

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION THE QUEEN'S ROYAL SURREY REGIMENT

President
Major General R.S.N. Mans, CBE

Chairman
Lieutenant Colonel H.R.D. Hill, MBE

Secretary
Major P.G.E. Hill



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

May, 1976

News Letter No. 19

Editorial

On the formation of The Queen's Regiment, the former Regimental Journals ceased publication, but it was thought there would still be a requirement for news of a domestic nature relating primarily to our former Regiments, and by that means to keep our old soldiers in touch, not only with each other but with the activities of the Regiment of today. For these reasons the News Letter was launched, and this is its nineteenth edition.

Thanks to the interest of our readers, some interesting sidelights on Regimental history have been recorded, and on the lighter side there has been some amusing correspondence on Regimental customs and outstanding characters encountered during one's service. There is so much of Regimental interest which is not mentioned in the official Histories that it seemed worthwhile to set down in black and white events worth recording. Copies of our News Letter go to the National Army Museum and the Imperial War Museum, so these items of historic interest are now preserved in the Army's archives.

It is natural that our own interest should focus on the men and events which have affected us personally in the Regiment in which we were proud to serve. But we are not continually looking over our shoulder at days gone by: we are also proud of The Queen's Regiment of today. When The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment was formed, General Metcalfe, the first Colonel of the Regiment, was well aware of the feelings of the old soldiers of our former Regiments. Our duty as ex-soldiers, the General wrote, is "to help and support those still serving in fostering the spirit and traditions that we have helped to build".

This is the last News Letter to be produced by the present Editor, and he would like to thank all those who have helped him by encouragement, criticism and the submission of material for publication.

Honours and Awards

We congratulate the following on their awards in the New Year's Honours List:

MBE
Lt. Col G. Mason

BEM
Cpl. S. J. Browning, 5th (Volunteer) Bn. The Queen's Regiment

Appointments—Officers

Colonel H. C. Millman, OBE, Colonel AQ HQ 4 Div, has been awarded a Defence Fellowship for the academic year 1976/77 by the Central Selection Panel.

County Office Title

The Colonel of the Regiment has directed that the titles of Regimental County Offices are to be changed so that their suffixes reflect the area of Regimental responsibility, rather than the titles of former Regiments.

Our office is now therefore termed:
"Regimental Headquarters The Queen's Regiment (Surrey Office)."

The term "Queen's Surreys Office" should no longer be used.

President's Notes

I want to take this opportunity of reminding everyone of the 100th anniversary of our association with the City of Guildford which we are celebrating in June. Full details of the programme are shown elsewhere in this News Letter. The Guildford Borough Council have given The Queen's Regiment magnificent support in planning the celebrations. The highlight will be the march through Guildford on the morning of Saturday, 12th June. So, let's have a jolly good turn out for the festivities!

I have been privileged to attend a number of Association reunions during the past year. These have all been memorable occasions, but I must mention one in particular: the 60th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing, observed by the 2/4th Queen's OCA at Croydon last May. A splendid evening organised impeccably as usual by the indefatigable Harry Mann.

Peter Hill retires from the County Office in July, and I know you would want to thank him most sincerely for all the hard work he has done for us at Kingston. He has truly been a great servant of the Regiment. On behalf of all members, I extend our best wishes to Peter and his wife on his second retirement. We hope we shall see them both at many functions in the future.

For some time past the Colonel of The Queen's Regiment, Major General Fergus Ling, has been anxious to promote the growth of the Regimental Association of the new Regiment and to encourage the liaison with the former OCAs. I would ask all our Associations to give a particular welcome to any of these young soldiers who may call in.

R.S.N.M.

Regimental Functions in 1976

Date	Place	Function	
Sat. 1 May	Kingston	Warrant Officers and Sergeants Association	AGM and Annual Dinner
Thurs. 6 May	Richmond	Queen's Surreys Golf Society	Spring Meeting
Fri. 21 May	Richmond	Queen's Surreys Golf Society	Match v Royal Marines
Fri. 11 June	Guildford	3 Queen's Band and Drums Beat Retreat	1730 hrs at Millmead, Guildford
Sat. 12 June	Guildford	3 Queen's, A Coy 5 Queen's and A Coy 6/7 Queen's	1130 hrs March through Guildford
Sat. 12 June	Guildford	3 Queen's Band and Drums Beat Retreat	1730 hrs at Millmead, Guildford
Sat. 12 June	Guildford	Queen's Surreys Officers Club Cocktail Party	Officers Mess, Stoughton Barracks
Sun. 13 June	Guildford	Regimental Association	1115 hrs Annual Cathedral Service, followed by drinks in Stoughton Barracks
Fri. 1 Oct.	London	Queen's Surreys Officers Club	Annual Dinner
Sat. 2 Oct.	Kingston	Regimental Association	Annual Reunion
Thurs. 7 and Fri. 8 Oct.	Richmond	Queen's Surreys Golf Society	Autumn Meeting
Sat. 9 Oct.	Kingston	Warrant Officers and Sergeants Association	Ladies Night. Dance and Buffet Supper
Sun. 14 Nov.	Kingston and Guildford	Remembrance Day Parades	

Centenary of the Association of The Queen's Regiment with the Town of Guildford and Stoughton Barracks

Detail of Events during the week 7th to 13th June 1976

During the week a floral reproduction of the badge of The Queen's Regiment as worn today will be on exhibition in Castle Gardens, Guildford. A window display of period uniforms of the Regiment will appear at the Army and Navy Stores (Harveys), High Street, Guildford, during the week.

Friday 11th June 1976

At 5.30 p.m. the Band and Drums of the 3rd Bn. The Queen's Regiment will Beat Retreat in Millmead, Guildford. (Bottom of High Street and near Millmead House Corporation Offices.) After the Beating Retreat the Mayor and Corporation will hold a reception in Guildhall for serving members of The Queen's Regiment (Regular, TAVR and Cadets).

Saturday 12th June 1976

The Regiment, represented by the 3rd Battalion, A Coy 5th (Volunteer) Battalion and a detachment of A Coy 6/7th (Volunteer) Battalion will exercise the Freedom of Entry to Guildford by a march through the

town, commencing at 11.30 a.m. from the Civic Centre via High Street, North Street, Millmead, High Street and ending at the Civic Centre.

The column will be headed by the detachment of 6/7th Queen's in uniforms depicting the last 100 years. The marching troops, including the Colour Party, will be followed by vehicle-mounted detachments of Wombats, Mortars and General Purpose Machine Guns of the 3rd Battalion.

The Mayor of Guildford will take the salute at the Guildhall, High Street, at 12 noon. The Saluting Base will be held by Cadets of the Surrey Army Cadet Force. After the March Past, the Mayor and Corporation will entertain those taking part in the March Past to refreshment in the Civic Hall at approximately 12.30 p.m.

Later that day, at 5.30 p.m., the Band and Drums of the 3rd Battalion will Beat Retreat in Millmead. After the ceremony the Mayor of Guildford and other dignitaries will be entertained at a reception in the Officers Mess at Stoughton Barracks.

Sunday 13th June 1976

The usual Regimental Church Service, to which the Mayor of Guildford will be invited, will be held in Guildford Cathedral commencing at 11.15 a.m. The Venerable Archdeacon Peter Mallett, QHC, AKC, the

Chaplain-General and former Chaplain to the 1st Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment, will preach the sermon.

On this occasion the Regimental Tent and Bar will be erected in Stoughton Barracks and not outside the Cathedral. All Old Comrades and their families are invited to attend. No food will be available, but those who wish may bring their own lunch for consumption in the Barracks. The Band of the 3rd Bn. The Queen's Regiment, by kind permission of Lt. Col. J. W. Francis, Commanding Officer, will play at the Regimental Tent from 12.45 p.m.

IMPORTANT

Security Regulations demand that *all* persons entering Stoughton Barracks are in possession of a pass. Vehicles entering Barracks must bear a label authorising entry. Applications should be made to the Regimental Association Secretary at RHQ The Queen's Regiment (Surrey Office), Portsmouth Road, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 2NB, stating

1. the number of personal passes required
2. the number of vehicle passes required.

All applications must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope for return of passes and vehicle labels.

Regimental Association

Accounts

The audited accounts of all Regimental Association funds for the year ended 31st December 1975 were confirmed at a meeting of the Managing Trustees on 10th April 1976.

State of the Funds

The state of the principal funds at 31st December 1975 is summarised below.

Name of Fund	Accumulated Funds		Excess of Income over Expenditure	
	1974	1975	1974	1975
	£	£	£	£
Queen's Surreys Charitable	6,709	6,520	189	228
Queen's Charitable	49,346	51,906	417	972
Surreys Charitable	26,178	25,955	302	1,652
Queen's War Memorial	21,720	21,292	428	34
Surreys War Memorial	15,937	15,836	101	407
Main	2,972	2,533	439	259
Reunion	1,131	1,115	16	40
News Letter	230	386	34	60

Benevolent Work of the Association

The number of cases in which a grant was made was 195, and the total disbursed in grants amounted to £5,040.

News Letter

The finances of the News Letter were discussed at the Meeting of the Regimental Association Main Committee on 10th April 1976. Due to the increased costs of printing and postage in 1975, there has been a drop of £156 in the Accumulated Funds. We shall have a hard job to keep our head above water this year, but the Committee decided to hold to the 70p subscription for 1976.

If there is to be any alteration in subscription for 1977, it will be announced in the November News Letter.

Here is the place to say thank you to so many of our members who have added "a bit extra" to their News Letter subscriptions. It is gratifying to record an increase in subscriptions of £46 in 1975 over 1974.

Reunion

The Annual Reunion will be held at the Drill Hall, Portsmouth Road, Kingston upon Thames, from 1830 to 2300 hours on Saturday, 2nd October 1976. The function is for men only. The cost of admission is 75p, whether or not supper is taken.

Members who wish to attend are requested to submit the enclosed slip with remittance, together with a stamped and addressed envelope for reply, by not later than Monday, 27th September. Tickets will be issued by the Regimental Secretary.

Admission will be by ticket which will also entitle the holder to a buffet supper. Members are asked to buy their tickets in advance in order to facilitate our administrative arrangements. Supper cannot be arranged for those who buy their ticket at the door.

Money will be refunded provided cancelled bookings are notified by Monday, 27th September. Members are reminded that cars must not be parked against the Drill Hall or connected buildings.

The Queen's Regiment

1st Battalion

The 1st Battalion relieved the 2nd at Werl in BAOR last October and renewed their acquaintance with their APCs and Stalwarts. The celebrations for the Glorious First of June will be held in conjunction with Albuhera Day between 14th and 16th May. The Lord Lieutenant of Surrey has agreed to take the salute at a Trooping the Colour Ceremony on 14th May.

2nd Battalion

2nd Queen's have been established in Belize since February and are disposed in company camps. One detachment is only six miles from the border with Guatemala. The Battalion is making the best use of the many facilities available in Belize for operational and adventurous training.

3rd Battalion

The last tour of 3rd Queen's in Northern Ireland was more violent than usual. During February the Tac HQ and the Support Company in Belfast were mortared, and there were 21 sniper attacks resulting in several casualties to our soldiers. The Battalion handed over to 42 Commando Royal Marines at the end of May and returned to Catterick after what they described as "a successful and interesting tour".

5th (Volunteer) Battalion

In November 1975 the Drums and detachments of the Battalion took part in the Lord Mayor's Show. The Battalion has been active in training week ends for officers and specialists. In May Major (QM) F. B. Oram retires after 41 years' service. He joined the East Surreys in India as a boy of 14 in 1935, and it was not long before he inherited the nickname borne by his

father, whom many will remember as Provost Sergeant of the 1st Bn. The East Surrey Regiment. Frank Oram was Sniper Sergeant of 1st Surreys in Italy in the last year of the War. After 10 years as RSM he was granted a QM commission in 1964.

6th/7th (Volunteer) Battalion

In January this year, the Battalion sent a composite company to Gibraltar. They had a most enjoyable fortnight training on the Rock, and took over Frontier Guard duties during their stay. The 6/7th are now concentrating their efforts on recruiting in conjunction with the National Campaign.

The Queen's Regiment Golfing Society

The Golfing Society of The Queen's Regiment was formed on 1st January 1976. All members of the Regiment, past and present, as well as retired members of our former Regiments, are eligible to join.

In order to establish an initial list of regimental golfers, it has been decided to offer life membership to those who are eligible, for the price of the new Queen's Regimental Golfing Society tie. This will be approximately £1.20 plus VAT and postage.

The 1976 Golf Meeting will be held at the Army Golf Club, Aldershot, on 3rd September 1976. Applications for life membership on the proforma below, and for any information regarding the Society should be sent to the Secretary, The Queen's Regiment Golfing Society, "Major G. U. Weymouth, MBE, RHQ The Queen's Regiment, Howe Barracks, Canterbury".

THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT GOLFING SOCIETY

1. I wish to enrol as a Life Member of the Queen's Regiment Golfing Society for a fee which equates to the purchase price of one new Society tie.
- *2. I am already a member of the
..... Golfing Society (former Regiment Society).
- *Delete if not applicable.
3. My present handicap is
4. Please send all communications to me at the following address:

(IN BLOCK CAPS PLEASE)

(Signed)

NAME
(IN BLOCK CAPS PLEASE)

UNIT (if possible)

To:
Secretary The Queen's Regiment Golfing Society,
RHQ The Queen's Regiment,
Howe Barracks,
CANTERBURY, Kent CT1 1JY.

News of the Associations

5th Queen's Old Members' Association

Major H. B. Watson, TD, who has been Chairman of the Association for many years gives up his appointment on 8th May. Harry Watson was commissioned into The Queen's (TA) in 1927 and posted to the 5th Battalion. He was commanding B Coy of the 1/5th when 131 Bde embarked for France in April 1940. Captain Watson was wounded during the heavy fighting on the River Escaut but was brought back to England. 1942 found him in India with the 11th Sikhs and he became an instructor at the OCTU. During the last year of the War, HB was serving in the Military Police in Cairo.

The Queen's (Bermondsey) Regimental Association

The following excerpts are reprinted from the October issue of "The Pascal Lamb" which arrived just too late for our last November News Letter.

Ghent 1975

For the third successive year a party of the OCA visited the Continent, this time to renew our long standing links with the City of Ghent in Belgium. This visit had been arranged jointly with the Groupe Mobile La Sarcelle and the Ghent branch of the Royal British Legion. We arrived in Ghent at about 7 a.m., 6th September, to be met by several of our Belgian friends, and at 10 a.m. the contingent joined the wreath laying ceremony at the War Memorial Park. That evening saw us sitting down and watching the British Military Tattoo at the Sports Palast. This was a repeat of the highly successful show of the previous year and again it was a sell out.

Sunday 7th was a little less hectic apart from the route marches to meals. After a short ceremony at the British War Memorial and cemetery, we visited the grave of Albert Fassin as a mark of respect to a great friend and ally of the Queen's. A surprise was in store for the ungodly, however, because the next call was the English Church. Despite strong competition from the organ our members lifted up their voices in praise, their rendering of the good old hymns if not exactly musical was at least rousing. Voices were heard again that evening in a different vein, this time at the get-together arranged by La Sarcelle at the Club Nautique. This function was well organized and attended by many of our old friends, and it turned out to be a most convivial evening and, surprise of surprises, nobody fell into the water.

Monday was a quiet day enabling members to stroll around Ghent at their leisure, and the weather being kind, this is what most did. In the evening it was the turn of the Royal British Legion to entertain us, this they did at the Café Excelsior in Ladeberg. Our last day ended on a high spot with a visit to Blankenberghe, and that meant the Café Metro, presided over by that great Anglophile the patronne, octogenarian Madame Caes. This is a place at which the Queen's are always welcome and we made the most of it. Finally a word of grateful thanks to those great friends of ours, Mimi and Ron Fassin-Gibson, who were instrumental in the organization of the programme, and for their hospitality and patience. To all those who assisted, we are in your debt.

2/7th Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment

A very successful Dinner was held on 27th March at The Stag, Bressenden Place, S.W.1, to celebrate the Battalion's Thirtieth Reunion. About 85 members attended, some of whom had not been for some years, and everyone much enjoyed meeting old friends again.

To mark the occasion and in affectionate gratitude to Harry Neale for his sterling work as our Honorary Secretary over more than twenty years, the President, Brigadier M. E. M. MacWilliam, CBE, DSO, MC, TD, presented him with a mahogany chiming clock subscribed by all members. In his address the President reminded members that H. T. Neale had been our Orderly Room Sergeant, for practically the whole of the Battalion's seven-year history, serving five Commanding Officers and seven Adjutants, and was still issuing "Orders" to which we all continued to jump as anno domini permitted. Harry displayed his customary modesty in responding to the standing ovation he received.

Attempting to define why organisations such as ours survive (and from your News Letter they clearly abound), Brigadier MacWilliam thought this was no longer, if it ever was, a desire to relive old battles or to drink more than was good for us, so much as to renew the spirit of comradeship in adversity, and to sink our differences in the common aim of achieving survival and success for the good of all. The company regretted that this spirit was not more evident in the world outside at this time.

To the accompaniment of taped recordings of the Queen's and Royal Marines Bands and the flash of indoor cameras, the Chairman, Hugh Scammell, MC, asked members to hope for longevity in aiming for our ruby, golden and diamond (!) reunions and to continue to support our gatherings for many years to come.

Parson's Progress

Father Jack Devine, RC Chaplain to 131 (Queen's) Brigade, 7th Armoured Division, from the Western Desert in 1942 to Berlin in 1945, and permanently attached to the 1/6th Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment, will be remembered by all with respect and affection for his great morale raising personality, his tremendous sense of humour and his service to mankind, to say nothing of the charm with which he could wheedle a few ackers from even the most penurious of officers for his "funds".

It will surely be of interest to know that Father Jack celebrated his Golden Jubilee as a priest on 21st June last year in his own little church in Bordon Camp where he still tends his flock, part military and part civilian. The Golden Jubilee Mass was celebrated by the Rt. Reverend Derek Warlock, Bishop of Portsmouth, following which a reception was held during which presentations were made to Father Jack in token recognition of his long and devoted service.

In company with Major General M. Forrester, the 1/6th Queen's were represented by Colonel "Nick" Nice, CSM "Chick" Coles, RQMS Johnny Bryan and Cpl. Harry Mitchell who gave as a memento of the occasion a Queen's shield to mark his long and difficult connection with the Regiment: difficult that is, because

of circumstances of War which in themselves proved that he was indeed a man of true faith.

In fact in past times, a great number of the Battalion benefitted from his great prowess at cards, particularly poker, for whenever his "Naafi fund" became too low to keep his men in good supply, Father Jack would ensnare some unsuspecting but usually well-endowed officer, more often than not at Brigade HQ, and relieve him of some of his earthly possessions for the good of the greater number. Alas, his card playing is now reduced to the more gentle game of Old Maid (so he says), but he still cares as selflessly as always for the needs of others.

Any Queensman in the Bordon area would be assured of a very warm welcome.

"Monty"—a reminiscence

The following are extracts from a letter written by Lt. Colonel D. L. A. Gibbs, DSO, to the Western Morning News soon after the death of Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein in March.

"To my mind, Monty's greatest attribute was his close contact with and care for the 'soldiers'. He had that magnetic personality which drew and held the attention, respect and well nigh worship of commanders at regimental level and their WOs, NCOs, and men. Monty always took tremendous care to memorise previous contacts with people. In 1937-38 I was Adjutant of the 2nd Bn. The Queen's Royal Regiment in Portsmouth. Brigadier Montgomery came to carry out the annual inspection of the Battalion, and arrived at the Orderly Room to meet my Commanding Officer before going on to the 'square' to inspect. I noticed that one of the large side pockets of his Service dress jacket was undone, and I said to him, as I imagine any adjutant would have said, 'You've got a button undone, Sir'. 'Oh,' he said, 'Have I? That would never do, would it?'

A few years later, not long before the Battle of Alamein, Monty came round to visit all units down to Lt. Colonel's command. He was a tremendous man at making contact in this way. In due course he arrived at my own battalion, the 1st/6th Queen's. I had not seen him since 1939. The Divisional Commander said, in introducing, 'This is Gibbs, Sir, commanding 1st/6th Queen's.' 'Ah,' said Monty, with that characteristic inquiring, probing glance, 'Gibbs? Are my buttons all right?' This type of human contact made a great impression and helped to create a link and trust that continued personal contact with commanders and leaders went on throughout his campaigns."

From Here and There

Legacies and Donations

The Regimental Secretary acknowledges with thanks a legacy of £100 bequeathed by Brigadier A. P. Block, CB, CBE, DSO, who died in May 1973. This generosity will be no surprise to those who knew of Allen Block's love for his Regiment.

Our thanks are also due to the undermentioned who have made donations to the Regimental Association since our last issue: RQMS A. A. Bromige, C. J. Browning, H. F. Clayton, C. E. Hill, C. Howard, D. James,

S. J. W. Lewis-Wheatley, F. S. Lindfield, H. C. Russell, S. N. Stubbs, S. J. Traylen and G. F. A. Willey.

In these days when cash is short and prices rising, it is heartwarming to report that the generosity of our members has not been curtailed. In addition to those who so kindly make donations, there are many members who round up their order forms or subscriptions to the nearest pound, generally with a brief injunction to "put the balance to the funds". It is not practicable to thank everyone individually, but this is a good opportunity for the Secretary to say thank you to all those who have been thoughtful enough to support the Regimental Association in this way.

Words of Marches

In the last News Letter, Mr. L. C. A. Moxon inquired about the words of "Braganza". Our old correspondent, Mr. V. E. Fagence, writes,

"With regard to the Regimental March 'Braganza', the unofficial words sung by the ribald soldiery during the 1914-18 War were as follows:

'Here they come. Here they come.

Silly great b every one.

Half a crown a week to pay

For putting a girl in the family way.'

I also remember an amusing anecdote concerning two old ladies in a garrison town listening ecstatically to a military band's rendering of 'Colonel Bogey'. At the end of it, one old lady remarked, 'I think that is a wonderful tune. I could listen to it for ever.' The other old dear replied, 'Yes! What a pity there are no words to it!'

Also on the subject of marches, Mr. Charles Manning writes,

"I was interested in your readers' comments on marching songs. I'm sure the words 'Roll on my Seven and Five' went with one of the tunes in Alford's 'On the Quarter Deck' march.

Some of the words to 'Blaze Away' were unprintable, recording the trials of a young mother unable to feed her offspring owing to certain mammary deficiencies."

Bugle Calls

The Editor thanks all those who have written with the words of bugle calls. We have published most of them—those that were printable, anyway! The last word comes from Lt. Col G. M. Elias Morgan who writes:

"Readers whose memories have been sharpened by the correspondence on bugle calls may like to know that Messrs Gale and Polden of Aldershot are still publishing a booklet, 'Trumpet and Bugle Sounds of the British Army'. It gives most of the best known routine calls, including the words in many cases, though the latter are more polite than some we knew. One familiar one which is missing is the 'No Parade' or 'Dismiss', with the words,

'There's no parade today. There's no parade today.

The Adjutant's got a belly ache and the Colonel's

gone away.'

According to Fortescue, the first historian of the British Army, all the calls were composed by Joseph Haydn and date from a year or two after 1792, when the first uniform drill book was written. Hadyn must have been a wonderful composer to have produced such appropriate and evocative music. I wonder when his calls were last sounded in action."

Retirement

Mr. W. H. Arnold (10743) has retired. Nothing very unusual in that perhaps, except that he is 82 in July this year and has been working for 65 years. Bill Arnold joined the 4th Bn. The East Surrey Regiment in 1911, transferring to the 1st Battalion two years later. During the 1914-18 War, he was a sergeant in the 7th (Service) Battalion, and after being severely wounded in France, was transferred to the RFC in 1918.

Mr. Arnold joined the Headquarters of the Forces Help Society as a caretaker when he was over normal retirement age, and has been with them for just on 15 years.

Still in uniform

RSM Jack Chaffer, MM, has retired after 34 years' service, and has been appointed a Yeoman Warder at HM Tower of London.

An Old Contemptible—Information sought

The relatives of the late 8425 Cpl. Arthur Paskell are seeking information on him. He enlisted in The East Surrey Regiment in 1904 and served in the 1st Battalion from November 1904 to February 1906. After service in India with the 2nd Battalion, Cpl. Paskell was discharged to the Army Reserve in January 1913.

In August 1914 he was mobilised with the 1st Battalion and went to France with the BEF on 13th August. Ten days later Arthur Paskell was killed in action at Mons on the 1st Battalion's first day's fighting in the Great War.

Anyone with information on Cpl. Paskell is requested to write to Mr. R. H. Paskell, 69a Bulls Copse Lane, Horndean, Hants, PO8 9RA.

Tracing old friends

Mr. H. W. Smith, 58 Willow Mead, Witley, Godalming, Surrey, would like news of "Laddie" Arkwright (6093523) who served in 2/6th and 2nd Battalions The Queen's Royal Regiment between 1942 and 1945.

FEPOW News

Writing from Ashford General Hospital, Middlesex, where he has been an in-patient for getting on for two years, Mr. S. W. Hall wishes to be remembered to his old comrades in the 2nd Bn. The East Surrey Regiment.

Sam Hall (6144902) was captured with the rest of the Battalion at the fall of Singapore in 1942 and, like so many others, is still suffering from the effects of being a prisoner of war in Japanese hands for three and a half years.

Visitor from Jersey

Last November, Mr. G. F. Voisin visited the Queen's Surreys Office and presented a number of military histories and belongings of his uncle, the late Lt. Col. F. O. Voisin. A silver statuette and cigarette box have been sent to RHQ The Queen's Regiment for re-issue and a number of books and photograph albums have been placed in the Regimental Museum.

Frank Voisin was commissioned in the Royal Militia of the Island of Jersey in 1912, transferring to The East Surrey Regiment on the outbreak of the Great War. "Tubby", as he was generally known in the Regiment, will be remembered as a very smart officer of the old school.

Cinderella at Sherborne

A history of "The Amateur Players of Sherborne", is being written by Mr. F. B. Alcock who was the Stage Manager for the 1/5th Queen's production of Cinderella at Sherborne where they were stationed for the first winter of the War.

Mr. Alcock recalls the officers' ballet as the tour de force of this hilarious pantomime. "Sixteen muscular fairies in tin hats, blonde ringlets, ballet skirts and Army boots in a perfectly drilled routine." Major Lord Sysonsby, perfectly cast as the Bad Baron Bren, was "roundly booed on his every appearance and appeared to enjoy it, glaring back through his customary monocle with perfect sang-froid". Colonel Reggie Palmer made a sprightly "Buttons", much to the delight of his soldiers.

The whole pantomime had been produced by a private soldier, Pte. Batty, described as "a great character. He was the son of the Bishop of Fulham, a classical actor, experimental producer, occasional fifth percussionist for symphony orchestras and a dance band drummer." Mr. Alcock would like to get in touch with Gerald Batty again. Information, please, to Mr. F. B. Alcock, Lloyds Bank House, 98 Fore Street, Saltash, Cornwall.

Change of Address

Mr. W. G. Warren (22308044) has driven off from the Farnham Golf Club for the last time. His new address is University of London Boathouse, 81 Hartington Road, Chiswick, London, W.4, where he is presumably pushing the boat out all the time.

News from "Down Under"

Australia

Friends of "Mac" Cribbes will be interested to hear his impressions of Australia after ten years as an immigrant. He writes, "We are very pleased that we came out here, if only for the sunshine and lovely blue skies. We've led a lazy life, swimming and sunbathing in the earlier years, and had holidays in Queensland (via Sydney, NSW) and Adelaide. Also several delightful motoring trips in Victoria, which is full of history (e.g. the Eureka Stockade) even if it is, to us, fairly recent—100 years or so. We have made many good friends wherever we have lived—Frankston, Seaford, Dromana, Elwood and now here.

My wife distinguished herself as a church organist in Elwood by composing a musical setting to "Australia 73", a similar booklet to the English "Series 3". Our son and his family are out here; we have six grandchildren here and three back in UK."

New Zealand

Mr. L. S. Duncan of 5 Cumberland Grove, Porirua, New Zealand, writes:

Thank you for News Letter No. 18. We out here always look forward to reading it. It gives us a great link with home. The News Letter comes by sea mail, so we have only just read of the death of General Metcalfe.

I was with him in the 1st Battalion at Allahabad in 1937. I can see him now, sitting on his horse, immaculate, looking straight at everyone. We used to say he could see us bat an eyelid at the back of the parade. He was strict, but also had a sense of humour.

I remember once on the square at Allahabad, we had standing in front of our platoon a young officer just out from Blighty. I was looking at him and realized he had his topee on back to front. I whispered to him, "You have got your helmet on back to front, Sir." It would have been better if I had not spoken. The young officer put his hand up and just got it half way round, when there was a roar "Stand still!" There was the officer standing with his hat on sideways in a deathly silence. Then Captain Metcalfe said, "If Napoleon will take one pace forward and put his topee on straight, we will get on with the parade." Smiles all round relieved the tension on parade.

Best regards to all,

Leo ("Darkie") Duncan.

Regimental History— The Queen's Royal Regiment

The History of the Paschal Lamb

Major General R. S. N. Mans writes:

"I was most interested to read in our last News Letter of Colonel Gerry Hollist's note on the history of the Lamb in the old badge of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, and now of course borne on the button of The Queen's Regiment.

Old Queen's Surreys will of course recall that the late Brigadier Allen Block undertook what is probably the most authoritative study of the Lamb's history. He wrote up the results of this research in the Journals of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment for November 1965 and December 1966 respectively. Allen Block's work not only took him to Portugal but also around the many institutions in the United Kingdom that bear the Paschal Lamb as part of their emblem or badge. Allen's conclusion was that all the evidence he had collected seemed to lead to the Paschal Lamb being connected with Queen Catherine of Braganza, for not only do we take our name "The Queen's" from Queen Catherine, but for a time after the death of King Charles II we were known as "The Queen Dowager's Regiment". One of the most important pieces of evidence that supported Allen Block's conclusion was the discovery in 1966 by Lieutenant Colonel Desmond Lang, the then British Military Attaché in Portugal, of the Pastrana Tapestry in the Palace of Guimaraes near Oporto. This tapestry symbolises the capture of Tangier by Don Joao de Braganza in 1471. The mounted troops were carrying lances the pennants of which were the Cross of St. George, similar to that carried by the old Regiment's Paschal Lamb. He also discovered in the Palace a portrait of Catherine of Braganza incorporating what, in Portuguese, was described as a Paschal Lamb.

In the Journal of December 1966, Allen Block also wrote that the connection between the Paschal Lamb and the House of Braganza had been substantiated by the Public Records Office and by the ex-President of St. John's College, Oxford, who also have the Paschal Lamb in their Arms. Allen also studied the so called Rowe Connection. Lieutenant Colonel Henry Rowe commanded the Queen's in 1689. Certainly a West Country family of that name bore the Paschal Lamb as their crest. Allen Block reported that he found this line of

research interesting but it led to no definite conclusion. I myself believe that the evidence supporting the Braganza link is very well founded but nevertheless there does seem to be room for further research by anyone so inclined, based on the excellent detailed work done in the 1960s by Allen Block.

Whilst penning these notes I came across another interesting but perhaps little known aspect of the history of the old Queen's Royal Regiment. In 1973 I had occasion to write to the then Chief Librarian of the Ministry of Defence, Librarian Mr. D. W. King, over a matter of the history of The Queen's Regiment. In his reply, Mr. King talked about the pre-1660 history of certain British Regiments, and told me that one Regiment which did have firm grounds for claiming a formal link in the pre-1660 Army was the Queen's, but never appeared to have pressed it. He went on to say that the Queen's at Tangier incorporated the former Cromwellian Dunkirk Regiment which had distinguished itself at the Battle of the Dunes in 1658 during the Anglo-Spanish War; a war in which the Royal Navy, unlike the Army, takes a special pride. For example, one Wing at Dartmouth is named after the English Naval Commander, Robert Blake."

Mr. C. S. A. Avis writes:

"The excerpt from a letter written by Lieut. Colonel E. G. Hollist published in the News Letter No. 18 dated November, 1975, was interesting to read: but I feel that the writer overlooked the fact that the original badge of the Queen Dowager's Regiment (The Queen's Royal Regiment) was a White Lamb only. The badge was not adopted until after the old Tangier Regiment of Foot had returned to England in 1684. That badge can still be seen in front of the mitre-shaped caps of the wooden figures at the Regimental Museum. The small flap of each cap, instead of bearing the White Horse of Hanover as in all other regiments, has the White Lamb. The origin of its adoption has not been established beyond doubt, but the Lamb carried by the Patron Saint (St. John the Baptist) of the House of Braganza of Spain may have had some influence, but that theory has not been precisely established. When and by what authority the rectangular flag borne by the Lamb was converted into a 'pennon' and the pole carried on the near-side shoulder, is obscure. Lord Macaulay's 'Paschal Lamb' version is considered a pipe-dream. When was the badge changed to make it according to Heraldic parlance a Paschal Lamb? In the Royal Warrant of 1st July 1751, it is confirmed to the regiment to be borne on its Colours as its 'Ancient Badge', i.e. the White Lamb."

Story of a Soldier

We are indebted to Lieut. General E. N. Goddard for the following story which concerns his regiment, the 53rd Sikhs (Frontier Force) at the time, later renamed the 3rd Royal Battalion (Sikhs) 12th Frontier Force Regiment, and The Queen's Royal Regiment.

In 1913 Captain H. S. Smart had four years' service in the 53rd Sikhs (Frontier Force). He was an exceptionally good regimental officer and fluent in Pushtu, the language of the tribes of the North West Frontier of India, as it then was. He was therefore accepted in 1913 for a three-year tour of duty with the Khyber

Rifles—an irregular corps—one of the Frontier militias.

When the War broke out in August 1914 and the 53rd Sikhs shortly proceeded overseas in an entirely Frontier Force Brigade, Captain Smart found himself thousands of miles away from the fighting with no prospect of taking part. He applied to return to his regiment but this was refused. So in November 1914 he applied for 10 days leave from which he never returned. A terse notification in the Gazette of India the following year recorded that His Majesty "had no further use for Captain Smart's services".

Meanwhile a smart soldierly looking man had enlisted in The Queen's Royal Regiment, giving his name as Thomas Hardy. It was evident that Pte. Hardy, who was rather older than the other newly joined soldiers, knew a good deal about the Army. He answered evasively any questions about previous service and, in fact, one of his contemporaries in the 2nd Battalion goes so far as to say that Hardy told them a pack of lies. By reason of his educated voice and military bearing, it was not long before Hardy acquired the nickname of "the Colonel".

During the Second Battle of Ypres at Festubert on the 17th May 1915, 25 volunteers were called for from the 2nd Queen's to take part in a bombing raid on the German trenches and Pte. Hardy was one of the first to answer the call. Early in the raid Hardy was wounded in the right shoulder and was ordered back to the dressing station.

Some time later the raiding party under CSM Barter were held up at a farm house, when, to the men's surprise, "the Colonel" was seen running along the top of the parapet throwing bombs with his uninjured left hand. He jumped into the trench ahead of the rest, succeeded in ejecting the Germans and continued bombing further on until he was hit in the head, being killed instantaneously. This account of Pte. Hardy's gallantry was obtained from CSM Barter who himself won the Victoria Cross in the same action.

The sequel to this story appeared in the following entry in the London Gazette of 4th June 1915. "The Secretary of State for India, with the concurrence of the Army Council, decided to submit to His Majesty that the removal from the Service of Captain Smart should be cancelled, and His Majesty had been graciously pleased to approve of this proposal."

In the Roll of Honour of The Queen's Royal Regiment appears the name of G/4034 Pte. Hardy, T.

A tribute to a brave officer

Our Regimental Histories are full of stories of the gallantry of our predecessors in battle, and it is right that their courageous examples should be recalled while there are still men who remember them. Gilbert Smith, a pre-1914 Regular soldier in the Queen's, pays tribute to Major H. R. Bottomley.

Harry Bottomley, an officer of over 24 years' service, was commanding B Company, 2nd Queen's when he was wounded at the 1st Battle of Ypres in November 1914. The Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. M. C. Coles, and the second in Command, Major L. M. Crofts, were wounded in the same action, and Major Bottomley took over command.

Gilbert Smith writes, "Major Bottomley was killed at

Festubert on 16th May 1915. He was a wonderful man and anyone who served before 2nd Ypres will confirm this. We were fortunate in having very good officers in the 2nd Battalion, most of whom were killed or wounded at Festubert, but none upheld the honour of the Regiment more than Major Bottomley. As he lay dying in No Man's Land, he refused help from a man and ordered him to advance with the rest. It was his order prior to the attack that no one was to stop and help wounded men in any circumstances. There is no word of praise high enough for this brave and brilliant leader."

Regimental History— The East Surrey Regiment

Courage in Adversity

The 70th Regiment embarked for India in January 1849, and by the time their transports sailed into the Hooghly some months later five men, one woman and six children had died at sea. At Dum Dum, where they stayed for three months, 79 men died of disease, and after arrival at Fort William a further three officers and 79 men. Worse was to follow.

In December 1850 the Regiment was posted up-country to Cawnpore, but the change of station did not bring an improvement in their fortunes. During the three years the 70th were at Cawnpore, they suffered terribly from the ravages of cholera. The epidemic was at its peak in the hot weather of 1853, 104 men dying in August alone. In spite of this dreadful scourge, morale was high. A contemporary document records, "Nothing could exceed the soldier-like bearing of the soldiers of the Regiment, and the devotion shown by them to their stricken comrades."

Medical resources were severely strained and Assistant Surgeon W. F. B. Dalzel, the maternal grandfather of Major R. G. D. Bruce of The East Surrey Regiment, was detached from his own unit for temporary duty with the 70th. In spite of what he describes as "an epidemic such as one may not see a second time in a lifetime", Fred Dalzel enjoyed his service with the 70th. He was impressed with the spirit of comradeship of the officers and men at a time when it seemed the entire Regiment was doomed to death. Writing to his mother in 1853, Dalzel says,

"The day I joined I was invited to become an honorary member of the Mess, which I accepted; for on such an occasion as this I would have had an attack of the blues every night without someone to talk to at Mess. . . . They always manage to get up a little noise and excitement, particularly when there are any Irishmen present. We have a guest night once a week, Tuesdays, when the band plays the whole time at dinner."

The epidemic was costing the Regiment about a man a day, and Dalzel was touched at seeing "their comrades . . . rubbing with their whole heart and soul to relieve them from the terrible cramps". The cholera subsided with the approach of the cold weather, and on New Year's Day 1854, the 70th marched proudly out of Cawnpore. Assistant Surgeon Dalzel writes, "I, having my buggy and horse, follow in the rear—the proper place for the medical officer." The 70th left buried in the cantonment two officers, 344 men, 37 women and

99 children of their number. As the Regimental History observes, "Such an epidemic strains courage and discipline fully as severely as the most arduous campaign."

When he left the Regiment in Peshawar, Dalzel received a personal letter from the Commanding Officer, thanking him for his zeal and devotion to duty shown in the terrible summer months of 1853. Years later Dalzel wrote that his service with the 70th was the life he had expected to have had in India, especially the sense of comradeship and the help he received when he was ill himself.

We are indebted to Mr. Bryan Govett for permission to publish excerpts from his great grandfather's letters which he has edited.

Bourlon

The name of Bourlon will ever be remembered by those of the 13th (Wandsworth) Bn. The East Surrey Regiment who took part in the capture of Bourlon Wood and the village in November 1917. Bourlon was the key to Cambrai which was of great strategic importance as a railway centre. The high ground of Bourlon Ridge was vital to the German defences south of the Sensée River, and when the Ridge was taken the Germans made every effort to recapture their position.

The 13th Battalion held Bourlon for three days of bitter fighting until withdrawn on 27th November. Mr. W. J. Tucker of 10 Pinefields, Church Road, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey, has vivid memories of the leadership of the Commanding Officer, Lt. Colonel Warden, during the hazardous operation of withdrawing in daylight under fire. He would be interested to hear of any other survivors of the Battalion at that time.

"Tiger in Irons"

This was the name given to the Journal of the British Battalion produced by members of that Battalion in the Prisoner of War Camp at Changi. The title derives from the Leicesters' badge of the Tiger and the familiar call of encouragement, "Come on, the Irons!" used by the Surreys to support their football teams.

This little magazine, produced under conditions of great difficulty, did much to maintain morale in the dark days following the surrender of Singapore in February 1942. No less than two numbers appeared the following month, and thereafter the "Tiger in Irons" appeared somewhat spasmodically. The Regimental Museum has Copies 1 to 4 and would be glad to have any later issues. The magazine was published in various camps in Thailand where the Battalion was working on the infamous Burma Railway, but it is not known whether any copies survived.

The editorial staff was almost entirely Surreys and included Lieut. S. S. Abbott and Sgt. B. W. Brown. As mentioned in our last News Letter, Mr. Stephen Abbott is hoping to publish a book on his return to Malaya some 30 years later. The title will be "Tiger in Irons". An article on Mr. Bernard Brown, who served in The Queen's Royal Regiment and The East Surrey Regiment, appeared in the May 1972 issue of the News Letter.

Our Allied Regiments

Australia

Lt. Col. John Southwell writes, "I have now left the

Active List for the Reserve of Officers. I handed over command of 17 RNSWR to Lt. Col. A. T. Pembroke, MC, who commanded for a short time, to be succeeded by my Second in Command, Lt. Col. K. J. Kirkby.

We are again in the midst of one of those traumatic reorganizations and the fortune of a number of units is in question, but I believe the 17th will survive as it is the strongest battalion in the country."

Acknowledgements

The Editor acknowledges with thanks receipt of the following publications:

Journal of The Queen's Regiment, the Globe and Laurel, the Roussillon Gazette, the 2/4th Queen's Old Comrades Association News Letter, the Pascal Lamb (the News Letter of the Queen's Bermondsey Regimental Association) and the Queensman (the monthly News Letter of The Queen's Regiment).

The Editor also thanks the kind person who sent him a copy of "Our Cathedrals", a record of the cathedrals of the British Isles in coloured photographs. The pamphlet was received on 3rd December 1975 from an unknown sender.

Reference Index

During the nine years this News Letter has been in publication, a number of articles on Regimental history and features of Regimental interest have been published. An index of these items has been prepared and will be supplied free, on receipt of a stamped and addressed envelope.

Book Reviews

The Battle for Empire

In his latest book, "The Battle for Empire—A Century of Anglo-French Conflict", Jock Haswell traces the old antipathy back to the Norman Conquest of England in 1066. In Edward III's reign we had a foothold on the Continent of Europe, and for a hundred years on and off, England was at war with France. Despite the great victories of Crecy, Poitiers and Agincourt, English fortunes on the Continent declined, and by 1453 nothing was left to England but Calais.

The period of which Major Haswell is writing is from the mid-Seventeenth to the mid-Eighteenth Century. In Europe France wanted to extend her eastern frontier to the Rhine, and her ambitions clashed with British commercial interests in India, the West Indies and in North America. The book describes the ebb and flow of the struggle for supremacy in these various theatres throughout the Wars of the Spanish Succession and the Austrian Succession and the Seven Years War. A number of British Regiments, including the Queen's, are mentioned. The story ends with the capture of Quebec and the ensuing Treaty of Paris in 1763.

Major Haswell, as a Regimental officer, is ever mindful of "the courage, self-sacrifice and endurance" of the fighting man without which no battle can be won, nor Empire gained. The book is published by Cassell and Co. Ltd., London, at £6.00.

The Desert Rats

Lt. Colonel George Forty's book "Desert Rats at War. North Africa" is published by Ian Allan, Terminal House, Shepperton, TW17 8AS, at £4.50 a copy. The book, which is the Military Book Society's Main Choice, is described as a "Superb collection of illustrations chosen from the thousands of action photographs, desert scenes and mementoes kept by 'Desert Rats' all over the world."

The Queen's Regiment (Surrey Office) supplied information regarding 131 Brigade to Colonel Forty for his book, the second volume of which "Desert Rats at War. North West Europe", is expected to be published in December this year.

Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps

There can be few soldiers, who at some time or another, in peace or in war, have not come under the care of the "QA's", as they are affectionately called. The nursing of soldiers in war dates from long before Florence Nightingale shamed the Nation into recognising the need for a properly organized nursing service. The Army Nursing Service, established in 1884, was superseded by Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service in 1902, but it was not until 1949 that Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps was established as an integral part of the Army.

The familiar red capes of the QA were known wherever the British Army served; and still today, wherever soldiers require medical care, the QA's will never be far away. Sterling service in two World Wars enhanced their reputation for devotion to duty, and on many occasions nurses displayed great courage in the face of enemy action.

The long overdue history of the Corps has now been written by Juliet Piggott, the sister of Major General Francis Piggott, the last Colonel of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment. A specially bound copy of this publication was recently sent by the Colonel of The Queen's Regiment to Her Majesty Queen Margrethe of Denmark, drawing her attention to the significance of the Cross of the Order of Dannebrog which forms part of the insignia of the QARANC. The book, entitled "Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps" is published by Leo Cooper Ltd., 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8JL, at £4.50.

Footnote

The QARANC Museum is being redesigned and enlarged to house the exhibits of the Corps spanning a hundred years. An Appeal for £10,000 has been launched and the QA themselves have raised nearly half.

Readers who would like to support this appeal should send their donations to The Treasurer, QARANC Museum, QARANC Regimental Headquarters, QARANC Training Centre, Royal Pavilion, Farnborough Road, Aldershot, GU11 1PZ. Remittances should be made payable to QARANC Museum Appeal.

The Die-Hards in Korea

Edited by Colonel J. N. Shipster, CBE, DSO, Deputy Colonel, The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex), this narrative contains a series of accounts published in the Regimental magazine at the time of the Korean War,

1950-1951. The contributors were members of the 1st Bn. The Middlesex Regiment which formed part of the 27th British Commonwealth Brigade.

The accounts of the fighting against a tough enemy under appalling conditions are vivid and of great interest historically. There is a good deal of quiet humour, and some implied criticism of the reactions of some of our Allies when the going was tough.

Members of both our former Regiments fought with 1st Middlesex in Korea. In August 1950, a reinforcement company, consisting mostly of volunteers from 1st Queen's was formed under Major B. K. Favelle. Two other East Surrey officers and some volunteers from 1st Surreys also served in the reinforcement company. The Company Commander reported that the men were "first-class, tough and self-sufficient".

SSAFA

There can be few of our readers who do not know of the splendid work done by SSAFA for serving and retired Service men and their families. Three quarters of the families now helped by SSAFA are ex-Service, and that percentage will rise as the veterans of World War II approach old age.

The Chairman of SSAFA, Lt. General Sir Napier Crookenden, himself an infantryman, has written to us as follows: "As you know, the strength of SSAFA—and much of its usefulness to Regimental Associations—depends upon its coverage of the whole of the UK and Ireland by 12,000 voluntary workers. Many of them are now retiring after years of devoted service. They must be replaced by new recruits if we are to meet increased demands which will be made upon us by the cut-back in the statutory Social Services."

SSAFA, who has helped our Association so much, is asking if we can help them. Their effectiveness in the days ahead depends on new volunteers taking over from those now retiring. Men and women with a Service background are needed, particularly in towns, to give some of today's most valuable commodity—time. Offers of help will be warmly welcomed by the Recruiting Officer, SSAFA, 27 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9BZ, who will put volunteers in touch with their nearest Divisional or County Secretary.

Regular Forces Employment Association

The Regular Forces Association exists to find suitable employment for ex-Regular soldiers. It takes a long-term interest in ex-Regulars, who may use its services as often as they wish. The Association has 42 Branches in the major cities of the United Kingdom, and its Employment Officers—all ex-Servicemen—are in close touch with employers. It provides all its services free.

The telephone number and address of the nearest Branch can be obtained from Post Offices, Employment Offices and from the Regimental Association.

Deaths

We regret to announce the passing of the following former members of our Regiments:

Moorat—On 17th July, 1975, Major Felix John George Moorat, aged 58. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1935 to 1941. See obituary.

Gregory—On 5th August, 1975, Sgt. George Albert James Gregory (6085047), aged 61. "Skeets" Gregory served in the 1st and 2nd Bns The Queen's and was the MT Sergeant in Burma.

Wallis—On 20th August, 1975, Sgt. Charles Frederick Wallis (6076554), aged 84. Served in the 2nd Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment in the 1914-18 War, having previously served for seven years in the Royal Fusiliers.

Jacob—On 17th October, 1975, Colonel Frederic Arthur Jacob, OBE, aged 80. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment in both World Wars. See obituary.

Matthews—On 10th November, 1975, Pte. W. A. H. Matthews. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1938 to 1946.

Slater—On 16th November, 1975, Sgt. C. W. Slater (7042290), aged 81. "Mick" Slater joined the Royal Irish Rifles in 1908 and trained as a Master Tailor. He went to France with the BEF in 1914 and was wounded at Mons. He was taken prisoner while in hospital but managed to escape and was wounded again. After service at Gallipoli, Mick was transferred to the Royal Irish Fusiliers. After the War he was Regimental Tailor at Stoughton Barracks from 1925 to 1934.

Harper—The death is reported of Pte. Sidney John Harper (6132816), who was born in 1900. Served in The East Surrey Regiment from 1919 to 1945, and for a further 21 years with Surrey County Council, his last appointment being doorkeeper at the County Hall, Kingston upon Thames.

Bruce—On 2nd January, 1976, Pte. George Bruce (6088581), aged 56. A pre-War Regular soldier, he served with 1/6th Queen's in France and Belgium in 1940. He was wounded on the Escaut and taken prisoner.

Grizzell—On 3rd January, 1976, Pte. Frederick Charles Grizzell (6144805), aged 56. Served in the 2/6th Bn The East Surrey Regiment and was wounded and evacuated from St. Valery.

In 1943 he joined the 1st Battalion in North Africa and served throughout the Sicily and Italy Campaigns.

Turner—On 6th January, 1976, Herbert Alfred Turner, OBE. Served in the 10th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment in the 1914-18 War. Kit was Secretary and Treasurer of the 10th Queen's Old Comrades Association for many years until its disbandment in 1971.

Scott—On 15th January, 1976, Lieut. Colonel Leslie Duncan Scott, MC, within a few weeks of his 80th birthday. He served in the 7th (Service) Battalion The East Surrey Regiment from August 1914 until its disbandment in February 1918. See obituary.

Pawson—On 29th January, 1976, Sgt. Alfred James Pawson (6085692), aged 62. Served in the 1st, 2nd and 2/6th Bns The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1933 to 1946, and had been a Life Member of the Regimental Association for 28 years.

Winn—In January, 1976, L/Cpl. Albert John Winn (67367), aged 76. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment in the 1914-18 War and was wounded.

Itzinger—On 19th February, 1976, William Richard Itzinger. Served in the 22nd London Regiment from 1914 to 1919 and in the 1/6th Queen's in the 1939-45 War.

Hill—On 22nd February, 1976, Sgt. William Hill (200409), aged 83. Served in the 5th Queen's (TA) from February 1910 to February 1914 and in the 1/4th Queen's in India from 1914 to 1920.

Willoughby—On 28th February, 1976, Pte. Ronald Baxter Willoughby (6142682), aged 64. Served in the 2nd Bn The East Surrey Regiment from 1932 to 1946 and was a prisoner of war of the Japanese.

Quilter—On 13th March, 1976, BdsM Francis Quilter (6135564), aged 87. "Pony" Quilter was probably our oldest soldier, having joined The East Surrey Regiment in 1903 and served for over 31 years. He was a keen sportsman and a loyal Surrey. He had been an In Pensioner at the Royal Hospital for the last ten years, and invariably attended our Regimental Association Reunions.

Tracey—On 16th March, 1976, Sgt. Henry Alfred Tracey, DCM, MM (10018), aged 80. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1911 to 1919. One of the original members of the Old Contemptibles Association, Harry

Tracey was also a loyal supporter of the Regiment and he kept in touch with old friends and Regimental affairs.

Except for three spells in hospital after being wounded and gassed, all Sgt. Tracey's service was in the 1st Battalion The Queen's in which he was the Bombing Sergeant. He was one of the few soldiers to be decorated with the DCM and MM.

Travers—On 20th March, 1976, Sgt. John Patrick Travers (6078296), aged 71. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1919 to 1944 and a further seven years in the Royal Pioneer Corps. Jack Travers, who was in the Band of the 2nd Queen's between the Wars, had been an In Pensioner at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, since 1967.

Kedge—On 30th March, 1976, Frederick J. W. Kedge, BEM. Freddy Kedge enlisted in 1916 and saw service with the 7th (City of London) Bn The London Regiment in France. After the War he continued to serve for some years as the 7th City of London's drum major. When the battalion was converted to a searchlight unit in 1934, Drum Major Kedge transferred to the 23rd London Regiment. He was awarded the BEM in the 1958 New Year Honours List. Freddy took over as Chairman of the Regimental Association 23rd London Regiment/42nd Royal Tank Regiment in 1957 and served with his customary vigour and thoroughness until 1975 when he was forced to give up office on account of increasing disability. It was largely due to his far-sightedness and understanding that the interests and loyalties of both Infantry and Tanks were welded together into a happy and well-run Association.

Pitter—On 9th April, 1976, Cpl. W. J. Pitter (6077669), aged 77. Served in the 2/4th Bn The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1916 to 1919, and in the 2nd Battalion from 1919 to 1922. Bill Pitter had the misfortune to be wounded at Ladha on the North West Frontier of India and lost a leg. He was a loyal supporter of the Regimental Association.

Arnold—On 11th April, 1976, L/Cpl. Albert Arnold (6076565), aged 78. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1916 to 1922 and subsequently in the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers. Mr. Arnold had been a Life Member of the Regimental Association for over 20 years.

Irwin—On 30th April, 1976, Lt. Colonel Alfred Percy Bulteen Irwin, DSO, aged 88. Served in The East Surrey Regiment from 1909 to 1928. Obituary will be published in the November issue of the News Letter.

Sterling—On 24th April, 1976, Cpl. Philip Edward Thomas Sterling (6088095), aged 56. Served in The Queen's Royal Regiment from 1938 to 1945. Obituary will be published in the November issue of the News Letter.

Grierson—On 15th February, 1976, Major Kenneth G. Grierson, who served in The East Surrey Regiment during and after the 1939-45 War. "Joe", as he was always known, was a most likeable person and popular with all ranks.

Regimental Families

We also announce with regret the death of the under-mentioned ladies.

Girling—On 21st April, 1976, Mrs. Jane Mary Barbara Girling, wife of Major M. E. Girling, The Queen's

Regiment, daughter of Lt. Colonel J. H. F. Johnson and twin sister of Major J. V. Warner-Johnson.
Brading—On 23rd April, 1976, Mrs. Helen Margaret Brading, wife of Brigadier N. B. Brading.

Obituaries

Major F. J. G. Moorat

Felix Moorat, who has died at the early age of 58, was educated at Downside, and enlisted in The Queen's Royal Regiment in 1935. After service in the 2nd and 1st Battalions, he was commissioned in King George V's Own Gurkha Rifles. Felix had a flair for languages—he was a Member of the Institute of Linguists—and he was an interpreter in Gurkhali, Urdu and French. After the War he was employed as an interpreter with NATO. He will be remembered as a happy, warm-hearted man who enjoyed the company of his fellows.

Colonel F. A. Jacob

Freddie Jacob, who has died aged 80, had a distinguished career as a soldier and a Civil Servant. His professional life was unusual in that after service in the 1914-18 War he left the Army and went into the Foreign Office, and the pattern was repeated in the 1939-45 War.

Educated at Loretto, he was commissioned in 1915, and was serving in the 2nd Queen's in France before his 20th birthday. He was wounded on the first day of the Somme Battle in 1916, and was subsequently twice mentioned in despatches. After the War he served in the 2nd Battalion in India and Waziristan until 1922 when he was seconded for a three year tour with the 1st Yemen Infantry Regiment. He was posted to the War Office in 1925 and retired five years later at the age of 35.

He then commenced his second career and became a Civil Servant. He served in the Foreign Office until the outbreak of the 1939-45 War, when he was recalled for military duty. Serving in the Middle East as an Intelligence staff officer, he rose rapidly and finished the War as a colonel. He then returned to the Foreign Office and was awarded the OBE in 1949, finally retiring in 1961. Colonel Jacob was a staunch supporter of the Regiment and took an active interest in Regimental affairs all his life.

Lt. Colonel L. D. Scott

When the 7th (Service) Battalion The East Surrey Regiment, our senior Kitchener's Army battalion, was forming in August 1914, Leslie Duncan Scott was one of the first to enlist. He passed rapidly through the ranks and was commissioned in October that year. He went with the Battalion to France in June 1915 and the following year was awarded the MC for distinguished service. Captain Scott became Second in Command of the Battalion in July 1917, and was awarded his second MC for gallantry at the Battle of Cambrai. He was promoted Lt. Colonel and appointed to command the Battalion at the age of 22 and is described in the Regimental History as "a most gallant and capable officer". When the 7th Battalion disbanded in February 1918, Colonel Scott was given command of a battalion of the Northumberland Fusiliers. After the War, "Snib" Scott, as he was affectionately known, went into the petroleum business and for 27 years was abroad in Burma, Iran and Kuwait.