



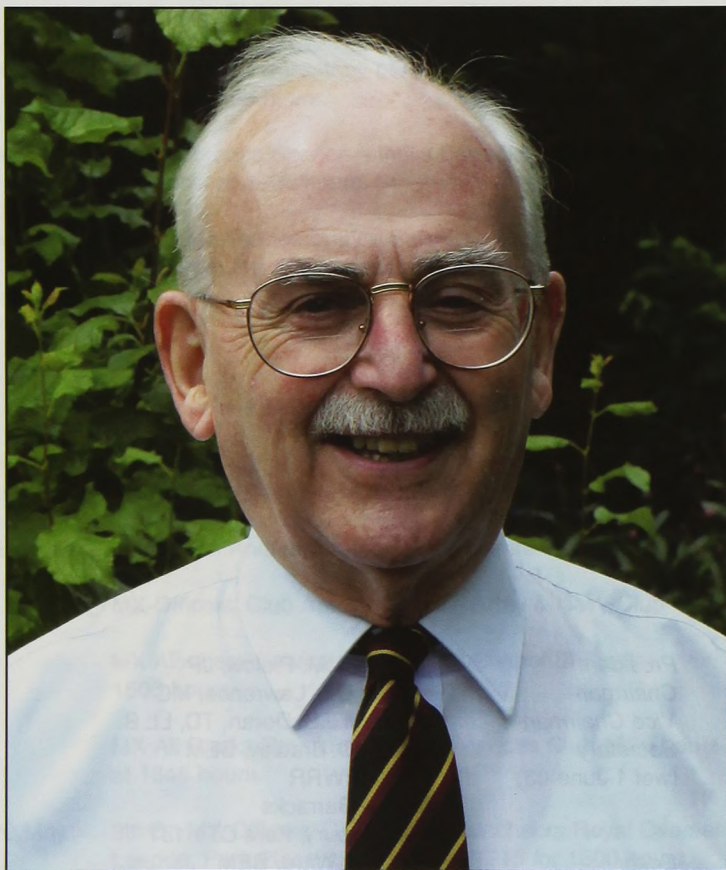
# *The Die-Hards*

NEWSLETTER

No. 89

June 2003

Price £1



*Ron Morris - Regimental Secretary*



*President* : Brig B.A.M. Pielow, JP  
*Chairman* : Major C.L. Lawrence, MC  
*Vice Chairman* : Capt M.J.S. Doran, TD, LL.B.  
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## FORECAST OF EVENTS 2003

- 13 September MX Korean Club Annual Reunion – From 1130 hrs – 1530 hours - Victory Services Club.  
 2 October 2/7th Bn MX Annual Luncheon – Victory Services Club 1200 for 1300 hours.  
 6 November Garden of Remembrance - Westminster  
 6 November 7th Bn MX Officers' Club Dinner – Officers' Mess The London Regiment, St John's Hill, London SW1.  
 8 November MX Regiment Ceremony of Remembrance – Middlesex Guildhall 1030 for 1100 hours.  
 9 November Remembrance Service – Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill assemble at 1000 hours.  
 9 November 7th Bn MX Remembrance Service – Parish Church of St Mary and St George, Hornsey – assemble 1000 hours.

## 2004.

- March Executive and Officers' Club Committee Meetings  
 TBC  
 6 March Queen's Regimental Reunion – Victory Services Club  
 24 April 1/7th OCA Annual Reunion - TA Centre Hornsey  
 7 May MX Officers' Club Annual Dinner - Army & Navy Club  
 8 May MX Albuhera Service, Regimental Chapel St Paul's 1500 hours  
 8 May MX All Ranks Reunion - Victory Services Club 1830 hours – AGM at 1845 hours.  
 13 or 20 May 9th Bn MX Officers' Club Annual Luncheon, Royal Overseas  
 TBC League, Park Place, London SW1 1215 for 1300 hours,



## Donations Made

|                                 |      |  |
|---------------------------------|------|--|
| Enfield Branch                  | £290 | Grant towards cost of new standard                       |
| MX & NW London ACF              | £950 |  |
| Friends of the British Cemetery |      |  |
| Elvas                           | £50  | Grant towards upkeep                                     |
| Royal Star & Garter Home        | £250 |  |
| 1/7th Bn OCA                    | £200 | Grant towards cost of Annual Luncheon                    |
| 2/7th Bn OCA                    | £300 | " "  |
| Korean Club                     | £300 | " "  |
| Enfield Branch                  | £250 | Grant towards cost of dedication parade for new Standard |
| Hounslow Branch                 | £150 | To assist with travel costs to Albuhera                  |

(Donations made so far in this FY total £2919)

## Bequests/Donations received

|               |      |  |
|---------------|------|--|
| Mr P F Wookey | £60  |  |
| D K Cattell   | £100 |  |
| J Yeowell     | £50  | In memory of Sgt W O Yeowell KIA 1.12.17   |
| Miss J Bower  | £50  |  |
| Mrs Bennett   | £255 | In memory of her husband David Bennett – donations in lieu of flowers at David's funeral – sum collected split between the Association and the local Church. |
| D Johns       | £112 | Sponsored cycle ride John O'Croats, Dover, Lands End (more to come !)  |

(Plus very many smaller donations gratefully received)

## Benevolent Grants

|                            | 31 Dec 01 | 31 Dec 02 | To May 03 |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Grants made to individuals | £16013    | £11317    | £9194     |
| Less ABF Grants            | £8101     | £4424     | £4880     |
| Net                        | £7912     | £6893     | £4314     |

## Major Ron Morris MBE

A cunningly engineered conversation with Ron Morris some years ago at a Queen's Regiment drinks party, when he was still the Emergency Planning Officer with the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, gave me the opportunity to quiz him about his future and to suggest he took over as our Regimental Secretary when Frank Waldron retired. His agreement to do so was just about the best thing I have achieved for the Association.

He first joined us as the Quartermaster of the 1st Battalion in Holywood Barracks Belfast moving to 4 QUEENS when the large Regiment was formed. When the 4 QUEENS disbanded he went to 1 QUEENS in Berlin as the Battalion's outstandingly efficient and hard working supplier of quartermastering miracles which confirmed him as a Diehard and built an early reputation. 1 QUEENS left Berlin in 72 for Bulford. Ron stayed with them as the QM moving to Werl in 75. Then in 77 he returned to Berlin and joined the Staff of Berlin Infantry Brigade, working his well known wonders there before he went to the Divisional Depot at Bassingbourn for his last posting before retiring to sort out Hammersmith Council in a manner never before suffered by them and one suspects never forgotten. He became our Association Secretary on Albuhera Day 1993 a post he handed over on 1 June to Major Dennis Bradley at the HQ PWRR.

Having had the real pleasure of working with Ron on an almost daily basis since May '93 I can say without any hesitation that he has single handedly kept the Association alive and firmly on the rails. Accompanied invariably by his ever cheerful and uniformly popular and regimentally active wife Betty, he has organised and/or attended every function we have ever had. Apart from the all important maintenance of contact with our members and their families, his remit has included, reunions, lunches, dinners, church services, National Army Museum functions, branch occasions, our input to PWRR functions and old comrades funerals. All this as well as handling the regular production of the Newsletter. Indeed every single regimental activity has had the Ron Morris signature and its invariable success has been thanks to Ron's immaculate planning and involvement.

His fancifully described "part time" employment in the Association has in fact been a 24 hour a day involvement, as the many of us who are constantly phoning or writing to him will readily endorse. He has been a compassionate and expert handler of hundreds of personal matters, as well as a sound provider of financial advice.

We will fortunately not be losing all of Ron's expertise. He will continue to run the Officers' Club and will be one of the members of the newly slimmed-down Association Executive Committee which will thus benefit from his wide-ranging knowledge and regimental background.

Every member of the Association has a lot to thank Ron and Betty for and I believe each of us is well aware of that particular debt. I certainly am.

BAMP



## THE PRINCESS OF WALES'S ROYAL REGIMENT

Since the last edition much has happened on the world stage. The war in Iraq has been fought and won thanks to a combination of modern equipment and sheer bravery. The muddle and the confusion surrounding the firemen's strike never went away with 19,000 service personnel still on standby during the war. At the time of writing this report the muddle still continues. We as a Regiment or a Battalion were not deployed to Iraq, however, we had approximately 50 All Ranks in the war zone and another 40 All Ranks in Afghanistan.

The 1st Battalion continues its armoured warrior role in Tidworth. It will in the near future form part of a Brigade as the follow on force for Iraq. Training must now take priority after the firemen's strike deployment has completely changed any proposed training programmes, (eg an exercise that took over a year to plan was cancelled at 48 hours notice due to the firemen's strike!). The Battalion goes to Canada in August/September 2003 to carry out the all important live firing exercises (Armoured Warrior) required to tune their tactics ready for Iraq.

If Op Fresco (Firemen's Strike) continues the Battalion will once again take over responsibility for the South London Area 250 troops with a further 250 troops committed and deployed to Northern Ireland. They will man the Green Goddesses. The Battalion is in fine form recruited to over establishment and looking forward to the next few months.

The 2nd Battalion has now settled into life at the new barracks at Ternhill (Shropshire). Their exercise to Kenya that was due to take place in January and February 2003 was cancelled at short notice due to the looming war in Iraq and the Firemen's strike not being resolved. They will proceed on a six months tour to Northern Ireland in June 2003. They are now concentrating on specialist training for the Province at Lydd Ranges. The Colonel in Chief visited them on 16 May (Albuhera Day) at Lydd and had an excellent day.

The 3rd Battalion is now under the command of Lieut Colonel Tony Guthrie. The previous CO Lieut Colonel Patrick Crowley is now ensconced as a DS at Shrivenham having had a very successful tour. The Battalion have provided the main element of a Composite TA Rifle Company for deployment to Afghanistan – ie approx 40 All Ranks. This will be an exciting deployment and will commence in June 2003 for six months. The Battalion also provided 8 members for compulsory call out for the recent war in Iraq and also 5 ORs who are deployed to Bosnia, Kosovo and Cyprus all in support of the Regular Army. In addition the Battalion is forming the Civic Contingency Reaction Force (CCRF) with the HQ based in Canterbury. This force would be used in the event of a terrorist problem or a natural major disaster. Annual Camp 2003 will be in Sennybridge.

## B Company The London Regiment.

The Company recently had a good Annual Camp in Sennelager. They have also provided 3 ORs for deployment to Afghanistan and had a couple of compulsory reservist call ups for Iraq. Annual Camp 2003 will be Dartmoor.

## C Company The Rifle Volunteers

C Company provides the highest percentage of soldiers for Full Time Reserve Service from the Battalion (ie those volunteering for a fixed term deployment with the Regular Army). They have 5 for Afghanistan, 2 for Iraq and more for Cyprus and Kosovo. Annual Camp last year was in the Ukraine and in 2003 it will be in Lithuania.

As can be seen there is a strong reliance on the part time soldier to support the Regular Army operations. This is excellent and well carried out by our volunteer soldiers.

The Regiment is in fine form and once the firemen's strike can be resolved life should get back to the correct level of training and operations. We await the next conflict?

AJM.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee Meeting followed by a Meeting of the Officers' Club Committee was held at the Duke of York's Headquarters on Tuesday the 11th of March 2003. The Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting are published towards the end of the Newsletter.

## 1/7th BATTALION LUNCHEON CLUB

On Saturday the 26th of April 2003 42 members and guests attended the Clubs 41st Annual Luncheon in the Officers' Mess at the Drill Hall Hornsey. 15 members of the original 1/7th were joined by members of the 2/7th, the Enfield Branch, and the Middlesex Branch of the Queen's Regimental Association.

Among the personal guests were two French visitors Ms Marie Helen Delcambre and Mr Matt Marcotte from France who were the guests of Barry King. Ms Delcambre is the granddaughter of the family that Barry was billeted with prior to the Dunkirk Evacuation in 1940. Barry, who is currently on long leave from his home in Australia was recently awarded the Order of Merit by the French Government.

The Club also took the opportunity to say an official farewell and thanks to Major Ron Morris and Betty for their support to us all over many years that Ron has been the Regimental Secretary.

The next Luncheon will be held on Saturday the 24th of April 2004. New members are welcome and should phone the Secretary, Les Vial, for further details on 020 8363 8322.



Finally Vic Hill of the "Pre-War" 7th presented the last of the 12 "Albuhera" tankards to Les Vial for display in the Hornsey Museum. The tankards were originally designed and presented by Vic to regimental personalities to mark the PWRR sponsored visit to Albuhera in 2001.

DH



*Vic Hill on the left presents the Albuhera Tankard to Les Vial*

#### **OFFICERS' CLUB.**

The Officers' Club Dinner was held at the Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, London SW1 on Friday the 9th of May 2003. There was no principle guest this year.

Regimental Guests:- Maj Dennis Bradley, Mrs Pam Argles, Mrs Anna Bennett, Miss Jean Bower, Mrs Ann Davies, Mrs Andy Hutchings, Mrs Vanda Hewson, Mrs Alison Murray and Mrs Christine Pollard.

Members and Private Guests:- Brig & Mrs Tony Pielow, Brig Brian Marciandi, Brig & Mrs Dennis Rendell, Col & Mrs Rex Cain, Col John Moore, Lt Col & Mrs Mike Deakin, Lt Col & Mrs Hugh Lohan, Maj & Mrs Bob Bartlett, Maj & Mrs Peter Clarke, Maj & Mrs Harold Couch, Maj & Mrs Brian Finch, Maj John Hamill, Maj & Mrs Derrick Harwood,

Maj & Mrs Stewart Henshaw, Maj & Mrs James Jonklaas, Maj & Mrs Chris Lawrence, Maj Ian Lloyd, Maj & Mrs Tony McManus, Maj & Mrs Ron Morris, Maj Barry Reed, Maj Patrick Wollocombe, Capt Johnny Day, Capt & Mrs Mike Doran, Capt Peter Lane, Lt Simon Cawthorne & Mrs Fran Castle, Mr Trevor Davies, Lt & Mrs Peter Ottino

Brig Tony Pielow welcomed our guests and he said that once more he was delighted to see that the numbers attending the dinner were holding up. He went on to say some very kind words in appreciation of the hard work, ably assisted by his wife Betty, that our retiring Secretary undertakes on behalf of both the Officers' Club and the Association and he said it gave him great pleasure to present from the Club Members a crystal fruit bowl beautifully engraved with the Regimental Badge and saying "Many thanks from us all in the Officers' Club – May 2003".

He then went on to mention that there was to be an Officers Club Luncheon in addition to the Dinner again this year. Maj Stephen Dowse has kindly offered to run it in September at the Wardrobe in Salisbury and he would be sending out the required information shortly.

#### **ANNUAL SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE.**

There was a gratifying attendance at our Service in the Regimental Chapel in St Paul's Cathedral held at 3pm on Saturday the 10th of May 2003. Our Chaplain, the Reverend Prebendary Patrick Tuft led both the prayers and gave the address as the Right Reverend Mgr Ralph Brown was in hospital and unable to be present. There were two readings, the first by Brigadier Tony Pielow was taken from the Colossians Chapter 3 vv 12 – 17 and the second by Colonel Mike Ball was from Luke Chapter 7 vv 1 – 10.

#### **THE ANNUAL REUNION.**

The numbers were slightly down this year. Not surprising really as we are all getting older. Nevertheless it was good to see so many people there all thoroughly enjoying themselves and meeting their old friends yet again. The service from the Victory Club Staff was up to the very high standard that we have come to expect and the fish and chips were as delicious as ever. Those attending were most impressed by the general improvements made to the reception areas and the club bar since we were last there. It was a pleasure to relax over a beer or two before the reunion got under way.

#### **THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Victory Services Club starting at 6.45 pm on Saturday the 10th of May 2003. There were sixty members present to discuss and approve the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2003 and to consider and agree the Rules updated in preparation for the move of our administration to the RHQ PWRR. Brigadier Tony Pielow took then took the opportunity to say a few very kind words in appreciation of the work undertaken by our retiring Secretary, Major Ron Morris, and at the same time he welcomed Major Dennis Bradley from the PWRR who will be looking after our affairs as from the 1st of June 2003. The minutes of the meeting are published towards the end of this newsletter.



## A PILGRIMAGE TO THE IBERIAN PENINSULAR

For the thirteenth time the Hounslow Branch returned to the Iberian Peninsular to continue that special affinity which exists between the Regiment and the towns of Albuera and Elvas where Major General Daniel Hoghton, who commanded the Brigade in which the 57th of Foot acquitted themselves so well on the 16th of May 1811, is buried.

So on Thursday the 15th of May the Branch attended the ceremony, held this year earlier than is normal, to accommodate a party of Royal Fusiliers who were due to leave Spain before the following Sunday. The ceremony included the inauguration of a new gravestone to Lt Col Daniel White of the 29th of Foot who died in Elvas as a result of wounds sustained at La Albuera. Present for the first time was Sir Bernard Hoghton Bt DL who expressed his feelings by saying it was a very happy day, full of emotion and dedication. A short service was conducted by the Chaplain of Regimento de Infanteria No 8, in the presence of Ronaldo Almeida the Mayor of Elvas, Major Halladie and a large group of the Friends of the British Cemetery. It is believed to be the oldest British Military Cemetery in Europe and is located in the bastion of S Joao de Corujeiro at Elvas and is open to the public. The Branch laid a wreath on behalf of the Regiment at the tablets that were erected in the cemetery in May 2001. After the sounding of Toque dos Mortes, two minutes silence and the Alvorada those present adjourned for lunch which was held at Quinta Santo Antonia where Richard Thornton and John Raby acted as unpaid salesmen for the Friends selling plates, Christmas Cards and other memorabilia.

In the evening we were entertained by Don Enrique Rubio on his Estate in Spain and were taken to see a new location, to add to our knowledge of the battle, the hill where the Spanish Contingent held mass before they proceeded to take their place in the Allied line. May the 16th is by now a familiar programme and as is customary, we gathered in the plaza in company with many distinguished dignitaries and the Spanish Army Contingent, for the usual speeches, raising of national flags and the laying wreaths to all the participants in the battle. The Army contingent sang the lament, which is always very moving, before marching past the saluting base where the salute was taken by a Spanish General. Mike Ward presented, on behalf of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, a fine trophy to be awarded annually to the pupil in the village school who makes the most progress in the English language, which was won this year by a young girl. The citizens of La Albuera all represent members of the various regiments present at the battle and the ladies of the village produce authentic replicas of the old uniforms. In the evening all the regiments that have been created, assemble and march to the Los Campomentos, and they entertain the very large crowds that now attend the anniversary of the battle. Then on the Saturday and the Sunday a well staged and realistically performed recreation of the battle took place.

MJW

## ODD JOTTINGS

I was sitting in my office one afternoon in early December when Heinz Johannsen walked in completely unannounced. What a lovely surprise. He was doing a tour of his friends located in the south of England to wish them well for Christmas. After leaving me he went on to see Brigadier Tony Pielow. In a subsequent conversation Heinz told me that he had driven for over 1200 kilometres visiting his various friends in the Regiment. So far I know he visited Ron Topley, Cliff Bilney, Jack Jones, Les Dyer and many others.

Members may recall that in a recent Diehard we congratulated Barry King on being awarded the Order of Australia. I am now told that he was made an Officier de l'Ordre National du Merite on the 22nd of October 2002. The award ceremony took place on the French Frigate Floreal when it visited Adelaide. Many congratulations again Barry.

Ted Wilkes embarked with members of the 1/8th Battalion in a small boat from the East Mole at Dunkirk and the boat took them to Ramsgate. He is endeavouring to discover the boat's name. If anyone knows it can they please tell the Secretary and he will pass it on to Ted.

John Hart called me just before Christmas to say that sadly he had had to return to UK from New Zealand to attend his father's funeral. I told him that the front cover of the December Newsletter showed the 57th Monument in New Plymouth and he reminded me that the monument was actually built by the Pioneers of the 57th. I neglected to point this out. I should have done. He also asked me to say that because there was another John in his recruit Training Platoon at the Depot all the time he was serving he was known as Les Hart.

Harry Alcock rang to wish me a merry Christmas and to tell me that whilst reading the entry about Rendsburg in the December Newsletter, received that morning, there was knock on the door and a parcel containing Christmas goodies was delivered having travelled all the way from Heinz Johannsen in Rendsburg. Harry said that Heinz never forgets him at Christmas.

When sending in his subs Peter Kifford mentioned that he had been in hospital recently for a check up and whilst there he suffered two heart attacks. As he put it if you have to have a heart attack that is the right place in which to have it. He tells me he has to take it easy for a time and consequently he has reorganised his life in order to slow down a bit. We wish him well.

Tony Legg tells me that the details of those from the 1st Battalion buried in Korea can be found on website [WWW.britains-smallwars.com](http://WWW.britains-smallwars.com). For those not connected to the web I can provide a copy if you ask.

George Fickling wrote to say that he had hoped to have attended the last 1/7th Battalion Luncheon but at the last minute his son in law who was due to provide the transport, and is still serving, was called back from leave and so he could not attend.



Jock Hazlewood when sending in his subs said that he has suffered a few minor ailments during the past year (2002) but as a true Diehard they are pushed aside and one just carries on.

Several members have written in to say that they remember serving with Cyril Orme but so far I have not received any up to date news of him. You will recall that in the last newsletter we published an entry to say he had died some time ago but that is all we know.

Gerard Delaney writing from his address in Spain said how much he enjoyed the July Grand Day last year and would we ensure he is advised of any major event coming up this year.

Eric Bugden mentioned that he had suffered a minor heart attack during the summer but was now OK and on the mend.

Peter Crowley, when sending in two years subs, said he was sorry to have forgotten last year but his health had not been too good lately but as he put it he seems to have weathered the storm.

Rex Fendick when writing from Canada says he has been in direct contact with Tony Hewitt in Australia, via a neighbour, and he told me that Tony is quite well but he cannot read or write these days due to problems with his eyes. Rex is also in touch with Brian Drake who is endeavouring to help him to regain contact with some World War Two chaps. He was in UK in July 2002 where he was present at Bisley, with his son, and was able to introduce him to the Vickers Machine Gun at a ceremony to commemorate the disbandment of the WWI MG Corps Association. Finally he told me that there is another website that will be of interest to members. It is [www.oldoppos.co.uk](http://www.oldoppos.co.uk)

Mick Elston says he knew Blood Orme very well. They were both promoted to Sergeant on the same day. He was in HQ Company as the Provost Sergeant. Whilst in Cyprus 1957 – 59 they went on leave together with Ray "Clem" Clements and Basil Lemaitre. They hired a car and went to Kyrenia for a week of luxury living. He asks what ever happened to Basil? If anyone has any information I know Mick would be pleased to receive it.

Ted Fuller asks that if war breaks out in the Middle East could I please fix it so that he has a job in the cookhouse!

Ralph Jackson says as we get older the years get shorter and his metal knee does not take kindly to the underground so regretfully he cannot attend the annual reunion this year. He asks could we publish the photograph of Les Compton as they served together in Lubeck in 1945. (I'll do my best to do so).

Rowley Johnson writing in from Australia mentioned that he seen in the press the reports on the flooding in UK and he thought he would just say that he has not had any

rain for two and a half years and at his daughters location they had not had any for nine years! They are looking forward to the rain when ever. He did hope to come to UK to attend a Reunion but he has not been well enough to do so. He says he is a medical nightmare.

Bernard Pedler also directs our attention to the website noted by Tony Legg. He gives slightly more information which could prove helpful to all you computer buffs. It is: [www.britains-smallwars.com/korea/diehards](http://www.britains-smallwars.com/korea/diehards) and follow the links via 1950-53 Police Action, through to the campaign to the Roll of Honour and finally the Middlesex Regiment 1755 – 1966 for the history of the Regiment.

Percy Howells was in touch recently and he told me that he and Irene celebrated their golden wedding in 2002. Many congratulations. As Percy said where do the years go too. I does not seem all that long ago since we served together in Cyprus.

Harold Steele in a recent letter sent his best wishes to all the surviving members of Colonel Ian Brotherton's Signal Platoon of the 8th Battalion.



*Bill Rawlinson stands proudly by the renovated sign*

Jimmy Ridler told me the other day that he is now 88 years young and still going strong. Sadly he mentioned that he misses the regular outings he used to have with Ronnie Jupp and Co now that they have all passed on. He hopes to attend the St Paul's Service in May.

John Webb sent in a letter full of his news about life in Scotland. I was particularly amused by his account of an American Tourist who took John's photograph dressed in a kilt. The American was not the slightest bit concerned when he discovered that John was an Englishman and not a Scot!

Les Loomes, when he sent in his subs, also included extracts from a history of the South Wales Borderers giving details of two soldiers who had previously served, in the late 1800s, one with the 57th and the other with the East Middlesex Militia, prior to joining the SWB. The 57th man was wounded at Rorke's drift and had a bullet removed from his neck without the comfort of an anaesthetic!



The picture shows Bill Rawlinson standing by the Notice in Albuhera Close after he had, with the help of Peter Milroy, repaired it when mindless vandals left it pieces on the ground. Well done Bill and Peter.

Tony Briggs every year sends me a letter giving me his news from Berlin. Not so good this year. He has had an operation on his knee and a cataract removed from one eye. Still that did not prevent he and Margot going to Spain for a holiday. Hope you soon throw away your crutches Tony.

Peter Stewart tells me he has just spent six week in the USA with his son. Hope you had a good time.

John Chippendale, when sending in his subs, mentioned that he was off to Japan (Osaka) and Australia for a bit of sun. By the time he reads this he will have been long back. I hope he enjoyed the trip.

I am pleased to say that once again the Regiment has a representative in the Royal Hospital Chelsea. Walter Pullen, who was with the 1st Battalion in Austria, was admitted as an In-Pensioner on the 10th of March 2003.

Raymond Sturge tells me that he has been made a life member of the Royal British Legion in recognition of his many years service to the Legion. He also mentioned that he has been given a certificate of appreciation from the East Kent Branch of the Royal Artillery Association. The certificate noted his many years of service with the St John's Ambulance Service and the time he has spent giving support to the elderly and those in need. Well done Raymond.

Derick Baston when writing in for tickets for the reunion said he thought he was probably now the most senior surviving member of 4 Platoon B Company of the 1949/50 vintage. He was a Cpl when he left and went on serving with the TA in 4 Buffs and 5 Queens at Canterbury leaving in the rank of CSgt. Any other members of B Company around to challenge his claim?

Paddy Redmond sent in two cuttings from the Daily Mail. One features Ben Lowen and two others from the 1/7th Bn looking over the side of a ship taking on troops out of the water at Dunkirk. The other mentions there is nothing new in kit shortages in the British Army. According to the paper the troops in Korea were, for a time, known as the Woolworth Brigade short of everything, particularly cold weather clothing and were scrounging kit from the Yanks.

Brian Drake from Canada has sent in some information regarding Forces Reunited a UK database of Forces and Ex Forces personnel on the web. Anyone interested can find them at [www.forcesreunited.org.uk](http://www.forcesreunited.org.uk) or on 0906 300 0377.

Members might be interested to know that a book, consisting of 103 pages, has been published "Show me the Way to go Home" by Maggie Hurst and Chris Elliott. It is the story of the Medloc Train Service from 1945 to 1955. Many of you will have travelled

by Medloc and might wish to obtain a copy. It is available from Chris Elliott, 8 rue du Point, 34480 Magalas, France, tele/fax 0033 467 36 6618 at a cost of £6.00

Those of you who follow the horses might be interested to know that Bill Jackson has told me that it has not been a good year for his son David. He lost three of his best jumpers with burst blood vessels and two others were killed in falls. Albuhera has just started running again having recovered from injuries sustained last year.

Ken Baugh sent in a note the other day to say sorry he cannot make the Reunion this year as he has to go into Ravenscourt Park Hospital for a knee operation. He wishes everyone well particularly Fred Phillips an old pal who does so much for the 2/7th OCA.

Deryk Ford wrote to say he also could not at be the Reunion this year. His wife is not well and cannot be left on her own. Said he hoped to be at the Annual Service.

Albert Connor has not been too well lately. He too had a knee replacement after having trouble with his spine earlier in the year but is now well enough to come to the Reunion and is looking forward to meeting his old mates.

Major Peter Bellers celebrated his 80th birthday on the 18th of April. Amongst the 60 or 80 guests present, apart from his large family, were former Ghurkhas (Peter's first Regiment), members of the Taunton Branch of the Burma Star Association (Peter founded the Branch and is its current President), and Diehards from the surrounding area namely Major Chris Mieville, Captain & Mrs Jimmy Flavell, Major and Mrs Gordon Crumley, Colonel & Mrs Mike Hayward and Major & Mrs Chris Lawrence. Peter was in very good form, it was a lovely day and a most enjoyable occasion.

It was nice to see the Ann Walsh niece of the late Gus Kenrick, together with her husband Michael, at the Albuhera Service. They had taken the trouble and gone to the considerable expense to come over from Ireland to remember Gus. They went on to the Reunion in the evening to meet some of Gus's old friends. (Regrettably not all that many are around now).

At 9 am on Albuhera Day the telephone rang and it was Ken Beale ringing to wish me a Happy Albuhera Day and asking that I pass on his best wishes to those attending the Lunch at the National Army Museum later in the day. Ken who came back to UK to spend last Christmas with one of his daughters fell ill, was rushed into hospital, and whilst in hospital his heart failed not once but twice. After some weeks in intensive care he was able to leave hospital and is now back in Spain. He has to return to the UK in August for further treatment. He tells me he is now much better and is back to playing 18 holes of golf!

Reg Warner tells me that he recently placed a request on the Service Pals Page of Teletex to ask those to make contact if they remembered him serving with the 1/7th Battalion during World War Two. Much to his surprise he received telephone calls from a variety of ex servicemen including a soldier from the Black Watch in Perth who said, initially they were not keen on having a English Battalion in the 51st Highland Division, but soon learnt to appreciate their worth!



## OBITUARIES

We advise with the deepest regret that the following have died:-

**BAILEY** – Terrence L. Bill as he was known to his friends died on Sunday the 16th of March 2003 after a long illness which he bore with courage and good humour. Bill was employed by British Petroleum for 22 years and later on the security staff at Holloway College. Bill served for many years with the TA at Hounslow enlisting initially into the 5th Bn of the Middlesex Regiment and subsequently with the Battalions of the Queen's Regiment rising to the rank of sergeant. His funeral was held at Hanworth Crematorium and among the large congregation were members of the Hounslow Branch representing the Regiment

MJW

**BARLEY** – Vic 6210224 passed away on the 12th of January 2003 after a short illness. Vic joined the 1st (2/8th) Battalion early in the war and served in the Transport Platoon, he actually taught me to drive in 1940. I can still recall the days cruising round Richmond Park in a Ford 8 and then in a Guy 15cwt. Vic was also an excellent athlete, particularly at football. Those who served in Northern Ireland will remember Vic playing for a local Northern Irish Team as a professional. He also played for the Battalion Team alongside Les Compton from Arsenal and they went on to win the BAOR Championship in 1945/46. When Vic left the Army he joined West Ham as a professional. In later years he took up lawn bowls and for the past four years it was a pleasure to play against him at his Club in Birchington, Kent. Frequently we concentrated more on the old days than the game in hand! His funeral took place at Margate Crematorium and was attended by his wife of 63 years, Emily, their daughter Jacqueline, their grandson Gary and many friends. Unfortunately the Regiment was not represented owing to us not being told that he had died.

LMFD

**BENNETT** – David 6217145 died on the 25th of April 2003 after a brave fight at Kings College Hospital London. He was a member of the Drums Platoon and was with the 1st Battalion in Korea. His funeral was held at St Peter's Church, Folkestone on Wednesday the 7th of May 2003 and the family kindly offered refreshments at the Pavilion, East Cliff afterwards. David was a very popular man in the Folkestone area and the Church was crowded. The Regiment was represented by David Lester and John Stannard

**BROWN** - Maurice 22575863 died on Saturday the 7th of December 2002 aged 69. He was admitted to the Royal Star and Garter Home in Richmond a few months ago when his health started to fail. He served with the 1st Battalion as a National Serviceman in Hong Kong and Austria from August 1951 to August 1953. After his National Service he worked for British Airways at Heathrow for some 47 years. The funeral was held on Friday the 13th of December 2002 at St David's Church, Stanwell. Mike Ward and John Raby from the Hounslow Branch attended the funeral to represent the Regiment.

**BRUMWELL** – Freda, wife of Csgt Tony Brumwell passed away on the 14th of November 2002. Having just returned from a holiday in Cyprus she was suddenly taken ill with meningitis and died within two days of being admitted to hospital.

**COOKE** – Albert 14308817 served with D Coy of the 1/7th Battalion. We have just received information that he died on the 23rd of August 2001. Nothing further is known.

**DAWSON** – William 6217124 died on the 1st of April 2003 suddenly from a heart attack aged 72. He served with the Bands of both the 1st and 2nd Battalions in Palestine, Hong Kong and Austria and was a member of the Korean Club. His funeral was held on the 9th of April and Bill Duncan represented the Regiment.

**DRIVER** – Ronald John, 620076 died on the 22nd of March 2003 just short of his 82nd birthday. Ron joined the 9th Battalion in 1939 and served with them until October 1942 when he volunteered and transferred to the Glider Pilot Regiment. He was wounded at Arnhem. His funeral took place at the Gilrose Crematorium, Leicester on the 1st of April 2003.

**ELLIOTT** – Alfred, died peacefully in Canada on the 17th of April 2003 aged 84. He enlisted in 1937 joining the 2nd Battalion. He was at Dunkirk and went back with the Battalion to France on D Day. His chum Tom Roberts introduced him to his sister Joyce and after a whirlwind romance they married shortly after he returned from Dunkirk in Hornsey, North London. Several years later, after the war, the family emigrated to Canada. He leaves a wife Joyce, son Alf and daughter Pat along with several grand children and great grandchildren all living in Canada.

TWR

**FLACK H W J** (known as Joe) died suddenly on the 2nd of November 2001 from a massive heart attack. We only learnt of his death in January 2003 when the receipt of the December 2002 Newsletter reminded his family that we had not been informed. Major Flack served with the 2/7th Battalion from January 1943 until December 1945 when he moved to HQ Cairo District and joined the Staff as DAQMG.

**HARRAGAN** – Jack, who served with the 1/8th Battalion from 1940 – 1945 died on the 30th of April 2003. His funeral was held at Llanelli Crematorium on the 9th of May 2003.

**JUPP** – Ronald David (Ronnie) died on Friday the 13th of December 2002 aged 82. Ronnie served with the 2/8th Battalion throughout World War Two. He was in regular contact with the Association and only a short while ago he told me that his group of comrades from the 2/8th who used to meet monthly at a local pub to remember the old days had had to call it a day, as due to the ages of them all, it was becoming too difficult to travel. His funeral was held at the Breakspear Crematorium Ruislip on the 23rd of December 2002. There was a large gathering of family and friends to say farewell. Captain John Lofting was present to represent the Regiment. A reception was held after the funeral at the Moore Park Golf Club.



KAY - P C (known as Sandy) died peacefully at home on the 4th of April 2003. He was a National Service Subaltern with the 1st Battalion during 1947/48. He went on to complete his National Service Commitment with the TA joining the 7th Battalion following in the footsteps of his father, also called Sandy Kay, who commanded the 1/7th Battalion between 1917 and 1918. The funeral was held on the 11th of April at All Saint's, Moreton, Norfolk.

KENDAL – Robert was commissioned into the Regiment in 1943 but served with the 5th Cheshires until 1945 moving to the 2nd Cheshires in Egypt and Palestine before being demobbed in 1946. He died on the 27th of March 2003 aged 94 from the effects of a heart attack.

GUSCOTT – Daphne, daughter of Major R T Guscott died on the 28th of July 2002. We were advised by the Solicitor, who is looking after her affairs, when he received the December 2002 issue of the Newsletter. Nothing further is known.

LEONARD – Conrad died on the 19th of April 2003 at the age of 104. Not known to us but it was picked up from The DailyTelegraph that he served as an Officer in the Regiment during World War One.

LIDDELL - Peter died on the 21st of February 2003 after suffering a long illness. He was a National Service Officer with the Wiltshire Regiment and after his full time service he joined the 7th Battalion for the rest of his National Service Commitment. He resigned his commission in 1954 to join the Colonial Police Force in Uganda. Subsequently, when Uganda obtained its independence, he joined the Sultan of Oman's Forces in Muscat. The details of his funeral are not known to us.

MOORE – Herbert Joseph, 14726469 died on the 20th of February 2003 just short of his 80th birthday. It is thought that he served with the 1st Battalion from at least 1943 as he was in France in 1944 but his brother, who told us that he had died, was not sure of the actual dates of service. He did know that he served in Hong Kong and was with the Battalion in Korea and was a member of the Battalion Boxing Team. His funeral was held at the Bluebell Hill Crematorium, Kent on the 4th of March 2003.

NAISH E J (Jim) died on the 4th of May 2003 in Salisbury Hospital. He was commissioned into the Regiment in 1943 but served with the Royal Hampshire Regiment in Italy and Austria during 1944 and 1945. He joined the 2nd Battalion and served with them from 1945 to 1947 when he was demobbed. He rejoined the TA when it reformed and was posted to 254 Field Regiment RA moving subsequently to the 5th Battalion in 1965. A Service of Thanksgiving was held at St John's Church, Tisbury on the 23rd of May 2003.

PAINTER – Derrick Edward died on the 24th of March 2003. He served in the 1st Battalion in the late 1950's early 1960's in Hameln, Lydd, Greece, Gibraltar and Libya in B and Sp Companies. His funeral was held on the 11th of April 2003 at Weeley Crematorium. Alan Quartermaine represented the Regiment.

SHORE – Reginald Charles known as Taffy, 6201889 died on the 26th of November 2002 at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital. He was aged 86. Reg joined the 2nd Battalion in November 1934 being posted to the 1st Battalion in December 1935 to join them in Egypt. He fought in the Battle for Hong Kong and whilst a Far East POW he was taken to Japan where he worked in Kami Kumi Camp Osaka. He arrived home from Japan in December 1945 and he left the Army in July 1946. He was a strong supporter of the Association and he remained in contact right up to the time of his death. His funeral was held at St Faith's Crematorium, Norwich during the morning of Friday the 6th of December 2002. Syd Hilton joined Reg's family and friends to represent the Regiment.

SMITH - Herbert J, 6203184, died on the 15th March 2003. His funeral was held at St Mary's Church, Harlow on Thursday the 27th of March 2003. Charlie Smith and Charlie Kennedy attended to represent the Regiment.

TOMLINSON – Thomas C L. Tommy or "Carrots" as he was more affectionately known passed away on December the 4th on his 84th birthday. He was semi invalid as a result of numerous heart attacks. A second World War veteran he enlisted into the 11th Bn Parachute Regiment TA on demob and subsequently transferred to the 8th Bn The Middlesex Regiment TA and then on the reorganisation of the TA into the 5th Bn The Middlesex Regiment. Carrots was a keen member of the Drums Platoon in all the Battalions in which he served. A member of the Hounslow Branch for many years his funeral was held at the Hanworth Crematorium and was attended by his many friends from the Hounslow Branch.

MJW

TORRIE - Alec 22259907 died on the 4th of February 2003 after a short illness. He was just short of his 68th birthday. Sgt Torrie served from 1950 until 1971 in the Band of the 1st Battalion and subsequently with the Queen's Regiment. He and his wife Jill moved to Portugal some years ago and his funeral took place there. At the end of April 2003 Jill moved back to the UK on a permanent basis.

VENISON – Eric, 14483704, died from the effects of a heart attack on the 16th of January 2003 aged 75. Eric who was always immaculately turned out, was the one time batman to Brigadier Tony Pielow. He served with the 1st Battalion from June 1945 to April 1948. His funeral was held on the 23rd of January 2003 at the Breakspeare Crematorium Ruislip. A very popular man with a great sense of humour. Over one hundred of his family and friends were at his funeral.

WARNER – Ronald 6210739, who was a Sgt with the 2/8th Battalion died recently aged 84. He was called up under the Militia Act in September 1939 and carried out his initial training with the 2/8th Battalion later to become the resuscitated 1st Battalion. We were together with the Regimental Police and after the London postings, the battalion went to Northern Ireland to the Portrush area where we stayed for two years. He was a very smart soldier subsequently serving with the provost attached to the CMP in France and Belgium during 1944/45. The funeral took place at Harlow Crematorium on Tuesday the 8th of April 2003. I represented the Regiment at the Service.

RB



**WILLIAMSON** – Pat widow of Jim (Willie) Williamson died on Sunday the 16th of March 2003 at the Sutton Veney Nursing Home after fighting for some years against cancer. Pat served with her husband, a stalwart member of the QM's Platoon, with 1MX, 4 QUEEN'S, and then with 1 QUEEN'S until Willie retired from the Army at the end of his twenty-two year engagement. She was a great supporter of the Wives' Club and was particularly helpful to my wife, Betty Morris. She was always there when needed. She will be greatly missed. Her funeral was held at St Georges Church, Warminster on Wednesday the 26th of March 2003 and she was laid to rest alongside her husband in the Churchyard after the Service. Friends from the Regiment who joined the family to say goodbye were: Bob and Millie Jones, Alan Jones, Terry and Pat Price, Eddie Tackley, Danny Burgess and Derek Langston.

#### **LIEUT COLONEL JOHN MORRIS HEWSON MC**

John Hewson was born in London in 1932 and went to Mill Hill School. His father served in the Regiment and John was commissioned into it in October 1955, joining the 1st Battalion at Dhekelia Cyprus shortly afterwards. Whilst serving in Cyprus he was awarded a particularly dashing MC when the patrol he was leading just before midnight on the 31st of July 1958 was ambushed by EOKA forces and he was wounded in the head by the terrorists opening burst of fire. Scarcely able to see through the blood pouring from his wound John ordered an immediate return of fire and then led a direct assault on the enemy, killing one of them and routing the others. A follow up action resulted in the arrest of several other terrorists. The "Hewson beret", with its badge bent by the enemy bullet and retaining a bit of John's hair, was an immediate regimental trophy, later going on display in the National Army Museum.

In 1959 John joined the Parachute Regiment and found time between jumps to marry Vanda in July 1961 at Holy Trinity, Brompton, and then served with 3 Para in the Middle East, before returning to the Home Counties Brigade in UK and being appointed Adjutant of 1MX in 1962 until May 1964.

His non-Regimental service included staff duty in Benghazi and when Defence Advisor in Ghana had the privilege of arresting the President, Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, whose rebel supporters had previously held John under arrest for a spell.

Before retiring in 1986, after a particularly varied and interesting military career, John had spent tours with the Military Secretary's Department, was Commanding Officer of the 6/7th Battalion of the Queen's Regiment (TA) and on the District Staff (Wales and Midlands) as a Recruiting and Liaison Staff Officer.

Retirement was a busy period for John. He joined the Game Conservancy which went a long way to satisfy his love for shooting and fishing, and found him at the Game Conservancy Stands at country shows all over the UK. From his home at Rockbourne he was a volunteer ambulance driver and ferried elderly people to their hospital appointments. His regimental service continued as a member, and also as Chairman of the Middlesex Regimental Association Committee and he was serving on this right up to the end.

In the Regiment he will be remembered by all of us as a fine Diehard and a particularly "Happy Warrior". Never without a smile and a friendly chat with everybody. A robust and charming character he fought his illness with bravery and the same cheerful optimistic way with which he approached everything else.

One can but admire somebody like John, and we all did. We were fortunate to have him in the Regiment.

BAMP.

#### **CAPTAIN GUS KENRICK**

Captain Gus Kenrick who died on the 17th of November 2002 aged 85, known throughout his service with the Regiment as Paddy Kenrick, was one of that distinguished band of warrant officers who, because of their personalities and war service, had such a profound influence of the Middlesex Regiment during the post war period.

Gus Kenrick was born in Fethard County Tipperary where he retired and where he was buried in the cemetery of the Augustinian Abbey Church. He was, perhaps, the last of many Irish soldiers who formed the backbone of the Regiment in days past and whose epitaph remains in the quick march of the 77th, "Paddy's Resource".

Gus joined the Middlesex Regiment at the beginning of the Second World War and fought with the 2nd Battalion from D Day to the capture of Bremen. After the war and the amalgamation of the Battalions he settled into Support Company of the 1st Battalion and, after a time as its Colour Sergeant became Company Sergeant Major for the Austria and Cyprus tours. Famous for its private armies and egregious personalities Support Company was notoriously difficult to control but Gus managed it with firmness and typical good humour.

In 1957 he was promoted and became Regimental Sergeant Major of the Depot at Mill Hill. A story from this period neatly illustrates his personality and sense of fun. A draft was departing for the 1st Battalion in Germany and Gus, accompanied by Jimmie Wild, went to see it off at Liverpool Street Station. Duty done and having refreshed themselves at "Dirty Dick's" they were making their way across a footbridge over the platforms when they saw the draft still scattered about below.

Observing this unmilitary spectacle Gus put his pace stick under his arm and with the cautionary word of command "Liverpool Street Station" gave the order "Attention". This apparent voice from the heavens caused some consternation below, where in those days most men were ex-service, and considerable dismay among the draft which had hoped to have heard the last of the Depot and its RSM.

Gus was commissioned in the Royal Corps of Signals in 1960 and served on detachment with the Royal West Africa Frontier Force. Eventually, after 33 years Army service he retired and took up a post in golf administration at St Andrew's where he remained until his final retirement at the age of sixty.



Gus was a much loved character in the Regiment and his reappearance at the Annual Reunion was greatly welcomed. We shall miss him.

RMC

### **CAPTAIN GEOFFREY KITCHENER**

Captain Geoffrey Kitchener died of a heart attack on the 4th of February 2003 at his home near High Wycombe aged 73. Kit, as he was generally known, joined 1MX whilst they were on Public Duties at Chelsea Barracks, and subsequently served in Hong Kong and Korea, where he commanded 5 Platoon. Just before we left Korea, Kit returned to the UK to take RCB, which he passed, being granted a SSC, and was then temporarily attached to 1 E Surreys. Whilst with them in camp at Thetford his fellow subalterns deposited him in his sleeping bag in full view of the general public; unfortunately for Kit he was stark naked at the time.

Kit rejoined 1 MX and served in Austria until such time as he decided he would study Finnish at Coventry University. His course lasted the best part of three years at the end of which the War Office made full use of his newly acquired linguistic skills by posting him to the Staff in Singapore.

Kit returned to 1MX in Hamelin and it was there that his habit of lampooning senior officers on regimental guest nights somewhat à la Noel Coward became his downfall. It was a "gift" that he had developed in Austria and was highly amusing to the majority of his audience. However certain people were not at all amused and this in the end contributed to his short service commission not being extended.

On leaving the Army Kit worked first for Hallmark Cards and then gravitated towards the media – Pathè Pictorial, IPC and EMI in personnel and associated management. He settled in Walters Ash, also the home of HQ Strike Command. He had a very kind nature, particularly where the young or disadvantaged were concerned (he hated it when he had to tell employees of IPC that they were redundant). He also had a mischievous sense of fun which happily he only exercised on those he knew well. Many were the unsuspecting members of the general public who were horrorstruck by his antics!

Whilst his seniors may not have appreciated Kit's sense of humour his peers certainly did.

CLL

### **NEW MEMBERS**

The following members of the Regiment have joined the Association since the publication of the last newsletter:-

22575923 Pte S J Regan  
23067788 Sgt P F Dyer

1st Bn Aug 51 to Aug 53.  
1st Bn B, D & Sp Coys (MMG Pln)

### **THE QUEEN'S REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION (MIDDLESEX BRANCH)**

There is to be a reunion dinner at the TA Centre at Deansbrook Rd on the 4th of July 2003. Those who served under any cap badge at Hornsey or Edgware, Officers and Senior NCOs, be they MX, QUEENS or 8QF plus those currently serving are eligible to attend. Further details can be obtained from Brian Williams on 01702 331242.

### **ENFIELD BRANCH**

The President, in pursuant of his powers under Rule 20 of the Association Rules, has decided that the three members of the Enfield Branch, Messrs A, B and C, noted in the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of the March 2000 Meeting as being expelled from the Association as from March 2000 should, in the interests of the Regiment, be permitted to rejoin the Association, Central Branch, as from the 1st of January 2003.

### **RENSBURG REVISTED**

On April 10th 2003 in the company of Diehards Jack Jones, Richard Child, and his wife Waltraut, I was once again heading for Rendsburg in Northern Germany. This time it was to attend the opening of an exhibition at the Rendsburg Museum entitled Stunde Null (Zero hour). This exhibition depicted the end of the war and the commencement



*L to R: Dick Childs, Les Dyer, Heinz Johannsen and Jack Jones  
at the opening ceremony.*



of a new beginning for Germany in 1945. Among the many interesting artefacts were several examples of German ingenuity during those very hard days. A German helmet converted to a cooking pot, a jerrycan converted to a bucket, a homemade hand cart. Also very prominent was a section devoted to the occupation forces in which the 1st Battalion figured to no small degree. This was thanks to the hard work and diligence of Heinz "Jimmy" Johannsen. This is where we three came in to join the other old military relics of those days (a live version!).

As far as we were involved, the exhibition was spread over two days. The first on Friday the 11th was devoted to a Press and TV coverage and we were all photographed a great deal and gave brief interviews. Subsequently articles, together with our photographs as we were in 1946, and now, were published in several German newspapers. The exhibition opened to the public on the 12th of April and is due to stay open until the end of June.

The opening address was made by the Burgermeister Andreas Breitner. He was then followed by Heinz Johannsen who captivated the audience with his eloquence both in English and German. He read out Brigadier Tony Pielow's letter of apology for his non attendance and then he went on to read a passage from the memoirs of Captain C C Bilnet, MTO of the 1st Battalion which he had translated into German. I now quote the



*Les Dyer presents a Regimental plaque to the Burgermeister*

passage: "It would be naïve to say we were not apprehensive about the future. Training was one thing but this was real war with all that went with it. During this first journey we

saw what was to become a common sight, numerous graves at the side of the road, together with shattered buildings, burnt out vehicles and dead animals in the fields. War is war. There is no nice war it is all very nasty."

The Curator of the Museum Dr Martin Westphal then made a speech. He thanked us for coming to Germany to attend and he went on to emphasise the importance of those days fifty seven years ago. I then made a short speech and presented to the Burgermeister a Regimental Plaque from the Association to the people of Rendsburg. It will be displayed in the Rendsburg Town Hall.. That concluded the opening ceremonies and from there on we mingled with those attending. We had many interesting chats about those far off days. One that amazed me was that during a brief smoke break in a passage Dick Child and I were approached by a local councillor who spoke very good English who thanked us for liberating Germany in 1945.

Now a word about a very staunch Diehard, Heinz Johannsen. As a lot of you will know he came to England shortly before Christmas 2002 to visit as many of his friends as he could manage and as well as Christmas gifts he left us with the sad news that he was shortly to undergo an operation for prostate cancer. Well I am happy to tell you that, so far, the operation has been a success and Heinz was looking well and healthy. He met us in Lubeck at 1145pm and drove us back to our hotel in Fockbeg arriving there at about 1.30am, went to the hospital for treatment at 8 am, then back to the hotel to pick us up and then to the Museum followed by a quick tour of Eider Kaserne, our old barracks. Here I took a photograph of Heinz outside the old cookhouse where he stood, all those years ago, with his bucket to collect our leavings to support his family through the hard winter of 1945/46. During our four days in Rendsburg the pattern was the same. Treatment at the hospital for Heinz at 8am. Then home for a brief rest and then back to take us to places of interest. On our last day Heinz drove us to Hamburg to visit the British Military Cemetery. There we found the grave of Sgt Len Hiscock of B Company whom I knew for many years. We then went to Lubeck and lingered in Lessingstrasse where we were billeted in 1945. Heinz found a German gentleman who had lived in the house opposite. He told a story of being on leave, having been wounded on the Russian front, and trying to surrender. Dressed in his best uniform he went to the Battalion HQ who eventually handed him over to the Town Major who sent him home, and not to the POW cage, so that he could carry on being treated at the local hospital. Then off to the Airport to catch our plane home.

In conclusion we, Jack, Richard, Waltraut and myself would like to thank Heinz and his ever charming wife Ilse for their hospitality and many kindnesses during our stay in Rendsburg.

Les Dyer 6206162

#### **EATON HALL OFFICER CADET SCHOOL.**

There is to be reunion of those who were commissioned from Eaton Hall Officer Cadet School and who served in Korea. It is to be held at lunchtime on Friday the 12th of September 2003 at the Institute of Directors. Further information can be obtained from Keith Taylor on 020 8741 7789.



**The Middlesex Regimental Association  
Minutes of an Executive Committee Meeting  
held at the Duke of York's Headquarters,  
Chelsea, London SW3 on Tuesday 11th of March 2003.**

Present:- Maj C L Lawrence, MC Chairman  
Capt M J S Doran TD LL B Vice Chairman  
Brig B H Marciandi OBE  
Col R M Cain OBE DL  
Maj S L J Henshaw TD  
Capt S le M Enthoven RIBA  
Mr A A Burford  
Mr F A Phillips  
Mr M J Ward BEM  
Mr G Young  
Maj R E B Morris MBE Secretary.

In Attendance:- Brig B A M Pielow JP President  
Maj D Bradley BEM RHQ PWRR

Apologies Brig G Bulloch MBE  
Col M J Ball  
Maj H E Couch TD FRICS FRSA  
Mr J A Lofts.

# **1. Opening Remarks.**

1.1. The Chairman opened the Meeting at 1415 hours and he made a special point of welcoming Brig Tony Pielow, our President and Maj Bradley from the RHQ PWRR to the last Meeting of the Executive Committee in its current form.

# **2. Minutes of the last Meeting.**

2.1. It was agreed that the Minutes of the Meetings held on the 4 of March 2002 and the 22nd of January 2003 were a true record. Proposed by Col Cain and seconded by Mr Ward. Carried.

# **3. Matters arising.**

3.1. There was one matter arising from paragraph 6.7 of the meeting held on the 4th of March. Capt Doran said that we had approval in principle from the Charity Commission to move our funds to the PWRR but there are two funds, the Officers' Central Militia Fund and the 4th Bn Officers' Mess Fund that the Charity Commission consider are permanently endowed. However there is a procedure to get round this by passing a resolution for the expenditure of capital under Section 75 of the Charities Act 1993.

The appropriate documents were circulated for the Trustees present to sign and the required notices to be displayed at Enfield and Hounslow passed to Messrs Burford and Ward. There is a requirement to produce final accounts for both the Association and the Militia Funds showing a nil balance once the funds have been transferred to the PWRR. Once these final accounts have been received by the Charity Commission the Middlesex Charities will be removed from the register and cease to exist.

# **4. Secretary's Report.**

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

4.2. The following grants were approved for 2003:

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| Royal Star & Garter Home | £250 |
| MX & NW London ACF       | £950 |

# **5. Finance Committee Chairman's Report.**

5.1. Brig Marciandi presented the accounts that had been previously circulated. He said that this was his 9th and final report. Although the stock market had dropped drastically in recent months most of our losses were paper losses only when you compare that in 1993 our total worth (including the Officers' Club) was £347,000, the year 2000 £725,000 and today £600,000. The Broker had to dispose of some investments to avoid further losses but at the same time we did make some profit from sales. The stock market will rise but it may take a long time. The Brigadier then expressed his thanks for the support given to him by the Finance Committee.

5.2. Brig Marciandi then asked the Committee to approve the accounts for the year ending the 31st of December 2002. Proposed by Col Cain and seconded by Mr Burford that they be approved. Carried.

5.3. The Chairman then expressed the thanks of the Executive to Brig Marciandi and the Finance Sub Committee for their hard work over the years since the Sub Committee was reformed.

5.4. The Secretary mentioned that the PWRR had decided to retain the services of our Broker, Brewin Dolphin, when they take over the accounts.

# **6. The Museum Fund – Final Disposal.**

6.1. It was agreed that the cash held on deposit with Brewin Dolphin for the Museum Fund, some £6K, be handed over with the other funds to the PWRR for the maintenance of the Middlesex artefacts within the Museum at Dover.



## 7. Branch Funding.

7.1. It was agreed that the following amounts be made available to the branches:

|                |      |   |
|----------------|------|---|
| 2/7th Bn OCA   | £300 | a grant to assist with the cost of their annual reunion and luncheon to be held on 2nd October.           |
| Korean Club    | £300 | a grant to assist with the cost of their annual reunion and luncheon to be held on the 13th of September. |
| Enfield Branch | £150 | to help defray the costs connected to the dedication service and parade for their new standard.           |

7.2. Brig Marciandi said that these grants should not set a precedent particularly as the funding was moving to the PWRR. Maj Bradley said each application for future funding would be carefully considered and if necessary advice would be sought from the new smaller Executive Committee.

## 8. Functions for 2003.

8.1. It was noted that the following functions have been arranged for 2003:-

10th May – The Albuhera Service of Remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral at 3pm followed by the AGM and the Reunion at the Victory Services Club in the evening.

16th May – Annual Albuhera Luncheon at the National Army Museum. This year we are the hosts. The presentation will be "The National Serviceman".

8th November – Annual Service of Remembrance at the Middlesex Guildhall.

8.2. The Committee approved the following grants to meet the cost of the above functions:-

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Annual Service                     | up to £2750   |
| AGM & Reunion                      | up to £2750 (tickets this year to be priced at £10) |
| Service at the Middlesex Guildhall | – up to £300.                                       |

## 9. The Colours in the Regimental Chapel.

9.1. Several suggestions were made with regard to the final disposal of the four colours from the 57th and 77th of Foot that are too fragile to go back on display. One was to purchase a small casket and bury the remains in a suitable location, perhaps on the Field at Albuhera. Another was to approach the National Army Museum to see if they would be interested in having them. The Secretary was instructed to make the appropriate enquiries.

## 10. Consideration of the new Rules.

10.1. Capt Doran reminded the meeting that the proposed new rules were circulated at our last meeting held on the 22nd of January 2003. Members were asked to notify Capt Doran directly if they considered they should be altered in any way. Col Cain and Mr Burford thought that there should not be a provision for Associate members. This was agreed and the new rules reflect this.

10.2. There are now 28 rules as opposed to 50. They are required to be placed before the AGM on the 10th of May where hopefully they will be approved. They do not take effect until then. The Secretary said he would produce the copies for the AGM and he would also send copies to the branches so that they can be studied prior to that meeting.

10.3. Col Cain proposed that subject to approval at the AGM the new rules be adopted. This was seconded by Mr Young. Carried.

## 11. Reconstitution of the Executive Committee.

11.1. The President reminded the meeting that the new rules just considered provided for, when approved, a slimmed down Committee of seven members. As President he has the duty to nominate the new members but before doing so he wished to thank all those who have worked for the Regiment for so long, over many years, not only those here today but many others as well. He then welcomed Maj Bradley from the PWRR and said subject to those nominated accepting the new Committee would be: Maj Lawrence as Chairman, members Col Cain, Majs Bradley, Henshaw and Morris, Capt Doran and Mr Ward. He hoped that those members of the existing Committee not nominated might, at some future date, if requested, be prepared to come back to serve. The President indicated his nominations were provisional in advance of the new rules being adopted.

## 12. Staff Redundancies.

12.1. Brig Marciandi said that when Maj Waldron retired he was granted a pension. Both Maj Morris and Mrs Morris have given splendid service to the Association and it was appropriate that this service be recognised. He recommended that both should be awarded a redundancy payment of £5K to be paid by £4.5K from each account plus £1K from the Officers' Club. To be paid before the funds move across to the PWRR. This was then formally proposed by Capt Enthoven and seconded by Mr Phillips. Carried.

## 13. Any other business.

13.1. Under this heading the President raised the appointment of our representative on the PWRR Trustee Board. Brig Bulloch had volunteered to take this on at the meeting held on the 4th of March 2002. However the President has decided, in accordance with his powers outlined in the existing rules, not to ratify this decision. He thought it



appropriate, during the early stages of our new relationship with the PWRR, that he should assume this appointment. This was fully accepted by the members of the Committee present. The Chairman would write to Brig Bulloch to inform him of this decision.

13.2. The Secretary asked for guidance on the form of the next meeting to be held at the Army and Navy Club on the 1st of April 2003. It was decided that there was no requirement for an agenda, a formal meeting is not necessary. Members should meet at 1200 hours for a drink followed by lunch at 1300 hours. Secretary said he would send out a map for those who were not familiar with the Club's location and he would advise the Club of our changed requirements.

13.3. Col Cain said he has a contact who is well informed about the future of our old Depot. There is a proposal to preserve the Officers' Mess as a Country Club. If this occurs the Memorial is likely to stay in situ. The rest of the barracks is likely to become a housing estate. Mr Ward said that if the Memorial is to be moved he thought there is a good chance that it could go to St Paul's Church in Hounslow. There is plenty of room at the Church. He will sound out the Vicar.

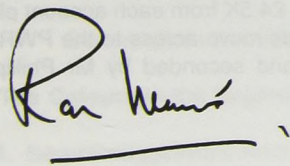
13.4. Mr Ward asked if he could have a grant of £150 to help him finance a new printer. His present one is US. He will require a printer for Association business when he takes over the publishing of the newsletter. This was agreed.

13.5. Mr Burford asked members to note that as the 16th of May falls on a weekend in 2004 the Enfield Branch will hold a function to celebrate the day and they would welcome support.

13.6. Capt Doran asked that in recognition of services given to the Association over the years that Maj Morris and the Rev Tuft be made Honorary members. This proposal was seconded by Mr Burford. Carried.

#### 14. Closing Remarks.

14.1. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the final meeting of the Committee as it now exists and he looked forward to seeing them all on the 1st of April.



Maj R.E.B. Morris  
Secretary

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The Middlesex Regimental Association held at the Victory Services Club, London W2 at 1845 hours on Saturday 10th May 2003.

Present: Maj C L Lawrence MC, Chairman, Brig B A M Pielow JP, President and sixty members of the Association (names held on file in the minute book)

#### 1. Opening remarks.

1.1. The Chairman welcomed Major D Bradley to this his first meeting. Major Bradley is to be the point of contact at the RHQ PWRR for all Association matters as from the 1st of June 2003.

#### 2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

2.1. The Minutes of the last Meeting held on the 11th of May 2002 were agreed as a true record. Proposed by Mr M J Mulvaney and seconded by Mr M M A W Smith. Carried.

2.2. There were two points arising. No final decision made on the future location of the War Memorial when Inglis Barracks closes. Two suggestions being looked at. Firstly if the Officers' Mess is converted into a Country Club, or something similar, then the Memorial will stay where it is. Secondly the Memorial be moved to Northolt to join others in a memorial park to be established there.

It has been suggested that the four Colours too fragile to go back up in our Chapel in St Paul's be placed in a suitable casket and buried on the field at Albuhera. This is being pursued by RHQ PWRR, on our behalf, assisted by the members of the Hounslow Branch.

#### 3. Accounts for the year ending 31 December 2002.

3.1. The Secretary explained the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2002. Mr K G Mortimer seconded by Mr G C Higgins proposed that the accounts for the Main Association and 5/6th Militia be adopted and approved. Carried.

#### 4. The Rules of the Middlesex Regimental Association.

4.1. The Chairman summarised the the revised rules that had been previously circulated to members, via the branch secretaries, and were on the table for this meeting.

4.2. He said that the rules are basically the same as those published and approved at the May 1994 AGM. They have been revised in preparation for the move of our administration to the RHQ PWRR. Under the old rules the Executive Committee consisted of 15 members. There will now be only 7. They will be: The Chairman,



Major C L Lawrence MC, Vice Chairman, Captain M J S Doran, TD LL B, Members, Colonel R M Cain OBE DL, Majors D Bradley BEM, S L J Henshaw TD, R E B Morris MBE, and Mr M J Ward BEM. Brigadier B A M Pielow JP will continue in post as our President and will be the Middlesex Representative on the PWRR Board of Trustees. The Secretary was instructed to write to the PWRR to notify them formally of this decision.

4.3. Mr M J Ward seconded by Mr G F Patmore proposed that the new rules be adopted. Carried.

4.4. Brigadier Pielow mentioned that he had designed an appropriate cover for the new rules that would be issued to the branches shortly. It is not intended to give a wider distribution. Should members wish to refer to the rules they should do so via their branch secretaries.

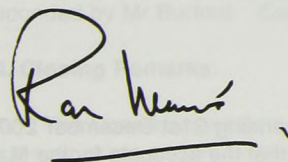
### 5. Any other business.

5.1. The President expressed the thanks of the members of the Association for the hard work and dedication to the Association by the retiring Secretary, Major Ron Morris ably assisted by his wife Betty, and he wished them both well for the future.

5.2. Major Dennis Bradley, taking over, reminded all those present that his contact details had been widely circulated to all in a letter in March 2003 and as from the 1st of June he would be open for business.

### 6. Closing Remarks.

6.1. There being no further business the meeting closed at 1935 hours.



Maj R.E.B. Morris  
Secretary.

## REGIMENTAL GOODS

The following are held in stock and are available on request to the Regimental Shop RHQ PWRR Howe Barracks Canterbury Kent CT1 1JY Cheques or Postal orders should be made payable to PWRR Account No 0536700.

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Blazer Badges   | £7.50  |
| Car Badges  | £10.00 |
| Ice Buckets, miniature side drum with regimental<br>emblazon                | £28.00 |
| Ties Regtl (Old Pattern maroon & old gold)                                  | £6.00  |
| Ties Regtl (New Pattern black with maroon & gold thin stripes)              | £6.00  |
| Ties Officers' Club (Silk)  | £13.50 |
| Good quality replica Middlesex Regt Cap Badges                              | £5.50  |
| Middlesex Regt Key Rings  | £2.50  |
| Old Comrades lapel badges   | £2.75  |
| Prints – Steady the Drums & Fifes unframed – Large                          | £8.00  |
| Small   | £6.00  |
| Middlesex Regt Plaques  | £18.50 |
| Middlesex Blazer Buttons (Flat staybright with engraved<br>Middlesex Badge) |        |
| Sets of 6 Large & 6 Small   | £28.00 |
| Individual buttons large or small   | £2.50  |
| Regtl cuff links  | £7.50  |
| Regtl cuff links with tie grip  | £10.50 |
| Tie grip only   | £5.00  |
| Regtl Ladies Brooch   | £4.75  |
| Regtl tie tack and chain  | £4.50  |



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