



The Die-Hards

NEWSLETTER

No. 77

June 1997

Price £1



Tree Planting Ceremony at Albuhera Close

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The Secretary of State for Defence, The Rt Hon Michael Portillo MP, accepted our invitation some time ago to plant a tree at Albuhera Close to commemorate the Handover to Haig Homes of our Regimental Homes, and the ceremony duly took place on 7th March, 1997.

There was a large Regimental turn-out for this historic occasion with many Old Comrades from the Enfield and Hounslow Branches as well as residents from the Close and their wives, who were joined by representatives from the Postal and Courier Depot from Inglis Barracks Mill Hill. The majority of the Association's Executives Committee, including the Chairman, Major Chris Lawrence, the Housing Committee and the sub-Committee which handled the transfer for us were present, as were representatives from Haig Homes, led by Major General Carlier the Director, and the Enfield Borough Council, which supplied the tree.

Like the Battle of Waterloo, it was a "close-run thing", the tree, a relatively mature Norwegian Maple grown in Italy, and which is confidently expected to come into leaf later this spring, only having been delivered to the Council that morning. All was well however and the Secretary of State duly filled in the necessary spadefuls of Albuhera Close earth to hearty regimental applause and much photography from the assembled spectators.

After "planting" the tree the Secretary of State spoke of his pleasure from his second visit to the Close (he was with us some weeks ago when he visited families in their houses and then the regimental Room at the RBL Headquarters) and of seeing so many fine Middlesex Regimental Ties assembled to mark the occasion, adding some warm remarks about the Regiment's past and glorious history and achievement.

Major General A.N. Carlier, CB, CBE expressed the pleasure of Haig Homes in becoming the Regiment's new "Landlord", and re-affirmed the promises made earlier by Haig Homes to improve the houses in the years to come. It should be noted that already the residents in the Close have been particularly impressed with the swift and effective reaction to the requests for maintenance etc that they have made. This all confirms the confidence the Regiment has had in Haig Homes and its administration.

To conclude the ceremony, our President, Brigadier Tony Pielow, thanked the Secretary of State for his continued interest in the Regiment and General Carlier and Haig Homes for all they have done so far and for their guarantees for the future administration of the Homes. He especially thanked the Association's Committee Members for their work in running the Homes over the years and for bringing to fruition this excellent solution for their future. He said much is owed by the Regiment to the TA Officers who have served on the Housing Committee in the past, under Colonel Ian Brotherton and more recently under Major Harold Couch, to Captain Mike Doran and his daughter Mrs Wendy Batchelor who handled all the vital legal matters in the transfer. He said TA Officers possessed professional expertise so necessary in housing matters and not always held by their Regular Army counterparts who served alongside them on the Housing Committee, and he also praised the work done by the special "handover" Committee chaired by Colonel Rex Cain, by Major Frank Waldron and Gordon Young for their many years administering the homes, and spoke especially of the many hours spent by our Secretary Major Ron Morris who handled all the co-ordination and paperwork involved.

The Brigadier the particularly addressed the assembled Old Comrades and thanked them for their usual enthusiastic and loyal support of yet one more Regimental occasion, before inviting everybody to retire for suitable refreshments to the nearby RBL, where the Secretary of State was able to catch up on current Diehard matters - and a few world wide ones too, before presenting on of his official plaques (one already hangs in our Regimental Room in RBL Enfield) to the Legion's Enfield Chairman, Mr Derek Caton, just before he left.

An excellent historic day.

President : Brig. B.A.M. Pielow, JP.
Chairman : Major C.L. Lawrence, MC.
Vice Chairman : Capt. M.J.S. Doran, TD, LL.B.
Secretary : Major R.E.B. Morris, MBE,
 38 Traps Lane, New Malden,
 Surrey KT3 4SA.
Editors : Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, and
 Major R.E.B. Morris, MBE.

FORECAST OF EVENTS 1997

30th June	Presentation of New Colours to 1PWRR by HM Queen Margrethe II of Denmark - Canterbury.
25th July	Presentation of New Colours to the London Regiment by HRH The Duke of York at the Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea.
6th-10th August	Canterbury Cricket Week.
12th September	Laying up 1 QUEEN'S Colours - Guildford Cathdal.
13th September	Laying up 1 R HAMPS Colours - Winchester Cathedral.
13th September	Korean Club Annual Reunion - Victory Services Club, Marble Arch, London W2, AGM at 6.30 p.m.
2nd October	2/7th OCA Luncheon at the Victory Services Club, Marble Arch, London W2.
6 November	Garden of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey - 10.30 am for 11 am - Planting of Crosses in the Regimental Plot.
6 November	7th Bn Officers' Club Dinner - Officers' Mess, The London Regiment, St John's Hill, London SW11.
8 November	Ceremony of Remembrance, Middlesex Guildhall, (Opposite Westminster Abbey) assemble at 10.40 am.
9 November	National Remembrance Day Parade at the Cenotaph, Whitehall. Form up Horse Guards by 10 am. (Entry by ticket only obtainable from the Secretary).
9 November	7th Bn Remembrance Service, Parish Church of St Mary and St George Hornsey, London N8. Assembling at 10.30 am.
15 November	WO/Sgts Past and Present Dinner Bassingbourn.

28 November PWRR Officers' Club Dinner - Guards and Cavalry Club.

1998

2 March Middlesex Officers' Club Committee Meeting at 2 pm followed by the Executive Committee Meeting at 2.30 pm. TAVRA Conference Room Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea.

25 April 1/7th Bn OCA Lunch - TA Drill Hall, Hornsey.

8 May Middlesex Officers' Club Dinner - Venue to be advised.

9 May Albuhera Service of Remembrance, Regimental Chapel, St Paul's Cathedral - 3 pm.

9 May Annual Reunion at the Victory Services Club, Marble Arch, London W2 at 6.30 pm. AGM at 7.15 pm.

May 9th Bn Officers' Club Dinner - date to be confirmed.

1. Donations since last Meeting.

Not Forgotten Association	£25
Montgomery Statue Appeal	£50
Nat Army Museum	£30 (From Museum Account)
Star & Garter Home	£100
Enfield Branch	£100 (towards Tpt costs)
London Regt	£200 (Presentation of Colours Parade)
MX ACF	£600
From the Officers' Club	
9th Bn Luncheon	£200
Housing Sub Cttee Luncheon	£250

2. Bequests/Donations Received.

Anonymous to Officers' Club	£1000
From the Estate of Col G D Scott Lowe	£250
A W J Brown	£50
P F Wookey	£50
P J Cain	£25
J S Ullman	£25
G D Cripps	£50
C A Lamb	£50
D Miles	£25
E H T Steward	£50
From the Estate of R L Dean	£100

J C Morgan	£25
P F Wookey	£50
W C Newton	£57
(plus many more donations of sums of less than £25).	

3. Benevolent Grants.

	31 Dec 96	end May 97
Grants made to individuals	£16791	£6886
Less ABF Grants	£10883	£4466
Net	£5909	£2420

OFFICERS' CLUB

The Annual Dinner of the Officers' Club was held at the Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, London SW1 on Friday 9 May 1997. Brig Tony Pielow presided and the principle guest was General Neil Carlier, Director of Haig Homes. Others attending were:-
Regimental Guests:- Maj Colin Bellingham, Mrs Neil Carlier, Mrs Ann Bennett, Miss Jean Bower, Mrs Pam Chattey, Mrs Ingrid Cheesman, Mrs Ann Cotton, Mrs Andy Hutchings and Mrs Christine Pollard.

Members and Private Guests:- Brig & Mrs Tony Pielow, Brig Brian Marciandi, Col Ian Brotherton, Col & Mrs Rex Cain, Col Andrew Man, Miss Katherine Man, Mr & Mrs Nicholas Man, Col John Moore, Lt Col & Mrs Norman Clayden, Lt Col & Mrs Mike Deakin, Lt Col & Mrs Roger Ganz, Lt Col & Mrs John Hewson, Miss Julia Cheesman, Maj Bob Bartlett, Maj & Mrs Peter Clarke, Maj & Mrs Harold Couch, Maj & Mrs Mike Eastap, Maj & Mrs Stewart Henshaw, Maj & Mrs Chris Lawrence, Maj & Mrs Tony McManus, Maj & Mrs Ron Morris, Maj Frank Waldron, Rt Rev Mgr Ralph Brown, Capt & Mrs Simon Enthoven, Rev & Mrs Guz Jones, Capt John Lofting, Lt Simon Cawthorne, Mrs Frances Castle, Mr & Mrs John Harris, Lt John Day, Lt Cara Day, Lt & Mrs Peter Ottino.

Brig Tony Pielow after dinner gave the apologies of those who were unable to attend and gave a resume of current Regimental activity. General Neil Carlier also spoke and said how pleased he was that Haig Homes had taken over the Memorial Estate at Albuhera Close and he gave a reassurance that the Members of the Middlesex Regiment living in the houses would continue to receive the same service as hitherto.

The change of venue was a great success and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all those attending.

THE ANNUAL REUNION

The 1997 Annual Reunion was again well attended by 190 members and guests gathered together at the Victory Services Club. A great time was had by all and old friends were able to get together to reminisce and talk about the old days. Many a tall story was told! As ever many travelled long distances and went to considerable expense to be there. It is most pleasing that they do so. Members had their usual fish and chip supper and enjoyed the music of Alan's Disco. Same venue next year and the date is 9 May 1998. Spread the word and let us see if we can increase the numbers attending yet again.

ALBUHERA DAY LUNCH AT THE NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM

It was the Regiment's turn to act as hosts this year for the Albuhera Lunch at the National Army Museum on 16 May, 29 members of the Regiment attended representing the former Battalions, the Branches including the Korean Club, together with 9 members of the Museum Staff. Dr Ian Robertson, the Director of the Museum, said in his address how pleased he was to once again see members of the Regiment gathered together with members of his Staff on Albuhera Day. He said that despite the quite savage cuts in the central government grant his Staff are still maintaining the high standards set by the Museum. He mentioned the recent purchase of the Trotobus Medals partly funded by the donation made to the Museum by the Regiment when our collection moved to Chelsea in 1992. (The Medals form part of the display in the new acquisitions case on the ground floor). In his reply Brigadier Tony Pielow said how much we valued the close contact that had developed between the Regiment and the Staff of the Museum. He reminded everybody that the four pillars of the Association are:- Our Chapel in St Paul's, the Museum, the Memorial at Mill Hill and the Memorial Estate in Enfield. The first three continue and Albuhera Close has been successfully handed over to a Service Housing Authority, Haig Homes. Early indications are that the tenants will continue to be well looked after. The Enfield Branch have sent a strong contingent to Inglis Barracks to lay a wreath at the Memorial and the Hounslow Branch have a small party at Albuhera on this day. Then there are Albuhera Lunches taking place in several locations. The traditions of the Regiment are not forgotten. He also drew attention to the fact that the Hounslow Branch send a small group each year to Lille at the anniversary of Capt Trotobus's death and highlighted the success of this year's Reunion and the welfare and benevolence work done by the Association - one of the main reasons for its existence.

After Lunch Mr Julian Humphreys Head of Public Relations gave a humorous presentation on London and the Civil War.

Association members may wish to remember the Middlesex Element of the National Army Museum when making future donations and/or bequests. Money will always be needed for future acquisitions etc. Any such donations/bequests for the Middlesex part of the National Army Museum should be made out to the Middlesex Regimental Association who will in due time pass them on to the Museum.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Victory Services Club at 1915 hours on 10 May 1997. There were 20 members present. The Minutes are published as an Annexure at the end of the newsletter.

ANNUAL SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

The Annual Remembrance Service was held in the Regimental Chapel in St Paul's Cathedral at 3 pm on Saturday 10 May 1997. The Service this year was prepared and conducted by the Reverend Prebendary Patrick Tuft, the Vicar of Chiswick and Honorary Chaplain to the Association. The Right Reverend Monsignor Ralph Brown, who served with the First Battalion in Korea, lead the Prayers and the reading by Brig Tony Pielow, our President, was taken from Ecclesiasticus 4 vv 1 - 15. As ever there was an excellent turn out. The Chapel was full. There appeared to be more members present than last year.

HOUSING COMMITTEE

The final Housing Committee meeting was held on Thursday 29 May 1997, at the Reform Club, 104 Pall Mall, London SW1. The following attended:- Major H.E. Couch, Col I.D. Brotherton, Col R.M. Cain, Capt M.J.S. Doran, Capt S. le M. Enthoven, Major S.L.J. Henshaw, Major R.E.B. Morris and Major A.E.F. Waldron.

The occasion was celebrated with a splendid lunch.

PRESENTATION

During the afternoon of Friday 17 January 1997, our President, Brigadier Tony Pielow, accompanied by the Secretary, Major Ron Morris, called on Mrs Linda Evans, widow of the Very Reverend Eric Evans the late Dean of St Paul's, at her daughter's flat in London to present a framed copy of Steady the Drums and Fifes. The original intention was to present the print during last September to the Dean, but sadly he died just before the ceremony was due to take place. Mrs Evans said that she was very honoured to accept the print in memory of her husband and that it would have pride of place in her home in Gloucestershire. The print includes a small plate inscribed 'Presented to the Very Reverend Eric Evans with thanks from All Ranks of the Middlesex Regimental Association for your past support - September 1996'.



THE KOREAN CLUB'S SURPRISE PARTY FOR COL ANDREW MAN, DSO, OBE

On the 22 February 46 members, including a number of their ladies, attended a surprise party for Col A M Man on the occasion of his 90th birthday. The party was held at the Ivy Bush Hotel in Carmarthen. It was certainly an occasion to be remembered and was enjoyed by all present.

Unfortunately we could not invite a larger group to the party due to the shortage of room at the hotel; it was not until about ten days prior to the day that we were told we could increase our number, by which time it gave us too little notice.

The group who travelled included both officers and other ranks and what we felt was particularly unique, the number included seven ex-National Servicemen. There cannot be many (if any) National Servicemen attending their late CO's 90th birthday. Certainly in 1950/51 no-one would have ever imagined the idea! Such a gathering confirms without doubt the respect we have for our Club President.

We presented Col Man with a suitable gift and also provided a cake for the occasion which was decorated by a superb regimental badge in icing. The Regimental Association was represented by Brig. Tony Pielow, and Major Ron Morris, who presented a gift on behalf of the Officers' Club.

The only disappointment of the evening was the absence of Major Barry Reed, who was not well enough to travel at the last minute.

Our next gathering of Club members will be at our Reunion at The Victory Services Club on the 13th September. Non-members will be most welcome to attend.

JAL

ANNUAL DINNER - ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT VOLUNTEERS

Brigadier Tony Pielow and Major Frank Waldron represented the Regiment at the 143rd Dinner of the UK Branch of the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) Association, held at the RAMC College Officers' Mess in Millbank on Friday 30 May.

Major Colin Bellingham of the Volunteers, known to many of us from his annual appearance at our own Officers' Club Dinner, was the Dinner Organiser, a role performed in the past by Colonel Aymar Clayton and later Major Frank Waldron.

Replying after Dinner on behalf of the Guests, Brigadier Tony reminded all those dining of the long and close association between the Volunteers and the Regiment, dating from 1916 when the 25th Middlesex arrived in Hong Kong after the SS Tyndarios had hit a mine on the starboard side and the ship sank off Cape Agulhas, South Africa. There were no casualties and the Bn boarded another ship and arrived in Hong Kong. This event was commemorated by the Tyndarios Stone which was on the Peak until being returned to UK by the Royal Navy last year and which is now one of our exhibits at the National Army Museum. This regimental association was continued when 1 Mx went to Hong Kong in August 1937 - Sgt Frank Waldron included and again in 1949 when 1 Mx was despatched hurriedly to the Colony to face the Chinese threat at the time with Frank Waldron as the ORQMS. Indeed the then C.O. Colonel Andrew Man was at the Volunteers Mess when he received the order to take the Bn to Korea. The Diehard connections continued of course for some years after 1949 when we supplied the Volunteers with a succession of Adjutants, including John Moore, Rex Cain, Hugh Lohan and Gordon Crumley.

Ending Brigadier Tony assured the assembled Diners that we intend to continue the connection for many years and added that he hoped any Volunteer who has not already done so might like to visit the NAM where many artefacts are on display and also visit our Regimental Chapel in St Paul's.

BAMP

1/7th ANNUAL LUNCHEON

The 1/7th Battalion held their 36th Annual Reunion at the Drill Hall Hornsey on the 26 April 1997. Forty members attended. Looking around I could see the enjoyment of these occasions does not diminish. They really are meetings of Diehards. Last year I resigned as Secretary of the 1/7th OCA. However I said I would continue to organise the Luncheons. This year I was overwhelmed! I was presented with a beautiful whiskey

decanter and glasses all engraved with the Regimental Badge, on a lovely butlers tray. It is impossible to express my gratitude. I tried on the day. I hope I succeeded.

A letter will be circulated to all our members later in the year seeking their views on the format of future reunions. Would they wish to invite a guest, male or female? If guests are invited would they rather have a dinner in the evening? What ever is finally decided we must stay at our spiritual home at Hornsey. I look forward to meeting my fellow Diehards next April.

TW

ENFIELD BRANCH

The Branch meets for social evenings on the last Thursday of each month, at the Royal British Legion, Enfield where there is usually an attendance of around thirty members and wives. We have supported the various PWRR functions such as the presentation of Colours at Canterbury and the laying up of the Queen's Regiment Colours at Canterbury and London.

We have resumed the laying of a wreath at the Regimental Memorial in Inglis Barracks on Albuhera Day and on Remembrance Sunday. This activity has built up a special relationship between ourselves and the Sergeants' Mess of the Royal Logistic Corps who kindly provide a lunch for us all at the time of each visit.

Early last year we established a memorabilia room at the Enfield British Legion Hall which is now known as the Albuhera Room (an obvious choice!) and this has created a great deal of local interest. Much effort was put into this project by Messrs Vic Beach, Pete Bartlett and Bert Trundell who assembled and presented the items on display.

In the new year the Branch suffered a great loss with the death of our founder member Ex WOII Jack Warner who served in the Middlesex and Queen's Regiments. This was followed two weeks later by the death of Bert Trundell who put so much effort into the setting up of the Albuhera Room. They will be greatly missed.

We send greetings to all Diehards wherever they are.

Sixty one members and their guests went to Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill on 16 May 1997 to lay a wreath at the Memorial. The service was conducted by the RLC Chaplain Sister Joan. The wreath was laid by Eileen Warner escorted by Alf Burford. After the Parade and Service those present were invited into the Sergeants' Mess firstly for tea and coffee and then lunch. During lunch the Mess was visited by Brigadier T McG Brown, Director of Postal and Courier Services, Colonel E.M. Morrow, TD, Colonel B. Linden and the Postal Depot's Commanding Officer Lieut Colonel H.A. Hughes. Also attending was a senior manager from the Post Office Mr J. Roberts CBE.

Mr Bob Cubitt, The Branch Chairman, made a presentation of a copy of the Print 'Steady the Drums and Fifes' which was accepted by RSM Howard Scott who said it would

hangin pride of place in the Mess. Bob Cubitt also presented a certificate to the Mess offering the Mess Associate Membership of the Branch. The RSM and the PMC WOII Chris Ward were both presented with Regimental ties.

On Sunday 18 May the Branch attended a presentation at the Old Sergeants' Public House (Jack Warner's favourite watering Hole). A print of Steady the Drums and Fifes together with plaque in memory of Jack was unveiled by Eileen Warner. This was another well attended event.

B COMPANY THE LONDON REGIMENT

B Company The London Regiment on 23 March 1997 took part in and won the Courage Trophy, the London District Patrols Competition. This is the first time that B Company has won the competition, since it became the Courage Trophy, it is believed back in 1962. This is the first major competition the London Regiment has won, and far as can be recalled it was never won by 8 Queen's Fusiliers or 6/7 Queens. The Team was led by 2Lt Maynard Williams who presently commands the Hornsey Platoon. He is doing an excellent job and has made tremendous improvements to the Platoon.

BELGIAN NATIONAL DAY PARADE 1997

The Amicale Des Anciens Combattants Belges En Grande-Bretagne have invited members of the Middlesex Regimental Association to take part in their Parade held in Whitehall on Sunday 20 July 1997. Participants are required to muster on Horse Guards by 10.15 am. The Parade will be followed by the National Day Banquet at St Ermins Hotel, Caxton St, London SW1. Cost £25 per person. Members interested can obtain further information from the Secretary.

MODEL OF THE GERMAN POCKET BATTLESHIP "DEUTSCHLAND"

Colonel Jerry Gunnell is seeking information in connection with a model of the German Pocket Battleship "Deutschland".

It is known that the model surfaced, so to speak, in November 1963 when an Officer from the Canadian Forces was presented with it at a ceremony at the Hornsey Drill Hall. Colonel Gunnell says he has no recollection of it being at the TA Centre. It could have hardly been missed as it is quite large some six feet long. The model is now back in UK and the present owner is trying to trace it's history.

It is thought that as the 1/7th Battalion ended the war at Bremerhaven that there could be a reader from that Battalion who just might have some background knowledge, ie how did it reach UK and where did it originate from? Any information would be gratefully received and would be passed on to Colonel Gunnell.

PERSONAL JOTTINGS

Reg Smith (6203540) continues to visit John Soden (6200167), now 85 years of age, and in a nursing home. Sadly John can only listen.

David Whybrow, our museum attendant at Bruce Castle, Tottenham, now living in Ascot, sends his regards to all his friends in the Regiment.

In a note to the Secretary Ken Mortimer said how much he had enjoyed the Reunion and expressed his thanks to the Members of the Enfield Branch who made him so welcome. Regrets he will not be at the Reunion next year as the Channel Islands Liberation Day Ceremony takes place on the same day and he will be parading with the Guernsey Branch of the Royal British Legion.

Ken Ilbury writes to say how much he enjoyed the Reunion. "Some magic moments" as he put it.

Eileen Warner has asked if she may use the Newsletter to thank all those who visited or sent cards and letters to express their sympathy over the loss of Jack. She feels that she cannot possibly reply to you all. She apologises for this and sends her heartfelt thanks to all who have been so kind.

John Girdler sends his best wishes to all his friends in the Regiment and asks that those who served with him in the 1st Battalion or with the Queen's Regiment contact him to renew old friendships. He lives at:- 10 Forthriver Parade, Belfast BT13 3UU and his telephone number is 01232 716891. He looks forward to hearing from you.

A lady recently widowed has very kindly offered her husband's blazer and three regimental ties to any member of the Regimental Association who has need of them. The blazer is 44 chest. All are in very good condition. They will need to be collected from an address in Surrey. Inquiries via the Secretary please.

Major Ron Morris was informed by the local Branch of the Royal British Legion that they had "found" a Mr Jack Francis a World War I Soldier who had served with the Middlesex

Regiment. Ron Morris accompanied by Mr Fred Thomas, who served with the 1/7th Battalion in World War II, called on Mr Francis on Monday 17 February 1997. He is 98 years of age and still going strong. He was a pre war Regular Soldier with the 1st Battalion. He holds the Mons Star and was present with the 1st Battalion on the Somme in 1916, at Cambrai, Passchendaele and Ypres. He must have had a charmed life though he was wounded on three different occasions! He subsequently spend 20 years with the War Graves Commission in France, married a local girl and he speaks fluent French. We had a delightful conversation talking over old times. His memory of events in that War is still very good. He remembers well that he was a member of a firing squad who shot a deserter at dawn. He also told me that his two brothers were killed, one with the Queens (West Surreys) and the other with the East Surreys. He hopes to visit France in the summer. Until a few years ago he went across every year. We presented him with a Regimental Tie and a copy of the latest newsletter and his name has been added to the mailing list so that he may continue to receive copies as published. I promised to go and see him in the summer and in any event I will call on him on his 99th birthday in September. A true Diehard.

Reg Warner (6205138), B Company, 1/7th Bn, who carried the Royal British Legion Standard, Felixstowe Branch, for 10 years, has now stood down. He was presented with a R.B.L. Clock at the 75th celebrations on 27 July 1996.

Former Sgt Pat Cain (6200720) writes to say how sorry he was to read of the death of Lt Col Tom Chattey. He first met TWC at Colchester and later at Gilman Bks, Singapore. Sadly Pat was discharged in 1941 and awarded a disability pension.

Major Ken Clayden puts pen to paper and once again will be unable to attend the Dinner. Joan is progresing quite well after five by passes. I realise Ken that I owe you a letter which will be rectified soon.

Capt George Cripps when paying his subscription states he has been unwell with a bout of Pneumonia. We all wish you a speedy return to good health.

Our very good friend Capt Gus (Paddy) Kenrick was unable to attend the reunion this year, so he arranged for his niece to attend and gave a card to show us. It read "Albuhera Greetings to Tom & Jean McMillan, Jimmy Wild, Pat and Kitty Donovan, Ray and Veronica Dodkins, Frank Waldron and Ron Morris and all other Diehards. Thinking of you all and sorry I cannot be with you.

Andrew Ullman, National Serviceman 1956-58 in Cyprus, sends his regards to all Diehards.

Cyril Cox (6200934) Ex POW 1st Bn will be 87 during August and is fairly well. I spoke to him recently and he sounded very well.

Very good to hear from S/Sgt A E Barnden (6208744) who served with the 9th Bn and 595 & 571 LAA Regiment.

Colonel B R Wood after many years as President of the Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment says "I have retired in view of my advancing age which I have started to feel". His successor is Colonel Keith Bruce-Smith who recently commanded the Regiment of which the Kensingtons became a part on the formation of the TAVR.

Mr H.B. Steele sends his regards to all Diehards and especially to ex 8th Bn Signals Platoon 1944-45 Europe.

Mr Fred Phillips of 10A Albuhera Close, Enfield, MX EN2 8NR (Tel 0181 350 0154) has arranged a luncheon for the members of the 2/7th Battalion O.C.A. at the Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2. It will take place on 2 October 1997. Those members of the Bn who have not received a notification from him and wish to attend should contact him without delay. Ladies are welcome.

Former C/Sgt Peter Stewart has just retired from the M.O.D. Police at the Royal Clarence Yard, Gosport.

Major Ian Lloyd has had a spell in hospital with a troublesome knee. He has now recovered.

Major Fred Griffiths was laid low with a bout of pleurisy but has made a good recovery.

Lieut F.A. Condon (2nd Bn Indian Army) and Mrs R.F. Condon celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary on the 6 March with family and friends at their home in Ewell.

Percy Howells, former WO2 Drum Major, recently underwent heart surgery and has made a good recovery.

Major Mike Aylward, a former Diehard and employed as a ROIII at Canterbury has medically retired.

Fred (Masie) Sadler (6199853), now nearing 86, has recently suffered 2 heart attacks and a mini stroke. During the war he was wounded and lost his left arm at the shoulder. He remains as cheerful as ever.

LCpl L.F. Adams, 2nd Bn, recalled his experience of moving across the Channel on a landing craft. He remembers Major Neve and memories of the late Major Brereton.

Bob Johnson, 2/8th 1st Bn, 1939-46, tells me that it is good to see Les Page and the rest of the gang who meet for lunch once a month in Amersham.

The niece of Charlie Ward, 7 Mx, (Mrs Dolly Read), writes to thank the Regimental Association for her Christmas gift. Charlie, despite his 100 years, is keeping fairly well.

Capt Stanley Boydell, medical officer to the 1st Bn in Korea, is not in the best of health. We all wish him a speedy recovery and hope to see them both soon.

Very good to hear from Colin Burge after a long absence. I hope he enjoyed the annual reunion.

Received a very nice letter from Sandra Baggot, daughter of Peggy Reece, widow of WO2 H.G. Reece. Sadly Peggy is now in a Residential Home near Cardiff. She was a great supporter of the Royal British Legion.

Belated best wishes to Major & Mrs Ken Baxter. Very sad indeed to hear of the nasty car accident and I do hope Ken makes a full recovery. I missed him at the Service in St Paul's Cathedral last year which annoyed me very much.

Our very best wishes to Sgt Ginger Tann in Australia. Very sorry we were unable to meet during your visit to UK. Thankyou for all the information that you send to me about our comrades in Australia.

Lt Col Mike Legg has been working as an RO in the Maning & Record Office, Exeter. Next month he will have to move up to Glasgow and take over responsibility for the soldier manning of the Queens Division, so the PWRR will be one of his clients.

Majors Ron Morris and Frank Waldron attended the Founders Day Parade at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, on Wednesday 4 June 1997. We met our old friend former C/Sgt (Molly) Morgan, now an In Pensioner and enjoyed a few beers and reminded ourselves of the good old days. We also met Mick Ward, Hounslow Branch, plus 3 members. A splendid day out.

Thank you Cecil Hockin, for your gift of buttons.

Mr J A Girdler, 10 Forthriver Parade, Belfast BT13 3UU (Tel 01232 716891) is endeavouring to arrange a reunion of those members living in Northern Ireland coupled with a visit to a Battalion of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment stationed in Northern Ireland. Mr Girdler would be pleased to hear from anyone who would be interested in attending. He has written to the Regimental Secretary at Canterbury seeking his support.

Calling old comrades of Major S C W Weller, MBE, MM, (Sam) who served with the 2nd Bn at Dunkirk and on D Day. His son, Martin, knows very little of his military service and has been asked by his grandchildren for some details. Can anyone supply me with any little anecdote or detail, I will refund any postage. Please write to Martin Weller, 35 Linden Grove, Alverstoke, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 2ED.

The following have joined the Regimental Association:-

22671559 LCpl R.H. Bockhart, served 1st Bn 1952-55.

24070301 LCpl F.W. Collins, served 1st Bn, 1 & 4 Queens 1965-78.

6208686 Private D.O. Dernie, served 9th Bn & 429 SL Coy RA. 1939-41.

22950361 Private B.E. Drake, served C & HQ Coys 1st Bn and QORWK 1953-57.

19110046 Private A.D. Frey, served 2nd Bn 1946-49.

22806514 Private B.E. Hebbes, served 1st Bn 1952-55.

22812925 Dmr K.W. Ilbury, served 1st Bn 1952-55.

14411977 Cpl J.C.W. Lowth, served 70th Mx 1942-46, RAOC 1946-47 attached 1st Bn.

22686499 Private D.F. Medland, served Drums 1st Bn 1952-55.

23525792 Cpl D.A. O'Brien, served A & HQ Coys 1st Bn 1957-62.

6208472 Cpl L. Phillips, served 2/8th Bn 1940-46.

14724663 Private E. Reynolds, served 5 Cheshires & 2 Mx 1944-47.

620185? Cpl A.J.E. Rowe, served 2 PLK and 2/7th Bn 1939-45.

22473152 Private J.H.W. Stannard, served Drums 1st Bn 1951-55.

22497061 Cpl T.R. Taylor, served 1st Bn 1951-53 and 1955-61.

14830236 Private A.H. Rudge, served D Coy 2 Mx 1944-47.

22274859 Private S.G.E. Forcey, served 1st Bn 1951-54.

LT COLONEL GEORGE BRINLEY AYRE, DL

Brinley Ayre, so well known to many of us in the Regiment - especially those who served during the war and afterwards in 1MX in BAOR and BTA, died on 4 June aged 84 years following a stroke he suffered nine weeks previously, on the very day that as a DL he had been due to attend the official 'ressurrection' of Rutland. His final days were a great trial to him but his wonderful extrovert good humour and kindness never left him; his last drink was a whisky, and despite his personal health problems he cheered up all the hospital nursing staff as he had cheered up everybody with whom he came into contact during his adventurous life.

Brinley joined the 8MX(TA) in 1934 serving until going to the TAVR in August 1938, and was recalled to the Colours and 8MX once again in September 1939. After the Staff College he served on the General Staff from 1940 - October 1943 then went to SE Asia

Command as GSO 1 (Combined Ops) and was for some time the British Liaison officer to the US Ranger Force and Australian Commandos in the Far East, a unique role and one during which he wore US uniform - there cannot have been a more British looking and sounding 'American' in the whole theatre of war. He was an invigorating and inspiring representative of the British Army and his 'disguise' will have fooled nobody. He was GSO 1 (Plans) in 15 Corps and served in Burma until returning to become a company commander in 1MX in Iserlohn and Rendsburg, then to HQ BAOR and the War Office in G appointments until being posted as 2IC 1MX in Austria. After leaving us in Zeltweg he was then posted as AA and QMG in the War Office and finally to SHAPE from where he retired in 1959, after a distinguished military career. His civilian life after retirement from the Army was equally busy and distinguished. He was much involved locally and was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant in Leicester and for the 'new' Rutland during his time in hospital, a fact that will have given him much pleasure.

Popular with all his contemporaries in the Regiment Brinley was a great leader and one of our most amusing, forceful and cheerful characters. He was a fine horseman who was proud of the large dent in his chest. This he got when his mount declined to risk Brinley's invitation to jump some iron spike-topped railings and decided to remain on the take-off side and deposited Brinley atop the spiked railings. This never deterred Brinley from further adventurous riding and at least one young subaltern who was a naturally inexperienced rider was especially fortunate to have him as an equestrian mentor. He was a well-known competitor at BAOR and BTA Horse shows accompanied by his late wife Margaret and their three daughters, Jennifer, Susan and Patience to whom we in the Regiment send our warm condolences. Colonel John Shipster attended the funeral.

In Brinley, the Regiment has lost a very great Diehard indeed.

BAMP

OBITUARIES

It is with deepest regret we announce the following have died:-

ALLEN - On 21 March 1997, Sgt Douglas Allen (6206626), aged 77 years.

He joined the 7th Bn April 1939 and at the outbreak of war was posted to the 2/7th Bn with whom he served until March 1946.

ATKINS - On 9 December 1996, Private W.G. Atkins (6631087), aged 83 years.

He served with the 7th Bn 1934 to 1939 when he joined 1/7th. He was posted to the Buffs during 1940.

ATKINSON-CARTER - On 28 March 1997, Major John Atkinson-Carter (383395), aged 70 years, after a short illness.

He was educated at Dulwich College where he was active in the School Contingent of the JTC. John entered the Army in 1945 and completed his initial training in Scotland at Fort George. He was selected as a potential officer and posted to Bangalore Officer Training School in India. On completion of the course, he was granted an Emergency Commission in Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders. By this time, the end of the British Raj was in sight and he was

returned immediately to the UK where he spent the remainder of his full time service.

In 1953 he joined 7th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (DCO) TQA where he held a number of appointments, finally commanding 'A' Company at Highgate. On the amalgamation of 7th, 8th and 9th Middlesex, he transferred to Brigade Headquarters. When the Queen's Regiment was formed he re-badged and continued to serve on the Staff until 1969 when TAVR III was reduced to a Cadre.

John Carter will be remembered by his friends in the Regiment for his great enthusiasm and attention to detail in everything he did and for his fund of amusing stories, - a new one every time you met.

BRADDICK - On 10 December 1996, Private Charles Thomas Braddick (6856036), aged 75 years.

He enlisted into the KRRC during December 1941 and joined our 2nd Bn during April 1943. He was with the Bn until his discharge on 11 August 1946.

CHEFFINS - On 15 May 1997, Major Richard Alexander Joseph Cheffins, MC (P099794), aged 86 years.

He was commissioned into the regiment on 1 October 1939 and posted to the 1/8th Bn. He later served with the MGTC, 70 MX, 2 RNF, 1 RCRU, CMF, Staff Appts, Italy & UK. He transferred to the RAPC during 1950 and became Bn Paymaster to the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. He retired May 1960.

DARE - On 6 February 1997, Capt John Owen Dare (145610), aged 77 years.

He served from December 1939 to June 1947. From September 1940 to December 1947 he served with C Company 2/7th Bn, until he was wounded.

DEAN - On 26 March 1997, Sgt Ronald Leslie Dean (6208002), aged 86 years.

He joined the T.A. on 18 May 1939 and served with 13 PI, 1/8th Bn D Company. He was taken POW by the Germans on 29 May 1940 and was repatriated to UK on 25 October 1943. His left leg was amputated in July 1944 and he was discharged. He was also mentioned in Despatches. He was a true gentleman and a very loyal member of the Regimental Association. In his will he donated £100 to the Regtl Assn. His medals will be displayed in the combined Regimental Museum at Dover.

GOFF - On 12 January 1997, Private Cyril Herbert Goff, A.R.S.H. (6204812), aged 84 years.

He served from 7 October 1938 to 12 January 1946. He served the 9th Bn.

GRAY - On 7 October 1996, Colonel Henry Walter Wingrave Gray, aged 91 years.

He was commissioned into the 9th Territorial Bn of the Regiment on 24 March 1926.

During November 1938 the Bn was selected for transfer to the Anti-Aircraft Command after the Munich crisis, and in 1938 adopted the role of a Searchlight Regiment with a promise that the unit would remain part of the Middlesex Regiment. Its title then became the 60th Searchlight Regiment (9th Bn The

Middlesex Regiment(DCO) T.A., but in August 1940 the Bn was compulsorily transferred to the Royal Regiment of Artillery. However, throughout this and subsequent conversions, the link with the Middlesex Regiment remains unbroken, and the unit still had the privilege of wearing the cap badge and buttons of the 'Diehards' and carrying their Colours. The Regiment was re-constituted on 1 May 1947 as 595 L.A.A./S.L. Regiment R.A. (9th Bn The Middlesex Regiment(DCO), T.A. under command of Lt-Col H.W.W. Gray, with a nucleus of seven officers and twelve Other Ranks who had served with the regiment (some of them prior to 1939). On 13 May, 1950 the New Colours were presented to the Regiment by Lieutenant General Sir Brian G. Horrocks, representing His Majesty The King. Subsequently the Old Colours, which had been recovered from the Parish Church at Rickinghall, Suffolk, were laid up at the Middlesex Guildhall on 29 November 1950.

Lt-Col John Doyle writes - He was given the nick-name 'DB' by Sir Brian Horrocks when Sir Brian was Captain & Adjutant of the 9th Bn in the late 1920s. During the 1939-45 war he was Second in Command of 126 LAA Regiment until hostilities ceased. He was the archetypal 2IC, always reliable and well prepared. Throughout the post-war T.A. years he kept a fatherly eye on the Regiment. When the centenary of the Regiment was celebrated in 1958 he was very valuable when it came to writing the Bn's history. In some ways he was a very private man and one learned little of his life outside the Regiment in both war and peace. In his younger days he was an oarsman - I believe he took this very seriously. He was also a bank official of some standing.

HALLS - On 9 April 1947, LCpl A.L. Halls, aged 71 years.

He served with the 1st Bn in Korea. No other details available. He had been unwell for several years.

HESKETH - On 8 March 1997, Major Harold John Hesketh, aged 80 years.

He joined the 9th as a 2Lt during August 1938 and joined 431 Battery until the middle of 1943. He was then posted to India and on arrival was sent on a L.A.A. course at the Gunnery School, Karachi. He was then posted to the 14th Indian L.A.A. Regiment which was a training regiment at Mehgaon, Central Provinces. During April 1944 he attended a course at the RAOC Depot Allabad. In October 1944 he was posted to Chittagong to the 14th Indian Corps and went by sea to Rangoon, Burma. In March 1945 he became a Staff Captain at HQ 4 Corps. He returned to UK for demobilisation during February 1946.

INNES-IRONS - On 4 March 1997, Mrs. R. Innes-Irons, aged 96, widow of the late Brig A. Innes-Irons, CBE, DSO, who commanded the 19th Bn during World War I.

JONES - On 17 December 1996, Private Edward Dennis Jones (14216067), aged 72 years.

He served with the 70th Bn from October 1943 to May 1944 and then joined the 2/8th (1st Bn) until discharge in August 1947.

JUTSUM - On 24 January 1997, Cpl Basil (Tony) Jutsum (6207785), aged 75 years.

Tony Jutsum enlisted into the T.A. on 26 April 1939 and joined the 2/8th Bn

serving in HQ, D and C companies until October 1941, when he volunteered to be a Pilot in the RAF. C/Sgt Roy Bishop informs me that Tony was duly transferred and saw some hair raising exploits as a Fighter Pilot in Burma, and when visiting him enjoyed listening to his war experiences. The October edition of the Saga Magazine featuring the Burma Campaign mentioned Tony.

From 1987 - 1992 he was General Secretary to the RAF Historical Society. Also a "Friend" of I.W.M., N.A.M. and RAF Museum. A committee member of Burma Campaign Fellowship Group.

KING - During April 1997, Lt Ralph Malcolm King (188555), O.B.E., aged 86 years.

Donald King was on a heavily laden Japanese PoW ship when it was hit by a torpedo and sunk off Hong Kong in 1941; he survived to serve as Attorney-General of Nyasaland during the 1959 emergency.

The son of a GP, Ralph Malcolm Macdonald King was born at Willingham, in Cambridgeshire on Feb 8, 1911, and educated at Tonbridge. After articles with solicitors at Boston, he worked for a short time in Portsmouth before accepting a job with the firm of Johnson, Stokes and Master in Hong Kong.

As the Second World War loomed, King joined the Hong Kong Volunteers, and was later commissioned in the Middlesex Regiment. The Japanese landed in Hong Kong on Dec 18 1941; King's platoon came under attack the next day. The six RAF planes on the island had been immediately wiped out, the Navy was almost non-existent, and the situation quickly became hopeless. King's company was overrun in the early hours of Christmas Day, and surrendered on Boxing Day.

Along with thousands of other prisoners, King was put on board the 8,000 ton Lisbon Maru, bound for Japan. Four days into the voyage, the ship, which had no markings to identify it as carrying PoWs, was hit by the first torpedo fired by the Americans during the war.

When the rescue boats came alongside they took off the Japanese troops who occupied the upper decks and made no attempt to save the 1,800 PoWs imprisoned in cargo holds below. A small party from King's hold managed to cut through the battened down canvas to get out on deck, whereupon guards started firing into the hold, killing several prisoners. Those PoWs who swam towards the rescue boats were shot while still in the water.

King jumped into the sea just before the Lisbon Maru went down with some 800 prisoners still on board. After 30 hours in the water, and assisted by a strong current, he finally made it to an island, though he cut his hands and feet badly on the coral as he clambered out. The next day he was recaptured by the Japanese and transported to Kobe, where he would be incarcerated for the next three years.

Conditions were horrendous and, like many others, King suffered from a form of beriberi which causes a hot, electric sensation in the feet. At night the passages would be full of ghostly figures trying to gain relief from the cool concrete floor. Many prisoners lost toes and parts of their feet. During inspections by the International Red Cross the Japanese would decorate each prisoner's bed with items of fruit and food, and then collect them up again as soon as the inspectors had left.

The troops were sent to work as stevedores and on their return would generously

dish out bags of sugar and tinned fish which they had risked stealing. King and his fellow officers did lighter work in a graphite factory.

After the war King returned to Hong Kong, but, depressed by the damage inflicted during the four years' occupation, stayed there only a week.

In 1947 he joined the colonial legal service; his first posting was to Somaliland as a legal officer. He became a crown counsel in 1950, having been called to the Bar by Grays Inn. To reach the tiny courts scattered about the bush, King would travel with his wife in a three-ton lorry, laden with safari boxes, tents, servants and an 80-year-old interpreter.

King was appointed Solicitor-General of Nyasaland in 1953, which entailed a move to Zomba, then the capital. When he became Attorney-General four years later he occupied chambers in a low-ceilinged annexe to the main government building, where white ants would routinely devour the books.

Friendly and tactful to work with, King would tell whomever he briefed that they were the only counsel capable of doing the case. Crises - such as the frequent earthquakes - he would approach with a giggle, followed by yet more fruitless attempts to light his pipe.

He had been Attorney-General for two years when riots swept Nyasaland. These were led by Dr Hastings Banda, who was protesting at the Federation with Southern and Northern Rhodesia, which had come into existence in 1953.

King advised the Governor, Sir Robert Armitage, that a state of emergency should be declared, so that law and order could be more properly maintained. Armitage found King a great help, full of good sense, however badly things appeared to be going.

King recognised that the Federation had caused many in Nyasaland to lose their confidence in the British Government, and he was strongly in favour of a separate and independent state of Malawi.

In 1960, he gave a careful account of his views to the Monckton Commission, which sat shortly after Harold Macmillan's "Winds of Change" speech, and which was designed to inquire into the working of the Federation. "The problem is a political one," King said, "and a political answer must be found if this country is to return to normal and peaceful life and development."

Although King was departing from the official government line, what he advocated was very much in tune with the thinking of Lord Monckton and the other commissioners. After an independent Malawi came into being in 1964, King remained a staunch critic of the British Government's earlier stance.

On his return to England in 1961, King went to work as a solicitor in East Sussex. But he found the work mundane and after 18 months took up an appointment as a legal draftsman in Nigeria. He stayed there for 10 years, living mainly at Kaduna.

An admirable draftsman, patient and knowledgeable, he strove to make his statutes as understandable and simple as possible. In retirement, he taught drafting to lawyers and civil servants from all over the Commonwealth, running courses in London, and taking on six-month teaching periods in Jamaica, Trinidad and Barbados.

King was an energetic walker and a keen cricketer and tennis player. His interest

in current affairs never waned, and he was a doughty debater, whether the subject was Africa, Trollope or cricket. He loved crosswords.

King was appointed OBE in 1968. He married, in 1948, Elizabeth Herring; they had two sons and a daughter.

LANG - On 26 September 1996, Cpl George Richard Lang (6205516), aged 75 years. He served with the 1st Bn The Princess Louise's Regiment 1939-46. He was a member of the Regimental Association.

MALES - On 26 February 1997, Mrs Queenie Males, wife of 6211953 C/Sgt H A C Males, BEM.

MENDOZA - On 31 January 1997, L/Cpl Jack Mendoza (6206557), aged 78 years. Jack Mendoza served with the 1/7th Bn from 1939-45. He was very proud to have been a Diehard and to have fought in every campaign of the 1/7th Bn. He was well known in Sussex for his charitable work on behalf of the Boys Scouts Association, the Handicapped Children Aid Committee, of which he was made a Life President for his twenty five years of service and for his stirring work for the Variety Club of Great Britain, where he was chairman for several years of the Sussex Tent, again receiving special tributes and awards for his tireless efforts.

ROGERS - On 26 November 1996, Tom Rogers aged 85 years. Tom served pre-war with the 2nd Battalion in India having transferred from the Royal Fusiliers in 1932. Time expired in 1939 he returned to UK and was discharged. He was called up in 1942 and served as storeman with the RAF until 1945. He worked for many years as a Messenger at the Stock Exchange. He was a long time resident of Hillingdon in Middlesex.

SMITH - On 2 November 1996, Sgt Ronald J.J. Smith, aged 76 years. Ron Smith served with the RAOC and joined the 1st Bn in Hong Kong in early 1940 to become our Armourer Sgt. He was taken POW on 25 December 1941. He was moved to Japan in late 1942 and held in Amagasaki Camp. He was a great supporter of the Regimental Association and with his wife regularly attended our annual service in St Paul's Cathedral.

TRUNDELL - On 31 January 1997, S/Sgt Herbert Leonard Trundell (6202623), aged 79 years. Bert Trundell joined the 7th Bn T.A. on 22 October 1935. At the outbreak of war he joined the 1/7th Bn and remained until transfer to Army Physical Training Corps on 9 February 1943, serving at No. 1 Remedial Centre until his discharge on 1 April 1946. Bert Trundell's funeral was held at 2.30 pm on Monday 10 February 1997 at the Enfield Crematorium. The Enfield Branch, together with Members of the Enfield British Legion, joined the family and turned out in force to say goodbye to Bert. Both standards were on parade. The Last Post and Reveille were sounded and the Legion Exhortation was read by the Branch Chairman, Mr Bob Cubitt. After the service a reception was held at the Royal British Legion Hall at Enfield.

Bert, a 1/7th Battalion Man, will be remembered in recent years as a stalwart member of the Enfield Branch and for the work he put into and support he gave to the Team that established the Albuhera Room at Enfield. Major and Mrs Ron Morris attended and represented the Regiment.

WALKER - On 1 January 1997, Private K.C. Walker. He was pre war with the 7th Bn. During his war service with the 1/7th Bn he was the C.O.'s driver.

WARNER - On 5th January 1997, WO2 J. Warner (14477426 and 22221098), aged 69 years. Jack Warner enlisted during June 1946 and served until his discharge to pension in December 1969. He served with the 1st Bn in Hong Kong, Korea, Gibraltar, Germany, Austria, Cyprus and Korea. In between all this service, he found time to be a PSI with the 5th Bn Queens TA at Edgware for 2 years. He founded the Enfield Branch of the Regimental Association which is now a very popular branch. He also started up the Albuhera Room at the RBL Enfield Branch which has now become a very important show place for regimental relics. The esteem in which Jack Warner was held could be judged by the 250 plus family and friends who turned out to say farewell at his funeral held at the Enfield Crematorium late morning on Wednesday 15 January 1997. There were representatives from the Regimental Association, The Korean Club, Enfield and Hounslow Branches of the Association, The Postal and Courier Depot, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, Four different Royal British Legion Branches, two Branches of the Royal Naval Association and where applicable their standards were on parade. The Enfield Branch Standard was carried by Mr C Smith and the Escorts were Messrs B Penny and V Beech. The Pipe Sergeant of the London Regiment, Sgt C McPherson played a lament whilst the coffin was carried into the Chapel. The Pall Bearers were:- Messrs R Beall, A Broadbent, H Harrison, A Jennings, T Maskell and J Yates, all members of the Association and the Enfield Branch. An excellent floral tribute in the form of the Middlesex Cap Badge was placed on the hearse for all to see - a fitting tribute to Jack. The service was conducted by the Reverend Martin Kettle from Inglis Barracks. After the service Mrs Eileen Warner provided refreshments at the Royal British Legion Club Enfield for all who attended. Jack would have been proud of the arrangements made for his final send off.

Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club
Minutes of an Executive Committee Meeting
Held at the Duke of York's Headquarters,
Chelsea, London SW3 on Monday the 3rd of March 1997.

Present:- Maj C L Lawrence MC Chairman
 Brig G Bulloch MBE
 Brig B H Marciandi OBE
 Col I D Brotherton TD DL
 Col R M Cain OBE DL
 Lt Col J M Hewson MC
 Maj S L J Henshaw TD
 Capt M J S Doran TD LL B
 Capt S le M Enthoven RIBA
 Capt J S C Flavel
 Maj R E B Morris MBE Secretary

Apologies:- Col M J Ball
 Maj H E Couch TD FRICS FRSA
 Maj A E F Waldron MBE

1. Opening Remarks.

1.1 The Chairman thanked all for attending and said that he intended to deal with the changes in the make up of the Officers' Club Committee and the Executive Committee at the next Meeting so that those members joining at the second Meeting could contribute to any discussion that might arise.

2. Minutes of the last Meeting.

2.1 The Minutes of the last Meeting held on the 4th of March 1996 were agreed as a true record.

3. Matters arising.

3.1 There were no matters arising.

4. The Secretary's Report.

4.1 The Secretary presented his report that had already been circulated.

4.2 The Committee agreed the suggested guest list for the 1997 Dinner. It was decided that the charges for this years Dinner would be £28 per member with the balance of the cost being borne by the Officers' Club. There then followed a discussion with regard to the venue for the 1998 Dinner. The President had mentioned to the Secretary that he had recently attended an excellent dinner at the Duke of York's Headquarters and the Duke of York's together with the RAMC Mess were possible starters. Col R M Cain said that the Caterers at the Duke of York's could, on occasions, be unreliable and in any

event an L shaped dining room tended to cut off those lower down the table. The Secretary said he had been in contact with the RAMC Mess Secretary who said provided the Mess was still in being in 1998 and that the dates suit we would be welcome there. The Mess Secretary will know in June/July if the Mess is to stay open. The Meeting agreed that we would not use the facilities at the Duke of York's. The Secretary was instructed to make a provisional booking for 1998 at the Army and Navy Club. This booking can always be cancelled if we eventually go to the RAMC Mess.

4.3 The Committee authorised the following donations from Officers' Club Funds in 1997:-

9th Bn Officers' Club Lunch	£200.00p
King Edward VII Hospital	£100.00p

5. Chairman of the Finance Committee Report.

5.1 The Chairman of the Finance Committee, Brig B H Marciandi, presented the draft accounts for the year ending 31st December 1996. He said that we were slightly better off than last year having a surplus of £890.00p. No great problems. All the investments have increased in value. The Officers' Club is solvent and able to meet it's commitments. He gave an outline of the events leading up to the requirement to move away the Association Accounts from Speirs & Jeffrey. It made sense to move Officers' Club Portfolio as well. It is now with Brewin Dolphin in the City. Col I D Brotherton proposed that the draft accounts be accepted, seconded by Col R M Cain. Carried.

5.2 Under this heading Brig B H Marciandi said he had been in discussion with the Chairman of the Housing Sub Committee. He had requested that the Association make a contribution towards the cost of a luncheon due to be held at the final meeting of that Committee. It was agreed that grant of £250.00p would be made from Officers' Club Funds.

6. Membership.

6.1 The Committee discussed the proposal to offer Associate Membership to the Officers of B (Queen's) Coy of the London Regt which after some discussion it was agreed. The Secretary was instructed to convey this offer to OC B Coy.

6.2 The Committee agreed to offer Associate Membership to Mr John Harris, (proposed by Capt S le M Enthoven). Again the Secretary is to convey this offer to Mr Harris.

7. Any Other Business.

7.1 Nil.

8. Date and Venue for the next Meeting.

8.1 Agreed that the next Meeting would be held at the Duke of York's Headquarters on the 2nd of March 1988 at 1400 hours.

Signed: R E B Morris, Maj. Secretary

**The Middlesex Regimental Association
Minutes of an Executive Committee Meeting
Held at the Duke of York's Headquarters,
Chelsea, London SW3 on Monday 3rd of March 1997.**

Present:- Maj C L Lawrence MC Chairman
Brig G Bulloch MBE
Brig B H Marciandi OBE
Col I D Brotherton TD DL
Col R M Cain OBE DL
Lt Col J M Hewson MC
Maj S L J Henshaw TD
Capt M J S Doran TD LL B
Capt S le M Enthoven RIBA
Capt J S C Flavell
Mr A Broadbent
Mr J A Loftis
M G Young
Maj R E B Morris MBE Secretary

Apologies:- Col M J Ball
Maj H E Couch TD FRICS FRSA
Maj A E F Waldron MBE

1. Opening Remarks.

1.1 Maj C L Lawrence, the Chairman extended a welcome to the three members of the Committee joining this Meeting.

1.2 The Chairman announced that Capt A I F Goldman has resigned from both Committees. The appropriate letters have been sent to Capt Goldman expressing this Committee's thanks for his years of service. After some discussion it was proposed by Capt M J S Doran and seconded by Col I D Brotherton that we invite Mr M J Ward to join the Executive Committee. Carried. The Secretary is to write to Mr Ward accordingly.

1.3 The Chairman said that Col I D Brotherton wished to stand down as Vice Chairman and he had proposed that Capt M J S Doran be elected in his place. He has approached Capt Doran who is willing to accept the post provided members agree. The proposal was seconded by Mr G Young. Carried. Brig B H Marciandi said we will appreciate his counsel and advice at future meetings of the Finance Sub Committee.

1.4 Maj C L Lawrence said that Col I D Brotherton has been the Vice Chairman for decades. He is one of our oldest and wisest members. He expressed both the Association's and the Officers' Club Committees thanks for all he has done over the

years. He was delighted to say that he is remaining on both the Officers' Club and Association Committees.

2. Minutes of the last Meeting.

2.1 It was agreed that the minutes of the Meeting held on the 4th of March 1996 are a true record.

3. Matters arising.

3.1 Brig G Bulloch said he had looked into the requirement for the Regiment to be represented at the Final Parades in Hong Kong. He had spoken to the Far East Desk at the MOD. They advised that from a military point of view all very much low key. In the event of the need for representation Maj Brian Finch is in Hong Kong and is willing to make himself available.

4. Secretary's Report.

4.1 The Secretary presented his report that had already been circulated. He asked for the Committee's approval to make the following grants and expenditure:-

Star & Garter Home	£100.00p
MX and NW London ACF	£600.00p
Albuhera Service at St Paul's	£1600.00p
Annual Reunion	£1000.00p
Service at Field of Remembrance	£100.00p

This was agreed. There was some discussion with regard to the ACF Grant but it was decided to leave it at £600.00p for the current year.

4.2 The Secretary explained that the costs at the Victory Services Club have increased by three per cent over last year and he sought agreement to charge members £11.00p for tickets for the Reunion. This roughly splits the cost of the increase between the Association and the individual. This was agreed.

5. Finance Chairman's Report.

5.1 The Chairman of the Finance Sub Committee said it had been a very busy year. As the United Services Trustee has decided to fall out it became necessary to move our portfolios to a nominee company. The original intention was to go to Speirs & Jeffrey but unfortunately Speirs & Jeffrey were barred by the Charity Commission as they are located in Glasgow and therefore operate under the Scottish Legal System and not that of England and Wales. Mr N Buckley Sharp of Cooper Lancaster Brewers recommended that we should move to Messrs Brewin Dolphin in the City. Two meetings were held and the Finance Sub Committee were impressed with the services offered by Brewin Dolphin and so decided to go ahead as authorised, (para 5.1 of the last Minutes refers).

At all times the Chairman and the Vice Chairman were advised of the activities taking place. Col I D Brotherton said he had read the minutes of the meetings and everything appeared very satisfactory. Brig B H Marciandi asked the Committee to approve the action taken. This was agreed.

5.2 Brig B H Marciandi then presented the draft accounts for the Committees consideration. They were in draft as the new rules from the Charity Commission mean that they have to be submitted, as from this year, in a new format which includes a report on the years activities. There then followed some discussion on the possible need for a separate account to fund social events. Brig B H Marciandi said that to open another account would cost money. Col I D Brotherton suggested that the Finance Sub Committee look at the problem and report back at the next meeting. If they thought there was a requirement to act before the next meeting then they should be authorised to do so. This was agreed.

5.3 Brig B H Marciandi mentioned that the Museum Fund money has been moved into the main account and is accounted for under a separate heading. There is a requirement to close down the Museum Trust. The Chairman instructed the Secretary to contact Maj A E F Waldron with the request that he write to the Charity Commissioners to this effect.

5.4 There is need to consider the amalgamation of the Association and Militia Trusts. The Finance Committee are requested to look at this at their next Meeting. Now that the rents from Albuhera Close are no longer being received there may be a future cash flow problem.

5.5 Brig B H Marciandi asked the Committee to approve the draft accounts. Proposed by Capt J S C Flavell seconded by Col R M Cain. Carried.

5.6 The Chairman thanked the Finance Committee for all their hard work during the last year.

6. Housing Committee Report.

6.1 In the absence of the Housing Committee Chairman Col R M Cain presented the report. He said that the handover of the Estate to Haig Homes took place on the 31st of January 1997. A tree planting by the Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Portillo, will take place on the 7th March 1997 to commemorate the event. This concludes the activities of the Housing Sub Committee. A resolution to disband the Housing Sub Committee was approved. At this point Col I D Brotherton said that we must not lose sight of the need to maintain our liaison with the tenants. Welfare must remain with the Association.

6.2 The earlier proposals at the Housing and the Finance Committees that the Housing Manager, Maj A E F Waldron and the Rent Collector, Mr G Young be given a gratuity of one year's salary in appreciation of their services was approved.

6.3 A vote of thanks was recorded for the Housing Committee for their many years of

hard work together with a vote of thanks for the work undertaken by Maj A E F Waldron and Mr G Young.

7. Albuhera Lunch at the National Army Museum.

7.1 It was agreed that the 1997 Albuhera Lunch at the National Army Museum would be funded from the Museum Account.

8. Albuhera Service.

8.1 Noted that the Albuhera Service had been covered in the Secretary's Report. Suffice to say that the Service would be conducted by the Reverend P Tuft assisted by the Right Reverend Mgr R Brown and take the same format as in previous years.

9. 2/10th Bn OCA.

9.1 The Secretary said that the 2/10th Bn OCA has formally disbanded. The balance of their funds £571.00p has been handed over to the Association. One outstanding point. The daughters of Mr Scudamore have asked for a plaque in memory of their father to be placed in the Church at Chiswick. The Church Council have agreed to a small addition to the cabinet holding the 2/10th Roll of Honour. This is in hand. There will be a short dedication service, as part of a morning service, in due course.

10. Presentation of Colours to the London Regt.

10.1 The Chairman said that in his view any grant made should go direct to B Coy. He understood that there was no longer a requirement for regimental funding as others have been quite generous. Proposed by Capt S le M Enthoven that a grant of £200.00p be made to B Coy, seconded by Lt Col J M Hewson. Carried.

11. Correspondence.

11.1 The Secretary circulated several letters for the Committee's information.

12. Any other Business.

12.1 Col I D Brotherton mentioned that the War Memorial from the Hounslow Drill Hall was now in store at Edgware. A Church in Hounslow currently being refurbished is likely to take it. TAVRA(GL) have agreed to pay the costs of removal and installation.

12.1 Mr G Young presented a paper that asked what is going to happen eventually to the Association in the years ahead. Capt M J S Doran said we do not have an aim. Brig B H Marciandi said that the Finance Sub Committee had considered this subject at their first Meeting in May 1993; at this time they concluded that it was too early to consider the long term future, except for the possible disposal of our Housing Property but the matter could be reopened at any time. Col I D Brotherton said there are two possibilities; stay as we are or a positive direction to run down, but have we reached this stage

yet? Capital should go to those in the Association now. Col Brotherton suggested that a Sub Committee be formed to look at (a) stay as we are, (b) run down, and (c) termination. The Chairman thought we should obtain a view from the President and perhaps seek an interim report for next years meeting.

13. Date and Venue for the next Meeting.

13.1 Agreed that the next meeting would be held at the Duke of York's Headquarters on Monday the 2nd of March 1998 starting with the first meeting at 1400 hours.

Signed: R E Morris, Maj. Secretary

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Middlesex Regimental Association held at the Victory Services Club, London W2 at 1915 hours on Saturday 10th May 1997.

Present: Maj C.L Lawrence, MC, Chairman, Brig B H Marciandi, OBE,
Col A M Man, DSO, OBE, Maj R E B Morris, MBE, Messrs R Beall,
A A Burford, A Broadbent, E Byatt, D S Carmichael, R Cubitt,
C S Hockin, J A Lofts, K G Mortimer, M J Mulvaney, W Penny,
T Price, C Smith, G E J Smith, R Sturge and B Yerby.

1. Opening remarks.

1.1 The Chairman opened the meeting by advising all present that we had sent our usual message of loyal greetings to HM The Queen and he read out her reply.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

2.1 The Minutes of the Meeting held on Saturday the 11th of May 1996, having been previously circulated, were agreed as a true record. Proposed by Mr A Beall and seconded by Mr J A Lofts. Carried.

3. Matters Arising.

3.1 The Chairman mentioned the sad passing of Col Tom Chattey and Mr Jack Warner.

4. Accounts for the year ending 31 December 1996.

4.1 The Secretary explained the accounts for the year ending 31st December 1996. He drew attention to the revised format required to meet the new regulations laid down by the Charity Commission. He pointed out that the surplus of income over expenditure was largely due to the transfer of funds from the Museum Account on its closure. Brig B H Marciandi explained the reasons behind the decision to move our portfolio into the care of Messrs Brewin Dolphin. He said that work connected to the move had increased

the Secretary's work load and he asked that a vote of thanks be formally recorded. The Chairman said that a vote of thanks should also be given to the Finance Sub Committee and he asked Brig Marciandi to pass this on. Mr B Yerby moved that the accounts be adopted and approved. Seconded by Mr A Burford. Carried.

5. Any other business.

5.1 Under this heading the Chairman presented his report:-

5.1.1. He mentioned that a trawl of members had been undertaken by Majs A E F Waldron and R E B Morris. They endeavoured to contact all those who had not been in touch for three years or more. Lost some members but others are still joining. Strength of the Association as at today 1003.

5.1.2. Benevolence still our main activity. £17K paid out to those in need during 1996. Of this figure £10K came from the Army Benevolent Fund. They are very supportive.

5.1.3. Haig Homes now administer Albuhera Close. Mr B Cubitt said all is going well. The estate has been surveyed with a view to establishing what improvements can be made and requests for repairs etc. receive a speedy response. The Chairman mentioned that Gen A N Carlier the Director of Haig Homes had been the principle guest at the Officers' Club Dinner held last night.

5.1.4. The Trotobus medals are now with the National Army Museum and will be displayed as from Monday the 12th of May.

5.1.5. 16 May 1997. The Enfield Branch are sending a party to Inglis Barracks to lay a wreath on the Memorial. Mr R Cubitt said that an excellent relationship had been built up between the Branch and the Postal and Courier Depot. Hounslow Branch are sending a small party to Albuhera. A buffet lunch being held at the National Army Museum followed by a presentation "London and the Civil War".

5.1.6. Finally the Chairman reminded all about the forthcoming Presentation of Colours Parades for 1 PWRR on the 30th of June and the London Regiment on the 25th of July 1997.

5.2. Mr R Beall, on behalf of the Enfield Branch, thanked the Committee for the grant of £100 towards the cost of transport to the various functions coming up shortly.

6. Closing Remarks.

6.1. There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 1950 hours.

Signed: R E B Morris, Maj, Secretary.

LETTERS

The following very interesting letter received from Carruthers Newton, son of Major W C E Newton, who served with the 1st Bn during 1937-1941, is published for information.

P.O. Box 53110
Kenilworth 7745
Cape
South Africa.
9th May 1997

Dear Major Morris,

My brother and I had the opportunity to revisit Hong Kong last year - we left as boys in early 1941 when father was reposted to the U.K. and our journey took us via Cape Town to Greenock. It had always been my wish to see H.K. again before the flag comes down and I retraced our steps on the Canberra via Singapore.

We expected great changes and certainly Nathan Road in Kowloon was quite different - no rickshaws! The New Territories of course is now quite urbanised compared to my memories of Fanling Golf course and Clay bird and duck shooting trips. Where we lived in Tak Shing Terrace overlooking the Kowloon Cricket Club was still there in name only - a 20 odd block of flats now on our former home. We enjoyed the Peninsula Hotel our last home after we had packed up waiting for the small Dutch ship - Cremar which took us to Singapore. The Star ferries were very much the same - the added pleasure was that as a 'pensioner' I could still travel free! As for H.K. itself. It was pleasant to walk on the beach at the Repulse Bay Hotel. Surprised to see anti shark nets there and as for Aberdeen, where I remember a trip with father when he was checking on the camouflage of our Pill Boxes from the sea - it is another world, no longer a small sleepy fishing village.

On Kowloon, I walked up Argyl Street where I believe the Japanese had a notorious prison which in turn brought my thoughts back to Colonel Stewart whose signature is on the silver plate given to my parents on the occasion of their marriage which I still have. This of course led us to Stanley and to the military cemetery. Here again reading the tomb stones brought back happy memories of our childhood as being part of the 'regimental family'. I am sure you have photos of Col Stewart's grave, but nevertheless I took the enclosed one. Watching BBC on TV news the other night it was interesting watching men of the Black Watch regiment in Hong Kong and also visiting Stanley cemetery, one of them found the grave of his great uncle who was in the Royal Scots when H.K. fell.

Time, certainly never stands still. It is sad to see this end of another chapter of British Colonial history taking place next month - nevertheless we were fortunate to have enjoyed being there so many years ago.

Enclosed is a cheque in memory of my Grandfather, Lt Col Newton and my Father Major Newton - both 'Die Hards'.

Best wishes to you all,

Sincerely,

Carruthers Newton

GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION

April 25 is the anniversary of the day in 1915 when British and Allied Forces landed on the Gallipoli Peninsula in an effort to capture the Dardanelles, defeat Turkey and open a supply route to Russia.

Had we been successful there is no doubt that it would have had a significant influence on the length of The Great War and thus saved many who became casualties in the latter stages of the conflict.

However, we did not succeed and in fighting as severe as anything experienced in France and Flanders during the whole of the War, the Allies, in the eight months they were on the Peninsula, suffered an estimated 250,000 casualties, the vast majority of whom were British and from these Islands. With the exception of one Regular Army Division, the 29th, the British forces were composed of pre-war Territorials and initial volunteers for Kitchener's Army of 1914. The vast majority of men were thrust into battle with limited training in fighting a determined enemy in a hostile terrain.

Fighting during the eight month's campaign was constant and heavy, an indication is the fact that thirty five Victoria Crosses were awarded.

The Gallipoli Association was founded to ensure that the memory of Gallipoli, the men who fought and died on its inhospitable shores and the many sacrifices they made are not forgotten.

The Association is world wide in membership but unfortunately time is taking its toll on the veterans of the campaign for all are passed their individual century. The remainder of the membership consists of those who have a family connection with someone who served in the Gallipoli campaign or have a specific or general interest in the activities of The British Army on the Peninsula.

The Association welcomes new members and would be pleased to provide further information to anyone who has an interest in keeping alive the memory of the Gallipoli campaign of 1915. The 2/10th Bn The Middlesex Regiment(DCO) took part in this battle.

Mr J J Fallon, Hon Public Relations Officer, The Gallipoli Association, 2, Sunnyfield, The Ryde, Hatfield, Herts AL9 5DX.

REGIMENTAL GOODS

The following regimental goods are available to purchase. These can be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Major R.E.B. Morris, MBE, 38 Traps Lane, New Malden, Surrey KT3 4SA. Postage and packing is included in the price. Cheques or Postal Orders should be made payable to the Middlesex Regimental Association.

Blazer Badges	£ 7.00 each
Car Badges (good quality)	£10.00 each
Ice Buckets, miniature side drum with regimental emblazon	£23.00 each
Ties Regtl Old Pattern, Maroon & Old Gold	£ 5.00 each
Ties Regtl New Pattern	£ 4.00 each
Ties Officers' Club Silk '	£12.50 each
Middlesex Regiment Cap Badges (improved quality)	£ 5.50 each
Middlesex Regiment Key Rings	£ 2.50 each
Old Comrades Lapel Badges, Old Pattern - The Diehards	£ 2.75 each
Wall Plaques, Middlesex Regiment	£17.50 each
Prints Drums and Fifes, unframed, large	£ 8.50 each
small	£ 4.50 each
Christmas Cards depicting:	
Steady the Drums and Fifes	.35 each
The Guardroom Scene	.35 each
Colonel Graham Egerton, 77th Foot Portsmouth 1854	.35 each

We are now in a position to supply the following - please allow 14 days for delivery:

Middlesex Regtl Blazor Button (Flat staybright with engraved Middlesex Badge)	
Sets of 6 large & 6 small	£22.00 set
Individual buttons large or small	£ 2.00 each
Middlesex Regimental Cuff Links	£ 7.50 per pair
Middlesex Regimental Cuff Links with tie grip	£10.50 set
Tie Grip only	£ 5.00 each
Middlesex Regiment Ladies Brooch	£ 4.75 each
Middlesex Tie Tack and Chain	£ 4.50 each