

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NEWS LETTER

Subscription 6/- a year

No. 5



Regimental Headquarters
The Queen's Regiment
(Queen's Surreys Office)
Portsmouth Road
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey

May, 1969

The Editor's Letter

Dear Member,

When General Piggott wrote his special message for the last edition of the News Letter, none of us were aware that by the time of publication of this issue he would no longer be President of the Regimental Association. Major General F. J. C. Piggott, CB, CBE, DSO has had on medical advice to relinquish his appointment of Deputy Colonel (Surrey) The Queen's Regiment and his associated appointments in The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Associations. During the best part of five years in office, the General has taken a keen personal interest in the affairs of the Association and has been present at all our functions. We are grateful for his wise direction of our affairs, his energy and forethought. He had many friends in the Regimental Association, and we shall miss him.

We welcome his successor, Major General F. A. H. Ling, CB, CBE, DSO, who is well known to former members of The Queen's Royal Regiment.

As forecast in the last News Letter, the 6th (Territorial) Bn The Queen's Regiment has disappeared from the Regimental scene. It is sad to record that our sole Territorial battalion, the successor of all the great Queen's and Surreys Territorial battalions of two World Wars and the inheritor of their traditions, is no more. Nevertheless, a small Cadre has been permitted to remain in existence, and it is to be hoped that one day this may form the nucleus for the expansion into a unit, ready and willing to carry on the tradition of the Citizen Soldier.

Yours sincerely,

Editor.

Major General F. J. C. Piggott, CB, CBE, DSO

Those who do not already know will be sorry to hear that General Francis Piggott has reluctantly found it necessary to forego the last six months of his tour as a Deputy Colonel of The Queen's Regiment.

During the last three years of his office the Regiment has undergone more basic and territorial reorganisation than in the three previous centuries.

Originally Colonel of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment since 14th October 1964, General Piggott then became a Deputy Colonel in the new "Large" Queen's Regiment which formed on 31st December

1966, spreading its historic mantle over all the Home Counties.

Within six months, the new Queen's Regiment of four battalions was itself to become one of the three Regiments in The Queen's Division.

The Reserve Army, to which The Queen's has always contributed so much, has in the meantime also been totally reorganised from top to bottom—The Territorial Army abolished, the Volunteers—5th Battalion of the Queen's formed.

Not only has General Piggott been an indefatigable visitor at Regular and T.A. occasions alike, but he has always taken great personal interest in the Old Comrades Associations from the first World War, which reorganisation can never touch and where he always found the old Regimental spirit burning at its brightest.

So much rapid change has had to be accompanied by rapid decisions. Valued traditions and long standing customs have often had to be swept away overnight.

Such matters have been in the day to day keeping of the Colonel of the Regiment, now Deputy Colonel (Surrey). It is doubtful if any of General Piggott's predecessors have been more closely implicated in Regimental affairs.

Whether as a member of General Dick Craddock's Regimental Committee or as Chairman of our old Regimental Associations and Sub Committees, he has been equally active, immensely thorough and decisive.

In the give and take of reorganisation and Committee work lesser men might have been tempted to err on the side of obstinacy or vacillation. The measure of General Piggott's success in this field stems from his wisdom in being prepared to give way over lesser matters—and how difficult to judge what is less important when your contemporaries and seniors are known to feel otherwise—in order to achieve that which to him seemed vital in the new Regimental interest.

General Francis Piggott, distinguished son of a distinguished soldier father, both Major Generals, both foremost Japanese experts, has had a varied and successful career both as a Commander and Staff Officer. It is probable that at no time, since he was commissioned over thirty-eight years ago, have his qualities of tact, judgement and humour been more fully and generously exercised; certainly this is true in so far as service to his Regiment is concerned.

Now old and new members of the Queen's alike offer him their grateful thanks and extend both to him and his charming wife their very best wishes for the future.

Annual Report

It has been decided to discontinue the Annual Report and to publish the information it contained in the News Letter. This means that members who wish to know about Regimental functions and affairs should take the News Letter, the subscription for which is still only 6/- a year.

The principal reason for the termination of the Annual Report is economy. We used to send over 1,000 Annual Reports to members of the Regimental Association. There was no means of knowing whether these ever reached the members, or whether the latter even wanted them. The increased postal rates from 3d to 4d would entail an increase of postage of 25 per cent, which we cannot afford.

An explanatory letter has been sent to all members of the Regimental Association who do not take the News Letter. We are glad to report that many of the recipients have decided to keep in touch by taking the News Letter.

Accounts

The accounts of the Regimental Association for the year ended 31st December 1968 were audited by H. Menzies & Co., Chartered Accountants of Kingston upon Thames, and passed at a meeting of the Managing Trustees on 15th March 1969. The state of the funds as at 31st December 1968 is summarised below.

Name of Fund	Cash in Hand and at Bank	Value of Investments	Excess of Income over Expenditure
	£	£	£
Queen's Surreys Charitable	552	4,802	287
Queen's Charitable	1,494	37,710	449
Surreys Charitable	625	18,243	131
Queen's War Memorial	737	25,135	636
Surreys War Memorial	651	15,043	277
Regimental Association Main	747	679	155
Regimental Association Reunion	184	951	53
News Letter	197	Nil	62

Grants-in-Aid

We are grateful for the assistance given by SSAFA and the Forces Help Society in the investigation of our cases. The numbers assisted over the last eight years are as under.

1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	
Queen's	115	144	155	145	132	141	137	135
Surreys	130	110	119	108	96	89	116	127
	245	254	274	253	228	230	253	262

The amount disbursed in these grants amounted to £2,284, of which £640 was contributed by the Army Benevolent Fund.

Loans

It is not the policy of the Regimental Association to make loans.

Holidays

The amount disbursed for holidays in 1968 was £641. We should like to remind our readers that the two War

Memorial Funds exist for the purpose of helping people to take holidays who could not otherwise afford them. We hope that more people will avail themselves of these grants in 1969.

Regimental Association Christmas Cards

The Christmas card produced for the Regimental Association last year sold extremely well. 3,000 cards were ordered—sufficient for at least two years as it was thought—and only 800 remain. These cards are available at the same price, 11/- a dozen, including packing and postage.

A repeat order is being placed with the manufacturers. The card will be basically the same, that is to say, a four page card without inset or ribbon. On the outside there is the badge of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment with the Regimental motto in gold.

The addition of a sentence on the greetings page to the effect that the Regimental Association comprises the former Old Comrades Associations of The Queen's Royal Regiment and The East Surrey Regiment is under consideration, but no decision has yet been made. The price may be increased by the manufacturers this year, whether or not any alterations are made to the card.

Complimentary copies of the News Letter

A number of our readers have had the kindly thought of arranging for free copies of the News Letter to be sent to their old friends.

If you would like to do this, please send the Editor particulars of the recipient together with a remittance of 6/-, and say if you do not wish your identity to be disclosed.

The Oldest Queen's man

On 14th May 1969, ex-Pte George Hutson celebrates his 96th birthday, and we have sent him the good wishes of the Regimental Association. Joining The Queen's Royal Regiment in 1891, Pte Hutson served on the North West Frontier of India with the 1st Queen's, and in the South Africa War with the 2nd Queen's. He took his discharge in 1902, and emigrated to Canada. He now lives in Montreal.

Regular Forces Employment Association

This Association exists for the sole purpose of finding employment for retired Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen and helping them to resettle in civil life. It is part of the Regular Forces Resettlement Service.

The Association, which provides all its services free, has branches covering the whole of the British Isles, each of which is run by an Employment Officer who is in close touch with local employers.

You can obtain the address of your nearest Branch from the Regimental Association, the General Post Office or your local Employment Exchange. You have only to write or telephone to your Branch, or make a personal call there, and you will be given help in finding employment.

Principal Regimental Functions in 1969

Date and Time	Place	Function	Particulars
Sat. 3 May 1800 hrs. 1930 hrs.	Kingston	WOs and Sgts Association Annual General Meeting Dinner	Secretary
Sat. 17 May 1700 hrs. 1800 hrs.	Lingfield	1st Battalion "At Home" Barracks open to public Static display opens	Below
Sat. 7 June 1900 hrs.	Guildford	5th Queen's Old Members Assn Annual Reunion Dinner "	Secretary
Fri. 13 June 1830 hrs.	London	Queen's Surreys Officers Club Cocktail party	Issued separately
Sun. 15 June 1115 hrs.	Guildford	Regimental Association Annual Cathedral service	Below
Sun. 6 July 1330 hrs.	Canterbury	Depot The Queen's Regiment Open Day	Page 4
Fri. 3 Oct. 1900 for 2000 hrs.	London	Queen's Surreys Officers Club Regimental Dinner	Issued separately
Sat. 4 Oct. 1900 hrs.	Kingston	WOs and Sgts Association Dinner and Dance	Secretary
Fri. 17 Oct. 1830 hrs.	Kingston	Regimental Association Annual Reunion	Page 4

1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment At Home

All those who attended our 1st Battalion's At Home two years ago will remember the great success of this popular event. This year the Battalion are staging a similar series of displays, culminating with a tattoo, on Saturday, 17th May, 1969. Hobbs Barracks, Lingfield, Surrey will be open to the public at 1700 hrs on that date. The evening's programme is as follows :

1800 hrs Static Display

This display consists of a number of stands, including:

The Past	Education
The Present	Motor Transport
Airportability	Assault Pioneers
Signals	Sport and Adventure Training
Catering	Regimental Aid Post
Recruiting (should anyone want to sign on !)	

The 30 metre range will also be available for live firing.

1900 hrs Military Display

This display includes various demonstrations by B Coy 1 Queen's, the Regimental Band and the Corps of Drums. This is based on forthcoming KAPE commitments.

The word KAPE may be unfamiliar to some of our readers. It means Keeping the Army in the Public Eye.

1930 hrs to 2030 hrs Refreshments

Refreshments at reasonable prices will be available in the Junior Ranks Club and in the Gymnasium.

For serving and retired members of the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes, refreshments will be available on repayment in their respective Messes. Cost of supper, including drinks, will be 10/-. Application should be made, with remittance, to the PMC of the Mess concerned, Hobbs Barracks, Lingfield, Surrey by 10th May 1969 at the latest.

2045 hrs Floodlit Tattoo

This starts with the traditional fanfare, and continues with a series of scenes of Regimental history, including:

The first muster on Putney Heath in 1661
Villiers Marines
A naval action of 1794
Garrison life in 1840
An incident in the 1914-18 War
Drill in the sixties.
The Tattoo concludes with Beating Retreat.

Regimental Association Annual Cathedral Service

The Annual Service will be held in Guildford Cathedral at 1115 hrs on Sunday, 15th June 1969. The preacher will be the Chaplain General, the Venerable

Archdeacon J. R. Youens, OBE, MC, QHC. It is hoped the 1st Battalion Band will be available to play during the service and outside the Cathedral afterwards, if this is agreed by the Cathedral authorities. There will be no march past after the service.

Those in possession of medals are requested to wear them for this service. It would also be helpful to those responsible for the seating if Regimental ties are worn.

Regimental Depot Open Day

The Depot of The Queen's Regiment at Howe Barracks, Canterbury, Kent will be open to the public on the afternoon of Sunday, 6th July.

The outline programme is as under.

1330 hrs	Gates open
1400 hrs	Massed bands of: 3rd Bn The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers 4th Bn The Royal Anglian Regiment 4th Bn The Queen's Regiment The Queen's Regiment T & AVR
1415 hrs	Police dogs of the Kent Constabulary
1500 hrs	Beauty Queen competition
1600 hrs	Infantry and Helicopter demonstration
1715 hrs	Red Devils Free Fall Parachute Display
1800 hrs	Announcement of competition winners
1810 hrs	Finale

Regimental Association Annual Reunion

Date and Place

The Annual Reunion will be held at the Drill Hall, Portsmouth Road, Kingston-upon-Thames from 1830 to 2230 hrs on Friday, 17th October 1969. The function will be on the same lines as last year's and will be for men only.

It is hoped the 1st Battalion Band will be available to play during the evening.

Price of Tickets

It has, unfortunately, become necessary to increase the price of admission to 7/6d. Anyone who would like a little help to attend the Reunion should notify the Secretary. All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

Warning In

Members are requested to return the Warning In Slip to the Secretary if they intend to come to the

Reunion. This information is required for catering arrangements. Unless we know how many are coming to the Reunion, either too much food will be laid on—with a consequent loss to the Association; or too little, in which case members will go hungry.

Payment for Tickets

Payment may be made either with the Warning In Slip or at the door. Money will be refunded if you are unable to make use of tickets paid for in advance.

Our 1st Battalion

The advance party returned from Bahrain in October, 1968 to take over the Battalion's equipment and vehicles from 1 Cheshire, the relieving unit in Bahrain, and move it all to Hobbs Barracks, Lingfield. The main body of the Battalion flew back in five aircraft between 14th and 20th November 1968, and went straight on leave from the arrival airport.

The Battalion reformed at Hobbs Barracks on the 2nd January 1969. There then followed a busy period during which the camp was put in order and our equipment and vehicles sorted out. In order to make maximum use of our limited manpower the Commanding Officer reorganised the Battalion at the end of January. An organisation of two Rifle Companies, Support Company, Command and Training Company, and Administrative Company was adopted. The new organisation has now had a chance to settle down, and is working well.

January and February were spent in settling down in our new home, and during this period numerous training cadres were held. In addition the annual Unit Equipment Inspection was held. Sobraon Day was celebrated with a parade and a dinner in the Sergeant's Mess at which Major General F. J. C. Piggott, CB, CBE, DSO, and Brigadier G. R. P. Roupell, VC, CB, DLI, were present.

In March the Battalion was to undertake a two week period of training at Otterburn in Northumberland. The departure of the main party by train from Lingfield, had to be delayed by 24 hours, due to very heavy snow on the training area making it impossible to reach the camp. When the Battalion arrived it found conditions very bad and after four days had to withdraw from the area as conditions made it impossible to use the ranges even if it had been possible to reach them. The training period at Otterburn was not entirely wasted as the main exercise, Duffer's Drift, was held in Pippingford Park (in the Ashdown Forest) on our return from the North.

The Battalion is now preparing to become Spearhead Battalion for the Strategic Reserve in May, for this the Battalion must be ready to move at very short notice anywhere in the world. The Battalion will remain on Spearhead until the end of June. A training period will take place in July on Stanford Training Area in

Norfolk. During August and September the two Rifle Companies will undergo a five week exercise in Jamaica while Support Company attend a course at the Jungle Warfare School in Malaysia and a platoon from Command and Training Company are attached to a Canadian Regiment in Canada.

Farewell to the Territorials

The 6th (Territorial) Battalion of our Regiment is no more. This unit, the inheritor of the proud traditions of all the magnificent battalions of the Queen's and the Surreys, has been eliminated in the interests, we are told, of national economy. All that remains of the Territorial battalions of our two former Regiments, whose record of achievement in two World Wars is unsurpassed, is—a cadre of eight officers and men.

The Territorials are not wanted any more. Their role was to assist the Home Civil authorities in an emergency—a task for which the citizen soldier was well suited. With the run-down of Civil Defence, who can say that there may not come a time when Territorial units would not be required? In times of national or local emergency, the availability of a uniformed, disciplined force able to provide security, labour, transport and communications must surely constitute a valuable potential to the responsible authorities.

The following note has been contributed by Lt Col W. E. McConnell, TD, the last Commanding Officer of the 6th (Territorial) Bn The Queen's Regiment.

"Although some sub units of the 6th (T) Bn The Queen's Regiment (Queen's Surreys) claim to trace their ancestry to the mediæval 'Trained Bands' their true modern ancestors were fourteen units of the Surrey Rifle Volunteer Corps formed in 1859. These at the turn of the Century formed Volunteer Battalions, and then Territorial Force and finally Territorial Army Battalions of The Queen's Royal Regiment and The East Surrey Regiment, though many retained individualistic names and traditions for a considerable period thereafter. For example, the 6th Bn The East Surrey Regiment did not relinquish their 'Greens' and other Rifle Regiment accoutrements until 1928, the 23rd London Regiment remained identifiable as such—the last of the Battalions of the London Regiment to do so—until 1961. Despite such idiosyncrasies all of these Battalions proved exemplary loyalty to their parent Regiments and to their Country as their achievements bear testimony.

"On the occasion of each World War the ranks of each Battalion so swelled with yet more 'civilian soldiers' that each splintered to form two or three Battalions. Though most remained Infantry some became Gunner, and others Armoured Regiments. In those Wars they earned two Victoria Crosses and too many other decorations to count with accuracy. Their loss of life and other casualties can be counted—but in thousands. Their Battle Honours earned in South Africa and the two World Wars are too

numerous to be carried on one set of Colours let alone to describe in an article of this length with justice and accuracy. Suffice it to say that they fought in every theatre of the first World War through France and Belgium, in India, Greece, Turkey, Aden, Egypt and Palestine. In the second World War they fought in the retreat to Dunkirk, then from Normandy to Germany, from El Alamein to Tunis and from Salerno through Anzio and Cassino to the Gothic Line and the Argenta Gap.

"At all times they served their Country and their Regiment valiantly and with distinction. The disbandment of the 6th Battalion will mean that there is no single unit left in the County to inherit and perpetuate these magnificent traditions of courage and loyalty. In consequence such disbandment must be a matter of regret beyond mere words."

Cadet Shooting Success in the Queen's Surreys Cup

This Cup was presented on permanent loan by The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment to HQ Eastern Command (now Southern Command) in January 1961, for annual competition by units of the Army Cadet Force within the Command. It was originally known as the "Longley Cup".

In the Army Cadet Force Rifle Shooting Competition in 1968, the Queen's Surreys Cup was won by the Surrey ACF. The County has now won this trophy six times since the competition was first held in 1962.

New Year's Honours List

We congratulate the following members of the Regiment on their awards:

CB

Major General M. Forrester, CBE, DSO, MC. Colonel Commandant, The Queen's Division.

MBE

Major J. Schofield, TD, late 6(T) Queens.

Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Association

We offer our heartiest congratulations to Major General F. A. H. Ling, CB, CBE DSO, on his appointment as Deputy Colonel (Surrey) The Queen's Regiment and hope that his tenure will be a long and happy one. Our members particularly welcome him on assuming the office of President of the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Association and we look forward to the pleasure of his company at our Annual Dinner.

We would also take this opportunity of conveying our best wishes to our Past President, Major General

F. J. C. Piggott, CB, CBE, DSO. His many friends hope that his retirement will be a long and happy one.

Since our last contribution to the News Letter we have had to say farewell to RSM Alf Colyer and members of the Sergeants' Mess on the disbandment of the 6th (TA) Battalion. The hospitality we received together with the valuable help in the running of functions will be greatly missed. We are very fortunate in being permitted to use the Sergeants' Mess of the 221 Field Ambulance in their place.

We joined the Sergeants' Mess members of the 6th (TA) Battalion for their final social gathering which was the Annual Christmas Draw on 9th December. It was an excellent evening, and several members were seen leaving the premises with their Christmas drink problem solved.

The annual Sobraon dance was held at Kingston on 8th February and despite the extreme wintry weather conditions, was attended by over 240 members, their ladies and friends. The Regimental Dance Band played for us on this occasion, and gave us a very creditable performance. It was a delight to see such old friends as Iska Moffet, Harry Chaffer, Taffy Coppers, Bill Woolley and Bill Simper to name but a few. Several members remarked that this was one of the best dances we have had.

Our end of month socials are still as popular as ever and at the end of March social we were pleasantly surprised by the arrival from Canterbury of Bill Warren, Den Harding, and Paddy Hannigan. We hope that their long journey to visit us was worth while, we certainly enjoyed their company.

We welcome the undermentioned new members who have joined us since the last issue of the News Letter:

Mr. L. James	—Ex Queen's Surreys
Mr. D. Doubleday	—Ex 6 Surrey's
Mr. A. Collins	—Ex Queen's
Mr. J. Akers	—Ex Queen's

The Association has an active membership of 250. Meetings are held on the last Saturday of each month in the Sergeants' Mess, The Drill Hall, Portsmouth Road, Kingston-upon-Thames.

Information regarding membership may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Association, RHQ The Queen's Regiment (Queen's Surreys Office), Portsmouth Road, Kingston-upon-Thames.

5 Queen's Old Members Association Annual Re-union Dinner

The date for the 5 Queen's Royal Regiment Annual Re-union Dinner has been fixed for Saturday, 7th June 1969. By kind permission of Major Foster B. Herd, OC "A" Coy 5th (Vol) Bn The Queen's Regiment, it will be held at the T & AVR HQ, Sandfield Terrace, Guildford, at 7 for 7.30 p.m.

Tickets, as usual in the form of entrance badges, from Vic Farrant, 3 Ridge End, Hook Hill Lane,

Woking, or from the Area Representatives in Camberley, Guildford, Dorking, Reigate, Cranleigh, Farncombe, Farnham, Redhill and Woking. The price including fees, is minimum 10/-.

Jack Homersham MBE, is running the raffle, and new members like Mr H. C. Goss of Hythe, Kent, and Mr. A. G. Smith of Guildford will be looking for their old pals.

Members of the local Company have been invited as guests and the usual wonderful catering service has been laid on by CSM J. Rolfe from Croydon.

Major H. B. Watson TD, will be presiding for the first time.

The Queen's (Bermondsey) Regimental Association

Mr. E. F. Townsend, MBE, Hon. Secretary of the Association since 1945, has decided not to seek re-election in that office. His successor is Mr. W. Edwards of 60 Bournbrook Road, Kidbrooke, London, S.E.3, to whom we offer our best wishes.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Townsend will remain a member of the Committee of the Queen's (Bermondsey) Regimental Association.

Museum of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment

The medals of the late 6002134 Pte D. H. Hunt, The East Surrey Regiment, have been presented to the Museum by his sister, Mrs. A. Birt of Woodbridge, Suffolk. They consist of the 1939-45 Star, Africa Star with 1st Army clasp, Italy Star, Defence Medal, War Medal 1939/45, King's Silver Jubilee Medal 1935 and the Long Service and Good Conduct medal.

Douglas Harry Hunt, more generally known as "Joe", was Company Storeman of C Company, 1st Bn The East Surrey Regiment between the Wars. Of the old tradition of company storemen, Pte Hunt maintained his stores, from which he seldom emerged, in tip-top condition. He was a well known and much respected character in the 1st Battalion.

Enlisting in 1922, Pte Hunt served in The East Surrey Regiment until 1945. He died in 1948 at the age of 45.

From Here and There

Back with the Battalion

Mr. J. W. Bradford (6081228), who joined the Queen's as long ago as 1923, now finds himself in part-

time employment with 1 Queen's at Hobbs Barracks, Lingfield. Mr. Bradford, who was an officer's groom for most of his service, says he notices a lot of differences in soldiering since he served with the Regiment.

News of our members

We hear that Jack Chiappore (6085125) who served in 1st Queen's in Allahabad before the 1939-45 War is now RSM Instructor to the Sussex County Cadet Force.

Mr. A. C. Robinson (6085007), who served in the 1st Queen's before the 1939-45 War and in the 2nd Queen's during the War, would like news of old friends. His address is 19 Pine Court, Marigold Way, Chingford, E.4.

The late Mr. P. J. Dineen

The Secretary of the Regimental Association acknowledges with thanks two donations of £1 each made in memory of Mr. Dineen who died on 10th January 1969. An obituary appears at the end of this News Letter.

Birthday Greetings

The following message was sent to Lady Longley, widow of Major General Sir John Longley, Colonel of The East Surrey Regiment, on the occasion of her 99th birthday on 23rd January 1969.

"Major General F. J. C. Piggott and all Members of the Regimental Association, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, send to you Heartiest Greetings and Very Best Wishes on the occasion of your Birthday."

Territorial Efficiency Medal

Twenty-three years after leaving the Regiment it occurred to Mr. H. J. Rotherham that he might be eligible for the award of the Efficiency Medal. He had served in the 22nd London Regiment (The Queen's) and later in the 1/6th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1925 to 1945.

An application was submitted to the Ministry of Defence by the Regimental Association. The claim was assessed, and the award of the Efficiency Medal (Territorial) and First Clasp to Mr. Rotherham has been approved.

Regimental Marches of The Queen's Royal Regiment

Mr. F. P. Shonfeld, Joint Editor of the Braganza Journal, the official magazine of the 4th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment Old Comrades Association, is trying to get a copy of the LP record made by the Band of The Queen's Royal Regiment some time ago.

So far as is known this record was produced in Germany under private arrangements, and stocks are now exhausted. Would any reader having information on this subject please communicate with Mr. Shonfeld, 3 Langdale Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR4 7PS.

Regimental Band

The Band of 1st Bn The Queen's Regiment is due to play outside the Infirmary of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea at 1600 hrs. on Tuesday, 15th July, and to Beat Retreat at 1630 hrs in Figure Court.

Sword of Honour

On the 19th December, 1968 General Sir Geoffrey Baker, GCB, CMG, CBE, MC, ADC, Chief of the General Staff, took the salute when he represented HM The Queen on the Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He awarded the Sword of Honour to 20 year-old Senior Under Officer Peter Swanson of 9 Ashurst Drive, Whitstable, who has been commissioned into the Queen's Division and posted to the 1st Bn The Queen's Regiment. He is the son of Major Paul Swanson, the Recruiting Co-ordinator for The Queen's Regiment.

This is only the fifth time that the Sword of Honour has been awarded to a member of The Queen's Regiment since 1891.

Things were different in our day !

Extract from London District Order No. 88 dated 2nd April 1969:

"Travel under Private Arrangements"

Applications are still being received by HQ Southern Command from nits who require permission to travel to BAOR on duty under private arrangements."

The Ofladium

Mr. V. C. Reynolds, who was "put in the bag" in May 1940 when serving in 2/7th Queen's, has a photograph album of the shows produced in the Ofladium, the camp theatre of Stalag 383. He is willing to lend the album to any members of the Queen's Surreys Regimental Association who would like to revive some of the pleasanter memories of their "Kriegs" days. His address is Conway, Green Street, Great Gonerby, Grantham, Lincs.

Photographs of the exterior of the Ofladium and a scene from the Mikado disclose what a high degree of professionalism was achieved in this prisoner of war camp. Mr. Reynolds who worked back stage at the Ofladium writes:

"I made all the wigs being worn in the picture. These were made with a cloth skull cap to which string was sewn, plus some thin cardboard, and the string was teased out, after of course, being dyed black. My mate in this, the wigs and accessories department, was Ron Gerratt of the 2/5th Queen's. We were a very happy crowd back stage, comprising Australians, New Zealanders, Canadians, Palestinians and men from all parts of the British Isles. It was due mainly to these men that the morale of the camp was kept so high, especially in the "starvation" days towards the end of the war, because they never stopped producing plays, etc., and were working up to eighteen hours a day to keep the "Ofladum" going.

I managed to get the album home due to the fact that I escaped, when the 'Goons' moved us out of the camp Stalag 383, and started us marching away from the advancing Americans. I and two others managed to get away the first evening of the march and returned to the camp where we holed up for a couple of days, after which we started taking prisoners ourselves, especially after we were being joined by other escapers.

After the Yanks arrived, about two weeks later they told us to stay put until their rear echelon arrived, and asked that we should take their prisoners off them as they came through. This we did, and thus our roles were reversed, i.e. from prisoners to guards.

We were eventually flown from Nuremberg to Rheims, where we were kitted out in Yank uniforms, and then by Lancasters to Wing, Norfolk, where we were given a grand reception."

Letters

From the Channel Islands

Mr. W. G. Bartholomew, who served in the 1st Bn The East Surrey Regiment from 1903 to 1920, writes:

"In 1905, the 1st Bn The East Surrey Regiment was posted to Jersey. As there had not been a Regiment on the Island for the previous six years, the Surreys quickly made friends, and many, including myself, married Jersey girls. We have now been married for 61 years. A good number took up residence in Jersey on discharge from the Service, and we were able to run an Old Comrades Association with a fair degree of success. As the years passed on, so did the members, until at the final meeting we were reduced to four, and had no alternative but to disband."

An East Surrey signaller in California

Mr. Lawton Ford (613386), 11121 Queensland Street, Los Angeles, California, 90034, writes:

"Former signaller 1st Bn The East Surrey Regiment, Lawton Ford, nicknamed 'Yank', who served in France,

Ireland (Collinstown), Sheffield, North Russia (Kandaksha), and Egypt (Ismailia and Cairo) would like to hear from former comrades.

Do names like Col Ashton, Sgt 'Dicky' Bird, Sgt Oliver, Cpl Walker, and Ptes Nicholas Cecil William Carter, George Hinckley and Fred Thompson ring any bells?

I still have some old negatives of snapshots I took between 1919 and 1921, although I don't remember the names of the fellows who posed for them."

Mr. Ford, who is a professional photographer, will send prints of these to anyone interested. He concludes his letter:

"I also have a group postcard of the entire school of signallers shot at the Castle, Dover in 1918, and will send a copy if wanted. I have negatives of the Sphinx and Pyramids (pre-excavation), Kasr-el-Nil Barracks, the Citadel and Lake Timsah and can have copies made at cost if anyone is interested."

Christmas Day in the Tropics

Mr. John Tubbs, who served in the 6th Queen's in the 1914-18 War, and who went to live with his daughter in South Africa last year, writes:

"I tried to do justice to my Christmas pudding, but considering that I had to eat it while blistering in a temperature of 108 degs. F., I think I would have enjoyed it more had Fanny Cradock's iced Christmas Pudding recipe been available out here."

Fortunately, for me, we have an air conditioning plant installed in the house and that helps a lot, but my daughter and her husband who have had over twenty years of Africa—much of them being spent in the Kalarhari Desert and Bechuanaland—tell me that I have not yet experienced a really warm day, and they watch the thermometer with sadistic glee. However, I hear that you, in England, are having quite a time of it with frosts, snow, rain and floods, and if that is so I wouldn't care to swap you for our almost perpetual sunshine and heat."

Regimental History—

The Queen's Royal Regiment

Regimental History in the British Legion Journal

The January 1969 issue of the British Legion Journal contains an interesting article on the history of The Queen's Royal Regiment. It is the first of a series of shortened histories of the old Infantry Regiments. The writer is Captain R. A. Caplen who lives near Canterbury. He enlisted in The East Surrey Regiment in 1914, and served in France with the First Surrey Rifles. In 1947 he was commissioned in the Territorial Army Reserve of Officers to take command of the Queen's Company, ACF of the 11th London; and he says, he "steeped all its members in Queen's tradition".

Captain Caplen hopes to contribute a similar article on the history of The East Surrey Regiment to a later issue of the British Legion Journal.

1st and 2nd Queen's at High Wood

Major R. C. G. Foster's account of the meeting of the 1st and 2nd Queen's at High Wood in July 1916, which was published in the last News Letter, has prompted memories of "old unhappy far-off things and battles long ago".

Captain J. P. Howells, MC, DCM, writes:

"Mention of High Wood revives memories of that gallant soldier, Colonel Longbourne, who went 'over the top' with HQ staff in front of the first wave of attacking troops, and captured a Bosche MG post which was holding up the advance."

Mr. Sydney Hopkins, who was CQMS of C Company, 2nd Queen's, says:

"I was there all right: The big battle commenced on 1st July 1916. We took Mametz on that day, and found nobody in the enemy trenches. They were all 20 or 30 feet below in their underground dug-outs. We used Mills hand grenades which brought them out, and we took hundreds of prisoners."

Ypres Last Post Fund

For the past 50 years Belgian buglers have sounded the Last Post at Menin Gate, Ypres in memory of the 90,000 British soldiers who died in the Ypres Salient in the 1914-18 War. In November 1968, the Rotary Club of Sittingbourne and Milton informed the Queen's Surreys Office that it had launched an appeal for funds to enable the ceremony to continue.

The original appeal for this purpose was launched by Surrey Branch of the British Legion in 1930, when £400 was raised and invested in Belgian Government Stock. This capital is still intact, but with changed values. The Committee in Ypres find themselves in urgent need of funds, as their income together with local provincial subsidies, meets only half of the annual cost of the nightly ceremony. The Rotary Club target is £1,000.

At a Meeting of the Trustees of Funds of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment held in December 1968, it was decided to donate £25 to the Appeal and this was matched with a further £25 by the 6th (Territorial) Bn The Queen's Regiment, so that £50 was subscribed to the Appeal. The appended letter from the Rotary Club Chairman may be of interest.

"On behalf of this Club may I say how very grateful we are for the generous donation of £50 to the above Fund made by the Regimental Trustees The Queen's Surreys and your 6th (Territorial) Battalion. I was most interested to hear that the 3rd (Special Reserve) Bn, The Queen's Royal Regiment was stationed in Sittingbourne between 1916 and 1919 and for this reason I have taken the liberty of sending your letter

to the East Kent Gazette. I feel sure they will wish to publish it as there must be many Senior Citizens of the town who remember the Unit being here."

When the Fund closes in three months time I shall make a point of informing the Burgomaster of Ypres of your singularly generous donation to the Fund."

1st Bn The Queen's Regiment—Aden Memorial Plaque

A Memorial plaque to Soldiers of the 1st Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment who died whilst serving in Aden in 1867, 1868 and 1909, was placed in Christ Church at Steamer Point, Aden in 1909. On the evacuation of British troops from the Aden Peninsula in 1967, the plaque was removed and brought back to England. It was installed in the Regimental Chapel of The Queen's Royal Regiment within Holy Trinity Church, Guildford, on 4th October, 1968.

On Sunday, 10th November, 1968 during the Remembrance Day Service held in Holy Trinity Church, the plaque was re-dedicated by the Rector, the Rev. Canon Michael Hocking.

Major General F. J. C. Piggott, Deputy Colonel (Surrey), The Queen's Regiment, Major General J. Y. Whitfield, last Colonel of The Queen's Royal Regiment, Major D. Abbott, representing 1st Bn The Queen's Regiment, Major F. B. Herd representing "A" Coy 5th (Volunteer) Bn The Queen's Regiment, and several former members of both The Queen's Royal Regiment and The East Surrey Regiment, and their ladies, were present, including Lt Col Geoffrey Curtis who was the Staff Officer in Aden in 1967 who made the arrangements for the return of the plaque to this Country.

Two bandmen of 1st Bn The Queen's Regiment sounded the "Last Post" and "Reveille" during the Remembrance Day Service.

The following extract from an article entitled "Aden in 1934" written by Mr. W. H. Parsons, late 1st Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment, which was published in the May 1934 issue of the Queen's Journal may be of interest to readers:

"My first visit to the church at Steamer Point, brought to my notice a brass plate erected in memory of twelve of the 1st Battalion who died here about sixty years ago, and six who died in 1909. . . .

The names on the brass plate were scarcely decipherable, as they were filled with dried metal polish. I cleaned them out and painted them, and then had a photograph taken of the plate. I took the film to the bazaar to be developed, and, unfortunately, the whole row of 'shops' opposite Prince of Wales Pier, Steamer Point, of which the photographer's was one, were destroyed by fire, and my film went with the others.

After a stay in hospital with a broken ankle, I again went to the church and found my paint was a failure and the letters were full of polish again. So I obtained permission to have the plate taken off the wall, and I filled all the letters with a mixture of wax, black, with initial letters in red; so that should stand for a good many years." Editor's Note: And it did!

The 1st Queen's and the 4th/1st Gurkhas at Kohima

The Queen's Kohima Memorial

In the November 1968 issue of the Regimental Association News Letter there was a brief reference to the co-operation of the 4th/1st Gurkhas with the 1st Queen's in the capture of Jail Hill in May 1944. This was followed by a letter to General Piggott from Major Newland, Hon. Treasurer of the 1st K.G.V. Own Gurkha Rifles Regimental Association, in which he said "We have come to hear on the 'grapevine' that the Queen's Memorial in Kohima requires funds. As the Queen's have honoured our 4th Battalion by including reference on the Memorial, our President has asked me as Treasurer to forward the enclosed cheque as a contribution which we would be honoured to make".

General Piggott's letter of thanks to Brigadier Bellers, President of the Regimental Association, 1st K.G.V.'s Own Gurkha Rifles, was published in the same issue of the News Letter.

The Grapevine

The sequel to this correspondence came in a letter to General Piggott from Major McCann, which is reproduced below.

British Embassy,
Phnom Penh.
19th November, 1968

Dear General Piggott,

The Queen's Kohima Memorial

Lt Col John Palmer who is our Defence Attaché here, has shown me an item which appeared in the September edition of the Journal of The Queen's Regiment about their Memorial in Kohima and the connection with the 4th/1st Gurkhas.

There is a reference in a letter from Major Newland to yourself, published as part of that item, to the "grapevine" through which the 4th/1st Gurkha Regimental Association heard about the plans for rebuilding the Kohima Memorial. Both John Palmer and I thought it might be of interest to you to know that the process by which this news got on to the "grapevine" started in Phnom Penh, of all unlikely places. During the battle of Kohima I, as Commander of "B" Company of the 4th/1st Gurkhas, had the rather sticky assignment of getting to the top of Jail Hill to join Mike Lowry. More by luck than judgement I succeeded in following in Mike's footsteps and joined him in a small and beleaguered foxhole where we spent the next three days or so.

Against such a background, I was naturally interested to hear from John Palmer some time ago about the plans for the Memorial and suggested to the 1st Gurkha Regimental Association that in view of the honour done to us by the inclusion of the 4th/1st Gurkhas in the original Queen's Memorial, our Association might like to help finance its rebuilding—with the result we know of. So here we are in this distant neck of the woods, The Queen's represented by John Palmer and myself an ex-4th/1st Gurkha now transmogrified into Defence

Attaché and Head of Chancery at this Embassy, still co-operating!

I visited the original Memorial in 1961 when I made something of a pilgrimage to Kohima—rather difficult to arrange nowadays. I was greatly comforted to see how well the men who fell in the Kohima battle had been commemorated and was warmly, almost royally, entertained by General Misra, commanding in the area at that time. But that is another story.

Yours sincerely,

Sgd.: Max McCann.
(M. J. T. McCann)

Footnote by Lt Col M. A. Lowry, MC

"I can add no sequel of any consequence, beyond saying I am delighted that the excellent 'grapevine' has once again put me in touch with Max McCann. The arrival of his company and their sacrifice on Jail Hill was a never to be forgotten contribution to our Regimental History. I am hoping that he will now visit my 'neck of the woods' where I command a large company of sheep and am once again surrounded by foxholes!"

Regimental History—

The East Surrey Regiment

The buff facings of the Thirty First Regiment

The following correspondence may be of interest to students of Regimental History.

From: Major M. J. Barthorp

I am carrying out some research with the uniform and equipment worn by the Army during various wars of the last century and I am writing to ask your advice of the dress worn by the 31st Foot during the Sikh Wars.

This seems to be fairly well documented in the various lithographs by J. Harris after H. Martens which show the 31st in various battles of the Sikh Wars. The men are invariably shown wearing white caps and shell jackets. The odd thing is that the collar and cuffs of the shell jackets are shown as white whereas the facings of the 31st were buff. Another point is that in the painting of Ferozeshah the shoulder straps are shown as plain white, but in that of Sobraon they are red with white piping.

There is in the National Army Museum an actual shell jacket worn by an officer of the 31st in the Sikh Wars. The facings seem to be a sort of dirty white, but they could equally, I suppose, be a pale buff, faded with age.

It occurs to me that perhaps the facings of shell jackets were always white regardless of the regimental facings. There is a painting of an officer of the 77th wearing a shell jacket with white collar and cuffs, although the facings of that regiment were yellow, which seems to bear out this theory.

I would be most grateful if you could shed any light on these points about the shell jackets of the 31st at that period. Could you also describe the design of the cross-belt plates worn by the rank and file of that date?

From: Major F. J. Reed, Regimental Secretary.

As you so rightly say, the official facings of the 31st Regiment were buff and this is emphasised in Chapter XI of the History of The East Surrey Regiment (Vol I) referring to the formation of the latter regiment on 1st July 1881 which states "The Thirty First at the same time lost its old territorial designation of 'The Huntingdonshire Regiment' and its buff facings, which had been worn from a date prior to the battle of Dettingen".

The series of prints to which you refer, including the battle of Moodkee, clearly show, that during the Sutlej Campaign (1845-46) white collar and cuffs were worn; also white shoulder straps (except at Sobraon where red shoulder straps with white piping are shown apart from one soldier assisting the fallen officer who has white shoulder straps).

A shell-jacket of Lt Jeffcock who served in the 31st from 1853-1857 which is in our Museum here, most definitely has the white collar and cuffs as shown in the Sutlej prints. There may have been a bit of "artist's licence" in the Sobraon print!

Possibly the Society for Army Historical Research can assist you on these points. I can find no categoric reference in any of our documents.

I enclose a rough sketch of the cross-belt plate worn by the rank and file of the 31st Regiment during the Sutlej Campaign. We have such a belt plate in our Museum here.

The 30th Surreys

In the November 1968 News Letter we referred to a silver sports trophy inscribed "30th Training Reserve Bn, East Surrey" for sale in a Warsaw silversmith, and asked for information on this Unit.

Lt Col A. W. Reed, Orchard Close, 95 New Barn Lane, Prestbury, Cheltenham, Glos. writes as follows:

"I was interested in the paragraph on page 7 of the November News Letter, regarding the 30th Training Reserve Bn (East Surrey).

I served with this Battalion in 1917 having been posted there from the 3rd Bn after I returned from 1st Bn East Surrey Regiment having contracted 'Trench Fever' during the later stages of the Battle of the Somme.

The 30th was originally the 10th (Service) Bn East Surrey Regiment. During 1917 a number of service battalions of Line Regiments were changed to Training Reserve Battalions, and were required to train drafts for battalions of any Regiment, not necessarily for the Surreys.

The 10th East Surreys were changed to the 30th Training Reserve Battalion soon after I joined them at Maxton Camp, Dover in 1917, and were commanded by Colonel Sullivan. As far as I can recollect all

Training Reserve Battalions were numbered from 30 upwards."

Colonel Reed also refers to a very serious tram accident at Dover in 1917 in which 12 men were killed and 49 injured, including himself. It would be interesting to hear from any others who were involved.

Our Allied Regiments

The South Alberta Light Horse, RCAC

On 12th December 1968, a parade followed by a reception was held at the Patterson Armoury, Medicine Hat, Alberta on the occasion of change of command. Lt Col Reed Ainscough, CD handed over command of the unit to Lt Col Douglas Heine, CD.

Deaths

We regret to announce the passing of the following former members of the Regiment:

Gibbs On 1st September, 1968, Cpl Albert George Gibbs (5333664), aged 56. Served in 1st and 2nd Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1930 to 1953.

Cross In October, 1968, Major H. R. H. Cross. Served in the 8th Bn The East Surrey Regiment during the 1914-18 War.

Gibbins On 9th October, 1968, CQMS Frederick D. Gibbins, MM. Formerly Transport Sergeant of the 22nd London Regiment, he was awarded the Military Medal as CQMS in 1/6th Queen's.

Charlton On 16th October, 1968, RSM George Charlton (776769) aged 60. Served in the 23rd London Regiment, and later the 48th Royal Tank Regiment, from 1929 to 1945. He was a Founder Member of the Veterans Company, and at the time of his death was serving on the Committee of the 23rd London/42nd RTR Old Comrades Association.

White On 8th November, 1968, Sgt James William White (10603), aged 75. Served in 1st Bn The East Surrey Regiment from 1913 to 1920.

Wright On 27th November, 1968, RQMS A. J. Wright (6133706). Served in The East Surrey Regiment from 1914 to 1937, and will be remembered as RQMS of the 1st Bn in India.

Cook On 1st December, 1968, Lt Col Herbert Cook, MC. Served in the 22nd London Regiment, and was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry in 1917.

Adams On 14th December, 1968, RSM Albert Henry Adams, DCM (6134495). Served in The East Surrey Regiment from 1920 to 1945. Awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry in North Africa as Regimental Sergeant Major of 1st Bn The East Surrey Regiment. (See obituary.)

Dineen On 10th January, 1969 (7211672) Pte Patrick Joseph Dineen, aged 78. Served in The Royal Munster Fusiliers from 1909 to 1920 and in the East Surrey Regiment from 1920 to 1931. (See obituary.)

Levien On 13th January, 1969, Major Michael Stanley Levien, aged 50. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment in the 1939-45 War.

Rickett On 31st January, 1969, Lt Col H. R. N. Rickett, CBE, TD, aged 59. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment in the 1939-45 War. He was made CBE in 1966 for services to rowing. (See obituary.)

Dudley On 2nd February, 1969, Pte Alfred William Dudley (10349). Served in 1st Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1913 until taken prisoner in 1917.

Fetherstonhaugh On 9th February, 1969, Lt Col Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaugh, OBE, TD aged 69. Served in 5th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment (TA) from 1934 to 1940. (See obituary.)

Duffy On 3rd February, 1969, in Brisbane, Australia, Drum Major Pat Duffy. He served in 1st and 2nd Bns The Queen's Royal Regiment and emigrated to Australia in 1964.

Stacey On 12th February, 1969, Sgt Edward Stacey (6078318), aged 89. One of our oldest soldiers, he enlisted in The Queen's Royal Regiment in 1899 and served throughout the South Africa War and the 1914-18 War. Sgt Stacey retired in 1926, and was an In-Pensioner in the Royal Hospital, Chelsea for the last 22 years.

Pomfrey On 17th March, 1969, Pte Ronald George Pomfrey (23896693), aged 24. Served in the 1st Bn The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment and 1st Bn The Queen's Regiment from 1962 to 1968.

Snook On 20th March, 1969, L/Cpl William Snook (7179), aged 86. Served in The East Surrey Regiment from 1901 to 1909. He was admitted to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea in September, 1968.

Ayers On 28th March, 1969, Pte Robert Ayers (6081831), aged 63. Served in both Regular battalions of The Queen's Royal Regiment between 1924 and 1932, and in the Royal Army Service Corps during the 1939-45 War.

Adams On 22nd March, 1969, Sgt Arthur Robert Adams (200110), aged 79. Served in the 4th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1909 to 1920.

Buckenham On 30th March, 1969, Maj John Buckenham, MM, aged 72. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1919 to 1946. (See obituary.)

Fisher On 4th April, 1969, CSM F. H. Fisher (6076174) aged 81. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1905 to 1926. "Taurus" Fisher will be remembered as an exceptionally fine boxer and an all-round sportsman.

Regimental Families

We regret to announce the deaths of the following ladies.

On 18th December, 1968, Mrs. Moody, the wife of ex-WO II A. D. Moody, The Queen's Royal Regiment.

On 15th January, 1969, Mrs. Rose Alice Cator. Mrs. Cator was the widow of Capt Harry Cator, VC, MM, late The East Surrey Regiment, who died in 1966.

On 25th February, 1969, Mrs. May Frances (Mollie) Pickering, widow of the late Brig R. E. Pickering, CBE formerly The Queen's Royal Regiment.

Obituaries

RSM A. H. Adams, DCM

Albert Henry Adams died suddenly within a few days of retirement from the firm he had served as a commissionaire for 17 years. "Buck" Adams who had long service in the 2nd Bn The East Surrey Regiment, will be remembered by many as the RSM of the 1st Surreys in the 1939-45 War. Imperturbable, cheerful and steadfast, RSM Adams set a fine example both in and out of action. In the early days of the North African campaign the 1st Bn held a position at Tebourba some 18 miles from Tunis, for a week against overwhelming odds. RSM Adams was indefatigable in maintaining the morale and fostering the aggressive spirit of the defenders. For his courage and

personal example he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

P. J. Dineen

"Paddy" or "Jasper" Dineen, as he was alternatively known, came to The East Surrey Regiment from The Royal Munster Fusiliers in 1920. He had then 11 years service and had fought with the Munsters in the 1914-18 War. He soon became an enthusiastic supporter of his new Regiment, and was for many years front man on the rope in the 1st Battalion's tug-o-war team. He served in the Surreys for another 11 years, and was awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. After retirement he became Quartermaster's storeman at the Regimental Depot, and when that was disbanded, he served with the Surrey T & AFA. He continued working until he was well over 70. Sturdy, cheerful and with a rich Irish brogue, "Jasper" was a familiar and popular figure in the Regiment.

Lt Col H. R. N. Rickett, CBE, TD

Harold Rickett who died on 31st January, 1969 at the age of 59, served in France as Intelligence Officer of 2/5th Queen's in 1940, and was mentioned in despatches. Later during the war he was appointed an instructor at the Staff College, Camberley.

A fine oarsman, he had a distinguished career in the rowing world. As Chairman of the Management Committee, he ran the Royal Regatta at Henley for 14 years, and was President of the Amateur Rowing Association at the time of his death. Harold Rickett was made CBE in 1966 for his services to rowing.

Lt Col Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaugh, OBE, TD, VL

Tim Fetherstonhaugh joined the 5th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment (TA) in 1934. Commissioned to the King's Royal Rifle Corps from RMC Sandhurst in 1918, and retiring from the Regular Army as a Captain in 1929, he was a valuable newcomer, and became Adjutant of 2/5th Queen's in the brief, turbulent campaign in France in 1940.

On return to England he was soon selected to raise and command No. 6 Commando, and in 1942 he went to India and Burma where he commanded the remarkable collection of men and boats which established and kept open the coastal water-borne Lines of Communication on the Arakan coast. Those who served in that campaign will always remember, and be grateful to, that heterogeneous organisation. For his services with it, Fetherstonhaugh was made an OBE, and mentioned in despatches.

In 1948 he retired and devoted his tireless energies to public affairs in Cumberland. He became a Deputy Lieutenant, and was Vice Lieutenant at the time of his death. He had been High Sheriff, and a Justice of the Peace; also a Member of the County Council and an Alderman since 1961. From 1954 to 1962 he was Chairman of the Cumberland and Westmorland T & AF Association, and from 1957 to 1960, the Chairman of the Northern Counties Provincial Area of the Conservative Association. He was knighted in 1960, and continued to lead a busy active life until his final illness. He will be greatly missed, and to Lady Fetherstonhaugh we extend our deep sympathy.

F.J.C.P.

Major J. A. Buckenham, MM

John Arthur Buckenham, who has died aged 72, had over 32 years unbroken service. Enlisting in The London Regiment in 1915, he was transferred to The Queen's early in 1918. He was awarded the Military Medal in July 1918 and a bar to it three months later. On the outbreak of the 1939-45 War he was RQMS of the 2nd Queen's, and was commissioned in October 1939. Major Buckenham served in the Royal Pioneer Corps until 1947. Older members of the Regiment will remember Mrs Buckenham as the Queen's Army Schoolmistress with the 2nd Queen's at Allahabad. Mrs Buckenham died early in 1966.