



# The Die-Hards

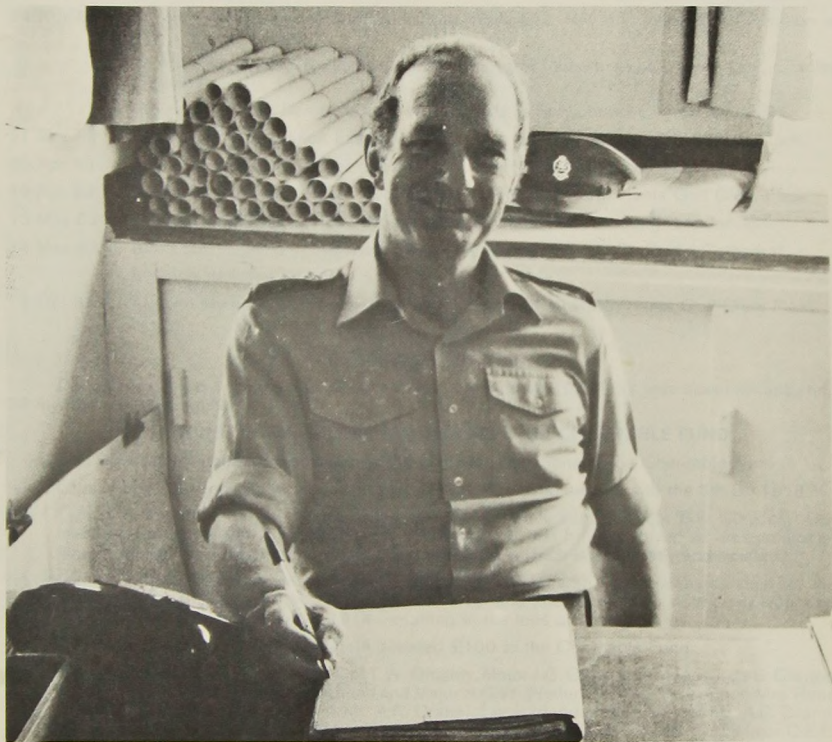
NEWSLETTER

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## HONOURS AND AWARDS

Our heartiest congratulations to Captain K.E. Beale on the award of the M.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List published on 12 June 1982. Captain Beale is currently serving as Schools Liaison Officer at Headquarters, Queen's Division, Bassingbourn, Herts.

# FORECAST OF EVENTS

- 1 Aug 82 Queen's Regt Reunion, Hyderabad Bks, Colchester.
- 4/7 Aug 82 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo.
- 11 Sep 82 Queen's Regt WOs and Sgts Past and Present Dinner, hosted by 1 Queen's, Howe Bks, Canterbury, Kent.
- 25 Sep 82 Korean Club Reunion, TA Centre, Davis St., London W1.
- 1 Oct 82 2/7th Bn Annual Dinner, Victory Club, Seymour St., London W2.
- 5 Oct 82 Autumn Meeting Middlesex Regt Golfing Society, at North Hants Golf Club, Fleet.
- 24 Oct 82 Regimental Association Church Parade at Royal Hospital, Chelsea.
- 11 Nov 82 7th Middlesex Officers' Club Dinner, TA Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, N8.
- 13 Nov 82 Ceremony at Field of Remembrance, Middlesex Guildhall and Westminster Abbey.
- 14 Nov 82 10 a.m. Remembrance Day Service at Inglis Bks, Mill Hill, followed by Reunion at TA Centre, Edgware.  
10.45 a.m. 7th Bn Remembrance Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony, Cranley Gardens.  
3 p.m. 2/10th Bn Remembrance Day Service at St Nicholas Church, Chiswick.
- 21 Mar 83 Regimental Association Executive Meeting at County Hall, London SE1, at 6 p.m.
- 30 Apr 83 1/7th Bn(1939/45) Dinner at TA Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, N8.
- 19 Apr 83 Spring Meeting, Middlesex Regt Golfing Society, at North Hants Golf Club, Fleet.
- 13 May 83 Officers' Club Dinner, Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, London W1.
- 14 May 83 Afternoon - 2.30 p.m. Albuhera Service of Remembrance, St. Paul's Cathedral.  
Evening - Annual Reunion.
- 4 Oct 83 Autumn Meeting, Middlesex Regt Golfing Society, at North Hants Golf Club, Fleet.

# BENEVOLENT CASES

During the period 1 January to 30 June 1982, the sum of £2,579.97 was spent on assisting 38 members of the regiment.

## DONATIONS TO THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FUND

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

- (a) Legacy of £500 from the estate of the late Lt G.R. Barr who served with the 5th Bn 1918-19.
- (b) Legacy of £9,291 from the estate of the late Mrs. M. Hull, aunt of Major B.K. Clayden. Our thanks go to Major Ken Clayden for the important part that he had played as an executor of Mrs. Hull's will in arranging this most generous legacy which is so greatly appreciated.
- (c) Legacy of £50 from the estate of the late Mrs. B.F. Saltmarsh. Mr. Saltmarsh died on the 31 May 1973. He served from 1907-15 with the 1st and 2nd Bns and was seriously wounded at La Boutillerie on 3 November 1914, resulting in the loss of his right arm.
- (d) The Lilley Benevolent Trust has again donated £100 to the Charitable Fund.
- (e) Mr. T.A. Barton, Mr. C. Burgess, Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, Major J.G. Chiverall, Col A.S.J. de S. Clayton (in memory of Lt-Col J.W.A. Stephenson and Major S.C.W. Weller), Mr. A.G.W. Cooper, Mrs. Rose Drane (in memory of her husband Mr. A.R. Drane), Local friends in memory of Mr. A.R. Drane, Mr. A. Goodge, Maj Gen C.M.M. Man, (in memory of the late Major S.C.W. Weller), Major C.E.E. Scott, Mr. S.F. Sibley, Mr. E.J. Soden, Mr. A.E. Tuthill, Major M. Wild.



### DONATIONS BY THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

The sum of £50 has been donated to the South Atlantic Appeal Fund. The aim of this fund is to assist the next of kin of those who have been killed in action and also help for those who have been wounded or injured in action, irrespective of their branch of Service.

Any individual wishing to make a donation can send their contribution to the Secretary of the Regimental Association or direct to the South Atlantic Appeal Fund.

### FREE NEWSLETTERS

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

Mr. B.J. Askew, Mr. J.R. Baker, Major S. Baldwin, Mr. T.A. Barton, Mr. E.J. Bermingham, Major F.H. Blackburn, Mr. C.C. Bradish, Mrs. C.A. Brust, Mr. C. Burgess, I/P F.J. Cater, Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, Mr. R. Clements, Mr. E.C. Colebeck, Mr. E.J. Collier, Mr. A.G.W. Cooper, Mr. C.J. Cox, Mr. B.A. Crawley, Mrs. M. Crawford, Major R.J.P. Cummings, Mr. F.J. Dickinson, Mr. L.D. Eggleton, Mr. M.A. Elston, Mr. J.D. Forgham, Mr. A. Goode, Mr. F.G. Gurney, Mr. G.C. Higgins, Mr. A.G. Horne, Major R.J. Jenkins, Mrs. Mary Jones, Lt-Col H.P. Lambert, Mr. T. Lack, Mr. A.E. Lewin, Mr. W.F. Limmer, Mr. S. Lloyd, Mr. W.E. Lockyer, Mr. R.K. Lowe, Mr. J. Maddocks, Mr. J.M. Mannering, Mr. H.J. Mellor, Mr. L.T. Plumb, Mr. J.A. Poole, Mr. M.C. Quinn, Mr. T.H. Rockall, WO2 P. Ryan, Lt-Col E.P. Shanks, Mr. R. Smith(RAOC), Mr. E.J. Soden, Mr. E.H.T. Steward, Mr. K.V. Sutton, Mr. L.W. Taylor, Mr. A.E. Tuthill, Mr. J.S. Ullman, Major M. Wild.

### ALBUHERA SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

The annual Service of Remembrance was held in the Regimental Memorial Chapel in St. Paul's Cathedral, on Saturday, 15 May 1982, at 2.30 p.m. The service was conducted by Bishop Woolcombe and the Rev W.E.B. Jones, former Chaplain to the 1st Bn in Korea.

I am very pleased indeed to record that this year we had a "full house" with standing room only. This was the best attendance that we have had for many years and it was most encouraging.

Regrettably the sound relay system failed completely and the service was almost inaudible past the 4th row. The Rev. Guz Jones had spent a lot of time on the preparation of the service and it was a great pity that it was spoiled. Representation has been made to the St. Paul's authorities.

After the service 55 members and their families adjourned to the Royal Commonwealth Society for tea and to talk over past happy times.

### ANNUAL REUNION

The Annual Reunion took place on Saturday, 15 May 1982, at the T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware.

Once again we had a good turnout and I am sure that everyone had a most enjoyable evening. This year the bar worked well and there were no delays and no moans.

The Annual General Meeting was held during the evening and was attended by 25 members. During the meeting the accounts were passed and the President, Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, gave a summary of the affairs of the Regimental Association and the Museum during the past year.

### REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

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

### Museum Appeal.

Phase 1 of this Appeal, which was reported in the last issue of the Newsletter, is still continuing and donations have now reached a total of £4,617 plus the covenants which also have increased to just under £1,200 a year. This is a most heartening response and the Trustees are extremely grateful for this support from the old Die Hards. The value of the covenants cannot be over emphasised; for example we have been able to recover the sum of £467 from the Inland Revenue for the year ending 5 April 1982 and this of course will be added to the investment of the Museum funds and so increase the annual income. Every contribution, however small, is most welcome and very much appreciated.

We are greatly indebted to the late Mrs. M. Hull, aunt of Major B.K. Clayden, who specifically bequeathed the magnificent sum of £1,240 to our Regimental Museum. This sum is also being added to the investments. Our special thanks go to Major Ken Clayden for the important part that he played as an executor of Mrs. Hull's will in arranging this most generous legacy, which is so greatly appreciated.

Phase II of the Appeal, that is its extension to the public and institutions, firms, etc., within the old County of Middlesex is being delayed pending further consideration by the Trustees of advice from the professional consultants as to the means and methods of implementing this phase of the Appeal. However the Trustees are fully expecting to go ahead with Phase II in the autumn.

### Acquisitions and Upkeep.

Once more we must express our thanks to the Lilley Benevolent Trust who have again donated £100 to the Museum Fund for the purchase and upkeep of 9th Battalion exhibits. We are indeed most grateful for their continuing and generous support.

The Curator, Major Dick Smith, has been incapacitated for the past three weeks and consequently has been unable to make his usual contribution to the museum notes concerning acquisitions and presentations received during the past six months but will do so in the next issue of the newsletter.

### Museum Accommodation.

The Haringey Museum and Arts Service which is responsible for and controls all the museum accommodation in Bruce Castle, where our Regimental Museum is housed, is to undertake a major re-organisation of the space available within the Castle. As a consequence our museum is being allocated completely new accommodation which will consist of one room on the first floor sufficiently large enough to house the complete display of regimental memorabilia. Also two small adjoining rooms, one possibly suitable for a separate medal display and the other for uniforms and miscellaneous items, are being made available to us, plus extra storage space. Security will be much improved as there will be one entrance and over all the move to this new accommodation will be a great improvement.

A representative of the Ogilby Trust, who has seen the plans and has approved the move, is actively helping in obtaining a grant for the Haringey Museum authorities to part off-set the costs. Meetings are taking place with the Controller of Haringey Museum and Arts Services and the Curator of Bruce Castle to plan the detailed presentation and display arrangements, and it is the intention to re-arrange the exhibits in a chronological order so as to reflect the history of our Regiment and its county connections. It is anticipated that the move will take place in the early autumn.

### Opening Days and Hours.

The Regimental Museum is open on the following days and times :

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday,  
from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Major Dick Smith and the Museum Attendant, Mr. David Whybrow, are only too pleased to show Die Hards and their friends around. Every Die Hard is encouraged to pay a visit to his Museum. Admission FREE!

### REGIMENTAL CHAPEL IN ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Our Chapel in the Cathedral is probably the most important and the most enduring of our various memorials. Therefore it behoves us to do all we can now, particularly whilst there still are quite a number of Die Hards around to appreciate it, to enhance and preserve this monument to our great regimental heritage.

The Chairman of the Regimental Association, Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, OBE, has therefore set up a regimental committee consisting of Brig B.A.M. Pielow and Col A.R. Waller, MBE, MC, with the following terms of reference :

"To examine and to make recommendations for preserving and furthering our presence in the Regimental Chapel in St Paul's Cathedral".



### THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT SALE OF REGIMENTAL SILVER

The Managing Trustees have authorised the sale of certain items of Regimental Silver which are surplus to the Regiment's requirements.

A valuation has been put on each piece which represents the current value to the silver trade. These pieces will be offered for sale to members and former members of the Regiment and its Forbears at not less than the trade valuation in October 1982.

Anyone interested can apply (enclosing stamped addressed envelope) to the Financial Secretary, RHQ The Queen's Regiment, Howe Barracks, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1JU, for a catalogue and further details.

### THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

The 1st Bn, following six months in Belize, returned to Canterbury last April and have since had parties of soldiers in Edinburgh, Cyprus, Norway and California – the latter an exchange visit with a US inf Unit based there.

In November they will start a two year tour in Omagh, Northern Ireland with a new Commanding Officer, Lt-Col Paddy Pantan.

In May, the 2nd Bn (Lt-Col Peter Packham, MBE) returned from Cyprus (after a six months unaccompanied tour with UNFCYP) and will 'host' a Grand Reunion at Colchester on Sunday 1 August. The Colonel of The Regiment visited them in Cyprus during April. In January 1983 the 2nd Bn are off to Londonderry (as a 'Resident' battalion) for two years.

The 3rd Bn (Lt-Col Richard Graham, MBE) are beginning their second summer in BAOR as a mechanized battalion, and in June the Colonel of The Regiment spent a week with them at Fallingbommel.

Summer Camps for our TA battalions this year are : 5 Queens(V) Knook Camp, Warminster, 29 May to 12 June; and 6/7 Queens(V) – Warcop 5 June to 19 June.

For exWOs and Sgts of the old Die Hards (and other founder Regiments), the date Saturday 11 September should be noted – the Annual Dinner for Senior NCOs, Past and Present to be held at Howe Barracks, Canterbury.

### DEPOT THE QUEEN'S DIVISION

Die Hards seem to turn up in the most unexpected places. Earlier this year I was about to leave a school I was visiting in Welwyn Garden City when a rather "high" swill lorry pulled up. Out jumped a well seasoned gentleman in the form of Ex Private Robert (Bob) Pedder. It was great to see him, still as cheerful as I recall him in Guyana and Northern Ireland days. Bob is now a Pig Farmer and lives at 5 Alexandra Road, Welland, Boreham Wood, Herts.

At the end of February I was fortunate to be able to spend a week in Germany with 3 Queens. During my visit I met many old Die Hards and my last night was spent in the company of several in the Sergeants Mess. During a two day visit to Osnabrook I stayed at the home of Capt Michael Flynn and his wife Else. Else had a serious operation at Christmas time but I am pleased to report she is fully recovered and looking great.

Last week Capt Roy Scott arrived at the Depot to assume the appointment of Technical Quartermaster. He had just completed a tour with 10 UDR and finds the Depot somewhat pedestrian in comparison. Roy's home is at Colchester and his wife Carol works at HQ Eastern District. Roy gave me news of Ex WO2 Ron Seager who works for Securicor in Colchester. They manage to meet most weekends over a pint. Recently Roy visited the USA and whilst in San Antonio, Texas, he was the guest of Ex Cpl Roger Bourne who served with 1 Mx in Gibraltar, Guyana and Northern Ireland. Roger left the army in 1970 and now resides permanently in the States.

Another recent arrival at Headquarters The Queens Division is Maj Joe O'Gorman who for a year or so will be the Queen's Regiment representative. Ex Cpl Mitch Fordham, Joe and I recently had dinner together and spent a long evening dwelling over old times.

Terence, the eldest son of Ex CSgt John (Gig) Young and his wife Bernie was involved recently in a traffic motor car accident. He is in intensive care in Addenbrookes Hospital in Cambridge and has

been in a coma since the accident. Our thoughts are with John and Bernie who live at Cemetery Cottage, The Causeway, Bassingbourn, Royston, Herts.

Charles Hales (6200135) who served with 1 Mx before the war and during the war with the 8th battalion recently suffered a sad bereavement. His wife Pat died aged 63 years.

Best wishes to Die Hards everywhere.

Capt Ken Beale

### OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER

The Officers' Club Dinner was held at the Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, London W1, on Friday 14 May 1982.

In accordance with our usual custom widows and nearest relatives of former officers were invited as guests and the following attended.

Principal guest – Mr. A.D. Scudamore OBE, President 2/10th Bn  
Old Comrades Association.

Guests – Mrs. Molly Bower and Miss Jean Bower, widow and daughter of Major G.A.H. Bower, Mrs. F. Jennings, widow of Capt H.J. Jennings, Mrs. D. Pike, Widow of Major J.I.D. Pike, Mrs. C. Pollard, widow of Lt-Col J.S.B. Pollard, Mrs. J. Weedon, widow of Major M.P. Weedon.

Members present were :

Lt-Col T.W. Chattey and Mrs. Chattey, Col I.D. Brotherton and Mrs. Brotherton, Brig B.A.M. Pielow and Mrs. Pielow, Brig D.B. Rendell and Mrs. Rendell, Col I.R. Burrows and Miss B. Colley, Col R.M. Cain and Mrs. Cain, Col A.S.J. de S. Clayton and Mrs. Clayton, Col A.M. Man, Col H.J.A. Moore, Lt-Col G. Brinley Ayre and Mrs. Brinley Ayre, Lt-Col C.N. Clayden and Mrs. Clayden, Lt-Col G.L. Fox, Lt-Col R.D. Hutchings and Mrs. Hutchings, Major M.J. Beaumont, Major J.G. Chiverall, Major W.G.A. Crumley and Mrs. Crumley, Lt J.P.A. Day, Capt M.J.S. Doran and Mrs. Doran, Major R.J. Durnell and Mrs. Durnell, Capt J.S.C. Flavell, Lt E.C. Graham, Major S.L.J. Henshaw and Mrs. Henshaw, Major C.L. Lawrence and Mrs. Lawrence, Major I.M.E. Lloyd and Mrs. Lloyd, Major A.E. McManus, Major F.J. Millard, Major R.E.B. Morris and Mrs. Morris, Major A.E.F. Waldron and Mrs. Waldron.

### MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting of the Middlesex County Association was held at the Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, London SW1, on Wednesday 24 February 1982.

Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, OBE, and Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, represented the Regimental Association.

### THE DEFENDERS MEMORIAL

Major Barry Reed, as a member of the Korean Veterans Association, attended the dedication service for this memorial at Westminster Abbey on 25 March 1982. The memorial commemorates all those who have given their lives for the country since the Second World War.

It was a most impressive service with a sermon given by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Duke of Edinburgh carrying out the unveiling. All the service chiefs, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner and other notables were present.

After the service he was a member of a group that went for drinks at the Korean Embassy where the Ambassador presented Maj Gen Brodie with a car. He also met Maj Gen Baldwin, who was in 27 Brigade Signals, and several others from various units who were serving around the same time.

### THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) ASSOCIATION – UNITED KINGDOM BRANCH

The Association held their annual dinner at the Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, London W1, on Friday 21 May 1982.



The following members of the Middlesex Regimental Association attended:

Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, OBE. Guest  
Major E.A. Bull, MM.  
Major W.J.T. Lane, MBE.  
Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE.

#### MIDDLESEX REGIMENT GOLFING SOCIETY

The Spring Meeting was held at the North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, on 27 April. Although the weather was not all that kind, in that it rained intermittantly throughout the day, conditions were not unpleasant everyone appreciated playing on this excellent course which, as usual, was in first class condition. A larger entry than usual supported the meeting this year, which was most gratifying in view of our President's appeal for as many of our golfing members as possible to take part, and as a result we had a most enjoyable and successful gathering.

The Cooper Cup, which is a Stableford Foursomes competition on handicap over 18 holes was won by Mr. D. Matthews and Mr. A. Saw with a score of 33 points. Mr. A. Torrie and Mr. D. Miles were runners up with 31 points.

In the afternoon the scratch medal competition for the Transvaal Cup and the handicap medal competition for the Darjeeling Cup, both over 18 holes, were played concurrently. The Transvaal Cup was won by Major H. Neve with a gross score of 86. Mr. D. Miles was runner up with 87. The Darjeeling Cup was won by Mr. D. Matthews who played off 21 handicap and managed a 72 nett. Major H. Neve was runner up with 76 nett playing off 10 handicap.

Afterwards, the President of our Golfing Society, Lt-Col Tom Chattey, thanked the members and their guests for supporting the Meeting. He gave a special welcome to our newest member, Major H. Neve who, he said, seemed to have been remarkably successful at his first appearance. He expressed the best wishes of everyone to Col and Mrs. John Worton who have so consistently supported our golf meetings over many years and were unable to be present this time. Col Chattey mentioned the specially attractive prize - a whisky tumbler engraved with the regimental crest - which had been presented for all the winners. It is hoped that these will be an added incentive for everyone to come and take part in future meetings; for the winners to add to their collection and for the aspirants to start their collection. The President also thanked our Secretary, Major Frank Waldron, for all his excellent arrangements which had enabled everyone to have such a enjoyable day.

At the close of the meeting Mrs. Godfrey Lerwill presented the prizes.

Special note for all golfers - Date of the Autumn Meeting is Tuesday, 5 October 1982.

Dates for next year's Meetings are:

Spring Meeting - Tuesday 19 April 1983

Autumn Meeting - Tuesday 4 October 1983.

#### KOREAN CLUB

President: Col A.M. Man, DSO, OBE.

Vice President: Major C.L. Lawrence, MC.

Approximately eighteen months ago it was decided to form The Middlesex Regiment Korean Club, the Club to work within the framework of the Regimental Association with it's main object to be to arrange a Annual Reunion for all those who served in Korea with the 1st Bn or those who served with other regiments in Korea whose parent regiment was Middlesex.

It is with pleasure and pride that the Club now boast a membership in excess of 130 with new members joining at frequent intervals, the majority of whom have become active members of the Regimental Association itself, and all of whom are delighted to be reunited with the Regiment and to feel once again part of it. Our search for old friends continues and our Secretary would be pleased to receive details of anyone not yet a member, and to bring to the notice of those who wish to attend the details of our 2nd Reunion on Saturday 25 September at 7 p.m. to 00.30 a.m. at the T.A. Centre Social Club, Davies Street, London W1. Tickets are available for member and guest at £4 per double ticket which includes buffet.

Whilst the main object of the Club is to trace and reunite ex Korean Die Hards, we do currently have two additional projects in hand. The first being the compilation of a Roll of Honour in the form of a bound book, and to include a Roll of both those who gave their lives and those who were wounded during the campaign. The second (devised as a means of financing the first) is in the form of a series of six Philatelic Commemorative Covers to be issued through the Forces Postal Services and to commemorate the Battle Honours awarded to the Regiment in the Korean War.

Details of this and the reunion tickets are available from the Club Secretary, Syd Webb, 38 Yarmouth Road, Symonds Green, Stevenage, Herts.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Korean Club on 27 February 1982, the following members were elected as the committee for three years:

Chairman	Major M. Eastap
Secretary	Mr. S. Webb
Treasurer	Mr. W. Rawlinson
Historian	Mr. D. Barrett
Members	Mr. A. Young
	Mr. J. Watkins
	Mr. K. Partridge

#### PERSONAL JOTTINGS

Major Bill Bean recently underwent an eye operation. I am pleased to report that the operation was a success although he has to undergo a further spell in hospital to recover the sight of the second eye. Bill and his wife Olive celebrated their Golden wedding last year. They were married at Colchester when the 1st Bn were stationed there in 1931. Charlie Kennett was the best man.

Cpl Brian Biggadike (22759784) has joined the Regimental Association. He was a National Serviceman who served with the 1st Bn in Austria 1953-55. He is a HGV 1 Petrol Tanker Driver and lives at Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

Capt Carl Blackwell is back in Oman. He is Quartermaster of the Western Frontier Regiment and presides over 1000 men of a Baluch battalion.

Cpl Terence Boreham (22725939) has surfaced and joined the Regimental Association. He served from 1952-59 and for a period had the honour of being QM Storeman in Austria. He now resides at Hemel Hempstead, Herts, and is Manager of a Work Centre for Disabled persons.

Mr. C.C. Bradish (2/8th) has recently retired from London Electricity and tells me that he will be drawing three pensions, Civil Service, London Electricity and Senior Citizens. He sends best wishes to all members of the Association.

Another National Serviceman joins the Association. He is Cpl Roger Burnage (23129956) who served from 1955-57 with the 1st Bn in Cyprus.

Mr. Charles H. Bush was admitted to the Royal Star and Garter Home on 8 June 1982. Details of his service are not yet available.

Private Bernard Clarke (22275706) a regular soldier from 1949-54 who commenced his service with the Royal Norfolk Regiment followed by The Northamptonshire Regiment and finally the 1st Bn from 1951 to 1954 in Hong Kong and Korea.

Former Sgt Leslie Compton who served with the resuscitated 1st Bn during 1939-45 has recently has a foot amputated. He is very cheerful and will be 'Bowling' shortly. Les will be remembered as the Arsenal and England footballer and Middlesex County cricketer. Vic Barley, who also served with the 1st Bn, himself an excellent player on the left wing visited Les in hospital. He also visited Capt Jimmy Stubbs who recently died.

Best wishes to Major A.R. Cooper, First World War veteran, for a speedy recovery from his recent illness.

Private Bruce Costello (23984168) has joined the Regimental Association. His service commenced on 1 November 1963 and finished on 12 April 1973. He served with 1 Mx and 1 Queens, now lives at Bracknell, Berks, and is employed as a Heavy Goods Vehicle Driver Group 1.

Major Andrew Cowing is serving with the Sultan of Oman's Forces. His Staff Appointment is SO2 Operations.



Capt Les Delaney (6200389 and P/191158) has joined the Regimental Association. Les served with the 2nd Bn 1932-45 and with the 1st Bn 1945-48. One time PRI! He was a very good sportsman with the ability to play all games exceptionally well. He lives at Havant, Hants, and we hope to see much more of him.

Cpl Alex Drake (6201472) 1933-47 1st Bn, has been in hospital again with more spinal trouble and now requires full time attendance. He remains cheerful and sends his regards to all his old friends.

Major R.J. Durnell has joined the Regimental Association and the Officers Club.

Major David Falcke serving with the British Military Advisory and Training Team, Zimbabwe, informs me that he has met Ex Sgt Meade, a former Die Hard, who is now a WO2 with the Zimbabwe National Army.

Sgt George Gramlick (14460113) has joined the Regimental Association. He served for the period 19 February 1945 to 18 February 1957 the majority of his service being with the 1st Bn. During the Korean campaign he was with A Company. He works for the GPO and lives at South Oxhey, Watford.

Mr. F.G. Gurney (6211785) 2/7th Bn 1941-46 tells me that he has retired from his work as a Senior Care and Relief Officer of Old Peoples Homes. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

We are pleased to welcome to the Regimental Association former Lcpl Royston Hawkins (22144094) a National Serviceman who served from 1949-51. He saw service in Korea with A Company 1st Bn. He is now Field Manager with Whitbread Fremains at Maidstone, Kent.

Congratulations to Major P.J. Hubert, MBE, on his promotion to Lt-Col and appointment as SO1(DS) BMATT, Zimbabwe.

Mr. William Hyde (318053) was admitted to the Royal Star and Garter Home on 1 June 1982 as a Permanent Resident. He was a Bandsman with the 7th Bn.

Lt-Col E.A.H. Jeffcoat retired from the National Trust, Waddesdon Manor, on 31 March 1982.

Bandsman Graham Johns (6201807) is a recent recruit to the Regimental Association. He enlisted at the age of 15 1/2 years and was posted to the Band of the 1st Bn. He was a FEPOW with the 1st Bn, survivor of the Lisbon Maru and was in Kobe Camp. He left the army in 1946 and now lives at Edgware.

Best wishes to Col Andrew Man who enters the King Edward VII Hospital (Sister Agnes), Beaumont Street, London W1, on 11 July, for a hip operation on the 13 July 1982. He recently lunched with Stanley Boydell, Medical Officer to the 1st Bn in Korea and his doctor wife Sheila at their home in Wallasey with his wife Ursula. Another guest was Major Bill Ward former RSM of the 2nd Bn who is a patient of Doctor Boydell. Bill Ward intends to be present at Colchester for the Queen's Regiment reunion.

Our sincere congratulations to Major Philip Marshall on being elected as a Councillor and Conservative member to the Sonning Ward, Wokingham, at the elections held on 6 May 1982.

Our best wishes to Mr. Reggie Meers, long time Secretary of the 9th Bn Old Comrades Branch. Reggie has been very ill for some time and we wish him a speedy recovery. Reggie is now 86 and a most respected Die Hard.

Mr. Ronald E. Moody (6207195) was admitted to the Royal Star and Garter Home on 2 March 1982 as a permanent Resident. Details of his service will be published later.

Congratulations to Major M.L. Muirhead, TD, on being awarded the 1st Clasp to the Efficiency Decoration (TAVR).

Mr. Leonard Page (6205306) was admitted to the Royal Star and Garter Home on 11 May 1982 as a permanent Resident. He enlisted in the Middlesex Regiment TA on 25 October 1938 and was embodied on 2 September 1939. On 31 October 1939 he was posted to the Cheshire Regiment and served until 19 July 1943 when he was medically discharged. He was severely wounded and lost his right arm serving with the Cheshire Regiment in North Africa.

Cpl Robert Peddar (24080291) served from 1965-71. One day he met Capt Beale - the result - he joined the regimental association, under duress? He was with HQ Company 1 Mx followed by posting to 1 Queens in 1970. Now a thriving pig farmer living at Boreham Wood.

CSgt Laurence Ivon Priddy (6195275) was admitted to the Royal Hospital Chelsea on 1 March 1982. He is a very well remembered member of the regiment and served from 13 February 1922 until 11 November 1945. I met him for the first time for over 35 years at the funeral of In Pensioner Fred Worton.

Mrs. L. Simpson, widow of Sgt Paddy Simpson, has recently occupied one of the regimental flats at Albuhera Close, Enfield.

Ex WO2 John Soden (6200167) regrets that he is unable to attend functions in the summer. He organises and administers a Camping site at Sevenoaks, Kent, for the Camping Club of Great Britain Ltd. Betty cuts the grass and John collects the money. Sounds a good system.

CSgt L.W. Taylor (6203993) who served with B Company, 2nd Bn, at Gosport 1938-39 has just retired from the Police after 33 years service. He complains of lack of information regarding members of the 2nd Bn.

Former CSM Bill Ure informs me that his nephew R.a. Blair McGillivray of Lockerbie, Dumfries, has been selected to be a Cadet at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He joined the R.M.A. on 4 January 1982. He is hoping to be selected at the end of his training for the Queens Own Highlanders Regiment. Latest information 'he passed'.

A newly joined member of the Regimental Association is Cpl Ronald Vann (14188579). He served with 1 RWK 1946-47; 1st and 2nd Bn East Surrey Regt 1947-48. His moment of glory came in July 1948 when he was posted to the Die Hards and the 1st Bn, serving with A Company, S Company (Mortars) and HQ Company in Hong Kong and Korea. He was transferred to the army reserve in 1952.

Last but not least I must mention that Private Raymond Walder (22187802) a National Serviceman from 1949-51 has joined the Regimental Association. He served with the 1st Bn in Hong Kong and Korea and was with B Company.

## OBITUARY

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

**ALDRIDGE** - On 10 January 1982, Ex Private Ralph John Aldridge (6202343), aged 65 years, in very tragic circumstances. He enlisted on 11 July 1935 and after recruit training was posted to the 1st Bn in Singapore. He arrived on 4 February 1937 and joined A Company. He proceeded to Hong Kong with the Bn on 20 August 1937 and was taken POW on 25 December 1941. The whole of his POW stint was spent in Hong Kong. In October 1945 he was repatriated to the U.K. and finally discharged on 12 July 1945. A total service of ten years and 361 days.

**ANDREWS** - On 29 September 1981, Ex Sgt Sidney Andrews, aged 65 years. He died whilst playing golf on the West Middlesex Golf course.

Sgt Andrews joined the 8th Bn T.A. in July 1939 and when the war commenced in September 1939 he was posted to the 2/8th (later 1st Bn). He saw service with this Bn in Ireland and proceeded overseas with them on D Day. He was wounded towards the end of 1944 and evacuated to UK. He was demobilised at the end of 1945.

For over 20 years he was the treasurer of the Ealing Old Comrades branch.

**ASHBY** - On 26 January 1982, Ex Private Charles David Ashby (6966, L/14437 and 6188932), aged 86 years.

Charlie was one of the last survivors of the 4th Bn who fought at the Battle of Mons. He was for 14 years the part time cleaner and storeman when our RHQ was at Edgware. He was a regular at all regimental functions and was a true and loyal Die Hard.

**BARR** - On 22 April 1981, Lt George Rudolph Barr, aged 83 years. Lt Barr served with the 5th Bn 1918-19.

**BARTON** - On 22 February 1982, Ex Cpl J. Barton, MM, aged 89 years. Mr. Barton served with the 11th Bn 1914-18.

**BROWNE** - During February 1982, Lt James F. Browne.

Lt Browne served with our regiment in France and Belgium 1915-17. He then transferred to the Indian Army. He was a retired music teacher, choirmaster and organist and died at his home in Nova Scotia. This information was received from Col Rex Fendick (Canloan officer with 2 Mx) who spotted the news in a local Canadian newspaper.

**BUDDEN** - On 24 September 1981, Ex WO1(RSM) Reginald Arthur Budden (864814), aged 60 years. Reg died suddenly from a massive coronary whilst playing golf at the Lamberhurst Golf Club. His service commenced when he enlisted into the T.A. with the Royal Artillery (hence his army number) on 16 February 1937. This was followed by transfer to the Supplementary Reserve and



the Middlesex Regiment on 8 December 1938. On 2 May 1939 he enlisted into the Regular Army and the Middlesex Regiment. He proceeded to NWE on 14 June 1944 but on 30 June was posted to the Cheshire Regiment. This was followed by service with the South Wales Borderers from February to July 1945. A further period with the Cheshire Regiment and then eventual return to his regiment on 15 October 1946 and posting to the 1st Bn. He served with the 1st Bn in BAOR, UK, Hong Kong and Korea, Austria and Cyprus. On 11 December 1958 he was promoted to WO(RSM) and posted to the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers), followed by posting on 11 April 1961 to the 4/5 Royal West Kent Regiment(TA) as RSM. He was discharged to pension on 17 July 1964.

RSM Budden was in possession of the following medals - 1939/45 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939/45, Korea Medal, United Nations Medal, General Service Medal(Cyprus) and the LS and GC Medal

CHIVERALL - On 22 January 1982, Mrs. Mary Patricia Anne Chiverall, wife of Major J.G. Chiverall.

COOK - During March 1982, Ex WO2 William A Cook (TF2291 and 6188193), aged 85 years. He served with the 8th Bn 1914-18. Many years ago he emigrated to Australia and about two months before he died he sent me a book that he had written titled "World War I as seen by the youngest private in the 8th Bn The Middlesex Regiment". The book was never published but it certainly makes very interesting reading.

During the Second World War he served with the Royal Engineers.

DRANE - On 24 May 1982, Ex LCpl Arthur Robert (Brewer) Drane (6196381), aged 73 years. LCpl Drane enlisted in the regiment at the age of 15 1/2 on 20 October 1924. His service reads, 1st Bn 20 October 1924 to 7 January 1926; 2nd Bn India 8 January 1926 to 21 April 1931; 2nd Bn Sudan 22 April 1931 to 12 December 1931, 2nd Bn and Depot 31 December 1931 to 17 December 1935.

He was a musician in the regimental band and played the trombone. He was also a keen sportsman. For many years he organised and ran the Bandsmen and Drummers Branch of the Old Comrades. He gave much of his time to tracing former Bandsmen and Drummers. The branch closed some years ago. Brewer Drane was a very public spirited man and gave much of his leisure to helping those in need.

EDMONDS - On 6 May 1982, Mrs. May Edmonds, widow of the late Mr. Frank Edmonds. Mrs. Edmonds occupied one of the regiments memorial flats at Albuhera Close, Enfield.

FICE - On 2 January 1982, Mr. Percy A. Fice, aged 87 years. Served with the 9th Bn 1914-18.

GARDNER - On 14 February 1982, Captain Harold Thomas Gardner, DCM & Bar, Italian Bronze Al Valour Medal, aged 90 years. Captain Gardner served with the 1/8th Bn 1914-18.

HART - On 27 December 1981, Reverend Lionel Hart, aged 87 years. He served with the Middlesex Regiment in the 1914-18 War and later joined the Indian Army. This information was published in the East Kent Mercury and kindly forwarded to me by Lt-Col R.T.D. Hicks, MBE.

JOHNS - On 24 March 1982, Ex Sgt Ronald Henry Johns (10588651), aged 60 years. Sgt Johns enlisted on 23 April 1942 for the duration of war and served until 27 December 1946. He served with B Company 2nd Bn in NWE and was awarded the 1939/45 Star, France & Germany Star and War Medal 1939/45. He was also awarded the GOC's Certificate for outstanding service in NWE and MEF (3rd Division). Sgt. Johns was a trade tested Storeman and Clerk.

JONES - On 13 January 1982, Ex Sgt John (Kenny) Jones (6197370), aged 70 years. Sgt Jones enlisted on 8 September 1926 at the age of 15 1/2 years and joined the Corps of Drums of the 2nd Bn in India at the end of 1926. He moved with the 2nd Bn to the Sudan in April 1931 and returned to the UK with the 2nd Bn in December 1931. He continued to serve with the 2nd Bn and saw service with the BEF followed by NWE and ME. In June 1949 he joined the 1st Bn in Hong Kong but returned home in March 1950 and was discharged to pension on 29 May 1950 on completion of his service of 23 years and 246 days. He was in possession of the following medals - 1939/45 Star, France & Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939/45 and the LS and GC Medal. Kenny Jones was a very good footballer and all round sportsman. On leaving the service he joined the MOD Constabulary, retiring in 1976.

LAMBOURNE - On 13 May 1982, Ex Sgt George Lambourne (6203802), aged 70 years.

George Lambourne joined the 9th Bn T.A. about 1930. On change of the Bn role to Searchlights and A.A. he was posted to Coast Defence. His final period of service was with the Essex Regiment November 1945 to January 1946.

He was the son of ORQMS Joe Lambourne a very well known regimental name.

LEADBEATER - On 2 June 1982, Ex Sgt James Leadbeater (L/12590), aged 91 years.

Sgt Leadbeater enlisted in June 1909 and was posted to the 4th Bn with whom he served until September 1914 when he was wounded. After recovery he was posted to the 11th Bn 1914-15 but was again wounded. He returned to the front line in 1917 and served until the war ended in 1918.

During the Second World War he was a Sgt in the Home Guard. James Leadbeater was a life long member of the Salvation Army and was active until 1979.

LE CONTE - On 14 June 1982, Ex Sgt Albert Le Conte (6202088), aged 65 years.

He served with the 7th City of London Post Office Rifles and 11th County of London Finsbury Rifles. Dates not known.

LEONARD - On 21 January 1982, Lt-Col Maurice F. Leonard, OBE, aged 60 years.

He was commissioned into the Middlesex Regiment on 20 March 1943 and posted to the 1st Bn The Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment with whom he served until 1945. This was followed by - 1946-48 1st Bn; 1948-50 Staff Captain (Quatering) HQ Southern Command; 1st Bn 1951-54; Malay Regt 1956-59 and transfer to Corps of Royal Military Police in 1960, retiring on 16th May 1976.

MALONEY - On 23 April 1982, Ex WO2(CSM) Patrick Frank Maloney (6193916), aged 79 years.

Pat Maloney enlisted at Mill Hill on 15 August 1929 and after recruit training joined the 1st Bn in Catterick, later moving on to Colchester. In June 1931 he returned to the Depot as a LCpl for a tour of duty. On completion of this tour of duty he joined the 2nd Bn at Colchester with whom he remained until 31 August 1938. On the 1st September he was posted to the 1st Bn in Hong Kong. The war clouds were growing and on 17 June 1939 he was posted to the UK as PSI to the T.A. He was promoted WO2 on 1 December 1939 and posted to the 2/7th Bn with whom he served throughout the war. This was followed by a tour of duty at the Depot 1946-48 and a short spell in West Africa. On 24 October 1949 he joined the 5th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment with whom he served until his discharge to pension on 14 August 1952.

He was in possession of the following medals - 1939/45 Star, Italy Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939/45, LS & GC Medal and Meritorious Service Medal.

On leaving the service he joined Mill Hill School as RQMS and PSI to the School CCF until his retirement. Pat was a regular at all regimental functions and will be sadly missed by all members of the regimental association.

MARTIN - On 1 June 1982, Mrs. Aileen Martin, wife of Major H.N. McL Martin.

MURRAY - On 19 May 1982, Ex Cpl Richard Murray (6207105), aged 62 years.

He served from 1938 to 1946 and was a veteran of Dunkirk. The majority of his service was with the 8th Bn.

PAIN - On 20 December 1981, Mrs. Helen B. Pain, widow of Lt-Col E.T. Pain, who died on 12 August 1972.

STEPHENSON - On 20 May 1982, Lt-Col John William Arthur (Steve) Stephenson, DSO, aged 74 years.

Col Stephenson was commissioned into the Middlesex Regiment on 3 February 1928 and joined the 2nd Bn stationed at Ahmednagar, India. In April 1931 he moved with the Bn to the Sudan and in December 1931 to the UK and Colchester when the Bn reverted to the Home Establishment on completion of its overseas tour of duty. Promotion to Captain came on 12 April 1937. He was a first class cricketer and played for Essex whenever his military duties allowed. Towards the end of 1938 he decided to play full time cricket for Essex and applied for and was granted premature retirement. With the advent of the Second World War 'Steve' was recalled to the Colours and joined the 2nd Bn then at Gosport. He saw service with this Bn at Dunkirk. Promotion to Major in 1942. On 26 April 1942 he was posted to the 1/7th Bn and appointed to command with rank of temporary Lt-Col. He commanded the 1/7th Bn (51st Highland Division) until August 1945, throughout the North African, Sicilian and Italian campaigns earning the DSO in 1944 and being mentioned in dispatches twice. He retired from the Army in 1946 and became a director of the Time-Life publishing company and of course returned to his beloved cricket. An appreciation of Lt-Col 'Steve' Stephenson is shown after the obituaries.



**STUBBS** – On 27 May 1982, Captain Jimmy M. Stubbs, MC.

Colonel Desmond Ellis writes:

All who knew Jimmy will be sorry to learn of his untimely death. He had suffered a protracted and terminal disease with great fortitude, which was typical of him. He joined the 2/8th(1st Bn) in 1943 serving with D Company (4.2 Mortars). He was posted back to Normandy with them and then joined B Company(MMG) in September 1944, commanding 7 Pl. He was held in the highest respect by his Platoon Sgt – Les Page – and all ranks. He was wounded twice but always returned to us. His gallantry and qualities of leadership were unsurpassable and this was brought home to us by one of his toughest and roughest soldiers saying to him "Governor, I wouldn't stop anything off you unless I was very hard pressed". His well earned Military Cross was won when he and Cpl French, a teenager, went forward from the FDL's on the salient east of Goch and shot up the Germans who were holding up the Division on our flank. It was for their gallant action and initiative that they received the M.C. and M.M. respectively.

Capt Stubbs was himself a very good middle weight boxer and led the 1st Bn team. He left the army in 1946. Colonel W.D. Ellis attended the funeral.

**WELLER** – On 7 May 1982, Major Sidney Charles William (Sam) Weller, MBE, MM, (6200191 and 426507), aged 69 years.

Sam Weller enlisted at the Great Scotland Yard recruiting Office on 21 August 1931 in the R.A.S.C. but transferred to the Middlesex Regiment on 31 August 1931. After completion of his recruit training he was posted to the Depot Permanent Staff as batman to Major T.S. Wollocombe. In May 1934 he was posted to the 2nd Bn at Colchester and was promoted Cpl in the July. On 20 August 1938 he was transferred to the Army Reserve on completion of his engagement. He joined the Metropolitan Police and passed out the week war was declared. As a reservist he was immediately recalled to the Colours and joined the 2nd Bn at Colchester and was promoted Sgt. He was with the 2nd Bn at Dunkirk and went to France with them on D Day. On 13 April 1945 he was awarded the Military Medal for fine leadership during a counter attack. Then came service with the 2nd Bn in Egypt and Palestine and return to the UK in July 1947. He was promoted WO1(RSM) and posted to the 1st Bn in BAOR. Posting to the Depot on 5 July 1948 as RSM was followed by posting to Hong Kong and the 1st Bn. He served with the Bn throughout Korea and returned to UK in November 1952. On 20 December 1952 he was granted a regular Quartermaster Commission and appointed Q.M. of the Depot where he remained until the Depot closed in 1961. In July 1961 he was posted to 5 Mx T.A. as Q.M. He was promoted Major on 11 April 1962. In the New Years Honours List of 1966 he was awarded the M.B.E. and retired on 5 February 1966. He was in possession of the following medals – MBE, MM, 1939/45 Star, France & Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939/45, General Service Medal(Palestine), Korea Medal, United Nations Medal, LS & GC Medal and the Cadet Forces Medal.

After retirement he joined the Middlesex T&AF Assn as Superintendent of Central Stores and was appointed to a QM Commission with the Army Cadet Force in February 1966 retiring once again on 2 February 1979. From 1967 to the day he died Sam Weller was the Housing Manager to our Memorial Homes at Albuhera Close, Enfield. Thus ended over 50 years of faithful, loyal and unstinting service to his regiment. In his younger days he was a fine all round athlete. A true Die Hard indeed.

His funeral was attended by many members of the regiment. His widow, Mrs. Rose Weller, has asked me to say how sorry she was that it was not possible to thank them all personally and also to record how much she appreciated all the letters of sympathy that were received.

**WORTON** – On 4 May 1982, Ex Private Frederick Worton (16101 and 6908155), aged 84 years.

He was admitted to the Royal Hospital Chelsea as an In Pensioner on 6 September 1965 and was a resident until the day he died.

His service totalled 20 years serving with the following units – Mx 11 August 1915 to 5 November 1917; Labour Corps 6 November 1917 to 15 April 1919; Rifle Brigade 25 August 1919 to 17 July 1922; Welsh Regiment 6 March 1923 to 30 June 1925; Mx 1 July 1925 to 13 November 1935.

Fred was a great stalwart and regularly attended the regimental ceremony at the Field of Remembrance, Westminster, where always performed the duty of escort to the Regimental Association Standard.

He was in possession of the following medals – British War Medal, Victory Medal, Indian General Service Medal (1921-24), Defence Medal, War Medal 1939/45 and the LS and GC Medal.

**WRAITH** – On 17 December 1981, Ex Cpl Mony Wraith (6198496), aged 70 years.

His period of service was from 1928 to 1935 all with the 1st Bn. At one time he was Q.M. Storeman.

**Lt-Col J.W.A. (Steve) Stephenson, DSO**

Major Barry Reed gave the following address at the Memorial Service held on Wednesday, 16 June 1982:

In expressing our heartfelt sympathy to John and Susan, Jennifer and Shirley, and their families, on their great loss; all will wish to tell them how much we appreciate this opportunity to salute and give thanks for the life of their dear father, our good friend Lt-Col John William Arthur Stephenson, DSO.

Like me, many of you may have been unaware that those were his correct names; for everyone in this church knew and loved him as that irrepressible, warm hearted man with the extraordinarily infectious laugh – 'Steve'.

Maybe you served with him as a young subaltern in India, played with him on the cricket field, fought over long dusty miles with him in the desert, allowed him to persuade you to buy advertising in Picture Post or Life, partnered him at golf or simply enjoyed a glass of Guinness with him – to all of us he was 'Steve', or just occasionally 'Darkie' or 'Jack'; a man whose sheer personality and charm demanded an affectionate nickname.

For those of us, probably the majority, who only knew him since the war, since he married his dear Peggy, he was the quintessence of a family man, a man who helped to bring up the two children of a young widow and who had the joy to father two offspring of his own. He could always tell a good story and was probably too hearty for many on the 8.10 from Gerrards Cross to Marylebone. His American colleagues from Time-Life particularly enjoyed him as a very pukka Englishman. His nieces and nephews were devoted to him and he gave them many a helping hand. But above all he was a happy, contented husband, father and grandfather who had just adjusted to retirement in Pulborough, when tragically Peggy died far too soon and far too young.

That, of course, is only one half of 'Steve's' life, the second. The first, of almost equal length, was the years of perhaps his most outstanding achievements, which, since he was essentially a modest man, you may have heard little if anything about. Indeed, standing here I have the feeling that if I extoll him overmuch a cricket ball may land with a bang on my head.

Arriving in this world at Hong Kong and being taken shortly afterward to India at the height of the Raj, 'Steve' was a true son of Empire and of the British Army. His father, Bunjie Stephenson, then a major in the 3rd Battalion the Middlesex Regiment was to be killed 8 years later, in 1915, gallantly leading his men at the 2nd Battle of Ypres. His name heads the list, on Ypres' Menin Gate, of those that gave their life.

Orphaned by his mother's death a few years later, 'Steve' went to school at Clayesmore and spent the holidays in the somewhat Victorian atmosphere of an uncle's house in Beaconsfield. But, all games were his forte and not unnaturally the army his main ambition; so arriving at Sandhurst in 1925, he truly came into his own.

Commissioned into his father's old Regiment, where should he go but straight to India, the land of his childhood. There the cockney soldiers regarded him with affection as "a favoured brat" but he soon made his mark both at soldiering and, of course, at sport. He played cricket several times for the Madras Presidency and as one newspaper recalls "did exceptionally well, both at batting and bowling". Back with the 2nd Middlesex to Colchester in 1931 he soon started, as regularly as his duties would allow, to appear for Essex and five years later reached the pinnacle of his bowling career. Reading through the press cuttings of 1936, one realises just how close he came to being an all time cricketing great. That year's Gentlemen versus Players game at Lords was heralded as "Stephenson's Match" – he took 9 wickets for 46 runs in the 1st Innings, claiming such famous names as Hammond, Leyland, Hardstaff, Verity and Gover. But perhaps it is the comments about the man that are most telling:

"Throughout the whole game he was the live wire cheered by all and sundry".

"Stephenson could hardly contain himself. He did a dance when he got Hardstaff. He raised both hands to high heaven when Gover was caught".

"Nothing like his mercurial enthusiasm can be recalled".

"He has thoroughly inspiring fervour tinged with a gaiety good for the game".

"There is no more daring fieldsman in contemporary English cricket".

So it was a tremendous blow to all his many fans when he was not selected for the Australian Tour that Winter. Characteristically he soon got over his personal disappointment went on to Captain Essex



the following season and then decided to retire from the army to devote himself to first class cricket. Within less than a year he was back with 2nd Middlesex which arrived in France on the last day of September 1939. Typically "B" Company Commander's car flew a bat and ball pennant and his 2 I/C was quickly requested to organise an improvised net during that winter of the phoney war. But then came the German attack and the retreat to Dunkirk, with the Battalion led by that most distinguished soldier, Jock Horrocks.

The following two years were spent exercising and training in various parts of the U.K. until in late 1941 'Steve's' unit moved to Chalfont St Giles where I believe he first met, and a few months later married, Peggy.

Soon came promotion to Lieutenant Colonel when he took command of 1/7th Middlesex, a Territorial Battalion, attached as machine gunners to the 51st Highland Division. In Summer 1942 they sailed via South Africa for Egypt in good time for the Battle of Alamein that October. Then onwards through Tripoli, the Mareth Line, CSfax, Tunis and eventually Bizerta. Later came Sicily and Anzio.

Concerning 'Steve's' part in that famous North African victory, the Regimental Historian wrote:

"Throughout the whole campaign the Commanding Officer had been tireless in his work for the Battalion. No platoon was too far off for him to visit. His energy and experience had brought his men up to a high pitch of excellence. His D.S.O. - news of which came through at this time - had been well earned by skill and tireless energy".

Each of you will have your own memories of this gifted cricketer, gallant officer, father and friend so I will let his story rest there; closing with these lines of which, as a good samaritan, I believe 'Steve' would have approved.

"If I should go before the rest of you  
Break not a flower, nor inscribe a stone  
Nor when I'm gone speak in a Sunday voice  
But be the usual selves that I have known".

#### KING EDWARD VII's HOSPITAL FOR OFFICERS Beaumont House, Beaumont Street, London W1.

King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers, affectionately known as Sister Agne's provides the best medical and surgical facilities at the lowest possible cost to officers - serving or retired. This facility also extends to officers' wives, widows and dependent children of not less than 4 years of age.

The hospital has both private rooms and small wards, and well equipped X-Ray and Physiotherapy Departments. Medical check-ups can be arranged at a moderate price.

Serving officers are entitled to free nursing and maintenance in the shared rooms. Other patients are asked to pay at the rate of £280 per week for a private room and £245 for a shared room or ward bed. If, however a patient can pay a sum nearer to the actual cost of his maintenance (now over £560 per week) this is much appreciated as it helps others. Consultant's fees are a matter for personal arrangement between patient and Consultant. There is a generously administered Benevolent Fund for those in straightened circumstances.

If you would like to receive information or become a subscriber please write to the Appeals Secretary, (N.B.), 6 Buckingham Place, London SW1E 6HR, or phone 01-828-4454. Applications for admission should be made to the Matron on 01-486-4411.

#### THE ROYAL STAR AND GARTER - RENEWAL APPEAL

The Royal Star and Garter Home cares for up to 200 disabled ex-servicemen of all ranks and from all parts of the British Isles. Seventy per cent are ex-soldiers. The majority are veterans of World War II, but there are still 34 men from World War I, and sadly also now, men from IJlster and more recent actions.

You may know of a disabled ex-Serviceman who is finding it difficult to cope at home, and may need a place at the Royal Star and Garter?

The Home now 60 years old, urgently needs funds to renew 7 lifts and renovate kitchens and serberies. The income from donations and legacies has been insufficient to meet annual running costs,

let alone finance the renewal of worn out equipment. The work, to be spread over 3 years, will cost £300,000. The Army Benevolent Fund is a generous supporter of the Home. Even so, we urgently need individual subscribers. Please will you help with a donation or preferably a Covenant? Also, let us know of anyone who might need our help.

Replies please to: Rear Admiral J.W.D. Cook, CB., Appeals Director,  
The Royal Star and Garter Home, Richmond, Surrey, TW10 6RR.

#### ST DAVID'S HOME FOR DISABLED SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND AIRMEN

St. David's Home was founded in 1918 to provide for disabled ex-servicemen a home where a kindly welcome, sympathetic care and medical attention are assured.

The Home is run by the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, under the direction of a Committee of Management, and aided by a staff of nurses and care assistants. Patients of various disabilities and of all denominations are welcomed. Fifty Six men are accommodated in premises all on the ground floor. There are two Wards which are divided into individual units, one open plan Ward, and five small rooms. All are fitted with coloured televisions. There is a large day room where the men can relax, enjoy concerts, play games or watch television. The Physiotherapy Unit is equipped with every modern equipment through the generosity of the Army Benevolent Fund, there is also a section for Occupational Therapy. The Librarian goes around each week with a variety of loan books from the St. John & Red Cross Hospital Library. Outings are provided throughout the year from various 'Lest we Forget Organisations', also the men enjoy many drives and outings in our Ambulance presented by our ever generous friends the Army Benevolent Fund.

There are some vacancies available at present, and further information and application forms can be obtained from :-

The Secretary, St. David's Home for Disabled Ex-Servicemen, Castlebar Hill, Ealing,  
London W5 1TE (Tel: 01-997-5121)

#### REGIMENTAL GOODS

The following regimental goods are available for purchase. These can be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, Lynsore Bungalow, Upper Hardres, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6EE. Cheques/Postal Orders should be made payable to the Middlesex Regimental Association.

Badges, Blazer, Middlesex	£4.50 each
Ice Buckets, miniature side drum	
with Regtl emblem	£9.00 each
Glass, Whisky tumbler engraved with	
Middlesex Regiment badge	£3.50 each
Ties, Regtl, Old Pattern, Terylene	£1.75 each
Ties, Regtl, New Pattern, Terylene	£1.75 each
Ties, Officers' Club Silk	£2.40 each

#### WANTED

I have had a number of enquiries for the following regimental histories :-

The Middlesex Regiment(DCO) 1919-1952 by Commander P.K. Kemp.

The Middlesex Regiment(DCO) by Geoffrey Blaxland (Famous Regiment Series)

If you have a copy that is no longer required will you please send it to the Secretary. It is proposed to run a 'loan' service to our members.

A member has recently lost a blazer button, the engraved type. Can anyone help with a replacement?





*Photograph by Rodney Brewster*

#### STOP PRESS

**"Your Majesty – your servant"**

Major Dick Smith paying obeisance to his Sovereign at the Garden Party in Inglis Barracks, 16 July 1982. Her Majesty was interested to know when the "Die Hards" vacated its Depot, also the present location of the Regimental Museum at Bruce Castle. Mrs. Dollie Smith on the right.



