

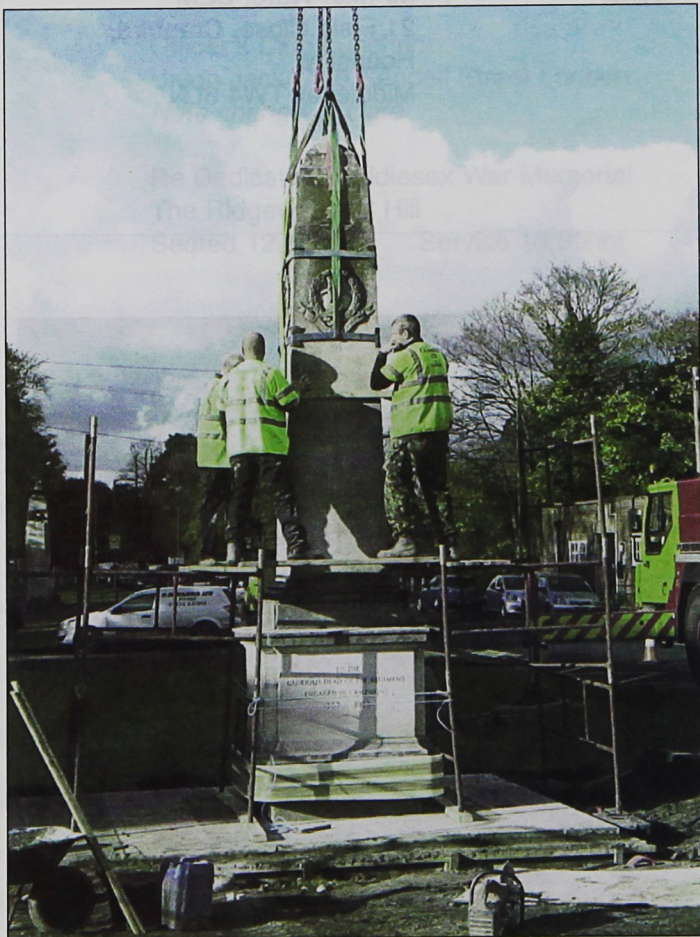


The Die-Hards

NEWSLETTER

No. 109

Spring 2013



**The re-erection of the Regimental Memorial
on the Ridgeway, Mill Hill**

President : Colonel R.M. Cain, OBE, DL
Chairman : Chairman Lieutenant Colonel M.F. Deakin
Vice Chairman : Captain M.J.S. Doran, TD, LL.B.
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The plaque on the re-erected Regimental Memorial

Forecast of Events 2013

25th May	Association Albuhera Service of Remembrance Regimental Chapel St Paul's Cathedral London Seated 10.15hrs Service 10.30hrs
25th May	Association AGM and Annual Reunion Union Jack Club, Sandell Street London Annual General Meeting 13.00hrs Luncheon 14.00hrs
27th June	Officer's Club Luncheon Union Jack Club Sandell Street London <i>Note change of Date</i>
18th July	Re Dedication Middlesex War Memorial The Ridgeway Mill Hill Seated 12.55hrs Service 13.00hrs
20th July	2 PWRR Exercising Freedom Parade Barnet Parade will step off at 11.00hrs
7th November	7th Bn Middlesex Officer's Club Dinner
7th November	Garden of Remembrance Westminster Abbey Service commences 10.50hrs
9th November	Mx Ceremony of Remembrance Middlesex Guildhall Now Supreme Court of Justice 10.30hrs Service 10.50hrs
10th November	Remembrance Sunday
10th November	7th Bn Mx Remembrance Service Assemble 10.00hrs at Parish Church St Mary & St George

Ticket Application Form Closing Date 11th May 2013
MIDDLESEX ANNUAL SERVICE AND ALL RANKS REUNION 25TH MAY 2013

MIDDLESEX ANNUAL ALBUHERA SERVICE
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL LONDON SERVICE COMMENCES 10.30HRS

PLEASE BE SEATED BY 10.15HRS

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 13.00HRS

Questions in writing for the meeting must reach The Association Secretary
14 days prior to the meeting.

ANNUAL LUNCHEON AT 14.00HRS

SEATED BY 13.50HRS

MENU

Prawn Cocktail with Rose Marie Sauce

Roast Stuffed Saddle of Lamb, Jus and Cocotte Potatoes on a bed of Beans & Peas

Desert Strawberry Cheese Cake

Tea/Coffee and Petit Fours.

Cost £16.00

I require tickets @£16.00

I require tickets @£32.00

Total £

(See note below)

A vegetarian meal is available if required please request when returning your application.

I enclose a stamped addressed envelope for the return of my ticket/s Cheques payable
to PWRR Benevolent Fund MX No 1 A/c

Rank..... Name.....

Please remember that you will only receive subsidised tickets for one member and one
guest i.e. Wife/partner/carer. We achieved a full house last year so additional guests at
full cost will only be permitted if it is known that space is available.

**Should you intend to stay overnight early booking of accommodation at the Union
Jack Club is recommended to ensure that you are not disappointed. Advance
reservations 020 7928 4814 Email abo@ujclub.co.uk**

KOREAN VETERANS WHO WISH TO SIT TOGETHER SHOULD TICK THIS BOX ☐

A RESERVED SEATING AREA WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IF NUMBERS REQUEST IT.



THE REDEDICATION OF THE MIDDLESEX WAR MEMORIAL

THE RIDGEWAY MILL HILL

The rededication will take place on the 18th July 2013 at the Ridgeway Mill Hill with the band of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment in attendance.

Timings

All in position by 12.55hrs

Service Commences 13.00hrs

Photos etc 13.40hrs

Reception 14.00hrs

The VIP'S, executive committee and Association members will move to the Church Hall for a reception consisting of a finger buffet, wine and soft drinks. The reception will be free of charge to all. The President will make a short thank you speech.

Event concludes 16.00hrs

To assist with the administration of the event please complete this return when completing your ticket application for the Annual Service and all ranks reunion.

*** I will / will not be attending the Service or Reception on the 18th July 2013,**

Number attending.....

* Delete as appropriate.

OFFICERS' CLUB ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Thursday 27th of June 2013

Members of the Officers' Club were advised in the Secretary's letter of the 17th of April 2012 that future correspondence from the Officers' Club Secretary would be via email. Those who have not given their email address to the Secretary and wish to attend the luncheon should contact him prior to the end of May to obtain further information. For ease of reference his telephone number is 020 8949 7605.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES'S ROYAL REGIMENT

1 PWRR Barker Barracks Paderborn

The Battalion returned from Operation Herrick 15 Afghanistan in May 2012, sadly during the tour 1 member of the Battalion was killed by an IED and 3 others were wounded by the blast, in separate IED incidents 3 members of the battalion lost limbs.

A Battalion Day was held on our return from theatre which consisted of a medals parade for both Op Herrick 15 and the Queens Diamond Jubilee medals. The day also consisted of a memorial for Tom Lake of B company who was killed on 20th November, a cross brief by the Companies of their tasks on the tour and a brief by the CO to the families. The day was rounded off with a party in the park type celebration.

The summer of 2012 was supposed to be a recuperation period for the Battalion but due to unforeseen circumstances the Battalion was called upon to assist in the smooth running of the Olympics and helping to ensure the UK's Main Effort of a successful Games was met. We supplied 318 members who were involved in a number of tasks ranging from guarding Olympic venues to augmenting the LOCOG HQ in Canary Wharf.

On return from leave the Battalion began its transition to Light Role from their armoured role which they have been in since early 2000. However, less than 6 months into the transition the Battalion have been informed to be prepared to re-role back to Armoured. This is not expected to take effect until after our Op Herrick 20 tour.

Conclusion: The Battalion has risen to the challenges of deploying to Afghanistan and has given a good account of itself. We continued in the same vein on return to Germany by taking part in a 'once in a lifetime' experience to support the success of the London Olympics. Training and transition now continues in preparation for deployment on exercise next year to Kenya and Canada.

2 PWRR Artillery Barracks Woolwich

It has been a busy year of state Ceremonial and UK Operations for the Second Battalion. The Battalion had the privilege of lining the route for Her Majesty the Queen on her Diamond Jubilee. We then became the Military Contingency Force for the 2012 Olympic Games which saw the Battalion deploy to many of the venues in support of their safe delivery. The Battalion has now switched its focus back onto Public Duties. We have recently had the honour of hosting the Colonel of the Regiment, at Buckingham Palace to watch A Coy mount the Queen's Guard. On the operational front B Coy is preparing to deploy to the Falkland Islands for two months.

Although it has been a very busy period, the soldiers have still excelled at various sports and activities across London District. The Battalion is currently London District cross-country, hockey, orienteering, athletics and GOC cup champions, as well as 6 a-side football runners up. We also held inter-coy boxing which saw some fantastic bouts and allowed us to enter soldiers into the Army Boxing individual finals, we have also deployed soldiers on to two adventure training exercises, skiing and skydiving in California for the second year running.

In February 13 the Battalion resubordinated to 20th Armoured Brigade, but will remain in London, continuing as a light role infantry battalion. The battalion is planning to hold an exercise with the focus on a return to "basic infantry skills" after completing the tour on the "blue line".

The Battalion is looking forward to the New Year but work is still to be done before leaving London District and will maintain the highest standards prior to departure. We also now have our long term focus, Cyprus, as Theatre Reserve Battalion. To train towards this the Battalion will embark on a major exercise later in the year to Kenya which will be both demanding and testing at all levels.

3 PWRR - Leros TA Centre Canterbury

The Battalion has had a full and busy year which has included a Lion Star tour to Cyprus, a Training Team to Uganda, and the deployment of 50 soldiers with 4 Brigade to Afghanistan with Scots Guards, 1 Mercian, 1 Lancs and various other Units currently in theatre. 3 PWRR also had the honour of providing a composite company for the Olympics.

The Battalion was selected to provide a Training Team to train the Ugandan Army prior to its operational deployment, this is the second time the honour has fallen to the Battalion and this time a greater quantity of TA soldiers were taken. The Cyprus exercise occurred in April and was aimed at providing the troops deploying on Herrick 17 with a large amount of field firing and other operational training prior to going to RTMC Chillwell. This was a very hectic period for those troops but gave

them some idea of the tempo they would be operating at once they joined the Units they were deploying with. The Olympics deployment lasted for a month from mid July to mid August 12. The Pre-Operational training took place in Grantham and lasted a week; it consisted of many lectures and practical lessons. 3 PWRR was very lucky as we were tasked to Eton Dorney (Near Windsor) where we had the honour of providing venue security for the rowing events with the perk of watching the very successful British Rowing Team. We also fared well with the accommodation as we were billeted in a newly refurbished block within the HCR Barracks in Windsor.

The Bn's social life has continued apace with Sobraon Day being celebrated in Canterbury. This year Sgt Lavery was selected for this unique and prestigious honour. The Kohima Cpl and Albuhera were also celebrated in keeping with tradition as well as the usual mess functions which included the WO's & Sgt's Mess Summer Ball taking place on the MV Pocahontas as it sailed up the river Thames, this was made even more memorable with the Olympics being in town.

The Battalion has been warned off to provide troops for an OP Tosca tour next year and some of our soldiers will deploy on OP Herrick 18, so we continue to prepare soldiers for operations.

With some changes coming, the Reserves way, we will continue to prepare and train our soldiers accordingly. We have shown flexibility in our capability whether it be generating troops for Herrick or providing security for the Olympics. We will be saying farewell to the Commanding Officer in the New year Lt Col G Minton MBE. On behalf of all Ranks in the Battalion we would like to thank him for all the work he has put in and wish him and his family all the best for the future.

98th Anniversary of 1st Battle of the Marne

I responded to the article in the Spring 2012 (No. 107) edition of The Diehard' magazine and joined a party of 31 members of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers Regimental Association and wives, together with representatives of the Grenadier Guards and Ox. & Bucks. Associations on their annual pilgrimage to the area around Mondemont. Here the French and British armies held the Germans on their advance towards Paris during September 1914.

It was an excellent five day trip organised by Mr Richard Adams of the R.R.F. Association.

Thursday 30th August We travelled to Epernay by coach and as some members of the group had been visiting the area for the past 10-15 years, I was soon introduced to some of the local bars and restaurants.

Friday 31st August We went by coach for a wreath laying ceremony at La Ferte sous Jouarre attended by Town Mayor and local dignitaries. The British War Memorial bears the names of over 3000 BEF fallen at Mons, the Retreat from Mons, Le Cateau, Marne and Aisne including names of 'Diehards' who have no known graves. This was followed by a Vin d'honneur in the Town Hall.

Saturday 1st September We had a free morning and early afternoon, so some visited Rheims and others discovered the local champagne area. Afterwards we travelled to Suzanne war grave cemetery where many French and British soldiers lay buried. At this ceremony I was given the honour of laying the wreath after which we were guests at a Vin d'Honneur in the Town Hall. On our return to Epernay we dined together.

Sunday 2nd September We went to Mondemont for the main event of the weekend which was to commemorate the victory of the 1st Battle of the Marne and to remember the fallen. It was attended by the local dignitaries, the French Military and Military Attaches. A short voluntary ecumenical service was followed by the raising of the French, British, German and nine other national flags at a huge vertical monument (see RFF Association website). After the inevitable speeches, wreaths were laid in Mondemont Churchyard and this was followed by another Vin d'Honneur. We then attended a large and very enjoyable Civic five course lunch. Then back on the coach to a wreath laying at a German Cemetery and a French Moroccan Memorial. With sore feet but still with straight backs we retired to our hotel for a well deserved beer.

Monday 3rd September We returned by coach to London arriving late afternoon.

This trip was not a battlefield tour but we were given a great deal of background information about the battles before both sides dug in and trench warfare began. It was a most enjoyable trip, well led by Richard Adams, with good company and good food and wine. I hope to go again on this annual visit.

M.T.

Invitation

The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers Regimental Association have again extended to members of our Regimental Association an invitation to join them on their visit for the 99th Anniversary of the Battle of the Marne. The dates of the visit are 5th to 9th September, Richard Adams who co-ordinates the trip tells me that wives, sons, friends are welcome to come; the cost is relatively modest at around £300.00 per person virtually all found. Should you wish to attend this most enjoyable trip then you should contact: - Mr Richard Adams 46 Hawthorn Way Shipston on Stour CV36 4FD Telephone 01608 662328 as soon as possible, preferably before the end of April.

NB vacancies are filling up early contact is recommended.

Middlesex Regiment Ceremony of Remembrance

The above service was held on 10th November at the Supreme Court of Justice Westminster, the occasion was well attended with ninety six persons present. Unfortunately our customary chaplain Reverend Patrick Tuft MA was indisposed, so Major Dennis Bradley officiated for the service. Once again we were joined for the service by Lord Kerr, Jenny Rowe Chief Executive of the Court and members of the court's staff. The lessons were read by Colonel R Cain and by Jenny Rowe, Last Post and Reveille were sounded by a bandsman from PWRR and poppy wreaths were laid by Lord Kerr on behalf of the Court and Colonel Cain for the Regiment. A Korean War Panel which was presented to the Regiment was handed to and accepted by the Supreme Court for safe keeping.

After the service members were able to enjoy a first class buffet and to circulate and renew old friendships. Our thanks go to the Supreme Court who host the function so well and for flying the Regimental Flag over the court on the day. Afterwards some members on leaving the building then crossed the road and visited the Garden of Remembrance situated in the grounds of Westminster Abbey.

Enfield Branch Christmas Lunch 9th December 2012

Despite a minor problem with the catering, which delayed our lunch for almost two hours the day was quite a success. There was plenty of time to chat and have a few drinks before a total of thirty nine members and their guests sat down to eat at 15.45, with a keener than usual edge to their appetite. We were pleased to have been joined for the day by some of our more distant dwelling members, notably Mick Turton who had driven down from Northants and John Yeats and Frank Dawson both from the far reaches of Norfolk. Alf Burford who had been hoping to drive up from Eastbourne had to postpone at the last moment due to unavoidable circumstances and sent an apology and best wishes to all members for Christmas and the New Year. The meal over, most of the members stayed a while to enjoy the entertainment and maybe another drink or two before departing for home. We are looking forward to one or two outings over the summer months and another Christmas lunch in 2013.

A.B.

THE REGIMENTAL MEMORIAL IS MOVED TO THE RIDGEWAY

In the Spring 2011 edition of the Die-Hards Newsletter, the President of the Association, Colonel Rex Cain, reported: "An application for planning permission to move the Memorial [from Inglis Barracks] to a site opposite St. Paul's Church, Mill Hill, was proposed and submitted by the developers to Barnet Council as part of the planning application for the re-development of the whole Barrack area. Unfortunately, negotiations between the Council [Barnet] and VSM Estates [the developer] are still continuing ... and are likely to be prolonged, but until they are concluded, permission to move our Memorial will be delayed."

This, of course, all started six years ago when the MOD announced the sale of Inglis Barracks for development, and offered two alternatives for the disposal of the Regimental War Memorial. It could either be left where it was, or moved to Northolt. It was impossible to determine how well the memorial might survive if left in the housing development. RAF Northolt would perhaps have offered greater security, but less attraction and access to the Die-Hard community.

Over the period a third option emerged, thanks to the interest of Councillor John Hart, and the members of the Mill Hill Preservation Society, and the Reverend Jonathan Shaw, the vicar of St. Paul's Church, which stands opposite the gates of Mill Hill School on The Ridgeway. After a lengthy series of negotiations between the Borough of Barnet, the MOD, the developer (aptly named 'The Inglis Consortium'), St. Paul's Church, Mill Hill Preservation Society, and conducted on our behalf by Captain Mike Doran, agreement was finally reached to re-site the memorial on the grass verge opposite the Church. Together with the Parish War Memorial, the two now flank the gate of Mill Hill School.

The cost of dismantling the Regimental Memorial and its re-siting on The Ridgeway has been met entirely and most generously by the developer of the Inglis Barracks site. The "Method Statement for the Relocation of the War Memorial", produced for The Inglis Consortium, was not only an impressive piece of staff writing in its own right, but it also demonstrated the professional care and attention with which the Memorial was to be dismantled, packed in sections, cleaned and re-assembled at a new site. We were very fortunate to have had such understanding and support.

There was a full congregation for the 10.00 am Service at St. Paul's Church on The Ridgeway on Armistice Sunday the 11th November 2012. The civic dignitaries occupied the front row. The uniformed organisations filed up to offer their standards and pennants for safe-keeping behind the Altar. We sang those traditional and memorable Armistice Day hymns, and the Vicar, The Reverend Jonathan Shaw, reminded us of the significance of the day, the service and of our commitment to 'Remember Them'. The Vicar, who has long been associated with Inglis Barracks, explained the presence of the new Middlesex Regimental Memorial now opposite the church, and invited the congregation to join the small ceremony which would follow the laying of wreaths and Act of Remembrance at the civic memorial.

The main service over, we moved to the Regimental Memorial, followed by most of the congregation and the uniformed organisations, with their standards. The degree of support was reassuring and very welcome. A poppy wreath was laid on behalf of The Middlesex Regiment Association by the Chairman, Lt Col Michael Deakin, in company with a second wreath from the congregation, who then spent some time inspecting the memorial and its various inscriptions. They also noted the new plate mounted on the base. This gives a brief history of the removal of the memorial from Inglis Barracks to its present location.

But the story does not end there. Moving back to the Church Hall, The Chairman and Mrs Deakin, together with Mr Jim Innes, whose support and attendance at the Service were very much appreciated, were treated to a welcome cup of tea and a display of the art work for the new stained glass window commissioned by St. Paul's, Mill Hill. The Regimental Association has not only contributed to this window, which celebrates The Queen's Jubilee, but has been given a unique opportunity to commission its own commemorative window in the church. This, together with the existing brasses on the wall and the Regimental Memorial opposite the church, will combine to re-establish the presence of The Regiment in the area and our association with St. Paul's Church, the former Depot church on The Ridgeway.

It would be nice to think that former members of the Regiment and their families might take the opportunity to visit the Memorial on the Ridgeway in the future. A warm welcome at St. Paul's Church is guaranteed. I felt that at the end of my first visit to Mill Hill for many years, that Colonel Maurice Browne, the former Colonel of the Regiment, and Major 'Nobby' Clarke, who lie side-by-side in the church yard of St. Paul's, would have approved of our return.

M.F.D.

ODD JOTTINGS

Ron Morris heard from Cliff Bilney recently. Cliff reminded him that he is now 93 years of age and still soldiering on. He said he is reasonably fit apart from not seeing all that well. He and his wife are being well looked after in a retirement complex. He served with the 1st Battalion and ended his war in Rendsburg. He told me that he remembered Tony Pielow joining the battalion as a young officer in April 1946.



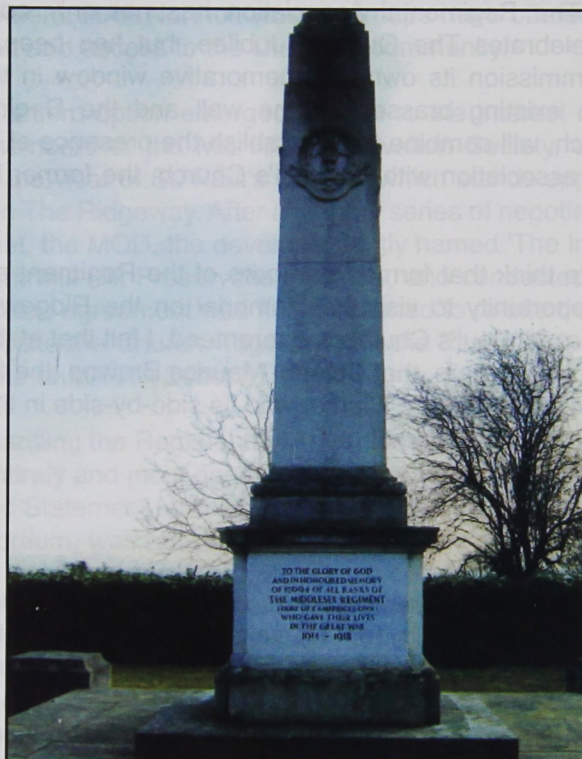
Brian Tate and
Rex Boxer

On 2nd October 2012 the 70th anniversary of the sinking of the Lisbon Maru was marked by the Chinese Authorities on Lianhua Island, Zhoushan City, by an act of remembrance. A wreath of red poppies was provided by Major Brian Finch.

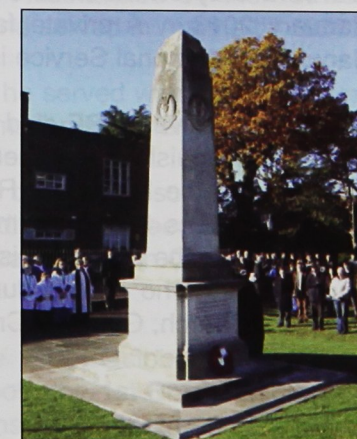
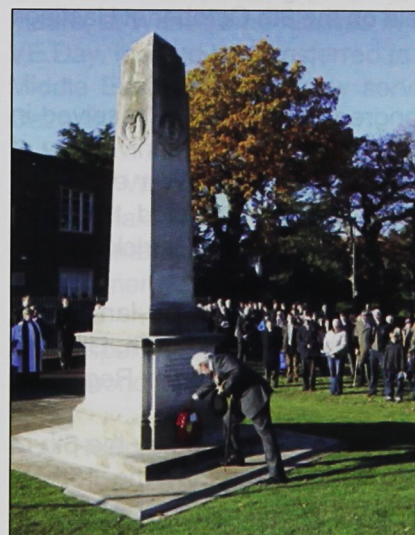
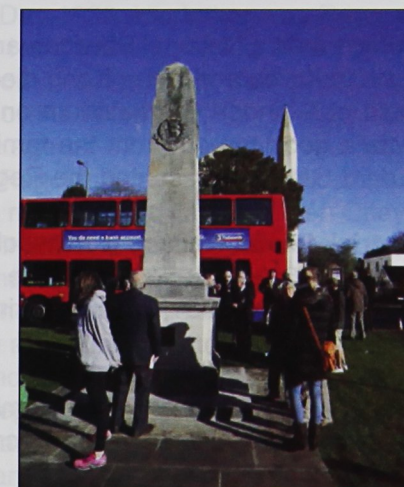
On Remembrance Sunday 2012, Hounslow Branch attended the march to the Greenford War Memorial and the outdoor service which is always a date in the branch calendar. Afterwards they adjourned for lunch at the Concord Club.

Enfield Branch attended the local Remembrance Day Parade, Brian Tate ensured that Rex Boxer was able to attend by pushing him in a wheel chair.

The Regimental Memorial in its original location at English Barracks



The Memorial in its new setting and the Service of Remembrance, Sunday November 11th 2012 when Lt Col M Deakin laid the wreath



OBITUARIES

Raymond Atkinson passed away on 22nd July 2012 aged 76 he suffered from an illness for three years. He served with the 1st Battalion 1954-1956. Ray was a member of the Corps of Drums and was posted to Cyprus and Austria.

Albert Avis a National Serviceman who served with A Company of the 1st Battalion both in Korea and Hong Kong died aged 81 in September 2012. His funeral was held at Swindon Crematorium on Thursday the 13th of September 2012. There was a good turnout from the family and friends and from the members of BKVA. Edgar Green represented the Regiment.

Patrick Leslie Wallace Borthwick served in the 1st Battalion Middlesex Regiment from 1946 until 1951, where he held the rank of Corporal, he was honourably discharged in 1951, after suffering horrendous injuries sustained in the Korean War.

Patrick died on the 27th September 2012 having worked as an articulated lorry driver after leaving the army; his cremation was held on the 9th October at Hastings crematorium.

During the cremation, a letter was read to the congregation which he received in June 2010 from the President of South Korea, celebrating the 60th anniversary of the liberation of their country and thanking dad for his part in the War effort and inviting him and his family over to Korea, sadly ill health restricted this from happening. His son Peter and grandson Ryan were pal bearers for Patrick's coffin.

Patrick leaves behind his loving wife Dinah, & six sons, Kevin, Glen, Ian, Peter, Paul and Philip, and many loving grand children, especially Ryan, Lauren, Lilly and Patrick. The family are very proud of Patrick's service with the Middlesex Regiment.

Barbara Clayton widow of Colonel A S J de S Clayton died on Sunday the 6th of January 2013. A private family cremation was held on Tuesday the 15th of January. A Memorial Service is to be arranged to take place in March.

Elizabeth Deeves MBE died on the 3rd of September 2012. In her lifetime she was a distinguished member of HM Diplomatic Service and a very generous supporter of the Middlesex Regimental Association. Over the years she made many donations to the regimental charity for the benefit of our soldiers. Her connection to the Regiment is uncertain but it is believed she was a daughter of a senior officer who served during World War One. Her funeral was held at St Joseph's Church, Gerrards Cross on Thursday the 20th of October 2012.

Frank Dickinson passed away on 19th January 2013. Comrades from the Army, together with former Police Officers, colleagues from L.B. Barnet, joined his family and friends to celebrate his life. The funeral service was conducted by Methodist Minister Alan Barker, prior to his cremation at Boston on 8th February, 2013.

Frank was born, in North London, on Christmas Day 1926. His father was Provost Sgt. at Inglis Barracks, where he spent much of his childhood, in the horse lines, and dogging dad's footsteps. When War broke out, he could not wait to get into uniform. With his fathers' connivance, and that of the recruiting Sgt. at Tally Ho, Frank joined the Army aged 14 years, giving his age as 17. He spent a year with the Junior Soldiers, and then transferred to the Regular Army, and the Middlesex Regiment. His basic training started at Hounslow, moving on to Chester, then Otley, where he learned the art of riding a motor cycle. In the first days of June 1944, he, was entrained [all windows blacked out] to Newhaven, on the South Coast, in the early hours of D-Day + 1 Frank landed at La Breche, Hermanville sur Mer - officially designated SWORD, Queen Beach Red. He saw action, as a motorcycle despatch rider/machine gunner, in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. In fact, he spent his 18th birthday taking pot shots at Fritz, in deep snow, across the frozen River Maars, at Wanssum. Fritz was in Weil. As a regular, Frank did not come home after VE Day. Instead he transferred to the Royal Military Police, and was shipped to the Middle East, where he saw service in Cairo, Egypt, the Sinai, and finally in the Gaza Strip.

After the War, Frank joined the Metropolitan Police, spending most of his time in Traffic, making the rank of Sgt., and becoming an instructor in the Driving School. On retirement, and still only 47 years, he began his 3rd and final career as Planning Enforcement Officer for the L B of Barnet.

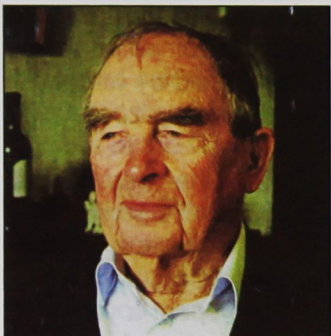
Frank spent much time, in his later years, travelling back to Hermanville, and also to Helmond in Holland, and Albuhera. He will be sadly missed.

Roy Hedges who served with the 1st Battalion in Austria died on the 18th of November 2012. Roy joined the Regiment in 1952 and served in Austria till 1955.

C/Sgt William F McLean died on 19th August 2012, he served with the Middlesex and Queens Regiments 1957-1977. No further information is to hand.

Michael Mulvaney who was a long time member of both the Association and the Korean Club died on the 8th of November 2012. Sadly he had been ill with cancer for a number of years. His funeral was held at St Alban's Roman Catholic Church North Finchley on Wednesday 21st November.

Major Malcolm Muirhead TD passed away on the 1st of October 2012 after a sudden and unexpected illness. He served with both the 1st Bn the Middlesex Regiment and subsequently the 5th Bn of the Queens Regiment for many years.



Major Nick Neve MC

Major Nick Neve MC who died at the end of October 2012 aged 97 served in our 2nd Battalion, part of 3rd Division, throughout the Normandy Campaign. After leaving the Army in 1945 he remained a member of the Officers' Club for the rest of his life.

On 9th June 1944 the RUR were ordered to capture the village of Cambes. D Company of the Middlesex was in support with two platoons of 4.2 mortars. Capt Neve was controlling the fire from a Carrier. The intensity of enemy fire in Cambes Wood was as withering as anything experienced during the whole campaign. The Middlesex company commander, second in command and CSM were killed and Capt. Neve's driver had a leg blown off.

Throughout the action Capt. Neve, in order to observe his fire, was in an OP well forward of the leading infantry and, because the remote control of his radio was damaged, he drove his Carrier forward with the attacking sections and continued to engage the enemy despite the heavy fire. When the objective had been taken he evacuated many wounded men in his Carrier.

For his courage and coolness which had a noticeably good effect on the morale of the troops in the locality Capt Neve was awarded the MC and promoted to Major in command of D Company.

On 24th November 2012 his family held a memorial service in the chapel of St Martin-in-the-Fields at which the Regiment was represented by Colonel R M Cain.

RMC

Brigadier B.A.M.Pielow JP. who died on 20th October 2012 aged 85 was born in Ealing where he first wore our cap badge in 1943 as a cadet in the 5th Cadet Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment and by the end of 1944 he was a lieutenant in the battalion which his father commanded.

In January 1945 Tony joined the Regular Army and after basic training attended 160 (MG) OCTU at Alton Towers and was commissioned in the Middlesex Regiment in February 1946.

Tony's career in the Army was greatly influenced by his ability as a linguist. In 1951 he was selected for a Serbo-Croat language course which led to his appointment as a GSO3 in Military Intelligence in the War Office. Later, after attending the Staff College and two years as GSO2 (IS) in Aden he went to the French War College and French Joint Services Staff College from 1963-65. This was followed by two years as Chief of Personal Staff to the Deputy CinC NATO Central Europe.

Tony's Regimental Service began in our 1st Battalion in BAOR; he also served with the Battalion in Hong Kong (1949-50), Austria (1953-54) and Cyprus (1957-58). From 1955 until 1956 he was adjutant of the 7th Battalion.

After the amalgamation at the end of 1966 Tony became 2ic of 4 Queens in Warminster and Belfast. Perhaps the high point of Tony's regimental service came in 1970 when he was promoted to command 1 Queens in Berlin. It was here that his flair for presentation culminated in a Queen's Birthday Parade where he led his battalion on horseback.

From Berlin Tony went to Belgrade as Defence Attaché (1973-76) and then returned to Berlin as Chief of Staff until 1977. His final posting, after promotion to Brigadier was to Paris as Defence Attaché for three years (1977-80),

In December 1981 Tony retired from the Army and for the next eight years was employed as Overseas Manager for the AA. He also found time to become a JP, District Councillor, and Chairman of the Parish Council and Honorary Colonel of B Company of the London Regiment.

Even more importantly in 1983 Tony became Chairman of our Regimental Association, an office he held until in 1993 he replaced Colonel Tom Chattey as President. This was a difficult period for the Association which had to adjust to its reduced role and to all its younger members serving in a new regiment and now having divided loyalties. As the years passed there were those who questioned the need for a Middlesex Regimental Association in these new circumstances, but Tony never wavered in his belief that while there were Diehards who wanted to gather together at St Paul's and at the Annual Reunion the Association must continue. His faith has been justified, the Association still exists and we owe him an enormous debt of gratitude.

RC

Personal Recollections of a Friendship by Colonel H J A Moore OBE

What is there to say about a Regimental chum who has been so for more than 65 years surely a record?

Various disjointed highlights spring to mind, we were both at the same pre-OCTU and then OCTU (Alton Towers) met up with 1MX in Iserlohn in 1947. Then on to Public Duties from Chelsea in 1948/9 when Tony's turn out in plain clothes was remarkable –furry bowler hat, rolled umbrella et al.

On to Hong Kong where we shared a tent in Sekong until the rains drove us out to Beas Stables. It was there that our military paths diverted when Tony went off to learn languages Serbo-Croat I believe and I later departed for Korea.

Later we met up in Berlin when Tony was commanding 1 Queens and I had left the Oman and was about to be posted to Cambodia. It was an extremely jolly Albuhera week-end with Tony and Ann being so hospitable and giving me the opportunity to meet up with so many chums whom I had known of old.

After our retirement we kept up for all kinds of Regimental occasions, my visits to them in Dummer and their return matches to Well. I well remember Tony reading the lesson in St. Paul's Cathedral. His stentorian voice did not require a microphone which rarely worked. His moustache too was remarkable.

I shall miss Tony terribly and repeat my love and sympathy to Ann and his family.

Joan Porter Widow of Major Gerard Porter died peacefully at Tutnall Hall Nursing Home on the 21st June 2013 aged 91.

R J Procter died on the 1st of January 2013 aged 91. He served throughout World War Two with the 2/7th Battalion in North Africa, at Anzio, Italy and in Palestine being demobbed from Egypt when the war ended. His funeral was held on the 18th of January in Enfield.

His Honour Judge John Slack TD DL who served with the 9th Battalion during World War Two and thereafter with the TA has died. This is all the information currently available to us.

A J Storer passed away on 29th December 2012 we have no further information at this time.

Dennis Robert Vincent passed away on Friday 26th October. Vince had served with the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong during 1948-1950 on National Service. Although he became a farmer he gave 35 years of his life to the Army Cadets, inspiring many soldiers of today. He was also an active member of a local Korean Veterans Association.

H J Wilson MBE passed away during August last; sadly no further information has been received.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following who have recently joined the Association

Mr Colin Burge served 1 Mx 1965

Mr John Sajdler served TA 1974

BOOK REVIEW

SERVANTS OF EVIL by Bob Carruthers **Voices from Hitler's Army**

History is usually written by the victors, but here is the other side of the coin. This is the front line perspective on the Second World War as seen through the eyes of the losing side - the men who fought for Hitler.

Servants of Evil brings together the recollections of those who served in the Kriegsmarine, the Luftwaffe and the Heer. Altogether they formed the Wehrmacht which, in 1940, was the most efficient fighting force the world had ever seen. However, by 1942 the tide had begun to turn and the men of the once mighty Wehrmacht fought in vain at Stalingrad, El Alamein, Monte Cassino, Caen and Berlin.

Whatever the personal path that led them to war- whether it was duty, enthusiasm, outside pressure or a genuine belief that their cause was just - the end result was the same. In these sometimes fascinating, sometimes moving and often horrific tales of the long ago war they fought and lost, the first hand accounts provided by German veterans give a thought provoking new perspective on the Second World War. This is military history at its best and most enlightening as told from primary sources.

The book is obtainable from Pen & Sword Books Ltd
RRP £12.99 240 pages in Paperback ISBN 9781781591390

KOREA RECALLED

Recently the Association received this documentation from South Africa in regard to the 1st Battalion's service in Korea which will no doubt bring back memories for our Korean veterans.

Dear Sir

We understand from the Deputy Chief of Defence (Mr Govind Krishnasamy) Level 6 Zone D at Whitehall that you might be able to assist me.

I am the widow of Sgt. William (Bill) Le Fevre-who was attached to the Middlesex Regiment - (The Die Hards) during the South Korean War.

There is such an Association here in South Africa, very well supported by surviving vets and their families - I have recently attended several lunches and more recently there was a lovely 60th anniversary function attended by UN Vets from all over the world.

At a recent luncheon at which the ambassador Cdr. Ann attended on behalf of South Korea - we were each given a superb book showing the memorial stones representing all the different countries together with articles and photographs of the many different units involved in the war.

I would really like to have the news items and photographs that I have, incorporated into any records/ books that you may have. I would like to see Bill remembered in this way along with his comrades.

I would appreciate hearing from you in this respect as the Association in this country corresponds and updates us as vet families on a regular basis.

Kind regards
Joyce Le Fevre, P.O. Box 160, Link Hills, 3652 KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

REDS SCALE PEAK WITH GRAPPLING IRONS

FEBRUARY 16th - BRITISH HOLD HILL 122 WITH BAYONETS

With British Troops, Korea, Friday

Troops of the Middlesex Regiment are still on Hill 122 today after cutting down Chinese troops in some of the fiercest hand-to-hand fighting in the Central Korean front north of Yaju.

The Chinese, scaling the steep sides of the peak with grappling irons, launched a pre-dawn attack in a mad frenzy of shouts, whistles and hand-grenades, but a company of the Middlesex men holding the hill stood their ground with Sten guns blazing.

Two hours later the Chinese fled, leaving their dead and dying at the feet of the British, who scattered the remnants with a bayonet charge.

"I was sitting half awake on the edge of a new trench when I saw two little heads pop up in front of me" said Private Raymond Hilton of Three-Star Road, Kidderminster (Worcester), describing the first Chinese hill-top attack in the last hours of the night. I said "Who's that" and...One of them answered "Johnny".

Then he threw a grenade at me and dived into my trench with his mate following him.

I shot his mate. The other Chinese grabbed hold of my Sten. I grabbed his carbine and we rolled about until we fell out of the trench. The Chinese took ten Middlesex

men prisoners, but all except two escaped later. One of the captured men, 19 year old Private Leslie Butcher of Cooking Road, Canterbury (Kent), said "Ten Chinese surrounded my trench. They tried to take my Sten from me. I tried to keep hold of it but had to give in. One of them marched me down the hill and across a paddyfield."

Private Butcher then described how one of his own Bren gunners picked off his own Chinese escort. Butcher was then able to walk back to his company.

Another captured soldier, 19 year old Don Soars of Kempshot Road, Streatham, walked back through retreating Chinese, to rejoin his comrades. "I didn't know what to do" he said, "so I spoke to them in the old Chinese words I know "Lee Om" (How's your father). The Chinese just walked by.

Sergeant William (Bill) LeFevre of Clapham shot a Chinese at one-foot range when getting out of his hole to lead the bayonet charge.

Chinese dead, who littered the Middlesex Company's position today after the dawn battle, were clothed in a mixture of American and Chinese uniforms. They carried a lot of American equipment and packets of American cigarettes.

Some of them were shot down with grenades still clutched in their hands.

BATTERSEA TO KOREA VIA HONG KONG by Captain A.B.Hayter - Military Observer in KOREA

Meet Sergeant William (Bill) Levre, well known to friends around 69, Lavender Road, Battersea, London, S.W. He is a Regular Soldier with the 1st Battalion the Middlesex Regiment and is now making a fine contribution to the United Nations' fight against Communism with the 27th British Commonwealth Brigade in Korea.

As Platoon Commander, he recently led his men safely through a vicious surprise night attack made by the Chinese, inflicted very heavy casualties on the enemy with little loss to themselves, and gained an important stronghold which had been holding up the advance for several days. 'Bill' was one of the first British soldiers to arrive in Korea and has had a tough time in indescribable weather conditions since last September, but is none the worse for the ordeal. He looks extremely fit and is in grand spirits. "I've got a fine lot of men in my platoon", he said. "They come from England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland and they're all as keen as mustard. I'm proud of them".

The men are equally proud of their Sergeant, who, as a young regular, has achieved much to gain the rank of Sergeant in just over three years service

REGIMENTAL GOODS

The PRI Shop is now closed at RHQ Canterbury, the new PRI shop is going to be situated at:-

3 PWRR Leros TA Centre Sturry Road Canterbury CT1 1HR
Telephone Number 01227 817945

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

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