



The Die-Hards

NEWSLETTER

No. 57

JUNE 1987

PRICE 25p

President : Lt. Col. T.W. Chattey, OBE

Chairman : Brig. B.A.M. Pielow, J.P.

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Private R.E. RYDER, V.C.

Private R.E. (Bob) Ryder, VC, died on 1 December 1978, aged 82 years and is interred in Harefield Cemetery, Middlesex. Originally the grave was marked with a wooden cross. A recent visit revealed that the grave was in a dilapidated condition. The Regimental Association have purchased a Commonwealth War Graves type of headstone and this has now been erected on the grave. A re-dedication service will be arranged at a later date.

Also in this cemetery is the grave of Lt-Gen Gerald Littlehales Goodlake, VC, Coldstream Guards, who died on 5 August 1890, aged 57. This Victoria Cross was awarded for heroism in the Crimea. It must be unique to find the graves of two holders of the Victoria Cross in the same cemetery.

A stroll round the cemetery revealed the graves of two more Diehards, G/23147 Pte J. Peverill, died 4 April 1917, and G/75216 Pte G. D. Kempster, died 27 December 1919.

The Hounslow Branch of the OCA have very kindly undertaken to care for the Diehard graves.

Harefield Parish Churchyard also contains the Australian War Cemetery where about 100 graves are laid out. This year on 25 April, Anzac Day, the Hounslow Branch attended and laid a wreath.

FORECAST OF EVENTS 1987/88

- 26 September Korean Club Reunion, Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London W2, at 6 p.m.
- 1 October 2/7th Bn Luncheon at the Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London W2.
- 9 October Queen's Regimental Association Meeting at Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3, commencing 11.30 a.m.
- 17 October Queen's Regiment WO's and Sgt's Past and Present Dinner at Basingstoun.
- 18 October Party from the Regimental Association attend Royal Hospital Chelsea Church Parade.
- 28 October Housing Sub Committee Meeting at Cadet Officers' Mess, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3, commencing 6.15 p.m.
- 7 November Ceremony at Field of Remembrance, Westminster, 10.30 a.m.
- 8 November Remembrance Day Service at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, at 10.15 a.m. followed by Reunion at TA Centre, Edgware.
- December Visit to Royal Hospital Chelsea and to Royal Star and Garter Home, Richmond, to give out Christmas presents.

1988

- 21 March Regimental Association Executive Meeting at Conference Room, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3, at 6.15 p.m.
- 30 April 1/7th Bn (1939-45) Luncheon Club at TA Centre, Hornsey.
- 10 May 9th Bn Officers' Club Luncheon at the Royal Overseas League, Overseas House, Park Place, St James's St, London SW1.
- 13 May Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club Dinner at Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, London WC2.
- 14 May Bi-annual Luncheon 2/8th (1st Bn) at Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London W2, 12 noon.
Albuhera Service of Remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral, commencing 2.30 p.m.
Annual Reunion at the Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London W2, commencing 6.30 p.m. Annual General Meeting 7.30 p.m.
- 21 May 2/10th Bn (1914-18) Luncheon at Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London W2.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I much enjoyed seeing so many of you at the Annual Reunion in May - including several 're-born Diehards'. It is satisfying to know that support for events like this remains as strong as ever and is even on the increase.

On a recent visit to South Africa I was invited to visit the War Museum and heard about the Regiment's time there during the Boer War. I noticed that although other British Regiments were represented by uniforms etc., there was not even a badge, and the Curator asked me if I could help them by supplying even a cap badge. I'll be looking into this later. I paid a similar visit some months ago to the New Zealand Army Museum and was pleased to see that there was mention of the Regiment's role in the Maori Wars.

BENEVOLENT CASES

During the period 1 January to 30 June 1987, the sum of £4,197.45 has been spent from the Charitable Fund in assisting 42 members of the regiment. The Army Benevolent Fund contributed £1,044.00. A full report will be given at the end of the year.

QUEEN'S REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

On 15 May 1987 The Queen's Regimental Association made a donation of £7000 to the Army Benevolent Fund for the financial year ending 31 March 1988, on behalf of The Queen's Regiment and its Forbears.

DONATIONS TO THE REGIMENTAL CHARITABLE FUND

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

- a. A donation of £25 from the members of the 1/7th Bn (1939-45) Dinner Club.
- b. A donation of £200 from the Lilley Benevolent Trust - £100 for the Regimental Association Charitable Fund and £100 for the 9th Bn The Middlesex Regiment Museum Fund.
- c. Individual donations from: A.N. Anonymous, Capt H.W. Archibald, Mr J. Bathie, Miss J. Bower, Lt S.A.V. Butler, Mr A.G.W. Cooper, Major A.R. Cooper, Mr C.J. Cox, Mrs M del Court, Mr A.W. Gibbs, Mr R. Gilbertson, Major F.K. Gladden, Mr D.F. Goodman, Lt-Col P.J. Hall (in memory of Major M.J. Beaumont), Mr G.C. Higgins, Mrs M. Hofman (in memory of her father Pte W.J. Hickman), Mr J. Horn, Mr L.C. Howick, Major G. Jenkins, Major I.M.E. Lloyd, Major W.H. Lovell, Mr D.P. Norris, Mr M.C. Quinn, Mr F.G. Ravenscroft, Mr H.L. Seldon, Lt-Col E.P. Shanks (in memoriam Lt-Col R.D. Hutchings), Major R.A. Smith, Mr C.G. Stone, Col M.H. Summers, Mr A.E. Tuthill, Mr B.C. Vieler, Major M. Wild, Mr A.L. Wyke.

FREE NEWSLETTERS

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

Mrs Peggy Baldwin, Mr V.E. Barley, Mr J.W. Barton, Mr E.J. Birmingham, Mr A.B. Birch, Major A.R. Bisset, Mr D.S. Carmichael, Major (DofM) D. Carson, Scots Guards, Major J.G. Chiverall, Mr J.C. Clements, Mr A.G.W. Cooper, Major A.R. Cooper, Mr C.J. Cox, Mr W.H.D. Coxhedge, Mr F.J. Dickinson, Mr R.E. Dodkins, Mr J.G. Forgham, Mr R.D. Furlotte, Mr E.J. Garner, Mr A.W. Gibbs, Mr R.H. Gilbertson, Mr D.F. Goodman, Lt E.C. Graham, Lt-Col P.J. Hall, Mr R.A. Harrison, Mr C. Hull, Capt W.E. Hughes, Mr R.G. Johnson, Mr R.M. Lawford, Mr A. Lofts, Mr J. Maddocks, Lt-Col F de R. Morgan, Mr A.E. Moralee, Mrs E.E. Newham, Mr D.P. Norris, Mr L.C. Page, Major A.W.F. Peal, Mrs E.E. Peasley, Mr W.A. Phillips, Mr E. Platt, Mr J.A. Poole, Mr C.W. Quickenden, Mr M.C. Quinn, Mr A. Rose, Mr D.R. Richardson, Mr H.L. Seldon, Mr G.R. Sharp, Mr P. Simmons, Mr W.A. Smith (18th Bn), Major A.F.A. Sutherland, Mr W.J.E. Turner, Mr D.P. Weller, Major M. Wild, Col B.R. Wood.

KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL SERVICE

Her Majesty the Queen accompanied by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh unveiled the memorial to those who lost their lives during the Korean War (1950-53), on Wednesday 11 March 1987, in the Crypt of St Paul's Cathedral.

At this ceremony the regiment were represented by Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, OBE, President of the Regimental Association, Maj Gen Sir John Willoughby, KBE, CB, Colonel A.M. Man, DSO, OBE, who commanded the 1st Bn during this campaign, and many members of the regiment who served in Korea.

The memorial stone was in Korean black granite and the stone carver was Mr David Kindersley, who was the sculptor for the Falklands War Memorial. The design included the regimental crest of every regiment and corps that served in the Korean War.

6 Officers and 37 Other Ranks of our 1st Bn were killed in this campaign.

OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER

The Annual Dinner was held at the Cavalry and Guards Club, Piccadilly, London WC2, on Friday 8 May. Lt-Col T.W. Chattey presided and 65 members with wives and relatives attended. Major Colin Bellingham of the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) was the principal guest.

The following attended:

Official Guests

Major Colin Bellingham, The Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers); Miss Jean Bower; Mrs F. Jennings and daughter Vivien; Mrs A. Hutchings; Rev and Mrs W.E.B. Jones; Mrs D. Pike; Mrs C. Pollard.

Members and Private Guests

Maj Gen Sir John Willoughby, Lt-Col and Mrs T.W. Chattey, Brig and Mrs B.A.M. Pielow, Brig and Mrs G. Lerwill, Brig B.H. Marciandi, Brig and Mrs D.B. Rendell, Col I.R. Burrows and Miss B. Colley, Col and Mrs R.M. Cain, Col and Mrs A.S.J. de S. Clayton, Col A.M. Man, Col H.J.A. Moore, Lt-Col and Mrs B.A. Carlston, Lt-Col and Mrs C.N. Clayden, Lt-Col and Mrs J.M. Hewson, Lt-Col E.A.H. Jeffcoat, Major and Mrs K.P. Baxter, Major R.A. Cheffins, Major and Mrs P.D.J. Clarke, Major and Mrs H.E. Couch, Lt J.P.A. Day, Capt and Mrs M.J.S. Doran, Capt and Mrs S.L. Enthoven, Capt and Mrs J.S.C. Flavell, Capt and Mrs R.M. Fox, Major and Mrs F.K. Gladden, Capt D.A. Hawkins, Major and Mrs S.L.J. Henshaw, Capt and Mrs P.J.T. Lane, Major and Mrs C.L. Lawrence, Major and Mrs R.E.B. Morris, Capt and Mrs K.D. Murray, Major and Mrs A.E.F. Waldron.

9th BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.) T.A. OFFICERS ANNUAL REUNION LUNCHEON

The second annual luncheon took place on Tuesday 12 May 1987 at The Royal Overseas League, SW1, which was attended by 14 officers and one guest. Col H.W.W. Gray was in the Chair and the guest was Major A.E.F. Waldron.

The officers attending were:- D.A. Bond, P.J. Cundy, D.E. Dowlen, H.W.W. Gray, P.W.S. Hodge, E. Howkins, R. Hughes, A.M.H. Jones, J.T. Kemp, D.V. Littlejohn, L.J.E. Nichols, D.C. Tomlins, F.H. Tyler, N.B. Wallis.

The following officers being unable to attend sent their apologies and best wishes to all for a successful occasion.

J.T. Dear, J.R. Doyle, A.G.B. Drabble, H.G. Hansen, H.J. Hesketh, B.P. Hughes, B.A.G. MacFadden, W. MacGregor, G.R. Mockler, L.F. Shaw, P.K.G. Spencer, J.R. Talbot, R. Wheatley.

The following officers did not reply, and if anybody knows their present whereabouts it would be appreciated if they could be asked to contact D.E. Dowlen.

W.E.H. Grayburn, D. Hiddleston, R.A. Hignett, P.A. Mann, E.C.M. Palmer, M.R. Pearson, K.O. Sayers, J.K.E. Slack, L.C. Wright.

A short informal speech was made by D.E. Dowlen the Lunch Secretary, in which he gave news of those people who had been unable to attend. He read the text of a loyal message which had been sent to Her Majesty the Queen, and Her Majesty's reply. He said it seemed to be generally accepted and agreed that a luncheon is far preferable to a dinner. There is one member however, who, living in the North, feels that it is too far to come for a lunch, but the journey is worthwhile for a dinner and that dinners be held every three years or so. This is a minority view, and therefore cannot be pursued. The general view was expressed that the lunches should continue annually.

Col. Gray thanked D.E. Dowlen for making all the arrangements and this vote was supported by all concerned.

The date for next years lunch has been fixed for Tuesday 10 May 1988 and everybody is asked to make a special note of this date as there will be no further reminder until the usual notice is sent out next spring.

D.E.D.

1/7th (1939-45) DINNER CLUB

Last year it was decided that the time had come to hold 'Luncheons' rather than 'Dinners' and on Saturday 25 April the first Luncheon took place at the TA Centre, Hornsey.

Major Dick Bartram presided and Major A.E.F. Waldron, Secretary of the Regimental Association, was our guest. During the Luncheon Major Dick Bartram announced that he wished to hand over the chairmanship and he proposed that Major Alan Carter be elected as chairman. This was agreed unanimously and Major Carter accepted and said that he would do his very best to uphold the high traditions of previous eminent chairmen of the 1/7th (1939-45) Dinner Club.

Tony White announced that numbers attending were slightly up despite the absence of a number of regulars for reasons of ill health and he felt sure that they would be on parade next year. He also reminded members that he would like to see more of them attending the Remembrance Day Service at Cranleigh Gardens on Sunday 8 November.

Major Waldron informed members that the recent spate of articles about our Regimental Museum were untrue. Haringay Council have not asked the regiment to move out of Bruce Castle.

My last word – see you all and plus next year – Saturday 30 April.

Tony White

2/10th Bn THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DCO) OCA 1914-18

The 59th annual luncheon of the 2/10th Bn was held on Saturday 16 May 1987 at the Victory Services Club to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the defence of the Monastery of Khurbet Deir Ibn Obeid Jerusalem. Mr A.D. Scudamore presided and the principal guest was Colonel A.S.J. de S. Clayton.



THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

REGULAR BATTALIONS

The 1st Battalion (Lt Col Mike Ball) returned from Gibraltar to Tidworth in January but are on an unaccompanied tour in Northern Ireland from June until October. The 2nd Battalion (Lt Col Peter Cook) are now in Minden and will be training in Canada during August. The 3rd Battalion (Lt Col Bob McGhie) came back from their emergency tour in N. Ireland in June, and will be in Canterbury until January 1988 when they move to Aldergrove.

TA BATTALIONS

The 5th (Volunteer) Battalion (Lt Col Charles Joint) will be spending their annual camp at Stanford during September. The 6/7th (Volunteer) Battalion (Lt Col Roger Lowans TD) camp will be on the Isle of Man in July during which they will provide the ceremonial Guard of Honour for HRH Princess Margaret at the Opening of the Tunewald parliament. 8th (Volunteer) Battalion The Queen's Fusiliers (Maj P.A. Gwilliam) are recruiting hard and will have their TA Centre at St John's Hill, Clapham, officially opened by HRH The Duke of Kent on 15th July.

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM, DOVER CASTLE

The new Regimental Museum at Dover Castle was opened on albuhera Day, 16th May, by the Lord Lieutenant of Kent. Included in the proceedings was a Beating Retreat by the Regiment's Quebec Band and two displays by our Free Fall Team the 'Flying Dragons'. The new museum tells the story of the Regiment, right back to the raising of its forbears, in a most modern and attractive way and is well worth a visit. Members of the Regimental Association will be admitted free of charge on showing their membership cards.

EXERCISING THE FREEDOMS

Among the Regimental Freedoms to be exercised this year, by a contingent of the 3rd Battalion, is Barnet where the ceremony is on 9th June. The invited guests include Lt Col Tom Chattey OBE, Maj Frank Waldron MBE and Maj Dick Smith. The Freedom Scroll presented to the Middlesex Regiment in 1955 will be carried on parade. Other Freedoms to be exercised by the same contingent will be Chichester (11th June), and Kingston-Upon-Thames (12th June), while on 13th June it will represent the Regiment when Ashford bestows the Honorary Freedom. On 5th September the 6/7th (Volunteer) Battalion will exercise the Regiment's Freedom of Brighton. At all these ceremonies an area next to the saluting dais will be reserved for the local branch of the Regimental Association to parade with its standard. Following the Ashford and Brighton parades there will be a display by the 'Flying Dragons' and a Beating Retreat by the Quebec Band, both starting at 6pm. Further details may be obtained from Regimental Headquarters (Tel. 0227 - 457411 ext 250).

SENIOR OFFICERS

The senior serving officers in the Regiment have recently achieved some notable successes. Brig Mike Constantine OBE was appointed Commander 8 Infantry Brigade in November, Col John Holman was made a CBE in the New Year's Honours List and is now Divisional Colonel. Col Bob Acworth CBE is to be a brigadier at AFCENT in September and Col Hugh Tarver who was also made a CBE in the New Year's Honours List is to be promoted to brigadier in July. The Regiment is naturally delighted that the abilities of its senior serving officers are being recognised in this way.

21st ANNIVERSARY/REGIMENTAL GRAND REUNION

The 21st Anniversary of the Vesting Day of the present Regiment is on 31 December 1987. We have therefore passed through the transitional period when officers and soldiers belonged to one of our forbear regiments and have 'come of age' with now even Commanding Officers and RSMs who have only served in The Queen's Regiment. While delighted with the successes and achievements during the last 21 years, we nevertheless look back with great pride at the history of our forbear regiments and the many traditions that we have inherited. We trust that former member of our founder regiments regard their successors in today's Regiment with equal affection. One of the best occasions when all elements of our large regimental family can get together is at the annual Grand Reunion at Basingbourn Barracks. This year it will be on Sunday 12th July. We hope that we will see as many as possible of the Middlesex Regimental Association at this popular event.

ALBUHERA SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

The annual Albuhera Service of Remembrance was held on the afternoon of Saturday 9 May, in the Regimental Chapel of St Paul's Cathedral.

The Canon in Residence, the Rt. Rev. Kenneth Woolcombe, conducted the service assisted by the Rev Gus Jones. Brig B.A.M. Pielow read The Lesson. Once again the Service was exceptionally well attended by Old Comrades and their families. This year the sound system worked and the congregation appreciated a splendid service. Every year we get members attending for the first time and this year was no exception. Many came up to me at the end of the service and said how they had enjoyed the choir, the hymns and the occasion. The flowers in regimental colours were a splendid sight and many said how they gave the service that regimental feeling. The new regimental sign at the entrance to the Baptistery gave one the sense that we are in our Chapel. The named chairs, the hassocks, the Colours, and the new sign gave us all a sense of identity and I feel sure will increase our attendance in 1988. Our three stalwarts at the entrance to the Cathedral gave colour and pleasure to the occasion. Thank you Les Plumb, Bob Yerby and Les Loomes.

ANNUAL REUNION

The annual reunion was held at the Victory Services Club, in the Carisbrooke Hall on Saturday 9 May, the doors opening at 6.30 p.m. and the bar closing at 12 midnight.

Once again we had a good attendance and the bar did a roaring trade. The Secretary of the Club tells me that when our reunion is held the bar takings are exceptional. Many of our members are now members of the Victory Services Club and book a bed for the night and can let their hair down and suffer next morning. Breakfast time is another reunion and strangely they all seem to have good appetites. Our buffet was absolutely first class and was enjoyed by all. The band was much appreciated and seemed to play the music that everyone could enjoy – even me with an ear like a hospital slipper. During the course of the evening it was announced that the Annual General Meeting was about to take place and without any cajoling 35 members rushed upstairs. I have now been Secretary for 15 years and this has never happened before – I just cannot understand why. In past years my pleading has fallen on stony ground.

Phyllis Brooks, for the 40th year, was on the door collecting money from those who have promised to pay. Your presence is much appreciated – see you next year.

ALBUHERA DAY

On 16 May, Major Dick Smith, Chairman of the Mill Hill Branch, organised a wreath laying ceremony at our Regimental War Memorial, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, in conjunction with the Postal and Courier Depot R.E.

The Regimental Flag was flying proudly from the Depot Flag Pole for the day.

Wreaths were laid by Major Dick Smith on behalf of the Regimental Association and by Colonel P. Wescott, Commandant Postal Courier Depot RE.

After the ceremony the Commandant invited all present to the Officers Mess to partake of refreshments in honour of Albuhera Day. A gesture much appreciated by the 36 members present.

KOREAN CLUB

The Annual Reunion of the Korean Club will be held at the Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London W1, on Saturday 26 September 1987, at 6 p.m. Tickets are available from Mr Syd Webb, 8 Fovant Court, Ingleside Drive, Stevenage, Herts SG1 4RF. Cost is £10 for a double ticket and £5.50 for a single, which includes a buffet during the evening.

HOUNSLOW BRANCH

Saturday 23 May was the big day in the branch calendar when the annual dinner was held at Heston attended by 22 members of the branch, and what an enjoyable evening it proved to be. Our guests were Major Derrick Harwood, 6/7 Queens and Major Bonney, RAOC.

On the 29th May five members of the branch accepted the Hornsey Branch Queen's Regimental Association to the challenge of a games evening when true to tradition we thrashed the opposition at shooting – our team score was 1030 and Hornsey 230. We lost the darts and the quiz.

The branch will be going to Lille in November.

MJW



REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

In the last few months some reports have appeared in the Press concerning the tenure of our museum at Bruce Castle. There is no substance in these reports and the Regimental Museum continue to appreciate the kind gesture of the London Borough of Haringey in accommodating our Museum.

The following items have been presented to the Regimental Museum:

Portrait in uniform of Lt-Col Charles Brownlow, 57th Regiment. Commanding Officer 57th Regiment, 3 May 1782 to 8 April 1791.

Purchased – the Ogilby Museums Trust contributing half the cost.

South Africa Medal 1877-79, with clasp 1879. Awarded to Private W. White, 57th Regiment. Presented by National Army Museum under a bequest by Miss G.M. Thompson.

Military Medal of F982 Sgt G.E. Saberton, 23rd Bn The Middlesex Regiment (DCO) – Awarded on 9 December 1916.

Presented by Mr C.F. Charnock.

The medals of the late Lt G.B. Bridges, 1/7th Bn, killed on 23 May 1940. 1939-45 Star and War Medal 1939-45.

Presented by his brother Capt C.S.J. Bridges.

The medals of the late Major F.J. Millard, MBE, TD, 9th Bn The Middlesex Regiment (DCO).

M.B.E., 1939-45 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939-45, Territorial Decoration.

Presented by his widow Mrs Kay Millard.

Portrait measuring 27" x 22" of Lt A.L. Bobby, killed on 20 November 1917, whilst serving with D Company, 16th (Public Schools) Bn The Middlesex Regiment (DCO). His body was never found and his name appears on the Regimental Roll of Honour and on the Menin Gate Memorial. The portrait was painted in oils by C.E. Butler, RA, on behalf of his parents during 1918.

Presented by his uncle, A.L. Comport, 6 Lascelles Avenue, Beaumont, Adelaide, South Australia 5066.

Two books – British Army Proficiency Badges by Dennis Edwards and David Langley.
The Life and Times of a Victorian Officer edited by Alan Harfield.

Presented by the Ogilby Museums Trust.

South Africa 1901 Pig Skin tobacco pouch issued to Private Curnew.

Purchased on behalf of the regimental museum by the Army Museums Ogilby Trust.

Identity Tag belonging to Captain A.M.C. McReady-Diarmid, V.C.

Purchased on behalf of the regimental museum, the Army Museums contributing half the cost.

Regimental Magazines of the 25th Bn, issued in Hong Kong July 1917, September 1917, October 1917, November 1917 and May 1918 and one issued in Vladivostok, Siberia July 1919. Numerous 25th Bn Band programmes of engagements that took place in 1917 and 1918 – for e.g. Government House, Victoria Theatre, Seaman's Institute, Hong Kong Jockey Club and one that caught my eye – Hong Kong Dog, Cat, Poultry and Pigeon show, plus many other mementoes.

Presented by Mr Robert Elliott, aged 95 (96 on 27.11.87), who served as a Bandsman with the 25th Bn during this period.

During the continued absence of our Curator, Major Dick Smith, who is suffering from a most distressing illness, our museum attendant, Mr J. Whybrow has coped magnificently and we much appreciate his enthusiasm and pride in taking care of our regimental exhibits.

PERSONAL JOTTINGS

Tom Barnett (6202165) has made a good recovery after a heart attack.

Capt Ken Beale underwent heart surgery last December. He has made a very good recovery and is back at work.

Major F.H. (Blackie) Blackburn has recently moved from Mill Hill to Sittingbourne. He has recently visited Dunkirk and Canada.

Major Johnny Bull, MM, former Armourer to the 1st Bn in Hong Kong was unable to attend the reunion this year owing to a spell in hospital with heart trouble. He sends his regards to all Diehards.

Major A.B. Carter, 1/7th Bn, attended the 51st (Highland) Division Dinner Club Reunion Luncheon in Edinburgh on Saturday 4 July 1987, given in honour of the Mayor and Mayoress of St Valery and the very loyal (to 51 Div), Deputy Mayoress Mlle Savoie.

Lt-Col Norman Clayden was the recipient of "The Individual Award" at the 1987 RSPB Birds and Countryside ceremony held on Thursday 9 July 1987. HRH The Prince of Wales, UK patron of European Year of the Environment, presented the first-ever RSPB Birds and countryside Awards at a special luncheon in London.

Cyril Cox (6200934) sends his regards to all his old friends. He still resides at Hemel Hempstead.

A recent visitor to Lynsore Bungalow was former regular officer Lt Malcolm Deakin who after being invalided out worked in the Far East for many years. He is now back in U.K. and settled down at Sawston, Cambs.

Former CSM John Gould tells me that he continues to visit Erika Pike, widow of Captain Ernie Pike. Erika continues to keep cheerful despite all her aches and pains. John, Les Page and Vic Barley continue to visit Three Hammers, Mill Hill, for a weekly lunch time drink.

James Kenneth Howell, the grandson of Mr F.A. Rowe, 1/7th Bn, was baptised in the Regimental Chapel of St Paul's Cathedral on Sunday 12 April 1987.

Former Sgt C. Hull tells me that he has now retired from the army and is employed as a civilian at the Queen's Depot, Basingstoke. He runs the webbing store. His father, Busty Hull, will be remembered by the old brigade of Diehards.

All Diehards wish Major Nigel Legge a speedy recovery from a nasty heart attack earlier this year. I understand he is making a good recovery.

Stanley Lewis, 1/7th Bn, recently spent some time in Australia and spoke on the telephone to Barry King, Officers Mess Cook, 1/7th Bn. Barry sends his very best wishes to all his old mates in the Bn and spoke of making another Blighty visit, possibly in 1988.

We hear that at Hereford on 29 May 1987 at a BKVA Standard Dedication ceremony, Colonel Andrew Man, who is the BKVA West Wales President, was presented with an inscribed plaque engraved in silver with a picture of Hereford. This was presented by four Middlesex Korean Club members (George Ayers, Stan Rogers, Robin Yarwood and John Wilson). George Ayers is the Secretary of the Hereford Branch of the BKVA. It is heart warming in this day and age that former members of the 1st Bn wish to honour their former Commanding Officer 35 years after having had the privilege to serve under his leadership.

Major I.D. McLean, 1/8th and 2nd Bn, retired last year as Deputy Managing Director of the Timber Group Mallinson Denny Ltd, after 35 years service.

Mrs Pat Newman, widow of Major Percy Newman, continues to keep in touch with so many of our elderly widows and sends her regards to all old comrades and their families.

Mrs Christine Patton, daughter of the late WO2 Frank and Mrs Firman, feels that her parents would be proud to know that her son Robert is serving with 1 Queens in Support Company. He is about to get his first stripe.

Capt Frank Redpath wrote recently and asked if he could increase his subscription. I made no objections! He apologised for his absence from regimental functions and tells me that he does not travel well these days. I can remember after his rendition of 'The Baby went down the Plughole because it was so skinny and thin' he never travelled at all. With his face to the wall he sends sincere regards to all his old friends.

Major Barry St G.A. Reed, MC, DL, has been appointed a Director of National Westminster Bank and Chairman of its Regional Board, both with effect from 1 May 1987. Major Reed is Executive Chairman of Austin Reed Group PLC and Chairman of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council. He was a Regional Director of Nat West's City and West End Region from 1980 until last month, when he joined Eastern Regional Board.

Former Sgt Ray Sharp still residing at Cheshunt, Herts, sends his best regards to all his old comrades.

Major Dick Smith is far from well and at the moment is housebound. His distressing illness is causing him much pain and suffering. Many many Diehards are thinking of him and have asked me to wish him a speedy recovery.

Former WO2 Tom and Heffi Steward have just returned from an extended holiday in Bangkok, Singapore and Malaya, and hope to attend the reunion in 1988.

Fiona, daughter of former WO2 Bill Ure, is getting married in early August at Kneller Hall to Bandmaster Tim Parkinson serving with the 3rd Bn Royal Anglian Regiment in Minden, BAOR. We wish them every happiness.

Contact has been made with Harry Winsborough (6204477) now living in Dunedin, New Zealand. He enlisted as a boy soldier and was in the Corps of Drums of the 1st Bn in Hong Kong. He was a very good all round sportsman and survived the sinking of the Lisbon Maru and ended up in Kobe Camp, Japan. He was at Chelsea with the 1st Bn on Guard duties and this is where he met his wife who sadly died about 5 years ago. He has been in New Zealand for the past 35 years and is employed as a slaughterman. He tells me the work is hard but the money is good. He is due to retire next year and hopes to visit U.K.

The following have joined the Regimental Association:

Sgt D.F. Allen (6206626) 27 April 1939 – 29 March 1946. HQ Company 2/7th Bn April 1939 – 1943, B Company 2/7th Bn 1944 – 45. ERE MELF until discharge March 1946.

Private I.H. Abercrombie (2570505) 14 January 1935 R. Signals TA, 27 August 1935. 1st Bn, HQ Company 1935 – 38, D Company 1939, HQ Company 1940 – 41 and A Company 1941. Taken POW Christmas Day 1941. In 1942 moved to Shinagawa Camp, Japan. Discharged 10 September 1946.

Capt H.W. Archibald (269423) 2 May 1940 – 18 February 1947. 2 May 1940 – October 1942 Sgt 15th Bn R.F., October 1942 – March 1943 Pre OCTU and RMC. March 1943 – 12 November 1943 2/7th Bn (20 July 1943 wounded in Sicily). 13 November 1943 – January 1945 (held on strength of 24 MGTC). January 1945 – February 1947, 40th Bn RAPC (unfit for infantry).

Cpl R.W.H. Atkins (6204588) 12 May 1938 to 29 June 1946, 8th Bn, 2/8th (1st Bn), D and A Companies. Resides at 7 Plas Ebbw, Northville, Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 1QJ, and would like to hear from old friends.

Sgt A.F.W. Bennion (6207961) 18 May 1939 to 15 July 1946, 2/8th (1st Bn), B Company. Now lives in Queensland, Australia.

Private W.V. Calvert (6198360) 9 March 1928 – June 1935. March/November 1929 1st Bn and then 2nd Bn until March 1931, 1st Bn 1932 – 35. Member of B company Busy Bees Concert party in February 1933.

L/Sgt S.V. Chandler (6205003), August 1938 – July 1946. D Company 2nd Bn 1938 – 41, Para Regt 1941 – 45, 2nd Bn 1945 – 46. Was a P.T. Instructor.

Lt R.A. Condrion (204421) TA R.E. 1938, transferred to Mx Regt 1940 and then to 170 OCTU and commissioned 13 September 1941. Posted to A Company 2nd Bn 1942. Demobilised October 1945.

Private A.E. Dale (23160448) April 1955 – April 1957. National Service with 1st Bn. 6/7th Queens 1971 – 1984, reaching the rank of WO2(RQMS).

Bdsn R. Elliott (5258) March 1916 – October 1919. A Company 25th Bn. Born 27 November 1891. Survived the sinking of the SS Tyndareus off Cape Agulhas on 6 February 1917. The 25th Bn was en route to Hong Kong for garrison duties. The Bn duly arrived in Hong Kong the Commanding Officer at the time was Lt-Col John Ward, MP. Robert Elliott was a professional musician and was allowed to carry out numerous private engagements. He lives in Edgeley, Stockport, and sends his regards to all Diehards.

WO2 (CSM) A.E.R. Fairhead, April 1939 – 21 November 1945. C Company 1/7th Bn 1939, C Company 2/7th 1939, A Company 2/7th 1939 – 42, B Company 2/7th 1942 – 45.

Private G.H. Fuller (22980915) 18 January 1954 – 7 March 1957. Signal Platoon HQ Company 1st Bn.

Private R.J. Gates (21014178) 14 November 1947 – May 1953. C and HQ Companies 1st Bn.

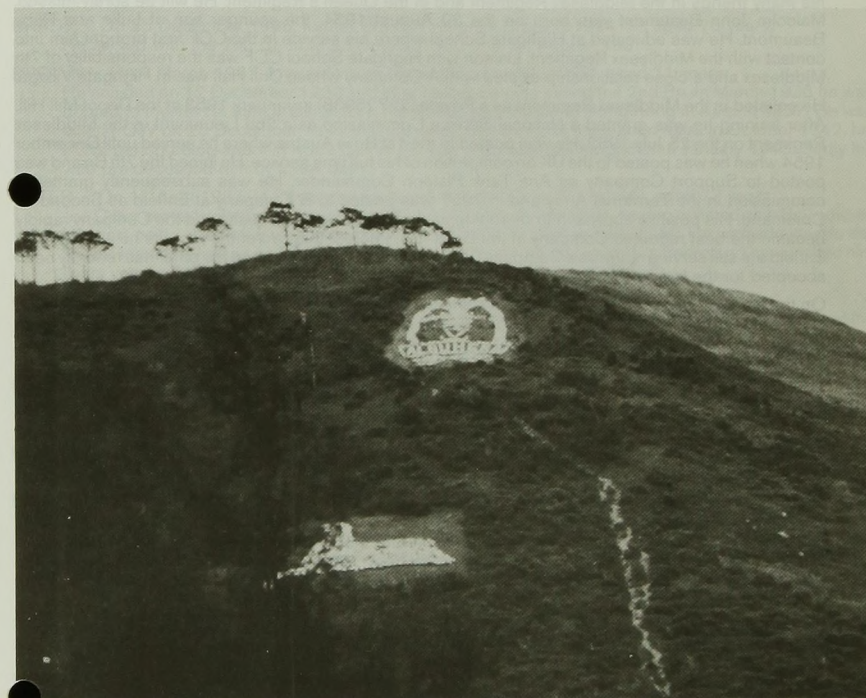
Private C.H. Hindman (6208637) 17 May 1939 – June 1946. 9th Bn 1939 – 42 and then 429 Company, 60th S.L. Regt RA and 106 HAA Regt RA, 117 LAA Regt RA.

Private L.C. Howick (6856249) 4 December 1941 – 19 July 1946. C Company 2/7 (QVR)KRRC 1941 – 43, B Company 1st Bn April 1943 – July 1946.

Private C. Noble (6202116) 9 January 1935 – 8 January 1947. D Company 1st Bn, taken POW 25 December 1941 and later moved to Japan. Nobby Noble was a Bn boxer and area champion at feather weight. He was also a good athlete, hockey and soccer player. He was the only soldier I know that was court martialled by the Japanese. He was provoked by two Korean guards and retaliated by knocking both of them stone cold. For this he was given 72 days solitary confinement and then taken to Tokyo and given a further three months jail. He emigrated to Australia in 1956 and is married with four daughters. He lives at 172 Werribee Street, Werribee 3030, Victoria, Australia, and would like to hear from his old comrades. A number have already done so. I have just heard that a reunion party is now taking place very shortly between Nobby, Blanco White and Reg Cotton. Surprising what can be achieved from UK.

Private M. Orton (14921877) 1 February 1945 – 20 January 1948. Kensingtons, Naples May 1945 – 1946, C Company 2nd Bn 1947 – 48.

Private B. Pedler (22605456) November 1951 – October 1953. National Service A Company 1st Bn Hong Kong and Austria. Very kindly sent me two photographs of our cap badge still in good condition on the hillside in Hong Kong(N.T.).



L/Cpl J. Rolt (14409431) 3 December 1942 – 17 July 1947. 8th Bn C Group and 5 Pl A Company 1943 – 45, 1/7th Bn 1945 – 46, 1st Bn 1946 – 47.

Sgt E.C. Scott (6212228) 15 February 1940 – 14 May 1946. MGTC 1940 – 41, A Company 2nd Bn 1941 – 45, 1/7th Bn 1945 – 46.

L/Cpl D.V. Slade (22773727) 29 October 1951 – 8 November 1957. A Company and HQ Company (Drums) 1st Bn.

Fiona, daughter of WO2 Bill Ure, 1st Bn, is getting married in August to Bandmaster Tim Parkinson serving with 3rd Bn The Anglian Regiment in Minden, BAOR. The marriage is to take place at Kneller Hall. Our very best wishes to the happy couple.

Cpl F(Blanco) White (6202766) 13 January 1936 – 15 May 1946. HQ company (Pioneers) under the late Sgt 'Donkey' Quick. Taken POW Christmas Day 1941, survived the sinking of the Lisbon Maru and held in Kobe Camp. He emigrated to Australia some years ago. He is now properly dressed with blazer badge and regimental tie.

OBITUARY

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

BEAUMONT – On 13 June 1987, Major Malcolm John Beaumont TD (429523), aged 52 years.

The sudden death of Malcolm Beaumont at the early age of 52 after a short illness was a great shock to his many friends in the Middlesex Regiment and in the Queen's Regiment. He will be sorely missed. Malcolm John Beaumont was born on the 30 August 1934, the younger son of Luke and Ruby Beaumont. He was educated at Highgate School where his service in the CCF first brought him into contact with the Middlesex Regiment. Liaison with Highgate School CCF was the responsibility of 7th Middlesex and a close relationship existed with A Company whose Drill Hall was in Highgate Village.

He enlisted in the Middlesex Regiment as a Private (22725938) in January 1953 at the Depot Mill Hill. After training he was granted a National Service Commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Middlesex Regiment on the 25 July 1953. He was posted to the 1st Bn in Austria where he served until December 1954 when he was posted to the UK on completion of his full time service. He joined the 7th Bn and was posted to Support Company as Anti Tank Platoon Commander. He was subsequently granted a commission in the Territorial Army and in 1957 was posted to B Company at Enfield as Second Command. His positive approach to recruiting achieved spectacular results and the Company rapidly became the best recruited Company in the Bn. It is of interest that two of the recruits he signed-on at Enfield are still serving – one as a Company Commander in 6/7 Queens and the other has recently been accepted for the Home Service Company at Hornsey.

On the amalgamation of 7th, 8th and 9th Middlesex to form 5th Middlesex in 1961, Malcolm moved to HQ Company at Edgware as Second-in-Command and on the formation of TAVR III and the change of name to 10 Queen's was appointed to command the new Company at Acton which had been formed from 101 Engineer Regiment RE.

In 1969, 10 Queen's was reduced to a Cadre and Malcolm Beaumont was selected to command the Cadre which was based at Edgware. On the subsequent expansion of TAVR he was appointed to command the Edgware Company of 6 Queen's and in the Spring of 1974 was appointed as Bn 2IC. On the amalgamation of 6 and 7 Queen's on the 31 March 1975 he was transferred to the Reserve.

However, very shortly he embarked on the third phase of his military career and in August 1975 was appointed as Group Commander of 21 Group Middlesex and NW London Sector Army Cadet Force. He finally retired in November 1980.

He served as a member of the Executive Committee of the Middlesex Regimental Association from 1973, a member of the Housing Sub Committee from 1982 and a member of the Finance Sub Committee from 1985. He also served as a Trustee of the Middlesex and 10 Queen's Territorial Trust from 1969.

Malcolm Beaumont was proud to have been a Die Hard but he was a stalwart supporter of the Queen's Regiment and of B Company 6/7 (Volunteer) Bn in particular. He was a founder member of the Hornsey (Albuhera) Branch of the Queen's Regimental Association.

The funeral was attended by many old friends who had served with Malcolm in the Middlesex Regiment, the Queen's Regiment and the Army Cadet Force.

J.D.G.

BENNETT – On 9 May 1987, former Pioneer Sgt Abraham Henderson Bennett (762686), aged 80 years. Chippy Bennett enlisted as a Gunner with the R.A.(TA) on 4 May 1925 serving until 19 April 1927. He enlisted into the Middlesex Regiment on 20 April 1927. On completion of his recruit training he was posted to the 2nd Bn in India serving in Madras, Khartoum and the Sudan. Whilst in India he was employed as Batman to Colonel Andrew Man, then a subaltern. Returning home on 13 December 1931 with the 2nd Bn he served at Colchester, Portsmouth and Gosport. He went to France with the 2nd Bn on 29 September 1940, returning to UK on 30 May 1941. On 14 July 1944 he went with the 2nd Bn to N.W. Europe returning home on 14 September 1944. He continued to serve with the 2nd Bn until the amalgamation and his final period of service was at the Depot until his discharge to pension on 19 April 1950.

BESTONSO – On 26 February 1987, former Drummer Cornelius James Bestonso (TF/265991), aged 89 years.

Con Bestonso enlisted on 20 April 1915 and was posted to the 3/9th Territorial Bn and in July was posted to the 2/9th Bn. Transferred to the 21st (Islington) Bn with BEF in France in 1916, he was then posted to our 1/8th TA Bn in 1917, with whom he served until his discharge on 15 April 1919. Throughout his service he held the rank of Drummer and in France was also a Runner at Bn HQ. His elder brother John (TF/3265 and TK/293470) was killed in action at Gaza whilst serving with our 2/10th TA Bn.

BRADY – On 25 December 1986, former Private Frederick Brady (6199479), aged 76 years. He served with the 2nd Bn from 25 August 1930 until 24 August 1937.

BROWN – On 7 March 1987, former Private Donald Brown (6201299), aged 71 years. He enlisted on 12 December 1933 and after recruit training joined the 2nd Bn. In March 1936 he was drafted to the 1st Bn then in Singapore. He moved with the Bn to Hong Kong in August 1937. He was taken POW on 25 December 1941 and survived the sinking of the Lisbon Maru in October 1942, his POW period being spent in Kobe Camp. He was medically discharged on 9 January 1946. Sadly his wife pre-deceased him by a few days.

CATER – On 11 April 1987, In Pensioner Frederick Joseph Cater (6196246), aged 77 years. Joe Cater served with the regiment from 15 July 1924 to 8 May 1934, having enlisted as a Boy soldier. His next period of service was from 1 September 1939 to 19 February 1946. He was admitted to the Royal Hospital Chelsea on 4 April 1977. He was a cheerful character and as Secretary I have visited him every year in December to give his regimental Christmas card and present.

COWAN – On 28 December 1986, Sgt Jock Cowan, Army Catering Corps. Jock Cowan served with the 1st Bn in Gibraltar and British Guiana. He was a very popular member of the Bn and his team of cooks did the Bn proud. Capt Tom McMillan represented the Regimental Association at the funeral.

EVANS – On 9 November 1986, former Private Terence Edward Evans (14422880), aged 61 years. Terry Evans served with 14 Platoon, D Company, 1/8th Bn from 1 April 1943 to July 1947. He was with the Bn in Normandy.

FARNCOMBE – On 12 June 1985 Captain Leslie G. Farncombe, aged 68 years. He was a member of the 2/7th Bn during 1939-45. No other details are available.

FREDERICKS – On 4 May 1987, former Private Thomas Fredericks, aged 100 years. The existence of Tom Fredericks was only discovered on 24 January 1987, when news filtered through that he as in the Braybrook Old Peoples Home at Tower Hamlets, and that he would reach the magic 100 years on 29 January 1987. He was immediately made a member of the Regimental Association and an Old Pattern Regimental Tie was sent for him to wear on his birthday. Tom served with our 4th Bn at Mons and is in possession of the Mons Star. In 1916 he was wounded in both legs at the Battle of the Somme. Tom has lived all his life in Stephney and has been a tailor, docker and drayman. Sadly he died suddenly before we were able to arrange for him to attend the Albuhera Service in St Paul's Cathedral.

HEATHCOTE – On 16 March 1987, Craftsman Alan Heathcote, REME. Alan Heathcote was armourer to the 2nd Bn and was with them in Palestine in 1948. He returned with the Bn to UK where he was transferred to the reserve. Shortly after he emigrated to Australia where he became Manager to one of the largest concrete companies in Australia. My informant was former Bandsman R. Hiscock (6217119) who resides at Jindalee, Queensland, Australia.

HEWSON – On 1 March 1987, Lt-Col Arthur Stuart Hewson, MBE, TD, aged 86 years. Stuart Hewson was commissioned into the regiment in 1921, joining the 9th Bn. Between the wars he was a very enthusiastic member of the Bn. He commenced the war in 1939 with the 9th and went with the Bn to Hereford where in August 1940 they became 60th Searchlight Regiment R.A.(9th). He was posted to the Staff and for the remainder of the war filled A and Q Staff appointments and was awarded the MBE. His son, Lt-Col John Hewson, MC, recalls the proud occasion when as Adjutant of the 1st Bn in 1963 he organised the Albuhera Day Parade on Horse Guards when the Colours of the 1st and 5th Bns were trooped and the Old Comrades Standard dedicated. On this occasion he was Parade Adjutant and his father was on parade with the Old Comrades.

HODGSON – On 1 September 1986, former Private John Hodgson (6476714), aged 72 years. Served with the 1/7th Bn 1940-46.

HUTCHINGS – On 9 April 1987, Lt-Col Roy D. Hutchings (204413), aged 67 years.

Roy Hutchings was commissioned into the regiment on 13 September 1941 on completion of OCTU training and was posted to the 1st Bn The Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment. He served throughout the war with the Kensingtons seeing much action in Sicily, Italy and was at Cassino. During this time he became 2IC B Group, Assistant Adjutant, Adjutant and a Group Commander. In August 1945 he was D Group Commander in the famous barracks in Spittal, Austria. In early 1946 the Bn moved to the Naples area and from April to September were in Greece. September 1946 saw the disbandment of the 1st PLKR and the majority of the regular element were posted to the 2nd Bn then in Palestine, including Roy. During his service with the Kensingtons he was known for his efficiency, meticulous attention to detail and the splendid example he set to his fellow officers. He became adjutant of the 2nd Bn in September 1947 and in June 1948 was posted to the UK on Python. In 1949 he was given his first staff appointment at the War Office AG2(o), this was followed by Staff College Camberley, HQ 3rd Infantry Brigade MELF, TA Brigade Major and in 1957-8 Regimental Duty with the 1st Bn in Cyprus. He commanded the Regimental Depot, Mill Hill from 1959-61 and was responsible for its closure. Back to the Staff 1961-62 at the War Office (P.R.1.) and from 1962-64 A.D.P.R. Joint Public Relations Service Mideast, Aden. He retired from the army on 29 August 1964 with the rank of Lt-Col. He immediately joined the Civil Service and quickly qualified for Senior Civil Service Appointments. From 1964-66 he was Senior Information Officer at the Commonwealth Relations Office; 1966-75 Ministry of Transport Principal and also Property Services Agency Assistant Secretary. From 1975 until his sudden death Chairman of Traffic Commissioners for North West England. His funeral was attended by many members of the regiment and the coffin was draped with the Regimental Flag. Our deepest sympathy go to his widow, Andy and family. He will be so sadly missed.

LEWIN – On 5 April 1987, Mrs A.D. Lewin, aged 103 years, the widow of CSgt Lewin killed in action, 22 October 1915, whilst serving with the 2nd Bn. Two sons served in the regiment, Bill was in the Band (now deceased) and Arthur in the Corps of Drums. Arthur is still going strong and is a regular supporter of the functions arranged by the Regimental Association.

MARJORIBANKS – On 26 November 1986, Major Ian Douglas Marjoribanks, MC, aged 67 years. Major Ian Marjoribanks served with the 1/8th Bn in UK and during European campaign where he was awarded the Military Cross at Hill 112 in Normandy. Towards the end of 1945 he was posted to the 2nd Bn serving in Egypt and Palestine during the troubled campaign for the independence of Israel. He was demobilised at the end of 1946. Major I.D. McLean and Major H. Wigan attended the funeral.

MERRELL – On 18 April 1987, former LCpl Richard Arthur Merrell (6206539), aged 68 years. Richard Merrell served with B Company, 2/7th Bn from April 1939 to February 1946. He regularly attended the annual 2/7th Bn Dinner at the Victory Services Club and will be sadly missed.

MILLARD – On 31 December 1986, Major Frederick John Millard, MBE, TD, aged 80 years. Major John Millard was commissioned into the Middlesex Regiment on 4 January 1939 and joined the 9th Bn. He was later appointed Adjutant but after 2½ years his civil qualifications resulted in transfer to the Royal Engineers and posting as Staff Officer to the War Office. He was appointed Commanding Officer of the 158 Railway Construction Company with whom he served in France, Belgium and Germany. He was awarded an MBE for his services and in 1946 returned to civilian life. His interest in the Middlesex Regiment was such that he served on the Executive Committee until 1975 and was concerned with the establishment of a regimental memorial in the shape of 20 houses at Albuhera Close, Enfield, for disabled members of the regiment. He became a Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Tallow Chandlers in 1946 and was Master in 1968-69.

The funeral was attended by many members of the regiment.

NEWMAN – On 4 May 1987, former Private Edward Newman (G/60319), aged 88 years. Eddie Newman enlisted in September 1916 at Hornsey and joined the 7th Bn and was then posted to the 28th Training Bn at Aldershot. He saw service with the 6th (Special Reserve) Bn at Chatham and from there was drafted to join the 2/10th Bn(TF) in Egypt on 30 November 1917. He continued to serve with the 2/10th Bn until they were disbanded on 20 August 1918, taking part in the fighting in Egypt and Palestine. He was finally posted to the 2/19th London Regiment prior to demobilisation in 1919.

OXLEY – On 26 February 1987, former Private John Sidney Oxley (6199482), aged 75 years. He enlisted on 26 August 1930 and served with the 1st Bn and D Company in Palestine, Egypt and Singapore and was transferred to the Reserve in October 1937. On 3 September 1939 he was recalled for active service and was posted to the Manchester Regiment serving in France and Burma. He was transferred to the Reserve in early 1946.

PENTONY – On 11 July 1987, Mrs Margaret Pentony, aged 86 years. Margaret Pentony was the mother of Cpl J. Pentony (19034049), killed in Korea 26 September 1950. Margaret was a lovely lady who was a great supporter of the regiment regularly attending the Albuhera Service of Remembrance and the Korean Club Reunion.

RUSSELL – On 6 March 1987, former WO2 A. Hugo Russell (6191748), aged 87 years. No details of his service are available, but it is known that between the wars he served continuously with the 1st Bn.

SCOTT – On 19 June 1987, Major Cecil Ernest Edward Scott, aged 90 years. Major Cecil Scott served with the 61st TA Middlesex Anti-Aircraft Regiment from 1934 to 1939, the Middlesex Home Guard 1940-44 and the Middlesex 1st Cadet Bn from 1944-46. He was later concerned with the re-organisation of the Middlesex Army Cadet Force.

SEWELL – On 20 January 1987, former Private Joseph Edward Sewell (103288 and TR10/169438), aged 86 years. Joe Sewell served in 1914-18 with the 19th (2nd Public Works Pioneer Bn).

SIBLEY – On 28 March 1987, former Private S.F. Sibley (21434 and 6191681), aged 84 years. Frank Sibley enlisted on 22 July 1919 and served until 13 September 1938. The whole of his service was with the 1st Bn.

SUMMERFIELD – On 12 May 1987, former Sgt David Summerfield (6196329), aged 81 years. Sgt Summerfield enlisted into the regiment on 9 September 1924, serving with the 2nd Bn in India 1927-31, Sudan 1931 and then home service. He went to France with the 2nd Bn in 1939-40 and on return spent about a year with the Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment. He transferred to the Royal Pioneer Corps in February 1942 and left the service on 21 November 1945.

WILKINS – On 22 March 1987, former Private Horace Frederick Wilkins (S/7431), aged 90 years. He enlisted in the 5th (Special Reserve) Bn on 5 August 1914 at Mill Hill and on completion of his training was posted to the 2nd Bn with whom he served until wounded. On discharge from hospital he rejoined the BEF in France and was posted to the 13th Bn with whom he served until discharged in 1919. He took part in the battles of Ypres, Kemmel, Hodge, Messines, Passchendale and Ploegsteert.

MEMORIAL CROSS – EAST SANDLING

A letter from Mr Brian Doorne of Saltwood Parish Council, Hythe, Kent, informed the regimental association that a wooden memorial cross was erected after the First World War to mark the site of the East Sandling Transit Camp (1914-18) and bears the following inscription:

In memory of British Troops

Canadians 1916-17
RAF Cadets
31st Bn Middlesex Regiment
and the Russian Relief Force.

The Regimental Association had no knowledge of the existence of this memorial. Over the years this memorial had gradually deteriorated and the Saltwood Parish Council decided that this memorial should be replaced with a stone replica and asked for donations towards the restoration. The regimental association responded as did the R.A.F., the balance being met by the parish council. On Sunday 12 April 1987 a short service of re-dedication was held at the memorial, which is at the junction of Sandy Lane and the A20 (near Stone Farm) Saltwood. As Secretary of the regimental association I had the pleasure of attending and was invited to a celebration 'sherry' at the conclusion of the ceremony.

The 31st Bn of The Middlesex Regiment were formed on 8 September 1916 and were known as the 31st (Aliens) Bn, all members being of foreign parentage, many had fought with the regiment in the Boer War. Ten members of this Bn appear on our Roll of Honour.

1944-1988 - ISRAEL'S 40th ANNIVERSARY

In 1948, nearly 40 years ago, British Forces evacuated Palestine thus bringing to a close some 30 years of British Rule under mandate from the League of Nations. The 2nd Bn and the 2/7th Bn were both involved.

Captain Patrick J.A. Pielou is willing to consider organising a visit to Israel next year, about the middle of May, lasting 5 to 8 days and concentrating on well known places of interest. Anyone interested should write to Captain Patrick J.A. Pielou, 2 Emperors Gate, London SW7 4HH, immediately. Families are welcome. Your views and suggestions are most welcome. It is hoped that cost, period of tour and itinerary will be available shortly. The important thing at the moment is to forward your name if you are interested.

'LADY BUTLER, BATTLE ARTIST'

An exhibition of paintings by Lady Butler are on display at the National Army Museum from 14 May 1987 to 26 September 1987.

'Steady the Drums and Fifes' is on display.

Having viewed this magnificent display of paintings I strongly recommend a visit.

The National Army Museum is open Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. and Sunday 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Admission is free. Car Parking and Cafeteria. Nearest Underground Station Sloane Square.

THE ALBION HOTEL, WANGANUI, NEW ZEALAND

Lt H.A. Lane, 1/9th Bn 1913-19, now 90 years of age sent me a very interesting newspaper article published in the Midweek Herald, Wanganui, on 31 March 1987.

The Albion Hotel is about to be demolished. This hotel was built in 1861 by Joseph Hoskins. Its opening coincided with the arrival of the 57th Regiment and the officers of the regiment immediately adopted the hotel as their wet canteen and officers' mess. Other ranks patronised the Wanganui Hotel on the next corner where the Public Trust used to be. No doubt the attraction of the Wanganui lay in the host's charming daughters, the Misses Dunleavy. 'ENOUGH SAID'.

The Wellington West Coast Taranaki Regiment - now the Fifth Battalion Royal New Zealand Regiment - was affiliated with the 57th Regiment.

LETTERS

Lea Barn
Winter Hill
Cookham Dean
Berks

Dear Editor,

Can I commend to your readers especially Territorials the book "The Territorial Battalion's" - A Pictorial History 1859-1985 by Ray Westlake. It can be obtained on loan from County Libraries.

It clearly points out on page 16 the order of precedence of County Regiments whereby Middlesex is second only to the Devonshires.

When I was commanding 7th Middlesex post war and we were re-Brigaded I was told to repaint our Vehicle Bn No. from '55' to '57' since the two other battalions were senior to us by Regular Army Precedence. This I refused to do and until I gave up command both 6th Queens and ourselves drove round with '55' on our vehicles.

The other point of interest is the reference to 'Imperial Service' under the Haldane Act 1908 when the Volunteer system was changed to include overseas service and renamed the Territorial Army.

Colonel Sir Edwin King in his History of 7th Middlesex points out under The Act, 7th Middlesex were the first battalion to accept by over 90% liability for overseas service. This was closely followed by 8th Middlesex. In recognition 7th Middlesex were given the privilege of providing a Guard of Honour in Parliament Square for the Coronation of King George V.

It may be of interest to your readers to note that for the Coronation of our present Queen I laid claim to this privilege but despite an Appeal to the Earl Marshal it was not granted as it had been allowed to lapse for the previous coronation. However in 1958 when Deputy Commander 47(L) Infantry Brigade TA I was accorded the privilege of Commanding The Parade of Representative Territorial Detachments for the Parade and Service at Westminster Abbey to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Territorial Army.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) Desmond Ellis.

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

St. David's provides a home for disabled ex-servicemen of all denominations where they may find peace and comfort. The disability may be of any sort and many of those at present in the home are too old and infirm to look after themselves.

Vacancies exist now, and are constantly occurring. Regiments and Corps are asked to forward the names of any candidates available for admission now, and also the names of those who might be put on a waiting list for future vacancies.

Names should be sent to: The Secretary, St. David's Home for Disabled Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, Castlebar Hill, Ealing, London W5.

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. Postage and packing is included in the price. Cheques or Postal Orders should be made payable to The Middlesex Regimental Association.

Blazer Badges	£6.50 each
Ice Buckets, miniature side drum with regimental emblazon	£13.00 each
Tumbler, Whisky engraved with Middlesex Regiment Badge	£5.50 each
Ties Regtl Old Pattern Terylene (Maroon and Old Gold)	£2.50 each
Ties New Pattern Terylene	£2.50 each
Ties Officers' Club Silk	£4.50 each
Wall Plaques Middlesex	£13.00 each
History 'Diehards in Korea'	£5.00 each
Christmas Cards - Steady the Drums & Fifes	£ .20 each
Middlesex Regiment Cap Badges - not originals	£1.50 each
Museum Brochure	£ .25 each

