



The Die-Hards

NEWSLETTER

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PHOTO NAM

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THE BATTLE OF ALBUHERA, 16 MAY 1811

During Wellington's war against the French in Spain Lieutenant General William Carr Beresford was sent with a detached force to besiege the important border fortress of Badajoz. A French army under Marshal Soult forced him to raise the siege and Beresford took up a position at Albuhera in conjunction with a Spanish army.

Soult attacked the Allied right in strength. Colborne's Brigade was caught in line by French cavalry and virtually destroyed. The Brigades of Abercrombie and Hoghton (including the 57th) held the line against twice their number of Frenchmen in a deadly duel of musketry which was only ended by the intervention of Myers' Fusilier Brigade which swung the battle Beresford's way.

'It was observed that our dead, particularly of the 57th regiment, were lying, as they had fought in the ranks, and every wound was in the front.' Beresford.

REGIMENTAL FLAG OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

The Regimental Collection of the Middlesex Regiment has been transferred in its entirety to the National Army Museum, upon the relocation of the Regimental Museum here.

The Regimental Flag of the Middlesex Regiment will be flown outside the Museum every year on 16 May to commemorate Albuhera Day.

The flag bears a laurel wreath with a scroll inscribed 'Albuhera' in recognition of the 57th (West Middlesex) Regiment's stand at the Battle of Albuhera, 16 May 1811, where they lost 422 all ranks out of a total of 570.

During the Battle, the wounded commander of the 57th, Lieutenant Colonel Inglis, called upon his men to 'Die Hard!' and the nickname of the Middlesex Regiment has been 'The Die Hards' ever since.

FORECAST OF EVENTS 1992 and 1993

1992

- 25 August Queen's Regimental Association Meeting, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3.
- 12 September Middlesex Regiment Korean Club reunion at the Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2. 6.30 p.m.
- 1 October 2/7th Bn OCA Reunion at the Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2. Assemble 11.45 a.m.
- 10 October Queen's Regiment WO's and Sgt's Past and Present Dinner at Bassingbourn.
- 5 November 7th Bn Officers Club Dinner.
- November Ceremony at Field of Remembrance, Westminster, London SW1. To be held inside the Middlesex Guildhall, opposite Westminster Abbey. Assemble 10.40 a.m.
- 8 November 2/10th Bn(1914-18) OCA, Remembrance Day Service at St Nicholas Church, Chiswick, London W4, at 3 p.m.
- 10 November Housing Sub Committee Meeting to be held at the Conference Room, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3.

1993

- 22 March Regimental Association Executive Meeting at Conference Room, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3, at 6.15 p.m.
- 24 April 1/7th Bn(1939-45) Luncheon at the T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, London N8. Assemble 12 noon.
- 7 May Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club Dinner at the Naval and Military Club(IN and OUT), 94 Piccadilly, London W1.
- 8 May Albuhera Service of Remembrance, Regimental Chapel, St Paul's Cathedral, commencing at 2.30 p.m.
Annual Reunion at the Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2, commencing at 6.30 p.m. AGM 7.30 p.m.
- 11 May 9th Bn Officers Club Annual Dinner at the Royal Overseas League, Park Place, St James's St, London SW1. Assemble 12.15 p.m.
- 15 May 2/10th Bn(1914-18) OCA Luncheon at the Victory Services Club, London W2. Assemble 12 noon.

NEWS FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

There are two matters of importance and interest to all Diehards, of which not everybody will be aware yet.

I refer to the retirement of Major Frank Waldron and the demise of the Queen's Regiment to which all our traditions and spirit was handed down some 25 years ago.

Major Frank Waldron will be taking 'early retirement' – at the age of 79 years old!, on Albuhera Day 1993 and handing over the care of the Regimental Association and the Officers' Club to Major Ron Morris as from that date.

Frank Waldron has been our longest serving Regimental Secretary since taking over from Col F. Walden some 21 years ago. He has been an outstandingly effective Secretary and has single-handed (or double-handed as we must include Grace) kept the Association and Officers' Club going – even managing to increase our membership year by year. Without his infectious enthusiasm and expertise coupled with his encyclopaedic knowledge of Regimental history and personalities, we would not be in the strong position we are today.

His successor, Major Ron Morris, was originally an East Surrey, but for many years has been a committed Diehard and regular attendee at our functions. He is well-known to many of us, including to Frank with whom he served as RQMS in 1965, and he was Quartermaster 1 Queens in Berlin. We are fortunate to have him as Frank's successor.

From Queen's Regiment to Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queens and Royal Hamps.)

It is by now general knowledge that in accordance with the Army Board's decision our successor Regiment is to be amalgamated in September 1992 with the Royal Hampshires to form a new Regiment – The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment (Queens and Royal Hamps.)

I was honoured to have been invited, with my wife, to the Farewell Parade and the Final Beating of Retreat by 1 Queens in Minden on Friday and Saturday 29th and 30th May, having been the 3rd C.O. of 1 Queens and the 1st C.O. of the new Bn after it lost its Queens Surreys suffix. The last C.O. is another Diehard Lt Amedee Mieville.

It was a quite exceptional Battalion occasion and was a fitting tribute to its high standards during its 25 years existence. The Colonel of the Regiment, Maj-Gen M.F. Reynolds, CB, took the final salute and ended his Farewell Address to All Ranks by saying "May God forgive those who decided to destroy this fine Regiment, unjustly and un-necessarily, for we who have served in it will never forgive them".

It is, however, now a fact of life and for the sake of our successors who continue to serve in it, it is up to all of us to support our new Regiment. As Diehards we can take comfort from the facts that our Prince of Wales's feathers will remain on the collar dog and Albuhera Day is the new Regimental Day. A later article in this Newsletter will outline all the changes involved.

The newly formed London Regiment of the T.A. will almost certainly, as being supported by the new Regiment, wear its cap badge – The Colonel of the Queen's Regiment has done us all the honour of asking me to be the first Honorary Colonel of the London Regiments Queens (Diehard!) Company based in our old traditional Diehard drill halls at Hornsey and Edgware. So this is further living proof that our Diehard past continues in the future T.A. (Apart from a Queens Company, the new London Regiment will have Companies from the RRF, LIR and London Scottish – making it not only a unique Battalion but also the largest T.A. Bn in existence. So the new Princess of Wales's Regiment is not all bad news for Diehards.

BENEVOLENCE

During the period 1 January to 30 June 1992, the sum of £7595 has been expended on assisting 43 members of the Regiment and their families. The Army Benevolent Fund have contributed £2704, assisting 5 cases with a 'shortfall' in Nursing Home fees.

DONATIONS TO THE CHARITABLE FUND

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

- (a) A donation of £200 from Mr Brian Gostick in memory of his father who died in January last year. His father was a gallant war-time Sapper, but he had been brought up in the Diehard 'areas' of North London and always expressed his great admiration for the Regiment's courage and achievements in the wars of the 20th Century. Brian is a Guide at St Paul's Cathedral and takes a great interest in the Regimental Chapel and keeps an eye on our property. He has been made an Honorary Member of the Regimental Association.
- (b) A donation of £25 from the 1/7th Bn(1939-45) Luncheon Club plus donations from the following members:

Mr R. Bartle, Mr A.J. Briggs, Mr P.J. Cain, Mr D. Cavill, Capt J. Ceaton, Mr E.J. Collier, Capt G.D. Cripps, Mr A.E. Dale, Mr R.E. Dodkins, Mr C. Farebrother, Mr W.J.C. Gardner, Mr W.J. Gould, Mr K. Hazlewood, Mr H.A. Lane, Mr R.J. Lomax, Brig B.H. Marciandi, Mr A. Martin, Mr S.E. Mason, Mr G.T. Moore, Major A.W.F. Peal, Mr T. Price, Mr M.C. Quinn, Mr P.J.F. Stewart, Mr W.R. Stone, Mr M.D. Thomas, Mrs J. Riseley, Major M. Wild.

My apologies to those I have missed out.

FREE NEWSLETTERS

The Editor wishes to thank the 149 members who donated extra subscriptions so that free copies can be sent to deserving old comrades, widows, etc.

DONATIONS

- (a) A donation of £350 was made on 22 May 1992 to the Crimean War Memorial Fund. The regimental inscription on the memorial will read:

57th Regiment (West Middlesex)
77th Regiment (East Middlesex)

A contract has been signed to build the memorial at a fixed price of £15,000 on Cathcart's Hill, Sevastopol. Approximately 23,000 British soldiers were killed and buried in the Crimea area. All regiments who took part in the Crimea 1854-56 will be mentioned on the memorial.

- (b) A donation of £100 to the Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot, to assist with the purchase of Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy Apparatus.
- (c) A donation of £100 to the Friends of St Paul's Cathedral. This is in addition to the £25 a year standing order.
- (d) A donation of £50 to the Alanbrooke Memorial Appeal Fund.
- (e) A donation of £500 to the Mx and North West Sector Army Cadet Force.

OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER

The annual dinner was held at the Naval and Military Club (IN and OUT), 94 Piccadilly, London W1, on Friday 8 May 1992. Lt-Col T.W. Chattey presided.

The following attended:

Official Guests: Maj-Gen and Mrs M.F. Reynolds, Colonel The Queen's Regiment, Major C.J. Bellingham, The Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers), Mr Ian C. Robertson, Director National Army Museum, Major P.R. Bateman, Assistant Director National Army Museum, The Rev and Mrs W.E.B. Jones, Mrs Ana Bennett, Miss Jean Bower, Mrs Ann Cotton, Mrs Effie Ellis, Mrs Andy Hutchings, Mrs Doris Pike, Mrs Christine Pollard.

Members and Private Guests: Lt-Col and Mrs T.W. Chattey, Brig and Mrs B.A.M. Pielow, Brig B.H. Marciandi, Brig and Mrs D.B. Rendell, Col M.J. Ball, Col I.R. Burrows and Miss B. Colley, Col and Mrs R.M. Cain, Col and Mrs A.S.J. de S. Clayton, Col R.H. Graham, Col A.M. Man and Mrs P. Argles, Col H.J.A. Moore, Lt-Col and Mrs B.A. Carlston, Lt-Col and Mrs C.N. Clayden, Lt-Col and Mrs M.F. Deaking, Lt-Col and Mrs J.M. Hewson, Major A.B. Carter, Major and Mrs P.D.J. Clarke, Lt J.P.A. Day, Capt and Mrs M.J.S. Doran, Major S.M. Dowse, Capt and Mrs G.R. Fox, Capt and Mrs R.M. Fox, Major D.M. Falcke, Major F.K. Gladden, Major and Mrs D. Harwood, Major and Mrs S.L.J. Henshaw, Major J.D. Jonklaas, Major and Mrs C.L. Lawrence, Major and Mrs A.E. McManus, Major and Mrs R.E. Morris, Capt and Mrs K.D. Murray, Major and Mrs A.E.F. Waldron.

Apologies were received from: Col I.H. Battye, Major J.G. Chiverall, Major P. Collins, Major H.E. Couch, Major W.G.A. Crumley, Capt S. le M. Enthoven, Lt-Col R.D. Fisher, Lt-Col P.W. Galvin, Capt A.I.F. Goldman, Capt P.J.T. Lane, Major I.M.E. Lloyd, Major A.C. Lowrie, Major P.D.H. Marshall, Major B. St G.A. Reed, Col J.N. Shipster.

Colonel Gray proposed the loyal toast and a short informal speech was made by D.E. Dowlen, the Lunch Secretary, during which he read the text of a loyal message which had been sent to Her Majesty the Queen, and Her Majesty's reply.

He advised with regret the passing of Brig G.R. Mockler, the only departure during the preceding twelve months and proposed a toast to 'Absent Friends' to which all raised their glasses.

The following officers being unable to attend had sent their apologies and best wishes to all for a successful occasion: F.R. Bunn, H.G. Hansen, W.D. Hiddleston, R. Hughes, E.C.M. Palmer, H.C. Sanderson, J.K.E. Slack, R. Wheatley.

There was again a very good turnout, it being the third year in succession that 17 officers had attended. During the lunch John Doyle once again composed a 'ditty' which he recited. It is reproduced at the end of this report.

Brig Pielow explained the present situation with regard to the proposed merger of the Queens Regiment and the Hampshire Regiment and said that inevitably it would mean further contraction and sharing of facilities, although each Regiment would retain some identity within the whole. He also announced that Frank Waldron would shortly be retiring – he was already well past retirement age! but would be much missed. Those present wished Frank a happy retirement.

Colonel Gray thanked David Dowlen for arranging such a pleasant lunch and his efforts were much appreciated by all.

Next year's lunch has been booked for Tuesday 11 May 1993, and all are asked to make a special note of the date as there will be no further reminder until the usual notice is sent out next Spring.

D.E.D.

John Doyle's Ditty – 12/5/92

Our guest, Brigadier Tony, has
Accomplishments which quite amaze.
With fluency he's known to speak
Serbo-Croat – and, in earlier days,
He soothed a Serbian Major who,
En route to Camberley did say,
'Sir, how do I describe my role?'
Tony said without delay,
'Aver another bloody gunner!!'

How splendid that, despite our years,
We muster here nineteen strong;
In cheerful company – no tears –
All Diehards with credentials odd.
To D.B., pater familias,
David, who's planned this re-union,
Our heart-felt gratitude is due.
We make a gathering and one
Of whitish hair but hearts quite young,
Which we'll renew, hopefully,
In May of nineteen ninety three –
When we will one year older be!

POST SCRIPT:

To Frank, taking retirement early,
Our best wishes for years to come.
May all your days be find and pearly –
Of your career the very sum!

J.R.D.

KOREAN CLUB

The annual reunion of the Korean Club will take place on Saturday 12 September 1992, commencing at 7 p.m.

Members and their ladies of the Regimental Association and associated branches are most welcome. The price of a ticket is £11 per person and can be obtained by writing to Syd Webb, 169 Rising Grove, Laindon, Basildon, Essex SS15 5NP. Make cheques payable to Korean Club. The price of the ticket includes a hot buffet meal and a 'live' band to entertain you during the evening.

It is proposed to go ahead with the trip to Korea in September 1993. The late Capt Patrick Pielou had undertaken to organise the tour on our behalf with the travel company 'Magic of the Orient'. Following his sad passing last April, the Secretary of the Korean Club has agreed to co-operate with the travel company. Any member of the Regimental Association is welcome to join the proposed tour and you should get in touch with J.A.(Tony) Lofts, 55 Westhurst Drive, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 7HS, who will be delighted to hear from you.

Tony Lofts has now left his employment with Austin Reed on the strong recommendation of his doctor. His back shows considerable degeneration due to Osteoarthritis and the continued hours of standing obviously did not agree with him. He hopes to obtain some part-time and less tedious work through the Corps of Commissionaires.

THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

For some considerable time the future in both the short and long term of the Middlesex Regiment Museum in Bruce Castle, Tottenham, has been a matter of much concern and anxiety to its Trustees. The principle reasons are that very shortly there will be no regimental representative available to visit the museum on a reasonably regular basis and so ensure the proper supervision of the collection of regimental memorabilia and archives. The position has now been reached that the Trustees are unable to provide a curator, and therefore the museum if bereft of any regimental representation whatsoever. Resulting from this situation the Trustees decided that the only way of securing the preservation of our relics in perpetuity would be to invite the National Army Museum, who have an obligation under its Royal Charter for the preservation and display of memorabilia of disbanded or amalgamated regiments, to take over the care and custody of the regimental collection in its entirety and we are very pleased to say that the Director, with the consent of the Council for the National Army Museum, has now agreed to do so. Haringey Council, who have generously provided accommodation for the Middlesex Regimental Museum in Bruce Castle for the past 22 years, have been most sympathetic and understanding of our reasons for leaving Bruce Castle.

Consequently arrangements are now in hand for the progressive removal and transfer of the entire regimental collection to the National Army Museum in Chelsea. This operation is being undertaken under the direction of the N.A.M. and the final date of evacuation from Bruce Castle will be 19 August 1992.

It means of course, that our Regimental Museum will cease to exist as such and the regimental collection may never be on display as a complete entity, but specific items and even showcases complete with regimental memorabilia will be on show from time to time at the discretion of the N.A.M. It means also that the precious relics of our regimental history will be maintained and preserved to the highest professional standards.

Besides having a formal interest in our Regimental Museum, the Director of the N.A.M., Ian Robertson, Esq., MA, FMA, also has a personal interest which comes from the fact that his paternal grandfather was the Regimental Bandmaster at the end of the last century, his uncle was Captain Albert Toye who won the Victoria Cross with our 2nd Battalion in France in 1918, and Ian himself served out his National Service with our 7th Battalion in the late 1950's and early 1960's. So there can be no doubt whatsoever that the regimental collection is being transferred to very caring hands.

To mark the re-location of the Middlesex Regimental collection at the NAM, the Director and his staff arranged a special reception in the Art Gallery of the Museum on Albuhera Day, 16th May this year. The Trustees and twenty three members of our Old Comrades Association representing all ranks of the battalions of the Regiment and branches of our Association attended and were entertained to a first rate buffet luncheon. The Director gave a most excellent address fully explaining his intentions and visions for the future of our various relics which convinced everyone that the memory of the Middlesex Regiment will continue for many years, and was a complete reassurance of the decisions taken by the Trustees and the arrangements which have been jointly undertaken with the NAM. Perhaps the outstanding event of the day was to see the

Regimental Flag flying proudly from a specially made flagpole erected at the main entrance to the NAM – see cover photograph. Ian Robertson has reiterated his intention that the Flag is to be flown on every future Albuhera Day in recognition of this historic day in our Regimental calendar and now this very important occasion.

The completion of this transfer will be reported fully in the next issue of the Newsletter, following which we hope that as many Diehards as possible will make special efforts to visit the NAM in Chelsea. The Museum is open 7 days a week, admission is free, and there are first class cafeteria and restaurant facilities.

2/10TH BN THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DCO) 1914-18

The 64th Annual Luncheon of the 2/10th Battalion Old Comrades Association was held at the Victory Services Club, London, W2 on Saturday, 2 May. This commemorated the 75th anniversary of the 1st and 2nd Battles of Gaza in March and April, 1917. Mr A.D. Scudamore presided and Lt Col T.W. Chattey was principal guest. Others attending were Capt. David Hawkins, Brig. B.A.M. Pielow, Major A.E.F. Waldron, G. Jales, F. Malthouse, C. Stephems, L. Anderton, J. Durrant, F.A. Thomas, G. Fordham, R. Fordham, S. Collingwood, J. Barrett and L.F. Loomes. Apologies for absence were received from Col. A.S.J. de S. Clayton and The Revd. Patrick Tuft (Hon. Chaplain).

The Nominal Roll of the OCA now contains the names of only two original members of the Battalion, Major C.V. Sharman, MBE ('Joe') having died on 16 October 1991, aged 97.

Our customary Remembrance Service will be held at St. Nicholas Church, Chiswick at 3 p.m. on Sunday, 8th November next and all Friends of the 2/10th will be most welcome; this applies especially to MEMBERS OF THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION WHO IN PAST YEARS HAVE ATTENDED THE REMEMBRANCE SERVICE ORIGINALLY HELD AT Inglis Barracks.



L / R. Lt.Col. T.W. Chattey, Mr A.D. Scudamore, Capt. D.A. Hawkins

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The following items have been presented to the Regimental Museum:

Medals of Private W.E. Grice, consisting of 1939-45 Star, Italy Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939-45. Presented by his widow Mrs M. Grice.

Medals of WO1 H. Graves (4487), consisting of: 1914 Star, British War Medal 1914-19, Victory Medal 1914-19, Meritorious Service Medal, Long Service & Good Conduct Medal KGV, Greek Military Cross 3rd Class, Two Mentions in Despatches 1915 and 1919, plus photographs and service documents. Presented by his daughter: Mrs P. Chaplin, 15 Upper Mill Field, Dunmow, Essex.

The following Chad Magazines of the 2nd Bn have been presented to the Regimental Museum:

Volume 1, No. 1 December 1945, No. 2 January 1946, No. 3 March 1946, No. 4 May 1946, No. 5 August 1946. Presented by former Sgt E.E. Bugden.

The following article was published in the June issue of the Journal of The Queen's Regiment and is repeated in the Diehards Newsletter with the full permission of Regimental Headquarters.

THE AMALGAMATION

A summary of decisions on the new Regiment is given below. These include agreements by the Colonels of both Regiments or their representatives on the Joint Amalgamation Committee, although certain points still await Royal Approval or other final clearance.

HIERARCHY

The Princess of Wales is to be the Colonel in Chief. Queen Margrethe is to be Allied Colonel in Chief. Maj Gen Anthony Denison-Smith MBE late Grenadier Guards, is to be Colonel of the Regiment, subject to approval by Her Majesty. There will be five Deputy Colonels, one for each County.

AMALGAMATION DAY

9th September 1992. (Salerno Day).

VESTING DAY (When the Colonel in Chief inspects her new Regiment)

Undecided but likely to be Spring 1993.

STRUCTURE

REGULAR – Two regular battalions comprising 25% of each of the existing four battalions. The 1st Battalion will form in Colchester and the 2nd Battalion in Canterbury. In addition we shall have one extra company badged PWRR which will be attached to 1 DERR for 18 months and two extra platoons badged PWRR attached to 1 RS and 1 RWF for 9 months.

TA – 5th (V) Battalion: HQ remains at Canterbury; HQ Coy in Dover; Rifle Coys in Guildford/Hounslow/Cobham, Hastings/Seaford and Gillingham/Maidstone. 6th/7th (V) Battalion: HQ remains Horsham; HQ Coy in Crawley/Haywards Heath; Rifle coys in Farnham/Camberley, Brighton/Worthing and Portsmouth/Isle of Wight. B Coy, 8th Queen's Fusiliers will be one of the four rifle companies of the new London Regiment. It will be known as 'Queen's' Company and remain in Edgware/Hornsey. The other companies will be in the old Queen's Drill Hall, Camberwell.

RHQ – The RHQ of the new Regiment will be in Canterbury with an area office in Winchester.

HOME – As well as having RHQ and HQ 5 PWRR(V) in Canterbury, it is hoped that our 'home based'

regular battalion will normally be in Howe Barracks. This still has to be approved but has the backing of the Director of Infantry.

ACCOUTREMENTS & DRESS

CAP BADGE – The present Queen's Regiment Cap Badge with a Rose inserted beneath the Tudor Dragon and the scroll to show 'Princess of Wales's' instead of 'Queen's'. In bronze on the beret and in No 2 Dress hats.

COLLAR BADGE – The present Collar Badge of The Queen's Regiment. In bronze on SD.

BUTTON – The present Button of The Queen's Regiment. In bronze on SD.

SLEEVE BADGE – An embroidered Tiger in Yellow on a Blue background to be worn on the Left sleeve between the shoulder and elbow.

OFFICERS' RANK BADGES – Eversleigh style.

SAM BROWNE – Dark brown with whistle.

LANYARDS – Current 1st Battalion type for officers and WOs; 2nd Battalion type for other ranks.

NCO BADGES OF RANK – Blue backing.

SHOULDER TITLES – Metal bronze on jerseys.

BERET – Khaki (infantry), with blue and mustard yellow backing to the badge. Blue and mustard yellow will be the Regimental colours.

REGIMENTAL MARCHES

QUICK – Introduction 'Farmer's Boy', leading into 'Soldiers of the Queen' to which we will march past.

SLOW – 'Minden Rose'.

BANDS

Not yet decided by the Army Board. We will have either one large band of 41 or two smaller regular bands. It is hoped that we will keep the Kohima (Volunteer) Band.

REGIMENTAL DAYS

The Main days will be Albuhera, Minden, Sobraon and Gallipoli. Special Orders of the Day will be published on all other days presently recognised by both Regiments.

AFFILIATIONS & ALLIANCES

We are inviting all those with whom we are associated and who wish to become associated with the new Regiment, to do so. The Haberdashers have already said they do.

CADET FORCES

They will remain affiliated, change their names and wear PWRR badges and uniform.

TRADITIONS AND PRACTICES

LOYAL TOAST – Sitting and carried out individually. Queen Margrethe and the Colonel in Chief will be toasted seated.

ALBUHERA DAY – The Silent Toast ceremony will be performed in accordance with custom.

THIRD COLOUR – To remain with the 1st Battalion.

SOBRAON DAY – The Regimental Colour will be lodged in the WOs & Sgts's Mess.

CORUNNA MAJORS – Will be toasted in the Officers' Messes of all Battalions.

SALT CEREMONY – Will be offered in accordance with custom at Officers' Mess Dinners.

MINDEN DAY – The tradition of wearing Roses will be followed.

COMPANY NAMES – **1st Battalion:** HQ, A, B, C and Y (Fire Support). (In honour of Gallipoli) **2nd Battalion:** HQ, A, B, C and Z (Fire Support). (In honour of Gallipoli) **5th Battalion:** HQ (Albuhera), A (Anzio), B (Kohima), C (Cinque Ports), **6th/7th Battalion:** HQ (Alamein), A (Salerno), B (Somme), C (Duke of Connaught's Own). **London Regiment:** B (Queen's) Company – nicknamed 'Diehards'.

THE COLOURS/COLOUR BELTS/BATTLE HONOURS/DRUMS

A sub committee, consisting of both Regimental Secretaries, is to make recommendations. In this respect, it is hoped that the badges of all of our forbear Regiments will be perpetuated, either on the Colours, or on the Drums, or in the form of Pennants/Guidons to be held in Battalions, or by a combination of all three methods.

THE MEDENINE ANTI-TANK GUN

This famous gun, presently at Bassingbourn, will be moved to Canterbury.

THE DOVER MUSEUM

Will continue and be the museum of the new Regiment.

QUEEN'S REGIMENT ASSOCIATION AND OFFICERS' CLUB & JOURNAL

A letter about the future will come out with the next Journal in June. The last Queen's Journal will be published in the late autumn and the first Journal of the new Regiment in June 1993.

FINAL PARADES/REUNIONS (QUEEN'S REGIMENT)

The 1st and 3rd Battalions held final parades in May and June respectively. The 2nd Battalion had a Reunion for all ex members on 10 May. The TA Battalions have yet to announce their intentions. The 1st 'Grand Reunion' will be on 5 July. The last 'Past and Present' WOs & Sgts Dinner will be on 10 October and the last Officers' Club Dinner will be on 20th November. Further details will be sent to those affected.

SILVER/CHATTELS

A sub committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Col Mike Ball. He will co-opt members of all Regiments. One complete pack of silver and pictures is to be retained in case we ever have to raise a third battalion. Surpluses can be passed to the TA battalions, WOs & Sgts' Messes and, on loan, to the original Trustees.

RECRUITING AREA AND COUNTY CONNECTIONS

The recruiting area of the new Regiment will be Surrey, Kent, Sussex, Hampshire, Middlesex and Greater London. The Colonel of the Regiment has written to all Lord Lieutenants, High Sheriffs, Lord Mayors and Mayors pointing out that the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment will be their County infantry regiment, with all that implies.

ALBUHERA REVISITED

Members of the Hounslow Branch decided that those who could would again make the pilgrimage to Albuhera to be present on 16 May for the commemoration parade. Plans were then set in place to advise the Mayor of our intentions and to write to Mariano Sanchez Quinters who very kindly provides the necessary accommodation, but no meals. The final roll call of members who were prepared to attend was seven which gave rise to some worry as we knew that the maximum that Mariano could accommodate was six. An airmail



Jim Wells lays Poppy Posie on Obelisk



Hounslow Branch on the Ridge
Messrs. T. Wells, J. Raby, Richardson, L. Wells, E. Platt, Lewis



New Memorials at each end of Albuera Village



Spanish Bn marching on to Square for Parade

letter was hastily despatched and with hope eternal the road party of Sid Wells, Ernie Platt and Mick Ward left Portsmouth for Caen on Sunday 10th May complete with trailer containing a much improved set of kit to sustain the party's needs once we reached Albuhera.

The air party of George Lewis, John Raby, Alan Richardson and Jim Wells left London Airport on Thursday 14 May to eventually travel up by road from Lisbon. This year the air party arrived first, no divine intervention this year, experienced a slight hitch in that accommodation was only available for two persons. This caused some consternation and recriminations for the planners. However, all was well, accommodation was available in the new hotel which has been opened in Albuhera for the other two. After the usual pantomime of sign language and the limited Spanish amongst the air party, it was ascertained that beds for seven would be available from Friday evening, as the guests who were staying would be gone on the morning of the morrow. As the road party were running late due to problems with the trailer, this would not upset matters and Mariano put us up. By the afternoon of Friday 15 May the whole contingent had arrived and were settled into the accommodation and prepared for Saturday's ceremonies, the relevant details having been obtained from the Adjutant of the Spanish Bn who were to take part in the parade.

Saturday dawned hot and we moved off to the town square where the Spanish regiment and their Band, the local and international dignitaries, priests and town band and population of Albuhera were present; we were placed in position by the Town Clerk, and were introduced to Colonel R. Gamble, Greenjackets, The British Military Attache, who was present this year and who was most surprised to meet a party of Diehards. The usual routine was then followed of a Church Service, speeches by the dignitaries local and international and a wreath laid on behalf of each of the combatants in the battle, Britain, Spain, Portugal and France. The bearing of the Spanish Bn, who responded to all drill movements by bugle, and who were one of Zaya's Spanish Bns which took part in the battle, was exemplary. We then moved on to unveil new memorials at each end of the village and to open a new museum, which was followed by a Civic dinner to which we were invited at the Hostal Lopez. This continued to nearly seven o'clock where the wine flowed freely and many new friends made. During the dinner we assured the Spanish Colonel that it was not the 57th that fired into the rear of the Spanish Bns, of whom Beresford said "They did not even unto the end break their line or quit the field" the losses amongst them being 30%, but the 29th Regiment of Foot in Houghton's Brigade who committed the misdemeanour. He was suitably convinced he said after seeing our bearing in the town square. In the evening a bullfight was held to commemorate the battle, which was attended by only four members of the Branch, the others not being partial to Blood Sports.

Saturday dawned even later than the previous day, and as the temperature was 98 degrees, the party, on sound local advice, remained close to their accommodation and sought the shade. In the evening we planned to lay a Poppy Posie on the obelisk on the ridge, drink the Silent Toast and have dinner in the Bar Nuovo. Here Pedro the owner presented each of us with a glass and lighter, each of which were inscribed Albuhera 1992. Thus our plans had been brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

On Monday morning the party broke up to go their separate ways; the Air party back to London via Lisbon, the road party across Spain, Andorra and France where they visited the areas of the Regiments actions in World War Two. This revived nostalgic memories for Sid Wells and Ernie Platt. They returned to Portsmouth on Sunday evening aboard the new cross channel ferry 'Normandie'.

It is the intention of the Branch that we shall return again next year, if only to win a bet with the Town Treasurer that we shall be speaking Spanish - we have our doubts about his ability to learn English.

Mick Ward

NORMANDY - 48 YEARS ON

(by Sgt Richard Harrison, Signal Section, 2nd Bn The Middlesex Regiment (DCO))

Along with my wife, stepson and his wife and daughter, we sailed from Poole to Cherbourg for the D-Day ceremonies - it was at Poole that I joined the 2nd Bn Middlesex in 1940 after their return from Dunkirk. We passed within a mile or two of Ringwood and Wimborne Minster which brought back many memories. The sea crossing was about 4½ hours and then a 70 mile car journey from Cherbourg to Ouistreham where we stayed for four nights, and which was close to where we landed in 1944.

5 June - Our first visit was to Hermanville where we visited the graves of CSM Norman Bell and Sgt Les Horris; from there to Lion-sur-Mer and on to Arromanches where the remains of the Mulberry Harbour are still

visible. We then visited Pegasus Bridge and the very interesting museum which is adjacent to the bridge.

6 June - We visited the church at Ouistreham where a stained glass window has been erected with the cap badges of the regiments who landed in that area were displayed - was pleased to see our badge was featured. In the afternoon we visited the cemetery at Cambes-en-Plaine and met, by arrangement, with Mrs Joan McDowell, widow of the late Captain Leonard McDowell. In addition to visiting Mac's grave, we also visited the graves of Major Edmund Passy, Cpl Ted Green, L/Cpl Rees and Pte V. Baker who were all killed on 9 June, 1944. It was also on that day that Norman Bell and I were wounded, Norman Bell later dying from his wounds.

In the evening we attended the 3rd Division War Memorial which is situated just off the beach near to Hermanville, for a parade and ceremony at Hermanville cemetery. The parade to the cemetery was about 1.3 miles and armed with a couple of pain killers and a pill for my arthritis I was determined to do the march - I made it, just! The parade was led by a French band followed by Standard Bearers from France and the U.K. and about 80 to 100 former members of the 3rd Division. The Major-General commanding the 3rd Division was leading along with most of his senior Officers. A short ceremony took place at the Cemetery which concluded with a march from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders playing 'Amazing Grace' and leading about 40 school children carrying posies of flowers which were placed on each grave. I am not ashamed to admit that this was very touching and brought tears from many of us. I am sorry to say that I was the only former member of the 2nd Bn Middlesex present. The evening concluded with a visit to the Memorial Hall where we were all served with champagne.

7 June - We visited Ranville cemetery where a detachment of No. 4 Commandos held a short ceremony along with a bugler from the Royal Marines. There were several graves of former members of the Middlesex Regiment, but have to say that they were not known to me. In the evening we had a very enjoyable meal with Mrs Joan McDowell at the hotel in which she was staying just outside Caen.

8 June - We started our journey back to Cherbourg visiting Bayeaux and the best war museum I have ever visited. It is a purpose built museum complete with a cinema showing the preparations for the invasion, the sea crossing and the campaign through Normandy - it was well worth a visit. We then visited the American sector - I certainly would not like to have scaled the cliffs as many of the Americans had to do.

It was a wonderful few days with some laughter, some tears, and lots of memories. I hope to go again in 2 year's time for the 50th anniversary when it would be great to meet former members of the 2nd Bn. How about it chaps?

Should anyone require any information I can be contacted at:- 7 Glyndale Drive, Newby, Scarborough, N. Yorks. YO12 5SQ.

ALBUHERA DAY

The Regimental Flag flew from the following locations on Albuhera Day:

The Depot, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill.

The National Army Museum.

The Civic Centre, Enfield.

The Church Flag Pole at Codford St Peter, Warminster, in memory of the late Major General Sir John Willoughby, KBE, CB.

OFFICER REDUNDANCIES

The following former members of the Middlesex Regiment now serving with The Queen's Regiment have been selected for Phase 1 redundancy:-

Colonel R H Graham, MBE
Lt-Col(SL) B A Carlston, MBE
Major R A Bartlett
Major M B Montgomery

ENFIELD BRANCH

On 30 April 1992 a new branch of the Regimental Association was formed at Enfield. The Branch will meet at the British Rail Social Club, Holtwhite Hill, Enfield, at 7.15 p.m. on the last Thursday of each month.

The committee will be as follows:

Chairman	Capt A. McManus, ACF
Vice Chairman	Mr R.J. Cubitt
Secretary	Mr J. Warner
Treasurer	Mr R. Beall

All communications to Mr J. Warner, 2 Albuhera Close, Enfield, Mx EN2 8NR. Tel. 081 367 0737.

PERSONAL JOTTINGS

Capt Ken Beale sends his best wishes to everyone and his regrets for non-attendance at the reunion owing to a business convention in Portugal.

Alf Blake (6203553), former member of B Company 1st Bn in 1941, and a friend of Len Hipgrave, writes his annual letter when sending in his subscription. He is still attending hospital for chest and leg troubles. He says 'not to worry' I am still alive.

A letter from Cpl T.F. Boreham reminding me of his happy days as QM Storeman at Zeltweg, and he also said I will remember you on your push bike getting round the aircraft hangars at great speed.

Tony Briggs, Signals HQ Company, having been made redundant as civilian transport officer Berlin has been offered and accepted a Security Officers job at the Combined Berlin Infantry Brigade HQ and British Embassy Berlin office at the Olympic Stadium. He is a happy man.

Good to hear from Pat Cain (6200720) who will be remembered by members of the pre-war 2nd Bn.

Capt Jim Ceaton keeps in touch but is very elusive. He is always on the move, Australia, Florida, Malta, Glsow and he likes to travel on cargo boats.

Ex WO1 Geoff Cherry, R.E. Postal Section, Mill Hill, sends his greetings to all Diehards via Frank Dickinson. Geoff is now unfortunately both a widower and confined to a wheel chair with Multiple Sclerosis. Geoff will be remembered by those members of the WOs & Sgts Mess who were at Mill Hill during the time of the combined occupation of both units. Frank passes his copy of the Newsletter to Geoff Cherry - a very kind gesture.

Col Aymar and Barbie Clayton have recently visited Rome and the French Pyrenees and also found time on a recent R.B.L. visit to the Royal Hospital Chelsea to talk to Sgt Mutt Hazlewood, our only Chelsea Pensioner. He is confined to the Infirmary owing to his legs no longer being able to carry him. I saw him about a month ago and he was very pleased to have a visit from Colonel Aymar. He then strolled down the road and looked in at the National Army Museum.

Our very best wishes to Major Bob Cooper, MBE, 93 years in August, who served with our 2nd Bn 1917-19. Bob and his wife have had to move into a Residential Home in Llandeilo, S. Wales.

I was very pleased to hear from Cyril Cox (6200934), FEPOW 1st Bn, Shamshupo Camp. He lives at Hemel Hempstead, and will be 82 years in August, and can still manage a bit of gardening.

Capt George Cripps and his wife, Terry, returned in time from their trip to Australia to attend the annual reunion. He also visited Hong Kong and Singapore. Whilst in Adelaide with his brother he was able to make contact with Sheila Williamson, widow of CSM Bill Williamson. Sheila is a member of the Regimental Assn. George has moved again - definitely the last time he says - now in Abergele, Clwyd.

Mr T.H. Davis (6205807), A & C Coys 2/7th Bn, recently received a hip replacement and hopes to have another soon. He sends his best wishes to all members of the R.A.

The son of CSgt and Mrs Pat Dive passed out at Sandhurst on 10 April 1992, having successfully completed Standard Graduate Course No. 913 and was granted a commission in the Adjutant General Corps. Our sincere congratulations and may he have a very successful career.

Best wishes to Colonel Rex Fendick a Canloan Officer with the 2nd Bn 1944-45. My apologies for not replying to your letter earlier this year but I have not forgotten.

Former CSgt R.D. Furlotte has moved from Lowestoft to Gravesend and is now working for the Home Office as a Carpenter and Joiner and Locksmith.

Mr P.E. Gates (22950093) C Coy 1st Bn, 1953-58 writes to inform me that whilst working in a factory in Adelaide he discovered another Diehard working in another Department. His name was Mick Woodley, a KSLLI who fought with the 1st Bn in Korea.

John Girdler (24128958) who was severely wounded in N. Ireland in 1971 sends regards to all his grades. He lives in Belfast and is in receipt of a 100% disability pension. John is a collector of Middlesex Memorabilia and requires one brass Middlesex Title. I have sent him one, can someone please help him with the second.

Colonel Tony Hewitt writes from Buderin, Queensland, and tells me that he attended the 50th anniversary of the Fall of Singapore, on 15 February 1942. Like 1942, the 15th is also Chinese New Year, the year of the Monkey. 1942 was the Horse. He wished to pay homage to all those thousands who suffered and died, and in particular to Capt Noel Gudgeon, a Diehard mate at Sandhurst and in C Company 1st Bn with Tony for two years. Sadly he died working on the Burma Railway in June 1943, a terrible loss of a fine man.

Len Hipgrave (6202976) former member of B Company 1st Bn in 1941, has recently had two spells in hospital and the doctors are considering a possible operation. Good luck Len and watch your vital parts. The body these days is like an old car!

Mrs Nora Holdford has moved into Newbury Town having decided that country life is for the youngsters. She has a nice little bungalow with Newbury Sheltered Housing. The two daughters and her son have all done well and have good jobs. Charlie would be very pleased.

I am now in touch with Bandsman G.S. Holt (6197007) who served from 1925 to 1946 and was a member of the Band of the 2nd Bn at the same time as the late Major Dick Smith. He is now 86 and manages quite well with the aid of his home help.

Our old friend Jacko Jaques writes in to say how sorry he is to be unable to attend the reunion. As we all know he was a great character and loved to enjoy a pint, but alas no more. He is now 80 and health problems preclude his attendance. He sends his regards to all his old pals especially Pat Tom and Jimmy.

Former Cpl John Kirkpatrick a Carpenter who ran the QM Pioneers Section and saved the Bns many pounds by doing all the repairs prior to a handover, informs me that the Friends of Middlesex arranged for the County Flag to fly at the Civic Centre, Uxbridge, on Saturday 16 May 1992, in memory of the 1st Bn at the Fall of Hong Kong. Very much appreciated by all of us who served with the Bn.

Both Richard Lawford and Ted Lockyer, 9th Bn, keep in regular touch with me, and Richard has just moved for the 9th time – five times in the Watton area. Arrangements are in hand to have wheels placed under the latest house. Ted is a regular user of the Middlesex crested whisky tumbler – he has broken two so obviously he is using the tumbler regularly.

Former Drummer Arthur Lewin (6194549) now a month short of reaching 86 years, recently visited on behalf of the Regtl Assn Mr G.F. Deepprose, 93 years of age, living in Hastings, who served with our 4/7th Bn 1915-19.

Les Loomes has completed a book containing the names of all members of the Regiment who have been awarded the Military Medal since its institution in 1916. Copies are available from Les at £10 each (incl postage and packing). It is a very good publication and involved a lot of research.

Jock MacKenzie well known to many Diehards, retired during April 1992 after 46 years with the militia 24 years a Diehard, and 22 years working for the M.O.D., which included 11 years with the T.A. It was good to see him and his wife at the reunion.

A regular correspondent is Mrs Rosie Makewell, widow of CSM Sonny Makewell. She is still attending hospital for treatment and gets depressed, but her daughter lives nearby and is obviously a great help. Rosie has a very good memory and is a great source of information about the elder members of the Regiment.

Capt F.A. McConaghy has at last joined the Regt Assn. Mac was the other Canloan Officer who served with the 2nd Bn 1944-45. Rex Fendick gave him a little encouragement!

Mr R.S. McNeil, now 86, and a former member of the Portsmouth Branch, recently suffered a slight heart attack and also a spell in hospital for a double hernia operation. He sends his best regards to all his old friends. He still lives in Gosport but is in sheltered accommodation.

Drummer E.J. Milnes (19189231) who served with the 2nd Bn in Palestine 1947-48 sent me a photograph of the Corps of Drums. At that time the Drum Major was Wag Hamlin.

Mrs Pat Newman, widow of Major Percy Newman, finds great difficulty in walking and can only hobble with a stick. She also suffers from severe pains in her legs and knees. She is now 86 and as usual sends her sincere regards to all Diehards which we heartily reciprocate.

Eric Paris, 2nd Bn and 2/7th Bn had a period in hospital recently but he is now back home recovering.

A letter from Alf Parrott (6196352) now 84 years, tells me that his asthma is not improving and his movements are restricted. His grandson is Major K.S. Hames, who has just returned to Canterbury with the 3rd Bn Queens.

Bill Phillips writes from New Zealand to send his best wishes to Major David Fettes in South Africa. Bill was a Cpl in the Company of the 1/7th Bn that he commanded 1939-45.

Roy Smart (6217142) ex Diehard, continues his medal Valeting service. He provides a first class service – medals cleaned, re-ribboned and mounted ready to wear. Full size replacement medals available plus miniatures and medal holders. Ribbons for foreign awards also stocked. Apply to Roy Smart, 39 Mount Lane, Kirkby-La-Thorpe, Lincolnshire NG34 9NR. Tel. 0529 304236.

Billy Stagg (6200325) writes to tell me he has joined the Lancastria Association and went to a reunion, but did not find any members of the regiment who survived the sinking.

Former Sgt Bruce Tarry is having a rough time. He recently had his gall bladder removed and is now confined to his bed with liver trouble. Get well soon we are all rooting for you.

Another correspondent is Bill Thompson MM, now 98 years of age, who served with our 19th Bn 1918-19. He lives in Dunnington, Yorkshire, and attends many local functions.

The following have joined the Regimental Association:

Private R.O. Ayliffe (23534889), served 1958-64, HQ & A Coy 1st Bn.

Sergeant E.E. Bugden (6216172), served 1941-46, 70(YS) Bn Mx, 9th Para and 2nd Bn.

LCpl R. Cox (22803363), served 1956-64, HQ Coy(Band) 1st Bn.

Private S.J. Cutter (6216211). served 1941-46, MGTC Chester, 70(YS) Bn Mx and 1 PLK.

Private G.F. Deepprose (4632), served 1915-28, 4th & 7th Bns.

Cpl J.L.E. Denning (229286??), served 1953-??, S Coy 1st Bn.

Sergeant J.H. Dorrington (60453), served 1916-20, 12th & 20th Bns.

LCpl P.G. Edwards (24070884), served 1965-72, A Coy 1st Bn & 4th & 1st Queens.

Private D.N. Ford (14797755), served 1944-48, 1/7th Bn & B Coy 1st Bn.

Private R.G. Going (6213494), served 1940-46, D Coy 1st Bn & FEPOW.

Sergeant W. Hosker (14671603), served 1943-47, Cheshire Regt until 1944 & then 1/8th Bn Mx.

Private A. Howe (6202356), served 1935-43, 1st Bn 1936-41 & invalided to UK.

Private G.E. Howe (14525865), served 1943-47, C Coy 1/7th Bn.

Cpl R.B. Hutchins (24088276), served 1966-71, A Coy 1st Bn & 4 Queens. Can any member give him the address of LCpl John Foster?

Private F.L. Knight (14407923), served 1942-47, D Coy 8th Bn and at Small Arms School.

Cpl R.A. Mason (14648419), served 1943-47, B & D Coys 1st Bn (2/8th).

Private M.J. Mulvaney (22187780), served 1949-51, B Coy 1st Bn (Korea).

Driver F.G. Stone (6209464), served 1940-46, C Coy 70(YS) Bn Mx & RASC.

SSI H.L. Trundell (6202623), served 1935-46, B Coy 1/7th Bn & APTC.

Sgt J.P. Vaughan (23083574), served 1954-62, D (HQ Coys 1 Bn and to SAS Nov 56.

LCpl L.F. Wright (6200316), served 1931-47, HQ & B Coy 1st & 2nd Bns.

OBITUARIES

BARBER – 29 June 1991, Private Frederick Barber (6209993), aged 72 years.

He enlisted on 16 October 1939 and served with the 1/7th Bn in the Middle East. The last two years of his service was with the Middle East Training Depot as a motor cycle fitter. He was discharged May 1946.

BARNET – On 12 January 1992, Private William Barnett (6209414), aged 73 years.

Bill Barnett served with 6 Platoon, A Company 1/7th Bn. He was a driver.

BELL – On 15 May 1992, Private Albert Douglas Bell (6202118), aged 76 years.

He enlisted during January 1935 and after recruit training was posted to the 2nd Bn. In March 1936 he joined the 1st Bn in Singapore, service in Hong Kong followed and he was taken POW on Christmas Day 1941. He survived the sinking of the Lisbon Maru and was in Kobe Camp. After the war he continued serving and was discharged May 1959.

BETTS – On 13 February 1992, Sgt Basil Francis Betts (6457271), aged 78 years.

Sgt Betts served with the Royal Fusiliers from 1933-39 in India. In November 1939 he was posted to the Diehards and joined the 1/8th Bn and was with BEF from February to May 1940. Home service with the 1/8th Bn followed until 17 June 1944 when the Bn moved to NWE. He returned to UK on 7 November 1945 and was transferred to the Army Reserve. He earned a M.I.D. which was published in the London Gazette on 9 August 1945. In civilian life he was employed at Ipswich Hospital as an operating theatre assistant.

BRIDGE – On 2 January 1992, Private Sidney Victor John Bridge (6200537), aged 78 years.

He served with the 2nd Bn from 1932 to 30 March 1939 when he was transferred to the Army Reserve. He was recalled for service on 1 November 1939 and was with the 2nd Bn at Dunkirk. He was again transferred to the reserve for essential employment as an aircraft fitter. He rejoined the regiment in March 1944 and at the end of the year moved to the Essex Regiment and then to King's Own Scottish Borderers and finally discharged January 1947.

BULL – On 13 December 1991, Major Edward Arthur Bull, aged 76 years.

He enlisted as a boy soldier on 2 September 1929 and joined the RAOC. He became a trade tested Class 1 Armourer and in February 1938 was posted to Hong Kong and became Armourer Sgt to the 1st Bn. He became a very popular member of the Diehards and excelled at all sports, especially hockey and swimming. As armourer he became a vital cog in the organisation of the regiment. When the attack on Hong Kong came 'Johnny', as he was known to everyone became an infantry soldier in the front line and for his outstanding bravery was awarded the Military Medal. On 25 December 1941 he became a POW and spent the whole of his POW days in Shamshuipo Camp. He suffered terribly with beri-beri in his feet. He was repatriated to the UK in September 1945 and rejoined the RAOC and after a couple of years took his discharge. He returned to Hong Kong about 1948 and joined the Volunteers. He later became a Major and Paymaster to the RHKR retiring about 1972. He then joined Leeds University and became Bursar. He was a staunch member of the Regimental Association and often came down from Yorkshire to attend the Albuhera Remembrance Service in St Paul's Cathedral.

Our sincere condolences to his wife Joan and family. At heart 'Johnny' was a Diehard.

CLARK – On 3 February 1992, LCpl Alan Kenneth Clark (6206540), aged 73 years.

He served with 2/7th Bn as a medical Orderly in HQ Compant until transferring to the REME in June 1941. I wonder why REME and not RAMC. Probably his 'servicing technique'.

CORNER – On 30 January 1991, Private Leonard Corner (6197202), aged 82 years.
He served 1926-33 in India with the 2nd Bn and 1939-45 at the Depot Mill Hill. He was the elder brother of the late Vic Corner. Sadly his grandson was killed in the recent Victoria disaster.

DRANE – On 30 September 1991, Mrs Rose Drane, widow of Brewer Drane who was secretary to the Band and Drummers Branch some years ago.

DUNFORD – On 31 January 1992, Sgt Walter Richard Dunford (6206984), aged 72 years.
He was one of the original members of the 2/7th Bn which he joined early in 1939. His knowledge of Civil Service work and routine was of inestimable value to the Bn. He served with it guarding the vulnerable points in Britain, and then through N. Africa, Italy, Palestine and Egypt. Whilst in Scotland at Thornhill, he discovered that the house where he ran the Company Office had formerly been an inn where Robert Burns, as an Excise Officer, had been seated in 1793 when he saw a soldier walking up the road from Drumfries towards Glasgow. The sight inspired his poem 'The Warriors Return'. Dickie Dunford never married and when peace came his wartime service overseas had obviously whetted his appetite for travel. Together with his sister, Miss F.G. Dunford, he visited all five continents, some more than once. His only regret was that they never travelled on board the 'Q.E.II'.

Sadly his two brothers pre-deceased him, but the mourners who attended his funeral at Bath, numbered over 70. They included many nephews and cousins, as well as business and army associates and friends from all over Britain. He will be greatly missed, particularly by his old comrades from the 2/7th Bn for whose association he has kindly acted as Secretary. Pro Rege Patria et Laribus. We will not see his like again.

REB

FLATAU – On 9 March 1992, Captain Geoffrey Henry Weatherley Flatau, aged 80 years.
He served with the 2/8th (1st Bn) 1939-45.

FORESTER – On 12 March 1992, Cpl Thomas G. Forester (6207314), FCA, aged 83 years, at Ferndale, Australia.
He served from 1939-45 with the 1/7th Bn and was a Cpl in the Quartermaster's office.

FRANCIA – On 28 August 1991, Private Paul Francia (14217821), aged 68 years.
He volunteered for service during 1942 and joined the 70th (YS) Bn and after training was posted to the 3/8th (1st Bn) joining D Company and the 4.2 Mortar Platoon.

Paul Francia was an extraordinary man, and although blind travelled all over the country searching for and interviewing men who had served in D Company – he then wrote the book 'In the Face of the Enemy' and a copy was placed in the Regimental Museum. His next project was to photograph every 'Colour' awarded to the regiment. He had these produced as a painting and last November all those who attended the Remembrance Service at the Middlesex Guildhall were able to view them. They were very impressive and were offered to the regiment. Sadly we were unable to display them and it was suggested that the Imperial War Museum would be a good home for them. They have been accepted by the IWM.

Repeated below is Paul's farewell message. These are the words written for you by Paul Francia.

The first 36 years of my life were spent as an ordinary citizen sharing the common lot. The rest of it I have sustained as a blind person. In retrospect, all my experiences of life and all work that I have done – my studies, my lecturing, my writing bestowed only the certainty, that God in his grace does give redemption, resurrection and life after death.

So, in the 65th year of my life I set down these words knowing them to be seemly upon the lips of the Minister conducting my funeral today. Be sure that in spirit I am with you and that no essential part of the man you know inhabits any coffin present here.

As certain knowledge of his end is denied to man, I cannot know where or when this Service will take place, but being childless and having few relatives I am sure the congregation will be small. Some will be here in duty bound – executors and undertakers – all of whom I thank for their work this day. There may

be neighbours or acquaintances here, or perhaps a comrade from St Dunstons, or my regiment. I thank you for your friendship, for the time we have shared, and the things we have achieved. If I did you any service I am glad; if I did you harm, try to forgive me. If there be any here who loved me, you I embrace heartily. Knowing myself both weak and vainglorious, I strove to be courageous and honourable. Only you who loved me may truly judge of these intentions. Now I cast aside the white cane and, liberated from earthly blindness, go to meet our Father in Heaven, and the earthly Father I never knew.

When the Minister has prayed, and the hymns have been sung, go out and enjoy the refreshments I have provided, dispersing in the certainty that all stands well with me now as it shall, one day, with you.

HALVERSON – On 26 August 1990, Private Ernest Halverson (6195925), aged 85 years.
Ernie Halverson served with the 2nd Bn from 1924-31. From 1941-46 he was with the Royal Ulster Rifles.

HUTCHINS – On 20 December 1991, Private W.J. Hutchins, aged 93 years.
He served 1914-19 with 7th, 3rd and 11th Bns.

JOHNS – On 25 December 1991, Bandsman Graham Johns (6201807), aged 72 years.
He enlisted as a Boy soldier on 13 June 1934 and in the November joined the 1st Bn in Egypt, moving with the Bn to Singapore in 1935 and to Hong Kong in August 1937. He became a POW on 25 December 1941. In September 1942 he was a member of the draft on the Lisbon Maru, survived and did his stint in Kobe Camp. Like all boy soldiers he became a good all round sportsman and excelled at hockey and swimming. Sadly for many years he suffered various medical problems, especially the ulcers on his legs which never healed.

JUDD – On 10 February 1992, Sgt Edward Lewis Judd (356139), aged 93 years.
Ted Judd served on the Somme with our 17th (Footballers) in 1915 and finished up at the end of the war with the H.L.I. He lived near Major Peter Hill, East Surreys, who for some years kept a close eye on him and made sure he was not in need.

MASSEY – On 9 March 1992, Capt, later the Reverend F. Michael Massey, aged 74 years.
During 1939-45, from 1941 onwards, he served with the 1/7th Bn as Bn I.O. and throughout the Desert Campaign, followed by Sicily, and then in 1944 from Normandy to Bremerhaven.

MORALEE – On 19 February 1992, Private Albert Ernest Moralee (6202174), aged 77 years.
He enlisted during 1935 and saw service with the 1st Bn in Singapore and Hong Kong. He was taken POW on 25 December 1941 and did his stint in Tokyo Camp. He was repatriated to UK in November 1945 and extended his service and was posted to the 2nd Bn then in Palestine. In October 1949 he purchased his discharge and took up employment with the Post Office.

MOUND – On 4 March 1992, Private V.H. Mound, aged 60 years.
He served with the 1st Bn in Korea 1950-51. No other details available.

ORR – On 22 April 1992, Major R. Edmund Orr, MC, suddenly in the West Indies.
Major Orr served with the 2nd Bn 1940-47. He landed with the Bn on D Day in Normandy and at the end of the war moved with the Bn to Egypt and Palestine. He was awarded the Military Cross for his brilliant performance whilst commanding 11 Mortar Platoon, and Private Robinson, his operator, received the Military Medal.

PRESCOTT RICHARDSON – On 25 December 1991, Capt R.C. Prescott Richardson (TF/1699), aged 95 years.

He served 1914-19 with our 1/7th Bn and died at his home in Sherman Oaks, California, USA.

PUGSLEY – On 23 March 1992, Private Frederick L. Pugsley (2034376). He died in Brisbane, Australia. He served with A Company 1st Bn during 1941 and was taken POW. He did his stint in Tokyo. Information about his death came from one of our Australian Diehards who had no idea he was living amongst them.

SHARPE – During November 1990, Capt John Raymond Sharpe. He served with the 2/8th(1st Bn) 1940-41, posting to 172 OCTU as an instructor. This was followed by Staff Duties at London District and the War Office. He was demobilised in March 1946. Information about his death was only discovered when mail was returned marked 'Deceased'.

SMITH – On 27 May 1992, Private Walter Eric Smith (6204349), aged 71 years. He enlisted into the 7th Bn T.A. on 22 March 1938 and was called up on 2 September 1939, joining 11 Platoon, C Company 1/7th Bn. He was wounded and awarded a disability pension and medically discharged 22 January 1945.

SMITH – On 19 May 1940, Capt W.K. Smith, Manchester Regiment. Joined the 2nd Bn to go to Palestine 1947 and was 2IC C Company to Lt-Col C.N. Clayden MBE. He left the army shortly after the Bn moved out of Palestine. Informant CNC.

TOWNEND – On 18 June 1992, Major Geoffrey Harold Townend (149476), aged 76 years. Major Geoffrey Townend attended OCTU from May to September 1940 and was commissioned into the Middlesex Regiment. From October 1940 to May 1943 he was attached to the Royal Sussex Regiment. During June 1943 he joined our 1st Bn(2/8th) and was posted to D Mortar Company. He moved with the Bn to Normandy in June 1944 and served throughout the invasion until demobilisation in April 1947. He was mentioned in Despatches. He was a very popular officer and enjoyed attending the biennial luncheon of D Company at the Victory Services Club. In civilian life he was associated with the hotel industry. He will be sadly missed by all members of the Regimental Association.

TUNKS – On 22 April 1992, Private George Tunks (3717), aged 100 years and four months. He served with 1/7th and 3/7th Bns 1914-19. He received the usual telegram from Her Majesty, Queen, plus one from his M.P., Tony Newton and a card from Ian Botham, plus a visit from Lt-Col and Mrs C.N. Clayden.

WOODS – On 28 January 1991, WO2(RQMS) Trevor Herbert Wood (6206688), aged 70 years. Trevor Woods served with the 2/7th Bn from 1 September 1939 to the end of the war in 1945, and saw service in North Africa, Italy, Anzio and Palestine. From January to April 1946 he joined the troopship HT Empire Rival as Ships RQMS. After the war he went into business in Haddenham, Bucks, running the village store. He later ran a hotel in Shanklin on the Isle of Wight and retired about 8 years ago. Ray Procter and AN Other, 2/7th, attended the funeral.

LETTER

Received from Colonel R.M. Gamble, Military Attaché, British Embassy, Madrid, by M.J.Ward, BEM of Cranford.

Dear Mr Ward,

Thank you so much for sending that delightful card: I have never seen a print of 'Steady the Drums and Fifes' before.

Priscilla and I were very impressed to see The Die Hards in that very hot village square! Clearly you have developed a very close relationship with the town and the growth industry in monuments to the battle is ample proof of the regiment's popularity. I have put the Mayor in contact with Mr Robertson of the National Army Museum, so I hope that Albuera will be able to assemble the various prints and things that are still needed for the commemorative hall.

There are slow-moving plans by the Spanish central administration to put up a new memorial monument to the battle, probably on Albuera Day 1994. I will let you know how the proposal develops but it seems that little will be planned for a while due to limited funds.

I don't know if I will be invited to have another go on Albuera Day 1993, but do keep in contact and let me know if your team – or another – look like going. It would be fun to fit in an informal drink in addition to all that public image bit.

With Best Wishes, Robin Gamble.

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 prices. Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to the Middlesex Regimental Association.

Blazer Badges	£ 7.00 each
Car Badges (good quality)	£12.50 each
Ice Buckets, miniature side drum with regimental emblazon	£20.00 each
Ties Regtl Old Pattern, Maroon and Old Gold	£ 3.50 each
Ties Regtl New Pattern Terylene	£ 3.50 each
Ties Officers' Club Silk	£ 7.00 each
Wall Plaques Middlesex Regiment	£15.00 each
History – Diehards in Korea	£ 5.50 each
Middlesex Regiment Cap Badges (Not originals)	£ 3.50 each
Tumblers Whisky, engraved with Middlesex Regiment Badge	£ 6.50 each
Christmas Cards depicting 'Steady the Drums and Fifes', small	£ .30p each

LETTER

My dear Sir,
I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst.

and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours faithfully,

J. H. [Signature]
[Name]
[Address]
[City]

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours faithfully,

J. H. [Signature]
[Name]
[Address]
[City]

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Yours faithfully,

J. H. [Signature]
[Name]
[Address]
[City]

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

The following is a list of books recommended by the [Committee] for the [Year] [Term] [Examination]. These books are available from the [Publisher] and the [Bookseller].

1. [Book Title]	2. [Book Title]	3. [Book Title]
4. [Book Title]	5. [Book Title]	6. [Book Title]
7. [Book Title]	8. [Book Title]	9. [Book Title]
10. [Book Title]	11. [Book Title]	12. [Book Title]
13. [Book Title]	14. [Book Title]	15. [Book Title]
16. [Book Title]	17. [Book Title]	18. [Book Title]
19. [Book Title]	20. [Book Title]	21. [Book Title]
22. [Book Title]	23. [Book Title]	24. [Book Title]
25. [Book Title]	26. [Book Title]	27. [Book Title]
28. [Book Title]	29. [Book Title]	30. [Book Title]
31. [Book Title]	32. [Book Title]	33. [Book Title]
34. [Book Title]	35. [Book Title]	36. [Book Title]
37. [Book Title]	38. [Book Title]	39. [Book Title]
40. [Book Title]	41. [Book Title]	42. [Book Title]
43. [Book Title]	44. [Book Title]	45. [Book Title]
46. [Book Title]	47. [Book Title]	48. [Book Title]
49. [Book Title]	50. [Book Title]	51. [Book Title]
52. [Book Title]	53. [Book Title]	54. [Book Title]
55. [Book Title]	56. [Book Title]	57. [Book Title]
58. [Book Title]	59. [Book Title]	60. [Book Title]
61. [Book Title]	62. [Book Title]	63. [Book Title]
64. [Book Title]	65. [Book Title]	66. [Book Title]
67. [Book Title]	68. [Book Title]	69. [Book Title]
70. [Book Title]	71. [Book Title]	72. [Book Title]
73. [Book Title]	74. [Book Title]	75. [Book Title]
76. [Book Title]	77. [Book Title]	78. [Book Title]
79. [Book Title]	80. [Book Title]	81. [Book Title]
82. [Book Title]	83. [Book Title]	84. [Book Title]
85. [Book Title]	86. [Book Title]	87. [Book Title]
88. [Book Title]	89. [Book Title]	90. [Book Title]
91. [Book Title]	92. [Book Title]	93. [Book Title]
94. [Book Title]	95. [Book Title]	96. [Book Title]
97. [Book Title]	98. [Book Title]	99. [Book Title]
100. [Book Title]	101. [Book Title]	102. [Book Title]