the second.

The obverse of the medal has the crowned and veiled head of Queen Victoria and legend "Victoria Regina Et Imperatrix" whilst the reverse shows the standing figure of Britannia with, in her left hand, a flag and the right hand holding out a laurel wreath towards advancing soldiers. In the background are two iron-clads. The words "South Africa" are around the top of the medal.

The story of the 2nd Battalion, The Mounted Infantry units of the regiment and our Volunteer Companies has been told in previous publications of the Regimental Journal.

Dates for the respective bars on this medal are as follows "Cape Colony" (October 11, 1899-May 31, 1902), and was awarded for service within the colony between these dates. "Tugela Heights" (February 14-27, 1900). "Orange Free State" (February 28, 1900-May 30, 1902). "Relief of Ladysmith" (December 15, 1899-February 28, 1900). For the 2nd Battalion this covers the actions at Spion Kop (January 24, 1900), "Transvaal" (May 24, 1900-May 31, 1902), "Laing's Nek" (June 12, 1900). "South Africa 1901" was a bar awarded to those who did not qualify for the King's Africa Medal (1901-1902) though they had served at the front between January 1 and December 31, 1901. The State bars were for service in the various states where so many minor actions were fought which did not come under the term of a battle and so deserving a special bar.

Presented by Miss Doris Greenhead, daughter of the late Pte. C. Greenhead.

Relief of Ladysmith ribbon

This ribbon 2½ inches wide and 26 inches in length was manufactured after Ladysmith was relieved. It is a red ribbon with gold lettering in three lines, the top line reading "Relief of Ladysmith, Feb 28 1900", in ¼ inch letters. The centre line in ¼ inch letters has clasped hands with the names "Buller" and "White" on either side. The bottom line of 3/16 inch letters reads "2nd Battalion (DCO) Middlesex". The names Buller and White refer to Sir Redvers Henry Buller, VC, who relieved Sir George Stewart White, VC, after the latter's memorable defence of Ladysmith. Sir Redvers Buller won his Victoria Cross during the Zulu War at Inhlobana, March 1879, when he rescued three men from certain death at the risk of his own life. Sir George White was awarded his Victoria Cross at Charasiah, Afghanistan, October 1879 when he led an attack on a strongly fortified hill, taking a rifle and going on by himself, shot the enemy leader. This decided the fight as the Afghans then fled. An interesting note is that another holder of the Victoria Cross was a commander in S. Africa, Lord Roberts, VC, who had won his decoration during the Mutiny in 1858.

The ribbons were worn by young ladies in their straw picture-hats whilst the young sprigs wore them around their boaters—or if a Cockney, their "donkey's breakfast". The hysterical reaction to the Relief of Mafeking and of Ladysmith are now amusing history. In the early years of this century John Bull took his joys in a very robust manner.

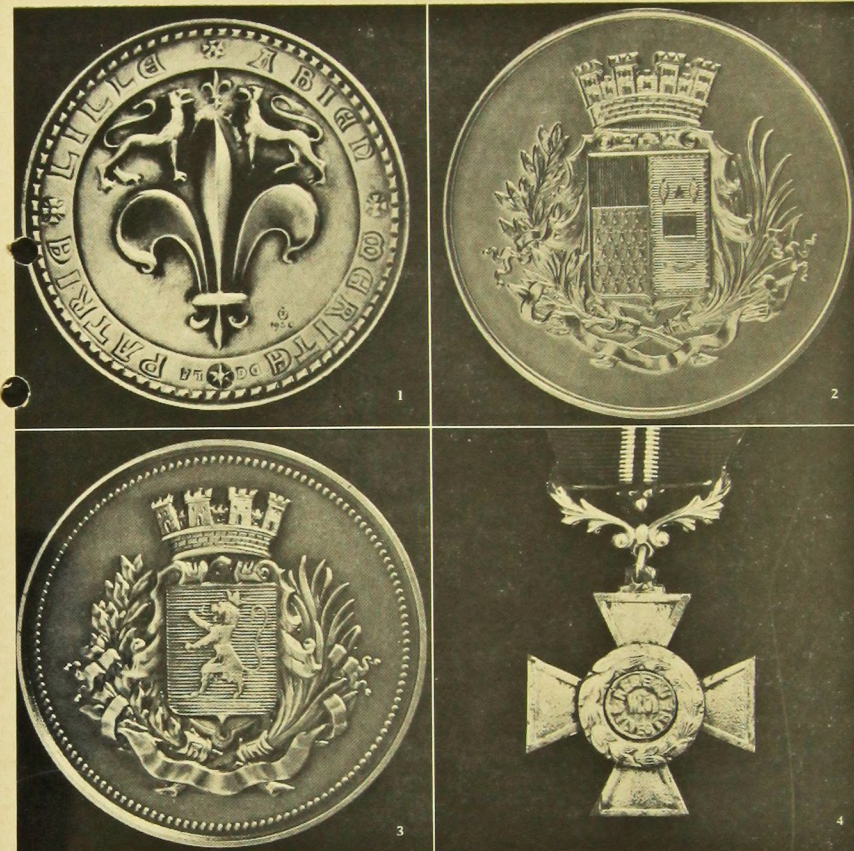
Presented by Miss Doris Greenhead, daughter of the late Pte. C. Greenhead.

History of The 16th (Public Schools) Service Battalion

A reference to the private and unofficial history of this splendid battalion was given in the Newsletter of May 1973. A copy of this unique publication is now in the museum archives.

The battalion not only proved its gallantry as a fighting force, it was also an "officer finding" unit, supplying excellent leaders of men within its own establishment also to other battalions of the regiment and other regiments of the B.E.F. The price of gallantry was high, the Regimental Roll of Honour showing 44 officers and 719 other ranks who laid down their lives. Recognition of gallantry is shown in the following awards: Bar to DSO, 2; DSO, 4; Two bars to MC, 1; Bar to MC, 3; MC, 11; DCM, 46; MID, 16; French Croix de Guerre, 3; Belgian Croix de Guerre, 1; Cross of St. George (Russian) 1. In addition to the above honours, the last Commanding Officer of the battalion, Lieut-Colonel J. Forbes-Robertson, who already held the DSO and bar, won the Victoria Cross two months to the day after leaving the battalion on its disbandment. Another honour won by a member of the battalion was that of PS/1147 Piper John McFarlane Crawford who won the Military Medal with the 2nd Battalion after the battalion had taken over the Pipe Band. Piper Crawford settled in Rhodesia after the war and corresponded with the writer of these notes from that country.

The 16th Battalion was unique in having a Pipe Band as already mentioned in the article referred to



During the visit to Lille in November 1973 in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the death of Capt. Michael Trotobas, which was fully reported in the March issue of The Die-Hards Newsletter the medals, illustrated above, were presented to the Regiment, and are now housed in the Regimental Museum at Bruce Castle.

1. Ville de Lille
2. Ville de Roubaix.
3. Ville de Wattrelos.
4. Croix du Capitaine Michel.

above from the pen of Colonel W. B. Purnell. The "Pipes of War" by Colonel Seton and Pipe-Major Grant, mentioned the names of eleven of the 16th Battalion pipers, namely P/Major Chas. Stewart, Cpl. Thos. Gibson, Pipers John Grant, William Sloan, Fred Carruthers, Norman McDonald, Dugald McFarlane, Henry Mitchelson, Thos. Latham, James Gilchrist and John Kerr, all of whom were recruited from Glasgow by Major J. J. McKay, the officer who was Chairman of a small Committee authorised to raise the battalion, and who became the first second-in-command of the battalion. Correspondence is still kept up by that indefatigable Bandsman Mr. A. R. Drane, with one of the original Pipers, Mr. William Sloan, BEM, whose regimental number was PS/2178. Mr. Sloan is a notable figure in the Piping world and was Pipe Major of the band which won the World's Championships four times. He is now the Hon President of the Scottish Pipe Band Association.

With reference to regimental numbers, the men who enlisted into the 16th Battalion, all subsequently had the prefix "PS" before the figures. This system was a common one during World War I for regular, specialist and various battalions and remained until the introduction of Army numbers. The unusual numbering of the 16th Battalion is that, on its formation, it had Company numbers, the original roll showing 'A', 'B' and 'C' Companies having numbers 1 to 200 and 'D' Coy, 1 to 31! The donor of this history is shown as No. 1 of 'D' Coy-Williams T.S."

Presented by Captain T. Sarl Williams.

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OFFICERS' CLUB COCKTAIL PARTY

A total of 96, including official and private guests, attended the Club Cocktail Party held at the United Service and Royal Aero Club on Albuhera Day.

In accordance with our usual custom, the nearest relations of former officers were invited as official guests and the following accepted and were present: Sqn.-Ldr. and Mrs. J. M. Abell, son and daughter-in-law of the late Major W. H. Abell.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Bicknell, son and daughter-in-law of the late Lt.-Col. H. P. F. Bicknell.

Mrs. G. A. H. Bower, widow of Major G. A. H. Bower, and daughter.

Mrs. E. J. B. Budden, widow of Capt. E. J. Budden.

Mrs. M. S. del Court, widow of Lt.-Col. S. F. W. M. del Court.

Mrs. G. W. P. Hodding, widow of Major G. W. P. Hodding.

Mrs. D. E. Hogg, widow of Lt.-Col. F. G. Hogg, and friend.

Mrs. M. A. Jacob, widow of Major M. A. Jacob.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jackson, son-in-law and daughter of the late Col L. C. Dams.

Mrs. J. K. Maitland, MBE, widow of Col. J. K. Maitland, and son.

Mrs. A. V. Weller, widow of Major A. V. Weller.

Members present were:

Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, President	Major W. H. Grogan
Major-Gen. Sir John Willoughby	Major A. M. H. Jones
Brigadier B. B. Rackham	Major G. Kent
Brigadier D. B. Rendell	Major C. L. Lawrence
Col. M. Crawford	Major D. V. Littlejohn
Col. W. D. Ellis	Major I. M. E. Lloyd
Col. H. J. A. Moore	Major F. J. Millard
Col. B. A. M. Pielow	Major B. St. G. A. Reed
Col. R. D. Sherbrooke-Walker	Major C. E. E. Scott
Col. J. N. Shipster	Major R. W. J. Smith
Col. M. H. Summers	Major A. E. F. Waldron
Col. F. Walden	Major M. Wild
Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey	Capt. D. J. Daniel
Lt.-Col. J. C. du Parc Braham	Capt. S. le M. Enthoven
Lt.-Col. R. D. Hutchings	Capt. J. S. C. Flavell
Major E. A. Bull	Capt. J. G. Lofting
Major R. M. Cain	Capt. J. Spencer-Richards
Major A. J. Cheffins	Capt. J. R. C. Riseley
Major H. E. Couch	2/Lt. J. P. A. Day
Major P. Donovan	

FREE NEWSLETTERS

The Editor wishes to thank Capt. T. F. G. Carless, MC, Mr. A. J. Hastie, Mr. A. Hughes, Mr. K. Lloyd and Mr. S. F. Sibley for their generosity in paying extra subscriptions so that free issues of *The Die-Hards Newsletter* can be sent to deserving old comrades.

THE MARCH ISSUE 1974 (No. 25)

The Editor much regrets that, owing to totally unexpected circumstances, the March issue of *The Die-Hards Newsletter* was considerably delayed in publication.

PERSONAL JOTTINGS

When paying his annual subscriptions for 1974 ex-Pte. A. A. Bradley (22186443), who lives in Maryport, Cumbria, sent his best wishes to all members of the Regimental Association. He served with the 1st Battalion in Austria and Cyprus from 1953 to 1955 and at one time was batman to Col. K. J. Carter.

One of our most recently joined members of the Regimental Association holds the senior warrant rank (conductor) in the Army. He is Conductor A. N. Carman, RAOC, who started his Army career as a Die-Hard in January 1941 when he enlisted as No. 6216244 and was sent to 24 MGTC at Chester to undergo basic recruit and MMG training. From there he was posted to the 70th (Young Soldiers) Battalion, then stationed at the Cavalry Barracks, Hounslow. In 1944 he was posted as an MMG instructor to 5th Battalion The Cheshire Regiment at Treardur Bay, Anglesey, and promoted to the rank of sergeant. Soon afterwards he was transferred to the Army Physical Training Corps and in 1953 to the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, where he has had a most successful career. He is now the vehicle specialist at the Central Vehicle Depot at Ashchurch, near Tewkesbury, Glos.

In his younger days he was a first-class footballer, and was in 1948-49 the goalkeeper of the Army (Egypt) Soccer XI.

One of our most regular players, ex-Sgt. Bert Chillery, was this year missing from the Spring Golf Meeting on May 3. This was due to the fact that on that very day he celebrated his 65th birthday and, to use his own words, "had to attend some sort of presentation".

Whilst wishing him a belated happy birthday, we shall look forward very much to having him with us again at the Autumn Meeting on October 11.

Ex-C/Sgt. "Clem" Clements (22276303), well known to past members of the 1st Battalion, has recently undergone a major operation to remove two ulcers.

We are glad to be able to report that he is now on the mend, and we wish him a speedy recovery to full health again.

It is probably not generally known that the Earl of Donoughmore, who, with the Countess, made a marked impression in this country by their cool, matter-of-fact handling of a nasty adventure when they were recently kidnapped by the IRA, is connected with the Regiment through an ancestor, General Sir John Hely-Hutchinson.

The General was appointed Colonel of the 57th in September 1806 and held that post until April 1811, when he was transferred to the 18th Royal Irish Regiment. In 1825 he succeeded his brother as the second Earl of Donoughmore and lived on the family estate at Knocklofty, Clonmel, where the kidnapping of the present Earl of Countess took place.

After they had been released a letter was sent to the Earl by the Regiment congratulating him and

the Countess on the excellent struggle they had put up, but at the same time letting him know that it was no more than we should have expected from someone whose forebear was a Die-Hard. In his reply the Earl said how much he had appreciated our letter.

A recent recruit to the Regimental Association is Phil Dyer (23067788), who was called up in September 1954 and served in the ranks with the 1st Battalion in Zeltweg, Austria, and Cyprus, where he was promoted sergeant in 1957. On completion of his National Service he was attached to 11th Parachute Battalion (our 8th Battalion) and he eventually joined the Territorial Army in 1961. He was commissioned in 1965 and transferred to the Regular Army Reserve of Officers in 1968 in the rank of lieutenant.

It is most unusual these days to find Territorial Army officers who have been awarded the third clasp to their Territorial Decoration. It was, therefore, a matter of considerable interest and pleasure, as a result of publishing this award to Lt.-Col. Graham Fox in the last issue of the *Newsletter*, to be informed that Col. Desmond Ellis had also been awarded his third clasp back in 1961. He is another of our officers who has given many years of devoted service not only to the Territorial Army but also to the Army Cadets.

Major Reginald Elson, RAEC, a former member of the 9th Battalion, who has for some time been the senior Education Officer at the Queen's Division Depot at Basingstoke, retired on retired pay on June 10. He is one of our recently joined members of the Officers' Club and we hope that his retirement will not interfere with his attendance at Officers' Club and other functions.

The takings at the "Spread Eagle" in Guildford, where ex-CSM Mick and Ann Elston are mine hosts, increased recently when a pools winner gave an impromptu farewell party before returning to South Africa. According to reports received a good time was had by all.

A warm welcome there awaits any Die-Hard who happens to be in the area, as those who were present on the last summer outing to Portsmouth well know.

Major Howard Fisher is one of our most recent recruits to the Regimental Association and Officers' Club. He won a well-earned Military Cross in the 1914-18 war. During the 1939-45 War he served in the 7th and 6th Battalions Middlesex Home Guard.

He has held the high office of High Sheriff of Greater London, and is a Deputy Lieutenant of Greater London and a Justice of the Peace.

He is also very closely connected with the Royal British Legion, being president of the Harlesden Branch, vice-president of the Acton Branch and

vice-president of the NW County Met. Area. He has been a life member since 1950 and was awarded the National Certificate of Appreciation in 1972.

Our most recent member to join both the Regimental Association and the Officers' Club is Capt. William Fletcher. He served continuously in the ranks of the 2nd Battalion from June 1918 to May 1939, the last 10 years as RQMS. In June 1939 he was commissioned as a quartermaster and served with the 2/8th Battalion, which subsequently became the resuscitated 1st Battalion, until July 1945, when he retired.

He is now living in a little modernised country cottage at Gillingham in Dorset, and is very happy there.

Ex-Pte. Frank Foes (3601), who served in the 3/10th Battalion during the early part of the 1914-18 war before being invalided out, has recently been in touch with us. Having lost his wife he is now in a residential home at Wimbledon.

Capt. John Gerrard, a former officer of the 1st Battalion, who gained a very well-earned Military Cross during operations in NW Europe, has been figuring prominently in the press lately in his capacity as Deputy Assistant Commissioner "A" (Ops) of the London Metropolitan Police. After the violent demonstrations in Central London on June 14, in which he was in charge of the police operations, he was described in *The Daily Telegraph* as Britain's most experienced riot control policeman.

After 4½ years in his present post he is soon to be posted to the Metropolitan Police Inspectorate.

Heartiest congratulations to Lt.-Col. Mike Hayward on being made an officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE) in recognition of distinguished service in N. Ireland between November 1, 1973, and January 31, 1974, and also as parade commander on the Presentation of Colours Parade on May 4, on being made a Commander of the Order of Dannebrog by Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II.

A surprise and very welcome visitor to Regimental Headquarters at Edgware on May 8 was RSM Tim Hodgson, from California, USA. He is serving with the National Guard and met Col. John Pollard in the USA last year.

He will be remembered as Pte. H. T. Hodgson (6206837), who went to France with "D" Company, 1/8th Battalion, and with whom he was evacuated from Dunkirk in 1940.

We were very pleased to read in *The Daily Telegraph* of June 19 last that Major Arthur John ("Tiggitt") Hughes had been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Hertford and offer him our heartiest congratulations.

Ex-Pte. George Jones-Walters, who served in the 16th (Public Schools) and 24th (Service) Battalions during the 1914-18 war, has recently been in touch with us to get a copy of the May 1973 issue of the *Die-Hards Newsletter*, which includes an article on

the 16th Battalion written by Col. W. B. Purnell, late Royal Army Dental Corps. We were delighted to be able to supply the need.

In a recent letter ex-RQMS F. J. W. Kedge, BEM (6190104), who served in the 4th Battalion in Gibraltar after the 1914-18 war, sends his best wishes to all old Die-Hards.

During the 1939-45 war he served as a warrant officer in the Royal Tank regiment, but he says that he still recalls the days he spent in the 4th Battalion as a young corporal as some of the happiest days of his life.

He is working in the Lord Chancellor's Department at the House of Lords and finds it difficult to get away to attend functions and to meet old comrades.

A/Col. Brian Marciandi, at present at Headquarters United Kingdom Land Forces, has been selected to attend the 45th Course at the NATO Defence College, Rome, starting on September 6.

A/Col. John Moore has been selected as Chief of Plans/Ops Branch at Headquarters Landsouth-east, Ismir, and has moved to Turkey to take up his new appointment.

A welcome visitor to Edgware recently was ex-Sgt. Bob Overton (L/13624), an old pre-1914 2nd Battalion veteran, who also served in the 1st Battalion for many years between the two wars.

He sends his greetings to all his old friends.

In connection with his induction as rector of St. Andrew's Church, Backwell, near Bristol, in March 1973, the Rev. Peter Pearce Gould has appeared on TV recently in a film which explores the hopes and fears of a parish priest setting out in his new duties and his assessment one year later.

Lt.-Col. John Pollard, who recently took over command of the Northern Frontier Regiment in Oman, writes to let us know that life there is very hectic.

He informs us that Major Mike Rose, who was a SSC officer in the Regiment and later transferred to the Royal Military Police and retired, is holding a contract commission as a Company Commander in the Southern Regiment; that Capt. Peter Packham is brigade-major in the Dhofan Brigade; and that RQMS Blackwell has applied for a contract commission and is expected to go to Oman early in 1975.

It was good that, after a spell of about a month in hospital, Brigadier Neville Procter was able to pay his usual visit to our golfers during the Spring Meeting at the North Hants Golf Club on May 3. We were all very pleased indeed to see him, for no meeting nowadays would be complete without visit from him.

A newly joined member of the Regimental Association is ex-Pte. L. J. Rawlings (23214906), who served with the 1st Battalion in Cyprus from 1955 to 1957. He was employed as a batman.

Congratulations to Major Barry Reed, who has become the new chairman of Austin Reed Ltd. We wish him the best of luck on taking up this important post.

We were interested to get news recently of Lt.-Col. Ernest Shanks, who has much to do with the Royal British Legion in Guernsey and in fact came over to London last November with a contingent to attend the Festival at the Albert Hall. Perhaps we may be able to induce him to join us at our ceremony at the Field of Remembrance next November and to meet up with many old Die-Hards who would like to see him again.

Lt.-Col. L. C. Sharpe has been selected as captain of the army target pistol team, which has been formed with a view to training members to compete in inter-Service target pistol events.

WO1 Cliff Shinn, who was until recently RSM of the 6th (V) Battalion The Queen's Regiment, has unfortunately decided to leave the Service, and is now undergoing a course in catering management at Catterick before taking his discharge.

Our heartiest congratulations to Major Dick and Dollie Smith, who are celebrating their ruby wedding on Thursday, June 27.

All Die-Hards—young and old—will wish them many more years of happiness together.

We were very pleased to get news quite recently that Col. Max Summers's son, William, who is a director of Garrards, had been awarded the MVO (5th Class) in the last New Year Honours List.

The winner of the third prize in our Derby draw this year was Mr. C. Taylor, now aged 86, who served in the Regiment for a short while in 1916. He enlisted at Mill Hill, but was soon transferred to the Hampshire Regiment, as it then was, and for the next three years served in Macedonia. He is the father of Mr. Ron Taylor, secretary of the 2/7th Battalion OCA.

A quite unexpected, but very welcome, visitor to Edgware at the end of April was Major Ernest Thompson, whom we had not seen for some considerable time. He is still employed as a retired officer in the Andover area.

Col. F. Walden deputised for the Deputy Colonel at a wreath laying ceremony in remembrance of those who fell in the Korean War, 1950-53, which was held by the Korean Ambassador (His Excellency Kyung Nok Choi) at Westminster Abbey on June 25.

Our heartiest congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wernley, of 72 Eccleston Road, West Ealing, who celebrated their diamond wedding last April.

Arthur Wernley (L/9844), now in his 88th year and not in good health, first joined the Regiment in 1904 and, as a reservist, was recalled at the outbreak of the 1914-19 war.

Throughout his service with the Colours he served in the 1st Battalion. He is an Old Contemptible and in possession of the Mons Star.

One of our most recently joined members of the Regimental Association is Mr. H. J. West (L12614 and 6188592). He enlisted on July 1, 1909, went to India with the 3rd Battalion in January 1911 and served until June 10, 1925. He attended the annual reunion but regrettably did not find anyone he knew. He now lives at Worcester Park in Surrey and works hard for his local branch of the Royal British Legion.

We have recently had news of ex-Pte. Douglas White, who joined the Regiment in 1951 and served on a regular engagement for six years with the 1st Battalion in Zeltweg, Austria, and Korea.

He now lives at East Finchley.

A member who was on a short visit recently to this country from his job in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, was ex-Sgt. Bob Yerby (6217123). He served with the 2nd Battalion in Palestine and with the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong and Korea from 1946 to 1953, when he purchased his discharge.

Mr. R. H. FERGUSON An Appreciation

Bob Ferguson is one of Britain's Territorial soldiers who flocked to the recruiting offices immediately Great Britain declared war on Germany in August 1914. He became a member of the 7th Battalion and was allotted the number 2458, later changed to 200487 on the renumbering of the Territorial Force soldiers' personal numbers in 1916. The 7th Battalion became his consuming love and his knowledge of its history is really outstanding. He served in Gibraltar in 1914, when many of the recently completed battalions were, on landing, wearing tweed suits and cloth caps.

The Battalion joined the BEF in March 1915 and became part of the 8th Division. Bob Ferguson was chosen as a runner or "duck-board harrier", a task he carried out with great efficiency, he being able to find his way about in the dark as ably as a poacher. Eventually he was grievously wounded, returned to England and discharged with a disability pension and awarded the silver badge denoting this fact.

He joined the staff at Regimental HQ, Edgware, in November 1961, retiring in April this year. Not only a member of the staff, but a part of the furniture, as he was always on hand when required, willing, even keen, to take on any task that arose. His phenomenal memory for the addresses of members of the Regimental Association has to be experienced to be understood. His memory for a man of 79 is exceptional. A cheerful soul, full of good sense and a humorous quip always ready on his lips, Bob is one of nature's nice people whom it is a pleasure to know.

R.W.J.S.

CORRESPONDENCE

From Colonel W. D. Ellis, OBE, TD, DL

Lea Barn,
Winter Hill,
Cookham Dean,
Berks SL6 9TW.
June 22, 1974.

Col. F. Walden, MBE, DL,
Editor, *The Die-Hards Newsletter*,
Deansbrook Road,
Edgware, Middx.

Dear Editor,

A number of your readers may be interested to know that I have just returned from a visit to Normandy which was associated with the invasion in 1944. Ex-Sgt. George Houseby and ex-Cpl. Bill Edwards came with me in my Land-Rover, George having been over with me for the dedication of the 15 (S) Div War Memorial in 1949 and again five years ago for the 25-year anniversary.

The War Memorial, which is at Tourville, was the centre of much bitter fighting round the River Odon, in which region I was wounded and out of action for some six weeks before rejoining 1st Middlesex just before the breakout.

The reception and hospitality we received from the French people, and particularly the Mayor of Tourville and Monsieur and Madame Grandais, was quite outstanding. Our party was led by Major Gordon Campbell, MC, MP, and arranged by Brigadier Mike Peppiatt.

Though we missed a few old familiar faces from previous visits, we were glad to have Lady Vera Barber with us. She is the widow of my Brigadier on landing, who took over the Division when General Macmillan was wounded.

If anyone wants any more information perhaps, they will write to me.

Yours sincerely,
DESMOND ELLIS.

From Lt.-Col. H. G. Hansen

12 Berceau Walk,
Watford,
Herts WD1 3BL.

Col. F. Walden,
Editor, *The Die-Hards Newsletter*,
Deansbrook Road,
Edgware, Middx.

Dear Col. Walden,

I have recently received the March *Die-Hards Newsletter* and would like to draw your attention to an error appearing in Personal jottings (page 9).

I took over from John Doyle and was in fact the CO who had the unhappy task of closing down the 571 LAA Regiment (9th Middlesex) and handing over to form the new 5th (TA) Battalion.

No hard feelings! Just for the record.

Sincerely,

H. G. HANSEN.

(Editor's Note—The Editor much regrets this error and thanks the writer for bringing it to his notice.)

OBITUARY

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

BEESEY—On May 22, 1974, ex-Pte. Frederick Beesley, aged 75. He served in the 2/10th Battalion from 1914–1919 and was a member of the Ealing Branch of the Regimental Association.

HANDLER—On June 17, 1974, Lt. George Edward Bruce Chandler, aged 67. He enlisted in the Regiment on November 5, 1925, and was allotted the Army number 6196925. On completion of his recruit training he was posted to the 1st Battalion and subsequently to the 2nd Battalion, then stationed at Ahmednagar, India. On completion of his Colour service in November 1932 he was transferred to the Army Reserve, in which he served until November 1937. The day before the outbreak of the 1939–45 war he re-enlisted into the Regiment and was attached to the Cheshire Regiment. With his ability he gained promotion rapidly and soon became a warrant officer (CSM). He was eventually released from service in September 1945, but his skill and knowledge were not to be wasted, for from 1952 to 1956 he was commissioned with the rank of lieutenant and served in the 12th County of London Home Guard Battalion as the MMG officer.

FRENCH—On March 19, 1974, ex-Cpl. R. French, aged 38. He served in the 1st Battalion from 1956 to 1959 and became M. T. Corporal. His brother who served in the Band of the 1st Battalion is now Bandmaster of the 1st Battalion Royal Hampshire Regiment in Hong Kong.

FROOME—On March 11, 1974, ex-Pte. Frank Froome, aged 83. He served with the 1/8th Battalion from about 1913 till 1917, when he was discharged owing to the loss of his right leg on active service.

HUGHES—On April 8, 1974, Capt. William Thomas Hughes, ARCM, aged 85. He enlisted into the Regiment on September 2, 1903, four days short of his fifteenth birthday. He was posted from the Depot, then at Hounslow, to the 1st Battalion in India in December 1903 and on arrival joined the famous "K" or "Light" Company. When the Battalion had completed its foreign tour and returned home shortly before the outbreak of the 1914–19 war he was a sergeant in the Band. He was made a platoon sergeant when the Battalion went into action and after the Battle of Mons he fought at Le Cateau, where he was wounded and taken prisoner. Whilst in Germany he formed a PoW orchestra which performed at camp concerts. He was repatriated to Holland in January 1918 and returned to this country in December that year. He was appointed band sergeant in the 1st Battalion and was accepted as a student at the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall. He was later transferred to the Scots Guards as principal string bass. After his discharge in 1924 he was appointed Director of Music to the Legion of Frontiersmen and subsequently Director of Music to the Middlesex Yeomanry. At the outbreak of the 1939–45 war he was commissioned into the

Royal Pioneer Corps and was on active service in France until being evacuated in June 1940. He served at several Royal Pioneer Corps establishments during the war and eventually retired in July 1947.

He was composer of many rollicking marches, which were played at various Trooping of the Colours parades on Horse Guards. In 1971 at a grand concert at Kneller Hall he conducted the massed bands of the Royal Military School, playing two of his most famous marches, "Clarion Call" and "To your Guard", much to the delight and joy of many Die-Hards who were present.

KENDALL-SADLER—On June 5, 1974, very suddenly but peacefully in Tangier, Diana the adored wife of Lt.-Col. Eric Kendall-Sadler.

LONGE—On May 17, 1974, at Stowmarket, Dorothy Douglas Longe, aged 81, daughter of the late Brigadier-General R. D. Longe, The Middlesex Regiment and Mrs. R. D. Longe.

MALCOURONNE—On December 4, 1973, ex-Pte. Edward Davies Malcouronne (200785) aged 76. He served with the 7th (Imperial Service) Battalion throughout the 1914–18 War. He had been an invalid for years and owing to a severe stroke and paralysis in 1969, he had to move around in an invalid chair.

MISSO—On January 11, 1973, ex-RQMS Charlie V. Misso. After being on active service during the later stages of the 1914–18 war, he was posted to the 1st Battalion on its re-formation at Clipstone Camp, Notts, in 1919. He was employed as a clerk in the QM's stores until his promotion to colour sergeant, when he was appointed CQMS of "C" Company. He proceeded with the Battalion on foreign service and remained with it until he reverted to the Home Establishment from Hong Kong. He joined the 2nd Battalion in 1938 and on the outbreak of the 1939–45 war he was posted to 8th Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment, in which he was promoted to WO2 (RQMS). At the end of the war he retired on pension and became a civil servant in Headquarters Eastern Command, Hounslow, where he remained until he reached the age limit.

OTTEVAERE—On May 25, 1974, Charles Ottevaere, aged 64. He was a great friend of the Regiment and will be sadly missed by those members and their families who took part in the annual pilgrimage to Mons. During the 1939–45 War he was a corporal in the Belgian Engineers Corps but was not taken prisoner when his country was overrun. After the war he went into the catering and hotel business and, in 1952, took over as Manager of the Buffet de la Gare in Mons—a post he held till the day of his death. Apart from his civilian work his main concern was the care of his old soldier comrades—Belgian and British. He was President of the Veterans of King Albert I of Belgium, Secretary of the Friends of 4th Middlesex Regiment in Mons, and Patron of the Old Contemptibles in Mons.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Date	Event
Sunday, August 4	Party to John Player League match at Lords—Middlesex v. Kent.	Friday, October 11	Autumn Golf Meeting at North Hants Golf Club, Fleet.
Wednesday, August 21 to Saturday, August 24	Visit to Mons for ceremonies in connection with the 60th anniversary of the Battle of Mons.	Sunday, October 27	Attendance at Church Parade, Royal Hospital, Chelsea.
Wednesday, August 28	Party to Grand Concert, Kneller Hall.	Saturday, November 9	Ceremony at Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey.
Sunday, September 22 to Friday, October 4	Summer Outing to Brighton. 2nd/7th Battalion (1939–45) Dinner at Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London W2.	Sunday, November 10	Remembrance Day Service at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, NW7, followed by a Reunion at TAVR Centre, Edgware.

PERKES—On January 6, 1974, at Dover, whilst returning after a New Year trip to Belgian, ex-Pte. William Charles Perkes (2155), aged 75. He served with the 13th London Regiment (Kensingtons) in France from 1914 for over 18 months when he was wounded. On return to England he was convalescing when his father claimed him out as under age. During the 1939-45 War he served with the Royal Air Force in West Africa. He had been a staunch supporter of the Mill Hill Branch of our Regimental Association for many years.

Close ties with the Belgian equivalent of the British Legion took him to Belgium many times. At his funeral which was both impressive and colourful, the cortege was escorted by six standard bearers representing the associations, both British and Belgian, with which he had been closely connected.

SELFE—On May 12, 1974, ex-C/Sgt. Ronald Arthur Selfe (6198928), aged 67. He enlisted in the Regiment on April 10, 1929, and served with the 2nd Battalion in the Sudan from February to December 1931 and thereafter with the 1st Battalion in Palestine, Egypt, Singapore and Hong Kong. During the 1939-45 war he served in NW Europe and the Middle East.

Before enlisting in the Regiment he served in the Essex Regiment from 1922 to 1928. He was a first-class hockey player.

WAY—On April 10, 1974, ex-Pte. Frederick Robert Stewart Way. He enlisted in the 19th Battalion The London Regiment in 1918 and served with that Battalion for about a year when he signed on to do four years' Colour service and joined the 2nd Battalion at Colchester. Whilst serving with that Battalion in Egypt he was employed in the Printer's shop. In 1921 he was posted to the 1st Battalion to complete his Colour Service and was discharged on March 31, 1922.

At the time of his death he had been an inmate of the Star and Garter Home at Richmond-upon-Thames since July 1970.

WHITE—On April 10, 1974, ex-Sgt. William Henry ("Compo") White, aged 80. During the 1914-18 War he served with "F" (Ealing) Company of the 8th Battalion in Gibraltar and France, where he was wounded in 1915. After the war he continued as a member of the Drums of the 8th Battalion until he took his discharge with the rank of Sergeant. He afterwards became very

interested in the local St. John's Company of the Church Lads Brigade when he helped the younger generation to attain high honours with their drum and fife band.

For many years he was a stalwart of St. James's Church, Ealing, and assisted in running their boy's club. At one time he was employed by the Ealing Borough Council, where he was well-known for his reliability.

During the 1939-45 War he was an ambulance driver in a Civil Defence Rescue Squad.

He was one of the oldest members of the Ealing Branch of the Regimental Association.

WILLOUGHBY—On February 2, 1974, peacefully after a long illness, Capt. Richard William Henry Willoughby, aged 63. He was the eldest son of the late Major N. E. G. Willoughby, The Middlesex Regiment (DCO). He served in the Merchant Navy from 1927-30 and was on the Regular Army Reserve of Officers from 1931-38. Whilst on the Reserve he was seconded for service with the Palestine Police Force from 1935-38. He was Assistant Adjutant of the Queen's Westminster Rifles in 1938 and 1939, and of the Depot The Middlesex Regiment in 1939 and 1940, after which he was posted to the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong. He served with that Battalion until the Colony was captured by the Japanese on Christmas Day 1941. He remained a PoW until 1945. He retired in 1947 and then served with the Colonial Service until 1954. From 1962-65 he studied at Southampton University and obtained a degree in geography. In 1965 he became a lecturer in history and archaeology.

As all the information about them is not yet available, full obituary notices on the following who died on the dates shown, will be published in a subsequent *Newsletter*:

Col. F. H. Else—April 4, 1974.

Lt.-Col. L. H. J. de la M. Herepath—June 16, 1974

and to the Toasts of "The Regiment and Regimental Association" and "Our Guests". A proposal that this special Toast should be a feature of all future reunions was carried with acclamation.

The customary Service of Remembrance is to be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, November 10, at Chiswick Parish Church, where our Colours now hang and the Battalion's Memorial erected. All enquiries should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary at, "Cleveland", Byes Lane, Sidford, Sidmouth, Devon.

"Scud"

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Secretary's Notes

Benevolent Cases

(a) During the period January 1, to June 30, 1974, the sum of £472.25 was expended from the Charitable Fund in making grants to 35 ex-members of the Regiment.

(b) We also have nine ex-members of the Regiment who receive £52 each year from the Army Benevolent Fund through the Regimental Association.

Donations—Charitable Fund

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges donations to the Charitable Fund from: Mr. L. F. Baker, Mr. T. Boswell, WO1 A. N. Carman (ex-Mx, now RAO), Mr. W. A. Cook, Mr. B. A. Crawley, Mr. J. H. Farmborough, Mr. A. C. Gill, Major Sir Hildreth Glyn-Jones, Mr. J. Glover, Mr. R. N. Hyatt, Major M. C. Jaffe, Mr. J. E. Kedge, Mr. W. R. Lee, Major-General C. M. M. Man, Major F. J. Millard, Capt. J. R. C. Riseley, Mr. D. R. Sankey, Major L. F. Shaw, Mr. Ron Smith, Mr. H. F. Stillwell, Lt.-Col. D. E. Stewart, Mr. C. Taylor, Mr. B. F. Thompson, Major M. Wild.

Visit to Regimental Museum

A party of 30 Old Comrades visited the Regimental Museum at Bruce Castle, Tottenham, on Thursday, April 18, 1974. They were very impressed by the number of exhibits and the high standard of the museum. It is proposed to organise a further visit in September. The Museum is open all day Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Annual Reunion

The Annual Reunion was held on Saturday, May 18, 1974, at Porchester Hall, Queensway. A total of 330 attended compared with 390 in 1973. A most enjoyable evening was had by all. It was good to see so many friends who had not attended previous reunions, some for as long as 30 years. They all promised to come again.

A special word of thanks to all those who travelled long distances and to the Portsmouth Branch, who again attended in force.

Derby Outing

This year it required two coaches to take all our Old Comrades to the Derby. A total of 92 made the annual trip. Once again the weather was kind and in fact bountiful; it was a beautiful sunny day. Although the majority did not manage to back the winner, we finished up with a few happy punters. Charlie Banks again produced an excellent buffet and Ernie and Daisy Colebeck dispensed the drinks.

This is a very popular event in our social calendar.

Kensington Regimental Reunion

A party of Old Comrades attended the Kensington Regimental Reunion on Friday, April 5, 1974.

A.E.F.W.

EALING BRANCH

It is with regret that I have to report the deaths of two ex 8th Battalion men. Frank Froome served from 1912 to sometime in the 1914-18 war with the Ealing Company.

He served in Gibraltar with us and later in France where he was wounded and lost a leg. In spite of his loss he served on the advertising staff of the *Middlesex County Times*.

He died on March 11, 1974, aged 83, and was buried at Winchelsea, Sussex, but the Branch was not represented as we did not hear of his death until much later.

William Henry White, known to everyone as "Compo", died at his home in Ealing on April 10, 1974. The coffin covered in the Union Jack was carried through the two ranks of members of the Branch followed by his family and his twin brother Ben who lost an eye in France whilst with the 8th Battalion.

I also have to report the death on May 22 of one of our old members Mr. Fred Beesly. He served with the 2/10th Battalion during the 1914-18 war and for a period of that time with the 1/10th in India and other places. He had been a member of our Branch for some years and a regular attendee at all our meetings. The funeral took place on May 29 at Mortlake Crematorium and was attended by several members of the Branch.

Arthur Wernley, one of our oldest members, and his wife celebrated their diamond wedding last month. He has not been to see us lately as he is blind and very deaf. As Secretary I call to see him occasionally taking a little drop of something he likes. He is well looked after by his wife and the R.N.I.B. and local people often see the couple out shopping.

Our congratulations to them both.

Best Wishes to all old Die-Hards.

ALBERT WHITE

MILL HILL BRANCH

Writing a letter each month to members of the Branch does not leave much scope to mention anything new for the regimental *Newsletter*. However, an attempt has been made to keep you informed of recent happenings.

A new member of the Branch who will be remembered by our older members and their families is Capt. F. J. (John) Donoghue, TD, the son of ex-RSM M. J. Donoghue, MM, who was a well-known musician up to 1914. Whilst writing of regimental musicians, I am sure that old bandsmen—and, of course, many others—will be pleased to hear that I am in correspondence with the great-grandson of Band-Sergeant James "Paddy" O'Connor, the 77th composer of the Regimental quick-step "Paddy's Resource", the march written in 1855 during the siege of Sebastopol. Mr F. M. O'Connor, Jnr., is visiting the UK whilst on holiday from Houston, Texas, the Lone Star State. It is suggested that you start your day with a song, therefore I'll carry on in

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of the Regimental Association, Lt.-Col. R. D. Hutchings, Major A. E. F. Waldron, MBE, Major R. W. J. Smith, MBE, and the Revd. G. A. Lewis Lloyd, MBE (Hon. Chaplain to the O.C.A. for the past 20 years). Apologies for absence were received from Maj.-Gen. C. M. M. Man, CB, OBE, MC, and Col. F. Walden, MBE, DL, and some 39 members wrote that regrettably age and distance prevented them from attending.

A special commemoration Toast to "The spirit of the 2/10th Battalion" was proposed by Major Bernard Cattell, to which Col. Clayton responded,

