



The Die-Hards

NEWSLETTER

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ALBUHERA SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

The Annual Service of Remembrance took place in the Regimental Memorial Chapel at St Paul's Cathedral on Saturday, May 15, 1976, at 2.30 pm. 128 members of the Regiment attended. The sermon was preached by the Reverend P. L. Pearce-Gould, OBE, MA, the Rector of Bakewell, Bristol.

Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE, President Regimental Association and Col J. N. Shipster, CBE, DSO, Deputy Colonel (Middlesex) The Queen's Regt attended.

ANNUAL REUNION

The Annual Reunion was held on Saturday, May 15, 1976, at the Porchester Hall, Queensway. A total of 240 were present. This was a decrease on our usual attendance. Those who did attend had a very enjoyable evening. A vote of thanks to all those who had travelled long distances. Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE, President Regimental Association and Col J. N. Shipster, CBE, DSO, Deputy Colonel (Middlesex) The Queen's Regt attended.

FOUNDERS DAY, CHELSEA HOSPITAL

Lt Col and Mrs T. W. Chattey attended the Founders Day Parade at Chelsea Hospital on Thursday, June 10, 1976, as official guests of the Governor.

KOREAN WAR 1950-53

A wreath-laying ceremony in remembrance of those who fell in the Korean War, 1950-53, was held by the Ambassador of the Republic of South Korea at Westminster Abbey, on Friday, June 25, 1976, followed by a reception at the Royal Air Force Club. Maj A. E. F. Waldron, MBE, attended on behalf of the Regiment and also represented Col J. N. Shipster, CBE, DSO, Deputy Colonel (Middlesex) The Queen's Regt.

Also present at the Remembrance Service was Mr A. Curd, a National Serviceman who served with the 1st Bn in Korea.

BELGIAN OCA IN GREAT BRITAIN

On Sunday, July 18, 1976, a detachment of 17 old comrades attended the Annual Parade of the Belgian OCA in Great Britain which was held on Horse Guards Parade, followed by a wreath laying ceremony at the Cenotaph. Maj R. W. J. Smith, MBE, was in charge of our detachment and laid a wreath on behalf of the Regimental Association and all Die-Hards. Mr Stan Kerswill was the Standard Bearer.

FREE 'NEWSLETTER'

The Editor wishes to thank the following for their generosity for paying extra subscriptions so that free copies of the 'Die-Hards Newsletter' can be sent to deserving Old Comrades: Mr S. J. Bartle, Maj B. A. Carlston, Mr R. Groombridge, Maj I. M. E. Lloyd, Mr W. E. Lockyer, Mr W. H. Rippin, and Mr A. J. Smith.

DONATIONS—CHARITABLE FUND

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges donations to the Charitable Fund from: Mr R. Groombridge, Mr H. F. Short, Royal Navy, Mr A. J. Smith and Mrs A. Taggart (in memory of the late Lt Col E. L. Taggart, MC).

BENEVOLENT CASES

During the period January 1, 1976, to August 19, 1976, the sum of £1,641.77 was spent on assisting 65 ex-members of the Regiment.

The Army Benevolent Fund contributed £676.00.

DERBY OUTING

A very successful outing to the Derby took place on Wednesday, June 2, 1976, 52 members of the Association attended. The weather was glorious but the horses were slow. Ernie Colebeck ably assisted by Daisy dispensed drinks to the thirsty and a good time was had by all.

REGIMENTAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1976

Date	Event
Friday, October 1	2/7th Bn (1939-45) Dinner at Victory Ex-Services Club, Seymour Street, W2
Saturday, October 2	13th (Service) Bn OCA Annual Luncheon at the Rising Sun, 44 Ebury Bridge Road, SW1
Wednesday October 6	Autumn Golf Meeting, Fleet
Sunday, October 24	Attendance at Church Parade, Royal Hospital, Chelsea
Thursday, November 11	7th Middlesex Officer Club Dinner
Friday, November 12	Officers Club Cocktail Party, Naval and Military Club, 94 Piccadilly, W1

Saturday, November 13	1100hr Ceremony at Field Remembrance, Westminster Abbey
Sunday, November 14	1015hr Remembrance Day Service at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, followed by reunion at TAVR Centre, Edgware 1100hr 7th Bn wreath laying at Hornsey Parish Church Service by the Hornsey and Enfield Branch 1500hr 2/10th Bn Remembrance Day Service at St Nicholas Church, Chiswick
Saturday, November 27 to Monday, November 29	Visit to Reseau Sylvestre, Lille Voluntary attendance by interested parties

MEMORIALS

Drummer D. Stagpoole, VC, DCM

Reference 'Newsletter 33' which published details of the grave of Drummer D. Stagpoole, vc, dcm.

The Controller of Administration Services of the London Borough of Barnet has now informed me that this grave will remain undisturbed.

REGIMENTAL HOMES, ALBUHERA CLOSE, ENFIELD

On Sunday, May 2, 1976, Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE, President and Chairman of the Executive Committee, together with many members of the Committee, visited the Regimental Homes at Albuhera Close, Enfield. The Chairman of the Royal British Legion Housing Committee kindly showed members over some of the Legion homes and provided tea and sandwiches in their Recreation room.

Our regimental homes are maintained in very good condition by the Housing Committee under the Chairmanship of Col I. D. Brotherton, TD, DL. The occupants also take pride in the way they are kept. Former members, including widows, of the Regiment are eligible to apply to be placed on the waiting list. All that is required is a letter to the Secretary. The following members of the Regiment are at present in occupation: House 1, Mr L. H. Sheffield; House 2, Mr J. Barry; House 3, Mr E. C. Penman; Flat 4, Mrs W. C. T. Pope; Flat 4A, Mrs E. Trumley; House 5, Mr W. C. Clapp; House 6, Mr R. W. Stokes; House 7, Mr G. S. Hurlock; House 8, Mr T. J. Milroy; House 9, Mr W. H. Franklin; Flat 10, Mrs L. Lansdell; Flat 10A, Mrs R. Adams; Flat 11, Mrs H. Williams; Flat 11A, Mrs A. Dockree; House 12, Mr E. J. Collier; House 61, Mr C. Evans; House 62, Mr H. J. Mellor; House 63, Mr J. Poole; House 64, Mrs G. C. Baldry; House 65, Mr F. A. Worley; House 66, Mr F. H. Midlane; House 67, Mrs L. A. Bull; Flat 68, Mrs K. Bagnall; Flat 69, Mrs F. Edmonds.

REGIMENTAL DERBY SWEEPSTAKE 1976

The Derby Sweepstake organised in aid of the Regimental Museum was very well supported again this year.

The receipts from the sale of tickets showed an increase of £57 over last year.

The Regimental Museum Fund received the sum of £164.31, which includes donations.

Receipt and Expenditure

Received from the sale of tickets and donations	£ 337.00
Less: Printing and Stationery	50.00
Registration Fee	1.25
Admin Expenses	4.00
	£55.25
	55.25
Available for distribution	£281.75

Distribution

Regimental Museum (50% of net proceeds)	140.87
Prize Money:	£
1st prize (25% of net proceeds)	70.44
2nd prize (15% of net proceeds)	42.22
3rd prize (10% of net proceeds)	28.22
	140.88
Total	£281.75

The following were the prizewinners:
1st Lt Col H. M. du V. Lohan (donated £20.44 to Museum Fund) OC Depot Queen's Division, Bassingbourn, Herts.
2nd Mr S. Shaywer, 26 Whitfield Road (donated £3 to Museum Fund) Haslemere, Hants.
3rd Mr J. J. T. Harrison, 9 Christchurch Lane, Summers Lane, Finchley, N12.

ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA

The Royal Hospital is not at full capacity at the moment and they are able to take a few more In-Pensioners.

It is thought that there is a surprising ignorance about the Royal Hospital throughout the country. Old men, long retired from the Army, forget about it, or imagine it is a place for supermen, and think that they would not be eligible. Pensioners are often reported to have commented that if only they had known about the Hospital, they would have become In-Pensioners earlier.

The buildings, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, are arranged round three quadrangles which stand in spacious grounds, of over 60 acres, thus forming a pleasant retreat amid London's busy streets.

- To be eligible for admission an applicant must:
- be in receipt of a service or disability pension awarded in respect of military service.
 - be at least 65 years of age; or unable to earn his own living (though generally capable of looking after himself).
 - if unable to earn his own living be not less than 55 years of age unless in receipt of a disability pension for an Army disability.
 - be free from liability of supporting a wife or children. (He may NOT marry whilst an In-Pensioner.)

*In exceptional circumstances the Commissioners may admit a younger man.

Any pensioner who wishes to be considered for admission to 'In-Pension' should apply to the Secretary for a form of application.

Today's In-Pensioners are very well looked after and it is therefore a pity that quite a lot of old soldiers who could be living happily at the Royal Hospital have not applied because of ignorance or misunderstanding.

Another possible misapprehension is that eligibility is confined to old long service regular soldiers. This is not the case. To be eligible a man must be in receipt of a pension awarded for service in the British Army. This may be a long service pension but it can be equally be a disability pension, awarded by reason of service in the Army. Consequently, a man who was a Territorial, or a conscript, who served in World War I or II and was wounded could be eligible if he is still drawing a disability pension and fulfils the other conditions.

At the moment the Regiment has three In-Pensioners, namely, I/P Fulton, I/P Rathbone and I/P Worton.

PILGRIMAGE TO MONS 1976

The annual pilgrimage to Mons to commemorate the battle of August 23, 1914, was attended by Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE, President of the Middlesex Regimental Association, Maj Dick Smith, MBE, Maj P. V. Cheeseman, Messrs C. Ashby, D. R. Bennett, A. W. Church, T. T. Morris, Mesdames Chattey, Smith and Norman. This small party was joined in all ceremonies by Chums T. Blake, MM, and F. Reeves, both ex-Gunners.

A full account of the ceremonies and visits will be given in the next publication of the Regimental Newsletter. Time and space available does not allow for the story to be written here.

Wreaths were laid as follows:

Casteau Maj P. V. Cheesman
Belgian National Memorial Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE
Belfry Memorial Maj Dick Smith, MBE
St Symphorien Cemetery Mr C. Ashby
Grave of Maj W. H. Abell Maj Dick Smith, MBE
Oboug Station Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE
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PERSONAL JOTTINGS

Capt Harry Barstow is now serving with Royal Army Educational Corps and is residing at Rudloe, Box, Wiltshire.

A recently joined member of the Regimental Association is Mr W. A. Belcher (6197994) who served with the 1st Bn from 1929-36 and was with C Coy. He attended the Annual Reunion and we hope to see more of him.

Capt Michael Brock 2/7th Bn writes to say that he has now been appointed Director of the School of Education of the University of Exeter and a Professor of that University. Exeter University's School of Education is merging with St Luke's College. The enlarged School of Education will be one of the biggest in the country outside London, with an academic staff of about 80 strong.

He has recently lectured in Haifa, Tel Aviv and the Neger.

A recently joined member of the Regimental Association is ex-RQMS A. G. W. Cooper (6210526) of the 1st Bn. He was a very popular member of the Regiment and a first class RQMS. He is now a qualified accountant and a partner with a firm in the West Midlands. We hope to see a lot more of him.

Lt Col T. W. Chattey, OBE, and Mrs Chattey attended the Reception for the Mayor Designate for the London Borough of Barnet, on Tuesday, May 11, 1976, on behalf of the Colonel of The Queen's Regt Maj Gen F. A. H. Ling, CB, DSO, DL.

Information has been received that Maj G. Bulloch, MBE, at present serving as GSO2 (EPS) HQ 1 British Corps, BAOR, has been placed on the list for selection for promotion to Lt Col in 1977.

Maj W. G. A. Crumley has now assumed the appointment of Training Maj 6/7 (V) Bn The Queen's Regt.

He has also kindly agreed to serve on the Executive Committee of the Regimental Association.

Lt David Everard who was in Hong Kong with outboard Marine Belgium NV has with effect from July 6, 1976, moved to Brugge, Belgium.

Ex-Sgt John Furber (14259359), Assistant Chief Constable (Administration) of the Cheshire Constabulary, was honoured by Her Majesty The Queen in her Birthday Honours List with the award of the Queen's Police Medal for distinguished Service.

Lt Col M. V. Hayward, OBE, has been selected for promotion to substantive Colonel in 1977.

Maj I. M. E. Lloyd assumes the appointment of Training Major 5 Queens at Canterbury in October 1976.

Lt Col H. M. du V. Lohan assumed command of the Queens Divisional Depot at Basingbourn on July 5, 1976.

A recent correspondent was Capt W. I. Kyle-Milward who served with 1st Bn in Hong Kong and Korea. He came to the Battalion from the Royal Fusiliers. He later served with the 6th King's African Rifles as Adjutant and retired from the Army and settled in Kenya. He now lives at St Austell, Cornwall.

Mr C. D. Matthews, who was a Far East Prisoner of war with the 1st Bn has moved to Diss in Norfolk. We wish Charlie and his wife Mary every success and happiness.

Ex-WO2 and Mrs T. McGowan (3852333) called in at RHQ on Tuesday August 17, 1976. He has not been too well and is being fed on 'the pill' by his local doctor. We wish them both good health and happiness.

Mr A. C. S. Meynell who is 83 years of age has paid his 'Newsletter' subscription up to 1978. A note attached to the cheque read 'I reckon I can last another three years'.

Ex-Cpl Ted Millard who served with the 1st Bn and is a Korean Veteran called in at RHQ. He now lives at Mitcham, Surrey.

A welcome visitor to RHQ on August 10, 1976, was Ex-Sgt A. E. Moreton, MM (6200187) who served with the 2nd Bn and the Kensingtons. He handed over the medals of the late Mr Bill Hayes whose last wish was that his medals should be placed in the Regimental Museum. Mr Moreton looked after Bill Hayes and visited him every day in hospital prior to his death. A truly Die-Hard spirit.

A recent Court Circular stated that Her Majesty The Queen, has given unrestricted permission for Lt Col J. C. du Parc Braham, TD, to wear the decoration of an officer of the order of Merit of Grand Duchy conferred on him by the Grand Duke of Luxembourg.

Mr 'Tookey' Poole and family have recently occupied one of our Regimental Homes at Albuhera Close.

A recent correspondent was Mr J. Pullen (6200396) who served as Lance Corporal Drums in the 2nd Bn from 1932-39. He was recalled from the Reserve in 1939 and served with 1/7th Bn throughout the war. He sends his regards to all his old comrades. He also tells me that the Head Code of his British Rail Company is 77.

Mr T. Raby has taken over as Secretary of the Hounslow OCA Branch address: 170 Cromwell Road, Hounslow, Middlesex.

Another correspondent was Harry Short, Royal Navy, who was a POW with the 1st Bn in Hong Kong and Japan. He has now retired to Barton-on-Sea, Hants. He sends his regards to Maj Gen Man and to all his other friends in the Regiment.

Ex-Band Sgt Alex Torrie visited RHQ recently and gave us his new address so once again we are in touch. He is now living in Essex.

Mrs Mollie Walden flew to Malta on August 2, 1976, for a holiday with her younger son Maj B. Walden who is serving with the Royal Marines.

The following item of news appeared in the *Law Guardian Gazette* on June 30, 1976, and was passed to me by Lt Col E. P. Shanks, CBE, QC.

'100 years old—I marvelled at the clear legible handwriting of Mr Albert Edward Williams who recently celebrated his 100th birthday. At present living in retirement in Eastbourne. On leaving school he became office boy to Mr H. Benn at 3 Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn and at 18, junior clerk to Sir Howard Elphinstone, later becoming his senior clerk. Following this Mr Williams became clerk to Mr (later Sir) Benjamin Cherry. During the first war he joined the Middlesex Regt rising from Sergeant to Quarter-Master. After Sir Benjamin Cherry's death he clerked for Mr R. Munro and eventually for Mr Armitage until he retired at the age of 81. Mr Williams is in good health apart from a 'touch of sciatica in his left leg' and is able to keep mobile.'

Mr Gordon Young has relinquished the duties of Secretary of the Hounslow OCA Branch.

We thank him for his past services and warn him not to think that he has got rid of the job for ever.

DEPOT THE QUEEN'S DIVISION

The Depot at Basingbourn has been open since August 1969, and I have been stationed there in the appointment of Assistant Schools Liaison Officer since February 1970. Little has been mentioned of the Depot in the past 'Newsletters' but hopefully this contribution will be the first of many.

Our Depot is the largest infantry depot in the country and it is commanded by a Die-Hard—Lt Col Hugh Lohan, who took command on July 2.

We held our own mini reunion recently which was attended by the majority of Die-Hards at the depot. WO2 George Whittle and Csgt Bill McLean who were instructing on a TAVR cadre also came. We were delighted to see Ex-WO2 Arthur Goodge and his wife, Mary, Arthur lives nearby in the village of Foxton and is a representative for BP. Capt Carl 'Blackie' Blackwell who is on leave from Oman also came accompanied by his wife Pam and daughter, Nicola. Another comparatively recent arrival at the depot is WO1 Michael Flynn who is the Superintending Clerk. His stay will not be a long one as he has been selected for a special regular commission next April. We bade farewell in August to WO2 Ron Seager who has spent the last year of his army service as a recruit company platoon commander. Ron and his wife Mary and their two children intend

settling down in Colchester. Csgt John 'Gig' Young became the Officers Mess steward last October and this September he is due to leave the service. He is in the process of buying a house in the village of Basingbourn and will remain in his present appointment as a civilian. Csgt 'Sony' Dowsett who after a year or so in the QMs Clothing store left us on posting to London District. He has now accepted redundancy terms and is living with his family in nearby Royston. Other Die-Hards currently serving at the Depot are Maj Marcus Girling who has just arrived to command 'HQ' Coy and Capt Paul Truman who is Second in Command of B Coy. Sgt David Bailes is a clerk in Divisional HQ, Cpl Richard Smith is a Corps of Drums stalwart and Cpl Ernie Cook works in the Depot Armoury. Lcpl Knotty Ash is a vehicle servicing specialist in the MT Section.

All Die-Hards at the Depot join me in sending best wishes to Die-Hards everywhere and extend a warm welcome to visitors.

CAPT KEN BEALE



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WO'S AND SERGEANTS BRANCH

It only seems like yesterday that the Editor sent me his round robin for my contribution to the June issue of his 'Newsletter' and now I've received one for the next.

Our Second Saturday meeting has continued unabated with many renewals of friendships made whilst serving with the Regiment.

Two of our members have moved to retirement nooks, namely Fred Blissett to Somerset and Charlie Mathews to Norfolk; both have promised to visit us when back in town.

The Annual Reunion at Porchester Hall saw many of our old comrades in attendance even Mr and Mrs 'Molly' Morgan braved the journey from Peterborough to put in an appearance.

Our usual open invitation to any Die-Hard or Queensman who cares to visit us on any of our meeting nights is assured of a welcome from one and all.

E. COLEBECK

MILL HILL BRANCH

The 1976 Annual reunion which I and a few others managed to attend was a success for us who met old 'Military acquaintances' in spite of the efforts of some of the bar staff to turn us teetotal. The numbers attending must make the organizers want to throw in the towel and go home, I wonder where all the Die-Hards are? Certainly not in touch with regimental affairs, perhaps 'we' do not advertise enough.

This year's Derby outing again proved to be a good day out for those who made the trip, it is rumoured that two members actually saw horses, through the bottom of a glass, no doubt, I was sitting in my local when the survivors fell through the door, to a person they all yelled at Bob AMBLER, a verbal cocktail, Bob who suffers from acute MMG earhold made for the Gents I never did see who bought the round.

Our monthly gatherings are as enjoyable as ever and as always Vera is at the centre and part of the inner of things. We play 'Shut up at the bar, Tombola' (Bob Ambler never misses a number) and, of course, our raffle is well supported by all who attend, again Vera is in the forefront of the battle.

Christmas draw tickets are now available either at the meetings or by post, everyone is welcome to purchase them if they wish, those who do, help us and could win a hangover as well.

August is the month of Mons and once more our veterans are off to do brave deeds 'Overthere'. It is planned to visit the old 'B' Coy positions so Charlie Ashby for one can indulge in some nostalgia as well as liquid refreshments.

It is nice to have Len Johnson back in the fold, the corner is bare without him.

We still need more support if we are to have any future. Some families have three generations attending regularly and too many families are never seen. I know it's not easy to travel on public transport and I know the fares are outrageous but the cheaper bar prices and the good pally company more than compensate for the travel problems and it is only once a month, so please try and make the effort you will be made very welcome.

Yes, I know it's summer and hot and so on, but I want to wish all Die-Hards and their families a Merry Christmas and a better 1977.

P.S.—We still need a treasurer. LES PLUMB

EALING BRANCH

Once again I have to report the death of one of our old members, Mr Alf Crawford of 19 Cuckoo Dene, Hanwell, W7. He died on June 25, 1976, aged 88, and was cremated at Mortlake Crematorium on June 30. A floral tribute was sent by the Branch.

Alf had been confined to his room for a long time but he still enjoyed his smoke up to the last. He did not suffer but just died of old age after having led a good and full life. He and his dog were a feature of Lammas Park, Ealing, and when his mate went, Alf seemed to say, 'Well I shan't be long now'.

Alf was looked after in his later years by his niece Mrs R. Cornford, and she and her family made Alf's last years very comfortable.

I am glad to say I was able to visit our Old Comrade during his last months and tried to cheer him up as best I could.

Pte Crawford served with the 8th Bn from early after the First War started until his discharge in 1919.

We are now down to 10 members but like all old soldiers we are hanging on.

As far as I know everybody else is in good trim and enjoying life.

We are glad to hear that Maj Frank Waldron is back in harness after his operation and wish him well.

That's the lot for this edition so cheerio Die-Hards everywhere. ALBERT WHITE

9th BATTALION

In my notes in the last issue, I wrote of the dinner of the 9th that was to be held on May 22, so I will deal with that first.

Though we did not have a large number attending, actually 40 diners, the occasion itself was a success; the food was good, plenty of it and served hot. The drinks were up to standard and prices reasonable.

Our guests, Majs A. E. F. Waldron and Dick Smith, gave us a résumé of the works of the Association which we are quite sure has a long life yet.

One of our regular members, Lt Col J. Doyle, who had booked his seat, was not able to make the journey on account of ill health, but we sincerely hope that next year we shall be having him with us again.

Anyhow, if circumstances permit, we shall hold our Annual Dinner at the Quality Inn next year.

Some of our members have moved a good distance away from us and that reduces the numbers attending our functions but the efforts of some of our members help to diminish this.

S. R. Woolmer met an old Diehard, A. R. Wellings, who resides at Studley, during his travels and told him of our Dinners. He was interested and, who knows, he may assist to increase our numbers next year. Mr Woolmer also corresponds with Frank Woods and he communicates with several of the old 'D' Troop.

We want them all in our flock in order to keep the organisation going for a long time.

Also in the last issue was a very good account from Richard Lawford of his pilgrimage to Arnhem. I hope all members read this narrative and we certainly thank him for the project of laying the two wreaths of poppies with the Regimental Crest at the Nymegen and Oosterbeek cemeteries.

If the Regiment is forgotten in this country, the

Dutch have not forgotten nor have the Belgians.

I was present at the Annual Parade of the Belgian Old Comrades Association on July 18 at the Cenotaph and witnessed a very large crowd of onlookers—some of whom were visiting this town. I expect an account of this will appear elsewhere in this Newsletter.

To those old members of the 9th, 1914 vintage, who spent many happy hours at the Drill Hall in Pound Lane, let me assure them that it has not been demolished nor has its facade been altered.

I did not go inside when I had a walk around the district last week. Two large buildings are now on the Parade ground that was, one is occupied by a company of the Queen's Regiment Cadets and the other is an office of the London Borough of Brent. The Drill Hall is now a hostel for men who have to be accommodated according to law, by the local council.

The coffee shop, where so many meals were brought to the Drill Hall during and after mobilisation, is still there but it is now occupied by a firm of bookies, so instead of supplying food, they make a crust or two out of the natives.

The bus garage is still there but very much extended along Pound Lane. Some of us were demobbed at the Crystal Palace and let loose in the early morning after we refused a night's lodging; we contacted that garage and two buses arrived to take us home to Willesden.

Another place of interest was the Post Office at the corner of High Road and Meyrick Road. That is still there and not altered much—why of interest? Because most of us had to travel there to cash the postal drafts for our demob cash. We had a good bit to come as we were messed about after we left Mesopotamia. I remember it well, the Postmistress had to give me over £20 in tanners besides the rest; and that was nearly all she had in the till.

The boot shop that supplied us with boots on mobilisation I could not find. The public houses in the district are still there but much altered. One would have to be a linguist to live around there now.

The best of health and happiness to you all.

R. T. MEERS

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Curator, Maj R. W. J. Smith, MBE, TAVR Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middx.

The following are recent acquisitions for the museum:

Medals of the late Col F. Walden, MBE, DL

Medals of the late Maj H. W. Thompson, MBE

Dagger of Sheikh Mahmud

Medals of the late Cpl T. G. Kimber

Medals of the late Pte W. Hayes

Invitation card and Order of Ceremonial, funeral the late HRH The Duke of Cambridge.

Medals of Col F. Walden, MBE, DL.—This group of medals consist of the cross patonce in silver of the Civil Division of a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, the British War Medal, the Victory Medal 1914-19, the 1939-45 Star, the France and Germany Star the Defence Medal, the War Medal the General Service Medal with clasp 'Palestine 1945-48', the Breast Star of Order of Istiglal (Quisam Al Istiglal) of the Hashemite Kingdom of the Jordan and neck-badge of the same order. Details of Col Walden's service appeared on page 15 of THE DIE-HARDS NEWSLETTER, June 1976. The first eight medals have been described often in past publications of THE DIE-HARDS JOURNAL and NEWS-

LETTER. The Order of Istiglal (Independence) was founded by Ali Hussain, King of the Hedjaz after the First World War. It is a 10-pointed silver star with a smaller five-pointed star in white enamel in the centre mounted on a wreath. The centre medallion has an Arabic inscription. The neck badge is similar to the breast star and is suspended from an oval wreath. In addition to the above medals there are three presented by our allies after the last war. These are the Medal of Mons, a gilt medallion, two inches in diameter worn round the neck suspended from a red and white ribbon, the cross of the Reseau Sylvestre, the medallion of the Resistance—Fer which has no means of suspension. The former is a Belgian award and the two latter, are French. Col Walden was also in possession of the Cross of Albert I of Belgium which is not at present available. It is intended to replace this missing item at a later date. Also, included were a number of rowing and boxing medals which will be itemised later when an accurate description and dates of award can be given.

On loan from Mrs M. Walden, widow of Col Walden.

Medals of Maj H. W. Thompson, MBE.—This group of medals consist of the cross patonce in silver of the Military Division as a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, the British War Medal, the Victory Medal, the Territorial War Medal 1914-19, the General Service Medal with clasp 'Kurdistan', the Defence Medal, the War Medal 1939-45 and the Special Constabulary Long Service Medal. Harold Willoughby Thompson served with the 9th (TF) Bn during World War I and with the Royal Artillery in World War II. A resume of his service with the Die-Hards was published in the December 1974, DIE-HARDS NEWSLETTER and his obituary notice in the June 1975, DIE-HARDS NEWSLETTER. Descriptions have already been given in museum notes of the first six medals including the MBE which was awarded to him in 1919 for services in Southern Kurdistan. The Special Constabulary Long Service Medal is in bronze with the Sovereign's effigy on the obverse (on this medal is that of HM King George VI), and on the reverse there is an inscription 'For Faithful Service in the Special Constabulary', half surrounded from bottom to right by a semi-circular spray of laurel. It is suspended from a ribbon with a wide centre stripe of red and narrow white, black, white stripes on each edge. In peace the medal is granted after nine years service provided 50 duties a year have been performed and the candidate is recommended by a Chief officer of Police. This particular medal has 'Harry W. Thompson' engraved on the rim.

Dagger of Sheikh Mahmud.—This curved dagger in a silver covered sheath and a very business-like looking weapon was surrendered to 'Tommy' Thompson at the Battle of the Bazyan Pass, by the notorious Kurdish leader of this turbulent race. It is one of the rare exhibits on display in the museum. It is not often that the personal weapon of a vanquished adversary surrendered to the victor after combat can be identified and viewed.

Presented by a member of his family.

Medals of Cpl T. G. Kimber (TF/1622-613229-

M/394898).—This group of medals consist of the British War Medal, Victory Medal, Territorial War Medal of 1914-19, Defence Medal 1939-45 and the Territorial Efficiency Medal. Tom Kimber served with three of the four 10th Bns, i.e. 1/10, 2/10 and 3/10th in addition to serving overseas with 19th (County of London) Bn, The London Regt (St Pancras) then part of the Middlesex Regt. He also served with the Motor Transport Section of the Royal Army Service Corps. I have already written the details of service which will be found in the Obituary column.

Presented by his widow, Mrs T. G. Kimber.

Medals of Pte W. Hayes (L/11552) 3rd Bn.—This group of medals consist of the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal 1914-19. A Bandsmen in the 3rd Bn for many years, Bill Hayes was an excellent rifle marksman, becoming a certified sniper, entitled to the qualifying badge of a letter 'S' in black worn on a circular red background, the badge being worn on the cuff. The Battalion played its part at the 2nd Battle of Ypres, April 22, 1915, when the Germans launched their first gas attack. It also fought well at the Battle of Loos September 25-30, where on the 28th when opposite the German strongpoint the Hohenzollern Redoubt, Bill was himself sniped by a German sniper, causing him grievous injury from which he never recovered. He wore his medals with pride and his last wish was for them to be placed in the Regimental Museum.

Bequeathed by the late William Hayes.

Invitation card and Order of Ceremonial Funeral of HRH The Duke of Cambridge.—The black-edged invitation card 4½ by 3½ is made out to Mr Charles Hawes who was the servant to HRH The Duke of Cambridge and is for the funeral service in Westminster Abbey, held on Tuesday, March 22, 1904, being signed by Edward Earl of Clarendon, the Lord Chamberlain. The Order of Ceremonial is also black-edged 8 by 5½ the penultimate entry being that of Norroy, King of Arms, proclaiming the style of His late Royal Highness.

Field Marshal HRH George William Frederick Charles Guelph, 2nd Duke of Cambridge, KG, KT, KP, GCB, GCSI, GCMG, GCIE, CCVO, Hon Colonel-in-Chief to the Forces, Colonel-in-Chief The Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regt) was born at Hannover, March 26, 1819, commanded a division in the Crimea, he was at the Alma and Inkerman, where his horse was shot under him, and was invalided home. He held the 77th Regt in high regard agreeing that it should be known as The Duke of Cambridge's Own Regt. This title was carried over to the Regiment under the changes introduced by the Cardwell System. He became Colonel-in-Chief of the

Regiment on August 3, 1898, holding this command until he died on March 17, 1904.

After the funeral service in Westminster Abbey he was buried beside his wife at Kensal Green. In defiance of the Royal Marriages Act he married Miss Fairbrother; his three sons adopted the name of Fitzgore.

These two documents will join the uniform, worn by the Duke plus his sword used in the Crimea. The sword originally worn by Frederick, 1st Duke of Cambridge. These items are on display in the Regimental Museum.

Presented by ex-Sgt C. D. Matthews (6202789) nephew of the late Mr C. Hawes.

LETTERS

With reference to the letter from Mr W. McGachie, MM, in the previous issue of THE DIE-HARDS NEWSLETTER.

Lt Col J. W. R. Stephenson, DSO, informs me that he has written to Mr McGachie personally and also to Maj Gen Douglas Wimberley. There is no doubt that Mr McGachie had a great admiration for the 1/7th Middlesex Regt.

Mr McGachie in his reply to Lt Col J. W. R. Stephenson stated that he had also had a letter from RSM W. Knight, MBE. He also said he had met Maj Gen Douglas Wimberley in Edinburgh.

Capt T. F. G. Careless, MC
The Old School House,
Feniton, Honiton, EX14 OBE

The Editor,
THE DIE-HARDS NEWSLETTER

Dear Sir,

Honour to whom Honour is due

In the NEWSLETTER for June 1976, in the article 'A Pilgrimage to Arnheim' Richard Lawford reports on a visit he made to the Nijmegen and Arnheim (Oosterbeek) British War Cemeteries.

Later in the article he indicates that, on behalf of the Die-Hards, a letter of thanks be written to the Burgomasters of Nijmegen and of Arnheim for the beautiful way in which these cemeteries have been kept.

But, sir, the care and the resultant beauty of British War Cemeteries all over the world is the responsibility of the British Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The War Graves Commission, which originated in the 1914-18 War, would be the first to acknowledge the help they receive from local and central authorities overseas, but the credit for all the work in the

two cemeteries referred to by Richard Lawford must go to the staff of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, hence the heading to this letter.

Yours truly,
T. F. G. CARELESS

OBITUARY

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

BAXTER.—On August 7, 1976, in hospital, Teresa, wife of Maj K. P. Baxter, MC.

BURNS.—On July 7, 1976, ex-WO2 (CSM) Ernest Burns (L/11992) and (6191917), aged 87. 'Bobby' Burns enlisted into the Regiment, November 4, 1907 and on completion of his recruit training at the Depot, Mill Hill, was posted to the 4th Bn the following year. Remaining with the 4th Bn until 1908, he was posted to the 3rd Bn, then on foreign service. In February 1913, as a promising junior NCO, he qualified as an instructor of PT at the School of Physical Training, Ambala, and promoted to the rank of Cpl in March 1914. Serving with the 3rd Bn he was wounded whilst in France and later whilst serving in Salonika was evacuated home suffering from malaria. He continued to serve overseas with the BEF in France after recovery and was still serving in January 1919, holding the appointment of A/CQMS, having been promoted Sergeant December 12, 1915, whilst in the line. His current term of service terminating on January 16, 1919, he immediately re-enlisted into the Post Bellum Army the following day. Returning to the UK from France in June 1919, he qualified on a Fire Fighting course at Aldershot the following June and also qualified for an instructor's certificate at the Small Arms School, Hythe, in October 1922. In November 1923, he was posted to the 2nd Bn in India. On January 28, 1925, he was appointed CSM. His word of command was very distinctive and was a boon to those under his command during the RSMs drill parade, there being no mistake as to what movement the men of 'B' Coy had to perform. A thoroughly reliable and efficient soldier, he retired to pension after completing his 21 years service on December 26, 1928, being in possession of the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

HARPER.—On June 21, 1976, ex-WO2 (CSM) Jesse Harper (6194381), aged 73 years. 'Jim' Harper enlisted at the Depot Mill Hill on June 13, 1921, being posted to the 1st Bn on completion of his recruit training. He served with the Army of Occupation on the Rhine from April 1922 until October 1923. Returning to the Home Establishment until November 1924, he then joined the 2nd Bn in India where after qualifying on a course

Editor's comment—Capt T. F. G. Careless, MC, served with 1st, 5th and 17th Bns in World War I. He was commissioned on August 15, 1914, at the age of 16 years, 10 months, and 6 days.

of cookery in 1926, he opted to serve as a Duty Soldier instead of employment as a cook. In India he became a very useful member of his company and the battalion sports team excelling at track events. He eventually became a champion short distance runner. Gaining his first stripe in 1927 he attended Physical Training Courses in 1928 and 1929 by which time he had been promoted Corporal. His humour, patience and ability made him an ideal PT instructor for the enlisted boys who most certainly benefited from his enthusiasm when he organised special exercises and gymnastic games for them after duty hours. With the 2nd Bn he journeyed to Khartoum in the Sudan in April 1931, and to Colchester the following December. By this time he was a Lance-Sergeant, having become a member of the Sergeants Mess in January 1931 later to be promoted Sergeant in April 1932. Qualifying as an instructor at the Small Arms School in 1933, he became a member of the Depot Staff, where his squads were always well trained and efficient. Here again his humour was a boon to both the recruits and to his superiors. In 1936 he qualified at the Anti-gas School and in 1938 as a Machine Gun instructor. On July 13, 1939, after 18 years service and whilst employed as the Sergeant Instructor of Musketry, he chose to be discharged at his own request with a modified pension. The next day July 14, he re-enlisted on a three-year engagement, continuing in the same appointment at the Depot he was appreciated by his Commanding Officer as a keen and conscientious NCO who was of a reliable and cheerful disposition. When the 2/7th Bn mobilized for service he was CSM and with this battalion served throughout the campaign in Italy. Throughout his service with the battalion, he encouraged physical fitness and also organized sports and games, his enthusiasm being infectious and his pleasing disposition encouraging all ranks to take part in sporting competitions. His loyalty and trustworthiness was appreciated by his seniors and benefited his subordinates. Jim was eventually discharged on the last day of October 1945. After retiring he became a respected and popular member of the Friary Park Bowling Club. It was on June 21, whilst on the green after making a successful play he collapsed after standing erect with a smile of accomplishment. Present at the funeral on July 26, were many of the members of the Friary Bowling Club who filled the chapel and filed quietly by after the interment, all later recalling anecdotes of his enthusiasm and humour.

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KEMPSTER.—On June 9, 1976, Maj Geoffrey William Kempster, aged 77 years. He was appointed to a Regular Army Commission as a 2Lt on July 19, 1916, and attached to No 12 TS Squadron RFC for elementary flying instruction. On March 2, 1917, he was appointed Flying Officer with 50 Squadron RFC. Promoted Lt on January 19, 1918 and employed under Air Ministry as a Ferry Pilot from May 1918 to February 1919. His next appointment was OC Tent detachment South Western Area RAF. On September 11, 1919, he relinquished his RAF commission and ceased to be employed under the Air Ministry. He served with the Regiment until May 13, 1924, when he was seconded for service with the West African Frontier Force until September 18, 1927.

He returned to Regimental duties and was promoted Capt on April 20, 1928. He retired on retired pay on April 4, 1935. He was appointed Adjt and QM Aden Protectorate Levies on October 24, 1936, but terminated this appointment on December 11, 1937.

On September 1, 1939, he rejoined for service and was promoted Maj by Brevet. He served with the BEF from September 29, 1939, to June 20, 1940, in West Africa from August 15, 1940, to November 2, 1941, and in East Africa from April 1943 to May 1945. He was finally released on October 19, 1945.

During his service he was awarded the British War and Victory Medals, 1939-45, Star and War Medal 1939-45. He was the Secretary of the Regimental Association from June 1945 until October 1947. He suffered much ill-health in the last few years of his life.

The funeral was attended by Maj A. E. F. Waldron, MBE.

KIMBER.—On May 10, 1976, ex-Cpl Thomas George Kimber (TF/1622), aged 80 years, Tom Kimber enlisted as a Territorial soldier in 1913 enrolling with the 10th (TF) Bn as a Drummer. In 1914 when a second-line battalion was formed September 16, 1914, he became one of the nucleus as he also did on the formation of the 3/10th Bn on its formation, March 20, 1915. In each of these battalions he was a Drummer. In 1916 he was posted to the 19th (County of London) Bn, The London Regt (St Pancras) although not numbered as the Volunteer Battalion of any regiment, was attached to the Middlesex Regt. They had been the 17th (North Middlesex) Volunteers Rifle Corps until the formation of the Territorial Force in 1908. On joining this unit he was allotted the Regimental number 613229. Whilst serving with the latter in France he was shot in the mouth and after convalescence was transferred to the Motor Transport of the Army Service Corps the grant of 'Royal' being awarded to this Corps in 1918 in recognition of services during the Great War of 1914-18. On joining the corps he was allocated the

number M/394898, retaining this number until his discharge due to disability in December 1919. On discharge he again took up his employment with the London General Omnibus Company, and in his spare time formed a civilian Corps of Drums, he having been the leading or solo drummer in both 2/10th and 3/10th Bns. Leaving the LGOC he took employment in print working 21 years with the *Telegraph* Group of Papers and over 30 years with the *Financial Times*.

The outbreak of war in September 1939, caused the Corps of Drums to go into temporary suspension the younger members joining the services whilst the older members eventually joined the Home Guard (Print Bn) where once more he formed a Corps of Drums. This formation often played to the public especially on recruiting marches. It was chosen to lead the Indian Contingent on the Peace Parade. Later the corps played at the Royal Marines Depot, Deal, on a church parade and also at a Lord Mayor's Show. They were given the title of 'the City of London Drums' having the Crest of the City on their drums and on their buttons. On resigning due to ill-health from the position of Drum Major he was appointed Secretary and later Life President of the Corps. A public spirited man, he was in his later years Vice-President of the Sylvan Bowling Club, President of the Brockwell Bowling Club, a committee member of the Fleet Street Branch of the Royal British Legion and a Patron of the Hounslow Branch of the Old Contemptibles, his silver badge being presented to him personally by Maj Gen L. A. E. Price-Davies, VC, CB, CMG, DSO, who had won the Victoria Cross at Blood River Poort, South Africa on September 17, 1901, whilst a 23-year-old subaltern in King's Royal Rifle Corps.

The funeral of Tom Kimber was attended by members of all the clubs and formations mentioned above. Amongst the numerous floral tributes which included that of the Regimental Association was a beautifully designed side-drum from his fellow drummers, a farewell gesture that must have been appreciated by this hard-working Die-Hard.

LONG.—On July 9, 1976, Cpl John Long (22542172), aged 47 years. He joined the Parachute Regt in December 1950 and after recruit training was posted to the 3rd Bn and served with that unit until posting to the Middlesex Regt in December 1954. He was posted to the Permanent Staff at the Depot and served until joining the 1st Bn in Cyprus on March 4, 1958. He carried on his service with the 1st Bn and finally took his discharge at Hollywood Barracks, Belfast in 1968. A popular and well-liked member of the Regiment who will sadly be missed by his family and friends in the Regiment. He was a frequent and welcome visitor to RHQ.

PAINTER.—On November 15, 1975, WO1 (RSM) John Eley Painter (6189292), aged 73 years. He enlisted into the Regiment on October 7, 1916, as a Bandboy and was posted to the 3rd Bn. Served in 3rd Bn until the Bn was disbanded. He was transferred to the 2nd Bn of the West Yorkshire Regt for about two years, spending one year at their Depot as an instructor. He was transferred back to the Regiment in 1924 and joined the 1st Bn and served at Aldershot and Caterick. In October 1928 he was posted to the 2nd Bn in India and served in the Sudan until December 1931. The 2nd Bn returned to the UK in 1931 but Jack Painter as he was known to one and all, remained behind with others and joined the 1st Bn on its arrival in Kantara. In 1932 the Bn went to Cairo and Sgt Painter was attached to the Army Post Office where he was in charge of the army section. He still continued to play cricket for the Bn. About the end of 1933 he became steward of the Officers Club at Lake Timsah. In March 1936 he rejoined the Bn and proceeded with them to Singapore. Whilst in Singapore he was selected to play cricket for Singapore Garrison. In August 1937 the Bn was posted to Hong Kong and Sgt Painter went with them but in July 1939 was posted to the Home Establishment. On arrival in UK he was posted as a PSI to the 7th Bn and went to France with them and was evacuated from Dunkirk as CQMS in 1940. After this he spent some time at the Tower of London as escort to high ranking German officers and various other postings. In 1947 he was posted to Palestine and was Garrison Sgt Major. In 1948 he returned to the UK and was RSM to the 7th Bn for a short time and was posted to the Depot as RSM where he remained until his discharge on December 5, 1950. A total of 34 years and 60 days with the Colours. He was in possession of the following medals 1939-45 Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939-45, Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, General Service Medal (Palestine). A Bn sportsman of the highest calibre.

PECKHAM.—On July 23, 1976, Maj Donald George Peckham, aged 58 years, Royal Army Pay Corps. He was Paymaster to the 1st Bn from 1960-66. A very popular and well liked member of the Bn.

The funeral was held at Old Romney church on Wednesday, July 28, 1976, and was attended by: Col and Mrs J. N. Shipster, CBE, DSO, Mrs I. H. Battye, Lt Col M. V. Hayward, OBE, Maj P. Donovan, MBE, Maj I. M. E. Lloyd, Maj N. G. Pepperall, Maj and Mrs A. E. F. Waldron, MBE.

RAWLINSON.—On July 12, 1976, ex-Cpl Ronald William Rawlinson (19040314), aged 50 years. Cpl Rawlinson enlisted into the Regiment in 1947 and after recruit training in Northern Ireland, he joined the 1st Bn at Chelsea Barracks where he carried out ceremonial guard duties. He proceeded to Hong Kong with the Bn in 1949 and to Korea in 1950. He worked with the Intelligence Officer in Korea and on return to Hong Kong became Provost Cpl. He returned to UK in 1952 and was transferred to the Army Reserve in November 1952. He rejoined the Regiment on February 21, 1955, but was given a compassionate discharge in March 1956. At the time of his death he was living in Cornwall. His brother Cpl W. E. Rawlinson (19040313) who served at the same time will be remembered as the MT Cpl. He now lives at Houghton Regis, Beds.

RICHARDS.—On December 12, 1975, Capt Charles Richards, MBE, age 85 years. He died at the Mignot Memorial Hospital, Alderney, having been in failing health for some years. In 1907 the 2nd Bn, The Middlesex Regt was garrisoned in Guernsey and Alderney and among the troops was a Drummer Boy, Charles Richards, who was stationed with the band at Chateau Etoc on Alderney's Northern coast. He remained there for three years. He left with his Regiment but returned in 1915 having been wounded in World War I. He was wounded again in 1916 by which time he had been commissioned and promoted Capt. At the end of World War I he returned and settled in Alderney. In 1940 when the population of Alderney was evacuated Capt and Mrs Richards settled in England where he became a member of the Alderney Relief Committee. He returned to Alderney in 1945 and became a devoted Alderney man. He became States Treasurer, served the Island as a Jurat for several years. He also became president of the Court of Alderney in 1961 and retired from that office in 1965. He was awarded the MBE for services to Alderney during the 1939-45 War. He was a leading Freemason and patron of the Royal British Legion. Mr George Baron, President of the States of Alderney, stated that Capt Charles Richards was one of the finest servants Alderney has known.

The Secretary thanks Lt Col E. P. Shanks, CBE, QC, for sending him the newspaper cuttings about the life of this distinguished 'Die-Hard'.

SYKES.—On February 23, 1976, Lt Col Vincent Harold Sykes, MA, LLB., aged 88 years. He enlisted into the 7th Bn, The Middlesex Regt (DCO) as a Private soldier in 1908 the year of its formation and was posted to 'C' Coy (Hornsey). Prior to 1914 he was promoted Sergeant and qualified as a Bn marksman. After the outbreak of the Great War and a short period of coast defence duty he sailed with the Bn on September 3, 1914, for Gibraltar. He was now Platoon Sergeant to 9 Platoon under Lt Williamson. On February 8, 1915, the Bn left Gibraltar for UK and after a period of refitting sailed for Le Havre landing on March 13, 1915. On March 18, 1915, 'C' Coy were attached to the 2nd Bn and received its baptism of fire by being shelled in billets. A period of trench warfare followed. On June 12, 1915, he was informed that he had been recommended by Col E. J. King for a Regular Army Commission. This was granted on August 28, 1915. On September 4, 1915, he joined the 2nd Bn The Sherwood Foresters and was in the line with them at Ypres the following day. On the night of September 22–23 he was severely wounded in the head and shoulders by a grenade thrown across the road. He was evacuated to the General Hospital in Le Trepont and later moved to hospital in Dublin Castle. He was eventually medically downgraded and posted to the Reserve Bn of the Forresters later becoming Acting Adjutant. In 1917 he was seconded to the Machine Gun Corps and commanded the visual signalling school and retired to the Reserve in 1919.

In 1939 he assisted in recruiting the new 4th Bn Northamptonshire TA. He was also appointed a military magistrate in the event of the invasion of the UK. He also commanded a Bn of the Northamptonshire Home Guard.

TAGGART.—On January 28, 1976, Lt Col Edward Lawrence Taggart, MC, aged 79 years. He was an outstanding Signals Officer with the 2nd Bn in the 1914–18 War, gaining the MC in the operations leading to the capture of Douai. In the 1939–45 War he served again and reached the rank of Lt Col. Later he gave good service to the Middlesex ACF. For many years he organised the annual dinner for war-time (1914–18) officers of the 2nd Bn. He suffered years of ill-health but was always brave and cheerful. He was a very popular and well-known Regimental Officer, who will be sadly missed.

WEST.—On February 23, 1976, ex-Pte Albert Edward West (G/1804), aged 79 years. Bert West was one of the volunteers who rushed to answer Earl Kitchener's call on the outbreak of war in August 1914, he being sworn in on August 29. In the hurry his name was recorded as West, although his real name was Wust. He used the name West for the remainder of his life. Joining the newly formed 12th (Service) Bn he served with it during the fighting in France and Flanders from 1915 until disbandment. He took part in all the major actions including Ypres and the Somme, and especially that gruelling fight on Thiepval Ridge, September 26, 1916. A member of the Mill Hill Branch for many years he attended all regimental parades and ceremonies. It was whilst dressing to attend the memorial service to the late Col F. Walden in St Paul's Cathedral that he collapsed and died.

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