

The Sharpshooter



~ 2016 ~

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www.sharpshooters.org.uk email@sharpshooters.org.uk**



Incorporating 18th, 21st & 23rd Bns (Sharpshooters) Imperial Yeomanry, 3rd County of London (Sharpshooters) Imperial Yeomanry,
3rd County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters), 23rd London Armoured Car Company (Sharpshooters), 4th County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters),
3rd/4th County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters), The Kent and County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters), The Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry.
www.ksymuseum.org.uk





Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry Association

(REGISTERED CHARITY No. 803784)

Sharpshooter House, ARC Mitcham Road, CROYDON, Surrey CR0 3RU
www.sharps shooters.org.uk contact@sharps shooters.org.uk

Trustee and Committee Members

PRESIDENT: G.J.O. Farage Esq.
Email: president@ksya.org.uk

CHAIRMAN and Trustee: Major M. Hodson TD
17 Whiteledges, London W13 8JB
07976 967673 Email: chairman@ksya.org.uk

VICE CHAIRMAN and Trustee: Colonel Paul Acda TD DL
10 Deanway, Bollington, Cheshire SK10 5DW
Email: Vicechairman@ksya.org.uk

HON. SECRETARY and Trustee: T. Rayson Esq.
14b Beckenham Road, West Wickham, Kent BR4 0QT
07753 747051 Email: secretary@ksya.org.uk

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: S. Shelley Esq.

HON. TREASURER and Trustee: J. Gunn Esq.
07766 671803 Email: treasurer@ksya.org.uk

JOURNAL EDITOR and Trustee: Lt. Colonel S.C.R. Malik TD
Dean House Farm, Gatehouse Lane, Goddards Green, West Sussex BN6 9LE
01444 257 697 Email: editor@ksya.org.uk

BENEVOLENT SECRETARY: Major J.R.B. Prince TD, ACIS
07946 521920

Trustees: M Kentfield Esq, W P Lovell Esq, Mrs P O'Hare, A O'Hare Esq, Major K Wraite TD

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**INSIDE
TODAY!**

**A GREAT FREE COMPETITION WITH
20 VOLTRON ROBOTS To Be Won!**

No 1316 MAY 10th, 1986.
Every Monday.

Victor

20p

(R. 35p
(inc. V.A.T.))

**A
TRUE
STORY
OF
MEN
AT
WAR**

On 1st September 1942, during the Second World War, the Grant tanks of the 3rd County of London Yeomanry, The Sharpshooters, were heading for Manequir el Taiyara in North Africa. And Sergeant Dicky Roberts found it hot work

PHEW... ONE O' THESE DAYS
I'LL MELT COMPLETELY AWAY!
THE JERRIES HAVE OPENED FIRE
TIME TO GET DOWN!

I OUGHT TO GET RID OF
THIS SWEAT RAG BEFORE
IT GETS RID OF ME!

YEEE-OWI! I'M
CHOKING MYSELF!

**CONTINUED
OVERLEAF**

"This is no picnic!"

CONTINUED FROM
FRONT PAGE

AAAAARGH!

AIIEEEEE!

Then his troop-leader's tank got a direct hit.



LOOK AT THAT! THEY
NEED HELP!

OPEN UP ON THE RIDGE,
GUNNER. I'M GOING TO TRY
TO HELP THE LIEUTENANT.



BLIMEY, THIS
IS NO PICNIC!



STEADY DOES IT,
SIR...

IT'S MY LEGS...
THEY'VE BEEN
HIT...



SERGEANT ROBERTS...
BETTER GET OUT OF IT FAST.
THIS CAN BLOW IN ANY
MINUTE NOW.

CAN'T SHIFT YOU LIKE THAT.
YOU NEED AN URGENT
TOURNIQUET ON BOTH LEGS.
JUST SIT TIGHT, SIR.

Meanwhile, a scout car had
appeared.



OVER HERE, SARGE, AND
FOR PETE'S SAKE WATCH
THAT FLAMIN' TANK!



AND THE BEST O' LUCK, SIR.
YOU'RE GOING TO NEED IT!



WOW! THERE
SHE BLOWS!



HEY, WHERE'S YOUR
SWEAT RAG, SARGE?
DUMPED IT, DID YOU?

IN A WAY I DID, BUT
I'M GLAD I HADN'T
DUMPED IT BEFORE.
IT'S DOING A GOOD
JOB RIGHT NOW.

VIC. 10-5-84.

For this act of courage and disregard of danger,
Sergeant Roberts was awarded the Military Medal.

Look out for another great true war story NEXT WEEK!

Date recommendation
passed forward

Received	Passed
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22nd Armd Brigade 10th Armd Division Corps

Schedule No. _____ Unit ~~4th~~ County of London Yeo.
(to be left blank)

Army No. and Rank.....7885876 WS/Sgt.

Name ROBERTS, Richard Charles

(Christian names must be stated)

Action for which commended
(Date and place of action must be stated)

Recommended
by

Honour
or
Reward

(To be left blank)

On the 1st September, 1942, at MANAQUIR EL TAIYARA, Sgt. Roberts was in command of a tank engaged with the enemy. He observed that his troop leader's tank had been badly hit and was on fire, and that the surviving members of the crew, all wounded, were trying to get out of the tank. Regardless of the very heavy and accurate enemy fire, Sgt. Roberts went forward on foot and helped to extricate the wounded men. He then, knowing that the tank, then burning fiercely, was liable to blow up at any moment (which in fact it did very shortly afterwards), calmly and with complete disregard for his personal safety, fixed tourniquets to his troop leader's legs, one of which had been blown off and the other badly burnt. Sgt. Roberts then carried his officer to a scout car, which had in the meantime approached, returned to his tank and continued to engage the enemy.

HTScon
Lt: Col:
Cm 79 4.C.4.X

Immediate
M.M.

187

H. K. Alexander

General,
Commander-in-Chief,
Middle East Forces.

B. h. Non Dancer

G.O.C.

Lt.-Gen.,
Eighth Army.

Walden

5835

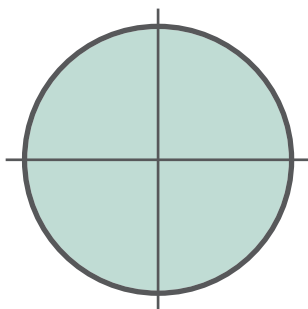
BSHmcs

Lieut. General

Commander 12 Corps

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A very warm welcome to the 2016 Sharpshooter journal.

2016 will probably be remembered for being a year of change (Brexit, Trump etc) and also as the year that the Royal Yeomanry was presented with its new guidon.

The guidon parade was a fabulous day for Yeomen and there is more on this elsewhere in the journal. Along with the parade, the Sharpshooters Museum at Hever Castle has continued to develop and attract many visitors, and I encourage everyone to try and make at least an annual visit there.

Returning briefly to the theme of potential change, we are all deeply aware of the changes at home and abroad. The importance of the military and the reserve remains key, and the government's investment in the Army Reserve is visible in many ways including the extent of overseas training exercises, and exercising with NATO allies that our reservists now enjoy. Our role, as the Sharpshooters Association is to continue maintaining the link between serving and former serving and our local communities, and to provide welfare support where we can. We hope that we will not have to return to the anxious days when reservists are routinely deployed on operational tours, however we remain ready to support such an eventuality, and continue to organise and support Sharpshooter events and to maintain the esprit de corps that underpins the Sharpshooter ethos.

Our affiliated Livery Company, the Worshipful Company of Insurers, has been ever supportive of Sharpshooter events during the year. The Insurers' support is very much valued as the Sharpshooter family benefit from their generous financial support as well as their considerable personal support from the Master, Clerk and other Liverymen.

As ever, I'd like to publicly thank my fellow trustees, committee members and other supporters for all their hard work and dedication supporting Sharpshooters. Fascinating battlefield tours; the provision of welfare support; keeping (e)mailing lists up to date; constant fund-raising; liaising with the serving squadrons; supporting squadron events; running the Association's accounts and investments; linking up with the Worshipful Company of Insurers; assembling and editing the journal; carrying the Association's Standard at funerals; organising participation in the annual Cavalry Memorial Parade; running the El Gubi dinner; organising participation in the Lord Mayor's Show; liaising with the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars Association, the Middlesex Yeomanry Association, the Royal Yeomanry Regimental Association, other Squadron and

Regimental Associations; and the many other activities are all part of what the Association delivers year in year out.

I look forward to seeing many Sharpshooters and families and friends at the various events at which we can gather.

Very best wishes.

Yours aye

Mark Hodson

Lieutenant Colonel Mark Hodson FInstLM TD
Chairman



THE 69TH EL GUBI DINNER

Friday 18th November 2016

This year's El Gubi dinner, the 69th such dinner, marked the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Bir El Gubi, and saw a very strong turnout of Sharpshooters as 75 of us dined that evening. This is the first year in my memory where we have had to operate a waiting list for those wishing to attend the dinner as we had filled the capacity of the dining-room we occupied.

The Cavalry & Guards Club was the venue for the third year running and proved extremely successful and very popular again with all those who attended. The staff and chefs at the Club did us proud, and 2017 has already been reserved with the Club.

The Battle of Bir El Gubi took place during Operation CRUSADER and involved both the 3rd and 4th County of London Yeomanries, and 2nd Royal Gloucestershire Hussars, operating as part of 22nd Armoured Brigade and 7th Infantry Brigade, the Desert Rats. It was especially pleasing that members of the RGH Association attended the dinner (the RGH are regularly represented at our El Gubi dinner, an ongoing relationship that we very much treasure keeping alive the old rivalry between the "Swede Bashers" (2RGH) and the "Lloyds Bank Lancers" (the Sharpshooters)); as well the commander of the current Desert Rats (7th Armoured Brigade), Brigadier Charlie Collins DSO, MBE; and also Philip and Patricia Moore, Philip having served as a tank driver in the Battle itself.

The whole evening was immensely enjoyable and there was a wonderful atmosphere throughout the pre-dinner drinks and the dinner itself.

Whilst it is impossible to mention everyone who attended, and it was wonderful to have so many people there, I should just single out one or two people who were there as it's important to recognise the scope of the Sharpshooter family. I was delighted to welcome to the dinner both the CO and CO (des) of the Royal Yeomanry, the Squadron Leader of C (Kent & Sharpshooters Yeomanry) Squadron Royal Yeomanry, friends from the Bundeswehr, friends from the Museum Trust, the Master and other officers of the Worshipful

Company of Insurers, the Gillman family, and our own Royal Hospital Chelsea In-Pensioner Malcom Tanner. In particular a great number of serving Sharpshooters and their partners attended and it was a great pleasure to extend the reach of the dinner to younger Sharpshooters.

I am indebted to my hard-working Hon Sec, Tim Rayson, and hard-working Asst Hon Sec, Stephen Shelley for organising the entire event; and also to Major Dom Ruck-Keene and members of C(KSY) Squadron for allowing us to use the guidon at the dinner (quite possibly for the last time) and for the silver and lance-guards, all of whom and which made a huge contribution making the dinner a true Sharpshooter event.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the 70th El Gubi dinner marking the 76th anniversary of the Battle.



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

G. J. O. Farage, Esq.,
President,

Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry Association.

Please convey my warm thanks to the Honorary Colonel,
Vice-Presidents, Officers and Members of the Kent and Sharpshooters
Yeomanry Association for their loyal greetings, on the occasion of their Dinner
to commemorate the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Battle of Bir El Gubi
which is being held tonight at the Cavalry and Guards Club, Piccadilly.

I was most interested to learn of the Association's activities over the last
year and I appreciate your thoughtfulness in writing as you did. In return, I
send my best wishes to all those who are present for a memorable and
successful evening.

ELIZABETH R.

18th November, 2016.

Mark Hodson

THE PRESENTATION OF A REGIMENTAL GUIDON TO THE ROYAL YEOMANRY AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Saturday 7th May 2016



The 7th May was a momentous day. A bittersweet occasion, as we said goodbye to four squadron guidons, including the guidon of the Kent & Sharpshooters Yeomanry, and proudly welcomed the arrival of the Royal Yeomanry's Regimental guidon. The new guidon is emblazoned with battle honours from all the antecedent regiments, and also the "IRAQ" battle honour, awarded for operational service in 2003. The Royal Yeomanry was the first reserve regiment to have been awarded a battle honour since the Second World War, of which we are all very proud.

It was a day for the regimental family to unite and it was a great reunion of yeomen, serving and former serving, and families and friends. The Sharpshooters were there in strength, and it was great to see the Regimental Guidon Party being led by a Sharpshooter, WO2 Dave Tomlin.

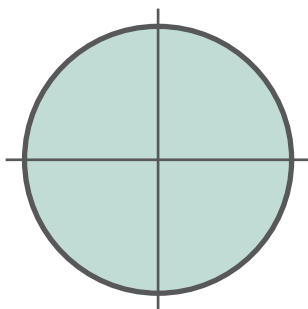
HRH Princess Alexandra KG GCVO presented the new guidon, and it was a great pleasure to all who attended, and

especially the Sharpshooters, who had enjoyed Her Royal Highness opening the Sharpshooters' Museum at Hever Castle less than a year before.

A fabulous and proud day, enjoyed by all, and a huge well done to all those involved.

Mark Hodson





HON SECRETARY'S REPORT

The year has for many reasons been a challenging one – no surprise there!

The year 2016 ended with the news that Vic Dickens late 4th CLY had reached that magic figure of 100 years old. In all my time there has only been I believe one other centenarian, Eric Moffait who died aged 102 and who lived on the Isle of Man – his obituary appeared in the 2014 Edition of this Journal. To commemorate Vic's remarkable feat the *Association* produced a certificate which was presented to him on the day by his son. And let's not forget that we should congratulate WO1 Andy Keeble of 265 (KCLY) Sqn on the award of a Queens Volunteer Reserves Medal in the 2017 New Year's Honours.

There was the phenomenal amount of staff work required to get the *Association's* bids in and correct as The Royal Yeomanry was presented with its first Guidon by HRH The Princes Alexandra in the magnificent surroundings of Buckingham Palace. I think it fair to say that I lived and breathed Guidon presentation admin for three months concurrently with Cavalry Sunday plus cadet stuff and health issues! There was pride in taking part and also sadness as the *Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry Guidon* was marched off Parade for the last time. However it was gratifying to see that there were many senior RY officers wearing *Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry* collar badges – and indeed WO1 Dave Tomlin (ex C Sqn SSM now WO1 Reserve at HQ RAC) carrying the new Guidon for the first time. Although some might mourn the lack of diversity of No 1 dress uniforms it is worth noting that both the current 'Blues' and Mess dress are essentially in the colours of the Queens Own West Kent Yeomanry!

The following day a splendid Cavalry Sunday (RY was lead regiment) saw a very large RY contingent marching behind the new RY banner followed by a very good lunch indeed at The Atheneum Club – fortunately the weather was kind so we could use the garden but the place was still packed to the gunnels. In amongst all the ceremonial there was sadness as more *Kent and Sharpshooters* yeomen including some of our dwindling band of World War 2 veterans marched off parade to rejoin their comrades in the wet canteen in the sky. The keenest losses were Robin Ludlow who did so much for the TA and the *regimental association* with his voluntary work and dear Hal Currie (late 4th CLY) who helped create the *Sharpshooter* whisky in time for the 2004 Anniversary of the D Day landings – and for subsequent *Association* trips abroad. Robin, Hal and all the others will be missed for the variety and depth of character that they brought to our family and I hope that you all take a moment to reflect on their obituaries and to remember them.



Vic Dickens at home.



The new RY Regimental Assoc Banner.



The RY March past; inset: RY approaching the reviewing stand.



El Gubi Dinner 2016.



Hon Sec on Cav Sunday.

In addition to the events mentioned above there have been the ‘usual’ events – The Federation of London OCA Parade, the Lord Mayors Show, Field of Remembrance at Westminster and, the Bir El Gubi dinner all of which are reported elsewhere in the Journal. There was even a new one – or perhaps one should say the reinstatement of an old one- which is the laying of a wreath on the Royal Exchange memorial. Dormant for many years we were invited by the Westminster Dragoons to join in with their wreath laying and a very bucolic afternoon followed. It is in the FOE for this year!

These events are the framework that forms the *Association's* programme into which ‘special’ events are fitted. To all of you who do support these events I say thank you and for those of you who do not attend for whatever reason you do not know what and more importantly *who* you are missing!

The *Association* remains on standby to provide welfare support to *Kent and Sharpshooters* Yeomen if and when they are deployed on operations and given recent world events this remains a distinct possibility. We are very well supported in this area by our adopted Livery Company – The Worshipful Company of Insurers and we, together with the Museum Trust are really most grateful for that support.

There are at present five welfare cases that I am dealing with and in all of them we are acting in partnership with SSAFA and the Yeomanry Benevolent Fund. You may ask why this is so, it is because these organisations have the resources – both in trained personnel and finance – that we do not have. The KSYA contributes money where it can in support of these larger organisations for *Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomen* and whilst it is not very much, every little helps as the advert says. Your donations each year therefore are a key part of this capability and if you are not presently donating then I'd ask you to do so now.

So what is the programme for 2017? There will of course be the usual events and there *might* be a special event to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the Royal Yeomanry in 1967. In addition on 5th August C(KSY) Sqn are planning to exercise their right to march through Croydon and that parade is expected to culminate in a formal laying up service for the Guidon followed by a reception and ball to which we will be invited. There will be more information in due course but at the moment save the date in your diary.

As part of modernising and making events more easily accessible the 70th El Gubi dinner will as a trial be held on **Saturday** 18th November 2017 at the Cavalry and Guards Club at a cost of £48.00 per person. This year we will not be sharing with the Parachute Regiment and as for the 2016 dinner partners are welcomed and invited. This will be the 70th dinner and would be wonderful to have at least 80 members with partners attending in a much larger room so please complete the flyer and return it to me with your deposit of £10.00pp.

Finally what of the future? In February 2017 we will be saying goodbye not only to the current CO – Lt Colonel Simon McMenemy but also to the RY Honorary Colonel: Lt General Sir Barney White-Spunner KCB CBE. Their replacements are Lt Colonel Conn MacEvilly and Major General Simon Brooks-Ward CVO respectively whose details are included in this edition. We continue to live in uncertain times and the development of the Army and the Reserve progresses towards the 2020 deadline of generating a large and active reserve.

We must not forget that under current plans the Reserve will be 30% of the Army and I commend to you the articles very kindly written by the outgoing Honorary Colonel and CO RY that describe far better than I can where RY are heading to. The *Association* continues to review and adapt how it supports its serving squadrons and remain relevant to them.

This year for a variety of health reasons I have not been able to develop the Museum displays at Croydon as much as I would have wanted, but I will be taking this forward in 2017 with renewed vigour. We communicate information by email and via Facebook – and some even use other applications (two are enough for me!). We will continue to produce this journal in hard copy in its current format for as long as you the membership want it. If you are not connected please make sure that you register well in advance your interest in attending events in the FOE by completing and returning the Advance Booking Form so that I can send you hard copy details once I have them. In particular this applies to Cavalry Sunday and the Freedom Parade and Laying Up planned for 5th August. If you are connected please register your interest early so that I can send you details of events as and when I get them.

As you well know every year I bang on about subscriptions and every year we scrape by with voluntary donations from some of you and the balance comes from interest on our cautious investments – as a charity we are not allowed to be adventurous. I thank you all for your donations but we need to do more and the *Association* really does need each and every member to voluntarily contribute something towards the costs: at present just over 10% of the membership do. A £20 donation per member per year made as a Standing Order with a Gift Aid contribution will not only allow us to help more former *Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomen* and their dependents in need but guarantee the continuation of this Journal which we all enjoy and others both within and without the RY admire.

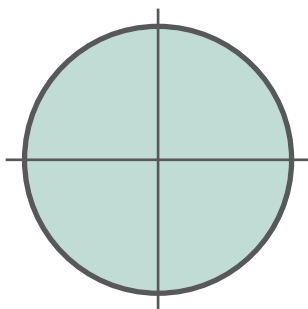
Please send all correspondence to me at the address below clearly marked for the attention of the ***Hon Secretary:***

The Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry Association
Sharpshooter House
Army Reserve Centre
Mitcham Road
Croydon
Surrey CR0 3RU

I wish you all a happy and prosperous 2017 and look forward to seeing you at any or indeed all of the events in the FOE.

Tim Rayson
Hon Secretary





DONATIONS

DONATIONS 2015

The under named members have very kindly donated to the Association either by Standing Order or other donation. These donations are very much appreciated and the Association is grateful for them:

The Worshipful Company of Insurers, Andy Kelleher, Richard Hewitt, D G Williams, Guy Bonser, Robert Brodie (in memoriam Lt Pat Brodie MC), Hal Currie, Lt Col Simon Jenkins, Robert Melville, Phillip Harrisson (in memory of Captain Bill Harrisson), Hilary Wilson (in memory of Roy Cawston whose artefacts are on display at Hever), Robin Ludlow, Anthony Gethin, Jaimie Barr, Colonel R K Melville, 265 (KCLY) Support Sqn, Tim Lawson-Cruttenden, Chas Rae, Lesley O'Brien (in memoriam Jim Esson), Ewen Watt, Barry Fearn, Robin Lawrence, C(KSY) Sqn RY, Michael Donnelly, Doreen Matthews (in memoriam Ian Matthews whose artefacts are on display at Hever), Carole Amitrano (in memoriam Mrs Mary Spain whose husband William served with the Sharpshooters); Mrs Dempster (in memoriam of Keith Dempster).

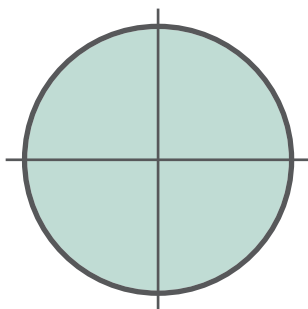
Very unfortunately this acknowledgement was omitted from the 2015 Journal and has therefore been included in the 2016 edition. The Hon Secretary in a 'moment of madness' then lost the updated version that included donations received in 2016 which means this reconstruction might be short of a few names for which he apologises for.

DONATIONS 2016

The under named members have very kindly donated to the Association either by Standing Order or other donation. These donations are very much appreciated and the Association is grateful for them:

The Worshipful Company of Insurers, Danny Farmer, Lt Colonel Maurice Tomlin, Carole Amitrano (in memoriam Mrs Mary Spain whose husband William served with the Sharpshooters), Tim Connell, A M Johnson, Chris Gardener, Hal Curries Estate (which has been transferred to the KSY Museum Trust acquisition fund).





TREASURER'S REPORT, YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2016

Using current valuations of investments the association had net assets of £73k at 31st March 2016 (£73k prior year). Income in the 12 months was £9k (£9k prior year). The current year included £2k of dividend income from investments.

As in previous years the largest item of expenditure was the magazine at £3.3k (£3.3k prior year). The Trustees still consider this to be essential in maintaining the Espirit D'corps of the Sharpshooters. £2.5k was spent on a ceremonial cross belt.

Income less expenditure was a surplus of £2.6k in the year.

The bulk of the Association's assets date back to subscriptions made towards the end and just after WW2. Sadly many of these Sharpshooters have now passed away but their generosity lives on. There are now approximately 40 individuals paying standing orders into the SYA and this regular income is essential to the ongoing production of the magazine.

John Gunn ACMA
Treasurer

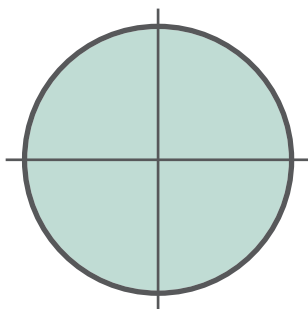
For income and expenditure accounts, please see next page

Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st March 2016

Note:	Investments at cost	31st March 2016	31st March 2015	
B	2837 Charifund Uunits	19,727		19,727
	Current Assets			
	National Savings Investment Bk	21,644	21,483	
	Cash at bank	11,144	12,399	
	Sundry debtors	<u>478</u>	<u>68</u>	
		33,266	33,950	
	Less sundry creditors	936	936	
	Magazine	<u>-</u>	<u>3,259</u>	
		32,330	29,755	
	Publications		-	
	Total Accumulated funds	<u><u>52,056</u></u>	<u><u>49,482</u></u>	
	Represented by:			
	Balance brought forward	49,482	45,152	
	Plus/less surplus/loss	<u>2,575</u>	<u>4,330</u>	
	Accumulated Funds	<u><u>52,056</u></u>	<u><u>49,482</u></u>	
		0	0	

Note:					
B	Market value of investments at 31st March 2016				
	2837 Charifund Units	14.15	40,151	14.53	42,948
	£2,500 8% Treasury 2009	0.00	0	0.00	0
	£5,000 5% Treasury 2008	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
			<u>40,151</u>		<u>42,948</u>





FROM LT COLONEL SIMON McMENEMY, COMMANDING OFFICER, THE ROYAL YEOMANRY

This edition of the Sharpshooter Journal is quite rightly filled with reports and photographs of the presentation of the Regiment's first Guidon by our Royal Colonel. It was a superb day in every way. After one of the wettest Spring seasons on record Summer arrived in London on 7th May. A Herculean effort by the QM, SQMSs and SSMs meant that every man and woman on parade was in blues, some only back from the tailors the day before the parade, and others with collar dogs and other accoutrements straight out of the box from the manufacturers. For the first time in its history the Regiment was dressed the same and it looked marvellous. But how would we perform? The fact that after only two weekend rehearsals no-one stumbled, tripped, fainted or stabbed their neighbour with a bayonet was both miraculous and a credit to the Yeoman's ability to use the precious time they have for the Reserve to best effect.

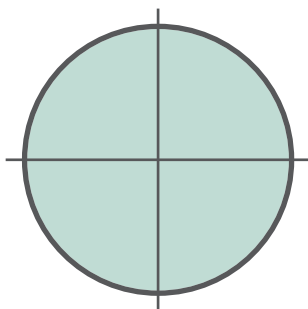
However, the Regiment has been up to a lot more this year than drill and dressing up. When asked recently by a senior officer if they could visit some of the Regiment's soldiers on annual training I was able to offer them Scotland, Slovenia, Malaysia, California or even one lonely soul out in Sierra Leone, and that was just September! This speaks volumes of what the Reserves is now able to offer young men and women, it is really is true to say 'join the Army Reserve and see the World'. This would not be possible without pairing. In this I believe our Regiment to be singularly fortunate in having 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards as our Regular Paired Regiment. As Light Cavalry and extremely good at their job they are in constant demand, and that is what gives us the opportunities to go shoulder to shoulder wherever they are on exercise or operations around the Globe. It also means that, as happened in Slovenia we are able to learn from them, and be mentored by them as we train together.

Just before Christmas CGS announced in the 'Army 2020 Refine' paper that the Royal Yeomanry is the only Regiment in the British Army to be 'increased' to six squadrons. This is a fit and proper recognition of the incredibly hard work of our officers men and associations in recruiting and retention, from Telford to Windsor, from Croydon to Leicester, from Fulham to Dudley and The City of London to Nottingham. We are the largest Regiment in the Army Reserve and have the largest geographical footprint. The Regiment is in good heart; busy, well equipped, almost fully recruited and with a new found sense of pride not only in our colleagues, in our role and in our pairing but in a Regiment with an increasingly strong brand and a reputation as a happy and professional Unit as it nears its 50th Anniversary.



The Commanding Officer on Parade at Buckingham Palace.

When I took command of the Regiment in October 2014 I reflected on my way to the handover parade in Otterburn that I could not remember anything any CO of mine had said on an handover parade and so why should anyone remember anything I was going to say to them that day. I resolved that I would have one message and ask them to always remember this: that it is a great privilege to be a Royal Yeoman. For me it has been a singular privilege to command the Royal Yeomanry at this memorable and important in its history, and I know it will go from strength to strength.



FROM THE HONORARY COLONELS

LIEUTENANT GENERAL SIR BARNEY WHITE-SPUNNER KCB,CBE

I announced at the Regimental Dinner in November that I would be handing over as Honorary Colonel to Major General Simon Brooks-Ward in early 2017. It is of course very sad to go but I feel, strongly, that one can stay too long in such positions and that it is important to make way for the next generation. That is especially the case when we have someone as well qualified as General Simon to take over, who is not only Deputy Commander Field Army but also a home grown Yeoman. We are not often blessed with such a combination!

I have enjoyed a very full ten years in post, two as Colonel of The Sharpshooters and then, having handed that wonderful role on to Colonel Sir Nicholas Soames, eight as Colonel of The Royal Yeomanry where I took over from Sir Robert Hayman-Joyce. I had slightly assumed that being an Honorary Colonel would involve several dinners plus the occasional parade but nothing much more taxing. How wrong can one be! When I started I was commanding the 3rd Division, just back from Iraq, and we were still very much focused on our role as CBRN recce. That was all to change as we organized instead to provide soldiers for Afghanistan. By that stage I was Commander Field Army and running what we termed “Op Entirety”, concentrating on future Yeomanry roles and equipment with the model of Helmand very much in our minds. The decision to go for the R-WMiKs was, I think, the correct one and gives us a reliable and relatively easy to maintain vehicle which is well suited to light reconnaissance.

No sooner were we preparing for our draw down in Afghanistan than we then had to confront the structural challenges of “Army 2020” and the seemingly endless debate as to how many Yeomanry regiments and squadrons did we need, what was their role and where should they be based. With the demise of The Royal Mercian & Lancastrian Yeomanry we were very fortunate to inherit their squadrons in Dudley and Telford, although we were sad to say goodbye to A Squadron, the Swindon based Wiltshire Yeomanry, who went over to The Royal Wessex Yeomanry. We have now ended up, based on the very sensible decision by the Chief of the General Staff to reinforce units who prove they can recruit, as the biggest regiment in the Reserve with our six squadrons and our band – The Inns of Court & City Yeomanry who are now, of course, a State Band. We cover an enormous geographical area, from Croydon in the south to Telford

in the north, with an RHQ in London supporting 7 Brigade, and specifically The Queen's Dragoon Guards, based in the Midlands. We are very well recruited, have an excellent role and a core of operational experience that runs through our officers and NCOs from our many recent deployments.

There has actually been the odd parade too! I was very privileged to participate in the presentation of our Guidon by HRH Princess Alexandra in the gardens of Buckingham palace last May. This was a very special day and whilst I understand so well how important the old squadron Guidons are, it is absolutely correct that we should now have a focus as a regiment. It was also wonderful to see how well the regiment performed, the professionalism and that unique Yeomanry style, something which I have come to appreciate and admire as so much part of the Yeomanry spirit. There have also been some most enjoyable and educational visits to training, from Scotland to Slovenia, from the West Country to Waterloo, and more equally enjoyable dinners than I care to remember!

Above all it has been a huge privilege and pleasure to get to know so many yeomen, to work alongside you all and to make so many friends. I will miss my association keenly but I know that I leave the regiment not only in excellent form but also in most capable hands.

MAJOR GENERAL SIMON BROOKS-WARD CVO OBE TD VR DEPUTY COMMANDER FIELD ARMY



Military

Major General Brooks-Ward joined The Honourable Artillery Company in 1982. In 1987 he joined The Royal Yeomanry as a Trooper. He was commissioned in 1989.

He held two sub unit commands – A Sqn and D Sqn RY. In 2000 he was appointed TA SO2 at The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

Major General Brooks-Ward was appointed Commanding Officer of The Royal Yeomanry in July 2002 and in January 2003, himself, two Squadrons and the Regimental Headquarters were mobilized for service in Op Telic.

A and W Sqn, RY, formed a composite Sqn and served with 1 Royal Tank Regiment in the CBRN reconnaissance role, whilst Major

General Brooks-Ward and RHQ RY served with the US 75th Exploitation Task Force. He rejoined A and W Sqn to conduct Peace Support Operations at the end of the warfighting phase.

The RY has the distinction of being the only Reserve Regiment to be awarded a Battle Honour since World War Two.

Finishing command in 2005, Major General Brooks-Ward was appointed as Colonel Yeomanry and in 2008 was posted, as Colonel TA Training, to The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

In January 2012, Major General Brooks-Ward was appointed Assistant Commander of 3 (United Kingdom) Division. He was the Armed Forces project lead for the D-Day 70th Commemorations in 2014, attached to Force Troops Command.

After a brief appointment with Army HQ, he was appointed Deputy Commander Field Army in October 2015.

Civilian

DCFA is the Chairman and Chief Executive of The HPower Group, www.hpower.co.uk an Events Management Company that focuses on Equestrian, Military and National Events.

Its two principal annual events are The Royal Windsor Horse Show and Olympia, The London International Horse Show. In 2014 HPower organised the St Symphorien Commemorations in Mons. In 2016 the company produced The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations in the grounds of Windsor Castle and in June also organised the national Commemorative Event for Somme 100, in the Thiepval Cemetery, France.

He is married to Annabel and lives in Somerset. He has three children and two step children. Major General Brooks-Ward was appointed a Lieutenant of The Royal Victorian Order (LVO) in 2002. He received the Territorial Decoration (TD) in 2005 and was awarded the Order of the British Empire, Military Division (OBE) in the same year. In 2012 he was promoted within the Royal Victorian Order to Commander (CVO).

LIEUTENANT COLONEL CONN MacEVILLY RY



On 18 February 2017, command of the Royal Yeomanry will pass from Lt Col Simon McMenemy to Lt Col Conn MacEvilly.

Like Simon, Conn has been a reservist throughout his military career, which has included two deployments on operations: as a troop leader for the Iraq war in 2003 and as a mentor to the Afghan National Army in 2008.

Conn joined the Royal Yeomanry as a trooper in 1999, serving from then until 2010 with what was W (Westminster Dragoons) Squadron in Chelsea and Fulham.

He commissioned in 2002. From January to June 2003 he was mobilised for Operation TELIC. Throughout the warfighting phase he commanded a troop of 14 Territorial Army soldiers attached to the Joint Chemical

Biological Radiological and Nuclear Regiment, supporting 16 Air Assault Brigade during the invasion, west of Basra. From the fall of Baghdad in April 2003 until the

end of his deployment, he commanded a troop of 20 regular and 4 TA soldiers in peace support operations to the north-west of Basra. Conn was awarded a Joint Commander's Commendation for his service on Operation TELIC.

On demobilisation, Conn returned to troop leading before promoting to captain in 2007.

In January 2008, he mobilised for Operation HERRICK 8. After completing the Platoon Commanders' Battle Course at the Infantry Battle School in Brecon, he deployed as second-in-command of A Company, 2nd Battalion, the Royal Regiment of Scotland. He co-ordinated and planned the training of more than 2,500 non-commissioned officers in Kabul and at brigade training centres in Herat, Mazar-e-Sharif, Kandahar and Gardez. The majority of these NCOs went directly into combat operations. He also directly mentored officers of the Afghan National Army's Non-Commissioned Officer Academy. Conn was awarded an Army Commendation Medal by the United States Army for his service in Afghanistan.

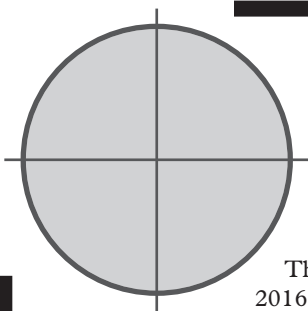
After a year as 2IC of W Sqn RY followed by completion of the regular Combined Arms Tactics Course at Warminster and the reserve Intermediate Staff Course at the Defence Academy in Shrivenham, Conn promoted in 2010 to major and took up command of what was A Sqn RY (now Y Sqn RWxY) in Swindon.

In October 2012, after handing over command of his squadron to Maj Mike Dalzell RY (now also a lieutenant colonel and currently deputy commander of the Czech CBRN Brigade), Conn went on to become Chief Instructor (Reserves) at the Land Warfare Centre in Warminster, running a team of ten Army Reserve directing staff teaching the Junior Officers' Tactical Awareness Course to senior lieutenants in the regular Army and the Army Reserve.

In March 2015 he promoted to lieutenant colonel and since then has been advising HQ Royal Armoured Corps as SO1 RAC Reserve Policy. After completing the Advanced Command and Staff Course (Reserves) at the Defence Academy in the summer of 2015, Conn spent a year as a visiting research fellow on the Changing Character of War Programme at Pembroke College, Oxford.

Conn is married to Gaby. They and their three children live in a village near Brighton. Educated at Trinity College Dublin (where he read law), the London School of Economics (more law), the Inns of Court School of Law and King's College London, Conn is a barrister, specialising in commercial and chancery litigation.





EMPTY SADDLES 2016

The following Sharpshooters sadly passed away in 2016. Where relatives request it the Association attends funerals either with or without the Association banner.

Robin Ludlow TD	Late 3 rd /4 th CLY and KCLY
Hal (Harold) Currie	Late 4 th CLY
Tony Tollworthy	Late 3 rd /4 th CLY
Edward Mustoe	Late 3 rd /4 th CLY
Clive Aston	Late 3 rd /4 th CLY and KCLY
Barrie Fearn	Late 3 rd /4 th CLY, KCLY and 71st Signals Regt

OBITUARY

ROBIN LUDLOW

1931 - 2016

A tribute given by Guy Farage



Many of you will have read Robin's obituary published by the *Daily Telegraph* on the 25th January 2016. It was very comprehensive and included the circumstances surrounding his departure as Press Secretary to The Queen.

Robin suffered a long and distressing illness but in spite of this he managed to keep a telephone close by so that it was possible to speak to him on a regular basis – and he with the outside world as well. His distinctive voice would come over the wires loud and clear. He had arranged for Boris Mollo to write a tribute for me to deliver but sadly Boris had developed leukemia and predeceased Robin on 18th December 2015.

I first met Robin when he joined 3rd/4th CLY in 1959. My first impression was of a very well turned out officer with the looks of a matinee idol and well modulated voice. Robin had previously been on the staff at Sandhurst as Motor Transport Officer with a commission in the RASC. From 1967 he served as a TA staff officer with the rank of Major and as Training Major to the London and Kent Regiment RA based at Bromley in Kent. By 1971 the TA was being re-raised and Robin became 2I/C of 6th (V) Bn The Queens. He resigned to become Press Secretary to The Queen where he worked for 18 months. He re-joined the TA IN 1973 to find that he had lost his seniority.

Robin however was still determined to do voluntary service and from 1973 to 1990 he was a member of TAVRA South East holding many of the highest offices. Robin was also a prime mover in the Sharpshooters Yeomanry Association being Chairman for ten years and a Trustee of the Museum Trust. He chaired the Yeomanry Benevolent Fund for nine years, was a Governor of the Star and Garter Home at Richmond and if that was not enough he was a Governor of the Clergy Orphans Corporation for ten years.

This was a truly remarkable catalogue of voluntary service and he was very persuasive in getting his friends involved: I ended up on the YBF for 30 years under his positive guidance.

Robin had a wicked sense of humour and some of his impersonations were quite hilarious. The Sharpshooters and friends will miss his valuable advice and support.

Ron Snowball also adds: Robin Ludlow was a very charismatic and generous man, who when he arrived at Bromley RHQ/HQ KCLY where he galvanised the Squadron to new heights and who incidentally became godfather to my son Mark. Robin was a really good officer, he led us into multi tasking between HQ & RHQ operating procedures. All Ranks held him in high esteem. Robin is sorely missed.

OBITUARY

HAROLD (HAL) CURRIE

1924



Hal Currie and family after the award of the
Legion d'Honneur

Harold, or Hal as he was popularly known, was one of five children born in 1924 to his merchant seaman father in Liverpool. As a youthful chorister he learned sign language for the deaf, using it to send messages to his friends during sermons when things were running a bit slow and he even practised semaphore in order to signal goodbye to his father from the quayside whenever he returned to sea. As a young boy he was evacuated to North Wales in 1939 and on reaching the age of 18 in 1942 he joined up.

A fascination with tanks saw him enlist in the Royal Armoured Corps and he subsequently joined the 4th County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters) in 1944, after they had returned from Italy with the 7th Armoured Division (the Desert Rats). Hal took part in the D-Day landings in Normandy, when the Sharpshooters landed on Gold Beach on 7 June 1944(D+1) and was present at Villers Bocage being part of B Sqn. In his interview for the archives Hal recalled moving through the night and arriving on a sunny morning at 8am on 13 June to be met by a throng of delirious townspeople who threw flowers in their path and offered Calvados and cider to their liberators. As we all know however once the lead squadron reached Point 213 they were attacked by a troop of Tiger tanks under command of Michael Wittman. A sqn were surrounded and RHQ were engaged on the outskirts and in the town itself by Wittman. Hals squadron managed to deploy off the main road and into side streets where a close quarter battle ensued with tank vs tank engagements at 25 or 30 yds range! Hal was in one of these tanks and it was not long before a Tiger approached their hiding place and,



Hal with David Hannam and Tim Rayson in 2003.

as soon as it came into view, Hal's crew fired. The Tiger was hit and with the driver and co-driver killed ended up embedded in the front of a shop on the other side of the road. The surviving crew rapidly evacuated and made for cover in a nearby building.

Foolhardiness is not a trait that Hal displayed in later business life but at that moment he sprang from the tank and ran towards the disabled Tiger to 'view the damage'. He noticed a discarded Luger pistol hanging from the turret and grabbing it, he turned and ran back to his tank only then realising that he could have been shot by the Germans hiding nearby. Military historian Max Hastings stated that Villers Bocage was 'one of the most devastating single-handed actions of the war.' Other commentators, however, considered it a foolish and an unnecessary risk, much akin to Hal's action that day.

In a recent interview Hal recalled that half the regiment was lost. 'I was lucky. There was a lull in the firing and we got as many out as we could into the surrounding countryside. The RAF sent in bombers to cover the retreat. After that I ended up in Hamburg, followed by a move to Berlin, where we entered a zone that the Russians had left. The German population came out and greeted us as liberators.' Ever the entrepreneur Hal forged a business partnership in the British Zone with a German leather manufacturer and produced handbags for returning soldiers to take home to their wives and girlfriends.

After he was demobbed he joined the Liverpool and Bristol wine and spirit merchants Rigby & Evans and built up his knowledge of the business, eventually becoming the right-hand man to the managing director. Hal was a passionate follower of football and he trained as a referee officiating at amateur and professional levels abroad and in the UK. This led him to be invited to join the board of St Mirren where he became chairman and promptly decided to recruit a young manager called Alex Ferguson who was making a big impression at the helm at East Stirlingshire. Ferguson was eventually convinced to take on the St Mirren job and from 1974 to 1978 he created a thrilling young team which gained promotion to the Scottish Premier Division in 1977 with the loss of only two games.

Despite being retired Hal remained passionate about Scotch whisky and went on to be a co-founder of the Isle of Arran Distillery which commenced distilling in June 1995. In need of a suitable souvenir for the Association's trip to France for the 60th Anniversary of D Day, a tasting trip to the distillery at Lochranza was organised and

subsequently 144 bottles were purchased at a very generous price and labelled as Sharpshooter Scotch Whisky. This was so successful that there were three further issues of the whisky each with differing label designs.

Hal was awarded the Légion d'Honneur in October 2015 in recognition of his participation in the liberation of France.

Hal was a quintessential Sharpshooter, kind and generous with his time and knowledge. He was a great supporter of the Association and attended the last trip to Normandy in 2014 despite not being in the best of health. He will be sadly missed by all that knew him and we are poorer without him.

The source material for this obituary comes from:

The Arran Malt: An Island Whisky Renaissance by Neil Wilson (2016)



OBITUARY

TONY TOLLWORTHY

22nd Nov 1934 – 18th Oct 2016



Tony joined as a trooper in 3/4 CLY Sharpshooters at C Sqn Albany St Barracks in 1959 and trained as a Dingo armoured car driver utilizing Park Lane and Hyde Park and London suburbs to achieve his trade test.

The Sqn then moved down to Croydon under David Volker's command, the Royal Dragoon Guards were now our parent regiment and Tony was commissioned as a 2nd Lt Troop Leader. He was one of the unruly and lively band of young officers who were summoned to the CO's office on the first day of camp by Lt Col Ben Tottenham and severely warned about responsible behaviour and gentlemanly speech.

The TA was stood down and Tony, by now a family man, married to Jenny, living in Sussex, was running Arletts Farm and working in Fleet St for the *Financial Times*.

He will be hugely missed by Jenny, son Ben, grand children Alice, Jemima, Dillon, villagers, fellow farmers, golfers, cricketers and so many friends. He was full of fun and energy and nothing seemed to get him down.

He was one year short of a golden wedding anniversary and is buried in the same grave as his beloved daughter, Linda.



OBITUARY

EDWARD MUSTOE

23rd April 1935 – 10th Nov 2016

Edward, of the Incredible Mutton Chops, joined the 3 /4 CLY Sharpshooters in 1954 after National Service in the Royal Horse Guards. At Castlemartin he was a Troop Leader when the Sharpshooters took over four Comet tanks, Duke of Kent's Troop, the Scots Greys. On the first Regimental Parade in the Tank Park the Commanding Officer was nearly bowled over by a galloping Mustoe being pursued by a stable girl on an 18 hand stallion!

He left the TA but kept in touch from his Bistro in Primrose Hill which he opened in June 1967 and ran successfully with his partner, Sharron, after giving up a clerical career. It proved to be a great watering hole after drill for C Sqns in Albany St Barracks.

He retired in 2004 and enjoyed the theatre, opera and long walks with friends.

In 2010, with their son, Richard, they moved to Bermondsey, his final home where he eventually passed away due to leukaemia.

He was a great character, his own person, but always fun to be with – and an impeccable, 'To the Manor Born', accent – and a fine set of whiskers!



OBITUARY

MAJOR C.R.C ASTON TD FGA

Clive Aston who has died aged 89 joined the 3/4th CLY (Sharpshooters) after service in the Middle East from 1945 until 1948 with the 17th/21st Lancers.

Clive was a dynamic and resourceful officer and led his squadron to great success. Clive had the ability to keep his vehicles on the road with his knowledge of things mechanical. Members of the Yeomanry remember Clive with his sleeves rolled up helping to get a vehicle back on the road. In civilian life Clive raced sports cars to great effect and could also be seen on Veteran rallies. One memorable Alam el Halfa day he brought his helicopter to Squerries Court and gave a breath taking display of his flying skill.

As the owner of Tessiers the Crown Jewellers in Bond Street he was Trustee and Chairman of the Museum Trust. He did much to rationalise the regimental silver collection and as a result creating some of the well-known pieces that we have today such as the Saladin, Sherman and 18 pdr Field Gun. In 1968 he became a Liveryman in the Goldsmith's Company and rose to Prime Warden in 1988/9.

In retirement he was able to devote more time to his other interests of shooting and fishing, he used to shoot with members of the Royal Family on the Mountbatten Estate. In April 1961 with a Sharpshooter Guard of Honour he married Cherry who survives him.



OBITUARY

Major Charles (Barry) D'Arcy Fearn TD MA FRCS FRCSd

1934 – 2016



Barry Fearn passed away on 2 November 2016, after a short illness. He was 82.

‘With the exception of his time doing National Service as RMO in The Royal Irish Fusiliers in Libya where he met Gay, Barry spent all his military service with the Sharpshooters. He was one of the RMOs with 3/4 CLY in the post War Territorial Army. He left when the Regiment was disbanded by the Hackett and Carver “reforms” introduced in 1967 by the Wilson Government. In 1980 his despairing wife, Gay, contacted Tony Jewell to see if he could get back into the TA, as he was bored on weekends! As the result he joined 265 (KCLY) Signal and HQ Squadron of 71 (Yeomanry) Signal Regiment as RMO – although he preferred and insisted on being known as the Regimental Surgeon. Barry was the senior orthopedic surgeon for the Sussex Group of Hospitals. He had a very fresh approach to his role, as he constantly complained if there were more than two soldiers at sick parade as he had joined the TA “... to get away from sick people...”! He also found dealing with female soldiers complaints a bit of a challenge. On one occasion a well endowed female Corporal reported sick with bad sun burn. After treatment we were not sure who was redder, Barry or the Corporal! All his skills came to the fore during a Camp in Thetford when during the military training phase a number of soldiers suffered from broken limbs attempting very slippery assault and confidence courses. One in particular recovered well after Barry intervened with his hospital to ensure he received the correct post operation treatment. Both the Squadron and Regiment were privileged to have Barry as MO. He had been largely responsible for the treatment and recovery of a number of senior conservatives, including Norman Tebbit, after they were injured during the IRA bombing in Brighton.

Barry was a bit of a wine expert. During Camp 1985, on the rest day between the Brigade Exercise and the military training phase, the Squadron Officers went to France

for the day, and a long French lunch! It was taken at the Hotel Atlantique in Wimereaux. Barry selected the wine. As the sommelier was serving it from a bottle closely wrapped in a white napkin, Barry having sniffed the cork, asked him to show the bottle. When that was eventually done, it revealed, as Barry had claimed, not to be the wine he had ordered – it was a year younger! He and Jim Esson managed to get themselves into a French wedding reception during which large amounts of calvados were consumed. This led Barry having to be rescued from Sea Link security on the return ferry as he was remonstrating with the duty free staff about the poor quality wine and calvados that was on sale. He had been kicking the boxes of Australian wine shouting “..... crap, rubbish...”!

Barry was an enthusiastic Sharpshooter even after he retired. He went on many of the battlefield trips with Gay, and attended the El Gubi Dinners. In 2014 he was at the Museum reopening and the El Gubi Dinner.

He had a wide medical knowledge beyond orthopedics. Barry advised a young man suffering from jellyfish stings on a beach in Barbados to urinate on them! Thus he recruited Simon Malik into 265! And he is probably the only Regimental Surgeon to appear on the BBC *That's Life* after he had written an article in the *Lancet* on a condition known as Welly Wangers Finger!

Finally, overheard in the Regimental Surgeons Surgery while giving tetanus injections to Officers:

Barry: “Well, there you are then.”

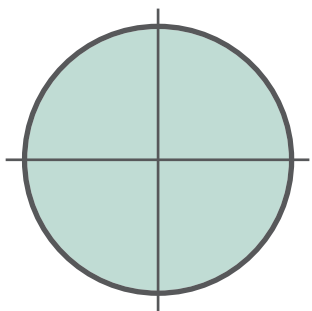
Officer: “Am I fit to go to the Gulf?”

Barry: “Umm, yes but only nine holes!”

Barry Fearn. Rest in Peace.

Character – Friend – Sharpshooter – all round gentleman.





THE MUSEUM IN THE PARK BUILDING ON SUCCESS

Dan Taylor, Hon Curator

Getting the museum ready for the opening in September 2015 was a Herculean task. Having reached that goal, one might have assumed that a period of basking in the glory of the achievement may have been permitted. That may have been the case had the museum actually been fully finished, but the truth was that there remained a great deal to be done before it reached the level of presentation we required. Chris Sutton, recognising the shortfall between my anticipated level of completion, and the actuality, brilliantly presented the situation at the opening as the completion of *phase one*. This has allowed us to work on a succession of phase lines which has seen the implementation of a number of perfected, improved and polished projects to bring the museum to an even higher spec.

So, what have we been up to? Once the panel images were completed for all of the walls, we set about bringing all of the captioning to a common standard. One of the more obvious elements of this was that we have upgraded the style of medal caption so that, where possible, it includes a picture of the recipient and gives a flavour of the action for which the medal was award. Under ideal circumstances there is also space to say a little about their broader life story.

Dave Whitehouse took up the challenge of bringing the trench exhibit to life, which he has done with aplomb. Over the summer he installed a number of props to make it look lived-in, which included some items to touch and feel. Beware, one of the boxes contains a rat! To achieve the look he has sourced authentic ammunition boxes, supply boxes and even a rum jar. There are still things to do in the trench – not least our Arthur Weston Jarvis mannequin – but the space is coming to life.

A feature which is enjoying a considered maturation is our Cromwell tank turret. Details continue to be added and this looks to continue into the future as additional components are found. It has turned into a veritable team creation – retired cabinet maker Jim





O'Connor built us a gun barrel section and recuperator sleeve; Bob Orridge has meanwhile built a breach for the gun and the rear half of a Besa coaxial machine-gun; David Fielding has reproduced the gun crutch and now the whole assembly has been installed. It now looks the part and its original purpose, to demonstrate the tiny space in which three men were expected to work, is perfectly demonstrated.

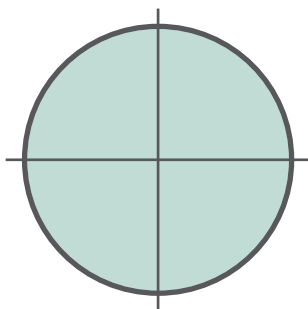
We have been very fortunate to have enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers to help out. Our Saladin armoured car and 25-pounder field gun had been stored outdoors for a number of years and were looking a little the worse for wear. Fortunately, Peter Crowley and Michael Achow set aside two weekends over the summer to clean, prep and repaint the pair, and they look so much better for their efforts. They make such a difference when approaching the museum from the castle and really draw in the public.



Chris Sutton has also done a lot of work on the audio-visual presentation, keeping the equipment up to date and adding new content. The intention throughout the museum is that repeated visits are rewarded with an enhanced and developing group of exhibits. To this end, the display of models continues to receive additions. Almost all of the 'A' vehicles used by

the Sharpshooters from 1920 through to the present day are on show. The gaps in the line are in an advanced state of preparation. Only last month we were presented with a fine model of the A34 Comet, as used by the Regiment from just after WWII, through to 1961. Examples of 97 Field Regiment's guns are on their way too. Diorama models are beginning to be installed – David Whitehouse has created a layout explaining the antenna deployment as used by 265 Squadron in the 1980s for a typical relay station. Other dioramas are promised soon.

As you may note from the 'New Acquisitions' article, the opening of the museum has encouraged a significant rise in the number of donations to the collection. It is always the intention to display as many varied pieces as possible – and we hope to circulate items between the museum and the two drill halls. I would accept the criticism that has been made a couple of times, that in places it looks as if we are trying to fit a quart into a pint pot! However, with so much history to show off, it seems wrong to adhere to the current trend in museums to hide all of the exhibits in storage to present a minimalist and heavily curated story. Though they have fallen out of favour, the good, old-fashioned style of museum, where there is a slight cacophony of information, is far more thrilling. We hope you have an opportunity to visit and judge for yourself.



KSYA MUSEUM

Chris Sutton
Trustee and Chief Executive

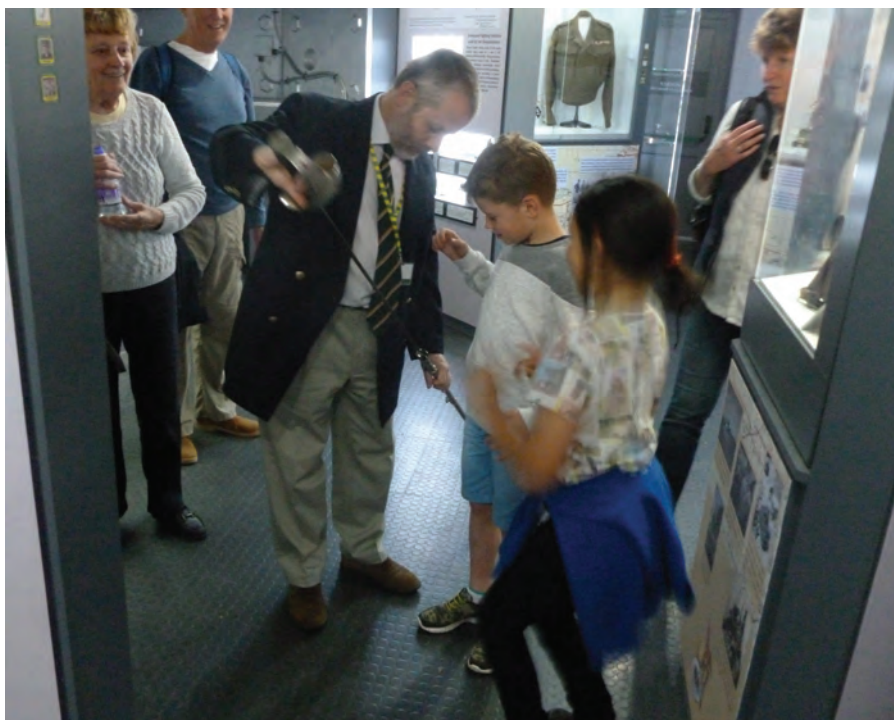
The Royal opening of new museum in September 2015, attended by many members of the Association, was a major landmark event for us, but it was certainly not the case that everything then quietened down to allow the trustees a well-earned rest.

Aside from the work to put some post-opening finishing touches to the museum – as discussed in Dan Taylor’s article – we have also been extremely busy delivering a programme of outreach activities at the museum and in the local community. This outreach programme was a commitment to our funders, and one that we have taken very seriously.

Highlights have included three public talks at Rickard’s Hall in Edenbridge, which has been the best evening venue for involving the local community. At the first of these, our RY Honorary Colonel Lt Gen Sir Barney White-Spunner told the story of Waterloo based on unpublished eye-witness accounts of soldiers involved. If you missed the talk, I can highly recommend his book “Of Living Valour”.



Gen Barney about to present on Waterloo.



Museum guided tour.

In our second public talk, our curator Dan Taylor explored how animosity between Monty and US generals after D-Day led to the US portrayal that the outcome of the battle of Villers Bocage was major evidence for Monty's supposed incompetence, despite evidence to the contrary.

Then in the third talk our KSY Honorary Colonel the Rt Hon Sir Nicholas Soames MP made us feel like we were touching history as he delivered a memorable talk on his grandfather Sir Winston Churchill. That would have been a great talk on any day of the year, but had an undeniable extra frisson in being delivered on the evening after the Brexit referendum result was announced.

My warm thanks to all three speakers for their time and their infectious enthusiasm.

There have also been talks at other museums, schools and clubs. Meanwhile up at the museum we have had a busy programme of events, with guided visits for tour parties and a range of hands-on activities run across the Hever Castle Home Front weekend at the end of June. We also decided to recognise the indispensable service of the late Boris Mollo as our curator for over 40 years, by naming the medals area of our museum as the Boris Mollo Gallery. We were delighted and honoured to welcome Boris' daughter Eugenie to open the gallery, in the presence of many members of the Mollo family and their friends.

One other event that epitomises the family nature of our regiment came totally out of the blue. During the summer, Peter Burrows made contact with us, and offered the



Mary Campbell and the two salvers.

silver salver which his father Captain Anthony Burrows of the Kent Yeomanry had been given by his brother officers in 1939. This is a beautiful item, inscribed with the signatures of every officer in the mess. One of the signatures is that of Captain Neil Campbell. Totally unaware of this, our museum volunteer Michael Achow, who also volunteers in helping the elderly in Tenterden, got into conversation with a lady who turned out to be Neil Campbell's widow Mary. At the age of 98, Mary came to visit us at the museum and presented us with her and Neil's wedding salver. They too were married in 1939, and the salver is identical to the Burrows one. On the Campbell salver is the signature of Anthony Burrows. In the photo you can see both salvers together, with Mary, Michael, Peter Crowley and Huw Jones outside the museum.

These, and many more events, have built the profile of our story as citizen soldiers in the local community and got our visitors really engaged in our remarkable history.

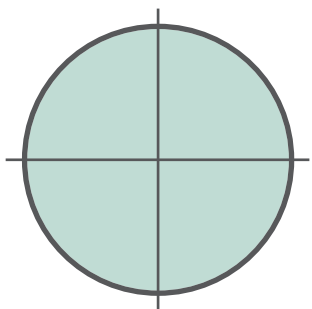
At time of writing, we have one more major outreach activity underway, which is the design of school visits to the museum. Working with two education consultants, we are pulling together a selection of stories from the museum which link well to the school curriculum, together with a handling collection and guidance notes for teachers. This will be a great asset for schools. The visits will be managed by the staff of Hever Castle Ltd, thus reducing the dependency on our own busy volunteers. All of our stories are available on the Museum website and on the touch screens at each ARC.

January 2017 will see me writing a detailed end of project report to the Heritage Lottery Fund, which will mark the end of the commitments that we have made to running an outreach programme. The trustees have decided that we want to continue outreach activity in 2017, albeit on a slightly smaller scale. For example, we expect to be laying on some activities at the Hever Castle Home Front weekend, on the last weekend in June 2017 – this would be a great time to come along for a personal guided tour of the museum by our volunteers.

On the subject of volunteers, we continue to welcome new faces to get involved in manning the museum and in helping with running activities, maintenance and conservation. I was delighted to sign up a serving member of C Squadron as a museum volunteer this month (December), which is really encouraging because it shows we will maintain our momentum even after the end of the Lottery commitment period.

Finally in this report I would like to recognise and pay tribute to all the creativity, hard work, resilience and dedication of all trustees and members of the management and curatorial teams and our volunteer scheme members. Without the commitment and teamwork of everyone, we could never have achieved our new museum nor delivered on our outreach commitments. The fact that we have achieved all this through the passion and energy of unpaid volunteers, each with a very busy life outside the trust, is awesome.





REFURBISHING AND PAINTING THE SALADIN AND THE 25 POUNDER AT HEVER

As some of you will have seen, the Saladin and 25-pdr we have outside the Regimental Museum at Hever were looking pretty tatty when they arrived. This could not go on as scruffy gate guardians are worse than no gate guardians – and both of these looked pretty sad. The slightly boggy ground did not help at all either. Volunteers were called for, to refurbish and conserve and only two stepped up to the plate: Michael Achow (Westminster Dragoons, but a Good Bloke withal!) and me.

Poor weather throughout Spring 2016 delayed our efforts and appearances continued to deteriorate. However by May we were ready to get to work: satin NATO Green bought (in bulk!); wire wool; brushes; and so on. All that was needed was a fine weekend – we all must remember cleaning and painting vehicles at Croydon in the spring rain or autumnal downpours and polishing them with cotton waste and oil mixed with petrol!

At last it came, and on a warm July Friday Michael and I pressure-hosed the Saladin, taking off 40-odd years of crud and quite a lot of loose paint. On Saturday we wire-brushed and –woolled, and red-lead primed. Hard, dirty work, but essential to ensure a good few years' conservation. On Sunday the first coat of satin green went on: we felt that gloss would be out of keeping with the “just rocked up” look we wanted; but we wanted a reasonably durable finish. And after Monday's second coat, I think she looked the part! In 2017 we plan, with guidance from Ben, our Curator, to add some matt black camouflage to break up the outline.

On a baking August Friday we turned our attention to the 25-pdr. – and what a challenge it turned out to be! After some discussion we decided to go from gloss green (which resulted in the gun being lost in its background of foliage) to satin desert-sand, or as close as we could get. So we pressure-hosed (Friday), then de-rusted and primed as necessary (Saturday). And on Sunday started on the painting proper, getting (as far as we could) into every green nook and cranny she had. And she had lots!! But a second coat on a tropical, paint-drying-on-brushes Monday turned her into a real eye-catcher. We hope she'll last as long as the Saladin before she needs a complete repaint.

And again, in 2017 we plan to add some deserty blotchy bits (I think that's the technical term!) to complete the job.

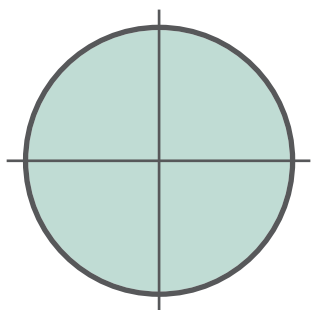
A lot of hard work and, a few scraped knuckles on, I think Michael's and my efforts were worthwhile. And it was fun! So please, all of you out there, get in touch and help us keep our Museum in the front rank! And have fun doing it too!!

Peter Crowley



Saladin finished at last. Inset: Saladin primed up.





KENT AND SHARPSHOOTERS YEOMANRY MUSEUM TRUST

RECENT ACQUISITIONS 2016

Trustees: Guy Farage (Chairman), Chris Sutton,
Dan Taylor, John Gunn, Tim Rayson

The first full year of the Tent in the Park being open and operational has seen a great deal of development and refinement. Indeed, if you attended the opening ceremony, it is now barely recognizable. The change that has the most emotional resonance, for me, is the rededication of the area where we display our medal collections, now most suitably named the 'Boris Mollo Gallery'. There's plenty more to see, so it is hoped that you may be able to visit to see developments.

Curatorial posts held, as of 14th November 2015

Curator: Dan Taylor

Curator (Hever) and Trust Secretary: Huw Jones

Curator (Croydon): Tim Rayson

Curator (Bexleyheath): David Whitehouse

Our more visible presence has continued to encourage donations of various fascinating artefacts. The burgeoning collection means that we are able to rotate exhibits through the three locations and it is hoped that this will make repeat visits continue to give a varied and engaging experience.

Here is a taste of this year's additions:

Goggles, AFV crew type

2016-02

Purchase

Few items of equipment were more omnipresent on wartime and post war AFV crews than the teardrop style goggles. Currently part of the handling collection, the intention is that they can be alternated through displays as part of one of our mannequins.

Territorial Decoration (TD) Medal, Boris Mollo

2016-03

Officer's Sword, Boris Mollo

2016-16

Gift: Eugenie Mollo

Though we have other TD medals, this one is clearly a little special within the collection. Awarded for 20 years service, this particular award rather underrates Boris' contribution to the Regiment. Another artefact which will be dearly cherished by the museum is Boris' sword. It appears in his portrait, which is on display at Mitcham barracks, and a



2016-01



2016-06



2016-07



2016-03



2016-05

copy in the Museum.

8.8cm Anti-tank Projectile

2016-10

Gift: Yann Joualt

Another fascinating battlefield relic donated by our tame French historian. This shell was recovered from a roadside ditch near Villers-Bocage. It was the site where a Tiger tank from Michael Wittmann's unit was knocked out on 16th June 1944. The shell had not been fired, so was likely from the tank - Tiger 104 was commanded by Hannes Philipson who had lost another Tiger at Villers when Bill Cotton's troop had ambushed him. He did not survive this second loss.

Shooting Trophies, Photographs and artefacts

2016-19

Gift: Bob Whiting

Three generations of the Whiting family served with REKMR from the late 19th Century. The set includes three shooting trophies, a pair of WD binoculars dated 1941, a compass in a case likely used in WWI, a snuff box and photographs of the family members.

Silver Wedding Salver & Photographs

2016-17

Gift: the Burrows family.

Silver Wedding Salver

2016-18

Gift: Mrs Mary Campbell

As WWII started, two officers of 97 Field Regiment (Kent Yeomanry) celebrated their weddings and each couple was presented with silver salvers decorated with the signatures of their fellow officers. By an astonishing coincidence, on the same weekend in June, both the Burrows family and Mary Campbell gifted their salvers. The only difference between the two is Campbell's signature on the Burrows salver and Burrows signature on the Campbell salver.

★ ★ ★

The only firearm that had been in the collection when TiTP opened was a single Yeomanry pattern flintlock carbine. This may have seemed a little light for a military museum, and the following months were to see a marked increase in the armourer's department:

Besa 7.92mm Machine-gun

2016-01

Purchase

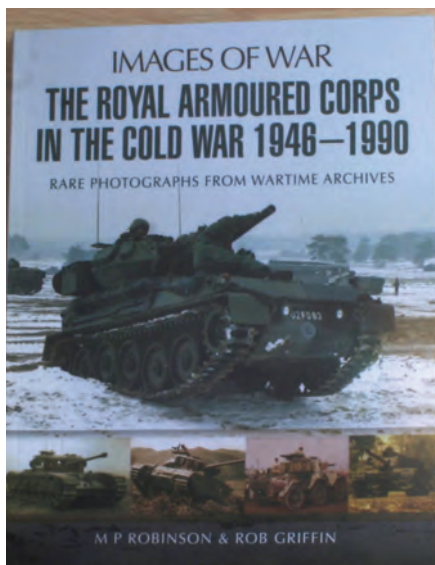
As a prime example of developing ideas, this was bought in order to fit into our replica tank turret. Its weight and length meant that concerns arose as to the safety of mounting it there and instead one of our volunteers, Bob Orridge, built a fantastic copy of the breach end in MDF for the turret. The actual gun was moved into the handling collection and now takes pride of place in our handling collection.

Bren Mk I .303-inch Light Machine-gun

2016-05

Purchase: Terry Muldoon

The primary support weapon from the end of the 1930s through to the 1960s was the Bren gun, and was used extensively by both the Kent Yeomanry and the Sharpshooters. This particular example came complete with its tripod, carry-case for tools,



2016-11



2016-12



2016-17



2016-18



2016-16

weather cover and carrying box.

Cavalry pattern flintlock pistol

2016-06

Loan: Guy Farage

Though this is engraved for the Notts Yeomanry, it is a perfect example of the type used by WKY and REKMR in the early 19th Century. It is an ideal exhibit to sit alongside our carbine.

Luger 9mm automatic pistol & holster

2016-09

Gift: P Endacott

This pistol is surely one of the star additions to the collection. Douglas Endacott served with 3 CLY throughout WWII, receiving a battlefield commission in October 1944. Whilst serving in Sicily he came across this Luger. Comparing it to his service revolver, he reasoned that its eight round magazine was a better bet than the six rounds in his revolver, and so adopted it for his personal weapon. The story of its circuitous route into the museum collection is better still.

Our collection of 1/35 scale models representing the various vehicles used by the Regiment since the 1920s continues to expand. Too late for last year's edition was **2015-54**, a Vickers Light Mk VI representing a vehicle of 4 CLY in a training scheme, 1940, as built by the Curator. **2016-04** is a Sherman Mk II, finished as then Captain Jimmy Sale's tank at the time of the Normandy landings, also built by the Curator. **2016-25** represents an A34 Comet Mk I as used by 3/4 CLY from 1945 through to 1961 - a gift from modelmaker Jaymes Crowther. In addition, a series of dioramas depicting the diverse activities of the regiment has begun to be installed. David Whitehouse, our Curator at Bexleyheath, has created a superb 1/150 representation of a temporary signal antenna deployment, typical of the work of 265 Squadron in the 1980s (**Item 2016-14**). Another diorama is a 1/72 scale layout showing Bill Cotton's troop (4 CLY) in their ambush position on the high street of Villers-Bocage (**Item 2016-22**) built by the Curator.

One of the areas we are looking to develop the museum is the research facility. We are very fortunate that so many of our former soldiers disregarded the prohibition on using photographic equipment whilst in the theatre of operations and continue to gratefully receive the spoils of this illicit activity. Additionally, we have a growing library of books and personal accounts with some link to the Regiment and would like to make them available to anyone interested in our history. These are the items added to the collection this year:

Photograph album and 4AB Desert Rat bumper badge

2016-07

Loan: Paul Coxon (son)

Maurice Coxon served with 3 CLY during WWII as a fitter. His collection of pictures illustrate his work in North Africa, Sicily & Italy, and in Northwest Europe. A nice touch was the inclusion of a non-official 4th Armoured Brigade bumper badge, clearly



2016-10



2016-09



2016-19

hand made in the field..

Photograph albums & diaries, John Cloudsley-Thompson

2016-15

Gift: Peter Cloudsley

A compelling set of pictures in three albums which demonstrate John's passion for photography. The albums start in the 1920s, showing a mixture of family 'snaps' and an early interest in nature. His wartime service with 4CLY is detailed - though he always claimed that the best shots were lost when his tank was knocked out in the 'Knightsbridge' battles in 1942. (see also the book report)

Villers-Bocage – Autopsie d'une Bataille

2016-11

By Yann Joualt & Frederic Deprun

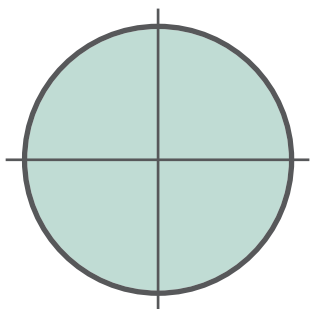
This forensic French language account of the battle portrays the action in intimate detail. The part played by the Sharpshooters is lavishly covered and much new information has been unearthed. Any language issues are more than made up for by the lavish use of photographs and insightful graphics.

The Royal Armoured Corps in the Cold War

2016-12

By MP Robinson & Rob Griffin

A really useful outline of the RAC in a period often ignored by historians. The book includes pictures from the Sharpshooters collection and gives an impression of the activities and changes over the second half of the 20th Century.



CURATORS REPORT KSY REGIMENTAL HISTORY

Over the course of the museum build I have had growing concerns that there has been a slight Sharpshooter bias in the collection – over that of our Kent Yeomanry heritage. The late, great Boris Mollo, though he came from a C Squadron background, did try to address this, and the 19th Century gallery of the museum is a rich reflection of both WKY and REKMR livery. Between the Edwardian and First World War galleries there is rough parity, but from there on the Sharpshooters really hold sway.

There is an undeniable glamour to the Sharpshooters in the 20th Century as they gad around in a myriad of exciting armoured vehicles whilst garnering a hatful of battle honours. Never mind that the artillery was always considered the most effective arm of the Army during World War II, it is tanks and armoured cars which our punters want to discuss.

My own appointment as curator might seem to continue this predilection since my background is so heavily embroiled with 4 CLY's action at Villers-Bocage. However, it is my intention to make sure that the stories and traditions of the KY continue to maintain a fair proportion of the Museum Trust's attention. There are plenty of good stories to be told. I am, though, essentially an outsider. My own service was with a now extinct TA unit and so I would like to think that I come to the role without baggage. It took a little time for me to recognise that C Squadron identifies with the Sharpshooters, whilst 265 Squadron more closely aligns with the Kent Yeomanry. It hasn't helped that KY's role has changed so many times: militia cavalry; mounted rifles; infantry; field artillery; anti-aircraft gunners; and now (in their 265 manifestation) signallers. It is difficult to keep up.

In an effort to educate myself in the background of the Kent Yeo, I've accepted a couple of invitations to give lectures about the Regiment which lean heavily on that side of our history. In September the Royal Engineers' history group requested a talk on the work of the museum but were particularly interested in the Kentish side of the story since they are based at the barracks in Chatham. With Boris' excellent manual as a starting point, any talk had a good foundation. It therefore became interesting to find what tangents could be taken to further the research in fresh directions. One aspect I delved into was the formation of a Kent Yeomanry militia at the time of the threat of a French invasion and it would seem that there was more to the initial group of commanders than I had anticipated. The Grand Meeting held in Maidstone in May 1794 resulted in a number of wealthy gentlemen offering to raise a Troop each as a



Left: Sir Edward Knatchbull; Right: Sir Henry Oxenden.

mounted militia. It was envisaged that they would give warning should the French attempt an invasion, and bring the standing army to counter the invading force whilst offering good local knowledge. These included Sir Edward Knatchbull; Sir John Honeywood; William Hammond; and Sir Henry Oxenden. They were not merely wealthy, but also held position in society. Knatchbull (8th Baronet of his line) was High Sheriff of Kent in 1785 and a Member of Parliament from 1790. Honeywood (also a baronet) and was also a Member of Parliament from 1784. Hammond came from a family noted in academia who resided in St Alban's Court Nonington and was a close friend of Oxenden, who held the 7th baronetcy of his line. They, and others of similar class, were commissioned as captains, able to appoint a lieutenant and cornet, and then each raised a troop of around fifty men. Each man was expected to provide his own horse (at least 14.3 hands in height) and uniform, the government provided arms and ammunition. Clearly, defending ones country at the time was an expensive undertaking and it was considered that only those who had a vested interest in maintaining their position in society could be considered for the task.

Another aspect that has struck me as an observer of the unit – and which I have dwelt on in the talks – is a certain sartorial inexactitude exhibited by the Regiment. The museum boasts a number of uniforms from the 19th Century and it is clear that they were keen followers of fashion. It would appear that uniform styles were adopted with the frequency that Premiership clubs change their strips. No sooner did Victoria marry a German prince than all manner of Germanic headgear were adopted. The King's Royal Rifle Corps popularised Brunswick Green and the East Kents promptly adopted it, with their own cavalry styling. In times of war, when regulations are apt to slacken, all manner of civilian items of apparel creep into the images of the museum's photographic collection from patterned scarves to trilby hats and from corduroy

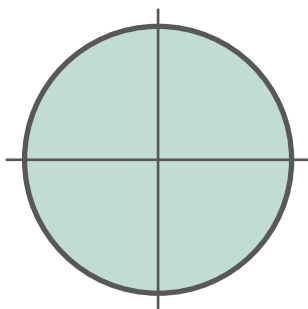
trousers to plundered Italian shirts. Our forebears were clearly intent on maintaining a difference between themselves and the regular army. It is in many ways heartening to see that this peacockery persist to this day – one recently retired officer commented that, when he asked what style of brown shoe was preferred, he was invited to look round those worn in the mess and then pick something different. This is quite at odds with the way in which most regiments conduct themselves but is crucially an identifier, and one of the many splendid details which make the Regiment special.

In October, my wife and I were invited to the Royal Signals Association dinner in the rather fine Art Deco surroundings of Shoreham Airport. After the meal I gave a short talk on KSY's links with the Royal Sigs via 265 Squadron, and highlighted some signalmen who have served alongside the Regiment at war. I had heard the term *scaley-backs* used of signalmen as a term of abuse and had understood that it referred to a skin condition caused by carrying around heavy, leaking batteries. Fortunately, I took the trouble to look up the etymology of the phrase and so was able to report that the actual derivation was from the fact that signalmen were paid on Scale E, which is to say, more than the rest of us. My recognition of the true source of the nickname went down well. To the ordinary soldiery, the signallers can be a little intimidating. They deal with complex pieces of equipment which seem to change every time the rest of us reach a point where we can make it work. On occasion, when trying to coax life out of a recalcitrant Clansman radio, I too had yearned for the good old simplicity of the Heliograph with which the first signallers had beamed their messages in the 1870s. Failing that, a nice, simple flag will do.

In conclusion, I observed that one of the worst aspects of modern soldiery is the near constant reduction and amalgamation inflicted on the regimental structure. The one redeeming feature of this trend is that we sometimes find that we are related to different corps from our own and so are able to take a modicum of credit from that association. I would liken it to my experience of cricket – being an exceptionally bad player, I am occasionally called on to bowl a couple of overs, and where I score over accurate or clever bowlers is that I free the batsman to make stupid shots. Fortunately the scoring system credits the bowler with the wicket when other, more agile players take catches from my bowling. In the same way, as Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry, we are able to bathe in the reflected glory of being part of the same family as cavalry, gunners, signallers et al. A rich and varied history indeed.

Dan Taylor





265 (KENT AND COUNTY OF LONDON YEOMANRY) (SHARPSHOOTERS) SUPPORT SQUADRON

OFFICER COMMANDING – MAJOR J P BAKER TD

SQUADRON 2 IC – CAPTAIN I MACKAY

SQUADRON PSAO – CAPTAIN S D SLANEY

LOG SP TP COMMANDER – 2ND LIEUTENANT R WEI

SQUADRON SERGEANT MAJOR – WO2 C SPRINGER

SQUADRON SPSI – SSgt G WARD

SQUADRON PSI (T) – Gapped

SQUADRON SQMS – SSgt R NORTON

SQUADRON AO – MISS B SIMMONS

A busy start to the year was inevitable, starting firstly with an OC's command group on the first Tuesday back from leave to discuss the way forward over the next three months, Grade our Corporal's and Lance Corporal's ready for their SJAR's and plan the next three Regimental and Squadron exercises, **EX SHARP TROT**, in January at the ARC Bexleyheath, **EX PHOENIX CANTER** in Blandford, in February and **SHARP FROLIC** in March in the local area. The Reserve Ops team and regulars were keen to get their teeth into the 2nd quarter of the assured training year by ensuring the OSW and planning was completed prior to these exercises. Our first key Tuesday was planned to meet and greet the Corps Colonel and his team from Blandford to the Bexleyheath ARC and present the Squadron's **CST** and **REEBOK** assets for their perusal. A medal presentation was planned for the whole regiment where a considerable amount of reservists received an array of medals, clasps and certification. Members of the Squadron have been invited to be entertained at the Regiment's residential Livery Company, The Worshipful Company of Drapers in February for a supper and take in the beautiful surrounds of their building and vast silver collection. As the last final months creep up for the reservist's annual bounty, a final bounty exercise has been planned in Blandford to finalise the final MATTs. Shooting, AFT, CBRN RTS, V & S and UK Ops are all planned along with communication training for the operators and assured training for the medics, clerks and chefs.

265 SUPPORT SQUADRON – END OF YEAR ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2015

During Ex Sharp MATTs members of the Squadron were invited to attend the annual awards presentation by the Officer Commanding and SSM of 265 Support Squadron in the pleasant surrounds of the Squadron bar in Bexleyheath. It was a chance for the top corridor to get their heads together and agree who should get these prestigious awards. After hours of deliberation and serious arguments it was finally decided: who should get what:

Best Soldier – Sig “Alex” Lovett

Best Tradesperson – LCpl “Chrissy” Markham

Best Recruit – Sig “Andy” Carrigan

Squadron Sergeant Major Award – Sig “Alex” Lovett

For many, it was a bitter disappointment; however this was short lived when the award winners decided to buy all the drinks all night.

Feb 16 – Mar 16

CORPS COLONEL PRESENTATION OF 2 VRSM’S, 2nd CLASP AND CERTIFICATE TO MEMBERS OF 265 SUPPORT SQUADRON AT BEXLEYHEATH

To mark the visit of the Corps Colonel, Corps Adjutant, Royal Signals Command Sergeant Major and Corps Foreman to the Regiment and Bexleyheath ARC, the Squadron was delighted that members of the Squadron would be presented with long service and efficiency awards by the Corps Colonel. The Regimental Warrant Officers’ and Sergeants’ mess was the setting for the awards and special invites to wives, partners and families of the medal recipients

SSgt “Tony” Eastley was the first to be presented with his 2nd Clasp to his VRSM and his partner **Lyndsey** who was in attendance to witness this. **Sgt “Jim” Sutton** and **Cpl “Carl” Crane** were the next recipients, both being awarded their VRSM. Both Sgt Sutton and Cpl Crane had their partners and wife with them, **Carie** and **Nichola**, in addition **Cpl Crane** had his mother and father with him too. Last to receive her award was **Sgt “Venessa” Way**, her Director Personnel Administrative Certificate of Commendation. The Warrant Officers’ and Sergeants’ of the Regiment were perfect hosts and provided a thoroughly sophisticated venue and buffet. A very good evening was had by all, topped with a first rate curry from **SSgt “Nigel” Taylor**, our resident master chef. Congratulations to our Squadron personnel on receiving these deserved awards.

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF DRAPERS – VISIT & AWARDS CEREMONY – 16TH FEB 16

The Regiment is affiliated the Worshipful Company of Drapers, and has been for a considerable time now. The Drapers’ supports the Regiment financially, and provides funds for Regimental adventure training and events.

Members of the Regiment were invited to the Drapers’ Hall on Tuesday 16th February, and were hosted by the Master Draper and his team for a complete guided

tour of the Hall and stunning staircase, Court Dining Room, the Livery Hall & Main Drawing room. The Master Presented various awards to members of the Regiment including LS & GC medals to regular staff of 265 Support Squadron, **SSgt “Hugh” McCaig** and **Sgt “Guy” Fraser**, additionally **Cpl “Paul” Broadbent** received his second bar to his VRSM. A fine buffet followed which was greatly received by over 90 members of the Regiment. The Hall was a perfect location for members of the Squadron to mark their special awards and will be remembered for years to come.



Members of the Squadron “pose” in the Court Room.

EX PHOENIX CANTER - BLANDFORD

The Christmas break was a dim and distant memory, February was doing its best to remind us it was still winter, although thankfully the weather was dry, if a bit on the chilly and windy side. **265 Support Sqn** deployed, with the rest of the Regiment to the home of The Royal Signals, Blandford Camp for its annual visit as part of **EX PHOENIX CANTER**. Where aside from mopping up the last of the MATT’s Training all troops would be subjected to some interesting lectures on Saturday morning and a round robin of events and tasks designed to test and stretch the imagination as well as confirming some rusty skills.

265 Support Sqn had been detailed to run the Command Task stands where mixed teams of the Regiment would cascade through to complete three of the five stands available. Thanks to our SPSI **SSgt “Don” Donaldson** who had conducted a recce a few weeks ago, all should have been easy. 4 Mil Trg wing had all the equipment required, the areas where all laid out, what could possibly go wrong?

SSgt “Don” Donaldson hurt himself snowboarding and was bedridden (something

about a minor shoulder injury) so early Saturday morning, under the watchful eye of **SSM SSgt “Dave” Haskell** who was doing his best herding the cats of **OC Sqn, Maj “Paul” Baker, Ops Officer, Capt “Khush” Cooper and 2I/C, Capt “Ian” Mackay** ably assisted by **Sgt “Jim” Sutton and Sgt “Guy” Fraser**, the latter finding quite possibly the largest tyre in the Army for the Pyramid task. It wasn’t long before a collection of ropes, poles, half full jerry cans, some bits of string and a few old tyres had been transformed into physical and mental problems requiring teamwork, leadership and competitiveness to complete.

In true military fashion the troops arrived right on time, **Capt “Steve” Slaney** promptly announced he was in charge (of photos and timekeeping) the teams already in groups, split off to complete their 30 minute task, some required more time than others, quite clearly the five tyres and three posts should have been six tyres and four posts for the Pyramid with **Cpl “Roz” Wiffen of 68 Sig Sqn** clearly demonstrating previous knowledge. Military life is sometimes unfair, **Capt “Ian” Mackay**, the stand IC, awarded a ten minute penalty for not disclosing prior knowledge.

Additionally the Operators of the Regiment undertook a comprehensive round robin on various trade skills, including, Antennas and Propagation with **Sgt “Mo” Morris & Cpl “Carl” Crane** leading, VP and LBTA. In a fun pact weekend various MATTs were “ticked off” including Shooting, AFT, CBRN (RTS), V&S and UK Ops towards the reservists Annual Bounty. A Sports competition was organised by the PTI’s of the Regiment in the gymnasium. Officers, Warrant Officers and Key SNCO’s undertook intense MS trg, delivered by **Maj “Colin” England**.

The long journey on Sunday back to the ARC’s was well anticipated after the Commanding Officer’s final briefing, On arrival back at the ARC’s, Sqn’s undertook their turnaround procedures, and after final inspections by Sqn OC’s & Tp Commanders, troops were released home for a well-earned rest and a late Sunday lunch.

Apr 16 – May 16

UPDATE

The Squadron has been busy transitioning to the new assured training events, attendance at which is now a requirement to be certified efficient and so earn the annual bounty. In March we deployed to Pippinford Park on exercise Phoenix Frolic where the JNCOs were tested to the full in the absence of the head shed, who were enjoying a simulated fireside chat in the lecture theatre at Donnington (due to an absence of a large enough fireside in the mess) with Major General “John” Crackett, as part of exercise Horseshow Knowledge. In April the Regiment deployed to Salisbury Plain where the Squadron provided echelon, with the SSM SSgt “Dave” Haskell ably marshalling the convoys off at the proscribed time, holding the line and the enthusiasm of the squadrons to depart earlier. Exercise Phoenix Warrior in May, the RSMs annual military training event was as demanding as ever, during which this year the troops cut about looking the part, as well as putting in maximum effort so as to benefit fully from the excellent training package on offer. Our congratulations go to SSgt (SQMS) “Paul” Thwaite on winning the Draper’s Company Medal for excellent endeavour to the Squadron and to the Reserves.

Our congratulations go out to Cpl “Carl” Crane and his wife, Nichola, on the birth of their daughter Emma Holly Crane. We wish you all the very best of health and luck

in the future.

The Squadron has been subjected to an intense EC update and preparation programme which paid off with the Squadron doing very well on the recent EC inspection. Special thanks go to Sgt “Guy” Fraser, SSgt “Paul” Thwaite and SSgt “Daz” Lane on their tireless work and attention to detail on getting us through, well done.

We are looking forward to our veterans day which is being held in the Army Reserve Centre, Bexleyheath on Saturday 23rd July 2016. All of our regimental and local service associations are warmly invited for what we hope will be an informative and enjoyable event.

EXERCISE PHOENIX WARRIOR – THETFORD 13-15 MAY 2016

Exercise Phoenix Warrior is the RSMs’, WO1 “Paul” Robertson brain child. Detailed recce’s, planning and briefings laid the foundation for what was to be a fantastic exercise for the junior members of the Regiment, preparing the troops for their PNCO CLM, JCLM and SCLM courses. Exercising troops from the Squadron consisted of section Commander Cpl “Jeff” Porter and Signallers “Adam” Jones, “Emma” Steward, “Deano” Caiels, “Alex” Lovett and Private “Mac” McNally. The DS staff consisted of Sgt “Jim” Sutton, SSgt “Tony” Eastley (Chief Medic) LCpl “Chrissy” Markham (Medic) providing welcomed medical assistance throughout the exercise and essential EXCON CP communications throughout. No exercise would be complete without the G4 support from the Squadron consisting of SSgt “Paul” Thwaite and Chefs, LCpl “Sylvia” Akarbil and Pte “Mac” McNally.

The scene set, rations and body armour issued it was time for the advance party to leave early on the Friday to take out the FOB and areas. The Exercising troops left their respective ARC’s after final checks and weapon issue and made the long journey to Thetford by “Heli-van” to the DOP. Troops were met by the RSM and Squadron SPSP’s and giving QBO’s, ammo & night sights, and deployed to the FOB. On arrival at the FOB the troops made full advantage of the 5-star service & features, and settled down for the night. Various activities took place throughout the night including the odd contact, orders and routine. The morning brought a little rain with sporadic sunshine which set the scene for the teaching / refresher stands held around the FOB area, consisting on contract drills, casualty evacuation, sentry duties, section attack and BOWMAN man pack training, all were very key and were thoroughly tested over the next 24 hours. Capt “Roy” Cooper from 31 Signal Squadron was acting Platoon Commander and delivered a complex set of Fighting / Standing patrol set of orders for the evening activities, and a set of Recce orders to gauge the size and disposition of the enemy forces for the attack early Sunday morning. The morning of the next day was eagerly awaited by the troops in preparation for the final “tab” to the FUP ready for the advance to contact. The DS playing enemy lay in wait for the advancing troops and “let them have it” when they broke the wood line. Automatic slick drills kicked in and the troops deployed and dispersed to give effective and accurate fire. A hurried QBO was made and the first assaulting troops followed the tree line and gully to yards away from the enemy and professionally dealt with them with grenades and automatic fire. The platoon were engaged a further two times and the similar outcome was made. After the battle was over and the area secured, the platoon were deployed back to the FOB to await orders. As soon as they had set foot in the FOB they came under 360 degree

fire from the enemy. The troops fought them back bravely and won the day. A final presentation was made the best soldier at the end, congratulations to Signaller “Nick” Asamoah from 68 Signal Squadron on a well-deserved award. With the mandatory collective photo in the FOB completed, it was back to the ARC’s for a turn around. A fantastic exercise for the troops, and excellent tuition from the SPST’s gave the reservists



Cpl Porter and the 265 Sp Sqn fighting section.



Cpl Porter and the 265 Sp Sqn fighting section.

DRAPER’S COMPANY MEDAL – SSGT (SQMS) PAUL THWAITE

In the unique and astonishing Buildings of the Worshipful Company of Drapers, SSgt “Paul” Thwaite was presented the Draper’s Company Medal by the Master Draper, Mr John William Giffard, CBE, QPM, DL in June, for continued dedicated service to the Army Reserves. The Commanding Officer, Lt Col HJ Scott MBE was present and asked to read out his citation to the Master and a panel of wardens who unanimously agreed that he was worthy of this distinguished recognition. SSgt “Paul” Thwaite was

one of four medal recipients from units that are affiliated to the Worshipful Company of Drapers, the other three being regular units, Navy, Army and RAF. The Drapers laid on an excellent buffet and tour for all medal recipients and their guests.

Sincere congratulation goes out to SSgt “Paul” Thwaite on his award, thoroughly deserved.

Jun 16 – Jul 16

UPDATE

The highlight for the Squadron was undoubtedly hosting the Veterans Day here at the ARC Bexleyheath. I found it humbling to meet so many veterans with service going back as far as the Malayan Emergency. The National Servicemen in attendance were particularly interesting to talk to given that the last of them were discharged some 53 years ago in May 1963; all of our citizen soldiers since then have been volunteers. The significance of this for today’s Army Reservist is you have to be my age to have a parent who served at a time when military service was expected or compulsory, such as my father who served in the Scots Greys in the early 1950s. This is why it is so important to maintain our links with the veterans and through them and our families’ society in general.

EX PHOENIX VETERAN – 23rd JULY 2016 – ARC BEXLEYHEATH

A plethora of VIP visitors had been planned for the day which included the Rt Hon **James Brokenshire** MP (Secretary of State for Northern Ireland) hosted by the RSM, the Rt Hon **David Evennett** MP (MP for Crayford), hosted by the Adjutant and the new Mayor of the London Borough of Bexley, **Clr Eileen Pallen** and the Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Bexley, **Clr Val Clarke**. All four were met by the Commanding officer, Lt Col **HJ Scott MBE**, Regimental Sergeant Major, WO1 “**Paul**” Robertson and Adjutant, Captain “**Sue**” Morris and were briefed on the day’s activities, aims and objectives.

The day started with an informal gathering after a reception controlled by the Squadron Admin Officer, Miss “**Bev**” Simmons, who ensured each veteran was fully briefed and guided to the refreshment stand. The initial welcome presentation was given by OC 265 Sp Sqn, Major “**Paul**” Baker TD followed by the PSAO, Captain “**Steve**” Slaney’s mandatory H & S brief. The Commanding Officer was next on and delivered a presentation on the regiments operations, pairing, exercises, training and the way forward. The crowd now totally warmed up was treated to a series of three presentations from Cpl “**Brett**” Harries, 265 Sp Sqn, Sgt “**Maggie**” Kelly, 36 Sig Sqn and Sgt “**Stevie**” Warren, 68 Sig Sqn on their personal experiences of life in the reserves and their own operational tour experiences. These were well received by the veterans and appreciation was shown with rapturous applause.

A series of stands followed and were provided by members of 265 Sp Sqn supported by additional manpower from the three outer squadrons, including fully working REEBOK, CST, 2 x BOWMAN, VHF Man-pack stand A fully functional Field Kitchen, Medical stand (including a BFA), Clothing & Equipment stand, Weapons stand and finally an impressive patrolling and harbour base set up by members of the 107 Royal Signals Tp Army Cadet Force. The veterans had ample time to look at the

kit, reminisce and ask questions to the presenters and staff. Half way through the stands there was an interruption for an excellent curry buffet provided by LCpl “**Sylvia**” Akarbil, LCpl “**Glen**” Hagger & Pte “**Liam**” Burbridge, this was gladly received by the very hungry veterans. The VIP’s found time to go around and meet the veterans, reservists and regulars through the lunch and afternoon session and thoroughly made their day very good. At the end of the day the mandatory photograph was arranged and taken with over 80 veterans and guests in attendance. The Commanding Officer finished off with a last word, best wishes and safe journey, and the veterans were formally dismissed. A great day was had by all.



Above: Over 80 veterans and guests line up and below: members of the Regiment with the VIP’s.

Aug 16 – Sep 16

OC UPDATE

It has been an extremely busy period for the Squadron since hosting a successful Veterans Day here at the ARC Bexleyheath in July. Preparation for the Regimental Annual Deployment Exercise (ADE), (Annual Camp in old money) was top of the agenda, ensuring the BOWMAN, CST and the REEBOK platforms were in good order to deploy. Sterling work from the SPSI and PSI (T) **SSgt Donaldson** and **Sgt Fraser** on the Regimental “plug up” week ensured the communication detachments were fit for deployment. The Squadron has seen two new key arrivals, **2 Lt Ranny Wei** fresh from London UOTC, who takes on the role as Log Sp / comms Tp Tp Cmdr along with newly appointed **SSgt Lapidge** as the Tp SSgt and **Sgt Sutton** as the new Tp Sgt. A new SSM was also appointed, **WO2 Springer**, moving sideways from the recruiting Warrant Officer position to take on the appointment as the new SSM. Good luck for the future in your new appointments gentlemen. Congratulations on passing her driving test (at last) goes out to our chef **LCpl Akarbil** and also to **Sig Baker** on passing his Phase 1 a recruit course in Pirbright. Additional congratulations go to the OC, **Maj Baker** on receiving his Lord Lieutenant’s certificate for service in his previous unit, well done....

ANNUAL DEPLOYMENT EXERCISE 2016

The Squadron’s main effort for this reporting period was the deployment of all Squadron assets onto the Annual Deployment Exercise (ADE), which was held at St Martin’s Training area near Folkestone, Kent. The Quartermaster ensured that SMP was taken over with a small team from the collective G4 team consisting of the four main Sqn



Regimental Officers ADE photo.

SQMS's, MT reps and the RQMS. A small G4 cell and Regimental Ops were set up to receive the four main Squadrons from Uxbridge, Bexleyheath, Colchester and Whipps Cross totalling over 100 participants. An exciting ADE lay ahead consisting of an intensive range package run by the RSM, **WO1 Robertson**, a pre deployment check package run by **WO2 (YofS) Simpson**, a tactical green site communications exercise run by Regimental Ops, an Equipment Care / turn around run by **WO2 (FofS) Gurung**, a comprehensive Adventure Training package and finishing off with a sports competition where 265 Sp Sqn blew away the rest of the Squadron's and won everything. Another main point for the Regiment was the visitor's day where the Sqn associations and livery companies were invited to see and meet members of the Regiment in the field and on the ranges. During the visitors day a silver service Regimental lunch was organised in the field by the Quartermaster **Capt Greenwood** and **RAO Maj Robinson** where the 4 main Regimental chefs, under the watchful eye of **Sgt Mann** produced a superb "**Master Chef Competition style lunch**". The hardnosed judging panel consisted of the Commanding Officer, Master Draper and the Regimental Honorary Colonel, selected for their culinary expertise and experience. The winning pair was **Cpl Michaels** from 68 Sig Sqn and **Pte Burbridge** from 31 Sig Sqn, Well done lads.

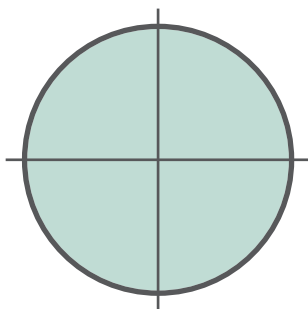
Each mess held successful functions, the Warrant Officers' & Sgts' mess were looked after in the Garrison Mess and the Officers' mess entertained the Gp Cmdr at a local Gurka restaurant.



265 ORBAT



OG	MAJ	BAKER	IC REEBOK	CPL	BROADBENT
2 IC	CAPT	MACKAY	IC BOWMAN	CPL	CRANE
TP CMDR	2 LT	WEI	IC CST	CPL	HARRIES
PADRE	CAPT (REV)	TRUNDLE	MED 2 IC	CPL	MYERS
PSAO	CAPT	SLANEY	IC BOWMAN	CPL	PORTER
SPSI	SSGT	WARD			
SQMS	SSGT	NORTON	SQN CHEF	LCPL	AKARBIL
SQN AO	MISS	SIMMONS		LCPL	BRASIER
				LCPL	DURO
YofS	WO1	CLARKE		LCPL	LISCOE
YofS	WO1	GITTINS		LCPL	MARKHAM
SVWO	WO1	KEEBLE		LCPL	MCVEIGH
RECRUITING WO	WO1	LEWIS			
				SIG	BAKER
MTWO	WO2	ELLIOTT		SIG	CAIELS
RAOWO	WO2	SAVERESE		SIG	CARRIGAN M
SSM	WO2	SPRINGER		SIG	CARRIGAN A
SUPVR	WO2	VINCENT		SIG	CASELL S
				SIG	JONES
IC MED	SSGT	EASTLEY		SIG	LOVETT
LOG SP SSGT	SSGT	LAPIDGE		PTE	MCNALLY
MT SNCO	SSGT	LANE		SIG	NEEDHAM-BECK
				SIG	OPOKU-BOATENG
AGC CLERK	SGT	GREALEY		SIG	PRIOR
	SGT	JAY		SIG	SIMPSON
LOG SP SGT	SGT	SUTTON		SIG	STEWART
	SGT	WAY		SIG	SUTTON
SQMS V	SGT	WOO		SIG	TEWOGBADE
				SIG	WILSHER



C (KSY) SQUADRON RY

Major Dominic Ruck-Keene

2016 for the Sharpshooters started in true Yeomanry style with Capt Vakil as Regimental Ski Team captain leading a contingent from C Squadron (and some hangers on from other Squadrons) to Ex SNOW FOX in Verbier. Alex was delighted, even if his bank manager was not, to be included *ex officio* in the field officers long lunching club. Concurrently, 2Lt Shaw headed off to St Moritz for the Cresta having been equally led astray into expensive winter pursuits by former Sharpshooter Paul Chishick. He made it from Top intact and should be in the Army team next year.

Once the Squadron had returned properly from Christmas Leave, the year's field training started back on Aldershot training area with a mixed mounted/dismounted exercise against the C&S Sqn En. The weekend began with an interesting start – some classic troop leader navigation led the Squadron into a quagmire causing multiple vehicles getting bogged in, including the TCV, which led to some extra tabbing and ice skating for some... The TCV was eventually recovered half way through the Saturday, but only after the driver had been sent on a run to lose some weight. The Squadron practiced all the usual low level recce skills including OPs, patrolling, and dead letter drops, as well as engaging with improbably named 'local nationals', curiously sporting Australian accents. The weekend culminated in time honoured fashion with an atmospheric snowy Sunday dawn attack onto Caesar's Camp (aka the Ardennes).

The Squadron next deployed down to Rype village in Kent – the old Northern Ireland training village now partly Afghanised – cue 'Mosque' next to Belfast corner shop and pub. Slightly surreal. After an introductory brief on Urban OPs from one of the permanent instructors at Rype (whose exhaustive and frequent mentions of the lavatorial arrangements involved in urban OPs suggested a possible lasting trauma and allergic reaction to cling film), the Squadron then deployed into Troop Level Urban OPs. They quickly got into routine, and built up a good picture of the pattern of life supplied by the PSIs and Captains Moore and Vakil doing their best to set fire to as many cars as possible and break as many as possible of the range standing orders regarding the use of pyro at night. The weekend finished with a dismounted Sqn assault moving through the village trying to find and seize an insurgent arms cache. Heavy resistance by the insurgents produced four casualties that were evacuated, with a heroic fireman's lift by LCpl Brewer winning the VC.

The next part of the year involved a fair amount of marching up and down the square – the RY Guidon Parade saw an excellent turn out from the Sharpshooters with over



40 on parade, including the Standard Bearer for the new RY Guidon (W02 Tomlin). While it was a sad day to see the Sharpshooters Guidon marched off parade for the final time, to do so in the setting of Buckingham Palace and with so many of the Sharpshooters family there made it a very special occasion.

The five officers on parade looked suitably shiny in their new and very expensive RY crossbelts (delivered and assembled at midnight the night before the Parade to the accompaniment of some angry words and tears before bedtime), and the other ranks looked equally smart in their new RY blues. The Squadron Leader had an interesting time buying Blues trousers on E-Bay – whoever knew so many Sharpshooters had 37 waist, 30 inside leg measurements. The drill was particularly impressive given that there had only been two rehearsal weekends. Overall, the Parade was a great success.

Among all the drill, 2Lt Shaw led a sailing jolly around the Solent – aka an arduous demanding AT expedition for eight member of C Squadron over a weekend. Unlike his later Cowes week experience, this weekend did not see the crew break their mast.

After the hectic couple of months leading up to the Parade, the remainder of the summer before Camp was relatively peaceful. SHQ deployed to Swanton Morley (home of the QDG) for the Regimental CPX. The Regimental Inter Troop competition (the Hunt Cup) saw two C Sqn teams do very well – in particular 2Lt Joles and Sgt O Hare whose team was beaten by a whisker by a team from B Sqn led by an ex RTR Recce Troop Leader and with another officer in the team. The weekend culminated in a Regimental dawn attack onto a village – the Sharpshooters was tasked with the break into the village,, and ended up taking on rather more compounds than had been originally planned, as well as covering the withdrawal out of the village. All the troops were worked hard and put under a great deal of pressure by challenge of fighting through compounds, complete with murder holes and escape tunnels. The OC even had to do rather more running and firing his rifle than he was quite accustomed to. The weekend culminated in a stretcher race that was enjoyed in retrospect more than at the time.

Camp saw a number from C Squadron deploy to Slovenia for a challenging dismounted exercise, coupled with Cambrian Patrol training with those in the Patrol team. In addition, a another contingent went up to Barry Burdon to the very well run pan Yeomanry courses camp led by the SNIY.

October saw the Squadron deploy on a back to basics training weekend in Pippingford Park – the healthy number of new recruits who have joined in the last year meant that for many it was their first introduction to the ability of a cam net to tangle itself in every possible way, and to catch every button possible. The Squadron also had the benefit of the expertise of the new D&M PSI CoH Bond, fresh from 16 Air Assault Sniper Platoon, whose enthusiasm for sending sections to attack up a hill will make a significant impact on the standard of the Squadron's dismounted skills.

November saw the Squadron provide the Regimental party for the Lord Mayor's Show, as well as an open day at the ARC, followed the next day by Remembrance Sunday. The month ended with first of the pre deployment weekends for Ex WESSEX STORM 2017. The RY as a whole is providing a composite RWMIK Squadron to the QDG Battle Group. The Sharpshooters will have a healthy presence on WESSEX

STORM – OC, SSM, Battle Captain, at least one of the Troop Leaders, as well as Capt Chadwick being 2ic. The aim is to have in addition the majority of a mounted troop, and of a dismounted troop coming from C Squadron.

The start of 2017 will see the Squadron in good heart, as the best manned Sabre Squadron in the RY, and looking forward to the six months building up to WESSEX STORM. Next year will also see the laying up of the Sharpshooters Guidon... more details to follow.



C (SHARPSHOOTERS) SQN, ROYAL YEOMANRY

Live Order of Battle as at: 26.10.16



1 TROOP			
C/S 10		CMD ZLT Joles	
		DVR TPR Gurning	
		GNR TPR Treacey	
C/S 11		CMD SGT O'Hare	
		DVR TPR Hall	
		GNR TPR Farrow	
C/S 12		CMD CPL Thomson	
		DVR TPR Cley	
		GNR TPR Lister	
C/S 13		CMD LCPL Wright	
		DVR TPR Greenwood	
		GNR TPR Trustone	
C/S 14		CMD LCpl Selamut	
		DVR TPR Rajakanyar	
		GNR TPR Sharp	

2 TROOP			
C/S 20		CMD ZLT Shaw	
		DVR LCPL Knight	
		GNR TPR Cooke	
C/S 21		CMD SGT Faytarm	
		DVR LCPL Brower	
		GNR TPR Norman	
C/S 22		CMD LCPL Dunning	
		DVR TPR Burton	
		GNR TPR Quirk	
C/S 23		CMD LCPL Ullan	
		DVR TPR Clark	
		GNR TPR Egerton	

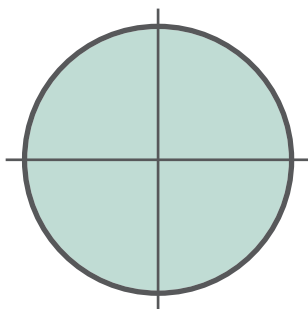
3 TROOP			
C/S 30		CMD ZLT Darlington	
		DVR LCPL Adcock	
		GNR TPR Caut	
C/S 31		CMD SGT Game	
		DVR TPR Holloway	
		GNR TPR Davies	
C/S 32		CMD CPL Tecaks	
		DVR TPR Clements	
		GNR	
C/S 33		CMD LCPL Green	
		DVR TPR Macdonnan	
		GNR	

SHQ		
MAJ	Ruck Keene	DC
CAPT	Moore	2IC
WO2	Fairley	SSM
SGT	Stallard	SHQ Sgt
CPL	Stacey	Medic
CPL	Smith	SHQ Cpl
LCPL	Searle	Senior Operator
TPR	Rawlinson	SHQ Operator
PVT	Watson	Medic

SQMS		
CPL	McNeil	SQMS
SGT	Lickfold	Admin 2IC
CPL	Paine 4250	Chief
LCPL	Higgs	GD
TPR	Brough	GD
TPR	Schuster	GD

Recruiting Training		
CAPT	Thompson	Training Officer
CAPT	Scott	OIC Recruiting
SSGT	Mason	Recruiting SNGO
CPL	Emms	Recruiting JNCO
CPL	Paine 9750	Training JNCO

Away		
LT	Sherburne	LOA
LT	Larcombe	LOA
ZLT	Jones	Posted
ZLT	Pollock	Posted
SGT	Evans	LOA
TPR	Findlay	LOA
TPR	Paine	LOA



EXPERIENCES OF A SQUADRON AS MANEUVER COMPANY IN KOSOVO

**by Captain Christian Lambert
4/203 Tk Bn**

In 2016 Tank Bn 203 had the task to deploy multiple units to 44th and 45th German Contingent deployed to Kosovo. The 4th squadron deployed from May 2016 until October 2016 as the German maneuver Company of the 44th KFOR Contingent.

It is a demanding task for an armoured squadron to establish a maneuver Company because there are both personnel and organizational issues. A tank squadron has about 70 soldiers whilst a maneuver Company requires about 120 soldiers so it's not possible for one squadron to establish a maneuver Company on its own. A tank squadron has three platoons each consisting of 16 soldiers whereas the maneuver Company has three platoons consisting 30 soldiers each. Thus one squadron is just able to provide one and a half platoons for a maneuver Company. To make up the difference we got one platoon from another Company of our Battalion and the balance of soldiers came from units based all over Germany. In addition specialist skills are required which do not exist in a squadron, such as a signal squad, a liaison officer or a military intelligence sergeant. These "specialists" mostly came from other units as well.

The required training for Kosovo is very different because usually a squadron is trained with their tanks and just a little basic infantry training. For Kosovo the Company had to modify their training methods and it was necessary to do a lot of infantry and Crowd and Riot Control (CRC) training. This training started in January 2016 with infantry training for the soldiers whilst all drivers had to complete driver training with the ATVs Dingo and Fuchs as well as with the tactical vehicle Widder so that they could conduct patrols in Kosovo. To support the CRC training which all three platoons completed in February soldiers from the military police came to Augustdorf. In addition the CRC support platoon got special CRC training in Hannover where it was trained for the use of non-lethal weapons like teargas and special fire extinguishing techniques: they also learned how to form a squad to retrieve fellow soldiers from a rioting crowd in case of emergency.

In March the Company went to Munster Training Area for a two week exercise the first week of which was company led for individual platoons and included patrolling with vehicles, patrolling on foot and a CRC scenario. During this phase the platoons were umpired from the training Centre in Munster with comprehensive and useful after action reviews. The second week was company level training and it was the first chance for the Company Commander to lead his Company in a CRC scenario. The third and last part of training was the Certification that took place during two weeks in April in the Battle Training Area in Letzlingen. This was similar to the training in Munster and



progressively worked through to company level training with the Certification exercise which we passed.

During the deployment in Kosovo the Company was subordinated to an American Battalion known as the Forward Command Post (FCP). The FCP is a multinational Battalion with four Companies consisting of an American Company, a German Company, a Hungarian Company, a Polish Company and is commanded by an American staff. The FCP is based in the KFOR Base Camp Novo Selo which is in the north of Kosovo.

The task for the maneuver Companies is to conduct reconnaissance and patrols to ensure a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement for KFOR, EULEX and Kosovo Police in Kosovo. The German Maneuver Company conducted patrols in different areas in the north of Kosovo to show force and in addition to this we had to conduct mixed patrols with the Kosovo Border Police (KBP) and the Serbian Armed Forces (SAF) along the Administrative Boundary Line (ABL). Purpose of these ABL-Patrols was to recon and prevent illegal woodcutting as well as smuggling.

Another kind of Patrol was the Mitrovica Man Box. Mitrovica is a city in the northern part of Kosovo which is seen as a symbol for the ethnic separation between the Serbs and Albanians. The city is separated by the Ibar River into North Mitrovica and South Mitrovica with the north mostly inhabited by Serbs and the south mostly by Albanians. The most famous symbol for the separation in Mitrovica is the Austerlitz-Bridge where there is a big roadblock on the bridge, separating north from and south. During our deployment this roadblock should have been removed and the bridge opened for traffic but the opening was postponed. KFOR conducts patrols 24/7 to show force in this city and we had to provide the Quick Reaction Force (QRF) for a possible CRC operation. The FCP also operated from Camp Nothing Hill (CNH) which is north of Camp Novo Selo and next to the ABL. We were deployed there for one month during our deployment and during that time we had to conduct Base defense in this camp as well as patrols.

We participated in different multinational training and this included certification training that validated our military training. For the certification the Company had to conduct air MEDEVAC training, freedom of movement detachment training and the so called fire phobia training. At the air MEDEVAC training the helicopter crew showed the soldiers of every platoon all procedures for an air MEDEVAC operation – every soldier had to know how to cooperate with the helicopter crew. The freedom of movement detachment training was conducted in cooperation with Ukrainian engineers. They demonstrated how to clear a road block in a CRC scenario. The Company had to push away the rioters from the roadblock and the Ukrainians showed the procedures how they clear the roadblock with their armored recovery vehicle. To finish the Certification the Company had to participate in fire phobia training where they were trained by Portuguese and Hungarians. The purpose of the fire phobia training was to show the soldiers how to react to a fire caused by a Molotov cocktail.

The Company conducted an air MEDEVAC exercise during a patrol where a platoon conducted a training patrol with an exercise injured person. The platoon had to recce and then secure a helicopter landing zone and then request an air MEDEVAC by sending a nine line request to the tactical operations center (TOC). This was the chance to use the learned procedures of the first air MEDEVAC training. One great

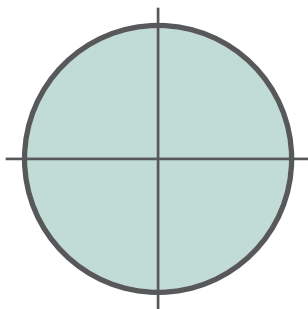


multinational Exercise with all nations from the FCP was “Stalwart Strike” where all companies and the staff had the chance to exercise all procedures for a real CRC scenario. For this exercise a civilian demonstration took place in another camp which required the Companies and the tactical command post (TAC) to move to Camp Vrelo to clear it. Two Companies (the Hungarian and the Polish), moved with their vehicles to Camp Vrelo and on arrival moved into the Assembly area and started the CRC operation. We were moved by air from CNH to Camp Vrelo and secured the Assembly area. The American Company acted as role players and we also supported the other nations during the exercise as role players.

Towards the end of our deployment we were informed that Maneuver Company of the 44th German KFOR Contingent was the last German Maneuver Company in Kosovo. The reduction of German forces in Kosovo being justified by a more

peaceful situation in Kosovo. It was a big and demanding task to be the last Maneuver Company and therefore responsible for counting, checking and cleaning all the equipment and vehicles before they were shipped back to the German camp at Prizren where it was checked by some logistics specialists who shipped everything back to Germany.





WENT THE DAY WELL THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW 2016

Well it was like a Well as it was wet with the rain only clearing up at the half way point, giving us a dry run back. On arrival at London wall there was our

Transport awaiting us, the Low-loader with the M10 Achilles Tank Destroyer on the back, all buffed up and steam cleaned a good job done by Rex Cadman and his team. A small damp group was sheltering under the entrance to an office block. We took on board this year a few members of the Federation of London Old Comrades Associations led by Richard Burford (HAC) three members and two Standards. He was expecting up to 17 of his members but old and cold probably kept them away, apart from three (one with a Standard) looking very miffed as we swung round on to the Embankment after lunch, “ should have read their instructions as they were the First to get them” said Richard Burford. The usual waving to the crowd's and dipping of the Standards at the Mansion House to the New Lord Mayor and again at the Royal Courts of Justice.

After stopping for lunch and watering the horses collecting our lunch packs of which we had plentiful supply, we remounted for the last leg back past Mansion House to London Wall, where we dismounted took group photos said our thanks and goodbyes and headed for home. Those aboard were our President Guy Farage, Kevin Wright (our Standard Bearer), Mike Swan, Mick Hall, Alan Davey, Mick Abbott and myself, Richard Burford for the Federation of London OCA with Eddie Duck'los SB for RAF London Branch, Raj Rajmanoop SB RAF Harrow & District, Alexander McBride of the London Scottish.

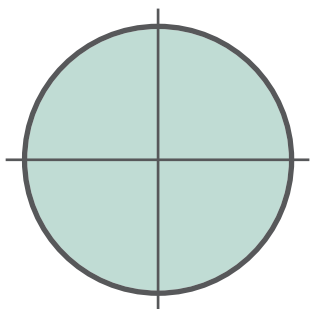


Our thanks to our low-loader Crew, our Driver Royce Cadman (Son of Rex) for an excellent Drive round and his Co-driver Rory, along with Bradley Cooper (Re-enactor/ Tank monitor?) and of course The Royal Yeomanry Contingent who allowed us to join with them on the Day and the

help they gave us. Finally to Helen from the Pageantmasters Office bobbing and weaving and sorting out our problems and giving us all the help and assistance prior to the actual Show, From all of the Association onboard. Helen we thank you very much.

Endx.
Terry Bodman





FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE: 10 NOVEMBER 2016

by Marian Hannam

Every November The British Royal Legion Poppy Factory organises the annual Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey as part of the annual poppy appeal commemorations. The Poppy Factory has 30 workers making a range of products for Remembrance and also supports disabled veterans into employment within other organisations throughout the UK.



The first Field of Remembrance was held in the Abbey grounds in November 1928 when Major George Howson, MC, the founder of the Poppy Factory, took a group of disabled veterans, a tray of poppies and a collecting tin to the grounds of St. Margaret's Church. A small number of poppies were planted around a single cross but it began a tradition that has grown over the years.

This year 380 plots in the names of military organisations and associations were laid out in the area between Westminster Abbey and St. Margaret's Church so that ex-service men and women, as well as members of the public, might plant a remembrance cross in memory of their fallen comrades and loved ones.

The *Association* plot contained three large crosses representing the *KSY*, the *Kent Yeomanry* and the *CLY (Sharpshooters)*, together with individual crosses and the photograph of the War Memorial at the Croydon ARC, which commemorates the 381 Sharpshooters who fell during the Second World War. For 2016 additional remembrance crosses were placed in memory of Boris Mollo, John Evans, Robin Ludlow, Harold Currie, Walter Worthington, Ken Reeve and Clive Aston.

The service commenced at 1050hrs with the arrival at the Field of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh and HRH Prince Henry of Wales. Prayers were conducted by The Very Reverend John Hall and The Reverend Jane Sinclair. Their Royal Highness laid personal Crosses of Remembrance in front of two wooden crosses from the graves of unknown British soldiers from the First and Second World Wars. A trumpeter from the Band of the Coldstream Guards then sounded 'The Last Post' from the tower of St Margaret's Church.

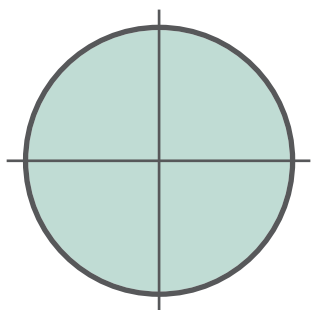
Mrs. Sara Jones, President of the Royal British Legion Poppy Factory, delivered the Exhortation to Remembrance, which was followed by the two-minute silence and then 'Reveille'. After the service Their Royal Highnesses began a review of the plots and took the opportunity to speak with our plot representative, Tim Rayson, Honorary Secretary of the *Association*.

The following members of the *Association* and families also attended: Sheila Bennett, Terry and Pam Bodman, Brian Clark, Barrie and Carol Corfield, Andrew Currie, Paul Currie, Chris Eley, Nikki Fairman-Smith, Guy Farage, Marian Hannam, Tony Jewell, Craig McColville, Alison Reeve, John Reeve, Liz Reeve, Stephen Shelley, Malcolm Tanner, David Whitehouse, Keith Wrate and Kevin Wright.

"WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"







THE GUIDON PARADE THE VIEW FROM THE FRONT

When I took command of the Regiment at the end of Camp in October 2014 I told those on parade that it was a real privilege for all of us to be Royal Yeomen. This was no truer than the moment we stepped through the gates of Wellington Barracks behind our Band to march across to Buckingham Palace to receive the Royal Yeomanry's first guidon.

I had thought through this moment many times, the moment of truth one could say. Would we actually manage to get 250 or so Yeoman into properly fitting blues, with the correct buttons, badges and buckles? Would it be pouring with rain? Would we be in step? Would I remember my words of command? But when the moment came all the concerns, worries and fears simply disappeared. This was a Regiment, well drilled, well-rehearsed and oozing with pride. Some soldiers have told me that it was the greatest moment in their military careers; many have quietly admitted to feeling quite emotional. With the noise of the Band wafting across the Royal Parks as we mustered in Wellington Barracks the crowds were drawn. So as we entered through the gates of Buckingham



Palace there must have been several thousand spectators watching the rare sight of a whole Regiment (and a reserve one at that), not in the usual scarlet, but in blue, and led by what must have appeared to them be the royal bodyguard of some central European principality heralding its progress with their trumpets.

Then all becomes a little blurred in my memory, the familiar sound of marching feet deadened by grass – will we fit between the markers? – there was no dress rehearsal here in the Palace Gardens but just one, our last, on the football pitch at Chilwell. But that had no tea tents on it! How would I remember the sequence of commands? Looking at whether weapons were in the shoulder or at the slope was not going to help when I had my back to them. In the end there was no substitute to marching around the garden at weekends with a broom handle for a sword and repeating on the train and in the bath, at dawn and at dusk, those commands, over and over again.

Our fears of wilting troopers, on what was billed as the hottest day of the year so far, were quashed by a dark cloud which arrived just as we did, and disappeared as quickly as the strawberry meringues, just as tea was served. A strong cool breeze, while playing havoc with the Chaplain General's prayers, was nonetheless heaven-sent.

As I had the privilege of introducing the Royal Colonel to each Squadron, apart from the superb turnout and bearing of the soldiers that she remarked on, what struck me was the teamwork that had gone into making this all go so smoothly. In particular, the ranks were filled not just by troops of that Squadron but where there would have been gaps these were made up by troops from other Squadrons. Where one Squadron had found a supplier of ammunition boots and another had brought a tanker full of silver polish, on the day everything was shared and put to good use. This was a sign for me of how the Regiment had come on from a collection of unique but somewhat disparate Squadrons to one where history and collar dogs still matter, but where the realities of proving our worth as a united and effective Combat Unit in a world of austerity in defence, as in everything else, is the key, and where we are stronger together.

A particular honour for me was to be able to introduce Col Ben Tottenham to The Royal Colonel and explain that Col Ben had been there when she presented the Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry their last Guidon in the 1960's, an occasion which Her Royal Highness said she remembered well.

A number of Regular commanding officers and generals spoke to me or wrote to me afterwards to say that in their view no Regular regiment could have done better, and some even admitted they were not sure they would have been able to do as well. Certainly in these straightened times where the 'system' certainly could not fit out the entire Regiment in new blues, hats and cross-belts the shortfall was made good by one of the most powerful weapons in the Yeomanry arsenal – the cheque book!

The four newly constituted Yeomanry Regiments will all receive a new Guidon. We are proud to be the first to have had this honour. It will be thirty years before we receive another. I very much hope I will still be around then, albeit in my seventies to savour that moment as a member of the Regimental Association and still privileged to call myself a Royal Yeoman.

Simon McMenemy
Lt Col
Commanding Officer
The Royal Yeomanry



Dave Tomlin with the new Guidon.

“Carrying the new Regimental Guidon on such an important day for The Royal Yeomanry (especially as a Sharpshooter) was an honour and a day that I will never forget. Marching out and receiving the new Guidon from Princess Alexandra at Buckingham Palace was a very proud moment and one to tell future grandchildren about.”



HRH Princess Alexandra about to meet the Sharpshooters.

“I was massively impressed with discipline and professionalism of our modern Sharpshooter. I was equally impressed with the band and so pleased to hear the “Farmers boy”, still in my mind to this day! All in all, a day to be remembered. I am extremely proud of today’s Royal Yeomanry. Thank you for your service”



Sharpshooter Honorary Colonels.

“As a member of the Guidon Escort in 1963-1966 and trooping as SQMS/SSM, I was very interested in the operating of the Parade in 2016, which was excellent, the soldiers drill was very good. A very sad day in many ways, losing old Guidons and traditions, but good to put faces to names from other Squadrons sharing memories.”



The New Guidon marches past.





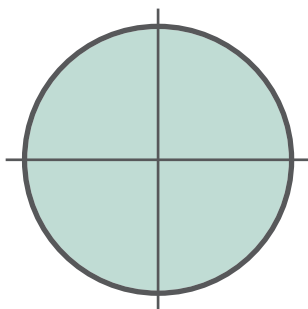
Lt Colonel and Mrs Mann with (then Major and now Lt Col) Dave Fisher.

“Thank you very much for the invitation to attend such a wonderful day. I was very proud to be there representing your friends in Tank Battalion 203 as well as being an Honorary Sharpshooter. It was a really good experience meeting lots of old friends and making some new ones as well.”

“The presentation of the new Guidon was an amazing way to start a holiday in the UK. Perfect weather made for an extra special reunion with so many of my former comrades from Croydon and Iraq. A huge thank you to Tim Rayson for his organisation and wonderful hospitality at St James Palace before and after the garden party”.



The Old Guidons march off.



265 (KCLY) SIG SQN, SECRET BUNKERS AND THE COLD WAR

In the 1980s and 1990s, the wartime role of 265 (KCLY) Signal Squadron (Sharpshooters), was to provide a communications hub as part of a national HF radio network that would be set up in the aftermath of a nuclear strike on the UK. This radio system was known as CONRAD and up until 1989 comprised of LARKSPUR radio (a 1950s era family of valve radio sets). Thereafter the squadron was equipped with a temporary and makeshift arrangement cobbled together from CLANSMAN radios until 1995 when a new computer-controlled radio system was introduced. This was initially known as CONRAD 2, then the Home Defence Radio System (HDRS) and finally the National Communications Radio System (NCRS). However, with the end of the Cold War, there was no real role for such a system and NCRS only effectively remained in service for a decade.

Up until recently, the details of CONRAD and Britain's Cold War communications set-up has largely remained secret, but with much of the hardware now in private hands, it is surprising what is now in the public domain.

Details of systems, which as a serving soldier in 265 in the '80's and '90's I was forbidden to talk about publicly, such as UKWMO, CONRAD, MOULD, etc. are now freely discussed on the internet, as MOD files are being released to the National Archives. In fact I can probably obtain more information now than I was told officially more than 30 years ago.

In a declassified Joint Services Instruction issued by the United Kingdom Commanders-in-Chief Committee (Home) or UKCICC(H), we are told that "*The military Home Defence radio communication system is referred to as the CONRAD (Control by Radio) communication system, and is essentially provided by the TAVR Signal Regiments of 2 Signal Group, with certain links / radio terminals provided by other units of all three services. CONRAD communications are established in the POST STRIKE phase, for the purpose of providing an early National Communication System to be used by both civil and military authorities in the task of the recovery of the Nation. Essentially, the system consists of a number of HF radio teleprinter links from three GATEWAY locations to surviving AFHQs and SRHQs/SRMHQs. Additionally, a further four radio stations are provided for each Sub Reg Mil Comd for the control of military units under his command.*"

What is not obvious from the above, is that these facilities were situated underground. Although I was aware of this at the time, our actual wartime locations were never disclosed. We never exercised in our proper wartime locations but usually in field locations.



However, if I had cared to read the October 1981 edition of the New Statesman which contained an article entitled 'War from the Warrens' I would have discovered that, apart from the locations of the government's so-called secret bunkers, the country would apparently be run by a military Junta in the event of war!

The locations in the newspaper article are largely confirmed by material now in the National Archives and made available on the Internet. Thus we learn that the locations of all the main Regional Government Headquarters (RGHQ) around the country (for whom 2 Sig Gp would have provided communications) such as Dover Castle, Crowborough and Basingstoke.

Since the end of the Cold War, most of the bunkers have been sold off by the government and some are in private hands and even open to the public.

There are a number of websites devoted to the subject of cold war bunkers amongst which I recommend the following;

<http://www.secretnuclearbunker.co.uk>

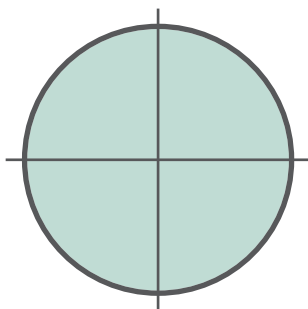
<http://www.drakelow-tunnels.co.uk>

<http://thetimechamber.co.uk/beta/sites/military/civil-defence-project>

<http://www.subbrit.org.uk/category/government-national-and-regional>

<http://www.ringbell.co.uk/ukwmo/>





THE 3rd CLY(SHARPSHOOTERS) ASSOCIATION 1918-1968

As most of you know I was asked following the loss of Boris Mollo last year to volunteer to be the Curator at Croydon and, as last year's journal relates we had to rejig the Museum Room at Croydon.

This in itself was quite a task but made a lot easier due to the enthusiastic support of the Squadron but it also stimulated in my mind as to what actually was in the archives and whether in fact our roots as an Association went back beyond the 'Gin and Tears' club founded in 1943. The Sharpshooters as we all know were born out of the Boer War and served abroad in the Great War and it seemed to me that there must have been some sort of Association but where would I find the evidence? It is probably appropriate to mention here that the 4th CLY sort of led the way in the development of the Association and the joining of the 3rd and 4th Associations was not painless or casualty free either.

The ARC at Mitcham Road houses the Regimental archives which have rarely been seen by anyone apart from scholars and, in the light of our new, open museum layout

Two groups of Sharpshooters taken in 1915. The names of those in the left hand group are not known. The trio on the right are from l. to r.), Sgt. Kitchener (who later became R.S.M.), Sgt. Platau (in civilian clothes) and Sgt. Leonard.

The Regimental Association is anxious to regain contact with '14/'18 Sharpshooters, with practically all of whom we have lost touch since the last war.

Reproduced by kind permission of M. H. D. King, Esq.



maybe there was evidence buried in them. Having recovered from some pretty unpleasant radiology I thought that I'd see what we had in the archives to support my idea that Associations roots did in fact go back further than is generally known.

My starting point was the recollection of a brief mention in a *Sharpshooter Gazette* or newsletter from the late 1940s/early 50s which mentions that the Association were happy for the World War I men to have their own table at the fledgling El Gubi dinner. This was in fact the 1950 edition, a check on earlier *Gazettes* showed a distinct desire to get the WWI veterans integrated into the Association. This might have been driven by the amalgamation of the 3rd and 4th Associations which as I mention above was not painless and a desire to communicate with those WWI veterans – and Boer War ones – that they were very much welcome in the new Association now called 3rd/4th CLY.

The AGM of Dec 1949 saw three 'very old' 3rd CLY Sharpshooters attending. They were Mr A J Faulkner (joined in 1901

whose regimental number was 103!), Colonel Sir George Bambridge MC VD (the predecessor of the now defunct TD) who served from 1901-1905 and Captain J J Statham who joined in 1901 and who attended the 1949 dinner. At that dinner the Chairman of the Association (Lt Col Sandy Cameron DSO MC) expressed the hope that



FIFTY YEARS AGO.

With apologies to that great pop song of the pre-1914 Hit Parade—MY OLD SHAKO.

I mind the day in '14 when Gt. Britain went to war
and volunteers enlisted in the forces by the score,
Some joined up in the infantry but I preferred a horse,
I loved the jingle of the spurs, so did the girls of course,
I loved the jingle of the spurs, so did the girls of course.

Hey Ho! many a year ago—we all joined up together
with our friends we used to know,
Faith we didn't care a button if the odds were on the foe
Ten, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty years ago.

The SHARPS with ROUGHS and M.I.Y. the mounted fourth brigade
began our training straight away, and quickly made the grade,
We polished up our saddles, and our bits and stirrups too,
our rifles we would clean as well with bits of four by two,
our rifles we would clean as well with bits of four by two.

Hey Ho! many a year ago—we rode along together
four good yeomen in a row,
and each of us just longed to tell the sergeant where to go
Ten, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty years ago.

No smarter troops were ever seen when we were on parade,
and when the King inspected us, a splendid sight we made,
with our swords held at the carry, we sat at perfect ease
'till our sergeant dropped a "clanger", giving a mighty sneeze.
'till our sergeant dropped a "clanger", giving a mighty sneeze.

Hey Ho! many a year ago—the King rode down towards us
when he saw me, said hello!
I am so pleased to see you, you're the only chap I know
Ten, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty years ago.

We sailed to the Suez just to keep the old flag high
where when we were not on fatigue we watched the ships go by,
Declaring war on lice we vowed no blighter would survive
but always in the seams of shirts the darlings seemed to thrive,
but always in the seams of shirts the darlings seemed to thrive.

Hey Ho! many a year ago—when we went on sick parade
for to see the old M.O.,
a number nine he'd give us tho' 'twas for a hammer toe,
Ten, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty years ago.

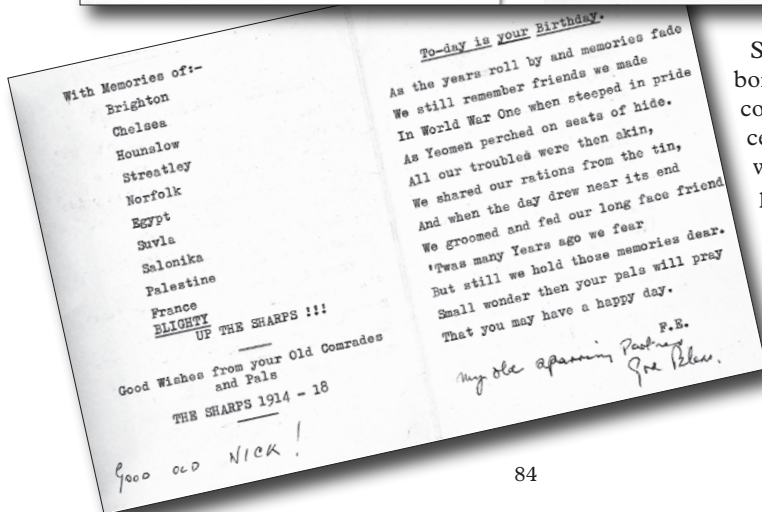
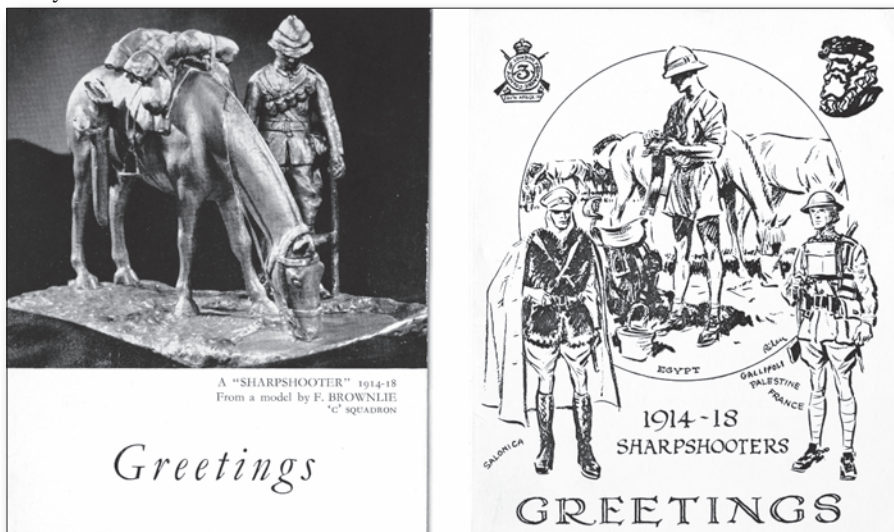
We're getting now a trifle old, with memory not so clear,
tho' when we meet it does revive on pints of good draught beer,
for then our tongues begin to wag, and battles fought anew
with stories of the good old days and many of them true,
with stories of the good old days and many of them true.

Hey Ho! many a year ago—we said we'd all meet again
at a place we all would know,
but who would ever think that we should see old so and so
Ten, twenty, thirty, forty, fifty years ago.

F.E.

more men of the 1914-18 vintage would attend. This appeal was supported by a couple of photographs with names as well.

The 1950 *Gazette* contained an article about the raising of the Sharpshooters based on a book called *The Call to Arms* by Sir Henry Seton-Karr which is the earliest history of the Sharpshooters and in places a very amusing read. And there was a nice photograph of some mounted WW1 Sharpshooters with a small appeal next to it – clearly here was the ‘call to arms’ for the WW1 chaps. The 1952 *Gazette* reports that at the 1951 annual dinner Colonel Sir George Bambridge MC VD regaled the over 200 diners with stories about his time in the Regiment and proposed the toast to the Regiment – then 3rd/4th CLY(Sharpshooters). The *Gazette* also records that the CO in his response welcomed not only Captain Statham but also a Major Miller (joined in 1899) and veterans from 1914-18. So it would seem that the ‘call to arms’ in the previous *Gazettes* worked although there is no evidence that I’ve yet found to say how many there were.



So an Association born out of the comradeship of WW1 certainly did exist with its roots quite possibly in the Boer War battalions of Imperial Yeomanry but what did they do? This is the hardest part and is unlikely ever to be

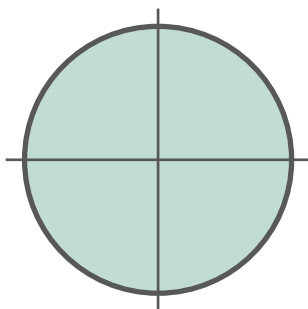
satisfactorily answered although one thing about owning the archives is that you never know quite what is in there! What is clear is that the Boer War and WW1 chaps were quite a strong and closely knit association and it would be interesting to speculate that they might have been two separate groupings that did not necessarily mix. The WW2 association had a card index with a lot of names and which might have included the Boer War/WW1 chaps and no one has seen the index! The inclusion of some Boer War veterans in the original 3rd CLY Association would have provided a great contrast with the WW2 guys and of course their war experiences between the Boer War and WW1 guys would have been vastly different let alone adding in WW2. The WW1 veterans also produced sweetheart brooches made out of collar badges and of varying designs – a tradition carried on by the WW2 guys.

However whilst idly rummaging around in the archive I found an album containing some WW1 pictures but more importantly a selection of ‘birthday’ cards. These cards are no ordinary birthday cards but were sent by the WW1 veterans to everyone of their generation on the anniversary of the end of the Great War and they all contain some very poignant and sometimes very amusing home grown poetry in them. The 3rd CLY also seem to have produced a lovely statuette of a dismounted trooper and his horse which echoed the affection that the WW1 horse mounted yeomen had with their mounts. The production of these cards seems to have stopped in 1968 – fifty years after the end of the Great War – possibly because there were too few of them left and FE who seems to have been the lynch pin had passed away.

I will continue to see what else I can find out in the archives but in the meantime and with the help of the editor a selection of these cards is reproduced in this article. It would be amazing to be able to find a copy of the statuette created by ‘FE’ but as they were created in wood sadly none are likely to have survived.

Tim Rayson
Hon. Secretary





SHARPSHOOTERS SOUND AND VISION “AGIUS COLLECTION”

Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry Association in partnership with The Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry Museum Trust

Tim Rayson and David Hannam continue to seek willing volunteers who want to share on camera their individual memories of time with *The Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry* through the decades. We are now working on the 1950s, 60s and 70s and those that have served on active service in recent times, subject to agreement with our Squadrons.

It is a relaxed and friendly experience, with Tim and you sharing a quiet conversation, whilst in another corner of your lounge – we are happy to come to you or the Museum rooms at our TA Centres – David fiddles about with wires, microphones and a video camera. We like to think of it as “preserving the living history of today for tomorrow’s Sharpshooters”.

If you would like to discuss joining the growing band of *Sharpshooters* (40 plus) who have gone “on the record” then please get in touch with Tim who will be happy to make the arrangements.



AGIUS DIGITAL CATALOGUE 2017

DIGITAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PRICES – Valid to December 2017

With the help of the AGIUS Collection Sound and Vision team, we are delighted to offer a selection of digital items for viewing at your leisure on your choice of personal computer (DVD) or digital reader (pdf). All sales will be contributing to the KSY Museum on-going fund raising.

The pdfs are available for download from DROPBOX only - details on how to do that will be provided following your purchase.

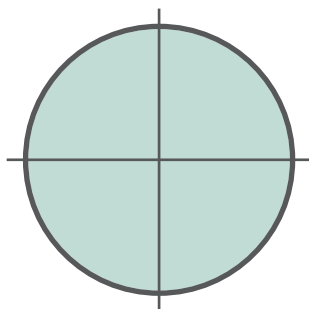
Cheques payable to: D. Hannam

Order and Cheque to: 21 Red Cedars Road, Orpington, Kent BR6 0BX

Payment via PayPal for all products is also available. Contact David Hannam for details at thetigger@mac.com

<i>Before I Forget</i> by Roy Cawston (updated version)		PDF	£10
<i>Carpique Bound</i> by Walter Allen and Roy Cawston		PDF	£10
<i>Memory Diary</i> by Harry Ramsbottom		PDF	£10
<i>Undergunned with the Sharpshooters</i> by Walter Allen		PDF	£10
<i>The Sharpshooter Chronicles</i> by David Hannam		PDF	£10

If you want further information on any of the items for sale please email David.



KENT AND SHARPSHOOTERS YEOMANRY ASSOCIATION

FORECAST OF EVENTS 2017

Dec 2016

31st *117th Anniversary of the Founding of the Sharpshooters in 1899*

2017

**76th Anniversary of the Battle of Ibbie's Mother's Birthday
otherwise known as the Battle of Belandah**

April

21st HM The Queen's 91st Birthday.

May

14th Combined Cavalry Old Comrades Association Parade and Service Hyde Park followed by lunch at The Atheneum.
Please contact the Hon Secretary on 1st March for further details.

June

4th Federation of London OCA Parade and Service.
Please contact the Hon Secretary in April for further details.

13th 73rd Anniversary of the Battle of Villers Bocage.

July

23rd ***Founders Day.***
116th Anniversary of the 3rd CLY being gazetted in 1901.

August

5th (tbc) Formal laying up of the KCLY Guidon at ARC Croydon and Freedom Parade followed by Reception.

September

22nd 74th Anniversary of 3rd CLY landing in Italy at Taranto.
74th Anniversary of 4th CLY landing at Salerno.

October

22nd Combined Cavalry Church Service and lunch RH Chelsea. All are welcome. Please contact the Hon Secretary in April for further details.

November

9th Opening of the Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey and lunch. Please apply to the Hon Secretary for tickets in July.

11th Armistice Day. The Lord Mayors Show.

12th Remembrance Sunday.

18th 76th Anniversary of the Battle of Bir El Gubi. The 70th All Ranks Bir El Gubi dinner. To be held at The Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly. See flyer for further details.

26th 2 RGH Bir El Gubi service at Badminton. Please contact Dave Carter in October if you are going.

December

Inputs for the 2017 Journal are required by the end Dec.

12th (tbc) RY Carol Concert. Further details to be published.

31st *118th Anniversary of the Founding of the Sharpshooters in 1899.*



Saturday 7th May 2016 – The presentation of a Regimental Guidon to the Royal Yeomanry

WO2 Dave Tomlin receives the new guidon from HRH The Princess Alexandra KG GCVO in the grounds of Buckingham