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Regimental Memorial in St. Paul's Cathedral

Since the appeal for kneelers/hassocks for our Regimental Chapel in St Paul's Cathedral was launched in the March issue of The Die-Hards Newsletter donations from the following have been received at the time of going to press (May 28) and most gratefully acknowledged:

Sqn-Ldr J. M. Abell, Mrs W. P. M. Allen, Maj P. B. Allott, Mr R. E. Ambler, Mr W. G. Atkins, Capt K. W. Attrill. Mr A. Bailey, Mrs M. B. Baldwin, Lt G. R. Barr, Mr G. W. Barrett, Mr T. A. Barton, Mrs Flora M. Bechet, Mr T. R. Bennett, Maj K. R. McK. Biggs, Mr F. E. Birdsall, Capt H. B. Birdwood, Mr A. T. Brown, Mr A. W. J. Bruce, Mrs Blake Budden, Capt L. J. Buddle, Call D. Burges

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Mrs J. N. Lamont, Mrs F. A. L. Lawrence, Miss F. M. Lempriere, Lt-Col M. F. Leonard, Prebendary G. A. Lewis-Lloyd, Maj I. M. E. Lloyd, Mr S. L. Lloyd, Mr W. E. Lockyer, London Borough of Enfield, London Borough of Haringey, London Borough of Hornow, London Borough of Hounslow, Mr W. H. Lovell, Maj T. R. Low, Mr R. K. Lowe.

Mrs J. K. Maitland, Mr P Maloney, Col A. M. Man, Maj-Gen and Mrs C. M. M. Man, Col B. H. Marciandi, Maj D. J. Margand, Maj H. N. Mc L. Martin, Mrs M. G. Martin, Middlesex Regimental Association (proceeds of collection and raffle at Annual Reunion), Mill Hill Branch Die-Hards Club, Mill School, Mr and Mrs F. E. Molz, Col H. J. A. Moore, Lt A. Morden, Mrs H. A. D. Muray.

Mr A. H. Naulder, Mrs H. A. Neal, Capt N. T. Neal, Mrs E. E. Newman, Mrs W. C. Newton, Col D. C. L. Nolda, North-West Sector London Army Cadet Force, Miss Una Nunn.

Rev P. L. Pearce Gould, Maj and Mrs A. E. Peasley, Maj D. G. Peckham, Maj F. W. Pemberton, Mrs G. H. C. Pennycook, Lt J. M. Phillips, Maj J. I. D. Pike, Mrs F. G. Poole, Princess Louise's Kensington Regimental Association, Brig. Princess Lou N. P. Procter.

Rev Terence Quinlan.

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Lady Templar-Smith, Col D. R. W. Thomas, Mrs A. M. Toye, Lt-Col E. N. Trevor.

Mr W. H. Unwin, Mr W. B. Ure.

Capt W. N. Vare.

Col and Mrs F. Walden, Capt C. E. Watson-Taylor, Lt-Col G. W. Webber, Mrs A. G. Webster (daughter of the late Lt-Col D. B. Watson) Mrs A. V. Weller, Maj S. C. W. Weller, Mr A. R. Whinney, Mr R. L. Wilde, Maj V. Williams, Maj-Gen Sir John Willoughby, Mr S. R. Woolner.

Maj D. M. W. Young.

At the time of going to press the total of donations, etc., received amounts to £1,314.42.

OUR NEW DEPUTY COLONEL

On completing on May 12, 1975, his five-year appointment as Deputy Colonel (Middlesex) The Queen's Regiment, Col A. S. J. de S. Clayton, OBE, DL, has been succeeded by Col I. N. Shipster. CBE, DSO, who is well known particularly to the vounger generation of Die-Hards since he was commanding our 1st Battalion when the amalgmation of Regiments took place and it became 4th Battalion The Queen's Regiment. He is currently Commandant of the Defence Nuclear, Biological and Chemical School at Winterbourne Gunner in Wiltshire. However, Col Clayton will continue at present to serve in the appointment of President of our Regimental Association and of our Officers' Club.

The decision to split these previously twinned appointments may come as a surprise to many Diehards but it was only reached after very considerable thought and the desire to spread the load to the benefit of The Queen's Regiment and our Association. Few people can be aware of the many responsibilities, the travel and the time required if these appointments are to be carried out in the manner intended.

The Deputy Colonel will be the link between our Association and The Queen's Regiment. This is a job for which Col Shipster is well suited since, as stated above, he has commanded both our 1st Battalion and 4th Battalion The Queen's Regiment.

We thank Col Aymar Clayton for all he has done as Deputy Colonel and we are pleased that he has agreed to continue for the present as our President. We also welcome Col John Shipster; we wish him well in his new appointment and we offer him our unstinted support in his endeavours.

RECRUITING-THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

Lt-Col M. R. M. Newall, Commanding 2nd Battalion The Oueen's Regiment, is organising a recruiting drive to obtain 100 recruits to take with the Battalion to Belise in the Caribbean next October.

If you know of any young man who wants an active and interesting career in what is now our County Regiment please forward his name and address to Maj P. H. Courtenay, Regimental Headquarters, The Queen's Regiment, Howe Barracks, Canterbury, Kent.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event		
Saturday,			
July 5	Military Musical Pageant, Wemb		
Wednesday,			
July 16	Officers Club Annual Dinner a United Service and Royal Aer Club, Pall Mall, London, SWI		
Sunday,			
July 20	Parade on Horse Guards of Belgia OCA in Great Britain.		
Thursday,			
August 21 to Sunday, August 24	Pilgrimage to Mons for ceremonic in connection with the 61st anni- versary of the Battle of Mons.		

Wednesday. Party to Grand Concert, Kneller August 27

Sunday. Party to John Player League Match August 31 at Lord's-Middlesex v Susse

Friday, September 5 Oueen's Regiments Golf Meeting at Army Golf Club, Aldershot.

September 12 Queen's Regiment O.ficers Club Dinner at Claridges Hotel, Brook Street, London, W.I.

Friday. October 3 2/7th Battalion (1939-45) Dinner at Victory ex-Services Club, Seymour Street, London, W2

Wednesday, October 8 Autumn Golf Meeting at North Hants Golf Club, Fleet.

Sunday. October 26 Attendance at Church Parade, Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

FREE NEWSLETTERS

The Editor thanks Mr W. G. Atkins, Mrs Flora M. Bechet, Mr C. T. Bull, Capt T. F. G. Carless, MC, Mr J. C. Clark, Capt G. D. Cripps, Mr E. J. Collie Capt S. le M. Enthoven, Mr J. D. Hills, Mr Knight, Maj I. M. E. Lloyd, Mr W. E. Lockyer, Mr P. Maloney, WO2 W. Medland, Lt-Col W. L. Roberts, OBE, MC, Mrs D. A. Sims (née Miss Nellie Clark) and Mai S. C. W. Weller, MBE, MM, for their generosity in paying extra subscriptions so that free copies of The Die-Hards Newsletter can be sent to deserving Old Comrades.

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REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

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

museum:

Medals of RSM H. Anderson, MC Medals of Sgt J. W. Judd, DCM Medals of Sgt G. T. Welborn, DCM, MM

Medals of RSM H. Anderson, MC

This group of medals consists of the Military Cross, 1014 Star and clasp, British War Medal, Victory Medal, Defence Medal 1939-45 and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Jock Anderson was the ideal figurehead of an infantry battalion settling down to peace-time soldiering after the devastating four years of war from 1914-18, a man of shom it can be said, sans peur et sans reproche. Reembered by many as the RSM of the 1st Battalion om 1919, he was from his enlistment until 1919 a popular member of the 2nd Battalion. Not only a smart and efficient NCO, he was also an outstanding sportsman. He was captain of the battalion football team when they were winners of the Bordon Military League, 1st Division, in the season of 1911-12. By this time he was sergeant wearing the skill-at-arms badges of a marksman and judge of distance. He served in Portsmouth, Channel Islands, Bordon, also in London when his was one of the battalions encamped in Hyde Park during the railway strike in August 1911. Two years later in September 1913 he embarked on HT 'Soudan' when the 2nd Battalion began their overseas tour at Malta; he had by then joined the ranks of the Benedicts having been married a month previous to sailing. On the introduction of the rank of Company Sergeant Major in October 1913, he was one of the NCOs chosen for this new rank and, indeed the only sergeant so appointed; the remainder already held the rank of Colour-Sergeant. When war was declared in 1914, the battalion returned to England, was fully mobilised and joined the BEF in France and Flanders on November 5, 1914, with 23rd Infantry Brigade, 8th Division, In 1015 rank of CSM was upgraded to that of Warrant

ficer Class 2 and the badge of rank to be a crown worn on the cuff. The Warrant of Henry Anderson is dated January 29, 1915, the date of institution. The Battle of Neuve Chapelle, March 10, 1915, saw the battalion fight with distinction with the result that Field-Marshal Sir John French, Commanderin-Chief, visited the battalion to congratulate the survivors on their gallantry. It was at the Battle of the Aisne in 1918, that RSM Anderson won the Military Cross. May 27 saw the terrific barrage from the German guns, a rain of steel falling on our positions, described by a survivor as being like a descent into Hell. The six days May 27 to June 2 saw, once again he battalion decimated. Valour was abundant, every man whatever his rank or employment, fighting like the fabled Vikings seeking Valhalla.

2/Lt Pothill and RSM Anderson on May 29 reinforced the line with 70 men from the Lewis Gun and Gas School and the Corps Signalling School;

The following are recent acquisitions for the these Lewis Gunners had been withdrawn for training upon the advice that no hostile attack need be expected! Also used as reinforcements were the drummers and pipers. The end of the battle saw only ninety-two other ranks of the battalion to help form the single company that could be formed from the remnants of the 23rd Brigade, consisting of 2nd Devon, 2nd W. Yorkshire and 2nd Middlesex (the casualties of the 2nd Battalion in this war were not only the highest of all in the regiment, it also had the highest number of fatal casualties). The citation for the award of the Military Cross read 'for gallantry and devotion to duty between the Aisne and Marne May 27-June 2 1918'. In a testimonial, his Commanding Officer said 'He possesses all the qualifications of an exceedingly fine RSM. In action he has invariably displayed exceptional gallantry; he has also proved himself a smart and thoroughly efficient soldier with splendid powers of discipline. At all times he has been most reliable and has largely contributed to the good working of the Battalion and the preservation of the spirit of the 77th'. There is much more in the same vein in the testimonial. He had been A/RSM from January 1918, remaining with it until the Post Bellum Army was formed, he then joining the 1st Battalion at the insistence of Lt-Col J. H. Hall, CMG, DSO, that martinet who held such high standards that only the very best were given. positions of responsibility in his command. He knew the worth of lock Anderson and chose him to mould a good battalion. In November 1919, RSM Anderson was summoned to attend at Buckingham Palace to receive the Military Cross from HM The King. The 1st Battalion responded to the upright in build and conduct of their RSM, his military bearing impressing the recruits, pleasing the old soldiers, and eliciting admiration from the civilian population, many of whom had served in the forces during the late war. When the battalion were at Cologne in 1920 and entered the Boxing tournament The Cologne Post drew particular attention to the smart appearance of the 1st Battalion competitors on their first appearance in the command and recommended other units to follow suit. A keen sportsman himself the RSM would tolerate no slap-dash or scruffy turn-out by competitors. When substantive ranks were granted to Warrant Officers who had been holding acting ranks throughout the war, RSM Anderson was amongst those bearing the earliest date, that of Warrant Officer Class I dated May 1, 1920. He remained with the 1st Battalion until 1926, when he retired to pension, taking up employment with the War Department Constabulary, in which force he was an Inspector during the war of 1939-45, this detail being inscribed on the Defence Medal. The medals of World War I have the regimental number L/0108 on the rim whilst the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal bears the Army Number 6188555.

> Presented by his son Maj H. C. L. Anderson, FRICS, AMBIM.

Medals of Sgt 7. W. Judd, DCM

The medals of the late Sgt John Walter Judd (L/7428) are the Distinguished Conduct Medal, the Queen's South Africa Medal, the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. John Judd enlisted into the regiment on St George's Day 1901. and was posted to the newly-formed 3rd Battalion as soon as he had completed his recruit training at the Depot, then at Hounslow. Remaining with the 3rd Battalion, he served in St Helena as guard to the Boer prisoners, for which service he was awarded the Queen's South Africa Medal without clasp and on which his rank is shown as Lance-Corporal. He later served in South Africa, North China, Singapore and India, being a member of 'H' Coy on whose roll he is shown on May Day, 1906, and in March 1911. Returning home from India in December 1914, in preparation for mobilising on the four-company system, then the establishment for Home units, he joined the BEF in France with the battalion in January 1915, by which time he was wearing the three stripes of the rank of sergeant. On recovery from wounds, he found his old battalion had moved to the Balkans causing him to join the 4th Battalion where he found a number of comrades who had served with him in his old battalion. It was during the bloody battles of 1917 that the continued gallanttry of Sgt Judd gained him the Distinguished Conduct Medal which was published in The London Gazette of January 1, 1918. In 1919 he received his three war medals, plus the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. On the termination of his twenty-one years' service he retired to pension on December o. 1922, living to enjoy this until his death from bronchal pneumonia, on April 2, 1956.

Presented by his widow, Mrs 7. W. Judd.

Medals of Sgt G. T. Welborn, DCM, MM

This group of medals is one of the most interesting in our regimental collection. The medals are the Distinguished Conduct Medal, the Military Medal, the 1914 Star and clasp, British War Medal, Victory Medal, 1939-45 Star, Defence Medal 1939-45 and the Efficiency Medal with 'Militia' clasp. George Thomas Welborn was a member of the Special Reserve, the name of the old Militia which was changed under the Haldane Reforms in 1908. The task of the special reserve was to furnish drafts for the regular units. After the First Great War, the title of Militia was revived, in name only, and was eventually merged into the Territorial Army. On declaration of war in August 1914, George Welborn, then a member of the Army Ordnance Corps (Special Reserve) was one of the original Expeditionary Force to land in France and move into Flanders. In 1916 he opted to become a member of the Regular Army and was posted to the Middlesex Regiment with the regimental number L/16589. Experienced in war and the thunder of guns he was now a soldier of the line serving with the 2nd Battalion.

In early March 1918, the Germans were preparing their offensive which they intended to be the last and victorious. To find out what was going on a number of raids were made by the 2nd Battalion on the enemy positions. One was made by two platoons on March 3, at Teal Cot which was very successful, many Germans being killed and six brought back as

prisoners. After this action, Lt-Gen Sir Avlmer Hunter-Weston, the Commander of VIII Army Corps, sent a letter to L/cpl Welborn saving, 'I heartily congratulate you on the honour done you by His Majesty the King in awarding you the Military Medal for your gallant conduct on 3rd March 1918'. Twenty-two days later, the Great German Offensive was in full flush with the enemy crossing the Somme. Defending the bridges at Happlincourt, Brie and Eterpigny was the task given to the 2nd Battalion, under the command of Lt-Col C. A. S. Page-'Mad Jack' as he was fondly named by his admiring and trusting soldiers. The 25th of March was a da utmost gallantry and obstinacy, far too long a to chronicle here. At Eterpigny, Capt A. M. Toye, MC, was winning the Victoria Cross, the last to be awarded in the history of our regiment, and at the end of the day he and nine men only were the remnants of 'C' Company. At Brie Bridge, two companies were subjected to the severest pressure both from frontal attacks and from the West flank. From 7 a.m. until 6.45 p.m. they held on, until they received orders from headquarters to withdraw. At the en of the day, eleven platoons had perished, four of ' Company, three each of 'B' and 'D' Companies and one of 'A' Company, in obedience to their orders to resist to the end. This they had done and paid the utmost penalty. The Parchment Certificate for Gallantry awarded by Maj-Gen Heneker to L/cpl Welborn, MM. read. 'Lance-Corporal Welborn displayed exceptional initiative and exemplary courage. On 25th March at Brie Bridge, he took part in a counterattack which established itself on a hill previously held by the enemy. He was largely instrumental in keeping down the enemy's fire and delaying their advance by his cool, skilful use of a telescopic sighted rifle. The hill was thus denied to the enemy for five hours. This NCO who commanded a section of scouts showed an example of independent courage and daring which were above all praise throughout the 10 days fighting'. The ten days were from March 24 to April 2, 1918. It is my firm conviction after reading current reports of March 25, plus our regimental histories, battalion war diary and the history of the 8th Division that the 2nd Battalion were fighting mad. From the gallant CO to the latest joined. inexperienced Private soldier, all fought like heroes. The Commanding Officer with his servant (Pte Burgess) and Pte Allen covered the final withdraw with bursts of rapid fire until, at the last knocking Lt-Col Page sent off the two men and then gave a farewell five rounds rapid at the enemy after which he followed his soldiers. Three minutes later the Germans occupied the trench!!

To be chosen for recognition and commendation at this stage of the war was indeed an accolade for Lcpl Welborn. A month later the battalion were, at Villiers-Bretanneux, still fighting like Kilkenny cats in a barrel. The Germans had captured the village but it was imperative that it should not remain in possession of the enemy as it was a commanding position which had to be denied to them to prevent the capture of Amiens. The Germans had three in the capture of Amiens. The Germans had three in the capture of Amiens. The Germans had three in the capture of Amiens. The Germans had three in the capture of Amiens. The Germans had three in the capture of Amiens. The Germans had three in the capture of Amiens. The Germans had three in the capture of a more day, of the 24th. The next day, a composite force of Devons, W. Yorkshires and Middlesex, made a counter-attack to support other units of the

Corps. This depleted, but courageous, remnant of the three battalions, beat off an attack by four tanks. plus flammenwerfers, capturing and consolidating the position and taking many prisoners, 6 trench mortars and 30 machine guns as booty. During the two days' fighting, Capt Toye, vc., Mc, and Sergeant Welborn, MM, were among others wounded. The casualties of the battalion were 13 officers and 530 other ranks, only 42 survivors of a battalion 585 strong. The London Gazette published the award of the Distinguished Conduct Medal to L/16589, Sgt G. T. Welborn, MM, the citation reading 'For picuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an v attack. He led his section with great coolness through a heavy barrage in a counter-attack. Though wounded he remained at duty and consolidated his position. He behaved with fine courage and determination'. There is no doubt about either his courage or determination. On May 27 the Germans launched the great attack now recorded as the 3rd Battle of the Aisne, the battalion at this time being at La Ville aux Bois. The British line was overwhelmed by the ermans who had great superiority of men, machinens and artillery. Again the battalion was decimated, 2 officers and 21 other ranks only getting out of the line. One of those who was wounded and made prisoner of war was Sgt Welborn. He was to remain a prisoner for the following six months of the war returning home to receive a personal letter from HM King George V and to spend the Christmas of 1918 by his own fireside at his home in York. In February 1024, he was honoured by the ancient City of York by being granted the Honorary Freedom of the City. The signature of Sgt Welborn on the Roll of Freeman follows immediately below that of Edward Prince of Wales and Albert Duke of York. His Sovereign had honoured him with awards for his gallantry and now his home town had also shown its appreciation to its fighting sons, choosing him as a

Continuing his service in a volunteer capacity, his Middlesex Regimental number of L/16589 was on the introduction in 1920 of Army numbers changed to 6180284. This number he retained when he transferred to the Royal Army Pay Corps (TA) and is the number shown on his Efficiency Medal with the far from common 'Militia' clasp. Under the Armed Forces Act of 1939, the regular, territorials and militia became one force as against the system in 1914 when there were Regular Army, Special Reserve, Territorial Force and General Serivce. Now we were all in the same category as soldiers. When the Germans invaded Norway in April 1940, the Allies promised support and British, French and Polish troops were landed. One of the British contingent under the command of Maj-Gen P. J. Mackesy, the Commander of the British North West Expeditionary Force, was Sgt Welborn, then a member of the Royal Army Pay Corps. As so often in the past the British Forces suffered from lack of equipment, also the best parts were in German hands. Due to the menacing evelopments in France, it was decided to evacuate Allied Forces, an operation carried out in early June 1940. Before the capitulation of Norway, the Force assisted in the evacuation of King Haakon VII and the Norwegian Royal Family, plus the members of the Norwegian government to Britain. No special campaign stars were awarded for the

operations in 1940 except the 1939-45 Star which covers the fighting in Belgium and France as well as that in Norway. This Star was originally known as the 1939-40 Star when authorised simultaneously with the Africa Star, but conditions and name were changed at a later date. For his services during the Second World War, George Welborn's three medals are as enumerated in the opening paragraph above. The Efficiency Medal with 'Militia' mount is the King George VI pattern bearing the effigy of the Monarch on the obverse and the legend 'For Efficient Service' on the reverse. An oval medal, it is suspended from a ribbon of green with narrow yellow edges and superseded the Militia and Special Reserve Long Service and Good Conduct Medals. Donated with the medals were the lapel badges of the Old Contemptibles Association, the DCM League and the Guild of Freemen of York, the scroll of the latter using the alternative spelling of 'Gild'. George Welborn was a respected member of the community who for many years was employed in the statistics department of Rowntrees of York. A staunch member of the Royal British Legion, he gave good advice to the young and arranged help for the needy. The medals were given to the regimental museum by his



Sgt. James Clark

The presentation of Sgt. Welborn's medals by his widow Mrs. Dorothy Welborn.
From left to right—Maj. R. W. J. Smith, MBE, Lt.-Col. M. F. Leonard, OBE, Mrs. Dorothy Welborn, Mai. A. E. F. Waldron. MBE.

widow at a small intimate ceremony held in Claxton Hall, the home of the GOC North-East District, Maj-Gen G. de E. Collin, Mc, with Lt-Col M. F. Leonard now Assistant Provost Marshal, NE District, an officer who served in the regiment for many years, and Majors Smith and Waldron from Edgware, to represent the regiment. This, I am sure, would have pleased the old Die-Hard who at birth was Welborn and at his passing in 1961 had the satisfaction of knowing our regiment and our country had been, by him, well served.

Presented by his widow, Mrs Dorothy Welborn.

It is intended to show a selection of skill-at-arms badges obsolete and current, of both the regular army and the volunteer/territorial forces. The curator would welcome the donation of the following:

Battalion shot, WOs and Sgts Battalion shot, Cpls and Ptes (both are in gold wire or worsted); Company

shot; NCOs of best shooting platoon; rifle marksman, MG Marksman; Battalion scout; sniper; judge of distance; rangefinder; PT instructor; farrier; bandsman (especially the original worsted pattern of a trophy of musical instruments); drummer; service stars of Volunteers, etc, etc. Also required is the Colour-Sergeant chevrons and crown of the reign of Queen Victoria and the subsequent memorials. Nothing will be considered dross, all as grist.

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT GOLFING SOCIETY

Spring Meeting 1975

A most enjoyable and successful meeting was held on the course of the North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, on Wednesday, April 30, 1975.

Conditions were ideal in the morning, but heavy rain in the afternoon failed to dampen the spirits of the competitors.

A total of 19 took part—4 less than last year. We were particularly pleased to have with us WO₂ M. Quinn accompanied by his 14-year-old son, and Cpl R. Abrahams. We missed our usual party from 1 Queens who are at present doing their tour in Northern Ireland. Brig N. P. Procter who lives nearby came to see us as is his usual custom and his visit was much appreciated.

The Stableford Foursomes were played at par as against bogey hence the low scores. This does not reflect the true standard of play.

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

Medal	Competition—Scratch and Handicap	
	Scratch Handicap	Net

	Scratch	Handica	Net
Capt R. J. Tarrant (winner	er		
handicap and Darjeeling Cur	0) 94	24	70
Lt-Col J. R. B. Worton (runner	r-		1
up Handicap)	90	16	74
Lt-Col T. W. Chattey (runner	-		
up Scratch)	89*	12	77
Maj J. I. D. Pike	98	20	78
Mr G. A. Taylor	98	18	80
Mr N. A. Taylor	95	15	80
WO2 M. C. Quinn (winne	r		
Scratch and Transvaal Cup)	89*	8	81
Lt-Col C. N. Clayden	102	20	82
Mr C. D. Matthews	92	10	82
Mr M. R. T. Walden	IOI	16	85
Master Howard Clayden	105	20	85
Maj A. R. Bisset	98	12	86
Cpl R. F. Abrahams	105	18	87
Maj G. Goring	104	16	88
Mr C. Holdford	112	24	88
Maj H. E. Couch	118	24	94
Master J. Quinn (Divot)	127	24	103
Mr E. Johnson	N.R.	24 N	.R.
Mr B. Millard	N.R.	24 N	.R.

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

Stableford Foursomes

	Points
Mr G. A. Taylor and Master Howard Clayden	
(winners Cooper Cup)	25*
Capt R. J. Tarrant and WO2 M. C. Quinn	
(runners-up)	25*
Maj J. I. D. Pike and Maj G. Goring	25*
Mr C. D. Matthews and Mr E. Johnson	22
Mr M. R. T. Walden and Mr C. Holdford	17
Lt-Col C. N. Clayden and Cpl R. Abrahams	17
Lt-Col T. W. Chattey and Maj H. E. Couch	14
Mr N. A. Taylor and Master J. Quinn	13
Maj A. R. Bisset and Mr B. Millard	N

*The winners were decided on the score over the last nine holes.

Before asking Mrs Jean Clayden to present the prizes Lt-Col Tom Chattey thanked all those present for supporting the meeting.





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PERSONAL JOTTINGS

That most loyal and dedicated Diehard, ex-Sgt Bob Ambler, was the first person to respond to the President of the Regimental Association's Appeal for hassocks for our Regimental chapel in St Paul's. On the very morning that he received his copy of the March issue of the Newsletter he presented himself at RHQ at Edgware to make a most generous donation, which enabled the first hassock to be purchased.

We suffered a great loss last March when Charlie lks, steward-caretaker at the TA Centre at Deansbrook Road for the past 14 years, resigned to go and start a new life in California. He and his wife, Margaret, have emigrated to live with their daughter and son-in-law in San Francisco.



Rodney Brewster

Col. Walden, having made a presentation on behalf of the Middlesex Regiment to Charlie Banks, says farewell to Margaret Banks, watched by Maj. Waldron.

Both will be much missed, not only because they were very popular but also because Charlie was a first-class chef and the food which he prepared won a wide reputation, particularly his curry lunches.

As a mark of the esteem in which they were both held by the civilian staff and military personnel at the TA Centre a number of presentations were made to them.

We shall never forget them and we hope that they will not forget us.

Our heartiest congratulations to Capt and Mrs S. J. Belsham, who celebrated their Diamond Vedding anniversary on April 10 last.

Capt Belsham was commissioned into our 5th (Militia) Battalion in August 1914 and went to France at the end of November 1914 when he joined 2nd Battalion The Wiltshire Regiment, which had been badly cut up at Ypres. In September 1915 he was invalided home until February 1916 when he returned to France and, to his great pride and joy, was posted to the 1st Battalion. Except for a short period when he was sent home on temporary duty he remained with the 1st Battalion until after the Armistice when he was demobilised. During his active service with the 1st Battalion he was awarded the Military Cross.

he is an old Die-Hard and sends his greetings to all survivors of the 1st Battalion who remember him.

Although somewhat belated our congratulations to Lt Alan Carter on his promotion to Captain last June.

At the Founders Day Ceremony at the Royal Hospital Chelsea, on June 5, Lt-Col and Mrs Tom Chattey, the official representatives of the Regimental Association, had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty The Queen, who was the reviewing officer.

A recently joined member of the Regimental Association is ex-Pte R. Clarke (22725945) who served with the 1st Battalion in Austria from 1952 to 1955. When he returned to civil life he joined the Fire Service and is now a Station Officer at Canvey Island.

When returning his Derby Draw counterfoils ex-C/Sgt 'Clem' Clements (22276303) sent his regards to all who remember him and regretted that he would be unable to attend the Annual Reunion this year owing to an important private engagement that day

We are glad to be able to report that he has now fully recovered from his major operation, and we are hopeful that he will visit us at Edgware in the near future.

An ex-member of the Regiment who has been in touch with us recently is ex-Pte E. D. Cooper. He joined the 1st Battalion from The Royal Sussex Regiment when the battalion was stationed in Yorkshire prior to D-Day and served with it throughout the campaign in N.W. Europe.

Ex-Drummer 'Chesty' Cross (L/17721), writing from Downham Market, Norfolk, sends his greetings to all old comrades with whom he has served, especially those in the 2nd Battalion Corps of Drums in Egypt, Singapore and India.

Ex-Sgt E. W. Dawtrey (19041740), who served in the 1st Battalion from 1969 to 1972, emigrated to South Africa last December and has settled in Transvaal.

Our congratulations and best wishes to that redoubtable old Die-Hard, Lt Bob Douthet, one of our Boer War veterans, who celebrated his 90th birthday on May 26.

He was serving with the 4th Battalion when he was on the guard of honour by Admiralty Arch on the occasion of the coronation of King Edward VII in 1002.

Later he went to South Africa with the 3rd Battalion and in 1914 he was the first RSM of the 2/7th Battalion on its formation. In 1919 he was RSM of the 2nd Battalion and ended his military career as OM of that battalion.

He has a host of friends who have nostalgic memories of him.

At this year's annual banquet of the Monarchist League held at the Apothecaries Hall Lt-Col Julian du Parc Braham, who is the Chancellor of the League, led the procession with ex-Queen Geraldine of Albania.

We were very relieved to get news last April that ex-WO₂ W. D. Fitzgerald (6192972), that old 9th

Battalion stalwart, was recovering from the stroke which affected his right arm, and we trust that he is many memories to those members who were serving now fully restored to health again.

A surprise and very welcome visitor to RHQ Edgware just as we were going to press was Lt Reg Ford, who was on leave from Germany where he is serving with 2 Queen's.

He is still a keen golfer and hopes to be back in this country in time to take part in the Autumn Meeting in October.

From Eastbourne Maj Freddie Franklin, that ebullient Signals Sergeant when the 2nd Battalion was serving in India in the 1920s, sends his greetings to all those who remember him.

Ex-Cpl D. C. Godfrey recently visited RHQ and joined the Regimental Association. He enlisted in 1966 and completed his Colour service in 1973. During that period he served with our 1st Battalion, 2 and 4 Queen's and 42 Army Youth Team.

He now resides at Hayes, Middlesex.

We were delighted to get the news that ex-Col Wally Golds had been awarded the Imperial Service Medal. It was given for his 30 years' service with HMS 'Daedalus' and HMS 'Sultan', and was presented by Capt D. D. N. Long, RN, Captain of the Gosport naval establishment.



Naval Photograph

Presentation of Imperial Service Medal to Wally Golds by the Captain of the Gosport naval establishment, Capt. D. D. N. Long, RN.

He served in 'D' Coy of the 2nd Battalion in France until the evacuation from Dunkirk and returned again for the invasion on D-Day

Congratulations to Capt Alfred Goldman on the award of the Efficiency Medal (Territorial) notified in The London Gazette dated February 24, 1975.

When paying his annual subscription this year Frank Goldstraw (14443179), who served in the Regiment from February 1947 until posted to the Depot RAOC in January 1948, sent his good wishes to all Die-Hards.

A visitor to the Regimental Museum recently was the daughter of the late CSM H. F. ('Fizzer') Grav. DCM, who called with her husband to see her father's medals.

No doubt the mention of his name will bring back with him in the 1st Battalion at Milton Barracks, Gravesend, and in Cologne with the British Army of Occupation on the Rhine in the early 1920s.

Our Editor had a surprise a short while ago when he was boarding a No 84 bus running between New Barnet Station and Potters Bar. He quickly recognised the driver as ex-Sgt F. R. Groves who had served under his command during the 1939-45 War in the resuscitated 1st Battalion and worked closely for some time with the then Capt Peter Pe

Since the publication of the last Newsletter news has been received that the following recently celebrated the anniversary of their Golden Wedding

Lt-Col Adrian and Mary Howell on February 14. Col Ronnie and Ruth Sherbrooke Walker on May

Whilst sending them our hearty congratulations on this happy event we also send them our best wishes for many more years of happiness together.

It was with great pleasure that we read in The Times on February 25 of the appointment of Lt-Col Roy Hutchings as Chairman of Traffic Commissioners for the North-Western Traffic Area as from March 24 last, and we offer him our heartiest congratulations on this important promotion in the Department of Environment.

The work on which he is now employed is akin to that of a stipendiary magistrate but dealing only with the licensing of public service vehicles and heavy goods vehicles operators.

He has, of course, had to move up north to live but he has assured us that this will not prevent him from coming down for some of our regimental functions at which we shall much look forward to seeing him.

One of our old pre-war members, ex-Cpl A. Jackson (6196911), who has settled in Hong Kong, writes to let us know that he is in hospital. He served in the 2nd Battalion in India in the later 1920s and he was still serving when the 1st Battalion left Hong Kong in 1952. He was later employed as Post Corporal at HQ Land Forces, Hong Kong, until December 1966 when he was discharged, an subsequently as a security guard at the same head quarters until he had to retire earlier this year on account of ill-health.

On account of his wife's serious illness ex-RQMS 'Jacko' Jacques was unable to attend the annual reunion this year. He sent his best wishes to all Die-

Len Johnson, the conscientious Honorary Secretary of the WOs and Sergeants Branch, again caused us considerable anxiety when he was admitted to the Edgware General Hospital in April. Fortunately he was not detained long though it is v necessary for him to lead a quiet life and not to overdo things. Take care of yourself, Len.

In a recent letter ex-ROMS F. I. W. Kedge. BEM (6190104), at one time a Corporal Drummer in the 4th Battalion in Gibraltar after the 1014-18 War. sends his best wishes to all Die-Hards. He apologises for not being able to attend any of our functions, but unfortunately he is chair-bound after a serious operation on his right hip, and does not expect to be mobile for some time yet.

We wish him a speedy recovery to full health again.

Maj Hugh Lohan, having qualified for entry in the Grade I Staff Pool, is now entitled to the symbol 'sq' against his name in military records.

Writing towards the end of April ex-Sgt R. K. Monty) Lowe, who served in the 1/7th Battalion iring the 1939-45 War, sends his best wishes to all Die-Hards.

Colonel Andrew Man, who has been doing much good work in that part of Wales (Pembrokeshire) where he is living, has just been elected a Nominated Member, representing the Council for the Protection of Rural Wales, on the National Trust Council.

We were delighted to welcome WO2 I. Medland on his first visit to a WOs and Sgts Branch meeting on May 10, and we shall certainly look forward to seeing him at many of these meetings in the future.

Congratulations to Capt Ron Morris on his promotion to Major as from March 23 last.

Before the amalgamation in 1967 he was serving in the 1st Battalion as Quartermaster and afterwards in the same capacity in 4 Queen's. When that battalion was disbanded he was posted as Quartermaster to 1 Queen's where he is still serving.

Ex-CSM Arthur Page (6201260), a veteran of the Battle of Hong Kong, writes from Blacon, Chester, where he has been for some years employed in the Civil Service.

Due to his living so far away from London and being unable to get down for our functions and meetings more often his old friends miss him as much as he misses them.

One of our young National Service officers who has made a name for himself since he returned to civil life is Lt Michael Pickard. Indeed his business activities were the subject of a prominent article in The Sunday Express on March 30 last at the end of which Michael is described as enthusiastic, energetic and forceful.

He and his family own the Happy Eaters, a chain of motorway restaurants, and he has quite recently embarked on converting a former night club into a motor hotel, which either has been, or soon will be, opened by Mr Jeremy Thorpe.

A newly-joined member of the Regimental Association is ex-Pte A. A. Pilford (6208222), who was serving in the 1st Battalion before the 1939-45 War and was taken prisoner after the fall of Hong Kong.

He has been trying to trace his old friend, C. Bradley (6208194), for many years but without ess. If any reader can help it would be appreciated if he would get in touch with the Editor.

We congratulate Brig Dennis Rendell on his appointment as Aide-de-Camp to Her Majesty The Queen as from January 21 last.

As mentioned in the Personal Jottings of our March issue of this Newsletter on November 7 last, our old veteran, ex-Pte Frank George Oakley, had been resident in the Star and Garter Home for 50 years. To mark this occasion, on the morning of Tuesday, November 12, the Chairman of Governors, Gen Sir Charles Harington, accompanied by the Commandant, Matron and other members of the staff visited Frank Oakley's room to present him with a transistor radio from the Governors. He also received an inscribed beer tankard from the staff on



Times Photographic Service

A happy picture of Frank Oakley celebrating his 50 years at the Star and Garter Home with his nieces. Mrs. Betty Steward, Mrs. Dolly Hibbird and Miss Daisy Oakley.

According to the Editor of The Star and Garter Magazine Frank was in great form and regaled the Chairman with some of his funny stories which he tells so well. Everyone present enjoyed the company of this remarkable man who, though disabled in body, is certainly not disabled in spirit.

A former 9th Battalion member who has quite recently become a Newsletter reader is Jim Silver (620640). During the 1914-18 War he served with the King's Royal Rifle Corps as well as with the oth Battalion. When the TA was re-formed after the war he rejoined his old battalion and was still serving with it when Lt-Col Fox was commanding.

A familiar figure who has disappeared from the scenes at Edgware is C/Sgt Allan Stevens (22390259), the PSI on the strength of the TA Company there. By the time these notes appear in print he will have completed his Colour service and will have taken up residence in East Anglia, from where he is hoping to take up employment with the TA in a civilian capacity.

There is no doubt that his cheerful personality will be much missed by all working at Edgware.

When paying his annual subscriptions for 1975 ex-Cpl Kenneth Sutton (21124794), one of our Korean War veterans, who was badly disabled through his wounds, sent his best wishes to all members of the Regimental Association.

He has recently moved into Norfolk, from Worthing, where he had lived since he was married.

The Honorary Secretary of the WOs and Sergeants branch has sent the Editor a letter from ex-WO2 E. J. Thompson, in which he states that, whilst in the Ardennes quite recently he visited a war cemetery at a place called Hotton to pay homage to the men of the Parachute Regiment buried there with whom he had been serving in the last war. Amongst the graves there one which in particular caught his eye was that of a soldier of the Regiment, 6209941 Pte R. Coverdale, who was killed in action on May 29, 1940. He mentioned this since he thinks that somebody somewhere might like to know these details and hopes that they may be passed on to whomsoever they may concern.

We are glad to be able to record that one of our younger Die-Hards, Ex-Pte J. J. Tydeman, is one of our many new Newsletter readers.

He served in the 1st Battalion from 1962 to 1971.

With reference to Capt Walter Ward's letter in the last issue of the Newsletter the mystery of the second regimental shield installed at the Royal British Legion Club at Enfield has been solved. According to Mr E. J. Collier of 12 Albuhera Close it was bought and installed by himself and two other Diehards, Messrs Harris and Milroy.

So the Regiment will be very well remembered at this club.

A recent correspondent is ex-Pte J. H. Wilson who served in the pipe band of the 16th (Public School Battalion in the 1014–18 War.

He states that he is shortly going into hospital for an eye operation, which we sincerely hope will be successful

He is now living on Merseyside.

Writing early in May that Hong Kong veteran, ex-Pte Robert Wright (816754) of 'B' Coy 1st Battalion, regretted that he would be unable to attend the Annual Reunion this year since he was travelling for his firm in the Glasgow area.

He sent his best wishes to all of his old comrades.

REGIMENTAL DERBY SWEEPSTAKE 1975

The Derby sweepstake organised in aid of the Middlesex Regimental Memorials was very well supported again this year.

The receipts from the sale of tickets and donations, which showed an increase of £30 over last year, and the distribution of the prize money, were as follows:

Receipts and Expenditure

Receipts and Expenditure				
Received from sale of tickets and	£	£		
donations		280.21		
Less: Printing and Stationery	40.39			
Registration Fee	1.25			
Administration Expenses	4.00	45.64		
Available for distribution		234.57		
Distribution				
B	£	£		
Regimental Memorials (50% of net				
proceeds)		117.29		
Prize Money:	0.6			
1st prize (25% of net proceeds)	58.63			
2nd prize (15% of net proceeds)	35.50			
3rd prize (10% of net proceeds)	23.45	117.28		
T . 1	+			
Total		2.34:57		

The following were the prizewinners:

Ist—LtCol G. W. Webber, TD, 4 Seascape, St
 Thomas Street, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 2DB
 2nd—Mrs Scott, 140 Carters Mead, Harlow, Essex.
 3rd—Miss Daphne Guscott, 7a Parkhurst Road,
 Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.

Since 1967, when these Derby sweepstakes were organised, a total of £858.56 has been handed over to the Secretary of the Regimental Association.

F.W.

LETTERS

From: Mr W. H. Lovell Troonsraat 67 (Bus 4)

Troonsraat 67 (Bus 4) B.8400 Ostende Belgium April 15, 1975

Editor,
Die-Hards Newsletter.

Dear Sir

I have read with great interest the article on the visit to Lille. I can recall the fascinated interest of the members of the Corporals Club when listening to a conversation in rapid French between Trotobas and Pat Duggan (Duggan came from Nice and was missing at Dunkirk I believe).

It was in 1957 that I wrote a letter to the OC Depot Mill Hill suggesting that some more active form of interest could be taken concerning Trotobas. This followed a visit I made to Lille, where I traced the café where he met the members of his organisation. The place was the Café Aux Resistants in the Rue d'Artois—it was festooned with photos of the members, and the proprietor knew Trotobas well.

On my next visit to the café I was dismayed to find it had passed into other hands, and although the name remained the same much of the atmosphere associated with the Resistance was lost in the redecoration.

I believe my letter, together with a copy of the journal published by Reseau Sylvestre which has a striking likeness of Trotobas, printed on the front page was passed to Col M. Browne.

Yours faithfully, W. H. LOVELL

From: Mr Lyn Macdonald

Room 830 Broadcasting House Portland Place, London W1A1AA March 10, 1975

Dear Sir,

Were you at Ypres in 1917?

You may be familiar with my name as a broadcaster, particularly in connection with BBC Radio Documentary Programmes, some of which have related to the First World War, which is a particular interest of mine not just as a broadcaster, but as a writer as well

As you must be well aware 1977 is the 60th Anniversary of the Third battle of Ypres and we are hoping to broadcast a series of four documentary programmes (each covering one phase of the campaign) to coincide with the anniversary. It seems early days to discuss such a project, but this is an undertaking which requires an enormous amount of advance planning. To show this through the eyes of the men

rather, through the recorded stories of the men were involved—necessitates our starting as soon as possible.

At the same time (and this is the second part of my personal interest) I am engaged in writing a book on the same subject and in the same form; that is the personal documented experiences of the men in the field. This will be published by Messrs Hutchinson in July 1977.

Those of us who are involved in both projects feel that it is important to place on record the vast amount of material which exists as, in the natural course of events, it is not going to be available indefinitely.

It would be of immense value to us if you would be kind enough to publish this letter in your Regimental Journal so that any of your readers who served in the Ypres Sector between June and November 1917 could contact me so that I might arrange to meet them. The whole point of the book and of the broadcasts is that it should be shown to be their story—whether they were cooks or gunners, rankers or officers, footsloggers or cavalrymen. In other words, we are interested in all stories and reminiscences no matter how slight or how trivial they might appear to be.

Naturally we should like to hear from these gentlemen as soon as possible, so if you are not planning an early issue, perhaps you might be able to furnish me with the names and addresses of any First World War Soldiers known to whom I could then contact

With many thanks for your help, I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
Lyn MacDonald

Peter McRae

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OBITUARY

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

CHITTENDEN—On or about March 9, 1975, when he was found dead in bed, ex-Pte Edward Chittenden, aged about 79.

During the 1914–18 War he served in the 1/7th Battalion and afterwards joined the Royal British Legion at Enfield. He was also a keen Freemason and was at one time Past Master of his lodge.

After losing his wife in the early 1960s and selling his house he became more and more a recluse.

According to Capt Walter Ward, who has kindly provided the information for this obituary notice, the circumstances of Ted's death were particularly sad, as he died without relations or money. However, he was saved from a pauper's funeral by the Enfield Branch of the Royal British Legion and his Masonic Lodge, who were good enough to defray all expenses.

Dadson—On May 8, 1975, Olive Anne, aged 82, the wife of Mr E. J. Dadson, LTCL, MRST (TF/2452), a veteran of 'A' Coy, 7th Battalion (TF) and in civilian life a respected musician and adjudicator at musical competitions.

GATES—On February 16, 1975, ex-Cpl John William Gates (PS | 2211), aged 82. He was one of the volunteers of the 16th (Public Schools) Battalion, which was raised at the outbreak of the 1914–18 War. Its recruits then came very largely from the public schools and the competition to join was so great that *The Standard* published the following, 'Colonel Hall is now offering to take a few men at their own expense, so that they may train and be ready when their turn for enlistment comes'.

John Gates was with the Battalion when it arrived in France in November 1915, and spent Christmas Day in the trenches at La Bassee. The following April the Battalion moved up to the Somme and on July 1 fought that sanguinary battle at Beaumont Hamel where, of a strength of 23 officers and 689 soldiers, 22 officers and 500 soldiers became casualties. One of these casualties was John Gates who was seriously wounded. After months in hospital he was posted to the 6th (Special Reserve) Battalion at Chatham in May 1917. The following December he was discharged as medically unfit for further war service.

During the 1939-45 War he was a member of, and an instructor in, the Home Guard. He spent the last few years with his son and family in Melbourne, Australia, where he died.

Although living abroad he remained a member of the Mill Hill Branch of the Die-Hards Club and always kept in touch.

Marsh—On April 6, 1975, peacefully at home Maj Henry Marsh, aged 65. He was commissioned into the Regiment from the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, on January 30, 1930, and, after a short attachment to the Depot, he joined the 1st Battalion. He remained with that Battalion throughout his service, being promoted to Captain on August 1, 1938, and to Major on July 1, 1946, after having held acting and temporary rank as such from February 1941 to the end of December 1945. for his services during the fighting in Hong Kong in 1941 he was mentioned in despatches. He was a prisoner of war of the Japanese from Christman Day 1941 till October 8, 1945. On account of hidisability he retired on retired pay on April 21, 1954, but six months later he was appointed to a T.A. commission as a Lieutenant in the Army Cadet Force, which he held until August 15, 1960, when he resigned.

PLUMB—On May 1, 1975, Jeanette, aged 41, the wife of 22466825 Sgt L. T. Plumb, The Queen's Regiment, formerly 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (DCO), and currently an Army Recruiter based at Edgware.

Jeanette was injured in a bomb incident when the 1st Battalion was stationed in Cyprus. Last March she was admitted to Millbank Hospital and later transferred to the Middlesex Hospital, where she died after a long illness.

Ormiston—On February 11, 1975, at Chelwood Corner Nursing Home, Nutley, John William Graham Ormiston, aged 60.

To most of those who knew him he was always referred to as 'John O', a term of affection which somehow fitted him. His home was in Somerset, and he was a countryman at heart, but he combined this with a polish that made him a wonderful mixer in whatever society he found himself.

At Sandhurst he was an outstanding Cadet—S.U.O. of his Company, a considerable athlete and a near-miss for the Sword of Honour. He was commissioned into the Middlesex Regiment on January 31, 1035, together with three other 2nd Lieuts who joined the Regiment on that date.

As was customary, they were posted to the Depot at Mill Hill for their first week before joining the 2nd Battalion at Colchester, and John O used to tell the story of how the four of them sat in the Mess after dinner on their first night, whilst conversation flagged. Eventually the O.C. Depot said 'Well, I dont want to keep you up'—so as one man, they all rose to their feet. 'Oh, I don't want to drive you to bed', he added, whereupon they all sat down again! It is too long ago to remember how the impasse resolved itself, but in due course it did. It was the start of a very happy Regimental life, which John enjoyed to the full.

He was, of course, a shining light in the Cricket Week, both socially, despite his juniority, and on the field—he was a very stylish bat—and his silk shirts, buttoned at the wrist, and his macoloured caps did much to contribute to the attendance of the Week.

He was posted to Palestine from the 1st Battalion just before the war and gave outstanding war service mostly on the General Staff. At one stage he

served with distinction as GSOI on General Wingate's Chindit HQ and it was only by sheer chance and at the last minute before take-off of that ill-fated aircraft in which the General and all occupants were killed that the decision was taken to leave John O behind. At the end of the war he was appointed to command our 2/7th Battalion but unfortunately he arrived on the very same day as the disbandment order. After post-war service in Austria with the 1st Battalion as Company Commander and Second-in-Command he returned to staff work and it was in Malta that he picked up the bug that was to undermine his future career and eventually take his life. He took over command of the 1st Battalion in Cyprus during the height of the troubles and at the same time his illness began to take a firmer grip of him. Suffice it to say that. most reluctantly, he had to be invalided home to a lengthy period in hospital followed by convalesence. Despite several good subsequent appointments his illness always intervened and he always found himself back again in hospital.

He retired from the Army on November 10, 1966, and it soon became very clear to all his friends that things were far from well with him. Despite all these problems he continued to attend every Regimental function that he could and we were all so pleased to see him. Eventually, at a comparatively early age, he was admitted to a Nursing Home in Sussex with a terminal complaint, Many Regimental friends called in to see him during this enforced incarceration and each succeeding visitor reported the further sad decline in his health. However, being John he kept up his spirits and his very special interest in his beloved cricket as he was always glued to his goggle box and often the subject was concerned with some Test or County match. His room, typical John, was beautifully furnished with his own superb belongings and further embellished with some lovely pictures and photographs of glorious girl friends of the past.

John had so much to offer and for so many years he led a successful hard working, yet very gay and carefree life. Underneath this gayness he always lacked an essential basic something to fill his cup of happiness—in his heart of hearts he really yearned inwardly for a loving wife and a devoted family rather than the outward trappings of great heights in the Army.

We all miss him very much indeed.
(With acknowledgements to Col A. S. J. de S. Clayton, OBE, DL, and Maj M. P. Weedon, MC)

SAVAGE—On March 11, 1975, ex-Drum Major John Harry (Sandy) Savage, aged 77. In 1914 as a boy of sixteen years of age he joined the Corps of Drums of the 7th Battalion and, although well under age at the outbreak of war on August 4, 1914, he served with the battalion throughout the war. When peace was declared and he was released be returned to his job at the Post Office, where he add been employed since leaving school. As soon as the Territorial Army was re-formed after the war he again enlisted in the Drums of the 7th Battalion and, as Drum Major, was still serving when the 1939–45 War broke out. He went as a CQMS with the 1/7th Battalion to join the BEF

in France and after serving throughout the short campaign was evacuated via the Dunkirk beaches.

When the 1/7th Battalion later went to the Middle East to join the 51st (Highland) Division 'Sandy' was considered too old to continue as a fighting soldier and was posted to a Camp administrative staff in Egypt where he remained until the end of the war.

(With acknowledgements to Maj Walter Ward).

SIM-On April 24, 1975, ex-Pte Albert George Sim. alias Ellis (215972 and 6191805) aged 73. Mick Ellis, as he was known to his service friends. joined the Regiment in July 1919 and did his initial training at the Depot, Mill Hill, until August 1920 when he was posted to the 3rd Battalion in Germany. In October 1921 he was posted to the 2nd Battalion, then on foreign service, and served in Egypt, Singapore and India until February 1929 when he returned to the United Kingdom for transfer to the Army Reserve. Whilst with the 2nd Battalion he was a member of the battalion Signals Section. On the termination of his reserve service in July 1939 he decided to join the TA, enrolling at Hornsey in August 1939 into the 1/7th Battalion where Mai S. I. Clark, who had been one of his Signals Officers in India, was the Second-in-Command. This officer, who was to die as a POW in Malaya in 1943, promptly employed him as his batman. In September 1939 he was one of the first members of the 7th Battalion to report when mobilisation orders were broadcast on the radio. He went to France with the battalion and remained with it until after the evacuation from Dunkirk. Then he was posted to the VP Police and remained with this corps for the invasion in June 1944 and the subsequent advance into Germany. From Germany he was posted home to return to civil life and was discharged in September 1945. He settled down in Coggeshall, Essex, where he was employed as an electrician. Owing to the nature of his work he was unable to attend Association meetings and functions, though he was a regular correspondent with the Mill Hill Branch.

(With acknowledgements to Mai R. W. J. Smith, MBE).

STRAWSON—On March 3, 1975, peacefully in Tonbridge Cottage Hospital, Capt Ivan Andrea Strawson, aged 62. He served in the Artists Rifles from 1930 to 1938 and later was commissioned into the Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment, in which he served in the 2nd Battalion from 1941 to 1946, attaining the rank of Captain.

After the war he became a well-known dog breeder at the Tophill Kennels, Shipbourne, Tonbridge.

He had been a member of our Officers Club since 1965.

Thompson—It was indeed sad to hear that Maj 'Tommy' Thompson, MBE, died on May 10, 1975, particularly as at the age of 84 he had to have a 1eg amputated and never recovered from the operation.

He was commissioned to the 9th Battalion in 1908 and was the senior surviving member of the battalion who served with it throughout the 1914–18 War in India, Mesopotamia and Kurdistan.

Before the war he attended a TA Officers course at Albany Barracks and returned with a parade voice that was stentorious to a degree. Being 6ft 2in in height he was a commanding figure on parade-and a very popular officer.

A résumé of his service from 1908 to 1919 was published in the December 1974 Diehards Newsletter and it seems superfluous to repeat it here, but he was an outstanding personality in the battalion and a dedicated 'Die-Hard'

Those who served with him feel a great sense of loss and would express their deepest sympathy to

(With acknowledgements to Lt-Col G. L. Fox, TD, DL).

VALENTINE, A. F.—As all the information is not yet available a full obituary notice on ex-CSM Valentine, DCM, who died on May 7, 1975, will be published in a subsequent Newsletter.



ASSOCIATION NEWS

Secretary's Notes

Benevolent Cases

During the period January 1 to May 31, 1975, the sum of £1191.50 was expended in making grants to 43 ex-members of the Regiment.

Donations-Charitable Fund

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges donations to the Charitable Fund from: Mr R. R. Chaplin. Mr T. H. Clark (in memory of the late Mr 'Sandy' Savage) Mr J. H. Farmborough, Maj Hon Sir Hildreth Glyn-Jones, TD, Brig A. E. Green, DSO, OBE (in memory of the late Col J. W. G. Ormiston and Maj H. Marsh), Capt J. H. S. Hudson, Mr C. D. Matthews, WO2 J. Medland (RAPC), Mr A. W. Sharp.

Albuhera Day

At 11.30 am. on Albuhera Day a wreath was laid by Col F. Walden, on behalf of the President of the Regimental Association, on the Regimental War Memorial in Inglish Barracks, Afterwards a small reunion was held at Edgware and a number of Old Comrades attended.

Annual Service of Remembrance

The Annual Service of Remembrance took place in the Regimental Memorial Chapel at St Paul's Cathedral on Saturday, May 17, 1975, at 2.30 p.m. and was well attended. The sermon was preached by the Rev P. L. Pearce Gould, OBE, MA, the Rector of Bakewell, Bristol.

Annual Reunion

The Annual Reunion was held on Saturday, May 17, 1975, at Porchester Hall, Queensway. A total of 300 were present. The weather was against the attendance of the older generation, but the continuing increase of younger members making the effort to attend is encouraging for the future.

The President of the Regimental Association, Col A. S. J. de S. Clayton, gave a short address and introduced Col J. N. Shipster as the new Deputy Colonel (Middlesex)

Composition of Regimental Association Com-

The present composition of Regimental Association Committees is as shown below:

> President: Col A. S. J. de S. Clayton, OBE, TD Chairman: Lt-Col T. W. Chattey, OBE Vice-Chairman: Col I. D. Brotherton, TD, DL Secretary: Maj A. E. F. Waldron, MBE

Maj-Gen Sir John Willoughby, Col. F. Walden, MBE, DL KBE, CB Col A. R. Waller, MBE, MC Lt-Col J. M. Hewson, Mc Lt-Col D. E. Simpson, TD Maj H. E. Couch, TD Maj F. J. Millard, MBE, TD Maj B. St G. A. Reed, MC Capt R. M. Fox Mr G. S. Hurlock Mr G. Young

Col. F. Walden, MBE, DL Lt-Col G. L. Fox, TD, DL Lt-Col E. A. H. Jeffcoat, MBE Maj M. J. Beaumont, TD Maj C. L. Lawrence, MC Maj A. E. Peasley Maj M. P. Weedon, MC Capt S. le M. Enthoven Capt A. I. F. Goldman Mr E. C. Colebeck

Weller, MBE, MM

Finance Sub-Committee Housing Sub-Committe Chairman Lt-Col G. L. Fox, Chairman Col I. D. Brotherton, TD. DL. Members: Maj A. E. Peasley Maj M. P. Weedon, MC Capt R. M. Fox Members: Lt-Col D. E. Simpson, TD Maj H. E. Couch, TD Maj F. J. Millard, MBE, TD Capt M. J. S. Doran, TD Capt E. J. Pike Housing Manager Maj S. C. W. Waller, MPS ANN.

> Membership and Social Sub-Committee Chairman Col F. Walden, MBE, DL. Chairman Col F. Walden, MBE, I Members:
> Maj M. J. Beaumont, TD Maj C. L. Lawrence, MC Capt S. le M. Enthoven The Verv Rev Mgr Brown, JCD Mr T. R. Bennett Mr H. J. Mellor Mr T. Emerson

Branch Secretaries

A. E. F. W.

EALING BRANCH

We had a very enjoyable Annual General Meeting on Thursday, May 9, after having had a run round to get the old timers there. Andy (our Treasurer) rounded them up and we had a good talk about things in general and the members of Ealing Branch in particular. We have four widows living in the Ealing area and as the Secretary, I find that a short visit and a chat about every three months seems to cheer the old ladies up. I must be a good listener!

We have not heard anything of Bill Cook of Australia for quite a good time but hope that 'no ws is good news'.

We shall be looking forward to seeing a few old Die-Hards (and some young ones) when you come over this way to Kneller Hall. Nothing like a bit of good music to cheer us up in these hard times after listening to the 'Bla Bla' of the Politicians on the radio and then the rattle of the Pops 'musicians'. Our Chairman, George Ife, is still away in the country and we hope the change of air and surroundings will do a good job for him.

I heard from Bobby Williams (our mighty atom) who is in an Old Folks Home. He sounded just the same and I bet he 'leads them a dance' in more

Eddie Nicholls and Arthur Wendley (both nearly blind) are otherwise physically well and are a credit to their wives who look after them.

The remainder of us are still on two feet and send our good wishes to all 'Die-Hards' everywhere.

ALBERT WHITE

HOUNSLOW BRANCH

Despite tales of woe from all sides and the neverending inflation escalation, we at Hounslow have managed to increase our membership over the last year and still maintain our weekly meetings. This is not to say we wouldn't welcome any new additions to our ranks, so if you know of any ex-Diehard or Queensman living in our part of the world, send them along to Hanworth Road Drill Hall. Tom Frindall, our barman, still has a few spare glasses to keep filled.

Our Christmas dinner, which was held in the Drill Hall, was an enormous success and no less than 75 people sat down to the meal which was ably prepared nd served by George Lambert and Clive Stock, not orgetting the willing cadet helpers. Once again, thank you for a first-class effort.

We were glad to have as our guests Col and Mrs Walden and Maj and Mrs Frank Waldron. I am sure they enjoyed themselves with us and we look forward to seeing them at Hounslow in the not too distant future.

Believing that variety is the spice of life, we organised a children's Christmas party and despite the delay we managed to see it through. This was entirely due to the generosity of our members and visitors we have had to our branch meetings who have subribed to our 'bottle' which, when broken, was d to contain £,43—well done! Mind you—there are certain persons who don't like being on the losing darts team too often and we have great difficulty collecting the 2p after (not you, Mike!).

We have also held a couple of well attended disco/ socials since our last notes and despite the culinary efforts of Dave Eagle at our last function, as far as we know everyone has been accounted for!

Once again we are looking forward to June to the now annual invitation by 5 Queen's TA to their shooting meeting when no doubt some of us will try to recapture past glories on the range. Seems to me I can remember the wives doing well last year-move that beer tent away this time, please.

In conclusion, as usual we send our best wishes to all Die-Hards and wish continuing success to all GORDON YOUNG other branches.

MILL HILL BRANCH

I write this in the 'Merry month of May', which immediately pictures in the mind groups of village maidens and their gallants, merrily tripping round the Maypole in brilliant sunshine on the village green. That term must have been quacked by some old duck. Naturally I mean the feathered variety and not the elastic-sided boots and American-cloth shopping bag pattern. We have had Albuhera Day wreath laving ceremony at our memorial at Inglis Barracks whilst the Regimental flag was flying proudly from the top of the Middlesex Guildhall in Parliament. Square: both flag and those at Mill Hill got wet. The day following we had our annual service in St Paul's Cathedral where the floral arrangement was a credit to whoever arranged it. The Cathedral dignitary was the Rev Samuel Cutt, the Succentor, who has christened my two youngest grandsons in our baptistry and tells the congregation on these occasions of our regimental connections with the cathedral. Those attending on May 17 got wet. In the evening the annual reunion was held in Porchester Hall. Those attending got wet. The following morning I walked round our old haunts in Inglis Barracks, picturing it as it was when I first walked through the entrance-no gates then-56 years ago. I got wet.

The branch continues to flourish. We have a new secretary, Sgt Les Plumb, who has a couple of months active soldiering to complete, and a new treasurer. Mr Tom Minski, a man of many talents whom I hope will garner in many talents as introduced by the Babylonians, to swell our kitty.

In my last contribution to the Newsletter, I mentioned our Boer War veterans, the earliest war of which we still have survivors. Recently I have been meeting a number of our veterans of the last war in which the regiment fought, earning the last honour on our Colours, and also that of The Queen's Regiment. They are the Korean veterans who landed at Pusan twenty-five years ago on August 29, who I hope will be able to meet at Edgware when we hold our branch meeting on Saturday, August 30. I do hope they will come along and bring any Korean comrade they meet between now and then. The old soldiers are Bob Ambler, John Ellis, R. Fitch, D. Francis, D. Galvin, Brian Jelley, Bill Jones (42), Bill Mandreth, Ron Pile, Joe Payne, Ray Sharp, Whipper Sills, F. Simmons, H. Soames, Tug Wilson (80) and Bob Yerby. Three of the battalion of Col Desmond Ellis are now members of the branch; they are Messrs R. Ridler, S. Shawyer and A. V. Theobald, all of whom were recruited for us by the personal touch of Col Ellis. Whilst writing of these two generations of Die-Hards and their successors I must record what a credit they are and looked. This impression was one which struck me forcibly, both at St Paul's and at the reunion on May 17. I felt proud of them. I realise we see a number at our monthly gatherings but feel that it was seeing so many together and all dressed smartly for the occasion that impressed me so much. A short account of the Service and reunion was published in the local press which is always generous in its cover of our regimental activities.

Pip Connor, MM, that indefatigable correspondent from Ontario, sent a subscription to the Hassock/ Kneeler Fund as well as a few pithy remarks about his neck of the woods. When he attends his Legion parades he, with pride, wears our regimental badge and flash in his beret. He and Queenie intend to again make a visit to England once he has saved up sufficient ackers; it will be nice to meet this old veteran of the 21st and 2nd Battalions again.

Another of our members has been awarded the Imperial Service Medal. He is Wally Golds who served in 'D' Company of the 2nd Battalion in France until the evacuation from Dunkirk, returning again for the invasion. Two years ago he was presented with the Croix du Capitaine Michel during the annual pilgrimage to Lille; it therefore appears he is making a habit of 'gong' collecting. The Imperial Service Medal was for 30 years' service with H.M.S. Daedalus and H.M.S. Sultan and presented by the Captain of the Gosport naval establishment, Captain D. D. N. Long, RN. The photograph in *The News Extra* of Gosport illustrates the pride of the recipient and the pleasure of the Senior Naval Officer at the moment of bestowment.

A chap who deserves a medal is David Bennett who supplied a splendid iced cake decorated with our Die-Hards badge in coloured icing sugar at our annual reunion, the proceeds boosting the Hassock fund. Not only was the cake donated by a member of our branch, it was won by the wife of a branch member, Mrs Betty Hurlock, the helpmeet of Stan Hurlock. It was unfortunate that David had to leave early due to just recovering from illness so he did not see the pleasure of Betty and the joyous company from Albuhera Close who were with her. Another invalid and one who was grieved that he could not be with us is ex-Cpl R. W. Baker (6199467) who is now in a wheelchair after spending the last three years continuously in and out of hospital. He recalls with nostalgia the days when he was a waiter in the Sergeants Mess at Southsea. Reading his letter recalled many memories of the days of RSM Bill Ward, MM, who had the 2nd Battalion ticking like a well regulated clock.

In conclusion, I can think of no better ending to these notes than the wording of the telegram addressed to 'Dick and Dolly' and received at home on Albuhera Day. 'God bless All Die-Hards everywhere—George Po', I conform with those sentiments of George Pocock and reiterate, 'God bless all Diehards everywhere.'

Major Dick Smith

oTH BATTALION BRANCH

When the Association members with their wives and friends met at St Paul's Cathedral on Saturday May 17 to celebrate Albuhera Day, it did not seem five and a half years ago that we laid up the Colours

of our Regiment in the Baptistry of that Cathedral on October 11, 1969.

This was a magnificent service, one in which many dignitaries of the services and of the counties of Middlesex and London took part, paying their esteemed regards to our famous Regiment.

One regret that many old soldiers had who attended that service was that they could not view the last march through the City of London of the Guard of Honour, then the 4th Queen's, escorting the Colours with drums beating and bayonets fixed.

Seating accommodation in the Cathedral was limited and combined with the viewing of the Gua of Honour would have proved a difficult proposition

The committee has recently discussed the higher postal charges. In view of this we would like all our members to remit their subscriptions each year, so as to prove to us their interest in the Association. Each time we send out our Newsletters, some of them are returned by the postal authorities marked 'gone away' and so another member is lost.

Before this Newsletter is published we shall have held our Annual Reunion and Dinner.

Two new members hope to attend and have purchased tickets. Tney are Lt-Col E. B. George living in Salisbury and Capt E. Crook, DCM. The Colonel finished his service in the R.A.E.C. but was commissioned in the 6oth S.L. Regiment at Shrivenham, Berks, in 1940. The Captain and I met at St Paul's and he was associated with the 9th Battalion during the First World War. More news of the Reunion in the next letter.

As I am writing this the thirty-first anniversary of the evacuation of Dunkirk has taken place with a gathering of men and boats that took part in that event

The safe evacuation of so many Allied Troops was owed mostly to the gallantry and self-sacrifice of the men of these small boats drawn from the civil population. They were conscious only of their service to their country. What an example they set to the people of Britain thirty-five years later, many of whom seem to be concerned with serving their own interests!

We are proud to know that at least one of the 9th was at that gathering this week, paying homage to those who died during the withdrawal.

Arthur Barrows, who was mentioned in our last letter and who was visited in Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood, earlier in the year, has passed away. Unfortunately we were not contacted early enough about this sad event, so we could not send a floral tribute or be represented at his funeral.

At the cremation of the late George Cooper several members of this Branch paid their last tribute to a staunch comrade, together with many members of his family, at the West London Crematorium, Kensal Green.

We extend to all members of the Branch and the Association our cordial wishes for a quiet life free from all ills and the best of health.

R. T. M.

WOs AND SGTS BRANCH

Once again I can report that attendance at our monthly meetings shows that healthy sign which has been apparent over the past quarters.

At our meeting on Saturday, March 8, over 60

assembled to bid farewell to Charlie and Margaret Banks and to witness the presentation to them of a 400-day carriage clock, as a mark of our appreciation and a token of thanks for all they had done for us since the branch was formed.

Although we are entering the Summer Holiday Season I have no reason for thinking that it will affect our future attendances. For at our meetings on April 12 and May 10 we had gatherings of over 40 and although many regular faces were missing, members who do not turn up regularly came along, maintaining the numbers we have come to expect each month.

On Friday, May 16, many of our members along on other old Comrades attended the customary meeting in the recreation room, Deansbrook Drill Hall, when as in the past we exchanged Albuhera Greetings, drank to the health of all Die-Hards and remembered with pride our forebears of the 57th Foot who on May 16, 1811, by their courage and devotion to duty earned for us the name and the right to call ourselves Diehards. Again as on previous Albuhera Days the Regimental Association provided a running buffet, the catering for this being excelently carried out by the new caretaker and his wife and though perhaps many missed Charlie's Curry, that is all that can be said was missed.

Although it was a cold and wet day on Saturday, May 17, many members of the Association attended the Albuhera Day Service of Remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral, the branch again being well represented. Those present at the Service had the opportunity of seeing the Regimental Kneelers, for as promised by Col Aymar Clayton in his Appeal twelve hassocks were in use in the front pews. I am sure that those who saw them will agree that they add that certain difference to our Baptistry and Chapel, making the identity to our Regiment more defined.

In response to the Appeal for the Kneeler Fund we are running three raffles hoping that we can raise enough for at least three hassocks, a target which I am sure we will achieve.

I am afraid I have not much more to write about this quarter, but hope to do better in our next issue.

To all Die-Hards we send our greetings and to all branches our best wishes for success.

LEN JOHNSON

2/10th BATTALION OCA (1914-18)

The 47th Reunion Luncheon of this OCA took place at the Victory-Services Club, Seymour Street, W2, on Saturday, May 31, last. Some 40 ex-2/10th men and their guests attended under the Chairmanship of our President, Mai Bernard Cattell, This was a special occasion commemorating the 6oth anniversary of the landings on the Gallipoli Peninsula on April 25 and August 7-8, 1915. Amongst the guests were Col A. S. J. de S. Clayton, President of the Regimental Association (who very kindly replied to the toast of 'The Regiment', The Regimental Association and our Guests), Col F. Walden, Mai A. E. F. Waldron, Rev Patrick Tuft (Vicar of Chiswick and Hon Chaplain to the OCA); Preb G. A. Lewis Lloyd amd Cecil Adair (Hon Sec to the Parochial Church Council). Appropriately enough the gathering took place in the Allenby Room at the club. It was reported that although 5 members had died during the year, 3 new members, 6 Hon Members and 25 'Friends of the 2/10th' had been enrolled

Our next gathering will be the Annual Service of Remembrance to be held at Chiswick Parish Church at 3 p.m. on Sunday, November 9, next; here the Battalion's Colour is deposited and our Memorial (including the Roll of Honour) is erected. All enquiries should be addressed to the Hon Secretary at Cleveland, Byes Lane, Sidford, Sidmouth, Devon.

A. D. S.

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