



# *The Die-Hards*

NEWSLETTER

No. 99

Spring 2008



Simon Wright Photography

***Regimental War Memorial Middlesex Guildhall***

*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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#### ANNUAL SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND REUNION

Continuing the success of last years Service I am delighted to announce that our guest of honour will be the Chaplain General Reverend D E Wilkes OBE QHC who will preach the sermon.

We are also privileged to have the band of the Royal Yeomanry (ICCY) to accompany the singing of some well known and loved hymns.

Major Ron Morris MBE past Association Secretary will be turning the page.

Do come and support this very special Regimental Occasion.

I look forward to seeing you.

Yours

Dennis

#### TICKET APPLICATION FORM

#### MIDDLESEX ANNUAL SERVICE AND ALL RANKS REUNION

17th MAY 2008

#### MIDDLESEX ANNUAL ALBUHERA SERVICE

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, LONDON.  
SERVICE COMMENCES 11:00 HRS

PLEASE BE SEATED BY 10:45 HRS

I will/Will not be attending the Albuhera Service ..... number attending

#### MIDDLESEX ANNUAL ALL RANKS REUNION AT UNION JACK CLUB, SANDELL STREET, LONDON SE1 8UJ

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT 13:00 HRS

Questions in writing for the meeting much reach The Association Secretary  
14 days prior to the meeting,

#### ANNUAL LUNCHEON AT 14:00 HRS PLEASE BE SEATED BY 13:50 HRS.

#### MENU

*Crab Mirabelle* *Number required - .....*

*or*

*Demi Ogen Melon* *Number required - .....*

*Roast Rack of Lamb*

*French Apple Tart*

*Coffee/Petit Fours* *Cost £13.50*

I require..... tickets at £13.50 each

(require..... tickets at £25.00each

Total: £ .....

I enclose a stamped addressed envelope for return of my tickets.

**Cheques payable to PWRR Benevolent Fund MX No. 1 A/c.**

**All returns must reach PWRR, RHQ, Howe Bks, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1JY  
01227 818056 by 30th April which is the final day for booking.**

Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation is available at the **UNION JACK CLUB** early application is  
Strongly recommended. Telephone 020 7928 4814.

**Please remember that you will only receive subsidised tickets for 1  
member and one guest i.e. wife/partner/carer.**



## FORCAST OF EVENTS 2008

26th April	17th MX OCA Annual Reunion TA Centre Hornsey
7th May	9th Bn Mx Officer's Club Annual Luncheon 12:15 - 13:00 (Royal Overseas League)
16th May	MX Officer's Club Annual Dinner Army & Navy Club
17th May	MX Albuhera Service Regimental Chapel St Paul's Cathedral 11:00 hrs.
17th May	MX All Ranks Reunion Union Jack Club Annual General Meeting 13:00 hrs.
16th May	Enfield Branch Wreath laying - Mill Hill.
1st July	Veteran's Day Parade Enfield Town 14:00 hrs.
16th July	Visit to Canterbury Cathedral - Enfield Branch.
23rd July	Association Thank you Luncheon - Union Jack Club London (invited Guests only)
16th September	Visit to National Army Museum and Tour / Lunch Royal Hospital Chelsea (men only x 50)
20th September	Korean Club Reunion & Annual General Meeting Union Jack Club - 11:30 hrs.
26th September	Mx Officer's Luncheon Army & Navy Club London.
5th November	7th Bn MX Officer's Annual Dinner. RHQ London Regiment Clapham.
6th November	Garden of Remembrance Westminster Service commences 10:50 hrs.
8th November	MX Ceremony of Remembrance Middlesex Guildhall 10:30 hrs. Service 10:50 hrs.
9th November	Remembrance Sunday.
9th November	7th Bn MX Remembrance Service Assemble 10:00 hrs At Parish Church St Mary & St George Hornsey.
6 December	(TBC) Enfield Branch Christmas Dance/Social Evening.



## REVIEW OF PWRR ACTIVITIES

The New Colonel of the Regiment is Major General Paul Newton CBE. General Paul was the first 2\* officer since Major General Reynolds and was the first in the PWRR. The regimental hierarchy now consisted of 1 major general, 2 brigadiers (now 3) and 11 full colonels.

Recruiting was difficult in the present climate and the effects of operational tours were impacting on both recruiting and retention. The PWRR was 150 undermanned across the Regiment but the new Colonel of the Regiment had made this his first priority. (The recruiting drive had reduced the deficit to 90 and the signs were good, with the aim of full manning by the end of 2008).

The 1st Battalion had recently returned from their second tour of Iraq. This had been a most successful tour and had resulted in the award of 1 x CGC, 4 MCs and 1 x GM. This undoubtedly made the 1st Battalion the most highly decorated unit in the Army. A training year was now planned to rejuvenate armoured infantry skills before the battalion deployed on operations again in 2008. (Iraq/Afghanistan in June 2008).

The 2nd Battalion currently in Ballykelly had conducted an operational tour in Iraq in 2006. They were preparing to deploy company groups to Belize and Kosovo. In March 2008 the battalion would be posted to Dhekelia in Cyprus and would assume the role of theatre reserve for the Middle East in June 2008 and would undoubtedly deploy in company groups to either Iraq or Afghanistan.

The 3rd Battalion had deployed 60 reservists on operations and had plans to provide reinforcement in 2008 to the 1st Battalion for their operational tour. Their manning was good and a new company was being formed up in Rochester.

B Company of the LONDONS had similarly deployed reservists to Afghanistan as part of a composite company (Somme Coy). They were now affiliated to London District and the Regiment must be careful that the regimental links were not diluted in the future.

**A comprehensive record of PWRR's activities can be obtained in the PWRR journal which is issued in November. A special concession allows our members to an introductory purchase of £5.00 for the first year and £10.00 per annum thereafter. I recommend this publication to all members.**

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT BENEVOLENCE REVIEW DURING THE PERIOD - 01.01.07—31.12.07

During the period a total of 40 cases were investigated and 26 individual grants-in-aid were approved. In the majority of cases the grants were for household expenses, debts and rent arrears. The Association helped provide 3 further Electrically Powered Vehicles (EPVs), 3 Orthopedic chair/beds and contributed to 8 Disabled Home Adaptations.

We administered 3 ABF Annuities and the ABF generously contributed £60 per month per case. During this period we have renewed or arranged for 1 Nursing Home Fee of £1300 ABF and £300 Association grants per case, per year, to be paid for our old soldiers or their widows to be looked after.

The Charity paid out £7,455 as individual-grants-in-aid and the ABF provided a further £1,050 in General Grants. Of the 14 cases not receiving a grant, local Councils/Charities or other Regimental Associations assisted 6 after we had contacted them. 5 cases were not receiving such allowances as Attendance, Mobility, Pensions Credit or Rent Rebate. The ABF total grants in support were £4,510 (inc. Annuities and NH Fees).

The Trustees would again like to pay tribute to the Army Benevolent Fund who is always helpful with prompt action and advice. SSAFA, Forces Help Society and The Royal British Legion investigate the majority of our cases and we are particularly grateful to their caseworkers for all their assistance. During the year we have also assisted members who are cared for by The Ex Services Mental Welfare Society, War Pensions Agency, BLESMA, Not Forgotten Society, Combat Stress and The Ex Services Fellowship Centres.

### REMEMBRANCE The Regimental Association pays homage

**Thursday November 8th** Members of the Association and of the Executive Committee attended the Annual Service at the Garden of Remembrance, Westminster in the presence of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh on a bright and sunny morning. Alf Burford of Enfield Branch headed the Regimental plot. Once His Royal Highness had completed his inspection of the Regimental plots, members toured the Garden of Remembrance.

**Friday November 9th** Members of Hounslow Branch attended the Greater London Authority Remembrance Service at the Chamber City Hall conducted by the Reverend Canon Richard Truss MA in the presence of a large congregation including troops who had just returned from Iraq and Afghanistan. An Act of Commitment was led by the Minister in which he was joined by representatives from the Muslim, Sikh, Hindu and Jewish faiths. The music was provided by the senior choir and concert band, Haberdashers Askes, Hatcham College. After the



service tea and coffee was served in London's Living Room, on the top floor of City Hall, the balcony of which provides fine views of London. Members of Hounslow Branch in conversations with the Troops, who had recently returned, were able to obtain first hand views of the situation in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Saturday November 10th** As a result of members of the Executive Committee having visited and liaised with Peter Hope the Senior Project Manager of Lend Lease Project for the Ministry of Justice UK Supreme Court Middlesex Guildhall and Steven Bullen the Project Manager Wallis (Kier Group) the contractors, the Regimental Association were granted permission to hold the Annual Service of Remembrance in the Guildhall during the refurbishment and alterations which are taking place prior to the Guildhall becoming the UK Supreme Court.

There was tight security for members attending, all had to submit their names and branch details before passing through the security gates. The contractors had gone to great lengths to ensure that an adequate and clean area was available for the service to go ahead and had provided chairs for the elderly and disabled. Prior to and after the service the contractor made available complimentary tea, coffee, bacon and sausage sandwiches in their canteen which they had opened especially for our benefit.

The service was conducted by Reverend Patrick Tuft MA in the presence of forty four members and friends. The service commenced at precisely 10.56 with an Act of Remembrance, the reading this year was from Philipians 4 verses 6-8 which was read by Colonel R M Cain OBE DL. Prior to the laying of a wreath on the Regimental Memorial the congregation recited the Middlesex Collect, after the two minutes silence a prayer for the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment was given. Simon Wright photographer for the Courts of Justice took a group photo and took other shots before and during and after the service.

Following their visit to the Middlesex Guildhall members of Enfield Branch visited Mill Hill Barracks to lay a wreath at the Regimental Memorial. Present were Fred Phillips, Jim Innes and Alf Burford. Fred has written to say that they found the barracks, now completely closed quite eerie and very silent and deserted except for two serving corporals and a QM, who joined our members for the short ceremony which they were proud and privileged to do, remembering comrades at this special time.

**Sunday November 11th** Members of Enfield Branch paraded at the Cenotaph for the Nations' Service attended by HM The Queen and other members of the Royal Family in the morning. In the afternoon they attended a service in Enfield. Whilst Hounslow Branch, were present at a large parade and service at Greenford War Memorial run by the RBL Greenford Branch.

## FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

Friendly fire. Inadequate equipment and clothing. Brutality towards prisoners. Young men dying in a country they knew little about before leaving the UK. Questioning why our forces were there at all. Feeling other regiments or services get too much attention.

You might think I was writing about Iraq or Afghanistan today. But when I was so fortunate to Join the Korean revisit by more than 70 British veterans, family and friends this April, I found that so many of the same concerns marked the 1950/1953 Korean War. The devastating conflict, which claimed over three million lives, is often called the forgotten or unknown war. But not in South Korea, where we received the warmest of welcomes from Koreans of all ages.

Our brave forces fighting in Iraq might find it hard to see what is being achieved there today. But veterans returning to South Korea, often for the first time in more than 50 years, are amazed at the transformation from a land devastated by war to a prosperous, hi-tech nation boasting the world's 11th biggest economy. Some said they felt a 'culture shock'. The capital, Seoul, is a huge, high-rise city spreading for miles along the Han River. Some 23 million people live in the Seoul metropolitan area, the world's second or third largest. Just one bridge over the river remained and so much was rubble when many of the veterans left more than five decades ago. Now there are more bridges than you can count and a forest of cranes as construction continues.

The Koreans we met were only too grateful to the veterans and their dead comrades for ensuring they did not share the privations still faced by North Koreans today. Our coaches displayed large "WELCOME KOREAN WAR VETERANS" banners in big letters and Korean characters on their sides. We all had name badges on cords around our necks proclaiming us as veterans, even those like me who were just proud to be there as friends. People waved from passing vehicles and shook our hands in the street. The hospitality from the Korean Veterans Association was excellent. In Pusan, the huge container port on the southern coast, we were greeted off the 'Bullet Train' by crowds and even a musical troupe with drums and other instruments. "Never in any previous conflict has a nation shown such gratitude to those who came to their aid in time of need," Major-General Mike Swindells CB, our group leader and President of the British Korean Veterans Association, told a large gathering at the National Cemetery in Seoul.

At the start of the trip, the veterans became media stars, interviewed by British School children and Korean journalists at the British Embassy Broughton Club. The next day, under a clear blue sky, British and Commonwealth veterans marched and laid wreaths at the National Cemetery. Tiny saluting children greeted us later at the War Memorial and older children, some working on school projects, showed great interest and respect as we walked around the museum there, which was full of



models, videos, photos and maps of the conflict. No reluctance to confront both the heroism and horrors of war there!

Then we had a fascinating and at times spooky day visiting the Demilitarized Zone, passing miles of barbed wire and many warnings of still active mines on the world's most heavily fortified border. On the way we crossed the Imjin River, where allied forces had held the line while peace talks dragged on. One veteran recalled learning to swim in the river, while another remembered skating with improvised skates on the frozen Imjin.

Our DMZ visit showed we could still expect the unexpected from the other side. As we looked around inside the main negotiating hut, two unsmiling North Koreans in uniform peered through the windows at us. When we walked to the far end of the hut (inside!), we were actually standing in North Korea. Later we joined former prisoner of war Ron Miller on his second visit to the so-called "Bridge of No Return" over the Military Demarcation Line between North and South Korea. It was used for prisoner exchanges at the end of the Korean War, but this time Ron received a medal. Later, at the site of The Hook/Hill 355, where some of our group had fought, we gazed over into North Korea.

A three-hour train ride in the speedy 'Bullet Train' took us down south to South Korea's second biggest city of Pusan, the one area that never fell to the enemy in the war and now the site of the world's only U.N. cemetery. Several veterans recalled taking much, much longer for the same rail journey in the early 1950s. The Pusan visit was a time to pay our respects at so many graves of the fallen. A new memorial wall of 166 granite panels inscribed with the names of some 40,900 U.N. combatants from 17 countries paid a particularly striking tribute.

Then we returned twice to the Imjin River area to attend further memorial services that left a very deep impression. Our visit to Kapyong was affected by persistent rain, but fine weather blessed the following day's visit to Gloucester Valley and Castle Hill, from where we could see the whole battle area while hearing an excellent account of the fighting from Brigadier Harry O'Hare, the departing British Defence Attache. A splendid lunch at the British Ambassador's Residence rounded off the trip.

Two of our number had a claim to be among the first and last British servicemen on active service in Korea. Edgar Green of the Middlesex Regiment arrived in 1950, while Arnold Schwartzman OBE, who designed the Gloucester Memorial at Solmari and is now a Los Angeles-based, Academy Award winning filmmaker, left in 1957. Several of our group seemed at home in the hi-tech South Korea of today with their facility with digital cameras, CD-ROMs, e-mail and laptops,

Thanks to the British Embassy staff, our helpful local guides and James Armstrong, the BKVA-sponsored MA student at Yonsei University, for helping us experience so

much. As an interested member of the Anglo Korean Society, I was honoured to share this time with my new comrades and give special thanks to my veteran mentors, the 'Three Musketeers', Edgar Green, Ian Harman and Ted Jonnston.

Why not go back yourself? Many of the veterans I met had resisted going but were glad they went in the end, whether to share experiences, show their family or even get the past out of their system.

Roger Jeal

### ALAN G. BALAAM - NATIONAL SERVICE YEARS

My National Service started on 6 August 1951 when I was eighteen years old. Together with Les Carter, who was twenty one years old and a neighbour in my village, I went up to Mill Hill East Barracks for my six weeks' basic training. For the Passing Out parade we had the loudest mouth in the army, RSM Britten from the Coldstream Guards, and having made the grade of a best recruit, I had to march up alone to the Colonel for presentation of my red epaulets.

After that, it was off to Canterbury for the advanced training of twelve intensive weeks designed to reduce casualties caused through insufficient training. We were certainly toughened up, almost taken to breaking point; marching in full kit with our 9lb rifles and packs, passing a 23lb Bren Gun back and forth between us, first on a ten mile route march, then fifteen, then twenty, right up to seventy miles. We lived fairly rough under canvas or in trenches we dug, and we learned to use different equipment without hesitation.

Finally we were considered ready for our first posting, so on Boxing Day we found ourselves in Goodge Street underground station with no idea where we were going. Later, as rumours of our orders started to spread, we were literally locked in the station until we could be packed onto the military train that was to take us to Liverpool and our troop ship. It seemed we had narrowly missed being sent to Korea because our regiment had just been replaced by another. We were destined for Hong Kong.

Our ship was the HMT Lancashire, built in 1914 and converted to a troopship in 1930. It was notorious for its poor stabilisers, and because the Irish Sea was particularly turbulent at the time, we had a very rough passage. The Bay of Biscay and even the Mediterranean had the ship rolling and pitching for weeks. The kitchen crew were all seasick and a request went out for anyone with any catering experience to report to the kitchens. Possessing a bit of cooking know-how, I went down and soon found myself running the kitchens, cooking whatever was to hand and using a lot of guesswork.



The ship lost a screw and we pulled into Algiers for a few days for repairs, during which time I went offshore for ship's provisions. This was the first foreign soil I had ever trodden on, and I have never forgotten seeing the oranges growing on the trees, a source of amazement to me at the time.

Once seas were calm I got a rousing thank you for keeping the men fed, then got sent back to the lads for the rest of the trip via Port Said and the Suez Canal, Aden, Colombo, Singapore and finally Kowloon. It was about a two month journey.

Our brigade, made up from the regiments of Middlesex, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and the Inniskillins. were to guard the borders of Hong Kong's New Territories with China. There were frequent skirmishes and we were hopelessly outnumbered, but we managed to maintain the frontiers around Sandy Ridge, Birdlee Hill and Cloudy Hill. Our rest camp had a name like Sam Wae, and the village was Fan Ling. When we were out on duty, living conditions were bad; we dug fox hole trenches, covered them, and didn't wash much for weeks on end. By the time I left, my hair was falling out and I had all kinds of skin problems - usually just treated with tincture of violet - and had been sick with malaria because there were no nets in the trenches. Rations were limited, so we scavenged what we could, and water was collected from wherever available into a 50 gallon tank in the back of each carrier, then filtered and purified in an elementary way. It wasn't just foggy, damp, and with no visibility, it was somewhat eerie on Sandy Ridge because that was a graveyard where the ancestors' bones were kept. Local people would come up and leave meals out for the dead, to be eaten by the spirits.

In March 1952 we were called to help control riots that had broken out in central Kowloon. Thousands of Communist-led students and workers were attacking police, servicemen and Europeans, overturning and burning vehicles, and smashing property as the riot got more violent. Given the number of people and the danger of serious injury, we had to use force to quell it.

Sometimes we had Chinese pamphlets dropped on us, encouraging us to run away from our duties and get back to home and our families, but my most dangerous encounter during cross-border clashes was when we came under mortar attack. My carrier was hit, and I suffered serious leg injuries. Treated first at the field hospital, I eventually got taken to the 33rd General Hospital in Kowloon because the wound wouldn't close and I needed skin grafts. When I returned to my regiment I was at least excused from marching for a while.

There were good times too, of course. We would go downtown in uniform to the YMCA, and change there into clothes and shoes we could get made for us in Kowloon whilst we waited, drinking tea. Then it would be off to the Kowloon Hotel, or similar establishment with their big ceiling fans to keep us cool, or even take the Star ferry to Hong Kong. I remember the Kings and Queens Theatre because it had air conditioning. We would go and see a film, go to steak restaurants, go to

Aberdeen floating fishing village or even swim in Repulse Bay. We had money in pockets and high spirits away from the camp.

Finally our posting was up, and, in December 1952, we boarded the HMT Empire Fowey to get home to the UK. The Fowey had been a German troop and accommodation ship during the Second World War, seized by British occupying forces in 1945. The return trip to Southampton was certainly smoother than our outward voyage.

When we got home, the Middlesex Regiment was given the Freedom of the City of London for the heroic effort in Korea. We assembled with the Band and Drums in Horse Guards Parade, then marked down the Mall past the palace, and onto Westminster for a great banquet. Later we also marched around the villages of Middlesex, close to my home, from Hendon to Edgware. The atmosphere was fantastic and people wouldn't charge us for anything, so it didn't matter too much that we couldn't get away on leave until all the parades were done.

Whilst on disembarkation leave, I got called back to duty at the end of January 1953 to assist with the Canvey Island flood. The memories of that tragedy, bodies trapped in flooded buildings, even babies in prams, will remain with me forever.

Leave over, it was off to Harwich and the boat to the Hook of Holland, then by train to Zeitweg in central Austria. That was quite a spectacular journey, and to get over the mountainous parts, we needed an extra two engines to power the train. Our quarters in Zeitweg were more comfortable and modern than we had ever had before, having been built for German pilots in the war. After Zeitweg came Vltlach in southern Austria, with its thermal springs, and then we were sent to Trieste at a time when there were huge demonstrations by Italians demanding the return of Trieste to Italy. Meanwhile Marshall Tito was warning that Yugoslavia would never accept the Free Territory of Trieste being returned to the Italians. There were also people who had not accepted the terms of peace after the war, and were still fighting in isolated bursts.

Nearing the end of my National Service, I was given leave on compassionate grounds to attend my father's second wedding, about six years after the death of my mother. I stayed at home, demobbed but on reserve for 3 years. Sure enough, the knock on the door came and I was called back because of the Suez crisis. I was married myself by then, but had to say goodbye to the wife and go to Stiffkey in Norfolk to remain on standby until I eventually got my letter from Her Majesty the Queen and the War Department saying that I was no longer required to remain in the Army. Having signed the Official Secrets Act, I was free to return to Civvy Street.



## A RETURN TO THE PAST

After World War II Cliff Bilney arrived in Rensburg as a Captain in the British Army and retains fond memories of the few months when he was stationed at Eider Kaserne and during that time his heart warmed to the people of Rensburg. When he left the town he always felt that he would return one day.

Now at the age of 88 years, he and his wife Betty, with the assistance of Heinz Johannsen it came true. As an expression of thanks the "Rensburger" kept contact with many former members of the Middlesex Regiment to thank them for their support of the citizens of Rensburg during the dark days of 1946/7 after hostilities had ceased. Heinz invited Cliff to visit his old barracks again and the Rensburg Museum to view the section "Time of Occupation" which was set up and sponsored by Heinz.



*Cliff Bilney with Heinz Johannsen at Rensburg Museum*

## A LAMENT

Further to the report in the August 2007 Newsletter on the farewell to Inglis Barracks I was one of that small band of Diehards who led the march past. I did my training there in 1955 and later went to Austria for a short period and then to Cyprus for eighteen months. I did go back to the depot in the early 1970's to have a look around. At that time the square and the barrack blocks were still there, although a large area was now a housing estate. I was expecting something of the same when I returned there on the 5th July which incidentally was my 71st birthday. What I found was very distressing, it was all gone the sacred square was a car park, the barrack blocks had all disappeared, the whole place was covered with modern type square, soulless buildings. I was appalled a piece of history had gone. Middlesex men for generations had gone from that depot to serve in conflicts throughout the world including the Boer War, Two World Wars, Korea etc and now it was gone, so tragic. This has of course happened to many Regimental depots nationwide and I am so sad that all this has happened in my lifetime. Forgive me for subjecting your readers to this diatribe but putting pen to paper regarding my thoughts has helped.

I.R. Aldridge

## NEW ZEALAND 57th MEMORIAL UPDATE



*The Refurbished 57th Memorial*



# Regimental War Memorial Middlesex Guildhall



Simon Wright Photography





Roland Ellis has written to say he attended the rededication of the 57th Memorial at Te Henui Cemetery New Plymouth, which has been renovated with funding made available by the New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs –War Graves Division Heritage Property Unit, assisted, as a result of a telephone call by John Hart to Margaret Marks who claimed that he must be psychic as she had just reviewed and finalised her recommendations of monuments in need of repair for the 2006/7 financial year, of which ours was one. (See March 2007 Newsletter.)

Attending the event was the Chairman of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission who was on a whistle stop tour of the two islands. Whilst there Roland met John Hart and his wife Kathy, John is retired dairy farmer who served in Korea.



*View across cemetery - 57th Memorial on the right*

### ODD JOTTINGS

On 12th December 2007 the UK Branch of the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) held their Annual Christmas Lunch at the Cavalry and Guards Club. Colonel Rex Cain was invited to represent the Middlesex Regimental Association and reports that among those present was a 95 years old survivor of the Battle of Hong Kong in 1941. He said that in the early weeks as POWs discipline broke down in some units but the Diehards were an exception. He attributed this to the leadership and influence of Colonel Stewart and his RSM.

David Elliot, ex Sgt 1st Bn, has written to say that whilst attending the Remembrance Day Service in Gillingham he was hailed by Frederick Roberts a D Day Veteran who served with 1/7th Bn. who was also present at the ceremony.

Ken Beale wrote in December to say that having now been in France for over a year, he and his wife Millie are happy. They have now sold their house in Spain. Currently they are having renovation work done and are impressed by their builders who have made a considerable difference to their present dwelling.

Simon Enthoven noted amongst the signatures on the Globe Theatre letter, which was featured in our last issue were Leslie Henson and Beatrice Lillie and for the benefit of our readers gave a potted history of these well known stars.

Leslie Henson 1891-1957 English comedian, remembered for his laughter provoking facial elasticity took leading roles in *Lady Luck* (1927) *It's a Boy* (1930) *Harvey* (1950) and produced the famous Aldwych farces and many other plays.

Beatrice Lillie (Lady Peel) Canadian revue singer, born Toronto 1898. After an unsuccessful start as a drawing-room ballad singer found her true bent in 1914 in music hall and the new vogue of "intimate revue" which Charlot had brought over from Paris. An unrivalled comic singer, she made famous Noel Coward's "Mad Dogs and Englishmen". During World War II she played to the troops and was decorated by General de Gaulle. She married Sir Robert Peel, 5th Bart, in 1929.

On the grave, of Private McKelvy 85th K.L.I at Meerut India, who died in 1875 is the epitaph "I am billeted here by death, quartered to remain, and when the last trumpet sounds, I'll rise and march again."

James Robertson has written to apologise for not supporting Middlesex Regimental activities in recent years, this is not due to a lack of will, rather a minor medical problem, but he sends his best wishes to all members of the Regimental Association and to say, "that if only in spirit I'm still following the drum even if as then, only occasionally in step".

Taffy Evans writes from the Philippines to say how much he enjoys receiving the newsletter which enables him to keep abreast of Regimental activities. Taffy has now reached the age of 92 years.



## OBITUARIES

We advise with the deepest regret that the following have died

**Barnden A.E.** (Barney) BQMS died on 27th January 2008 at Norfolk & Norwich Hospital aged 85 years. Barney joined the 9th Bn aged 17 years and was subsequently transferred early 1941, with many others, to 30th LAA Regiment. They fought in the Western Desert with the 8th Army. After demob he joined the TA in May 1950 serving with 595 LAA Regiment (9th Bn Middlesex Regiment) at Kingsbury until discharge in 1961. Throughout the various Army roles endured by the old 9th Bn he remained a popular and stalwart Diehard.

T. Lockyer

**Chapman P** Died in Ashford Hospital on 14th January 2008. Peter was a Corporal in the Drums in 4th Bn and went on to become Drum Major of 3 Queens.

**Dawson G. C.** Major Died 6th October 2007 aged 94 years. We were informed by his son, who said that his father's life was defined by his army training and his experiences with the Middlesex Regiment and that he lived his life and long retirement in the best traditions of the Regiment.

**Harris J**, an honorary member of the Middlesex Officers' Club, died on the 15th of February 2008. He served with the Royal Engineers during World War II and was taken prisoner at the fall of Hong Kong. He was imprisoned with the Officers of the 1st Battalion in the Prisoner of War Camp in Argyle Street, Kowloon. He was recruited to the brave band of Officers who under the leadership of Colonel L A Newnham GC MC, were engaged in smuggling information out of the camp, on the conditions in Hong Kong, to the British Aid Group in China. Four members of the team were eventually discovered and were executed by the Japanese. John went on after the war to establish a very successful world wide architect's practice. His funeral was held on the 26th February at the Church of St Peter and St Paul West Wittering Sussex. The regiment was represented by Captain Simon Enthoven.

R.Morris

**Kennedy C.** Passed away in his sleep aged 87 years on 4th November 2007. Charles served with both British and French Forces after leaving the Middlesex Regiment he went on to serve with KRRC and embarked on overseas campaigns with the French Expeditionary Force in Italy, Morocco, Tunisia and Libya. He was awarded the Legion d'Honneur in recognition of his rescue of two wounded French soldiers trapped behind enemy lines during the liberation of Marseilles in 1944. The funeral took place at Parndon Wood Crematorium on Friday 16th November 2007.

**Mellor B.** (Tich) Died on Sunday 3rd February aged 93 years. Tich joined 2nd Bn Middlesex Regiment in 1934 and later served with the 1st Bn. He was taken prisoner by the Japanese in Hong Kong. After release from being a prisoner of war he served with the RAOC and served in various countries including Burma and Cyprus. Tich was for many years the caretaker at Hornsey Drill Hall. His funeral was held at Enfield Crematorium on 11th February 2008 and the regiment was represented by members of the Enfield Branch. The coffin was draped with the regimental flag and the Enfield branch standard was present.

**Wood B.R. Colonel OBE TD DL.** (Reg.) aged 91 died on 30th December 2007. Colonel Wood served throughout World War II with the Kensington Regiment and was a former Chairman of the Greater London TAVR Association.

We have also picked up that **Lieut. J H Hedgely** who lived in Warminster died in August 2007. Nothing further is known. He served with the 1st Bn in 1949 as a National Service Officer.

Ron Morris was notified in mid September that **Jean Bower** had died on the 7th September 2007. This information came initially via RHQ of the PWRR but we have since heard from Mrs Gillian Banwell, Jean's sister, to say that she died peacefully and suddenly on that day.

**Wood Mrs Hilda** Aged 101 years died on 21st July 2007. Her husband Joseph served in the 7th Battalion and fought in the Battle of the Somme.

**Worley Mrs Joyce**, along time resident in one of our regimental houses in Albuhera Close died in Chase Farm Hospital on 22f January 2008.

Sadly we have been notified of the death of the following member for which no further details are available.

**HILL R F**



## LETTERS RECEIVED BY THE ASSOCIATION

A number of letters have been received by the Association in which the recipients express their gratitude for the assistance given, by our benevolent work.

### NEW MEMBERS

The following members of the Regiment have joined the association since the last newsletter.

A G Goodbourne	Joined the Association 6 Feb 08
J F Hurley	Joined the Association 6 Feb 08
M Joyce	Joined the Association 19 Nov 07
W J Pearce	Joined the Association 13 Feb 08
R Smith	Joined the Association 11 Oct 07

### LISBON MARU 65th REUNION

After the fall of Hong Kong in 1941 the Japanese began transporting prisoners of war to Japan. The second ship was the Lisbon Maru which set sail in September 1942 with more than 1800 prisoners on board including 366 from our 1st Battalion. On 1st October 1942 the ship was torpedoed by the USS Grouper and the Lisbon Maru sank the next day.

The Japanese had battened down the hatches and posted armed sentries to prevent the prisoners escaping from the holds before the ship went down. The senior British officer on board, Lieutenant Colonel Moncrieff ("Monkey") Stewart the commanding officer of our 1st Battalion, gave the order to break open the hatches of Number 2 hold where he and his men were confined. Although the prisoners were released after the guards were overpowered less than half of the 1834 who embarked survived the sinking and the years of Japanese brutality during their captivity. Only 158 of the Middlesex veterans remained to be repatriated when the war ended.

On 2nd October 2007 Mark Fielding-Smith, grandson of one of the prisoners of war, organised a reunion for survivors and their relatives on HMS Belfast. I was invited to represent the Regiment and to give a talk after lunch.

The highlight of the occasion for me was sitting at lunch between Freddy O'Donnell and Fred White, the two Diehard survivors present. The only other survivor from the

Middlesex still alive, as far as we know, is Taffy Evans but he was not able to make the journey from the Philippines.

Fred and Freddy are both in their early nineties and although physically frail mentally alert and full of stories about their contemporaries who I remembered from my time at the Depot Those mentioned ranged from the then Captain Chris Man to Frank Waldron, Drum Major Holford and Corporal Mitchell-Gears.

It was a salutary reminder of the passage of time when Harry Farrow, senior QM at the Depot in the early 1950s was referred to as RSM of the 1st Battalion and Dick Smith as a sergeant before the war.

It was a real privilege to have been at the reunion and to meet two of our oldest Diehards and it made me realise that however hard life is for the soldiers of today the older generation had an even harder time.

R.M.Cain

### ELIGIBILITY FOR ENTRY TO THE ROYAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA

For many years the Royal Hospital Chelsea has accepted as In-Pensioners only those who have met four conditions: they must have served as a Regular soldier in the British Army; they must have nobody who is dependent on them; they must have a military or war disability pension which they surrender on entry; and they must be over the age of 65. Of these conditions only the first two are legally binding; the other two are at the discretion of the Commissioners of the Royal Hospital, and on occasion we have interpreted them flexibly to allow for special cases.

As a result of cumulative and continuing changes in demography, society and Government policy we have recently taken a fresh look at the conditions of entry to see whether there is a case for making any changes. We have no plans at present to alter the 65 years of age requirement, but we have decided we should in future be prepared to accept into the Royal Hospital those who, while meeting all the other conditions, do not necessarily have a military or war disability pension to surrender. This change will open up entry to a number of deserving candidates who have, until now, been excluded, and the purpose of this letter is to alert you to the change so you can advise potential candidates accordingly. For completeness I should perhaps add that this change to our conditions does not mean we shall be accepting those whose only experience of the military was during National Service, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

There are, however, two other factors you should take into account when advising potential candidates. First, it has always been our policy not to accept as



In-Pensioners those who are already too frail to contribute to the life of this unique community. The Chelsea Pensioner, a figure much loved by the British public, is a living memorial to the service given and sacrifice made by successive generations of soldiers, and a symbol of the covenant that must exist between the nation and its Army. As such it is vital our pensioners are able to carry out the many representative functions that keep them - and thus the ideal they represent - in the public eye. They must not become invisible. Once they are here we shall, of course, look after them until they die, providing whatever nursing care is required for however long is necessary. But with few exceptions (there is occasionally a special case) applicants must be sufficiently fit on entry to play an active part in our community. This constraint is particularly acute just now as we have recently embarked on a major development programme, one consequence of which is that there is great pressure on beds in the Infirmary.

The second consideration is that we can not, for a number of reasons, generally accept people as In-Pensioners totally free of charge. This would be hard to explain to the vast majority who surrender their pensions on arrival; and it would be difficult to justify to the tax-payer, from whom we continue to get a Grant-in-Aid. For this reason we shall expect any applicant who does not have a pension to surrender to make an alternative financial contribution of at least £100 per week. Precisely how much each individual actually pays will be subject to discussion on application, and will depend in part on his circumstances. Suffice it to say whatever sum is agreed will fall within the bracket paid by our current contingent of In-Pensioners and will thus continue to constitute extremely good value. Moreover, this charge can be paid by the individual in person; by an association or other charity prepared to sponsor him; or by a combination of the two. This will allow the maximum flexibility.

We do not seek to increase substantially the number of In-Pensioners at The Royal Hospital Chelsea as our capacity is limited, but hope this small but positive change to our rules of entry will enable some deserving candidates to come here who might otherwise have been denied. Of one thing you, and they, can be certain. Once here they will be able to enjoy their later years to the full among their comrades, secure in the knowledge that they will never lack for care and will live and die with dignity among friends in a caring community.

Major General A P N Currie, CB  
Lieutenant Governor, Royal Hospital Chelsea

### LOST AND FOUND

A tartan scarf was left at the Middlesex Guildhall, after the Remembrance Service the owner can reclaim the article by applying to the editor.

### WANTED

G Goring (Middlesex) who was commissioned into the regiment after Sandhurst's Intake no 21. 1958. Stephen Ellis who was in the same Company as George and is trying to trace him. A 50th Anniversary of their commissioning is planned for all those who were in that Intake. So if anyone knows of his whereabouts could they please tell him that such an event is planned. Further details are available from the editor.

### BOOK REVIEWS

#### 53 Years of Motoring Memories by a Vintage Driver

Enjoy this narrative of a half century at the wheel inclusive of many mishaps, adventures and with a great deal of humour thrown in!

A further slice of motoring history is contained within Eric King's chapter about his father's career as a professional chauffeur to the gentry, over a 30 year span! Visualise driving Crossley, Bianchi, Cadillac and Pierce-Arrow cars plus the lifestyle of their owners.

Available direct from the author, LS Ives 7 Elm Close, Bishopsmead, Tavistock Devon PL19 9AP Price £7.00 plus P&P £1.00 total £8.00

#### Rough Justice by Keith Watson

Based on a true story, Keith Watson's new historical novel, Rough Justice focuses on a fire that killed four British troops stationed in Austria in 1955 and the alleged cover up which ensued. The author, who was present, draws on both his recollections and now public records to demonstrate untruths and collusion within the Army's senior ranks.

Although the events portrayed in Rough Justice are rooted in reality, the characters have been fictionalised. Conveying a strong sense of discipline, truth and injustice, Watson tells his story from the point of view of Lloyd Freeman, an NCO and popular leader.

For a review copy, contact Publicity Coordinator Tel (UK) 0800 197 4150



## A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

As a result of the request in our last newsletter no 98, Mr D F Barrett has responded with some very interesting detail. The photograph which is referred to was not printed in our issue and I now print that photo.



**SMILING YOUNG 'CONTEMPTIBLE': WAS HE THE FIRST SENTRY AT MONS?**

The good humour and unflinching sense of fun that characterized the British Tommy throughout the war were of infinite value in maintaining the morale of the troops, and this young sentry's smile is typical of the spirit that endured to the end. This unique photograph was taken at 5 p.m. on August 22, 1914, only a few hours after the first cavalry patrols entered Mons. The sentry is an "Old Contemptible," private of the 4th Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own - "The Dichards"), which formed part of the 2nd Corps. He was posted when this photograph was taken at the crossing of the Mons-Beaumont/Mons-Binche roads, a spot known as La Bascule (see M. Licope's account in page 39).  
Mons Museum

## NEWSLETTER No. 98, 13834, Private A. F. Carter, 4th Middlesex.

What now seems a lifetime ago I had regular contact with Rose Coombs and Dick Smith regarding among others, Private Carter and the photograph of him on sentry at Mons, first published in Part 1 of *The Great War, I WAS THERE* around I would guess 1938. It had been found by the Editor, Sir John Hammerton, in the Mons War Museum and was printed with the permission of Georges Licope, the then Curator. Part Seven contained the following letter from ex-Private Carter:

To the Editor.

Billericay, Essex

Dear Sir,

It was with great pleasure that I looked forward to the first issue of your Great War series, "I Was There", as being something apart from the usual dry-as-dust histories, something we "old 'uns" would find interesting, or perhaps see a familiar face or two. My first number has arrived and, need I say, lived up to expectations. Imagine my surprise and delight to find myself figuring in it too! The writer is the "smiling young Contemptible" on page 23. Nothing could have brought back the memories like that did. The full ammunition pouches, the kink in the rifle sling where I had tightened it up to be "posh" on sentry, also the officers haversack, which I remember so well. I have tried to remember who took the photograph but I cannot, altho' I believe it was a girl. Anyway, we were very much photographed by the fair sex in those early days. How the memories come flooding back! The kind welcome of the inhabitants, how they pressed gifts of food, fruit etc, on us, even the poorest of them. We all have great recollections of those four years in spite of the horror and filth we had to contend with. It may interest you to know I am still in the forces - in fact I was called out during the last scare, and was serving as a commander of a searchlight detachment. So you will see I am still doing a bit for this grand old country. To revert to the Great War, I managed to see it through from beginning to end without serious hurt and in the trenches all the time, too. How's that!

Anyway sir here's wishing the publication every success, and I can assure you it will always have a place of honour in my home as an intimate link with the old days.

Yours very sincerely,

Arthur F. Carter. (Late 13834 Private, 4th Middlesex Regiment)

## Part 10, Editors comment:

I received a letter from an ex-sergeant in the Royal Fusiliers, who, congratulates me "for a splendid job of work," but raises the question of the authenticity of the photograph of Mr. Carter as "the young sentry at Mons." He has discussed it with some other old comrades and asks whether, since the photograph shows the



sentry carrying an officer's haversack, and a leather rifle sling, and the absence of a bayonet sheath and entrenching tool handle, it is not a composite photograph taken at a later period of the war. So hard then is the Editorial lot!

Having discovered by a personal visit to the Museum at Mons this remarkable and undoubtedly unique photograph of what was probably the first sentry posted at Mons, taken on August 22, 1914 - and this date is specifically stated underneath the photograph with the precise hour at which it was taken - I am faced with the definite suggestion that the photograph is a fake. I am sure the questions are raised in good faith; but on the other hand, it is a little exasperating that in a work of this nature, where every word of the text and every photograph is characterized by the spirit and principal "I was there," they should be raised at all.

Do hope this will be of interest to Arthur Carter's great-nephew, having been copied from the covers of the appropriate parts and should more information surface I shall be most interested. When Rose died I ceased purchasing tier splendid revised books and thus do not have the copy in which the photograph was printed.

#### **REMEMBRANCE DAY HONG KONG 11 NOVEMBER 2007**

by Major Brian Finch

Hong Kong was returned to Chinese sovereignty on 1 July 1997 on the basis of an arrangement known as 'one country two systems', under which the Chinese government has promised Hong Kong a 'high degree of autonomy'. In essence this means that the Central Government in Beijing is responsible for all matters to do with defence and foreign affairs, but Hong Kong remains in charge of its own domestic policy. It has its own border controls, under which visitors from Mainland China need visas, just like foreigners, and the legal system is based on the common law system and is largely unchanged from the days when Hong Kong was a British colony.

In effect, life in Hong Kong has hardly changed since the handover. It is still a vibrant financial centre and the financial world operates an international market covering share dealing, insurance, banks and all other aspects of major financial operations, represented by companies from around the world, notably from the USA, the UK, Europe and of course China. Hong Kong operates several huge container ports, transporting massive amounts of goods between China and the rest of the world.

One particular feature of Hong Kong life that has continued since the reversion of sovereignty is the celebration of Remembrance Sunday. It was perhaps fitting that in the important 10th anniversary year of Hong Kong becoming part of the People's Republic of China, Remembrance Sunday fell on 11th November.

There are still many ex-servicemen in Hong Kong who fought in the Second World War; most of them are Chinese, although by no means all. In addition there are quite a few British ex-servicemen who have settled in Hong Kong, and most importantly thousand of Hong Kong Chinese who have served the British Army since the war. Some were members of the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) with whom of course the Die-Hards have long had a very close association since we fought together in 1941 in defence of Hong Kong against the Japanese invasion. Others served in the Hong Kong Military Service Corps, which provided many different aspects of support for the British Forces in Hong Kong right up to shortly before the handover in 1997.

Some of these ex-servicemen have received and continue to receive financial and other support from the Royal British Legion (Hong Kong and China Branch). This is a very active body and its charitable work will be needed for many years to come as our former comrades get older and some of them inevitably are likely to need assistance. Like the parent body in the UK, one of the primary sources of income for the RBL (HK&China Branch) comes from the sale of poppies. But unlike in the UK, there are unusually tight constraints on how and where poppies are sold, as the Hong Kong Government views them as just another 'flag day', competing for attention with other charities. The main sale of poppies is carried out only on the morning of the Saturday immediately before Remembrance Sunday. As in the past, large groups of young volunteers from schools, scouts, guides and similar bodies all help out.

I was in Hong Kong on a visit last November and took the opportunity to help by selling some poppies on the Saturday morning. Some of the donors were very generous; one bought a poppy then asked what it was for; many young children, encouraged by their parents, bought poppies, and one American businessman asked me how much he should pay! I also sold a poppy to a former member of the King's Regiment who told me he was just there on holiday - I said I was also on holiday.

On Sunday 11th November I had the privilege not only to witness the Remembrance Day Ceremony closely, but also to take part. I had arranged to take with me a wreath from The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) and laid it with representatives of other veteran organisations. In previous years I had often laid a wreath on behalf of the Regiment when I was posted in Hong Kong. On this occasion I was also in touch with the Lisbon Maru Association, which is a newly formed body trying to arrange a memorial to remember those British prisoners of war who had died in the dreadful event of the sinking of the ship in 1942 and the Chinese fishermen who had helped to rescue some of them. I was given the additional honour of being asked by the Association to lay a wreath on their behalf.



Other veteran organisations which laid wreaths included:

RBL (HK & China Branch)  
Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry Association  
Hong Kong Ex-Servicemen's Association  
Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers)  
World War II Veterans Association  
British Army Aid Group  
Chindits  
Royal Navy & Royal Marines  
Royal Air Force Association  
Brigade of Gurkhas  
Gunnery Role of Hong Kong  
US Office of Liaison Administration  
Normandy Veterans Association  
Special Air Service Regiment

And many others.

The ceremony was almost identical to similar events in the past. All four sides of Statue Square (which surrounds the Cenotaph) had representatives from the Hong Kong Government; the Executive Council and Legislative Council (the closest bodies to our cabinet and House of Commons); representatives from the consulates of South Africa, the UK, Canada, Australia, France, the USA, New Zealand, India, Singapore and Nigeria; the Judiciary; the Police; cadets, scouts, guides and other uniformed bodies such as the Red Cross and St John's Ambulance Brigade; several major business houses and chambers of commerce; clubs, societies and associations; district and local government bodies.

Following the 'Last Post', two minutes silence and 'Reveille', all these and other representatives laid wreaths. Altogether nearly 100 wreaths were laid, the highest number at any time since 1997.

After the wreath laying, Prayers and Recitations for Remembrance Day were said in turn by Anglican, Roman Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, Taoist, Buddhist and Confucian clerics and leaders. This was one of the most moving parts of the service, as it demonstrated clearly the wish of all religions, faiths and beliefs to remember those who had sacrificed their lives for their country, and to pray for peace in the future. If only this message could be given wider voice by more leaders of these and other faiths, it might go some way to reducing tension in the world and achieving that universal desire for peace.

There was also a military presence at the ceremony. Sentries were provided around the Cenotaph by three cadet forces. These units continue to operate much as they did before the handover and still wear British forces style uniforms on

parade. They are called the Hong Kong Sea Cadet Corps, the Hong Kong Air Cadet Corps and the Hong Kong Adventure Cadets. Curiously the programme of events showed little political inhibitions in describing them thus:

HKS CC (Navy), HKAC (Army) and HKACC (Air Force)

To complete the military image, they all carried British Army weapons. I met Major Ronald Taylor who runs the RHKR (The Volunteers) Association and asked him how they managed to get away with armed military cadet units in Hong Kong after the handover. He explained that when the RHKR had been disbanded, their weapons had been passed to Hong Kong Customs & Excise. After a while it became clear that they had no use for the weapons, so they disabled them and gave them to the cadet forces. Whether or not they can still be classified as weapons is a moot point, since at least one of the corps insists on fixing bayonets on certain parades! Major Taylor summed up the answer to my question by saying that they get away with it in true Hong Kong style, simply by getting away with it.

Overall, the ceremony varied only slightly from the traditional events in which I had taken part previously. The Chief Executive (the role that replaced that of the Governor as head of the government) was not present in person, although wreaths were laid on his behalf and for other senior members of the Government. These were not traditional red poppy wreaths, rather they were white Chinese funereal wreaths. My interpretation of this is that the Chief Executive definitely wants to show his respect for those who have died for Hong Kong; but under the circumstances of the very delicate balance of power between Hong Kong and Beijing, he feels it wise not to be directly involved in what is, after all, a very British occasion. Similarly the choice of a Chinese wreath moves away from the British symbolism of the poppy – and of course also avoids the risk of being associated with the other kind of poppy which produces opium; since Hong Kong was first colonised by the British as a result of the Opium Wars.

The other main variation was in the final part of the ceremony, which seemed somewhat surreal. The order was given "General salute; present arms!" and the Hong Kong Police Band struck up the National Anthem. The only difference was that this was the Chinese National Anthem.

A truly memorable occasion. It was a real honour to be able to take part in such an event and I hope the tradition will continue for many years to come; and that the RBL (HK & China Branch) will be able to continue to support those who for so many years have supported the British Forces in Hong Kong.



## REGIMENTAL GOODS

The following are held in stock and prices are available on request to the Regimental Shop, RHQ PWRR Howe Barracks Canterbury Kent CT1 1JY. Cheques and postal Orders should be made payable to PWRR Account No 0566700 Telephone No 01227 818058.

### Prices on application to the Regimental Shop.

#### Blazer Badges

Ice Buckets miniature side drum with Regimental Emblazon

plus postage and packing

Ties (Old pattern maroon and gold)

Ties (New pattern with maroon and gold thin stripes)

Ties Officers Club (Silk)

Middlesex Regt. Cap badges good quality replicas

Old Comrades lapel badges

Regimental Beret Flashes

Prints 'Steady the Drums & Fifes' unframed - Large Print

- Small Print

#### Middlesex Regimental Plaques

Middlesex Blazer Buttons Flat stay bright with engraved Middlesex Badge

Set 6 large buttons 6 small buttons

Individual buttons Large & Small

Regimental Cuff Links

Regimental Tie Grip

Regimental Tie Tack & Chain

Regimental Ladies Brooch